



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

**20,028**

Persons that benefited from the Accommodation for Relocation project since November 2015

**20,030**

Accommodation places with services for relocation candidates and vulnerable asylum seekers established since January 2016 in line with UNHCR policy on alternatives to camps. Cash/voucher assistance granted to over 7,000 people in UNHCR Accommodation Scheme

**646**

Accommodation places for unaccompanied children established by UNHCR in Greece

**8,918**

Asylum seekers transported by UNHCR to the Regional Asylum Offices for full registration of their asylum claim

**180,000**

Winter relief and hygiene items distributed

**250**

Water and Sanitation facilities (prefab shower and toilets) provided to partners and maintained on monthly basis.

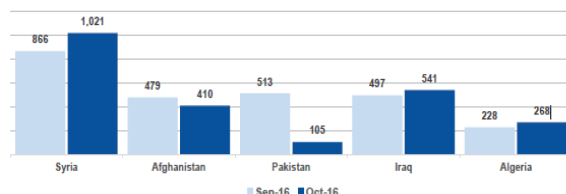
**564**

Shelter upgrading solutions (family tents, Refugee Housing Units, metal/folding beds) provided in mainland in November

**42**

Inter-agency coordination sectoral working groups established and chaired/co-chaired by UNHCR at country and field level

Top nationalities of arrivals in Greece



Source: Hellenic Police, Partial data.

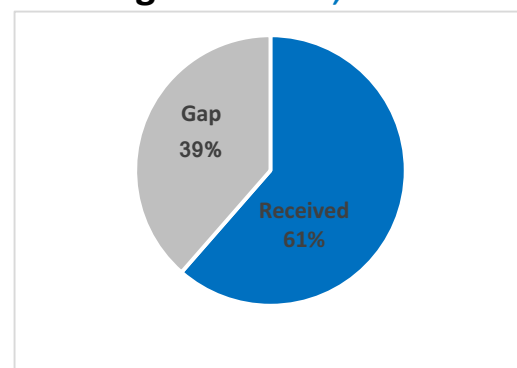
### Dead and missing

272 dead- 152 missing (2015)

146 dead- 51 missing (17 Nov. 2016)

(Source: Hellenic Coast Guard, Greek territorial waters)

**Funding USD 300,4 million** requested



**USD 184,5 million** received

### UNHCR Presence

Workforce: 511 in total

**356 national (273) and international (83) staff**

**1** international staff on mission (Emergency Deployment)

**178** staff under Affiliated Workforce arrangements

**77** national staff deployed in support of Greek authorities

#### Technical Unit

**9** Shelter and Site Planning staff (**4** international, **5** national) **9** Site Management support (**4** international, **5** national)

Offices: 12 in total

**1** Representation in Athens

**5** Offices on the mainland (Thessaloniki, Polykastro, Evros, Larissa, Ioannina, Attica)

**6** Offices on the islands (Lesvos, Chios, Samos, Leros, Kos, Rhodes)

**5** WASH staff (**2** international **3** national)

**2** Health staff (**1** international, **1** national)

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

During November, winter preparations were progressing rapidly on the islands and mainland Greece. In coordination with the Authorities, from a total of 54 sites in the mainland (11 not active), UNHCR proceeded to upgrading and maintenance of the infrastructure in 15 among them, expanding its support in several others beyond that number. As of end November, UNHCR installed 551 prefabricated units at eight open accommodation sites, providing a roof to 2,500 people. Ongoing plans will allow to ensure that, by the end of the year, about 4,000 PoCs shall be provided with up to 1,000 prefab units.

UNHCR is focusing its winterization efforts on four pillars/priorities:



*Snow covered Petra Olympou site, just after the last group of asylum-seekers was transferred by UNHCR to more suitable accommodation in apartments and hotels © UNHCR / November 2016*

1) **Replacement of tents with prefabricated housing units.** The process was completed at the open accommodation sites in Alexandria (80), Nea Kavala (174), Filippiada (100) and Katsikas (100), while it is ongoing at Diavata, Lagadikia and Schisto. In Schisto 100 out of 151 prefab units have already been installed. Housing units will also be installed in Kara Tepe on Lesbos.

2) **Empty sites not suitable for winter.** UNHCR agreed to provide extra shelter support through the provision of up to 120 prefabricated units in Diavata and proceed to evacuate Kipsilohori (120) and Petra Olympou sites, moving 1,300 refugees to accommodation apartments or hotels, as well as transferring remaining residents from Tsepelovo (147) and Cherso sites. All beneficiaries living in hotels and apartments are provided with cash assistance to cover their basic needs.

3) **Winterization of tents.** To date, 352 winterization kits have been shared with partners to improve conditions in the sites where UNHCR is not active in terms of infrastructure support and improvement. In Softex, IFRC completed the winterization of 45 tents, which were provided by UNHCR, by installing wooden flooring and tent

winter kits.

4) **Upgrade of electricity/infrastructure.** Existing air conditioners for heating have been maintained and new ones were installed at the open accommodation sites in Rafina, Andravida and Elefsina. When possible, UNHCR is also supporting the improvement of existing infrastructure in the sites. Heated communal areas have been established in Trikala and communal kitchens are planned for Elefsina and Thermopiles.

Between 21 and 30 November 2016, UNHCR completed the evacuation of Petra Olympou site, in coordination with the Ministry of Migration Policy, the Police, the Army, and NGOs Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and Galdakaoko Boluntarioen Gizarte Elkartea (GBGE). A total of 1,127 individuals were transferred from the site, situated in a remote and mountainous location, and taken to apartments and hotels under UNHCR accommodation scheme in Chalkidona, Volvi, Katerini and Athens.

