



# THE HISTORY OF RESETTLEMENT

Celebrating 25 Years of the ATCR

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## INTRODUCTION

The Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR), established over 25 years ago, is the engine that drives today's robust global infrastructure on resettlement. The importance of a global multi-stakeholder architecture which brings together UNHCR, States, civil society and an increasingly broad range of partners including the private sector and academia cannot be overstated.

The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) recognised the importance of the ATCR, the Working Group on Resettlement and the Core Groups, recommending that the efforts under the GCR, including the Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways seek to build upon and leverage their added value.<sup>1</sup>

On the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> ATCR, this document looks back at the history of the ATCR, the rationale for its creation, its achievements in the last 25 years, its continued relevance today, and the need for the ATCR in the future.



*Resettlement of refugees through IRO Bremerhaven, Germany: UNHCR's predecessor, the International Refugee Organisation (IRO) helped one million people to resettle overseas. Seen here are displaced persons from camps in Germany, Austria and Italy boarding an IRO-chartered ship on their way to start a new life in the United States of America. © UNHCR/1951*



*In the aftermath of World War II, some of the millions of displaced persons queue for resettlement opportunities via the International Refugee Organization. ©UNHCR/1953*

## PRE 1995: EARLY RESETTLEMENT

In the aftermath of World War II, to address the problems faced by refugees and displaced persons, States agreed to establish the International Refugee Organisation (IRO) in December 1946, a non-permanent organization with functions including resettlement. The IRO implemented the resettlement of more than 1 million refugees under the leadership of the US during the late 1940s.<sup>2</sup>

UNHCR was created in 1950 with a mandate to provide international protection to refugees and other persons of concern to the Office and to seek permanent or durable solutions, including resettlement. Consequently, resettlement has been an integral part of UNHCR's mandate to support the international protection of refugees. In the decades that followed resettlement was frequently the only available and durable solution and was undertaken on a large scale and often expedited basis in the following contexts:

## 1956-1957: Resettlement of Hungarian Refugees from Austria

The 1956 Hungarian Revolution led to the exodus of 200,000 people by 1957, and triggered a remarkable international response to the ensuing refugee crisis.<sup>3</sup> Faced with a massive influx of Hungarian refugees into Austrian territory, and in the absence of return as a viable option, resettlement was the primary response.<sup>4</sup> The response to Hungarian refugees is considered a benchmark for international refugee law and policy, as well as one of the most successful demonstrations of an international effort to find solutions and resettle refugees: during the first nine weeks, 92,950 people were resettled from Austria,<sup>5</sup> and in total more than 170,000 Hungarian refugees were resettled to 37 countries.<sup>6</sup>



*Hungarian refugees. These refugees are taking a train from Austria to Switzerland, their new country of asylum. ©UNHCR/1956*



## 1972: Resettlement of South Asian Refugees from Uganda

In August 1972, the President of Uganda abruptly announced that all Asians should leave the country, even if they had Ugandan citizenship.<sup>7</sup> This prompted UNHCR to appeal to the international community for assistance in the form of offers of resettlement, and funds to transport and assist those in transit. Within less than two weeks of UNHCR's call for assistance, permanent resettlement places were offered by the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.<sup>8</sup> With the help of UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), some 40,000 Ugandan Asians were resettled within a few months to 25 countries.<sup>9</sup>



Uganda Asians. Arrival at Vienna airport. Tens of thousands of Asians were arbitrarily expelled from Uganda in the 1970s and became effectively stateless. ©UNHCR/N. Schuster

## 1973: Resettlement of Latin American Refugees from Chile and neighbouring Countries

On 11 September 1973, General Augusto Pinochet launched an armed attack against the democratically elected government of President Salvador Allende in Chile. At that time Chile served as home to thousands of Refugees and political exiles who had sought refuge in the country in preceding years due to a series of military interventions in other Latin American countries. By March 1974, UNHCR had facilitated the resettlement of nearly 5,000 refugees registered in Chile to 19 countries.<sup>10</sup>



France. Refugee from Chile. The elder daughter of the Loubies bundles newspapers at the printing plant where she obtained a part-time job. ©UNHCR/Herve Gloaguen

In parallel, UNHCR offices in neighbouring countries also committed to offer international protection for Chileans who fled the country or were exiled as a result of the regime. As part of the international community's response, 110 countries – including Australia, Iceland, Finland and Kenya – welcomed Chileans in need of international protection. This response was an important milestone in the history of UNHCR, as it was the organisation's first major operation in Latin America.<sup>11</sup>



Refugees from Chile in Aznhem, the Netherlands. ©UNHCR, R.Giling.

## 1975-1995: Resettlement of Indochinese Refugees including from Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand

The upheavals which followed the political struggles in 1975 in the former French colonies of Indochina (Viet Nam, Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic) caused more than 3 million people to flee these countries over the next two decades.<sup>12</sup>

Resettlement played a significant role in the response of the international community under the leadership of the United States, Australia, France and Canada,<sup>13</sup> and featured as one of the objectives of a multilateral comprehensive plan of action: by mid-1979 some 200,000 refugees had been resettled and within a twenty-year period over 1,300,000 refugees were resettled to over 15 countries.<sup>14</sup>



Thailand. Orderly Departure Program for Vietnamese refugees. Vietnamese bound for third countries, arrive in Bangkok from Ho Chi Minh City. ©UNHCR/N. Schuster





## 1991-1995: Resettlement of Bosnian Refugees from the Former Republic of Yugoslavia

The emergency relief operation in the former Republic of Yugoslavia during the Bosnian conflict was a large and complex international response.<sup>15</sup> From 1992 to 1999, UNHCR resettled over 15,000 refugees from the Former Republic of Yugoslavia, and half a million refugees still remained in the country.<sup>16</sup>

*Facilitating integration of Vietnamese refugees. In order to facilitate the integration of newly arrived refugees, the Canadian C.O.P.I (Centre d'orientation et de formation des immigrés) organises language classes and outings during which the refugees can get to know their new country, the people and the local customs. ©UNHCR/Herve Gloaguen*



*Resettled Hmong refugees in Merced California. ©UNHCR/L. Gubb*



*Bosnian refugee, Elina, an Honours Student from Kljuc resettled to the United States. January 1999. ©UNHCR/L. Wolf*



*Iceland. Resettlement. Vietnamese refugee, arrived in 1979, works as a mechanic in City Council workshop, Reykjavic, at the Cafeteria. ©UNHCR/R. Wilkinson*

## 1995: THE ANNUAL TRIPARTITE CONSULTATIONS ON RESETTLEMENT

### Resettlement in the 1990s – A Paradigm Shift

The scale of resettlement activities changed dramatically between 1985 and 1995. In 1979 – the peak of refugee outflows in South East Asia – resettlement was viewed as the only viable durable solution for approximately 1 in 20 of the world's 5-6 million refugees. In 1993, this ratio fell dramatically to just 1 in 400, despite a quadrupling of the world's refugee population in the interim. UNHCR submissions dropped from over 200,000 a year in the late 1970s to 50-60,000 a year in the mid-1990s.<sup>17</sup>

In 1991, the Forty-Second session of the UNHCR Executive Committee endorsed and clarified the role of resettlement in the context of the protection mandate of the organization, by reaffirming the link between international protection and resettlement as an instrument of protection and its important role as a durable solution in specific circumstances....<sup>18</sup>

Consequently, in the early 1990s, with a renewed focus on resettlement as a protection tool, governments increasingly looked to UNHCR to determine who should be resettled.

## Evaluation of Global Resettlement Policy and Practice in the 1990s

An evaluation of UNHCR's global resettlement policy and practice in the 1990s<sup>19</sup> identified significant challenges in resettlement delivery at that time due to:

**Absence of resettlement policy and procedures:** The objectives of resettlement were not clearly articulated or understood; criteria and guidelines for both States and UNHCR were unclear and outdated, and categories of vulnerability were not clearly defined; there was a lack of consistent procedures for the identification and assessment of refugees for resettlement by UNHCR; a variety of different individual State selection criteria was an obstacle to effective and rapid responses.

**Lack of resources and capacity:** There was a lack of global capacity and expertise in resettlement, and within UNHCR professional posts dedicated to resettlement world-wide were limited.

**Lack of coordination and consistent information related to resettlement needs and achievements:** Despite global assessment reports setting out projected numbers for resettlement based on regional assessments, the needs were not comprehensively mapped and it was felt that they underestimated the scale of global resettlement needs. Often actual resettlement activities did not correlate with projections, creating confusion and undermining advocacy for resettlement. To address the challenges in the

implementation and coordination of resettlement in the 1990s, the 1994 evaluation report on UNHCR's global resettlement policy and practice called upon UNHCR to establish formal mechanisms for systematic consultation with Governments, NGOs and IGOs, to improve dialogue and co-operation between all partners involved in resettlement. This forum was required to thoroughly review, update and revise resettlement policies and procedures, and to coordinate ways of strengthening implementation capacity, through training and staff secondments. Specifically, it was recommended that:

*“UNHCR should convene, in early 1995, an informal consultation of major resettlement country governments, with selected NGO representation, to develop joint strategies for the future which will prioritise UNHCR-identified needs. Subsequently, UNHCR should convene a yearly inter-governmental forum, to discuss, review and plan responses to current resettlement needs, including specific burden-sharing strategies for the resettlement of particular refugee populations.”*

*UNHCR should review the current format of the Global Assessment to ensure that it facilitates the organization's efforts to promote its resettlement priorities....The Assessment should include overall policy goals, new developments, and major appeals for on-going resettlement programmes.”*

## The First ATCR Convened in 1995

In October 1995, UNHCR held the first consultations with Governments on resettlement. During 1995, consultations with NGOs were also held, and it was decided that joint tripartite consultations should take place on an annual basis. Today the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) are the primary vehicle for collaborative efforts between UNHCR, governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders on resettlement policy, coordination and strategy. The Annual Tripartite Consultations and Working Group on Resettlement offer a forum to review progress on resettlement issues on a yearly basis, as well as to shape joint strategies and directions for the future. They provide partners with the space to share information and best practices, co-ordinate and plan operational activities, and analyse important policy issues related to resettlement.

Importantly the ATCR is a tripartite forum (UNHCR, States and Civil Society), which promotes transparency and partnerships reflecting the variety of stakeholders engaged in the resettlement process. UNHCR's Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Service plays a critical role in supporting the ATCR process through policy guidance and data, as well as through secretarial support to the ATCR, which is chaired by a rotating State and NGO co-chair. The WGR supports the work of the ATCR through smaller and more targeted consultative forums to discuss specific policy and operational aspects of resettlement – topics for the WGR have included simplification and integrity of procedures, and the integration of resettled refugees. In parallel, Resettlement Core Groups have also been established by States and UNHCR to address operational challenges and coordinate resettlement from priority situations such as the Bhutanese and Syrian Core Groups.



ATCR 2018



## 1995 – 2019: A GLOBAL FRAMEWORK AND FOUNDATION FOR RESETTLEMENT DELIVERY



Ruben Ahlvin, Senior Refugee Quota Coordinator for the Swedish Migration Board, receives a Distinguished Service Award for his work in the area of resettlement, from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres, during the annual resettlement meeting at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, 2009. ©UNHCR/C. Kitsel

During its 25 years, the ATCR structure has been a working hub for the development and coordination of resettlement policy, processes, capacity, strategies and data. The ATCR represents an active and working partnership between the different resettlement stakeholders which aims to maximize the impact of resettlement in pursuing its objectives of protection, durable solutions and responsibility sharing. Since the establishment of the ATCR over 1 million refugees have been resettled through UNHCR. The ATCR has laid the foundations for resettlement programmes, through the establishment

of a community of practice and a global framework for resettlement delivery based on collaboration, agreement, and innovation. As such, the achievements of the ATCR go far beyond the number of refugees resettled and include those highlighted below.

### Development of Resettlement Policy and Procedures



#### UNHCR Resettlement Handbook



UNHCR Resettlement Handbook (2011)

- ✓ UNHCR's Resettlement Handbook was developed in close collaboration with ATCR partners, and outlines the objectives, criteria, and processes for resettlement;
- ✓ The resettlement country chapters clearly set out the criteria of individual resettlement States programmes;

- ✓ Integrity in resettlement processing has been addressed through the WGR, action plans and policy development;
- ✓ UNHCR's position on the Strategic use of Resettlement was developed in collaboration with and endorsed by the ATCR community;
- ✓ Resettlement processing modalities, including group, expedited and emergency processes have been established and refined with a focus on efficiency and quality;
- ✓ UNHCR's approach to identification has been enhanced through the development of tools such as the Heightened Risk Identification Tool, and the NGO tool kit which guides operations on identification in partnership with NGOs.
- ✓ UNHCR's 2002 Handbook on the Integration of Resettled Refugees, was developed in close collaboration with the ATCR community.

### Capacity Building of States, UNHCR and Partners

- ✓ Capacity building initiatives including training activities, tool kits, the sharing of best practices, twinning between resettlement States and capacity building support mechanisms have been developed and promoted;
- ✓ UNHCR's resettlement capacity has been strengthened through the establishment of the Deployment Scheme in partnership with ICMC, RefugePoint and the DRC;
- ✓ The ATCR and its WGR offer an informal discussion forum for resettlement experts to connect and

discuss new ideas and innovations to support implementation.

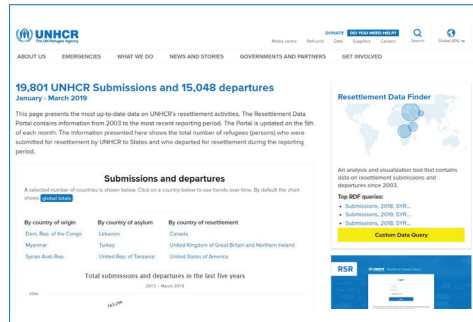
### The Presentation of UNHCR's Projected Global Resettlement Needs



EXCOM. Aguil de'Chut Deng (left), and Nava Malula, refugees resettled to Australia, presented the NGO statement to the general debate during UNHCR's annual Excom meeting in 2007. ©UNHCR/ S. Happer

- ✓ Each year, the ATCR provides an opportunity for UNHCR to present the annual Projected Global Resettlement Needs and advocate that programmes are aligned with priority situations. UNHCR has strengthened the process and format for mapping and consolidating global projected resettlement needs;
- ✓ Strategies to focus on and address global resettlement priorities in accordance with the needs identified by UNHCR have been successfully implemented including through Resettlement Core Groups (see below).

## Strengthened Data and Evidence on the Availability and Use of Resettlement



Resettlement Data Portal

- ✓ UNHCR has strengthened its ability to gather and publish accurate statistics on resettlement submissions and departures, including through an online portal;
- ✓ Resettlement States share data and information concerning the availability of resettlement opportunities.

