



**UNHCR**  
The UN  
Refugee Agency

## KEY FIGURES

**281,740**

Refugees and migrants arriving by sea to Europe in 2016 (as of 31 August).

**3,169**

Refugees and migrants estimated to have died / gone missing at sea in 2016 (as of 31 August). Compared to 2,776 during the same period in 2015.

**163,734**

Estimated sea arrivals in Greece in 2016 (as of 31 August) compared to 237,947 during the same period in 2015.

**115,072**

Estimated Sea arrivals in Italy in 2016 (as of 31 August) compared to 116,149 during the same period in 2015.

**16,863**

Estimated unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) arrived by sea to Italy in 2016 compared to 12,360 total UASC in 2015.

**USD 669.9 M**

Total 2016 requirements for UNHCR's activities in the context of the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Europe.

**USD 209.2 M**

Funding received for UNHCR's activities thus far in Europe in 2016.

## PRIORITIES

- Strengthen reception capacity and living conditions through support and advocacy with States and civil society actors.
- Empower community-based initiatives aimed at finding immediate and long-term solutions for asylum-seekers and refugees.
- Ensure concentrated support to persons with specific needs such as cases concerning SGBV and UASC.

# EUROPE'S REFUGEE EMERGENCY RESPONSE UPDATE #30

August 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 31 August 2016, some 281,740 people had crossed the Mediterranean Sea to Europe. During the reporting period, the trend in sea arrivals through the Eastern Mediterranean slightly increased. A total of 163,734 people have arrived to Greece in 2016 up to 31 August, compared with 115,072 arrivals by sea to Italy during the same period. At the end of August 2015, 116,149 persons had arrived in Italy.
- In spite of efforts undertaken by Governments to improve reception conditions for refugees and migrants, many accommodation facilities remain below acceptable international standards in several countries. There is an increasing need to strengthen and improve reception capacity and conditions and alleviate overcrowded sites for the well-being of people of concern.
- During August, UNHCR and its partners distributed over 67,900 core relief items to refugees and migrants residing in sites on the Greek islands and mainland.
- Official results from the pre-registration exercise were announced by the [Greek Asylum Service](#) on 23 August. A total of 27,592 people were pre-registered, with 57% of them being men and 43% women. Approximately 54% are from Syria, 27% from Afghanistan and 13% from Iraq. In total, there are 1,225 unaccompanied children in the sites on the Greek mainland, corresponding to 4% of the 27,592 pre-registered.
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, visited Greece from 24 to 25 August. During his mission, the High Commissioner met with the Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and President Prokopis Pavlopoulos, as well as with other high ranking officials where he expressed his gratitude to the people of Greece for their continued hospitality in spite of numerous challenges and raised concerns on key issues regarding the situation in Greece for asylum-seekers and refugees.



*The Ogli family talk to UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, outside the tent they share at the Lagkadikia site in northern Greece. The family are waiting to be relocated to another country. © UNHCR/Achilleas Zavallis*

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

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### *Trends on sea arrivals*

In the month August, 21,294 persons arrived to Italy by sea, bringing the total of sea arrivals in the first eight months of the year to 115,068. This is almost equal to the first eight months of last year with 116,149 recorded arrivals. After steady sea arrivals in the first part of the month, and a lull towards mid-August, approximately 40% of monthly sea arrivals were disembarked on 30 and 31 August. The main nationalities of persons arriving by sea to Italy are Nigeria (19%), Eritrea (13%), Sudan, Gambia, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea (7% each). As of 31 August 2016, 15% of all sea arrivals (16,863 individuals) were unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), mainly originating from Eritrea, Egypt and the Gambia. The trend in sea arrivals through the Eastern Mediterranean increased from 1,920 in July, to 3,447 arrivals in August. On the Aegean Islands, the arrivals are still much lower compared to 2015 and the first months of 2016. In August 2015, 107,843 refugees and migrants arrived by sea to Greece. By 31 August, 116,149 people had crossed the sea to Greece in 2016 compared to 237,946 in 2015. Since April, only 12,292 refugees and migrants have crossed the sea to Greece, in comparison to 225,505 in the same period in 2015.

