



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

“Walls and barriers rise in some parts of the world (...). But closure is not a solution; rather it ends by fostering criminal trafficking. The only way of solution is that of solidarity – solidarity with the migrant, solidarity with the stranger.”

–Pope Francis, October 2016



AMIRA, A REFUGEE CHILD FROM SYRIA WHO LIVES WITH HER FAMILY IN IRBID, JORDAN. © ICMC/STEFANO SCHIRATO

Dear Partners, Members, and Supporters of ICMC,



It is indeed an honor to present this 2016 Annual Report of Activities for the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC). For the past ten months, I have been privileged to serve as the Secretary General of this organization, which plays such a key role in extending the care and concern of the Catholic Church to

refugees and migrants from all religious, ethnic, and cultural origins, and in all parts of the world. I wish, first of all, to thank the members and counselors of ICMC's Governing Committee, and, in particular, our President, Mr. Peter Sutherland, for their wise council and leadership. I also thank my predecessor, Mr. Johan Ketelers, who provided strong executive leadership to ICMC for approximately twelve years. Finally, I express deep appreciation to our institutional and private donors, staff, and volunteers for their constant support of the mission and mandate that was conferred on ICMC by Pope Pius XII more than 65 years ago.

The year 2016 was a challenging one for those of us engaged in service to migrants and refugees in all parts of the world. ICMC continued its vital humanitarian assistance to migrants, refugees and displaced persons in areas where violence is rampant and rule of law no longer prevails. For example, in Syria, we assisted approximately 24,000 persons access medical care and other vital resources. In Jordan, Pakistan, and Malaysia, we maintained specialized protection and counselling services for refugees who have been physically and sexually abused and who need protected spaces to overcome the horrible trauma to which they were subjected. We maintained and expanded our cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees by deploying experts to develop long-term plans for refugees, including the resettlement of more vulnerable refugees to host countries willing to accept them, the voluntary return to their home countries when this is safe, or local integration in countries where they presently have been welcomed.

We at ICMC also accompanied the Catholic Church, other religious and civil society organizations, and all people of good will – at local, national, and global levels – to reach out with person-centered care and attention to those who are forcibly

displaced. They flee situations of war, civil conflict, persecution, natural and environmental disasters, abject poverty, human trafficking and modern forms of slavery. They all are in search of safety and peace so they could provide for their families in accord with their God-given human dignity. We defended the rights of all migrants and refugees and have urged governments and civil society to build communities of welcome and protection to “people on the move”.

A highlight of such advocacy efforts included ICMC's representation at the Summit on Refugees and Migrants, held in United Nations Headquarters in New York, during September 2016. During December 2016, ICMC convened the representatives of civil society at the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in Bangladesh. In Europe, ICMC convened diverse groups of municipal governments, religious leaders, and non-governmental organizations to explore new models of local integration for people seeking asylum in this continent. In Eastern Europe, we advanced our training of home care providers for frail, elderly, or otherwise disabled persons and partner with programs that place these workers in European countries where they can be guaranteed conditions of adequate pay and decent work. At global level, our organization identified good practices in various regions and disseminated these examples widely through our website, media interviews, and social media.

I will close with the words of Pope Francis on the 2016 World Day of Migrants and Refugees since they sum up very well the aims and actions of ICMC:

Hospitality, in fact, grows from both giving and receiving. From this perspective, it is important to view migrants not only on the basis of their status as regular or irregular, but above all as people whose dignity is to be protected and who are capable of contributing to progress and the general welfare.

With sincere gratitude,

Robert J. Vitillo

Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo
Secretary General, ICMC

Follow Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo on Twitter as @bobvitillo



9,570

REFUGEES WERE SUPPORTED IN THEIR RESETTLEMENT PROCESS TO THE UNITED STATES



3,900

NEWBORN BABIES AND THEIR MOTHERS WERE HELPED TO ACCESS MEDICAL TREATMENT IN WAR-TORN SYRIA



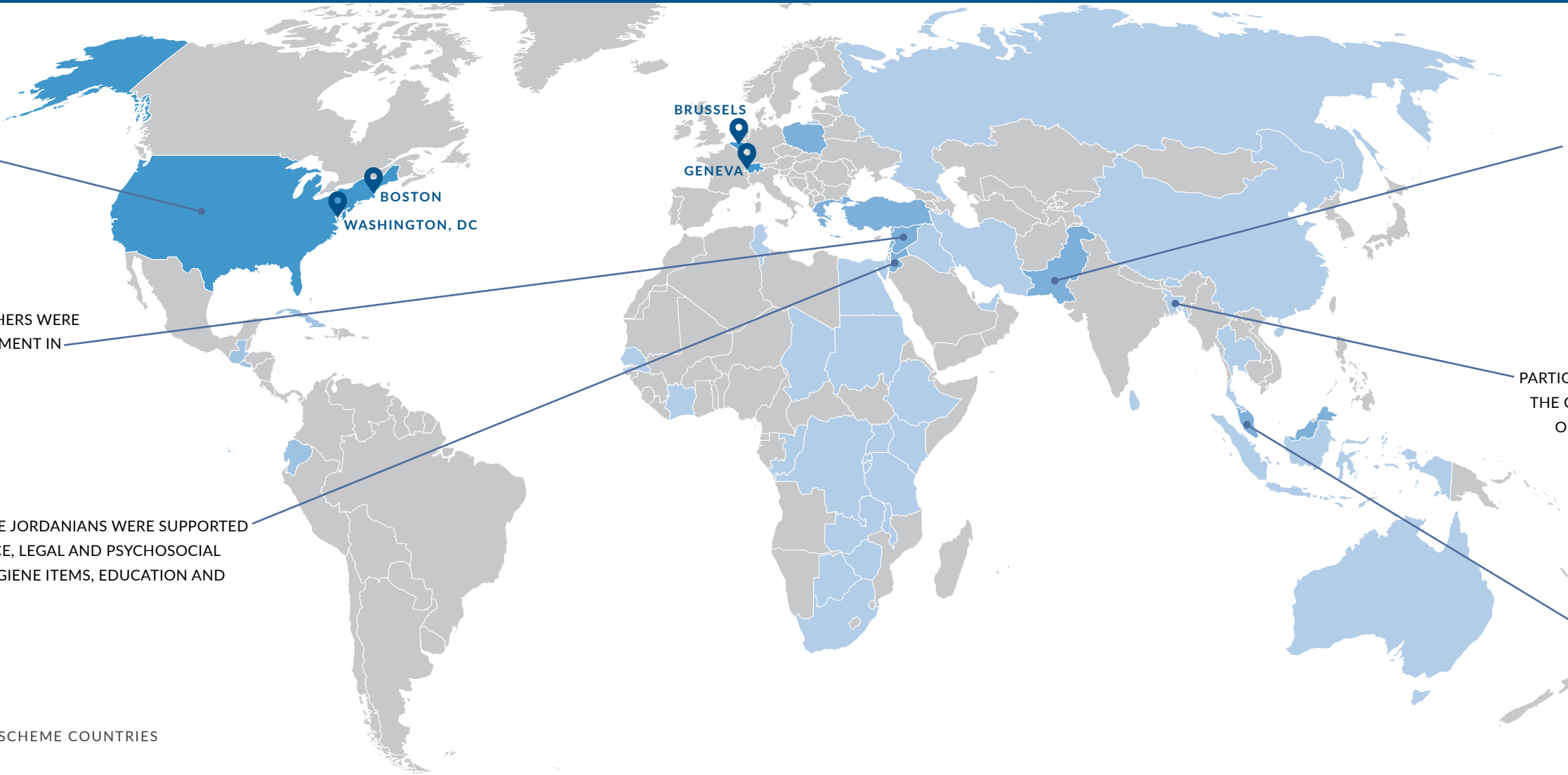
45,000

SYRIAN REFUGEES AND VULNERABLE JORDANIANS WERE SUPPORTED WITH CASH AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE, LEGAL AND PSYCHOSOCIAL COUNSELING, DISTRIBUTION OF HYGIENE ITEMS, EDUCATION AND LIFE-SKILLS TRAINING

