



**REFUGEE EMERGENCY
RESPONSE IN EUROPE**
Supplementary Appeal
January – December 2016

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UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Cover photograph

A young girl from Iraq walks past discarded life-vests used by refugees while crossing the Aegean Sea from the coast of Turkey to Greece, shortly after she reached the island of Lesbos in an inflatable boat with her family and other refugees from Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic.

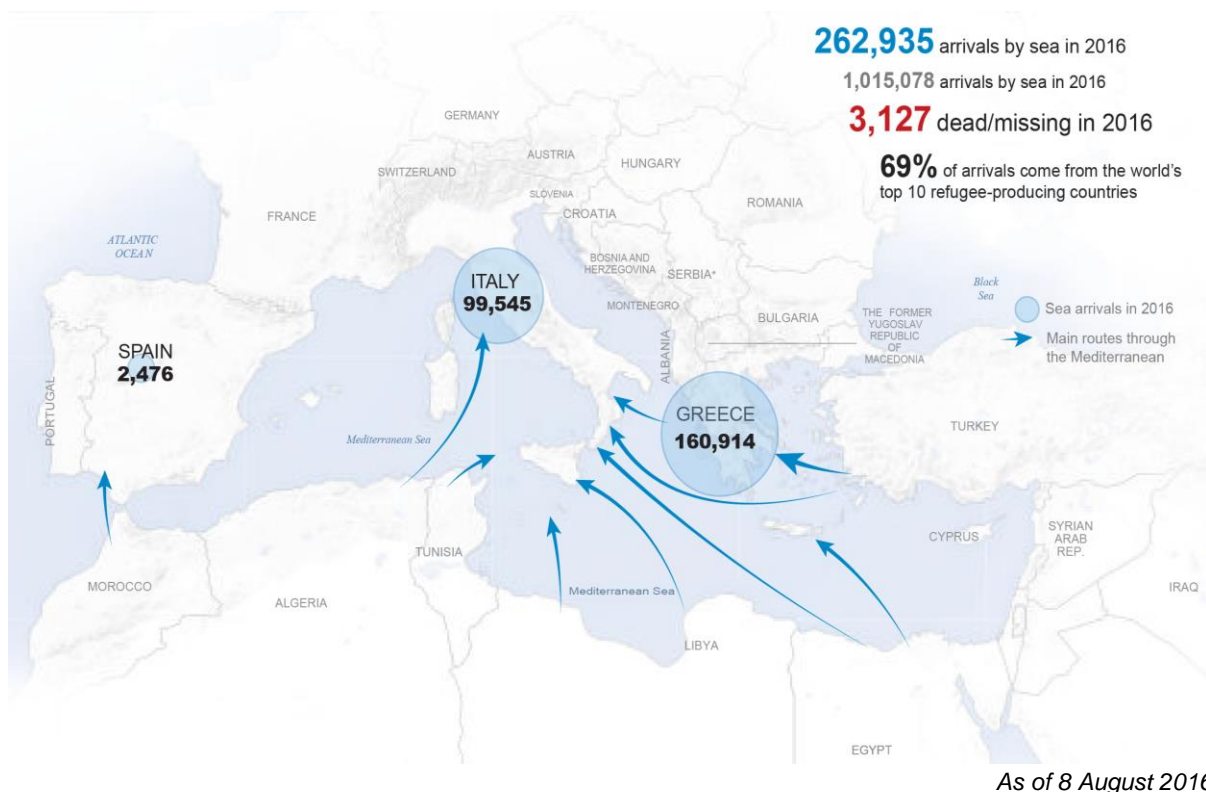
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CONTEXT



Introduction

Throughout 2015, increasing numbers of people risked their lives to cross the Mediterranean Sea in search of safety and protection in Europe. By early January 2016, more than 1 million refugees and migrants had crossed the Mediterranean, including more than 850,000 who arrived in Greece from Turkey. From January to July 2016 some 260,000 people had arrived in Southern Europe. The majority originate from countries affected by conflict, with 48 per cent of those who arrived in Greece originating from the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria), 25 per cent from Afghanistan, and 15 per cent from Iraq.¹

In addition to the movements into Greece, refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants continue to arrive by sea in Italy from North Africa where, by the end of July 2016, people arriving were for the most part from Nigeria (17%), Eritrea (13%), Gambia (8%), Cote d'Ivoire (7%), Guinea (7%), Sudan (7%), Somalia (6%), Mali (6%) and Senegal (6%). The number of people arriving from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan is still below one per cent, respectively.

Political developments from mid-February 2016 led to a substantial change in the situation. In particular, the progressive establishment of tighter border restrictions established initially between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece, followed by further restrictions along what is known as the 'Western Balkans route', led to its effective closure on 8 March 2016. In addition, the EU-Turkey statement of 18 March 2016, building on the Joint EU-Turkey Action Plan (November 2015), set out measures to control irregular movements from Turkey to Greece and contributed to a substantial reduction of sea arrivals in Greece. With the formal closure of borders along the Western Balkans route, there has been an increase in refugees and asylum-seekers remaining in Greece; as of 2 August, 9,508 people remain on the islands and an estimated 40,272 people remain on the mainland.

¹ Information available at: <http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=83>

This Supplementary Appeal presents UNHCR's revised strategy and financial requirements for its response to the situation in Europe in 2016. It incorporates UNHCR's component of the inter-agency regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2016 for Europe (RMRP)². It also incorporates UNHCR's strategy and activities related to onward movements in North Africa, and integrates a component related to targeted activities in South-West Asia. This appeal further provides for planned interventions in, respectively, countries of origin and first asylum in West and East Africa, and in the Horn. It supersedes the Supplementary Appeal for the Special Mediterranean Initiative and the Winterization Plan.³ **Through this Supplementary Appeal, UNHCR is appealing for USD 408.4 million, including USD 374.7 million in additional requirements.**

Responding primarily to the movement of mainly Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan refugees to Europe via Turkey, this Appeal also complements efforts such as the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2016-2017 in Response to the Syria Crisis (the 3RP), the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan, as well as the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) in South-West Asia, the High Commissioner's Global Initiative on Somali Refugees, and other relevant UNHCR and inter-agency humanitarian appeals.

Overall strategy and coordination

Globally, UNHCR is promoting a comprehensive response to this situation, focusing on:

- a) Supporting authorities with the registration, reception and provision of assistance, as well as referrals to relevant services, particularly for people with specific needs;
- b) Strengthening protection systems through capacity building in various asylum procedures in South-West Asia, the East and Horn of Africa, North Africa and Europe;
- c) Reinforcing the availability of protection and solutions in regions where refugees first arrive;
- d) Ensuring legal alternatives to dangerous irregular journeys.

In this context, UNHCR and its partners have redefined their engagement from a response targeting people on the move to largely targeting populations in Greece and the Western Balkans. The approach is, however, nuanced: while the situation in Greece continues to require an emergency response, activities in the Western Balkans will focus on strengthening asylum and protection capacities. As people remain in countries along the former Western Balkans route, the danger is they will increasingly rely on smuggling and trafficking networks, exposing themselves to greater protection risks. Continued arrivals in Serbia, Hungary and beyond confirm that clandestine movements through the region persist, and this appeal includes measures to address this.

The agreements concluded between the EU and Turkey have contributed to significantly reducing the numbers of people entering Greece from Turkey. Enhancing access to legal alternatives to dangerous irregular movement from Turkey and countries of first asylum around Syria, as well as from Africa and western Asia, could also contribute to a decrease in the number of people arriving irregularly in Southern European countries.

Syria and neighbouring countries

The Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) in response to the Syria Crisis brings together more than 200 partners in a coordinated, region-wide response to assist Syrian refugees and the communities hosting them. Since the 3RP was first launched in December 2014, the humanitarian and development situation has deteriorated or continues to be under threat both inside Syria and in neighbouring countries. With the 3RP only 61 per cent funded in 2015, the shortfall in funding for humanitarian and resilience-building activities is exacerbating vulnerabilities of refugees and social

² More information available at: <http://rmp-europe.unhcr.org/>

³ On 30 September 2015, UNHCR launched a Special Mediterranean Initiative reflecting a comprehensive and multi-regional response to the refugee crisis in Europe, followed on 5 November by the Winterization Plan for the Refugee Crisis in Europe published in November. Both plans incorporated programmes for addressing emergency needs in receiving countries, and for strengthening protection space in countries of first asylum and transit. The Office worked closely on these with affected States in Europe, the European Union and its Member States, North Africa, West Africa, the East and Horn of Africa, and countries in the Middle East affected by ongoing conflict and forced displacement of populations.

and economic impact on the host countries, and is among the triggers for the large-scale movement of refugees further afield. In this context, the 2016-2017 3RP presents significantly strengthened responses in the Education Sector and in the Livelihoods and Social Cohesion Sector compared to previous years, reflecting key strategic directions of the response.

South-West Asia

Afghan asylum-seekers constitute the second largest population of new arrivals in Europe. The Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to support voluntary repatriation, sustainable reintegration and support to host countries (SSAR) presents a regional framework for the provision of support to Afghan refugees in the major hosting countries of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, as well as in Afghanistan.

Resources amounting to USD 468 million are required for UNHCR to implement from July 2016 to the end of 2017, together with the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran and partners, measures on strengthening resilience that will help pave the path towards solutions for Afghan refugees in South-West Asia within the framework of the SSAR⁴. It is hoped that these measures to provide protection for refugees and improve their lives and livelihoods will reduce the risk of vulnerable people taking the dangerous decision to seek safety and protection in Europe.

Population data

UNHCR expects up to 100,000 people will be in need of assistance in Greece this year. This figure is based on a projection of arrival figures until the end of the year, push and pull factors affecting the various movements, continued deterioration of conditions particularly in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, and the increasing levels of poverty among refugees in countries of first asylum, amongst other factors.⁵ Along the former Western Balkans route, the remaining population—up to 6,300 people—will be targeted with assistance, based on needs and vulnerabilities.

In Turkey, UNHCR plans to provide several critical forms of assistance to both Syrian and non-Syrian populations not covered by the 3RP. Up to 200,000 people will be targeted, including those apprehended, intercepted and rescued, and those who may be considering onward movement.

The profiles of people on the move in the context of the mixed movements from sub-Saharan Africa through North Africa and to Europe via Italy are predicted to remain similar to 2015 and previous years. As of 2 August 2016, 95,162 sea arrivals had been recorded in Italy since the beginning of the year, with arrivals predominantly originating from West, East and North Africa. Arrivals originating from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan are below 1 per cent. While the current scale and nature of arrivals in Italy does not differ greatly from 2015, arrivals will continue to be monitored closely to ensure early identification and response to changes in the profiles, especially with a view to assisting people with specific needs. In particular, the number of unaccompanied and separated children amongst arrivals is alarmingly high and family re-unification and child protection activities are therefore prioritized.

UNHCR's activities in sub-Saharan Africa to address the protection risks of refugees moving irregularly as part of mixed-migrant groups will target more than 236,000 people in 2016. For the purposes of this appeal, a planning figure of 55,000 people is used for the North Africa subregion.

⁴ *UNHCR Regional Plan: Building resilience and solutions for Afghan refugees in South-West Asia* is available at: <http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/UNHCR%20Regional%20Plan%20-%20Building%20resilience%20%26%20solutions%20Afghan%20refugees%20in%20SWA%201JUL16-31DEC17.pdf>

⁵ Living in the Shadows: Jordan Home Visits Report, UNHCR, 2014, available at <http://www.unhcr.org/54b685079.html>

Financial summary (USD)

UNHCR's 2016 budget for its response to the refugee crisis in Europe amounted to **USD 33.7 million**. The additional requirements presented in the present appeal, including support costs, total **USD 374.7 million**, as shown in the centre column of the summary table below.

OPERATION	ExCom-revised budget excluding the refugee emergency response in Europe	2016 REFUGEE EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN EUROPE			Total revised requirements for 2016
		ExCom budget related to the refugee emergency response in Europe	Additional requirements	Total	
EUROPE					
Turkey	337,510,994	262,415	8,412,232	8,674,647	346,185,641
Greece	6,961,814	489,765	280,048,725	280,538,490	287,500,304
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2,935,854	311,081	5,619,727	5,930,808	8,866,662
Serbia	22,556,994	480,234	9,490,150	9,970,384	32,527,378
Croatia	1,816,373	92,062	1,935,862	2,027,924	3,844,297
Slovenia	94,726	-	3,434,044	3,434,044	3,528,320
Various operations*	75,347,971	3,677,870	8,900,895	12,578,765	87,926,736
Regional activities	11,942,563	337,737	26,191,401	26,529,138	38,471,701
Headquarters**	5,659,392	-	7,032,861	7,032,861	12,692,253
MENA					
Algeria	28,964,766	120,000	-	120,000	29,084,766
Egypt	81,937,895	2,654,036	-	2,654,036	84,591,931
Libya	23,865,039	1,378,000	-	1,378,000	25,243,039
Morocco	6,298,226	545,977	-	545,977	6,844,203
Tunisia	5,050,784	1,994,000	-	1,994,000	7,044,784
AFRICA					
Ethiopia	265,976,560	9,229,246	-	9,229,246	275,205,806
Niger	51,188,166	3,414,173	-	3,414,173	54,602,339
Sudan	155,425,209	8,755,268	-	8,755,268	164,180,477
Subtotal	1,083,533,326	33,741,864	351,065,897	384,807,761	1,468,340,637
Support costs (7%)	-	-	23,599,765	23,599,765	23,599,765
TOTAL	1,083,533,326	33,741,864	374,665,662	408,407,526	1,491,940,402

*Countries in Northern, Western, Central, Southern And South-Eastern Europe covered by Regional Offices in Belgium, Hungary, Italy and Sweden. Activities related to these operations are detailed on pp 32-36.

** Support costs are applicable only to select components of Headquarters activities.

UNHCR's financial requirements to respond to the needs of displaced Syrians, Iraqis and Afghans, as detailed in the 3RP, the SSAR, the Humanitarian Response Plans for Iraq and Syria, and in UNHCR's Global Appeal, are as follows:

- Syria Situation (3RP and HRP) USD 1,620,500,036
- Iraq Situation USD 584,017,279
- South-West Asia USD 468,126,067

EUROPE

Introduction

In one of the largest movements of displaced people through European borders since World War Two, 1 million refugees and migrants made the perilous journey across the Mediterranean into Europe in 2015. The majority – 856,723 – crossed from Turkey to Greece over the Aegean Sea.⁶

Although the EU-Turkey statement of 18 March 2016 resulted in a substantial change in the situation, there remain significant unmet needs in Turkey, Greece and the Balkans. Despite an evolution in the profiles of people arriving throughout the year, the majority continue to originate from countries afflicted by war. By the end of June, 48 per cent of those who arrived in Greece were from Syria, 25 per cent from Afghanistan, 15 per cent from Iraq and 12 per cent from other countries.⁷

Within the overall population of concern, there are many individuals with specific needs placing them at heightened protection risk. These include unaccompanied and separated children single women, pregnant or lactating women, the elderly, people with disabilities, the sick and injured, as well as unaccompanied and separated children. There are significant numbers of children (both unaccompanied and separated and travelling with families) who require particular attention; approximately 38 per cent of the total movement from Turkey to Greece are children.

In order to provide a comprehensive response, UNHCR and IOM jointly led the development of the regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Europe (RMRP). Closely coordinated with 60 operational partners, as well as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the revised RMRP sets out the overall strategic direction for the emergency response in 2016, following the closure of the Western Balkans route and the EU-Turkey statement. The financial needs outlined in the Europe chapter of this present appeal correspond with UNHCR's requirements as reflected in the revised RMRP for its response to the crisis in Europe in 2016.

Regional strategy and coordination

Within the framework of the revised RMRP and in line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), UNHCR will support the efforts of governments and promote a coordinated response that not only addresses the humanitarian and protection needs of refugees, but also advocates for states to meet their international and regional human rights and refugee law obligations.

From a response solely targeting people on the move, the overall strategy is now mainly focusing on those portions of the population who have stabilized, the majority residing in urban areas, while recognizing that people still continue to move in an irregular manner.

The strategy is premised upon a coordinated and comprehensive response. It also recognizes that, while legal and physical restrictions have been put in place at borders along the former Western Balkans route, the motivation of refugees and migrants to reach countries in Western and Northern

⁶ Figures valid as of 31 December 2015, available at: <http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=83>

⁷ For a detailed breakdown of arrivals and statistics, please see the Greece page of the Inter-Agency Portal for the Refugee/Migrant Emergency Response at: <http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/country.php?id=83>

Europe will not abate. There is already considerable evidence that people remaining in countries along the former route are being approached by smuggling networks to facilitate their onward travel, further exposing them to protection risks and exploitation.

Overall, a nuanced and flexible approach is still needed to ensure that access to protection, basic services and assistance, as well as legal alternatives and assisted voluntary return are made available to people, in accordance with their legal status.

In light of these challenges, the strategy aims to protect and assist refugees and asylum-seekers, while at the same time support governments in further developing and operationalizing a sustainable, comprehensive and cooperative framework for concrete action in the areas of refugee protection and migration management, consistent with international and European standards.

In close cooperation with relevant government counterparts, EU institutions and agencies, UN agencies, NGOs, civil society actors, local communities, and other partners, UNHCR will:

1. *Design and implement a response that supports and complements governments' existing capacities to enhance reception capacity and to ensure effective and safe access to registration asylum and relevant national institutions.*

UNHCR aims to improve access to territory, registration and asylum for people seeking protection, with adequate reception conditions. UNHCR will enhance its protection and border monitoring activities, and in detention and pre-removal centres.

