



UNHCR Refugee Resettlement
Trends 2015





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+1,000,000

GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS OVER ONE MILLION

50%

INCREASE IN NEEDS
OVER 5 YEARS

↑ 22%

INCREASE IN
RESETTLEMENT
NEEDS LAST YEAR

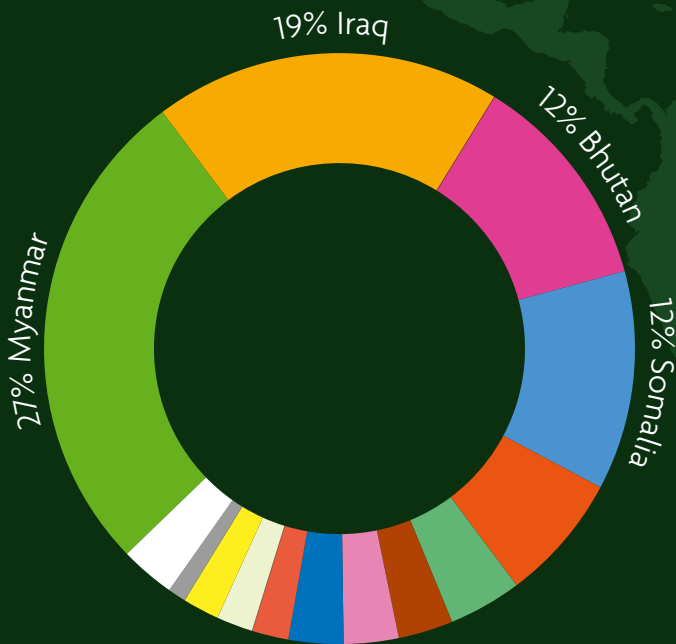
↑ 23%

INCREASE IN GLOBAL
REFUGEE POPULATION
LAST YEAR

RESETTLEMENT
NEEDS ARE
CONSISTENTLY

8%

OF GLOBAL
REFUGEE
POPULATION



7% Congo (DRC), 4% Afghanistan,
3% Eritrea, 3% Syrian Arab Rep.,
3% Islamic Rep. of Iran, 2% Sudan, 2% Burundi,
2% Ethiopia, 1% Colombia, 5% Other

13

Majority of refugees submitted
by UNHCR since 2005 were from
thirteen countries of origin.

over ten years

2x

ANNUAL SUBMISSIONS
DOUBLED

trends at a glance

2x

UNHCR's resettlement submissions from **MENA¹ and Europe²** doubled over the last two years.

- 1 Middle East and North Africa
- 2 Turkey falls within Europe in accordance with UNHCR's regional Bureaux.

2x

UNHCR's resettlement submissions from **Africa doubled in the last two years**, and Africa overtook Asia as the region with the highest number of submissions for the first time in ten years.

90%

INCREASE IN ANNUAL DEPARTURES



9%

INCREASE IN ANNUAL GLOBAL ACCEPTANCE RATE



More use of **SVT** and **AWR** Categories³

³ Survivors of Violence and/or Torture, and Women and Girls at Risk are two of UNHCR's Resettlement Categories.



What is Resettlement?

Resettlement involves the selection and transfer of refugees from a State in which they have sought protection to a third State which has agreed to admit them – as refugees – with permanent residence status. The status provided ensures protection against *refoulement* and provides a resettled refugee and his/her family or dependants with access to rights similar to those enjoyed by nationals. Resettlement also carries with it the opportunity to eventually become a naturalized citizen of the resettlement country.

Resettlement is one of three durable solutions for refugees, which ends the cycle of displacement by resolving their plight so that they can lead normal lives. Seeking and providing durable solutions to the problems of refugees constitutes an essential element of international protection, and the search for durable solutions has been a central part of UNHCR's mandate since its inception. UNHCR identifies and refers refugees for resettlement, and resettlement States subsequently decide on who will be admitted. To be submitted for resettlement, the applicant must be determined to be a refugee by UNHCR, resettlement must have been identified as the most appropriate solution, and the applicant must fall under one or more of the UNHCR resettlement categories.

The other two durable solutions are: **voluntary repatriation**, in which refugees return in safety and with dignity to their country of origin and re-avail themselves of national protection; and **local integration**, in which refugees legally, economically and socially integrate in the host country, availing themselves of the protection of the host government.

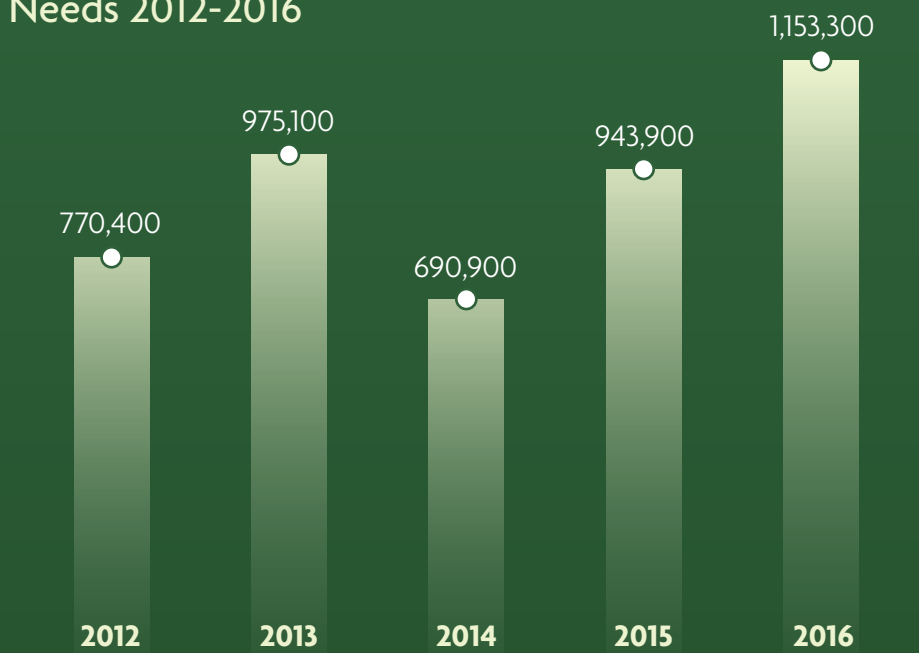
This report summarizes trends and patterns in UNHCR's resettlement programme over the past 10 years (2005-2014). The data presented is based on reports provided by UNHCR offices worldwide and the governments of resettlement States. All figures in this report should be considered as provisional and subject to change. Resettlement States' figures may not match UNHCR reported figures as resettlement States' figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR auspices.⁴ In addition, UNHCR figures may include cases which UNHCR did not submit for resettlement, but assisted in other ways (e.g. by obtaining exit permits for family reunion cases). Furthermore, due to retroactive changes and adjustments, some of the data included in this publication may differ slightly from that reported in previous UNHCR documents or from the official figures published by States. The numbers in the narrative of this report have been rounded to the nearest 100 for ease of reading. For exact figures please refer to the annex.

The statistics presented reflect the number of individuals submitted for / departing on resettlement, including those who have been submitted to multiple resettlement States (re-submissions). Where possible, this report analyses the figures over a ten-year period (2005 – 2014). However, it only analyses the resettlement needs from 2012 onwards, as from that date the methodology for calculating needs changed, taking into account the needs of refugees in a protracted situation where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years.

⁴ UNHCR Global Trends on Forced Displacement 2014 reports on resettlement statistics from States. <http://www.unhcr.org/556725e69.html>

Refugee Resettlement Needs

UNHCR's Projected Global Resettlement Needs 2012-2016



Note: Resettlement Needs prior to 2012 are not included as from that date the methodology for assessing needs changed.

1,000,000

Global Resettlement Needs over one million:

50% increase in needs since 2012 and
22% increase in the last year.

8%

Direct correlation between global refugee population and global resettlement needs over the last five years: resettlement needs are consistently at around **8% of global refugee population.**

Global resettlement needs over one million: 50% increase in needs since 2012, and 22% increase in the last year

Direct correlation between global refugee population and the global resettlement needs over the last five years: resettlement needs are consistently around 8% of global refugee population

UNHCR publishes its Projected Global Resettlement Needs annually to assist resettlement States, non-government organizations (NGOs), and other partners involved in resettlement and the UNHCR in planning their respective resettlement activities.⁵

It is estimated that **1,150,300 refugees** globally are now in need of resettlement.⁶ This marks a **50 per cent** increase in resettlement needs compared with the total projected resettlement needs estimated for 2012. Over the last year there has been dramatic growth in mass displacement, which has reached levels unprecedented in recent history.⁷ This upsurge is directly reflected in the number of refugees projected to be in need of resettlement, which has reached one million for the first time since reporting of resettlement needs began over 30 years ago.

The direct correlation between the resettlement needs and the size of the global refugee population can be seen over the last five years when the global resettlement needs have consistently amounted to around 8 per cent of the total refugee population.⁸ In 2015 UNHCR offices have calculated that the projected resettlement needs for 2016 are **22 per cent** higher than the anticipated needs for the previous year. Similarly, the global refugee population increased by **23 per cent** last year, i.e. with the same rate of growth as resettlement needs.⁹

In 2014, new and unresolved conflicts in the Central African Republic, Iraq, Mali, Nigeria, South Sudan, Syria and Ukraine were the cause of mass displacement. However, sharp rises in forced displacement and resettlement needs in recent years are largely due to the Syrian conflict, which has created millions of displaced persons and put a huge strain on host countries and their resources. Resettlement needs have also increased in recent years since UNHCR has estimated the resettlement needs of protracted refugee situations in Africa with greater accuracy (refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Somalia, and Sudan).

