

GREECE Accommodation update



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Fadi, a shop owner from Aleppo, his wife Samah, and their four children aged 4 to 15 in the living room in their apartment in Athens. Having spent six months in Vial, Chios, the family was transferred to one of the apartments of UNHCR's Accommodation Scheme in the mainland while waiting for the outcome of their asylum application.

Overview

By the end of October, UNHCR had created 17,907 places in the accommodation scheme as part of the ESTIA programme. These were in 2,853 separate facilities, in 18 cities across Greece.

The Accommodation Scheme¹ provides rented housing to vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees in Greece. Urban accommodation helps restore a sense of normalcy and provides better access to services, including education and health. People are additionally supported by social workers and interpreters who help them access medical services, employment, language courses and recreational activities.

17,907

Number of accommodation places²

2,853

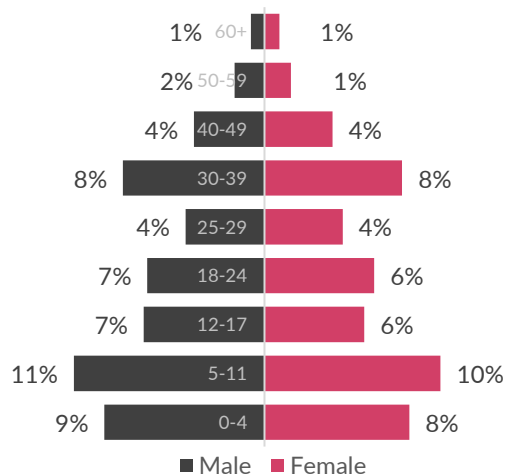
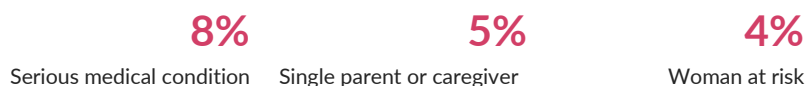
Number of units²

88%

Occupancy rate³

Demographics

In total, since November 2015, 36,921 individuals have benefitted from the accommodation scheme. 14,250 people were accommodated as of the end of October 2017. Of those, half were children. The vast majority of those accommodated are families, with the average family size of four people. One in four residents have at least one of the vulnerabilities that make them eligible for the accommodation scheme. The three most common vulnerabilities are:



31 October 2017

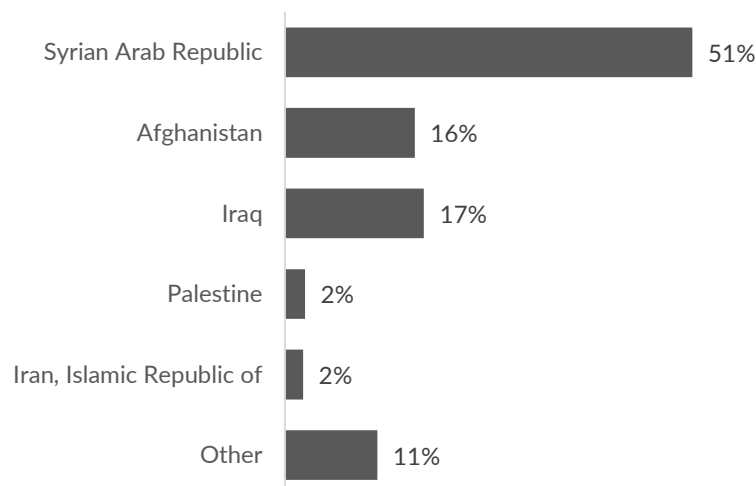
¹ The scheme also facilitates the eventual integration of those who will remain in Greece, while the host population benefits from the renting of their apartments. UNHCR works with NGOs as well as a number of municipalities around Greece to provide rented accommodation in apartments, buildings, host families and hotels. The accommodation scheme commenced in Nov. 2015.

² UNHCR implementing partners. Figures are subject to future adjustment and should not be considered final.

³ The occupancy rate is calculated as the percentage of places occupied at a given time.

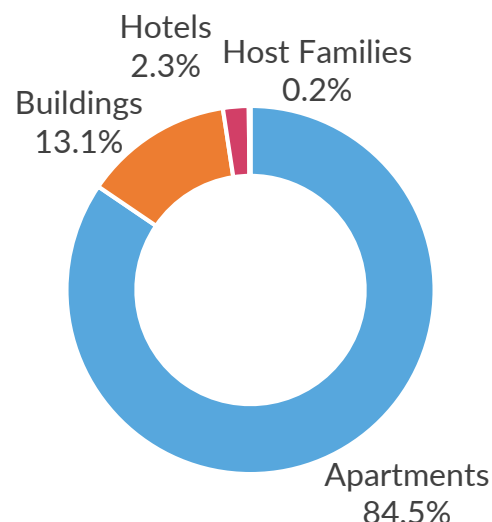
Demographics

The vast majority, 89% of individuals in the accommodation scheme are Syrian, Iraqi, Afghan, Palestinian or Iranian. The individuals accommodated as of the end of November 2017 speak 31 different languages as a mother tongue.



