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UNHCR
Projected Global
Resettlement Needs
2012

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UNHCR
The UN
Refugee Agency

Resettlement Service
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Cover: Somali refugee woman in
Dadaab camp, Kenya / UNHCR /
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Introduction

**One refugee without a durable solution is too many –
In 2012, 92,000 refugees in need of resettlement will be left
without any durable solution in sight unless resettlement
places increase.**

Resettlement continued to bring new life and new hope to tens of thousands of refugees this past year, though not in sufficient numbers. One refugee without hope of a durable solution is one too many. While UNHCR has continued to work with States to expand the resettlement base as well as increase resettlement places, and new States have joined the pool of resettlement countries, global resettlement needs continue to far outstrip the capacity of States to offer resettlement places. Global resettlement needs are estimated at 781,299 persons, and for the year 2012, 172,196 persons, while the total number of resettlement places stands at some 80,000.

The past few years have witnessed increased momentum in collaborative efforts to re-position resettlement as an important protection tool, as a durable solution and as a means of international responsibility sharing. Resettlement has played a crucial role in field protection strategies, and, in a number of operations, has been used strategically to bring about wider protection and solutions benefits. Nonetheless, global resettlement efforts over the past year have continued to be confronted with serious challenges. Apart from the wide gap between global resettlement needs and the availability of resettlement places, political barriers have been encountered in a number of situations, which have stood in the way of bringing rapid resettlement solutions; in other situations, insecurity has posed obstacles to accessing refugees for the purpose of resettlement processing.

For some populations, additional security clearance processes have lengthened processing times and added to refugees' sense of insecurity due to protracted waiting periods. Collectively, within the resettlement community, there remains a need to be continuously alert to risks which could undermine the integrity of the global resettlement programme.

This introduction starts with an overview of UNHCR resettlement activities in 2010, highlighting progress and challenges, statistics and trends in resettlement submissions and departures, and achievements aimed at broadening the base of resettlement. Next, after introducing the projected global resettlement needs and capacity for 2012, several aspects of UNHCR's ongoing resettlement activities are discussed, such as: priority situations for the strategic use of resettlement; the Global Resettlement Solidarity Initiative for refugees ex-Libya; expanding the use of Emergency Transit Facilities; and the proposed European Union (EU) Resettlement Programme. The introduction then turns to UNHCR's efforts to enhance the integrity and quality of resettlement processing, ranging from efforts to mitigate risks in resettlement, to resettlement training, the revision of the Resettlement Handbook, the development of resettlement tools, and guidance for the strengthening of partnerships. Finally, the strategic directions of the Resettlement Service in 2011-2012 are discussed.

Progress and challenges 2010-2011

UNHCR resettlement submissions and departures

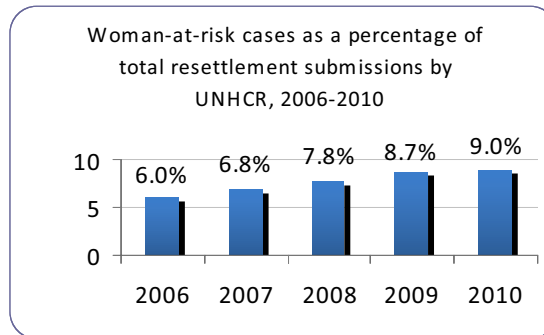
In 2010, UNHCR submitted a total of 108,042 refugees¹ for resettlement. The main beneficiaries were refugees from Iraq (26,746), Myanmar (24,420) and Bhutan (20,617). These three nationalities made up 66 per cent of all UNHCR resettlement submissions. The largest number of refugees were submitted from Nepal (20,662), followed by the Syrian Arab Republic (13,886) and Malaysia (12,648).

Resettlement submissions on the basis of legal and physical protection needs represented 40 per cent of overall submissions, followed by refugees lacking local integration prospects (30 per cent) and survivors of violence and torture (17 per cent). The frequent submission of refugees lacking local integration prospects reflects intensified efforts to find durable solutions for refugees in protracted refugee situations, in particular through active use of the group resettlement methodology.

Women-at-risk represented nine per cent (3,113 cases) of overall resettlement submissions (34,374 cases) in 2010. This is the highest percentage achieved in the last five years and is a tangible demonstration of the effective implementation of UNHCR Executive Committee Conclusion No. 105, just short of the ten per cent target. The Syrian Arab Republic, Malaysia and

¹ This figure includes 5,817 individual resubmissions.

Turkey topped the list of highest submissions by country of asylum under this criterion.



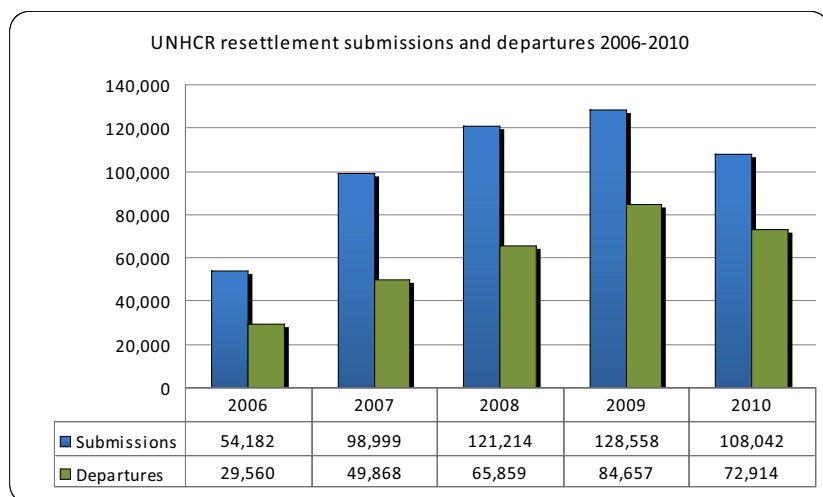
The global average acceptance rate of UNHCR submissions by resettlement countries remained high, reaching 92 per cent in 2010. Average acceptance rates of refugees from Bhutan (99.8 per cent), Myanmar (97.6 per cent), Eritrea (91.4 per cent) and Democratic Republic of the Congo (90.1 per cent) were particularly high. The lower acceptance rate of emergency priority cases (76.8 per cent) and urgent priority cases (83.7 per cent) as opposed to normal priority cases (93.2 per cent), however, brought down the average acceptance rate. Initial rejections of emergency and urgent priority cases also contributed to the prolonged processing of these cases. Emergency and urgent resettlement continued to represent a life-saving intervention for over 8,000 persons; in 2010, urgent and emergency cases amounted to 7.7 per cent of all submissions and 10.5 per cent of all departures.

In 2010, 72,914 refugees departed with UNHCR assistance to 28 countries of resettlement (including countries participating in the resettlement programme on an *ad hoc* basis). The United States of America continued to receive the vast majority of resettled refugees (54,077), followed by Canada (6,706) and Australia (5,636). Romania, Japan and Paraguay accepted refugees through a resettlement programme for the first time. Nepal was the country from which most of the resettled refugees departed (14,819), followed by Thailand (11,417) and Malaysia (7,955).

Two landmark figures were achieved in 2010: the 100,000th Iraqi refugee since 2007 was submitted for resettlement; and the 40,000th Bhutanese refugee since the inception of the programme departed for resettlement from Nepal.

Despite these successes, the threefold increase in resettlement submissions witnessed since 2005 proved not to be sustainable, resulting in a 16 per cent decrease from 2009 (128,558 refugees). This shift in trend was expected, not least because the pace of resettlement submissions carrying over from 2008 and 2009 outweighed resettlement countries' capacity to process cases. UNHCR is currently limiting the number of submissions to 110,000 per year in order to ensure a healthy resettlement pipeline. Additional resettlement places would be met by commensurate efforts to enhance capacity and increase the number of submissions.

However, UNHCR is concerned that the number of departures has also decreased by 14 per cent, below the 80,000 threshold – at present the approximate maximum capacity of resettlement countries. This drop could partially be explained by additional security clearance requirements by resettlement countries, challenges in obtaining exit permits from countries of refuge, as well as difficulties in identifying adequate reception facilities in resettlement countries. UNHCR will continue to closely monitor the departure trends to ensure that available resettlement places are fully utilized.



Broadening the base of resettlement

Twenty-five resettlement countries² now regularly offer resettlement places allocated for UNHCR submissions, with Bulgaria, Hungary and Spain representing the most recent countries that have announced establishment of an annual resettlement programme. Japan started to implement its pilot resettlement programme in 2010, and, alongside Romania and Paraguay, accepted resettled refugees for the first time in 2010. The pool of resettlement countries offering regular resettlement places has been significantly broadened in the last five years, considering that in 2005 only 14 countries offered yearly resettlement places.

In 2010, UNHCR submitted 28,000 individuals for resettlement in excess of the number of places offered by resettlement countries. Although the number of regular / annual resettlement places offered to UNHCR increased by 2.9 per cent as compared to 2009, the total number of resettlement places available decreased slightly as *ad-hoc* resettlement places offered in 2009 in response to resettlement of Iraqi refugees were not extended into 2010.

² Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria (implementation as of 2012 onwards), Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary (implementation as of 2012 onwards), Iceland, Ireland, Japan (pilot programme), Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Uruguay, United Kingdom, United States of America

Projected Global Resettlement Needs and capacity 2012

UNHCR estimates the global resettlement needs at 781,299 persons, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. This represents a slight decrease on estimates reported in 2010 (805,535 persons). In 2012 alone, UNHCR estimates the resettlement needs to be 172,196 persons, which represents a slight decrease from projections for 2011 (172,307 persons). While a decrease in resettlement needs were reported in Africa and Europe, resettlement needs in Asia, Central and Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa are expected to increase as compared to the 2011 projection.

For 2010-2011 the resettlement places provided by all resettlement countries stood at approximately 80,000 places. Unless resettlement countries increase the number of places available, there will continue to be a considerable gap in 2012 between the needs and the available places, leaving approximately 92,000 vulnerable refugees in need of resettlement without any solution.

The table below illustrates the gap between resettlement needs and UNHCR's capacity to address them. For the 2012 projections, as in last year, UNHCR applied a standardized methodology to estimate the capacity of country offices to process cases for resettlement according to identified resettlement needs. A clear distinction of "UNHCR core staff capacity" and "UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate staff)" based on staffing level in 2011 was made in order to provide more realistic capacity indications.

Column A shows the total number of persons deemed by UNHCR to be in need of resettlement, including populations where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. Multi-year planning for resettlement is thus an important additional feature of UNHCR's global projections to be considered in the context of resource allocations and increasingly part of UNHCR's strategy to address the needs. Drawing from this number (781,299 persons / 251,107 cases), column B indicates the number of persons who are deemed to be in need of resettlement in 2012 (172,196 persons / 60,389 cases). Resettlement interventions by UNHCR will be prioritized according to protection needs as well as indications from resettlement States on specific solution strategies.

Based on UNHCR's core staff capacity, column C indicates the number of persons the Office is equipped to process for resettlement in 2012. Column D shows UNHCR total processing capacity, including UNHCR's core staff capacity and affiliate staff capacity. The difference between columns B and D is indicative of UNHCR's total capacity shortfall for 2012 (see column E).³

³ Further specific information on country operations and consolidated statistics on resettlement needs is provided in the country reports and the Annex.

It is estimated that UNHCR's total resettlement capacity (including UNHCR core staff and affiliate workforce) will result in unmet needs for over 63,000 refugees. Without affiliate workforce, UNHCR will likely address less than half of the projected resettlement needs in 2012.

Total Global projected resettlement needs and UNHCR capacity for 2012 breakdown by region of countries of asylum

Region of asylum	(A) Total resettlement needs		(B) Resettlement needs in 2012		(C) UNHCR core staff capacity		(D) UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		(E) UNHCR resettlement capacity shortfall	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Africa	73,918	292,601	13,993	49,421	4,333	16,609	9,582	34,732	4,411	14,689
Americas	7,598	27,134	1,940	6,806	338	1,120	609	2,062	1,331	4,744
Asia and the Pacific	135,937	364,469	22,153	59,971	8,976	24,428	12,693	37,452	9,460	22,519
Europe	9,110	15,507	8,764	14,786	2,053	3,506	4,153	7,151	4,611	7,635
MENA	24,544	81,588	13,539	41,212	5,310	15,594	9,351	27,432	4,188	13,780
Total	251,107	781,299	60,389	172,196	21,010	61,257	36,388	108,829	24,001	63,367

The significant gap between the number of refugees in need of resettlement and the number of available resettlement places remains one of the key challenges. Without a commensurate increase in places offered by States, UNHCR will be required to calibrate its activities to address only the most pressing resettlement needs of the most vulnerable refugees. Irrespective of whether an increase in places can be expected, another challenge is to avoid where possible the development of long waiting periods for refugees to have their cases considered by States. This will require joint efforts by UNHCR and the resettlement partners to manage the expectations of refugees in need of resettlement and to ensure the programmes of resettlement States are responsive to those most in need of this solution.

Priority situations for the strategic use of resettlement

Resettlement can bring about positive results beyond those that are usually viewed as a direct resettlement outcome. When used strategically, resettlement proves to be vital in resolving protracted refugee situations, creates protection space for remaining refugee populations and new arrivals, and generally provides possibilities for solutions that might otherwise have remained closed.

While the strategic use of resettlement can be promoted by a single resettlement country, coordination with other resettlement countries is likely to maximize its impact. Such coordination may involve negotiation of mutually agreeable arrangements between the international community and the country of asylum; common advocacy for protection dividends arising from resettlement engagement; and multi-year commitments by the international community to sustain burden-sharing arrangements. Other coordination efforts may involve assistance to advance local integration or the livelihood of refugees in countries of asylum. Hence, there is great value in ensuring that resettlement works

in concert with other protection interventions and thus has a direct and positive impact on the quality of asylum and prospects for other solutions.

In recognition of its potential mentioned above, UNHCR, the Swedish Chair (2009-2010) and the US Chair (2010-2011) of the Working Group on Resettlement (WGR) actively promoted the strategic use of resettlement through joint resettlement action to be taken in a number of identified priority refugee situations, often of a protracted nature. Currently, seven priority situations have been identified for the strategic use of resettlement, located in the regions of Africa (Kenya), Asia and the Pacific (Islamic Republic of Iran, Uzbekistan and Pacific Island States), Europe (Turkey), and Middle East and North Africa (Libya, Syria/Jordan/Lebanon). During the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) and Working Group on Resettlement (WGR) meetings throughout 2010-2011, strategic protection dividends of resettlement as well as concrete steps and work methods focusing on these situations were further developed. Concerted efforts by a number of Resettlement States to address particular situations led to resolution of two situations (Uzbekistan and Pacific Island States) and tangible progress in others. UNHCR has identified two emerging priority situations in Asia (Pakistan) and Latin America (Ecuador) for the strategic use of resettlement, which will be discussed with resettlement countries at the 2011 Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement.

Global Resettlement Solidarity Initiative

Among the initial seven priority situations, the situation in Libya has dramatically shifted following a massive outflow of people to neighbouring countries, especially Tunisia to the west and Egypt to the east as a result of conflict and violence triggered by the anti-government protests in February 2011.

On 2 March, UNHCR convened a meeting of resettlement States and other interested countries to explore resettlement as a durable solution for those refugees who fled Libya and are now stranded at the borders with Tunisia and Egypt with no other solution available. This meeting was followed by further updates on 18 March and, on 20 April 2011, the launch of the **Global Resettlement Solidarity Initiative**. This Initiative called upon States to provide resettlement places as a protection and life-saving initiative, as a tangible demonstration of international solidarity and responsibility-sharing, and to ease the burden on Tunisia and Egypt, who disproportionately bear the brunt of this influx. Egypt, in addition, has hosted tens of thousands of refugees from sub-Saharan countries for decades.

Resettlement States have responded positively to this initiative, and 12 countries have demonstrated their solidarity by generously pledging over 900 places dedicated to resettlement for non-Libyan refugees in response to this crisis—not including an open number of cases which the United States of America has offered to consider. Almost a third of these places are in addition to annual resettlement programmes or represent an *ad hoc* contribution, and UNHCR commends these efforts and urges others to follow suit.

However, these offers, generous though they are, fall far short of needs. As of the end of mid-June, UNHCR has submitted more than 1,000 refugees for resettlement, while 80 of those had departed to the Emergency Transit Centre in Romania for processing by resettlement countries and onward movement to their new destinations. Although these individuals will now be able to rebuild a life in safety and dignity, resettlement benefits only a small proportion of the population of individuals who have nowhere to go. Without much-needed additional pledges for resettlement, the majority will remain stranded in camps along the border, in harsh conditions and, for the majority, with no solution in sight.

Expanding the Use of Emergency Transit Facilities

The Emergency Transit Facility concept was inspired by a number of *ad hoc* experiences where UNHCR was required to provide urgent or emergency protection to refugees in need of resettlement at short notice.⁴ Emergency Transit Facilities (ETFs), first established in 2008 in Timisoara, Romania, for persons with acute protection needs pending their onward resettlement elsewhere, have expanded to three fully operational facilities in 2010: the Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Timisoara, Romania; the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) in Manila, the Philippines; and the Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Humenné, Slovakia. Following the tripartite agreement signed in July 2009 between the Government of Slovakia, IOM and UNHCR to evacuate a specific group of some 100 Palestinians from Al Waleed, another tripartite agreement was signed on 22 December 2010 to establish a facility on a more permanent basis and to enable evacuation without limitation as to nationality. In total, the three ETFs offer over 300 places.

