

KEY FIGURES

814,334

Refugees and migrants arriving by sea to Europe in 2015.

3,460

Refugees and migrants estimated to have died / gone missing at sea in 2015.

669,032

Sea arrivals in Greece as of 12 November.

4,950

Average daily sea arrivals in Greece from 6 - 12 November.

142,400

Sea arrivals in Italy as of 12 November.

117

Persons relocated from Italy since start of EU relocation scheme.

30

Persons relocated from Greece since start of EU relocation scheme.

266

Additional UNHCR workforce supporting the emergency response.

232,231

UNHCR high and medium thermal blankets distributed since the start of the crisis.

25,124

UNHCR sleeping mats distributed since the start of the crisis.

PRIORITIES

- Boost reception capacity and provide emergency assistance in receiving countries through support for States, civil society and local communities.
- Strengthen protection systems and prevent *refoulement* including through presence and capacity building.
- Increase strategic messaging and advocacy to and about people of concern.

EUROPE'S REFUGEE EMERGENCY RESPONSE UPDATE #10

6 – 12 November 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- European and African Heads of State and Government met during the [EU/Africa Summit on Migration](#) held in Malta on 11-12 November, in an effort to strengthen cooperation in the area of migration and address the current challenges. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. António Guterres, reiterated that there are different reasons behind the decision to move towards Europe and that responses should be tailored to the specific needs of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants. He also welcomed the conclusions of the Summit as a positive step toward a concerted and comprehensive strategy for asylum and migration between Europe and Africa.
- In a press conference on 10 November, the Slovenian Prime Minister stated that Slovenia would put up “temporary technical hurdles” on its border with Croatia to control migrant flows and prevent a humanitarian catastrophe, but would keep border crossing open.
- Greece witnessed 34,700 refugees and migrants arriving by sea. The aftermath of the ferry strike, which ended on 6 November, was marked by persistent pressure on already overstretched reception capacity and conditions on the islands. During the week, the islands gradually decongested.
- In Slovenia, the authorities started putting up a razor wire fence on its green border with Croatia to control irregular border crossings. Border crossings by train continue and it is expected that refugees and migrants will remain to have access to the territory through the official border crossing points.
- As part of its winterization efforts, UNHCR continues to work with Governments in different countries impacted by the emergency to improve reception conditions, including by expanding emergency shelter, supporting registration capacity, assisting persons with specific needs and providing information and translation services. With temperatures dropping in the Western Balkan countries, preparations for the winter are ongoing in reception facilities and transit sites.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

During the reporting period, 34,700 sea arrivals were recorded in Greece, with daily average arrivals of around 4,950. In November, the majority originated from the Syrian Arab Republic (53%), Afghanistan (28%) and Iraq (8%). With the ending of the ferry strike on 6 November, the overcrowded islands, where 29,000 refugees and migrants got stranded, decongested gradually. The one day general transportation strike on 12 November had limited impact on population movements, compared to the ferry strike of last week. With winter approaching, reception conditions and capacity there remain overstretched and inadequate. As the Greek islands decongested, peaks in arrivals of over 9,000 per day were observed in Western Balkan countries. Despite peaks in arrivals following the ending of the ferry strike, population movement continued relatively calm through the Western Balkan countries. In the [former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia](#), where temperatures dropped to around zero on some nights, arrivals reached 54,548. Some 50,038 refugees and migrants entered Serbia, under generally mild weather conditions. Almost 1,000 persons arrived from Bulgaria into Serbia, primarily in Dimitrovgrad, Zaječar and Negotin.

Hungarian authorities apprehended some 100 persons for irregularly crossing the border, mostly through the borders with Serbia and Croatia. There have been no asylum applications in the transit zones at the borders with Croatia and Serbia. Over 1,050 people of concern and migrants are in detention and prison facilities. The vast majority of them are from Syria, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Authorities publicly stated that a fence could be constructed on the border with Romania, if border crossings of refugees and migrants would start to occur. So far, no signs of any preparatory work have been observed.

