



Global Refugee Forum

Virtual Quarterly Briefing

14 December 2020, 15:00-17:00 hours (CET)



Agenda

Moderation

Mr. Mamadou Dian Balde
Deputy Director, Division of
Resilience and Solutions

Opening remarks, *Ms. Gillian Triggs, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection*

Roadmap for 2021, *Ms. Perveen Ali, Head of the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) Coordination Team*

Progress towards pledge implementation, *Mr. Ziad Ayad, Senior Policy Officer, GRF Coordination Team*

Progress in areas of focus

Burden and responsibility sharing – development actors, *Ms. Betsy Lippman, Senior Advisor, Innovative Partnerships, DRS*

Education, *Ms. Jacqueline Strecker, Connected Education Officer, DRS*

Energy and Infrastructure – health and WASH, *Ms. Marian Schilperoord, Deputy Director, DRS*

Jobs and livelihoods, *Mr. Cian O’Brian, Associate Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Officer, DRS*

Protection capacity – focus on protection capacity pledges, *Ms. Bernadette Castel-Hollingsworth, Deputy Director, Division of International Protection*

Solutions – focus on local solutions. local integration, and voluntary repatriation, *Ms. Maja Pedersen, Associate Durable Solutions Officer, DRS*

Discussion and interventions

Closing Remarks, *Ms. Gillian Triggs, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection*



Information for Participants

- Indicate your **request to speak** in the chat box of the webex:
 - Please indicate the **name of your Government or Organization** as well as **your title**.
 - If you **requested in advance to speak**, please indicate your presence in the chat box.
- **Questions for panellists** may be posed through the chat box of the webex.
- **Written statements** to be posted online can be sent to hqgrf@unhcr.org.
- The **presentation**, summary, and recording of the briefing will be made available online at <https://www.unhcr.org/preparatory-meetings.html>.



Opening remarks

Ms. Gillian Triggs

Assistant High Commissioner for Protection



Roadmap to the 2021 High-Level Officials' Meeting (HLM)

Q1-Q2:

- Informal Consultation in Geneva
- Regional, stakeholder, and thematic stocktaking opportunities

Q3:

- Background paper for the HLM
- Preparations for the HLM

Q4:

- Virtual spotlight sessions
- Launch of GCR indicators report
- HLM – Hybrid virtual/in-person from 14-15 December - CICG

2022 - Q1:

- Outcome document from the HLM
- Informal Consultation on Strategic Directions for the next GRF
- Roadmap to the next GRF

Progress towards pledge implementation (1)

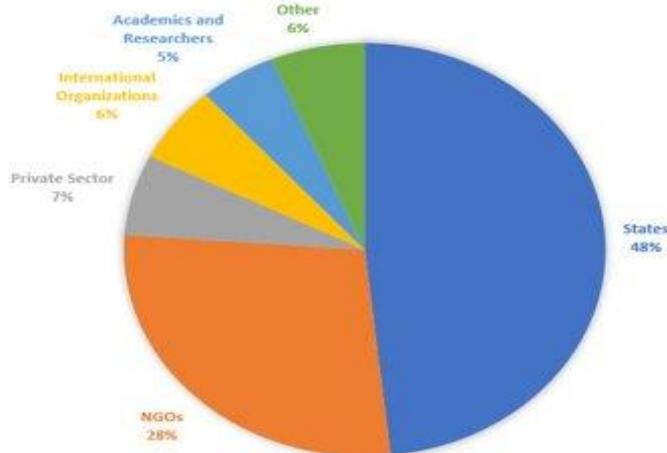
NUMBER OF PLEDGES BY STAGE



- Between quantitative and qualitative inputs, progress updates received on **almost half of pledges submitted.**

- 72% reported **in progress**
- 14% in the **planning stage**
- 14% **fulfilled**

