



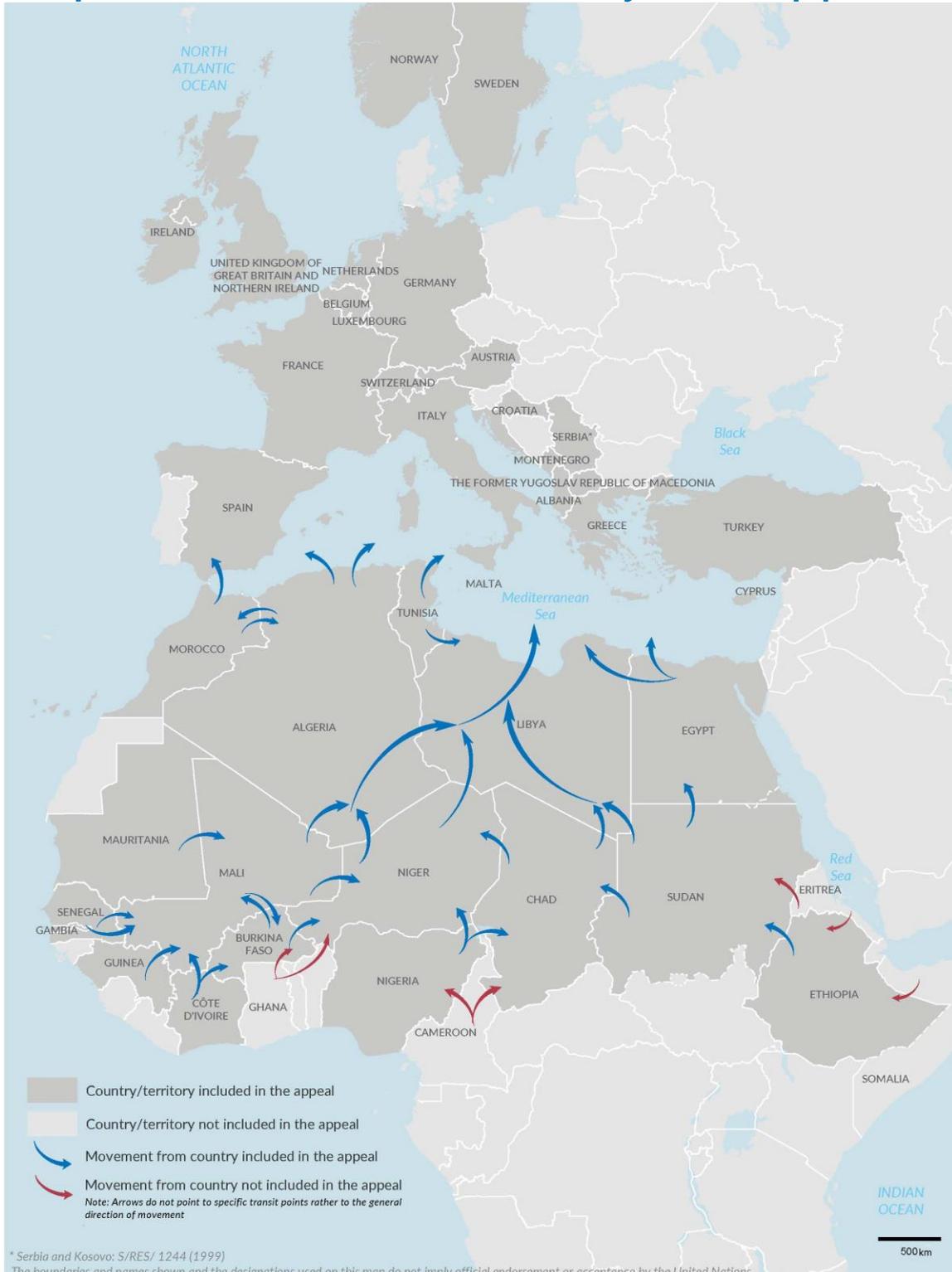
UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE SITUATION

Supplementary Appeal
January - December 2018

Map of the area covered by this appeal



Overview

Refugees and migrants continue to move in large numbers from Sub-Saharan Africa to North Africa and across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe.

Libya remains the main point of departure for the majority of refugees and migrants from Africa hoping to reach Europe.

