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Protection system for asylum seekers and refugees Italy

The Protection system in Italy: SPRAR and Central Service

The Protection System for Asylum Seekers and Refugees was established in Italy in year 2002 by the Article 32, 1-*sexies and septies* of law 189/02 (the so-called *Bossi-Fini law*), a more organic and institutional version of the previous National Programme Asylum (PNA), supported by the *National Fund for Asylum Policies and Services (FNPSA)*, which places specific ordinary resources at the disposal of SPRAR activities. The Ministry acts as *institutional guarantor*, delegating the operational aspects to ANCI, by establishing the *Central Service*, to be managed by the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI), with responsibilities concerning information, promotion, consultancy, monitoring and technical support for the local authorities involved in the Protection system.

The Central Service

Under the aforementioned law, the Central Service is responsible for the coordination and technical support of activities linked to local projects.

This law allocates the following functions to the Central Service:

- monitoring of the presence of asylum seekers and refugees in Italy;
- creation of a databank with information on local actions for asylum seekers and refugees;
- support for the dissemination of information and communication activities;
- technical assistance to local authorities, also in setting up services;

It is here, in the Municipality, following the beneficiary's entry into the Protection system, that the fundamental passage from protected person to *citizen playing an active role in integrating* takes place.

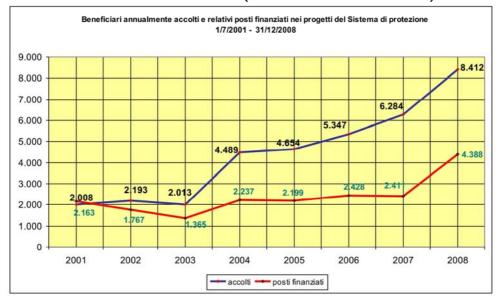
This process is made possible thanks to the use of an *integrated model* which absorbs and improves the different experiences of the public and private non-profit sectors present at local level as well as recognising the crucial role played by Municipalities as suppliers of social welfare services and the main reference for the local service network. The SPRAR model therefore represents one of the most interesting experiences of the implementation of the principle of *subsidiarity* that was expressly introduced into the Italian legislation with the amendment of Title V of the Italian Constitution. In fact, municipalities more than any other institutional actor are requested to support citizens and local issues.

As established by Law 189/2002, one of the tasks of the Central Service of the Protection System is to monitor the presence of asylum seekers and refugees in Italy.

Projects	138 projects (31 of which aimed at vulnerable categories)		
Funded places	3.000 (of which 501 for vulnerable categories).		
Local Authorities	123 of which: 103 Municipalities 17 Provinces 3 Unions of Municipalities		
Territorial coverage	68 Provinces out of 109 19 Regions out of 20		

THE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES - 2009

BENEFICIARIES ADMITTED BY YEAR (FROM 1/7/2001 TO 31/12/2008)



Beneficiaries	Female		Male		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total beneficiaries	2.112	25	6.300	75	8.412	100

GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF ORIGIN OF BENEFICIARIES - 2008				
Continent	Number	%		
Africa Asia	5.543 2.269	66 27		
Europe	498	6		
Latin America	102	1		
Total	8.412	100		