In cooperation with the relevant authorities, UNHCR will work to strengthen the registration capacity of governments to ensure that arrivals' needs are identified in a timely manner, and that those that wish to seek asylum are able to do so in line with international and EU standards.

2. *Ensure that refugee women, girls, boys and men access protection and assistance in a participatory manner, with particular attention to those with specific needs. Protection-centred assistance will be delivered in a manner that respects the principle of non-discrimination; is appropriate to the specific characteristics of the situation; and takes into account the needs of the local communities.*

Specifically, UNHCR has, together with partners, put in place measures to prevent and respond to protection risks within the scope of the emergency response. This includes measures to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and family separation, strengthen child protection mechanisms, including through ensuring that decisions are taken in the best interests of children, and identify and refer individuals with specific needs to competent institutions where appropriate assistance may be provided.

The Office will also strengthen communication with communities to better target protection interventions and assistance, and identify and address information needs and gaps.

3. *Strengthen national and local capacities and protection systems, and ensure safe access to longer-term solutions for refugees, in particular through reinforced alternative legal pathways to protection, such as relocation, family reunification and resettlement.*

UNHCR will continue to support government efforts to strengthen national asylum systems. In partnership with governments and partners, including in particular EU institutions and agencies, UNHCR will assist with the implementation of the EU's relocation programme including the establishment of adequate reception capacity for those participating in the EU relocation scheme. This will be complemented by efforts to promote alternative legal pathways to irregular movements, such as resettlement, humanitarian admission, work and study visas, and enhanced family reunification under the Dublin III Regulation.

4. *Strengthen partnership and coordination within the humanitarian community and with governments, both in setting common goals and in reinforcing or establishing (when needed)*

national-level coordination structures and information analysis to ensure an efficient and coordinated response, including coordinated channels for citizen and volunteer engagement to support the reception and integration of refugees.

The RCM presents the framework for coordinating, in a partner-friendly and inclusive manner, protection, assistance and solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers, and is applicable in the prevailing European situation. It is predicated on the primary responsibility of States to protect refugees and is largely determined by the capacities and approaches of the host government. In the framework of the RCM, UNHCR has put in place coordination structures at national level and points of delivery, however, responses are whenever possible led by the host government and build on the resources of refugees and the communities in which they live. Coordination arrangements that have been established remain agile and responsive as the situation evolves. They aim at including all relevant actors and are set up to support authorities' overall leading role.

As necessary, UNHCR will continue to provide life-saving humanitarian assistance, ensuring that the response is protection-centred, and targeting people with specific needs.

Achievements

UNHCR's Special Mediterranean Initiative provided the framework for UNHCR's provision of humanitarian assistance to new arrivals in Europe in 2015. The unpredictability of the movements, the continuously shifting travel routes, and the high level of mobility noted among refugees made the distribution of assistance and extension of protection to people with specific needs particularly challenging in 2015 and early 2016. Assistance provided within the framework of the RCM and under the umbrella of the Special Mediterranean Initiative in 2015 was therefore largely reactive and focused on the provision of immediate, life-saving assistance, as well as supporting governments and local communities to cope with the large numbers of new arrivals. The extent and quality of UNHCR's coordination and support role as well as the impact of its activities varied from country to country, depending on a number of factors including of political nature.

Key achievements include:

- The establishment of a 24/7 presence at the borders in a short timeframe from a previously light operational footprint in order to ensure emergency assistance and protection services;
- Adoption of a flexible approach to enhance the effectiveness of the protection-centred response to a fluid and dynamic movement;
- Prevention of and response to family separations;
- Strategic prepositioning of non-food items (NFIs) which allowed rapid deployment and distribution;
- Rapid winterization of shelter and relief items in line with deteriorating weather conditions;
- Swift transfer of resources following changes in circumstances - including human and financial resources;
- Further strengthening of strategic partnerships through the RMRP and joint advocacy (e.g. through joint press releases, regular briefings and partner meetings), in line with a coordinated and principled approach.

Country-specific details of achievements in 2015 and the first quarter of 2016 are outlined by country and sector in the revised regional RMRP, which complements the larger geographic scope of this appeal.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES AND HEADQUARTERS

In 2016, UNHCR will continue advocacy and public information efforts to further strengthen the monitoring of access to asylum procedures, reception conditions and alternative protection measures, with particular attention to people with specific needs. Great focus will be placed on systematically informing refugees and migrants through a participatory dialogue on their rights and obligations. Social media is utilized to disseminate information on the dangers posed by traffickers and irregular movement. Feedback mechanisms are in place to ensure the voices of people of concern are taken into account in designing the response

Based on conclusions drawn from information gathered through protection monitoring and communication with communities, and in close coordination with host governments, specific projects such as in the areas of SGBV prevention and response, child protection, legal aid, family reunification and integration will be developed. To this end, a participatory methodology (including through profiling and focus group discussions) will allow for improved identification of needs and design of appropriate responses. Communication with communities in countries of destination remains a key element of the response strategy, in order to better target interventions and ensure that refugee views are a key component in all programming.

Addressing anti-refugee and migrant sentiments emerging across Europe is becoming more important in the context of more static populations of concern. Advocacy efforts will be closely coordinated with strengthened strategic communications and public information efforts. Responding to the visibility of the European refugee situation, and utilizing tools such as social media, UNHCR will maintain strong communication and public information capabilities.

UNHCR will continue to undertake procurement through centrally-negotiated framework agreements. Accordingly, the requirements of individual country operations as presented in this appeal do not include amounts required for the procurement of core relief and NFIs. This procurement will instead be managed regionally, contributing to economies of scale.

Strengthening evidence-based planning and implementation and improving UNHCR's preparedness and response, information gathering, management and analysis capacities will be continuously strengthened. So as to scale-up and enhance UNHCR's preparedness and response and mitigate the devastating effects of the winter, a dedicated Winter Operations Cell was established in October 2015 as a cross-cutting component of the Office's structures for managing the emergency. Functions of the Winter Operations Cell have been mainstreamed within the Europe Bureau to ensure that data will continue to be analysed, and routes and arrival figures can be predicted in order to aid decision-making.

Planned regional activities and Headquarters

Fair protection processes and documentation

Reception conditions improved

- Build capacity of institutions and authorities involved with the management of the refugee crisis.
- Prevent or respond to SGBV through guidance and support to operations.
- Manage two regional warehouses in Thessaloniki, Greece and Belgrade, Serbia.

Favourable protection environment

Public attitude towards people of concern improved

- Strengthen communication with communities to better identify information gaps and disseminate information on access to asylum and other protection measures.

- Enhance public communication activities to maintain or enhance the current protection space, counteract xenophobia and negative media narratives.
- Enhance data gathering and information dissemination at HQ and Regional Office level.
- Provide regular updated data and analysis about refugee flows and asylum claims, based on enhanced data collection capacity.
- Organize surveys and focus group discussions to collect information on reasons for departure and protection concerns of new arrivals.

Financial requirements for regional activities and Headquarters (USD)

	2016 ExCom-revised budget for the response to the Europe crisis	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	306,322	25,474,717	25,781,039
Reception conditions improved	306,322	25,474,717	25,781,039
Favourable protection environment	31,415	716,684	748,099
Public attitude towards persons of concern improved	31,415	716,684	748,099
Subtotal regional activities	337,737	26,191,401	26,529,138
Headquarters	-	7,032,861	7,032,861
Support costs (7%)*	-	1,350,850	1,350,850
TOTAL	337,737	34,575,112	34,912,849

* Support costs are applicable only to select components of Headquarters activities.

TURKEY

Existing response

Turkey hosts the largest number of refugees in the world, including more than 2.5 million Syrian refugees and over 250,000 refugees of other nationalities. Nearly 90 per cent of Syrians and all non-Syrian refugees live in host communities. More than 856,723 people reached the Greek islands by sea from Turkey in 2015. As of 2 August, 160,232 people had left Turkey for Greece in 2016.

For planning purposes, the Turkey component of this appeal focuses on four main target groups:

- 1) People intercepted, rescued at the sea and land borders and apprehended inland before reaching a departure point;
- 2) People on the move transiting Turkey in an attempt to reach the EU;
- 3) People readmitted to Turkey from Greece and EU;
- 4) Syrian refugees to be resettled to Europe, further to the increase in resettlement commitments for Syrian refugees in Turkey.

Refugees' ability to integrate socially and economically in Turkey remains challenging. Despite the formalization of legislation aimed at facilitating access to the labour market for Syrians under temporary protection in January 2016, and non-Syrian refugees in April, administrative and other obstacles remain. Though no clear statistics are available, child labour among refugees remains a visible problem.

Since the 18 March EU-Turkey agreement came into force, there has been a substantial decrease in the number of people attempting the dangerous journey to Greece; 1,488 people reached Greece from Turkey in June 2016, as compared to 31,318 people in June 2015.

On 7 April 2016, the Turkish Government made an amendment to the Temporary Protection Regulation on access to protection to include Syrians who had irregularly travelled to the Greek islands after 20 March 2016 and had been returned to Turkey, regardless of whether they were previously registered in Turkey. Although this latest amendment refers to Syrian nationals, UNHCR has received confirmation from Turkish authorities that all people from Syria, be they citizens, refugees or stateless, will be covered by the provisions of this amendment. Non-Syrians who are returned to Turkey and are in need of international protection must have access to a fair and proper determination of their claims, within a reasonable timeframe.

The first returns to Turkey of people not seeking international protection in Greece took place on 4 April 2016. There have been no new returns under the Greece-Turkey Bilateral Readmission Agreement since 16 June 2016. The total number of returns to Turkey from Greece since 18 March 2016 under the EU-Turkey Statement remains at 468, with the main countries of origin including Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq, India, Morocco, Egypt, Palestine and Algeria. To date, 27 Syrians have voluntarily returned.

People wishing to move onward, including unaccompanied and separated children, are generally unwilling to register with the national authorities or to discuss their intentions. Smugglers and social media are their main sources of information, underlining the need for extensive outreach and communication through different channels and in multiple languages.

Protection of women and girls is a particular concern as risk factors include SGBV (including domestic violence as well as other types of violence taking place *en route*); trafficking and sexual exploitation; smuggling; physical harm, injury and health risks (including as a result of the harsh weather conditions); family separation; and psychological distress.

Turkish national front line institutions have provided people intercepted and rescued with immediate life-saving and basic assistance. Their efforts have been supported by UN partners, the Turkish Red Crescent, and NGOs with food packages, dry clothes, blankets, and hygiene materials, as well as WASH facilities, containers for waiting areas and storage, and interpretation services. NGO partners have also occasionally provided legal counselling to detained people, and conducted surveys and interviews with people on the move, including those apprehended and rescued, to understand their motivations for onward movement and to counsel them on the associated dangers. They have also provided counselling on the protection and services available in Turkey. Furthermore, NGO partners have been engaged in recording incidents of push-backs.

Strategy and coordination

Embedded within the framework of the inter-agency refugee and migrant response, UNHCR's efforts will focus on expanding protection space through advocacy, appropriate supports and strengthened outreach and monitoring.

For the four populations of concern, UNHCR's response will focus, to varying degrees, on the following key areas.

Advocating and strengthening outreach and monitoring to ensure access to territory, non-refoulement of people in need of international protection, legal assistance and alternatives to detention. People with specific needs will be assisted and referred to specialized services, especially women and girls at risk, unaccompanied and separated children and survivors of SGBV.

Improved data collection will be key to understanding the evolving profile and nature of the movement; to enhance communication with people on the move in order to provide targeted information in relevant languages, in particular to people with special needs, including to unaccompanied and separated children and women; and to promote available options.

UNHCR will also ensure access to humanitarian assistance and relevant services, including protection, health and legal assistance to people with specific needs and people at risk, focusing initially on those rescued, apprehended or detained. Ensuring sustainability of responses, UNHCR will further strengthen national institutions with technical and financial support. In particular, UNHCR will support national institutions with the identification of Syrian refugees according to UNHCR resettlement submission categories and vulnerability criteria.

Improved communication with communities, legal assistance and interpretation support will be provided to improve access to information as well as evidence-based programming. Communication and outreach efforts will also focus on informing refugees and asylum-seekers considering onward movement to Europe of the risks that irregular travel to Europe entails; counselling will be provided to those interested in legal opportunities for travel to Europe.

Structural measures aimed at facilitating social integration through the improvement of living standards, access to education and social solidarity for refugees and asylum seekers in Turkey will be put in place.

In the context of resettlement, UNHCR will support relevant authorities with the identification of Syrian refugees according to UNHCR resettlement submission categories and vulnerability criteria.

The Office will continue to support capacity development for government and non-governmental actors to reinforce the national capacity in profiling and registration, and strengthen administrative institutions and practices.

Planned activities in Turkey

Fair protection processes and documentation

Reception conditions improved

- Improve performance of frontline institutions through the provision of specialized training on international protection and human rights of refugees and migrants, interview techniques and protection of specific groups.
- Identify community entry points to populations on the move, provide relevant information, and identify people with specific needs.
- Distribute food items and core relief items to people with specific needs
- Support capacity development for governmental and non-governmental actors involved in assisting and protecting refugees, both at sea and on land.
- Increase monitoring of pre-removal and reception centres.
- Support to national institutions in the identification of refugees according to UNHCR resettlement submission categories and vulnerability criteria in light of increased resettlement to European countries.

Favourable protection environment

Access to territory improved and the risk of refoulement reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct strategic advocacy in coordination with government and civil society partners, on all issues related to safe and effective access to asylum procedures and solutions. Develop communication tools to strengthen outreach and communication with people of concern. Increase monitoring of border movements, trends and patterns.
Access to legal assistance and remedies improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide targeted capacity-building support to national asylum authorities Support the recruitment of interpreters to reinforce the national capacity in profiling and registration.
Administrative institutions and practice developed or strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure specialized equipment to strengthen national capacity for identification, screening, and registration of people of concern Support the Migration Advisory Board to assess trends and develop its policy response. Provide asylum capacity-building activities to relevant authorities. Enhance emergency training on migration management, including through Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration programs (AVRR) and to counter-trafficking.

Financial requirements for Turkey (USD)

	2016 ExCom-revised budget for the response to Europe crisis	Revised supplementary requirements	Revised total requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	189,285	6,067,914	6,257,199
Reception conditions improved	189,285	6,067,914	6,257,199
Favourable protection environment	73,130	2,344,317	2,417,447
Access to the territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced	16,330	523,488	539,818
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	35,500	1,138,018	1,173,518
Administrative institutions and practice developed or strengthened	21,300	682,811	704,111
Subtotal	262,415	8,412,232	8,674,647
Support costs (7%)	-	588,856	588,856
TOTAL	262,415	9,001,088	9,263,503

GREECE

Existing response

According to official data from the Government of Greece, over 850,000 refugees and migrants arrived on its territory in 2015, primarily by sea from Turkey and from the Aegean islands. However, most of these arrivals moved onwards through the Balkans to Western and Northern Europe. The vast majority (90 per cent) were from the world's top ten refugee-producing countries, primarily from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. The percentage of people with specific needs increased, with women and children making up 60 per cent of the arriving population in 2016 compared to 47 per cent in 2015.

Daily average arrivals reduced substantially following the implementation of the March 2016 EU-Turkey statement : in May and June 2016 an average of 56 and 50 arrivals respectively per day were recorded, as compared to an average of 4,650 and 3,333 daily arrivals in November and December 2015, respectively. The effective closure of the Western Balkans route in March 2016 resulted in an increase in the remaining population in Greece, and with refugees and migrants in Greece now divided into two categories subject to different administrative treatment.

Those who arrived on the islands in Greece prior to 20 March have been almost fully transferred to the mainland and are in principle entitled to registration and asylum procedures, family reunification where appropriate, and the possibility to benefit from the relocation scheme for some asylum-seekers.⁸

The protection regime for those who arrived after 20 March, following the implementation of the EU-Turkey statement, has not been fully clarified. However, in theory, arrivals of all nationalities will be screened for admissibility into the Greek asylum-system (based on the concept of Turkey as a safe third country, or first country of asylum), and those deemed admissible should be transferred from the island to the Greek mainland to continue their asylum processing. Those deemed inadmissible would be returned to Turkey, where Syrian nationals could reacquire (or acquire for the first time) temporary protection under the Temporary Protection regulation, and non-Syrians are registered as asylum-seekers (if they so desire) and assisted accordingly. Processing for all cases should take approximately 28 days in the RIC/hotspots on the islands, with specific procedures for cases considered vulnerable (as outlined in Greek legislation).

All individuals who arrived on the Greek islands after 20 March with the intention to seek asylum, who thereafter wish to forgo their asylum claim and return to Turkey, or to their country of origin (provided it is deemed safe to be returned) can request to do so at any time (whether through IOM or a bilateral return agreement between the country of origin and Turkey). The majority of non-Syrians who arrived after 20 March have not been processed by the Greek government, while all Syrian nationals so far processed have gone through admissibility proceedings.

As of 6 July 2016, according to Greek Government figures, there are 42,084 refugees and migrants hosted in over 44 sites throughout mainland Greece. The standards of the sites on the mainland and the quality and scope of services offered in each site vary greatly. Further improvements and scaling up of services are required to ensure refugees and asylum-seekers benefit from safe and dignified reception conditions. Essential protection services are still lacking, including appropriate facilities for children, prevention and response to SGBV, identification and assistance to people with specific needs (including victims of trafficking) and access to legal information and solutions. Provision of information on SGBV and awareness about referral pathways is a gap that needs addressing.

