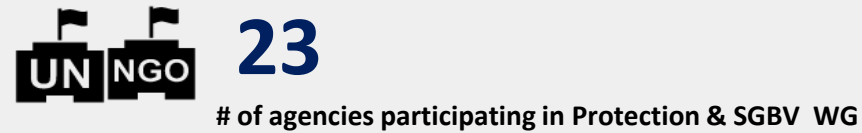


SECTOR KEY FIGURES



© UNHCR/Yorgos Kyvernitis - Chios Island, Souda Camp
UNHCR staff giving information on refugees and migrants

JULY-SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

During the reporting period two key issues have been discussed in the National WG:

1.- Transfers of asylum seekers from the islands to mainland: The PWG discussed during July the concerns on the lack of an organized system for transfers from the islands to mainland, and the lack of accommodation in mainland for asylum seekers that could travel from the islands, as a result of this situation, there was a critical congestion in the islands. In September, the Greek Authorities, with UNHCR support, started organized transfers from the islands to specific sites in mainland. This process is ongoing and the PWG is discussing the protection challenges related to this process.

2.- Registration procedures: After the pre-registration campaign, asylum seekers have their appointment in the Asylum Office for the full lodging of their application. Appointments started in September, The PWG supported with the information and communications, including Q&A, to ensure that asylum- seekers were informed and could continue their appointments.

During this period, participatory assessments were conducted in central Greece and in Samos.

NEEDS ANALYSIS

Protection problems are still reported and are of big concern: According to assessments conducted in field locations, people still reports gaps in the provision of both information and legal assistance to asylum seekers and migrants in Greece. Therefore, many people still have smugglers or social media as their main source of information.

In addition there is a general concern on security in the sites, NGOs and the PWG are receiving extremely worrying reports on security issues in the sites, from common crimes to cases of violence, including SGBV cases. Conditions in the sites, and basis needs and essential services remain as a deep concern, including the lack of responses to persons with specific needs.

SECTOR ACHIEVEMENTS

