



UNHCR
The UN
Refugee Agency

UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs

19th Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement
Geneva: 1-3 July 2013

2014

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United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

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Introduction

Global overview of UNHCR resettlement achievements in 2012, operational challenges, and strategic directions for 2013-2014

Intensifying humanitarian crises, particularly in Africa and the Middle East, have dominated the news about refugees in 2012-2013. However, ongoing resettlement of tens of thousands of refugees to States that voluntarily offered them a durable solution brought new hopes and new lives to many in the midst of crisis. Almost 70,000 refugees were provided with a new permanent home, and a chance to rebuild their lives through resettlement in 2012. This included the resettlement of thousands of refugees who have spent decades in camps or insecure urban situations, as well as refugees facing acute protection risks.

In 2012, the doubling of the number of resettlement places offered by Australia, and the announcement that Belgium would establish a resettlement programme, were positive outcomes of UNHCR's ongoing work with States to expand the resettlement base, and increase the number of resettlement places. Germany, Hungary and Spain also received the first arrivals under their recently established regular resettlement programmes. The number of annual quota places for UNHCR submissions now stands at approximately 86,000.

However, resettlement needs continue to vastly outnumber the number of places made available by States. For 2014, global resettlement needs are estimated at 691,000 persons, without considering the possible resettlement needs generated by the massive outflow of refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic into neighbouring countries. UNHCR will issue a separate flash appeal addressing the acute needs of this refugee population once it has adequately assessed the resettlement needs on the ground. Contingency plans are also in place for possible larger-scale resettlement of refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic if such is required by the deteriorating protection situation in the immediate region. Overall, UNHCR continues to advocate for States to increase their available quotas, and be responsive to UNHCR priorities and appeals.

Before introducing the projected global resettlement needs and UNHCR's submission targets per regional and country operations for 2014, this chapter reviews UNHCR's resettlement activities in 2012-2013, highlighting progress and challenges as well as statistics and trends in resettlement submissions and departures. The chapter goes on to discuss several aspects of UNHCR's key resettlement activities, including efforts to advance the

strategic use of resettlement; the enhancement of reception and integration of resettled refugees; and developments in the European Union (EU). It then turns to UNHCR's ongoing efforts to strengthen resettlement management including the management of emergency resettlement, fraud prevention and control, coordination and partnerships. Finally, the strategic directions of the Resettlement Service in 2013-2014 are discussed.

UNHCR resettlement submissions and departures 2012-2013¹

In 2012, UNHCR presented over 74,800 refugees to States for resettlement consideration. The main beneficiaries were refugees from Myanmar (some 22,100), Iraq (10,800), Bhutan (9,900), Somalia (7,200), and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (6,500). These refugee groups have been the top five since 2008, although the order has shifted.

Malaysia continued to be the asylum country from where the largest number of refugees were submitted (some 15,800) followed by Nepal (10,000), Turkey (7,900), Thailand (7,300) and Kenya (3,200). Submissions from Turkey and Malaysia increased by 22 and 15 per cent respectively since 2011. Conversely, submissions from both the Syrian Arab Republic and Kenya decreased by more than 70 per cent, mainly due to the inability of resettlement partners and UNHCR to access refugee populations for safety and security reasons (Syria decreased by 74 per cent, Kenya by 70 per cent).

Looking at submissions by region of asylum, more than half of all submissions were made from Asia and the Pacific region (51 per cent). Slightly less than a quarter of all submissions (21 per cent) were made from Africa, overtaking submissions from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region (14 per cent).

Women and girls at risk represented more than 11 per cent of submissions, surpassing for a second consecutive year the 10 per cent target set to implement the Executive Committee Conclusion No. 105 (2006).² Over four-fifths of submissions were made under three submission categories: Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs (47 per cent), Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (23 per cent), and Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (14 per cent).

¹ The introduction provides rounded figures for ease of reading. For further details on resettlement figures, please refer to Annex 3 of this publication.

² Available from <http://unhcr.org/conclusions>

The resettlement of refugees from Bhutan, one of the most protracted refugee situations in Asia, reached a major milestone in April 2013, with 100,000 people submitted for resettlement from Nepal to third countries since the start of the programme in 2007. Nearly 80,000 of them have commenced a new life in eight different countries.

The global average acceptance rate of UNHCR submissions by resettlement countries was 88 per cent, a decrease from the 93 per cent in 2011, and a return to the same level as in 2009 (88 per cent). While acceptance rates for refugees from Bhutan and Myanmar remained particularly high (98-99 per cent), some other nationalities presented significantly lower acceptance rates, such as 64 per cent acceptance rate for Colombian refugees.

Resettlement departures increased by 12 per cent in 2012, enabling some 70,000 refugees to find a new safe home. However, this departure level still represents more than a 10 per cent shortfall from the number of globally available places (some 80,000).

Increased departures can be attributed to a number of factors. Successful efforts were made by States to expedite security clearances and to interview refugees in inaccessible areas through videoconferencing. As a result, more than 13,500 Iraqi refugees departed for resettlement including 3,300 from Syrian Arab Republic. Overall, departures of refugees from Iraq increased by 56 per cent from 2011. IOM and UNHCR jointly established a cross-border departure platform utilizing Beirut as exit point, for refugees accepted for resettlement from Syrian Arab Republic.

The departure rate of Somali refugees is slowly recovering from the low levels in 2011, with 6,600 resettlement departures in 2012. However, UNHCR remains concerned with the overwhelming number of Somali pending cases in the resettlement processing pipeline for a prolonged period of time.

The 2013 first quarter resettlement figures available to UNHCR show positive trends, with more than 21,200 submissions, a 30 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2012. The upward trend has been witnessed across regions, except for MENA where a 44 per cent decrease was observed. With increased staff capacity and technical support provided by the HQ-based Task Force on Africa, more than 4,700 submissions were made out of Africa during the first quarter, an increase of 140 per cent compared to the first quarter of 2012. Resettlement departures during the first quarter of 2013 increased ten per cent compared to 2012, with some 14,500 departures. UNHCR continues to closely monitor its submission levels to ensure UNHCR's 2013 resettlement targets will be met and available resettlement places fully utilized.

Response to the Syria emergency

The number of Syrian refugees fleeing to neighbouring countries to escape intensified fighting passed the 1.6 million mark at the end of May 2013. While continuing to provide emergency protection and assistance to Syrian refugees, UNHCR launched a strategy to enhance the use of resettlement as a protection tool and durable solution for the increasing numbers of vulnerable and traumatized Syrian refugees in the MENA region. UNHCR also prepared contingency plans for larger-scale resettlement in the event that such is required by the protection situation in the region.

In parallel to a resettlement programme for Syrian refugees during 2013, UNHCR is also promoting the use of humanitarian admission for the most vulnerable Syrian refugees from the MENA region to third safe countries in 2013. This is critical for securing the immediate protection and rapid departure of refugees with urgent and compelling needs while the resettlement programme is in its initial phase of implementation. 5,000 places for humanitarian admission had been offered by Germany by mid-2013, and UNHCR was actively seeking similar commitments from other States.

Projected Global Resettlement Needs and Capacity for 2014

UNHCR estimates the global resettlement needs to be at around 691,000 persons, including the resettlement needs of refugees in a protracted situation where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. This represents a 20 per cent decrease of the estimates reported in the previous year (859,300 persons). The decrease is mainly the result of a revision of the estimates in large, protracted refugee situations such as Pakistan, Turkey and Yemen. Due to the fluid and rapidly evolving situations surrounding the Syrian Arab Republic, the current publication does not include a projection of the resettlement needs of Syrian refugees. UNHCR intends to release a separate flash appeal addressing the acute needs of finding solutions for this refugee population once it has adequately assessed the resettlement needs on the ground. By that time, it will also review and upgrade its total global resettlement needs assessment.

The decrease in the total global resettlement needs reflects the assessment of the total resettlement needs and a more conservative approach to multi-year planning based on current refugees' profiles in need of resettlement. While the total resettlement needs in Africa and the Americas remained similar to those reported in 2012, resettlement needs in Asia and Europe saw a significant decrease. This trend also reflects the gradual phase out of large-scale resettlement operations in Thailand and Nepal following the successful completion of multi-year resettlement operations.

The table in this section illustrates the gap between global resettlement needs and UNHCR's capacity to address them. For the 2014 projections, as in previous years, UNHCR has applied a standard methodology to estimate the capacity of Country Offices to process cases for resettlement according to identified resettlement needs. Instead of providing both global resettlement needs and resettlement needs in a given programme year, the 2014 projections focus on realistic 2014 targets. The 2014 projections therefore highlight the gap between UNHCR's yearly target and its core staff capacity.

The breakdown by region of asylum is provided in column (A), whereas column (B) shows the total number of persons deemed by UNHCR to be in need of resettlement, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. Multi-year planning for resettlement has become an important feature of UNHCR's strategy to holistically address the resettlement needs and mobilize support from resettlement countries. Drawing from this number (234,570 cases / 690,915 persons), column (C) indicates the number of persons UNHCR plans to prioritize and submit in 2014 (35,500 cases / 94,113 persons). This is UNHCR's 2014 submission target. Protection needs as well as indications from resettlement states of specific solutions strategies will be taken into account in prioritizing resettlement interventions. While the number provided in column (C) is equivalent to UNHCR's total capacity inclusive of affiliate workforce,³ column (D) indicates the number of persons the Office is equipped to process for resettlement with existing core staff capacity only (20,258 cases / 49,281 persons). The difference between columns (C) and (D) is indicative of UNHCR's capacity shortfall to meet its 2014 submission targets. It is estimated that without support from the affiliate workforce, UNHCR will be able to process resettlement applications for only 52 per cent of refugees requiring resettlement submissions in 2014.

³ The affiliate workforce refers to consultant, deployees and other temporary staff.

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs and capacity for 2014 with the region of refugees' country of asylum

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs		C. UNHCR submissions planned for 2014 (target) in 2014		D. UNHCR core staff capacity in 2014	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
Africa	88,455	340,267	11,124	37,466	4,581	16,457
The Americas	8,445	30,288	624	2,114	271	889
Asia & the Pacific	116,204	265,447	15,786	36,833	10,131	19,899
Europe	10,136	21,075	4,561	9,050	2,658	5,385
Middle East & North Africa	11,330	33,838	3,405	8,650	2,617	6,651
Grand Total	234,570	690,915	35,500	94,113	20,258	49,281

Effective implementation of the strategic use of resettlement

Since 2009, resettlement countries and UNHCR have rolled out the strategic use of resettlement in an increasing number of priority refugee situations following consultations during the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) and the Working Group on Resettlement (WGR) processes. The targeted intake of refugees around multi-year commitments by a larger group of resettlement countries can help leverage protection and solutions outcomes for refugees not benefiting from resettlement. Their self-reliance and integration efforts in the host country may be furthered, and the protection environment may be improved. In 2012, the ATCR/WGR process agreed to establish Contact Groups for the resettlement of Colombian resettlement and resettlement of Afghan refugees from Pakistan. The former is chaired by both New Zealand and Uruguay, whereas the latter led by Australia. Contact Groups for resettlement of Bhutanese from Nepal and Afghans from Iran continued their activities under the dynamic chairmanships of Canada and Sweden.

The establishment of Contact Groups, each with a particular responsibility for a designated priority situation, has been recognized as a good practice and effective vehicle to advance the implementation of the strategic use of resettlement in that situation. The Contact Group allows for a collaborative approach involving different resettlement countries and UNHCR, which normally includes dialogue with the host country and other relevant resettlement partners. Based on a multilateral and multi-year commitment, the members of the Contact Group ensure greater predictability and sustainability of the resettlement effort and allow for the strengthening of protection mechanisms and livelihood strategies to the benefit of larger numbers of refugees in the host country.

In 2012 UNHCR introduced its multi-year plan to increase the resettlement of refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) up to 50,000 submissions over a five year period. So far, nine resettlement countries have expressed interest in supporting the up scaling of Congolese (DRC) resettlement and have started selecting sub quota, a step forward to address this protracted refugee situation. The USA also accepted the designation of 10,000 Congolese (DRC) refugees from the former Mudende camp in Rwanda for P2 group processing.

Reception and integration of resettled refugees

Resettlement goes far beyond the relocation of refugees to a third state; it involves a process of being received and integrated within a new society. In order for resettlement to be a durable solution, resettlement States must offer refugees the support and opportunities they require to facilitate their integration. The measure of *effective* resettlement is not only how many refugees in need of resettlement have access to this solution each year, but also how well they are received and supported in the process of becoming full participants in their new communities.

States, NGOs and UNHCR continue to share guidance and good practices related to receiving and integrating resettled refugees through the APCR and WGR processes, and other collaborative means to assist new resettlement States in building the foundations for a resettlement programme. UNHCR encourages the on-going efforts to establish common benchmarks and criteria to assess and measure integration outcomes. In 2012, UNHCR Europe also launched a project to review the current situation of refugee integration in Europe; including a review of the literature, policy, available services, and evaluating methods related to the integration of (resettled) refugees.

UNHCR has recognized the need to set guidelines for the preparations required for a State to begin resettling refugees, and the benefit of encouraging established States to regularly review and improve their resettlement programmes. In response, UNHCR has recently released a short guide, *“The Integration of Resettled Refugees: Essentials for Establishing a Resettlement Programme and Fundamentals for Sustainable Resettlement Programmes.”*

Resettlement in the European Union

IOM, ICMC Europe and UNHCR continued to enhance practice cooperation between relevant stakeholders in EU Member States through the continued implementation of the EU-funded project “Linking-In EU Resettlement”. The project culminated in the establishment of the European Resettlement Network in the case of 2012, which aims at facilitating cooperation and knowledge sharing among resettlement policy makers and practitioners in resettlement and integration of resettled refugees. The main tool of the European Resettlement Network is the website: www.resettlement.eu, which provides an overview of resettlement in Europe, and a database for good practices. An online forum / community of practice is also being developed, and it is expected that webinars and videoconferencing facilities will also be offered.

In addition to the organization of a number of multi stakeholder conferences in emerging resettlement countries, the European Resettlement Network organized a roundtable meeting in December 2012 with partners engaged,

or in helping refugees to access the labour market. Representatives from the business sector, including large corporations such as Manpower and Accenture, governments, NGOs and refugees from across Europe attended. The meeting provided an ideal forum to share good practices, challenges and partnerships among private companies, NGOs and public employment services that have been engaged in supporting refugees in their quest for employment in Europe.

Following the successful completion of the “Linking-In EU Resettlement” project at the end of 2012, IOM, ICMC Europe and UNHCR embarked on the implementation of another EU-funded project, “Strengthening the response to emergency resettlement needs”. Key components of this new project include support to the Emergency Transit Centres (ETCs) in Romania and Slovak Republic, UNHCR’s capacity in coordinating and monitoring the effective use of emergency resettlement places, a media campaign around emergency resettlement, and further enhancement of the European Resettlement Network to improve responsiveness to emergency resettlement needs.

Resettlement management

Policy and procedural guidance

In 2013 UNHCR issued the French and Spanish translations of the 2011 UNHCR Resettlement Handbook in order to ensure that French and Spanish-speaking resettlement partners have easy access to the handbook’s content, and to the online resources linked to the handbook.

