



UNHCR
PROJECTED
**GLOBAL
RESETTLEMENT
NEEDS**

2021



Front cover photo: Nasra, a 26-year-old mother and refugee from the Nuba Mountains in Sudan, and her one-year-old daughter Rejoice, attended the Graduation Ceremony at the Vocational Training Centre in Pamir refugee camp in Jamjang, Ruweng State, South Sudan. 13 December, 2019 © UNHCR/Martim Gray Pereira



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RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION
26th Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

TABLE OF CONTENTS

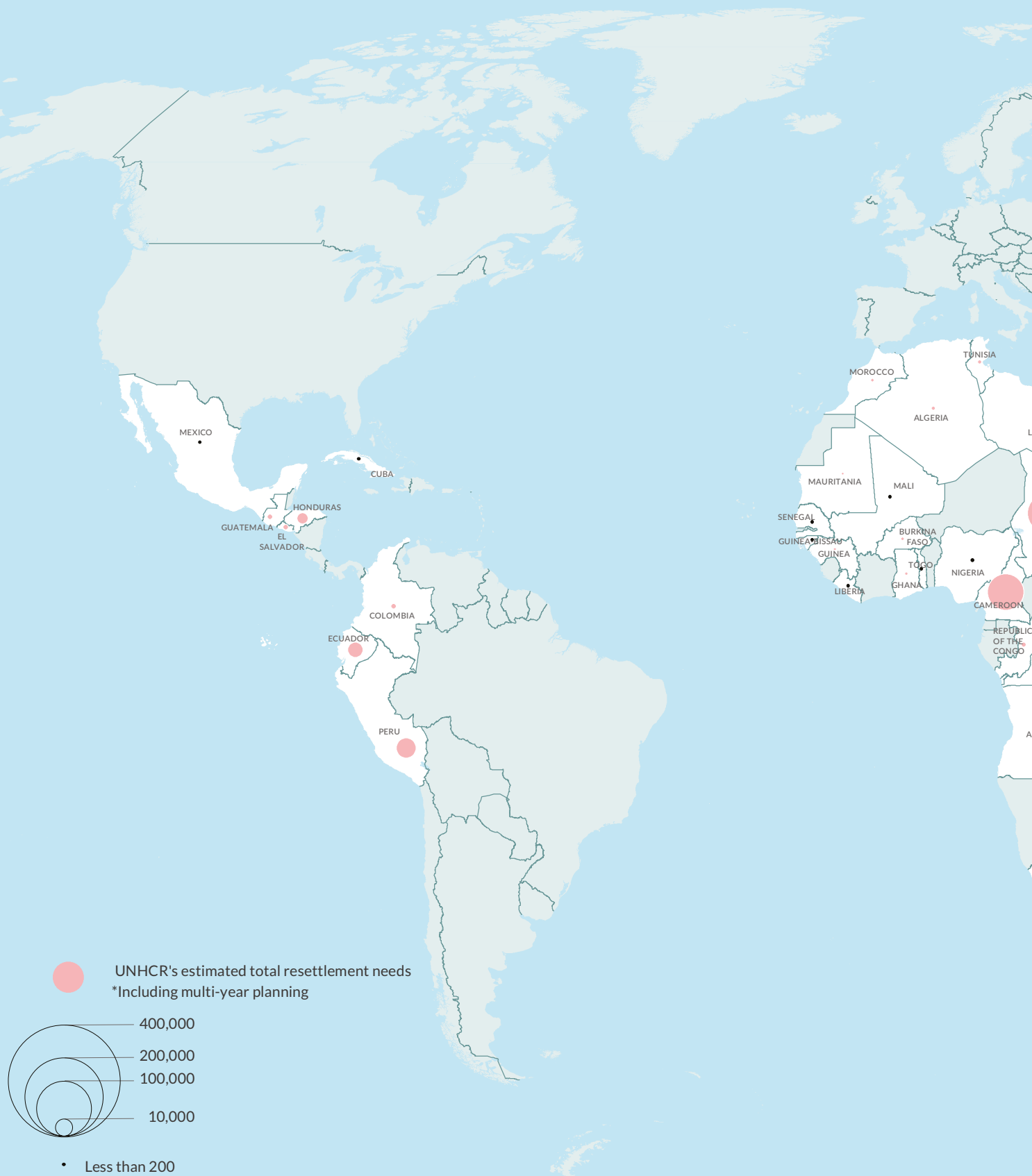
WORLD MAP: UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	4
WORLD MAP: UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	6
INTRODUCTION	8
PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2021	12
KEY PRIORITIES IN 2021	13
TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN 2019	16
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE-YEAR STRATEGY (2019-2021)	18
URGENT AND EMERGENCY RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING	22
AFRICA	26
MAP - AFRICA: UNHCR'S TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2021 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	28
AFRICA OVERVIEW	29
AFRICA: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS	35
AFRICA FIELD STORY: ETHIOPIA	36
AFRICA FIELD STORY: NIGER	38
AFRICA FIELD STORY: RWANDA	40
AFRICA FIELD STORY: ZAMBIA	42
THE AMERICAS	44
MAP - THE AMERICAS: UNHCR'S TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2021 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	46
THE AMERICAS OVERVIEW	47
THE AMERICAS: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS	53
MEDIA SPOTLIGHT: CANADA	54
MEDIA SPOTLIGHT: CANADA	57
THE AMERICAS FIELD STORY: MEXICO	60

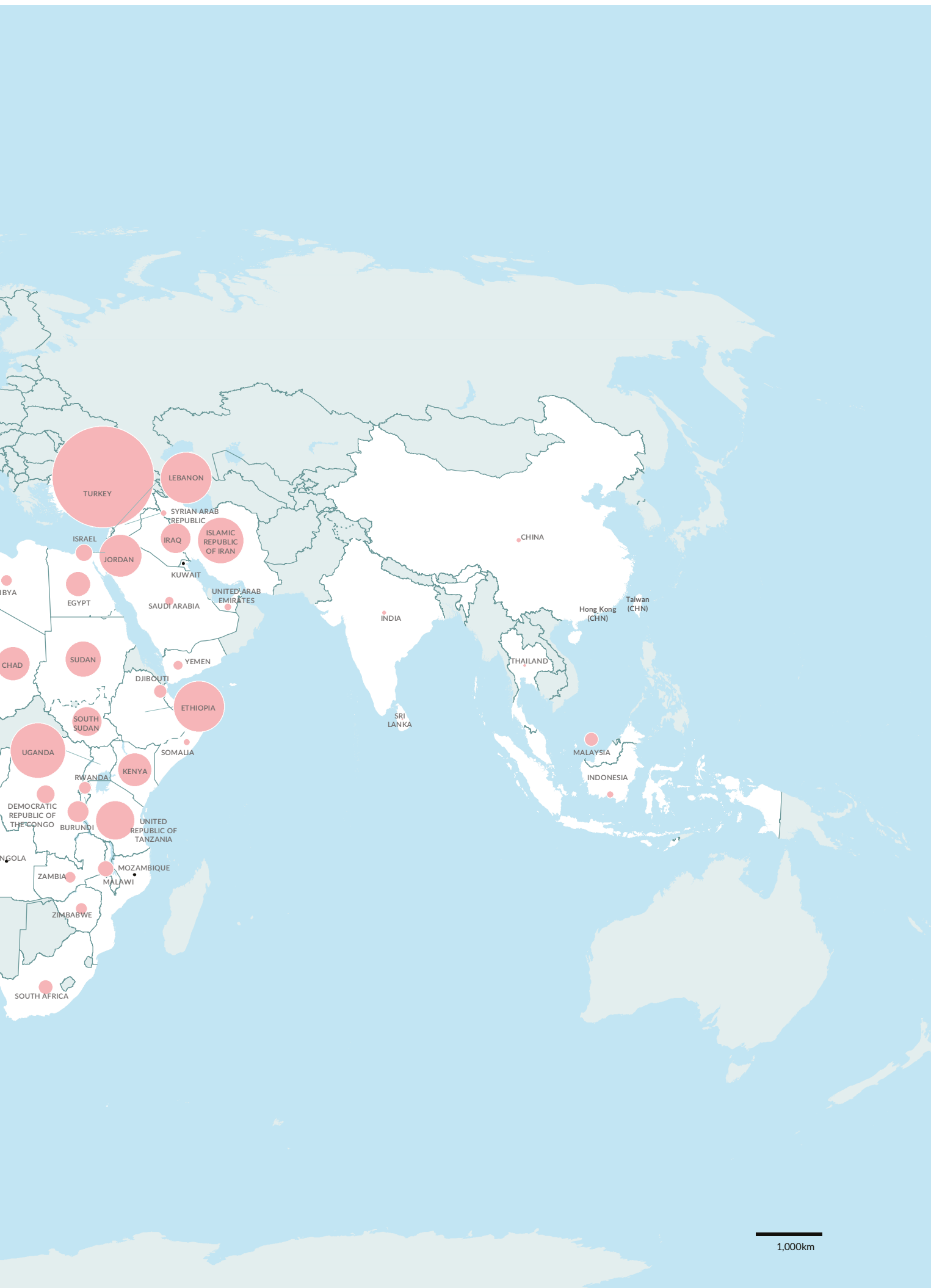
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	62
MAP - ASIA AND THE PACIFIC: UNHCR'S TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2021 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	64
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC OVERVIEW	66
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS	69
EUROPE	70
MAP - EUROPE: UNHCR'S TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2021 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	72
EUROPE OVERVIEW	74
EUROPE: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS	77
MEDIA SPOTLIGHT: GERMANY	78
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	80
MAP - MENA: UNHCR'S TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2021 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	82
MENA OVERVIEW	84
MENA: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS	87
MENA FIELD STORY: LEBANON	88
MENA FIELD STORY: LIBYA	92
ANNEX 1: STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGY	94
ANNEX 2: UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS 2021	96
ANNEX 3: UNHCR GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT STATISTICAL REPORT	114

WORLD

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2021 by country of asylum*

as of 15 Jun 2020

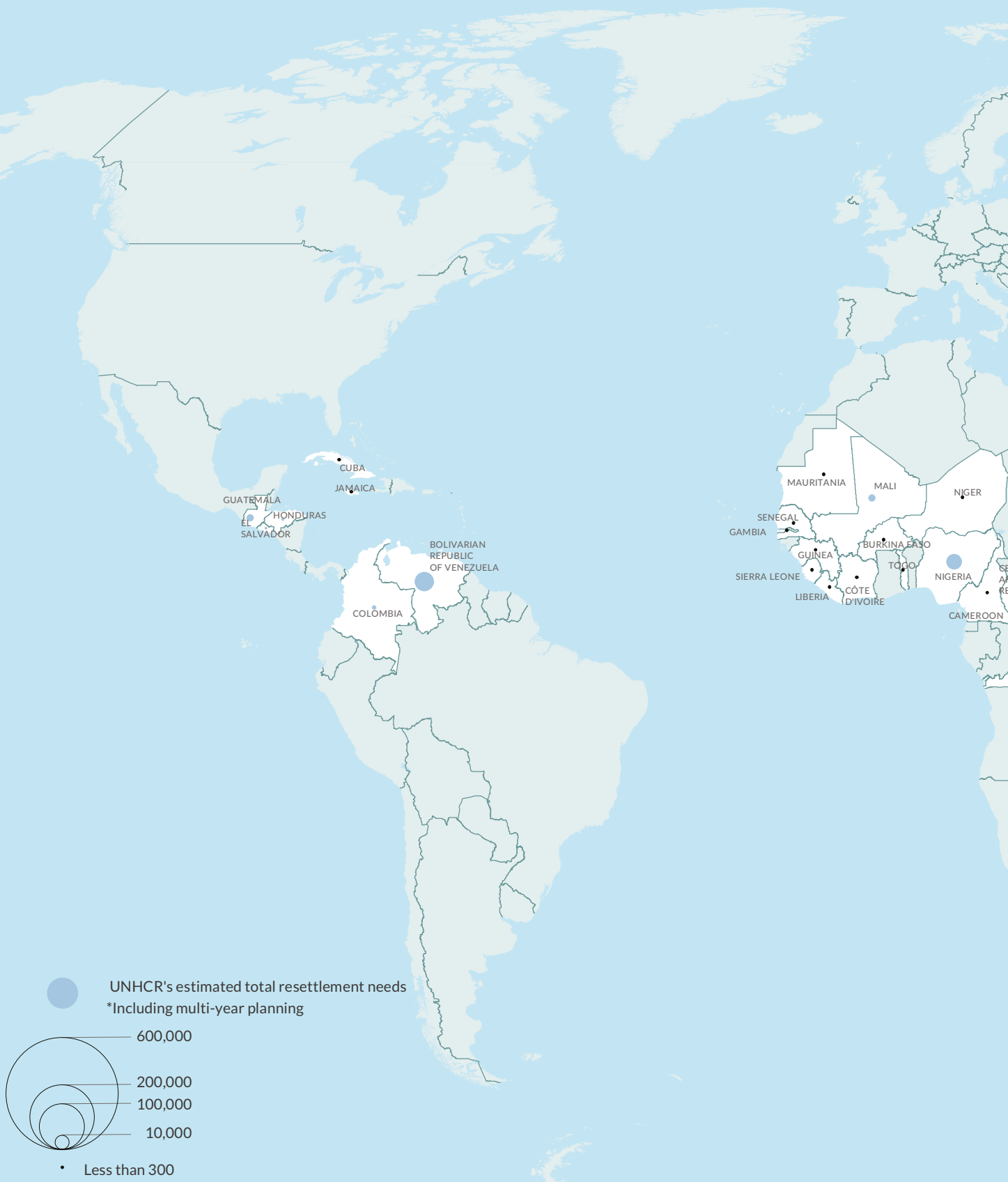


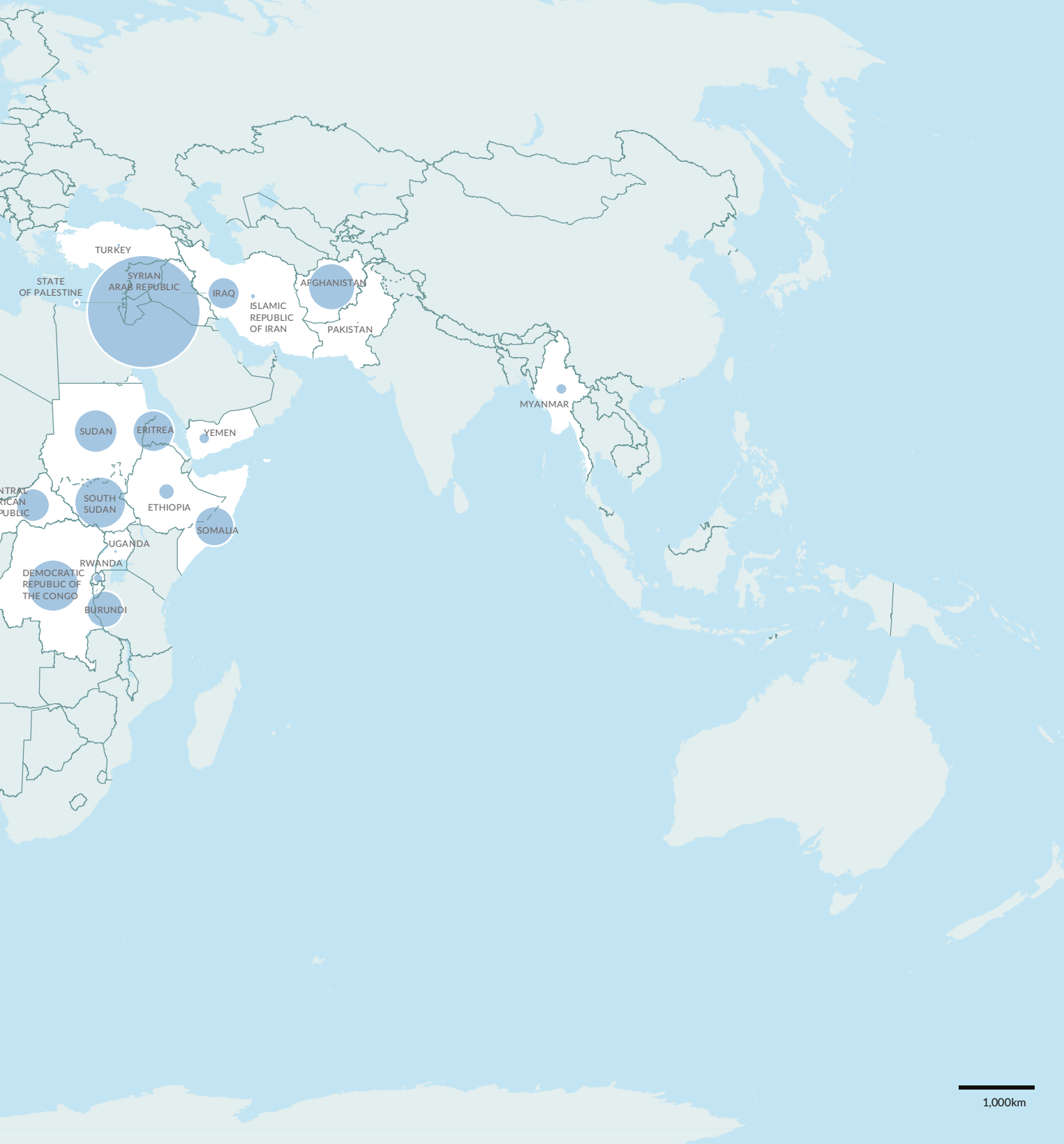


WORLD

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2021 by country of origin*

as of 15 Jun 2020






1,000km



INTRODUCTION



"I wanted nothing more than to be reunited with my family"
Forty-year-old Eritrean mother Winta holds her three-year-old son Mekseb's hand as she walks near Lake Geneva with her recently reunited older children, Ksanet, 16, and Ermias. 13 March 2019. © UNHCR/Mark Henley



Seventy years ago, the UN General Assembly mandated UNHCR with the task “of seeking permanent solutions for the problem of refugees.” In the intervening years, millions of refugees from every region of the world have found meaningful protection through resettlement. Last year, the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) marked 25 years of support to resettlement outcomes around the theme, “Celebrating the positive impact of resettlement and providing inspiration for the future.” This year, a virtual ATCR, adjusted to the necessities of the pandemic, is bringing together a community of stakeholders committed to maintaining and increasing resettlement and exploring the potential of complementary pathways. This whole-of-society approach called for by the Global Compact on Refugees requires not only an increasing diversity of actors in support of resettlement and complementary pathways but ensuring that refugees themselves are front and centre as active participants in achieving durable solutions.

In 2019, against a backdrop of continuing large-scale forced displacement, resettlement and complementary pathways remained important tools for protection and solutions for some of the world’s refugees most at risk and tangible demonstrations of solidarity and responsibility-sharing. During the year, UNHCR submitted a total of 81,671 refugees for resettlement consideration to 29 countries. Three-quarters of the refugees submitted originated from just five countries: Afghanistan, Eritrea, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria) and Somalia, all of which suffer from protracted conflict or insecurity.

Despite higher submissions in 2019, only 4.5 per cent of the global resettlement needs were met in 2019, meaning only a small fraction of those at risk found a safe and lasting solution to their plight. In the current global context, with ongoing conflict preventing refugees from safely returning home, overburdened asylum systems that limit possibilities of local integration, and the emergence of a global pandemic further impacting the precarious situation of many refugees, the need for increased resettlement opportunities is more urgent than ever.

With one of the four objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees to expand refugees’ access to third-country solutions as a means of achieving comprehensive refugee responses, in June 2019 UNHCR and stakeholders launched “*The Three-Year Strategy (2019-2021) on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways*” (hereinafter, the Three-Year Strategy). The vision of the Three-Year Strategy is to have three million refugees benefit from third country solutions through resettlement to 50 countries (one million) and complementary pathways (two million) by the end of 2028. While in 2019 over 63,000 refugees assisted by UNHCR were resettled to 29 countries, surpassing the target of 60,000 set in the Three-Year Strategy, owing to the COVID-19 situation it is unlikely that the 2020 target of resettling 70,000 refugees to 31 countries will be met.

The regional and country chapters of the 2021 Projected Global Resettlement Needs (PGRN) document contain more detailed information on the 1.445 million refugees identified in need of this key durable solution in the coming year. The total needs for 2021 are slightly higher than those of 2020 and continue to reflect both protracted and more recent refugee situations in more than 62 countries of asylum.



"We feel relieved. Despite the hardship, at least we are safe here. Even now in times of distress, when I look at Meera or play with her, I feel relieved and alive."

Lazgeen, a 25-year-old Syrian refugee, sits in his tent with his wife Maha and their baby Meera at Bardarash refugee camp in Duhok governorate, looking through their wedding album – one of the only things they were able to take when they were forced to flee their home in Qamishli. Lazgeen was also internally displaced twice inside Syria in 2013 and 2018. October 2019. © UNHCR/Firas Al-Khateeb

This Chapter first sets out estimated global resettlement needs and priorities for 2021 based on figures provided by UNHCR field offices around the world, followed by statistical updates for 2019, including resettlement submissions and departures figures, and an outline of the most important trends and developments. The Chapter then outlines the main elements of UNHCR's Three-Year Strategy, summarizing initiatives, partnerships and frameworks to support the delivery and expansion of the global resettlement programme in order to achieve the resettlement goals of the Three-Year Strategy.

In 2021, UNHCR estimates that global resettlement needs will slightly increase to 1,445,383 persons, as compared to 2020 when 1,440,408 were estimated to be in need of resettlement. This increase is reflected in all regions except for Africa. Despite an eight per cent decrease in the needs from last year, the Africa region remains the region with the highest projected resettlement needs, at nearly 617,000 for 2021.

For the fifth year in a row, at just over 592,000 individuals, Syrian refugees represent the population with the highest global resettlement needs. Syrian refugees account for 41 per cent of the total needs globally, up from 40 per cent in 2020. For 2021, refugees from DRC and South Sudan are estimated to have the second and third highest needs globally, with around nine per cent each. Refugees from Afghanistan, at seven per cent of the needs, and Sudanese refugees, with six per cent of the total global needs, round out the top five.

The projected resettlement needs out of the Africa region (616,958 refugees) cover more than 32 different countries of asylum and represent 43 per cent of the total global needs. These needs reflect numerous protracted refugee situations across the continent, such as that of the Congolese, Central Africans, Eritreans, Somalis and Sudanese; ongoing instability in countries such as Cameroon, Nigeria and South Sudan; and mixed migration flows across the Sahel Region.

Projected resettlement needs in the Americas region increased significantly for 2021 (by 489 per cent compared to 2020) and stand at 29,374 individuals. Venezuelan refugees represent 72 per cent of those needs, as the deteriorating human rights and socio economic situation in Venezuela have resulted in over five million people fleeing the country by the beginning of 2020, the vast majority of whom have fled to other countries in the Americas.

The projected resettlement needs for the Asia and the Pacific region have remained stable from 2020 to 2021 with a one per cent increase (99,470 in 2021 compared to 98,281 in 2020). Afghan refugees continue to make up the largest population group in need, with 82,000 in Iran alone.

For 2021, the resettlement needs in Europe again remain high, increasing by one per cent from the previous year (from 420,000 in 2020 to 423,600 in 2021). Syrian refugees represent over 90 per cent of the needs out of Turkey at 383,000 individuals, with refugees from Afghanistan and Iraq each making up four per cent of the needs. The majority of refugees in Turkey find themselves in protracted situations.

An eleven per cent increase in resettlement needs is estimated in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region for 2021 (from 249,705 in 2020 to 275,981 in 2021). Three-quarters of the needs are for Syrian refugees (209,085), followed by Iraqi (23,625), Eritrean (14,550), and Sudanese refugees (10,815).

PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2021

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	cases	persons
Africa	166,592	616,958
Asia & the Pacific	29,034	99,470
Europe	107,500	423,600
MENA	84,564	275,981
The Americas	15,597	29,374
Grand Total	403,287	1,445,383

**including multi-year planning*

KEY PRIORITIES IN 2021

With global resettlement needs further increasing to a record of 1.445 million refugees in 2021, far exceeding the limited availability of existing opportunities for refugees in dire need of this solution, UNHCR will focus on refugee populations who are at heightened protection risk in the countries of asylum. In addition, the strategic use of resettlement within the context of a broader commitment to refugee support should continue to be the shared pursuit of the international community.

In September 2019, the Priority Situations Core Group (PSCG) – co-chaired by the Governments of Ireland and Sweden, with support from UNHCR – held its inaugural meeting in Brussels, replacing the former Syrian Core Group and the Central Mediterranean Core Group. Its overall purpose is to help optimise, coordinate, promote, and ensure support for resettlement and complementary pathways for admission of refugees. In particular, the PSCG seeks to maximize the strategic impact of resettlement. Until now the focus has been on two of the three priority situations identified by UNHCR: the Central Mediterranean Situation (15 host countries in North, West and East and the Horn of Africa) and resettlement out of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey in the context of the ongoing Syria situation. The third priority, the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) roll-out countries currently falls outside the scope of its work.

Central Mediterranean Priority Situation

Thousands of refugees and migrants continue to risk their lives at the hands of traffickers and smugglers on dangerous journeys from sub-Saharan Africa to North Africa. They face grave threats to their safety. Many are travelling in the hope of reaching Europe through the increasingly perilous journey across the



Young Somali refugee couple, Abdulbasit and Zainab, sit with their two-month-old daughter Hadia on their first day at the Gashora Emergency Transit Centre in Rwanda following their evacuation from Libya. September 2019. © UNHCR/Tobin Jones

Mediterranean – and women, men, and children undertaking such movements are exposed to heightened protection risks, including human trafficking, sexual violence, forced labour, slavery and other forms of exploitation, arbitrary detention, torture, and extrajudicial killings.

UNHCR continues to advocate for increased access to resettlement and complementary pathways in the 15 countries along the Central and Western Mediterranean routes to ensure a comprehensive regional protection response, reduce onward movements and avoid the creation of pull factors towards Libya and Niger.

It is estimated that approximately 349,710 individuals are in need of resettlement in countries along the Central Mediterranean route in 2021, which includes 15 countries of asylum (West Africa: Chad, Cameroon, Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali; East and Horn of Africa: Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya and Djibouti; North Africa: Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria). These needs are almost eight per cent higher than the needs projected for 2020 (324,754) for these countries



Burundian refugee and trainee artisan, Elijah Mpawenimana (right), and his trainer, Kenyan artisan John Chege, polish and refine brass jewellery at the Bawa Hope workshop in Nairobi, Kenya. November 2019. © UNHCR/Will Swanson

of asylum and represent 24 per cent of the total projected global resettlement needs for 2021. Within this priority, Eritrean and Somali refugees have the highest projected needs at approximately 19 per cent each. South Sudan (16 per cent), Sudan (14 per cent), and the Central African Republic (12 per cent) round out the top five populations in need of resettlement under this priority.

