



## NORTHERN GREECE – THESSALONIKI

### FACTSHEET

1 – 30 November 2016

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

**3,223**

Accommodation places with services for relocation candidates/other vulnerable asylum-seekers established by UNHCR in northern Greece by the end of November

**160**

Accommodation places for unaccompanied children established by UNHCR in northern Greece by the end of November

**6,405**

Asylum-seekers transported by UNHCR from northern, central and western Greece to Regional Asylum offices, embassies, medical facilities and cultural events in November

**62,826**

Non-food items distributed by UNHCR in northern Greece as part of the winterization plans in October (51,884) and November (10,942)

**314**

Prefabricated houses installed in Nea Kavala, Alexandria and Lagadikia sites by UNHCR as part of the winterization plans by the end of November

**76**

Water and Sanitation facilities (shower and toilet containers) installed / maintained by UNHCR in northern Greece in November

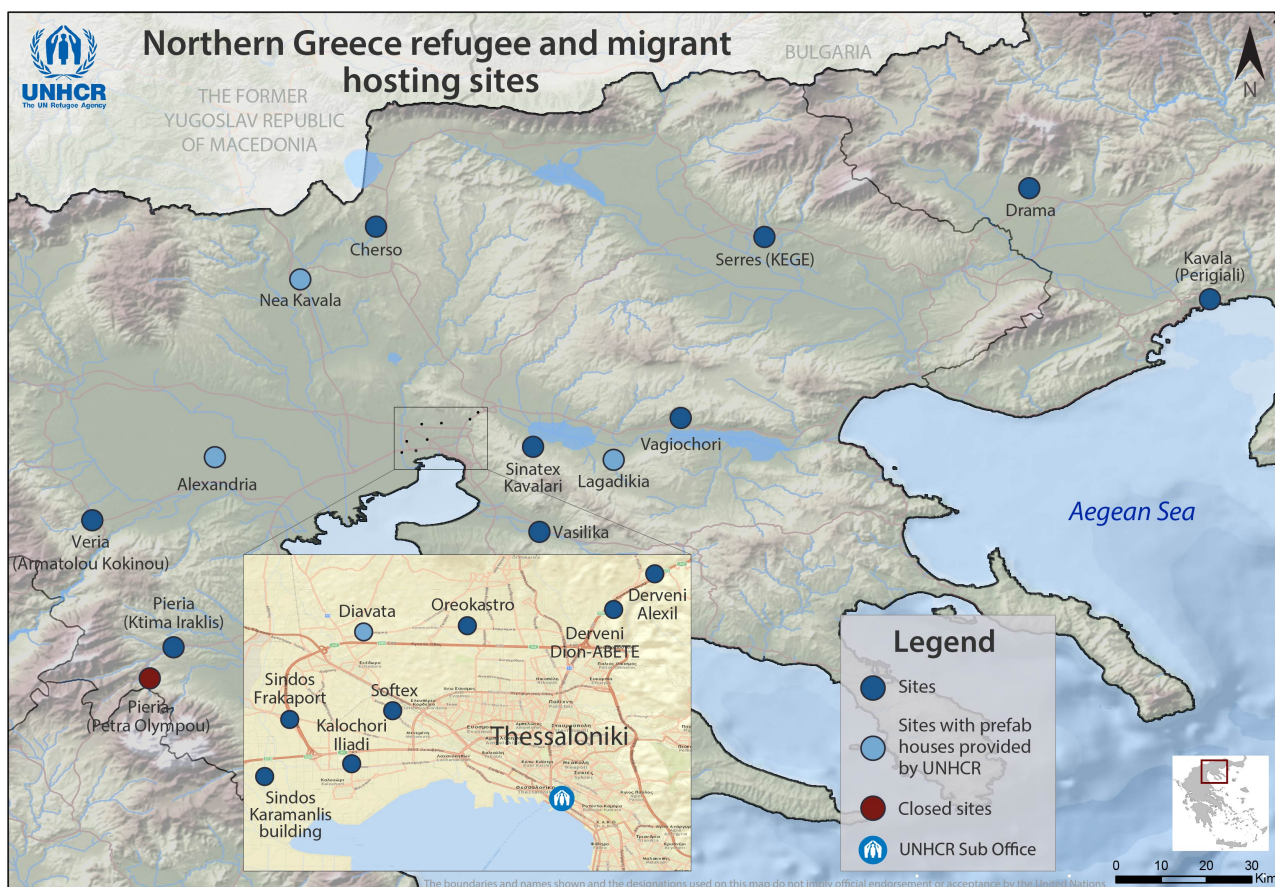
**13**

Inter-agency coordination sectoral working groups established and chaired/co-chaired by UNHCR in northern Greece

