



# Refugee and Migrant Crisis in Europe

## Humanitarian Situation Report # 24

### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

**92,794**

# of arrivals in Europe through Italy and Greece in January-June 2017  
(UNHCR, 7 July 2017)

**1 in 6**

Of all arrivals in January-June 2017 are children  
(UNHCR, 7 July 2017)

**69,200**

# of child asylum-seekers in Europe between January and May 2017  
(Eurostat, 7 July 2017)

**22,663**

# of estimated stranded children in Greece, Bulgaria, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia in June, 2017  
(UNICEF, 7 July 2017)

**7,379**

# of children relocated from Greece and Italy under the EU relocation scheme by mid-June 2017- 6,737 from Greece and 642 from Italy.  
(IOM, Italian Mol, 23 June 2017)

18 JULY 2017

## Highlights

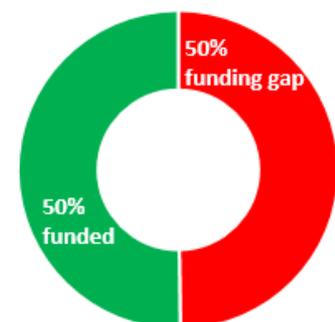
- During the first half of 2017, close to 93,000 refugees and migrants arrived on European shores mainly through the Central Mediterranean Route - around half of them arrived in just May and June 2017. While barely one in six of sea arrivals this year are children, the number of unaccompanied or separated children (UASC) coming to Italy is on the rise with 11,406 newly registered UASC between January and June 2017.
- During the first half of 2017, UNICEF helped identify and support a total of 9,190 children at risk through outreach activities in Turkey, Greece, Italy, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; supported structured non-formal education for 4,256 children in Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and strengthened the capacity of 2,674 frontline workers on child protection across Europe.
- The situation in Europe is characterized by a spike in perilous, often fatal, sea crossings through the Central Mediterranean, continuous irregular movements in the Balkans and across Europe, as well as tightened border control and heated political debate on migration across the continent. Confronted with uncertain future, isolation, insufficient access to services and slow family reunification, relocation and asylum procedures, refugee and migrant children remain at high risk and require urgent action by national and European stakeholders to step up action for their protection.

UNICEF RESULTS WITH PARTNERS (EXTRACTS)	UNICEF and Partners Response	
	Targets 2017	Total Results 2017
# of at-risk children (incl. UASC) identified through screening by outreach teams and child protection support centres*	10,350	9,190
# of children aged 6-17 including adolescents participating in structured education activities**	11,850	4,256
# of frontline workers trained on child protection standards/child protection in emergencies***	3,975	2,674

\*Combines results in Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Italy  
 \*\* Combines results in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia  
 \*\*\* Combines results for Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

## UNICEF Appeal 2017

US\$ 43,452,000



## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

During the first half of 2017, a total of 92,794 refugees and migrants arrived on European shores mainly through the Central Mediterranean Route<sup>1</sup>- over half of them were registered in just May and June 2017. While just one in six of all sea arrivals in 2017 are children, compared to over one in three during the same period last year<sup>2</sup>, the number of unaccompanied or separated children (UASC) arriving in Italy remain significantly high with 11,406 newly registered UASC between January and June 2017 (compared to 10,640 in the first six months of last year). An estimated 300 children are feared to have drowned in the Mediterranean since the beginning of 2017- a trend, which is on the rise with the spike in perilous sea crossings from Libya to Italy since May. Moreover, the multiplying reports of violence, abuse and exploitation, experienced or witnessed by children in Libya, suggest their high vulnerability and require urgent action for their protection.

The number of children stranded in Greece and the Balkans continue to decrease. As of June 2017 total number is estimated to be 22,663 of children (down from 25,602 two months ago). While this may be partly due to relocation and family reunification from Greece, there is constant irregular movements throughout the Balkans. The situation remains challenging in Greece, Serbia and Bulgaria, where 40 per cent of all stranded refugees and migrants are children. Despite officially closed borders, Serbia is facing constant new arrivals, mainly from Bulgaria, coupled with reported increasing push-backs and returns from Hungary and Croatia. Confronted with uncertain future, isolation, insufficient access to services and slow and bureaucratic family reunification, relocation and asylum processes, many young people decide to resort to smugglers to continue their journey within Europe. During May and June, UNICEF observed an increase of newly registered refugee and migrant UASC along the Balkans route. Similarly, in Italy, a recent study found that the majority of Eritrean UASC arriving through the Central Mediterranean route drop out of the system shortly after registration as they want to reach family and friends elsewhere in Europe and do not have sufficient access to services and information on legal pathways and asylum procedures. According to the Italian Special Commissioner for Missing People, the number of unaccompanied children absconding from reception centres reached 28,000 children just last year- a trend that is continuing throughout the first half of 2017.

Detention of children for migration control purposes remains another issue of serious concern. In Greece, despite efforts to identify alternatives to detention with the creation of safe spaces for UASC in accommodation sites, the number of UASC in closed facilities almost doubled in just one month (reaching the total number of 94 children in those facilities), which is a reflection of significant increase in arrivals in June. In Bulgaria, both accompanied and unaccompanied children continue to be detained upon interception, and on average spend 13 days in closed facilities before being able to claim asylum. In Italy, according to a recent [report](#), unaccompanied children (boys and girls) may stay in Lampedusa hotspot for over one month. A positive development in the hotspot is the presence of INMP<sup>3</sup> that applies a multidisciplinary approach for the age assessment.