HQ & AFFILIATED OFFICES

FIELD OFFICES

RESETTLEMENT DEPLOYMENT SCHEME COUNTRIES



1,500

REFUGEE CHILDREN IN PAKISTAN RECEIVED HEALTH AND HYGIENE KITS CONTAINING TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE, SOAP, AND COMBS



342

PARTICIPANTS WERE CONVENED BY ICMC DURING THE CIVIL SOCIETY DAYS OF THE GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT, HELD IN BANGLADESH IN DECEMBER



4,700

BROCHURES, COLORING BOOKS, AND MP3 PLAYERS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO REFUGEES IN MALAYSIA TO RAISE AWARENESS ON SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



US ADVOCACY

ICMC'S LIAISON OFFICE IN WASHINGTON DC CONCENTRATED POLICY AND ADVOCACY EFFORTS ON INCREASED PROTECTION FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE, PARTICULARLY UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES, AND ON SUSTAINING A VIABLE AND VIBRANT US RESETTLEMENT SYSTEM AT NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LEVELS



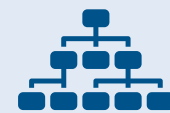
NEW YORK ACTION COMMITTEE

INITIATED AND SUPPORTED BY ICMC POLICY STAFF, AN ACTION COMMITTEE OF 22 NON-GOVERNMENTAL NETWORKS JOINED IN ADVOCACY TO GOVERNMENTS IN THE UNITED NATIONS SUMMIT ON LARGE MOVEMENTS OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN NEW YORK CITY IN SEPTEMBER



STRENGTHENING THE MICIC INITIATIVE

ICMC'S MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THE MIGRANTS IN COUNTRIES IN CRISIS (MICIC) INITIATIVE, A GOVERNMENTAL PROCESS AIMED TO STRENGTHEN THE ABILITY OF STATES TO ASSIST MIGRANTS CAUGHT IN CONFLICTS OR NATURAL DISASTERS



EMPOWERING RESETTLEMENT ACTORS

THE ICMC-COORDINATED SHARE NETWORK INCLUDES 1,200 LOCAL AND REGIONAL RESETTLEMENT AND INTEGRATION ACTORS IN OVER 27 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING MUNICIPALITIES, NGOS, PUBLIC SERVICES, CHURCHES AND PRIVATE SECTOR ACTORS



SUPPORTING TURKISH CIVIL SOCIETY

A NEW PROGRAM WAS LAUNCHED BY ICMC EUROPE TO SUPPORT CIVIL SOCIETY IN TURKEY IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO REFUGEES AND PROMOTE A DIALOGUE BETWEEN EUROPEAN AND TURKISH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ACTORS



PROVIDING RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

210 ICMC RESETTLEMENT EXPERTS PROVIDED SUPPORT TO 63 UNHCR OFFICES IN AFRICA, ASIA, EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST AND LATIN AMERICA

ADDRESSING LARGE MOVEMENTS OF REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

KEY POLICY AND ADVOCACY ACTIONS

In September 2016, prompted by the tragic displacement and suffering which followed the worsening of the Syrian conflict, the General Assembly of the United Nations organized the first ever high-level governmental summit to address large movements of refugees and migrants. The Summit brought together States, United Nations agencies and civil society to develop policy- and action-oriented responses. ICMC served as a principal leader of civil society's involvement during all phases of the process.

ICMC initiated a civil society Action Committee bringing together 22 non-governmental networks with longstanding expertise in refugee, migrant, forced displacement and human rights issues, all working together to make the needs and voices of uprooted peoples heard during the governmental meeting. Largely with the support of ICMC's Migration and Development (MADE) civil society network, the Action Committee organized 11 meetings, two civil society conferences in New York, two major statements, webinars, a dedicated website, a global newsletter, 11 editions of which reached more than 3,000 migration actors worldwide, and conducted direct consultations with more than 40 governments.

Civil society advocated for increased protection of the safety and dignity of refugees, migrants and displaced people and for

social inclusion against discrimination, racism and xenophobia. The Action Committee called for shared responsibility among all governments in welcoming, protecting and assisting refugees and for the development of an institutional framework ensuring safe, orderly and regular migration mechanisms. The Summit's outcome document, the *New York Declaration*, aims to improve rights-based migration governance at the global level. The Declaration launched explicit commitments by all 193 United Nations Member States to create two further agreements over the next two years, called "Global Compacts": one on responsibility-sharing for refugees and one on safe, orderly and regular migration. In 2017 and 2018, the Action Committee will continue to work to ensure that the Global Compacts take account of the most pressing protection issues and advise on practical, just, and action-oriented ways forward.

In response to the *New York Declaration*, a group of approximately 100 civil society organizations, coordinated by ICMC, released a joint statement entitled "Seven actions world leaders urgently need to take to make a new deal for refugees, migrants and societies a reality".

To date, ICMC continues to promote action on the commitments made by the 193 United Nations member states during the Summit.

SEVEN ACTIONS WORLD LEADERS URGENTLY NEED TO TAKE TO MAKE A NEW DEAL FOR REFUGEES, MIGRANTS AND SOCIETIES A REALITY:

1. Make an implementation plan by the end of 2016, and act now
2. Deliver equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing and refugee protection mechanisms
3. Review national border policies to uphold the human rights of all people at international borders, and commit to develop and implement gender- and age-sensitive guidelines to protect migrants in vulnerable situations
4. Fulfill the commitment to end the practice of detention of child migrants, in accord with the principle of the "best interest of the child"
5. Commit to the development of a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
6. Implement policies and vigorous campaigns at national and local levels to counter xenophobia, discrimination and racism
7. Agree on concrete measures to improve the protection and assistance for internally displaced people



THE ROLE OF RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS RESPONDING TO LARGE MIGRANT AND REFUGEE MOVEMENTS: ICMC'S UN SUMMIT SIDE EVENT

On the occasion of the United Nations' high-level summit, the Permanent Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations in New York, Caritas Internationalis, and ICMC hosted a side event to discuss the crucial role of faith-based organizations in responding to large migrant and refugee movements.

The side event generated a fruitful discussion on the capacity of many faith-based organizations worldwide to provide professional, rights-based, and person-centered services to benefit the uprooted people without any discrimination. As essential stakeholders in global response to large movements of refugees and migrants, these organizations provide a strong contribution to moving beyond "burden sharing" to "responsibility sharing" and finally to "solution sharing".

Held at United Nations headquarters and live-streamed on the UN Web TV channel, the event gathered a number of

prominent speakers from both international and grassroots organizations, including Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State to Pope Francis, Karen Abu Zayd, UN Special Advisor on the Summit, and Sr. Donna Markham, President and CEO of Catholic Charities USA. ICMC's Secretary General, Msgr. Robert Vitillo, moderated the event and ICMC Europe Head of Office, Petra Hueck, served as a panelist.

Omar Al-Muqdaq, a Syrian refugee, whose resettlement to the USA was facilitated by ICMC and its national member organization, the Migration and Refugee Services of the United States' Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), shared his personal testimony. He described the events that caused him to flee from his home country, the opportunities he received and the contributions he tries to make in the country that has welcomed him.



Find out more about the Action Committee and civil society's involvement in the UN Summit: visit the website ICMC created for advocacy at the Summit!

<http://refugees-migrants-civilsociety.org>

TOP: ICMC'S SECRETARY GENERAL, MSGR. ROBERT J. VITILLO, AND SOME OF THE HIGH LEVEL PANELISTS DURING THE SIDE EVENT IN NEW YORK. © CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICES/ GREGORY A. SHERITZ

LEFT: FORMER UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL BAN KI MOON OPENS THE UNITED NATIONS SUMMIT FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN NEW YORK. © GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



ALI'S STORY

Ali and his wife Seham fled their Syrian hometown, Homs, three years ago. As explosions ravaged the city, the couple felt it was no longer safe for them and their children to stay. “My wife was pregnant,” Ali recalls. “We wanted our baby to be born somewhere safe. We had no choice but to walk all the way to Northern Jordan”.

