



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

16,360

Persons that benefited from the Accommodation for Relocation project since November 2015

17,018

Accommodation places with services for relocation candidates/other asylum seekers established since January in line with UNHCR policy on alternatives to camps. Cash/voucher assistance granted to 5,804 relocation candidates.

612

Accommodation places for unaccompanied children established by UNHCR in Greece

3,589

Asylum seekers transported by UNHCR to the Regional Asylum Offices for full registration of their asylum claim during the month

47,382

Number of PoC who received NFIs assistance as part of the Winterization such as blankets and clothing.

108

Water and Sanitation facilities (prefab shower and toilets) provided to partners and cleaned on monthly basis.

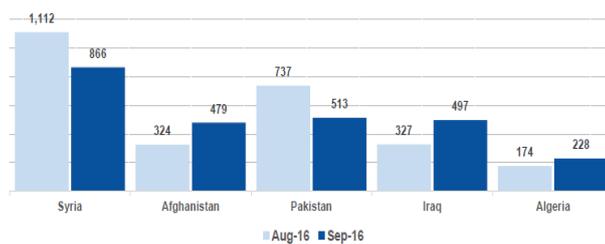
1,300

Shelter upgrading solutions (family tents, Refugee Housing Units, metal/folding beds) provided in mainland in August

45

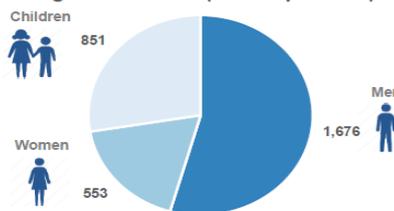
Inter-agency coordination sectoral working groups established and chaired/co-chaired by UNHCR at country and field levels

Top nationalities of arrivals in Greece



Source: Hellenic Police. Partial data.

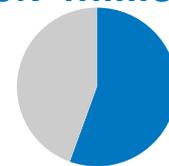
Age and Gender (1-31 September)



Source: Hellenic Police. Partial data.

Funding USD 300 million requested
USD 166.7 million received

Gap
45%



Funded
55%

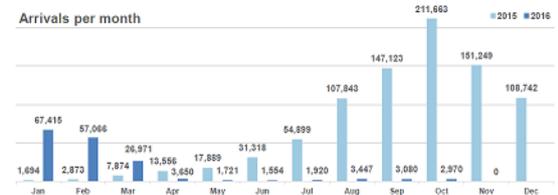
Dead and missing

272 dead- 152 missing (2015)

142 dead- 51 missing (31 Oct 2016)

(Source: Hellenic Coast Guard, Greek territorial waters)

Arrivals per month



UNHCR Presence

Staff: 511 in total.

356 national (273) and international (83) staff

1 international staff on mission (Emergency Deployment)

178 staff under Affiliated Workforce arrangements

77 national staff deployed in support of Greek authorities

Technical Unit

9 Shelter and Site Planning staff (**4** international, **5** national)

9 Site Management support (**4** international, **5** national)

Offices: **12** in total.

1 Representation office Athens

5 Offices on the mainland (Thessaloniki, Polykastro, Larissa, Ioannina, Attica)

6 Offices on the islands (Lesvos, Chios, Samos, Leros, Kos, Rhodes)

5 WASH staff planned (**2** international **3** national)

2 Health (**1** international, **1** national)

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

Winterization activities, in preparation for the harsh weather ahead, started on 18 October, to the benefit of 47,382 asylum-seekers in Greece. An estimated total of 109,513 winter items were distributed in 47 mainland sites and five islands. 234 containers were installed in various sites, including Katsikas, Nea Kavala, Filippiada and Alexandria. In Kara Tepe and Moria on Lesbos, installation is planned for November. The non-food items (NFIs) for the winter were distributed thanks to the financial support of the European Commission - Humanitarian Aid and donations by Zara and UNIQLO. Structural upgrades, such as heating are foreseen, whilst alternative solutions will be sought for places that do not have sufficient electric power-. Due to environmental risks, the site at Kipselochori has been completely evacuated and the vulnerable asylum-seekers were accommodated in hotels and apartments. The opening of a new site at Ktima Iraklis in Pieria is expected, after infrastructural developments. Although the sites in Nea Kavala and Katsikas will eventually close, considering that winter may affect these locations as early as mid-November, some form of limited winterization is ongoing. In the meantime, UNHCR received requests from NGOs to intervene with winterisation in sites which were not included at the original list of 15 sites from the Ministry of Migration Policy (MoMP). UNHCR is following up, to adjust the level of intervention needed.



In Geneva, 3 October, the Secretary General of the Hellenic Rescue Team (HRT) Konstantinos Mitragas and the human rights activist and co-founder of “PIKPA village” on Lesbos Efi Latsoudi received the 2016 Nansen Refugee Award for their outstanding humanitarian assistance to new arrivals in Greece in 2015. © UNHCR/M. Henley, 3 October 2016.