While on the move, refugees and migrants face intolerably **high risks of grave human rights violations and death.**

UNHCR is rolling out a **three-pronged cross-regional strategy** with broad objectives and selected activities in the countries of origin and transit in Sub-Saharan Africa, and countries in North Africa and Europe.

In order to assist an estimated **656,280 people of concern** by the end 2018, **UNHCR is appealing for \$226.6 million** for January to December 2018



124,711

People have crossed the central Mediterranean between January 2017 to March 2018 towards Italy



2,873

People died or reported missing at sea in the central Mediterranean in 2017



15,779

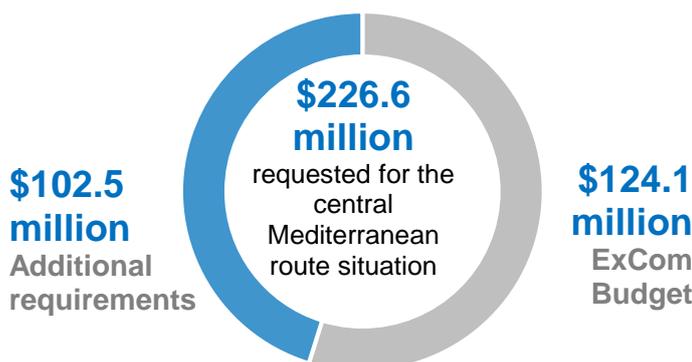
Unaccompanied children arrived in Italy in 2017



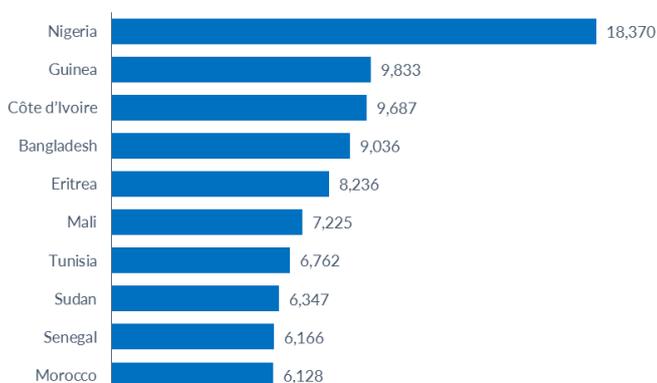
278,000

People of concern are in need of resettlement in the 15 priority countries* of asylum for the central Mediterranean situation

Financial requirements



Top ten nationalities arriving to Italy by sea
From January 2017 to January 2018



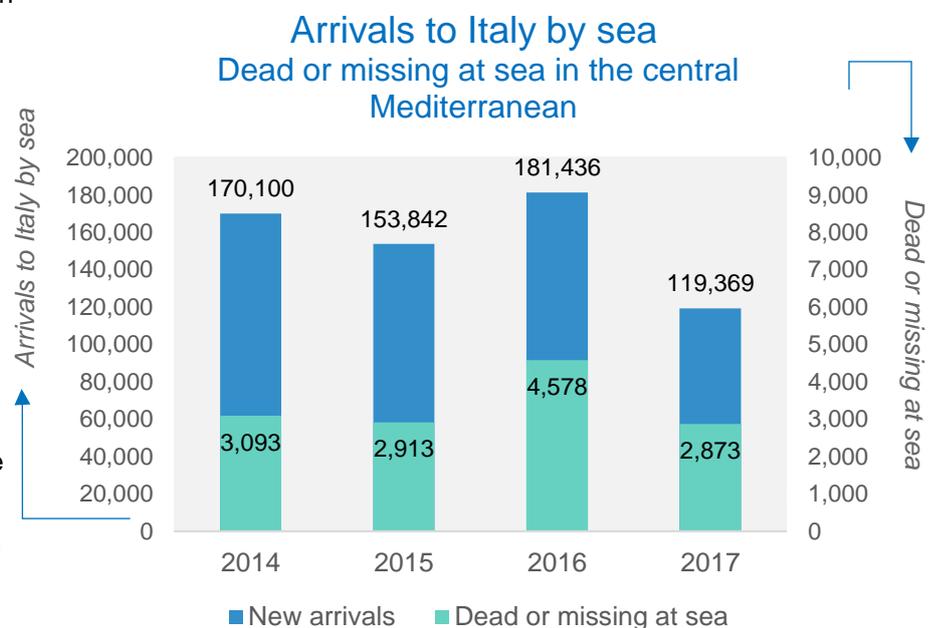
Source: UNHCR

*The 15 priority countries for resettlement (specifically) include Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Niger and Sudan.

