

19 July 2017

Regional IM Working Group

– Meeting minutes

Present: UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, IFRC

General updates

1. The [published last meeting minutes](#) (23 May 2017).
2. For the most recent updates, see the [Mediterranean response data portal](#).
3. All agencies were interested in convening a regional interagency workshop focused on **joint data collation and analysis**. A more concrete plan will be formulated in the coming weeks.
4. The [latest update \(Q2\) on the Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Europe](#) has been published, highlighting that 28 of the 74 partners have received funding, primarily for activities in Greece and Serbia. Overall funding remains low with just 21% of the appeal funded to date. A summary map of activities will follow.
5. IOM Italy and DTM Mediterranean recently released a summary briefing note on the [current migration trends of Bangladeshis arriving in Italy](#). Other DTM related news:
 - a. A child specific module has been developed as part of the joint IOM-UNHCR-UNICEF-Save the Children, DG Justice project on *Protecting children in the context of the refugee and migrant crisis in Europe*. The module is added to the standard DTM Flow Monitoring Survey and is used in Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia and Austria. The data on children's wellbeing and main protection concerns is being collected in coordination with the relevant protection teams.
 - b. In early August, DTM will start conducting Flow Monitoring Surveys in three reception and transit centres in Romania located in Galati, Bucharest and Timisoara. The analysis of collected sample is planned for September 2017.
6. The Q2 Overview dataset on arrivals to Europe is now available on IOM's Europe portal.
7. IFRC are partnering with ICRC globally to standardise data across national societies. Some indicators will be published, particularly related to tracing information. So far 35 national societies are onboard. Useful information that might well be published includes how many tracing requests are received by countries, and from which countries these requests were made. It should also include a breakdown of UASC and the reasons for initiating the tracing.
8. IFRC are also harmonising their knowledge platform portals, which is expected to be completed later in 2017.
9. The [Data portal](#) is being extended to include additional information visualisations, initially for arrival and asylum statistics. These will support users to explore and link to the datasets and answer the questions that they have with the data (based on the numerous requests for information received by the IM support team). One aspect of this would be to increase the level of age and gender disaggregation of arrival data that is available on the portal, and this is currently being reviewed. The updates will be piloted in August.

Upcoming reports, workshops and initiatives

1. UNHCR are trying to more closely integrate activities in Libya and Italy through a special Central Mediterranean initiative, which will include greater collaboration on IM tasks.
2. In Athens, at the end of October, the Greek Statistics Office and UNICEF are convening a conference focused on statistics on children with participation of national statistic offices from Europe and Central Asia. The topic of this year's conference is migration and ethnicity. In the margins of the conference, a workshop/training with relevant partners and child rights monitoring actors will be conducted on the ethical considerations in data collection from children.
3. Also in Athens in November, there will be a regional meeting of ENOC, hosted by the Greek Ombudsman, with participation of Ombudspersons from across Europe to discuss child rights issues related to refugee and migrant children.
4. UNHCR, UNICEF and IOM are formulating a joint position paper for the EU including recommendations for improvements of European statistics on children, which is linked to the consultation being undertaken by DG Home in follow up to the [EU communication on the protection of refugee and migrant children in Europe](#).
5. In Germany, UNICEF have finalized their assessment of the monitoring mechanisms of children in centres which will be published shortly.
6. A joint publication between IOM and UNICEF using DTM data and highlighting exploitative practices will be published in September.
7. The final report of the **analysis of the situation of refugee and migrant children in Greece and Italy** conducted by REACH and UNICEF was published in July. Some of the most important findings are that the large majority of UASC leaving their home countries in West Africa take the decision to leave on their own, many leave because of domestic violence and abuse, and often do not originally intend to come to Europe. All of the children interviewed in Italy spoke of Libya as the most traumatic experience during their journey along with the sea crossing to Italy.
8. IOM's GMDAC team in Berlin will be hosting a forum on migration statistics in January in Berlin.
9. UNHCR will conduct a protection oriented profile of specific nationalities in Italy in Q3 2017. A profiling coordinator, TORs and the analysis plan are currently being drafted for review.
10. UNHCR will publish during the summer analyses of resettlement and asylum applications in Europe in 2017 (see the 2016 Resettlement factsheet for reference).
11. Surveys were recently conducted on the usage of both the UNHCR and the IOM portals and the results of both surveys will be published soon.

Data on children in detention

1. A secondary data review on data sources for statistics relating to children in immigration detention has been conducted and identified several useful sources of information.
2. Published quantitative data on the numbers and durations of detentions in European countries remains limited and therefore an interagency information gathering exercise is planned to be conducted in September, with the results to be published towards the end of 2017 (including the secondary data review). Of note, will be the need to triangulate data between sources (governments, ICRC, IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR, Helsinki committee etc.) to confirm reliability.

Inter-agency Factsheet on Children

1. The interagency factsheet on children, produced by UNICEF, IOM and UNHCR, will be updated with the mid-year statistics that are available and should be published in mid September.

Follow up actions

1. UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM to identify the modalities for the joint analysis workshop.
2. UNHCR and IOM to continue working together to ensure publications including dead and missing and arrivals datasets contain consistent figures.
3. UNHCR to share the analysis plan and questionnaire for the profiling in Italy.

Next meeting

Thursday 7th September from 1100 to 1230 at UNHCR, Geneva.