Once in Jordan, however, things did not get any easier. Distressed and traumatized by the atrocities he had witnessed in Syria, Ali began suffering from painful chronic migraines, which made him unable to find a job. In a desperate effort to provide for the family, two of his

children – aged 10 to 12 – started sweeping supermarket aisles and unloading trucks for few dollars a month.

Struggling to find a home they could afford, the family was forced to move around often; frequent moves, however, had a serious impact on the children, who were suffering due to the instability. ICMC’s caseworkers visited the home of Ali and Seham. They realized how much the family was in need of assistance and offered financial support to pay rent for some months.

As she became familiar with the services provided by ICMC, Seham began attending the

Arabic literacy classes offered at the ICMC Protection Center in Mafraq. A few months later, she has learned to read and write and now is very pleased with her achievements. “Now I can teach my children how to read while we are waiting for a place for them in school!”, she explained enthusiastically.

While Seham attends her classes, her younger children have fun in the Center’s play area, called the Child Friendly Space. “Seham, the children and I have made new friends with both Jordanians and Syrians at the Protection Center. That’s really good,” Ali added.

Six years since its beginning, the Syrian conflict continued to take a toll on some 4,600,000 refugees who fled the country and more than 6,300,000 internally displaced seeking shelter in safer parts of Syria. Living conditions remain extremely harsh for both groups. Syrian refugees struggle to live in host countries with little or no income, rights, or job opportunities. Those who remain in

Syria face shortages and ever-increasing prices of even the most basic items, an almost complete lack of public services, and the extreme danger of living in a war-torn country. ICMC has been supporting the uprooted and their host communities with a wide range of services, including healthcare, psycho-social services and the distribution of essential aid.

Syria



TWO-MONTH-OLD TWINS FROM DAR'A, SYRIA, DAUGHTERS OF ICMC BENEFICIARIES WHO FOUND REFUGE IN IRBID, JORDAN. © ICMC/STEFANO SCHIRATO

Among its many dreadful effects, the conflict has put a strain on Syria's health system. Over the year, ICMC reached out to 24,000 people in Syria, identifying those who most needed access to healthcare and other types of medical assistance. Pregnant women displaced within the country find themselves in a particularly vulnerable situation, not being able to get the medical assistance they need. Together with its partner organization Terre des Hommes Syria, ICMC facilitated the monitoring of 2,000 women before and after delivery and provided medical support for their newborn babies.

During the same period, ICMC supported more than 19,000 people through the distribution of household items, house cleaning products, and personal hygiene kits. In this way, ICMC helps them restore appropriate and dignifying living conditions for all the family, with special attention on newborn babies, disabled persons, and the elderly.

FAITH IN THE MIDST OF VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT

Rand Mitri, a Syrian girl from Aleppo, was one of the three young people to give testimony to Pope Francis and to approximately two million youth who gathered in Krakow, Poland, for World Youth Day on 30 July. Rand spoke of the violence and conflict that has caused the flight of so many internally displaced persons and refugees. “More and more, I believe that God exists despite all of our pain”, she said.

“I believe that sometimes through our pain, He teaches us the true meaning of love”. On the same occasion, Pope Francis called on Polish leaders to welcome refugees and migrants fleeing despair, conflicts and violations of their basic rights.

Jordan

At the end of 2016, approximately 635,000 Syrian refugees were seeking protection in Jordan. Often traumatized, isolated and in difficult financial conditions, these refugee families worry day after day about finding the means to pay for rent or food for their children, or to provide the medical care needed by their elderly. In order to at least partially alleviate their burden, in 2016 ICMC offered rent assistance to some 1,700 households in Jordan, helping them access decent housing. During the coldest winter months, as families started facing increased expenses to keep warm and safe, 4,000 additional households were supported with cash assistance or packages containing useful items for the winter season. In order to encourage integration and ease potential tensions with the host communities, ICMC also offered aid to the most vulnerable Jordanian families in the region.

ICMC's Protection Center in Mafraq, in the north of the country, continued to provide a number of psychological and social services to Syrians and Jordanians facing hardship. More than 2,500 people participated in focus group discussions, during which they could share their emotions or daily difficulties and meet others who shared similar traumatic experiences. Women who did not have a chance to go to school attended the Arabic literacy classes offered at the Center; 250 successfully completed the course, finally having learned to read and write. The women were also

motivated to join the group since the Child-Friendly Space made it possible for their children to play safely while waiting for their mothers. In early 2016, ICMC increased the number of buses picking up the participants in focus groups or literacy classes and their children, so that even more people could attend. All the services provided by the Protection Center are entirely free of charge for the beneficiaries.

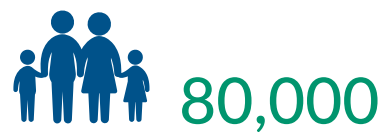
New programs launched in 2016 included provision of vocational training and job placement services as well as assistance to Syrian refugees to access legal and civil status documentation.



ICMC'S STAFF ASSIST BENEFICIARIES QUEUING TO RECEIVE CASH ASSISTANCE IN IRBID, JORDAN. © ICMC/STEFANO SCHIRATO



CARING FOR BOTH PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS: ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY, IN OCTOBER 2016, ICMC INVITED SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN COMMUNITIES IN MAFRAQ, JORDAN, TO PARTICIPATE IN A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES AIMED TO RAISE AWARENESS ON MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES. © ICMC/STEFANO SCHIRATO



SYRIAN REFUGEES AND JORDANIANS WERE ASSESSED FOR VULNERABILITY AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS



SYRIAN REFUGEE AND JORDANIAN FAMILIES RECEIVED CASH ASSISTANCE FOR WINTER, SHELTER, AND OTHER EMERGENCY NEEDS



CHILDREN RECEIVED PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT



SYRIANS AND JORDANIANS RECEIVED HOUSEHOLD, HOUSE CLEANING AND PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS



ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES TO LEARN MUTUAL RESPECT AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN AND TO PREVENT ANY FORM OF SEXUAL OR PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IN THEIR RELATIONSHIPS



SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN CHILDREN RECEIVED SCHOOLBAGS, STATIONARY AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL ITEMS

OFFERING PROTECTION TO THE MOST VULNERABLE

SAYID'S STORY

Sayid is only 17-years-old, yet he has already gone through many traumatic experiences in his short life. Back in Syria, his father used to mistreat his mother and siblings and spent family savings on gambling and alcohol. Eventually, the father married a second wife and left Sayid and the rest of the family behind. Sayid had been arrested for refusing to obey the instructions of the Islamic State, and was terrified that this might happen again. Completely alone, he fled Syria at 15 years of age.

After a long journey, the young man arrived in Turkey, where

he looked for a job to support the rest of the family back home. Shortly after, four of Sayid's brothers joined him in Istanbul. Not having found steady employment in the country, Sayid left again with his youngest brother Mohammed, hoping to find better opportunities elsewhere. They eventually reached Greek shores and spent three months in the local Registration & Identification Center of Kos island. Then, in August 2016, they were transferred to a transit shelter for unaccompanied minors managed by a Greek NGO called Praksis and funded by ICMC.

Traumatized by his difficult situation, Sayid has often felt depressed and had difficulty sleeping and eating. His main concern, however, is to find the means to support his family in Syria. Since his English is so good, Sayid decided to stay in Greece and make a living as a translator. The cases of Sayid and Mohammed are currently being reviewed and the two may get a chance to be relocated to the United Kingdom - a glimpse of hope and motivation for the brothers.

Throughout its various programs, ICMC offers protection, counseling and a range of support services to uprooted people who face particular physical, legal or psychological risks. ICMC provides specific assistance to the most

vulnerable, including unaccompanied children, women, marginalized migrants and refugees, persons with serious illnesses or disabilities, and the elderly.

