UNHCR Diagnostic Tool for Alternatives to Camps
2016 Results for Middle East and North Africa

1. SETTLEMENT OPTIONS
The Policy requires UNHCR to work towards enabling refugees to settle in communities or facilitate the transformation of camps into sustainable settlements that are anchored within the framework of national development planning and housing, land and property laws and linked to host communities and the local economy, infrastructure and service delivery systems.

Estimated number of refugees
5,315,425

- 12% live in a camp setting
- 88% live outside of camp

*2016 Population Planning Figures

Pursuing alternatives to reduce camp populations

- YES 22%
- NO 11%
- n/a (currently no camps) 67%

2. CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS
The Policy requires in-depth analysis of the potential for pursuing alternatives to camps when undertaking contingency planning and emergency preparedness actions for a possible future refugee influx, and also in relation to existing refugee camps or camp-like facilities or structures.

Contingency plan in place

- 28% no
- 72% yes

Emergency response foresees a combination of settlement options

- YES 67%
- NO 33%

Contingency plan includes information on the host population

- YES 69%
- NO 16%
- lack of information 15%

-Out of those with a contingency plan in place

* UNHCR operations were asked whether the contingency plan included information on the absorption capacity of the local population, and/ or their willingness to host refugees and/ or their needs.

The figures present % of the 18 reporting PPGs, unless otherwise indicated.
3. LEGAL BACKGROUND

The Policy requires UNHCR to seek to promote an enabling protection environment where the legal, policy and administrative framework of the host country provides refugees with freedom of movement and residence, permission to work and access to basic services and social "safety nets" as members of the communities where they are living.

![Analysis on socio-economic barriers for refugees conducted](chart)

Refugees access bank services and loans
- In law, policy & practice: 17%
- In law & policy only: 17%
- In practice but not under national laws: 22%
- No: 44%
- In law, policy & practice: 56%

Refugees can choose their place of residence
- In law, policy & practice: 11%
- In law & policy only: 11%
- In practice but not under national laws: 33%
- No: 0%
- In law, policy & practice: 56%

Refugees are allowed to work
- In law, policy & practice: 28%
- In law & policy only: 28%
- In practice but not under national laws: 39%
- No: 17%
- In law, policy & practice: 56%

Refugees can rent or own land for agriculture
- In law, policy & practice: 28%
- In law & policy only: 28%
- In practice but not under national laws: 28%
- No: 28%
- In law, policy & practice: 56%

** While refugees may be allowed to work under law and policy and/or in practice, this does not remove protection risks refugees may face either as a result of not having a work permit or as a result of engaging in self-employment activities without due authorisation. Protection risks may include discrimination, exploitation, detention and deportation.

4. ADVOCACY

The Policy requires outcome-based advocacy strategies, where appropriate, which respond to the perspectives and concerns of host governments and communities and complement appeals to state responsibility and a rights-based approach with policy arguments, based upon research, data and evidence that alternatives to camps produce better outcomes for both refugees and the host communities.

![Advocacy for enabling legislation conducted](chart)

6% no
33% partly (for certain rights)
61% yes

![Outcome based advocacy in place](chart)

39% no
61% yes

![Policy changes introduced that negatively impact on refugee access to services](chart)

55% no
39% yes
6% lack of information

5. SECURITY

The Policy requires engagement with national authorities at all levels to ensure that legitimate security issues can be addressed effectively to pave the way for alternatives to camps and ensure that protection concerns are addressed in a manner that respects the specific status and rights of refugees.

![Security conditions allow/ would allow for refugees to safely live outside of camp](chart)

6% no
33% n/a
61% yes

Government raises regular concern over refugees’ presence as a national security threat

YES 72%

NO 28%

*Regular concern means this issue is raised at least once a month
6. COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION

The Policy requires strengthened community-based protection, monitoring, outreach and case management, including increased direct engagement with refugee and host communities, in order to overcome the challenges that arise with dispersed populations; and to ensure that potential specific needs of refugees are identified and met in service delivery.