⁵ UNHCR's Global Projected Resettlement Needs 2016 can be accessed at <http://unhcr.org/558019729.html>

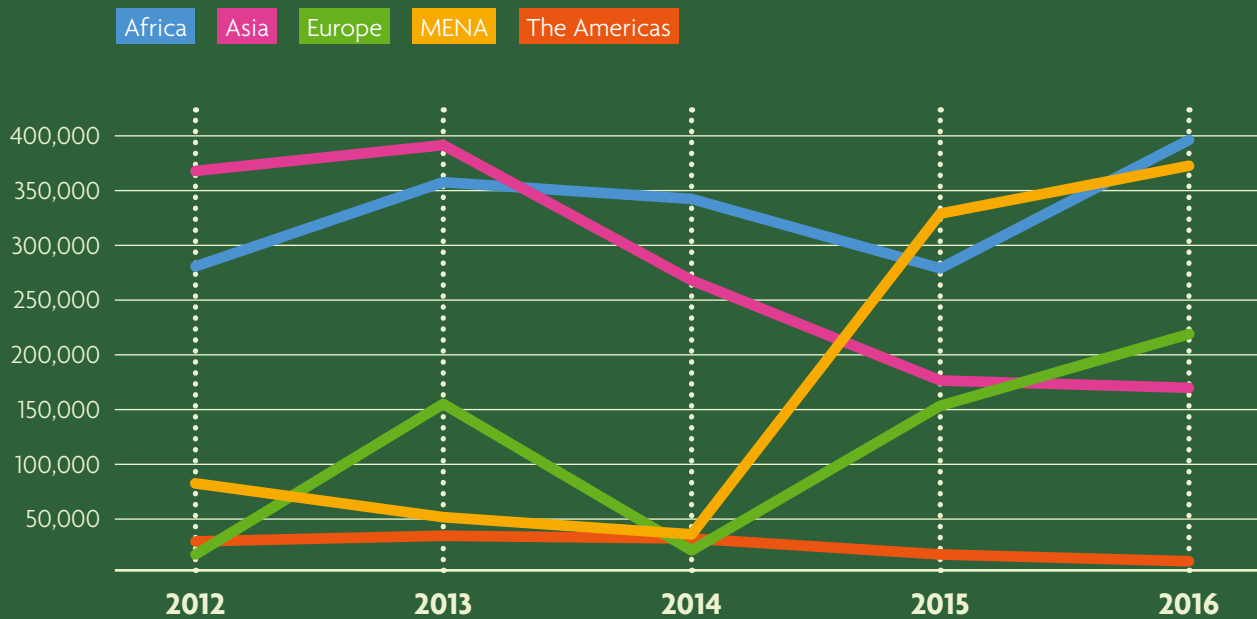
⁶ This estimate includes the resettlement needs of refugees in a protracted situation where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years.

⁷ By the end of 2014, 59.5 million individuals were forcibly displaced worldwide, including 19.5 million refugees. <http://www.unhcr.org/556725e69.html>

⁸ On average, resettlement needs were 7.8 per cent of the refugee population, see annex.

⁹ At the end of 2014 the global refugee population under UNHCR's mandate was 14.4 million, this is an increase of 2.7 million compared with the refugee population at the end of 2013 (+23 per cent) <http://www.unhcr.org/556725e69.html>

UNHCR's Projected Resettlement Needs by Region 2012-2016



Note: Resettlement Needs prior to 2012 are not included as from that date the methodology for calculating needs changed.

Projected resettlement needs by region over the last five years

Africa reported a growth in needs in 2016, with over **391,900 refugees** in need of resettlement. This represents an increase of **41 per cent** compared with the needs for 2015, and, as a consequence, resettlement needs in Africa are at their highest rate for the last five years. This increase can be attributed to the fact that the resettlement needs of protracted refugee populations have been represented more accurately. In 2016, projected resettlement needs for refugees in protracted situations (refugees from the DRC, Eritrea, Rwanda, Somalia, and Sudan) increased by 19 per cent compared with the projected needs for these populations in previous years. There are also increases in resettlement needs, although on a smaller scale, for refugees from recent emergency situations, i.e. from the Central African Republic, Mali, Nigeria and South Sudan.

As for Asia, the 2016 overall projected resettlement needs total **169,600 refugees**, a decrease of three per cent from the projected resettlement needs for 2015. The resettlement needs in this region have decreased for a third consecutive year, and by 43 per cent since 2013, reflecting the continuing gradual phase out of large-scale resettlement operations in Thailand and Nepal following the successful completion of multi-year resettlement programmes. Despite a decrease in the projected resettlement needs in Asia, in response to recent irregular movements through Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea UNHCR will advocate for the expansion of avenues for safe and legal migration in the region. This advocacy will focus on labour migration at all skills levels, and will be supplemented by limited third country resettlement for individuals with specific needs.

The Americas have reported an overall figure of **7,500 refugees** in need of resettlement in 2016, which represents a substantial (52 per cent) decrease from the previous year's figure. This is



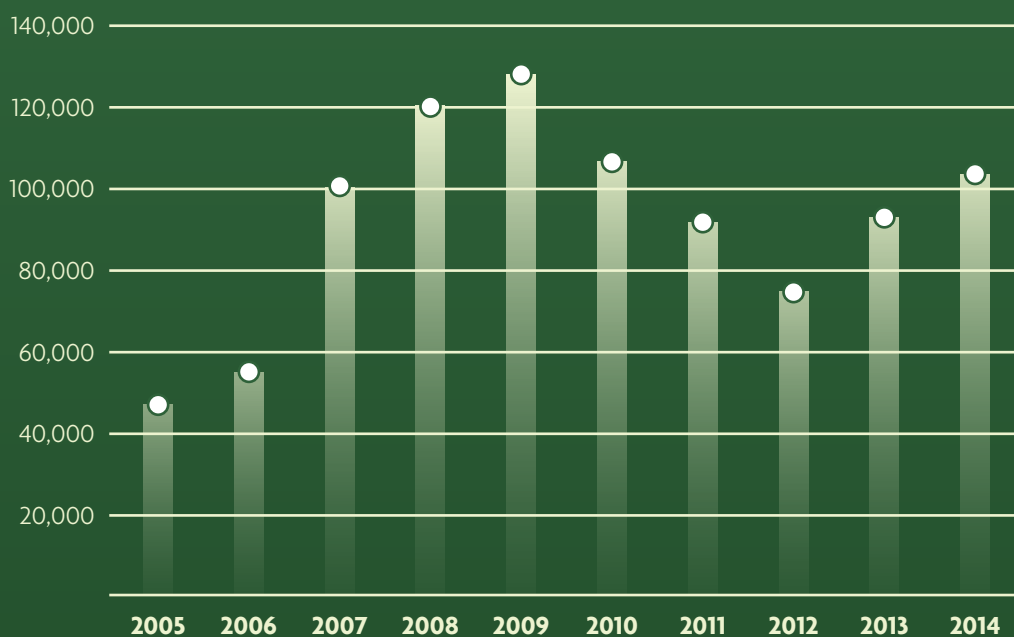
because operations used a refined methodology based on better estimates following a verification exercise to profile the needs of Colombian refugees in Ecuador. Despite peace talks in Colombia, resettlement needs remain for some Colombian refugees in the region, and UNHCR has identified refugees of various nationalities (including Syrians) in need of resettlement from the Caribbean States, including Cuba.

Due to the Syrian conflict, UNHCR operations in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) as well as Turkey (located in the Europe region) continue to report a significant increase in their projected resettlement needs. For 2016, it is estimated that **369,300 refugees** are in need of resettlement from MENA, and **215,000 refugees** need resettlement from Europe. The projected resettlement needs for 2016 for MENA are more than **ten times higher** than they were in 2014, and four and a half times higher than in 2012. The dramatic rise in needs in MENA and Europe is largely due to the expanding needs of Syrian refugees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. At the end of 2014, MENA and Turkey hosted 3.8 million Syrians, and as the conflict enters into its fifth year, the continued resettlement of Syrian refugees represents an expression of responsibility-sharing considering the enormity of the Syrian situation. The conflict in Iraq was the cause of additional displacement in 2014, with 100,000 new asylum applications made by Iraqis globally (including 50,000 in Turkey and 20,500 in Jordan).¹⁰ Refugees of Eritrean, Iraqi, Palestinian, Somali, and Sudanese origin also continue to be in need of resettlement from MENA and Europe.