### *Relocation*

During the month of August, 24 EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland pledged an additional 1,285 places against the 160,000 to be relocated by September 2017, bringing the total number of places pledged to 10,622 for Italy and Greece, representing only 6.6% of the targeted 160,000. As of 31 August, 3,429 asylum-seekers (only 5% of the targeted 66,400) were relocated from Greece to other EU countries. During the month, only 68 persons were transferred to the Netherlands, Slovenia and Malta, bringing the total of relocations from Italy at the end of August to 1,020 (2.6% of the 39,600 target).

### *Situation Overview in Greece*

On the mainland, the government's plan to progressively close some accommodation facilities and consolidate others is ongoing. The gradually expanding accommodation of asylum-seekers in rented apartments and hotels through UNHCR's Accommodation for Relocation project is supporting the expansion of overall accommodation capacity in Greece. As Alternate Minister of Interior for Migration Policy Ioannis Mouzalas announced on 23 August, new camps with more dignified conditions for refugees and migrants throughout the country should be completed by the end of December, which will contribute to alleviating the overcrowded existing sites on the islands by progressively transferring asylum-seekers to the mainland.

Authorities continue to report an increase in smugglers activities at the borders. During the reporting period, demonstrations and protests were carried out by volunteers, asylum-seekers and refugees in several sites throughout the mainland and on the islands requesting the acceleration of asylum procedures and improvements in living conditions. Several line Ministries participate or chair one of the 42 sectoral working groups which are supported by UNHCR to ensure efficient coordination, both at national and field level. Over 40 national and international NGOs are participating in 12 national level working groups, including 8 governmental counterparts. UNHCR supports the Government's response by providing protection assistance, education initiatives, health services, food security and nutrition advising, water and sanitation improvement, provision of shelter and core relief items, logistics coordination and promotes community empowerment and self-reliance.

On the Aegean Islands, Reception and Identification Centres (RICs) continue to face serious challenges with capacity and shelter allocation for new arrivals with the increase of refugees and migrants adding additional pressure on the already overstretched reception facilities. The maximum capacity on the five islands remains 7,450 while the total presence on the islands was 12,227 as of 31 August. However, the increase of refugees and migrants arriving on the Aegean islands placed additional pressure on the already overstretched reception facilities. Maximum capacity had been reached at majority of the sites on Leros, Chios, Samos and Lesbos. On Chios for instance, maximum capacity had been reached in Vial Reception and Identification Centre (RIC) and the informal sites Souda, Dipethe, thus posing challenges in sheltering

new arrivals. UNHCR and partners are continuing with efforts to identify appropriate additional space including making preparations for a new site with the support of UNHCR but which will not be ready for at least three months.

Official results from the pre-registration exercise were announced by the Greek Asylum Service (GAS) on 23 August. The exercise aimed to pre-register persons on the mainland who arrived up to 19 March. A total of 27,592 people were pre-registered, with 57% of them being men and 43% women. About 54% are from Syria, 27% from Afghanistan, 13% from Iraq. In total, there are 1,225 unaccompanied children in the camps, corresponding to 4% of the 27,592 registered. According to data presented by the Greek authorities, an additional 5,800 people had already registered earlier with the GAS through Skype and 500 were located in other pre-existing facilities, while 7,751 people are ready to be relocated to other EU countries. According to Greek Government statistics, over 2,000 refugees and migrants have registered through the voluntary repatriation program supported by IOM.

The High Commissioner, Filippo Grandi, visited Greece between 24-25 August, accompanied by Mr. Vincent Cochetel, the Director of the Europe Bureau/Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Refugee Crisis in Europe and Ms. Melissa Fleming, the UNHCR Spokesperson and Head of Communications. The purpose of the mission was to assess the needs of persons of concern to UNHCR and other populations affected by the Mediterranean situation, as well as the humanitarian response and how UNHCR could further contribute to these efforts in support of the Greek authorities. The High Commissioner met with the Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and President Prokopis Pavlopoulos, as well as with the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Center for the Management of the Refugee Crisis including Alternate Minister of Migration Policy, Mr. Ioannis Mouzalas along with other high-level officials in relevant areas. In Athens, the High Commissioner visited a centre for unaccompanied and separated children run by UNHCR's partner Praksis, a family of candidates for relocation living in an apartment provided by UNHCR, and met with local and international humanitarian agencies. He also visited Lagadikia and Vasilika/Redestos sites in Northern Greece. During a press conference on 25 August, the High Commissioner praised "the people of Greece for staying on course during a refugee crisis". Additionally, he raised concerns on issues of security and protection in some of the sites, the grave protection risks forced by unaccompanied and separated children, the need to upgrade conditions in many of the sites, the importance of decongesting the islands, and the need for the acceleration of the EU relocation programme and robust integration plans.