Introduction

The central Mediterranean route, from Sub-Saharan Africa to Italy, **is one of the most active and dangerous, currently accounting for the largest number of people crossing to Europe by sea.** Libya remains the main point of departure for the majority of refugees and migrants from Africa seeking to reach Europe. These mixed movements include people fleeing persecution, conflict and violence as well as those looking for better economic and social opportunities, including means to support family members at home. Many are not headed to Libya or Europe when they initially leave their country of origin, while others are ultimately trafficked to Europe.

Despite a significant decrease in arrivals in Europe in 2017, refugees and migrants continue to put themselves at grave risk, both on land and at sea, in their attempts to reach Europe. In 2017, **an estimated 2,800 refugees and migrants perished or went missing in the central Mediterranean Sea.** It is estimated that many more have died on their way crossing the desert and before attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea, due to the many dangers faced along the routes and in Libya.



The lack of appropriate asylum systems and prospects for solutions for people in need of international protection—including voluntary repatriation, resettlement, local integration and other legal pathways—as well as the reduced assistance standards in several asylum countries and the weak protection environment compels many of them to move onwards. The majority of refugees and migrants arriving in Italy by sea are from Sub-Saharan Africa. Between January and December 2017, **11 per cent of the total arrivals were from East and Horn of Africa, while approximately 41 per cent were from West Africa and 10 per cent from North Africa.**

While many refugee-hosting countries have continued showing remarkable commitment and generosity towards those in need of international protection, their capacities are overstretched. In some instances, protection space has diminished and serious gaps have emerged in asylum and reception systems.

With the underlying factors compelling people to undertake such dangerous journeys remaining largely unaddressed, it is highly likely that the central Mediterranean route will continue to be active in 2018. Illustrating this, since January 2018, about 5,300 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy via this route. Accordingly, UNHCR and its partners will need to work with States to continue **providing international protection and assistance as well as greater access to solutions, including safe and legal pathways.**

In this context, and as presented in this Supplementary Appeal, UNHCR is rolling out **a three-pronged cross-regional strategy** with broad objectives and selected activities **in the countries of origin and transit in Sub-Saharan Africa, in Libya and North Africa countries, in transit countries and in Europe.**

Recognizing the complexity of mixed movements today, **UNHCR will support, wherever possible, measures that reduce the risk for people undertaking these dangerous journeys, working to enhance protection and solution opportunities in countries of origin and transit.**

UNHCR will aim to increase options for legal pathways towards safety as well as

improve the protection space available for asylum-seekers and refugees. UNHCR will also seek to strengthen synergy with activities implemented by other organizations such as IOM, UNICEF and those NGOs responding to the needs of refugees and migrants using the same route.

This Supplementary Appeal presents UNHCR's strategic objectives, priorities and financial requirements for its response to mixed movements. UNHCR is seeking **\$226.6 million, including \$102.5 million in additional financial requirements from January to December 2018.**



Emergency aid for refugees, migrants and internally displaced in Sabratha, Libya. © UNHCR

Summary of financial requirements

UNHCR's Executive Committee (ExCom) budget for the central Mediterranean route situation in 2018 was \$124,164,859. To address the increasing protection needs of people of concern, UNHCR has established a supplementary budget for the requirements presented in this appeal, amounting to **\$102.5 million**. The total revised 2018 requirements for the central Mediterranean situation now amount to **\$226.6 million**, including support costs.

While Greece remains part of the situation, it has not been included in this appeal because a majority of its needs are expected to be covered by earmarked contributions. UNHCR's 2018 ExCom budget for Greece amounts to **\$232,766,204**.

Priorities for resource mobilization

UNHCR takes as basic principles in its fundraising that funds be raised first and foremost for prioritized activities, and that the funds raised are as flexible as possible given the range of locations, contexts and themes of its activities. Based on this, the preferences for income would be as follows.

- **Unearmarked funding** is the priority for resource mobilization. Contributed without restrictions on its use, un-earmarked funding allows UNHCR the critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern in the greatest need and at the greatest risk.
- Secondly, funding which is **broadly earmarked at the situational or regional level**: meaning, funding that can be used across the range of countries and activities in a given region or situation in accordance with the priorities and activities identified by UNHCR.
- Thirdly, funding which is **earmarked at the country or operational level**. Funding of this type allows UNHCR to allocate funding to its planned activities within a country in a context specific manner.
- Fourthly, funding which is **earmarked to the sectoral or thematic level**. This is the most restrictive level of funding.
- Ideally, all funds raised should be **flexible in their implementation period**; meaning, UNHCR should be able to carry funds to the following year. This will enable the smooth continuation of activities, make operations more predictable, and avoid situations of UNHCR receiving funds it may not be able to spend within the calendar year.