A meeting between the Alternate Minister for Migration Policy Ioannis Mouzalas and the President of the European Parliament Martin Schulz on 20 October focused on ensuring the **implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement** by all sides and on relocating refugees from Greece to other Member States, especially unaccompanied minors (UACs). Minister Mouzalas asked for Schulz’s support in the establishment of a European return mechanism, and on the amendment of the Dublin regulation concerning the examination of asylum claims in a way that doesn’t burden solely the countries of first arrival to Europe. From his side, Mr. Schulz noted that Greece should speed up returns to Turkey. Since the beginning of the year, 1,085 third country nationals have returned to Turkey on the basis of the bilateral Readmission Protocol between Greece and Turkey, 51 Turkish nationals on the basis of the EU-Turkey Readmission Agreement and 682 foreigners of various nationalities, on the basis of the Joint EU-Turkey Statement. Besides, since the entry into effect of the Joint EU-Turkey Statement, 228 third country nationals that had entered Greece by sea from Turkey, have returned to their home countries voluntarily through the IOM-managed voluntary return program (*source:*

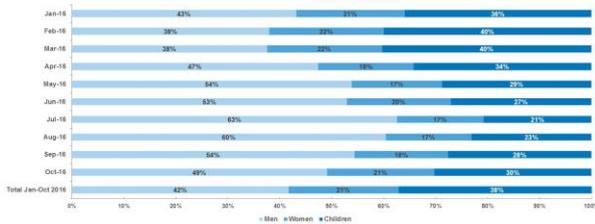
MoMP).

Tensions amongst the asylum-seekers country-wide and security concerns are in critical levels due to severe overcrowding at the open accommodation sites and delays in the registration and processing of asylum claims. On 8 October, in Chios a group of people at the open accommodation site in Souda broke windows of the containers belonging to UNHCR’s partners in the administration area. In an unfortunate and tragic incident, a refugee woman and her young son were killed outside the Oreokastro site in Thessaloniki, on 16 October. This led to further tension, as the offender’s car was set on fire by asylum seekers. The police intervened and the driver was detained. In Herso site, UNHCR staff evacuated the area, after threats of violence in relation to unmet accommodation needs. Incidents of protest related to shelter were also reported in Malakasa, Elliniko and Agios Andreas, while food and cash program related protests took place in Schisto and Skaramangas. On the 20 October, a fire started at Moria, Lesbos destroying nine containers used by EASO and the Regional Asylum Office. The schedule of the transfer of 113 PoCs residing in the shelter managed by Caritas who were scheduled to be transferred to the mainland were affected, because their documents were inside one of the containers burnt in Moria. An equally serious incident happened in Softex (Northern Greece), on 24 October, where site residents threw stones on UNHCR containers due to frustration for not being selected for relocation. The police swiftly intervened.



Winterization in Petra Olympos © UNHCR, 3 October 2016

were inside one of the containers burnt in Moria. An equally serious incident happened in Softex (Northern Greece), on 24 October, where site residents threw stones on UNHCR containers due to frustration for not being selected for relocation. The police swiftly intervened.



Gender and age breakdown of new arrivals per month (January – October 2016). The sum of the percentages may differ from 100% because of rounding effects. Source: Hellenic Police; partial data.

On the Aegean Islands a steady pace of continuous arrivals, combined with the overcrowding at sites, the slow pace of transfers and delays in the asylum, the security concerns are causing strains in the existing sites. A total of **2,906** people arrived in October compared to **3,080** arrivals in September. **Since April, 18,342 refugees and migrants have crossed the sea to Greece.** Samos recorded the highest number of arrivals (1,351 people or 45% of total arrivals) during the month which also reflects more than a threefold increase compared to arrivals in September. Moria, Skaramangas and Vathy are the three most overcrowded sites in Greece.

Nationalities	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16
Syrian Arab Republic	30,309	29,412	14,399	1,268	525	459	510	1,112	866	979
Afghanistan	18,846	13,943	6,133	580	270	215	201	324	479	405
Pakistan	2,243	1,539	1,880	637	231	233	345	737	513	104
Iraq	11,964	9,134	2,515	381	162	183	104	327	497	535
Iran	2,193	1,593	674	73	64	51	73	123	155	214
Other	1,860	1,445	1,370	711	469	413	687	824	570	669
Total	67,415	57,066	26,971	3,650	1,721	1,554	1,920	3,447	3,080	2,906

Arrivals by nationality per month during 2016. Source: Hellenic Police/Hellenic Coast Guard; partial data.

Returns to Turkey under the EU-Turkey Statement continued although in limited numbers, with a total of 713 people returned since 20 March 2016. People returned were rejected asylum seekers, persons who decided to withdraw their asylum application or to voluntarily return to Turkey.

A massive arrest of 213 refugees mostly from Syrians and Iraqis took place in the Evros region that borders Turkey. They were transferred and detained at the Pre-removal centre of Fylakio, where UNHCR has already coordinated with other actors in the Reception and Identification Centre (RIC) to provide assistance. It is noted that several asylum seekers, usually of Pakistani origin, are **repeatedly found trying to board a ferry to Athens with forged documents or hiding themselves in trucks.**

Efforts to face overcrowding on the islands by transferring asylum seekers to sites in the mainland is on-going in collaboration with the Greek authorities.