An estimated 43,423 refugees and migrants arrived in **Croatia** during the week. The Tovarnik/Šid border crossing became the main entry point, where refugees and migrants cross the border by train and are transported to the recently opened Winter Reception-Transit Centre in Slavonski Brod. As a result of the increase in arrivals, Serbian and Croatian authorities agreed to coordinate some bus transfers through the Bajakovo/Batrovci border crossing. No border crossings have been reported through Bapska/Berkasovo since its closure on 3 November.

A total of 42,785 refugees and migrants entered **Slovenia** over the week, with dry but increasingly cold temperatures during the night. Dobova has become the main entry point into Slovenia. However, some crossings occur through Macelj/Gruškovje and Mursko Središće/Petisovci border crossings. From Dobova, people are transferred to centres near the Austrian border, mostly by train to Sentilj and, in a few cases, to Jesencie. The Dobova registration centre closed for three days as of 10 November, in order to allow for winterization works and asphaltting of the grounds. Registration activities were temporarily moved to Petitšovce, Gruškovje, Dolga Vas, Gorjna Radgona, Brečiže and Obrežje. This had a negative impact on reception conditions in Brečiže and Obrežje, as humanitarian organizations did not have enough time to prepare and shift supply chains to the alternative centres. On 11 November, authorities started putting up a razor wire fence on its green border with Croatia in Rigonce to control irregular border crossings. Border crossings by train continue and it is expected that refugees and migrants will remain to have access to the territory through the official border crossing points.

In **Austria**, some 45,269 refugees and migrants arrived. On average, 450 asylum claims were lodged per day over the week. The mark of 70,000 asylum applications in 2015 was reached, with Afghan asylum-seekers constituting the biggest group of applicants in Austria over the recent weeks, closely followed by Syrians. Austrian authorities expect up to 95,000 asylum applications until the end of the year, compared to 28,000 in 2014. Austria has more than doubled its reception capacity from about 31,000 to more than 64,000 places since the beginning of the year. Despite the increase in capacity, a number of asylum-seekers are not accommodated in adequate facilities, but are staying in emergency shelters. The capacity of emergency shelter places designed for transiting refugees and migrants, stands at close to 20,000. Heated tents are available at all border crossings with Slovenia and Germany.

Around 920 refugees and migrants arrived by sea in **Italy**, continuing to indicate a seasonal decrease in arrivals. The main nationalities in 2015 include Eritreans (27%), Nigerians (14%), Somalis (8%), Sudanese (6%), and Syrians (5%). On 8 November, a group of 12 Eritrean and Syrian asylum-seekers were relocated to Spain, under the EU relocation scheme.

During the Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Council meeting on 9 November, EU Interior Ministers took stock of the progress of the implementation of the [17-point plan of action](#) adopted on 25 October to handle the refugee and migration crisis. A set of [conclusions](#) were adopted.

The EU/Africa Summit on Migration was held on 11-12 November in Valetta, Malta. European and African Heads of State and Government met in an effort to strengthen cooperation in the area of migration and address the current challenges. The High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres, attended the Summit. In a [Political Declaration](#), leaders stressed their commitment to saving lives and respecting international obligations and human rights. An [Action Plan](#) was adopted addressing five priority areas: “tackling root causes of migration, enhanced cooperation on legal migration and mobility, reinforcement of the protection of displaced persons, fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking, advancement on returning persons who are not entitled to stay in Europe”. Leaders launched the EU Trust Fund for a minimum of EUR 1.8b to support the implementation of the Action Plan. The Summit was followed by an [informal meeting](#) between EU Head of States, where cooperation with Turkey was at the centre of the discussion.

