EUROPE / MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION RESPONSE
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

CONTACTS:
Preparedness and Response Division prd@iom.int
Donor Relations Division drd@iom.int
+41.22.7179.271 http://www.iom.int

SITUATION REPORT • 7 April 2016

Highlights

- To meet the immediate needs of newly arrived migrants and refugees in Greece, IOM has begun distributing basic non-food items (NFIs) to those staying in recently established camps in the northern part of the country. On 4 April, IOM undertook the distribution of 2,500 NFI kits to all migrants and refugees currently being accommodated in Schisto Camp, close to Piraeus port in Athens.

- On 31 March, the IOM Council Chair Ambassador Bertrand de Crombrugghe of Belgium inaugurated a new IOM orientation and information centre for migrants in Agadez. The new centre was created to further support and coordinate with the current IOM transit centre in Agadez. The orientation centre will allow migrants to access information on all aspects of migration, advice on their rights, and all services available including shelter and medical assistance. Community mobilisers who work at the centre are also trained in counter-trafficking awareness and on 1 April, the first victim of trafficking was identified and referred to IOM’s protection unit for further assistance.

- In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, IOM has procured and donated medical equipment to the regional hospital in Gevgelija, which treats approximately 100,000 people from the area as well as migrants and refugees who are transiting or staying in the nearby centre and are in need of medical assistance.

- To date, IOM Turkey has provided ten prefabricated cabins that are installed at reception points in Küçükkuyu, Dikili, Çeşme, Alaçatı, Kuşadası, Mordoğan. The cabins are used as changing rooms for female migrants and refugees, as well as children, rescued at sea. The cabins also provide storage space for NFIs, including hygiene kits, which are then distributed to those who have been rescued at sea.

- In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, IOM has procured and donated medical equipment to the regional hospital in Gevgelija, which treats approximately 100,000 people from the area as well as migrants and refugees who are transiting or staying in the nearby centre and are in need of medical assistance.

IOM provided warm and dry clothes to rescued migrants and refugees in Küçükkuyu © IOM Turkey, 2016
**SITUATION OVERVIEW**

As of 6 April 2016, 175,797 migrants and refugees have arrived to Europe by land and sea routes since the start of 2016, the majority of whom have entered by sea through Greece (152,461) and Italy (19,322).

On 4 April, as part of the EU-Turkey agreement, Greece began deportations of migrants to Turkey. Under heavy security measures on the island of Lesvos and Chios, 202 individuals were deported to Turkey (136 from Lesvos and 66 from Chios).

As of 9 March, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Croatia and Slovenia all closed their borders, shutting down the Western Balkans route. Due to the closure of the route, as of 5 April, the number of migrants and refugees who have been registered in the country since the start of the year remain at 89,623. The number of people remaining at the reception centre in Gevgelija is currently 125, out of which 30 are women, 38 are men and 57 are children. In Tabanovce centre, approximately 1,100 people remain stranded.

In Serbia, new arrivals have also ceased and as of 6 April, the total number of migrants and refugees that have entered the country remain at 90,177.

In Croatia, no new entries have been registered at the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre. Since its opening in November 2015, the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre has accommodated 347,152 migrants and refugees. Currently there are only 111 people hosted in the centre.

On 31 March, the Slovenian Government appointed an interdepartmental working group to coordinate the implementation plan to relocate 567 persons from Italy and Greece and to permanently resettle 20 from Syria. The working group will prepare an accommodation plan for those being resettled as well as an integration plan that will focus on accessing the labour market and the education system.

**IOM RESPONSE**

In order to gather and disseminate information about the migrant and refugee populations moving through the Mediterranean, up the Western Balkan Route and through the Norther Route into Europe, in September 2015, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team established a Flow Monitoring System (FMS). The FMS provides a weekly overview of migration flows in countries of first arrival and other countries along the route in Europe (including Turkey, Bulgaria, Greece, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, and Italy), and provides an analysis of trends across the affected region. The data on registered arrivals is collated by IOM through consultations with ministries of interior, coast guards, police forces, and other relevant national authorities.

IOM continues to gather and process this data along the routes and border points and distributes information to relevant stakeholders, including government authorities. The information gathered is also used to inform IOM’s portal that provides information on trends and transit routes related to the Europe / Mediterranean migration crisis, which can be found at [http://migration.iom.int](http://migration.iom.int).

**Turkey**

As of 3 April, the Turkish Coast Guards (TCG) have rescued 22,547 migrants and refugees while 173 lives have been lost since the start of 2016. During the reporting period, an average of approximately 240 were rescued at sea per day.