Despite the heated political debate on migration, 2017 has seen the adoption of a new [law](#) in Italy (n.47, 7 April 2017) considered one of the most progressive pieces of legislation on unaccompanied refugee and migrant children, and the EU [Communication on the Protection of Children in Migration](#). Both documents define concrete measures and steps to improve the protection of refugee and migrant children in Europe, and help guide actions at European, national and local level. Other positive developments include a recent decision by the UK government to expand the Syrian Vulnerable People Resettlement Scheme, ongoing efforts by French authorities to improve the reception and protection of refugee and migrant children and actions to address bottlenecks related to the relocation of UASC from Italy and Greece.

## Humanitarian Strategy and Coordination

In line with its Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, UNICEF is responding to the current situation in Europe through a combination of advocacy, technical assistance to Governments, capacity-building of national and civil society actors and service delivery responses in Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Germany and Austria. In addition, through its network of National Committees, UNICEF plays an important advocacy and monitoring role in France and the UK, as well as other European countries. UNICEF interventions are tailored to national contexts and needs expressed by Governments, and focus mainly on Child Protection and Education, as well as Health and Nutrition, Child Rights Monitoring and Social Inclusion programmes as part of a broader protection response.

As part of the continuous humanitarian response and longer-term support to national child welfare systems, UNICEF continues to mobilize Member States, partners and duty-bearers to improve assistance and protection for refugee and migrant children and their families. UNICEF is closely coordinating its response with Governments, other UN agencies and international partners as well as civil society organizations within existing coordination mechanisms and working groups at the national level. At the regional level, UNICEF is

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<sup>1</sup> This includes a total of 83,752 sea arrivals in Italy, as well as 9,507 arrivals in Spain and 9,386 sea arrivals in Greece. Among them, children make up 15 per cent of all incoming refugees and migrants to Italy, as well as 8 and 33 per cent in Spain and Greece respectively. Source: [UNHCR](#)

<sup>2</sup> Mainly due to the fact that in 2017 the number of arrivals through the Central Mediterranean Route (where the overall proportion of children is relatively small) is significantly higher compared to the Eastern Mediterranean Route.

<sup>3</sup> Istituto Nazionale per la promozione della salute delle Popolazioni Migranti

closely coordinating with UNHCR and IOM at multiple levels, including sectoral response activities, contingency planning, information management and response monitoring within the framework of the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### GREECE

**Child Protection:** During the first six months of 2017, a total of 4,020 children received psychosocial support and other child protection services in UNICEF-supported Child and Family Support Hubs (CFSH)/Blue Dots. Over 1,000 children were referred to specialized services, including 420 for specialised mental health care. The number and location of CFSH continuous to be adapted to the needs and shifting movements of refugee and migrant children and their families during transfers between different types of accommodation. Increasingly service providers are refining their activities to better cater to the specific needs and interests of adolescents, as well as women and girls. Currently, UNICEF is supporting provision of psychosocial support, specialized child protection and mental health services in 13 different locations in open accommodation facilities on the mainland and in urban areas in Athens and Thessaloniki.

UNICEF has also scaled-up its response to the situation of UASC with ongoing support to four shelters for unaccompanied children (two in Athens, one on Lesbos and one on Chios), which have provided safe accommodation and services (psychosocial support, health care, legal support, information and education) to 150 children. UNICEF is also supporting the 'Guardianship Network' Initiative (assisting 30 UASC in Athens and Thessaloniki) and recently started operating two "safe zones" for unaccompanied children in Schisto and Thiva camps (with capacity to host 30 children each). These different initiatives aim not only to support the government of Greece in identifying alternatives to detention and increase the number of accommodation places and services, but also to ensure quality protection service provision tailored to the needs of UASC.

In addition, with UNICEF technical assistance, the National Centre for Social Solidarity (EKKA) has been able to process some 2,300 referral requests and place at least 820 UASC in shelters during the first half of 2017. UNICEF is also supporting EKKA's efforts to increase quality service provision in shelters for UASC in line with existing national standards, including by building the capacity of service providers on targeted support needs.

As part of its broader capacity-building strategy, since the beginning of 2017 UNICEF has trained a total of 313 frontline workers on child protection standards and different child protection related issues, adapted to the context of Greece.

UNICEF is currently further strengthening its child protection response with new dedicated activities on Gender Based Violence (GBV) prevention and protection support to refugee and migrant women and children in Athens.

**Education:** During the first six months of 2017, a total of 2,308 children participated in UNICEF-supported regular non-formal education activities in Skaramangas, Eleonas, Thiva and Kavalari camps, as well as 4 urban centres in Athens and 2 urban centres in Thessaloniki. In addition, 534 young children (3 to 5 years old) benefitted from early childhood learning activities, and 106 parents attended English classes in some of the centres to support their integration in Greece and Europe. Another 3,881 children received education supplies.

Over the last month, UNICEF-supported non-formal education centres maintained a steady increase in enrolment, and efforts are made to further scale up education activities during summer with the aim to facilitate and support school enrolment from September. The education programme has also been strengthened using a balanced approach based on mother tongue, English and Greek in most of the centres, which has visibly increased children's focus and independent learning.

**Child Rights Monitoring:** Through continuous technical support to the Greek Ombudsperson for Children and the Network for the Rights of Children on the Move, since the beginning of the year UNICEF has contributed to increasing evidence on the situation of refugee and migrant children and make a stronger advocacy case for their access to international protection, non-detention, family reunification, relocation and access to services- particularly education.

