



EUROPE / MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 5 November 2015



Highlights

IOM assisted in the relocation of 30 asylum seekers in Greece to Luxembourg © IOM Greece, 2015

■ IOM, UNHCR and the International Institute for Humanitarian Law, are organizing the **first workshop on search and rescue** in the Mediterranean between 14-15 December in San Remo, Italy.

■ In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, another **12 IOM data entry** clerks are now supporting the registration process in the reception centre in Gevgelija.

■ In Serbia, an **additional IOM mobile team** is assisting the Border Police with registration activities at the Presevo centre.

■ In Lampedusa, Sicily, Calabria and Apulia, IOM teams are composed of field officers and interpreter/cultural mediators. They meet migrants and asylum-seekers at landing points and in reception centres, and offer them **legal counselling and assistance**.

■ On 4 November, the Hellenic Asylum Service in close cooperation with IOM, organized the first pilot **relocation services for two Iraqi families and four Syrian families** (totaling 30 people) departing for **Luxembourg**, as part of the EU relocation programme. Prior to their departure, IOM met with the group to explain to them the details of their journey and what to expect once they arrived in Luxembourg.

■ IOM launched its **revised Response Plan for the Mediterranean and Beyond**. The total funding requirement is USD \$780 million through 31 December 2016. The plan can be found at www.iom.int/sites/default/files/press_release/file/IOM-Response-Plan-for-the-Mediterranean-and-Beyond-Oct2015.pdf.

■ To date, IOM has **distributed NFI and hygiene kits** to a total of **10,572 migrants** in Libya and has provided repatriation assistance to a total of **714 migrants from 14 different countries** since the start of 2015.

■ IOM has **increased its capacity** in Croatia to gather data for the displacement tracking matrix (DTM) through the **recruitment of two field interpreters** (Arabic and Urdu), which has increased the numbers of non-English speaking respondents for the survey. As of 3 November, the IOM's **DTM database** counted more than **400 completed surveys**.

■ IOM Niger, in collaboration with IOM Senegal and Gambia, has identified **137 migrants** (100 in Senegal and 37 in Gambia) as beneficiaries for the first **community-based reintegration pilot programme**.

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SITUATION OVERVIEW

An estimated total of **797,609** arrivals by sea have been reported as of 5 November, with **Italy (141,501)** and **Greece (656,108)** receiving the majority of the numbers since the start of the year.

According to the Hellenic Police, it is estimated that between 30 October and 1 November, more than 24,000 migrants and refugees crossed into **Greece**. IOM estimates that by end of October, more than 200,000 migrants and refugees have crossed through the “blue borders” of the country in that month alone. The high number of arrivals were also accompanied by an increased number of shipwrecks, where within one week, more than 7 incidents were reported by Greek authorities.

In **Turkey**, the Ministry of Interior and the Turkish Coast Guard report that the number of migrants have reached **73,652** as of 1 November. The top five countries of origin are Syria, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Eritrea and Congo.

As of 5 November, a total of **214,343** migrants and refugees have entered the **former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**. The numbers crossing the border and entering into Gevgelija continue to be high with estimated daily arrivals now at 7,000.

During the reporting period, the number of migrants and refugees arriving from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia into **Serbia** have averaged 7,300 per day, with authorities increasing their registration capacity to be able to register approximately 6,700 persons per day in Presevo. In addition to the Presevo centre, the Government has identified a building in Bujanovac to serve as an additional but smaller registration centre (to be used when registration

is high at Presevo centre).

With the closure of the Hungarian/Croatian border, **Slovenia** has witnessed an increase in the number of migrants and refugees arriving. As of 3 November, **139,322** people have arrived in Slovenia. According to the Slovenian Police and the Ministry of Interior, the majority of migrants and refugees entering the country originate from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan.

According to the Ministry of the Interior, a total of **317,990** migrants and refugees have entered into **Croatia** from 16 September to 3 November, with approximately 7,730 arrivals per day on average. During the reporting period, the Ministry of Health reported more than 4,000 medical interventions in the Opatovac Transit Centre and at the Bapska border crossing point. To date, a total of **15,537 medical examinations** have taken place, with 404 patients admitted to the hospital. Health problems are mainly related to exhaustion caused by the long journey, and the most frequently reported issues are related to respiratory problems (especially due to low temperatures in the last few days), joint pains and gastrointestinal disorders. The Social Welfare Centre reported 19 cases of registered unaccompanied minors, but in most cases, it was due to family separation that was successfully resolved.

