

# UNHCR Indonesia

Fact Sheet | March 2014

## Operational Objectives

- Preserve and improve the protection environment for refugees and asylum-seekers
- Undertake registration and refugee status determination for asylum seekers in Indonesia
- Promote resettlement and voluntary returns in the context of the sub-regional harmonization process
- Consolidate and increase UNHCR presence outside Jakarta
- Monitor detention conditions and practice
- Build national capacity to take on broader asylum responsibilities
- Support UNHCR's activities in the Bali Process
- Advocate for accession by Indonesia to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, and the two international Statelessness Conventions

## Persons of Concern (as of 31 January 2014)

Population	Total Number	Registered by UNHCR
Refugees	3,268	3,268
Asylum-seekers	7,198	7,198

All refugees and asylum seekers in Indonesia are in an urban context.

## Legal and Institutional Framework

Convention	Dates of Accession
1951 Refugee Convention	-
1967 Protocol	-
1954 Statelessness	-
1961 Statelessness	-
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (1990)	31 May 2012
ICCPR	23 May 2006
ICESCR	23 May 2006
CAT	27 November 1998
CRC	5 October 1990
CEDAW	13 October 1984
Who does refugee status determination?	UNHCR

## Working with Partners

UNHCR works with the Government and implementing and operational partners to provide protection and support to UNHCR's persons of concern pending the identification of durable solutions. This includes addressing their basic needs during their stay in Indonesia: food, housing, education, medical care, and psychosocial assistance.

## Government Counterparts

Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal & Security Affairs; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Law and Human Rights.

## Implementing Partner

Church World Service (CWS)

## Operational Partners

International Organization for Migration (IOM); Jesuit Refugee Service Indonesia (JRS-I)

## Durable Solutions

### Resettlement (September 2013 to 31 January 2014)

Country	Submissions	Acceptances	Departures
Australia	375	354	318
USA	45	6	6
New Zealand	150	0	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>332</b>

## Operational Activities and Highlights

- As of end of January 2014 the total number of persons of concern registered with UNHCR Indonesia stood at **10,466** individuals, including **7,198** asylum seekers and **3,268** refugees. This represents a 21.9% increase compared to the same period in 2013.
- The largest number of **asylum seekers** registered by UNHCR were Afghans (40%), followed by Iranians (15%) and ethnic Rohingya from Myanmar (9%). Of the total number of asylum seekers 78% were male, while the rest 22% were female.
- UNHCR's persons of concern have no legal rights in Indonesia but their stay is permitted on a temporary basis pending processing of their asylum claims, and resettlement for those found to be refugees. The number of **new arrivals** has increased significantly in recent years: **385** in 2008, **3,230** in 2009, **3,905** in 2010, **4,052** in 2011, **7,218** in 2012 and **8,332** in 2013. This trend is expected to continue for the foreseeable future considering the push factors prevailing in countries of origin.
- The number of persons of concern in **detention** centres at the end of January 2014 reached 1,878 persons, including 1,269 asylum seekers and 609 refugees, of whom 300 were female and 109 were children. A total of 1,033 persons in 2013 and some 100 persons thus far in 2014 have been released from detention through the intervention of UNHCR. UNHCR continues to advocate for the release of persons of concern from these centers, particularly in the case of recognized refugees, women, minors and other vulnerable persons with specific needs.
- In January the no-show rate for first instance **refugee status determination** interviews remained low. The rate was 9% in December 2013 and slightly increased to 12% in January.
- UNHCR Indonesia continues to work closely with its partners, the International Organization for Migration and the Church World Service, to address the **basic needs** of persons of concern during their stay in Indonesia, which includes the provision of food, housing, education, medical care, and psychosocial assistance.
- Since 2002 UNHCR Indonesia has actively participated in the **Bali Process** on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime. The Office's ongoing support to the Bali Process has resulted in a number of tangible results, such as the establishment of the Regional Support Office in Bangkok co-chaired by Indonesia and Australia (2012) and the successful conclusion of the 5th Bali Process Ministerial Conference (April 2013). In addition to the Bali Process, in consultation with UNHCR and IOM, Indonesia organized a **Roundtable on Irregular Migration by Sea** (March 2013) and a ministerial-level **Special Conference on Irregular Movement of Persons** (August 2013), which resulted in the *Jakarta Declaration* that outlined a range of solutions and specific actions to address the growing problem of irregular movements of persons within the Asia-Pacific Region.
- Moving ahead, as a follow up to last year's *Jakarta Declaration* UNHCR has once again been requested by the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to co-chair an upcoming intergovernmental meeting planned for April. The meeting will involve 14 countries of origin, transit, and destination and will focus exclusively on the protection elements of the *Jakarta Declaration* to try to reach multilateral agreement on practical ways to ensure protection at sea in the region. This latest initiative is yet another demonstration of Indonesia's commitment to taking a leadership role in addressing irregular migration in the region, and of their increasing reliance on UNHCR as a partner in this process.
- UNHCR continues to promote the ratification of refugee instruments through capacity building efforts and advocacy with the Government, including through a series of workshops, meetings, briefings, and roundtables as well as other promotional activities. Indonesia has yet to adopt formal asylum legislation or procedures, and in the absence of a national asylum system the authorities allow UNHCR to carry out mandate refugee status determination.

## UNHCR Presence



**Offices:** 1 Country office in **Jakarta**, with out-posted staff (based in IOM offices) in Kupang, Makassar, Medan, Pontianak, Surabaya and Tanjung Pinang.

**Staff:** Regular national staff (34), regular international staff (7), and 22 affiliated staff under IUNV, UNOPS, ICMC and IRC deployment arrangements.

## 2014 Budget

Population Group	Budget in USD
PILLAR 1 Refugee Programme	7,950,312
PILLAR 2 Stateless Programme	155,005
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>8,105,317</b>

Contact Information:

**UNHCR Indonesia**  
Menara Ravindo 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Jalan Kebon Sirih Kav. 75  
Jakarta 10340  
Tel: +62-21-2964-3602  
Fax: +62-21-2964-3601  
[insja@unhcr.org](mailto:insja@unhcr.org)  
<http://www.unhcr.or.id>