

UNHCR assisted people displaced by typhoons in the Philippines by providing them with non-food items.

East Asia and the Pacific

Australia

China

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Japan

Mongolia

New Zealand

Papua New Guinea

Republic of Korea

South Pacific



| Working environment |

The pilot resettlement programme in Japan has moved ahead with the arrival in the country of the first group of refugees from Myanmar in September 2010. Other positive developments have included the creation of a detention monitoring committee, and the establishment of a six-month timeframe for initial refugee status determination (RSD) decisions undertaken by the Japanese authorities.

In Australia, a strong resettlement program continues to provide durable solutions for refugees from the region and around the world. While asylum issues, in particular, the arrival of asylum-seekers by boat, are likely to continue to generate public debate, in 2011, UNHCR will continue to work with the Australian Government and other concerned actors to pursue effective regional solutions to the mixed migration phenomena and to search for improved protection conditions in the subregion.

In New Zealand, the domestic asylum environment is stable and generally positive. New Zealand's engagement in regional issues and approaches will be important in 2011, and UNHCR will seek to consolidate its solid relations with the country's Government and civil society on both national and regional issues.

East Asia and the Pacific

In the Pacific Island countries, UNHCR helps governments to develop their capacity to deal with refugee issues. Its involvement in activities relating to displacement linked to climate change and natural disasters has also served to improve the protection climate. In Papua New Guinea, UNHCR is helping to build national capacity, aimed at addressing protection needs and promoting the local integration of the long-staying West Papuan refugee group.

In China, UNHCR continues to advocate for the enactment and implementation of national asylum legislation, in line with the 1951 Refugee Convention, and stands ready to assist the Government to do so. In Hong Kong SAR (China), a Memorandum of Understanding has helped to strengthen UNHCR's partnership with the authorities, while enhancing protection and assistance for asylum-seekers and refugees in the territory. The accord also helps to reinforce the RSD capacity of UNHCR. In Mongolia, UNHCR continues to help build national capacity, in anticipation of the country's accession to the 1951 Convention.

In the Republic of Korea, recent developments have included the first naturalization of a recognized refugee, implementation of amendments to the Immigration Control Act, introducing the right to work for asylum-seekers, and the announcement of the establishment of a reception centre in Incheon. UNHCR continues to advocate for the timely adoption of comprehensive refugee legislation. It also helps the Government to strengthen RSD procedures and broaden its assistance programme for refugees and asylum-seekers. Increased interest and support from the Korean public and civil society on refugee issues has been another positive development.

Japan, Australia and New Zealand have all maintained or increased their generous contributions to UNHCR for its operations worldwide. Enhanced efforts in private-sector fund raising in Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea and Hong Kong SAR are expected to yield positive results.

| Strategy in 2011 |

UNHCR will continue to advocate for greater protection space for all persons of concern, unhindered access to asylum, high-quality RSD procedures, and expanded opportunities for durable solutions. It will also advocate for better livelihoods and integration opportunities for urban refugees, improved reception conditions, alternatives to detention, and the prevention of statelessness.

UNHCR's offices in Japan, in the Republic of Korea, and its regional offices in Australia and China will continue to promote public support for refugee issues. The Office will also seek to raise funds from public and private sources in these countries.



| Constraints |

Government concerns related to national security, and the curbing of irregular migration, continue to have an impact on the protection of people of concern to UNHCR. Challenges remain in ensuring entry to territory and access to asylum, as well as proper reception conditions at points of entry. Furthermore, the detention of asylum-seekers and refugees, including children and vulnerable groups, remains a key concern. Limited livelihood opportunities increase the vulnerability of refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas. A general lack of understanding of refugee issues impedes UNHCR's efforts to promote a favourable protection environment in the subregion.

| Operations |

In **Australia**, UNHCR will continue to promote international standards with respect to decision making and reception conditions. UNHCR will also monitor and contribute to policy developments to ensure all people of concern are granted access to effective and fair asylum procedures, international protection

and durable solutions. Increased numbers of asylum-seeker arrivals, coupled with Australia's mandatory detention arrangements and the temporary suspensions of processing for Sri Lankan and Afghan asylum-seekers in 2010, have placed pressure on the asylum system and reception conditions – which will be monitored closely. Raising public awareness of asylum and refugee issues and promoting positive and constructive discussion on them will remain priorities. Efforts will also continue to promote a regional cooperation framework to deal with mixed movements of people in the region, in cooperation with key stakeholders.

