



At the IRC-run Treguine Camp health centre in Chad, a lively young Sudanese refugee is being weighed.

Working in Partnership

FACED WITH THE monumental task of fulfilling its mandate to protect and assist some 35 million displaced people around the world, UNHCR counts on working in partnership wherever possible in order to respond to the needs of both refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). In 2011, the Office strengthened alliances with a large range of actors. These included governments, UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia and the private sector.

COORDINATING WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

STRENGTHENING SUCH ALLIANCES involves coordinating strategies and activities in many different spheres that go far beyond the general realm of “humanitarian aid”. For example, UNHCR participates in UN development coordination mechanisms and contributes to decision making at global and

regional levels. Its engagements in the UNDAF process and the UN Delivering as One initiative are aimed primarily at achieving the inclusion of durable solutions for refugees and IDPs in national development plans. In New York, UNHCR contributes to the work of the General Assembly and other bodies, and the Office is fully involved in the IASC Principals’ Transformative Agenda, which focuses on leadership, accountability and coordination in the emergency response system.

Partnerships with other UN organizations such as WFP (see text box) play a paramount role in helping UNHCR implement its programmes. In 2011, particular emphasis was placed on reinforcing its partnership with UNICEF, leading to a renewed commitment to work together in a predictable manner in refugee emergencies.

UNHCR contributed to the strengthening of legal frameworks on refugee issues by sharing information with the Human Rights Council (particularly in the context of the Universal Periodic Review), the Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Bodies and the respective thematic and

country-specific Special Procedures mandate holders. Close cooperation with OHCHR allowed UNHCR to work in important thematic areas, such as the prevention of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. UNHCR also signed an accord with the OSCE’s Office for the Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, a regional partner in the field of human rights.

Child protection is a key responsibility for the Office and the international community. The gaps flagged in the GSP results for 2011 have brought these needs into sharp focus.

The participation of UNHCR in the Child Protection Working Group, under the Global Protection Cluster, has facilitated closer cooperation with key actors in child protection. Cooperation with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) led to the joint release of a Field Handbook for the Implementation of UNHCR BID Guidelines to aid staff making best interest determination (BID) decisions for children. UNICEF continues to be a key partner in advancing the protection of children both at the global and country levels.

UNHCR and Plan International conducted a joint advocacy project on birth registration and prevention of statelessness. *The UN Guidance Note on Statelessness*, produced with UNHCR's help, provides a blueprint for UN cooperation on the issue.

Through partnership with IOM, UNHCR helped more than 60,000 refugees worldwide depart for resettlement in 2011. IOM also supported UNHCR in organizing and facilitating the travel of close relatives of refugees to selected emerging resettlement countries. At the outset of the crisis in Libya, the High Commissioner and the Director-General of IOM launched a joint humanitarian operation to evacuate third country nationals (migrants) and assist persons of concern to UNHCR fleeing the conflict in Libya. By January 2012, the joint Humanitarian Evacuation Cell had successfully repatriated more than 300,000 individuals by air, land and sea to their countries of origin. Migrants were given shelter and assistance in camps before their evacuation. The two organizations mounted this challenging operation within hours of the outbreak of the emergency in Libya.

Developing and implementing comprehensive strategies on mixed movements based on UNHCR's *10-Point Plan of Action on Refugee Protection and Mixed Migration* continued to be a key priority. A particular focus of UNHCR's efforts to strengthen regional approaches was the theme of protection of refugees and asylum-seekers at sea. This required close coordination with the International Maritime Organization and other maritime actors. At the international level, UNHCR participated in the Global Migration Group.

As part of the broader international response to human trafficking, UNHCR participated in the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, collaborating with the UN, other organizations and the UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons.

UNHCR was also involved in the Inter-Agency Network for Women and Gender Equality, the IASC Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action, and the IASC Gender Standby Capacity Project,

which aim to incorporate gender considerations into humanitarian responses. Working jointly with UNICEF and UNFPA, UNHCR implemented the Gender-Based Violence Capacity Building Project in nine countries. UNHCR also teamed up with UNFPA and the IRC to promote a global information management project designed to address the lack of reliable data on gender-based violence.