UNICEF is also closely following the impact of the new funding modalities for the reception facilities agreed upon between the EU and the Government of Greece, and its impact on reception conditions for UASC across the country and access to non-formal education on the islands. Under the new modalities, partners supporting shelters for unaccompanied children have to respond to specific calls for



*Seventeen-year old Mohammad, an unaccompanied child from the Syrian Arab Republic, stands by a window at the S.O.S. shelter, which is supported by UNICEF, in Athens, Greece. Mohammad and his younger brother tried five times to make it from Turkey to Greece before finally crossing successfully. © UNICEF/UN057936/Gilbertson VII Photo*

funding by the Greek government and wait for approval over the summer. To date, there are no clear plans for the provision of education services to the 2,000 children on Greek islands.

UNICEF/REACH-IMPACT partnership on qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis on refugee and migrant children in urban areas and open sites in Greece ended in June, resulting in a number of thematic factsheets focusing on [refugee and migrant children's perceptions of access to services in accommodation sites](#) and [outside accommodation sites; access to education of refugee and migrant children outside accommodation \(open\) sites; a situation overview of children's perception of access to basic services outside accommodation sites](#); a [map of the refugee and migrant child population by region](#) and an analysis of the [refugee and migrant child population outside accommodation sites in Thessaloniki](#). All findings are part of the overall report [Children on the Move in Italy and Greece](#).

## ITALY

UNICEF has combined direct service delivery to refugee and migrant UASC with technical assistance to the national authorities to improve the reception conditions, protection and access to services for child arrivals.

Since the beginning of 2017, more than 5,500 refugee and migrant UASC have benefitted from UNICEF interventions. Among them, 4,065 children at risk (especially UASC), have been identified and referred to reception facilities and services by UNICEF-supported outreach teams on Italian Coastguard search and rescue boats, as well as in Rome and at the Italian-French and Italian-Swiss border.

In addition, 794 children received hygiene items and other basic supplies, mainly upon identification on rescue boats.

With UNICEF support, 342 adolescents from five pilot centres have been able to attend non-formal education and a total of 1,130 UASC from first-line reception centres participated in sport, cultural and other community-based activities.

UNICEF also invested in improving youth participation through the launch of [U-report](#), so far engaging 124 refugee and migrant adolescents. 263 UASC from 14 centres in Palermo and Agrigento, Sicily also received UNICEF-developed *Young Passes* in four different languages to help them document their individual journeys and situation in Italy (education received, competencies gained, legal and health status, aspirations, etc.) and thus support case management. The Young Pass has recently been endorsed by the Ombudsman of Palermo.



*Young refugee boys in a painting class. Justin Forsyth, Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF visits Centro Astante which hosts two first-line reception centers for unaccompanied young migrants in Palermo, Italy, on Wednesday, May 24, 2017. The UNICEF supported Centro Asante handles the registration and asylum application process for young migrants who arrive in Italy and provides basic hygiene items and clothing; legal aid; as well as educational and sports/recreational activities before their eventual transfer to secondary reception centers. © UNICEF/UN065140/Cavalli*

Meanwhile, UNICEF continues providing technical assistance to relevant authorities, with particular focus on capacity building and the implementation of the law n.47, 7 April 2017, aiming to improve the protection and care of refugee and migrant UASC. As a result of the cooperation with the Office of the Ombudsman of Palermo and local social services, a first group of 70 professionals received specialized training on guardianship and accreditation to care and represent refugee and migrant UASC. In addition, 79 social workers and coordinators of centres participated in UNICEF-supported capacity-building workshops and on-the-job trainings on child protection in emergencies, while the child protection course for frontline workers developed in partnership with the Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria is currently enrolling 266 participants.

With the aim to facilitate inter-cultural exchange through sport, on 3 June UNICEF supported Anti-Racist Olympic Games in Palermo, Sicily. The event attracted 3,000 participants, including 270 UASC from Palermo, Trapani and Agrigento reception centres.

UNICEF partnership with REACH-IMPACT on qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis on refugee and migrant UASC in Italy (involving a total of 720 children) resulted in a better understanding of children's profiles, their motivation, journey to Europe, why children [leave the primary reception system](#), the phenomenon of [Eritrean children](#) dropping from the system, as well as those [stranded in Ventimiglia](#) at the border with France. Thematic factsheets were also developed for some of the top nationalities present in the centres in Sicily: [Egyptians](#), [Nigerians](#), [Guineans](#) and [Gambians](#). This is complemented by a review of monitoring practices in reception facilities for UASC in Sicily. All findings are part of the overall report [Children on the Move in Italy and Greece](#).

## BULGARIA

UNICEF continues to support recreational and non-formal education activities in reception centres in Sofia and Harmanli, thus far benefitting a total of 637 children. In addition, 339 people have been assisted in the Information Desk in the Blue Dot in Harmanli since its establishment in early May.

To address remaining challenges in the area of care and protection of UASC, UNICEF together with the State Agency for Child Protection, UNHCR and other partners, developed a coordination mechanism, which defines roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of national institutions, including coordination, support and referral mechanisms for UASC. The guidance document has now been approved by the National Child Protection Council and implementation is being initiated. Jointly with the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, UNICEF also analysed the gaps in the national legislation with regards to the protection of UASC and submitted a proposal for legislative amendments to the State Agency for Child Protection.

Migration detention of refugee and migrant children remains at the core of UNICEF child rights monitoring, service provision and advocacy in the country. As part of efforts to end detention of children for migration control purposes, UNICEF through the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee supported 128 children with from legal counselling and information on asylum and family reunification procedures since the beginning of the year. The identification of alternatives to detention and solutions for refugee and migrant children were also at the core of UNICEF advocacy with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs during the official visit of UNICEF Regional Director Afshan Khan.