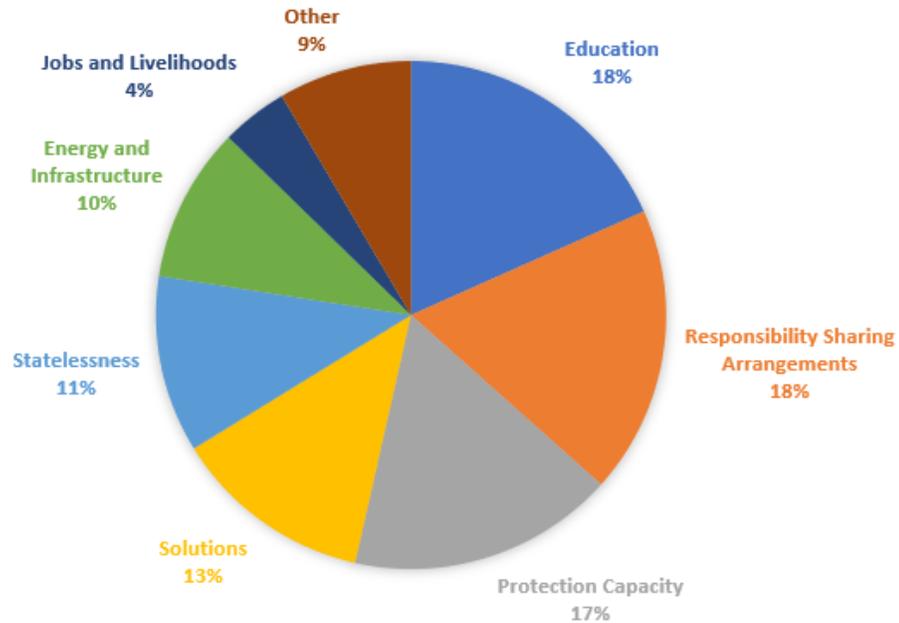
NUMBER OF 'IN PROGRESS' PLEDGES BY SUBMITTING ENTITY TYPE



- **States and NGOs** – submitted bulk of pledge updates.
- **Europe, Global and Americas** made up almost 80% of submissions.

Progress towards pledge implementation (2)

PERCENTAGE OF 'FULFILLED' PLEDGES BY AREA OF FOCUS



- At least **71 pledges** reported as fulfilled
- All areas of focus well represented
- **Education, BRS, Protection Capacity and Solutions** made up the bulk of those fulfilled



Progress towards pledge implementation (3)

Some Notable Fulfilled Pledges include:

- **Azerbaijan** provided refugees and PoCs on with access to its **national healthcare system** benefitting some 2,000 individuals.
- **"La Caixa" Banking Foundation** implemented its **fighting against child malnutrition in refugee camps in Ethiopia project**.
- **Women's Refugee Commission (WRC)** fulfilled its pledge to support inclusion and protection of women and girls with disabilities in displacement settings.
- In **Colombia** a decree was passed for the issuance of residence permits for employees and students in order to reduce informal labours and allow access to work for Venezuelan nationals in irregular status.
- **Bulgaria** withdrew its reservation to Art. 31 of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.
- Under IDA18, the **World Bank** approved \$1.85 billion in new financing to address the development needs of refugees and host communities under its Refugee Sub-window.
- **The Kuwait Society for Relief** signed a grant agreement with UNHCR towards cash assistance for refugees and internally displaced person in Yemen and Iraq.



Development actors

Progress

TOTAL: 70 pledges

Planning stage: **1** In progress: **37** Fulfilled: **12** No update: **20**

Main categorization of pledges made by development partners:

Bilateral Development Actors (57 pledges)

EU - DEVCO

BMZ

Denmark

Japan

Korea

Luxembourg

Norway

Sweden

Netherlands

UN Agencies (10 pledges)

