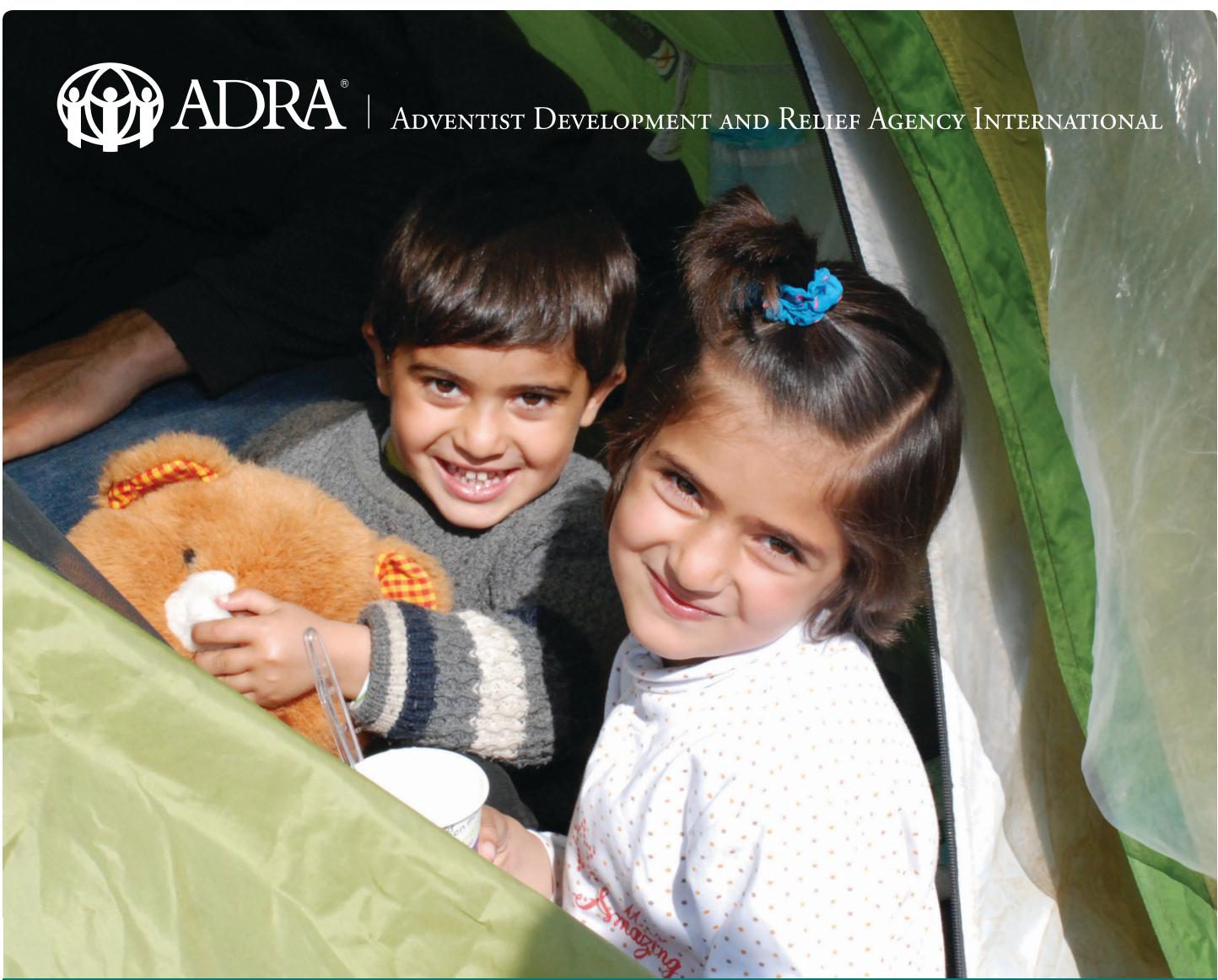




ADRA®

ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY INTERNATIONAL



Supporting Refugee Families and Individuals in Greece

ADRA INTERNATIONAL AND ADRA GERMANY

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The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is the global humanitarian organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Through an international network, ADRA delivers relief and development assistance to individuals in more than 130 countries—regardless of their ethnicity, political affiliation, or religious association.



European Refugee Crisis

The world is currently experiencing the highest levels of displacement on record. In Europe alone we are witnessing the largest refugee population since World War II.

Since 2015, ADRA has placed a priority on meeting the essential needs of refugee families and individuals in the European refugee crisis.

Why ADRA is Responding

The meaning of the phrase “refugee crisis” is hard to understand until you have seen endless rows of tents in a refugee camp, witnessed overcrowded boats arriving daily to foreign shores, heard the chorus of a million feet journeying the road to a new, unknown life, or, at the very least, seen photographs of these things.