Means are in place through which refugees and host populations can directly engage with UNHCR

- 17% yes
- 83% only for refugees

Refugees can access local documentation services (for birth registration, ID cards etc.)

- 11% no
- 39% partly
- 50% yes

Refugees can access national child protection services without discrimination

- YES, most of the time 56%
- YES, some of the time 22%
- NO, never 22%

UNHCR Country Protection Strategy foresees increased involvement of national authorities in refugee protection

- YES (for SGBV and child protection) 55%
- YES for SGBV and/or child protection and Others 28%
- N/A 6%
- NO 11%

UNHCR programmes have measures in place to ensure they are equally accessible to all age, gender and diversity groups

- YES to all 61%
- YES to some 33%
- NO 6%

7. DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

The Policy requires planning on the basis of data, information and analysis related to refugees and host communities supported by effective information management systems, and better use of available macro-economic and community-level data.

UNHCR has knowledge about refugees’ location in relation to available services

- 28% no
- 72% yes

Refugee individual location data is recorded and updated

- YES 78%
- Only recorded 16%
- NO 6%
8. ECONOMIC SITUATION

The Policy requires the enabling of refugees to build sustainable livelihoods through market-based livelihoods strategies that are informed by professional assessments and analysis of the economy, markets and the skills, assets, mobility and potential of refugees.

- Refugees can safely earn enough income to provide for basic needs:
  - Yes: 28%
  - No: 61%
  - Partially: 11%

- Refugees have relevant skills to access local market opportunities:
  - Yes: 83%

- Regional economic and political agreements allow for freedom of movement of refugees:
  - No: 50%
  - Yes: 50%

9. SERVICE STRUCTURE

The Policy requires UNHCR to adapt service delivery through mainstreaming within national, local and community-based systems and structures and the further development of new models and approaches, such as the use of mobile teams, enhanced referral mechanisms, enrolment of refugees in health insurance schemes and greater use of cash-based interventions.

- Socio-economic assessments conducted:
  - Yes: 44%
  - Partly: 17%
  - No: 39%

- Local market assessments conducted:
  - Yes: 28%
  - No: 72%

*Refers to assessments aimed to identify employment opportunities for refugees in the last two years.

- Refugees integrated into national health care systems:
  - No: 11%
  - Partly: 39%
  - Yes: 50%

- Refugees integrated into national education systems*:
  - No: 6%
  - Partly: 33%
  - Yes: 61%

* The figure indicates the % of the reporting PPGs, not the number of refugees. The % also refers to access to formal education, and NOT whether refugees are actually going to school.

- UNHCR refugee standards adapted to context:
  - Yes, to standards in country of asylum (local): 22%
  - No: 28%

- Cash-Based Interventions provided:
  - Yes for more than three sectors: 66%
  - Yes in less than three sectors: 28%
  - Lack of information: 6%

- Criteria for targeted assistance developed:
  - Yes for more than three sectors: 72%
  - Yes in less than three sectors: 28%
10. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The Policy requires synergies with national development planning and international development cooperation in order to achieve efficiencies and greater lasting impact for refugees and host communities, including in areas such as education, healthcare, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, energy and employment.

Refugees integrated into national development plans:
- 0% fully
- 22% n/a
- 50% partly
- 28% no

Refugees integrated into local development plans:
- 6% fully
- 33% n/a
- 44% no
- 17% partly

- Frequent contact with relevant line ministers:
  - YES 56% at least once a month
  - NO 22%
  - PARTLY 22%

- UNHCR programmes benefit both refugees and host population:
  - YES 61%
  - NO 39%

11. PARTNERS

The Policy requires the creation of adapted partnership models that expand collaboration with relevant national authorities, civil society actors and the private sector, as well as with development-oriented UN agencies and others, both globally and through their national programmes, within the framework of UNHCR’s Refugee Coordination Model and with the objective of complementing, reinforcing and creating synergies with UNHCR’s humanitarian programmes.

Refugees included in UNCT priorities:
- 33% no
- 50% yes
- 17% partly

Sufficient coordination capacity in place (self-assessed):
- YES 78%
- PARTLY 16%
- NO 6%