



# EUROPE / MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION RESPONSE

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 14 July 2016



IOM assists migrants with voluntary return services Agadez, Niger. © IOM (Photo: Amanda Nero)

### Highlights

- **Turkey:** Procurement of 2,000 NFIs kits containing 1,000 polar fleece clothes and 1,000 underclothes was finalized and handed over to the Turkish Coast Guards Aegean Regional Command for rescued migrants, during the reporting period. IOM also provided insulation materials for the 12 tarpaulin tents in reception areas in Turkish Coast Guards' premises in preparation for the summer.
- **Greece:** IOM continues to provide Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) services and extensive information campaigns at the Greek islands and open facilities where the majority of the stranded migrants are accommodated. In June 2016, IOM provided 558 migrants the majority of them being from Afghanistan and Iraq with AVR services, while in July 2016, 75 beneficiaries from Pakistan, Iraq, and Iran, have been able to return to their country of origin.
- **Croatia:** During the reporting period, IOM purchased 130 bathroom refurbishment sets (toilet seats, bowls and flushers), and 130 door locks to improve the living conditions of the migrants and asylum seekers currently accommodated at the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Zagreb. The installation of the items is currently underway.
- **Libya:** On 11 and 12 July, IOM's DTM team organized a training session in Tunis for 13 participants from cities that experience high migrant presence and flows all around Libya. The trained enumerators will be collecting data for IOM as part of a DTM flow monitoring module, which will report on the movements of migrants in, out of, and through the country through direct observation and survey methods.

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

As of 13 July 2016, a total of 248,418 migrants and refugees have arrived in Europe by land and sea routes since the start of 2016, the majority of whom have entered by sea through Greece (158,977) and Italy (78,487).

On 1 July 2016, Croatia received the first group of migrants -four Eritreans arriving from Italy- in line with the European Union relocation scheme. The migrants were greeted by the Minister of the Interior Mr. Vlaho Orepić, Head of EU Representation in Croatia Mr. Branko Baričević, Head of IOM Office in Croatia, Ms. Tatjana Radošević, as well as the volunteers of UNICEF and the Red Cross. The migrants were escorted to their final destination in Croatia by IOM staff from the Italy Country Office, providing valuable language and cultural support. Croatia has agreed to accept 1,583 migrants by the end of 2017. The migrants will be arriving gradually with several dozen expected in the coming months and will be temporarily accommodated at the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers (RCAS) in Zagreb.

According to the Hellenic Coast Guard, during the reporting period there were six incidents off the coast of Lesbos Island that required search and rescue operation. The Hellenic Coast Guard managed to rescue 175 migrants and transferred them to the island of Lesbos. IOM staff are present in Lesbos, Samos, Chios, Leros and Crete Islands and are working closely with authorities (Frontex, the Hellenic Coastguards and the First Reception Service) to identify vulnerable migrants including unaccompanied minors, elderly migrants, migrants with medical needs, and families with children.

A new legislative measure of the Hungarian authorities that took effect on 5 July 2016 allowed for push-backs of migrants and refugees within an 8km strip along the Hungarian border into the Serbian territory. As a result, the situation in the north began to deteriorate, resulting in a doubled number of refugees and migrants on the Serbian side of the border over the last days. This number rose to above 1,300, with majority of them being women and children. The situation remains challenging although IOM, UNHCR and other partners provided necessary assistance to the refugees and migrants that reported having been pushed-back from Hungarian into Serbian territory.

In Serbia, the number of stranded migrants as of 12 July is 1,137. During the reporting period, approximately 141 persons expressed their interest in seeking asylum in the country, bringing the total number of asylum seekers to 5,038 since the start of the year.

As of 13 July, the Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) has rescued 26,331 migrants and refugees since the start of this year.

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## IOM RESPONSE

### Turkey



IOM staff providing refreshments to rescued migrants and refugees, Dikili.  
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IOM supports the Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) by distributing food, water, and non-food items (NFIs) to rescued migrants and refugees. During the reporting period, IOM assisted the TCG in Dikili -one of the points in İzmir for irregular migrants and refugees to cross to Lesvos- through the provision of food, water and NFIs (including blankets, clothing and shoes) for 58 migrants and refugees who were rescued at sea. The majority of those rescued at sea in Dikili came from Syria and Iraq.