⁸ The EU relocation scheme applies to applicants of nationalities with an EU-wide average recognition rate of 75% or higher. On the basis of statistics of the last quarter in 2015, this would apply to applicants with the following nationalities: Bahrain (100%), Swaziland (100%), Trinidad and Tobago (100%), Syria (98%), Yemen (88%), Iraq (88%), Eritrea (87%) and the Central African Republic (85%).

Similarly, there are challenges with the situation in closed reception facilities on the islands. In addition, wherever children — accompanied and unaccompanied — are accommodated with adults in sub-standard facilities. Unaccompanied children are subject to detention as they are put in protective custody, which generally takes the form of either police custody or detention in a separate area within the Hotspots.

From a response targeting people on the move, UNHCR reviewed its priorities to focus on a static population living in an urban context and being hosted in emergency sites or existing buildings. UNHCR has supported the establishment of coordination mechanisms on the islands and the mainland to ensure a timely, coordinated and efficient response.

Activities focused *inter alia* on strengthening first-line reception, providing support to pre-registration exercise and to temporary accommodation facilities, identification of people with specific needs and their referral to relevant services, as well as the provision of protection-centred humanitarian assistance. In particular, efforts are made to ensure that people with specific needs, including unaccompanied and separated children, survivors of SGBV, pregnant and lactating women, people with mental or physical disabilities are referred to appropriate services.

Strategy and coordination

The Government of Greece assumes the overall leadership and coordination for the response to the emergency. The coordination mechanisms strive to ensure an effective, predictable and coherent response to the protection and assistance needs of refugees and migrants. Currently, 197 partners are involved in the response on the islands and mainland Greece.

The Government set up an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Body composed of seven ministries primarily responsible for the response, and chaired by the Alternate Minister of Defence. In addition, coordination structures at the national and sub-national levels are operational to promote a consistent but decentralised level of coordination.

Following the RCM, national-level sector and technical working groups are established for protection, including child protection and SGBV, communication with communities, food, health and nutrition, shelter and NFIs, cash-based interventions, site management support (SMS), education and WASH. These groups meet weekly to develop and manage sector response plans, ensure emergency preparedness, promote standards and good practices, manage information and ensure accountability to affected populations. Under the overall leadership of the Government, with UNHCR and NGOs as co-chairs, the working groups assist the authorities in ensuring a timely and coordinated response.

As further detailed in the RMRP, UNHCR's activities as part of the inter-agency response cover seven sectors: protection; education; site management support; health and nutrition; food security; shelter and non-food items; and WASH. Logistics and transport are mainstreamed throughout the sectors.

The protection of populations at risk is a primary concern underlying all other components of UNHCR's response. Steps will be taken to reduce the protection risks for people of concern, including those with particular needs such as unaccompanied and separated children, survivors of SGBV, pregnant and lactating women, youth, people with disabilities, and elderly refugees. Best Interest Assessments and Best Interest Determination for children will be strengthened through the provision of appropriate technical support.

To facilitate evidence-based decision making and programme planning, UNHCR maintains a comprehensive information management system which is updated on the data portal and includes, *inter alia*, daily-updated online maps of sites, an indicator-based site profile, a country-wide 3/4W overview (who does what, where, and when), protection profiling which is updated monthly, and other relevant information products.

In close coordination with the relevant authorities and partners, UNHCR's operations will focus on ensuring:

- 1) Safe and dignified access to territory;
- 2) Support to access to asylum;
- 3) Support to access to solutions;
- 4) Protection-centred humanitarian assistance, including access to dignified and safe reception and accommodation, with particular attention to prioritizing support to people with specific needs, using community-based approaches and two-way feedback mechanisms;
- 5) Access to adequate reception conditions and alternatives to detention, specifically for people with specific needs; and
- 6) Access to comprehensive, audience-specific information, effective protection and legal counselling.

UNHCR is working closely with key EU institutions, such as the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) and Frontex in ensuring refugees and asylum-seekers have access to asylum, access to protection-centred assistance and solutions including safe and dignified reception conditions, and access to relocation and family reunification where relevant.

Acknowledging that a vast majority of the sites are in urban areas, cash-based interventions will be implemented where appropriate and are integrated in the response strategy. Any food/cash assistance will need to be carefully tailored and linked to involving and benefitting local host communities from such interventions. Currently, cash-based interventions have been focused on meeting basic needs. It is expected that, where feasible and appropriate, there will be a move from in-kind to a cash-based modalities for assistance. This approach will be linked, where feasible, with a multi-sector/purpose approach and with a complementary strategy to support local communities. UNHCR and partners will ensure that cash-based interventions are carried out with a protection-centred approach and coordination with all partners involved.

Communication with communities based on an age, gender and diversity approach will also be an integral part of all activities. Cultural and language specific information and awareness campaigns in particular with regard to questions of asylum, rights and obligations and provision of services will need to be expanded further in the coming months. Interpretation and translation services will be essential for all activities involving refugees and migrants residing on the islands and mainland given their diverse range of nationalities, cultures and ethnicities.

Planned activities in Greece

Basic needs and essential services	
Population has sufficient basic and domestic items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Procure core relief items and support the Greek Government with site management and related activities such as the establishment of catering services.
Sanitation and hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construct community sanitary facilities/latrines in order to ensure that people of concern have access to potable water and hygiene facilities.
Services for people with specific needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide specialised support to people of concern with specific needs and survivors of incidents at sea, including psycho-social support and differentiated treatment.
Shelter and infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Procurement of prefabricated containers and rubhalls and establishment of hotel

accommodation services in the context of the increased capacity scheme.

Fair protection processes and documentation

Reception conditions improved

- Support the 'hotspot' relocation process and establish 20,000 reception places⁹ for relocation candidates and some asylum-seekers with specific needs.
- Establish and improve existing infrastructure for reception, registration and accommodation.
- Provide technical support including translators to EASO.
- Monitor detention facilities and follow up as needed.
- Identify appropriate and safe shelter options for all people, most notably those with disabilities, people with specific needs, single-headed households and unaccompanied and separated children.
- Explore appropriate shelter and site planning designs for longer-term housing.
- Support the development, implementation and dissemination of minimum standards and standard operating procedures through capacity-building at the national, sub-national and site-level.
- Identify, monitor and advocate for filling of identified gaps in standards and/or services provided at various sites.
- Provide training on the management of reception facilities.
- Identify and refer people with specific needs to appropriate assistance and specialized services.
- Distribute core relief items to people with specific needs.
- Ensure weather-appropriateness of sites and shelter, as necessary.

Access to and quality of refugee status determination improved

- Ensure transportation to reception and registration centres.

Level of individual documentation improved

- Support the Greek Government in assisting asylum seekers and pre-registration of people in need of international protection, and ensure registration exercises are conducted in line with international standards.

Quality of registration and profiling improved

- Continue supporting the provision of information procedures on legal rights and obligations to new arrivals on the basis of a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Reception and Identification Service/Ministry of Migration Policy.
- Carry out monitoring activities in closed or open facilities.

⁹ It is noted that the term 'hotspot' is not referenced in Greek law. The purpose of hotspots and the activities carried out inside them are equivalent to the Reception and Identification Centres (RICs) under the Reception and Identification Service (RIS), which are defined and part of Greek law (formerly known as First Reception Centre (FRC) under the First Reception Service (FRS)). However, the term 'hotspot' is widely known and used and is therefore maintained where relevant in this plan.

Favourable protection environment

Public attitude towards people of concern improved

Access to territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced

International and regional instruments acceded to, ratified, or strengthened

- Support local initiatives to reduce xenophobia and hostility towards people of concern.
- Ensure border monitoring through the deployment of dedicated personnel and cross-border coordination and information-sharing.
- Provide training to border authorities on refugee rights and protection.
- Provide information to refugees on their rights, responsibilities and available assistance.
- Advocate for alternatives to detention and monitor detention conditions in accordance with humanitarian standards.
- Build the capacity of national authorities and stakeholders to ensure that international and national obligations are respected.
- Employ judicial engagement to prevent refoulement and unlawful detention of people seeking international protection.

Security from violence and exploitation

Protection of children strengthened

Risk of SGBV reduced and quality of response improved

- Ensure the identification of unaccompanied and separated children and provision of appropriate assistance.
- Ensure child-friendly environment in reception areas and establish recreational and learning opportunities.
- Ensure outreach to children to communicate information on their rights to family reunification, asylum and durable solutions, as well as basic services.
- Build capacity of SGBV actors including training and coaching of the Government and partners.
- Provide information on SGBV and referral pathways through awareness-raising campaigns and mainstreaming of SGBV components in all sectoral interventions.
- Establish an individual case management system and referral for survivors of SGBV survivors in all sites.

Community empowerment and self-reliance

Community mobilization strengthened and expanded

- Strengthen community mobilization to identify, analyse, prioritize and prevent protection risks and assure referral for people of concern with specific needs.
- Provide psychosocial training for responders to better assist refugees with trauma.

Logistics and operations support

Operation management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized.

- Increase operational management capacity through the deployment of multi-functional teams.

Durable solutions

Potential for integration realized

- Mobilize and support authorities, NGOs and other actors to provide services and aid to asylum-seekers remaining in Greece.

Community empowerment and self-reliance

Community mobilisation strengthened and expanded

- Employ field teams in the main camps and support site management and protection aspects through mobile teams.
- Engage with communities, establishing direct communication with the very basic refugee structures, also motivating women and youth involvement.
- Promote accountability to refugees, by putting in place feedback mechanisms.
- Promote participatory assessments in all sites to plan UNHCR and partner activities.

Leadership, coordination and partnerships

Camp management and coordination refined and improved

- Ensure that formal and informal sites are safe, dignified, equitable and up to minimum standards.
- Develop guidelines and technical minimum standards for sites and settlements in line with existing policy guidelines and relevant government legal obligations.
- Explore more long term, spatially and culturally appropriate shelter options, adapted to local climatic conditions.

Emergency management strengthened

- Optimize early warning, preparedness and contingency planning mechanisms.

Logistics and operations support

Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized

- Provide logistics support and coordination.
- Provide updated and timely situation updates in form of factsheets, maps with information on who is doing what where, and other relevant information supporting coordination.

Financial requirements for Greece (USD)

	2016 ExCom-revised budget for the response to the Europe crisis	Revised supplementary requirements	Revised total requirements
Basic needs and essential services	-	32,583,322	32,583,322
Population has sufficient basic and domestic items	-	12,605,053	12,605,053
Population lives in satisfactory conditions of sanitation and hygiene	-	2,006,084	2,006,084
Services for persons with specific needs strengthened	-	6,948,756	6,948,756
Shelter and infrastructure established, improved and maintained	-	11,023,429	11,023,429
Fair protection processes and documentation	431,811	183,476,325	183,908,136
Reception conditions improved	-	143,657,315	143,657,315
Access to and quality of status determination procedures improved	431,811	14,077,113	14,508,924
Level of individual documentation increased	-	13,250,361	13,250,361
Quality of registration and profiling improved	-	12,491,536	12,491,536
Security from violence and exploitation	8,279	22,938,017	22,946,296
Protection of children strengthened	8,279	18,883,857	18,892,136
Protection from effects of armed conflict strengthened	-	1,960,897	1,960,897
Risk of SGBV is reduced and quality of response improved	-	2,093,263	2,093,263
Favourable protection environment	38,636	8,845,498	8,884,134
Access to the territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced	36,722	5,149,955	5,186,677
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	-	2,017,709	2,017,709
Public attitude towards persons of concern improved	1,914	1,677,834	1,679,748
Durable solutions	-	8,834,332	8,834,332
Potential for integration realized	-	8,834,332	8,834,332
Community empowerment and self-reliance	-	2,096,782	2,096,782
Community mobilisation strengthened and expanded	-	2,096,782	2,096,782
Leadership, coordination and partnerships	-	5,151,599	5,151,599
Camp management and coordination refined and improved	-	3,487,920	3,487,920
Emergency management strengthened	-	1,663,679	1,663,679
Logistics and operations support	11,039	16,122,850	16,133,889
Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	11,039	16,122,850	16,133,889
Subtotal	489,765	280,048,725	280,538,490
Support costs (7%)	-	19,603,411	19,603,411
TOTAL	489,765	299,652,136	300,141,901

THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, SERBIA, CROATIA AND SLOVENIA

Existing response

The Western Balkans route effectively closed with the imposition of strict border controls on 7 March 2016. Following the implementation of the EU-Turkey statement, a small number of refugees and asylum-seekers—primarily from Syria and Afghanistan—remain in the countries along the route. Irregular movements into and out of the Western Balkans continue, mainly along the original route of early 2015. As a result, as of 27 July 2016, 251 people remain in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; 3,000 in Serbia; 583 in Croatia; and 662 in Slovenia, for a total of 4,498 people.

Border monitoring indicates that smuggling networks have adapted to the changed circumstances, but the pre-existing route through along the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Hungary remains that most travelled by those trying to reach Western and Northern Europe. Since April 2016, 100-200 daily arrivals have continuously been reported in Hungary and Austria while Serbia receives an estimated 300 arrivals per day. This further suggests that only a portion of people moving through this route remains in the Western Balkans countries, mainly in Serbia. It is therefore expected that, until the end of the year, the figure of those remaining in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Croatia and Slovenia will not grow significantly, while up to 4,500 could be present in Serbia given the limitations for onward movement due to the daily admission caps implemented by Hungary.

In this context, the exposure of people on the move to smugglers and traffickers will continue to exacerbate existing protection concerns. More specifically, despite the significant reduction in the numbers of populations of concern compared to 2015, needs will remain high as people utilizing green border crossings are expected to be at heightened risk of detention, abuse, exploitation and various forms of physical violence. In addition, national reception and asylum capacities have yet to fully adapt to the new situation.

Strategy and coordination

UNHCR has continued to provide assistance, including food, water, NFIs and other types of aid to people in need, although a gradual shift towards a less assistance-oriented response has taken place as a result of the changed operational context.

In particular, the operational focus in countries along the former Western Balkans route has shifted towards building stronger protection systems and the response now focuses on:

- 1) Provision of support to authorities to establish and maintain protection-sensitive entry mechanisms, and to make access to territory safer specifically to identify and assist people with specific needs in the context of increased irregular movements;
- 2) Strengthen national capacities and systems to ensure equal access to fair and efficient asylum procedures as well as access to legal assistance, protection services and referral to relevant services;
- 3) Continue efforts to strengthen local support for refugees, including through targeted interventions supporting host communities;
- 4) Facilitate access to durable solutions for populations remaining in-country, including integration.

In light of the increased need for assistance in Greece and Turkey, UNHCR has undertaken a restructuring of operations in the Western Balkans. Staff, financial and material resources have been transferred to Greece and, to a lesser extent, Turkey in a bid to remain as agile and responsive to the situation as possible. For instance, identified staff with relevant profiles have already shifted to operations in Greece. Similarly, surplus NFIs and financial resources have been transferred.

Coordination mechanisms in the four countries differ slightly but remain primarily within the responsibility of the Governments. In each of the four countries, the inter-agency response is led by a different Government body: the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia); the Ministry of Labour, Social Policy and Veterans (Serbia) ; the Ministries of Interior in Croatia and Slovenia.

The RCM has been established in all four countries and UN country teams – in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia—provide additional fora for coordination.

Working groups have been established in all four countries to ensure refugee-related activities are well-coordinated between the Government and humanitarian partners. In line with the differing sizes of populations of concern and needs in the four countries, the number and scope of the working groups differ. UNHCR leads coordination meetings in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (shelter/NFIs; WASH; food); in Serbia, four Government-led sectoral working groups have been established (refugee protection; shelter/NFIs/WASH; health/food/nutrition; local community support). In Croatia and in Slovenia, refugee protection working groups have been established. In addition, Slovenia maintains a Relocation Sub-Working Group, as well as a working group focusing on SGBV.

Closer coordination with UN agencies, international and national NGOs supported by civil society, including volunteers, has also been established through the RMRP.

Planned activities in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Fair protection processes and documentation

Reception conditions improved

- Support the Government to ensure adequate reception facilities and humanitarian emergency assistance are in place.
- Maintain access to basic humanitarian assistance, including food and NFIs, at the reception centres in Gevgelija and Tabanovce.
- In cooperation with the Government, plan for longer-term accommodation facilities as needed.
- Strengthen the provision of first aid and primary health care.
- Maintain WASH facilities including showers, separate toilet blocks for men and women, special facilities for people with disabilities, and special baby bathing facilities.
- Strengthen hygiene awareness to address the needs of people on the move.
- Strengthen waste management.

Quality of registration and profiling improved

- Build capacity of the national authorities to carry out identification, referral and assistance of the most vulnerable

Favourable protection environment

Access to territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced

- Maintain protection monitoring at key entry and exit points, regular detention monitoring and advocate for referrals to relevant national protection mechanisms.
- Provide legal counselling and advice, particularly on complex legal questions concerning asylum systems in Europe, domestic legislation and the international protection framework.