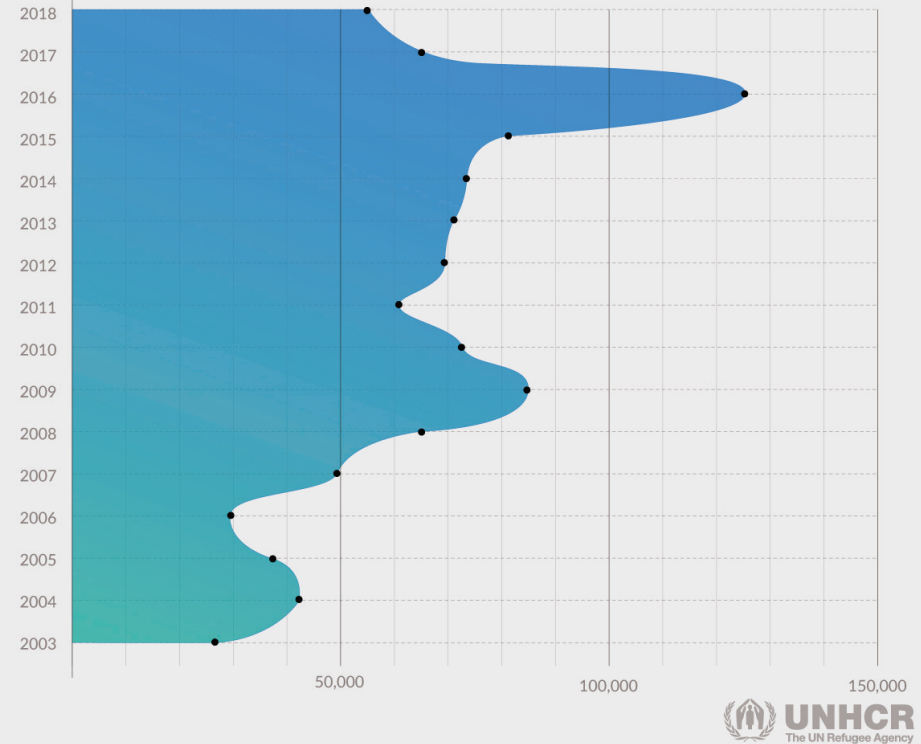
## The Growth of the ATCR Community



ATCR 2018

The size of the ATCR community has grown significantly since its establishment in 1995, with 10 resettlement States attending the first ATCR (Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States of America) compared with around 30 resettlement States in attendance during the last ten years. Overall participation has also increased from 60 participants in 1995 to 240 participants in attendance in 2018, including States, Civil Society, IOM, academia, research institutions and think tanks, and the private sector, reflecting the broadening of partners engaged in resettlement.

## Over 1 million refugees have been resettled through UNHCR



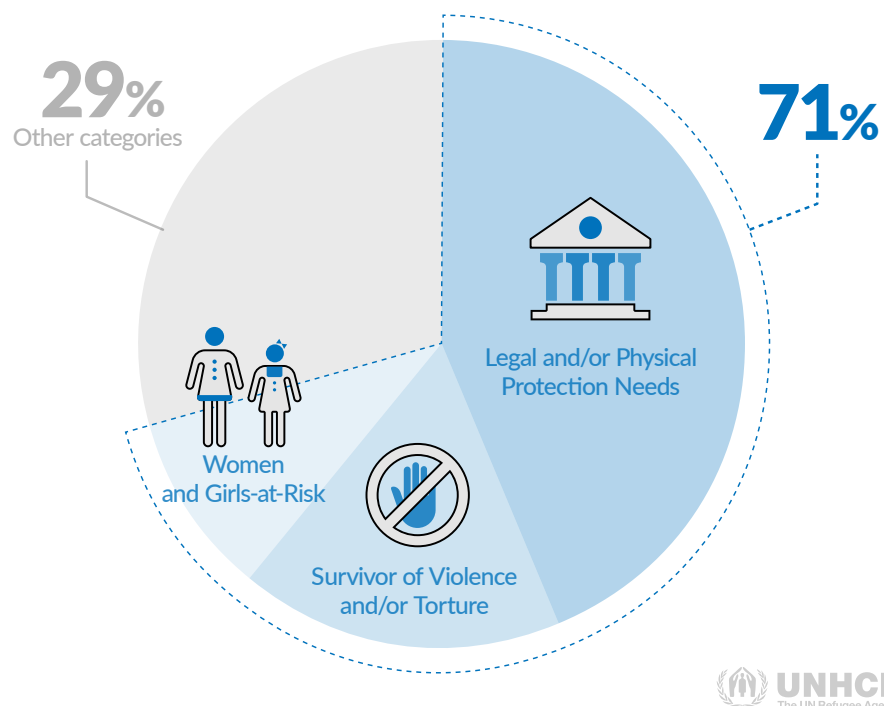
## Resettlement Activities during the ATCR's Lifecycle

