

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL OFFICE

REFUGEE AND MIGRANT RESPONSE IN EUROPE
CONSOLIDATED EMERGENCY REPORT 2021



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Expression of Thanks

UNICEF is entirely funded by the voluntary contributions of millions of individuals worldwide, governments, intergovernmental organizations, foundations, and the private sector. Through these contributions, especially flexible Thematic Funds, UNICEF is able to deliver on its mandate to advocate for and protect the rights of children, help meet their basic needs, and expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. We take this opportunity to thank all our partners for their commitment and trust in UNICEF.

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UNICEF is looking forward to continuing its strong collaboration with the EU and its member states, United Nations agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs), Child Rights Ombudspersons and National Committees to ensure no child is left behind.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

BIA	Best Interests Assessment
BID	Best Interests Determination
BPRM	The United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
CCAC	Closed Control Access Centres
CFS	Child Friendly Spaces
CFSH	Child and Family Support Hubs
CRC	Convention for the Rights of the Child
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
ECARO	UNICEF Europe and Central Asia Regional Office
ESTIA	Emergency Support to Integration and Accommodation
EU	European Union
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GHTF	Global Humanitarian Thematic Funds
HAC	Humanitarian Action for Children
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
MBC	Mother Baby Corner
MdM	Médecins du Monde
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MoE	Ministry of Education
Mol	Ministry of Interior
MoLSP	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
MoMA	Ministry of Migration and Asylum
NFE	Non-formal Education
NFI	Non-Food Items
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OAS	Open Accommodation Sites
PSS	Psychosocial Support
PSEA	Protection from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
RIC	Reception and Identification Centres
SAR	State Agency for Refugees
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SMS	Site Management Support
SoP	Standard Operating Procedures
TRC	Temporary Reception Centres
UASC	Unaccompanied and Separated Children
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

I.Executive Summary



In 2021, UNICEF worked in close collaboration with UN agencies and partners to provide continued support to governments to respond to the humanitarian needs of children on the move, and their families, in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and beyond.

In 2021, UNICEF's interventions in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro reached 79,647 refugee and migrant children (31,522 girls, 48,123 boys)¹ with a range of health, child protection and education services, including MHPSS, case management, and referral. Around 24,000 women, girls, and boys benefitted from GBV prevention and response interventions. UNICEF also supported governments to sustain their national COVID-19 responses aimed at preventing the transmission of COVID-19, mitigating its impact, and facilitated advocacy for inclusion of refugee and migrant populations into national COVID-19 vaccination programmes.

Between January and December 2021, approximately 165,500² refugees and migrants arrived in Europe, a 75 percent increase from 2020. Among them 23,000 (13 percent) were children³. While many countries of arrival in the region serve as transit points, a large number host thousands of migrants and refugees, mainly from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Northern and Sub-Saharan Africa. By the end of 2021, 95,000 refugee and migrant children were present in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro, among them, 16,900 UASC. Despite the decreasing number of arrivals in Greece in 2021, the country still held the largest overall refugee and migrant caseload in the region with 119,700 people, including 31,000 children⁴ and 2,225 UASC, registered. Italy received the highest number of arrivals in 2021 and also hosted the largest number of refugee and migrant children, with 60,160 present in the country, including 12,284 UASC.

Continued and increasing global tensions, the relaxation of some COVID-19 containment measures, including the opening of borders, and favourable weather conditions during the summer of 2021, prompted a surge in movements within and between countries. In addition, the ongoing humanitarian situation in Afghanistan led to an increased number of Afghan refugees and migrants in many countries. Within these contexts, the protection and safeguarding of children has remained at the centre of migration management decision in Northeast Europe, Spain, and other parts of Europe.

The increase in arrivals of refugees and migrants continued to stretch the capacities of some hosting countries, resulting in congested conditions in reception facilities, and constraining sufficient access

¹ This is cumulative results of children reached by varieties of services under health, child protection and education.

² Estimations of arrivals are based on the Bulgaria State Agency for Refugees, the Greece National Centre for Social Solidarity, Greece Ministry of Migration and Asylum, Italy Ministry of Labour, Italy Ministry of Interior and Social Affairs, IOM and UNHCR data as of November/December 2021. Child related data is derived from UNICEF estimates based on different programming sources.

³ UNICEF estimates based on the latest data available from the above sources, and not available for all countries.

⁴ Number of children present is based on information from local authorities, the latest numbers available are from August 2021.

to critical services like health, nutrition, protection, adequate sanitation, hygiene, and education. Already a vulnerable population, refugees and migrants continued to cross dangerous routes to reach Europe, placing them at increased risk of GBV, mental distress, detention, human trafficking, and sexual abuse. Furthermore, continued COVID-19 preventive measures in arrival and transit centres, including restrictions on onward movement and strict quarantine measures without adequate facilities and services, impacted the well-being of refugee and migrant children.

In Greece, COVID-19 related restrictions affected the movement of refugees and migrants, limiting children's ability to physically attend schools, with access to digital learning remaining a challenge for refugee and migrant children without technology and connectivity. In Italy, increased arrivals overwhelmed the capacity of the reception system, already stretched by COVID-19 restrictions. Vulnerable migrants, including UASC, had to isolate for up to two weeks in quarantine vessels or onshore reception facilities, which were often overcrowded, with limited services and no separation between genders and age group. Increased arrivals in Bulgaria put strain on already deteriorating condition in reception centres, including limited access to sanitation and healthcare. In Serbia, civil society organisations continued to document pushbacks at the border, including of children, while COVID-19 continued to affect refugees and migrants with increased cases observed. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the closure of TRCs further limited the already insufficient and inadequate reception conditions for refugee and migrant populations, particularly UASC. Some families were moved to alternate TRCs, but most opted to stay outside, sheltering in abandoned buildings with poor living, hygiene and sanitation conditions and insufficient access to services, including medical care. In Montenegro, with the transition of a new government after three decades, limited systemic capacity to address and coordinate the needs of refugees and migrants remained a challenge.

Following requests for assistance, UNICEF expanded support for refugee and migrant children arriving in Ceuta, Spain, deploying a child protection specialist to provide technical and coordination support, to local authorities to expedite BIA and BID for around 900 children, putting in place SOPs, and establishing case management tools. With the sudden deterioration of the situation in Afghanistan, and consequent evacuation of refugee populations to Albania, Germany and North Macedonia, UNICEF supported host Governments by providing technical assistance, including registration and completing BIAs, for USAC arriving on evacuation flights. UNICEF also responded to the migrant crisis at the Belarus border, providing emergency items and supplies and delivering trainings to enhance the preparedness and capacity of the Country Office in Belarus.

With arrivals in 2021 having increased beyond foreseen estimates, expanded efforts by countries to meet the immediate needs of refugee and migrant children led to an overachievement of most planned targets. Significant funding gaps however remained for child protection support in Greece and Italy, and consequently expected results in these programmes were not fully achieved.

Over 2021, UNICEF delivered and sustained services, while adapting interventions towards need-based services, using innovative technologies to reach refugee and migrant children. Activities within and in response to COVID-19, as well as to strengthen and expand national social systems and capacities to integrate refugee and migrant populations reinforced linkages between humanitarian and development programmes, contributing to fulfilment of the SDGs and supporting government commitments to the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration and on Refugees.

II. Humanitarian Context



2021 saw a 75 percent increase of refugee and migrant arrivals in Europe from the previous year, with the majority from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Northern and Sub-Saharan Africa.⁵ In total, approximately 165,500 new arrivals, including 23,000 (13 percent) children, made the dangerous journeys to Europe. At the end of 2021, 95,000 children, including 16,900 UASC, are present in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro, requiring sustained access to basic services including health, nutrition, protection, sanitation, hygiene, and education.

The substantial increase of refugee and migrant arrivals in 2021 brought significant challenges on existing reception systems, facilities and services, including placing additional pressure on capacities for adequate identification, protection and integration and alternative care options for UASC, leaving some children, young people and families in overcrowded, unsafe accommodation or unable to access protection, legal guardianship and basic services. This was further exacerbated by ongoing COVID-19-related restrictions, which left many children, adolescents and their families, more vulnerable to psychosocial distress and risks related to GBV and sexual abuse.

Multi-sectoral advocacy, coordination and response remain critical at local, national and EU levels to sustainably manage migration and allow children, young people, and families to recover and contribute to inclusive societies. UNICEF is committed to partnering with and supporting European institutions and member states to further advance age and gender-responsive multi-sectoral policies that protect and address the needs of accompanied and unaccompanied children, women, and youth in a comprehensive manner, advancing their social inclusion through improved access to education, health, and social welfare systems that promote tolerance and diversity.

Greece

Greece maintained the heaviest caseload among reporting countries, with 119,700 refugees and migrants present in the country at end of 2021. Between January to December 2021, there were 9,180⁶ new arrivals by sea and land, a 42 percent decrease compared to the same period in 2020, with most from Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq and Pakistan.⁷ Among new arrivals, over 2,250 (25 percent) were children, who comprised 33 percent of sea arrivals and 18 percent of land arrivals. By August 2021, an

⁵ Data available from UNHCR Mediterranean Situation and South-eastern Europe Situation. (2021). UNHCR. <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/>

⁶ Source: sea arrivals – UNHCR, land arrivals – MoMA and National Coordination Center for Border Control, Immigration and Asylum

⁷ Country-of-origin disaggregation for the total population of refugee and migrants in Greece is an estimation, based on proxy data available.

estimated 31,000⁸ children remained present in country, which the number of UASC standing at 2,225 by the end of the year.

Based on data from the MoMA, 28,321 persons applied for international protection in Greece in 2021, 8,445 (30 percent) of which concerned children, the majority (70 percent) boys and girls between 0-13 years old. 18,449 positive decisions providing international protection (refugee status and subsidiary protection on first and second instance) were issued, almost 8,000 (43 percent) concerning children, the majority again 0-13 years old (82 percent).

In the first quarter of 2021, COVID-19 related movement restrictions continued to affect refugees and migrants and their access to services. Children could not physically attend schools and access to digital learning remained a challenge for many refugee and migrant children with limited technology and internet connectivity.

In the second quarter of 2021, changes in the first and second-line reception framework led to the closure of five OAS and termination of emergency hotel accommodation programmes for refugees and migrants. MoMA amended the financial assistance scheme, limiting it to those physically present within the OAS, RICs and ESTIA programmes. This amendment came into effect on 1st July, leaving a considerable number of self-settled asylum seekers unable to access such assistance.

Throughout the year, the Government of Greece continued to make significant efforts to address the needs of refugees and migrants, such as increasing reception capacity and the transfer of people (including UASC) from the islands to reception facilities on the mainland or other EU member states, supported by UNICEF, the European Commission, and other partners. In 2021, over 14,000 refugee and migrants were transferred to the mainland, leaving 3,211 remaining in five RICs/CCAC on the Aegean islands. With continued advocacy and technical support, over 600 unaccompanied and separated children were supported with ongoing voluntary scheme from Greece to EU member states.

In 2021, UNICEF continued responding to continued need generated by the devastating fire in the Moria RIC in September 2020, co-chairing the WASH Sector Working Group of the temporary Mavrovouni RIC in Lesvos and providing strategic and technical support in the Government and sector.

Italy

In 2021, Italy experienced a significant surge in arrivals, with 67,040 new refugees and migrants, a 95 percent increase compared to the previous year (34,154).⁹ Among the new arrivals, an estimated 7 percent were women and 19 percent were boys and girls.¹⁰ Main countries of origin were Tunisia, Egypt, and Bangladesh. As of December 2021, 78,421 refugee and migrants were hosted in reception centres, including 12,284 UASC, 3 percent of whom girls.¹¹ Only children officially registered as UASC are included in official statistics, with significant gaps related to identification due to lack of systematic age assessment procedures. In particular, the identification of unaccompanied and separated girls remained a challenge in Italy, as they are often hidden within other families or groups, self-identify as over 18, or are not correctly identified as UASC because they are married or pregnant.¹²

In 2021, refugees and migrants, including children, had to adhere, in accordance with official COVID-19 prevention regulation, to a mandatory quarantine period of ten days (previously two-weeks) onboard offshore quarantine vessels or in quarantine facilities onshore. Some facilities did not guarantee separate living conditions by gender and age, and quarantine periods were at times prolonged by challenges in maintaining adequate physical distancing and limited spaces, while access to services and recreational activities remained limited.

Despite significant efforts by the Government, gaps remained in the provision of equitable services and protection of refugee and migrant children. In particular, limited child safeguarding and GBV risk mitigation strategies in reception centres and challenges for many UASC, children and women in accessing age, gender and culturally appropriate psychosocial support services, especially in the first

⁸ Number of children present is based on information from local authorities, the latest numbers available are from August 2021.

