



With you

What's Inside

110 MILLION PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

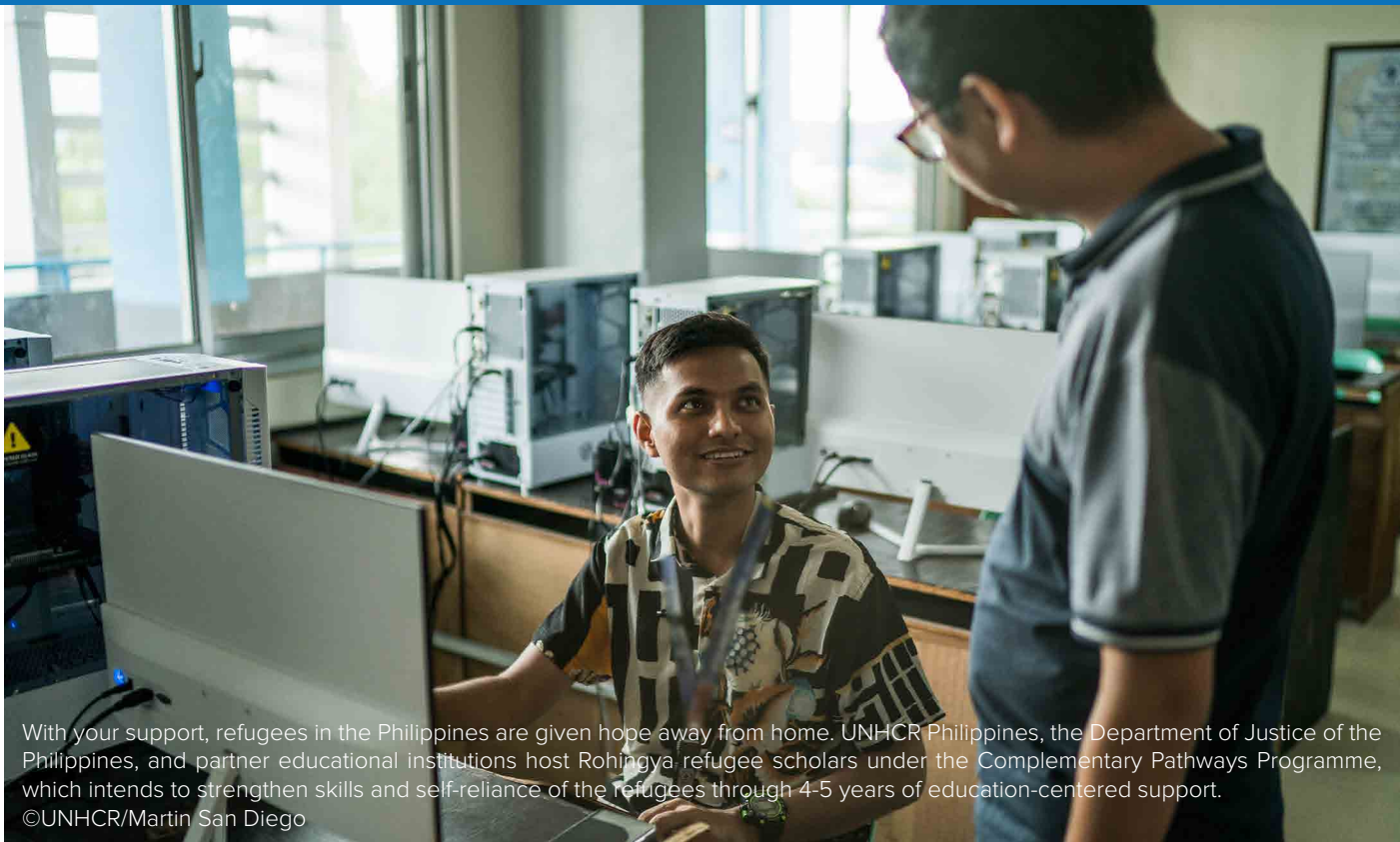
The number of people forced to flee their homes has increased every year over the past decade. It now stands at over 110 million, the highest level since records began.

SUDAN EMERGENCY

With your support, UNHCR teams on the ground continues to give life-saving assistance to people who were forcibly displaced by conflict.

THE 1ST REFUGEE FILM FESTIVAL IN THE PHILIPPINES

In commemoration of World Refugee Day, you joined supporters, partners, refugees, and asylum-seekers in bringing awareness, building empathy, and mobilizing action for the forcibly displaced and stateless.