## TURKEY<sup>4</sup>

**Child Protection:** In May and June 2017 UNICEF focused on strengthening the identification of children at risk, building the capacity of frontline workers in the area of child protection and partnerships on child rights monitoring.

Since the beginning of the year, UNICEF has trained a total of 90 frontline workers on child protection issues related to children on the move. In May capacity-building activities also involved frontline workers from the Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) – including social workers, psychologists and translators.

Six UNICEF-supported outreach teams sustain regular presence on the western coast, and work closely with frontline institutions such as DGMM and the Turkish Coast Guard to identify, register and refer rescued and/or apprehended children with serious protection needs. During the first six months of 2017, a total of 1,005 children have been identified, assisted and referred.

**Child Rights Monitoring:** In June 2017, UNICEF signed a two-year rolling work plan with the Ombudsman Institution in Turkey to strengthen its capacity to manage child rights cases and carry out evidence-based advocacy actions to position children's rights in the national agenda. The plan also includes specific interventions related to refugee and migrant children.

To improve child participation, in May, UNICEF launched the Voice of Youth Maps- a global online platform, through which refugee and Turkish young people can share information and speak up on issues they face in their daily life. To encourage its widespread use, UNICEF delivered a Training of Trainers (ToT) on the platform (including its mobile phone app) to 22 youth workers in 5 provinces<sup>5</sup>. In turn, they will train over 120 Syrian volunteers by the end of 2017.

**Education:** As of end June 2017, 260 pre-primary classrooms were opened in 76 Temporary Education Centres benefitting 9,308 young refugee children (4,646 girls and 4,662 boys). UNICEF is also supporting Early Childhood Education (ECE) for 12,764 refugee children between 3 and 5 years old.

**Health:** From 3 to 18 May, UNICEF provided technical and financial support to the Ministry of Health (MoH) to conduct a second round of its nationwide vaccination campaign for refugee and migrant children under five. Like the previous campaign in March 2017, the second round aimed to protect children against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis and influenza (Pentavalent), Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) and Hepatitis B. In total nearly 358,000 children were reached, and approximately 98,000 doses of Pentavalent, 29,000 doses of MMR and 66,000 doses of Hepatitis B vaccines were administered.

## THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Since the beginning of 2017, a total of 150 children at risk have been identified by UNICEF-supported teams in and outside reception centres, while 82 children benefitted from structured non-formal education activities in Blue Dots in Gevgelija and Tabanovce. In addition, 238 children and caregivers in reception centres benefitted on regular basis from other UNICEF-supported services including Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), hygiene promotion and medical care.

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<sup>4</sup> More about UNICEF response in Turkey can be found in the Turkey country situation report and the situation report on the Regional Refugee and Resilience to the Syrian crisis. UNICEF activities under the RMRP are considered as complementary to the 3RP response and have therefore been supported by 3RP funds in 2017.

<sup>5</sup> Istanbul, Izmir, Kahramanmaraş, Konya and Şanlıurfa

In cooperation with the Macedonian Chamber of Psychologists, manual for promotion of refugee and migrant mental health, the first of its kind, has been finalized and is ready for distribution. It captures the experience and good practices from the work in reception and transit centres and can easily be adapted to other emergency situations, affecting children.

To improve the quality and availability of services for children at risk (including but not limited to refugee and migrant children), UNICEF is currently supporting the review of the national child protection system with focus on alternative care arrangements and services for children at risk. The recommendations will be shared with national authorities.

UNICEF also focused on capacity-building, reaching 153 social service professionals and other frontline workers across the country with various topics related to child protection in emergencies and working with refugee and migrant children. This also included the development and roll-out of a training module on education and vocational activities for adolescents during the second half of May, which aims to support the transition from crisis response to longer-term community support efforts.

During the last month, an Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre opened in the village of Vaksince (close to Tabanovce) to assist young refugee and migrant children on the move and local children.

UNICEF continues to advocate for greater access of refugee and migrant children to the formal education system, and together with national civil society actors is currently contributing to the development of a proposal for revision of the national education legal framework, which still restricts access to education for refugee and migrant children.

## SERBIA

**Child Protection:** Between January and June 2017, UNICEF provided recreational activities and psychosocial support to a total of 2,004 children through Blue Dots in Krnjača, Šid, Bujanovac, Preševo, Vranje and Dimitrovgrad, as well as more recently in Kikinda, Sjenica and a youth centre in Obrenovac.

In addition, UNICEF partnered with the Ministry of Social Affairs, local centres for social work, the Crisis Response and Policy Centre, UNHCR and other partners to ensure the protection needs of UASC are met. This also involved the establishment of a taskforce to assess the capacity of reception and accommodation centres in the country and identify measures for improved care and protection of UASC. This coupled with increased outreach of children at risk and the identification of 2,069 vulnerable children (including UASC) and their referral to accommodation and health services.



*Amir (4) is happy in the new playhouse provided by UNICEF in Serbia, thanks to ECHO funds, in the Banja Koviljaca Asylum Center in Serbia. ©UNICEF/UN070104/Vas*

To ensure the proper implementation of the Child Protection Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Action (CPMS) and quality service provision in the area of child protection, UNICEF developed a capacity-building strategy for frontline workers, currently rolled out as an inter-agency effort in partnership with UNHCR, Danish Refugee Council and International Rescue Committee. Since the beginning of the year, 178 frontline workers have benefitted from UNICEF-supported trainings on child protection.