### *Situation Overview in Italy*

At Ventimiglia on the Italy-France border, over 600 people were reportedly accommodated in the official temporary facility by mid-August awaiting to cross the border or having been prevented from entering France. Italian authorities started transferring persons wishing to apply for international protection from Ventimiglia to reception centres and hotspots elsewhere in Italy. At Como on the Italy-Switzerland border, around 500 refugees and migrants were waiting to cross the border after reportedly being prevented from crossing it during the reporting period. Authorities were in the process of identifying a facility for the group to be transferred to and in the second half of August a facility was identified. An increased number of refugees and migrants has also been noted in Milan as a result of the increased border restrictions. In close cooperation with the Government and other partners, UNHCR in Italy is engaged in protection and monitoring activities at border points, in particular in areas of sea arrivals and hotspots. It further provides support to the Italian authorities in the identification and referral of vulnerable groups. UNHCR in Italy participates directly in refugee status determination in the decentralized Territorial Commissions and advises the Government on the reform of the asylum system. It also contributes to the implementation of the resettlement programme as well as in the strengthening of the reception system.

Furthermore, UNHCR Italy supports the Government in its current efforts to coordinate the response to the arrival of persons seeking international protection, for instance in participating in the National Coordination Group of the Ministry of Interior, advising key governmental counterparts in policy formulations and legislative developments. With regard to sea arrivals UNHCR is engaged in monitoring disembarkation procedures and providing counselling services, having deployed 10 teams in various locations in the south of Italy. The work also includes activities to ensure that vulnerable persons are identified quickly and appropriately, for instance UASC are referred to the national child protection system while individuals with trauma are identified quickly after disembarkation, receive initial treatment and are routed toward further support. In this context, UNHCR has deployed expert teams on child protection and sexual and gender based violence (SGBV). UNHCR is also directly involved in monitoring reception standards. Finally, the Office is supporting the

intra-European relocation programme by providing advice and counselling support to potential beneficiaries. Most of these activities are either funded by the Government of Italy or by EU AMIF.

### ***Situation Overview in Serbia and at the Serbia-Hungary border***

The total number of new refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Serbia rose from 3,600 in the beginning of the month to 4,700 by the end of August. The vast majority of the population of concern being from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq, and at least some 60% are women and children. Over 80% were accommodated in governmental facilities, including in five Asylum Centres, Refugee Aid Points (RAPs) and one Reception Centre, with many consequently exceeding their capacities.

Serbian authorities, UNHCR, partners and refugee community leaders continued to encourage asylum-seekers to move to governmental centres instead of camping in open spaces near the Hungarian border. Consequently, the number of asylum-seekers staying outdoors on the Serbian side in front of the Hungarian transit zones at Horgos I and Kelebija border-crossings decreased to 280 at the end of the month, compared to its peak of over 1,000 in mid-July. Hungarian authorities continued to admit around 30 asylum-seekers daily through the transit zones in Horgoš and Kelebija. At the same time, in August, UNHCR and partners encountered over 550 individuals claiming they were pushed back from Hungary without being allowed access to asylum procedures and protection in Hungary. Among those, several cases made serious allegations of use of force during the push backs. [UNHCR remains deeply concerned](#) about the restrictive law, increased reports of violence, and a deterioration of the situation at border with Serbia.