Evacuation to an ETF offers benefits and advantages to all involved. In addition to enabling refugees a chance to live in a safe and secure environment in a location where services and assistance are available while awaiting resettlement, ETFs also offer resettlement countries a stable location in which resettlement procedures such as interviews, cultural orientation courses and language classes may be carried out in optimal conditions. In addition, it allows UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and Implementing Partners (IPs) an opportunity to provide needed services and assistance to refugees coming from the most precarious situations.

Since the operationalization of the ETFs, some 1,000 refugees have been assisted to move to one of the ETFs for resettlement processing, of whom some 800 departed to nine resettlement States. UNHCR

⁴ For example, in 2009 and 2010, approximately 1,500 Tutsi refugees who were at risk in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) were evacuated to Benin and Cameroon where they remained temporarily while interviews were conducted by resettlement countries. Similarly, in 1999-2002, an evacuation to Romania was arranged when over 4,500 refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia were relocated to Romania for resettlement processing. This situation was replicated in 2005 and 2006 when the Romanian authorities collaborated with UNHCR to evacuate 450 Uzbek refugees from Kyrgyzstan to Romania. The refugees were all ultimately resettled to other countries.

continues to encourage resettlement countries without emergency resettlement programmes to consider UNHCR submissions utilizing ETFs. The ETFs have been primarily used for emergency and urgent cases, but also for refugees in need of resettlement who are living in places not accessible to resettlement countries for security or other reasons.

The Netherlands pioneered the use of videoconferencing for resettlement interviews (and translation) at the ETC in Timisoara, Romania. This innovative approach has the potential to be a versatile tool, such as for conducting cultural orientation sessions. UNHCR encourages other resettlement countries to consider this option where appropriate in order to attain a timely durable solution.

EU Resettlement Programme

UNHCR welcomes a number of resettlement initiatives in Europe. In addition to the aforementioned establishment of new programmes, it is worth mentioning the expansion of the existing *ad hoc* arrangements in a number of countries and the proposal by the European Commission for an EU Resettlement Programme. UNHCR prepared a background paper on the EU Resettlement Programme affirming support for a scheme that aims to support an increase in resettlement to the EU, ensure a high standard of integration support for resettled refugees and facilitate the administration of resettlement by UNHCR and the relevant state authorities. As the key stakeholder having a full overview on the global resettlement operations and needs, UNHCR stressed the importance of acknowledging and formalizing this unique role in the scheme.

In order to strengthen resettlement in the EU, UNHCR has joined forces with IOM and the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) on an EU-funded project on "Practical cooperation in EU resettlement". This project promotes a more coordinated practical approach to resettlement by the ten EU Member States involved, as well as NGOs and other stakeholders. The project seeks to develop cooperation in all phases of resettlement, from joint pre-departure training and joint health assessments at the ETC to the exchange of good practices in the reception and integration of resettled refugees. For this purpose, the project has facilitated a variety of capacity-building activities, including training for local resettlement service providers from all participating EU Member States involved in reception and integration, as well as a study visit to the UNHCR Regional Resettlement Hub in Beirut focused on resettlement through dossier submissions. Another innovative activity was the Netherlands' aforementioned pilot to conduct resettlement interviews by videoconferencing at the ETC. The project also facilitated multi-stakeholder meetings in all participating countries, in which all organizations which are involved in resettlement meet to plan and implement resettlement together. Through study visits to the United Kingdom and Sweden, participating States and other partners shared good practices in the reception and integration of resettled refugees. ICMC produced a Handbook, *Paving the Way*, to guide actors in the reception and integration of resettled refugees.

In 2011, the European Commission confirmed funding for a new project entitled “Linking in EU Resettlement”, which will further develop and expand upon the achievements of the Practical Cooperation project. To achieve this, the project continues to promote the linking of different phases of resettlement, by connecting those persons involved in resettlement selection with those working in the reception and early integration of refugees. The main objective of the follow-up project is to strengthen the capacity of cities/municipalities and civil society actors to welcome resettled refugees and facilitate their integration, especially in new and potential resettlement countries. The project will, among others activities, entail training sessions for local practitioners which have also been part of the project on Practical Cooperation, and will seek to promote the involvement of the host communities in resettlement, through sponsoring and volunteering, in order to create more grassroots support for resettlement in the EU. The project also hopes to involve housing agencies, universities, and the business community in pilot activities. A website will be developed to complement the information in the *UNHCR Resettlement Handbook*. In February 2012 an EU Resettlement Skills Share Day is foreseen, which will bring together practitioners from across Europe to share good practices and lessons learned.

Enhancing integrity and quality of resettlement processing

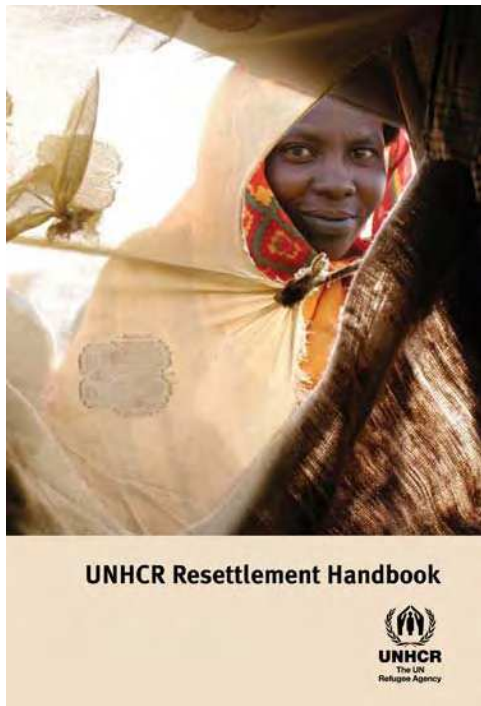
Mitigating risks in resettlement

As resettlement activities expand globally, UNHCR is conscious of the need to ensure the integrity of its operations. Anti-fraud courses are an integral component of training in resettlement for UNHCR staff and partners. The Fourth Meeting of the Expert Group on Resettlement Fraud, held in September 2010, focused on the use of biometrics to enhance the integrity and security of resettlement systems. UNHCR introduced its policy on biometrics in refugee registration and verification processes in December 2010 to incrementally implement the use of biometrics in support of identity verification exercises among refugee populations, except where no protection or operational dividend is expected to be gained from doing so. The Resettlement Service continued to provide assistance to the Inspector General’s Office in terms of standard inspections as well as investigations.

Resettlement Training

UNHCR provided regular training and policy guidance to its resettlement staff, including those of its partners to further enhance training. The Resettlement Learning Programme (RLP) has successfully been implemented since 2009, targeting UNHCR operations in the East and Horn and Great Lakes regions of Africa (first roll-out in 2009), as well as Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Eastern Europe and Central / South-West Asia (second roll-out in 2010). The self-study modules of

the Resettlement Learning Programme are being converted to e-learning platform to make the RLP available to broader audiences, including external partners. The third roll-out is expected to take place targeting UNHCR operations in West, Central and Southern Africa region in 2011-2012.



Resettlement Handbook Revision

In 2010, with support from the Canadian Consultant Management Initiative (CCMI), UNHCR initiated a comprehensive revision of the *Resettlement Handbook*. As the cornerstone of UNHCR's resettlement management and policy guidance, the Resettlement Handbook serves as a key reference tool for resettlement States and NGOs on global issues related to resettlement policy and practice. Since the publication of the last edition of the *Handbook* in November 2004, a number of significant developments in resettlement policy and practice, including new methodologies and tools, have been introduced to strengthen organizational efficiency and resettlement performance, management and accountability. These are now reflected in the revised *Handbook*.

Through issuing the revised and updated *Handbook*, UNHCR expects several results that will be beneficial to all actors involved in resettlement, from resettlement States to refugees themselves. These results include strengthened resettlement management and integrity, and enhanced global coherence, quality and efficiency of resettlement delivery. The official launch of the revised Handbook is expected at the ATCR in July 2011.

Resettlement Tools

In conjunction with the revision of the Handbook during 2010-2011, the Resettlement Service developed a number of Resettlement Assessment Tools / Guidance Notes to address gaps in global resettlement policy guidance. These tools are:

- Resettlement Assessment Tool: Polygamous Families;
- Resettlement Assessment Tool: Child Marriages;
- Resettlement Assessment Tool: Alleged Perpetrators of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV);
- Operational Guidance Note on Resettlement Case Composition;
- Operational Guidance Note on Preparing Abridged Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs) for Expedited Resettlement Processing; and
- Revised Guidelines on the Resubmission of Resettlement Cases.

These Resettlement Assessment Tools and Guidance Notes are intended to assist UNHCR staff in determining whether to pursue resettlement for refugees in specific situations (e.g. polygamous families, married children, alleged perpetrators of SGBV) as well as to enhance harmonization of standards and practices in identification and submission.

UNHCR also developed a new resettlement data management tool, Consolidated Online Resettlement Tracking System (CORTS), which allows automated data exportation from *proGres* databases in field offices to Regional Resettlement Hub / Regional Offices.

These tools and guidance notes are expected to strengthen UNHCR's processing efficiency and effectiveness, in addition to the second edition of the Heightened Risk Identification Tool (HRIT) issued in 2010, in a continuous effort to enhance identification of refugees in need of resettlement.

Strengthening UNHCR's partnership and cooperation with all stakeholders, in particular with resettlement countries and NGOs

In 2010, UNHCR noted a positive impact on the quality of resettlement services as a result of its efforts to enhance partnership and collaboration with key partners. The successful resettlement of refugees relies on cooperation and evolving partnerships between UNHCR, States, NGOs, civil society and community-based organizations. UNHCR continued to rely on its partners to support resettlement submissions, and admissions, as well as reception and integration of resettled refugees.

The UNHCR-ICMC Resettlement Deployment Scheme was instrumental in this regard. The Deployment Scheme, one of UNHCR's oldest and largest affiliated workforce partnerships, continues to play a vital role in boosting UNHCR's capacity to refer refugees for resettlement. Since the inception of the Scheme ten years ago, ICMC has provided more than 800 deployments to UNHCR. Particularly in 2010, the Deployment Scheme significantly enhanced UNHCR's resettlement operations in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Latin America, including through specialized services in the areas of refugee status determination/exclusion and Best Interests Assessments and Determinations for refugee children.

UNHCR continued to explore the greater involvement of key stakeholders in resettlement, while developing partnerships to improve protection delivery more broadly. In this respect, a UNHCR-NGO Toolkit for Practical Cooperation on Resettlement has been developed to assist UNHCR and NGOs in strengthening partnerships and cooperation on resettlement, in the areas of operational activities, community outreach, information sharing / advocacy as well as reception and integration.



Strategic directions 2011-2012

The Resettlement Service continues to provide policy and procedural guidance, monitor field operations and analyze trends to inform strategic directions. In 2011-2012, the strategic directions of the Resettlement Service will be to:

- increase accessibility of resettlement by obtaining ten per cent additional resettlement places, through increase in existing regular quota places, provision of resettlement places on an *ad hoc* basis from countries that do not have regular resettlement programmes and broadening the base of resettlement by encouraging interested countries to establish new resettlement programmes;
- enhance expeditious resettlement processing, in particular for emergency and urgent resettlement cases through effective coordination with resettlement partners to streamline procedures including security and medical clearances;
- reinforce the strategic use of resettlement, by maintaining resettlement countries' diversified interests to identified priority situations in particular to unlock protracted refugee situations;
- support emerging resettlement countries to enhance integration of resettled refugees, through twinning arrangements, sharing of good practices and effectively measuring resettlement outcomes;
- reduce discriminatory selection criteria by certain resettlement countries (e.g. family size, education, integration prospects, religion etc.) and ensure primary consideration for resettlement selection is based on refugees' protection needs;
- maintain active use of the Emergency Transit Facilities, putting in place monitoring system to reduce average processing times to maximize available places and utilizing video conferencing technologies where appropriate;
- strengthen UNHCR capacity for effective and predictable quality resettlement processing, by ensuring stable and solid UNHCR core staff capacity as well as effective management of affiliate workforce;
- provide policy guidance, training and capacity building, through effective dissemination of the principles and policies set out in the revised Resettlement Handbook and new Resettlement Assessment Tools / Operational Guidance Notes, Resettlement Learning Programme, training to affiliate workforce as well as focused workshop on identification and anti-fraud;
- enhance monitoring of field office's compliance to the baseline resettlement Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and anti-fraud measures to minimize risks of fraud and abuse;
- support development of emerging policy issues (e.g. resettlement of stateless persons) to expand opportunities for durable solutions without undermining existing resettlement programmes.

Resettlement Service, June 2011

Fleeing LRA attacks in the Democratic Republic of the Congo / UNHCR / S. Schulman



Africa

Central Africa and the Great Lakes

Burundi
Cameroon
Central African Republic
Congo
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Gabon
Rwanda
United Republic of Tanzania

East and Horn of Africa

Chad
Djibouti
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Kenya
Somalia
South Sudan
Sudan
Uganda

West Africa

Benin
Côte d'Ivoire
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Liberia
Mali
Nigeria
Senegal, Burkina Faso, Niger
Sierra Leone
Togo

Southern Africa

Angola
Botswana
Malawi
Mozambique
Namibia
South Africa, Indian Ocean Islands,
Lesotho and Swaziland
Zambia
Zimbabwe



Somali Bantu refugees resettled
in Utica, New York, USA /
UNHCR / V. Winter

Overview

Resettlement submissions from the Africa region continued to increase in 2010. During the year, 24,059 refugees were submitted for resettlement consideration to 11 different resettlement countries. The refugees submitted for resettlement from the Africa region originated from 27 different countries of origin, with the main five countries of origin being Somalia (62 per cent), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (14 per cent), Eritrea (7 per cent), Ethiopia (5 per cent) and Sudan (5 per cent). Of the 11 different resettlement countries that received submissions from UNHCR Offices in Africa in 2010, nine countries undertook interview missions to the Africa region, while two countries considered cases on a dossier basis.

UNHCR will continue in 2011 and 2012 to concentrate its efforts on resolving protracted refugee situations in Africa, by promoting comprehensive durable solutions strategies embedded in sound overall protection strategies that offer refugees the durable solutions which are most appropriate to their situation (voluntary repatriation, local integration/ self-reliance or resettlement). The focus will continue to be on the major protracted refugee populations in Kenya, Sudan and Eritrea, but also increasingly on refugees residing in urban areas in line with the priorities outlined by the High Commissioner. Continued priority will be given to Somali and Eritrean refugees identified as having resettlement needs. Smaller and mixed populations of refugees, both in urban areas and in camps or settlements, also deserve renewed attention, especially in Western and Southern Africa.

Projected resettlement needs in Africa in 2012

Subregion	Total resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2012		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR resettlement capacity shortfall	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
East & Horn of Africa	64,438	258,603	10,233	36,713	3,360	13,129	7,160	26,307	3,073	10,406
Central Africa & Great Lakes	4,591	16,180	1,599	5,700	326	1,373	912	3,779	687	1,921
Southern Africa	3,066	9,912	1,805	5,762	442	1,502	1,298	4,009	507	1,753
West Africa	1,823	7,906	356	1,246	205	605	212	637	144	609
Total	73,918	292,601	13,993	49,421	4,333	16,609	9,582	34,732	4,411	14,689

In **Central Africa and the Great Lakes Region**, opportunities for return continue to improve for Burundian refugees, and partially also for refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Facilitation of return to more stable parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo will be maintained for the majority of the refugees in the region in 2011 and 2012, but resettlement will be sought for some categories of vulnerable refugees with specific protection and medical needs. UNHCR will also be working towards a regional durable solutions strategy for Congolese refugees, including a more harmonized approach to resettlement, both within and outside the immediate region.

In the **East and Horn of Africa**, the situation in the main refugee producing countries (Somalia, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan) remains complex and volatile. Somalia continues to be affected by large-scale conflict and serious human rights violations and experiences substantial forced displacement, with more than 2.1 million of its citizens uprooted. Although violence in the Darfur region of Sudan has been decreasing, opportunities for voluntary repatriation remain very limited. The impact which the division of Sudan into North and South Sudan in July 2011 will have on durable solutions for refugees remains to be seen. In many parts of this region, voluntary repatriation and effective local integration, as durable solution alternatives, remain largely impossible in the foreseeable future (especially for Somali refugees from south-central Somalia and for Eritrean refugees). Ongoing significant resettlement efforts for these refugee populations are therefore planned to continue in 2012, particularly from Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Sudan.

In **West Africa**, comprehensive durable solutions strategies continue to be pursued throughout the region to capitalize on options for resolving protracted refugee and displacement situations. Regional frameworks, such as the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), have proven to be an important mechanism for achieving solutions through local integration. Resettlement will continue to be a solution, in particular for refugees originating from outside the region and for extremely vulnerable refugees. Resettlement activities in West Africa will thus remain modest in 2011 and

2012. Continued support is needed from the resettlement countries, in particular through increased openings for dossier submissions, in order to address these small, mixed and mainly urban populations.

The situation in **Southern Africa** has remained stable and opportunities for local integration and voluntary repatriation continue to be pursued. Resettlement is being used as a protection tool to address the needs of vulnerable refugees affected by continued xenophobia-related violence in South Africa and as a solution for refugees in protracted situations whose ability to attain an acceptable degree of self-sufficiency is undermined by strictly enforced encampment policies of many countries in the Southern African subregion. Resettlement from all countries in the subregion is carefully balanced with other ongoing durable solutions efforts.

As underlined in previous updates from Africa, the main gaps in this region continue to be the lack of available places for medical cases and the lack of places for dossier submissions. Moreover, some resettlement countries have stopped considering certain refugee profiles, allegedly due to security concerns and integration challenges. It also remains challenging for UNHCR to find resettlement countries which are willing to receive refugee resettlement submissions from countries with small, diverse refugee populations and for refugee populations located in very volatile areas. These refugees are particularly disadvantaged in obtaining equal access to resettlement opportunities.

