Cash Assistance Update

Overview
In June, 58,757 eligible refugees and asylum-seekers (35,415 families) received cash assistance in Greece, in 90 locations.

UNHCR provides cash assistance in Greece, as part of the ESTIA programme, funded by the European Commission. Cash assistance restores dignity and empowers asylum-seekers and refugees who can now choose how to cover their basic needs. It also contributes directly to the economy of the host community through the purchase of services and goods. UNHCR in Greece works with the Greece Cash Alliance partners the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and METAdrasi.

Demographics of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers Assisted with Cash
Since April 2017, 204,569 eligible individuals have received cash assistance in Greece at least once. Eligibility is assessed on the basis of one’s date of entry in the country, legal status and current location.

Of the 58,757 individuals who received cash assistance this month, 1,945 have international protection in Greece. Out of 35,415 families, 21% were women, 49% men and 30% children.
22% of all who received cash assistance this month were families of five members or more and a further 44% were single adults. 61% of individuals in the cash assistance scheme are from Afghanistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Pakistan and DRC.

The amount of cash assistance distributed to each household is proportionate to the family size. It ranges between 75 euros for an individual in catered accommodation, to 490 euros for a family of six members or more in self-catered accommodation.

Location of Individuals Receiving Cash Assistance

Asylum-seekers and refugees receiving cash assistance reside in 90 locations in Greece. 55% of those receiving cash assistance are located in Attica, with 12% currently on the islands and a further 15% in Central Macedonia.