On Samos, UNHCR/Samaritan Purse continued their search for ways to further winterize the current shelters at the Reception and Identification Center (RIC) in Vathy, looking at different insulation and external heating options, but also taking into account the flammable tents and forested area the heaters will be placed in. In order to mitigate the risk of fire, UNHCR developed fire hazard and safety warning messages in multiple languages in print and audio for distribution via SMS.

Besides, UNHCR has established 646 accommodation places for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), including 418 on the mainland and 228 on the islands. This makes UNHCR the biggest provider of accommodation for UASC in Greece. As of 30 November, the total number of such places is about 1,200.

Nationalities	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16
Syrian Arab Republic	30,309	29,412	14,399	1,268	525	459	510	1,112	866	1,021	553
Afghanistan	18,846	13,943	6,133	580	270	215	201	324	479	410	232
Pakistan	2,243	1,539	1,880	637	231	233	345	737	513	105	58
Iraq	11,964	9,134	2,515	381	162	183	104	327	497	541	201
Iran	2,193	1,593	674	73	64	51	73	123	155	216	69
Other	1,860	1,445	1,370	711	469	413	687	824	570	677	702
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,415</b>	<b>57,066</b>	<b>26,971</b>	<b>3,650</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>1,554</b>	<b>1,920</b>	<b>3,447</b>	<b>3,080</b>	<b>2,970</b>	<b>1,815</b>

*Arrivals by nationality per month during 2016. Source: Hellenic Police/Hellenic Coast Guard; partial data*

On 4 November the reshuffle of the government was officially announced. Iannis Mouzalas assumed the leadership of an autonomous Ministry of Migration Policy.

On 14 November, a press conference organized by Minister Mouzalas to address Chios media was attended by UNHCR Assistant Representative (Operations). The latter presented a three-point intervention plan to fund an alternative accommodation site for vulnerable asylum-seekers, facilitation in locating and transferring the PoCs to the mainland and establishing a hosting site in Hada would this be approved by the Municipal Council. Minister Mouzalas stated that nothing will be imposed on the local population and more asylum experts will be deployed to the islands.

Also, many of Northern Greece sites shall close, while improving infrastructure is needed. In the islands, UNHCR will build the capacity of the local authorities for WASH and Shelter while continuing to assist and guide the RICs in dealing with protection issues, in particular the referral of the vulnerable cases and the provision of adequate information according to international standards.

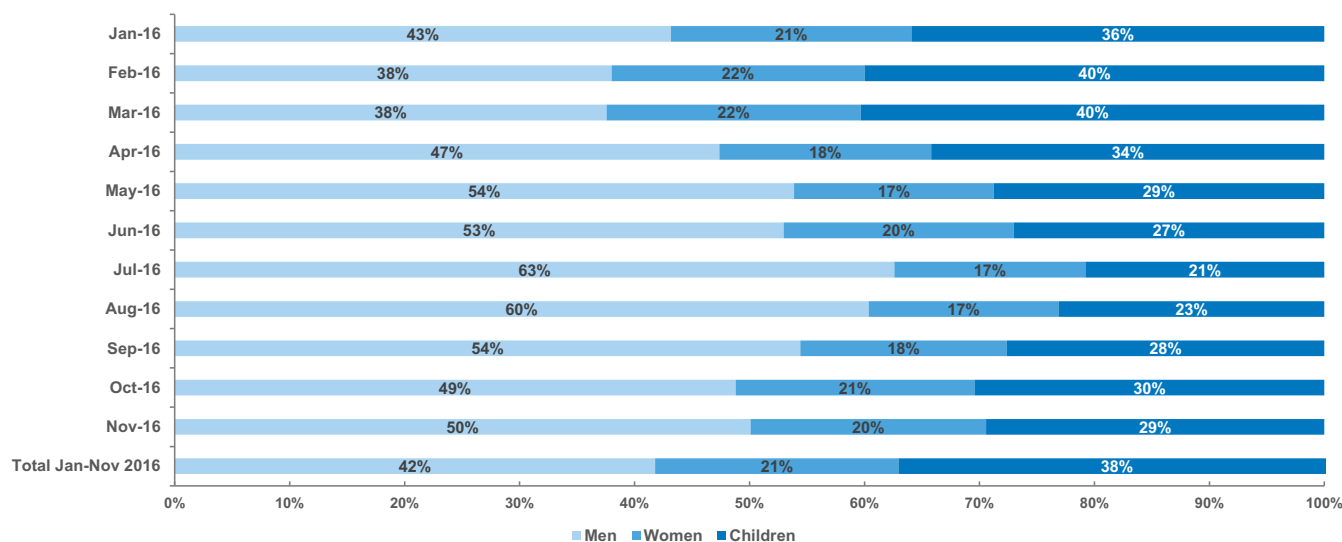
On 18 November, a team of FC Barcelona veterans spent a day with the refugees in Ioannina, Western Greece in an event of solidarity organized with UNHCR and local football club PAS Ioannina. The team visited the open accommodation site in Katsikas, met refugee families and conducted workshops for more than 500 children and adults. A friendly match was held between the two teams.

On 23 and 25 November, a delegation from the European Commission – Migration and Home Affairs Department DG HOME visited Athens and Thessaloniki UNHCR offices. In Athens, they attended the monthly partner coordination meeting followed by a visit to a beneficiary accommodated in an apartment. In Thessaloniki, the delegation visited Lagadikia relocation/accommodation site and an apartment building, hosting relocation candidates and other vulnerable asylum-seekers in Sindos.

On 29 November, some 20 human rights groups and organizations issued a letter highlighting the need to follow operating procedures and security regulations at the open accommodation site. Also on 29 November, the Council of State held its public hearing concerning the recourse for annulment against the first decision of the Independent Appeals Committees declaring inadmissible a Syrian national at the second instance. The decision of the Committee in favour of inadmissibility was taken by majority vote. During the hearing, the compliance of the composition of the Appeals Committees with the Greek Constitution was challenged by the applicants. The decisions will be made in December.

