
Tokyo

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**UNHCR Representation
in Japan**

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UNHCR Appreciates Japan's Financial Contribution for Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons (IDP), Returnees and Stateless Persons under its Supplementary Budget

UNHCR wishes to express its gratitude to the Government and People of Japan for the contribution of approximately USD 70.3 million under its latest Supplementary Budget allocation. Refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless persons in 25 countries worldwide will benefit from this important and timely contribution, with USD 22 million allocated to Africa, USD 40.8 million to the Middle East. Furthermore, USD 700 thousand is allocated to Ukraine while USD 2.3 million will help Afghan refugees in Iran as well as Afghan returnees, internally displaced persons and Pakistani refugees in Afghanistan. This year, UNHCR also received USD 4.5 million to support activities in Myanmar's troubled Rakhine State and refugees in Bangladesh. Japan's overall funding will contribute toward UNHCR's 2018 global requirement of USD 7.73 billion.

Dirk Hebecker, UNHCR's Representative in Japan, expressed his appreciation for Japan's generous support from the Supplementary Budget. "The number of displaced people in the world continues to grow. At a time when UNHCR is facing ever increasing challenges in addressing the needs of displaced persons due to multiple emergencies and old protracted situations, Japan's contribution plays a timely and critical role in ensuring the protection and life-saving assistance for people forced to flee from conflict and persecution."

"2018 will be an important year for the international community", he added. "UNHCR is tasked by the UN General Assembly to present the Global Compact on Refugees, which, along with its Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, is expected to transform refugee responses. Japan's role in leading the discussion on global humanitarian issues has never been as important as today." In 2018, UNHCR will continue promoting the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding nexus together with the Government of Japan as well as JICA. Japan's contribution will assist UNHCR in strengthening these efforts in countries such as Jordan, Iraq, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria, Somalia, Ukraine, Uganda, Zambia and Cameroon. These endeavors will also reflect UNHCR's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through comprehensive approaches to displacement situations.

Africa hosts some 19.6 million displaced people, the largest population of concern to UNHCR worldwide. Conflicts in South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic continue to cause displacement. Japan's



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contribution will provide much needed assistance to a number of notoriously underfunded displacement situations in Africa. Host communities will also be supported along with the promotion of durable solutions.

In the Middle East, the conflict in Syria – now in its eighth year – has displaced more than 6 million people within its borders. Syrians are now the biggest refugee population under UNHCR's mandate with 5.5 million in neighboring countries and Europe. In Yemen, 2 million people are internally displaced. Japan's contribution will enable UNHCR to respond to the massive immediate and longer-term needs to reduce human suffering.

The Afghan situation remains one of the largest protracted refugee situations in the world with more than 2.5 million Afghan refugees mostly in Pakistan and Iran. Japan's contribution will support Afghan refugees in Pakistan and cover also the protection and basic needs of Afghan returnees, IDPs and Pakistani Refugees in Afghanistan.

UNHCR also received important support from Japan for its operations in Myanmar and Bangladesh in 2018. Since August 2017, 671,000 people from Rakhine State of Myanmar have sought refuge to Bangladesh.

UNHCR's global activities depend almost entirely on voluntary contributions. In 2017, Japan had contributed USD 152,359,773 and was the fourth largest donor to UNHCR.

Africa [USD22 million] Burundi, Cameroon, Rwanda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Niger, Angola, Zambia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco
Middle East [USD 40.8 million] Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Yemen
Europe [USD 700 thousand] Ukraine
Asia [USD 6.8 million] Afghanistan, Iran, Myanmar, Bangladesh

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