Greece

In 2016, Greece was one of the major points of entry into Europe for some 362,000 refugees and migrants crossing the Mediterranean. The number of arrivals, and the suffering that so many had experienced, put great strain on the Greek asylum service and its reception facilities in their effort to offer assistance and protection.

Since 2010, ICMC has served as a partner to UNHCR and the local Greek authorities to strengthen the country's asylum system and the emergency response to incoming refugees and migrants. Throughout the year, ICMC deployed 201 experts to Attica, Thessaloniki, Alexandria and other locations, including several islands. ICMC experts participated in and supported all

of the activities conducted under UNHCR's leadership to manage the migrant and refugee crisis in Greece, and to advise and assist the many refugees and persons in need of international protection.

In 2016, ICMC supported the activities of Praksis, a Greek non-governmental organization, on the island of Kos where it provides assistance to unaccompanied children fleeing conflicts and other difficult situations. The shelter delivers psychological support services to refugee children as well as administrative and legal advice on family reunification, asylum in Greece, or relocation to other European countries.

ICMC'S EFFORTS IN GREECE INCLUDED:

1. The reception, registration, and welcoming of asylum seekers
2. Visiting campsites and arranging for accommodation and transportation for vulnerable individuals
3. Providing legal counsel on possibilities of family reunification and relocation to other European countries
4. Identifying and evaluating the needs of unaccompanied and other vulnerable children

ARRIVAL OF SYRIAN REFUGEES BY BOAT IN LESVOS, GREECE.
© UNHCR/JOWAN AKKASH

Pakistan

To address the hygiene and health needs of the 22,250 Afghan refugees living in the Munda refugee camp, in Pakistan's Charsadda district, ICMC expanded its activities in 2016, through a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project. ICMC facilitated the construction and rehabilitation of the camp's drainage and sewage systems to improve access to safe drinking water and to avoid the spread of diseases.

ICMC conducted awareness sessions in various parts of the camp to help refugees understand the importance of good hygiene habits and actions. On the occasion of Global Handwashing Day, participants engaged in hygiene promotion activities including the proper and sustained use of sanitation facilities.

Hygiene kits, brochures, calendars, and posters were distributed to the population with information about the best sanitation practices. ICMC also provided training to project staff, so that they, in turn, could teach children to avoid with risky habits and empower the community representatives to monitor positive hygiene practices.



ON GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY, ICMC STAFF ORGANIZED MANY ACTIVITIES IN THE MUNDA REFUGEE CAMP WITH AFGHAN REFUGEE CHILDREN WHO LEARNED ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPER SANITATION. © ICMC PAKISTAN

 1,500

REFUGEE CHILDREN IN PAKISTAN RECEIVED HEALTH AND HYGIENE KITS CONTAINING TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE, SOAP, AND COMBS

 2,100

BROCHURES AND POSTERS ON GOOD HEALTH AND HYGIENE PRACTICES WERE DISSEMINATED WITHIN THE MUNDA CAMP COMMUNITY

 510

MEDICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS WERE OFFERED TO THE REFUGEES BEING SERVED AT THE SHELTER

Sexual and gender-based violence is a serious issue affecting Afghan and non-Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Due to their vulnerable status, refugees – especially women and young girls – are frequently exposed to abuse, including domestic violence and early or forced marriages. This can also result in stigma, social marginalization, lack of access to education and employment opportunities. In 2016, ICMC provided a range of protection and support services to 601 refugees and asylum-seekers who suffered violence in Islamabad and Rawalpindi.

In addition, 51 refugee survivors of violence were accommodated in ICMC's safe shelter. Psychosocial counsellors assisted refugees who had faced trauma arising from displacement or physical abuse. They were also provided with skills training, including candle making, stitching, and embroidery. The children participated in interactive learning classes on health and hygiene, storytelling, stress management, conflict resolution, and art therapy workshops to address feelings of hopelessness and anxiety.

"I feel very happy after the counseling session. I got an idea of how to handle my situation. I felt sad and scared and counseling helped me to reduce this feeling."

- A 19-year-old Rohingya survivor of domestic violence, who fled from her husband and was supported by ICMC.



A REFUGEE PARTICIPATES IN A SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING IN PENANG, MALAYSIA. © ICMC/NATHALIE PERROUD

Malaysia

For the sixth consecutive year, ICMC Malaysia has addressed and reduced the risk of sexual and gender-based violence among Rohingya and other refugees in Malaysia and assisted survivors of such abuse and their families with their urgent and long-term needs. The program also provides refugees with emergency shelter, medical treatment, psychological care, counseling, transportation, and interpretation services.

The Refugee Women's Protection Corps (RWPC), a group of refugees trained by ICMC and volunteering to help the members of their own community, provided counseling, interpretation and escort services to the victims of violence. Most of the Rohingya survivors were identified through the efforts of these volunteers. In 2016, ICMC received 128 disclosures of abuse, most of which involved cases of domestic violence. The RWPC also conducted awareness sessions on abuse among members of their communities as well as dedicated sessions for children and for teachers in refugees' schools and learning centers.

ICMC distributed brochures that were specially designed for illiterate Rohingya refugees, to offer important information on sexual and gender-based violence in a more accessible way. To better reach out to different refugees, the brochures were translated in Arabic (as ICMC's Malaysia staff assisted refugees from the Middle East for the first time) and in the Rohingya language; they were also recorded in an MP3 player and distributed to those who are unable to read.

Through its "mini-grants", ICMC supported small projects sponsored by local organizations to benefit refugees, including English literacy classes and skills development training. At the end of the projects, the participants were provided with materials and felt empowered to use their new skills in the sale of art objects and other crafts.

 45 SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE
69 CHILDREN

WERE OFFERED TEMPORARY SHELTER THROUGH ICMC

 4,730

BROCHURES, HANDOUTS, COLORING BOOKS, AND MP3 PLAYERS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO AN ESTIMATED 3,000 REFUGEES

 4,400

VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS (INCLUDING ALMOST 4,090 REFUGEES) IN KUALA LUMPUR, KLANG VALLEY, AND PENANG BENEFITTED FROM ICMC'S SERVICES

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT



“THE HOPE”

I will not live again, so I need to live in peace
 I will not surrender. Will appeal to all the people all humans
 I will appeal to the earth and the sky and all that is alive
 Because I want to live in peace
 I will not give up no matter what happens will not be surrendered
 I have hope in life
 Here and there who wants to do good things?
 We are all human beings and our duty to help each other
 I want to live in peace
 I want to eat and drink, and sleep.
 I want to sate my desires psychological and spiritual as well as completing my study
 I am a human I have the right for life
 Enough for me five years as refugee, homeless hungry and scared
 Enough for me 25 years I suffer injustice because of the affiliations intellectual and socio-political
 of my family
 The day I live will not be repeated. Here is a future that is almost being destroyed
 My life will not be repeated
 I want to live in peace
 life will not be repeated again
 help me to get back to life.

A poem written by a Syrian refugee who applied for resettlement through ICMC's Resettlement Support Center in Istanbul, Turkey.

Resettlement is defined by the United Nations as the selection and transfer of refugees from the country in which they have initially sought protection to another which has agreed to admit them as residents. This status provides resettled refugees and their families with rights similar to those enjoyed by nationals.

For hundreds of thousands of vulnerable refugees who are unable to return home or to permanently settle in the country where they have fled, resettlement remains the only durable solution to start a new life in peace and security. It is important to note that only 115,000, or 0.5 percent of the total number of refugees in the world, were resettled to other countries in 2016.

RESETTLEMENT SUPPORT CENTER TURKEY & THE MIDDLE EAST

A partner of the United States government since the 1960s, ICMC manages one of the largest Resettlement Support Centers (RSC) in the world, which is funded by the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration. For nearly 40 years, ICMC's RSC has assisted refugees who are being considered for resettlement through the United States Refugee Admissions Program. Based in Istanbul with a sub-office in Beirut, the Center employs highly trained staff with experience in managing a complex program with a person-centered approach.

