

# Asia and the Pacific

## FOREWORD

Millions of people remained forcibly displaced by conflict across Asia and the Pacific, without a nationality, documentation, or a place to call home. By the end of 2018, there were some 9.5 million people of concern to UNHCR in the region—including 4.2 million refugees, 2.7 million IDPs, and 2.2 million stateless persons. States across the region maintained their long-standing tradition of hospitality towards refugees in 2018, despite the fact that only 20 of the 45 countries and territories in the region had acceded to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.

Afghans remained the largest refugee population in the region. With this situation nearing its fourth decade, it also remains the largest protracted refugee situation for UNHCR globally. Renewed insecurity and conflict inside Afghanistan continued to drive displacement in 2018, with an estimated 270,000 newly displaced people in the country. A severe drought caused the displacement of an additional 230,000 people over the course of the year. Increased support from the international community remained crucial for the Government of Afghanistan, as well as for the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Iran and Pakistan, in order to maintain their generous support for the 2.4 million Afghan refugees that they hosted. The Geneva Conference on Afghanistan in November 2018 provided an opportunity for the international community to assess progress made towards sustainable economic growth and development in Afghanistan in the context of the 2015-2024 “transformation decade”.

Discussions also reaffirmed the importance of a regional approach to the Afghan refugee situation, as reflected in the existing regional framework, the “Solutions strategy for Afghan refugees” (SSAR). In July 2018, the Government of Afghanistan joined

*Refugees returning from Pakistan rebuild despite challenges in Dasht-e Tarakhil, Kabul, Afghanistan.*

the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), as a country of origin. The application of the CRRF in Afghanistan will provide an opportunity to showcase and further build on good practices developed in the context of the SSAR, especially with regard to the sustainable reintegration and inclusion of returnees in Afghanistan's national policies and priorities. It also serves as an important platform to ensure more equitable and predictable responsibility-sharing within the region.

The Rohingya refugee emergency in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, represented the second major operational focus for UNHCR in the region. The crisis remained a Level 3 emergency, with UNHCR and its partners supporting the Government of Bangladesh to provide protection and lifesaving assistance to over 906,600 stateless Rohingya refugees, including an estimated 200,000 who fled Rakhine State in previous waves of displacement. In the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees, UNHCR promoted solidarity amongst stakeholders, bringing together a broad range of partners to address the root causes of this situation and secure sustainable solutions for the people of Rakhine State.

With 2.2 million stateless persons in the Asia and the Pacific region, addressing statelessness remained a key strategic priority for UNHCR. During the year, the region witnessed significant progress in this regard, with a number of countries reviewing laws and policies to address and prevent statelessness.

There is general optimism that the adoption of the Global Compact will enhance the management of the region's complex displacement situations. In the context of the Afghan situation, for example, the Compact complements the existing regional framework—the SSAR. Recognising that

forced displacement is not just a humanitarian but also a political, peacebuilding, and development challenge, the Global Compact expressly provides for a stronger collaboration with a wide array of actors. UNHCR consequently scaled up its partnerships with, for example, development actors, including the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank, specifically in Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

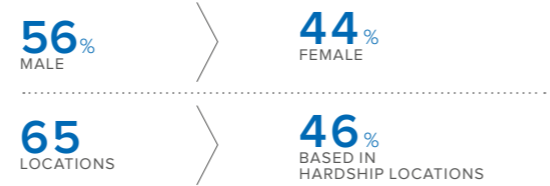
Against this backdrop, limited humanitarian access in Afghanistan and Myanmar impeded UNHCR's work, with the safety of humanitarian workers in Afghanistan of grave concern, particularly for national staff. Insufficient resources constrained the range of protection, assistance and solutions interventions provided in major operations such as the Afghanistan situation.

The Office was thankful to the international community for its financial and political support to host governments and UNHCR's operations in the region in 2018. As the world confronted some of the greatest challenges in the field of displacement, UNHCR appealed for continued solidarity and support for refugee, stateless and displaced populations in the region.

**Indrika Ratwatte**

Director of UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific

**GLOBAL WORKFORCE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC\*: 1,958**

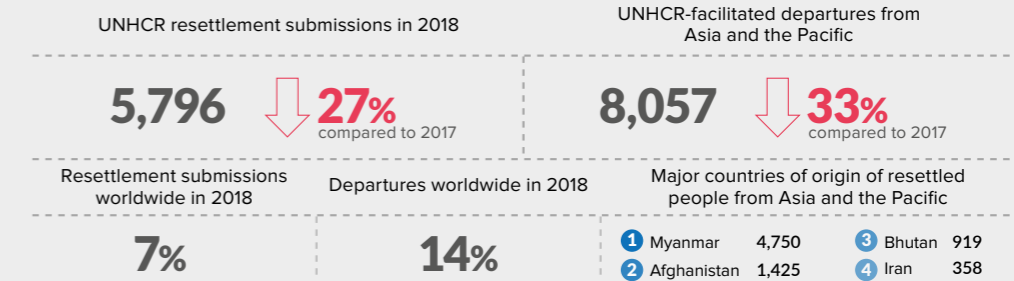


\*including 626 affiliate workforce staff.