**Education:** To respond to the increasing education needs for refugee and migrant children, UNICEF has been supporting non-formal education activities in seven reception, transit and asylum centres and facilitating access to the formal education system. In addition, UNICEF supported the development of Guidelines for non-formal education programmes implemented by other partners in centres, and provided on-the-job training to education professionals from all civil society organisations working in the field.

As a result of UNICEF advocacy and technical support to national authorities, in May the Serbian Ministry of Education issued a professional instruction for the inclusion of refugee and migrant children in schools. UNICEF is part of the working group, which oversees the implementation of the new regulation, along with representatives of the Ministry of Education and other key national and regional education stakeholders.

UNICEF will further strengthen education activities and support to authorities to facilitate effective school enrolment of refugee and migrant children from September.

**Health and Nutrition:** UNICEF continues to provide IYCF-E support to refugee and migrant children and mothers in reception, transit and asylum centres with larger numbers of children below 5 years of age, and a total of 742 infants (under 2 years old) benefitted from these services. In centres with smaller numbers, UNICEF supports greater engagement of local health and nutrition services. UNICEF mother-and-baby centres (MBC) are currently operational in Belgrade, Preševo, Bujanovac, Vranje, Krnjača and most recently Kikinda transit

centre. Technical support is also being provided to MBCs in Adaševci and Principovac, run by SOS Children's Villages. IYCF support to the few families in Dimitrovgrad has been secured through the child-friendly space and other existing health services.

UNICEF advocacy efforts and technical assistance to the Ministry of Health and the National Institute of Public Health resulted in the finalisation and release of national recommendations for the nutrition of children above two years of age.

## CROATIA

As of May, through a new partnership with Jesuit Refugee, UNICEF re-established the provision of child-friendly activities in the reception centre in Zagreb, benefitting 40 to 50 children on daily basis. Meanwhile, young children and mothers continue benefitting from IYCF and health services in centres Zagreb and Kutina, with some 460 consultations to women and children since activities resumed in April 2017.

A capacity-building and awareness-raising programme for the integration of asylum seeking children into the formal education system started implementation in six primary schools (3 in Zagreb and 3 in Kutina) and three kindergartens (2 in Zagreb and 1 in Kutina).

## SLOVENIA

In Slovenia UNICEF continues to provide technical assistance and build the capacity of national authorities and civil society actors in the area of child protection. As part of these efforts in May-June, a total of 364 frontline workers have been trained on standard operational procedure and legal framework for the protection of refugee and migrant children, including UASC, the provision of psychosocial support and cultural sensitivity. The training is currently being put into an electronic handbook format, expected to be finalized in July.

Further to UNICEF advocacy and technical assistance to national authorities, UNICEF recommendations on guardianship, alternative care, best interests determination in all procedures related to UASC and mandatory investigation in case of children absconding, have been successfully integrated in three national regulations.

Following UNICEF mapping of the child protection system in Slovenia and the adoption of the new Family Act, a Council for Families and Children has been created to support the implementation of new legal and policy regulations related to all children, including the most vulnerable and refugee and migrant children. On government request, UNICEF will, among other thing, support capacity-building of pre-service and in-service professionals, diversification of foster and care arrangements.

## AUSTRIA

UNICEF is currently developing a capacity-building plan to reach up to 500 front-line service providers with training on enhanced protection of children in Austria. In addition, together with the Ministry of Interior, UNICEF will conduct joint one-day child protection sensitization and capacity building workshops for 60 government employees at federal and state level in Vienna at the beginning of the fall.

Through a Training of Trainers on the Minimum Protection Standards in Reception and Accommodation Centres, conducted in partnership with the German Ministry for Family in Berlin, UNICEF facilitated experience and knowledge exchange between German and Austrian participants.

UNICEF is currently identifying modalities for the development of the *Learning to Live Together* concept at the level of the Federal Ministry of Education, as well as the Ministry for Integration and Foreign Affairs. A concept paper is expected to be available by early September.

## GERMANY

The revised *Minimum Standards for the Protection of Persons Living in Refugee Centres in Germany*, now including two new annexes to guide the implementation of the Standards for LGBTIQ<sup>6</sup> persons and persons with disabilities, were officially launched on World Refugee Day (20 June 2017). The Standards are the outcome of a consensus amongst over 30 national stakeholders under the *National Initiative to protect refugees living in refugee centres* (the Initiative), jointly led by UNICEF and the German Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Ministry of Family Affairs).

To complement and support the implementation of the Minimum Standards, UNICEF has developed a comprehensive Training Package and Toolbox. Over 650 managers, protection coordinators and frontline workers from 25 refugee centres across the country have already benefitted from UNICEF capacity-building activities and this training package, while another estimated 150 protection coordinators and 1,900 staff working in 75 additional refugee centres will be trained between August and December 2017 with support of a pool of 50 trained trainers. All resources have now been made publically available on a new [website](#) to support knowledge and information exchange under the Initiative.

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<sup>6</sup> *Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Trans, Intersex and Queer*

Together with the Ministry of Family Affairs, UNICEF also co-organised a “Networking Meeting” of around 80 protection coordinators working in refugee centres on 20-21 June 2017 in Berlin. It was used to introduce the revised Standards and the ‘buddy system’, linking protection coordinators from the initial 25 pilot centres with their colleagues from the additional 75 centres, as well as to train them on strengthening intercultural competences and addressing violence.

UNICEF has also completed a comprehensive assessment of the monitoring systems of 25 refugee centres, their service providers and supervisory authorities in the first quarter of 2017. Key results are being used to strengthen monitoring systems in refugee centres through the development of a user-friendly monitoring tool.