¹⁰ UNHCR Global Trends on Forced Displacement in 2014 <http://www.unhcr.org/556725e69.html>

Refugees Submitted by UNHCR to Resettlement States for their Consideration

UNHCR's Global Resettlement Submissions 2005-2014



UNHCR identifies and refers refugees for resettlement and resettlement States subsequently decide on who will be admitted. To be submitted for resettlement, the applicant must be determined to be a refugee by UNHCR, resettlement must have been identified as the most appropriate solution, and the applicant must fall under one or more of the UNHCR resettlement categories.¹¹

¹¹ For more details on UNHCR's resettlement categories, please see Section 3 below, and/or UNHCR's Resettlement Handbook. <http://www.unhcr.org/3d464b239.html>



Annual number of refugees submitted for resettlement by UNHCR has doubled over a ten-year period

103,900 refugees were submitted for resettlement in 2014. This is more than twice the number of refugees submitted for resettlement in 2005 (46,300 persons). In 2014, submissions represented an increase of 11 per cent compared with 2013 submissions, and a 38 per cent increase compared with 2012 submissions, reversing a trend of reduced submissions between 2010 and 2012. 2014 submissions were at the fourth highest level in the past ten years, which reached an all-time high of over 128,600 submissions in 2009, when large numbers of refugees from Iraq, Myanmar and Bhutan were submitted.

The three-fold increase in resettlement submissions witnessed from 2005 to 2009 proved not to be sustainable, resulting in a 16 per cent decrease from 2009 to 2010. This shift in trend was expected, not least because the pace of resettlement submissions carrying over from 2008 and 2009 outweighed resettlement States' capacity to process cases. Consequently, it was decided to limit the number of submissions to 110,000 per year in order to ensure a healthy resettlement process, and UNHCR's submissions in the following years decreased. In addition, a deterioration in the security environment resulted in uncharacteristically low submissions from Africa in 2012 due to difficulties accessing refugee populations.

The overall growth in the number of submissions from 2005 to 2014 can be attributed to a number of factors: increased submissions from priority and protracted refugee situations, including refugees from Afghanistan, Bhutan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Iraq, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Myanmar; the use of simplified Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs) for Iraqi resettlement and abridged RRFs for submissions to the United States; group resettlement¹² to the United States; innovative approaches, such as video conferencing in Africa and MENA, where access to refugee populations has been a challenge due to security issues; the use of humanitarian admission programmes for Syrian refugees; multi-year commitments from resettlement States; the use of Emergency Transit Facilities; the increased deployment of resettlement and child protection deployees; and increased funds from resettlement States.

¹² Group processing for resettlement involves a simplified large-scale processing of cases by UNHCR and resettlement States without requiring the full completion of individual Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs). Considerable time is saved through the use of standardized abridged RRFs for groups, or direct transmission of data without RRFs in the case of groups designated under Priority 2 processing to the United States of America. For information on "Priority 2," see the USA's Country Chapter linked to UNHCR's Resettlement Handbook. <http://www.unhcr.org/3d464b239.html>

Main Countries of Origin Submitted for Resettlement by UNHCR 2005-2014

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Grand Total
Myanmar	15,295	23,203	41,072	30,388	30,542	24,420	21,290	22,074	23,481	15,170	246,935
Iraq	990	885	21,628	33,512	36,067	26,746	19,994	10,760	13,225	11,778	175,585
Bhutan	3	86	7,424	23,516	22,114	20,617	13,092	9,923	7,070	5,566	109,411
Somalia	6,034	4,886	6,141	11,063	19,838	17,371	15,719	7,174	8,964	9,388	106,578
Syrian Arab Rep.	86	87	52	97	121	111	125	86	5,277	21,154	27,196
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,699	3,502	3,599	2,985	5,023	3,479	4,079	6,475	11,857	18,828	61,526
Afghanistan	3,839	3,761	2,872	1,831	2,440	2,284	3,041	4,565	5,175	4,746	34,554
Eritrea	1,336	1,824	962	1,987	1,554	1,943	2,916	1,893	3,737	3,590	27,895
Islamic Rep. of Iran	2,270	2,287	2,054	2,163	1,329	2,786	2,496	2,877	2,826	2,617	23,705
Sudan	4,023	907	724	762	1,351	1,761	2,517	2,632	3,020	2,551	20,248
Burundi	2,060	5,367	5,806	810	485	195	230	161	1,566	1,632	18,312
Ethiopia	1,407	1,026	1,066	860	1,477	1,424	2,607	1,258	1,529	1,330	13,984
Colombia	1,179	1,012	1,020	1,065	1,118	1,142	919	1,780	1,819	1,696	12,750

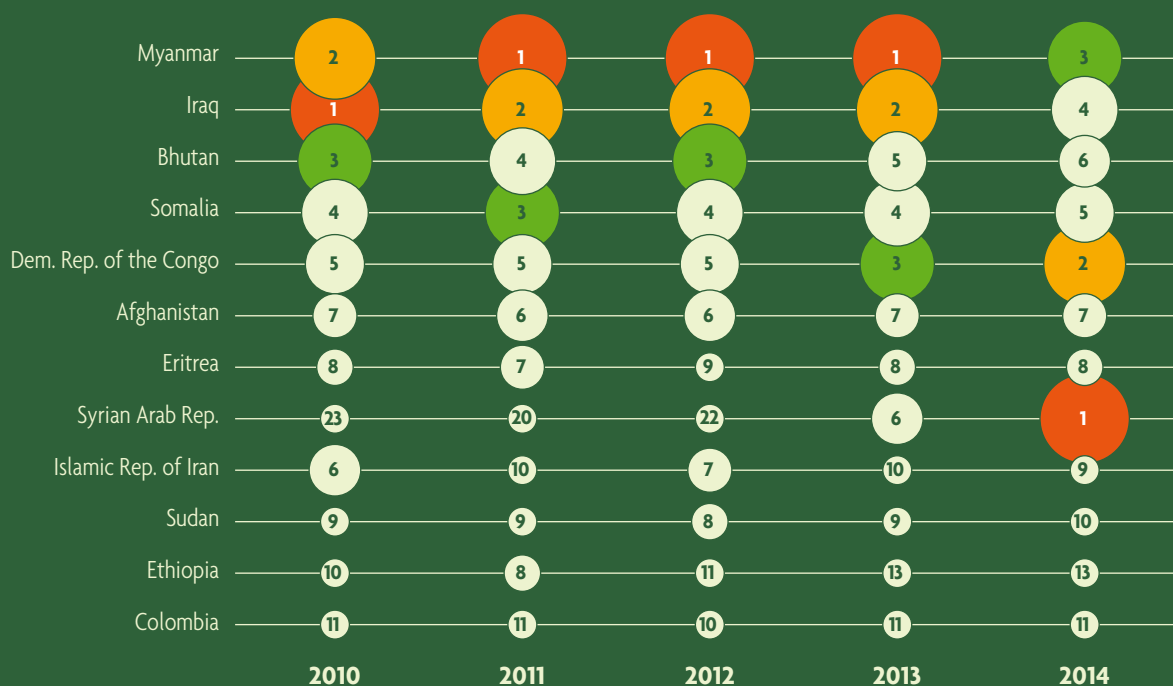
Majority of refugees submitted for resettlement by UNHCR since 2005 were from thirteen countries of origin

Over the last ten years, a total of 920,700 refugees have been submitted for resettlement by UNHCR. 95 per cent were from the following thirteen refugee populations:

Myanmar 27% / 246,900 persons	Syrian Arab Rep. 3% / 27,200 persons
Iraq 19% / 175,600 persons	Islamic Rep. of Iran 3% / 23,700 persons
Bhutan 12% / 109,400 persons	Sudan 2% / 20,200 persons
Somalia 12% / 106,600 persons	Burundi 2% / 18,300 persons
Congo (DRC) 7% / 61,500 persons	Ethiopia 2% / 14,000 persons
Afghanistan 4% / 34,600 persons	Colombia 1% / 12,800 persons
Eritrea 3% / 27,900 persons	Other 5% / 42,000 persons ¹³

¹³ From 90 other countries of origin.

Top 12 Countries of Origin for UNHCR Resettlement Submissions 2010-2014 (by ranking)



The highest number of annual submissions by country of origin within the last ten years was 41,000 refugees from Myanmar in 2007. Refugees from Somalia and Myanmar have consistently remained within the top five countries of origin submitted throughout the last ten years. During the last five years, refugees from Somalia, Myanmar, Iraq and the Democratic Republic of the Congo have consistently remained within the top five countries of origin submitted. Altogether, these four countries accounted for 62 per cent of all submissions over the past five years.

2014 saw a shift in trends, as Syrian refugees, who did not appear in the top five submission nationalities previously, became the largest nationality group submitted for resettlement, whereas refugees from Bhutan did not feature in the top five countries of origin submitted for the first time since 2006. Syrian refugees are the eighth largest refugee population submitted for resettlement over the last ten year period, despite the fact that they have only been submitted on a large-scale during 2013 and 2014, thus demonstrating the scale of growth of Syrian resettlement.



UNHCR's resettlement submissions from Africa doubled over the last two years, and Africa overtook Asia as the region with the highest number of submissions for the first time in ten years

Overall, submissions from Africa have increased over the last ten years (from **14,000** in 2005 to **35,000** in 2014). However, there was a dip in submissions during 2012 when 15,700 individuals were submitted. The comparatively low number of submissions in 2012 from Africa was partly due to security problems in Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya, which affected access to refugee populations, mostly Somalis. In the last two years, submissions from the region have grown, and in 2014 Africa replaced Asia as the region with the highest number of submissions (34 per cent of total submissions) for the first time in a ten-year period.