UNDP

ILO

UNICEF

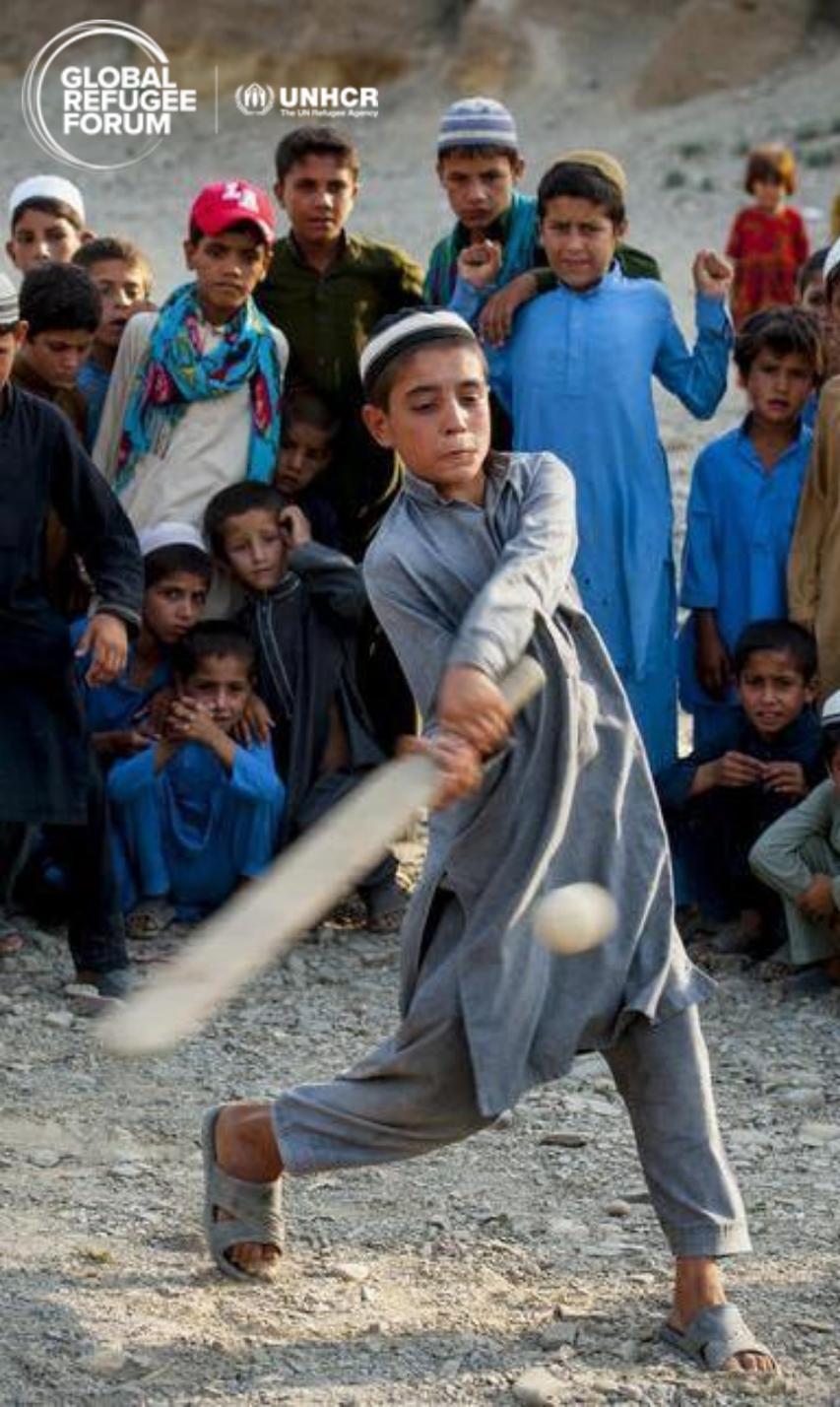
Multilateral Development Banks (3 pledges)

World Bank

MDB Coordination Platform

IADB

- **Goal:** Strengthening of development programmes and the inclusion of refugees therein
- **Policy opening pledges** made by host governments are leveraged for informed engagement:
- **Cross-sectoral:** Jobs and Livelihoods, Responsibility and burden sharing, Solutions, Energy & Environment, WASH, etc.



Education

204 pledges - **80** currently reporting 'in progress' or 'fulfilled'. **Education Co-sponsorship Alliance** virtual discussion - HQ, Regions, States, INGOs & donors reflected on progress.

Outcome Area 1: **Inclusion in National Systems**

- **Primary** - **51** pledges (25 on inclusion in national systems); Primary Task Team ongoing
 - **Education Above All:** Engaged in infrastructure construction, distribution of learning materials, set-up of online learning platforms
- **Secondary** - **35** related pledges; SEWG created
 - **Uganda:** The Government + WB: launched the Uganda Secondary School Expansion Programme with a focus in the Northern region.

Outcome Area 2: **Qualifications & Skills**

- **Higher education** - **74** related pledges **6** fulfilled
 - **DAFI refugee scholarship:** Germany opened the programme to other partners, with Denmark and the Czech Republic joining on (fulfilled).

Outcome Area 3: **Emergency Response**

- **Emergency** - progress in coordination (ISEEC), financing EiE, collaboration & advocacy; COVID-19 response highlighted EiE.



Health

State pledges to support inclusion have reported promising progress.

- **Costa Rica** has committed to provide health insurance to 6,000 refugees and asylum seekers. This commitment is 90 per cent fulfilled according to the Costa Rica authorities.
- In **Uganda**, as part of the pledge to improve equitable access to over 1 million refugees and 7 million host community, the Government continues to take over management health facilities in refugee hosting areas now covering 72% of these including transitioning of Government payment of staff salaries. An additional 19 facilities are planned to be transitioned from NGO to Government management.
- In **Mauritania**, since August the Government, with support of the World Bank IDA 18 refugee sub window, has included health facilities and refugees in Mbera camp within the national health system. In Djibouti, refugees are fully included in the national health system and have access to health services on par with nationals. Refugees are explicitly included in the national health development strategies and plans for 2020-2024.
- In **Malawi**, the Government is undertaking expansion works of the Dzaleka Health Centre which serves refugees and host community. The construction has commenced but there have been delays due to COVID 19. The Government erected a temporary prefabricated structure and tent to decongest the facility pending finalization of the construction.
- In **Namibia**, the Government has been primarily focused on COVID-19 preparedness and response. Refugees continue to have unhindered access to health services at all levels and are included in national COVID-19 response plan.
- In **Cameroon**, the Ministry of Health is planning to extend access to health care for refugees in urban areas similar to the agreement already in place with UNHCR for access to healthcare for refugees in camps. The agreement is pending final approval from the President's office.



