

Serbia

October 2017

KEY INDICATORS

734

Registered intentions to seek asylum in Serbia

38%

of registered refugees and migrants were minors

27

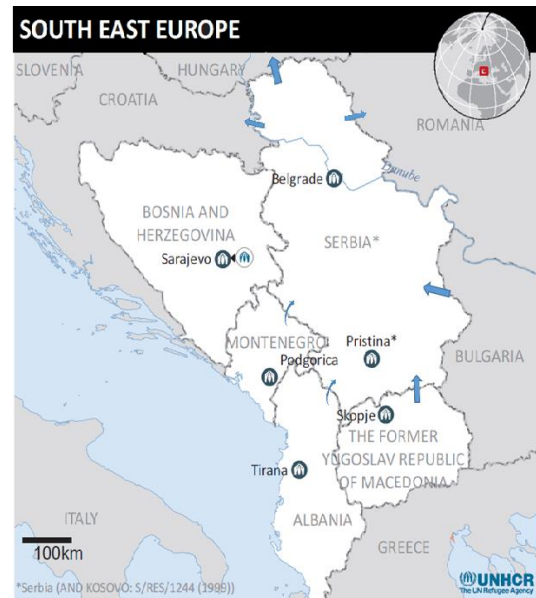
Applications for asylum

1

Persons granted refugee status

9

Persons granted subsidiary protection



- The number of **new arrivals grew again: 1,017** were encountered and assisted in October (as compared to 672 in September). 64% were adult men, 11% adult women and 25% children, incl. 69 unaccompanied or separated children. 32% came from Pakistan, 28% from Iraq, 16% from Afghanistan, 15% from Iran, 3% from Syria and 6% from other countries. 46% arrived to Serbia from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 42% from Bulgaria and 12% from other countries.
- The **number of departures and testimonies of collective expulsions** remained stable - 1,064 in October (as compared to 1,024 in September) - of which 334 from Hungary, 384 from Croatia and 346 from Romania, with many alleging to have been denied due access to asylum procedures and fewer to have been maltreated.
- **School enrolment progressed well.** By end October, the number of refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant children attending public primary & secondary schools exceeded 500 (including 80 children who were schooled in the Transit Centres of Sombor, Subotica and/or Kikinda).
- During October, all **temporary shelters** (rub halls and tents) in the Transit Centres Adaševci, Principovac, Sombor and Kikinda **were closed**. Men and boys who had previously been accommodated in the rub halls were moved into other accommodation centres with sufficient capacity such as Krnjača, Obrenovac and Preševo. More details on reception conditions and gaps per each site are available at: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/55034>.
- In coordination with the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migration (SCRM), UN agencies and NGO partners performed a **comprehensive distribution of winter NFIs for all the children/minors** accommodated in official accommodation centres.
- The Council of Europe Secretary General’s Special Representative on Migration and Refugees published the [report](#) on his fact finding visit of 12-16 June to Serbia and the so-called transit zones of Hungary.

Update on Achievements

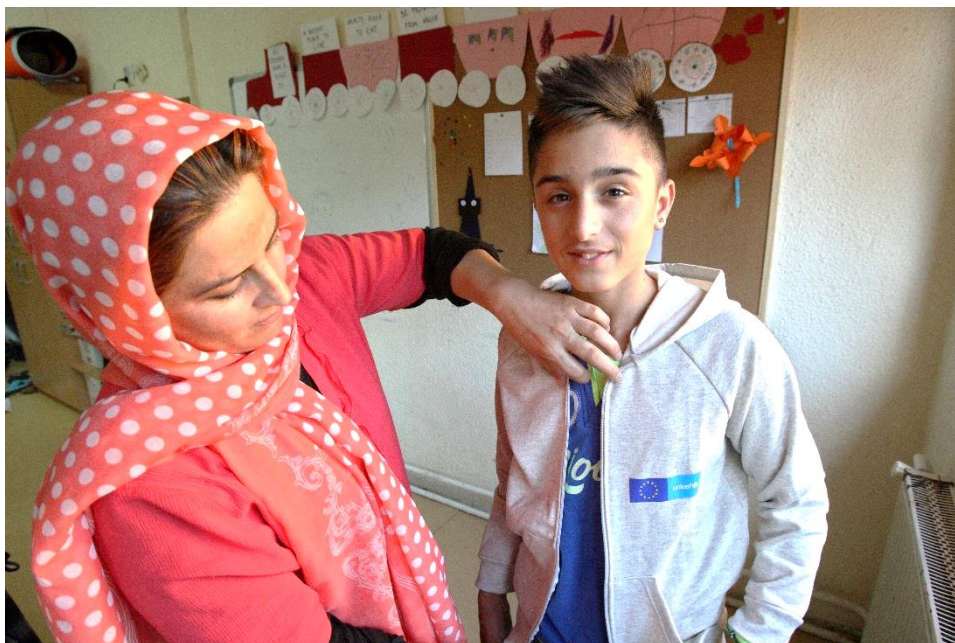
Operational Context

4,554 new refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were counted in Serbia on 31 October, out of which **4,108** (90%) were housed in 18 governmental centres. Another 300 refugees/migrants were reportedly staying rough in Belgrade city centre, over 100 in the Western border area and up to 50 in the North.

37% are children, 15% adult women and 48% adult men. 80% came from so-called refugee producing countries (including 59% from Afghanistan, 17% from Iraq and 2% from Syria).

In October, **734** individuals registered **intentions to seek asylum in Serbia**. 48% were made by men, 14% by women and 38% were registered for children. Most applications were made by citizens of Iraq (36%), Afghanistan (21%), Pakistan (20%), Syria (3%), and other nationalities (20%). One person was granted refugee status and nine persons were granted subsidiary protection, making a total of 13 positive first-instance decisions by the Asylum Office in 2017.

219 asylum-seekers were admitted into procedures in the so-called “transit-zones” of Hungary in October. Eighteen migrants were assisted through assisted voluntary return in October, and two refugees were assisted through resettlement to third countries.



UNICEF provided warm winter clothes for refugee and migrant children, Divljana RC (Serbia), ©UNICEF Serbia/Emil Vas

Achievements



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

- More than 20 UNHCR staff and 100 partner staff continued conducting protection monitoring activities covering 23 sites throughout Serbia. They informed refugees/migrants of their rights and of services available, including of the risks associated with trafficking and smuggling. Through protection monitoring, data is gathered on individual cases, irregular population movements, push-backs and collective expulsions, as well as protection incidents.
- UNHCR continues to strengthen its individual case management system. To date, 45 accounts for UNHCR staff and 54 accounts for partner staff have been created.
- UNHCR conducted screening to assess international protection needs with the aim to identify potential solutions. In October, UNHCR identified 16 cases with protection needs and vulnerabilities.
- SGBV cases are routinely identified and reported by UNHCR and partner staff through protection monitoring. In October, UNHCR followed up on 12 SGBV cases in the south and 16 cases in Belgrade.
- In order to assess immediate risks and potential durable solutions, UNHCR has been supporting the national authorities with carrying out systematic best interest assessments (BIA), with 2 children covered in the Preševo Reception Centre in October.
- UNHCR Serbia continues cross-border exchanges with neighbouring UNHCR operations to establish and improve operational cooperation and information-sharing.
- DRC/ECHO teams continued their protection activities in the areas of Preševo, Vranje, Bujanovac, Krnjača, Obrenovac, Sombor, Principovac, Adaševci, Kikinda and Eastern Serbia (Dimitrovgrad, Divljana, Bosilegrad and Pirot). Information was provided to 720 beneficiaries and protection response to 402 beneficiaries.
- DRC provided a set of vocational/occupational activities (sports activities, hairdressing and sewing) in the following centres: Principovac, Adaševci, Kikinda, Sombor, Divljana, Pirot, Krnjača, Obrenovac, Preševo and Vranje.
- ADRA's safe and protected space (Community Center) in Belgrade hosted, on a daily basis, 208 refugees/migrants in October. 66 beneficiaries participated in workshops (psychosocial support, legal, creative, recreational, etc.), and 142 visited the Centre occasionally. Referral and escort to hospital was performed by Centre's staff in one instance and to the Institute for Mother and Child in another instance.
- ADRA/Group 484 organised a soccer school in the refurbished sports hall in the Community Centre. Forty-six refugee children and youth attended the trainings daily.
- The Operation Mobilization (OM) tent in Adaševci TC was used as a community hub where children, women and men feel safe and protected, with support from OM volunteers.
- In Belgrade, International Rescue Committee (IRC) partner Info Park continued to run an information hub on Gavrića Principa Street. Refugees were able to attend German and English lessons, as well as occupational activities, to use the cyber zone at Info Park and to access Internet. Empowerment activities for women and girls were also provided.
- IRC supported Novi Sad Humanitarian Center (NSHC) to deploy mobile teams trained in protection monitoring in Sid area, reaching out to refugees outside of official accommodation centres and

