

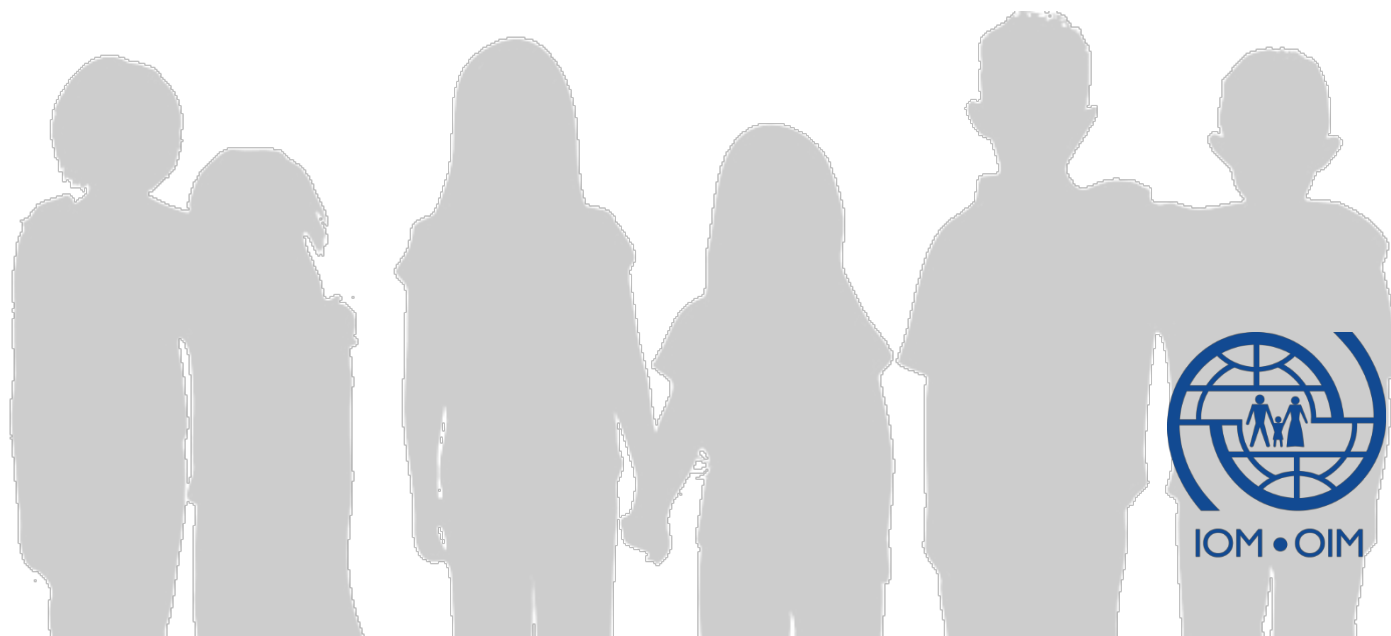
Children, abuse and exploitation: the IOM perspective

DIHAD

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Summary



Child migration



Challenges and opportunities



IOM approach and response



Child migration: facts and figures

- Children make up over half of all persons affected by crises;
- UNICEF estimates 50 million children are on the move today (across border or within the same country);
- Reasons for their migration range from escaping violence, war and persecution to search for education, better socio-economic opportunities and migration as part of a wider family project

Child migration: focus on crisis contexts

- During crises, children face increased risk of all forms of violence and exploitation. Crises exacerbate pre-existing protection concerns and create new ones.
 - Recurring protection concerns faced by children in crisis:
 - ✓ Dangers and injuries
 - ✓ Physical violence and harmful practices
 - ✓ Sexual violence
 - ✓ Psychosocial distress and mental disorders
 - ✓ Association with armed forces or groups
 - ✓ Family separation
 - ✓ Weak or lack of justice for children



EU migrant and refugee crisis



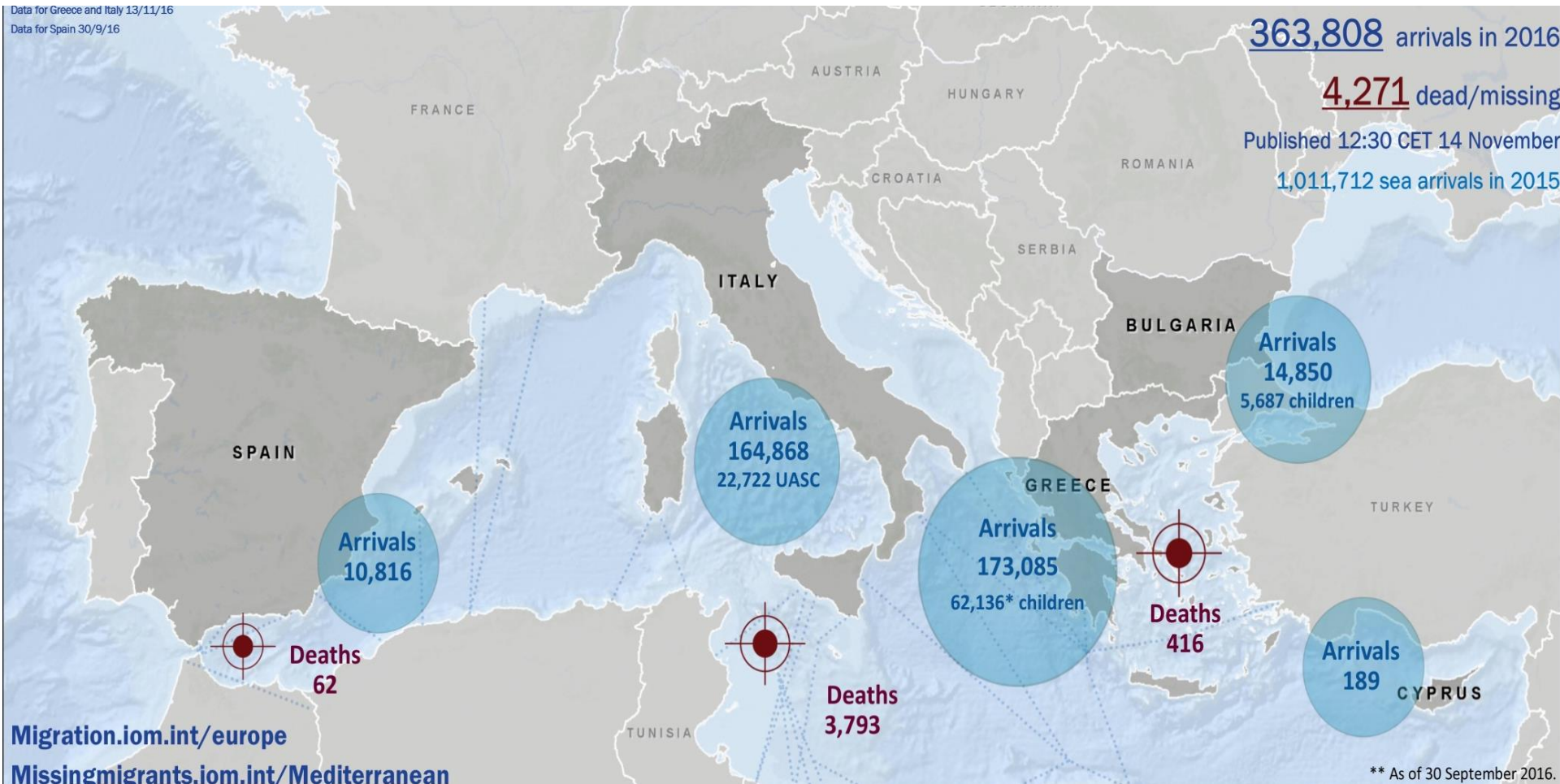
Data for Greece and Italy 13/11/16
Data for Spain 30/9/16

363,808 arrivals in 2016

4,271 dead/missing

Published 12:30 CET 14 November

1,011,712 sea arrivals in 2015



Migration.iom.int/europe

Missingmigrants.iom.int/Mediterranean

** As of 30 September 2016.

EU migrant and refugee crisis: Thematic surveys data

Trafficking and exploitation

- 6.5% out of 4500+ respond. indicated yes to at least one indicator of trafficking and exploitation
- 0.5% knew of offer of cash in exchange for organs, blood or body parts