Key data and achievements in Asia and the Pacific

**Resettlement**

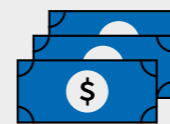
Asia and the Pacific is the 4<sup>th</sup> region in terms of **resettlement needs** and **departures** worldwide



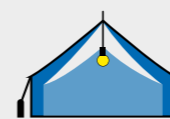
**Biometric registration**



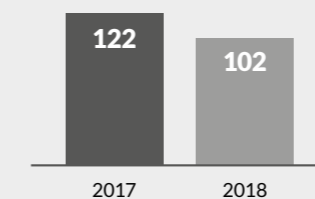
**Cash-based interventions**



**Refugees living in/out of camps**

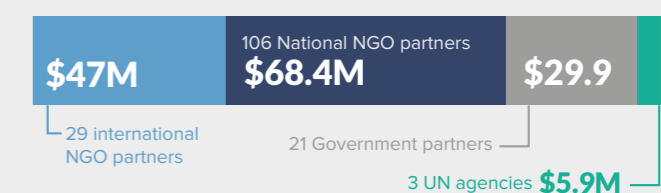


**Emergency deployments**  
(UNHCR and standby partners)



**Partners and budget allocated**  
USD millions

\$151.3 million allocated to 159 partners (41% of regional expenditure)

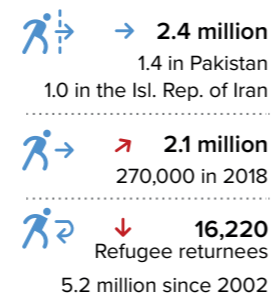


# MAJOR SITUATIONS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC IN 2018



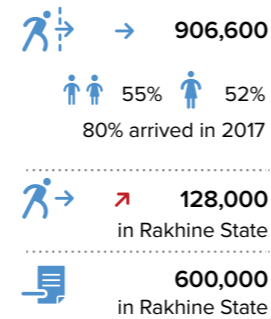
## AFGHANISTAN

Nearing its 4<sup>th</sup> decade, it was the region's largest and most protracted refugee situation. Renewed insecurity, conflict and drought drove displacement in Afghanistan in 2018, with an estimated 270,000 conflict-displaced IDPs and 230,000 drought-displaced. UNHCR implemented community-based protection projects in Afghanistan to support sustainable returns and reintegration, while also supporting the Islamic Republics of Iran and Pakistan in hosting Afghan refugees. In 2018, 400,000 registered Afghan refugees had access to primary education in the Islamic Republic of Iran. In Pakistan, the Government registered nearly 880,000 undocumented Afghans providing them with Afghan Citizen Cards which regularize their temporary stay.

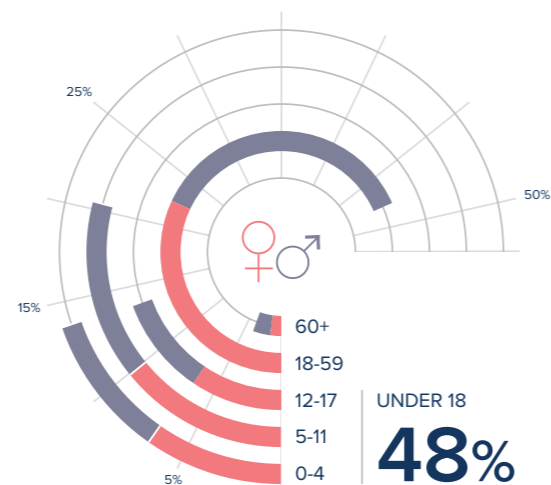


## MYANMAR

Targeted violence in 2017 forced hundreds of thousands of Rohingya into exile in Bangladesh, and into internal displacement in Myanmar. At the end of 2018, there were 906,600 stateless Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, of whom 75% were women and children while 16% of households were headed by a single mother. In Myanmar, there were 600,000 stateless Rohingya in Rakhine State by the year's end, including 128,000 IDPs. UNHCR supported the Government of Bangladesh in the humanitarian response to 1.3 million people, including Rohingya refugees, and the most vulnerable in the communities hosting them. In support of these efforts, the humanitarian community has scaled up its operations beyond emergency response.