**112**

National (87) and international (25) staff deployed to UNHCR Sub-Office Thessaloniki

# NORTHERN GREECE FACTSHEET



## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- UNHCR is active, through a variety of interventions, in **22 sites in northern Greece** (Macedonia, Thrace, Epirus and Thessaly regions) hosting some **12,000 asylum-seekers**, the largest concentration in Greece. As requested by the Greek authorities, UNHCR is providing **Site Management Support to four sites**: Nea Kavala, Alexandria, Lagadikia and Vasilika. In line with its protection mandate, UNHCR also provides **protection services and monitoring** in all sites. Furthermore, the organization provides **accommodation for relocation candidates and vulnerable asylum-seekers**, to support the European Union Relocation Program and in line with its [policy on alternatives to camps](#). UNHCR also facilitates the transfer of refugees to the accommodation facilities, and to appointments at the Regional Asylum offices in mainland Greece, for the full lodging of their asylum claims.
- In November, **harsh weather and dropping temperatures** have further deteriorated the living conditions at the sites throughout northern Greece, creating a direr environment especially for individuals with specific needs such as elderly and children. Winterization efforts, including shelter upgrading and distribution of non-food items, as well as transfers to alternative accommodation, have been ongoing by UNHCR, in close coordination with the Greek authorities and partners, thanks to funding by the [European Commission – Humanitarian Aid](#).



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

- Despite the improvements, serious challenges remain. Difficulties were particularly encountered by the authorities in connecting the air-conditioning system installed in the prefabricated houses to the electrical network, which has limited capacity. UNHCR is exploring alternative heating solutions, such as electric and kerosene stoves. However, some asylum-seekers have already arranged makeshift connection to the grid, increasing the risk of fire outbreaks. An accident caused by unauthorized electrical wire was reported in Oreokastro site, where a mother and two children were injured. 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.

## INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

- In northern Greece, the **inter-agency coordination structure** is led by the Ministry of Migration Policy (MOMP) and includes the following sectoral Working Groups (WG) meetings on a bi-weekly basis: **WASH WG** chaired by UNHCR; **Hygiene Promotion WG** chaired on rotation by different NGOs; **Protection WG** and its sub-working groups on **Legal Aid**, **Child Protection**, and **Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)**, **Psychosocial Support (PSS) WG**, **Communication with Communities (CwC) WG**, and **Urban Response WG**, all chaired by UNHCR; **Health WG** chaired by the Ministry of Health (EKEPI) and co-chaired by UNHCR; **Site Management Support (SMS) WG** chaired by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC); **Shelter/Non-food Items (NFI) WG** chaired by the International Organization for Migration (IOM); and **Education WG** chaired by Save the Children.
- At the site level, all sites have general coordination meetings, as well as protection coordination meetings except for Serres, Oreokastro, Drama, Kavala and Pieria (Ktima Iraklis). Four sites have NFI distribution meetings, three hold psychosocial support (PSS) working group meetings, three have WASH/shelter coordination meetings, two have regular health meetings and another two sites hold regular CwC meetings. To effectively coordinate winterization activities in northern Greece, UNHCR Sub-Office Thessaloniki hosted **regular winterization meetings** with the authorities and partners during the months of October-November 2016.

## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Protection

- Blue Dots – Child and Family Support Hubs.** In northern Greece, UNHCR and partners have established **“Blue Dots” Child and Family Support Hubs** in five sites, namely **Lagadikia, Diavata, Nea Kavala, Cherso and Alexandria**. The [project](#) was launched in February 2016 by UNHCR, UNICEF and ICRC, aiming to step up protection for the growing number of refugee children and women in Europe. The first Hubs were set up along the Balkan route with a view to provide safe spaces for vulnerable families on the move towards North Europe, and in particular for children, many of whom are traveling unaccompanied or separated from their families. After the closure of the Balkan route, the Blue Dot Hubs addresses the refugee population remaining in countries that once were mainly transit points. The Hubs provide safe areas for children and their families, mother and baby spaces, playgrounds, protection, counselling and other vital services, all in a single and easily identifiable location. 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 women's activities. Finally, in Nea Kavala and Cherso, UNHCR's partner Save the Children supports the child friendly space and the mother and baby space. UNHCR's partner Solidarity Now is setting up protection services for the asylum-seekers living in urban settings.