On 30 November, Greek authorities picked up about 70 migrants, including children, in a snowy forest near the Northern city of Thessaloniki. The members of the group who claimed to be Syrians, reported to have crossed the Greek-Turkish land border hidden in a truck. The truck driver left them in the forest and they spent the night there in the snow. This seems to suggest that the smugglers prefer the land routes, considering that land arrivals are not treated in the framework of the EU-TUR Statement. However the GRE-TUR Bilateral Agreement still applies to land arrivals.

On the Aegean Islands arrivals continued to decrease since August, with 1,991 persons in November.



Breakdown of Men, Women and Children arrived by month (January – November 2016). The sum of shares may differ from 100% because of rounding effects. Source: Hellenic Police; partial data.

**Tensions continued in the islands.** On Chios, on 9 November, tensions reached concerning heights in and around Souda site on the Greek island of Chios during the week. On the evening of 16 November, a group of male residents of the site burglarized a nearby store and set off fireworks in the streets, burning down tents of some 100 residents there and causing further unrest and clashes. Although riot police and the fire brigade immediately arrived on scene, they were not able to immediately intervene amidst the chaos. On 17 November, the site was attacked by local residents, reportedly from right wing factions, destroying 3 tents and partially burning

a rub hall. Following the events, approximately 70 individuals, mostly families chose to sleep outside the camp in a nearby carpark for 4 nights, until UNHCR was able to find alternative accommodation in hotels and apartments. A total of 10 damaged shelters were replaced by UNHCR winterized tents. UNHCR has met with the police and local authorities to provide training to staff in the field on reporting crisis violence. UNHCR issued a press release expressing its deep concern regarding the recent incidents at Souda, and outlined services provided for those affected.

On Samos, the heavy rainfall of 9 November affected 1,000 people sleeping in small tents.

On Lesbos, a propane gas explosion killed two PoCs (Iraqi and Kurdish) at the Moria RIC on 25 November. UNHCR intervened to transfer 200 people, including all the unaccompanied minors from the site, to apartments managed by its NGO partner Iliaktida and installed 25 tents to replace the burned shelter. The incident triggered reactions from the Greek Prime minister, Alexis Tsipras and the Minister of Migration Policy Ioannis Mouzalas who expressed their condolences to the family.

Organization providing humanitarian assistance on Chios island issued a joint statement on 15-16 November, referring to the steady deterioration of conditions within the camps and requesting Chios authorities to guarantee the physical safety of all refugees, aid workers and journalists on the island.

On 23 November UNHCR Representative and Assistant Representative gave two separate interviews to Alpha News and Skai TV calling on the responsibility of the EU support to Greece in the relocation procedures and on the government and authorities to create alternative sites and accommodation to ease the tension on the islands.

On 17 November, Samaritan's Purse finalized **the distribution of winter items in Moria, Kara Tepe and PIKPA on Lesbos**. Extra stocks for future arrivals have been installed. In **Kara Tepe**, the ground works for the installation of the prefab units have started. On **Kos**, a meeting regarding the winterization of the tents near the RIC (Reception Identification Centre) took place. The Hellenic Army confirmed that the materials for the flooring has been ordered.

On 21 November, the UNHCR Representative intervened in the meeting "Welcoming Cities for Refugees: Promoting Inclusion and Protecting Rights" organized by the Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation, UNESCO and the European Coalition of Cities against racism. The meeting was opened by the Director General of UNESCO, the President of the Hellenic Republic and the President of the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece.

To mark the "16 days of activism against gender based violence" global campaign, UNHCR in Greece participated in initiatives around the country in cooperation with communities, organizations and authorities highlighting that Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) is a fundamental violation of human rights to which we should all oppose. Awareness raising events, group discussions and participatory workshops with the refugee communities aimed to put in practice our shared responsibility to promote healthy relationships at home, in schools and in the community. In Thessaloniki, UNHCR, together with the local Municipality and the General Secretariat for Gender Equality, promoted awareness for the eradication of violence against women by lighting its symbol, the White Tower, orange until midnight on 25 November, among other initiatives.



*On 23 November an inauguration ceremony took place in Koutsohero, where 203 PoCs were moved from Cherso and accommodated in prefab houses. The transfer was executed by MoMP as part of evacuating and closing the site. UNHCR Larisa provided full support for the registration and for preparation of the site for PoCs. © UNHCR/Zain Hakim*

## INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

- A 2017 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RRMRP) closing meeting was held on 25 November, which was well attended with good discussion on the cross over between sectors of outputs and indicators; particularly between education, protection and child protection. The 2017 RRMRP will be structured around development process, ongoing winterization activities, coordination around national Cash Based Interventions roll-out etc.
- An interagency meeting was called by the European Commission – Humanitarian Aid to discuss plans to possible phase out from the provision of catered hot meal by the Army as of the end of 2016 and ensure that all sites have the capacity to be self-sufficient for food in January. ECHO's position was that it should be reviewed at a site by site level and an inter-agency plan developed including advocacy messaging.



# MAINLAND RESPONSE

## Protection



*The first families (15 individuals) arrived to the Municipality of Livadia from the open accommodation site in Cherso, as part of the Accommodation for Relocation project, funded by the EU. © UNHCR/Maha Kashoor*

■ **Provision of information.** UNHCR continued to conduct group and individual information sessions on asylum in Greece, family reunification and relocation, as well as on the procedures for the full lodging of asylum claims following the pre-registration exercise, with the [Greek Asylum Service](#) and EASO.

■ On 22 November the MoMP issued a Joint Ministerial Decision making reference to the “*General Regulation of Operation of accommodation facilities operating under RIS*”. The regulation can be the basis for UNHCR advocacy efforts towards establishing essential service in the sites.

