

# MALAYSIA



## UNHCR's planned presence | 2014

<b>Number of offices</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total personnel</b>	<b>177</b>
International staff	10
National staff	83
JPOs	3
Others	81

## Overview

### Working environment

- Malaysia has not yet signed the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol and lacks a formal legislative and administrative framework to address refugee matters.
- With no work rights, refugees, in particular women and children, tend to be at a high risk of exploitation, particularly refugee children who have no access to government schools.
- UNHCR works with some partner organizations to support refugee health, education and community empowerment. However, as the non-governmental sector in Malaysia remains limited, the Office also directly implements activities.
- The Malaysian Government provides access to public health care at a reduced rate for refugees recognized by UNHCR.
- The Malaysian Government implements strict policies to deter undocumented migrants from its territory. Since refugees and asylum-seekers are not distinguished from undocumented migrants under Malaysian law, they are vulnerable to the same penalties, including arrest, detention and deportation.

### People of concern

The asylum-seekers and refugees in Malaysia, over 100,000 individuals, reside in urban areas, with the majority (90 per cent) originating from Myanmar, and the other 10 per cent from Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, and Sri Lanka. Approximately 40,000 people residing in Malaysia are considered stateless; the majority are ethnic Tamils formerly from India.

## Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Dec 2013		Dec 2014		Dec 2015	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	Myanmar	95,380	95,380	102,070	102,070	108,760	108,760
	Various	6,080	6,080	6,520	6,520	6,940	6,940
People in refugee-like situations	Myanmar	30	30	30	30	30	30
	Various	890	890	900	900	900	900
Asylum-seekers	Myanmar	8,400	8,400	8,990	8,990	9,580	9,580
	Various	4,140	4,140	4,430	4,430	4,720	4,720
Stateless people	Stateless	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Others of concern	Philippines	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>234,920</b>	<b>234,920</b>	<b>242,940</b>	<b>242,940</b>	<b>250,930</b>	<b>250,930</b>

## | Response |

### Needs and strategies

In the next biennium, UNHCR will continue to provide protection to over 100,000 urban asylum-seekers and refugees in Malaysia from the risk of arrest and detention and maintain efforts to prevent deportation. To this end, the Office will focus on consolidating registration and refugee status determination (RSD) activities and on undertaking regular efforts for the release from detention centres of people of concern arrested for the violation of immigration rules.

Durable solutions will remain necessary, with resettlement as one of the most viable options.

UNHCR will furthermore take action to strengthen access for refugees to basic services, with a particular focus on education (such as increasing the number of children attending primary school) and health (such as facilitating access to essential medical assistance). At the same time, the Office will continue to lobby with the Government for the right to work for refugees.

### Main objectives and targets for 2014

The following matrix contains examples of some of the main activities planned in 2014. Using a selection of objectives from UNHCR's programme plans for the 2014-2015 biennium, it is designed to illustrate:

- what – under the global needs assessment planning and prioritization process – has been planned (**Planned activities**) for particular groups of people of concern (**People of concern**);
- the identified needs that can be covered if full and flexible funding is made available (**2014 comprehensive target**); and
- the needs that may not be met if funding falls short of the ExCom-approved budget (**Potential gap**). The estimation of a potential gap is based on the country operation's own assessment of the likely impact of a global funding shortfall. Calculations are based on various criteria, including the particular context, strategic priorities and

experience of resource availability for the respective area of activity in previous years.

Activities under objectives on child protection (including best interest determination), education and prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are core areas which are given priority in the allocation of funding (**priority area**). In order to ensure the necessary flexibility in the allocation of funds, UNHCR relies on unrestricted contributions from its donors.