Achievements

Protection, Humanitarian Assistance and Technical Support

Greece

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR is establishing presence along Lesvos' north shore to provide new arrivals with immediate life-saving assistance, information and transportation, working with partners. This will be in addition to the existing assembly points where UNHCR and partners already provide places to rest, clothes, food, clean water and medical support.
- Information sessions on international protection and asylum, continue to be conducted on Lesvos, Kos, Samos, Leros, Chios, Rhodes, Evros and in Eidomeni – targeting around 6,000 persons a day.
- UNHCR developed a tracking system for distress calls received from refugees and migrants at sea or stranded on small or uninhabited islands. Upon receiving a distress call, UNHCR immediately informs the Coast Guard and Police at central and local level. UNHCR received 16 distress call during the reporting period.
- On Lesvos, after several weeks of strong advocacy for the professionalization of the response on the northern coast, the Hellenic Association of Lifeguarding Schools (H.A.L.S.) sent lifeguards to support the Hellenic Coast Guard. The Coast Guard works directly with the life guards to provide life-saving aid on the north shore. UNHCR has provided equipment to support the ongoing rescue efforts on Lesvos.
- In Lesvos, UNHCR brought in more humanitarian aid with 295,000 relief items, including 37,000 blankets to keep people warm, over 45,000 coats to protect people from rain, as well as hygiene and baby care kits, sleeping mats and plastic sheeting. These are being distributed by NGOs and volunteers.
- On Leros, registration is now conducted at the port following advocacy of UNHCR. With no backlogs and limited arrivals, all refugees and migrants are registered using “ink on paper” method upon arrival and are not confined at the Coast Guard courtyard or in the temporary accommodation sites. The Eurodac machines are not being used due to connectivity problems and limited space. Frontex is conducting registration in one room, the Police are doing the fingerprinting in a converted storage space, and photos are being taken outside the building.
- On Chios, pending the opening of the hotspot, a new temporary reception site has opened in Souda. UNHCR, in cooperation with the municipality and partners, set up 34 Refugee Housing Units (RHU) and 2 rub halls, with an accommodation capacity of 800 people. Registration has moved from the port to a new temporary registration site in Tabakika.
- Winterization plans are ongoing on the islands, with the installation of insulated flooring for RHUs, the procurement of inner linens for the insulation of rub halls, and additional heating systems. In Eidomeni, heaters were installed in two rub halls and floors were insulated.
- UNHCR provided around 7,457 medium thermal blankets, 281 raincoats, 2,585 hygiene kits, 1,617 sleeping mats, and 1,600 kg High Energy Biscuits (HEB), which were distributed with support of volunteers and partners.
- Identification of asylum-seekers to be part of the EU relocation scheme continued on Lesvos.



Refugee Housing Units are being set up along the beaches of Molyvos, Lesvos ©UNHCR/A. Zavallis

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Reception conditions and capacity continue to be overstretched and inadequate. Many people are sleeping in substandard settlements. Particularly on Lesvos, urgent improvements are needed for Moria and Kara Tape facilities, including lighting, latrines and heating, as well as site management.
- There are only 2,800 reception places while there are regularly more than 10,000 refugees and migrants in Lesvos. As a result, many people, including women, children and new-born babies have no choice but to sleep outside,

lighting fires to keep themselves warm. UNHCR is appealing to the authorities to create additional accommodation and reception capacity as a matter of urgency.