In 2012, it is expected that a total of **49,421** refugees will be in need of resettlement in Africa, with more than 70 per cent originating from and/or hosted in the East and Horn of Africa. With current UNHCR core staff capacity¹ the needs of only some 16,609 (or 34 per cent) refugees will be processed, provided that resettlement countries are willing to respond to the needs identified by UNHCR. The UNHCR Regional Resettlement Hub in Nairobi and the UNHCR Regional Offices in Dakar, Kinshasa, and Pretoria will continue in 2012 to support countries in their respective region during the whole resettlement process, including during the identification phase of suitable refugee cases for resettlement. In the 2012 overall planning process (Comprehensive Needs Assessment), UNHCR included staffing and other resource requirements to bridge the gap between the identified resettlement needs and the limited resettlement capacity. However, at this point in time it is not clear if sufficient resources will be raised and allocated in order to fully respond to the identified resettlement needs.

¹ Based on existing core staff capacity, not counting deployees, consultants or other temporary staff [due to e.g. additional funding/secondments]

Americas



UNHCR / A. Escalante

Colombian refugee in Ecuador. Fernando is part of a young generation of refugees who have had to leave their homeland with their families due to repeated violence that has seen most families lose at least one family member. / UNHCR / J. Björgvinsson / June 2010

The Americas
Caribbean region
Costa Rica
Cuba
Ecuador
Panama
Venezuela

Overview

The Solidarity Resettlement Programme is one of the most innovative components of the Mexico Plan of Action (MPA) which was adopted by 20 countries in November 2004. However, resettlement is not a new concept in Latin America. In 1999, Chile and Brazil signed resettlement agreements with UNHCR and have been resettling small contingents of refugees since 2002. Based on the proposal made by the Government of Brazil during the adoption of the Declaration and the MPA, this durable solution received new impetus, and the number of refugees resettled in the mentioned countries grew significantly since then.

Furthermore, other countries of the region joined the Programme: Argentina signed a resettlement agreement with UNHCR and received a first group of refugees at the end of 2005, and Uruguay and Paraguay also formalized their participation in the Programme. Uruguay undertook its first selection mission in early 2009 and received its first arrivals in 2010, while Paraguay undertook its first selection mission in 2010 and received its first arrivals in 2011. Resettlement of Colombian refugees in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay has continued during 2010 and into 2011. In addition to the Colombian refugees resettled to the Solidarity resettlement countries in South America, in 2007 and the first quarter of 2008, Palestinian refugees were resettled from border camps in Jordan and Syria to Brazil and Chile. Argentina has recently expressed its wish to broaden its resettlement activities out of the boundaries of Latin America.

The main principles of the Programme are responsibility sharing, international solidarity and the promotion of the strategic use of resettlement in

Projected resettlement needs in the Americas in 2012

	Total resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2012		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR resettlement capacity shortfall	
	case	persons	case	persons	case	persons	case	persons	case	persons
The Americas	7,598	27,134	1,940	6,806	338	1,120	609	2,062	1,331	4,744
Total	7,598	27,134	1,940	6,806	338	1,120	609	2,062	1,331	4,744

the region; the latter through *inter alia* maintaining an open space for asylum and promoting local integration opportunities in the three countries which currently host the greatest number of asylum-seekers and refugees, namely Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Venezuela. The Solidarity Resettlement Programme is the concrete expression of the will of Latin American countries to provide support to the countries hosting large number of refugees in the region.

In Ecuador, the Enhanced Registration exercise launched in April 2009 by the Ecuadorian Government, in cooperation with UNHCR, came to an end by the end of March 2010. This exercise allowed for the recognition of refugee status and documentation of more than 25,000 Colombians in need of international protection and facilitated the identification of refugees with specific needs, including potential resettlement needs.

The overall UNHCR objective for resettlement in Latin America in 2011 is to consolidate and strengthen the resettlement programmes of the emerging resettlement countries in the region. At the same time, the need to establish pre-departure support for refugees with specific needs pending resettlement and to strengthen integration mechanisms will be addressed through a number of specific activities, subject to the availability of funds. Despite the existing regional capacity, UNHCR will continue to require resettlement places from other resettlement countries in 2010-2011 to be able to address all the identified needs. In addition, the ability of UNHCR operations in Costa Rica, Ecuador and Venezuela to submit a percentage of their cases on a dossier basis throughout the calendar year

is vital in order to allow Offices greater flexibility in their operations and to meet ongoing needs.

In addition, the majority of Caribbean states, while having acceded to the 1951 Convention and/or 1967 Protocol, given their limited resources and absorption capacity, can not provide local integration opportunities to all refugees and welcome resettlement efforts as a demonstration of responsibility-sharing. Within this context, UNHCR uses resettlement strategically in order to meet the most urgent needs without undermining the political resolve to create favourable asylum and local integration policies.

Given the current nature of the displacement characterized by refugees fleeing war, civil strife and persecution, there will continue to be a need to resettle refugees from Latin America. A significant increase in resettlement activities is expected in Ecuador where additional resources will be required in order to strengthen UNHCR processing capacity and meet the projected needs. UNHCR is committed to work together with these and other interested governments in the region in establishing and implementing resettlement programmes. To this end, UNHCR welcomes continued financial and technical support from traditional resettlement countries to consolidate the existing programmes and to continue to build the capacity of the new resettlement countries in Latin America, e.g. through twinning arrangements.



Baltimore's resettlement centre brings together five organizations providing newly arrived refugees with comprehensive integration assistance. UNHCR / T. Irwin / October 2010

BALTIMORE, United States, October 22 (UNHCR) – Two years after he first arrived here, Ahmed al Badri, a former refugee from Iraq, returned to the Baltimore Resettlement Centre.

The facility provides assistance to hundreds of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants each year, but Badri's purpose was simply to catch up with some of the staff who helped him get started in a city known to many television viewers as the setting of the gritty police drama, "The Wire."

Badri arrived in Baltimore with his wife and young son in October 2008 after being referred for resettlement by UNHCR in Amman, Jordan. Like all resettled refugees starting out in this city, his first bewildering day in the United States began at the resettlement centre.

Now working as a repairman for a major retailer, and looking after his parents who joined the family last year, he's also training to become a truck driver. "Life in the United States is good, but hard," he said. "You have to work hard to get by. I couldn't have done it on my own."

For resettled refugees in Baltimore, many needs, one destination

In most US cities, accessing the assistance available to ease the integration of newly arrived refugees requires visiting different agencies in different locations. Baltimore's "one-stop shopping" approach, which brings together five government and non-profit organizations under the same roof, provides refugees with help in finding a job, learning English, receiving vaccinations as well as psycho-social support – all for a single bus fare.

"The resettlement centre makes accessing services easier for new arrivals, but it also allows us to provide those services in a more comprehensive and effective manner," said Robert Dira, executive director with the International Rescue Committee, one of two non-profit agencies working at the centre. "Working side-by-side with other organizations, we can talk to each other and follow up on beneficiaries' progress and more easily address any gaps."

Three years ago, Chandra Bajgai was receiving advice on everything from finding a job to using Baltimore's transit system. Today, the former refugee from Bhutan is working for the newly-formed Association of Bhutaneese in America (ABA). From his cubicle at the resettlement centre, Bajgai helps Bhutaneese refugees – one of the largest refugee groups arriving in the United States – to surmount the many challenges that come with starting new lives in a new country. The most pressing for most is to learn English.

Bajgai's first job was as a cashier in a parking garage and, though he considered himself able to get by in English, he was stunned to find on his first day at work that he couldn't understand a word his colleagues were saying. "They spoke so fast, it could have been a different language," he recalled. "Now there are more of us here to help new families. It's easier than it was at the beginning."

With the unemployment rate in the United States above 9 per cent, the entry level jobs that were a refugee's traditional path into the workforce are harder to find. Mamadou

Sy, who works for Lutheran Social Services, runs the centre's employment outreach programme.

In the past, he says, local employers would hire groups of resettled refugees. Today, it's more likely to be one or two. "When a refugee is interviewed for a job, it's more common now that he'll be competing with a US-born applicant who's fluent in English. It wasn't like that in the past," said Sy.

The employment unit continues to place refugees in jobs at a higher than anticipated rate, an accomplishment Sy puts down to a recognition on the part of employers of the new arrivals' determination to succeed in the US. But he concedes that wages are low, often little above the state minimum wage.

Though they are quicker to adapt to American life than their parents, refugee children face their own challenges. Bullying at school is common as is being pulled out of class to assist a parent who can't speak English. Parents may also not be able to help with home work or engage in their child's school life. A grant from the Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement allows the centre to run a youth outreach programme that works with 150 resettled children every year. "We need to keep educating the community about the refugees who are coming here," said Robert Dira. "We support the refugees when they arrive, but we also have to inform the people they are going to be living and working alongside who these new residents are, where they've come from and how they got here."

In addition to the International Rescue Committee and Lutheran Social Services, the resettlement centre brings together Baltimore City Community College, Baltimore Medical Systems and the Maryland Department of Social Services.

By Tim Irwin in Baltimore, United States

Education eases the integration of refugees in north-east Brazil

NATAL, Brazil, July 15 (UNHCR) – Juan Carlos has settled down very well at the school he joined just over a year ago in the city of Natal on north-east Brazil's Atlantic coast. He loves studying, particularly English, social sciences and history, and has made many friends.

The 12-year-old is one of five Colombians studying at the Newton Braga School under a UNHCR-supported programme aimed at easing the integration of refugees. Juan Carlos and his parents fled from the Colombian city of Cali four years ago and found refuge in Ecuador before moving to Natal in 2008.

"I know everybody and am very happy," he said, while adding: "The hardest part was learning how to write well in Portuguese." Brazilians speak Portuguese but the Colombians speak Spanish.

However, Juan Carlos is now fluent in Portuguese, which is helping him to integrate

and boosting his chances of a bright future. Carlos Alves, deputy head of Newton Braga School, said the refugee students integrated well and performed to the same standards as their Brazilian schoolmates.



Juan Carlos in the classroom at his school in Natal, Brazil. UNHCR / J. Galvão photo July 2010

In a town near Natal, another resettled Colombian refugee, 31-year-old Marta Gesênia, has just enrolled her infant daughter, Oriana, in a pre-school with the support of the Solidarity Resettlement Programme, which has been implemented by the Brazilian government since 2004 in partnership with UNHCR, civil society and the private sector.

Andrés Ramirez, UNHCR's representative in Brazil, explained the refugee agency's support for the scheme. "Every refugee, be they a child, a young person or an adult, has the right to education," he said, adding that education "allows them to get back to a normal routine and to build a better future."

In Rio Grande do Norte state, of which Natal is the capital, UNHCR has been promoting access to education in cooperation with the Centro de Direitos Humanos e Memória Popular (Human Rights and Popular Memory Centre) and schools such as Newton Braga.

The access to education programme can also help in the integration of refugee parents as it frees up their time and allows them to look for work. "The advantage of leaving my daughter in a reliable pre-school is to have time to devote myself to studying, taking care of the house and taking part in the professional training courses provided by the resettlement programme," Gesênia noted.

"Children integrate more easily, and so do families, as parents take part in meetings and events organized in the school," said Claudia Gibson, principal of the public educational institution, Centro Municipal de Educação Infantil Soraia.

UNHCR support 62 refugees in Rio Grande do Norte, mostly Colombians. Brazil provides shelter to around 4,300 refugees from 76 countries.

By Janáina Galvão in Natal, Brazil

Baltimore hotel welcomes refugees - as employees

BALTIMORE, United States, February 18 (UNHCR) – Less than two years after it began, a programme to provide jobs and career opportunities to refugees resettled to Baltimore, has earned the US city's Hilton Hotel an employer of the year award and a citation by the state's governor.

The hotel currently employs 65 full-time former refugees, mostly in service and housekeeping positions. The opportunities available allow those wanting to build a career in the hospitality field, and with the company, a chance to showcase their skills.

Trudy Bauer, the hotel's director of human resources, said the openness to hiring individuals who had only recently arrived in the United States, with limited skills or ability to speak English, stemmed from the hotel's commitment to cultural diversity. "We were immediately impressed by their attitude. They wanted to work. Some employers are hesitant about hiring people who are still learning to live in the US, but our experiences have been very positive," said Bauer.

The hotel's employer of the year award was presented by the Baltimore office of Lutheran Immigration and

Refugee services, where Mamadou Sy works to assist newly arrived refugees to settle in the city, including providing help with finding a job. He met with Hilton staff and the Mayor's Office of Employment Development while the hotel was being built in 2008, and continues to have regular conversations about coming job opportunities.

"The Hilton Baltimore is one of the largest employers of refugees in the city, with some of the highest wages for entry level work," he said. "Our staff work with them at every stage of the process. We'll attend job interviews with the refugees,

and the hotel knows that it can call us at any time if they run into difficulties.” Granted asylum in the United States after enduring threats and violence by Maoist rebels in her native Nepal, Binki Shresta is now a supervisor of housekeeping staff at the hotel, many of whom are former refugees.

She was helped to find her job by the International Rescue Committee, another resettlement agency working with the Hilton. A confident English speaker, she says she originally struggled with the language of her American co-workers and other cultural differences. She’s now hopeful that her job will develop into a career with the hotel.

Rifaat Jasim was working at the American Embassy in Baghdad as a computer technician when he and his family began receiving death threats. He was brought to Baltimore in 2009 as part of a US resettlement programme and has been working at the hotel for the past three months as a houseman in banqueting services. He concedes that the transition has not been easy.

“Life in the United States is good, but difficult,” he said. He is taking English lessons with the hope of one day completing an accounting course and remains optimistic about the future. “It will be good for the children.”

By Tim Irwin in Baltimore, United States

Rifaat Jasmin has been working at the Hilton Baltimore for three months. Formerly an employee at the American embassy in Iraq, he was brought to the US after receiving death threats. UNHCR / T. Irwin / February 2011



Rohingya refugee woman from Myanmar in
Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh. UNHCR / G.M.B. Akash

Asia and the Pacific

Refugee from Myanmar
resettled to the USA. / UNHCR
/ V. Winter

South Asia
Bangladesh
India
Nepal
Sri Lanka

East Asia and the Pacific
Cambodia
China (including Hong Kong SAR)
Indonesia
Malaysia
Mongolia
Papua New Guinea
Pacific Island region
Thailand

Overview

The Asia and the Pacific region in UNHCR's context encompasses countries from the Islamic Republic of Iran to Australia and the Pacific Islands.

UNHCR's priority remains the active promotion of lasting solutions for refugees and persons of concern in this region, which continues to host a number of protracted refugee situations. As voluntary repatriation and local integration remain elusive for many refugees, resettlement remains a significant durable solution and strategic protection tool in Asia, and its use has resulted in protection dividends in many situations. With group resettlement taking place from Malaysia, Nepal, and Thailand, and individual submissions also being made in sixteen other countries, 2010 has continued to reflect the high levels of resettlement experienced over the last five years. It is noteworthy that three of the seven priority situations identified at the December 2009 Working Group on resettlement for the strategic use of resettlement are located in Asia – Afghan refugees in Iran, Afghan refugees in Uzbekistan and refugees in need of resettlement in the Pacific Islands. In 2011, UNHCR will continue to explore the resolution of protracted refugee situations, while pursuing possible self-reliance activities for refugees pending the identification of durable solutions. Meeting the resettlement needs of refugee women and children and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are primary goals of all country programmes.

The subregion of **South Asia** includes Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka. None of these countries are a party to the 1951 Convention or to its 1967 Protocol and there are also no national refugee legislation and/or administrative provisions related to the protec-

Central Asia
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan

South-west Asia
Afghanistan
Islamic Republic of Iran
Pakistan

Projected resettlement needs in Asia / Pacific in 2012

Subregion	Total resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2012		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR resettlement capacity shortfall	
	case	persons	case	persons	case	persons	case	persons	case	persons
Central Asia	283	809	226	682	73	231	114	357	112	325
East Asia & the Pacific	67,519	114,469	16,173	32,220	5,690	8,959	9,148	20,759	7,025	11,461
South Asia	5,080	25,498	3,780	19,159	2,506	12,643	2,530	12,771	1,250	6,388
Southwest Asia	63,055	223,693	1,974	7,910	707	2,595	901	3,565	1,073	4,345
Total	135,937	364,469	22,153	59,971	8,976	24,428	12,693	37,452	9,460	22,519

tion of refugees. Despite the positive example set by India's generous ongoing naturalization of Afghan refugees of Sikh or Hindu ethnic background since 2007, for those countries hosting refugees, local integration continues to remain a very limited option at this time. In Bangladesh, UNHCR strives to continue using resettlement strategically to address refugee issues in the camps. In Nepal, UNHCR continues to support the process of group resettlement for refugees from Bhutan located in the camps around Damak in the southeast of the country. This operation, guided by a Core Group of States and UNHCR and involving ongoing discussions with Nepal and Bhutan will, UNHCR hopes, ultimately lead to a complete resolution of the protracted situation.

The **East - South East Asia and the Pacific** subregion comprises Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China (including Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR), Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Pacific Island States, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam. While some countries have acceded to the 1951 Convention, the absence of national legal frameworks and procedures as well as limited local integration opportunities, make UNHCR's work to find a durable solution outside the region particularly relevant. As voluntary repatriation prospects are very limited, in 2012 UNHCR will continue to promote resettlement as a durable solution for most of the refugee camp population in Nepal and Thailand. Within the context of strategic use of resettlement, special attention will also be given to the protracted refugee situations in Malaysia.