Building on previous years’ efforts to enhance harmonization of standards and practices in identification and resettlement processing, UNHCR developed four operational guidance documents: (1) Resettlement Assessment Tool: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex refugees; (2) Resettlement Assessment Tool: Refugees with Disabilities; (3) Operational Guidance Note on Conducting Resettlement Interviews through videoconferencing; and (4) Operational Guidance Note: Best Interests Assessments (BIAs) for Children being Resettled with Only One Parent.

Access and emergency response mechanisms

In 2012-2013, the Emergency Transit Facilities (ETFs) in Timisoara, Humenne, and Manila were being used to bring refugees to safety before they could reach their final country of resettlement. The ETFs are used not only in emergency situations, but also where resettlement countries have difficulty accessing refugee populations concerned such as in the Syrian Arab Republic, Eritrea or Yemen, thereby requiring refugees to be moved for purpose of further processing. Groups transferred on a regular basis on behalf of a number of resettlement countries include Afghan women and girls at risk from Islamic Republic of Iran, Somali refugees from Eritrea and Iraqi

refugees from Syrian Arab Republic. A careful selection process is carried out by UNHCR ensuring that those benefiting from temporary relocation are persons recognized as refugees that meet the UNHCR resettlement policies. These policies are designed to ensure that attention is focused on individuals who are most in need. Over 1,400 refugees have been evacuated to the ETFs since their inception in 2008/2009.

Mitigating risks in resettlement

Ensuring the integrity of resettlement processing remains UNHCR's priority. Several measures were taken to implement the 2012-2013 Resettlement Anti-Fraud Plan of Action which was adopted by UNHCR in response to the recommendations made by the UN Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) audit of UNHCR's anti-fraud controls in Registration, Refugee Status Determination and Resettlement in 2011. Staff and partner organization compliance with the anti-fraud guidelines has been improved. An electronic inventory tool of fraud event *proGres Lite* is being rolled out, as an interim measure until *proGres* Version 4 is developed in 2014. There are also ongoing training initiatives such as the development of a new Learning Programme to enhance in-depth interviewing and investigation skills for UNHCR anti-fraud focal points in the field.

Resettlement training

The Resettlement Learning Programme (RLP) launched in 2009 saw the completion of its first round of global roll-out following the conclusion of sessions benefiting operations across Asia and Latin America regions in 2012-2013. The RLP in 2014 will target operations involved in the resettlement of Congolese (DRC) refugees in Africa, as well as operations in MENA region. The first e-learning module "Managing an Effective Resettlement Operation" is among the most successful e-learning modules available on UNHCR's "Learn and Connect" platform. As the second in a series, UNHCR is developing an e-learning module "Identification of Resettlement Needs and Submission Categories" to be launched in the course of 2013.

As part of its multi-year plan of action to ramp up the resettlement of Congolese (DRC) refugees, UNHCR conducted a week-long training focusing on the enhancement of the quality of resettlement submissions of Congolese (DRC) refugees in Nairobi in May 2013. The training benefited resettlement staff from Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, and southern Africa who are involved in preparing Congolese (DRC) cases for resettlement. The training aimed at bolstering the capacity of staff to effectively and expeditiously prepare quality resettlement submissions for this refugee population in sufficient numbers to meet the agreed annual targets. Topics addressed included interviewing survivors of trauma and assessing credibility; ensuring integrity, quality, and efficient processing through fraud awareness and prevention; incorporating best interests assessments to strengthen

resettlement submissions; and effective writing to enhance the quality of both standard and abridged Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs). The training was the product of a collaborative effort between UNHCR and resettlement partners, as presentations and workshop sessions were facilitated by UNHCR staff and consultants, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), and the Canadian and Australian High Commissions in Nairobi. Similar training will be replicated in other regions, such as South-West Asia.

Coordination and partnerships

The ATCR/WGR process, chaired by Australia in 2011-2012 and Canada in 2012-2013, remained the principal forum for consultation and collaboration among States, NGOs, service providers, local community and UNHCR staff. For the first time refugees adhered to the 2012 ATCR not just as speakers but also as members of country delegations. Also, to promote resettlement as a durable solution and protection tool, representatives from local communities and the private sector have been invited to share good practices in supporting refugee resettlement. A system to ensure continuity of issues between Chairs has been consolidated, and the ATCR secure website has been enhanced with a repository of good practices in cultural orientation amongst others.

The importance of partnerships in resettlement activities cannot be over-stressed. Partnerships have increased in importance in the current operational context where UNHCR needs to respond to multiple emergency refugee situations with limited resources. Resettlement deployment schemes operated by ICMC and RefugeePoint continue to be invaluable to boost UNHCR's resettlement processing capacity and to address increasing needs to assess best interests of children in the resettlement process. PRM also made available, on a rolling basis, six short term consultants from its Refugee Support Center in Nairobi in support of boosting processing capacity of UNHCR resettlement operations in Africa. Cooperation with IOM is indispensable in ensuring expeditious resettlement departures and family reunification, in particular where exit logistics and procedures face challenges. The USA (Refugee Processing Center), IOM and UNHCR are in the process of developing a tripartite data sharing system to move towards automating the resettlement process.

Strategic directions 2013-2014

The Resettlement Service will:

- promote resettlement as an integral component of comprehensive protection and solutions strategies, ensuring that durable solutions are applied in a complementary manner to maximize solutions opportunities for a higher number of refugees;
- enhance the scale and responsiveness of the global resettlement scheme to ensure that refugees in need are provided with available resettlement opportunities through continuing efforts to broaden the resettlement base by promoting the enlargement of established resettlement quota and the establishment of new programmes;
- call upon resettlement countries to apply flexible selection criteria which are responsive to UNHCR priorities, including openness to receiving refugees who are recognized under UNHCR's broader mandate;
- promote further simplification of resettlement procedures to increase effectiveness while ensuring the integrity of the process; encourage resettlement countries to accept the global templates for abridged RRFs in the largest possible number of operations to support expeditious resettlement processing;
- ensure that the globally available resettlement places are fully utilized through effective management of UNHCR's submissions and processing pipeline in close coordination with resettlement partners, notably in regard to UNHCR dossier submissions of emergency, urgent and medical cases;
- mobilize resettlement countries' multi-year commitments to current and emerging priority refugee situations designated for the strategic use of resettlement, and monitor progress against short, mid and longer-term objectives;
- call upon the international community's support to augment the capacity of the pool of emergency resettlement places and ensure its effective management, as well as explore evacuation options as life-saving measures for individual refugees and those in large-scale emergencies;
- continue to maximize the available places in the ETFs by strict planning of movement, close monitoring of stay arrangements and to ensure that processing times are reduced to the extent possible;
- further implement the plan of action on resettlement fraud prevention and control in line with the recommendations of the OIOS, with focus on

development of training programmes, specialized training delivery, and global roll-out of an electronic inventory of fraud occurrences;

- capacitate field operations through provision of field-oriented guidance, practical training and operational tools, as well as strategic deployments of affiliate workforce;
- increase the acceptance rates of resettlement cases, in particular for dossier cases, through preparation of quality Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs) and permanent dialogue with resettlement countries;
- intensify support to new and emerging resettlement countries to establish sustainable resettlement programmes through creative collaboration among all relevant stakeholders and sharing of good practices;
- enhance linkages between the ATRC/WGR process and other multilateral fora such as the Annual NGO Consultations and ExCom to ensure all relevant stakeholders and partners are engaged in resettlement issues of common concern.



One of the photographs highlights the importance of education. It shows young Afghan girls attending school in Pakistan, which might be difficult in some conservative areas of their homeland. © UNHCR / Sam Phelps / November 2011

Africa



Trends in 2012

During 2012, **submissions** from Africa totalled 15,710 refugees. This represents a decrease from 22,267 submissions in 2011 and 24,062 in 2010. Refugees submitted for resettlement from Africa in 2012 originated from more than 27 different countries of origin. **Departures** from Africa increased slightly with 11,342 refugees departing in 2012 (compared to only 10,431 persons in 2011, but 14,865 in 2010).¹

The five main countries of origin for refugees submitted for resettlement included: Democratic Republic of the Congo (42 per cent² of submissions in 2012 compared to 18 per cent in 2011 and 14 per cent in 2010); Somalia (28 per cent of submissions in 2012 compared to 58 per cent in 2011 and 62 per cent in 2010); Eritrea (11 per cent of submissions in 2012 compared to 7 per cent in 2011 and 2010); Ethiopia (5 per cent of submissions in 2012 compared to 10 per cent in 2011 and 5 per cent in 2010); and Sudan (5 per cent submissions in 2012 compared to 2 per cent in 2011 and 5 per cent in 2010).

Submissions were made to 13 resettlement countries. The USA continued to receive the majority of the submissions (59 per cent), followed by Canada (17 per cent), the United Kingdom and Australia (each 6 per cent), and Sweden and Norway (each 5 per cent).

The reason for the decrease in submissions out of Africa is primarily due to the completion of large-scale group/expedited resettlement processing, which ended in 2011, and the lack of accessibility to populations in Dadaab, Kenya, which used to comprise 10,000 submissions. To compensate for the decrease, UNHCR introduced a Mudende P2 group proposal in Rwanda for the USA, which came into effect at the end of 2012 and is expected to increase submission numbers in 2013.

Evidently, individual identification and processing of resettlement cases do not produce the high level of submissions that group processing does. Resettlement countries are reluctant to continue processing larger numbers of Somali refugees on a group basis. The introduction of the abridged RRF and more feasible Best Interests Assessment and Best Interests Determination requirements will help accelerate some submissions, but the effects remain to be seen. Furthermore, persistent access problems to Somali refugees in Eritrea and Kenya and to Eritrean refugees in east Sudan have limited the out-processing capacities of resettlement countries and have required the introduction of innovative processing methodologies.

¹ Over 40,000 refugees already submitted for resettlement from countries in the east and horn of Africa sub-region are waiting for departure as a result of lengthy security clearance requirements applied by some countries.

² UNHCR submitted 6,983 DRC refugees for resettlement during 2012, compared to 3,935 DRC refugee submissions in 2011 and 3,354 submissions in 2010.

UNHCR's total resettlement capacity for 2014 by country of asylum*

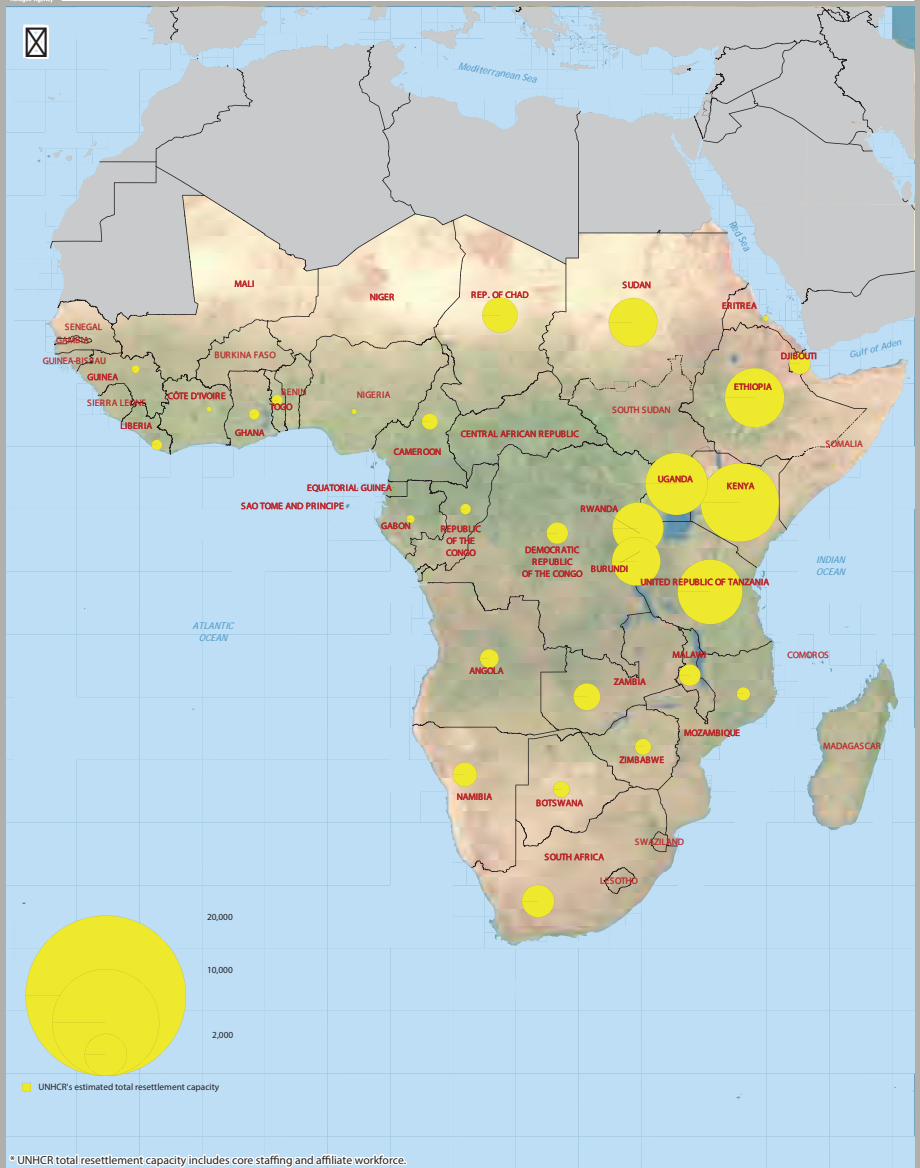
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PIESSE
Field Information and
Coordination Support Section

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

Addressing challenges

UNHCR has identified a number of referral and out-processing challenges related to resettlement in Africa, including in the enhancement of DRC refugee resettlement. Processing of individual RRFs is a time-consuming exercise, and required documentation in support of the resettlement of unaccompanied or separated children and medical cases is not always easily available. In an effort to expedite resettlement processing, UNHCR introduced the global use of a new abridged RRF, as approved and further guided by the USA. UNHCR is requesting that other resettlement countries also accept the abridged RRF. Moreover, concerted efforts need to be made to identify additional group/expedited processing scenarios in Africa.

Identifying resettlement cases remains a challenging task due to poor registration data. While the data re-verification and profiling exercise for DRC refugees in Rwanda was successfully completed in 2012, such exercises have been ongoing in Burundi and Uganda in mid-2013 and are expected to commence in Tanzania in the second half of 2013. Efforts have been undertaken during the 2013 and 2014 country operation planning exercises to ensure the availability of required numbers of protection, registration, and resettlement staff and sufficient support staff, thereby allowing resettlement staff to concentrate on resettlement processing and less on the identification of refugees for resettlement.

Access problems to Somali refugees in the Dadaab refugee camp and in Eritrea have been a further challenge. In addition to the ongoing temporary relocation of Somalis in Dadaab to other sites in Kenya and Somalis in Eritrea to Evacuation Transit Facilities, UNHCR continues to advocate for the increased use of videoconferencing and an increased quota for case processing on a dossier basis.

