



REGIONAL REFUGEE AND MIGRANT RESPONSE PLAN (RMRP) FOR EUROPE

Overview

The Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP) for 2017 outlines the intended operational response and financial requirements for the response to the large-scale population movements registered throughout Europe since 2015. The response is primarily designed on the basis of protection-related concerns and humanitarian imperatives. In 2017, the response by humanitarian partners will primarily focus on the relatively static and increasing populations in Greece and Italy. The RMRP presents a set of measures that will enable the humanitarian community to contribute to the protection of refugees and vulnerable migrants, as well as the human rights of all people involved. The following report is a summary of key interventions applied across various sectors throughout the region by humanitarian partners during the third quarter of 2017.

Arrival trends

Between 01 January 2017 and 30 September 2017, 138,300 refugees and migrants arrived by sea through the Mediterranean (Greece, Italy, Spain and Cyprus only, including arrivals to the Canary Islands and by land to Spain). Arrivals by sea in this period comprised of 18% children, 13% women and 70% men. The reduced number of refugees and migrants entering Europe via the Central Mediterranean route since mid-July continued with just under 6,000 people arriving by sea in Italy in September, a 65% decrease compared to September 2016. While the increased arrivals of refugees and migrants via the Western Mediterranean route to Spain this year continued with an 8% increase in September compared to September last year, arrival numbers in September fell 36% compared to August. In Greece, a total of over 20,000 people arrived in Greece by sea in the first three quarters of 2017, nearly one third of whom in August (3,600) and September (4,900). The majority of arrivals were to Lesbos, followed by Samos. In addition, arrivals have increased through the Greek-Turkish land border of Evros, with an estimated 573 people arriving in August, and 1,079 in September 2017. As of 30 September, over 104,800 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea in 2017 (a 64% drop compared to the same period in 2016), including over 13,500 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), accounting for 13% of sea arrivals. While arrivals from Libya to Italy have reduced, the proportion of arrivals by sea into Italy from other countries such as Algeria and Tunisia have increased.

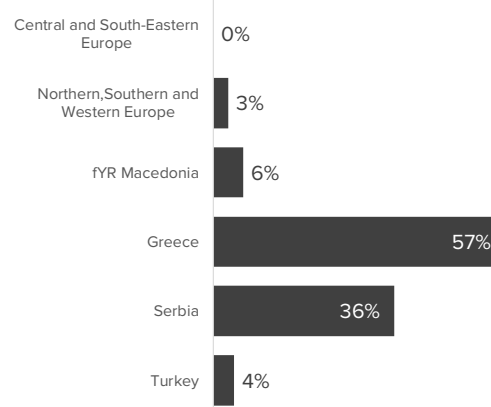
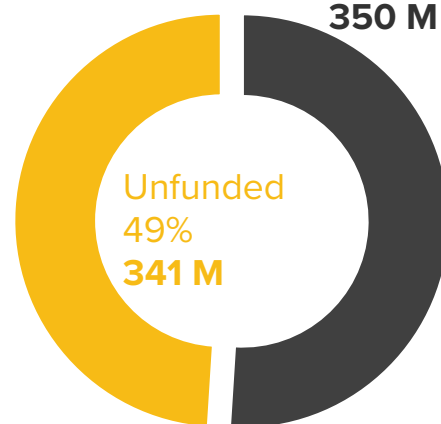
Irregular mixed movements continue through the Central Europe region, often facilitated by smuggling networks. During the third quarter of 2017 this included nearly 500 people arriving by boat in Romania after departing from Turkey. So far this year almost 4,500 people were intercepted by border authorities in Bulgaria during their attempt to pass irregularly through the country on their way to other EU Member States. Throughout the region UNHCR and partners monitor border movements and reception conditions, providing legal assistance and other forms of support as required.