In **South-West Asia**, comprising Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, UNHCR hopes that resettlement countries will provide additional resettlement places in 2012 to address the protracted situation of Afghan refugees in Iran and Pakistan, the two countries hosting the largest number of refugees world-wide. In Iran, UNHCR plans to significantly increase the number of refugees submitted for resettlement but this will require a coordinated effort and response on the part of States. Considerable progress in resettlement of these refugee group populations would contribute to new opportunities for increased asylum space.

The Central Asian region comprises Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. In Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, resettlement in 2011/2012 will continue to be the primary mechanism to meet the often urgent protection needs of refugees from neighbour-

ing countries. With an uncertain legal status and proximity to their country of origin, prompt resettlement is often required. Similarly, cooperation with resettlement partners will continue to be needed during the remainder of 2011 with regard to the remaining Afghans in Uzbekistan, designated a priority situation for the strategic use of resettlement in 2009. The Afghan refugee population in Uzbekistan comprises a limited but at-risk group who has lost ties with the country of origin yet has little prospect of local integration. There are also a large number of refugees living in urban centres in many countries of the region who face dire protection challenges and for whom resettlement remains the only viable durable solution. Resettlement is thus an important protection tool for vulnerable individual refugees, both in urban and camp situations. Emergency resettlement is being used to address the situation of refugees in detention, urgent medical cases, or other individual refugees with specific needs especially where there is heightened risk of *refoulement*.

Among other noteworthy developments in the region, Japan became the first resettlement country in Asia in 2009. Japan conducted its first selection mission to Thailand in early 2010 and received its first arrivals the same year. Access to protection in the region was improved with the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement between The Government of the Philippines and UNHCR in August 2009 on the establishment of an Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM). 205 refugees have subsequently been evacuated to the Philippines from their countries of asylum. This trend is likely to continue in the course of 2011/2012.

The support of resettlement countries is greatly appreciated and will continue to be crucial for the continuance of the exceptionally successful resettlement programmes in Asia and the Pacific region.

Other developments

Cultural orientation session, Thailand. UNHCR / B. Manser



Manpower and UNHCR empower refugees resettling to the US

MAE LA REFUGEE CAMP, Thailand, July 22 (UNHCR) – A single mother of two, Karen refugee Ah Ywa Paw, 26, decided to seek resettlement in the United States so her small sons can get a good education.

She's already set a good example for them by being a successful student herself in a skills-building pilot project designed to equip Myanmar refugees in this camp in northern Thailand to work in American offices. It's a partnership between the UN refugee agency and Manpower Inc., a world leader in the employment services industry.

"I was told that the course would teach me how to work in an office and would improve my English," said the young woman, who already speaks three other languages. "I realize that I've learned so much from this course. I learnt how to submit a leave request, how to use a photocopying machine and other basic skills. My English language has also improved."

Under the pilot project, 19 refugees – seven women and 12 men – have completed six weeks of classroom training in the camp. Through videos, role-playing and live instruction by specially-trained instructors and Manpower staff volunteers, refugees learned all the basic skills needed to work in any office in the United States. A further 30 refugees will be accepted for a second six-week course due to start in July.

For refugees who live in thatched huts in a jungle, the subject matter – taught in

English – was rather exotic: planning a day in an office, buying food in a cafeteria, socializing with co-workers during lunch-time, reporting on progress at work, making photocopies, filing documents, transferring telephone calls and other essential office skills.

"The trainers were so patient with us," Ah Ywa Paw said, exuding quiet confidence. "Students in the training have different educational background and some just could not catch up. But the trainers did not mind explaining the lessons to us. I just wish that the course lasted longer than six weeks".

Simon Matthews, country manager of Manpower Thailand, observed that it was important to teach the refugees the skills they would need to get along with their bosses and co-workers in a culture that will be new to them, as well as actual jobs skills.

In all, 38 Thai Manpower employees volunteered their time to act as instructors and coaches, while much of the training was conducted by ZOA, a Netherlands-based refugee care organization, using materials prepared by Manpower staff. The pilot project was aimed at refugees selected for resettlement to the United States under the world's largest resettlement programme, which has seen more than 55,000 Myanmar refugees depart from camps in Thailand since 2005.



Ah Ywa Paw practices filing in one of the offices in the refugee camp. / UNHCR / 2010

The genesis of the project was a visit to a Thai refugee camp in 2007 by UNHCR's Council of Business Leaders, executives of some of the world's top corporations who advise UNHCR on how to be more business-like in carrying out its humanitarian work. David Arkless, then Manpower's senior vice-president, was deeply impressed by a young articulate Karen refugee who was about to be resettled to the US but was worried about finding a job while he studied.

Arkless put his mind to matching up resettling refugees with Manpower offices in the US and eventually this training scheme was born.

Zar Ki Rah, 19, is in much the same position as the young refugee man Arkless met three years ago – she wants to study in the US but knows she might need to find a job to support her parents. She's hoping Manpower will help her with job placement as she begins to carve out a new life after 11 years in Mae La camp.

"I am good at mathematics and computer," she ventured shyly. "With these two skills combined, I think I will do a good job being an accountant."

Under a second phase of the project, Manpower plans to link up 15 of the first group with Manpower offices in their new American cities for continuing counselling and advice on how to find and hold a job. Ah Ywa Paw has seen her younger sister go ahead of her for resettlement in the US and get a job as a saleswoman in a greeting card store.

This week it's her turn to take her two sons, seven and two, to the US and the UNHCR-Manpower project gets her endorsement: "For other refugees who have already been accepted to the US, I would like to let them know that this training is a very good opportunity for them to learn English, which is the most important skill to have when arriving in the U.S."

By Kamolmas Jaiyen in Mae La Refugee Camp, Thailand

Welcome to Japan: first Asian country joins UNHCR's resettlement programme

ASIA / PACIFIC

TOKYO, Japan, September 28 (UNHCR) – To photographers' flashes and well-wishers' applause, the first 18 refugees ever to be resettled in Japan arrived at Narita airport early Tuesday, putting behind them decades in a jungle camp and beginning new lives in an Asian economic powerhouse.

"I am very happy to have arrived in Japan," one of the refugee women said, looking a bit overwhelmed by the attention of the television crews, before boarding a bus to a reception centre where the group will spend their first week getting acclimatised to Japan's frenetic capital. "Welcome to Japan," read one banner on display at Narita.

The refugee families from Myanmar – three married couples and their 12 children aged one to 15 – stepped off a six-hour overnight flight from Bangkok, the first time any of them had been on an airplane.

Two other families, one with four children and another with three children, had to stay behind in Bangkok at the last minute because they caught a flu that is going around Thailand. They are expected to travel as soon as they get well.

The families, who are farmers of the Karen ethnicity, fled Myanmar between 1985 and



A first group of refugees from Myanmar arriving under Japan's landmark resettlement programme. / UNHCR / S. Miyazawa / September 2010

2001. The parents range in age from 28 to 45, and almost all the children were born as refugees in Mae La refugee camp in northern Thailand.

They entered Japan as part of a pilot programme that will see the country take 90 refugees over three years – the first Asian country to become a resettlement country. In the wider Asia-Pacific region, Australia and New Zealand have long been resettlement countries.

“This marks a new chapter in Japan’s strengthening of its refugee and asylum policies,” said Johan Cels, UNHCR’s representative in Japan.

Japan is UNHCR’s second-largest donor, and Cels added that “not only does the country provide generous financial support for refugees in many parts of the world, but now also provides a future for refugees in the country. We very much hope Japan will set an example in resettlement for other Asian countries to follow.”

The programme has attracted huge media interest in Japan. Both on departure from Bangkok and upon arrival at Narita, the refugees were outnumbered by Japanese journalists.

Nay Min, the oldest refugee man in the group at age 45, said he had been a farmer because that is what the Karen people traditionally do. “But after I arrive in Japan, if they will find me any type of job, I will do it if they can train me,” he said in Bangkok before departure.

Admitting to a few sleepless nights for the whole family because of excitement and an excess of happiness, Nay Min said Japan – which he described as “the most developed country in Asia” – represented freedom and a fresh start after almost two decades in a closed camp.

“For 18 years we were struggling,” he said. “We got rations from the camp and we had to follow the rules of the camp.”

While still in Mae La, the refugees took lessons in adapting to Japanese culture and learned some polite phrases in Japanese. In Tokyo, they will be given apartments, more language lessons and help in adapting to the culture, as well as vocational training and support in finding a job.

Before leaving Mae La, many of the children had their sights set on becoming doctors and teachers, and Nay Min said his highest aspiration for life in Japan was for a good education for his three children, ages seven, 11 and 15.

For himself, assurance that his family’s human rights would be respected was paramount. With those rights guaranteed, he admitted with a shy smile that he’d already conceived a grander dream.

“I want to visit countries all over the world once I get a passport from Japan,” he said before boarding what he hoped would be only the first flight of many.

By Kitty McKinsey in Bangkok, Thailand and Yuki Moriya in Tokyo, Japan

Resettlement programme for refugees in Nepal passes 40,000 mark

KATHMANDU, Nepal, December 13 (UNHCR) – A programme launched three years ago to resettle tens of thousands of refugees from camps in eastern Nepal on Monday passed the 40,000 mark.

Devi Maya Gurung was named as the 40,000th refugee to be resettled from Nepal shortly before stepping onto a plane at Kathmandu's Tribhuvan International Airport to start a new life with her family in the United States.

She was among a group of 198 refugees originating from Bhutan to be resettled. They flew out a day before UNHCR celebrates its 60th anniversary.

The mother of four, Devi Maya, had been living in the Beldangi One camp since 1992 after fleeing from ethnic tension in Bhutan. "I was confused about my future when we first applied for resettlement. After having gone through the process and the cultural orientation I am reassured

that we will do well," the 39-year-old said.

"This is a tremendous achievement which would not have been possible without the strong support of the government of Nepal and the countries of resettlement," said Stephane Jaquemet, UNHCR's representative in Nepal, at a ceremony organized by the refugee agency and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Kathmandu.

Under a programme launched in November 2007, refugees originating from Bhutan have been resettled in eight countries, most of them – 34,129 – to the United States. The other resettlement countries in rank are Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

The UN refugee agency is responsible for interviewing people and referring names to resettlement countries, while the IOM conducts health assessments, organizes cultural orientation

courses and transports the refugees from the seven camps in eastern Nepal to their countries of resettlement.

"Our job is to ensure that refugees depart as quickly as possible," said IOM's David Derthick. "Once a refugee family has made the decision to apply for resettlement, they're anxious to start their new life as soon as possible."

At the start of the resettlement programme, there were 108,000 refugees from Bhutan residing in the camps in eastern Nepal's Jhapa and Morang districts, some of whom had been there for almost two decades.

Of the 72,000 remaining in the camps, about 55,000 have expressed an interest in resettlement and are expected to depart within the next four years. "We continue to receive a steady stream of expressions of interest for resettlement," Jaquemet said. "And the positive aspect of this resettlement programme is that



Devi Maya (left), the 40,000th refugee originating from Bhutan to be resettled from Nepal, does some last minute packing. UNHCR / P. Baidya / December 2010

the acceptance rate by the countries of resettlement is 99 per cent, the highest in the world," he added.

"I am very happy to get this opportunity. I hope my family will get a better life in the United States," said 43-year-old Dhan Kumar Ghataney, who also left Monday for the US with his wife and two children. "I am optimistic that I will find employment and my children will get a better education," he added.

While resettlement is currently the only available option for refugees in the camps in eastern Nepal, UNHCR, together with the international commu-

nity, will continue efforts to achieve comprehensive and lasting solutions to the plight of refugees from Bhutan, including voluntary repatriation as and when return conditions permit.

By Pratibedan Baidya and Nini Gurung in Kathmandu, Nepal

Refugees facing desperate situations are evacuated to the Emergency Transit Centre in Romania to await resettlement to a third country. UNHCR / B. Szandelszky



Europe

Eastern Europe

Azerbaijan
The Russian Federation
Ukraine

South-Eastern Europe

Malta
Turkey

Overview

In 2012, UNHCR foresees needs for resettlement from operations in countries in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, as well as resettlement / relocation from Malta. In the Eastern and South Eastern European subregions, there are both asylum-receiving countries and refugee-producing countries. Resettlement in these operations serves not only as a protection tool for the most vulnerable refugees, such as refugees with legal and physical protection needs, women-at-risk, and those with specific medical needs, but is also used as part of the overall strategy of expanding the asylum space. The effectiveness of resettlement as a durable solution is reinforced by building stronger asylum systems and improving reception and integration infrastructure. In addition, resettlement is also used as an instrument of international solidarity and of burden sharing.

In 2011, the operational resettlement target for the region was 18,721 persons, with an estimated processing capacity of 7,791 persons. The estimated resettlement needs in 2012 are 14,786, with Turkey accounting for 12,299 of the required places. The increase responds mainly to the increase of arrivals registered during 2010 and in the first months of 2011 in Turkey. UNHCR Turkey is making an effort to raise its capacity to reduce pending refugee status determination (RSD) backlogs and increase resettlement submissions (especially of non-Iraqi refugees).

Projected resettlement needs in Europe in 2012

Sub-region	Total resettlement / relocation needs		Resettlement / relocation needs in 2012		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR total capacity (core staff + affiliate workforce)		UNHCR resettlement capacity shortfall	
	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons	cases	persons
Azerbaijan, Russian Federation, Ukraine	1,115	2,336	772	1,630	405	926	515	1,146	257	484
Balkans and Eastern Europe	50	172	47	157	47	149	32	115	15	42
Malta	600	700	600	700	600	700	600	700	0	0
Turkey	7,345	12,299	7,345	12,299	1,001	1,731	3,006	5,190	4,339	7,109
Total	9,110	15,507	8,764	14,786	2,053	3,506	4,153	7,151	4,611	7,635

Projected Resettlement Needs and Capacity for 2012

Resettlement activities in 2012 will focus on operations in Azerbaijan, Malta, the Russian Federation, Turkey, and Ukraine.

In Eastern Europe, dysfunctional asylum procedures in some of the countries hamper access to effective protection. The situation in the Russian Federation is different; while the asylum system has considerably improved, UNHCR is still confronted with the challenge of finding durable solutions for the so-called "legacy caseload". Resettlement of this refugee population, combined with voluntary repatriation of those refugees who would be open to consider returning to their country of origin, can have a strategic impact by achieving better conditions for newly arrived refugees and asylum-seekers, and at the same time providing a durable solution for a refugee population that is in an almost protracted situation.

Additionally, there are several countries in the Balkans and in Eastern Europe which have identified small numbers of refugees in need of resettlement for specific protection concerns, or with legal protection needs due to the general weakness of national asylum systems in the region and generally non-existent prospects for local integration. Operations in Armenia, Bosnia, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, will therefore be submitting small numbers of specific protection cases on a dossier basis in 2012.

In Turkey, resettlement continues to be the durable solution to be sought for non-European refugees while the geographical limitation to the 1951 Convention is maintained. Resettlement also has a strategic potential to broaden the protection space for non-European refugees during this transition period in which the Turkish authorities continue to work in the enactment of legislation and the establishment of an asylum system aligned with the international refugee law and the European Union *acquis*. Turkey has been identified by the Working Group on Resettlement as one of the priority situations in which the strategic use of resettlement can broaden the protection space.

In view of the particular situation in Malta, UNHCR has acknowledged the responsibility-sharing approach of the EU Member States, and welcomed the concept of “relocation” as opposed to resettlement with respect to movements from Malta to other EU Member States. On the other hand, all movements to countries outside Europe such as the United States of America, Canada and Australia and others are considered as resettlement. Relocation from Malta is used as a strategic protection tool to provide effective durable solutions to the most vulnerable persons who are unable to locally integrate in Malta. In line with its policy of expanding the asylum space in Europe, UNHCR will continue to urge the Maltese authorities to upgrade protection standards in the refugee status determination procedures, to improve conditions for persons of concern in the detention centers, and also enhance their integration infrastructure.

Other developments

Among other notable developments in the region, in late 2010, UNHCR signed a Tripartite Agreement with the Government of Slovakia and IOM to formalize the previously ad hoc arrangement into a more permanent arrangement for an Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Humenné, Slovakia, adding 100 places to the already existing 200 places at the ETC in Timisoara, Romania. In addition to the numerous European States who have maintained long-standing resettlement programmes, a number of countries have established programmes in recent years, including the welcome addition of three new countries that announced establishment of resettlement programmes (Bulgaria, Hungary and Spain) in 2010.



Congolese refugee mother with her twin daughters in their family room at Hal Far Open centre, Malta.
© UNHCR/A.Pace

This woman fled her home after a mortar attack in Iraq which killed several children.
UNHCR / K. Brooks / March 2007



Middle East and North Africa

Palestinian refugee in Iraq. Former President Saddam Hussein had a benevolent policy towards Palestinian refugees and offered them housing. After his downfall, most refugees were expelled from their apartments and found shelter in a tent camp north of the city. UNHCR / T. Voeten.



In early 2011, the MENA region experienced unprecedented political and social upheaval which resulted in mass population movements in North Africa. In response to massive external displacement resulting from the situation in Libya, UNHCR responded immediately by providing shelter, assistance and services, including the identification of those persons in need of international protection. In addition, on 20 April UNHCR launched the Global Resettlement Solidarity Initiative, through which resettlement States were called on to support a proposal for the resettlement of non-Libyan refugees reaching the borders with Egypt or Tunisia as a burden- and responsibility-sharing initiative. The primary aim of the initiative was to obtain pledges of additional resettlement spaces to meet the immediate need of 8,000 resettlement places. UNHCR emergency resettlement teams, headed by staff from the MENA Regional Resettlement Hub, have been deployed to border locations in Tunisia and Egypt. By 6 June 2011, 791 ex-Libya refugees had been submitted to resettlement countries. Some refugees were evacuated from difficult conditions at the border to Emergency Transit Centres in Romania and Slovakia, where they could be processed under better circumstances. In 2012, UNHCR projects that some 2,000 refugees fleeing from Libya will be in need of resettlement over the course of 2012; these projections, however, are subject to revision as the situation develops.

