

SKILLING Eco-VET

skilling VET ecosystem: enhance enable environments for private and public VET key actors in Ghana and Senegal

Training Model:

Date:



Workshop

International Migration to Europe: Dangers and Opportunities

Session 1 - Europe: Expectation vs Reality



Objective

- To provide a **realistic and informed perspective** on the challenges and **risks** associated with **illegal migration to Europe**.
- The intention is **not to discourage migration** but to shed light on the often misrepresented dangerous aspects of illegal channels.
- The aim is to **empower potential migrants with knowledge and awareness** that will enable them to make safer decisions regarding their future.



GROUP ACTIVITY: What is Europe for you?

- How would you define the concept 'Europe'?
- Gather in groups and write down in one word the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Europe.
- Share your thoughts with the rest of the group and discuss.



Why do people want to go to Europe?

Push Factors

Things that make people want to leave a place (poor living conditions, no jobs, conflict or war, natural disasters, etc.)

Pull Factors

Things that make people want to move to a place (better jobs, access to healthcare, better climate conditions, safety, etc.)



GROUP ACTIVITY: Push or Pull factor?



- Choose papers from a box containing written push and pull factors (e.g.: job stability).
- Select a paper and identify whether the factor listed is a push or pull factor.
- Share their selected factors with the group and explain why they categorize as push or pull factors.

EUROPE – Expectation vs reality

First person account: The experience of XXX (person that has experienced illegal migration to Europe that shares their reality)

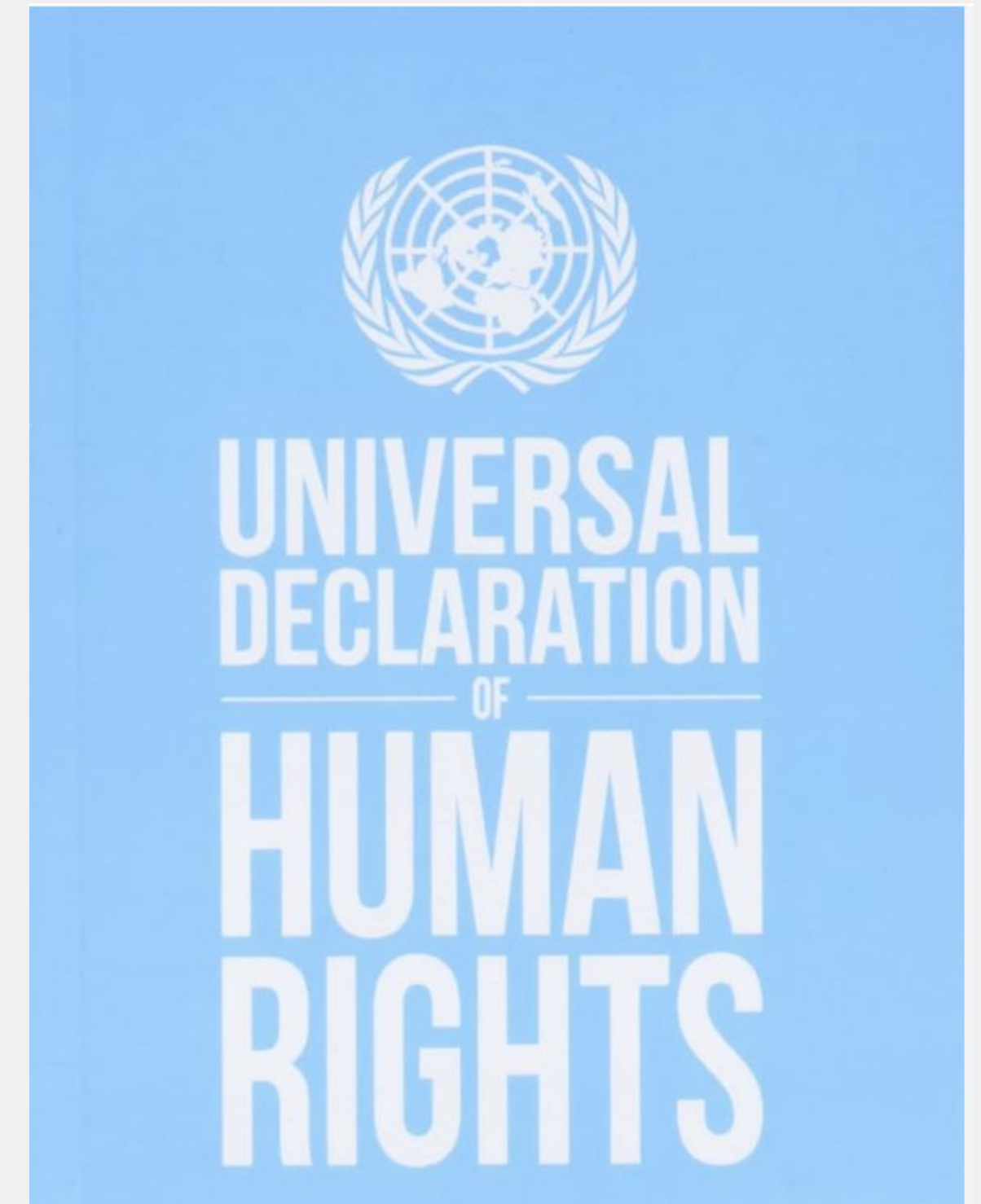


LEGAL CONTEXT -UDHR

What does the Universal Declaration of Human Rights say on migration?

