

UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs



18th Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement
Geneva: 9-11 July 2012

2013

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UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

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Introduction

One refugee
without a

durable solution IS TOO MANY

Significant progress has been made on resettlement with the support and cooperation of resettlement States, NGOs, and other partners, providing more than 330,000 refugees¹ with new lives in the past five years. Not only does resettlement play a vital role in protecting individual refugees at risk, including in response to emergency refugee situations, but it also plays an important role in sharing responsibilities with host governments and strategically supporting the search for solutions for protracted refugee situations.

In 2013, UNHCR estimates that some 181,000 refugees will be in need of resettlement. The substantial increase in the number of countries offering resettlement programmes on a regular basis, now broadened to 26 with the welcoming addition of Germany, as well as resettlement-related pledges presented by countries at the ministerial meeting facilitated by UNHCR in December 2011 demonstrate the solid commitment of the international community to resettlement. Yet, unless the total number of resettlement places, which currently stands at 81,000, increases significantly, more than half of refugees in need of resettlement in 2013 will be left without any solution in sight.

With resettlement growing in its scope and complexity, there is a continued need to ensure that resettlement activities are organized according to global needs and priorities, and that processing approaches are flexible and speedy, taking into account the protection risks faced by refugees. The reception and integration of resettled refugees will remain an area for further engagement by all resettlement partners.

This introduction starts with an overview of UNHCR resettlement activities in 2011-2012, highlighting progress and challenges, statistics, and trends in resettlement submissions and departures. Next, after introducing the projected global resettlement needs and capacity for 2013, several aspects of UNHCR's on-going resettlement activities are discussed, such as enhancing resettlement within emergency response mechanisms, effective implementation of the strategic use of resettlement; enhancing reception and integration of resettled refugees; and developments in the EU. The introduction then turns to UNHCR's efforts to enhance resettlement management and coordination and partnerships. Finally, the strategic directions of the Resettlement Service in 2012-2013 are discussed.

¹ Refugees departed for resettlement with UNHCR assistance.

In 2011, UNHCR submitted a total of 91,843 refugees² for resettlement. The main beneficiaries were refugees from Myanmar (21,290), Iraq (19,994), and Somalia (15,719). These three nationalities made up 61 per cent of all UNHCR resettlement submissions. The largest number of refugees were submitted from Malaysia (13,731), followed by Nepal (13,248), and Kenya (10,518). By regions of asylum, submissions from Asia and the Pacific represented 42 per cent of all submissions, followed by Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Africa regions, representing 24 per cent. Resettlement submissions on the basis of Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs represented 46 per cent of overall submissions, followed by Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (21 per cent), and Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (18 per cent).

Resettlement submissions for Women and Girls at Risk exceeded, for the first time, the target of 10 per cent set by the Executive Committee in its Conclusion No. 105 (LVII) of 2006. The number of cases of refugee Women and Girls at Risk submitted for resettlement was 3,463 in 2011, the highest since 2006. Malaysia, Syria, and Kenya topped the list of highest submissions by country of asylum under this submission category.

The vital role of resettlement in providing protection and solutions in response to emergency refugee situations was reaffirmed, particularly in the context of the Libya crisis. In 2011, UNHCR submitted over 10,600 persons (11.5 per cent of overall submissions) for emergency/urgent resettlement. Some 40 per cent of these emergency/urgent submissions were for refugees who had fled from Libya to the borders in Tunisia and Egypt. This resulted in a substantial increase of submissions under emergency/urgent priority from 8,300 in 2010.

The majority of the remaining emergency/urgent submissions were made for refugees from Somalia, Iraq, and Bhutan.

The global average acceptance rate of UNHCR submissions by resettlement countries remained high, reaching 93 per cent in 2012. Average acceptance rates of refugees from Bhutan (99.5 per cent), Myanmar (98.4 per cent), Iraq (91.3 per cent), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (91.1 per cent), and Eritrea (90.1 per cent) were particularly high.

In 2011, 61,649 refugees departed with UNHCR assistance to 22 countries of resettlement (including countries participating in the resettlement programme on an ad hoc basis). The United States of America continued to receive the vast majority of resettled refugees (43,215), followed by Canada (6,827), and Australia (5,597). Nepal was the country from which the largest number of refugees departed for resettlement (18,151), followed by Thailand (9,569) and Malaysia (8,370).

Despite these achievements, submission levels continued to decline in 2011, representing 15 per cent decrease from 108,000 in 2010. Submission levels declined for a variety of reasons, not least due to the time involved in processing complex cases for certain refugee populations undergoing large-scale resettlement. Decreasing levels may also be attributed to the decision taken by UNHCR to maintain the pace of its submissions at levels closer to resettlement countries' processing capacities in order to prevent an increasing backlog of cases for certain refugee populations, which was causing lengthy processing times and frustrated expectations.

² This figure includes 4,029 individual resubmissions.

Resettlement departures also fell by 15 per cent from 73,000 in 2010 to 61,400 in 2011. This is due in part to the introduction of new security screening requirements by some resettlement countries, and also due to challenges encountered by resettlement countries in accessing populations in host countries experiencing volatile security situations. Iraqi refugees were particularly affected, with 8,700 departures in 2011, representing a decrease of 46 per cent from the 2010 level and 62 per cent from the 2009 level. Departures of Somali refugees also decreased, with only 30 per cent of those submitted for resettlement actually departing in the last year.

The stark differences between the acceptance rates of emergency priority cases (72.7 per cent)/ urgent priority cases (86.1 per cent) and that of normal priority cases (94.1 per cent) persisted, contributing to the prolonged processing of cases in need of emergency/urgent resettlement.

UNHCR stepped up its engagement with resettlement countries to address these challenges, focusing on reducing lengthy processing times, avoiding the use of discriminatory selection criteria, and overcoming the difficulties faced by some resettlement countries in accessing certain refugee populations due to safety and security concerns. It also engaged in discussions with resettlement countries to explore new possibilities for improving the efficiency of the resettlement system through electronic data-sharing and expedited security clearance and departure procedures, particularly for refugees who are at serious risk. UNHCR further raised concerns regarding the consideration of “integration potential” as a resettlement selection criterion, noting that protection should be the foremost

consideration in resettlement selection. Finally, to address the difficulties faced by some resettlement countries in accessing refugee populations for resettlement processing, UNHCR promoted the use of videoconferencing for resettlement interviews, and the methodology was piloted in a number of operations.

During the first quarter of 2012, UNHCR submitted over 15,000 refugees for resettlement and assisted 12,000 refugees for resettlement departure. Submissions from the Americas and Europe regions increased, compared to the corresponding period in 2011, and those from the Asia region were maintained at the same level: however, sharp drops were observed in Africa and MENA regions, by 60 per cent and 48 per cent respectively. The drop in MENA region is mainly due to inaccessibility to refugee populations for security and safety reasons. In respect to Africa, UNHCR analyzed the causes and took steps to enhance its submission capacity through the establishment of a Task Force which will provide focused staff capacity and technical and structural support to reach the optimal submission target for 2012.

Projected Global Resettlement Needs and Capacity for 2013

UNHCR estimates the global resettlement needs at over 859,300 persons, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. This represents a 10 per cent increase of the estimates reported in 2012 (781,300 persons). In 2013 alone, UNHCR estimates the 2013 resettlement needs to be some 181,000 persons, which represents a five per cent increase from the projections for 2012 (172,200 persons). While a decrease in resettlement needs were reported in Asia and MENA, resettlement needs in Africa, Europe, and Latin America are expected to increase as compared to the 2012 projection. By refugees' country of origin, Somalis, Iraqis, Myanmarese, Afghans, and Congolese (COD) are the top five refugee populations in need of resettlement in 2013. The numbers of Congolese (COD) refugees in need of resettlement in 2013 have exceeded the number Bhutanese refugees who were amongst the top five refugee populations in need of resettlement in 2012.

The table in this section illustrates the gap between resettlement needs and UNHCR's capacity to address them. For the 2013 projections, as in last year, UNHCR applied a standardized methodology to estimate the capacity of Country Offices to process cases for resettlement according to identified resettlement needs. A clear distinction of "UNHCR core staff capacity" and "UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate staff)" based on staffing levels projected for 2013 was made in order to provide realistic capacity indications.

Column B shows the total number of persons deemed by UNHCR to be in need of resettlement, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. Multi-year planning for resettlement is thus an important additional feature of UNHCR's global projections to be considered in the context of resource allocations and is increasingly part of UNHCR's strategy to address the needs. Drawing from this number (292,165 cases/859,305 persons), column C indicates the number of persons who are deemed to be in need of resettlement processing in 2013 (64,624 cases/180,676 persons).

Resettlement interventions by UNHCR will be prioritized according to protection needs as well as indications from resettlement States on specific solutions strategies.

Based on UNHCR's core staff capacity, column D indicates the number of persons the Office is equipped to process for resettlement in 2013. Column E shows UNHCR projected total processing capacity, including UNHCR's core staff capacity and affiliate staff capacity. The difference between columns C and E is indicative of UNHCR's total capacity shortfall for 2013 (see column F).³

It is estimated that UNHCR's total resettlement capacity (including UNHCR core staff and affiliate workforce) will result in unmet needs for over 89,000 refugees. Without affiliate workforce, UNHCR will likely address less than half of the projected resettlement needs in 2013.

Total Global projected resettlement needs and UNHCR capacity for 2013 breakdown by region of countries of asylum

(A) Region of Asylum	(B) Projected total resettlement needs		(C) Projected needs for resettlement processing in 2013		(D) UNHCR core staff capacity in 2013		(E) UNHCR total capacity in 2013 (core staff + affiliate workforce)		(F) Capacity shortfall in 2013	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Africa	94,615	354,798	21,489	76,435	4,336	14,368	10,041	34,499	11,448	41,936
The Americas	8,890	32,020	3,448	12,286	329	1,071	774	2,704	2,674	9,582
Asia & Pacific	153,127	388,339	20,649	49,891	6,821	13,752	13,046	32,443	7,603	17,448
Europe	19,642	35,224	10,553	18,739	3,109	5,689	4,540	8,054	6,013	10,685
MENA	15,891	48,924	8,485	23,325	4,070	10,441	5,525	13,908	2,960	9,417
Total	292,165	859,305	64,624	180,676	18,665	45,321	33,926	91,608	30,698	89,068

³ Further specific information on country operations and consolidated statistics on resettlement needs is provided in the country reports and the Annex.

Enhancing resettlement within emergency response mechanisms

The vital role resettlement can play in response to emergency refugee situations was clearly demonstrated in the context of the Libya crisis in 2011. In order to garner support for resettlement places for non-Libyan refugees fleeing Libya to Tunisia and Egypt, UNHCR mounted a major resettlement effort and launched a Global Resettlement Solidarity Initiative in April 2011, calling for additional resettlement places above the established yearly quotas and for expedited resettlement processing by resettlement States.

In response to the Initiative, twelve resettlement countries offered some 1,700 dedicated resettlement places, and the United States of America offered an open-ended number of places. Thanks to engagements by these resettlement countries, the resettlement response to the Libya crisis provided protection and solutions to thousands of refugees, with 5,500 refugees submitted for resettlement, and 1,270 refugees departed for resettlement directly or through the Emergency Transit Centres (ETCs) to date.

However, the overall slowness of the initial response from States and the difficulties they faced in being able to add resettlement places to their annual quotas highlighted some key weaknesses in the ability of the global resettlement programme to be mobilized as part of an emergency response system. In order to create more flexibility and increase the capacity of the resettlement system to respond to emergency situations in a timely manner, at a meeting of the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement, Working Group on Resettlement (ATCR/WGR) in 2011, UNHCR proposed piloting a pool of emergency resettlement places, to be set aside specifically for large-scale emergency resettlement on an annual basis. While some States made pledges for a dedicated number of places for the pool, the offers have so far been drawn from existing yearly quotas, with the understanding that should they not be used in an emergency context, these places would be reinserted in the regular resettlement programme to be filled in the latter part of the year. UNHCR and resettlement countries will continue to develop and evaluate the effectiveness of this pilot scheme.

The resettlement response to the Libya crisis also demonstrated the value of the emergency transit facilities (ETFs) in Romania and Slovakia, to which 205 refugees were evacuated from the borders of Tunisia and Egypt. These two ETFs, together with a third one located in the Philippines, offer some 400 places for emergency relocation. They have enabled refugees to be brought to safety and facilitated the access of resettlement countries to resettlement processing facilities. Since the establishment of the ETFs in 2008/9, a total of 1,374 individuals of 15 nationalities from 18 countries of asylum have been transferred to ETFs, and 1,234 persons have departed to 11 resettlement countries. In order to improve the understanding of the procedural requirements for using the ETFs, UNHCR issued internal guidance in early 2011, and collaborated closely with countries hosting the ETFs to further strengthen coordination and support. UNHCR will continue to work with all involved actors to enhance the use of the ETFs as an important global protection mechanism.

Effective implementation of the strategic use of resettlement

The resettlement community has increasingly recognized that resettlement not only performs an important protection function by offering solutions to refugees facing serious risks, but can also be used strategically to secure wider protection and solutions dividends. In this respect, resettlement can contribute to international responsibility and burden-sharing *vis-à-vis* States hosting large numbers of refugees, paving the way for other solutions, particularly local integration, but also voluntary repatriation where appropriate.

Within the framework of the ATCR, UNHCR continued to draw the attention of States to resettlement needs in priority protracted refugee situations, in line with Executive Committee Conclusion No. 109 (LX) of 2009. In consultation with resettlement countries, seven situations in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America were designated as priorities for the strategic use of resettlement. In selecting each priority situation, realistic protection and solutions results were clearly specified within the overall strategy of each concerned operation. While some protection and solutions dividends may be expected in the short-term, others may only take place over a longer period. All stakeholders were encouraged to jointly evaluate the progress made towards achieving resettlement objectives and expected protection dividends, reflecting on opportunities and challenges and strategizing on the way forward.

Effective implementation of the strategic use of resettlement requires close collaboration among the network of resettlement countries. This means being able to elicit concrete support from the network, maintaining open and transparent communication between all partners, and improving coordination, including with countries of asylum. Greater effort is required on the part of resettlement countries to generate recognition within their Government structures of the strategic value of resettlement, particularly its role in achieving comprehensive solutions for protracted refugee situations. The strategic use of resettlement will continue to be a key area of focus within the ATCR/WGR in close consultation with concerned host countries.

Reception and integration of resettled refugees

Establishing and maintaining effective programmes that support the reception and integration of resettled refugees can be a challenge for resettlement countries and partners, although there are many good practices which can serve as models. Integration requires pre-departure preparation; the active participation of refugees in all stages of the process; opportunities for language training, skills development, and employment; the support of communities in the resettlement countries, including the availability of services tailored to vulnerable groups; and the coordination and engagement of all relevant Government authorities, particularly at the local level.

Discussions in the ATCR/WGR during the reporting period emphasized strengthening cultural orientation programmes for refugees selected for resettlement; ensuring adequate reception and integration support; reinforcing the engagement of local authorities and communities; developing a welcoming, multi-cultural, and refugee-friendly environment; and establishing twinning arrangements between States with more established resettlement programmes and those with newer resettlement programmes to share experiences and build capacities. Such discussions led to the creation in 2011 of two sets of twinning partner relationships which will form the basis for on-going supportive activities.

Resettlement in EU

In March 2012, the Joint EU Resettlement Programme was established. This new Programme aims for an increase in resettlement places in the EU through different measures. Common EU resettlement priorities provide a strategic but still flexible regional focus for EU resettlement. For 2013, among others, the resettlement of refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Myanmar, and Eritrea will be prioritized, and EU countries will receive financial assistance per resettled refugee. An innovative element of the programme is that countries that are new to resettlement may receive extra funding to start and invest in a resettlement programme, thus contributing to the overall sustainability of resettlement programmes in Europe. The programme also offers funding for certain groups of vulnerable refugees, regardless of the region they come from, such as children and women at risk, unaccompanied children, and persons with serious medical needs. The Joint EU Resettlement Programme for 2013 offers a framework for a more focused approach by the EU countries as well as a good basis for further cooperation between EU Member States in resettlement.

In the meantime IOM, ICMC Europe, and UNHCR continue to put cooperation between EU Member States into practice through the implementation of their second joint project. Following the successful implementation of the EU-funded “Practical Cooperation in EU Resettlement” project, the organizations decided to proceed with a new EU-funded project “Linking-In EU Resettlement”, which started in September 2011 and will continue until the end of 2012. In this project partners from 17 EU Member States work together in order to improve and enhance resettlement in the EU. The project aims to strengthen the expertise of European practitioners in all stages of the resettlement and integration process by building an EU Resettlement Network of resettlement practitioners and actors – including national, regional, and local governmental authorities, and NGO and civil society representatives – both in participating Member States and more broadly across the EU. A key tool for the growth and development of the network is the new website at www.resettlement.eu. The website will offer a repository of good practices in the EU, as well as an online forum for resettlement practitioners to meet, share knowledge and experiences, and exchange good practices. The website also hosts the campaign “Resettlement Saves Lives – 20,000 by 2020”, which advocates for 20,000

refugees to be resettled every year in Europe by the year 2020. The 2020 campaign draws on the successful approaches developed by the “Save Me” campaign in Germany, which mobilizes civil society and political support for resettlement at the local level.