Up to **342,000** people
Population planning figures

FUNDING (AS OF 13 OCTOBER)¹
USD 691 M

RMRP requirements

Funded
51%
350 M

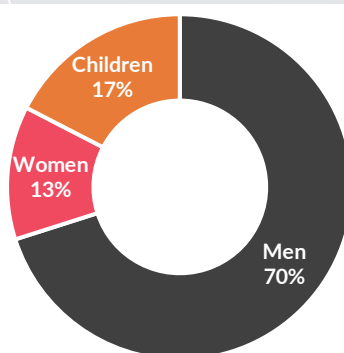
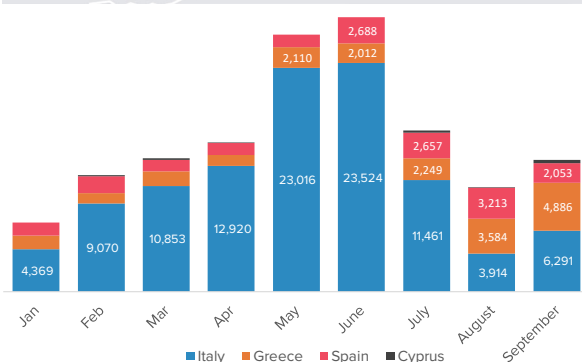
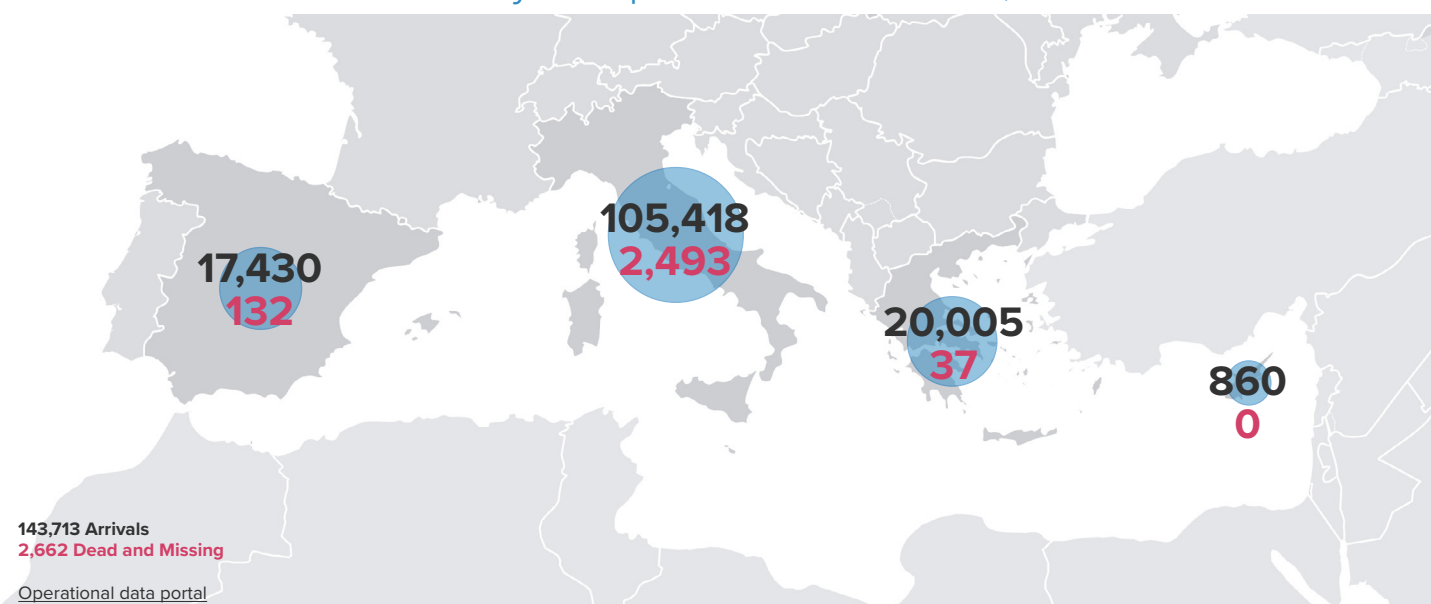


33
Partners with funding

74
Number of partners

¹ Source: [RMRP Interagency Funding Snapshot - 13 October 2017](#)

Arrivals between January - September 2017: 143,713



Arrivals

143,713 in Q1-Q3 2017

303,838 in Q1-Q3 2016

362,376 in 2016

1,015,078 in 2015

Key achievements Greece

To help alleviate some of the pressure brought on by the increase in arrivals to the Greek islands in the eastern Aegean Sea, UNHCR in coordination with the authorities increased the transfer of eligible asylum-seekers to the mainland and Crete. In the reporting period, UNHCR had supported the transfer of 9,890 people to places in UNHCR's accommodation project and sites by coordinating transfers and funding transportation. As of August, full management of the response on the islands was transferred from NGOs and international organizations to the responsible Greek authorities. This, however, resulted in a number of gaps in service provision which are still being addressed.

