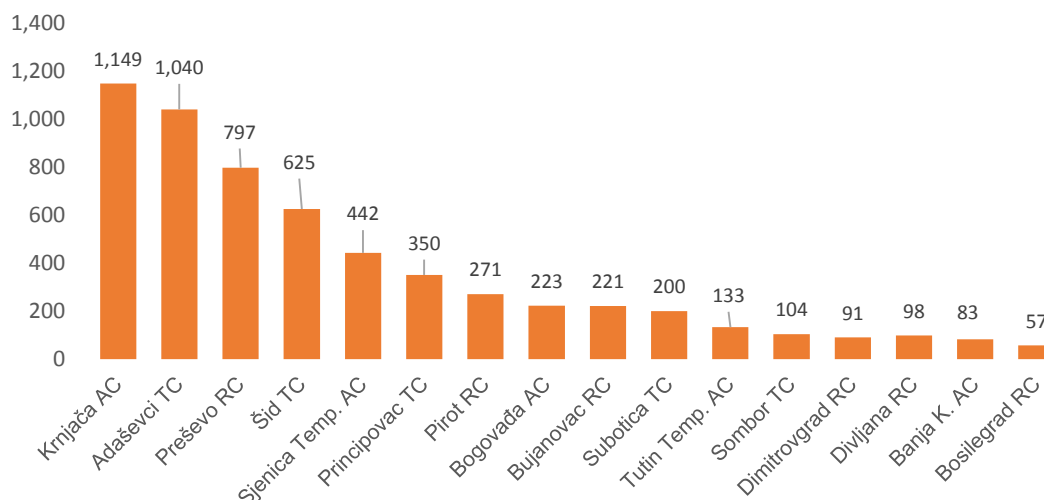


HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- With more refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants seeking registration and shelter in harsh winter-weather their overall count in Serbia increased to 7,200. Close to 82% were accommodated in 16 government shelters, many exceeding capacities (see below chart). The rest stayed rough in Belgrade city centre or near the border with Hungary.
- In Geneva, UNHCR and IOM issued a new Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP) for Europe covering January to December 2017. In line with the Response Plans of the Government of Serbia, the 16 NGOs and 8 UN organisations that participated in the RMRP propose humanitarian and developmental aid to Serbia at a total value of over 39 million US dollars. So far, donors have generously contributed close to 2.7 million USD to fund 2017 RMRP activities of UNHCR in Serbia. In order to help authorities in addressing the most urgent protection and assistance needs of vulnerable refugees/asylum seekers in Serbia during this year, UNHCR seeks another close to 4.3 million USD of funding. For more information, please do not hesitate to consult the RMRP on <http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=2311> and/or UNHCR Serbia.
- Severe weather conditions across the country effected especially refugees/migrants not sheltered in government centres. In response, authorities invited all asylum-seekers to move to government centres. In the North, they offered asylum-seekers near the border with Hungary to move to the Transit Centre (TC) in Subotica. In Belgrade, UNHCR and partners intensified support in counselling, registration and transported 145 asylum-seekers to designated governmental centres. In addition, in coordination with authorities and NGO partners, UNHCR provided heaters, additional blankets and winter clothes to refugees and migrants at two informal sites. At the same time, especially single male refugees/migrants report that police stations refuse to register them as asylum seekers.
- 95 asylum-seekers were admitted into the two Hungarian “transit zones”. At the same time, UNHCR and partners received reports of over 170 foreign nationals claiming to have been denied access to asylum procedures in Hungary but being collectively expelled back into Serbia after having entered Hungary irregularly.
- 01-08 January 2017, the police registered 163 intentions to seek asylum in Serbia. In 2016, the Asylum office issued 82 first instance decisions, granting 23 persons subsidiary protection, 19 refugee status while rejecting the claims of 40 asylum-seekers (compared to 33 decisions in 2015: 16 refugee status, 14 subsidiary protection and 3 rejections).

Occupancy of Asylum , Reception and Transit Centres
as of 08 January 2017: 5,884



EAST

On 08 January, over 510 asylum seekers were accommodated in four government centres: 91 asylum seekers in the Reception Centre in Dimitrovgrad, 57 in Bosilegrad, 271 in Pirot and 98 in the new centre in Divljana. Around half of them are children. Authorities also provided food and medical services, while NGOs were available for support in non-food items, interpretation and counselling.

SOUTH

Over 1,000 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in two Reception Centres (RC): Presevo (797) and Bujanovac (221). Some 49% of residents of Presevo RC are from Afghanistan, 28% from Iraq, 10% from Pakistan, and 7% from Syria. Residents of Bujanovac RC, which accommodates only families and unaccompanied and separated children, are from Syria (32%), Iraq (29%), and Afghanistan (26%), with 13% others.

UNHCR and partners assisted with food and non-food items, medical services, counselling, interpretation, referrals and recreational activities. Upon request of authorities, UNHCR and partners continued to support the Centre for Social Work in conducting Best Interest Assessments for unaccompanied and separated children.

BELGRADE

According to the authorities, over 1,200 refugees/migrants slept rough in the city centre, while Krnjaca Asylum Centre sheltered 1,149 asylum-seekers.

Humanitarian agencies provided counselling, referrals and transport to accommodation in governmental centres, registration with the police, child protection and medical services.

WEST



Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered 2,015 refugees and migrants: 1,040 in Adasevci, 625 in Sid and 350 in Principovac.

Civil society organizations assisted authorities with food, non-food and medical aid, counselling, referrals, child support, and recreational activities.

A seventh round of treatment for body lice/scabies in all three TCs is planned to take place in the coming days.

Refugee children in Adasevci (Serbia)@UNHCR, 04/01/17

NORTH

To be protected from harsh weather, 52 asylum seekers accepted the offer of authorities and moved from border sites to the Transit Centre in Subotica. As a result only 17 male a/s remained outside the "transit zone" in Horgos and 83, mostly unregistered male migrants from North Africa, outside the "transit zone" of Kelebije. The Subotica TC sheltered 200 asylum seekers and Sombor TC 104.

UNHCR and partners provided humanitarian aid, including food, non-food aid, hygiene packages, support to maintenance of the sanitary conditions, medical assistance, referrals, as well as legal and other counselling.