The RSC assists refugee applicants in Turkey and Lebanon through various steps of a rigorous vetting process before the United States decides whether or not to admit them for resettlement. To prepare refugees for success in the United States, the Center delivers Cultural Orientation classes to prepare them for integration into their new communities. Sessions focus on self reliance and self sufficiency, and equipping resettled refugees to adapt more easily to life in the United States.

Between 2015 and 2016, as conflict continued to create significant migration flows especially towards neighboring countries, the United States government raised its total ceiling for refugee admissions to 85,000. In response, the RSC

increased its capacity in order to serve the growing number of vulnerable refugees who needed protection.

ICMC's Washington Liaison Office worked closely with national and local United States resettlement agencies, including Catholic Charities, to assure a smooth transition upon arrival for refugees who had been served by ICMC's Resettlement Support Center programs in Istanbul and Beirut. This activity included extensive follow-up casework, consultations with state and local host communities, and the conduct of focus groups.



REFUGEE CHILDREN AWAIT RESETTLEMENT TO THE USA AT ICMC'S RESETTLEMENT SUPPORT CENTER IN ISTANBUL, TURKEY.
 © ICMC/GUIDO DINGEMAS



18,300

REFUGEES WERE INTERVIEWED BY ICMC'S CASE-WORKERS IN TURKEY AND LEBANON FOR BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND EVIDENCE OF THEIR PERSECUTION CLAIM



13,350

COMPULSORY MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS WERE FACILITATED



9,580

REFUGEES OVER THE AGE OF 13 PARTICIPATED IN PRE-DEPARTURE CULTURAL ORIENTATION CLASSES



9,570

REFUGEES - ORIGINATING MAINLY FROM IRAQ, IRAN, AND SYRIA - WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BOARD A PLANE TO START A NEW LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES

ICMC-UNHCR RESETTLEMENT DEPLOYMENT SCHEME

ICMC's resettlement support activities extend far beyond the Turkey and Middle East region. For almost 20 years, ICMC has managed the "Resettlement Deployment Scheme", a pool of resettlement and child protection specialists who also possess additional expertise in other related domains such as refugee status determination, sexual and gender based violence, and prevention of fraudulent activities. Pool members have successfully passed a very competitive recruitment process and are assigned to missions within the field offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in order to supplement the capacity of UNHCR officials.

In 2016, ICMC deployed 210 experts (called "deployees") from 48 countries to provide support to 63 UNHCR offices in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America. With additional funding from the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), ICMC was able to deploy another 23 experts to UNHCR offices in 13 locations, mainly in Africa.

The majority of ICMC's deployees engaged in identifying refugees in need of resettlement and in preparing their cases for submission to resettlement countries. ICMC's child protection specialists conducted "Best Interest Determination" assessments to formulate the most appropriate plan for the child's future. Together, these experts made a significant contribution to enhancing protection of refugees.

 145,000

REFUGEES WERE INTERVIEWED AND ASSESSED FOR RESETTLEMENT TO THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND MANY OTHER COUNTRIES

 5,400

"BEST INTEREST DETERMINATION" ASSESSMENTS WERE CONDUCTED

THIS PAGE: AN ERITREAN REFUGEE GIRL, WHO WAS SEPARATED FROM HER FAMILY, LIVING IN A REFUGEE CAMP IN ETHIOPIA. © ICMC/NATHALIE PERROUD

OPPOSITE PAGE: FARUCH, A 13-YEAR-OLD SYRIAN REFUGEE BOY WHO LIVES WITH HIS FAMILY IN IRBID, JORDAN. © ICMC/STEFANO SCHIRATO

CALLING FOR REFUGEE RIGHTS AND INCREASED RESETTLEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Throughout the year, ICMC advocated vigorously for safe and orderly resettlement routes for refugees and for respect of refugees' rights all around the world. On its own or as part of networks of civil society organizations sharing the same commitment, ICMC repeatedly asked governments to expand resettlement opportunities and humanitarian admissions, to share responsibility in managing migration movements, and to guarantee the protection of the most vulnerable refugees - especially unaccompanied or separated children.

Faced with continued loss of life among persons crossing the the Mediterranean, ICMC Europe advocated for the development of more legal pathways by which refugees could seek protection, including resettlement, sponsorships, humanitarian visas, and student scholarships. ICMC Europe joined others to convene European NGOs active in refugee resettlement. The participants raised serious concerns about the European Commission's proposal to establish a "Union Resettlement Framework", redefining the EU's acceptance of refugees on a permanent basis. ICMC called on the European States to focus on practical, rights-based solutions rather than on migration control alone, and to enlist civil society's capacity to implement resettlement programs.

During the transition period following the United States presidential elections, ICMC's Washington Liaison Office worked closely with ICMC's member organization, Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), to advocate for maintaining target numbers for resettlement to the USA that were based on the needs of vulnerable refugees.

EUROPEAN RESETTLEMENT NETWORK+

ICMC Europe continued its collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR to promote expanded and improved resettlement processes in Europe. This project, known as European Resettlement Network+ Developing Innovative European Models for the Protection of Refugees and Providing Support to New Resettlement Countries, focuses on alternative legal pathways to welcome and integrate refugees. In this context, ICMC Europe raises awareness and promotes action on private sponsorship by local communities, a trend now emerging in Europe.

"We are living a critical moment in history when the doors to asylum are slamming shut around the world."

-A joint appeal issued by ICMC together with the Holy See and seven global Catholic networks in November 2016



PROMOTION OF WELCOMING COMMUNITIES THROUGH INTEGRATION

Resettlement is truly successful when refugees can become fully participating and autonomous members of the local communities that receive them. Integration is a long and personal process for refugees, who have left everything behind in the countries they have fled. Refugees are resilient and have many resources. However, their new lives can take off more swiftly when local communities are

committed to work together to plan for arrivals and to offer welcome and integration pathways. Integration is a two-way process: requiring actions from both refugees and host communities. Volunteers are vital to make refugees feel welcome, learn the language and local culture, find affordable housing, and access education and employment.

YAZIDI REFUGEES FIND NEW HOPE AND FUTURE IN THE USA

“... to date, approximately 500 Yazidis (both Iraqi and Syrian) have come to America with the help of ICMC. Lincoln is now home to an estimated 2,000 Iraqi Yazidis.

By all reports, the Yazidis in Lincoln are doing extremely well. For example, though very few came with education higher than primary grades, their children – according to the Lincoln School District’s

English Language Learning representatives – have succeeded in learning English fast and, in spite of interrupted schooling in Iraq and Turkey, have caught up with their grade levels and are flourishing.

Employment counselors interviewed praised the Yazidi attitude toward work, their resourcefulness, and skills. One staffer from Catholic Charities said, ‘We always

hear from the big employers here that our businesses would go under without the hardworking Yazidi workers.’ A refugee said of his employer: ‘My company knows we are here to live in peace.’

All told me how safe they feel to be living in Lincoln; one said, ‘I feel loved here.’”

– Jane Bloom, Head of ICMC’s Washington DC Office, who traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska, in September 2016, to meet with and learn from the many Yazidis served by our RSC in Turkey and resettled by Catholic Charities Lincoln. The Yazidis are one of several religious minorities in Iraq and Syria targeted by ISIS.

ICMC EUROPE CONVENES A BROAD RANGE OF STAKEHOLDERS TO PROMOTE INTEGRATION

In March 2016, ICMC Europe published its report “Building a Resettlement Network of European Cities and Regions - Experiences of the SHARE Network 2012-2015”, a detailed and comprehensive summary of policy recommendations, resources and tools developed by ICMC Europe and SHARE Network members. The report offers guidance and best practice examples to local and regional actors to plan, welcome and integration support to refugees in Europe.

The SHARE Network, includes 1,200 local and regional resettlement and integration actors in over 27 European countries, including municipalities, NGOs, public services, churches and private sector actors. The SHARE recommendations were especially helpful to ICMC Europe’s partners, during 2016, as they promoted more welcoming environments for refugees in Europe.