providing them with information, referrals and basic aid. IRC and NSHC co-facilitated a series of occupational workshops for women in Adaševci TC, including a tailoring course.

- Supported by the IRC, Belgrade Center for Human Rights (BCHR) mobile team was present in Eastern Serbia's camps in Dimitrovgrad, Bosilegrad, Pirot and Bela Palanka to monitor the situation related to access to the asylum procedure and to provide information and legal counselling. In cooperation with SCRM, BCHR regularly provided aid to vulnerable refugees sheltered in the four reception centres. In coordination with the Hungarian Helsinki Committee (HHC), contact details of HHC's lawyers were shared with vulnerable refugees who intended to submit their asylum applications in Hungary.
- Divac Foundation continued activities in two social cafés in Krnjača AC and Obrenovac TC in Belgrade with support from IRC. Refugees were able to attend various workshops (arts and crafts, sewing, IT, English, music, environment and geography), indoor occupational activities (board games, film screenings, free coffee and tea) and outdoor sports activities.
- In partnership with the IRC, ADRA provided support to children enrolled in primary schools in Belgrade area through transportation to schools, in-school cultural mediators, and learning support during and after classes. In Borča Community Center, ADRA provided Serbian and English language courses, IT training, and indoor and outdoor occupational activities.
- In coordination with IRC, Psychosocial Innovation Network (PIN) organized individual and group sessions providing psychosocial support through counselling and educational workshops. PIN also provided training to first responders on *Psychological Difficulties of Refugees* and on *Trauma and Secondary Traumatization in Working with Refugees*.
- IRC and Mercy Corps continued providing refugees with information online via the Refugee.Info project.
- PIN worked with 144 refugees/migrants (94 males, 50 females; 94 minors and 50 adults).
- PIN provided PSS and conducting psychoeducational and occupational workshops in different locations in Belgrade – at PIN premises, at the Centre for Minors “Vasa Stajic”, as well as at PIN's premises in Sjenica and Tutin (in the vicinity of ACs). Additionally, PSS services were provided once a week to beneficiaries accommodated at Banja Koviljača and Bogovađa ACs. PIN also regularly visited beneficiaries at Slankamen rehabilitation centre.
- PIN continued organizing Art workshops for both male and female groups once a week (per group and organized outdoor activities in Belgrade.
- NSHC continued to provide support to refugee children and members of their families in Belgrade city, within the Mother and Baby Corner in Miksalište. 42 newly arrived children under 2 and 39 mothers benefitted from NSHC's services.
- With support from IRC, NSHC provided protection monitoring services to refugees and migrants staying in border areas with Croatia and Hungary. NSHC's team identified a total of 409 persons there (191 in Sid area, and 218 in Subotica area). Of the total number, 398 were males (incl.191 UASC)



Vocational trainings for UASCs taking place in the Community Center and local businesses in Belgrade, @ADRA, October 2017

and 11 were females (incl. three underage girls). NSHC provided them with information, referrals, advice and counselling.

- With support from two international consultants, and through the project “Empowering national/local institutions and strengthening gender sensitive inter-sectoral response to refugee crisis and protection of the most vulnerable refugees/migrants and asylum seekers”, UNFPA CO Serbia conducted two assessments: the first on GBV and challenges service providers are faced with, and the other one on challenges/problems faced by young adolescents. Findings of the assessments will be available in mid-November.
- Info Park in Belgrade registered 1,123 new arrivals, which is a record number of new arrivals in a single month this year. Info Park field team reported that approximately 120 migrants of different nationalities were sleeping rough in Belgrade at the end of the month.
- With support from UN Women, Info Park launched a [blog](#) on B92 media portal where women and refugees currently residing in Serbia can anonymously share their experiences and challenges, thus raising awareness of the general public on women refugee/migrant issues.
- Info Park’s Survey “Refugees are going back to Greece” was published in October. Tired of waiting to see progress in their asylum-seeking process, including getting on the so-called “Hungarian list”, more and more refugees and migrants are trying to return to Greece from Serbia where they hope to find better living conditions and a better chance of reaching Western Europe.
- Group for Children and Youth “Indigo” conducted activities in Niš, Bujanovac, Preševo, Vranje, Pirot and Bela Palanka. In Bujanovac and Preševo RCs, the number of persons of concern (PoCs) increased during October, due to new arrivals, along with the number of UASCs. Indigo worked with unaccompanied and other vulnerable children (children with disabilities, children from single-parent households, children in need of psychological support, etc.), providing psychological first aid (PFA), identifying and referring them to other actors, organising educational and recreational activities as well as following their involvement in everyday life in the centres.
- Indigo provided 47 services in Niš, 591 services in Vranje, 788 services in Bujanovac and 5,003 services in Preševo. Together with UNHCR and CSW in Preševo, Indigo conducted 2 BIA interviews.
- Three times per week, the team of Czech volunteers (People in Need/PLNU) provided movie screenings in Adaševci and Principovac TCs. The team announced their withdrawal from Serbia and are currently searching for their replacement.
- Caritas teams provided animation activities for children, occupational activities for adults and psychosocial counselling to refugees in Preševo, Bujanovac, Bogovađa and Krnjača, on a daily basis, Monday to Friday.
- In Principovac, Obrenovac and Krnjača, Caritas was organizing animation and sports activities for children and adults.
- Through outreach activities supported by Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Atina’s mobile team provided assistance and support to 139 women and girls in the field, while 67 women, girls and boys were assisted through long-term support program which includes GBV case management, safety and individual planning through counselling and full participation of the beneficiaries, referral, follow-up, PSS and protection monitoring. Atina’s mobile team had 15 urgent interventions on the field. 163 women and girls attended Atina’s empowerment workshops in five locations – Krnjača, Bogovađa, Maternal Home (Belgrade), Bujanovac and Preševo.
- Through outreach activities supported by UNFPA, Atina’s mobile team provided assistance to 32 women, girls and boys, via long-term support program which includes GBV case management, and had seven urgent interventions in the field. Four cases of GBV were identified – 3 women and 1 girl who survived physical, psychological and sexual violence.