The accommodation project, currently funded by Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and implemented by UNHCR, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Terre des Hommes and CARE, has secured 17,661 available accommodation places in urban housing by the end of September. In view of the limited number of available places in shelters (1,125 places) for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), which falls far short of the estimated number of UASC in Greece (2,850 as of 30 September 2017 according to EKKA¹ Statistics), UNHCR cooperated with EKKA at the request of the Government to establish a referral mechanism for those who turn 18 from UASC shelters to the accommodation scheme. While this helps provide the very much needed space, the young adults will still require support during this transitional period. UNICEF established Child and Family Support Hubs

in 25 locations on mainland Greece reaching 5,868 children with psychosocial support and recreational activities. UNICEF and partners (Merimna and Babel) also provided specialized mental health support and recently published a rapid assessment on the mental health and psychosocial needs of unaccompanied children in Greece in partnership with the Institute of Child Health. In September, UNICEF in partnership with EKKA finalized a capacity building needs assessment and developed a strategy to roll out a nation-wide capacity building plan to improve the quality of services in shelters for UASC. In addition, UNICEF in partnership with the Deputy Ombudsman for Children's Rights, established an NGO Network for the Rights of Children on the Move to monitor the evolving situation of refugee and migrant children.

Danish Refugee Council's (DRC) response in Greece funded by the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and UNHCR, has benefited some 15,000 people in 2017. As a Site Management Support agency in 13 sites², DRC is present daily ensuring safe and quality living conditions in the sites. Food catering has been provided as needed to ensure the daily minimum Kcal intake for 4,800 people living in these sites. Protection and Legal aid services are provided in the above sites as well as Moria, Kara Tepe, Trikala, Veria, Alexandreia and urban centres of Thessaloniki ensuring protection of the most vulnerable and access to legal support in the native language of asylum-seekers, migrants and refugees. IOM Greece carried out Site Management Support at 10 open accommodation facilities where almost 4,000 people benefited from access to shelter, educational support and medical assistance. IOM maintains daily presence at these facilities to ensure the quality living conditions, based on beneficiaries' needs and feedback. Over

¹ EKKA: National Centre for Social Solidarity

² Elliniko 1-3 until 1 June 2017, Skaramangas, Schisto, Rafina, Rafina, Elefsina until 24 October, Koutsochero, Volos, Nea Kavala, Kavalari and Lagadikia

5,000 children have been enrolled in Greek public schools since January, with strong support from the Education Sector Working Group and accommodation partners, complementing the Ministry of Education's efforts. IOM with funding from ECHO has ensured the transportation of 3,000 students from the open accommodation facilities throughout Greece to schools. IOM is also distributing 6,000 school kits to those children accommodated in apartments (including those supported by the UNHCR accommodation project, Terre des Hommes, NRC and CARE) as well as the open accommodation facilities. UNICEF provided structured non-formal education classes to 3,668 children aged 6-17 years old in Skaramangas, Eleonas, Thiva and Kavalari camps, as well as eight urban centres in Athens and two urban centres in Thessaloniki. In addition, 886 young children (3 to 5 years old) benefitted from early childhood learning, and another 5,826 children received education supplies. DRC also provided non-formal education opportunities to more than 600 children, youth and adults in basic literacy, numeracy, English and Greek language.

By September, protection related activities with a specific component on sexual gender based violence (SGBV) prevention and response were expanded in Greece. UNHCR with the General Secretariat for Gender Equality of Greece also developed guidelines for the protection of women and girls to guide the response of humanitarian stakeholders during reception and asylum procedures. In addition, UNHCR began cooperation with two national NGOs, DIOTIMA - Centre for Research on Women Issues and the Greek Council for Refugees (GCR) for the provision of services to prevent and respond to SGBV in sites in the mainland and urban locations in Athens, and with the International Rescue Committee in Kara Tepe, in Lesbos. UNHCR also provided technical expertise to the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, KEELPNO, in the development of the 'Vulnerability Assessment' tool which aims to improve identification and referral for people with specific needs.