- **Child protection.** As an interim measure and to ensure proximity with their community of origin at the sites, **three Safe Spaces for unaccompanied or separated children (UASCs)**, with the capacity of 90 children, are operational in **Diavata, Alexandria and Lagadikia**, as part of the Blue Dot approach. 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.
- **Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) prevention and response.** UNHCR, together with the Municipality of Thessaloniki and the General Secretariat for Gender Equality, promoted awareness for the elimination of violence against women during the "16 days of activism against gender based violence" global campaign.
- **Support to accommodation capacity for asylum-seekers and alternatives to camps.** In support of the Greek authorities' efforts to expand reception capacity and in line with its policy on alternatives to camps in urban settings, UNHCR continues to identify new accommodation places for relocation candidates and vulnerable asylum-seekers, thanks to funding by the [European Commission – Migration and Home](#). In northern Greece, UNHCR established **3,223 accommodation places** by the end of November 2016, and the capacity is expected to increase to over 4,000 in the next weeks. Accommodation facilities comprise single **flats, hotels, apartment buildings, and host families**, located throughout **12 different municipalities**, including Thessaloniki, Kilkis, Katerini, and Volvi among others. The project is implemented by UNHCR in partnership with the Municipality of Thessaloniki, and NGOs Praksis, Arsis, Solidarity Now, Iliaktida and Catholic Relief Service (CRS). Many local groups have been adhering to this initiative and are collaborating with UNHCR's partners. In the month of November, as part of its support to the Government's winterization plans, UNHCR further intensified its efforts to move asylum-seekers from the sites to more appropriate and dignified accommodation. 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 the 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.



Thessaloniki sent a message against SGBV, by lighting its symbol, the White Tower, orange until midnight on 25 November. The initiative was promoted by UNHCR, and realized thanks to the Municipality and the Ministry of Culture. © Deutsche Welle / D. Tosidis, November 2016



UNHCR staff organizing the transfer of over 1,100 Yazidi asylum-seekers from Petra Olympou site to appropriate accommodation facilities © UNHCR / C. Tolis, November 2016

- **Communication with Communities (CwC).** Based on the principle that information and two-way-communications are critical forms of aid, without which refugees and asylum-seekers cannot access services or make the best decisions for themselves and their communities, UNHCR has strengthened its CwC efforts at the sites throughout northern Greece. In response to the fire accident in Oreokastro, a **meeting on fire safety** was organized with the participation of UNHCR, NRC, and 15 representatives from the refugee community. The refugee representatives agreed to provide a list of nominated community fire safety members, who would attend fire safety training and adopt concrete measures to reduce fire risk at the site. Following the several traffic incidents involving asylum-seekers in the proximity of the sites, UNHCR in cooperation with other humanitarian agencies and authorities, conducted **road safety information sessions** and developed **information materials** on road and fire safety in **English, Arabic and Farsi**. Asylum-seekers community groups were also mobilized to assist in road safety management in the four sites where UNHCR has the site management support role (Vasilika, Lagadikia, Nea Kavala and Alexandria). These actions are the first in a line of measures planned to improve the physical protection of refugees and asylum-seekers. Ongoing steps include the production of **safety materials targeting children** in partnership with the Greek Traffic Police, for a comprehensive campaign in all sites.

## Education

- **Formal education.** UNHCR has been supporting the Education Program implemented by the Ministry of Education, which commenced in early October. The program is being rolled out in stages, and as of November, **160 refugee children living at three sites (Lagadikia, Drama and Derveni Dion-ABETE) in northern Greece attend local schools** (three primary schools hosting 110 children, and two secondary schools hosting 50 children). Children were provided with over **300 school kits** by UNHCR, including **school bags and stationary**. In parallel, UNHCR continues to raise awareness among the Greek community in collaboration with the Coordinators for refugee education of the Ministry of Education by presenting to local schools the program by UNHCR's partner [Hellenic Theatre/Drama & Education Network \(TENet-Gr\)](#), which aims to raise awareness among school-aged Greek children about the refugee situation. UNHCR is a strong advocate of this program as it fosters integration and peaceful coexistence, and has already

engaged and trained more than 2,500 local community members (teachers, students, teacher trainers, youth facilitators, parents) in several cities on the mainland and islands (Athens, Patras, Thessaloniki, Trikala, Lesvos, Chios, Samos, etc.). Further expansion in northern Greece is promoted, given the high presence of refugees.