- Through UNFPA/SDC project, NGO Atina organized 13 empowerment workshops, in three locations, for 132 beneficiaries (39 girls and 93 women).
- Humanitarian Center for Integration and Tolerance (HCIT) was active in the North, North-West and North-East, providing legal advice, practical information, protection border monitoring, identification of vulnerable individuals likely in need of international protection, filling out Protection Incident Reports on Collective expulsions, monitoring of admission process into Hungary, deportations, and cases of denied access to territory and/or asylum procedure.
- HCIT supported persons of concern in accessing local institutions, such as Health Care Centers, Municipality Office (registration of new born babies), and with transportation services in those cases, especially in cases of identified extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs) etc. HCIT interpreters were regularly used (free of charge) by doctors in hospitals, health care centres, police stations and misdemeanor courts. HCIT referred refugees/migrants to appropriate institutions and other NGOs (e.g. CSW in case of UASCs).
- During the reporting period, HCIT provided 514 persons likely in need of international assistance with legal advice (218 in the North, 296 in the West/East). They were counseled about their legal options in Serbia. In addition, 716 received practical information, were advised, referred and assisted through various activities.
- HCIT documented 66 expulsion incidents in October, including 11 violent expulsion incidents, and including 2 reported cases relating to foreigners who have never previously passed through Serbia.
- HCIT encountered (identified for the first time) in total 85 UASC, among them 52 UAMs. The youngest one identified was 6 years old boy at Horgoš, awaiting admission into Hungary.
- Initiative for Development and Cooperation (IDC)/ Arbeiter Samariter Bund (ASB) volunteer teams dedicated a total of 52 daily volunteer actions reaching more than 250 beneficiaries through sports, recreational, social and other activities.



New premises of "Maslačak" kindergarten, Kikinda (Serbia),
@UNDP, October 2017

- IDC equipped centres in Subotica, Sombor, Dimitrovgrad, Adaševci and Principovac with supplies for social and sports activities (balls, jumping ropes, hula-hoops, volleyball net, badminton sets, T-shirts for children) and organized social activities with the new equipment.

- ASB distributed football and volleyball balls, tables, sets of rackets and balls for table tennis to TCs Principovac and Sombor.

- CRS medical teams provided medical assistance in Šid, Belgrade, Bujanovac,

Preševo, Vranje and Sjenica in 4,788 instances, while, in the same locations, CRS interpreters provided translation assistance (Arabic and Farsi) to refugees/migrants/asylum-seekers, partner organisations (Philanthropy, Save the Children, Atina, UNHCR, DRC, UNICEF, IOM, MDM and IDC) and authorities (Clinical Centres of Belgrade and Niš, Health Centre (HC) Šid, General Hospital (GH) Sremska Mitrovica, HC Bujanovac, HC Preševo, GH Vranje and IPH Vranje, Belgrade Police, Šid Court, Šid Police inspectors, Police inspectors and BIA Preševo and Centre for Social Welfare Bujanovac) in 3,895 instances CRS legal adviser provided legal assistance in the aforementioned locations in 19 instances. The project is funded through the MADAD RTF which is implemented by IOM with CRS as implementing partner for the health component within the project.

- In Šid, Bujanovac, Preševo and Vranje, Balkan Center for Migration (BCM)/CRS provided psychological assistance 308 times to refugees/migrants/asylum seekers while interpreters for Arabic and Farsi provided translation assistance 487 times.
- UNICEF-supported child-friendly spaces (CFS) in Krnjača, Bujanovac, Preševo, Vranje and Dimitrovgrad remained operational, in cooperation with DRC. CFS and Youth Corners were operational in Kikinda, Obrenovac and Divljana, in partnership with SOS CV. In addition, Divac Foundation operated a CFS in Sjenica, supported by UNICEF.
- Since the beginning of 2017, 3,073 children received support in the UNICEF-supported family support hubs, CFS as well as mother and baby corners. UNICEF continued to support the social welfare system in Preševo, Bujanovac, Belgrade (including Obrenovac), the Šid area (covering Adaševci and Principovac) Kikinda, Sjenica, and Kanjiža.
- UNICEF continued to cooperate with centres for social work to identify and support UASC, as well as other at-risk children. Since the beginning of 2017, social workers interviewed the 3,950 at-risk children, including UASC, and made the necessary referrals to the police (to obtain intention to seek asylum documents), health services when necessary, and for accommodation in relevant facilities, including children's homes.
- IOM mobile teams were present in all reception/transit centres – Subotica, Sombor, Kikinda, Principovac, Adaševci, Belgrade area, Obrenovac, Divljana, Dimitrovgrad, Bosilegrad, Pirot, Preševo, Vranje and Bujanovac, and touring all five asylum centers, providing information and counselling on assisted voluntary return (AVR), as well as raising awareness on risks of human trafficking and migrant smuggling. All necessary technical and logistic support was provided to migrants who expressed their willingness to return to the country of origin - contacts with relevant embassies of the countries of origin, transfer of migrants to the embassies, assistance provided for the issuance of travel documents, travel arrangements, assistance for the movement, including the transit airport assistance and assistance upon arrival to the country of origin.
- IOM continued with assisting with the transportation of refugee/migrant children to school. This assistance includes escorting/transportation of children residing in targeted reception locations to and from school and facilitation of communication between parents, teachers and social workers/psychologists employed in their respective schools. IOM teams were conducting this activity in five locations: Dimitrovgrad, Pirot, Divljana, Bujanovac and Vranje. Total number of children transported/escorted to their respective schools in October was 111 (including six children who are attending secondary school).
- In the scope of the Project *Support to strengthening migration and asylum management in Serbia*, the first training on writing decision on asylum was organized for the employees of the Asylum Office by IOM, with participation from UNHCR. The training is part of an on-the-job training programme and will be followed by a two-month mentoring process.
- The Assisted Voluntary Return framework has been coordinated between IOM and SCRM, with a detailed outreach plan for information and individual counselling in all asylum centres, as well as in reception/transit centres. In October 2017, eighteen migrants returned to their countries of origin (to Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, Vietnam and Somalia) with AVR. In total, 198 migrants returned to their country of origin since the beginning of 2017.
- Praxis continued providing information to refugees/migrants/asylum-seekers in Belgrade about the current situation, available legal pathways and available services (accommodation, transportation to asylum/reception centres, legal assistance, medical care, food, NFIs, etc.). In October, Praxis provided support to a total of 1,274 newly arrived refugees/migrants/asylum-seekers (901 adults and 373 minors/children) in Belgrade and Obrenovac. Of the total number of children, 188 were potential UASC. Praxis also identified vulnerable cases (families with children, pregnant and lactating women,

UASC, the ill, the elderly, persons who have exhausted all resources and are at risk of turning to smugglers, etc.) and referred them to other organizations for targeted assistance. A total of 1,248 persons, 691 new arrivals and 557 beneficiaries identified earlier were referred to different organizations/institutions for targeted assistance. Praxis also provided protection by presence and escorted refugees to the Police Station for registration – of all the referrals, a total of 327 refugees/migrants/asylum seekers were referred to the Police Station in Savska Street for registration. When there was no organized transportation provided, Praxis also provided transportation assistance to a total of 83 refugees/migrants/asylum-seekers by covering the costs of train/bus tickets to asylum or reception centres, mainly bus tickets for Banja Koviljača, Tutin, Dimitrovgrad, Vladičin Han, Sjenica, Subotica and Bujanovac, train tickets for Preševo, and taxi to police station in Belgrade. Praxis also carried out protection monitoring and recorded the cases of violation of refugees' rights along the route.