Adolescents

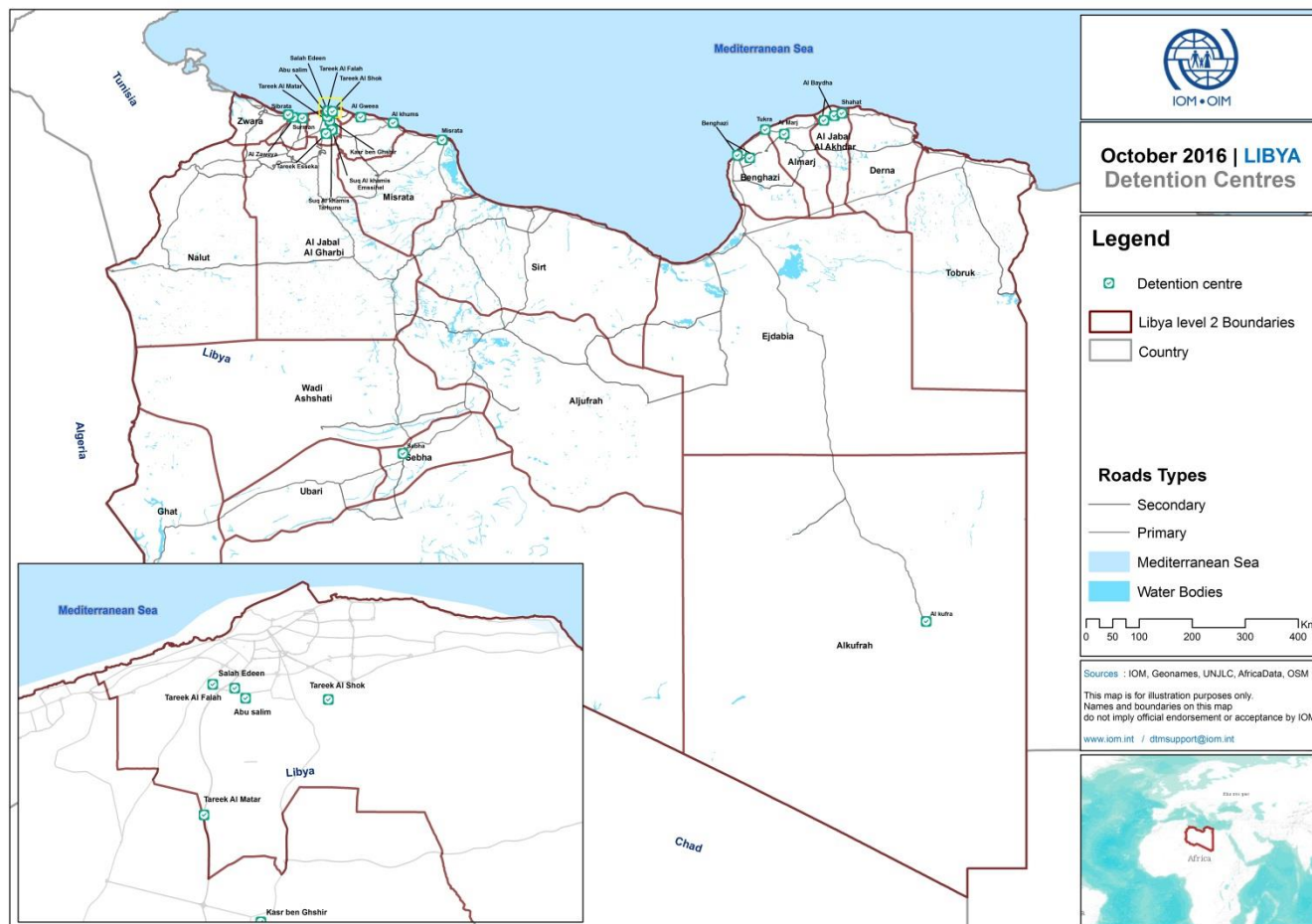
- Sample of over 2000 adolescents between 14 and 17 years old
- Mostly travelling alone
- Paying on average between 1000 and 5000 USD for travel (more than adults)
- No first line relatives in countries of destination
- Germany and Italy as the top destination