On 3 October, the Nansen Award Ceremony took place in Geneva, where the Hellenic Rescue Team (HRT) and Efi Latsoudi, a human rights activist from the community-run Pikpa accommodation centre on Lesbos were honored for their humanitarian efforts to help thousands of refugees arriving on Greek shores.

In the framework of a media visit organized by the The European Commission’s Representation in Greece, on 24-25 October, UNHCR’s Representative briefed 34 journalists from EU Member States on the current refugee situation in the country and UNHCR interventions.

INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

- At the Inter-Agency Meeting organized by UNHCR on 31 October, the Director of Greece’s Asylum Service, Maria Stavropoulou, noted that up to 35,000 asylum applications have been fully lodged until the end of October, of which 20,000 were lodged on the mainland. Between 20-23 October, the total of police recordings of expressions of will to apply for asylum on the islands is 18,228. Among the applications accepted on the islands, 7,321 have been declared admissible and 1,022 inadmissible (Syrian nationals). 2,594 cases have been referred for the regular asylum procedure. Among them 1,360 cases were referred due to vulnerability, 911 cases for Dublin family reunification reasons, and 323 cases due to individual circumstances.
- In collaboration with the Asylum Service, the Communication With Communities (CwC) working group finalized and distributed comprehensive Q&As (45 in total) regarding the registration and related procedures, such as applying for the relocation scheme and for family reunification. The Q&As are based on concerns and questions from the field, and from CWC Working Group (WG) members. They have been shared widely, they are available in Greek and English on the Asylum Service website and they are translated to Arabic, Farsi, Pashto, Urdu, Kurmanji and Sorani. **Notifications for November**



registration appointments went out using a bulk SMS system in October (4,513 notifications in one batch, and follow-up on delivery failures).

MAINLAND RESPONSE

Protection

- Provision of information.** UNHCR continued to support the Greek Asylum Service in the capacity building of its caseworkers and in the quality assurance of asylum procedures in old and recently established Regional Asylum Offices.
- Assistance in rescheduling missed appointments.** In Northern Greece, UNHCR protection staff continue to follow-up with the Asylum Service concerning the rescheduling of missed appointments and adjusting the schedules, so that families are examined together. In Central Greece, unaccompanied children (UACs) eligible for family reunification who are about to turn 18 are facing delays in their procedures, impeding their entitled access to specific protection. In Central Greece, UNHCR continues to coordinate with site managers and partners on the Asylum procedure. In Western Greece, fully registered relocation candidates have been referred to accommodation prior to their notification and departure to another EU Member State. Information clarification on rumours and miscommunications is also on-going.
- Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) prevention and response.** SGBV referral pathways were agreed upon and finalized with relevant actors throughout the month in most sites both in the mainland and on the islands. In Northern Greece, UNHCR held a meeting with the SGBV sub-working group where Terms of Reference for the group were finalised, the capacities of the different partners were identified and the current challenges discussed and addressed.
- Support to people with specific needs (Unaccompanied children).** In support of the Greek authorities' efforts to expand the reception capacity for unaccompanied children in the country and with the aim to avoid detention, UNHCR through partners is providing **622 places for unaccompanied children in 23 transit or longer-term shelters**. Out of these, 14 structures are located in the mainland (nine in Attica and five in Northern Greece). UNHCR is working towards opening five new centres to provide 54 additional places by the end of the year. UNHCR is aiming to provide 50% of the total places for unaccompanied minors in the country. As an interim measure and to ensure proximity with their community of origin at the sites, three Safe Spaces for UACs, with the capacity of 90 children, continue to be fully operational in Diavata and Alexandria while Lagadikia is currently being upgraded. An additional Child Friendly Space was successfully established in Trikala, Central Greece. UNHCR also fund shelters for girls and boys below 14 years old to cover age and gender needs. Concerning more specifically unaccompanied children in sites, UNHCR will focus on the definition of the parameters to open new shelters. In view of the high number of UACs and the urgency of the needs, the creation of safe zones in open accommodation sites constitutes the only viable option to address both the need to provide care to UAMs and to provide urgent safety and protection needs of UACs including immediate removal of children from detention.
- Children in protective custody.** According to the figures of 19 October from the Ministry of Migration Policy, based on the referrals to National Centre for Social Solidarity (EKKA), out of the 2,500 estimated number of children currently in Greece, 332 UAC are held in closed reception facilities and 27 in protective custody. The main priority is to decongest the UAC areas in the RICs, by promoting safe spaces in the open sites, amongst others. While there is an understanding of the need to provide temporary solutions such as safe spaces, partners have expressed their concern for the lack of appropriate security in some of the sites. The Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) is in the process of providing more detailed recommendations to the MoMP in terms of criteria and selection of sites, along with its cost-efficiency.
- Food cell Task Force.** Established in June at the request of the former Secretary General of the Ministry of Migration Policy (MoMP), the Task Force reviewed the current status of food assistance provided by the Ministry of Defense in official accommodation sites country-wide. It was proposed to provide more practical and efficient methods with details for the menus when contracting the caterers. Catering services will stop by the end of 2016, and the study will serve as a basis for the transition towards cash based assistance. UNHCR is currently waiting for comments from the Alternate Minister of Migration Policy.
- On a more positive note a Greek couple, Maria and Mihalis have opened their hearts and kitchen, feeding hot meals to 50 refugees a day on Samos island.



