



REGIONAL REPRESENTATION IN CANBERRA COVERING 16 COUNTRIES¹

FACTSHEET
AUGUST 2015
HIGHLIGHTS

UNHCR Staff:

9 national staff and 2 international staff

Offices:

1 office located in Canberra

71 000

Persons of Concern in 16 countries of the region

6

Days for emergency resettlement to Australia and New Zealand, from submission to evacuation

82,000

donors contribute through Australia for UNHCR

Populations of concern

as of 30 June 2015

A total of **70,497** people of concern

Refugees and asylum seekers in

Country	Total PoC
Australia	58,419 ²
Federated states of Micronesia	34
Fiji	20
Nauru	1190
New Zealand	1600
Palau	1
Papua New Guinea	9782 ³
Solomon Islands	3
Vanuatu	1
Total	70,497

Fundraising in 2015

as of August 2015

Government: **USD 36.8 Million**

Private: **USD 11.2 Million**



¹ Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

² From 1 July 2013 there were changes to the official methodology utilized by the Government of Australia in counting asylum-seekers who arrived in Australia by boat. Since that time, figures have been based on the number of applications lodged for protection visas. Asylum-seekers who arrive in Australia by boat and who have been transferred to third countries for refugee status determination are not included in the official statistics. From 1 January 2013 to 30 June 2013, asylum-seekers who arrived in Australia by boat were included in the statistics once they had been screened in to a refugee status determination process.

³ Figures for asylum-seekers refer to mid-2013 in the absence of updated information

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works with governments, NGOs, community groups and civil society in providing protection and support to persons of concern.
- In the Pacific, UNHCR works closely with IOM, the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) and members of the UN Country Teams in the region.
- As co-lead of the Pacific Protection Cluster, UNHCR provides support to Pacific Island countries to help them respond to complex natural and man-made emergencies, where protection considerations are important in any regional response to those in need.
- In the context of its fundraising strategy, UNHCR works closely with Australia for UNHCR, the national private sector fundraising association.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Ensuring protection for all persons of concern to UNHCR, including refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons within the region, and resettled refugees in Australia and New Zealand.
- Affirming and developing the international refugee protection regime in the region and promoting law, policy and practice that increase access to quality asylum procedures and durable solutions.
- Monitoring the implementation of the Refugee Convention.

Durable Solutions

- Working closely with Australia and New Zealand to help determine the composition of their resettlement intakes and to encourage the development of resettlement policy and practice in line with international humanitarian principles.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Increasing capacity in refugee status determination in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Island countries by providing practical support to introduce protection safeguards in immigration procedures.
- Strengthening national capacity for emergency preparedness and response to disaster and climate induced displacement.

Public Information

- Undertaking public information and awareness-raising activities to promote a better understanding of and support for refugees among the public and various governmental bodies, and to encourage Australia and New Zealand to continue providing financial and other support to UNHCR operations in the region and worldwide.

Advocacy

- Working to reduce the number of refugees and asylum-seekers in detention through advocacy for the expansion of alternatives to detention.
- Engaging with States and civil society in advocating for long-term cooperation on the protection of refugees and asylum-seekers in the region.
- Working towards greater understanding and capability by states to address issues of statelessness.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year, which have allowed the Regional Representation in Canberra operation to be funded.

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