

Migration

***Migration: the role of the  
International Federation  
of the Red Cross and  
Red Crescent  
Societies***

## *Presentation outline*

- ❑ Context
- ❑ The RCRC role: policy and commitments
- ❑ The RCRC response
- ❑ The Migration Task Force and global initiatives
- ❑ Looking forward

- **Multiple triggers** and deprivation force people to move
- Increased **vulnerabilities** as a result of increasingly dangerous journeys
- Reasons for moving have increased, **legal avenues** for doing so have diminished
- **Low and middle-income** countries host a disproportionately large number of refugees and migrants
- Mobility can be a **coping mechanism**.
- Migration can be a **positive economic and social** contribution to receiving societies

- 244 Mio international migrants (incl. refugees) in the world
- 65.3 Mio forced displaced (incl. refugees, asylum seekers and IDPs) in 2015 which is a 50% increase since 2010. **In Asia Pacific we have 2.5 Mio refugees and asylum seekers, 1.9 Mio are IDPs and large numbers are stateless.**
- 86% of refugees remain in developing countries, with neighbouring countries carrying the highest burden
- 6.5 Mio refugees in protracted situations (more than 5 years)

- **Africa:** 18 million migrants. Protracted displacement the main issue.
- **Americas:** 61 million migrants. Violence and urbanised displacement is the main concern.
- **Asia-Pacific:** Over 60 million migrants. Labour migration. Disaster-induced displacement. Urbanisation.
- **Europe:** 2015 the largest movement of displaced since WW2
- **MENA:** mixed flows. Majority of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon), hosting 4.8 million registered refugees.

## *The RCRC role: policy and commitments*

### Policy on Migration (2009) – 10 principles

- 1** Focus on the needs and vulnerabilities of migrants
- 2** Include migrants in humanitarian programming
- 3** Support the aspirations of migrants
- 4** Recognize the rights of migrants
- 5** Link assistance, protection and humanitarian advocacy for migrants
- 6** Build partnerships for migrants
- 7** Work along the migratory trails
- 8** Assist migrants in return
- 9** Respond to the displacement of populations
- 10** Alleviate migratory pressures on communities of origin

More information is available here:  
[http://www.ifrc.org/PageFiles/89395/Migration%20Policy\\_EN.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/PageFiles/89395/Migration%20Policy_EN.pdf)

We focus on needs and vulnerabilities, informed by rights

We provide assistance and protection

We raise awareness and advocate

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## *The RCRC role: policy and commitments*

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### *Who is a migrant?*

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' policy on migration describes migrants as **people who leave or flee their places of habitual residence to go to a new place**, across international borders or within their own state, to seek better or safer perspectives. Migration can be **forced or voluntary**, but most of the time a combination of choices and constraints are involved, as well as the intent to live abroad for an extended period of time. Although **asylum-seekers and refugees** often travel alongside migrants in so-called “mixed flows”, they have specific rights and are **protected by specific legal frameworks**.

## *The RCRC role: policy and commitments*

- We **work along the migratory routes**, bridging the gaps of assistance and protection and promoting awareness raising on the situation of migrants
- In **countries of origin**, we strengthen resilience by supporting communities to identify and address their risks and vulnerabilities and contribute to alleviating migratory pressure
- In **transit and at arrival**, we deliver assistance, protection, and we promote access to services, social inclusion and integration
- **Back in country of origin**, we provide support to redress vulnerabilities and promote social inclusion



## *The RCRC role: policy and commitments*

### 2011 Resolution “**Migration: Ensuring Access, Dignity, Respect for Diversity and Social Inclusion**”

We called on States, to ensure:

- **National Societies have access to all migrants in need** to assistance and protection
- **Protection of migrants’ dignity, irrespective of their legal status**
- **Legal and safe migration** avenues are identified

We called on the public to:

