Without us, refugees can experience dangerous gaps in vital aid. With us, they can get the all-round, practical assistance and protection they so desperately need.
Speaking on a relief worker’s mobile phone in early June, Ms. Zhang expressed her thanks to UNHCR staff in Hong Kong.

Ms. Zhang and her family have been living in a UNHCR tent since their Sichuan home was severely damaged by the May 12 earthquake that devastated a vast area of China’s central west. Measuring 8 on the Richter Scale, the massive quake left more than 88,000 people dead or missing and about 4.8 million homeless.

UNHCR supporters in Hong Kong quickly joined with donors around the world to help provide emergency shelter for some 75,000 quake victims. At the request of the Chinese Government, the UN Refugee Agency purchased 15,000 lightweight tents from tent manufacturers in China for immediate dispatch to the quake zone.

Like many of the homeless, Ms. Zhang was very pleased to receive her UNHCR family tent. “It has plastic flooring which is waterproof,” she explained on the phone, an important feature in a region that receives regular drenching rains. “And the tent is white and not as hot as other tents in the 40°C heat” she said. “We have managed to put all our family valuables inside.”

Thank you to all our supporters in Hong Kong who gave generously to help the earthquake victims.

We were grateful, not only for the one off gifts sent by so many of you in direct response to this tragedy, but also to our generous monthly donors whose regular contributions enable UNHCR to prepare and respond so quickly to the unforeseen. For the second time in a month, the UN refugee agency was able to use its expertise and resources to provide emergency shelter for thousands of people displaced by the forces of nature.

六月初，透過救災人員的手提電話，災民張小姐向聯合國難民署香港的員工道謝。

張小姐和家人在四川地震嚴重摧毀了她們的家園後，一直居住在聯合國難民署的帳篷裡。5月12日的地震，達黎克特級八級，毀壞了中國中西部一大片地區，令超過88,000人死亡或失蹤，約480萬人無家可歸。

聯合國難民署在香港的捐資者，立刻加入世界各地捐款者的行列，為約75,000名地震災民提供應急避難所。聯合國難民署更回應中國政府的呼籲，從中國生產商購入15,000個輕巧的帳篷，立即送往地震災區。

與很多無家可歸者一樣，張小姐獲得聯合國難民署提供的家庭帳篷後感到十分欣慰。「帳篷的膠質地墊是防水的。」她在電話裡說。防水的特色在經常會下大雨的災區十分重要。「帳篷是白色的，在四五十度的高溫下亦不像其他帳篷一般熾熱。」她說：「我們把所有貴重的物件都放在裡面。」

感謝所有捐款者慷慨地幫助地震災民。

更衷心感謝所有每月捐款者的貢獻，你們的每月捐款發揮了效用，令我們可以作好準備，隨時候命，在同一個月裡，第二次以我們的專長和資源，為受自然災害影響的無家可歸者提供即時救援。
EMERGENCY SHELTER FOR VICTIMS OF THE MYANMAR CYCLONE

When Cyclone Nargis devastated coastal villages and towns in southern Myanmar in May, more than a million people were left homeless. UNHCR was immediately called upon to provide emergency shelter for 250,000 people as part of the United Nations joint emergency response.

With 70 staff working in Myanmar itself and relief stockpiles in neighbouring Thailand, UNHCR was well placed to respond. Staff in Yangon immediately purchased and distribute tonnes of plastic sheeting and tinned foods to stricken families in the capital. Shortly afterwards, a UNHCR truck convoy from Thailand delivered the first international relief to arrive by road – 22 tonnes of tents, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets, blankets and mosquito nets.

By mid June, UNHCR had airlifted more than 500 tonnes of emergency relief to the region. Staff had been redeployed to the devastated Irrawaddy Delta where two UNHCR Field Units have been established to oversee the distribution of shelter relief.

Ma Shwe, a 43-year-old rice farmer from Kan Gyi Su village was among the first 150,000 people to receive UNHCR assistance. She was selling rice in a nearby market when the cyclone struck. Returning to her ruined village, she found the bodies of her parents and two young daughters lying in the bottom of a boat. With her husband and surviving son, Ma Shwe was relocated to the nearby town of Laputta where she now lives under a sheet of UNHCR plastic. "One sheet is enough for the three of us," she says, "so no worries for temporary shelter."

The arrival of seasonal rains added to the misery of homeless families still sheltering under pieces of sodden palm thatch. UNHCR continues to distribute emergency shelter materials to help prevent further deaths from exposure and disease.

