

REGIONAL REFUGEE AND MIGRANT RESPONSE PLAN (RMRP) FOR EUROPE

PERIOD POPULATION PLANNING FIGURES FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS NUMBER OF PARTNERS

Overview

January to March 2017 Up to 342,000 people

USD 690,935,678

74



FUNDING (AS OF 20 MARCH)

USD 690

requested for the RMRP requirement

Funded 12% 80 M

Sea arrivals in the Mediterranean from 01 January until 31 March 2017 total 31,210. This compares to 171,132 for the same period in 2016. In the first quarter of the year, 4,056 persons arrived in **Greece** by sea (151,452 arrived during same period in 2016, a decrease by 97 per cent). Over these three months, Chios recorded the majority of sea arrivals, followed by Lesvos and Samos. From 01 January to 31 March 2017, 24,292 persons arrived in **Italy** by sea (29 per cent increase compared to the 18,777 that arrived during the same period in 2016). Most arrivals to Italy departed from Libya and mainly originate from sub-Saharan African countries but also from Bangladesh and Morocco. Between January and March 2017, some 4,600 persons arrived in **Spain**, 2,600 of them by sea (145 per cent increase compared to same period last year) and 2,000 (including 500 Syrians) arrived by land in Ceuta and Melilla (100 per cent of increase compared to the same period last year). In total, 262 persons (eight boats) arrived by boat to **Cyprus** between January and March 2017. In January, freezing temperatures and heavy snow affected several countries in Europe, creating a critical situation for refugees and migrants in several countries, particularly for those living in overcrowded or inadequate sites and those outside accommodation facilities.

Key Achievements

- IOM in Turkey provided food kits and non-food items to 1,902 refugees and migrants apprehended at sea and psychosocial support and interpretation services to 1,570 refugees and migrants apprehended on sea and land.
- UNHCR, through its Cash-Based Intervention programme in Greece, has distributed 1,143 cards from mid-February, when the programme began, until 05 April. So far there are 3,172 estimated beneficiaries.
- IOM supported the relocation from Greece of 4,000 asylum-seekers to 20 different EU countries.
- UNICEF and partners identified 4,627 children at risk (including UASC) through screening by outreach teams and child protection support centres¹; 1,856 children aged 6-17 including adolescents participated in structured education activities²; and 768 frontline workers were trained on child protection standards/child protection in emergencies³.
- IOM reinforced the operational capacity of specialized service providers for unaccompanied migrants children and vulnerable migrant referring to single parent families. IOM has also supported 612 places for unaccompanied migrant children and vulnerable groups who were also entitled to physical and mental health support, social wellbeing, special

protection assistance and counselling services.

- In Greece, the Shelter Working Group and the Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Working Group developed a paper with practical measures to mitigate the risks of SGBV and to integrate SGBV prevention into shelter and site planning both in Reception and Identification Centres and open accommodation facilities.
- In Greece, 1,314 children attended UNICEF-supported non-formal education.
- UNICEF and the German Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth jointly co-lead the "National Initiative to protect women and children in refugee centres" (the Initiative) which includes 15 key national stakeholders and the adoption and implementation of the Minimum Protection Standards for Children, Adolescents and Women in Refugee Centres. UNICEF has provided intense technical support and coaching to strengthen the overall capacity of 25 refugee centres to implement the Minimum Standards that are hosting close to 5,000 children and women, and function as 'consultation centres' for other centres nation-wide.

^{1.} Combines results in Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Italy

^{2.} Combines results in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

^{3.} Combines results for Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

January - March 2017 Sea arrivals: 31,210



In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, IOM provided capacity building trainings to 147 border guards. Regular health and nutrition support was provided to vulnerable migrants and refugees in the reception centres in Tabanovce, Vizbegovo, Gevgelija and Skopje by IOM, consisting of specialized medical examinations and care, provision of medications, as well as special nutritional diet prescribed for migrants with health issues.

In Serbia, UNHCR and partners supported authorities by swiftly refurbishing an old army compound in Obrenovac near Belgrade to accommodate refugee and migrant men and boys sleeping rough in the city centre. UNHCR helped register and then transported over 750 new asylum-seekers to asylum centres. Through partners, UNHCR distributed over 2,500 blankets, 1,600 winter jackets, over 1,000 pairs of footwear, 2,300 track suits, 2,600 bedlinen sets and thousands of other clothing items for adults and children. UNHCR delivered to the reception centre in Presevo 100 Refugee Housing Units as well as 360 bunk beds to several other government-run centres.

- IOM in Serbia assisted 47 migrants as part of the Assisted Voluntary Return programme. IOM also provided capacity building of Border Police officials and procurement of specialized equipment.
- In Italy, UNHCR activities at disembarkation points and at the hotspots continued, in close cooperation with the Government and other partners. In northern Italy, UNHCR has deployed a team to conduct missions to border areas to assist the authorities in providing persons with information on asylum and relocation procedures. In southern Italy, UNHCR has deployed 24 staff to monitor disembarkation procedures.

Innovative Practices

In Greece, as of 04 April, 27,645 asylum-seekers had benefited from UNHCR's Accommodation Scheme since the beginning of the programme and 18,916 places were available in apartments (11,394), hotels (4,216), buildings (1,982), facilities for unaccompanied children (732), sites (360) and host family programme (232). The Accommodation Scheme in Greece provides a full package of services for the individuals benefiting from the scheme which include psycho-social, interpretation, legal advice and representation.



In March, UNHCR issued eight recommendations stressing that joint efforts and strengthened cooperation are crucial to improve the situation for asylumseekers and refugees in Greece.