As part of the Linking-In EU Resettlement project, IOM, ICMC Europe, and UNHCR organized the first EU Resettlement Skills Share Day which took place in mid-May 2012 in Brussels. Two-hundred resettlement policymakers and practitioners from 26 countries in Europe and beyond participated in the event, sharing good practices in a marketplace format and discussing policy and practice during a series of workshops. The programme featured Commissioner Malmström, the Danish Presidency, MEP’s, and EASO, and covered all aspects of the resettlement process, including resettlement needs, asylum, and resettlement priority areas, selection and pre-departure activities, and reception and integration. Myanmar, Congolese (COD), Iraqi, and Somali refugees contributed to the discussions, making the resettled refugee and his/her journey a core focus of the programme. In June 2012, a “Look-and-Learn” visit to Denmark for participants from new and emerging resettlement countries was organized by ICMC Europe for delegations from 13 EU countries in addition to Iceland and Switzerland. The four-day programme combined sessions at the Danish Immigration Service on quota management and modelling, with on-site learning in the municipalities of Faxe and Faaborg.

Continuing an area of work established in the previous project, the project partners organize stakeholder meetings with the Governments of new or aspiring resettlement countries. Meetings have been held already in Belgium, Germany, and Bulgaria, and are planned for later in 2012 in both Spain and the Czech Republic. Additionally, the project will facilitate a new edition of ICMC’s “Welcome to Europe” publication, a comparative resource for resettlement in Europe and an important tool for practitioners, policymakers, and resettlement stakeholders.

The EU Resettlement Network will be further developed and strengthened by the new European Commission funded “Cities that Care, Cities that SHARE – the SHARE Project”, an 18-month programme to build on networking and exchange between European regions, cities, and municipalities that are committed to refugee protection and respect for human rights and who are receiving refugees or exploring ways to engage in the future. The SHARE Project is led by ICMC Europe, in partnership with the city of

Sheffield, the Greater Manchester region, NGOs, UNHCR, and the EURO CITIES network. The project has produced a learning tool for cities to engage in resettlement, called “Welcome to Sheffield: Reflections on 8 Years’ Experience of Receiving Resettled Refugees at the Local Level”.

Resettlement management

Mitigating risks in resettlement

UNHCR continued to strengthen its efforts to address issues of resettlement fraud, foremost by formulating a plan of action on resettlement fraud prevention and control, based on recommendations made in the audit report of the UN Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS). The Resettlement Service further deployed specialized staff to a number of field operations to augment their anti-fraud capacity and also established a mechanism for regular review of Field Office compliance with fraud prevention and control, which includes updating the Baseline Standard Operating Procedures on Resettlement. UNHCR also benefited from the expertise offered by resettlement States, such as participating in training on document fraud. A pilot initiated by the United States of America to assess the use of UNHCR’s existing biometric system in US resettlement processing was carried out in Kenya.

Policy and procedural guidance

In July 2011, UNHCR issued an entirely revised Resettlement Handbook. The new Handbook provides guidance on a vast range of resettlement issues both at the policy and operational levels, and it will contribute to improved global coherence and efficiency in resettlement delivery. Nineteen resettlement countries updated their country chapters, providing detailed information on their respective resettlement and integration programmes. A series of ten thematic video tutorials were also produced to complement the new contents of the Handbook. A concise Field Version of the Resettlement Handbook was produced to provide UNHCR staff access to the key operational aspects of the Handbook in a more concise format. The Resettlement Handbook is being translated into French and Spanish.

The revised Baseline Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on Resettlement were issued in 2012, providing UNHCR field Offices with detailed guidance on the review of their respective resettlement SOPs in an effort to enhance the integrity of the resettlement process. The revised

version reflects policy and procedural developments since the issuance of the initial Baseline SOPs in 2008, incorporating in particular new operational guidance from the new Resettlement Handbook. The relevant recommendations on fraud prevention and control elaborated in the OIOS anti-fraud audit are also incorporated, in particular measures to enhance monitoring global compliance with Baseline SOPs and maintaining a global inventory of resettlement fraud occurrences.

An important policy change was introduced through the revised guidelines on the resubmission of resettlement cases. With enhanced reviewing processes in place to ensure that cases are viable and resubmission is appropriate, UNHCR altered its position and will systematically share case submission history with States. It is, however, not in a position to systematically provide reasons for rejections at this stage, since the majority of resettlement countries are yet to provide UNHCR with this information, or the information is insufficiently detailed. UNHCR continues to advocate with resettlement countries to provide reasons for all rejected cases, which are key to enhancing UNHCR's reviewing process.

As part of efforts to enhance harmonization of standards and practices in identification and submission, the global templates (for individual and group submissions) of abridged Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs) for expedited resettlement processing were adopted by resettlement States through the ATCR/WGR process. UNHCR intends to further develop operational guidance on resettlement of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex (LGBTI) refugees, resettlement of refugees with disabilities, and preparing quality RRFs during the course of 2012.

Resettlement Training

The revised Resettlement Learning Programme (RLP) has benefited various operations across regions such as the West, Central, and Southern Africa region in 2011-2012, and Asia and Latin America regions in 2012-2013. As part of its efforts to improve the management and integrity of the resettlement process, UNHCR launched in 2012 an e-learning module, "Managing an Effective Resettlement Operation", as the first in a series. Future e-learning courses will address other elements of the resettlement process, such as the identification of needs; refugee status as a precondition for resettlement consideration; submission categories and processing; partnerships; and the role of resettlement within

a broader protection and durable solutions framework. These e-learning modules will be made available to broader audiences, including external partners.

The training on identification of refugees with protection risks using the Heightened Risk Identification Tool (HRIT) was conducted in Accra, Ghana in October 2011, targeting UNHCR operations and NGO partners in English-speaking countries of the Western Africa region. A similar training was replicated in Francophone countries in the same region in May 2012. Further sessions are expected to take place, targeting operations in the East and Horn, Great Lakes, and Southern regions of Africa.

Coordination and partnerships

The ATCR/WGR process, chaired by the United States of America in 2010-2011 and Australia in 2011-2012, continued to serve as the primary forum to foster partnerships, address critical issues, and improve the coherence, quality, and effectiveness of resettlement globally. The WGR in Melbourne in February 2012 was a thematic WGR, with focus on Integration. In 2011-2012, discussions in the WGR focused on collaborative efforts to increase the capacities of resettlement communities, promote the strategic use of resettlement, address case processing challenges, and improve the quality of integration outcomes for resettled refugees.

Resettlement partnerships continue to evolve among UNHCR, States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations, civil society, community-based organizations, and others. The resettlement process is increasingly interconnected, requiring seamless collaboration among partners from the identification stage, through case processing and departure, and on to reception and integration. The efficiency and effectiveness of each stage of the process has implications for successful outcomes in the other stages. Partners such as the ICMC, RefugePoint, and the International Rescue Committee (IRC), continued to provide human resources to support UNHCR's resettlement processing capacity. Through the UNHCR-ICMC Resettlement Deployment Scheme, ICMC swiftly responded to reinforce UNHCR's emergency capacity as the crisis in Libya unfolded. IOM also continued to offer support for expeditious resettlement departures and family reunification processes. UNHCR and the University of Geneva jointly developed an online Worldwide Community of Resettled Refugees (WCRR), an internet platform enabling resettled refugees to form a

virtual community through which they can share information and provide each other with support.

Strategic directions 2012-2013

The Resettlement Service continues to provide policy and procedural guidance, monitor field operations, and analyze trends to inform strategic directions. In 2012-13, the strategic directions of the Resettlement Service will be to:

- expand resettlement opportunities, through encouraging traditional resettlement countries to increase their existing quotas, non-resettlement countries to become resettlement countries, countries with ad hoc approaches to consider turning these into planned programmes, and emerging resettlement countries to further consolidate and expand their programmes;
- ensure that resettlement activities are organized according to global needs and priorities, and that processing approaches are flexible and speedy, taking into account the protection risks faced by refugees;
- explore with resettlement countries refugee groups which may warrant large-scale resettlement processing;
- enhance expeditious resettlement processing, in particular timely selection missions and clearance of cases for departure;
- encourage the use of innovative methodologies for accessing refugees for resettlement interviews, including through video-conferencing and the relocation of refugees to processing platforms;
- enhance the acceptance rates and facilitate speedy departures for emergency and urgent resettlement cases, through effective coordination with resettlement partners;
- enhance the management and effective use of the ETFs;
- promote resettlement as an integral part of larger comprehensive solutions strategies as well as support the strategic use of resettlement, through identification of priority situations and ongoing assessments and multi-year planning to set specific, realistic, and measurable goals for increasing protection space and opening doors to other solutions;
- avoid application of restrictive integration and other discriminatory selection criteria by certain resettlement countries, which undermine the protection foundation of resettlement;
- reinforce the integration capacity of receiving communities by fostering a receptive and welcoming environment for refugees;
- promote good practices, creative collaboration, and sharing of information and analyses in the reception and integration of resettled refugees. This complex field could benefit from further data collection and analysis, including through the identification and use of benchmarks for measuring progress and outcomes in the integration process;
- continue to refine and strengthen resettlement procedures to enhance the quality and efficiency of resettlement submissions, ensuring procedural integrity through implementation of the Baseline Standard Operating Procedures, implementing the plan of action on resettlement fraud prevention and control in line with the recommendations of the OIOS, deploying specialized staff to provide training and enhance the anti-fraud capacity of field operations, and monitoring the compliance of field operations with anti-fraud procedures;
- further develop methodologies for assessing global resettlement needs and strengthening case identification and processing skills through enhanced guidance and training. This will include guidance and training on identifying and referring refugees at heightened risk, and preparing resettlement submissions in accordance with the standards and guidance set out in the revised Resettlement Handbook;
- support field operations in resettlement activities through deploying resettlement experts in accordance with the resource needs of operations;
- continue to maximize the use of the ATRC/WGR process to improve coordination and information-sharing amongst stakeholders, to explore ways to resolve critical issues, and to enhance the effectiveness and capacity of the global resettlement programme.

Africa



Central Africa and the Great Lakes

Burundi
Cameroon
The Democratic Republic of the Congo
Gabon
The Republic of the Congo
Rwanda
Tanzania

East and Horn of Africa

Chad
Djibouti
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Kenya
Somalia
Sudan
Uganda

Southern Africa

Angola, Mozambique, and Namibia
Botswana
Malawi
South Africa, Indian Ocean Islands, Lesotho, and Swaziland
Zambia
Zimbabwe

West Africa

Benin, Nigeria, and Togo
Burkina Faso, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, and Senegal
Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Sierra Leone
Ghana
Liberia

Africa Overview

Resettlement submissions from the Africa region decreased to 22,267 in 2011 (compared to 24,000 in 2010).¹ Submissions were made to 12 different resettlement countries. The refugees submitted for resettlement from the Africa region originated from 32 different countries of origin, with the main five countries of origin being Somalia (58 per cent of the submissions compared to 62 per cent in 2010), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (18 per cent compared to 14 per cent in 2010), Ethiopia (10 per cent compared to 5 per cent in 2010), Eritrea (7 per cent, also in 2010), and Sudan (2 per cent compared to 5 per cent in 2010). The decrease in submissions is due largely to the fact that large-scale resettlement processing in certain operations was terminated in 2010, and resettlement processing through individual identification of resettlement cases did not produce the high level of submissions as group/expedited processing did.

UNHCR will continue to direct efforts towards resolving protracted refugee situations in Africa by promoting comprehensive durable solutions strategies which are embedded in overall protection strategies and offer all three durable solutions as appropriate. The implementation of the Comprehensive Strategies for the Angolan, Liberian, and Rwandan refugee situations, including UNHCR's recommendation on the applicability of the Ceased Circumstances Cessation Clause for Angolan, Liberian refugees² and Rwandan refugees³ has paved the way for promoting voluntary repatriation and local integration for those remaining of concern.

Priority will continue to be given to the major protracted refugee populations mostly residing in camps and settlements, namely Somali refugees (in particular in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Djibouti, and also in Southern Africa region), Eritrean refugees (in particular in the East of Sudan), refugees from the Central African Republic (in the South of Chad), and refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (in particular in the Great Lakes region, but also in Southern Africa region).

Increased focus will also be given to the identification of refugees residing in urban areas. Smaller and mixed refugee populations by nationality also deserve renewed attention, especially in Western and Southern Africa, both in urban areas and in camps or settlements.

¹ Submissions made in 2009: 28,700; in 2008: 25,800 and in 2007: 19,000 persons.

² Applicable as of 30 June 2012.

³ Applicable as of 30 June 2013.

Africa

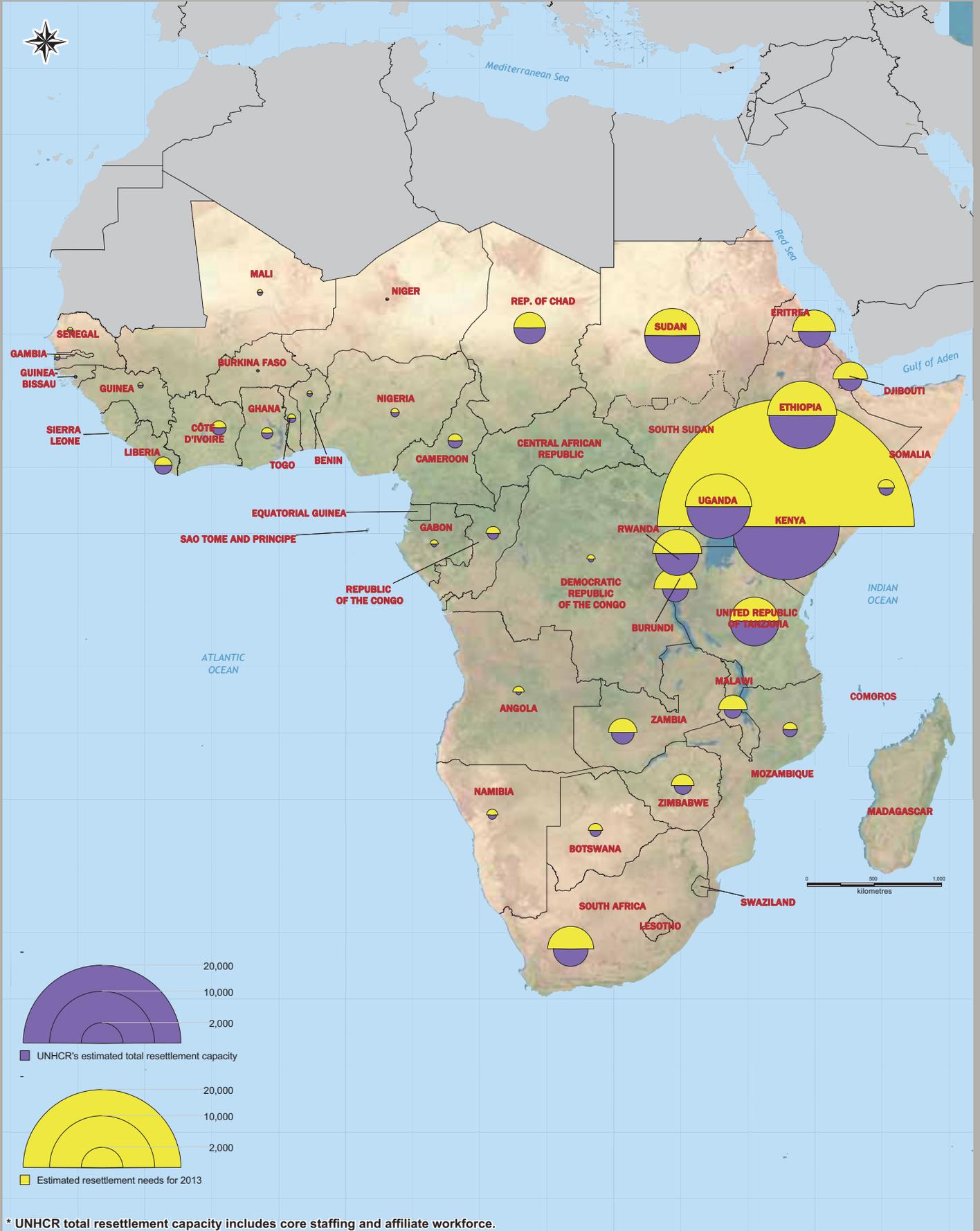
Estimated resettlement processing needs for 2013 and UNHCR's total resettlement capacity by country of asylum*

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* UNHCR total resettlement capacity includes core staffing and affiliate workforce.

Sub-Region of Asylum	Projected total resettlement needs		Projected needs for resettlement processing in 2013		UNHCR core staff capacity in 2013		UNHCR total capacity in 2013 (core staff + affiliate workforce)		Capacity shortfall in 2013	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Central Africa & Great Lakes	10,701	40,001	1,882	7,815	550	2,139	1,423	5,896	459	1,919
East & Horn of Africa	78,632	296,459	17,376	61,334	3,096	10,016	7,062	23,644	10,314	37,690
Southern Africa	3,263	10,257	1,798	5,834	445	1,655	1,123	3,507	675	2,327
West Africa	2,019	8,081	433	1,452	245	558	433	1,452	-	-
Grand Total	94,615	354,798	21,489	76,435	4,336	14,368	10,041	34,499	11,448	41,936

* UNHCR's total capacity includes regional support.

In **CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES REGION**, opportunities for return will continue for Burundian and Rwandan refugees.⁴ The finalization of the comprehensive solutions strategy for Burundian refugees would include resettlement of a relatively substantial number of Burundians in Tanzania. As regards refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (COD), facilitation of return to more stable parts of the country will be maintained, but increasingly, resettlement will be sought for refugees originating from the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the on-going precarious human rights and security situation in North/South Kivu/Province Orientale and due to a lack of integration prospects over a protracted time in neighbouring countries of asylum. In line with a common sub-regional approach to resettlement of refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and to enhance durable solutions, a multi-year plan of action (2012-2016) was initiated in 2012 and will be reinforced in 2013, to enable increased resettlement of refugees from Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular from Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. Priority will be given to refugees identified according to specific objective criteria based on an analysis of the solutions needs of the Congolese (COD) refugee population in each asylum country. To facilitate reaching the targets, expedited processing will be critical in addition to boosting staffing capacity.