### AGE AND GENDER BREAKDOWN REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS



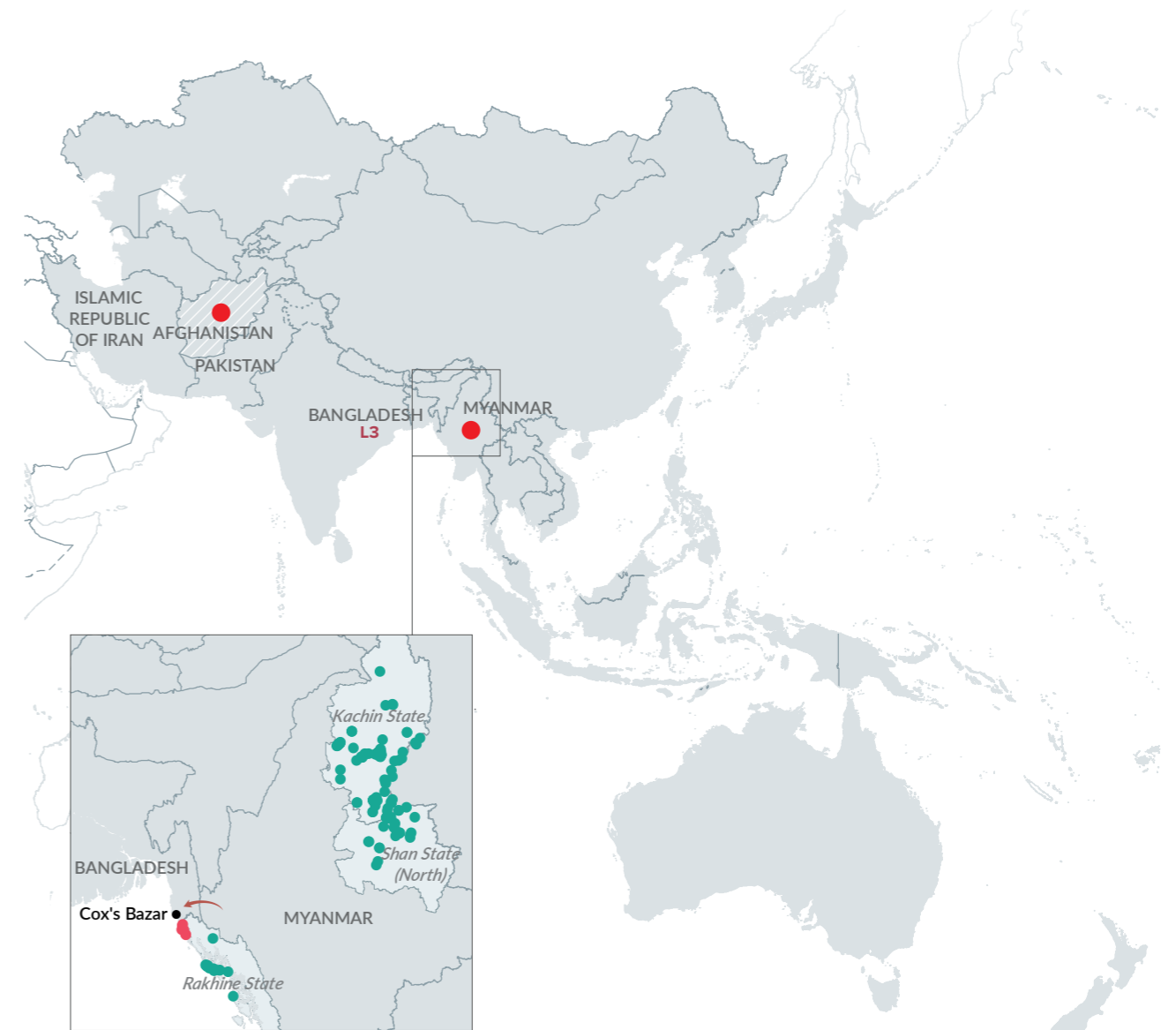
## 9.5 million

### PEOPLE OF CONCERN IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

REFUGEES	<b>4.2 million</b>
ASYLUM-SEEKERS	176,000
RETURNEES (REFUGEES AND IDPs)	625,000
IDPs	<b>2.7 million</b>
STATELESS PERSONS*	<b>2.2 million</b>
OTHERS OF CONCERN	571,000

\* The stateless population includes 906,635 Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh and an estimated 125,000 stateless IDPs in Myanmar who are also counted in refugee and IDP populations.

*In 2018, the Asia and the Pacific encompassed a set of complex and diverse situations ranging from emergencies, such as in Bangladesh, to protracted situations where longer-term solutions are needed, such as the Afghan refugee situation. The region also hosts a significant number of stateless persons—2.2 million—including displaced Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and IDPs in Myanmar.*



Situation	Refugees	Stateless persons	Negative trend compared with 2017
CRRF country	IDPs	Children	Positive trend compared with 2017
Level of emergency	Returnees	Women	Stable trend compared with 2017
Refugee camp	IDP camp	Rohingya refugee outflow	



## ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT

### Safeguarding fundamental rights

#### Promoting a favourable protection environment

Host to more than 1.4 million registered Afghan refugees, the Government of Pakistan approved the extension of “proof of registration” (PoR) cards until the end of June 2019. In line with Pakistan’s 2017 “Comprehensive policy on voluntary repatriation and management of Afghan nationals”, some 880,000 undocumented Afghans were registered by the Government of Pakistan in collaboration with the Afghan Government and given an “Afghan citizen card”. UNHCR supported the Government of Pakistan to implement various aspects of this policy, including a flexible regime for PoR cardholders to be able to obtain Afghan passports and Pakistani visas in Pakistan.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran hosts close to 1 million registered Afghan refugees, as well as a sizeable number of Iraqis. The Government took steps over the year to regularize the status of some 850,000 undocumented Afghans by conducting a headcount exercise and issuing slips to eligible individuals. In 2018, approximately 400,000 registered Afghan refugees had access to primary education, and the Government continued to implement inclusive social protection policies in the sectors of education and health.

**880,000** undocumented Afghans were registered by the Government of Pakistan.

**850,000** undocumented Afghans had their status regularized by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

All refugees registered in the country are able to enrol in the national universal public health insurance scheme, similar to Iranian nationals, which covers both hospitalization and para-clinical services (medicine, doctor’s visits, radiology etc.). During the year, UNHCR worked with the Government to ensure the continuity of this programme, by covering the premium fees of up to 92,000 vulnerable refugees and their families.

In the Myanmar refugee emergency response in Bangladesh, UNHCR reminded States of their obligations to provide protection and safety to stateless Rohingya refugees and asylum-seekers, and to prevent forced returns to Myanmar. In Bangladesh, where protection activities were central to the refugee response, UNHCR expanded the capacity of partners, particularly in providing specialised protection services such as mental health and psychosocial support.

The process of registering refugees is a critical component of the protection response, as it allows staff to identify individuals with specific needs, ensures access to essential services, and generates data for pursuing durable solutions.

From June 2018, UNHCR together with the Government of Bangladesh registered 35,400 refugees with biometric ID cards, strengthening the protection of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.

Photo: UNHCR



### Rohingya say rights guarantees are key to Myanmar return

Refugees in Bangladesh camps say there can be no return without questions of citizenship, rights and restitution being addressed first.

As talks intensify over the prospect of repatriation, refugees in what has become the world’s largest refugee settlement have held a number of demonstrations. Their message is clear: There can be no returns without the questions of citizenship, rights and restitution being addressed.