- IRC/Divac Foundation team continued running a social café in two centres – Krnjača and Obrenovac. The team organized 22 Arts & Crafts workshops (9 in Krnjača, 13 in Obrenovac), 21 sewing course sessions in Krnjača, 11 IT workshops in Krnjača (8 for men, 3 for women), 13 advanced English lessons in Krnjača, 23 movie projections (4 for men and 5 for women in Krnjača, 14 in Obrenovac), 4 music workshops in Obrenovac, 4 “Meet Serbia” and 4 “Meet Europe” workshops in Obrenovac (participants of these workshops learn about Serbia and European countries and their customs and cultural differences through short films, lectures and quizzes), 4 ECO workshops in Obrenovac, 34 sports games and 100 board games. At least 875 unique beneficiaries benefited from services in the Social Cafés, including 490 men, 80 women and 305 children (270 boys and 35 girls).
- Group 484 and Divac Foundation continued supporting refugees in AC Tutin and AC Sjenica, through the organization of sports activities in Sjenica and Tutin, Serbian language classes in a certified educational facility in Tutin and arts & crafts /Serbian language workshops in Sjenica. The activities are overseen by one animator in Sjenica and one in Tutin. Fourteen art/language workshops in Sjenica were held with 238 participants. In Tutin, four Serbian language classes were held with 52 attendees. Sports activities were being practiced each day at both locations. Table tennis, football and volleyball are activities that attract men, women and children.
- With support from UNICEF, Divac Foundation ran a child friendly space (CFS) in AC Vesna in Sjenica five days per week, featuring language workshops, creative workshops, musical workshops, child movies projections and sports activities. In October, over 60 children accommodated in AC Vesna Sjenica benefited from these activities.
- Supported by CRS, Philanthropy distributed 1,963 cash cards worth 5,000 RSD each for families and 970 cash cards worth 3,000 RSD each for vulnerable individuals – 3,872 beneficiaries in total - in the following centres: Preševo, Bujanovac, Vranje, Dimitrovgrad, Bosilegrad, Piroć, Divljana, Tutin, Sjenica, Krnjača, Adaševci, Principovac, Bogovađa, Banja Koviljača and Kikinda. Philanthropy also organised distributions for Atina's beneficiaries (women and children, victims of trafficking and/or GBV) and unaccompanied minors in “Vasa Stajić” institute and the Jesuit Refugee Service's Integration House in Belgrade. The total amount of distributed assistance was approx. USD 124,122.
- CRS and Philanthropy are providing cash cards on a monthly basis in 15 Reception Centers to over 3.000 people. This activity is confirmed until 14 December 2017. Further funding is under negotiation.
- Around 250 children and youth were involved in outdoor activities led by NEXUS and CARE in Preševo RC (outdoor sports, playing with toys, social games).
- Almost 50 young children accommodated in Vranje RC were included in outdoor recreational activities led by NEXUS and supported by CARE. Activities took place at least three days per week.
- NSHC team, supported by CARE, organized recreational activities in Miksalište. During October, 60-120 beneficiaries, mostly teenage boys and men, were involved in these activities.

- As part of the Project *Welcome Initiative for Migrant Youth*, 16 young refugees/migrants were included in a three-day participative learning action (PLA) research in Preševo, conducted by CARE's partner CENTER 8, and supported by NEXUS and CARE. CARE has been drawing on the experience of its ten-year long program *Young Men Initiative*, which engages young men in the region through peer-to-peer education, to discuss and challenge gender norms and roles in the society, understand how GBV is generated and recognize it in their own behaviour, discuss healthy lifestyles, sexual and reproductive health, etc. The first informative PLA research was implemented in Preševo RC and its results were used to organize a Training for Trainers (ToT) who would work with young male refugees/migrants.
- Based on the said PLA, researchers prepared a manual for work with male refugees/migrants, and CARE and NEXUS organized a ToT for young people interested in becoming trainers equipped with the knowledge and the skills to respond to the needs of young refugees/migrants, as well as local youngsters. The ToT took place 14-22 October in Divljana in eastern Serbia. Fourteen participants from four partner organizations of CARE (NEXUS from Vranje, NSHC from Novi Sad, Impuls from Tutin and VCOS from Osijek) attended the training; they will subsequently work independently to implement workshops in centres where CARE is engaged. Additional coaching and technical assistance will be provided to this group of trainers throughout the project (sharing of manuals, guidebooks and previous experiences and close mentoring of their work).
- Crisis Response and Policy Center (CRPC) based in Belgrade provided the following services: information dissemination (in Pashto, Arabic, Farsi, Urdu, Kurdish, English etc.), interpretation, cultural mediation and orientation, psycho-social aid, identification and referrals on EVIs, advocacy and referral to legal, medical and other aid, escort and transport to different facilities etc. Services were provided both independently and in cooperation with other actors and with support from UNHCR and UNICEF.
- CRPC team provided different services for a total of 6,511 beneficiaries in Belgrade and other locations (of which from Iraq 38% and from Afghanistan 37%; 52% men, 17% women and 31% children). A total of 116 possible UASC cases were identified and referred to CSW.
- In coordination with UNHCR, CRPC provided escort for medical cases in Obrenovac TC. CRPC also assisted in escort, cultural mediation and support to PoCs accommodated in this TC.
- With the help of UNHCR, CRPC conducted a total of 68 assisted and independent visits to centres in Serbia (Krnjača, Bogovađa, Banja Koviljača, Tutin, Sjenica, Obrenovac, Principovac, Adaševci, Subotica, Sombor and Kikinda).
Supported by UNHCR, CRPC provided interpretation and cultural mediation services to beneficiaries in state-run centres (Bogovađa, Krnjača, etc.), SCRM, medical staff and representatives of other local institutions and organisations.
With the help of UNHCR, CRPC provided assistance in logistics, transport and escort for 11 intention to seek asylum certificate (ISAC) beneficiaries to Bogovađa AC.
- Supported by UNHCR and UNICEF, and in cooperation with UNHCR/DRC, on-site medical teams, accommodation centre's staff, Belgrade CSW and other actors benefitted from services such as interpretation/CM, escort, advocacy and transportation (94 cases/rides) to secondary medical, children and other facilities provided by the CRPC team.



Training of Trainers - Welcome Initiative for Refugee/Migrant Youth (CARE, NEXUS, NSHC and VCOS), in Divljana (Serbia), @CARE, October 2017

- With the help of UNICEF and CRPC, 94 UASCs from Krnjača AC and children from Vodovodska Children's Home were involved in various sports activities. Two arts & crafts workshops for UASC from Vodovodska were organized in October.
- CRPC also started with profiling of the new arrivals passing through Belgrade.
- SOS CV child protection teams in Adaševci, Principovac and Preševo continuously supported 51 families and children under risk with 878 direct services through case management procedures and preventive workshops including services of translation, practical information, psychosocial support and referrals to other institutions and organizations.
- SOS CV continued outdoor sports activities Preševo, Obrenovac, Kikinda and Divljana centres.
- Within the CFS in Adaševci TC, SOS CV Serbia delivered 325 services to children and youth, including recreational, creative and educational activities; within the MBC, SOS CV Serbia delivered 704 services to mothers and babies. Within the Youth Corner in Adaševci TC, SOS CV delivered 182 services to 1,140 attendees. SOS CV ICT spot in Adaševci TC provided Wi-Fi connection and a charging station, and had 2,813 attendees at IT workshops and ICT activities.
- Within the CFS in Principovac TC, SOS CV provided 383 various activities, including recreational, creative and educational activities; within the MBC, SOS CV Serbia delivered 459 services to mothers and babies.
- SOS CV ICT spot Principovac provided a Wi-Fi connection and a charging station; ICT Corner Principovac had 1,840 visits by adults and children, including to IT workshops.
- SOS CV ICT spot Krnjača provided a Wi-Fi connection and a charging station, and received 2,390 adults and children, including in IT workshops.
- Within the Family Room in Preševo RC, SOS CV Serbia delivered 298 services to participating children, youth and adult mothers.
- SOS CV also continued provision of internet in Kikinda and Obrenovac TCs.
- Over the month, Save the Children (SC), together with partner organizations in Serbia, reached a total of 1,293 new beneficiaries, of which 389 children. Since the beginning of the response, SC in Serbia reached 83,347 beneficiaries, of which 34,004 were children.
- SC continued running CFS and Youth Corners, working with Group 484 in Bogovađa Asylum Centre (AC) and with the Centre for Youth Integration in Refugee Aid Miksalište (Belgrade), Obrenovac Transit Centre (TC), Preševo Reception Centre (RC) and Vranje RC. The teams provided psychosocial support through tailor-made, innovative activities, information, referrals to services of NGOs or state-run institutions and/or assistance.
- In Belgrade, together with Praxis, SC continued running outreach teams providing protection, monitoring, legal assistance and referrals in parks and public places, focusing particularly on protection of unaccompanied or separated children (UASC).
- SC signed a partnership agreement with the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs to launch a child safeguarding assessment of refugee-hosting sites across Serbia. A joint report with recommendations is expected in January 2018, with the goal of creating a safer environment for child refugees and migrants accommodated in Serbia.
- Aiming to support knowledge-sharing and to provide better insight into the dynamics of the Balkans route, SC prepared the following documents in October:
 - [Regional Overview](#) (January – August 2017), providing valuable insight into the migration and displacement trends in Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, and fYRo Macedonia;
 - [Specialized Foster Care for UASC in Serbia Case Study](#), providing an overview of the development of specialized foster care training package; and