The upsurge in submissions from Africa over the last two years was in part due to increased staff capacity and technical support, as well as the work of an internal task force which was established in 2012 to strengthen coordination between operations in the field, sub-regions and Headquarters. In 2012, UNHCR began the implementation of a multi-year plan, with the aim of submitting at least 50,000 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo for resettlement out of the Great Lakes region over a five-year period (2012 – 2017). Consequently, there has been a three-fold increase in the number of Congolese refugees submitted for resettlement from 6,500 in 2012 to 18,800 in 2014. In particular, increased submissions of Congolese has been made possible through: (i) the use of group resettlement from Rwanda;¹⁴ (ii) the use of technological solutions; and (iii) the deployment of additional affiliate resettlement staff.¹⁵

UNHCR has also focused on the resettlement of Somali refugees,¹⁶ for whom submissions rose by 31 per cent between 2012 and 2014; Eritrean refugees, for whom submissions rose by 90 per cent between 2012 and 2014; and the resettlement of refugees from Sudan/Darfur and the Central African Republic out of Chad, which has resulted in a 81 per cent increase in the number of refugees resettled from Chad between 2012 and 2014. Kenya has consistently remained within the top five submission countries for the last six years (since 2009) despite enormous challenges due to the deterioration of the security situation. In 2014, UNHCR in Kenya submitted 6,800 refugees for resettlement;¹⁷ however, this only amounted to 1 per cent of the entire refugee population in the country, due to the massive scale of the Somali refugee population.¹⁸

At the height of group resettlement out of Asia in 2008, submissions from the region made up 47 per cent of total submissions, and represented the highest annual regional total in a ten-year period, with 57,200 individuals submitted. Resettlement on such a large scale was made possible through the work of the Bhutan Core Group.¹⁹ In 2014, Malaysia continued to feature in the top five submission countries, as it had for the previous eight years, when group resettlement of Myanmar refugees began (2006). UNHCR in Malaysia submitted over 11,400 refugees for resettlement during 2014, which was 11.5 per cent of the refugee population. As group resettlement winds down in Nepal and Thailand, submissions from Asia have now dropped below the 30,000 mark for the first time since 2006, and in 2014, made up 26 per cent of total global submissions.

¹⁴ Resettlement submissions of Congolese are expected to increase further particularly from Tanzania where the multi-year resettlement target has been doubled from 15,000 to a total of 30,000 Congolese refugees following the recent approval of the second P2 group resettlement submission proposal for Congolese refugees to the USA.

¹⁵ Affiliate work force are resettlement deployees (consultants) who are not core UNHCR staff.

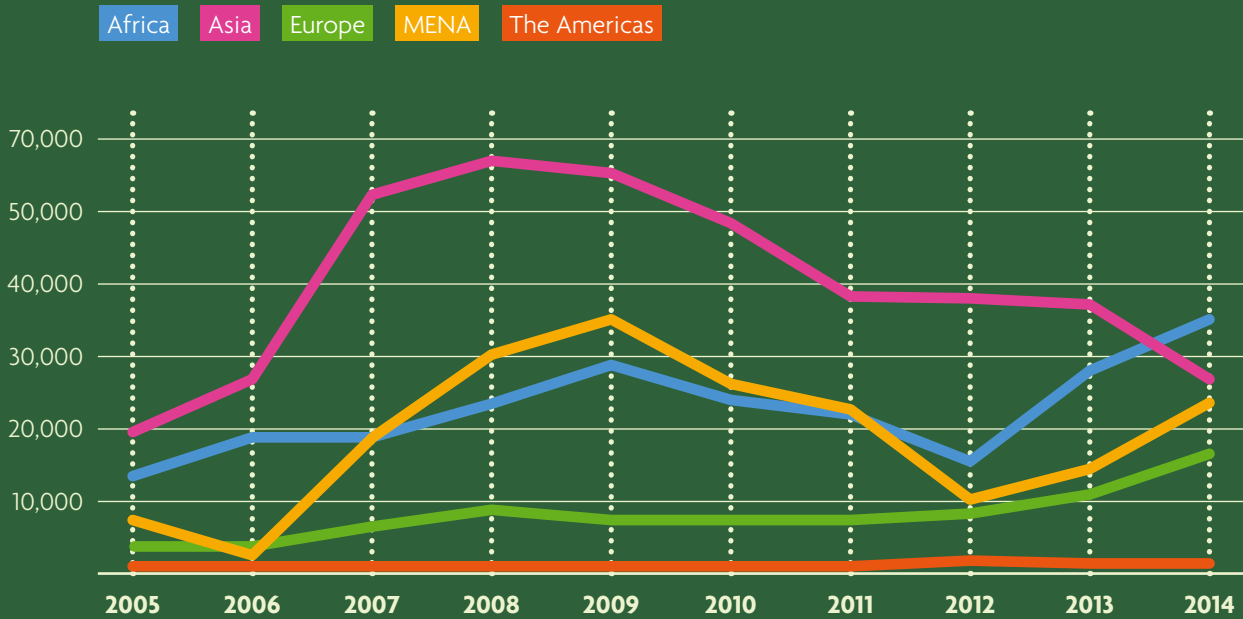
¹⁶ Somali refugees became a priority for resettlement in July 2010.

¹⁷ The majority of submissions (4,325) were refugees from Somalia. Refugees from the DRC, Ethiopia and other nationalities were also submitted.

¹⁸ Out of the total refugee population of 551,352 refugees in Kenya, 424,691 (77 per cent) were Somali refugees as of 1 January 2015. Also, the 4,325 resettlement submissions of Somali refugees from Kenya in 2014, amounted to 1 per cent of the Somali population in the country.

¹⁹ As defined at the 2014 Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement, "Core Groups" (made up of resettlement States, NGOs, and UNHCR) coordinate the required diplomatic and political will towards a specific strategic resettlement agenda; they leverage other solutions for refugees where relevant; they advocate for resources toward resettlement and other solutions or protection priorities; and coordinate with other high-level processes with regards to specific refugee situations.

UNHCR Resettlement Submissions by Region of Asylum 2005-2014



UNHCR's resettlement submissions from MENA and Europe²⁰ doubled over the last two years

Due to the resettlement of Syrians, submissions from MENA increased from **10,500** in 2012 to **23,200** in 2014, and submissions from Europe²¹ rose from **8,500** in 2012 to **16,400** in 2014. Submissions from MENA and Europe made up 38 per cent of total submissions in 2014, compared with 25 per cent of total submissions in 2012.

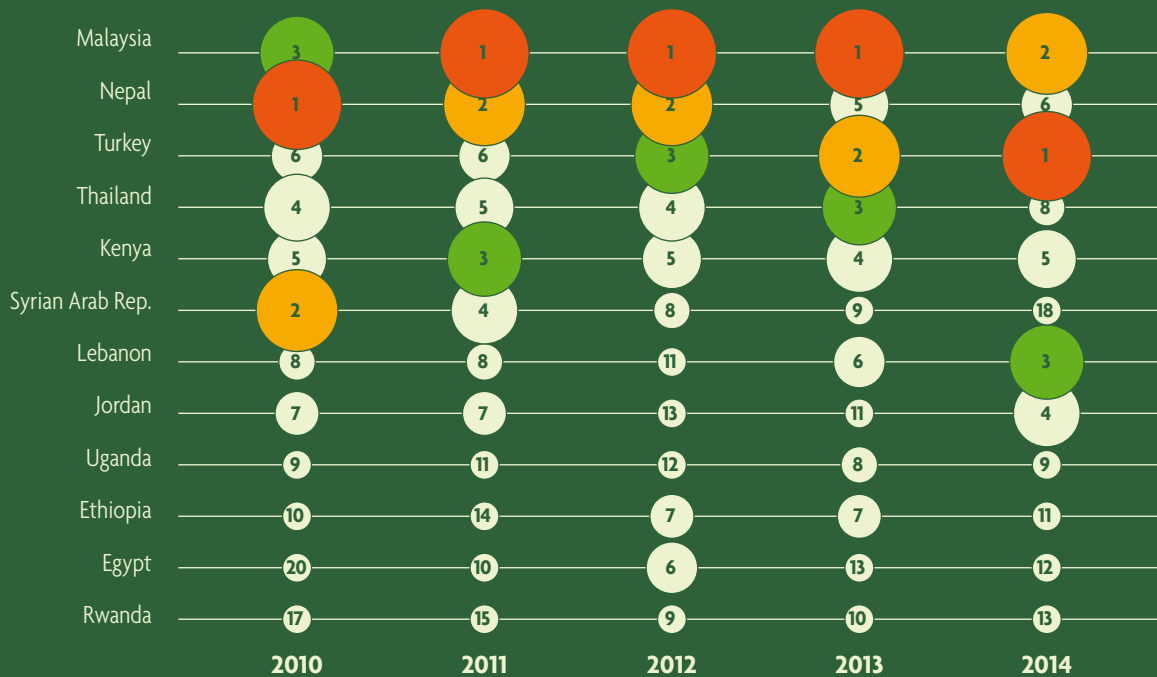
UNHCR Turkey submitted the highest number of refugees globally, with 15,700 submissions in 2014. UNHCR submissions from Lebanon and Jordan also placed them among the top five submission countries globally, with 9,200 and 7,300 persons submitted, respectively, during 2014. Overall, the submission of Syrian refugees dramatically increased from Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan over the last two years. Yet, submissions in 2014 only represented around 1 per cent of the respective total refugee populations in these three countries,²² thus demonstrating once again the massive scale of the Syria crisis.