- **Informal education.** In preparation for and in parallel with the starting of the formal education program, UNHCR continued to provide informal education opportunities to refugee children through partners, within the framework of the Blue Dots. Initiatives include **community-based schools, language classes and recreational activities**. In November, UNHCR's partner Arsis organized a visit for 20 children and their parents from Kalochori site to the Planetarium (NOESIS - Thessaloniki Science Centre and Technology Museum) in the Municipality of Themi. This has been the third cultural visit organized for site residents in Thessaloniki area, and the activity had proven to be a success, as it connects asylum-seekers with their local community and gives them a much-needed opportunity to leave the environment of the site. UNHCR and Arsis will continue to facilitate similar activities.



*The first day of school for refugee children from Lagadikia and Derveni sites © UNHCR / October 2016*

## Health

- In northern Greece, the second round of vaccinations for measles, mumps and rubella is next to completion in all sites by the Ministry of Health and medical agencies, while the first round of hexavalent and pneumococcal vaccines is ongoing.

## Food Security and Nutrition

- In the official sites in northern Greece, food is provided by the Hellenic Army, directly or through catering companies, and distributed in collaboration with NGOs and volunteers. In **Lagadikia** site, food is provided by a catering company directly contracted by UNHCR's partner DRC. The menu has been adjusted to the asylum-seekers' needs and according to cultural and religious requirements, after which protests related to food distribution drastically reduced. In parallel with the progressive rollout of the cash assistance to asylum-seekers at the sites, communal and/or individual cooking facilities will be set up.

## Shelter and Non-Food Items

- **Shelter.** In northern Greece, UNHCR has been requested by the Greek authorities to support the **winterization of five sites** out of the 15 assigned to UNHCR at the country level, namely Nea Kavala, Alexandria, Lagadikia, Vasilika and Petra Olympiou. The latter was prioritized for full evacuation in view of the extremely harsh weather conditions in the mountainous area, and its population was fully transferred to alternative accommodation by the end of November. At the same time, throughout October and November, UNHCR managed to install **314 prefabricated houses in other three sites, providing a roof to over 1,500 asylum-seekers** who were previously staying in tents. In **Nea Kavala**, a total of **174 prefab houses** were installed by UNHCR. This has allowed the accommodation of 245 households, comprised of **920 individuals**. The shelter allocation while the tent replacement was ongoing was done based on vulnerability criteria. In **Alexandria**, UNHCR successfully erected **80 prefab houses for 338 people**. Preparations for the installation of **60 prefab houses in Lagadikia** have also been finalized, including foundations, and the first units were installed at the site on the last week of November. **Infrastructural improvements** were also conducted at the **warehouse site of Vasilika**. UNHCR completed the site expansion by providing additional graveling, clearing of waste materials, and the installation of 240 meters of fencing with seven gates for easy and safe access. In **Diavata**, to complement winterization efforts by the responsible NGO Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland (ASB), UNHCR has offered to install **120 prefab units** and provided family tents to immediately replace the damaged ones in the Safe Space for unaccompanied children.
- **Non-food items.** In October-November, UNHCR distributed a **total of 62,826 non-food items for winter in all sites in northern Greece**, directly and through partners including Samaritan's Purse, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), IOM, IRC and DRC. The kit comprised: **thermal blankets (8,450 distributed), sleeping bags, mats and mattresses (11,523 distributed), rain ponchos (9,812 distributed), winter clothing (26,901 knitted hats, socks, leggings, etc. distributed), and hygiene and baby care items (4,540 distributed)**, among others. Further winter clothing and footwear distributions will be conducted in December.



*Mass winter non-food items distribution in all sites in Northern Greece © UNHCR / October 2016*



## Water and Sanitation

- In November, UNHCR continued to provide **WASH improvements** through its partners in northern Greece. In **Vasilika** 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** site, 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.