Limited child protection and Best Interests Assessment capacity for a large number of unaccompanied or separated refugee children pose another significant challenge. Selected operations in Africa continue to be supported by resettlement and child protection experts deployed through ICMC, and a special project to strengthen Best Interests Assessment and Best Interests Determination capacity will be implemented by RefugePoint as of mid-2013 with Norwegian funding. In early 2013, UNHCR also issued an Operational Guidance Note on Best Interests Assessments for Children being resettled with Only One Parent.³

³ The *Operational Guidance Note: Best Interests Assessments for Children being Resettled with Only One Parent* has been developed to provide guidance for resettlement and other protection staff in fulfilling the requirement for a Best Interests Assessment (BIA) in the situation of refugee children being considered for resettlement with just one parent without sole custody and where the other parent cannot be reached. This requirement was introduced in the 2011 *Field Handbook for the Implementation of UNHCR BID Guidelines*, and incorporated in the *UNHCR Resettlement Handbook*.

2014 Projected needs and targets

Strengthening the protection environment

To strengthen coordination between operations in the field, sub-regions, and Headquarters, and with the objective of increasing resettlement submissions out of Africa, a Task Force, chaired by the UNHCR Africa Bureau and supported by the Resettlement Service, was established in the summer of 2012 at the request of the High Commissioner. The Task Force is addressing key resettlement operations, such as Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and the southern Africa region, for the increased resettlement of DRC refugees; Kenya, Ethiopia, and Djibouti, for the continued resettlement of Somali refugees; Sudan, for the resettlement of Eritrean refugees; and Chad, for the resettlement of refugees from the Central African Republic and Darfur.

Expedited processing modalities, the resolution of logistical challenges in reaching refugee populations, and the boosting of staffing capacity will be critical to meeting the resettlement needs and reaching the targets in 2014. Resettlement remains of utmost importance in all refugee operations in Africa, although its direct impact on advancing other durable solutions in countries of asylum remains challenging to measure.

Priority will continue to be given to addressing protracted refugee situations by promoting comprehensive durable solutions strategies, which are embedded in overall protection strategies and consider all three durable solutions as appropriate. The implementation of the Comprehensive Strategies and Ceased Circumstances Cessation Clause for Angolan, Liberian, and Rwandan refugees has paved the way for the voluntary repatriation and local integration of these populations.

Africa: 2014 Projected global needs

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs		C. UNHCR submissions planned for 2014 (target) in 2014		D. UNHCR core staff capacity in 2014	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
Central Africa & Great Lakes	10,247	43,648	2,849	11,517	1,185	5,297
East & Horn of Africa	70,846	272,271	6,449	19,675	2,708	8,902
Southern Africa	5,451	18,655	1,546	5,440	496	1,805
West Africa	1,911	5,693	280	834	192	453
Africa Total	88,455	340,267	11,124	37,466	4,581	16,457

Sub-regional Overviews

Central Africa and the Great Lakes

In the Central Africa and Great Lakes sub-region, 35,700 Burundians and 11,200 Rwandans returned in 2012. Compelling cases of Burundian⁴ and Rwandan refugees exempted from cessation will be submitted for resettlement in 2013/2014.

Further priority will be given to the DRC refugees in the Great Lakes region and southern Africa, many of whom live in protracted camp situations in neighbouring countries. Facilitation of voluntary return to more stable parts of the DRC will be maintained⁵; however, resettlement has been increasingly sought for DRC refugees living in protracted refugee situations and originating from eastern DRC due to the on-going conflict, systematic human rights violations, and volatile security conditions in North/South Kivu and Province Orientale. UNHCR registered 45,854 new arrivals from the DRC in 2012 alone.

In line with the common sub-regional approach to the increased resettlement of refugees from eastern DRC, and to enhance durable solutions, a multi-year plan of action⁶ was initiated in 2012 for these protracted refugee situations and will continue to be implemented in Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and the southern Africa region. By the end of 2012, the USA agreed to process out of Rwanda 10,000 DRC refugee survivors of the Mudende camp massacre under the P2 group submission programme.

During the first half of 2013, UNHCR more than doubled the projected resettlement needs of DRC refugees compared to previous year's planning (56,630 DRC refugees for 2013, compared to 23,373 refugees for 2012 and 17,236 for 2011) and further increased the projected resettlement needs of DRC refugees to 65,638 in 2014.

⁴ 35,357 Burundian refugees repatriated from ex-Mtabila camp in Tanzania with the assistance of UNHCR.

⁵ 71,900 DRC refugees returned in 2012, 46,800 of whom repatriated with UNHCR assistance.

⁶ In the context of a multi-year plan, UNHCR has proposed to submit a total of at least 50,000 DRC refugees from the east out of the Great Lakes region (at least 10,000 each out of Burundi and Rwanda between 2012 and 2015/16, and 15,000 out of Uganda and 15,000 out of Tanzania between 2014 and 2017/18).

East and Horn of Africa

In the East and Horn of Africa sub-region, the protracted refugee situations continue to affect most severely Somali refugees (in particular in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Kenya), Eritrean refugees (in particular in the east of Sudan), and DRC refugees in Uganda.

The protracted refugee situation in Kenya continues to be approached as a priority situation for the strategic use of resettlement mainly for Somali and now also DRC refugees. The majority of Somali refugees have been faced with prolonged waiting periods for resettlement acceptances and departures. Moreover, the deteriorating security situation in the Dadaab camp, which has placed limitations on resettlement countries, such as the ability to conduct resettlement interviewing, led to a sharp decline of submissions from Kenya in 2012 (3,287 submissions in 2012 compared to 10,518 submissions in 2011 and 9,878 submissions in 2010). As a result, UNHCR has revised its strategy and is now limiting submissions to individual protection cases. To overcome the lack of access to Dadaab, videoconferencing⁷ was introduced, and refugees were relocated to the US-funded relocation centre in Kakuma refugee camp or to the IOM transit centre in Nairobi for resettlement processing.

At the same time, while acknowledging that conditions in south and central Somalia are not yet conducive for facilitating, let alone promoting, large-scale voluntary repatriation, UNHCR has taken measures to ensure that ongoing spontaneous returns are taking place in safety and with dignity. In some countries, such as Kenya, Return Help Desks have been established to provide those who express their intention to return with updated information on the situation inside Somalia.

Eritrean refugees in eastern Sudan have been declared a protracted priority situation since 2008. Enhanced resettlement of Eritrean refugees out of Sudan took off following the approval by resettlement countries of a Concept Note in October 2011 (outlining a multi-year resettlement plan) and by the Government of Sudan in mid-2012.

Resettlement of Sudanese/Darfuri refugees on an individual basis out of the east of Chad resumed in 2013 following the official agreement of the Government of Chad in January 2013.

Resettlement processing of DRC refugees out of Uganda was challenged by some 40,000 new DRC arrivals and the simultaneous implementation of a registration data re-verification exercise, which will now serve as a base for increased submissions of Congolese (DRC) refugees from the country in the coming years.

⁷ Videoconferencing with refugees in Dadaab camp/Kenya has been carried out so far by Australia, Canada, Sweden, and the UK.

Southern Africa

In the Southern Africa sub-region, the refugee situation has remained stable, as there have not been significant influxes of refugees. Opportunities for local integration and voluntary repatriation continue to be pursued, although they have been limited in most operations following the invocation of the cessation clause and the return of the Angolan refugees. Resettlement has gained prominence in comprehensive solutions planning and initiatives geared towards securing solutions for protracted refugee populations such as in Zambia. The ability for refugee populations in a protracted situation to attain an acceptable degree of self-reliance is often undermined by strictly enforced encampment policies and a lack of available integration prospects.

Consistent with efforts in the Great Lakes sub-region to upscale the resettlement of DRC refugees, resettlement submissions of DRC refugees will continue to increase from the southern Africa sub-region in 2014. Resettlement is a key protection tool to address the needs of survivors of xenophobic violence in South Africa and vulnerable refugees unable to cope with hardships in countries of asylum. Resettlement is carefully balanced against other on-going durable solutions efforts, particularly the voluntary repatriation and sustainable re-integration efforts for Angolan, Burundian, and Rwandan refugees as part of the comprehensive solutions strategies and invocations of the cessation clauses for these populations.

West Africa

In the West Africa region, UNHCR proactively pursues comprehensive durable solutions strategies to capitalize on remaining options for resolving several protracted refugee situations. Most of these refugee situations are comprised of large groups of refugees who cannot or do not wish to repatriate.

Local integration in West Africa remains limited in spite of existing regional frameworks, such as the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, Residence, and Establishment of the ECOWAS.⁸ This has proven to be an important mechanism for achieving solutions through local integration, for example for the Sierra Leonean and Liberian refugees who were exempted from cessation of refugee status. During 2012, some 72,700 refugees from Côte d'Ivoire returned home, among them 7,900 with UNHCR assistance, while some 100,000 Ivorian refugees remain in exile.

⁸ ECOWAS: Establishment of the Economic Community of West African States

The Mali crisis, which has all the indications of becoming a protracted refugee situation, has thus far led to the flight of around 200,000 refugees. Resettlement will be pursued as part of the implementation of comprehensive durable solutions strategies for Malian refugee communities.

UNHCR is increasing its efforts to enhance its protection capacity in the region, with particular emphasis on the identification of refugees with specific needs, in light of boosting traditionally low resettlement numbers from the region. UNHCR maintains its advocacy for an increased quota for dossier submissions in order to address the small, mixed, and mainly urban refugee populations in the sub-region.



KAKUMA REFUGEE CAMP, Kenya, 6 August 2012 - Kakuma Refugee Camp has surpassed its capacity of 100,000 residents, with significant numbers from Burundi, Ethiopia, Somalia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo seeking asylum in Kakuma thereby creating serious concerns as more refugees continue to arrive.
© UNHCR / R. Gangale / July 2010

Guor Marial: the refugee marathon man running for the world

Telling the Human Story, 14 August 2012

LONDON, 14 August (UNHCR) –Guor Marial has been running since he was eight years old, but nearly two decades after he had to run from armed militiamen in South Sudan, this refugee is now a world-class athlete competing in the Olympic marathon.

“The last time I saw my family was in 1993 – almost 20 years ago,” Marial told UNHCR as he awaited the Marathon that was run on the last day of the London Olympics. “I hope they will be able to watch me run on TV, they will walk to the nearest city Panrieng, which is 30 miles (50 km) away.”

Marial, 28 and now living in the United States, became separated from his family in what was then a single country of Sudan torn by civil war. His village was burned down, 28 members of his family were killed and his jaw was smashed by a rifle butt.

Trying to escape, he was captured and used as forced labour. He eventually got away and found relatives further north in Sudan, where he remained until he left for Egypt at the age of 16. He was accepted for resettlement in the United States, where he still has refugee status.

“Running is something I started doing to make friends in high school and to be part of a team,” Marial said. His potential was spotted and he was given a scholarship to Iowa State University, where in 2009 he received his degree in chemistry.

“After graduating from college, it (running) was something I wanted to do as a career and to show my appreciation for those who supported me.,” Marial said. Although he had run only two marathons ever, he qualified to be among the 105 runners who competed in the gruelling test last Sunday.

He was one of a handful of athletes at the London Olympics competing under the flag of the International Olympic Committee. He had one draped on the wall of the room he was allocated during the games. He finished in 47th place, covering the 42.19 km in 2 hours and 19 minutes.

“I want to thank the International Olympic Committee for giving me the opportunity to be here and raise awareness about refugees and all the people around the world who don’t have a country. To run under the Olympic flag – I feel like I’m representing the whole world.”

In the Olympic village Marial mixed with the international sports stars he had seen before only in the media, gaining new confidence and motivation to accomplish even more.

He hopes his story will inspire members of the next generation in South Sudan, the new country that emerged from the civil war, to strive to reach the Olympics. It has been a remarkable journey from smouldering village to running through the streets of London under the television cameras.

“In the refugee camps it’s hard, you’re isolated. You only think about what there is to eat... That kind of toughness, being able to survive those critical conditions, had an impact on my daily life and how I face things,” Marial said.

“When I left South Sudan for Cairo, and then the United States, my world kept getting bigger and bigger and I learnt that there was another way, that people could live peacefully. “I wasn’t interested in running in the camp because running there is running away from danger. But now I want to run every day.”

By Laura Padoan in London

Driven from Somalia, a former refugee thanks Australia for his new life

Telling the Human Story, 24 August 2012

GENEVA, 24 August (UNHCR) –Ahmed Dini was only three-years-old when his mother carried him from the violence of Somalia to the safety of a refugee camp in Kenya. Years in refugee camps that seemed without hope lay ahead.

But when Dini fulfils his goal to revisit his homeland, he will be carrying an Australian passport and speaking English with an Aussie accent. He is a demonstration of successful resettlement.

“We did not have a choice of country to go to. But thank God, whoever decided for us to go to Australia was probably a good person,” Dini said while attending the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement in Geneva as part of the Australian delegation.

“If I was given the chance to choose today where I wanted to go, I would definitely be saying Australia.”

Three years after Dini was born in 1987 in Mogadishu, his country dissolved into civil war; some of his earliest memories are of hearing gunfire and watching militiamen on the roads. His father, who owned pharmacies, and his mother made the decision to flee to neighbouring Kenya.

“I think for my mother, it was one of the hardest decisions of her life to leave,” said Dini, who was carried by her for more than 100 km to the border. “Most of her happy times were in Mogadishu; nonetheless I think when you are a parent your children come first and she thought only of the safety of her children.”

The family spent a year at Liboi Refugee Camp before being moved further from the danger of the border to Dadaab, the world’s largest refugee camp. Refugee camps provide a shelter from the threats that turn people into refugees, but they can be dispiriting places where hope drains away.

“When we were in the refugee camp in Kenya, every morning when I looked at my mom’s face, it was one of sadness and sorrow. You could tell she was longing for home and she really did not like what was going on.” For five years, they waited for word of resettlement.

“We went to Nairobi to get medical checks, which we passed, and even after that we waited for another eight months to get to Australia. There were stories of families who waited so long and ultimately were rejected,” Dini said. “There were moments when we honestly thought we would never make it.”

“Then we were finally called back to Nairobi for our flight. This is one of the first times I really saw my mom smile because she knew she had a new life to look forward to. She knew her kids would now be able to get educated and live a life different to hers.”

After arriving in Australia in 1996, Dini faced the challenges of learning the language, going to school and adjusting to new communities.

“It was quite difficult when you don’t understand the language. As a young kid, you put the entire burden on your parents thinking they will correct everything, but even they didn’t know the language. Coming from a society that has no institutions, and no structure, and moving to another which is built on institutions and structures entails massive changes in our lives.”

He feels he missed the chance to play sports as a teenager but made up for it by creating a football team called United FCA that he hopes will inspire future generations.

“United FC has some of the best African players in Australia. For two years we have been coming to play in Spain,” said Dini, who manages the team and is also president of the Somali-Australian Football Association.

Dini, grateful for the chance he received, is anxious to pass on advice to both refugees and countries that could take them for resettlement. For refugees, the message is to work hard and take advantage of the chance for a new life. For governments, the message is to give refugees the chance that Australia gave him.

“These people are humans and need to be given that opportunity. Once they become sounds citizens, they will love their new countries even more than their origin countries. They bring a new culture and anew way of life to you,” he said.