⁹ [Cruscotto Statistico Giornaliero, Ministero dell'Interno](#)

¹⁰ [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees data](#)

¹¹ <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/temi-e-priorita/immigrazione/focus-on/minori-stranieri/Documents/Report-MSNA-mese-dicembre-2021.pdf>

¹² [UNICEF ECARO, Making the Invisible Visible: The identification of unaccompanied and separated girls in Bulgaria, Greece, Italy and Serbia](#)

phase of the reception system¹³, which impacted the wellbeing and mental health of children and women. The COVID-19 pandemic added pressure on pre-existing gaps in MHPSS services within the reception system, highlighting the need for a well-structured coordination mechanism to identify psychological distress and systematically activate prompt referral to appropriate services. The fragmented system resulted in differences in living conditions, access to services, and infrastructure across the country, which often remained inadequate to support increased arrivals as well as already vulnerable populations. Gaps remained in access to child-appropriate alternative care solutions for UASC, like foster families, while appointments of guardianship responsibilities were often not timely.

In key entry and transit points, like *Lampedusa* and *Ventimiglia*, GBV protection and support services remained inadequate for girls and women. Furthermore, the referral mechanism for survivors of GBV was not systematic and reception workers were often not adequately trained to support and refer these cases to specialized services.

As a result of COVID-19 prevention measures, education and professional training for young migrants faced many disruptions, leading to significant demotivation and other difficulties, including language barriers. According to findings of a U-Report poll in the first half of 2021, three out of ten participants shared that due to COVID-19, migrants and refugees were unable to find work or lost their jobs.

Bulgaria

Bulgaria recorded the highest overall number of refugees in the last four years, with 10,799 new arrivals in 2021.¹⁴ 10,999 persons, of whom 3,733 children (3,172 UASC, comprising 30 girls, 3,142 boys), applied for international protection, with the majority of applicants from Afghanistan and Syria.¹⁵ The overall enrolment rate among asylum-seeking children continued to remain low in Bulgaria, as most are unaccompanied and opt to travel further. Out of children who applied for protection, only 109 were enrolled in schools during the 2021-2022 school year.¹⁶ To increase the enrolment of children in schools, UNICEF worked to improve the capacity of schools and teachers for the inclusion of refugee/asylum seeking children. Refugees and asylum-seekers living outside of reception centres and persons with international protection in Bulgaria also faced problems finding a job and meeting their basic needs.

UNICEF findings from field missions in *Harmanli*, *Lyubimets*, *Elhovo*, *Sofia* (registration and reception centers of SAR and the two Safety Zones), noted challenges due to the increased number of refugees and migrants in 2021, including deteriorating condition of reception centers, limited hygiene facilities, and lack of interpreters and social workers at SAR centers, inadequate capacity of the two Safety Zones for UASC, and insufficient access to health care for migrants arriving with health issues.

Due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases, the Government declared the extension of the COVID-19 state of emergency until the end of March 2022. While asylum-seekers at state centers and migrants at the MoI detention centers were included in national COVID-19 vaccination programs, inadequate information on the benefits of COVID-19 vaccine and lack of interpretation and cultural mediation resulted in low vaccination uptake and rates.

Serbia

Serbia recorded 60,407 arrivals in 2021,¹⁷ with 4,550 refugees and migrants present, among them 282 children (89 girls, 193 boys) by the end of the year. Majority arrivals were from Syria, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.¹⁸ Increased arrivals put additional strain on services and resources available, resulting in new gaps related to protection, legal aid, access to education, WASH, and health services. In addition, insufficiently regulated age assessment procedures continued to impede proper identification and support for UASC transiting through Serbia. Antimigrant sentiments also continued within the political rhetoric related to the upcoming elections in spring 2022. The Border Violence Monitoring Network continued to document pushbacks at borders, including for children.

¹³ The first phase of the reception model provides first aid and identification, implemented in the crisis points present at the main disembarkation places.

¹⁴ Bulgarian Ministry of Interior, Migration Statistics for 2021.

¹⁵ State Agency for Refugees data, 31 December 2021.

¹⁶ No unified database on refugee and migrant students exists. The data is provided by SAR as of 31 December 2021.

¹⁷ As per UNHCR data

¹⁸ Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migration data as of December 2021.

Access to education for adolescents was significantly challenged by COVID-19, due to a lack of tailored solutions for this age group and insufficient translators. Despite these challenges, UNICEF and partners in the child protection working group, organized online and in-person educational activities and vocational courses for adolescents and youth to address these gaps.

At the end of the year, the new wave of the COVID-19 Omicron variant significantly affected the refugees and migrants, with a rise in registered cases. Authorities were however able to control the spread in the reception/asylum centers and ensured access to COVID-19 vaccinations for the refugee and migrant population.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Between January and December 2021, 15,740 new arrivals¹⁹ were reported in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including 146 were UASC. The majority of arrivals were from Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran.

In 2021, the Ministry of Security and the Service for Foreigners' Affairs took the lead in humanitarian response and management of TRCs, including outreach activities. The Government positioned the Red Cross Society to coordinate the work of all agencies involved in assisting refugees, migrants and asylum-seeking populations residing outside of facilities.

Lack of available accommodation capacities in TRCs continued to pose a challenge to ensuring sufficient and adequate reception conditions for refugee and migrant populations, particularly UASC who, aside from accommodation in TRCs, had limited formal alternative care options available to them. With the closure of TRC *Bira* at the end of 2020 and TRC *Sedra* in June 2021, accommodation capacities were further reduced, making the situation even more difficult. Some families were moved to TRC *Borici* in *Una Sana Canton*, but most opted to stay outside in abandoned buildings with poor sanitary and hygienic conditions and without medical supervision or care. The situation has somewhat improved with the opening of *Lipa* camp in November 2021, which accommodates single males, families, and UASC. By the end of 2021, there were 2,700 refugees and migrants accommodated in TRCs, including 292 children and 146 UASC. Challenges remained to address the protection issues and accommodation for the estimated 400 refugee and migrants living outside TRCs.

Families and UASC stayed for a relatively shorter period of time than usual, which aggravated disruptions in learning process. Low literacy rates were observed, primarily among UASC. A recurring challenge in education was the lack of access to secondary education for children older than 15 years. UNICEF continued working with the Ministry of Education to ensure access to vocational education and training for refugee and migrant children above the age of 15 years in *Sarajevo Canton*.

Montenegro

In 2021, 3,184 refugees and migrants arrived in Montenegro, including 813 children. While overall arrivals remained similar to 2020, there was an increase by almost 50 percent in the number of children transitioning through Montenegro.²⁰ Arrivals were mostly from Afghanistan and Morocco.

Due to the change of government after three decades, Montenegro has been through a transition period, with capacities of cross-sectoral professionals dealing with refugees and migrants remaining a challenge. Although all children on the move living in Montenegro were enrolled in schools or kindergartens, additional support was required to provide language training and achieve educational objectives. On exit routes in *Pljevlja* and *Rozaje*, additional health assistance was needed, particularly for families stranded in the woods for several days and at irregular crossings.

Despite Government's efforts to improve preparedness and response capacity, the situation remained challenging due to limited coordination of partners and gaps in systematic response to protection and care that go beyond covering basic needs.

¹⁹ The Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina and UNHCR statistics.

²⁰ Montenegro authorities and UNHCR statistics.

III. Humanitarian Results



In line with the [Global Programme Framework on Children on the Move](#), UNICEF's response to the needs of refugee and migrant children and women in 2021 prioritized their protection, the end of child immigration detention, family unity, unhindered access to health and education services, including provision of information on risk communication, improved reception conditions, and the fight against xenophobia and discrimination. The response complements the Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees and promotes effective scale-up models.

In 2021, UNICEF's interventions in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro reached 41,000 refugee and migrant children with child protection services, including MHPSS, case management and referral. Over 23,000 children attended formal and non-formal education activities. Around 24,000 women, girls, and boys benefitted from GBV prevention and response interventions. 6,031 mothers and children were provided with access to health and nutrition services, and 4,831 children received WASH and basic supplies. In addition, 4,212 adolescents benefitted from youth empowerment and participation activities which amplified their voices to influence policies. With the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF also supported national responses, including provision of critical supplies, enhancing risk communication to refugee and migrant population, and advocating for, and facilitating inclusion of refugee and migrant populations into national COVID-19 vaccination programmes.

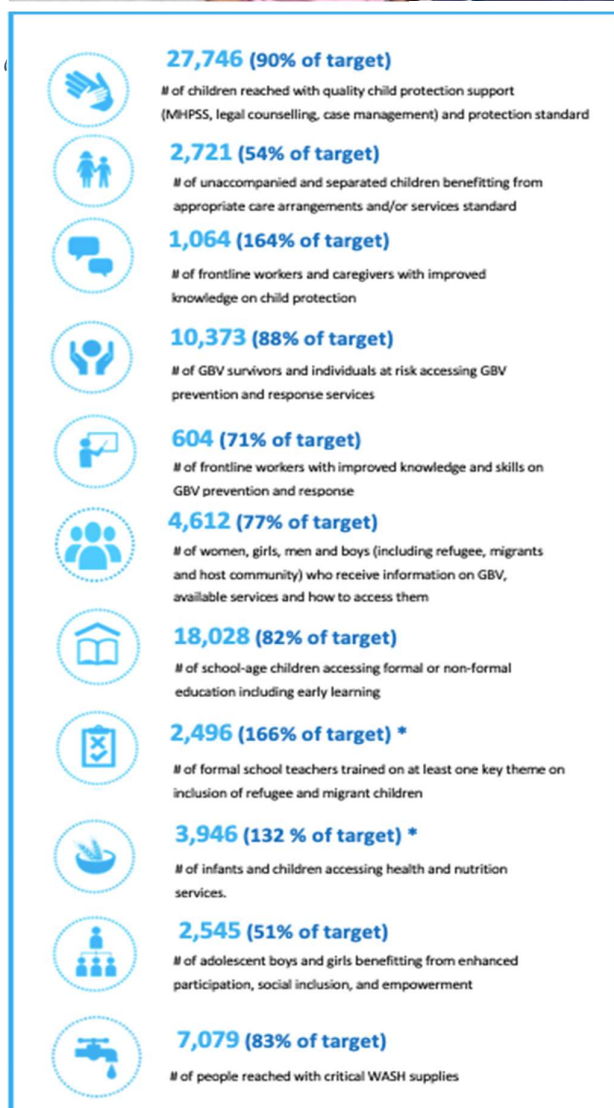
Over the course of 2021, UNICEF delivered and sustained services, while adapting its interventions towards need-based services and using innovative technologies to reach refugee and migrant children. Planned activities continued within and in response to the epidemiological situation of COVID-19, reinforcing linkages between the humanitarian and development programmes, contributing to the fulfilment of the SDGs, and supporting government commitments on the implementation of the Global Compacts on Migration and on Refugees.



Greece



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*targets overachieved because of increased need for health services due to COVID-19 and services provided through online modality

In 2021, UNICEF reached 55,665 (23,927 girls, 31,738 boys) refugee and migrant children with health and nutrition, child protection, education and WASH services.

UNICEF reached 3,946 children and women (685 girls, 723 boys, 2,538 women) with health and nutrition services, including Mother and Baby Care services. 15,560 children benefitted from health checks, life-saving vaccines, and referrals throughout the year. Over 200 frontline professionals were trained on IYCF, to better support beneficiary caregivers. The refugee and migrant population were also included in the national COVID-19 vaccination programme.

UNICEF reached 22,077 children (9,160 girls, 12,917 boys) with child protection services, including MHPSS. 2,721 UASC (171 girls, 2,550 boys) were reunited with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care services.

UNICEF continued to support the ongoing voluntary scheme to relocate UASC from Greece to other EU member states, with over 600 UASC successfully relocated, bringing the total to 1,179 UASC relocations since the start of the scheme in 2020.

Support continued in the 16 Child and Family Support Hubs in OAS on the mainland as well as on the islands of *Samos* and *Lesvos*. In *Lesvos* and *Samos*, movement restrictions persisted for the population residing in the RICs. UNICEF and its implementing partners provided protection services through a hybrid model consisting of remote activities, the use of mobile

teams, and temporary spaces inside the RICs. Capacity building on child protection continued for Hellenic National Public Health Organization staff, camp managers, and new safe zone staff in the OAS. UNICEF concluded the child protection intervention in OAS under the SMS project and all child protection cases were handed over to the IOM. UNICEF continued working with the General Secretariat for Demographic and Family Policy and Gender Equality to build the capacity of partners on GBV prevention and services. 10,373 people (8,686 women, 1,100 girls and 436 boys and 151 men) reached with information on available GBV services.