Resettlement out of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey

The situation in Syria continues to drive the largest refugee crisis in the world. Globally, Syria remains the main country of origin of refugees, making up a quarter of all refugees in the world. Syrians have found asylum in 127 countries, but the vast majority fled to the neighbouring countries – Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt. These countries and communities have generously hosted refugees, and in the process, made an invaluable contribution to regional and international stability. This has come at an unprecedented cost, however, exacerbating pre-existing vulnerabilities, overstressing basic social services, and reversing years of hard-won development gains. Today, several host country governments continue to confront heightened economic and financial challenges, whilst undertaking difficult reforms.

With more than 669,000 refugees estimated to be in need of resettlement in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon, representing 46 per cent of the global needs, resettlement and complementary pathways remain key interventions providing an effective solution to refugees who face vulnerabilities in the countries of asylum, demonstrating responsibility-sharing while playing a part in preserving protection space in host countries.

CRRF roll-out countries

The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), which was designed to ease pressures on countries hosting large numbers of refugees, enhance refugee self-reliance, expand access to third-country solutions, and support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity, has led to major commitments by host countries. Lessons drawn from the application of the CRRF informed the Global Compact on Refugees, which was affirmed by States at the end of 2018. One of the central arrangements of the Compact was the convening of the first Global Refugee Forum in December 2019, where governments, NGOs, civil society and the private sector made 110 pledges in support of resettlement and complementary pathways. Since resettlement is one of the key tangible mechanisms to show international solidarity and responsibility-sharing with States hosting large numbers of refugees, supporting resettlement of refugee populations in the CRRF roll-out countries must continue to be a top priority for UNHCR.

There are 15 CRRF roll-out countries across three geographic regions: Africa (Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia), the Americas (Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama), and Asia (Afghanistan). Amongst these 15 countries, more than 353,000 refugees are estimated to be in need of resettlement in 2021, representing 24.4 per cent of the global needs. The third largest refugee population in need of resettlement globally, the South Sudanese, make up approximately 31 per cent of the needs under this priority, followed by refugees from Somalia (19 per cent), the DRC (19 per cent), Sudan (12 per cent) and Eritrea (seven per cent).

TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN 2019

In 2019, an estimated 1.44 million persons were projected to be in need of resettlement. Against this need, UNHCR submitted 81,671 persons for resettlement to 29 resettlement States. This was a slight increase compared to submissions in 2018 (81,337), although still nearly 50 per cent less than submissions at their peak in 2016 (162,600).

Globally, 81 UNHCR operations submitted resettlement cases to 29 resettlement States, with a global acceptance rate of over 90 per cent. Submissions from the Americas, Europe and MENA saw increases, while submissions from Africa and Asia decreased compared to 2018. UNHCR offices in Africa submitted approximately 40 per cent of the global total, with 32,387 submissions, followed by UNHCR's offices in MENA with 29 per cent (23,964), and Europe with around 22 per cent (17,572). The Asia and the Pacific region provided seven per cent of global submissions (5,719), and the Americas region submitted 2,029 persons.

Syrians again made up the largest group by refugee population submitted for resettlement, with 29,660 submissions. This represents a five per cent increase from 2018 submissions (28,189). Refugees from the DRC were the second highest group by population, with 18,997 submissions. This was a 13 per cent decrease from 2018 (21,807 submissions). Afghans (5,892), Somalis (4,393), and Eritreans (3,147) rounded out the top five groups submitted in 2019.

Almost 50 per cent of cases were submitted to the USA and Canada in 2019 (39,461). The third highest number of submissions were to Germany with 9,640, which represents a 125 per cent increase from the previous years. Also in the top five countries receiving submissions in 2019 were Australia (7,048) and Sweden (5,408), with increases of 67 per cent and 9 per cent respectively compared to 2018.

Global departures grew in 2019, with 63,726 refugees departing for resettlement. This represents a 14 per cent increase compared to 2018; however, this is still below the number of departures in 2017. The USA remains the country with the highest number of arrivals with 21,159 persons arriving in 2019, an almost 24 per cent increase from 2018. Canada received 9,031 arrivals, a 17 per cent increase from 2018, followed by the United Kingdom with 5,774 arrivals (just over a one per cent increase from the previous year). Rounding out the top five were Sweden (4,993) and Germany (4,622), both increasing their arrivals by three and 44 per cent respectively.

UNHCR continued to advocate for resettlement programmes that focus on refugees with strong protection needs, in line with the resettlement submission categories.

More than sixty per cent of all cases submitted in 2019 fell under the Legal and Physical Protection Needs or Survivors of Violence and/or Torture categories (31 per cent for each). This was followed by Women and Girls at Risk (14 per cent), Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (12 per cent), Children and Adolescents at Risk (eight per cent) and Medical Needs (three per cent).

In terms of urgency of resettlement cases, almost three per cent (561 cases)

were deemed an “emergency priority”, requiring evacuation in 72 hours, often with support from States hosting emergency transit facilities. This is 15 per cent increase from 2018. About 16 per cent (3,428 cases) were considered “urgent priority” needing removal within weeks (slightly less than the previous year).

In 2019, Emergency Transit Facilities (ETFs) continued to be utilized as a protection tool for refugees who were in need of resettlement on an urgent basis, as well as an alternative site for case processing of refugee populations not accessible to resettlement states. During the last year, 260 refugees departed for resettlement from the ETFs in the Philippines and Romania.

Lifesaving mechanisms for evacuation, resettlement and other solutions were expanded through the establishment of a second Emergency Transfer Mechanism (ETM) facility in Rwanda on 10 September 2019. A total of 1,246 individuals evacuated out of Libya were processed and resettled through the ETM in Niger,



Bahati, visits one of the agricultural farms she manages with members of her support group in Kyangwali Refugee settlement, in mid-western Uganda. She was once a broken woman but has now emerged as a successful entrepreneur and an inspiration for fellow refugees. November 2019. © UNHCR/Duniya Aslam Khan

while the first group of seven evacuees departed on resettlement through the ETM in Rwanda. In Central America, the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA) continued providing people at serious risk with safe and legal access to a resettlement country. A total of 1,023 individuals were processed from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, out of which 716 departed to 5 resettlement countries.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE-YEAR STRATEGY (2019-2021) ON RESETTLEMENT AND COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS

The strategic direction of the Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Service is guided by *The Three-Year Strategy (2019-2021) on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways*, mandated by the Global Compact on Refugees and launched in June 2019. The three main goals of the Three-Year Strategy are to grow resettlement, advance complementary pathways and build the foundation through the promotion of welcoming and inclusive societies. To achieve these goals, it is necessary to widen the base of actors engaged in resettlement and complementary pathways, expand the scope and size of the programmes and enhance their protection impact and quality.

The Three-Year Strategy is not only a roadmap for expansion of resettlement and complementary pathways in the short-term, but also a blueprint for the future of third country solutions. The Global Action Plan, whose first iteration was issued in May 2020, defines priorities and sequencing of steps for the initial implementation of the Three-Year Strategy, up to 2021, and seeks to catalyse partnerships with flexible leadership roles that leverage expertise, networks and resources. The Global Action Plan is a living document, subject to regular consultation with partners and revision in response to relevant developments, in order to maximise the potential of the Three-Year Strategy over time.

In pursuit of the vision of the Three-Year Strategy, the following areas of priorities are being pursued to support the delivery and expansion of the global resettlement programme:

Capacity building to grow resettlement and advance complementary pathways

In January 2020, UNHCR and IOM launched the Sustainable Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Initiative (CRISP) 2020-2022, a crucial tool for the implementation of the Three-Year Strategy. The CRISP is directly aligned to the Three-Year Strategy and is intended to provide a tangible way for States to support the expansion of third country solutions to make concrete contributions and pledges towards the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR).

The CRISP draws and builds on lessons from past experiences and initiatives, such as the Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism (ERCM) implemented between 2016-2019. The ERCM succeeded in expanding the overall resettlement base in the Southern Cone (Argentina, Brazil and Chile). Argentina and Brazil are already engaged under the CRISP.

The overall objective of the CRISP is to support States and key stakeholders to establish, expand or renew resettlement programmes and advance complementary pathways through specific and focused capacity building activities, directed in a strategic and coordinated manner, in partnership with

relevant actors at the local, national, regional and global levels.

In order to achieve these objectives, the CRISP has embarked on a number of key activities:

- **global mapping** - In order to identify and maximise existing opportunities globally to grow resettlement and advance complementary pathways, UNHCR determined that a systemized and in-depth analysis was required to identify opportunities as well as potential gaps/challenges. This research will be carried out throughout 2020 and analyse, assess and map actual and potential opportunities to expand resettlement as well advance complementary pathways, per pathway. The results of this mapping will inform areas of intervention for the CRISP going forwards;
- **website launch** - In May 2020, the CRISP website (resettle.org) was launched at the 2020 ATCR. The website is intended for stakeholders involved in supporting expansion of resettlement and/or complementary pathways programmes;
- **training package** - A training package on resettlement and complementary pathways is being developed with partners such as the International Rescue Committee (IRC). This training package covers the entire programme continuum including integration. Each training will be tailored and targeted based on the country context and the existing needs and capacity gaps; and
- **update of UNHCR's Integration Handbook** - Under the CRISP, the 2002 Integration Handbook will be updated and launched online. The content is currently being updated with the support of over 10 NGOs and other actors globally.

Integrity

UNHCR's Policy on Addressing Fraud Committed by Persons of Concern, launched in 2017, highlights the High Commissioner's commitment to maintaining high standards of integrity in protection processes overall, including in resettlement procedures, and increasing UNHCR's capacity to prevent, detect and address fraud by persons of concern.

The Integrity Unit, grounded in the Director's Office in the Division of International Protection, leads the provision of support to field operations in reducing vulnerabilities to fraud committed in protection processes through technical advice and support to operations on oversight and fraud prevention, identification, and response. In close cooperation with the Resettlement & Complementary Pathways Service, the Unit likewise supports operations in strengthening the integrity of resettlement activities.

Throughout 2019, the Integrity Unit continued to support the operationalization of the 2017 Policy globally, including through the ongoing roll-out of the Learning Programme on Addressing Fraud Committed by Persons of Concern. Focusing on the capacity building of Anti-Fraud Focal Points delegated by Representatives in respective operations, the Programme increased policy compliance in the



“We should have the right to be who we are, to be free and to be safe,” says Pedro Fuentes, 25 and a transgender man forced to escape El Salvador. In Guatemala he fell in love with Lucia Solorzano*, 25 and a transgender woman he met before a Pride parade two years ago. “For us it was like love at first sight.” Pedro was forced to leave home when criminal gang members threatened to kill him if he did not agree to sell narcotics for them. “They believed that because I am a transgender person, I was someone that could pass unnoticed by the police.” (*names have been changed). April 2019. © UNHCR/Pablo Villagran*

Americas, West Africa, and the East and Horn of Africa, with over 100 Anti-Fraud Focal Points certified and producing anti-fraud action plans for their respective operations prior to the end of the reporting period. It is envisaged that the roll-out of the Learning Programme will be finalised in 2020, with the outstanding cohorts in Asia and Europe. Technical support and capacity building were likewise provided to a number of operations in the context of the global *proGres* V4 roll-out; tools and trainings were delivered on the specific use of the 4 Fraud Module, with a view of strengthening the recording and reporting of fraud allegations.

Finally, in the course of 2019, the Unit led multifunctional technical support missions to Turkey, Iran, Indonesia, Uganda, and Zambia, assessing the integrity of protection systems on the ground, and recommending measures for strengthening case processing, oversight, and integrity of protection activities overall.


Partnership and coordination

The Three-Year Strategy leads to more refugees being admitted to third countries through resettlement and complementary pathways programs with higher quality of reception and integration, as a tangible sign of global solidarity in finding solutions for refugees. Multi-stakeholder approaches and partnerships engaging both traditional and non-traditional stakeholders through a whole-of-society approach are at the core of this vision, and the implementation of the Three-Year Strategy relies on the collective efforts of States and other stakeholders, including the private sector, employers, civil society, the education sector, and sub-national levels of government.

Throughout 2019, UNHCR has continued to engage in a number of strategic partnerships that aim at expanding resettlement opportunities for refugees. For example, UNHCR has continued to be actively involved in the Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative (GRSI), together with the Government of Canada, the Open Society Foundation, the University of Ottawa and the Radcliffe Foundation, to promote and support the establishment and growth of community-based sponsorship programmes, to increase the reception and integration capacity of states and communities to receive refugees admitted through resettlement. UNHCR has similarly continued to engage with a number of partners to expand access to complementary pathways as third country solutions, additional to resettlement.

The Three-Year Strategy also seeks to advance other third country solutions that are complementary and additional to refugee resettlement, including humanitarian admission programmes, family reunification, employment and education pathways. However, it is imperative to emphasize that such programmes are based on a different identification methodology and are not to be conflated with resettlement. While complementary pathways programmes offer opportunities for those qualified to undertake them based on their education, background or work experience, to date resettlement continues to be the main and, often times, the only durable solution offering protection to those refugees, most at risk and or suffering from extreme vulnerabilities.

UNHCR continues to collaborate with NGO partners to enhance the capacity of quality resettlement referral from field offices by deployments under the Global Resettlement Deployment Scheme. These deployments provide critical support to resettlement operations around the globe. In 2019, UNHCR's three Resettlement Deployment Partners (the International Catholic Migration Commission, the Danish Refugee Council, and RefugePoint) provided more than 1,500 deployment months (or around 125 deployees) to 31 different country operations, supporting UNHCR's resettlement activities.



URGENT AND EMERGENCY RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING

Nine-year-old Somali refugee, Sara, waits for the bus to take her home from the early intervention centre in Kharaz refugee camp in Lahj, Yemen. Sara has been diagnosed with developmental delays that impact her ability to learn. The centre, run by UNHCR partner Intersos, offers a safe environment to develop basic skills like identifying numbers and colours, reading and writing, and speech therapy, until she can integrate into the formal education system. February 2020. © UNHCR/Marie-Joëlle Jean-Charles

DOSSIER CASE SUBMISSIONS

The Processing Unit of the Resettlement and Complimentary Pathways Service (RCPS) at UNHCR Headquarters (HQ) in Geneva processes the submission of mainly urgent and emergency cases on a dossier basis, which are received from UNHCR offices in Eastern and South Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America. In addition, the Processing Unit submits particularly sensitive cases on behalf of the Regional Bureaus, following consultations on the cases. The allocation of the unallocated dossier quotas is also managed by the Processing Unit, which ensures the fair distribution and monitoring of these unallocated places between HQ and four Regional Bureaus, namely: the Regional Bureau for the Middle East and North Africa in Amman (RB MENA), the Regional Bureau for East and Horn of Africa & Great Lakes in Nairobi (RB EHAGL), the Regional Bureau for Southern Africa in Pretoria (RBSA) and the Regional Bureau for West and Central Africa in Dakar (RBWCA). These four Regional Bureaus make submissions directly to resettlement countries for cases from their respective regions.

Throughout 2019, dossier submissions continued to be an essential component of the global resettlement programme, particularly in countries with no allocated quotas, where selection missions could not take place due to security conditions or lack of access to refugees in remote locations. This is highlighted for the region covered by the Dakar office, where only three out of the 21 countries in the region (i.e. Cameroon, Chad, Niger) had allocated quotas, while the 18 other

countries relied wholly on the unallocated dossier quota. The unallocated dossier quota served as a lifesaving protection tool for refugees at risk of deportation/*refoulement*, those with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), women and girls at risk, survivors of violence or torture, unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and those with serious medical conditions. In certain regions, the unallocated dossier quota is particularly important in countries in conflict (e.g. Yemen) and is also critical in helping to address the urgent needs of refugees who were survivors of smuggling or trafficking, including UASC. The use of the unallocated emergency quotas similarly allowed UNHCR to intervene within very short timeframes to prevent refugees stranded at international airports from being subjected to *refoulement*.

Dossier processing also acted as a life-saving measure for refugees with serious medical conditions. Medical treatment continues to be very limited and highly costly in many countries where UNHCR operates. Most refugees with life-threatening health conditions have minimal or no access to basic health care and are often living in protracted poverty and insecurity, primarily in camp contexts, while at the same time trying to cope with the consequences of violence and trauma. For a significant number of these refugees and their families, expedited resettlement on a dossier basis prevented further deterioration of their medical condition and provided them with life-saving treatment in the resettlement country. Dossier processing can also offer a rapid protection response to refugee women and girls subjected to or at risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), including exploitation, forced marriage, domestic violence and harmful traditional practices. Resettlement on a dossier basis through the use of unallocated quotas continues to remain a very powerful protection tool.

OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL DOSSIER SUBMISSIONS IN 2019

During 2019, UNHCR submitted a total of 598 cases on a dossier basis under the unallocated quotas, benefiting a total of 1,518 refugees. Out of this total, the Processing Unit in HQ made 172 submissions on behalf of 344¹ refugees, while 426 cases comprising 830 refugees were submitted through the four regional offices: 218 cases/474 refugees were submitted by RB MENA, 108 cases/377 refugees were submitted by RB EHAGL, 48 cases/177 refugees were submitted by RBSA and 52 cases/146 refugees by RBWCA.

Of this total number of submissions, 57 per cent of the cases submitted were under Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs, which represents an increase compared to 2018, when 38 per cent of the dossier cases were submitted under this category. In addition, 17 per cent of the dossier cases were submitted under Medical Needs, and 11 per cent of the submissions were made under the Women and Girls at Risk category, which was slightly lower than in 2018 (16 per cent).

A total of 43 per cent of cases submitted were of urgent priority, with the same proportion (i.e. 43 per cent) under emergency priority, leaving the remaining 14 per cent under normal priority.

Submissions on a dossier basis were made from 77 countries of asylum. The

¹ Of which 149 cases/311 persons were new submissions.

highest number of dossier submissions made by the Regional Bureaus were for refugees who had fled to Lebanon, Ethiopia and Kenya. Refugees originating from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Syria represented the largest proportion of refugees benefiting from processing on a dossier basis.

In total, submissions on a dossier basis were made to eight resettlement countries: Australia, Canada, Finland, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden. Dossier submissions to France, the Netherlands, and to a lesser extent Sweden, included some cases under normal priority.

OVERVIEW OF DOSSIER SUBMISSIONS MADE THROUGH THE PROCESSING UNIT AT HEADQUARTERS

In 2019, the Processing Unit in Geneva submitted cases from 33 different countries of asylum on behalf of refugees from 34 different countries of origin. The highest numbers of submissions on a dossier basis were for refugees who had fled to India, Cuba, Mexico, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. Refugees originating from Afghanistan, Somalia and Pakistan represented some of the largest groups of refugees who benefitted from processing through the office in Geneva.

During 2019, more than 74 per cent of the cases submitted by the Processing Unit were under the Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs category. The second largest primary resettlement category for dossier case submissions was Woman and Girls at Risk, which stood at 10 per cent, followed by the Survivor of Violence and Torture category which totaled 6 per cent.

Submissions with Medical Needs as the primary resettlement category represented only 6 per cent of the resettlement referrals made by the Processing Unit on a dossier basis. This low figure was due to limited places for submission. The need for medical places remains high in many operations.

The combined acceptance rate for submissions made by all offices, including the Processing Unit, on a dossier basis remained at approximately 60 per cent, as was the case in 2018. However, this figure is an estimate given it does not include those cases submitted in 2019 for which a decision has not yet been received. The Processing Unit will continue to work on improving acceptance rates with relevant colleagues in UNHCR offices and resettlement countries.

Twenty-year-old Somali refugee Anwar holds her baby at the Gashora Emergency Transit Mechanism centre in Rwanda.*

November 2019 © UNHCR/Eugene Sibomana

**Name changed for protection reasons.*







AFRICA

EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA + GREAT LAKES

Burundi
Djibouti
Ethiopia
Kenya
Rwanda
Somalia
South Sudan
Sudan
Uganda
United Republic of Tanzania

WEST + CENTRAL AFRICA

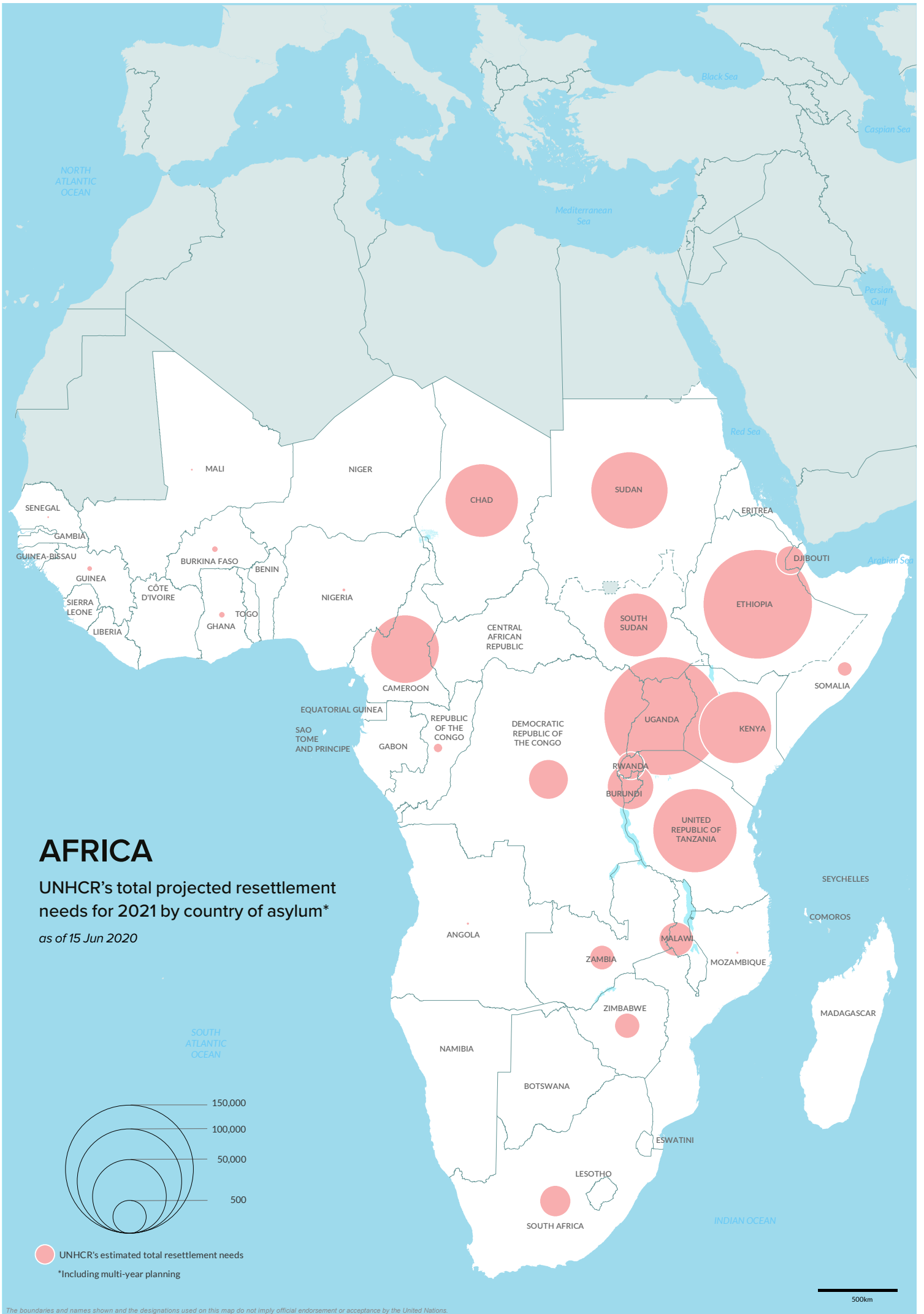
Burkina Faso
Cameroon
Chad
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Liberia
Mali
Niger
Nigeria
Senegal
Togo

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Angola
Malawi
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Republic of the Congo
Mozambique
South Africa Multi-Country Office
Zambia
Zimbabwe



Young Malian refugee children peak into a school in Goudoubo camp. Because of rising insecurity in the Sahel Region of Burkina Faso, where the camp is located, teachers have not shown up for class since before the Christmas break. Students come to class nonetheless and teach each other lessons, even without teachers, books or chalk. February 2020. © UNHCR/Sylvain Cherkaoui



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



In Niamey (Niger), a UNHCR-supported workshop in partnership with the designer Cheick Diallo brings together the heritage and unique skills of Malian refugees in weaving, jewelry-making and leather work. During the workshop, the refugees improve their technical and entrepreneurial skills, with the hope that their products be exported to international markets. Malian refugees artisans Almahoumoud, Fatouma and Zouha, at sunset. Fatouma wears the necklaces they made during the workshop. December 2019. © UNHCR/6M.Productions

AFRICA OVERVIEW

This diverse region again represents the region with the highest resettlement needs globally, with almost 617,000 projected to be in need of resettlement in 2021. While the overall figure has slightly decreased from the projected needs in 2020 of just over 667,000 persons, resettlement continues to play a critical role in meeting the needs of refugees from more than 32 countries of origin hosted across the three sub-regions.

TRENDS IN 2019

The increase in resettlement submissions in the region from 2017 to 2018 did not continue in 2019, with 32,387 refugees submitted for resettlement from the Africa Region throughout 2019 compared to 36,408 in 2018. This represents a decrease of 11 per cent from the previous year. Approximately 78 per cent of the refugees submitted for resettlement from the Africa region originated from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), 16 per cent from Somalia, nine per cent from Eritrea, eight per cent from Central African Republic, and eight per cent from South Sudan. Over 134,000 refugees from the DRC have been submitted for resettlement over the last seven years due in large part to a regional multi-year resettlement plan of action initiated in 2012 to enhance the resettlement of Congolese refugees from Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda and the Southern Africa region, as well as through the group resettlement programme to the USA.

Thirteen resettlement states received submissions from the region in 2019. Around 49 per cent of all submissions were made to the USA, 16 per cent to Canada, 12 per cent to Australia, seven per cent to Sweden and six per cent to Norway.

Departures to resettlement countries from the region increased by more than 20 per cent from 19,327 persons in 2018 to 24,248 in 2019, most likely due to the increased submissions in 2018.

REGIONAL COVERAGE

The comprehensive solutions strategies of the UNHCR Country Offices in the Africa region are supported through the three Regional Bureaus in Nairobi, Pretoria and Dakar with oversight, guidance, coordination, monitoring and support for resettlement and other solutions activities in the respective country operations. The Regional Bureaus offer support missions to interview refugees for resettlement; training and capacity development of staff and partners on the role of resettlement, resettlement categories, case identification, communication and expectation management, fraud awareness and prevention; case quality control and to ensure timely submission to resettlement countries; liaison and advocacy with resettlement countries at the regional level; and review of standard operating procedures. These activities ensure the maximum utilization of resettlement spaces, the harmonization of practices in particular vis-a-vis the same refugee populations in the region, and the quality and integrity of the processes.

The Regional Bureau for the East and Horn of Africa + Great Lakes (EHAGL Bureau) in Nairobi covers 11 countries in region: Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Kenya remains a stand-alone operation for purposes of resettlement.