今年五月，強烈熱帶風暴「納爾吉斯」(Nargis)破壞了緬甸南部沿岸的村落和城鎮，造成超過一百萬人無家可歸。聯合國難民署作為「聯合國緬甸風災救援行動」的成員，立即為25萬人提供緊急庇護。

原已有七十位項目人員在緬甸為難民工作，泰國亦有聯合國難民署物資的儲備倉庫，令我們可以即時回應風災。在仰光(Yangon)的工作人員，於風災後立刻購買和分發數以噸計的帆布和罐頭給首都的受災家庭。聯合國難民署的貨車於短時間內從陸路由泰國護送第一批國際救援物資到災區，包括二十二噸帳篷、帆布、煮食用具、毛毯和蚊帳。

在六月中，聯合國難民署已經空運超過五百噸緊急救援物資到達災區。另外，工作人員被調派到伊洛瓦底江三角洲(Irrawaddy Delta)，成立兩隊災區小組負責監督救援物資的分派過程。

Ma Shwe，Kan Gyi Su 村落裡一位四十三歲的稻米農夫，是首十五萬名獲得聯合國難民署援助的村民之一。熱帶風暴吹襲時，她正在附近的市集擺賣米糧。返回損毀的村落後，她見到父母，還有兩個幼兒的遺體躺在一艘船下。她和丈夫、還有幸存的兒子被安置到鄰近城鎮拉普塔(Laputta)。暫住在聯合國難民署提供的帆布下。「一塊帆布足夠我們三人居住，所以不用為臨時庇護所擔心。」

她說。

雨季，令居住在濕透的茅草下的無家可歸者更加悲慘。因此，聯合國難民署會繼續分發緊急救援物資及協助重建社區，避免災民因饑餓和疾病引致更大傷亡。
2007 IN REVIEW:
Refugee Numbers on the Rise

For the second year running, the number of refugees in the world increased during 2007, reaching a peak of 11.4 million by December. As a result of conflict or persecution, a further 26 million people were displaced within their own countries, requiring UNHCR’s assistance.

“After a five year decline in the number of refugees between 2001 and 2005, we have now seen two years of increases and that’s a concern,” said UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres.

“We are now faced with a complex mix of global challenges that could threaten even more forced displacement in the future. They range from multiple new conflict-related emergencies in world hotspots to bad governance, climate-induced environmental degradation that increases competition for scarce resources, and extreme price hikes that have hit the poor the hardest and are generating instability in many places.”

Overall, an extra 2.5 million people came under the care of the UN refugee agency, mostly in Central and East Africa, Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

- Long-running conflicts like those in Darfur, Central African Republic and Somalia continued to destabilize entire regions, hindering the search for permanent solutions to many refugee crises. UNHCR also increased its operations in and around Iraq, assisting more than 1.8 million people displaced by the ongoing war.

- During the year, the UN refugee agency increased its role in the protection of Internally Displaced People (IDPs), often working as part of a ‘cluster system’ with other organizations to address the needs of the most vulnerable in areas like shelter, health, food, education and community services.

- 2007 saw the continued development of UNHCR’s emergency response, with the expansion of its emergency stockpiles and preparedness training for staff. In the course of the year, 197 UNHCR personnel were deployed to emergency situations in 30 countries.

- Meanwhile, UNHCR projects targeting malaria, obstetric care, refugee education, health and nutrition improved the lives of many thousands of displaced people worldwide.

- UNHCR assisted the voluntary return of more than 731,000 people to their homelands during the year. Supported returns to Liberia and Angola were concluded and hundreds of thousands returned to South Sudan and Iran. With the agency’s support, many long term exiles from countries like Myanmar, Burundi, Somalia and Nepal were reintegrated in their country of asylum or resettled in a third country.

Global refugee numbers already increased by 2 million in 2007, and the 12th of December saw the number of refugees rise to 11.4 million. An additional 26 million people were displaced within their own countries, requiring UNHCR’s assistance.

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By view the full report - 2007 Global Trends: Refugees, Asylum-seekers, Returnees, Internally Displaced and Stateless Persons - go to www.unhcr.org 2007 年的全球難民數字已持續上升，2007年12月的難民數目更攀升至1,140萬。另有2,600萬人因受到衝突或迫害，在自己的國家內流離失所，需要聯合國難民署的保護及幫助。

「經過2001至2005年間難民數字下降後，過去兩年來數字都持續上升，值得我們關注。」聯合國難民署高級專員安東尼奧・古特雷斯(Antonio Guterres)表示。

「我們現時要面對十分複雜的全球挑戰。這些問題會令更多人在未來被趕離流離失所，包括世界各個貧窮主要地點內多項新冒起的衝突或相關的緊急情況，以至管理不善，因為氣候引發的環境退化，對有限資源的爭奪，極端的價格上升，都在很多地方令貧窮的人受苦及造成不穩定情況。」現時，還有額外250萬人由聯合國難民署照顧，他們大部分在非洲中部和東部、亞洲西南部和中東地區。