## Site Management Support (SMS)

- In all four sites where UNHCR assumed SMS role upon request by the Greek authorities (Alexandria, Lagadikia, Nea Kavala and Vasilika), a **comprehensive data collection exercise** was conducted by UNHCR. Basic data facilitates planning and execution of activities in the sites as well as allocation of the prefab houses for winterization. To better target the needs of the population, consultative processes regarding the placement of solar lights, shades and playgrounds were organized with the communities and partners. Preparations for **Code of Conduct trainings** for partners have been undertaken by UNHCR in Nea Kavala and Alexandria, and the trainings will take place in December.

## Cash Assistance

- In northern Greece, 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, SMS agencies and CwC working group members. As agreed with the Greek authorities, UNHCR through its partner CRS, will be responsible for cash distribution in Vasilika, Serres, Drama and Kavala sites, while in partnership with DRC and Iliaktida in Lagadikia and Vagiochori sites. Cash distribution modalities will be adjusted for those moving to urban setting as a result of the ongoing efforts to transfer vulnerable asylum-seekers to UNHCR accommodation scheme, particularly for Vagiochori site which hosts a progressively reducing number of individuals. At the same time, UNHCR continued to provide **cash and voucher assistance in urban locations to over 2,000 asylum-seekers** already hosted under UNHCR accommodation scheme in northern Greece, through its partners Municipality of Thessaloniki, Iliaktida, Praksis, Arsis, Solidarity Now and CRS. Other humanitarian actors, including IFRC, IRC, Caritas and Compassion Relief Foundation (CRF), will provide cash assistance in other sites. UNHCR protection and field teams at the sites are closely coordinating with all cash-providing actors to ensure that **vulnerabilities and profiles of asylum-seekers are duly taken into account** in planning for cash distribution.

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Community-based interventions.** UNHCR continued to support community-based interventions, aimed at encouraging refugees and asylum-seekers’ participation in the day-to-day activities at each site, for empowering them and reducing the level of frustration in the population. In November, UNHCR organized a **visit to the Concert Hall at Thessaloniki** for asylum-seekers living at **Vasilika** site, and completed the **installation of a playground at Diavata** site. UNHCR also supported the visit to **Cherso** by a group of **cartoonists** from Switzerland to implement an **art project**. The cartoonists gave a **watercolours class** to 15 girls in the IRC women’s safe space, visited asylum-seekers in their tent to listen to their stories and offer them their cartoons. The initiative was highly appreciated by the population at the site.
- Community structures.** To better engage with the refugee community and promote community-based protection, UNHCR is actively working on establishing community structures. In November, **community leadership committees** have been set up in **Alexandria, Nea Kavala and Vasilika** sites. In the three sites, UNHCR is mobilizing the communities to have **regular community consultations**, focused group discussions, and **meetings with vulnerable groups based on age, gender and diversity approach** (women, youth, etc.). With this system, needs are identified and covered through small-scale community-based interventions designed by the refugees themselves.



Refugee children enjoy the new playground constructed in Diavata site through one of the community-based interventions supported by UNHCR © UNHCR / November 2016

## Swiss cartoonists draw together with refugees

By: Vasileios Migkos in Thessaloniki, Greece – 28 November 2016

Cherso, Greece - “We are givers, not takers. We do drawings of the refugees and we offer them to the refugees. They were grateful and happy to share a smile with us,” says Thierry Barrigue, one of the cartoonists who visited refugees in northern Greece earlier this month. In the frames of their volunteer project “Art in Cherso”, three cartoonists from the Swiss weekly satirical magazine Vigousse visited the refugee accommodation site Cherso to draw together with refugees. Women and children had the chance to learn and practice drawing and see their faces becoming alive on the paper.

“Comic art has its own way to picture reality. Non-violently, funnily and comprehensively it shows to the public what we, refugees, are going through. These people came from very far away to meet us and show to the European people that refugees are ordinary humans who need help,” says Mohammed Nezir Kozo, a 50-year-old Syrian refugee. Three days in a row the cartoonists were listening to the refugee families and while refugees were narrating their personal stories, the cartoonists were drawing. At the end of the discussions they presented the drawings to the refugees. Ever since, one can see a big peaceful drawing on the first tent near the entrance of the site – a gentle reminder that art can make a difference.