The Regional Bureau for Southern Africa (RBSA) in Pretoria covers 16 countries in the region: Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of Congo, and Zimbabwe as well as the countries under the Multi-Country Office in Pretoria (Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa, and Zambia).

Prior to 2020, the Republic of the Congo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) were under the coverage of the EHAGL Bureau (formerly, the Regional Service Center) in Nairobi.

The Regional Bureau for West and Central Africa (RBWCA) in Dakar covers 14 countries in West Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo; and three countries in Central Africa: Cameroon, the Central African Republic and Chad.



Newly-arrived Sudanese refugee Achta Amine, 28, cooks gruel for her sister and nine-month-old daughter in Adre, Chad having fled West Darfur 12 days ago. Gruel has been the only food they have eaten since their arrival and they are currently sleeping under a makeshift shelter, exposed to the cold and sun. Achta's husband is still in Sudan taking care of his herd. January 2020. © UNHCR/Aristophane Ngargoune

REGIONAL SOLUTIONS STRATEGIES

East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Region

In 2021, the EHAGL Bureau aims to act as a collaborative information hub that facilitates knowledge exchange across the EHAGL region, with the aim of informing the development and implementation of comprehensive and harmonized procedures in support of quality resettlement activities. The EHAGL Bureau will seek to increase opportunities for joint learning and enhance capacity development on resettlement and complementary pathways by drawing on available UNHCR training resources (global and regional). The EHAGL Bureau's activities to promote access to resettlement within the region will include case reviews for the purposes of quality control, submission of quality RRFs to resettlement countries, coordination of deployments, harmonizing resettlement policies and procedures, regular interaction with resettlement countries and UNHCR HQ, and support missions, especially to Country Offices with limited or no resettlement staffing. These interventions will lead to increased capacity to meet resettlement targets, ensure maximum and effective utilization of allocated quota, and enhance the quality and integrity of resettlement processes across the region.

As part of the Regional Protection and Solutions Strategy, and in support of the regional implementation of the Three-Year Strategy, the EHAGL Bureau will



Children of a sawara team play in Inke camp, Democratic Republic of Congo. Inke camp is home to many refugees from Central African Republic who have fled conflict. This Sawara team is assisted by UNHCR, including assistance to participate in competitions abroad. The sport is also used as a way of reducing rates of sexual and gender based violence in the refugee camp. February 2020. © UNHCR/Hugh Kinsella Cunningham

support Country Offices in improving the quality and efficiency of case identification procedures to ensure that individuals with compelling protection needs and vulnerabilities are identified for resettlement in a timely manner, and strengthen the resettlement processing capacity of Country Offices, with a specific focus on case review capacity and integrity (both prevention and response).

The EHAGL Bureau will place an increasing emphasis on the expansion of complementary pathways for admission of refugees such as family reunification, and opportunities for skilled migration, labour mobility and education (including with a focus on identifying and leveraging opportunities to access complementary pathways at the regional level). This will be done in collaboration with relevant technical units, including livelihoods and education. The EHAGL Bureau will strive to build on existing pilot initiatives that show capacity to scale or to be replicated; will work to enhance the quality and quantity of data that can support improved access to complementary pathways, in particular, data on refugees language skills, education level and professional skills; will provide guidance to Country Offices, partners and government counterparts; and will enhance existing partnerships and identify opportunities to build new partnerships with key stakeholders from the private sector, cities and municipalities and others to advance our work on complementary pathways.

The EHAGL Bureau will also engage closely with HQ to support the implementation of commitments and pledges made at the Global Refugee Forum in 2019. More broadly, the EHAGL Bureau will seek to support global efforts to expand the number of resettlement places and the number of countries with resettlement programmes to meet growing resettlement needs, through strategic advocacy with country missions and, where feasible, learning exchanges in the form of resettlement country/ municipality familiarization visits to two/ three countries in the region.

Southern Africa Region

Over 90 per cent of the population of concern in the Southern Africa region can be linked to the acute and complex conflict-induced humanitarian crises in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Since mid-2019 the region has seen an increase in violence in eastern DRC, leading to over five million internally displaced persons (IDP) - one of the largest IDP situations globally, and the largest in Africa. Consequently, more than two million people have returned to their home areas over the past 18 months, a clear reminder of the desire of affected populations to rebuild their lives whilst also highlighting the need for continued support.¹

Although several countries in the sub-region are experiencing economic growth, many are still struggling with inequalities, poverty, seasonal floods, drought, food shortages, poor social protection, xenophobia and a high HIV/AIDS prevalence. Mixed movements continue to put a strain on national asylum systems, triggering restrictive migration and refugee policies in the region. While nearly all countries are parties to international and regional refugee instruments, reservations regarding freedom of movement and access to employment, keeping refugees mainly in camps and settlements, remain. While refugees and other persons of concern are included in national responses to COVID-19, the pandemic has deepened the plight of refugees as countries battle to protect their populations and economies, placing fundamental norms of refugee and human rights law at risk. National measures to combat the spread of the virus are having far-reaching consequences. Disproportionate use of immigration detention, a rise in the risk of sexual violence, discriminatory restrictions on access to health and social services, and a dramatic loss of livelihoods is driving many refugees and others on the margins of society deeper into poverty and destitution.

In 2021, as part of the Protection and Solutions Strategy for the Region, RBSA builds on the commitment of the 2030 agenda to promote the inclusion of refugees, asylum-seekers, the internally displaced and stateless people in national development frameworks. Further, the RBSA will advocate with national authorities ensuring public health and protecting refugees are not mutually exclusive in light of border closures and the inability for refugees eligible for resettlement to travel. RBSA, through strong engagement with states, host communities, civil society and key national service providers will continue to monitor the inclusion of persons of concern in national systems. RBSA seeks to improve the standards of assistance through empowerment of refugees, increased self-reliance and livelihoods as well as the ongoing use of cash-based

¹ Strategic direction for the Regional Bureau for Southern Africa (2020-2022)

interventions. RBSA will use resettlement strategically by creating a dialogue with local embassies to expand access to resettlement and other safe pathways to a third country. RBSA will build the capacity of associations, organizations and communities concerned with refugees, to empower refugees to pursue other safe pathways. In 2021, activities by RBSA to promote resettlement within the region will include communication, reporting and liaison with resettlement states and commitment to reliable and valid data management. RBSA will evaluate solutions for evolving emergencies and seek to respond to such contexts with agility. RBSA will also advise country operations on submission guidelines, periodically conduct trainings on integrity and anti-fraud and also monitor compliance with global resettlement doctrine and case management best practices.

West and Central Africa Region

The West and Central Africa sub-region continues to experience complex mixed migration flows, increasingly exacerbated by the severe humanitarian and protection crises unfolding in both the central Sahel region and the Lake Chad basin as a result of the intensification and extension of the armed conflicts, which



Congolese refugees take part in a talent show organised by UNHCR in Lóvua settlement, Angola. The best three acts won trophies presented by regional government staff and UNHCR's Head of Field Office. February 2020. © UNHCR/Omotola Akindipe

have pushed millions of people to flee their homes. In a region already struggling with one of the world's largest humanitarian crises, the advent of COVID-19 has led to millions of vulnerable people facing renewed risk from the combined impact of both the conflict and the pandemic.

In 2021, activities by the RBWCA to promote resettlement within the region will include increasing advocacy for realistic, sustainable local quotas in small operations within countries significantly impacted by often protracted conflict situations in neighbouring countries. In the wake of COVID-19, which continues to have far-reaching consequences for resettlement activities across the region, RBWCA aims to enhance the capacity of operations to respond with initiatives to ensure that resettlement programmes can continue where selection missions can no longer take place, including a sustainable capacity to accommodate remote interviews.

As part of the Protection and Solutions Strategy for the Region, the RBWCA will support the following resettlement strategy in 2021: Founded upon two pillars, the RBWCA Strategy aims at strengthening and harmonizing resettlement identification practices and methodologies, in order to ensure that the most vulnerable refugees are identified and prioritized in a timely and efficient manner; secondly, the Strategy aims at capacitating operations to expand complementary pathways-linked activities, so as to broaden the availability of solutions opportunities to vulnerable refugees. This will be supported by the deployment in 2020 of key resettlement and complementary pathways positions under the RBWCA's decentralization exercise.

In 2021, resettlement will be used strategically in the region. In the context of the Central Mediterranean situation, this will include to mitigate the risk of vulnerable refugees undertaking dangerous onward journeys. This will be achieved through use of the Emergency Transit Mechanism in Niger, as well as by supporting resettlement activities in country operations located earlier on the route towards the Central Mediterranean.

AFRICA: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	Cases	Persons
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	125,239	466,484
Southern Africa	10,986	45,731
West and Central Africa	30,367	104,743
Grand Total	166,592	616,958

**includes multi-year planning*

AFRICA FIELD STORY

ETHIOPIA

Since September 2018, I have been working in the UNHCR Sub-Office in Assosa, Ethiopia, as a resettlement expert seconded through RefugePoint. Assosa's five refugee camps (50 km distant from the Sudanese border) accommodate approximately sixty thousand persons of concern, mainly from Sudan and South Sudan.

Undoubtedly, each refugee's story is unique, abounding with so much sacrifice, tragedy and hope. It is almost inevitable, therefore, that each interaction with refugees during my resettlement interviews does seize my mind as well: we almost run together through villages, boundaries, mountains and rivers. Then, as I draft the case before formal submission, I try my best to re-create the sequence of their plight. Soon afterwards, however, I have to distance myself from any particular story because, otherwise, no space would be left in my mind for new cases. It is such a mental exercise, in fact, that allows me to carry on with one resettlement case after another.

It is during the first months of 2020 that, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to readjust resettlement activities, simultaneously focussing on relevant prevention and mitigation measures as well as on community sensitization. Moreover, resettlement departures were temporarily suspended in mid-March. As a consequence, 32 refugees, among the most vulnerable ones, were then not able to fly to Norway and Canada, just after having completed all departure formalities in Addis Ababa. The unavoidable return to their former, respective camps in Assosa represented another sad journey for them. However, as these refugees were duly counselled and updated on the unfolding situation related to COVID-19, even during such extremely challenging times, they kept on seeing the light at the end of the tunnel, never losing hope in resettlement as their life-changing opportunity.

In the meantime, resettlement countries' missions to Ethiopia were unavoidably delayed. But, despite great uncertainties, we all remained committed to maintain core business continuity in resettlement, that is, identifying the most vulnerable refugees and conducting interviews in the safest and most responsible manner, including either remote interviewing or face-to-face interviews with the interviewer, the refugee and the interpreter maintaining the required distance in large and ventilated rooms.

One day, as I went to the camp for my interviews, I was presented with a few colorful face masks handmade by some refugees as a prevention measure against the virus. A simple, spontaneous, but quite significant initiative taken by the refugees themselves. A symbolically powerful and unspoken message



"As I look at this beautiful mask made by refugees themselves, I feel more determined than ever to serve them," Yajun Hu, Resettlement Expert, Assosa, Ethiopia. 20 May 2020. © Mahlet Beshah

that - in spite of so many upheavals, we can and must shape our lives with our own hands. If given the chance by third country solutions, refugees can be active players in society rather than only seen as recipients of humanitarian aid.

From my experience in the field, I have come to consider resettlement not just as a geographical transfer from one camp to a safer place. Resettlement is much more than a one-way ticket to another country. Resettlement should be regarded as a regeneration for refugees and their children, as a unique opportunity to become social and economic actors themselves, full citizens who can contribute to dialogue and multicultural values.

YAJUN HU

Resettlement Expert (RefugePoint)
Assosa, Ethiopia

AFRICA FIELD STORY

NIGER

Since I have been deployed at UNHCR Niger through Danish Refugee Council (DRC), I have been working as a Resettlement Expert, primarily supporting the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) to find durable solutions for the refugees evacuated from detention centers in Libya.

When a flight arrives from Libya, UNHCR staff and partners are ready to receive them and prepare them for their stay in the ETM. The refugees are hopeful and relieved as much as concerned for the uncertainty of their future; they have a common wish in mind, a dignified life. When I started to support the ETM, I was bewildered by the hardship they endured and the cruelty they were exposed to, sometimes for several years. I quickly realized that while a few people successfully reach Europe in plastic boats — this part of their story is mostly seen by outsiders — most do not. Some of them lose their lives along the way: during the sea journey, at the hands of smugglers, from hunger or thirst even before reaching the plastic boats; and many end up in detention. Each story is different but two things are common: the violence they were exposed to and the hope for a dignified future. While these individual have undergone so much, they just want to survive, for themselves and for their families, and have a life that does not take from them anymore but gives them a reason to hope.

When I was introduced to refugees in Niger outside of the ETM, I was also puzzled by the strength and adjustment skills of the refugees, mostly from neighboring countries. Besides their traumatic experiences in their country of origin, they face challenges in the country of asylum: working from morning until night, earning too little and sometimes enough only for one meal. In the Niger Operation, we are lucky to be able to give good news when they are accepted by a resettlement country. When I am able to announce to them their new home, for them, it means security, education for their children, decent economic conditions, a roof over their heads and medical assistance. This is the happiness resettlement can provide them with.

I am currently working as the Child Protection focal point for the purpose of resettlement processing. In a visit to the camp to distribute items and toys for children donated by the Canada mission, I was generously welcomed by the refugees whom I interviewed. They've shared their food with me. They helped me to find my route within the camp or find the parents of the children who were accompanied. We chatted together; they shared their concerns and asked questions. I was hosted under their roofs with generosity and with respect. I learnt from them how to put anger and sadness behind and continue to provide whatever we can with big-heartedness. Being in the camp made me see how



Refugee children watch a video to help them learn French at the Emergency Transit Mechanism in Hamdallaye, near the Nigerien capital Niamey. Language skills will be useful in finding durable solutions for them. January 2020. © UNHCR/Sylvain Cherkaoui

each contribution I am making towards their resettlement is multiplying their hopes and giving them the prospect of a dignified life. I feel blessed that we were saving lives with ETM. The way we create trust within the community is a very precious gift for us.

Refugees in Niger live in precarious circumstances as the country is impacted by poor economic and security conditions. Considering that Niger is a prominent transit country for the refugees on their way to Europe, refugees are at further risk of being kidnapped, smuggled and enduring hardship at the hands of traffickers and smugglers unless they can find opportunities through resettlement. Hearing all their stories and of their strength brings me hope and strengthens my resolve to continue working hard for them. Resettlement is a humane and concrete example of solidarity with those who seek a dignified life. It is crucial to find durable solutions for them, especially for those who were already particularly vulnerable, despite the impact of restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, more than ever, we need a greater sense of solidarity, more trust in each other and more creativity to protect and continue to serve persons of concern.

EYLEM ÖYKÜ YILDIRAN

Resettlement Expert (Danish Refugee Council)
Niamey, Niger

AFRICA FIELD STORY

RWANDA

I arrived in Nyamata, Rwanda, on 26 September 2019 as a resettlement expert deployed by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) to work in the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) that was just being set up. At the time, the Government of Rwanda had signed an agreement with the African Union (AU) and UNHCR in Addis Ababa to provide urgent and lifesaving assistance to African refugees and asylum-seekers stuck in Libya and those held in various detention centers across Libya.

Libya has been a major transit route for refugees from Africa trying to reach Europe in a desperate attempt to cross the Mediterranean Sea by boat. When I touched down that chilly evening at Kigali International Airport in late September, nothing could have really prepared me for the roller-coaster of emotions I 'd endure in the weeks and months that awaited me.

A few days following my arrival, the first group of evacuees from Libya arrived in Rwanda. Among them was a mother with her son, who were to become among my very first interviewees at the ETM. Her short-tired strides into my interview room were akin to that of a long-distance traveler in need of some rest. She spoke in very low tones as she introduced herself and went on to listen attentively as I explained what was expected of her and myself during the interview. Then, with her eyes heavy with tears, she looked up at me and thanked me for offering to listen to her story.

What followed were horrendous narratives of torture, mutilation, humiliation and grief. I had to sit there and be strong for her. I reassured her everything was going to be fine. And though I thought that my reassurances were not enough to take away her suffering, at least at that moment it was the only thing that I could give her. It was really fulfilling to have given her a listening ear and gained her trust in such a way that she felt comfortable to talk about her experiences. As we concluded our interview, she was thankful and mentioned that she felt like her load was lighter having talked about her experiences. I soon after referred her case for psychosocial support and other necessary services within the ETM, as I continued processing her case for resettlement consideration.

Two months later, the woman I first interviewed was among the first group of refugees to be resettled to a third country. I vividly recall her excitement when she approached me to inform me of the news that she will be travelling on resettlement to a third country in a few days' time to start a new life. I informed her it wasn't anything that I did, but that some resettlement countries had decided to willingly open their doors to her and other vulnerable people in similar situations.



Refugees wait to board a bus taking them to the Gashora Emergency Transit Centre after arrival in Rwanda from Libya. September 2019. © UNHCR/Tobin Jones

Although I never saw her depart, I could somehow picture her short-tired strides gaining a bit of spring and bounce at the possibility of what awaited her and her son on the other side of the Atlantic. The frown on her face had been replaced with a smile of hope. This is one of many similar stories where innocent young people went through horrible situations and started to see glimpse of light at the end of the tunnel after they reached the ETM center in Rwanda.

In the end, my contribution to the refugees' lives at the ETM is an assessment of needs and recommendation for resettlement. It's not only satisfying to see my work in terms of numbers of people that can be assisted, but it is also so heartwarming to see individuals who had lost all hope in life at one-point continue to dream of new possibilities for life.

I am convinced that in a small way, I make a difference in the lives of refugees by being part of a process that sees them get a second shot at life. That, after all the harsh experiences they went through in their home countries and on their dangerous journeys to a safe asylum country, resettlement countries can still give them a place to call home.

COLLINS ONDACHI

Resettlement Expert (Danish Refugee Council)
Nyamata, Rwanda

AFRICA FIELD STORY

ZAMBIA

I am currently working for UNHCR in Lusaka, Zambia, as a Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Expert, seconded through the Danish Refugee Council. Working for UNHCR is very interesting and varied, and it gives you the chance to make a real difference to the lives of people uprooted by conflict or natural disasters.

In my role, my day-to-day duties range from interviewing, counselling and managing expectations of refugees to writing reports and leading Complementary Pathways activities. What I enjoy most is being able to engage directly with persons of concern, because each one has a unique story to tell. As a case officer, my job is to gather factual information to analyse each case, determine eligibility for resettlement and advocate for a suitable durable solution. For the refugee however, the assessment can mean re-living the traumatic experience they have gone through as they recount the events.

To piece their stories together, I spend hours listening to experiences that refugees encountered either prior to their flight, during their flight and also in countries of asylum. Many of these refugees have endured various forms of violence, including gang-rape, torture, persecution, witnessing their loved ones being slaughtered, and losing everything they have ever owned or valued in life.

As much as I feel great happiness in knowing that the recommendations I make can change the lives of many desperate vulnerable people forever, it often is not a smooth journey. It calls for strong emotional resilience, sensitivity, empathy and making well-balanced decisions under difficult circumstances. The reality is, you cannot resettle every single refugee, however compelling the need. The process must be carried out in accordance with specific criteria and in agreement with resettlement countries, not by emotions or by who may be most vulnerable.

Amid dwindling resettlement quotas and a lack of local integration prospects, UNHCR Zambia is exploring Complementary Pathways, which seek to complement conventional resettlement with other innovative means to achieve the same goals. My work in this entails supporting resettling refugees in third countries through various alternative pathways such as family re-unification with previously resettled relatives; private sponsorship by charitable organisations; labour mobility programmes; and promotion of those with special talents – whether they be academic, sporting or artistic – through scholarships.

Another durable solution my work is exploring is to identify employment opportunities within the country of refuge. In Zambia, there are potential work opportunities for refugees in the copper mining industry, and the current



"I ran away from the war with my husband and four children ... What we need is more funding to get our businesses going."

Katempa Chulu, a 33-year-old refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, stands at a market stall in Mantapala refugee settlement in Zambia. She came here after fleeing fighting in Mpweto. October 2019.

© UNHCR/Will Swanson

COVID-19 crisis has generated urgent demand for health professionals whom I am screening for inclusion in the national response plan.

The Complementary Pathways approach is ideal for Zambia, which has the largest refugee population in the southern African region, many of whom have good academic qualifications and highly transferrable skills. However, they frequently find it difficult to gain secure regular employment due to the encampment policy and the difficulty in obtaining work permits. Despite all the challenges, finding a durable solution for a refugee is always a great achievement, as this is frequently a life-changing event for people who have suffered so much in their previous lives through no fault of their own. The impact of being resettled to a third country and/or being reunited with their family through the Family Reunification Programme, or of gaining regular employment in the country of asylum, is truly transformative.

GEMMA-TRACEE APIKU HINGLEY

Resettlement Expert (Danish Refugee Council)
Lusaka, Zambia



THE AMERICAS

Caribbean States
Colombia
Cuba
Ecuador

Peru
Mexico
North of Central America



Refugee children from Venezuela join hands with Ecuadorian children as a sign of their trust in a better future, during an art workshop organised by UNHCR in Huaquillas, a city in south-west Ecuador on the border with Peru. February 2020.
© UNHCR/Jaime Giménez Sánchez de la Blanca



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Two young Haitian girls stranded at a temporary shelter in Lima, Peru collect drinks. March 2020.

© UNHCR/Regina de la Portilla



THE AMERICAS OVERVIEW

With estimated resettlement needs of almost 30,000 individuals in 2021, resettlement will continue to be used in the Americas as a strategic tool to ensure protection and to deliver durable solutions to the most vulnerable refugees at risk. Despite the efforts of UNHCR and countries in the region to strengthen access to asylum and/or temporary protection arrangements, UNHCR continues identifying increasing numbers of individuals facing specific protection needs and/or risks, for whom voluntary return to their countries of origin is not an option, or for whom protection might not be available in countries of asylum. Resettlement needs for the Americas in 2021 have increased due to the expected upward trend in the number of persons forcibly displaced in the region. The continued deterioration of the human rights and socio economic situation in Venezuela, as well as more recently in Nicaragua, violent crimes and insecurity in countries in the North of Central America (NCA) and the deterioration of the

security situation in areas of Colombia, continue to force thousands of people to flee their countries in search of protection and safety. Confronted with increasing numbers of persons in need of protection, countries in the Americas and the Caribbean continue to feel the strain on their own infrastructure and systems. With limited income generating opportunities and lack of proper access to basic services, social protection and livelihoods, refugees are increasingly resorting to harmful coping mechanisms, and see themselves exposed to heightened risks. In the Americas, resettlement will continue to be used strategically to preserve protection space and to support other solutions, while it will also serve as a demonstration of international solidarity and responsibility-sharing. Resettlement remains a key component of UNHCR's protection strategy and will be used as a tool for protection for very vulnerable refugees facing heightened protection risks for whom no other options are available.

TRENDS IN 2019

The cases of 2,029 refugees were submitted for resettlement from Latin America and the Caribbean throughout 2019. This represents a 39 per cent increase compared to 1,456 submissions in 2018. Approximately 34 per cent of the refugees submitted for resettlement from the Americas originated from Colombia, 21 per cent from El Salvador, 17 per cent from Honduras, 15 per cent from Guatemala, and 7 per cent from Venezuela. Eleven resettlement states continued receiving submissions from the region in 2019. Around 53 per cent of all submissions were made to the United States of America, 15 per cent to New Zealand, 14 per cent to Australia and 11 per cent to Canada.

Departures to resettlement countries from the region increased from 743 persons in 2018 to 1,174 in 2019.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The upward trend in the number of displaced persons in the Americas continued in the course of 2019.

Refugees and migrants from Venezuela continue to flee, mainly to other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The total number of Venezuelan refugees and migrants has now reached over five million by the beginning of 2020, 85 per cent of whom are in the Americas region. Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean continue demonstrating solidarity with, and generosity towards Venezuelans. Many of these countries have maintained an open border policy and adjusted their legislation to meet the needs of refugees and migrants. By the end of 2019, governments in the region had granted more than two million residence permits and/or other forms of legal stay arrangements to Venezuelans, while 770,000 individuals had been registered as asylum-seekers or recognized as refugees. Nonetheless, these movements have impacted the region's demographic makeup and have placed growing pressure on countries in the region, especially Colombia, Peru, Ecuador and countries in the Caribbean. Countries hosting Venezuelans are struggling with overstretched public services and budgets, social tensions arising from stigma and xenophobia against the Venezuelan population as well as pressure to revise existing entry requirements or establish new ones. A growing number of Venezuelans are forced to remain in

irregular situations for diverse reasons, exposed to various forms of exploitation, abuse, violence, discrimination, smuggling and trafficking, and are increasingly resorting to negative coping mechanisms. Resettlement of Venezuelans from countries in Latin America and the Caribbean not only provides refugees with a protection response and a durable solution but also represents an opportunity for the international community to ease pressure on host communities and national protection systems and services.

Violent crimes, political fragility, insecurity and economic hardship continue to force thousands of people to flee their countries in the NCA region. In 2019, 387,000 refugees and asylum-seekers from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras were forced to leave their homes in search of protection. Across the region, close to 54,000 new asylum applications were lodged in the first six months of the year, an 86 per cent increase compared with the same period in 2018. Levels of internal displacement are also historically high for the region, with more than 300,000 people displaced within El Salvador and Honduras. The activities carried out under the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework, known in the region by its Spanish acronym MIRPS, continue to demonstrate the value of responsibility-sharing in responding to this displacement situation. In 2019, the MIRPS grew to include El Salvador, and is now comprised of seven countries (Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama). Over the past year, MIRPS countries pursued the development and enhancement of their national plans. This has resulted in improving access to legal and social protection, formal labour markets and other livelihood opportunities. It has also improved local integration and increased investment in education. In 2019, during the second annual meeting of the MIRPS countries, countries committed to coordinating their responses over the short-, medium- and long-term to address displacement and reinforce protection across the region, with solutions to include internal relocation and resettlement, as well as family reunification. The declaration of the meeting calls on MIRPS countries to adopt laws enabling refugees and asylum-seekers to access the labour market and integrate into local communities. UNHCR continued supporting governments to ensure access to territory and asylum procedures, provision of humanitarian assistance and access to safe solutions for people with urgent protection needs, including through relocation, humanitarian evacuations, resettlement and the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

Three years after the signing of the Peace Agreement with *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia* (FARC) in Colombia, the peace process continues facing significant challenges. The security situation remained complex along Colombia's border with Venezuela, its southern borders and the Pacific Coast as a result of ongoing reconfigurations within the organizational structures of illegal armed groups, in the wake of the peace process. This has directly affected humanitarian access, continued to cause internal displacement, and has resulted in the confinement of an increasing number of communities. Chronic displacement and restrictions on movement are common in these areas and predominantly affect indigenous people and afro-Colombians, particularly in the Choco and Nariño departments. In 2019, over 89,700 people were newly displaced and were in need of humanitarian assistance. There is increasing

concern over the impact of ongoing violence and displacement on Venezuelan arrivals in some of these areas. In Ecuador, over 5,000 Colombian nationals sought asylum in 2019, at an average rate of some 500 asylum applications per month. Notwithstanding this, the number of asylum claims made by Venezuelans has now surpassed those made by Colombians, straining the capacity of Ecuador to address two distinct displacement crises.