A photo exhibition entitled "Children who crossed the sea - playing with the masks" took place in Technopolis, Athens, in the framework of the festival "Break the chain" against human trafficking (22-23 October). The exhibition displayed results of artistic workshops by UNHCR's partner 'Network for Children's Rights', funded by the European Commission-Humanitarian Aid. © UNHCR/ Y.Kyvernitis, 22 October 2016.



On 7 October, a Project agreement was signed between UNHCR and the KEDHL (Κοινωνική Επιχείρηση του Δήμου Λεβαδέων-Benefit Corporation of the Municipality of Livadia), a non-profit public legal entity of the Municipality of Livadia to establish 330 places for relocation candidates and vulnerable asylum seekers in Greece within the end of the year with a possibility of extension into 2017. © UNHCR, 6 October 2016.

- **Support to accommodation capacity for asylum seekers.** In support of the Greek authorities' efforts to expand reception capacity for asylum seekers, UNHCR's accommodation project funded by the European Union reached **17,018 places** as of 31 October, representing more than 85% of the 20,000 target of UNHCR and its partners by the end of 2016. During the reporting period, **3,982 new accommodation spaces** were established which is the largest achievement since the beginning of the project. A total of 5,079 relocation candidates left for an EU Member State since September 2015. Over **16,360 persons benefitted from the project** so far, which includes the cumulative number of current and past places occupied, persons relocated to EU Member States and irregular departures and/or abandons.

- **Public Relations.** The **UN Day** (24 October) was celebrated in Athens at a ceremony organized by the Prefecture of Attica, with the participation of UNHCR Greece's Representative, on behalf of all the UN staff. During the ceremony, the Greek and the UN flags were hoisted at Acropolis and a wreath was laid at the monument of the Unknown Soldier.

- **Public Awareness Activities:** With the photo exhibition "**Children who crossed the sea - playing with the masks**", UNHCR in cooperation with the Network for Children's Rights and Save the Children participated in the festival "**Break the Chain**" against human trafficking, that took place on 22-23 October at Technopolis, City of Athens, on the occasion of EU Anti-trafficking Day. The exhibition represented part of results accomplished through a series of recreational and educational activities for refugee children in the refugee sites Schisto and Elliniko III by Network for Children's Rights in the framework of the UNHCR project "Blue Dot Hubs" supported in mainland Greece by the European Commission (EC) - Humanitarian Aid. During the well-attended exhibition there were three workshops on masks organized for more than 200 refugee and local children, who expressed their own world, identity and emotions under their masks.

Education



Children's First Day at school, Lagadikia and Derveni-Dion © UNHCR, October 2016.

- On 10 October, **700 child asylum-seekers started attending 16 primary and secondary public schools** (45 afternoon reception classes) as planned by the Ministry of Education (MoE). UNHCR coordinated closely with MoE for this arrangement in the mainland and continued to advocate for the smooth and gradual integration into the national education system of refugee children living in open accommodation sites. UNHCR provided interpretation support in various locations. Children were warmly received in the schools, even though limited protests were staged, such as at Profitis in North of Thessaloniki, at Derveni-Dion in Northern Greece and at Akadimia Platonos in Attica. The situation was calm in Lagadikia (Northern Greece), as well as in Konitsa (Western Greece), where the 30 Syrian children who enrolled in the first grade of primary school were received with a welcome ceremony from the

school's principal, the local Mayor and school seniors.

- At the Eleonas, Lavrio, Lagadikia, Derveni-Dion and Konitsa sites, **UNHCR provided school supplies to secondary grade students.** The MoE estimates that the education program will gradually allow approximately 22,000 children to attend some 800 reception classes in schools nationwide.

Shelter and Core Relief Items

- Between 1-15 October, a **one-off distribution of winter non-food items (NFI)** was conducted in all 45 sites in the mainland Greece, including packages 120,000 blankets, 49,000 sleeping bags, 93,000 raincoats and 20,000 winter jackets. The operation was generously funded by the European Commission – Humanitarian Aid. Zara and UNIQLO had donated some of the items distributed.
- Shelter.** With clear provision of the criteria for selection through Communication with Communities (CwC) and UNHCR field assistance, housing units were allocated in several sites in the mainland. By October, 174 housing units were installed in Nea Kavala with a possibility of increasing to 200. The activity is part of the plan to install 920 housing units in up to eight different sites as of 31 October. 60 housing units were also dispatched to Katsikas. Installation in Lagadikia, Fillippiada, Alexandria and Schisto in the mainland, as well as Moria and Kara Tepe on Lesvos will soon begin. During November, a total of 200 housing units will be installed for up to 1,200 persons of concern (PoCs). By the end of the year, at least 7,500 people will be accommodated in housing units provided by UNHCR.
- UNHCR procured** 300 packages of dry food and bottles of water to be distributed during transportation exercise to the Asylum Service for the full logging of asylum applications. Also, 900 plastic bags were provided to support the scabies treatment operation for the RIC in Leros. All emergency medical cases in Evros were referred to the medical support unit of the RIC, while UNHCR coordinated the distribution of 80 female hygiene kits, 23 baby kits, 80 blankets and 88 soaps.



