



# EUROPE / MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 7 September 2016



## Highlights

IOM distributed non-food items to newly arrived migrants at a detention centre. © IOM Libya, 2016

- **CROATIA:** On 30 August, IOM hosted a closing event at in Zagreb for its project funded under the Council of Europe Development Bank, which included the language and cultural orientation classes. The event was attended by more than 50 guests.
- **GREECE:** As of 6 September, IOM has assisted 3,493 beneficiaries under the EU relocation programme. For all beneficiaries, IOM organizes pre-departure and cultural orientation sessions, so that beneficiaries are aware of what to expect when they arrive in the new country.
- **TURKEY:** During the reporting period, IOM assisted the Turkish Coast Guard by providing food, water, and non-food items to a total of 456 rescued migrants and refugees.
- **LIBYA:** On 29 August, the Displacement Tracking Matrix team released its first Flow Monitoring Report covering the period between 12 July and 14 August. For the full analytical report, please visit [www.globaldtm.info/libya](http://www.globaldtm.info/libya).

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

As of 6 September 2016, a total of 304,993 migrants and refugees have arrived in Europe by land and sea routes since the beginning of 2016.

Greece has received the highest numbers of migrants and refugees, where according to the Hellenic Police, by the end of August, the country has had 163,726 migrants and refugees crossing into the Greek islands since the start of the year. It is estimated that 58,635 migrants and refugees are stranded in the country, out of which, 11,383 are accommodated in facilities located on the islands.

In Serbia, an estimated 4,700 refugees and migrants remain in the country, with approximately 500 situated in the north awaiting entry into Hungary. Of this number, about 60 per cent are women and children, and the majority are from Syria, Iraq or Afghanistan.

On 29 August, more than 6,900 migrants were rescued in the Channel of Sicily, leading to an extremely high number of search and rescue operations by the Italian Coast Guard.

As of 6 September, the Turkish Coast Guard has rescued 29,006 migrants and refugees since the start of the year.

## IOM RESPONSE

### Turkey

IOM continues to support the Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) by distributing food, water, and non-food items (NFIs) to migrants and refugees rescued at sea. During the reporting period, in Dikili (one of the points in İzmir for irregular migrants and refugees crossing to Lesbos, Greece) IOM assisted the TCG by providing food, water, NFI (including clothing and shoes) and hygiene kits for 316 rescued migrants and refugees. The majority of those rescued at sea in Dikili came from Afghanistan.

In Çeşme (one of the points in İzmir for irregular migrants and refugees crossing to Chios, Greece), the IOM field team provided food, water and NFIs to 90 rescued migrants and refugees, the majority of whom were from Syria. Furthermore, in Küçükuyu (a point in Çanakkale province where irregular migrants and refugees cross to Mytilene, Greece), IOM distributed food, water, and NFIs to 50 rescued migrants and refugees. The IOM team in Çeşme has also hired an Arabic interpreter to assist the team's work while supporting the TCG staff.



IOM staff providing food to rescued migrants and refugees in Küçükuyu.  
© IOM Turkey 2016

IOM social workers in Dikili and Çeşme continue to identify and refer vulnerable migrants and refugees rescued at sea to relevant authorities and institutions. During the reporting period, IOM identified 29 vulnerable migrants and refugees who were rescued at sea and referred them to the non-governmental organizational ASAM (Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants) who then follow up their situation while they are in Turkey.

To meet the request by TCG and with funding from the European Commission – Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO), IOM procured 1,000 food kits and 2,000 bottled water to be distributed to rescued migrants and refugees. Moreover, IOM, in cooperation with a local NGO, purchased 3,000 packages of baby diapers and 1,000 food kits that are



IOM staff talking to migrants and refugees rescued in Dikili.  
© IOM Turkey 2016

being distributed to vulnerable migrant and refugee families in and around İzmir.

To help improve the standard of living at removal centres, where rescued migrants and refugees, as well as readmitted non-Syrians from the EU, are hosted while their application for international protection is being processed, and as requested by the Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM), IOM provided 3,000 razor blades, 5 electrical shavers, 50 plastic balls, 20 nursing bottles, and 750 pairs of slippers to beneficiaries at the Pehlivan köy removal centre. Additionally, IOM procured 1,000 soap bars, 3,000 bottles of shampoo, 500 razor blades, 6 electrical shavers, 150 pairs of socks, 900 pairs of slippers, and 1,700 pyjama sets for the removal centres in İzmir Harmandalı and Işıkkent.

### Greece

In response to the current needs, IOM ensures permanent presence through the deployment of ten multidisciplinary and specialised teams in ten different sites all over Greece. The teams are composed of trained psychologists, social workers, cultural mediators/interpreters, legal counsellors, as well as logistics officers and camp management experts in order to support the daily management of sites. The teams' support services include psychosocial and legal counselling, identification and referral of vulnerable migrants and refugees, as well as information and awareness raising on

rights and registration, and risks of smuggling and trafficking.

During the reporting period, IOM conducted various shelter activities in camps in Northern and Central Greece. In Serres, IOM built concrete wash basins as well as manufactured and installed clothing hangars. The repair of pipelining in this camp is scheduled for next week. In Kavala, IOM installed ventilation funds, electrical repellents and air extractors.

IOM will be supporting the government's new education plan for migrant and refugee children. The plan aims to facilitate their integration into the public education system. IOM's assistance will include transportation and escort to/from public schools in nearby municipalities for children residing in sites on the mainland as well as the provision of school kits during the pilot phase of the plan.

IOM continues to provide AVR services and extensive information campaigns at open facilities in the mainland and islands where the majority of the stranded migrants are accommodated. Since the start of the year, IOM has assisted 4,285 migrants. In the month of August alone, IOM assisted 600 migrants return to their country of origin, where the majority were going back to Afghanistan (187), Pakistan (108), and Iraq (92).



IOM staff providing AVR information services to beneficiaries.  
© IOM Greece 2016

As of 6 September, IOM has assisted 3,493 beneficiaries under the EU relocation programme. During 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, what to expect when they arrive, as well as pre-embarkation information.



IOM staff providing airport assistance to a family under the EU relocation programme.. © IOM Greece 2016

## Serbia

IOM teams continue to provide counselling on assisted voluntary return (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. During the reporting period, IOM provided 447 vulnerable migrants and refugees with transportation assistance.

Since mid-February 2016, IOM has provided AVR assistance to a total of 55 beneficiaries. The majority of these beneficiaries were returned to Morocco (16), Iran (16), Iraq (10), and Algeria (5). For those who decide to return to their country, IOM provides them with all necessary technical and logistical support, including: contact with relevant embassies, transport to the embassies, assistance with travel documents, travel arrangements, transit assistance, and assistance upon arrival to the country of origin.

## Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

IOM has two mobile teams in the Tabnovce and Gevgelija reception centres. Each team consists of three staff members (a translator, social worker and medical officer) who help to address the needs of vulnerable populations among the remaining group of migrants and refugees. The mobile teams are actively monitoring and screening the remaining migrants and refugees to help ensure that those with vulnerabilities, especially victims of trafficking, are identified and referred to the appropriate services.

IOM also helps to support the Border Police units in facilitating communication with migrants/refugees by establishing mobile teams of interpreters from Arabic to Macedonian.

## Croatia

On 25 August, the second of two gender-based violence (GBV) workshops was organized and hosted by IOM. A total of 18 participants attended the workshop titled “Main Aspects of Work with Victims of GBV”. Along with IOM, participants from ten other organisations were present, including representatives from UNICEF, the Croatian Legal Centre, Jesuit Refugee Service, Centre for Peace Studies, Medecins du Monde, Save the Children, Croatian Red Cross, and the Rehabilitation Centre for Stress and Trauma.