Middle East

- Iraq
- Israel
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar
- Syrian Arab Republic
- United Arab Emirates
- Yemen

North Africa

- Algeria
- Egypt
- Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
- Mauritania
- Morocco
- Tunisia

MENA

Projected resettlement needs in MENA in 2012

MENA Sub region	Total resettlement needs		Resettlement needs in 2012		UNHCR core staff capacity		UNHCR Total Capacity (core staff + existing affiliate workforce)		UNHCR Resettlement Capacity Shortfall	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
The Middle East	16,585	52,380	10,637	32,230	3,985	11,212	6,876	19,615	3,761	12,615
North Africa	2,632	7,822	2,332	6,822	855	2,607	1,905	5,657	427	1,165
Gulf	5,327	21,386	570	2,160	470	1,775	570	2,160	0	0
Total	24,544	81,588	13,539	41,212	5,310	15,594	9,351	27,432	4,188	13,780

The Middle East: Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria,

North Africa: Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Tunisia and Egypt.

The Gulf: Yemen, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

In Egypt, following the political upheaval that resulted in a change of leadership in the country, resettlement was also enhanced when the needs were reviewed and increased to 2,200 persons for 2012. Refugees who have been in a protracted situation in Egypt without a durable solution for many years are among those being considered for enhanced resettlement.

Elsewhere in the region, resettlement of significant numbers of Iraqi refugees continued in 2010 and 2011 to date. Looking ahead to 2012, overall regional resettlement needs are expected to remain high, as described in the following narrative.

Resettlement of Iraqi refugees

Resettlement of Iraqi refugees from Lebanon, Jordan and Syria remains one of the priority situations selected by the Working Group on Resettlement to broaden the protection space with the strategic use of resettlement. UNHCR is working with resettlement countries on a plan to better implement this concept.

In addition to the focus on North Africa in 2011, resettlement of significant numbers of Iraqi refugees continued in 2010 and 2011 to date. During 2007 and 2008, resettlement emerged in the MENA region as a powerful protection tool for refugees who fled violence. Resettlement numbers from the region soared as UNHCR increased its identification and assessment capacity and resettlement countries responded to the need to accept increasing numbers of Iraqi refugees.

In 2009, resettlement out of MENA continued to be dominated by large-scale submissions of vulnerable Iraqi refugees, as both traditional and new resettlement countries offered generous quotas for this group. In 2010, as predicted, submissions dropped slightly but continued at significant levels as resettlement continued to be viewed as the primary durable solution available for this population. Submissions of Iraqi refugees increased from 21,312 in 2007 to 32,716 in 2008, 36,069 in 2009, decreasing to 26,059 in 2010. Over 123,000 Iraqi

Iraqi refugee resettlement

Country of asylum	2008 submissions (persons)	2009 submissions (persons)	2010 submissions (persons)	2012 resettlement needs (persons)
Syrian Arab Republic	13,554	18,398	13,886	20,000
Jordan	9,417	8,442	6,383	2,500
Lebanon	3,709	2,847	3,066	3,000
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0	109	261	1,100
GCC countries*	132	267	389	560
Egypt	555	354	734	400
Yemen	200	151	1,077	0
Israel	0	5	36	0
MENA TOTAL	27,567	30,573	26,059	27,560
Turkey	5,122	5,291	3,819	3,698
Others	27	205	312	742
TOTAL IRAQI	32,716	36,069	26,746	32,000

*The Gulf Cooperation Council is a regional organization consisting of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

refugees have been submitted for resettlement from 2007 to May 2011 and almost 62,405 have departed to find a durable solution in their country of resettlement. In 2011, UNHCR expects the pace of submissions of Iraqi refugees to stabilize at around 23,000. As of 6 May 2011, 9,647 Iraqi refugees have already been submitted.

The resettlement needs of Iraqi refugees are projected to remain relatively high in the MENA region in 2012, but the profile of cases appears to be changing to more complex and time-consuming cases. Total regional resettlement needs for Iraqi refugees are estimated at 45,086 (48,758 including Turkey) and 2012 needs are projected at 26,460 (30,158 including Turkey). The largest concentration of resettlement needs remains located in the Syrian Arab Republic (20,000 for 2012), but compelling cases are found in every location. Constraints in meeting targets continue to be experienced in the form of visa restrictions on UNHCR staff and resettlement country selection missions. Potential political upheaval and the related instability, foreshadowed by violent demonstrations in some Middle East countries, may also impact UNHCR's ability to meet resettlement targets in 2011 and 2012.

UNHCR staff capacity for 2011 for resettlement submissions of Iraqi refugees in the MENA region is estimated at 18,480. UNHCR's capacity remains flexible, however, and productivity can be increased if resources are provided to enhance additional staffing mechanisms, such as the UNHCR-ICMC Resettlement Deployment Scheme, which has been drawn on heavily in past years. A total of 36 deployees were deployed in the region as of the end of May 2011.

UNHCR is in the process of starting to determine what the future resettlement of Iraqi refugees might be in a situation where other durable solutions take precedence, as the operational focus will be shifting to Iraq to assist internally displaced persons (IDPs) and prepare for eventual return. Resettlement will remain, however, an important element of the comprehensive durable solutions approach.

Use of Emergency Transit Facilities

Since their inception, MENA has made heavy use of the Emergency Transit Centres (ETCs) in Romania and Slovakia to evacuate Sudanese Darfuri refugees from camp K-70 in Iraq, Palestinian refugees from Al Waleed Camp in Iraq, as well as Eritrean refugees from Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and Ethiopian and Eritrean refugees from Yemen. In addition to these groups, the ETC has been used for several compelling individual cases from other countries. A number of evacuations have occurred in 2011 to date from Yemen and Tunisia and use of the ETCs will continue to be considered wherever required. Very close cooperation has been achieved with both International Committee of the Red Cross and International Organization for Migration in the MENA region, such that departures can be arranged expeditiously.

North Africa (Projected needs: 6,822 persons)

Apart from the crisis described in the opening paragraphs of this overview, it is important to take into consideration that North Africa is characterized by large-scale migration movements from sub-Saharan Africa to Europe, with a proportionately small number of refugees located in host countries with generally restrictive asylum climates. For UNHCR, the challenge is to ensure access of those in need of protection and resettlement, while also avoiding the creation of pull factors and the impression that resettlement might be an alternative migration route. UNHCR's resettlement policy is based on a regionally balanced approach to avoid secondary movements that might negatively affect efforts to build protection capacities.

At the same time, the strategic use of resettlement can contribute to enlarging the protection space in the region. In 2012, UNHCR plans a modest increase in resettlement activity, where additional resources will be required in order to strengthen UNHCR processing capacity and address identified needs. In this respect, resettlement will continue to be part of the **10 Point Plan of Action**, intended to help manage asylum and migration issues in the region. Resettlement is to be used as a small but crucial component – as a strategic tool to help demonstrate international burden-sharing and to encourage North African countries to also accept a proportion of refugees onto their territories.

The Gulf (Projected needs: 2,160 persons)

In the Gulf sub-region, resettlement in 2012 will largely continue to remain a limited but crucial instrument of protection in a region characterized by limited protection space, a largely urban population, and mixed asylum and migration flows. Resettlement will be used as a protection tool to resolve the situation of refugees in detention as well as to find a solution for those refugees in protracted situations who have protection needs in the country of asylum.

MENA appeals to resettlement countries:

- for diversified resettlement intake from the entire MENA region for all refugees identified as being in need of resettlement;
- to consider selection missions to smaller resettlement operations in the region, including Yemen and Iraq, where missions would be welcomed;
- to provide additional dossier places, needed in particular for refugees in Iraq and Yemen, where many States are unable to conduct selection missions for reasons related to security or other constraints, as well as for the ex-Libya refugees located on the Tunisia and Egypt borders;
- to ensure that resettlement departures keep pace with submissions and acceptances (resettlement departures are occurring at a much slower rate than submissions and acceptances);
- to continue providing places for medical cases given the large number of refugees in need of resettlement in the region whose medical needs cannot be addressed locally;
- to engage in clear pre-departure cultural orientation sessions that include the use of resettled refugees who have gone through the resettlement experience, to ensure refugee expectations of life in resettlement countries are realistic.
- Recognize that the ongoing conflict in Libya may still present further ramifications and that the 2011 projection for Libya situation is premised on the assumption that the conflict would come to an end with UNHCR gaining an expanded operational scope.

MENA Regional Resettlement Hub

The MENA Regional Resettlement Hub, based in Beirut, serves as a centre for supporting, coordinating, and monitoring all resettlement activities in the region. The Hub is reduced in size in 2011 as compared to 2010, but continues to work towards the consistent application of UNHCR resettlement criteria and policies. The Hub monitors case submissions on a targeted basis, produces regional resettlement statistics, and deploys staff on mission to emergency locations as may be required. In conjunction with the Resettlement Service and the MENA Bureau in Geneva, the Hub ensures mainstreaming of resettlement into regional protection and solutions strategies.

The three Ethiopian friends who survived more than two weeks adrift in the Mediterranean wander through Choucha Camp.
UNHCR / H. Caux / May 11, 2011



Global Resettlement

for refugees ex-Libya in Tunisia and Egypt

Death on the Mediterranean

CHOUCHA CAMP, Tunisia, May 13 (UNHCR) – Bayisa* has suffered a lot in his short life, but nothing prepared him and his two friends, Gudissa* and Nagassa,* for the ordeal the three Ethiopian refugees faced, and barely survived, on the high seas between Libya and Italy.

During or after their failed attempt to reach Italy by boat, 63 of the 72 people on board died agonizing deaths while passing vessels and helicopters allegedly failed to stop and rescue the boat people. And Bayisa is now back in North Africa.

The ethnic Oromo, gaunt-faced and extremely thin, spoke with his two friends to UNHCR on Thursday in the Choucha Camp that was set up near Tunisia's border with Libya to provide shelter for tens of thousands of migrant workers and refugees fleeing the civil war that erupted in Libya in mid-February.

Although the Oromo are Ethiopia's largest ethnic group, they have suffered persecution at the hands of successive governments for decades. Bayisa said he fled to Sudan after his village was torched in 2007 by police, who accused his family of shepherds of helping anti-government rebels.

He reached Libya in January 2008 after a long journey and registered with the UNHCR office in Tripoli, to apply for asylum. But he said he was

arrested in the streets of the capital and held for three months in a crowded cell because he had no ID.

Like other Africans from the sub-Saharan region, he also suffered from racist taunts and discrimination from Libyans. "When the war started in Libya in February, I got scared and stopped going out to look for a job," he said, adding: "The Libyan children were throwing stones at me in the streets, they were asking me for money and insulting me, telling me I was a black slave."

Bayisa and his two Oromo friends, Gudissa and Nagassa, decided to try and make their way to Europe across the Mediterranean. "A Sudanese neighbour told me that a boat would leave on March 25. He drove me and my two friends to the harbour at night. I paid US\$800 to a Libyan smuggler," Bayisa revealed.

Those on board the 12-metre-long vessel included other Ethiopians, Eritreans, Nigerians, Sudanese and Ghanaians. Twenty of them were women and there were two children. They had paid to reach the island of Lampedusa, Italy's most southernmost territory, but they had to crew the boat themselves.

reach a coast and give them a proper burial. But sometimes we did not know if they were really dead or just in a coma," the young Ethiopian said.

"One Ethiopian woman died before her two-year-old baby. The boy was crying all the time, looking for his mother. He died three days later."

Bayisa thought he would die under the baking sun. Others lost their minds and at least four passengers committed suicide by jumping into the sea before the boat reached the Libyan coast near the town of Zlitan, east of Tripoli. There were just 11 of them left, but one woman died on the beach.

The remaining 10 men walked to Zlitan, where they were arrested by the Libyan police. They were taken to a hospital and then to a prison where they were given some water, milk and dates. After two days another survivor died.

Bayisa said they ended up in Tripoli's Twesha jail. "The hygiene was terrible, the lavatories were always blocked. In our weak state, we easily became sick," he said, adding that they only got out because an Ethiopian friend paid police

Solidarity Initiative

"We passed a big naval vessel, but they would not let us board. We also saw a military helicopter flying above us," said Bayisa, who could not identify which country these came from.

But the passengers were optimistic – until the boat ran out of fuel and started drifting back towards Libya. "A second helicopter flew above and threw biscuits and water at us. Then we passed another warship, but they just took pictures of us and left," Bayisa recalled.

Their ordeal was to last two weeks. The drinking water and food soon ran out and people started eating toothpaste and drinking seawater and even their own urine. "People died every day from dehydration, sunstroke, hunger . . . We kept the bodies for one or two days [before pushing them overboard], hoping to

US\$900. Bayisa and his two friends took a taxi to the border and they crossed to Ras Adjir in Tunisia before being taken to Choucha on May 6.

The UN refugee agency is now providing the trio with assistance in Tunisia and is looking for a solution for them. "I want to ask for asylum; I cannot return to Ethiopia, I would be killed or arrested there," he stressed. "I just want to live in a country in peace, it does not matter where, but in peace"

* Names changed for protection reasons

By H el ene Caux in Choucha Camp, Tunisia

The Eritreans arrive at the emergency transit centre in Timișoara earlier today
 UNHCR/ M. Vanzariu/ April 2011



Global Resettlement

for refugees ex-Libya in Tunisia and Egypt

Eritrean refugees arrive in Romanian emergency transit centre from Tunisia

TIMISOARA, Romania, April 20 (UNHCR) - Thirty Eritrean refugees have arrived at an emergency transit centre in western Romania after fleeing Libya and spending weeks in a crowded camp in Tunisia as UNHCR and its partners sought a solution for them.

The Eritreans, including three women and a boy, will spend up to six months in the centre in Timisoara before being resettled in the United States and the Netherlands. Unlike most of the foreigners who have fled from Libya since mid-February, hundreds of Eritreans and Somalis stuck on the Tunisian and Egyptian borders with Libya cannot return to their countries because their lives would be at risk.

This is the first group to be flown out of the country ahead of resettlement. Their evacuation was organized by the UN refugee agency, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Romanian government. UNHCR officials said more were expected.

The Eritreans said they fled their country to escape forced military recruitment and claimed that they had been detained and physically abused in Libya. People from sub-Saharan Africa have also been at risk in Libya because of rumours that the government was using them as mercenaries. Yonas Ali *, a 36 year old man, told UNHCR that he and his brothers had spent six years in prison in Libya. "I thank UNHCR for having saved my life. And that of my brothers", he said.

Others recounted having survived "five different prisons in Libya". UNHCR's Repre-

sentative in Romania, Machiel Salomons, welcomed the group and thanked the authorities: "You open the door to a new life for these most vulnerable survivors of the Libyan crisis", he said at a press conference at the Emergency Transit Centre (ETC).

Eritreans who made it to Tunisia have had to remain in the Shoucha transit camp as tens of thousands of workers from other countries in Egypt and Asia were repatriated by their governments or UNHCR and the IOM. High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres has repeatedly urged resettlement countries to help solve their problem.

Meanwhile in Geneva, UNHCR on Wednesday presented its Global Resettlement Solidarity initiative to resettlement countries. This programme is aimed at addressing the resettlement needs in Egypt and Tunisia arising out of the Libya crisis. UNHCR called

Solidarity Initiative

on the resettlement countries to provide 8,000 dedicated places for the refugees at the borders with Libya.

"We call on states to provide additional places [to their current resettlement quotas]," stressed Johannes van der Klaauw, UNHCR's Senior Resettlement Coordinator. "The numbers of people in need of resettlement from Tunisia and Egypt increases by the day and may soon be in the thousands rather than the hundreds," he added. Van der Klaauw also noted that resettlement out of the region could ensure that fewer of these vulnerable refugees risk taking dangerous boat journeys across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe. More than

500 people are known to have lost their lives attempting the crossing in recent weeks.

The Timisoara Emergency Transit Centre was set up in 2008 by the Romanian government, UNHCR and the IOM to house people in urgent need of international protection until their resettlement applications have been processed. It can accommodate up to 200 people and has hosted more than 600 refugees since opening, including Eritreans, Sudanese, Palestinians, Ethiopians, Sri Lankans, Iraqis and Nigerians.

By Roland Schönbauer in Timisoara, Romania and Leo Dobbs in Geneva

*Name changed for protection reasons.



Global Resettlement

for refugees ex-Libya in Tunisia and Egypt

A way out for Iraqi family caught in Libya's violence

SALLUM, Egypt, May 9 (UNHCR) – Over the years, George* has read about the violence and destruction ravaging his native Iraq from the safety of Libya, where he moved ages ago to pursue a career as an electrical engineer. He never imagined that all-out war would come to this peaceful part of North Africa.

Life wasn't always easy for a Christian family, but they had applied for resettlement and were optimistic about their chances until Libya started imploding earlier this year. George and his family found a way out

in the end, with the vital help of UNHCR, but not before spending several weeks fearing for their lives and then wondering if they would ever get out of the country. The Libya crisis began when people took to the streets in mid-February to demonstrate against the government, following similar movements that brought down the leaders of neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt. The protests in Libya led to warfare and the eastern town where the Iraqi family lived was attacked.

“There is no security, nothing. Children are walking the streets with machine guns. Even at home, anyone could come for us,” George said, recalling the atmosphere in the town, which he asked not be identified. “And then the bombings began. We used to hide under the stairs,” the 67-year-old added.