The **Croatian and Serbian Ministries of Interior** held a meeting on 23 October to discuss the new organized transport arrangement directly from Serbia to a new **transit centre in Slavonski Brod**, Croatia, which has become operational and has received migrants and refugees as of 3 November. Plans are underway to cease using the Berkasovo/Bapska border crossing point between Serbia and Croatia, as new crossings will be routed through Šid, which is closer to the train line bringing arrivals to the new transit centre in Slavonski Brod.

IOM's Response Plan

On 30 October, IOM launched its **revised Response Plan for the Mediterranean and Beyond**. The document outlines in detail IOM's proposed interventions and reaffirms the collective responsibility of states, institutions and organizations to respond to the current situation. The Response Plan focuses on the protection of migrants' rights and calls for enhanced partnership among all stakeholders. The Response Plan details the four pillars of a coordinated approach that will: (1) protect migrants' basic rights; (2) address drivers of irregular migration; (3) promote safe, orderly and dignified human mobility; and (4) strengthen partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development.

The Response Plan integrates required action across countries of origin, transit and destination. The total funding requirement amounts to **USD 780 million** through 31 December 2016. The plan can be found at www.iom.int/sites/default/files/press_release/file/IOM-Response-Plan-for-the-Mediterranean-and-Beyond-Oct2015.pdf.

IOM RESPONSE

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

In preparation for the approaching winter season, IOM is supporting the Government through the establishment of temporary reception centres for migrants and refugees awaiting registration. Initial IOM interventions has focused on **provision of IT equipment** to help the Border Police in Gevgelija shift from manual registration process to an automated one to provide quicker registration of migrants and refugees. IOM has now provided the reception centre in Gevgelija with an **additional 12 data entry** clerks to support the registration process.



The flow of migrants and refugees include a range of vulnerable populations, including undocumented persons and unaccompanied and separated minors, with a significant portion facing protection concerns. To assist this population, IOM is in the process of **procuring vehicles** for social service agencies to facilitate the transport of these vulnerable groups.

IOM will be **providing trainings on migration crisis management and camp coordination and camp management** to the Centre for Crisis Management as well as provide technical equipment to the Centre to increase its preparedness to respond to the migration flows.

Serbia

The IOM team deployed at the southern border in Miratovac continue to assist vulnerable families and individuals through the **provision of transportation** from the border crossing to the registration centre in Presevo, on average 600-700 people per day. Since 1 September, over **20,000 people have been assisted** through this service.

IOM continues to work with relevant authorities in the country in **managing and responding to the migrant and refugee flows** at the border crossings and transit/reception centres. The IOM team deployed to the southern border is assisting the Border Police at the entry point in Miratovac with **flow monitoring**. IOM is also providing necessary information to arriving migrants and refugees on the procedures and services available to them and referring them to the registration centre in Presevo. IOM has **deployed an additional mobile team** to the Presevo centre to assist the Border Police with registration activities.

IOM has also provided **four containers** to the border police staff at the transit camp in Miratovac and supports government institutions through the engagement of locally hired staff to increase the **field presence and capacity** of two institutions, the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration and the Working Group on Mixed Migration Flows.

Greece

On 4 November, the Hellenic Asylum Service in close cooperation with IOM, organized the **first pilot relocation services** for **two Iraqi families and four Syrian families** (totaling 30 people) departing for Luxembourg, as part of the EU relocation programme. Prior to their departure, IOM met with the group to explain to them the details of their journey and what to expect once they arrived in Luxembourg.

The group departed on an Aegean Airline's flight to Brussels **accompanied by an IOM staff** who provided necessary assistance during the flight. Upon their arrival in Brussels, IOM arranged for **transit assistance** and the group was further accompanied by IOM staff as they took a bus from Brussels to Luxembourg.

IOM RESPONSE

Greece (continued)

Based on the data IOM collected from the **early warning and information sharing system** done in collaboration with IOM country offices in Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the number of border crossings has risen by nearly 40% in the last week of October, when compared with the previous week. IOM **informs relevant organizations and authorities on a daily basis** about the expected arrivals at the border based on data collected and analysed, allowing them to plan and adjust their resources accordingly. to address the increased needs of migrants and refugees in Idomeni.

IOM's priorities are to provide **direct assistance and information to migrants and refugees** arriving in Greece, to **identify vulnerable cases** and help or refer them to the proper services. IOM also contributed to the operations of the Idomeni transit centre. For the centre, IOM has installed two chemical toilets for people with disabilities as well as rub halls to provide a secure environment for those waiting to cross the borders.

