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Child Protection

Updates - Challenges

January-December 2023

Field Unit Athens

Field Unit Athens activities

1. Reception Monitoring in the Controlled Facilities for the Temporary Accommodation of Asylum-seekers (CFTAASs)
2. Regular presence and info sessions provided to Malakasa RIC
3. Detention monitoring in Pre-removal Detention Centers – identification of alleged children in detention
4. UNHCR Protection Helpdesk: Incoming Communications & referrals, as applicable
5. Protection monitoring visits to community centers
6. Street Outreach Exercise

South Greece Controlled Facilities for the Temporary Accommodation of Asylum-seekers (CFTAASs)

Challenges reported:

- Child neglect, e.g. single mothers/complex CP-GBV cases.
- Lack of daycare, so that the parents can work.
- Lack of motivation of children to follow formal education.
- Child-friendly spaces and activities for children are non-existent or not enough.
- Increased needs of NFIs (e.g. clothes, diapers, hygiene items).
- Substandard conditions, affecting directly the children.

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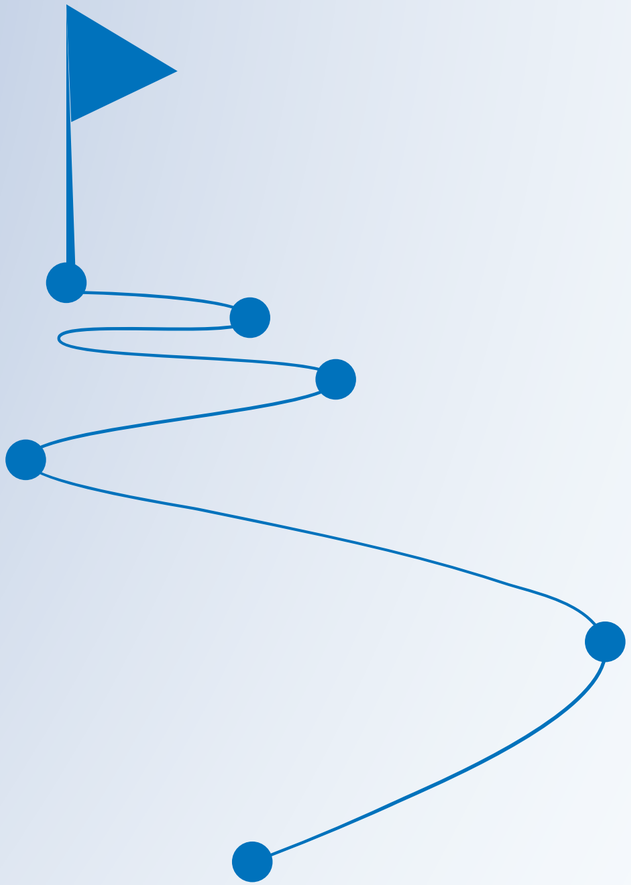
Malakasa RIC:

- Increased needs of NFIs
- Substandard conditions
- Absence of child-friendly activities or spaces

GOOD PRACTICES:

- Smooth cooperation with NERM and GSVP – Unaccompanied children transferred swiftly to appropriate accommodation.
- SolidarityNow starting non-formal education/activities within the framework of UNICEF's ACE programme.
- Nursery and kindergarten teachers recruited by DYPA public benefit program.
- Swift age assessment procedures conducted for alleged UAC in PRDCs – UAC detained separately from the adults.



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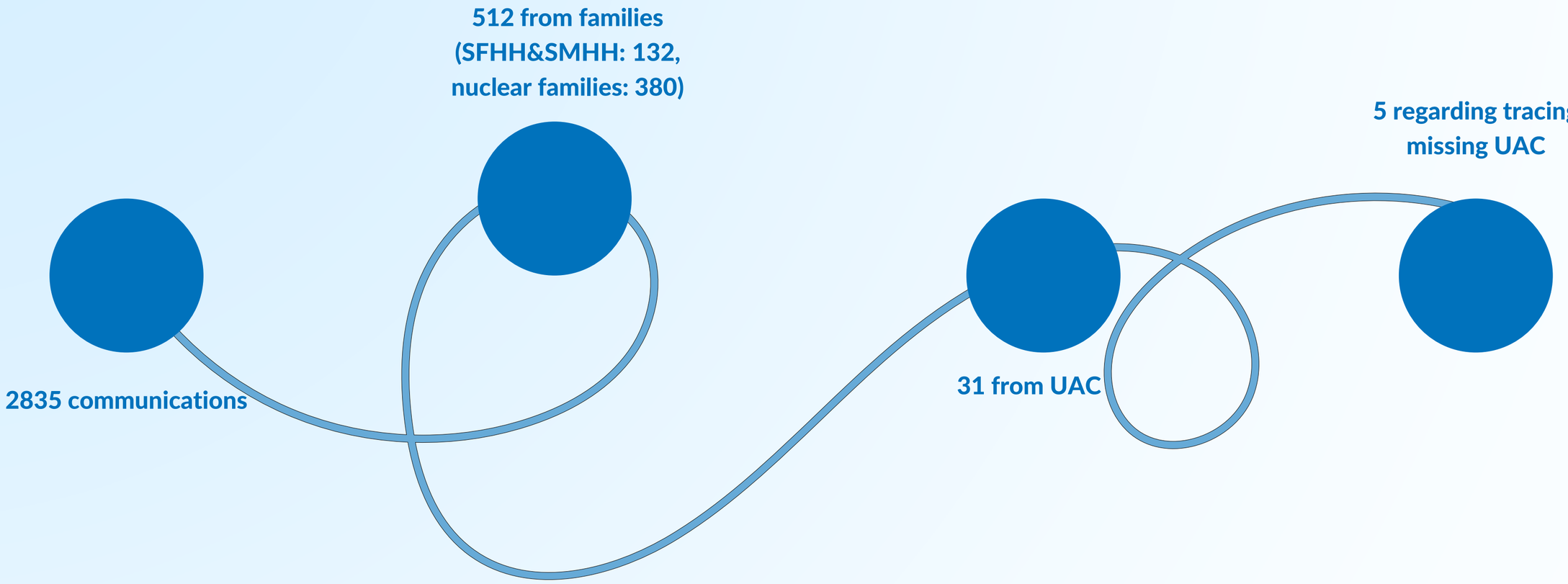
January – December 2023



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Homelessness in Athens:

56 communications from refugee and asylum-seeker households - 7% SFHH and 44% families with children.

Challenges reported:

- Lack of **accommodation**, including for parents accompanying children to hospitals for medical services
- Lack of **childcare services**
- Increased need for **financial support**
- Increased needs in **food** provision and **NFIs**
- Lack of **transition classes** for refugee children.

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Requests from unaccompanied children:

- Legal assistance for children in detention
- Legal assistance with family reunification process
- Material support

Thank you!

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