Additionally, the procurement of 2,000 NFIs kits containing 1,000 polar fleece clothes and 1,000 underclothes was finalized and handed over to TCG Aegean Regional Command for rescued migrants. Moreover, IOM provided insulation materials for the 12 tarpaulin tents in reception areas in TCG premises in preparation for the summer heat. IOM will also provide water dispensers, vertical freezers and ventilators to be used in TCG premises during the summer by migrants and refugees rescued at sea.

### Greece

From 29 June to 1 July, IOM organized a pre-deployment training for 50 participants on the IOM approach, standards and principles in Athens. The training aimed to foster a better understanding of IOM's mandate and main field of activities and to also provide operational support and understanding of principles outlining humanitarian emergency responses.

IOM continues to provide Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) services and extensive information campaigns at the Greek islands and open facilities where the majority of the stranded migrants are accommodated. Since the beginning of 2016, IOM has assisted 3,351 migrants (including 42 unaccompanied minors and 26 medical cases) to return to their country of origin safely and with dignity. In June 2016, IOM assisted 558 migrants with the majority of them being from Afghanistan (241) and Iraq (105). In July 2016, 75 beneficiaries of which 20 were Pakistanis, 16 Iraqis, and 12 Iranians, have been able to return to their country of origin with IOM's assistance.

In the past week, IOM staff provided information services to 387 newly arrived migrants at the Reception & Identification Centre in Lesvos, while 164 migrants who expressed interest in the AVR services have been registered in Lesvos by IOM's cultural mediators. Moreover, the IOM cultural mediators assisted 192 beneficiaries during the medical procedure and contributed their interpretation services in psychosocial sessions to 85 beneficiaries.

As of 13 July, IOM has assisted 2,218 beneficiaries under the EU relocation programme. In the pre-departure phase, IOM conducted health assessments to ensure that beneficiaries travel in safety. Furthermore, IOM organized pre-departure and cultural orientation sessions, providing information, on their rights and obligations, on what to expect when they arrive, as well as pre-embarkation information.



IOM provides information to migrants and refugees at the island of Lesvos.  
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### Serbia

IOM teams continue to provide counselling on AVR options to migrants in Serbia who are seeking to return to their country of origin. IOM teams are deployed at Presevo Registration Centre, Dimitrovgrad, Sid and Kelebija/Horogs border crossing points. For vulnerable families and

individuals, IOM also provides transportation to local institutions and service providers such as the local health centre and centre for social work.

## Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Due to the closure of the “Balkan Route” the number of migrants has not changed since the last report. From 19 June 2015 to 13 July 2016, a total of 477,856 refugees and migrants have been registered, out of which 244,295 are male, 85,510 female, 129,702 children; and 18,349 are unaccompanied minors.

The number of migrants at the reception Camp in Gevgelija is 136 (30 women, 43 men, and 63 children), and at the camp in Tabanovce is approximately 70. At this moment no officially verified demographic and gender data is available on the structure in this camp.

IOM is supporting Border Police units in facilitating communication with migrants/refugees with the mobile teams of interpreters from Arabic to Macedonian. IOM also provided the Border Police with eight buses to transport their staff around the country’s southern border and help strengthen their capacity in the Gevgelija and Dojran regions.

## Croatia

Delivery of English and Croatian language classes for the migrants and asylum seekers by IOM continues, and the feedback received is very positive. Cultural orientation workshops are held three times a week at the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers (RCAS) in Zagreb with the aim to enhance the medium to long-term integration of the migrants and asylum seekers. The workshops were temporarily paused during the Ramadan period, but will resume next week. As of 11 July, IOM has delivered a total of 105 language classes (70 for English and 35 for Croatian) and 33 culture orientation courses to the migrants and asylum seekers. Future activities include the organization of literacy workshops for Arabic speaking migrants at the RCAS in Zagreb.

IOM interpreters continue to provide support and act as cultural mediators for information dissemination and communication among the asylum seekers, migrants and refugees. A workshop aiming to raise the awareness on cultural diversity of NGOs/INGOs working in the field will be organized in the coming weeks.

During the reporting period, IOM purchased 130 bathroom refurbishment sets (toilet seats, bowls and flushers), and 130 door locks to improve the living conditions of the

migrants and asylum seekers currently accommodated at the RCAS in Zagreb. The installation of the items is currently underway. Weather appropriate clothes and footwear for the migrants have been purchased and will be distributed in the next reporting period. An assessment with the focus on how to improve housing and living conditions is currently underway at the RCAS in Kutina.



