

Goodwill Ambassador Angelina Jolie told displaced families in Iraq that she hopes to find them living under better circumstances the next time she visits.



Working in Partnership

The year 2009 saw UNHCR strengthen its partnerships with individuals, organizations and States in order to help victims of persecution, conflict or natural disasters. These alliances play a key role in the organization's efforts to gauge the needs of people of concern and provide protection and assistance. They are also invaluable when monitoring programmes and measuring their impact. UNHCR bolstered its ties with governments, intergovernmental organizations, UN agencies, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, as well as national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Links with academia, the private sector and refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities were also strengthened.

COLLABORATION WITH UN COORDINATION BODIES

UNHCR works closely with the IASC and its subsidiary bodies to foster humanitarian reform. For instance, it helps elaborate policies and procedures to assist IDPs. Under the inter-agency cluster approach, UNHCR serves as global "lead" of the protection, emergency shelter and camp coordination and camp management clusters. It participates in discussions on the management of the Central

Emergency Response Fund (CERF) as well as in an IASC project to redefine and strengthen the Humanitarian Coordinator system.

Within the IASC, UNHCR and the UN Office for the Coordinator of Humanitarian Affairs have been leading discussions on how to address the challenges of preserving humanitarian space. As a result of this work, WFP organized a roundtable on this topic in 2009 bringing together representatives of 30 organizations, including UN agencies and the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Political Affairs, Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, and a number of academic institutions.

UNHCR remains engaged in five of the eight countries where the UN's Delivering as One initiative is being piloted. It also contributes to the coherence of UN activities at the country level by ensuring that the development needs of refugee-hosting and return areas are reflected in the UN development assistance frameworks and common country assessments.

As a member of the IASC Task Force on Climate Change, UNHCR works to identify the humanitarian consequences of changes in weather patterns. The Task Force's inputs were referred to at the negotiations in Copenhagen to revise the Kyoto Protocol last December.

To promote the Office's policy priorities at UN Headquarters in New York, particularly in the areas of peace

and security, humanitarian action and development, UNHCR targets its advocacy messages whenever possible in the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. It also works closely with the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Political Affairs, as well as with the Peacebuilding Support Office.

UNHCR participates regularly in a range of UN inter-agency forums, including the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, the UN Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and the Inter-Agency Mine Action Group. The High Commissioner takes part in the regular sessions of the Chief Executives Board, especially its high-level committees on Management and Programme, and the UN Development Group.

BILATERAL COLLABORATION WITH UN AGENCIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Maintaining strong bilateral relations with key partner organizations, particularly WFP (see text box), UNICEF, OHCHR, IOM, ICRC, IFRC and NGOs remains a priority for UNHCR. It also pursues its engagement as a UNAIDS co-sponsor.

In light of the importance of international human rights law for the protection of refugees, UNHCR maintains close links with OHCHR and

● Working with the World Food Programme

A significant worsening of the depressing trend in global food security that began in 1996 made 2009 a devastating year for the world's hungry. The world economic slowdown, following the food crisis of 2006-2008, has deprived an additional 100 million people of access to enough food. Refugees and IDPs living in remote and barren areas with limited access to fertile land and livelihood activities have been severely affected by this situation. Several countries, particularly in Africa, where refugees have customarily cultivated crops and engaged in other self-reliance projects, have seen a reduction in access to food because of the combined effects of the food and financial crises and climate change.

In this context, UNHCR and WFP continued to work closely in 2009 in the areas of nutrition, biometrics, advocacy, joint assessment missions, regional meetings, training, school feeding and logistics. This cooperation helped to cover the food and nutrition needs of more than 2 million refugees and 10 million IDPs in 26 countries.

At the global level, WFP provided UNHCR with technical expertise, and participated in a workshop on anaemia control and prevention in March 2009. The two organizations also held two meetings on nutrition. Joint assessment missions were undertaken in Algeria, Chad, Cameroon, Djibouti, the Gambia, Namibia, Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen and Zambia. Moreover, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner (Operations) and WFP's Deputy Chief Operating Officer undertook a joint high-level mission to Pakistan.