IOM staff continue to be present in the islands of Lesvos, Samos, Kos and Crete and work closely with authorities (Frontex, the Hellenic Coast Guard and the First Reception Service) to **identify vulnerable migrants and refugees**, including unaccompanied children, elderly, and those with medical needs. Identified cases are referred to the proper services so that they are provided with the necessary care and have immediate access to health care, if necessary. As part of the mobile units of the First Reception Service in Lesvos and Samos Islands, IOM staff provide newly arrived migrants and refugees with **information on their rights and available services** in their language.

Croatia

With the opening of the new transit centre in Slavonski Brod, IOM will continue with the flow monitoring survey in the Opatovac transit centre until the centre is completely closed by the authorities. IOM has also **increased its capacity** to gather data for the displacement tracking matrix (DTM) through the **recruitment of two field interpreters** (Arabic and Urdu), which has increased the numbers of non-English speaking respondents for the survey. As of 3 November, the IOM's **DTM database** counted more than **400 completed surveys**.

In addition to providing assistance for IOM's data collecting activities, the translators also provide other support at the

Opatovac transit centre, including **family tracing and reunification** (led by the Croatian Red Cross) and **migrant medical aid** (provided by the Ministry of Health).



IOM conducts flow monitoring survey in Urdu at Opatovac transit centre
© IOM Croatia, 2015

As part of the IOM's effort to provide emergency shelter for the upcoming winter season, IOM has procured **20 containers** for the new centre. On 29 October, 10 out of the 20 containers supplied by IOM have been delivered and transported by the Ministry of the Interior to the Slavonski Brod transit centre. The remaining 10 containers are expected to arrive by next week. These containers will host the most vulnerable migrants and refugees during their stay at the transit centre. IOM is also planning the procurement **of facilities**, including showers, washrooms, and electrical heaters, for the new centre.

Italy

IOM has teams in Lampedusa, Sicily, Calabria, and Apulia that are composed of field officers and interpreter/cultural mediators who meet with migrants and asylum-seekers at landing points and in reception centres to support them with **legal counselling and assistance**. IOM assistance includes **referral of vulnerable cases**, such as victims of trafficking, medical cases and unaccompanied children, as well as **family reunification** activities for those who were separated during rescues operations.

IOM RESPONSE

Italy (continued)

IOM has two anti-trafficking teams working in Sicily and Apulia with the specific aim of enhancing detention and **identification of victims of trafficking and exploitation**. IOM has contributed in the identification and referral to the relevant authorities of vulnerable migrants, including unaccompanied minors who were mistakenly identified as adults during the disembarkation procedure.



IOM provides information to arriving migrants in Sicily
© IOM Rome, 2015

As of 3 November 2015, IOM, together with its partners and through its legal roving teams in Sicily, Calabria and Apulia, has assisted with more than **386 boat landings** and has provided **assistance and legal counselling** to an estimated 95% of the migrants and asylum-seekers arriving by sea. IOM informs the arrivals of Italian migration rules and procedures, on the risks of irregular migration, and **monitors the assistance procedures** carried out in the reception centres to ensure that migrants' rights are respected and needs are met.

Turkey

IOM will facilitate a technical conversation between the Turkish Coast Guards (TCG) and Norwegian officials on potential lifesaving technologies to be used in the

Mediterranean and Aegean Seas. IOM is also coordinating with TCG to send their representatives for the **first workshop on search and rescue** in the Mediterranean to take place between 14 – 15 December in San Remo, Italy. The workshop will be jointly conducted by the International Institute for Humanitarian Law, IOM, and UNHCR.

Niger

Between 20 – 27 October, 6 migrants were hosted in the centre of Arlit upon their return from Algeria (4 from Cameroon, 1 from Chad, and 1 from Mali) and 53 were assisted in Niamey. In the centre and in Niamey, all migrants received direct assistance from IOM, including accommodation, food, water and medical screening.

IOM has organized **transport assistance for 14 migrants**, 4 coming back from Algeria (assisted in Arlit, then in Agadez and Niamey), and 10 coming back from Libya. They will be returning to Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Cameroon, and Mali.

On 30 October, IOM **registered 382 returning migrants** from Algeria in the Agadez transit centre. Out of the total, 214 (56%) were adults and 167 (44%) were minors, including 105 children under the age of 5. Over 94% of the returnees were native to the region of Zinder, from the departments of Kantché, Maradi, and Agadez. Since December 2014, a total of 4,962 migrants have returned from Algeria, the majority (3,343) originating from the Zinder region.