In **New Zealand**, UNHCR will support the implementation of the 2009 Immigration Act, which came into force in November 2010. It includes new regulations relating to claims for international protection, and the establishment of a new Immigration and Protection Tribunal. UNHCR will also continue to work closely with the Government and key partners to ensure that New Zealand maintains its traditionally generous and protection-based resettlement programme and high standard of settlement support upon arrival.

On resettlement, UNHCR will encourage **Australia** and **New Zealand** to maintain generous programmes that contribute to UNHCR's global strategic resettlement objectives. It will also monitor and support the implementation of multi-year resettlement planning introduced by both countries.

UNHCR will also seek to optimize political, financial and other support from public and private donors in these countries, and work closely on public awareness campaigns with its national association in Australia, and with various interest groups and corporations.

In the **Pacific Island countries**, UNHCR will continue to implement its regional capacity-building strategy, based on the positive progress achieved in the past two years. Through the provision of training and technical support to national and regional partners, UNHCR will seek to improve legal frameworks and increase national capacity to deal with refugees within broader migration movements. Such activities will also encourage adherence to humanitarian principles, and the introduction of protection safeguards.

As co-leader of the Pacific region protection cluster, and within the limits of available resources, UNHCR will support common efforts to integrate protection considerations into emergency response planning and delivery with respect to natural and man-made disasters, and to rapid-onset climate change. In **Papua New Guinea**, UNHCR will continue to advocate for and support the Government's efforts to develop a comprehensive refugee policy, revise its current Migration Act, and set up RSD procedures. While promoting local integration as the main durable solution for West Papuan refugees, interventions will focus on addressing protection needs, increasing self-reliance and improving the general living conditions of refugees in the Iowara-East Awin settlement, and in some urban areas.

Furthermore, UNHCR will cooperate with the Government in assessing the situation of West Papuans in border areas whose status need to be regularized. UNHCR will continue to provide basic material assistance to non-Melanesian refugees, while undertaking capacity-building activities with government and NGO partners, especially for reception conditions. There will also be increased activities to raise public awareness on asylum and refugee issues.

In **China**, UNHCR undertakes RSD and identifies durable solutions for all people of concern, while advocating for the enactment of national refugee legislation and policies, in accordance with international refugee law. The Office will continue to advocate for respect for the principle of *non-refoulement*, and seek to enhance protection and humanitarian space. It will continue to provide basic assistance, including accommodation and living allowances to refugees, pending the implementation of appropriate durable solutions. It will also seek to develop closer cooperation with the authorities and other relevant national actors, while continuing its efforts to raise public awareness on humanitarian issues.

In **Hong Kong SAR (China)**, UNHCR will continue to advocate for the territory's accession to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol. The focus will be on developing a partnership with the Hong Kong Immigration Department, police departments and civil society, and helping to build their capacity. UNHCR will continue to undertake RSD and identify durable solutions, while working closely with the Government and civil society to meet the basic needs of people of concern in the territory.

In **Mongolia**, the Office will undertake training and other capacity-building activities in aid of relevant government institutions. Advocacy for the country's early accession to the 1951 Convention will continue. UNHCR plans to work with the Government in introducing measures to prevent situations which could lead to statelessness.

In **Japan**, UNHCR will maintain its support for the Government's efforts to strengthen the country's asylum system and implement its pilot resettlement programme. The Office will continue to provide technical and advisory support both to governmental and to NGO partners with respect to fair asylum procedures, improved reception conditions, alternatives to detention, and better livelihood opportunities for urban refugees and asylum-seekers. In collaboration with implementing partners, legal and social assistance will continue to be provided to asylum-seekers and refugees with specific needs. Following the symposium on statelessness organized in 2010, UNHCR will continue to cooperate with the Government to increase its efforts to address this issue. The eCentre will continue to provide training to partners in the region.

