



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



UNHCR PROJECTED **GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS** 2020



UNHCR PROJECTED **GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS** 2020



RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION

25th Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement
1-2 July 2019

Uganda. Young Congolese dreams of becoming a photojournalist. David Almas, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), holds the 'camera' he made from clay, with a polythene bag for viewfinder and the base of a plastic bottle for a lens.

© UNHCR / Yonna Tukundane / 18 September, 2018

Layout & Design: BakOS DESIGN

Contents

World: UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs by Country of Asylum	6
World: UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs by Country of Origin.....	8
Introduction	8
Projected Global Resettlement Needs in 2020	10
Key priorities in 2020.....	11
Trends and developments in 2018.....	12
The Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways as a roadmap for the future.....	14
Urgent and Emergency Resettlement processing	16
Africa	18
Africa Overview	19
Map – Africa: UNHCR’s projected resettlement needs for 2020 by country of asylum	20
Africa: 2020 Projected Resettlement Needs	22
Africa: Field Story	24
The Americas	26
The Americas Overview	27
Map – The Americas: UNHCR’s Projected resettlement needs for 2020 by country of asylum	28
The Americas: 2020 Projected Resettlement Needs.....	30
The Americas: Field Story	32
Asia and the Pacific	34
Asia and the Pacific Overview	35
Map – Asia and the Pacific: UNHCR’s Projected resettlement needs for 2020 by country of asylum.....	36
Asia: 2020 Projected Resettlement Needs	39
Asia and the Pacific: Field Story	40

Europe 42

Europe Overview 43

 Map – Europe: UNHCR’s Projected resettlement needs for 2020 by country of asylum 44

 Europe: 2020 Resettlement Needs 47

Middle East and North Africa 48

Middle East and North Africa Overview 49

 Map – Middle East and North Africa: UNHCR’s Projected resettlement needs for 2020
by country of asylum 50

 MENA: 2020 Projected Resettlement Needs 54

 Middle East and North Africa: Field Story 56

Annexes 59

Annex 1: Standardized Methodology 59

Annex 2: UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs 2020 61

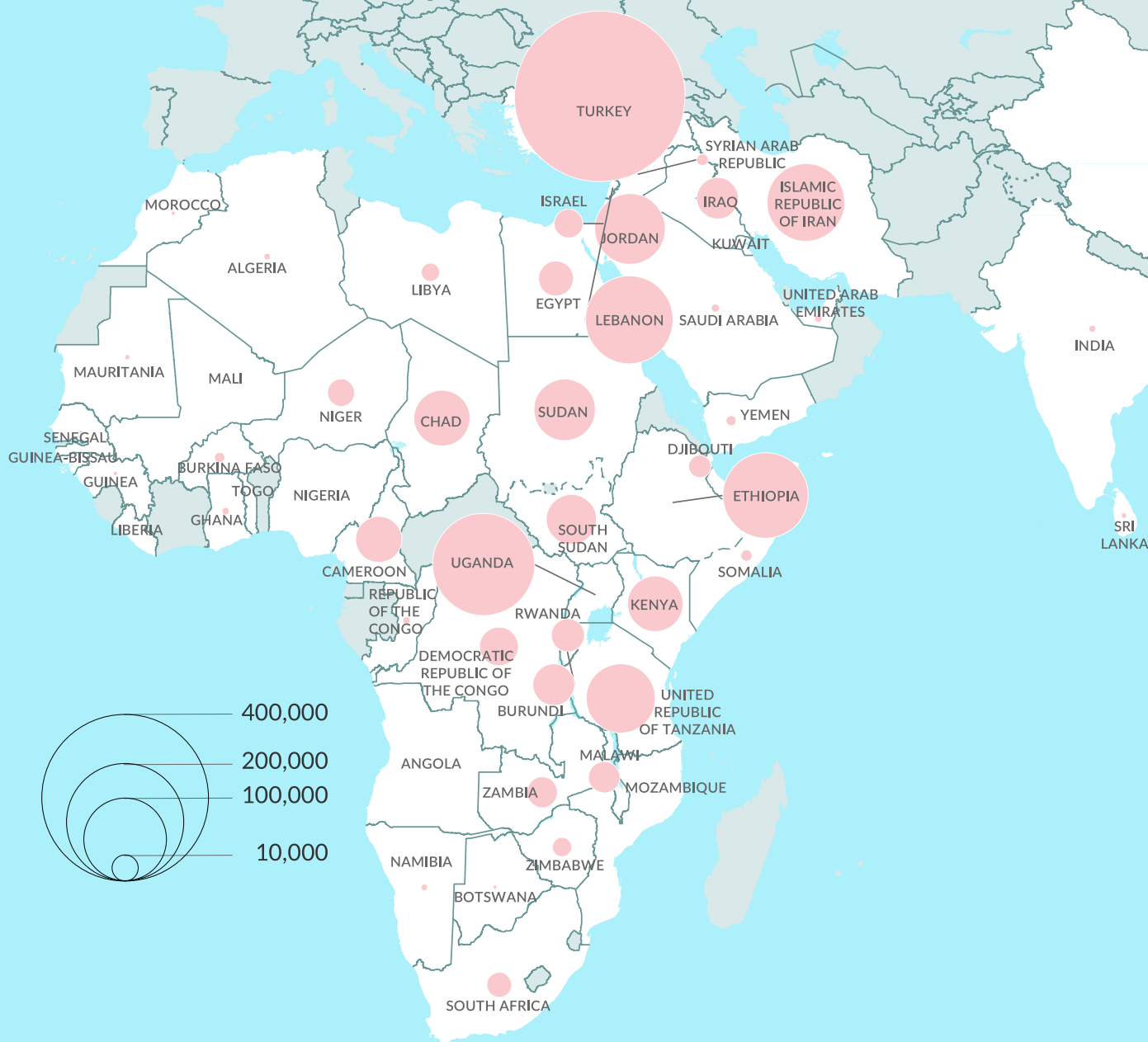
Annex 3: UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2018 73


WORLD

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*



* Including multi-year planning



 **UNHCR's estimated total resettlement needs**

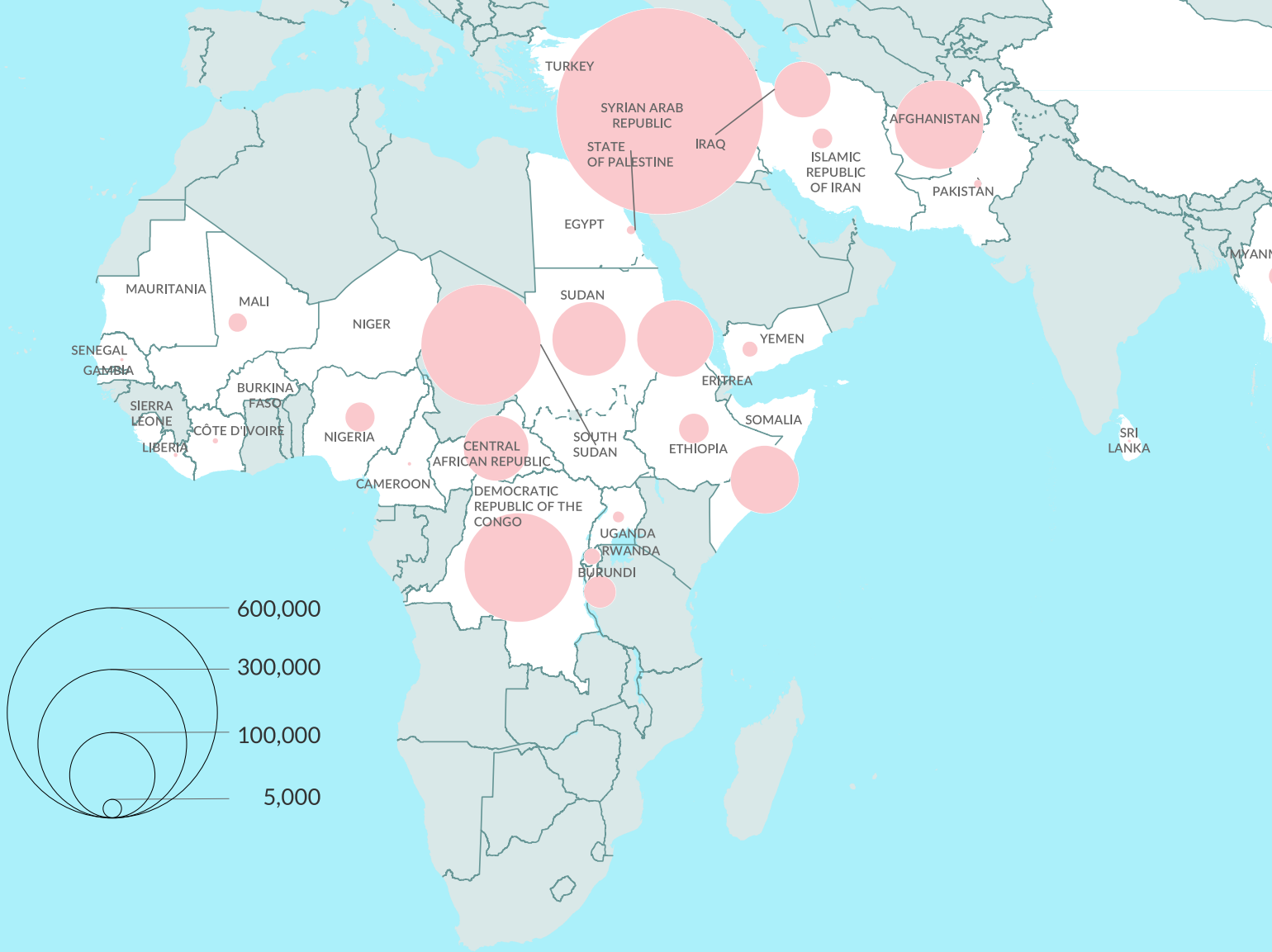
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

© UNHCR – Geneva, 2019

WORLD

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



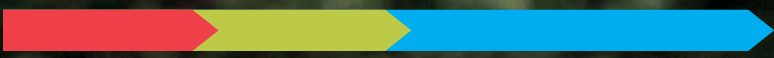


UNHCR's estimated total resettlement needs

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

© UNHCR – Geneva, 2019

Introduction



Colombia. A father holds his daughter to cross the river and the border with Colombia, taking a “trocha” – muddy footpaths that cut across the scrubland that covers the banks of the Tachira River, which forms the border between Venezuela and Colombia.
© UNHCR / Vincent Tremeau / 3 April, 2019



Refugee situations continue to increase in scope, scale, and complexity. With 85 per cent, the vast majority of refugees are hosted in low- and middle-income countries facing economic and development challenges. At the same time, global resettlement needs have doubled in recent years reaching over 1.44 million refugees in 2020.

The resettlement landscape has witnessed important progress over the last few years, with a surge in commitments for resettlement and complementary pathways underscored by the New York Declaration on Refugee and Migrants¹ in 2016. In the two years that followed, some existing resettlement programmes grew, new countries resettled refugees for the first time, and stakeholders piloted and expanded avenues for admitting refugees through complementary pathways. Despite the fact that an increasingly wide range of actors are implementing new and existing resettlement and complementary pathways initiatives, available opportunities for third country solutions are not proportionate to the unprecedented rise in needs.

Conflicts continue and safe return home is an unviable option for many refugees. In the current context of growing forced displacement, resettlement continues to be a critical protection tool, providing protection and solutions for refugees who face specific or urgent protection risks. Limited progress in securing third country solutions coupled with a lack of voluntary repatriation and local solutions has resulted in increased pressure on countries hosting large number of refugees. Despite the generosity of host countries and donors, with the resettlement of less than seven per cent of the 1.2 million refugees in need of resettlement in 2018², there remains an urgent need for more equitable burden and responsibility sharing to host and support the world's 26 million refugees.

The regional and country chapters of the 2020 Projected Global Resettlement Needs (PGRN) document contain more detailed information on the 1.44 million refugees identified in need of this key durable solution in the coming year. The total needs for 2020 are almost 20 per cent higher than those of 2018 and reflect both protracted and more recent refugee situations in more than sixty countries of asylum³. The PGRN document captures the need to continue efforts to assist refugees along the Central Mediterranean Route and in the Middle East, with an ongoing focus on Syrians, while also putting the spotlight on the ever-increasing needs in the

¹ New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants (Annex I), paras 10 and 14-16, available at <https://www.refworld.org/docid/57ceb74a4.html>.

² 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, available at <https://www.unhcr.org/resettlement-data.html>.

³ Based on UNHCR country operations estimating projected resettlement needs of at least 50 individuals in 2019.



Libya. Two Somali refugees with their families at Tripoli airport before their imminent departure to Niger. © UNHCR / Tarik Argaz / 28 January, 2019

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) countries hosting large numbers of refugees.

The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), which was affirmed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018, is a strong signal that the international community is determined to strengthen solidarity with refugees and the communities that host them. Recognizing that third country solutions are tangible tools for solidarity and responsibility sharing, their expansion is one of the four objectives of the GCR.⁴ The GCR envisages the development of a three-year Strategy (2019-2021) on resettlement and complementary pathways (the Strategy), which will be 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.⁵

As the first strategy of its kind, it serves as a foundational guide and a step towards reaching the objectives of the GCR and addressing the needs of refugees.

In response to continued high needs and fluctuations in global resettlement places, the Strategy, which was developed and will be implemented through a whole-of-society approach, will pursue three goals in an effort to achieve the expansion of resettlement and complementary pathways:

- Goal 1: Grow resettlement: new resettlement countries and more places

- Goal 2: Advance complementary pathways: improve access and develop opportunities
- Goal 3: Build the Foundation: Promote welcoming and inclusive societies

This chapter first sets out estimated global resettlement needs and priorities for 2020 based on figures provided by UNHCR field offices around the world. This is followed by statistical updates for 2018, including resettlement submissions and departures figures, and an outline of the most important trends and developments. The chapter then outlines the main elements of UNHCR's strategic direction, based on the Strategy, summarizing initiatives, partnerships and frameworks to support the delivery and expansion of the global resettlement programme.

Projected Global Resettlement Needs in 2020

In 2020, UNHCR estimates that global resettlement needs will increase by around one per cent to 1,440,408 persons, as compared to the 2019 estimate of 1,428,011 persons. The Africa and Americas regions are seeing an increase of six and 22 per cent respectively, from the previous year, while the other regions have seen a drop or no change compared to the 2019 estimated needs.

Although decreasing as a percentage of the total global resettlement needs, Syrian refugees represent the population with the highest global resettlement needs for the fourth year in a row (40 per cent as compared to 42 per cent in 2019). In 2020, South Sudanese refugees will have the second highest resettlement needs globally with 14 per cent (up from 11 per cent in 2019), followed by refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) with 11 per cent.

⁴ Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), A/73/12, para 7, available at https://www.unhcr.org/gcr/GCR_English.pdf.

⁵ Ibid, paras 91 and 95.

Africa remains the region with the highest projected resettlement needs with an estimated 667,432 refugees in need of resettlement from 32 different countries of asylum. These needs reflect the impact of the ongoing instability in South Sudan and the numerous South Sudanese refugees still residing in neighbouring countries, despite the signing of a peace agreement in 2018. Resettlement needs within the populations in protracted refugee situations, such as the Congolese, Central Africans, Eritreans, Somalis and Sudanese, also remain high.

Projected resettlement needs in the Americas region continued to increase (by 22 per cent compared to 2019 and 173 per cent compared to 2018) and stand at 4,990 for 2020. The main drivers of displacement are the ongoing instability in Colombia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras (the North of Central America, NCA).

For 2020, a four per cent decrease in resettlement needs is projected for the Asia and the Pacific region (98,281 compared to 102,146 in 2019). Despite the large-scale arrival of stateless refugees from Myanmar into Bangladesh in 2017, the projected regional resettlement needs dipped just below 100,000 persons, of which the Afghans in a protracted situation in Iran remain the population with the highest resettlement needs.

After the 40 per cent increase from 2018 to 2019, resettlement needs in Europe remain high. The needs in Turkey remain stable from 2019 to 2020 at 420,000 persons, 90 per cent of which are Syrian refugees. Afghans and Iraqis represent five per cent (22,000) and four per cent (14,000) respectively, with the majority being in protracted refugee situations.

Resettlement needs in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region dropped to 249,705 persons (eight per cent down from 2019), of which the large majority are Syrian refugees (198,733). The populations with the next highest resettlement needs are Iraqis (22,920), Eritreans (13,285), and Sudanese (6,331).

Key priorities in 2020

With estimated resettlement needs of more than 1.44 million refugees globally in 2020, together with significantly fewer resettlement opportunities in the last two years, UNHCR must continue to prioritize those who are most vulnerable and have the greatest protection risks. Whenever possible, UNHCR will use resettlement strategically to ensure that international solidarity and responsibility sharing with host States is realized, to support commitments made by States in the New York Declaration and to encourage expansion of solutions by all actors.

Therefore, UNHCR will continue to focus on three key priorities in 2020: the CRRF roll-out countries, the Central Mediterranean Situation and resettlement out of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey in the context of the ongoing Syria situation. In addition, UNHCR will continue to advocate with Resettlement States for unallocated quotas that can be used in a flexible way for urgent and emergency cases across the globe.

CRRF ROLL-OUT COUNTRIES

In order to respond to large-scale movements of refugees, the New York Declaration laid out a vision for a more predictable and comprehensive response to these crises through the CRRF. Throughout 2017 and 2018, the CRRF was rolled out in diverse refugee situations across more than a dozen countries. Lessons drawn from the application of the CRRF helped to inform the GCR, which was affirmed by all UN Member States in December 2018.

The CRRF, which was designed to ease pressures on countries hosting large numbers of refugees, enhance refugee self-reliance, expand access to third-country solutions, and support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity, has led to major commitments by host countries. Since resettlement is one of the key tangible mechanisms to show international solidarity and responsibility sharing with States hosting large numbers of refugees, supporting resettlement of refugee populations in the CRRF roll-out countries must continue to be a top priority for UNHCR.