In the **EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA**, the situation in the countries of origin where most refugees come from (Somalia, Sudan, and Eritrea) remains volatile and/or complex. Somalia continues to be affected by large-scale conflict, serious human rights violations, and substantial forced displacement, with more than 1.35 million of its citizens uprooted and approximately 300,000 having left the country in 2011 alone to seek refuge mainly in neighbouring Kenya, Ethiopia, and Djibouti. This led to increased needs for Somali resettlement, although access to refugees in Dadaab/Kenya and in Eritrea is expected to remain a challenge for resettlement countries. UNHCR Kenya thus shifted its resettlement strategy from the majority protracted refugee population profiling and expedited referrals for Somali refugees in the past to individual protection cases identification and referrals in 2012. UNHCR promotes using innovative methodologies for interviewing, such as video conferencing and relocation to other sites, including to Evacuation Transit Facilities, to mitigate resettlement countries' current lack of access. Unless the security situation in Dadaab improves, submission levels of Somali refugees from Dadaab will remain low. Resettlement of refugees from Eritrea out of Eastern Sudan, as a strategic tool, will be enhanced as well as resettlement of refugees from the Central African Republic out of Southern Chad. In Uganda, the strategy for increased resettlement of refugees from the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo will be followed.

⁴ 4,378 Burundians and 8,350 Rwandans returned in 2011.



In **WEST AFRICA**, comprehensive durable solutions strategies continue to be pursued throughout the region to capitalize on options for resolving protracted refugee and displacement situations. Regional frameworks, such as the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, Residence, and Establishment of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), have proven to be an important mechanism for achieving solutions through local integration. Some 135,110 refugees from Côte d'Ivoire returned home from Liberia with UNHCR's assistance during 2011. Resettlement will continue to be a solution, in particular for refugees originating from outside the region and for extremely vulnerable individuals and protection cases. Resettlement activities in West Africa will thus remain modest in 2012 and 2013. Continued support is needed from the resettlement countries, in particular through increased openings for dossier submissions, in order to address these small, mixed, and mainly urban populations.

The situation in **SOUTHERN AFRICA** has remained stable, and opportunities for local integration and voluntary repatriation continue to be pursued. Resettlement continues to be used as a protection tool to address the needs of vulnerable refugees affected by continued xenophobia-related violence in South Africa and as a solution for refugees in protracted situations, whose ability to attain an acceptable degree of self-sufficiency is undermined by strictly enforced encampment policies of many countries in the Southern African sub-region. Resettlement from all countries in the sub-region is carefully balanced with other on-going durable solutions efforts, particularly the increased repatriation of Angolan refugees in 2012 and expected increase in repatriation of Rwandan refugees in 2013 in the context of the comprehensive solutions strategies and invocations of the cessation clauses for these populations. Consistent with the regional effort to upscale the resettlement of Congolese (COD) refugees, there will be an increase in submissions of this group from the region.

keychallenges

A key resettlement challenge faced in Africa is the large inventory of Somali refugees in the resettlement pipelines of States with large-scale resettlement programmes (Somalis represent 60 per cent of all submissions from Africa). The difficulties faced in the security screening process, as well as the inability of some countries to access Dadaab, have led to an overall decrease in departures from Africa (10,431 refugees departed in 2011 compared to 14,865 in 2010).

It also remains challenging for UNHCR to find resettlement countries which are willing to receive refugee resettlement submissions from countries with small, diverse refugee populations and for refugee populations located in far-away or volatile areas. Given the above, there is a severe lack of resettlement places for dossier submissions.

In 2013, it is expected that a total of **76,435** refugees will be in need of resettlement in Africa

(compared to 49,421 in 2012), with more than 80 per cent hosted in the East and Horn of Africa (compared to 70 per cent last year) and 74 per cent originating from the East and Horn of Africa (compared to 70 per cent last year). With current UNHCR core staff capacity,⁵ only some 14,368 refugees can be processed (18.7% of the needs, compared to 34% last year).

The UNHCR Regional Resettlement Hub, based in Nairobi, and the UNHCR Regional Offices in Dakar, Kinshasa, and Pretoria will continue in 2013 to support resettlement activities in their respective regions through support missions, training, data analysis, and coordination with resettlement partners. In conjunction with the Resettlement Service/DIP and the Africa Bureau in Geneva, they ensure mainstreaming of resettlement into regional protection and solutions strategies.

⁵ Based on existing core staff capacity, not counting deployees, consultants or other temporary staff [due to e.g. additional funding/secondments].

Hope wins out as Somali refugee heads to Salt Lake City for a new life

News Stories, 9 September 2011



Muhioadin Ahmed Aden and his son Abdi, who were due to be resettled today.

© UNHCR

DADAAB, Kenya, Sept 9 (UNHCR) – Muhioadin Ahmed Aden stares out at the horizon, knowing that the second most important journey of his life will begin today. A struggle within his heart, between despair and a desperate enduring hope, has finally come to a conclusion.

His family sits by his side. His youngest son, Abdi Salim, holds his hand. Salim thinks about the six-year-old's future; the school he will attend, the life he will lead. Hope has won.

Like thousands of other Somalis over the years at Kenya's sprawling, crowded Dadaab refugee complex, Aden has been accepted for resettlement. Today, he travels to Nairobi and in a few days time he will touch down at Salt Lake City in the United States.

"It will be a different life and I think it will be better than this one," he said as he waited to leave. "I look forward to having my children educated. I will live in a house or an apartment, not under plastic sheeting and wooden poles like I have [done] for so long."

At the same time, the 45-year-old pictures the tens of thousands of refugees arriving at Dadaab's Ifo camp just as he did in 1991, when the longer civil strife in Somalia erupted. He sees their beleaguered faces, their confused glances. The faces transport him back to the day when he too was forced to flee Somalia.

His father and two brothers were killed in inter-clan conflict near the southern Somalia town of Kismayu. "I see my past in these people. We were just walking and walking," he said. "I had no idea when I

arrived in Kenya that I would live in a refugee camp for the next 20 years.”

Aden knows the difficulties the newcomers will face. It was so difficult for him during the first few years. A nomad and a herder in peacetime Somalia, Aden was not accustomed to eating the wheat flour and grains that are distributed in the camps.

During the first few months at Dadaab, it was hard to trust strangers. And even though he was grateful to be out of reach of those who destroyed his family, he still worried for his own security.

Over time, life improved. But it was difficult for him to find work in the camps. It took years before he managed to make his living driving a donkey cart, carrying sand and construction poles for 500 Kenyan Schillings (US\$5.3) per day.

He knows he has a lot of learning to do in order to make up for those lost years.

“Do you think in America I can be a taxi driver?” he asked. “It’s something I will have to learn.” Now, he faces a whole new set of challenges.

New camp opens for Congolese refugees in Rwanda



A Congolese refugee enters her tent at the new Kigeme camp.
© UNHCR

KIGALI, Rwanda, June 12, 2012 (UNHCR) – The UN refugee agency has begun moving Congolese refugees from a crowded transit centre in Rwanda to a new camp under construction in the south of the country.

UNHCR transferred 141 refugees from Nkamira transit centre to Kigeme camp on Sunday, while a second group of 149 people was moved yesterday. The move will help decongest the transit camp at a time when people continue to cross the border to escape instability in Democratic Republic of the Congo's North Kivu province.

“Kigeme is a tented site. One hundred tents, each capable of holding five refugees, have been erected so far, and a further 50 are being put up daily. The site has latrines and a shower block, but is limited in size,” UNHCR spokesman, Adrian Edwards, said. “We have approached the local authorities to seek more land deeper in the forest.”

The refugees at Kigeme will have access to local health services, and a health centre is likely to be created inside the camp to provide immediate treatment to the refugees. Refugee children will be able to attend schools run by the local diocese.

Meanwhile, Congolese continue to arrive at Nkamira, which is located some 20 kilometres from the border. More than 12,500 people have arrived since late April, including 618 over the weekend, to escape on-off fighting between government troops and renegade soldiers loyal to alleged war criminal Bosco Ntaganda. Rwanda was already hosting about 56,000 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

And in south-west Uganda, UNHCR is seeing steady arrivals at the Nyakabande Transit Centre. On Monday 205 people registered, and

some 9,000 were registered in total at the camp, but 5,859 were actually staying there. Most of the new arrivals in the past few days have come from spontaneous sites for internally displaced people inside North Kivu. As in Rwanda, UNHCR is seeking to move people to refugee settlements to decongest the transit centre.

Fighting between government troops and renegade fighters in North Kivu since April has left more than 100,000 people displaced, including those who have fled to Rwanda and Uganda's Kisoro district. Since the start of the year, UNHCR has registered more than 22,000 Congolese refugees at the Nyakabande transit centre in Uganda, where they receive temporary shelter and assistance, such as cooked food, basic household items and medical care.

Americas



Caribbean Region,
Cuba, and the
Dominican Republic
Costa Rica
Ecuador
Panama
Venezuela

Americas Overview

The Solidarity Resettlement Programme is one of the most innovative components of the Mexico Plan of Action (MPA), which was adopted by 20 countries in November 2004. However, resettlement is not a new concept in Latin America. In 1999, Chile and Brazil signed resettlement agreements with UNHCR and have been resettling small contingents of refugees since 2002. Based on the proposal made by the Government of Brazil during the adoption of the Declaration and the MPA, this durable solution received new impetus, and the number of refugees resettled in these countries has grown significantly since then. Furthermore, other countries of the region joined the Programme: Argentina signed a resettlement agreement with UNHCR and received a first group of refugees at the end of 2005, and Uruguay and Paraguay also formalized their participation in the Programme. Uruguay undertook its first selection mission in early 2009 and received its first arrivals in 2010, while Paraguay undertook its first selection mission in 2010 and received its first arrivals in 2011. Resettlement of Colombian refugees in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay has continued during 2010 and into 2011. In addition to the Colombian refugees resettled to the Solidarity resettlement countries in South America, in 2007 and the first quarter of 2008, Palestinian refugees were resettled from border camps in Jordan and Syria to Brazil and Chile.

The Solidarity Resettlement Programme is the concrete expression of the will of Latin American countries to provide support to the countries hosting large number of refugees in the region. The main principles of the Programme are responsibility-sharing, international solidarity, and the promotion of the strategic use of resettlement in the region, the latter through inter alia maintaining an open space for asylum and promoting local integration opportunities in the three countries which currently host the greatest number of asylum-seekers and refugees, namely Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Venezuela.

As of July 2011, an informal resettlement network on the Colombia Situation countries was established to prioritize resettlement of Colombian refugees.

Americas

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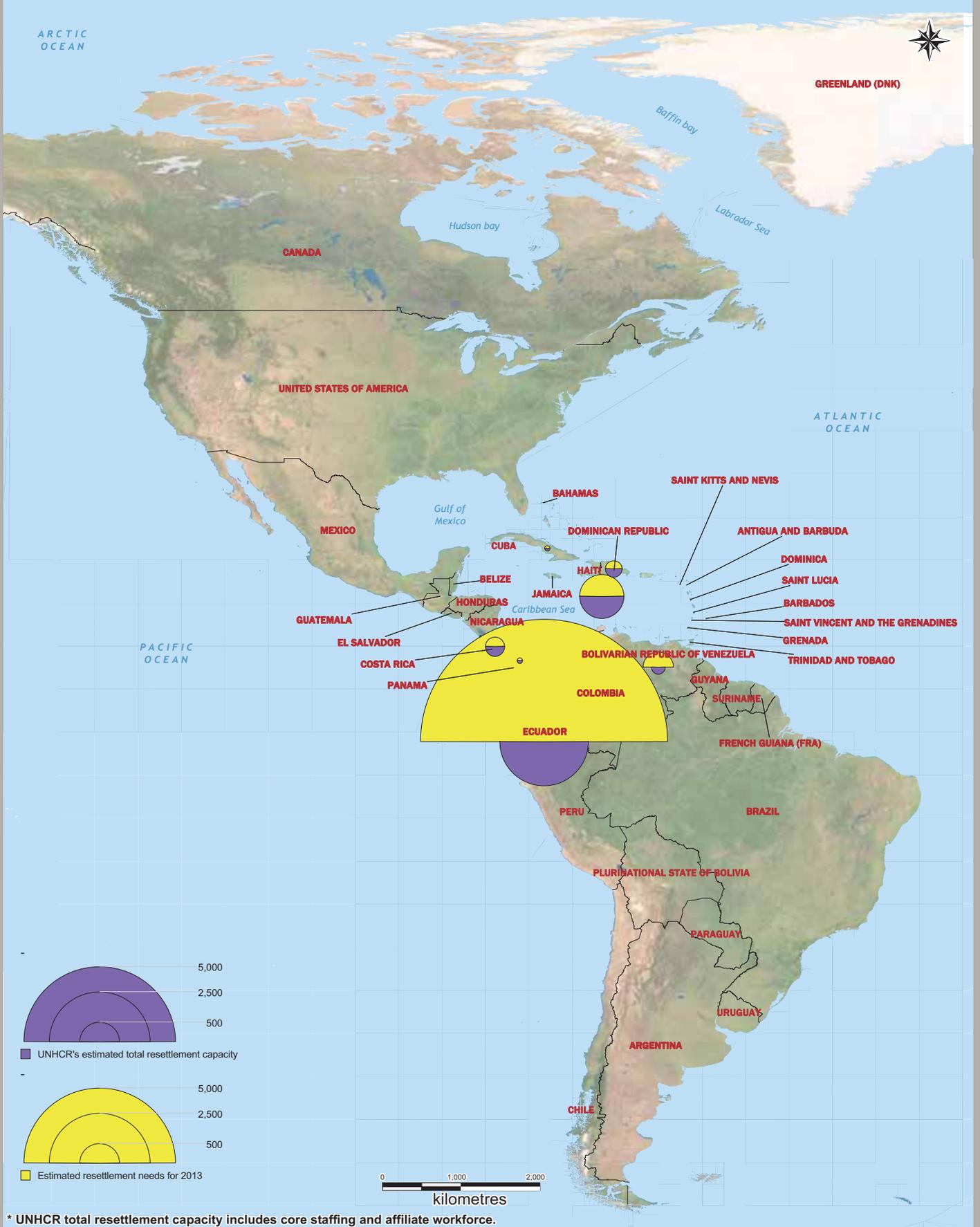
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Estimated resettlement processing needs for 2013 and UNHCR's total resettlement capacity by country of asylum*

Exclusively for internal UNHCR use



* UNHCR total resettlement capacity includes core staffing and affiliate workforce.

Sub-Region of Asylum	Projected total resettlement needs		Projected needs for resettlement processing in 2013		UNHCR core staff capacity in 2013		UNHCR total capacity in 2013 (core staff + affiliate workforce)		Capacity shortfall in 2013	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Americas	8,890	32,020	3,448	12,286	329	1,071	774	2,704	2,674	9,582
Grand Total	8,890	32,020	3,448	12,286	329	1,071	774	2,704	2,674	9,582

In 2013, UNHCR will move more decisively in the implementation of a Comprehensive Durable Solutions strategy for the Colombia Situation countries, with a use of the different solutions (voluntary repatriation, local integration, resettlement, and migratory solutions with protection safeguards) that will depend on the situation and opportunities in each country. Resettlement will form an important component of this strategy.

Programmes in the traditional resettlement countries (the United States of America and Canada) and in the solidarity resettlement countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, and Paraguay) will continue to be supported and strengthened. In particular, the Women-at-Risk programme within the Solidarity Resettlement scheme will continue to be a critical protection tool in the region, while focus will also continue to be maintained on the local integration of resettled refugees.

Despite the existing regional capacity, UNHCR will continue to require resettlement places from other resettlement countries in 2012-2013 to be able to address all the identified needs. Resettlement needs in Ecuador have notably increased as well as the processing capacity of the Office, thanks to investments of staff and resource made in the past years. However, the Office's capacity is still limited compared to the needs, and UNHCR aims to move towards group resettlement for this caseload. For the Offices in Costa Rica, Panama, and Venezuela, the ability to submit a percentage or all of their cases on a dossier basis throughout the calendar year is vital in order to allow greater flexibility in their operations and to meet ongoing needs. In the Caribbean region, with the exception of the Dominican Republic, the majority of States, while having acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol, cannot provide local integration opportunities to all refugees. Therefore, resettlement will continue to be pursued strategically as the only solution for meeting the most urgent needs without undermining the political resolve to create favourable asylum and local integration policies.

Given the current nature of the displacement characterized by refugees fleeing war, civil strife, and persecution, there will continue to be a need to resettle refugees from Latin America. To this end, UNHCR welcomes continued financial and technical support from traditional resettlement countries to support existing programmes and to build the capacity of the solidarity resettlement countries in Latin America through twinning arrangements.

Violence in Colombia displacing more people into Ecuador



Senor Padilla with his wife and children at a UNHCR sponsored shelter home in San Lorenzo in north-western Ecuador.

UNHCR / B.Baloch

By Babar Baloch in San Lorenzo, Ecuador

SAN LORENZO, Ecuador, April 12, 2012 (UNHCR) – Senor Padilla, his wife and two of their children escaped to the small Ecuadorean port of San Lorenzo in late February, joining the growing number of people fleeing fresh violence in nearby Colombia.

“We came because two paramilitary factions and one guerrilla group were wreaking havoc in the area where we lived. They are killing a lot of the local people,” Padilla told UNHCR. Growing numbers of people have been arriving in northern Ecuador’s Esmeraldas province this year and asking for asylum. Like Padilla, they cite increased violence across the border.