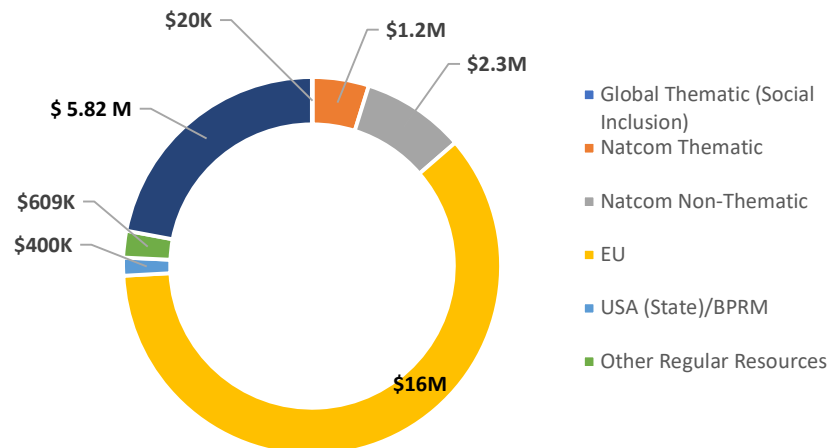
In 2021, UNICEF led the Education Sector Working group at national and *Lesvos* level. Throughout the year, 18,028 refugee and migrant children (4-17 years old) were provided formal and/or non-formal education. The Government of Greece and UNICEF launched the education programme “All Children in Education” and expanded it to 25 OAS on the mainland, five RICs/CCAC on the Aegean islands and nine urban centers in *Athens* and *Thessaloniki*, providing NFE to refugee and migrant children. NFE interventions of UNHCR on the islands of *Chios*, *Kos* and *Lesvos* were handed over to UNICEF and integrated within the programme. A capacity building programme for facilitators working with UASC was implemented, in coordination with the Special Secretariat for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors.

In response to COVID-19 pandemic, online content was developed for self-learning of Greek and English to ensure continuity of learning when face-to-face teaching was not possible. In partnership with the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, implementation of the Akelius language learning software started in public-school classrooms for refugee and migrant children and will be used as a model to scale up the use of platform.

The wildfires in Greece in the beginning of August 2021 affected several regions in the country, including two OAS in central Greece. With the support of UNICEF and partners, all residents were evacuated to safe locations and provided with psychosocial support, before returning to the OAS by 8 August 2021.

In 2021, UNICEF continued co-chairing the WASH sector working group of the temporary *Mavrovouni* RIC in *Lesvos* and provided strategic and technical support. UNICEF and partners ensured provision of adequate water and the maintenance of WASH facilities for residents of the RIC. The population of the site now has access to the new facilities 24 hours, with safe, appropriate, and dignified access to toilets and showers. UNICEF reached 7,079 people with WASH supplies and services, and WASH dignity kits were distributed to all single women and female headed households.

In 2021, UNICEF’s response in Greece was 81 percent funded, with details in the graph below.





Italy



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*Targets overachieved with expanded service to reach significant arrivals in 2021 and online modality of service provision. **Target underachieved as some activities were postponed due to COVID-19 related restrictions.

In 2021, UNICEF reached more than 7,600 refugees and migrant children (2,435 girls, 5,165 boys) with health and nutrition, child protection and GBV, and education services.

UNICEF in partnership with national authorities and CSOs continued providing essential services to refugee and migrant children and families. Interventions focused on capacity building of local stakeholders and advocacy on policy reform based on evidence, to ensure refugee and migrant UASC, families with small children, and young adults were provided with equitable services.

UNICEF reached 5,894 refugees and migrants (1,277 women, 379 girls, 898 boys and 2,473 men) with health-related information through INTERSOS and MdM. Through this partnership, 1,340 migrant and refugee children also benefitted from increased access to general health checks and referrals, including access to life-saving vaccines in reception facilities, informal settlements, and transit areas.

UNICEF reached 5,198 children and adolescents (1,288 girls, 3,910 boys) with

child protection services, including psychosocial support, legal counselling, guardianship and mentorship, and alternative care solutions. UNICEF, in collaboration with UNHCR, produced a set of live chats on international protection, video messages on mental health, and promoted PSS online services. Together with Save the Children, UNICEF assisted children and young migrants and refugees with information, psychological first aid and referral support at the borders in *Lampedusa* and *Ventimiglia*. 647 children, young migrants and refugees outside the formal reception system in *Rome* were reached with information on their rights, available services and referral services. The foster care program for UASC was included in the pilot phase of the EU Child Guarantee Programme in Italy and extended to include vulnerable refugee and migrant families. UNICEF supported the guardianship system and trained 831 guardians in *Sicily*, *Abruzzo*, *Basilicata*, and *Molise*. Together with Refugees

Piloting of the mentorship program, Welcome, was expanded in geographical scope to include *Rome* and *Ravenna*.

In 2021, UNICEF and partners engaged with 1,297 refugees and migrants (including 759 women, 204 girls, 209 boys and 119 men) on GBV risk prevention and response intervention through outreach activities and safe spaces. UNICEF, through its partners in *Palermo* and *Rome*, supported case management, psychosocial and legal support for 846 GBV survivors and individuals at risk. Outreach teams operating in border areas (*Lampedusa* and *Ventimiglia*) referred 452 GBV survivors and individuals at risk to relevant services, providing them with crucial information. Through in-person and online dissemination, 20,392 refugees and migrants were reached with key information on GBV risks and access to services.

909 front-line workers were capacitated on GBV prevention and response, exceeding the annual target due to utilisation of online tools. The global Learning Passport was translated into Italian and adapted to the context of protection programming. The value and significance of the Learning Passport was recognized by the Ministry of Interior who disseminated it among main actors within the reception system in Italy. As a part of the GBV interagency collaboration, UNICEF, IOM, and UNHCR launched an online course of the GBV Pocket Guide in December. UNICEF published the Italian version of the training curriculum ‘Supporting survivors of violence: the role of linguistic and cultural mediators’, developed in partnership with the Women Refugee Commission.

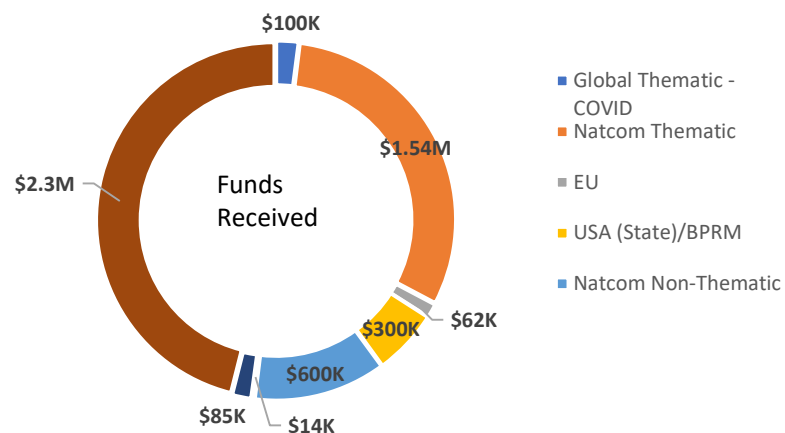
In collaboration with the Washington University and in coordination with Innocenti, a research study on the impact of COVID-19 on the safety and well-being of migrant and refugee women and girls was conducted. The results have been used for policy recommendations and will continue to serve as evidence for internal planning and advocacy strategy development.

UNICEF reached 3,126 children and young people with relevant skills and Italian language training. Despite COVID-19 preventive measures deterring learning activities, a digital platform for language blended learning, Akeilus Initiative, was launched, involving 300 school students aged 5 – 11 in *Bologna* and *Rome*. Around 2,000 students completed the UPSHIFT camps, a youth social entrepreneurship programme in *Milan*, *Palermo*, and *Rome*, including the participation of 570 in hard and soft skills e-learning modules and nearly 200 in an active citizenship programme.

2021 was a successful year for U-Report on the Move, which now counts 6,882 U-Reporters, of which over 900 were registered in 2021. UNICEF reached 32,826 people with various types of multi-language information and access to services, including live chats on legal matters, mental health, access to social services and job opportunities, and GBV support. Out of 325 cases of requesting support, 267 have been closed.

In June 2021, the “OPS”- Your Opinion, beyond Stereotypes, against Prejudices!” initiative was launched, aimed to empower young people to raise awareness on racial prejudice and involving U-Reporters in a mentorship programme, to enhance their advocacy skills and creative talents, starting January 2022.

In 2021, UNICEF’s response in Italy was 67 percent funded, with details in the graph below.

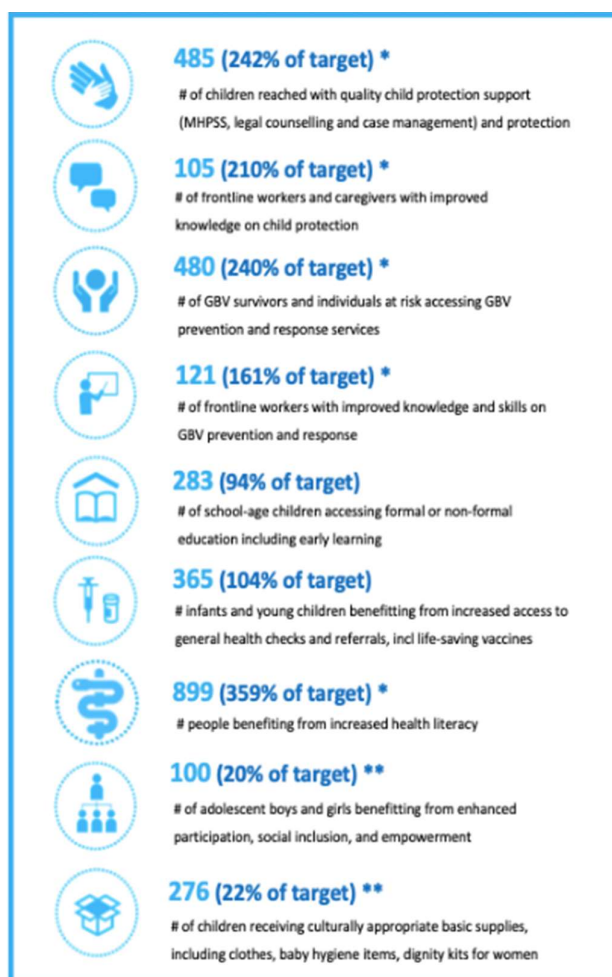




Bulgaria



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*Targets overachieved due to increased arrivals/online modality of service provision.

** Targets underachieved due to under-funding or other partners addressed the need

In 2021, UNICEF reached 1,133 children (451 girls and 682 boys) with range of health and nutrition, child protection and education services. UNICEF continued to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to address the needs of refugees and migrants, including access to health and referral services, ensuring provision of legal aid to UASC, monitoring and ensuring safe places for children in detention, and support to frontline workers with a continuous emphasis on the prevention of GBV and violence against children.

Under the EU DG Health project, UNICEF continued strengthening refugee and migrant children's health status in Southern and South-Eastern Europe, benefitting 365 children (138 girls, 227 boys) with general health checks, referrals, and access to life-saving vaccines.

In collaboration with the State Agency for Refugees, and as per the agreement between UNICEF and the Council of Refugee Women in Bulgaria, UNICEF provided food vouchers to families and single mothers in need. Through the Vulnerability Fund, refugees and migrants were provided with medicines, access to free examinations and tests, while pregnant women were supported to receive needed medical care. UNICEF also facilitated access to COVID-19 vaccination for the refugee and migrant population.

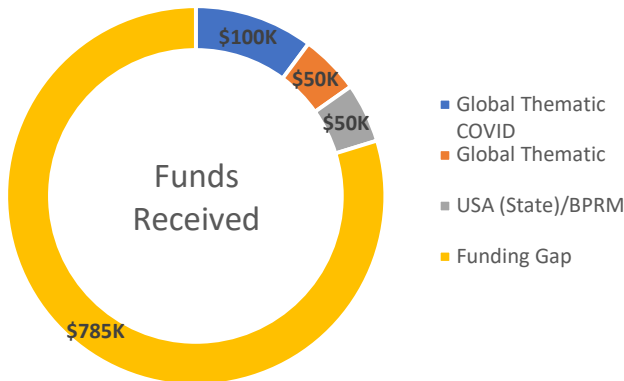
UNICEF reached 485 children (185 girls, 300 boys) with child protection support, MHPSS, and case management. In line with this, 105 frontline workers enhanced their knowledge and skills in child protection. In partnership with Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, 883 UASC received legal aid.

UNICEF and the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee provided expertise and support to consolidate the newly piloted National Database for UASC. The database will contribute to better planning and decision-making for UASC in Bulgaria.

Over 480 refugees and migrants (164 women, 127 men, 101 girls, 88 boys) were provided with GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response services. 1,323 people were informed on available GBV services and how to access them. A joint training on GBV prevention, first psychological aid, and PSEA, conducted with IOM and the Animus Association, reached 19 NGO representatives and social service providers in Sofia and Harmanli. An adaptation of the GBV pocket guide and other resources were prepared as part of the BPRM funded, sub-regional GBV program.