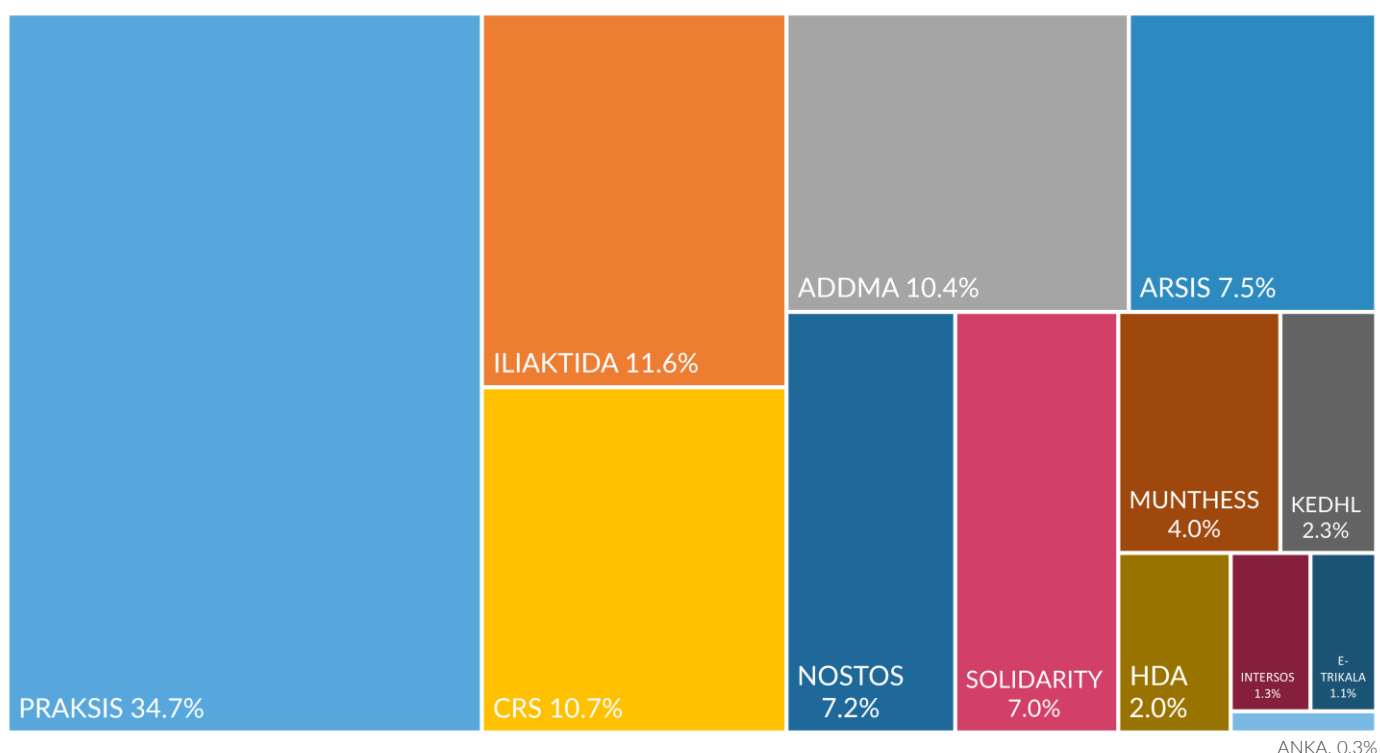
Accommodation Type

Over four in five accommodation units are apartments, followed by buildings and hotels (13% and 4% respectively).