Significant numbers of people have been crossing into the province to seek shelter for years, with government figures putting the number at 1,200 to 1,500 people a month, said Oscar Sánchez Piñero, head of UNHCR’s field office in Esmeraldas.

But he added that the number had risen due to “the deteriorating conditions” in and around Tumaco, the main Pacific port in south-west Colombia’s Nariño department. In one week earlier this year, UNHCR estimates that there were 600 arrivals.

Sánchez Piñero said that a further 1,000 people are believed to have arrived in Esmeraldas province during the same time, but had not been able to file asylum claims because it was difficult getting from border areas to the provincial capital, Esmeraldas, where the government registers new arrivals.

“The new arrivals say the situation in Colombia remains volatile,” the UNHCR official said. “Among the arriving population there are many women and children who had to flee because of threats,

assassinations of relatives or the occupation of their land by irregular armed groups. Many live in precarious conditions, especially due to their proximity to the conflict zone and increasing violence in the border.”

UNHCR visitors met Padilla and his family at a shelter in San Lorenzo, where they were receiving assistance until they could find somewhere more permanent to live and look for a livelihood. They decided to leave Tumaco after one of the armed groups killed three people in their neighbourhood, Padilla said, adding: “It was rumoured that three more people were missing.”

But Padilla did not have enough money for transport to the border and he and his wife made the tough decision to leave their two oldest children – a 10-year-old girl and a boy aged 13 – with relatives in the hope that they could later reunite in Ecuador. His wife worries about the two children. “It hurt me a lot when I had to leave as I had never been far away from them, never.”

Many of the families arriving in this area stay with local communities on San Lorenzo’s stretch of coast, while others – like Padilla’s family – are provided with temporary accommodation. “We have several locations where we provide shelter for the new arrivals, especially for the vulnerable ones in San Lorenzo,” said Sánchez Piñeiro, adding that needs surpassed UNHCR’s capacity.

UNHCR offers weekly briefings for the new arrivals in San Lorenzo, which is the first point of entry for many. The sessions include orientation on how to access the asylum process and also arranged information meetings through the provincial Refugee Directorate, which is the state entity in charge of providing registration and conducting the asylum process.

One priority for UNHCR is to work with the protection networks established in the border region to help trace the separated family members and to enhance protection activities along the northern border with Colombia.

Debbie Elizondo, UNHCR’s representative in Quito, noted that Ecuador is the largest refugee-hosting country in Latin America, with more than 55,000 recognized Colombian refugees. But she also expressed concern about the dangers asylum seekers face in the border areas inside Ecuador.

“Many people may think that perhaps there is no more conflict in Colombia, but the reality is that we continue to see thousands fleeing the increasingly volatile areas and fragmented fighting,” she said, adding that the border area was dangerous.

“Just last year, 15 refugees or asylum-seekers were assassinated in the province of Esmeraldas. There is also an increased presence of illegal armed groups along the border and they operate in the region and foster systemic human rights violations,” Elizondo added.

1 family torn apart: Parents reunite with children in Argentina



Sané and two of his children wait for Demba and Adama to arrive.
UNHCR / A. Conde

By Ana Lía Conde and Virginia Pico in Buenos Aires, Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, November 2, 2011 (UNHCR) – On a cold night earlier this year in Buenos Aires, joy came back into Sané's life when he and his wife were reunited with their two eldest children after more than a decade.

Today, the 43-year-old refugee from Senegal is getting to know Demba, aged 15, and Adama, 12, who have spent most of their childhood growing up without a father and mother. Torn apart by persecution, they are finally getting the chance to be a family and build a future in a new country.

Demba and Adama are also discovering what it is like to have three more siblings, after meeting Isa, aged nine, Alí, six, and three-year-old Marlene, for the first time on their arrival in late August at the Argentine capital's Ezeiza International Airport. And they barely remembered their parents.

The two youngsters were born in Senegal during the twilight years of the 20th Century. But their home region of Casamance has been plagued by a low-level separatist conflict since 1990. Sané, fearing for his safety, moved from town to town before fleeing to Argentina in 1998.

Sané left his wife Marie and the two children, Demba and Adama, behind. "It was impossible to bring all of them. It was very painful, but I had no choice," he recalled. In 2001, he was able to pay the air fare for Marie to join him, but he could not afford to bring the children and they were left with their grandmother.

In Argentina, the couple were granted refugee status and started a new life. It was not easy at the beginning. They had to learn a new language and the culture of a new country. Marie became pregnant

with Isa soon after their arrival and as the family grew it became a struggle to make ends meet.

Sané longed to bring Demba and Adama over, but he thought it wiser to wait until their economic situation was more stable and they could offer their children a decent life in a big enough house. Then he found a job with a paper company and soon felt comfortable enough to approach UNHCR about a family reunion.

Working with the authorities, including the Foreign Ministry, the National Migrations Directorate and the National Commission for Refugees as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Organization for Migration, UNHCR helped arrange for the two children to join their parents in Argentina.

A trans-Atlantic flight from Dakar via Madrid brought them on that chilly August night to the busy airport in Buenos Aires, where a besuited Sané and his wife waited anxiously in the sterile area of the terminal while Isa, Alí and Marlene played excitedly in the arrivals area, oblivious to the significance of the moment.

Finally they spotted the two special intercontinental passengers, who were carrying their few belongings in hand luggage and looked surprisingly sprightly after the journey.

Tears and hugs followed as emotions bottled up for a decade were released. “Our dream came true. I can’t explain the happiness we feel at this moment,” the proud, elated father said.

The reunion party began at the airport and carried on when they got home in Quilmes, some 20 kilometres from Buenos Aires. A beaming Sané promised his precious children a welcome home feast of yassa au poisson (a typical rice and fish dish), adding that it was “more nutritious and cheaper than pizza.” At last they could all move on with their lives

Asia



East Asia and Pacific

Cambodia, China
(including Hong Kong SAR),
and Mongolia

Indonesia

Malaysia

Pacific Islands and Papua
New Guinea

Thailand

Central Asia

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,
Tajikistan, Turkmenistan,
Uzbekistan

South Asia

Bangladesh

India

Nepal

Sri Lanka

Southwest Asia

Afghanistan

Islamic Republic of Iran

Pakistan

Asia Overview

The Asia and the Pacific region in UNHCR's context encompasses countries from the Islamic Republic of Iran to Australia and the Pacific Islands. UNHCR's priority remains the active promotion of lasting solutions for refugees and other Persons of Concern in this region, which continues to host a number of protracted refugee situations. While voluntary repatriation may become more concrete for some refugees as of 2013, resettlement remains a significant durable solution and strategic protection tool in Asia, and its use has resulted in protection dividends in many situations. With group resettlement taking place from Malaysia, Nepal, and Thailand, and individual submissions also being made in sixteen other countries, 2011 has continued to reflect the high levels of resettlement experienced over the last five years. It is noteworthy that in 2011, three of the seven priority situations identified at the December 2009 Working Group on Resettlement (WGR) for the strategic use of resettlement were located in Asia – Afghan refugees in Iran, Afghan refugees in Uzbekistan, and refugees in need of resettlement in the Pacific Islands. Given the significant progress made on the resettlement of refugees in previous years (37,975 departures in 2011) and the relatively small residual refugee populations remaining in these countries, UNHCR decided to close the priority situation of Uzbekistan and the Pacific Islands in 2011. However, the same year, Afghan refugees in Pakistan were added by the WGR to the list of priority situations for the strategic use of resettlement. In 2012, UNHCR will continue to explore the resolution of protracted refugee situations, while pursuing possible self-reliance activities for refugees pending the identification of durable solutions. Meeting the resettlement needs of refugee women and children and the preventing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) are primary goals of all country programmes.

Asia and the Pacific

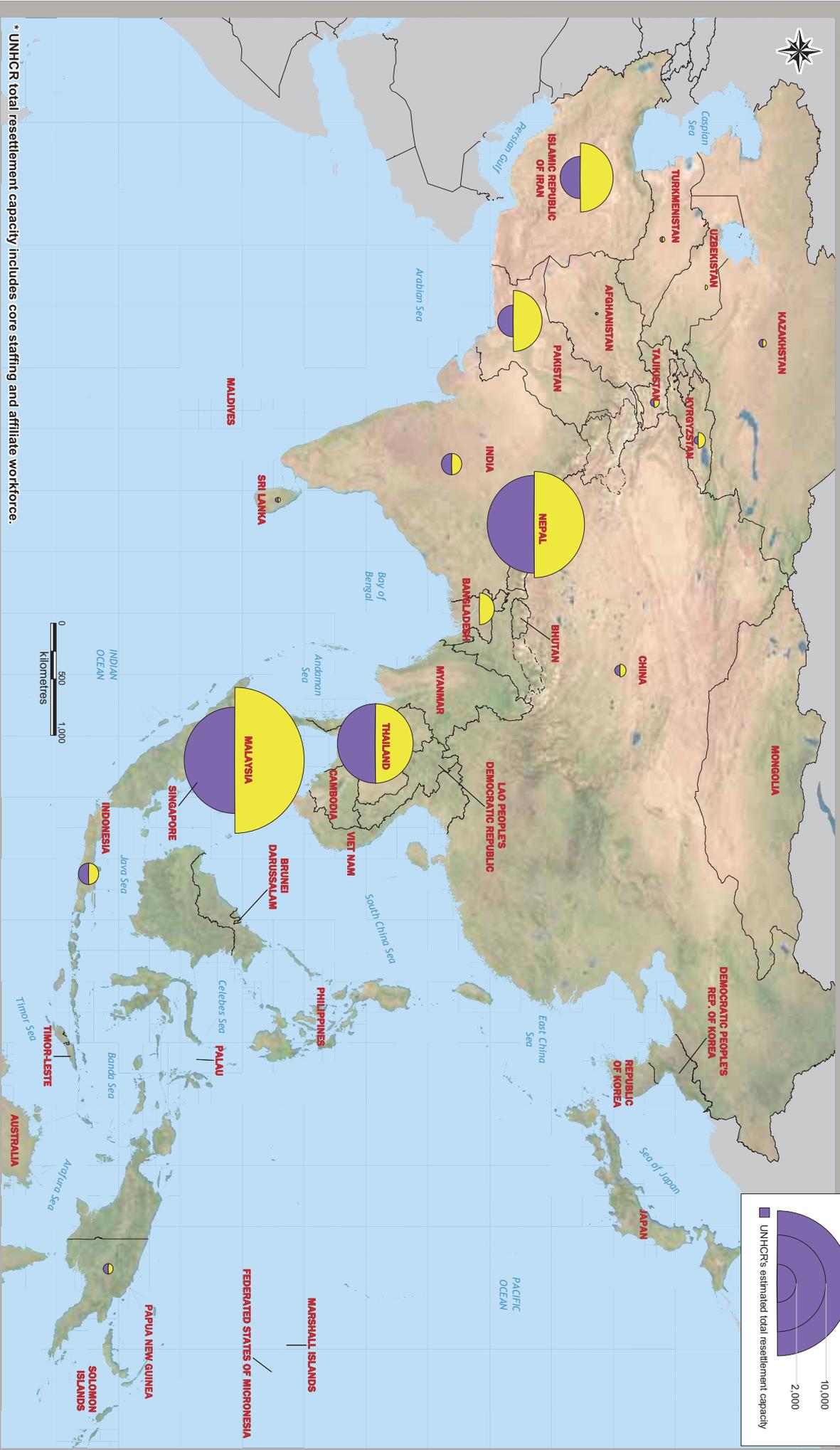
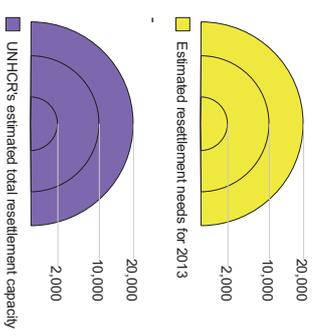
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Sub-Region of Asylum	Projected total resettlement needs		Projected needs for resettlement processing in 2013		UNHCR core staff capacity in 2013		UNHCR total capacity in 2013 (core staff + affiliate workforce)		Capacity shortfall in 2013	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Central Asia	285	879	232	749	73	269	106	365	126	384
East/Pacific	84,683	139,666	15,304	26,738	5,665	9,043	10,024	18,483	5,280	8,255
South Asia	5,079	24,019	2,688	13,134	681	2,860	2,068	10,210	620	2,924
Southwest Asia	63,080	223,775	2,425	9,270	402	1,580	848	3,385	1,577	5,885
Grand Total	153,127	388,339	20,649	49,891	6,821	13,752	13,046	32,443	7,603	17,448

The **CENTRAL ASIA** region is comprised of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Resettlement in 2012 will continue to be the primary mechanism to meet the often urgent protection needs of refugees from neighboring countries. With an uncertain legal status and proximity to their countries of origin, prompt resettlement is often required. There are also a large number of refugees living in urban centers in many countries of the region who face dire protection challenges and for whom resettlement remains the only viable durable solution. Resettlement is thus an important protection tool for vulnerable individual refugees in Central Asia. Emergency resettlement is being used to address the situation of refugees in detention, urgent medical cases, or other individual refugees with specific needs, especially where there is heightened risk of *refoulement*.

Among other noteworthy developments in the region, Japan became the first resettlement country in Asia in 2009. Japan conducted its first selection mission to Thailand in early 2010 and received its first arrivals the same year. In early 2012, Japan confirmed that it will extend its resettlement pilot project for another two years (2012-2013). Access to protection in the region was improved with the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Government of the Philippines and UNHCR in August 2009 on the establishment of an Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM). Two-hundred-five (205) refugees have subsequently been evacuated to the Philippines from their countries of asylum.

The support of resettlement countries is greatly appreciated and will continue to be crucial for the continuance of the exceptionally successful resettlement programmes in Asia and the Pacific region.

The **EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC** sub-region is comprised of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China (including Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR), Indonesia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, the Pacific Island States, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam. With the exception of some of the more developed countries (Australia, Japan, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea), very few countries in this region are States party to the 1951 Refugee Convention. The absence of national legal frameworks and procedures and limited local integration opportunities make UNHCR's work to find a durable solution outside the region particularly relevant. As voluntary repatriation prospects for Myanmar refugees are in their formative stages, resettlement of this population will continue as a durable solution in 2013, although in lesser numbers. In Thailand, the United States Government is expected to initiate procedures to wind down and eventually close its P2 programme in 2012. A significant number of refugees will, however, still be in need of individual resettlement processing to countries such as Australia, New Zealand, Finland, and the Netherlands on the grounds of family reunification, medical needs, and vulnerability. Resettlement will be also used strategically to enhance protection space and as part of a comprehensive solutions framework.



The sub-region of **SOUTH ASIA** includes Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. None of these countries are States party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, and there are also no national refugee legislation or administrative provisions related to the protection of refugees. Despite the positive example set by India's generous ongoing naturalization of Afghan refugees of Sikh or Hindu ethnic backgrounds since 2007, for those countries hosting refugees, local integration continues to remain a very limited option at this time. In Bangladesh, at the request of the Government, UNHCR has suspended resettlement that was used strategically to address refugee issues in the camps. There are

no clear signs that it will be resumed in 2013. In Nepal, UNHCR continues to support the process of group resettlement for refugees from Bhutan located in the camps around Damak in the Southeast of the country. However, resettlement in Nepal is expected to scale down. Consolidation of camps from seven to two has progressed, as have discussions with the Nepalese authorities who have agreed to start an action helping refugees to attain a level of self-reliance through Community-Based Development Programmes involving host communities. This operation, guided by a Core Group of States and UNHCR, and involving ongoing discussions with Nepal and Bhutan, will, UNHCR hopes, ultimately lead to a complete resolution of the protracted situation.

◀ A deaf refugee from Bhutan impresses in Canada with her enthusiasm: Pabi Rizal in her classroom at St. Joseph's Adult School in Ottawa..
© UNHCR / G. Nyembwe

In **SOUTH-WEST ASIA**, comprised of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Pakistan, UNHCR hopes that resettlement countries will provide additional resettlement places to address the protracted situation of Afghan refugees in Iran and Pakistan, the two countries hosting the largest number of refugees world-wide. Enhanced resettlement from these countries forms an integral part of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan refugees and is expected to contribute to preserving asylum space and unlocking alternative solutions for registered refugees. A Contact Group on Afghan Refugees in Iran was established in 2010 to enhance resettlement out of Iran and in support of refugee programmes.

Vulnerable Afghan women flown to Slovakia en route to resettlement



Some of the Afghan refugee women step off the plane that brought them to eastern Slovakia, where they will stay until they can be resettled.

©UNHCR

By Petra Hajdu in Humenné, Slovakia

HUMENNÉ, April 19, 2012 (UNHCR) – A group of 15 Afghan refugee women at risk have been flown from Iran with their dependents to an evacuation transit centre in Slovakia ahead of onward resettlement.

The three grandmothers and 12 female heads of household, with 29 of their children, arrived at the Evacuation Transit Centre in the eastern Slovakian town of Humenné last Thursday after boarding a chartered flight by the International Organization for Migration. They will stay in the centre for up to six months while their resettlement cases are processed.

All of the 15 women, who fled their country more than a decade ago to escape armed conflict in Afghanistan, are either divorced or widowed and had been ostracized by the Afghan community. They could not return home and UNHCR believes they were at risk of further abuse and exploitation, including forced marriage, if they remained in Iran.

Nooria,* aged 34, fled from Afghanistan with her family as a child, but her life in Iran has been very difficult. She was forced to marry an Afghan military commander who regularly beat her, leaving her deaf in one ear. She told UNHCR that she had managed to get a divorce, but only after a long struggle.