UNICEF, in partnership with Caritas, provided life skills sessions to 283 children (128 girls, 155 boys) and supported their access to formal and non-formal education. The overall enrolment rate among asylum-seeking children, however, continued to remain low, as most are unaccompanied and opt to travel further. To increase the enrolment of children in schools, UNICEF worked to improve the capacity of schools and teachers for the inclusion of refugee and asylum-seeking children. UNICEF provided extra learning sessions, learning materials, and psychosocial support to retain children in formal schools. Cultural mediation and interpretation services were also provided to schools when needed.

In 2021, UNICEF’s response in Bulgaria was 31 percent funded, with more details in the graph below.





Serbia



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*Targets overachieved to respond to increased need for child protection services and online modality of delivery. ** Targets underachieved due to readjustment of target calculation and limited funding as anticipated in the beginning of the year.

In 2021, UNICEF reached over 3,600 children (1,000 girls, 2,600 boys) with health and nutrition services, child protection, education, and non-food items.

In 2021, UNICEF strengthened national capacities to address the needs of the refugee and migrant population and advocate for the fulfilment of child rights in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Efforts were made to mainstream GBV into all programmatic activities and promote integrated capacity development initiatives.

UNICEF continued support to children and mothers through MBC within women and girls' safe spaces. UNICEF developed health literacy and awareness raising materials in six languages and reached 745 children and 1,029 caregivers in 18 reception and asylum centres. In partnership with the Institute for Public Health, UNICEF produced guidelines - *Immunization of Children among Migrant Populations*, to support standardization and access to immunization for children on the move. 1,692 refugees and migrant children (625 girls, 1,067 boys) received culturally appropriate basic supplies, including clothes, hygiene items, and dignity kits.

UNICEF, together with Info Park, Adventist Development Relief Agency, and the Danish Refugee Council DRC, implemented child protection programming for children on the move in six locations, including group and individual psychosocial support services, NFE and referrals to specialised services.

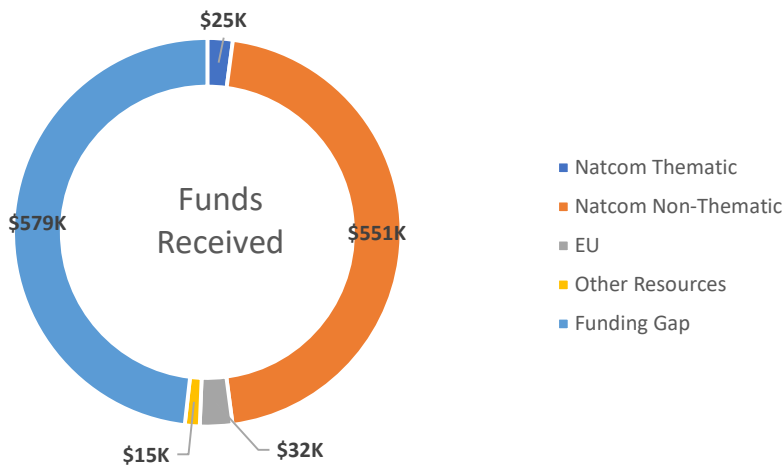
1,430 children (251 girls, 1,179 boys) benefitted from these activities in 2021. Additionally, 166 UASC were reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with alternative care services in five locations. UNICEF also supported 1,391 refugees and migrants (883 women, 71 men, 155 girls, 282 boys) with GBV risk mitigation, prevention, or response interventions throughout 2021.

The interdisciplinary university course "Protection of Children affected by Mixed Migration", developed by UNICEF and the Faculty of Political Sciences at Belgrade University, aimed at enabling students of social work and active frontline workers to engage in the protection of the refugee and migrant population in Serbia, was accredited and integrated in the learning programme offered by the Belgrade University.

In 2021, UNICEF initiated the second phase of the Akelius language learning platform, providing access to education in three reception and asylum centres, together with the Ministry of Education and the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration. Besides language learning, the project aims to provide digital equipment and additional learning support to mentors. 277 children were reached this year and positive feedback from participants encourages the extension of the project.

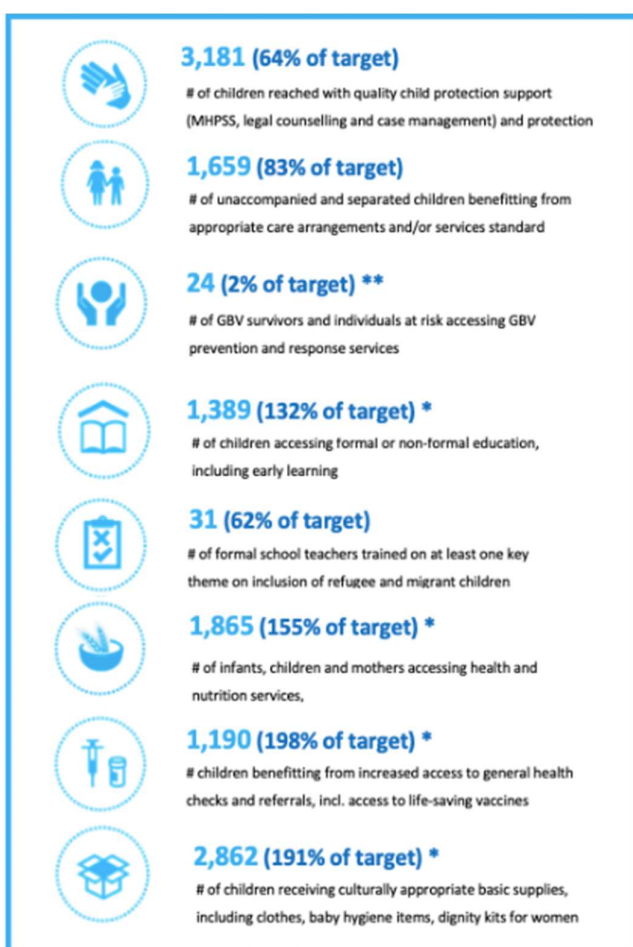
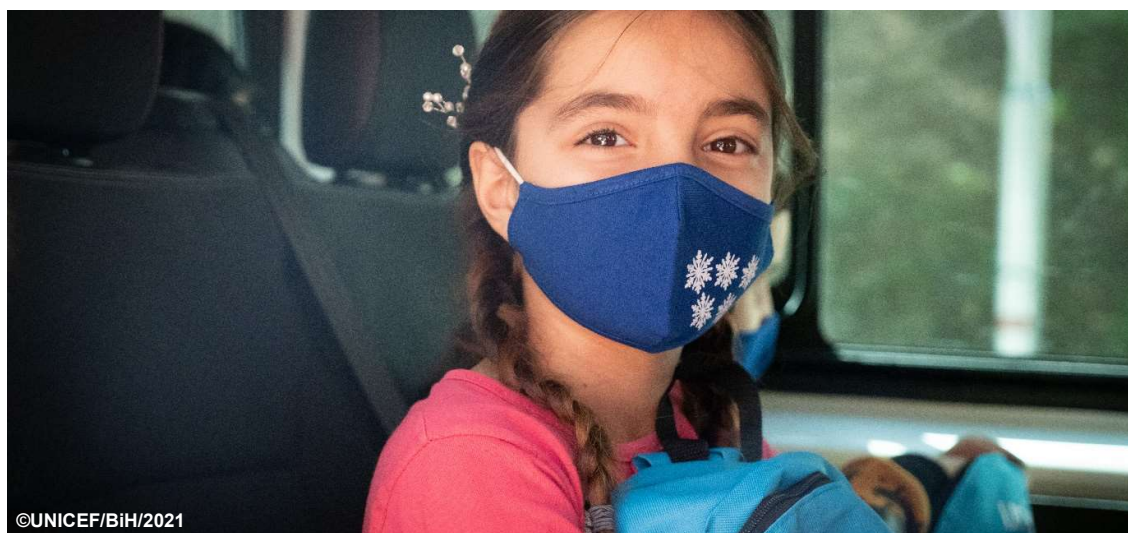
The construction of a community centre for children at the Asylum Centre in *Krnjaca* has been initiated to provide psychosocial support activities and NFE activities for children accommodated at this location. This was necessary as spaces used previously for activities with children are now being used either as dormitories or rooms for quarantining of new arrivals or those with COVID-19 symptoms.

In 2021, UNICEF’s response in Serbia was 63 percent funded. For more details on UNICEF funding sources in Serbia please see the graph below.





Bosnia and Herzegovina



**Target underachieved due to small number of identified/reported cases.

* Targets overachieved because of intensified actions due to rising needs and provision of multiple services.

In 2021, UNICEF reached 9,900 (2,900 girls, 7,000 boys) children with health and nutrition services, child protection, education services, and NFI, including culturally appropriate basic supplies like clothes, baby hygiene items, dignity kits.

UNICEF invested in child protection monitoring within and outside of reception centres to ensure timely identification and registration of an increasing number of UASC sleeping rough.

UNICEF and partners also continued to operate CFS and 24/7 child protection services in three reception centres, including in designated zones for UASC. An estimated 3,314 children on the move (622 girls, 2,692 boys) were reached with child protection services including MHPSS, legal counselling and case management. An additional 1,878 UASC (five girls and 1,873 boys) benefited from care and protection services in designated zones in TRCs. Additionally, child safeguarding trainings were organized for Centres for Social Welfare, legal guardians, and frontline workers in TRCs.

UNICEF coordinated the child protection response through working groups at the cantonal level in *Sarajevo* and *Una-Sana*

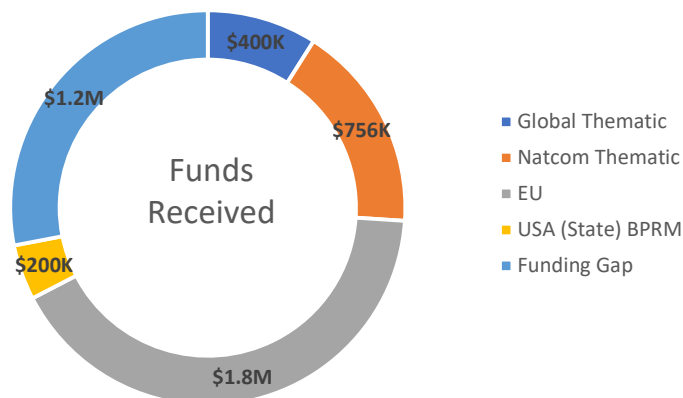
Cantons. Through these groups and other forums, UNICEF promoted the improvement of service quality and advocated for the integration of refugee, migrant children into local protection systems.

UNICEF continued provision of paediatric services for IYCF, counselling for refugee and migrant children currently in temporary reception centres, and three MBCs. Paediatric services and mother and baby corners have been ensured at the newly established *Lipa* reception centre in *Bihać*.

UNICEF, in close collaboration with the Government of Canton Sarajevo and the MoE, supported the inclusion of refugee and migrant children in two primary schools in Canton *Sarajevo*. With Save the Children and World Vision, UNICEF continued daily NFE activities in TRCs, providing Bosnian language classes, IT classes, creative and sports activities to 1,389 children. English language classes, provided through the Akelius Digital Language course's blended learning method, reached 1,066 children. The Akelius Digital Language course was also piloted in two local primary schools in *Una-Sana* Canton where local and refugee/migrant children have the opportunity to learn English in an interactive manner, taking a blended approach. Digital competencies of teachers and student volunteers have also been strengthened.

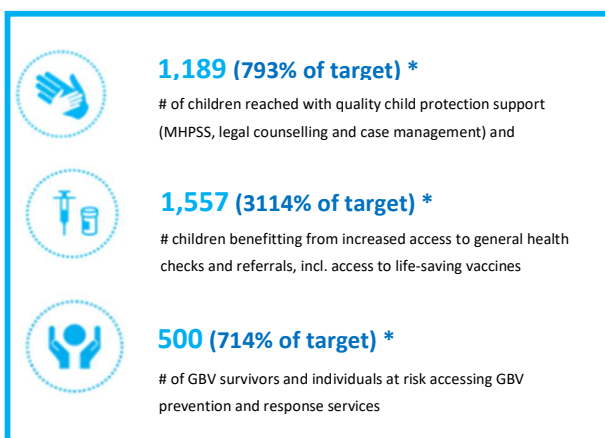
The COVID-19 infection rate among refugees and migrants in Bosnia and Herzegovina corresponds to the infection rate for the general population. Before entering TRCs, medical screening was performed for all beneficiaries, preventive and isolation areas were prepared. The refugee and migrant population continued to receive appropriate treatment in accordance with national protocols and recommendations.

In 2021, UNICEF's response in Bosnia and Herzegovina was 76 percent funded, with more details in the graph below.





Montenegro



* Targets overachieved because of intensified actions due to rising needs and provision of multiple services.