- There are no reception facilities on the small islands and refugees and migrants rent private accommodations, stay in a local health clinic, or overnight in the open.
- In cooperation with authorities, capacity needs to be enhanced in registration in accordance with EU standards. Limited registration capacity results in backlogs and bottlenecks on some of the islands, putting additional pressure on reception capacity and conditions. Authorities require additional registration staff and equipment.
- While positive improvements were achieved with regards to winterization, the winterization of shelters needs to be accelerated.
- UNHCR and partners support authorities to improve the identification and assistance to individuals with specific needs, including victims of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and persons with mobility deficiency.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR maintains its 24h presence at the Vinojug reception centre (close to Greek border). UNHCR's partner MYLA, provided legal advice to 502 representatives of refugee groups and assisted 129 persons with specific needs with registration.
- Over 180 persons with specific needs were assisted by UNHCR partner La Strada. La Strada hosted 1,604 children and 818 women in UNICEF Child Friendly Spaces at the Vinojug centre.
- UNHCR produced its first information film with messages from refugees and migrants, about the procedures and assistance provided in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, available on [social media](#).
- The installation of lighting at Tabanovce resting area and path towards the border crossing with Serbia started, increasing security for refugees and migrants.
- UNHCR distributed 200 sleeping bags, 1,134 pairs of socks, 1,300 raincoats and 1,870 kg of HEB. UNHCR collected blankets left behind by refugees and migrants for washing, to be reused for newcomers.
- Eleven tons of winter clothes arrived from Germany to be distributed at Vinojug. UNHCR facilitated the transport and provided storage space.
- Caritas, the Red Cross, Nun, Legis, Agape, Dorcas, Samaritan's Purse and Kaliri distributed 23,576 food parcels, 11,900 sandwiches, 148 hygiene kits, 14,095 bottles of water and 38 torches at Vinojug and Tabanovce.
- The Red Cross assisted around 4,560 individuals with medication and provided 614 medical interventions. Some 46 persons were referred to the Ministry of Health (MoH).



A newly arrived Syrian family in Vinojug centre © UNHCR/A.Moller

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Registration standards remain of concern, UNHCR and IOM continue to discuss related challenges with the MoI.
- UNHCR observed that the number of refugees and migrants with no financial means to cover travel costs has increased recently.
- No heating is available in the Vinojug centre, as the electricity grid does not have the capacity to support the heating system. The electricity grid in Vinojug will be upgraded in 30 days, till then generators will be put in place.
- Despite improvements, trains remain overcrowded and hygiene standards are of concern.

Serbia

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR maintained its 24h presence in the Preševo reception centre (close to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia border) as well as in Berkasovo and Šid (at the Croatian border). UNHCR provided assistance with the

identification of persons with specific needs, as well as information provision on asylum and registration procedures.

- Conditions were improved in Adaševci Refugee Assistance Point (close to the Croatian border) with the installation of two rub halls by MSF, as well as 12 additional toilets.
- UNHCR distributed food and 9,355 litres of water, 4,718 kg of HEB and 1,623 high thermal blankets in Preševo and Šid.
- The Red Cross and ADRA provide water, food and medical services at the Refugee Aid Points in Dimitrovgrad, Negotin and Zajecar (Serbia/Bulgaria border).
- UNHCR, the Red Cross, HCIT, DRC and Child Welfare Services facilitate the reunion of at least 23 families in Preševo and Šid.
- In Belgrade, doctors from UNHCR's partners and Community Health Centres continued to provide medical assistance to refugees and migrants staying in parks in the city centre.
- UNHCR assisted some 1,922 persons with specific needs and referred 296 medical cases to health services.
- UNHCR observed some refugees and migrants did not ask for medical services in transit points, as they did not want to miss the train. UNHCR negotiated with authorities that WAHA medical teams conduct medical check-ups in the train.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The number of cases of family separation is stretching UNHCR's and its partners' capacity to support family reunification.
- There is a need for expertise on psychiatric care, as the number of persons suffering from mental health conditions or showing signs of trauma has grown.
- In order to address gaps in the winterization of shelter, two additional rub halls were installed by MSF at the Šid train station and 50 UNHCR RHUs were delivered in Preševo to.