Second GBV workshop conducted by IOM on 25 August.  
© IOM Croatia 2016

During the reporting period, IOM organized and provided a total of 10 language (five in English and five in Croatian) courses at the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers (RCAS) in Zagreb. IOM also delivered a cultural orientation workshop at the RCAS. IOM interpreters continue to provide support and act as cultural mediators for information dissemination and communication for asylum seekers, migrants, and refugees. As of 29 August, IOM discontinued the language classes and cultural orientation workshops as the project came to a close. In total, IOM delivered 181 language classes (116 in English and 65 in Croatian) and 35 cultural orientation courses.

On 30 August, IOM hosted a closing event at the RCAS in Zagreb, for its project funded under the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), which included the language and cultural orientation classes. The event was attended by more than 50 guests from embassies, international organizations, non-governmental, and governmental agencies.

During the reporting period, IOM completed the distribution of underwear, socks, tunics, scarves, and leggings to

beneficiaries hosted at the RCAS Zagreb. Additionally, 100 SIM cards and 180 top-up phone cards were provided to migrants at both RCAs in Zagreb and Kutina. To help build the book collection in both libraries at the RCAs in Zagreb and Kutina, run by the Croatian Red Cross, IOM purchased over 1,400 books (including novels, encyclopaedias, and handbooks) in several different languages: 210 in Croatian; 249 in English; 184 in Arabic; 146 in Pashtu; 200 in Urdu; 184 in Farsi; and, 58 textbooks in English and Croatian.

## Slovenia

During the reporting period, IOM Slovenia published a research report on the labour integration of beneficiaries of international protection in the country and an accompanying Employment Toolkit in the six most common languages of the target group: Slovene, English, Arabic, Farsi, Urdu, and Tigrinya. The research, which served as a basis for the development of the toolkit, presents an overview of the national context in labour integration by compiling main policies and existing practices in Slovenia as well as planned measures of main governmental stakeholders which are underway due to the increase in the number of people receiving international protection in the country. The publication of both the report and toolkit was made possible with the support of the Council of Europe Development Bank – Migrant and Refugee Fund.

Additionally, IOM purchased and distributed 285 pairs of shoes to beneficiaries hosted at the Asylum home in Ljubljana. The distribution was done in coordination with representatives from the Ministry of Interior and the Asylum home.



Delivery of non-food items for beneficiaries hosted at the Asylum home in Ljubljana. © IOM Slovenia 2016

## Italy

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

Between 29-31 August, IOM in coordination with UNHCR, organized the fourth technical workshop and coordination meeting for Libyan partners on saving lives of migrants and refugees at sea. The meeting was held in Tunis and included participants from the Libyan Ministry of Defence (Coast Guard), Interior Ministry (Coast Security and Directorate for Combatting Illegal Migration), Libyan Red Crescent, and National Centre for Common Diseases, as well as experts from the Danish Refugee Council and the International Committee of the Red Cross. Participants addressed gaps in the capacity of Libyan counterparts and are drawing up standard operating procedures.



IOM organized the fourth technical workshop on saving lives of migrants and refugees at sea. © IOM Libya 2016

On 29 August, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team released its first Flow Monitoring Report (FMR) covering the period between 12 July and 14 August. The FMR provides greater insight into the diversity of migrant backgrounds and intentions in Libya. It highlighted that

during this period, 1,213 migrants were recorded crossing six flow monitoring points, with main migrant nationalities listed as Nigerien, Egyptian, and Nigerian. For the FMR, the DTM team surveyed 453 migrants. 87 per cent of survey respondents reported having left their countries of origin due to economic reasons, five per cent listed conflict or political reasons, while eight per cent listed other reasons. The FMR complements DTM Libya's ongoing Mobility Tracking Reports, which provide ongoing updates about the numbers, needs and accommodation types of internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and migrants in Libya. For the full FMR as well as all Mobility Tracking data reports produced by DTM Libya, please visit [www.globaldtm.info/libya](http://www.globaldtm.info/libya).

