



UNHCR
PROJECTED **GLOBAL**
RESETTLEMENT
NEEDS 2023



UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS 2023

Cover photo: Bangladesh, January 2022. A group of Rohingya refugee children smiled at the camera while photographed. Some 18,000 Rohingya refugees have been relocated to Bhasan Char island in Hatiya Upazila of Noakhali district from the Kutupalong and Teknaf refugee camps of Cox's Bazar. © UNHCR/Amos Halder

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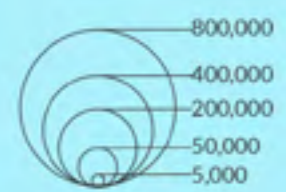
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WORLD MAP

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2023 by country of asylum*

as of 8 Jun 2022



● UNHCR's estimated total resettlement needs (>1000)
*including multi-year planning

1,000km

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



INTRODUCTION



The number of refugees under UNHCR’s seven-decade long mandate continues to increase, reaching 21.3 million at the end of 2021. While most refugees are hosted in low-and-middle-income countries of first asylum and find themselves in protracted displacement, the durable solutions available to them fall well below the needs. Furthermore, amidst several already existing refugee crises, the past 12 months have been marked by tragic events in Afghanistan and Ukraine, where the human toll of hostilities has been immense, leading to the unfolding of new humanitarian emergencies and increased displacement. Consequently, global resettlement needs have significantly risen for 2023 compared to previous years. The support of the international community in finding lasting solutions for those experiencing displacement is greater than ever.

Although there were some encouraging signs in 2021, with borders opening up and refugees gaining access to COVID-19 vaccinations, the continued impact of the pandemic further exacerbated the risks faced by UNHCR’s persons of concern and accentuates the existing inequalities and discrimination confronted by some of the world’s most vulnerable citizens. Increased risk of refoulement, detention and dangerous onward movement along with rising incidences of gender-based violence and refugees resorting to negative coping mechanisms, such as child labor, child marriage and survival sex, were noted across the globe. Refugees and other displaced persons faced further marginalization, stigmatization and xenophobia from local communities amongst instability and growing competition for increasingly scarce resources in many host countries.

The ongoing conflicts and insecurities in countries of origin continued to prevent many from returning home in safety and dignity while weak, overstressed or non-existent asylum systems limited the ability of refugees to become self-sufficient in their countries of asylum. Thus, with growing numbers of displaced persons across the world, resettlement remains the key tool for the international community to provide urgently needed protection and solutions for refugees most at risk. Additionally, aligned with the Global Compact for Refugees objectives, UNHCR also continues to engage with States and a great diversity of stakeholders to enable refugees to access existing safe and regular admission options, including through protection sensitive family reunification procedures, employment and education opportunities in third countries.

Innovative procedures developed in 2020 to respond to then-emerging COVID-19 situation were strengthened and continued in 2021. This allowed UNHCR, partners and States to maintain and in some cases increase processing of resettlement cases, in particular those in urgent and emergency need of a durable solution. Where needed and in agreement with resettlement States, UNHCR redirected critical resettlement places to operations less impacted by lockdowns and other restrictions to ensure as many refugees could benefit from this durable solution as possible. In-person selection missions were conducted in several locations and support was provided to allow remote interviews, where needed.

The resettlement capacity of UNHCR was again significantly strengthened through its Global Resettlement Deployment Scheme, which was implemented by ICMC, the Danish Refugee Council and RefugePoint in 2021. Approximately 146 deployments provided critical capacity in resettlement, child protection/BID, registration and refugee status determination thereby significantly contributing to UNHCR’s total

global resettlement submissions. The Deployment Scheme has also contributed with key strategic deployments to support family reunification and complementary pathways activities.

Despite the continued impact of COVID-19 and other humanitarian crises that required resources and capacity of resettlement actors, UNHCR submitted 63,190 persons for resettlement to 23 resettlement States, a significant increase compared to 2020. With thanks to the continued support of resettlement States, together with the opening of borders, global departures increased by 72 per cent compared to the previous year, with 39,266 refugees departing for resettlement during 2021.

PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2023

REGION OF ASYLUM	CASES	PERSONS
Africa	189,234	662,012
Asia and the Pacific	115,133	383,010
Europe	94,015	417,200
MENA	119,622	463,930
The Americas	31,619	77,830
Grand Total	549,623	2,003,982

In 2023, UNHCR estimates that global resettlement needs will significantly increase to 2,003,982 persons, as compared to 2022 when 1,473,156 were estimated to be in need of resettlement. This increase is reflected in all regions, with the largest increase noted in the Asia and MENA regions. For 2023, Africa (with three regions) again has the highest projected resettlement needs, at nearly 662,012, followed by the MENA region (463,930) and Europe (417,200).

For the seventh year in a row, at well over 777,000 individuals, Syrian refugees represent the population with the highest global resettlement needs. This reflects a 27 per cent increase in the needs of Syrians in one year. For 2023, refugees from Afghanistan are estimated to have the second highest needs globally, with around 14 per cent. Refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and South Sudan, at 10 per cent and nine per cent of the needs, and refugees from Myanmar, with six per cent of the total global needs, round out the top five.

The projected resettlement needs out of Africa (662,012 refugees) cover three regions, 30 different countries of asylum and represent 33 per cent of the total global needs. The needs continue to reflect the various protracted refugee situations across the continent, including that of the Congolese, Central Africans, Eritreans, Somalis and Sudanese; ongoing conflicts and instability in countries such as Ethiopia, Chad, Nigeria and South Sudan; and the complex and risky mixed migration flows across the Sahel Region.

Projected resettlement needs in the Americas region increased further for 2023 (by 40 per cent compared to 2022) and stand at 77,830 individuals. With more than 6 million Venezuelans fleeing their country by the end of 2021 due to the worsening situation in the country, Venezuelan refugees represent 75 per cent of the region's resettlement needs in 2023. The vast majority of Venezuelans remain in the region, in various types of regular and irregular stay arrangements.

The projected resettlement needs for the Asia and the Pacific region have seen a significant rise from 2022 to 2023 with a 260 per cent increase (383,010 in 2023 compared to 106,400 in 2022). Afghan refugees continue to make up the largest population group in need, with the vast majority (255,668) currently hosted in Iran and Pakistan.

For 2023, the resettlement needs in Europe again remain high, with an increase of four per cent from the previous year (from 401,740 in 2022 to 417,200 in 2023). Türkiye remains the world's largest refugee hosting country, with the highest estimated resettlement needs globally. With prolonged displacement, the vulnerability of refugees in Türkiye has only increased. Syrian refugees represent over 92 per cent of the needs out of Türkiye at 384,000 individuals, with refugees from Iraq and Afghanistan each making up four and three per cent of the needs respectively.

A forty-seven per cent increase in resettlement needs is estimated in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region for 2023 (from 315,778 in 2022 to 463,930 in 2023). 85 per cent of the needs are for Syrian refugees (393,170), followed by Iraqis (18,860), Sudanese refugees (12,875) and Eritreans (9,215).

KEY PRIORITIES

To best address the needs of the more than 2 million refugees in need of resettlement in 2023, UNHCR will focus on five priority areas - a continuation of two priorities from the previous year and three new priority areas. UNHCR strongly encourages States to also follow these key priorities to maximize advocacy, coordination, cooperation and potential strategic impacts. The priority situation in the context of the ongoing Syrian conflict (including Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Türkiye) and the Central Mediterranean Situation (including 15 countries along the Central Mediterranean route and Rwanda) remain key priorities for UNHCR in the coming year. Given the large and ongoing displacement of Venezuelan, Afghan and Rohingya refugees, UNHCR will also direct advocacy efforts to these three refugee situations. UNHCR further appeals to resettlement States to designate a portion of their quota as unallocated so that it can be used in a flexible way for urgent and emergency cases across the globe and outside these five priority areas.

The Priority Situations Core Group (PSCG), established in September 2019, is a multilateral forum on resettlement and complementary pathways for the admission of refugees. It provides a regular platform to share knowledge and situation updates from key locations, to coordinate, adapt and enhance programs and to ensure dedicated support for specific priorities, such as the Syria and Central Mediterranean situations. Since 10 June 2021, the United States of America and Canada have co-chaired the PSCG, expanding its scope to the Afghanistan situation including the

facilitation in May 2022 of a two-day Adjudicators Meeting online for resettlement practitioners and relevant specialists from 16 States. It is expected that PSCG field visits in person to host countries will resume in the coming six months.

SYRIA SITUATION

The Syria crisis is entering its twelfth year and remains the largest refugee crisis in the world. The five main refugee hosting countries – Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt – continue to host nearly 5.7 million Syrian refugees. With a 27 per cent increase from 2022 to 2023, almost 777,800 Syrian refugees are estimated to be in need of resettlement in 2023 (761,910 in the five main refugee hosting countries). This reflects the disastrous effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on an already vulnerable and protracted refugee situation. With worsening socioeconomic conditions, including high levels of poverty, unemployment and food insecurity, as well as increased protection-related needs, particularly among vulnerable individuals, refugees and members of the host communities are turning to harmful coping mechanisms across the region. Competition over jobs and access to services have challenged social cohesion and worsened relationships between refugees and host communities, compounding the dire situation of Syrian refugees. Therefore, despite the continued commitment from States, increased support for durable solutions, such as through resettlement and complementary pathways opportunities, for Syrians is strongly needed.

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN SITUATION

Complex mixed-migration flows continue to persist through the Sahel and other regions of sub-Saharan Africa – some of the most unstable and risk-prone regions in the world. Political instability, limited resources, and lack of opportunities lead refugees, often those in protracted situations, to undertake irregular onward movement across the Sahara Desert towards and through North African countries, as well as via sea routes to Europe, despite the numerous and significant risks to life.

Many become victims of human rights violations, including extreme physical violence, forced labor, rape and other forms of sexual abuse, prolonged confinement in isolation, sleep deprivation, starvation/ dehydration, and kidnappings or trafficking. They may also have been displaced multiple times and/or are at risk of forced recruitment by non-state armed groups. With situations in many countries of origin unsuitable for safe return and limited possibility of meaningful integration in countries of asylum, the pursuit of durable solutions for refugees in these regions facing serious protection risks remains an important priority.

Therefore, it is estimated that around 394,6000 refugees residing in one of the 15 countries along the Central Mediterranean route and Rwanda will be in need of resettlement in 2023. Although departures out of Libya were put on hold during several months in 2021, 748 people of concern to UNHCR were evacuated (349 to Niger, 209 to Rwanda, 90 to Italy). The ETMs will continue to be a vital, life-saving mechanism, to support the processing of refugees evacuated from Libya for onward resettlement.

VENEZUELAN SITUATION

By the end of 2021, there were more than 6 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela outside their home country, with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean hosting an estimated 84 per cent of all refugees and migrants from Venezuela (around 5 million persons).

Despite the generosity of host communities and governments, refugees and migrants in the region face increasing challenges related to growing unemployment and poverty, constraints accessing education and basic services as well as serious protection risks linked to widespread irregularity. The COVID-19 pandemic has further aggravated vulnerabilities and dependence on assistance for this population, and the pandemic-related border closures and travel restrictions have resulted in greater numbers of refugees and migrants from Venezuela entering countries irregularly while seeking protection and assistance. It is anticipated that the political, economic and social developments in Venezuela will continue to result in movement out of the country and into the region. Despite the continued implementation of key initiatives to facilitate access of Venezuelans to legal stay arrangements, considerable numbers of Venezuelan refugees and migrants remain in an irregular situation and face complex protection issues. In this context, resettlement is a critical component of the protection strategy for this population, for which the estimated needs are 58,463 refugees in 2023.

AFGHAN SITUATION

The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan deteriorated further in 2021, prompting UNHCR to release a non-return advisory to halt forced returns, including for Afghan nationals previously assessed as ineligible for international protection. Iran and Pakistan together host more than two million registered Afghan refugees. Most of this population group have remained in protracted displacement for decades, with diminishing prospects of a durable solution as the conditions in Afghanistan have become less conducive to safe and voluntary returns. Border movements have historically represented mixed flows and continue to do so. Over the past decades, millions of Afghans have moved to Iran and Pakistan for a number of reasons, including armed conflict, human rights violations and persecution. UNHCR assesses that many Afghans, including those who have not previously had access to asylum procedures in the host country, may have international protection needs.

While some have benefited from alternative stay arrangements in Iran and Pakistan and inclusive social protection programs, many others encounter challenges obtaining relevant documentation. UNHCR estimates that over a quarter of a million Afghan refugees in Iran and in Pakistan alone, forcibly displaced during different periods of Afghanistan's turbulent history and facing heightened protection risks, will be in need of resettlement in 2023. UNHCR has also identified significant resettlement needs among Afghan refugees in Türkiye, India, Indonesia, and other host countries.

Rohingya Situation

The Rohingya people have faced decades of systematic discrimination, statelessness and targeted violence in Rakhine State, Myanmar. They are denied the rights of nationality under the 1982 Citizenship Law. Persecution has repeatedly driven Rohingya refugees across the border into Bangladesh, while others have sought protection elsewhere in the region. Forced displacement of Rohingya refugees peaked following escalations of violence and widespread human rights violations in Rakhine State in 1978, 1991-92 and 2016-17. In Bangladesh, Malaysia, India and other host countries, UNHCR estimates that more than 100,000 Rohingya refugees in total will be in need of resettlement in 2023.



Ecuador, February 2022. Venezuelan family dream of a better future in a new home. © UNHCR/Jaime Giménez

TRENDS IN 2021

In 2021, an estimated 1.44 million persons were projected to be in need of resettlement. Despite ongoing challenges with COVID-19, UNHCR submitted 63,190 persons for resettlement to 23 resettlement States. This represented a 60 per cent increase compared to submissions in 2020 (39,534), although nearly 61 per cent less than submissions at their peak in 2016 (163,206).

Globally, 82 UNHCR operations submitted resettlement cases to 23 resettlement States, with a global acceptance rate of 92 per cent. Submissions from all regions except for West and Central Africa saw increases compared to 2020. UNHCR offices in Africa submitted approximately 34 per cent of the global total with 21,363 submissions, followed by UNHCR offices in the MENA region with 32 per cent (20,188), and Europe with around 19 per cent (12,283). The Asia and the Pacific region provided eight per cent of global submissions (4,855), and the Americas region submitted 4,501 persons.

Syrians again made up the largest group by refugee population submitted for resettlement with 25,774 submissions. This represents a 41 per cent increase from the 2020 submissions (18,220). Refugees from the DRC were the second highest group by population with 13,121 submissions. This represented more than a doubling (121 per cent increase) of the submissions from 2020 (5,944 submissions). Eritreans (2,690), Sudanese (2,599) and Somalis (2,386) rounded out the top five groups submitted in 2021.

Almost 52 per cent of cases were submitted to the United States in 2021 (32,851). The second highest number of submissions went to Canada with 11,377, which represents a four per cent increase from 2020. The third highest number of submissions were made to Sweden with 4,386, which represents an eight per cent decrease from the previous year. Also, in the top five countries receiving submissions in 2021 were Norway (3,288), with a decrease of five per cent from 2020 and Germany (2,671), with an increase of seven per cent compared to the previous year.

Global departures increased in 2021 with 39,266 refugees departing for resettlement. This represents a 72 per cent increase compared to 2020. The United States remained the country with the highest number of departures, with 11,554 persons arriving in 2021, an almost 71 per cent increase from 2020. Canada received 5,825 arrivals, a 66 per cent increase from 2020, followed by Germany with 5,363 arrivals, almost four times higher (284 per cent increase) than departures from the previous year. Rounding out the top five were Sweden (5,036) and Norway (2,875), both increasing their arrivals by 41 and 91 per cent respectively.

UNHCR continued to advocate for resettlement programmes focused on refugees with strong protection needs, in line with UNHCR's resettlement submission categories. More than 69 per cent of all cases submitted in 2021 fell under the Legal and Physical Protection Needs (37 per cent) and Survivors of Violence and/or Torture categories (32 per cent). This was followed by Women and Girls at Risk (17 per cent), Children and Adolescents at Risk (seven per cent), Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (five per cent), Medical Needs (two per cent) and Family Reunification (less than one per cent).

Given the challenging protection situation in many countries that were further exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, 19 per cent of global submissions were made on an emergency or urgent basis, reflecting a 10 per cent increase compared to 2020. Approximately one per cent (230 cases) were deemed an "emergency priority", requiring evacuation in 72 hours, sometimes with support from States hosting emergency transit facilities. Almost 18 per cent (2,874 cases) were considered "urgent priority", needing removal within weeks.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE-YEAR STRATEGY (2019-2021) ON RESETTLEMENT AND COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS

The strategic direction of the Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Service continues to be guided by The Three-Year Strategy (2019-2021) on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways, mandated by the Global Compact on Refugees and launched in June 2019. The three main goals of the Three-Year Strategy are to grow resettlement, advance complementary pathways and build the foundation through the promotion of welcoming and inclusive societies.

The initial implementation phase of the Three-Year Strategy concluded in December 2021, with important groundwork laid despite significant challenges. Broad multi-stakeholder partnerships were formed through advocacy, outreach and coordination by many partners to expand complementary pathways in education and employment, as well as family reunification. These opportunities were aided by preliminary work on innovative financing and processing methods. The expansion of community sponsorship programs demonstrated progress toward the Strategy's goal of achieving sustainable solutions through inclusive communities.

The Third Country Solutions: Roadmap 2030, the Strategy's next phase, will focus on transitioning from the foundation-building of the initial phase to deploying these platforms for program implementation and growth to compensate for COVID-19's deferred gains.

Resettlement remains the primary and, in many cases, the only durable solution for those refugees most at risk and/or suffering from extreme vulnerabilities. However, the effects of COVID-19 and insufficient pledges meant that total resettlement in 2020 and 2021 was significantly lower than hoped and the Strategy objectives were not met. While projected global resettlement needs reached more than 1.4 million in 2021, only 39,266 refugees submitted by UNHCR were resettled in 2021. Even though resettlement departures in the first quarter of 2022 are significantly higher than in the same period in 2021, the objectives of the Strategy can only be achieved through the progressive and sustainable resettlement of those most immediately at risk, including, utilizing predictable multi-year commitments and effective integration programmes.

In addition to the fundamental goal of increasing resettlement, advancing complementary pathways, such as employment and education pathways, humanitarian admission programs, and family reunification, widens third country solutions to many more refugees in need of safe homes, alleviate strain on host countries, and improve refugees' self-reliance by enhancing their capacity to find a long-term solution.

The joint UNHCR-OECD report “[Safe Pathways for Refugees II](#),” which covers the period 2010-2019, released in May 2021, has been updated to be aligned with the 2021 [Global Indicator Report](#), and to track progress in advancing complementary pathways up to 2020. Data for 2021 will not be available until the end of 2022. Available data on first-time permits issued in OECD countries and Brazil for family reunification, education and employment purposes to nationals of Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Syria and Venezuela shows that family reunification is the most followed admission pathway among applicants, followed by education and employment. Additional admission pathways such as humanitarian pathways and nominated sponsorship pathways have not been considered in this report as there are not yet enough comparable data available. A high-priority area that will be addressed in the next phase of the Strategy is the continued development of a more robust reporting process for all complementary pathways and family reunification. The joint OECD-UNHCR data-collection process, in close collaboration with the States, aims to progressively fill this gap.



Pakistan, September 2021. Afghan refugee women learn how to stitch and do embroidery in order to earn an income for themselves and their families in a refugee village in Peshawar. © UNHCR/Saiyina Bashir

CAPACITY BUILDING TO GROW RESETTLEMENT AND ADVANCE COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS:

The [Sustainable Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Initiative or CRISP](#), is a joint UNHCR-IOM global capacity building mechanism launched in 2020. In partnership with relevant actors, the CRISP provides targeted capacity and systems building to States with resettlement and complementary pathway programmes in varying forms of development – new, emerging and established - to achieve quality, scalable and sustainable programmes. The CRISP is a direct outcome of recommendations made by resettlement States and key stakeholders during the Three-Year Strategy consultation process. Strengthening the capabilities of communities and individuals, institutions and infrastructure is a critical element to achieve the goals of the Three-Year Strategy.

Since its launch in 2020, the CRISP has embarked on several key activities including the issuance of the UNHCR-MPIE report on [Refugee Resettlement and Complementary Pathways: Opportunities for Growth](#) and UNHCR’s [Integration Handbook](#) for Resettled Refugees (2021 edition) was launched online.

Following its pilot in Ireland during May 2021, the CRISP Training Package has since been delivered to government officials in Portugal (March 2022) and tailored content is under development for implementation in two additional resettlement countries. The training package is multi-stakeholder and includes contributions from the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and IOM. It targets relevant government and non-governmental actors involved in the design, development and implementation of programmes and takes a modular approach, with the possibility to apply each course in their entirety or used individually to fill specific capacity gaps.

Regional capacity building for countries in the Southern Cone and Brazil continued in order to consolidate programmes. This included a series of regional workshops for government officials from Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay on good practices in resettlement and complementary pathways and peer exchanges with government officials from Sweden, Italy and Portugal. In addition, the CRISP supported the travel arrangements for resettlement to Argentina and Uruguay (16 persons) as well as for the humanitarian admission programme to Brazil (90 persons).

The CRISP has provided financial support to fund the development of the [Opportunities Platform](#), towards building the capacity of the Secretariat of the Global Task Force on Third Country Education Pathways and for a regional mapping focused on the policies and procedures regulating family reunification in the Americas.

The CRISP is also supporting strategic capacity building aspects of **GROW: Growing Solutions and Funding for Refugees**. GROW aims to boost third-country solutions as well as social and financial support for refugees through mobilizing community-based support for the reception and integration of refugees, combining volunteer mentoring by individual UNHCR donors with an innovative financing model.

To fulfil both learning and accountability, and to guide the evaluation of the Three-Year Strategy in 2024, the CRISP supported the development of a monitoring and evaluation framework which included a Theory of Change (ToC) with accompanying indicators. The ToC and indicator framework is designed to reflect the full range of

stakeholder contributions to the Three-Year Strategy and the partnerships required between governments, civil society, private sector partners and others to deliver it.

INTEGRITY

UNHCR's 2017 Policy on Addressing Fraud Committed by Persons of Concern continues to be the cornerstone of the High Commissioner's commitment to ensuring sustained high integrity standards in protection, assistance, and solutions activities, including in resettlement procedures. The 2017 Policy framework has been pivotal in increasing UNHCR's capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to fraud committed by persons of concern, with the Integrity Unit at UNHCR's Headquarters continuing with its core role of monitoring implementation and compliance.

The Integrity Unit, located within the Division of International Protection, in close collaboration with Regional Bureaus, provides guidance and support to field operations with the overall objective of enhancing robustness of oversight and fraud prevention, detection, and response, including by mitigating vulnerabilities to fraud. Together with the Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Service, the Integrity Unit proactively supports operations in strengthening the integrity of resettlement activities and management of specific situations.

The Integrity Unit completed a strategic global rollout of the Learning Programme on Addressing Fraud Committed by Persons of Concern in 2020, thereby ensuring relevant staff were equipped with the necessary knowledge to support fraud prevention, detection, and response efforts in all operations. About 100 colleagues across all regions were trained.

Technical support and capacity building continues to be provided, particularly on the centralized fraud management in proGres v4, on the Fraud Module, and on the 2017 Policy and accompanying Operational Guidelines. To strengthen reporting and trends monitoring, a Population Fraud and Inconsistency Monitoring and Reporting Tool (dashboard) was developed by the Integrity Unit with the technical support from Global Data Service. This dashboard aims at making it easier for operations, Bureaus, and Headquarters to carry out horizontal and vertical monitoring of fraud-related incidents and reports based on proGres v4, thereby facilitating trends analysis and development of corresponding responses. The Integrity Unit, in close coordination with the Bureaus, also carries out a yearly survey to assess the implementation of, and compliance with, the Policy at the level of operations and identify areas where specific support is needed.

As soon as COVID-19 pandemic-related restrictions were lifted, the Integrity Unit resumed its multifunctional anti-fraud support missions to field operations. So far, two such missions were conducted in 2022, namely to Chad and Ethiopia, and others are scheduled to take place by the end of the year.



Nigeria, January 2022. Gerard is a Cameroonian refugee who founded the Unifarm Cooperative which has both Nigerian and Cameroonian members and produces pigs, chicken and vegetables, and soon plans to expand into bee-farming, mushrooms and snails © UNHCR/Roland Schönbauer

URGENT AND EMERGENCY RESETTLEMENT PROCESSING

PROCESSING UNIT, RESETTLEMENT AND COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS SERVICE (RCPS), UNHCR HQ/GENEVA

The Processing Unit within the RCPS is responsible for global distribution and monitoring of quotas for urgent and emergency cases on a dossier basis and for processing submissions of such cases on behalf of UNHCR country offices in eastern and south-eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America. In addition, high profile and/or sensitive and complex cases are also channeled through the RCPS for submission on behalf of the Regional Bureaus. The Processing Unit further ensures that resettlement State-specific criteria and information on profiles, together with new or updated instructions on submission protocols, are shared in a timely manner with country operations, and the Unit provides case-specific advice and guidance as needed.

UNALLOCATED QUOTAS FOR URGENT AND EMERGENCY CASES

The RCPS regularly advocates for resettlement States to set aside global resettlement places each year for cases, mostly in urgent or emergency need of resettlement, regardless of country of origin or asylum – these are designated as unallocated quotas. Once States confirm their resettlement programme for the upcoming year, RCPS distributes the places under the unallocated quotas between the RCPS and the four Regional Bureaus responsible for making dossier case submissions directly to resettlement States from their respective regions, namely: the Regional Bureau for Middle East and North Africa (MENA) in Amman, the Regional Bureau for East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes Region (EHAGL) in Nairobi, the Regional Bureau for Southern Africa (RBSA) in Pretoria and the Regional Bureau for West and Central Africa (RBWCA) in Dakar. Throughout the year, the Processing Unit monitors the use of the unallocated quotas and regularly consults with colleagues in the Regional Bureaus to ensure places are utilized in a timely and effective manner.

GLOBAL OVERVIEW OF UNALLOCATED QUOTAS IN 2021

In 2021, the unallocated quotas continued to provide life-saving solutions for refugees requiring expedited processing, particularly for sensitive caseloads with strong protection needs who were at high risk of refoulement and for individuals who would otherwise have been held in prolonged detention on immigration-related charges, among other at-risk profiles. The unallocated quotas also provided critical solutions for persons of concern located in countries without a UNHCR presence, in

countries with no allocated quotas, or from operations with no options for expedited resettlement case processing.

UNHCR would greatly welcome additional places under the unallocated quotas for cases with serious medical needs or for those deemed to have high needs by resettlement States, as well as single persons and large families. Expanding the submission possibilities for such cases would help ensure a more equitable access to resettlement opportunities.

TRENDS IN 2021

During 2021, UNHCR submitted a total of 562 cases on behalf of a total of 1,418 refugees globally under the unallocated quotas. Out of this total, the Processing Unit in Headquarters submitted 219 cases on behalf of 561 refugees, while 122 cases/273 refugees were submitted by the MENA office, 85 cases/293 refugees by the Nairobi office, 63 cases/166 refugees by the Pretoria office, and 73 cases/125 refugees by the Dakar office. Submissions under the unallocated quotas were made to ten resettlement States: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Approximately 64 per cent of the cases were submitted under the Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs category, which represents an increase compared to 2020 (48 per cent). The largest percentage of submissions under this category was made by RCPS (85 per cent of cases submitted). Submission under the Medical Needs category comprised 11 per cent of cases/18 per cent of persons submitted under the unallocated quotas, with the largest percentage submitted by the EHAGL Region (32 per cent of cases submitted from Nairobi). Overall, 12 per cent of cases were submitted under the Women and Girls at Risk category, which was lower than in 2020 (17 per cent), with the largest proportion being made by the RBSA region (19 per cent of cases submitted from Pretoria). Overall, 47 per cent of cases submitted in 2021 were under urgent priority, 46 per cent under emergency priority, and the remaining 8 per cent under normal priority.

The combined acceptance rate for submissions made by the five offices on under the 2021 unallocated quotas was approximately 73 per cent, which represents an increase compared to the previous year when the combined acceptance rate was at approximately 68 per cent. This figure is an estimate only as it does not include those cases submitted in 2021 which are still pending a decision.

Submissions globally under the unallocated quotas were made on behalf of refugees from 44 different countries of origin in 63 different countries of asylum. Refugees originating from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria and Afghanistan were amongst some of the largest refugee populations benefiting from resettlement referral on under the unallocated quotas in 2021.



Lebanon, February 2022. Refugees are forced to use plastic shoes to light their stove to keep warm. These ruined shoes are bought instead of fuel and wood because they are cheaper. © UNHCR/Houssam Hariri

SUBMISSIONS FROM THE REGIONAL BUREAU FOR EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA & THE GREAT LAKES (EHAGL)

In 2021, the unallocated quotas allowed the EHAGL region to respond to the needs of cases with urgent or emergency protection and/or medical needs which may have otherwise been left in precarious situations and made increasingly vulnerable.

Given the already high and continually increasing number of refugees in the region with urgent needs to secure protection outside of the country of asylum and the COVID-19 pandemic, which only exacerbated the vulnerability of refugees, the unallocated quotas provided an invaluable solution for some of the most vulnerable refugees in the region in 2021. Swift resettlement processing was crucial for refugees facing serious protection risks or with medical needs and helped prevent a deterioration in their situation by offering solutions to refugees in life and death situations.

The unallocated quotas also provided four operations in the region without any allocated quotas with resettlement opportunities for their most vulnerable refugees (i.e., Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia and South Sudan). These operations relied solely on the availability of spaces provided by the unallocated quotas. Refugees in these locations would otherwise have been unable to access resettlement opportunities, as security conditions and a lack of access to remote locations make selection missions challenging for resettlement States to organize.

A considerable number of refugees with serious medical conditions were submitted through the unallocated quotas due to the widespread lack of adequate health infrastructures required to address the complex medical needs of refugees in the region. Expedited resettlement on a dossier basis helped prevent the further deterioration of medical conditions and provided access to life-saving treatment in the resettlement country. Similarly, the unallocated quota was critical for refugees experiencing serious protection concerns where government bodies failed to provide for their safety and security.

The unallocated dossier quotas continue to serve as a lifesaving tool to address those vulnerabilities and continues to protect refugees in the region.

SUBMISSIONS FROM THE REGIONAL BUREAU FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA (RBWCA)

The humanitarian challenges linked to forced displacement from different situations in the West and Central African region, as well as mixed migration movements, continue to result in urgent resettlement. The region hosts over 1.4 million refugees, many of whom are living in highly precarious protection situations and are extremely vulnerable. Only a small percentage of the 1.4 million refugees hosted in the region will benefit from resettlement quotas, with only three countries (Cameroon, Chad, and Niger) in the region with well-established local quotas. All other countries depend on the unallocated quotas to ensure that the most vulnerable refugees can access resettlement as a durable solution.

In a region struggling with significantly underdeveloped health and medical infrastructures, which are often unable to address complex medical conditions or provide support and treatment for individuals who have experienced significant

trauma, the unallocated quota offers a lifeline to refugees in need of urgent or immediate medical intervention. The unallocated quota has also proved a critical protection tool in instances where the protection environment in the countries of asylum can no longer be guaranteed and asylum has become untenable. In the WCA region, this may be the case where there is a potential threat of refoulement and where significant protection risks exist, including towards specific groups, such as individuals of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, women at risk, children at risk and unaccompanied minors, as well as individuals in gender-based violence situations.

DOSSIER SUBMISSIONS FROM THE REGIONAL BUREAU FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA (RBSA)

The unallocated quotas are extremely important for the RBSA region as a significant number of countries do not have any specific quotas from resettlement States. Therefore, the unallocated quotas are the only means to provide a life-saving durable solution for refugees located in these countries.

The cases submitted under the unallocated quotas are often cases with more complex profiles and/or in emergency need of resettlement. A significant number

have been recognized as refugees under UNHCR mandate due to the sensitivity of their profiles or due to their urgent protection and/or medical needs. Continued advocacy for resettlement States to expand their criteria for eligibility and provide additional unallocated spaces is vital to ensure refugees with serious protection or medical needs are able to access resettlement regardless of country of origin or asylum.

SUBMISSIONS FROM THE REGIONAL BUREAU FOR THE MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

The unallocated quotas continued to provide a crucial lifeline to both extremely urgent and emergency cases facing protection and medical needs. In fact, over two thirds of the cases submitted under these quotas from the MENA region in 2021 were of an emergency nature, highlighting the critical protection environment in numerous countries throughout the region.

The MENA region continues to be exemplified by a diversity of pathways available for resettlement. However, some operations have limited or no submission options through the allocated quotas and, therefore, rely on the opportunities presented in the unallocated quotas. Often these country operations also support populations in an increasingly challenging protection environment, with refugees facing difficult circumstances as the COVID-19 pandemic entered its second year.

Moreover, in 2021, the unallocated quotas continued to serve as a protection tool for refugees with emergency protection needs, including those with diverse sexual orientation and gender identities, refugees in detention and/or at risk of deportation, survivors of gender-based violence, women and girls at risk, survivors of violence or torture, unaccompanied and separated minors, and refugees with serious medical conditions.

While the response to the COVID-19 pandemic has largely led to an increased ability and willingness to process resettlement submissions on a remote basis, the continued restrictions imposed by both host and resettlement States has led to ongoing complications for unallocated quota and regular quota processing. This has been doubly so for submissions involving challenging medical conditions, as both host and resettlement States have often seen public health services stretched during subsequent waves of the pandemic.

As in 2020, the longer processing time needed by some resettlement States remained a challenge in 2021, especially for cases submitted under emergency priority. Furthermore, consideration for larger families and increased places for those with threatening medical conditions and high needs would be appreciated, especially in light of ongoing refugee crisis in the world and the continued response needed for protracted refugee situations in the MENA region.



Libya, October 2021. UNHCR and partners provide asylum-seekers affected by the Libyan government security crackdown with assistance. This includes food parcels, cash assistance and replacements for lost UNHCR documentation. Arrests and raids were carried out in early October in many parts of Tripoli, targeting areas where asylum-seekers and migrants are living. © UNHCR/Mohamed Alalem

Ethiopia, September 2021. There are approximately 25,000 refugees in Mai Aini and Adi Harush camps, including those who were relocated from Hitsats and Shimelba after these two camps were completely destroyed during the conflict. The current situation in the two camps is extremely dire due to lack of access to food, water, health and other basic services. © UNHCR/Olga Sarrado Mur

AFRICA

EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA + GREAT LAKES

Burundi
Ethiopia
Kenya
Rwanda
Somalia
South Sudan
Sudan
Tanzania
Uganda

WEST + CENTRAL AFRICA

Burkina Faso
Cameroon
Chad
Central African Republic
Ghana
Mali
Niger
Nigeria
Senegal Multi-Country Office

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Democratic Republic of the Congo
Malawi
Republic of the Congo
Multi-Country Office for South Africa
Zambia
Zimbabwe



AFRICA OVERVIEW

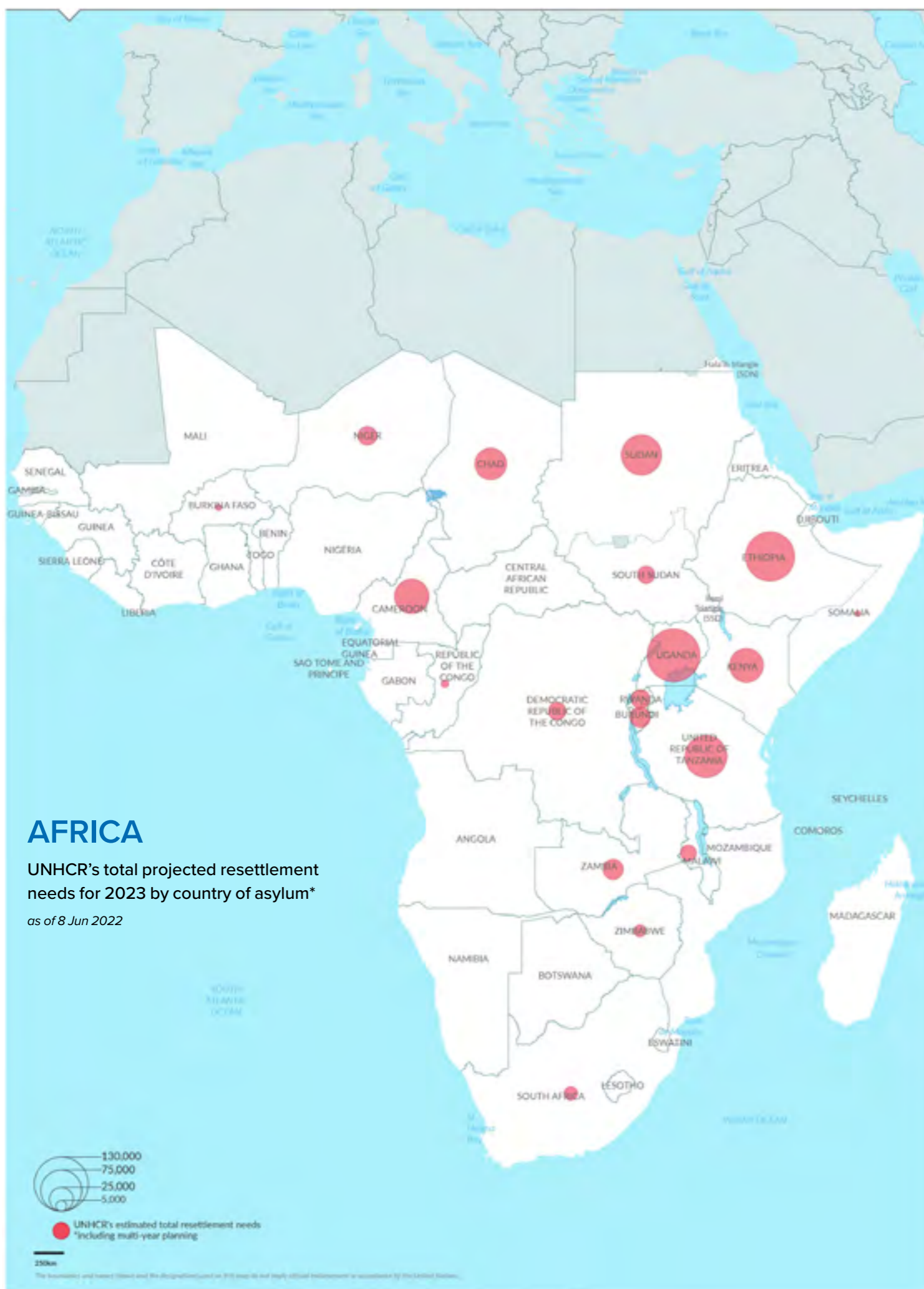
UNHCR country offices in the Africa region are supported through the three Regional Bureaus in Nairobi, Pretoria and Dakar that provide oversight, guidance, coordination, monitoring and support for resettlement and other solutions activities in the respective country operations. The Regional Bureaus offer support missions to interview refugees for resettlement; training and capacity development of staff and partners on the role of resettlement, resettlement categories, case identification, communication and expectation management, and fraud awareness and prevention; case quality control and timely submission of cases to resettlement countries; liaison and advocacy with resettlement countries at the regional level; and review of standard operating procedures. These activities ensure the maximum utilization of resettlement spaces, the harmonization of practices in particular vis-a-vis the same refugee populations in the region, and the quality and integrity of the processes. The Bureaus also ensure close collaboration between durable solutions and technical staff to enhance access to alternative pathway opportunities as well as facilitate knowledge exchange within and across regions. It facilitates knowledge exchange within and across regions and provides regular regional and country-specific trainings in support of quality resettlement activities and the expansion of opportunities for complementary pathways.

REGIONAL COVERAGE

The **Regional Bureau for the East, Horn of Africa and Great Lakes (EHAGL)** provides oversight, coordination and support to resettlement activities in Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Kenya remains a stand-alone operation but also benefits from the Bureau's coordination and capacity-building support.

The **Regional Bureau for West and Central Africa (RBWCA)** provides oversight, coordination, and support for resettlement activities in 21 countries, including two multi-country offices (MCO), in the region: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal MCO, Sierra Leone and Togo in West Africa, and Cameroon MCO, Central African Republic, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tome & Principe in Central Africa.

The **Regional Bureau for Southern Africa (RBSA)** provides oversight, guidance and support for resettlement and complementary pathway activities to 16 countries, including Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Malawi, Mozambique, Republic of Congo (ROC), Zambia and Zimbabwe as well as the nine countries covered by the South Africa Multi-Country Office (SAMCO), including Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles and South Africa.





Sudan, August 2021. Ethiopian refugee Tsebe Tekka, 50, sits in her shelter in Um Rakuba refugee camp in eastern Sudan. © UNHCR/Samuel Otieno

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES IN 2021

East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes

Resettlement was still severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021 due to movement restrictions, border closures and disrupted departures. Nevertheless, operations were able to gradually scale up resettlement processing by continuing to implement and create innovative mechanisms for case identification, remote interviewing and post-submission processes, as well as a gradual increase of in-person interviewing and counselling, in line with WHO guidelines and host country mitigation measures. In some countries in the region, in particular Ethiopia and Sudan, resettlement processing was also affected by ongoing conflict, political and civil upheaval and sporadic security incidents, causing serious challenges to accessing refugee populations.

A key milestone in 2021 was the reinstatement of group resettlement (P2) submissions to the United States from Rwanda and Tanzania. The Bureau supported this process through the development of a P2 group processing methodology incorporating a KoBo tool. This methodology will assist operations in processing cases (from identification, interview and submission to the P2 programme) in a consistent manner across the region. The new methodology will be implemented in early 2022. In addition, standard operating procedures for merged refugee status determination and resettlement processing were developed by the Bureau

and UNHCR Rwanda to facilitate more efficient processing for evacuees from Libya at the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) in Rwanda. This modality will be implemented in 2022.

The Bureau, together with UNHCR HQ/RCPS, engaged in continuous communication and advocacy with resettlement States to adjust targets and deadlines, when needed, and to expedite departures of the most vulnerable. As COVID-19 related movement restrictions were eased, the Bureau was able to conduct one oversight and several case processing support missions to boost operations' ability to meet resettlement quotas. The Bureau also provided case reviewing support for operations facing capacity challenges related to COVID-19 restrictions and staffing turnover.

Despite some constraints, the EHAGL Region was able to submit a total of 16,517 individuals in 2021. The pace of departures gradually increased during the year with a total of 9,585 individuals departing to 14 resettlement countries by year end – a doubling of departures as compared to the previous year.

West and Central Africa

Although the COVID-19 pandemic continued to cause disruption to resettlement and complementary pathways activities in late 2021 and early 2022, operations have become increasingly flexible and accustomed to adjusting their processing modalities to the situation. Remote interviews, initially adopted in response to the pandemic, are now frequently being used to overcome other health, security, environmental and logistical challenges that would otherwise prevent in-person interviews.

While progress was made in 2021 to bring connectivity to an increasing number of refugee camps in the region, the remote location of many camps, the inconsistent internet connectivity and unstable electricity supply continued to present a challenge to resettlement and complementary pathways activities undertaken in these affected areas. Furthermore, despite increased use of remote modalities, security incidents and political instability led to particularly problematic access challenges in some operations of the Central Sahel.

The resumption of regular resettlement departures in the second half of 2021 helped address the growing frustration of refugees accepted for resettlement who had been waiting for prolonged periods to depart on resettlement.

The advent of the 2021 comprehensive solutions strategy for Ivorian refugees and the corresponding escalation of voluntary repatriation are paving the way for the invocation of the cessation clause in June 2022 for this population. Substantial and successful investment has been made during this time to manage clearly heightened levels of unrealistic expectations around resettlement among the affected Ivorian population.

Fraud-prevention and integrity-strengthening activities carried out in 2021 and early 2022, including multiple joint support missions and mass-targeting campaigns, have contributed to greater awareness of the dangers of fraud within communities and an uptick in the reporting of fraud in the region.

In 2021, the region was able to submit 1,748 individuals for resettlement consideration while 1,197 individuals departed for resettlement.

Southern Africa

The landscape of 2021 provided many challenges in Southern Africa, specifically in the context of lower resettlement quotas in previous years and the ongoing global pandemic. Several countries in the region continued to experience COVID-19 waves in January 2021 and again in June and July 2021. New strains of COVID-19 identified in South Africa triggered high infection rates and curfews, forcing domestic and international travel restrictions, limiting access to refugee populations, and exacerbating existent protection risks. Still, resettlement missions to the region and departures to third countries began to slowly resume. Other persistent challenges in the region were related to slow asylum procedures, resulting in a backlog of 295,000 asylum-seekers in South Africa, Angola, Mozambique, ROC and Malawi, and restrictive refugee policies, notable in Botswana, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia.

Despite these challenges, the region has continued to implement new protocols to facilitate telework, conduct remote interviews and mitigate health risks. Operations in the region also supported virtual and in-person missions for some resettlement States. While adapting to the fluctuating situation, the Regional Bureau was also able to provide several key trainings to staff on topics like complementary pathways and strengthening anti-fraud measures. To the extent possible, resettlement and complementary pathway activities were strengthened and expanded. South Africa was selected to participate in a DuoLingo pilot project to assist students in accessing third country education opportunities, and resettlement activities resumed in some countries where they had previously been stalled.

In total, the region was able to facilitate 1,442 individuals for resettlement departures and submit 3,098 individuals for resettlement consideration in 2021. This represents a 187 per cent increase in departures and a 125 per cent increase in submissions compared to 2020, while still leaving a large population of almost 16,000 persons awaiting resettlement country processing.



Kenya, August 2021. Susan Ibiro, 33 years old at home with her family in Kalobeyei settlement camp. Susan fled her home country in 2016 due to insecurity and constant war in South Sudan. © UNHCR/Loduye Ghaisen

OUTLOOK FOR 2022/23

East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes

The operational environment is characterized by ongoing conflicts as well as heightened socio-economic fragility and political volatility. The region hosts almost 5 million refugees and asylum-seekers originating primarily from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia and Eritrea. Protracted and new situations, including as a result of conflict in Ethiopia, instability in Sudan, South Sudan, and the eastern parts of the DRC, are not expected to be resolved in 2023. Resource-driven intercommunal conflict, compounded by the effects of climate change, is on a sharp rise in the region. The region is also facing exponential increase in food insecurity among displaced populations and host communities due to combined adverse consequences of lack of resources, recurrent natural disasters and continued ration cuts for refugee populations, all further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many countries in the region are also characterized by fragile state institutions and governance. In 2023, elections are scheduled in South Sudan, Sudan and the DRC, with potential for increased instability and displacement.

The Bureau aims to enhance access to durable solutions, including by planning for solutions from the outset of displacement situations, and through the mobilization of material, technical and financial resources, new and existing networks of partners, and regional actors and platforms. The Bureau continues to expand and diversify its resettlement and complementary pathway activities. By improving operational standards, it seeks to deliver more coherent programmes that address refugees' needs with integrity, transparency and accountability. The overriding objective is to raise the quantity and quality of resettlement submissions. The significant increase in resettlement quotas to the United States, including group resettlement, provides further opportunities to use resettlement strategically to improve access to other durable solutions and improve protection for refugees who cannot be resettled. New partnerships remain a crucial component of the strategy for complementary pathways as engaging non-traditional actors is essential to expand the numbers of refugees accessing these solutions.

West and Central Africa

The West and Central Africa region continues to be one of the most unstable and risk-prone regions in the world. The environment remains highly complex, with a significant prevalence of political instability and growing competition for increasingly scarce resources. This competition for resources frequently turns to violent conflict in many parts of the region and has already forced hundreds of thousands of people to flee.

By the end of 2021, the population of concern in West and Central Africa had risen by 1 million, to a total of 11.9 million persons of concern. This has a significant impact on many operations in the region, notably those covering the crises in the Central Sahel, Lake Chad Basin, northwest, southwest and far north of Cameroon.

Despite the very significant risks involved, complex mixed movement flows persist throughout the region, with refugees in protracted situations increasingly turning to these in the face of growing hardship and a lack of available opportunities. This is particularly the case in the protracted Sudanese refugee situation in eastern Chad.

Against this backdrop, RBWCA activities in 2023 will be focused on a greater strategic use of resettlement and complementary pathways as protection tools, especially in the context of dangerous mixed movements, which are increasingly attracting vulnerable refugees in protracted situations across the region. The ETM in Niger will continue to play a critical role in responding to the challenge of dangerous mixed movements, as will the strategic use of resettlement activities in country operations located earlier along mixed movement routes and UNHCR's continued advocacy for sustained resettlement quotas in these countries.

Building on the strategic mapping of complementary pathways opportunities through education in the region in 2020 and 2021, RBWCA and the regional bureaus in the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes and the Middle East and North Africa, in consultation with the Office of the Special Envoy for the Central Mediterranean, are exploring the feasibility of an inter-regional initiative in 2023 to better understand and further mitigate against the growing numbers of refugees joining perilous mixed movements across the continent.

A further priority will be an enhanced focus on resettlement's role as a key protection solution in the face of the continued and growing prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), which is associated with the many conflicts underway in the region and rapidly diminishing access to resources.

Following the challenges faced in 2021, RBWCA will strengthen support to operations in enhancing identification procedures to ensure greater reliability and predictability to meet resettlement quotas. Advocacy for small, realistic and sustainable local quotas in smaller operations will continue, especially for those operations situated in the Central Sahel region.

Southern Africa

In line with the Global Compact on Refugees, the RBSA anticipates an upscaling of resettlement and complementary pathways in 2022 and 2023, while also supporting departures of resettlement cases already in process. To increase access to durable solutions, there is a need to harmonize and reinforce staffing in many operations.

In the region, UNHCR has adapted to the ongoing pandemic and activities, including in-person missions and deployments, have restarted with further increases of such activities planned in 2022. Countries in the region continue to roll out their COVID-19 vaccination programmes although access and participation rates have lagged behind, particularly in the DRC, Madagascar, Zambia and Malawi.

Moving forward, the Bureau will use resettlement and complementary pathways strategically to create a dialogue with local embassies to expand access these solutions. This approach is an important aspect of responsibility sharing and to foster international cooperation aligned with pledges made at the Global Refugee Forum. RBSA plans to build the capacity of associations, organizations and communities to empower refugees to pursue other safe pathways. In 2022 and 2023, activities by RBSA to promote resettlement within the region will include communication and reporting with resettlement States and commitment to reliable and valid data management. In 2022, all countries are now using proGres v4 in the region and several countries, including Zambia, have planned verification exercises to ensure the data is accurate and up to date. The Bureau will also advise country operations on submission guidelines, periodically conduct trainings on integrity and anti-fraud, and monitor compliance with global resettlement policies and case management best practices.



Kenya, January 2022. UNHCR, through its partners, provides trauma training to teachers and school staff. The training enables them to give learners crucial psychosocial support. ; In 2022 over 80,000 refugee learners were registered in pre-primary, primary, and secondary school levels. © UNHCR/Pauline Omagwa

RESETTLEMENT NEEDS IN 2023

East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes

Governments have generally maintained open-door asylum policies, adopted progressive national refugee frameworks, and promoted the inclusion of refugees into national systems. However, several countries restrict some fundamental rights and local integration remains a challenging prospect, particularly in the aftermath of COVID-19. Many refugees have lost their income due to COVID-19 restrictions and rely on humanitarian assistance, which is affected by significant funding shortfalls. Assisted returns resumed in early 2021 following the re-opening of borders and the progressive lifting of movement restrictions. 267,000 South Sudanese refugees spontaneously returned to South Sudan in 2021; it is expected that this upward trend continues in 2022-2023. Assisted returns to Burundi and Somalia are also expected to continue through 2022 and 2023. However, ongoing conflicts and instability in the region indicate that return opportunities remain limited for the foreseeable future.

Within this context, resettlement needs are summarized as follows:

Congolese refugees: The region hosts over 755,013 refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC, the majority of whom originate from North and South Kivu and (former) Oriental/Ituri Provinces. Some arrived in their country of asylum in the early 1990s. Although the rate of outflows from the DRC was lower in 2020 than in previous years, tens of thousands of people still fled across borders. A large number have compelling protection needs, including women at risk, survivors of violence and torture, children at risk, and individuals of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Congolese refugees will therefore form the largest number of resettlement submissions in 2023.

South Sudanese refugees: The South Sudan situation remains the largest refugee crisis in Africa with 2.27 million South Sudanese refugees hosted mainly in Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya. The IGAD Solutions Initiative launched in October 2020 can contribute to an integrated protection and solutions strategy for South Sudanese refugees, but considerable challenges remain. Many refugees are hosted in remote and economically under-served areas, impacted by food insecurity, and suffer from limited access to basic services. Many are survivors of violence, have been displaced multiple times, and have no sources of livelihoods. Resettlement, mainly from Uganda and Ethiopia, will target the most vulnerable as a protection tool.

Eritrean refugees: There are 310,970 Eritrean refugees in the region, mostly hosted by Ethiopia and Sudan. A key challenge concerns the high number of onward movements, some of which is to urban centres in asylum countries. The majority, including many unaccompanied minors and separated children, move to third countries, often falling prey to smugglers and traffickers. In late 2020, armed conflict between the Ethiopian Government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front displaced thousands of Eritrean refugees from the northern camps in Ethiopia. In the context of near impossibility of voluntary repatriation to Eritrea and the ongoing conflict in Ethiopia, resettlement needs of Eritrean refugees have increased significantly. In 2023, the Bureau will use resettlement as a protection tool for the most vulnerable of this population.



Nigeria, November 2021. Asu Ben Abang, 65, is President of Community 33 in Adagom Refugee Settlement 1. He is father of seven and lives with his wife in the settlement since 2018 when they fled a part of Cameroon where secessionist groups and the army continue in an armed conflict. Ben has received both shots of the Covid-19 vaccine and he is one of the Great Step Initiative's volunteers who uses his connections in the community to help break myths and encourage people to prevent the spread and take the shot. © UNHCR/Roland Schönbauer

Ethiopian refugees: There are around 143,963 Ethiopian refugees in the region. Since the start of the Tigray conflict, tens of thousands of Ethiopians have crossed the border to seek refuge in Sudan. While many wish to return home as soon as the current conflict subsides, some have urgent protection and resettlement needs. Unaccompanied and separated Tigrayan refugee children in Sudan have reported attempts by military forces to forcefully recruit them, and the risk of smuggling/trafficking of minors and youth both from camps in Sudan is a key concern. Many Ethiopian women and girls are extremely vulnerable, including those whose husbands have gone missing in Ethiopia or in smuggling or trafficking incidents in Sudan. Many are also survivors of violence, including rape and forced/early marriage and face ostracism as a result.

Somali refugees: There are 573,698 Somali refugees in the region. Widespread insecurity, political fragility and humanitarian emergencies continue to define

Somalia. The biggest Somali refugee population, around 278,998, is hosted by Kenya and most reside in Dadaab Refugee Camp. Kenya is increasingly promoting return as the primary solution for Somali refugees. The most significant challenge is finding resettlement opportunities for refugees with specific protection needs who are unable to return, as well as vulnerable individuals in the urban context, and individuals of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Ethiopia hosts around 200,000 Somali refugees, many of whom have lived in protracted displacement for almost three decades. New refugees displaced by insecurity and drought continue to arrive. The reduction in food assistance and lack of alternative sources of income affect the ability of refugees to meet their basic needs. Many women and girls are exposed to heightened protection risks, including sexual and gender-based violence. A high number of young Somali refugees attempt risky onward movement. Resettlement will target those with most compelling protection needs, often those living in protracted situations.

West and Central Africa

There are no immediate indications that the precarious security or environmental situations that persist in many parts of the West and Central Africa region will dissipate in 2023. In addition to the very significant increase in the number of persons of concern in the region in 2021, levels of acute malnutrition have never been so high and competition for resources is giving rise to increasing numbers of inter-communal conflicts. As such, it is reasonable to anticipate that the region will continue to experience progressively larger displacements of populations, among which will be refugees with high levels of vulnerability, including survivors of violence and torture, survivors of gender-based violence, disabled persons and persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. As living conditions become progressively more untenable and the protection context more dangerous, refugees are expected to join perilous mixed movements in increasing numbers. Resettlement will be used as an effective protection tool to address the needs of the most vulnerable refugees, including to strategically prevent them from undertaking dangerous onward movements.

Southern Africa

In 2023, approximately 60,861 refugees are projected to be in need of resettlement in the Southern Africa region. The largest anticipated needs are calculated by Zambia (18,278), the DRC (13,663), Malawi (11,500) and SAMCO (8,100), followed by Zimbabwe (6,483), ROC (2,537) and Mozambique (300). The refugees from the region in need of resettlement mainly originate from the DRC, Burundi, CAR, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Rwanda.

Refugees from the DRC live in a protracted situation in several countries in the region, many having fled from ethnic and/or political conflict. Within this refugee population, there are a significant number of survivors of violence and women-at-risk, including gender-based violence survivors. Other refugee populations like those from CAR, Ethiopia, Somalia and South Sudan also face continuing conflict in their countries of origin. The situation in Burundi is being monitored. Depending on the specific area of origin, voluntary repatriation is not facilitated in places of ongoing insecurity. Local integration prospects are also limited. Resettlement will, therefore,

remain a key durable solution for these populations in the region, along with support for complementary pathways.

Within these populations, refugees in protracted situations, individuals at risk of refoulement or those with vulnerable profiles, such as individuals of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities or those with serious medical conditions, will be prioritized for resettlement consideration.

Continued advocacy for quotas to meet these needs is therefore essential and cases submitted must be indicative of a quality identification standard. Therefore, the continuation of a skilled cadre of resettlement staff is needed within the region to enable coordinated, reasoned and timely support to and advocacy for country operations with high resettlement needs and to expand the availability of complementary pathways in Southern Africa.

AFRICA: 2023 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	CASES	PERSONS
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes	135,658	485,241
Southern Africa	17,837	60,561
West & Central Africa	35,739	116,210
Grand Total	189,234	662,012

*including multi-year planning

FIELD STORY

MALAWI

There is a saying that every cloud has a silver lining. I also believe every heart needs hope. As an aid worker, and specifically as a resettlement caseworker, I am dedicated to the work I do because, through this service, we are that silver lining in the dark clouds of the painful pasts of persons of concern. A past of war, torture and pain. We are their rainbow in the sky. In my line of work, this is particularly so, for the most vulnerable persons who are identified to be in need of resettlement.

Out of the cases I interviewed in 2021, one particular case reminded me of the beauty of the work we do. It is the case of eight-month-old, baby Hope*, born with obstructive hydrocephalus. The first time I interviewed the family, I knew Hope needed help, and fast. She was struggling to breathe - her breathing could be heard from several meters away - and my heart pained for her and her young mother who had made it to Malawi several years ago as a survivor of violence and torture and was now living in Dzaleka Refugee Camp, Malawi. Hope's mother narrated how, besides the difficulties she faced in the refugee camp as a single mother to her three children and as guardian to her two younger siblings, Hope's serious medical condition was taking a toll on her. Hope's family was submitted for resettlement and their case was accepted almost immediately.

On the day Hope's mother was given her acceptance letter to Sweden, I happened to be in the refugee camp, conducting other interviews. Before I had started my interviews, I met her in morning as she was entering the camp office and I asked how Hope was doing.

"She seems to be getting worse, I pray we get accepted for resettlement, hopefully that will save her life," said the young mother, her eyes welling up with tears. Shortly after, Hope's mother got her acceptance letter and burst into my office. She was crying and hugged me so tightly and said, "my daughter will live because of the good work you did for us, thank you for interviewing us, I will never forget you." Much as I was trying hard not to cry, I couldn't help it. Interviewing this case was one of the many moments in my many years of refugee resettlement that I have been reminded of the importance of the work we do. This young mother's reaction was all the reward I needed. This young mother's reaction and her words gave me a boost of energy. A few weeks later, Hope and her family were resettled.

Given the desperate living conditions in Dzaleka Refugee Camp, and the fact that due to diminishing resources, a number of families have been taken off the food rations list, I know there will be more suffering for the persons of concern in Dzaleka Refugee Camp than there has been before. Previously, the rate of teenage pregnancies in the camp was high due to meagre food rations. This made young women easily lured into early motherhood, by men who could buy them food or very basic provisions like soap. Some single mothers also resorted to harmful coping mechanisms to feed their children. The encampment policy, which further limits

* Name changed to protect the individual's identity.

the ability of persons of concern to work and provide for themselves, puts refugee families in Malawi in a tough situation - no parent would wish to watch their children cry of hunger, yet they can do little about it.

The Malawi Resettlement Team hopes to be a part of changing many more lives, like that of Hope and her family, through resettlement opportunities. As resettlement staff, we don't just do interviews, we help change lives and possibly generations to come. We rekindle hope for families. One of the beautiful things in life is watching a caterpillar turn into a butterfly and my work reminds me of that - the persons of concern we serve are not in a beautiful situation, but once resettled they have that chance to spread their wings and fly.

BERYL ODUOR

Resettlement Expert deployed by RefugePoint to UNHCR Malawi

FIELD STORY

TONGO, ETHIOPIA

I joined UNHCR field operations in May 2017, as a registration assistant in response to the emergency camp establishment of Gure-Shombola Refugee Camp of the Assosa Operation.

My main task was to ensure that newly arrived refugees were received and properly registered. With the high number of new arrivals received every day, it was a very demanding job in need of a lot of patience and understanding. Refugees were still traumatized from their experience, some were children separated from their parents during displacement and other elderly refugees that needed caretakers, and they would be in shock while undergoing registration.

It is important as a UNHCR staff to ensure that these refugees feel safe and are able to access basic needs. Thus, in addition to registration, I was also engaged in community-based protection activities in the camp, focusing on education, refugee women and unaccompanied and separated children.

Engaging directly with refugees is very important, since it gives you the chance to understand them firsthand and be able to identify their needs.

With my knowledge in Arabic, I would communicate with refugees and listen to their experience, their aspiration, and goals. Their stories made me want to work hard and make sure their needs were heard and met. I made sure to educate myself regarding the services that we (UNHCR) could provide. It assisted me to better help refugees during my engagement with them.



Ethiopia, 2021. Celebrating Women's Day in Tongo Refugee Camp. ©UNHCR Ethiopia



Ethiopia, 2021. Gure Shombola refugee students after they received material assistance as preparation to start their university studies. ©UNHCR Ethiopia

I transitioned to the resettlement unit in 2022 and that's when I saw the other aspect of working for refugees, now, towards a durable solution. As a registration assistant, I was focusing mainly on my assigned refugee camp, but currently I am working for refugees found in the remaining camps of the operation. While I have limited community engagement, I now am able to give refugees my undivided attention during individual interviews.

I was able to smoothly transition to my new position thanks to the experience I gained from my supervisors and colleagues, including from the resettlement unit, the knowledge I gained through trainings, and due to my experience in the registration activities in interviewing and using the various registration tools, including BIMS and proGres platforms.

Truly speaking, my current position as a case worker is demanding and requires patience and understanding. During interviews, refugees can be reluctant to share their stories and relive the experiences they went through in their home countries. Also, you need to be able to work efficiently to meet deadlines.

It has been three months since I joined the resettlement unit, and I am excited to achieve more and better serve refugees because there is no more rewarding feeling than helping vulnerable refugees, despite the odds, be able to change their lives and become the person they always knew they are!

SARA KELIFA IBRAHIM

Resettlement Associate, UNHCR Ethiopia

FIELD STORY

AMDJARASS, CHAD

My first work experience after completing my higher education was at the UNHCR office in Amdjarass, a distant, rural field office located more than 1,000 km from the Chadian capital, N'Djamena. I took my first steps as a Voluntary Repatriation Associate working with Sudanese refugees.

Very quickly though, voluntary repatriation activities were interrupted when insecurity in North and West Darfur returned. While carrying out my role in voluntary repatriation, and with the team spirit that has always characterized this small office and its tight-knit team, I had to familiarize myself with more general protection and became fascinated by the very intense and ambitious resettlement activities.

The opportunity for me to join the resettlement team came when I was selected for the role of Senior Resettlement Assistant. The joy of joining the team was great, but soon I realized things were not as easy as they had seemed on the outside. There were large numbers of queries, short and tight deadlines, all needing attention: it gave me the chills and the desire to slam the door. I hadn't realized that resettlement was scientific, based on method and order.

However, I then had the presence of mind to contact colleagues in other offices about the aspects I did not understand, and everything got back on track. My visits to the Oure-Cassoni camp, located 50 km from the town of Amdjarass, were frequent, as counseling and awareness sessions on resettlement criteria and processes for the many refugees who expressed the need for them, were my first occupations. As I progressed, resettlement became for me one of the best durable solutions that UNHCR could provide to refugees. It represented hope and a better life to leave behind the trauma of flight and life in a refugee camp.

One of the refugee stories that sticks with me is a mixture of emotion, resilience, anxiety and newfound joy. This story is about a 35-year-old



Refugee family in Chad. ©UNHCR Chad



Refugee children in the hotel prior to departure. ©UNHCR Chad

refugee, identified under the criteria of survivors of violence and/or torture in 2020; it is a recent case, but the longest time possible for the refugee. Each time he came in for counseling, the emotions were great because the desire to leave life in the camp was visible. One of the hardest moments for the refugee was the day he denounced those who had orchestrated an assault on his female cousins, which drew the ire of the local population involved in the attacks. Under the imminent threat of death and the absence of an immediate solution, life in hiding was the only option left to him. UNHCR's advocacy with the local authorities on the guiding principles of refugees' right to physical integrity helped ensure his protection, and thus allowed the refugee to catch his breath.

Finally, his dream became a reality: his travel date had been set. Joy is on everyone's lips, as leaving a precarious life for a more secure destination that promises respect for human rights is a common dream of Sudanese refugees who rush daily into the resettlement office. The needs are immense, while the opportunities limited.

It is at the point of final departure that the Senior Resettlement Assistant truly recognizes his or her importance in the chain of finding durable solutions.

ASSOUE PASCAL MAMOUR

Senior Resettlement Assistant
UNHCR Field Office Amdjarass, Chad

FIELD STORY

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

The last seven years in UNHCR feel like they have gone by more quickly than the years before. I sometimes wonder how these seven years went by so fast and why it feels like I joined UNHCR yesterday when it was years ago. I joined UNHCR in June 2016, as a Resettlement Associate, in the Assosa operation and I later moved to Addis Ababa in the same capacity.

When I first started doing resettlement interviews, I would become emotional, and my eyes became wet seeing a young man in front of me crying while telling me his story of his country of origin and what happened to him and his parents. After completing these interviews, I would ask myself if this was the right job for me. How am I going to continue with such work packed with emotion and pain? I could not get rid of some stories from my mind at night. I was not sure if I would want to continue with resettlement work. However, I was encouraged knowing these refugees whom I interviewed would leave the camp one day and go to a country where they would live peacefully.

I cannot forget one refugee from Eritrea whom I interviewed in 2019. He was a man in his 50's, confined to a wheelchair and had speech difficulty. He was paralyzed because of what happened to him in an Eritrean prison but was a mentally strong and spiritual person. I felt sorry for him, but his stamina and mental toughness reassured me. After I finished his interview, he looked at me, and said, "I will pray for you". I am not sure what made him want to pray for me. Anyway, I thanked him, and he left the room. Afterwards, I kept checking the status of his resettlement case. Then, one day in 2021, I learned that he had departed to Canada. I was thrilled knowing he was in Canada, hoping he was in a better country with good accessibility for a person like him using a wheelchair. Then I said to myself, this is my reward and this is why seven years feel like yesterday. Though resettlement work is demanding, stressful, and always a race against time, it is also rewarding and satisfying when you see people you worked with depart.

This rewarding work makes me go the extra mile; it makes me work on some cases even after working hours or on the weekends, because I know one extra hour can mean a full extra year of safety to a refugee. The reward always makes you forget stressful moments.

DERARA MOLE

Resettlement Associate, UNHCR Ethiopia



Ethiopia, September 2021. Eritrean refugees trapped by the Tigray conflict. © UNHCR/Olga Sarrado Mur

THE AMERICAS

Aruba and Curaçao
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Mexico
The Northern and Eastern Caribbean
Panama and Guyana
Peru
Trinidad and Tobago



THE AMERICAS OVERVIEW

In a region hosting more than 18.4 million refugees, asylum-seekers, displaced and stateless people, many persons continue facing obstacles to exercise basic human rights and enjoy self-reliance due to limited access to regularization and documentation. Further, such obstacles are exacerbated by the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, triggering loss of livelihoods, increased evictions and negative coping mechanisms, as well as heightened discrimination and xenophobia.

With estimated resettlement needs for over 77,800 individuals in 2023, representing an increase of almost 40 per cent compared to 2022, resettlement will continue to be used in the Americas region as a strategic tool to ensure protection and to offer durable solutions to the most vulnerable individuals.

REGIONAL COVERAGE

The Regional Bureau for the Americas provides oversight, coordination and support for resettlement activities in 16 countries and territories covered by 10 UNHCR operations throughout the region: Aruba, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Northern and Eastern Caribbean, Panama, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago.

In 2023, activities by the Regional Bureau to promote and facilitate resettlement within the region will include: ensuring coordination and harmonization of resettlement approaches in line with the regional protection and solution strategy and providing increased technical assistance and support to resettlement operations. In its coordination and technical assistance role to operations in the region, the Bureau supports the planning and programming of resettlement activities, offers support missions to interview refugees for resettlement and to review cases, organizes training and capacity building to UNHCR staff and partners on case identification, submissions, integrity and coordination with States, ensures case quality control and timely submissions, and liaises and advocates with resettlement States at the regional level.

Another key role of the Americas Bureau is to oversee the quality and integrity of resettlement processes. The Bureau will continue promoting and supporting the development and harmonization of standard operating procedures in collaboration with operations under its coverage. These activities are aimed at ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of resettlement as a protection tool and durable solution available to cases at heightened risk in the region. The Bureau also ensures close collaboration with operations to enhance and expand access to complementary pathways opportunities. For operations in the North of Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and Mexico, the Regional Bureau will continue providing direct support, supervision and review of cases for both the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA) and the regular resettlement programmes. The Bureau will also provide regular support, guidance and ad hoc review of resettlement of cases for operations in South America, namely Ecuador, Colombia and Peru. The Bureau



will further support the structuring and expansion of the resettlement programme launched in 2022 in Costa Rica. Finally, the Bureau will expand its support to the UNHCR Multi-Country Offices in Washington and Panama to strengthen and expand resettlement activities in their respective areas of responsibility in the Caribbean, including Aruba, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES IN 2021

By the end of 2021, over 18.53 million individuals remained uprooted in the region. The number of persons of concern to UNHCR in the Americas has grown by 25 per cent since 2019 and is expected to continue increasing in upcoming years. Furthermore, the region is one of the worst affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, existing socioeconomic and structural inequalities in the sub-region have significantly deepened, and living conditions of refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons have worsened, exposing them to greater risks of exploitation, abuse and xenophobia.

In a context marked by unprecedented displacement trends and the shrinking of protection space for person of concern, the Americas region experienced a significant increase of resettlement opportunities, totaling approximately 4,500 submissions for the year 2021 - the highest number of submissions ever recorded in the region. This reflects a nearly 140 per cent increase from the number of submissions in 2020 (1,894). Increasing resettlement opportunities have led to the expansion of the number of countries of asylum and UNHCR operations where resettlement is used as a protection and durable solution for individuals at heightened risk. The expansion of resettlement programmes in the region is expected to continue in 2022 and 2023 under the Multi-Year Resettlement Plan developed by Bureau.

Despite the increased number of individuals submitted under the various resettlement and PTA programmes, 2021 saw a 20 per cent decrease in departures, with only 794 persons traveling to resettlement countries.

Venezuela Situation

By the end of 2021, the number of refugees and migrants from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela surpassed 6 million globally. Close to 83 per cent of them are hosted in Latin America and the Caribbean. More than 186,000 have been recognized as refugees and over

952,000 have lodged asylum claims. An additional 2.6 million have been granted some form of residency or regular stay permit in the region.

In 2021, governments in the region continued implementing key initiatives to facilitate the access of Venezuelans to legal stay arrangements. Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Peru have implemented various alternative legal stay arrangements for Venezuelans that provide them with documentation and improve their access to rights. In 2021, more than 500,000 Venezuelan applicants were approved for some form of regular stay while thousands of refugees and migrants also benefited from regularization.



El Salvador, April 2022. Community leaders representing marginalized neighbourhoods in San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador, after a meeting with UNHCR employees during which they outlined the hardships they face. Many neighbourhoods are beset by gang violence and residents sometimes find themselves facing the choice of fleeing their homes or living with the risk of being killed. © UNHCR/Nicolo Filippo Rosso

Despite these measures, considerable numbers of Venezuelan refugees and migrants remain in an irregular situation, facing complex protection challenges. The situation is of particular concern for vulnerable profiles with limited prospects to enjoy effective protection and solutions.

The socio-economic impact of COVID-19 has further exacerbated protection challenges and vulnerabilities among the refugee population. The loss of income, the risk of eviction and the rise of xenophobic attitudes in certain contexts are demonstrative of the shrinking protection space available for uprooted populations. COVID-19 has also impacted resettlement activities in the region during 2021, with movement restrictions, border closures, suspension of resettlement State selection missions, disrupted departures and persons of concern unable to attend resettlement interviews, among other factors.

Despite these constraints, 2021 saw the expansion of the resettlement programme in Ecuador, with a total number of 1,090 refugees submitted for resettlement. 2021 also recorded the launch of resettlement programmes in two new operations - Colombia and Peru – the two countries in the region hosting the largest numbers of Venezuelan refugees and migrants.

Caribbean Region

The Caribbean region continues to be profoundly impacted by the arrival of Venezuelan refugees and migrants. At the end of 2021, approximately 200,000 persons of concern were hosted in that region. A considerable proportion of them remains unregistered and in an irregular situation, facing increasing risks with limited access to rights and protection alternatives and often turning to negative coping mechanisms.

At the end of 2021, the Dominican Republic was the largest host country of Venezuelans in the Caribbean region, with over 115,000 individuals and more than 60 per cent of them in an irregular situation. Additionally, the UNHCR office in Dominican Republic has increasingly been approached by individuals arriving from Haiti seeking protection on account of the deteriorating security and political situation in their country of origin.

Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Aruba and Curaçao hosted more than 83,000 persons of concern, the majority of whom are Venezuelan refugees, at the end of 2021. In Trinidad and Tobago, most persons of concern to UNHCR are regarded by authorities as residing in the country irregularly and are therefore exposed to the risk of detention and deportation. In both Aruba and Curaçao, Venezuelans are primarily undocumented, with limited access to rights and services and not protected against refoulement. They are frequently detained on charges of irregular stay, sometimes for prolonged periods and in dire conditions. In Guyana, despite efforts by UNHCR to improve the protection environment and legal framework for refugees, the prospects for local integration remain extremely challenging for refugees, particularly non-Venezuelans.

In Cuba, UNHCR continues to work with the Government to promote its accession to international refugee instruments and to establish national refugee protection mechanisms. Although local conditions are challenging and legal residency opportunities are limited, UNHCR is encouraging the local integration of a few Syrian and Yemeni refugees, based on their family ties to Cuban citizens. In view of the above, resettlement is used as a protection tool and considered the most viable durable solution for the majority of refugees who do not arrive under a government-sponsored programme.

In 2021, despite numerous challenges, UNHCR operations in the Caribbean managed to submit a total of 351 individuals for resettlement, the highest figure ever recorded in the region, representing an 85 per cent increase from the previous year.

NORTH OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO

The number of people displaced in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras increased in 2021, and is expected to rise further in 2022. Close to 600,000 asylum-seekers and refugees from these countries have been uprooted - most of them are in Costa Rica, Mexico or the United States of America. Additionally, around 320,000 people are reportedly internally displaced in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, though actual figures could be higher. The root causes of displacement — violence, territorial control by gangs, institutional fragility, erosion of rule of law/governance and inequality — have been compounded by the multi-faceted impacts of climate



Ecuador, April 2022. Adela, a Colombian refugee, shows the damage to her home in Esmeraldas, Ecuador, after the March 26 earthquake in Esmeraldas. Two of the walls of her house collapsed. © UNHCR/Loduye Ghaisen

change, natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic. Continuous efforts to address these root causes of migration and forced displacement remain essential.

Strengthened asylum capacities of States have enabled the processing of more asylum applications and provided alternative protection for those in need. The number of asylum-seekers and refugees in Central America and Mexico rose from around 33,000 in 2015 to over 296,000 by mid-2021. Mexico has become the third largest recipient country of asylum claims in the world with more than 130,000 new asylum applications in 2021. Similarly, Central American States, while remaining mostly transit countries, are increasingly hosting people in search of protection.

The increased control and activities of criminal organizations and the upsurge in violence and insecurity continue affecting countries in the North of Central America. High rates of sexual and gender-based violence places women and girls among the main high-risk groups of the displaced population, both within and across the

borders. Persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities are another group significantly affected by high rates of violence and hate crimes. Further exacerbating the situation is the deterioration of income sources due to confinement during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has exacerbated survival sex, forced prostitution and sexual exploitation. Children and adolescents remain exposed to grave human rights violations, early marriage, trafficking, abuse, exploitation and other forms of violence at the hands of criminal groups.

Despite favorable legal frameworks, refugees and asylum-seekers continue facing obstacles in accessing and exercising their rights and face protection risks while in search of protection in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. These include challenges in accessing land, limitations in accessing fair and efficient asylum procedures, delays and difficulties in acquiring documentation, and obstacles in the fulfilment of fundamental rights and access to livelihoods.

In the North of Central America, the implementation of PTA and resettlement programmes in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador continued representing a key protection response for individuals at heightened risk. In 2021, 2,362 persons were submitted under PTA programmes, up from 1,128 in 2020. 2021 recorded the highest figure in terms of submissions, doubling the one of previous years. In the case of Mexico, 220 persons were submitted for resettlement, representing a 250 per cent increase compared to the number of submissions in 2020.

Similar to the trends registered in other parts of the Americas, resettlement and PTA departures from countries in the North of Central America region continued to be affected by the impact of COVID-19 and related travel restrictions, recording a decrease of 13 per cent from previous year.

In 2021, Costa Rica started to pilot the implementation of a resettlement programme for Nicaraguan refugees. The country currently hosts approximately 172,000 persons of concern, including 10,391 refugees and more than 162,000 asylum-seekers. The exponential increase of new applications has strained the Costa Rican asylum system. Challenges stem from the sheer number of pending applications, which has created backlogs in registering, documenting and adjudicating cases. While recognized refugees and asylum-seekers have the right to access education and work, public services are often insufficient, unavailable or difficult to access. Livelihoods and economic inclusion also remain difficult to access for asylum-seekers and refugees.

OUTLOOK FOR 2022/23

Venezuela Situation

As the underlying factors of the humanitarian crisis in Venezuela remain unresolved, persistent outflows of thousands of refugees and migrants from Venezuela, coupled with considerable transit and onward movements between countries, will continue to characterize the movement dynamics of Venezuelans. In parallel, most refugees and migrants from Venezuela have spent multiple years in their host countries. As a result, needs of refugees and asylum-seekers from Venezuela go beyond immediate life-saving interventions and include access to asylum and regularization, longer-term protection, self-reliance and integration.

Despite the generosity of host communities and governments, Venezuelan refugees across the region will continue facing increasing challenges related to growing unemployment and poverty, constraints accessing education and basic services, as well as serious protection risks linked to their irregular status. Those particularly affected will be individuals facing specific vulnerabilities or at heightened protection risks. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated social and economic inequalities prevailing in the region, aggravating protection risks and creating a perilous environment for refugees and migrants from Venezuela, where public displays of xenophobia, violent manifestations and discrimination are prevalent.

In this context, resettlement remains a key component of UNHCR's protection strategy, both as an effective tool to address protection challenges and as durable solution. As part of the Region's Multi-Year Strategy, an upscaling of resettlement for Venezuelans is foreseen in 2022 and 2023.

Colombia Situation

Despite efforts of the Government of Colombia to address armed violence, in 2021 more than 130,000 newly displaced people were reported by the National Registry of Victims. New displacement, confinement, violence and control by illegal armed groups, together with the COVID-19 pandemic, posed further challenges to advancing solutions for internally displaced persons and improving humanitarian access. Clashes between illegal armed groups have continued in 2022 and have impacted local communities across the country.

Resettlement will remain a key protection tool to address the situation of specific profiles of Colombian refugees in Ecuador at heightened risk for whom protection is not secured in the hosting country.

North of Central America and Mexico

While efforts to address the root causes of migration and forced displacement continue to be implemented to stabilize populations with acute needs, expanding access to resettlement and PTA opportunities will be essential to address the situation of those at heightened risk for whom local protection alternatives are not available. Significant investments are required to sustain the scale-up of the resettlement programmes for the region for 2022 and 2023. The PTA will continue

to represent a central component of the UNHCR protection strategy, interconnected with all aspects of UNHCR’s work with partners, civil society and institutions.

For 2022, Mexico remains one of the largest recipient countries of asylum claims worldwide, with close to 30,000 applications received during the first three months of 2022. The dramatic increase in asylum applications has posed several challenges to Mexico’s asylum system. Despite efforts to strengthen the national asylum system, as well as reception arrangements and local integration opportunities, refugees and asylum-seekers continue to face many challenges. UNHCR in Mexico will continue to prioritize for resettlement refugees facing serious risks to their personal safety, health or well-being, and those with serious or compounded vulnerabilities. Asylum-seekers and refugees of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities face serious discrimination, and women and girls are at high risk of sexual exploitation or gender-based violence.

Costa Rica

Due to the political situation in Nicaragua, population outflows have increased, mainly to Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras and the United States. In Costa Rica, the number of Nicaraguan asylum-seekers has reached 146,000, with the monthly rate of pre-registration asylum applications rising from an average of 4,000 people per month between January and May 2021 to 11,700 people from August to December 2021.

The response to the needs of Nicaraguans seeking international protection will continue to focus on strengthening access to asylum systems, regular stay arrangements and documentation. However, the piloting of a resettlement programme represents an opportunity to expand protection alternatives for cases at heightened risk as well as a tangible way to increase international cooperation to the efforts of the Costa Rican authorities to address the increasing risks faced by this refugee population.

Caribbean Region

In the Dominican Republic, UNHCR will continue to encourage more favorable asylum policies to benefit the wider population of concern and will continue to coordinate the humanitarian response to Venezuelans, jointly with IOM in the framework of the R4V Inter-Agency Platform for Refugees and Migrants. At the same time UNHCR will continue providing legal orientation and support to persons of concern, especially to prevent detention, refoulement and eviction risks, as well as offer psychological support and multi-purpose cash assistance to the most vulnerable. In this context and in line with regional scale-up of resettlement for Venezuelan refugees, UNHCR will continue using resettlement strategically to provide alternatives to refugees with the most urgent protection needs and vulnerabilities.

In Trinidad and Tobago, UNHCR will continue working to enhance the protection space and promote access to solutions. In the absence of a national asylum adjudication system, UNHCR undertakes registration of asylum-seekers and conducts refugee status determination under its mandate. Without a legal status, many persons of concern who did not or were not eligible to register under the Government’s registration exercise conducted in 2019 continue to face challenges

accessing basic services, financial inclusion and employment. Resettlement will remain a strategic protection tool for cases at heightened risk and vulnerable profiles.

In Guyana, as the impact of the Venezuela situation persists, resettlement will continue to be used primarily as a protection tool for individual cases as well as a responsibility sharing tool.

The likelihood of voluntary repatriation is low for most refugees in the region. With regards to the growing Venezuelan population in the region, the most likely planning scenarios foresee a continued deterioration of the situation and project persistent outflows of refugees from Venezuela to the southern Caribbean, with very low likelihood of large-scale voluntary returns in 2022.

In Cuba, resettlement continues to be the only durable solution available to a limited number of refugees from Syria, Yemen and other extra-regional nationalities who arrived under education schemes and, upon graduation, have no prospects for voluntary repatriation or local integration.

Considering the above, UNHCR operations in the Caribbean are prepared to significantly expand resettlement activities in 2022 and 2023.

RESETTLEMENT NEEDS IN 2023

The projected resettlement needs for 2023 increased by 40 per cent in comparison with the figure of previous year, with a total estimation of 77,830 individuals in need of third countries solutions, both under resettlement and PTA programmes in the region.

THE AMERICAS: 2023 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	CASES	PERSONS
The Americas	31,619	77,830
Grand Total	31,619	77,830

**including multi-year planning*



Pakistan, September 2021. Second-generation Afghan refugee Jamil ur Rehman, 33, visits 15-year-old Gul Bibi who has been paralysed since childhood. She uses a wheelchair donated by Jamil. Her mother Sabiro Bibi says that without it her daughter would have to lie down all day at their home in Lower Dir, Pakistan. © UNHCR/Saiyna Bashir

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

SOUTH ASIA

India
Bangladesh

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

China (including Hong Kong SAR)
Indonesia
Malaysia
Thailand

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Islamic Republic of Iran
Pakistan

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC OVERVIEW

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2023 by country of asylum*

as of 8 Jun 2022



REGIONAL COVERAGE

The Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBAP) provides oversight, coordination and support for protection activities in 45 countries and territories covered by 13 UNHCR country offices and three multi-country offices throughout Asia and the Pacific. Seven States are under the direct purview of the Bureau.

In 2023, activities by RBAP to promote resettlement in the region will include: coordination and harmonization of resettlement approaches in line with the regional solutions strategy, assisting operations to grow resettlement programmes, ensuring the strategic use of resettlement to complement other solutions and to strengthen the protection environment in host countries, direct resettlement processing for a small number of cases in countries with no or limited UNHCR presence, reviewing resettlement submissions by country offices as needed, and continued engagement in complementary pathways programmes.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES IN 2021

In 2021, 4,855 refugees were submitted to resettlement States and 2,419 departed from host countries in Asia and the Pacific, while 978 additional persons of concern departed with UNHCR assistance to third countries via complementary pathways for admission. In addition to the quotas allocated to country operations for new submissions, operations and the Regional Bureau made effective use of unallocated global quotas for urgent and emergency priority submissions, as well as discreet complementary pathways to provide solutions for individuals experiencing heightened protection risks, individuals with sensitive profiles, and those in need of assistance in countries without a UNHCR presence. Resettlement and complementary pathways continue to provide persons of concern in Asia a means of protection and critical life-saving solutions, as well as opportunities to employ their education, skills and experiences to benefit their families and receiving communities.

Resettlement programmes recovered and grew in 2021 following the difficulties created by the COVID-19 pandemic and reduced programmes in previous years. COVID-19 continued to impact the ability of some operations to access communities and to conduct in-person interviews in 2021. While UNHCR operations have developed and refined case processing modalities that enable remote interviews, engaging with persons of concern in this way, particularly on sensitive or difficult subject matter, is challenging and time-consuming.

OUTLOOK FOR 2022/23

Resettlement will continue to be used to provide protection and solutions to the most vulnerable refugees in the region as well as as a form of responsibility sharing and to ensure protection space in the region is maintained if not expanded. Protracted conflicts and instability in countries of origin have resulted in protracted displacement for the majority of refugees and

asylum-seekers in Asia, while new displacement, including large movements within and from Afghanistan and Myanmar in 2021, has resulted in a growing number of persons of concern and resettlement needs.

The regional protection and solutions strategy, recognizing that most refugees will not have access to a durable solution in the immediate future, seeks to: 1) pursue inclusive social protection policies in countries of asylum to foster resilience, self-reliance and opportunities for persons of concern to contribute to host communities; 2) expand available solutions, based on the profiles and needs of various caseloads, both in protracted situations and in emergencies; and 3) ensure multi-stakeholder approaches and diverse partnerships for a broader base of support and more equitable responsibility sharing. The strategy recognizes the crucial role host countries play in protecting refugees and asylum-seekers and the need for substantive support to host governments and communities. UNHCR operations in Asia are working with governments, host communities, partners and refugees to improve the quality of life in displacement through a consistent inclusion of persons of concern in national health, education, judicial and social systems and in activities that enable self-reliance. In addition to providing a solution and safety to those most in need, the strategic use of resettlement encourages host governments to maintain and enhance protection space for persons of concern who remain in their territory.

Most States in the region do not support local integration for refugees and voluntary repatriation remains untenable for a majority of persons of concern due to protracted armed conflict, human rights violations and instability in countries of origin. Consequently, most of the 4.3 million refugees and asylum-seekers hosted in Asia and the Pacific are unable to anticipate a durable solution to their predicament. UNHCR operations will prioritize for resettlement consideration those facing serious risks to personal safety, health or well-being and those with serious or compounded vulnerabilities without any prospects for improvement of their situation in their current environment.

Individuals will be identified and assessed for potential submission through protection-oriented mechanisms designed to ensure consistency, fairness, confidence, efficiency and transparency in the resettlement case identification process. Submissions will represent refugees in greatest need in the country of asylum, regardless of ethnicity, religion, language, nationality or other factors unrelated to their protection needs. Obtaining resettlement quotas that are inclusive, non-discriminatory and protection-oriented enables UNHCR to maintain a principled approach.

UNHCR offices throughout the region continue to seek opportunities to enhance access to complementary pathways, both in host countries and receiving countries. In 2022, UNHCR looks forward to the realization of a Global Refugee Forum pledge by the Government of the Philippines to create a complementary pathway for the admission of Rohingya refugees and focused, meaningful engagement in increasing access to complementary pathways elsewhere in Asia and the Pacific.

RESETTLEMENT NEEDS IN 2023

In the following chapters, country operations describe the resettlement needs for over 383,000 refugees in Asia. Resettlement needs have been estimated through a combination of methods, including through an assessment of specific needs recorded in proGres and national databases, referrals from partners, and an assessment of the impact of the protection environment, risks and opportunities in host countries. A majority of persons of concern in the region are hosted in countries that are not signatories to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and do not have any national framework for asylum and refugee protection. Consequently, refugees live



Pakistan, September 2021. Afghan and Pakistani students of Grade 1 wait for their class teacher at the Chichana Primary School for Girls in Chichana, Kohat District, Pakistan. © UNHCR/Saiyna Bashir

precariously, often with limited access to work and livelihoods, education, health care and other services. Their lack of regular status in many host countries impacts freedom of movement and places them at heightened risk of arrest, detention and deportation on immigration-related charges.

A significant majority of refugees and asylum-seekers in the region originate from Afghanistan or Myanmar. UNHCR operations will seek to expand resettlement programmes in 2023 to ensure the most vulnerable individuals and families among the refugee population at large are prioritized for resettlement consideration, for their protection and to share responsibility with host States.

Resettlement will be part of a comprehensive protection and solutions approach which improves opportunities for persons of concern who remain in the host countries and for whom there are continued barriers to returning to their country of origin in safety and dignity.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC: 2023 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	CASES	PERSONS
East Asia and the Pacific	13,444	27,862
South Asia	24,650	97,280
South-West Asia	77,039	257,868
Grand Total	115,133	383,010

*including multi-year planning

ASIA FIELD STORY

IRAN

I joined UNHCR 11 years ago as a Refugee Status Determination specialist, and two years later I got the first opportunity to work in resettlement, supporting the upscaling of resettlement activities for Syrian refugees in Jordan in 2013. I was thrilled to work in resettlement and considered myself lucky as I always saw it as the happiest, most pleasant side of all the protection work UNHCR does. Resettlement continues to be a unique opportunity for the most vulnerable refugees to thrive and to realize their full potential in a secure environment.

I am thrilled to be working again in resettlement, supporting Sub-Office Shiraz in upscaling resettlement and related activities for Afghan refugees in Iran. Having been previously involved in a similar process in Jordan, I find myself constantly drawing parallels between my previous experience and my current role. In 2013, I was part of a similar process as a caseworker interacting with persons of concern on a daily basis - the face of UNHCR and the bearer of hope for refugees; now, I am leading the process within my sub-office and managing those who are the bearers of hope and are the face of UNHCR to refugees.

There are both positive and challenging aspects of this work. The positive is supporting the establishment of new procedures that will ensure more vulnerable refugees can be processed for resettlement in an accelerated manner; and the challenging is the drastic change in modalities which staff need to adapt to in a short period of time while meeting weekly/monthly targets. This can be particularly stressful for caseworkers who work under immense pressure of balancing their targets and quality of their work, all while ensuring refugees are duly counseled on procedures and their stories are accurately presented in a timely manner.

Throughout this journey, I am learning how important it is to create an enabling environment for colleagues who in turn create a positive environment for the refugees they interact with. To make this happen, I find myself applying lessons learnt from my past experience to the resettlement process that is being developed currently in Iran. On the one hand, there is the responsibility of meeting resettlement targets and ensuring procedures are implemented, and on the other hand, there is also the duty of care towards frontline workers. In my discussions with the team, I therefore constantly choose to heighten the positives to help fuel positivity, which in turn will help staff fuel positivity and hope among the refugees they interact with.

Overall, I enjoy the team spirit within the operation. I derive tremendous satisfaction not only when I see the most vulnerable refugees getting the opportunity to leave for another country, but also when I see the team of staff being positive and joyful. This instills a sense of purpose in me. I believe that my job is more than just a job; it is a way for me to reach out to others.

PRIYADARSHINI HARIHARAN

Protection Officer
Sub-Office Shiraz, UNHCR



Iran, February 2021. An Afghan refugee girl is practicing math while wearing a mask. During the COVID-19 times in Iran, Afghan refugees showed a great resilience and managed to follow their daily routines and works despite the hardships imposed on them due to the pandemic and economic situation. © UNHCR/Zahra Nazari

Türkiye, February 2022. While their parents are at the vocational training courses such as Turkish language, cooking, sewing, Syrian children living in Ankara participated in a drawing activity at the UNHCR supported vocational training centre that runs in coordination with the Ankara Metropolitan Municipality. © UNHCR/Seyedsaram Hosseini

NUR ASHALEM



EUROPE

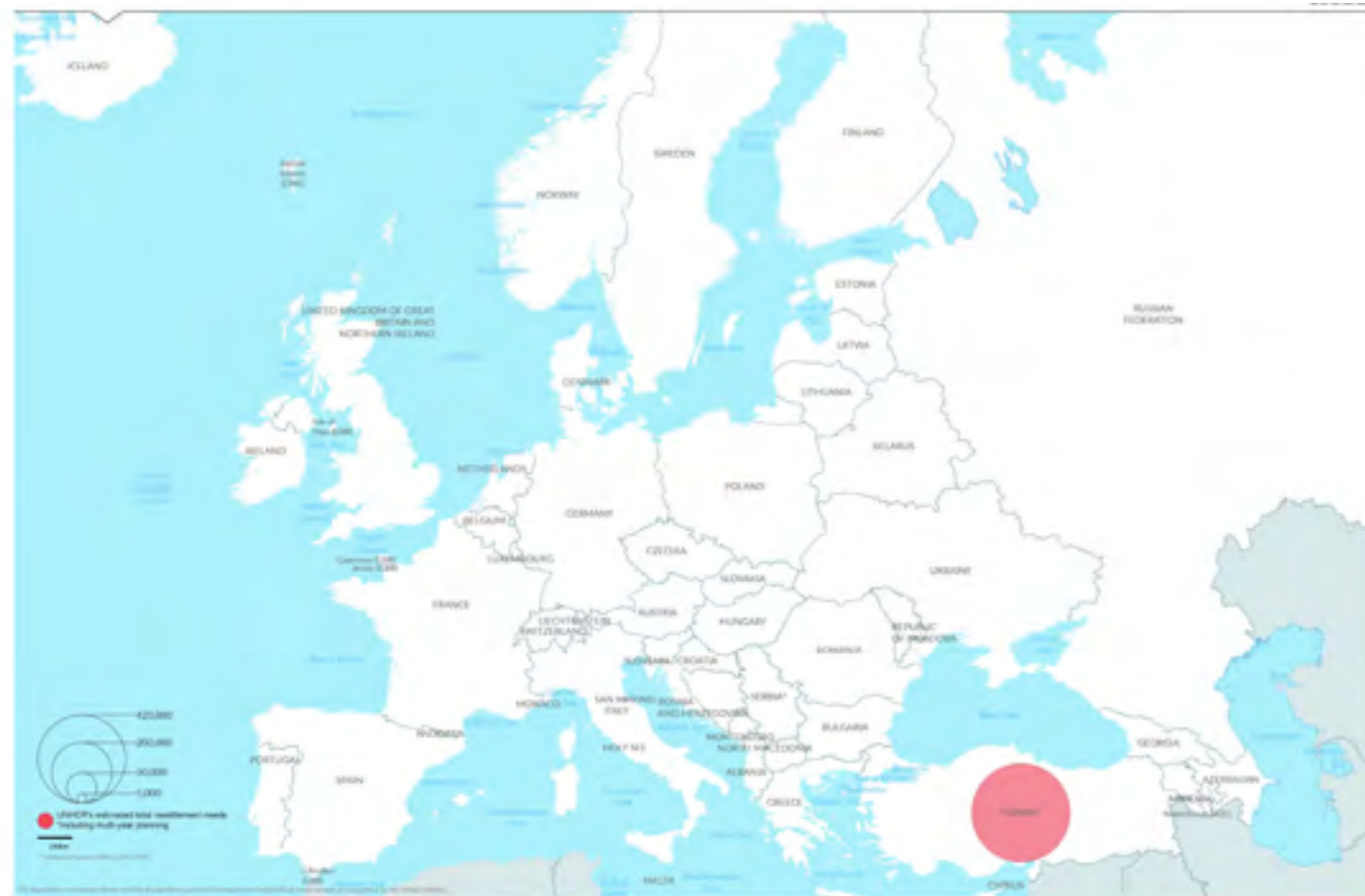
Türkiye

EUROPE OVERVIEW

EUROPE

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2023 by country of asylum*

as of 8 Jun 2022



Türkiye continues to represent an important share of the global resettlement needs on account of its large refugee population amounting to over 4 million individuals at the end of 2021. A wide range of actors have been providing multifaceted support, but Türkiye's infrastructure and resources remain overstretched. Durable solutions, notably voluntary repatriation, are not yet available to most refugees. It is projected that 417,200 refugees, including 384,000 Syrians, will need resettlement in 2023, making Türkiye the operation with the greatest needs globally. In Türkiye, resettlement will remain strategic in the preservation of the protection space and to generate other solutions. Resettlement also demonstrates international solidarity and responsibility-sharing of the international community. In a few other European countries, resettlement represents a small, but sometimes key, component of UNHCR's protection strategy, where it represents an ultimate protection tool for very vulnerable refugees facing heightened protection risks.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The measures adopted following the breakout of the COVID-19 pandemic were progressively terminated, leading to the resumption of population movements within and to Europe throughout 2021. The past year saw a rebound to pre-pandemic levels of irregular movements to Europe, as well as a shifting or consolidation of migration routes due to measures adopted by some countries. This increase of arrivals can be attributed, in part, to the deteriorating socio-economic situation in certain countries of origin or of asylum due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to evolving geopolitical tensions. Some EU countries faced important challenges as a result of instrumentalization of population movement, triggering discussion and adoption of additional legal and operational deterrence measures.

Within this context, arrivals to Türkiye from Syria and several other countries continued and, as a result, Türkiye remained the world's largest refugee hosting country, with significant resettlement needs. At the beginning of 2022, the total refugee population in Türkiye was estimated to stand at over 4 million individuals, including 3,7 Syrians under temporary protection and 327,418 international protection applicants and status holders, mostly from Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran. The operation in Türkiye submitted 12,269 refugees were for resettlement (10,453 Syrians and 1,816 other nationalities) in 2021 while 7,382 refugees departed on resettlement during the year (5,608 Syrians and 1,774 of other nationalities). Resettlement countries remain proactively engaged in resettlement of Syrian refugees from Türkiye which is complemented by a smaller number of other pathways, including family reunification, private sponsorships and humanitarian visas.

Resettlement from Türkiye not only provides refugees with a durable solution but also represents an opportunity for the international community to ease pressure on host communities, support the largest refugee-hosting country and demonstrate the positive impact of responsibility sharing. A large-scale and expedited resettlement from Türkiye remains instrumental to developing comprehensive refugee



Türkiye, August 2021. UNHCR provided guidance on employment opportunities, language, soft skills, and vocational training and entrepreneurship support. © UNHCR/Emrah Gürel

responses as envisaged in the Global Compact on Refugees. The success of the international community in responding to the needs in Türkiye comprehensively and through a variety of pathway opportunities will demonstrate how the objectives of the comprehensive refugee response can be directly implemented and achieve positive results.

In Eastern Europe, the second half of 2021 saw an escalation of tensions along the Belarus border with the European Union (EU), as thousands of refugees and migrants arrived in Belarus attempting to move onward to the EU, prompting authorities in neighbouring EU countries to declare states of emergencies in border areas, construct border barriers and enact legal amendments restraining access to territory, asylum procedures and protection. The situation in the sub-region further escalated due to the building of tensions around Ukraine in 2021, which resulted in a military conflict initiated by the Russian Federation in February 2022. Refugees and asylum-seekers in Ukraine were equally affected by the military operations, with some of them able to reach safety in neighbouring countries and others remaining in the country. Resettlement could become an important tool for those at heightened risk or with serious vulnerabilities as a result of the situation. In the rest of the subregion, the protection environment remains also relatively constrained, with all countries feeling the impact of the Ukraine situation.

In South-Eastern Europe, a revised version of the “Strategy for UNHCR engagement in mixed movements in the Western Balkans” was issued in October 2021 to support the strengthening of national asylum systems and the identification of viable solutions

for refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR remains engaged in developing capacity in different parts of the region, notably through the roll-out of a Quality Assurance Initiative in the Western Balkans. The region still experiences a steady flow of asylum-seekers and migrants moving irregularly for various reasons. However, with further restrictive border management in place at the external borders of the EU, onward movement through EU Member States can become more difficult and small number of refugees in need of resettlement could be identified among those applying for asylum. For them, resettlement will represent a vital tool for protection, including women and adolescents at risk.

RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

The resettlement needs in Europe remain high for 2023, with some 417,200 persons projected to be in need of resettlement in Türkiye alone. The lack of alternative durable solutions is the principal reason for continuously significant resettlement needs, with Syrians in Türkiye making up over 90 per cent of those projected to be in need of resettlement from Europe. In Eastern and South-Eastern European countries, while the situation has markedly changed in the former, due to the situation in Ukraine, UNHCR will still focus its activities on strengthening national asylum systems coupled with increased efforts to find local and community-based solutions for persons of concern. However, some resettlement needs are expected to remain for 2023.

SUB-REGIONAL OVERVIEWS

Türkiye operation

Syrian refugees in Türkiye continue to benefit from temporary protection. The Government recognizes that they will remain in Türkiye for an extended period in view of the prevailing situation in Syria. Public debate about repatriation to Syria has, however, picked up ahead of the 2023 presidential and general elections. Work permit regulations of early 2016 provide a firm ground for labour market integration of persons of concern, but there are significant constraints including the economic climate and high rates of unemployment continue to inhibit refugees’ participation in the labour market. Socio-economic challenges among refugees have resulted in their engagement in harmful coping mechanisms, such as child labour and child marriage, while aggravating tensions among communities, as exemplified in incidents taking place in 2021. Given the scale of the refugee population, the infrastructure in Türkiye is under pressure making it difficult for refugees to access services. Therefore, resettlement remains a vital responsibility-sharing mechanism and a means to ease the strain on Türkiye’s infrastructure and resources.

The estimated total resettlement needs in Türkiye are 417,200 persons, the large majority (384,000) of whom are Syrian refugees.

Unlike Syrian refugees, asylum-seekers from other countries undergo individual refugee status determination for which the Government of Türkiye has assumed responsibility since September 2018, and those who are from outside Europe are considered to hold “conditional” refugee status once recognized due to the

geographic limitation Türkiye maintains in implementing the 1951 Convention. Those holding this status may remain in the country legally, but only until a durable solution is found outside Türkiye, limiting access to other solutions for this group. Estimated resettlement needs of refugees from countries other than Syria in Türkiye are around 33,200 persons (including refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and other nationalities), and focus on children and adolescents at risk, refugees with legal and physical protection needs, survivors of violence and torture, and refugees with serious medical needs or disabilities.

Eastern and South-Eastern Europe

Resettlement needs in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe (particularly in Ukraine) in 2023 are estimated to be 120 people. These refugees originate primarily from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Central Asia and the South Caucasus, as well as a small number from sub-Saharan countries. The protection environment across the region remains relatively volatile with certain groups of refugees, such as ethnic and religious minorities as well as persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities facing considerable risks. UNHCR plans to continue using resettlement throughout the region for highly vulnerable refugees, including those at risk of refoulement, while increasing its efforts to find other solutions.

In Ukraine, some refugees could be exposed to additional hardship due to the current situation. UNHCR's efforts in capacitating and strengthening the national asylum system will resume but some persons of concern with serious protection risks and/or social vulnerabilities, including acute medical needs, which cannot be addressed, could be in need resettlement. In South-Eastern Europe, it is estimated that some 30 individuals with specific needs, in particular women and adolescents at risk, might be in need resettlement.

EUROPE: 2023 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	CASES	PERSONS
Türkiye	94,015	417,200
Grand Total	94,015	417,200

**including multi-year planning*



Türkiye, June 2021. Turkish and refugee children are enjoying each other's company with various activities at a youth camp organized in cooperation with UNHCR and the Ministry of Youth and Sports. © UNHCR/Kerem Yakmaz

REFUGEE VOICE

EUROPE

My name is Etienne SERUBUNGO, I am a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, resettled in Norway since September 2021. Before being resettled, my family and I lived in Kenya for 6.5 years and life was not easy there because of many factors but the main was being in a country of asylum without rights and security.

We were excited and had a lot of expectations before moving to Norway; enjoying again a life, pursuing our studies, enjoying freedom and equality of all before the law. When we arrived in Norway, we were so excited to see the country, kind people and how their refugee integration system works.

Now in Norway, everything is becoming normal for us, we feel physically and emotionally stable, we have a social life, our children can go to school, and we can earn a living.

After nine months in Norway, I can say that resettlement means a lot for me because my mother who was sick for long time has been treated and now is fine, my kids and siblings are now studying, and I also learn Norwegian language and after that I will look for a job.

My days are planned as this: in the morning I take my children to schools and me, I also goes to learn Norwegian language, after the course I go back to pick my children to school and go home. Some days after school I take my children to different activities like playing football. In the weekend we usually go to relax and have fun with kids in different places.

I would like to encourage peaceful and secure countries to continue helping refugees by receiving them and giving them resettlement for them to realise their dreams and in the future be assets to those countries.



Etienne and his children in their new home country of Norway.

Abdelazeez is pictured with his three children at home in Jordan. A Syrian refugee, originally from Daraa, Abdelazeez used to work as professor in international law, unfortunately he has not been able to work in Jordan as academia is a closed sector for refugees. In August 2021, he received a second round of COVID-19 cash assistance amounting to 145 JOD to support his family's basic needs. "I have accepted the reality of life here in Jordan. It's difficult. I have been full of despair as I feel I lost 27 year's of learning and professional experience. But my belief in God that there will be better times still remains. The cash assistance helped a lot. It helped me two pay the rent which I was late in paying." © UNHCR/Lilly Carlisle

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

THE MIDDLE EAST

BAHRAIN, OMAN, QATAR AND SAUDI ARABIA

Iraq

Israel

Jordan

Kuwait

Lebanon

Syrian Arab Republic

United Arab Emirates

Yemen

NORTH AFRICA

Algeria

Egypt

Libya

Mauritania

Morocco

Tunisia

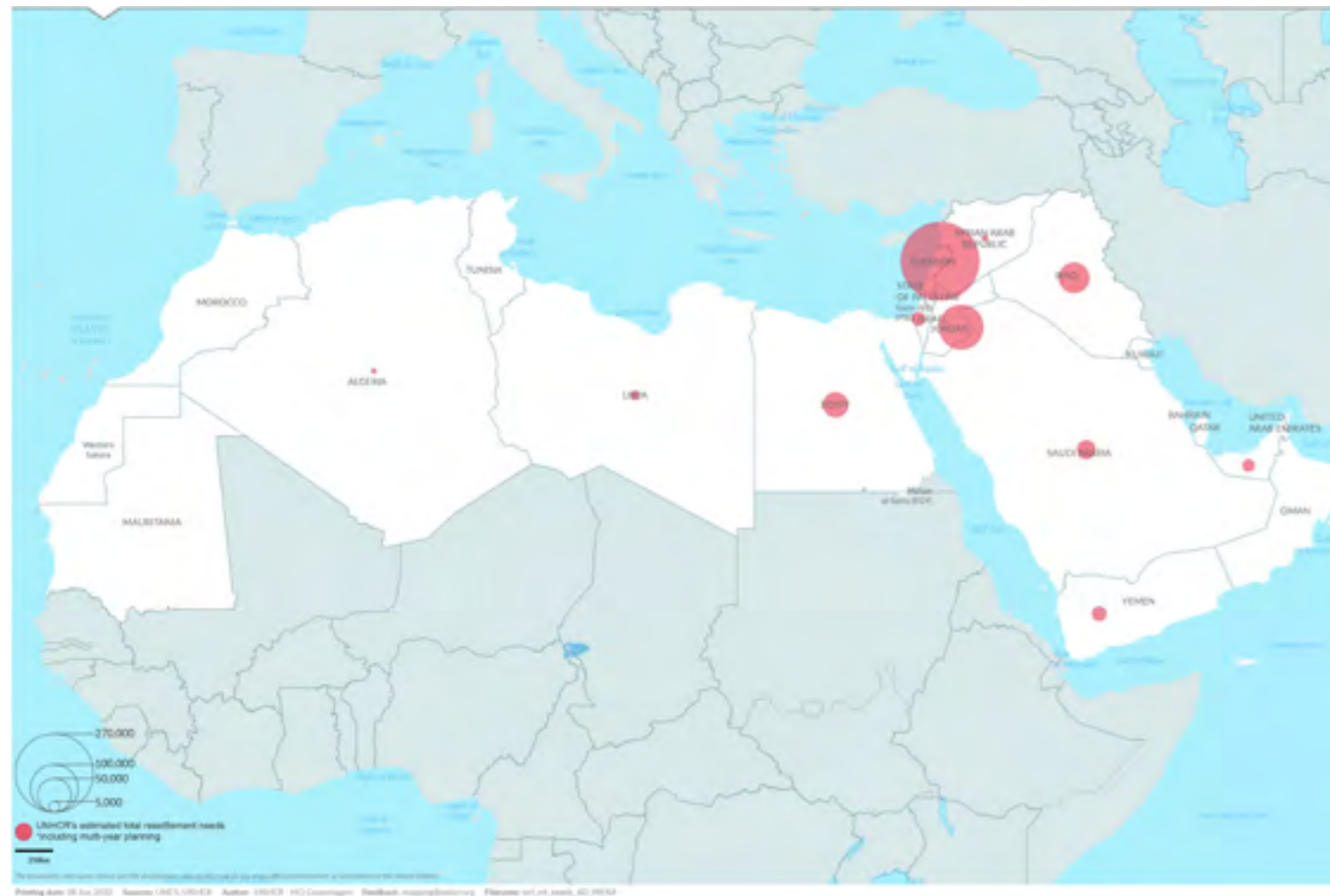


MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA OVERVIEW

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

UNHCR's total projected resettlement needs for 2023 by country of asylum*

as of 8 Jun 2022



REGIONAL COVERAGE

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Bureau provides guidance, oversight, and support for resettlement and complementary pathways in: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The MENA Bureau maintains functional oversight of the Türkiye operation for the Iraq and Syria regional responses.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES IN 2021

After years of uncertainty and disruption due to protracted conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic, the priority for the MENA region was to 'stay and deliver' in 2020 and 2021 and 'recover' in 2022. Operations maintained and continued the improvement of quality case submissions despite challenges including regional instability and shifting political priorities.

While the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was felt in the sharp reduction of submissions and departures in 2020, MENA operations increased submissions for resettlement in 2021 with 20,188 refugees (15,253 Syrians and 4,935 refugees of other nationalities¹) submitted compared to 16,469 in 2020. This was achieved due to improved coordination at all levels, including for remote processing and other pioneered initiatives adopted during the pandemic. With this increase in resettlement activities, both delivery as well as the strengthening of integrity safeguards were prioritized in 2021 through efforts to prevent and address external fraud.

The MENA Bureau reconfigured support and oversight for its operations to better align with their requirements. During 2021, this resulted in targeted efforts to ensure quotas were met and to build capacity in North Africa, the Gulf Cooperation Countries (GCC), Yemen, Israel and Syria. At the same time, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt were provided targeted support to enable ongoing, high quality resettlement submissions to ensure quotas were maintained

¹ Other nationalities mainly include Sudanese, Eritrean, Iraqi and Ethiopian.

and increased to respond to the growing resettlement needs, wherever possible. MENA operations have also developed multi-year plans to seize the increased resettlement opportunities in 2022 and beyond.

A showcase of the resilience of the MENA operations can be exemplified by the dedication shown across the region where the search for solutions as a tool for refugee protection have become increasingly vital. These efforts include increased resettlement activities across North Africa, Yemen, Libya, Israel and the GCC that have evidenced strengthening of capacity and partnerships. In 2021, the MENA Bureau advocated for new resettlement opportunities for operations with no or limited resettlement quotas. Among them, successful examples include Yemen which, after years without any quota, gained resettlement opportunities that were strategically used to address acute protection needs of refugees. Tunisia strengthened its partnerships with resettlement States securing an allocated quota and improving coordination for selection missions to the country.

Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt operations met or exceeded their quota targets in 2021 and were able to respond to almost 1,400 additional allocated slots during the year. This ensured that as many refugees as possible in these countries were provided lifesaving protection responses. Iraq, in particular, increased resettlement submissions from 789 in 2020 to 1,627 in 2021. The operation has, despite ongoing insecurity within the country and its surroundings, been able to streamline and consolidate resettlement processing for Syrian refugees.

Through close coordination with states and the IOM at the regional and country levels, 2021 witnessed a 51 per cent increase of departures from MENA with 16,424 individuals compared to 8,346 in 2020. The efforts by all partners to achieve this was very welcome given the impact of the pandemic on departures, and it is hoped that this upward trajectory will maintain in 2022 and beyond.

The region continued to identify refugees who are most in need, with 56 per cent of the global submissions of Children at Risk, and 25 per cent of Women at Risk referred from MENA. Nonetheless, the long-term effects of the pandemic as well as shifting global priorities have greatly contributed to the delays in decisions and departures, which highlight another challenge for realizing resettlement from the region.

OUTLOOK FOR 2022/23

Given the continued efforts to recover from the severe impact of the pandemic on resettlement in 2022 and the growing protection needs in the region, 2023 will be the year of delivery for the MENA operations.

The ongoing crises globally are of a similar character that MENA has been progressively experiencing for years, during which operations have shown the ability to recover, adapt and deliver to serve persons of concern, and will continue to do so in the face of adversity.

During 2023, the overarching UNHCR global priorities of protect, respond, empower and solve will continue to be anchored in the regional Protection and Solutions Strategy with its three main pillars: 1) access to safety, 2) favorable protection environment and 3) realization of solutions. The MENA operations will focus even



Jordan, August 2021. Dr Basma, 31, a Yemeni refugee and doctor, is pictured outside of Al-Husain Bin Abdullah Hospital in Salt, Jordan, where she works in the emergency department. She fled Yemen in 2017 and has spent the last four years with no work due to the fact that non-Syrian refugees are not allowed to legally work in Jordan. Through UNHCR support, however, she recently started working as a refugee doctor in order to support the COVID-19 response. "I've waited for this opportunity for years. It now feels that the seven years I spent at medical school in Yemen we're finally worth it."
© UNHCR/Lilly Carlisle

more on the complementarity of approaches, with resettlement serving as a priority to many refugees in the region, including as alternative to dangerous onward journeys, given the lack of other solutions available to refugees in the region. Investing in protection linked with durable solutions, with ongoing attention to efficient case processing and management towards resettlement, complementary pathways and voluntary return, will remain a priority of the Strategy.

MENA operations will seek to strengthen their capacity and efficiency further towards achieving resettlement targets at the levels of the pre-pandemic era while ensuring the integration of integrity safeguards, as reflected in the Bureau's risk register. MENA will strive to additionally encourage swift departures, as much as possible, to ensure the essential protection that resettlement offers refugees is realized.

In 2023, resettlement will continue being used strategically and as a foundation for dialogue with host States. Resettlement remains crucial in today's regional landscape as it promotes international responsibility sharing as reflected in the Global Compact on Refugees and is a tangible demonstration of solidarity. Nevertheless, with annual opportunities for resettlement only meeting five per cent of refugee protection needs in MENA, the expansion of opportunities will remain one of the main objectives for the year to come.

An important outlook for 2023 is to refine and ensure the continuation of innovative and creative solutions in MENA that will help drive the upscaling of resettlement,

increase refugee access to complementary pathways and better UNHCR’s response to longer-term growth of sustainable third country solutions through platforms such as the MENA Contact Group for Complementary Pathways.

Considering efforts and capacities required towards upscaling resettlement activities, the MENA Bureau continues to engage in actively preventing fraud by strengthening systems and increasing capacity to respond to fraud committed by persons of concern. In 2023, the Bureau will continue its close engagement and oversight on the application of UNHCR’s 2017 Policy on Addressing Fraud Committed by Persons of Concern, including the expansion of integrity staffing in different operations. Close coordination will continue with relevant stakeholders through the regional Integrity Working Group and the regional Community of Practice.

RESETTLEMENT NEEDS IN 2023

The aftermath of the pandemic in the MENA region led to deteriorating economies, disruptions of ongoing learning opportunities at all levels, movement restrictions and border closures. It also resulted in an increase of reliance on negative coping mechanisms. In a region where most countries do not have national asylum legal frameworks, restrictions on refugees’ access to fundamental rights and social integration have worsened and, with growing socio-economic challenges faced by host countries, the most vulnerable remain in day-to-day survival mode. While voluntary return remains the hope for many, most refugees are unlikely to be able to return home safely in the medium term. A further decrease in spontaneous returns to Syria was observed in 2021, with a total of 35,903 refugees returning to Syria from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Türkiye compared to 38,235 verified returns in 2020², highlighting the ongoing needs of Syrians in the region.

As the region registers ongoing conflicts and instability, protracted refugee situations and mixed-movement flows, almost 464,000 refugees are estimated to be in need of resettlement in 2023.

With the Syria crisis entering its twelfth year, continued strong commitment and support from resettlement States and partners is critical for the **Syria Response**, to ensure safety for refugees with compelling protection needs and who have no immediate intention to return to Syria. Women, girls and boys, and those with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities with protection needs will be prioritized, due to their experiences of gender-based violence (GBV), violence or harassment, marginalization or outright hostility within host communities. Given ongoing volatility in host countries, refugees with protection risks resulting from negative coping mechanisms due to socio-economic destitution and food and shelter insecurity – such as child labor, early or forced marriage, exploitative labor, begging and high-risk jobs – are increasingly in need of resettlement. As the security situation continues to deteriorate and with services decreasing, those at risk of arrest, detention and deportation and those with medical or complex needs are particularly in need of resettlement opportunities.

For **North Africa and the Central Mediterranean situation**, resettlement will target those with compelling protection needs, including those stemming from their

² https://www.3rpsyriacrisis.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Dur_SoL_Dashboard2022_March.pdf

gender identity or sexual orientation as same-sex conduct is criminalized. Victims of trafficking remain extremely vulnerable to further exploitation or retaliation. Many unaccompanied and separated refugee children who have traumatic experiences have no access to national child protection services and remain in need of resettlement through which they could access age-sensitive services. With a surge of people making dangerous journeys across the Central Mediterranean, resettlement remains an important protection tool to save lives and mitigate the risks of dangerous journeys.

For the **GCC, Israel, Syria and Yemen**, resettlement will address serious protection risks in these complex environments. Refugees with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, those living with HIV and those with illegal status are at imminent risk of arrest and/or refoulement, and resettlement remains their only available solution. In Syria and Yemen, the resettlement needs should be viewed in light of the long-term implications of the crises. Due to displacement and destruction, women and children are at heightened GBV risks, lack effective community support and are increasingly at risk of violence. For the most vulnerable, resettlement remains the only durable solution and a much-needed protection tool in the absence of opportunities for local integration or self-reliance.

MENA: 2023 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS*	
	CASES	PERSONS
Middle East	105,025	431,940
North Africa	14,597	31,990
Grand Total	119,622	463,930

*including multi-year planning

FIELD STORY

SYRIA

My name is Zena Nahat and I joined UNHCR Syria in 2010. Since starting at UNHCR I have interviewed hundreds of families and listened to many difficult stories of people who have fled their countries in fear. Each refugee's story is unique, but often full of sacrifice, suffering and tragedy. Yet what is common in all stories is the hope of building a new, safe and dignified life.

In my experience, most refugees who come to register with UNHCR do so with the hope of being resettled to another country. This desire has become more profound ever since the start of the crisis in Syria, and the increasing difficulties which we face in the country. The most frequent questions I've been asked throughout my 12 years with UNHCR are, "when will we get resettled?" and "how can I apply for resettlement?". With limited integration opportunities in Syria and without any resettlement opportunities since 2020, the question has been increasingly even more frequent.

One of my first interviews when I joined the Resettlement Unit was with an Afghan couple and their two young children of four and one. They had been living in Syria since their birth, as their parents had left Afghanistan in the 1980s. The couple was most concerned about their children's safety, their education and future in Syria. They were deeply excited that they had the opportunity to be resettled. They hoped for better education opportunities and improved prospects for the future. The parents felt that neither Syria nor their home, Afghanistan, could give their children these same opportunities in life. Unfortunately, the case was interviewed but did not move forward for submission as the resettlement quota was suspended due to COVID-19. Informing this family of this unfortunate news was difficult, to say the least. Of course, the family was disappointed to hear the news, yet they still held out hope that they could be seen again when resettlement places became available.

I cannot forget this family, nor the hopes the mother had for her children to find a proper education in a safe environment. For many refugees who live in Syria, the ongoing crisis in the country brings back painful memories of the reasons they have had to leave their own homelands. While the crisis has affected all of us, refugees are more particularly impacted when it comes to fuel shortages and electricity cuts. Though refugees have access to essential public services, the worsening socio-economic conditions make life more desperate for refugees. With few other options, refugees are compelled to stay in Syria with no solutions in sight. They are unable to take control of their futures.

Despite the difficult circumstances, refugees in Syria show their persistence in finding safety as best they can. I'm reminded of a 75-year-old Somali refugee who has been living in Syria for almost 12 years. She fled Somalia with her daughter in 2007. Today, she lives alone as her daughter fled Syria when the crisis erupted. Realizing the many challenges faced by Somali refugees in Syria, she decided to bring the community together and created a support network for Somali refugees. Now in her seventies, she still maintains a guest room in her house, keeping it open 24 hours a day to receive those in need. Everyone who needs support or advice approaches her house.

Throughout the past years, my colleagues and I have been committed to identifying the most vulnerable refugees in need of resettlement, despite the limited number of opportunities. However, since 2020, we have been only able to submit some urgent and emergency cases.

Counselling refugees in light of a lack of resettlement opportunities has also become increasingly difficult. I am afraid that without any new opportunities for resettlement, and with the ongoing socio-economic challenges in Syria, many refugees may feel compelled to take irregular and perilous journeys to other countries in search of a better life. As we know, taking such drastic decisions can lead refugees to be exploited or trafficked and often ends in fatal consequences. This reality troubles me.

I can see it in refugees' eyes and sense it in their voices. Despite all the obstacles, refugees will keep on seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. They will never lose their hope in having the opportunity to be resettled and rebuild their lives in a safe environment. I want to be able to help them achieve their goals. It is the least I can do.

ZENA NAHAT

Assoc. Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Officer, UNHCR Syria

REFUGEE VOICE

IRAQ

MALAK FINDS PEACE OF MIND AFTER YEARS OF DISPLACEMENT

Malak¹ and her spouse Raed and their two children, Yara and Rawad, fled conflict and danger in Syria, only to face new kinds of difficulties and risks in Iraq. The future of their family, their well-being, their livelihoods, and education were all unclear. The lack of peace of mind kept Malak up all night, on most nights. She and her spouse were not able to provide a stable life, education or basic needs for their children in Iraq, where they lived in dire circumstances.

One day, Malak and Raed received a phone call from UNHCR, informing them that they were under resettlement consideration. Malak remembers this call to this day, and it remains fresh in her mind as the call that finally gave hope to her family. A few months after the resettlement interview, Malak and Raed received another call from UNHCR, advising that their case was accepted by Norway and that they would soon depart. Malak and her family will never forget how happy they were, as new hopes and dreams started to take shape. They started preparing for the move, which excited and scared them at the same time.

A few months later, the family travelled to Norway, and Malak and her family faced new challenges; a new language, a new culture, and a different climate. Despite these challenges, the family feel that they are safe and can dare to dream. Life finally feels normal again. The children are back in school, they sleep much better at night, and they are all hopeful for a brighter future. Malak can see her children flourishing and making friends in school. The main difference for her is that she is no longer having sleepless nights and paralyzing stress when she thinks about the well-being of her children. She and her spouse can develop themselves and take care of their children.

Currently, Malak and her spouse and children are attending language classes in Norway. Malak has started planning for her future and is currently considering how to improve her skills to be able to work and support her family. She plans to either continue her studies in engineering or open her own business. The ability and power to choose how to give shape to her life is her ultimate freedom.

Malak and Raed's daughter, Yara, is waiting to complete her language courses to be able to be enrolled in university. Their son Rawad has been so happy to return to school and resume his education after missing school for years.

“Life has never been more gracious to us, the future now looks bright and clear for us”, Malak and Raed concluded. “Syria is our homeland, but Norway is now our new home”, they added.

¹ Names have been changed to protect identity and confidentiality



Malak has stayed in touch with the UNHCR staff member who helped prepare her case for resettlement. Here is a photo of the town in the vicinity of Bergen, where the family now live in Norway. While a very different environment for Malak and her family, they already love their new home.

ANNEX 1

STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGY

IDENTIFYING AND ESTIMATING THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN NEED OF RESETTLEMENT AND UNHCR CAPACITY

Pursuant to UNHCR's priority to use resettlement as a protection tool and as part of a comprehensive durable solutions strategy, UNHCR Country Offices undertake a yearly exercise of proactive planning for resettlement as an integral part of the planning process. They forecast refugee resettlement needs in the next calendar year. Each Office is required to report the actual resettlement needs and, where applicable, involving the strategic use of resettlement.

In addition to the Operations Plans for 2023, UNHCR Country Offices' Summary Protection Assessments, which outline the core protection problems currently affecting UNHCR's populations of concern, provide important information to assist with forward planning, especially with regard to the challenges and opportunities to promote resettlement, scope for working with partners, staffing and resources, and making effective use of resettlement tools such as the standard operating procedures, proGres, participatory assessments, and other ways to identify refugees at heightened risk.

Generally, the methodologies used are underpinned by a few basic principles. First, the estimation of the number of refugees in need of resettlement depends on the quality of registration data. The estimated needs for resettlement are primarily based on the data available in proGres.¹ Additionally, government registration records – where available – or World Food Programme (WFP) food distribution databases are used to inform decisions about the needs. Second, in addition to making effective use of proGres and other data sources, the projection of resettlement needs is derived from information gathered during participatory assessments with refugees and other interactions with persons of concern, such as needs assessment surveys, e.g. using the Heightened Risk Identification Tool (HRIT).²

Standard Methodology A: Uses the Specific Needs Codes (SNC) in proGres to estimate the number of people in need of resettlement. This methodology requires Offices to create a report from proGres showing the number of persons who have specific needs that correspond to a likelihood of resettlement eligibility. The guidelines further provide breakdown of SNC into high/medium or variable/low resettlement likelihood.

Standard Methodology B: Uses community-based approaches, participatory assessments, and the HRIT to inform resettlement needs of people of concern to UNHCR as well as to key partners. The HRIT links participatory assessments and individual assessment methodologies to identify refugees at risk.

Standard Methodology C: Uses “best estimates” based upon limited available data. This methodology requires Country Offices to provide a “best estimate” of the projected resettlement needs by using relevant internal and external data.

For the 2023 planning cycle, the vast majority of Country Offices combined various methodologies to ensure a comprehensive and multi-year approach to this exercise. The respective country chapters describe the methodologies used by each Country Office.

¹ proGres is UNHCR's refugee registration platform.

² The HRIT was developed to enhance UNHCR's effectiveness in identifying refugees at risk by linking community-based/participatory assessments and individual assessment methodologies. It has been designed for use by UNHCR staff involved in community services and protection activities (including resettlement) and partner agencies, and the second version was released in 2010. See: UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), *The Heightened Risk Identification Tool (User Guide)*, June 2010, Second Edition, available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/46f7c0cd2.html>.

ANNEX 2

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2023 WITH THE REGION OF REFUGEES' COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

REGION OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
	CASES	PERSONS
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes	135,658	485,241
Southern Africa	17,837	60,561
West & Central Africa	35,739	116,210
Asia & the Pacific	115,133	383,010
Europe	94,015	417,200
MENA	119,622	463,930
The Americas	31,619	77,830
Grand Total	549,623	2,003,982

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2023 WITH THE REGION OF REFUGEES' COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

REGION OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
	CASES	PERSONS
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes	124,049	410,044
Southern Africa	51,751	190,464
West & Central Africa	29,361	97,354
Asia & the Pacific	118,503	394,126
Europe	230	870
MENA	191,620	827,012
The Americas	31,094	76,827
Various	3,015	7,285
Grand Total	549,623	2,003,982

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS 2023 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

REGION/SUB-REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
EAST & HORN OF AFRICA & GREAT LAKES			
	Burundi	3,700	18,500
	Ethiopia	26,590	108,001
	Kenya	12,432	51,339
	Rwanda	5,981	15,762
	Somalia	455	1,360
	South Sudan	3,594	13,344
	Sudan	25,216	72,272
	Uganda	41,800	125,403
	United Rep. of Tanzania	15,890	79,260
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes - Sub-Total		135,658	485,241
SOUTHERN AFRICA			
	Botswana/Eswatini/Madagascar/Namibia/South Africa	2,695	8,100
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,733	13,663
	Malawi	2,800	11,500
	Rep. of the Congo	1,890	2,537
	Zambia	6,099	18,278
	Zimbabwe	1,620	6,483
Southern Africa - Sub-Total		17,837	60,561
WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA			
	Benin/The Gambia	73	110
	Burkina Faso	300	1,500
	Cameroon	17,685	53,000
	Central African Rep.	10	40
	Chad	13,555	44,600
	Ghana	125	500
	Mali	128	400
	Niger	3,710	15,750
	Nigeria	80	200
	Senegal	73	110
West & Central Africa - Sub-Total		35,739	116,210

ASIA & THE PACIFIC			
EAST ASIA & THE PACIFIC			
	China & China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	120	208
	Indonesia	2,120	3,050
	Malaysia	11,004	23,804
	Thailand	200	800
SOUTH ASIA			
	Bangladesh	23,000	92,000
	India	1,650	5,280
SOUTH-WEST ASIA			
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	26,850	107,400
	Pakistan	50,189	150,468
Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total		115,133	383,010
EUROPE			
South-Eastern Europe	Türkiye	94,015	417,200
Europe Sub-Total		94,015	417,200
MENA			
MIDDLE EAST			
	Bahrain/Oman/Qatar/Saudi Arabia	3,070	14,610
	Iraq	10,795	39,420
	Israel	2,560	7,500
	Jordan	23,000	86,000
	Kuwait	20	50
	Lebanon	60,915	268,360
	Syrian Arab Rep.	465	1,400
	United Arab Emirates	2,070	6,000
	Yemen	2,130	8,600
NORTH AFRICA			
	Algeria	350	1,000
	Egypt	11,360	26,420
	Libya	1,995	3,275
	Mauritania	160	300
	Morocco	400	495
	Tunisia	332	500
MENA Sub-Total		119,622	463,930

THE AMERICAS			
	Aruba/Curacao/Guyana/Panama	2,745	6,075
	Colombia	10,001	25,000
	Costa Rica	885	1,796
	Cuba	44	81
	Dominican Republic	1,506	2,325
	Ecuador	3,947	11,842
	El Salvador*	435	1,300
	Guatemala*	2,606	6,515
	Honduras*	250	751
	Northern and Eastern Caribbean	40	50
	Mexico	170	480
	Peru	7,810	19,500
	Trinidad and Tobago	1,180	2,115
The Americas Sub-Total		31,619	77,830
Grand Total		549,623	2,003,982

* These figures include in-country processing and submissions planned via the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS 2023 BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

SUB-REGION OF ORIGIN	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
EAST & HORN OF AFRICA & GREAT LAKES			
	Burundi	8,736	32,952
	Eritrea	21,144	59,622
	Ethiopia	6,167	13,483
	Rwanda	948	2,937
	Somalia	16,298	66,309
	South Sudan	51,615	177,586
	Sudan	19,002	56,875
	Uganda	139	280
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes - Sub-Total		124,049	410,044
SOUTHERN AFRICA			
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	51,741	190,414
	Rep. of the Congo	10	50
Southern Africa - Sub-Total		51,751	190,464
WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA			
	Burkina Faso	20	90
	Cameroon	183	402
	Central African Rep.	20,055	63,749
	Chad	110	453
	Côte d'Ivoire	115	140
	Guinea	65	75
	Mali	1,469	8,150
	Niger	60	255
	Nigeria	7,079	23,805
	Senegal	115	135
	The Gambia	90	100
West & Central Africa - Sub-Total		29,361	97,354
ASIA & THE PACIFIC			
EAST ASIA & THE PACIFIC			
	Myanmar	32,494	114,066
SOUTH ASIA			
	Sri Lanka	190	310

SOUTH-WEST ASIA			
	Afghanistan	83,191	273,955
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	2,064	4,327
	Pakistan	564	1,468
Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total		118,503	394,126
EUROPE			
SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE			
	Türkiye	230	870
Europe Sub-Total		230	870
MENA			
MIDDLE EAST			
	Iraq	13,816	38,173
	Jordan	20	70
	Palestinian	824	2,581
	Syrian Arab Rep.	173,448	777,791
	Yemen	3,397	8,082
NORTH AFRICA			
	Egypt	105	275
	Mauritania	10	40
MENA Sub-Total		191,620	827,012
THE AMERICAS			
	Colombia	2,197	6,451
	Cuba	95	160
	El Salvador*	587	1,685
	Guatemala*	2,324	5,820
	Haiti	827	1,250
	Honduras*	402	1,152
	Jamaica	50	50
	Nicaragua	893	1,796
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	23,719	58,463
The Americas Sub-Total		31,094	76,827
Various Sub-Total		3,015	7,285
Grand Total		549,623	2,003,982

* These figures include in-country processing and submissions planned via the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

TOP 10^s BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
	CASES	PERSONS
Syrian Arab Rep.	173,448	777,791
Afghanistan	83,191	273,955
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	51,741	190,414
South Sudan	51,615	177,586
Myanmar	32,494	114,066
Somalia	16,298	66,309
Central African Rep.	20,055	63,749
Eritrea	21,144	59,622
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	23,719	58,463
Sudan	19,002	56,875
All Others	56,916	165,152
Grand Total	549,623	2,003,982

TOP 10^s BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
	CASES	PERSONS
Türkiye	94,015	417,200
Lebanon	60,915	268,360
Pakistan	50,189	150,468
Uganda	41,800	125,403
Ethiopia	26,590	108,001
Islamic Rep. of Iran	26,850	107,400
Bangladesh	23,000	92,000
Jordan	23,000	86,000
United Rep. of Tanzania	15,890	79,260
Sudan	25,216	72,272
All Others	162,158	497,618
Grand Total	549,623	2,003,982

COMBINED STATISTICS

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS (INCLUDING MULTI-YEAR PLANNING)	
		CASES	PERSONS
EAST & HORN OF AFRICA & GREAT LAKES			
Burundi	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	3,697	18,485
	Various	3	15
Ethiopia	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	84	251
	Eritrea	11,117	36,132
	Somalia	5,502	24,761
	South Sudan	8,570	41,130
	Sudan	1,182	5,320
	Yemen	110	332
	Various	25	75
Kenya	Burundi	656	1,786
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,597	3,899
	Eritrea	107	153
	Ethiopia	971	2,661
	Rwanda	71	161
	Somalia	5,918	27,938
	South Sudan	2,601	13,408
	Sudan	330	980
	Uganda	139	280
	Various	42	73
Rwanda	Burundi	537	1,612
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	4,313	12,939
	Eritrea	685	685
	Somalia	28	56
	Sudan	380	420
Somalia	Various	38	50
	Eritrea	2	10
	Ethiopia	397	1,070
	Syrian Arab Rep.	5	25
	Yemen	50	250
Various	Various	1	5

South Sudan	Burundi	1,390	2,500
	Central African Rep.	500	1,390
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	300	900
	Eritrea	300	450
	Ethiopia	600	700
	Sudan	500	7,400
	Various	4	4
Sudan	Central African Rep.	361	1,164
	Chad	95	393
	Eritrea	4,591	12,674
	Ethiopia	3,170	6,151
	South Sudan	16,934	51,753
	Various	65	137
Uganda	Burundi	100	300
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	19,872	59,618
	Rwanda	100	300
	Somalia	100	300
	South Sudan	21,528	64,585
	Various	100	300
United Rep. of Tanzania	Burundi	3,980	20,035
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	11,910	59,225
East & Horn of Africa & Great Lakes - Total		135,658	485,241
SOUTHERN AFRICA			
Botswana/Eswatini/ Madagascar/Namibia/ South Africa*	Burundi	400	1,300
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,900	5,600
	Pakistan	50	150
	Somalia	330	1,000
	Various	15	50
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	Burundi	338	1,688
	Central African Rep.	1,443	7,215
	South Sudan	942	4,710
	Various	10	50
Rep. of the Congo	Central African Rep.	1,190	1,230
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	640	1,240
	Rwanda	60	67
Malawi	Burundi	100	450

	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,300	9,450
	Ethiopia	20	80
	Rwanda	340	1,360
	Somalia	24	96
	Various	16	64
Zambia	Burundi	1,145	2,920
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	3,630	12,920
	Rwanda	267	606
	Somalia	968	1,676
Zimbabwe	Various	89	156
	Burundi	90	361
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,393	5,572
	Rwanda	110	443
	Various	27	107
	Southern Africa - Total	17,837	60,561
WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA			
Benin/The Gambia**	Central African Rep.	8	35
	The Gambia	45	50
	Various	20	25
Burkina Faso	Mali	300	1,500
Cameroon	Central African Rep.	13,170	39,500
	Nigeria	4,450	13,300
	Various	65	200
Central African Rep.	Cameroon	8	32
	Various	2	8
Chad	Cameroon	20	70
	Central African Rep.	3,225	12,900
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	50	200
	Niger	40	165
	Nigeria	545	2,180
	Sudan	9,655	29,000
Ghana	Various	20	85
	Cameroon	10	40
	Central African Rep.	20	80
	Chad	15	60
	Eritrea	10	40

	Rep. of the Congo	10	50
	Sudan	50	200
	Various	10	30
Mali	Burkina Faso	20	90
	Central African Rep.	20	50
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	20	50
	Mauritania	10	40
	Niger	20	90
	Syrian Arab Rep.	8	30
	Various	30	50
Niger	Eritrea	200	260
	Mali	1,063	6,440
	Nigeria	2,080	8,320
	Somalia	54	70
	Sudan	250	530
	Various	63	130
Nigeria	Cameroon	50	120
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	15	40
	Various	15	40
Senegal	Central African Rep.	8	35
	The Gambia	45	50
	Various	20	25
West & Central Africa - Total		35,739	116,210
ASIA & THE PACIFIC			
Bangladesh	Myanmar	23,000	92,000
China & China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	Afghanistan	15	28
	Somalia	35	60
	Syrian Arab Rep.	35	60
	Yemen	35	60
India	Afghanistan	335	1,070
	Iraq	10	30
	Myanmar	1,155	3,700
	Somalia	75	240
	Various	75	240
Indonesia	Afghanistan	1,650	1,800
	Iraq	50	130
	Myanmar	45	150

	Pakistan	50	120
	Palestinian	25	80
	Somalia	120	330
	Sudan	60	150
	Various	120	290
Islamic Rep. of Iran	Afghanistan	26,350	105,400
	Iraq	500	2,000
Malaysia	Afghanistan	402	848
	Iraq	96	253
	Myanmar	8,179	17,786
	Pakistan	464	1,198
	Palestinian	59	131
	Somalia	879	1,702
	Sri Lanka	190	310
	Syrian Arab Rep.	213	483
	Yemen	256	649
		Various	266
Pakistan	Afghanistan	50,089	150,268
	Myanmar	15	30
	Somalia	25	50
	Yemen	35	70
	Various	25	50
Thailand	Myanmar	100	400
	Various	100	400
Asia & the Pacific - Total		115,133	383,010
EUROPE			
Türkiye	Afghanistan	3,765	12,800
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	1,330	2,400
	Iraq	6,760	16,900
	Syrian Arab Rep.	81,700	384,000
	Various	460	1,100
Europe - Total		94,015	417,200
MENA			
Bahrain/Oman/Qatar/ Saudi Arabia***	Eritrea	10	170
	Iraq	350	1,415
	Palestinian	100	490

	Syrian Arab Rep.	2,085	10,460
	Yemen	280	1,090
	Various	245	985
Algeria	Cameroon	40	80
	Central African Rep.	30	60
	Mali	70	140
	Syrian Arab Rep.	150	600
	Various	60	120
Egypt	Eritrea	1,335	2,000
	Ethiopia	705	1,620
	Iraq	355	680
	Somalia	350	670
	South Sudan	1,040	2,000
	Sudan	2,800	5,450
	Syrian Arab Rep.	4,350	13,050
	Yemen	400	900
	Various	25	50
Iraq	Islamic Rep. of Iran	730	1,920
	Palestinian	590	1,820
	Syrian Arab Rep.	9,210	34,670
	Türkiye	230	870
	Various	35	140
Israel	Eritrea	2,100	6,215
	Palestinians	50	60
	Sudan	370	1,110
	Syrian Arab Rep.	30	90
	Various	10	25
Jordan	Iraq	3,030	8,850
	Sudan	1,450	3,100
	Syrian Arab Rep.	16,370	69,500
	Yemen	2,150	4,550
Kuwait	Iraq	5	10
	Somalia	5	10
	Syrian Arab Rep.	10	30

Lebanon	Egypt	105	275
	Ethiopia	85	115
	Iraq	1,975	5,935
	Jordan	20	70
	Sudan	620	905
	Syrian Arab Rep.	57,930	260,690
	Yemen	50	105
	Various	130	265
Libya	Eritrea	565	625
	Somalia	60	65
	Sudan	1,235	2,100
	Syrian Arab Rep.	115	450
	Various	20	35
Mauritania	Mali	30	60
	Senegal	60	80
	Syrian Arab Rep.	30	60
	Yemen	10	30
	Various	30	70
Morocco	Cameroon	55	60
	Central African Rep.	80	90
	Côte d'Ivoire	75	80
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	20	25
	Guinea	65	75
	Mali	6	10
	Nigeria	4	5
	Senegal	55	55
	Sudan	5	5
	Syrian Arab Rep.	20	50
	Yemen	15	40
Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	50	150
	Iraq	365	1,100
	Somalia	10	35
	Sudan	25	70
	Various	15	45
Tunisia	Côte d'Ivoire	40	60
	Eritrea	84	125

	Sudan	90	135
	Various	118	180
United Arab Emirates	Afghanistan	525	1,575
	Iraq	320	870
	Syrian Arab Rep.	1,135	3,400
	Various	90	155
Yemen	Eritrea	35	80
	Ethiopia	215	1,080
	Somalia	1,815	7,250
	Syrian Arab Rep.	40	120
	Various	25	70
MENA - Total		119,622	463,930
THE AMERICAS			
Aruba/Curacao/Guyana/ Panama****	Colombia	160	400
	Cuba	45	70
	Nicaragua	155	235
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	2,200	5,005
	Various	185	365
Colombia	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	9,996	24,990
	Various	5	10
Costa Rica	Nicaragua	667	1,376
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	97	195
	Various	121	225
Cuba	Afghanistan	10	16
	Eritrea	3	3
	Ethiopia	4	6
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	4	7
	Syrian Arab Rep.	12	23
	Yemen	6	6
	Various	5	20
Dominican Republic	Haiti	817	1,225
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	656	1,050
	Various	33	50
Ecuador	Colombia	1,917	5,751
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	2,030	6,091
El Salvador*****	El Salvador	435	1,300

Guatemala*****	El Salvador	112	280
	Guatemala	2,304	5,760
	Honduras	100	251
	Nicaragua	58	145
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	15	37
	Various	17	42
Honduras*****	Honduras	247	741
	Nicaragua	3	10
Mexico	El Salvador	40	105
	Guatemala	20	60
	Haiti	10	25
	Honduras	55	160
	Nicaragua	10	30
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	35	100
NORTHERN AND EASTERN CARIBBEAN			
	Various	40	50
Peru	Colombia	120	300
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	7,650	19,120
	Various	40	80
Trinidad and Tobago	Cuba	50	90
	Jamaica	50	50
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	1,040	1,875
	Various	40	100
The Americas - Total		31,619	77,830
Grand Total		549,623	2,003,982

*These figures include the needs in all operations covered by the South Africa Multi-Country Office.

**These figures include the needs in all operations covered by the Senegal Multi-Country Office.

***These figures include the needs in all operations covered by the Saudi Arabia Multi-Country Office.

****These figures include the needs in all operations covered by the Panama Multi-Country Office.

***** These figures include in-country processing and submissions planned via the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

ANNEX 3

UNHCR GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT STATISTICAL REPORT 2021

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the resettlement activities of UNHCR Offices worldwide in 2021. The information for this report is drawn from the UNHCR Resettlement Statistical Reports (RSR), which are submitted by UNHCR country Offices on a monthly basis. Please consult the Resettlement Data Portal (rsq.unhcr.org) for detailed resettlement statistics.

Certain information in this report is organized by regions, reflecting the seven UNHCR Regional Bureaus: East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes, West and Central Africa, Southern Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and MENA (Middle East and North Africa).

For the purposes of this report, country of asylum refers to the country from which refugees are submitted to and from which they departed for resettlement. Country of resettlement refers to the country to which refugees are submitted for resettlement and to which they arrive on resettlement. Country of origin refers to the country where refugees derive their nationality. The submission figures include those made through UNHCR Regional Bureaus as well as Headquarters.

SUBMISSIONS

TOP TEN: UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS IN 2021

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	PERSONS	COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	PERSONS
Türkiye	12,269	United States of America	32,851
Lebanon	8,034	Canada	11,377
Jordan	5,489	Sweden	4,386
United Rep. of Tanzania	3,977	Norway	3,288
Rwanda	3,739	Germany	2,671
Egypt	2,818	Australia	1,839
Malaysia	2,647	France	1,555
Uganda	2,354	Finland	1,209
Ethiopia	2,043	Spain	1,047
Burundi	1,884	Switzerland	940
All Others	17,936	All Others	2,027
Grand Total	63,190	Grand Total	63,190

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	PERSONS
Syrian Arab Rep.	25,774
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	13,121
Eritrea	2,690
Sudan	2,599
Somalia	2,386
Myanmar	2,352
Afghanistan	2,212
South Sudan	1,576
Guatemala	1,456
Venezuela	1,132
All Others	7,892
Grand Total	63,190

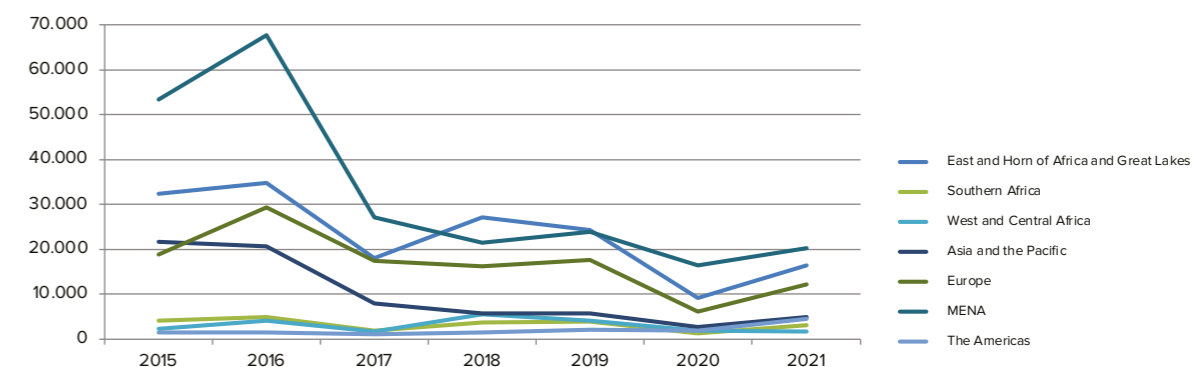
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS IN 2021

SUBMISSIONS BY REGION OF ASYLUM	CASES	PERSONS	% TOTAL (PERSONS)
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	4,302	16,517	26.1%
Southern Africa	713	3,098	4.9%
West and Central Africa	809	1,748	2.8%
Asia and the Pacific	1,564	4,855	7.7%
Europe	2,505	12,283	19.4%
MENA	4,987	20,188	31.9%
The Americas	1,563	4,501	7.1%
Grand Total	16,443	63,190	100%

SUBMISSIONS BY REGION OF ORIGIN	CASES	PERSONS	% TOTAL (PERSONS)
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	3,659	10,964	17.4%
Southern Africa	3,169	13,159	20.8%
West and Central Africa	699	1,518	2.4%
Asia and the Pacific	1,800	5,655	8.9%
Europe	18	61	<1%
MENA	5,558	27,364	43.3%
The Americas	1,540	4,469	7.1%
Grand Total	16,443	63,190	100%

UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY REGION OF ASYLUM 2015-2021 (PERSONS)

REGION OF ASYLUM	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	32,392	34,785	18,039	27,119	24,393	9,179	16,517
Southern Africa	4,203	4,981	1,836	3,666	3,861	1,371	3,098
West and Central Africa	2,275	4,212	1,632	5,623	4,133	1,858	1,748
Asia and Pacific	21,620	20,657	7,983	5,796	5,719	2,654	4,855
Europe	18,833	29,447	17,413	16,135	17,572	6,109	12,283
MENA	53,331	67,723	27,231	21,542	23,964	16,469	20,188
The Americas	1,390	1,401	1,054	1,456	2,029	1,894	4,501



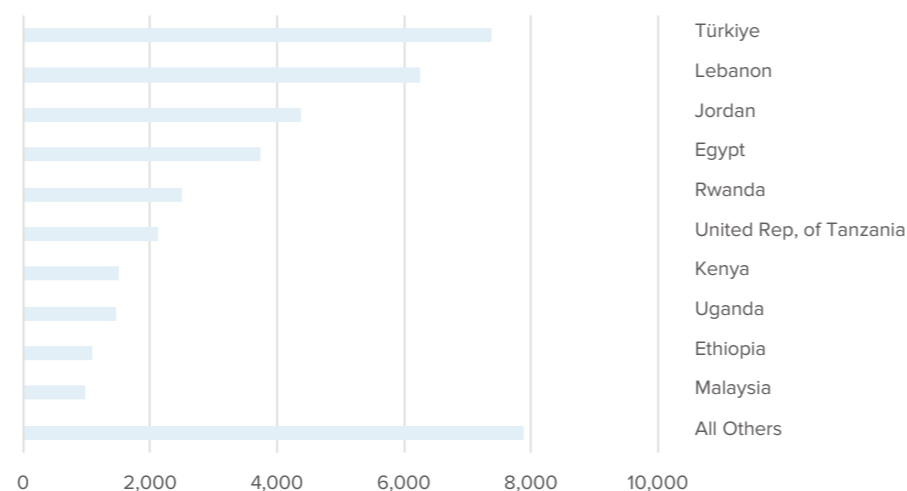
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT BY SUBMISSION CATEGORY IN 2021

CATEGORY	CASES SUBMITTED	PERSONS SUBMITTED
Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs (LPN)	6,135	22,821
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)	5,202	19,630
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (LAS)	741	3,876
Women and Girls at Risk (AWR)	2,742	8,109
Children and Adolescents-At-Risk (CHL)	1,216	6,836
Medical Needs (MED)	366	1,795
Family Reunification (FAM)	41	115
Others/Unspecified	0	8
Grand Total	16,443	63,190

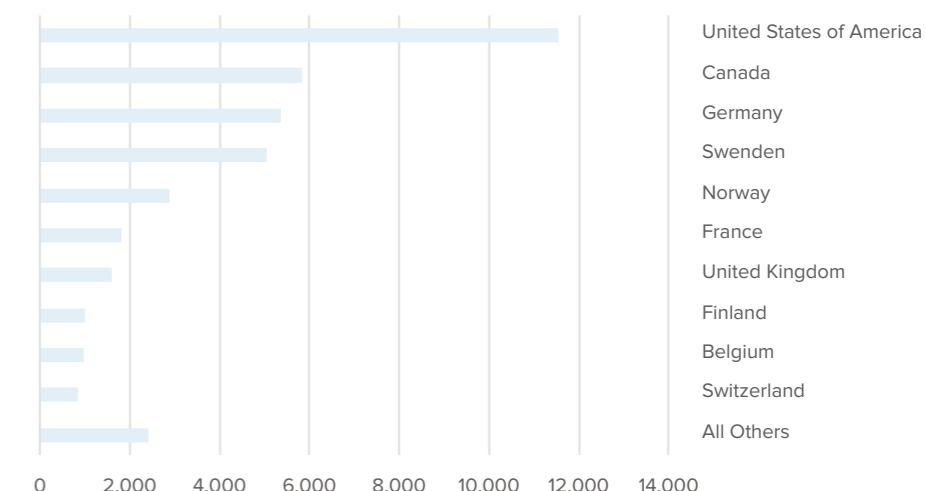
DEPARTURES

TOP TEN: RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES IN 2021*

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	PERSONS
Türkiye	7,382
Lebanon	6,246
Jordan	4,374
Egypt	3,729
Rwanda	2,506
United Rep. of Tanzania	2,115
Kenya	1,517
Uganda	1,451
Ethiopia	1,090
Malaysia	977
All Others	7,879
Grand Total	39,266

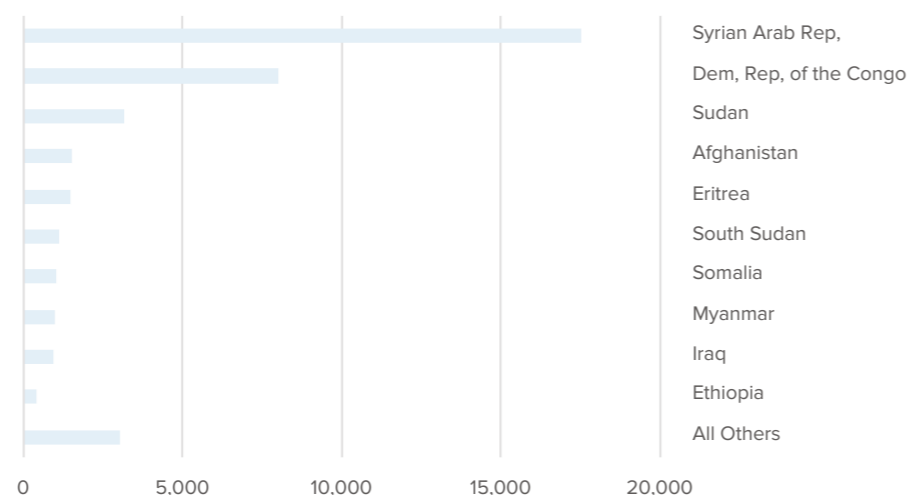


COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	PERSONS
United States of America	11,554
Canada	5,825
Germany	5,363
Swenden	5,036
Norway	2,875
France	1,827
United Kingdom	1,595
Finland	997
Belgium	960
Switzerland	831
All Others	2,403
Grand Total	39,266



* Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as Government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR resettlement processes.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	PERSONS
Syrian Arab Rep.	17,519
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	8,031
Sudan	3,185
Afghanistan	1,506
Eritrea	1,471
South Sudan	1,116
Somalia	1,045
Myanmar	994
Iraq	964
Ethiopia	412
All Others	3,023
Grand Total	39,266



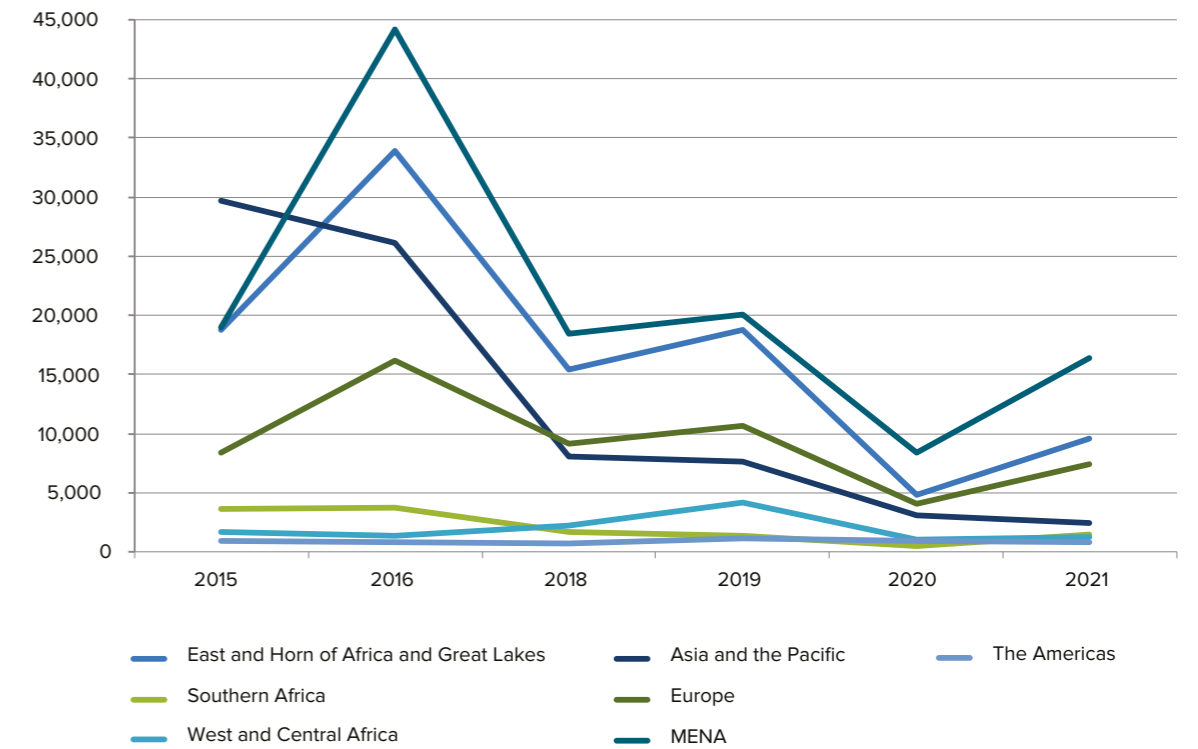
RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES IN 2021

DEPARTURES BY REGION OF ASYLUM	PERSONS	% TOTAL (PERSONS)
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	9,585	24.4%
Southern Africa	1,442	3.7%
West and Central Africa	1,197	3.0%
Asia and the Pacific	2,419	6.2%
Europe	7,401	18.8%
MENA	16,424	41.8%
The Americas	798	2.0%
Grand Total	39,266	100%

DEPARTURES BY REGION OF ORIGIN	PERSONS	% TOTAL (PERSONS)
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	7,754	19.7%
Southern Africa	8,044	20.5%
West and Central Africa	533	1.4%
Asia and the Pacific	3,109	7.9%
Europe	96	<1%
MENA	18,971	48.3%
The Americas	759	1.9%
Grand Total	39,266	100%

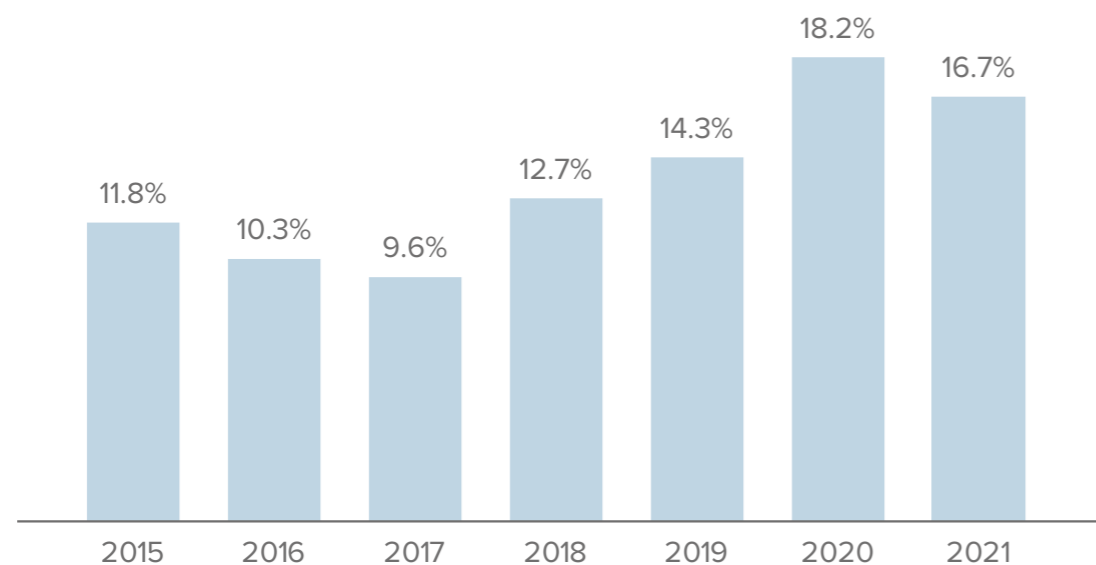
DEPARTURES BY REGION OF ASYLUM 2015-2021

REGION OF ASYLUM	2015	2016	2018	2019	2020	2021
East and Horn of Africa and Great Lakes	18,781	33,858	15,388	18,774	4,831	9,585
Southern Africa	3,602	3,756	1,706	1,342	501	1,442
West and Central Africa	1,633	1,311	2,233	4,132	990	1,197
Asia and the Pacific	29,677	26,091	8,057	7,651	3,131	2,419
Europe	8,334	16,192	9,125	10,617	4,061	7,401
MENA	18,972	44,240	18,428	20,036	8,346	16,424
The Americas	892	843	743	1,174	940	798



UNHCR RESETTLEMENT UNDER THE WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK CATEGORY, 2021

WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK CASES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS BY UNHCR, 2015-2021 (CASES)



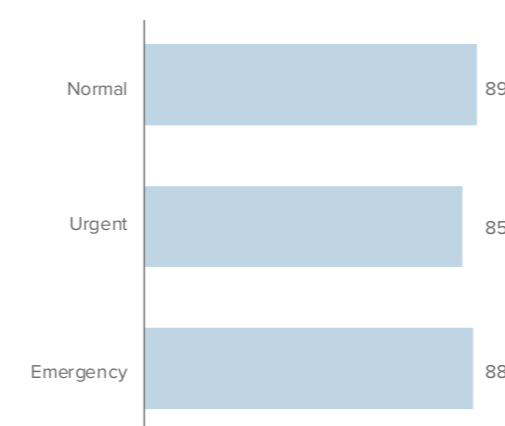
TOP TEN COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM: SUBMISSIONS UNDER (AWR), 2021

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	CASES SUBMITTED	RATE OF AWR SUBMISSIONS (% PER COUNTRY OF ASYLUM)	PERSONS SUBMITTED
Egypt	260	27.4%	672
Türkiye	203	8.1%	584
Rwanda	200	16.3%	526
United Rep. of Tanzania	180	20.8%	593
Burundi	167	37.1%	606
Malaysia	157	20.5%	365
Uganda	147	25.7%	585
Guatemala	135	23.7%	369
Lebanon	123	7.4%	383
Ethiopia	107	18.4%	418

UNHCR RESETTLEMENT UNDER THE MEDICAL NEEDS CATEGORY IN 2021

TOP TEN SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	CASES	TOP TEN SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	CASES
Lebanon	65	Syrian Arab Rep.	185
Türkiye	61	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	65
Uganda	42	Myanmar	16
Iraq	39	Burundi	15
Rwanda	24	South Sudan	14
Egypt	19	Somalia	12
Malaysia	17	Eritrea	12
Ethiopia	13	Afghanistan	12
Thailand	8	Sudan	7
Botswana	8	Pakistan	6
All Others	70	All Others	22
Grand Total	366	Grand Total	366

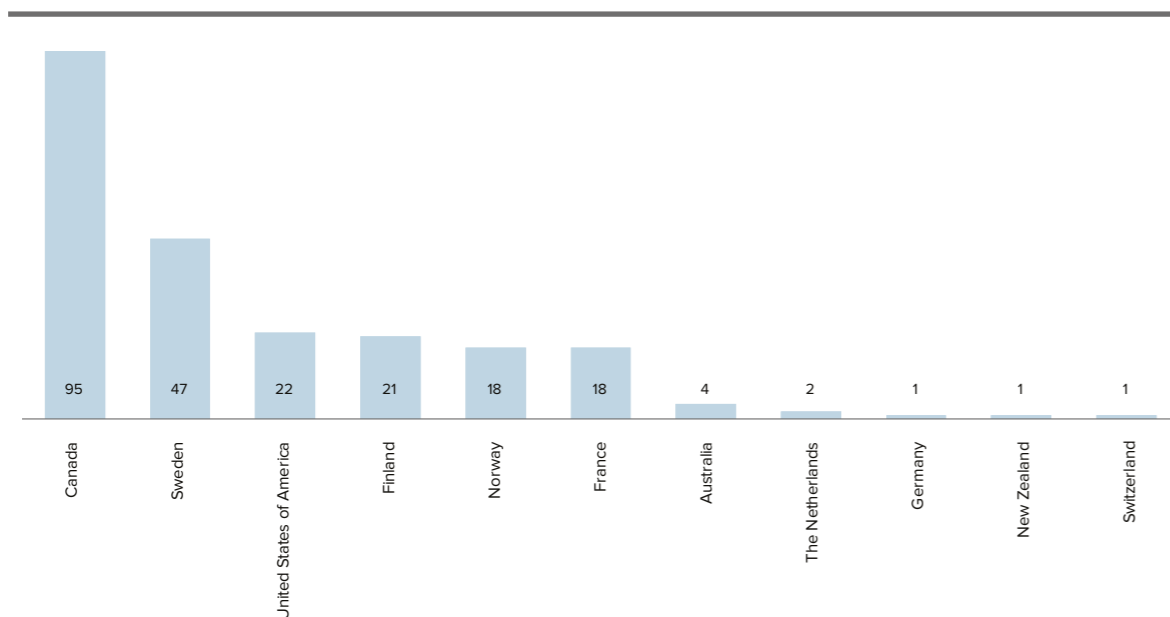
RESETTLEMENT COUNTRY ACCEPTANCE RATES UNDER THE MEDICAL NEEDS CATEGORY BY PRIORITY IN 2021 (IN %)



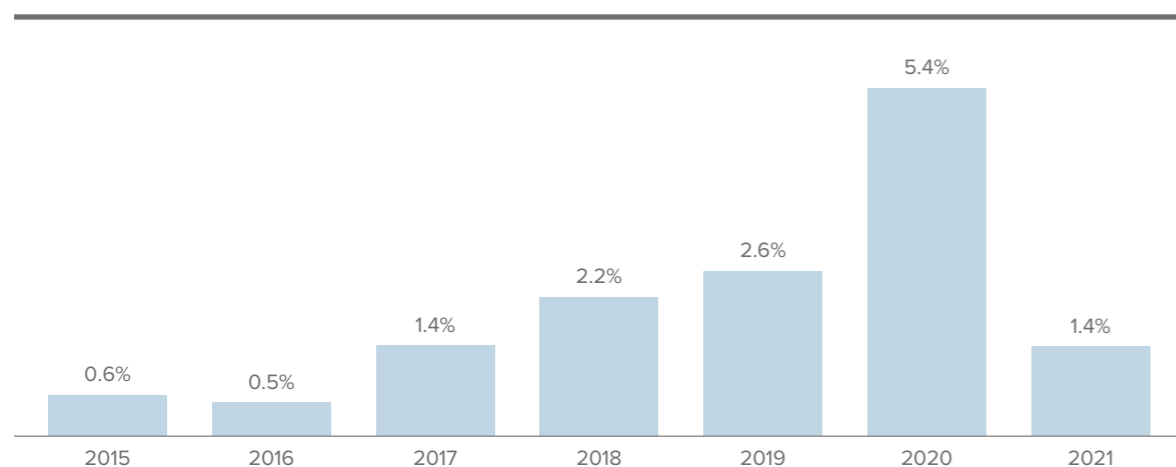
UNHCR RESETTLEMENT BY PRIORITY IN 2021

UNHCR SUBMISSION PRIORITY	SUBMISSIONS		
	CASES	% CASES	PERSONS
Normal	13,339	81.1%	55,173
Urgent	2,874	17.5%	7,399
Emergency	230	1.4%	618
Grand Total	16,443	100%	63,190

UNHCR EMERGENCY SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT, 2021 (CASES)



EMERGENCY CASES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL RESETTLEMENT SUBMISSIONS BY UNHCR (2015-2021, CASES)



ACCEPTANCE RATES OF UNHCR SUBMISSIONS IN 2021

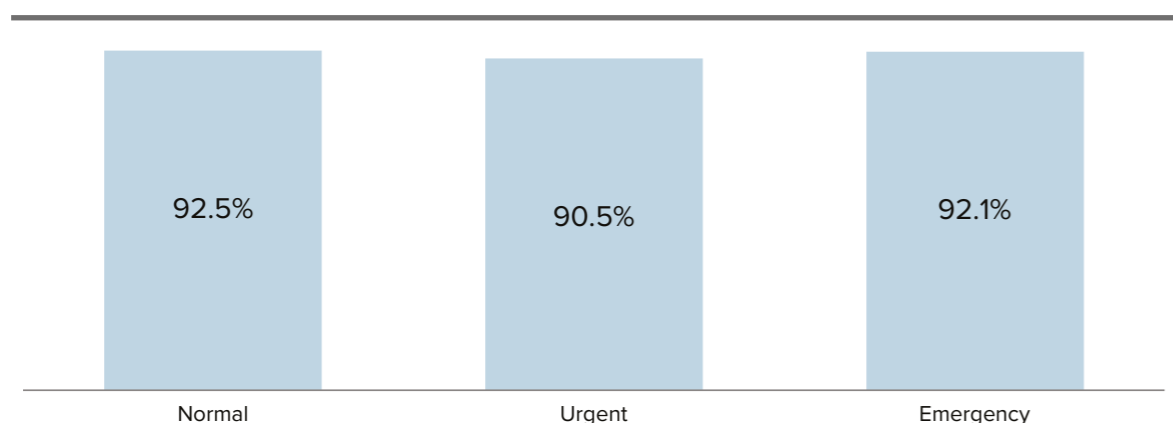
ACCEPTANCE RATES OF UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN IN 2021

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	CASES SUBMITTED	% CASES ACCEPTED
Syrian Arab Rep.	5,034	91.0%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	3,151	94.5%
Eritrea	1,165	95.5%
Sudan	1,018	92.5%
Myanmar	689	97.4%
Afghanistan	665	92.7%
Somalia	581	90.2%
Guatemala	520	97.7%
Venezuela	400	100.0%
South Sudan	387	82.9%
All Others	2,833	47.5%
Grand Total	16,443	91.7%

ACCEPTANCE RATES OF UNHCR SUBMISSIONS BY CATEGORY IN 2021

SUBMISSION CATEGORY	ACCEPTANCE RATE
Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs (LPN)	92.4%
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)	91.6%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (LAS)	95.8%
Women and Girls at Risk (AWR)	92.4%
Medical Needs (MED)	86.8%
Children and Adolescents-At-Risk (CHL)	92.0%
Family Reunification (FAM)	94.4%

ACCEPTANCE RATES OF RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES BY UNHCR RESETTLEMENT PRIORITY IN 2021 (CASES)



RESETTLEMENT DEPARTURES, 2015-2021 *

COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Albania	483	-	-	-	-	-	-
Argentina	-	-	-	3	-	4	-
Australia	5,211	7,502	4,027	3,741	3,464	1,082	350
Austria	642	81	380	-	-	-	-
Belarus	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	276	456	1,294	894	239	176	960
Brazil	6	31	2	-	24	-	-
Bulgaria	-	-	-	21	64	-	-
Canada	10,236	21,865	8,912	7,704	9,031	3,502	5,825
Chile	-	-	66	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	-	40	88	122	-	-
Czech Rep.	-	22	-	-	-	-	-
Denmark	486	317	5	-	-	31	57
Estonia	-	11	19	29	7	-	-
Finland	964	928	1,094	611	873	667	997
France	700	1,328	2,505	5,109	4,544	1,211	1,827
Germany	2,097	1,229	3,005	3,217	4,622	1,396	5,363

COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Hungary	2	4	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland	13	56	47	52	74	-	57
Ireland	178	359	273	338	783	194	55
Italy	96	528	985	400	471	21	-
Japan	19	18	29	22	20	-	-
Latvia	-	6	40	-	-	-	-
Liechtenstein	17	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	25	59	18	-	-	15
Luxembourg	49	52	182	-	35	14	-
Malta	-	-	17	-	-	-	-
Monaco	-	6	23	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	428	689	2,262	1,190	1,857	415	448
New Zealand	756	895	986	982	915	305	519
Norway	2,220	3,149	2,799	2,324	2,351	1,504	2,875
Portugal	39	12	167	33	373	222	301
Rep. of Korea	42	64	44	27	37	17	-
Romania	2	-	43	-	73	37	80
Slovakia	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
Slovenia	-	-	-	34	-	-	-
Spain	92	288	1,066	80	821	363	521
Sweden	1,808	1,868	3,346	4,871	4,993	3,567	5,036
Switzerland	664	667	610	1,074	990	503	831
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1,768	5,074	6,202	5,698	5,774	829	1,595
United States of America	52,583	78,761	24,559	17,112	21,159	6,740	11,554
Uruguay	-	-	16	8	10	-	-
Grand Total	81,891	126,291	65,108	55,680	63,726	22,800	39,266

**All figures in 2021 are provisional and subject to change. This table includes countries with special resettlement programmes/ ad-hoc resettlement intake. Resettlement country figures (submissions and departures) may not match UNHCR reported figures as resettlement country figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR auspices. UNHCR figures may also include cases in which UNHCR assisted, i.e. obtained exit permits for humanitarian admissions or family reunion but did not primarily submit.*

PER CAPITA RESETTLEMENT BY COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT IN 2021

COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT	RESETTLED REFUGEES IN 2019*	NATIONAL POPULATION**	POPULATION PER REFUGEE RESETTLED	NUMBER OF RESETTLED REFUGEES PER 1.000 INHABITANTS
Australia	350	25,788,217	74	13.6
Belgium	960	11,632,334	12	82.5
Canada	5,825	38,067,913	7	153.0
Denmark	57	5,813,302	102	9.8
Finland	997	5,548,361	6	179.7
France	1,827	65,426,177	36	27.9
Germany	5,363	83,900,471	16	63.9
Iceland	57	343,360	6	166.0
Ireland	55	4,982,904	91	11.0
Lithuania	15	2,722,291	181	5.5
Netherlands	448	17,173,094	38	26.1
New Zealand	519	4,860,642	9	106.8
Norway	2,875	5,465,629	2	526.0
Portugal	301	10,167,923	34	29.6
Romania	80	19,127,772	239	4.2
Spain	521	46,745,211	90	11.1
Sweden	5,036	10,160,159	2	495.7
Switzerland	831	8,715,494	10	95.3
United Kingdom***	1,595	68,207,114	43	23.4
United States of America	11,554	332,915,074	29	34.7

* Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as Government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR resettlement processes.

** Source: United Nations, Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 2019 Revision, New York, 2019. For the purpose of this analysis, the 2021 population projections (medium fertility variant) have been used. (See: <https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/>).

***United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

DEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION OF REFUGEES SUBMITTED FOR RESETTLEMENT IN 2021 (PERSONS)

REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	SUBMISSIONS 2021	DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS*				
			<18 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+> YEARS	% WOMEN AND GIRLS	
Africa	Burundi	1,884	61%	38%	2%	51%	
	Djibouti	3	0%	100%	0%	0%	
	Ethiopia	2,043	53%	46%	1%	53%	
	Kenya	1,696	59%	40%	1%	52%	
	Rwanda	3,739	47%	50%	4%	49%	
	Somalia	21	62%	38%	0%	62%	
	South Sudan	9	56%	44%	0%	56%	
	Sudan	791	44%	53%	3%	51%	
	Uganda	2,354	59%	40%	1%	54%	
	United Rep. of Tanzania	3,977	60%	37%	3%	51%	
	East and Horn of Africa & Great Lakes Sub-Total		16,517	55%	42%	2%	51%
	Angola	1	100%	0%	0%	0%	
	Botswana	83	49%	48%	2%	49%	
	Congo	7	57%	43%	0%	57%	
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	14	57%	43%	0%	57%	
	Eswatini	8	38%	63%	0%	50%	
	Madagascar	71	44%	52%	4%	54%	
	Malawi	1,180	64%	35%	1%	50%	
	Mauritius	10	60%	40%	0%	40%	
	Mozambique	22	68%	32%	0%	59%	
	Namibia	174	55%	44%	1%	48%	
	South Africa	664	68%	31%	0%	52%	
	Zambia	752	54%	44%	2%	51%	
	Zimbabwe	112	47%	52%	1%	47%	
	Southern Africa Sub-Total		3,098	61%	38%	1%	50%

REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	SUBMISSIONS 2021	DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS*			
			<18 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+ YEARS	% WOMEN AND GIRLS
Africa	Benin	5	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Burkina Faso	7	43%	57%	0%	57%
	Cameroon	554	54%	45%	1%	53%
	Central African Rep.	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Chad	123	69%	30%	1%	50%
	Cote d'Ivoire	2	0%	100%	0%	50%
	Ghana	18	56%	39%	6%	22%
	Niger	991	34%	66%	0%	31%
	Senegal	46	22%	78%	0%	35%
	Togo	1	0%	100%	0%	100%
	West and Central Africa Sub-Total	1,748	42%	57%	1%	40%
	Africa Sub-Total	21,363	55%	43%	2%	50%
Asia & the Pacific	Bangladesh	78	58%	41%	1%	49%
	China	63	35%	65%	0%	51%
	China, Hong Kong SAR	21	43%	57%	0%	43%
	India	401	45%	51%	4%	53%
	Indonesia	1,000	43%	56%	1%	44%
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	56	41%	57%	2%	63%
	Malaysia	2,647	50%	49%	2%	52%
	Nepal	9	33%	67%	0%	44%
	Pakistan	7	100%	0%	0%	43%
	Papua New Guinea	3	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Singapore	3	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Sri Lanka	94	33%	66%	1%	37%
	Thailand	472	41%	58%	1%	44%
	Samoa	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
		780	58%	39%	3%	49%
	Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total	4,855	46%	52%	2%	49%

REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	SUBMISSIONS 2021	DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS*			
			<18 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+ YEARS	% WOMEN AND GIRLS
Europe	Russian Federation	13	62%	38%	0%	46%
	Türkiye	12,269	52%	46%	2%	48%
	Ukraine	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Europe Sub-Total	12,283	52%	46%	2%	48%
	MENA	Algeria	230	41%	59%	0%
Bahrain		3	67%	33%	0%	67%
Egypt		2,818	47%	51%	2%	53%
Iraq		1,627	54%	43%	3%	51%
Israel		293	51%	49%	0%	45%
Jordan		5,489	58%	40%	2%	48%
Kuwait		35	57%	43%	0%	51%
Lebanon		8,034	56%	43%	1%	48%
Libya		822	54%	46%	0%	49%
Mauritania		119	13%	87%	1%	24%
Morocco		211	30%	70%	0%	50%
Qatar		9	67%	33%	0%	33%
Saudi Arabia		81	53%	46%	1%	53%
Tunisia		146	23%	77%	1%	27%
United Arab Emirates		114	52%	48%	0%	47%
Yemen	157	50%	48%	2%	52%	
MENA Sub-Total	20,188	54%	45%	1%	49%	

REGION OF ASYLUM	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM	SUBMISSIONS 2021	DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS*			
			<18 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+ YEARS	% WOMEN AND GIRLS
The Americas	Bahamas	1	0%	100%	0%	100%
	Cayman Islands	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
	Colombia	120	28%	69%	3%	51%
	Costa Rica	1	0%	0%	100%	100%
	Cuba	7	14%	86%	0%	29%
	Curacao	1	100%	0%	0%	100%
	Dominican Rep.	119	37%	55%	8%	50%
	Ecuador	1,090	43%	56%	1%	53%
	El Salvador**	422	40%	56%	3%	58%
	Guatemala**	1,530	40%	56%	3%	53%
	Honduras**	415	42%	56%	2%	55%
	Mexico	220	50%	50%	0%	54%
	Peru	338	35%	61%	4%	51%
	Sint Maarten (Dutch part)	3	67%	33%	0%	33%
	Trinidad and Tobago	225	45%	54%	1%	53%
	Turks and Caicos Islands	8	0%	100%	0%	0%
	The Americas Sub-Total	4,501	41%	56%	3%	53%
Grand Total	63,190	52%	46%	2%	49%	

* Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

** These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

UNHCR EMERGENCY TRANSIT CENTRE (ETC) & EMERGENCY TRANSIT MECHANISM (ETM) 2021 ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

LOCATION	COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	RESETTLEMENT COUNTRY	NUMBER OF CASES	NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS	IN CENTRE AS OF END 2021	DEPARTED AS OF END 2021
Timisoara, Romania	Libya	Syria	Canada	1	5	0	5
	Libya	Eritrea	Canada	1	1	0	1
	Libya	Sudan	Canada	2	6	0	6
	Saudi Arabia	Eritrea	Argentina	4	4	0	4
	Niger	Eritrea	Netherlands	13	19	0	19
	Niger	Eritrea	Netherlands	2	2	0	2
	Niger	Eritrea	Netherlands	4	6	0	6
	Syria	Afghanistan	United Kingdom**	1	5	0	5
	Syria	Somalia	United Kingdom**	2	6	0	6
	Niger	Cameroon	Netherlands	1	1	1	0
	Niger	Ivory Coast	Netherlands	1	1	1	0
	Syria	Afghanistan	United Kingdom**	1	6	0	6
	Syria	Somalia	United Kingdom**	2	7	0	7
	Libya	Eritrea	Canada	17	35	35	0
	Libya	Iraq	Canada	2	3	3	0
	Libya	State of Palestine	Canada	1	3	3	0
	Libya	Somalia	Canada	1	2	2	0
	Libya	South Sudan	Canada	1	4	4	0
	Libya	Sudan	Canada	18	41	41	0
	Libya	Syria	Canada	5	19	19	0
Total Timisoara				209	670	111	559
Philippines	Malaysia	Thailand	Australia	1	1	1	1
Total Philippines				1	1	1	1
Grand Total				81	177	110	68

*Country of asylum prior to entering the ETC

**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Sudan, August 2021. Two young refugees stand outside a shelter in Um Rakuba refugee camp in Eastern Sudan.
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Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Service

Division of International Protection
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Case Postale 2500, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 739 8111

<http://www.unhcr.org>