Delivery of English and Croatian language classes for migrants and asylum seekers by IOM staff. © IOM Croatia 2016

## Italy

Between 30 June and 13 July, 9,179 migrants have been rescued by Italian and international vessels patrolling the Channel of Sicily and brought to land including to the harbors of Augusta, Pozzallo, Catania, Reggio Calabria, Palermo, Empedocle, and Crotona.

IOM teams continue to be deployed at the main boat landing points in Sicily (including Lampedusa), Calabria, and Apulia. The IOM teams provide legal assistance to those arriving by sea, monitor the reception conditions of migrants, and support the authorities in the identification of vulnerable populations. Vulnerable cases also include unaccompanied children, migrants in need of health and/or psychosocial support, women victims of trafficking, and the elderly. Furthermore, two IOM teams work in Sicily and Apulia with the specific aims of enhancing detection and identification of victims of trafficking and referring them for services to relevant authorities.

## Libya

During the reporting period, IOM assisted 450 migrants in Abu Salim Detention Centre through the distribution of NFIs and hygiene kits. The delivery benefited 260 migrants who had been recently rescued at sea in Tajoura port in Tripoli in addition to 190 migrants who had initially been in the centre.

IOM also arranged for the medical team to visit three detention centres, with 35 migrants in total having been



screened and treated. During the medical team visits, 21 migrants from Nigeria (7), Senegal (6), Gambia (5), Ghana (2), and Côte d'Ivoire (1) living in Az Zawiyah centre were screened and received medication. In Al-Khums Detention Centre, 13 migrants from Somalia (8), Mali (2), Niger (2), and Nigeria (1) were treated on 6 July, and one Nigerian migrant in Sabratah Detention Centre was screened.



Distribution of NFIs and hygiene kits to migrants in Abu Salim Detention Centre. © IOM Libya 2016

On 11 and 12 July, IOM's DTM team organized a training session in Tunis for 13 participants from cities that experience high migrant presence and flows all around Libya. The trained enumerators will be collecting data for IOM as part of a DTM flow monitoring module, which will report on the movements of migrants in, out of, and through the country through direct observation and survey

methods. The training course covered different aspects of data collection which included various methodologies along with data protection principles and ethics, countering popular misconceptions and stereotypes about migrants, understanding specific vulnerabilities for migrants related to age, gender and ethnicity.

## Niger

Between 30 June and 13 July, IOM registered 101 new arrivals requesting voluntary return services at the IOM transit centres. In addition, IOM provided 173 migrants with shelter, food, medical and psychosocial support assistance. Furthermore, IOM provided 63 migrants from Senegal (21), Guinea Conakry (11), Guinea Bissau (9), Cameroon (6), Burkina Faso (4), Côte d'Ivoire (4), Gambia (4), Togo (3), and Mali (1) with transport assistance to return to their home country.

On 4 July, two victims of trafficking (VoT) were referred to IOM by a local NGO in Agadez and are currently being assisted at the IOM transit centre in Niamey. IOM provided the VoTs with shelter kits, food, accommodation, medical and psychological assistance. They are waiting for their safe return to their country of origin, and will be provided with reintegration assistance upon arrival. Additionally, on 30 June, after receiving assistance at IOM's transit centres in Arlit, Agadez, and Niamey, IOM referred nine migrants from the Central African Republic to UNHCR for further support.

# Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

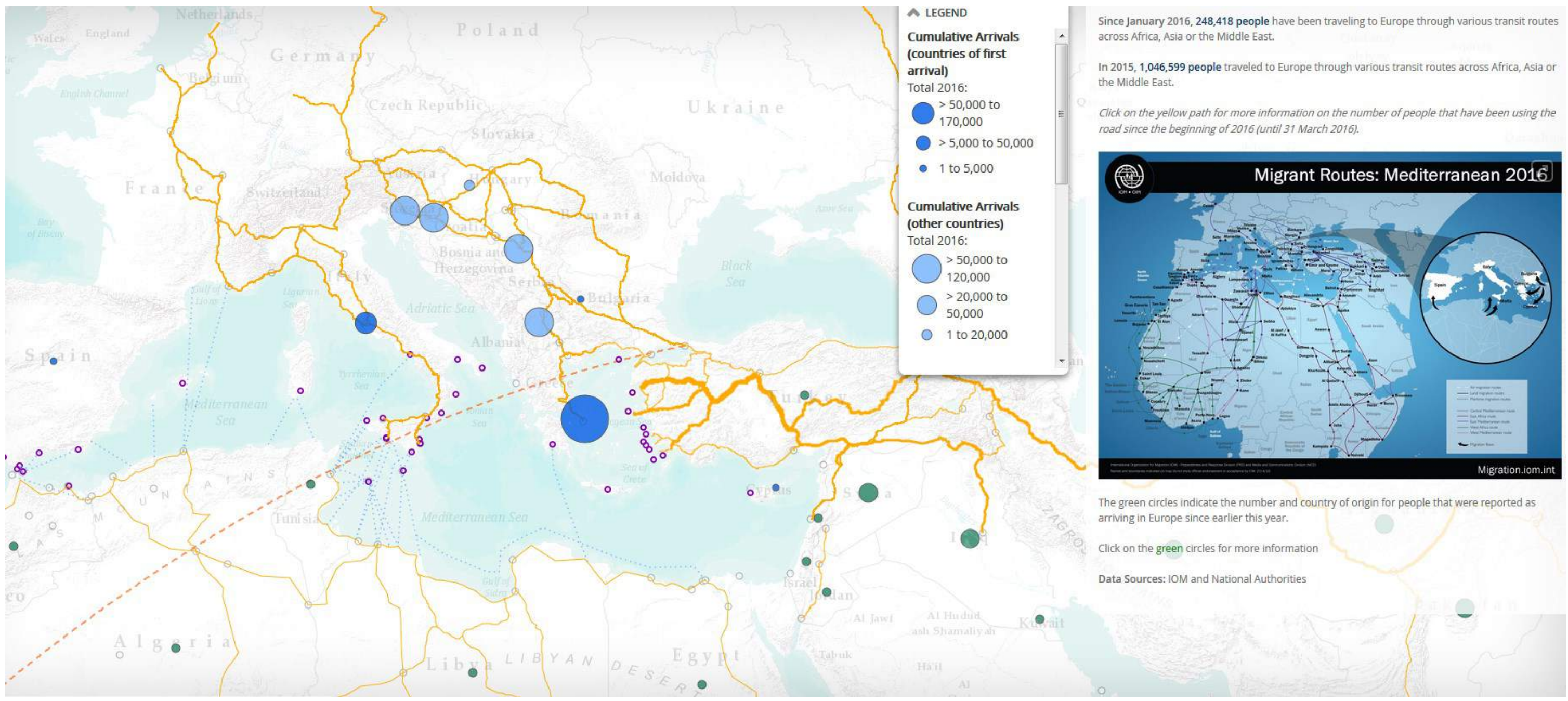
IOM's **online portal** provides information on trends and transit routes related to the Europe / Mediterranean migration crisis. The below depicts a map of the transit routes and the total number of people that travelled to Europe. An updated version of the portal can be found at <http://migration.iom.int>.

### Recent trends in migrant flow

Between 29 Jun — 13 July 2016\*

Country	Greece	Bulgaria	Italy	Serbia	Hungary
<b>Registered Arrivals</b>	740	1,097	12,964	303	549
<b>Change in comparison to registered arrivals of previous period (15 June— 28 June)</b>	Decrease of 9%	Increase of 140%	Increase of 21%	Decrease of 37%	Decrease of 70%

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





# Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

**STRANDED MIGRANTS**  
As of 13 July 2016

**Greece** **57,105**

Estimate stranded migrants as of 12 July  
Source: National authorities, IOM and UNHCR

**Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** **206**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 12 July  
Source: National authorities

**Serbia** **1,137**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 12 July  
Source: National authorities

**Croatia** **60**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 12 July  
Source: National authorities

**Slovenia** **280**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 12 July  
Source: National authorities

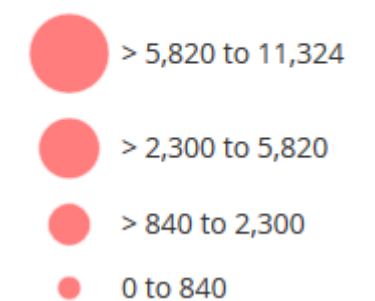
**Hungary** **1,621**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 12 July  
Source: IOM and National authorities

**Bulgaria** **1,971**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 8 July  
Source: Government

**Stranded**  
No. of stranded people  
as of 28/06/2016



This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

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