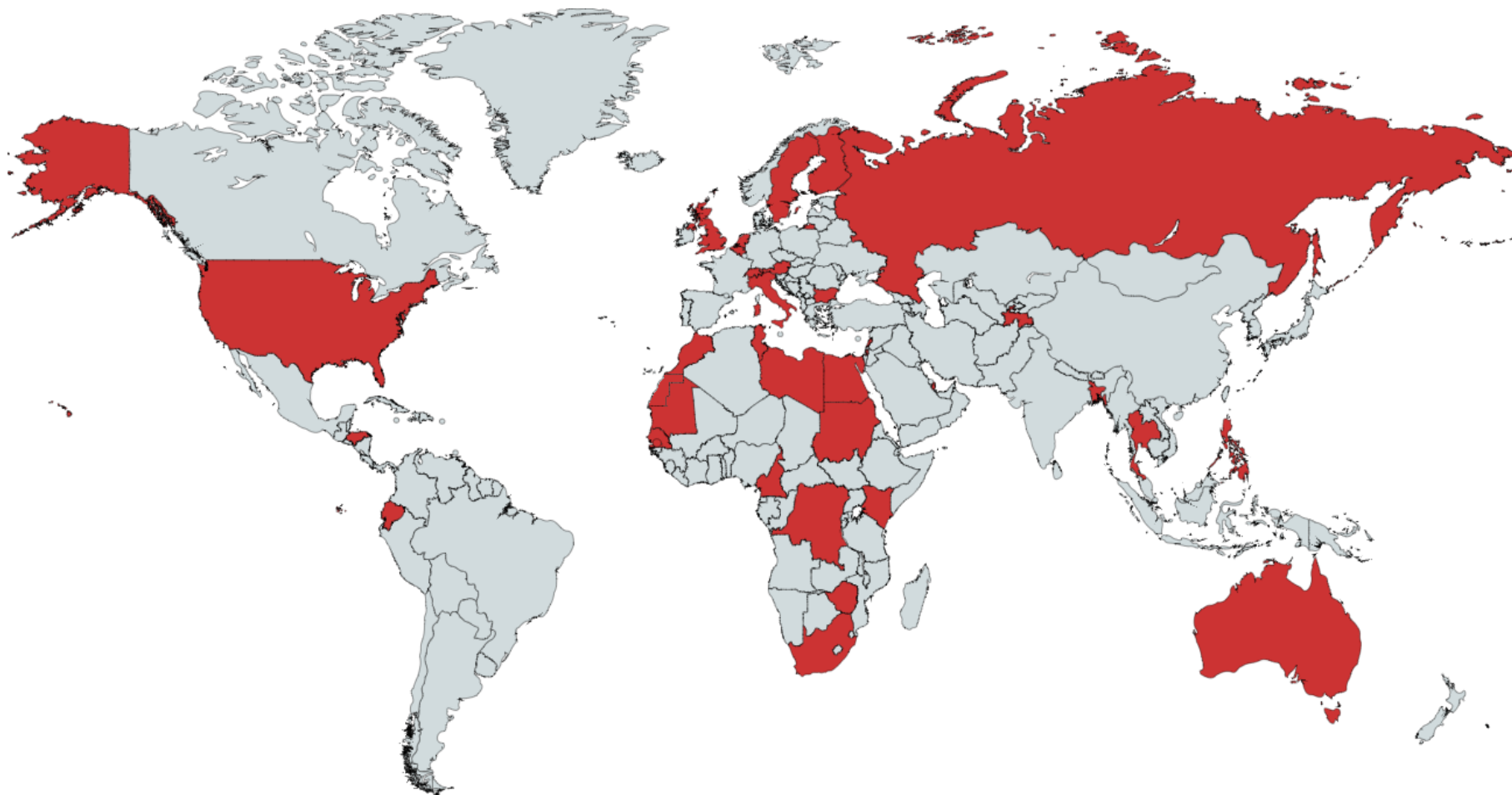
- To **respect humanity and dignity** and to be sensitive to migrants vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs
- To develop local services and programmes that promote **inclusion, tolerance and respect**