- [Practical Protection Monitoring Guide](#), created by SC's partner Praxis, as a comprehensive resource document for conducting protection monitoring activities and outreach work with refugees and migrants.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There gap in transportation to asylum centres from Belgrade remains significant. More support is needed in this regard.
- Partners noted decreased but continued abuse of substances, including among UASCs, in Preševo RC and other centres.
- More support is needed given the lack of safe accommodation for victims of SGBV.
- The number of cases requiring additional psychosocial support and psychiatric assistance remains high. More support is needed to conduct regular screening of the mental health of refugees and to ensure psychological and psychosocial support.
- Along with the increase in numbers of new arrivals into the country, partners also noted the increased presence of PoCs in Belgrade, with many people reportedly sleeping rough in the city centre every night. This raises security concerns as an increase of theft, robberies and similar incidents in the city were reported by PoCs.
- Further efforts are needed in the identification of potential victims of human trafficking, as well as of people at risk of trafficking and abuse in the context of smuggling.
- Girls accommodated at Krnjača AC reported feeling exposed due to lack of privacy in this centre and increased number of single men. SGBV prevention measures should be further implemented in Krnjača AC.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- To support the inclusion of refugee and migrant children into the formal education system, Save the Children (SC) engaged a consultant to assist the Ministry of Education, Science and Technical Development (MoESTD) in carrying out an assessment of school needs/capacities, conducting service mapping and coordinating with schools and other relevant education actors.
- Together with a local partner Centre for Interactive Pedagogy, and in cooperation with the MoE, SC is conducting a research on inclusion of refugee and migrant children into schools.
- SC adjusted its non-formal education program to support children in adapting to schools and overcoming the challenges they might have. Non-formal education programmes were continued in Preševo and Vranje RCs, Refugee Aid Miksalište, Obrenovac TC and Bogovađa AC. The teams also continued running a non-formal education programme for adolescents, who haven't been enrolled into the local formal education system yet, and were supporting refugees and migrants in learning on the move by providing free access to Coursera, an e-platform offering a variety of courses.
- ADRA organized transport of 71 refugee/migrant children to 10 public schools in Belgrade. A total of 77 children from seven schools were accompanied by interpreters and educational psychologists.
- ADRA was providing daily assistance in learning at the Community Center to children interested in this kind of support. Informal education for young girls and women who had not been enrolled in public schools was conducted at the Community Centre (English language classes, mathematics, etc.).
- PIN continued conducting Serbian language classes at PIN's premises for a group of Arabic-speaking beneficiaries (twice per week), as well as for Farsi- and Spanish-speaking beneficiaries. English

language classes for Spanish-speaking beneficiaries continued regularly once per week. English classes for Arabic-speaking beneficiaries were introduced in October.

- PIN also conducted various educational (IT literacy, English café) and psychoeducational workshops at PIN's premises in Belgrade, Sjenica and Tutin, in view of expanding the knowledge and developing different practical, intrapersonal and interpersonal skills of children and young beneficiaries. PIN also continued providing support with adjustment, curriculum and Serbian language to three beneficiaries enrolled in formal education since September.
- With support from IRC, NSHC ran sewing workshops at Adaševci TC (sewing trainings and a variety of occupational and social activities) for women accommodated in this TC, six days per week. 30 women on average attended workshop activities each day. Bed sheets, pillow cases and towels produced in this workshop are used in reception/transit and asylum centres in Serbia.
- Indigo continued with informal educational activities in Divljana and Pirot RCs. The activities were focused on assisting the children in doing homework and following the school curriculum, as well as on learning Serbian and English. In Divljana, on average, 10 children attended the non-formal educational activities, while in Pirot, 18 children, on average, attended the same activities.
- In Pirot, Indigo provided a total of 148 services related to informal educational activities, while in Divljana Indigo provided a total of 200 services related to informal educational activities.
- Indigo staff worked constantly on providing the necessary assistance to both children and parents. Indigo helped during the process of preparing the children for school, as well as with interpreting in schools, according to the needs.
- Group 484 continued providing psychosocial and educational support to refugee/migrant children, youth and their parents accommodated in Bogovađa AC, six days per week. Activities in the Centre are based on educational, creative and recreational workshops, as well as individual psychological support and legal counselling pertaining to challenges of child protection. Specific focus was placed by Group 484 on supporting the children who got enrolled in September in the local primary school, who were provided with psychological support and assisted in school tasks and homework.
- In October, 17 children aged 7 -14 continued their education in the local primary school in Bogovađa (5 were enrolled on the last day of October). Each working day, Group 484 was providing one junior facilitator and one cultural mediator to escort the schoolchildren and remain with them at the school, making it easier for them to better understand the school tasks and supporting their adaptation to new circumstances. All these activities were performed in partnership with Save the Children.
- CARE reconstructed a venue in Preševo RC designated for carpentry workshops for refugees/migrants and acquired tools for manual carpentry work.
- CARE and its partner NEXUS launched an informal education program for refugees/migrants in Preševo RC. Those willing to acquire basic carpentry skills had an opportunity to attend a three-month long course in carpentry. Ten persons started a course in October 2017, which will last till early 2018. The course is led by a licensed institution for informal education from Vranje – *Narodni Univerzitet* - which will be issuing certificates to participants. This will hopefully support refugees/migrants in either finding employment or making a first step towards further education.



School transportation, Vranje (Serbia), @UNHCR, 25 October 2017

- Supported by Christian Aid, Philanthropy continued with sewing courses in Preševo and Bujanovac. Philanthropy also continued with animated movie courses and computer workshops in Preševo RC.
- Since 1 December 2016, in Bujanovac, Preševo and Vranje, BCM/CRS have been organizing educational activities called „*Serbian language and Euro-Balkan culture and traditions*“, held three times a week in Bujanovac and Preševo and five times a week in Vranje. In addition, BCM provides educational support through teaching Serbian language to all children enrolled into four Serbian state schools in Vranje, Bujanovac and Preševo.
- UNICEF continued to implement programmes that are enabling access of refugee and migrant children to education by supporting the MoESTD and its regional school administrations. Support was provided to the monitoring of and assistance to schools that have enrolled refugee and migrant children; capacity building of professionals working in formal and non-formal settings, implementation of non-formal education programmes in cooperation with DRC and SOS CV, and provision of material support to schools.
- Since the beginning of 2017, 704 children have been reached directly through non-formal education, 654 children have been reached directly through formal education and 520 children have been reached indirectly through technical assistance provided by UNICEF to CSOs running non-formal education programmes.
- Nine Regional School Administrations of the MoESTD have been supported through the engagement of 10 school mentors (2 for Belgrade), provision of laptops and fuel coupons. Mentors and regional school advisors supported schools in developing school- and pupil-support plans, monitoring their performance, assessing the needs for further capacity building, and providing monthly reports for school attendance, progress made and challenges.
- In October, UNICEF started a new round of trainings. 100 representatives from 23 primary and secondary schools from the regional school administrations in Niš and Leskovac passed the training on the quality of education in diverse classrooms.
- UNICEF started the distribution of small grants to 50 schools for implementation of the school-support plans.
- UNICEF-supported non-formal education activities aimed at the development of key competences for life-long learning continued, including activities that are supporting regular and safe school attendance (escorting children to schools, participating in the development of school support plans, running of homework clubs, and implementation of different local actions to develop a supportive school and local community environment for the inclusion of refugee and migrant children into the education system).
- Refugee Aid Serbia (RAS) and North Star continued offering English and I.T. classes to beneficiaries at 'The Workshop,' in Belgrade city centre. The facility was and is still open Monday to Friday from 14h-19h, with up to 3 classes available per hour. Owing to popular demand, and to aid refugee schoolchildren, 'The Workshop' began offering Serbian classes on a regular basis too. The Workshop also hosted weekly Workshops, with the assistance of PIN, as well as RAS and North Star's own recreational activities.
- CRPC organised a creative workshop at “Branko Pešić Elementary School” in Zemun with 17 participants from both refugee/migrant and domicile population.
- CRPC continued providing escort to Krnjača AC's children in the new schoolyear.
- On 26 October, SOS CV organized an exhibition of refugees' paintings and photos in the Sports & Culture Centre in Obrenovac, under the title “Colours of Life”.
- SOS CV made a donation to six state schools in Šid municipality attended by refugee children as well, consisting of TVs, laptops, printer/scanners, 30 balls, office supplies and hygiene items.