- 在達爾富爾(Darfur)、中非共和國(Central African Republic)和索馬里(Somalia)等地持續不斷的衝突，仍然令這些地區不穩定，更阻礙了尋求徹底解決多項難民問題的方法。聯合國難民署加強在伊拉克和鄰近地區的部署，協助超過180萬受戰爭影響的流離失所者。

- 過去一年，聯合國難民署加強保護國內流離失所者，並經常與各救援機構組成緊密的網絡，為最易受影響的地區提供適切的援助，包括提供避難所、醫療保健、食物、教育和社區服務。

- 2007年，聯合國難民署繼續增強緊急救援的工作，包括增加緊急物資儲備和訓練人材。過去一年，共有197位聯合國難民署人員被調派到30個情況緊急的國家。

- 與此同時，聯合國難民署加強在疟疾、結核、難民教育、醫療保健、營養方面的工作，繼續改善全球數以萬計流離失所者的生活。

- 聯合國難民署在過去一年，協助超過73萬人自願返回家園。支援利比亞(Libera)和安哥拉(Angola)的回歸工作已經完結，而數以千萬計的難民亦已返回蘇丹南部(South Sudan)和伊朗(Iran)。得到聯合國難民署的協助，很多長期流離國外的緬甸人(Myanmar)、布隆迪人(Burundi)、索馬里人(Somalia)和尼泊爾人(Nepal)都已經融入了為他們提供庇護的國家，或者獲重新安置至第三國。
For the first time on June 20th, the Hong Kong office of UNHCR joined with 115 countries around the world to celebrate World Refugee Day.

Our World Refugee Day Concert, co-organized with Crossroads International, was attended by 300 people. Refugee tents, survival kits and photos of UNHCR’s relief work were on display and staff and volunteers in ethnic costume served finger food around the five tents and marquee. The beautiful voices of the Green Valley Youth Choir and Helen Mottee made it a memorable evening.

As part of the celebrations, more than 200 people attended screenings of refugee films at Crossroads Village and Broadway Cinemateque. If you missed these films but would like to receive a DVD please email to info@unhcr.org.hk or call 2388 3278. The DVD is for free, however, donation is also welcome.

**Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Stars**

Shot on location in a West African refugee camp, this documentary tells the story of six Sierra Leonian musicians struggling to keep their music and hope alive. In the face of tragedy and loss, the band members realize their dream of recording a studio album.

**The Devil Came on Horseback**

A former US Marine Captain records the horrific genocide in the western Darfur region of Sudan. This powerful documentary follows his attempts to bring photographic evidence of the crisis to the attention of the American government and people.

**Invisible Children**

On a trip to Uganda in 2003, three college students from San Diego, California found thousands of people affected by the insurgency of the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA). Their documentary focuses on the war’s effect on children, particularly child soldiers.

香港辦事處與「國際十字路會」合辦了「世界難民日」音樂會，邀請到Green Valley Youth Choir和唱作歌手Helen Mottee演出，當日約有三百名捐款者及嘉賓出席。現場展出了難民帳篷、水桶、食具、毛氈、地席及聯合國難民署於世界各地工作的圖片，讓捐款者可以更了解難民得到的幫助。

在五個難民營、一個大帳篷中間遊走的工作人員更穿上民族服裝以食物待客，加上Green Valley Youth Choir和Helen Mottee美妙的音樂，相信每個參與的賓客都有一個難忘的晚上。

6月21及22日分別在「國際十字路會」和百老匯電影中心播映的難民電影亦吸引了約二百名觀眾，如果你未能抽空觀賞而仍有興趣，歡迎電郵至info@unhcr.org.hk或致電2388 3278與我們聯絡，索取電影光碟(捐款隨緣樂助)。

**Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Stars**

六位樂隊成員均來自塞拉利昂，相處於畿內亞的難民營。戰爭奪去了他們許多家人和朋友，留下的，是一個永不可磨合的身體和情感傷痕。經歷難以想像的恐怖內戰，他們活了下來，通過音樂將希望帶來他們的難民同伴。

**The Devil Came on Horseback**

一名前美國海軍陸戰隊上尉，攝錄了蘇丹西部達爾富爾地區的種族滅絕屠殺事件，希望藉此極具震撼力的記錄片引起美國政府及人民對事件的關注。

**Invisible Children**

三個美國聖地牙哥的大學生前往烏干達尋找關於戰爭的故事，卻遇到無數受到Lord’s Resistance Army影響而變成難民的兒童，他們每晚在醫院及巴士站內棲息，數以千計的兒童把所有的地方擠得滿滿的......
MALARIA: THE NO. 1 KILLER OF REFUGEE CHILDREN IN AFRICA
瘧疾：非洲難民兒童頭號殺手

Given the dangers that many refugee children have faced, it is hard to believe that a tiny mosquito could pose the greatest threat to their survival.