By September, UNHCR completed the transition to the UNHCR Greece Cash Alliance cards, thus concluding the process for harmonized cash assistance in Greece for asylum-seekers. In September 2017, 32,416 people in Greece received cash assistance to meet their basic needs for the month directly by UNHCR, and indirectly through UNHCR-funded partners.

IOM Greece has assisted more than 20,000 asylum-seekers, by the end of the reporting period, with ensuring their safe and [dignified transfer](#) to other EU Member States under the EU Relocation Scheme. Transfer activities include conducting health assessments and facilitating pre-departure and cultural orientation sessions.

Italy

UNHCR staff are present in disembarkation areas in several locations in southern Italy, delivering information on asylum and relocation to new arrivals and supporting the authorities with the identification of persons with specific needs. UNHCR liaised with the authorities to ensure that eligible candidates are given access to the asylum and relocation procedures. During the reporting period, UNHCR advocated for UASC who had been sleeping at port areas following disembarkation, to be promptly transferred to child reception facilities. Moreover, UNICEF continues to support the search and rescue operations at sea in partnership with the Italian Coastguard having identified and referred a total of 2,487 UASC upon disembarkation.

During the third quarter, 6,259 at-risk children were identified

and assisted through UNICEF outreach activities. UNICEF and the Ombudspersons in Palermo, Trapani and Agrigento have developed programmes on guardianship for UASC. Thus far, 80 UASCs in Palermo are benefitting from this programme, while activities are being expanded in Calabria. UNICEF is improving youth participation through [U-report](#) an online polling platform, which has so far engaged 500 UASC in Sicily and Calabria. In the context of child protection, UNHCR continued capacity building activities for staff of first-line governmental facilities on the principle of the best interest of the child and on international protection. On 11 September, the National Ombudsperson for Children invited UNHCR, as well as other NGOs, professional associations, international organizations and EASO focusing on the rights of children, to contribute to a discussion on how to best implement the law providing voluntary guardian rosters. UNHCR, in particular, will provide support in relation to delivering training to voluntary guardians. UNICEF has scaled up its technical assistance for reception facilities in Sicily to strengthen the implementation of minimum protection standards reaching 419 frontline workers in 54 reception centres in Palermo, Trapani and Agrigento municipalities, as well as rolling out monitoring tools to monitor implementation of standards in all facilities involved.

Following the development of a standardized coordination and referral mechanism between the national asylum protection system and the anti-trafficking protection system, UNHCR continued to provide training to refugee status determination (RSD) officers and local anti-trafficking organizations on the "Guidelines for the identification and referral of potential victims of trafficking in the context of the asylum procedure". UNHCR also launched a number of pilot projects in collaboration with national NGOs³ which included initiatives such as improving the quality of the response to SGBV survivors and refugee integration. The first National Integration Plan was approved on 26 September and incorporated fundamental policies in line with UNHCR's recommendations. UNHCR and UNICEF staff also carry out missions to northern Italy's border areas and Rome, conducting capacity-building activities and needs assessment to assist the authorities in providing persons with information on the asylum and relocation procedures available in Italy, and working with communities to identify gaps affecting the implementation of the relocation programme.

Serbia

Throughout the reporting period, UNHCR and partners supported authorities at 23 sites around the country, in protection monitoring, identification and addressing individual's specific needs, referrals, interpretation, information and counselling in over 1,500 instances. This includes providing counselling on asylum procedures for over 500 cases and providing transport to over 100 asylum-seekers to designated asylum centres. To assess immediate risks and solutions, UNHCR and partners supported national authorities in carrying out best interest assessments (BIA) for over 100 UASC and follow-up on some 20 SGBV cases. UNHCR medical partner teams provided over 20,000 healthcare services in ten government centres, including over 350 cases of psychosocial support. UNHCR continues to support a coordinated response in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, including through UNHCR regularly updating the joint assessment of conditions in all sheltered sites against applicable reception standards. DRC Serbia continue the provision of protection monitoring and comprehensive assistance in all asylum and reception/transit centres in close cooperation with the Government of Serbia, thanks to the support of ECHO, UNHCR, UNICEF and

³ AIDOS (Associazione Italiana Donne per lo Sviluppo), DIRE (Donne in Rete contro la violenza), LILA (Lega Italiana per la Lotta contro l'AIDS) and MEDU (Medici per i Diritti Umani), ARCI (Associazione Ricreativa e Culturale Italiana), NGOs Teatro dell'Argine, Adecco, and Sports without Borders, CeSPI (Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale).