She said coming to Slovakia with her four children aged between eight and 18 was not easy because she had to leave her elderly parents behind in Iran. But she looked forward to living somewhere where women had equal rights. “I hope men will show me respect as a woman, because I have never experienced much of that,” she said.

Fatemeh* arrived in Slovakia with her two daughters. The three of them had fled Afghanistan after Fatemeh's husband and son were killed during the 1980s Soviet occupation of their homeland. The two girls decided to look after their mother instead of getting married. When she fell ill, they even took on her job at a sock factory, although they were only 11 and 13 years old.

The younger girl, Sakineh,* was excited about being resettled and said she wanted to study to become a lawyer in her new country. "Afghans are not all terrorists and illiterate. We were just born in the wrong place at the wrong time," she said.

On arrival in Humenné, the refugees received food, clothing and medical care. The transit centre caters for religious and dietary needs and has a kindergarten, prayer room and library with computers. UNHCR, the IOM and the Slovak government run the centre, which offers language lessons, vocational training, cultural orientation, sports and recreation and excursions to nearby towns.

The Evacuation Transit Centre in Humenné opened in 2009 for people in urgent need of international protection and has since provided temporary shelter to some 260 refugees from Afghanistan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Palestine and Somalia who were at risk in their first country of asylum and whose resettlement was in progress. The centre can currently accommodate 100 people at a time.

This was the second group of vulnerable women and their dependents to be taken to the centre from Iran. A first group of 46 people arrived here in May last year and were eventually resettled in the United States.

*Name changed for protection reasons

Europe



Eastern Europe

Azerbaijan and Georgia
Belarus and Ukraine
The Russian Federation

South-Eastern Europe

Malta
Turkey

Europe Overview

In 2013, UNHCR foresees needs for resettlement from operations in countries in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, as well as resettlement/relocation from Malta. In the Eastern and South Eastern European subregions, there are both asylum-receiving countries and refugee-producing countries. Resettlement in these operations serves not only as a protection tool for the most vulnerable refugees, such as refugees with Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs, Women and Girls at Risk, and those with specific Medical Needs, but is also used as part of the overall strategy of expanding the asylum space. The effectiveness of resettlement as a durable solution is reinforced by building stronger asylum systems and improving reception and integration infrastructure. In addition, resettlement is also used as an instrument of international solidarity and of responsibility and burden-sharing.

In 2012, the operational resettlement target for the region was 14,786 persons, with an estimated processing capacity of 7,151 persons. The estimated resettlement needs in 2013 are 18,739 persons, with Turkey accounting for 17,165 of the required places. UNHCR Turkey is making an effort to raise its capacity to reduce pending Refugee Status Determination (RSD) backlogs and increase resettlement submissions (especially of non-Iraqi refugees). The submission capacity in Turkey is estimated to be 7,230 persons, while the total capacity for the European region is 8,054 persons.

PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS AND CAPACITY FOR 2013

Resettlement activities in 2013 will focus on operations in Azerbaijan and Georgia, Belarus and Ukraine, Malta, the Russian Federation, and Turkey. In Eastern Europe, dysfunctional asylum procedures in some of the countries hamper access to effective protection. The situation in the Russian Federation is different; while the asylum system has considerably improved, UNHCR is still confronted with the challenge of finding durable solutions for the so-called “legacy caseload”. Resettlement of this refugee population, combined with voluntary repatriation of those refugees who would be open to considering returning to their countries of origin, can have a strategic impact by achieving better conditions for newly arrived refugees and asylum-seekers, and at the same time providing a durable solution for a refugee population that is in an almost protracted situation.

Europe

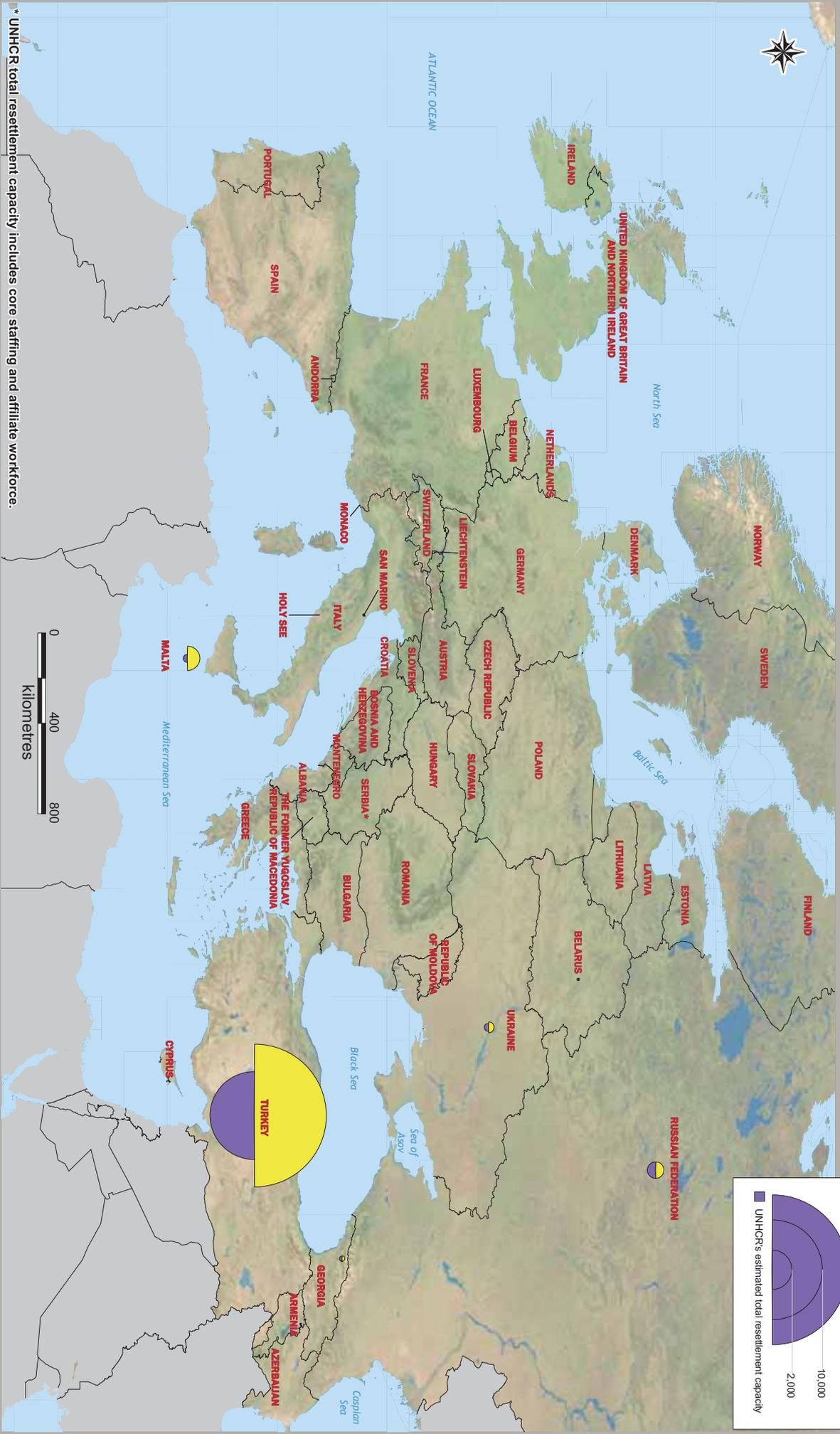
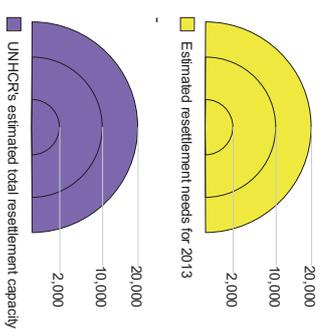
Estimated resettlement processing needs for 2013 and UNHCR's total resettlement capacity by country of asylum*

Exclusively for internal UNHCR use

PRODD
Planning and
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Sources:
UNHCR Global Insight digital mapping
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* UNHCR total resettlement capacity includes core staffing and affiliate workforce.

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mapping@unhcr.org

Sub-Region of Asylum	Projected total resettlement needs		Projected needs for resettlement processing in 2013		UNHCR core staff capacity in 2013		UNHCR total capacity in 2013 (core staff + affiliate workforce)		Capacity shortfall in 2013	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Eastern Europe	845	1,796	413	824	353	769	333	724	80	100
Southeastern Europe	18,797	33,428	10,140	17,915	2,756	4,920	4,207	7,330	5,933	10,585
Grand Total	19,642	35,224	10,553	18,739	3,109	5,689	4,540	8,054	6,013	10,685

Additionally, there are several countries in the Balkans and in Eastern Europe which have identified small numbers of refugees in need of resettlement for specific protection concerns, or with legal protection needs due to the general weakness of national asylum systems in the region and generally non-existent prospects for local integration. Operations in Armenia, Bosnia, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will therefore be submitting small numbers of specific protection cases on a dossier basis in 2013.

In Turkey, resettlement continues to be the durable solution to be sought for non-European refugees while the geographical limitation to the 1951 Convention is maintained. Resettlement also has a strategic potential to broaden the protection space for non-European refugees during this transition period in which the Turkish authorities continue to work in the enactment of legislation and the establishment of an asylum system aligned with the international refugee law and the European Union acquis. Turkey has been identified by the Working Group on Resettlement as one of the priority situations in which the strategic use of resettlement can broaden the protection space. In the last two years, some improvements have been observed in Turkey with respect to access to asylum-seekers and refugees in detention, as well as an opening to discuss with UNHCR self-reliance opportunities for non-European refugees and asylum-seekers.

In view of the particular situation in Malta, UNHCR has acknowledged the responsibility-sharing approach of the EU Member States and welcomes the concept of “relocation” as opposed to resettlement with respect to movements from Malta to other EU Member States. On the other hand, all movements to countries outside Europe, such as the United States of America, Canada, Australia, and others, are considered as resettlement. Relocation from Malta is used as a strategic protection tool to provide effective

durable solutions to the most vulnerable persons who are unable to locally integrate in Malta. In line with its policy of expanding the asylum space in Europe, UNHCR will continue to urge the Maltese authorities to upgrade protection standards in the Refugee Status Determination procedures, to improve conditions for Persons of Concern in the detention centers, and also to enhance their integration infrastructure.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Among other notable developments in the region, in late 2010, UNHCR signed a Tripartite Agreement with the Government of Slovakia and the IOM to formalize the previously ad hoc arrangement into a more permanent arrangement for an Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Humenné, Slovakia, adding 100 places to the already existing 200 places at the ETC in Timisoara, Romania. The agreement with the Slovak Government is currently under discussion, with a view to increasing the capacity of the ETC in Humenné to 200 persons. In addition to the numerous European States who have maintained long-standing resettlement programmes, a number of countries have established programmes in recent years, including the welcome addition of two new countries that have implemented resettlement activities (Germany and Spain) in 2012. UNHCR also welcomes the adoption on 29 March 2012 by the European Union (EU) of a joint resettlement programme. The adoption of the programme is an important step towards a more substantive contribution by the EU and its Member States to meet the global resettlement needs.

UNHCR welcomes adoption of Joint EU Resettlement Programme

Briefing Notes, 30 March 2012

This is a summary of what was said by UNHCR spokesperson Melissa Fleming – to whom quoted text may be attributed – at the press briefing, on 30 March 2012, at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

UNHCR welcomes the adoption on 29 March by the European Union (EU) of a joint resettlement programme. We think this is an important step towards a more substantive contribution by the EU and its member states to the global resettlement programme.

We hope the EU's joint programme will help to increase resettlement places in the European Union as a whole and provide solutions for a greater number of refugees who find themselves in desperate situations. Twelve EU member states currently run resettlement programmes, together contributing to less than 8 per cent of the annual resettlement places on offer around the world.

While participation in the joint programme is on a voluntary basis, increased coordination and larger financial benefits arising from the programme are likely to create more resettlement places in Europe. The programme also allows EU countries to prioritize agreed upon refugee populations for resettlement, including people from Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Iraq, Myanmar and Somalia.

The joint programme will provide EU member states with additional funding for the reception and integration of resettled refugees in local communities, in particular those European countries that are considering developing a resettlement programme. Moreover, the joint programme envisages financial support for the resettlement of a greater number of highly vulnerable refugees or refugees from a larger number of priority situations.

Resettlement to third countries is a life-saving solution for vulnerable refugees who find themselves in asylum countries that are not able to offer them protection or a durable solution. Up to 80,000 refugees are resettled every year. Most go to the United States, Canada and Australia, while Europe takes in some 5,000 refugees. The adoption of the Joint EU Programme should alter that imbalance.

For further information on this topic, please contact:
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Middle East, and North Africa



Middle East

Saudi Arabia, Bahrain,
Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, and
United Arab Emirates

Iraq

Israel

Jordan

Lebanon

Syrian Arab Republic

Yemen

North Africa

Algeria, Libya, Mauritania,
Morocco, and Tunisia

Egypt

Middle East and North Africa Overview

During 2011, unprecedented upheaval in the MENA region resulted in mass cross-border population movements which had a major impact on previous resettlement planning assumptions and tested UNHCR's capacity to respond in a fast, flexible, and effective manner. A total of 22,493 refugees were submitted to resettlement countries in 2011. The number of departures was much lower when compared to the number of submissions (7,833 persons), underscoring the need for improvement in resettlement departures arrangements by States.

Although physical access by resettlement States to refugees was constrained in many countries following the political upheaval in the region, diversity in the resettlement programme remained high. Eighteen (18) country Offices and two emergency operations submitted urban and camp-based refugees of 32 different nationalities to 16 resettlement countries. Iraqi nationals comprised 71 per cent of the total, and four nationalities (Iraqi, Sudanese, Somali, and Eritrean) constituted 95 per cent of all submissions.

Resettlement continued to be applied as a tool of protection and a durable solution for refugees in many different situations; from the increasingly protracted situation of large numbers of Iraqi refugees in Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon; to the large-scale emergency resettlement related to the crisis in Libya; to its use for Eritrean refugees held in long-term detention in Yemen.

Resettlement not only benefited the refugees concerned (by providing protection and a durable solution), but also helped ensure that UNHCR met its commitments with the host countries, such as, for example, in Lebanon and Jordan under longstanding Memoranda of Understanding that require resettlement of refugees to third countries. Resettlement also served as a key protection tool to prevent *refoulement* and to keep borders open to persons in need of protection in the countries in the region.

While the resettlement of Iraqi refugees from Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon continued as the most prominent regional operation in terms of submissions, the number of referrals continued the slow decline seen since 2008. The fall in submissions, from 22,196 in 2010 to 16,034 in 2011, does not necessarily reflect declining needs, however, but is directly linked to the inability of some resettlement countries to gain

Middle East and North Africa

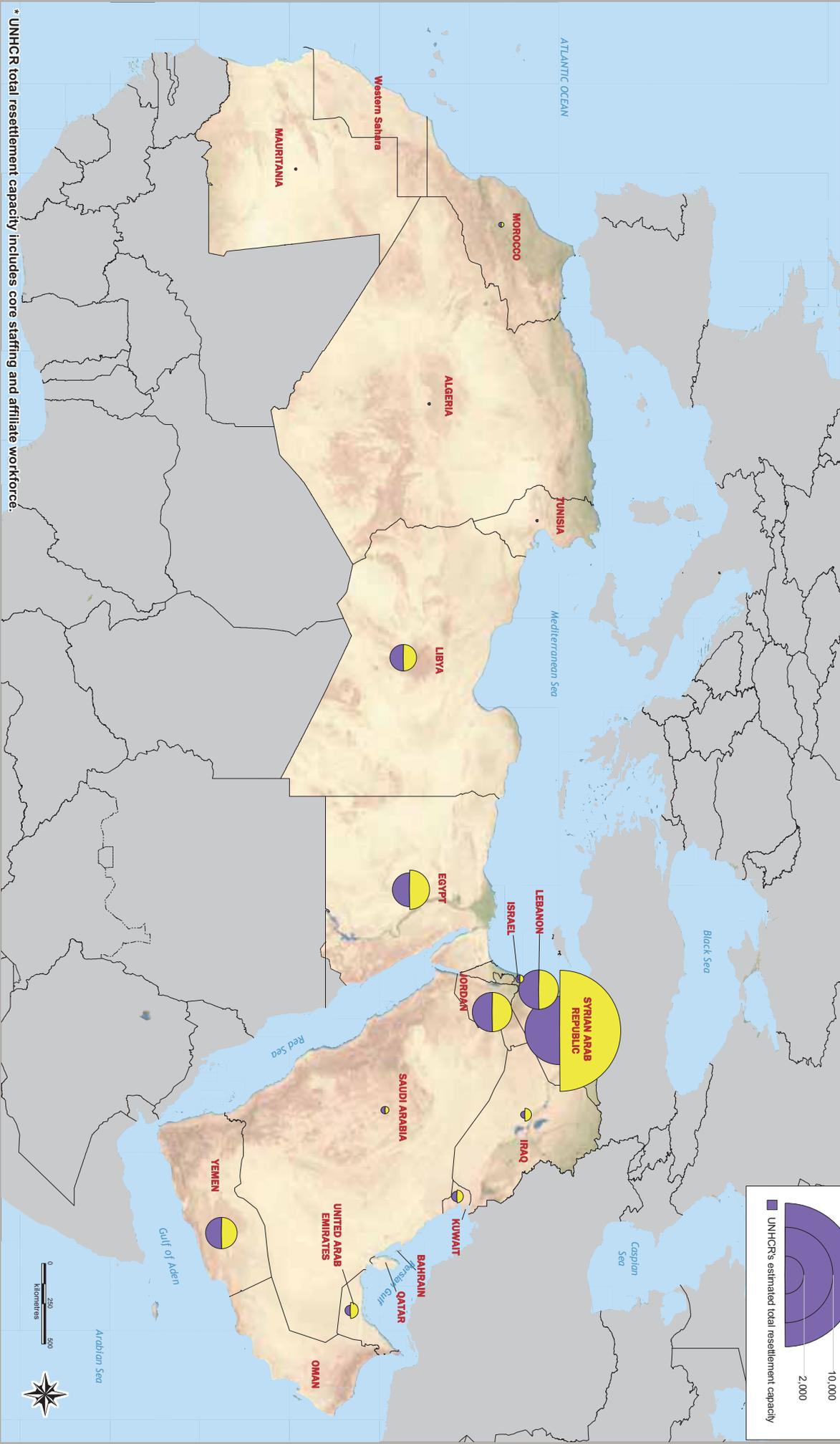
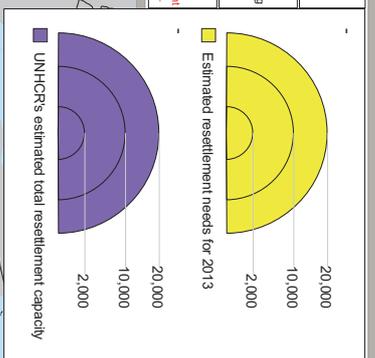
Estimated resettlement processing needs for 2013 and UNHCR's total resettlement capacity by country of asylum *

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Coordination Support Section

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* UNHCR total resettlement capacity includes core staffing and affiliate workforce.