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948, does not explicitly recognize a specific "right to migrate." However, it does contain several articles that are often interpreted as relevant to the rights of migrants:

- Article 13(1): "Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state."
- Article 13 (2): Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.
- Article 14(1): "In case of persecution, everyone has the right to seek asylum, and this right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations"



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LEGAL CONTEXT -UDHR

- These articles highlight the principles of freedom of movement and the right to seek asylum, which are often invoked in discussions related to migration. While the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights does not explicitly state a "right to migrate"**, these provisions are used to argue for the **protection of migrants and refugees and their rights to move across borders in certain circumstances.**
- It's important to note that **the interpretation and application of these rights can vary**, and the protection of migrants and refugees is further elaborated in various international treaties

and conventions.



LEGAL CONTEXT -UDHR

What is the difference between a migrant and a refugee?

- A **refugee** is someone who has been **forced to flee their home country because of persecution, war or violence**. They are persecuted for their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group. **They cannot return home** or their lives would be put at risk.
- A **migrant** is someone who **chooses to move**, not because of a direct threat of persecution or death, but **mainly to improve their lives** through work opportunities, education, family reunification or other reasons. **Unlike refugees** who cannot safely return home, migrants face

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no such impediment to return.





LEGAL CONTEXT-EU

What does the European Union say on migration?

- The EU **does not recognize an unconditional right to migrate for non-EU citizens** . The EU, like most countries and regional blocs, has **specific immigration and visa policies** in place that regulate the entry and stay of non-EU citizens within its member states. These policies are typically based on factors such as employment, family reunification, study, or humanitarian grounds.
- Even in the case of asylum, it does not constitute an unrestricted right to migrate, as asylum is granted based on well-founded fears of persecution or serious harm in the individual's home country.



LEGAL CONTEXT-EU

What do the countries in the south of Europe do?



Italy, Greece, Spain, and Malta - are geographically located at the EU's external borders.



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LEGAL CONTEXT-EU

What do the countries in the south of Europe do?

- These countries are **obligated to respect international law and humanitarian principles**, such as the principle of non-refoulement, which prohibits the return of individuals to places where their lives or freedoms may be at risk.
- **HOWEVER** - Some have been criticized for pushback practices, which involve turning away boats carrying migrants or returning them to the point of departure. The legality and ethics of these practices have been the subject of debate.



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Arrival to Europe

What you might find when you arrive to the south of Europe

Humanitarian help:

- ✓ Emergency support
- ✓ Food and shelter
- ✓ Legal aid



Arrival to Europe

What you might find when you arrive to the south of Europe

Libyan Coast Guards and other police forces:

- ✓ Violence and abuses
- ✓ Detention in poor conditions
- ✓ Refused entry and return





Arrival to Europe

What you might find when you arrive to the south of Europe

Hostile factors:

- ✓ Inhumane working and living conditions
- ✓ Illegal status
- ✓ Unwelcoming society
- ✓ Language and cultural differences



Arrival to Europe

What you might find when you arrive to the south of Europe

If you're a unaccompanied minor:

- ✓ Detention centres
- ✓ Legal loopholes
- ✓ Institutional abandonment
- ✓ Homelessness after you turn 18