UNFPA.

IOM mobile teams maintain daily presence in all reception facilities to provide information to people on AVR counselling and transportation assistance for medical cases referred to primary and secondary health care. IOM held the second regional training on Joint Risk Analysis and Modus Operandi of Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Human Beings, including trainers from the Serbian and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Ministries of Interior. Sixteen border police officers from departments dealing with the issues of risk analysis in the Serbian Mol took part in the training session.

At the beginning of the school year, authorities, with the help of UNICEF, UNHCR, IOM and other organizations, enrolled school-age refugee and migrant children throughout the country and provided them with school supplies.

During the reporting period, 3,201 at-risk children, including UASC, were identified and assisted by UNICEF teams' support, and 2,769 children accessed psychosocial support and other protection services in UNICEF-supported Child and Family Support Hubs in nine locations across the country. 1,191 infants (under 2) and 781 mothers accessed health and nutrition services in UNICEF mother and baby care centres.

DRC Serbia finalised the rehabilitation works on 6 buildings within the Obrenovac Reception Centre (ECHO-funded), which has a hosting capacity of over 800 people and is conducting minor rehabilitation works in a few more centres in Serbia (Vranje, Presevo, Pirot and Kikinda). DRC Serbia is currently enhancing winterisation plan and activities, including preparation for distribution of winter clothes. In September, upon request of the authorities, UNHCR completed a comprehensive delivery of NFIs to all 18 governmental centres. Over 24,400 pieces of clothing and underwear, 9,000 UNHCR bags, 3,400 bedlinen sets, 3,300 hygiene kits, 2,900 pieces of footwear and 2,800 blankets were distributed to refugee men, women and children. In addition, 8,465 children received NFIs to protect them from weather conditions and assisted with health and hygiene items.

UNDP continued to implement USAID funded activities in the area of local community support through upgrading community infrastructure and enhancing services delivery in refugee and migrant affected municipalities. UN agencies in Serbia (UNDP, WHO, IOM and UNOPS) created strong partnership to implement EU funded "Open Communities – Successful Communities" Project. The project will improve quality, efficiency and accessibility of health-care systems and services, community infrastructure, enhance local services, inter-cultural exchange and flow of information in selected municipalities. In strong partnership with governmental partners – the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs and the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration and local administrations, UNDP conducted re-assessment of some local communities' needs. The process resulted with the jointly defined list of project interventions, which will address the most pressing services' and infrastructure related challenges in 18 affected municipalities and cities.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

During the reporting period, IOM continued to conduct referrals related to services including medical, legal, and accommodation. As part of regular IOM activities, counselling on assisted voluntary return (AVR) was also provided, along

with interpretation and psycho-social support. In total, 581 relevant service referrals have been made by the IOM mobile teams. IOM in Skopje has provided regular health and nutrition support to a total of 32 cases, including persons with specific urgent health care needs and vulnerabilities. The medical teams established in both centres assisted 118 individuals with medical checks and referrals to the General Hospital in Gevgelija and Kumanovo. UNHCR maintained presence in the Transit Centres on both the southern (Vinojug) and northern border (Tabanovce), and conducted protection monitoring with partners throughout the country. UNHCR supports partners such as: the Macedonian Young Lawyers' Association (MYLA) providing legal aid, Open Gate – La Strada providing psychosocial support, City Red Cross mobile teams providing basic medical and humanitarian assistance for persons outside accommodation centres, Legis and Civic Development – Vaksince providing basic assistance for persons in northern villages.

Following its previous involvement with the production of SOPs on UASC and those with special needs, UNHCR, in partnership with UNFPA, has also supported the drafting of SOPs concerning Victims of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Settings. This represents a significant step forward in the area of SGBV protection in the country, broadening the scope of protection for the first time to the victims of other forms of abuses, beyond domestic violence.