Hungary

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR and its partners are regularly monitoring all border crossing points with Croatia, Serbia, Romania, as well as transit zones (Roszke, Tompa, Beremend and Letenye).
- UNHCR established a Field Unit in Szeged (in southern Hungary), to increase its monitoring capacity of the border areas, transit zones, detention facilities, open reception centres, and a child protection centre in the region.
- UNHCR monitored several immigration detention, prison facilities and Alien Police Detention Centres, where persons of concern and migrants are being held. UNHCR established a mechanism to identify persons with specific needs in detention during visits, in order to facilitate access to medical services, legal aid, psychosocial support, and family reunification.
- In accordance with UNHCR detention guidelines, UNHCR engages in advocacy with authorities regarding alternatives to detention, transfer of vulnerable individuals to open facilities and immediate improvement of basic detention conditions, including access to information and medical services.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The systematic use of detention for people crossing the border irregularly remains a serious concern and detention conditions remain precarious.
- While authorities transferred 40-50 persons to open reception facilities, some 350 asylum-seekers are remaining in detention.
- A court decision extended the detention period for asylum-seekers in several detention facilities until January 2016. Some asylum-seekers have been in detention for over three months, while some suffer from critical medical conditions. UNHCR is advocating to expedite their transfer to an open reception facility.
- A group of unaccompanied children from Afghanistan and Syria are kept in asylum detention facilities along with adults, with little or no support from social services. Some of them are registered as adults. UNHCR requested authorities to carry out in-depth age assessments and to transfer them to a child protection centre.

Croatia

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR maintains its 24h presence in the Winter Reception-Transit Centre in Slovanski Brod and continues to monitor the situation at key border points. UNHCR provided protection assistance to some 84 cases.
- As a result of the new transport system established by authorities, whereby refugees and migrants are transferred directly from Šid to Slavonski Brod, there has been a significant decrease in family separation cases.
- Expansion and further winterization of the transit centre in Slavonski Brod continues. A new section with heated tents was opened for use. Two UNHCR heated tents (with a capacity of 400-500 persons each) were erected. Upon request of authorities, UNHCR is in the process of procuring 80,000 blankets, 5,000 bunk beds and 15,000 mats.
- Caritas, the Red Cross, Samaritans Purse and ADRA provided water, food, clothes, blankets and hygiene items to new arrivals at the transit centres and railway stations.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Whilst UNHCR has strengthened its translation assistance, MoI noted that there is still a lack of interpreters to support medical interventions.
- The new transport system with trains departing directly from Slavonski Brod to Dobova (Slovenia) is an improvement. However, some buses continue to transfer people from Slavonski Brod to the Slovenian border – the lack of information sharing of their destination continues to be a challenge for the effective delivery of assistance.
- Some areas for improvement observed in Slavonski Brod include the provision of: chairs, hand-washing/drying facilities for clothes, warm meals, a covered playing area for children and information regarding period of stay. Current health regulations do not allow serving of warm meals – authorities are working towards a solution.
- With the winter approaching, the MoI appealed to all organizations to increase donations of winter clothes, footwear and food.

Slovenia

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR has a 24h presence at key border crossings, registration, and reception centres, to assist authorities with the identification of persons with specific needs, interpretation and information provision.
- UNHCR identified 139 family separation cases and supported the reunion of 33 families in cooperation with the Red Cross.
- Authorities are in the process of identifying more suitable sites for additional longer term accommodation capacity for 2,000 people.
- The management of the border crossing at the Sentilj/Spielfeld border has improved, resulting in a more organized process and shorter waiting times to cross the border with Austria.
- The Civil Protection Service authorized UNHCR to put up a rub hall at the Sentilj/Spielfeld, in the area between the last border guards post of Slovenia and before the first border guards post of Austria – often referred to as 'no man's land'.
- UNHCR distributed at least 2,910 high thermal blankets, 90 bags and 2,586 litres of water.
- Caritas, the Red Cross and ADRA provided water, food, clothes, blankets and hygiene items to arrivals. Caritas also assisted in the distribution of water and blankets to people waiting to cross the Austrian border.
- The European Commission granted EUR 10.17m in emergency aid to Slovenia. The funds are intended to boost the presence of the police on the Slovenia/Croatia border, as well as to improve reception capacity.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The identification of persons with special needs has improved; however challenges remain in the referral and access to services.
- Conditions at all reception facilities require improvement, particularly with regards to winterization and WASH. There is also a lack of shelter for people with specific needs in the centres in Sentilj.
- In Petišovci, there is a need for separate spaces to change baby nappies and breastfeeding. UNHCR is exploring solutions with the Civil Protection Service and the Red Cross.