Since the political unrest and economic trouble started in April 2018, nearly 100,000 Nicaraguans are estimated to have fled their homes and sought safety abroad. The political process is stalled, and reports of serious human rights violations are increasing. In Costa Rica, the number of asylum-seekers from Nicaragua had reached almost 55,000 at the end of 2019, with 20,000 pending registration. In Central America, there has also been a sharp increase in the number of asylum requests from Nicaraguans. In Honduras and El Salvador specifically, the arrival of Nicaraguan asylum-seekers is placing considerable strain on a very limited asylum capacity.

2021 PROJECTED NEEDS AND TARGETS

Resettlement out of the Americas continues to be an important durable solution for refugees presenting imminent protection needs or extreme vulnerabilities. The projected resettlement needs for the Latin America and Caribbean region in 2021, as identified by UNHCR offices, stands at 29,374 persons. UNHCR in the Americas continues to largely use resettlement strategically as a protection tool for refugees with specific needs or at heightened risk, which complements local integration efforts for those who will remain in the countries of asylum or for whom voluntary return is not an option.

SUB-REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Andean Region (Colombia, Ecuador and Peru)

Colombia, Ecuador and Peru are among the countries more severely impacted by the Venezuela Situation, and host more than three of the five million Venezuelans refugees and migrants who have left their country by the beginning of 2020. The continuous deterioration of the economic, social, security and humanitarian situation in Venezuela means that the numbers of Venezuelans arriving in the Andean region are expected to further increase, while the prospects of voluntary repatriation in conditions of safety and dignity remain unlikely.

Due to their proximity and cultural ties, Colombia has been the country most impacted by the outflow to the region of refugees and migrants from Venezuela. As of 1 January 2020, the accumulative number of recognized refugees in Colombia reached 646. Colombia continued to be the country hosting the largest portion of Venezuelan refugees and migrants with over 1.8 million Venezuelans residing in its territory by the end of 2019. Venezuelans represent 99 per cent of the 9,000 asylum claims pending adjudication by the Government-run asylum system. The impact of the arrival and transit of millions of individuals in less than four years, most of whom arrived in 2018 and 2019, has been considerable, particularly in a country which has historically had low numbers of refugees and migrants and limited local capacity in some regions to respond to the needs of



Carmen Parra is a Venezuelan doctor living in Peru. For almost a month now, she has been working tirelessly on 24 hour shifts to reach people suspected of having COVID-19 in their homes or to transport those in critical condition to the hospitals. "I spend days without seeing my children. Just recently I had to work two shifts because one of my colleagues got sick. Sometimes I think it is better because I am afraid that I could infect them," she says. April 2020. © Courtesy of Carmen Parra

those arriving. The Office has determined that 955 refugees are projected to be in need of resettlement in 2020, the majority of whom are Venezuelans seeking being recognized as refugees facing compelling protection needs in Colombia (including survivors of violence and/or torture, women at risk, persons facing legal and/or physical protection needs, and/or medical needs).

Peru is the second country of arrival for refugees and migrants from Venezuela worldwide, after Colombia, and is the country with the highest asylum requests by Venezuelan nationals. By the beginning of 2020, over 862,000 Venezuelans nationals were living in Peru of which over 482,000 were registered as asylum-seekers. Although Peru has maintained a generous humanitarian response regarding the situation of Venezuelans, internal pressure factors and the implementation of increasing restrictions on mobility by countries in the region

have led to a decrease of the available space. Venezuelans are facing increasing protection risks associated with access to the territory and safe transit, access to documentation and regularization processes, as well as effective access to the asylum procedure. Limited access to income generation activities and social protection increase the risk of negative coping mechanisms, further exposing refugees to serious protection risks. The Office has determined that 12,752 refugees are projected to be in need of resettlement in 2020, the majority of whom are Venezuelans with compelling protection needs in Peru (including survivors of violence and/or torture, women at risk, persons facing legal and/or physical protection needs, and/or medical needs).

Ecuador hosts 68,926 persons formally recognized as refugees by the Ecuadorian government and 49,950 estimated to be in a “refugee-like situation” of which the majority are Colombians. In addition, it is estimated that approximately 400,000 Venezuelans refugees and migrants are residing in Ecuador. In 2019, 20,869 persons applied for asylum in Ecuador, which represents 22.4 per cent increase in comparison to 2018. Most asylum-seekers were Venezuelans for the second consecutive year, with 15,443 persons, representing 74 per cent, followed by Colombians with 5,007 persons, representing 24 per cent of the total applications.

As in previous years, Colombians remain a priority for the resettlement programme implemented by UNHCR Ecuador. Despite the 2016 Peace Agreement, violence continues against the civilian population at the hands of multiple violent groups. FARC dissidents, the *Ejercito de Liberación Nacional* (ELN) and other armed groups continue to operate violently, causing Colombians to continue to seek asylum in Ecuador in view of the continuing violence, in particular in border areas. Resettlement will continue to be a mainstay in UNHCR Ecuador’s protection and solution’s strategy ; the operation estimates that 7,373 individuals are in need of resettlement, including survivors of violence and torture or SGBV, victims of human trafficking networks, LGBTI individuals exposed to violence, children and youth at risk and other individuals facing legal or physical protection needs.

Caribbean

As of 1 January 2020, there were a total of 2,644 recognized refugees and over 20,000 registered asylum-seekers from over 45 countries of origin, hosted in 17 Caribbean countries. The vast majority live in local communities in urban and peri-urban areas. The southern Caribbean has been profoundly impacted by the arrival of Venezuelans in the last three years. Some 150,000 Venezuelans are expected to be hosted in the Caribbean by the end of 2020 and most of those with international protection needs are not registered. As UNHCR expands registration and Refugee Status Determination activities, refugee numbers will continue to increase. The increasing arrivals of new Venezuelans to the southern Caribbean states and territories combined with strengthened UNHCR activities to identify vulnerable refugee protection cases is likely to result in a significantly higher level of resettlement needs being identified during 2020. Since UNHCR is strengthening implementing partners to scale up the response to the Venezuela situation, resettlement referrals from partners may also lead to identification of additional resettlement needs.

Refugees who are widely dispersed over a large region such as the Caribbean, sometimes on remote and low populated islands, pose a particular challenge to UNHCR and to potential resettlement countries in terms of protection and durable solutions. Resettlement countries may not consider it to be cost-effective to conduct resettlement activities when numbers are small and distances great. In this context, UNHCR has repeatedly called for resettlement countries to use flexible processing modalities to the extent possible, including by considering dossier submissions under normal priority for this specific refugee population, and/or the implementation of remote modalities for interviews and resettlement processing.

Central America

In 2019, in order to respond to the increased flows in the NCA, the PTA continued to provide an innovative life-saving mechanism that provides individuals exposed to extreme risks in the NCA with safe and legal access to a durable solution in a resettlement country. It is also one element of the regional protection and solutions strategy under the MIRPS. The PTA started as a pilot in El Salvador in July 2016 and was expanded to include Guatemala and Honduras during the course of 2017. Initially, the USA was the only country to participate during the pilot phase, while Australia, Canada, and Uruguay also received a small number of cases in 2017, and in 2018 and Brazil and Australia agreed to accept cases in 2018-2019. During 2020, the USA, Canada and Australia maintained PTA programs.

Since the start of the PTA programme in the region in 2016, a total of 4,050 persons at risk from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras have been identified for referral to the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA). Since its inception, a total of 2,026 individuals were submitted to resettlement countries under the programme. Since 2020 UNHCR also implements a resettlement program in Guatemala that seeks to provide an alternative protection response to refugees from other countries in the region. A small number of vulnerable cases in need of a third country solution have also been identified in Costa Rica and Panama, although these operations have not established regular resettlement programmes.

UNHCR estimates that the PTA needs in NCA countries for 2021 will be 5,800 persons.

THE AMERICAS: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	cases	persons
The Americas	15,597	29,374
Grand Total	15,597	29,374

*includes multi-year planning



MEDIA SPOTLIGHT CANADA

“We feel more like family together”: B.C. residents help newly resettled Congolese refugees celebrate first Christmas in Canada

BY LIDIA ABRAHA IN TORONTO, CANADA

It took five families to sponsor a refugee family, and one to give them the Christmas tree they’ll always remember.

Delphin Ngage never thought he’d one day find himself searching for a Christmas tree in the forest of Squamish, B.C. Born in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the five-year-old spent the first years of his young life in a refugee camp in Namibia. Now Delphin has resettled in Canada with his mother and newborn brother, preparing for their first holiday season with their sponsored family.

“Every new experience that we have with them brings us closer, and we feel more like family together. It was nice to share that tradition with them,” said Karina Reid, who along with five other families in B.C., helped sponsor Delphin and his mother Atosha.

Reid took Delphin along with her family to cut down a Christmas tree in Squamish, about an hour’s drive from their home in Richmond, B.C. It’s an annual holiday tradition for them, which they were happy to share with the Ngage family this year.

It was a morning to remember for Reid, who painted a beautiful, vivid description of Delphin and her two sons, ages five and seven, travelling through the valley, surrounded by mountains on a sunny-winter Saturday morning.

They threw rocks in the water, helped cut down the thin, modest tree and carried it back home to add decorations. As the kids were running and playing around the house, Reid sat with Atosha and shared the meaning behind every ornament on the tree, and the memories attached to it.

“My Christmas present for them is to buy them a personalized Christmas decoration that would signify their first Christmas here in Canada,” said Reid.

After being inspired by her friend Nicole Javadi who sponsored a Syrian family years ago, Reid rallied her friends to help sponsor a refugee family through the Blended Visa Office-Referred (BVOR) program. This service is unique to Canada and helps make private sponsorship easier by providing six months of financial support after a refugee arrives.

“What people need to realize is that it’s doable, and the impact that you can have on someone’s life when you sponsor a family—there’s nothing that compares,” said Javadi, who also helped sponsor the Ngage family.

“It’s easy to just be apathetic to the world’s situation, and go on buying Christmas presents, but I feel like it’s not right. We all have to take responsibility for the world, not just for our own families,” she said.

They both received help from the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program, who matched them with Atosha and her family. The Ngage’s are among the estimated 4.5 million people displaced by violence and conflict in the DRC. Some of Atosha’s relatives are still displaced in Namibia, and she hopes to one day sponsor them to Canada.

“I find Canada is very, very good, I like Canada, it’s changed my life!” said Atosha, who found a job within the first few months of settling in Canada, before giving birth to her newborn son, Enoch. She has hopes to one day go to school and get her own apartment.

“My children will go to school and go to university to get a good job. I want a good life for my children,” she said.

The five families helped Atosha get a cell-phone when she first arrived, so she could stay in touch with her family overseas. Even though she’s happy to stay in touch, she stays constantly aware of the danger her family and friends face back home.

“As much as this is beautiful, and we’re having this experience, Atosha is still pulled into two different worlds,” said Reid. “I do think that must be so heart-wrenching for her, since she has a different experience living in Canada, and her heart is so torn,” she said.

The experience of sponsoring a refugee family has had an amazing impact on all of the families involved. Two of the kids in their group did a presentation in their Grade 2 class on how everyone can help refugees.

“You can teach your children to be kind and empathetic, but to actually give them the opportunity to see how kindness and empathy actually change people’s lives, by giving them the ability to connect with someone new, and welcome them to our family—those things are not installed in a child the same way as experiencing it,” said Javadi.

Originally published on 23 December 2019 on UNHCR Canada’s website (<https://www.unhcr.ca/news/canadians-help-newly-resettled-congolese-refugees-celebrate-first-christmas/>).

*Canadian family carries new Christmas tree back to their car with sponsored refugee Delphin Ngage, 5. December 2019.
© UNHCR/Jimmy Jeong*



Tareq Hadhad, a Syrian refugee and founder of Peace by Chocolate, poses with the Canadian flag he received following his Canadian citizenship ceremony at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. January 2020.
© UNHCR/Darren Calabrese



MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

CANADA

PEACE BY CHOCOLATE FOUNDER AND SYRIAN REFUGEE SAVOURS NEW CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

Wearing red and white socks emblazoned with the Maple Leaf, Tareq Hadhad wore Canada's national symbol for the latest step in his extraordinary journey from Syrian refugee to chocolate maker—and now, Canadian citizen.

BY LAUREN LA ROSE

The Peace by Chocolate founder was all smiles as he joined 48 fellow new flag-waving Canadians in taking the oath of citizenship in Halifax. The ceremony was held at Pier 21, a national historic site deeply symbolic of Canada's storied history of welcoming newcomers to its shores.

Pier 21 was a port of entry to Canada for one million immigrants between 1928 and 1971. It now hosts the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21.

"It's really magical... it's phenomenal," said Tareq, 27, recalling the whirlwind of emotions surrounding the ceremony and his newly minted citizenship status.

"I was thinking about Canadians from coast to coast to coast. I was certainly thinking about all of those who sacrificed their lives so that we have such freedoms in this country."

Tareq's business, Peace by Chocolate, was born in his home kitchen in Antigonish, a town of around 5,000 people on the north shore of Nova Scotia, where he resettled after arriving in Canada in December 2015.

Tareq said he was on one of the first flights out of the Middle East after the Canadian government announced a plan to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees in Canada by the end of February 2016; this was in the wake of the ongoing conflict and escalating humanitarian crisis in Syria. Tareq's father, Isameddin, mother, Shahnaz, sisters, Alaa, Batoul and Taghrid, and brother, Ahmad, joined him three weeks later.

Peace by Chocolate launched in 2016. And in the years since, the company's inspiring origins and its range of confections offering messages of peace, hospitality and forgiveness have resonated with chocolate lovers the world over.

"It's really magical... it's phenomenal," said Tareq, 27, recalling the whirlwind of emotions surrounding the ceremony and his newly minted citizenship status.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau praised the family business during an address to the Leaders Summit on Refugees at the United Nations in New York in 2016, helping further propel the then-fledgling business into the global spotlight.

"Certainly, it is a family heritage and it's a tradition," said Tareq. "It's the type of skills and talent that we brought with us here."

The Hadhad family had previously run a chocolate business for more than 30 years in the Middle East.

"My father started making chocolate in the home kitchen and then he opened shops and one of the largest chocolate factories in the region," Tareq recalled of the business, which was established in 1986.

Soon they were exporting all over the world from their base in Damascus, Syria; they also sought to share their good fortune with others in need.

"The company was also aiming towards being a social enterprise and supporting those who are less fortunate in the community."

After civil war broke out in Syria in 2011, their hopeful aspirations for the future were cut abruptly short. The factory was bombed in 2012.

“Life became so hard,” Tareq recalled. “I’ve lost many family members that were shot, they were killed.”

“All aspects of our life were destroyed in the war. Whether it’s from my dad’s business, my mother’s initiative that she launched in the Middle East ... and my siblings, they did not feel safe to go to school anymore because a mortar rocket can hit that school at any point.”

In March 2013, the family fled to Lebanon and registered as refugees with UNHCR. They lived there several years before Tareq and his family decided to apply for resettlement in Canada.

They were able to make their dreams of a fresh start in Canada a reality through the Blended-Visa Office Referred Program (BVOR) after the people of Antigonish decided to fundraise to bring a refugee family to their community.

Supported by the Canadian government, the BVOR program matches refugees identified for resettlement by UNHCR because of their

After fleeing Syria, Tareq and his family settled in Antigonish, Nova Scotia in 2016 and built the Peace by Chocolate social enterprise. The company sells products across Canada and employs about 55 people, including other refugees. Tareq’s father was a chocolate maker in Damascus employing 30 people and shipping treats across the Middle East, until the conflict broke out and his factory was bombed. January 2020. © UNHCR/Darren Calabrese



specific vulnerability with private sponsors in Canada. Costs are shared between sponsors and the federal government, with each party providing six months of financial support.

“I arrived here with nothing,” Tareq said. “Just with lots of hope for the future, and gratitude towards everyone who have done their best to make us feel that we are at home.”

Tareq recalled the first time they made and shared a few pieces of chocolate at a community gathering where “everyone loved them.” The positive feedback encouraged them to bring their chocolate-making skills to a new enterprise whose Peace by Chocolate name holds significant meaning.

“It was a message of bringing the world together and expressing that peace is very important and we need it every single moment of our lives, because without peace I would not have been able to restart my life here in Canada, or have my family to come here, start a business.”

Sharing their good fortune to help others in need was another tradition the family carried with them from Syria to Canada. In 2016, Peace by Chocolate donated a month’s profits to the relief efforts in support of those fleeing wildfires in Fort McMurray, Alberta. They have also pledged to donate between three and five per cent of all profits to the Peace on Earth Society, a Nova Scotia-based organization that provides funds to peace-building projects around the world.

“Without peace I would not have been able to restart my life here in Canada, or have my family to come here, start a business.”

Tareq said Peace by Chocolate plans to hire 50 refugees by 2022. They would also like to offer marketing and distribution mentorship to support 10 businesses run by refugees. The company is in discussions to partner with settlement organizations in Canada to refer candidates and businesses. They hope to start implementing the initiative by the fall of 2020.

“As a small business stepping into the medium size (category), we felt the responsibility, and now is the time really to give back to those who had the same experiences as us,” said Tareq, who now employs 55 full-time and seasonal employees. “But they want the first step, right? They want to get hired, to get the Canadian experience, and to get a profile in this country so they can start moving forward.”

“We also noticed that refugees, they tend to be entrepreneurs. They are risk-takers and they are changemakers,” he added. “So, they want to create something different and unique in the community because they know that they came here not to take but to contribute.”

Tareq shows no sign of slowing down away from the business, either. A book on Peace by Chocolate by Halifax-based journalist Jon Tattrie is due out this fall. And Tareq says his family members also plan to follow his lead in becoming Canadian citizens. There are now 17 of them in Canada, including his nephew Omar Al Kadri, niece Sana Al Kadri, his uncle, cousin and their families.

“They have shared some laughs and smiles and tears with everyone who were getting their citizenship. The whole room was full of excitement and emotions for sure.”

“For my family, I guess it also comes back to the point where they were thinking how their life has changed in the past four years significantly. They know now that they should never give up.”

Originally published on 28 January 2020 on UNHCR Canada’s website (<https://www.unhcr.ca/news/peace-chocolate-founder-syrian-refugee-savours-new-canadian-citizenship/>).

THE AMERICAS FIELD STORY

MEXICO



I have been working as an ICMC resettlement expert at the UNHCR office in Mexico City since October of 2019. My role has been to assist Central American refugees fleeing violence in their home countries. I interview refugees and identify the most vulnerable ones to refer for resettlement to a third country.

Now, as I clutch my boarding pass waiting to fly from the Mexico City's bustling international airport, I wonder whether I printed enough declaration pages for the refugees to sign during the resettlement interviews. Once a resettlement interview starts it is hard to put it on hold for administrative tasks. Also, it is a long drive from the Villahermosa, Tabasco airport where I land to the two UNHCR field offices where we plan to conduct interviews. I am travelling alone, but together with the RSD officer and the Resettlement Associate in Mexico City we planned this trip to kick-start the resettlement program.

While planning these trips to the field offices in Tenosique in the State of Tabasco and Tapachula and Palenque in the State of Chiapas, it struck me how refugees had been forced to improvise on their perilous journey. Having lived for many years in Tijuana, Mexico, I became used to migration flows, since Tijuana is a major transit point for migrants trying to reach the United States.

When their attempts to reach the US fail, Tijuana then becomes a destination.

In 2017, this situation became critical when thousands of Haitians arrived in Tijuana and Mexicali to wait for the US government's response to their application for temporal protection promised to them in 2010 after the Haitian earthquake. Thereafter, in 2018 the Central American caravan reached Tijuana and the crisis at the border became a tangible representation of the escalation of violence in the North of Central America.

By the time I learned I was going to Palenque to interview refugees, I knew the migration flow in Mexico had drastically changed. It would be very different from my previous experience in 2012 when I worked at a nonprofit organization in Arizona interviewing asylum-seekers at the Eloy detention facility. There, the common story was crossing the vast Mexican territory on a freight train known as "la Bestia".

The infamous "la Bestia" was also well documented in the 2009 film *Which Way Home* that followed several children as they travelled hundreds of miles on top of freight trains from the State of Chiapas to the US-Mexico border.

Now, Mexico is viewed more as a destination

point where many refugees prefer to remain instead of embarking on the perilous journey to the US-Mexico border. So, it was not uncommon to hear that UNHCR has offices in Tenosique, Tabasco and Palenque, Chiapas, since both are situated along the Tabasco-Chiapas federal highway that parallels the Guatemala border.

After arriving at the Villahermosa airport, it is a two-hour drive to the UNHCR field office in Palenque, Chiapas. Palenque has long been a destination for national and international tourists due to the Mayan ruins that flourished in the 7th century.

In Palenque, long lines of refugees with a range of protection needs wait patiently outside the UNHCR office, hoping to speak with a UNHCR representative. Many of these refugees, mostly from Central America, are hoping for a new life in Mexico looking to integrate and seeking various forms of assistance.

However, many who desire to stay in Mexico cannot remain due to their vulnerability and the risk they face in their country of asylum. Many, if not all, of these refugees fled Central America due to gang violence plaguing their countries. Many refugees, particularly women, are at severe risk trying to integrate but unable to do so due to their “agent of persecution”, namely organized criminal elements, or gangs, from their country of origin. These criminal elements have links not only to gangs in the country of origin, but also with drug cartels in Mexico that can easily track down refugees and identify them, particularly in the southern states of Mexico.

These types of cases are sadly all too common. Given this background, it becomes more difficult to relocate these refugees to a different city within Mexico. To make matters worse, a single mother travelling alone with her children can easily fall prey to human traffickers, drug traffickers or both. For this reason, it becomes more difficult for refugees to integrate and move forward.

As Mexico experiences a larger influx of refugees, these types of cases reflect the urgent need for a joint effort to provide an alternative pathway. For many refugees the clock is ticking when options are scarce.

For example, while in Palenque, I interviewed a single mother fleeing violence from Honduras after her small business became a target of extortion. The refugee decided to flee with her children to Mexico after she was unable to pay the extortion money to the gang. Thereafter, through a series of gang affiliations and connections the persecutors tracked her down and threatened to kill her through text messages, telling her they know she was in Palenque. The refugee, frightened, approached the UNHCR’s office. However, due to the high level of vulnerability and the high risk of the gang’s affiliation to local gangs, relocating to another city is not a viable long-term solution for the refugee and her children.

This is where ICMC, in partnership with UNHCR, provide a lifeline to these refugees by sending resettlement deployees to these areas. We focus our efforts on these refugees who, because of their background and vulnerability, require resettlement and we offer them an alternative to their perilous journey to safety.

Resettlement offers a durable and lasting solution for those who cannot fend for themselves. This is especially true in the context of a protracted struggle to safety, where resettlement provides security and protection for those seeking to redo their lives.

So, as I settle in for the flight to Villahermosa, I know I will be able to use my background and knowledge as an ICMC deployee to open critical paths to safety and security for the most vulnerable population.