Sub-Region of Asylum	Projected total resettlement needs		Projected needs for resettlement processing in 2013		UNHCR core staff capacity in 2013		UNHCR total capacity in 2013 (core staff + affiliate workforce)		Capacity shortfall in 2013	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Middle East and the Gulf	14,430	45,829	7,024	20,230	3,067	8,266	4,222	11,233	2,802	8,997
North Africa	1,461	3,095	1,461	3,095	1,003	2,175	1,303	2,675	158	420
Grand Total	15,891	48,924	8,485	23,325	4,070	10,441	5,525	13,908	2,960	9,417

access to Syria to interview refugees since March 2010, and the subsequent increase in the number of cases in the processing pipeline. It also reflects the increasingly complex profiles of the remaining Iraqi population in Jordan. Almost 20,000 Iraqi refugees in the resettlement processing pipeline were essentially stranded when deteriorating diplomatic relations between the Syrian Arab Republic and some resettlement countries resulted in the latter's inability to send interviewing selection missions. A number of initiatives (VCT interviews and emergency evacuations to the ETFs) have been vigorously pursued, but have resulted in limited success to date given the size of the pipeline. The nature of the situation precludes any easy resolution of the situation, and Syria must be viewed as the site of the key unmet resettlement needs in 2012.

In 2011, the region entered a period of unpredictability and change following the quick succession of political crises in Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya. The displacement of over 800,000 persons from Libya led to a massive humanitarian response that included the High Commissioner's announcement of the "Global Solidarity (Resettlement) Initiative", which saw the establishment of two new resettlement programmes for eligible third country nationals (non-Libyans) at the Libyan borders with Tunisia and Egypt. The objectives of this initiative were to support host countries through a responsibility and burden-sharing effort to decongest the border areas and maintain open borders and protection space, while also discouraging hazardous boat crossings to Europe. By the end of 2011, 4,488 refugees had been submitted to resettlement countries. This operation represents a laudable achievement, given that no infrastructure existed ten months before. In late 2011, a cut-off date for resettlement at Saloum was established when the protection objective of the emergency resettlement operation had been achieved. The resettlement component of the response to the Libya situation is now expected to gradually phase out over the course of 2012.

THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE GULF

The 2013 resettlement needs for Iraqi refugees in the Middle East (Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria) have been assessed to be 14,050 persons, of which 10,500 are in Syria. This figure may have to be revisited. The use of dossier decisions or VCT interviews, if interviews are required, is promoted by UNHCR. In 2013, as for 2012, the number Iraqi refugees submitted to resettlement countries will depend heavily on the ability of resettlement countries to access Syria (the largest resettlement operation in the region) to conduct interviews and to clear the heavy pipeline.

The ongoing situation in Syria has led to the displacement of Syrians into neighboring countries, but their resettlement needs remain small and focused on persons with compelling protection needs. The resettlement needs of non-Iraqi refugees in Syria are particularly high at 3,200 persons.

Yemen and Israel have estimated the resettlement needs at 1,400 and 100 persons respectively, bringing the total needs for resettlement from the Middle East (excluding the Gulf) to 19,500 persons.

In the Gulf, resettlement in 2013 will largely continue to remain a limited but crucial instrument of protection in a region with a largely urban population and characterized by mixed asylum and migration flows. Resettlement will be used as a protection tool to resolve the situation of refugees in detention as well as to find a solution for those refugees in protracted situations who have protection needs in the country of asylum. 730 persons are projected to be in need of resettlement in the Gulf.



NORTH AFRICA (2013 PROJECTED NEEDS: 3,095 PERSONS)

North Africa is characterized by large-scale mixed migration movements from sub-Saharan Africa to Europe, with a relatively small number of refugees located in host countries having generally restrictive asylum climates. For UNHCR, the challenge is to ensure access to those in need of protection and resettlement, while avoiding the impression that resettlement might be an alternative migration route and the creation of a pull factor. UNHCR's resettlement policy is based on a regionally balanced approach that seeks to discourage secondary movements that might negatively affect efforts to build protection capacities in host countries.

At the same time, the strategic use of resettlement can contribute to enlarging the protection space in the region. Resettlement will continue to be part of the 10 POINT PLAN OF ACTION, intended to help manage asylum and migration issues in the region. Resettlement is used strategically as a small but crucial component of international burden-sharing and encourages North African countries to also accept a proportion of refugees onto their territories.

The total resettlement needs for the MENA Region are 23,325 persons.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA REGIONAL RESETTLEMENT HUB

The MENA Regional Resettlement Hub, based in Beirut, serves as a center for coordinating, supporting, and monitoring resettlement activities in the region. The Hub works towards the consistent application of UNHCR resettlement categories and policies. It monitors and provides quality control for case submissions on a targeted basis; produces regional resettlement reports and statistics; and deploys staff on mission to country Offices and emergency locations as may be required to assist with planning and implementing resettlement programmes in a systematic and coordinated manner. In conjunction with the Resettlement Service, DIP, and the MENA Bureau in Geneva, the Hub ensures mainstreaming of resettlement into regional protection and solutions strategies.

◀ Resettlement from Tunisia's Choucha Camp:
Sudanese refugee Asia says a tearful farewell to
friends in Choucha camp. Asia and her family of 13
were accepted for resettlement in Norway.
© UNHCR / R. Nuri

Resettlement restores hope for Ethiopian boy who lost all



Bayisa at the entrance to his tent in Choucha Transit Camp.
©UNHCR / R.Nuri

By Leo Dobbs in Choucha Transit Camp, Tunisia

CHOUCHA TRANSIT CAMP, Tunisia, June 14, 2012 (UNHCR) – His father died in prison, his mother passed away from the shock and his beloved sister just gave up in protest and wasted away in front of him as they fled their past.

Bayisa* is only 17, but says he feels like an adult. And though he looks young, there's an incredible maturity about this ethnic Oromo teenager from western Ethiopia. This and his Christian faith have helped him to overcome one tragedy after another and cope with loneliness since losing his family.

He's been living in the Choucha Transit Camp in southern Tunisia since March last year, one of almost 2,700 refugees and asylum-seekers awaiting news on resettlement. About 860 of them, including Bayisa, have been accepted by resettlement countries, after referral by UNHCR, but are still awaiting departure dates. He is going to Denmark, which has a special programme for unaccompanied minors.

This news has given Bayisa tremendous hope for the future after so much uncertainty and it means he will have reason to celebrate World Refugee Day on June 20, albeit still in a tent under the scorching summer sun of Choucha. He's been making the most of this time here ahead of his imminent departure, studying English five days a week, taking computer training and learning how to play the piano and guitar from a Tunisian teacher.

As an unaccompanied minor, he is regarded as a person of special concern by UNHCR, which provides foster care through the communities and partners on the ground. He's built close bonds with UNHCR staff, who are impressed by his strength. It was hard seeing some of the other unaccompanied minors whom he had befriended leave for Norway in February, before he got word in May that he would soon be going too.

Being on his own, Bayisa needs to be self-sufficient. "I feel like a man. Getting from Ethiopia to here, I have had many experiences

that have made me grow [as a person],” he told UNHCR in the tent he shares with another boy. “My friends in Ethiopia have seen nothing compared to me.”

He was raised in hardship, but surrounded by a loving family. That changed in January 2009, when, Bayisa claimed, security officials came to their humble home, broke down the door and dragged his father, who worked as a driver, off into the night. “I don’t know if he was involved in politics,” said the boy. “In May, we heard that he had died in prison,” he said, adding that his distraught mother’s blood pressure shot up and she died shortly afterwards.

But the ordeal was only beginning. Not long after his mother’s death, the police came round and spoke to Bayisa, then 15, and his 22-year-old sister, Marie,* about their father’s death. “My sister got angry . . . They arrested me and my sister and sent us to prison,” he said. “We were held for one month. My uncle paid some money and we were released. Then we left the country.” added the boy, who left behind four younger siblings with family. He has not heard from them since.

Marie paid smugglers to take them to Khartoum, capital of neighbouring Sudan. She found a job in a Sudanese restaurant, but after three months rushed home and told Bayisa that they must leave because she feared the government was arresting illegal immigrants.

It was late 2009 and they decided to head to Libya, but Marie was clearly struggling with deep trauma, and a growing rage. They travelled with a large group across the Sahara, suffering from the heat and shortage of water. “When she remembered what had happened to us, she got angry and did not eat. I don’t know why,” Bayisa recalled. “She became very tired and then she started asking me for water, but we had run out. She got thin and died.”

It was a devastating moment, coming 11 days into their journey. She was buried in the desert by fellow passengers, the boy said. “I fainted when she died. I was very sad and for two or three days I could do nothing. I thought I wanted to die like her. I was close to her and loved her.”

But the other passengers were looking out for him and did a whip round to help the teenager get to Tripoli. He ended up working on a flower farm when the Arab Spring came to Libya in late February last year. “I was afraid for my safety,” Bayisa explained. “I heard people coming to Tunisia and I came with an Oromo family [to Choucha on March 4, 2011].”

He’s had plenty of time in Choucha to reflect, but it has been tough living in this arid area of southern Tunisia, unable to work and uncertain about his future. “I don’t have any relatives here in the camp and the weather conditions are very difficult,” Bayisa said, referring to the cold and rainy winter and scorching summer. “I don’t like it here. It’s very difficult to live here.”

But now he can start thinking of a life beyond Choucha; a life which he hopes will include his younger brothers and sisters, whom he has been trying to trace with Red Cross help; and a life where he can study to become a scientist. “I miss them,” he says of his family. “I want to change my life and theirs.”

Almost 1,200 people have been resettled with UNHCR help from Choucha since it opened more than a year ago to house people fleeing from Libya and the uprising there. They include about 50 unaccompanied minors, who have mostly gone to Norway, Sweden and the US. Another 81 are in the resettlement process. A further 41 unaccompanied minors arrived after a December 1 cut-off date for consideration for resettlement.

* Names changed for protection reasons.

UNHCR strives to find solutions for refugees at Egypt-Libya border



A UNHCR refugee status determination officer interviews a Sudanese man at the Sallum border crossing between Libya and Egypt.

©UNHCR / L. Dobbs

By Leo Dobbs in Sallum, Egypt

SALLUM, Egypt, May 21, 2012 (UNHCR) – Andrew Mok, computer open in front of him, faced the Sudanese man across the table in a converted freight container and began the interview.

“Please do not make any false statements because that could have a negative impact on your application,” the 23-year-old from Hong Kong informed the man, who was bidding to be recognized as a refugee. “Everything you tell UNHCR will be strictly confidential,” he added, reassuringly.

Refugee status determination (RSD) is a vital part of UNHCR’s daily protection work and the above scene is replicated every day in UNHCR operations around the world.

But there is a difference at Sallum because those being interviewed are stuck at a busy border crossing, unable or unwilling to go home or back to Libya, and not allowed to go further inside Egypt. There are around 2,000 people left from the 40,000 third country nationals who fled to Sallum to escape last year’s conflict in Libya, most of whom were allowed to transit Egypt.

“All of them want to leave [for resettlement],” Yvan Sturm, head of UNHCR’s Sallum team, said of the 2,000. “The majority have no other option,” added Stephen Choka, the RSD supervisor. The best solution for refugees is normally repatriation followed by local integration, but at Sallum everyone registered as a refugee has been referred for resettlement – this does not apply to those who have arrived since a cut-off date last October.

Although both the Egyptian border authorities at Sallum and UNHCR want to see the problem resolved soon, the process takes time. Mok was interviewing the Sudanese man for the third time, asking about an inconsistency that could mean the difference between recognition as a refugee and rejection. And resettlement can only be considered for recognized refugees.

Today, the work of the refugee agency's RSD team at Sallum, many of whom were seconded from the Danish Refugee Council, is almost finished and Andrew has already left. A total of 1,750 people, mostly from Sudan, have been registered as refugees, of whom 248 have to date departed for resettlement countries or for transit centres in Europe.

Sixty cases were rejected for refugee status, even after appeal, while more than 200 people who arrived in Sallum after October 23 have been told they will not be considered for resettlement. The decision to impose a cut-off date was aimed, in part, at deterring people who were neither residents of Libya nor affected by the conflict there from heading to the border. "The people who came after this date are considered as asylum-seekers, but will not be interviewed for RSD," Sturm said.

While the RSD process is almost over, it will take many more months before all of those referred for resettlement finally get to leave for their new homes. That's partly because "only six resettlement countries have taken cases from Sallum," said Heidi Boener. "We are heavily dependent on the United States," added the resettlement officer.

As Mok continued with his questions, Boener stood in a nearby building and addressed about 30 registered refugees from Eritrea, Somalia and Ethiopia who were due to be interviewed over a two-week period by officials from the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS). She took them through the kinds of questions they would face, including queries about their family history and why they cannot return to their country of origin.

Boener said more than 1,400 people had been referred to the US for resettlement and the visiting DHS staff planned to meet a first group of about 250 for a so-called first circuit interview, with plans to return about every three months to talk to a similar number each time. After interviews, and if they are conditionally approved, they will undergo security background checks and medical screening before final approval and authorization to fly to America.

"It's going to be a few months for the case to move," Boener said, referring to this first group to be interviewed. "It's not going to happen overnight. They take a long processing time," she noted, while adding: "It would be really great if other resettlement countries would consider coming here to share the responsibility."

This was echoed by a senior Egyptian port official, who said the rate of resettlement so far had been slow and he was worried that the problem would linger for years. In addition to the United States, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden have all accepted smaller numbers of people from Sallum. Switzerland has accepted a small number of people through family sponsor applications.

Meanwhile, those stuck at Sallum are clearly getting fed up. "In this camp, I just feel like I am in prison," said Tahir, a middle-aged man from Sudan's Darfur region whose wife has a niece in Arizona. "I wish to go to a safe place where I can get on with my life like other people in the world."

Habtamush, a 20-year-old Eritrean, said she wanted to go somewhere she would be safe and get an education. "I feel happy and I'm dreaming of a better future," she said before the DHS meeting. She knew that there was always the possibility of rejection and delay, but she stressed: "I am prepared to wait."

UNHCR helps resettle 33 unaccompanied children from Tunisia to Norway



A young boy plays in a special tent run by UNHCR and Save the Children for children, including unaccompanied minors, at Choucha transit camp.

©UNHCR / A. Branthwaite

By Adrian Edwards

CHOUCHA CAMP, Tunisia, January 17, 2012 (UNHCR) – The UN refugee agency has helped resettle a group of 33 unaccompanied children who had spent months living in a special camp set up in Tunisia to provide shelter for people fleeing last year’s political turmoil in neighbouring Libya.

The children, who left for Norway on Sunday, were among 90 who arrived unaccompanied from Libya during 2011. Some were already without parents when they first arrived in Libya; others lost their parents or became separated from them subsequently. Most are from Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia or Eritrea.

They had been staying in Tunisia’s Choucha camp, which is home to 3,400 refugees. The unaccompanied children have relied on help from friends and relatives, as well as local and international aid workers. In total, 39 of these 90 children have now been resettled – most to Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

“As they had formed strong bonds among each other, the departure has been painful for many of them – not least those still awaiting resettlement,” UNHCR spokesman Adrian Edwards told reporters in Geneva. “Life at Choucha camp remains difficult, with windswept conditions and bitter cold. UNHCR and its partners hope that solutions can quickly be found for the unaccompanied children who remain there – as well as for the other refugees who await solutions.”

UNHCR provides assistance at Choucha, works with the children and their communities to establish the best interests of each child, advocates for resettlement and submits cases to resettlement countries. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) provides child-friendly orientation and arranges transportation to new homes. It arranged the weekend flight to Norway.

Edwards stressed that UNHCR considers resettlement to be the only viable option for the majority of recognized refugees who fled Libya to Tunisia and Egypt last year. Both countries allowed hundreds of thousands of migrants to stay temporarily before being repatriated in a joint IOM-UNHCR operation. UNHCR and IOM have called upon states, especially European countries, to offer more resettlement places for the remaining refugees at the borders of Egypt and Tunisia.