Italy

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR assisted the disembarkation of 920 persons arriving in two different landings following their rescue at sea. 78% of arrivals benefitted from information sessions on procedures, including on asylum.
- UNHCR undertook 19 monitoring visits to reception facilities, to strengthen the capacity of authorities to identify protection needs and gaps.
- UNHCR provided information on access to procedure and general information on relocation procedures upon arrival in the hotspot of Lampedusa and in second line reception facilities.
- Outside of the hotspot of Lampedusa and relocation hubs, UNHCR carries out information activities in support of the MoI in order to identify asylum-seekers to participate in the EU relocation scheme.
- A joint project of UNHCR and the National Commission for the Right to Asylum started which will continue until September 2016. The project aims at establishing a standard referral mechanism between the national anti-trafficking protection system and the asylum system.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In some cases, provision of information by UNHCR on the possibility to apply for international protection upon arrival, is permitted only after screening procedures by the police.
- Screening procedures of persons who wish to apply for asylum vary at the different points of arrival and fall short of a systematic individual assessment.
- Individuals including from refugee producing countries, who do not wish to apply for asylum in Italy upon arrival and are not considered as candidates for the EU relocation scheme, are occasionally issued with removal orders to leave the country within seven days. No accommodation is provided to these groups.
- There is a lack of systematic referral mechanisms for people with specific needs, particularly for individuals suffering from trauma, victims of trafficking, SGBV and torture.
- Basic services available in reception facilities should be standardized and improved, in particular legal counselling services and the identification and referral of people with specific needs.
- UASC of certain nationalities, particularly Eritreans, Syrians and Somalis, continue to consider Italy as a transit country, many avoid being identified putting them at greater risk and without access to specialized services.
- The start of the relocation scheme, highlights the need to strengthen coordination mechanisms and develop standard operating procedures in hotspots, particularly regarding information provision and the identification of persons with specific needs.

Working in partnership

In line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM), UNHCR supports the Government's coordination efforts at central and local level in Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia. In Hungary, UNHCR chairs a coordination forum including UN agencies, IGOs, NGO partners and non-state institutions. This includes the support to crisis management teams, the facilitation of general and sectoral coordination meetings. Besides cooperation with Governments, UNHCR also operates closely with the European Commission and relevant EU Agencies, including FRONTEX and EASO. Other partners include: [A21](#) | [Action Aid](#) | [ADRA Adventist Development and Relief Agency](#) | [Agape](#) | [AI Amnesty International](#) | [Amity](#) | [Apostoli/IOCC ASB](#) | [BCHR Belgrade Centre for Human Rights](#) | [Caritas](#) | [Church of Holistic Gospel](#) | [Cordelia Foundation](#) | [CRS Catholic Relief Services](#) | [Croatian Law Centre](#) | [Croatian Red Cross](#) | [Centre for Peace Studies \(Croatia\)](#) | [Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Macedonia](#) | [DRC Danish Refugee Council](#) | [Dorcas](#) | [Evangelic church of Greece](#) | [Ecumenical Refugee Council Euro Human](#) | [Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Red Cross](#) | [GIZ Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit](#) | [Grain of Goodness](#) | [Greek Refugee Council](#) | [Hellenic League for Human Rights](#) | [Hellenic Red Cross](#) | [Hellenic Theatre Drama & Education Network](#) | [Help the Refugees in Macedonia](#) | [HERA Health education and Research Organization](#) | [HHC Hungarian Helsinki Committee](#) | [Hilal](#) | [HCIT Humanitarian Centre for Integration and Tolerance](#) | [Human Appeal](#) | [ICMC International Catholic Migration Commission](#) | [IHA International Health Action](#) | [Indigo](#) | [INTERSOS](#) | [IOM International Organization for Migration](#) | [IRC International Rescue Committee](#) | [Israaid](#) | [Italian Red Cross](#) | [JRS Jesuit Refugee Service](#) | [Kaliri](#) | [La Strada \(Open Gate\)](#) | [Legis](#) | [Magna](#) | [MdM Médecins du Monde](#) | [Medin](#) | [Menedek Association](#) | [Mercy Corps](#) | [Merhamet](#) | [METAction](#) | [MGMD Mirovna Grupa Mladih Dunav](#) | [Microfins](#) | [MSF Medecins Sans Frontieres](#) | [MYLA Macedonian Young Lawyers Association](#) | [NRC Norwegian Refugee Council](#) | [Nun](#) | [Operation Mercy](#) | [Oxfam](#) | [Peace Institute \(Slovenia\)](#) | [PiN](#)