Nearly 800 asylum-seekers and migrants entered Hungary in August out of which the police apprehended 345 people inside the country for crossing the border irregularly, while 418 people entered through the transit zones on the border with Serbia. Since the new border regulations came into force on 5 July 2016, allowing the police to return to the other side of the border fence people intercepted within 8 km from the border, the police reported that 8,201 people have been prevented from accessing the Hungarian territory. A total of 4,700 people were blocked entry upon attempting to cross the border irregularly and 3,501 were intercepted inside Hungary and escorted back to the other side of the border fence. UNHCR is providing asylum-seekers admitted into the transit zone with information and counselling on their rights and obligations in relation to the border procedures and is monitoring the process while its partner the Hungarian Helsinki Committee is providing legal aid. The Hungarian Office of Immigration and Nationality as well as government funded charities, NGOs and local aid groups continue to provide assistance to the people in the waiting areas outside the transit zones.

## **UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS AND IDENTIFIED NEEDS**

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### **Protection, Humanitarian Assistance and Technical Support**

#### **Greece**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- Effective monitoring of responses to the humanitarian needs in Greece is being increased through the roll out of the [ActivityInfo platform throughout the mainland, urban site and islands](#), which was officially launched on 13 August. UNHCR Information Management Unit conducted ActivityInfo training for more than 60 members of the Working Groups at the national level, including Inter-Agency, Site Management Support (SMS), Education, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), Child Protection, Protection, Cash, WASH and Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFIs). Through ActivityInfo, partners will report activities implemented according to standard objectives, output and indicators. Donor and Government counterparts will have access to the system.
- UNHCR and Child Protection Working Group partners have developed the procedures and tools for an inter-agency case management system for Child Protection, and trainings have already been implemented in various field locations. The preservation and quality assurance of the Blue Dots are fully operational in Attica (Elliniko I, Elliniko III and Schisto) and Northern Greece (Cherso and Nea Kavala) remain one of the focus areas. Project expansion to include more sites

and urban areas is ongoing as well as the coordination with all actors. UNHCR also supports and coordinates with UNICEF in the roll out of mobile Blue Dot Hubs in the remote sites of Epirus and Central Macedonia in Greece.

- In support of the Greek authorities' efforts to expand reception capacity for asylum-seekers on the mainland, UNHCR's accommodation project funded by the [European Union](#) and implemented in partnership with Praksis, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Arsis, Solidarity Now, Nostos, Iliaktida, and the Municipalities of Athens and Thessaloniki, reached 10,571 places as of 31 August. This represents more than 52% of the 20,000 target of UNHCR and its partners by the end of 2016. During August, 1,936 new accommodation spaces were established. Over 11,803 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. Cash and voucher assistance is currently being provided to at least 3,000 individuals eligible for relocation under the UNHCR accommodation for relocation project, in order to help asylum-seekers meet their basic needs (food, transport, hygiene items, etc.).
- On the Aegean Islands, UNHCR continued to provide information on asylum in Greece in support of the Information Campaign (for refugees and migrants arrived since 20 March,) initiated in July by the European Commission in cooperation with the Greek authorities (Asylum Service, Reception and Identification Service, Hellenic Police, Ministry of Migration Policy), EASO and IOM.
- UNHCR continues to support and promote, community empowerment, educational and recreational activities for refugees, including children. In collaboration with various volunteer groups and local municipalities, UNHCR organized and introduced new activities such as competitive athletics, swimming lessons, sightseeing tours and movie screenings at various sites on the Aegean Islands for refugee families and children.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- A worrisome increase of security incidents and concerns was noted throughout the mainland, and particularly at the sites in Northern Greece. Illegal behavior among refugees was on the rise and clashes or intimidation incidents between groups occurred in more sites. Increase of departures through smugglers, cases of domestic violence, events of misconduct by volunteers and deterioration of the protection environment particularly for the most vulnerable have regrettably been noted. UNHCR is actively advocating for increased support from law enforcement authorities to ensure security of the sites. Constant movements in and out of the sites, in order to find better accommodation conditions or attempts to cross the border represent a challenge to site management while assessing availability of space for newcomers.
- Despite the steady flow of appointments and interviews with the Greek Asylum Service for the full lodging of their asylum claims, asylum-seekers in all sites in Greece express their frustration over the slowness of the asylum process. UNHCR continues supporting the Asylum Service in providing accurate information on asylum. Additionally, questions are constantly addressed by asylum seekers in relation to the procedure to follow in order not to miss the appointment with the Asylum Service.
- With an average daily arrival of 111 to the Aegean Islands in August, RICs on all islands have surpassed official capacity and allocation of space for new arrivals is a growing challenge. Each island is addressing the challenge to the best of their abilities with support from UNHCR. The maximum capacity on the islands remains 7,450 while the total presence on the islands was 11,690 as of 31 August. The need to strengthen referrals from the islands to the mainland, particularly for the allocation of accommodation and access to specialized, multi-sector services and assistance has been recognized by humanitarian actors and government authorities alike. As part of broader inter-agency coordination efforts, the Inter-Sector Working Group is working with the Office of the Minister of Migration Policy to advocate for the identification of government focal points to support referrals across sites.

## The Western Balkans and Hungary

### *The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*

#### Achievements and Impact

- The Macedonian Red Cross (MRC) announced the initiation of a mobile unit to operate in the areas of the villages of Lojane and Vaksince (Kumanovo region bordering Serbia) to provide assistance to refugees and migrants including pregnant women, elderly persons and children. The volunteers of MRC provide first aid to refugees and migrants throughout Macedonia.

- In order to ensure quality NFI needs assessments are carried out, UNHCR and the City Red Cross (CRC) coordinated reintroducing the use of individual distribution cards of NFI's at Tabanovce TC. The cards are to use as verification that items have been received by individuals on a regular basis and avoid duplication of assistance.
- New social workers in the transit centres received on-the-job mentoring after staffing changes, with the support of UNICEF and funding by UNHCR. Mentoring is conducted by the Coordinator of the Centre for Social Works (CSW) activities and will be followed up with inter-agency trainings on best interest assessments (BIA), standard operating procedures and communication skills.
- New outdoor activities are now available to asylum-seekers accommodated at the Safe House in Skopje to stimulate physical and social well-being. UNHCR together with partner organizations have supported the introduction of the establishment of the outdoor facilities and the new activities, including a gym, new playground for children and bowling lanes.
- TC Tabanovce has undergone construction with funding provided by UNHCR and support from partner NGOs such as the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and CRC. Site improvements include new roofing in living spaces, installation of kitchenware and sewerage in TC Tabanovce which were needed due to the heavy rainfall causing structure and sewage problems recently.
- UNHCR hosted a Border Protection Monitoring meeting on 17 August, where representatives from various NGOs, as well as the National Protection Mechanism were present. The discussion spanned from UNHCR's current involvement in Border Protection Monitoring and the findings it has produced, to other organizations' involvement in such activities, risks and recommendations on how to move forward.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Onwards movement from TC Tabanovce to Serbia continued with refugees and migrants making the use of smuggling networks. The total population in TC Tabanovce on 01 of August was 117, dropping to 61 by the 31 August. The total number of individuals in FYR Macedonia on 01 August was 275 which slightly dropped to 216 by the end of the month.