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IOM assisted migrants and refugees rescued at sea in Çeşme © IOM Turkey, 2016
IOM RESPONSE

Turkey (continued)

IOM continues to support the TCG by distributing food, water, and non-food items (NFIs) to rescued migrants and refugees. During the reporting period, IOM assisted the TCG in Küçükkuyu through the provision of food, water and NFIs (including blankets, clothing and shoes) to 101 migrants and refugees who were rescued at sea. The majority of those rescued at sea in Küçükkuyu were from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Additionally, IOM assisted the TCG in Çeşme by distributing food, water, and NFIs (including clothes, shoes, and socks) to 519 migrants and refugees who were rescued at sea during the reporting period. IOM also plans to have presence in Dikili to further support the TCG by providing direct assistance to migrants and refugees rescued at sea.

To date, IOM has provided ten prefabricated cabins that are installed at reception points in Küçükkuyu, Dikili, Çeşme, Alaçatı, Kuşadası, Mordoğan. The cabins are used as changing rooms for female migrants and refugees, as well as children, rescued at sea. The cabins also provide storage space for NFIs, including hygiene kits, which are then distributed to those who have been rescued at sea. Additionally, IOM has provided six tarpaulin tents to help shelter rescued migrants and refugees from the elements. IOM is in the process of procuring additional tarpaulin tents for five more reception points in Mordoğan, Sığacık, Datça, Fethiye and Turgutreis. IOM also finalized the procurement of 2,000 NFIs (1,000 polar fleece clothing items and 1,000 undergarments) for the TCG Aegean Regional Command to provide to those who have been rescued.

Greece

In order to meet the immediate needs of arriving migrants and refugees, IOM has begun distributing basic non-food items (NFIs) to those staying in recently established camps in the northern part of the country, including Diavata and Cherso camps. On 4 April, IOM undertook the distribution of 2,500 NFI kits to all migrants and refugees currently being accommodated in Schisto Camp, close to Piraeus port in Athens. The NFI kits include kits for women, children and men. All the kits include linens, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows and towels, weather appropriate clothes, soap and hygiene products.
IOM RESPONSE

Greece (continued)

IOM has begun its second round of assisted voluntary return (AVR) services for migrants who are seeking to safely return to their country of origin. IOM provides beneficiaries of this programme with services that include: information and counselling on return; pre-departure assistance; transit and reception assistance; and small reinstallation cash grants prior to departure. In the month of March, IOM registered a total of 694 migrants who were seeking AVR assistance and of this total, IOM has provided assistance to 479 migrants, the majority of who were from Morocco (199) and Iran (110).

To date, IOM has provided humanitarian relocation services to refugees who were relocated to other EU Member States as part of the EU relocation programme. A breakdown of EU countries where refugees are relocated to is provided in Table 1. IOM implements this service in cooperation with the Asylum Service who is responsible for the selection procedure. IOM prepares the movements for the selected beneficiaries and delivers cultural orientation sessions. IOM also provides pre-departure medical examinations and escorts to final destinations, as necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination Country</th>
<th>Total Refugees</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BULGARIA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CYPRUS</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESTONIA</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINLAND</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANCE</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERMANY</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRELAND</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATVIA</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITHUANIA</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUXEMBOURG</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALTA</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETHERLANDS</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PORTUGAL</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROMANIA</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>581</strong></td>
<td><strong>348</strong></td>
<td><strong>233</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

IOM has procured and donated medical equipment to the regional hospital in Gevgelija, which treats approximately 100,000 people from the area as well as migrants and refugees who are transiting or staying in the nearby centre and are in need of medical assistance. The equipment includes 30 hospital beds, a defibrillator, a mobile ultrasound unit, and an abdominal ultrasound machine that will improve the capacity of the ambulance vehicle that was previously donated by IOM to provide emergency transport for migrants and refugees.

Serbia

IOM teams are providing counselling on assisted voluntary return (AVR) options to migrants who are seeking to return to their country of origin. Together with UNHCR and other humanitarian partners, IOM provides support to the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration and to the Ministry of Interior by interviewing migrants and refugees who are accommodated in the centres, to better understand their needs and counsel them on their options.

IOM continues to provide capacity building workshops for members of the Working Group on Mixed Migration Flows and is planning to provide trainings to the border police on humanitarian border management.
IOM RESPONSE

**Croatia**

Currently, there are 111 migrants accommodated at the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre. The prolonged stay of these migrants at the centre have revealed a number of vulnerabilities, including medical and psychosocial needs. IOM, along with other humanitarian agencies, continue to ensure that the requests and needs of these stranded migrants are being met, paying particular attention to more vulnerable groups such as children and women. During the reporting period, medical assistance was provided to 321 individuals by the Ministry of Health, while 79 migrants applied for asylum and two migrants from Iraq requested that they be returned to their country of origin.

Based on the suggestion from the Ministry of the Interior that humanitarian partners provide informal education to those remaining at the Slavonski Brod reception transit centre, IOM in coordination with the Croatian Red Cross and Save the Children, has begun delivering language courses to 75 migrants at the centre. Future courses will include hygiene classes, initial cultural orientation, and interpretation assistance at schools for migrant children in subjects such as math, art and geography.