During the upcoming months, UNICEF will focus on the development of implementation guidelines for each Minimum Standard, a pocket-guide, a child-friendly version of the standards, as well as indicators to monitor their implementation. In addition, the implementation process will be documented to capture emerging and promising practices and lessons learned, which can further support work in this area at the federal level.

UNICEF is also supporting research and evidence generation on refugee and migrant children in Germany. In addition to dedicated research initiatives, such as [Childhood on Hold](#) and the latest technical handout *Strengthening child and youth welfare services in refugee centres*, efforts have been made to link institutions focusing on researching the situation of refugee children in refugee centres with the Initiative’s 25 refugee centres, and to work with the National CRC Coalition (civil society) and the CRC Monitoring Centre of Germany on developing national child rights monitoring indicators.

## Communications and Advocacy

Throughout Europe, UNICEF continues to monitor the rights of refugee and migrant children and engage in policy dialogue and public advocacy to improve their situation. On 17 May, ahead of G7, UNICEF released a new report [A Child is a Child: Protecting children on the move from violence, abuse and exploitation](#), which illustrated through concrete cases the risks refugee and migrant children are exposed to, with a particular focus to children moving to and within Europe. As G7 leaders gather in Taormina, Sicily on 25 May UNICEF [urged them to adopt six-point action agenda to keep refugee and migrant children safe](#).

In June, UNICEF also finalized the joint process with UNHCR and IRC on the [Roadmap](#) for action to improve the situation of refugee and migrant children arriving and staying in Europe without their parents or care givers. The final *Roadmap* document and an accompanying Call for Action were [launched](#) during a press briefing in Geneva. The *Roadmap* highlights the need to identify children, register them through child-friendly procedures, and build a relationship of trust with them as early as possible. Ensuring that a well-trained guardian takes immediate responsibility for the child, engaging cultural mediators, and mobilizing members of host communities are critical measures that can help build a trusting relationship and protect children from smugglers, traffickers or family pressure. The concrete recommendations provided were the result of a broad consultative process led by the three organizations, with input from 100 practitioners, including guardians, psychologists, social workers and lawyers, as well as relevant authorities from several European states and the European Union, and refugee and migrant children across the continent.



*Italian Coastguard, children, volunteers and officials take part in a symbolic rescue of paper boats to send a message to the G7 leaders to take action to safeguard children on the move off a beach in Palermo, Italy, on Thursday, May 25, 2017. The paper boats made by school children as a symbol of the fragility and unseaworthiness of the vessels that thousands of children are forced to board in their journeys across the Mediterranean contain special messages from young people across Italy. © UNICEF/UN065118/Cavalli*

In Greece, UNICEF supported the Office of the Greek Ombudsman in consolidating a [monitoring report](#) on the situation of refugee and migrant children, which highlighted the appalling conditions and lack of access to services still faced by some of the refugee and migrant children in Greece. The report was officially launched during a [press conference](#) in May, covered by six TV reportages and more than 50 articles in newspapers and online media. Following the press conference, the UNICEF-Ombudsman report was cited in discussions on refugee and migrant children in the Greek parliament. In parallel, the Greek Ombudsman for Children also hosted a roundtable on safeguarding the rights of children during family reunification and relocation procedures, where findings from recent data collection on the topic were discussed with national authorities. As a result of the meeting, the Asylum Service issued an official internal directive to address the obstacles related to the issuance of travel documents for children involved in family reunification and relocation procedures.

In Italy, progress has been achieved in the discussions with authorities of Palermo and Sicily Region regarding an effective guardianship model, to be supported by UNICEF in implementation of the law n.47, 7 April 2017 on the protection of UASC.

Linked to Brexit, UNICEF National Committee in the UK published a new briefing, jointly with Save the Children, exploring how to ensure unaccompanied children continue to be able to reunite with family in the UK, regardless of the UK's status within the Dublin Regulation. Similarly, in Germany and Sweden, where family reunification procedures have been temporarily suspended during the past years, UNICEF is currently strengthening advocacy for the reintroduction of the procedures to ensure safe and legal pathways are available to children with family in these countries.

In France, as the Government is about to launch a new National Action Plan on Asylum, UNICEF National Committee intensified advocacy efforts and is optimistic that measures will soon be taken to improve accommodation and protection for refugee and migrant children across the country. The French National Committee is also directly contributing to the improvement of the situation of children on the move in France through a training on child rights and child protection to frontline workers and civil society organisations, expected to take place after the summer.

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS - as of 30 June 2017

SUMMARY OF RESULTS	UNICEF and Implementing Partners Response*			
	Targets 2017	Total Results	Change since last report	
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>				
# of children (boys and girls) received psychosocial and other community-based child protection support in family support hubs, child friendly spaces and mother-baby corners	Greece	6,000	4,020	2,295
	Serbia	4,800	2,004	716
# of frontline workers trained on child protection standards/child protection in emergencies	Austria	500	20	0
	Bulgaria	300	104	0
	Croatia	50	0	0
	Germany	775	650	415
	Greece	500	313	27
	Italy	1,000	857	397
	Serbia	300	178	98
	Slovenia	200	364	364
	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	150	153	13
	Turkey	200	90	90
# of at-risk children (incl. UASC) identified through screening by outreach teams and child protection support centres	Greece	2,000	1,053	359
	Italy	4,700	4,893	1,433
	Serbia	1,000	2,069	743
	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	150	170	33
	Turkey	2,500	1,005	416
# of children provided with legal aid and/or counselling	Bulgaria	2,000	128	60
<b>EDUCATION</b>				
# of children aged 6-17 including adolescents participating in structured education activities	Bulgaria	2,000	637	323
	Greece	5,000	2,308	545
	Italy	700	342	66
	Serbia**	4,000	867	867
	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	150	102	36
# of children receiving school materials	Greece	5,000	3,881	1,315
# of children (3-5 years old) benefiting from early childhood activities	Greece	1,500	534	144
<b>HEALTH AND NUTRITION</b>				
# of infants (under 2) accessed mother and baby care centre services, including health services and nutrition services	Greece	1,000	344	70
	Serbia	1,600	742	211