With your support, refugees in the Philippines are given hope away from home. UNHCR Philippines, the Department of Justice of the Philippines, and partner educational institutions host Rohingya refugee scholars under the Complementary Pathways Programme, which intends to strengthen skills and self-reliance of the refugees through 4-5 years of education-centered support. ©UNHCR/Martin San Diego

Dear valued donor,

We extend our deepest gratitude for your invaluable contributions and unwavering support towards our mission.

In the face of rising displacement figures and emergencies like the situation in Sudan, Ukraine, Türkiye and Syria, your generosity helps us deliver **life-saving assistance, protect the rights, and help achieve durable solutions** for more than 110 million people forced to flee their homes worldwide.

In this newsletter, you will find how your efforts and contributions made an impact in our work and in the lives of vulnerable refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced people in the Philippines and across the globe. Thanks to you and with the support of our partners, we continue to advocate for solutions to ensure ease of access to basic services, education, and liveli-

hood opportunities for refugees here in the Philippines. Your commitment has given people who are forced to flee the chance to find hope away from home.

All the milestones we've accomplished the past quarter would not have been possible without your support.

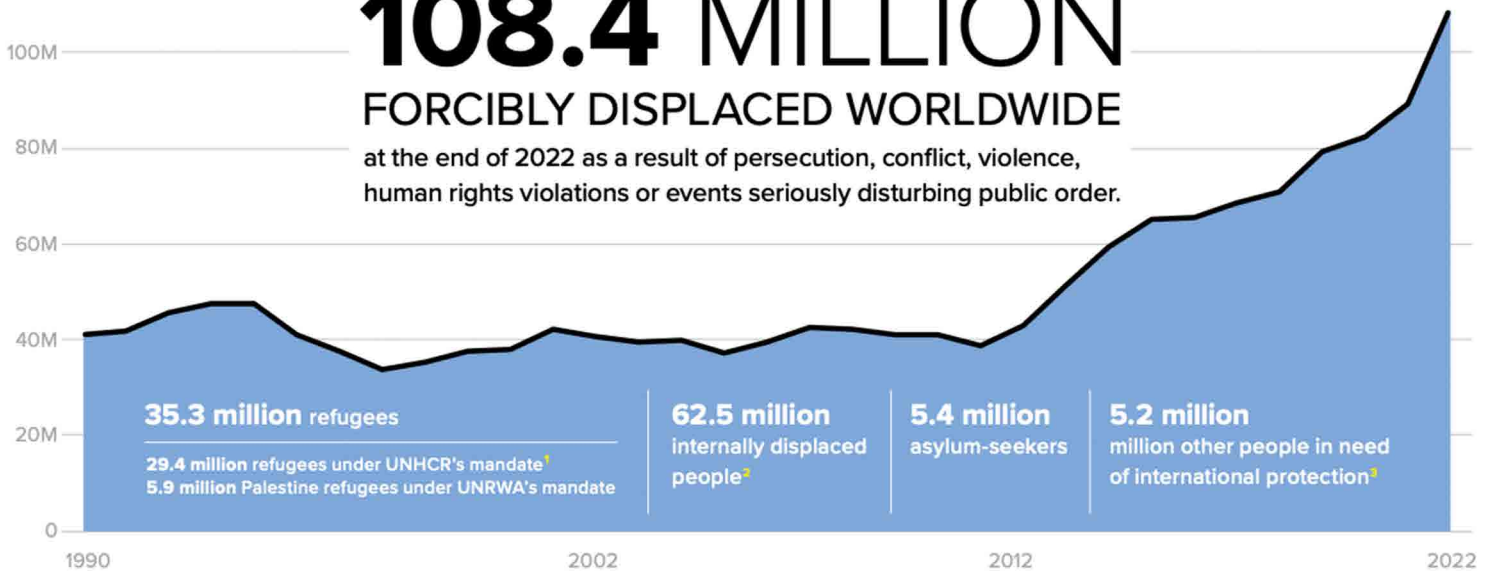
We hope you continue to stand #WithRefugees, the internally displaced, and stateless people today and every day.

***Maraming salamat,
Your UNHCR Philippines family***

108.4 MILLION

FORCIBLY DISPLACED WORLDWIDE

at the end of 2022 as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order.



Today, the number has grown to more than 110 million people forced to flee.