By Laith Kabaa in Geneva

Americas



Trends in 2012

Ecuador continues to host the largest number of refugees and asylum-seekers in Latin America, 98 per cent of whom are Colombians. UNHCR estimates that over 1,000 asylum-seekers arrive every month, a trend that is expected to continue throughout 2013 and 2014, indicating that conflict and violence in Colombia continue to cause forced displacement, not only internally but also across its borders. Within this context, UNHCR uses resettlement as both a protection and solutions response to the situation of Colombian refugees in Ecuador.

Resettlement needs in the region have increased, particularly for Colombian refugees in Ecuador, where UNHCR estimates that as many as 30,045 refugees will be in need of resettlement in 2014.

Regional Developments

The increase in the number of Colombian refugees in need of resettlement contributed to the establishment of a Contact Group on Colombian Refugees in 2012. The Contact Group is co-led by New Zealand and Uruguay and has focused its activities on enlarging the number of resettlement countries involved in the Colombian refugee situation and establishing commitment for resettlement intake. This association will not only allow for participation in the joint effort to increase and diversify resettlement offers, but also provide a basis for support to the Ecuadorian authorities in efforts to strengthen the legislative, administrative, and institutional framework for refugee protection and assistance.

The recent engagement of Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden, who have joined the resettlement effort in the region, in addition to the continuing involvement of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, New Zealand, Sweden, the United States, and Uruguay, are welcome signs of an enhanced multilateral response to the situation of refugees from Colombia in the region.

UNHCR's total resettlement capacity for 2014 by country of asylum*

Exclusively for internal UNHCR use



pie38
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Sources:
UNHCR, Global insight digital mapping
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map do not imply official endorsement
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* UNHCR total resettlement capacity includes core staffing and affiliate workforce.

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Addressing challenges

Both the 2004 Mexico Plan of Action and the 2011 Brasília Declaration continue to guide the strategy adopted by UNHCR operations in the region.

In Ecuador, difficulties in accessing asylum procedures, the establishment of pre-admissibility requirements, and low recognition rates now make it hard for those needing asylum to gain access to basic protection. In addition, violence related to drug trafficking, poverty, discrimination, and inequality also poses challenges to the effective realization of refugees' human rights. All of these elements have contributed to an increased need of resettlement of Colombian refugees currently hosted in Ecuador.

Within the regional context, the Mercosur Declaration of International Refugee Protection Principles, issued at a ministerial meeting in November 2012 in Fortaleza, Brazil, calls on States to harmonize asylum laws and procedures and notes the need to reinforce the regional resettlement programme for Colombian refugees, as demonstrated by the Solidarity Resettlement Programme, which remains one of the main vehicles for achieving durable solutions for refugees in the region. UNHCR will work with participating countries to strengthen the programme and expand refugee resettlement, including the Mercosur framework. It will build upon the regional dialogue among National Refugee Commissions, initiated in Fortaleza in 2012 and continued in Montevideo in 2013.

Strengthening the Protection Environment

Increased resettlement in the region, notably from Ecuador, and an enhanced coordination of the joint resettlement effort within the framework of the Contact Group on Colombian Refugees are expected to contribute to maintaining and enlarging asylum space in the region. The Contact Group will focus particularly on strengthening national protection regimes, including through building fair and effective asylum systems.

2014 Projected needs and targets

Sub-regional overviews

Latin America

In **Venezuela**, local integration continues to be pursued as the preferred durable solution for refugees. However, UNHCR will continue to proactively seek resettlement for refugees with legal and/or physical protection needs, especially for cases involving refugee women and girls exposed to sexual and gender-based violence.

In **Costa Rica**, local integration has also been identified as the preferred durable solution for refugees, although a few cases presenting specific needs will require resettlement as the most appropriate protection response. The increasing availability of local integration opportunities for refugees in Costa Rica has allowed for a reduction in the country's resettlement needs.

In **Panama**, resettlement will continue to be used primarily as a tool for compelling protection needs of individual refugees, in particular Colombian refugee women and girls at risk and refugees who are not admitted into the country's national asylum system. Identification systems for resettlement are being reinforced with the support of NGO partners.

The Caribbean

UNHCR expects to continue utilizing resettlement as both a protection and solutions response for refugees in different countries in the **Caribbean sub-region**. Resettlement in the Caribbean will also be used strategically as tool for effective responsibility and burden-sharing to further encourage States in the region to increase refugees' prospects for local integration. In the **Dominican Republic**, cases rejected in the countries' asylum system, but still having international protection needs, will be proactively considered for resettlement.

The Americas: 2014 Projected global needs

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs		C. UNHCR submissions planned for 2014 (target) in 2014		D. UNHCR core staff capacity in 2014	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
The Americas	8,445	30,288	624	2,114	271	889
The Americas Total	8,445	30,288	624	2,114	271	889



Colombian refugees in the Northern border of Ecuador.
© UNHCR / V. Rodas

The Americas: Media spotlight

Language class helps refugees span cultural gaps in Costa Rica

News Stories, 26 July 2012



SAN JOSÉ, Costa Rica, July 26 (UNHCR) – Bangalay came to Costa Rica by accident. He arrived while travelling from his native Côte d'Ivoire, heading towards what he believed was the United States. However, the ship he boarded left him in Panama and after being detained for some time, he managed to take a bus to Costa Rica, where he sought asylum.

This explains how the 17-year-old came to be seated in a Spanish class created exclusively for asylum-seekers and refugees from outside the Americas living in San José, the capital of Costa Rica.

The Association of International Consultants and Advisors (ACAI), a non-governmental organization that has been implementing UNHCR programmes since the 1990s, developed a programme in May last year that offers Spanish classes twice per week.

“The classes are a great support system for them,” said Gloria Maklouf, director of ACAI. “All of the students fled their home countries to save their lives. Now, during the classes, they are able to talk with each other and share their experiences. Language is an indispensable tool for their integration process and for finding work.”

Instructor Carmen Wirdyan, who holds a Master’s degree in Psychology, is herself a refugee who had worked as a professor in her native Colombia. She receives a token payment for her classes, but feels very much in her element when teaching the 12 refugees and asylum-seekers.

“I love my students,” she said. “Even though I am unable to solve all of their problems, I want to help improve their situation in the country as best as I can.”

Kristin Halvorsen of the UNHCR office in San José acknowledged that refugees must overcome many obstacles in order to integrate themselves into Costa Rican society. It is even more difficult when their customs and backgrounds are so dissimilar to the local reality, as is the case with these students from Africa and Asia.

“When the arrival of these extra-continentals began in 2009, it signified a major challenge for UNHCR and its partners,” said Halvorsen. “Their needs are different from the majority of refugees received in the country, namely Colombians who already know how to speak the local language.”

The students all agree that the Spanish classes are, in some way, a symbol of a new life, free from the armed conflict that they have been victims of for so long.

“I want to forget all of the horrible things that happened in Nigeria and start from scratch,” said 31-year-old Grace, who arrived in April last year. “I hope to have the life that I always wanted but could never have. These classes are the first step towards that goal.”

By Erin Kastelz, in San José, Costa Rica

Colombian refugee's love of wine helps his integration in Brazil

Telling the Human Story, 10 May 2012



RIO GRANDE DO SUL, Brazil, May 10 (UNHCR) – It's a good thing that Ricardo* has always been a wine lover as the Colombian refugee's hobby has helped him land a plum job in the hospitality industry in southern Brazil.

The former policeman has made the most of his opportunities since arriving five years ago in Rio Grande do Sul state, where he is one of almost 250 resettled refugees – mostly from Colombia and the Middle East. Unlike, Ricardo, many of these urban refugees struggle to get by and need help from UNHCR partners, such as the Associação Antonio Vieira (ASAV).

Ricardo has done much better than most of Brazil's urban refugees; he manages a popular bar in a tourist town (which cannot be named for protection reasons) in the state. He rents a three-bedroom apartment, drives his own car and is married to a Brazilian woman, who teaches at a primary school after taking their baby daughter to a local kindergarten.

He had, however, to start at the bottom – difficult for someone who had built a good career in the southern Colombian province of Caquetá, where he took part in government-driven efforts in the late 1990s to end years of conflict. When this process failed, his life was in danger and Ricardo fled to nearby Ecuador, where he was recognized as a refugee in 2004.

A year later he was resettled in Rio Grande do Sul, where he decided to learn Portuguese before looking for a job. He received assistance and support from UNHCR and the ASAV in a town influenced by Italian and German settlers and a far cry from his Amazonian home region.

But Ricardo had been an amateur oenologist in his home country and he used this to his advantage. After getting up to scratch with his Portuguese, and

feeling comfortable in his new home, he got a job as a waiter in a big hotel. In his spare time, he trained to become a qualified sommelier (wine waiter), and he also met his future wife there.

Impressed by his dedication, skill and leadership qualities, his employers soon promoted Ricardo to become a maître d'hôtel. The head of a local social organization, meanwhile, asked him to set aside some of his spare time to train waiters about wines and how to deal with customers.

During one of these training courses, he was invited by a businessman to head a popular downtown bar, "Los Gatos,"* where the in-crowd go to drink, eat and dance.

Ricardo works six days a week – with Monday off – from 4pm till late. Ricardo is in charge of a team of 29 waiters, six chefs and four cashiers. They really earn their daily pay in a hot spot that gets more than 600 clients a night.

"A job is everything. Without a wage, it is impossible for anyone to become self-sufficient and integrate with the host community," stressed Ricardo, who was proud of his achievements since arriving here.

Self-reliance is a top priority for most of the integration projects that UNHCR organizes for urban refugees in Brazil, which hosts almost 4,500 recognized refugees from more than 70 nationalities, according to official figures. And Rio Grande do Sul state hosts most of the resettled refugees.

The UN refugee agency and its partners help refugees to find employment or to start their own businesses. UNHCR also works with the Ministry of Labour, other state authorities and the private sector to help refugees get jobs. UNHCR and a human resources company recently launched a data base with the CVs of refugees – mostly in Sao Paulo – that can be accessed by companies looking for staff. Some refugees have already been offered work.

UNHCR tries to make sure that all refugees and asylum-seekers have access to Portuguese language classes, professional courses and micro-credit programmes. Brazil's refugee legislation also guarantees the issuance of work permits and ID cards, which are essential for finding employment.

"A paid job is a powerful tool for integration," Andrés Ramirez, UNHCR's representative in Brazil, stressed. "More than half of the refugees under our mandate worldwide reside in cities and towns, which are thus legitimate places for refugees to enjoy their rights," he added.

Meanwhile, back in "Los Gatos," Ricardo looked for a special bottle of wine in the cellar. When he found the right vintage, he turned to UNHCR with a big smile. He had finally found his metier. "Here in Brazil, I feel enriched and appreciated for my professional skills," he sighed happily.

* Names changed for protection reasons

By Luiz Fernando Godinho
in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Asia



Trends in 2012

During 2012, 38,020 refugees were submitted from the Asia and the Pacific region. This figure represents only a small decrease in comparison to the 38,404 submitted in 2011.¹ Refugees submitted for resettlement from Asia in 2012 were from more than 38 countries of origin, with the three main countries of origin being: Myanmar (58 per cent of the total submissions), Bhutan (26 per cent), and Afghanistan (10 per cent). Submissions were made to 15 different resettlement countries with the main countries of resettlement being: the USA (received 76.5 per cent of the total submissions), Australia (14 per cent), Canada (3.4 per cent), Sweden (1.4 per cent), New Zealand (1.3 per cent), and Finland (1.2 per cent).

Departures from Asia and the Pacific region remained stable with 37,394 refugees departing in 2012 (compared to 37,975 persons in 2011).

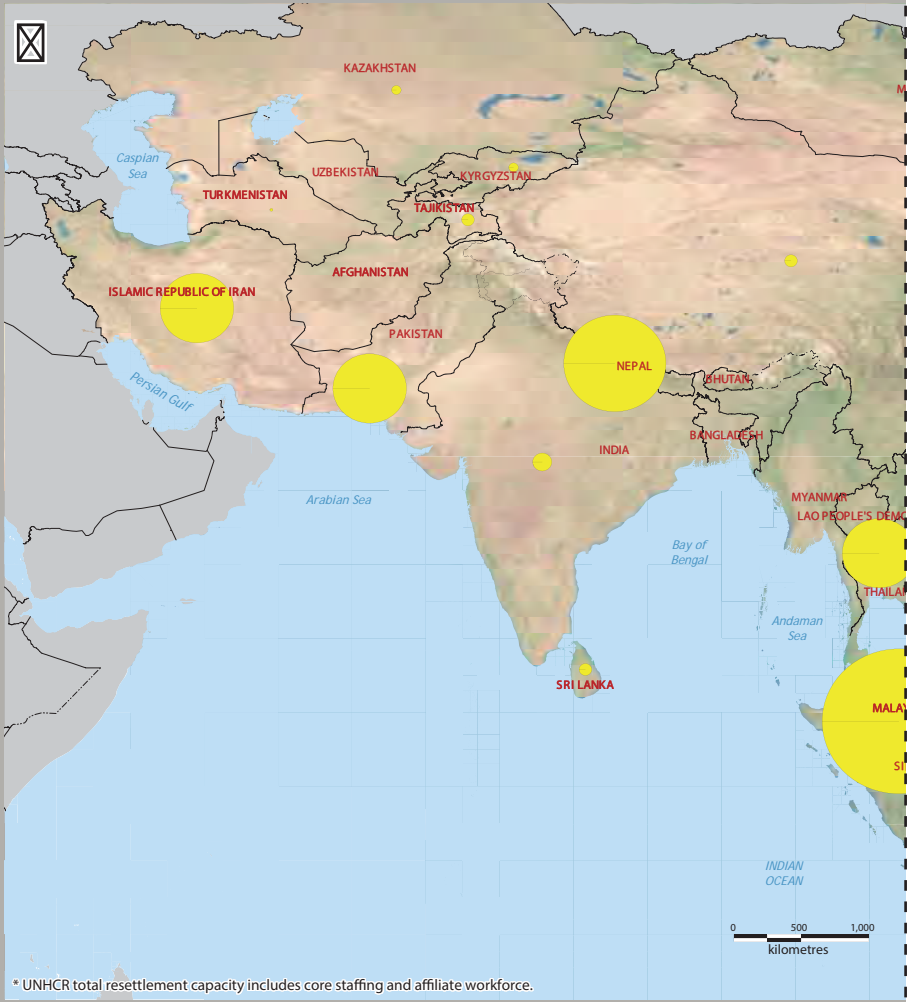
Regional developments

UNHCR's strategic priority in the Asia and the Pacific region remains the promotion of lasting comprehensive solutions for refugees in the region. In 2014, UNCHR will continue to focus on protracted refugee situations, while pursuing self-reliance activities for refugees pending the identification of durable solutions. Meeting the resettlement needs of refugee women and children and preventing sexual and gender-based violence remain primary goals of all country offices in the region.

¹ It constitutes a larger decrease compared 2010, when 48,507 resettlement submissions were made out of Asia.

UNHCR's total resettlement capacity for 2014 by country of asylum*

Exclusively for internal UNHCR use



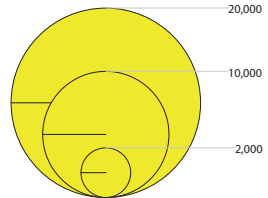
* UNHCR total resettlement capacity includes core staffing and affiliate workforce.