This is the case, however, in many African countries like Chad. In the first two months of this year – January and February – 889 children under the age of five died of malaria in Chadian refugee camps alone.

Transmitted by mosquitoes, the malaria parasite quickly multiplies in the blood and liver, causing fever, lethargy, diarrhoea and vomiting. In young children, it is particularly dangerous as their temperatures rise to the point where they lapse into coma. Without treatment, a child can die within 48 hours of developing their first symptoms.

Now the UNHCR is working to address the high rates of malaria infection among African refugees. A comprehensive new program involves the annual spraying of refugee shelters, the distribution of impregnated mosquito nets and social mobilisation to limit mosquito bites and breeding sites.

The new program is already saving lives in refugee camps in Kenya. “In 2007, UNHCR distributed 60,000 mosquito nets, our largest single distribution of nets ever,” says UNHCR’s Public Health Officer in Kenya, John Wachaga Burton. “This year we are not seeing the same dramatic rise [in infections] we saw last year or in previous years. We are thinking that, because of increased mosquito net coverage and the use of Artemisinin-based Combination Treatments, we are seeing fewer numbers of infections this year and probably fewer deaths.”

In many African countries, however, like Chad, the situation is dire. This year alone, more than 889 children have died of malaria in Chadian refugee camps. As a result, the UNHCR is working to address this high rate of infection among African refugees.

The new program involves annual spraying of refugee shelters, distribution of impregnated mosquito nets, and social mobilization to limit mosquito bites and breeding sites. In Kenya, the program has already saved lives, with a significant decrease in infections compared to previous years.

The program’s success highlights the importance of comprehensive approaches to combat malaria in refugee camps. By addressing the root causes of the disease, such as mosquito breeding sites and inadequate protection, we can significantly reduce the number of deaths caused by malaria.

### Priority Action: Southern Chad

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Refugees camps with the highest malaria death rates</th>
<th>Djabal</th>
<th>Goz Amer</th>
<th>Kounoungou</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (Thousands)</td>
<td>15,103</td>
<td>18,256</td>
<td>12,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total malaria morbidity (per 1000)</td>
<td>16 %</td>
<td>12.5 %</td>
<td>9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under five morbidity (per 1000)</td>
<td>14 %</td>
<td>11.7 %</td>
<td>14 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above shows the population and morbidity rates in the three refugee camps in Southern Chad with the highest malaria death rates. Djabal has the highest population, followed by Goz Amer and Kounoungou. The morbidity rates vary across the camps, with Djabal having the highest number of cases.
RETURNING HOME TO SOUTH SUDAN
Toshiro Odashima, Head of UNHCR Field Office, Nimule, South Sudan

回到蘇丹南部的家
聯合國難民署駐蘇丹南部尼穆萊辦事處處長Toshiro Odashima

Originally from Iwate, Japan, “Toshi” Odashima has been working with the UN Refugee Agency for more than 20 years. He is currently stationed in Nimule, a small town near the Sudan/Ugandan border.

What is the nature of UNHCR’s work in Nimule?
This field office was established in June 2007 to facilitate the return of South Sudanese refugees from Uganda. As soon as UNHCR established a presence here in East Equatoria State, refugees showed a very strong interest in coming home to this region. Our primary work here is to facilitate the safe return of as many refugees as possible. We also provide monitoring and support to ensure that their return is sustainable.

What are the main challenges you face?
There is very limited infrastructure available in South Sudan – the roads are poor, the bridges are not in good shape and we have to cover a huge area. Also, the security situation: it has improved substantially but it is still a challenge. We have to make sure, first of all, that we return the refugees in safety.

What is the most rewarding aspect of your work here?
UNHCR’s mandate is to help refugees find durable solutions. The best solution is voluntary repatriation and this is what is happening here in South Sudan. It is a logistical challenge but when the refugees get off the bus in their village and are greeted by their local village people with singing and dancing and smiles, we feel we have been able to make some contribution to restoring the peace in South Sudan.

SNAPSHOT – South Sudan Repatriation
In 2005, the Sudanese Government and South Sudanese Liberation Army (SPLA) signed a peace agreement ending nearly 20 years of civil war.
- Estimated total of voluntary returns since December 2005: 275,000
- UNHCR assisted returns: 114,283 from Uganda, DRC, Ethiopia, CAR, Kenya and Egypt.

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Donation Hotline 捐款熱線： 2368 3278 Fax 傳真： 2780 0961 Email 電郵： info@unhcr.org.hk Website 網頁： www.unhcr.org.hk

Toshiro Odashima at the UNHCR Way Station in Nimule.

Singing, dancing and smiles: refugees return to Molle village in South Sudan after more than 15 years in exile. 戴歌載舞的村民，以歡樂迎接起過十五年流離失所的同伴，返回他們在蘇丹南部的Molle村落。

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