

22 November 2016

Regional IM Working Group

– Meeting minutes

Present: UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, Save the Children Sweden, IFRC, REACH

General updates

- a. For the most recent updates, see the Mediterranean response data portal - <http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/regional.php>
- b. UNHCR is currently updating the functionality of the data portal and will seek views on requirements for additional data, products and functionality in the next few weeks.
- c. UNHCR is conducting a new profiling exercise in Greece on the islands of Lesbos and Chios, specifically for Syrians and Afghans in order to try to understand the reasons for travelling to Greece and their intentions for the future.
- d. Responding to interest from governments, additional profiling exercises are being planned in Northern and Western Europe. The Governments of Norway, Denmark, Finland, Austria, Netherlands and Belgium have all expressed interest in similar profiles to the recent Swedish profile (see <http://www.refworld.org/docid/581b4b684.html>) being conducted.
- e. IOM has completed two assessments - firstly in [Italy on the socioeconomic background of new arrivals](#) – and secondly, on the situation in the [Calais Jungle camp](#), just before its closure. These reports will be uploaded on the Mediterranean data portal.
- f. IOM, as part of the DTM initiative, is also undertaking an assessment in Turkey in 15 provinces using a key informant approach. The flow monitoring component of the DTM is also being conducted in 4 provinces in Turkey. Almost 22,000 refugees and migrants have been interviewed to date in the Eastern and Central Mediterranean route, including 4,721 in the last three months. IOM are planning to update the approach to their flow monitoring and reporting and will seek opinions on this by Survey Monkey.
- g. UNICEF is partnering with REACH to undertake service mapping and profiling in Italy and Greece. The priority is to complete a mapping of the monitoring systems and child friendly spaces. In Greece this will focus on access to services and data collection on the situation of refugee and migrant children in urban areas, while in Italy, a mapping of monitoring systems in centres for UASC, as well as profiling of UASC will be conducted. The profiling will include a detailed questionnaire for individual respondents as well as focus groups. The intention is to focus on reception centres in Sicily.
- h. UNICEF will rollout the refugee and migrant feedback mechanism in Italy, which has been developed and used successfully in Ukraine.
- i. REACH - ACAPS, Danish Refugee Council, Ground Truth Solutions, Internews, INTERSOS, REACH, and Translators without Borders have recently launched their mixed migration platform in the Middle East. <http://www.blog.mixedmigrationplatform.org/>

- j. IFRC have been working at the grassroots level, conducting ground truth exercises (e.g. in Bulgaria) to investigate the reality of the situation for refugees and migrants in Europe.
- k. Save the Children Sweden are working on a report documenting the impact of the new asylum laws on unaccompanied refugee and migrant children in Sweden.

UASC Factsheet

- UNICEF, IOM and UNHCR will work together on an interagency factsheet on Unaccompanied and Separated Children in Europe. The datasets available to support this will be reviewed (e.g. EKKA data in Greece, Lavoro.gov.it in Italy etc).

DG Justice

- UNICEF, IOM and Save the Children have increased their capacity on child rights monitoring under a specific project, funded by DG-Justice. The aim is, among other things, to strengthen national monitoring capacity and build a comprehensive monitoring system for refugee and migrant children in Greece (and possibly other countries), which can inform policy-making and humanitarian response.
- Work on this project will commence in December. IOM will manage their activities from Budapest and UNICEF will begin activities in Greece.

Site assessment / site monitoring

- In Greece, acting on a request from the Government of Greece, IOM will carry out a site assessment of all the camps that where IOM extends site management support, including as well information on the profile of the services available in each.
- UNHCR have also conducted site monitoring in all camps in Greece, the general results of which can be found on www.unhcr.gr/sites/.
- There is much that can be done together to further improve these tools. These site monitoring tools will be updated in 2017 to be more visual and interactive, in conjunction with the site management teams.

Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for 2017

- The update of the response plan is underway. This will include a section on achievements, gaps, challenges for each country in Europe. The RMRP for 2017 will be launched at the end of 2016.
- Specifically in relation to IM, a joint workplan for 2017 is being developed to help guide the priorities for IM activities within Europe, but particularly in relation to the Mediterranean response.

Follow up actions

1. UNHCR to seek views on requirements for additional data, products and functionality in the data portal.
2. IOM to share the assessment reports from Italy and Calais and UNHCR to upload these on the data portal.

3. UNHCR to share the RMRP for 2017 for review and once live
4. UNHCR to share the Syrian and Afghan profiles for Greece
5. IOM, UNICEF and UNHCR to work together on improving the site monitoring tools in Greece.
6. UNICEF, UNHCR and IOM to work together on a UASC factsheet
7. All to finalise the joint IM workplan for 2017

Next meeting

12th Jan at 1100 to 1300.