The *Need to Know* guidance series on working with diverse populations in forced displacement was developed in cooperation with the NGOs Handicap International and Minority Rights Group International. Activities on the protection of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-sexual and intersex refugees and asylum-seekers were coordinated with the Organization for Refugee Asylum and Migration and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society Training sessions on the inclusion in programmes of displaced people living with disabilities were organized with the Women's Refugee Commission, and initial steps were taken for cooperation with the Shafallah Foundation on disabilities.

The 2011 crisis in North Africa strengthened UNHCR's already close collaboration with the ICRC, in particular with regard to tracing and family reunification. Cooperation between the two agencies also continued on other fronts, including IDPs, new forms of violence and legal developments. UNHCR worked with UNRWA in areas where the mandates of the two agencies coincide, particularly in providing complementary assistance to Palestinian refugees from Iraq in the Syrian Arab Republic.

The Global Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM) is led jointly by IOM and UNHCR. A number of CCCM capacity-building initiatives were carried out in partnership with IOM and the Norwegian Refugee Council, reaching more than 6,500 CCCM practitioners and related humanitarian workers in 12 countries worldwide. UNHCR also worked with Catholic Relief Services, the Lutheran World Federation and other partners to coordinate and deliver camp construction, camp management, psychosocial support, IDP registration

and other services in IDP and non-IDP operations.

UNHCR has played an active role in the IASC Needs Assessment Task Force, working with many organizations on the Multi-Cluster Initial Rapid Assessment and Operational Guidance for Coordinated Needs Assessments in Humanitarian Crises projects. With support from OCHA, UNHCR also collaborated with partners on the IASC Common Operational Datasets initiative, the IASC Information Management Distance Learning Course and the HXL, a programme for humanitarian data-sharing.

Through the Joint IDP Profiling Service, and in partnership with other organizations, UNHCR supports the efforts of governments and humanitarian and development actors to obtain, maintain and update reliable data on IDPs. The service has also developed an online database of practical tools, the Profiling and Assessment Resource Kit (www.parkdatabase.org).

The Transitional Solutions Initiative, linking relief to development in partnership with UNDP, became operational in Eastern Sudan in 2011. In Nepal, Pakistan and the Sudan, UNHCR supported governments and other agencies to establish community development strategies in areas hosting refugees.

UNHCR worked with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature on community environmental action planning in Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda and on a rapid environmental impact assessment in Ethiopia. It linked up with the organization Solar Household Energy to promote the distribution of new-generation solar cookers in Chad, while a partnership with the Aprovecho Research Center helped introduce institutional fuel-efficient stoves in Ethiopia.

In Yemen and Eastern Sudan UNHCR piloted the "Graduation Model" of support for livelihoods developed by the World Bank. In Tunisia, UNHCR's new partnerships with local public institutions, UN organizations and bilateral agencies, such as the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation,



● Working with the World Food Programme

Having worked closely together in the service of refugees and IDPs for many years, UNHCR and WFP have steadily strengthened their partnership, notably since 1992 when new working arrangements were introduced. The relationship was further developed in 2008, when the global food crisis increased the problem of hunger in many countries in the world. In 2011, the two organizations signed a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) outlining a clear division of roles and responsibilities. The agreement recognizes the importance of examining both the food-related and non-food aspects of food security, while seeking to increase refugee self-reliance. The revised MoU now includes issues related to food assistance for persons of concern in urban settings, the use of cash and vouchers and the provision of special nutritional products.

By agreement, WFP provides basic food rations consisting of cereals, pulses, oil, salt and sugar to vulnerable refugees in camps and to IDPs and returnees in all operations serving more than 5,000 people. In some operations, WFP supplies special food products to treat and prevent malnutrition. UNHCR provides complementary items, depending on the dietary needs of the beneficiaries, such as vegetables, groundnuts, lentils and tomato paste. In operations with fewer than 5,000 beneficiaries, UNHCR also provides the basic food rations. The use of cash and vouchers is decided on a case-by-case basis.