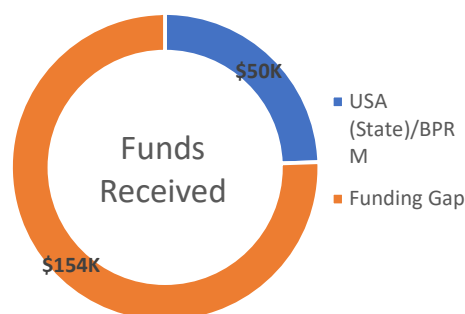
In 2021, UNICEF reached 1,747 children (809 girls, 938 boys) children with health and nutrition services, child protection, and education.

In close cooperation with the *Spuz* Reception Center, the needs of migrants and refugees were met through procurement of clothing and learning tools. Collaboration with Mol, IOM, and UNHCR continued in 2021, building capacities of relevant front-line workers and institutions on migration management.

UNICEF established partnership with the Red Cross of Montenegro in the latter half of

the year to deliver services to the refugee and migrant population. Through this partnership, 27 children (12 girls and 15 boys) who were enrolled in primary and secondary schools received learning materials and 11 schools providing education to refugee and migrant children were supported with laptops. In addition, clothes and shoes were provided for children transiting to the reception centres at the border exits in *Pljevlja* and *Rozaje* and positive parenting messages, supporting early childhood education, were provided to migrants transiting to other countries.

In 2021, UNICEF's response in Montenegro was 29 percent funded. For more details, please see the graph on the right.



IV. Results achieved from Humanitarian Thematic Funding

In 2021, generous thematic donations received from UNICEF National Committees in Germany, Spain, Sweden, Italy, Norway, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, and Portugal as well as from pooled Global Humanitarian Thematic Funds, have been invaluable in giving UNICEF flexibility to respond to emerging priorities and provide services not covered through institutional funding. This included provision of protection, education, health and WASH services, as well as basic supplies and systematic capacity building in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

By the end of December 2021, UNICEF's HAC appeal for the Refugee and Migrant Response in Europe was 73 percent funded (\$35 million, including funds newly received in 2021 as well as those carried over from 2020). Of this funding, USD 6.5 million, 19 percent of funds received, was humanitarian thematic. The flexibility of these funds enabled UNICEF to provide complementary, critically required, adapted and timely support to address critical needs of refugee and migrant children. This year, flexible funding was essential for UNICEF to enhance preparedness and react rapidly and adequately to address urgent needs for refugee and migrant children, including bolstering and filling critical social service gaps resulting from overstretched national services and increased refugee influx, mitigating the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and addressing urgent and seasonal needs.

In [Greece](#), UNICEF received USD 2.9 million from UNICEF National Committees and Thematic Funding, almost 15 percent of total overall funds received. This funding has been valuable in giving UNICEF the flexibility to respond to emerging priorities and to provide and ensure the uninterrupted continuation of services not covered through institutional funding. In particular, funding has supported an integrated package of critical services in the Aegean islands OAS, benefitting 1,835 children and 619 adults with non-formal education activities; 1,623 children and 612 adults with Child Protection services, including individual counselling, case management, referrals and MHPSS; 867 girls and 2,192 adults with GBV prevention and response services; 373 frontline workers with training on community-based child protection mechanism and infant and young child feeding. Additionally, with these funds, more than 6,000 medical supplies were made accessible to 2,848 children.

In [Italy](#), UNICEF received USD 2.2 million from National Committees and GHTF, constituting almost 83 percent of the overall grants received for the refugee and migrant response in the country. In 2021, Italy continued to be severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, while the number of refugees and migrants arriving to Italy was the highest since 2017. These funds enabled UNICEF to adapt its interventions, expanding its activities at arrival points and in quarantine facilities, assisting 3,896 refugee and migrant children, young people, and women with information, psychological first aid, and referral to services. Moreover, 5,894 refugees and migrants were reached with health-related information. UNICEF reached 5,198 children and adolescents with child protection services and 1,297 refugee and migrant women and girls with GBV interventions. In 2021, U-Report on the Move counted 6,882 U-Reporters, with 2,143 U-Reporters receiving support on legal matters and psychosocial support as well as GBV related information.

UNICEF received USD 150,000 GHTF funds in [Bulgaria](#), constituting 73 percent of the overall funds received for the refugee and migrant response. Funds were used to facilitate preparedness and further strengthen capacities to address some of the most critical gaps in the provision of GBV and protection services, integrating support for refugee and migrant children into the national child protection and welfare system. As result of UNICEF's work, a growing recognition of the importance of addressing GBV inter-institutionally has been observed, with a total of 317 frontline workers and representatives of NGOs, state institutions and staff from UN agencies having been trained on GBV. In 2021, UNICEF and partners reached 3,617 refugee and migrant children. Funds also supported continuation of essential programmes of healthcare, child protection, and education.

UNICEF [Serbia](#) received an overall amount of USD 476,700 from National Committees, constituting around 76 percent of total funds received. Funding was used to reach 1,430 children with Child Protection programming, providing access to direct GBV prevention and response services in four reception centres and two additional locations in the greater Belgrade area. In total, 262 children benefited from UNICEF supported education activities. 745 children and 1,029 caregivers in 18 asylum and reception centres were reached with health literacy, access to health services, breastfeeding, and other awareness materials. The funds were also used to provide access to MBC-related services within safe spaces for women and girls at dedicated asylum and reception center. In addition, the funding allowed for accelerated delivery of dignity and hygiene kits to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

In [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), UNICEF received USD 756,462 from National Committees and GHTF which is around 41 percent of the overall funds received for the refugee and migrant response. Children on the move have limited access to clothing, particularly as they grow out of it and seasons change, which makes the provision of basic clothing and hygiene items critical. UNICEF provided 151 children with non-food items in TRCs in Una-Sana Canton, 193 children in Canton Sarajevo, and 160 in various outreach locations thanks to these funds. In total, 504 children benefited from these provisions. The funding also facilitated the establishment of 24/7 core care services for children on the move in TRCs. Further, these funds enabled the provision of Child-friendly spaces, case management, referrals, and mental health and psychosocial support services during funding gaps in 2021. This support was crucial as it allowed the continuity of critical service provision and will be used for further support to refugee and migrant children in 2022.

Summary Programme Results 2021

SUMMARY OF RESULTS		Target 2021	Total Results
# of infants, children and mothers accessing health and nutrition services, including in mother and baby care centres	Greece ⁱ	3,000	3,946
	Serbia	450	220
	Bosnia and Herzegovina ⁱ	1,200	1,865
# children benefitting from increased access to general health checks and referrals, incl. access to life-saving vaccines	Greece ⁱ	15,000	15,560
	Italy ⁱⁱ	1,500	1,340
	Bulgaria	350	365
	Serbia	300	289
	Bosnia and Herzegovina ⁱ	300	2,427
	Montenegro ⁱ	50	1,557
# women, girls, men and boys benefiting from increased health literacy	Italy	5,000	5,894
	Serbia ⁱ	500	1,774
	Bulgaria ⁱ	250	899
# of parents/caregivers of children under 5 receiving ECD counselling and/or parenting support	Serbia ⁱ	200	363
	Montenegro ^v	50	13
# of caregivers/frontline professionals (healthcare, social workers, teachers) provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Serbia ⁱⁱⁱ	100	-
WASH and BASIC SUPPLIES			
# of children receiving culturally appropriate basic supplies, including clothes, baby hygiene items, dignity kits	Bulgaria ^v	1,265	276
	Serbia	2,000	1,693
	Bosnia and Herzegovina ⁱ	1,500	2,862
# of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	Greece	8,500	7,079
CHILD PROTECTION			
# of children reached with quality child protection support (MHPSS, legal counselling and case management) and protection standards	Greece (R/M) ⁱⁱ	31,000	27,746
	Greece (Host) ⁱⁱⁱ	5,000	-
	Italy ⁱ	2,000	5,198
	Serbia	1,100	1,430

	Montenegro ⁱ	150	1,189
	Bulgaria ⁱ	200	485
	Bosnia and Herzegovina ^v	5,000	3,181
# of unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services	Greece ⁱⁱ	5,000	2,721
	Italy ^v	500	121
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2,000	1,659
	Serbia ⁱⁱ	600	166
# of frontline workers and caregivers with improved knowledge and skills on child protection	Greece ^{iv}	650	1,064
	Bosnia and Herzegovina ^v	300	63
	Italy	1,500	1,116
	Bulgaria ⁱ	50	105
	Montenegro	30	38
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE			
# women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention or response intervention	Greece (R/M)	11,800	10,373
	Greece (Host)	10,000	10,210
	Italy	1,000	1,297
	Serbia	1,500	1,391
	Montenegro ⁱ	70	500
	Bosnia and Herzegovina ⁱⁱⁱ	1,000	24
	Bulgaria ⁱ	200	480
# of frontline workers with improved knowledge and skills on GBV prevention and response	Greece	850	604
	Italy ^{iv}	600	909
	Serbia ^{iv}	100	246
	Bulgaria	75	121
	Montenegro ^{iv}	30	40
# of women, girls, men and boys (including refugee, migrants and host community) receiving information on GBV, available services and how to access them	Greece ⁱⁱ	6,000	4,612
	Montenegro ⁱ	1,000	2,954
	Serbia ⁱ	4,000	5,556
	Bulgaria ⁱ	500	1,323
	Italy	20,000	20,392
EDUCATION			
# children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Greece ⁱⁱ	22,000	18,028
	Italy	2,750	2,253
	Bulgaria	300	283
	Bosnia and Herzegovina ⁱ	1,050	1,389
	Serbia ⁱⁱ	800	262

	Montenegro	50	43
# of formal schoolteachers trained on at least one key theme on inclusion of refugee and migrant children	Greece ^{iv}	1,500	2,496
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	50	31
YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND PARTICIPATION			
# of adolescent boys and girls benefitting from enhanced participation, social inclusion and empowerment	Greece ⁱⁱⁱ	5,000	2,545
	Italy ⁱⁱⁱ	8,000	538
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,000	989
	Bulgaria ⁱⁱ	500	100
	Serbia ⁱⁱ	300	40
# of people reached through messaging on access to services	Greece (R/M)	30,000	28,388
	Greece (Host) ⁱ	15,000	25,501
	Italy	135,000	32,826
	Bulgaria ^v	2,200	600
	Montenegro ^v	1,000	-
# people participating in engagement actions (for social and behavioral change)	Italy ⁱ	140,000	178,061
# people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms	Italy ^v	1,000	350

Notes

ⁱTargets have been exceeded due to a significant increase in number of new refugee and migrant arrivals in 2021, a highly transient population requiring support at multiple service delivery points and increased need for protection and health services due to COVID-19 and online modality of service provision.

ⁱⁱPlanned results have been adjusted to avoid to the extent possible double counting of children receiving support at multiple service delivery points/TRCs

ⁱⁱⁱPlanned results underachieved as activities were either postponed to next year or did not happen due to COVID-19 imposed restriction or other partners addressed the need.

^{iv}Targets have been exceeded owing to enhanced partner capacities and increased participation through online trainings.

^vPlanned results have been underachieved due to under funding for Health and Nutrition sector in 2021 as opposed to the overall funding requirement.

Case Study 1: Mitigating and responding to GBV risks through outreach activities and safe spaces in Italy



Top Level Results: In Italy, global thematic funds have been key to enhancing UNICEF's GBV prevention, mitigation and response interventions to support refugee and migrant women and girls amid difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, contributing to an overall strengthening of the reception and the GBV response systems. Particularly, UNICEF strengthened outreach initiatives and safe spaces to provide GBV survivors and individuals at risk with access to life-saving information, services and empowerment initiatives. In 2021, UNICEF provided prevention and response services to almost 1,300 GBV survivors and individuals at risk through outreach interventions and safe spaces in Rome, Sicily, Calabria and at border areas, reaching over 20,000 individuals with reliable information on GBV risks and services.

Issue/Background: Refugee and migrant women and girls face GBV risks before, during and after their migration journey. However, increased arrivals and [challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic](#), have aggravated the difficulties and GBV risks they normally face. These are linked to their intersectional vulnerabilities due to gender, migration/legal status and barriers in accessing GBV related services.

UNICEF GBV program's strategy comprises of response, prevention and mitigation interventions. In the framework of the risk mitigation approach, in 2021 outreach activities and safe spaces were strengthened. For example, GBV mitigation and response interventions were reinforced in Ventimiglia and Palermo, as COVID worsened the already limited availability of services dedicated to the needs of refugee and migrant women and girls. Increased outreach activities in Ventimiglia targeted women and girls on the move transiting through the area, while support to safe space in Palermo aimed at addressing GBV risk factors by promoting girls' and women's safety and resilience as well as connecting them to local services.

