


Second Quarterly Preparatory Meeting for the Global Refugee Forum Progress Review 2025

24 June 2025
15:00 – 17:00 CEST

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

- **Interpretation is available in English, French and Spanish.**
 - Select your preferred language using the Interpretation button in Zoom.
 - Click 'View Options' at the top of your screen, then in the drop down menu click your chosen language for viewing, either "ENGLISH (UNHCR)" or "FRANCAIS (UNHCR)" or "ESPANOL(UNHCR)"
- To **view captioning** go to the meeting controls toolbar, click the Show Captions icon .
- Please raise your nameplate to make a **request to speak**.
- **Written statements** to be posted online can be sent to hqgcr@unhcr.org.
- The **presentation and summary** of the briefing will be made available online at <https://www.unhcr.org/events/briefings-and-meetings-2024>.
- For any **technical issues** during the meeting, please contact hqgcr@unhcr.org.

AGENDA

Opening Remarks

Ambassador Akram Sa'ud Harahsheh, *Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations Office at Geneva*

Ms. Ruvendrini Menikdiwela, *Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR*

Updates on High-Level Officials Meeting 2025 Roadmap and Preparations

Mr. Nicolas Brass, *Senior Policy Adviser and Head of the Global Compact on Refugees Coordination Team, UNHCR*

Updates on Multi-stakeholder Pledges

Moderator: Ms. Ruvendrini Menikdiwela, *Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR*

Discussion and Interventions

Moderator: Ambassador Akram Sa'ud Harahsheh, *Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations Office at Geneva*

Closing Remarks

Ms. Ruvendrini Menikdiwela, *Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR*