About six weeks ago, the family decided to leave the country and made their way to the Egyptian border crossing at Sallum, where UNHCR found them huddled in one corner

of a crowded arrivals hall. Bedspreads, tied to a nail in the wall and tucked behind a mattress perched on its side, gave them a bit of privacy. They were the only Iraqi family in a room full of women and children from sub-Saharan countries such as Chad, Eritrea and Sudan.

Tens of thousands of people have fled to Egypt through the Sallum crossing. While Egyptians and Libyans sailed through immigration, third-country nationals have faced delays until their onward travel has been arranged. But those unable to be repatriated because of a threat to their lives, such as George and his family, face a long wait. UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres has repeatedly called on resettlement countries to take in this group.

George, his wife Mary* and their five children had been recognized as refugees by UNHCR’s Tripoli office in 2008. They were also recommended for resettlement because it was too dangerous for them to return to Iraq, where the small Christian community

Solidarity Initiative

has been persecuted. They were awaiting word on the application when the conflict began.

Although they had made a life for themselves in Libya, they still faced problems and wanted to go somewhere where they could live in peace and without fear of discrimination. “My children had problems, specially my sons,” George said, explaining that they were teased at school because of their religious faith.

His wife and daughters dressed in a way that hid their religion. “We could not wear crosses and we had to cover our heads,” Mary noted. Their daughters often had to be chaperoned by their parents when moving around town.

When UNHCR visited, some members of the family were coping better than others. His vivacious older daughters, Helen,* aged 23, and 21-year-old Sarah,* were making the most of things in this unfamiliar, uncertain and tough environment where they had to share the limited facilities with so many others.

Helen was in her last year at medical college in Tripoli when the family had to flee, but she was optimistic about the future, despite her father’s concerns. “If she doesn’t get the degree, she will have to repeat medical school,” George fretted.

While Helen and Sarah were keen to get out of Sallum, they tried not to dwell on

their situation. The girls volunteered to help out at a clinic set up by the World Health Organization for those stuck at the border. With hundreds of stranded single men around, George escorted his daughters to the clinic every day.

Their youngest brother, 17-year-old Michael,* is retiring and quiet. He had a particularly difficult time in Libya, often teased by other children. His brother, William,* is more confident. "I want to go to college, to finish my education. I want a good job; I don't want to always be moving, living in tension," he said.

Dina, the 15-year-old baby of the family, just felt depressed when she looked around the crowded room. "I am not happy. We are homeless," she said. Her mood only lightened when she talked about Bollywood movies she had seen.

Not long after UNHCR visited the family, the news they had long been waiting for came through – they were to be resettled. But first they would be spending a few weeks in the special Emergency Transit Centre in the Romanian city of Timisoara, which provides a half-way house for refugees at risk of harm.

Now they are living in the special centre next to a group of Eritreans who were flown to Romania from Tunisia after fleeing Libya. They also can't go home. Soon the long ordeal will be over and George, Helen and the children can start a new life in the United States. "I want to live in peace, in freedom, without fear of anything," said William, who aspires to become a pilot. Dina favours journalism. "My dreams are for my children. For their education, safety and freedom," their mother said.

* Names have been changed for protection reasons.

By Nayana Bose in Sallum, Egypt

UNHCR reaches milestone in resettlement of Iraqi refugees

AL HASSAKEH – 20 June 2010. UN High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres, announced today a major landmark in resettlement of Iraqi refugees, with 100,000 people having been referred for resettlement from the Middle East to third countries since 2007. Guterres made the announcement during his visit to Syria, which according to government estimates, hosts over 1 million refugees, the majority from Iraq.

"100,000 submissions of Iraqi refugees is a tremendous achievement. Many have been living in limbo for years. This will increasingly be the case if states don't continue to welcome Iraqi refugees for resettlement," said Guterres.

Lengthy security checks and the time it has taken for state processing mechanisms to be established have led to considerable delays in the departure of refugees to their new homes. Of the 100,000 submissions



Members of an Iraqi family referred for resettlement arrive in their new home in Europe. UNHCR / R. Brunnert

of Iraqi refugees since 2007, the number of departures up to May 2010 was around 50 percent, or 52,173 individuals. In 2007 around 3,500 Iraqis departed for third countries from the region.

“I call on countries to facilitate the speedy departure of refugees they have accepted for resettlement,” said Guterres.

Approximately 45 percent of Iraqi refugees submitted for resettlement live in Syria, totalling 43,223 individuals. The acceptance rate by resettlement countries of UNHCR’s referrals currently stands at 80 percent of total submissions, of which the largest number, nearly 76 percent, have been accepted by the United States.

UNHCR’s 2009 Global Trends report highlights the fact that Iraqis are the second largest refugee group in the world, with an estimated 1.8 million seeking refuge primarily in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and

Turkey. Voluntary repatriation worldwide in 2009 was at its lowest point in twenty years, with around 251,500 returns, of which only 38,000 were Iraqi.

“The growing resilience of conflict results in a larger proportion of refugees who are unable to return to their homes,” said Guterres, noting that major conflicts in Afghanistan, southern Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo show no signs of being resolved, while “conflicts that we had hoped were on their way to being resolved are stagnating.”

Resettlement: The only way out

Jordan's Ruweished camp empty as last family leaves

The isolated Ruweished camp was empty on Monday after the last nine Palestinian refugees left the desert facility in eastern Jordan en route to a new life in Brazil. The camp, which once provided shelter for some 1,000 refugees, is not expected to reopen.

Located about 70 kilometers from the border with Iraq, it was set up in 2003 and housed Somalis and Iranian Kurds as well as Palestinians and Iraqis fleeing violence in Iraq. Most were resettled in third countries, including Australia, Canada, Denmark, New Zealand, Sweden and the United States. The last residents, a total of 108 Palestinians, were accepted by Brazil and left Ruweished in three groups from late September. The nine members of a single family leaving Ruweished on Monday were the very last to leave the camp.

"I feel that today is a dream come true," said Subieha, who fled Baghdad last year. "First I had a chance to be reunited with my mother and then we are going to a place where I believe we will be safe, far from the sounds of bombs and rockets, where we will all sleep better at night, I hope," added the mother of four, who was moved to Ruweished from a camp just inside Iraq's border with Syria.

Subieha, her 76-year-old mother, Rashida, and their seven relatives spent their last night in Ruweished crowded into a spartan room with their belongings packed in three bags stowed on top of each other in a corner. Outside, the wind shook a solitary tent as stray cats roamed through the empty camp.

The family said they were happy, but also exhausted. "We know that many people were involved in making this happen, and we thank them for this opportunity and for their perseverance and their patience," said Rashida, who kept everyone's spirits up with her family jokes.

"When I was a young boy in Baghdad we used to always cheer for the Brazilian football team and now they will be our national team," her grandson, Hussam, noted before the family's early morning departure from Ruweished for Amman, where they caught a plane for São Paulo later in the day.

The Palestinians will receive rented accommodation, furniture and material aid for up to two years. A network of volunteers and local communities has been set up to provide moral support during the integra-

Last One's Out. The family gather for a group photograph on the eve of their departure from Ruweished. © UNHCR/R.Sweis



tion of the Palestinians, who have been settled in the states of São Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul.

All of the Palestinian children will initially be given the opportunity to attend classes in Portuguese, until the start of the next school year in March 2008, when they will be able to fully participate in school.

UNHCR has welcomed Brazil's resettlement of the Palestinians and Jordan's help in hosting the group and permitting their departure. "We hope that this achievement of a lasting solution for a group that had been stranded without hope for so long can be replicated with similar groups through similar partnerships," said Imran Riza, UNHCR's representative in Jordan.

The Palestinians are the first refugees from outside Latin America to benefit from the solidarity resettlement programmes that were proposed as one of the durable solutions for refugees in the 2004 Mexico Plan of Action, which was adopted by 20 Latin American countries.

The Palestinians led a hard life at Ruweished, enduring scorpions, sandstorms and sleepless nights during the hot summer.

Day after day, they became more desperate and some even returned to Iraq.

"Sometimes, I thought I would never leave this place," Rashida said as she folded a blanket for the flight to Brazil. "The day has come and now we all have a second chance in this life, in a place where we will try to forget the past."

The conflict in Iraq has uprooted more than 4 million people, including thousands of Palestinians. More than 1,750 Palestinians from Iraq remain stranded along the Iraq-Syria border in deplorable conditions unable to cross to safety.

Another estimated 13,000 Palestinians continue to be targeted, harassed, threatened and killed in Baghdad. "When we were in Baghdad, we went to work in the morning and we didn't know if we were ever going to return," said Hussam, a trained electrician.

By Rana Sweis
in Amman, Jordan



Dadaab, Kenya. UNHCR / B. Heger

Annexes

Annex: UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2010

Annex:

UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2010

Resettlement Service
Division of International Protection

For inquiries, please contact the Resettlement Unit at the UNHCR Regional Office in Washington at USAWARES@unhcr.org

Introduction

This report summarizes the resettlement activities of UNHCR offices worldwide in 2010. The information for this report is drawn from the UNHCR Resettlement Statistical Reports (RSR), which are submitted by UNHCR country offices on a quarterly basis.

Certain information in this report is organized by regions, reflecting the five UNHCR Regional Bureaux: Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and MENA (Middle East and North Africa).

For the purposes of this report, country of asylum refers to the country from which refugees are submitted to and from which they departed for resettlement. Country of resettlement refers to the country to which refugees are submitted for resettlement and to which they arrive on resettlement. Country of origin refers to the country where refugees derive their nationality. The submission figures include those made through UNHCR Regional Resettlement Hubs, Regional Offices as well as Headquarters.

UNHCR – Regional Office Washington
1775 K Street, NW, Suite 300
Attention: Resettlement Unit
Washington DC 20006
202-296-5191
USAWARES@unhcr.org

Summary of Major Trends in 2010

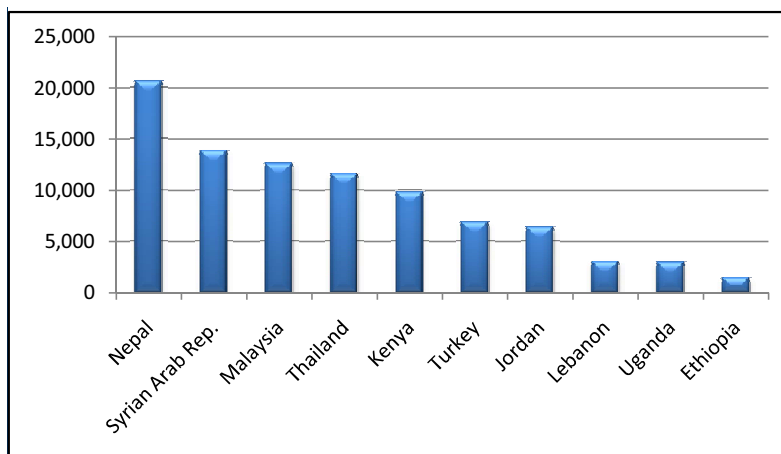
Submissions:	<p>In 2010, UNHCR submitted 108,042 refugees for resettlement*.</p> <p>This is a 16 per cent decrease from 128,558 refugees in 2009. This shift was expected, not least because the pace of resettlement submissions carried over from 2008 and 2009 outweighed resettlement countries' capacity to process cases.</p>
Departures:	<p>In 2010, 72,914 refugees departed to 28 countries of resettlement. Romania, Japan and Paraguay accepted resettled refugees for the first time.</p> <p>Departures decreased 14 per cent, from 84,657 refugees in 2009, due in particular to security clearance requirements.</p>
Origin:	<p>The largest number of refugees submitted for resettlement were refugees from Iraq (26,746), followed by refugees from Myanmar (24,420) and Bhutan (20,617).</p> <p>In total the three nationalities made up 66 per cent of all submissions.</p>
Resettlement:	<p>The three major countries of resettlement were: the United States of America (54,077), Canada (6,706) and Australia (5,636).</p>
Asylum:	<p>The largest number of refugees were submitted from Nepal (20,662), followed by the Syrian Arab Republic (13,886) and Malaysia (12,648).</p> <p>Nepal was the country from which the most refugees departed (14,819), followed by Thailand (11,417), and Malaysia (7,955).</p>

AT A GLANCE FIGURES

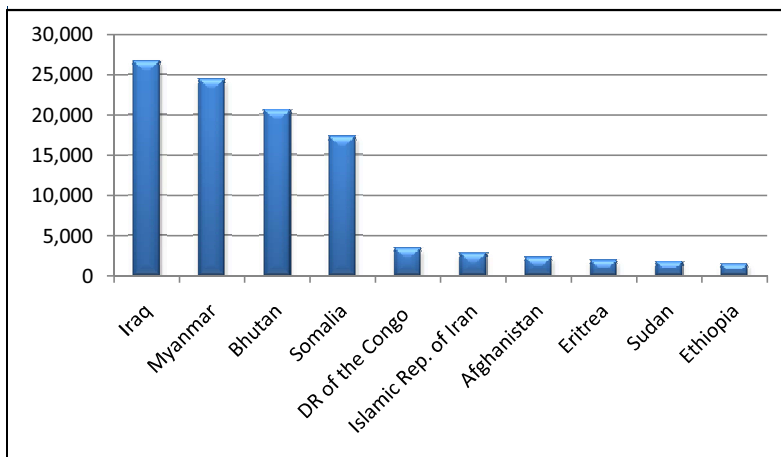
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Submissions	108,042	128,558	121,214	98,999	54,182
Departures	72,914	84,657	65,859	49,868	29,560
Countries of Asylum**	86	94	80	80	88
Countries of Origin**	71	77	68	65	67
Countries of Resettlement***	28	24	24	25	20

Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2010

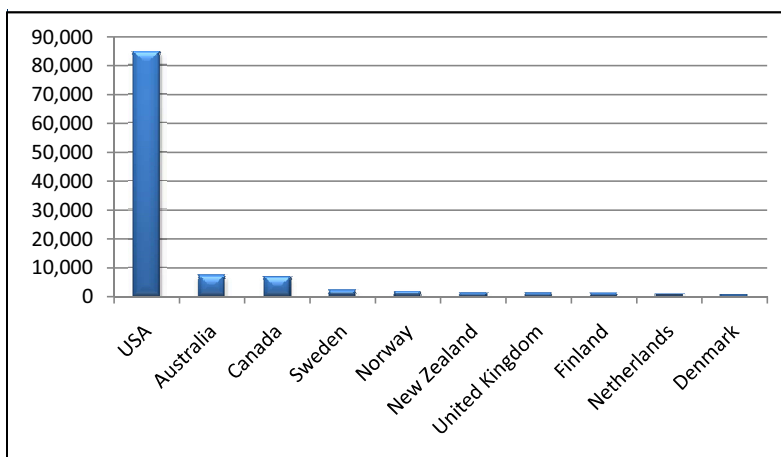
Country of asylum	Submissions (persons)
Nepal	20,662
Syrian Arab Republic	13,886
Malaysia	12,648
Thailand	11,602
Kenya	9,878
Turkey	6,882
Jordan	6,383
Lebanon	3,066
Uganda	3,011
Ethiopia	1,494
All Others	18,530
TOTAL	108,042



Country/territory of origin	Submissions (persons)
Iraq	26,746
Myanmar	24,420
Bhutan	20,617
Somalia	17,371
Democratic Republic of the Congo	3,479
Islamic Republic of Iran	2,786
Afghanistan	2,284
Eritrea	1,943
Sudan	1,761
Ethiopia	1,424
All others	5,211
TOTAL	108,042



Country of resettlement	Submissions (persons)
USA	84,963
Australia	7,287
Canada	6,889
Sweden	2,033
Norway	1,669
New Zealand	1,086
United Kingdom	1,072
Finland	888
Netherlands	661
Denmark	472
All Others	1,022
TOTAL	108,042

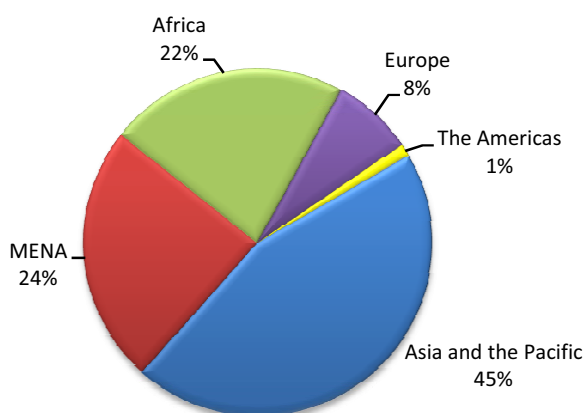


UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2010

Submissions by region of asylum

Asia and the Pacific	48,507
MENA	26,059
Africa	24,062
Europe	8,218
The Americas	1,196
Total	108,042

