

Your help for displaced persons

26 October 2015

THIS IS HOW YOUR DONATION IS USED

GREECE

CHF 320,000

- CHF 250,000 for relief supplies and medical care: one SRC logistics expert and one SRC doctor have been deployed to work in the field. Staff costs: CHF 30,000
- CHF 40,000 for a coordinator on the islands of Lesbos, Kos and Samos (coordinating Red Cross aid with local authorities, training volunteers, distributing relief supplies).

SERBIA

CHF 172,000

- Warm clothing, rainwear, thermal rescue blankets, mattresses, sleeping bags and two mobile containers for distributing supplies.

LEBANON

CHF 2.65 million

- CHF 250,000 for winter aid: tent tarpaulins, blankets, household articles.
- CHF 2.4 million to continue programmes (food parcels, ambulance crews, emergency units, logistics support) and extend them with financial support for 500 families and building a health centre in Syria.

GERMANY

CHF 40,000

- Two SRC logistics experts in the holding areas in Erding and Feldkirchen.

SWITZERLAND

CHF 50,000

- Advice and help with family reunification.



Refugees currently mainly arrive in Europe via Italy and Greece. According to statistics from the International Organization for Migration, from the start of 2015 to mid-October 137,313 people have crossed the Mediterranean to Italy and 466,111 people have crossed to Greece.

Once they have arrived, many refugees travel towards central and northern Europe. Currently most refugees are travelling along the route through the western Balkans, from Greece, through FYR Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Hungary, Austria, to Germany.

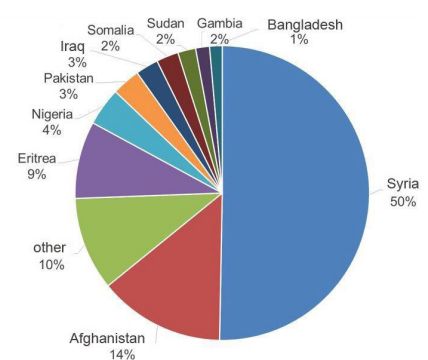
Once again, as soon as you opened this morning's paper, you read the headlines about Syria. Just like on previous days. We can't get the images out of our heads. Comments on the news and the stories of individuals on all channels.

There's no break from the situation in Syria. And even less for the people living there. Families, men, women and unaccompanied children are continuously setting off, through Turkey, Greece and Austria, and even as the weather gets colder and wetter. Running away from the war with no end in sight. They prefer to spend weeks trudging on foot to Germany than to stay in their homes between two battle fronts waiting to be killed.

Every day around 6,000 people arrive in Greece. And another 500 in Italy. Both routes involve a hazardous boat journey across the sea. More than 3,000 people have lost their lives in the process, or are still missing. Then by train, bus or on

foot, the refugees travel through Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia or Hungary to Austria before they finally arrive in Germany. Many of them only stay between 12 and 48 hours in a country. Germany is their preferred destination, though some travel on to Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. And just a few of them reach the Swiss border. Every day 60 people arrive in Buchs and 20 in Ticino.

Origins of refugees in Europe 2015



Source: International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Thanks to the support of many donors, large companies or private individuals, thanks to people like you, in recent times the journey has been a little easier for these families. Displaced persons need protection, shelter, food and water, as well as first aid and medical care. They receive what they need most, all along their migration route. Red Cross volunteers provide an enormous amount of aid for them in 24 European countries, in the form of both emergency relief and longer-term assistance. Adults and children are given warm clothing and food for their onward journey.

The Swiss Red Cross (SRC) supports the National Red Cross Societies in Greece, Serbia, Germany and Lebanon. We have already received CHF 1.6 million from donors like you. By the end of the year the SRC reckons it will need CHF 678,000 to cover the cost of SRC delegates.

In Greece volunteers are looking after as many as 6,000 refugees a day who land on the shores of its many islands. The focus is on food and water, medical care, psychosocial support, and the

reunification of children and parents who have lost sight of each other during the journey. Red Cross volunteers are also stationed along the borders with FYR Macedonia, Albania and Bulgaria to help the refugees continue their journey. The Hellenic Red Cross also offers longer-term help with asylum applications and runs a hotline to advise refugees in their own language. An SRC logistics expert and an SRC doctor have been deployed to Greece.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN FIGURES

603,424

Since the start of 2015 more than 603,424 people have fled to Europe. Most refugees cross the Mediterranean to Greece (466,111) or Italy (137,313).

3,000

More than 3,000 people have died or are missing.

520,000

The refugees' preferred destination is Germany. A total of 520,000 have already arrived there.

2.5 million

Most of the world's refugees live in Turkey.

15 million

The International Red Cross Movement reckons as much as CHF 15 million will be needed by the end of the year to take care of the refugees.



SRC doctor Isabelle Güss in Greece (Photo: © SRC)

refugees with medical and psychosocial care, reunite family members and help asylum-seekers with their applications. The German Red Cross is running 325 emergency shelters throughout the country, housing more than 100,000 people. Holding areas have been set up in Feldkirchen and Erding, with two SRC logistics experts to help set them up and equip them.

In Lebanon itself the SRC is stepping up its assistance for Syrian refugees. In addition to foodstuffs, families are now provided with some cash. There is also support for the healthcare services for displaced persons in Syria.

In Switzerland the SRC will continue to provide counselling and support for people from Syria who are trying to enter Switzerland to be reunited with their families. In the event of large-scale arrivals the cantonal associations in Ticino, St Gallen and Zurich are prepared to help out with initial assistance. Our partner the Coop supermarket is able to donate foodstuffs within 24 hours.

In Serbia volunteers are distributing relief supplies at the busiest border crossings: foodstuffs, toiletries, warm clothing and rainwear. The Red Cross bakery in Bujanovac delivers bread every day for the food parcels. Roughly 260 Red Cross volunteers and staff have been mobilized.

In Germany 15,000 Red Cross volunteers and staff have been mobilized to provide