**Child protection.** The Ministry of Migration Policy (MoMP) and the Ministry of Labour (MoL) have endorsed the “Minimum Standards for safe working spaces for unaccompanied children (UAC) in open sites” that were drafted by the Child Protection sub-Working Group (CP SWG). This includes criteria

for site selection, infrastructure, procedure and placement of the UAC, services and staff. The most vulnerable UAC should be prioritized for placement in shelters and safe zones, depending on their vulnerability and needs, and it was agreed with the MoMP and MoL that a rapid BIA (Best Interest Assessment) should be used as a prerequisite for referring UAC for accommodation and support in the safe zones. Additionally, the CP SWG is also advocating for distribution of cash for over 14 years old, in accordance to the Greek law.

- **Blue Dots - Child and Family Support Hubs.** In total, 11 Blue Dots are operating in Greece. These Child and Family Support Hubs offer information and key services such as restoring family links, child friendly spaces, dedicated mother and baby/toddler spaces, multidisciplinary teams with trained NGO professionals able to identify and support children, especially UASC, counselling on nutrition, as well as basic legal counselling. Besides, they offer referral services for cases of violence or health conditions and other circumstances, requiring specialized support. Depending on assessed needs, specific nonfood items may be available for women and children, including children with disabilities. In Northern Greece, UNHCR and partners have established “Blue Dots” Child and Family Support Hubs in five sites, namely Lagadikia, Diavata, Nea Kavala, Alexandria. The hubs provide safe areas for children and their families, mother and baby spaces, playgrounds, protection, counselling and other essential services, all in easily identifiable locations. In Lagadikia, UNHCR’s partner Arsis supports the child friendly space, while its partners Médecins du Monde (MdM) and Danish Refugee Council (DRC) are responsible for the mother and baby area. In Diavata, the child friendly space is implemented by UNHCR through the NGO SOS Village. In Alexandria, International Rescue Committee (IRC) is responsible for safe zones including a tent for woman’s activities. Finally, in Nea Kavala, UNHCR’s partner Save the Children supports the child friendly spaces. UNHCR’s partner Solidarity Now provides services to the asylum-seekers living in urban setting. Through the Blue Dot concept, humanitarian partners aim at supporting individuals and families with special needs, especially the many unaccompanied or separated children (UASCs) at risk of diseases, trauma, violence, exploitation and trafficking. As an interim measure and to ensure proximity with their community of origin at the sites, three safe spaces for UASCs, with the capacity of 90 children, are operational in Diavata, Alexandria and Lagadikia, as part of the Blue Dot approach. The use of SOPs needs to be formalized. As a longer-term solution, in support of the Greek authorities’ efforts to expand the reception capacity for UASCs in the country and with the aim to avoid detention, UNHCR through its partners Arsis and Praksis provides in Northern Greece 160 places for unaccompanied children in five transit or longer-term shelters, currently accommodating over 120 boys and girls between five and 18 years old.
- In Attica, Elliniko I, Elliniko III and Schisto Blue Dots continue to be operational. On the islands Blue Dot Hubs exist in Kara Tepe, Lesvos and in Kos.
- **Security.** Overall, the month was marked by several security incidents and protests by asylum-seekers living at the sites, primarily related to the cold weather, the demands by fully registered asylum seekers to be transferred to alternative accommodation and the lengthiness of the asylum procedures.
- **Support to accommodation capacity for asylum seekers.** In support of the Greek authorities’ efforts to expand reception capacity for asylum seekers, UNHCR’s accommodation project funded by the [European Union](#) reached **20,030 places**, exceeding the 20,000 target of UNHCR and its partners by the end of 2016. Over **20,028 persons benefitted from the project** so far, nearly 6,300 have left Greece for relocation and some 3,000 have been accepted for relocation and are awaiting travel authorization to other European countries.

## Health

- In all sites in Greece, a first round of vaccination with Measles, Mumps and Rubella has already been done. Urban areas have been vaccinated in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.
- Some of the sites had a first round of vaccinations (Hexavalent, PVC, MMR) with one vaccine administered out of the three rounds planned. MSF is taking the lead in this campaign. Vaccination for children took place in November 4 – 5 in Leros (RIC and Pikpa).



Recreational/sport activities for Trikala site children jointly with local children, organized by UNHCR and Thessaly University. © UNHCR/M. Kashoor

## Education

- By the end of November 2016, about 1,000 refugee children hosted in open accommodation sites started attending school (primary and secondary education), in particular the afternoon classes that are gradually established in the country. In parallel, 459 children hosted in UNHCR accommodation attend school – 297 children primary education (14,34% of hosted children, 6-12 years old) and 162 secondary education (21,72 % of hosted children, 13-15 years old).
- In a meeting with representatives of the MoMP, UNHCR, UNICEF and SCI, the General Secretary of the Ministry of Education announced its commitment to open as many schools as possible for refugee children by Christmas. Next step for the MoE in 2017 is the launch of a plan for vocational training and technical education focusing on adolescents and youth.
- November 2016, a process of accreditation by Institute of Educational Policy/MoE has been completed for most of the organizations that provide non formal education to refugee children in the open accommodation sites. However, organizations also need to be registered in the MoMP's new electronic platform once it opens, a procedure compulsory for all humanitarian actors (NGOs and IOs) working on refugee issues in Greece. Interim solutions are currently discussed with MoMP for not impeding access of the organizations to the sites and ensuring provision of non-formal educational activities.
- On 3 November, UNHCR participated in a meeting with the MoE in relation with the assessment of refugees' qualifications; a pilot project is to take place in Greece in 2017 based on the proposal for a *European Qualifications Passport for Refugees*, developed by NOKUT (the Norwegian ENIC/NARIC) and UK NARIC (the United Kingdom ENIC/NARIC). Representatives of the Council of Europe were also present in the meeting.