In 2011, UNHCR and WFP produced a joint action plan on the use of cash and voucher-based interventions in displaced settings. The plan has three pillars: i) scaling up ongoing operations and introducing new

pilot projects; ii) increasing the evidence base through evaluations of ongoing operations; and iii) normative guidance.

UNHCR and WFP have begun a project to improve the scale and the scope of joint assessment missions, which are conducted in all major operations at least once every two years. The project will be finalized in 2012. WFP and UNHCR have also joined forces to respond to the famine in the Horn of Africa, which caused an unprecedented influx of Somali refugees into Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya. Together, UNHCR and WFP provided food aid for more than 700,000 refugees in these countries.

**Sudanese refugees
in Tongo refugee
camp, Ethiopia.**



boosted employment and private-sector investment in refugee-hosting areas. In Uganda, Cameroon and Senegal, UNHCR works with local entrepreneurship trainers to help refugee youth and women strengthen entrepreneurial skills. A new training programme on self-reliance was piloted in Uganda in collaboration with the Women's Refugee Commission, UNDP and ILO.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

UNHCR WORKED CLOSELY IN 2011 with the Education Cluster and the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE). Substantial contributions were made to the three-year strategic plans of both the Education Cluster and the INEE, incorporating activities relevant to the education of refugees within the broader education network. A strategy for collaborative implementation of an education plan for Dadaab, Kenya, was developed and a three-year work plan

finalized with UNICEF. An education assessment was carried out in Dollo Ado, Ethiopia, by UNHCR, UNICEF and Save the Children.

Seven deployments of staff arranged through the standby agreement with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Save the Children helped to strengthen education programmes. The International Rescue Committee worked with UNHCR to develop a comprehensive e-learning programme on Safe Learning Environments, linking education and protection.

UNHCR's agreement with the Refugee Education Trust has been revised to reflect collaboration on youth and secondary-education programmes. UNHCR has joined the steering committee of a new partnership, the Global Coalition for Preventing Attacks on Education, which is a network of UN agencies and NGOs. A petition to include attacks on schools (and hospitals), as an additional trigger for the Monitoring

and Reporting Mechanism on grave violations against children in armed conflict, was accepted by the Security Council.

UNHCR contributed to the Global Clusters on Health, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), Nutrition and Food Security. The UNHCR Health Information System tool was adapted to assist the Health Cluster in 2011.

In the areas of immunization, epidemic prevention and mental and reproductive health UNHCR worked closely with UNICEF, WHO and UNFPA. Partnership with the Global Fund and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief of the United States continued. Furthermore, UNHCR engaged with the UN System Influenza Coordinator on all influenza-related issues. Malaria control is supported by the UN Foundation's *Nothing But Nets* campaign. As a UNAIDS cosponsor, UNHCR helped develop the

2012-2015 UNAIDS Unified Budget and the Results Accountability Framework to implement the *Getting to Zero* strategy.

Nutrition partnerships were boosted in 2011 in response to the refugee crisis in the Horn of Africa, especially through collaboration with the Emergency Nutrition Network and the US Centers for Disease Control. UNHCR participated in the activities of the IASC nutrition cluster at global and country levels.

UNHCR engaged with UNICEF, WHO, WFP and NGOs specializing in nutrition to develop guidelines on the management of both moderate and severe acute malnutrition. The Infant Feeding in Emergencies Core Group plays an essential role in this area.

In water and sanitation, UNHCR pursued collaborative arrangements with academic institutions engaging in operational research. UNHCR continued to work in close partnership

● Working with the Japan International Cooperation Agency: Eastern Sudan

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and UNHCR have been working in partnership since 1999 in more than 30 countries. They also cooperate through the exchange of staff between their respective Headquarters. In 2011, a new form of collaboration was created in response to the Horn of Africa crisis and the Arab Spring. JICA contributed non-food items (NFIs) to Kenya and Ethiopia through UNHCR; and in Tunisia, JICA formulated its cooperation programme in the south of the country in close coordination with UNHCR.