It should be understood that in some cases, targets for activities or delivery of services may not be reached for reasons other than a funding shortfall, e.g. lack of access to people of concern, cases not reported, changing circumstances, security problems, insufficient capacity to implement all programmes planned, etc. In the Global Report 2014, an explanation of why any target may not have been reached will be provided.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	PEOPLE OF CONCERN	2014 COMPREHENSIVE TARGET	POTENTIAL GAP
<b>Basic needs and essential services</b>			
<b>Health status of the population improved</b>			
UNHCR and its partners will continue to support access to primary health care for its population of concern, including access to free clinics and selected support for secondary and tertiary care.			
<b>Extent to which access to NGO or faith-based primary health care facilities is ensured for people of concern</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	59%	20%
<b>Number of people referred to secondary and tertiary medical care</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	750	150
<b>Population has optimal access to education</b>			
UNHCR will intensify information gathering on refugee children's attendance in school and will use this information to increase student enrolment in all levels.			
<b>Number of children enrolled in primary education</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	6,270	priority area
<b>Number of students enrolled in lower secondary education</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	350	50
<b>Population has optimal access to reproductive health and HIV services</b>			
Through prevention initiatives and improvements in treatment regimes, the infection rate of HIV and AIDS among the refugee population will be reduced, as will the mortality rate of those living with HIV/AIDS.			
<b>Number of people of concern receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART)</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	500	100
<b>Extent to which people of concern have the same access to voluntary counselling and testing services as the local community</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	100	0 gap
<b>Community empowerment and self-reliance</b>			
<b>Self-reliance and livelihoods improved</b>			
UNHCR will continue to work with a partner to implement a microfinance programme for a small group of refugees to enable them to engage in small-scale businesses, resulting in a higher standard of living for them and their families. Furthermore, the Office will provide 6-month Basic English Language classes for livelihoods purposes and engage training institutes to provide life-skills training to refugees.			
<b>Number of people of concern provided with language training for livelihoods purposes</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	5,000	3,000
<b>Number of people of concern receiving life-skills training for livelihood purposes</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	7,900	1,700
<b>Durable solutions</b>			
<b>Potential for resettlement realized</b>			
UNHCR expects to submit approximately 15 per cent of all cases identified as being in need of resettlement, which includes women and children at risk.			
<b>Number of people of concern resettled through group resettlement</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	9,000	1,000
<b>Number of cases identified including women and girls at risk</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	3,036	0 gap
<b>Number of resettlement registration forms (RRFs) submitted</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	10,000	2,500
<b>Fair protection processes and documentation</b>			
<b>Access to and quality of status determination procedures improved</b>			
As the Malaysian Government does not have any procedures in place to conduct refugee status determination (RSD), UNHCR will continue with the adjudication of RSD for the increasing number of asylum-seekers.			
<b>Number of substantive status determination decisions analysed</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	16,000	8,000
<b>Quality of registration and profiling improved or maintained</b>			
UNHCR will continue to focus on office-based registration (including new registration, family unity and fraud interviews), while conducting outreach registration when required and within resource limitations.			
<b>Number of eligible people registered</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	36,000	18,000
<b>Number of people of concern registered through registration outreach methods</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	32,000	32,000

## Security from violence and exploitation

### Protection of children strengthened

UNHCR will conduct best interest determination assessments for unaccompanied and separated children and children at risk, and when necessary, make recommendations on care arrangements, durable solutions and family reunification.

<b>Number of best interest assessments conducted</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	<b>800</b>	<b>priority area</b>
<b>Percentage of registered unaccompanied children in alternative care who receive regular monitoring visits</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>priority area</b>

### Risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is reduced and quality of response improved

UNHCR will continue to work with partners on a coordinated prevention and response programme, which includes working closely with 60 community-based organizations to create awareness on SGBV and gender issues and help them develop appropriate responses to reported SGBV incidents.

<b>Number of reported SGBV incidents for which survivors receive psychosocial counselling</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	<b>150</b>	<b>priority area</b>
<b>Number of reported SGBV incidents for which survivors are provided with a safe space</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	<b>30</b>	<b>priority area</b>

### Risks related to detention reduced and freedom of movement increased

UNHCR will monitor all immigration detention centres on a frequent basis, conducting protection interventions for people of concern while advocating for the protection rights of refugees with the authorities, and providing training for relevant government officials.

<b>Number of interventions made to release individuals from detention</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	<b>4,500</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>Number of monitoring visits to detention centres conducted</b>	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	<b>300</b>	<b>100</b>

# | Implementation |

## Partners

### Implementing partners

#### NGOs:

Dignity for Children Foundation, Future Global Network, Kumpulan ACTS, Malaysian Social Research Institute, Partnership in Enterprise, Soroptimist International, Johor Bahru, Taiwan Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation

#### Others:

UNOPS

### Operational partners

#### NGOs:

Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team, Archdiocesan Office for Human Development, Bar Council of Malaysia, Bless Community Service, Budimas Orion, Divine Life Society, Federation of Malaysian Sri Lankan Organizations, Federation of Reproductive Health Associations Malaysia, Health Equity Initiative, International Catholic Migration Commission, Malaysia Care, Mercy Malaysia, Muslim Aid Malaysia, Muslim Relief Agency, PJ Caring Home, Positive Living Community Home, Praise Emmanuel Shelter, Psychiatric Homecare Services, *Pertubuhan Kebajikan Islam Malaysia*, *Pertubuhan Kebajikan Rose*, *Pusat Kebajikan Good Shepherd*, Ray of Hope Shelter, *Rumah Ozanam*, Salvation Army, Shelter Society, Shelter, Home, After Care and Love Home Care; Suka Society, Tamil Forum Malaysia, *Tenaganita*, *Ti-Ratana* Welfare Society, Voice of the Children, Women's Aid Organization, *Yayasan Chow Kit*, Young Women's Christian Association Malaysia