With the support of UNHCR, DRC Macedonia provided infrastructure assistance to 10 local communities identified as affected by the refugee influx. The community projects are primarily motivated to strengthen understanding and social cohesion between the local population and the refugees and other persons in need of international protection in locations along the border with Greece and Serbia. DRC successfully completed eight community projects and the remaining two are expected to be implemented by December 2017. With funding from the Government of Japan, UNDP continues to improve waste management and reduce disaster risk in Kumanovo and Gevgelija, the two communities most affected by the refugee crisis in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. A USD 600,000 flood-prevention project is currently under way to protect minority ethnic communities along the Lipkovska River in Kumanovo and a contractor has been tendered to build a new USD 1 million landfill for Gevgelija, with groundbreaking expected in December 2017.

Turkey

RMRP partners continued to support frontline institutions such as the Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) and the Gendarmerie through capacity building, interpreters and equipment. During the reporting period, over 3,800 refugees and migrants rescued at sea have been supported with food and NFIs. Additionally, IOM provided counselling on their rights in Turkey to some 1,900 people rescued at sea, recreational activities to 59 children and interpreters for 2,193 individuals. IOM has also identified 95 refugees and migrants rescued at sea whom require specific interventions and counselling as they have particular needs such as medical constraints or are eligible for family reunification.

UNHCR maintained its field presence through its partners in eight provinces at the western land and sea borders of Turkey and through its field office, providing humanitarian assistance, interpretation support and psycho-social assistance to refugees and migrants rescued and intercepted. UNHCR continued to support the law enforcement and provincial directorates of the line Ministries, including the Directorate General of Migration Management, Gendarmerie General Command, Turkish Coast Guards, Turkish Land Forces and Ministry of Family and Social Policies, in provision of services for persons on the move. In

order to strengthen the existing mechanisms for identification and referral of persons with protection needs and vulnerabilities, UNHCR provided capacity building support to a number of State institutions. UNHCR also conducted 45 field monitoring visits to various locations at the western border region of Turkey to meet with the key counterparts including the Provincial Directorates of Migration Management, Turkish Coast Guards, Gendarmerie Commanderships, Governorates and District Governorates to identify needs, gaps and challenges at the field level.

In line with identified gaps, UNHCR provided technical support, including drafting of standard operating procedures on identification and referral of vulnerable groups as well as material support, such as 2,350 food packages and 1,166 canned food, nine emergency containers, five shower containers and 70,856 units of bottled water to improve reception conditions for those rescued/intercepted. In order to strengthen the response by State institutions, UNHCR also provides interpretation support to local authorities, including 19 interpreters assigned at the western land and sea border cities. UNHCR is working with local authorities in Kusadasi district of Aydin for the establishment of a pre-screening centre.

IOM has provided capacity building trainings to 96 TCG and other frontline institutions staff on: EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing) Supervisory Trainings, mixed migration and protection of vulnerable migrants training, detection of forged documents training, counter-migrant smuggling and human trafficking training.

Austria

In September, UNICEF started capacity-building activities on child protection for 500 frontline workers, which in the third quarter reached 50 government employees and 50 frontline workers. As of September, UNICEF organized and chaired two roundtables to support the development of minimum child protection standards for accommodation facilities. UNHCR's child protection activities in Austria, in line with the Child Protection Roadmap, includes monitoring visits to 18 reception facilities which host UASC and accompanied children and organization of trainings for legal counselors of UASC.

Germany

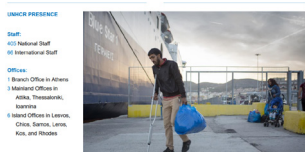
UNICEF and its partners disseminated the updated Minimum Standards for the Protection of Refugees in Germany through a series of regional conferences, finalized the Training Package and Toolbox on the implementation of the Standards, which has already benefitted a total of 1,100 frontline workers by the third quarter. UNICEF also designed a user-friendly monitoring tool for refugee centres, which will be tested by the end of 2017. UNICEF continued to advocate for a federal law on improved protection in refugee centres and produced a policy paper on family reunification that will be published in the fourth quarter.



FACT SHEET > Greece | 1-31 October 2017

Greece

Conditions are improving in the border reception centres, including the vulnerable people to continue their water preparations on the islands.