In cooperation with the national private sector fund-raising association, UNHCR will undertake a wide range of awareness-raising activities, including public events such as the UNHCR Refugee Film Festival. The strategic partnership with the Japan International Cooperation Agency and Japanese NGOs will be maintained.

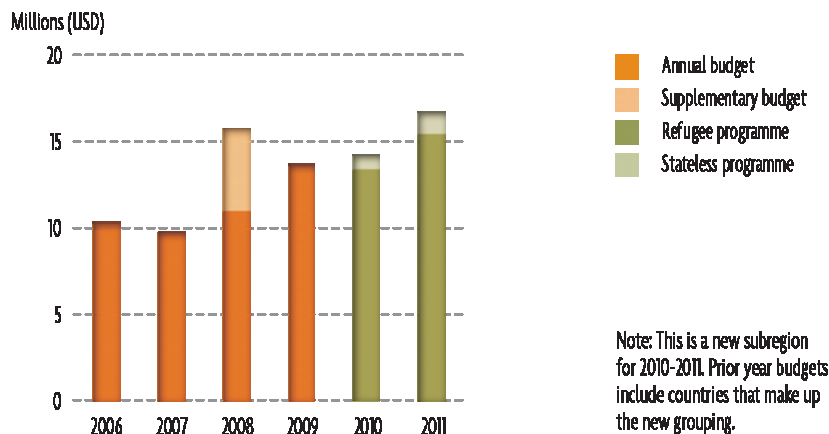
In the **Republic of Korea**, UNHCR will support the Government's efforts to strengthen its national asylum system, and effectively implement the 1951 Refugee Convention. To this end, the Office will continue to advocate for the timely adoption of the Refugee Act, and assist the Government to develop its refugee assistance programme. The Office will also reinforce its capacity-building support for Government and NGO partners, focusing on RSD, access to asylum procedures at the airport, reception conditions, alternatives to detention, and legal and social counselling services. Priority will also be given to identifying and engaging more NGO actors in addressing the needs of urban refugees and asylum-seekers.

Financial information

UNHCR's 2011 budget reflects the comprehensive needs of the populations of concern in the East Asia and the Pacific subregion, while taking account of implementation capacity. The overall level is similar to that of 2010, with marginal increases for requirements in Japan and the Republic of Korea, mainly to strengthen UNHCR's capacity and that of its

implementing partners, to meet the needs of urban refugees. Slightly increased resources are also required in Papua New Guinea to improve living conditions, and facilitate the self-reliance and local integration of West Papuan refugees – an objective which will be pursued in tandem with active advocacy with the Government and other relevant institutions.

UNHCR's budget in East Asia and the Pacific 2006 – 2011



UNHCR budget for East Asia and the Pacific (USD)

OPERATION	2010 REVISED BUDGET	2011				TOTAL
		REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1	STATELESS PROGRAMME PILLAR 2	REINTEGRATION PROJECTS PILLAR 3	IDP PROJECTS PILLAR 4	
Australia Regional Office ¹	1,334,301	1,822,508	0	0	0	1,822,508
China Regional Office ²	4,982,733	4,796,873	200,275	0	0	4,997,148
Japan	4,990,673	4,507,567	850,011	0	0	5,357,578
Mongolia	220,522	170,107	38,614	0	0	208,721
Papua New Guinea	1,274,675	2,307,891	0	0	0	2,307,891
Republic of Korea	1,223,389	1,663,569	79,497	0	0	1,743,066
Regional activities	150,000	200,000	0	0	0	200,000
Total	14,176,294	15,468,515	1,168,397	0	0	16,636,912

¹ Includes activities in New Zealand and 13 Pacific Island countries as well as additional support to Papua New Guinea.

² Provides support to Mongolia.