“I arrived in Europe in 2011 from Ethiopia. I was like a ‘raw material’ – I had no idea of what to expect from my future. Thanks to NGOs and city integration services, I learned Dutch, took up some job training and managed to integrate into society. Now I work as a social orientation teacher for other refugees: I feel as if the ‘raw material’ has turned into something useful and productive.”

- Filmon Ghebrehiwot, an Eritrean refugee who was supported by the SHARE network members through his integration in Belgium. Filmon has since become a SHARE Resettlement Ambassador; his story is portayed in a video, available on the European Resettlement Network website.

STRENGTHENING REFUGEE ASSISTANCE SERVICES IN TURKEY

In April, under the auspices of the “EU–Turkey Civil Society Dialogue”, and in partnership with Turkish non-profit organization Human Resource Development Foundation (HRDF), ICMC Europe launched a new program to support civil society in Turkey in the provision of services to refugees and promote a dialogue between European and Turkish non-governmental actors. The project promotes new ways to integrate refugees in Turkey and to benefit from the engagement of volunteers in service provision to vulnerable refugees.

In the course of three productive meetings, the project facilitated an exchange of expertise and best practices in the reception and integration of refugees were exchanged.



THE EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY DELEGATION WHO MET THE TURKISH REPRESENTATIVES IN ISTANBUL, IN APRIL 2016. © ICMC

YASSER'S STORY

Yasser arrived in Pakistan with the dream of pursuing a Master's degree in Computer Sciences. He had completed his bachelor's degree back home in Yemen; he had then left the country in early 2015, hoping to find better opportunities abroad.

A few months after his departure, however, a war broke out in Yemen. Yasser found himself cut off from his family, unable to make any contact with his wife and son: he thought he had lost them forever. Hopeless and alone, Yasser registered as a refugee with UNHCR while trying to make a living in Pakistan. Understanding his difficult situation, UNHCR referred him to ICMC, knowing the organization would assist him to find a suitable job.

During his first meeting with the ICMC staff, Yasser went through a detailed assessment. "I was not very confident I would get a call back," he explained. "To my surprise, though, ICMC's Livelihood Assistant got in touch a few days later, telling me he would start applying for job opportunities on my behalf!"

Shortly after, Yasser started working as an Arabic Translator and English Content Writer at a digital marketing company in Lahore. "Before I got this job I was totally dependent on my friends in Pakistan. Now I am independent and can even help my own friends," Yasser said. "I kept receiving interview calls even after I got hired and had to ask ICMC to stop applying for me!"

Yasser continues to work at the company, but is also studying hard for his Computer Sciences degree. It is only recently that he has discovered that his family is actually alive in Yemen; he now hopes ICMC and UNHCR will assist him in bringing them to Pakistan. "I am still in touch with ICMC's staff member and often contact him for career guidance and counseling," Yasser explained. "He is more like a friend than a service provider".

Migrants make significant contributions to the national economies of their countries of origin, transit, and destination. However, they frequently face the risk of exploitation by unscrupulous recruitment agencies and human traffickers as well as other forms of abuse and discrimination. In this regard, ICMC works to

ensure that policies and programs protecting migrant workers and their families are being developed and effectively implemented. In a context which is increasingly hostile against newcomers, ICMC and its partners also continued their efforts to change public perceptions about refugees and migrants.

LIVELIHOODS PROGRAM IN PAKISTAN



REFUGEE TRAINEES LEARN SHOE-MAKING AS PART OF ICMC'S SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. © ICMC PAKISTAN

During 2016, ICMC continued to provide vocational training to Afghan refugees and their host community members in the Charsadda district, and thus helped them become financially independent. ICMC offers a range of skills training programs – in fashion and design, tailoring, hand and machinery embroidery, carpet weaving. The training is designed to provide technical knowledge that can immediately be put into daily use and thus support income-generating activities within the

refugee community. The program also offers Urdu language and basic arithmetic classes.

After the conclusion of the training, ICMC helped the trainees to find employment through a network of local businesses seeking qualified personnel. Small grants helped 45 beneficiaries start businesses, and the owners reported an increase of their household income.



300

REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN THE CHARSADDA DISTRICT WERE PROVIDED WITH VOCATIONAL TRAINING SPONSORED BY ICMC



200

PEOPLE SUCCESSFULLY ATTENDED BASIC LANGUAGE AND MATHS CLASSES



50%

OF THE TRAINEES HAD ALREADY FOUND A JOB WITHIN TWO MONTHS AFTER COMPLETING THEIR TRAINING

ICMC CARES - A PRACTICAL WAY TO PROMOTE MIGRATION & DEVELOPMENT

According to a European Commission estimate, by 2025 more than 20% of Europeans will have reached the age of 65 or older. As the number of elderly people increases rapidly, so does the need for qualified professionals in the healthcare field, including the provision of at-home care. Thus, more and more families are depending on migrant workers (often from Eastern European countries) to care for their frail and elderly relatives. The "ICMC Cares" program aims to respond to such increasing need, while also ensuring that labor migrants in Europe enjoy protection and fair employment conditions.

In 2016, ICMC Cares' partner institutions in Poland recruited and provided specialized paramedical training to

200 professionals from Eastern Europe. The program includes professional training, skills certification, the opportunity to gain experience in regional caregiving institutions, and the possibility of job placement in other European countries.

ICMC continued its close working relations with a public-private partnership in Poland to recruit and train additional numbers of homecare professionals and established new collaborations with major homecare providers in Switzerland. In these placement efforts, ICMC Cares ensures that all caregivers are properly integrated into the formal labor market and benefit from appropriate social protection.

GFMD Civil Society Days 2016

Time for Action:

Doing rights-based governance
of migration and development
for communities and across borders



CIVIL SOCIETY SPEAKERS TAKE THE FLOOR AT THE GFMD CIVIL SOCIETY DAYS IN DHAKA, BANGLADESH. © DRIK

THE GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The 2016 Global Forum of Migration and Development (GFMD) completed an intense year for promoting and improving the governance and management of global migration. Taking place in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 8-12 December, the Forum convened 200 representatives of civil society from around the world and almost 500 delegates from 150 governments, with 100 additional representatives from the United Nations and other international organizations. Participants focused on urgent and practical ways to address vulnerabilities, respect rights, and recognize contributions of migrants and their families everywhere.

The GFMD was also the first major international conference to focus on the commitments of the New York Declaration, made by States a little more than two months earlier during the UN General Assembly's High-Level Summit on Refugees and Migrants.



342

PARTICIPANTS WERE CONVENED DURING THE GFMD CIVIL SOCIETY DAYS, INCLUDING 142 DELEGATES FROM GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

As with each GFMD during the previous five years, global civil society activities were organized by ICMC's civil society Coordinating Office, within the MADE Network. After months of preparation, representatives of human rights and development organizations, faith-based and labour groups, migrants and diaspora associations, academics and private actors, were convened in two "Civil Society Days". They proposed practical and political recommendations on crucial migration-related issues to be considered by governments during the following three days.

The 2016 GFMD Civil Society Chair, Mr. Colin Rajah – a migrants' rights activist and himself a refugee – presented those recommendations at the opening of the "Common Space", during which civil society participants met with government representatives. Emphasizing the 2016 GFMD theme, "Time for action is upon us", Mr. Rajah stressed that all stakeholders need to work together to implement rights-based policies in migration and human development.



50+

THE CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES CAME FROM OVER 50 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE, AND HALF WERE MIGRANTS, REFUGEES, CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

MIGRATION & DEVELOPMENT (MADE) CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK

During 2016, ICMC's MADE Network continued to provide a platform that supports civil society worldwide to promote the wellbeing and protection of all migrants and their communities. MADE convenes four regional chapters: Africa, Asia, Americas and Europe, with a Global Coordinating Office and three working groups: Labour Migration and Recruitment, Global Governance of Migration and Development, and Diaspora and Migrants in Development.

