



## **NEPAL**

## **FACTSHEET**

January 2016

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

101,222

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 32,684 people of concern

Population	Total PoC
Refugees*	32,667
Asylum-seekers	17
Total	32,684

<sup>\*</sup> This includes the refugees from Bhutan, the urban and Tibetan refugees.

## **Funding**

USD 17.7 Million requested

USD 5.8 Million contributions

32% funded

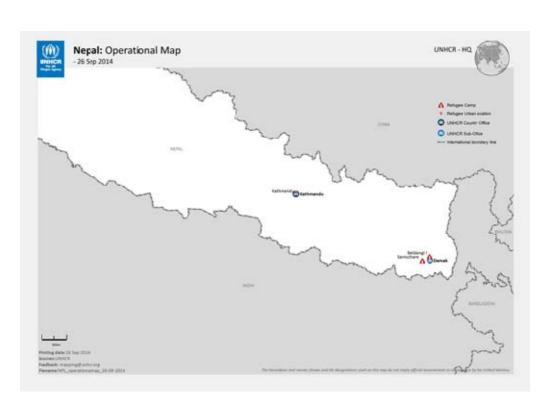
### **UNHCR Presence**

#### Staff:

- 75 national staff
- 13 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.
  - **Partners:** Ministry of Home Affairs; Association of Medical Doctors of Asia; CARITAS Nepal; Lutheran World Federation; Nepal Bar Association; Trans-cultural Psychosocial Organization; Forum for Women, Law and Development; UNV and UNOPS
  - Operational Partners: International Catholic Migration Commission; IOM; and WFP.
- In the aftermath of the Nepal Earthquake UNHCR contributed to the humanitarian efforts to help those affected. UNHCR distributed some 42,000 plastic sheets and 8,000 solar lamps to support the response in the worst hit areas. Earthquake relief efforts, amounting to some USD 3.9 Million were entirely funded through private sector contributions.

## **MAIN ACTIVITIES**

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

#### Protection

- UNHCR facilitates the safe transit of Tibetan new arrivals through Nepal to India and ensures 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 550 urban asylum-seekers and refugees in Nepal from 9 different countries. The majority are from Pakistan, Myanmar, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Somalia. They are considered by the Government of Nepal to be illegal migrants under the existing laws.

#### Health

• For 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, more than 101,200 individuals have resettled to eight different countries Australia (5,620), Canada (6,646), Denmark (874), the Netherlands (327), New Zealand (1,002), Norway (566), the United Kingdom (358), and the United States (85,829). Currently, 17,134 refugees remain in two camps. UNHCR together with the Government of Nepal seek other durable solutions for those who opt to remain in camps.
- Resettlement remains the primary durable solution for 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 | Japan

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