# of mothers benefited from infant and young child feeding counselling at family support hubs, child friendly spaces and mother-baby corners	Greece	1,000	243	54
	Serbia	1,000	471	181
<b>WASH and BASIC SUPPLIES</b>				
# of children receiving culturally appropriate non-food items	Italy	1,000	967	289
	Serbia	4,800	7,304	4,987
# of children receiving basic relief items	Turkey	37,500	4,143	881

**Notes:**

\*For a full list of UNICEF partners by country, please see Map II at the end of the SitRep.

\*\*Due to the strong UNICEF involvement and technical assistance in both non-formal and formal education, education results in Serbia include children reached directly through non-formal education, children reached directly through formal education and children indirectly reached through technical assistance provided civil society organisations running non-formal education programmes.

## Funding Update

Country	2017 Requirements	Funds Received	Funding gap	
	(US\$)	(US\$)	\$	%
<b>Countries with children on the move and children stranded – Eastern Mediterranean</b>				
Western Balkans	6,544,800	4,252,491	2,292,309	35%
Greece	17,920,000	10,397,152	7,522,848	42%
Turkey*	2,500,000	0	2,500,000	100%
<b>Countries of destination and additional countries</b>				
Italy	5,165,000	2,276,302	2,888,698	56%
Germany	3,249,000	1,356,139	1,892,861	58%
Other countries of destination and planned additional countries	2,396,000	788,200	1,607,800	67%
<b>Regional and Global Support</b>				
Coordination, Advocacy, Communications, Technical support and preparedness**	5,677,200	2,572,323	3,104,877	55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$43,452,000</b>	<b>\$21,642,606</b>	<b>\$21,809,394</b>	<b>50%</b>

\*Activities in Turkey are funded in large part through the 3RP and are complimented through regional support, under the RMRP, to ensure all children are receiving needed support.

\*\*Line includes thematic funding received for the response and is allocated to countries based on urgent needs and priorities.

## Next SitRep: 18/10/2017

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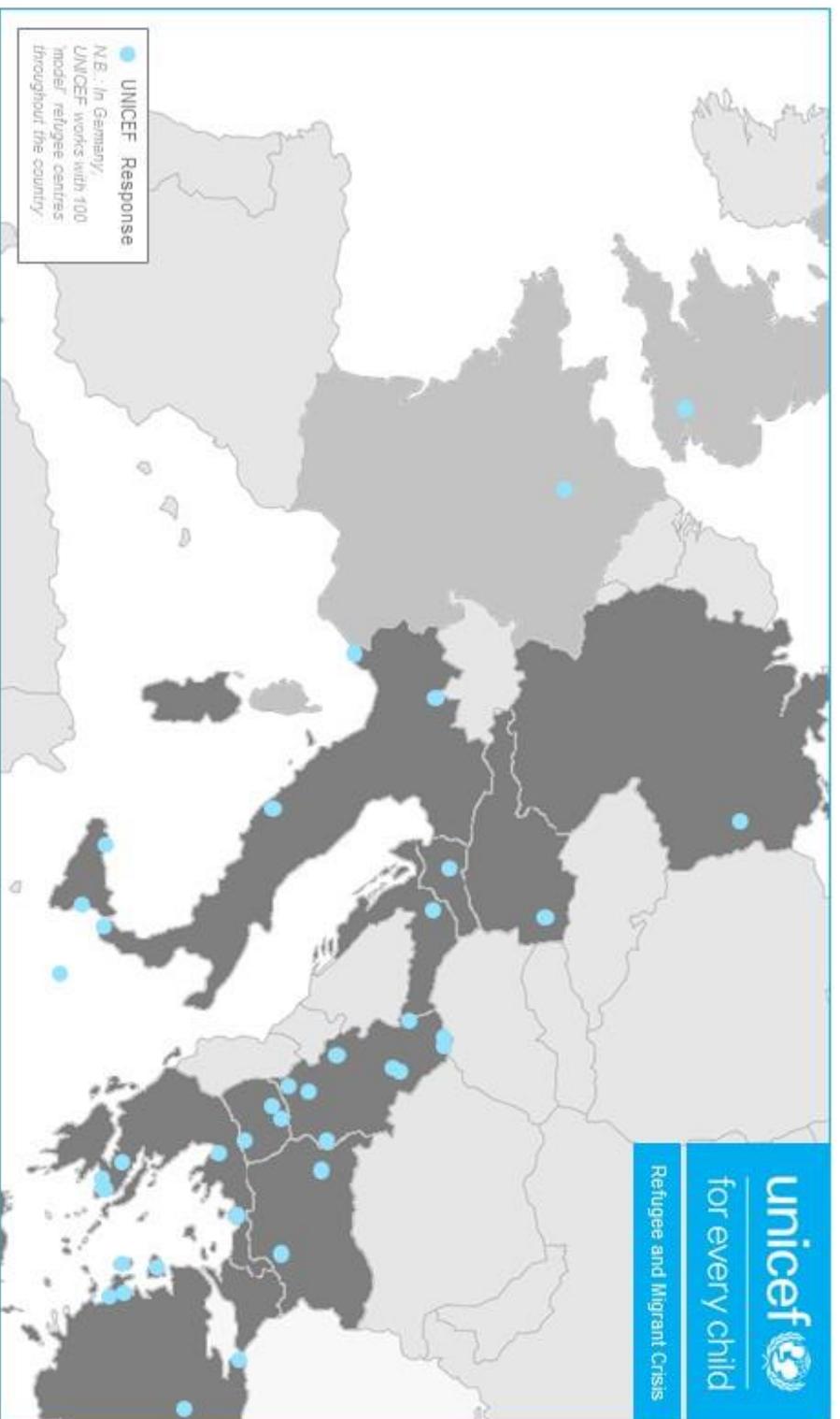
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# UNICEF Response Activities