- SOS CV organized events in reception/transit centres Adaševci, Principovac, Kikinda, Preševo, Divljana and Obrenovac, marking the International Children's Week through various workshops.
- SOS CV provided escort to schoolchildren from Adaševci, Principovac, Divljana and Preševo.
- SOS CV continued sewing and carpentry workshops in Preševo RC and Principovac TC.
- SOS CV continued English classes in Adaševci, Principovac and Preševo and informal education classes in Obrenovac (English and Serbian classes, geography, biology, mathematics, civic education, creative workshops and sculpture, etc.).
- Through the Super Bus project, SOS CV mobile team organized outdoor educational, recreational and creative activities for children and youth in Bosilegrad, Dimitrovgrad, Pirot, Vranje and in primary schools in local communities.
- Upon invitation by the Belgrade Tennis Association, UNHCR organized the participation refugee children in the Belgrade Children Fair. 100 children from Krnjaca AC greatly enjoyed participation in many athletic and creative activities (for more info and photos please see our [Facebook post](#)).
- CRPC cultural mediators provided their services to children from Krnjaca AC at Children Fair in Belgrade, October 6-10, 2017, supported by UNHCR. Children enjoyed different sport and creative activities and workshops.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The children were excited and the families were happy that both they and their children regained a sense of regularity with the start of formal schooling. Still, some children found it difficult to overcome the language barrier. Others felt bad due to stigmatisation by the fact that they had head lice.
- Enrolment into secondary-level education, which is not obligatory under national legislation, remained more challenging than enrolment into obligatory primary-level education, implying the need for stronger support for both prospective students and potential schools and relevant authorities.



Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR/DRC medical teams engaged through local Primary Health Centres provided 8,741 health-care services, including the screening of all refugees for body lice and other infectious diseases during October in the following centres: Krnjača AC (two medical doctors and three nurses), Bogovađa AC (one medical team), Banja Koviljača AC (one medical team), Preševo RC (two medical teams), Bujanovac RC (one medical team), Vranje RC (one medical team), Obrenovac RC (two medical teams), Divljana RC (one medical team), Pirot RC (one medical team) and Bosilegrad RC (one medical doctor). UNHCR/DRC medical teams also conducted referrals and follow-up of specific individual cases in need of specialized health-care services, in close cooperation with the DRC Medical Officer, based in Preševo, and the DRC medical team in Belgrade. Medications, both basic and more advanced, were regularly provided through contracted state pharmacies in above-mentioned centres, as well as in Tutin AC.
- In order to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to refugees residing longer within accommodation centres, two psychologists were engaged by DRC through Primary Health Centres Obrenovac and Pirot, to assist refugees/migrants in need in Obrenovac, Pirot, Divljana and Dimitrovgrad centres. Psychologists also conducted referral of persons in need to the institutions of the system in close cooperation with UNHCR/DRC medical teams.

- WHO continued to support the Institute of Public Health (IPH) of Serbia, Ministry of Health (MoH), relevant health institutions and partner NGOs, in coordination of healthcare provision. WHO visited refugee/migrant centres and met with health teams in Bogovađa, Obrenovac, Krnjača, Adaševci and Principovac and locations in Belgrade city centre. The main health issues registered among refugees and migrants in October were respiratory infections, skin diseases, injuries and mental disorders.
- Under the joint UN project “Open communities – successful communities”, WHO implemented a round of focus group discussions with refugees and migrants and healthcare professionals working with them, in order to identify main issues in access to healthcare and areas to be covered with health promotional and educational activities during 2018. In October, WHO also performed a rapid assessment in migrant health through health system functions, including service delivery, financing, human workforce capacity, governance, legislation and data monitoring. The Report with findings is to be presented in November 2017.
- IRC was supporting HCIT to provide orthopaedic devices (wheelchairs/crutches) to refugees who needed them. One Pakistani man severely injured in a car accident received a set of crutches and a wheelchair.
- PIN organized and accompanied beneficiaries to psychiatric examinations and check-ups on 10 occasions.
- Through the UNFPA/DRC joint project 39 gynecological examinations were performed, of which 16 were pregnancy-related examinations. Two serological tests were also performed.
- IDC/ASB medical teams were present in Principovac TC seven days a week, covering first shift from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Subotica TC five days per week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 3 p.m. until 11 p.m. and on weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and in Dimitrovgrad RC covering first shift from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. five days per week. The teams provided medical treatment for 1,433 patients during the month of October.
- CRPC assisted in referral and logistics activities of Krnjača AC’s medical cases, providing further escort, advocacy, interpretation and other services, including mediation in use of public transport and city orientation.
- SOS CV Serbia continued supporting a psychiatrist in the Health Centre Šid, in aid of refugees/migrants identified by SOS CV in Principovac and Adaševci TCs to be in need of this type of assistance.
- Three nurses supported by SOS CV continued working in MBCs in Divljana and Kikinda centres, employed through local Health Centres.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- NSTR



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- In its tent in Adaševci TC, OM was serving tea and coffee to refugees/migrants every day from 9:30am to 9pm.
- In Preševo and Bujanovac, Caritas provided 13,580 portions of cooked lunch, 13,580 breakfasts and 15,500 cups of tea. Food distribution was organized in partnership with Philanthropy, who were covering the distribution of dinner.
- In Krnjača AC, Caritas provided 19,800 fresh pastries, 1,560 litres of milk for children, 6,600 portions of warm soup, 7,700 cups of tea and 5,400 bottles of water.
- ASB provided 6,066 cooked meals, as well as 240 cartons of milk and 83 portions of fruit and vegetable mash (for babies and children) in Dimitrovgrad RC.
- CARE continued with provision of cooked meals in Adaševci and Principovac TCs. 81,480 meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) were distributed, with the help of CARE's partner organization NSHC.
- In partnership with NSHC, and through START Network, CARE also provided supplementary food (fruit, milk, cookies, baby food in jars for toddlers and biscuits enriched with vitamins), for vulnerable groups of refugees/migrants as additional nutrition. 27,095 cartons of milk (250ml), 39,980 packets of cookies (50gr & 75gr), 6,045kg of fruit and 3,110 jars of baby food were distributed in Adaševci, Krnjača, Principovac and at Miksalište in Belgrade.
- In partnership with NEXUS from Vranje, CARE also provided supplementary food for vulnerable groups of refugees/migrants as additional nutrition in Piroć, Bosilegrad and Divljana RCs. In October, NEXUS delivered 2,003kg of fruit, 1,352 packs of cookies (250 gr), 5,553 cartons of milk (250 ml) and 945 jars of baby food.
- In partnership with IMPULS from Tutin, CARE provided supplementary food for vulnerable groups of refugees/migrants as additional nutrition in Sjenica and Tutin ACs. IMPULS delivered 652 baby jars, 6,010 cartons of milk (250 ml), 6,005 packs of cookies, 1,665 kg of fruit and 7,220 bottles of water (0.5 l).
- Philanthropy provided 12,270 hot meals for dinner in Bujanovac and Preševo RCs for approx. 400 refugees/migrants in these two centres.
- Supported by Christian Aid, Philanthropy continued with joint cooking events in Bujanovac twice per week.
- UNICEF-supported mother-and-baby corners (MBCs) were operational in Belgrade city centre (with the NSHC), Preševo, Bujanovac, Vranje and Krnjača (with DRC), in Sjenica (with BCM), as well as in Kikinda and Divljana (with SOS CV). Technical support, in the form of supervision and support in food items, was provided to children in MBCs established and run by SOS CV in Adaševci and Principovac TCs.
- In accommodation centres where only a few children were present, support to the development of different modalities of infant and young child feeding in emergencies (IYCF-E) support, through medical teams providing health service for the whole population, was on-going.
- Since the beginning of 2017, 1,340 infants (under 2) accessed UNICEF-supported mother and baby care corner services, including health and nutrition services. 878 mothers benefited from UNICEF-supported IYCF-E counselling at MBCs.