There are 15 CRRF roll-out countries across three geographic regions: Africa (Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia), the Americas (Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama), and Asia (Afghanistan). Amongst these 15 countries, more than 386,000 refugees are estimated to be in need of resettlement in 2020. The second largest refugee population in need of resettlement globally, the South Sudanese, make up approximately 47 per cent of the needs under this priority, followed by refugees from Somalia (15 per cent), the DRC (12

PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2020

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
Africa	175,738	667,432
Asia & the Pacific	24,260	98,281
Europe	113,182	420,000
MENA	72,267	249,705
The Americas	1,962	4,990
Total	387,409	1,440,408

* including multi-year planning

per cent), Sudan (nine per cent) and the Central African Republic (six per cent).

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN SITUATION

In 2015-2018, more than 1.7 million people have tried to reach Europe via the Mediterranean region (both sea and land border crossings). In the first five months of 2019, more than 30,000 people arrived in Europe using one of these routes. For many, the sea journey is just one of numerous dangers they face along the route from their country of origin to and through Europe, a journey which can take several months or even years. In the first five months of 2019, an estimated 539 refugees and migrants are believed to have died while attempting to enter Europe, most of them while attempting to cross the sea from Libya.

Some individuals are fleeing armed conflict, insecurity, and human rights violations such as in Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria, the Central African Republic, Mali and Libya, while others seek international protection on account of religious, ethnic or political persecution, persecution due to their sexual orientation or gender identity, or to escape different forms of sexual or gender-based violence. In addition, many also make these journeys to reunify with family members in Europe. People in need of international protection are therefore crossing several countries, often alongside migrants and smugglers and are unaware, unable or unwilling to avail themselves of asylum procedures and protection services along the route. The lack of effective protection in the countries to which they initially fled and those they transited through in the region, coupled with their limited access to solutions, such as resettlement and complementary pathways of admission, are among the complex protection and solutions-related reasons why people of concern to UNHCR are moving across the Sahara and attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea.

While there has been an important increase in access to safe and legal pathways for people in need of international protection along the Central Mediterranean route, including resettlement places, enhanced efforts are still required to expand the number of resettlement spaces and remove the multiple obstacles inhibiting access to family reunification for those who are eligible.

It is estimated that approximately 324,754 individuals are in need of resettlement in countries along the Central Mediterranean route in 2020, which includes 15 countries of asylum (West Africa: Chad, Cameroon, Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali; East and Horn of Africa: Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya and Djibouti; North Africa: Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria). These needs are four per cent higher compared to the needs projected for 2019 for these countries of asylum and represent 23 per cent of the total projected global resettlement needs for 2020. Within this priority, Eritrean refugees have the

highest projected needs at approximately 21 per cent. Refugees from Somalia (17 per cent), South Sudan (17 per cent), the Central African Republic (15 per cent), and Sudan (12 per cent) round out the top five populations in need of resettlement under this priority.

RESETTLEMENT OUT OF EGYPT, IRAQ, JORDAN, LEBANON AND TURKEY

With more than 646,000 refugees estimated to be in need of resettlement in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey in 2020, resettlement will continue to be an integral component of UNHCR's Protection and Solutions Strategy in the Europe and MENA regions. The strategy is still shaped by the ongoing conflict in Syria, which entered its ninth year. This situation is becoming more protracted each year and is resulting in an increasing number of refugees that are dependent upon humanitarian assistance and live in extremely precarious circumstances.

In 2020, Syrian refugees again represent the refugee population with the highest estimated resettlement needs globally, with 99 per cent of the needs identified in these five countries of asylum alone. With no end in sight to their displacement, resettlement will continue to be a vital tool to safeguard the international community's accountability towards Syrian refugees in the region. Following the significant decrease in available resettlement places for Syrians over the last few years, it is critical that UNHCR continues to advocate for this population as well as other groups affected by the Syrian conflict. Therefore, resettlement out of Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt, in particular for Syrians, remains a key priority for UNHCR.

Trends and developments in 2018

In 2018, an estimated 1.2 million persons were projected to be in need of resettlement. Against this need, UNHCR submitted 81,337 persons for resettlement to 29 resettlement States. This was markedly lower than the 163,200 UNHCR submissions in 2016 (50 per cent less), but reflects an eight per cent increase compared to 2017.

Globally, 82 UNHCR operations submitted resettlement cases to 29 resettlement States, with a global acceptance rate of 87 per cent. UNHCR offices in Africa submitted 45 per cent of the global total, with 36,408 submissions, followed by UNHCR's offices in MENA with 27 per cent (21,542) and Europe with 20 per cent (16,135). The Asia and the Pacific region processed 5,796 submissions, which reflects seven per cent of the global total, and the Americas region submitted 1,456 persons (just under two per cent).

In terms of populations that benefited the most from resettlement, Syrians remained the largest group of refugees that were submitted, with 28,189 submissions. However, this reflects a 25 per cent decrease when



Tanzania. Burundian pupil Ciza Alexis, 9, sits in Kirundi language class at Jugudi Primary School in Nyarugusu Refugee Camp, Kigoma Province, western Tanzania. © UNHCR / Georgina Goodwin / 5 February, 2019

compared to 2017. The DRC was the country of origin with the second highest number of refugees submitted for resettlement, with 21,807 submissions (an increase of 69 per cent). Following these were Eritreans (4,288), Afghans (3,995) and Somalis (3,066).

More than 53 per cent of cases were submitted to the USA and Canada in 2018. Submissions to the USA increased in 2018 to 29,026 submissions (eight per cent higher than 2017 submissions). Submissions to Canada grew by 246 per cent, from 4,118 in 2017 to 14,264 in 2018. Rounding out the top five resettlement countries in 2018 were the United Kingdom (6,286), Sweden (4,967) and France (4,926).

Global departures decreased again in 2018 by almost 15 per cent as compared to 2017. When compared to 2016, the contrast is even more pronounced, reflecting an almost 56 per cent decrease. The USA remains the country with the highest number of arrivals with 17,112 persons arriving in 2018. Followed by Canada and the United Kingdom, receiving 7,704 and 5,698 arrivals respectively in 2018, then Sweden and France with a combined total of 9,980 arrivals.

UNHCR continued to advocate for resettlement programmes that focus on refugees with strong protection needs, in line with the resettlement submission categories.

More than half of all cases submitted in 2018 fell under the Legal and Physical Protection Needs or Survivors of Violence and/or Torture categories (28 and 27 per cent, respectively). This was followed by Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (20 per cent) and Women

and Girls at Risk (13 per cent), Children and Adolescents at Risk (eight per cent) and Medical Needs (four per cent).

In terms of urgency of resettlement cases, slightly more than two per cent (489 cases) were deemed an “emergency priority”, requiring evacuation in 72 hours, often with support from States hosting emergency transit facilities. This is almost a 69 per cent increase from 2017. About 15 per cent (3,451 cases) were considered “urgent priority” needing removal within weeks (almost a doubling of cases compared to 2017).

In 2018, Emergency Transit Facilities (ETFs) continued to be utilized as a protection tool for refugees who were in need of resettlement on an urgent basis, as well as an alternative site for case processing of refugee populations not accessible to resettlement states. During the last year, 215 refugees departed for resettlement from the ETFs in the Philippines and Romania.

At the end of 2017, the Government of Niger agreed to the establishment of an Evacuation Transit Mechanism (ETM) on its territory. The ETM is a special and atypical evacuation programme aimed at responding to the life-threatening and compelling protection needs of refugees and asylum-seekers stranded in Libya and facilitating their access to solutions. Since September 2017, 2,211 individuals have been submitted for resettlement through the ETM and 1,403 of them have departed from Niger.⁶

⁶ Data through 11 June 2019.



Algeria. Interview with DAFI graduate. Zeinabou showing her cousin Bashir, 9, a spreadsheet on her laptop that she was able to purchase from her scholarship funds. Zeinabou was the first Sahrawi student to attend the telecommunications engineering programme in Oran, Algeria. © UNHCR / Russell Fraser / 2 January, 2019

The Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways as a roadmap for the future

The Strategy is not only a roadmap for expansion over the next three years (2019-2021) but also a blueprint for the future of resettlement and complementary pathways over the next ten years. Its vision and goals will continue to be relevant in achieving the goals of the GCR in the longer term. In the near future, the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) at the end of 2019 will be used to report initial progress in the implementation of the Strategy and galvanize future support for the Strategy's vision through commitments from partners.

In pursuit of the vision of the Strategy, the following will be areas of priorities that will be pursued to support the delivery and expansion of the global resettlement programme:

CAPACITY BUILDING OF NEW AND EMERGING RESETTLEMENT STATES

The UNHCR-IOM Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism (ERCM) continued to support new and emerging resettlement countries globally to establish programmes or build on existing ones throughout 2018. As systems building plays a key role in increasing the pool of resettlement places and enhancing the quality of resettlement activities undertaken by new and emerging resettlement countries, the ERCM focused its activities on ensuring feasibility and longevity of resettlement programmes through capacity building. The ERCM also broadened its scope to include complementary pathways for admission to third countries.

To support the efforts of new and emerging resettlement countries a "Guide to Establishing Resettlement Programmes" will be released by UNHCR and IOM. The users of the Guide will be stakeholders involved in supporting the development of new resettlement programmes, from civil servants engaged in the design stage, to governmental caseworkers with responsibility to select refugees, and to the municipal and NGO practitioners involved in the reception and integration phase. A joint UNHCR-IOM training package will also be rolled out in 2019. The training will be targeted to the specific needs of a particular new/emerging resettlement country and delivered in face-to-face workshops by relevant experts.

In the Americas, partnerships with other capacity building initiatives were also strengthened under the umbrella of the ERCM, such as the International Rescue Committee's (IRC) Technical Assistance project as well as the Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative (GRSI) to support the establishment of community sponsorship programmes.

In the European context, UNHCR worked with a number of other capacity building initiatives such as the EU's project Facilitating Resettlement and Refugee Admission through New Knowledge (EU-FRANK), contributing to the development of training materials and other forms of support to states in the implementation of their resettlement programmes, and the European Resettlement and Integration Technical Assistance project (EURITA) which both continued to play a very important role in building the capacity of resettlement countries in the region.

UNHCR also contributed to the creation of a training package for EU Member States on the resettlement process in the framework of the EU-FRANK project, to be delivered by the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) in 2019.

While the ERCM comes to an end in September 2019, UNHCR will continue to focus its activities on capacity and systems building and quality and sustainability of programmes.

INTEGRITY

UNHCR's Policy on Addressing Fraud Committed by Persons of Concern, launched in 2017, highlights the High Commissioner's commitment to maintaining high standards of integrity in protection processes overall, including in resettlement procedures, and increasing UNHCR's capacity to prevent, detect and address fraud by persons of concern.

Throughout 2018, the Integrity Unit, grounded in the Director's Office in the Division of International Protection, led the operationalization of the Policy globally, including through the roll-out of a new Learning Programme on Addressing Fraud Committed by Persons of Concern. Focusing on the capacity building of Anti-Fraud Focal Points delegated by Representatives in respective operations, the Programme increased policy compliance in the MENA and Southern Africa regions prior to the end of the reporting period, with additional roll-outs scheduled in the Americas, West Africa, and the East and Horn of Africa throughout 2019.

The Integrity Unit, in close collaboration with the Resettlement & Complementary Pathways Service, leads the provision of support to field operations in reducing vulnerabilities to resettlement fraud through effective advice to operations on operational oversight, fraud prevention, identification, and response. In the course of 2018, the Unit led multifunctional technical support missions to Burundi and Sudan, assessing the integrity of protection system overall and recommending measures for strengthening case processing and oversight. Multifunctional technical support missions in this context are foreseen on an ongoing basis throughout 2019.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

Multi-stakeholder approaches and partnerships that engage both traditional and non-traditional stakeholders through a whole-of-society approach are at the core of the Strategy and its vision. While UNHCR will play a catalytic and supportive role, achieving the expansion of resettlement and complementary pathways is a task for all States and relevant Stakeholders. The Strategy will promote State leadership, and small, targeted, nimble and innovative multi-stakeholder partnership models, recognising that these will be critical to expanding

resettlement in line with States commitments in the New York Declaration and the GCR.

Throughout 2018 and 2019 UNHCR has continued to engage in a number of strategic partnerships that aim at expanding resettlement opportunities for refugees. During 2018 UNHCR strengthened its partnerships with non-traditional actors to expand resettlement by engaging with academia, private sector, and other relevant stakeholders. UNHCR continued its active involvement in the GRSI, an innovative partnership model – involving the Government of Canada, the Open Society Foundation, UNHCR, the University of Ottawa and the Radcliffe Foundation – to promote and support the establishment of community-based sponsorship programmes. During the course of the year, new community sponsorship programmes were established in Ireland, Spain and Germany.

Other important partnerships were forged in the field of complementary pathways, such as a pilot project between Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) and the IRCC (Canada) to match refugee skills with employers and facilitate their immigration to Canada through economic immigration programs. The Strategy recognizes that a whole-of-government and a partnership-focused approach, which engages all relevant stakeholders, in particular education institutions, private sector, and refugees will be critical to the advancement of complementary pathways.

The Syria Core Group on Resettlement continued to be used as an important forum to support the implementation of Syrian resettlement and advocate for increased opportunities, including the use of complementary pathways for Syrians. Through the Central Mediterranean Core Group significant advocacy efforts were made to scale up resettlement activities in the countries along the Central Mediterranean route, while the Group also acted as community of best practices for innovative processing modalities.

As in previous years, UNHCR continued to work closely with NGO partners to enhance the timely and effective deployment of affiliate workforce to field offices under the Global Resettlement Deployment Scheme, which remains of critical importance to the resettlement effort. In 2018, UNHCR's three Resettlement Deployment Partners (the International Catholic Migration Commission, the Danish Refugee Council, and RefugeePoint) provided more than 1,660 deployment months (or around 138 deployees) to 45 different country operations, supporting UNHCR's resettlement activities.

This year we decided to give some of our Field colleagues – deployees and national staff – the opportunity to directly contribute to the PGRN. Through stories and paintings they have shared how they assist refugees on a daily basis to get a better life through resettlement. These contributions are labeled as "field stories" in the regional sections.

Urgent and Emergency Resettlement processing

The Processing Unit of the Resettlement Service at UNHCR Headquarters facilitates the resettlement submission of urgent and emergency cases on a dossier basis received from the Regional Office in Dakar, as well as from UNHCR offices in Eastern and South Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America. The Processing Unit also manages the allocation and distribution of emergency and urgent dossier quotas between the MENA Protection Service in Amman (MPS), the Regional Service Centre in Nairobi (RSC) and the Regional Office in Pretoria (ROSA) for direct submission to resettlement countries from their respective regions. In March 2019, the Regional Office in Dakar has started to submit cases directly to resettlement States against the emergency and urgent dossier quotas allocated to the Office.

Throughout 2018, dossier submissions continued to be an essential component of the global resettlement programme, particularly in countries where selection missions could not take place due to security conditions or lack of access to refugees in remote locations. Dossier submissions enabled expedited resettlement processing and as such provided an important protection tool for vulnerable refugees with imminent protection needs, often involving individuals who were either in hiding due to high risk of arrest and detention or otherwise stuck in transit zones or pre-removal detention centres, pending deportation or refoulement, mostly due to violations of domestic immigration policy or absent asylum systems.

Dossier processing also acted as a life saving measure for refugees with serious medical conditions. Medical treatment continues to be very limited and highly costly in many operations. Most refugees with life-threatening health conditions have minimal or no access to basic health care. They are often living in protracted poverty and insecurity, primarily in camp contexts, while at the same time trying to cope with the consequences of violence and trauma. For a significant number of these refugees and their families, expedited resettlement on a dossier basis prevented further deterioration of their medical condition and life-saving treatment in the resettlement country. Dossier processing also offered an immediate protection response to refugee women and girls subjected to or at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, including exploitation, forced marriage, domestic violence and harmful traditional practices.

Overview of global submissions on urgent and emergency basis

During 2018, UNHCR submitted 611 urgent and emergency cases on dossier basis, benefiting a total of 1,413 refugees. Out of this total, the Processing Unit at Headquarters made 187 submissions on behalf of 371¹ refugees, while 424 cases including 1,042 refugees were submitted through the regional offices: 253 cases/440 refugees were submitted by the MPS, 116 cases/401 refugees by the RSC and 55 cases/201 refugees by the ROSA.

Of this total number of submissions, 38 per cent were submitted under Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs, which represents a decrease compared to 2017, when 47 per cent of the dossier cases were submitted under this category. In addition, 12 per cent of the dossier cases were submitted under Medical Needs, and 16 per cent of the submissions were made under the Women and Girls at Risk category, which is slightly lower than in 2017 (16.5 per cent).

A total of 55 per cent of these refugees were submitted under urgent priority, and 25 per cent of the referrals were made under emergency priority.

Dossier submissions for urgent and emergency processing were made from 71 countries of asylum (including seven cases submitted from the Emergency Transit Facilities). The highest number of dossier submissions through the regional offices were made for refugees residing in Yemen, Mauritania and Somalia. The largest group of refugees benefiting from urgent and emergency dossier processing concerned refugees from the DRC (19 per cent) and Syria (10.5 per cent).

In total, submissions against designated dossier quotas were made to five resettlement countries: Finland, France, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. Dossier submissions to France, the Netherlands and to some extent Sweden, included cases under normal priority.

Urgent and emergency dossier submissions on behalf of 2,961 refugees were also made to Australia (106 cases cases/335 individuals), Canada (972 cases/2,564 refugees), and New Zealand (16 cases/62 refugees). The the majority of these submissions were made under the primary category of Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs.

¹ Of which 142 cases/283 persons were new submissions.



Jordan. Sudanese refugee sisters Zainab Abdallah (left in red) and Nuha (right) with a group of refugee women from Iraq, Yemen, Syria and Sudan as well as Jordanian residents make ma'moul, an Arabic sweet for Eid marking the end Ramadan, at Princess Basma Centre for Social Development at Al Nuzha neighbourhood. The sweets will be distributed to needy families, refugees and Jordanians, in Amman, Jordan. © UNHCR / Annie Sakkab / 11 June, 2018

Submissions made through the Processing Unit at Headquarters

The highest numbers of dossier submissions through the Processing Unit were made for refugees living in Cuba, Chad and Serbia.

Refugees originating from Afghanistan represented 17 per cent of the submissions, while 16 per cent were originating from the Central African Republic and ten per cent were refugees from Syria.

Concerning the submission categories, more than 42 per cent of the dossier submissions were under the Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs category. The second largest primary resettlement category of dossier submissions was Survivors of Violence and/or Torture, which stood at 14 per cent.

Cases with Medical Needs as the primary resettlement category counted for 13.5 per cent of the resettlement referrals made by the Processing Unit on a dossier basis,

of which more than 35 per cent were referred by the Chad operation. The need of medical places remains high in many operations.

In addition, 13 per cent of the referrals were under the primary resettlement category of Women and Girls at Risk. All of them, except four cases, were submitted on an urgent and/or emergency priority basis. This represented a decrease compared to 2017 when 22 per cent of the referrals included Women and Girls at Risk.

The combined acceptance rate of dossier submissions made in 2018 by all offices, including Headquarters, was approximately 60 per cent², which was lower than in 2017 when the acceptance rate was 66 per cent. The Processing Unit will continue to work closely with the resettlement countries focusing on increasing the acceptance rates.

² This is an estimate as not all cases submitted in 2018 have received a decision.

Africa



Nigeria. Cameroonian refugees fleeing inter-communal violence get a hot meal as they arrive at Adagom settlement in Ogoja, Cross River, south-east Nigeria. © UNHCR / Roqan Ojomo / 8 September, 2018

Central Africa and the Great Lakes

Burundi
Cameroon
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Republic of the Congo
Rwanda
United Republic of Tanzania

East and Horn of Africa

Chad
Djibouti
Ethiopia
Kenya
Somalia
South Sudan
Sudan
Uganda

Southern Africa

Angola
Botswana
Malawi
Mozambique
Namibia
South Africa (including Eswatini, Lesotho,
Madagascar & the Indian Ocean Islands)
Zambia
Zimbabwe

West Africa

Burkina Faso
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Liberia
Mali
Niger
Nigeria
Senegal
Togo

With estimated resettlement needs of more than 667,000 individuals in 2020, resettlement continues to be a critical tool to deliver durable solutions for refugees in the region, many of whom are in protracted situations. Following a downturn in resettlement opportunities for sub-Saharan Africa in 2017, the outlook in the region turned more positive in 2018, with around 36,400 refugees submitted to 15 countries for resettlement consideration. However, this was still below the high in 2016 (of almost 44,000 submissions) and met only seven per cent of the needs for the region.

Increased advocacy around two of UNHCR's key priority situations – resettlement out of Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) roll-out countries and the Central Mediterranean Response, together encompassing 15 countries of asylum in the region – has resulted in a positive response and corresponding growth in the number of resettlement states offering quotas to the region. One of the main fora for this advocacy, the Central Mediterranean Core Group, has met ten times since its inception in mid-2017 and has led to pledges of approximately 40,700 resettlement places for the region. The diversity in resettlement countries as well as in refugee populations benefitting from resettlement opportunities is critical to help meet the needs of the region with the largest estimated resettlement needs globally. Furthermore, in order to advance the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees and obtain tangible benefits for refugees and host communities, there must be continued and expanded attention to the numerous and varied populations in need of a durable solution in Africa.

Trends in 2018

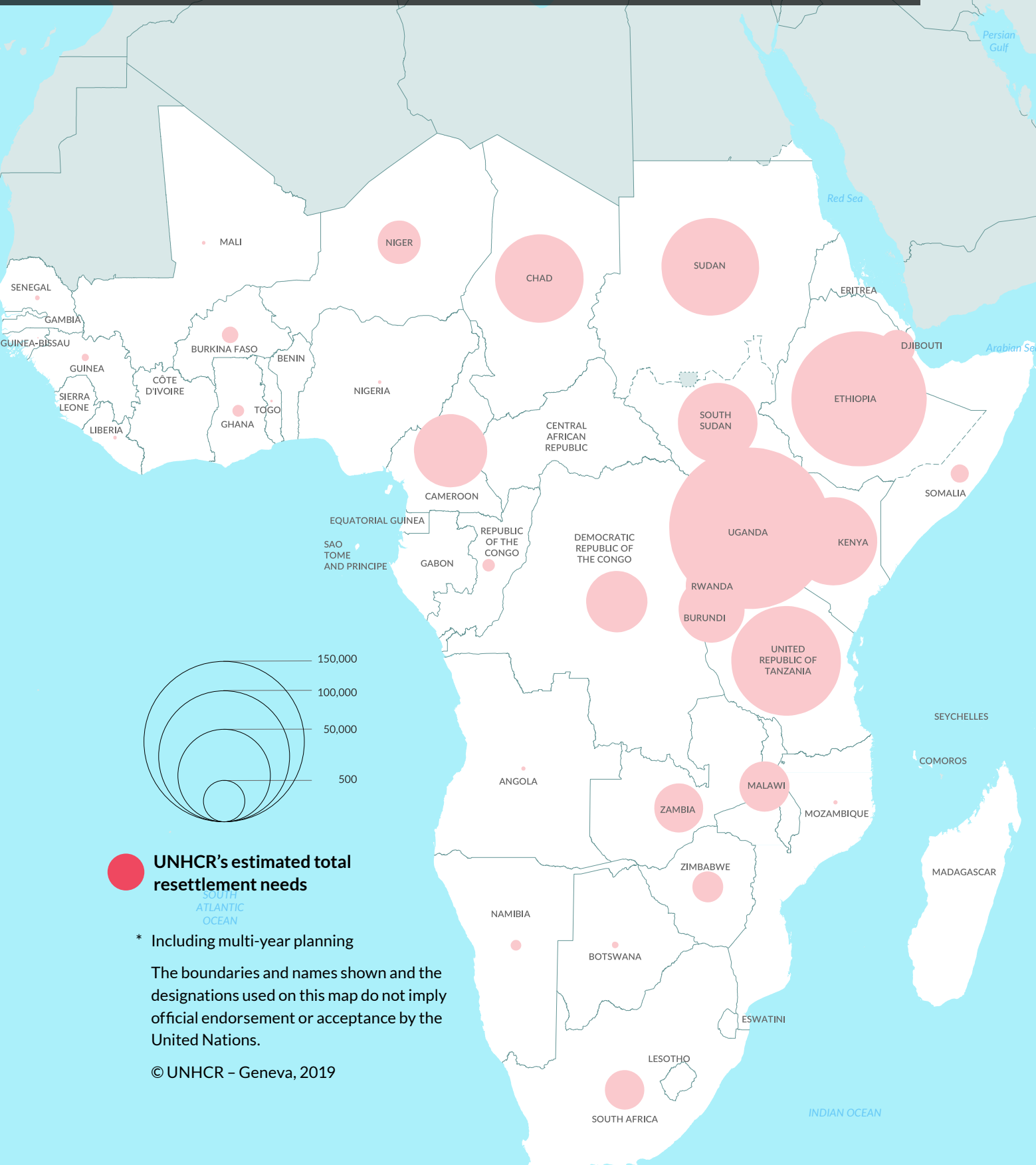
While 2017 witnessed the lowest resettlement figures out of the Africa region since 2012, with only 21,500 refugees being submitted to third countries, 2018 saw a significant uptake, resulting in approximately 36,400 refugees submitted for resettlement consideration. This represents a 69 per cent increase from the previous year and accounted for almost half of UNHCR's global submissions in 2018. Departures saw a slight increase from 15,800 in 2017 to more than 19,300 in 2018 (an increase of 22 per cent).

Approximately 60 per cent of the refugees submitted for resettlement from Africa originate from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), ten per cent from Eritrea, seven per cent from Somalia, six per cent from South Sudan, and five per cent from the Central African Republic. Over 115,000 refugees from the DRC have been submitted for resettlement over the last seven years due in large part to a regional multi-year resettlement plan of action initiated in 2012 to enhance the resettlement of Congolese refugees from Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda and the Southern Africa region, as well as through the P2 group resettlement programme to the USA.

AFRICA

as of 18 Jun 2019

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2020 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*



UNHCR's estimated total resettlement needs

* Including multi-year planning

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

© UNHCR - Geneva, 2019

Submissions were made to 15 different resettlement countries in 2018; 58 per cent of all submissions were made to the USA, 14 per cent were made to Canada, ten per cent were made to Australia, five per cent were made to France and five per cent were made to Sweden.

Regional developments and challenges

EAST AFRICA SUB-REGION

Resettlement is the key durable solution in the sub-region, which has seen a total of 15,541 refugees depart on resettlement and 27,202 submitted for resettlement consideration in 2018. These achievements were not without challenges, such as restrictions on available resettlement opportunities for some nationalities such as Somali, difficulties in accessing refugees due to the security situation and infrastructure in some locations, lengthy processing of work permits for staff, and reliance on short-term staffing solutions. To address these challenges support missions for case preparation were undertaken, refugees were transferred to more suitable locations for interviews, and alternative methodologies were employed by resettlement countries to assess cases (such as through video conferencing).

A change in the political and humanitarian landscape in the East and Horn of Africa in 2018 has witnessed, among other things, the signing of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan in September 2018 and a successful political transition in the DRC. These political developments have yet to translate into significantly improved prospects for durable solutions for displaced persons from these countries. Despite the great strides being made in the application of the CRRF in Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda, protracted refugee situations for refugees from the DRC, Somalia, Burundi and South Sudan continue to overstretch limited resources of the hosting countries. By the end of 2018, the region hosted 5.15 million refugees mainly from South Sudan (2.28 million), the DRC (619,500), Somalia (553,800), and Burundi (402,300).

Refugees from the DRC continue to have limited prospects for voluntary repatriation due to the ongoing instability in the east of the country. There is also a limited prospect for local integration for those who have been in the region since the 1990s, and this situation is not expected to change in the near future. Consequently, they will continue to benefit from a regional multi-year enhanced resettlement programme for the protracted Congolese refugee population in Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

In light of the continuing humanitarian crisis in South Sudan and lack of repatriation opportunities, this refugee population will also benefit from multi-year resettlement planning and prioritization with focus on vulnerable individuals. The majority of South Sudanese refugees

are in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and Sudan and fled from ongoing ethnic violence and instability in their country. Therefore, resettlement continues to remain the most viable durable solution for the majority of refugees in the sub-region.

SOUTHERN AFRICA SUB-REGION

UNHCR was able to increase submissions to resettlement states by over 50 per cent in 2018 compared to 2017 due to increased staffing resources and resettlement quotas in 2018. In addition to increased resettlement submissions, UNHCR worked to significantly improve the protection space through various regional institutions, partnerships, stakeholders, and advocacy efforts. In Botswana, UNHCR facilitated the release of 42 persons of concern from detention who were being unlawfully held for unresolved migration-related offenses. UNHCR in Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa continued to work with respective government immigration and asylum entities to strengthen asylum procedures through technical guidance and training of eligibility officers. Malawi and Zambia offices engaged in elaborating a multi-year/multi-partner protection and solution strategy in each country; a key feature being the expansion of livelihood opportunities to enhance self-reliance and economic integration for refugees. Resettlement has also been a critical protection tool for scores of cases that were threatened with *refoulement* and prolonged detention as well as the following populations with unique protection challenges that further contribute to their resettlement needs out of the sub-region:

- (1) Survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), including children aged 14 and younger in South Africa, who represent the greatest proportion of those who seek help for SGBV at health facilities and police stations. Furthermore, women and children in humanitarian settings lack basic legal protections and therefore are at elevated risk of violence and have limited access to even basic interventions like health services.
- (2) Persons living with Albinism, who are at increased risk due to superstition in some parts of Southern Africa that albino body parts bring wealth, power or sexual prowess, and that having sex with a person living with albinism cures HIV and AIDS; and
- (3) Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) refugees. While national legislation in some countries in the region forbid discrimination on the basis of sex, gender or sexual orientation, same-sex relations are specifically criminalized in some asylum countries. Refugees who fall within this category are often stigmatized within their own refugee communities due to deeply entrenched gender norms and social mores.

Africa: 2020 Projected Resettlement Needs

The main challenges in the sub-region stem from the lack of UNHCR presence in seven of the 14 countries covered by the Regional Office in Pretoria, thereby creating obstacles in identification particularly in countries that lack an asylum system (i.e. Mauritius, Madagascar and other Indian Ocean Islands). An influx of Congolese refugees in the region in 2018 exerted pressure on existing camps and sites in Zimbabwe, Botswana, Malawi and Zambia. Many countries lack structured coordination mechanisms to facilitate UNHCR's cooperation with partners. This challenge is compounded by host communities' aversion to welcoming persons of concern, resulting in significant barriers to sustainable socio-economic integration. The situation requires support, adequate resources and collaboration so that effective protection and assistance can be delivered efficiently to asylum-seeking populations. These camps and settlements are saturated, and available basic services are stretched to the limit; therefore, resettlement continues to be a vital solution for refugees in protracted situations as well as those with acute protection risks.

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA SUB-REGION

The sub-region remains the location of important and complex mixed migration flows, including key transit routes towards North Africa and Europe. The growth of these movements has become a central political, security and humanitarian concern in many countries in West Africa, with an increasing interrelation of criminality, extremism, smuggling and trafficking networks.

In 2018, resettlement commitments linked to the Central Mediterranean situation, including the consolidation of the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) in Niger, has resulted in an increase in the number of persons resettled from the sub-region. In the context of mixed migration taking place in the region, resettlement will continue to play a key role in promoting a favorable protection environment in order to mitigate the risk of refugees becoming involved in secondary movements and perilous journeys.

A focus on resettlement from Niger, Cameroon and Chad will continue throughout 2019 and in 2020 to help address the issue of undertaking dangerous onward movement. Resettlement will also continue to be used as a durable solution and burden/responsibility sharing tool for individuals of various nationalities in protracted refugee situations, including those from Mali, the Central African Republic and Sudan.

Refugees identified as being at heightened risk will continue to benefit from resettlement as a protection mechanism. These include medical cases, women and children at risk of different harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation, or SGBV, and refugees with Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs, including LGBTI persons. Identification and submission of urgent and emergency resettlement cases from the sub-region through unallocated quotas will continue to be promoted.

The comprehensive solutions strategies of the UNHCR Country Offices in the Africa region are supported through Headquarters and through the Regional Offices in Pretoria and Dakar and the Regional Service Centre in Nairobi. The Regional Offices and Service Centre are central submission points for the country operations since they oversee and provide **oversight, guidance, coordination, monitoring and support** for resettlement and other solutions activities. They offer support missions to interview refugees for resettlement; training and capacity development of staff and partners on the role of resettlement, resettlement categories, case identification, communication and expectation management, fraud awareness and prevention; case quality control and to ensure timely submission to resettlement countries; liaison and advocacy with resettlement countries at the regional level; and review of Standard Operating Procedures. These activities ensure the maximum utilization of resettlement spaces, the harmonization of practices in particular vis-a-vis the same refugee populations in the region, and the quality and integrity of the processes.

The Regional Service Centre (RSC) in Nairobi covers 13 countries in the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region: Burundi, the DRC, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Kenya is a stand-alone operation.

RSC Nairobi, on behalf of the 13 countries, submitted a total of 22,591 refugees in 2018 (with over three-quarters of Congolese origin, followed by Eritreans and Somalis).

The Kenya operation submitted 4,611 refugees in 2018, mainly of South Sudanese, Congolese, and Somali origin.

The Regional Office in Pretoria (RO Pretoria) covers 14 countries in the Southern Africa region: Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



Ethiopia. Young South Sudanese refugees at Nguenyiel Camp. Nguenyiel is the newest – and largest – camp in for South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia’s Gambella region. As of June 2018, there were nearly 100,000 refugees at Nguenyiel, more than 10,000 over capacity. © UNHCR / Oli Cohen / 23 August, 2018

RO Pretoria, on behalf of the 14 countries in the sub-region, submitted a total of 3,583 refugees in 2018, mainly of Congolese nationality.

As of 2020, regional coverage will also include the Republic of the Congo and the DRC.

The Regional Office in Dakar (RO Dakar) covers 14 countries in West Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo; and three countries in Central Africa: Cameroon, the Central African Republic and Chad.

RO Dakar, on behalf of the 17 countries listed above, submitted a total of 5,614 refugees in 2018 (mainly

Central Africans, Eritreans and Sudanese), a 344 per cent increase from 2017.

AFRICA: 2020 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
Central Africa & the Great Lakes	34,498	163,849
East & Horn of Africa	126,322	445,803
Southern Africa	10,801	43,921
West Africa	4,117	13,859
Grand Total	15,738	667,432

* including multi-year planning

Africa

Field Story

In 2018, I worked for UNHCR in Niamey, Niger as a Resettlement Expert seconded through RefugePoint, primarily supporting the resettlement of unaccompanied refugee children who had just been evacuated from detention in Libya. I will never forget this experience as long as I live, as long as my mental faculties will allow.

What refugees, whom I had the honor of interviewing, shared with me was haunting. I no longer believe I can be surprised by acts of cruelty, perhaps by the different forms they take, but not by the depth of immorality. But as these young people sat before me, with far too many hardships endured, miles walked, and years lost, there was a feeling of hope – that the worst was behind them and their dream was now within reach.

Soon they could have the chance for which they had risked everything: a chance to start a real life, to resettle and make something of their precious youth. After all, if they had the grit to suffer through so much – living under a repressive regime, leaving the families they love, suffering from hunger and thirst, being kidnapped, trafficked, subjected to violence, torture, and detainment, crossing the desert and sea – I can't imagine much of anything could stand in the way of them pursuing their dreams.

The Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) evacuates refugees from detention centres in Libya and brings them to neighboring Niger, where we can assess what the best solution is for their cases. This initiative has no blueprint; there is little choice but to devise new ways to respond to crises that look so vastly different to one another if UNHCR is to protect the people of concern it aims to serve.

Most of the refugees I interviewed were teenagers from different countries in Africa, who fled their countries due to persistent violation of their human rights. Their testimonies tell of the impressively deep reach of some of their persecutors who control every aspect of their lives and that of their families.

The young refugees I met were all keenly aware of the risks of the journey in the age of connectivity and social media. Though they knew they could very well die along the way, these young people still choose to risk death rather than live a life in which they have no freedom to determine their own futures. These children went through hell, experienced things no human, especially a child, should ever have to endure.

From the 136 refugee interviews I conducted over the year, I learned quite a bit about the smuggling route that extends across East Africa to Libya. Refugees told me how the route thrives in Libya because of its proximity to Europe and because of its current state of lawlessness, which has made it fertile ground for armed smuggling rings. These rings traffic desperate people across the Sahara Desert into Libya then launch them north across the Mediterranean Sea. Transactions between smuggler and migrant may begin as voluntary but often degrade into trafficking situations. The East African smuggling route takes individuals through Sudan, across the Sahara desert into Libya, where they are held captive by the smuggler. Often, they wait until relatives are able to pay the amount agreed upon with the smuggler. The smuggler then sends them across the Mediterranean in an inflatable boat to try their luck crossing the sea. However, in reality, traffickers hold migrants against their will and torture them to expedite payment, either the agreed upon sum or extorting them for much higher amounts. Those being tortured are made to call their families who listen helplessly, a technique to pressure them into quickly paying thousands of dollars. These large amounts force families, many living in already impoverished circumstances, to sell their most valuable assets: their land, homes, and livestock as they scramble to free their loved one.

In light of the extremely volatile security situation, widespread reports of human rights violations and routine use of detention for people rescued or intercepted at sea, UNHCR considers that no one should be returned to Libya. From detention, migrants hopefully are able to voluntarily repatriate back to their home countries. Refugees, by contrast, cannot return home to a country they fled because of persecution or conflict.

Thankfully, there is the ETM, a humanitarian response to evacuate vulnerable refugees and extend the possibility of durable solutions, including resettlement. Rather than arriving irregularly, these refugees, and many of the refugee children I met, can have a chance to start a new life in a safe, dignified and supported manner. Resettlement fulfills the dream for which these children have sacrificed so much, and States will surely greatly benefit from offering these brave young people a chance of a new life.

*Alexandra Sisk
Resettlement Expert (RefugePoint)
Dakar, Senegal*



Niger. Hellish ordeal finally over for Sudanese torture victim trapped in Libya. “When we arrived [at Bani Walid] armed men forced us into an underground cell, with 500 other prisoners and beat us all day and all night. We were told to call our families and they demanded 10,000 Dinars (US\$7,000) for each of us.” Yasir, a Sudanese asylum-seeker forced to flee persecution in his country, is recovering at UNHCR’s Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) camp outside Niamey. After fleeing Darfur, Yasir was illegally detained by a militia in Tripoli and kept in centres where he was routinely beaten and humiliated. © UNHCR / John Wendle / 9 May, 2019

The Americas



Guatemala. Unaccompanied minors hide their faces so as not to be identified, before taking part in a classical music workshop at the Roots of Love shelter in Guatemala City. © UNHCR / Diana Díaz / 3 December, 2018



The Americas

Caribbean States, Dominican Republic & Haiti

Colombia

Cuba

Ecuador

Mexico

North of Central America (NCA):
Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador

In 2018, the Americas region saw the continued deterioration of the socioeconomic and human rights situation in Venezuela with outflows of refugee and migrants hosted by Latin America and Caribbean countries standing at 3.4 million as of the end of 2018. Internal displacement continued inside Colombia with some 100,000 newly displaced in 2018 and a rise of asylum applications by 17 per cent in neighboring Ecuador. The situation in the North of Central America (NCA) continued to cause people to flee at an increase of 30 per cent over the previous year (311,000 asylum-seekers and refugees registered from the region). Finally, 2018 witnessed outflows from Nicaragua (mainly towards neighboring Costa Rica), with more than 23,000 persons filing asylum claims in 2018. The year closed with a more than ten million persons of concern to UNHCR. Asylum applications continued to rise steeply with almost 500,000 newly introduced asylum claims and more than one million asylum-seekers still pending determination at the end of 2018.

Trends in 2018

The cases of 1,456 refugees were submitted for resettlement from Latin America and the Caribbean throughout 2018. This represents a 38 per cent increase compared to 1,054 submissions in 2017. Approximately 48 per cent of the refugees submitted for resettlement from the Americas originated from Colombia, 21 per cent from El Salvador, 13 per cent from Guatemala, and 11 per cent from Honduras. The number of resettlement states receiving submissions from the region also increased from eight in 2017 to 12 in 2018. 59 per cent of all submissions were made to the USA, 21 per cent to New Zealand and 14 per cent to Canada.

Departures to resettlement countries from the region decreased from 814 persons in 2017 to 743 in 2018.

THE AMERICAS

as of 18 Jun 2019

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2020 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*



* Including multi-year planning

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

© UNHCR - Geneva, 2019

Regional developments

Since 2017, the six States that have been applying the Comprehensive Regional Refugee Response Framework (known by its Spanish acronym “MIRPS”) have redoubled their efforts, aiming to strengthen cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination. They are also working to enhance protection safeguards and seek solutions to forced displacement, including by further engaging with development actors. In 2018, Mexico took on the role of the first pro-tempore presidency of the MIRPS group and the adoption of the 2019 Plan of Action. The plan includes: i) the ‘quantification exercise’ to define the economic contributions of governments in implementing the response to the basic needs of persons of concern and highlight the corresponding funding gap to be matched; ii) the updating of National Plans of Action adopted in 2017 and iii) the determination of possible pledges to the Global Refugee Forum.

More than two years since the signing of the peace agreement in Colombia, the pace of its implementation has been relatively slow, with delays owing to armed actors fighting for control in areas vacated by the demobilized Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). In addition to receiving significant numbers of refugees and migrants from Venezuela, Colombia continued to face considerable large-scale internal displacements in 2018, with some 100,000 persons newly displaced. This, coupled with increased illicit crop production and limited results in the efforts to help farmers embrace alternative development, exposed many community leaders and human rights advocates to protection risks. Some became victims of attacks or were killed. The emergence of new dynamics of violence and increased coca cultivation with associated illicit activities in border areas have also had an impact in Ecuador, resulting in a number of security incidents, internal displacement as well as serious protection risks for refugees and host communities in Ecuador.

The NCA – El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras – continued to witness high rates of violence and insecurity, making everyday life extremely dangerous in many communities. In 2018, the number of people fleeing the NCA increased by 30 per cent, with more than 311,000 asylum-seekers and refugees registered globally by year end. Over 64,000 new asylum-seekers from countries of the NCA were registered worldwide. Much of this displacement is little known to the general public, with people leaving quietly, often at the mercy of dangerous criminal networks. In 2018, a new phenomenon known as “caravans” of people, mainly from El Salvador and Honduras heading northwards to Mexico and the USA, caught the media’s attention in 2018. UNHCR continued supporting governments to ensure access to territory and asylum procedures, provision of humanitarian assistance and access to safe solutions for people with urgent protection needs, including through relocation,

humanitarian evacuations and Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

The ongoing deterioration of the socioeconomic and human rights situation in Venezuela, compounded by a serious political and institutional crisis has led to 3.8 million Venezuelans leaving the country since 2015. Approximately 450,000 Venezuelans have filed asylum claims in countries around the world. Of these, more than half were submitted in 2018 alone. A further 1.4 million Venezuelans have benefitted from alternative forms of legal stay in Latin America.

The situation in Venezuela has also resulted in increased protection challenges for the States in the southern Caribbean. To prevent *refoulement* and detention, UNHCR has worked with authorities and partners to strengthen reception and asylum access, as well as to support the provision of housing, healthcare and education. UNHCR responded to host Governments’ increased demands for capacity-building, legal advice and emergency preparedness support. The larger Caribbean region continues facing the complexities of mixed flows that include asylum-seekers, refugees, victims of human trafficking and stateless persons, along with migrants displaying a variety of vulnerabilities.

The situation in Nicaragua continues to be affected by a grave political and social crisis giving rise to violence and human rights abuses. Given the volatility of the situation, the number of Nicaraguans fleeing the country is expected to increase. UNHCR considers that many Nicaraguans fleeing abroad in the context of this crisis are likely to be in need of international protection.¹ Costa Rica has received the largest number of the forcibly displaced, with more than 23,000 individuals filing asylum claims in 2018. Mexico, Panama and other countries in the region are also seeing a considerable increase in asylum applications.

¹ UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), *Guidance Note on the Outflow of Nicaraguans*, 24 August 2018, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/5b7fefb44.html>

The Americas: 2020 Projected Resettlement Needs

Resettlement out of the Americas continues to be an important durable solution for refugees presenting imminent protection needs or extreme vulnerabilities. The projected resettlement needs for the Latin America and Caribbean region in 2019, as identified by UNHCR offices, stands at 4,990 persons. UNHCR in the Americas continues to largely use resettlement strategically as a protection tool for refugees with specific needs or at heightened risk, which complements local integration efforts for those who will remain in the countries of asylum.

Sub-regional overview

CENTRAL AMERICA

In 2018, in order to respond to the increased flows in the NCA, the PTA continued to provide an innovative life-saving mechanism that provides individuals exposed to extreme risks in the NCA with safe and legal access to a durable solution in a resettlement country, via a transit country. It is also one element of the regional protection and solutions strategy under the MIRPS. The PTA started as a pilot in El Salvador in July 2016 and was expanded to include Guatemala and Honduras during the course of 2017. The USA was the only country of reception for the pilot phase, and agreed to continue participating thereafter. Australia, and Uruguay have received a small number of cases in 2017 and in 2018, while Canada accepted cases in 2017. Brazil and Australia have agreed to accept cases in 2018-2019. UNHCR urges States to actively support the PTA to allow a larger number of persons at heightened risk to access a durable solution.

As of December 2018, 2,730 persons were identified by UNHCR partners in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. A total of 1,004 individuals have been submitted to the PTA, 237 transferred to Costa Rica and 319 resettled to a third country. UNHCR estimates that a significant proportion of the population in higher risk communities in the NCA is in need of international protection. However, due to limitations in identification capacity, establishing the actual PTA needs within this population is very challenging. Considering that the identification capacity is increasing as PTA partners gain experience, and also the fact that the situation in NCA countries has not improved in terms of security and human rights violations, UNHCR estimates that the PTA needs in NCA countries for 2020 will be 2,160 persons (approximately 720 cases).

THE CARIBBEAN

As of 31 December 2018, there were around 1,200 recognized refugees from over 40 countries of origin hosted in 20 Caribbean countries. The vast majority of refugees live in local communities in urban and peri-urban areas. Of the already recognized refugee population in the Caribbean – which includes Venezuelans, Colombians, Cubans, Jamaicans and a diversity of extra-regional nationalities – the most common profiles that are in need of resettlement are single-female head of households and young women vulnerable to sexual exploitation and abuse; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) individuals; individuals with medical or psycho-social needs; and specific cases at risk of prolonged detention and/or *refoulement*. The rapid arrival of new Venezuelan asylum-seekers to the southern Caribbean states and territories combined with strengthened UNHCR activities to identify vulnerable protection cases is likely to result in a significantly higher level of resettlement needs being identified during 2019. Since UNHCR is engaging new implementing partners in 2019 to scale up the response to the Venezuela situation, resettlement referrals from partners in 2019 may also lead to identification of additional resettlement needs.

The southern Caribbean has been profoundly impacted by the arrival of Venezuelan asylum-seekers in the last two years. Some 220,000 Venezuelans are expected to be hosted in the Caribbean by the end of 2019. As UNHCR expands registration and Refugee Status Determination activities, refugee numbers will continue to increase exponentially.

Refugees who are widely dispersed over a large region such as the Caribbean, sometimes on remote and low populated islands, pose a particular challenge to UNHCR and to potential resettlement countries in terms of protection and durable solutions. Resettlement countries may not consider it to be cost-effective to conduct resettlement activities when numbers are small and distances great. In this context, UNHCR has repeatedly called for resettlement countries to use flexible processing modalities to the extent possible, including by considering dossier submissions under normal priority for this specific refugee population.

Resettlement continues to be a critical tool to meet the protection needs of the most vulnerable cases including particularly vulnerable groups, especially LGBTI cases, women at risk cases, medical cases, family reunification cases, and individuals with particular protection risks, especially risks of *refoulement* and prolonged detention. As the Venezuela situation persists, it is possible that certain profiles, such as large families, may also have greater needs for resettlement. Resettlement will continue to be used primarily as a protection tool for individual cases on a needs basis, but may also be used strategically to



Honduras. Yolani Ríos teaches fifth grade students at a UNHCR-supported education centre in a high-risk area of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. © UNHCR / Santiago Escobar-Jaramillo / 7 June, 2018

contribute to burden sharing in host countries impacted by Venezuelan arrivals.

COLOMBIA

Due to their proximity and cultural ties, Colombia has been the country most impacted by the outflow to the region of refugees and migrants from Venezuela. Over 1.2 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants had settled in Colombia by the end of 2018.

The Office has determined that 65 refugees are projected to be in need of resettlement in 2020. This is the first time UNHCR Colombia will embark on resettlement, given the significant shifts in operational context.

ECUADOR

According to official government numbers, Ecuador hosts more than 65,537 recognized refugees (mainly Colombians) and has become a main destination and transit country for Venezuelan refugees and migrants. In Colombia, despite the 2016 Peace Agreement, violence continues against the civilian population at the hands of multiple violent groups disputing control over areas formerly under the control of FARC, which resulted in an 11 per cent increase in arrivals of people in need of international protection in 2018. UNHCR seeks to maintain and even increase its resettlement quotas for Colombians in 2020 with the aim of ensuring the availability of a protection and durable solution response to protection cases. In the current context of deterioration of the security situation in Colombia and its spill-over across the border, resettlements constitutes

a key protection response to certain sensitive profiles with extremely serious protection needs (social leaders, witnesses to violent activities, youth escaping forced recruitment, among others).

The continuous deterioration of the economic, social, security and humanitarian situation in Venezuela means that numbers of Venezuelans arriving in Ecuador are expected to increase. Over 1.4 million Venezuelans have arrived in Ecuador since 2015. While 80 per cent of Venezuelans arriving in Ecuador are in transit to third countries, 250,000 to 300,000 are estimated to remain in Ecuador. A large proportion of Venezuelans arriving in Ecuador are in need of international protection and urgent assistance, but government response capacity has been overwhelmed. A large proportion of Venezuelans residing in Ecuador (up to 150,000) are in an irregular migratory situation and exposed to serious protection risks. Venezuelans face particular challenges including access to services and lack of income generating opportunities as well as exposure to serious protection risks, such as human trafficking, exploitation and abuse, and deportation.

THE AMERICAS: 2020 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
The Americas	1,962	4,990
Grand Total	1,962	4,990

* including multi-year planning

The Americas Field Story

We work to give refugees protection and assistance, but our main goal is to find them a durable solution to rebuild their lives after losing everything in their country of origin.

I never imagined that after 15 years a resettled refugee would still remember my name. She met one of my colleagues in Oxford and asked her if I was still working for UNHCR. I remember her and her family vividly. However, my memories of her situation were very different from the life she is living now. She and her family were survivors of torture and violence in Colombia and fled to Ecuador to seek protection. I clearly recall her face, her claim and her needs, as it was a compelling case, sadly involving a lot of suffering for her and her family. I felt such a deep emotion when they were accepted for resettlement and finally travelled to a third country.

Due to her hard work, her life changed completely once she was resettled. She had always been interested in migration and refugee protection and ended up studying Social Work. Among other achievements, she participated in the summer school on forced migration at Oxford University and is working for the migration service in her country of resettlement.

Helping refugees to get the opportunity to rebuild their lives in a new country, and in most of the cases, the life-saving impact of resettlement, is what keeps me passionate about my work. My job allows me to connect with the refugees and to listen to their stories, while knowing that every RRF that I draft and submit could change the life of a refugee forever.

I think that in terms of resettlement, UNHCR in Ecuador is a unique operation. While I have had rewarding experiences working in Syria, with Iraqi and Palestinian refugees, as well as in Peru with Venezuelan persons of concern while working in Community-Based Protection, I decided to return to Ecuador, as I have the opportunity to be involved in the processing of cases from the beginning of the resettlement process until their departure.

While the work can be emotionally demanding, as we do not only draft the RRFs, but as also manage the cases, thus creating a deep connection with the refugees, I cherish the moment their resettlement cases are accepted, and rejoice when I receive the letters, emails and pictures that the resettled refugees share with us of their new life. Resettled refugees often share with us the pride and joy they feel as they are improving their language skills in their

new home country, as they finish high school, or when a new baby is born.

On the other hand, I have felt the bitter disappointment when a case that I worked on so hard is found inadmissible for resettlement, and it is necessary to start thinking of alternative options for a durable solution. All of these emotions remind me that I am a human being, working for other persons, with needs, expectations and challenges and the importance of the quality of my work. Consequently, I am committed to be systematic, transparent and efficient with the cases. The resettlement team in Ecuador is quite small, but solid in terms of hard work and dedication. Being part of this operation has always filled me with pride. After 16 years of experience with UNHCR, I am still motivated and moved by the joy that resettlement brings to the families, especially knowing what an impact it will have for the rest of their lives.

With the Colombian conflict far from being over, internal and external displacement continues despite the signing of the Peace Agreement. At UNHCR Ecuador, we continuously interview and submit strong and compelling cases from Colombia with protection needs. Additionally, since last year, the situation in Venezuela has become more pressing. Hearing the stories of Venezuelans and their plight has brought me new emotions, and further reasons to continue working hard for them.

Thanks to the resettlement countries that continue to receive refugees from Ecuador we still can use resettlement as a protection tool. The feedback, support and openness of the receiving countries demonstrates the continued international solidarity and willingness to take responsibility for those in need of international protection.


For me, resettlement has always been challenging, yet incredibly rewarding. For as long as I feel that lives can be saved or a family can be protected I will continue to interview with integrity, submit quality cases and follow up on the families in the resettlement process with empathy. The happiness that the good news of successful resettlement cases brings me and the realization of what a difference my work can make to the lives of those at risk, makes me passionate to continue working for UNHCR.

*Erika Barragan
Assistant Resettlement Officer
Quito, Ecuador*




Ecuador. Seventeen-year-old Maria from Colombia is receiving support at the Solidarity and Action Association in Quito – a UNHCR partner organisation that cares for families with unaccompanied or separated children. Maria left home at 14 and was forced to leave her country when she started receiving threats from armed groups. She has a two-year-old baby, but no relatives in Ecuador. © UNHCR / Santiago Escobar-Jaramillo / 15 November, 2018

Asia and the Pacific



Thailand. Refugees residing in temporary shelters in Thailand gather together to celebrate World Refugee Day by putting on performances of traditional dance and singing. © UNHCR / 20 June, 2017



East Asia and the Pacific

China (including Hong Kong SAR)

Indonesia

Malaysia

Thailand

South Asia

India

Sri Lanka

South-West Asia

Islamic Republic of Iran

With the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), and as a part of comprehensive solutions strategies in Asia and the Pacific region, UNHCR has been prioritising resettlement for refugees with specific protection needs. Solutions in the region also encompass voluntary and sustainable return of refugees to their respective countries of origin, fostering social cohesion among refugees and host communities, building resilience, alternative stay arrangements for refugees in host countries, and complementary pathways of admission to third countries.

Trends in 2018

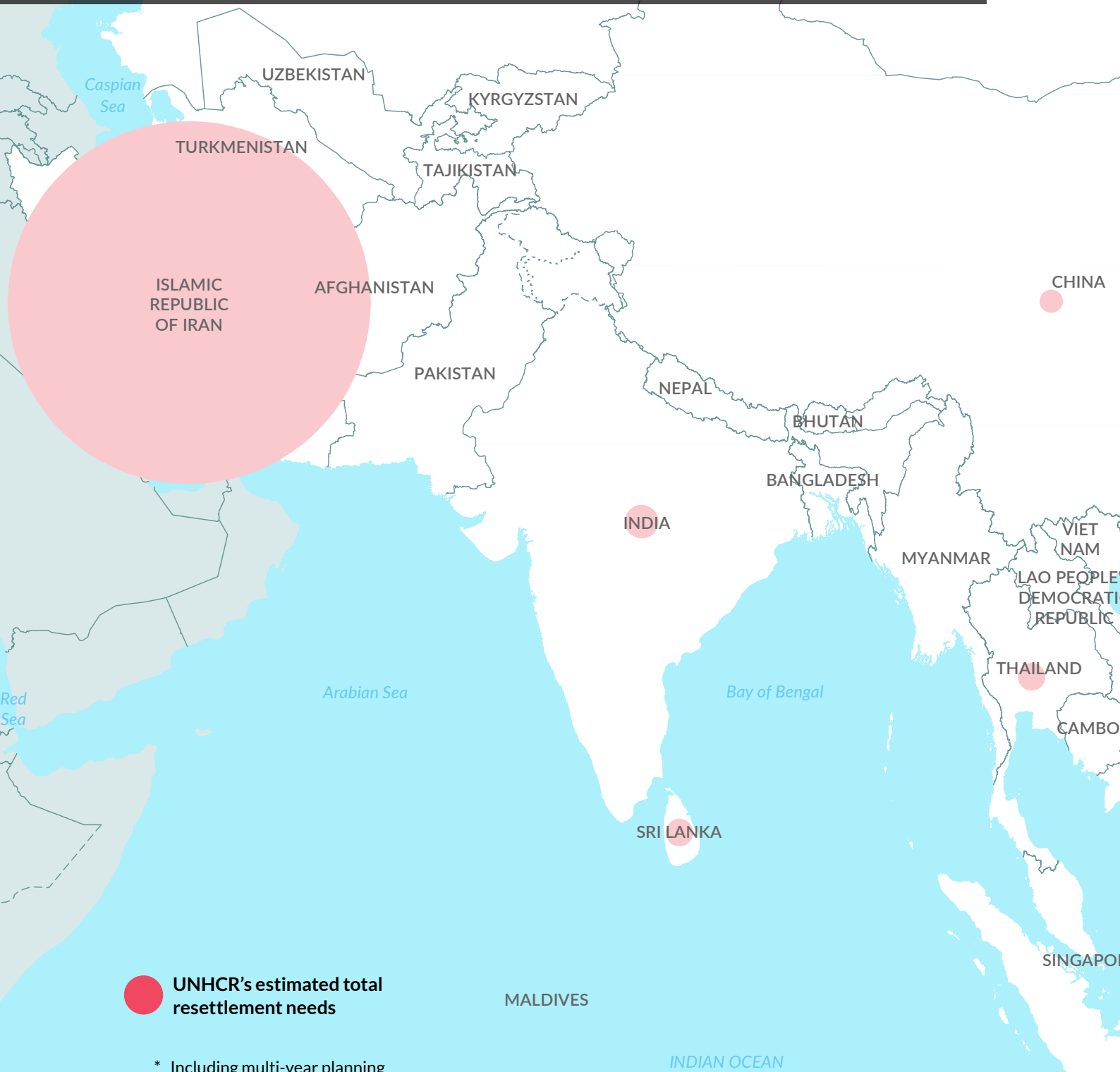
In 2018, UNHCR submitted a total of 5,796 refugees for resettlement from countries in Asia and the Pacific. This constitutes a 27 per cent decrease compared with 7,983 submissions in 2017, largely due to alternative solutions strategies pursued in Thailand and Malaysia, although submissions increased in 2018 from some countries, notably Indonesia, India, and Sri Lanka.

Just over one half (51 per cent) of the refugees submitted for resettlement from Asia and the Pacific in 2018 originated from Myanmar (2,950 submissions), while 26 per cent originated from Afghanistan (1,502), eight per cent from Pakistan (462), and five per cent from Somalia (281). While submissions were made to 12 different resettlement countries in 2018, 56 per cent of all submissions were made to the USA (3,241), 18 per cent were made to Canada (1,027), and 22 per cent were distributed among New Zealand (471), Australia (436), and Sweden (395). Departures from the region to resettlement countries, including refugees submitted in previous years under large-scale group resettlement programmes which have since ended, decreased from 12,052 in 2017 to 8,057 in 2018, consistent with the global trend.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

as of 14 Jun 2019

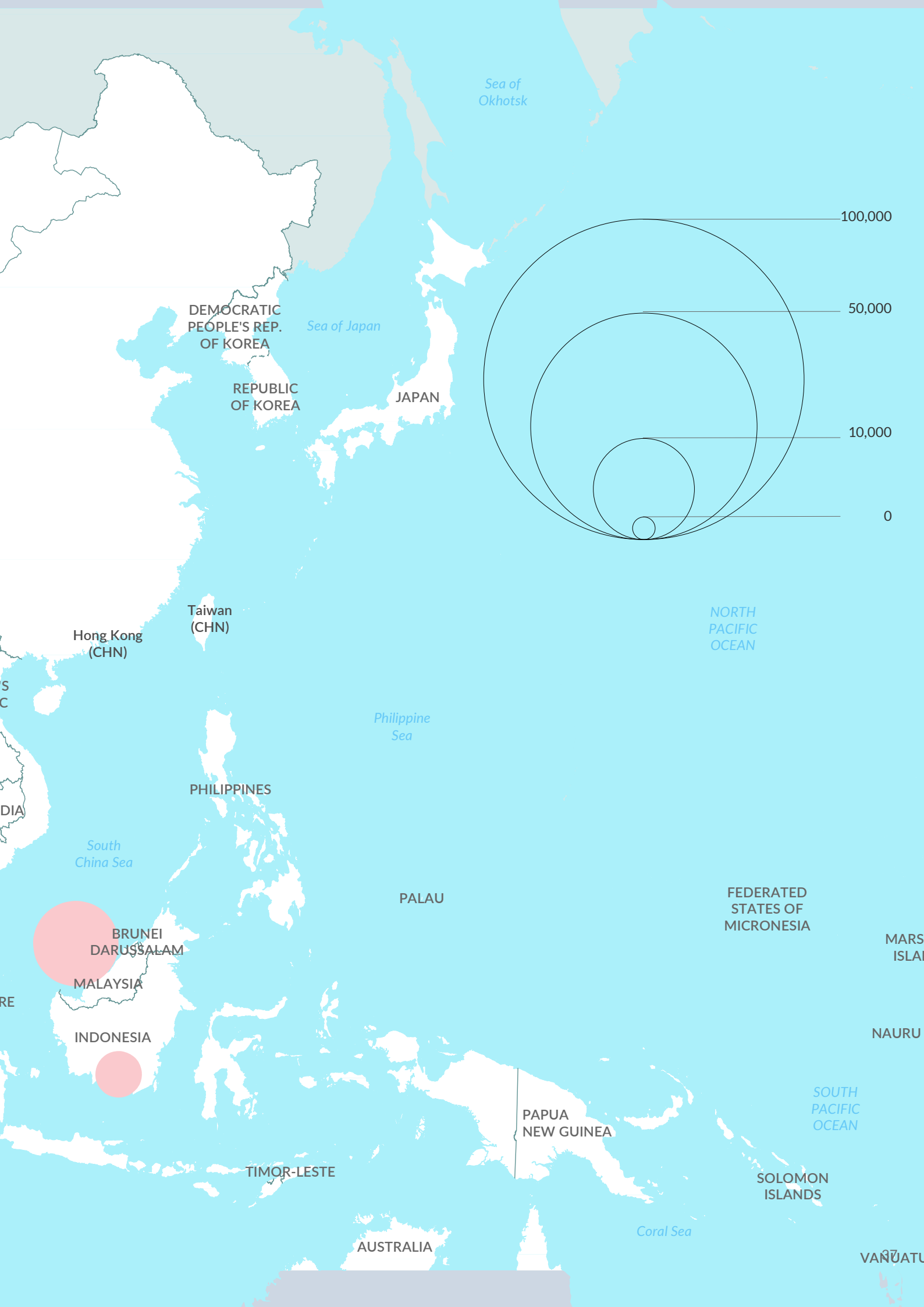
UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2020 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*



* Including multi-year planning

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

© UNHCR - Geneva, 2019



Sea of Okhotsk

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REP. OF KOREA

Sea of Japan

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

JAPAN

100,000

50,000

10,000

0

NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

Philippine Sea

PHILIPPINES

Hong Kong (CHN)

Taiwan (CHN)

South China Sea

PALAU

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

MARSHALL ISLANDS

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

MALAYSIA

NAURU

INDONESIA

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

TIMOR-LESTE

SOLOMON ISLANDS

AUSTRALIA

Coral Sea

VANUATU



Malaysia. Overview of UNHCR Malaysia office in Kuala Lumpur, where 180 staff are working to assist some 162,000 refugees. © UNHCR / Jordi Matas / 23 November, 2018

Regional developments

By 2020, UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific will be strategically located in Bangkok to continue dialogue and coordination with key stakeholders involved in addressing the root causes of forced displacement, particularly in the context of the Myanmar situation. The relocation of the Bureau will pave the way for closer cooperation on comprehensive, long-term solutions to address mixed flows, highlighting the responsibility of countries within the region to attend to people in need of international protection, whereby resettlement is used as a protection tool to address the needs of individual refugees facing heightened risks. UNHCR also continues to engage with the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (the Bali Process) at the regional level.

Renewed efforts are being made to secure solutions for the remaining Bhutanese refugees still residing in south-eastern Nepal. While resettlement is no longer anticipated for this population, UNHCR will continue in 2020 to work together with the Governments of Bhutan and Nepal, as well as development actors, to address and resolve their protracted displacement.

In South-East Asia, UNHCR operations in Thailand and Malaysia have sought to diversify their approach to resettlement with a larger proportion of identified cases involving refugees originating from countries outside of the sub-region, and to prioritize refugees with specific protection needs or family links in other countries.

The large-scale arrival of refugees from Myanmar into Bangladesh in August 2017 has been the largest and most

Asia: 2020 Projected Resettlement Needs

quickly accelerating crisis the region has experienced in recent decades, with a dramatic outflow of some 700,000 stateless refugees. While supporting the Government of Bangladesh to provide assistance and protection to refugees in Bangladesh in response to the emergency, UNHCR is in parallel seeking solutions for the situation. UNHCR continues to underscore the need to improve conditions and address the root causes, in line with the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State. This includes the Government of Myanmar guaranteeing security, ensuring a meaningful enjoyment of basic human rights, in particular freedom of movement, and providing a predictable pathway to citizenship. In this regard, in 2018, UNHCR began to promote the Solidarity Approach for the People of Rakhine State. In the spirit of the GCR, UNHCR will continue with this approach aiming to bring together a host of actors to continue to demonstrate solidarity with the Government of Bangladesh and to identify comprehensive solutions for the people of Rakhine State, both inside and outside Myanmar.

Afghan refugees constitute the second largest refugee population under UNHCR mandate and represent one of the most protracted situations, with large-scale displacement of Afghans now in its 40th year. The framework of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) developed by the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan with the support of UNHCR, addresses the protracted situation of Afghan refugees by facilitating voluntary repatriation, supporting sustainable reintegration and providing assistance to host countries. Due to the protracted nature of the displacement, the fluid and unpredictable security situation and limited absorption capacity in Afghanistan, UNHCR continues to look for broader solutions beyond voluntary repatriation, by supporting conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity, by supporting the host countries and by searching for third country solutions through resettlement and complementary pathways, especially for particularly vulnerable Afghans in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The total projected resettlement needs for refugees in Asia and the Pacific in 2020 is 98,281 individuals. This marks a decrease of three per cent from the projected needs in 2019, which were an estimated 101,646 individuals among the refugee population.



Iran. Afghan refugee Fatemeh Esmeili, 27, learns tailoring at the UNHCR-partnered Iranian Life Quality Improvement Association Centre in Tehran.
© UNHCR / Andrew McConnell / 2 September, 2018

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC: 2020 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
East Asia & the Pacific	6,295	10,031
South Asia	565	1,250
South-West Asia	17,400	87,000
Grand Total	24,260	98,281

* including multi-year planning

Asia and the Pacific Field Story

My name is Bharat Gautam. I am currently working as an Associate Resettlement Officer with UNHCR, Indonesia deployed through the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC). I have been working in Indonesia since November 2018 and worked previously in Niger as an ICMC child protection expert.

The Indonesia operation has a diverse refugee caseload. The majority of refugees are from Afghanistan, Somalia, Pakistan, Yemen, Myanmar (Rohingya), Iran, and Palestine, among others. As such, the protection needs of these diverse groups are varied. Refugees fled their country of origin to escape ongoing war and conflict and other forms of persecution. In the course of their flight, many lost close family members; some were tortured and survived serious sexual and gender based violence, including rape. The suffering and long-lasting trauma are ever present with refugees. In view of the shrinking resettlement places allocated by States, UNHCR Indonesia prioritizes refugees with severe vulnerabilities and protection needs, such as woman and girls at risk, refugees with medical needs, and survivors of violence and torture.

Resettlement is a crucial tool to help address refugees' protection needs while serving also as the most appropriate durable solution. It has been a privilege for me to have an opportunity to work for the most vulnerable and destitute refugees in assessing their durable solutions options, including resettlement. My main responsibility is to interview vulnerable refugees for resettlement and prepare their cases convincingly for submission to a

resettlement country. Working at UNHCR in Indonesia and interviewing refugees for resettlement is a thrilling experience because it gives refugees much-needed hope to rebuild their lives in safety and security in a third country. When I read the background information on their files, I am painfully aware that they have been through unimaginable experiences. Many of them previously owned businesses and homes but in their flight to safety, they had to leave everything behind or watch their life's work be destroyed. So many refugees have lost family, friends, and in some cases, their own children. And yet they are standing in front of me determined to rebuild their lives for themselves and their families, full of expectations and questions. Nevertheless, to hear their harrowing flight stories and bear witness to their suffering is always difficult; I cannot easily erase some of their stories from my mind.

The need for resettlement of refugees in Indonesia remains high, but the dwindling resettlement quotas make it very difficult to address the legitimate resettlement needs of refugees even though other durable solutions options have been explored. Despite the various challenges in the field, it always inspires and motivates me to work for the cause of refugees – especially when I see the happiness and hope on their faces when I interview them for resettlement.

*Bharat Gautam
Associate Resettlement Officer (ICMC)
Jakarta, Indonesia*



Joy of Flying (mixed media on canvas)
Sabin Sainju
Associate Child Protection Officer (ICMC)
Jakarta, Indonesia

Europe



Turkey. A rainbow is seen outside the Kalyon hotel in Istanbul where UN refugee chief Filippo Grandi met with groups of refugees as part of his visit to Turkey. © UNHCR / Claire Thomas / 14 February, 2018

Resettlement needs in Europe remain considerably high, largely on account of the scale of the refugee population in Turkey, which is the world's largest refugee hosting country with some 3.7 million refugees at the start of 2019. Despite the significant expansion of resettlement from Turkey since 2016, and due to the sheer size of the refugee population, infrastructure and resources in Turkey continue to feel the strain, and with the gradual depletion of their personal resources, refugees are increasingly resorting to harmful coping mechanisms. It is projected that 420,000 refugees will need resettlement from Turkey in 2020, the majority of whom are Syrian nationals, making Turkey the operation with the greatest needs globally. In Turkey, resettlement will continue to be used strategically to preserve protection space and generate other solutions, as well as a demonstration of international solidarity and responsibility-sharing. Resettlement also continues to represent a small component of UNHCR's protection strategy in a few other European countries, including the Russian Federation and Ukraine, where it is used as a tool for protection for very vulnerable refugees who are facing heightened protection risks.

Trends in 2018

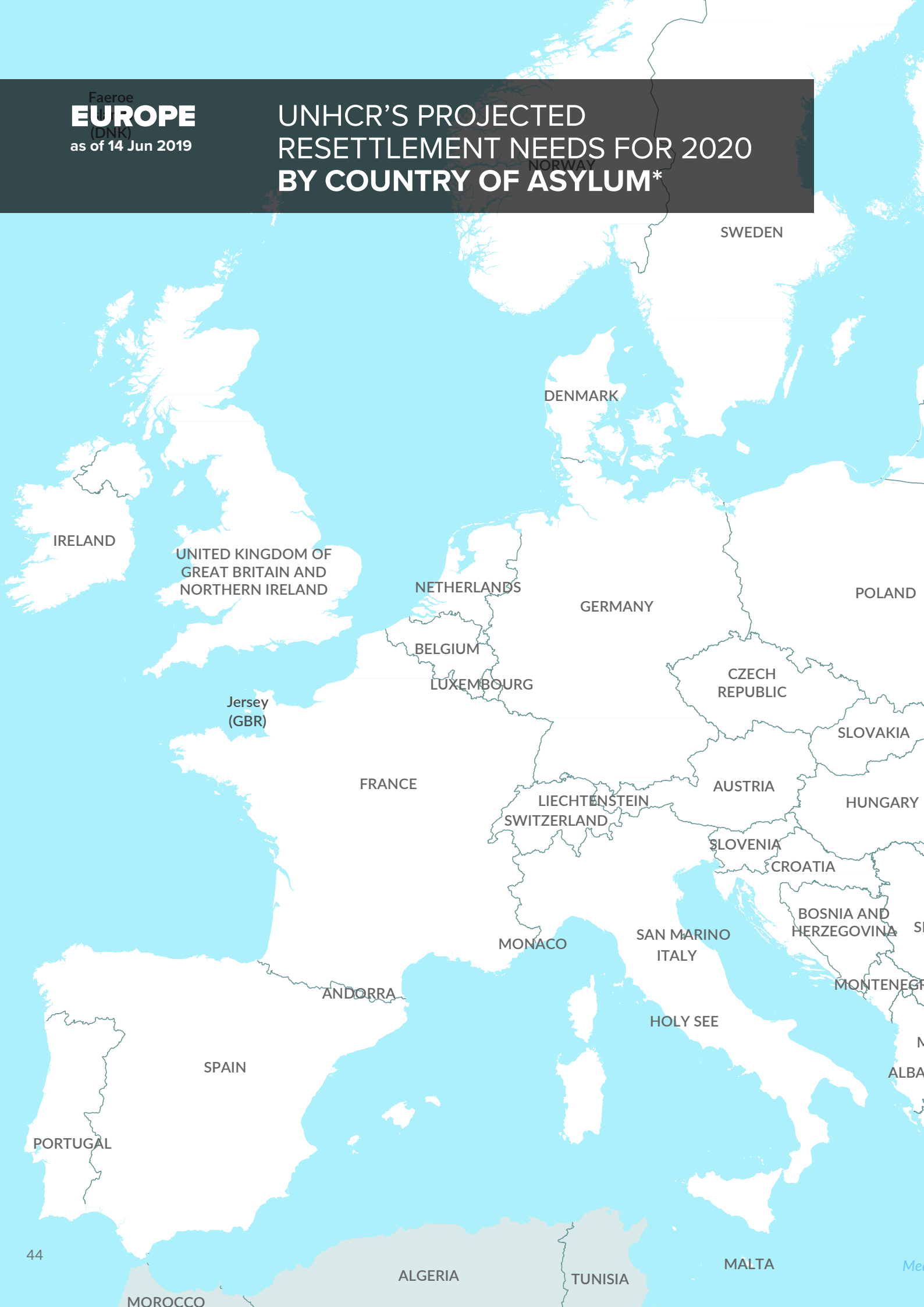
The number of resettlement submissions from Europe decreased to 16,135 in 2018 compared to 17,338 in 2017, representing a decrease of seven per cent. This decrease was mainly due to reduced overall resettlement quotas offered for the Turkey operation, which submitted 16,042 individuals to 19 resettlement countries. Departures to resettlement countries from the region also decreased from 15,006 persons in 2017 to 9,125 in 2018, with the majority of departures from Turkey (8,979) followed by countries in Eastern Europe.

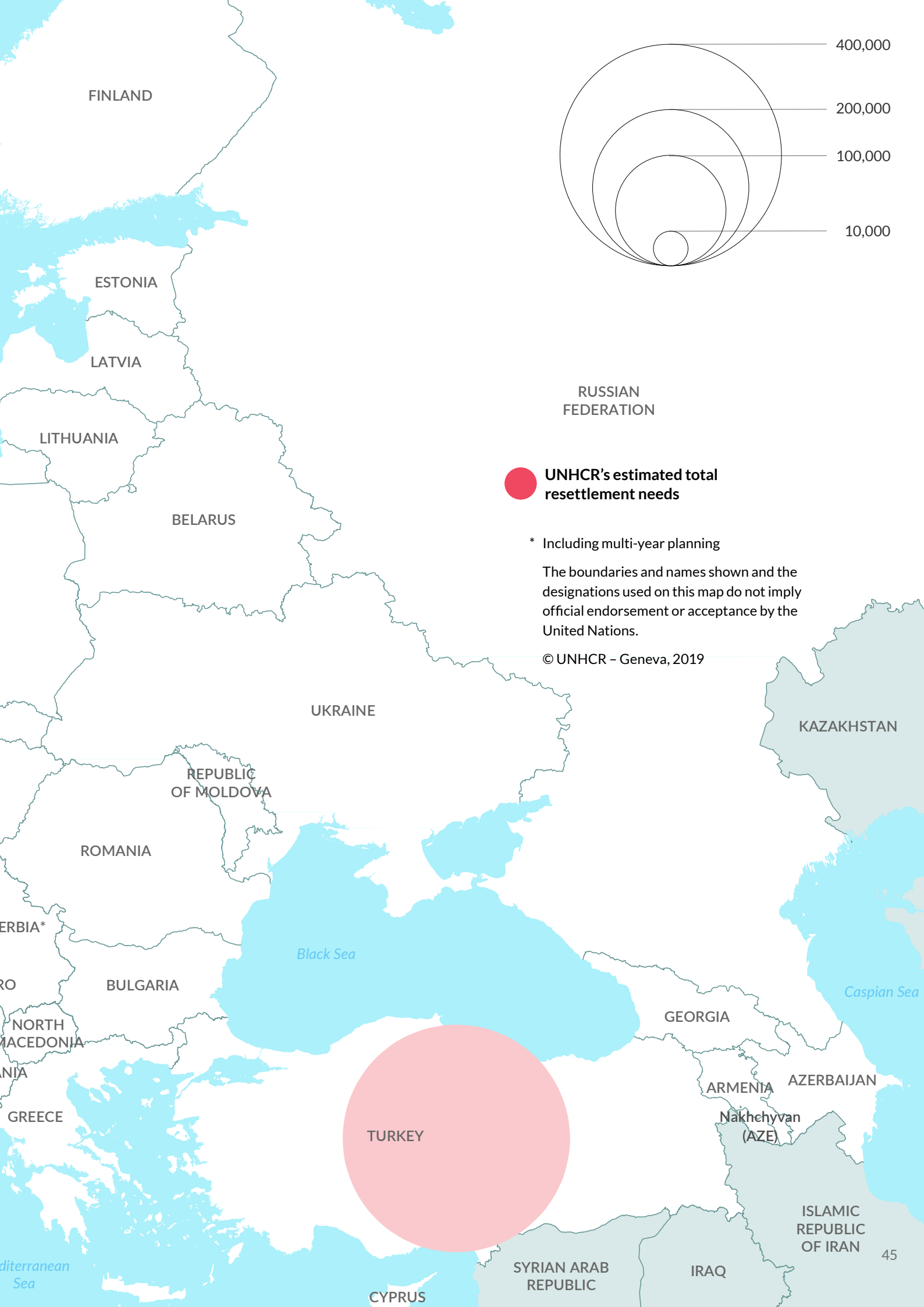
Regional developments

The number of refugees and migrants arriving to Europe through the Mediterranean Sea fell again significantly in 2018 with approximately 116,647 sea arrivals compared to 172,324 in 2017. However, certain countries at the external borders of the European Union continued to receive relatively high numbers of arrivals throughout 2018, in particular Greece and Spain, but also Cyprus in relation to its population size. In addition, countries in south eastern Europe (western Balkans) have seen higher arrival rates, in particular Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. As a result, the capacities of these states to receive, process and assist persons of concern to UNHCR in line with international and national standards remained challenged.

Arrivals to Turkey from Syria and a number of other countries continued, and as a result, Turkey remained the world's largest refugee hosting country, with significant resettlement needs. At the beginning of 2019, the total refugee population in Turkey was estimated to stand

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2020 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*





400,000

200,000

100,000

10,000

RUSSIAN
FEDERATION

**UNHCR's estimated total
resettlement needs**

* Including multi-year planning

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

© UNHCR - Geneva, 2019

FINLAND

ESTONIA

LATVIA

LITHUANIA

BELARUS

UKRAINE

REPUBLIC
OF MOLDOVA

ROMANIA

BULGARIA

SERBIA*

NORTH
MACEDONIA

ALBANIA

GREECE

TURKEY

Black Sea

Caspian Sea

KAZAKHSTAN

GEORGIA

ARMENIA

AZERBAIJAN

Nakhehyan
(AZE)

ISLAMIC
REPUBLIC
OF IRAN

SYRIAN ARAB
REPUBLIC

IRAQ

CYPRUS

Mediterranean
Sea



Russia. Afghan refugee participating in basketball master-class with BC "Khimki" as part of World Refugee Day events in Moscow. © UNHCR / Evgeny Solodov / 20 June, 2018

at some 3.7 million individuals, including 3.65 million Syrian refugees, in addition to 59,325 refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and other countries. Despite these trends, there has been an overall decrease in the number of resettlement places resulting in the operation only being able to submit 16,042 refugees in 2018 compared to 17,166 in 2017. However, a number of states remain proactively engaged in resettlement of Syrian refugees, which is complemented by a smaller number of other durable solution pathways available in Turkey, including family reunification, private sponsorships, and humanitarian visas. Resettlement from Turkey not only provides refugees with a durable solution but also represents an opportunity for the international community to ease pressure on host communities, support the largest refugee-hosting country and demonstrate the positive impact of responsibility-sharing. A large-scale and expedited resettlement from Turkey is essential to developing comprehensive refugee responses as envisaged in the Global Compact on Refugees. The success of the international community in responding to the needs in Turkey comprehensively and through a variety of pathway opportunities will demonstrate how the objectives of the comprehensive refugee response can be directly implemented and achieve positive results.

In eastern Europe, throughout the region, access to asylum and the capacity to conduct efficient and fair asylum procedures continue to be a challenge. For the most part in the region, the protection environment remains relatively volatile, marked by xenophobia and homophobia, and with national security considerations often taking primacy over the assessment of asylum claims in line with international standards. Consequently,

certain groups of people, in particular ethnic and religious minorities as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) persons face increased risks of *refoulement* and violence, including sexual and gender-based violence. UNHCR continues to work with the State authorities in the region to support access to fair and efficient Refugee Status Determination (RSD) procedures and decision-making that meets international standards. Furthermore, local integration of refugees remains a high priority for all UNHCR operations, in spite of the significant challenges faced by many persons of concern. In these European States, UNHCR will use resettlement as a tool for protection for those refugees at heightened risk or with serious vulnerabilities, in particular those at risk of *refoulement*, in need of medical care that is not available in the asylum country, or who are facing other serious risks to their physical and legal safety.

In south-eastern Europe, significant numbers of asylum-seekers and migrants continue to move irregularly through the region. Persons potentially in need of international protection rarely apply for asylum, and if they do, often abandon the procedure and attempt to move onward. However, with increasingly restrictive border management in place at the external borders of the EU (e.g. Hungary and Croatia), onward movement through EU Member States has become more difficult. As a result, the number of persons applying for international protection in the region, particularly in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, is expected to increase, with likely a small number of individuals identified with specific needs who may need resettlement as a vital tool for protection, including women and adolescents at risk.

Europe: 2020 Resettlement Needs

The resettlement needs in Europe remain high in 2020, with some 420,000 persons projected to be in need of resettlement. The lack of alternative durable solutions is the principal reason for the continuously substantial resettlement needs, with Syrians in Turkey making up over 90 per cent of those projected to be in need of resettlement from Europe. In eastern and south eastern European countries, while the situation has not markedly changed, UNHCR is focusing its activities on strengthening national asylum systems coupled with increased efforts to find local and community-based solutions for persons of concern.

Sub-regional overviews

TURKEY OPERATION

Syrian refugees in Turkey continue to benefit from temporary protection, and the Government recognizes that they will remain in Turkey for an extended period of time in view of the prevailing situation in Syria. Although work permit regulations of early 2016 provide a firm ground for labour market integration of persons of concern, significant constraints including the economic climate and high rates of unemployment continue to inhibit refugees' participation in the labour market. Destitution among refugees has resulted in their engagement in harmful coping mechanisms, such as child labour and child marriage, while aggravating tensions among communities. Given the scale of the refugee population, the infrastructure in Turkey is under pressure making it difficult for refugees to access services. Therefore, resettlement remains a vital responsibility-sharing mechanism and a means to ease the strain on Turkey's infrastructure and resources.

The estimated total resettlement needs in Turkey are 420,000 persons, the large majority (380,000) of whom are Syrian refugees. The number of Syrians projected to need resettlement in 2020 has decreased by five per cent compared with the figure of 400,000 Syrians in need of resettlement in 2019 due to the availability of improved data following the completion of a comprehensive verification project carried out by the Turkish authorities with support from UNHCR at the end of 2018. This project has helped to identify vulnerable Syrians for the purpose of referrals to national social and protection services as well as resettlement.

Contrary to Syrian refugees, asylum-seekers from other countries undergo individual RSD for which the Government of Turkey has assumed responsibility

since September 2018, and those who are from outside Europe are considered to hold "conditional" refugee status once recognized due to the geographic limitation Turkey maintains in implementing the 1951 Convention. Those holding this status may remain in the country legally, but only until a durable solution is found outside Turkey, limiting access to other solutions for this group. Estimated resettlement needs of refugees from countries other than Syria in Turkey are around 40,000 persons (including refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and other nationalities), and focus on children and adolescents at risk, refugees with legal and physical protection needs, survivors of violence and torture, and refugees with serious medical needs or disabilities.

EASTERN AND SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

Resettlement needs in eastern Europe (particularly in the Russian Federation and Ukraine) in 2020 are estimated to be 180 people. These refugees originate primarily from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Syria, and the south Caucasus, as well as a small number from sub-Saharan countries. The protection environment across the region remains relatively volatile with certain groups of refugees, such as ethnic and religious minorities as well as LGBTI persons facing considerable risks. UNHCR plans to continue using resettlement throughout the region for highly vulnerable refugees, including those at risk of *refoulement*, while increasing its efforts to find other solutions.

In Ukraine, some refugees are exposed to threats of expulsion and to their physical safety and remain in a vulnerable socio-economic situation, including women and LGBTI persons. While UNHCR's efforts are focused on local integration through community-based approaches, some 150 persons of concern with serious protection risks and/or social vulnerabilities, including acute medical needs, which cannot be addressed in Ukraine, have been identified as needing resettlement. In the Russian Federation, access to international protection remains a challenge, with the resulting risks of arrest and deportation as well as lack of access to health care and livelihoods. This has an especially negative effect on vulnerable individuals such as female-headed households, survivors of violence and torture and individuals with serious medical needs. It is estimated that some 30 individuals will require resettlement. In south eastern Europe, it is estimated that some 30 individuals with specific needs, in particular women and adolescents at risk, might be in need of resettlement.

EUROPE: 2020 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
Turkey	113,182	420,000
Grand Total	113,182	420,000

* including multi-year planning

Middle East and North Africa



Lebanon. "I remember the first day we came here. I got in a fight with a kid and he threw a stone at me. It's been hard." Zain Al Raffeaa recently starred in an award-winning film in Lebanon. The 13-year-old missed lots of school after being uprooted to Beirut by the war in Syria and is looking forward to a new life in Norway. © UNHCR / Sam Tarling / 17 August, 2018

Middle East & the Gulf

Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and Saudi Arabia

Iraq

Israel

Jordan

Kuwait

Lebanon

Syrian Arab Republic

United Arab Emirates

Yemen

North Africa

Algeria

Egypt

Libya

Mauritania

Morocco

With almost 250,000 refugees expected to be in need of resettlement in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) in 2020, resettlement will continue to be an integral component of UNHCR's Protection and Solutions Strategy in the region. As the Syrian situation continues to be protracted, UNHCR projects that Syrian refugees will again have the highest resettlement needs globally in 2020, with approximately 579,000 individuals in need. Despite the continued needs and growing vulnerabilities of the Syrian refugee population, 2018 has seen the continued downwards trend in resettlement submissions, due to the ongoing reduction of available resettlement places.

With resettlement providing a critical protection solution for the Syrian refugee population as well as other at-risk populations from other nationalities, such as refugees at risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), arrest and detention and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) refugees, the need for increased resettlement quotas is critical. A key priority in the region will also continue to be expanding opportunities for complementary pathways for refugees as well as advocating for resettlement opportunities for those living in countries affected by conflict.

In an effort to reduce the number of individuals taking dangerous sea journeys across the Central Mediterranean, the sustained efforts of UNHCR's Central Mediterranean Response and advocacy via the Core Group for Enhanced Resettlement and Complementary Pathways along the Central Mediterranean Route, which started in mid-2017, will be crucial to ensure refugees are afforded the protection and solutions they need.

Trends in 2018

In 2018, UNHCR made a total of 21,541 submissions for resettlement from the MENA region. This figure is 21 per cent lower than the submission of 27,231 persons in 2017, and a 68 per cent reduction from the peak of 67,723 submissions in 2016.

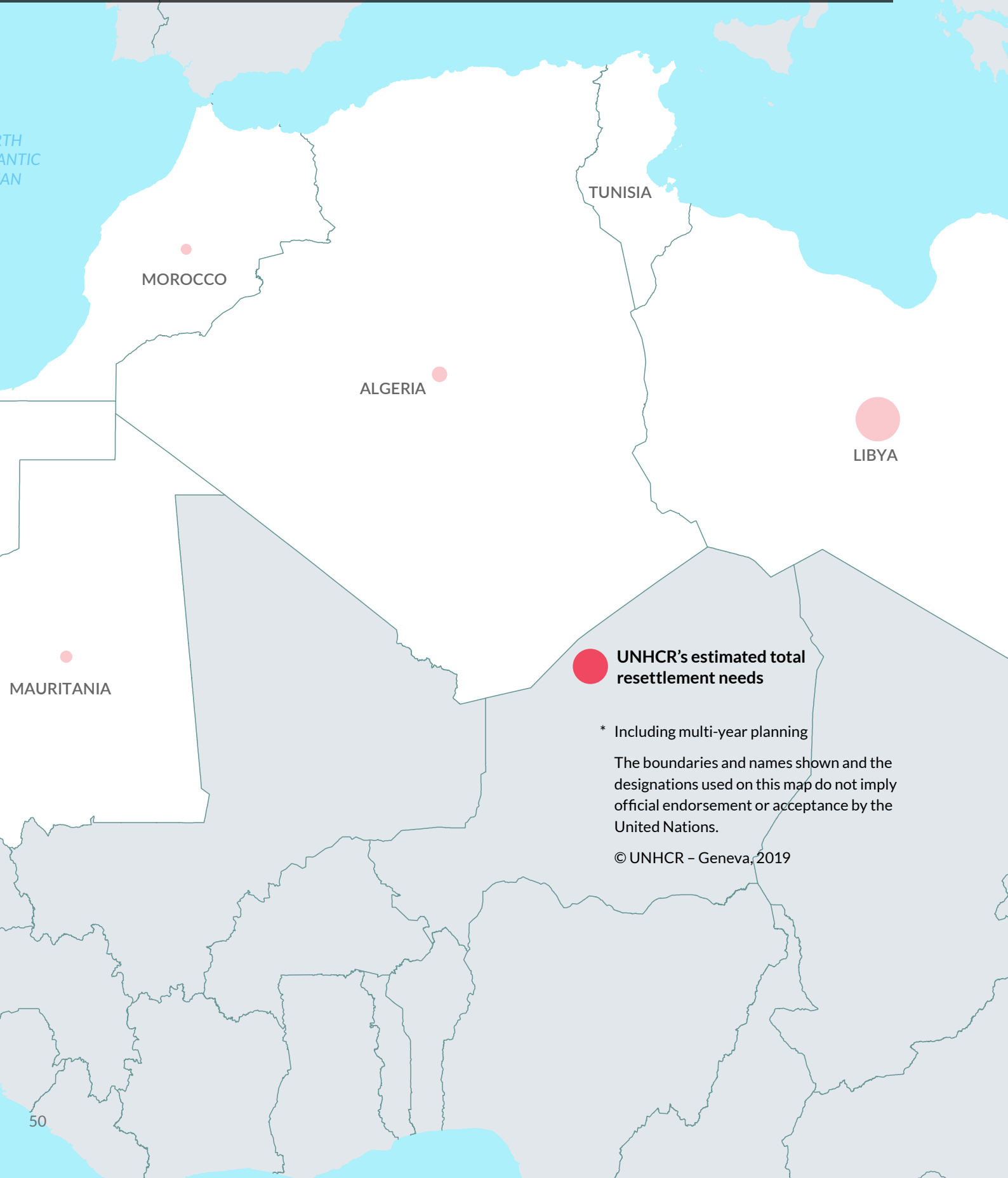
The decrease in resettlement places for Syrian refugees began in 2017, which saw a drastic reduction in available quotas for Syrians. The main cause of this decrease was a global drop in the number of resettlement places as well as a shifting of resettlement opportunities to other (global) priority situations.

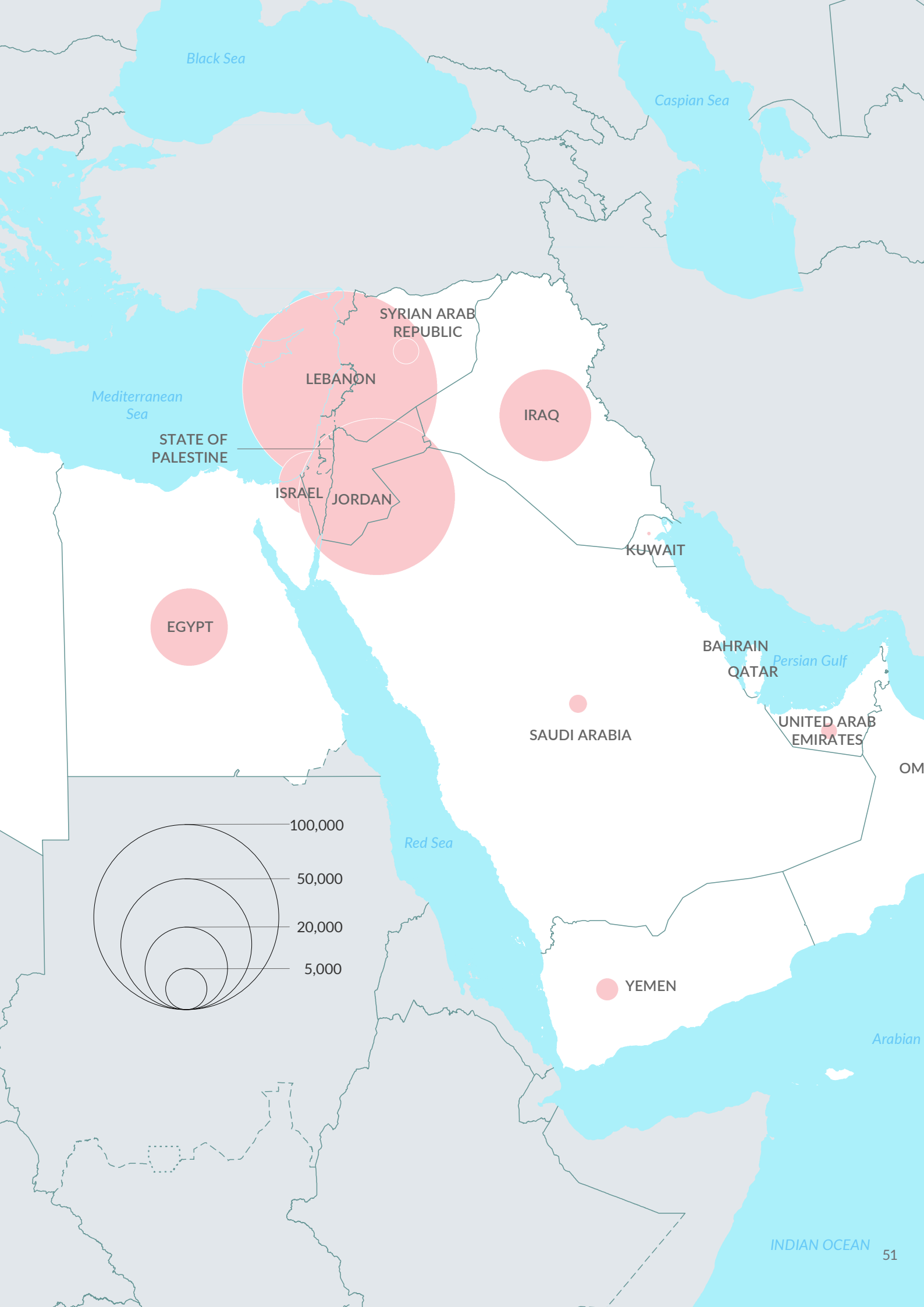
In 2018, approximately 77 per cent of the refugees submitted from the MENA region originate from Syria. Overall, the submission of 4,856 refugees of nationalities other than those from Syria, increased by 27 per cent compared to those submitted in 2017. The top three non-Syrian nationalities submitted in 2018 were Sudanese (six per cent), Iraqi (five per cent) and Eritrean (three per cent).

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

as of 14 Jun 2019

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2020 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*







Iraq. Syrian mother of five Ronia Metwali lives with her children at their home in Domiz refugee camp, northern Iraq. Ronia's husband died two years ago and she is raising five daughters alone. © UNHCR / Andrew McConnell / 14 June, 2018

Submissions were made to 19 different resettlement countries in 2018, down from 23 in 2017: 28 per cent of all submissions were made to Canada, 23 per cent to the United Kingdom, ten per cent to Sweden, eight per cent to France, seven per cent to Norway and five per cent to Switzerland.

Departures to resettlement countries from the region decreased from 21,213 in 2017 to 18,428 in 2018. The decreases in submissions and departures are in large part related to the overall reductions in the resettlement programs in the region as compared to previous years.

Regional developments

The operational situation in the MENA region is complex, with conflict zones in Syria, Iraq, Libya and Yemen, mixed migration movements throughout North Africa, and large scale protracted populations, particularly of Syrians and Iraqis.

During 2018, the sharp decrease of resettlement opportunities from 2016 continued to be felt. Throughout the region, refugees and others of concern to UNHCR often remain in socio-economic destitution, with limited access to formal employment in many instances, and vulnerable to protection risks including exploitation, SGBV, child labour, early marriage, xenophobia and discrimination, and, in some instances, arrest, detention,

deportation, and *refoulement*. While health and education services are available in principle in some countries, refugees continue to struggle with practical access due to the lack of legal status, discrimination, language barriers, or refugee families' increasing reliance on income earned through child labour.

In a region of continued and compounding needs where solutions are limited, resettlement is not only the most viable solution for many refugees, it is also a vital protection tool for those with specific protection needs and a means of maintaining the current protection space for refugees.

In response to the decreased resettlement places in the region, UNHCR has undertaken concrete initiatives to expand complementary pathways in 2018. UNHCR has partnered on a family reunification pilot, which generated recommendations to further unlock the potential of this key pathway. UNHCR also undertook a further pilot to explore the potential of labour mobility, and has continued the third country scholarship mapping project in Lebanon and Jordan. The MENA Protection Service plans to continue efforts to enhance access to existing or new complementary pathways for refugees.

Throughout 2018 activities were upscaled in relation to the Central Mediterranean Response to reduce dangerous sea journeys from North Africa to Europe. UNHCR's

operation in Libya increased its capacity for resettlement processing despite ongoing challenges in operating in such a volatile environment, and has also engaged in evacuation processing of persons of concern to the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) facility in Niger, where those in need of international protection can be processed for resettlement and complementary pathways.

Despite these positive developments, the general outlook for refugees in MENA is of compounding needs, increasing marginalization, and limited humanitarian services due to funding shortfalls. Intractable conflicts in the region – notably Yemen, Libya and Syria – remain as root causes of continued and ongoing displacement.

SYRIAN REFUGEES

Syrians remain the largest population estimated to be in the need of resettlement in 2020. Despite some developments in the conflict during 2018, the majority of Syrians do not yet see return home as a viable option. Given that resettlement needs – with close to 199,000 Syrians in the region currently in need of resettlement – far outstretch resettlement places, refugees remain in host countries with no end in sight to their displacement. The ongoing period in exile compounds refugees' needs, resulting in increased pressure on assistance programmes and vital services in host countries.

As the Syrian conflict becomes more protracted, a larger number of refugees are becoming dependent upon humanitarian assistance. Refugees are, therefore, increasingly adopting negative emergency coping strategies. These include child marriage, child labour, accepting high risk jobs, begging, and selling belongings. Large families are particularly affected and experience a higher rate of severe vulnerabilities. Children out of school remain vulnerable to protection risks, including isolation, discrimination and exploitation. These examples demonstrate the increasingly difficult protection environment and ongoing need for solutions.

As the situation develops in Syria over the next few years, resettlement will continue to be a vital tool to safeguard the international community's accountability towards Syrian refugees in the region. UNHCR envisages a continued resettlement programme for Syrians, which is coherent with and complementary to wider durable solutions planning. Within this context of solutions, resettlement is the most reliable and effective protection tool that can be preserved for those with specific needs and for whom return to Syria is not possible in the foreseeable future. UNHCR will also undertake efforts to use resettlement strategically, so that its impact benefits not just those who are resettled but also refugees and others of concern remaining in the region.

REFUGEES OF OTHER NATIONALITIES

Throughout 2018, the Central Mediterranean situation and other countries in North Africa have increasingly come to the fore, and will remain a key priority during 2019 and 2020. As part of UNHCR's Central Mediterranean Response, resettlement activities in Libya and evacuations to the ETM in Niger were expanded as a life-saving protection intervention. With general insecurity and fighting, Libya remains a particularly dangerous environment for women and girls, with widespread SGBV. Refugees are vulnerable to targeting for kidnappings and extortion by militias due to their lack of protection via social or tribal networks, while those held in formal or informal detention centres are subjected to inhumane conditions and violence. Towards the end of 2018, intensified conflict in Libya impacted the situation in Tunisia. The number of asylum-seekers coming from Libya increased in the south of Tunisia and continued to rise in the first quarter of 2019. In Algeria, refugees have become increasingly targeted for arrest, detention and expulsion across the border to Niger, while in Egypt, refugees originating from sub-Saharan African countries in particular face serious protection problems, including discrimination and harassment as well as exacerbated SGBV.

PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVOCACY

UNHCR has worked with the chairs of the Syrian Resettlement Core Group and Central Mediterranean Core Group throughout 2018 to share good practices, demonstrate the strategic impact of resettlement and identify durable solutions. This will continue throughout 2019 and 2020, in order to ensure strong partnerships and collaboration in these key ongoing resettlement programmes in the MENA region.

UNHCR also coordinated closely with one of the States in Germany on the framework of their programme to relocate a small number of extremely vulnerable internally displaced persons in northern Iraq, who had been subjected to captivity and sexual violence. The protection sensitive framework that was developed ensured a focus on vulnerabilities, supported the inclusion of family members and included tailored specialized services to address the psycho-social needs of this group. The operationalization of the relocation programme will be implemented in 2019.

MENA: 2020 Projected Resettlement Needs

The total projected resettlement needs for the MENA region in 2020 as identified by UNHCR offices are 249,705 persons. This is a slight decrease from 2019 (271,297 persons). The majority of the needs continue to be for Syrian refugees, at close to 199,000 individuals (or 80 per cent of the needs in the region). It should also be noted that the projected resettlement needs for the MENA region do not include the figures for Turkey, where 420,000 refugees are projected to be in need of resettlement, out of which 380,000 are Syrian refugees.

Sub-regional overviews

THE MIDDLE-EAST AND THE GULF

The total projected resettlement needs for 2020 for the Middle East and the Gulf are 225,660 persons. Since 2013, UNHCR has put in place a rigorous identification mechanism allowing UNHCR to identify those Syrian refugees who are most in need of resettlement. Refugees with compelling specific protection needs from countries including Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, and Eritrea as well as Palestinian refugees continue to be in need of resettlement, and will be referred along with Syrian refugees from all the countries in the Middle East and the Gulf.

NORTH AFRICA

The total projected resettlement needs in North Africa are 24,045 persons. North Africa is characterized by mixed-migration movements from sub-Saharan Africa, but the region also hosts various other refugee groups, including Syrians. As in previous years, resettlement will continue to be strategically applied to those refugees with compelling protection needs, who require urgent or emergency resettlement. In Libya, where deterioration in the security situation has led to heightened protection risks for UNHCR's persons of concern, UNHCR will continue to step up its efforts to identify those refugees who are in need of resettlement. This will include processing cases in Libya as well as assisting with the identification and transfer of vulnerable cases via the ETM in Niger for further processing towards resettlement.



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA: 2020 PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
Middle East and the Gulf	63,534	225,660
North Africa	8,733	24,045
Grand Total	72,267	249,705

* including multi-year planning



Libya. Women and children who were being held at Triq Al Sika detention centre in Tripoli are finally on their way to Niger, where they hope to be resettled in a third country. © UNHCR / Jihad Nga / 19 June, 2018

Middle East and North Africa Field Story

Sitting in the interview room, Salah* fiddled with a pen as she nervously answered questions regarding her basic biodata and family composition. *'Do you have a nick name?'* I asked her while smiling in an attempt to put her at ease. *'I hate my name, but I have not picked a new one yet.'* she responded.

It started out as a normal day in the office. As I was sitting at my desk drinking my morning tea, a colleague from the Protection Unit came into the resettlement room and asked whether we could have an urgent meeting. A few minutes later, he had briefed me about an unaccompanied minor who had crossed the Syria-Iraq border the night before seeking asylum. The minor did not have any family members living in the country so she had been taken to the UNHCR Reception Centre. From the initial briefing, it became already evident that we had to do our best to find a solution for this minor as quickly as possible.

Around an hour later, my interpreter and I had scheduled a resettlement interview with the minor, Salah. Through this interview, I learnt that Salah was born male but identified as female from a very young age. *'When I was around 6-years-old, I used to wear my sister's high heels and dresses. This would make my father very angry. He would beat me and my brothers would tease me.'* she explained. Salah proceeded to tell us the traumatic events that forced her to flee from Syria.

At the age of 7, Salah's elder brother, Hamid*, started raping her when their family members went to work. It was as though Salah was living a nightmare over and over again. A nightmare that lasted 4 years. Salah would try to hide from her brother but had no means of escape as their house was small and she was only a child. Salah did not feel comfortable revealing the rape to her family members as she did not think they would believe her since she was always considered an outcast due to her feminine nature.

One day, when she was around 11-years-old, Salah's brother Mahmood* came home from the fields early and caught Hamid raping Salah. Instead of defending Salah, Mahmood blamed her for what was happening and proceeded to beat her until her body was bruised and swollen. That evening, when their other family members returned home, Mahmood told them what he

had witnessed. From that day onwards, Salah was taken to work with her family members and was never left alone with Hamid. However, her life became a living hell as her family ostracized her while Hamid did not suffer any repercussions for his actions.

Salah continued living in Syria for the next 6 years. During this time her life was plagued with hardship as she was both verbally and physically bullied in school. She was forced to hide her true gender identity as she feared that her family would kill her because of the dishonor they claim she brought to the family. Salah was scared of going out in public as she believed that her community members would also harm her for being different.

As time went by, Salah started facing a new challenge. A war broke out in Syria which severely affected her security and living situation. Salah recalls fearing for her life and safety as the sound of gunshots and bomb blasts could be heard on a daily basis. Her family struggled to buy basic necessities and were denied access to clean water and electricity. Salah continued to live in Syria despite the on-going issues until sometime in November 2017 when she was approached by a military group and asked to join them. Salah felt as though she was stuck between a rock and a hard place. She knew that if she refused to join the military group she would be killed for opposing them. At the same time, she knew that if she joined the militia they would kill her once they found out about her gender identity. Salah felt as though she had no other choice than crossing the border from Syria into Iraq desperate for a new life and a new beginning.

Upon her arrival, it was clear that resettlement was the best durable solution for Salah as she would not be accepted in Iraq due to the cultural norms against the LGBTI community. The resettlement team in Dohuk proceeded to submit her case as an emergency referral to Sweden. After her arrival in Sweden, Salah reached out to the Dohuk team and expressed her gratitude for the assistance. She is very happy in her new home in Sweden and can finally be herself without any fear of persecution.