#### Others:

Help Institute, Iverson Associates, Riverbank Academy, Tune Skills Training, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO

## Coordination

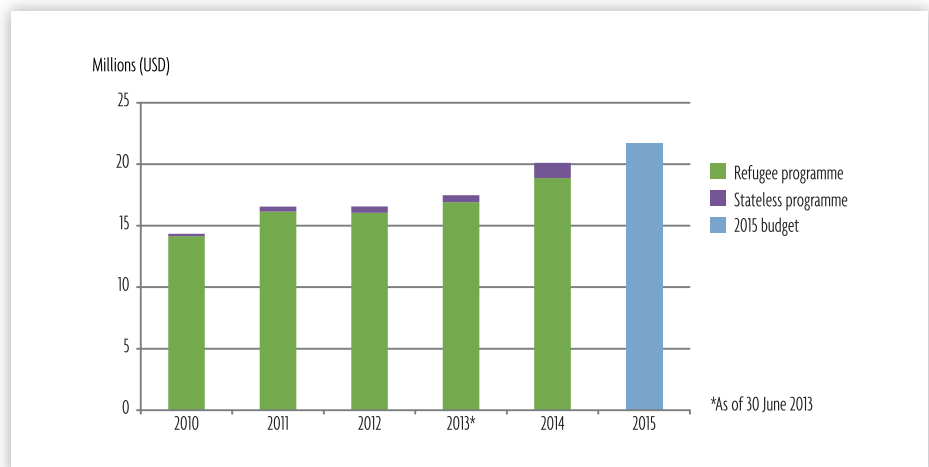
UNHCR will continue to work closely with its partners in Malaysia, including the Malaysian Government, other UN organizations, civil society and refugee communities.

At the operational level, given the size of the population of urban refugees and asylum-seekers, the refugee communities will be crucial partners, and a sustained community development effort will be necessary to address the wide array of needs of people of concern.

# | Financial information |

Over the last four years, the financial requirements for UNHCR's operation in Malaysia have steadily increased to respond to the needs of the growing population of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country. In 2014, UNHCR's financial requirements for Malaysia are set at USD 20.1 million. Priorities continue to include maintaining access to asylum and implementing durable solutions, as well as addressing the issue of detention and imprisonment and providing continuous support for education, health and livelihood programmes.

## Budgets for Malaysia | 2010–2015



## 2014 budget for Malaysia | USD

Budget breakdown	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	Total
<b>2013 revised budget (as of 30 June 2013)</b>	<b>16,914,158</b>	<b>563,362</b>	<b>17,477,520</b>
<b>Favourable protection environment</b>			
International and regional instruments	0	220,350	<b>220,350</b>
Law and policy	164,032	344,700	<b>508,732</b>
Access to legal assistance and remedies	194,677	0	<b>194,677</b>
Access to territory and <i>refoulement</i> risk reduced	155,967	0	<b>155,967</b>
Public attitude towards people of concern	341,333	0	<b>341,333</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>856,010</b>	<b>565,050</b>	<b>1,421,060</b>
<b>Fair protection processes and documentation</b>			
Registration and profiling	1,210,823	0	<b>1,210,823</b>
Status determination procedures	1,532,228	0	<b>1,532,228</b>
Civil registration and status documentation	241,784	0	<b>241,784</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,984,835</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,984,835</b>
<b>Security from violence and exploitation</b>			
Prevention and response to SGBV	774,837	0	<b>774,837</b>
Freedom of movement and detention risk reduced	887,079	0	<b>887,079</b>
Protection of children	664,232	0	<b>664,232</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,326,148</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,326,148</b>
<b>Basic needs and essential services</b>			
Health	1,168,914	0	<b>1,168,914</b>
Reproductive health and HIV services	1,183,547	0	<b>1,183,547</b>
Basic and domestic items	756,483	0	<b>756,483</b>
Education	3,675,678	0	<b>3,675,678</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,784,622</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,784,622</b>
<b>Community empowerment and self-reliance</b>			
Community mobilization	2,148,730	0	<b>2,148,730</b>
Coexistence with local communities	240,161	0	<b>240,161</b>
Self-reliance and livelihood activities	1,530,373	0	<b>1,530,373</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,919,265</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,919,265</b>
<b>Durable solutions</b>			
Voluntary return	164,032	0	<b>164,032</b>
Integration	328,843	0	<b>328,843</b>
Resettlement	636,113	0	<b>636,113</b>
Reduction of statelessness	0	666,452	<b>666,452</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,128,988</b>	<b>666,452</b>	<b>1,795,440</b>
<b>Leadership, coordination and partnerships</b>			
Coordination and partnerships	875,235	0	<b>875,235</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>875,235</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>875,235</b>
<b>2014 total budget</b>	<b>18,875,102</b>	<b>1,231,502</b>	<b>20,106,604</b>