In Volos, 25 October, the non food items for the winterization assistance took place with the generous funding of ECHO. © UNHCR/ Z. Hakim, 25 September

Cash Assistance

- The Co-director of European Commission, Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), Mr. Jean-Louis De Brouwer visited Greece** on 14 October. ECHO has been supporting cash based interventions in selected sites in Greece. The direct food provision by the Greek Army, currently funded by DG HOME is planned to be discontinued as of 31 December 2016.
- Cash and voucher assistance continues to be provided.** Around 42% of the refugee population (15,500 persons of concern) are being assisted with multi-purpose cash grants from operational partners working in formal and informal sites. Additionally, 6,000 people receive cash from UNHCR outside of formal sites through its accommodation scheme. In total, about 21,500 persons of concern are receiving cash assistance in Greece at the moment. UNHCR aims to assist 30,000 people with cash assistance by March 2017.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Messages were developed to inform refugees and migrants, as well as field teams about the **October distribution of NFIs. Support was provided to the Education Sector Working Group on the development of Q&As**, which were drafted in coordination with the Ministry of Education and distributed in English, with translations in Greek to follow shortly. A full colored brochure describing access to free services for refugees and migrants was produced and disseminated to agencies working in Attica by the Salvation Army. It was also delivered to UNHCR's Sub-Office on Lesvos for further distribution to each one of the islands.

Logistics

- UNHCR Attica and Thessaloniki continue to provide transportation support to the asylum seekers scheduled for full registration interviews in one of the five Regional Asylum Offices (RAOs) in the country, using different transportation methods, depending on the distance, accessibility to public transportation and vulnerability. Samaritan's Purse began shadowing the transportation exercise so as to take over in the next few weeks from UNHCR staff in Attica. As of 31 October, UNHCR provided **transportation to over 3,589 asylum seekers** from various sites across mainland Greece to the Regional Asylum Offices in Athens, Alexandroupoli and Thessaloniki. Transportation continues to be provided by UNHCR also to relocation candidates.

ISLANDS RESPONSE

Protection



UNHCR staff provide information to refugees and migrants at the RIC in Kos. © UNHCR

- **UNHCR, together with other organizations, provides** information on their rights and obligations and legal aid to new arrivals on the islands. UNHCR also supports people requiring specific assistance such as the elderly, pregnant women, lactating mothers, single-headed families, medical cases, persons with disabilities and victims of torture or Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). For the vulnerable asylum seekers, alternative accommodation is provided. Unaccompanied minors who are present in the RIC are closely monitored and sheltered in centres for unaccompanied children, after they are fully registered and referred by the National Centre for Social Solidarity (EKKA).

- **Transferring PoCs to the mainland.** Upon request of the MoMP, UNHCR supported the authorities on **Lesvos** to reduce the pressure from the overcrowding on the island by transferring 75 people from Kara Tepe to sites managed by the government in the mainland. 172 persons hosted in the alternative shelters in Mytilene have been identified as eligible and

willing to be transferred to UNHCR-funded accommodation in the mainland and their transfer is scheduled for early November. UNHCR's partner Iliaktida increased its shelter capacity for unaccompanied children by opening two additional alternative shelters for up to 85 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). At the end of the reporting period, Iliaktida hosts 69 UASC.