The ongoing conflict and instability in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia have seen millions of people fleeing their homes in search of safety and a better life in another country. Given its close proximity to these countries, Europe has experienced the largest influx of refugees.

According to the UNHCR, many of the refugees come from Syria (46.7%) where a civil war has been raging for more than six years. After Syria, Afghanistan (20.9%) and Iraq (9.4%) account for large numbers of refugees. And like Syria, both countries are also experiencing civil war.

The main travel route taken by refugees was through Turkey and on to Greece via boat across the Aegean Sea. At its narrowest point, there are only 2.5 miles

that separate the Bodrum peninsula in Turkey and Kos Island in Greece (part of the European Union). A controversial EU-Turkey agreement made in March 2016 to return all persons arriving irregularly on Greek islands (including asylum seekers) to Turkey initially saw a decrease in the numbers of refugees arriving by boat. However, that number has since increased again. In the early days of 2017, more than 200 refugees died while crossing the Mediterranean Sea, an increase of more than 200% for the same period in 2016.

Greece

Over the past two years, more than 1.3 million people who are fleeing conflict and persecution have passed through Greece in search of safety and a better life in Europe. Estimates suggest that there are currently more than 62,000 refugees in Greece, more than half of whom are women and children. Due to tightening



border restrictions, most of these refugees are unable to move on to neighboring countries.

Refugees have arrived with few belongings and are still dependent on emergency shelters, relief supplies, medical care, and psychosocial support.

ADRA started its response to the European refugee crisis in July 2015 along the Balkan route with humanitarian activities in Greece, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, and Hungary.

After the EU-Turkey agreement was made on March 20, 2016, ADRA focused its response more heavily on Greece.

ADRA's Response in Greece

Beginning in April 2016, ADRA's response in Greece is a multi-sector approach that targets over 2,000 Persons of Concern (PoC) with a total budget of approximately 4 million euros. ADRA's activities have taken place on the island of Lesvos and across four refugee camps: Petra Olympou, Ktima Iraklis, Nea Chrani, and Nireas. The response has focused on the following sectors:

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

ADRA provided bi-weekly personal hygiene kits to refugee families and individuals, and facilitated the formation and training of a hygiene committee responsible for cleaning the camp showers. ADRA is currently facilitating health and hygiene trainings with a special focus on mothers and children.



Protection

ADRA partnered with IsraAID and UNHCR to survey refugees and collect data to help inform decisions about hotel rooms, apartment construction, and the relocation process. Additionally, the community center that ADRA operates was used as a temporary sleeping room during the winter due to freezing weather conditions that made it unsafe to sleep outside in tents. In collaboration with UNHCR, ADRA is continuing protection activities in the Kato Milia Hospitality Settlement (KMHS) through the provision of translation services, integration and mediation, legal advice, gender-based violence prevention, and protection.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services

ADRA partnered with IsraAID to provide psychosocial support (PSS) in the Petra Olympou camp, including English classes for men, sewing workshops, translation, teen girls groups, stress management and coping skills training, hiking groups, individual and family case management, volunteer training, staff PSS, coordinated



referrals, and support for moving camps. ADRA is continuing to provide psychosocial support for 400 residents of the Kato Milia Hospitality Settlement.

Food Security

ADRA distributed food parcels, consisting of fresh vegetables, eggs, and sunflower oil twice a week in the Petra camp, and once a week in Herakles camp for approximately seven months.



Health

ADRA is providing residents of KMHS with primary health care. Patients requiring more extensive treatment are being provided with referrals to health institutions in Katerini and Thessaloniki.

Education

ADRA trained staff are supporting refugee children to attend school in Kato Milia by providing transportation to attend school as well as assisting pupils and parents in their homework activities.

Site Management Support (SMS)

ADRA was initially appointed by the Greek Ministry of Migration Policy (MoMP) to provide site management and health support in the Petra Olympou and Ktima Iraklis camps, both located near Katerini. With the opening of the Kato Milia Hospitality Settlement, the MoMP has appointed ADRA as the sole SMS.

Shelter

ADRA, in partnership and close collaboration with the Greek Ministry of Migration Policy, constructed a refugee settlement (Kato Milia Hospitality Settlement) of 85 containers, each with its own power supply, kitchen, sanitary facilities, living room and bedroom. Additional, service containers are set up to be used as rooms for social activities, laundry, education, and medical services. This settlement has been designed to ensure privacy and protection, and provide people with facilities to become self-sufficient. In total, the settlement will accommodate up to 400 people.

Recognition

ADRA could not have reached as many people without the generous support of its donors and volunteers.

Foreign Affairs, LDS Charities and the ADRA network of offices for partnering with us to ensure support is given to those most in need.

Furthermore, we would like to thank all of our volunteers who have worked tirelessly in supporting this response. The contribution, dedication, energy, love and support they have shown has not gone unnoticed.