

Current Challenges
Reported by Refugee Families and Children
in Urban Settings

Field Unit Athens
June 2023



Since the beginning of 2023

Incoming communications

Communications received by asylum-seekers and refugees: **1,161** (e.g. phone calls, e-mails, WhatsApp messages), around **230 communications** per month

- **233** families (including single female and male households), more than **40 communications** per month
- **17 Unaccompanied children** - **ten** of them living in Urban Athens

Since the beginning of 2023

Protection monitoring – Information Sessions

- Regular protection monitoring visits to communities centers, majority members of which are **single female house holds**
- **29** Information sessions conducted with more than **130** participants
- Topics: Asylum procedures, Access to Education, Integration, Useful communication channels, Gender-Based Violence

Street Outreach Exercise:

- **20** missions conducted; more than **200** places visited; more than **270** persons approached
- No unaccompanied children identified so far

Main Challenges Reported

- Limited actors providing **free legal assistance** – increasing requests for family reunification
- Limited **accommodation options** (esp. after the closure of ESTIA)
- Lack of **financial support** – **increasing needs for cash assistance**
- Limited **material support** - increasing needs for **food and basic items** (e.g. diapers, clothes)
- Limited actors providing **day care for children** (for parents who work or attend classes/trainings)
- **Lack of places in schools** in Athens' areas with dens population
- Limited knowledge on **free vaccination services** for children
- Limited knowledge on **children enrollment to kindergarten and schools** (e.g. timeframe, documentation needed)
- Possible risk of refugee **children drop school** due to lack of documentation

Thank you

