KEY FACTS

- 1,436 asylum-seekers and refugees participated in the Participatory Assessment exercise in 158 Focus Group Discussions (FGD), including 787 men and 649 women.

- 128 children (118 boys/10 girls) took part of whom 112 are unaccompanied or separated children (UASC).

- 41 actors participated from the authorities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other United Nations (UN) agencies.

- FGDs run in 11 locations: 88 on the islands and 70 on the mainland; 55 in Reception and Identification Centers, 31 in accommodation sites and 72 in urban locations.

- FGD conducted in Farsi, Arabic, French, English, Kirmanji, Sorani, Greek, Urdu and Dari with people from 26 different countries, including Greece.

Key issues across Greece identified by participants

- Widespread sense of insecurity: inadequate law enforcement, creating a culture of impunity particularly in the RICs and sites

- Communities not consulted and involved in solutions: Absence of outreach, community-based and social cohesion programmes

- Confidentiality compromised: Lack of female staff in various agencies including the Police, and amongst interpreters and medical staff

- Lack of information, insufficient interpretation (services), limited awareness of national services, asylum procedures, and complaint and reporting mechanisms

Priority recommendations of participants

- Improve law enforcement

- Engage communities in decisions and solutions and bring communities together

- Increase advocacy to improve access to public services (education, medical, psychological)

- Promote the enrolment of all children in the public school system and teach Greek

- Help with employment and paperwork.

- Inform about services and ensure interpretation (in schools, hospitals etc.)

For feedback please contact: great@unhcr.org