- ✓ With the support of the ATCR community, UNHCR established its global systems for gathering and publishing comparable and accurate statistics on resettlement activities in 2003.
- ✓ Comparable data on resettlement submissions and departures is since 2003 now available publicly via UNHCR's global resettlement data portal (rsq.unhcr.org).
- ✓ 16 years of comprehensive resettlement data (2003 - 2018) demonstrates the following:
  - ✓ A total of **1,449,361 refugees** were submitted for resettlement consideration by UNHCR;
  - ✓ Over 1 million refugees were resettled through UNHCR: a total of **1,015,644 refugees** departed to resettlement countries;



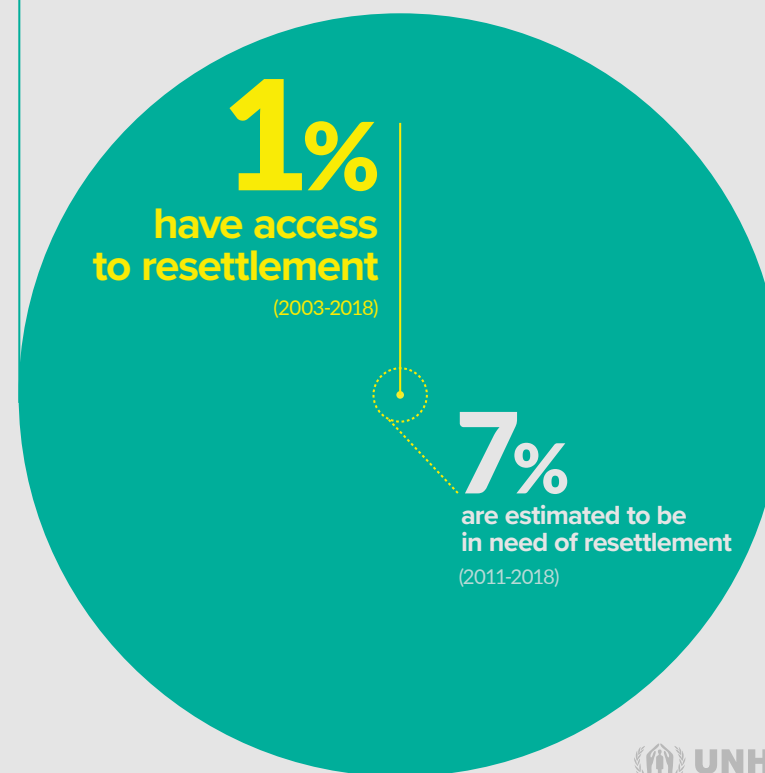
## Resettlement is an important international protection tool

(2003-2018)



- ✓ Consistently about 7 per cent of the global refugee population are in need of resettlement but only **1 per cent of the refugee population have access to resettlement each year**;
- ✓ 71 per cent of refugees referred for resettlement were within three **protection categories** (Survivors of Violence and/or Torture; Women and Girls-at-Risk; and Legal and/or Physical Needs).
- ✓ The top 5 resettlement countries received 90 per cent of UNHCR submissions - **the United States of America, Canada, Australia, Sweden and the United Kingdom** (see map on pages 24-25).
- ✓ The top 10 countries of origin accounted for 90 per cent of all UNHCR submissions. **Myanmar, Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia** were the top 5 countries of origin submitted.

## The global refugee population



### Resettlement from Priority Situations through Core Groups

Since 2009, the ATCR community have intensified the strategic use of resettlement in priority situations. This has been achieved through the establishment of Resettlement Core Groups (situation specific) or Contact Groups (operation specific). Core and Contact Groups have emerged as an effective partnership model involving different resettlement States, UNHCR and other relevant resettlement partners (including the concerned country of asylum). This innovative and multilateral

approach seeks to jointly define and pursue the protection dividends deriving from the increased and coordinated engagement in resettlement activities in a given refugee situation.

The establishment of a Core or Contact Group normally occurs as the result of discussions among different resettlement States and UNHCR in the context of the ATCR or WGR meetings.

Resettlement from priority situations for the strategic use of resettlement has been pursued through the Core and Contact Groups described below.

## Syria Core Group

The **Syria** Core Group successfully established innovative and expedited processing modalities for resettlement which enabled resettlement processing of a large number of refugees to many resettlement states within a short timeframes. Syrians were second in UNHCR submissions by country of origin since 2003 (223,431 submissions).



Um Abdullah and her daughter Maysaa, 13, pack a suitcase in preparation for their journey to Gemany, at their temporary home in Barja, Lebanon on 11 April 2014. The family of nine will travel to Germany under the resettlement program. ©UNHCR/Andrew McConnell



Syrian refugees, Germany's Humanitarian Assistance Programme. Abdullah (6) and his sister Ruah (4) enjoying a break and fooling around. The family had been accepted by Germany's Humanitarian Assistance Programme and travelled to Germany in September 2013. ©UNHCR/Gordon Welters

## Great Lakes Core Group

The resettlement of **Congolese** refugees was a priority which led to the establishment of the Congolese Core Group in 2013 which then transitioned into the Great Lakes Core Group. Refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo were forth in UNHCR submissions by country of origin, since 2003 (141,821 submissions).