Greece country factsheet



ITALY OPERATIONAL UPDATE - October 2017

ITALY

October 2017

Key Figures:

111,397 arrivals
 14,597 UASC arrivals
 9,960 releases

Overview and developments

Between 1 January and 31 October 2017, 111,397 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy. This is a 30 per cent decrease compared to the same period last year, when 159,427 persons were registered.

Operational update - UNHCR Response

Access to territory and procedures. UNHCR teams at disembarkation sites in southern Italy delivered information to persons arrested and escorted access to asylum and other procedures, as well as prompt identification and referral of persons with specific needs. UNHCR protection teams carried out missions to reception facilities and informal settlements in various locations across Italy, liaising with reception facilities staff and competent authorities to ensure prompt registration of individuals who are eligible to apply for asylum.

Capacity building. UNHCR staff working in the context of Refugee Status Determination (RSD) have been providing training to Italian authorities on the identification and referral of persons with specific needs.

Partnerships. On 6 October, UNHCR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Coordinator for Children and Adolescents, aimed at jointly providing child protection initiatives in Italy. The collaboration entails participating activities to be carried out at least 10 times per month.

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INTERAGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Serbia

October 2017

KEY INDICATORS

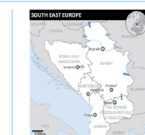
734 registered intentions to seek asylum in Serbia

30% of registered refugees and migrants were minors

27 applications for asylum

1 person granted asylum status

9 persons granted subsidiary protection



The number of new arrivals grew again. 1,817 were encountered and assisted in October (as compared to 1,772 in September). 14% were adult men, 17% adult women and 69% children, not 60% unaccompanied or separated children. 32% came from Pakistan, 20% from Iran, 16% from Afghanistan, 15% from Iraq, 9% from Syria and 4% from other countries. 40% arrived to Serbia from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 42% from Bulgaria and 12% from other countries.

The number of departures and testimonies of detention experiences remained stable. 1,341 in October (as compared to 1,024 in September) of which 24% from Syria, 24% from Iraq and 34% from Romania, with many alleging to have been denied due access to asylum procedures and fewer to have been mistreated.

School enrolment progressed well. By the end of October, the number of refugees, asylum-seeking and migrant children attending public primary & secondary schools amounted 500 (compared to 400 in September). 80 children also were enrolled in the 1st Centres of Serbia, Subotica and Kikinda.

During October, of temporary shelters (not tents and tents) in the Transit Centres, Asylum Procedures Centres and Asylum Centres were closed. Men and boys who had previously been accommodated in the old tents were moved to other accommodation centres with sufficient capacity such as Kikinda, Čokorlatovo and Prokupac. Most details on reception conditions and cases per each site are available at www.unhcr.org/refugees/srbia.

In coordination with the Serbian Commission for Refugees and Migration (CCRM), UN agencies and NGOs have been working on the identification and registration of refugees and migrants. A comprehensive distribution of winter NFIs for all the undersheltered is being implemented in official accommodation centres.

The Court of European Secretary General's Special Representative on Migration and Refugees published the report of his last field trip dated 12-19 June to Serbia and the so-called transit zones of Hungary.

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FACT SHEET

Turkey

October 2017

Over 3.5 million refugees. Turkey continues to host the world's largest refugee population.

Predominantly out of camp. More than 90 per cent of refugees in Turkey live outside of camps in urban and peri-urban areas.

Mostly children and women. 70 per cent of refugees in Turkey are women and children.

FUNDING (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER)

USD 368 M requested for Turkey

UNHCR PRESENCE

103 National Staff

103 International Staff

Offices:

1 Branch Office in Ankara

1 Branch Office in Ankara

1 Branch Office in Ankara

1 Branch Office in Ankara

1 Branch Office in Ankara

1 Branch Office in Ankara

1 Branch Office in Ankara

1 Branch Office in Ankara

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TURKEY HEALTH SECTOR | September 2017

ASSISTANCE TO SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE HEALTH SECTOR IN TURKEY



ACHIEVEMENTS

4 of 10 countries receiving refugees and migrants had no dedicated health facilities

316,542 of 1,171,750 refugees and migrants received health services

11,758 of 117,758 refugees and migrants received health services

67,620 of 117,758 refugees and migrants received health services

403 of 117,758 refugees and migrants received health services

265 of 117,758 refugees and migrants received health services

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