“If I go back...I want freedom of movement and to play an active part in daily life, I want access to all services like a normal citizen of Myanmar.”

—Nurul, Rohingya refugee in Bangladesh.



In Central Asia, as part of ongoing efforts to safeguard access to asylum procedures, UNHCR and IOM supported the Chair of the Almaty Process, working with border officials from the five Central Asian countries to strengthen border management systems.

While India continues to be a generous host State, protection space for refugees and asylum-seekers came under pressure in 2018. A government advisory issued in August 2017—aimed at identifying illegal migrants—resulted in reduced freedom of movement and access to services for

people of concern to UNHCR, including Rohingya refugees.

In early 2018, within the span of a few months, over 500 Yemeni asylum-seekers arrived on South Korea’s Jeju Island. UNHCR provided technical advice, including background information to the authorities in support of the Government’s efforts to receive and consider the asylum requests. South Korea’s Ministry of Justice had granted humanitarian status to 412 asylum-seekers from Yemen by the year’s end.

Photo: UNHCR



### Cate Blanchett speaks out about Rohingya refugees at United Nations Security Council

“I am a mother, and I saw my children in the eyes of every single refugee child I met. I saw myself in every parent... their experiences will never leave me...but Rohingya refugees need more than just food and water, informal schools, temporary shelter. They need a future.”

—Cate Blanchett, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador.



© UNHCR/Anna Gonzalez



An indigenous woman performs a song of gratitude, using her boat lute (faglung), during a UNHCR protection monitoring visit in the community of Elbebe, Datu Paglas, in the province of Maguindanao, in the Philippines.

### Seeking durable solutions for IDPs

Solutions are needed for the region's 2.7 million internally displaced people, who are mainly concentrated in Afghanistan, Myanmar, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

In Afghanistan, there were an estimated 2.1 million IDPs, 270,000 of whom were displaced in 2018 alone. UNHCR assisted the most vulnerable through cash-based and in-kind assistance, and led the protection and the emergency shelter/non-food item clusters. The Office also participated in the Humanitarian Country Team's response to the country's severe

drought, providing 15,000 tents for IDPs in western Afghanistan.

In Myanmar, in the context of the inter-agency response, and as lead of the protection, shelter, and camp coordination and camp management clusters, UNHCR worked with partners and the Government to provide protection and assistance to approximately 106,000 IDPs in Kachin and northern Shan States. A sharp increase in armed conflict in Kachin State in early 2018 led to an alarming rise in newly displaced people, with 8,000 people estimated to have fled. Due to constrained access, UNHCR's activities in Kachin and northern Shan States were mostly carried out by implementing partners. In central Rakhine State, an estimated 128,000 IDPs have been largely confined in camps since 2012. UNHCR continued to advocate with the Government for the camps to be closed, in line with international human rights standards.

After having supported the Government of Pakistan with the voluntary return of some 1.8 million IDPs since 2015, UNHCR responsibly disengaged from the programme. The Office had provided support through protection monitoring and the provision of targeted assistance to vulnerable individuals, and provided technical support to the authorities through the Protection Cluster.

UNHCR led humanitarian efforts in the Philippines to assist 77,650 IDPs in Mindanao, including people from the city of Marawi. UNHCR worked to address various challenges stemming from protracted and recurring displacement, while leading the implementation of the protection strategy for Mindanao as the lead agency for protection. UNHCR staff further trained over 350 representatives of the local government and key stakeholders to enhance protection responses to displacement across Mindanao.

### Reducing and preventing statelessness and protecting stateless persons

With 2.2 million stateless persons, addressing statelessness remained a key strategic priority in the region. The Office strengthened its engagement with States and other partners, building on examples of success in the region and working towards the goals of the #IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness by 2024.

The Rohingya, one of the largest stateless populations in the world, are subject to the restrictive provisions and application of Myanmar's laws, which confers nationality on the basis of ethnicity—resulting in a lack of documentation and denial of their citizenship. As a direct result of their statelessness, the Rohingya in Myanmar suffer entrenched discrimination, marginalization, and the denial of a wide range of basic human rights, including risk of violence. UNHCR advocated the promotion and protection of rights of stateless persons in Myanmar in line with the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State.

In Central Asia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan made significant progress on reducing statelessness, with over 15,200 people finally seeing an end to their statelessness. This brought the number of people who have found a solution in the sub-region to 57,200 since the start of the #IBelong Campaign in 2014.

Elsewhere in the region, approximately 18,000 people had their statelessness situation resolved, with Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam granting citizenship to many previously stateless persons. Cambodia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam also effected law and policy reforms to prevent and reduce statelessness, including measures to enhance civil status registration.

In Cambodia, the Government reviewed its civil registration law to enhance the process for all populations in the country. UNHCR provided technical assistance to the Government to ensure that the changes increase access to legal documents for populations at risk of statelessness.

There are nearly 480,000 stateless persons in Thailand. Since the start of the #IBelong Campaign, Thailand has granted citizenship to over 40,000 previously stateless persons, and has put in place progressive measures over the last year to address statelessness, including through registration exercises.

In Viet Nam, the Government reviewed its law and policies, including nationality laws, to prevent and reduce statelessness. In December 2018, it granted citizenship to nearly 140 previously stateless persons.

**57,200** people have found a solution in Central Asia since the start of the #IBelong Campaign and **18,000** people had their statelessness situation resolved elsewhere in the region.

Final Report of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State is available here.



## Responding with lifesaving support

### Emergency response

Although at a slower pace, refugees from Myanmar continued to cross into Bangladesh in 2018, with more than 16,300 refugees arriving during the year. UNHCR prioritized the provision of essential and lifesaving services in Cox's Bazar, whilst increasing efforts to improve living conditions in the settlements through basic infrastructure and service delivery.