In Eastern Sudan, some 70,000 refugees currently reside in 12 refugee camps, three of which are at advanced stages of consolidation. Since 2011, JICA and UNHCR have worked together in the region in a flexible, practical and complementary manner. Ensuring human security and sustainable socio-economic development has been the shared goal. Refugees and the host population are faced with common challenges in this protracted refugee situation, including chronic poverty and the lack of development. UNHCR has therefore set out to promote the self-reliance of both refugees and their Sudanese hosts through a development approach. Engaging with JICA, the leading bilateral development agency in Eastern Sudan, is crucial if these efforts are to have a meaningful impact in the region.

Vocational training and training of trainers took place in the refugee-populated and mainly agricultural areas. JICA offered training in mechanized agriculture to both Sudanese and refugee farmers in Abuda in order to improve their



livelihoods and food security. Furthermore, a mechanism for renting out JICA-funded machinery to both the Sudanese Farmers' Association and refugee farmers has been established. JICA and UNHCR are currently discussing detailed intervention plans for 2012, especially in the areas of training in rainwater harvesting and horticulture, microfinance, vocational skills, and maternal and child health. Further dialogue and the sharing of experiences, both at Headquarters and in the Field, will help to fill the gap between humanitarian assistance and development aid.

with Red R to build technical capacity in the WASH sector and was also a member of the WASH cluster.

UNHCR led the Emergency Shelter cluster in nine countries and co-led it with UNICEF in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The development of improved shelter solutions continued with the aid of technical partners. UNHCR worked together with UNICEF, the ICRC and the IFRC to improve the quality of family tents, plastic sheeting and other shelter-related non-food items (NFIs). UNHCR's global and regional technical capacity was improved through two secondments from the Shelter Centre and one from SDC. The emergency deployment of some 14 experts in physical planning/shelter was made possible through standby arrangements with Canadem, DRC, MSB, NRC, RedR, SDC and the UNV programme.

WORKING WITH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

In **Africa**, partnership remains the cornerstone of UNHCR operations, particularly in emergency situations. Most UNHCR operations participate in the UN or Humanitarian country teams to improve coordination and efficiency. In response to the drought in the East and Horn of Africa, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP reinforced coordination mechanisms at the regional and country levels, enabling quicker responses, as well as complementary and integrated interventions in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Similarly, UNHCR coordinated a joint appeal with IOM, UNICEF and WFP to deal with the influx of Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia, launched in September.

In June 2011, UNHCR worked with IOM to resume voluntary repatriation for Angolan refugees in Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia and Zambia.

UNHCR supported the setting up of a secretariat for the African NGO Task Force to improve communication among national NGOs in Africa and strengthen their capacity. The first training session on working in UNHCR programmes, covering results-based management, financial due diligence, asset management and

audits, was organized by the Task Force in early December in West Africa.

In the **Americas**, collaboration with Mercosur and the Inter-American Court resulted in the submission of an *amicus curiae* brief for the protection of migrant and refugee children. UNHCR joined the OAS Department of International Law to organize a course on International Refugee Law for Permanent Missions to the OAS. It also participated in the Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process) in the Dominican Republic.

In the **Asia-Pacific** region, the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime agreed to establish a Regional Cooperation Framework, with a Regional Support Office to act as a focal point for sharing information, building capacity and pooling resources. UNHCR strengthened its relationship with the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights by co-hosting a workshop on statelessness in Manila. UNHCR supported civil society, primarily through the Asia-Pacific Refugee Rights Network, as well as other key partners, such as the International Detention Coalition.

In the Pacific, UNHCR maintained its close relationship with the Pacific Immigration Director's Conference through training and awareness-raising sessions in a number of countries. UNHCR also contributed to inter-agency preparedness on protection in natural disasters and climate change and liaised with the Pacific Islands Forum and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

In Central Asia, UNHCR cooperated with the OSCE and the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy on mixed-migration and human-trafficking issues, resulting in the Almaty Process addressing mixed migration in Central Asia. In Turkmenistan, UNHCR also cooperated with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in preparation for a Ministerial Conference on the Situation of Refugees in the Muslim world in Ashkabat in May 2012. The Conference will tackle issues related to refugees and IDPs in the Muslim world and is expected to adopt a Declaration and Plan of Action.