²⁰ Turkey falls within Europe in accordance with UNHCR's regional boundaries.

²¹ Due to the submission of Syrians out of Turkey.

²² While these countries hosted other refugee populations including Iraqis, the majority were Syrians: 95 per cent of refugees in Jordan, 99 per cent of refugees in Lebanon, 98 per cent of refugees in Turkey.

The Top 12 Countries of Asylum for UNHCR Resettlement submissions 2010-2014 (by ranking)

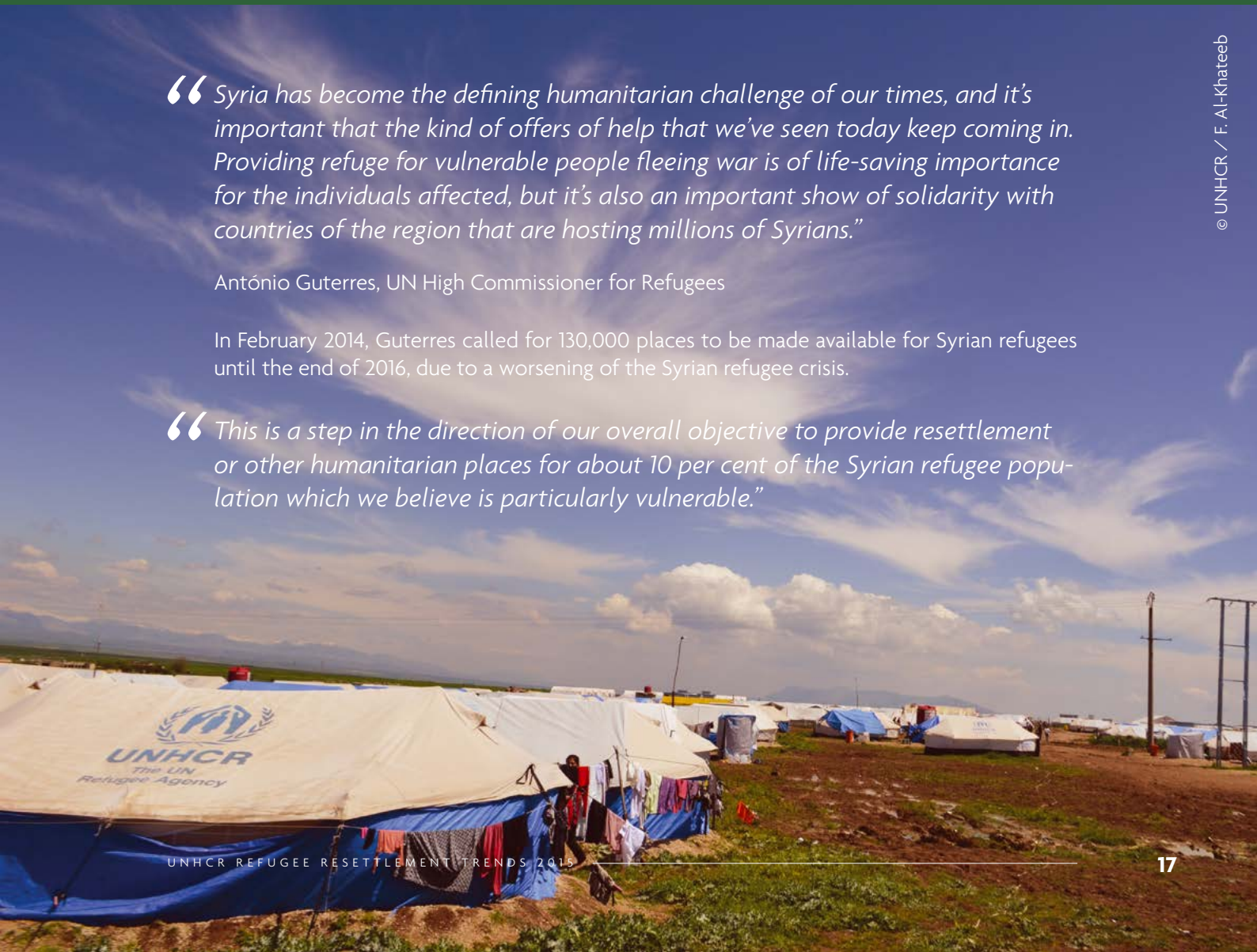


“ Syria has become the defining humanitarian challenge of our times, and it’s important that the kind of offers of help that we’ve seen today keep coming in. Providing refuge for vulnerable people fleeing war is of life-saving importance for the individuals affected, but it’s also an important show of solidarity with countries of the region that are hosting millions of Syrians.”

António Guterres, UN High Commissioner for Refugees

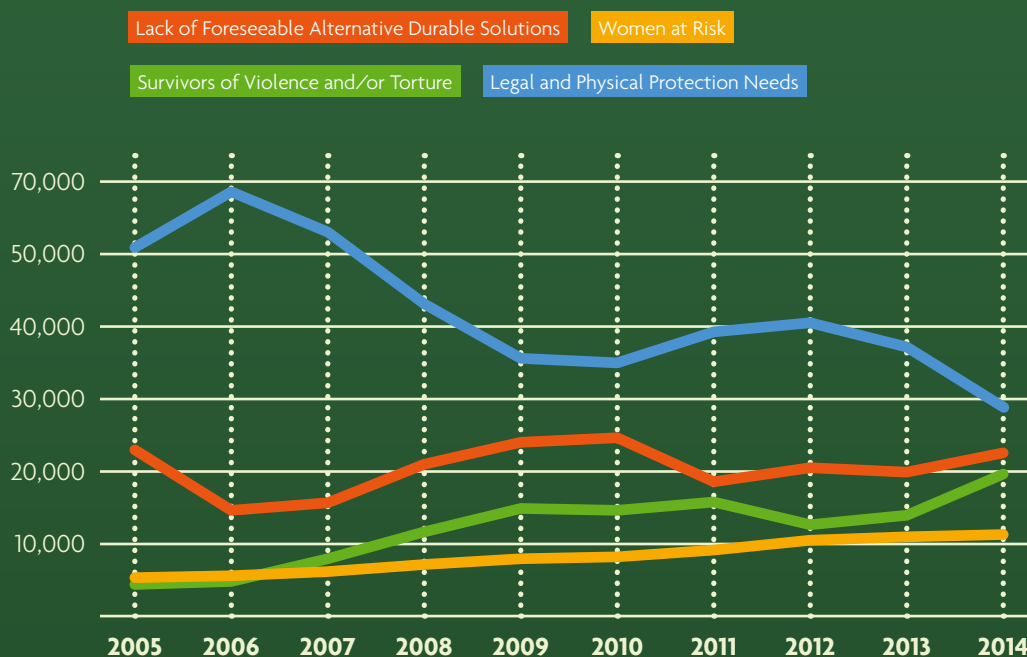
In February 2014, Guterres called for 130,000 places to be made available for Syrian refugees until the end of 2016, due to a worsening of the Syrian refugee crisis.

“ This is a step in the direction of our overall objective to provide resettlement or other humanitarian places for about 10 per cent of the Syrian refugee population which we believe is particularly vulnerable.”



UNHCR Resettlement Categories²³

UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Category 2005-2014



To be submitted for resettlement the individual must be determined to be a refugee by UNHCR, resettlement must have been identified as the most appropriate solution, and the applicant must fall under one or more of the UNHCR resettlement categories. The seven resettlement categories are: Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs; Survivors of Violence and/or Torture; Medical Needs; Women and Girls at Risk; Family Reunification; Children and Adolescents at Risk; and Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions.²⁴

²³ The figures in this section are based on primary resettlement categories, although refugees may be referred on the basis of more than one resettlement category.