- In centres where support to mothers and children is ensured by UNICEF, the screening of all children aged 6-59 months with Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) for undernutrition is part of routine work.
- UNICEF continued to have consultations with partners on reviewing currently distributed food in order to have age-appropriate food for children, according to national recommendations.
- Within the Family Rooms in Principovac, Adaševci, Kikinda and Divljana, run by SOS CV, 7,567 food items (milk and baby jars) were distributed; 7,291 food items (juices, biscuits and water) were distributed Preševo RC.
- SOS CV was providing 120 meals each day (breakfast and lunch) in Bosilegrad RC.
- UNHCR's partner HCIT distributed 935 litres of water in the North.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- NSTR



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In Adaševci TC, Czech volunteers of the People in Need/PLUN organisation were running the laundry room and washed 300 loads of clothes per week.
- After CARE stopped providing hygiene items in Principovac TC, the Czech team distributed 20 litres of shampoo, 60 packs of sanitary pads, 250 razors and toilet paper.
- In partnership with NSHC, through START Network, CARE provided hygiene items in Adaševci, Principovac and Krnjača. NSHC delivered 1,350 hand and body creams, 345 packs of baby cream, 300 baby soap bars, 2,600 soap bars, 2,600 shampoos, 1,000 shampoos for children, 300 bottles of baby bath, 3,560 toothbrushes, 3,600 toothpastes, 2,800 deodorants, 1,000 packs of sanitary napkins, 1,130 nail clippers, 1,730 shaving foams and 6,800 razors.
- In partnership with IMPULS, through START Network, CARE provided hygiene items in Sjenica and Tutin. IMPULS delivered 92 packs of baby diapers, 50 shampoos, 50 bottles of bath foam, 150 soap bars, 70 toothpastes, 70 toothbrushes, 20 children soap bars, 500 packs of toilet paper, 650 razors, 250 packs of sanitary napkins, 30 packs of wet wipes and 645 kg of detergent.
In partnership with NEXUS, through START Network, CARE provided hygiene items in Pirot, Bosilegrad and Divljana RCs. NEXUS delivered 771 packs of baby diapers, 1,020 bottles of bath foam, 408 kg of detergent, 340 toothpastes, 400 shaving foams, 300 deodorants, 300 face creams, 340 toothbrushes, 400 razors, 1,020 shampoos, 100 baby creams, 1,020 soap bars and 200 packs of sanitary napkins.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- NSTR



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and partners continued with the Profiling of Accommodation Centres exercise, following the strengthening of reception conditions in Serbia during October. An update of results as of October is available on <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/55034>. As of October, the same update is also available on [UNHCR Serbia site](#).
- In Preševo RC, DRC was constructing partition walls in the accommodation pavilion, in order to create better conditions for accommodation of families. Pavilion No 1 space will be divided into five separate rooms. Works commenced in mid-October and will last till the first week of November.
- In Vranje RC, DRC was performing renovation works in Phase II (full scope reconstruction of bathrooms and water/sewage installation, new roof construction on the building and partial fence around the Centre) since mid-September. Deadline for finalization and handover is mid-November 2017.
 - In Pirot RC, DRC was working on the renovation of pellet warehouse and boiler room. Tendering procedure for this activity was conducted in mid-October. Selected contractor commenced the works in the last week of October and finalisation is expected in the second week on November. These works are to create conditions for storage of pellet and to increase the efficiency of the operation of boiler room and the entire heating system.
- In Obrenovac RC, renovation of pavilions KN 6 (social activities, warehouse), KN 36 (dining room) and KN 101 (infirmary), was ongoing. Renovation of these three facilities commenced on 18 Sep, and the works were performed during September and October. Due to additional requests from the SCRM and unplanned works, the deadline for completion has been extended for approx. two weeks. Handover of facilities KN 6 and KN 36 to the SCRM is planned for the first half of November, and for the facility KN 101 for the second half of November. Replacing of windows on pavilion no.12 was undertaken at the request of SCRM, and is considered an urgent matter, considering the approaching cold weather and the current state of old windows which are completely dysfunctional and out of order. Tender procedure was launched and carried out in the second half of October. Commencement of works is planned for the first week of November.
- IRC/Divac Foundation team undertook a number of actions to improve the overall cleanliness of the social café in Obrenovac. The whole place was thoroughly cleaned and fitted with a new floor, walls and windows were painted, and the windows received a decorative glass film. Many refugees/migrants volunteered to help, as they wanted to participate in decorating the place they liked spending their time in best.
- In Kikinda TC, DRC was performing the rehabilitation of the sanitary block, in order to create better sanitary conditions. Complete reconstruction of the sanitary unit is planned (currently out of function). Tender procedure was conducted in the first half of October and the works commenced in the last week of October. Deadline for completion is mid-November.