Between 28-31 August, IOM distributed hygiene kits and non-food items (NFIs) to a total of 3,063 migrants in various detention centres in Libya, including: 625 kits in Al Fallah centre, along with slippers and cleaning supplies; 350 kits in Salaheddine centre, along with 60 units of cleaning supplies; 188 kits in Misratah centre; 500 kits across Surman, Az Zawiyah, Abu Eissa, and Shuhada Al Nasr centres; and, 1,400 kits in Al Gharyan centre.

During the reporting period, IOM interviewed and medically screened 160 migrants from Burkina Faso who expressed a desire to return to their country. IOM has scheduled their flight for 20 September.

## Niger

On 6 September, IOM Niger welcomed 171 Nigeriens who were provided with assisted voluntary return service from Libya. IOM will assist this group of returnees further by helping them return to their home regions.

During the reporting period, at the IOM transit centres, IOM registered 241 new migrants requesting voluntary return services. Furthermore, IOM provided 387 migrants with shelter, food, and medical and psychosocial support assistance.

IOM provided 41 migrants with return assistance to their country of origin, the majority of whom were returned to Senegal (15) and Liberia (6).

From 30-31 August, IOM in partnership with the National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons (ANLTP), organised a workshop at the Government House of Zinder for representatives from government agencies and NGOs. The workshop was titled "Amendment and Validation of the Standard Operation Procedures Related to the Identification and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking."

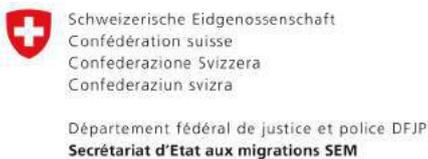
Niger (continued)

Between 25 August and 4 September, IOM Niger organised several migrant sensitization campaigns and video projections that reached more than 1,800 people in the regions of Tahoua, Agadez and Maradi.



IOM conducted migrant sensitization campaigns that reached over 1,800 people. © IOM Niger 2016

IOM operations are supported by:



# Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

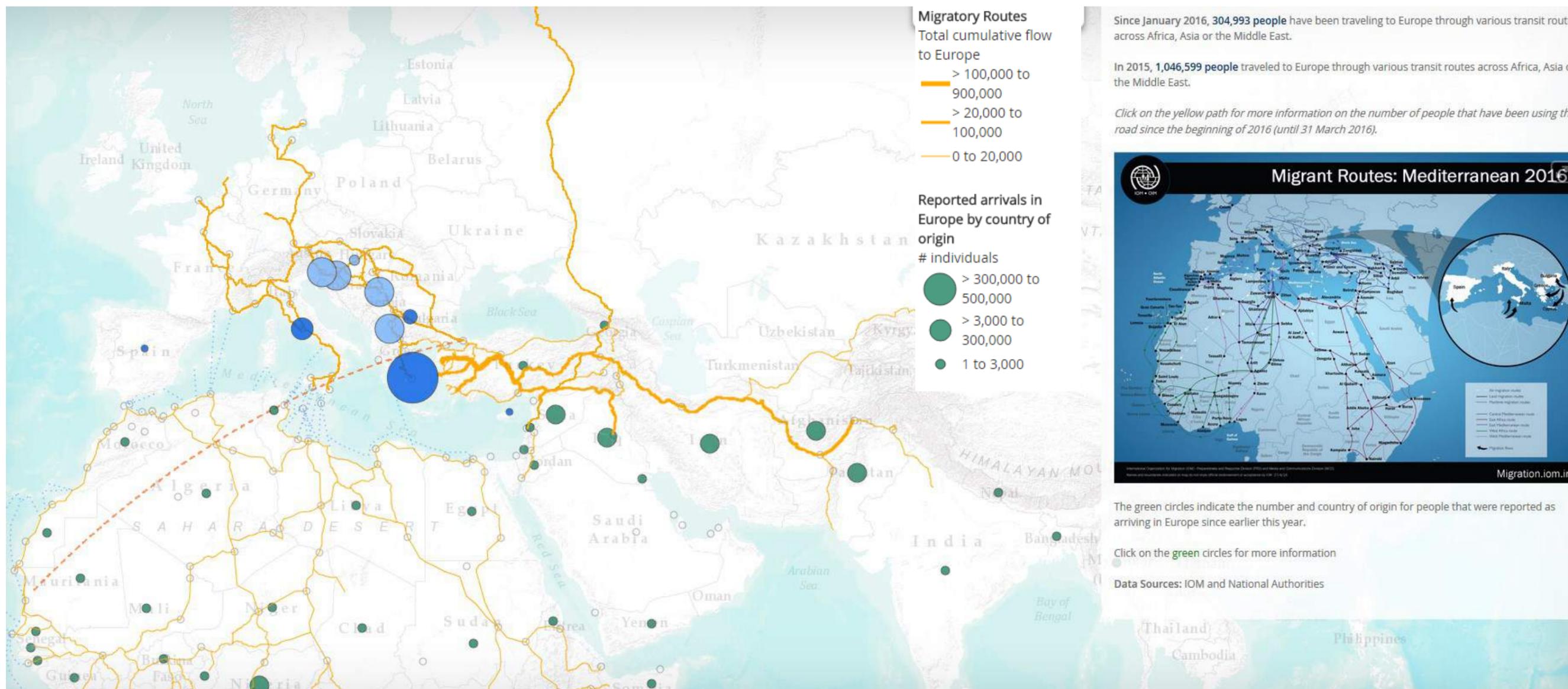
IOM's **online portal** provides information on trends and transit routes related to the Europe / Mediterranean migration crisis. The below depicts a map of the transit routes and the total number of people that travelled to Europe. An updated version of the portal can be found at <http://migration.iom.int>.

## Recent trends in migrant flow

From 24 August to 06 September 2016\*

Country	Greece	Bulgaria	Italy	Serbia	Hungary
<b>Registered Arrivals</b>	1,811	1,295	17,548	198	44
<b>Change in comparison to registered arrivals of previous period (09 August— 23 August)</b>	Increase of 22%	Decrease of 14%	Increase of 199%	Decrease of 39%	Decrease of 74%

\*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 6 September 2016

**Greece** **59,569**

Estimate stranded migrants as of 6 September  
Source: National authorities, IOM and UNHCR

**Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** **188**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 6 September  
Source: National authorities

**Serbia** **2,499**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 6 September  
Source: National authorities

**Croatia** **48**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 24 August  
Source: National authorities

**Slovenia** **292**

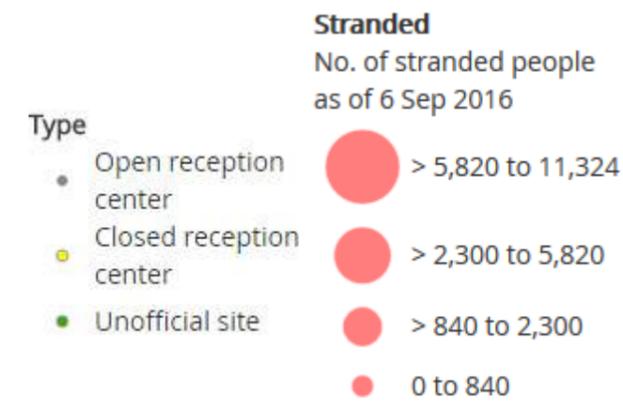
Estimated stranded migrants as of 6 September  
Source: National authorities

**Hungary** **515**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 6 September  
Source: IOM and National authorities

**Bulgaria** **5,507**

Estimated stranded migrants as of 1 September  
Source: Government



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