ERIK MORRISON

Resettlement Deployee (ICMC)
Mexico City, Mexico



ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

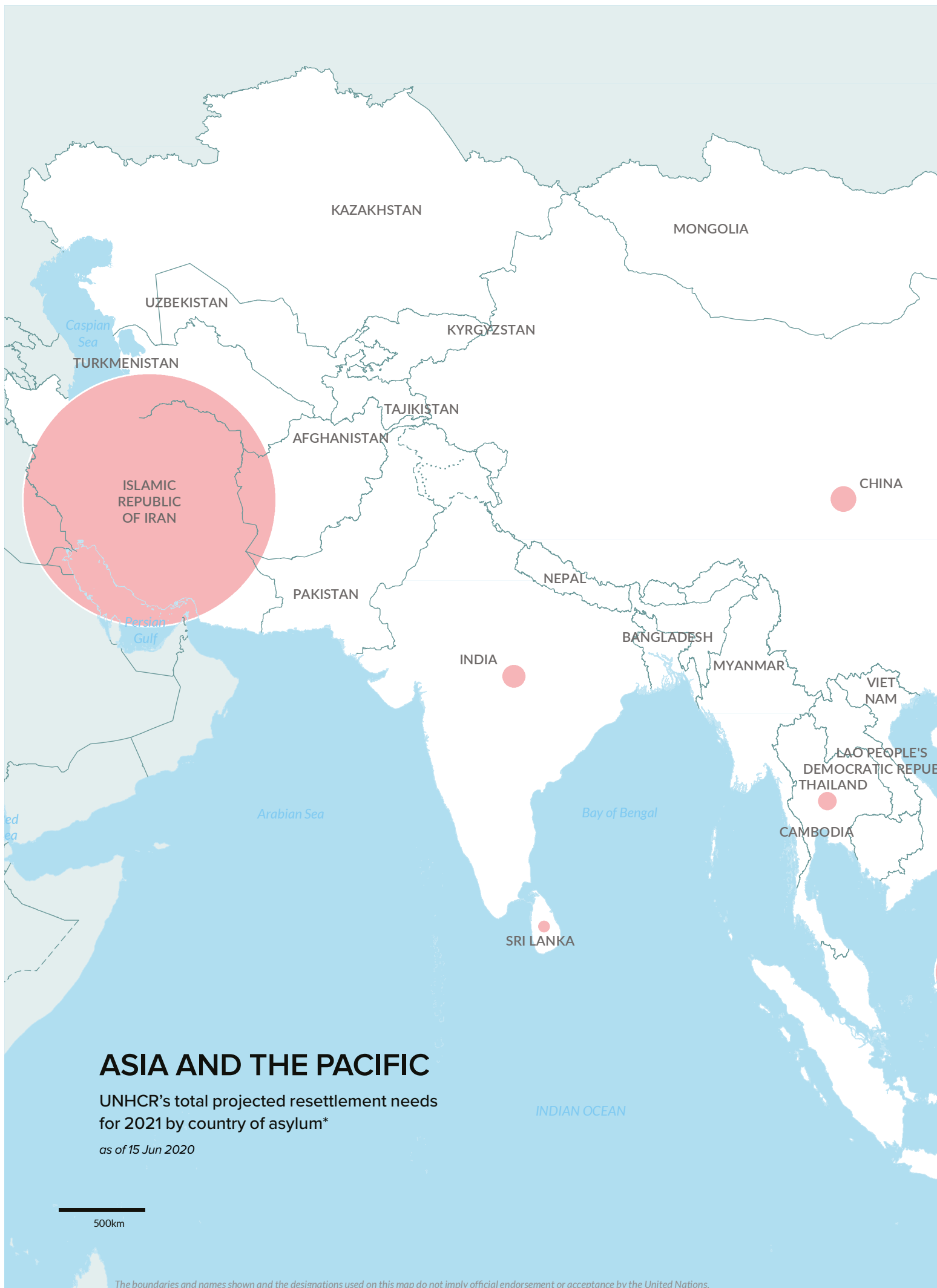
SOUTH ASIA
India
Sri Lanka

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
China (including Hong Kong SAR)
Indonesia
Malaysia
Thailand

SOUTH-WEST ASIA
The Islamic Republic of Iran

Iranian and Afghan refugee schoolgirls in sixth grade at Vahdat school in Isfahan. November 2019. © UNHCR/Mohammad Hossein Dehghanian





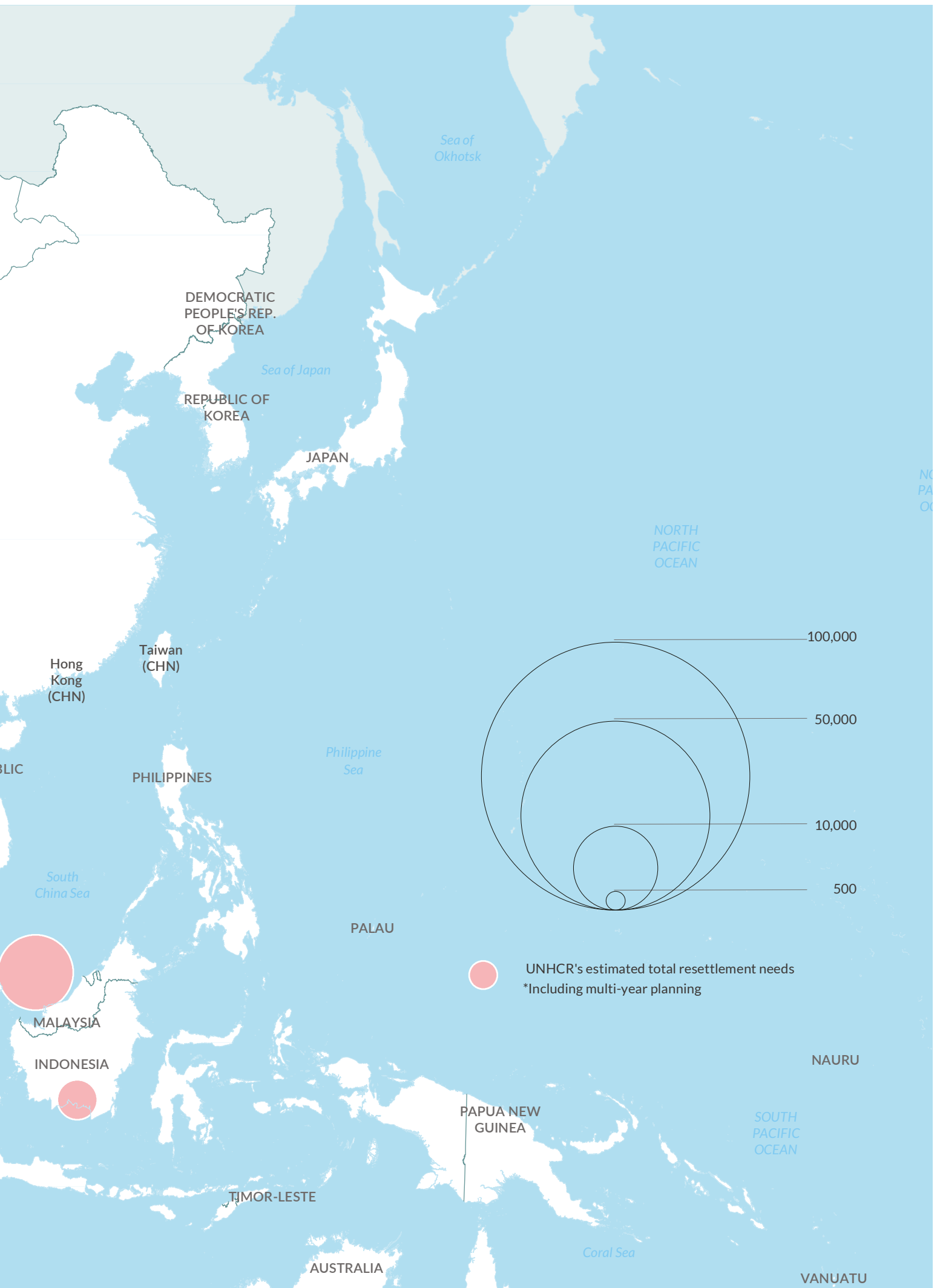
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2021 by country of asylum*

as of 15 Jun 2020

500km

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



NO
PA
OC

VANUATU

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC OVERVIEW

Protracted conflicts and instability in countries of origin have resulted in lengthy periods of displacement for the majority of refugees and asylum-seekers in the Asia and the Pacific region. With almost 99,500 refugees estimated to be in need of resettlement, this durable solution will continue to be used strategically as a form of responsibility sharing and to ensure protection space is maintained and, where possible, expanded.

In the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees, and recognizing the immense role played by countries who are host to almost 4.5 million refugees and asylum-seekers in Asia and the Pacific, the utilization of third country solutions, such as resettlement, for a portion of the population serves to encourage and enable the pursuit of other opportunities, both in the host country and in the country of origin.

TRENDS IN 2019

The cases of 5,719 refugees were submitted for resettlement from the region throughout 2019, a slight decrease from submissions in 2018 of 5,796. Approximately 41 per cent of the refugees submitted for resettlement originated from Myanmar, 23 per cent from Afghanistan, 18 per cent from Pakistan, and seven per cent from Somalia.

Twelve resettlement states continued receiving submissions from the region in 2019. Around 47 per cent of all submissions were made to the United States of America, 18 per cent to Australia and 18 per cent to Canada, nine per cent to New Zealand and four per cent to the United Kingdom.

Departures to resettlement countries from the region also decreased slightly from 8,057 persons in 2018 to 7,651 in 2019.

REGIONAL COVERAGE

In order to support the solutions strategy, the Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific (RBAP) provides oversight, coordination, and support for resettlement and complementary pathway activities to 49 countries and 19 operations throughout Asia and the Pacific.

In 2021, activities by RBAP to promote resettlement within the region will include: ensuring coordination and harmonization of resettlement approaches in line with the regional solutions strategy, ensuring the strategic use of resettlement to complement other solutions and to strengthen the protection environment in host countries, direct resettlement processing for a small number of cases in countries with no or limited UNHCR presence, reviewing resettlement submissions by country offices as needed, and ensuring continued engagement on and strengthening of complementary pathways programs.



"I have faced many challenges to get to where I am now, and I will continue overcoming any challenge that may come my way."

Dr Faezeh Hosseini, a 40-year-old Afghan refugee, sits for a family portrait with her husband, their son, Mahdi, and daughter, Fatemeh-Kowsar, at their home in Najafabad, Isfahan province, Iran. November 2019. © UNHCR/Mohammad Hossein Dehghanian

REGIONAL SOLUTIONS STRATEGY

As part of the protection and solutions strategy for the region, the 2021 resettlement approach will prioritize those in greatest need and utilize resettlement strategically to improve the protection space for persons of concern (PoCs) in host countries throughout the region. Following years of generous large-scale resettlement support, including through group submissions from Malaysia, Thailand, and Nepal, submissions in 2021 will be made on an individual basis. As needs far exceed the resettlement space available, operations will prioritize those facing serious risks to personal safety, health or well-being and those with serious or compounded vulnerabilities without any prospects for improvement of their situation in their current environment.

Individuals will be assessed for submission through vulnerability panels and other mechanisms designed to ensure consistency, fairness, and transparency in the



Sue-meh, a 33-year-old Karen refugee from Myanmar, sits with her three-year-old son, Klaw Reh, and six-year-old daughter, Mee Meh, at the Ban Mai Nai Soi refugee camp in Thailand. Sue-meh is an artisan working with UNHCR partner, WEAVE. November 2019. © UNHCR/Paula Bronstein

resettlement case identification process. UNHCR will assess cases holistically and looking at the totality of the situation of the concerned individual. No one factor or profile will be dispositive for referral to resettlement. This will also assist to avoid refugees misrepresenting their situation to qualify under a resettlement category.

As most host countries in the region do not consider the possibility of local integration for refugees on their territory and voluntary repatriation remains unattainable for the majority of PoCs due to protracted conflict and instability in countries of origin, the overwhelming majority of refugees and asylum-seekers hosted in Asia and the Pacific are currently unable to access a durable solution.

Therefore, resettlement must be used strategically and with a targeted approach for those facing serious risks or vulnerabilities.

However, the criteria set by some resettlement countries have become increasingly narrow, particularly for certain ethnic groups or needs profiles, resulting in some of the most vulnerable refugees or those facing the greatest protection risks being unable to access resettlement opportunities. To ensure integrity, transparency, and confidence in UNHCR processes, country operations will seek to submit individuals identified through protection-oriented processes as being in the greatest need, regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, or nationality. Obtaining resettlement quotas that are inclusive, non-discriminatory, and geared toward providing a solution for those in the greatest need will enable operations to maintain this approach.

As most do not have access to a durable solution in the near future, it is imperative that host countries receive support from the international community, that the role they play is recognized through substantive support that contributes to the larger response, and that PoCs, particularly in protracted situations, have access to opportunities to grow, engage, and contribute while in displacement. To this end, UNHCR is working with governments, hosting communities, and refugees towards the more consistent inclusion of PoCs in national health, education, judicial, and social systems and in activities that enable self-reliance. The strategic utilization of resettlement for those most in need serves to encourage and assist host country governments to maintain and enhance protection space for those PoCs who remain on their territory.

In addition to the resettlement needs presented in the following country chapters, a large population of refugees with extreme vulnerabilities and heightened protection needs who are currently hosted in Bangladesh would benefit from resettlement. As the Bangladesh government does not currently permit resettlement out of the country, UNHCR has not submitted a country chapter on the needs of this population group. UNHCR continues to discuss the possibility of resuming a resettlement program with the Bangladesh government.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	Cases	Persons
East Asia and the Pacific	7,144	11,390
South Asia	390	1,080
South-West Asia	21,500	87,000
Grand Total	29,034	99,470

**includes multi-year planning*

"It is my favourite city in the whole of Turkey. It is big and busy, and despite being crowded and the travelling I have to do get to university, I still love it."
Sidra Taleb looks out across the water from the Galata Bridge in Istanbul. The 21-year-old Syrian refugee from Aleppo has been living here since 2014 and is studying dentistry thanks to a Türkiye Burslari scholarship. December 2019. © UNHCR/Diego Ibarra Sánchez



EUROPE

Turkey



AND

Faeroe Islands (DNK)

EUROPE

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2021 by country of asylum*

as of 15 Jun 2020

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

IRELAND

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Jersey (GBR)

NETHERLANDS

DENMARK

GERMANY

BELGIUM

LUXEMBOURG

SWEDEN

FRANCE

CZECH REPUBLIC

LIECHTENSTEIN

AUSTRIA

SWITZERLAND

SLOVENIA

CROATIA

MONACO

SAN MARINO ITALY

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

ANDORRA

HOLY SEE

SPAIN

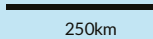
PORTUGAL

MALTA

ALGERIA

TUNISIA

MOROCCO



250km

* Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 (1999)).

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

EUROPE OVERVIEW

Resettlement needs in Europe remain considerably high, largely on account of the scale of the refugee population in Turkey, which is the world's largest refugee hosting country with over 4 million refugees at the start of 2020. Despite the significant expansion of resettlement from Turkey since 2016, due to the sheer size of the refugee population, infrastructure and resources in Turkey continue to feel the strain, and with the gradual depletion of their personal resources and the expected impact of the COVID pandemic on their livelihoods, refugees are increasingly resorting to harmful coping mechanisms. It is projected that 423,600 refugees will need resettlement from Turkey in 2021, the majority of whom are Syrian nationals, making Turkey the operation with the greatest needs globally. In Turkey, resettlement will continue to be used strategically to preserve protection space and generate other solutions, as well as a demonstration of international solidarity and responsibility-sharing. Resettlement also continues to represent a small component of UNHCR's protection strategy in a few other European countries, including the Russian Federation and Ukraine, where it is used as a tool for protection for very vulnerable refugees who are facing heightened protection risks.

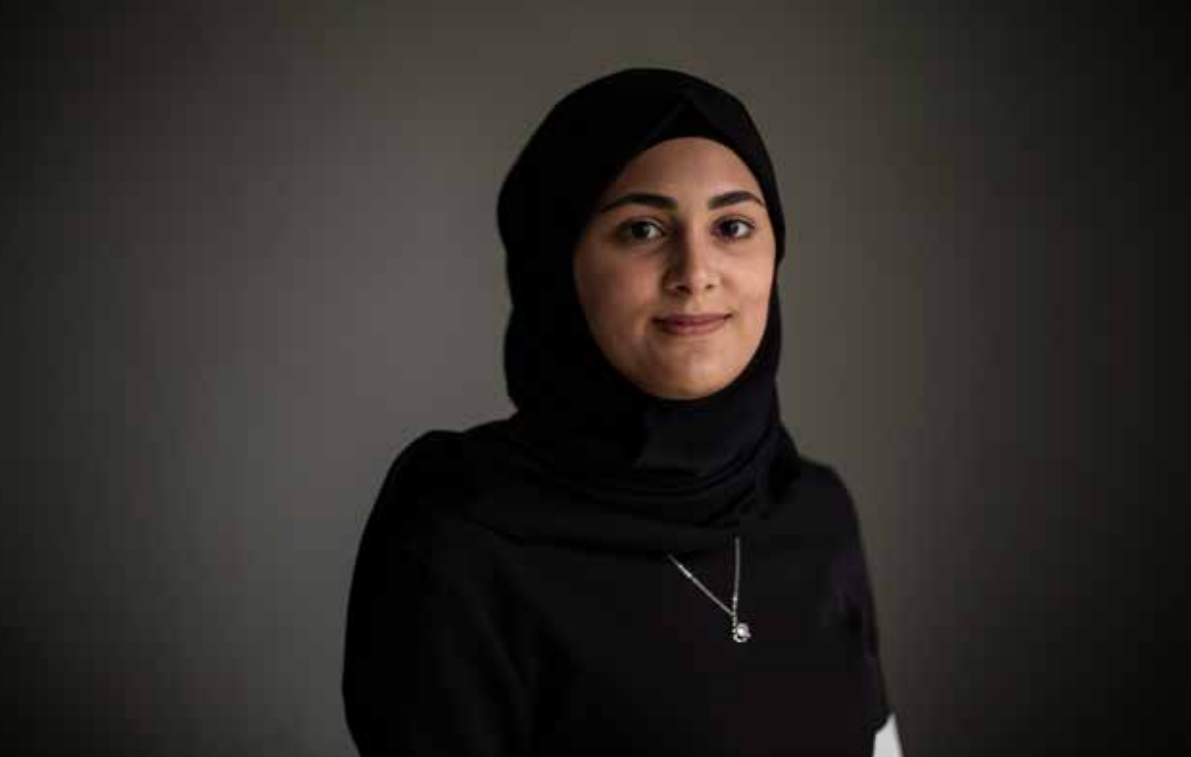
TRENDS IN 2019

The number of resettlement submissions from Europe rose to 17,572 in 2019 compared to 16,135 in 2018, representing an increase of 9 per cent. This increase was mainly due to additional resettlement quotas offered for the Turkey operation, which submitted 17,552 individuals to 18 resettlement countries. Departures to resettlement countries from the region also grew from 9,125 in 2018 to 10,617 in 2019, with the majority of departures from Turkey (10,558) followed by countries in Eastern Europe.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The number of refugees and migrants arriving to Europe via the Mediterranean Sea fell again significantly in 2019 to approximately 105,425 compared to 116,647 in 2018 and 172,324 in 2017. However, in addition to Greece, certain countries at the external borders of the European Union continued to receive relatively high numbers of arrivals throughout 2019 in relation to their population size, in particular Cyprus and Malta. In addition, countries in South Eastern Europe (Western Balkans) experienced relatively high arrival rates, in particular Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. As a result, the capacities of these states to receive, process and assist persons of concern to UNHCR in line with international and national standards remained challenged.

Arrivals to Turkey from Syria and a number of other countries continued, and as a result, Turkey remained the world's largest refugee hosting country, with significant resettlement needs. At the beginning of 2020, the number of refugees and asylum-seekers in Turkey stood at 4.2 million individuals, including 3.6 million Syrian refugees, in addition to some 65,000 refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and other countries. A number of states have remained proactively engaged in



“Since I was a little girl, my dream was to go to university. I studied very hard to achieve this dream.” Sidra Taleb sits for a portrait at home on the outskirts of Istanbul. The 21-year-old Syrian from Aleppo has been a refugee in Turkey since 2014 and is studying dentistry through the Turkiye Burslari scholarship she received in 2018. May 2020. © UNHCR/Diego Ibarra Sánchez

resettlement of Syrian refugees, which is complemented by a smaller number of other durable solution pathways available in Turkey, including family reunification, private sponsorships, and humanitarian visas. Resettlement from Turkey not only provides refugees with a durable solution but also represents an opportunity for the international community to ease pressure on host communities, support the largest refugee-hosting country and demonstrate the positive impact of responsibility-sharing. Large-scale and expedited resettlement from Turkey is essential to developing comprehensive refugee responses as envisaged in the Global Compact on Refugees. The success of the international community in responding to the needs in Turkey comprehensively and through a variety of pathway opportunities will set an important precedent on how the objectives of the comprehensive refugee response can be directly implemented and achieve positive results.

In Eastern Europe, throughout the region, access to asylum and the capacity to conduct efficient and fair asylum procedures continue to be a challenge. For the most part in the sub-region, the protection environment remains relatively volatile, partially marked by xenophobia and homophobia, and with national security and other considerations often taking primacy over the assessment of asylum claims in line with international standards. Consequently, certain groups of people, in particular ethnic and religious minorities, highly sensitive political profiles as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons face increased risks of *refoulement*, violence, including sexual and gender-based violence. UNHCR continues to work with State authorities in the region to support access to fair and efficient RSD procedures and decision-making that meets international standards. Furthermore, local integration of refugees remains a high priority for all UNHCR operations in view of the significant challenges faced by many persons of concern. In these European States, UNHCR will use resettlement as a tool for protection for those refugees at heightened risk or with serious vulnerabilities, in particular those at risk of *refoulement*, in need of specialized medical care that is not available in the asylum country, or who are facing other serious risks to their physical and legal safety.

In South Eastern Europe, significant numbers of asylum-seekers and migrants

continue to move irregularly through the sub-region. Persons potentially in need of international protection rarely apply for asylum, and if they do, often abandon the procedure to move onward. However, with increasingly restrictive border management in place at the external borders of the EU (e.g. Hungary and Croatia), onward movement through EU Member States has become more difficult. As a result, the number of persons applying for international protection in the sub-region, particularly in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, is expected to increase and with a small number of individuals likely to be identified with specific needs who may need resettlement as a vital tool for protection, including women and adolescents at risk.

RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

The resettlement needs in Europe remain high in 2021, with some 423,700 persons projected to be in need of resettlement, which is higher than what was projected for 2020. This is mainly due to the lack of alternative durable solutions and the fact that most of the root causes of forced displacement remain unaddressed, with Syrians in Turkey making up over 90 per cent of those projected to be in need of resettlement from Europe. In Eastern and South Eastern European countries, while the situation has also not markedly changed, UNHCR is focusing its activities on strengthening national asylum systems coupled with increased efforts to find local and community-based solutions for persons of concern, leading to similar projected resettlement needs for 2021.

SUB-REGIONAL OVERVIEWS

Turkey operation

Syrian refugees in Turkey continue to benefit from temporary protection, and the Government recognizes that they will remain in Turkey for an extended period of time in view of the prevailing situation in Syria. Although work permit regulations of early 2016 provide a firm ground for labour market integration of persons of concern, significant constraints including the economic climate and high rates of unemployment, coupled with the impact of the COVID pandemic, continue to inhibit refugees' participation in the labour market. Destitution among refugees has resulted in their engagement in harmful coping mechanisms, such as child labour and child marriage, while aggravating tensions among communities. Given the scale of the refugee population, the infrastructure in Turkey is under pressure, making it difficult for refugees to access services. Therefore, resettlement remains a vital responsibility-sharing mechanism and a means to ease the strain on Turkey's infrastructure and resources.

The estimated total resettlement needs in Turkey are 423,600 persons, the large majority (383,000) of whom are Syrian refugees. The number of Syrians projected to need resettlement in 2021 is slightly higher than in 2020 (380,000). The conflict in Syria has entered its ninth year and the needs of the Syrian refugee population in Turkey have become more acute, in a context marked by socio-economic difficulties, tensions with host communities and changes of policies towards refugees.

Contrary to Syrian refugees, asylum-seekers from other countries undergo

individual refugee status determination for which the Government of Turkey has assumed responsibility since September 2018, and those who are from outside Europe are considered to hold “conditional” refugee status once recognized due to the geographic limitation Turkey maintains in implementing the 1951 Convention. Those holding this status may remain in the country legally, but only until a durable solution is found outside Turkey, limiting access to other solutions for this group. Estimated resettlement needs of refugees from countries other than Syria in Turkey are around 40,600 persons (including refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and other nationalities), and focus on children and adolescents at risk, refugees with legal and physical protection needs, survivors of violence and torture, and refugees with serious medical needs or disabilities.

Eastern and South Eastern Europe

Resettlement needs in Eastern Europe (particularly in the Russian Federation and Ukraine) in 2021 are estimated at 100 people. These refugees originate primarily from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Syria, and the South Caucasus, as well as a small number from sub-Saharan and Central Asian countries. The protection environment across the region remains relatively volatile with certain groups of refugees, such as ethnic and religious minorities as well as LGBTI persons facing considerable risks. UNHCR plans to continue using resettlement throughout the region for highly vulnerable refugees, including those at risk of *refoulement*, while continuing to identify other solutions.

In Ukraine, some refugees are exposed to threats of expulsion and to their physical safety and remain in a vulnerable socio-economic situation, including women and LGBTI individuals. While UNHCR’s efforts are focused on local integration through community-based approaches, some 60 persons of concern with serious protection risks and/or social vulnerabilities, including acute medical needs, which cannot be addressed in Ukraine, have been identified as needing resettlement. In the Russian Federation, access to international protection remains a challenge, with the resulting risks of detention and deportation as well as lack of access to health care and livelihoods. This has an especially negative effect on vulnerable individuals such as female-headed households, survivors of violence and torture and individuals with serious medical needs. It is estimated that some 20 individuals will require resettlement. In South Eastern Europe, it is estimated that some 20 individuals with specific needs, in particular women and adolescents at risk, might be in need of resettlement.

EUROPE: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	Cases	Persons
Turkey	107,500	423,600
Grand Total	107,500	423,600

*includes multi-year planning



MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

GERMANY

Asmerom. ©UNHCR/Martin Rentsch

DO NOT FORGET THE PEOPLE IN LIBYA

BY CHRIS MELZER

Asmerom came to Germany as a refugee with the help of UNHCR's resettlement programme. Before that he spent months in one of the detention centres in Libya. From the safety of his new home in Hamburg, he still remembers vividly the misery, violence and death he witnessed in those centres. Every day.

Hamburg is different. For Asmerom, Hamburg is not only a new home. Hamburg is safety. Freedom. Hope. Hamburg is different from the old home. In Eritrea, the young man who studied history had neither freedom nor future, in Libya he survived only with luck. "In Hamburg, everything is different," he says quietly. "I am free. And I have a chance." He pauses. "Thank you. Thank you for that."

Even as a historian he had thought about leaving the country. "It wasn't about true history, it wasn't about science. It was about what the regime claimed," he says. When the threat of indefinite military service came closer, Asmerom fled. "I don't want to be in a country where there is no justice and

where they put you in prison for speaking your mind."

Actually, he doesn't really want to talk about Libya. "It was..." He's looking for the right German word. "Entsetzlich", he says quietly. "Terrible, just terrible." Eight months he spent in that war-torn country. "The detention centre, it was not only small, it was completely overcrowded. We were 1,600 people. There was only one toilet. You couldn't wash. And there was hardly any food. We were starving." And then the constant violence: "We were beaten. We were beaten for no reason. I was beaten, too. Many times. Just like that." There was a second area behind a partition. "There were the women and even children. We

didn't see them. But they too were beaten. We heard it. Every day." How did he survive that time? "That's why", he says, putting his hand on the wooden cross on his chest.

In the detention centre in Libya, he was particularly affected as a Christian by the mistreatment from the guards. So why didn't he just throw away the wooden cross? He looks astonished. "I can't live without it," he says. "To throw it away would be to lie to God." Once a guard tore it from his neck and crushed it. Asmerom picked it up and somehow repaired it. "I protected it. "But actually, it was protecting me."

Not only violence and misery were omnipresent, but also death. "People were dying. Many died." Most of them because they could not stand the conditions, because there was too little food and the prisoners were completely neglected. "Many were hurt. Some by the flight, some by the beatings and abuse. No one cared about them. They just died." There was a man lying right next to him. He was getting weaker. And then he was dead. "I've seen a lot of people die. But he was right next to me. I will never forget him."

The people were traded like slaves, he says. Either the militias traded them among themselves or sold them for money. Asmerom was lucky that staff of UNHCR were able to enter the centre. They were able to secure his release through negotiations and international pressure and submit his case for resettlement consideration to Germany.

Through resettlement, refugees like Asmerom are able to start their lives over in safe third countries, entering the country officially, without having to undertake a dangerous and often fatal crossing of the Mediterranean. "The programme is so important for refugees," says Asmerom. "I have seen so many people suffer. Please help them. Do not forget Libya! Please do not forget the people in Libya!"

Encouraging states to create more resettlement places is also a priority

of the Global Compact on Refugees adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2018, which is intended to make refugee protection better and more efficient. The Global Refugee Forum, which took place in Geneva in December 2019, reviewed where the international community stands in implementing the Global Compact and its goals. Germany has provided 300 places for refugees evacuated from Libya, such as Asmerom.

Asmerom was lucky. His new home is now Hamburg and the city is for him above all a place of learning. In six months, he has already taken his level B1 German exam. He wants to do an apprenticeship as soon as possible, either as an accountant or as an educator, because he would like to work with children. "Children are happy, children are life, they are the future," he says. And the 28-year-old cannot get enough of life and the future.

He is proud of his new home town and greets with "Moin!", a typical phrase in northern Germany. The best thing about Hamburg? "The people are very nice. Always helpful." And what doesn't he like about the city? "Actually, I like everything." He takes a pause, "well," he says, "sometimes in winter the weather is ... not that great".