In **Europe**, UNHCR cooperated with 48 countries and the European Union (EU), the Council of Europe and the OSCE.

The EU intends to establish a comprehensive legal and practical framework for asylum in its 27 Member States by the end of 2012. UNHCR supported the framework's establishment by exercising its supervisory mandate and by serving on the board of the European Asylum Support Office.

UNHCR engaged with the work of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Court of Human Rights and national courts, and also provided training in collaboration with specific courts and judges' associations, including the International Association of Refugee Law Judges and its European Chapter.

The European Commission remained UNHCR's second-largest donor, and good working relationships were maintained with other organizations in the field of refugee protection, asylum and migration, such as the International Centre for Migration Policy Development; the Inter-Governmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees; the European Council on Refugees and Exiles; and many NGOs.

In the **Middle East and North Africa**, UNHCR continued to liaise with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on preparations for the Conference on Refugees in the Muslim World.

During the year, the Gulf Cooperation Council and UNHCR worked to develop an MoU to define strategic objectives for joint undertakings. The League of Arab States remains another important partner. UNHCR also followed closely the work related to the draft Convention on the Status of Refugees in the Arab Countries.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

NGOs MAKE UP ALMOST 80 PER CENT of UNHCR's partners, and in 2011, UNHCR transferred USD 677 million through them. This was some USD 133 million more than in 2010. UNHCR continues to seek ways to improve collaboration with its NGO partners, who in 2011 numbered a record 762 (151 international and 611 national).

The UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations brought together more than 400 participants from around the world, representing more than 200 different NGOs from 70 different countries. On the occasion of UNHCR's 60th Anniversary, the theme of the Consultations was *60 Years of Partnership - The Road Ahead*. UNHCR also initiated a Structured Dialogue with key partners that will continue through 2012 and aims to achieve more transparent, results-oriented and trust-based relationships.

FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS WITH CORPORATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

IN 2011, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION partners in Australia, Germany, Japan, Spain and the United States of America made unprecedented contributions to UNHCR, both with funding and through engagement with civil society in their respective countries. For more details, see the chapter on *Funding UNHCR's Programmes*.

Corporate partners gave UNHCR a record level of support in 2011, helping with funding, awareness-raising and expertise, as well as donating goods and services. Contributions from corporate donors generated more than USD 35 million in 2011.

UNHCR's foremost corporate partner, the IKEA Foundation, made a landmark three-year pledge of USD 62 million for assistance to refugees in the Horn of Africa. This outstanding contribution was the largest ever received by UNHCR from a corporate partner and came in addition to a number of joint initiatives (see box).

The Dutch Postcode Lottery and the Swedish Postcode Lottery were two other important sources of unearmarked funding for UNHCR. The Japanese clothing company UNIQLO contributed USD 2 million for the Horn of Africa emergency. This came in addition to donations of high-quality recycled clothing for Kenya, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Nepal. The LEGO Foundation donated educational toys to six UNHCR operations, bringing pleasure to some 35,000 children. The International Olympic Committee continued to work with UNHCR to highlight the importance of sports in the lives of the displaced, especially children and youth. Other important donors included BBVA, Morneau Shepell, Prosolidar, Google.org, the BASF Social Foundation and BILD hilft e.V. *Ein Herz für Kinder*.

UNHCR continued to work with partners who could contribute specialized expertise, such as Google, Skype, UPS, HP and Microsoft. ManpowerGroup helped UNHCR to develop a third staff survey, and for the third consecutive year UNHCR partnered with the Crossroads Foundation to host the Refugee Run in the margins of the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos.

The total funding from foundations in 2011 amounted to USD 8.2 million. UNHCR has continued to develop new relationships with foundations worldwide, especially in Europe, the United States and the Gulf region.