<p>Access to legal assistance and remedies improved</p> <p>Public attitude towards people of concern improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build the capacities of authorities and partners to enable early identification of people with specific needs, including unaccompanied and separated children, enable access to refugee status determination mechanisms and ensure systematic referrals to specialized services. ▪ Strengthen national asylum procedures and ensure access to these procedures. ▪ Provide legal assistance to people seeking international protection through partner the Macedonian Young Lawyer Association (MYLA). ▪ Reunite families and the restore family links. ▪ Continue a tolerance and solidarity campaign to increase support for refugees that will help in maintaining protection space.
<p>Security from violence and exploitation</p>	
<p>Protection of children</p> <p>Prevention of and response to SGBV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify unaccompanied and separated children and conduct family tracing and reunification to restore family links. ▪ Conduct child-friendly activities and further facilitate the identification of children in need of further assistance. ▪ Develop and ensure implementation of national standard operating procedures for referrals, including for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. ▪ Provide a range of services including legal assistance, information, and psychosocial and health services. ▪ Strengthen psychosocial support through outreach teams, social workers and protection staff to assist survivors and people at risk in a confidential and dignified manner. ▪ Enhance access to protection services for minors (including unaccompanied minors), women, girls and victims of sexual violence. ▪ Raise awareness of, and provide information to refugees and asylum-seekers on protection risks, in particular related to SGBV, as well as legal redress.
<p>Logistics and operations support</p>	
<p>Operation management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fulfil UNHCR's leadership role in line with the RCM, and support the Government in its primary protection responsibility. ▪ Provide updated and timely information on who is doing what, where, as well as maps, weekly operational updates, factsheets and other informational products to facilitate a coordinated response.

Financial requirements for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	39,650	2,573,142	2,612,792
Reception conditions improved	39,650	2,281,918	2,321,568
Quality of registration and profiling improved	-	291,224	291,224
Security from violence and exploitation	46,462	842,642	889,104
Protection of children strengthened	18,179	577,459	595,638
Risk of SGBV is reduced and quality of response improved	28,283	265,183	293,466
Favourable protection environment	123,583	1,585,107	1,708,690
Access to the territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced	37,217	878,283	915,500
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	55,735	473,544	529,279
Public attitude towards persons of concern improved	30,631	233,280	263,911
Durable solutions	45,268	-	45,268
Potential for integration realized	45,268	-	45,268
Logistics and operations support	56,118	618,836	674,954
Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	56,118	618,836	674,954
Subtotal	311,081	5,619,727	5,930,808
Support costs (7%)	-	393,381	393,381
TOTAL	311,081	6,013,108	6,324,190

Planned activities in Serbia

Fair protection processes and documentation

Reception conditions improved

- Support the Government to meet applicable reception/accommodation standards.
- Continue to provide humanitarian assistance (food, water, NFIs) especially to people with specific needs.
- Coordinate WASH actors to improve conditions in several locations as needed identified by the Government.
- Provide medical support to a limited number of people presenting specific needs.

Quality of registration and profiling improved

- Build capacity of national authorities to carry out identification, referral and assistance of the most vulnerable.

Favourable protection environment

Access to territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strengthen border monitoring mechanisms to ensure access to asylum and protection systems. Maintain a pool of interpreters to improve communication with refugees and facilitate implementation of activities in various locations.
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to provide information to refugees related to accessing the asylum system and availability of services/assistance, as well as Age Gender Diversity mainstreaming in all implemented activities.
Public attitude towards people of concern improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strengthen cooperation with national authorities, civil society to promote peaceful coexistence between local and refugee population.

Security from violence and exploitation

Protection of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify unaccompanied and separated children and ensure their access to effective protection and assistance, in coordination with national responsible authorities and UNICEF.In partnership with UNICEF and the Department of Social Welfare, develop a comprehensive mechanism for identifying and responding to child protection concerns in the context of the emergency.Through the Child Protection Sub-Working Group, chaired by UNICEF, identify emerging issues and trends impacting children, ensure that the response is sensitive to child protection concerns, and that information regarding asylum procedures and trafficking risks accessible to children.
Prevention of and response to SGBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure effective identification, reporting and response mechanisms to respond to people with specific needs, cases of exploitation, trafficking or abuse.Mitigate the risk of SGBV when planning WASH, shelter, health and registration interventions, prioritizing the safety of women, girls, men, and boys in the design/planning of all sites designated for service provision.Provide accurate and timely information on asylum procedures and other relevant information to ensure people are informed of their rights and obligations to reduce the influence of smugglers and traffickers.

Logistics and operations support

Operation management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">In accordance with the RCM, provide coordination support within different sectors in order to complement the national authority and civil society efforts to respond to the refugees' need and the UNHCR Regional Refugee Protection Strategy.Support the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy and the Serbian
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Logistics and supply optimized to serve operational needs

Commissioner for Refugees in contingency planning.

- Maintain regional warehouse stockpile including for contingency purpose; transfer to operations in need as required.

Financial requirements for Serbia (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	235,900	4,537,869	4,773,769
Reception conditions improved	115,900	4,139,867	4,255,767
Access to and quality of status determination procedures improved	120,000	-	120,000
Quality of registration and profiling improved	-	398,002	398,002
Security from violence and exploitation	39,740	2,288,579	2,328,319
Protection of children strengthened	13,943	1,723,451	1,737,394
Risk of SGBV is reduced and quality of response improved	25,797	565,128	590,925
Favourable protection environment	172,682	2,042,851	2,215,533
Access to the territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced	90,951	398,002	488,953
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	39,918	1,169,854	1,209,772
Public attitude towards persons of concern improved	41,813	474,995	516,808
Logistics and operations support	31,912	620,852	652,764
Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	31,912	484,464	516,376
Logistics and supply optimized to serve operational needs	-	136,388	136,388
Subtotal	480,234	9,490,150	9,970,384
Support costs (7%)	-	664,311	664,311
TOTAL	480,234	10,154,461	10,634,695

Planned activities in Croatia

Fair protection processes and documentation

Reception conditions improved

- Continue supporting the Government to provide adequate accommodation and supporting services to people of concern (legal, social, etc.)
- Provide limited core relief items to refugees, particularly people with specific needs.
- Ensure adequate numbers of interpreters are available to assist people of concern as relevant.

Favourable protection environment

Access to territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced

- Maintain safe access to territory for refugees. Provide accurate and timely information on asylum.
- Maintain protection monitoring at all key (and potential) points of transit along the border through the use of Mobile Teams.
- Implement capacity building activities for UNHCR staff, police, border authorities, other institutions and organizations and other stakeholders involved in the response.

Public attitude towards people of concern improved

- Undertake communication and public awareness campaigns conducted to sensitise the public towards migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees.

Security from violence and exploitation

Protection of children strengthened

- Identify and assist in improving the reception and protection of unaccompanied minors.

Risk of SGBV is reduced and quality of response improved

- Ensure that prevention and response to SGBV is integrated in all sectors of the humanitarian response.
- Provide training on PSEA to institutions and organizations involved in the response.

Logistics and operations support

Operation management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized

- Ensure sufficient warehousing and logistics capacity through the Croatian Red Cross for the NFI/CRI stock balance from Croatia and Slovenia until shipments are organised to the operations in need.

Financial requirements for Croatia (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	-	287,358	287,358
Reception conditions improved	-	287,358	287,358
Security from violence and exploitation	6,736	444,716	451,452
Protection of children strengthened	4,491	235,474	239,965
Risk of SGBV is reduced and quality of response improved	2,245	209,242	211,487
Favourable protection environment	85,326	898,789	983,545
Access to the territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced	52,454	671,176	723,630
Public attitude towards persons of concern improved	32,872	227,042	259,914
Logistics and operations support	-	305,569	305,569
Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	-	305,569	305,569
Subtotal	92,062	1,935,862	2,027,924
Support costs (7%)	-	135,510	135,510
TOTAL	92,062	2,071,372	2,163,434

Planned activities in Slovenia

Fair protection processes and documentation

Reception conditions improved

- Monitor reception facilities and advocate for adequate reception conditions particularly for people with special needs.
- Identify people with specific needs and ensure access to relevant support mechanisms is guaranteed, including the implementation of child protection measures and functioning standard operating procedures for survivors and people at risk of SGBV.
- Facilitate capacity building of Government and NGO personnel involved in the provision of reception conditions.
- Enhance partnership with Government counterparts, partners and civil society to ensure effective coordination of the response.

Favourable protection environment

Access to territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced

- Monitor safe access to the territory and ensure access to asylum process.
- Provide information on access to protection and asylum procedures in Slovenia.
- Ensure the identification of people in need of international protection in mixed migration flows.
- Provide interpretation services on ad hoc basis to facilitate communication with people with specific needs.

Public attitude towards people of concern improved

- Undertake communication and public awareness campaigns conducted to sensitise the public towards migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees.

Security from violence and exploitation

Protection of children

- Identify children at risk, including unaccompanied and separated children and ensure access to appropriate support mechanisms.
- Advocate for effective identification and support for children with specific needs.

Prevention of and response to SGBV

- Provide information and tools to prevent SGBV.
- Identify SGBV survivors and ensure access to relevant protection, referral and support.

Logistics and operations support

Operation management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized

- Support the Government in its primary coordination role.

Financial requirements for Slovenia (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Security from violence and exploitation	-	1,010,540	1,010,540
Protection of children strengthened	-	542,388	542,388
Risk of SGBV is reduced and quality of response improved	-	468,151	468,151
Favourable protection environment	-	2,061,098	2,061,098
Access to the territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced	-	1,577,542	1,577,542
Public attitude towards persons of concern improved	-	483,556	483,556
Logistics and operations support	-	362,406	362,406
Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	-	362,406	362,406
Subtotal	-	3,434,044	3,434,044
Support costs (7%)	-	240,383	240,383
TOTAL	-	3,674,427	3,674,427

NORTHERN, WESTERN, CENTRAL, SOUTHERN AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

Existing response

Following the movement of over 1 million refugees and migrants to Europe in 2015, Governments in Northern, Western, Central and South-eastern Europe have been faced with increasing challenges in identifying reception space, reinforcing registration and asylum processing capacities, strengthening protection, in particular for those with specific needs, and identifying durable solutions for populations of concern remaining.

UNHCR regional offices in Budapest, Sarajevo, Brussels and Rome provide support to operations in the different regions. Building on intra-regional exchange of best practices, the regional offices will continue to provide guidance and assistance with information management, analysis, and the early identification of changes in arrival trends.

Given the already existing and possibly increasing fragmentation of the Western Balkans route, UNHCR has stepped up its presence, monitoring and advocacy in the most concerned countries in Central and South-Eastern Europe, namely Hungary, Albania and Bulgaria. In Hungary, a field unit was established in the southern town of Szeged to closely monitor the situation at the Hungarian-Serbian border as well as the asylum and the detention centres. The team based in Szeged monitors the transit zones of Röszke and Tompa areas on a daily basis, providing information and protection services to people of concerns, including free legal aid through partners. Similarly, a small field unit has been established in the southern Albanian town of Gjirokastra to monitor the border crossing with Greece. In Bulgaria, UNHCR maintains a regular presence through mobile teams and partners, ensuring systematic protection, detention and border monitoring.

In Northern, Western, Central, Southern and South-eastern Europe, UNHCR advocates with Governments to ensure adequate reception facilities, access to registration processes and fair and efficient asylum procedures.

In Northern Europe, protection of children has been significantly strengthened through strategic guidance and training. However, the exceptionally high number of unaccompanied and separated children in Sweden and Norway made it difficult for the authorities to meet the children's protection needs. To better assess the needs of the beneficiaries, UNHCR supported and implemented several important surveys and translated the findings into recommendations. UNHCR continues to work with governments in this respect.

In Western Europe, UNHCR has been focussing on supporting the Humanitarian Admissions Programmes, strengthening reception capacity and referral systems and advocacy. Through additional staffing, a permanent presence has been set up in Calais (France). In Germany, UNHCR supported the Government through the deployment of an RSD expert.

In Southern Europe, UNHCR supports Government authorities in receiving and assisting people of concern. In Italy UNHCR is present in the hotspots and first line reception centres to carry out monitoring and further strengthen information provision to people of concern. Furthermore, UNHCR bolstered child protection in Italy to strengthen the protection of unaccompanied and separated children. Additional multimedia materials and reports on rescue at sea, reception, integration, and relocation under the EU plan have been produced. Strong public information capacity will be maintained until the end of 2016 to ensure coverage in Southern Italy and Sicily through frequent missions.

In Spain, monitoring of access to territory and procedure needed strengthening and four affiliate workforce staff based in the enclaves (Melilla/Ceuta) were hired to ensure border monitoring and prevent push backs.

Strategy and coordination

Across the sub-regions, UNHCR will carry out regular protection monitoring at border points and at reception, registration and accommodation facilities to prevent push-backs and reduce the risk of refoulement. Capacity building of border authorities, government agencies and other personnel will also be undertaken to better identify people in need of international protection.

In partnership and coordination with governments, and under the framework of the regional RMRP, the Office will implement protection and solutions interventions as required. In response to the large numbers of unaccompanied and separated children and people with specific vulnerabilities affected by the current crisis, UNHCR will ensure that procedures are put in place to assist people with specific needs, and that accessible family reunification procedures are in place. The needs of people of concern in detention will also be addressed, including by facilitating legal aid and psychosocial support.

In Northern Europe UNHCR continues working towards improving access to asylum and territory through border monitoring, capacity building of border guards, and improved access to procedures.

On the basis of regular monitoring, UNHCR will engage in advocacy activities with central and local authorities to promote access to territory, durable solutions and alternative forms of admission, appropriate reception conditions and alternatives to detention. The Office will also contribute to the development of national strategies and action plans on integration.

In Germany, the Office will provide individual, accurate and timely information to people of concern on the asylum process and procedures. UNHCR will also continue to support the German Government's Humanitarian Admissions Programme. In Austria, UNHCR will contribute to the improvement of asylum procedures and support the implementation of the Government's private sponsorship programme. Protection monitoring, specifically with regards to the decision practices on asylum applications will be carried out as will border monitoring to prevent push-backs and reduce the risk of refoulement.

UNHCR's operational response in Southern Europe (covering activities in Andorra, Cyprus, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, and San Marino) will support the EU's relocation efforts from Italy, while also working towards the establishment of adequate reception conditions and procedures that are sensitive to the specific needs of asylum-seekers and refugees. In addition, UNHCR will ensure regular presence in the Spanish enclaves, monitoring access to territory and procedures and counteracting the increasingly negative and xenophobic media portrayals of refugees, particularly in countries receiving refugees through the relocation scheme.

Planned activities in Northern Western, Central, Southern and South Eastern Europe

Fair protection processes and documentation

Reception conditions improved

- Monitor border and reception facilities.
- Implement protection and solutions interventions as required, including for children and other vulnerable individuals.
- Facilitate access to legal aid and psychosocial support for people of concern in detention.
- Advocate for access to territory and alternatives to detention.
- Procure relief items in preparation for potential influxes in South-eastern countries to cover up to 1,000 people per country.

<p>Access to and quality of status determination procedures improved</p> <p>Family reunifications achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct protection monitoring at registration, reception and processing points. ▪ Ensure provision of accurate information to people of concern on refugee rights, responsibilities, and the asylum system and procedure. ▪ Ensure that special procedures for people with specific needs are put in place and that unaccompanied and separated children and family reunification are prioritised in the system. ▪ In Germany, establish an information hotline, provide individual counselling for up to 650 individuals by phone, and respond to over 800 emails per year. ▪ Advocate for flexible and accessible family reunification procedures. ▪ Facilitate and promote family reunification and further develop cooperation with partners in Europe including the Red Cross/Red Crescent societies to support family reunification.
<p>Favourable protection environment</p>	
<p>Access to territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced</p> <p>Law and policy developed or strengthened</p> <p>Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved</p> <p>Public attitude towards people of concern improved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitor access to territory and procedures through regular presence in Spain. ▪ Increase monitoring in Northern Europe, and oversee the capacity strengthening of border guards to identify people in need of international protection and prevent push backs and refoulement. ▪ Undertake a participatory assessment of the implementation of the German Humanitarian Admission Programme for people fleeing the conflict in Syria. ▪ Train legal service providers and partners. ▪ Train adjudicators at the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. ▪ Provide training for lawyers, procedural counsellors, judges, guardians for unaccompanied and separated children and youth welfare offices. ▪ Enhance public communication activities to maintain or expand current protection space.
<p>Security from violence and exploitation</p>	
<p>Protection of children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carry out a mapping exercise in the region to better understand the scope and nature of the protection issues facing unaccompanied and separated children and better respond to their needs.

Durable solutions

Potential for integration realized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Contribute to the development of national strategies and action plans on integration.▪ Promote cross-fertilization of good practices between the countries in the sub-region.▪ Advocate for improved access to Europe's labour market for people of concern.▪ Research the needs, strategies and good practices on successful integration and establish and/or support a network for integration projects at the local and federal level.
Potential for resettlement realised	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Advocate for resettlement and alternative forms of admission in the region.▪ Support governments to implement resettlement and alternative forms of admission programmes.