WASH

- In **Uganda** UNHCR has worked with the government in its ambition is transitioning from no-cost water service delivery to having end-users (both refugee & host communities) meet the costs of a sustainable service. In March 2020 the Ministry of Water & Environment launched the 'Water and Environment Refugee Response Plan', introducing a utility-oriented approach for water services in refugee settlements. Over time the National Water and Sewerage Corporation and Umbrella Authorities will take over the responsibility until now assumed by NGOs.
- **Water for People** - Rwanda- UNHCR and Water for People have been awarded \$100,000 USD from the World Food Program's Innovation Accelerator programme to design, construct and operate a fecal sludge management facility for Kigeme camp and district. WfP is keen to replicate the facility across Rwanda, further supporting host communities
- **Water Mission / Grundfos** – Tanzania – Water Mission and other partners including Grundfos have increased and improved the solar water pumping, treatment and delivery to Nyarugusu camp.



Jobs and livelihoods

Total of **140 pledges** submitted, **43** reports that the pledge is in planning, progress or fulfilled.

1. Policy and inclusion into national labour markets (28)

- **Mexico**: Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance (COMAR) and UNHCR collaborate on a relocation programme for 10,000 refugees and asylum seekers. The relocated receive stable employment, and access to housing and health services.
- **Malawi** inclusion of refugees in national development plans (Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III; access to land; camp decongestion).
- **Zambia** inclusion of refugees in Farmer Input Support Programme (benefitting 2,500 refugee farmers).
- **Rwanda; Denmark**: Joint agricultural livelihoods project (93 HA allocated by the govt, 1.6m in support from Denmark to support 1,883 farmers). Expand tea plantation industry, providing jobs for nationals and refugees (30% refugees).
- **Ethiopia**: The Government has so far issued about 2,800 residence permits to refugees, with a target of issuing 7,600 by 2021. Legal directives were issued to provide refugees the rights to work and reside out of camp.
- **IRC**: research into legal and regulatory barriers to refugee women's access to labour markets and provides recommendations for governments, donors, private sector, global actors.



Jobs and livelihoods

2. Economic development (56)

- UNDP pledge to bring digitally enabled livelihoods to refugees and the establishment of a digital work consortium
- The Poverty Alleviation Coalition's pledge to support 160,000 extremely poor households to self-reliance (12%).

3. Private sector (22)

- TENT Partnership for Refugees 44 companies working towards employing 12,500 refugees (e.g. Woolworths Group hiring 150 refugees)
- International Chamber of Commerce (ICC): work with 45 million member companies towards refugee employment. For example: Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) signed MoU with UNHCR.



Protection capacity

237 pledges - **100** currently reporting 'at planning stage', 'in progress' or 'fulfilled'. 43% of pledges reported implementation status.

Child Protection

- 39 child-protection related pledges (including 16 by states), 38% are implemented e.g. Mali and Mexico on birth registration and legislative reform

Gender-based violence

- 25 GBV pledges, (more pledges are distributed across livelihoods, solutions and education) e.g. pledges by Rep. of Korea, UNFPA

Gender- and youth-focused

- 17 gender related pledges (+ 27 gender sensitive) e.g. BMZ pledge on the Action Network and women as agents of change, UNSW
- 13 youth related pledges (+10 sensitive) e.g. GYAC/WRC "We Believe in Youth!"

Community engagement/Accountability to Affected People

- 20 pledges on meaningful participation and AAP (+21 in other themes): e.g. GRN including 4 states

Disability inclusion

- 7 disability related pledges (+8 under other areas) with 62% of total in progress e.g. Finland, IDA



Solutions

Total of **108 pledges** submitted on Local Integration/Solutions and Voluntary Repatriation and Reintegration.

- **Global-level efforts** to mobilize support to realize pledges to advance local integration for refugees.
- **Regional- and country-level highlights:**
 - Solutions Initiative by **Sudan** and **South Sudan**
 - Enhancement of Durable Solutions in **Somalia**
 - Support to Durable Solutions in Horn of Africa and Sahel by **Denmark**
 - **Zambia** has taken significant steps in establishing the necessary
 - procedures for issuing residence and temporary permits
 - In **Serbia**, local governments have developed Action Plans that include measures and actions aimed to facilitate local integration
 - In **Jordan**, the Danish Refugee Council, in partnership Novo Nordisk Foundation, has launched the RYSE project



Discussion

Interventions from the floor



Closing Remarks

Ms. Gillian Triggs

Assistant High Commissioner for Protection