In the United Kingdom, large grants received in 2011 included USD 850,000 from the Lebara Foundation for education programmes. A new partnership with the Asfari and Said foundations also resulted in joint funding to support Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Other significant grants originated from foundations such as Prosolidar, the Intervida Foundation, *La Caixa*, the Divac Foundation, the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, *Stichting Vluchteling*, the

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the Nando Peretti Foundation. In the Gulf region, UNHCR received its first large donation from a private partner in Saudi Arabia, the World Assembly of Muslim Youth.

Through its *Nothing But Nets* campaign, the UN Foundation helped UNHCR to obtain mosquito nets for refugees in Liberia. The foundation also supported UNHCR's *Girl Fund* and *Girl Up* campaigns in support of the education of Somali refugee girls in Ethiopia. Other large grants came from the Jolie-Pitt and Harold Simmons foundations. Lions Clubs International contributed to UNHCR operations in Libya, Côte d'Ivoire and Ethiopia, and the Novartis Foundation for People and the Environment provided a grant for health support in the Horn of Africa.

GOODWILL AMBASSADORS

UNHCR GOODWILL AMBASSADORS provided invaluable support in 2011 in raising awareness through field visits and multimedia activities. They also supported advocacy efforts, helping to influence policies on issues related to the protection of refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs and stateless people.

Goodwill Ambassador Barbara Hendricks supported global initiatives such as World Refugee Day and the Nansen Award and spearheaded fund-raising work in Sweden. Angelina Jolie carried out five field missions in 2011, travelling to Afghanistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Malta and the Italian island of Lampedusa to meet with refugees and asylum-seekers. She also attended UNHCR's annual Executive Committee, where she appealed to governments to scale up efforts in the Horn of Africa.

On the occasion of the Nansen Award ceremony in Geneva, UNHCR paid tribute to Ms. Jolie's 10 years as

UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador. During a remarkable decade of service, she has made more than 40 visits to the Field and advocated strongly for the rights of refugees and the forcibly displaced around the world.

Regional and national Goodwill ambassadors too delivered invaluable support for UNHCR's work and mission. Spanish TV presenter Jesús Vázquez fronted media and fund-raising

initiatives and undertook a mission to Tunisia. Uruguayan star Osvaldo Laport participated in a number of events with refugee stakeholders across Latin America and joined ceremonies to mark the 60th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention. Muazzez Ersoy accompanied the Prime Minister of Turkey on a mission to Somalia, and George Dalaras lent his support to UNHCR's "i" Campaign in Greece. ■

● The IKEA Foundation and UNHCR

The IKEA Foundation and UNHCR have entered into a unique multi-year partnership to provide refugee children and families with temporary accommodation, life skills and economic empowerment.

In August 2011, the Foundation donated USD 62 million for the Office's work in the Horn of Africa, the largest private donation in UNHCR's 60-year history.

"This initiative is a bold but natural extension of IKEA Foundation's longstanding commitment to making a better everyday life for children and families in need throughout the developing world," said Per Hegggenes, Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation. "Supporting UNHCR, both immediately and over the long term, is one of the most effective ways to immediately make a difference in the lives of thousands of refugee children and their families."

The donation is part of a broader partnership which started in 2010, with the IKEA Foundation focusing on providing lasting solutions for people of concern to UNHCR through cash and in-kind contributions as well as expertise. In 2010, the foundation donated 130,000 IKEA products in support of UNHCR's emergency response in Kyrgyzstan. It also funded the purchase and distribution of school books for children in Dadaab, Kenya.

In 2011 the IKEA Foundation made multi-year commitments to support education and livelihoods projects in Bangladesh and Eastern Sudan (where it was an early supporter of the Transitional Solutions Initiative), in addition to an in-kind donation of 150,000 mattresses, quilt covers and quilts for the emergency in Tunisia. As the main corporate sponsor of the Nansen Award ceremony, the Foundation helped UNHCR reach a wide audience through TV broadcasts, traditional and online media, and social networking. UNHCR has also benefited from IKEA's expertise in logistics, supply, packaging and warehousing through workshops organized in collaboration with UNHCR's supply management service.

The IKEA Foundation supports UNHCR strategic goal of helping 100 million children by 2015.