



# AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND THE PACIFIC

## **FACTSHEET**

September 2014

# **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

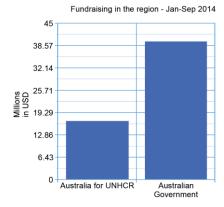
Refugees and asylum seekers in

Country	Total PoC
Australia	48,062 <sup>1</sup>
New Zealand	1,711
PNG	9,782 <sup>2</sup>
Nauru	534 <sup>3</sup>
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



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>dot{2}}$  Figure for asylum-seekers refers to mid-2013 in the absence of updated information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

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