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Sources:
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■ UNHCR's estimated total resettlement capacity



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2014 Projected needs and targets

Sub-regional Overviews

Central Asia

The Central Asia sub-region is comprised of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The region hosts some 7,100 persons of concern to UNHCR, of which 4,800 are registered refugees and 2,300 are asylum-seekers. Tajikistan continues to host the largest number of refugees within the sub-region, with 2,249 registered refugees, in addition to another 2,139 asylum-seekers. The majority of refugees in the region originate from Afghanistan, followed by smaller groups from Uzbekistan, China (ethnic Uighurs), Kyrgyzstan, and Azerbaijan (ethnic Armenians). The vast majority of asylum-seekers and refugees in Central Asia reside in urban areas, especially in and around capital cities.

In 2012, 47 persons were submitted for resettlement, and 249 departed on resettlement from the region. Throughout 2012 and 2013, resettlement has been utilized in Central Asia as a protection response to the specific needs of refugees, in particular for refugees from Afghanistan and other countries in the region who continue to have urgent legal or physical protection needs or require urgent medical treatment.

The overall protection regime in the region continues to pose challenges. Ensuring the protection of the rights of refugees while preserving the integrity of the asylum system in a context of mixed migration flows and increasing concerns of States over national security represent the two greatest challenges for UNHCR in the Central Asian context. Serious restrictions on freedom of movement of refugees and asylum-seekers and the increasingly

Asia: 2014 Projected global needs

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs		C. UNHCR submissions planned for 2014 (target) in 2014		D. UNHCR core staff capacity in 2014	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
East Asia & the Pacific	87,484	140,614	11,931	20,523	8,538	13,695
Southwest Asia	26,484	114,110	2,181	8,000	1,047	3,873
South Asia	2,091	10,249	1,584	7,936	499	2,176
Central Asia	145	474	90	374	47	155
Asia Total	116,204	265,447	15,786	36,833	10,131	19,899

restrictive implementation of eligibility and protection principles by national asylum authorities will continue to require UNHCR's intervention through, inter alia, resettlement.

Prospects for the voluntary repatriation of refugees in the region continue to be constrained by ongoing persecution, instability, and violence in countries of origin. Prospects for local integration remain limited to the individual naturalization of certain refugees sharing similar characteristics and profiles with the citizens of their host countries.

South-East Asia, East Asia and the Pacific

The South-East Asia, East Asia and the Pacific region is comprised of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China (including Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR), Indonesia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, the Pacific Island States, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam.

Half of the countries in this sub-region have not acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention and/or the 1967 Protocol (Brunei-Darussalam, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Pacific Island States, Singapore, and Thailand). The absence of national legal frameworks and procedures relating to refugee protection, limited local integration opportunities, and the lack of prospects for voluntary repatriation for the majority of refugee populations demonstrate the continued need for resettlement as an important durable solution in the region.

In 2012, Malaysia was the top country of asylum in the world from where the largest number of refugees was submitted. 15,813 were submitted and 10,489 departed for resettlement. Consequently, refugees from Myanmar represented the nationality with the largest resettlement figures globally. Group processing of refugees from Myanmar out of Malaysia will continue, aiming at some 12,000 group submissions to the USA plus 2,150 to other resettlement countries in 2014.

Preparations for voluntary repatriation to the south-east of Myanmar for some refugees from Myanmar in the camps in Thailand may start in 2014 depending on further positive developments leading to conditions conducive for return. At this point in time, resettlement of this population will continue well into 2014, although in lesser numbers, given that group resettlement of refugees from Myanmar out of Thailand to the USA will have come to an end in early 2014.

In all countries of asylum conducting resettlement out of the sub-region, there will remain a continued need for individual resettlement processing of

refugees from Myanmar mostly for reasons of family reunification, medical needs, and legal or physical protection.

UNHCR identified registration and resettlement needs of urban refugees, including those in detention, in particular in mainland China and Hong Kong, Indonesia, and Thailand (concerning refugees primarily from Afghanistan, Myanmar, Iran, Iraq, Somalia, and Sri Lanka).

South Asia

The South Asia region includes Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. None of these countries have acceded to the 1951 Convention or the 1967 Protocol, nor have they developed national legal frameworks and procedures relating to refugee protection.

Local integration remains a limited option for refugees residing in this region, with the exception of developments in India, where the Government of India has started to implement a new policy which allows all refugees registered with UNHCR to apply for long-stay visas and work permits. Earlier the Government of India set a positive example by permitting the naturalization of Afghan refugees of Sikh or Hindu origin who have arrived in the country since 2007.

In support of the use of resettlement to address the protracted situation of Bhutanese refugees in Nepal, a Core Group of States provided support for group processing to the United States and individual processing to other resettlement countries, resulting in submissions of over 100,000 Bhutanese refugees by May 2013. Five camps have been closed in the meantime, and only two have remained open in eastern Nepal (Beldangi and Sanischare camps) with a current refugee population from Bhutan of 41,000 persons. While the resettlement programme in Nepal, in terms of submissions, was the second largest after Malaysia, it scaled down in 2012 due to increasing case complexities, and will decrease further in 2014 to some 7,320 individual submissions.

UNHCR identified increased resettlement needs among the refugee population in Sri Lanka, in particular for refugees from Pakistan and Myanmar. Resettlement activity in Bangladesh remained suspended upon request of the Government of Bangladesh.

South-West Asia

The South-West Asia sub-region is comprised of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Pakistan. Iran and Pakistan are hosting together more than 2.5 million Afghan refugees and continue to be priority situations for the strategic use of resettlement as a tangible expression of burden-sharing by the international community. The three-year regional Solutions Strategy

for Afghan Refugees (adopted in 2012) reinforces the importance of finding sustainable solutions, including resettlement as a means of alleviating burdens on host countries in the region.

In Iran, in response to the Government's calls for more tangible and effective responsibility-sharing by resettlement countries, UNHCR continues its efforts to promote and expand resettlement out of Iran. The Contact Group on Iran, chaired by Sweden, worked with the National Steering Committee for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees, closely associating resettlement efforts with those of voluntary repatriation or improved living conditions for refugees in Iran, as part of a comprehensive approach to solutions for Afghan refugees. The number of UNHCR submissions increased from 1,484 in 2011 to 1,868 in 2012, and resettlement departures rose from 492 in 2011 to 1,260 in 2012. UNHCR continues to advocate with resettlement States to increase resettlement places for refugees from Iran, focusing on the most vulnerable refugees, including those exposed to protection risks (such as Afghan refugee women and girls at risk) and those with serious medical needs. This helps to alleviate the burden on medical and social service providers in the country.

In Pakistan, following the designation of the country as a priority situation for the strategic use of resettlement, UNHCR increased its resettlement submissions from 371 refugees in 2011 to 1,272 refugees in 2012, and aims to submit 2,200 submissions in 2013 and 4,000 in 2014. In 2012, the Government of Australia allocated an additional quota of 1,000 individual resettlement places to Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The recently established Contact Group, chaired by Australia, is expected to play an important role in ensuring support from authorities in facilitating and expediting refugees' departures on resettlement and promoting the participation of other potential resettlement countries.

Security challenges continue to adversely affect UNHCR's resettlement activities in Pakistan. Constrained access to refugee populations resulted in efforts to establish interviewing facilities by videoconferencing and medical clearance processes in Quetta.

In Afghanistan, resettlement continues to be used as an individual protection tool for a small caseload of refugees facing serious threats or risks to their physical safety, in particular for refugee women and girls at risk, LGBTI refugees, and survivors of torture and other forms of violence, such as refugee survivors of domestic and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence.

Refugee resettlement referral from Nepal reaches six-figure mark

UNHCR News Story

KATHMANDU, Nepal, April 26 (UNHCR) – The resettlement of refugees from Bhutan reached a major milestone this week, with 100,000 people having been referred for resettlement from Nepal to third countries since the programme began in 2007. Nearly 80,000 of them have started their new lives in eight different countries – an important step towards resolving one of the most protracted refugee situations in Asia.

“This is an incredible achievement in the history of this refugee programme and for UNHCR,” said Diane Goodman, UNHCR’s acting representative in Nepal. She thanked the Nepalese government, resettlement and donor countries, and partner agencies, commenting also on the courage and resilience of the refugees.

Rewati May Darjee will soon join the tens of thousands of refugees who have received a new lease on life in resettlement countries. Together with her husband and two sons, she travelled from Beldangi camp in eastern Nepal to the Nepalese capital of Kathmandu on Thursday, on a plane chartered by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

In the IOM transit centre in Kathmandu, she and her family will be given a final medical examination and an orientation course. Next Wednesday, they will take the final leg of their journey to their new home in Atlanta in the United States.

Dressed in new clothes and looking a little apprehensive, Rewati reflected on what the future might bring, “I am happy that we are finally going to have our own identity in a new country and not spend our lives as refugees in the camps,” said Rewati. “The camps are emptying quite fast; almost everyone has gone or is in the process of going. I miss my friends who have already left the camps and so do my children.”

Since the resettlement programme began six years ago, the UN refugee agency has been interviewing refugees and referring them to resettlement



countries for consideration. Once the refugees are accepted by resettlement countries, IOM conducts health assessments, organizes cultural orientation courses and transports the refugees to their new homes.

A number of steps are involved from the time a case is submitted to a resettlement

country to the time of departure. Resettlement countries interview the refugees, medical examinations must be done, exit permits issued, cultural orientation conducted and travel arrangements made.

A large number of humanitarian workers are involved in this programme and the success is a testament to their dedicated efforts. Working at IOM, Silki Agrawal begins her day at dawn, escorting refugees from the camps to the IOM office and then to the airport. “We are directly or indirectly contributing to help refugees start their new lives,” she said.

UNHCR staff member Tulshi Limbu was just a child when she saw the refugees arriving in Nepal in the early 1990s. “I was astonished to see their challenging situation in terms of food and shelter. After spending 20 years in the refugee camps, resettlement is a great option in helping them start their lives afresh. I feel very proud that, somewhere, my small efforts were a part of this successful operation,” she said.

The acceptance rate of UNHCR’s referrals in Nepal by resettlement countries is the highest in the world – at 99.4 per cent of total submissions. The United States has accepted the largest number of refugees (66,134), followed by Canada (5,376), Australia (4,190), New Zealand (747), Denmark (746), Norway (546), the Netherlands (326) and the United Kingdom (317).

Referring to the number of submissions to date, IOM Chief of Mission in Nepal Maurizio Busatti said, “We look back at these 100,000 stories with resolve and inspiration. We pay tribute to the courage of these women, men and children and to the generosity of those who welcome them at the other end.”

Of the original population of 108,000 refugees originating from Bhutan and living in Nepal, some 38,100 remain in the Sanischare and Beldangi camps in eastern Nepal. Most of them have expressed an interest in the resettlement programme.

By Nini Gurung in Kathmandu, Nepal

Europe



Trends in 2012

Resettlement needs in Europe increased from 15,507 persons in 2012 to 35,224 in 2013. This increase was the consequence of a surge in the number of persons arriving in Turkey seeking protection, amounting to 30,000 arriving in 2012 alone, mainly of Afghan, Iraqi, and Iranian origin, in addition to the hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees who were hosted in camps and urban areas.

In Eastern Europe, dysfunctional asylum systems continue to hamper access to effective protection. Access to refugee status determination procedures is limited by legislative requirements which are not in line with international standards. Instances of racism and xenophobia also inhibit successful integration, and on some occasions, are a real threat to the physical security of refugees and asylum-seekers.

Resettlement and relocation out of Malta continued to be used as a strategic protection tool to provide effective solutions to the most vulnerable persons in view of the country's limited absorption capacity.

The number of resettlement submissions increased from 7,716 in 2011 to 8,526 in 2012, mainly due to the large numbers of submissions made from Turkey. Departures to resettlement countries also increased from 4,916 persons in 2011 to 6,473 in 2012, mainly from Turkey where departures increased from 4,388 in 2011 to 5,929 in 2012.

Regional developments

While access to protection in eastern Europe continues to be a challenge, particularly for persons of certain nationalities, some positive developments took place in southern and south-eastern Europe. There have been improvements in the asylum system in Malta regarding the provision of information to asylum-seekers and shortening the time frame for assessments in first instance procedures. Also, the adoption of an Asylum Law in Turkey is a significant step expected to result in a gradual improvement of the protection environment for refugees and asylum-seekers in Turkey.

The arrival in Turkey of nearly 350,000 Syrian refugees and the tripling of the number of asylum-seekers from Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran in Turkey are posing serious challenges to both the Turkish authorities and UNHCR. In view of this situation, the resettlement needs of refugees with compelling protection vulnerabilities are expected to remain high in 2014 and beyond.

UNHCR's total resettlement capacity for 2014 by country of asylum*

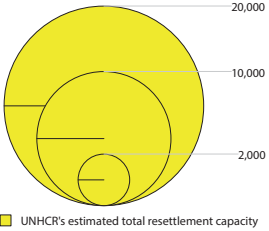
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A Syrian child stands amid tents provided by Kızılay, the Turkish Red Crescent Society, for refugees residing in Adiyaman refugee camp. UNHCR provides technical support to the government in assisting the refugees.

©UNHCR/B. Sokol

Addressing challenges

UNHCR will continue working with the authorities in the Eastern European countries to try to improve access to procedures and the quality of adjudication of claims. At the same time, resettlement will be used for the most compelling protection cases where *refoulement* is a real risk.

UNHCR will continue assisting the Government of Turkey in developing the asylum system following the adoption of the Asylum Law. Resettlement will be used for a considerable number of refugees as a protection tool and responsibility-sharing mechanism.

While Syrian refugees benefit from a temporary protection regime in Turkey, the high number of arrivals overstressing the reception capacity may eventually require resettlement for the most vulnerable. UNHCR is still assessing the situation jointly with the Government of Turkey.

Strengthening the protection environment

Resettlement in Eastern Europe will continue to be used for refugees with acute protection needs stemming from their inability to gain access to asylum procedures and being at risk of *refoulement*.

In Turkey, despite the progressive improvements in the asylum regime, resettlement continues to be the main durable solution available to non-European refugees in the absence of voluntary repatriation prospects and very limited opportunities for local integration. Resettlement will continue to be used strategically for the benefit of those who can depart as well as those who will remain in the country of asylum in what are hoped to be improved conditions.

2014 Projected needs and targets

Sub-regional overviews

Eastern Europe (Azerbaijan, The Russian Federation, and Ukraine)

The estimated total resettlement needs in Eastern Europe in 2014 are 575 persons, all of whom are expected to be submitted for resettlement. These refugees mainly originate from countries in central Asia. The greatest resettlement needs are in the Russian Federation, with 430 persons identified for resettlement submission in 2014.

UNHCR Moscow is implementing a comprehensive solutions approach for the legacy caseload (persons who arrived in the Russian Federation before the adoption of the current asylum legislation), and therefore is moving away from seeking resettlement as the preferred durable solution for this group. At the same time, difficulties in accessing effective protection for some refugees coming from central Asia and other countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States require continued resettlement submissions for these individuals.