Community empowerment and self-reliance

Community mobilization strengthened and expanded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Undertake a mapping and outreach exercise to strengthen community partnerships.▪ Assess the viability of alternative admissions programmes including private sponsorship programmes, student visa programmes and others followed through outreach to NGOs, governments, local authorities, education institutes, and the private sector.
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Logistics and operations support

Operation management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Facilitate the distribution of relief items to Albania, Montenegro, Kosovo, and Bosnia and Herzegovina in the event of movements to these countries.
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Headquarters and regional support

Early warning and contingency planning mechanisms optimized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Strengthening evidence-based planning and implementation and improving UNHCR's preparedness and response.
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Financial requirements for Northern Western, Central, Southern and South-eastern Europe (USD)

	2016 ExCom-revised budget for the response to the Europe crisis	New supplementary requirements	Revised requirements for various countries
Fair protection processes and documentation	406,311	3,109,489	3,515,801
Reception conditions improved	342,365	1,889,987	2,232,352
Access to and quality of status determination procedures improved	35,169	626,745	661,914
Family reunification achieved	28,777	592,757	621,535
Security from violence and exploitation	22,382	539,158	561,539
Protection of children strengthened	22,382	539,158	561,539
Favourable protection environment	2,247,467	3,309,980	5,557,447
Access to the territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced	795,284	992,735	1,788,019
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	-	137,596	137,596
Law and policy developed or strengthened	4,796	85,470	90,266
Public attitude towards persons of concern improved	1,447,387	2,094,179	3,541,566
Durable solutions	919,633	1,519,967	2,439,600
Potential for integration realized	860,275	462,150	1,322,425
Potential for resettlement realized	59,358	1,057,817	1,117,175
Community empowerment and self-reliance	-	17,094	17,094
Community mobilisation strengthened and expanded	-	17,094	17,094
Logistics and operations support	82,075	234,266	316,341
Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	82,075	234,266	316,341
Regional support	-	170,941	170,941
Early warning and contingency planning mechanisms optimized	-	170,941	170,941
Subtotal	3,677,867	8,900,895	12,578,762
Support costs (7%)	-	623,063	623,063
TOTAL	3,677,867	9,523,958	13,201,825

NORTH AFRICA

Introduction

The Middle East and North Africa region continues to see large and complex mixed migration movements, including of asylum-seekers and refugees from the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa and the Horn of Africa, towards North Africa and onwards to Europe. The large numbers of people travelling in hazardous conditions by land and sea, and the loss of many lives, are of great concern to UNHCR, as are practices such as trafficking, exploitation and abuse, detention and refoulement.

All countries in the North Africa subregion, with the exception of Libya, are signatories to the 1951 Refugee Convention. Positive steps in developing national asylum systems, including legislation on asylum and related procedures, have been taken in Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. However, with a few exceptions, systems for managing the complexities of mixed movements in a protection-sensitive manner are still nascent and require ongoing support. Capacity and available resources are limited, with responses guided by national security concerns.

UNHCR's activities and requirements connected to mixed migration movements in 2016 in the five countries of the North Africa subregion under the Refugee Emergency Response in Europe (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia) are part of the Office's planned programmes. However, insufficient funding often leaves gaps in resources that prevent the carrying out of many anticipated measures. Hence UNHCR appealing for funding that is as flexible as possible in order to ensure that essential protection work can be implemented and sustained in the immediate and longer term. Without this, it will be difficult to maintain and strengthen protection space, guarantee access to and delivery of essential protection services, and address some of the reasons why people are risking their lives to travel by perilous means through Africa and across the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe.

Regional strategy and coordination

UNHCR's response to refugee protection in mixed migration situations in North Africa, including in relation to departures and arrivals by sea in the Mediterranean centres on four strategic objectives:

- 1) Preventing refoulement;
- 2) Improving access to territory and to asylum;
- 3) Empowering refugees to take informed decisions about their lives; and
- 4) Enhancing protection space and access to solutions within and through broader migration policy responses.

Preventing refoulement

UNHCR activities in North Africa focus on proactive engagement with relevant authorities to raise awareness of their responsibilities under applicable international refugee and human rights law, including on the principle of non-refoulement, and to establish systems to regularly monitor the protection situation at sea and land borders. Monitoring takes place through direct engagement with the authorities, or through partnership arrangements with local networks and civil society actors, depending on the country context and situation. Detention facilities are also monitored and takes into consideration the profile of those detained and whether conditions of detention correspond to applicable international standards and principles.

Case-by-case interventions and strategic advocacy are undertaken in response to allegations or incidents of refoulement, as well as to reports of formal or informal deportations without due process or access to an asylum procedure. They are also conducted in the context of promoting alternatives to detention and ensuring the release of asylum-seekers, refugees and vulnerable people from detention.

Improving access to territory and asylum

UNHCR works to establish or strengthen mechanisms for the identification, registration, processing and protection of asylum-seekers and refugees at the country level. Specific activities include the establishment of referral procedures with civil society stakeholders operating in border areas and points of disembarkation to enable UNHCR to profile and assist people of concern.

Material assistance is provided as part of humanitarian/life-saving responses following disembarkation after rescue or interception at sea, as well as in detention facilities. Advocacy in support of strengthening search and rescue capacity in the region and enhancing cooperation among relevant stakeholders is also undertaken with the aim of coordinating responses for assistance and support to those in need.

Empowering refugees to take informed decisions about their lives

UNHCR's activities focus on the dissemination of information on available livelihoods, self-reliance and education opportunities; legal avenues to protection through humanitarian admission, family reunification, and resettlement; and the risks of moving irregularly by land or sea. Information is made available through a variety of outreach avenues, including leaflets, posters, individual counselling, social and other media, as well as through community-based protection mechanisms and focus group discussions.

Enhancing protection space and access to solutions within and through broader mixed migration policy responses

The Office provides technical support and training, and advocates with the authorities and external stakeholders to support the establishment of effective national asylum systems and migration policy frameworks. UNHCR works to ensure that protection considerations of people of concern are mainstreamed into the activities of different actors, and that the approach to mixed migration is comprehensive and provides for access to durable solutions.

UNHCR participates in and supports cooperation platforms with government authorities, international organizations, civil society and community groups to foster dialogue and mutual understanding, exchange information and analysis, and facilitate the development of coordination mechanisms. In a number of countries, the Office cooperates with IOM in the context of assisted voluntary return of asylum-seekers who have been found not to be in need of international protection.

Special attention is paid to vulnerable individuals, including unaccompanied and separated children and other children at risk, women-headed households and single women, and people at risk of trafficking.

Achievements

Despite limited funding in 2015, at 38 per cent of financial requirements, ongoing efforts yielded several notable results.

In *Algeria*, UNHCR responded to roughly 70 registration requests per month from Syrian asylum-seekers and provided shelter, a monthly food basket and core relief items to (mostly sub-Saharan) refugees, based on vulnerability assessments.

In *Egypt*, 5,660 people were submitted for resettlement in 2015, including 2,460 from Syria. Over 9,800 vulnerable African and Iraqi refugees benefitted from monthly cash assistance. Some 1,350 people of concern were provided with legal assistance, and 224 refugees benefitted from income-generating activities, and life skills and vocational training. UNHCR continued to assist 11,500 African and Iraqi refugee and asylum-seeker children with education grants and worked to enhance the quality of education and management services by coaching and mentoring community school teachers.

In *Libya*, a key transit point from Africa to Europe via Italy, UNHCR and partners continued to conduct protection monitoring in official immigration detention centres. Over 14,000 people received medical assistance while in detention in 2015, and advocacy was conducted for the release or the use of alternatives to detention for 700 individuals, mainly women and children. A significant achievement was the establishment of an information-sharing forum to improve Libya's response to incidents of distress at sea by streamlining information-sharing and coordination mechanisms between relevant Libyan officials and international organizations.

In *Morocco*, over 1,200 asylum-seekers, mostly from Syria, were identified, counselled and referred to UNHCR for registration. A system of information-tracking for people intercepted or rescued at sea was established by UNHCR, and interventions were undertaken for the release upon disembarkation of those registered with UNHCR as asylum-seekers or refugees.

In *Tunisia*, UNHCR supported the development of a predictable response to arrivals by sea, including standard operating procedures for reception, processing and the identification of vulnerabilities and assistance requirements.

As the situation in Libya further deteriorated, contingency plans in Egypt, Libya and Tunisia were regularly updated in consultation with partners, government stakeholders and community leaders. The plans are multi-sectoral with strong assistance and protection monitoring and outreach components.

Population data

For the purposes of this appeal, a planning figure of 55,000 people is used for the North Africa subregion. This response complements UNHCR's efforts within the inter-agency strategic framework for the Syria crisis—the 3RP for refugees from Syria and the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan for operations within Syria—and other relevant inter-agency humanitarian appeals such as the Humanitarian Response Plan for Libya.

Arrivals to Italy through sub-Saharan and North Africa were 153,600 in 2015. Eighty-three per cent of departures originated from Libya, with Tunisia and Egypt ranked second and third. As of 3 August 2016, 98,418 people had arrived by sea to Italy, or 64 per cent of 2015's total. With regard to the profile of those moving by sea from North Africa, 25 per cent presently originate from refugee-producing countries, including Eritrea (13%), Sudan (7%), and Somalia (6%), while the remainder come primarily from countries such as Nigeria (17%), the Gambia (8%), Ivory Coast (7%), Guinea (7%), and Senegal (6%). Minors represent a significant share, some 17 per cent, of sea arrivals in Italy, of which 15 per cent are unaccompanied and separated children.

In Libya, access to UNHCR by people in need of international protection is limited, owing to the security situation, limited access by UNHCR and implementing partners to the southern part of the country, minimal in-country presence, with the Office currently operating through remote management arrangements and the national staff are present/operates from Libya with limited movement and implementation of service activities is through partners. In Egypt, UNHCR has informal and irregular access to detention facilities where those intercepted on land or at sea when attempting to depart irregularly are detained.

ALGERIA

Existing response

Pending the establishment of an effective national asylum system, UNHCR's focus in Algeria has been to register urban refugees and asylum-seekers in Algiers, carry out status determination, and provide assistance to the most vulnerable people of concern. As of June 2016, UNHCR had registered 5,670 asylum-seekers and recognized some 200 refugees, mainly from the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Mali.

The vast majority (90 per cent)—of registered asylum-seekers are Syrians. However, the total number of Syrian nationals in Algeria is estimated to be much higher, ranging from 35,000 (media reports) to 43,000 (Government sources). Most Syrians arrived before 2015, when the Government of Algeria introduced visa requirements for Syrian nationals and tightened border controls, in particular at crossing-points with Tunisia and Libya.

UNHCR provides shelter, a monthly food basket and core relief items to recognized refugees, based on vulnerability assessments. UNHCR also provides assistance to some 70 Syrians who approached the Office for registration on a monthly basis.

There have been very few reported boat arrivals in Italy from Algeria. Most refugees and migrants attempt to move by land from Algeria to Libya, Morocco or Tunisia, and onwards. Border monitoring by UNHCR is not possible due to the limited movements outside Algiers, and to the country's lengthy and inaccessible borders, especially in the south. UNHCR therefore focuses on limited information gathering and awareness raising of those approaching the Office in Algiers. In response to a request by the Algerian Government, UNHCR is participating in elaborating a joint UN programme to combat human trafficking.

With regard to durable solutions for recognized refugees in Algeria, resettlement is currently the only feasible option. Local integration is not available and, in 2015, no one among the small refugee population opted for voluntary repatriation. The potential for the latter will be pursued and assessed through individual counselling and assistance.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is UNHCR's key ministerial interlocutor in Algeria. Ministries working on interception and rescue at sea include the Ministry of Defence (the *Gendarmerie nationale* in particular, as well as the Algerian Army) and the Ministry of the Interior (*Direction Générale de la Protection Civile* and *Direction Générale de la Sûreté Nationale*).

Strategy and coordination

UNHCR will continue to advocate with the Government of Algeria for the adoption of the asylum law, and strengthen its engagement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to obtain greater access to land and sea borders, and to detention centres. The Office will continue raising awareness and providing information by developing new materials to reach a greater number of asylum-seekers and refugees.

UNHCR will strengthen its partnership with the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) through capacity building in the ARC-run accommodation facility in Algiers, which receives vulnerable refugees, including Syrians. As part of a comprehensive solutions strategy, UNHCR will continue to coordinate with local embassies and NGOs to strengthen access to family reunification, and to explore legal avenues to labour mobility for refugees without identified durable solutions in Algeria. As IOM is not yet present in Algeria, UNHCR will also coordinate with UN agencies, local embassies and NGOs in identifying solutions and outcomes for vulnerable people without international protection needs, such as unaccompanied and separated children and victims of trafficking.

Planned activities in Algeria

Fair protection processes and documentation

Refugee status determination (RSD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process RSD cases in a 6 to 8 week timeframe and seek to identify solutions for refugees without delay. Continue to prioritize specific RSD caseloads and ensure expeditious processing to improve access to asylum procedures, and enable people of concern to make informed decisions about their lives.
Registration and profiling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to register asylum-seekers within shortened timeframes (1-4 weeks) in order to rapidly issue UNHCR certificates, ensure access to asylum procedures and reduce the risk of refoulement.
Family reunification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with people of concern and relevant counterparts to promote family reunification with family members in countries of origin and third countries. Based on current requests, the expected number of cases in 2016 may remain below 10.

Favourable protection environment

Administrative institutions and practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor the protection situation by seeking information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant government entities on the situation at land and sea borders, and on incidents of rescue and interception at sea.
Law and policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue its dialogue with the Government to promote the establishment of a national asylum system, including the adoption of domestic legislation on asylum. Up to 3 workshops with government entities are planned in 2016, alongside advocacy and awareness-raising activities with other stakeholders (Government, embassies and civil society).

Security from violence and exploitation

Freedom of movement & reduction of detention risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue engagement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant government entities to advocate for access to detention centres and to intervene on a case-by-case basis.
Protection of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with relevant partners including UNICEF in order to advocate with the Government for national support mechanisms and services for unaccompanied and separated children, and ensure appropriate alternative care, case management including family reunification, and durable solutions.
Prevention of and response to SGBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate with the Government and other relevant partners for the establishment of referral mechanisms to national support mechanisms and services for survivors and people at risk of SGBV. Relevant standard operation procedures are in being developed.

Basic needs and essential services

Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to refer all people of concern with medical needs to public health centres, which are accessible to all people on Algerian territory, irrespective of legal status.
Reproductive health and HIV services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to refer all people of concern to the public health centres that provide reproductive health and HIV services.
Food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to provide food baskets to all refugees and vulnerable unaccompanied and separated children registered with UNHCR Algiers, irrespective of their status.
Shelter and infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to provide shelter or shelter assistance to all refugees and vulnerable unaccompanied and separated children registered with UNHCR Algiers, irrespective of their status.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to work with local NGOs to promote access to public schools for approximately 20 unaccompanied and separated children registered with UNHCR.

Durable solutions

Comprehensive solutions strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cooperate with local embassies, NGOs and IOM (which is expected to establish an office in Algiers) to explore legal avenues to protection (voluntary repatriation, family reunification, study visas or other consular solutions) for refugees without identified durable solutions in Algeria.
Voluntary return	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to assist refugees who opt for voluntary repatriation and to refer people who are not in need of international protection to relevant stakeholders for their assistance and potential return.
Resettlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to use resettlement as a protection tool for refugees and submit 20 cases in 2016.

Community empowerment and self-reliance

Community mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to provide information to approximately 1,000 newly registered people of concern during 2016 and any other people of concern approaching the Office for other reasons requiring protection.
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Financial requirements for planned activities in Algeria (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	16,000	-	16,000
Quality of registration and profiling improved	16,000	-	16,000
Basic needs and essential services	23,000	-	23,000
Health status of the population improved	10,000	-	10,000
Population lives in satisfactory conditions of sanitation and hygiene conditions	13,000	-	13,000
Security from violence and exploitation	15,000	-	15,000
Protection of children strengthened	15,000	-	15,000
Community empowerment and self-reliance	20,000	-	20,000
Community mobilisation strengthened and expanded	20,000	-	20,000
Leadership, coordination and partnership	6,000	-	6,000
Coordination and partnership strengthened	6,000	-	6,000
Durable solutions	40,000	-	40,000
Potential for resettlement realized	40,000	-	40,000
Subtotal	120,000	-	120,000
Support costs (7%)	-	-	-
TOTAL	120,000	0	120,000

EGYPT

Existing response

UNHCR's strategy in Egypt prioritizes advocacy for the prevention of refoulement, access to territory and asylum, as well as the provision of assistance and support on the basis of vulnerability.

The total number of people of concern to UNHCR registered in Egypt stood at some 185,000 asylum-seekers and refugees as of June 2016, the largest in the subregion. The Office is responsible for all aspects of registration, documentation and RSD under a 1954 Memorandum of Understanding with the Government.

UNHCR advocates for the release of vulnerable asylum-seekers from detention, the use of alternatives to detention, and for measures to address the humanitarian needs of those detained for attempted irregular departure or entry to Egypt. UNHCR also works to build capacity with the authorities and to raise awareness among refugees about the availability of protection services and programmes, as well as the risks of irregular migration.

UNHCR engages regularly with the authorities at both central and local levels, with a focus on the issuance of visas for family unity purposes; the extension of residency permits; and the regularization of the legal status of asylum-seekers and refugees who enter the country irregularly. A number of

assistance programmes are in place through which UNHCR and partners work to strengthen self-reliance and expand access to education and livelihood opportunities.

Between January and June 2016, more than 6,600 people reportedly arrived in Italy from Egypt, including some Egyptian nationals. Sudanese (32%), Somalis, Eritreans and Ethiopians constitute the top nationalities attempting to reach Europe from Egypt by sea. In parallel, some 2,500 people involved in 73 incidents were arrested for attempting to depart irregularly from Egypt by sea from January to June 2016. Most refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR, as well as people with other humanitarian needs, are released from detention after 2-3 weeks, although that period can vary.

UNHCR continues to promote protection-sensitive migration policies in Egypt, conducting training sessions on the international protection needs of victims of trafficking, international refugee protection, and international migration. As part of UNHCR's efforts to promote regional cooperation and dialogue to address mixed migration, UNHCR participates in the African Union and EU-led Horn of Africa Initiatives on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants and continues to engage with the Egyptian authorities in advancing these processes. These cover detention and border monitoring, targeted support services for trafficked asylum-seekers and refugees, the provision of tailored case management, and the identification of durable solutions.

As part of a UNHCR regional child protection project, Live, Learn & Play Safe - 2014-2016, UNHCR and partners are addressing the protection needs of unaccompanied and separated children and other children at risk, including children victims of trafficking, as part of a comprehensive regional approach.