76%

HOSTED IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

52%

ORIGINATED FROM JUST THREE COUNTRIES

40%

OF ALL PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE WERE CHILDREN

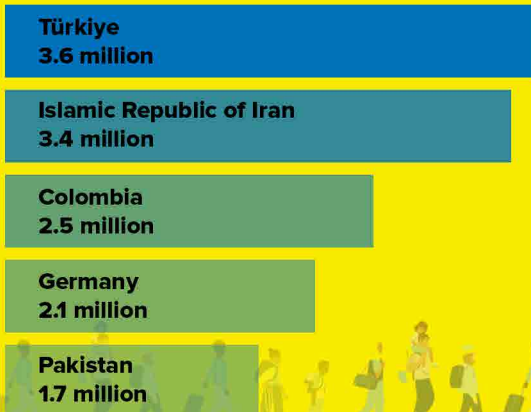
1.9M

CHILDREN WERE BORN AS REFUGEES FROM 2018-2022

3.6 MILLION

REFUGEES HOSTED IN TÜRKİYE

This is the largest population worldwide, followed by the Islamic Republic of Iran with 3.4 million.



“

These figures show us that some people are far too quick to rush to conflict, and way too slow to find solutions. **The consequence is devastation, displacement, and anguish for each of the millions of people forcibly uprooted from their homes.**”

Filippo Grandi

UN High Commissioner for Refugees

62.5 million

are internally displaced* worldwide

*People forced to flee due to armed conflicts, generalized violence, or human rights violations and who remain within their own countries are known as internally displaced people (IDPs).

Over the last decade, the number of IDPs protected by UNHCR has doubled, reaching

57.3 million

individuals at the end of 2022, an increase of 12 per cent from the previous year.

SUDAN EMERGENCY

Over 2.5 million people have been displaced by the conflict in Sudan since 15 April 2023, with more than 571,000 people seeking safety in neighbouring countries. Thousands of Sudanese who had fled Khartoum and surrounding areas with the intention to seek safety in Egypt remain stranded at the border as they were unable to cross due to a change of policy introduced by the Egyptian Government on 10 June.

UNHCR continues to stay and deliver in Sudan, responding to the humanitarian needs of refugees and forcibly displaced in new locations such as Port Sudan, Wadi Halfa, and Wad Madani while maintaining existing programmes in Gedaref, Kassala, Blue Nile, and White Nile, where an emergency response is being scaled up in response to the influx of over 140,000 refugees and asylum seekers fleeing Khartoum and other unsafe areas.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



53,550

Refugee, asylum seeker, IDP, and returnee individuals have received **Non-Food Item (NFI)** support in Port Sudan, Gedaref, Kassala, White Nile, Blue Nile, North Darfur, Wadi Halfa, Wad Madani, and West Kordofan.



75,643

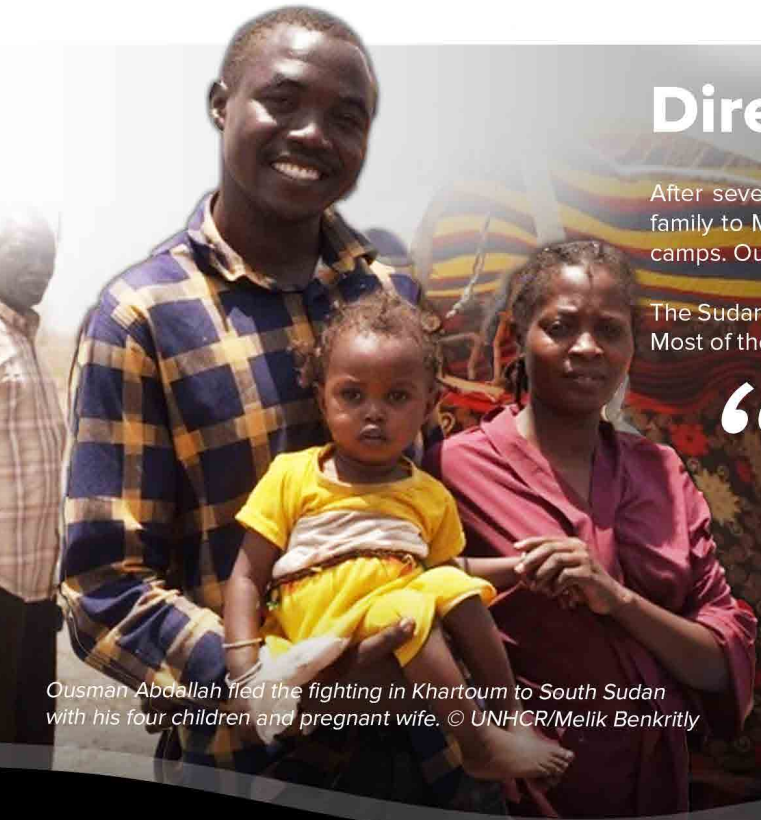
Refugees and asylum seekers who fled Khartoum and unsafe areas have been **verified/confirmed**, representing 43% of the self-relocated refugee movements.