South-Eastern Europe (Malta and Turkey)

The estimated total resettlement needs in South-Eastern Europe are 20,500 persons, and UNHCR will have the capacity to submit 8,475 for resettlement out of this group in 2014.

The highest resettlement needs are in Turkey with 20,000 persons, 8,000 of whom UNHCR intends to submit for resettlement in 2014. Most of these refugees originate from Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. Resettlement needs in Turkey may increase should the Government of Turkey call upon the international community to resettle Syrian refugees as a demonstration of responsibility and burden-sharing.

Resettlement will also continue to be sought for the most vulnerable among the refugee population in Malta, as Malta it is a small island with limited absorption capacity.

Europe: 2014 Projected global needs

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs		C. UNHCR submissions planned for 2014 (target) in 2014		D. UNHCR core staff capacity in 2014	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
South-Eastern Europe	9,900	20,500	4,325	8,475	2,477	4,900
Eastern Europe	236	575	236	575	181	485
Europe Total	10,136	21,075	4,561	9,050	2,658	5,385

UN High Commissioner for Refugees welcomes Albanian offer of humanitarian admission for 210 residents of Camp Hurriya, Iraq

Press Releases, 18 March 2013

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres, today welcomed a generous offer by the Albanian Government of humanitarian admission for 210 residents from Camp Hurriya in Iraq to Albania.

“I am very grateful that the Albanian Government has offered solutions for 210 people from Camp Hurriya,” said Mr Guterres. “The residents of Camp Hurriya urgently need solutions to relocate out of Iraq. We hope they welcome this offer and cooperate to ensure the departure of this important number of people.”

The camp has seen a recent deterioration of the security situation of its residents, with a mortar attack on the camp on February 9th killing eight and wounding dozens with subsequent threats made against the residents.

“This generous offer is an demonstration of international solidarity and burden sharing for a vulnerable population”, said Mr Guterres. “I strongly encourage other countries to follow Albania’s lead and offer solutions for the camp residents that enable them to relocate outside of Iraq.”

Camp Hurriya, also known as Camp Liberty, has over 3000 residents.

For further information, please contact
Sybella Wilkes on +41 22 739 7968

<http://www.unhcr.org/5146f3839.html>

Sudanese refugee family starts a new life upon resettlement in Spain

Press Releases, 24 April 2013



MADRID, Spain, April 24 (UNHCR) - Only a week ago, Ibrahim, his wife and children moved from a refugee reception center to a rented flat in Madrid and the house already smells like home. Gone are days of fear, persecution and torture in Sudan and Libya for this Sudanese family resettled in Spain last summer from the UNHCR refugee camp in Tunisia.

In July 2012, a group of 80 refugees of different nationalities arrived in Spain under a resettlement programme promoted by UNHCR with the support of the Spanish government. They were distributed between different reception centers all over Spain. Like Ibrahim's family, these refugees had been living in Tunisia around a year in a tented transit camp located in a desert in Choucha, around 12 kilometers from the Libyan border.

Ibrahim, his wife Awatif and their three children aged eight, eleven and thirteen, packed last week their few belongings from the Vallecas Refugee Reception Center (CAR) in Madrid to move to a flat where they will live independently with financial support still provided by the government. They

feel happy there. The family has initiated a new stage in their integration process in Spain after interacting in the CAR with asylum-seekers and refugees from different nationalities and backgrounds over half a year.

“At first, they resisted to leave the center because without friends or relatives in the country we are for them their only reference,” says Santiago García, director of a CAR in Madrid run by the Ministry of Employment. During their stay in the center, they had their health cards and international protection documents issued. The whole family received psychosocial support, Spanish lessons and the children were registered at school. “It is good for them to face the reality and to manage by themselves the modest resources they will receive for some months,” said the director, recognizing that the umbilical cord between refugees and CAR will never be fully cut.

But for Ibrahim, learning Spanish is becoming a difficult task. “I know that the language is the most important thing now, but I just cannot concentrate; the memories from the past are always buzzing in my head,” he said in a correct English.

Ibrahim’s ordeal began when he was a youngster in Sudan. He comes from a family of mixed ethnicity -- Arab, from his father’s side and Nuba, from his mother’s. He was born in South Kordofan, a disputed oil-rich area currently under constant air and ground attacks between Sudan and South Sudan forces. The conflict has raged since the referendum giving the South independence in 200?. Ibrahim’s persecution began when he spoke out about marginalization of certain areas of the country, about lack of access to education, to water, health or basic infrastructures. Ibrahim was detained, imprisoned and tortured on several occasions.

When this Sudanese refugee fled to Libya, he started a new life. He met and married his wife and had three children. Ibrahim worked in different odd jobs until he could find more stable employment as an accountant and shop-keeper. Meanwhile, his wife, Awatif, worked as a cook, hairdresser and beautician. But life in Libya was not a bed of roses for them and for many Africans. Black people were often victims of racist treatment.

“Come here slave, shouted many people in the street to me or to my children,” said Ibrahim. “We knew we should not respond to the provocation, but it was painful, because some of them really meant it.”

However, the worst came when he was detained. “Any reason was good for the militaries to send you to jail,” said Ibrahim. “I cannot remember how many days I was imprisoned in Tripoli, subjected to endless interrogation and torture. I lost track of time,” he recalled, showing the scars on his wrist from the electroshocks inflicted.

But now in Spain, Ibrahim feels safe and relaxed. He is very thankful to UNHCR and the Spanish government for offering his family a resettlement place. He tries not to look back.

Ibrahim and Awatif are aware of the difficult economic situation in Spain and how challenging it can be to make their own way in life, even with work and residence permits. But after facing so many past challenges, Ibrahim is up to the task and has hope for a better life ahead. “If we were able to survive so far, I should be able to offer my children a better future,” he said.

María Jesús Vega
Spokeswoman UNHCR Spain

Middle East and North Africa



Trends in 2012

In 2012, sixteen UNHCR country offices in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region submitted urban and camp-based refugees of 19 different nationalities to 19 resettlement countries. Iraqi nationals comprised 58 per cent of the total submissions, while Somali, Sudanese, and Eritrean refugees represented 33 per cent.

Since late 2010, the MENA region has been experiencing unprecedented political and social changes which continue to have a significant impact on many of UNHCR's operations. The volatile security situation in parts of the region has imposed constraints on the ability of resettlement countries to access and interview refugees for resettlement, causing the suspension of resettlement missions in some areas. Consequently, while the resettlement needs remained high, the projected resettlement targets for MENA in 2012 had to be adjusted and reduced by 43 per cent. Due to a number of operational constraints, UNHCR offices were able to submit only 33 per cent of the adjusted targets. In addition, one of the most pressing issues has been how to deal with the large number of cases in the resettlement pipeline awaiting onward processing.

The High Commissioner's Global Solidarity Initiative launched in 2013, aimed at resettling refugees who fled the violence in Libya and then stayed in the border areas of Egypt and Tunisia, resulted in another 5,000 refugees submitted for resettlement in 2012. The operation is now phasing out with the closure of camp Shousha in mid-2013, although resettlement processing at the Egyptian border is expected to continue into 2014.

Another key solutions activity has focused on some 3,000 Iranians in Camp Hurriya (Camp Liberty), northeast of the Baghdad International Airport. About 160 individuals from this group were submitted for resettlement consideration, of which only 27 were accepted and 8 departed to resettlement countries by the end of 2012. Similar modest numbers of camp residents were accepted through humanitarian admission.

Emergency, urgent, and medical dossier submissions continued to be an important protection tool in the MENA region. However, the frequent inability of resettlement countries to find a municipality or accommodation to receive refugees led to delays in departures of some of these cases. Nonetheless, resettlement departures increased by 50 per cent in 2012 compared to 2011.

UNHCR's total resettlement capacity for 2014 by country of asylum*

Exclusively for internal UNHCR use



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

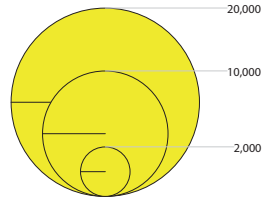
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UNHCR's estimated total resettlement capacity



Regional developments

Resettlement of Iraqi refugees continued to figure prominently on the agenda in the MENA region, although in much lower numbers than in previous years. To date, over 130,000 Iraqi refugees have been submitted for resettlement from the Middle East since 2007. However, the Syria conflict has negatively affected resettlement processing out of Syria, which remains the largest resettlement operation in MENA. The number of submissions of Iraqi refugees from Syria decreased from 16,161 submissions in 2011 to only 5,753 in 2012. Some 13,280 Iraqi refugees fled the violence in Syria to neighbouring countries, to which some resettlement States responded by ensuring that their programmes continued in the refugees' new countries of asylum.

Refugees of other nationalities in Syria were similarly affected by the security situation, and in response to the Flash Appeal for the resettlement of non-Iraqi refugees in Syria issued in August 2012, by mid-2013 dossier submissions of 161 refugees were made to six resettlement countries.

UNHCR's response to the needs of Syrian refugees has focused on the overwhelming need for emergency and lifesaving responses in the region, and resettlement in 2012 remained limited to a small number of compelling protection cases. In 2013, UNHCR took measures to enhance the use of resettlement for individuals with compelling vulnerabilities and urgent protection needs and is now advocating for resettlement States to increase their available quotas in order to accommodate the growing needs. UNHCR has also prepared for contingency plans for larger-scale resettlement in the event that this is necessitated by the protection situation in the region.

At the same time, a Humanitarian Admission Pilot (HAP) has been initiated by Germany, to move 5,000 of the most vulnerable Syrian refugees from the region using expedited procedures in 2013. Humanitarian admission is critical for securing the immediate protection and rapid departure of refugees with urgent and compelling needs while the resettlement programme is in its initial phases of implementation. UNHCR's aim is to expand the humanitarian admission programme by involving other destination countries in this effort, while in parallel increasing its resettlement submissions.

Addressing challenges

The MENA Regional Resettlement Hub continued to make use of the Evacuation Transit Facility (ETF) in Romania, by transferring some 370 refugees from the region to the facility (43 per cent of whom were in Syria). In addition, the IOM arranged with the respective countries an exit route for refugees accepted for resettlement from Syria via the Beirut Airport, which allowed for the departure of accepted refugees who otherwise would have been stranded in Syria. Alternatives to face-to-face interviewing to ensure continued resettlement processing in the region, including videoconference interviewing,



Cooling off in Za'tari camp in Jordan. © UNHCR/ A. Eurdolian/ August 2012

processing on a dossier basis, and using the ETFs, will continue to be pursued and are critical for effectively responding to the increasingly challenging situation.

Strengthening the protection environment

During 2012, resettlement in the MENA region continued to be a tool of protection and a key durable solution for refugees. Resettlement also contributed to responsibility and burden-sharing with countries in the region hosting large numbers of refugees. Resettlement was aimed at enhancing the protection environment for the large majority of refugees not able to benefit from resettlement.

The total projected resettlement needs for the MENA region, identified by UNHCR offices are 33,838 persons, but the projected submissions in 2014 are 8,650 refugees, due to adverse security conditions, a difficult working environment, and limited human resources available in the region. Should working conditions improve, targets are expected to increase in 2014, notably for the resettlement of Syrian refugees.

2014 Projected needs and targets

Sub-regional overviews

The Middle East and the Gulf

The total projected resettlement needs for the Middle East and the Gulf are 28,577 persons.

As UNHCR's main focus has been on addressing the emergency situation by providing shelter and life-saving assistance to Syrian refugees, a small number of Syrians have been submitted for resettlement since the unrest began. An enhanced resettlement strategy was introduced in early 2013 to ensure solutions for the most vulnerable refugees with compelling protection needs. Up to 2,000 Syrian refugees are expected to be submitted for resettlement or emergency medical evacuation in 2013, mainly from Lebanon, but also from other countries in the region, and this number is likely to increase in 2014. In addition, 10,000 Syrian refugees are expected to be relocated from the region to third countries through humanitarian admission (including 5,000 to Germany).

Next to the resettlement of Syrian refugees, resettlement of Iraqi refugees in the Middle East will continue to be a priority. In 2014, it is estimated that over 5,000 Iraqi refugees will be submitted for resettlement, mainly from Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon. This figure may have to be revisited depending on developments in Syria as well as in Iraq.

In Syria, the protection and assistance needs of refugees continue to increase following the deterioration of the situation in the country. The future of resettlement from Syria will depend on the ability of resettlement countries to continue processing dossier cases, conduct videoconference interviews, and use ETFs in the absence of possibilities for face-to-face interviewing.

The volatile political and security situation in Yemen has seriously affected the resettlement operation, especially with the suspension of the resettlement missions. Hence, while the total resettlement needs in Yemen are estimated to be 8,272 persons, projected submissions are for only 300 refugees in 2014.

In Iraq, efforts will continue to find a solution for the over 3,000 Iranians in Camp Liberty.

In the Gulf, a region with an urban population characterized by mixed asylum and migration flows, resettlement in 2014 will remain a limited but crucial instrument of protection for individual refugees, including those in detention. 250 persons are projected to be in need of resettlement out of the Gulf in 2014.

North Africa

The total projected resettlement needs for countries in North Africa are 5,261 persons.

North Africa is characterized by mixed migration movements from sub-Saharan Africa, with modest refugee populations registered in the host countries. For UNHCR, the challenge is to ensure access to those in need of protection and to those in need of resettlement, while avoiding the impression that resettlement might be an alternative migration route. UNHCR's resettlement policy is based on a regional approach to strengthen protection mechanisms in the region and to find durable solutions aimed at self-reliance and livelihood opportunities for the large majority of the refugees, while resettlement is proposed for a minority of refugees with compelling protection needs.

Generally, resettlement will continue to be an integral part of the implementation of the '10 Point Plan of Action', intended to help manage asylum and migration in the region.

MENA: 2014 Projected global needs

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs		C. UNHCR submissions planned for 2014 (target) in 2014		D. UNHCR core staff capacity in 2014	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
Middle East	9,334	28,577	2,440	6,355	1,928	5,011
North Africa	1,996	5,261	965	2,295	689	1,640
Middle East & North Africa Total	11,330	33,838	3,405	8,650	2,617	6,651

UNHCR's Guterres: Syria refugees reach one million

Press Releases, 6 March 2013

Data received from UNHCR's offices in the Syria region shows that the number of Syrians either registered as refugees or being assisted as such has now reached the one million mark.

“With a million people in flight, millions more displaced internally, and thousands of people continuing to cross the border every day, Syria is spiraling towards full-scale disaster,” said UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres. “We are doing everything we can to help, but the international humanitarian response capacity is dangerously stretched. This tragedy has to be stopped.”

The number of Syrian refugees fleeing their country has increased dramatically since the beginning of the year. Over 400,000 have become refugees since 1st January 2013. They arrive traumatized, without possessions and having lost members of their families. Around half of the refugees are children, the majority under the age of eleven. Most have fled to Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. Increasingly, Syrians are also fleeing to North Africa and Europe.

“This number translates into one million people who are dependent on the generosity of host countries, the response of humanitarian agencies and the financial support of governments and individuals,” said Guterres.