Progress and Results: In 2021, UNICEF, together with key partners, enhanced support to refugee and migrant women and girls through outreach interventions and safe spaces Palermo, Sicily, one of the main spots of arrival for migrants and refugees undertaking the Central Mediterranean Route. Here, the women and girls safe space, run by Centro PENC Antropologia E Psicolog Geoclinica and supported by UNICEF, is an innovative project at municipal level, responding to the increasing needs and isolation of girls, women and their children during the pandemic. Safe spaces are an entry point for women and girls to report protection concerns, voice their needs, gain knowledge and skills, foster opportunities for mutual support and collective action in their community, access GBV response services or be referred to other specialized support.²¹ The safe spaces in Palermo are also places to foster exchange between people and cultures, the sharing of dreams and difficulties, while providing specialized

²¹ IMC and IRC, *WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES: A TOOLKIT FOR ADVANCING WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS*, 2020

services. The safe spaces are also critical to strengthen the knowledge and access of refugee and migrant women and girls to local services.

In Ventimiglia, UNICEF, in partnership with Save the Children, provides essential services for refugee and migrant women and girls on the move for the fulfilment of their basic needs, assessment of vulnerabilities, and referral to specialised services. This is especially critical for young girls who are at risk or have survived violence, as they are often stigmatized or isolated. Women and girls are provided with hygiene items, counselling on services available and, if needed, referral to the formal reception system.

Criticality and value addition: Strengthening support to refugee and migrant women and girls through outreach activities and safe spaces is particularly important in the historical moment we are living in. On the one hand, the COVID-19 pandemic has placed a particular burden on women, especially migrants and refugees. On the other, the number of arrivals since the beginning of the year has further accentuated the limits of the Italian reception and integration system, undermining the well-being and safety of migrant and refugee girls and women.

Outreach activities and safe spaces in Palermo and Ventimiglia have played a pivotal role in providing critical information and facilitating access to services of vulnerable refugee and migrant women and girls, including GBV survivors and those at risk, offering them a space to safely disclose concerns, in a period full of uncertainties and stress. Implementing these initiatives is key to their protection but also to foster their socio and economic inclusion, and strengthen their access and knowledge of territorial services, mitigating GBV risks. Safe spaces have also enabled advocacy for women's and girls' voices to be heard, as all the activities were co-organized with women and girls themselves, to promptly address their emerging needs. Both spaces are unique in these specific geographical areas, as they provided GBV response and mitigation services aware of the culture, language, and background of each woman and girl. In 2021, UNICEF's efforts to promote the key role of linguistic and cultural mediation within GBV interventions culminated with the publication of the training "[*Supporting survivors of violence. The role of linguistic and cultural mediators*](#)".

Challenges and Lesson Learned: UNICEF and partners were required to re-program and re-prioritize activities to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions and meet the increased needs of the migrant and refugee population. When limits were placed on in-person activities, UNICEF partners quickly shifted to remote service delivery modalities, took steps to ensure GBV mainstreaming in their response, and continued some in-person activities with additional safety precautions, managing to efficiently include linguistic and cultural mediator in service provision. It was vital to keep adapting and refining the programmatic strategy throughout implementation. For example, the team of the safe space in Palermo promptly developed a specific calendar of activities to engage young girls, as it is critical to ensure all initiatives are sensitive to age, in addition to gender and culture. In Ventimiglia, outreach activities with female linguistic and cultural mediators were strengthened to better reach women and girls, who became less visible in the city as they followed alternative routes to cross the border, often meticulously organized by traffickers.

Moving Forward: In 2022, UNICEF will continue to scale up GBV prevention, response and mitigation initiatives, including outreach activities and the use of safe spaces to provide support according to the changing needs of refugee and migrant women and girls. UNICEF and its partners regularly collaborate with public entities and other local stakeholders, working in an integrated manner that contributes to an overall system strengthening. In 2022, the existing partnerships will be leveraged to expand outreach interventions targeting women and girls and the number of safe spaces in other areas of the country where migrant and refugee women and girls lack access to services and basic care. During the first months of 2022, GBV programming will be expanded to respond to the influx of Ukrainian refugee women and girls. As half of the people arriving in Italy are women, many with children, there will be an increased need for initiatives targeting women and girls to provide them with life-saving information and referrals to key services, and to develop safe spaces within blue dots and beyond where women and girls can report their protection concerns and voice their needs.

Case Study 2: Transitioning to a harmonized approach to education for refugee and migrant children in Greece



Top Level Results: Amidst a constrained funding environment, Global Humanitarian Thematic funding was critical in sustaining UNICEF-supported quality of NFE activities for refugee and migrant children in Greece during 2021. Specifically, funds were flexibly used to ensure the continuation of NFE activities for 1,835 children in Lesvos and Samos. Of key importance, these funds filled gaps during a transition year while UNICEF and its partners prepared to launch a new national education programme, ‘All Children in Education’.

Issue/Background: The Government of Greece committed to supporting educational needs of refugee and migrant children since the beginning of the crisis in 2015. To assist these efforts, the European Commission, other donors, UN agencies, and NGO partners stepped up to provide additional support such as monitoring school enrolment, providing interpretation services in schools, provision of non-formal education outside of accommodation sites etc. However, demand far outweighs current capacity and resources, and the availability of programmes is limited and often inconsistent, especially on the Aegean islands and mainland urban areas.

Progress and Results: UNICEF supported the delivery of non-formal education inside the refugee accommodation sites and outside the accommodation sites. Priority was given to providing opportunities for children to receive education, recreation, and protection-related activities in Child and Family Support Hubs and learning centres outside the RICs/CCAC, while ensuring access to education for all children by providing activities also inside the facilities.

In 2021, the Government of Greece and UNICEF launched an education programme “All Children in Education” and expanded it from 13 OAS to 25 OAS in the mainland, five RICs/CCAC in the Aegean islands and nine urban centers in Athens and Thessaloniki, providing NFE to refugee and migrant children.

In 2021, UNICEF established an education hub in the temporary Lesvos RIC, where UNICEF and its partners could provide integrated activities (NFE, child protection, GBV prevention and response). Furthermore, coordination among actors was strengthened through the development and endorsement of SOPs for the registration of children residing in the RIC in NFE activities, by the Lesvos Education Sector Working Group and the MoMA.

In total, throughout 2021, with the support of Global Humanitarian Thematic funding, 1,835 children benefitted from NFE activities in Lesvos and Samos.

Criticality and value addition: The launch of the 3-year ACE programme in September 2021, to include the Aegean islands, was a critical milestone and it was important to sustain funding to continue the NFE activities on the islands, while UNICEF explored longer-term funding opportunities. The GHT was critical in supporting continuity of the educational programme, which was essential for children to

continue learning and keep a sense of normalcy in their lives, particularly in Lesvos considering the temporary nature of the RIC. All major NFE interventions on the islands, previously run with the support of UNHCR, were gradually handed over to UNICEF, and sustained through GHT. The ACE programme is ongoing, in close coordination with relevant Ministries and education actors, including operational level coordination for the registration of children in formal or non-formal education.

Challenges and Lesson Learned: The 2020-2021 school year had seen a deteriorating situation in terms of school access, partially due to COVID-19 restrictions. In parallel, some pre-COVID-19 enrolment barriers remained, and were largely determined by geographical locations, age groups, and types of accommodation. The most challenged areas remained the Aegean islands where the majority of children live in RICs and the percentage of enrolment in formal education falls to 2 percent.

The COVID-19 pandemic posed additional challenges on accessing quality education for refugee and migrant children, as it disrupted in-person attendance and capacity in classrooms and revealed the importance of digital skills and tools, responding to their specific needs and competencies. Remote modalities set up in 2020 continued to be used and further improved in 2021. It has become evident that the development of digital skills and the preparedness for similar crises must be part of any comprehensive strategy for continuous learning.

Moving Forward: The ACE programme has officially been launched in September 2021, with funding needs for 2022 included in the HAC. The UNICEF Country Office in Greece is actively seeking additional contributions to ensure the continuation of the programme until the 2023-2024 school year.

Case Study 3: Procurement of winter clothes and shoes for children on the move in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Top Level Results: Contributions from the Global Humanitarian Thematic Funds have been crucial to benefit 504 refugee, migrant, and asylum-seeking children in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the provision of essential NFIs, consisting of winter shoes, jackets, tracksuits, blankets, underwear, hats, scarves, gloves and socks. UNICEF and partners provided 151 refugee and migrant children with NFIs in Una-Sana Canton, 193 children in Canton Sarajevo, and 160 children in various outreach locations across the country. UNICEF also prepositioned additional supplies for newly arriving children.

Issue and Background: Since the beginning of 2018, Bosnia and Herzegovina has struggled with an increasing influx of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, after previously used migration routes to Western Europe, passing through the Balkans, were closed in 2017. By the end of 2021, there were 2,700 refugees and migrants accommodated in TRCs, including 292 children and 146 UASC, with an additional 400 living outside TRCs. Lack of available accommodation capacities in TRCs continued to pose a challenge to ensuring sufficient and adequate reception conditions for the refugee and migrant

population, particularly for unaccompanied children. The harsh weather conditions during the winter months as well as the fact that children grow and engage in outdoor activities made the need for adequate clothing for this population urgent.

Strategy and Implementation: UNICEF recognized the need to procure warm clothes and shoes soon after the arrival of the first refugees and migrants, especially during winter. Quantities were determined based on previous experience and based on the average number of children in TRCs. Procurement of age-specific clothes, especially for children below 5 years of age, toddlers, and babies, is particularly critical as UNICEF is the only organization which provides these specific types of supplies. Alongside protections services, the provision of clothes and shoes presents a direct response to the needs of every child, contributing to their comfort and well-being. They are particularly important in the bitterly cold, long winter months, from November until February.

Resources Required and Allocated: The distributions were made possible through UNICEF's emergency team, child protection monitoring associates, and the dedication of the procurement team in close collaboration with many implementing partners on the ground. The Global Humanitarian Thematic Funding enabled timely provision of much needed winter clothes and shoes for refugee, migrant, and asylum-seeking children.

Progress and Results: UNICEF efforts ensured that children and adolescents on the move had adequate access to winter clothing. This is important for their health and safety as well as to enable their daily activities, including going to school and spending time outside.

Lesson Learned: Procurement procedures and distribution processes are always challenging due to the considerable number of children, variations in sizes, and specific needs. It is necessary to carefully plan purchases, taking age, gender, and other specificities into consideration, to be able to respond to the needs of all children. Knowing that children spend a lot of time being active, their clothes and shoes get worn out quickly. Therefore, it is important to ensure availability of clothes and shoes for regular replacements. Hearing the feedback of children and parents during the distribution process is very important to recognize their needs, gain insights into the types of goods to purchase or avoid.

Moving Forward: Winter clothes have been prepositioned and continue to be regularly distributed to children who arriving at TRCs and affected by pushbacks at the borders. UNICEF will continue to provide seasonal clothes, which are essential for children on the move, and reflect these needs in ongoing and future emergency appeals.

V. Strategic Partnerships

In 2021, UNICEF collaborated with other UN agencies and civil society organizations to strengthen government systems and capacities and improve their ability to respond to the needs of children on the move and their families. In its approach, UNICEF is enhancing linkages between humanitarian and development programmes. Together with its partners, UNICEF provided services in health, nutrition, WASH, education, child protection, GBV, and risk communication and also supported the government-led COVID-19 response. Furthermore, UNICEF delivered technical assistance and expertise to relevant stakeholders to enhance child protection systems and safeguard the rights of refugee and migrant children. UNICEF continued advocacy with governments and partners to strengthen capacities to improve reception conditions, as well as involve and integrate refugee and migrant children into national systems.

In **Greece**, UNICEF worked closely with IOM and UNHCR and ensured a smooth handover of all NFE activities to UNICEF under the newly established ACE programme. UNICEF coordinated with IOM and UNHCR for the identification, support, and referral of children on the move in Italy, to establish common standards on relocated UASC in Bulgaria and Serbia, to support authorities in education and child protection sectors in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and health and child protection in Montenegro. Moreover, in Italy, UNICEF developed a joint action plan with UNHCR on capacity building and development and dissemination of key GBV materials and information.

In Serbia, UNICEF, UNHCR, IOM, and UNDP jointly focused on strengthening data management and capacity building at local and national level and identified collaboration opportunities in education, child protection, and birth registration. UNICEF coordinated the Child Protection sub-working group with authorities in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to ensure inter-sectoral collaboration, strengthening capacities and delivery of humanitarian response in reception and transit centres. In

Montenegro, together with IOM and UNHCR, UNICEF coordinated with the Ministry of Interior on monitoring reception centres.