Strategy and coordination

Activities in Egypt form part of UNHCR's Regional Approach to Refugee Protection in Mixed Migration Situations in North Africa, a framework for UNHCR and partners to assist the Egyptian Government in ensuring access to asylum, addressing mixed migratory flows and the needs of those in detention, enhancing government capacity, and providing livelihood and self-reliance opportunities. UNHCR's interventions in Egypt to strengthen protection and support for Syrian refugees and host communities are also part of the 3RP.

UNHCR will advocate for access to the territory, asylum and the prevention of refoulement. The Office will work towards a shortened timeframe for registration, documentation, and RSD, and enhance the identification of cases with special needs for targeted assistance and resettlement. Measures will be taken to address the humanitarian needs of those detained for attempted irregular departure or arrival by sea.

Capacity-building with the authorities will continue, as will activities to raise awareness among refugees about available protection services and programmes, and the risks of irregular migration. UNHCR will engage regularly with the authorities at both central and local levels to facilitate family reunification, the regularization of status or the extension of residency permits. Assistance will be provided through UNHCR or implementing partners to strengthen self-reliance and access to education and livelihood opportunities.

To ensure a coordinated response with its partners, UNHCR collaborates within inter-agency and sectoral working groups, as well as in other fora such as the Development Partners Group on Migration and Protection, in an Inter-Agency Working Group. Examples of this Group's work include the development by UNHCR of a strategy and contingency plan to address the "Protection needs of those affected by mixed migration in Egypt", and Strategic Approach and Sector Advocacy Papers on "Refugee Protection in the context of mixed migration" for relevant stakeholders. UNHCR, together with IOM, also monitors institutional developments related to migration, smuggling and trafficking, and the work of the relevant National Committees as well as strengthening livelihood strategies. UNHCR and partners strengthened cooperation with the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) and the Child Protection Committees (CPC) and institutional engagement to address the situation of children of concern to UNHCR in detention, seeking their release, increased access by UNHCR and prevention of refoulement.

Planned activities in Egypt

Fair protection processes and documentation

Refugee status determination (RSD)

Registration and profiling

Civil registration and civil status documentation

- Enhance UNHCR RSD processing capacity through additional staff with the aim to process up to 1,000 additional cases per month to reduce the waiting period for first-instance RSD.
- Maintain the quality of profiling information captured at the registration level, and decrease the waiting period for registration interviews.
- Ensure a sufficient number of caseworkers dedicated to new registrations, streamline the internal/external referral process, and provide regular training to enhance the protection knowledge of the registration team.
- Reinforce the Inter-Agency Working Group on Detention for early identification and referral of vulnerable people of concern (victims of trafficking, SGBV survivors, unaccompanied and separated children etc.).
- Ensure early identification and strengthen monitoring of complex cases, such as those requiring legal assistance, through counselling activities and protection interviews. Projected figures are 120 cases in 2016.
- Enhance processing capacity of the relevant authorities to issue residency permits and civil documentation for people of concern, strengthening access for vulnerable categories.
- Advocate with authorities to simplify procedures for processing vulnerable individuals, including the decentralization of the process and the extension of the residency validity to one year.
- Maintain specific follow-up on cases with direct intervention of UNHCR vis-à-vis administrative authorities as per identified needs.
- Explore other humanitarian admission programmes and legal avenues for family reunification cases through advocacy on compelling cases for family reunification. Some 100 compelling family reunification cases are expected in 2016.

Favourable protection environment

Administrative institutions and practice

Public attitude towards people of concern

- Enhance participation in key national committees to ensure inclusion of refugee protection in national legislation and policies.
- Monitor the work of the Committee on Anti-Trafficking and liaise/support the League of Arab States.
- Participate and advocate through the NCCM and CPC to address the needs of children and women in detention.
- Coordinate advocacy and training on child protection to central and local institutions on alternatives to detention for children. Provide material support to implement sustainable and practical alternatives.
- Strengthen advocacy with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and immigration and local authorities on

Access to legal assistance and remedies

- prevention of refoulement, and improvement of reception conditions.
- Provide training on refugee law and international protection for 200 officers from the police/military/immigration and coast guards.
- Provide training on refugee law and international protection for 100 representatives of the judiciary, immigration and police.
- Enhance capacity of legal partners to respond to mixed migration incidents involving asylum-seekers and refugees, and provide ad hoc services to around 250 individuals arrested for irregular entry or departure to Egypt, with specific focus on access to detention.
- Participate in monthly meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Refugees and advocate for a flexible entry visa regime, access to longer residency permits and family unity for refugees in Egypt.
- Reinforce the Inter-Agency Protection Working Group to provide a coordinated humanitarian response, advocacy (access to detention, border monitoring) addressing the needs of detainees, reporting, data collection, trend analysis and sharing of information and good practices.
- Continue engagement on regional process (EU and AU-led processes) as they relate to the situation in Egypt.
- Use community protection mechanisms to strengthen the protection capability of communities and ensure refugee access to partners for follow up.

Security from violence and exploitation

Freedom of movement & reduction of detention risk

- Provide humanitarian assistance for some 2,000 people at heightened risk detained in 2016.
- Strengthen monitoring at airports and land entry points, in coordination with partners, through regular visits to airports by dedicated senior staff and in coordination with IOM.

Protection of children

- Continue implementation of the UNHCR Regional Child Protection Initiative for Yemen, Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia through:
 - Conducting early identification of children and women at risk of onward movement through an analysis and use of individual risk identification mechanisms in cooperation with partners.
 - Conduct individual counselling and 25-30 awareness raising sessions for some 900 children and caregivers in 2016.
 - Providing multi-sectoral services to an estimated 900 unaccompanied and separated children, including psychosocial support, educational and vocational opportunities, family tracing and alternative care, cash assistance and durable solutions.

Prevention of and response to SGBV

- Conduct outreach activities and awareness-raising on SGBV prevention and response.
- Provide SGBV survivors and people at risk with psychosocial support and temporary shelter/safe housing.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure early identification of SGBV cases during the implementation of UNHCR partners' activities and provision to multi-sectoral response. ▪ Implement the UNHCR-IOM SOPs on identification and referrals of victims of trafficking in partnership with key stakeholders.
Basic needs and essential services	
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide secondary and tertiary health assistance for some 5,500 refugees with chronic diseases. ▪ Strategic and targeted use of current humanitarian assistance programmes to provide cash assistance for 1,300 vulnerable people (430 cases) who may resort to irregular movement as a survival strategy, and for those released from detention as a means of promotion of self-reliance. ▪ Provide education grants for students enrolled in schools, with particular attention to refugee children who cannot have access to public schools (approximately 11,000 African and Iraqi children are affected). 1,100 households will be supported with education grants benefitting 2,800 students.
Basic and domestic items	
Education	
Durable solutions	
Resettlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the number of refugee cases in Egypt submitted for resettlement. Identify cases with heightened protection needs and in need of resettlement through ongoing profiling, the referral of vulnerable cases, and provision of information and training. ▪ Advocate for the extension of the Humanitarian Admission Programme for refugees in Egypt.
Community empowerment and self-reliance	
Community mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expand community-based protection activities on the risks associated to irregular onward movement and legal alternatives. ▪ Strengthen the self-reliance of refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt, especially women and youth, through the provision of micro-grants to establish small businesses. A total of 150 micro-grants can be issued under this stream in 2016.
Self-reliance and livelihoods	

Financial requirements for planned activities in Egypt (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	160,480	-	160,480
Access to quality and status determination procedures improved	160,480	-	160,480
Favourable protection environment	86,788	-	86,788
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	38,988	-	38,988
Public attitude towards persons of concerns improved	47,800	-	47,800
Basic needs and essential services	1,537,674	-	1,537,674
Population has optimal access to education	200,000	-	200,000
Health status of the population improved	311,188	-	311,188
Population has sufficient basic and domestic items	1,026,486	-	1,026,486
Security from violence and exploitation	441,014	-	441,014
Protection of children strengthened	67,124	-	67,124
Risk related to detention reduced and freedom of movement increased	373,890	-	373,890
Community empowerment and self-reliance	139,840	-	139,840
Self-reliance and livelihoods improved	139,840	-	139,840
Logistics and operations support	208,000	-	208,000
Operations management cooperation and support strengthened and optimized	208,000	-	208,000
Durable solutions	80,240	-	80,240
Potential for resettlement realized	80,240	-	80,240
Subtotal	2,654,036	-	2,654,036
Support costs (7%)		-	
TOTAL	2,654,036	0	2,654,036

LIBYA

Existing response

Armed conflict in Libya continues to affect refugees, asylum-seekers and vulnerable migrants. Refugees and asylum-seekers are particularly vulnerable to human rights violations, including arbitrary arrest, indefinite detention and trafficking.

According to the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan for Libya, there are currently 471,431 people of concern to UNHCR in Libya, including approximately 435,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) and 100,000 refugees/asylum-seekers, including over 37,600 presently registered with UNHCR. Refugees originate from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, the State of Palestine, Sudan and Syria. IOM estimates that there are 150,000 migrants in Libya, of whom some 50,000 are considered vulnerable.

The scale of population movements by sea from Libya grew exponentially in 2014 and 2015, as unprecedented numbers of individuals, including many who had lived in Libya for many years, took to the seas. To June 2016, 61,878 people departed from Libya to Italy, where they representing 88.5 per cent of total arrivals by sea. To date in 2016, 9,744 people have been rescued or intercepted off the coast of Libya, the majority from sub-Saharan Africa.

Libya has ratified the 1969 Organization of African Union Convention. However, the country has yet to enact national legislation to provide the basis for a functioning asylum system. As a result, refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants entering Libya without appropriate documentation, including those disembarked following rescue or interception at sea, are penalized for irregular entry and placed in detention centres/holding facilities run by the Department for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM). These centres have generally not met minimum standards of detention, and conditions have deteriorated further due to the conflict and economic crisis in the country. UNHCR continues to observe considerable fluctuations in the population of the eight out of a total 18 centres currently operational where the Office currently has access through its partner International Medical Corps (IMC).

Since the evacuation of its international staff in mid-2014 and limited access by national staff due to insecurity, UNHCR moved to emergency remote management of its operations in Libya and continues its engagement in mixed migration issues. The aim of UNHCR's response is centred on providing immediate life-saving assistance upon disembarkation and in detention centres, seeking alternatives to detention for refugees and asylum-seekers intercepted or rescued by the authorities; and informing individuals of available protection services and the risks of sea travel. Since December 2015, UNHCR resumed targeted registration focusing on the most vulnerable cases as capacities remain very limited.

Strategy and coordination

UNHCR in Libya works in close cooperation with IOM and civil society actors to:

- Provide support to the Libyan authorities and civil society organizations in responding to the immediate humanitarian needs of rescued or intercepted refugees and migrants upon disembarkation, through targeted interventions. Some 5,000 people will be supported with humanitarian assistance, including emergency health care, and protection interventions, such as support for family reunification and referrals to IOM for migrants expressing a desire to return to their home country following rescue or interception. UNHCR will also work to improve inter-agency and intra-service cooperation and dialogue among all stakeholders involved in rescue operations through a Technical Working Group/Contact Group (TWG/CG) composed of focal points from the Libyan Coast Guard, DCIM managers, Ministry of Health, Libyan Red Crescent and other key actors involved in rescue at sea.

- Strengthen mechanisms to provide comprehensive and reliable information, as well as raise awareness among migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, on the availability of community-based protection mechanisms in Libya and the dangers of using unseaworthy vessels.
- Strengthen activities to promote alternatives to detention, with a primary focus on women and children, including the development of community-based support mechanisms for unaccompanied and separated children.
- Intervene on a case-by-case basis to facilitate access to family reunification and resettlement of highly vulnerable refugees.
- Strengthen analysis for identifying trends and promoting evidence-based policy outcomes relating to responses to mixed migration flows, through enhanced information collection and analysis on migration patterns, trends and developments including in the South.

UNHCR has a number of NGO partners, including IMC, CESVI and ACTED, and works in close cooperation with various national authorities, most notably the coastguards and the DCIM, as well as local crisis committees. Partnerships are also in place with other organizations currently operational in Libya, including DRC, ICRC, IOM, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA, and WHO. UNHCR will also strengthen its partnership with DRC in implementing a Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative pilot project, which will support enhanced understanding of the migration routes and inform advocacy and programmatic responses.

Planned activities in Libya

Fair protection processes and documentation	
Individual documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide counselling to around 300 individuals released from detention centres following interception or rescue on land or at sea on their options for individual documentation under UNHCR urban programme.
Registration and profiling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilitate the issuance and renewal of registration attestations for refugees and asylum-seekers who are already registered with UNHCR. Based on an inter-agency assessment, an estimate of 100,000 people in need of international protection might be present in Libya.
Family reunification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist 100 people with family reunification during 2016.
Favourable protection environment	
Administrative institutions and practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish and coordinate the (TWG/CG) to ensure information sharing and a coordinated response to refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants rescued at sea and brought to Libya.
Security from violence and exploitation	
Freedom of movement and reduction of detention risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to remotely monitor land border points and gather information on trends and developments. ▪ Initiate opportunities for dialogue with Libyan border officials to strengthen information sharing, with the aim of establishing formal referral mechanisms with UNHCR. ▪ Conduct weekly border monitoring follow up through remote contact with border authorities. ▪ Within the framework of the TWG/CG, strengthen information sharing on the situation in Libya's land borders.

- Continue to expand access and undertake detention monitoring in all DCIM centres across the country, in close coordination with the inter-agency Detention Working Group.
- Advocate for alternatives to detention for women and children including for the development of community based child protection mechanisms for unaccompanied and separated children.
- Continue to provide direct health support and core relief items in DCIM centres, including protection monitoring to identify the most vulnerable cases for protection and assistance interventions.
- Produce regular detention monitoring reports with partner IMC on the conditions in detention, the profile of individuals and follow up actions initiated.
- Explore through partners options for strengthening outreach activities. In doing so, undertake to map community coping mechanisms to enhance knowledge of available protection options and strengthen advocacy on alternatives to detention.
- Support the presence of two mobile medical teams at disembarkation points to assist up to 3,000 individuals rescued or intercepted at sea with necessary immediate medical assistance and provision of hygiene kits.
- Facilitate 90 visits to detention centres by IMC's medical team to address health needs in 2016.
- Advocate for the release of around 800 people from detention into refugee/migrant/host communities in 2016.
- Undertake targeted action in southern and south-eastern Libya through commissioning a baseline assessment with relevant stakeholders, and piloting a mechanism for tracking movements and protection issues related to mixed population movements (Mixed Migration Monitoring Mechanism Initiative)

Durable solutions

Voluntary return

- Initiate 50 cases of voluntary repatriation in 2016.

Community empowerment and self-reliance

Community mobilization

- Map community-based support mechanisms through outreach activities conducted by partner agencies. Pending on resources, a dedicated study on community mechanisms might be commissioned.

Leadership, coordination and partnership

Coordination and partnerships

- Develop response strategy to mixed migration by establishing a mechanism to enhance information sharing and targeted advocacy with key stakeholders.
- Produce six-monthly reports with analysis on mixed migration trends to support advocacy on policy/practice change and programmatic responses. This will be linked to the

implementation of the DRC project based on 4MI mentioned above.

- Respond to 50 alerts by the coastguard on movements in the Mediterranean and provide immediate humanitarian assistance, emergency health care and other support upon disembarkation.
- Launch an information campaign aimed at refugees, migrants and internally displaced communities to raise awareness about available protection services and the dangers related to movements on unseaworthy vessels across the Mediterranean Sea.

Financial requirements for planned activities in Libya (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	203,000	-	203,000
Reception condition improved	93,000	-	93,000
Quality of registration and profiling improved and family reunification facilitated	110,000	-	110,000
Favourable protection environment	510,000	-	510,000
Administrative institutions and practice developed or strengthened	110,000	-	110,000
Law and policy developed and strengthened	400,000	-	400,000
Basic needs and essential services	410,000	-	410,000
Population has sufficient basic and domestic items	200,000	-	200,000
Health status of the population improved	210,000	-	210,000
Security from violence and exploitation	105,000	-	105,000
Protection from crime strengthened	105,000	-	105,000
Leadership, coordination and partnership	50,000	-	50,000
Coordination and partnerships strengthened	50,000	-	50,000
Logistics and operations support	100,000	-	100,000
Management and coordination support	100,000	-	100,000
Subtotal	1,378,000	-	1,378,000
Support costs (7%)	-	-	-
TOTAL	1,378,000	0	1,378,000

MOROCCO

Existing response

Morocco does not yet have national asylum legislation, and RSD is undertaken by UNHCR under its mandate. In September 2013, Morocco initiated a new national immigration and asylum policy. Pending the submission to Parliament of the draft asylum law, the Government initiated a process of regularization for non-Syrian refugees, and over 600 UNHCR-recognised refugees have been regularized so far. Furthermore, a procedure for the exceptional regularization of irregular migrants in the country was implemented during 2014. Out of 27,643 applicants, 18,694 were regularized through this exceptional procedure, which was completed in early 2015. Syrians in Morocco enjoy basic rights and have access to services under an agreement between the Ministry of Moroccan Expatriates and Migration Affairs (MCMREAM) and the Ministry of Labour.