²⁴ Further information on the Resettlement Categories can be found in UNHCR's Resettlement Handbook. <http://www.unhcr.org/3d464b239.html>



More varied use of UNHCR resettlement categories

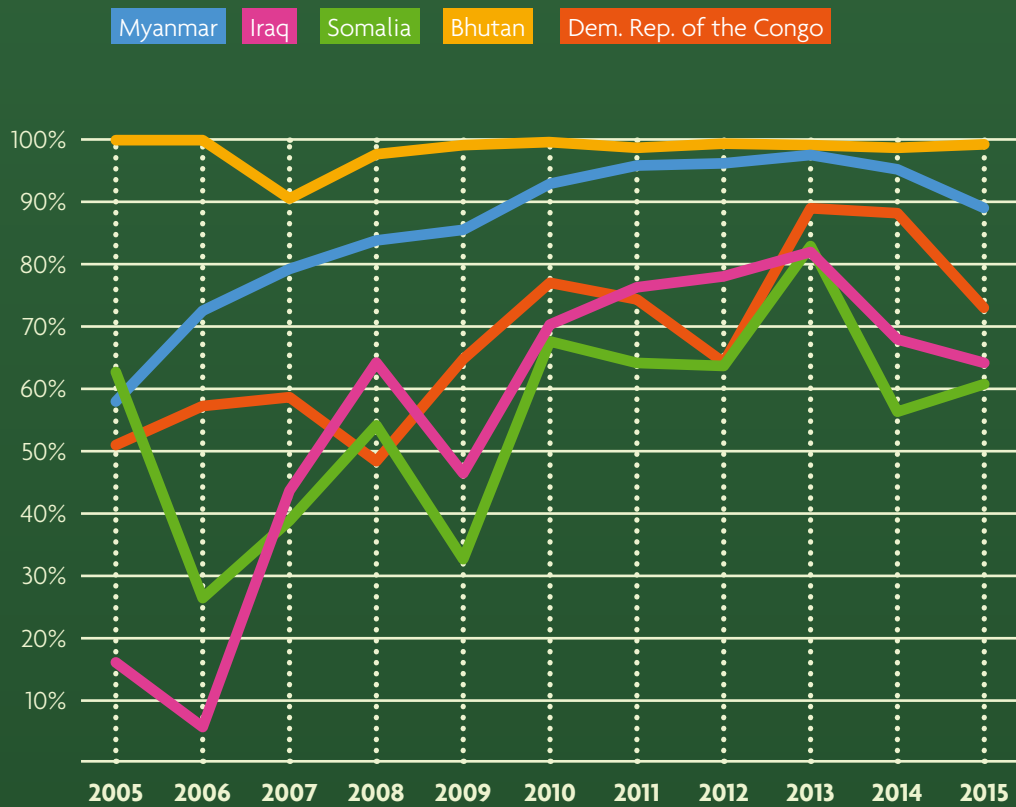
In 2005, the majority (60 per cent) of cases were submitted for resettlement under the category of Legal and Physical Protection Needs (LPPN). However, over the last ten years, there has been a decrease in the use of the LPPN category (down to 34 per cent in 2014), and a rise in the use of other resettlement categories. The use of the category of **Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)** has increased from 5 per cent of submissions in 2005 to 22 per cent in 2014. The growth in the use of this category is due to improved training and capacity building for UNHCR caseworkers. The prioritization of **Women and Girls at Risk (AWR)** has led to an increase in the number of cases referred under this category from 6 per cent of submissions in 2005 to almost 13 per cent in 2014. In addition, the resettlement of large numbers of Congolese (DRC) refugees since 2012 has led to an increase in the use of the SVT and the AWR categories because of the comparatively high numbers of single mothers, including various trauma and Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) survivors. As a result, UNHCR has exceeded the objective of submitting at least 10 per cent of resettlement cases under the category of AWR for the last four consecutive years.²⁵ On average, since 2005, less than 1 per cent of refugees were submitted under the category of Children and Adolescents at Risk (CHL). This category is predominately used for cases of unaccompanied children being resettled without a caregiver, and is generally not used for children who are resettled with family members/caregivers.

²⁵ UNHCR Resettlement Service internal objective set to implement the Executive Committee Conclusion No. 105 (2006).

SECTION 4

Acceptance Rates by Resettlement States

Acceptance Rates for Top Five Countries of Origin
2005-2014



Resettlement is not a right, and there is no obligation on States to accept refugees through resettlement. Once UNHCR submits a case to a resettlement State for consideration, the ultimate decision remains with the State depending on its admission criteria. This section refers to the acceptance rates of resettlement States. Acceptance rates are based on information provided by UNHCR offices, and are calculated using the number of accepted cases as a percentage of the total cases adjudicated.



9% increase in annual global acceptance rates by resettlement States

Annual global acceptance rates have increased from **82 per cent** in 2005 to **91 per cent** in 2014. In 2014, there was a small drop compared with 2013, when the global acceptance rates were at their highest in the last decade (94 per cent). The overall increase in global acceptance rates is a result of the expanded use of group resettlement.²⁶ Acceptance rates were the highest (almost 100 per cent) for refugees from Bhutan, who were processed for resettlement out of Nepal using group processing from 2007. The acceptance rate for Congolese (DRC), Iraqi and Myanmar refugees dropped slightly from 2013 to 2014.

The Myanmar refugee population, for whom group resettlement commenced from Malaysia in 2006, have the second highest acceptance rate (96 per cent over ten years). In addition, acceptance rates for refugees from the DRC have risen since 2012 when a Comprehensive Solutions Strategy²⁷ was concluded for this population, with the aim of resettling at least 50,000 Congolese by 2017 and beyond. Following the deteriorating security environment in Iraq and the decreasing asylum space in countries of asylum, an overall rise in acceptance rates for Iraqis can be seen from 2007-2012. Contributing factors were: the promotion of Iraqi resettlement from 2007; the use of the short form Resettlement Registration Form, and the availability of comprehensive country of origin information. For Somalis, the acceptance rate has varied over the last ten years, with an overall rate of 84 per cent.

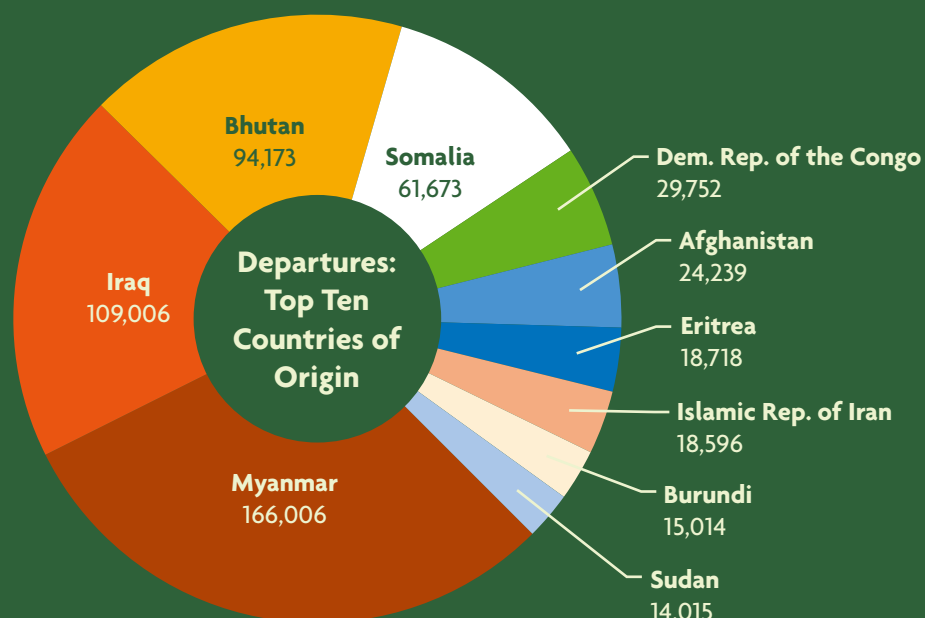
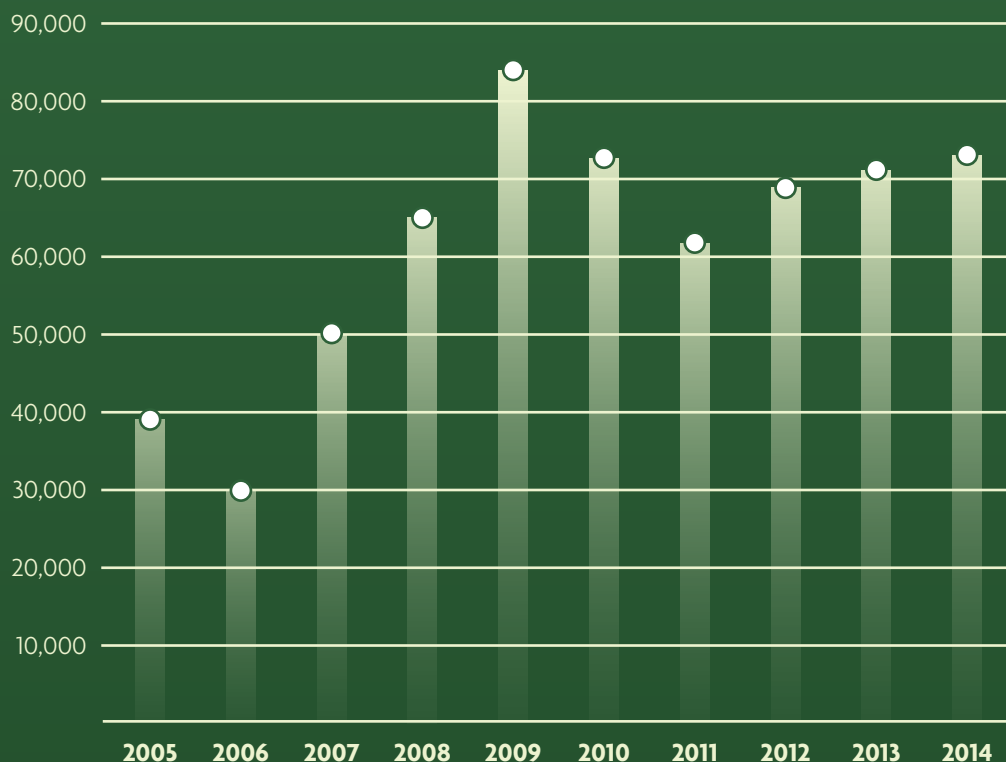
Acceptance rates over the last ten years were high among the following refugee populations: Eritreans (91 per cent); Iranians (90 per cent); Sudanese (87 per cent); and Burundians (85 per cent).