This article was first published in German on UNHCR Deutschland's website on 7 October 2019 (<https://www.unhcr.org/dach/de/34936-bitte-vergesst-die-menschen-in-libyen-nicht.html>)

Nine-year-old Somali refugees, Sara and Leila, laugh in the playground of the early intervention centre in Kharaz refugee camp in Lahj, Yemen. Sara and Leila have been diagnosed with developmental delays that impact their ability to learn. The centre, run by UNHCR partner Intersos, offers them a safe environment to develop basic skills like identifying numbers and colours, reading and writing, and speech therapy, until they can integrate into the formal education system. February 2020. © UNHCR/Marie-Joëlle Jean-Charles



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

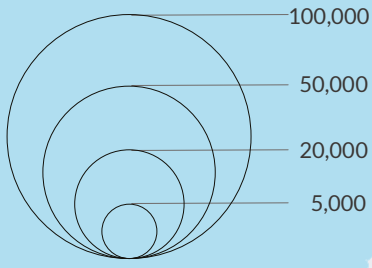
THE MIDDLE EAST

Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and
Saudi Arabia
Iraq
Israel
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Syrian Arab Republic
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

NORTH AFRICA

Algeria
Egypt
Libya
Mauritania
Morocco
Tunisia





UNHCR's estimated total resettlement needs
*Including multi-year planning

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

TUNISIA

MOROCCO

ALGERIA

LIBYA

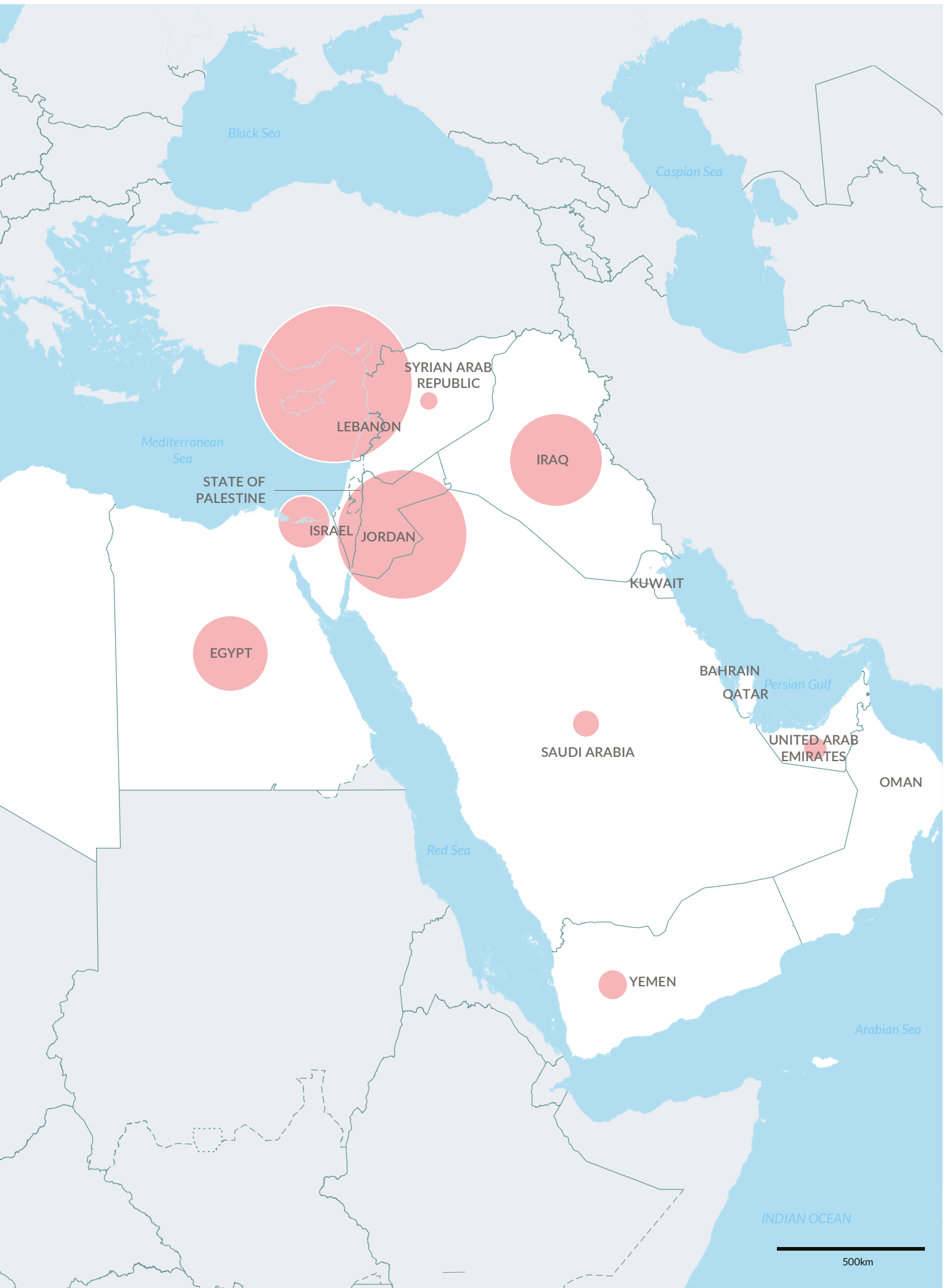
Western Sahara

MAURITANIA

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2021 by country of asylum*

as of 11 Jun 2020



Black Sea

Caspian Sea

Mediterranean Sea

Persian Gulf

Red Sea

Arabian Sea

INDIAN OCEAN

500km

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

LEBANON

IRAQ

STATE OF PALESTINE

ISRAEL

JORDAN

KUWAIT

EGYPT

BAHRAIN

QATAR

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

SAUDI ARABIA

OMAN

YEMEN

Wafaa Ahmad Hachem, 32 years old Syrian refugee, combs Yasmine Al Sham's hair (her daughter) at home in Barja. Al Masri family was waiting to be resettlement in Norway but plans were canceled due to Covid-19 a few weeks ago. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced refugee resettlement worldwide to grind to a halt, dividing families and stranding them thousands of miles from each other. May 2020. © UNHCR/Diego Ibarra Sánchez



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA OVERVIEW

In a region of continued and compounding needs and where local solutions are severely limited, resettlement is a vital protection tool for those with specific protection needs, a means of maintaining the protection space in host countries, and the only viable solution for many refugees.

TRENDS IN 2019

2019 saw an increase in submissions from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region with 23,964 refugees submitted for resettlement compared to 21,541 submissions in 2018. This is an 11 per cent increase from the previous year, although almost a 65 per cent reduction from the peak of submissions in 2016 (67,723).

In 2019, approximately 75 per cent of the refugees submitted from the MENA region originated from Syria. The top three non-Syrian nationalities submitted in 2019 were Sudanese (eight per cent), Iraqi (seven per cent) and Eritrean (four per cent).

Submissions were made to 20 different resettlement countries in 2019. 24 per cent of all submissions were made to Canada, 16 per cent to Germany, 11 per cent

to the United Kingdom, nine per cent to Sweden, eight per cent to Norway, and six per cent to Australia. Departures to resettlement countries from the region increased from 18,428 in 2018 to 20,036 in 2019.

REGIONAL COVERAGE

To support regional protection and solutions strategies, the Regional Bureau for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA Bureau) provides oversight, coordination, and support for resettlement activities in: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen, with functional oversight of Turkey for the Iraq and Syria regional responses. Depending on the needs of operations, support may include an array of tailored activities, with the overall goal to ensure resettlement is efficient, sustainable and predictable, without compromising the quality and integrity of case processing.

RESETTLEMENT AND SOLUTIONS STRATEGY

In 2021, activities by the MENA Bureau to promote resettlement within the region will include operational-based activities, and more traditional forms of advocacy, in line with the Three-Year Strategy.

To make the best possible use of each resettlement place, the MENA region will continue to deliver timely, high-quality submissions, aimed at refugees with the most compelling protection needs. This will be achieved through engagement with and support to operations, thorough review processes and regional quota management and oversight. The MENA Bureau and country operations will ensure collaboration with resettlement States to further improve coordination on submission targets and seek feedback on areas for improvement. The MENA Bureau will seek engagement with countries willing to establish new programs in the region to support the development of sustainable, enduring activities. The MENA Bureau will also support operations to maintain and improve high standards of integrity and anti-fraud safeguards within resettlement programs, capitalizing on innovative processing approaches and technological advancements.

The MENA Bureau and country operations will remain closely involved in the Priority Situations Core Group (PSCG), as well as other multi-lateral fora such as the Regional Durable Solutions Working Group for the Syria situation. The engagement with the PSCG is of strategic importance as it builds strong working relationships with resettlement State partners, allows better collaboration on programs, may foster new approaches, and is an avenue to pass key advocacy messages, all of which strongly benefits refugees. MENA will continue to produce focused advocacy tools to support specific profiles, operations or approaches, in order to garner support and to benefit from strategic opportunities.

In the absence of sufficient resettlement places to meet the needs, the MENA Bureau and country operations will continue to support and expand access to complementary pathways for the admission of refugees to third countries, wherever possible, building from training and mapping activities of 2019 and the creation of a regional contact group for complementary pathways.

As part of the Protection and Solutions Strategy for the Region, the Bureau will



Marth (left) and Mary (centre), both refugees from South Sudan, and Howaida (right), a refugee from Sudan, work at the UNHCR supported MADE51 project in Cairo. November 2019. © UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

support a strategy in 2021 which capitalizes on resettlement activities by: focusing on those with the most compelling protection needs, remaining adaptable to the varied contexts and needs within the region, and securing maximum benefit from the strategic use of resettlement.

The operational situation in the MENA region is complex, with conflict zones in Syria, Libya and Yemen, instability in Iraq, mixed population flows throughout North Africa, and the region impacted with large scale protracted refugee populations, particularly Syrians and Iraqis.

Refugees and others of concern often remain in socio-economic destitution, with limited access to formal employment, and vulnerable to protection risks including exploitation, sexual and gender-based violence, child labour, early marriage, xenophobia and discrimination and in some instances, arrest, detention, deportation, and *refoulement*. Large families are particularly affected and experience a higher rate of vulnerability. While health and education services are available in principle in some countries, refugees struggle with practical access due to a lack of legal status, discrimination, language barriers, lack of finances or other factors.

Given the region's diversity, the resettlement strategy for 2021 involves three streams:

For the Syria response, as the situation develops in Syria over coming years, resettlement will continue to reflect the international community's responsibility towards Syrian refugees and safeguard the protection space in the five main countries hosting Syrians. UNHCR envisages an ongoing, multi-year resettlement programme for Syrians which adopts a targeted approach and is coherent with and complementary to wider durable solutions planning. Resettlement will remain as a reliable and effective protection tool reserved for those with compelling protection needs, and for whom return to Syria will not be possible in the foreseeable future.

For North Africa and the Central Mediterranean situation, resettlement activities, as well as evacuations from Libya to the Emergency Transit Mechanisms in Niger and Rwanda, will target those with compelling protection needs. Intensified conflict in Libya has resulted in an increase of asylum-seekers arriving in the south of Tunisia. In Algeria, refugees have become increasingly targeted for arrest, detention and expulsion across the border to Niger, while in Egypt, refugees from Sub-Saharan African countries face serious protection problems, including discrimination and harassment, as well as exacerbated sexual and gender-based violence. Ongoing resettlement activities will be complemented by close engagement with the PSCG and other advocacy channels to increase and diversify resettlement partners in the sub-region.

For the Gulf States, Israel, Syria and Yemen, resettlement needs are expected to grow. Greater diversity of resettlement opportunities will be explored while support for operations will be prioritized for capacity building, together with the use of innovation in the identification of refugees for resettlement, exploration of complementary pathways, and - in the context of Syria and Yemen - advocacy for solutions for refugees in conflict situations.

In 2021, resettlement will be used strategically to benefit not just those who are resettled, but also refugees and others of concern remaining in the region, as well as to promote international responsibility-sharing as reflected in the Global Compact on Refugees. As local integration opportunities are all but non-existent, UNHCR uses resettlement to initiate dialogue with host States; this has had an important impact on maintaining protection space, particularly in the five main countries hosting Syrians. Building on these dialogues, offices may advocate to keep the borders open for new arrivals, extend the length of residence visas, open up access to educational and livelihood opportunities, and counter anti-refugee rhetoric in some instances. Resettlement programs targeting Syrians may also be used strategically to advocate for the inclusion of non-Syrian refugees, or to engage with host States on building a more favourable protection environment for them. Resettlement will be used to unlock impasses with host States on specific matters (such as in various Gulf States) while it will also be used within a wider framework of durable solutions, such as in the Libya and Central Mediterranean context.

MENA: 2021 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	Cases	Persons
Middle East	70,441	243,629
North Africa	14,123	32,352
Grand Total	84,564	275,981

**includes multi-year planning*

MENA FIELD STORY

LEBANON

SYRIAN FAMILY AWAITS END OF LOCKDOWN TO START NEW LIFE IN NORWAY

Airport closure forced Wafaa and her family to postpone resettlement, but she hopes that once crisis eases they can leave Lebanon and her teenage son can stop work.

After surviving fourteen months living in fear and hunger during the siege of Eastern Ghouta near Damascus, Wafaa and her family were grateful just to escape with their lives when they fled the siege and made their way to Lebanon as refugees in 2014.

“When we arrived in Lebanon, it was like we moved from hell to heaven,” said Wafaa, 32, as she remembered the day the family finally made it across the border.

But after more than five years of deepening poverty and steadily deteriorating circumstances in Lebanon, familiar feelings of entrapment and despair once again began to take hold.

With Wafaa’s husband struggling to find regular work due to an injury sustained during the siege, they are now forced to rely on the income of their 13-year-old son, Bakr, who works at a local supermarket delivering goods to customers.

“When I see my son working and not studying, I feel so sad,” said Wafaa. “I look at his friends who learned to read and write, but he can’t. He often comes back exhausted from work and asks me: ‘when is this going to end?’”

“His psychological state of mind isn’t great,” added Wafaa. “He doesn’t go out to play and he has very few friends. He spends too much time alone. I feel so sad for him, I feel he is broken because he can’t read or write. This is really hard for a child.”

The family lives in a sparsely furnished apartment in Mount Lebanon governorate, outside the capital Beirut. Bakr’s earnings barely cover the monthly rent, meaning the family often has to go without other necessities. Recently, the family had to go without electricity for four months, as they were unable to afford the fuel to run the generator.

One evening, as she was putting her youngest children to sleep, Wafaa tried to reassure them that things would get better. “We were under a lot of



Layan, 10 years old Syrian refugee, daughter of Mouhamad Al Dali Al Masri and Wafaa Ahmad Hachem, plays with her little sister Yasmine Al Sham, 3 years old at home. May 2020. © UNHCR/Diego Ibarra Sánchez

pressure, we had to pay rent and couldn't. I was joking with my daughters, telling them to sleep early as we have an interview at UNHCR the next day so that we can go abroad."

To her surprise, Wafaa's hopeful story came true the next day when UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, called her husband to tell them that the family would be interviewed by Norway for resettlement "I was completely shocked; I didn't believe him. I thanked God we can finally get our children out."

Following an interview with the Norwegian selection mission at the end of last year – which was held via videoconference after the delegation was unable to travel to Lebanon due to protests in the country at the time – the family was accepted and scheduled to fly out on 23 March 2020.

But the lockdown measures introduced in mid-March to prevent the spread of COVID-19 meant the family's flights were cancelled and their resettlement put on hold.



Mouhamad Al Dali Al Masri, 37 Years old Syrian refugee from east Ghouta, plays with his little daughter, Yasmine Al Sham, 3 years old, at the roof top of his house. 19 May 2020. © UNHCR/Diego Ibarra Sánchez

“Being poor is hard, being vulnerable is hard. Our hopes were pinned on this trip, but it hasn’t worked out,” Wafaa said.

With many countries worldwide closing their borders in response to the pandemic, and with widespread disruption to international air traffic, on 17 March UNHCR and IOM announced that it would temporarily put on hold most resettlement departures for refugees except for emergency cases until it is again feasible to organize travel.

While fewer than one per cent of the world’s refugees having the possibility to be resettled, finding a new home in a third country remains a vital and often life-saving option for some of the most vulnerable individuals under UNHCR’s mandate.

The family still hopes to travel to Norway when airports reopen and commercial flights resume.

“We hear that Norway is developed and is beautiful,” said Wafaa. “That they have respect for other people, and they respect the freedom of speech. We hope to still make it there.”

Wafaa dreams of educating all her children and hopes to go to school herself to study psychology. She hopes her husband can get the treatment he needs to overcome his injury there too.

The family recognizes that the postponement of their much-awaited trip is due to circumstances beyond their control, and they remain hopeful that their current predicament will not last as long as previous difficult periods in their lives.

“We put so much hope on traveling,” Wafaa said. “We are still positive we will get there once this pandemic is over and airports reopen. We want to forget our past, we got some hope with this opportunity. As they say, after hardship comes light.”

WARDA AL-JAWAHIRY

UNHCR Lebanon

MENA FIELD STORY

LIBYA

In July 2019, I joined UNHCR Libya, deployed by RefugePoint, as one of the first Family Reunification (FR) Experts, to support the newly-launched FR program with the aim of identifying and assisting refugee unaccompanied children and youth with family links in destination countries. The program works closely with a legal aid partner, International Refugee Assistance Program (IRAP), to provide legal aid support and solicit pro bono lawyers to help facilitate the reunification. In addition to Libya, the project is present in Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt. Imagine being a child and trying to navigate a State's FR system on your own. An impossible feat for most.

In the past nine months, I have witnessed few successes due to the complexities of processing in Libya and obstacles faced in formal State family reunification procedures, such as maintenance and age requirements and restrictive definitions of family. Faced with these challenges, I keep pushing ahead with creative approaches, continued advocacy for flexible processing and, in some cases, having to turn to the utilization of other solutions, such as resettlement or humanitarian visas, to enable these reunions. The impact of family reunification is immense and does not stop the day the family members finally embrace again after many years of separation.

Most of the children and youth that I have met and interviewed are ages 14-17 and have siblings in Europe. Like their siblings before them, these children often fled home out of despair and necessity – to escape the same violations of their basic human rights. They have endured horrors and tragedy, unimaginable to many. Listening to their stories and the nightmares they continue to face in Libya only further drives me to find a solution to help them out of Libya and reunite with their siblings, who shower them in the love and care that they are missing and are desperately in need of.

While their backgrounds are each unique, I found that one commonality is hope. Hope is what motivates them to travel these precarious routes along the Central Mediterranean, knowingly putting themselves at great risk and in the dangerous hands of smugglers and traffickers. Hope that one day they will be warmly welcomed into a country where they will have the chance to go to school and create a life that is not grim and full of fear and worries. Hope that one day they will again be with family.

13-year-old Selam and 16-year-old Mikael* are two unaccompanied children from the Horn of Africa that arrived in Libya separately two years ago. While they both have siblings in different European countries and fled home to escape their home country's restrictive policies and military conscription, their stories are different. Smugglers subjected Selam to continuous sexual abuse and violence, stripping



Refugees and asylum-seekers board a bus at the Gathering and Departure Facility in Tripoli as their evacuation to Rwanda gets underway. November 2019. © UNHCR/Mohamed Alalem

her of any childhood innocence that she may have had left. Mikael, who was taught to swim at a young age, watched as his friends and companions drowned when the boat they were on started to sink only hours after departing the Libyan shores. Preparing for such interviews is never easy. You need to prepare mentally for what you're about to hear and plan your questions so as to mitigate possible re-traumatization. Even after nearly a decade of experience interviewing child refugees, you can never fully prepare, and I still too frequently find my sight blurring from tears brimming my eyelids. But Selam and Mikael surprised me, as children often do, with their smiles and laughter. They shared with me their plans and wishes for the future. Their biggest two wishes: to see their siblings and to resume their education. The storms they endured did not diminish their hope but rather made them more hopeful that good things are yet to come.

Family unity is a fundamental human right. While many of us have experienced some form of separation from loved ones, this is often temporary, and we are soon again hugging our loved ones. But for many children and youth in Libya, separation is likely to be permanent. With limited availability of supporting FR documents, embassy presence or opportunities for flexible processing, we will continue to see few FR successes from Libya through formal FR procedures for now, so we rely on humanitarian visas and resettlement (direct from Libya or via one of the Emergency Transit Mechanisms in Niger and Rwanda) to help the others. In the current context of shrinking resettlement quotas and the global refugee crisis, use of traditional resettlement slots for family reunification reduces solutions for other vulnerable cases. If States introduce more flexible procedures for FR and increase opportunities through humanitarian visas in parallel to traditional resettlement, we can make a lot more reunifications happen. Complementary pathways and resettlement are not only life-saving mechanisms, but they also help to bring families together again. What can be better than that?

DANIELLE BEASLEY

Family Reunification and Child Protection Expert (RefugePoint)
UNHCR Libya (Tunis, Tunisia)

**Names have been changed*

ANNEX 1

STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGY

Identifying and estimating the number of refugees in need of resettlement and UNHCR capacity

The figures in this document indicating the projected resettlement needs for 2021 have been drawn from the Operations Plans for 2021 and the Summary Protection Assessments prepared by UNHCR Country Offices.

Pursuant to UNHCR's priority to use resettlement as a protection tool and as part of a comprehensive durable solutions strategy, UNHCR Country Offices undertake a yearly exercise of proactive planning for resettlement as an integral part of the planning process. They forecast refugee resettlement needs and UNHCR's capacity to address them in the next calendar year. Each Office is required to report the actual resettlement needs and, where applicable, involving the strategic use of resettlement.

In addition to the Operations Plans for 2021, UNHCR Country Offices' Summary Protection Assessments, which outline the core protection problems currently affecting UNHCR's populations of concern, provide important information to assist with forward planning, especially with regard to the challenges and opportunities to promote resettlement, scope for working with partners, staffing and resources, and making effective use of resettlement tools such as the Baseline Standard Operating Procedures, *proGres*, participatory assessments, and other ways to identify refugees at heightened risk.

In the planning for 2021, UNHCR continued to apply standard methodologies to determine the number of refugees in need of resettlement, further ensuring systematic needs-based resettlement projections. A standard approach was used by Country Offices to determine the role and scope for resettlement within its overall protection and solutions strategy. This determination is normally based on considerations related to the protection environment/framework in the country and the effective availability of other durable solutions. In this context, resettlement is both a protection tool as well as a durable solution that can be used strategically to help resolve specific refugee situations even if such interventions are not seen to be urgent or life-saving.

The methodologies used are underpinned by a few basic principles. First, the estimation of the number of refugees in need of resettlement depends on the quality of registration data. The estimated needs for resettlement are primarily based on the data available in *proGres*.¹ Additionally, government registration records – where available – or World Food Programme (WFP) food distribution databases are used to inform decisions about the needs. Second, in addition

¹ *proGres* is UNHCR's refugee registration platform.

to making effective use of *proGres* and other data sources, the projection of resettlement needs is derived from information gathered during participatory assessments with refugees and other interactions with persons of concern, such as needs assessment surveys, e.g. using the Heightened Risk Identification Tool (HRIT).²

Methodology A: Uses the Specific Needs Codes (SNC) in *proGres* to estimate the number of people in need of resettlement. This methodology requires Offices to create a report from *proGres* showing the number of persons who have specific needs that correspond to a likelihood of resettlement eligibility. The guidelines further provide breakdown of SNC into high/medium or variable/low resettlement likelihood.

Methodology B: Uses community-based approaches, participatory assessments, and the HRIT to inform resettlement needs of people of concern to UNHCR as well as to key partners. The HRIT links participatory assessments and individual assessment methodologies to identify refugees at risk.

Methodology C: Uses “best estimates” based upon limited available data. This methodology requires Country Offices to provide a “best estimate” of the projected resettlement needs by using relevant internal and external data.

The most thorough and reliable approach combines all of the above methodologies with an emphasis on methodologies A and B. Methodology C alone is normally only used when Offices do not have access to *proGres* data and are unable to conduct participatory assessments or a representative sample survey of the refugee population. For the 2021 planning cycle, the vast majority of Country Offices combined various methodologies to ensure a comprehensive and multi-year approach to this exercise.

² The HRIT was developed to enhance UNHCR’s effectiveness in identifying refugees at risk by linking community-based/participatory assessments and individual assessment methodologies. It has been designed for use by UNHCR staff involved in community services and protection activities (including resettlement) and partner agencies, and the second version was released in 2010. See: UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), *The Heightened Risk Identification Tool (User Guide)*, June 2010, Second Edition, available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/46f7c0cd2.html>.