Morocco is exercising border control at the two Spanish enclaves of Melilla and Ceuta, which are the only territorial borders the European Union has with the African continent. Although it remains a transit country, Morocco is also gradually becoming a host country for refugees. This is evidenced by the growing number of refugees registered with UNHCR, which increased by 206 per cent in the course of 2015 (from 1,275 at the end of 2014 to 3,908 in December 2015) as well as by the ever-growing number of localities where refugees reside across Morocco. The increased number of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR, who are the majority of the caseload, is due to a combination of factors:

- i. The unabated conflict and violence in Syria
- ii. The onward movement from first asylum countries neighbouring Syria whose hosting capacity is overstretched
- iii. The efficiency of UNHCR's referral mechanism established with NGO partners in the eastern regions (at the border with Algeria) in the second half of 2014
- iv. Successful programme outreach, enhanced in 2015; and
- v. Increased border restrictions hindering onward movement to Europe through the Spanish enclaves. In the second quarter of 2016, a high number of boat departures from Morocco reportedly peaked at 563 arrivals in May. The boats reached the Spanish coast directly or were rescued by the coastguard in Spanish waters.

Strategy and coordination

UNHCR will continue working to strengthen institutional protection mechanisms in Morocco and implement capacity-building activities. This will centre on:

- Improving access of people seeking international protection to asylum procedures;
- Enhancing the collection and analysis of information on the situation of people who are intercepted and/or rescued at sea;
- Undertaking capacity-building with border (and other) authorities as well as with civil society to raise/improve awareness on refugee protection issues;
- Making case-by-case interventions and advocacy against refoulement;
- Supporting refugees' local integration within the framework of the National Strategy for Immigration and Asylum, and contributing to refugee integration through self-reliance activities;
- Enhancing access to solutions and outcomes through the strategic use of resettlement, facilitation of voluntary repatriation and through informing rejected asylum-seekers about IOM-assisted voluntary return and reintegration programmes (AVRR).

In the framework of the recently launched National Strategy for Immigration and Asylum, the Ministry for Moroccans Residing Abroad and for Migration Affairs chairs a coordination platform. The Working Group on Migration, led by IOM, and including participation from civil society organizations, is another forum where information-sharing takes place on respective projects and initiatives.

IOM is a key operational partner in the country. It is a member of the Protection Working Group in Oujda (Oriental Region) alongside human rights and migrant NGOs, whose aim is to identify people in need of international protection and referring them to UNHCR registration and RSD procedures in Rabat as a safe alternative to dangerous sea/border crossings. UNHCR also cooperates with IOM through the referral of rejected asylum-seekers to IOM's assisted voluntary returns programme, and the referrals of victims of trafficking to receive assistance for specific needs. Cooperation with IOM will be further strengthened in 2016 to also include joint capacity-building initiatives (such as joint media training, training on trafficking).

Planned activities in Morocco

Fair protection processes and documentation	
Refugee status determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build the capacities of national authorities to facilitate handover of the RSD process to the Government with training, and sponsor the participation of Government officials in two external trainings such as international refugee courses.
Favourable protection environment	
Access to territory and <i>refoulement</i> risk reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize two trainings for civil society on the identification and referral of asylum-seekers to the asylum procedure. Continue to support the Protection Working Group in Oriental Region to collect and exchange information on mixed migration movements, analyse trends and establish adequate referral systems for asylum-seekers (1,500 referrals estimated). Organize three trainings targeting 130 members of relevant national authorities on international refugee law and how to respond to asylum applications. Advocate against <i>refoulement</i> for individual cases in collaboration with relevant actors.
Access to legal assistance and remedies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intervene on behalf of people of concern in detention (estimated 20 interventions) and provide them with legal assistance.
Public attitude towards people of concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support two sensitization activities to promote intercultural exchanges between the refugees and the local population to change attitudes.
Durable solutions	
Voluntary return	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systematically refer rejected asylum-seekers to IOM's AVRR programme (approx. 600 people in 2016).
Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist 1,500 refugees with the acquisition of residence permits by paying the cost for these permits. Provide expertise to the Ministry of Migration Affairs in the different areas of the process of refugee integration (legal, economic, social and cultural). Support socio-economic integration activities for recognized refugees regularized by the authorities through self-reliance (75 new projects, 30 existing projects re-enforced and 30 refugees benefiting from vocational training).
Resettlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit 110 cases of people for resettlement to third countries.

Leadership, coordination and partnership

Coordination and partnerships

- Participate in the Donors' Working Group on Migration and Asylum chaired by the Ministry of Migration Affairs, as well as in the Migration Working Group led by IOM.

Financial requirements for planned activities in Morocco (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	85,000	-	85,000
Access to quality and status determination procedures improved	85,000	-	85,000
Favourable protection environment	120,900	-	120,900
Access to the territory improved and risk of <i>refoulement</i> reduced	40,900	-	40,900
Administrative institutions and practice developed or strengthened	80,000	-	80,000
Community empowerment and self-reliance	262,000	-	262,000
Community mobilisation strengthened and expanded	70,000	-	70,000
Self-reliance and livelihoods improved	192,000	-	192,000
Leadership, coordination and partnership	15,000	-	15,000
Partnerships effectively established	15,000	-	15,000
Durable solutions	63,077	-	63,077
Potential for resettlement realized	3,077	-	3,077
Potential for integration realized	60,000	-	60,000
Subtotal	545,977	-	545,977
Support costs (7%)	-	-	-
TOTAL	545,977	0	545,977

TUNISIA

Existing response

In 2015, approximately 1,000 people arrived in Tunisia by sea on eight boats as a result of rescue-at-sea operations or direct arrival from Libya. Some 200 of those rescued approached UNHCR to claim asylum in Tunisia. Boat arrivals mostly affected southern Tunisia, with disembarkation taking place mainly at Zarzis port and, to a lesser extent, Sfax. As Tunisia is not the intended country of destination, a high percentage of those rescued left Tunisia, most likely to cross back into Libya to re-attempt the journey by sea to Europe. There have been no sea arrivals in 2016.

Responding to the needs of those rescued at sea has presented a significant challenge for Tunisia, both because of the complexity of the needs and the limited national systems in place to respond to mixed migration. To strengthen national institutions and to prevent *refoulement*, UNHCR has supported authorities and the Tunisian Red Crescent (TRC) in their efforts to assist those rescued

upon disembarkation. With UNHCR's support, TRC provides immediate response at disembarkation points throughout Tunisia, rendering first aid, core relief items and medicine. TRC also conducts initial profiling of those rescued, and onward referral to UNHCR and IOM. UNHCR remains responsible for registration of arrivals and conducting RSD in Tunisia. The Office also provides temporary assistance to people rescued at sea who are claiming asylum in Tunisia.

The lack of suitable accommodation, in particular for rescued migrants, has been a challenge. A facility has now been identified and is managed by the TRC with the financial support of the Swiss Development Cooperation. Access to solutions is also a critical challenge, particularly for those who do not seek asylum in Tunisia (which falls under UNHCR's mandate) and who do not seek to voluntarily return to their country of origin (where they would be eligible for IOM assistance).

To streamline responses, in 2013 UNHCR and IOM drafted a set of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for post-disembarkation assistance and protection. These describe the role of key actors following disembarkation, in particular the leading responsibility of the Tunisian authorities and support provided by TRC, UNHCR, and IOM. The draft SOPs have been shared with the authorities and are being followed by all actors. Tunisian authorities have, however, not yet formally endorsed these SOPs.

In 2014, UNHCR started implementing a rescue-at-sea project, which foresees a number of activities including the finalization of the SOPs and endorsement by the authorities, capacity building, and provision of material assistance and support. The project also included a study visit by Tunisian Government officials to Italy in July 2015. The project also includes rehabilitation of a reception centre for disembarked non-Tunisian nationals.

Since 2011, UNHCR has worked closely with the Ministry of Justice and relevant institutions to support the drafting of a national asylum law. This law has now been finalized and is pending adoption by different ministries and the Parliament. UNHCR has supported this process through the provision of technical expertise, capacity building and targeted seminars on refugee law for relevant officials.

Strategy and coordination

UNHCR will continue its efforts to reinforce national capacities on asylum, including through the adoption of a national asylum law and in connection to rescue-at-sea responses. This will build on the inter-agency contingency plan jointly developed in 2014 by UNHCR, IOM, national authorities and NGOs.

Maintaining sufficient capacities to profile, register arrivals, conduct RSD and counsel refugees and asylum-seekers will be essential for the management of new arrivals in addition to the existing caseload. Strengthening capacities to assist those rescued in a timely manner may also help limit onward movement back to Libya. Awareness-raising activities will also be undertaken to enable people to make informed decisions and be fully aware of the risks of moving irregularly by sea or land based on available information on alternatives available in Tunisia. Enhancing access to solutions through resettlement, family reunification, and facilitation of voluntary repatriation or labour mobility will be pursued on a case by case basis including through informing rejected asylum-seekers about IOM-assisted AVRR.

UNHCR will continue to provide shelter assistance, transportation to identified shelters and non-food items and food assistance to those rescued.

TRC will remain UNHCR's key partner in rescue-at-sea interventions. Taking into consideration the mixed character of migration flows to Tunisia, UNHCR will also strengthen its cooperation with IOM, and with ICRC, IFRC and MSF to ensure solutions are available to refugees and migrants disembarking in Tunisia following rescue at sea. Coordination among relevant stakeholders is paramount and UNHCR will continue to lead in this regard.

Planned activities in Tunisia

Fair protection processes and documentation	
Refugee status determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain capacities to profile, register, conduct RSD and counsel an estimated 250 people rescued at sea who might be in need of international protection.
Favourable protection environment	
Access to territory and <i>refoulement</i> risk reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent <i>refoulement</i> by remaining in close and regular contact with local authorities, through UNHCR's presence in Zarzis and in Sfax, as well as with central authorities.
Law and policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue supporting the Tunisian authorities in the process of finalizing and adopting the SOPs on rescue at sea, through advocacy and targeted capacity building.
Basic needs and essential services	
Food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an estimated 250 people rescued at sea with temporary food assistance for an initial period of three months.
Shelter and infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to rent two dormitories (for around 250 people) in southern Tunisia to temporarily host people rescued at sea upon disembarkation.
Basic and domestic items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an estimated 250 people rescued at sea with core relief items upon disembarkation.
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure transportation capacities from disembarkation point to the emergency shelter to an estimated 250 people rescued at sea.
Durable solutions	
Voluntary return	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In coordination with IOM, pilot a project on assisted voluntary returns to benefit rejected asylum-seekers who are willing to repatriate.
Community empowerment and self-reliance	
Community mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize awareness-raising sessions with survivors of rescue-at-sea incidents to inform them of available protection alternatives and risks associated with attempting crossings by sea. Four sessions are planned to be organized to reach an estimated total of 500 rescue survivors. Continue to provide information during counselling sessions to an estimated 250 refugees and asylum-seekers. Raise awareness on the risks of irregular crossing to reach a yearly average of 1,000 rescue-at-sea survivors.
Leadership, coordination and partnership	
Coordination and partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide high-level coordination to all relevant stakeholders. Continue to reinforce TRC's capacities to provide emergency assistance upon disembarkation and conduct profiling of rescued people. Continue to work closely with civil society organizations offering assistance, including legal assistance, to refugees and asylum-seekers.

Financial requirements for planned activities in Tunisia (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	250,000	-	250,000
Access to quality and status determination procedures improved	250,000	-	250,000
Favourable protection environment	945,000	-	945,000
Access to the territory improved and risk of <i>refoulement</i> reduced	800,000	-	800,000
Law and policy developed or strengthened	145,000	-	145,000
Basic needs and essential services	453,000	-	453,000
Health status of the population improved	100,000	-	100,000
Services for persons with specific needs strengthened	353,000	-	353,000
Security from violence and exploitation	346,000	-	346,000
Protection of children strengthened	346,000	-	346,000
Subtotal	1,994,000	-	1,994,000
Support costs (7%)	-	-	-
TOTAL	1,994,000	0	1,994,000

AFRICA

Introduction

The unprecedented level of forced displacement and diminished opportunities for durable solutions in Africa continues to be a contributing factor to onward movements towards Europe. In 2015, Eritreans and Nigerians were consistently among the top nationalities of those arriving by sea in Europe, and this trend is set to continue in 2016.

The Horn of Africa is one of the poorest regions in the world. Recurring cycles of violent conflict alongside very challenging climatic conditions have undermined development gains and exhausted the population's coping capacities. Even when refugees, asylum-seekers and other displaced people manage to find relative safety in the region, essential services including basic social services, education, self-reliance through employment or other economic opportunities are in short supply.

The inability of the humanitarian system to respond to the scale of global displacement results in the need to prioritize between short and medium-term interventions. Emergency situations account for about 30 per cent of the displaced populations in Africa, yet life-saving responses to emergency situations use up more than two-thirds of UNHCR's resources in the region.

Without additional investment in local services and economies, there are few opportunities for mitigating the hardships shared by refugees and local populations, fostering self-reliance, and preventing onward movements. Instead, more and more displaced people in a precarious situation in sub-Saharan Africa are moving to other countries in North Africa and Europe. In the absence of legal opportunities for mobility, refugees and migrants resort to smugglers and travel via complex and dangerous routes, leaving them very vulnerable to criminal gangs and the associated protection risks of trafficking, abuse, abductions and exploitation, as well as loss of life.

UNHCR's activities in sub-Saharan Africa for addressing the protection risks of refugees and migrants moving irregularly focus on strengthening protection in countries of asylum and countries of transit; enhancing support for victims of trafficking, abuse and violence; and promoting self-reliance and durable solutions for displaced populations.

It should be noted that this Appeal presents current needs in certain countries in Africa for which UNHCR already has planned responses within its programmes for 2016. However, insufficient funding often leaves gaps in resources that prevent the carrying out of many of these anticipated measures. Hence, UNHCR is appealing for funding that is as flexible as possible in order to ensure that essential protection work can be implemented and sustained in the immediate and longer term to address many of the reasons prompting people to risk their lives in search of protection and safety in Europe.

Regional strategy and coordination

UNHCR and its partners have made substantial progress in the past decade in placing the protection of people of concern within the wider scope of national and regional migration policies. The African Union and the European Union have been promoting more effective cooperation amongst their respective Member States on the issues of irregular mixed migration, trafficking and smuggling through the Khartoum and Rabat Processes and their corresponding plans of action. In 2013, UNHCR launched its *Strategy and Regional Plan of Action: Smuggling and Trafficking from the East and Horn of Africa*,¹⁰ which included recommendations for targeted interventions to address the protection needs of refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people affected by smuggling and trafficking in the region. The strategy and plan of action aims at increasing the protection of people of concern in the Horn of Africa from smuggling, abuse, violence and trafficking across the Mediterranean through the provision of more integrated and sustainable programmes for refugees in the countries of asylum that can enhance their self-reliance and build on their capacities and skills. In parallel, UNHCR supports

¹⁰ <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/51d175314.pdf>

the concerned Governments to build their capacities. The strategy's initiatives draw on the activities identified in the EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative, also known as the Khartoum Process.

In 2016, UNHCR and its partners will continue to build upon the existing strategic frameworks and coordination mechanisms established under the Khartoum and Rabat Processes, as well as UNHCR's *Strategy and Regional Plan of Action for the East and Horn of Africa*, to implement a number of inter-related activities to strengthen access to protection and promote self-reliance.

UNHCR works in close cooperation with relevant government counterparts, international partners including IOM, UNICEF and the ICRC, and local communities. Other key partners in Africa include the AU and regional economic communities. Partnerships with and the involvement of development actors remain critical in addressing the root causes of secondary movement, channelling long-term support to refugee-hosting areas, and promoting self-reliance for displaced people.

UNHCR's activities and financial requirements in Africa presented in this appeal are part of its planned 2016 programmes in Ethiopia (Shire), Niger and Sudan.

Population data

	Total Beneficiaries as of 31 December 2015	Total Beneficiaries as of 31 December 2016
Ethiopia (Shire only)	34,110	74,146
Sudan	103,150	108,000
Niger	52,000	54,000
TOTAL	189,260	236,146

Planning figures for Ethiopia are linked to Eritreans in the Shire operation, who contribute most to secondary movements (see Ethiopia chapter for additional information). The estimated population of 53,585 mentioned in the 30 September 2015 appeal has been revised downward to 34,110 based on the food monitoring distribution report. It is noted that these missing refugees are no longer residing in Shire camps and are believed to have spontaneously settled elsewhere in Ethiopia and are subject to verification in the future.

In Sudan, planning figures are linked to refugees in Kassala, East Sudan (see Sudan chapter for additional information).

Interventions under this Appeal target all refugees in the East and Horn of Africa in locations where significant movements towards North Africa and Europe are witnessed. However, specific activities will be targeted at groups most at risk of smuggling, including in Ethiopia, Niger and Sudan.

Achievements

Funded at 18 per cent for Africa region, the Special Mediterranean Initiative in 2015 has provided assistance to refugees in Ethiopia, Niger and Sudan. Some achievements in the region are presented below.

In Ethiopia, 80 per cent of school-aged children were able to attend primary school and 55 per cent of youth were enrolled in secondary schools in the camps, 62 refugees graduated with degrees from universities, and 1,400 refugees were enrolled in tertiary education. The refugee community was mobilized on information campaigns that raised awareness on matters related to SGBV, secondary movement, and education, among other topics. UNHCR distributed information, education and communication materials to refugees as a means to provide information on the risks of onward movements and human trafficking. UNHCR and partners worked to strengthen the capacity of staff by enhancing the quality of case management, increasing coordination among service providers,

promoting and supporting the meaningful participation of children and their communities in their own protection, and improving and documenting children on the move for better child protection.

In Niger, UNHCR has advocated with the Government for the integration of the component of asylum-seekers within mixed migration flows. Achievements are being made, notably in building the capacity of Government actors such as on RSD standards, to further strengthen the national legal framework, and to promote fair and quality processing of asylum claims.