- In Samos asylum seekers, including persons applying for family reunification with relatives elsewhere in Europe, are increasingly frustrated regarding the **length of the asylum procedures**. UNHCR continues to support the Asylum Service in providing accurate information on asylum.
- UNHCR and its partner Save the Children continued to closely monitor the conditions and administrative treatment of approximately 100 UASCs and around 550 accompanied children who are present in the RIC. Some UASCs have been in the RIC for over six months already. UNHCR mobilized partners and authorities to provide specialized services and appropriate administrative treatment. UNHCR's partner METAdrasi hosted 13 boys and 1 girl in their shelter for unaccompanied children.
- **Returns to Turkey.** During October, 222 third country nationals (mostly Pakistanis) were returned to Turkey under the EU-Turkey Statement and the Greek-Turkey Readmission Protocol. Reportedly, 125 did not apply for asylum and 66 were rejected in their first or second instance. The procedure is monitored by the Ombudsman office, as per the laws of Greece (Law 3907/2011) (Source: *Ministry of Citizens' Protection*). However, it is noted that up to 42 persons (from Iraq and Afghanistan) did not go through the reception and identification procedures and therefore no access to UNHCR and their legal representative. UNHCR has raised concern on this issue and wrote to the Police and the Reception and Identification Service, while continuing to provide additional legal counselling to the persons of concern, especially on their rights.
- **Child protection.** UNHCR is concerned about the **high number of around 100 UASCs residing in Vathy RIC**, Samos, some of whom have remained in the facility for over six months already. Whilst spaces remain available in accommodation facilities for UASCs on Samos and on the mainland, referral mechanisms to the shelters administered by the Greek authorities remain slow. UNHCR and its partners continue to advocate with the Greek authorities to speed up referrals and monitor the situation of UASCs and around **550 accompanied children residing in the RIC**.
- **Connectivity.** Samos and Kos RICs were both connected to wifi; Kara Tepe on Lesvos was reconnected to the network after 6 months offline.
- **Public Awareness Activities.** On Samos, 90 refugee children attended an educational program in the framework of the **art exhibition "A World Not Ours"** organized by Schwarz Foundation at Art Space Pythagorion from August until mid-October. With the support of UNHCR and NGO METAdrasi, refugee children had the opportunity to attend this special exhibition that brought together a group of artists, photographers, filmmakers and activists, and to interact through drawing, playing and discussions.

Education



UNHCR tents at the annex of the RIC in Kos for the accommodation of medical cases. Three additional UNHCR family tents were installed, in coordination with the Hellenic Army, in order to accommodate the vulnerable medical cases. © UNHCR.

- **Collaborating with the Government.** UNHCR, in cooperation with Save the Children, worked closely with the Director for Education of the North Aegean Region in order to identify asylum-seekers' children living in alternative shelters in Mytilene, Lesvos, who would enroll into the integration classes. The enrollment process is ongoing and three schools in Mytilene will accept 40 asylum-seekers' children. Three educational coordinators have been appointed by the Ministry of Education and will be in charge of rolling out the education program for asylum-seekers' children in Moria, Kara Tepe and in alternative shelters.

Health

- **Transportation services to the Public Hospital on Samos.** UNHCR continued to provide transportation services for persons with specific needs from the RIC to the Public Hospital, as well as interpretation support, through its partner METAdrasi, leading to significant improvement in access to public health services for refugees and migrants. 416 persons benefited from this service during October.
- **A clinic to serve both the refugees and the host community.** On Lesvos, in an effort to support the local community near the Moria site, UNHCR has started construction works for the renovation of the Moria village health dispensary. The clinic that is expected to open in November will serve both the refugees and the host community.

Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR and Samaritan's Purse (SP) finalized the installation 18 hand-washing stations in the **Vathy RIC, Samos**. UNHCR/SP also installed four toilets in the registration area, including two for persons with specific needs and mothers/babies. Up to now, no Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities were accessible to new arrivals undergoing registration. Maintenance and improvement works are provided to 74 showers, 126 toilets and 182 sinks throughout the RIC on a daily basis. On **Lesvos**, Samaritan's Purse has engaged in maintenance works for waste management and is working on the provision of heating and hot water on the sites as part of the preparation for the winter. The main accommodation site in Kos is the RIC, which has a capacity to provide shelter to approximately 1,000 individuals. Following the establishment of a new annex in August, for the purpose of enhancing the accommodation capacity of the RIC, UNHCR and partners continue to provide support in terms of WASH, Shelter and medical services. More specifically two WASH blocks and 4 water taps were installed for the PoCs at the new annex.
- **Global Hand Washing Day.** UNHCR and SP, with support of the Hellenic Red Cross, Save the Children, Calais Action and Samos Volunteers, organized an event in the context of Global Hand Washing Day at Vathy RIC. Regular hygiene promotion activities continued during the month of October.



Global Hand Washing Day at Vathy RIC © UNHCR/F. Ossman



Solar lamps distribution in Vathy RIC. ©UNHCR/S. Vlachakis

Shelter and Core Relief Items

- **Core Relief Items.** UNHCR **Samos**, directly and through partners, distributed a total of 21,236 Core Relief Items during October. Winter item packages include thermal blankets, sleeping bags, sleeping mats, rain ponchos and hats. On **Lesvos**, UNHCR will replace tents and Refugee Housing Units with 300 pre-fabricated houses that will offer better protection from the cold for refugees and migrants on the island and has developed a five-phase plan for the replacement process. In addition, 12,700 winter item packages were distributed. On **Kos and Leros**, 7,463 and 2,728 items pieces were distributed respectively. All distributions were funded by the European Commission – Humanitarian Aid and conducted by Samaritan's Purse.