Arrival to Europe

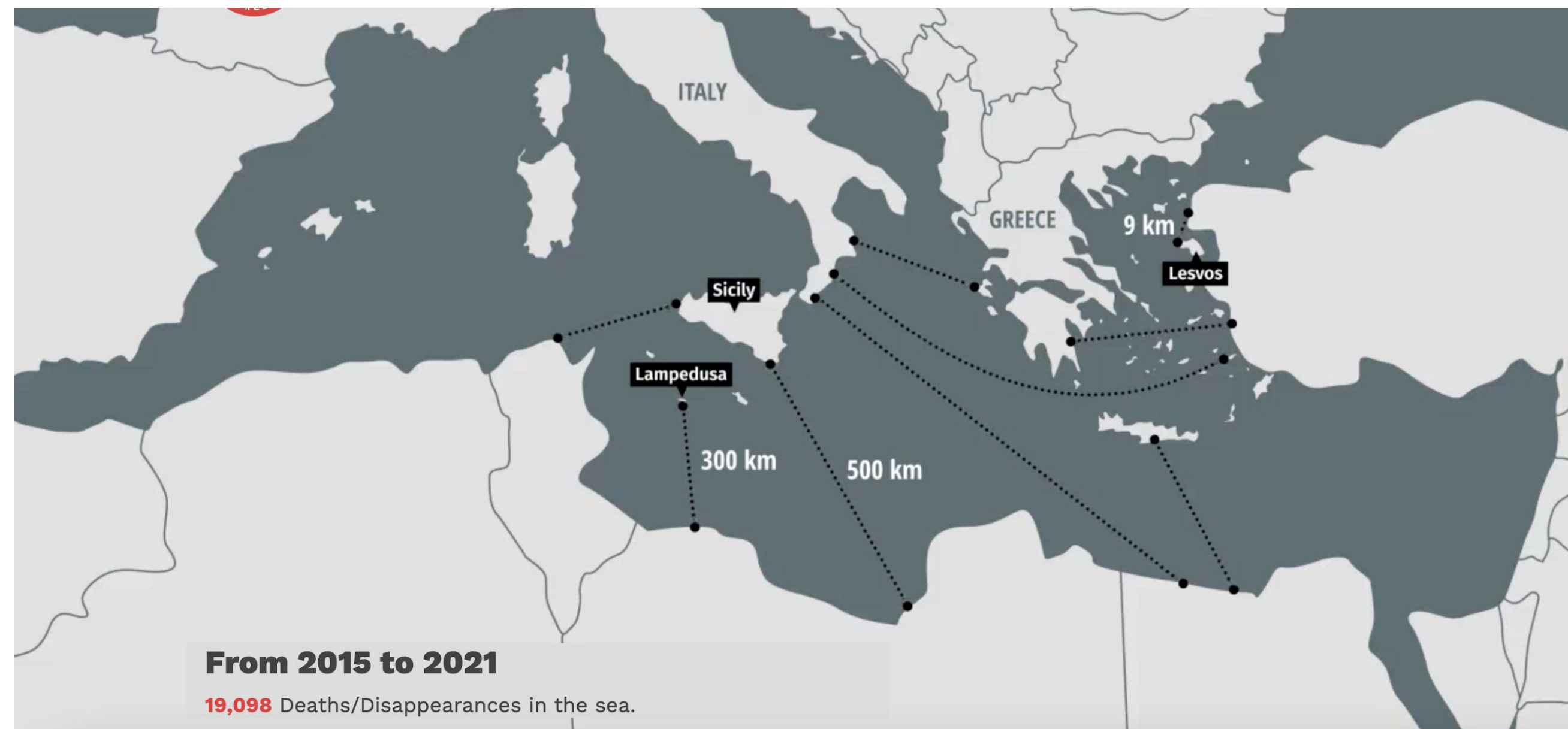
And most importantly - **YOU CAN LOSE YOUR LIFE**

- Overcrowded boats with limited flotation devices
- 19,098 Deaths and disappearances at sea from 2015-2021
- Approximately 2,500 people

died in 2023



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So what should you do?

There are other ways of finding work in Europe using the regular channels. For example:

- [Ghana-European Centre for Jobs,](#)

[Migration and Development](#) - advice on

migration to **Germany** and other EU

countries.

[https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/b](https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/business/skilled-workers-for-germany-i-m)

[usiness/skilled-workers-for-germany-i-m](https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/business/skilled-workers-for-germany-i-m)

[igration-centre-in-ghana](#)

- [Health and Care worker visa in the UK](#)

This visa is for both medical professionals and people interested in working in adult social care, public or private.

<https://caretuition.co.uk/work-in-care-i>

[n-the-uk-from-africa/](https://caretuition.co.uk/work-in-care-in-the-uk-from-africa/)



So what should you do?

Avoiding the Mafias and People Smugglers

A Guardian News Investigation reports on

[Nearly 17 child migrants a day vanished in Europe since 2018 | Migration | The Guardian](#)

- Criminal Organizations target migrant children to become victims of labour & sexual exploitation
- Children are trafficked to other countries to work on farms

[Watch Video](#)

DW Report on Migrant Smugglers

[DW Report on Migrant Smugglers: International Criminal Gangs](#)

- International criminal gangs control the smuggling of migrants.
- Traffickers use convincing methods to lure people into accepting their offers
- (Appeal to emotions. E.g: “A real man travels”)



So what should you do?

Beware of Smugglers on Social Media

- Traffickers using social media to advertise. They use photos, videos, testimony from some alleged “successful migrants” to persuade people.

[Migrant Smuggler on Tiktok](#)

But the reality?

- Huge amounts of money involved, Crowded boats, False documents, Ran out of oxygen, Death of hundreds.
- “The Mediterranean sea is Europe’s largest grave”

IO CAPITANO, A film by Matteo Garrone

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyQUOeS4Vlg#:~:text=IO%20CAPITANO%20by%20Matteo%20Garrone,Oscar%20for%20Best%20International%20Film.>



Thank you!



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