In East Sudan, there was a significant improvement in registration and screening procedures in 2015. 12,828 new arrivals (97% Eritrean, 2% Somali and 1% Ethiopian) were registered at the border points, a decrease of nearly 22 per cent from 2014. RSD interviews were completed for 2,504 new cases and UNHCR updated its proGres registration database files for 2,920 people who completed the RSD procedure. The Directorate of Passports and Immigration registered 1,240 people above 17 years of age, including those from the old caseload at Shagarab Registration Centre. UNHCR continues to work with the Government to improve the quality of RSD, including by enhancing reception conditions and services in camps, and strengthening coordination with partners and service providers.

ETHIOPIA

Existing response

By the end of 2015, Ethiopia was hosting and assisting some 739,000 refugees in 24 camps across the country. Most onward movements of refugees towards North Africa and Europe to date have emanated from the Shire region, although future movements from other regions cannot be ruled out.

In 2015, communities around Shire received more than 35,000 Eritrean refugees, with monthly arrival rates averaging 3,000 individuals. Eritrean refugees in the Shire camps are mostly young, single men, with a significant number of unaccompanied and separated children) arriving in Ethiopia. By the end of 2015, UNHCR's Shire operation had received more than 4,000 unaccompanied and separated children since the beginning of the year.

Despite the efforts of the Ethiopian Government and humanitarian partners, many refugees are resorting to smugglers in their search for more secure living conditions and opportunities to support themselves and their families.

Camp life is especially difficult for young men, who are often from an urban background, as well as for women and unaccompanied and separated children. Opportunities for education, self-reliance and involvement in social and economic life in Ethiopia are limited, and refugees do not have formal employment rights. Although the Government has introduced an "out-of-camp" policy, which allows Eritrean refugees with no criminal record to move out of camps to any part of the country provided they are able to sustain themselves financially or have sponsors willing to support them, only a small number of refugees have made use of this opportunity. There are various reasons for this, including the hope of being considered for resettlement, even though only about 1 per cent of the population has access to this durable solution.

In this context, UNHCR and partners provide life-saving assistance for refugees while enhancing protection by improving registration, basic services and response to SGBV. As part of a regional UNHCR child protection project, Live, Learn & Play Safe - 2014-2016, UNHCR and partners are addressing the protection needs of unaccompanied and separated children and other children at risk, including child victims of trafficking. Programmes also focus on fostering resilience through livelihood activities and education.

UNHCR is collaborating with the Government of Ethiopia and other partners to sensitize refugees in camps on the risks of onward movement. Training is also being provided to local authorities on refugee protection. In addition, the Office supports the UN Country Team Strategy to address

trafficking and smuggling in Ethiopia and the Government's national action plan to mitigate irregular movement of Ethiopian nationals.

Strategy and coordination

Activities in Ethiopia outlined in this appeal form part of UNHCR's regular 2016 programme and will be coordinated with the Government, and humanitarian and development partners.

The Office will continue to focus on addressing the specific needs of young people and women, as well as the protection of the high number of unaccompanied children to assure their protection from abuse and trafficking. Education programmes and schools aim to meet the protection needs of refugee children and young people, and provide physical protection as well as avenues to identify children at risk and to connect them to appropriate services.

Increasing access to livelihood opportunities for the predominately-male refugee youth population is a key objective. Activities include targeted skills training and livelihood projects to equip refugees with skills that enable them to engage in meaningful and safe income-generating activities, and also minimize their vulnerability to trafficking and smuggling.

In order to mitigate the risks of onward movements, UNHCR and partners will conduct advocacy and sensitization campaigns to inform the refugees about the dangers of such movements. In order to reduce the vulnerability of unaccompanied and separated refugee children, UNHCR will facilitate family tracing and reunification.

In Ethiopia, UNHCR relies on close collaboration with the Government's Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) in coordinating the refugee response. Refugees are registered in a timely manner and joint efforts by all partners are focused on improving the general living condition in the camps. The established "out-of-camp" policy is being further strengthened through UNHCR and ARRA.

Some 15,000 refugees with specific needs in the Shire operation were identified in 2015 as being in need of resettlement. UNHCR will prioritize the strategic use of resettlement, targeting 1,000 submissions in 2016.

A special Task Force involving all humanitarian partners in the Shire camps, the Refugee Central Committees, and women's and youth associations all work to ensure programmed activities address the most urgent needs as identified through the participatory assessments.

Planned activities in Ethiopia

Provision of basic needs and essential services

- | | |
|--|--|
| Population has optimal access to education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide and support early childhood education, primary education, secondary education, tertiary education, and learning opportunities to 5,300 children and 1,930 students. ▪ Improve primary education quality and learning achievement. |
|--|--|

Community empowerment and self-reliance

- | | |
|--|---|
| Community mobilization strengthened and expanded | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build the capacity of partners in counselling and working with children and youth. ▪ Produce information, communication and education materials for children and youth, and facilitate communication activities for children and youth, with a focus on addressing the risks of onward movement. ▪ Support and provide direct assistance to victims of smuggling, abuse, violence and trafficking |
|--|---|

Self-reliance and livelihoods improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> including legal information, outreach, and provision of care packages and liaison with community mental health providers. Conduct information sharing and enhance regional partnership. Facilitate self-employment and business. Provide vocational training and technical skills to 800 refugees, including 260 beneficiaries of entrepreneurship/business training.
Fair protection and processes and documentation	
Family reunification achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and facilitate the family reunification of 320 unaccompanied and separated children with their families.
Reception conditions improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain reception for 40,000 refugees in nine transit centres. Monitor the situation of concerned refugees.
Security from violence and exploitation	
Protection of children strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish best interest determination process and conduct 3,000 best interest assessments at registration. Establish community-based child protection structures. Prevent and provide response services for at-risk children. Provide adequate care arrangements for vulnerable children.

Financial requirements for planned activities in Ethiopia (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	702,208	-	702,208
Reception condition improved	440,104	-	440,104
Family reunification achieved	262,104	-	262,104
Provision of basic needs and essential services	3,170,519	-	3,170,519
Population has optimal access to education	3,170,519	-	3,170,519
Security from violence and exploitation	2,810,208	-	2,810,208
Protection of children strengthened	2,810,208	-	2,810,208
Community empowerment and self-reliance	2,546,311	-	2,546,311.00
Community mobilisation strengthened and expanded	722,104	-	722,104
Self-reliance and livelihood improved	1,824,207	-	1,824,207
Subtotal	9,229,246	-	9,229,246
Support costs (7%)	-	-	-
TOTAL	9,229,246	0	9,229,246

NIGER

Existing response

UNHCR and its partners operate in a challenging environment characterized by poor infrastructure and services, persistent food insecurity and chronic malnutrition, extreme weather, as well as recurring outbreaks of disease. Given such a harsh environment, the resilience of the local population and institutions is low. Niger ranked bottom in UNDP's 2015 Human Development Index.

The Government estimates over 240,000 Nigerian refugees and Niger nationals have fled from north-eastern Nigeria to Niger since May 2013, when conflict intensified and the state of emergency was declared. With ongoing insecurity, the number of refugees and internally displaced people will likely continue to rise. Since the beginning of 2015, 1,983 refugees have opted for relocation to Sayam Forage refugee camp and 8,891 IDPs to Kablewa camp, while thousands of internally displaced have moved to more than 130 spontaneous settlements or continue to live with host families in over 100 villages.

Some 60,000 refugees from northern Mali have received asylum, protection and access to basic social services in Niger since 2012 as *prima facie* refugees. The majority live in camps or nomadic pasture hosting areas, with a small number living in urban areas, predominantly in the capital city Niamey.

Additionally, it is estimated that more than 60 per cent of all people crossing the Mediterranean through Libya have transited through Niger. According to IOM, some 120,000 migrants passed through Niger in 2015. The main routes for mixed movements from West and Central Africa to North Africa and the Mediterranean currently transit Niger, with many refugees and migrants crossing the border with Libya. Many then attempt to reach Europe via Italy, with Nigeria among the top 10 countries of origin for Mediterranean Sea arrivals in Europe.

Numerous cities and towns are important hubs for migrants and refugees on the route to North Africa and Europe. Various economic activities in these locations, such as at Tamanrasset in Algeria, Gao in Mali, and Agadez in Niger, are linked to the facilitation of mixed movements and provide significant sources of revenue. These include the provision of transport, accommodation and food, as well as smuggling, trafficking human beings, prostitution, extortion and exploitation of migrants.

In 2016, UNHCR has been working closely with IOM toward establishing and improving standard operating procedures where identified asylum-seekers among migrants can be referred with a view to seek access to international protection, assistance and RSD in Niger. Until the monitoring and identification mechanisms enable more accurate projections it is expected that asylum requests of people referred by IOM will gradually increase up to an estimated 100 cases per month by the end of 2016.

Strategy and coordination

Within broader UN efforts in Niger, UNHCR is working to strengthen access to protection and reduce the vulnerability of asylum-seekers and refugees to the risks of smuggling and irregular movement. Interventions under this appeal form part of UNHCR's regular 2016 programme in Niger.

UNHCR is part of the UN Country Team and the Humanitarian Country Team, and is leading both the Protection Cluster and the multi-sector working group for refugees in Niger. The Office leads and coordinates all refugee matters in support of its main national counterpart, the *Commission nationale d'éligibilité* (CNE) within the Ministry of the Interior.

The Government, its technical and financial partners, and the UN promote a resilience approach under the 2012-2016 UNDAF. As part of this approach, UNHCR introduced an initiative aimed at protecting and developing refugees' livelihoods and local economies, and increasing refugees' self-

reliance, through cash assistance, support for income-generating activities, access to microfinance and vocational training for youth.

Achievements have been made, notably in areas of capacity building of government actors, including training, but also in strengthening the national legal framework to attain a fair and quality processing of asylum claims. Moreover, UNHCR works closely with the relevant government bodies to reduce the irregularity and delays in RSD sessions by the assigned governmental entities.

The existing instruments and processes for accessing international protection through RSD and resettlement are sufficient to identify and assist people in need of international protection. However, national capacities need to be strengthened to ensure that these processes are accessible and conducted in a timely manner. Continued support for the overall resilience approach is also required to reduce vulnerability to the risks of smuggling, trafficking and irregular movement.

Planned activities in Niger

Fair protection processes and documentation	
Refugee status determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the quality of national status determination by developing joint UNHCR/CNE standard operating procedures and RSD procedures. Establish a strong complaint mechanism and fraud control. Conduct biometric registration and issue biometric ID cards.
Reception conditions improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the one-stop-shop for asylum-seekers and refugees in Niamey. Provide cash assistance for asylum-seekers and refugees. Provide information on access to employment, micro-credits and other livelihood options to asylum-seekers and refugees.
Favourable protection environment	
Legal assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment and establishment of the Information Counselling, and Legal Assistance programme.
Durable solutions	
Resettlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and elaborate refugee cases that qualify for submission.
Community empowerment and self-reliance	
Self-reliance and livelihoods improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable access to agricultural/livestock/fishery production and provide production kits or inputs for production. Facilitate access to self-employment/business. Facilitate training, learning, and provision of technical training.

Financial requirements for planned activities in Niger (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	602,040	-	602,040
Refugee status determination	374,083	-	374,083
Reception conditions improved	227,957	-	227,957
Durable solutions	77,957	-	77,957
Resettlement	77,957	-	77,957
Community empowerment and self-reliance	2,734,176	-	2,734,176
Self-reliance and livelihoods improved	2,734,176	-	2,734,176
Subtotal	3,414,173	-	3,414,173
Support costs (7%)	-	-	-
TOTAL	3,414,173	0	3,414,173

SUDAN

Existing response

By the end of December 2015, 378,014 refugees and asylum-seekers were in Sudan, including some 112,000 Eritreans registered by the authorities and UNHCR. This total does not include several thousand more Eritreans living in Sudan. The number of Eritrean asylum-seekers arriving in Eastern Sudan from Ethiopia and Eritrea averaged over 1,000 individuals per month and totalled 12,720 arrivals by end of 2015. New arrivals from Eritrea continue in 2016 though there has been a decline in the monthly average in the first quarter of 2016. On average, over 760 new asylum-seekers have arrived per month during the first quarter of 2016.

The high rate of arrivals of Eritrean refugees and asylum-seekers is exerting pressure on already strained local economies, and contributing to rising tensions between refugees and local communities. More broadly, this is causing a deterioration in the protection environment for new arrivals. The turnover rate is equally alarming, with 70 per cent of newly-registered asylum-seekers leaving the camp within a few months.

In partnership with the Government of Sudan, UNHCR is prioritizing the enhancement of reception facilities in border areas, conducting registration, providing transportation and emergency assistance for new arrivals, and improving security in the camps. In addition, the Office is aiming to provide more sustainable programmes for refugees, both in camps and urban areas, to enhance their self-reliance and build on their capacities and skills. These programmes also target host communities, with a view to ensuring peaceful coexistence, improving the quality of services for both communities and enhancing integration opportunities for refugees.

To combat smuggling and trafficking in people, UNHCR works in collaboration with the Sudanese Commissioner for Refugees, the Ministry of the Interior, IOM, UNICEF, UNFPA, and UNODC as part of a joint Strategy to Address Human Trafficking, Kidnappings and Smuggling of People in Sudan (2015-2017). Its implementation has addressed the phenomenon of kidnapping of refugees in Eastern Sudan through enhanced security, and considerably reduced the number of refugees and asylum-

seekers exploited by smugglers. Most importantly, refugees reported in 2015 that they feel safer in the refugee camps than they did a year ago.

Strategy and coordination

In Sudan, UNHCR works with the authorities at the federal and state levels to coordinate the refugee response. The Sudanese Commissioner for Refugees is UNHCR's main government counterpart. In the East, the region targeted by measures in the context of this Initiative, collaboration with the authorities will continue under the joint Anti-Trafficking Strategy. The interventions presented in this appeal form part of UNHCR's regular programme in Sudan.

Programmes addressing the needs of the high number of new arrivals in Sudan will be necessary to for the sustainability of the achievements made under the joint strategy to date. Such efforts will aim to reduce the incentives for onward movement and support a comprehensive advocacy strategy with the Government on national asylum and trafficking laws. UNHCR is also enhancing its partnerships with other UN agencies such as the FAO to increase the self-reliance of refugees.

Protection needs in Sudan are identified through participatory assessments using a gender and diversity approach and refugees play an active role in the design of programmes to address the most critical gaps, which include child protection and prevention and response to SGBV.

Planned activities in Sudan

Provision of basic needs and essential services	
Population has optimal access to education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide and support primary and secondary education to 5,000 children and 620 secondary students. ▪ Improve primary education quality and learning achievement through trainings of 500 teachers. ▪ Construct, improve and maintain education structures.
Health status of the population improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide access to essential drugs and primary health care services. ▪ Conduct capacity building for health workers. ▪ Establish referral mechanisms.
Supply of potable water increased or maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construct, upgrade and expand water system for 356,000 people of concern and host communities. ▪ Serve 356,000 people of concern and host communities with water systems and maintain 70 generators/pumps.
Population lives in satisfactory conditions of sanitation and hygiene conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construct 4,000 communal and household sanitary facilities/latrines. ▪ Implement environmental health and hygiene campaigns.
Community empowerment and self-reliance	
Self-reliance and livelihoods improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide 175 poor refugee households (875 people) with production kits or inputs for agriculture/livestock/fisheries. ▪ Provide vaccination to 32,000 animals ▪ Facilitate access of 3,000 people of concern to financial services (formal and informal). ▪ Enable access to Information and Communications Technologies. ▪ Facilitate access to self-employment/business; and facilitate access to work through removal of legal barriers. ▪ Organize literacy, life-skills and vocational

training for livelihood purposes for 4,000 people of concern.

Fair protection and processes and documentation

Quality of registration and profiling improved

- Identify and register 10,000 eligible asylum-seekers/new arrivals at the reception centres jointly with the Commissioner for Refugees.
- Plan and undertake profiling of people of concern.
- Conduct registration of 81,000 camp-based people of concern on an individual basis with a minimum set of data.
- Update registration data updated on a continuous basis.
- Provide individual/family material and psychosocial support to 18,000 families.
- Establish and maintain infrastructure in 40 reception/transit centres.
- Monitor situation of people of concern by conducting 72 monitoring visits.

Reception conditions improved

Security from violence and exploitation

Protection of crime strengthened

- Strengthen age, gender, and diversity sensitive community security system.
- Support capacity development of law enforcement authorities and government officials.
- Strengthen community conflict resolution mechanisms through the training of 700 people and the mobilization of 100 community security volunteers.
- Implement 75 security packages and support.

Financial requirements for planned activities in Sudan (USD)

	ExCom-revised budget for the refugee emergency response in Europe	Revised supplementary requirements	Total revised requirements
Fair protection processes and documentation	2,205,550	-	2,205,550
Reception condition improved	1,185,304	-	1,185,304
Quality of registration and profiling improved	1,020,246	-	1,020,246
Security from violence and exploitation	1,650,000	-	1,650,000
Protection of crime strengthened	1,650,000	-	1,650,000
Basic needs and essential services	3,899,718	-	3,899,718
Population has optimal access to education	1,124,482	-	1,124,482
Health status of the population improved	852,966	-	852,966
Supply of water increased or maintained	1,005,718	-	1,005,718
Population lives in satisfactory conditions of sanitation and hygiene conditions	916,552	-	916,552
Community empowerment and self-reliance	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Self-reliance and livelihood improved	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Subtotal	8,755,268	-	8,755,268
Support costs (7%)	-	-	-
TOTAL	8,755,268	0	8,755,268

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