ANNEX 2

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS AND CAPACITY FOR 2021 WITH THE REGION OF REFUGEES' COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
	cases	persons
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes	125,239	466,484
Southern Africa	10,986	45,731
West & Central Africa	30,367	104,743
Asia & the Pacific	29,034	99,470
Europe	107,500	423,600
MENA	84,564	275,981
The Americas	15,597	29,374
Grand Total	403,287	1,445,383

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS AND CAPACITY FOR 2021 WITH THE REGION OF REFUGEES' COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

REGION OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
	cases	persons
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes	128,343	443,813
Southern Africa	32,731	124,690
West & Central Africa	17,284	70,718
Asia & the Pacific	34,174	109,788
Europe	307	923
MENA	167,162	646,653
The Americas	15,505	29,195
Various	7,781	19,603
Grand Total	403,287	1,445,383

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS 2021 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

REGION/SUB-REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		cases	persons
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes			
	Burundi	4,828	19,313
	Rwanda	1,950	6,800
	United Rep. of Tanzania	20,999	63,000
	Djibouti	2,155	7,300
	Ethiopia	26,319	106,650
	Kenya	16,455	46,607
	Somalia	380	1,900
	South Sudan	9,126	36,511
	Sudan	11,677	53,000
	Uganda	31,350	125,403
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes - Sub-Total		125,239	466,484
Southern Africa			
	Angola	40	100
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,773	14,113
	Rep. of the Congo	260	790
	Malawi	2,115	10,595
	Mozambique	20	100
	South Africa*	2,970	8,800
	Zambia	1,368	5,473
	Zimbabwe	1,440	5,760
Southern Africa - Sub-Total		10,986	45,731

West & Central Africa			
	Burkina Faso	61	400
	Cameroon	10,405	41,621
	Chad	14,908	48,000
	Ghana	117	400
	Guinea	120	300
	Guinea-Bissau	4	12
	Liberia	5	15
	Mali	32	80
	Niger	4,640	13,700
	Nigeria	29	120
	Senegal	36	75
	Togo	10	20
West & Central Africa - Sub-Total		30,367	104,743
Asia & the Pacific			
	China & China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	592	1,020
East Asia & the Pacific	Indonesia	960	2,150
	Malaysia	5,395	7,660
	Thailand	197	560
South Asia	India	265	830
	Sri Lanka	125	250
South-West Asia	Islamic Rep. of Iran	21,500	87,000
Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total		29,034	99,470
Europe			
South-Eastern Europe	Turkey	107,500	423,600
Europe Sub-Total		107,500	423,600

MENA			
	Iraq	12,655	37,976
	Israel	3,985	12,000
	Jordan	23,604	74,516
	Kuwait	18	50
Middle East	Lebanon	27,155	107,685
	Saudi Arabia/Bahrain/Qatar/Oman	690	3,352
	Syrian Arab Rep.	534	1,600
	United Arab Emirates	800	2,500
	Yemen	1,000	3,950
	Algeria	250	500
	Egypt	10,895	25,470
North Africa	Libya	2,162	5,200
	Mauritania	126	262
	Morocco	280	355
	Tunisia	410	565
MENA Sub-Total		84,564	275,981
The Americas			
	Caribbean	1,285	2,250
	Colombia	318	955
	Peru	5,010	12,752
	Cuba	56	94
The Americas	Ecuador	6,458	7,373
	El Salvador**	320	800
	Guatemala**	400	1,000
	Honduras**	1,600	4,000
	Mexico	150	150
The Americas Sub-Total		15,597	29,374
Grand Total		403,287	1,445,383

* These figures include the needs in all operations covered by the South Africa Multi-Country Office: South Africa, Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, Botswana and the Indian Ocean Islands (Comoros, Madagascar, Seychelles and Mauritius)

** These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS 2021 BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

REGION/SUB-REGION OF ORIGIN	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		cases	persons
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes			
	Burundi	20,146	63,411
	Rwanda	1,485	4,681
	Eritrea	24,206	79,484
	Ethiopia	3,654	12,690
	Somalia	19,373	72,985
	South Sudan	30,619	122,963
	Sudan	28,455	86,659
	Uganda	405	940
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes - Sub-Total		128,343	443,813
Southern Africa			
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	32,731	124,690
Southern Africa - Sub-Total		32,731	124,690
West & Central Africa			
	Burkina Faso	15	35
	Cameroon	140	285
	Central African Rep.	12,579	51,766
	Côte d'Ivoire	133	260
	Gambia	12	12
	Guinea	50	60
	Liberia	40	100
	Mali	721	3,620
	Niger	4	10
	Nigeria	3,450	14,400
	Senegal	120	120
	Sierra Leone	10	25
	Togo	10	25
West & Central Africa - Sub-Total		17,284	70,718

Asia & the Pacific			
East Asia & the Pacific	Myanmar	3,812	6,070
	Afghanistan	29,383	101,309
South-West Asia	Islamic Rep. of Iran	614	1,754
	Pakistan	365	655
Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total		34,174	109,788
Europe			
South-Eastern Europe	Turkey	307	923
Europe Sub-Total		307	923
MENA			
	Iraq	17,822	46,790
	Palestinian	695	1,522
Middle East	Syrian Arab Rep.	145,742	592,266
	Yemen	2,901	6,070
North Africa	Mauritania	2	5
MENA Sub-Total		167,162	646,653
The Americas			
	Colombia	1,523	1,811
	Cuba	98	175
	El Salvador*	370	850
	Guatemala*	1,620	4,020
	Honduras*	475	1,075
	Jamaica	22	25
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	11,397	21,239
The Americas Sub-Total		15,505	29,195
Various Sub-Total		7,781	19,603
Grand Total		403,287	1,445,383

* These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

TOP 10^s BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
	cases	persons
Syrian Arab Rep,	145,742	592,266
Dem, Rep, of the Congo	32,731	124,690
South Sudan	30,619	122,963
Afghanistan	29,383	101,309
Sudan	28,455	86,659
Eritrea	24,206	79,484
Somalia	19,373	72,985
Burundi	20,146	63,411
Central African Rep,	12,579	51,766
Iraq	17,822	46,790
All Others	42,231	103,060
Grand Total	403,287	1,445,383

TOP 10^s BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
	cases	persons
Turkey	107,500	423,600
Uganda	31,350	125,403
Lebanon	27,155	107,685
Ethiopia	26,319	106,650
Islamic Rep. of Iran	21,500	87,000
Jordan	23,604	74,516
United Rep. of Tanzania	20,999	63,000
Sudan	11,677	53,000
Chad	14,908	48,000
Kenya	16,455	46,607
All Others	101,820	309,922
Grand Total	403,287	1,445,383

COMBINED STATISTICS

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes			
Burundi	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	4,828	19,313
Rwanda	Burundi	50	200
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	900	5,400
	Eritrea	700	840
	Various	300	360
United Rep. of Tanzania	Burundi	16,666	50,000
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	4,333	13,000
Djibouti	Eritrea	75	225
	Ethiopia	48	162
	Somalia	1,510	5,137
	Yemen	518	1,761
	Various	4	15
	Ethiopia	Eritrea	8,840
Somalia		6,240	35,550
South Sudan		7,922	38,580
Sudan		3,250	10,220
Various		67	200
Kenya	Burundi	645	1,742
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,768	7,478
	Eritrea	92	249
	Ethiopia	1,084	3,139
	Rwanda	184	498
	Somalia	8,415	24,417
	South Sudan	2,413	7,072
	Sudan	92	249
	Uganda	405	940
	Various	356	823

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Somalia	Ethiopia	200	1,000
	Yemen	150	750
	Various	30	150
South Sudan	Central African Rep.	136	547
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	970	3,883
	Ethiopia	208	833
	Sudan	7,812	31,248
Sudan	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	60	240
	Eritrea	8,000	40,000
	Ethiopia	800	4,000
	Somalia	30	150
	South Sudan	2,667	8,000
	Various	120	610
Uganda	Burundi	1,097	4,389
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	12,540	50,161
	Rwanda	510	2,038
	Somalia	510	2,038
	South Sudan	15,675	62,701
	Various	1,018	4,076
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes - Total		125,239	466,484
Southern Africa			
Angola	Various	40	100
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	Burundi	338	1,688
	Central African Rep.	1,443	7,215
	South Sudan	942	4,710
	Various	50	500

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Rep. of the Congo	Central African Rep.	200	600
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	30	90
	Rwanda	30	100
Malawi	Burundi	480	2,405
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,325	6,630
	Rwanda	300	1,500
	Various	10	60
Mozambique	Burundi	8	40
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	8	40
	Various	4	20
South Africa*	Burundi	500	1,500
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,900	5,600
	Somalia	500	1,500
	Various	70	200
Zambia	Burundi	152	607
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,132	4,530
	Somalia	72	287
	Various	12	49
Zimbabwe	Burundi	210	840
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,170	4,680
	Rwanda	60	240
Southern Africa - Total		10,986	45,731
West & Central Africa			
Burkina Faso	Mali	51	360
	Various	10	40

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Cameroon	Central African Rep.	7,804	31,216
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	700	3,500
	Nigeria	1,500	6,600
	Rwanda	401	305
Chad	Central African Rep.	2,885	11,930
	Sudan	11,149	33,447
	Various	874	2,623
Ghana	Burkina Faso	7	15
	Cameroon	25	70
	Central African Rep.	10	30
	Côte d'Ivoire	20	65
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5	20
	Eritrea	15	80
	Sudan	20	80
	Syrian Arab Rep.	5	15
Togo	10	25	
Guinea	Central African Rep.	5	25
	Côte d'Ivoire	40	100
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	20	25
	Liberia	40	100
	Sierra Leone	10	25
	Somalia	5	25
Guinea-Bissau	Various	4	12
Liberia	Côte d'Ivoire	3	10
	Various	2	5

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Mali	Burkina Faso	8	20
	Central African Rep.	6	15
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	8	20
	Mauritania	2	5
	Niger	4	10
	Syrian Arab Rep.	2	5
	Various	2	5
Niger	Eritrea	1,309	1,440
	Ethiopia	109	120
	Mali	640	3,200
	Nigeria	1,950	7,800
	Somalia	272	300
	Sudan	200	600
	Various	160	240
Nigeria	Cameroon	20	80
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	4	20
	Various	5	20
Senegal	Central African Rep.	15	45
	Gambia	12	12
	Various	9	18
Togo	Central African Rep.	3	6
	Côte d'Ivoire	5	10
	Various	2	4
West & Central Africa - Total		30,367	104,743

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)		
		CASES	PERSONS	
Asia & the Pacific				
China & China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	Various	592	1,020	
	Afghanistan	440	930	
	Iraq	70	180	
	Myanmar	70	180	
	Indonesia	Pakistan	40	90
		Somalia	230	450
		State of Palestine	50	150
		Various	60	170
Malaysia	Afghanistan	260	350	
	Iraq	55	75	
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	50	60	
	Myanmar	3,585	5,355	
	Pakistan	225	365	
	Somalia	685	805	
	State of Palestine	40	50	
	Syrian Arab Rep.	105	145	
	Yemen	125	155	
	Various	265	300	
Thailand	Myanmar	72	250	
	Various	125	310	
India	Afghanistan	125	380	
	Iraq	5	10	
	Myanmar	85	285	
	Somalia	30	95	
	Various	20	60	

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Sri Lanka	Afghanistan	15	30
	Pakistan	100	200
	Various	10	20
Islamic Rep. of Iran	Afghanistan	20,500	82,000
	Iraq	1,000	5,000
Asia & the Pacific - Total		29,034	99,470
Europe			
Turkey	Afghanistan	8,000	17,500
	Iraq	8,100	17,900
	Syrian Arab Rep.	89,000	383,000
	Various	2,400	5,200
Europe - Total		107,500	423,600
MENA			
Iraq	Islamic Rep. of Iran	564	1,694
	State of Palestine	364	1,093
	Sudan	53	161
	Syrian Arab Rep.	11,335	34,007
	Turkey	307	923
	Various	32	98
	Israel	Eritrea	3,000
State of Palestine		50	60
Sudan		900	2,000
Various		35	150

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Jordan	Iraq	3,054	6,719
	Sudan	304	610
	Syrian Arab Rep.	18,705	65,469
	Yemen	1,420	1,477
	Various	121	241
Kuwait	Iraq	5	10
	Syrian Arab Rep.	8	30
	Various	5	10
Lebanon	Iraq	4,300	13,600
	Sudan	1,765	2,320
	Syrian Arab Rep.	20,790	91,465
	Various	300	300
Saudi Arabia/Bahrain/Qatar/Oman	Syrian Arab Rep.	380	1,900
	Yemen	200	1,000
	Various	110	452
Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	37	110
	Iraq	427	1,280
	Various	70	210
United Arab Emirates	Iraq	230	700
	Syrian Arab Rep.	500	1,600
	Various	70	200
Yemen	Eritrea	300	800
	Ethiopia	260	1,300
	Iraq	40	200
	Somalia	225	900
	State of Palestine	10	50
	Syrian Arab Rep.	100	500
	Various	65	200

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Algeria	Cameroon	30	60
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	20	40
	Mali	30	60
	Syrian Arab Rep.	150	300
	Various	20	40
Egypt	Eritrea	975	1,850
	Ethiopia	895	1,700
	Iraq	355	680
	Somalia	350	670
	South Sudan	1,000	1,900
	Sudan	2,520	4,800
	Syrian Arab Rep.	4,300	12,920
	Yemen	475	900
	Various	25	50
Libya	Eritrea	840	2,020
	Ethiopia	50	436
	Iraq	181	436
	Somalia	258	621
	State of Palestine	181	119
	Sudan	355	854
	Syrian Arab Rep.	297	714
Mauritania	Central African Rep.	22	82
	Senegal	65	65
	Syrian Arab Rep.	20	75
	Various	19	40

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Morocco	Cameroon	65	75
	Central African Rep.	50	55
	Côte d'Ivoire	35	45
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	10	20
	Guinea	50	60
	Senegal	55	55
	Syrian Arab Rep.	10	30
	Yemen	5	15
Tunisia	Côte d'Ivoire	30	30
	Eritrea	60	90
	Somalia	40	40
	Sudan	35	70
	Syrian Arab Rep.	25	75
	Various	220	260
MENA - Total		84,564	75,981
The Americas			
Caribbean	Cuba	98	175
	Jamaica	22	25
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	1,142	2,000
	Various	23	50
Colombia	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	315	945
	Various	3	10
Peru	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	5,000	12,727
	Various	10	25
Cuba	Afghanistan	6	9
	Syrian Arab Rep.	10	16
	Yemen	8	12
	Various	32	57

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
Ecuador	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	4,935	5,562
	Colombia	1,523	1,811
El Salvador**	El Salvador	320	800
Guatemala**	Guatemala	1,600	4,000
Honduras**	Honduras	400	1,000
Mexico	El Salvador	50	50
	Guatemala	20	20
	Honduras	75	75
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	5	5
The Americas - Total		15,597	29,374
Grand Total		403,287	1,445,383

* These figures include the needs in all operations covered by the South Africa Multi-Country Office: South Africa, Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, Botswana and the Indian Ocean Islands (Comoros, Madagascar, Seychelles and Mauritius)

**These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

ANNEX 3

UNHCR GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT STATISTICAL REPORT 2019

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the resettlement activities of UNHCR Offices worldwide in 2019. The information for this report is drawn from the UNHCR Resettlement Statistical Reports (RSR), which are submitted by UNHCR country Offices on a monthly basis. Please consult the Resettlement Data Portal (rsq.unhcr.org) for detailed resettlement statistics.

Certain information in this report is organized by regions, reflecting the seven UNHCR Regional Bureaus: East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes, West and Central Africa, Southern 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 Service Centres/Offices as well as Headquarters.

SUBMISSIONS

TOP TEN: UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS IN 2019

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	PERSONS	COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	PERSONS
Turkey	17,552	United States	24,810
Lebanon	10,856	Canada	14,651
Jordan	5,576	Germany	9,640
Egypt	4,617	Australia	7,048
Uganda	4,443	Sweden	5,408
Kenya	4,187	Norway	3,949
United Rep. of Tanzania	4,102	United Kingdom	3,507
Ethiopia	3,755	France	3,311
Burundi	3,742	Netherlands	1,433
Rwanda	3,469	Spain	1,193
All Others	19,372	All Others	6,721
Grand Total	81,671	Grand Total	81,671

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	PERSONS
Syrian Arab Rep.	29,660
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	18,997
Afghanistan	5,892
Somalia	4,393
Eritrea	3,147
Sudan	2,818
Iraq	2,606
South Sudan	2,407
Myanmar	2,358
Central African Rep.	1,832
All Others	7,561
Grand Total	81,671

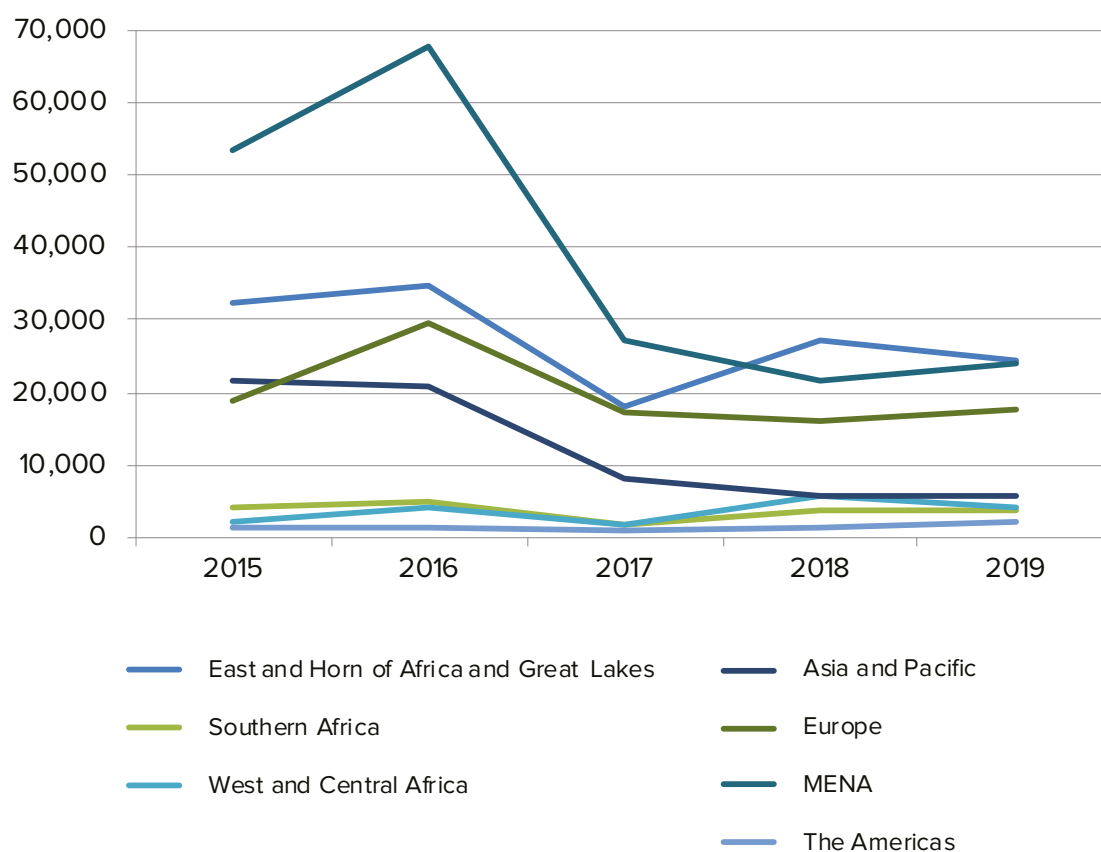
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS IN 2019

SUBMISSIONS BY REGION OF ASYLUM	CASES	PERSONS	% TOTAL (PERSONS)
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	6,223	24,393	29.9%
Southern Africa	1,068	3,861	4.7%
West and Central Africa	1,934	4,133	5.1%
Asia and Pacific	1,921	5,719	7.0%
Europe	4,078	17,572	21.5%
MENA	5,982	23,964	29.3%
The Americas	698	2,029	2.5%
Grand Total	21,904	81,671	100.0%

SUBMISSIONS BY REGION OF ORIGIN	CASES	PERSONS	% TOTAL (PERSONS)
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	5,375	15,387	18.8%
Southern Africa	4,751	19,035	23.3%
West and Central Africa	834	2,517	3.1%
Asia and Pacific	3,003	9,819	12.0%
Europe	13	42	<1%
MENA	7,257	32,869	40.2%
The Americas	665	1,978	2.4%
Stateless	6	24	<1%
Grand Total	21,904	81,671	100.0%

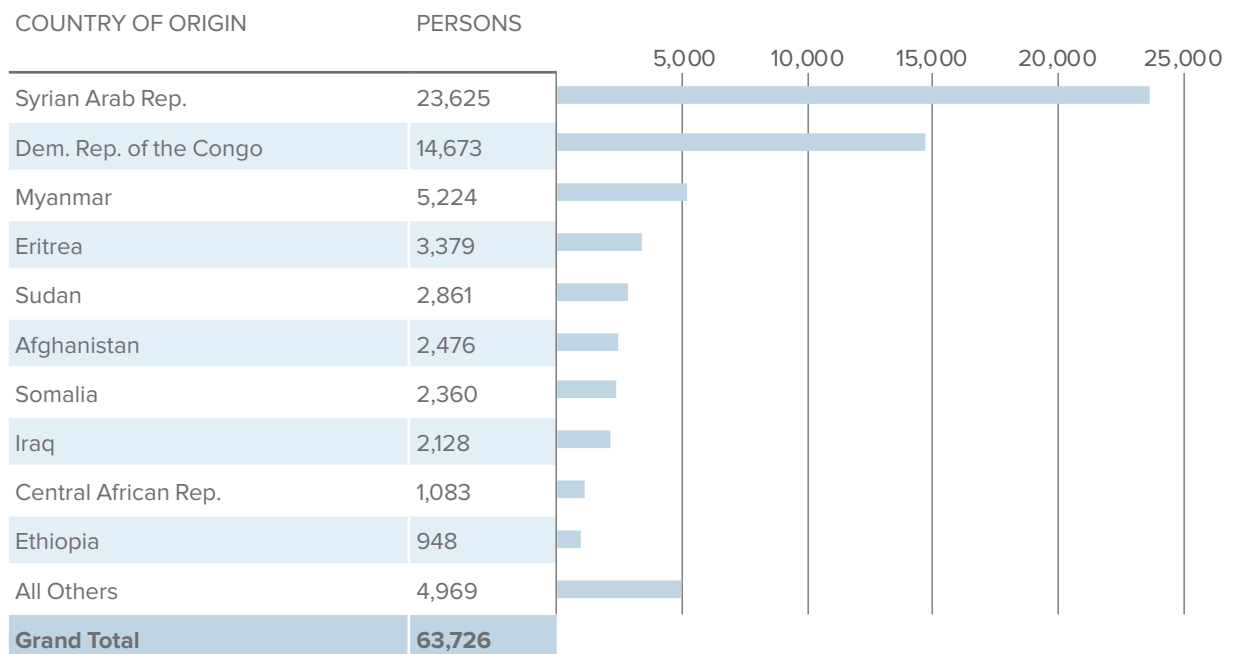
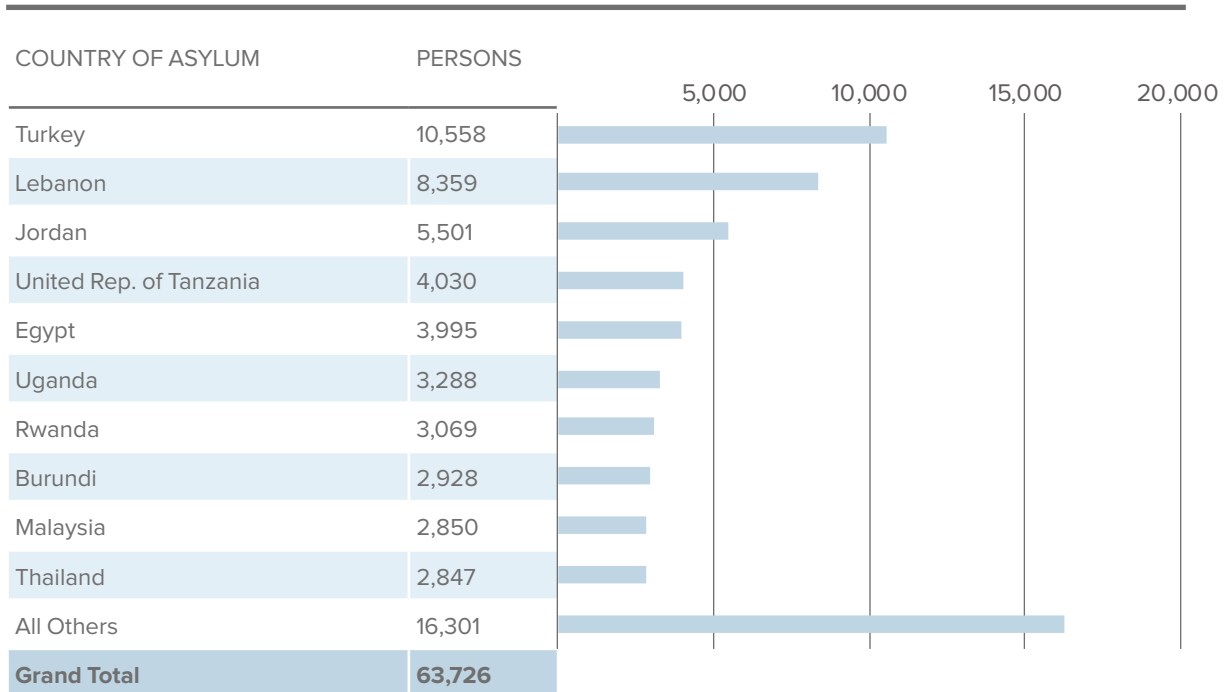
UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY REGION OF ASYLUM 2015-2019 (PERSONS)

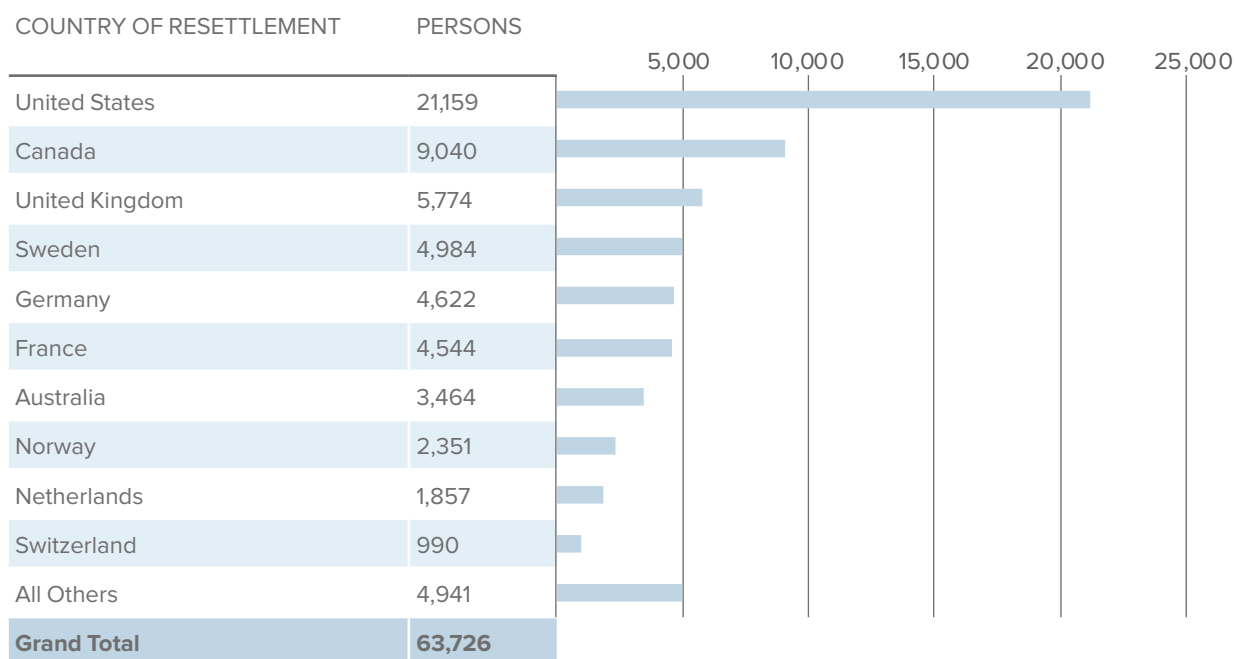
REGION OF ASYLUM	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	32,392	34,785	18,039	27,119	24,393
Southern Africa	4,203	4,981	1,836	3,666	3,861
West and Central Africa	2,275	4,212	1,632	5,623	4,133
Asia and Pacific	21,620	20,657	7,983	5,796	5,719
Europe	18,833	29,447	17,413	16,135	17,572
MENA	53,331	67,723	27,231	21,542	23,964
The Americas	1,390	1,401	1,054	1,456	2,029