Libya: a migration crisis- focus on children

34 Detention
Centers active in
Libya

Migrants are
detained due to
their irregular
migratory status

IOM and
partners are
striving to assist
them and
identify humane
solutions



Challenges

- Migration is not always in the best interests of the child;
- Negative coping mechanisms (child recruitment, child marriage, child labor and trafficking) are on the rise;
- Identification of children is difficult: not always sex and age disaggregated data are available
- Border closures increase exploitation and trafficking opportunities.

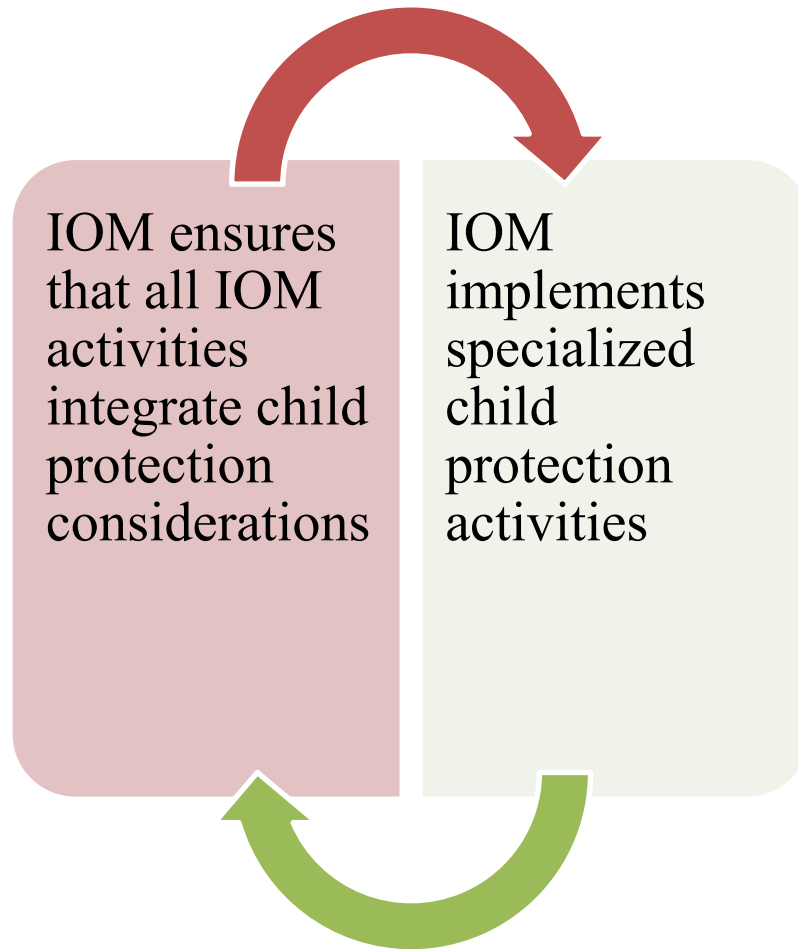


Opportunities

- National authorities are rethinking their approach to the hosting and processing of migrant children – faster and in line with evolving needs;
- Development and humanitarian actors working together on the child protection dimension;
- Children are enablers of their family resilience and agents of their own socio-economic development;
- Age- appropriate safe migration opportunities should be fostered for them.



IOM approach and response



IOM approach and response: examples and tools

Special Measures for
the Evacuation of
Migrant Children
Reference Check-list

Good practice of
cooperation and
referral of children
released from armed
groups

Inter-agency field
handbook on
unaccompanied and
separated children

Conclusions



Understand children's vulnerabilities, including among those who are on the move



Work to overcome challenges and build on opportunities



Adopt a multi-stakeholder and joint approach to solutions for children



By not focusing on the vulnerabilities of children on the move, the international community is neglecting the potential of the next generation, as a result, we will have a “lost generation” of young individuals.