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE SITUATION					
OPERATION	ExCom budget not related to the central Mediterranean route situation	ExCom Budget related to the central Mediterranean route situation	Additional requirements	Total	Total revised requirements
Belgium Regional Office	21,446,484	1,477,729	-	1,477,729	22,924,214
Bosnia and Herzegovina Regional Office	28,774,449	16,255,053	-	16,255,053	45,029,501
Hungary Regional Office	12,489,347	3,246,851	-	3,246,851	15,736,198
Italy Regional Office	22,952,316	8,040,243	-	8,040,243	30,992,559
Sweden Regional Office	5,206,714	73,721	-	73,721	5,280,435
Turkey	424,637,626	11,429,851	-	11,429,851	436,067,478
Europe regional activities	14,579,224	10,310,192	-	10,310,192	24,889,416
EUROPE Total	530,086,161	50,833,640	-	50,833,640	580,919,801
Algeria	35,481,053	775,000	-	775,000	36,256,053
Egypt	70,402,452	4,066,202	-	4,066,202	74,468,654
Libya	23,365,630	8,093,419	53,540,949	61,634,368	84,999,998
Morocco	6,349,546	400,000	1,000,000	1,400,000	7,749,546
Tunisia	4,752,606	783,237	-	783,237	5,535,843
Mauritania	19,326,354	-	767,840	767,840	20,094,194
Middle East and North Africa regional activities	116,343,676	1,120,000	2,997,300	4,117,300	120,460,976
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA Total	276,021,318	15,237,087	58,306,089	73,543,946	349,565,264
Burkina Faso	19,057,961	2,793,035	2,800,000	5,593,035	24,650,996
Chad	141,028,344	7,960,400	-	7,960,400	148,988,744
Ethiopia	301,426,599	33,378,076	-	33,378,076	334,804,676
Mali	18,103,089	1,500,000	1,500,000	3,000,000	21,103,089
Niger	65,810,299	-	19,973,516	19,973,516	85,783,815
Senegal Regional Office	29,502,175	-	9,681,501	9,681,501	39,183,676
Sudan	248,220,168	7,678,631	-	7,678,631	255,898,799
AFRICA Total	823,148,635	53,310,142	33,955,017	87,265,159	910,413,794
Headquarters	283,491,439	4,787,220	3,768,973	8,556,193	292,047,632
SUBTOTAL	1,919,288,561	124,164,859	96,030,078	220,194,938	2,139,483,499
Support costs (7 per cent)	-	-	6,458,277	6,458,277	6,458,277
TOTAL	1,919,288,561	124,164,859	102,488,356	226,653,216	2,145,941,776

Planning assumptions

- 1 Demographic pressures, protracted and new conflicts and violence, persecution, human rights abuses, poverty and inequality, environmental hazards and fragility will continue to push people into undertaking risky journeys in search of protection and economic opportunities from countries of origin into neighbouring countries, and further onward to countries outside their region.
- 2 Displacement and irregular migration in large movements presents complex challenges to affected countries and may contribute to further destabilizing already fragile political and economic environments, as well as fuel illicit activity such as smuggling and trafficking.
- 3 A comprehensive approach is required, addressing the drivers and root causes of large movements of refugees and migrants, while also responding to the protection needs of people on the move and offering viable alternatives to irregular movements.
- 4 Countries of first asylum and transit along the central Mediterranean route need considerable and sustained investment and support to effectively respond to the needs of those on the move and provide for their protection.
- 5 UNHCR's mandate to protect refugees and its operational presence across the regions can benefit the design and application of a comprehensive cross-border protection and solutions strategy on mixed movements, as well as facilitate dialogue and cooperation between multiple stakeholders.
- 6 Transnational criminal activities related to these movements, such as smuggling and trafficking, require a transnational response by all actors, not only to combat criminal activity but to ensure the protection of victims of trafficking. UNHCR's experience in addressing trafficking of people under its mandate through inter-agency referral systems is a key component of the response

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