DEPARTURES

TOP TEN: RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES IN 2019*





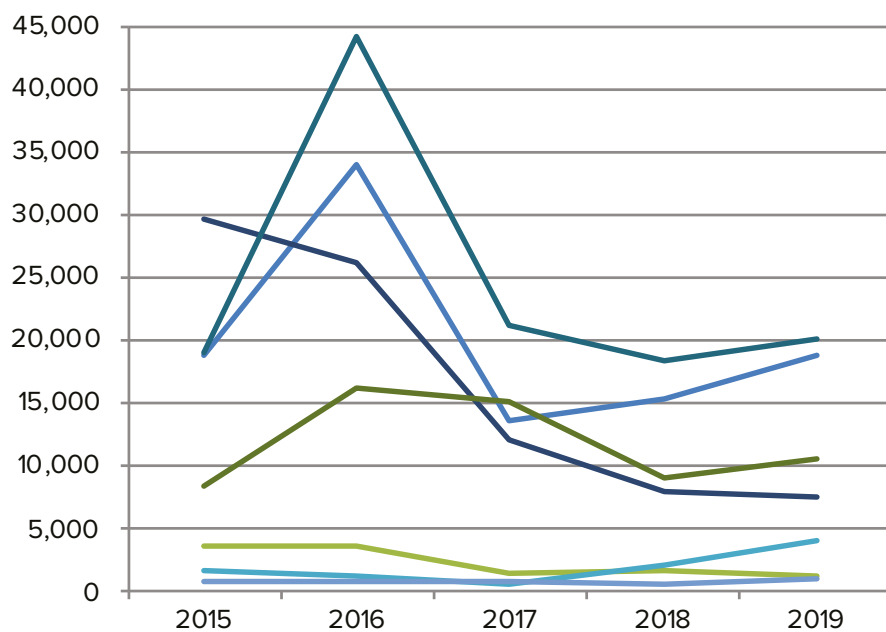
** Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as Government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR resettlement processes.*

RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES IN 2019

DEPARTURES BY REGION OF ASYLUM	PERSONS	% TOTAL (PERSONS)
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	18,774	29.5%
Southern Africa	1,342	2.1%
West and Central Africa	4,132	6.5%
Asia and Pacific	7,651	12.0%
Europe	10,617	16.7%
MENA	20,036	31.4%
The Americas	1,174	1.8%
Grand Total	63,726	100.0%
DEPARTURES BY REGION OF ORIGIN	PERSONS	% TOTAL (PERSONS)
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	11,116	17.4%
Southern Africa	14,704	23.1%
West and Central Africa	1,868	2.9%
Asia and Pacific	8,702	13.7%
Europe	46	<1%
MENA	26,140	41.0%
The Americas	1,129	1.8%
Stateless/Various	21	<1%
Grand Total	63,726	100.0%

DEPARTURES BY REGION OF ASYLUM 2015-2019

REGION OF ASYLUM	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	18,781	33,858	13,610	15,388	18,774
Southern Africa	3,602	3,756	1,610	1,706	1,342
West and Central Africa	1,633	1,311	610	2,233	4,132
Asia and Pacific	29,677	26,091	12,052	8,057	7,651
Europe	8,334	16,192	15,199	9,125	10,617
MENA	18,972	44,240	21,213	18,428	20,036
The Americas	892	843	814	743	1,174



— East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes
 — Southern Africa
 — West and Central Africa
 — Asia and Pacific
 — Europe
 — MENA
 — The Americas

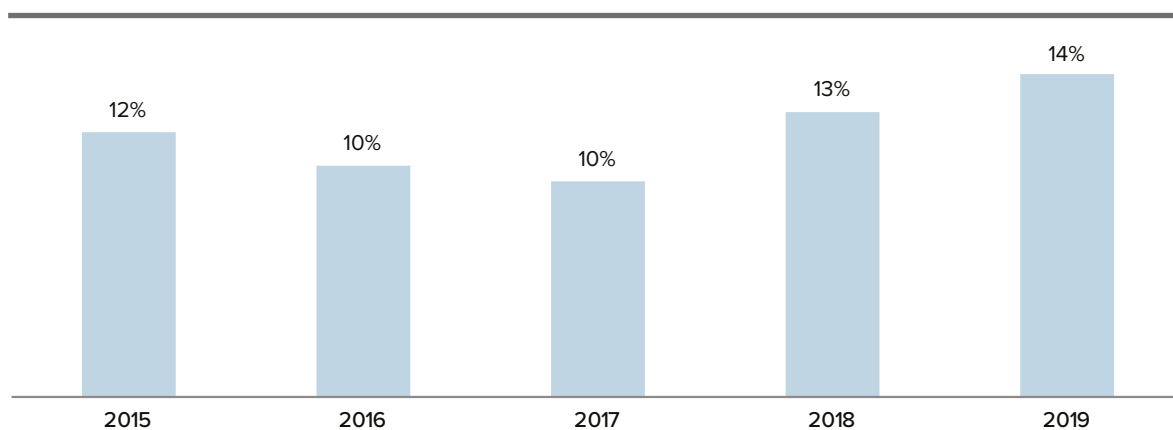
RESETTLEMENT CATEGORIES

UNHCR RESETTLEMENT BY SUBMISSION CATEGORY IN 2019

CATEGORY	CASES SUBMITTED	PERSONS SUBMITTED	% CASES SUBMITTED
Legal and/or Protection Needs (LPN)	6,857	25,122	31.3%
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)	6,767	25,949	30.9%
Women and Girls-At-Risk (AWR)	3,126	9,582	14.3%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (LAS)	2,640	9,792	12.1%
Children and Adolescents-At-Risk (CHL)	1,821	8,333	8.3%
Medical Needs (MED)	577	2,590	2.6%
Family Reunification (FAM)	115	297	<1%
Others/Unspecified	1	6	<1%
Grand Total	21,904	81,671	100.0%

UNHCR RESETTLEMENT UNDER THE WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK CATEGORY, 2019 *

WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK CASES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS BY UNHCR, 2015-2019 (CASES)



TOP TEN COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM: SUBMISSIONS UNDER THE WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK CATEGORY (AWR), 2019

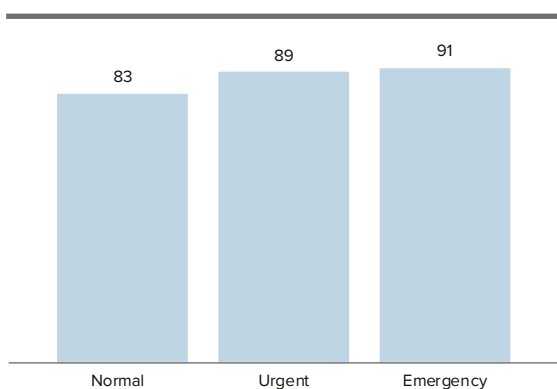
COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	CASES SUBMITTED	RATE OF AWR SUBMISSIONS (% PER COUNTRY OF ASYLUM)	PERSONS SUBMITTED
Turkey	419	10%	1,194
Egypt	398	28%	1,142
Ethiopia	235	24%	920
Malaysia	195	25%	429
Kenya	191	17%	718
Burundi	169	19%	531
Chad	162	34%	542
Lebanon	156	7%	489
Uganda	152	14%	541
Jordan	116	10%	351

** Cases submitted under the Women and Girls at Risk as the primary submission category.*

UNHCR RESETTLEMENT UNDER THE MEDICAL NEEDS CATEGORY IN 2019

TOP TEN SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	CASES	TOP TEN SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	CASES
Turkey	175	Syrian Arab Rep.	136
Malaysia	72	Afghanistan	123
Lebanon	42	Myanmar	59
Uganda	34	Somalia	56
Egypt	34	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	43
Kenya	26	Sudan	31
Thailand	23	Iraq	26
Iraq	20	Eritrea	17
Jordan	17	South Sudan	15
Rwanda	15	Islamic Rep. of Iran	15
All Others	119	All Others	56
Grand Total	577	Grand Total	577

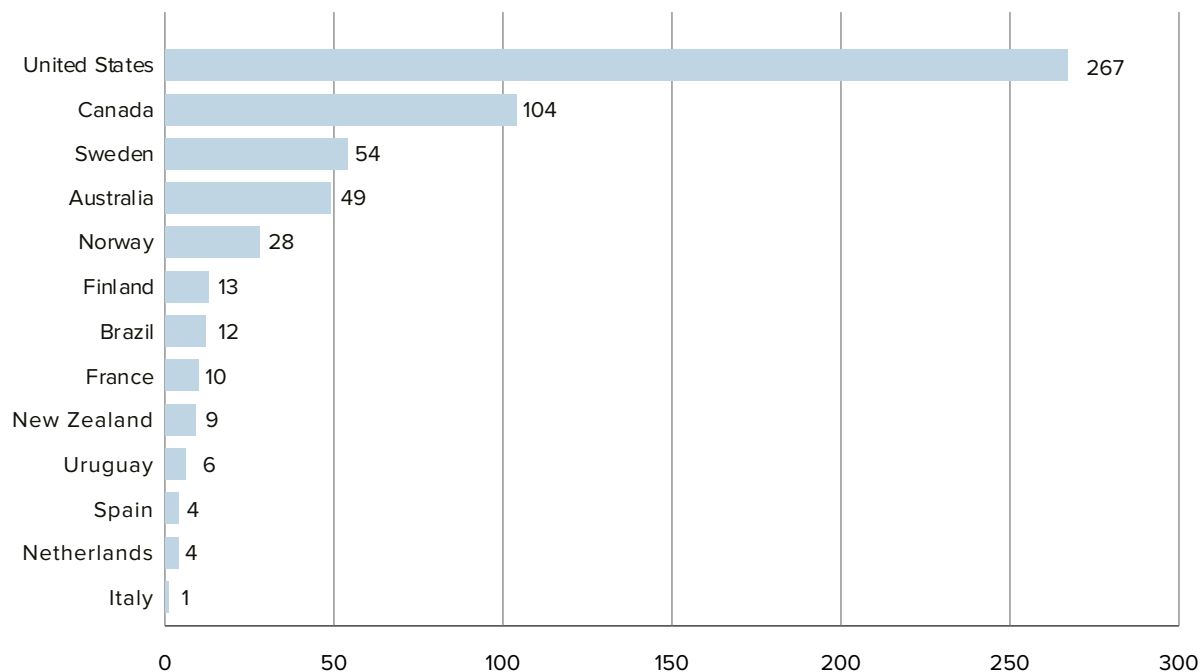
RESETTLEMENT COUNTRY ACCEPTANCE RATES UNDER THE MEDICAL NEEDS CATEGORY BY PRIORITY IN 2019 (IN %)



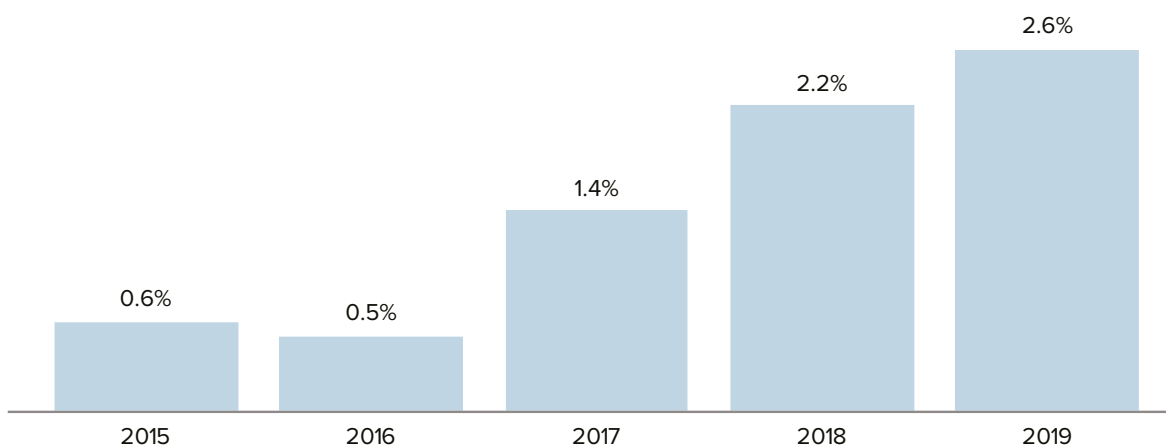
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT BY PRIORITY IN 2019

UNHCR SUBMISSION PRIORITY	SUBMISSIONS		
	Cases	% Cases	Persons
Normal	17,915	81.8%	72,367
Urgent	3,428	15.7%	7,689
Emergency	561	2.6%	1,615
Grand Total	21,904	100%	81,671

UNHCR EMERGENCY SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT, 2019 (CASES)



EMERGENCY CASES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS BY UNHCR (2015-2019, CASES)



ACCEPTANCE RATES OF UNHCR SUBMISSIONS IN 2019 AND OTHER INDICATORS

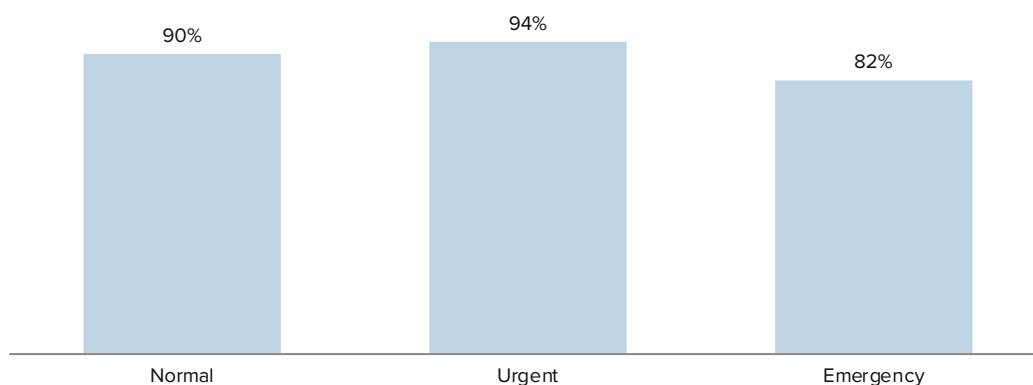
ACCEPTANCE RATES OF UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN IN 2019

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	CASES SUBMITTED	% CASES ACCEPTED
Syrian Arab Rep.	6,302	89.8%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	4,739	96.5%
Eritrea	1,649	95.3%
Afghanistan	1,619	90.1%
Somalia	1,296	82.8%
Sudan	925	93.0%
Iraq	743	77.2%
Myanmar	573	95.5%
South Sudan	554	94.4%
Central African Rep.	547	91.4%
All Others	2,957	85.4%
Grand Total	21,904	90.9%

ACCEPTANCE RATES OF UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY CATEGORY IN 2019

SUBMISSION CATEGORY	ACCEPTANCE RATE
Legal and/or Protection Needs (LPN)	90.1%
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)	91.6%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (LAS)	90.6%
Women and Girls-At-Risk (AWR)	92.1%
Medical Needs (MED)	85.6%
Children and Adolescents-At-Risk (CHL)	92.9%
Family Reunification (FAM)	96.8%

ACCEPTANCE RATES OF RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES BY UNHCR RESETTLEMENT PRIORITY IN 2019 (CASES)



RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES, 2015-2019 *

COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Albania	483	-	-	-	-
Argentina	-	-	-	3	-
Australia	5,211	7,502	4,027	3,741	3,464
Austria	642	81	380	-	-
Belarus	14	-	-	-	-
Belgiumz	276	456	1,294	894	239
Brazil	6	31	2	-	24
Bulgaria	-	-	-	21	64
Canada	10,236	21,865	8,912	7,704	9,040
Chile	-	-	66	-	-
Croatia	-	-	40	88	122
Czech Rep.	-	22	-	-	-
Denmark	486	317	5	-	-
Estonia	-	11	19	29	7
Finland	964	928	1,094	611	873
France	700	1,328	2,505	5,109	4,544
Germany	2,097	1,229	3,005	3,217	4,622
Hungary	2	4	-	-	-
Iceland	13	56	47	52	74
Ireland	178	359	273	338	783
Italy	96	528	985	400	471
Japan	19	18	29	22	20
Latvia	-	6	40	-	-
Liechtenstein	17	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	25	59	18	-
Luxembourg	49	52	182	-	35
Malta	-	-	17	-	-
Monaco	-	6	23	-	-

COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Netherlands	428	689	2,262	1,190	1,857
New Zealand	756	895	986	982	915
Norway	2,220	3,149	2,799	2,324	2,351
Portugal	39	12	167	33	373
Rep, of Korea	42	64	44	27	37
Romania	2	-	43	-	73
Slovakia	-	-	4	-	-
Slovenia	-	-	-	34	-
Spain	92	288	1,066	80	821
Sweden	1,808	1,868	3,346	4,871	4,984
Switzerland	664	667	610	1,074	990
United Kingdom	1,768	5,074	6,202	5,698	5,774
United States	52,583	78,761	24,559	17,112	21,159
Uruguay	-	-	16	8	10
Grand Total	81,891	126,291	65,108	55,680	63,726

*All figures in 2019 are provisional and subject to change. This table includes countries with special resettlement programmes/ ad-hoc resettlement intake. Resettlement country figures (submissions and departures) may not match UNHCR reported figures as resettlement country figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR auspices. UNHCR figures may also include cases in which UNHCR assisted, i.e. obtained exit permits for humanitarian admissions or family reunion but did not primarily submit.

PER CAPITA RESETTLEMENT BY COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT IN 2019

COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	RESETTLED REFUGEES IN 2019*	NATIONAL POPULATION**	POPULATION PER REFUGEE RESETTLED	NUMBER OF RESETTLED REFUGEES PER 1.000 INHABITANTS
Australia	3,464	25,203,198	7,276	0.1
Belgium	239	11,539,328	48,282	0.0
Brazil	24	211,049,527	8,793,730	0.0
Bulgaria	64	7,000,119	109,377	0.0
Canada	9,040	37,411,047	4,138	0.2
Croatia	122	4,130,304	33,855	0.0
Estonia	7	1,325,648	189,378	0.0
Finland	873	5,532,156	6,337	0.2
France	4,544	65,129,728	14,333	0.1
Germany	4,622	83,517,045	18,069	0.1
Iceland	74	339,031	4,582	0.2
Ireland	783	4,882,495	6,236	0.2
Italy	471	60,550,075	128,556	0.0
Japan	20	126,860,301	6,343,015	0.0
Luxembourg	35	615,729	17,592	0.1
Netherlands	1,857	17,097,130	9,207	0.1
New Zealand	915	4,783,063	5,227	0.2
Norway	2,351	5,378,857	2,288	0.4
Portugal	373	10,226,187	27,416	0.0
Rep. of Korea	37	51,225,308	1,384,468	0.0
Romania	73	19,364,557	265,268	0.0
Spain	821	46,736,776	56,927	0.0
Sweden	4,984	10,036,379	2,014	0.5
Switzerland	990	8,591,365	8,678	0.1

COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	RESETTLED REFUGEES IN 2019*	NATIONAL POPULATION**	POPULATION PER REFUGEE RESETTLED	NUMBER OF RESETTLED REFUGEES PER 1.000 INHABITANTS
United Kingdom	5,774	67,530,172	11,696	0.1
United States	21,159	329,064,917	15,552	0.1
Uruguay	10	3,461,734	346,173	0.0

* Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as Government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR resettlement processes.

** Source: United Nations, Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 2019 Revision, New York, 2019. For the purpose of this analysis, the 2019 population projections (medium fertility variant) have been used. (See: <https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/>).

DEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION OF REFUGEES SUBMITTED FOR RESETTLEMENT IN 2019 (PERSONS)

REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	SUBMISSIONS 2019	DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS*			
			<18 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+> YEARS	% WOMEN AND GIRLS
Africa	Burundi	3,742	54%	44%	2%	50%
	Djibouti	462	53%	46%	1%	52%
	Eritrea	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Ethiopia	3,755	56%	42%	2%	54%
	Kenya	4,177	55%	43%	1%	51%
	Rwanda	3,469	47%	48%	5%	52%
	Somalia	163	59%	41%	0%	52%
	Sudan	69	32%	65%	3%	52%
	Uganda	4,443	52%	46%	2%	50%
	United Rep. of Tanzania	4,102	60%	37%	3%	51%
	East and Horn of Africa & Great Lakes Sub-Total	24,383	54%	43%	2%	51%
	Angola	77	61%	39%	0%	52%
	Botswana	62	40%	60%	0%	42%
	Congo, Republic of	274	48%	52%	0%	62%
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	90	69%	28%	3%	51%
	Madagascar	83	28%	65%	7%	41%
	Malawi	915	59%	41%	1%	50%
	Mauritius	20	25%	75%	0%	50%
	Mozambique	121	51%	49%	0%	41%
	Namibia	165	53%	47%	0%	53%
	South Africa	586	53%	47%	0%	48%
	Zambia	872	53%	45%	2%	50%
	Zimbabwe	594	54%	45%	1%	51%
	Southern Africa Sub-Total	3,859	54%	45%	1%	50%

REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	SUBMISSIONS 2019	DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS*			
			<18 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+ YEARS	% WOMEN AND GIRLS
Africa	Burkina Faso	14	57%	43%	0%	29%
	Cameroon	618	56%	43%	1%	52%
	Chad	1,618	56%	42%	2%	53%
	Ghana	10	60%	40%	0%	70%
	Guinea	30	60%	40%	0%	63%
	Mali	1	100%	0%	0%	100%
	Niger	1,789	33%	66%	0%	34%
	Senegal	53	32%	68%	0%	36%
	West and Central Africa Sub-Total	4,133	46%	53%	1%	45%
	Africa Sub-Total	32,375	53%	45%	2%	50%
Asia & the Pacific	China & China, Hong Kong SAR	95	42%	58%	0%	49%
	India	452	41%	55%	3%	57%
	Indonesia	760	46%	49%	4%	47%
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	227	41%	53%	6%	61%
	Malaysia	2,529	54%	44%	2%	52%
	Mongolia	27	44%	56%	0%	33%
	Nepal	23	52%	48%	0%	39%
	Pakistan	15	60%	40%	0%	67%
	Singapore	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Sri Lanka	810	36%	61%	3%	39%
	Thailand	780	58%	39%	3%	49%
	Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total	5,719	49%	48%	3%	50%

REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	SUBMISSIONS 2019	DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS*			
			<18 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+ YEARS	% WOMEN AND GIRLS
Europe	Armenia	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Azerbaijan	5	60%	40%	0%	60%
	Malta	3	100%	0%	0%	67%
	Russian Federation	8	25%	75%	0%	13%
	Serbia and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)	2	0%	100%	0%	100%
	Turkey	17,532	51%	46%	3%	49%
	Ukraine	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Europe Sub-Total	17,552	51%	46%	3%	49%
MENA	Algeria	99	40%	60%	0%	49%
	Bahrain	1	100%	0%	0%	0%
	Egypt	4,617	50%	48%	2%	52%
	Iraq	789	55%	42%	3%	52%
	Israel	299	48%	51%	1%	47%
	Jordan	5,576	54%	43%	3%	49%
	Kuwait	53	46%	50%	4%	54%
	Lebanon	10,856	54%	44%	2%	47%
	Libya	962	52%	47%	1%	47%
	Mauritania	61	28%	70%	2%	33%
	Morocco	133	30%	69%	1%	72%
	Qatar	14	14%	86%	0%	14%
	Saudi Arabia	129	40%	57%	3%	38%
	Syrian Arab Rep.	123	33%	62%	5%	56%
	Tunisia	27	11%	89%	0%	30%
	United Arab Emirates	83	37%	60%	2%	51%
	Yemen	142	54%	45%	1%	54%
MENA Sub-Total	23,964	53%	45%	2%	49%	

REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	SUBMISSIONS 2019	DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS*			
			<18 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+> YEARS	% WOMEN AND GIRLS
The Americas	Caribbean	199	28%	68%	4%	55%
	Cuba	40	18%	83%	0%	20%
	Ecuador	704	46%	53%	1%	51%
	El Salvador**	363	38%	61%	2%	51%
	Guatemala**	305	34%	64%	2%	52%
	Honduras**	300	42%	57%	2%	54%
	Mexico	115	44%	55%	1%	54%
	Suriname	2	0%	100%	0%	0%
	The Americas Sub-Total	2,028	40%	59%	2%	51%
Grand Total	81,638	52%	46%	2%	50%	

*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

**These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

UNHCR EMERGENCY TRANSIT CENTRE (ETC) & EMERGENCY TRANSIT MECHANISM (ETM) 2019 ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

LOCATION	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	RESETTLEMENT COUNTRY	NUMBER OF CASES	NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS	IN CENTRE AS OF END OF 2019	DEPARTED	OTHERS (+/-)	VOL. REP
Timisoara, Romania	Vietnam	Yemen	Netherlands	1	1	0	1	0	0
	Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	1	7	0	7	0	0
	Libya	Eritrea	Norway	2	6	0	6	0	0
	Libya	Sudan	Norway	8	36	0	36	0	0
	Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	8	40	0	40	1	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	8	23	0	23	0	0
	Libya	Eritrea	Norway	3	4	0	4	0	0
	Libya	Sudan	Norway	8	24	0	24	0	0
	Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	13	65	0	65	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	United Kingdom	4	14	0	14	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Somalia	United Kingdom	1	3	0	3	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Palestinian	United Kingdom	4	11	0	11	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	United Kingdom	2	7	0	7	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	2	8	0	8	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	United Kingdom	1	4	0	4	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	United Kingdom	1	4	0	4	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	2	8	0	8	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	1	4	0	4	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Somalia	United Kingdom	1	4	0	4	0	0
	Libya	Eritrea	Norway	7	14	0	14	0	0
	Libya	Sudan	Norway	6	28	0	28	0	0
	Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	11	53	0	53	0	0
Libya	Eritrea	Norway	7	12	0	12	0	0	

LOCATION	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	RESETTLEMENT COUNTRY	NUMBER OF CASES	NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS	IN CENTRE AS OF END OF 2019	DEPARTED	OTHERS (+/-)	VOL. REP
Timisoara, Romania	Libya	Sudan	Norway	2	8	0	8	0	0
	Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	3	14	0	14	0	0
	Libya	Eritrea	Norway	6	15	0	15	2	0
	Libya	Sudan	Norway	3	9	0	9	0	0
	Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	2	9	0	9	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	3	8	0	8	0	0
	Libya	Somalia	United Kingdom	2	2	0	2	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	4	14	0	14	0	0
	Libya	Somalia	United Kingdom	1	1	0	1	0	0
	Libya	Eritrea	Norway	7	15	0	15	0	0
	Libya	Sudan	Norway	4	17	0	17	0	0
	Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	12	61	5	56	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	1	5	0	5	0	0
	Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	United Kingdom	1	6	0	6	0	0
	Libya	Eritrea	Norway	9	24	24	0	0	0
	Libya	Sudan	Norway	8	28	28	0	0	0
	Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	5	20	20	0	0	0
	Libya	Eritrea	Sweden	33	33	33	0	0	0
	Libya	Sudan	Sweden	1	1	1	0	0	0
Total Timisoara				209	670	111	559	3	0
Philippines	Vietnam	Cameroon	Canada	1	1	0	1	0	0
Total Philippines				1	1	0	1	0	0
Grand Total				210	671	111	560	3	0

*Country of asylum prior to entering the ETC

Back cover photo: Maya Ghazal, 20, pictured in front of the plane in which she will make her first solo flight, at The Pilot Centre, in Denham, United Kingdom. For Maya the solo flight is a part of the process of gaining her private pilot's license – a significant step on her journey to fulfilling her dream of becoming the first female Syrian refugee pilot and flying for a commercial airline. November 2019.

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