## Shelter and Core Relief Items

- **Shelter.** Please see Operational Context, Page 2.

## Cash Based Intervention (CBI)

- 18,656 PoCs are currently being provided with or have previously received cash assistance in different locations in Greece, as well as approximately 7,800 PoCs living in hotels or apartments receiving a combination of cash and vouchers through the UNHCR accommodation scheme.
- UNHCR finalized the selection of a Financial Service Provider to deliver prepaid cash cards and compatible management systems to allow for the implementation of UNHCR cash cards, as of 1 January 2017. The CBI team has finalized an interim strategy through partner card systems. UNHCR is planning to progressively roll-out and complete the transition to a full use of UNHCR cards by April 2017 pending the European Commission – Humanitarian Aid funding decision. In the North, to coordinate and harmonize timing, messages and approach among the different cash actors, several operational cash working groups meetings were held in November, including with the Ministry of Migration Policy, the urban cash actors and UNHCR accommodation partners, Site Management Support (SMS) agencies and Communication with Communities (CwC) working group members.
- UNHCR presented the CBI roll-out and scale-up plans to the visiting ECHO Global Food Security and Cash Advisor, with emphasis on operational readiness/capacity, urbanization strategy and features of country-wide data management/sharing and single-platform card payment systems.



41 asylum-seeking children in Thermopiles site started to attend a public school in Moschochori. UNHCR bags were distributed and children will be commuted by bus. © UNHCR/Maha Kashoor

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- **The Communication with Communities Working Group (CWC WG)** and the Asylum Service distributed translations of a comprehensive Q&A regarding the registration and related procedures: applying for the relocation scheme and for family reunification. The Q&A is based on concerns and questions that have been collected from UNHCR locations, and from CWC partners including IRC, RefuComm, Internews and IFRC. The document is available in Greek, English, Farsi, Arabic, Kurmanji, Sorani and Urdu on the Asylum Service website (<http://asylo.gov.gr/en/>).
- A WhatsApp group was established for CWC WG members, to get rapid access to clarifications on common questions about registration, asylum, relocation and family reunification, and related matters such as lost or damaged documentation, ongoing registrations by Skype, fingerprinting, accommodation options and access to the labor market. The group is widely used by CWC partners, to obtain information and quickly update POCs on case by case matters and also to update key information on the websites and Facebook groups of CWC partners, including RefugeeInfo.org, [newsthatmoves.org](http://newsthatmoves.org) and [virtualvolunteer.org](http://virtualvolunteer.org).
- **Service mapping.** A color brochure describing access to free services for refugees and migrants was produced by the Salvation Army and disseminated to agencies working in Attica. It was also delivered to Lesbos for distribution to each of the islands to reach the people who are transferred to the mainland.



A UNHCR training to Larissa municipality newly recruited staff was attended by the Mayor and Prefecture officers, the MoE representative and 95 municipality staff. © UNHCR/ Zain Hakim

## Logistics

- UNHCR provided training to some 95 municipality staff about transfer services. Registration and preparation for the arrival to Koutsouhero was also supported.
- UNHCR continues to support the process of full registration of asylum seekers conducted by the Asylum Service through the provision of country-wide transportation from sites to the Regional Asylum Offices and back. As of 30 November, UNHCR provided **transportation to over 8,918 asylum seekers** from various sites across mainland Greece including 2,615 in Attica and 6,303 from Northern Greece to the Regional Asylum Offices in Athens, Alexandroupoli and Thessaloniki. Different forms of transport have been used (UNHCR vehicles, provision of bus/train tickets and taxis), depending on the distance, accessibility to public transportation, and the specific needs of the asylum seekers. Transportation continues to be provided by UNHCR also to relocation candidates.

# ISLANDS RESPONSE

## Protection

- Support to new arrivals UNHCR continues to identify and assist new arrivals with specific needs. Core relief items are distributed and information on legal procedures is provided. UNHCR is present on the islands at the RIC to cover several functions such as provision of information on rights and obligations, asylum procedures; identification and referral of vulnerable individuals; support to alternative accommodation for vulnerable individuals and other protection services. Also, UNHCR continues to implement a transport service to ensure a mean of transport between the RIC and the town for extremely vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers. On Lesbos, UNHCR has been working on strengthening its interventions, including child protection, sexual and gender based violence prevention and response, legal counselling, as well as ameliorating living conditions.
- A Participatory assessment in Kos engaging 400 various profiles revealed that the priorities to be handled are the safety and security of the population in RIC. At the same level, the quality and the timing of the processing of asylum applications was a key challenge.
- On Kos, a child friendly space is run by UNHCR's partner Save the Children (SCI) at Argos accommodation facility. Throughout November more than 37 children have passed by the child friendly space (CFS), where they were occupied in a creative way by the recreational activities provided by Save the Children.
- The provision of the aforementioned activities was also extended to the children that are residing at the RIC through carrying out recreational activities during morning hours. UNHCR-Praxis and UNHCR-Save the Children transit facilities provide a



UNHCR and partners installed tents for 400 people whose accommodation was destroyed after a gas canister explosion in Moria on 24/11 © UNHCR/E. Marda



protective and child-friendly environment to unaccompanied children (UASC) arriving to Kos. Top nationalities of the UACs are Pakistanis, Afghans, Syrians and Bangladeshi, the ages of whom vary from 12 to 17 years old. On **Lesvos**, an alternative shelter managed by UNHCR's partner Iliaktida opened, currently hosting 63 vulnerable family members and unaccompanied children.