Guterres noted that the impact of this large number of refugees arriving in neighbouring countries is severe. Lebanon's population has increased by as much as 10 per cent. Jordan's energy, water, health and education services are being strained to the limit. Turkey has spent over US\$600 million setting up 17 refugee camps, with more under construction. Iraq, juggling its own crisis with more than one million Iraqis internally displaced, has received over one hundred thousand Syrian refugees in the past year.

“These countries should not only be recognized for their unstinting commitment to keeping their borders open for Syrian refugees, they should be massively supported as well,” said Guterres.

In December, the UN’s Regional Response Plan for Syrian Refugees estimated that 1.1 million Syrian refugees would arrive in neighbouring countries by the end of June 2013. UNHCR is in the process adjusting this plan accordingly in light of the new figures. Currently, the plan is only approximately 25 per cent funded.

Absent a political solution to the conflict, Guterres said, “at a minimum, humanitarian actors should receive the funds needed to save lives and ease suffering.”

The Syria crisis will be two years old next week. High Commissioner Guterres will be travelling to the region later this week to visit UNHCR operations in Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon.

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UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2012

Introduction

This report summarizes the resettlement activities of UNHCR Offices worldwide in 2012. The information for this report is drawn from the UNHCR Resettlement Statistical Reports (RSR), which are submitted by UNHCR Country Offices on a quarterly basis.

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

For the purposes of this report, country of asylum refers to the country from which refugees are submitted to and from which they departed for resettlement. Country of resettlement refers to the country to which refugees are submitted for resettlement and to which they arrive on resettlement. Country of origin refers to the country where refugees derive their nationality. The submission figures include those made through UNHCR Regional Resettlement Hubs, Regional Offices as well as Headquarters.¹

Summary of Major Trends

Submissions: In 2012, UNHCR submitted 74,835 refugees for resettlement².

This is a 18 per cent decrease from 91,843 refugees in 2011. Submission levels declined primarily due to resource constraints, restrictive processing criteria, and deteriorating security conditions in some host countries which hampered UNHCR's access to refugee populations for resettlement processing. However, submissions resulting from the up-scaled resettlement of Congolese (DRC) refugees and from priority situations for the strategic use of resettlement saw a significant upsurge, particularly in Pakistan, Ecuador, Islamic Republic of Iran, and Turkey.

Departures: In 2012, 69,252 refugees departed to 26 countries of resettlement³.

Departures increased 12 per cent, from 61,649 refugees in 2011. Increased departures can be attributed to a number of factors. Successful efforts were made by States to expedite security clearances and to interview refugees in inaccessible areas through videoconferencing. IOM and UNHCR jointly established a cross-border departure platform utilizing Beirut as exit point, for refugees accepted for resettlement from Syrian Arab Republic.

Origin: The largest number of refugees submitted for resettlement were refugees from Myanmar (22,074), followed by refugees from Iraq (10,760), Bhutan (9,923) and Somalia (7,174).

In total the four nationalities made up more than 66 per cent of all submissions.

Resettlement: The three major countries of resettlement were: the United States of America (53,053 persons departed), Australia (5,079), and Canada (4,755).

Asylum: The largest number of refugees were submitted from Malaysia (15,813), followed by Nepal (10,049) and Turkey (7,913).

Nepal was the country from which the most refugees departed (16,754), followed by Malaysia (10,489), and Thailand (7,274).

At a Glance Figures

	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Submissions	74,835	91,843	108,042	128,558	121,214
Departures	69,252	61,649	72,914	84,657	65,859
Countries of Asylum ⁴	80	79	86	94	80
Countries of Origin ⁴	79	77	71	77	67
Countries of Resettlement ⁵	26	22	28	24	24

1 Some UNHCR operations were unable to be accounted for in this document, although resettlement activity took place in 2012. These include Namibia, the Gambia, Niger and Senegal.

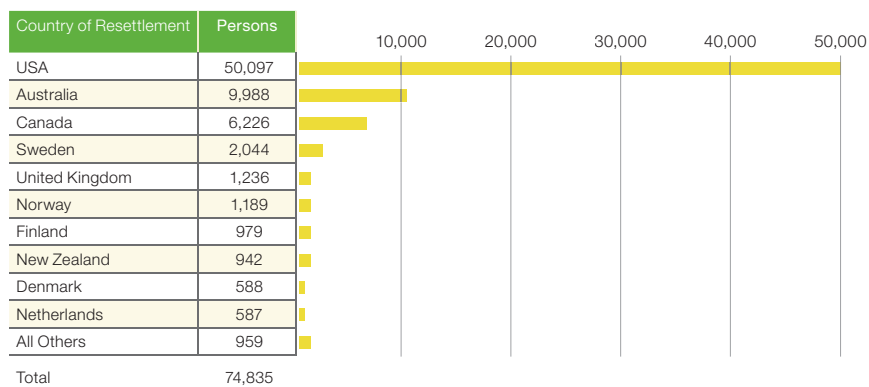
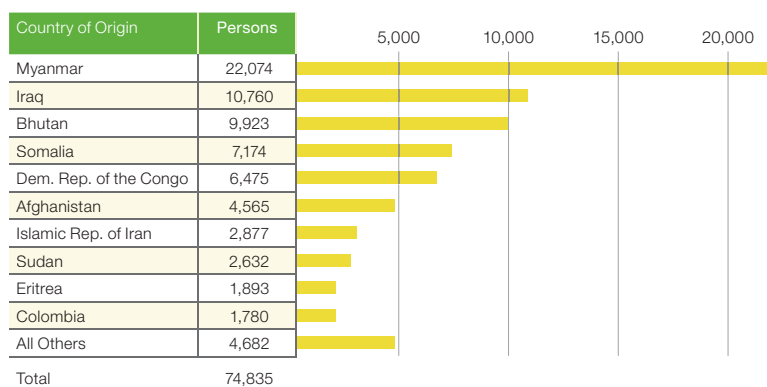
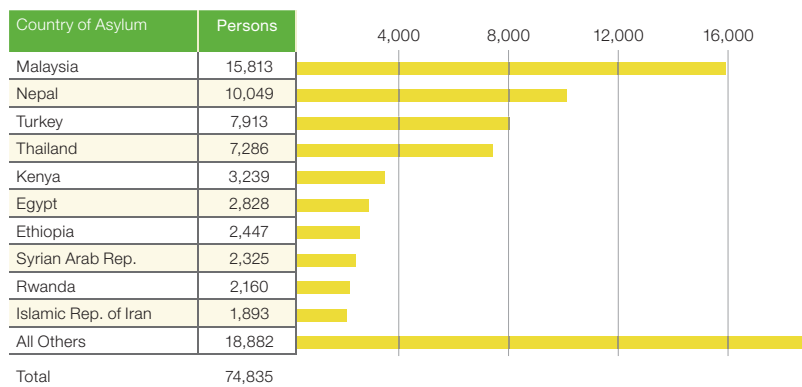
2 This figure includes 4,935 individual resubmissions (1,720 cases)

3 UNHCR's Global Trends Report notes 71,300 persons departed for resettlement with UNHCR's assistance in 2012, inclusive of cases which UNHCR was not involved at submission stage. This Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2012 only includes cases that UNHCR was involved from the onset of the resettlement procedures, i.e. from submission to departure.

4 Based on submission figures

5 Based on departure figures

Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2012

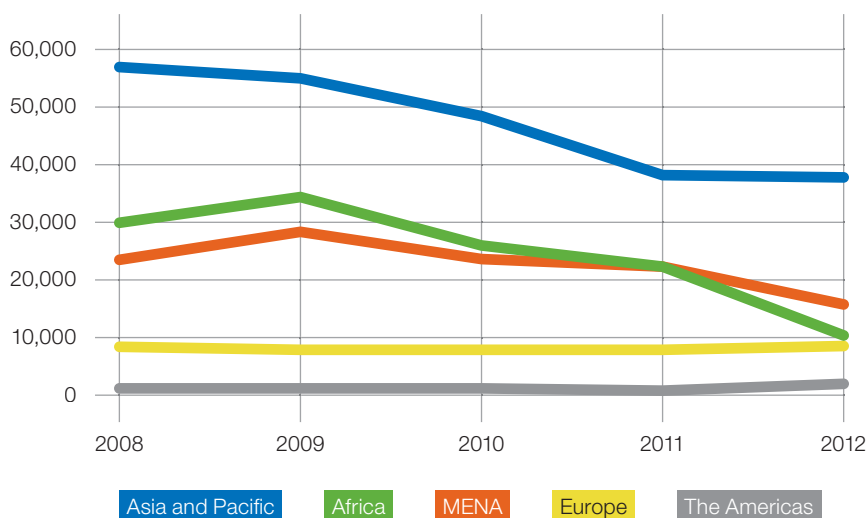


UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2012

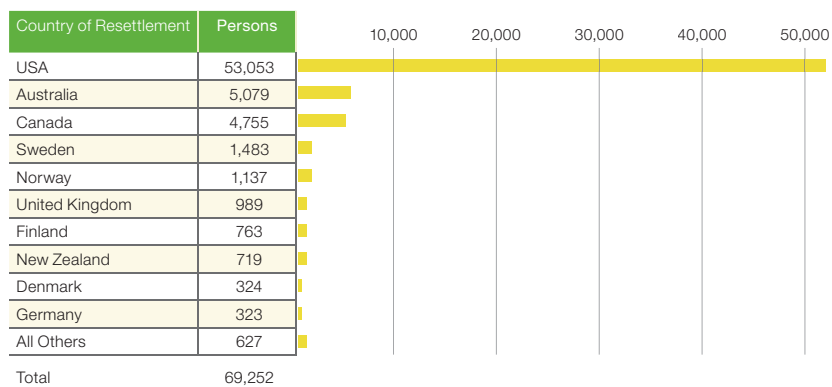
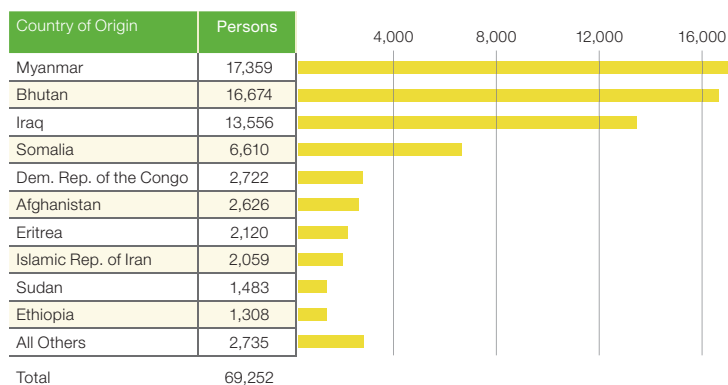
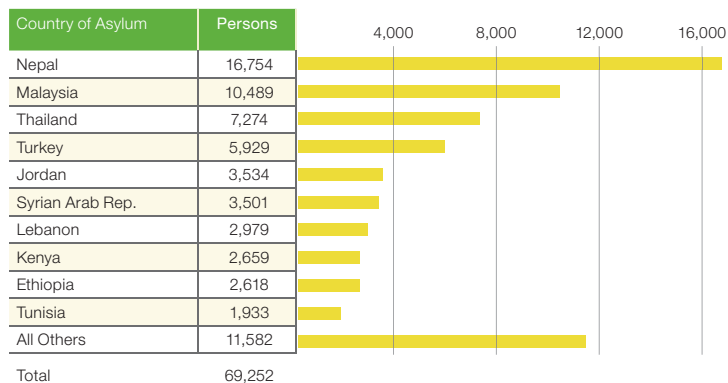
Submissions by Region of Asylum	Cases	Persons	Per cent Total (persons)
Asia and Pacific	14,729	38,020	50.8
Africa	4,744	15,710	21.0
MENA	4,430	10,519	14.1
Europe	4,184	8,526	11.4
The Americas	683	2,060	2.7
Grand Total	28,770	74,835	100.0

Submissions by Region of Origin	Cases	Persons	Per cent Total (persons)
Asia and Pacific	16,115	40,659	54.3
Africa	7,779	20,861	27.9
MENA	4,205	11,244	15.0
The Americas	636	1,988	2.7
Europe	29	76	<1
Unknown/Unspecified	6	7	<1
Grand Total	28,770	74,835	100.0

UNHCR Submissions by Region of Asylum 2008-2012



Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2012

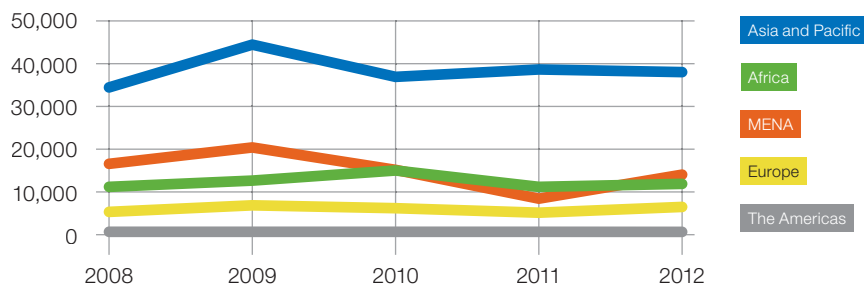


UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2012

Departures by Region of Asylum	Persons	Per cent Total (persons)
Asia and Pacific	37,394	54.0
MENA	13,725	19.8
Africa	11,342	16.4
Europe	6,473	9.3
The Americas	318	<1
Grand Total	69,252	100.0

Departures by Region of Origin	Persons	Per cent Total (persons)
Asia and Pacific	39,580	57.2
Africa	15,205	22.0
MENA	14,150	20.4
The Americas	261	<1
Europe	41	<1
Unknown/Unspecified	15	<1
Grand Total	69,252	100.0

UNHCR Departures by Region of Asylum 2008-2012



UNHCR Resettlement by Submission Category in 2012

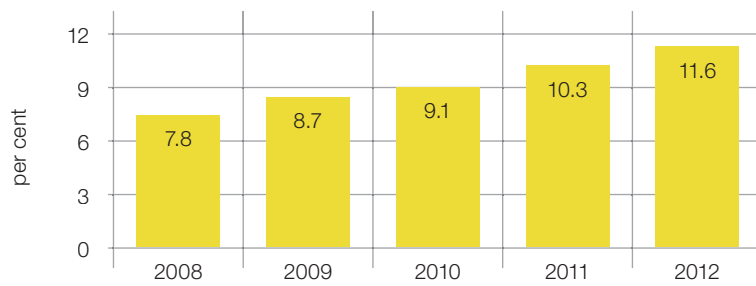
Category	Cases Submitted	Persons Submitted	% Cases Submitted
Legal and/or physical protection needs (LPN)	13,574	31,603	47.2
Lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions (LAS)	6,784	19,060	23.6
Survivors of violence and/or torture (SVT)	4,014	12,222	14.0
Women and girls at risk (AWR)	3,354	8,709	11.7
Medical needs (MED)	604	2,221	2.1
Family reunification (FAM)	223	517	<1
Children and adolescents at risk (CHL)	169	411	<1
Older Refugees* (OLD)	48	92	<1
Grand Total	28,770	74,835	100.0

Category	Persons Departed	% Persons Departed
Legal and/or physical protection needs (LPN)	26,518	38.3
Lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions (LAS)	24,565	35.5
Survivors of violence and/or torture (SVT)	9,521	13.7
Women and girls at risk (AWR)	5,307	7.7
Medical needs (MED)	2,084	3.0
Family reunification (FAM)	663	<1
Children and adolescents at risk (CHL)	351	<1
Older Refugees* (OLD)	243	<1
Grand Total	69,252	100.0

*The resettlement criterion "Older Refugees" is no longer a separate submission category following the UNHCR Resettlement Handbook revision in July 2011. Submissions/Departures under this category may continue to appear in the statistics until cases submitted under this criterion moves through the resettlement process.