As of 16 March, IOM has taken over the lease agreement of a large accommodation tent in Sector 1 of the Slavonski Brod centre. The tent is 2,500 square metres and includes sections for sleeping, dining, and leisure activities, as well as a playground for children.

**Italy**

On 30 March, six boat landings with a total of 2,691 migrants took place in Sicily and Calabria, while an additional 811 and 21 migrants arriving in Sicily and Apulia on 31 March. On 1 April, 545 migrants landed in Salerno, in the Campania region. As of 6 April, IOM estimates that approximately 19,322 migrants have arrived by sea to Italy. The majority of those arriving are African nationals, coming from Western African and the Horn of Africa (including Nigeria, Mali, Gambia, Senegal, Sudan and Eritrea). Their main country of departure is Libya, with a few recorded departures from Egypt and even fewer from Greece.

IOM also estimates that as of 7 April, approximately 343 migrant deaths have been registered in the Central Mediterranean route since the start of the year. A minimum of 714 deaths total are estimated to have happened on the Mediterranean routes between 1 January—7 April 2016.

During the boat landings and at the reception centres, IOM continues to provide support to authorities in detecting vulnerable cases. IOM has two anti-trafficking teams in Sicily and Apulia with the specific aim of identifying victims of trafficking. IOM continues to contribute in the identification of vulnerable migrants and refers them to the relevant authorities for further assistance. Vulnerable cases include unaccompanied children who were mistakenly identified as adults during their disembarkation procedures, witnesses in legal proceedings against smugglers, migrants in need of health and/or psychosocial support, and the elderly.
Niger

On 31 March, the IOM Council Chair Ambassador Bertrand de Crombrugghe of Belgium inaugurated a new IOM orientation and information centre for migrants in Agadez. This new centre was created to further support and coordinate with the current IOM transit centre in Agadez. The orientation centre will allow migrants to access information on all aspects of migration, advice on their rights, and all services available including shelter and medical assistance. Community mobilisers who work at the centre are also trained in counter-trafficking awareness and on 1 April, the first victim of trafficking was identified and referred to IOM’s protection unit for further assistance.

In close collaboration with its partners, IOM worked on the production and broadcasting of the first four episodes of the radio programme Cercle des Migrants ("Circle of Migrants"). This programme will be broadcast on national radio and will consist of debates on different migration themes, with experts on the subjects and members from the host communities expressing their opinions. Before starting the programme, IOM trained the radio staff on the fundamental concepts of migration, including key terminology.

During the reporting period, IOM registered 139 new migrants who were requesting voluntary return assistance in the IOM transit centres. Additionally, IOM delivered assistance to 297 migrants with shelter, food, medical and psychosocial support assistance, while 124 migrants were provided with return assistance to their countries of origin.

From 29-30 March, IOM conducted its second counter-trafficking training for 25 border post agents from the Agadez region. The training was organised by the National Agency Against Human Trafficking and IOM.

The Niger flow monitoring points in Arlit and Séguédine continue to record migrants coming into and leaving Niger. During the reporting period, 1,544 migrants were recorded to be leaving the country while 1,781 migrants entered into Niger from Libya and Algeria.

Based on an agreement between the Algerian and Nigerien governments, IOM has assisted with the repatriation of 9,659 Nigeriens from Algeria back to Niger since December 2014. IOM has assisted the government of Niger to facilitate the onward transportation of the returning Nigerien nationals back to their final destination. As of 31 March, a total of 31 convoys have been organized by IOM, transporting an average of 500 to 800 migrants per convoy.

Upon their arrival in Agadez, IOM provides the returnees with the direct assistance, including distribution of water and food, registration and profiling of all migrants transiting, shelter at the IOM transit centre in Agadez, medical assistance, psychosocial support (in partnership with the French Red Cross), direct humanitarian assistance for the most vulnerable cases, especially for unaccompanied migrants or separated children, victims of trafficking, including a reference system to the relevant governmental authorities and/or UN agency or NGO, and distribution of NFIs and shelter kits (mattress, cover sheet and mat).

The numbers show a higher than expected proportion of women and minors, where among the 9,659 returnees, 52 per cent (5,044) were men, 15 per cent (1,433) were women, and 33 per cent (3,182) were minors. As 66 per cent of the returning migrants come from the Zinder region, IOM is currently analysing why this particular region has such a higher percentage of people migrating.
Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

IOM’s online portal provides information on trends and transit routes related to the Europe / Mediterranean migration crisis. The below depicts a map of the transit routes and the total number of people that travelled to Europe. An updated version of the portal can be found at http://migration.iom.int.

Recent trends in migrant flow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Registered Arrivals</th>
<th>Change in comparison to registered arrivals of previous period (24th February—8th March)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>3,237</td>
<td>Decrease of 68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>Increase of 71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>4,833</td>
<td>Decrease of 3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>First arrivals recorded in the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>1,573</td>
<td>Increase of 22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All other countries in the route have registered zero arrivals in the period between 10 and 23 March. However there are stranded migrants in those countries. The number of stranded migrants is on the next page.