13-year-old Sudanese refugee thanks the Norwegian government with a banner for accepting his family for resettlement. Sudanese were the largest refugee community in Shousha camp after Somalis. ©UNHCR/R. Nuri



South Africa. 2017. Congolese family heads for new life in France. Congolese refugee Bora Riziki (second from right) arrives at Cape Town International Airport with her friends, as she leaves to be resettled in France. ©UNHCR/James Oatway

## Bhutanese Core Group

The **Bhutanese** Core Group was active for over 10 years, and Bhutanese refugees were sixth in UNHCR submissions by country of origin since (199,440 submissions).

The Bhutanese Core Group was established in 2005 and involved diplomatic overtures to Nepal and Bhutan to promote comprehensive solutions, efforts to encourage the issuance of exit permits from Nepal, access to education and services, and improved conditions in Bhutan to minimize the risk of further refugee outflows as well as large-scale resettlement.



Canada. Pabi is an interpreter, a sister and a fashionista. Pabi was born deaf in Dagana, Bhutan, but she says she can do anything hearing people do, except hear. Her parents fled Bhutan soon after she was born. She grew up in a refugee camp in Nepal until the age of eighteen, when her family was resettled to Ottawa, Canada. In her adopted country, Pabi had to overcome big obstacles due to a lack of specialized education for Deaf people in the refugee camp. She is very proud that she recently passed the Canadian citizenship test. ©UNHCR/James Park



Bhutanese refugee Dasharath Bastola shows his residence permit in the Netherlands. ©UNHCR/P. de Ruiter

## Afghan Contact Groups in Iran and Pakistan

**Afghan** refugees were seventh in UNHCR submissions by country of origin since 2003 (58,875 submissions).

The Iran Contact Group for the resettlement of Afghans managed to obtain more flexibility on the part of the Iranian authorities to issue exit permit and visas for selection missions.



Hungary. Afghan refugee earns scholarship for hotel traineeship. Zia, the first refugee to be taken on by the hotel as a trainee, greets the chef. "I like to work with Zia, because he always appreciates my awful jokes," said one young woman, while his boss added that the trainee chef was "able and hard-working, so he has every chance to become a good cook." ©UNHCR/Bea Kallos



## Colombia Contact group

The **Colombia** Contact group was established in 2012 and co-chaired by the governments of New Zealand and Uruguay. It focused on information sharing among participating States, and active engagement with the Government of Ecuador to advocate for improved access to asylum.



Angélica, Karol and Kalindy are resettled refugees from Ecuador. They fled Colombia due to direct threats from the paramilitary.  
©UNHCR/A. Cribari

## Central Mediterranean Core Group

The Central Mediterranean (CM) Core Group is the most recently established Core Group (2017). The objective of the CM Core Group is to expand resettlement and complementary pathways along the Central Mediterranean route with a view to decreasing the irregular and dangerous movement of refugees through the Central Mediterranean Sea towards Europe. The CM Core Group focuses on 15 countries of asylum (Chad, Cameroon, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, Djibouti, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria) and on various nationalities (particularly Eritreans, Somalis, refugees from Central African Republic, Sudanese and South Sudanese, but also Nigerians, Guineans, Ivoirians, Gambians, Senegalese, Malians and Ghanaians). Among the nationalities above, **Somalis**, **Sudanese** and **Eritreans** have been prioritized in response to their high resettlement needs and feature in the top 10 countries of origin submitted for resettlement by UNHCR since 2003.



Niger. Young man who survived torture in Libya resettled to France "If you go inside my heart, it will explain my joy to you, as I cannot express it with my words." Twenty-four-year old Eritrean refugee, Berek, has his portrait taken at the reception centre in Niamey where he has stayed since being evacuated from Libya in February 2018. Tonight, he and six others begin a new life in France.  
©UNHCR/Louise Donovan

## 2019 AND BEYOND – THE ROLE OF THE ATCR IN THE FUTURE

Refugee situations continue to increase in scope, scale, and complexity. The vast majority of refugees (85 per cent) are hosted in low- and middle-income countries facing economic and development challenges. Despite the generosity of host countries and donors, there is an urgent need for more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's growing number of refugees.

While the resettlement landscape has witnessed important progress during the last few years, fluctuations in the availability of places and a doubling of the global needs to reach 1.4 million resulted in the resettlement of less than 5 per cent of refugees considered by UNHCR to be in need of resettlement in.<sup>20</sup> Simultaneously, although there have been efforts to increase opportunities for complementary pathways for refugees, their potential to offer solutions on the scale today's context demands has not been fully realised.

The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), which was affirmed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018, is a strong signal of the international community's determination to strengthen solidarity with refugees and the communities that host them. Recognising that third country solutions are a tangible demonstration of solidarity and responsibility sharing, their expansion is one of the four objectives of the GCR.

The GCR envisages the development of a **three-year Strategy (2019 – 2021) on resettlement and complementary pathways** (hereinafter, the Strategy), as a key vehicle to increase the number of resettlement spaces, expand the number of resettlement countries and improve the availability and predictability of complementary pathways for refugees refugees.<sup>21</sup>



Resettlement of Karen refugees to Japan. At Bangkok airport, ethnic Karen refugees leave Thailand in September, 2010, for resettlement in Japan, the first Asian country to accept refugees for resettlement under a pilot program.  
©UNHCR/Kitty McKinsey

The ATCR, its WGR and Core Groups will be critical to coordinate and measure the implementation of the Strategy.