1,089

Refugees and asylum seekers who fled Khartoum to the eastern states have been **relocated** to the camps in Gedaref.

**Since 15 April 2023*



Ousman Abdallah fled the fighting in Khartoum to South Sudan with his four children and pregnant wife. © UNHCR/Melik Benkrittly

Dire situation made worse

After seven hours travelling on rough roads, the bus delivers Ousman and his family to Maban, which is home to over 168,000 refugees living in four different camps. Ousman's family is settled in Doro, the largest of the four camps.

The Sudan crisis is making an already dire humanitarian situation in Maban worse. Most of the refugees living there depend on humanitarian assistance.

“ I hope the fighting will stop, fighting is not good because it is going to destroy people and displace [them] to different countries.”

UNHCR is transporting Sudanese and other refugees to Maban, as well as working in collaboration with partners and local authorities to support South Sudanese returnees to travel to their respective communities.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by our generous donors during these critical times. Your help makes it possible for us to continue responding to various emergencies happening in different parts of the world.

WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2023

Hopes and dreams of people forced to flee take center stage in **1st Refugee Film Festival** in the Philippines



For World Refugee Day in the Philippines this year, UNHCR, together with University of the Philippines Asian Center and the Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development (PLCPD), held the first-ever Refugee Film Festival in the country which aimed to bring Filipinos closer to better understanding the lived experiences of people forced to flee war, persecution, and violence.

Headlined by award-winning biographical film *Quezon's Game* by Matthew Rosen, which tells the story of how Philippine President Manuel L. Quezon, future U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower, and several other notable figures rescued Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria, the 1st Refugee Film Festival went on to screen five more films and documentaries which masterfully crafted stories of struggle and resilience of the forcibly displaced.



Included in the lineup of films in the 1st Refugee Film Festival in the Philippines are *Quezon's Game*, *Flee*, *Wandering*, *a Rohingya Story*, *Captains of Za'atari*, *A House in Pieces*, and *The Swimmers*.

From 20 to 22 June, we were joined by various esteemed guests including UN Resident Coordinator Gustavo González, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Atom Araullo, DOJ Chief State Counsel Dennis Arvin L. Chan, director and producer of *Quezon's Game* Matthew Rosen and Lori Rosen, filmmaker Keith Sicat, Dean of UP Asian Center Dr. Henelito Sevilla, Jr., student filmmaker Elaisa Bautista, documentary filmmaker Ditsi Carolino, DOJ-RSPPU State Counsel Atty. Alden Luna, youth coordinator Andyo Abusmas, UP Asian Center Associate Professor Dr. Michelle Palumbarit, film critic Skilty Labastilla, UP Film Institute Assistant Professor Adjani Arumpac, CNN Philippines' Gerg Cahiles, documentary photographer Veejay Villafranca, Angelica Reyes from PLCPD, Shawarma Sham owner Abdulkarim, Rep. Jude Acidre of TINGOG Partylist, Rufino Seva of CFSI, and refugees and asylum seekers themselves.

“ May Filipinos contribute to a world where **no one is left behind**, a world where refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons, and those who are stateless and at risk of statelessness are always included.

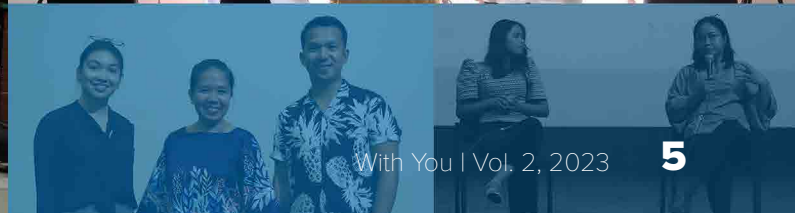
Maria Ermina Valdeavilla-Gallardo
UNHCR Philippines Head of National Office

“ I must acknowledge our donors, the international community, and private sector partners who provide critical funding and resources that make our work possible. Let us continue to work together and strengthen our partnerships to protect the people we serve, prevent displacement to the best of our capacity, and ensure that those who have already been forced to flee are able to access lasting solutions to their displacement.

Gustavo González
UN Resident Coordinator in the Philippines

“ As Filipinos, and as human beings in general, we have a role to play in **creating a world where everyone**, including refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, stateless persons, and those at risk of statelessness, **can have hope**.

Atom Araullo
UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador





Refugees and asylum-seekers brought offerings from their food businesses and shared their culture and cuisine with everyone.