## Serbia

### Achievements and Impact

- Since authorities decided to again admit undocumented refugees and migrants to overnight in Krnjača Asylum Centre (AC) as of 11 August this had a positive impact on the situation in Belgrade. As a result, numbers of refugees and migrants spending the night in parks and other public spaces of the city centre decreased from over 600 to around 200, while the occupancy of Krnjača AC grew to 800.
- Overall conditions in the two sites at the northern border with Hungary outside the transit zones improved owing to the placement of four new taps and sinks in Horgoš by Medecines Sans Frontiere (MSF), provision of phone charging facilities by Red Cross Kanjiža and more regular removal of garbage and cleaning of chemical toilets, supported by UNHCR, Humanitarian Centre for Integration and Tolerance (HCIT) and Save the Children. Meanwhile, UNHCR and partners continue to inform and encourage asylum-seekers of the asylum and other shelter options available in Serbia.
- On 23 August, Minister of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs, Aleksandar Vulin and the UNHCR Representative opened the third phase of rehabilitation of the former Tobacco Factory building, which increases the accommodation capacity of Preševo Reception Centre by 650 to 1,500 places. The rehabilitation was implemented by Danish Refugee Council (DRC), funded mainly by European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO), through the UNHCR programme.
- On 29 August, three fully renovated barracks at Krnjaca Asylum Centre (AC) in Belgrade, with a capacity to house 200 asylum-seekers, were opened by the Serbian Commissioner for Refugees and Migration (SCRM), the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Regional Coordinator, the UNHCR Representative and the Ana and Vlade Divac Foundation. Their reconstruction had been implemented by the Divac Foundation under the CRS programme with US funding. The maximum capacity of Krnjaca AC stands at 750-800, with 600 places now suitable for disabled-friendly longer-term stay.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- A high number of over 200 of UASCs were identified by UNHCR and partners during the month. They were mainly boys between 13 and 17, arriving from Afghanistan and Pakistan through Bulgaria. Many remained intent on continuing their travel towards Western Europe, often traveling with smugglers. UNHCR and UNICEF continue

advocating for more involvement of the national social protection system to secure appropriate alternative care options for UASCs.

## *Croatia*

### **Achievements and Impact**

- On 23 August, two Syrian families (10 individuals) were relocated to Croatia from Greece under the relocation programme. The Ministry of Interior, UNHCR and the Croatian Red Cross were present at the centre and monitored the reception formalities. UNHCR ensured provision of legal counselling and closely monitors the status determination procedure. Total number of relocated individuals to Croatia stands at 14.
- In order to streamline provision of assistance by different organizations working in the reception centers, the Ministry of Interior initiated the establishment of working groups to address to various aspects of interventions and humanitarian assistance. A working group on psychosocial support was the first established, with participation of the Ministry of Interior, UNHCR and its implementing partners (Croatian Red Cross, Jesuit Refugee Service and Croatian Law Center as well as other organizations providing services on the ground.
- Following the increased number of asylum-seekers in the reception centers, including individuals returned under Dublin Regulation, UNHCR has enhanced provision of legal counselling through increasing the presence of its legal partner, Croatian Law Center, to ensure timely access to information on asylum procedures.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Despite enhancement of the medical services in reception centres for asylum-seekers, dental care (despite the request from asylum-seekers), remains uncovered as it does not fall under life-saving/emergency treatment. UNHCR is assessing the needs and following up on the matter with the partners/NGOs active in the medical field for exploring solutions.

## *Slovenia*

### **Achievements and Impact**

- Following UNHCR advocacy to find a systemic solution for UASC, the Slovenian government approved the decision to move all the UASC, 22 in total, regardless of their legal status currently housed in the Asylum Home and the Crisis Centres across Slovenia to two new locations, in Nova Gorica and Postojna. UNHCR conducted monitoring of both facilities before and after the move of UASC, and held comprehensive discussions with the heads of both facilities. UNHCR found the facilities suitable, however, the provision of additional services for the UASC will need to be further monitored once the UASC have settled in their new accommodations.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Concerns with the quality of services in the Asylum Home – particularly provision of information, legal counselling and representation - are being detected.

## *Hungary*

### **Achievements and Impact**

- UNHCR staff is present in Rösztke and Tompa transit zones to monitor the admission procedure and coordinate referral of vulnerable cases to advocate for their prioritized entry to Hungary. UNHCR provides information to people waiting outside and to those admitted into the transit zones, including on the national asylum procedure and related rights and obligations. UNHCR also collects information on travel routes and push-back incidents.
- UNHCR and its partner the Hungarian Helsinki Committee (HHC) prepared an information leaflet on the border procedures for asylum-seekers approaching the transit zones. UNHCR tested the leaflet with asylum-seekers in both transit zones to ensure that it addresses relevant questions related to the applicable procedures, rights and obligations and available services. The leaflet will be distributed in multiple languages to people awaiting admission and admitted into Hungary's transit zones.
- Access to potable water in both transit zone waiting areas improved as the Hungarian Office of Immigration and Nationality (OIN) and Médecines Sans Frontières (MSF) installed a drainage system, water basins and water taps on Hungarian territory just outside the transit zone fence.