As part of the Strategy development process, partners and collectively identified a number of key areas where the ATCR will have an important role for the future:

- ✓ **Capacity building** for new and emerging resettlement States and strengthening the ATCR community of practice;
- ✓ **Coordination of the global resettlement programme** through information on resettlement needs, publication of data on resettlement activities, and the continued use of resettlement Core Groups to respond to priority situations together with host countries;
- ✓ **Enhancing the efficiency and integrity of programmes** including through the use of innovative and digital tools and approaches;
- ✓ **Policy, standard-setting and coordination on Complementary Pathways** including through the establishment of a Working Group on Complementary Pathways consisting of the varied multi-sectoral partnerships required;
- ✓ **Strengthening the use of data and evidence** including through work with academia and other expert partners to develop strategic, actionable and relevant research, to measure and evaluate the protection dividends stemming from resettlement for refugees remaining in host countries, to demonstrate the positive impacts and contributions of refugees arriving through resettlement and complementary

pathways in receiving communities and to facilitate refugee access to complementary pathways.

- ✓ **Partnerships with new actors** to support and expand resettlement programmes, including through the Working Group on Partnerships by seeking to harness the potential of non-traditional actors such as the private sector;
- ✓ **Promoting meaningful refugee participation** in resettlement and complementary pathways, including through support for refugee advocates, increased participation of refugees in the ATCR, and the development and use of tools for gathering refugee feedback;
- ✓ **Strategic advocacy and communications**, to build support and promote resettlement and complementary pathways in coordination with civil society, private sector and other partners and experts.

## ENDNOTES

- 1 See Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), A/73/12, para 93, available at [https://www.unhcr.org/gcr/GCR\\_English.pdf](https://www.unhcr.org/gcr/GCR_English.pdf).
- 2 UN, Constitution of the International Refugee Organization (1946), p3.
- 3 Rupert Colville, *Fiftieth Anniversary of the Hungarian uprising and refugee crisis* (2006), p2.
- 4 UNHCR, *A/3828/Rev.1* (1959).
- 5 UNHCR, *Refugees: The Hungarian refugees, 50 years on, where are they now?* (2006), p8
- 6 *Ibid* [2; 3].
- 7 UNHCR, *The State of The World's Refugees 2000: Fifty Years of Humanitarian Action* (2000), p69.
- 8 *Ibid*.
- 9 UNHCR, *UNHCR Resettlement Handbook* (2011), p47.
- 10 UNHCR, *The State of The World's Refugees 2000: Fifty Years of Humanitarian Action* (2000), p47-48.
- 11 *Ibid*, p127.
- 12 *Ibid*, p79.
- 13 *Ibid*., p86.
- 14 *Ibid*, p99.
- 15 Kirsten Young, *UNHCR and ICRC in the former Yugoslavia: Bosnia-Herzegovina* (2001), p785
- 16 UNHCR, *UNHCR Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Information Bulletin* (2000).
- 17 *Ibid*.
- 18 UNHCR, *Resettlement as an Instrument of Protection No. 67 (XLIII)* (1991).
- 19 UNHCR, *Resettlement in the 1990s: a review of policy and practice* (1994), p17-47.
- 20 55,680 refugee departed to a resettlement country in 2018 and 1,195,349 refugees were estimated to be in need of resettlement in 2018, see <https://www.unhcr.org/resettlement-data.html>
- 21 Projected Global Resettlement Needs for 2020 are 1.4 million
- 21 *Ibid*, paras 91 and 95