Distribution of winter clothes, Subotica (Serbia),
©UNHCR, 19 Oct 2017

- In Preševo RC, upon request from SCRM, DRC provided NFIs for 544 persons; in reception centres in Eastern Serbia, again at the request of SCRM, DRC provided adequate NFIs for 94 refugees/migrants.
- ASB provided 500 hygiene parcels for Sombor and Krnjača centres and 504 hygiene parcels for TC Subotica.
- With the support of CRS, NGO Atina ran three Shelters for persons from the refugee population who have been identified as survivors of GBV, human trafficking, and/or are particularly vulnerable. During the month of October, NGO Atina was sheltering three persons.
- Within the “Integration House for vulnerable groups of refugees “Pedro Arrupe”” in Belgrade, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) continued to provide shelter for 12 UASCs (10 Afghan, 1 Iranian and 1 Pakistani) aged 10-16. Medical condition of all beneficiaries was under daily monitoring by the relevant primary health care centre, and specialist medical care was provided to all those in need. JRS established cooperation with International Aid Network (IAN), who were there to provide psychological support, whereas Philanthropy was providing cash cards for all the schooled beneficiaries (10 out of 12 protégés of the Integration House attended schooling regularly).
- IOM continued with the improvement of standards in targeted reception/asylum centers. Works were ongoing in Tutin AC and Kikinda RC, in the framework of the Project “EU support to Serbia and FYRoM in managing migration/refugees crisis / Balkan route” under MADAD RTF. Works in Tutin AC include the building of an additional Annex B to the existing building, in line with EASO standards for long-term stay of refugees/migrants. Planned capacity of the building is 70 beds, along with an infirmary and entrance/restrooms for persons with disabilities. IOM was also conducting landscaping works which included building of a fence, children’s playground, street lights and video surveillance, which should all contribute to more serviceable nature of the center. Works are expected to be finalized by the end of November.
- In Kikinda, IOM commenced the refurbishment of the dining room building.
- CARE constructed a 100 square meter fenced children’s playground in Vranje RC with a slide, seesaw, swing, etc.
- UNHCR and partners resumed comprehensive distribution of Non-Food Relief Items in government centres. UNHCR, in coordination with SCRM, directly and with partners CRPC, HCIT and Amity/Sigma plus distributed 521 blankets, 213 sets of bed linen, 215 plastic bags, 394 hygiene kits, 27 rubber mats, 1,522 pairs of socks, 389 adult T-shirts, 488 pairs of footwear, 3 wheelchairs, 13 baby kits, 10 raincoats, 846 tracksuits, 54 winter hats, 21 winter jacket, 54 scarves, 805 pairs of underwear, 26 items of children’s clothing, 45 items of women’s clothing and 708 items of men’s clothing and 9 rechargeable torches.
- Since the beginning of 2017, UNICEF, in cooperation with SCRM, both through its partners DRC, HCIT, SOS CV and NSHC and through direct distribution, reached 8,655 children with basic supplies and health and hygiene items. During October, all children aged 0-12 years were covered with winter clothing items in all government centres.
- On 9 October, RAS/BelgrAid, distributed hygiene packs to all those accommodated in Obrenovac TC. These packs contained three pairs of socks, two pairs of underwear, two razors, a T-shirt, towel, packet of tissues, bar of soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, bottle of shampoo and a nail clipper.
- Within the CFS and MBC in Adaševci TC, SOS CV Serbia distributed 8,442 hygiene items and diapers; in Principovac TC SOS CV Serbia distributed 4,053 hygiene items and diapers. In Preševo, 7,295 mainly hygiene items and diapers were distributed and in Kikinda TC 3,614 mainly hygiene items.
- On 25-26 October, SOS CV distributed NFI packages (containing clothes, winter shoes and jackets) to all children/minors up to 18 y.o. accommodated in Adaševci and Principovac TCs.

- HCIT distributed NFIs provided by UNHCR and UNICEF in the “Transit Zones” with Hungary. 339 persons benefited from distribution of NFIs.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Up to 500 refugees/migrants in total were sleeping rough in different locations in Belgrade city and the border areas in the West and in the North, giving rise to concerns about their health, their well-being and safety, with the onset of autumn and falling temperatures.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- DRC was working on the renovation of Centre for Social Welfare building in Preševo. Renovation works included reconstruction of the roof and construction of a ramp for the disabled. Tender procedure was launched in mid-October and commencement of works is expected in the first half of November.
- On 6 October, the Steering Committee of the Project “Open Communities – Successful Communities” comprising the representatives of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia, the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs (MoLEVSA), MoH, the Ministry of European Integration and the SCRM approved the list of interventions to support the facilities and services in the health sector, communal infrastructure and local services, as well as to enhance social cohesion in migration-affected municipalities.
- Following the positive decision of the First Steering Committee, four responsible partner UN agencies (UNDP, WHO, IOM and UNOPS) commenced direct implementation arrangements to support the local service providers in health, communal, social welfare and education services, through provision of specialised equipment, vehicles and infrastructure upgrades, while at the same time bolstering cultural sensitivity.
- Within the project “Enhancing local resilience to the migration crisis”, UNDP carried out construction of multi-functional sports field located in Lajkovac Municipality. The reconstructed sports field was ceremonially opened by the Deputy Director of USAID Office of Democratic and Economic Growth Mr. Jeffrey Skarin, State Secretary of the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Governance Mr. Bojan Stević, Assistant Commissioner for Refugees and Migration Mr. Ivan Gerginov, Chairman of Lajkovac Municipality Mr. Andrija Živković and UNDP representative Ms. Tatjana Strahinjić-Nikolić.
- The new sports court (total value \$50,000) is located in the proximity of an elementary school, of the secondary technical school and a local kindergarten, and will be able to service around 1,150 students and kindergarten children in several athletic disciplines. Lajkovac municipality will make it possible for all refugees/migrants accommodated in Bogovađa AC to use the Sports Centre free of charge.



Mr. Nicolas Bizel, EUD, Ms. Jovana Milovanovic, MoLEVSA, Ms. Verica Recevic, PM, Ms. Steliana Nedera UNDP and Ms. Borca Jeremic, RCO on the occasion of the First Committee Meeting Session, @UNRCO, October 2017

Within the project “Enhancing local resilience to the migration crisis”, UNDP invested \$40,000 in the reconstruction of “Maslačak” kindergarten facility located in Bašaid village on the outskirts of Kikinda. Official opening ceremony was attended by Mr. Jeffrey Skarin, Deputy Director of USAID’s Office of Democratic and Economic Growth, Mr. Ivan Bošnjak, State Secretary of the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self- Governance, Mr. Ivan Gerginov, Assistant Commissioner for Refugees



Official Handover ceremony of the Lajkovac Sports Court (Serbia), @UNDP, October 2017

and Migration, Ms. Stanislava Hrnjak, Member of the City Council of the City of Kikinda and Mr. Žarko Petrović, UNDP Program Analyst. Kindergarten “Maslačak” is now a happier-looking, more suitable place for both the local and the refugee/migrant children.

- Ana and Vlade Divac Foundation established “The Help on the Route” network of 20 CSOs along the Balkan Route in Serbia and Macedonia, and within the project *Help on the Route - Fostering protection of human rights of migrants passing through Macedonia and Serbia* implemented by Divac Foundation

in partnership with ASB, NSHC, and the Macedonian Helsinki Committee. Within the Project, and in cooperation with MoLEVSA, Divac Foundation organized the first Conference of specific cases of family and gender-based violence within the migrant population. The purpose of the first Conference of Cases was to point out the specific position of migrants in the Republic of Serbia who are legally invisible, with a focus on vulnerable groups - victims of family and GBV. At the conference, three specific cases were highlighted (from Preševo, Bujanovac and Vranje RCs). Representatives of the public and civil sectors had an opportunity to exchange experiences and provide joint recommendations for dealing with presented and with similar cases. Recommendations from this Conference were shared with relevant stakeholders, and a second Conference will be organized in the first half of November.

- Within the third component for Social Cohesion under the joint UN project “Open communities – successful communities”, IOM started with focus groups in all reception/transit/asylum centers in Serbia. In October, IOM organized 13 focus groups in 13 centres (Bogovađa, Banja Koviljača, Krnjača, Sjenica, Tutin, Obrenovac, Adaševci, Kikinda, Sombor, Preševo, Bujanovac and Vranje).
- Supported by Christian Aid, Philanthropy organized eight joint sports workshops for local children from the village Sot near Šid and refugee/migrant children from Principovac RC.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- NSTR

**DURABLE SOLUTIONS****Achievements and Impact**

- By the end of the year, a total of 60 unaccompanied and separated minors will have completed at least one three-month vocational training for car mechanics, painters, tailors, etc. which are taking place in ADRA Community Center and within local businesses in Belgrade. This will build their skills and job market competitiveness, improve their psychosocial stamina and integrate them in the local community.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- NSTR

Working in partnership

- The internal coordination mechanism of the UN system in Serbia is the **UN Refugee and Migrant Theme Group (RMTG)**, which meets under the joint chairmanship of UNHCR & IOM. The RMTG coordinates the 4 sectorial working groups (WGs): a) Refugee Protection WG (Co-chaired by the MoLESVA & UNHCR), b) the WG on Shelter/NFI/WASH (Co-chaired by SCRM, MoLESVA & UNHCR), c) WG on Health/Food/Nutrition (Co-chaired by MoH & WHO) and d) WG on Local Community Support (Co-chaired by the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Governance & UNDP). The RMTG met on 6th and 27th October in Belgrade.