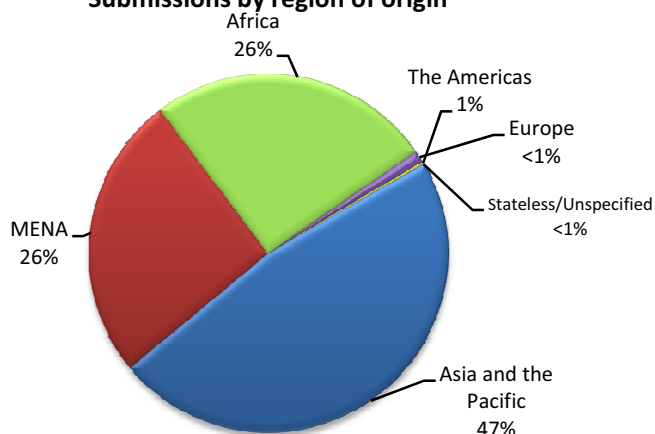
Submissions by region of asylum



Submissions by region of origin

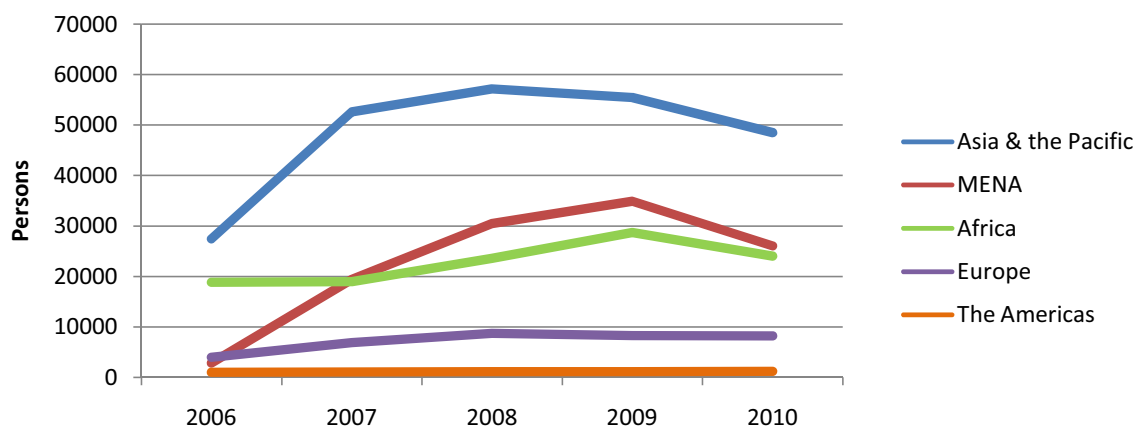
Asia and the Pacific	51,135
MENA	27,840
Africa	27,689
The Americas	1,184
Europe	165
Stateless*/Unspecified	29
Total	108,042

Submissions by region of origin



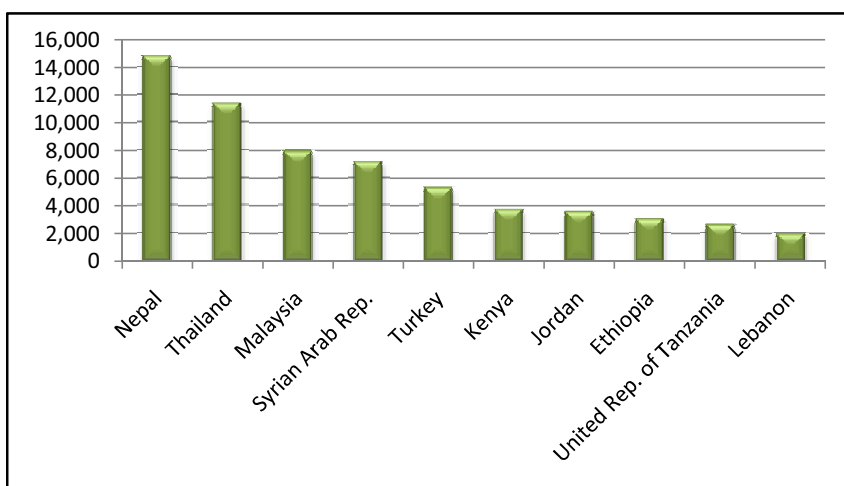
* Stateless refers only to refugees who are not considered nationals by any State under the operation of its law

2006-2010 UNHCR submissions by region of asylum

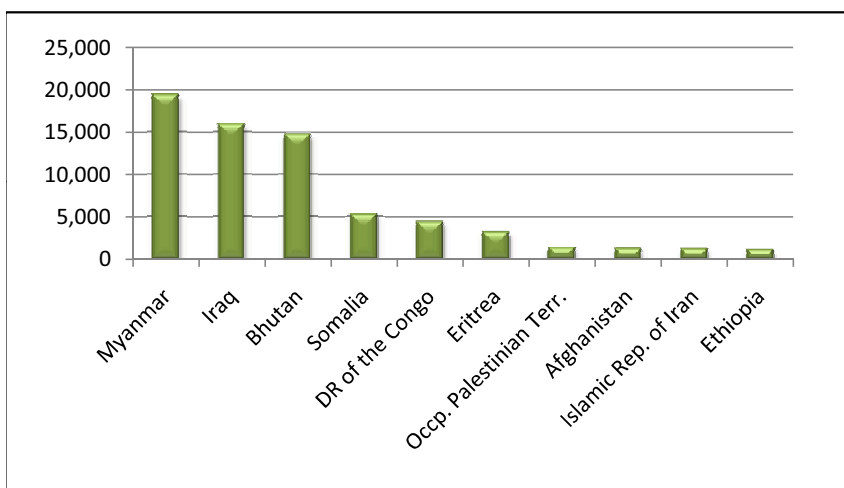


Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2010

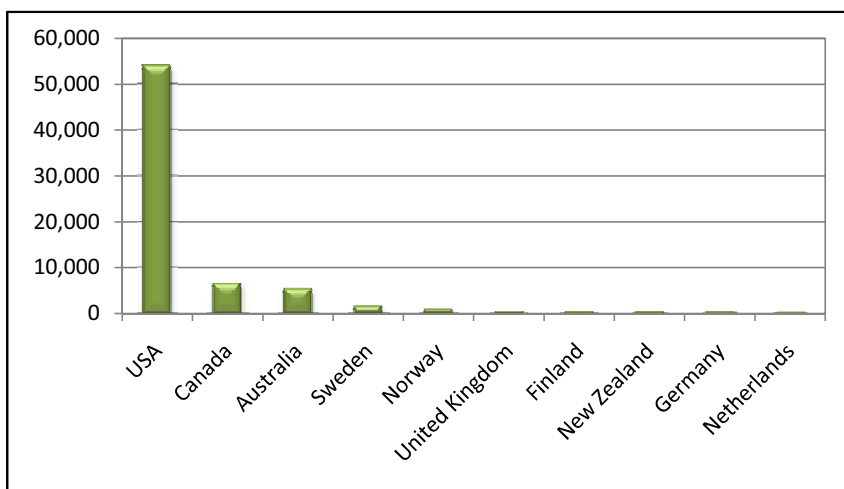
Country of asylum	Departures (persons)
Nepal	14,819
Thailand	11,417
Malaysia	7,955
Syrian Arab Republic	7,213
Turkey	5,335
Kenya	3,773
Jordan	3,630
Ethiopia	3,098
United Republic of Tanzania	2,668
Lebanon	2,018
All Others	10,988
Total	72,914



Country/territory of origin	Departures (persons)
Myanmar	19,436
Iraq	16,014
Bhutan	14,809
Somalia	5,391
Democratic Republic of the Congo	4,510
Eritrea	3,316
Occupied Palestinian Territories	1,489
Afghanistan	1,378
Islamic Republic of Iran	1,328
Ethiopia	1,211
All Others	4,032
Total	72,914



Country of resettlement	Departures (persons)
USA	54,077
Canada	6,706
Australia	5,636
Sweden	1,789
Norway	1,088
United Kingdom	695
Finland	543
New Zealand	535
Germany	457
Netherlands	430
All Others	958
Total	72,914

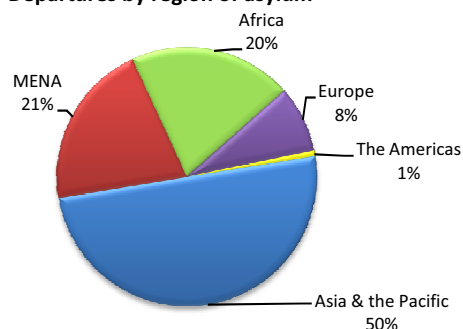


UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2010

Departures by region of asylum

Asia & the Pacific	36,360
MENA	15,138
Africa	14,865
Europe	6,046
The Americas	505
Total	72,914

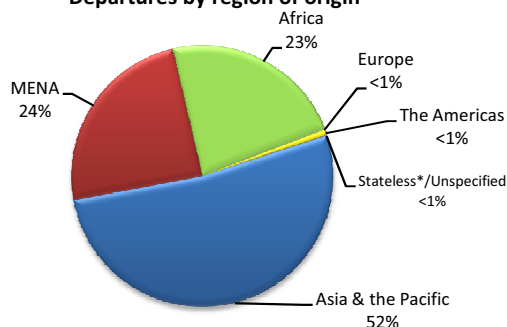
Departures by region of asylum



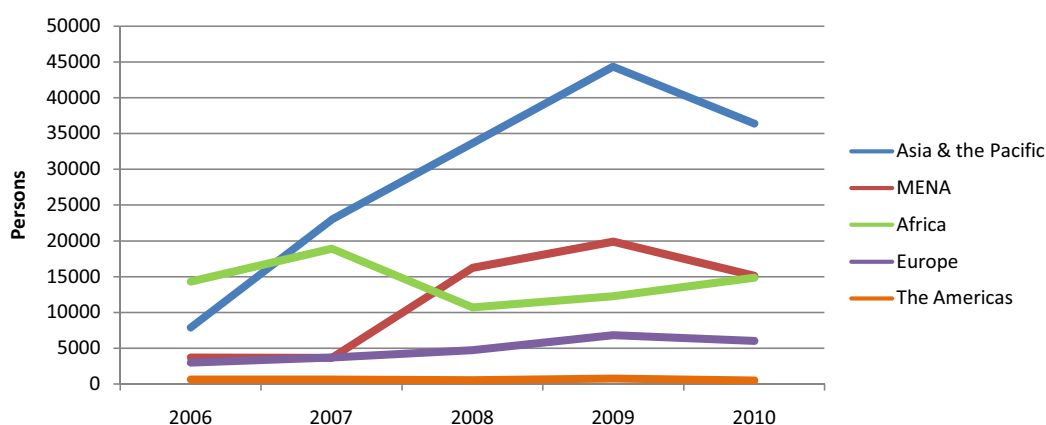
Departures by region of origin

Asia & the Pacific	37,951
MENA	17,747
Africa	16,559
Europe	111
The Americas	490
Stateless*/Unspecified	56
Total	72,914

Departures by region of origin



2006-2010 UNHCR departures by region of asylum



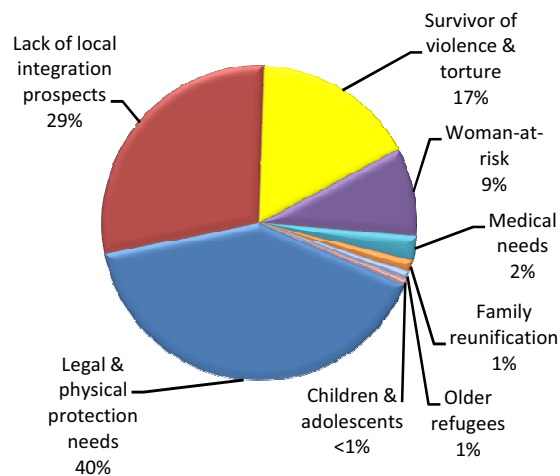
* Stateless refers only to refugees who are not considered nationals by any State under the operation of its law

UNHCR Resettlement Submissions and Departures by Criteria in 2010

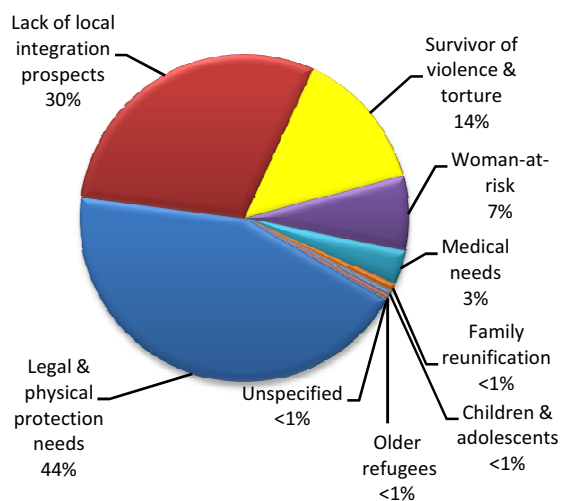
Resettlement Criteria	Submissions	
	(cases)	(persons)
Legal & physical protection needs	13,925	40,213
Lack of local integration prospects	9,820	33,988
Survivor of violence & torture	5,752	19,778
Woman-at-risk	3,113	8,533
Medical needs	866	3,456
Family reunification	426	1,061
Older refugees	291	484
Children & adolescents	181	529
Grand Total	34,374	108,042

Resettlement Criteria	Departures
	(persons)
Legal & physical protection needs	31,837
Lack of local integration prospects	21,782
Survivor of violence & torture	10,215
Woman-at-risk	5,357
Medical needs	2,447
Family reunification	562
Children & adolescents	370
Older refugees	321
Unspecified	23
Grand Total	72,914

Submissions by criteria

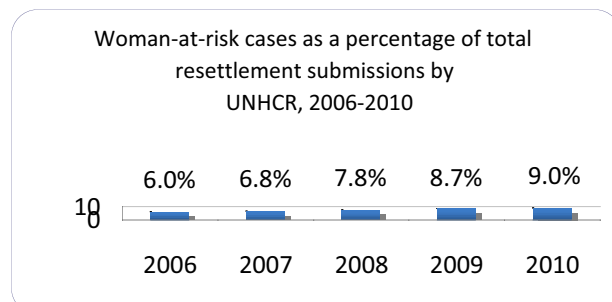
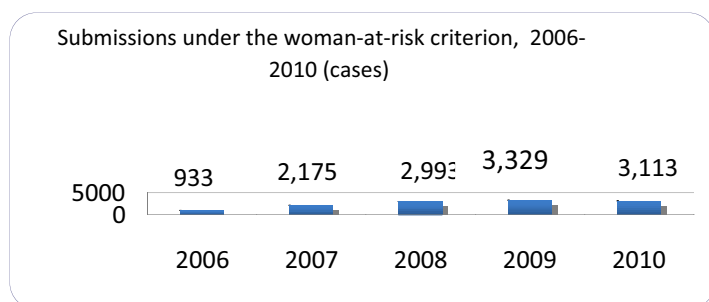


Departures by criteria

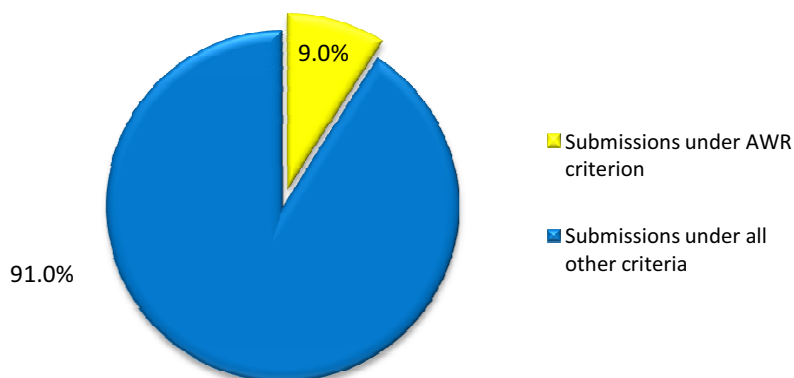


UNHCR Resettlement Submissions and Departures Under the Woman-at-Risk (AWR) Criterion in 2010

Top ten: submissions under woman-at-risk criterion by country of asylum			
Country of asylum	cases	persons	% cases
Syrian Arab Republic	628	1,649	20.2
Malaysia	470	487	15.1
Turkey	228	525	7.3
Kenya	213	761	6.8
Jordan	169	319	5.4
Thailand	156	430	5.0
Islamic Republic of Iran	143	680	4.6
Nepal	138	492	4.4
Sudan	129	394	4.1
Rwanda	87	349	2.8
All Others	752	2,447	24.3
Total	3,113	8,533	100



Woman-at-risk cases as a percentage of total resettlement submissions by UNHCR in 2010

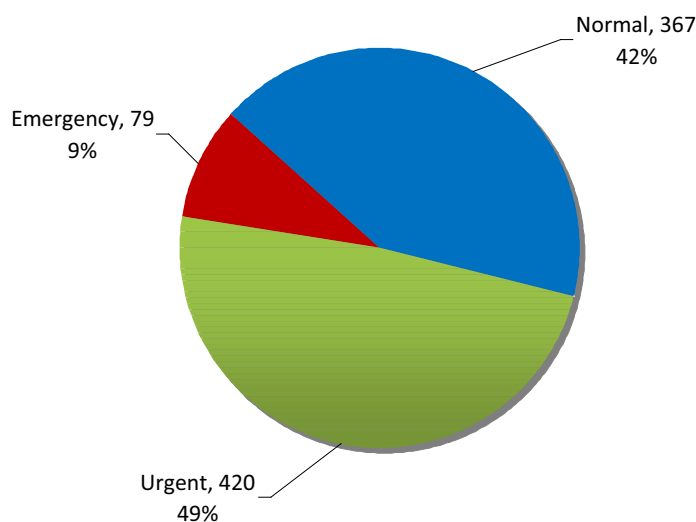


Total woman-at-risk case submissions: 3,113
 Total global case submissions: 34,374