²⁶ Group processing for resettlement involves a simplified large-scale processing of cases by UNHCR and resettlement States without requiring the full completion of individual Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs). Considerable time is saved through the use of standardized abridged RRFs for groups, or direct transmission of data without RRFs in the case of groups designated under Priority 2 processing to the United States of America. For information on "Priority 2," see the USA's Country Chapter linked to UNHCR's Resettlement Handbook. <http://www.unhcr.org/3d464b239.html>

²⁷ The strategy considered various solutions for the refugee population including local integration and naturalization, voluntary repatriation and resettlement.

Resettlement Departures through UNHCR

Global Resettlement Departures through UNHCR 2005-2014





© UNHCR / Pakistan

90% increase in annual number of refugees departing to resettlement States over ten years

The overall rate of refugees departing to resettlement States has grown over the last ten years, with a total of **616,500 refugees** departing. The number of departures in 2014 (73,000) was almost twice the number of departures in 2005 (a 90 per cent increase from 38,500 persons in 2005). However, despite increases in departures, the total annual number of resettlement country places (around 80,000²⁸) were not fully utilized, except for in 2009 when departures were at their highest (over 84,000). Also, departures over the ten-year period only represent 67 per cent of total UNHCR submissions during the same period (920,700).

Between 2005 and 2014, the total number of departures was highest for refugees from: Myanmar (166,000), Iraq (109,000), Bhutan (94,200), Somalia (61,700) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (29,800). UNHCR continues to remain concerned about the high number of Somali and Afghan cases remaining in the processing phase due to delays in security clearances. It is notable that Somali departures were 58 per cent of total Somali submissions over the last ten years, below the average of 67 per cent of submissions for all other nationalities.

The decrease in departures between 2009 and 2011 can partially be explained by additional security clearance requirements by resettlement States which have resulted in delayed departures for Somali and Afghan refugees in particular. It can also be attributed to challenges in obtaining exit permits from host countries, difficulties in identifying adequate reception facilities in resettlement States, and due to challenges encountered by resettlement States in accessing populations in host States experiencing volatile security situations.

Recent increases in departures can be attributed to a number of factors. For example, successful efforts were made by resettlement States to address their backlogs, expedite security clearances, use alternative processing methodologies such as interviewing refugees in inaccessible areas through video conferencing, and provide alternative forms of admission. For instance, around 3,000 Syrians submitted under the German Humanitarian Admission Programme departed in 2014. The use of Emergency Transit Facilities has also facilitated the departure of around 2,400 refugees in need of resettlement on an urgent basis since 2008.

²⁸ 2007 (approx. 70,000 places) 2010 (approx. 80,000 places); 2011 (approx. 81,000 places); 2012 (approx. 86,000 places); 2013 (approx. 85,000 places); 2014 (approx. 80,000 places).

Annex

UNHCR's Projected Resettlement Needs by Region 2012-2016

Region Asylum	Projected Resettlement Needs 2012	Projected Resettlement Needs 2013	Projected Resettlement Needs 2014	Projected Resettlement Needs 2015	Projected Resettlement Needs 2016
Africa	281,701	354,798	340,267	278,535	391,939
Asia and the Pacific	364,469	388,339	265,447	174,575	169,559
Europe	15,507	150,986	21,075	149,699	214,972
MENA	81,588	48,924	33,838	325,645	369,334
The Americas	27,119	32,070	30,288	15,470	7,492
Grand Total	770,384	975,117	690,915	943,924	1,153,296

Comparison between Refugee Population and Resettlement Needs over the last five years

Year of publication of PGRN	Refugee population		Resettlement needs		Needs as a percentage of refugee population
2011	2010	10,549,686	2012	770,384	7 per cent
2012	2011	10,404,806	2013	975,115	9 per cent
2013	2012	10,497,957	2014	690,915	7 per cent
2014	2013	11,699,279	2015	943,924	8 per cent
2015	2014	14,380,094	2016	1,153,296	8 per cent

UNHCR Global Resettlement Submissions 2005-2014

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
46,260	54,182	98,999	121,214	128,558	108,042	91,843	74,835	92,915	103,890



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Main Countries of Origin Submitted for Resettlement by UNHCR 2005-2014

Country of Origin	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Grand Total
Myanmar	15,295	23,203	41,072	30,388	30,542	24,420	21,290	22,074	23,481	15,170	246,935
Iraq	990	885	21,628	33,512	36,067	26,746	19,994	10,760	13,225	11,778	175,585
Bhutan	3	86	7,424	23,516	22,114	20,617	13,092	9,923	7,070	5,566	109,411
Somalia	6,034	4,886	6,141	11,063	19,838	17,371	15,719	7,174	8,964	9,388	106,578
Syrian Arab Rep.	86	87	52	97	121	111	125	86	5,277	21,154	27,196
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,699	3,502	3,599	2,985	5,023	3,479	4,079	6,475	11,857	18,828	61,526
Afghanistan	3,839	3,761	2,872	1,831	2,440	2,284	3,041	4,565	5,175	4,746	34,554
Eritrea	1,336	1,824	962	1,987	1,554	1,943	2,916	1,893	3,737	3,590	27,895
Islamic Rep. of Iran	2,270	2,287	2,054	2,163	1,329	2,786	2,496	2,877	2,826	2,617	23,705
Sudan	4,023	907	724	762	1,351	1,761	2,517	2,632	3,020	2,551	20,248
Burundi	2,060	5,367	5,806	810	485	195	230	161	1,566	1,632	18,312
Ethiopia	1,407	1,026	1,066	860	1,477	1,424	2,607	1,258	1,529	1,330	13,984
Colombia	1,179	1,012	1,020	1,065	1,118	1,142	919	1,780	1,819	1,696	12,750

UNHCR Resettlement Submissions by Region of Asylum 2005-2014

Region of Asylum	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Africa	14,047	18,834	18,980	23,617	28,741	24,062	22,267	15,710	28,141	35,079
Asia and Pacific	20,142	27,472	52,604	57,174	55,461	48,507	38,404	38,020	37,559	27,450
Europe	3,811	3,978	6,912	8,758	8,286	8,218	7,716	8,526	11,096	16,392
MENA	7,031	2,853	19,421	30,503	34,932	26,059	22,493	10,519	14,247	23,169
The Americas	1,229	1,045	1,082	1,162	1,138	1,196	963	2,060	1,872	1,800
Grand Total	46,260	54,182	98,999	121,214	128,558	108,042	91,843	74,835	92,915	103,890

Top 10 Countries of Asylum for UNHCR Resettlement Submissions 2005-2014

Country of Asylum	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Thailand	13,381	19,900	30,352	20,843	19,879	11,602	8,316	7,286	9,429	4,800
Nepal	12	139	7,446	23,521	22,139	20,662	13,248	10,049	7,274	5,726
Malaysia	2,467	3,494	10,392	8,983	10,228	12,648	13,731	15,813	15,142	11,361
Turkey	2,007	2,015	5,345	7,587	6,744	6,882	6,475	7,913	10,256	15,738
Kenya	4,632	4,292	5,251	7,375	10,904	9,878	10,518	3,239	7,413	6,805
Syrian Arab Rep.	640	755	8,026	13,965	18,888	13,886	9,089	2,325	2,643	1,499
Jordan	560	733	8,072	9,628	8,920	6,383	3,552	1,664	2,375	7,284
Lebanon	825	259	1,530	3,937	3,000	3,066	3,308	1,878	6,047	9,188
Ethiopia	1,236	1,798	602	9,548	6,014	1,494	1,543	2,447	4,145	3,715
United Rep. of Tanzania	2,262	5,405	6,000	1,286	2,306	578	369	613	1,699	5,221

Top 12 Countries of Origin for UNHCR Resettlement Submissions 2010-2014 (by ranking)

Country of Origin	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Myanmar	2	1	1	1	3
Iraq	1	2	2	2	4
Bhutan	3	4	3	5	6
Somalia	4	3	4	4	5
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5	5	5	3	2
Afghanistan	7	6	6	7	7
Eritrea	8	7	9	8	8
Syrian Arab Rep.	23	20	22	6	1
Islamic Rep. of Iran	6	10	7	10	9
Sudan	9	9	8	9	10
Ethiopia	10	8	11	13	13
Colombia	11	11	10	11	11

Top 12 Countries of Asylum for UNHCR Resettlement Submissions 2010-2014 (by ranking)

Country of Asylum	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Malaysia	3	1	1	1	2
Nepal	1	2	2	5	6
Turkey	6	6	3	2	1
Thailand	4	5	4	3	8
Kenya	5	3	5	4	5
Syrian Arab Rep.	2	4	8	9	18
Lebanon	8	8	11	6	3
Jordan	7	7	13	11	4
Uganda	9	11	12	8	9
Ethiopia	10	14	7	7	11
Egypt	20	10	6	13	12
Rwanda	17	15	9	10	13

UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Category 2005-2014

Category	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Grand Total*
Legal and Physical Protection Needs	59.70%	68.17%	62.24%	50.37%	41.37%	40.51%	45.79%	47.18%	43.23%	33.56%	47.40%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions	26.28%	16.68%	17.95%	24.25%	27.93%	28.57%	21.32%	23.58%	22.92%	26.22%	23.91%
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture	4.92%	5.10%	8.76%	13.16%	17.09%	16.73%	18.16%	13.95%	16.09%	22.34%	14.69%
Women and Girls at Risk	5.65%	6.03%	6.81%	7.75%	8.73%	9.06%	10.33%	11.66%	12.49%	12.72%	9.43%
Medical	1.73%	2.08%	1.39%	2.05%	2.60%	2.52%	2.10%	2.10%	2.25%	2.50%	2.17%
Family Reunification	0.94%	0.88%	0.86%	0.99%	0.94%	1.24%	1.11%	0.78%	2.23%	1.43%	1.17%
Children and Adolescents at Risk	0.61%	0.96%	1.55%	0.76%	0.40%	0.53%	0.60%	0.59%	0.74%	1.22%	0.79%
Older Refugees**	0.16%	0.11%	0.45%	0.66%	0.92%	0.85%	0.61%	0.17%	0.05%	0.00%	
Grand Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Global Acceptance Rates by Resettlement States 2005-2014

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Grand Total*
Accp Rate	82%	81%	84%	87%	87%	91%	93%	88%	94%	91%	89%

Acceptance Rates by Resettlement States, Top 15 Countries of Origin, 2005-2014 (cases)

Country of Origin	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total*
Myanmar	83%	89%	92%	93%	94%	97%	98%	98%	99%	98%	96%
Iraq	66%	62%	77%	86%	79%	88%	90%	91%	93%	87%	86%
Somalia	85%	70%	76%	82%	73%	87%	86%	85%	93%	83%	84%
Bhutan	100%	100%	96%	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	80%	83%	84%	79%	86%	91%	90%	86%	96%	95%	89%
Eritrea	98%	95%	87%	70%	94%	94%	92%	91%	89%	94%	91%
Islamic Rep. of Iran	88%	88%	84%	91%	94%	88%	92%	90%	93%	92%	90%
Afghanistan	71%	74%	63%	69%	74%	77%	82%	82%	91%	81%	78%
Sudan	84%	82%	82%	81%	81%	86%	84%	89%	96%	88%	87%
Syrian Arab Rep.	50%	58%	65%	85%	63%	95%	78%	93%	99%	92%	92%
Ethiopia	95%	74%	76%	81%	81%	86%	82%	63%	70%	75%	75%
Burundi	81%	82%	87%	65%	89%	94%	88%	97%	82%	98%	85%
Colombia	77%	76%	83%	80%	77%	62%	74%	64%	76%	71%	70%
Palestinian***	79%	32%	88%	73%	87%	82%	75%	78%	70%	72%	78%
Sri Lanka	38%	56%	47%	51%	75%	66%	78%	68%	65%	69%	66%

* This is the total acceptance rate over 10 years, not an average.

** The resettlement criterion "Older Refugees" has not been a submission category since 2011, when specific vulnerabilities and protection needs of older refugees were mainstreamed. Some submissions after 2011 occurred for refugees under this category within the resettlement process.

*** Refers to Palestinian refugees under the UNHCR mandate only.

Global Resettlement Departures through UNHCR 2005-2014

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Grand Total	38,507	29,560	49,868	65,859	84,657	72,914	61,649	69,252	71,252	73,008	616,526

Top 10 Countries of Origin for UNHCR Resettlement Departures 2005-2014

Country of Origin	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Myanmar	2,984	5,770	20,259	23,218	24,784	19,436	17,899	17,359	16,701	17,596	166,006
Iraq	672	503	3,752	17,770	23,098	16,014	8,677	13,556	13,979	10,985	109,006
Bhutan	1	12	2	8,119	17,428	14,809	18,068	16,674	10,665	8,395	94,173
Somalia	5,822	6,050	5,891	3,523	5,354	5,391	4,636	6,610	8,483	9,913	61,673
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,182	1,838	2,426	1,809	2,414	4,510	2,032	2,722	4,603	6,216	29,752
Afghanistan	3,807	2,142	2,265	1,630	1,477	1,378	1,206	2,626	4,377	3,331	24,239
Eritrea	764	1,004	1,346	649	2,420	3,316	2,836	2,120	1,907	2,356	18,718
Islamic Rep. of Iran	1,417	2,018	1,702	1,372	1,710	1,328	1,910	2,059	2,544	2,536	18,596
Burundi	1,232	1,619	6,142	3,126	1,031	725	211	313	290	325	15,014
Sudan	3,168	2,982	1,226	691	700	586	547	1,483	2,036	596	14,015
Others	17,458	5,622	4,857	3,952	4,241	5,421	3,627	3,730	5,667	10,759	65,334
Total	38,507	29,560	49,868	65,859	84,657	72,914	61,649	69,252	71,252	73,008	616,526



Cover photo: “I’m not studying right now, I would love the opportunity to continue my education. But to be honest I am worried I won’t get the chance. This might be it.” Back in Syria, Amy, 18, was in her final year of school and about to embark on a degree in Pharmacy. Our colleague Bathoul met her in a Syrian refugee camp in Erbil, in the Kurdistan region in northern Iraq. Saying goodbye, Amy said: “It was nice to meet you Bathoul. I enjoyed talking to you. You are very lucky to have finished your education and to be doing what you love. I would really love to work, just like you are now.” © UNHCR / B. Ahmed / April 2015



Page 4: Born deaf, little Abdu fled the war in Syria at age three. Now he lives in Germany, where surgery and hearing aids are transforming his world. <http://tracks.unhcr.org/2014/12/the-sound-of-peace>, © UNHCR / G. Walters



Page 9: Syrians fleeing renewed fighting rush across broken down border fences at the Akcakale border crossing in Sanliurfa province in southern Turkey. New fighting in northern Syria has seen 23,135 refugees fleeing across the border into Turkey’s Sanliurfa province, according to information received from the Turkish authorities this morning. Some 70 per cent are women and children. People have been allowed across at the Akcakale crossing and several points between Sanliurfa and Syria’s Raqqa province since June 3, when fighting erupted. Most of the new arrivals are Syrians escaping fighting between rival military forces in and around the key border town of Tel Abyad, which was controlled by militants and faces Akcakale across the border. But they also include so far 2,183 Iraqis from the cities of Mosul, Ramadi and Falujjah. UNHCR field staff say most refugees are exhausted and tired and arrive carrying just a few belongings. Some have walked for days. © Anadolu Agency / Ali Hsan Ozturk



Page 11: Congolese refugees in Uganda: Baraka mixes blackboard learning with interactive sessions to make sure the children don’t get restless. Usually around 30 local kids turn up for classes – for many, it is their only opportunity to learn. Baraka appreciates the importance of education, having worked to pay his own way through Ugandan secondary school. © UNHCR / F. Noy / June 2014



Page 14: Exodus from the Bay of Bengal: Fishing is the main industry in this Teknaf village and almost all of the fishermen are unregistered Rohingya. “The Rohingya are fearless, so they can fish all year, even during the rainy season,” said a local politician, crediting them for supporting the local economy. © S. H. Omi / March 2014



Page 17: Newroz Camp for Iraqi Refugees, where Iraqi Yazidi Refugees live in tents. The camp is supported by UNHCR. It is home to over 3000 Yazidi Iraqis who fled their villages in Sinjar in 2014 after extremist fighters took over their villages. They fled to Syria, Turkey and Kurdistan region in the North of Iraq. The Yazidis are a simple farming community mainly living in the North of Iraq, Northeast Syria and Southern Turkey. Historically they have been persecuted by neighbors of other religions. They survived many genocides over the years, many of them live in diaspora in Germany and Armenia and Sweden, but most are still in Iraq. Due to recent conflict in Iraq and attacks against them, many fled to Turkey and to Kurdistan region in North Iraq. Over 3000 are now living at Newroz Camp for Iraqi Refugees in Malkia in the North East of Syria in Al Hassakeh Governorate. While these made it safely to Syria, many of their family members perished on the way or were kidnapped. Malkia-Syria, April 2015. © UNHCR / F. Al-Khateeb



Page 19: Myanmar Refugees: Baw Meh visits the grave of her deceased husband with her eldest daughter, Su Meh, in Ban Mai Nai Soi refugee camp. He died without fulfilling his dream of returning home. © UNHCR / R. Arnold / June 2014



Page 21: Shira 5, with her mother Delvi 35, celebrating the Yazidi New Year which falls on the second Wednesday of April every year. This celebration was supported by UNHCR. There are over 3000 Iraqi Yazidis living in this camp, who fled their villages in Sinjar in the North of Iraq after extremist fighters invaded their villages. Many of them perished on the way, and many of their family members were kidnapped. The Newroz Camp for Iraqi Refugees is supported by UNHCR and is located in the North Easts of Syria in Malkia, in the Al Hassakeh Governorate. Malkia-Syria, April 2015. © UNHCR / B. Diab



Page 23: Photo session Afghan refugees. © UNHCR / Pakistan



Page 24-25: © Nancy Farese on behalf of RefugePoint