MADE served as a leader within the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) initiative, a governmental process aimed to strengthen the ability of States to assist migrants caught in conflicts or natural disasters. MADE co-organized consultations in six regions around the world which brought together civil society advocates, refugee protection practitioners, migrants, refugees and members of the diaspora, from some 60 countries to make recommendations and support governments in the development of the MICIC guidelines.

The network published the first edition of its "Movement" report, an independent assessment conducted by the Maastricht University in the Netherlands. The report evaluates progress made on the goals of the "5-year 8-point Plan of Action" that global civil society elaborated following the UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2013.



The report welcomed the integration of international migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the progress made on reform of migrant worker recruitment practices and on protection and empowerment of migrants and diaspora members.

In partnership with the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD), the MADE network organized the first-ever Global Diaspora Day on 23 June 2016. On this occasion, the network presented more than 80 stories, case studies, photos and videos to raise awareness about the positive role of migrants in the development of their countries of origin and destination, including through the creation of jobs and businesses.

MADE partner Migrant Forum in Asia continued to promote an international campaign on recruitment reform, including the theme of "Zero Fees for Migrant Workers". MADE Americas coordinators Fundación Scalabrini and the International Network on Migrations and Development organized a civil society consultation in connection with the South American Conference on Migration. MADE Africa coordinator Caritas Senegal, together with other organizations, conducted a mission to Niger in order to observe and evaluate the respect of migrants' rights in accord with regional protocols and agreements.

Throughout the year, ICMC-MADE and its partner Cordaid organized advocacy webinars on themes such as national policies on the Sustainable Development Goals related to migration and exchanged advocacy strategies and best practices.

For more information on the MADE Network and its members, visit www.madenetwork.org



ICMC'S OPERATIONS OFFICER THIBAUT CHAPOY TALKS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MICIC GUIDELINES AT A UNITED NATIONS EVENT IN OCTOBER 2016. © ICMC/BARBARA SARTORE

GOOD PRACTICES OF ICMC'S MEMBERS AND OTHER PARTNERS

ICMC's members and partners are working with local communities of migrants and refugees in all parts of the world. We take this opportunity to present a representative sample of such activities.

- More than 60,000 unaccompanied migrant and refugee children and 78,000 families crossed over the southern U.S. border from Mexico in 2016, a perilous journey in their flight from violence in Central America. In close collaboration with ICMC's member in the USA, Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the Washington Liaison Office of ICMC continued its strong advocacy and policy work to increase protection for the soaring population of this highly vulnerable population transiting through Mexico. In September, a border visit was made by ICMC's Boston-based staff, in conjunction with Pope Francis' visit there. Subsequently, ICMC's Washington-based staff traveled to Tijuana, Mexico, as part of a Catholic delegation aiming to call attention to the protection needs of migrants at the border of Mexico and the USA.

- During the summer, New Zealand's Catholic Bishops Conference, with the help of ICMC member organization, Caritas New Zealand, organized a Social Justice Week to reflect on Catholic social teachings around the theme "We all have a migration story: Fostering a culture of encounter". On this occasion, the local communities were called to share the story of their migration journeys and contribute to bolstering a culture of solidarity and dialogue with others in their local parishes.



- In Mexico and Honduras, ICMC started its collaboration with the Scalabrini Sisters and the Migration Commissions of the respective Bishops Conferences to provide emergency aid, legal assistance, social support and education assistance to unaccompanied minors and families who were in transit to the United States and either were blocked at the border or subsequently were deported and have difficulty returning to their home regions because of the systemic violence as a result of criminal behaviour by gangs or drug traffickers.

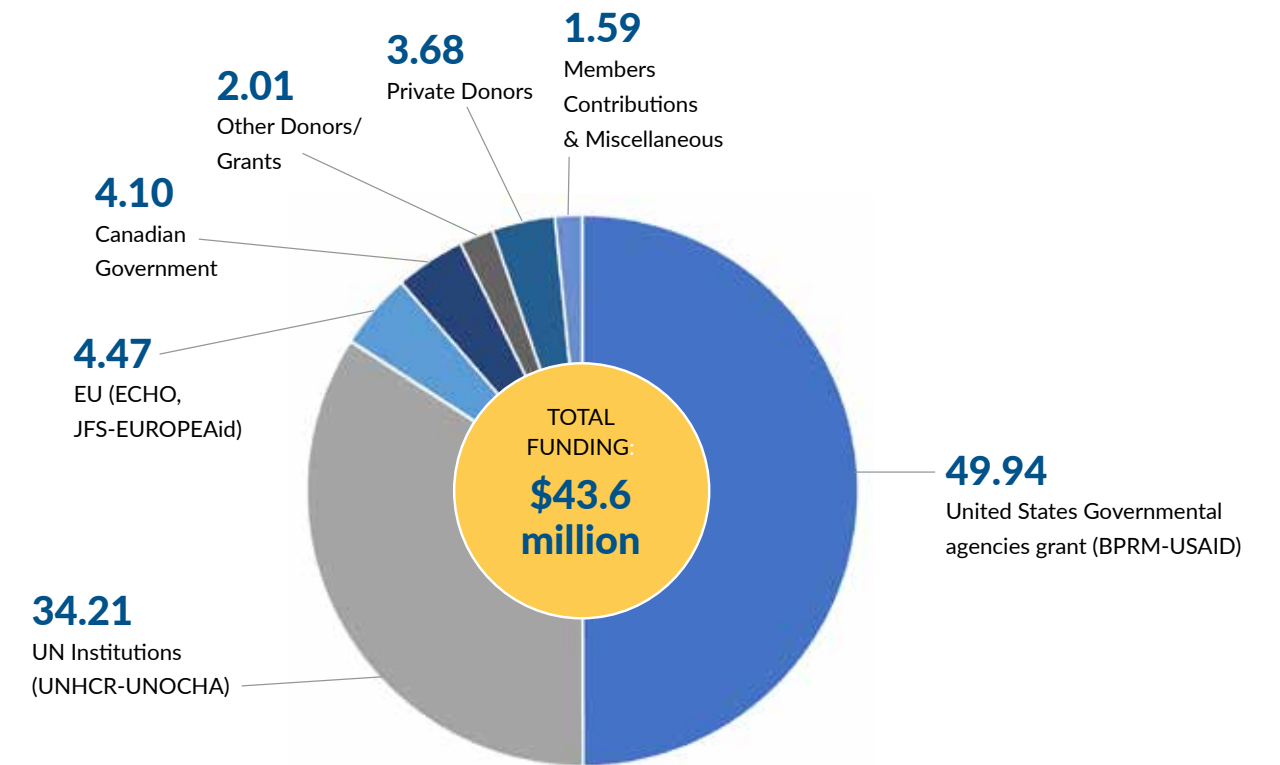


ICMC'S SECRETARY GENERAL SITS NEXT TO ARCHBISHOP JOSIAH IDOWU-FEARON, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION, AT THE CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM SUMMIT. © MEHR NEWS AGENCY/MEHRAN RIAZI

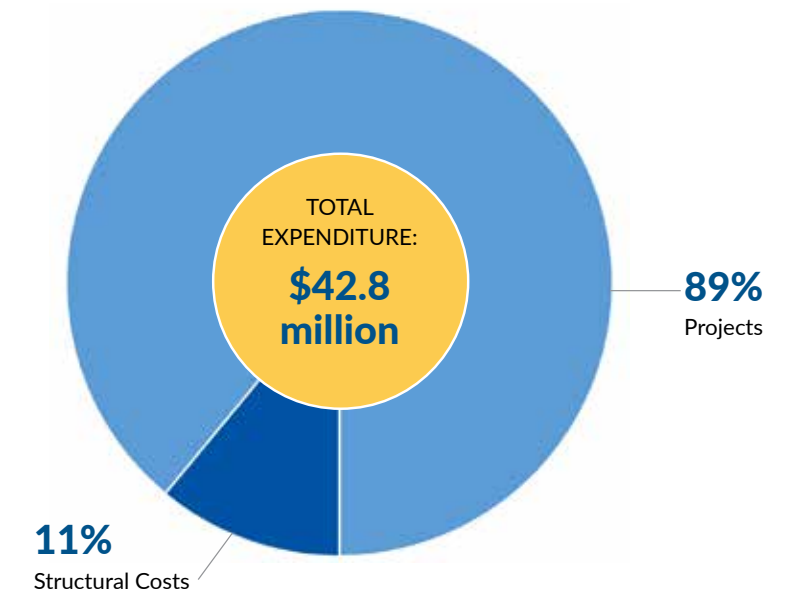
- In November, ICMC's Secretary General Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo served as the co-coordinator of the Christian-Muslim Summit held in Tehran, Iran. Religious leaders coming from four continents expressed their regret for the instrumentalization and misinterpretation of religious texts which often leads to discrimination, violence, and forced migration. They called instead for the peaceful resolution of all conflicts and disputes.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