On 22 June, the World Refugee Day Forum moderated by UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Atom Araullo was filled with meaningful discussions amongst relevant actors on how they can each contribute to advocating for inclusion and building hope and solutions with and for forcibly displaced and stateless persons.

Various stakeholders from the Government, media, academe, and civil society were present in the event to show their solidarity.

The day was made more special with the active participation of refugees and asylum seekers who were with us to commemorate World Refugee Day.

“

Thank you so much for the Philippines, the Government, the Filipino people because since I came here 12 years ago, I don't feel like I'm a stranger in the Philippines. Even if I haven't seen my family for more than 12 years, **the Filipino people made me feel like I'm still with my family**, so thank you so much.

Abdulkarim

Refugee, Owner of Shawarma Sham



1st Refugee Film Festival Short Film Competition

As part of the Refugee Film Festival, we invited interested Senior High School and Undergraduate students in the Philippines to submit their entries for the Short Film Competition, with the theme “Hope Away From Home”.

Interested participants used their talent and skills in filmmaking to help bring awareness, build empathy, and mobilize action for and on behalf of more than 110 million forcibly displaced persons worldwide.



The film that won the Best Festival Short Film was **IUULI** produced by student filmmakers from the Lyceum of the Philippines University – Manila.

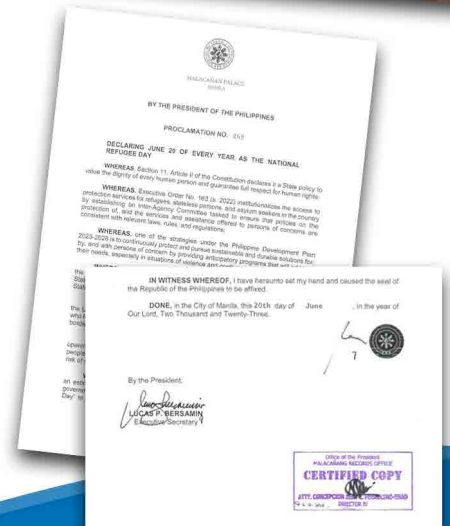


Statement of UNHCR Philippines on Presidential Proclamation No. 265 Declaring 20 June as National Refugee Day

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, conveys its appreciation to the President of the Philippines for signing Proclamation No. 265 series of 2023 declaring 20 June of every year as National Refugee Day.

This Proclamation is a testament to the Philippines' strong commitment to its legacy of “opening its doors to those who seek safety, and promoting an environment suitable for people forced to flee their countries of origin, stateless persons, and populations at risk of statelessness.”

Here in the Philippines, we hope that the Proclamation helps **sustain** and **further amplify the advocacy for the inclusion and access to opportunities of people forced to flee**.



Thank you for showing solidarity **#WithRefugees!**



May more Filipinos continue to stand with people forced to flee beyond World Refugee Day. **Together, let's create a world where everyone feels included and welcome.**



Meet Bethel

Maria Bethel Ezpeleta, a nurse based in Doha, Qatar, has dedicated eight years to caring for the sick. Her passion for helping others led her to encounter a fundraiser of UNHCR at the Bacolod-Silay International Airport in June 2022, prompting her to make her first gift as a monthly donor.

Moved by the plight of forcibly displaced families, Bethel decided to share her blessings and support UNHCR's international efforts in countries like Ukraine, Türkiye, and Syria.

"I am very glad that UNHCR was also helping internationally [in countries] like Ukraine, Türkiye, and Syria as I thought they are only helping Philippines."

The most rewarding part of her journey as a donor has been witnessing the smiles on people's faces as they receive simple gifts that go beyond immediate relief, bringing her immense fulfillment. Bethel also added that she hopes more displaced families find solace, positivity, and strength. ***"My only hope for those forcibly displaced families is for them to find a silver lining, stay positive, and not lose faith and hope because they are not alone."***

With dedicated donors like Bethel, UNHCR continues to uplift and transform the lives of others, becoming the hope away from home that forcibly displaced families and stateless people need.

Drop us a note and share your journey as a UNHCR supporter.

This will be featured in the donor newsletter and website, and inspire many more people to join in the cause.

Share your donor journey today



HOPE AWAY FROM HOME

A world where refugees are always included.



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HELP PROTECT FORCIBLY DISPLACED
PEOPLE IN THE **PHILIPPINES** AND
AROUND THE WORLD.

We can all do more to give refugees more hope – and more opportunities – while they are away from home.

donate.unhcr.org/refugees

STAY INFORMED WITH UPDATES



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