People in Need | [PiC Pravno-informacijski Center Nevladnih Organizacij](#) | Praksis | [Praxis](#) | ProAsyl | [Remar](#) | Salvation Army | [Samaritan's Purse](#) | Save the Children | [Shelter Box](#) | Sigma Plus | [Slovene Philanthropy](#) | SOS Children's Village | [Terre des homes](#) | UNDP United Nations Development Programme | [UNFPA United Nations Population Fund](#) | UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund | [Union of Baptist Churches in Croatia](#) | Vizija | [Vlaznia Kumanovo](#), [Volunteer Centre Osijek](#) | WAHA Women and Health Alliance International | [WHO World Health Organization](#)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In response to the fast-evolving situation, UNHCR released its [Winterization Plan for the Refugee Crisis in Europe](#) on 5 November, appealing for **USD 96.15 million** in additional support for Greece and affected countries in the Balkans for the winter months (November 2015 – February 2016).

The Winterization Plan emergency appeal is in addition to the Office's revised appeal for the [Special Mediterranean Initiative](#) (SMI) of **USD 128 million** for June 2015 – December 2016. The SMI outlines the Office's response to the refugee crisis in Europe, and also incorporates targeted programmes in countries of asylum or transit in Africa and the North Africa sub-region. For 2015, UNHCR's total requirements in Europe for the response to the refugee crisis, including winterization activities, stands at USD 52.9 million.

As of 11 November, **USD 26.64 million** has been received for the SMI from: Andorra; Canada; Denmark; Germany; Japan; the Netherlands; Norway; Portugal; Slovenia; Spain; Switzerland; AB Trav and Galopp; Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; Goodman Sachs Gives; Gota Media Group; H&M Hennes & Mauritz AB; Industria de Diseño Textil; Lindex AB; Nordea Bank AB; Pernod Ricard Co; Shroepfer and Hoffmann Foundation; Tele2 AB; TRYGG Foundation; UPS Corporate; and other private donors. This represents **33%** of the total 2015 requirements for the SMI (USD 81 million), including winterization activities.

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation. In this changing operational context, UNHCR is appealing to donors to provide contributions that can be allocated as flexibly as possible.

Major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2015:

[The United States of America](#) | Sweden | [United Kingdom](#) | Netherlands | [Norway](#) | Private donors in Spain | [Denmark](#) | Australia | [Japan](#) | Canada | [Switzerland](#) | Private donors in Italy | [France](#) | Private donors in the Republic of Korea | [Finland](#) | Private donors in Japan

Contact: Rose de Jong, Reporting Officer, dejong@unhcr.org, Tel: +41 (22) 739 8406, Cell +41 79 255 92 72

Links:

UNHCR, [UNHCR aids refugees on the Greek Islands](#), 6 November 2015.

UNHCR, [A childhood regained on Kos](#), 11 November 2015.

UNHCR, [Refugees/Migrants Emergency Response - Mediterranean](#) (webportal accessible via Google Chrome or Firefox only).

Europe Refugee Emergency

UNHCR Presence and Key Border Crossings

as of 13 Nov 2015