As Phase 1 of the **Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM)** continues to be rolled out, IOM Niger, in collaboration with IOM Senegal and Gambia, has **identified 137 migrants** (100 in Senegal and 37 in Gambia) as beneficiaries for the first **community-based reintegration pilot programme**. After their transit in Agadez, these migrants are returned to their communities where reintegration projects are currently being identified. Community members are expected to participate in these projects, which are monitored by IOM in the respective countries. Further pilot projects are planned for the coming weeks as part of the MRRM, which will be **linked to reintegration and development initiatives** proposed as alternatives to irregular migration to Europe via Niger and Libya.

IOM RESPONSE

Libya

Ongoing unrest in some regions inside Libya has created greater humanitarian needs, with an increase in the number of IDPs, and an increase in the number of migrants, especially those from sub-Saharan Africa, being rounded up and arrested in migrant retention centres run either by the Directorate for Combatting Illegal Migration or by local militias. Due to deteriorating weather conditions, a decrease in the number of migrants trying to reach Italy by sea has been noted, but the number of shipwrecks have increased as well as the number of dead migrant bodies found. In the month of October, more than 148 bodies have washed up on the Libyan coast while several hundreds of migrants have been rescued at sea by the Libyan Coast Guards and transported back to Libya.

IOM continues to provide timely and urgently-needed humanitarian assistance to migrants who have been rescued at sea as well as to those in migrant retention centres. During the reporting period, IOM **distributed 121 hygiene kits** to migrants rescued at sea in Tajoura upon their disembarkation. IOM also distributed **142 hygiene kits** to migrants in Abu Sleem migrant retention centre, as well as **1,216 non-food item (NFI) and hygiene kits** to migrants in Alquewa, Misrata, Surman and Al Khums migrant retention centres.

The distribution of NFI and hygiene kits took place immediately after IOM had **sterilized and disinfected three of the migrant retention centres** in Surman, Misrata and Alquewa. The three centres are either used to solely or temporarily accommodate women and children. Once cleaning and disinfection had taken place, IOM conducted a **training on how to maintain safe sanitary conditions** in the centres for the staff, complemented by the distribution of cleaning kits, which included gloves, face masks, mops, rubber brushes and plastic sprays. To date, IOM has **distributed NFI and hygiene kits** to a total of **10,572 migrants**.

IOM also continues to provide **humanitarian repatriation assistance** to migrants stranded inside of Libya. IOM organized the safe return of **30 Bangladeshi nationals back to Dhaka**, all of whom were part of a group of migrants rescued at sea following a shipwreck off the Libyan coast in September. In addition to their safe return back to Bangladesh, IOM will also provide the returnees with

reintegration assistance. With the latest return of migrants to Dhaka, IOM has provided repatriation assistance to a total of **714 migrants from 14 different countries** since the start of 2015.

From 9 – 10 November, IOM will host the **Technical Workshop and Coordination Meeting** in Tunis, Tunisia for 25 representatives from the Libyan Coast Guard, the Directorate for Combatting Illegal Migration and the Libyan Red Crescent. This joint IOM-UNHCR initiative is part of a series of technical meetings and capacity building activities aimed at enhancing the response of Libyan authorities rescuing migrants at sea, as well as improve the situation of those rescued upon disembarkation.



IOM also organized the **monthly coordination meeting** for its implementing partners between 18 – 19 October. Five local NGO representatives attended the meeting to discuss the progress of intervention activities carried out inside Libya. Major challenges and future plans were also discussed to help feed into the strategic planning of future operations. Two sessions were devoted to presenting and discussing the **establishment of IOM's DTM system** and plans for rolling it out in all of Libya. IOM experts shared their methodology for collecting data on IDPs and migrants in Libya.