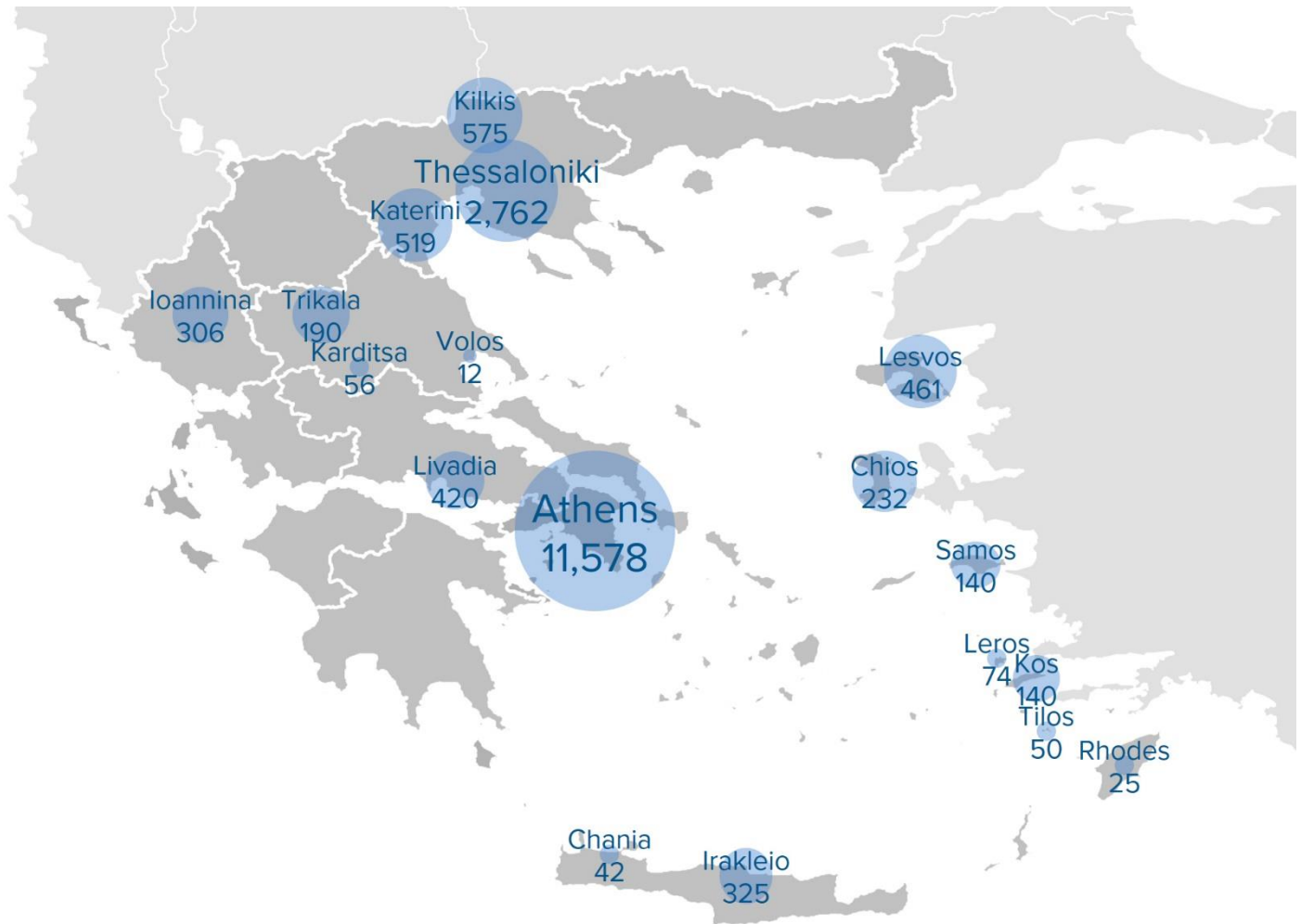
Partners

At the end of October 2017, the accommodation scheme had 15 partners, seven national and international organizations and eight municipalities: Praksis, Iliaktida, CRS, Arsis, Solidarity Now, Nostos, Intersos, and the municipalities of Athens (ADDMA), Thessaloniki (MUNTHESS), Livadia (KEDHL), Trikala (E-TRIKALA), Karditsa (ANKA), and a consortium of municipalities in Crete (HDA). In total, partners managed by UNHCR provided 94% of the accommodation spaces in Greece. In September, two additional municipalities joined the scheme, those of Larissa (DIKEL) and of Nea Philadelphia - Nea Chalkidona (KEDFX).



Location of accommodation

Accommodation for asylum-seekers and refugees is provided in 18 cities in Greece. Over half, 64% of the accommodation places are located in Athens, with 6% currently on the islands.



Total beneficiaries

In total, since November 2015, 36,921 individuals have benefitted from the accommodation scheme.

UNHCR's Accommodation Scheme is part of the ESTIA programme (Emergency Support to Integration and Accommodation) of the E.U. Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO).

36,921

Total number of individuals accommodated



Funded by
European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid