



Bureau for Asia and the Pacific Country Operations Fact Sheets

September 2014



REGIONAL BUREAU FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

FACT SHEET

September 2014

KEY FIGURES

63%

Urban refugees (world average 53%)

20 (out of 45)

Signatory countries of the 1951 Refugee Convention

17

Countries where UNHCR conducts Refugee Status Determination

107,407

New asylum applications received by UNHCR in 2013

60,187

RSD decisions rendered by UNHCR in 2013

32,731

Resettlement departures from Asia in 2013 (47% of global departures)

43,500

Refugees who voluntarily repatriated in 2013

FUNDING

USD 611.2 million

requested for Asia / Pacific



UNHCR PAKISTAN/2013

HIGHLIGHTS

■ Protracted refugee situations

Afghan refugees: 2.6 million Afghan refugees worldwide, incl. 2.5 million in the Islamic Republics of Iran and Pakistan. Afghan refugees represent 40 per cent of the global protracted refugee population, and 20 percent of the world's total refugee population. Afghans are the third largest group seeking asylum in industrialised countries (19,300 in the first half of 2014). The **Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR)** is an internationally-endorsed initiative to address the protracted situation of Afghan refugees, by supporting voluntary repatriation, sustainable reintegration and assistance to host countries.

Other **long-staying refugees** in Asia are refugees from Myanmar in Bangladesh, Thailand and Malaysia, and refugees from Bhutan in Nepal.

■ Irregular maritime movements

Irregular maritime movements of mixed populations that include persons of concern to UNHCR have been prevalent in the Asia-Pacific region for many years, but movements through South-East Asia, largely originating from the **Bay of Bengal**, have increased at a particularly rapid rate following inter-communal violence in Myanmar in June 2012. Since then, some **87,000** people are estimated to have departed by sea from the Bangladesh-Myanmar border area. Main routes are to the Malaysia/Thailand maritime border, from Malaysia to Indonesia, and to Indonesia and Australia. Over **7,000 persons of concern** to UNHCR have travelled irregularly by sea and are currently held in **detention** facilities.

■ Recent emergency

Military operations in the **North Waziristan** region of Pakistan in the second half of 2014 resulted in the displacement of close to 600,000 people, both within tribal areas of Pakistan and across the border into Afghanistan. UNHCR is contributing to the inter-agency response within Pakistan, and assisting refugees in Afghanistan with tents and non-food items.

■ Myanmar / Thailand operation

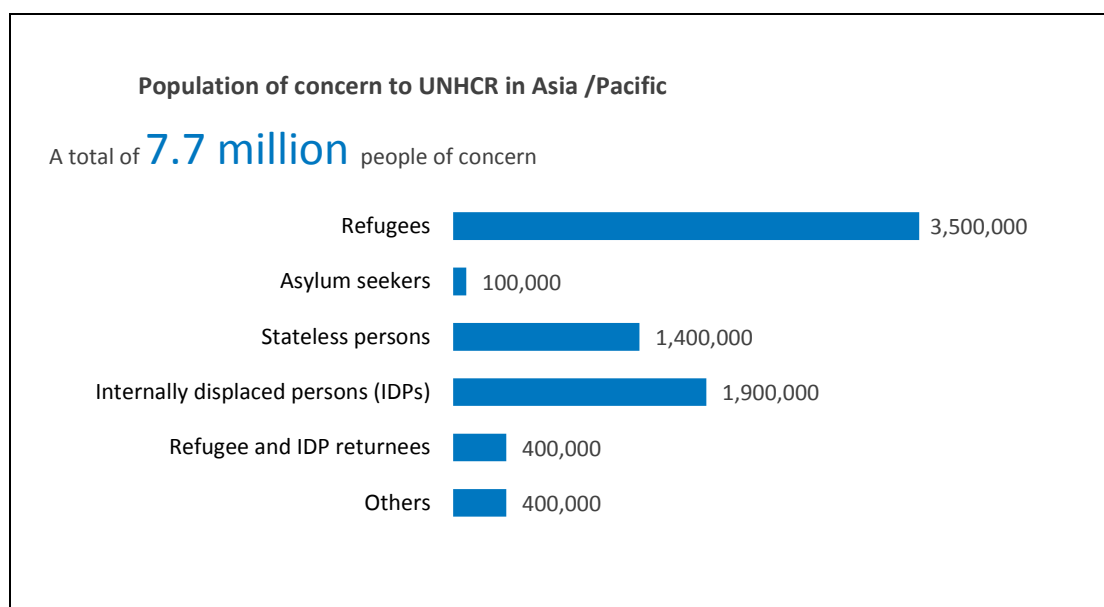
The Myanmar situation remains a key operation in South-East Asia. As part of the UN Country Team, UNHCR is engaged in the emergency response for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in both Kachin and Rakhine States. In all, there are an estimated **400,000 IDPs** in Myanmar, including some 140,000 in Rakhine, living in 79 camps or camp-like settings.

Meanwhile, in light of encouraging political developments, UNHCR is undertaking preparations on both sides of the border for the potential voluntary return of refugees from Thailand to the south-east of Myanmar.

■ Statelessness

1.4 million **stateless persons**, or persons at risk of statelessness, in Asia.

The largest group is from **Myanmar's** Rakhine State, where it is estimated that 1.09 million persons are lacking citizenship. Other stateless populations or persons at risk of statelessness are found in Central Asia, largely as result of the dissolution of the former Soviet Union; and in Malaysia (40,000), the Philippines (6,040), Sri Lanka, Thailand (506,000) and Viet Nam (11,500).



UNHCR Presence

- Total number of countries covered by the Bureau: **45 countries and territories** (including 13 Pacific Island States) across 11 time zones
- Number of countries with UNHCR presence: **20 countries**, with **52 offices** including **4 Regional Offices** (Almaty, Bangkok, Beijing, Canberra)
- Number of Countries with no UNHCR presence: **25 countries**
- After 40 years of existence UNHCR's office in Viet Nam closed at the end of June. Continued support will be provided to the Government through UNHCR's Regional Office in Bangkok
- Coverage of the Bureau extends (east to west) from Japan to the Islamic Republic of Iran and Central Asia, and (north to south) from Mongolia to New Zealand and the Pacific

The Strategic Priorities of the Bureau for Asia and the Pacific

- **Protection and Asylum Space:** ensure access to asylum and provision of international protection, including protection against *refoulement*; protection at sea; advocating for the rights of persons of concern
- **Protracted Refugee Situations:** pursue solutions including voluntary return, resettlement and sustainable reintegration.
- **Urban Refugee Situations:** preserve and expand protection space for refugees in urban settings including through regularisation of their status, promoting access to basic services and livelihood opportunities, and targeting protection activities for women and girls.
- **Mixed Migration:** support states in the region in managing mixed flows with protection-oriented responses, especially through the regional cooperation frameworks within the Bali and Almaty processes.
- **Statelessness:** prevent and reduce statelessness and protect the rights of stateless people
- Provide support to governments in registration / **refugee status determination** (RSD) / resettlement
- Support **IDP operations** within an inter-agency context while preparing for responsible disengagement when appropriate
- Enhance UNHCR's **emergency preparedness and response** capacity by strengthening regional coordination mechanisms, including for natural disasters
- Maintain operations in high-risk areas and ensure **staff safety**

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING STATELESSNESS

- Various **mapping and registration initiatives** are ongoing in several countries to identify stateless persons or persons at risk, and reduce statelessness. These initiatives may be designed to assist individuals in submitting an application for citizenship; promote the issuance of civil registration documents and the acquisition of citizenship for marginalized groups; support government entities in civil documentation including birth registration; promote the adoption of citizenship provisions or naturalization practices through legal advocacy; exchange and promote good practices in the region.

- **Significant achievements in Central Asia**

In 2011 a nationwide registration campaign of stateless persons took place in **Turkmenistan**. Since then over 8,000 persons have been registered and 4,713 have received citizenship. This includes 786 persons who were granted citizenship during an International Conference on Migration and Statelessness which took place in June 2014 in Ashgabat. Another 6,000 requests are currently being processed by the Government.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, 14,356 persons exchanged old USSR passports for Kyrgyz passports and 45 persons acquired Kyrgyz Citizenship.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Voluntary Repatriation

- **Afghanistan** remains the largest voluntary return operation in UNHCR's history: over 5.8 million since 2002; **38,700** returns in 2013 (10,000 returns so far this year)
- Total voluntary repatriation in Asia (2013) : **43,500** (2012: 100,132)
- Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who have returned to their areas of origin in 2013: **392,148** (Afghanistan, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka) (2012: 459,236)

Resettlement

- Asia traditionally has the largest number of resettlement departures worldwide: 2013 figures show that the top three countries of departure were **Nepal** (10,828) **Thailand** (8,806) and **Malaysia** (8,537). In 2014, Nepal has already facilitated 5,800 resettlement departures.
- The nationality of the largest groups of resettled refugees worldwide, were: **Myanmar** (16,701 – 1st rank) and **Bhutan** (10,665 – 2nd rank) **Afghans** ranked sixth with 4,400 departures.

Promoting access to asylum procedures and services

- UNHCR advocates for alternatives to detention and supports a number of countries in the region with registration, processing of claims and Refugee Status Determination (RSD).
- UNHCR works with governments and civil society to facilitate access by refugees to national health and education systems, as well as a range of activities allowing self-reliance, access to the labor market, skills training and livelihood opportunities.
- UNHCR works with governments to develop, where possible, alternative or temporary stay arrangements, in particular in the context of the current irregular maritime movements.

ADDRESSING MIXED MIGRATORY AND REFUGEE FLOWS

The Bali Process and the Almaty Process

The '**Bali Process** on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime' (*Bali Process*) and the '**Almaty Process** on Mixed Migration and International Protection' (*Almaty Process*) both provide regional platforms for dialogue and cooperation to maintain asylum space and address mixed migratory flows.

Bali Process

In South-East Asia, under the auspices of the Bali Process, the operationalization of the Regional Cooperation Framework to reduce irregular migration in the Asia-Pacific region continued to gain momentum, building on the

opening of the Regional Support Office (RSO) in Bangkok in September 2012 under the oversight and direction of the Bali-Process co-chairs, Australia and Indonesia, and with the support of UNHCR and IOM. Under the auspices of the RSO, in March 2014, the Government of Indonesia and UNHCR co-chaired a meeting on 'Mapping Disembarkation Options: Towards Strengthening Cooperation in Managing Irregular Movements by Sea'¹, in partnership with IOM and the Government of New Zealand.

In parallel to the Bali Process, in April 2014, the Government of Indonesia and UNHCR co-chaired an International Workshop on the Protection of Irregular Movements of Persons at Sea held in Jakarta². The Workshop sought to follow up on the implementation of the Jakarta Declaration adopted by the Special Conference of Irregular Movements of Persons by Sea in August 2013.

Almaty Process

Following the June 2013 second Ministerial Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration in Almaty, Kazakhstan, where government officials from nine Central Asian and neighbouring States explored collaborative responses to challenges of mixed migration and refugee protection in the region, the Chair of the Almaty Process³ in March 2014 requested all countries participating in the Process to nominate a National Coordinator or Focal Point to follow up on Process-related developments, including the Regional Action Plan and a Regional Cooperation framework. A compilation of documents on the Almaty Process was finalised with a view to communicating a full picture of the Almaty Process configuration and mechanisms to all participant countries.

The Chair, IOM and the UNHCR Regional Representation in Almaty agreed on a number of steps regarding the further development of the Almaty Process, including an agreement to hold a Senior Officials Meeting in November 2014. Working meetings to plan the Senior Officials meeting started in June 2014 with the help of the Support Unit⁴.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ASIA

- The Islamic Republics of **Pakistan** and **Iran**, the largest and third largest refugee-hosting countries in the world (1.6 million and 0.84 million registered refugees respectively), are important contributors to the protection and assistance to refugees. Other countries in Asia have extended hospitality to refugees for a long time, either in camps (Bangladesh, Nepal) or in urban setting (India, Indonesia, Malaysia, People's Republic of China, Thailand, and others).
- Major **government donors** in Asia-Pacific are :
 - Japan:** USD 175,412,466 donated so far in 2014 (USD 253 million in 2013)
 - Australia:** USD 43,822,908 donated so far in 2014 (USD 57 million in 2013)
 - Republic of Korea:** USD 12,937,182 so far in 2014 (USD 6 million in 2013), and
 - New Zealand:** USD 5,440,811 donated so far in 2014 (USD 5 million in 2013).

¹ See UNHCR, Co-Chairs' Summary: "*Mapping Disembarkation Options: Towards Strengthening Cooperation in Managing Irregular Movements by Sea*," 3-4 March 2014 Bangkok, Thailand, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/5343abe64.html>.

² UNHCR: Co-chairs' Summary: *International Workshop on the Protection of Irregular Movements of Persons at Sea Jakarta, Indonesia, 21-22 April 2014*, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/53882cb34.html>.

³ Currently the Vice-Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Kazakhstan.

⁴ UNHCR and IOM have both provided a staff member, in addition to administrative support from the former, to the Support Unit.

- Income from the **private sector** in Asia is rapidly growing:

PSFR income Year	Actual	Forecast for year end
2012	39,057,986	
2013	52,359,157	
2014*	37,094,568	58,504,449

*Actual at 31 Aug 2014

- Total **funds raised** in the Asia-Pacific region in 2013 (including Private donors) **USD 376 million¹** (a 32% increase over 2012 income); this represents 7% of UNHCR' budget (USD 5.3 bn) in 2013, and 63 % of Asia-Pacific budget for 2013 (USD 595 million)

STRENGTHENING EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS

The e-Centre in Tokyo: building capacity to strengthen responses to humanitarian emergencies

The UNHCR Regional Centre for Emergency Preparedness, or e-Centre, is based in Tokyo, Japan and was established in 2000. The e-Centre works largely with government and civil society actors throughout the Asia-Pacific region to strengthen emergency response capacity and support inter-agency collaboration. In 2012, the e-Centre catalysed the formation of the Asia-Pacific Emergency Management (APEM) Platform, which today includes 45 leading government and civil society institutions from the e-Centre partner network. Over the last two years the Platform has pursued joint preparedness activities in areas such as urban emergency response, contingency planning, capacity-building of local NGOs and community-based actors, and inter-agency field exercises. Other activities for this year have included technical support and tailored capacity building for field operations, including a strategic focus on Afghanistan and Pakistan. Later this year the e-Centre, in collaboration with partners, will deliver a pilot workshop on mainstreaming cross-cutting issues in emergency responses. This will be the first time a workshop like this has been done in the Asia-Pacific region.

LIST OF STATE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTIONS IN ASIA / PACIFIC

States Parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol (date of ratification)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Afghanistan (30 Aug 2005) | 11) Nauru (28 June 2011) |
| 2) Australia (22 Jan 1954 / 13 Dec 1973) | 12) New Zealand (30 Jun 1960 / 6 Aug 1973) |
| 3) Cambodia (15 Oct 1992) | 13) Papua New Guinea (17 Jul 1986) |
| 4) China (24 Sep 1982) | 14) Philippines (22 Jul 1981) |
| 5) Fiji (12 June 1972) | 15) Samoa (21 Sep 1988 / 29 Nov 1994) |
| 6) Iran, Islamic Republic of (28 Jul 1976) | 16) Solomon Islands (28Feb1995/12Apr1995) |
| 7) Japan (03 Oct 1981 / 1 Jan 1982) | 17) Tajikistan (07 Dec 1993) |
| 8) Kazakhstan (15 Jan 1999) | 18) Timor-Leste (07 May 2003) |
| 9) Kyrgyzstan (08 Oct 1996) | 19) Turkmenistan (02 Mar 1998) |
| 10) Korea, Republic of (03 Dec 1992) | 20) Tuvalu (07 Mar 1986) |

States Parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (date of ratification)

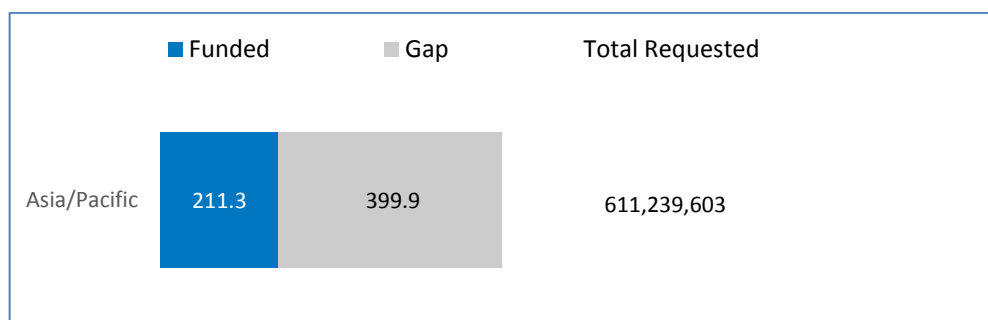
- 1) Australia (13 Dec 1973)
- 2) Fiji (12 Jun 1972)
- 3) Kiribati (29 Nov 1983)
- 4) Korea, Republic of (22 Aug 1962)
- 5) Philippines (22 Sept 2011)
- 6) Turkmenistan (7 December 2011)

States Parties to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (date of ratification)

- 1) Australia (13 Dec 1973)
- 2) Kiribati (29 Nov 1983)
- 3) Turkmenistan (29 August 2012)
- 4) New Zealand (20 Sept 2006)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A total of **USD 611.2 million** has been requested for all operations in the Asia /Pacific region



UNHCR BUDGET FOR ASIA / PACIFIC 2013 – 2014

Budget and actual expenditure 2013 (USD)

2013	Budget	Expenditures
Pillar 1 - refugees	301,241,546	162,296,147
Pillar 2 – stateless	22,353,996	10,613,969
Pillar 3 - reintegration	129,728,563	45,463,420
Pillar 4 - IDPs	141,335,541	73,252,954
TOTAL	594,659,646	291,626,490

(expenditure is based on available funds)

Budget 2014 (USD)

2014 Budget	
Pillar 1 - refugees	325,334,046
Pillar 2 – stateless	23,749,244
Pillar 3 - reintegration	123,963,767
Pillar 4 - IDPs	138,192,545
TOTAL	611,239,603

(as of September 2014)

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to operations the Asia /Pacific with earmarked funding :

Donors who have directly contributed to various programmes and operations in Asia /Pacific :

- Australia
- Canada
- China
- CERF
- Denmark
- European Union
- Finland
- Germany
- Japan
- Kuwait
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Norway
- private donors
- Republic of Korea
- Russian Federation
- Turkmenistan Saudi Arabia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- UN OCHA
- UN Peacebuilding Fund
- UN Programme on HIV/AIDS
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Viet Nam

TOP TEN OPERATIONS IN ASIA / PACIFIC in 2013 – 2014

(as of September 2014)

Country	Type of Operation	2013 Budget (final)	2014 Budget (as of September 2014)
1. Pakistan	Refugees (mostly from Afghanistan) and IDPs	161,354,322	162,619,685
2. Afghanistan	Return, reintegration and IDPs	131,375,226	152,165,796
3. Islamic Republic of Iran	Refugees (mostly from Afghanistan)	59,588,289	68,669,442
4. Myanmar	Statelessness and internal displacement	68,481,570	68,108,703
5. Thailand	Camp-based refugees (from Myanmar)	28,044,521	32,842,224
6. Malaysia	Urban refugees (mostly from Myanmar)	17,725,665	20,161,428
7. Nepal	Camp-based refugees (from Bhutan)	15,579,191	15,440,453
8. India	Urban refugees	13,007,112	13,638,075
9. Bangladesh	Camp-based refugees (from Myanmar)	13,447,801	12,385,988
10. Sri Lanka	Return & reintegration (IDP & Refugees)	10,253,602	9,128,705

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Links:

UNHCR website, Asia-Pacific page <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4a02d8ec6.html>
 UNHCR website, Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees page <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4f9016576.html>



Kyrgyzstan / Sewing workshop established by UNHCR to support refugee women and improve the self-reliance of the refugee community. UNHCR / A. Abdrakhmanova / January 2013

Central Asia



HIGHLIGHTS

Mixed Migration

Senior Officials meeting for Almaty Process is scheduled for November, and new Chair of the Almaty Process is appointed.

Statelessness

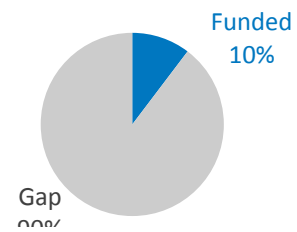
786 persons naturalized in Turkmenistan during the International Conference on Migration and Statelessness. Successful implementation of the *Seeds for Solutions* initiative.

A total of **36,910** people of concern

USD 16,680,101 million requested

By country in the region

Country	Total PoC
Kazakhstan	7,651
Kyrgyzstan	16,091
Tajikistan	5,617
Turkmenistan	7,551
Total	36,910



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

10 national staff
5 international staff

Offices:

Regional Office for Central Asia located in Almaty, Kazakhstan



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- A common interest of UN and other agencies working in Central Asia from the regional perspective is the complex population flows towards, within and out of the region and their impact on economic development, security, health and other fields. UNHCR collaborates with the following actors to advocate for keeping asylum space open: in addition to concerned governments, UNHCR works with UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UNODC, OSCE, UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, EU, IOM, UNDSS, UNAIDS, OHCHR, OIC, CICA, World Bank, ACTED, Asian Development Bank, ICRC, WFP, and others in the region. UNHCR closely cooperates with the NGOs partners in each country as well as with media and civil society.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- The Regional Office (RO) assists UNHCR offices in the region to complete analysis of the data on persons of concern. This allows for designing more targeted interventions for all persons of concern, including those with specific needs and disabilities.
- The self – study phase of the 2014 Refugee Status Determination Distance Learning Program (DLP) was completed in August by participants, including governmental officials. The Regional Office is planning to conduct a workshop and study tour for participants who completed the DLP, in Minsk in October 2014.
- UNHCR Central Asia collaborates with the OSCE and other training institutions in order to include asylum issues in border and security management. It is aimed at increasing the refugee content in trainings, and building capacity on protection-sensitive border management.

Mixed Migration

- UNHCR in Central Asia supports governments with the implementation of the 10 Point Plan of Action on Refugee Protection and Mixed Migration, focusing on data collection and analysis, protection-sensitive entry systems, reception arrangements, mechanisms for profiling and referral, and differentiated processes and procedures.
- The Government of Kazakhstan, Chair of the Almaty Process, UNHCR and IOM agreed on the theme for the first meeting of the Almaty Process Senior Officials (SOM) to be held in November 2014: ‘Mixed Migration Movements from Afghanistan Post-2014’.
- The Vice Minister of Health and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan was appointed as the new Chairperson of the Almaty Process.

Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness

- Statelessness remains one of the key areas of concern for UNHCR in Central Asia. Many of those who are stateless today have been in this situation for decades. There are a reported 28,359 stateless people in the region in 2014; however it is believed that the number is considerably higher than this. Significant momentum has been built in the region to tackle statelessness, with numerous law and policy reform initiatives, group and individual naturalizations, and accessions to the two statelessness Conventions.
- RO in collaboration with IOM assisted the Government of Turkmenistan in organizing the International Conference on Migration and Statelessness held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on the 23-24 June 2014. The event brought together all the states in the region, and those further afield. The conference was a platform to discuss good practices in resolving and preventing statelessness, as well as providing some elements of the regional agenda for the future. During the conference the Government of Turkmenistan held a citizenship ceremony, during which 786 stateless persons were granted Turkmen nationality.
- The ‘Seed for Solutions’ initiatives that is taking place in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, builds on the momentum to eradicate statelessness in the region. This initiative seeks to find durable solutions to statelessness, or where this is not immediately possible, the foundations for these solutions will be laid.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- A regional strategy for community-based protection for 2014-2015 is being developed to ensure that protection of people of concern in the region is firmly grounded in the communities.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the sub-regional operations:

[Kazakhstan](#) | [Russia](#) | [Turkmenistan](#) | [UN Peacebuilding Fund](#) | [United States of America](#)

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HIGHLIGHTS

Statelessness

Information campaign launched. More than 500 calls are received every day

100 families of

refugees and asylum seekers were provided with cash assistance

70 border guards and 30

migration police staff members were trained during border monitoring missions

Population of concern

A total of **7,651** people of concern

(as of 30 June 2014)

Refugee population by country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	575
China	9
Uzbekistan	21
Syria	11
Others	4
Total	620

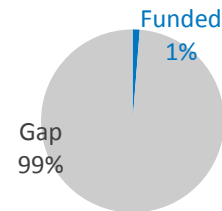
Asylum-seeker population by country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	32
Syria	22
China	9
Ukraine	12
Others	14
Total	89

Total stateless population 6,942

Funding

USD 7,415,386 million requested



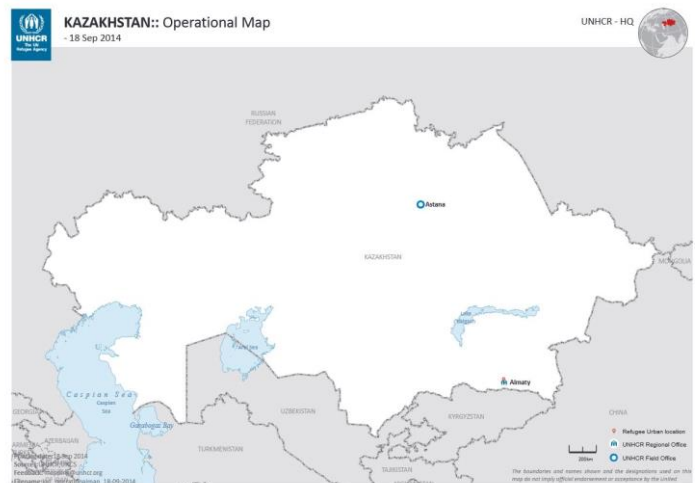
UNHCR presence

Staff:

16 national staff
2 international staff

Offices:

2 offices located in:
Almaty and Astana city



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- Government. UNHCR works with different governmental institutions on refugee protection and statelessness in Kazakhstan. The main interlocutors are the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs (including the Migration Police Department and its territorial branches), General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health and Social Development, Ministry of Education, Border Guards Service of the Committee on National Security, National Commission on Women's Affairs under the President of the Republic, Kazakhstan Commission on Human Rights, under the President of the Republic, and the Office of the Ombudsman.
- Implementing Partners. UNHCR has three Implementing partners: Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law (BHR), Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society (KRCS), International Association of Social Projects (IASP), working in area of legal protection, providing medical, financial, social and educational assistance.
- Other partners. UNHCR work closely with other organizations on issues of mutual interest: IOM, OSCE, UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women, WHO, UNAIDS.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Registration. UNHCR has provided the Migration Police Department with software and equipment to set a registration database. The three modules of the database (refugees, nationality and statelessness) have undergone a testing period in 16 territorial branches of the Migration Police. The technical errors identified during the testing period will be addressed during the final phase of the project, followed by refresher training to Migration Police officials.
- Legal advocacy. UNHCR advocates with the various agencies of the Government for the improvement of national legislation and related bylaws on refugee status determination. UNHCR advocates for adjusting the national legislation on asylum and refugee related-matters to ensure compliance with international standards and norms.
- Capacity building. One staff member of the Migration Police successfully completed training course on interviewing techniques, organized by UNHCR Ukraine. A Session on the use of the Russian REFWORLD was organized for staff members of Migration Police and implementing partner in Almaty. UNHCR participated and provided its expert advice on Refugee Status Determination (RSD) issues in nine RSD commissions organized by the Migration Police in various locations of Kazakhstan. The office has been providing on a regular basis UNHCR updates on the treatment of Ukrainian and Syrian asylum-seekers, as well as extensive and detailed COI information on the situation in Ukraine and Syria. Five participants from Kazakhstan successfully completed the Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Distance Learning Program organized by RO Almaty.
- Border monitoring. UNHCR and its legal partner conducted border monitoring missions to five border crossing points with China, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, with the aim of observing admission practices at border entry points. As part of border monitoring, UNHCR conducted awareness raising sessions for around 70 border guards and 30 Migration Police staff members on protection standards, identification, and referral and reception mechanisms.
- Statelessness. As a concrete measure for the implementation of Memorandum of Understanding signed at the end of March 2014 between UNHCR and the Migration Police under the Ministry of Interior, UNHCR jointly with the Migration Police Department and the Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law launched a statelessness information campaign in July 2014, aimed at identifying the number of undocumented people residing in the country. During the countrywide exercise, it will be possible to verify whether undocumented persons contacting the call center have Kazakh nationality, or could be nationals of some other CIS country, or if they could be stateless. The aim is to have these persons registered in order to accurately determine their status, and provide them with ID documents, as well as guarantee their access to socio-economic rights and prevent further possible cases of statelessness. The information campaign will last 6 months. UNHCR and the Government will agree on next steps to be undertaken on the basis of the results of the information campaign, to find legal solutions to resolve statelessness in the country, as well as ensure access of stateless persons to naturalization, basic rights, including medical services, education, opportunity to travel and others.
- Emergency Preparedness. UNHCR Kazakhstan participated in the update of the current Country Contingency Plan in cooperation with UN sister agencies. One staff member from the Kazakh Red Crescent Society participated in the Emergency preparedness training in Thailand organized by UNHCR E-Centre.

Education

- A preparatory school for 6-7 year-old refugee and asylum-seeker children was organized during summer 2014 aimed at facilitating the integration and socialization of refugee and asylum-seekers' children. Russian and English language classes were provided to 35 refugee children and 13 refugee women. To reduce the economic burden of vulnerable families, school uniforms, textbooks and school supplies were procured and distributed to 60 vulnerable refugee and asylum-seeker children. UNHCR and its partner IASP's proposal for funding of the project for young refugees (featuring a taekwondo club, puppetry school and monthly magazine in Dari Language) was successfully chosen under the recently launched 2014 *Youth Initiative Fund*.

Health

- As a result of UNHCR advocacy for the improvement of national legislation and related bylaws in the area of healthcare for refugees and asylum-seekers, the Ministry of Health prepared and submitted to Parliament the relevant amendments to the draft Code of Health for inclusion of the refugee population residing in Kazakhstan into the state guaranteed benefits package of health services, on a par with citizens of Kazakhstan.

Food Security and Nutrition

- Since January 2014, around 100 families (312 refugees and asylum-seekers) from 11 countries were provided with cash assistance.

Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR's partner Kazakh Red Crescent Society successfully secured funding from National Committee of Red Crescent Society to provide refugees and asylum-seekers with contraceptives in amount of 500 boxes, 144 units in each. KRCS also received from the Finnish Red Cross Society clothes in amount of 16 bales, 32 kg. The total value of both donations is US\$ 20,000.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- For the third consecutive year, UNHCR launched a Mini-grant program for the refugee population. As a result, 19 vulnerable refugee families were provided with mini-grants to increase their self-reliance and improve their well-being. Priority was given to female headed households to empower them to take an active role in improving their social, economic and financial well-being. Refugees recognized under UNHCR's mandate and who do not have the right to work, were also prioritized to benefit from the mini-grant programme. In addition, 21 refugees completed vocational training organized with the assistance of UNHCR's partner IASP, through catering, sewing, make-up and computer literacy courses.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR Kazakhstan continued its efforts pursuing local integration for the majority of convention refugees, while resettlement is sought for refugees recognized under UNHCR's mandate and the most vulnerable Convention refugees who meet the resettlement criteria. Since 1 January 2014, 12 cases/36 persons were submitted for resettlement, of which 1 case/8 persons were submitted on emergency priority. There was one departure of 1 person during the reporting period. Voluntary repatriation prospects for refugees in Kazakhstan continue to be generally constrained by risks of persecution and/or instability and violence in their countries of origin and requests are considered on case-by- case basis. Since 1 January 2014, UNHCR assisted 3 cases/9 persons to successfully return to Afghanistan in safety and dignity.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

[|Kazakhstan|](#)

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www.unhcr.kz



HIGHLIGHTS

50 small-scale projects launched / 110 cases counseled

39 persons/17 cases accepted for resettlement

5,429 undocumented people registered by multi-functional groups

Increased level of emergency preparedness

Population of concern

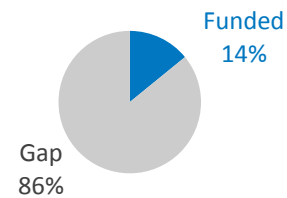
A total of **16,091** people of concern

Refugees and asylum-seekers by country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	578
Iran	15
Syria	92
Uzbekistan	58
Others	9
Total	753
Stateless population	15,338

Funding

USD 6,298,968 requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

27 national staff

5 international staff

Offices:

2 offices located in Bishkek, Osh and 1 Field Unit located in Jalalabad



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- In protecting refugees and asylum-seekers, UNHCR works closely with government partners, such as the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Youth, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Science, State Border Service, Mandatory Health Insurance Fund, and Office of the Prosecutor General. UNHCR also collaborates with the Institute of Ombudsman, Parliament, Supreme and other courts, Legal Clinic “Adilet”, Centre for International Protection, Public Association Counterpart-Sheriktesh, and Crisis Centre “Sezim”.
- In the framework of Reduction and Prevention of Statelessness, UNHCR cooperates with the State Registration Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (SRS), Citizenship Commission under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Public Foundation “Fergana Valley Lawyers without Borders”, and NGO “Women Entrepreneurs Support Association”.
- Ministry of Social Development, Agency for Local Self-Governance and Inter-Ethnic Relations, Foundation for Tolerance International, Public Foundation “Abad”, Law Clinic, and Public Foundation “Spravedlivost” are partners within UNHCR’s peace building project.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- A new electronic database was set up in 2012 at the Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth Refugee Unit, with the technical support of UNHCR. The database is being used to register new persons seeking asylum in Kyrgyzstan.
- The overall responsibility for Refugee Status Determination (RSD) lies with the Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth. UNHCR however conducts RSD for a limited number of persons, in case the office determines that a decision of the government authorities was not taken in accordance with international standards. In order to improve and maintain high quality of the state RSD, UNHCR has been providing refugee law training to the state authorities involved in RSD, judiciary, border guards and the police. UNHCR also reviews legal assessments by its legal Implementing Partners and provides its recommendations.

Reduction and Prevention of Statelessness

- In June 2014, UNHCR started implementing a pilot project aimed at reducing and preventing statelessness in Kyrgyzstan. The project is funded by the UNHCR “Solutions Initiative” and is carried out jointly with state and non-governmental partners. The goal of the project is to register and document stateless and undocumented persons in their place of residence. Twenty-eight mobile teams were created, trained, and equipped. They provide legal consultations in remote areas of the country and help beneficiaries file applications for determination of their legal status.
- As of September 2014, 4,757 persons have filed an application through the mobile teams operating in Osh province, Osh city, Jalalabad province, and selected districts of Chui province. Almost 600 persons have already received Kyrgyz national passports.

Durable Solutions

- Based on its strategy of combining protection and empowerment, UNHCR continues to work towards the sustainable reintegration of people affected by the June 2010 events and advocating for the reduction of human security threats.
- UNHCR is implementing until end 2014 a peacebuilding project aimed at increasing trust among communities and between individuals and authorities. The project, funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund, focuses on conflict sensitivity and effective problem solving within local self-government structures. It includes activities such as legal assistance, implementation of community based peacebuilding initiatives, monitoring/analysis and advocacy.
- Kyrgyzstan is one of three pilot countries worldwide for the implementation of the United Nations Secretary-General's Policy Decision on Durable Solutions (No. 2011/20). In 2014, the UN Country Team endorsed a joint Durable Solutions Strategy that will ensure a continued focus of all agencies towards the remaining challenges for those affected by the tragic June 2010 events.

Emergency Preparedness

- UNHCR is working closely with the Ministry of Emergency Situations to raise the level of emergency preparedness. Government stakeholders and UNHCR agreed on a joint contingency plan, which lays out a detailed response mechanism in case of mass refugee influx from neighboring countries.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

| [Kyrgyz Republic](#) | [United Nations Peacebuilding Fund](#) |

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HIGHLIGHTS

Statelessness

First national project to address statelessness in the country launched in July 2014

Emergency Preparedness

Working with partners to strengthen inter-agency emergency response capacity

Access to Asylum

Promoting safeguards in border management systems, with particular focus on the Afghanistan border area

Solutions

Working with partners and the refugee community to promote self-reliance and identify creative options for solutions

Population of concern

A total of **5,617** people of concern*

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	2,170
Kyrgyzstan	36
Iraq	3
Iran	6
Pakistan	15
Uzbekistan	2
Tajikistan (stateless)	1,365*
Asylum seekers Afghanistan	2 020
Total	5, 617

Funding

USD 2,106,364 million requested

“No earmarked contributions to the Tajikistan operation this year”

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

9 national staff
2 international staff

Offices:

1 office located in:
Dushanbe

* The number of stateless persons reported are derived from official statistics, but this number is substantially lower than the actual number of stateless persons in the country, which may be in the tens of thousands.



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Key government partners include the Executive Apparatus of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Department for Citizenship and Works with Refugees of the Passport Registration Service within the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice and Ombudsman's Office. UNHCR also works closely with diplomatic missions and their respective development and humanitarian agencies, the EU, OSCE, sister UN agencies, ICRC, IOM, the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) and its humanitarian arm, and a wide range of NGOs and civil society actors, including the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Refugee Children and Vulnerable Citizens (RCVC), Rights and Prosperity (R&P), and Consortium of Initiatives (CI).

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Addressing Statelessness

- The extent of statelessness in Tajikistan is currently unknown, but believed to be significant — likely in the tens of thousands.
- Statelessness in the country is rooted in a complex array of factors, including the dissolution of the former Soviet Union; unclear or disputed borders areas; past civil conflicts; cross-border displacement; and inter-State marriages and births.
- In July 2014, UNHCR, Government and civil society partners launched, for the first time, a national project to address statelessness in the Republic of Tajikistan.
- Inter-agency activities in the field include profiling, identification and registration work designed to achieve solutions for stateless persons.
- UNHCR has played a leading role in promoting favourable reforms to the *Constitutional Law on Citizenship*, which are currently pending submission to Parliament.

Preparedness for Forced Displacement

- Sitting at the crossroads between Afghanistan and the Fergana Valley of Central Asia — a region defined by complex security, political, socio-economic and ethnic factors — UNHCR is engaged in emergency preparedness work in Tajikistan.
- UNHCR's work in the preparedness context is characterised by close inter-agency collaboration with Government, UN, international organisation and NGO partners.
- UNHCR is engaged in a range of capacity-building and technical support activities to strengthen inter-agency emergency response capacity in the country.
- UNHCR places particular priority on promoting access to asylum — including at the border — and the promotion of safeguards and referral systems for persons in need of international protection.

Strengthening the National Asylum System and Solutions

- The Republic of Tajikistan has ratified the 1951 Convention and has implementing legislation which generally comports with international standards, although significant gaps exist in its implementation.
- UNHCR is engaged in a series of advocacy, technical support and capacity-building activities with Government stakeholders to strengthen the national asylum system.
- Where necessary to ensure international protection is achieved, UNHCR conducts refugee status determination (RSD) under its mandate for select cases.
- UNHCR and its Government, UN and NGO partners work closely to promote refugee self-reliance and access to basic services, in addition to providing legal, protection and material assistance for at-risk cases.
- The Tajikistan Operation is engaged in developing creative approaches to solutions for the current refugee caseload, which will contemplate community-based development initiatives that target both refugees and local populations.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year, which have allowed the Tajikistan operation to be funded.

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HIGHLIGHTS

17,900

stateless persons granted Turkmenistan citizenship during 2005-2014

29 August 2012

deposited the instrument of accession to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness

7 December 2011

acceded to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons

ID and Travel documents

for refugees and stateless persons compliant with ICAO standards are produced.

Population of concern

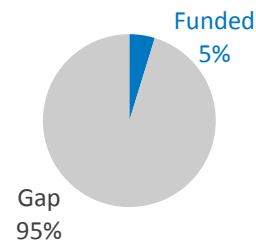
A total of **7,551** people of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	19
Azerbaijan	15
Russian Federation	1
Stateless/Undetermined nationality	7,516*
Total	7,551

Funding

USD 859,383 requested



* Approximate figure, not confirmed by government agencies.
The number represents stateless and persons with undetermined nationality.

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

4 national staff
0 international staff

Offices:

1 office located in Ashgabat



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works with government agencies and civil society in providing protection and support to persons of concern. Key operational partners include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State Migration Service, Parliament, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Border Guards Service, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Ministry of Healthcare, Ministry of Justice, Institute of Democracy and Human Rights and national NGOs. UNHCR also closely cooperates with UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UNODC, OSCE, UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia and diplomatic missions.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Statelessness

- On 23-24 June 2014, Turkmenistan hosted and co-organized jointly with UNHCR and IOM the 'International Conference on Migration and Statelessness: Identifying challenges and way forward'. The Conference focused on identifying best practices for addressing situations of statelessness and for improving migration management in Central Asia and globally.
- In the period of 2011-June 2014 the Government of Turkmenistan granted citizenship to 4,713 stateless persons. The remaining 7,516 persons are pending decisions with the Executive Office for citizenship/residence permit.
- In June 2014, Turkmenistan shared with UNHCR, other UN agencies and diplomatic missions samples of ID and Travel documents for refugees and stateless persons compliant with ICAO standards. Further, in accordance with the amendments to the 2012 Law on Migration, enacted as of June 2014, the ID and Travel documents are issued to refugees free of charge; and to stateless persons for a minimum fee.
- On 22 June 2013, Turkmenistan Parliament adopted the new Law on Citizenship, which entered into force on 03 July 2013. The Law incorporated most of the UNHCR suggested recommendations for improvement, bringing it to closer compliance with international standards for the prevention of statelessness.
- On 29 August 2012, Turkmenistan deposited the instrument of accession to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, and became the 46th State Party to the 1961 Convention. This made Turkmenistan the first country in Central Asia to accede to both Statelessness Conventions.
- On 7 December 2011, at the UNHCR Ministerial Conference in Geneva, Turkmenistan deposited its instruments of accession to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.
- In August 2005, as a consequence of the joint UNHCR/Government registration exercise of *prima facie* refugees from Tajikistan and Afghanistan, the Government granted citizenship and residence permit to some 16,000 refugees and stateless persons.

Asylum system and refugee protection

- On the eve of the International Conference on Migration and Statelessness held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 23-24 June 2014, the Government of Turkmenistan granted citizenship to eight 'mandate refugees'. Since the opening of the UNHCR Office in 1995, this is the first occasion when 'mandate refugees' were granted Turkmenistan citizenship.
- On 27 April 2011, Turkmenistan was elected as a member of the UNHCR Executive Committee (ExCom), becoming the first country in Central Asia to be an ExCom member.

Emergency preparedness and response

- The joint UNHCR/Turkmenistan Working Group is engaged in developing a Contingency Plan focusing on possible refugee movements from Afghanistan.
- In March 2013, UNHCR together with the Embassy of Turkey in Ashgabat organized and co-funded a study visit of 15 high-level Turkmenistan government officials to Turkey, to learn by experience on how to accommodate, register and provide assistance to asylum-seekers and refugees in situations of mass influx.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

| [Turkmenistan](#) |

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Islamic Republic of Iran / Afternoon mathematics class for Afghan refugee boys at a mixed school in Torbate, eastern Khorasan Province. UNHCR/ M.H.SALEHLARA/2012

South West Asia



HIGHLIGHTS

13,208 voluntarily
repatriated with
assistance from UNHCR
since Jan 2014 (61%
decrease since 2013)

USD 2.43
million
in cash grants distributed to
returnees in 2014

18,555
refugee families have
received NFIs and
7,218 families have
received tents

701,900
people have been
registered as **internally**
displaced due to conflict

Population of concern

1.1 million inside Afghanistan

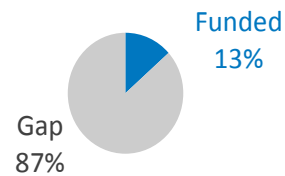
By category

Returnees	213,400
Refugees	209,800
Internally displaced	701,900
Asylum seekers	66
Total	1,125,166

Funding

USD 152.1 million requested

22.7 million received



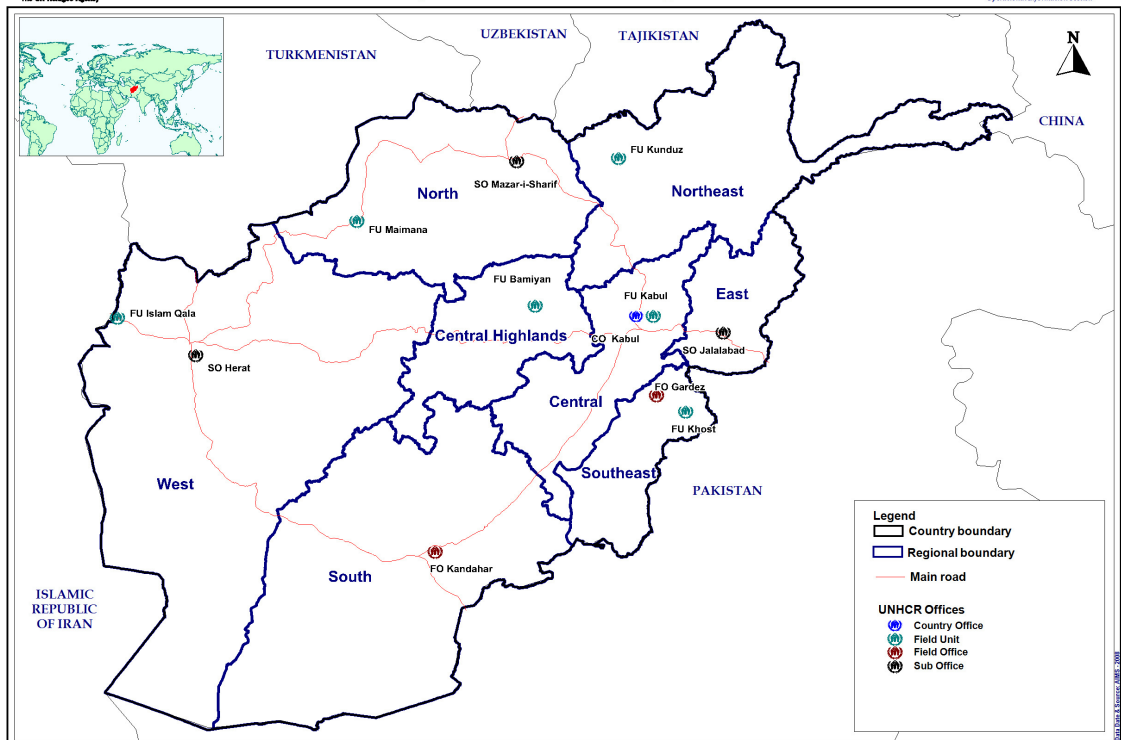
UNHCR Presence

Staff: **232** national staff **31** international staff



UNHCR Afghanistan Presence - as of 02 September 2014

Branch office Kabul
Geographic Information Mapping Unit
Operational Information Section



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- Within the Humanitarian Country Team, UNHCR is working with governmental counterparts, UN agencies, and international and national NGOs to coordinate the assistance to vulnerable populations, including returnees, IDPs, refugees, and local/host communities.
- UNHCR's government counterpart is the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR). UNHCR is also collaborating with nine other line ministries.
- UNHCR is leading the Protection Cluster, the Emergency Shelter/NFI Cluster, and the Refugee Response (Khost & Paktika). UNHCR is co-chairing the national IDP Task Force with MoRR, and regional IDP task forces with the Directorates of MoRR.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Promoting targeted community-based interventions in areas of high return, including urban areas where an increasing number of returnees are settling.
- Implementing activities in areas of high refugee return to prevent violence against women and children. Women's groups have been established to enable women to participate in decisions that affect their lives.
- Addressing internal displacement through tracking and data collection for the entire humanitarian community in Afghanistan, coordination of protection and humanitarian assistance, and supporting the implementation of the National IDP Policy, which seeks to prevent, respond to, and end displacement. A key element in the IDP policy is support to the local/host community, identifying communities at risk, and linking humanitarian assistance to development programmes and national priorities.
- Supporting the adoption of national policies to address the situation of refugees and asylum seekers.
- Leading the humanitarian response to the refugee influx in Southeastern Region (Khost & Paktika). Since May 2014, some 27,000 families have been assessed by UNHCR and partners. These refugees were fleeing military operations in Pakistan. (The average size of a family is seven persons.)
- Insecurity and armed conflict continue to hinder protection and relief operations, leading to unreliable access to large parts of the country. However, through national implementing partners, UNHCR is still able to reach persons of concern.

Education

- 3,070 children from returnee families have benefited from improvements in school infrastructure in 2014.

Water and Sanitation

- So far this year, 85 wells have been constructed for the benefit of 11,961 individuals (7,391 returnees, 3,420 IDPs, 1,150 of local population). 114 wells had been planned for 2014, making the current implementation rate 73%.

Shelter and NFIs

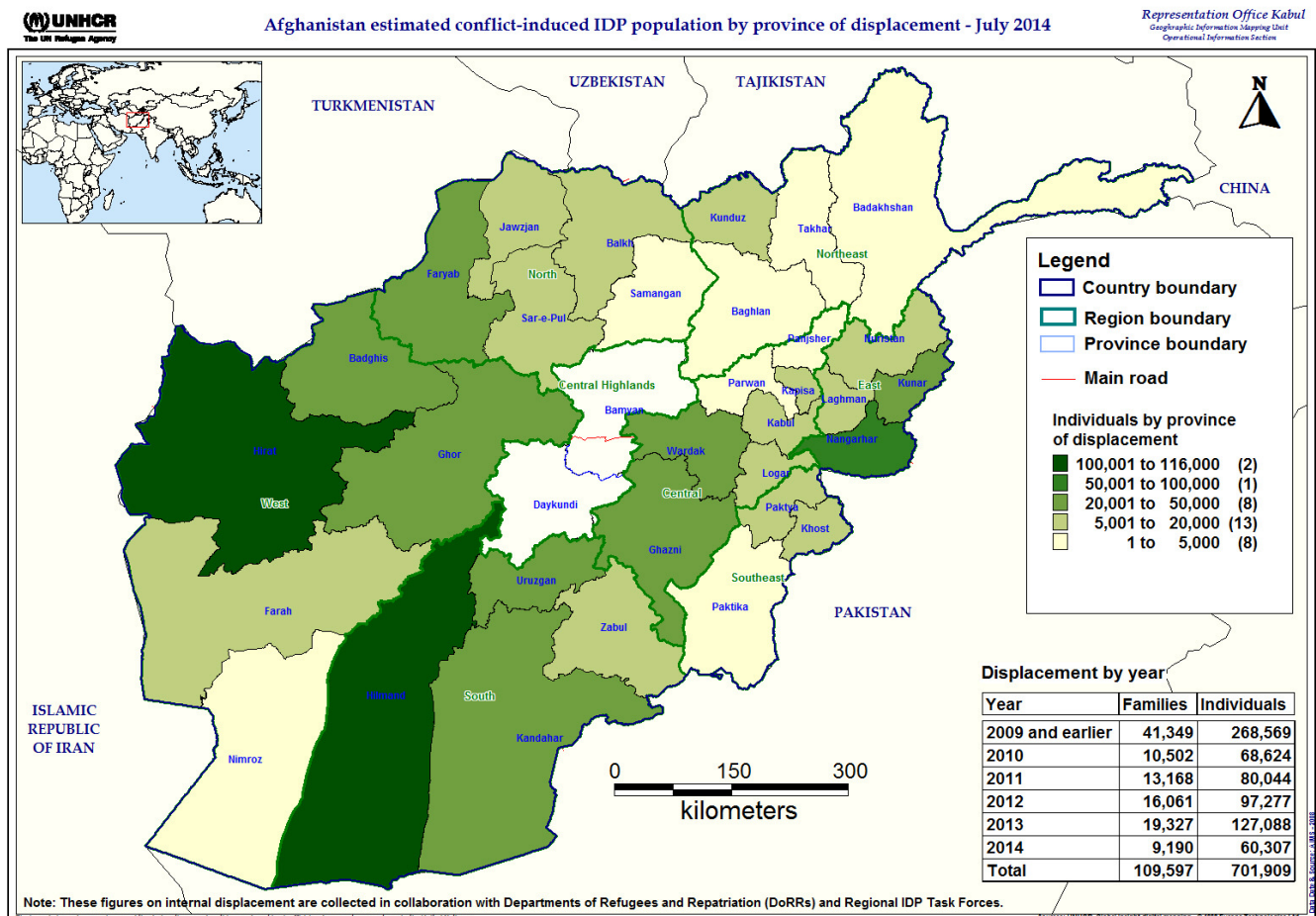
- 4,040 shelter units will be constructed in 2014, of which 3,150 for returnees and 890 for IDPs. This will ensure safe housing, a minimum standard of privacy, and a socio-economic livelihood base.
- By August, 109,039 people had benefited from non-food item (NFI) packages. Of these, 91% were IDPs, 8% returnees, and 1% from the local community. (This figure does not include the refugee emergency response, see below.)
- As part of the refugee emergency response in Khost and Paktika, tents have been distributed to 7,218 refugee families and NFIs to 18,555 refugee families.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- One camp has been established for Pakistani refugees in Gulan area, Gurboz district, Khost province, accommodating some 3,000 families. UNHCR is coordinating the humanitarian assistance to refugees and host community.

Durable Solutions

- The Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees provides a framework for cooperation between humanitarian and development actors to facilitate voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of returnees, while also providing assistance and support to the two main host countries (Iran and Pakistan). In Afghanistan, MoRR is the coordinator of the Solutions Strategy. A portfolio of projects highlighting the cross-cutting nature of needs and interventions was developed in late 2013 and is being used to advocate for the inclusion of refugee returnees in humanitarian and development planning and programming. Inclusion of refugee returnees in Community Development Councils (CDCs) has enabled them to take part in the development of the communities that they return to.
- Since 2002, 5.8 million refugees, including 4.7 million under the UNHCR voluntary repatriation programme, have returned to Afghanistan. The numbers have drastically decreased during the last years. By July 2014, the return figure was 13,208, 61% lower than the same period in 2013. Reasons for this could be the extension of Pakistani Proof of Registration (PoR) cards until 31/12/2015, uncertainty regarding the Afghan elections, and concerns about security.
- Upon return to Afghanistan, returnees are assisted at five encashment centers where they receive a cash grant and can benefit from transit facilities and basic health services. Returnees are given mine-awareness training and are also briefed on how to enroll children in school, and access legal aid, if required. Interviews are conducted in order to identify return trends, push/pull factors and check on what kind of information returnees relied on when making the decision to return.



UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have directly contributed to the Afghanistan operation: [Australia](#) | [Denmark](#) | [European Union](#) | [Finland](#) | [Germany](#) | [Japan](#) | [Norway](#) | [OCHA](#) | [Private donors](#) | [Republic of Korea](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [United States of America](#)



Medical Outpost, Kerman province. UNHCR/T. Leposky

HIGHLIGHTS (as of 1 September)

3,537

Refugees repatriated in 2014

846

Refugees departed for resettled in 2014

349,445

Afghan and Iraqi students enrolled in the 2013-2014 academic year

1,689

Refugees enrolled in vocational training course in 2014

Population of concern

A total of **882,659*** people

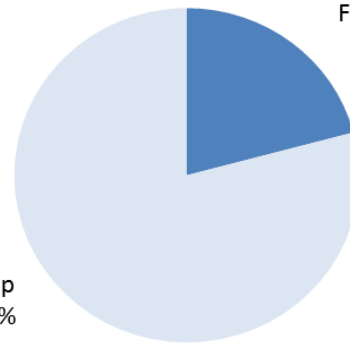
By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	840,158
Iraq	42,501
Total	882,659

Funding

USD 68,669,442 million requested

Funded
21%



Gap
79%

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

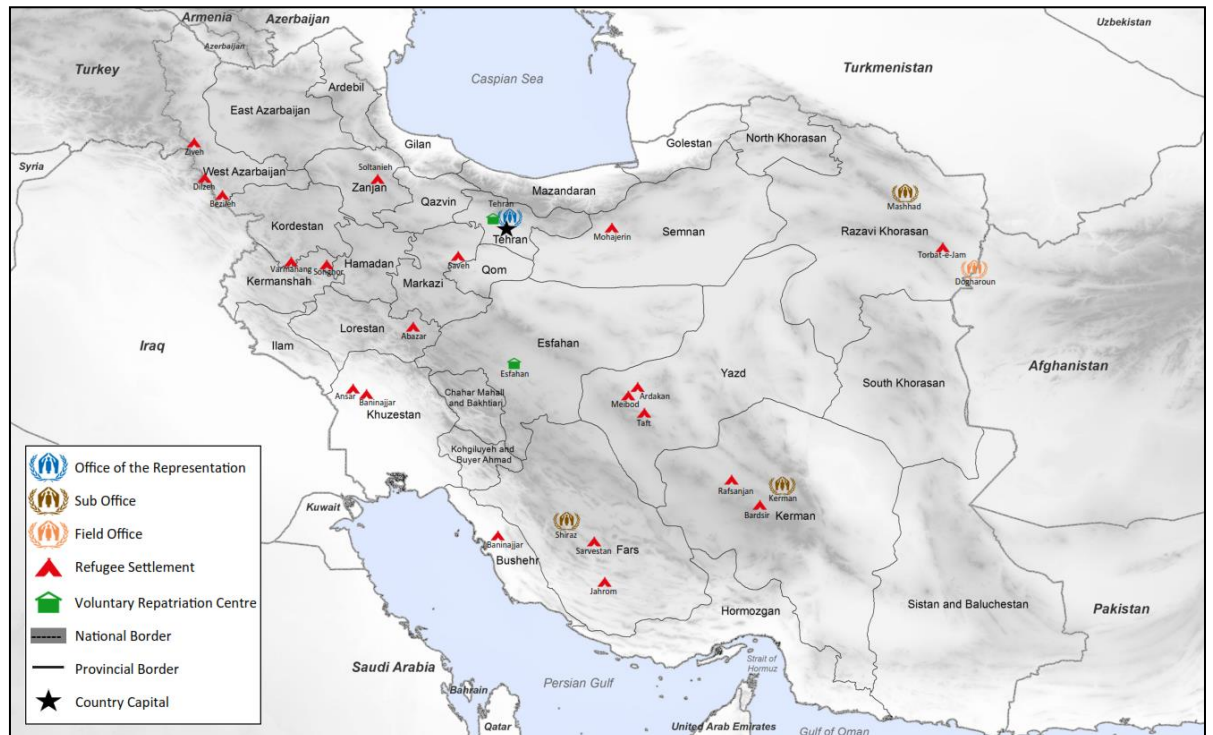
Regular: **103** national/**11** international

Affiliated-Project: **45** national/**7** international

Offices:

5 offices located in:

Tehran, Kerman, Mashhad, Shiraz, Dogharoun



* These most recent official Government figures were provided in October 2011. In June 2014 the Government announced that there are some 982,000 refugees in Iran, but has yet to provide the new figures in writing.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR has partnership agreements with the following partners in coordination with the Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants' Affairs (BAFIA), UNHCR's main Government counterpart. **Governmental:** the Forests Range and Watershed Management Organization (FRWO), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Health (MoH), State Welfare Organization of Iran (SWO), Technical and Vocational Training Organization (TVTO); **National NGOs:** Association for Protection of Refugee Women and Children (HAMI), Chain of Hope (CoH), Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV), Society to Protect Children Suffering from Cancer (MAHAK), Society for Recovery Support (SRS), Rebirth Charity Organization, World Relief Foundation (WRF); **International NGOs:** Iraqi Refugee Aid Council (IRAC), Kowsar Scientific and Cultural Foundations (Kowsar), NICCO; **UN Agencies:** UNIDO, UNOPS. UNHCR also coordinates with a number sister UN agencies, as well as NGOs and international organizations directly as well as under the umbrella of the Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR).

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR)

- The SSAR is a regional, multi-year strategy supporting voluntary repatriation and sustainable reintegration while also supporting the efforts of host countries to assist refugees between the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan. Five outcomes guide the Strategy in Iran: 1. Voluntary repatriation; 2. Access to Essential Services and Shelter; 3. Livelihood and Food Security; 4. Social and Environment Protection and Resettlement; and, 5. Coordination and Supporting Role. For 2014, the SSAR portfolio of projects in Iran involves 27 agencies, with a total financial requirement of 150m USD.

Protection

- Registration – The Government of Iran is responsible for refugee registration and status determination, and undertakes annual re-registration of refugees under the Amayesh Scheme, which began in 2003, through which refugees are provided with Amayesh cards. The cards enable refugees to access basic services, and facilitate the issuance of work permits to refugees.
- Voluntary Repatriation – UNHCR maintains two Voluntary Repatriation Centres (VRCs) in the country and a Field Office in Dogharoun near the border with Afghanistan to assist with the return of Afghan refugees. Due to continued instability and insecurity, lack of basic services and limited sustainable livelihood opportunities in Afghanistan, the numbers of refugees choosing this option has been on the decline.
- Resettlement – For 2014, UNHCR's aim has been to resettle 2,500 refugees. However, due to the low quota provided by recipient countries (1,000 persons for 2014), resettlement in Iran addresses the needs of only the most vulnerable refugees.

Education

- In 2014, UNHCR has committed to support the Government with the construction of 5 schools and rehabilitation of a further 2 schools to benefit the refugee and host communities. Additionally, UNHCR is providing literacy classes for 3,355 adults and over-aged children who have been deprived of schooling in 11 provinces.
- In line with the UNHCR's Global Education Strategy and in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Kowsar international, UNHCR supports access to primary and secondary education, and addresses the needs of the most vulnerable refugees.

Health

- Primary Health Care (PHC) – UNHCR complements efforts of Ministry of Health in providing PHC services to all refugees, including vaccinations, antenatal care, maternal and child health, and family planning. UNHCR joint interventions with partners include medical referral, harm reduction, sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention, and community-based rehabilitation.
- Health Insurance Scheme (HISE) – Under HISE, UNHCR covers the annual premiums for 220,200 vulnerable refugees allowing them to have access to secondary and tertiary health care.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Despite the limitation of access for refugees to formal employment activities, the Government has recognized the importance of ensuring that refugees have access to vocational training and livelihood activities. This has also resulted in the increase of the number of professions that refugees are authorized to work under the temporary work permit scheme: from 51 to 87.
- UNHCR and partners have been providing vocational training on more than 40 occupations (such as welding, plumbing, tailoring, etc.). UNHCR and BAFIA have also set up a revolving fund in 2013 that will run for 4 years to provide refugees with small business loans in Esfahan to increase employment opportunities.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given contributions this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

[Australia](#) | [Denmark](#) | [EU](#) | [Germany](#) | [Japan](#) | [Netherlands](#) | [Russia](#)

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HIGHLIGHTS

4,172 Refugee status determination cases processed	1,325 Refugees submitted to potential resettlement countries	41,838 IDP families received non-food items	7,014 IDP families assisted with shelter/tents
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Population of concern

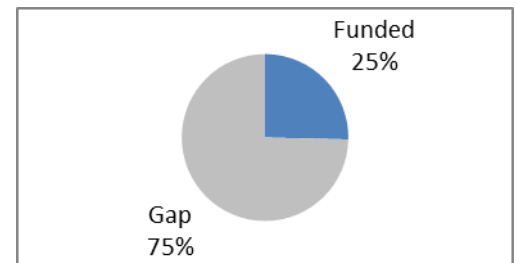
A total of **2.9 million** people of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total Persons of Concern
Afghanistan (Refugees)	1,612,194
Somalia (Refugees)	432
Others (Refugees)	197
Total IDPs In-Camp	33,656
Total IDPs Off-Camp	1,282,344
Total	2,928,823

Funding

USD 162.6 million requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

213 national staff
40 international staff

Offices:

Offices located in:
Representation Office
Islamabad, Sub Office
Peshawar, Sub Office
Quetta, Satellite Office
Karachi, Field Unit
Timergarah, Field Unit
Kohat, Field Unit
Chaman, Field Unit
Loralai, Field Unit
Dalbandin



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR's main counterpart for refugees in Pakistan is the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON) and the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CARs) in the Provinces. In addition, UNHCR works with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its Economic Affairs Division (EAD) and the Ministry of Interior. For IDP related matters, UNHCR works in close coordination with the FATA Disaster Management Agency (FDMA) and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in KP, as well as SAFRON at Federal level for the North Waziristan emergency operation. UNHCR implements activities through 33 and 9 national and international Non-Government Organizations respectively, at the national and provincial levels.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- On 25 July 2013, the Federal Cabinet approved the National Policy on the Management and Repatriation of Afghan Refugees beyond 30 June 2013, and extended the validity of *Proof of Registration* (PoR) cards until 31 December 2015. The renewal process of the 1.6 million expired PoR cards commenced in May 2014. As at September 2014, 1,453,251 refugees have renewed their cards.
- As at 22 September 2014, 10,167 Afghan refugees have voluntarily repatriated, reflecting a 62% decrease compared to the same period in 2013. Predominant reasons for the decrease include the uncertainty surrounding presidential elections in Afghanistan, the planned withdrawal of ISAF international troops, insufficient opportunities for development and livelihoods in the popular areas of return and the on-going PoR card renewal exercise, which gives refugees the legal status to remain in Pakistan until the end of 2015.
- UNHCR Pakistan, as at September 2014, has been able to negotiate 2,000 resettlement places for Afghan refugees in 2014, with a flexible quota provided by the US (up to 1,000) followed by Australia (850), New Zealand (250) and some 100 places contributed by Canada and others. In 2015, UNHCR intends to retain the submission target at the level of 2,000 Afghan refugees, provided sufficient resources and resettlement places are made available.
- UNHCR-led Grievance Desks established to assist families displaced from the North Waziristan Agency with the Government's registration process recorded a total of 16,790 cases, while the Hotlines received 27,545 grievances. UNHCR together with NADRA, FDMA and the relevant local authorities have found solutions to over 70% of these grievances.

Education

- UNHCR continues to provide primary education to over 73,000 Afghan refugee children in schools, satellite schools, and home based centres in 127 schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, 37 schools in Balochistan province and 9 schools in Punjab and Sindh provinces. In addition, through the RAHA initiative UNHCR supports Afghans children to attend public schools within the host community. The main impact of the RAHA project is social cohesion and, for the general primary level to increase literacy and numeracy rate. As a result, the completion of grade six enables the students to secure employment.
- Retention of teachers in Afghan refugee schools has been identified as a main concern, along with the quality of teaching. UNHCR has been able to negotiate the inclusion of 100 teachers to be selected and sponsored by UNHCR through a teachers' training college in KP. The course extends over two years and the degree obtained at the end is recognized by the Pakistani and Afghan authorities. The selection process is underway. In the same vein, the operation is currently reviewing the level of the salaries/incentives paid to refugee teachers with a view to harmonize them across the provinces and to increase them to an appropriate amount.
- Moreover, UNHCR Pakistan obtained additional DAFI university education scholarships for Afghan refugees and has also committed to use funds from its refugee budget in order to offer additional scholarships. Through these efforts the number of scholarships has been doubled this year (approx. 150) compared to 2013. If the programme is successfully implemented, UNHCR Pakistan has been assured to receive increased support from the German programme DAFI next year, which will include funds to contract a partner for the implementation of a larger project.

Health

- The major health facilities in the host communities have deteriorated due to continuous usage and lack of financial resources for regular care and maintenance. This has impacted the access to health care services for both refugees and the local population. Within the RAHA framework, UNHCR supports the government health facilities through rehabilitation of existing structures and provision of medical equipment in order to cover the needs of both the local population and the refugees. The implementation of RAHA health projects, along with increased acceptance of refugees in the respective communities and their gradual mainstreaming in the national health care system, should overall improve access to health care by refugees and the local host population.

Shelter and NFIs

- As at 19 September 2014, 37,091 non-food item kits were distributed among IDPs displaced by the recent emergency in North Waziristan.
- UNHCR has also completed the housing project which was funded by the Saudi Fund for Development in Bajaur and Mohmand Agencies where a total of 300 two-bedroom housing units in each Agency were constructed. In its South Waziristan project, out of 325 housing units 81 have been completed, while work on 92 units is in progress.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance/ Livelihood

- UNHCR is involved in improving capacity building among refugees. UNHCR has developed and shared the draft strategy for “Sustainable Livelihood Strategy for Afghan Refugees Living in Pakistan”. Pilot projects, targeting 270 Afghan refugees, to enhance their marketable skills, are currently being finalized.

Durable Solutions

- Efforts to address the needs of Afghan refugees and their host communities and to advance durable solutions are undertaken within the framework of the regional Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR). A portfolio of projects, focusing on enhanced access to education, healthcare and livelihoods, was developed in 2014 to facilitate the in-country implementation of the strategy. UNHCR works to promote the Solutions Strategy, especially the RAHA component, which is providing assistance to refugee-affected and refugee-hosting communities, with the aim to foster peaceful co-existence. Partner capacity-building and technical support is being strengthened. RAHA is an integral part of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and will continue to complement the other SSAR components through cooperation between UNHCR, the Government of Pakistan, the United Nations system, and NGOs.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

[Canada](#) | [CERF](#) | [Denmark](#) | [European Union](#) | [Germany](#) | [Japan](#) | [Norway](#) | [Private donors](#) | [Sweden](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [UN Programme on HIV/AIDS](#) | [USA](#) |



Myanmar / WOI CHYAI IDP camp, Kachin State. A moment of complicity between two participants of a tailoring training, part of a pilot project to foster community-based protection among IDPs. © UNHCR/M.Savary/ Sept2014

South East Asia



HIGHLIGHTS

523,592

Refugees and asylum-seekers

2,361

Identified unaccompanied minors

1,393,736

Stateless persons

20,000

Estimated irregular maritime departures in 2014

Population of concern

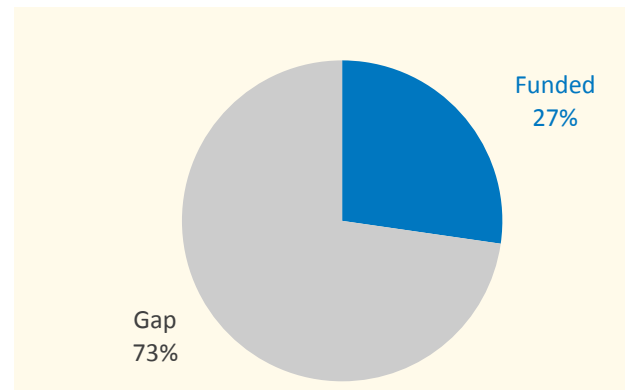
A total of **2.7 million** people of concern including **1.4 million** stateless and over **700,000** internally displaced.

By country of origin

Country	Total Refugees and Asylum-seekers
Myanmar	500,364
Sri Lanka	4,786
Afghanistan	4,282
Pakistan	3,077
Others	11,083
Total	523,592

Funding

USD 159.1 million requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

301 Regular national staff

115 Regular international staff

Geographical coverage:

Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- Cooperation with the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF), and the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (Bali Process).
- Collaborating with the Bali Process' Regional Support Office (RSO) based in Bangkok, Thailand, to develop and implement projects that address the protection and humanitarian needs of people on the move in the region. The Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF) has been welcomed by the Bali Process as an effective tool to address irregular movements.
- Strengthening partnerships with regional institutions such as the ASEAN human rights mechanisms, civil society organizations, and other UN and international agencies.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Promoting and, as possible, providing for sufficient protection space in the region for persons of concern, through development of policies covering registration, refugee status determination, comprehensive solutions, and alternative strategies where appropriate, such as temporary protection. Ensuring that such initiatives are implemented in a harmonized manner by mandate operations and in collaboration with governments across the region, while paying particular attention to children, women and others with specific needs.
- Advising country operations in the development of policies and procedures to ensure the integrity of processes in carrying out UNHCR's mandate in the region to provide international protection to persons of concern.
- Providing capacity building, technical support and expertise to national asylum authorities in countries party to the Refugee Convention.
- Promoting alternatives to immigration detention of persons of concern through engaging with stakeholders to identify and support expansion of good practices and to raise awareness among affected communities. Pursuing particular activities, such as the development of a multi-media campaign, for the elimination of the immigration detention of children. Where immigration detention continues or has been unavoidable, engaging with governments and building networks to ensure access to persons of concern to monitor that the conditions meet international standards.

Durable Solutions

- Developing policies that promote a range of comprehensive solutions to maximize the protection of persons of concern while paying particular attention to alternative strategies where appropriate, such as labour options for refugees and effective livelihood opportunities for refugees in urban settings.
- Coordinating and providing support to country operations in pursuing resettlement for refugees where needed, particularly as a protection tool, with 10,899 resettlement submissions and 7,818 resettlement departures from the region between January and July 2014.

Statelessness

- Promoting and facilitating the creation of a network of national civil registrars with a focus on ASEAN countries, including a South-East Asia sub-regional group, to exchange and promote good practices in civil registration, including birth registration.
- As an organizing partner of the Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, promoting the civil registration of persons of concern, particularly children and women.
- Supporting country offices in the development of programmes that aim to help stateless persons resolve their situation, including through the research of birth registration systems and the nationality laws in key countries.

Irregular Maritime Movements

- Promoting protection-sensitive initiatives to respond to irregular mixed movements of people as outlined in the RCF, which provides practical solutions to address issues related to refugees, asylum-seekers and others who are on the move and may be vulnerable or have specific needs.

- Interviewing persons of concern who have travelled irregularly by sea and gathering information on the routes, methods and conditions of irregular maritime movements – the vast majority of which originate from the Bangladesh-Myanmar border area – in order to map out the risks involved and responses by stakeholders to ensure that those in need of protection and humanitarian assistance are helped.

Health, Food Security and Nutrition

- Providing technical support to country operations by reviewing and explaining guidelines (e.g. medical referrals), advising on specific projects (e.g. health insurance for urban refugees), conducting joint field assessments, and making recommendations to improve the response to medical issues affecting people of concern (e.g. beriberi in southern Thailand and Malaysia).
- Conducting workshops for field staff in the region on specific health issues such as mental health and psycho-social support, which are aimed at improving the quality of health assistance programmes.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- An innovative training method on business and entrepreneurship has been rolled out in the region. Pilot training programmes in Cambodia and Malaysia have empowered refugee entrepreneurs from the Vietnamese, Myanmar, Somali, Afghan, and Syrian communities. The Community-Based Enterprise Development tools (cb-tools.org), developed by ILO Enterprise team for South-East Asia, call on participants to facilitate the training programmes themselves, and to learn and exchange their collective knowledge about entrepreneurship.
- A Livelihood Strategy in support of Myanmar refugees' return to and reintegration in south-eastern Myanmar has been developed. The Strategy focuses on the means of engaging with local communities to strengthen social cohesion in a context of displacement and return, and to rebuild household and community assets and productive activities, and develop livelihood skills. UNHCR Myanmar aims to start implementing activities in November 2014 in Kayin State.
- Discussions with private sector entities are ongoing towards opening access for refugees to innovative services (access to peer-to-peer microfinance through kiva.org) and employment opportunities (working in digital outsourcing with Digital Divide Data).

Private Sector Fund Raising

- Private-sector fundraising activities in Thailand have been carried out since 2008. Thanks to the generosity of the general public in Thailand, UNHCR has been able to raise more than USD 2,950,000 so far in 2014. Contributions come from approximately 32,000 individuals signed up as regular donors. The income raised goes to programmes run by UNHCR in the country.
- Private-sector fundraising activities were recently started in the Philippines, mainly in Manila. UNHCR's financial target for 2014 is USD 150,000 and this is expected to be the foundation for greater success in the future.
- Efforts are being made to start fundraising activities in Malaysia with the hope of a modest fundraising programme being rolled out in early 2015.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to operation in the region:

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HIGHLIGHTS

360

refugee secondary school students

3,013

SGBV survivors provided counseling in 2013

3,261 MT

of compressed rice husk fuel distributed in 2013

2,687

beneficiaries assisted towards self-reliance

Population of concern

A total of **32,600** refugees

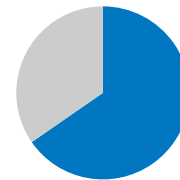
By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Myanmar – Rohingya	32,355
Myanmar – non-Rohingya	221
Others	24
Total	32,600

Funding

USD 12,385,987 requested

Gap
35%



Funded
65%

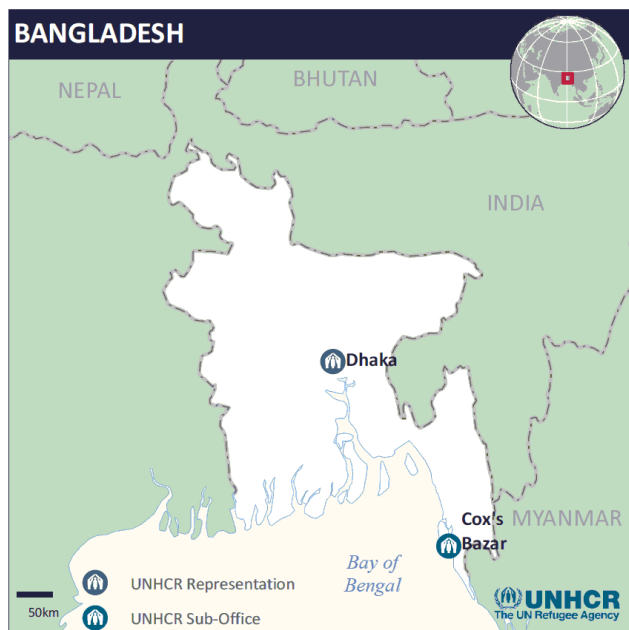
UNHCR Presence

Staff:

34 national staff
07 international staff
06 affiliate workforce

Offices:

02 offices located in:
Dhaka, Cox's Bazar



Sources: UNCS, UNHCR
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Creation date: 28 Jul 2014

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- **Implementing Partners:** Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Action Contre La Faim, Save the Children, Handicap International, Technical Assistance Inc.
- **Operational Partners:** WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP and IOM, Solidarités International, Research Training and Management International, Médecins Sans Frontières, Muslim Aid-UK. UNHCR participates in the UNDAF and Local Consultative Groups (LCG).

MAIN ACTIVITIES

UNHCR Bangladesh works to ensure the protection of registered Myanmar refugees pending a durable solution. It provides support to more than 32,000 registered refugees in two official camps (Nayapara and Kutupalong) in the district of Cox's Bazar. UNHCR is concerned about the protection of some 200,000 to 500,000 undocumented Myanmar Rohingya who have no legal status. Irregular maritime movements of thousands of people from Myanmar's Rakhine State and Bangladesh – who sail to Malaysia, Thailand or even Australia in hope for a better future – constitutes another challenge.

Urban refugees: UNHCR also conducts refugee status determination on non-Rohingya asylum applicants and currently supports 245 refugees of various nationalities.

Statelessness: UNHCR also monitors populations who are at risk of statelessness.

Protection

- UNHCR ensures that refugees' *registration documentations* are up-to-date and births, deaths and marriages are recorded.
- To improve *access to justice* UNHCR works with the police, judiciary, government officials and refugee community leaders.
- UNHCR is working to increase awareness and improve reporting on the frequent incidence of *Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)* in the camp community.
- Refugee children remain at risk of domestic violence, exploitative work, trafficking and marriage. UNHCR and partners ensure *child protection* and improve community awareness of child rights.

Education

- In a significant step towards socio-economic empowerment, the Government approved the provision of Grade 6 and grade 7 education to refugees in 2013 and 2014 respectively. This is the first time secondary education being offered in two decades.

Health

- UNHCR provides basic healthcare through in-camp clinics administered by the Ministry of Health. Complicated cases are referred to central hospitals. The clinics monitor the nutrition situation, provide supplementary and therapeutic feeding, promote reproductive health and breast feeding and implementing various training and information sessions in addition to disease treatment and prevention. UNHCR's health strategy is to integrate the refugees into the national health system.

Shelter, NFIs and Access to Energy

- The Government permitted UNHCR to replace the old design of temporary shelters in the camps with more durable shelters with corrugated iron roofing that are sustainable, and require fewer resources for repairs or periodic reconstruction.
- UNHCR provides compressed rice husk (CRH) as cooking fuel to all families, and kerosene for lamps. A small portion of the solid-waste management in the camps provides biogas that is currently being used as cooking fuel, as part of a pilot project.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- A self-help and community-based management approach is being mainstreamed through the community's leaders and members, to overcome refugees' dependence on assistance. Refugees are empowered to play a prominent role in resolving everyday challenges. UNHCR also runs a limited vocational training program to improve the self-reliance of the community.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

[Australia](#) | [Canada](#) | [European Union](#) | [IKEA Foundation](#) | [Private donors \(USA\)](#) | [UN Programme on HIV/AIDS](#) | [USA](#)

Contacts: Farheen Khan, External Relations, khanfar@unhcr.org, +880 2 882 6801-06

Links: Website: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e487546.html>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/United-Nations-Refugee-Agency-Coxs-Bazar-Bangladesh/269972256395881>



HIGHLIGHTS

3,743

Identified people with specific needs*

2,257

Individual RSD interviews conducted in 2014*

2,147

Individual RSD decisions finalized in 2014*

528

Refugees resettled to third countries in 2014*

*Statistical information as of 31 August 2014

Population of Concern

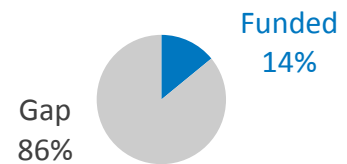
A total of **9,581** people of concern (refugees and asylum seekers)

By country of origin

Country	Total Refugees	Total Asylum Seekers
Afghanistan	1,515	3,004
Myanmar	888	69
Somalia	334	310
Sri Lanka	329	247
Iran	294	625
Palestine	243	128
Pakistan	184	286
Iraq	148	283
Others	196	498
Total	4,131	5,450

Funding

USD 8,146,793 requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

37 national staff

7 international staff

23 affiliate workforce staff under deployment arrangements with IUNV, UNOPS, ICMC, and IRC

Offices:

1 country office in **Jakarta**, with out-posted staff in Kupang, Makassar, Medan, Pontianak, Surabaya and Tanjung Pinang (based in IOM offices).



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works closely with government counterparts, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs, and the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, as well as with implementing and operational partners, to provide protection and support to UNHCR's persons of concern pending the identification of durable solutions.
- UNHCR engages with its implementing partner, Church World Service (CWS), to provide assistance to the most vulnerable among the refugee population, and coordinates with its operational partners, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), on detention issues, community housing programs, and travel arrangements for the resettlement and voluntary repatriation of refugees and the assisted voluntary return of asylum seekers and others of concern. UNHCR and its partners work together to ensure the psychosocial needs of refugees and others of concern are met through counseling, home visits, and facilitating self-help group activities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Indonesia is not a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees nor its 1967 Protocol. As a result, the government authorizes UNHCR to carry out its refugee protection mandate in the country as per terms defined in the September 2010 Regulation of the *Director General of Immigration*. This Regulation ensures that while refugees and asylum seekers have no formal legal status they are granted access to UNHCR for registration and allowed to stay temporarily in the country pending the determination of refugee status and the identification of durable solutions.
- The number of **new arrivals** has increased significantly in recent years: **385** in 2008, **3,230** in 2009, **3,905** in 2010, **4,052** in 2011, **7,218** in 2012, **8,332** in 2013, and **3,223** thus far in 2014.

Registration and Refugee Status Determination (RSD)

- As of 31 August 2014, the cumulative number of active persons of concern registered with UNHCR Indonesia stood at 9,581 individuals, including 5,450 asylum seekers and 4,131 refugees. Thus far in 2014, some 3,223 new asylum seekers have been registered by the Office, representing a decrease of 44.1% from the same period last year. The largest numbers of asylum seekers registered by UNHCR were from Afghanistan (55%), Iran (12%), Somalia (6%), Iraq (5%), Sri Lanka (5%), and Pakistan (5%).
- Over the course of 2013 some 2,808 RSD decisions were finalized, while thus far in 2014 a total of 2,257 interviews have been conducted and some 2,147 decisions have been made. At present 3,072 cases of 4,136 individuals remain pending first instance RSD interview, and the average waiting period from registration to first instance interview ranges from 8 to 19 months.

Durable Solutions

- The cases of recognized refugees are submitted to various countries for resettlement consideration as part of the Office's protection strategy. In 2013 a total of 898 refugees were resettled to Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, and the US, and thus far in 2014 some 528 refugees have departed for resettlement while 1,024 others were submitted for consideration.
- When feasible, the Office facilitates voluntary repatriation for refugees and assisted voluntary return for asylum seekers in close cooperation with IOM. Some 253 persons (all but a few being asylum seekers) returned to their countries of origin in 2013, and 179 persons have returned thus far in 2014.

Detention

- The Government of Indonesia uses detention as an immigration tool and as a deterrent to irregular maritime movements, and all persons intercepted while attempting to enter or leave the country illegally are detained. There are 13 detention facilities across Indonesia which house intercepted persons including UNHCR's persons of concern. Detained asylum seekers are allowed access to UNHCR and UNHCR is afforded full and unhindered access to all detention facilities. UNHCR continues to advocate for the release of persons of concern from detention, particularly in the case of recognized refugees, women, children, and other vulnerable persons.
- At the end of August 2014 there were 1,818 asylum seekers and 538 refugees in detention centres. A total of 1,033 persons of concern in 2013 and some 930 persons thus far in 2014 have been released from detention through the intervention of UNHCR and IOM. UNHCR continues to advocate with the authorities for alternatives to detention, including the expansion of the community housing scheme managed by IOM and the shelters for unaccompanied minors run by CWS.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Refugees and asylum seekers are not legally permitted to engage in income generation activities in Indonesia. Given limited opportunities to be self-sufficient, and the limited assistance programs provided by UNHCR through our partners CWS, IOM, and JRS, UNHCR endeavors to strengthen community empowerment and self-reliance by enhancing education and skills training for refugees, and through reinforcing community leadership structures. Refugee leaders are elected each year representing the majority of nationalities, and special efforts are made to ensure females take part in leadership roles. These representatives participate in various activities implemented by UNHCR and CWS, such as assisting vulnerable refugees in accessing services, disseminating information among the refugee community, managing community learning centres, providing skills training and education for children and adolescents, and providing interpretation and translation services when required.

Education

- In line with the UNHCR Global Education Strategy (2012-2016), UNHCR continues to implement educational programs through its implementing partner, CWS. Refugee children have access to primary and secondary education in Indonesian public schools. Non-formal education and recreational activities are available for a limited number of children and youths. Non-formal education, vocational, and skills training activities are implemented in collaboration with CWS, refugee communities, and local training providers.
- In 2014 only 44 school-age refugee children are enrolled in public schools. This is less than 10% enrolment in formal education. It is the result of several factors, including limited geographical coverage of UNHCR's implementing partner, limited sources of funding, and the lack of willingness on the part of parents to enroll their children in Indonesian schools.

Health

- UNHCR collaborates with various partners to provide healthcare services to persons of concern to reduce major health risks and ensure access to primary and secondary medical care. Healthcare services are provided to persons of concern through public health systems, such as referrals to community health centres and to hospitals for more complicated illnesses and emergency treatment. The provision of immunization through community maternity and child care centers is ensured, especially compulsory vaccinations for children. UNHCR works with partners to provide information on public health services available to persons of concern and to raise awareness on common illnesses and communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

Statelessness

- Indonesia is not a party to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons or the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. UNHCR is working to operationalize its statelessness mandate in Indonesia by advocating with the government to identify possible stateless populations as well as any gaps in domestic law that may lead to statelessness. UNHCR promotes the issuance of civil registration documents and the acquisition of citizenship for marginalized groups, and continues to strengthen partnerships with relevant ministries, non-governmental organizations, and international organizations on activities to prevent statelessness in Indonesia through more effective birth registration procedures and through the development of a comprehensive national strategy on birth registration.

Bali Process

- Since 2002 UNHCR Indonesia has actively participated in the **Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime**. The Office's ongoing support to the Bali Process has resulted in a number of tangible results, such as the establishment of the Regional Support Office in Bangkok, co-chaired by Indonesia and Australia (2012), and the successful conclusion of the 5th Bali Process Ministerial Conference (April 2013).
- In addition, the Government of Indonesia and UNHCR convened a Regional **Roundtable on Irregular Movements by Sea** (March 2013) and co-organized a ministerial-level **Special Conference on Irregular Movement of Persons** (August 2013). This latter Conference adopted the *Jakarta Declaration*, which outlines a range of solutions and specific actions to address the growing problem of irregular movements of persons within the Asia-Pacific Region.
- More recently (April 2014) UNHCR, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, co-chaired the **International Workshop on the Protection of Irregular Movements of Persons at Sea**, which furthered discussions on the need to promote multilateral arrangements to enhance protection at sea within the region.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

| [Australia](#) |

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HIGHLIGHTS

17,776

Newly registered asylum-seekers*

9,670

Refugee Status Determination decisions*

7,527

Persons departed for resettlement*

3,723

Persons released from Immigration Detention Centres by mid-2014

*Statistical information as of end August 2014

Population of concern

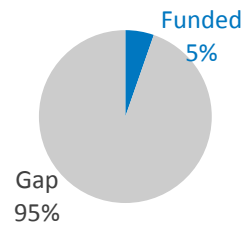
A total of **149,027** people of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Myanmar	137,788
Sri Lanka	4,438
Somalia	1,139
Pakistan	1,077
Other countries	4,585
Total	149,027

Funding

USD 20,161,428 million requested



UNHCR Presence

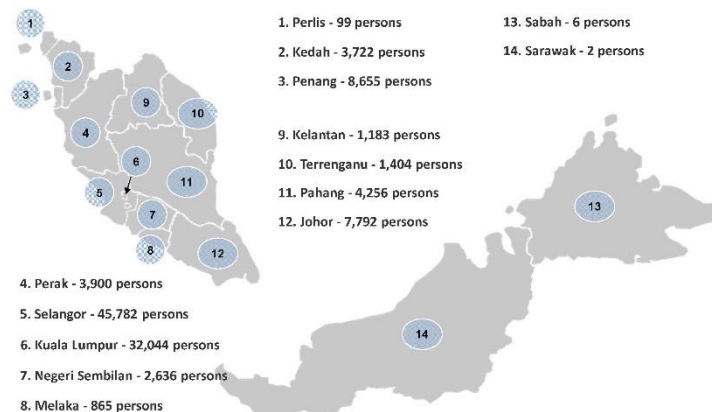
Staff:

50 national staff
18 international staff
94 staff under UNOPS workforce arrangements

Offices:

1 office located in Kuala Lumpur

Geographical Map of UNHCR Persons of Concern in Malaysia



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works closely with partners at all levels, including: the Malaysian Government through relevant Ministries and law enforcement agencies; UN organizations, NGOs, civil society, and the refugee communities themselves.
- UNHCR carries out multi-faceted advocacy with the Malaysian Government to safeguard the physical security of refugees, for instance through prevention of deportation, detention interventions and legal representation, and improving the living conditions for refugees *inter alia* through advocating for access to legal work.
- UNHCR works with NGO implementing partners, primarily in the area of health and education. Its implementing partners are: Dignity For Children Foundation, Future Global Network, Kumpulan ACTS Sdn Bhd, Malaysian Social Research Institute, Soroptomist International Johor Baru, and Taiwan Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation. UNHCR also works with a wide array of operational partners, primarily in the provision of reproductive health services for refugees, shelter, counseling, self-help projects, livelihoods, and training, capacity-building for refugees, and other welfare needs.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Malaysia has not signed the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol and lacks a formal legislative and administrative framework to address refugee matters. UNHCR conducts all activities related to the reception, registration, documentation and status determination (RSD) of asylum-seekers and refugees.
- As of end August 2014, 17,776 persons were newly registered, while 9,670 Refugee Status Determination decisions have been rendered.
- UNHCR has embarked on a “Recalibration Exercise” in order to enhance the protection status of Persons of Concern in the country and address the growing number of unregistered asylum-seekers. This involves a comprehensive review of the operation to ensure resources are focused on achievable protection support in registration and RSD, and case management of certain groups and individuals, particularly vulnerable cases. It also involves measures to reduce fraud and ensure the integrity of its processes.
- As at mid-2014, UNHCR has conducted 119 missions to detention facilities, meeting 3,472 detainees. Through visits in detention, court actions and Hotline interventions, 3,723 persons of concern were released from Immigration Detention Centres this year.

Durable solutions

- UNHCR explored durable solutions for refugees, including resettlement to countries comprising, among others, Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, New Zealand, Norway, and the United States.
- As of end August 2014, 8,197 persons have been submitted for third country resettlement and 5,666 persons were accepted by resettlement countries. During the same period, 7,527 persons departed for resettlement.
- Following enhanced anti-fraud mechanisms implemented earlier this year, high trends of individuals suspected of identity fraud were detected in various stages of resettlement processing. In accordance with UNHCR’s zero-tolerance policy on fraud, departures under the resettlement programme for those refugees suspected of fraud are immediately suspended pending investigation, and regular updates are provided to relevant resettlement countries. A Fraud Investigation Team was established to conduct fraud investigations, and carry out anti-fraud information campaigns with refugee communities. A wider and systematic review of all rules and procedures was undertaken to minimize the possibility of fraud, particularly around registration and interpreters.

Community Participation and Self-Management

- UNHCR continues to monitor and work closely with refugee community leaders to promote ethical leadership while advocating for active participation of women in community leadership and management. As a result, there has been an increase in the overall women leadership by 2.3% and in particular, an increase in the participation of Rohingya women.
- A total of 72 Participatory Assessments for the population of concern were conducted from January – June 2014, while a comprehensive Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming exercise is in the pipeline for the second half of the year.
- UNHCR promotes a community-based approach enhancing and supporting the capacity of community leaders and community-based organizations to scale up impact and reach –out of their services.

Self-Reliance and Livelihoods

- As of mid-2014, through UNHCR's Social Protection Fund, 55 project proposals from refugee communities in areas such as livelihoods, community services and development, and skills training were granted funding of over USD30,000 for direct implementation by these communities. Total direct beneficiaries from these projects are 1,516, while an additional 1,265 are indirect beneficiaries. About 1,990 male and 692 female persons of concerns are supported by these projects with 27% aged 0-18 years, 42% aged 19-35 years, and 11% aged 36-60 years.

Health

- Access to public health care is available to UNHCR document-holders at a reduced rate, but the high cost of treatment is still prohibitive for most persons of concern. UNHCR supports two NGOs running primary healthcare clinics that allow access at an affordable price to healthcare for refugees. Some 13,700 consultations by refugees and asylum-seekers were recorded this year.
- 16 trained Refugee Health Workers reached out to thousands of refugees on healthcare-related information for health promotion and disease prevention.
- UNHCR has rolled out a health insurance programme for refugees in collaboration with a commercial insurance company to improve access to second line care. Over 1600 persons have benefitted from short term financial assistance.

Education

- Refugee children are unable to attend formal education in Malaysia, and thus they obtain access education through informal, community-based learning centres. In these community learning centres, UNHCR has worked to increase the enrolment of refugee children in primary and secondary education, to 49% and 14% respectively. Currently, over 5,400 refugee children are enrolled in primary, lower secondary, and upper secondary education, at over 130 NGO- and community-run learning centres.
- Access to, and standards of education were improved through teacher's trainings, a stipend scheme for trained teachers, and continued coordination of and support to the learning centres.

Statelessness

- Since April 2014, working with NGO partner Development Of Human Resources in Rural Areas (DHARRA), UNHCR implemented a mapping and registration project to identify and reduce statelessness amongst persons who have strong links to Malaysia but do not have any documentation, namely descendants of predominantly Tamil migrant workers from India. The project is also designed to assist individuals in submitting their application to the National Registration Department with the objective of resolving statelessness through the grant or confirmation of Malaysian nationality.
- In terms of advocacy with the Malaysian Government, UNHCR co-hosted a "Conference on Birth Registration" for key Government stakeholders. The conference focused on good practices in birth registration and targeted key ministries in order to obtain their support to increase levels of birth registration for children born in Malaysia.
- UNHCR continues to monitor the situation of the Filipino refugees in Sabah. The Royal Commission (RCI) on illegal immigrants in Sabah has presented its findings to the King on May 21 but the government has yet to make the recommendations public. UNHCR hopes to be involved or consulted on the results of the inquiry.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

[Australia](#) | [Japan](#) | [Private Donors](#) | [UN Programme on HIV/AIDS](#) |

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Website: www.unhcr.org.my



HIGHLIGHTS

340

Women involved in community based protection activities

13,000

Student received sport kits

25,000

NFIs distributed since January

530

Tents distributed since January

Population of concern

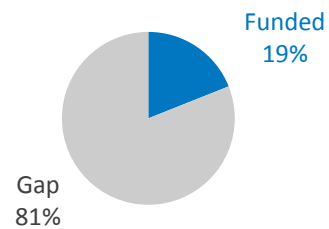
A total of **1.5 million** people of concern

By area of operation

Region	Total PoC
IDPs in Kachin State	97,000
IDPs in Rakhine State	140,000
IDPs in the Southeast*	230,400
People without citizenship	1,090,000
Total	1,557,400

Funding

USD 68.1 million requested for the operation



*This figure only comprises IDPs in UNHCR's current area of operation: Mon, Kayah and Kayin States and Tanintharyi Region.

UNHCR Presence



Staff:

138 national staff
42 international staff

Offices:

4 offices located in:
Hpa-An, Myiktyina, Sittwe, Yangon

7 field units in:

Bhamo, Buthidaung, Hakha (liaison office), Loikaw, Maungdaw, Mawlamyine, Myeik, Taungoo

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR is the lead agency for the Protection Sector and for the Shelter, Non-Food Items (NFI), Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster in both the Kachin and the Rakhine inter-agency humanitarian responses. The agency is an active member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and of the Humanitarian Advocacy and Communication Group (HACG).
- UNHCR collaborates with several governmental bodies, over 15 local organisations and a dozen of international NGOs.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- UNHCR's main protection activities are protection monitoring and reporting, as well as advocacy with local and union governments on issues related to displacement and statelessness. By regular monitoring of the situation on the ground, UNHCR and partners continue to identify protection risks and violations of the rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and other persons of concern. Protection incident reporting mechanisms have been established in the field to facilitate required action following such reports. UNHCR regularly conducts trainings with partner organisations and government counterparts on protection topics such as birth registration and civil documentation, durable solutions, protection monitoring, persons with specific needs and the IDP Guiding Principles.
- As the lead for the Protection Sector, UNHCR facilitates the coordination of the humanitarian response with primary attention to the situations in Rakhine and Kachin. The Protection Sector also oversees two sub-sectors, the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Sub-Sector, which is led by UNFPA, and the national Child Protection (CP) Sub-Sector, led by UNICEF. The Protection Sector targets 110,000 persons in Kachin and 250,000 in Rakhine and has reached approximately 50% of these with different protection initiatives. Protection mainstreaming has been one initiative as well as support to community-based protection groups, psycho-social support sessions to women, development of referral pathways and protection assessment tools.

Shelter and NFIs

- Since January 2014, 215 shelter units were built and 285 underwent renovation covering the need of some 3,300 people in Kachin and northern Shan States. Renewed fighting in the region and the subsequent displacement continue to increase the demand in terms of temporary shelters. In Rakhine State, efforts concentrated on renovation and maintenance of shelters, and replacing some that were destroyed during fire incidents. UNHCR constructed 44 structures to support the CCCM cluster with camp management offices, multi-purpose buildings and warehouses.
- Various non-food items were distributed to some 600 people in the Southeast, to 6,000 people in Kachin and Northern Shan States, and approximately 17,000 people in Rakhine State.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- In Kachin and Northern Shan States UNHCR currently supports CCCM activities in 130 camps, among these 20 are located in non-government controlled areas (NGCAs). For the second time, a camp profiling exercise was carried out in the second quarter of 2014, providing detailed and comparative information on IDP needs.
- In Rakhine State, CCCM partners are active in 21 of the 63 IDP camps which comprise over 90% of the IDP population. Activities concentrate on camp infrastructure, fire-prevention activities, as well as on setting up a feedback and response mechanism for IDPs to raise their questions and complaints to relevant actors.

Community Empowerment and Self-Management

- A Community-Based Protection approach was undertaken in 11 camps in Kachin in 2014, focusing on the IDPs' own assessment of the protection risks they are facing. Their involvement in finding solutions to increase their safety and well-being is crucial.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have contributed to the operation:

[Canada](#) | [CERF](#) | [Denmark](#) | [Finland](#) | [European Union](#) | [Germany](#) | [Japan](#) | [private donors](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [UN Peacebuilding Fund](#) | [UN Programme on HIV/AIDS](#) | [United States of America](#) |

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OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Following on from the mapping exercise in 2012, UNHCR has been working with the Governments of the Philippines and the Government of Indonesia to identify policy solutions for persons of Indonesian descent who are at-risk of statelessness. This year, the 6th Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation between the two Governments reached an agreement to resolve the legal status of this group, under a plan of action to be implemented by 2016.
- To support durable solutions for the September 2013 conflict affected Internally Displaced persons (IDPs) in remaining in Zamboanga. Profiling is taking place for over 50,000 IDPs living in evacuation locations and those living with host families. These IDPs from the minority Moro population are considered as “informal settlers” by the city authorities and are not being included in the city recovery and rehabilitation plan. The profiling information will be used to identify specific vulnerabilities and to advocate for equal treatment in shelter assistance and access to livelihoods.
- With the deactivation of the IASC level 3 emergency, UNHCR has developed a transition plan for the Protection Cluster which aims to strengthen national capacity and gradually handover the field-based cluster co-leadership to the national Commission on Human Rights. As of April, the Protection Cluster in Roxas and Cebu are led by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and CHR.

Population of concern

Population	Total PoC
Refugees	184
Stateless	6040*
Asylum-Seekers	107
Internally-Displaced	
<i>Haiyan</i>	4,095,950**
<i>Mindanao</i>	904,670**

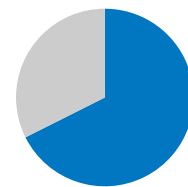
*At risk of statelessness

**Protection Cluster Data

Funding

USD 9.8 million requested

Gap
32%



Funded

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

28 national staff
8 international staff
35 UNOPS/Procap

Offices:

5 offices located in:
Manila, Cotabato, Tacloban, Ormoc and
Guiuan

PARTNERS

Government Partners

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)

Bureau of Immigration (BI)

Commission on Human Rights (CHR)

Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)

Department of Justice (DOJ)

Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)

Public Attorney's Office (PAO)

Regional Human Rights Commission (RHRC)

Department of Interior and Local Government (Davao del Sur)

NGOs

Ateneo Human Rights Center

Balay Rehabilitation Center

Community and Family Services International

Philippine Association of Seabased Workers (PASALI)

United Youth of the Philippines-Women

Silangang Dapit sa Sidlakang Mindanao

Others

Ateneo Human Rights Center

Bangsamoro Development Agency

San Bada Collage of Law



PHILIPPINES: OPERATIONS

Factsheet - as of August 2014



TOTAL NO. OF PERSONS OF CONCERN

4,999,950

Cumulative displacement as of August 2014

4,095,280

Cumulative displacement in Haiyan since December 2013

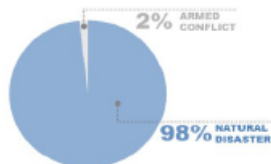
904,670

Cumulative displacement in Mindanao since January 2014

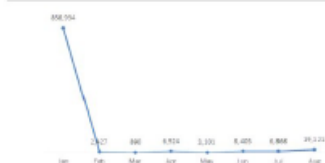
6,040

Cumulative number of persons at risk of statelessness as of August 2014

DISPLACEMENT BY CAUSE



TOTAL NO. OF DISPLACEMENT BY MONTH (2014)



SOURCE: Protection Cluster Philippines

CREATION DATE: 23 September, 2014

FEEDBACK: phicopro@unhcr.org

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

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR continued building strong partnerships with both government and operational partners on the ground, including: the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao regional and municipal government departments; relevant line agencies; Commission on Human Rights for the non-ARMM regions and provinces and the Regional Human Rights Commission covering the ARMM, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

UNHCR and the Department of Social Welfare and Development co-led the protection cluster in Mindanao and areas affected by Typhoon Haiyan in Visayas. In recent years, the participation of humanitarian and Government agencies has increased, with more than 100 cluster members. Together, they advocated for protection assistance of IDPs. Efforts were also made to strengthen the Bangsamoro human rights actors involved in the protection of IDPs and other vulnerable communities at risk of displacement.

ACTIVITIES

Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

- The Philippine Government provides a favourable protection environment for refugees. Functioning national systems for registration and refugee status determination processes are in place, with the Department of Justice as the state agency responsible for the adjudication of asylum claims, and coordinating policy to implement refugee rights.
- An emergency transit mechanism (ETM) operates for at-risk refugees who are unable to remain in their country of first asylum but are awaiting resettlement. Since 2009, 316 at-risk refugees have benefited from the ETM in the Philippines.

Stateless Persons and those at risk of statelessness

- Support and co-organize Government of the Philippines Working Group Meetings on Citizenship to resolve policy issues and formalize solutions options for Persons of Indonesian descent in coordination with the Government of Indonesia; Provide technical support to Governments of the Philippines and Indonesia bilateral discussions on policy options for PID and support the respective Governments in the development of the 2014-2016 Action Plan for this population group.
- In preparation for taking steps to help resolve statelessness amongst these communities, UNHCR has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Philippines Public Attorney's Office for the provision of free legal assistance and representation for stateless persons. Once an agreed process is in place to facilitate the acquisition or confirmation of Filipino nationality, or otherwise regularize their legal status, legal representatives supported by University law students, trained by UNHCR, will be able to assist members of the community.

Internally Displaced Persons in Mindanao

- Protection profiling of 26 conflict municipalities in Mindanao to provide recommendations for the Bangsamoro peace process. The profiling identifies protection issues of the most vulnerable communities to be shared with national, Bangsamoro and security actors to support durable solutions.
- UNHCR's protection presence for the Zamboanga conflict IDP situation focuses on advocacy efforts to ensure the minority population is included in durable solutions. Specific activities conducted are; IDP Protection Profiling, co-lead Protection Cluster activities and reporting and regular participation in city-lead cluster activities to ensure return and relocation is made according to Philippine and international standards, regular joint protection monitoring in evacuation centers and transition sites, capacity building of government agencies and police on protection and information management .
- UNHCR completed an impact assessment of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs). The assessment shows that the majority of the projects (76%) are fully or partially functional in communities. The projects continue to provide benefit to at least 6,059 families (approximately 30,295 individuals). The assessment has provided information and ideas on how support through QIPs can be applied in newly identified vulnerable communities to enable durable solutions.
- Monitoring missions to Island Provinces has highlighted the previously underreported concerns of state and non-state actor conflict impact on women and children. Trainings for local authorities and police will continue with the agreed development of an information gathering mechanism. Increased information on Sabah deportees has been obtained through local DSWD offices.

Internally Displaced Persons by Typhoon Haiyan (Visayas)

- UNHCR continues to assist the local authorities in the area of civil registration/documentation, conduct protection monitoring training for government officials, armed forces, police, aid workers,, undertake protection monitoring and assessment, and advocate for remaining protection needs of those affected by the typhoon (notably in the context of ongoing relocation to bunkhouses and transitional sites).
- UNHCR support the efforts of the local government units and civil registrar offices in ensuring that the affected communities are re-issued birth certificates and other forms of civil documentation essential for protection and access to national basic services. In April, through its implementing partner IDEALS (Initiatives for Dialogue and Empowerment through Alternative Legal Services), UNHCR has been implementing a free mobile civil registration project aimed at assisting an estimated 80,000 typhoon survivors in issuing or reconstituting their civil records and other legal documents including birth, marriage and death certificates. As of August, the project has generated more than 120,000 requests, surpassing its initial target.
- To date, UNHCR assisted over 600,000 persons with specific needs by providing solar lanterns, emergency shelter and other relief items. Distribution of relief items has been done in a strategic manner to complement the work of the Protection Cluster and to achieve priority protection objectives such as improving physical security of persons with specific vulnerabilities, outreach to remote communities, promoting child protection and prevention of gender-based violence. Some 10,000 tents, 100,000 plastic sheets, 88,000 blankets, 14,000 kitchen sets, 33,000 jerry cans as well as 19,000 solar lanterns (including 10,000 lanterns and phone chargers donated by Koinonia Foundation) have been distributed to the affected communities in cooperation with national partners. Further, gifts-in-kind from private corporations, including 500 chainsaws from Huqsvarna, 800,000 pieces of clothing from UNIQLO, 500 gumboots and over 2,000 mattresses and bedspreads from Ikea, were distributed to the affected communities and local NGO partners.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

[Canada](#) | [Kuwait](#) | [Private Donors](#) | [Spain](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [United States of America](#) |

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HIGHLIGHTS

109,992

Persons participated in the UNHCR refugee profiling survey in all nine temporary shelters (camps)

100%

Urban refugees with HIV/AIDS included in anti-retroviral treatment scheme

4,461

New arrivals seeking asylum in urban settings since January

4,893

Persons departed for resettlement since January

Population of concern

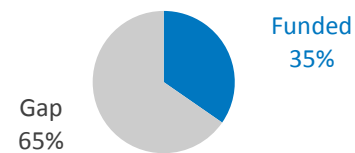
A total of **0.6 million** people of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Stateless ¹	506,000
Myanmar	132,000
Other	8,000
Total	646,000

Funding

USD 32.8 million requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

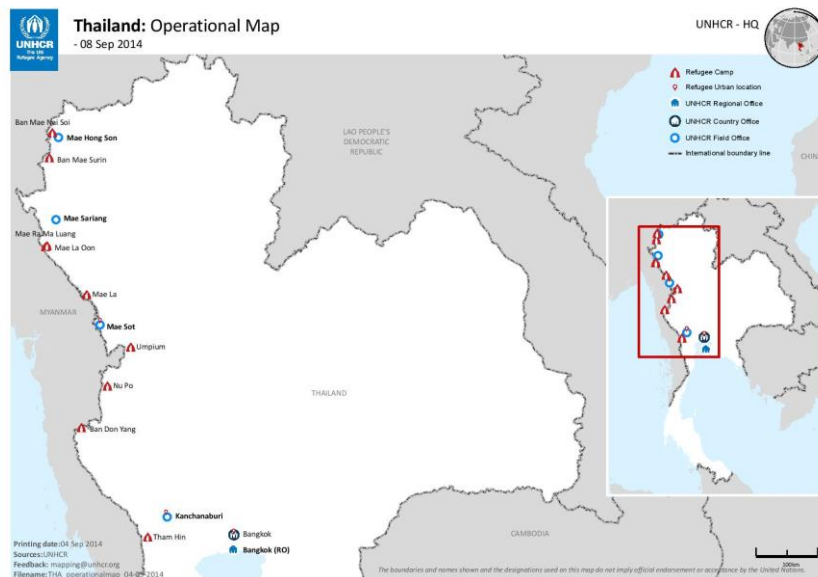
153 national staff

36 international staff

Offices:

5 offices located in:

Bangkok, Kanchanaburi, Mae Hong Son, Mae Sariang and Mae Sot



¹ Latest population figures confirmed by Royal Thai Government in December 2011

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR chairs the Donor Humanitarian Agencies Working Group, bringing together donors and international organizations (IOM and NGOs) for strategic-level and more operational discussions related to refugee protection and durable solutions in the nine Temporary Shelters (camps), as well as the Voluntary Repatriation Coordination Group consisting of refugee leaders from camps, humanitarian organizations and donors. UNHCR also coordinates the inter-agency Detention Task Force, works closely with the Statelessness Support Group, and is an active member of the UN Country Team.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)* response activities continue through the SGBV Committees in place in most camps. Prevention activities in all camps focus on behavior change. Men and boys are involved in gender perception discussions. Partners are capacitated to reach all population with clear messages, i.e. visual aids for persons with differing literacy levels.
- Access to justice was facilitated for 138 camp residents (as of mid-2014) by providing legal counselling, shelter arrangements for those with security concerns and accompanying complainants or SGBV survivors at the police stations or in court.
- Substantial effort has been made to reduce the backlog of children without birth certificates. Targeted information campaigns on birth registration were delivered. Over 11,000 children received birth certificates since 2010.
- A project was launched to assist Unaccompanied Minors (UAMs) seeking asylum in Bangkok. The project includes assistance interventions as well as *Best Interest Assessment* and child protection follow-ups. UNHCR also conducted training for UNHCR and Partner staff on techniques for interviewing children in detention.
- An intensive mobile registration exercise was conducted in March-April. 2,473 urban asylum-seekers (1,107 cases) were registered, drastically reducing the number of persons awaiting registration. Overall, 4,461 asylum-seekers approached UNHCR between Jan-August.
- UNHCR worked actively with the Royal Thai Government (RTG) to assist Rohingya persons rescued from smugglers' camps and held in Immigration Detention Centers (IDCs) and shelters of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. This included the identification of unaccompanied minors and persons with special needs, *Best Interest Determination*, resettlement processing, and material assistance. Discussions are ongoing regarding an enhanced Temporary Protection regime.
- UNHCR discussed a pilot project with RTG to address backlogs in nationality applications for the reduction of statelessness.

Education

- UNHCR supports intensive Thai language classes and advocates for access to public schools for refugee and asylum-seeking children in urban areas. This has already led to an increase (300%) in enrollment compared to same period last year. Discussions are ongoing to secure additional admissions. UNHCR and UNICEF pursue approaches to allow Rohingya children to access primary education while in Thailand.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities are supported in two temporary shelters. The Office is funding a research project to explore and study livelihood opportunities for people with disabilities on the Thai-Myanmar border.
- An agricultural training programme for the youth has been initiated in the temporary shelters with emphasis on introducing new production technology such as low cost greenhouses and basic business skills.

Durable Solutions

- 4,548 refugees from the camps, 345 refugees from urban areas, and 25 Rohingya persons at IDCs and government shelters departed for resettlement to 7 different countries between Jan-August.
- UNHCR refugee profiling survey was completed in all camps with high participation from the refugee community. Results will be shared with refugees and humanitarian agencies in the last quarter as a tool for planning livelihoods and other assistance programmes.
- UNHCR is preparing for the voluntary, safe and dignified return of refugees in the future when conditions are conducive to do so. Dialogue and information dissemination has been stepped up in order to help refugees reach informed decisions about their future. Specific coordination mechanisms, guidelines and planning tools have been put in place to prepare for solutions.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [European Union](#) | [Finland](#) | [Japan](#) | [Luxembourg](#) | [Private Donors](#) | [Saudi Arabia](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [UN Programme on HIV / AIDS](#) | [USA](#)

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A refugee woman in Sanischare camp in eastern Nepal weaves together the colourful threads to make a traditional dhaka shawl.
UNHCR/S. Bhattarai

South Asia



HIGHLIGHTS

447

Identified unaccompanied minors

1470

Households provided with cash grants
till August 2014

3816

Non-food items distributed since
January

Population of concern

A total of **2,05,132** people of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Myanmar	16,919
Afghanistan	11,549
Somalia	746
Others	918
<i>Assisted by Govt. of India (Tibetans & Sri Lankans)</i>	175,000
Total	2,05,132

Funding

USD 13,638,075 requested

“No earmarked contributions to the India operation this year”

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 26 national staff
- 07 international staff
- 19 United Nations Volunteers
- 19 UNOPS contract holders
- 71 Total**

Offices

- Country Office in New Delhi and Field Office in Chennai
- Total: 2**



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR together with its partners and civil society provides a range of services to support refugees and asylum-seekers in health, education, legal counseling, vocational skills and livelihoods. In India, UNHCR works with several NGOs, including Bosco, the Socio Legal Information Centre, the Gandhi National Memorial Society, the Confederation of Voluntary Agencies and Development And Justice Initiative (DAJI). They play an essential role in the protection of refugees and asylum seekers.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- UNHCR registers new asylum-seekers, conducts refugee status determination (RSD) and provides them with documentation. These cards help prevent harassment, arbitrary arrests, detention and deportation.

Education

- UNHCR offers its support to all refugee and asylum-seeker children to attend public schools since the government allows them free access. Besides, BOSCO runs language and tuition classes for refugee children, and runs crèches for young children.

Health

- Through its partners, UNHCR assists the refugees in accessing government hospitals, dispensaries and other medical facilities, which are generously made available by the Government of India to refugees and asylum seekers.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR with the help of its implementing partners supports livelihood activities including vocational training and income generating activities to help refugees lead a life with dignity. *Koshish*, a popular line of traditional clothing made by refugee women is one of them.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR is currently facilitating the voluntary return of Sri Lankan and Afghan refugees. Between 2002 and 2013, more than 12,000 refugees were repatriated voluntarily to Sri Lanka, including 168 in 2014, with UNHCR assistance. Also, about 70 refugees in 2013 and 147 (till August 2014) have been voluntarily repatriated to Afghanistan, with UNHCR assistance.
- At the same time, UNHCR is also facilitating the naturalisation of Hindu and Sikh Afghan refugees who want to become Indian citizens. Till today around 690 Afghan refugees of Hindu and Sikh faiths have acquired Indian citizenship. In addition, UNHCR submits the cases of a few refugees with particularly compelling protection needs for resettlement to a third country.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNCHR this year, which have allowed the India operation to be funded.

Photo credit: Raghu Rai

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Shuchita Mehta, Senior Communication/PI Assistant, Mehta@unhcr.org, Tel: +91 11 43530441, Cell +91 9650990606



HIGHLIGHTS

92,521

Refugees from Bhutan resettled in eight countries

100%

SGBV survivors received appropriate support

100%

School-aged refugee children enrolled in primary education

90%

Unaccompanied and separated children for whom a best interest process has been initiated or completed

Population of concern

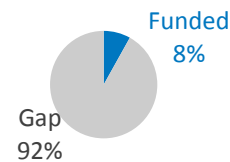
A total of **40,386** people of concern

Population	Total PoC
Refugees*	40,213
Asylum-seekers	173
Total	40,386

* This includes the refugees from Bhutan, the urban and Tibetan refugees.

Funding

USD 15,440,453 requested



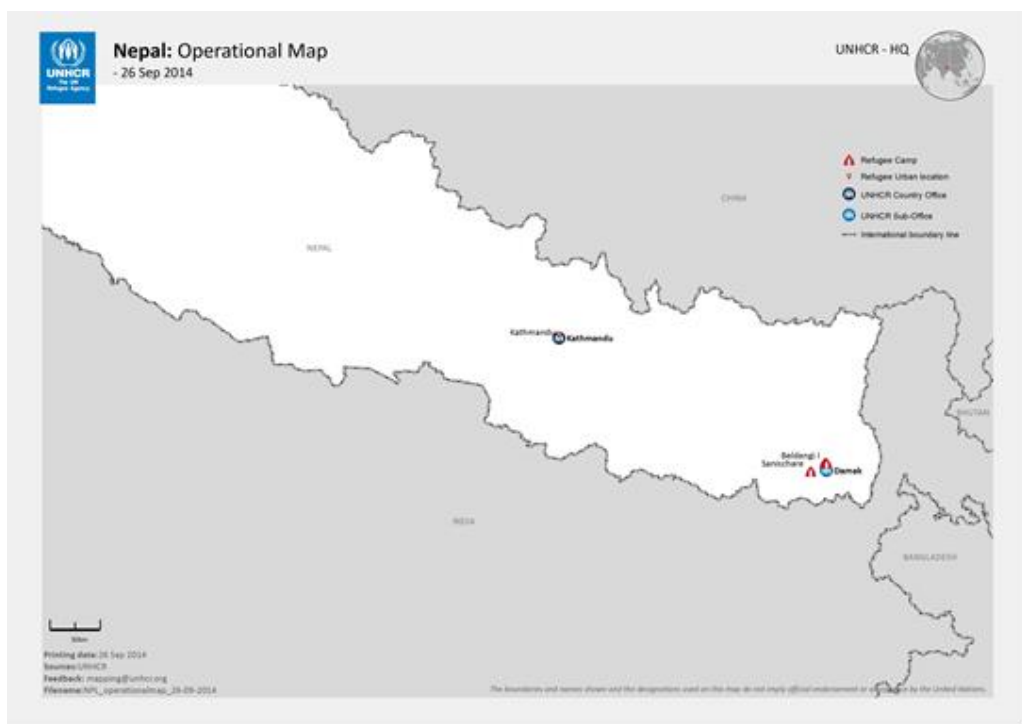
UNHCR Presence

Staff:

97 national staff
17 international staff

Offices:

2 offices located in:
Kathmandu and Damak (eastern Nepal)



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR maintains direct contact with the Government both at the central and local level. It is an active member of a number of joint UN coordination mechanisms in the country and leads several thematic coordination mechanisms.

Implementing Partners: Ministry of Home Affairs; Association of Medical Doctors of Asia; CARITAS Nepal; Lutheran World Federation; Nepal Bar Association; Trans-cultural Psychosocial Organization; Dalit NGO Federation; Forum for Women, Law and Development; UNV and UNOPS

Operational Partners: International Catholic Migration Commission; IOM; and WFP.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

In Nepal, the persons of concern to UNHCR include the refugees from Bhutan, the Tibetan new arrivals, and the urban refugees and asylum-seekers. Nepal has not acceded to either the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol, and has no domestic asylum legislation. The Government has adopted different approaches for various refugee populations.

Protection

- UNHCR facilitates the safe transit of Tibetan new arrivals through Nepal to India and ensures that their protection and material needs are addressed while in Nepal. For the estimated 15,000 Tibetans refugees, UNHCR continues to advocate with the authorities for their registration and issuance of documentation.
- UNHCR provides protection and assistance to some 500 urban asylum-seekers and refugees in Nepal from about 11 different countries - majority come from Pakistan, Myanmar, and Somalia. They are considered by the Government of Nepal to be illegal migrants under the existing laws.

Health

- For the refugees from Bhutan, most of the health parameters remain within or above the UNHCR-accepted standard. For urban refugees, health services are provided through a semi-government hospital.

Food Security and Nutrition

- The nutrition programme in the camps concentrates on the most vulnerable groups such as children under five years, pregnant and lactating women, and elderly refugees. Food rations are distributed by WFP.

Durable Solutions

- Since the start of the group resettlement programme for the refugees from Bhutan in 2007, over 92,000 individuals have resettled to eight different countries - Australia, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Some 24,000 refugees remain in two camps and UNHCR will continue in cooperation with the Government the search for other durable solutions for those remaining in the camps.
- Resettlement remains the primary durable solution for the urban refugees and UNHCR continues its advocacy with the authorities to simplify the visa-waiver process for those who are accepted for resettlement.

Access to citizenship certificate

- UNHCR works with national partners to support legal awareness and activities to enable marginalized groups to acquire citizenship certificates. Legal advocacy continues together with civil society and UN agencies to promote the adoption of citizenship provisions in the new Constitution in line with international human rights standards.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

[Canada](#) | [European Union](#) |

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Links: www.facebook.com/unhcrnepal



HIGHLIGHTS

142

Government /security officials trained on International Protection

478

Households provided with cash grants in 2014

3,964

Non-food items distributed since January

1,451

Individuals provided with legal counseling

Population of Concern

A total of **44,122** people of concern¹.

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	184
Pakistan	1,359
Sri Lanka ²	42,423
Myanmar	106
Others ³	50
Total	44,122

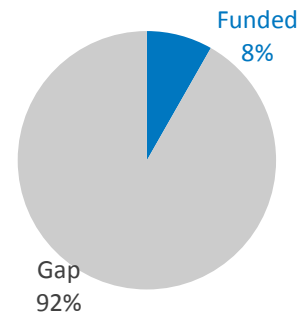
¹ Data as of 17 September 2014

² Includes Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), IDP and Refugee returnees

³ Includes PoCs from Iran, Iraq, Maldives, Nigeria, Palestine, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, Tunisia, Ukraine and Eritrea

Funding

USD 9,128,705 million requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

59 national staff

10 international staff

Offices:

4 offices located in:

Colombo, Kilinochchi, Vavuniya, Jaffna



Printing date: 02 Sep 2014

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR collaborates with the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and Urban Development, Department of Immigration and Emigration, Ministry of Resettlement, Ministry of National Languages and Social Integration and authorities at the district and local levels.
- UNHCR and the Ministry of Defence and Urban Development established monthly coordination meetings with all Government stakeholders on asylum and refugee issues.
- Formal partner agreements were established with UNDP, UNOPS, Bank of Ceylon, three national NGOs: Sevalanka Foundation, Muslim Aid Sri Lanka, Rural Development Foundation and Legal Aid Commission.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- UNHCR in Sri Lanka monitors and assists 44,122 persons of concern including: 354 refugees, 1,345 asylum-seekers, 232 refugee returnees; 11,344 internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have returned and 30,847 IDPs as at end August 2014, through community based approach.
- UNHCR conducts registration, refugee status determination and pursues durable solutions for asylum-seekers and refugees. Trainings on International protection to the staff of Department of Immigration, Airport Authorities, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Defence and Urban Development and the Sri Lanka Police are provided.

Education

- UNHCR provides education assistance to 47 refugee children and essential skills in English to 96 refugees in Sri Lanka.

Health

- UNHCR has assisted the anti-malaria campaign to screen 439 asylum-seekers and refugees for Malaria. Complete medical checkups were provided for 96 refugees and medical reimbursements were provided to 32 persons of concern in 2014.
- IT and office equipment were provided to Colombo-South and Negombo Base Hospitals.

Water and Sanitation

- One water and sanitation project to assist school children was completed and two similar projects are ongoing in the Killinochchi District. Support was extended to reconstruct drinking water wells, agro wells and a water supply scheme in the Northern Province.

Non-Food Items (NFIs)

- 3,964 Returnee families in the North and East have benefited from UNHCR non-food items, i.e. essential household items or cash grants.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- 18 economic recovery and infrastructure projects (four projects focusing on education and sports; ten projects on livelihood and four projects on infrastructure) targeting 8,796 returnees in the Northern Province were implemented in 2014.

Durable Solutions

- In 2014, a total of 79 cases (130 individuals) were submitted for resettlement and 20 cases (72 individuals) departed.
- 232 Sri Lankan citizens have returned through UNHCR's facilitated voluntary repatriation programme from both India and Malaysia.
- Returned refugees benefit from repatriation and transport grants, non-food items and access to legal advice on housing, land and property issues; IDP Returnees receive cash grants and legal advice on civil documentation.
- UNHCR will support birth and citizenship documentation mobiles in three districts in the plantation areas where the majority of stateless Tamils of Indian origin reside.

Logistics

- UNHCR in rightsizing its operation has focused on distributing NFIs, disposing of surplus assets by sale and transferring ownership of assets to partners and relevant Government Departments that will continue to provide services to the persons of concern.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [Canada](#) | [United States of America](#)

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Dushanthi Fernando, Executive Assistant, fernandd@unhcr.org, Tel: +94 11 268 3968



Papua New Guinea / Vietnamese refugees at a ceremony marking their receipt of citizenship certificates / UNHCR / 2012

East Asia and the Pacific



THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

FACT SHEET

September 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

Sep 1982

Acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol

1978-1979

Settled 26,000 Indochinese refugees in China

1981-1982

Provided resettlement opportunities for 2,500 Lao and some Cambodian refugees from camps in Thailand

July 2013

China adopted new Exit-Entry Administration Law regarding asylum-seekers and refugees

Oct 2013

Letter of Intent signed with the Ministry of Civil Affairs

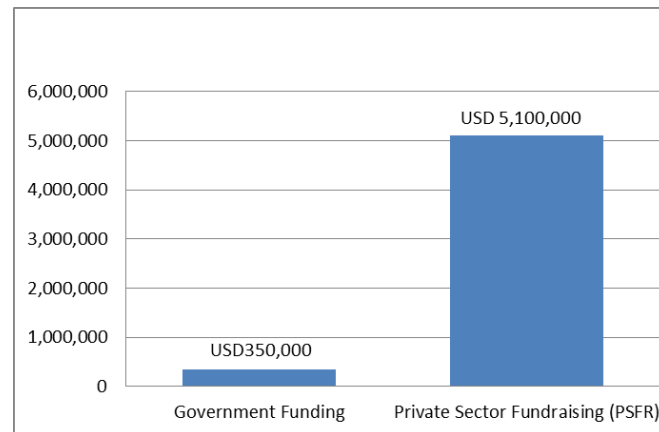
Population of concern

By country of origin (as of 31 August 2014)

Country	Total PoC
Indochina	300,895
Somalia	202
Nigeria	113
Pakistan	35
Liberia	33
Others	200
Total	301,478

Source: UNHCR Beijing Office

2013 Fundraising Results



UNHCR Presence

Beijing Office Staff:

- 3 international staff
- 6 national staff
- 6 affiliated staff

Hong Kong Office Staff:

- 10 national staff (3 PSFR)
- 18 affiliated staff (14 PSFR)

Offices:

- 1 office in Beijing
- 1 office in Hong Kong



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Mainland China: the Ministry of Civil Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Public Security

Hong Kong

Government: Security Bureau, Immigration Department and Social Welfare Department

Operational partners: Christian Action (Chung King Mansions) and Justice Centre Hong Kong

Macao

Government partners: Refugees Commission, Office of the Secretary for Administration and Justice and Social Welfare Bureau

Operational partners: Refugee Welfare Association, Caritas Macau and Macau Child Development Association

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection & Advocacy

- Advocating for the enactment and implementation of national asylum legislation in line with the 1951 Refugee Convention, UNHCR has confirmed its readiness to assist the Government in this area. [30 June 2012: the National People's Congress issued the Exit-Entry Administration Law or "New Law," replacing the 1985 exit-entry laws].
- Conducting RSD and identify durable solutions for refugees.
- Enhancing protection for all persons of concern
- Pursuing durable solutions for refugees in mainland China and in particular advocating for the naturalization of Indochinese refugees.
- Developing the capacity of the Government of China to implement its obligations under the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.
- Promoting extension of the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol to Hong Kong SAR.
- Providing training on specific technical elements related to the refugee definition and determination process thereby providing meaningful support to the Hong Kong authorities to ensure that cases under the Unified Screening Mechanism (USM) are properly adjudicated in accordance with accepted international standards.
- Undertaking an assessment of substantiated claimants referred from HKSAR to confirm that they fall under the refugee definition.
- Pursuing durable solutions for refugees in Hong Kong SAR.
- Increasing public understanding and support by Governments and private donors for refugees worldwide.
- Improving the national protection regimes for both refugees and stateless people in the region.

Assistance

- As the Government of China does not provide assistance to refugees, the UNHCR office in Mainland China is running a direct assistance programme that covers refugees' essential needs in the sectors of education, shelter, health and social services, addressing the needs of some 200 most vulnerable individuals.
- HKSAR Social Welfare Department ("SWD") provides material support to asylum seekers and refugees in Hong Kong through a contract with International Social Service Hong Kong ("ISS"). Core assistance in the form of basic food and shelter is supplemented by contributions from a number of other private individuals and organizations.

Public Awareness Building

- PSFR organizes extensive activities to spread awareness about UNHCR's work. Current activities include:
 - Introducing refugee issues in schools and universities and involving students in education or fundraising projects for the benefit of persons of concern to UNHCR.
 - Organizing activities around World Refugee Day (June 20) in Beijing and Hong Kong, with a focus on the annual Refugee Film Festival and photography exhibition.
 - Holding a booth every July at the Hong Kong Book Fair, the largest in Asia.
 - Maintaining a website- www.unhcr.org.hk (in English as well as simplified and traditional Chinese) as a platform to illustrate UNHCR's work and appeal for support.
 - Using social media to spread awareness of UNHCR's work. The office recorded more than 14,905 followers on Facebook and more 49,785 on Weibo as of September 2014.

Developing other sources of income

- While individual monthly donors collectively donate most of the funds, PSFR is gradually obtaining more support from the local corporate sector, commercial chambers and foundations. A portion of the contributions is generated through online activities, mainly UNHCR Hong Kong's local website. Attempts to use other new media also have been made, e.g. through direct response to TV appeals. The team is also exploring the potential of the Leadership Giving program.

Contributions from volunteers and supporters

- PSFR is pleased to be able to rely on a team of volunteers and students who contribute significantly to UNHCR's work.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

The Hong Kong SAR government has provided the office space for UNHCR Sub-Office in Hong Kong.

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www.unhcr.org.hk



HIGHLIGHTS

14,261

refugees as of
December 2013

3,260

new Refugee Status
Determination applications
lodged with the authorities
in 2013)

**USD 181
million**

contributed by the
government of Japan to
UNHCR: 3rd global government
donor this year

**USD 13.9
million**

raised in the private sector:
4th global private donor
contributor this year

Population of concern

A total of **14,261** refugees

By country of origin

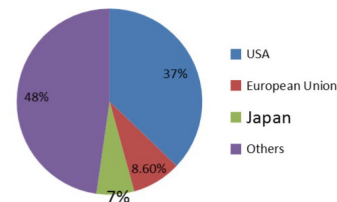
Country	Total refugees
Vietnam	8,656
Myanmar	1,937
Cambodia	1,357
Others	2,311
Total	14,261

Contribution from Japan

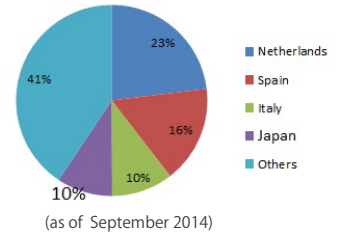
Government: USD 181 million

Private: USD 13.9 million

Government contribution to
UNHCR



Private donor contribution to
UNHCR



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

9 national staff

6 international staff

(Including one JICA secondee and one eCentre
Coordinator administered by UNHCR)

Offices:

1 office located in Tokyo

JAPAN: Operational Map
-26 Sep 2014

UNHCR - HQ



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR Tokyo attaches significant importance to working in partnership and enjoys the support of a range of partners including the following (in alphabetical order): Aoyama Gakuin, ARC Academy, Forum for Refugees Japan (FRJ), Fast Retailing/UNIQLO, Fuji Megane, International Social Service Japan (ISSJ), Japan Association for Refugees (JAR), Japan Association for UNHCR (J4U), Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA), Japan Forum for UNHCR and NGOs (J-FUN), Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan Platform (JPF), Kwansei Gakuin, Media, Meiji University, Parliamentary League for UNHCR, People Focus Consulting, Tsurumi University, Refugee Assistance Headquarters (RHQ), Refugees Coordination Committee Japan (RCCJ), Stateless Network.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- **Priorities:** While Japan's asylum system has further developed and improved over recent years, a number of priority issues remain to be addressed by the Government, UNHCR and other relevant stakeholders including municipalities. These include: 1) the establishment of a comprehensive asylum system, including the development of more fair and efficient Refugee Status Determination (RSD) system and adequate reception conditions; 2) a better alignment of the resettlement programme with global resettlement needs and UNHCR's selection criteria, 3) increased involvement of municipalities, as well as host and refugee communities in enhancing the possibilities for refugees' local integration, and 4) advancing on statelessness issues, including through the accession to the Statelessness Conventions of 1954 and 1961.
- **Asylum system:** The Sub-Committee which was established in fall 2013 by the Ministry of Justice to review the asylum system in Japan continues to deliberate on the possible changes to be introduced in the refugee status determination procedure. UNHCR attaches significant importance to this process and participates in the Committee as an observer. In this capacity, a number of recommendations have been submitted to the Sub Committee by UNHCR.
- The number of **asylum applications** in the first half of 2014 continued to increase and will most likely supersede the number of applicants in 2013, which stood at 3,260, the highest number since 1982. This year, an increasing number of applications were received from asylum-seekers from Turkey and countries in South Asia and Africa.
- **Resettlement:** In January 2014, the Government decided to start a formal resettlement programme as from 2015. With the arrival of 18 refugees in 2013, the total number of resettled refugees in Japan became **63** since the inception of the third country resettlement pilot project in 2010.
- Under a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Justice, Forum for Refugees Japan and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, the *Alternative(s?) to Detention* project continues. So far 14 asylum seekers have benefited from this project and were released.
- UNHCR partners provide **social counseling** to asylum seekers and refugees with a view to meeting the increasing needs for assistance, given that only a limited number of asylum seekers are eligible for government assistance. **Legal counseling** to asylum seekers is also provided by partners.
- UNHCR continues to implement a **Refugee Higher Education Programme** in collaboration with three universities. For the academic year 2014, four refugees have benefitted from this scholarship program and started their studies in April at three partner universities in Japan. For 2015 an additional number of four refugees were selected in September 2014.

Fundraising Activities

- **Government Fundraising:** In 2014, Japan's contribution to UNHCR operations worldwide so far reached USD 181 million, responding to needs particularly in Africa, the Middle-East and North Africa region and the Afghan situation. This also includes Emergency Grant Aids totaling USD 14.2 million for the South Sudan situation, internally displaced in Iraq, and for eastern Ukraine. Nearly USD 15 million of the total contribution is supporting UNHCR's efforts in empowering women and ensuring their protection, including combating sexual and gender-based violence. UNHCR continues to work closely with the Government and, in particular, on the follow-up to the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), which was held in 2013.
- **Private-sector Fundraising Activities:** UNHCR works in close collaboration with the **Japan Association for UNHCR (J4U)**, the national association of UNHCR. Outreach activities include Face-to-Face campaigns, online fundraising and direct mailing to

further raise awareness on refugee issues in Japan and to seek support from private donors. UNHCR enjoys a strategic partnership with **UNIQLO**. Through UNIQLO's "All-Product Recycling Initiative" more than 4 million pieces of clothing have reached / are in the pipeline for displaced persons in 2014. The accumulated clothing contribution currently stands at 9.8 million pieces of clothing. In 2013, UNIQLO's parent company Fast Retailing Co., Ltd. donated USD 1 million, the largest cash contribution by a UNHCR corporate partner to date, in support of the humanitarian needs in the Syria emergency. **Fuji Megane**, another important partner, who is celebrating its 30th anniversary of the annual Vision Mission, visited Azerbaijan for the 10th time with the assistance of UNHCR. In June 2013, Fuji Megane announced a donation of USD 1 million over a 10 year period to UNHCR.

Advocacy Activities

- **Partnerships:** In line with the Government's policy aimed at enhancing the role of Japanese NGOs, UNHCR continued to strengthen its partnership with key members in particular with the **Japan Forum for UNHCR-NGOs** ("J-FUN"), as well as with **Japan Platform** ("JPF" a consortium of NGO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Japan Federation of Economic Organizations, coordinating funding and emergency operations), and the **Japan NGO Centre for International Cooperation** ("JANIC"). UNHCR and JPF organized a joint symposium "Syria Crisis: No Lost Generation – the State of Syrian Children" in May 2014, involving key partners including Japanese NGOs, MOFA, Members of Parliaments, JICA and the embassies.
- The Government of Japan is currently in the process of drafting a **National Action Plan** for implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. UNHCR has been working closely with Government and civil society with a view to ensuring that gender related issues in the context of forced displacement and domestic asylum are adequately reflected in the plan.
- UNHCR works in close partnership with the **Parliamentary League for UNHCR**, which extends strong support to refugee issues both in and outside Japan. During the High Commissioner's visit to Japan in December 2013, UNHCR renewed its important partnership with the League and exchanged views with Members of Parliament at a Roundtable Meeting at the Diet.
- **Awareness-raising Activities:** Media outreach, digital print publications, web updates are key tools in promoting awareness related to refugee issues and to soliciting public support for UNHCR's activities. **UNHCR Japan's Facebook** site opened in 2012 and together with the Twitter account and the new portal on UNHCR Tokyo's official web-site, we are introducing various forms of support schemes as effective communication and out-reach tools. The traditional UNHCR web-site is now compatible for both PC and smartphones. The HQ-hosted website "Stories" was successfully launched compatible to Japanese language (<http://stories.unhcr.org/jp/>). Both WRD and Global Trends 2013 report achieved wide media and public attention.
- Preparations for the 9th **UNHCR Refugee Film Festival** are underway, scheduled to be held in October 2014, in close cooperation with J4U and JICA. It is planned to hold screenings not only in Tokyo, but also in Nishinomiya, Hyogo Prefecture and Sapporo in Hokkaido.
- In addition to regular media briefings, UNHCR Tokyo conducted **press briefings** at the National Press Club on the CAR emergency and on global developments in the field of asylum. The timely appearance and presence in the media of Japanese colleagues working in CAR and Syria proved to be successful in gaining high media attention.
- Various lectures and presentations are made by UNHCR Tokyo staff across the country. UNIQLO's school outreach for 2014 has also started, targeting some 200 schools. The **outreach events** are being held with the support and participation of students, teachers, parents and community around schools and aim to raise awareness on refugees and UNHCR. Furthermore, UNIQLO supported WRD by installing a UNHCR booth at one of their most innovative stores in Shinjuku/Tokyo.

Inter-Agency Preparedness for Humanitarian Emergencies

- UNHCR's Regional Centre for Emergency Preparedness (or "**eCentre**"), which is based in Tokyo, forms part of UNHCR's global division for emergency, security and supply management. The eCentre works with a wide network of government, UN and civil society partners in Asia and the Pacific to strengthen emergency preparedness and response in the context of forced displacement. To achieve its objectives, the eCentre conducts innovative capacity-building activities; organizes fora to facilitate structured information exchange; and provides tailored training and technical support to operations in the field. The eCentre also promotes strategic and operational partnerships, drawing from its network of alumni in the region. For more information please see: <http://www.the-ecentre.net>.

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www.unhcr.or.jp; www.facebook.com/unhcrorjp; twitter.com/UNHCR_Tokyo



HIGHLIGHTS

August 1962

Acceded to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons

December 1992

Acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol

May 2001

First recognized refugee

July 2013

Enforced the Refugee Act of Korea

Population of concern (in ROK)

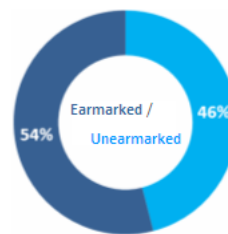
By country of origin (as of August 31, 2014)

Country	Total PoC
Pakistan	1,466
Nigeria	694
Sri Lanka	650
Nepal	576
Others	4,836
Total	8,222

Ministry of Justice, Republic of Korea

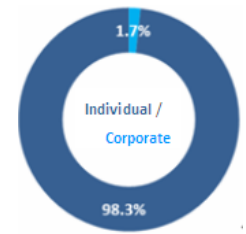
2013 Fundraising Results

Government Funding



USD 5,900,000

Private Sector (PSFR)



USD 5,360,000

UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 2 international staff
- 13 national staff
- 27 affiliated staff (incl. fundraisers)

Offices:

- 1 office located in Seoul



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- The role of UNHCR in the Republic of Korea is primarily of an advocacy nature. UNHCR engages with the government, judiciary, legislative, the National Human Rights Commission, NGOs and civil society to improve the domestic asylum system and treatment of asylum-seekers and refugees, and to ensure respect for their rights, including the principle of *non-refoulement*.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Support to Korea's national asylum system

- The Republic of Korea acceded to the 1951 Convention in 1992 and began registering asylum-seekers in 1994. The numbers of new applications have slowly increased over the years with a total of 1,574 persons applying for asylum in 2013, and 1,579 so far in 2014.
- A comprehensive Refugee Law, Presidential Decree and Regulations came into force on 1 July 2013. It is the first stand-alone refugee law in the Republic of Korea and represents a significant enhancement of refugee protection. UNHCR monitors the implementation of the Act in line with the 1951 Convention and provides technical assistance.
- UNHCR assists the Ministry of Justice and Immigration Offices, which handle asylum applications in the Republic of Korea, to ensure that decisions are made in accordance with international standards.
- UNHCR establishes and maintains operational and implementing partnerships with a range of NGOs to improve support and services to asylum-seekers and refugees in areas such as accommodation, employment, education and health services.
- In 2010, two recognized refugees were naturalized for the first time ever. As of end of 2013, 12 people have similarly obtained Korean nationality. UNHCR is working with the government to strengthen local integration for refugees.
- UNHCR provides technical assistance to the government of the Republic of Korea for the preparation of a resettlement programme.
- UNHCR is advocating with the government of the Republic of Korea to ratify the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and to establish statelessness determination procedures, while at the same time to prevent statelessness by ensuring birth registration of children born to asylum-seekers and refugees.

Fundraising and advocacy activities

- UNHCR raises awareness and understanding on forced displacement issues with the general public. UNHCR attempts to make these issues more personal to Koreans by linking their own history of internal displacement during the Korean War to the plight of refugees. UNHCR promotes the thematic slogan "Protecting refugees with your caring hands" representing the agency's core protection mandate.
- The Government of Korea's total contribution to UNHCR stood at USD 5,944,641 in 2013. This includes USD 2,732,357 to UNHCR's annual programs (core contribution) and USD 3,212,284 to UNHCR's supplementary programs to respond to humanitarian emergencies and the Junior Professional Program. The Korean Government also committed USD18 million for three years (2014-2016) in support of UNHCR's Sustainable Return and Reintegration of Afghan Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons under the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees.
- UNHCR's efforts to mobilize financial support from the private sector were continued in 2014, raising over USD 5.27 million as of end-July 2014, which is almost close to the 2013 result of USD 5.36 million. Korea became one of the Top 10 private funding sources for the Agency in 2013 after only five years since the office launched its first private sector fund-raising activities in mid-2009. At present, over 58,000 individual donors are regularly supporting UNHCR's global operations, and if including one-off donors, around 73,400 donors supported UNHCR so far in 2014.

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HIGHLIGHTS

80,000

Australia for UNHCR donors

6

Days it can take for emergency resettlement to Australia and New Zealand, from submission to evacuation

11,117 and **682**

Arrivals through the UNHCR resettlement programme in 2013 for Australia and New Zealand (respectively)

36

Persons of concern UNHCR is assisting across the remote Pacific Islands

Populations of concern

A total of **60,113** people of concern

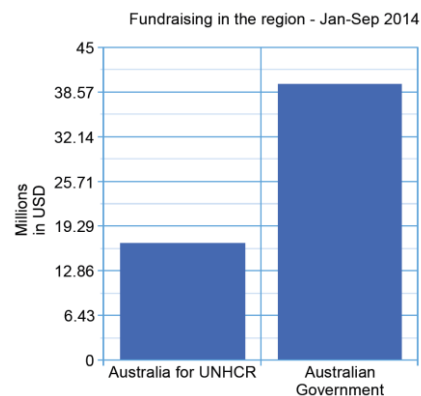
Refugees and asylum seekers in

Country	Total PoC
Australia	48,062 ¹
New Zealand	1,711
PNG	9,782 ²
Nauru	534 ³
Fiji	14
Solomon Islands	3
Tonga	3
Vanuatu	3
Palau	1
Total	60,113

Fundraising in 2014

Government: **USD 39.7 million**

Private: **USD 12.8 million**



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

9 national staff and 1 international staff

Offices:

1 office located in Canberra



¹ From 1 July 2013 there were changes to the official methodology utilized by the Government of Australia in counting asylum-seekers who arrived in Australia by boat. Since that time, figures have been based on the number of applications lodged for protection visas. Asylum-seekers who arrive in Australia by boat and who have been transferred to third countries for refugee status determination are not included in the official statistics. From 1 January 2013 to 30 June 2013, asylum-seekers who arrived in Australia by boat were included in the statistics once they had been screened in to a refugee status determination process.

² Figure for asylum-seekers refers to mid-2013 in the absence of updated information.

³ All figures refer to mid-2013 in the absence of updated information available.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works with governments, NGOs, community groups and civil society in providing protection and support to persons of concern.
- In the Pacific, UNHCR works closely with IOM, the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) and members of the UN Country Team in the region.
- As co-lead of the Pacific Protection Cluster, UNHCR provides support to Pacific Island countries to help them respond to complex natural and man-made emergencies, where protection considerations are important in any regional response to those in need.
- In the context of its fundraising strategy, UNHCR works closely with Australia for UNHCR, the national private sector fundraising association.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Ensuring protection for all persons of concern to UNHCR, including refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons within the sub-region, and resettled refugees in Australia and New Zealand.
- Affirming and developing the international refugee protection regime in the sub-region and promoting law, policy and practice that increase access to quality asylum procedures and durable solutions.
- Monitoring the implementation of the Refugee Convention.

Durable Solutions

- Working closely with Australia and New Zealand to help determine the composition of their resettlement intakes and to encourage the development of resettlement policy and practice in line with international humanitarian principles.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Increasing capacity in refugee status determination in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Island countries by providing practical support to introduce protection safeguards in immigration procedures.
- Strengthening national capacity for emergency preparedness and response to disaster and climate induced displacement.

Public Information

- Undertaking public information and awareness-raising activities to promote a better understanding of and support for refugees among the public and various governmental bodies, and to encourage Australia and New Zealand to continue providing financial and other support to UNHCR operations in the region and worldwide.

Advocacy

- Working to reduce the number of refugees and asylum-seekers in detention through advocacy for the expansion of alternatives to detention.
- Engaging with States and civil society in advocating for long-term cooperation on the protection of refugees and asylum-seekers in the region.
- Working towards greater understanding and capability by states to address issues of statelessness.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year, which have allowed the Australia, Pacific, PNG and the Pacific operation to be funded.

Contact: Lynne Minion, External Relations Officer, minion@unhcr.org, Tel: +61 2 6281 9104, Cell: +61 424 545 569