- On **Leros**, UNHCR conducted 525 individual and 15 group information sessions for PoCs on asylum and RIS procedures; vulnerability issues; family reunification and access to available services.



UNHCR info board and feedback box at the RIC of Kos (© UNHCR/D. Champesis)

- **Winterization on the islands.** On Lesvos, UNHCR identified areas in Moria where to install prefab housing units and agreed on the works to undertake. UNHCR committed to accommodate vulnerable families in apartments rented by UNHCR and at a CARITAS rented hotel. In Kara Tepe, the Mayor agreed to allow preparatory infrastructure works for the replacement of Refugee Housing Units with prefab houses. On **Chios**, discussions are ongoing for the establishment of a new site in Hada. On **Samos**, 90% of the small tents are now covered with tarps. UNHCR and Samaritan's Purse started providing pallets to those in the small tents, to mitigate flooding risks.



The Imam of Kos giving a speech to the residents of the Kos RIC about peace in the context of 16 days of activism (© UNHCR/E. Jada )

- **The Vathy RIC on Samos remains**

**overcrowded** with 1,700 persons accommodated in a facility with a capacity of 606 beds, while 1,300 persons are accommodated in over 365 pop up tents and 29 large 10-persons tents. Due to the heavy rains on 10/11 the living conditions deteriorated, with the majority of tents without flooring flooded, destroyed or abandoned. On **Lesvos**, the **Moria RIC is also beyond capacity, with continues delays in registration and asylum procedures.** Police have relocated all tents that were near the detention facility inside Moria (300 PoCs).

- On **Lesvos**, the modality of announcing those who have interviews for finalizing registration has changed from posting to billboards to megaphones announcements, due to the large number of PoCs to be invited. However a very low number of people have actually shown up. UNHCR in Lesvos is cooperating with the RAO in order to trace people and inform them accordingly. In

Chios, Kos and Samos, the usual modality (posting the names) is being employed. **RAO Lesvos** continued registering asylum claims of PoCs detained in the pre-removal section of Moria. On **Samos**, a new asylum application procedure began in Vathy RIC. The authority responsible for the pre-registration of claims depends on the administrative status of the asylum-seekers, whilst solemn declaration is abolished at all stages. There is an overall very low response from those who did not show up, therefore it is presumed that most might have moved to the mainland.

- On **Chios**, the shelters in Souda camp that were damaged (have been replaced or repaired, and the destroyed rub hall was replaced by seven winterized tents.

- **Restriction of travel on Lesvos.** Starting from 23 November, PoCs with police notes will no longer be able to travel to the mainland unless they have sought asylum and possess an asylum seeker's card from the Regional Asylum Office. UNHCR is coordinating with the local authorities to streamline the process.



Launching of awareness raising activities on SGBV at the RIC of Kos. Participants: UNHCR, RIS, Police and PoCs, residents of the RIC (© UNHCR/D. Champesis)

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- **Child protection.** An estimated 212 unaccompanied children are currently residing in Samos RIC, 26 of them with pending decisions from the public prosecutor regarding their custody.
- **A meeting was held at the premises of EKKKA (National Centre for Social Solidarity)** following an initiative of the Deputy Ombudsman for children's rights. UNHCR was been invited together with other national and international NGOs for the purpose of creating 'Networking for the Right of Children on the Move', that would provide a)procedural safeguards and access to basic goods and services b) monitoring violation of children's rights by public services as well as private individuals or legal entities.

## Education

- Online licenses will be provided by UNHCR Lesvos and the University of the Aegean for language classes (12 different European languages), certified by the European Commission for 1,000 PoCs over 15 years old. This is based on an online application that



the PoCs can access through their personal devices. Should the PoCs need help, the University will set up group sessions twice a week at their campus.

- On 21 November, the Leros Education Space ("LEDU") initiated operations and a trial lesson was conducted. As of 30 November, the education space operates in full capacity. 143 students from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea have been enrolled in the classes. The courses taught are Greek, English, arts and mathematics. On Wednesdays, courses of the native languages of the students will also be provided.
- On Leros, English language courses began in the middle of November for 30 Children PoCs from the RIC. The UNHCR team on Leros identified the gaps in the education for children residing in the RIC and took the initiative for a two-month language course contract. Children and Youth space in Leros Education Space began class trials at late November. The facility will be fully operational early in December.
- About the education of children on the islands, the Ministry of Education (MoE) informed UNHCR that 5 Education Coordinators have been appointed in Northern Aegean so to assess needs and organize educational activities.
- UNHCR Lesbos actively supports the Online Linguistic Support for Refugees (12 different European languages coordinated by IKY/Erasmus+, acting in coordination with Aegean University; it is expected that about 1,000 PoCs will have access to the online application through their personal devices. Should PoCs need help, the University will set up group sessions twice a week at their accommodation site.

## Health

- On **Kos**, Accion, a Spanish NGO with collaboration with WAHA provided free dental service through roving dentists to all refugees. The RIS provided the space needed within the RIC.
- On **Leros**, UNHCR's partner WAHA, provided Primary Health Services to PoCs, at the PIKPA open facility, where the WAHA Medical Unit is stationed; PoCs from all host facilities are being provided with primary medical assistance. UNHCR rented two mini-vans during November, which provided transportation to 677 PoCs for medical purposes and access to Leros Municipal Hospital and other medical facilities in the island.
- Vaccination for children on Leros took place on 4-5 November at the RIC and in Pikpa by Praxis. MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella), PCV (Pneumococcus vaccine) and Hexavalent were used.