UNICEF's response prioritized the protection of children and women, the prevention of child immigration detention, the promotion of family unity, unhindered access to health and education services, as well as the fight against xenophobia and discrimination, in line with the Global Programme Framework on Children on the Move. The response complemented the Global Compacts on Migration and on Refugees, promoting effective scale-up models. At regional level, UNICEF continued to support risk monitoring and coordination to strengthen preparedness and knowledge exchange. UNICEF provide specialized technical and coordination support to children on the move and evacuated from Afghanistan, through child protection specialists who conducting rapid best interest assessments and determination for unaccompanied children in Albania, Germany, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Spain.

UNICEF continued to support inter-agency advocacy to mainstream children's rights into the European Union Pact on Migration. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF's work also focused on prevention through targeted risk communication and promoted the inclusion of refugees and migrants in national COVID-19 vaccination programmes.

VI. Advocacy and Communications

UNICEF continued to advocate for policy and legislative reforms and promote social inclusion to advance the rights of refugee and migrant children. Throughout the year, media campaigns were used at regional and country level to give a voice to young people enabling them to share their experiences and vision for the future as well as to highlight their everyday difficulties as refugees and migrants.

In [Greece](#), UNICEF successfully conducted, amidst COVID-19-related restrictions, two content gathering missions in Lesbos, capturing photos and videos of refugee and migrant children and their families. The [photos and video](#) produced will soon be published UNICEF platforms to highlight education services provided by UNICEF to refugee children residing in the Lesbos camp. UNICEF in published [an interview](#) with awarded photographer Angelos Tzortzinis who documented the Moria fire in September 2020. The award and interview were reproduced in a number of Greek media outlets.

In [Italy](#), UNICEF advocacy efforts with key national and regional authorities focused on strengthening the reception system (including quarantine facilities) for refugee and migrant children, youth, and women and access to quality services, including psychosocial support and GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response services. UNICEF raised concerns about the living conditions of quarantine facilities where unaccompanied and separated children, including a small number of vulnerable girls, spent prolonged periods of time with limited freedom of movement and lack of recreational or educational activity. In line with the global Reimagine Education and Mental Health campaigns, advocacy by young migrants and refugees was carried out through both online and offline platforms and fora, from blogs and podcasts to Activate Talks, which were amplified via news and other channels reaching more than 1 million people. UNICEF also conducted three training modules on child rights, GBV, and migration for journalists in partnership with the National Federation of Journalists.

In [Bulgaria](#), UNICEF continued working with national and local authorities responsible for children's rights as well as prevention and response to violence against children and women. As a member of the Thematic Working Group for the development of the 2021-2027 national programme and priorities under the Asylum and Migration Fund, led by the Deputy-Minister of Interior, UNICEF provided recommendations throughout the development and finalization of the programme. UNICEF and the Ministry of Interior also signed a MoU, which includes a concrete action plan with joint activities for 2022. In 2021, UNICEF, IOM, and UNHCR conducted a joint round table with stakeholders to discuss good practices of UASC relocation in other EU countries. UNICEF also became a pilot partner in integrating GBV prevention and response for refugees and migrants into the Health Buddy+ digital informational portal which provides access to up-to-date and evidence-based information. During the 16 days of activism, UNICEF Bulgaria promoted the prevention of violence at school via a launch of a chat-bot (Botkrepa).

UNICEF [Serbia](#) was active in advocating for the refugee and migrant population to not be left behind during the COVID-19 response, including in the access to vaccinations. After identifying gaps with regards to sensitive service provision for children and women with disability, UNICEF developed a tool to improve identification, consultations, and response to the needs of girls, boys, and young persons with disabilities and advocated with UNHCR to organize a joint roll out among partners of both

agencies. UNICEF Serbia published a field [guide](#) for frontline workers and 2 [videos](#) related to sexual violence among refugee and migrant boys and young men.

In [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), UNICEF used the opportunities of field visits, high level meetings, and public statements to advocate for the rights of children on the move and their families, especially in the context of COVID-19. UNICEF branding and visibility was also ensured throughout procurement and distribution processes. In 2021, over 20 related media content items were published, reaching 1.5 million people through traditional and 80,000 people through social media.

In cooperation with national authorities and National Societies of the Red Cross, UNICEF [Montenegro](#) continuously advocated for improved status and rights of migrant, asylum-seeking, and refugee children and their families, complemented with concrete actions and initiatives in the area of education, health, child protection, and prevention from GBV and PSEA.

On the occasion of the World Refugee Day on 20 June, UNICEF joined forces with partners across all regions to spread key messages and human interest [stories](#) on relevant topics.

A detailed list is included in Annex 1.

VII. Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation

UNICEF's programmatic responses, advocacy and contingency planning at country and regional level were informed by careful monitoring of the situation of refugee and migrant children and their families. Throughout 2021, to enhance and sustain availability of quality data through administrative data systems, research and inter-agency assessments on child protection, GBV prevention and response, education, and health and nutrition, UNICEF mobilised strategic partners, such as UN Agencies, EU institutions, governments, Ombudspersons, and civil society.

In [Greece](#), UNICEF continued implementing systems to effectively monitor progress on results and deliverables as required, based on several different UNICEF frameworks (Result Assessment and Monitoring, Humanitarian Performance Monitoring), including timely and accurate reporting. UNICEF also provided regular information through collection and analysis of data, results monitoring, narrative reporting, and the production of monthly dashboards, to inform various regional products, like Situation Reports, Flash Appeals, and refugee and migrant flow monitoring.

UNICEF [Italy](#) monitored the situation of refugees and migrants through field visits and close monitoring by implementing partners. UNICEF conducted two qualitative and participatory analyses on the psychosocial impact of COVID-19 on UASC and youth who are accommodated within the Italian reception system and on the specific impacts of the pandemic on exposure to GBV risks among migrant and refugee women and girls. The first study was launched in November with an online webinar, followed by roundtable discussions with key stakeholders, the second will be launched in the first quarter of 2022. U-Report on the Move in Italy was also used by UNICEF and partners to support refugee and migrant children and youth through provision of multi-lingual, life-saving, and life-sustaining information, individual legal and psycho-social support, and a space for children and youth to speak out on the issues that matter to them. U-Report on the Move is helping UNICEF to validate programmatic interventions (e.g., regarding guardianship, education, and community-based care) and advocate for increased protection and access to services, also through [a range of polls](#) carried out throughout 2021.

In [Bulgaria](#), monitoring continued through partner organizations, surveys, and studies. UNICEF conducted two field trips to *Harmanli*, *Lyubimets*, and *Elhovo* as well as to the state registration and reception centers of SAR in Sofia, including the two Safety Zones. The objective of the missions was to assess the current situation of children on the move vis-à-vis the observed dynamics of the situation in Afghanistan and the expected influx to Europe. The main observations included an overall increase in the numbers of both migrants and asylum-seekers in the country, deteriorated reception conditions in the last couple of years, and poor hygiene conditions.

UNICEF's approach of closely monitoring all activities implemented by partners through field visits, regular reports, and coordination meetings between key actors was also implemented in [Serbia](#). In 2021, part of the refugee and migrant response programming, funded with support of the EU Health Programme, underwent to external evaluation, showing the effectiveness of a multi-sectoral approach to deliver services. UNICEF attributed significant flexibility and adaptability to its implementation

strategies to avoid the risk of deterioration of achievements, results, and standards due to COVID-19 related strains on existing capacities.

In [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), UNICEF field teams distributed clothing, ensuring that proper sizes and items were provided to the children. Noting and registering feedback from children and parents during the distribution made children feel recognized and provided insights into the types of goods to purchase or avoid purchasing for the future.

Throughout 2021, UNICEF [Montenegro](#) monitored the situation of refugee and migrant children and families in the country, to inform and adapt its programmatic responses, through regular communication with the Ministry of Interior and through regular exchanges and coordination with different partners on the ground, particularly the Red Cross.

VIII. Financial Analysis

In 2021, UNICEF was funded at USD 35 million (73 percent) against the revised HAC appeal for the Refugee and Migrant Response in Europe of USD 47.8 million²². Funds received included USD 6.5 million contribution through humanitarian thematic resources (19 percent of funding). Generous contributions from the European Union, the US BPRM, Education Cannot Wait, the government of Netherlands, UNICEF National Committees in Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Italy, Ireland, Norway, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Portugal and the United States, and donors contributing to UNICEF's Global Thematic Humanitarian fund, enabled UNICEF to deliver critical support and achieve important results for refugee and migrant children across Europe.

While the overall response was well-funded, allocations across affected countries were disproportionate, and major funding gaps remained in Montenegro (71 percent), Bulgaria (69 percent), and Serbia (37 percent). The Regional Office was also significantly underfunded at 97 percent.

UNICEF continued to enhance cost-efficiency and effectiveness in its response to the needs of refugee and migrant children and women across European countries by coordinating closely with national authorities, UN agencies, international organizations, civil society, and religious leaders to provide high quality services and, at the same time, avoid duplication. Close cooperation with UNHCR and IOM for effective emergency response, relocation, and implementation of country-specific initiatives helped ensure the delivery of protection and basic services to populations in need. Working directly with Parliaments, Ministries and EU institutions, UNICEF and partners develop and deliver unified and coordinated messages and policy positions, while advocating for key child rights issues faced by refugee and migrant children.

Resource mobilization and partnership efforts enabled UNICEF to reach programme targets in health and nutrition (116 percent), access to education (100 percent), and GBV prevention and response (95 percent).

With the increase of arrivals in 2021, countries expanded efforts to meet the most urgent and immediate needs of refugee and migrant children, overachieving most of the targets anticipated for the year. Significant funding gaps, however, remained for child protection support in Greece and Italy, and consequently expected results in these programmes were not fully achieved (76 percent).

Further strategic investments were made to build national capacities in providing government services, protection, and education to refugee and migrant children and women, including COVID-19 related services. Going forward, UNICEF will prioritize child protection services for UASC and support them with alternative care and family reunification. The provision of MHPSS and capacity building of front-line responders will be rolled out. Funds allocated to education will help scaling-up inclusive formal education and structured non-formal education activities.

²² UNICEF 2022 HAC for Refugee and Migrant Crisis was revised in July 2022 to address the expanded need of services in Greece.

Table 1 · Funding status against the appeal by sector						
Funds available in 2021						
Country	Requirement in 2021	Humanitarian Resources received in 2021	Other Resources used in 2021	Resources available from 2020 (Carry-over)	Funding gap (\$)	%
Countries with children on the move						
Greece	30,900,000	4,001,014	16,636,966	4,442,711	5,819,310	19%
Italy	6,935,000	2,551,774	147,147	1,930,786	2,305,293	33%
Bulgaria	1,145,000	206,296	-	159,792	785,208	69%
Bosnia-Herzegovina	5,150,000	1,356,062	1,833,798	715,217	1,244,924	24%
Serbia	1,550,000	576,699	47,647	346,274	579,380	37%
Montenegro	217,000	50,000	-	12,489	154,511	71%
Regional Support	1,950,000	0		54,352	1,895,648	97%
Total	47,847,000	8,741,845	18,665,558	7,661,621	12,784,274	27%
Table 2 · Funding received and available by donor and funding type						
Recipient Office		Donor		Grant	Overall Amount (US \$)	
I. Humanitarian Funds received in 2021						
a. Thematic Humanitarian Funds – See details in Table 3						
				SM 189910	3,281,490	
				SM 209910	200,000	
Total Thematic Humanitarian Funds					3,481,490	
b. Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds						
Bosnia and Herzegovina		Spanish Committee for UNICEF		SM 200700	58,617	
Bosnia and Herzegovina		German Committee for UNICEF		SM 210215	350,842	
Bosnia and Herzegovina		Swedish Committee for UNICEF		SM 210552	346,603	
Bosnia and Herzegovina		USA (State) BPRM		SM 210432	200,000	
ECARO, Switzerland - Italy		UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)		SM 200652	13,717	
ECARO, Switzerland - Italy		Swedish Committee for UNICEF		SM 210357	600,000	
ECARO, Switzerland - Italy		USA (State) BPRM		SM 210435	300,000	
ECARO, Switzerland - Bul/Mont		USA (State) BPRM		SM 210434	100,000	
Greece Partnership Office		German Committee for UNICEF		SM 210120	1,179,505	
Greece Partnership Office		Swedish Committee for UNICEF		SM 210289	504,217	
Greece Partnership Office		Netherlands		SM 210688	649,351	
Greece Partnership Office		USA (State) BPRM		SM 210426	400,000	
Serbia		German Committee for UNICEF		SM 210278	302,663	