The UNHCR’s team leader in Cherso site Sabrina Rouigui, tells that this is already the second time this year when the cartoonists come to Greece and specifically Cherso site. “When they came to Cherso this November, it was the first time I could see the children concentrating so much during their classes,” says Sabrina. “A family showed to cartoonists a picture of their daughter who was killed during the bombing in Syria and asked them to do her portrait. It felt like the girl was coming back to life, a very intense moment.”

The government-established accommodation site of Cherso, which is one among more than 20 other sites scattered around northern Greece, used to host around 885 refugees and migrants. The site has been evacuated by the Ministry of Migration Policy in December, in collaboration with UNHCR, and all residents were moved to prefab houses in Koutsochero site, central Greece, or alternative accommodation in apartments, buildings and hotels.



## Logistics

- Since September 2016, UNHCR supports the process of full registration of asylum-seekers conducted by the Asylum Service through provision of countrywide transportation from sites to the Asylum Service offices and back. In the month of November, **UNHCR Thessaloniki Transportation Team** has facilitated transportation of **3,791 asylum-seekers from the sites in northern, central and western Greece to the Regional Asylum Office** in Thessaloniki (1,866), Alexandroupoli (610) and Athens (1,315), and of **150 asylum-seekers to different embassies** for interviews related to family reunification and relocation. UNHCR also continued to provide transport for relocation candidates and vulnerable asylum-seekers entering **UNHCR accommodation scheme assisting 2,142 people in November to move from the sites to more dignified accommodation in apartments, hotels or other buildings**. In November, UNHCR Thessaloniki Transportation Team also provided transportation for **170 non-emergency medical cases** from sites and accommodation facilities to hospitals and medical clinics. Transportation was likewise ensured for **152 asylum-seekers to attend events and cultural initiatives**, organized in collaboration with local authorities and partners. Cumulatively, UNHCR Thessaloniki Transportation Team between September and November 2016 has provided a total of **15,919 asylum-seekers with transportation**.



## GAPS, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

- A major concern remains the lack of appropriate heating solutions, in particular for refugees who are accommodated in tents, both in warehouses and in the open. The major stumbling block for the Government is insufficient energy supply that would require major improvements to the power grids. Interim measures are being taken by UNHCR, with the help of its partners DRC and Samaritan's Purse, in Alexandria, Nea Kavala and Lagadikia, including distribution of kerosene heaters, provision of generators and wiring of electrical cables. The NGO ASB has agreed to step in with own funding and implement an interim electrification project in Vasilika. UNHCR will provide electrical heaters once works have initiated.
- In Cherso and several warehouse sites in Thessaloniki area, an increase in the prevalence of rodents was reported. This poses a threat not only to the asylum-seekers' physical safety and property damage, but also to the health/hygiene of all those working at the sites. UNHCR raised the issue with the authorities and the WASH working group for discussing concrete solutions and prevention actions.
- Numerous family reunification (Dublin) candidates expressed to UNHCR their complaints for the delays in processing their cases. They are also frustrated that they have to cover the cost of transportation to the nearest airport, which is at least two hours away (Thessaloniki), as well as the cost for the air tickets. Since they have remained in Greece for months, they are in short of money to cover all the expenses, especially when most of them must travel through Athens to the third country.

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR Thessaloniki Sub-Office provides protection and assistance to asylum-seekers and refugees directly and through **14 implementing partners**: Arsis, CRS, DRC, Greek Council for Refugees (GCR), Iliaktida, IMC, International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), Intersos, MdM, METAdrasi, Praksis, Samaritan's Purse, Save the Children, and Solidarity Now. UNHCR also has a **successful partnership with the Municipality of Thessaloniki** and regularly liaises with the other local municipalities.

## MISSIONS AND EVENTS



*Refugee children participating in the photography/documentary seminar conducted at the Thessaloniki Film School, in collaboration with UNHCR © UNHCR / December 2016*

- On 22 November, the **Thessaloniki Film School** hosted a **photography/documentary seminar** in which 25 refugee children (aged 14 to 18) from several sites participated. The event was organized in cooperation with UNHCR, as part of a pilot collaborative photography project between the local and refugee youngsters. Works will be exhibited at the conclusion of the project.
- A **conference organized by the Dome Project** was held with the support of the Goethe Institute. Despite no direct involvement of refugees, the event provided interesting information about initiatives and innovative ways of refugee self-organization.

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