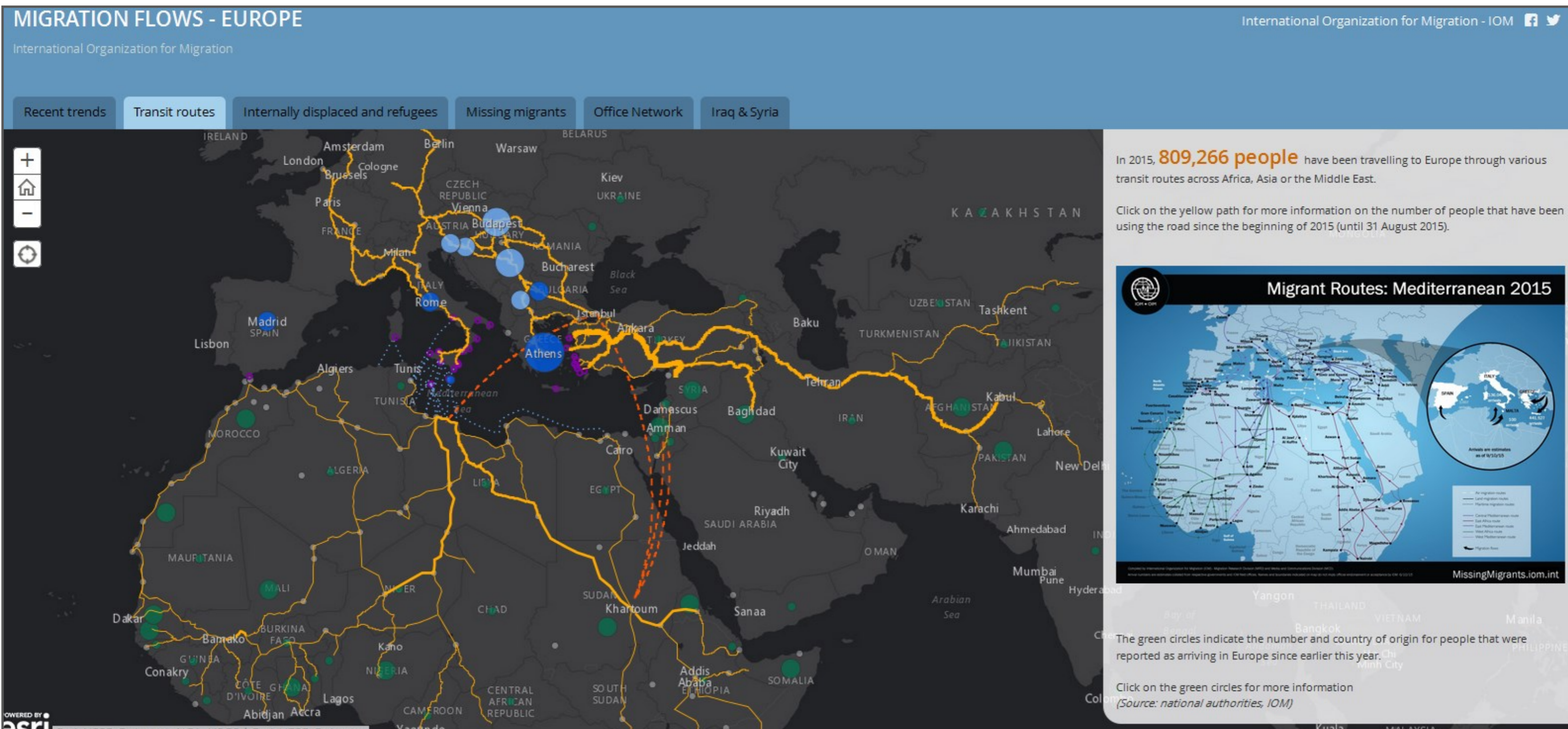
Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

In response to the current migration flows, IOM has **launched an online portal** of trends and transit routes related to the Europe / Mediterranean migration crisis. The below depicts a map of the transit routes and the portal can be found at <http://migration.iom.int>.

Recent trends

Between 29 October and 05 November 2015

Country	Slovenia	Greece	Hungary	Italy	Macedonia
Registered Arrivals	32,240	39,054	65	865	24,386
Change in comparison to registered arrivals of previous week (21 to 28 of October)	decrease of 50%	decrease of 8%	decrease of 29%	increase of 66%	increase of 5%



Europe / Mediterranean Migration Response

Movement Trends and Numbers

ARRIVALS

Italy **141,501**

Estimate arrivals as of 5 November
Source: IOM

Greece **656,108**

Estimate arrivals from land and sea
as of 5 November
Source: IOM

Macedonia **214,343**

People registered between June to
5 November
Source: Government

*Reports from the field indicate that the number of people registered
represents approximately 50% of the migrants entering Macedonia*

Serbia **308,194**

Estimate arrivals as of 27 October
Source: IOM

Croatia **317,990**

Estimate arrivals as of 3 November
Source: Government

Slovenia **139,322**

Initial estimate as of 3 November
Source: Government


Hungary **390,929**

Estimate arrivals as of 3 November
Source: Government

Spain **3,845**

Estimate arrivals as of 20 October
Source: IOM

MOBILITY TRACKING & MAPPING

 **POINTS of INTEREST** include Border Crossing Points (Entry/Exit), Organized Transit Points/Reception Centres, and Spontaneous Transit Points.

**Mapping and tracking exercise is ongoing and points will be refined on the next update.*

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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As of 5 November 2015
sources: IOM • feedback: prd@iom.int