- Since the waiting times for admission are increasing, people often cook their food inside their tents which are made of blankets and other flammable materials. UNHCR raised awareness in the community about fire risks and requested the community leaders to take preventative measures. UNHCR also liaised with the Community of Sant'Egidio which supplied both waiting areas with fire extinguishers.
- UNHCR Hungary is coordinating with NGOs and local aid groups to complement the assistance currently provided to the people awaiting admission to the transit zones by UNHCR Serbia and its partners. OIN continued to provide daily cold food packages both inside the transit zones and in the waiting areas, while several Hungarian NGOs contributed by distributing food and non-food items, including hygiene packages, baby food, diapers and first aid items. SOS Children's Village pediatricians provide health care for children awaiting admission or upon admission to the transit zones.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gap

- By the end of August, around 260 asylum-seekers and migrants (170 in Röszke and 80 in Tompa) were in the waiting areas without adequate shelter, awaiting admission into the transit zones while the daily admission rate remained 15 people per day in each transit zone. The average waiting time for families and UACs ranged between 30-70 days in Röszke, 35-50 days in Tompa and for single men up to 90 days. Therefore, many single men are resorting to smugglers to cross the border irregularly.
- UNHCR is concerned about age assessments conducted by the military doctors in the transit zones as the results are leading to family separations and age disputed individuals are held in the accommodation section of the transit zone for 28 days. UNHCR is monitoring the simplified age assessment process and advocating on behalf of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) to ensure that children are either transferred to the Fót Home for UASCs or reunited with their family members in reception centers.
- UNHCR partner Cordelia Foundation has not been granted access to the transit zones to provide psycho-social support to asylum-seekers held in the accommodation section of the transit zones, which means they cannot provide support for survivors of torture and people with visible signs of PTSD and other serious psychological problems. Meanwhile, UNHCR and its partner the Hungarian Helsinki Committee (HHC) provide legal counselling to these individuals and advocate for transfers to open reception centres where they can receive adequate support.

## Working in partnership

In line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), UNHCR supports the Government's coordination efforts at central and local level in Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia and Turkey. In Hungary, UNHCR chairs a coordination forum including UN agencies, IGOs, NGO partners and non-state institutions. This includes the support to crisis management teams, the facilitation of general and sectoral coordination meetings. Besides cooperation with Governments, UNHCR also operates closely with the European Commission and relevant EU Agencies, including Frontex and EASO. Full list of partners is available [here](#).

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2016 (RMRP), co-led by UNHCR and IOM, brings together more than 60 UN agencies and NGOs in response to the refugee and migrant crisis affecting Southern Europe and the Western Balkans.

As of 19 September 2016, the RMRP is 61% funded; USD 408 million in earmarked contributions have been received against USD 669.9 million in total requirements.

UNHCR is appealing for USD 380.3 million under the framework of the RMRP, against which USD 209.2 million in earmarked contributions has been received (55% funded).

Detailed funding information on the RMRP (inter-agency and UNHCR-specific) is available [here](#).

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to its operations in response to the emergency response in Europe, as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unrestricted and broadly earmarked funds.

Major donors of unrestricted and regional funds to UNHCR in 2016: United States of America (200 M) | Sweden (78 M) | Netherlands (46 M) | Norway (40 M) | Private donors Spain (35 M) | Australia (31 M) | Japan (24 M) | Denmark (24 M) | United Kingdom (23 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (13M) | Private donors Italy (13 M) | Germany (13 M) | Private donors Japan (11M) | Italy (10 M)

# ANNEXES

**Europe Refugee Emergency**  
Daily map indicating capacity and occupancy (Governmental figures)  
As of 01 September 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 01/09/2016 08:00 a.m. Eastern European Time. Online map with additional information: <http://www.unhcr.gr/sites>



Contact: Nicolas Brass, Inter-Agency Coordinator, [brass@unhcr.org](mailto:brass@unhcr.org); Shirlene Afshar [afshar@unhcr.org](mailto:afshar@unhcr.org)

Links: UNHCR, <http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/regional.php> (webportal accessible via Google Chrome or Firefox only).