UNHCR Resettlement Under the Women and Girls at Risk Category in 2012

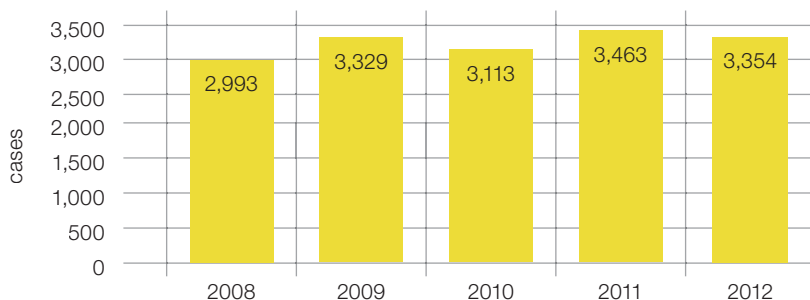
Women and Girls at Risk Cases as a Percentage of Total Resettlement Submissions by UNHCR, 2008-2012



Top Ten Countries of Asylum: Submissions Under the Women and Girls at Risk Category (AWR), 2012

Asylum Country	Cases Submitted	Persons Submitted	% AWR Cases Submitted	Persons Departed	% AWR Cases Departed
Malaysia	741	765	22.1	562	10.6
Turkey	299	702	8.9	431	8.1
Islamic Rep. of Iran	297	1,207	8.9	1,006	19.0
Kenya	215	667	6.4	224	4.2
Ethiopia	180	609	5.4	54	1.0
Thailand	153	335	4.6	252	4.7
Egypt	137	364	4.1	218	4.1
Syrian Arab Rep.	124	287	3.7	294	5.5
Nepal	99	268	3.0	325	6.1
Rwanda	89	348	2.6	272	5.2
All Others	1,020	3,157	30.3	1,669	31.5
Grand Total	3,354	8,709	100.0	5,307	100.0

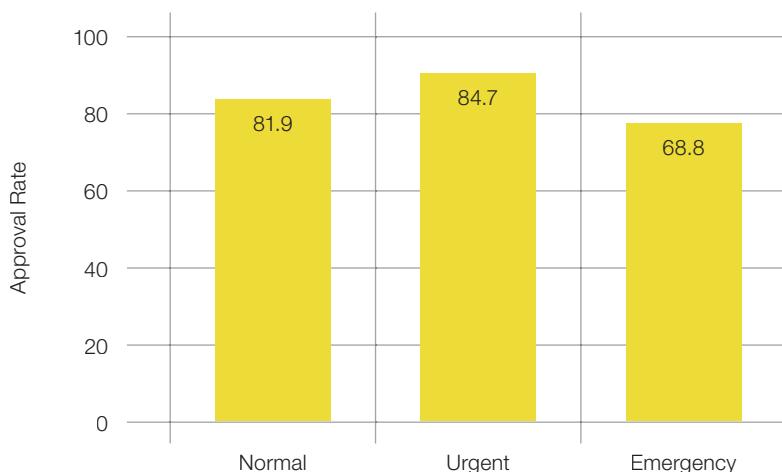
Submissions Under the Women and Girls at Risk Category, 2008-2012 (cases)



UNHCR Resettlement Under the Medical Needs Category in 2012

Top Ten Submissions by Country of Asylum	Cases	Top Ten Submissions by Country of Origin	Cases	Top Ten Departures by Country of Resettlement	Persons
Malaysia	128	Myanmar	139	USA	1,508
Nepal	98	Somalia	121	Canada	158
Turkey	71	Bhutan	98	Sweden	96
Ethiopia	66	Iraq	46	Norway	71
Kenya	49	Afghanistan	41	Finland	71
Egypt	33	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	39	Australia	63
Thailand	23	Eritrea	30	Denmark	59
Islamic Rep. of Iran	17	Sudan	24	Netherlands	19
Rwanda	12	Islamic Rep. of Iran	23	Ireland	14
Russian Federation	12	Central African Rep.	8	United Kingdom	10
All Others	95	All Others	35	All Others	15
Grand Total	604	Grand Total	604	Grand Total	2,084

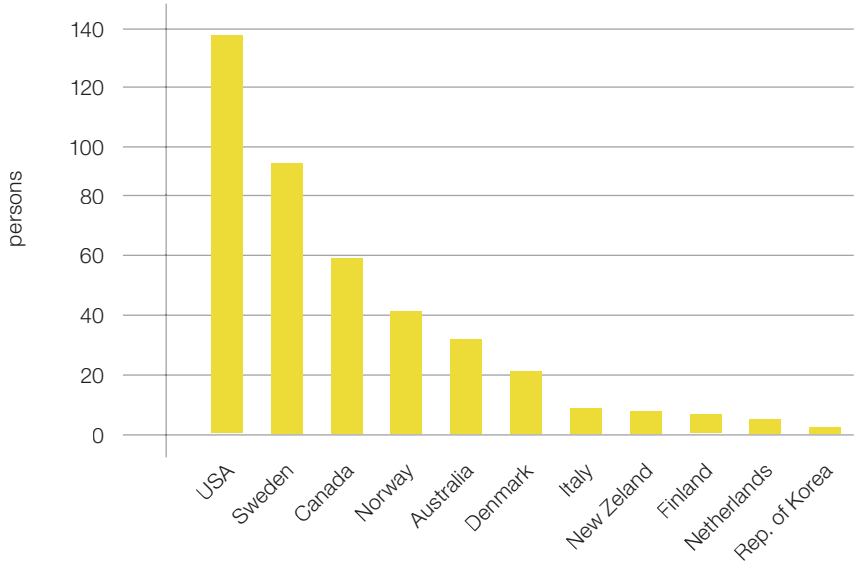
Resettlement Country Approval Rate Under the Medical Needs Category by Priority



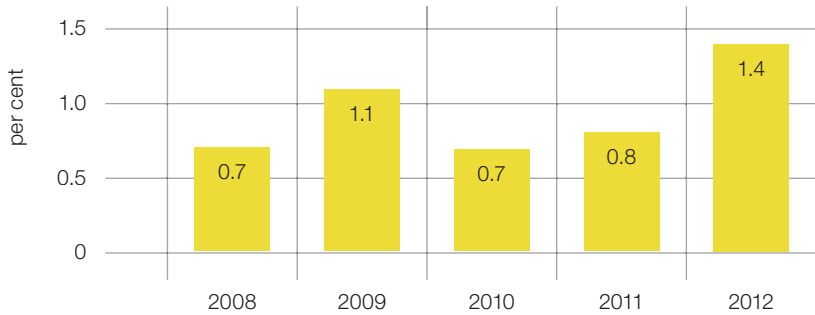
UNHCR Resettlement by Priority in 2012

UNHCR Submissions and Departures by Priority	Submissions			Departures	
	Cases	% Cases	Persons	Persons	% Persons
Normal	25,277	87.9	67,048	62,574	90.4
Urgent	3,097	10.8	6,936	6,253	9.0
Emergency	396	1.3	851	425	<1
Grand Total	28,770	100.0	74,835	69,252	100.0

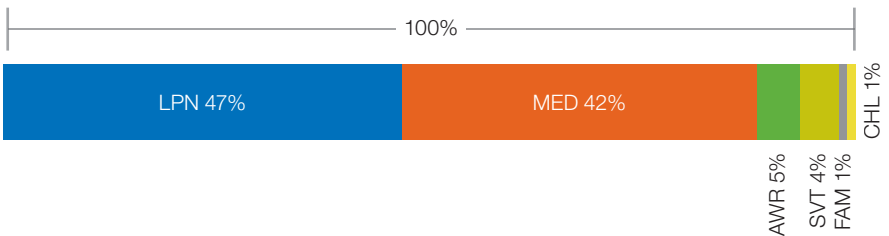
UNHCR Emergency Departures by Country of Resettlement



Emergency Cases as a Percentage of Total Resettlement Submissions by UNHCR, 2008-2012



UNHCR Emergency Departures by Category, 2012



Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Countries in 2012

Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Countries in 2012

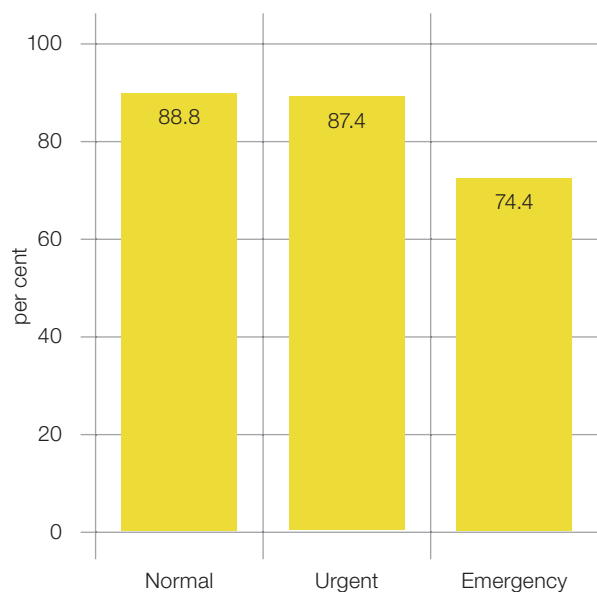
Country of Origin	Cases Submitted	% Cases Accepted
Bhutan	2,223	99.6
Myanmar	10,089	98.4
Iraq	4,026	91.1
Eritrea	870	90.9
Islamic Rep. of Iran	1,626	89.6
Sudan	1,604	88.9
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,620	85.7
Somalia	2,629	85.4
Afghanistan	1,629	82.1
Colombia	540	64.4
All Others	1,915	69.6
Grand Total	28,771	88.4

Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Submission Category in 2012

Category	Acceptance Rate
Lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions	92.3
Older Refugees	92.0
Legal and/or physical protection needs	91.6
Family reunification	91.2
Children and adolescents at risk	85.1
Women and girls at risk	83.9
Medical needs	82.2
Survivors of violence and/or torture	79.8
Grand Total	88.4

* Acceptance rates are based on resettlement decisions reported by resettlement States to UNHCR field offices. A decline decision by resettlement country does not necessarily mean the case is ineligible for resettlement submission according to UNHCR policy. UNHCR may resubmit the case to another resettlement country.

Acceptance Rates of Resettlement Countries by UNHCR Resettlement Priority in 2012



UNHCR Resettlement Departures 2008-2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Countries with regular resettlement programmes					
Argentina	78	8	23	24	5
Australia	5,171	6,720	5,636	5,597	5,079
Brazil	19	30	28	23	8
Canada	5,663	6,582	6,706	6,827	4,755
Chile	45	66	6	22	3
Czech Rep.	23	17	48		25
Denmark	403	488	386	606	324
Finland	675	710	543	573	763
France	276	179	217	42	84
Germany		2,064	457	22	323
Hungary					1
Iceland	29		6		9
Ireland	89	194	20	36	40
Japan (pilot programme)			27	18	
Netherlands	580	347	430	479	262
New Zealand	894	675	535	477	719
Norway	722	1,367	1,088	1,258	1,137
Paraguay			13	13	
Portugal	5	26	24	28	21
Romania			38		
Spain	8				80
Sweden	1,596	1,880	1,789	1,896	1,483
United Kingdom	697	969	695	424	989
USA	48,828	62,011	54,077	43,215	53,053
Uruguay		14	17		5
Countries with special resettlement programmes / ad-hoc resettlement intake					
Belgium	6	54	2	19	1
Greece	2				
Italy	30	191	58		9
Luxembourg		28			
Palau			3		
Rep. of Korea	23	20	23	11	20
Switzerland	12	17	19	39	54
Grand Total	65,874	84,657	72,914	61,649	69,252

Protracted Refugee Situations¹ Where Resettlement Takes Place 2010-2012

Comparison of UNHCR Resettlement Submissions and Departures 2010-2012			Submissions			Departures		
Country/Territory of Origin	Country of Asylum	Total Population ²	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
Afghanistan	Pakistan	1,701,945	122	326	1,079	157	160	283
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	840,451	895	1,453	1,873	389	474	1,427
Somalia	Kenya	517,666	8,143	8,439	2,170	2,776	2,102	1,442
Myanmar	Thailand	88,148	11,142	7,766	6,532	10,825	9,214	6,845
	Malaysia	81,146	12,291	13,217	15,103	7,888	8,274	10,308
Iraq	Syrian Arab Republic	100,254	12,918	8,708	2,061	6,419	4,270	3,293
	Lebanon	8,491	2,920	3,138	1,698	1,920	777	2,807
	Jordan	32,197	5,909	3,378	1,481	3,443	965	3,229
Bhutan	Nepal	54,995	20,617	13,092	9,922	14,809	18,068	16,674
Eritrea	Sudan	68,891	979	980	479	614	931	262
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	United Rep. of Tanzania	61,913	502	335	601	1,993	185	622
	Burundi	35,213	160	292	406	148	53	155
	Rwanda	54,955	929	1,315	2,160	635	724	753
	Uganda	81,487	321	322	1,451	376	113	289
Colombia	Ecuador	54,243	1,000	793	1,620	378	397	156
Mixed Population	Turkey	14,465	6,682	6,472	7,913	5,335	4,388	5,929

1) For statistical purposes, UNHCR defines a protracted refugee situation as a refugee population of 25,000 persons or more who have been in exile for at least five consecutive years. Figures do not cover industrialized countries and exclude Palestinian refugees who are under the mandate of UNRWA.

2) Population of UNHCR assisted, as at year-end 2011 (UNHCR Statistical Yearbook, Annex Table 5)

Per Capita Resettlement by Country of Resettlement in 2012

Country of Resettlement	Persons Resettled in 2012	National Population	Population per Refugees Resettled
Norway	1,137	4,883,000	4,295
Australia	5,079	22,268,000	4,384
USA	53,053	310,384,000	5,850
New Zealand	719	4,368,000	6,075
Sweden	1,483	9,380,000	6,325
Finland	763	5,365,000	7,031
Canada	4,755	34,017,000	7,154
Denmark	324	5,550,000	17,130
Iceland	9	320,136	35,571
Spain	80	4,469,900	55,874
United Kingdom	989	62,036,000	62,726
Netherlands	262	16,613,000	63,408
Ireland	40	4,469,900	111,748
Germany	323	82,302,000	254,805
Czech Rep.	25	10,492,960	419,718
Portugal	21	10,676,000	508,381
France	84	62,787,000	747,464
Uruguay	5	4,469,900	893,980
Hungary	1	4,470,000	4,470,000
Chile	3	17,114,000	5,704,667
Argentina	5	40,412,000	8,082,400
Brazil	8	194,946,000	24,368,250

*National population: United Nations, Population Division, "World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision", New York 2010.



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