TOTAL FUNDING



TOTAL EXPENDITURES

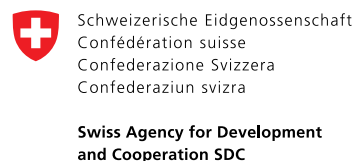


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DEPARTMENTS, PROGRAMS, AND OFFICES – SENIOR STAFF

Secretary General

Johan Ketelers
(until 5 June 2016)

Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo
(from 5 June 2016)

Administration and Finances

Florence Joigneault

Communications

Barbara Sartore

Eastern European Programs

Andrzej Sados

Policy

John K. Bingham

Operations

Walter Brill
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OPERATIONS – FIELD OFFICES

Greece

Tanja Zwack Georgakopoulou

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Malaysia

Jackie Loo

ICMC-UNHCR Resettlement

Deployment Scheme

Linda Besharaty

Lebanon

Slaviya Stoyanova

Pakistan

Jehanzeb Anwer

Resettlement Support Center

Turkey and Middle East

Linda Samardzic

AFFILIATE OFFICES

ICMC Europe

Petra Hueck

Migration and

Development (MADE)

Sophie van Haasen

Liaison Office,

Washington

Jane Bloom

Development Office, Boston

(ICMC, Inc.)

Lucy McGovern

Project management

Barbara Sartore

Writing and project support

Chiara De Luca

Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo

Sara Speicher

Giulia von Braunmuhl

Design

Nilou Moochhala / nymdesign.com

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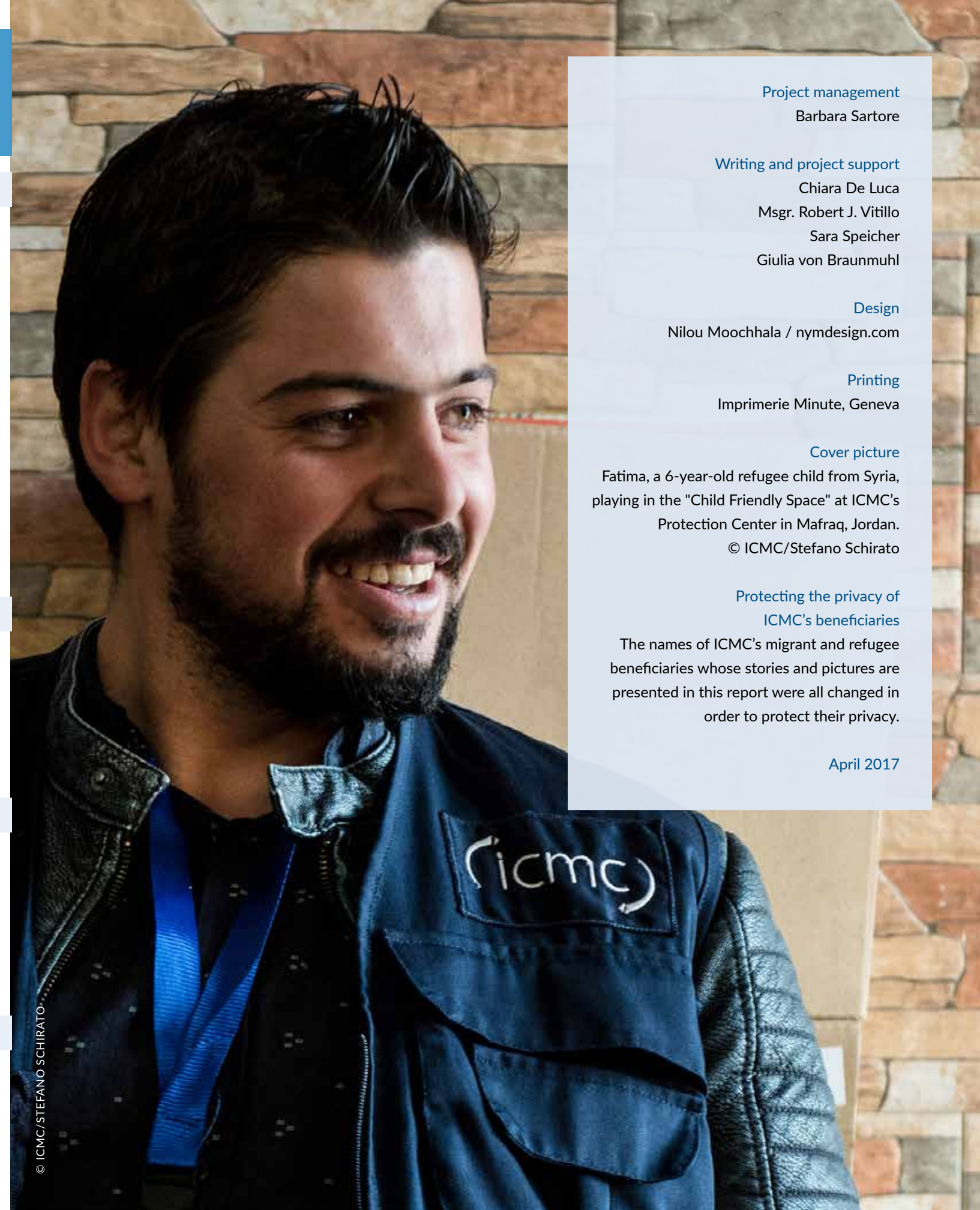
Fatima, a 6-year-old refugee child from Syria, playing in the "Child Friendly Space" at ICMC's Protection Center in Mafraq, Jordan.

© ICMC/Stefano Schirato

Protecting the privacy of ICMC's beneficiaries

The names of ICMC's migrant and refugee beneficiaries whose stories and pictures are presented in this report were all changed in order to protect their privacy.

April 2017



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Restoring Dignity,
Inspiring Change.

ICMC HEADQUARTERS

1, rue de Varembe
PO Box 96
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland


Phone: +41 22 919 10 20

Email: info@icmc.net

Website: www.icmc.net

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The International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) is a Catholic Church-inspired, international non-governmental organization which protects and serves uprooted people, including refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced people, victims of human trafficking, and migrants - regardless of faith, race, ethnicity or nationality.

Founded in 1951 by Pope Pius XII, ICMC is mandated to provide assistance and protection to uprooted individuals, families and communities whether they are displaced in their home countries, have sought asylum abroad, or are in the process of resettlement to a third country. Of particular concern to ICMC are those vulnerable migrants who are unaccompanied children, survivors of human trafficking, and ageing or sick and disabled migrants and refugees. We also advocate for international migration and refugee policies that are consistent with Catholic Church teaching and uphold the dignity and rights of refugee and migrant families.

Granted special status within the Catholic Church by Pope Benedict XVI in 2008, ICMC works in close collaboration with the Vatican's Secretariat of State and the recently established Section for Refugees and Migrants within the Integral Human Development Office.

Today, ICMC facilitates a network of national Catholic Bishops Conferences and other Catholic-inspired institutions worldwide. Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, ICMC has staff and programs in more than 50 countries, affiliated offices in Brussels, Washington DC and Boston, and operational offices in Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Turkey.