UNHCR has completed refugee status determination for all 2,500 applicants in Choucha camp and 2,200 have been recognized as refugees. Together with an additional 800 people who were recognized as refugees in Libya before the unrest of 2011, more than 3,000 refugees have been submitted for resettlement from the camp.

Meanwhile at Egypt's Saloum border crossing with Libya, around 1,400 people have been submitted for resettlement out of 1,830 there.

Resettlement referrals for both Choucha and Saloum have been submitted and accepted by Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and the United States. Most recently, Germany, New Zealand and Spain have joined the resettlement effort by planning to send selection missions to the two camps.

UNHCR is calling on resettlement countries to expedite decisions on submissions. Currently only one out of five refugees submitted has been accepted, and only one out of six, or 731 refugees, has actually departed. UNHCR's emergency transit centres in Romania and Slovakia are providing crucial additional space for refugees to be interviewed for onward resettlement from both Tunisia and Egypt, notably to the United States and the Netherlands.

UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2011

Introduction

This report summarizes the resettlement activities of UNHCR offices worldwide in 2011. The information for this report is drawn from the UNHCR Resettlement Statistical Reports (RSR), which are submitted by UNHCR country offices on a quarterly basis.

Certain information in this report is organized by regions, reflecting the five UNHCR Regional Bureaux: Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and MENA (Middle East and North Africa).

For the purposes of this report, country of asylum refers to the country from which refugees are submitted to and from which they departed for resettlement. Country of resettlement refers to the country to which refugees are submitted for resettlement and to which they arrive on resettlement. Country of origin refers to the country where refugees derive their nationality. The submission figures include those made through UNHCR Regional Resettlement Hubs, Regional Offices as well as Headquarters.

Summary of Major Trends in 2011

Submissions: In 2011, UNHCR submitted 91,843 refugees for resettlement*.

This is a 15 per cent decrease from 108,042 refugees in 2010. Submission levels declined for a variety of reasons, not least due to the time involved in processing complex cases for certain refugee populations undergoing large-scale resettlement. Decrease levels may also be attributed to the decision taken by UNHCR to align its submission levels more closely with resettlement country processing capacities in order to prevent an increasing backlog of cases for certain refugee populations.

Departures: In 2011, 61,649 refugees departed to 22 countries of resettlement.

Departures decreased 15 per cent, from 72,914 refugees in 2010, in part due to the introduction of new security screening requirements by some resettlement countries, and also due to the challenges encountered by resettlement countries in accessing populations in host countries.

Origin: The largest number of refugees submitted for resettlement were refugees from Myanmar (21,290), followed by refugees from Iraq (19,994), Somalia (15,719) and Bhutan (13,092).

In total the four nationalities made up more than three-quarters of all submissions.

Resettlement: The three major countries of resettlement were: the United States of America (43,215 persons departed), Canada (6,827) and Australia (5,597).

Asylum: The largest number of refugees were submitted from Malaysia (13,731), followed by Nepal (13,248) and Kenya (10,518).

Nepal was the country from which the most refugees departed (18,151), followed by Thailand (9,569), and Malaysia (8,370).

AT A GLANCE FIGURES

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Submissions	91,843	108,042	128,558	121,214	98,999
Departures	61,649	72,914	84,657	65,859	49,868
Countries of Asylum**	79	86	94	80	80
Countries of Origin**	77	71	77	68	65
Countries of Resettlement***	22	28	24	24	25

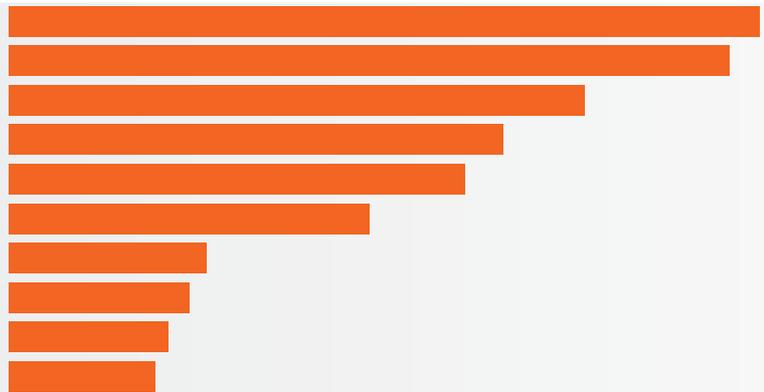
* This figure includes 4,029 individual resubmissions (1,400 cases)

** Based on submissions

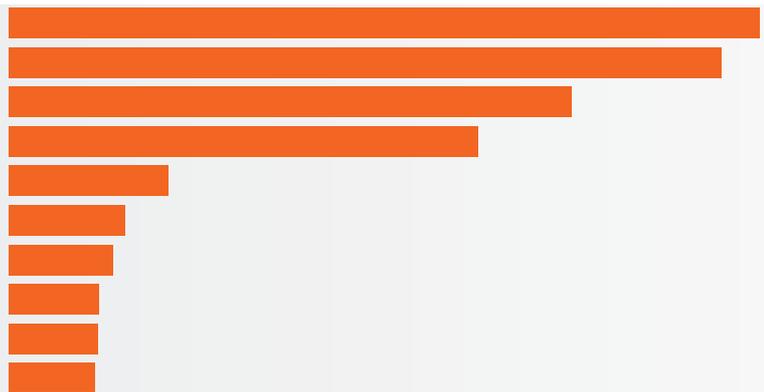
*** Based on departures

TOP TEN: UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS IN 2011

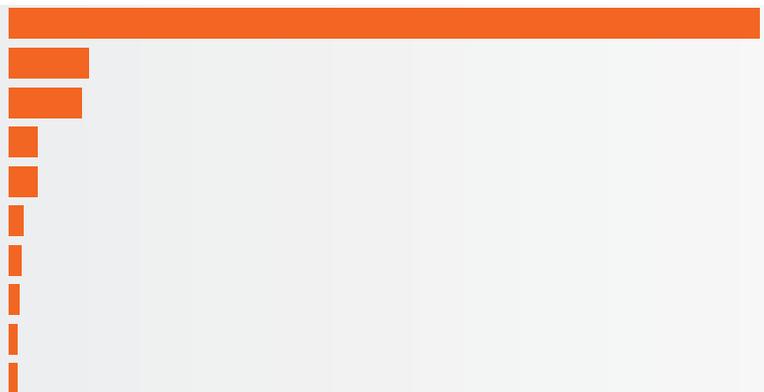
Country of asylum	Submissions (persons)
Malaysia	13,731
Nepal	13,248
Kenya	10,518
Syrian Arab Rep.	9,089
Thailand	8,316
Turkey	6,475
Jordan	3,552
Lebanon	3,308
Tunisia	2,857
Egypt	2,684
All Others	18,065
TOTAL	91,843



Country of origin	Submissions (persons)
Myanmar	21,290
Iraq	19,994
Somalia	15,719
Bhutan	13,092
DR of the Congo	4,079
Afghanistan	3,041
Eritrea	2,916
Ethiopia	2,607
Sudan	2,517
Islamic Rep. of Iran	2,496
All others	4,092
TOTAL	91,843

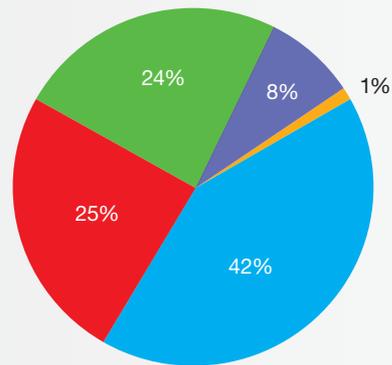


Country of resettlement	Submissions (persons)
USA	69,655
Australia	6,692
Canada	6,404
Sweden	2,206
Norway	2,010
United Kingdom	939
New Zealand	870
Finland	796
Netherlands	717
Denmark	698
All Others	856
TOTAL	91,843

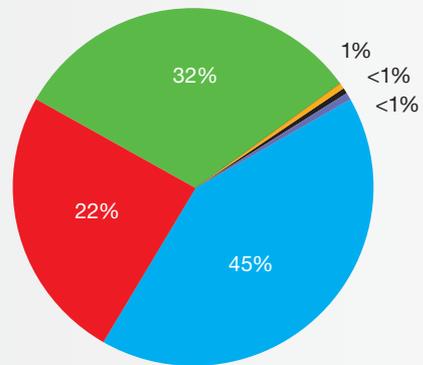


UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS IN 2011

Submissions by region of asylum	
Asia and the Pacific	38,404
MENA	22,493
Africa	22,267
Europe	7,716
The Americas	963
Total	91,843

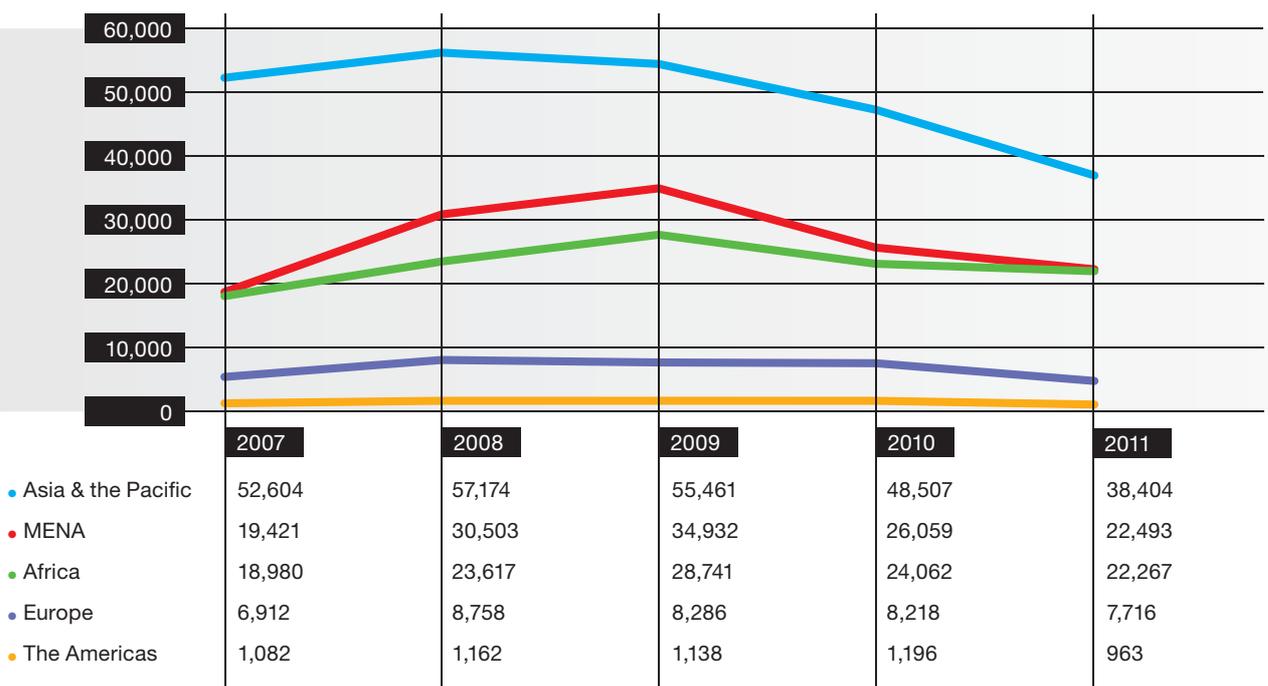


Submissions by region of origin	
Asia and the Pacific	41,294
MENA	20,325
Africa	29,049
The Americas	945
Europe	214
Stateless*/ Unspecified	16
Total	91,843



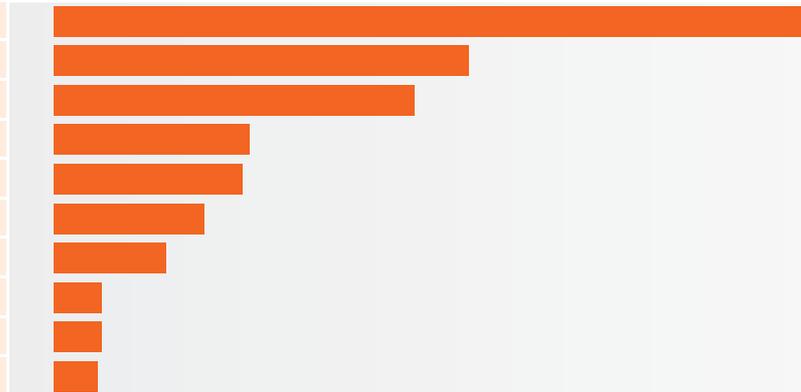
* Stateless refers only to refugees who are not considered nationals by any State under the operation of its law

UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY REGION OF ASYLUM IN 2007-2011

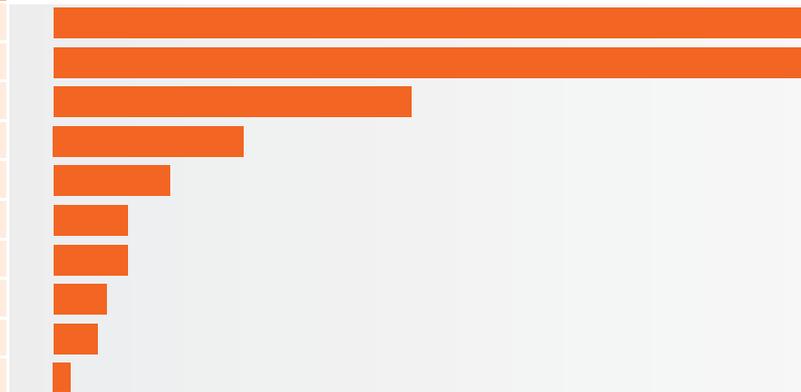


TOP TEN: UNHCR RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES IN 2011

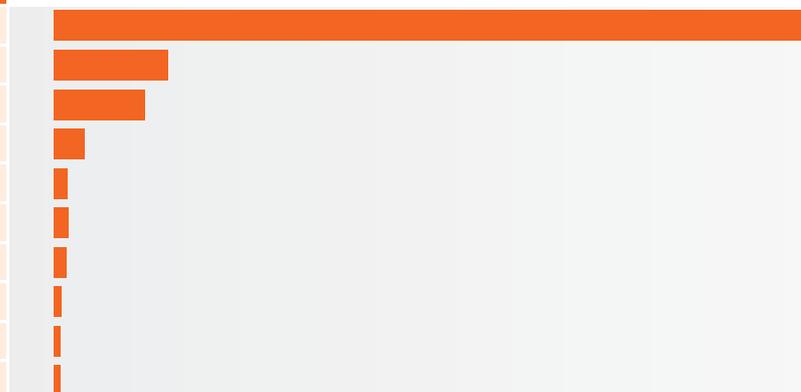
Country of asylum	Departures (persons)
Nepal	18,151
Thailand	9,569
Malaysia	8,370
Syrian Arab Rep.	4,560
Turkey	4,388
Kenya	3,581
Ethiopia	2,566
Sudan	1,057
Jordan	1,050
Lebanon	825
All Others	7,532
Total	61,649



Country of origin	Departures (persons)
Bhutan	18,068
Myanmar	17,899
Iraq	8,677
Somalia	4,636
Eritrea	2,836
DR of the Congo	2,032
Islamic Rep. of Iran	1,910
Ethiopia	1,269
Afghanistan	1,206
Sudan	547
All Others	2,569
Total	61,649

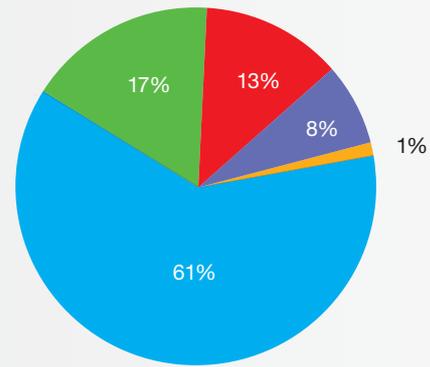


Country of resettlement	Departures (persons)
USA	43,215
Canada	6,827
Australia	5,597
Sweden	1,896
Norway	1,258
Denmark	606
Finland	573
Netherlands	479
New Zealand	477
United Kingdom	424
All Others	297
Total	61,649