## *The RCRC response*

- **Operational support** (i.e. Europe / 39 NSs engaged)
  - Emergency Appeals
  - Increased search and rescue efforts in the Mediterranean
  
- **Strategic directions and regional commitments**
  - Mediterranean response plan, Tunis commitment, and framework for Europe
  - Strategic framework for Asia Pacific
  - Toluca declaration and joint IFRC/ICRC work-plan for the Americas
  - Regional framework for Africa
  
- **Networking and partnerships**
  - Global Migration Task Force
  - Regional platforms, working groups
  - Collaboration with IOM, UNHCR, Civil society

## *The Migration Task Force and global initiatives*

- ***Migration Task Force: a global platform***
- Established November 2015, comprising 34 NSs
- Purpose:
  - To assist in the development of the IFRC's global strategy on Migration
  - To enhance global coordination, technical and advocacy support to NSs
  - To act as a platform for knowledge-sharing, guidance, operational support and innovation



***Map showing geographical coverage of the Task Force: 34 National Societies***

## *The Migration Task Force and global initiatives*

### Practice and knowledge sharing

*Smart practices that enhance resilience of migrants*

[www.ifrc.org/smartpractices](http://www.ifrc.org/smartpractices)

The study identifies 59 smart practices from every region, **during each phase of a migrant's journey**, and for every dimension of resilience.

A wealth of ideas that can **inspire National Societies and other actors** to develop new approaches for meeting migrant needs.

Migration

## *Smart Practices to enhance migrants resilience*

7 from the Americas

28 from Europe

10 from Middle East and North Africa

8 from Asia-Pacific

6 from Africa

## *The Migration Task Force and global initiatives*

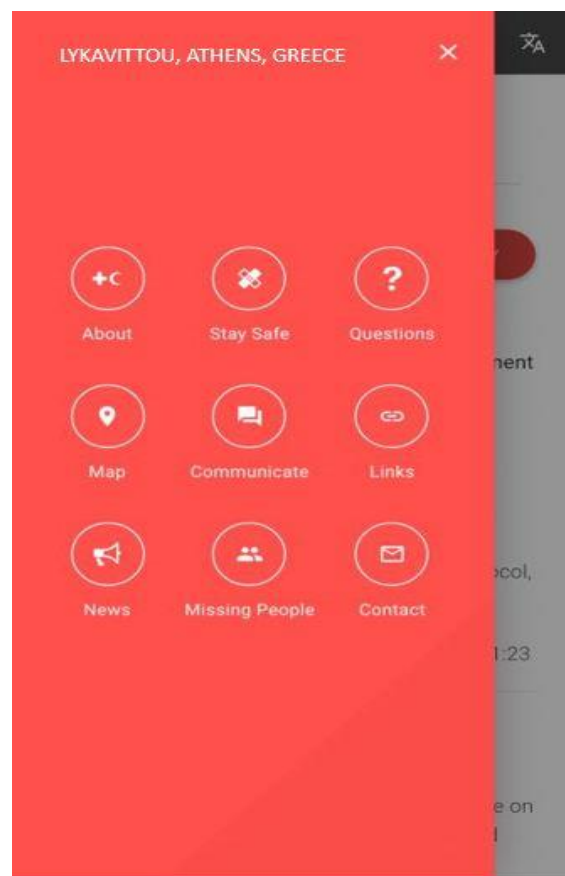
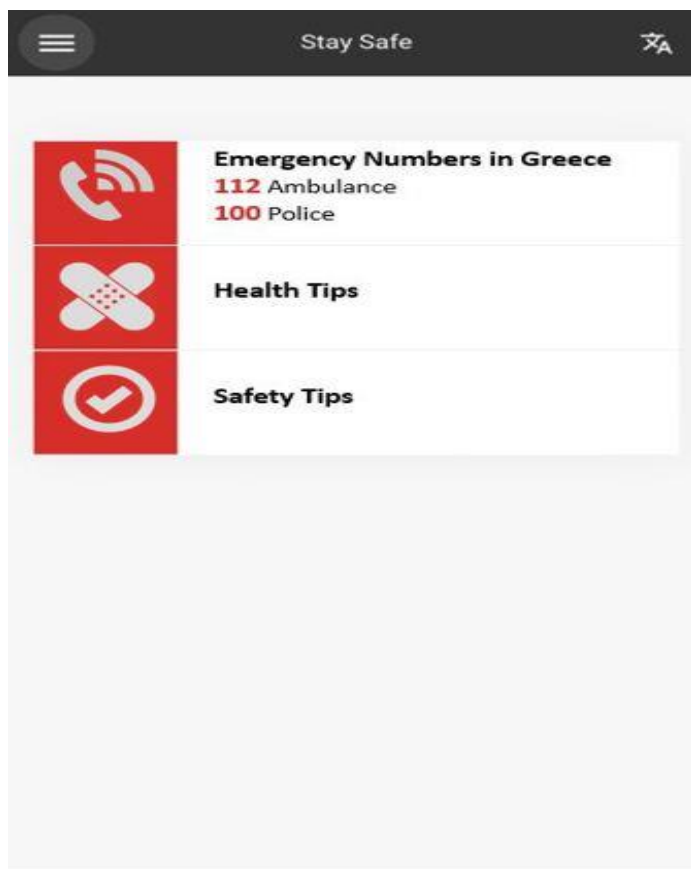
[www.virtualvolunteer.org](http://www.virtualvolunteer.org)