UNHCR launched a supplementary appeal for the Myanmar refugee emergency response in Bangladesh. This constituted part of the Joint Response Plan to channel resources for critical interventions directly and through partners for the Rohingya humanitarian crisis, covering March-December 2018. By the end of 2018, although the appeal was 73% funded, late availability of funding impeded comprehensive planning for the year.

UNHCR worked closely with the authorities in Bangladesh and other partners to mitigate the impact of the monsoon season, which left many refugees vulnerable to landslides, flooding and disease. This included establishing contingency stockpiles, relocating refugees living in high-risk areas, as well as responding with emergency interventions through the distribution of shelter kits and development of infrastructure within the camps (see chapter on *Responding with lifesaving support*).

UNHCR responded to the earthquake and tsunami in Sulawesi, Indonesia, with three airlifts of family tents and core relief items. With the support of generous donors, mainly the private sector, the Office was able to provide over \$4.1 million in assistance.

UNHCR supplementary appeal for the Myanmar refugee emergency response and the Joint Response Plan for Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis are available here.



### Japanese optometrists give free eye checks and glasses to refugees and IDPs

Dr Akio Kanai, 2006 Nansen Refugee Award winner, and his company, Fuji Optical, continued their long-term support to UNHCR and the refugee cause. In July 2018, Dr Kanai led a team of six Fuji Optical optometrists for their annual Vision Aid Mission to Azerbaijan where they arranged free of charge eye screenings and distributions of eyeglasses for refugees.

**“Improved eyesight is empowering refugees to secure a ‘future in focus’.”**

—Dr Kanai, 2006 Nansen Refugee Award winner.

Last year, the number of eye screenings was over 3,000, the highest number of people reached since the start of these missions 36 years ago. In 2018, Fuji Optical donated 1,500 high quality optic eyeglasses in-kind for refugees and IDPs in Iraq as well as 4,200 pairs of eyeglasses in Azerbaijan. In addition to the 2013-2022 grant of \$1 million to UNHCR, Fuji Optical pledged two additional multi-year grants totaling \$2 million from 2018 to 2027. Dr Kanai's personal commitment and passion for improving the lives of displaced people stems from his childhood when war forced him to flee his home.



© Fuji Optical Co. Ltd



### Innovative and green technologies bring water to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh

In the crowded refugee settlements in Cox's Bazar, UNHCR is supporting the first solar-powered safe water systems. The project is part of a broader shift in the humanitarian response towards the expanded use of green and non-polluting technologies. The new safe water systems run entirely on electricity generated through solar panels, improving the daily supply of safe, clean drinking water to Rohingya refugees.



© UNHCR



### Meeting basic needs

In Bangladesh, UNHCR led the protection response for refugees in addition to providing support to meeting their basic needs, including in the areas of shelter/site planning, WASH, and health. Innovative interventions were promoted through the development of macro-site planning, WASH master plans, and the use of transitional shelter designs. Initiatives promoting the sustainable use of energy and respectful environmental practices including solar lighting, elephant conservation, and the distribution of Liquefied Petroleum Gas reduced dependency on more destructive methods (such as compressed rice husks or firewood and deforestation). UNHCR also supported host communities through quick impact projects, infrastructure support and small-scale livelihood projects targeting the most in need.

In Afghanistan, UNHCR provided emergency shelter and core relief items to people displaced by conflict and natural disasters. Some 2.2 million Afghans were affected by the country's drought, with approximately 230,000 Afghans displaced in 2018. An inter-cluster contingency plan was established for the drought response in Badghis and Herat, with protection closely

integrated with WASH, health, nutrition and food security interventions. As part of the UN's drought response, UNHCR delivered 15,100 tents, which were distributed by the Shelter/NFI NGO Cluster members to displaced families. UNHCR also provided tents, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, and core relief items to 13,940 families displaced by conflict.

Winterization assistance was delivered to over 26,109 households, including refugees, IDPs and vulnerable households from host communities across Afghanistan. The response was coordinated with the Shelter/NFI Cluster to ensure a consistent approach for targeting and beneficiary selection and a standardized amount of assistance (\$200 per household).

In Pakistan, UNHCR supported the provision of basic health services in refugee villages in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Punjab Provinces. Refugee women and children who enrolled in preventive and reproductive health care programmes received antenatal, prenatal and postnatal care, as well as routine immunisation services. Polio eradication campaigns were conducted in refugee villages by UNICEF, WHO and the local authorities, with assistance from UNHCR's partners.

Over **10,000** Indonesian earthquake survivors benefitted from shelters provided by UNHCR.





### Cash helps refugees address their most urgent needs while bolstering local markets

In 2018, UNHCR disbursed around \$13 million in cash to people of concern across the region, particularly at larger scale in Afghanistan, Bangladesh and the Islamic Republic of Iran. UNHCR, in coordination with the Government of Bangladesh, together with the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, provided 45,000 refugees with cash assistance in the Kutupalong settlement. With an estimated 80% of the Rohingya population in Cox's Bazaar refugee settlements relying on lifesaving assistance, a one-off payment of 2,500 Bangladesh taka (around \$30) allowed refugees some autonomy in covering their most basic needs. Close monitoring of the assistance revealed that cash was a safe and effective way of addressing urgent needs. Host communities also welcomed cash assistance for refugees as it bolstered local markets.



© UNHCR/Andrew McConnell



## Building better futures

### Voluntary repatriation

Despite ongoing challenges and new displacement in parts of the region, solutions were found for thousands of refugees in 2018.