Serbia	Swedish Committee for UNICEF	SM 210551	148,544
Serbia	USA (State) BPRM	SM 210433	100,000
Total Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds			5,254,060
c. Pooled Funding			
Total Pooled Funding			
d. Other Types of Humanitarian Funds			
Total Other Types of Humanitarian Funds			N/A
Total Humanitarian Funds received in 2021 (a+b+c+d)			8,735,550
II. Carry-over of Humanitarian Funds available in 2020			
e. Carry-over of Thematic Humanitarian Funds			
Total carry-over of Thematic Humanitarian Funds		SM 189910	2,239,756
		SM 209910	59,977
f. Carry-over of Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds			
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Belgian Committee for UNICEF	SM 200499	72,886
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Spanish Committee for UNICEF	SM 200700	61,770
Bulgaria	USA (State) BPRM	SM 190401	39,988
ECARO, Switzerland	German Committee for UNICEF	SM 180213	54,352
ECARO, Switzerland /Italy	USA (State) BPRM	SM 190401	397,589
ECARO, Switzerland/Italy	Consolidated Funds from NatComs	SM 200460	67
ECARO, Switzerland/Italy	UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)	SM 200652	532
Greece Partnership Office	Ireland	SM 200809	248,905
Greece Partnership Office	USA (State) BPRM	SM 190401	351,392
Greece Partnership Office	German Committee for UNICEF	SM 200567	126,977
Greece Partnership Office	Netherlands	SM 200795	883,071
Greece Partnership Office	USA (State) BPRM	SM 200658	2,074
Serbia	USA (State) BPRM	SM 190401	37,007
Total carry-over of Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds			2,276,611
Total carry-over of Humanitarian Funds available in 2021 (e+f)			4,576,344
III. Other Sources			
g. Other Regular Resources			
Bosnia and Herzegovina	IOM/European Commission	SC 200523	1,833,798
ECARO, Switzerland - Italy	European Commission/EC	SC 200236	62,147
Greece Partnership Office	European Commission/EC	SC 200236	39,000
Greece Partnership Office	European Commission/EC	SC 210128	10,612,345
Greece Partnership Office	IOM/European Commission	SC 200267	5,356,867
Greece Partnership Office	UNICEF Greece	SC 210685	608,753

Greece Partnership Office	Global - Social Inclusion THEMATIC FUND	SC 189908	20,000
Serbia	European Commission/EC	SC 200236	32,585
Serbia	UNICEF Serbia	SC 180094	15,062
Total Other Regular Resources			18,580,558
h. Regular Resources			
ECARO, Switzerland - Italy	UNICEF	GS 210007	40,000
ECARO, Switzerland - Italy	UNICEF	GS 200010	45,000
Total Regular Resources			85,000
IV. Carry-over of Other Sources			
i. Carry-over of Other Regular Resources			
Bosnia and Herzegovina	European Commission/EC	SC 200236	399,538
Bosnia and Herzegovina	IOM/European Commission	SC 200523	33,360
ECARO, Switzerland/Italy	European Commission/EC	SC 200316	15,000
ECARO, Switzerland/Italy	European Commission/EC	SC 200236	283,720
Greece Partnership Office	European Commission/EC	SC 200236	182,597
Greece Partnership Office	IOM/European Commission	SC 190777	1,010,477
Greece Partnership Office	IOM/European Commission	SC 200722	297,464
Greece Partnership Office	Education Cannot Wait Fund	SC 200120	173,511
Greece Partnership Office	Education Cannot Wait Fund	SC 200549	9,534
Greece Partnership Office	Ireland	SC 200790	200,000
Greece Partnership Office	Global - Education THEMATIC FUND	SC 189904	108,322
Greece Partnership Office	Global - Child Protection THEMATIC FUND	SC 189905	62,691
Serbia	European Commission/EC	SC 200236	309,063
Total carry-over of Other Regular Resources			3,085,277
Total Other Sources (g+h+i)			21,750,835

Table 3 · Thematic humanitarian contributions received in 2021

Donor	Grant	Programmable Amount (US \$)	Overall Amount (US \$)
COMITATO ITALIANO PER L'UNICEF	SM1899100207	1,277,659	1,344,904
Norwegian Committee for UNICEF	SM1899100948	183,495	193,153
Spanish Committee for UNICEF	SM1899100518	24,217	25,492
Netherlands Committee for UNICEF	SM1899100883	110,803	116,635
German Committee for UNICEF	SM1899100875	969,475	1,020,500
Luxembourg Committee for UNICEF	SM1899101009	123,254	129,741
Portuguese Committee for UNICEF	SM1899100984	1,011	1,064

Allocation from Global Thematic Humanitarian	SM189910	450,000	450,000
Allocation from Global Thematic Humanitarian - Covid19	SM209910	200,000	200,000
Total		3,339,915	3,481,490

IX. Future Workplan

For 2022, UNICEF will continue to respond to humanitarian emergencies and address the needs of children on the move and their families in a sustainable manner, through multi-sectoral advocacy, coordination, and inclusive responses at local, national, and EU levels.

UNICEF will work to further strengthen government systems and capacities, reinforcing the linkages between humanitarian action and development programmes. This work will focus on improving reception conditions, building protection systems, and providing essential services in health, nutrition, education, and WASH to refugee and migrant children and women. UNICEF's response will adapt to the evolving COVID-19 context and other crises. Focus will be laid on evidence-based advocacy and support to governments for aligning national policies with international norms. Support will be extended to improve the capacities of health professionals, social workers, and front-line responders to identify and mitigate health and protection risks and accompany children and families through the asylum process. Access to legal aid and appropriate care and guardianship for UASC will be prioritized. Children will access education, including early learning, through formal and non-formal systems. Mothers will be supported to access health and nutrition services, and children will benefit from health check-ups and lifesaving vaccines. GBV survivors and at-risk groups will receive age and gender appropriate information, referrals, and support. UASC and youth will have access to integrated MHPSS. UNICEF will ensure children and families receive WASH supplies and winter clothing. The response will complement the Global Compacts on Migration and on Refugees and promote effective scale-up models.

At regional level, UNICEF will support risk monitoring and coordination to enhance preparedness and support knowledge management. It will support inter-agency advocacy to mainstream children's rights into the European Union Pact on Migration. Advocacy will focus on national and regional policy reforms that uphold children's right to safe migration, improve BID, and age assessment procedures. UNICEF will strongly advocate for the end of child immigration detention, unhindered access to social services, and the relocation of UASC to other European Union Member States.

Greece - The UNICEF refugee and migrant response is centered on a two-track approach of direct service delivery and system strengthening. In 2022, remaining GHT funds carried over from 2021 will primarily be used to fill the funding gaps around GBV prevention and response activities in OAS, until a sustainable solution is identified. Similarly, GHT will be used to address critical needs of mothers and their infants at the Asylum Service Offices in Athens and Thessaloniki, for which there is currently a funding gap. Any additional funds received will also be used to cover gaps in all areas of UNICEF's work in Greece, outlined in the Regional Refugee and Migrant Appeal, as well as in emerging priorities. UNICEF funding requirements for 2022 in Greece amount to USD 21.9 million.

Italy - UNICEF will deliver humanitarian assistance in partnership with the Italian authorities, civil society, private sector organizations, and other UN agencies to ensure immediate care and protection of vulnerable refugee and migrant children, adolescents, and women. UNICEF supports the Italian authorities in strengthening the reception system for refugees and migrants, from arrival to all phases of reception, including quarantine and early integration, to protect and care for the most vulnerable. In 2022, UNICEF will target approximately 170,000 people, including over 26,000 children, through improved child protection and reception standards, including strengthened guardianship system, innovative alternative care options, psychosocial support and GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response services, and through social inclusion interventions such as participation, civic engagement, and skills development opportunities. A focus on a positive narrative on migration and integration will also continue. To meet urgent needs of refugee and migrant children in Italy, UNICEF requires USD 8.3 million in 2022.

Bulgaria - In 2022, UNICEF will design and implement, in consultation with national authorities and partnership with selected civil society organizations, targeted interventions that will help strengthen the capacity of the Bulgarian state in providing comprehensive and multi-sectoral child protection and care to refugee and migrant children. Interventions will be tailored to address critical gaps and bottlenecks and to support the Bulgarian state in addressing the needs of refugee and migrant children in a situation of increase migratory pressure. This will include strengthening local capacity to provide protection services, including to UASC; strengthening the development, implementation and monitoring of national policies which are inclusive to the needs of refugee and migrant children; enhancing the capacity of refugee and migrant children and young people as well as the skills of the professionals working with them. To implement this strategy in 2022, UNICEF requires USD 1.5 million.

Serbia - In 2022, UNICEF will continue to play an essential role in providing advocacy, technical assistance, and coordination to ensure that all refugee and migrant children and women, especially the most vulnerable groups, benefit from timely, equitable, and coordinated systems that ensure their protection, development, access to services, and social inclusion. Available funds for the refugee and migrant response are shrinking at country level, with the withdrawal of many donors and consequently many civil society organizations from the reception centers. The simultaneous increase of refugees and migrants transiting through the country continues to stretch the capacity of services and resources available. Gaps in protection monitoring and services, including essential services, persist. To meet these gaps and provide quality and comprehensive response, USD 2 million is required by UNICEF in 2022.

Bosnia and Herzegovina - In 2022, UNICEF will work with implementing partners to provide children on the move with access to mental health and psychosocial services, case management, and 24/7 care in temporary reception centers. Humanitarian thematic funding will contribute to these targets. The funding will also support child protection monitoring, child-friendly spaces, and the provision of NFIs. Following allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse of children on the move perpetrated by adult migrants, UNICEF will strengthen our work in safeguarding, GBV prevention, and risk mitigation, in collaboration with the Government and implementing partners. UNICEF works closely with the Ministry of Security, Service for Foreigners Affairs, and Centres for Social Welfare, with the aim to further integrate refugee, migrant children into protection systems and support capacity building efforts so that authorities are enabled to provide quality support to them. UNICEF funding requirements for the response in 2022 is USD 6.6 million.

Montenegro - UNICEF will continue to engage in strengthening systemic response for better protection of refugee and migrant children and families in 2022 through monitoring and cooperation. The focus will be laid on capacity building for the provision of health services to children and families in need; support for education, learning opportunities, and social inclusion of children; supporting the provision of specialized psychosocial services; strengthening capacities of professionals on treatment of families on the move and respect of human rights. For this purpose, in 2022, UNICEF is seeking USD 250,000.

Annex 1 Communication and Media Outreach

Greece

- [UNICEF Greece supported Learning Centre in Ritsona Refugee Camp](#) (UNICEF, twitter post)
- [Press release on WASH \(in Greek\)](#) (UNICEF, Press Release)
- [WASH in Mavrovouni, Lesbos](#) (UNICEF, twitter post)
- [safe spaces for women](#) (UNICEF, twitter post)
- [The co-funded European Union 'RM Child-Health' initiative for mother & children spaces in Athens and Thessaloniki](#) (UNICEF, blog post)
- [Armita, 10 years old, loves going to school against all odds](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [UNICEF Greece Representative interview with Their World President on Refugee Education in Greece](#) (Video)
- [Safeguarding health in a crisis: a snapshot from Greece](#) (UNICEF, Article)

Italy

- [A new beginning for Mamajang](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- ["Suspended paths": impact of Covid on unaccompanied foreign minors and young migrants in Italy](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [The world within me, psychosocial well-being and mental health told by adolescents](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [Office of Innovation-Getting out of the comfort zone - together, UPSHIFT programme](#) (UNICEF, blog post)
- ["Vite a colori" UNICEF report on the impact of the pandemic on the lives of children and adolescents](#) (UNICEF, blog post)
- [International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women: Let None Be Left Behind](#) (UNICEF, blog post)
- [Finding safety, connection, and empowerment during COVID-19 ties is like finding a second home](#) (UNICEF, article)
- [Supporting survivors of violence](#) (UNICEF, article)

Bulgaria

- ["I want to tell girls to believe and fight until they achieve their goals" - Lina Alokla, 13 | UNICEF](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [Starting a New Life in Bulgaria, a story about female migrants](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [Videos on the access to health services of refugees and migrants as part of the DG Health programme](#) (UNICEF, video)
- [When you're young, alone and scared in a foreign country](#) (UNICEF, Article)

Serbia

- [International Migrants Day](#) (UNICEF, twitter video)
- [Children in Asylum center receive winter clothing and footwear](#) (UNICEF, Facebook post)
- [Field guide for frontline workers and a video related to sexual violence among refugee and migrant boys and young men](#) (UNICEF, video)
- [You can do anything you want if you believe in yourself](#) (UNICEF, article)

Bosnia and Herzegovina

- [ASAL'S FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- ["Little Prince" of Ušivak | UNICEF](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [Clothes do not make a man, but they make children happy](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [The right to education should be granted to all refugee and migrant children](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [A boy determined to succeed and fulfil his dreams](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [Born on the Move](#) (UNICEF, Article)

Montenegro

- [UNICEF, Red Cross Montenegro Partnership](#) (Facebook post)
- [Learning support to migrants](#) (Facebook post)

Regional

- [Transiting in Ventimiglia: the last step towards a better future](#) (UNICEF, Article)
- [Field Diary: A peek into the lives of refugee children in Lesbos](#) (UNICEF, blog post)
- [UNICEF ECA on Twitter](#)
- [UNICEF ECA on Youtube](#)