The IFRC Virtual Volunteer web app **provides geo-located information to migrants on their journey to safety**. It is the entry point to gather and share with migrants all useful information available from different National Societies, as well as to facilitate knowledge exchange and better networking amongst National Societies themselves.

Active in **Greece, Sweden and soon Italy and Philippines**

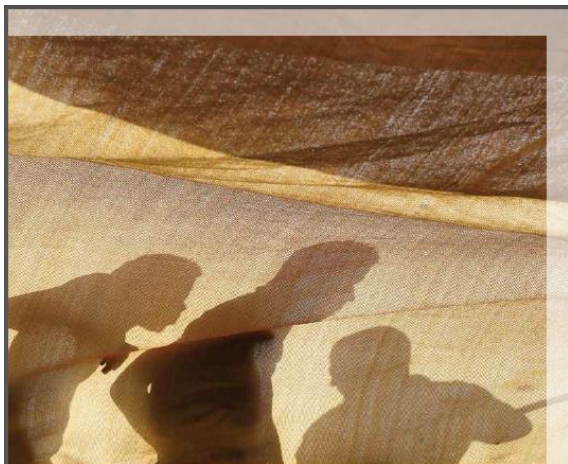
# Migration

## *The Virtual Volunteer*





## *The Migration Task Force and global initiatives*



### **One humanity:**

Safety and dignity for migrants

September 2016

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### ➤ **Advocacy and positioning**

- **World Humanitarian Summit and Migration:** access; more legal avenues and safeguards at borders; RFL; address protracted displacement
- **Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants in New York:** safety & dignity; responsibility sharing; addressing xenophobia
- **#Protect Humanity / Stop indifference** global campaign

## *Looking forward*

- A global **strategy** for Migration
- Strengthen **operational support** and coordination
- Enhance knowledge, build **credibility**
- Continue to **innovate**
- Enhance **capacities**
- Deliver effective **advocacy and communication**
- Mobilise **flexible resources** for cross-border and trans-regional efforts
- Develop smart **partnerships**

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
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P.O. BOX 372  
CH-1211 GENEVA 19  
SWITZERLAND**

**TEL.: +41 22 730 42 22  
FAX.: +41 22 733 03 95**

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

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