- **Solar lamps.** UNHCR distributed 39 solar powered lamps which also function as phone chargers. 321 refugees who do not have access to power supply benefited from the distribution. UNHCR/SP also installed five flood lights in an extended area of Vathy RIC, where around 500 persons are accommodated in camping tents.
- **Donations.** UNHCR donated blankets, sleeping mats and hygiene kits to the Municipality of Ikaria, a neighboring islet of Samos, after the unusual reception of 36 refugees and migrants during October.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- On **Lesvos**, during the months of September and October, UNHCR with the support of the University of Aegean, organised a community based arts exercise in Moria. Unaccompanied children decorated the walls of their accommodation facilities in Moria RIC, while parents with their children created painted playgrounds outside of their shelters. Under the guidance of the University of Aegean staff members, refugees and migrants of different ages and nationalities had the chance to jointly participate in the activity which was suggested by themselves during the participatory assessment undertaken in August.



Distribution of NFIS (Winterization Plan) to the beneficiaries of accommodation provided by UNHCR and partners in Kos. © UNHCR.

- **Environmental awareness project.** On Samos, UNHCR and the volunteer group Calais Action launched an environmental awareness project in Vathy RIC. The project will run for six weeks, engaging residents in participatory workshops, arts and crafts activities on water conservation, waste management, and fire safety awareness raising and plant cultivation. Flower beds, green spaces and benches of recycled materials created by adults and children residing the RIC will be installed in communal spaces. During the course of the project young refugees and migrants and the elderly can learn and also share their knowledge and skills with each other, working on collaborative projects with people from other nationalities. The aim of the project is to educate and inspire, to foster a sense of community and collective responsibility for caring of the green spaces and to improve the environment.



Children in Moria site (Lesvos), with the help of the University of Aegean and UNHCR, created painted playgrounds outside of their shelters © UNHCR/M. Klimi, 6 October 2016

Football matches between PoCs. Football matches were organized between different groups of PoCs during October, in a football field in Ksirokampos, Leros after approval by the Municipality and the Council of the locals in Ksirokampos. The matches are held twice per week. Chess lessons and matches held under the supervision of UNHCR and the participation of PoCs both from Lepida and PIKPA and the local chess association, took place in both facilities of the island.

- The community center at the Kos RIC has now expanded in four containers and a tent at the UAC area. Projections of short films and documentaries (Cinema Project) have been added to the ongoing activities. These activities include language lessons (Greek, English, etc.), recreational excursions, pottery workshop, sports activities and painting classes. They are organized jointly by UNHCR and partners.
- Communication with Communities (CwC) activities continued on Lesvos; in addition to the weekly community leaders' meeting in Moria, an ad hoc meeting was held with the same leaders.
- Also in Moria, increased initiatives to systematically facilitate two way communication with children and women have been initiated in the past week.
- The first CWC focus group discussion with female PoCs in Moria took place with the participation of MSF, UNHCR and Action Aid. The main objectives were sexual and reproductive health and female hygiene. These sessions will continue on a weekly basis with the aim to create committees and communication channels with the larger female population.



Logistics

- **Transport from the islands to the mainland.** In order to reduce the pressure from overcrowding on the five islands, UNHCR in coordination with Greek authorities continue to organize the transfer of asylum seekers who had been declared admissible to seek asylum in Greece.

- Services continued from the sites to hospitals/town in order to meet essential needs (non-emergency medical cases, referral to alternative accommodations, interviews with concerned authorities), on **Chios, Samos, Leros and Kos**. Arrivals from Kastelorizo and Kalymnos are also transferred to Kos.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR provides protection and assistance activities directly and through **25 partners** in 11 different sectors of intervention.
- UNHCR has also **ongoing partnerships with the national and local authorities**, including the Greek Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction, the Municipality of Athens, the Municipality of Thessaloniki and Municipality of Livadia.

Sector of Intervention	National NGOs	International NGOs	United Nations	Authorities and others
Protection	GCR, Praksis, METAdrasi, ERP, Arsis, Solidarity Now	ICMC, DRC, IMC, Samaritan's Purse	UNOPS	Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction
Child Protection	METAdrasi, Praksis, Arsis, Iliaktida	Save the Children, DRC, ICMC		
Communicating with Communities	GCR/GFR			
NFI/Shelter		Samaritan's Purse, DRC	UNOPS	University of Aegean
WASH		Samaritan's Purse, DRC, IRC, IMC		
Site Management Support		DRC		
Health		WAHA, Médecins du Monde, Faros, Intersos		
Education	Solidarity Now	Save the Children, DRC, Intersos		
Public Awareness	Tenet		UNOPS	
Accommodation for Relocation	Praksis, Nostos, Arsis, Solidarity Now, Iliaktida, CRS, Faros			Municipality of Athens (ADDMA), Municipality of Thessaloniki, Municipality of Livadia (KEDHL)
Community mobilization		Samaritan's Purse, Intersos		

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In the framework of the revised inter-agency [regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan \(RMRP\) for Europe](#), released on 10 June, the Plan amounts to USD 669.9 million with UNHCR appealing for USD 380.3 million in additional support for European affected countries in the eastern Mediterranean and western Balkans countries for 2016. This appeal supersedes the original 2016 requirements for participating organizations. By participating in this plan, organizations commit to engaging in regional and national coordination mechanisms across Europe. Under this regional plan, UNHCR is appealing for 300 million USD for Greece, and as of 31 August the total recorded contributions for Greece amount to 166.7 million USD.