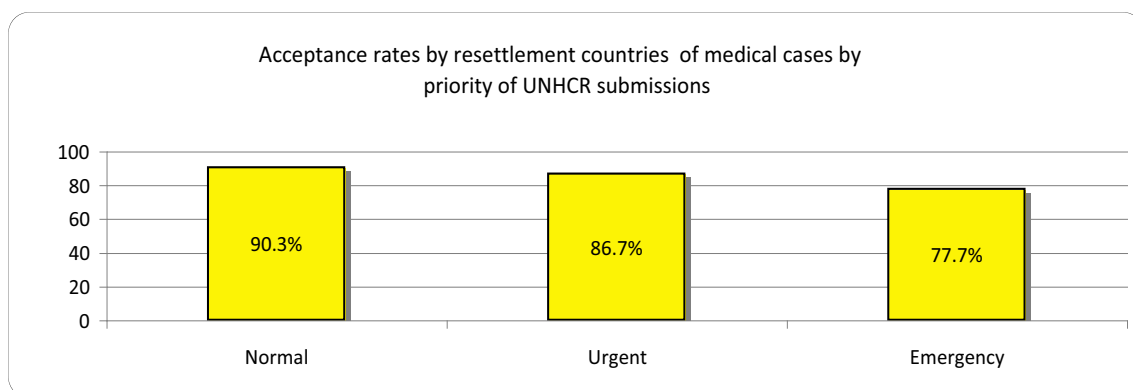
UNHCR Resettlement Submissions and Departures Under the Medical Needs Criterion in 2010

Top ten: submissions under medical needs criterion by country/territory of origin				Top ten: submissions under medical needs criterion by country of asylum			
Country/territory of origin	cases	persons	% cases	Country of asylum	cases	persons	% cases
Iraq	182	641	21.0	Turkey	187	520	21.6
Bhutan	172	1,037	19.9	Nepal	172	1,037	19.9
Myanmar	169	339	19.5	Malaysia	140	212	16.2
Somalia	100	519	11.5	Kenya	56	350	6.5
Islamic Republic of Iran	62	138	7.2	Syrian Arab Republic	38	157	4.4
Democratic Republic of the Congo	60	356	6.9	Thailand	30	120	3.5
Afghanistan	24	77	2.8	Yemen	22	94	2.5
Congo	17	29	2.0	Chad	20	117	2.3
Central African Republic	15	79	1.7	Ethiopia	17	71	2.0
Sudan	12	62	1.4	Burundi	16	111	1.8
All others	53	179	6.1	All others	168	667	19.3
Total	866	3,456	100	Total	866	3,456	100

Medical cases submitted by priority

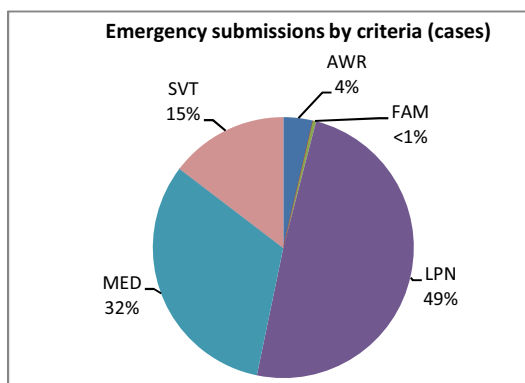
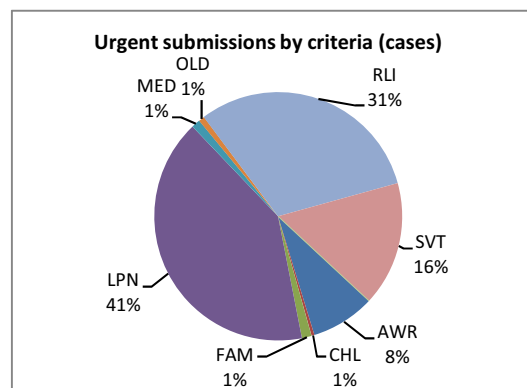
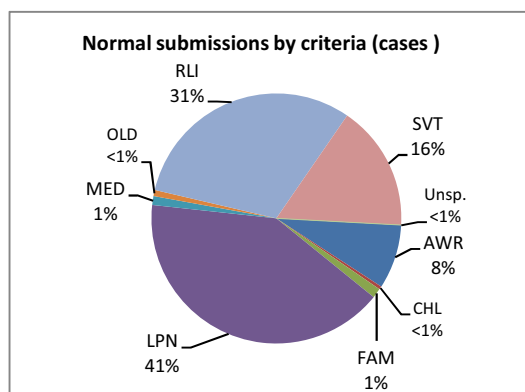


Acceptance rates by resettlement countries of medical cases by priority of UNHCR submissions

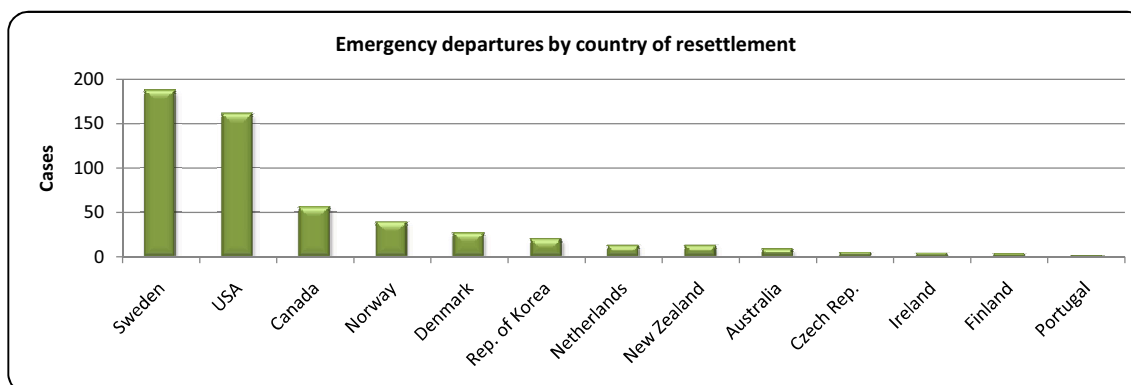


UNHCR Resettlement Submissions and Departures by Priority and Criteria in 2010

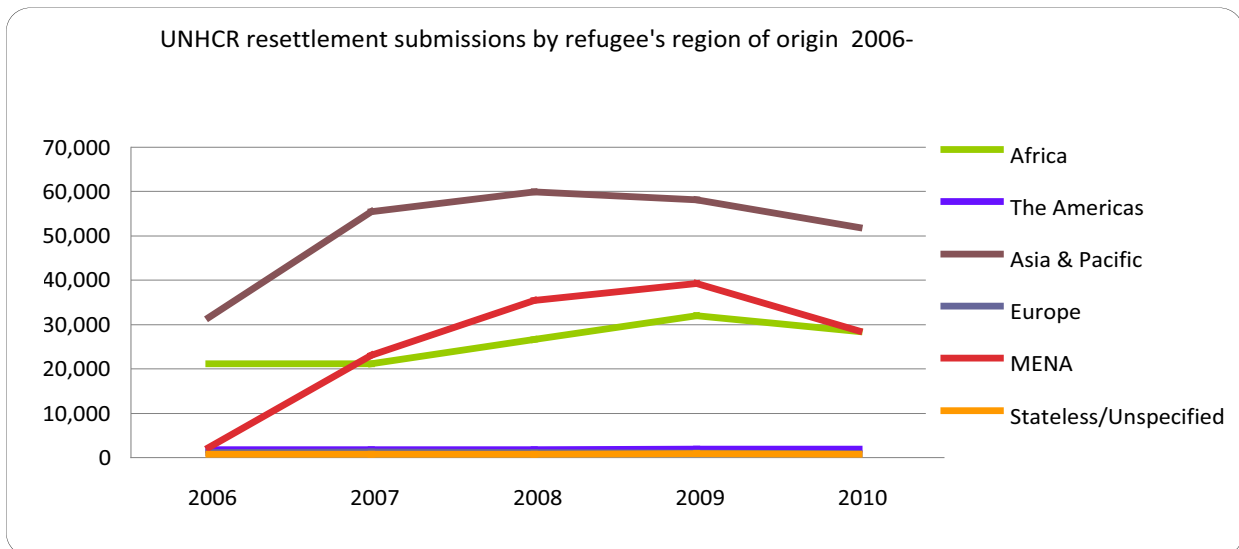
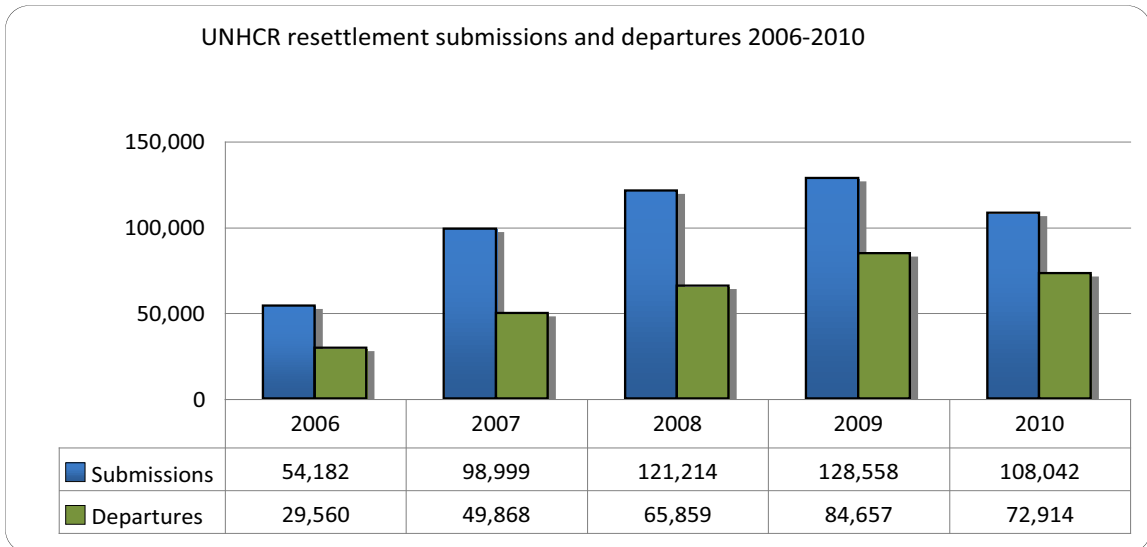
Priority	Submissions			Departures	
	cases	persons	% persons	persons	% persons
Normal	31,709	99,695	92.3	65,399	89.7
Urgent	2,419	7,722	7.1	6,977	9.6
Emergency	246	625	0.6	538	0.7
Total	34,374	108,042	100.0	72,914	100.0



- Criteria Codes
- AWR Woman-at-risk
 - CHL Children and adolescents
 - FAM Family reunification
 - LPN Legal & physical protection needs
 - MED Medical needs
 - OLD Older refugees
 - RLI Lack of local integration prospects
 - SVT Survivor of violence and torture



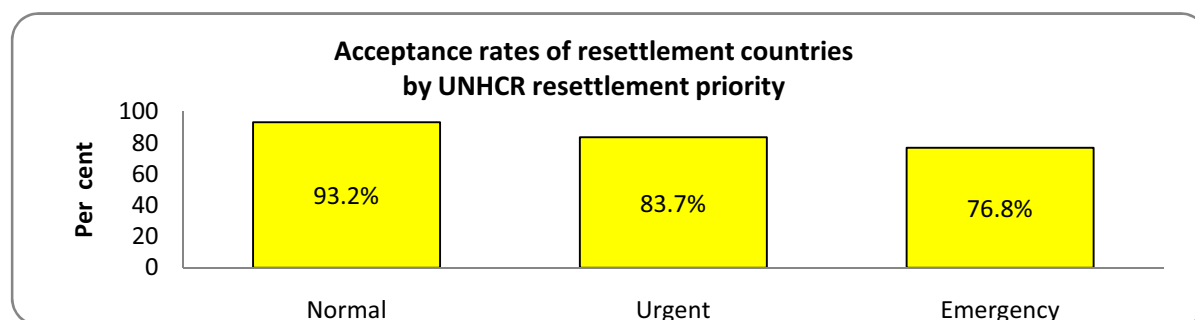
UNHCR Resettlement Submissions and Departures 2006 – 2010



Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Countries in 2010

Global average acceptance rate¹ 92.2%

Acceptance rates of resettlement countries by top ten country/territory of origin			Acceptance rates of resettlement countries by UNHCR resettlement criteria	
Country/territory of origin	submissions (persons)	% acceptance	Resettlement criteria	% acceptance
Bhutan	20,617	99.8	Lack of local integration prospects	96.5
Myanmar	24,420	97.6	Legal & physical protection needs	93.0
Eritrea	1,943	91.4	Children and adolescents	91.2
Democratic Republic of the Congo	3,479	90.1	Older refugees	90.8
Sudan	1,761	87.6	Family reunification	88.0
Iraq	26,746	87.5	Woman-at-risk	87.3
Islamic Republic of Iran	2,786	87.3	Survivor of violence and torture	87.1
Somalia	17,371	86.5	Medical needs	86.8
Occupied Palestinian Territory	752	84.5	Global average acceptance rate	92.2
Afghanistan	2,284	77.2		



1 - Acceptance rates are based on resettlement decisions reported by resettlement States to UNHCR field offices. A decline decision by resettlement country does not necessarily mean the case is ineligible for resettlement submission according to UNHCR policy. UNHCR may resubmit the case to another resettlement country.

UNHCR Resettlement Departures 2006- 2010 (persons)

Country of resettlement	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Countries with regular resettlement programmes					
Argentina	19	32	78	8	23
Australia	4,647	6,056	5,171	6,720	5,636
Brazil	50	163	19	30	28
Bulgaria (<i>implementation as of 2012 onwards</i>)					
Canada	5,218	5,998	5,663	6,582	6,706
Chile	42	32	45	66	6
Czech Republic		8	23	17	48
Denmark	750	480	403	488	386
Finland	548	714	675	710	543
France	1	5	276	179	217
Hungary (<i>implementation as of 2012 onwards</i>)					
Iceland		30	29		6
Ireland	119	107	89	194	20
Japan (<i>pilot programme</i>)					27
Netherlands	327	425	580	347	430
New Zealand	622	629	894	675	535
Norway	871	978	722	1,367	1,088
Paraguay					13
Portugal		12	5	26	24
Romania					38
Spain		3	8		
Sweden	1,571	1,772	1,596	1,880	1,789
Uruguay				14	17
United Kingdom	349	348	697	969	695
United States of America	14,382	32,007	48,828	62,011	54,077
Countries with special resettlement programmes / ad-hoc resettlement intake					
Austria	1	1			
Belgium	14	17	6	54	2
Germany	10	3		2,064	457
Greece			2		
Israel		1			
Italy	6	40	30	191	58
Luxembourg				28	
Palau					3
Republic of Korea			23	20	23
Switzerland	13	7	12	17	19
Grand Total	29,560	49,868	65,874	84,657	72,914

Protracted Refugee Situations¹ Where Resettlement Takes Place

Comparison of UNHCR Resettlement Submissions and Departures 2008 - 2010

Country/territory of Origin	Country of Asylum	Total Population ³	Submissions			Departures		
			2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
Afghanistan	Pakistan ²	1,739,935	217	414	122	59	109	157
Afghanistan	Islamic Republic of Iran	1,022,494	467	577	895	470	588	389
Somalia	Kenya	310,280	6,193	9,552	8,143	2,417	3,606	2,776
Myanmar	Thailand	104,107	20,363	19,490	11,142	16,607	16,518	10,825
Bhutan	Nepal	85,908	23,516	22,113	20,617	8,779	17,428	14,809
Eritrea	Sudan	64,109	215	545	979	271	283	614
Democratic Republic of the Congo	United Republic of Tanzania	63,275	749	2,030	502	249	531	1,993
Burundi	United Republic of Tanzania	53,823	526	243	34	2,953	795	618
Sudan	Uganda	20,836	18	73	23	100	52	14

1 - For statistical purposes, UNHCR defines a protracted refugee situation as a refugee population of 25,000 persons or more who have been in exile for at least five consecutive years. Figures do not cover industrialized countries and exclude Palestinians refugees who under the mandate of UNRWA.

2 - Afghan refugee figures for Pakistan include individually recognized Afghan refugees (2,800), registered Afghans in refugee villages who are assisted by UNHCR (756,000), and registered Afghans outside refugee villages who are living in a "refugee-like" situation (981,000). Individuals in all categories have been issued a Proof of Registration Card by the Government of Pakistan. Following the completion of the registration exercise in 2007, those living outside refugee villages are now in the "refugee-like" category. They do not receive direct UNHCR material assistance but they benefit from advocacy and reintegration support upon return.

3 - Population of UNHCR assisted, as at End-Year 2009

2010 Per Capita Resettlement by Country of Resettlement

Country of resettlement	2010 (persons)	National population*	Resettled refugees per capita
Countries with regular resettlement programmes			
Australia	5,636	21,512,000	3,817
Norway	1,088	4,855,000	4,462
Canada	6,706	33,890,000	5,054
Sweden	1,789	9,293,000	5,195
United States of America	54,077	317,641,000	5,874
New Zealand	535	4,303,000	8,043
Finland	543	5,346,000	9,845
Denmark	386	5,481,000	14,199
Netherlands	430	16,653,000	38,728
Iceland	6	329,000	54,833
United Kingdom	695	61,899,000	89,063
Uruguay	17	3,372,000	198,353
Czech Republic	48	10,411,000	216,896
Ireland	20	4,589,000	229,450
France	217	62,637,000	288,650
Portugal	24	10,732,000	447,167
Paraguay	13	6,460,000	496,923
Romania	38	21,190,000	557,632
Chile	6	17,135,000	2,855,833
Japan (<i>pilot programme</i>)	27	126,995,000	4,703,519
Brazil	28	195,423,000	6,979,393
Countries with special resettlement programmes / ad-hoc resettlement intake			
Germany	457	82,057,000	179,556
Switzerland	19	7,595,000	399,737
Italy	58	60,098,000	1,036,172
Argentina	23	40,666,000	1,768,087
Republic of Korea	23	48,501,000	2,108,739
Belgium	2	10,698,000	5,349,000
Grand Total	72,911	1,189,761,000	16,318

* National population: United Nations, Population Division, "World Population Prospects: The 2008 Revision", New York, 2008