IOM SUPPORT FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES RESCUED AT SEA

IOM has mobile teams along the Aegean Coast ready to work alongside the Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) as Turkey continues to be a transit country as well as a destination country. IOM Mobile Teams are present in Dikili, Çeşme and Küçükkyu, made up of interpreters, field assistants and social workers. Mobile teams provide interpretation assistance, food and non-food items (NFIs) such as blankets and dry clothes, psychosocial support (PSS) including counselling on legal rights and available services, recreational activities with children and also identify and refer vulnerable migrants with specific needs. Additionally, food and NFI assistance is provided to TCG premises in Kuşadası, Ayvalık and Aliağa and/or other locations as necessary. IOM also provides equipment needed by the TCG, Police and Gendarmerie, such as tarpaulin tents to help shelter rescued migrants and refugees in waiting areas while they receive assistance.

In 2018, a total of 17,379 migrants and refugees (65% of the total rescued by the TCG) were assisted by IOM. 530 of them with special needs were referred to UN organizations, international and local NGOs. Special needs include legal counselling, medical treatment, family reunification, identification of separated and unaccompanied children, psychosocial support, and socio-economic support.

Beneficiary Numbers and Percentages by Location
(January - December 2018)
In 2018, the IOM Mediterranean Response Programme has assisted 17,379 migrants and refugees. This is a 37% increase compared to the 12,731 assisted in 2017. Since 2016, IOM has reached 40,224 migrants and refugees in total. A breakdown of assistance for 2018 is as follows:

- 11,437 received interpretation support;
- 10,182 received psychosocial support;
- 269 participated in recreational activities.

In 2018, other nationalities include Algeria, Argentina, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, Comoros Islands, Congo, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Iran, Cote d’Ivoire, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sao Tome, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Somalia, Togo, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia.