

THE AWARDS 2020

International Collaboration of the Year

Institution name	University of Central Lancashire
Submission title or project name	Letters from Lesvos
Nominee/key personnel	The Centre for Volunteering and Community Leadership
URL	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1c-H_n0k_rk&t
Submission	<p>Letters from Lesvos forged links with UNHCR, related NGOs like Movement on the Ground working on football skills programmes with Barcelona FC, and the University of the Aegean, whose staff and students collaborated with a view to developing further joint programmes.</p> <p>The real impacts, however, transcend formal structures of policy and practice. The children benefited from the project in several ways, but their greatest benefit was the knowledge that our staff and students cared enough to share their skills. In the words of the children: “Despite the war, we can see that good people exist in the world”; “You make us very happy”.</p> <p>Research undertaken in Lesvos will not only inform understanding of student Knowledge Exchange within a crisis context and develop compassionate and socially responsible graduates, but also further enhance institutional awareness of the refugee journey and help develop partnerships towards achieving UN SDGs.</p>