

9 August 2018

Regional IM Working Group

– Meeting minutes

Present: UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, Lumos

Location: IOM, Geneva

General updates

1. The [published last meeting minutes](#) (28 June 2018).
2. For the most recent updates, see the [Mediterranean response data portal](#).

Recent changes in arrivals trends

In the north of Italy, there has been an increase in arrivals due to people that had passed through the Balkans in 2015 and after moving onwards to Germany where they applied for asylum, have had their asylum applications rejected. Some of these failed asylum seekers (primarily Pakistanis and Afghans) have now moved down to Italy and other countries they perceive as having less chance of returns. Some have re-applied for asylum.

Profiling updates

IOM's DTM started with the Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS) in Spain, Italy, BiH, Montenegro and Albania. Activities in Greece will start in the last quarter of the year. IOM DTM team is also in contact with the country office in Serbia to explore the possibility of conducting the FMS with migrants and refugees in Serbia.

The reports for both Italy and Spain are being finalised by UNHCR and will be available at the end of September.

UNICEF's planned survey of refugee and migrant children that are coming to age in Italy will be a collaboration between UNICEF, IOM and UNHCR. A consultant to conduct the research is now close to being selected.

UNHCR are planning a follow-up assessment of refugee and migrant children in BiH (the previous one was conducted in May).

Lumos research project on care arrangements for children

Responses to the questionnaire for the data collection from the centres (see the [concept note](#)) remain limited in all countries. The relevant focal points will follow up. At the end of the summer, IOM will hire a consultant to support the data collection in Italy and UNHCR are reviewing similar options for Spain. In France, Lumos and UNICEF will meet with UNICEF's national committee, to explore options to support this data collection. In Greece, Metadrasi will provide responses in early September.

The terms of reference for the steering group should be updated to reflect the more active role of UNHCR, UNICEF and IOM.

Factsheet on refugee and migrant children

Data is now becoming available for the mid-year update. Key gaps include arrival data to Spain, for which demographic disaggregation remains unavailable in 2018. UNHCR will work on the first draft and share with UNICEF and IOM.

Education factsheet

Detailed comments on the latest draft have been received and will be compiled by UNICEF. The intention is to produce the graphic design version and publish the factsheet in September.

IMWG workshop plans 2018

The inter-agency workshop with field participation being organised by IOM will now take place later in the year, most likely in Q4, and still in Vienna.

Plans for the research workshop previously discussed are being reviewed. One of the most interesting components to be discussed was to improve the analysis of qualitative data in the region, however pilot work over the summer has shown that using tools such as beta.thedeep.io requires considerable human resources to tag all relevant information in documents. Options to open this work up to a wider group of interested participants are being explored and could include a crowd-sourcing project and a hackathon event.

Data portal improvements

The [inter-agency data portal](#) managed by UNHCR will be updated during summer 2018 with broader coverage of European countries, a greater number of published relevant datasets at both regional and country levels, and more accessible interactive data visualisations will be developed, which will include data on Stateless, asylum-seekers and refugees. One of the first templates available for review is based on [outgoing requests for Dublin returns](#). The next step is now to embed these interactive visualisations in the portal.

Inter-agency IM focal point list in Europe

The list of IM officers in Europe has been created on [Humanitarian ID](#) for [Europe Information Management](#), and continues to be updated. All other IM officers and IM focal points in Europe are warmly encouraged to join the list.

AoB

1. UNHCR will have a dedicated IM officer in Spain for the first time as of the end of August. The new regional IM for the Balkans should arrive in October.
2. The Swedish Migration Agency are holding a workshop at the end of September to showcase their recent project to analyse their qualitative data relating to asylum seekers. UNHCR to forward the link.

3. The next instalment of UNHCR's Desperate Journeys is being produced and will be published in September.

Follow up actions

1. All IMs are welcome to join the [Europe Information Management](#) group on [Humanitarian ID](#).
2. Lumos - follow up on the data collection in each country and update the ToRs of the Steering Group.
3. Refugee and migrant children factsheet - UNHCR will work on the first draft and share with UNICEF and IOM.
4. Education factsheet - UNICEF to compile the comments received in order to finalise and publish the factsheet in September.

Next meeting

9 October 2018 (1100 to 1230) at UNHCR in Geneva