The Office supported the reintegration of over 16,220 Afghan refugees who returned home in 2018, despite a situation of ongoing violence that impeded larger-scale returns. UNHCR worked in partnership across sectors, including with development actors and the private sector, to reinforce assistance throughout the humanitarian development continuum in 15 areas of high refugee return.

In Bangladesh, UNHCR and the Government signed a memorandum of understanding for cooperation on the voluntary return of Rohingya refugees—in line with international standards—once conditions in Myanmar are conducive for returns. With that aim in mind, UNHCR, UNDP and the Government of Myanmar signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding to support

Myanmar create conditions conducive to the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable repatriation of Rohingya refugees to their places of origin or an area of their choosing. A bilateral arrangement between Bangladesh and Myanmar to start repatriation in November 2018 did not result in any refugees voluntarily returning to Rakhine State.

Sri Lanka saw the voluntary return of some 1,420 Sri Lankan refugees, and UNHCR worked closely with the Sri Lankan and Indian authorities to enhance opportunities for further returns.

### Resettlement and exploring complementary pathways

Around 8,000 refugees from the region were resettled in 2018 against 5,800 resettlement submissions placed in 2018 alone. In terms of resettlement capacity in the region, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea welcomed over 4,750 refugees.

**8,000** refugees were resettled against 5,800 resettlement submissions placed in 2018 alone.



### Returning Afghan refugees rebuild their lives despite challenges

UNHCR and partners are helping returnees access basic services, land and jobs upon return, but further international support is needed.

*“We may not be here tomorrow, but our children will be.”*

—Zardad, Afghan returnee.



© UNHCR/Jam Hujarova



In Nepal, the large-scale resettlement programme of Bhutanese refugees came to an end, with more than 113,000 Bhutanese refugees resettled (85% of whom went to the United States of America) from 2007 to 2018. A final effort is required from UNHCR, the Governments of Bhutan and Nepal and development actors to secure solutions for some 6,600 who remain in Nepal.

UNHCR advocated and explored complementary pathways of admission for refugees to third countries as part of its comprehensive solutions strategy. The Office worked with the Government of Japan to support scholarship programmes that enabled Syrian refugees to begin post-graduate studies (see the chapter on *Building better futures*).

### Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative in Pakistan

Since 2009, the Government of Pakistan has implemented the RAHA initiative, which serves as a cornerstone for the implementation of the SSAR.

The programme seeks to increase tolerance towards Afghan refugees in Pakistan; improve social cohesion to promote co-existence; provide both the host Pakistani communities and Afghans with development and humanitarian assistance; and empower youth to make their own decisions.

A wide variety of education, health, livelihoods, infrastructure, water, sanitation and social protection projects are implemented through the RAHA to ensure Afghan refugees access to public facilities. These include the construction of latrines and hand-washing facilities; the construction and rehabilitation of waste management systems, education and health facilities; the provision of health care kits; the facilitation of skills, entrepreneurship and vocational (including teacher) trainings.

Over the past ten years, the RAHA has played a major role in fostering social cohesion between refugees and the Pakistani communities that host them. Some 12.4 million people have benefitted from the initiative since its inception, through more than 4,200 projects (21 of which were in 2018).



## FINANCIAL INFORMATION



### Unlocking the power of clothes for refugees

In 2018, leading Japanese retail company Fast Retailing (FR)—the owner of fashion retailer UNIQLO—made its largest ever in-kind donation of clothing for the benefit of 14 UNHCR operations. A record in-kind donation of more than 5.3 million pieces of clothing worth \$6.2 million were delivered to refugees and other people of concern.

FR is one of UNHCR's longest-serving private partners, providing annual contributions to livelihoods programmes worldwide (\$1.9 million in 2018) and employing refugees in UNIQLO stores in Europe, Japan and the United States.



### Consequences of underfunding

Diminishing financial resources hampered UNHCR's ability to carry out comprehensive protection interventions and to find solutions for different populations of concern, with unpredictability in the timing of funding and funds received late in the year particularly inhibiting the Office's ability to deliver key assistance as needed.

The Afghanistan situation was one of UNHCR's most underfunded situations worldwide in 2018, with community protection activities and the provision of education and basic health services in the two main hosting countries, as well as inside Afghanistan, especially affected by the lack of funding.

### Budget

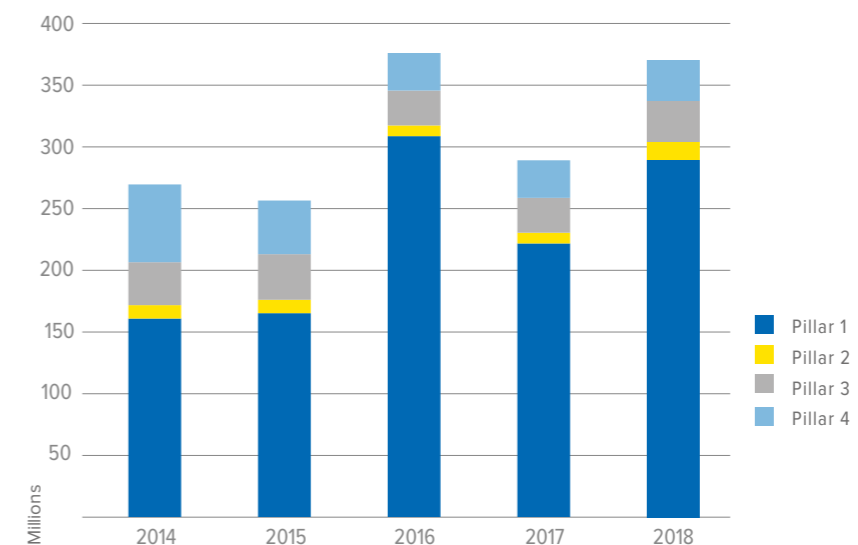
- ExCom original budget: **\$492.3 million**.
- Final budget: **\$700.5 million**.
- Budget increase: **\$208.2 million / +42%**, mainly due to operations in Bangladesh for the Myanmar situation.