Opening remarks

Ambassador Akram Sa'ud Harahsheh

*Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations
Office at Geneva*

Opening remarks

Ms. Ruvendrini Menikdiwela

Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR

Updates on the Global Refugee Forum Progress Review Roadmap and Preparations

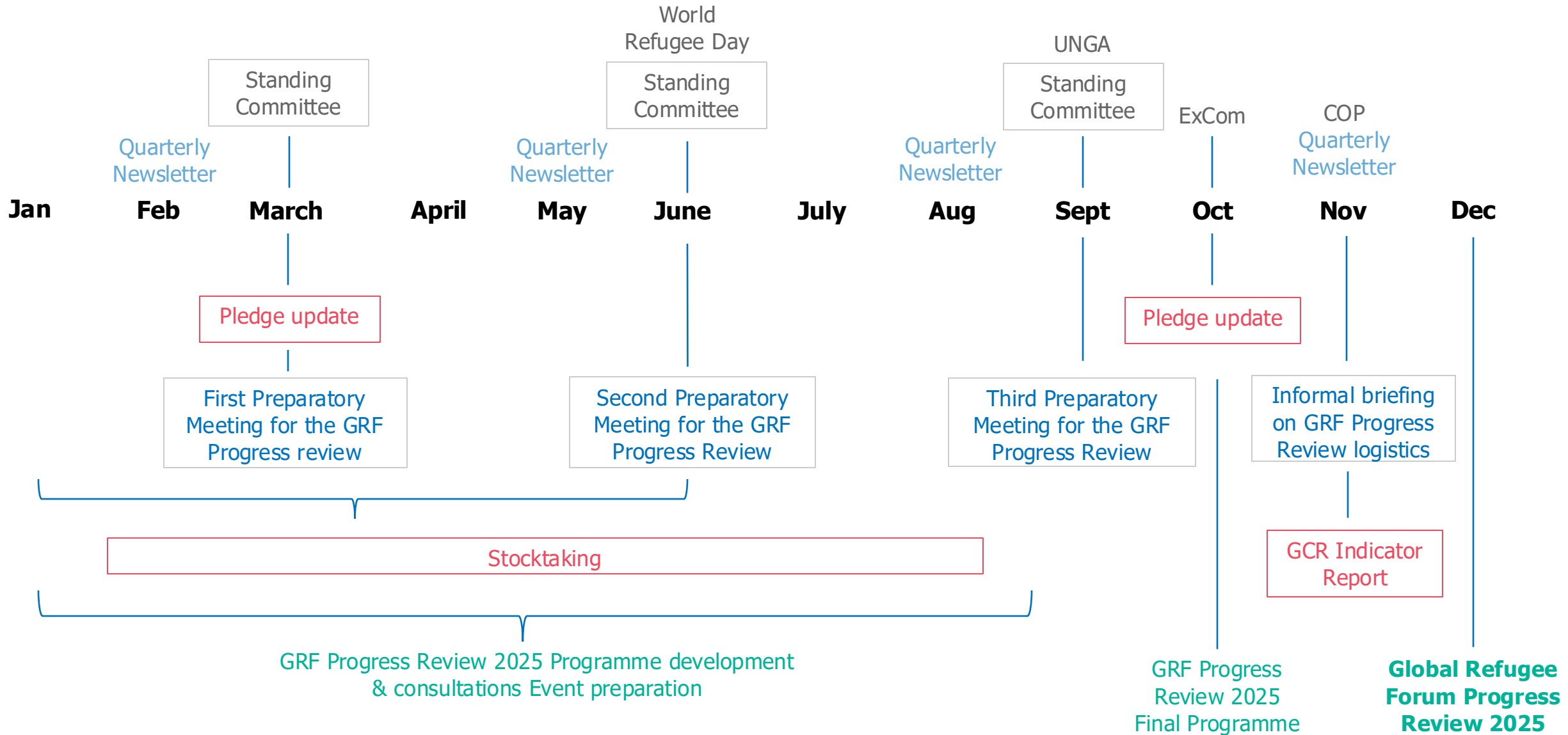
Mr. Nicolas Brass

*Senior Policy Adviser and Head of the Global Compact on Refugees
Coordination Team, UNHCR*

Roadmap towards the Global Refugee Forum Progress Review

- **Pledge updates and stocktaking** → identify results, trends, gaps, and challenges, and course correct as needed
- **Presenting transformation and impact** → focusing on refugee voices, how the GCR makes a difference, and the evidence base
- **GCR stakeholders coming together** → global stocktake moment for implementation of the Compact's objectives:
 - Findings of GCR Indicator Report 2025
 - GRF pledges (2023 and 2019) and good practices
 - Progress of novel multi-stakeholder pledge (MSP) framework (thematic, regional, stakeholder groups)
- **Developing guidance towards GRF 2027** → informed by GCR Indicator Report, pledge progress and findings of stocktaking by regions, MSPs and stakeholder groups
- **Outcome Document** → capturing key takeaways and recommendations for GRF 2027

Global timeline GRF Progress Review - 2025



Current Global Stocktaking Snapshot

March

06.03

Second Child Rights
Multistakeholder Pledge
Convening

25.03

Health & MHPSS Pledge
Meeting

April

10.04

Regional Bureau for the
Americas: Member State
Stocktaking

11.04

Africa Regional
Sustainable Development
Forum – Side event on
EISP and SDG 8 on
Decent Work

May

20.05

Joint Webinar: Statistical
Inclusion and Economic
Inclusion & Social
Protection Pledges

14-15.05

Arab Regional
Consultative Process on
Migration and Refugee
Affairs – GRF Stocktaking

16.05

MIRPS Support Platform
Stocktaking Event

27.05

Asylum Capacity Support
Group Global Dialogue
Meeting

June – August

03.06

Economic Inclusion &
Social Protection
Stocktaking

16.06

Global 15x30 Conference
and Stocktaking Exercise

16.06

Health Inclusion and
MHPSS Stocktaking Event

25.06

Asylum Capacity Support
Group Technical Meeting

30.06

Advancing Reintegration
& Inclusion - HLP

12-13.06

ECOWAS/ECCAS GRF
Stocktaking

16-18.06

AU Stocktaking on the
GRF

30.06

Advancing Reintegration
& Inclusion - HLP

07.07

ATD, Protection at Sea &
Trafficking

15-16.07

Cartagena +40
Stocktaking Meeting

20.08

HDP Nexus pledge
related side-event of
TICAD

Full Calendar
available here



Multistakeholder Pledge Events

Regional/International Events

Update on Pledge Implementation

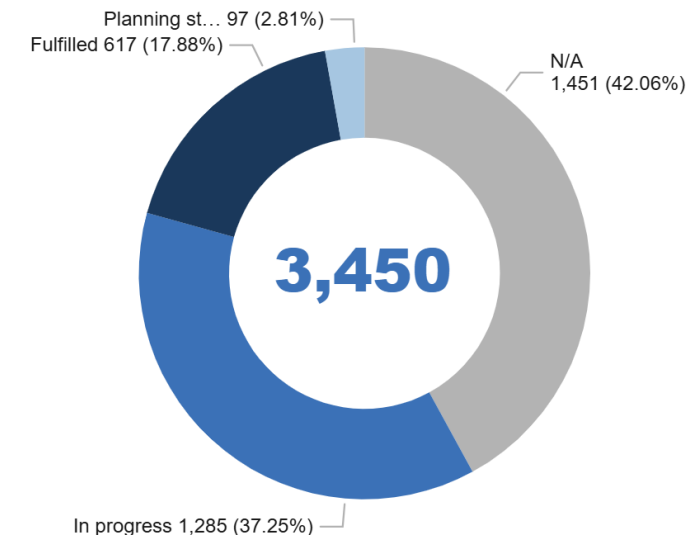
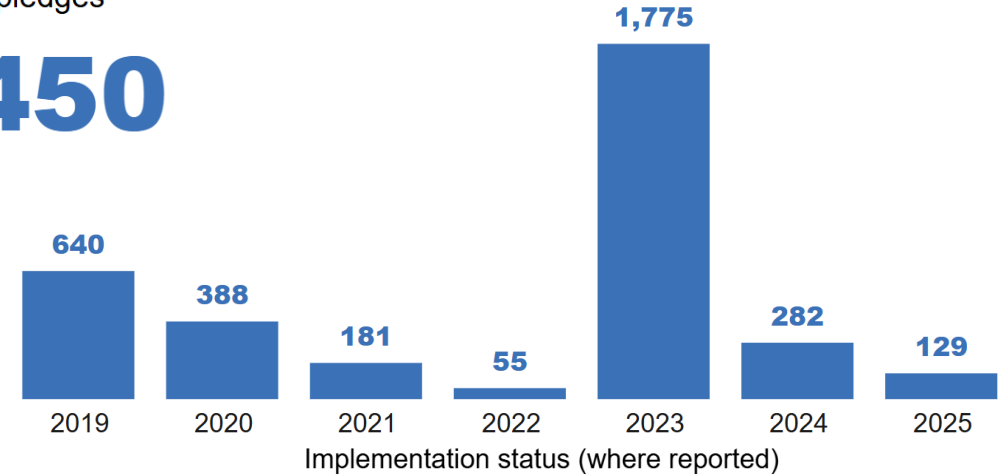
- **Strong engagement:** Since October 2024, more than **1,200 individual updates** were received
- Cumulatively, **3,450 pledges** recorded:
 - 617 pledges have been **fulfilled**
 - 1,285 are **in progress**
 - 97 at the **planning** stage
- **Bilateral outreach continues**
- Next pledge progress outreach in **October 2025** but reporting continuously open

As of 24-06-2025

Number of pledges

3,450

Number of pledges by year



Where do we stand with Pledge Matching?

Matching has evolved

- Direct pairing of **pledges will remain the priority.**
- Important to **recognize indirect support that advances inclusion, self-reliance, and solutions.**
- Not only those coordinated or announced as a match, formally.

Need to adopt an adaptable and fair approach to pledge matching, driven by lessons learned

- **Political will** but more needed on delivery
- **Expectations for financial support** remain high
- Limited additionality
- **Budget cycles not aligning** with GRF pledging moments
- Matching is not an end in itself



Matching Success Factors

Financial Pledgers

- **Implement and report on pledges** → focusing on impact in support of host country policies
- **Signal any support already aligned** with host-country policies outside the GRF process
- **Identify existing/new funding sources for matching**, beyond GRF
- Coordinate through **multi-stakeholder pledge process to identify matches**
- Enhanced coordination to **align funding cycles and policy priorities for** potential pre-matching

Policy Pledgers

- Implement and report on the **impact of underfunding specifically on GRF pledges**
- **Share concise, costed plans related to policy pledges** to better addressing funding needs
- **Participate in relevant multi-stakeholder pledge process** to identify potential **matches**
- **Recognize donor contributions that advance the pledge objective** even if not yet labelled as a match

Global Refugee Forum Progress Review 2025 Overview

- **Dates:** 15-17 December 2025
- **Venue:** CICG, Geneva
- **Participation:** Senior officials of States and multi-stakeholder partners
- **Programme:**
 - Dynamic mix of plenary sessions (opening/closing ceremonies, panels and spotlight sessions, discussion and multi-stakeholder pledge moments) and “ecosystem” beyond plenary
- **Meaningful refugee participation** will be a key feature throughout the programme



Programme Overview

Monday 15 December Day 1		Tuesday 16 December Day 2		Wednesday 17 December Day 3	
Plenary Opening Ceremony		Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion - Panel or Special Session 	Parallel side events	Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion - Panel or Special Session 	Parallel side events
Lunch	Side events	Lunch	Side events	Lunch	Side events
Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panel or Special Session - Discussion 	Parallel side events	Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panel or Special Session - Discussion 	Parallel side events	Plenary Closing Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panel or Special Session - Discussion - Closing 	
		Nansen Award Ceremony			

Programme Considerations

- Demonstrating results and key trends (GCR Indicator Report)
- Across all four GCR objectives
- Regional balance and key situations (e.g. Syria)
- Key moments (e.g. 1951/UNHCR anniversaries)
- Multi-stakeholder nature, MRP ("new multilateralism"), AGD
- Current context – look at emerging initiatives (e.g. SR, RBA), "pain points" and way forward
 - > also focus on **new pledge mobilization**
- Consultations (quarterly prep meetings, key stakeholder groups)



Programme: Initial Thematic Mapping

Objective 1:

Easing Pressures

Pledge Framework & Matching

Support Platforms

Leveraging Regional Institutions

Objective 2:

Refugee Self-Reliance

Economic Inclusion

Inclusion in National Systems

Human Settlements

Objective 3:

Third-country Solutions

Resettlement

Complementary Pathways

Objective 4:

Conditions for Return

Voluntary Repatriation

Sustainable Reintegration

Peacebuilding and Root Causes

Enabling / Cross-cutting / Situational

HDP Nexus

Statistical Inclusion

Asylum Systems

Private Sector Partnerships

Development Partnerships

**Cartagena +40/
Chile Plan of Action**

Meaningful Refugee Participation

Localization

UN Common Pledge 2.0

Syria Situation

Mixed Movements

Rohingya Situation

Gender

Climate Action

Updates on Multi-Stakeholder Pledges

Moderator:

Ms. Ruvendrini Menikdiwela

Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR

Meaningful Refugee Participation

Ms. Najeeba Wazefadost

Chief Executive Director, Asia Pacific Network of Refugees







15% by 2030: Global Pledge on Refugee Higher Education and Self- Reliance

Professor Address Mauakowa Malata

DipNurs, MRN, BScN, MScN, PhD, FAAN

Vice Chancellor, Malawi University of Science and Technology

Pledge Overview

Category	Number of Pledges
 Academic/Researcher	18
 Civil Society	28
 Faith-Based	4
 International	13
 Other	8
 Private Sector	8
 Sports	8
 States	27
 Total	109

Pledges by Region

Region	Number of Pledges
Africa (Central and West)	5
Africa (Eastern Horn)	7
Americas	26
Asia Pacific	20
Europe	29
MENA	2
Blank	20
Total	109

15by30 Global Pledge Objective

Expand higher education opportunities for refugees across the five pillars of the 15by30 roadmap.