Special thanks to major donors to the refugee emergency in Europe – the European Union, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom – as well as to all government donors and private donors for their generous contributions. The financial support provided by donors who have contributed with non-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation and the Greece operation allows to provide

UNHCR Greece Donors	Amount Recorded in USD
Austria	2,265,006
Foundation BNP Paribas	1,481,481
European Commission (DG ECHO)	31,536,848
European Commission (DG Home)	121,162,583
Germany	3,382,187
International Olympic Committee	50,000
Norway	1,770,120
Stavros Niarchos Foundation	222,965
Switzerland	377,551
The Church of Latter-day Saints	250,000
United Kingdom	4,026,568
Vodafone Foundation	145,560
TOTAL	166,670,870

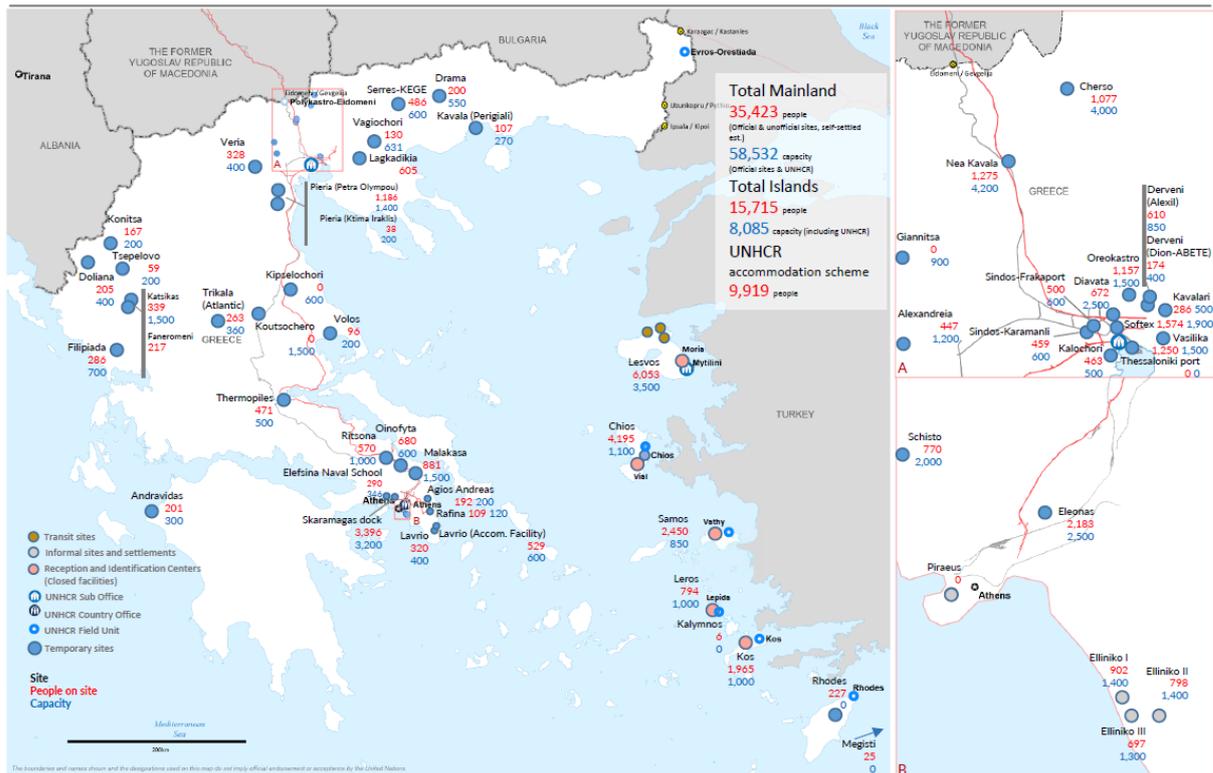
direct assistance in protection and help find solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers. In this changing operational context, UNHCR is appealing to donors to provide contributions that can be allocated as flexibly as possible.

Major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2016: United States of America (200 M) | Sweden (78 M) | Netherlands (46 M) | Priv Donors Spain (40 M) | Norway (40 M) | Australia (31 M) | Japan (24 M) | Denmark (24 M) | United Kingdom (23 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (15 M) | Priv Donors Italy (15 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (13 M) | Priv Donors Japan (12 M) | Priv Donors USA (12 M) | Priv Donors Sweden (11 M) | Italy (10 M)

Europe Refugee Emergency

Daily map indicating capacity and occupancy (Governmental figures)

As of 27 October 2016 08:00 a.m. EET



Presence and capacity are based on Governmental figures from the Coordination Centre for the Management of the Refugee Crisis, as of 27/10/2016 08:00 a.m. Eastern European Time. Online map with additional information: <http://www.unhcr.gr/sites>



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Links: [Arrival figures website](#) - [Refugee stories](#) - [Facebook](#) – [Twitter](#)