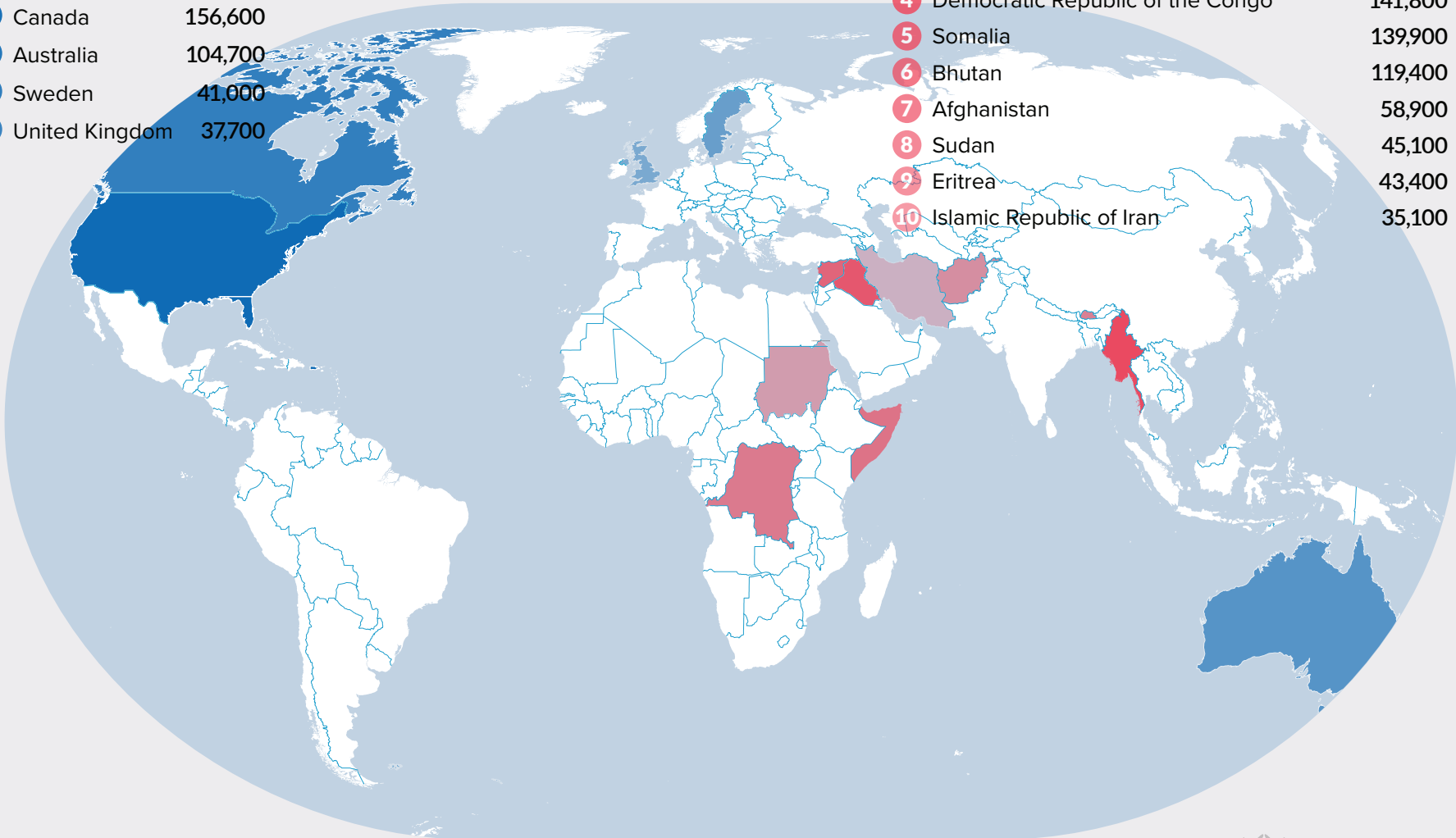
## The top 5 resettlement countries

Nine out of ten refugees were submitted to the top five resettlement countries. (2003-2018)

1	USA	945,400
2	Canada	156,600
3	Australia	104,700
4	Sweden	41,000
5	United Kingdom	37,700

## The top 10 countries of origin

1	Myanmar	281,100
2	Syrian Arab Republic	223,400
3	Iraq	207,400
4	Democratic Republic of the Congo	141,800
5	Somalia	139,900
6	Bhutan	119,400
7	Afghanistan	58,900
8	Sudan	45,100
9	Eritrea	43,400
10	Islamic Republic of Iran	35,100



Total submissions (persons) 2003-2018

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



## ANNEX I – OVERVIEW OF RESETTLEMENT STATISTICS (2003-2018)

### UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Category

Resettlement Categories	Submissions (cases) 2003-2018	%
Medical Needs	11 592	3%
Women and Girls-at-Risk	44 290	10%
Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs	198 904	44%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions	105 701	23%
Family Reunification	5 266	1%
Survivor of Violence and/or Torture	78 793	17%
Children and Adolescents at Risk	7 985	2%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>452 531</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Total Departures by Year (2003-2018)

Year	Departures (persons)
2003	27 338
2004	42 008
2005	38 507
2006	29 560
2007	49 868
2008	65 864
2009	84 657
2010	72 914
2011	61 649
2012	69 252
2013	71 449
2014	73 608
2015	81 891
2016	126 291
2017	65 108
2018	55 680
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1 015 644</b>

### Top 10 Countries of Origin Submitted by UNHCR

Country of Origin	Submissions (persons) 2003-2018	%
Myanmar	281 132	19%
Syrian Arab Rep.	223 431	15%
Iraq	207 403	14%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	141 821	10%
Somalia	139 933	10%
Bhutan	119 440	8%
Afghanistan	58 875	4%
Sudan	45 146	3%
Eritrea	43 365	3%
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	35 118	2%
Others	153 697	11%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1 449 361</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Resettlement Countries by departures (2003-2018)

Top 10 Resettlement	Departures (persons) 2003-2018	%
United States of America	642 783	63%
Canada	118 570	12%
Australia	89 677	9%
Sweden	31 194	3%
United Kingdom	25 223	3%
Norway	23 390	2%
Germany	17 111	2%
Finland	11 553	1%
France	10 931	1%
New Zealand	10 256	1%
Others	34 956	3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1 015 644</b>	<b>100%</b>