## Food security and Nutrition

- Within the plan for the winterization of the sites UNHCR sent a letter to ECHO, communicating which ones will be ready to move from the provision of catered food by the Ministry of Defence to the communal kitchens by 31/12, which sites will require the continued provision of catering and which ones are unlikely to become self-sufficient for food preparation and therefore should be closed.
- In total there are 11 sites dependent on electricity upgrading; 6 are related to the establishment of kitchen facilities (individual/communal); 1 to water and 3 have no known plan. In February 9 of the 18 sites will be ready for catering discontinuation. For the 9 that will never be self-sufficient UNHCR will ask ECHO to advocate jointly towards the Greek government for their closure.

## Water and Sanitation

- Within the winterization plan for UNHCR delegated sites, in order to alleviate some of the winterization concerns, UNHCR planned to install flooring under all tents in Redestos, improve the WASH facilities and provide solutions which will allow the PoCs to prepare and cook their meals in a clean and dignified manner. In November, UNHCR continued to provide **WASH improvements** through its partners in Northern Greece. In **Redestos** site, in partnership with International Medical Corps (IMC) UNHCR completed the **pipe insulation for the water boiler**, the replacement of circuit breaker on the "hangar 2" area of the site, the electricity fixing in the clinic and hangar, **fixing leaks** in the clinic roof and plumbing in showers block and **substitution of damaged water pumps** at "hangar 6". UNHCR and IMC also distributed **553 hygiene kits** and conducted **four hygiene promotion sessions**. Furthermore, **spraying activity for bedbugs** and replacement of some 600 blankets were undertaken. In **Nea Kavala**, UNHCR ensured rental and cleaning payment of **76 chemical toilets, one chemical disabled toilets, and 30 showers**, and through its partner Samaritan's Purse, it installed **three boiler containers**, making **warm water available at all four WASH blocks** throughout the site. Through Samaritan's Purse, UNHCR also completed the installation of **10 toilet containers (for a total of 50 toilets), two disabled toilet containers, and six shower containers (amounting to 24 showers)**. The WASH containers are aimed to replace part of the chemical ones. Three times a day cleaning of all WASH containers is guaranteed through **dedicated cleaning staff**, as well as regular cleaning and de-clogging of the **six laundry stations and taps**. **Hygiene promotion**

materials and multi-language signs are installed around all the WASH blocks and stations. Regular chlorination of water and **tests on water quality** are conducted by UNHCR's partner Samaritan's Purse.

## Shelter and Core Relief Items

- As of 30/11, an additional one-off distribution of winter clothing is being conducted in mainland sites. 41 sites will be covered by UNHCR through its partners Samaritan's Purse, DRC and IOM. During the month of November, **Lesvos** distributed 29,254 non-food items in sites across the island and **Leros**, 6,516 non-food items and 5,272 personal hygiene items, in **Kos**, 2,528 and in Leros, 2,442 items and 5,272 personal items were distributed for winterization.

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- On Lesvos, in collaboration with other humanitarian actors, UNHCR is coordinating the establishment of the "Olive Grove" centre, a recreational space in Moria village, near the Moria RIC. The center will host sports, music and artistic events, educational activities, vocational training and psychosocial support sessions. It will be open both to the refugee and the local population, encouraging closer relations between them. Furthermore, with the financial support of the EC (European Commission), UNHCR is renovating the health dispensary in Moria village, which will be accessible both to locals and refugees.
- On Leros a second van was rented by UNHCR in late November for the facilitation of community-based activities. With the new van, PoCs will be transferred to football fields, language courses and other activities outside the RIC and the open facility at Pikpa. Twelve children from Pikpa, Leros participated in art activities as part of the "Ghost Ship event" on Leros. The acclaimed French artist Yves Henry created a sculpture that was installed in Lakki. The children prepared from paper and clay their own interpretation of ships and their journey. The activity was facilitated by UNHCR's Field Unit on Leros and Leros Solidarity Network. Other activities, such as chess courses and chess competitions continue to take place twice a week at the PIKPA open facility and the RIC, with the support of the local cultural association Artemis. More and more PoCs are expressing their interest to participate.

## Logistics

- Transport from the mainland to the islands.** Since the end of September, UNHCR helped to identify, inform and transport in close collaboration with the authorities: **846 people (714 of them are provided UNHCR's accommodation in Athens).**

Sector of Intervention	National NGOs	International NGOs	United Nations	Authorities and others
<b>Protection</b>	GCR, Praksis, METAdrasi, ERP, Arsis, Solidarity Now	ICMC, DRC, IMC, Samaritan's Purse	UNOPS	Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction Ministry of Migration Policy (AS and RIS)
<b>Child Protection</b>	METAdrasi, Praksis, Arsis, Iliaktida	Save the Children, DRC, ICMC		
<b>Communicating with Communities</b>	GCR/GFR			
<b>NFI/Shelter</b>		Samaritan's Purse, DRC	UNOPS	University of Aegean
<b>WASH</b>		Samaritan's Purse, DRC, IRC, IMC		
<b>Site Management Support</b>		DRC		
<b>Health</b>		WAHA, Médecins du Monde, Faros, Intersos		
<b>Education</b>	Solidarity Now	Save the Children, DRC, Intersos		
<b>Public Awareness</b>	Tenet		UNOPS	
<b>Accommodation for Relocation</b>	Praksis, Nostos, Arsis, Solidarity Now, Iliaktida, CRS, Faros			Municipality of Athens (ADDMA), Municipality of Thessaloniki, Municipality of Livadia (KEDHL)
<b>Community mobilization</b>		Samaritan's Purse, Intersos		

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR provides protection and assistance directly and through **27 partners (11 national NGOs, 11 international NGOs and 5 government institutions)** in 11 different sectors of intervention.
- UNHCR has also **ongoing partnerships with the national and local authorities**, including the Greek Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction, the Municipality of Athens, the Municipality of Thessaloniki and Municipality of Livadia.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The revised inter-agency [regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan \(RMRP\) for Europe](#), released on 10 June, amounts to USD 669.9 million, with UNHCR appealing for USD 380.3 million in additional support to affected countries in the eastern Mediterranean and western Balkans for 2016. This appeal supersedes the original 2016 requirements for participating organizations. By participating in this plan, organizations commit to engaging in regional and national coordination mechanisms across Europe. Under this regional plan, UNHCR is appealing for USD 300 million for Greece. As of 30 November the total recorded contributions for Greece amount to USD 184.5 million.