### Expenditure

SOURCE OF EXPENDITURE		USD   thousands	As % of expenditure within the region	As % of global expenditure by source of funding
Carry-over from prior years	Earmarked	29,475	8%	18%
	Unearmarked	25,890	7%	13%
Voluntary contributions	Earmarked	206,152	56%	8%
	Softly earmarked	84,274	23%	15%
	Unearmarked	18,225	5%	5%
	In-kind	940	Less than 1%	3%
Programme support costs		2,286	1%	1%
Other income		1,958	1%	1%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>369,200</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9%</b>

- Expenditure in Asia and the Pacific represented **9%** of UNHCR's global expenditure.
- **56%** of expenditure was funded from earmarked voluntary contributions.
- Voluntary contributions increased by **\$51.3 million / +18%** compared to 2017.

### EXPENDITURE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC 2014-2018 | USD





## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC | USD

OPERATION		PILLAR 1	PILLAR 2	PILLAR 3	PILLAR 4	TOTAL	% OF REGIONAL TOTAL
		Refugee programme	Stateless programme	Reintegration projects	IDP projects		
<b>SOUTH-WEST ASIA</b>							
Afghanistan	Budget	35,933,202	-	60,243,961	29,656,971	125,834,134	
	Expenditure	16,784,225	-	23,785,165	21,490,463	62,059,853	
Islamic Republic of Iran	Budget	98,756,622	-	-	-	98,756,622	
	Expenditure	27,875,643	-	-	-	27,875,643	
Pakistan	Budget	68,620,451	599,000	28,982,218	1,000,000	99,201,669	
	Expenditure	26,681,176	112,947	9,888,770	-	36,682,893	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>203,310,275</b>	<b>599,000</b>	<b>89,226,179</b>	<b>30,656,971</b>	<b>323,792,426</b>	<b>46%</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>71,341,044</b>	<b>112,947</b>	<b>33,673,935</b>	<b>21,490,463</b>	<b>126,618,390</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>CENTRAL ASIA</b>							
Kazakhstan Regional Office	Budget	4,406,661	1,113,712	-	-	5,520,373	
	Expenditure	2,026,440	707,320	-	-	2,733,760	
Kyrgyzstan	Budget	554,366	359,533	-	-	913,899	
	Expenditure	521,227	354,011	-	-	875,238	
Tajikistan	Budget	1,568,862	612,865	-	-	2,181,727	
	Expenditure	1,170,426	540,701	-	-	1,711,127	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>6,529,889</b>	<b>2,086,110</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,615,999</b>	<b>1%</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>3,718,094</b>	<b>1,602,031</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,320,124</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>SOUTH ASIA</b>							
India	Budget	15,633,434	181,000	-	-	15,814,434	
	Expenditure	5,643,824	75,678	-	-	5,719,502	
Nepal	Budget	6,188,108	538,995	-	-	6,727,104	
	Expenditure	5,470,464	460,328	-	-	5,930,792	
Sri Lanka	Budget	5,033,776	108,053	-	-	5,141,830	
	Expenditure	2,674,213	76,828	-	-	2,751,042	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>26,855,319</b>	<b>828,049</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,683,367</b>	<b>4%</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>13,788,502</b>	<b>612,834</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,401,336</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>SOUTH-EAST ASIA</b>							
Bangladesh	Budget	220,442,812	-	-	-	220,442,812	
	Expenditure	159,895,165	-	-	-	159,895,165	
Indonesia	Budget	4,984,049	31,500	-	4,175,368	9,190,917	
	Expenditure	4,185,975	4,859	-	4,163,129	8,353,962	
Malaysia	Budget	15,841,742	751,655	-	-	16,593,397	
	Expenditure	8,175,262	134,021	-	-	8,309,283	
Myanmar	Budget	9,780,517	25,051,370	-	11,284,674	46,116,560	
	Expenditure	2,247,392	11,055,803	-	3,385,081	16,688,276	
Philippines	Budget	616,766	333,817	-	3,100,819	4,051,402	
	Expenditure	380,922	57,027	-	2,446,563	2,884,512	
Thailand	Budget	21,893,478	1,039,191	-	-	22,932,669	
	Expenditure	11,713,328	764,402	-	-	12,477,730	
Thailand Regional Office <sup>1</sup>	Budget	6,666,371	593,928	-	-	7,260,299	
	Expenditure	3,821,795	474,322	-	-	4,296,117	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>280,225,734</b>	<b>27,801,462</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,560,861</b>	<b>326,588,056</b>	<b>47%</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>190,419,838</b>	<b>12,490,434</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,994,773</b>	<b>212,905,045</b>	<b>58%</b>



## BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC | USD

OPERATION		PILLAR 1	PILLAR 2	PILLAR 3	PILLAR 4	TOTAL	% OF REGIONAL TOTAL
		Refugee programme	Stateless programme	Reintegration projects	IDP projects		
<b>EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC</b>							
Australia Regional Office <sup>2</sup>	Budget	3,055,019	19,472	-	-	3,074,491	
	Expenditure	2,056,455	9,005	-	-	2,065,460	
China Regional Office	Budget	4,719,936	151,714	-	-	4,871,650	
	Expenditure	2,980,193	131,885	-	-	3,112,078	
Japan	Budget	3,430,040	74,072	-	-	3,504,112	
	Expenditure	2,973,058	58,536	-	-	3,031,594	
Republic of Korea	Budget	1,654,653	79,874	-	-	1,734,528	
	Expenditure	1,594,651	80,662	-	-	1,675,313	
Regional activities	Budget	673,360	-	-	-	673,360	
	Expenditure	71,223	-	-	-	71,223	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>13,533,008</b>	<b>325,133</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,858,141</b>	<b>2%</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>9,675,581</b>	<b>280,087</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,955,668</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>530,454,224</b>	<b>31,639,753</b>	<b>89,226,179</b>	<b>49,217,832</b>	<b>700,537,989</b>	<b>100%</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>288,943,060</b>	<b>15,098,333</b>	<b>33,673,935</b>	<b>31,485,235</b>	<b>369,200,563</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Thailand Regional Office covers Mongolia and Viet Nam.

<sup>2</sup> Australia Regional Office covers New Zealand, Pacific Islands, and Papua New Guinea.



## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASIA AND THE PACIFIC | USD

DONOR	PILLAR 1	PILLAR 2	PILLAR 3	PILLAR 4	ALL PILLARS	TOTAL
	Refugee programme	Stateless programme	Reintegration projects	IDP projects		
United States of America	55,184,040		26,750		93,800,000	149,010,790
European Union	15,820,292	544,444		319,753	4,960,388	21,644,877
Australia	15,005,255			766,284	4,883,596	20,655,134
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	13,089,005					13,089,005
Norway	4,424,851				7,491,237	11,916,088
Japan	7,143,451	1,346,785	321,000	64,200	2,489,469	11,364,904
Germany	5,799,584				5,287,274	11,086,858
Denmark	6,845,060		200,000	100,000	3,503,185	10,648,245
Private donors in Qatar	9,343,654			8,014		9,351,668
Country-based pooled funds				8,758,844		8,758,844
Republic of Korea	3,400,000				3,500,000	6,900,000
Canada	2,196,666				4,516,889	6,713,555
Private donors in the United States of America	4,763,262			256,000	198,368	5,217,630
Private donors in Thailand	4,346,268			44,770	181,299	4,572,337
Central Emergency Response Fund	2,926,734			1,570,000		4,496,734
Switzerland	3,067,397		508,130	508,130		4,083,657
Italy	2,413,243		1,374,546			3,787,789
UNOPS	3,754,796					3,754,796
Sweden	3,508,081					3,508,081
Private donors in Japan	3,195,075			289,464		3,484,539
Private donors in Germany	2,411,252			68,182	289,100	2,768,533
Qatar	2,387,304					2,387,304
United Arab Emirates	2,084,700			251,000		2,335,700
Saudi Arabia	1,754,329					1,754,329
Private donors worldwide	1,475,373			42,420	193	1,517,986
Private donors in Australia	1,433,269			45,008		1,478,277
Private donors in Spain				1,123,708	348,332	1,472,040
New Zealand	1,405,481					1,405,481
Luxembourg	261,506				1,046,025	1,307,531
France	525,000	525,000	200,000			1,250,000
Ireland	1,142,857					1,142,857
Private donors in China	328,846			411,922		740,768
Private donors in Kuwait	645,264			14,236		659,500
Private donors in Singapore	452,165			155,570		607,735
Private donors in the United Arab Emirates	370,867			90,266	8,468	469,600
Private donors in Canada				44,284	366,882	411,166
Private donors in the Philippines	22,228			385,896		408,124
Private donors in Saudi Arabia	344,966			54,242		399,208
Private donors in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	20,326			44,521	317,822	382,668
Private donors in Sweden	31,306			227,471	34,748	293,525
Education Cannot Wait	282,807					282,807
Private donors in the Republic of Korea	117,213			119,077		236,290

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASIA AND THE PACIFIC | USD

DONOR	PILLAR 1	PILLAR 2	PILLAR 3	PILLAR 4	ALL PILLARS	TOTAL
	Refugee programme	Stateless programme	Reintegration projects	IDP projects		
Czechia					228,206	228,206
Kazakhstan					161,949	161,949
UNAIDS					140,650	140,650
Private donors in Lebanon	33,085			76,645	12,940	122,670
Private donors in Denmark	116,685				4,865	121,550
Thailand	100,000					100,000
Russian Federation	100,000					100,000
Private donors in Italy	38,283			41,203	5,106	84,592
Private donors in Monaco					70,971	70,971
Estonia	61,728					61,728
Kyrgyzstan					60,256	60,256
IOM	59,696					59,696
Private donors in the Netherlands	33,611			12,698		46,309
Private donors in France	7,292			28,499	2,867	38,658
Private donors in Oman	7,162			7,515		14,677
Spain	7,779			4,545		12,325
China					9,385	9,385
Private donors in India	687			5,973		6,660
Private donors in Egypt	2,810			3,382		6,192
Private donors in Indonesia				2,144		2,144
Private donors in Austria			177			177
Private donors in South Africa	10			93		102
Private donors in Switzerland					81	81
Private donors in Mexico	61					61
Private donors in Kenya	10			49		58
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>184,292,671</b>	<b>2,416,229</b>	<b>2,630,603</b>	<b>15,946,006</b>	<b>133,920,550</b>	<b>339,206,059</b>

\*Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Contributions include 7% programme support costs.<sup>2</sup> Includes a total of \$1.6 million acknowledged in 2017 for activities with implementation in 2018 and excludes \$3.4 million acknowledged in 2018 for activities with implementation in 2019 and beyond.<sup>3</sup> Includes contributions earmarked at a situation overall level to Afghan situation and Myanmar situation.