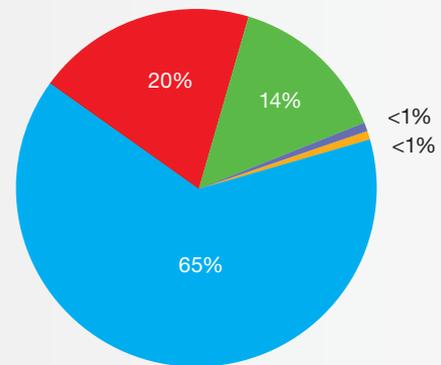


UNHCR RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES IN 2011

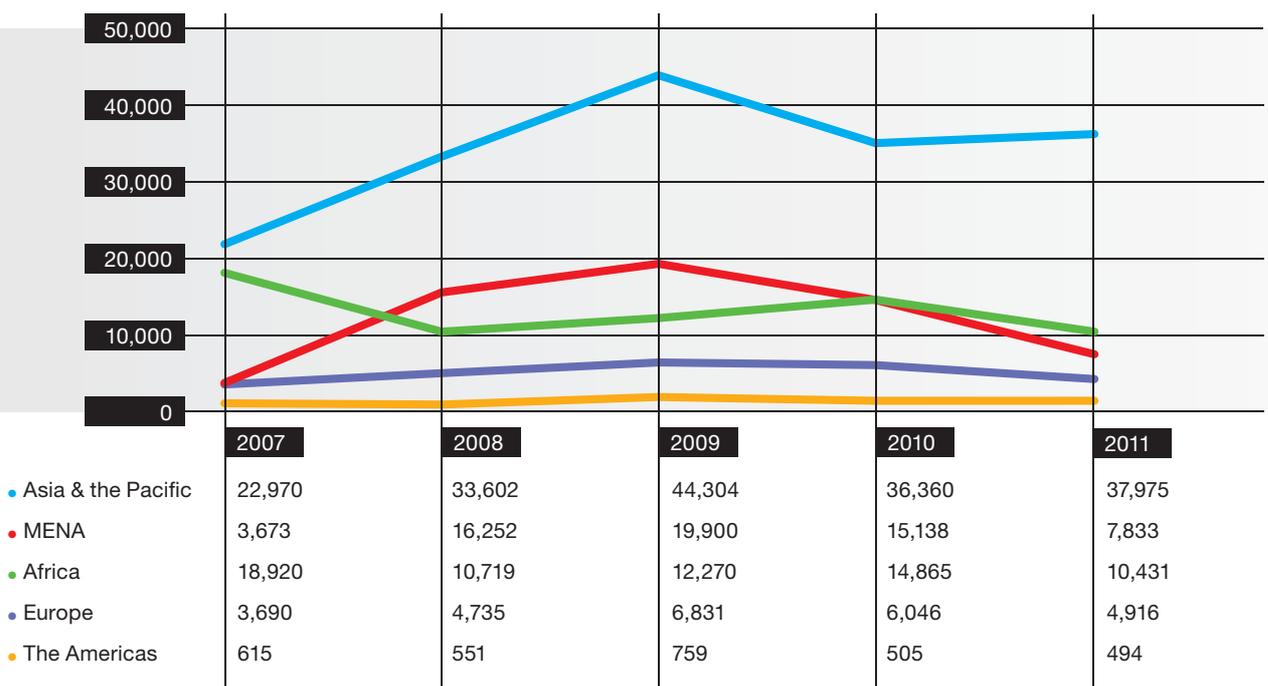
Departures by region of asylum	
Asia and the Pacific	37,975
Africa	10,431
MENA	7,833
Europe	4,916
The Americas	494
Total	61,649



Departures by region of origin	
Asia and the Pacific	40,091
MENA	12,163
Africa	8,838
The Americas	470
Europe	87
Total	61,649



UNHCR DEPARTURES BY REGION OF ASYLUM IN 2007-2011



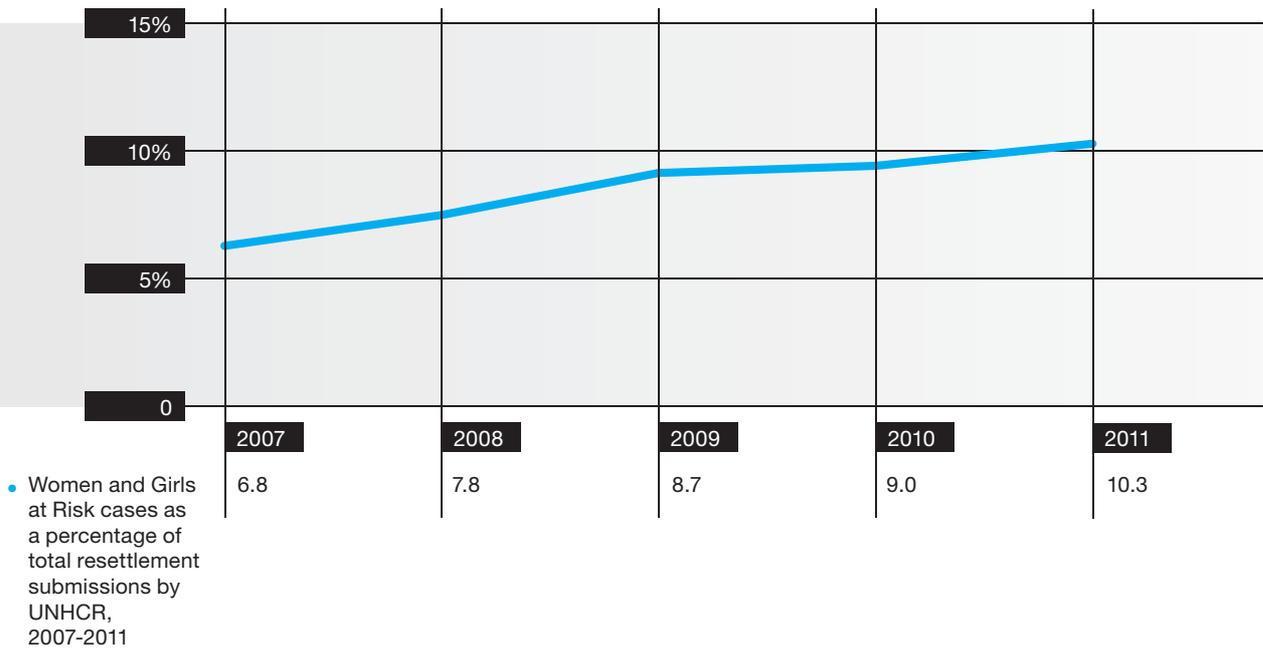
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT BY SUBMISSION CATEGORY* IN 2011

Submission Category	Submissions		
	(cases)	(persons)	
Legal and/or physical protection needs	15,355	36,736	46%
Lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions	7,149	24,149	21%
Survivors of violence and/or torture	6,088	17,857	18%
Women and girls at risk	3,463	8,465	10%
Medical needs	704	2,869	2%
Family reunification	371	915	1%
Older refugees	203	481	1%
Children and adolescents at risk	200	368	<1%
Unspecified	0	3	<1%
Grand Total	33,533	91,843	

Submission Category	Departures (persons)		
Lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions	24,094	39%	
Legal and/or physical protection needs	23,216	38%	
Survivors of violence and/or torture	6,492	11%	
Women and girls at risk	4,416	7%	
Medical needs	2,153	3%	
Family reunification	751	<1%	
Older refugees	312	<1%	
Children and adolescents at risk	192	<1%	
Unspecified	23	<1%	
Grand Total	61,649		

* The revised UNHCR Resettlement Handbook issued in July 2011 includes some basic resettlement terminology changes, including the change from Resettlement Criteria to Resettlement Submission Category. “Lack of local integration prospects” resettlement criterion is renamed as “Lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions” submission category. The resettlement criterion “Older refugees” will no longer be a separate submission category since specific vulnerabilities and protection needs of older refugees have been mainstreamed.

UNHCR RESETTLEMENT UNDER THE WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK SUBMISSION CATEGORY IN 2011



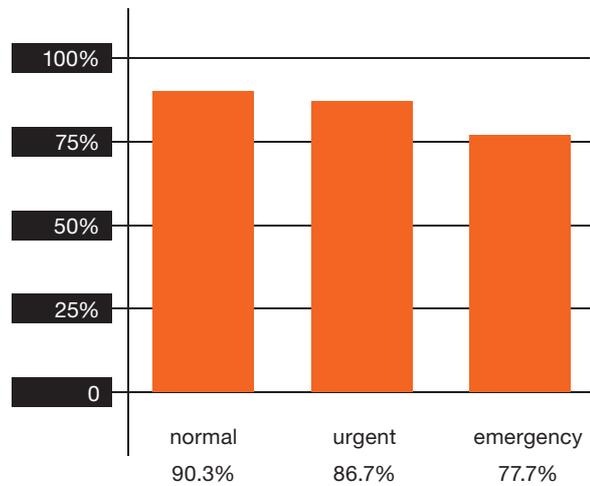
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT UNDER THE THE MEDICAL NEEDS SUBMISSION CATEGORY IN 2011

Top Ten: Submissions under the Medical Needs Category by country of origin		
Country of origin	cases	% cases
Somalia	161	22.9
Myanmar	133	18.9
Iraq	96	13.6
Bhutan	68	9.7
Islamic Rep. of Iran	57	8.1
DR of the Congo	52	7.4
Afghanistan	42	6.0
Sudan	22	3.1
Eritrea	20	2.8
Ethiopia	9	1.3
All others	44	6.3
Total	704	100.0

Top Ten: Submissions under the Medical Needs Category by country of asylum		
Country of asylum	cases	% cases
Turkey	150	21.3
Malaysia	110	15.6
Kenya	92	13.1
Nepal	69	9.8
Ethiopia	55	7.8
Thailand	28	4.0
Burundi	27	3.8
Egypt	26	3.7
Islamic Rep. of Iran	20	2.8
Uganda	15	2.1
All others	112	15.9
Total	704	100.0

Top Ten: Departures under the Medical Needs Category by country of resettlement		
Country of resettlement	persons	% persons
USA	1,541	71.6
Canada	197	9.2
Sweden	115	5.3
Australia	77	3.6
Norway	77	3.6
Denmark	59	2.7
Netherlands	39	1.8
Finland	33	1.5
New Zealand	8	0.4
Ireland	6	0.3
France	1	0.0
Total	2,153	100.0

Acceptance rates by resettlement countries of medical cases by priority of UNHCR submissions



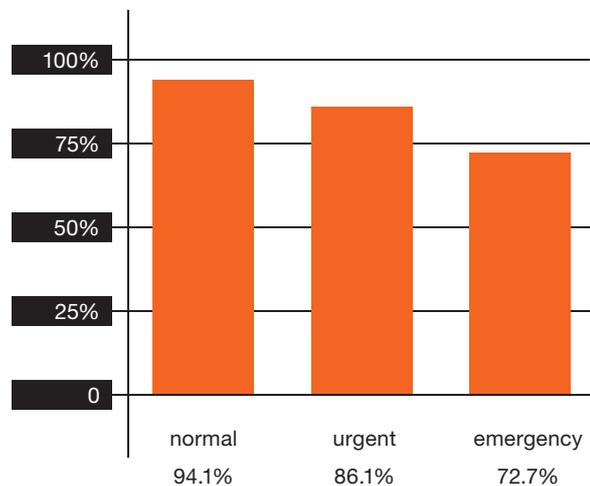
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT BY PRIORITY IN 2011

Priority	Submissions			Departures	
	cases	persons	% cases	persons	% persons
Normal	28,619	81,266	85.3	56,679	91.9
Urgent	4,653	9,825	13.9	4,568	7.4
Emergency	261	749	0.8	399	0.7
Unspecified		3		3	
Total	33,533	91,843	100.0	61,649	100.0

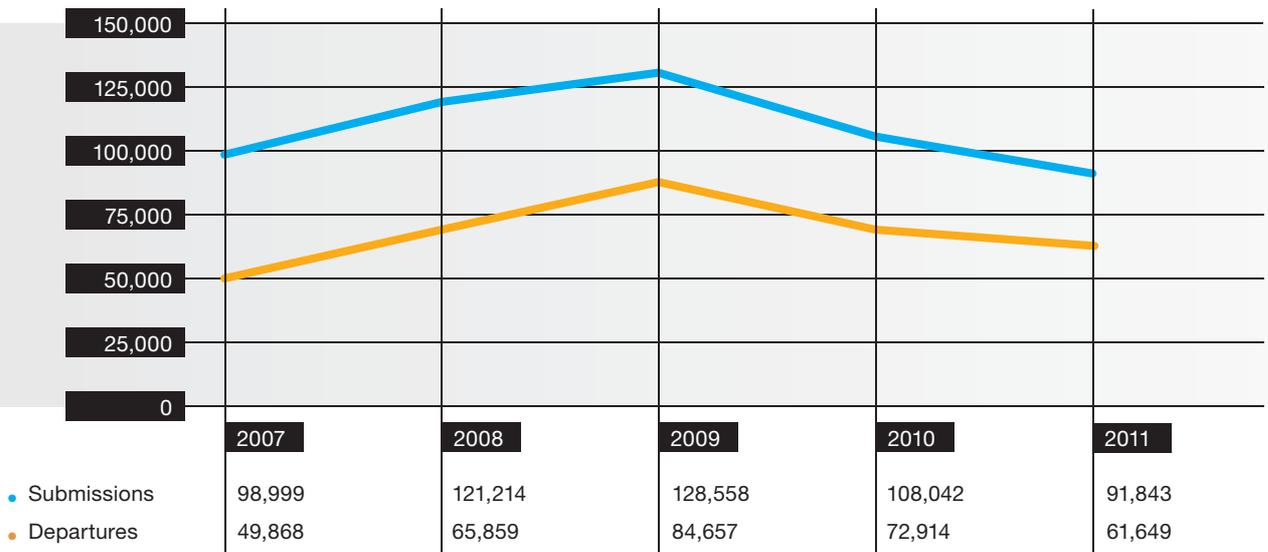
ACCEPTANCE RATES OF UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES IN 2011

Acceptance rates of UNHCR submissions by Resettlement Countries (by country of origin)		
Country of origin	submissions (persons)	% acceptance
Bhutan	13,092	99.5
Myanmar	21,290	98.4
Iraq	19,994	91.3
DR of the Congo	4,079	91.1
Eritrea	2,916	90.1
All Others	9,105	84.3
Somalia	15,719	84.1
Afghanistan	3,041	80.0
Ethiopia	2,607	79.1
Grand Total	91,843	93.3

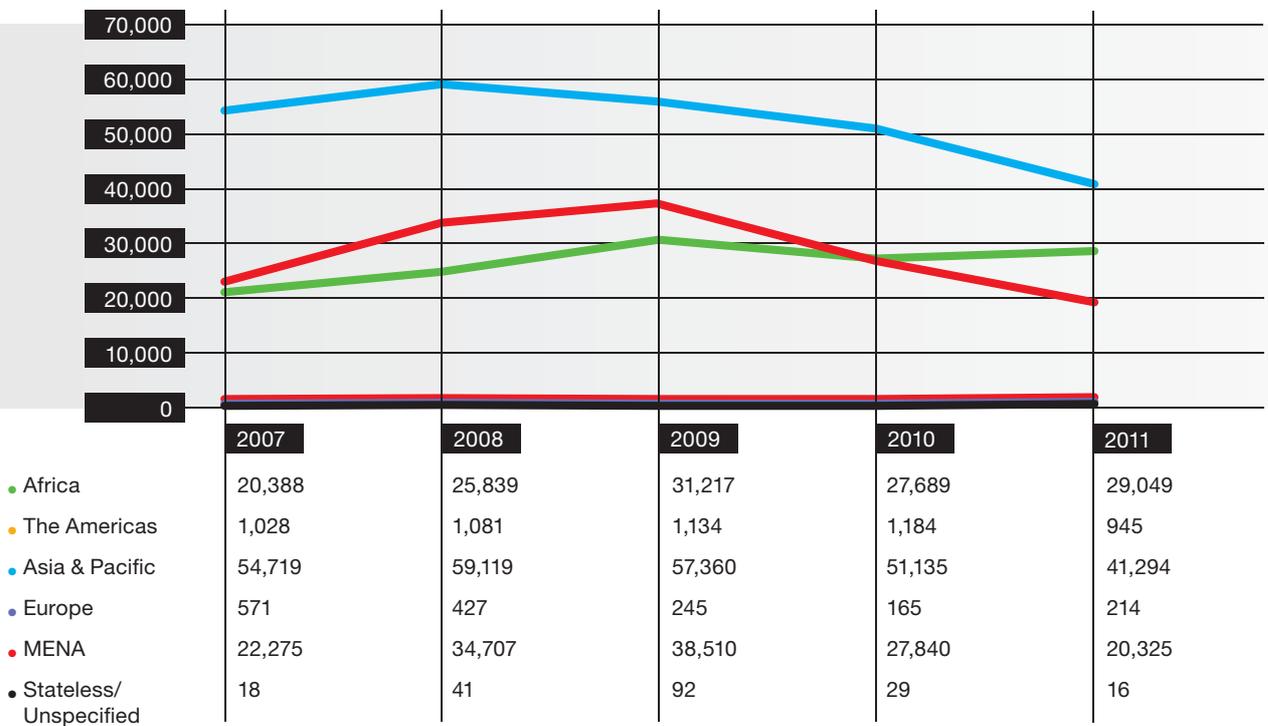
Acceptance rates of resettlement countries by UNHCR resettlement priority



UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS AND DEPARTURES 2007 - 2011



UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS BY REFUGEE'S REGION OF ORIGIN 2007 - 2011



UNHCR RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES 2007- 2011 (PERSONS)

Country of resettlement	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Countries with regular resettlement programmes					
Argentina	32	78	8	23	24
Australia	6,056	5,171	6,720	5,636	5,597
Brazil	163	19	30	28	23
Bulgaria (implementation as of 2013 onwards)					
Canada	5,998	5,663	6,582	6,706	6,827
Chile	32	45	66	6	22
Czech Republic	8	23	17	48	
Denmark	480	403	488	386	606
Finland	714	675	710	543	573
France	5	276	179	217	42
Hungary (implementation as of 2012 onwards)					
Iceland	30	29		6	
Ireland	107	89	194	20	36
Japan (pilot programme)					
				27	18
Netherlands	425	580	347	430	479
New Zealand	629	894	675	535	477
Norway	978	722	1,367	1,088	1,258
Paraguay				13	13
Portugal	12	5	26	24	28
Romania				38	
Spain	3	8			
Sweden	1,772	1,596	1,880	1,789	1,896
United Kingdom	348	697	969	695	424
United States of America	32,007	48,828	62,011	54,077	43,215
Uruguay			14	17	
Countries with special resettlement programmes / ad-hoc resettlement intake					
Austria	1				
Belgium	17	6	54	2	19
Germany	3		2,064	457	22
Greece		2			
Israel	1				
Italy	40	30	191	58	
Luxembourg			28		
Palau				3	
Republic of Korea		23	20	23	11
Switzerland	7	12	17	19	39
Grand Total	49,868	65,874	84,657	72,914	61,649



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