At the field level, a regional meeting of the DRC+4 group (Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania) took place in February 2009. Joint missions were also carried out to the Somalia+4 group (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Yemen) countries and Algeria.

WFP and UNHCR co-hosted two regional workshops to train staff on joint assessment methods. In Kenya, the two agencies teamed up to improve the micronutrient content of the general ration in order to reduce anaemia and other deficiencies. In Djibouti, they developed a post-distribution monitoring

system to improve their understanding of how refugees use food aid at the household level.

Two high-level meetings, held respectively in January and December 2009, provided good opportunities for the new senior managers of both organizations to discuss key issues, including regional coordination, joint fund-raising and action plans. Faced with the consequences of the financial crisis and resource constraints, UNHCR and WFP have made commitments to support each other in order to improve food assistance to refugees and IDPs.

To combat the high levels of malnutrition in Sudan, UNHCR and WFP worked together on a feeding programme for young children. In Uganda, discussions are under way on a possible cash-transfer programme in lieu of food, to improve the purchasing power of refugees and upgrade their nutritional status. Indeed, through shared planning and programming and a common desire to reduce the burdens of malnutrition and food insecurity, the UNHCR-WFP partnership was strengthened throughout the world in 2009.

monitors the work of the Human Rights Council, including the latter's Universal Periodic Review and Special Procedures mechanisms. UNHCR seeks to ensure that the rights of people of concern to the Office are taken into consideration in OHCHR discussions, country visits and other activities and that this is reflected in the resulting reports, decisions and recommendations. It also observes the work of the seven treaty-monitoring bodies and helps in the formulation of their recommendations.

UNHCR continues to address gender-based violence through the Protection Cluster Working Group and other bodies, and is represented on the UN Action against sexual violence Trust Fund. It is also a member of the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs and the Executive Committee on Peace and Security Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. In this regard, it has drafted guidelines for community-based complaints mechanisms to address sexual abuse and exploitation.

UNICEF and UNHCR cooperated to organize the annual meeting of the Child Protection Working Group and draft its action plan. The two agencies also teamed up to conduct regional workshops within the framework of UNHCR's Project on Child Protection Systems in Emergencies. UNHCR works closely with UNICEF and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict in the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 1612 which established a monitoring and reporting mechanism on grave violations against children in armed conflict – a mechanism further expanded in Resolution 1882 in 2009. UNHCR also participates in the country-level Task Forces established in the 14 countries covered by the monitoring mechanism. UNHCR supports inter-agency efforts, led by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict and UNICEF, to develop tools and guidance on monitoring and reporting of grave

violations against children in armed conflict.

To further gender equality, UNHCR participates in the IASC Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action and the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. The Office also participates in the steering committee of the IASC Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap), which maintains a roster of gender experts ready to mainstream gender considerations into humanitarian responses. In addition, it works with NGOs to implement the provisions of the Executive Committee's 2006 Conclusion on Women and Girls at Risk.

In the area of protection of persons of concern with disabilities, UNHCR welcomed the convening of the first meetings of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2009 and hosted an inter-agency support group meeting for the Convention on Persons with Disabilities in November 2009. The meeting highlighted the need to include non-citizens in national assistance

programmes for persons with disabilities. UNHCR also participates in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support.

Ties with the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme have been strengthened. UNHCR is UNV's third largest partner: in 2009, some 1,000 UN volunteers, of whom almost half were women, were deployed in 76 country operations. Some 50 per cent of the volunteers worked within their own countries.

UN volunteers represent almost 17 per cent of UNHCR's workforce in the Field.

They play a crucial protection role, especially in community services and durable solutions, which accounted for 55 per cent of UNV deployments in 2009. A number of UNVs are also assigned to specialized technical positions in areas such as health, nutrition, water and sanitation, site planning and environmental management.

UNHCR field offices make considerable use of the UNV on-line volunteering service, which connects development organizations with volunteers who assist with peace and development initiatives via the internet. In 2009, UNHCR mobilized more than 80 online volunteers to support the development of the Spanish and Portuguese versions of its website.

The latest annual high-level meeting between UNHCR and the ICRC, held in December 2009, focused on protection issues and cooperation in specific operations.

including mixed movements, human trafficking, the return of displaced people to their home areas, and climate change.

UNHCR and IOM work together in a variety of projects across the globe. In 2009, notable successes included a regional conference on refugee protection and international migration in the Americas, jointly organized with the Organization of American States in November in Costa Rica, and a project to develop inter-agency procedures for the identification and protection of trafficked persons.

During the Gaza humanitarian crisis of 2008-2009, UNHCR supported the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East through the provision of non-food items and logistical equipment.

COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

In the Middle East, UNHCR has worked to forge new partnerships with governments and international organizations, such as the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the League of Arab States and civil society institutions.

In June 2009, UNHCR and the OIC jointly published a study, *The right of asylum in Islamic Shari'ah and international refugee law*, which highlights the deep-rooted Muslim traditions and customs which have served as a foundation for the protection of those in need. The book stresses that Shari'ah embraces a number of

on behalf of refugees as well as displaced and stateless people, and the European Commission remained UNHCR's second largest donor in 2009.

In 2009, UNHCR devoted considerable effort to support the development of a Common European Asylum System, advising the EU Council, European Parliament and European Commission on legislative, policy and institutional developments. With courts in EU Member States turning to the European Court of Justice (ECJ) for guidance on the interpretation of EU asylum law, in 2009, UNHCR issued statements on issues of international refugee law raised in cases referred to the ECJ for preliminary rulings. The aim is to help harmonize EU legal standards with international norms.

UNHCR provided recommendations on asylum and migration ahead of the adoption in December 2009 of the "Stockholm Programme", which defines the EU's next five-year agenda in the areas of Justice and Home Affairs. It has also engaged with EU Member States on the European Asylum Support Office, to be established in 2010. Furthermore, UNHCR continues to expand its cooperation with the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders (FRONTEX) and with the EU's Fundamental Rights Agency.

IOM is a vital partner for UNHCR in Europe, in particular in the effort to expand refugee resettlement. UNHCR, IOM and the Government of Romania continue to operate the Emergency Transit Centre in Romania, opened officially in March 2009, where refugees

SEVERAL COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA, WHERE REFUGEES HAVE CUSTOMARILY CULTIVATED CROPS AND ENGAGED IN OTHER SELF-RELIANCE PROJECTS, HAVE SEEN A REDUCTION IN ACCESS TO FOOD BECAUSE OF THE COMBINED EFFECTS OF THE FOOD AND FINANCIAL CRISES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

IOM is one of UNHCR's most important partners, and cooperation between the two organizations increased substantially in 2009, especially in the area of mixed movements. At the high-level IOM-UNHCR meeting in February 2009, the Director-General and the High Commissioner underlined their strong commitment to partnership, and addressed a joint letter to all staff, calling for greater cooperation in a number of areas,

humanitarian principles which are at the heart of international refugee protection. UNHCR also organized a series of refugee law workshops for Arab parliamentarians and governmental structures.

In Europe, UNHCR works closely with the institutions of the European Union (EU) on matters related to international protection, both inside and outside the bloc. The EU is an important partner in UNHCR's worldwide work

can stay temporarily pending their resettlement.

UNHCR works closely on issues of mutual interest with the Council of Europe and its component institutions, including the European Court of Human Rights. Collaboration with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), as well as with many civil society partners, including the European Council on Refugees and Exiles, emphasized

● Working with NGOs

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are the single largest group of UNHCR's partners. They play an essential role in meeting the basic needs of persons of concern to UNHCR.

In 2009, UNHCR channelled 27 per cent its total expenditure through 672 NGOs (159 international and 513 national) and signed over 1,270 agreements with them. Expenditures through NGOs in 2009 amounted to some USD 86 million (21.5 per cent), more than in 2008. Approximately 83 per cent of implemented activities covered the sectors of shelter and other infrastructure, agency operational support, legal assistance/protection, health/nutrition, community services, education, transport and logistics.

More than 75 per cent of UNHCR's NGO partners are local organizations, which make available their knowledge and field presence. As such, local partners constitute a cornerstone of emergency response.

In June 2009, some 180 NGO representatives attended the UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations. Of these, 73 were national NGOs. A few refugees also attended the consultations, enriching the meetings with their experience and information. The consultations centred on the theme of "Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Urban Areas", mirroring the theme of the 2009 High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges, in which 39 NGOs participated.

UNHCR participated in a peer review on accountability to disaster-affected populations, organized by the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response, to learn how other agencies define and manage their accountability to the people they serve. This review informed UNHCR's continuing efforts to strengthen its own system of accountability. During the June 2009 Standing Committee meetings, UNHCR organized a discussion on humanitarian accountability in order to share lessons learned from the review.

UNHCR invited the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP) to audit the organization's performance against the HAP 2007 Standard in Humanitarian Accountability and Quality Management. The assessment, completed in December 2009, showed that UNHCR's standards are high, but advised the Office to develop an accountability statement vis-à-vis people of concern before seeking quality assurance certification against the HAP Standard.

conflict prevention and resolution. UNHCR also interacts with the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development on subjects of common interest.

In the Americas, where cooperation agreements have been signed with the political and human rights organs of the Organization of American States (OAS), resolutions adopted by the OAS General Assembly have strengthened the legal framework for the protection of refugees and IDPs.

The first international refugee law course for OAS permanent missions was organized in Washington, DC, participating in 2009, with UNHCR in the Inter-American Course on International Law. The OAS teamed up with IOM and the OHCHR to organize a Regional Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration.

UNHCR seeks to foster better understanding in regional migration forums of the relationship between refugee protection and mixed migration. Hence, the Plan of Action of the Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process) includes refugee considerations and protection safeguards. The Regional Guidelines for Assistance to Unaccompanied Minors in Cases of Repatriation, which include protection safeguards on the right to asylum, were adopted during the Puebla Process meeting in 2009.

Refugee protection was included as part of the agenda of the specialized migratory forum of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR). A workshop on refugee protection was held in Uruguay in September 2009 and, at the request of Brazil, MERCOSUR became a solidarity region for refugees.

UNHCR attended the 2009 annual assembly of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in Medellin, and is exploring possible areas of cooperation to support the Borders of Solidarity programme in the Colombia Situation.

In Africa, UNHCR has continued to strengthen its strategic partnership with the African Union (AU) and other subregional organizations. It works with these bodies on refugee and IDP protection, forced displacement, the identification of people in need of international protection in mixed migration

movements, peacebuilding, post-conflict reconstruction and development. It supports the AU in particular through advocacy, technical and financial help.

UNHCR established its Representation to the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa in January 2009, reinforcing its partnership with the two organizations and with the AU's New Partnership for Africa's Development programme. In 2009, the Office welcomed the adoption of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa. The Special Summit convened for this purpose also adopted the Kampala Declaration and concrete recommendations on ways to address the root causes of displacement and strengthen protection, particularly for women and children.

In the Asia and Pacific region, cooperation with regional organizations and processes focuses on protection in the context of mixed migration and disaster management.

MORE THAN 75 PER CENT OF UNHCR'S NGO PARTNERS ARE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH MAKE AVAILABLE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND FIELD PRESENCE. AS SUCH, LOCAL PARTNERS CONSTITUTE A CORNERSTONE OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In South-East Asia, discussions with civil society representatives from countries in the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) have paved the way for consultations in 2010 on access to asylum and refugee protection, particularly in the context of broader migration movements. UNHCR welcomes the creation of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) which will provide an important opportunity to advance protection issues in the region.

UNHCR continues to engage in the Bali Process to promote humanitarian and protection-oriented migration management that goes beyond law enforcement and the prevention of people smuggling. It is involved in the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management, providing support for the implementation of the ASEAN Regional Programme on Disaster Management and facilitating the development of regional legislation on relevant issues. In 2009, UNHCR sponsored a workshop to develop regional standards for emergency relief management in South Asia.

Ties with the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) have been reinforced. The PIDC brings together the immigration services of 23 countries and territories of the Pacific Region to discuss issues of mutual interest and foster multilateral cooperation on immigration policy and legislation, people smuggling and capacity building.

UNHCR has also strengthened its regional strategies in Asia and the Pacific for managing the impact of climate change. For instance, it is working with the Regional Disaster Management mechanism and the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) to identify ways in which their expertise can help in responding to disasters and emergencies.

In Central Asia, UNHCR is strengthening its ties with the OSCE which was chaired in 2009 by the Republic of Kazakhstan. This cooperation has been bolstered through UNHCR's membership as a affiliate of the OSCE Border Management Staff College, based in Tajikistan. The aim is to enhance refugee protection within mixed migration flows through partnerships and capacity-building initiatives. UNHCR teamed up with the OSCE to organize the Regional Conference on Statelessness in Turkmenistan in December 2009. Statelessness is one of the major issues that UNHCR seeks to address in Central Asia.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

UNHCR focused on reinforcing its key corporate partnerships in 2009. As in previous years, corporate contributions included both cash donations and contributions of expertise, goods and media space. Budgetary income from corporations amounted to USD 4 million in 2009, in addition to extrabudgetary

UNHCR FOCUSED ON REINFORCING ITS KEY CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS IN 2009. AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDED BOTH CASH DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF EXPERTISE, GOODS AND MEDIA SPACE

in-kind contributions valued at more than USD 9.5 million.

UNHCR deepened its collaboration with its key partners in the Council of Business Leaders: Manpower, Microsoft, Nike, PricewaterhouseCoopers and WPP.

Manpower and UNHCR expanded their partnership at the local level. In Thailand, the local branch of Manpower and UNHCR launched the pilot Local Employment Assistance Programme (LEAP) to provide skills to refugees about to be resettled. LEAP created a detailed English-language and skills curriculum as well as teaching materials. A tool kit of material on UNHCR was distributed to Manpower offices worldwide. In Argentina, India, Norway and South Africa, local initiatives helped refugees gain skills and secure employment.

Microsoft continued to offer key support to UNHCR. Through the Community Technology Access programme, it helped provide refugees with computer skills, equipment and technical support in rural areas, camp-based settings and host communities.

Nike's support for UNHCR continued through the ninemillion.org campaign, which is providing educational and sports opportunities to more than 200,000 children and young people from 15 countries. The campaign has increased the involvement of girls in sports and education, as well as the ability of single mothers to find work. It has also allowed UNHCR to enhance the focus on sports and education for refugees in urban settings. UNHCR and Mercy Corps also worked together in 14 countries to provide over USD 9.5 million's worth of sports apparel donated by Nike to increase children's participation in sports activities.

The ninemillion.org campaign will expand to ten additional countries in 2010-2011, taking advantage of UNHCR's alliances with other sports

entities, including FC Barcelona. Through the MÉS campaign, in partnership with FC Barcelona and Nike, proceeds from the sale of MÉS-branded products help fund UNHCR sports and education projects.

In Panama, Uganda, and Venezuela, UNHCR was supported by the International Olympic Committee to implement projects that use sports to help prevent sexual and gender-based violence.

With the support of a PricewaterhouseCoopers 2008 employee-giving campaign which raised USD 4 million, UNHCR continued to implement the Educating Children of Darfur programme. This aims to build a sustainable primary school programme for 20,000 refugee children. It is improving access to schooling, increasing retention rates and raising the quality of teaching in four refugee camps (Mile, Touloum, Kounoungou and Iridimi). A new school has been built in each camp, and each has a multi-utility centre. The schools serve as models for refugee education in the other camps in eastern Chad. In 2009, PricewaterhouseCoopers also provided advisory services to UNHCR for the Community Technology Access programme.

UNHCR's partnership with WPP, which donates its services on a pro bono basis, entered its third year in 2009. UNHCR's new website, launched on World Refugee Day, benefited from the creative advice of WPP.

UNHCR offices and national associations developed partnerships with more than 50 companies around the world, ranging from leading Spanish bank BBVA to Japanese clothes designer UNIQLO. In Portugal, a group of corporations formed the Helpin network to raise funds for UNHCR. Offices and associations engaged with companies in creative ways, for instance by organizing special events such as benefit races, art auctions and film

festivals, and by devising innovative fund-raising products such as special T-shirts designed by former refugees and airline mile donations.

During the World Economic Forum meeting in January 2009, UNHCR partnered with the Crossroads Foundation and the Global Risk Forum to host the Refugee Run, an invitation-only event designed to simulate conditions of forced displacement. The Clinton Global Initiative meeting in November 2009 featured two UNHCR projects: the Community Technology Access project and the EDP-UNHCR pilot project to bring renewable energy solutions to Kakuma camp in Kenya.

FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIPS

UNHCR's long-standing partnerships with major charitable foundations continued to support priority activities in 2009. Global income from foundations was USD 13 million.

In 2009 UNHCR received the final instalment of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's three-year USD 10 million grant for the South Sudan return

project. Thanks to the support of the Gates Foundation, since 2006 some 200,000 Sudanese refugees returning to South Sudan from neighbouring countries, IDPs and local communities have benefited from basic health care, water, sanitation and education projects.

The United Nations Foundation's innovative *Nothing But Nets* campaign (see box) continued to support UNHCR activities to prevent malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. Thanks to the campaign, in 2009 the UN Foundation contributed USD 6 million to UNHCR which allowed the Office to purchase insecticide-treated bed nets that were distributed in refugee camps in 15 countries. Through field visits in Africa and public outreach campaigns in the United States, the *Nothing But Nets* campaign contributed to greater public awareness of UNHCR and its work. Since the beginning of the campaign, UNHCR has received over USD 8 million from the UN Foundation to support this initiative.

UNHCR and fund raising associations in Australia, Japan, Spain and the United States raised

contributions from more than 40 charitable foundations and non-profit groups. In the United States, large donations were received from the Jolie-Pitt Foundation for the Pakistan IDP emergency. Other large gifts were received from Humanity United for Um Shalaya camp in Darfur, Sudan, and from the Howard G. Buffett Foundation for a multi-year education project in Rwanda, coupled with an earlier grant for UNHCR's work in Turkey.

ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS-RAISING

In 2009, UNHCR's Goodwill Ambassadors continued to be strong advocates for refugees and IDPs. They visited refugee and IDP camps, participated in television interviews, attended public events and undertook a variety of initiatives to reach audiences around the world.

Angelina Jolie travelled to four UNHCR operations during the year: Iraq, Kenya, the Syrian Arab Republic and Thailand. Osvaldo Laport's first field visit for UNHCR, to the DRC, resulted in a television documentary which is reaching broad audiences in



Health workers explain the proper use of bed nets in Dadaab, Kenya.

● UN Foundation “nets” big result

Malaria is the number one cause of illness and death among refugees in Africa, particularly among children. In late 2008, UNHCR identified an urgent need for long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets in refugee camps in 15 countries in Africa, to protect more than 1.4 million refugees. In response, the United Nations Foundation, a US-based public charity, turned to *Nothing But Nets*, its global, grassroots campaign to raise funds for life-saving bed nets. With a USD 10 contribution, individuals—from CEOs to youth and professional athletes to faith leaders—can join the global fight against malaria by sending a net.

“When UNHCR asked us to join them in protecting refugees from malaria, the number one killer of refugees on the continent, we did not hesitate,” said Elizabeth Gore, Executive Director of Global Partnerships at the United Nations Foundation. “We have been honored to work in partnership with UNHCR and proud to share their life-saving work with our partners and supporters.”

With an initial goal of 275,100 bed nets for refugees living in Kenya, Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, where the malaria burden was the highest, the UN Foundation and *Nothing But Nets* launched a public appeal at the 2008 Clinton Global Initiative. By World Malaria Day—April 25, 2009—the *Nothing But Nets* campaign had raised the funds needed for bed nets in the four countries and made a commitment to find the additional funds to cover the remaining 11 countries in Africa.

By the end of 2009, with the help of its diverse set of partners and tens of thousands of supporters, *Nothing But Nets* had reached its goal of providing 646,000 long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets to more than one million refugees in 15 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

UN FOUNDATION

South America. Adel Imam made numerous public appearances in the Middle East region on behalf of UNHCR and gave television interviews in which he spoke about the plight of refugees.

Jesus Vásquez launched an art exhibition and auction, “REFUGI@RTE”, with works donated to UNHCR by well-known Spanish artists to raise funds to fight malnutrition. George Dalaras gave a concert in support of refugee women and children in Greece, on the 20th anniversary of the Greek Council of Refugees. Barbara Hendricks gave a memorable vocal performance at the Nansen Award ceremony in Washington, DC.

All of the Goodwill Ambassadors generously contributed their time to World Refugee Day 2009, participating in special events and appearing on television interviews. Offering the refugee cause particular visibility, Angelina Jolie attended public events in Washington, DC. and gave interviews which were broadcast on major media outlets, besides recording a public service announcement for the occasion. Muazzez Ersoy gave a concert which was broadcast on Turkish television.

The 2009 Nansen Award recognized the unparalleled championing of refugee protection and assistance by United States Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Over the course of 45 years, Senator Kennedy sponsored more than 70 refugee-related measures and was instrumental in codifying international refugee obligations into United States law while raising worldwide awareness of refugee crises. ■

● The Postcode Lottery and UNHCR

New relationship in Sweden adds to seventh year of partnership

As part of an expanding alliance with one of Europe’s leading charity lottery organizations, UNHCR received its first grant as a full beneficiary of the Swedish Postcode Lottery (Svenska PostkodLotteriet) in 2009. The donation, totalling some USD 580,000, over two years, supported protection and assistance activities for Somali refugees in Dadaab, Kenya. UNHCR also received more than USD 1.3 million of unearmarked funds from the Dutch Postcode Lottery.

Originally established by creative fund raisers in the Netherlands, the Postcode Lottery has expanded to Sweden and the United Kingdom. In 2009, the Dutch and Swedish lotteries contributed more than USD 386 million to charities working on human rights, environmental and development issues, and social cohesion. A long-time partner of the Postcode Lottery in the Netherlands, UNHCR received its first ad hoc contribution from the Swedish Postcode Lottery Foundation in 2008 for an environmental programme in Darfur. In recognition of UNHCR’s role in providing durable solutions for millions of vulnerable people, in 2009 the Office was granted full beneficiary status in Sweden.

“More than 30 million people are displaced around the world—fleeing from war and human rights violations—and UNHCR works to support these people. The Swedish Postcode Lottery is very happy to be able to help UNHCR in their struggle”, said Mr. Niclas Kjellström-Matseke, CEO of the Swedish Postcode Lottery.

The beneficiary status—which UNHCR has enjoyed for seven years in the

Netherlands—further reinforces UNHCR’s position as a long-term and trusted partner of the Postcode Lottery family. In Sweden, the relationship is managed by UNHCR Fundraising Foundation (UNHCR Insamlingsstiftelse), which was established in the spring of 2009 and chaired by UNHCR Honorary Goodwill Ambassador for Life, Barbara Hendricks.

“UNHCR needs a lot of resources to help the refugees in Dadaab and the donation from the Swedish Postcode Lottery is a fantastic contribution. I am delighted that the Postcode Lottery has chosen UNHCR as its new beneficiary”, said Ms. Hendricks.

Beyond financial support, this partnership brings the promise of increased visibility in northern Europe and greater awareness of the situation of the forcibly displaced around the world. With publicity in leading newspapers, television and other media outlets, in 2009, both lotteries reached millions of people in Sweden and the Netherlands.

Goodwill Ambassador Barbara Hendricks accepting a donation from the Swedish Postcode Lottery on behalf of UNHCR.