Updated 30 June 2017

- Advocacy
- Communication
- Training and Capacity Building
- Outreach of Children at Risk
- Psycho-Social Support
- Education
- Health and Nutrition
- WASH
- Activities with Adolescents
- Child Rights Monitoring
- Basic Supplies
- Technical Assistance
- Legal Counselling



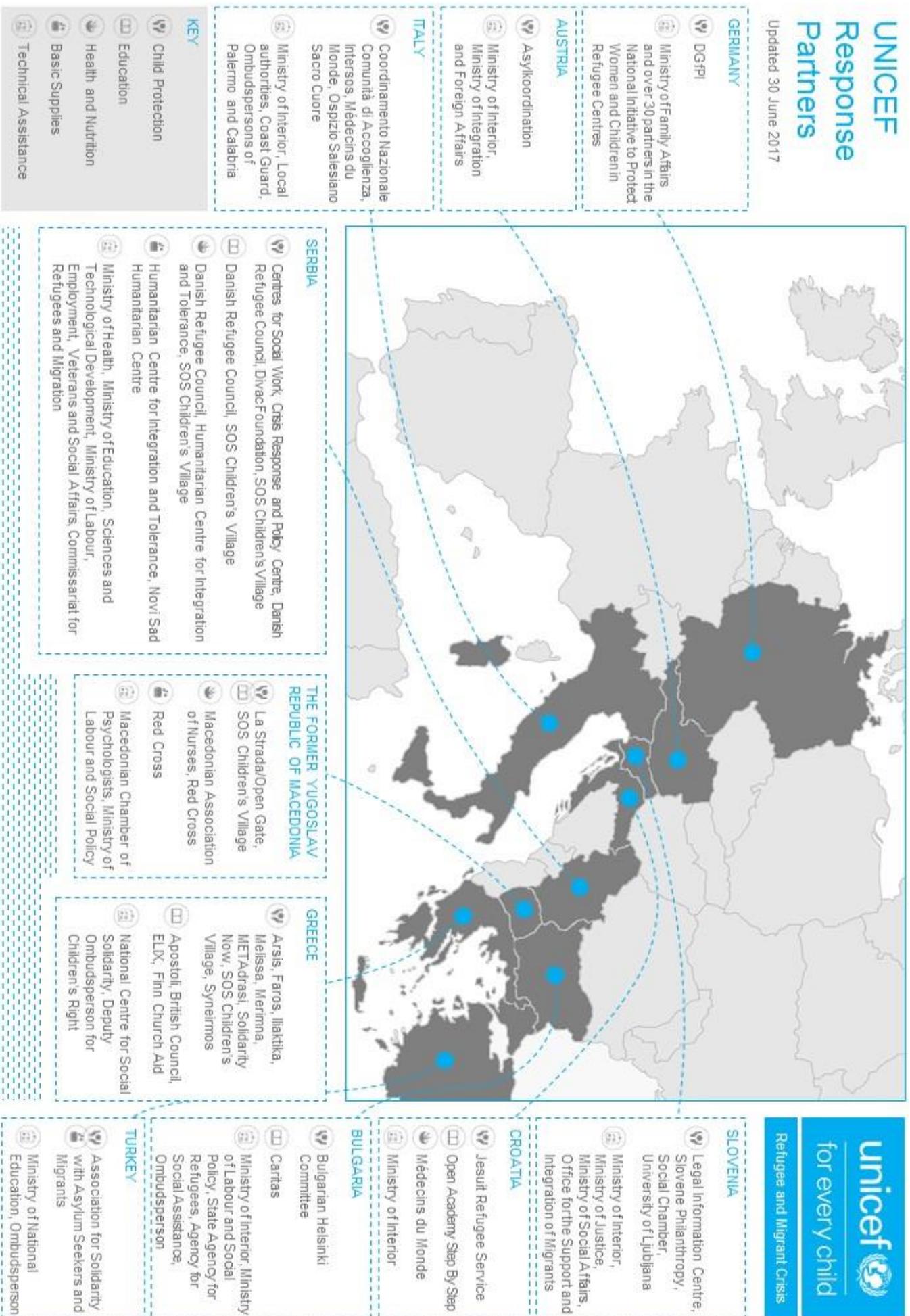
GREECE	ITALY	BULGARIA	TURKEY	THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	SERBIA	CROATIA	SLOVENIA	AUSTRIA	GERMANY	FRANCE	UNITED KINGDOM
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Refugee and Migrant Crisis

# UNICEF Response Partners

Updated 30 June 2017



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Refugee and Migrant Crisis