Supported by UNHCR,
the UN Refugee Agency

Expanding Refugee Access to Self-Reliance & Solutions: 15% Enrolment in Higher Education by 2030



Global University Academy – *A movement of universities, humanitarian actors & UN agencies redefining higher education for refugees.*

20+ Global Partners Across Europe, Africa, Middle East, North America
*(includes) University of Oslo • Oxford • Makerere • KU Leuven
UNHCR • UNESCO • Save the Children • Gulu University (Uganda) •
University of Cape Town (South Africa) • Bard College • Al Hussain Technical
University (Jordan)*

A New Mission for Universities

Driving a paradigm shift for universities, joining forces across borders and sectors, and creating a framework for collaboration and action to bring higher education to refugees

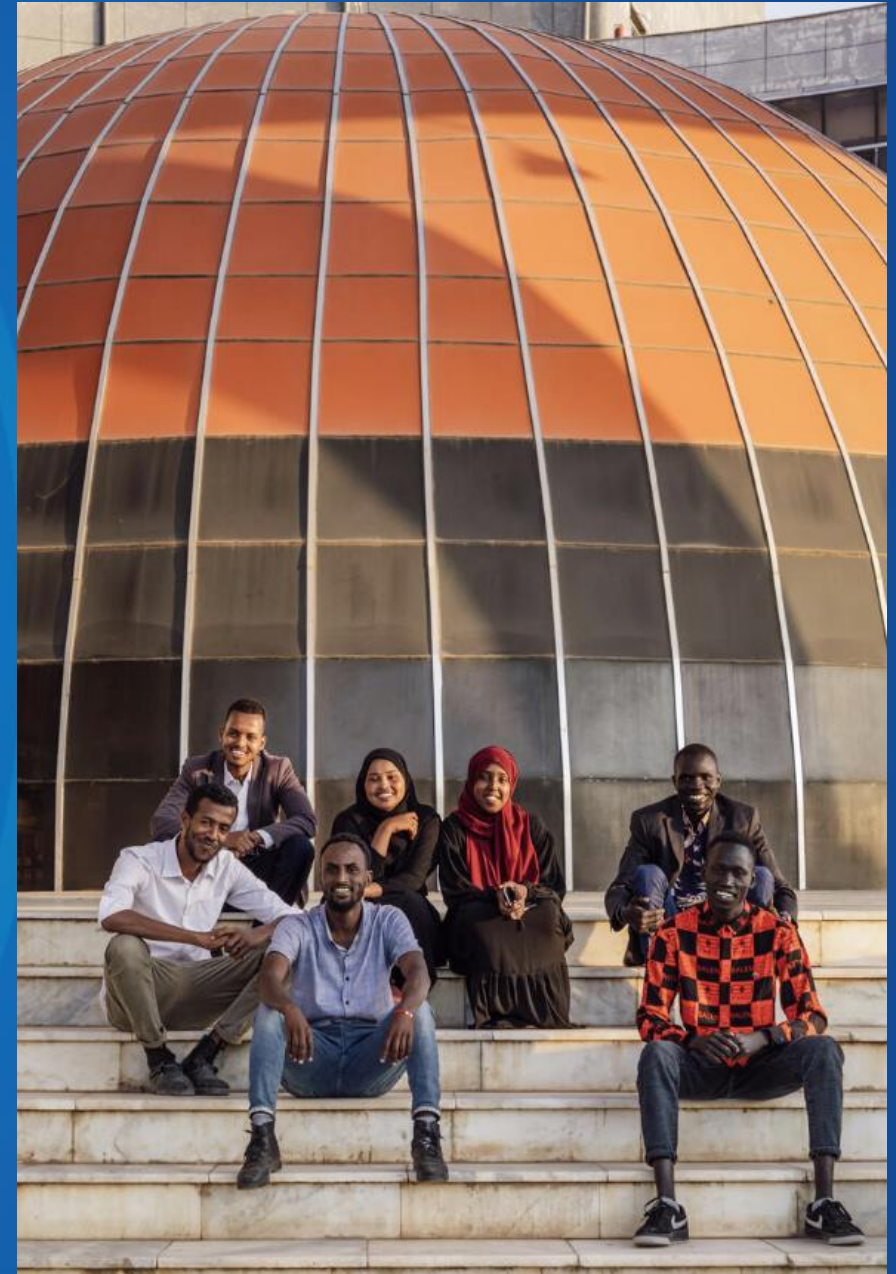
Each One Take One

Universities Leading 15by30

UNHCR's *Each One Take One* initiative supports universities—especially in countries of first asylum—to welcome and include refugee learners. It provides tools, networks, and practical support to scale access to higher education for refugees.

Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) is a champion university of EOTO:

- Engaging youth from Dzaleka Refugee Camp
- Sponsoring girls for STEM camps and scholarships
- Launching bridging and mentoring programmes in the camp
- Prioritizing refugee inclusion in its 2024–2030 strategy



MIRPS – Strengthening asylum systems, integration, local governance and statistical inclusion

Mrs. Viviana Tinoco Monge
Minister-Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica
to the United Nations in Geneva

Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) Multi-stakeholder Pledge

- **Pledge on Asylum Capacity Strengthening**
- **Pledge on Economic Inclusion and Social Protection**
- **Pledge on Local Governance**
- **Pledge on the Inclusion of Forcibly Displaced and Stateless Persons in National Statistical Systems and Surveys**

Progress Updates

- **2025 MIRPS Regional Action Plan (Costa Rica Pro-tempore Presidency)**
- **Financial and technical support through the MIRPS Support Platform (Colombia Chair 2025)**
- **Advancements through the four MIRPS Regional Technical Teams**
- **Collaboration with academia, civil society, and the private sector**
- **Coordination with other regional mechanisms**

Asylum Capacity Support Group

Ms. Cindy Munro

*Minister-Counsellor (Migration), Permanent Mission of the Government
of Canada to the United Nations in Geneva*

ACSG Multistakeholder Pledge

- States and range of Stakeholders committed to strengthening the fairness, efficiency, adaptability, and integrity of global asylum systems
- Support capacity-building and knowledge exchange
- Mobilization of Pledges = **134 pledges**
- Matching pledges with support: **9 successful matches**
 - 7 partnerships facilitated by ACSG
 - 2 new: France & Democratic Republic of Congo, Canada & Costa Rica

ACSG Online Portal & Dialogue Platform

- Resource for facilitating knowledge exchange and expertise, fostering collaboration
- Upcoming event: 'Safeguarding protection, ensuring efficiency: quick processing of claims unlikely to succeed.' – June 25, 2025

Canadian Contributions

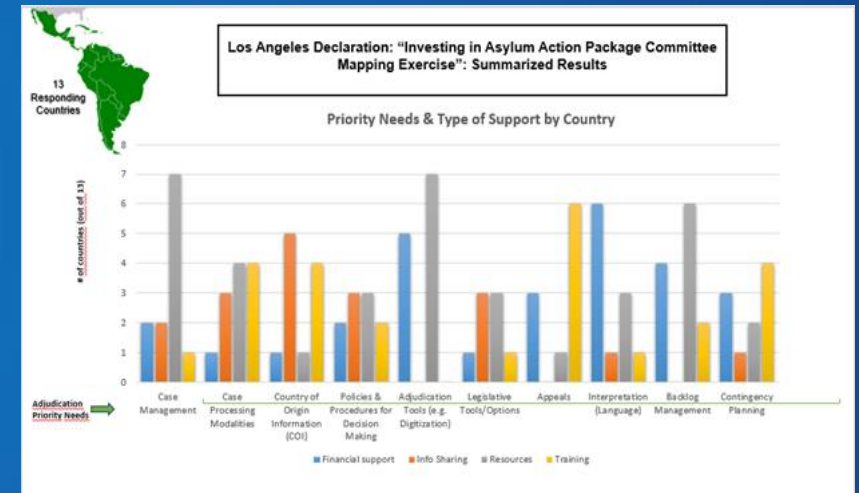
- Canada's commitments: **4 pledges** on asylum capacity building and protection
- Active participation in ACSG initiatives
- Knowledge-sharing and technical assistance

Key Developments:

- Ongoing/continued partnership with Mexico
- New match with Costa Rica
- Creating visibility on needs, harnessing synergies, contributing to best practices

Call to Action

- Implement outstanding pledges and form new partnerships
- Offer and expand support
- Share knowledge/practices/expertise
- Actively contribute - ACSG Dialogue Platform



Accelerate and Better Leverage Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approaches in Forced Displacement Settings

Mr. Ishida Toshifumi

*First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Japan
to the United Nations in Geneva*

Accelerate and Better Leverage Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approaches in Forced Displacement Settings

Summary of Progress

- **Growing Participation and Integration:** The pledge has become a convening platform, aligning with other GRF commitments, such as those on agriculture and climate action.
- **Advancing Policy Agenda through Roundtables:** Four major roundtables were convened to build momentum, share good practices, and identify scalable models of HDP implementation.
- **Increased Attention to Financing Solutions:** The pledge has sparked momentum around alternative financing mechanisms, including outcome-based models, blended finance, and climate-linked investments.

Accelerate and Better Leverage Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approaches in Forced Displacement Settings

Feb 2024: Inaugural roundtable called for locally led, development-focused implementation of the HDP Nexus, with strong backing from donors and host countries.

Mar 2024: Explored nexus approaches in African displacement contexts through a human security lens (JICA).

Oct 2024: Joint roundtable with agriculture pledge emphasized food systems as a key entry point for peace and self-reliance (Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya).

Feb 2025: UNDP–OCHA closed-door event with 22 Member States called for joined-up approaches, multi-year funding, early recovery, and greater IFI/private sector engagement.

Mar 2025: “Multiplying Investments” roundtable highlighted innovative financing tools (impact bonds, Nexus Facility) and host government leadership

.Jun 2025: Climate finance roundtable emphasized inclusion of displacement in adaptation planning and investment strategies (GCF, UNHCR, IFRC).

Accelerate and Better Leverage Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approaches in Forced Displacement Settings

Looking Ahead

As momentum builds toward the High-Level Officials Meeting (HLOM) in December 2025, the pledge community is preparing to showcase progress, mobilize new resources, and forge deeper collaboration across sectors.

A central objective is to expand the network of committed partners—bringing in more host countries, development banks, regional organizations, and private sector actors—to co-create solutions that are tailored to specific displacement contexts.

By fostering inclusive, multi-stakeholder partnerships and matching resources with need, the pledge platform will continue to drive collective impact, accountability, and momentum for transformative approaches.

Economic Inclusion and Social Protection

Ms. Kari Diener

Executive Director, Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLEDGE ON ECONOMIC INCLUSION AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

BENCHMARKS



LAW & POLICY

Pillar 1 - Over the next 4 years, at least 15 States—with the support of relevant stakeholders—adopt and/or strengthen laws and policies supporting economic inclusion and/or social protection inclusion.



PROGRAMMES

Pillar 2 - Reach one million refugees, forcibly displaced and stateless people, and members of host communities with holistic economic inclusion and inclusion in national social protection systems and programmes.



DATA & EVIDENCE

Pillar 3 - Expand quality data and evidence to promote effective programmes and policies for economic inclusion and social protection that integrates the perspectives and needs of refugees, other forcibly displaced and stateless people, and host communities.

PROGRESS TO DATE

Pillar 1 - At least nine states have made significant progress toward adopting and/or strengthening laws and policies supporting economic inclusion and/or social protection, with five fully adopting new laws/policies.

Pillar 2 - At least 500,000 refugees, forcibly displaced and stateless people, and members of host communities reached with holistic economic inclusion programmes and/or inclusion in national social protection systems and programmes.

Pillar 3 - Sponsorship of 13 events related to learning, and completion of 20 research products, of which 3 were refugee-led

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLEDGE ON ECONOMIC INCLUSION AND SOCIAL PROTECTION



TRENDS

- Prioritize steps to include refugees in **national services** such as education, health, and social protection, recognizing the virtuous cycle that occurs across sectors.
- Advance policies that support **legal identity** and recognition of vocational qualifications, alongside efforts to enhance **employer awareness of refugees' right to work**.
- Promote **innovative approaches**, such as climate-related social protection, to address emerging risks.



OPPORTUNITIES

- **Decentralize implementation and engagement**, and empower and resource local governments and communities to lead tailored, area-based interventions.
- **Build evidence** on how employment, documentation, and services foster self-reliance.



CHALLENGES

- **Sustainable financing remains a major barrier** to scaling successful models and implementing policy reforms.
- **Employer awareness and recognition of refugee qualifications** are often limited, hindering access to decent work.
- Inclusion in national systems can be **constrained by legal, institutional, or political barriers**.

Discussion and interventions

Moderator:

Ambassador Akram Sa'ud Harahsheh

*Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations
Office at Geneva*

Closing remarks

Ms. Ruvendrini Menikdiwela

Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR



Supported by UNHCR,
the UN Refugee Agency

Thank you