UNHCR Greece Donors	USD
European Commission (DG Home)	122,272,461
European Commission (DG ECHO)	48,078,074
United Kingdom	7,199,041
Germany	3,382,187
Germany	3,382,187
Austria	2,265,006
Norway	1,770,120
Fondacion BNP Paribas	1,481,481
USA Private Donors	475,000
Switzerland	377,551
Stavros Niarchos Foundation	222,965
Vodafone Foundation	145,560
International Olympic Committee	50,000

Special thanks to major donors for the refugee emergency in Europe – the European Union, the United States of America and the United Kingdom – as well as to all government and private donors for their generous contributions. The financial support provided by donors who have contributed with non-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as by those who have contributed directly to the situation and the Greece operation, allows to provide direct assistance in protection and solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers. In this changing operational context, UNHCR is appealing to donors to provide contributions that can be allocated as flexibly as possible.

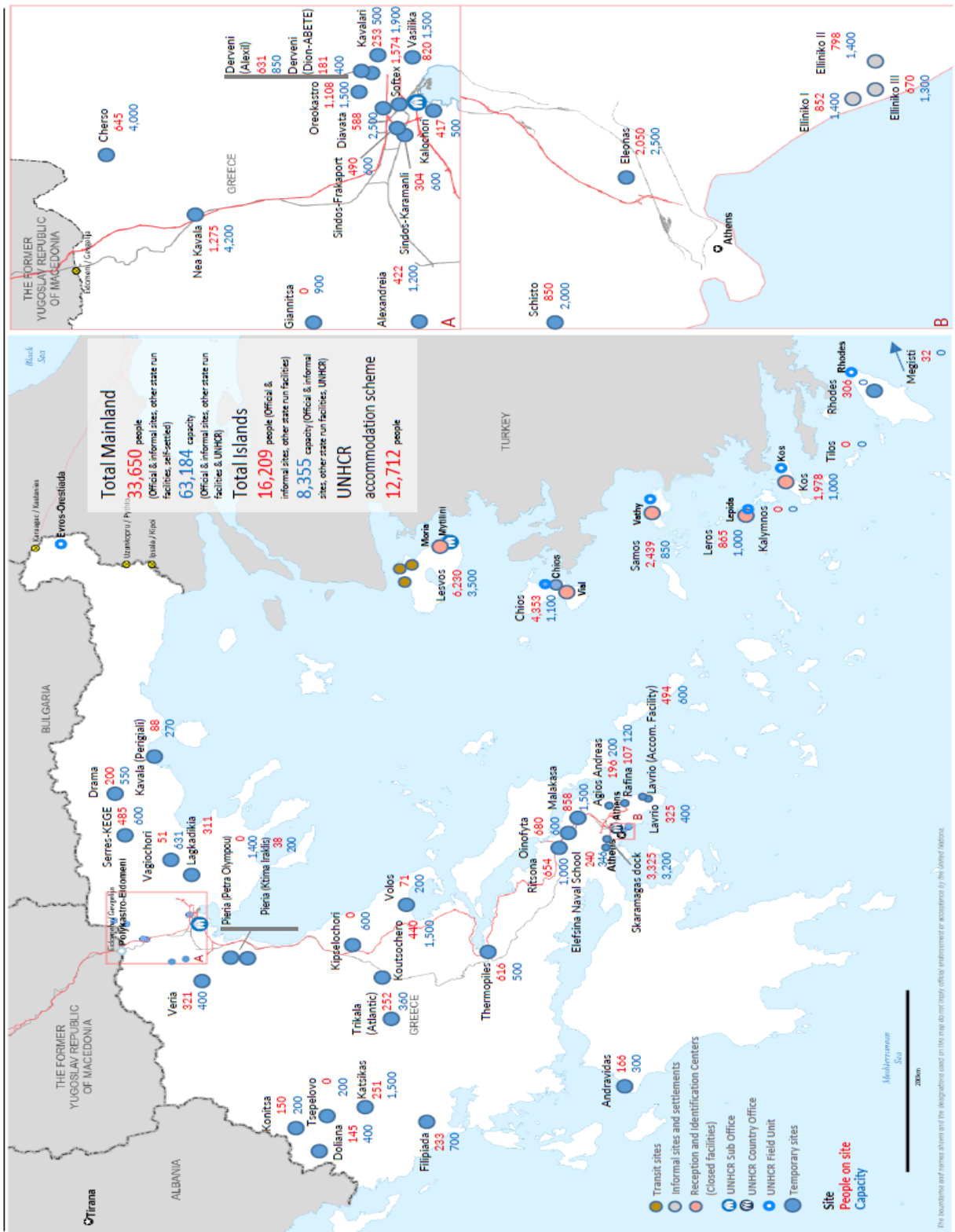
Major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2016: United States of America (200 M) | Sweden (78 M) | Netherlands (46 M) | Priv Donors Spain (45 M) | United Kingdom (45 M) | Norway (40 M) | Australia (31 M) | Japan (24 M) | Denmark (24 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (17 M) | Priv Donors Italy (16 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Priv Donors Japan (13 M) | Priv Donors Sweden (13 M) | Germany (13 M) | Priv Donors USA (12 M) | Italy (10 M)



# Europe Refugee Emergency

Daily map indicating capacity and occupancy (Governmental figures)

As of 02 December 2016 08:00 a.m. EET



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