Archanah Nandy
Associate Resettlement Officer (Danish Refugee Council)
Dohuk, Iraq

* Names have been changed for confidentiality reasons



Iraq. Painting a vision of the future. To help with social cohesion, youngsters were involved in painting workshops across Iraq with youngsters in host communities, internally displaced people and those seeking refuge from war in neighbouring countries. © aptART / Samantha Robison / 24 May, 2017

Annexes

Annex 1: Standardized Methodology	59
Identifying and estimating the number of refugees in need of resettlement.....	59
Annex 2: UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs 2020.....	61
UNHCR projected global resettlement needs for 2020 with the region of refugees' countries of asylum.....	61
UNHCR projected global resettlement needs for 2020 with the region of refugees' countries of origin	61
UNHCR projected global resettlement needs 2020 by country of asylum	62
UNHCR projected global resettlement needs 2020 by country of origin.....	64
Top Ten by Country of Origin	66
Top Ten by Country of Asylum	66
Combined Statistics.....	67
Annex 3: UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2018	73
Introduction.....	73
Submissions	74
Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2018.....	74
UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2018.....	75
UNHCR Submissions by Region of Asylum, 2014-2018 (persons)	75
Departures	76
Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2018	76
UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2018	77
UNHCR Departures by Region of Asylum, 2014-2018 (persons).....	77
Resettlement Categories	78
UNHCR Resettlement by Submission Category in 2018.....	78
UNHCR Resettlement under the Women and Girls at Risk Category	78
UNHCR Resettlement Under the Medical Needs Category in 2018	79
UNHCR Resettlement by Priority in 2018	79
Acceptance Rates and Other Indicators	81
Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Countries in 2018	81
Resettlement Departures, 2014-2018.....	82
Per Capita Resettlement by Country of Resettlement in 2018	83
Demographic Composition of Refugees Submitted for Resettlement in 2018 (persons).....	84
UNHCR Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) & Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) 2018 Arrivals & Departures.....	86

Standardized Methodology

Identifying and estimating the number of refugees in need of resettlement

The figures in this document indicating the projected resettlement needs for 2020 have been drawn from the Operations Plans for 2020 and the Summary Protection Assessments prepared by UNHCR Country Offices.

Pursuant to UNHCR's priority to use resettlement as a protection tool and as part of a comprehensive durable solutions strategy, UNHCR Country Offices undertake a yearly exercise of proactive planning for resettlement as an integral part of the planning process. They forecast refugee resettlement needs and UNHCR's capacity to address them in the next calendar year. Each Office is required to report the actual resettlement needs and, where applicable, involving the strategic use of resettlement.

In addition to the Operations Plans for 2020, UNHCR Country Offices' Summary Protection Assessments, which outline the core protection problems currently affecting UNHCR's populations of concern, provide important information to assist with forward planning, especially with regard to the challenges and opportunities to promote resettlement, scope for working with partners, staffing and resources, and making effective use of resettlement tools such as the Baseline Standard Operating Procedures, *proGres*, participatory assessments, and other ways to identify refugees at heightened risk.

In the planning for 2020, UNHCR continued to apply standard methodologies to determine the number of refugees in need of resettlement, further ensuring systematic needs-based resettlement projections. A standard approach was used by Country Offices to determine the role and scope for resettlement within its overall protection and solutions strategy. This determination is normally based on considerations related to the protection environment/framework in the country and the effective availability of other durable solutions. In this context, resettlement is both a protection tool as well as a durable solution that can be used strategically to help resolve specific refugee situations even if such interventions are not seen to be urgent or life-saving.

The methodologies used are underpinned by a few basic principles. First, the estimation of the number of refugees in need of resettlement depends on the quality of registration data. The estimated needs for resettlement are primarily based on the data available in *proGres*.¹ Additionally, government registration records – where available – or World Food Programme (WFP) food distribution databases are used to inform decisions about the needs. Second, in addition to making effective use of *proGres* and other data sources, the projection of resettlement needs is derived from information gathered during participatory assessments with refugees and other interactions with persons of concern, such as needs assessment surveys, e.g. using the Heightened Risk Identification Tool (HRIT).²

¹ *proGres* is UNHCR's refugee registration platform.

² The HRIT was developed to enhance UNHCR's effectiveness in identifying refugees at risk by linking community-based/participatory assessments and individual assessment methodologies. It has been designed for use by UNHCR staff involved in community services and protection activities (including resettlement) and partner agencies, and the second version was released in 2010. See: UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), *The Heightened Risk Identification Tool (User Guide)*, June 2010, Second Edition, available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/46f7c0cd2.html>.

Methodology A: Uses the Specific Needs Codes (SNC) in *proGres* to estimate the number of people in need of resettlement. This methodology requires Offices to create a report from *proGres* showing the number of persons who have specific needs that correspond to a likelihood of resettlement eligibility. The guidelines further provide breakdown of SNC into high/medium or variable/low resettlement likelihood.

Methodology B: Uses community-based approaches, participatory assessments, and the HRIT to inform resettlement needs of people of concern to UNHCR as well as to key partners. The HRIT links participatory assessments and individual assessment methodologies to identify refugees at risk.

Methodology C: Uses “best estimates” based upon limited available data. This methodology requires Country Offices to provide a “best estimate” of the projected resettlement needs by using relevant internal and external data.

The most thorough and reliable approach combines all of the above methodologies with an emphasis on methodologies A and B. Methodology C alone is normally only used when Offices do not have access to *proGres* data and are unable to conduct participatory assessments or a representative sample survey of the refugee population. For the 2020 planning cycle, the vast majority of Country Offices combined various methodologies to ensure a comprehensive and multi-year approach to this exercise.

Annex 2

UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs 2020

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs for 2020 with the region of refugees' countries of asylum

Region of Asylum	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
	cases	persons
Africa	175,738	667,432
Asia	24,260	98,281
Europe	113,182	420,000
MENA	72,267	249,705
The Americas	1,962	4,990
Grand Total	387,409	1,440,408

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs for 2020 with the region of refugees' countries of origin

Region of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
	cases	persons
Africa	182,556	674,599
Asia & the Pacific	33,942	118,195
Europe	6	30
MENA	163,555	625,397
The Americas	1,831	4,779
Various	5,519	17,408
Grand Total	387,409	1,440,408

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs 2020 by country of asylum

Sub-Region of Asylum	Country of Asylum	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
Africa			
Central Africa & the Great Lakes	Burundi	6,580	25,000
	Cameroon	6,175	30,882
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	4,333	21,667
	Rep. of the Congo	320	900
	Rwanda	3,230	16,100
	United Rep. of Tanzania	13,860	69,300
East & Horn of Africa	Chad	12,377	45,100
	Djibouti	2,155	7,300
	Ethiopia	27,205	105,200
	Kenya	14,079	44,792
	Somalia	380	1,900
	South Sudan	9,126	36,511
	Sudan	11,000	55,000
	Uganda	50,000	150,000
Southern Africa	Chad	12,377	45,100
	Djibouti	2,155	7,300
	Ethiopia	27,205	105,200
	Kenya	14,079	44,792
	Somalia	380	1,900
	South Sudan	9,126	36,511
	Sudan	11,000	55,000
	Uganda	50,000	150,000
West Africa	Burkina Faso	230	1,580
	Ghana	217	800
	Guinea	120	300
	Guinea-Bissau	4	11
	Liberia	33	75
	Mali	32	80
	Niger*	3,372	10,775
	Nigeria	28	70
	Senegal	61	128
	Togo	20	40
Africa Sub-Total		175,738	667,432
Asia & the Pacific			
East Asia & the Pacific	China & China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	70	361
	Indonesia	1,050	2,100
	Malaysia	5,000	7,070
	Thailand	175	500
South Asia	India	250	750
	Sri Lanka	315	500
South-West Asia	Islamic Rep. of Iran	17,400	87,000
Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total		24,260	98,281

Sub-Region of Asylum	Country of Asylum	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
Europe			
South-Eastern Europe	Turkey	113,182	420,000
Europe Sub-Total		113,182	420,000
MENA			
Middle East	Iraq	5,846	24,930
	Israel	5,262	12,000
	Jordan	22,273	72,080
	Kuwait	18	50
	Lebanon	28,720	111,400
	Saudi Arabia/Bahrain/Qatar/ Oman	216	1,000
	Syrian Arab Rep.	634	1,900
	United Arab Emirates	265	800
	Yemen	300	1,500
North Africa	Algeria	320	640
	Egypt	6,615	17,675
	Libya**	1,370	5,000
	Mauritania	198	400
	Morocco	230	330
MENA Sub-Total		72,267	249,705
The Americas			
The Americas	Caribbean	180	250
	Colombia	19	65
	Cuba	69	91
	Ecuador	724	2,174
	El Salvador***	240	720
	Guatemala***	240	720
	Honduras***	240	720
	Mexico	250	250
The Americas Sub-Total		1,962	4,990
Grand Total		387,409	1,440,408

* Total projected resettlement needs do not include evacuees from Libya.

** Total projected resettlement needs include those to be evacuated to Niger for further processing.

*** These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs 2020 by country of origin

Sub-Region of Origin	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
Africa			
Central Africa & the Great Lakes	Burundi	3,315	13,687
	Central African Rep.	13,967	57,028
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	37,871	160,119
	Rwanda	917	3,401
East & Horn of Africa	Eritrea	23,004	78,668
	Ethiopia	3,343	11,985
	Somalia	15,065	62,330
	South Sudan	58,766	194,817
	Sudan	20,914	73,639
	Uganda	761	1,647
West Africa	Burkina Faso	8	20
	Cameroon	115	172
	Côte d'Ivoire	124	395
	Gambia	10	10
	Liberia	62	202
	Mali	1,030	4,580
	Niger	4	10
	Nigeria	3,140	11,734
	Senegal	130	130
	Sierra Leone	10	25
Africa Sub-Total		182,556	674,599
Asia & the Pacific			
East Asia & the Pacific	China	25	125
	Myanmar	3,838	5,951
South Asia	Sri Lanka	90	115
South-West Asia	Afghanistan	27,358	105,970
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	2,163	5,255
	Pakistan	468	779
Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total		33,942	118,195
Europe			
South-Eastern Europe	Turkey	6	30
Europe Sub-Total		6	30

Sub-Region of Origin	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
MENA			
Middle East	Egypt	15	75
	Iraq	16,886	42,190
	Palestinian	279	1,015
	Syrian Arab Rep.	145,224	579,031
	Yemen	1,149	3,081
North Africa	Mauritania	2	5
MENA Sub-Total		163,555	625,397
The Americas			
The Americas	Colombia	512	1,537
	Cuba	13	15
	El Salvador*	325	805
	Guatemala*	320	800
	Haiti	5	10
	Honduras*	325	805
	Jamaica	13	15
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	318	792
The Americas Sub-Total		1,831	4,779
Various Total		5,519	17,408
Grand Total		387,409	1,440,408

* These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

Top Ten by Country of Origin

Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
	cases	persons
Syrian Arab Rep.	145,224	579,031
South Sudan	58,766	194,817
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	37,871	160,119
Afghanistan	27,358	105,970
Sudan	20,914	73,639
Eritrea	23,004	78,668
Somalia	15,065	62,330
Central African Rep.	13,967	57,028
Iraq	16,886	42,190
Burundi	3,315	13,687
All Others	25,039	72,929
Grand Total	387,409	1,440,408

Top Ten by Country of Asylum

Country of Asylum	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
	cases	persons
Turkey	113,182	420,000
Uganda	50,000	150,000
Lebanon	28,720	111,400
Ethiopia	27,205	105,200
Islamic Rep. of Iran	17,400	87,000
Jordan	22,273	72,080
United Rep. of Tanzania	13,860	69,300
Sudan	11,000	55,000
Chad	12,377	45,100
Kenya	14,079	44,792
All Others	77,313	280,536
Grand Total	387,409	1,440,408

Combined Statistics

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
Africa			
Angola	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	25	50
	Eritrea	18	36
	Somalia	8	14
Botswana	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	25	50
	Eritrea	18	36
	Somalia	8	14
Burkina Faso	Mali	220	1,540
	Various	10	40
Burundi	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	6,580	25,000
Cameroon	Central African Rep.	4,632	23,160
	Nigeria	927	4,634
	Various	616	3,088
Chad	Central African Rep.	7,352	25,000
	Nigeria	25	100
	Sudan	5,000	20,000
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	Burundi	338	1,688
	Central African Rep.	1,443	7,215
	South Sudan	942	4,710
	Various	1,610	8,054
Djibouti	Eritrea	75	225
	Ethiopia	48	162
	Somalia	1,510	5,137
	Yemen	518	1,761
	Various	4	15
Ethiopia	Eritrea	9,100	22,750
	Somalia	4,560	26,000
	South Sudan	8,890	40,000
	Sudan	3,750	15,000
	Various	905	1,450
Ghana	Central African Rep.	20	100
	Côte d'Ivoire	50	215
	Eritrea	10	80
	Liberia	22	102
	Sudan	70	100
	Syrian Arab Rep.	30	98
	Various	15	105
Guinea	Central African Rep.	5	25
	Côte d'Ivoire	40	100
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	20	25
	Liberia	40	100
	Sierra Leone	10	25
	Somalia	5	25
Guinea-Bissau	Various	4	11

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
Kenya	Burundi	622	1,682
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,274	6,425
	Eritrea	88	240
	Ethiopia	1,051	3,053
	Rwanda	177	480
	Somalia	6,508	23,704
	South Sudan	2,333	6,841
	Sudan	88	240
	Uganda	761	1,647
	Various	177	480
Liberia	Côte d'Ivoire	24	60
	Various	9	15
Malawi	Burundi	780	3,118
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,212	8,848
	Rwanda	611	2,445
	Various	22	89
Mali	Burkina Faso	8	20
	Central African Rep.	6	15
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	8	20
	Mauritania	2	5
	Niger	4	10
	Syrian Arab Rep.	2	5
	Various	2	5
Mozambique	Burundi	8	40
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	8	40
	Various	4	20
Namibia	Burundi	20	100
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	100	500
	Rwanda	10	50
Niger*	Mali	790	3,000
	Nigeria	2,188	7,000
	Sudan	350	670
	Various	44	105
Nigeria	Cameroon	18	40
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5	20
	Various	5	10
Republic of the Congo	Central African Rep.	245	690
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	40	100
	Rwanda	30	100
	Various	5	10
Rwanda	Burundi	30	100
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	3,200	16,000
Senegal	Central African Rep.	32	90
	Gambia	10	10
	Various	19	28
Somalia	Ethiopia	200	1,000
	Yemen	150	750
	Various	30	150

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
South Africa	Burundi	100	300
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	875	3,000
	Ethiopia	567	1,700
	Somalia	900	3,250
	Various	334	750
South Sudan	Central African Rep.	136	547
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	970	3,883
	Ethiopia	208	833
	Sudan	7,812	31,248
Sudan	Eritrea	8,400	42,000
	Ethiopia	800	4,000
	South Sudan	1,760	8,800
	Various	40	200
Togo	Central African Rep.	5	10
	Côte d'Ivoire	10	20
	Various	5	10
Uganda	Burundi	119	350
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5,184	15,552
	Eritrea	16	50
	Ethiopia	19	37
	Rwanda	30	90
	Somalia	66	200
	South Sudan	44,456	133,691
United Rep. of Tanzania	Burundi	660	3,300
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	13,200	66,000
Zambia	Burundi	436	2,200
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,025	10,125
	Somalia	283	1,416
	Various	20	80
Zimbabwe	Burundi	196	785
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,080	4,321
	Rwanda	59	236
	Various	40	158
Africa Total		175,738	667,432

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
Asia & the Pacific			
China & China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	Various	70	361
India	Afghanistan	142	425
	Iraq	8	25
	Myanmar	50	150
	Somalia	40	120
	Various	10	30
Indonesia	Afghanistan	575	1,150
	Iraq	75	150
	Myanmar	100	200
	Pakistan	50	100
	Palestinian	50	100
	Somalia	100	200
	Sudan	25	50
	Various	75	150
Islamic Rep. of Iran	Afghanistan	16,400	82,000
	Iraq	1,000	5,000
Malaysia	Afghanistan	115	170
	Iraq	50	75
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	35	40
	Myanmar	3,580	5,270
	Pakistan	180	270
	Palestinian	45	60
	Somalia	630	725
	Sri Lanka	90	115
	Syrian Arab Rep.	95	135
	Yemen	90	115
	Various	90	95
Sri Lanka	Afghanistan	61	72
	Eritrea	2	2
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	10	15
	Myanmar	8	31
	Pakistan	228	365
	Yemen	6	15
Thailand	Myanmar	100	300
	Various	75	200
Asia & the Pacific Total		24,260	98,281
Europe			
Turkey	Afghanistan	10,000	22,000
	Iraq	6,364	14,000
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	1,818	4,000
	Syrian Arab Rep.	95,000	380,000
Europe Total		113,182	420,000

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
MENA			
Algeria	Cameroon	30	60
	Central African Rep.	20	40
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	30	60
	Mali	20	40
	Syrian Arab Rep.	200	400
	Various	20	40
Egypt	Eritrea	215	435
	Ethiopia	190	380
	Iraq	215	435
	Somalia	180	360
	South Sudan	385	775
	Sudan	975	1,955
	Syrian Arab Rep.	4,430	13,285
	Various	25	50
Iraq	Islamic Rep. of Iran	300	1,200
	Palestinian	140	700
	Syrian Arab Rep.	5,400	23,000
	Turkey	6	30
Israel	Eritrea	4,542	10,900
	Sudan	667	1,000
	Various	53	100
Jordan	Iraq	2,768	6,090
	Sudan	217	326
	Syrian Arab Rep.	18,538	64,883
	Yemen	375	391
	Various	375	390
Kuwait	Iraq	5	20
	Syrian Arab Rep.	5	20
	Various	8	10
Lebanon	Iraq	5,720	14,300
	Sudan	1,700	1,900
	Syrian Arab Rep.	21,000	94,900
	Various	300	300
Libya**	Eritrea	400	1,300
	Ethiopia	150	270
	Iraq	60	150
	Palestinian	30	80
	Somalia	200	800
	Sudan	250	1,100
	Syrian Arab Rep.	200	1,150
	Various	80	150
Mauritania	Central African Rep.	30	80
	Senegal	80	80
	Syrian Arab Rep.	30	70
	Various	58	170
Morocco	Cameroon	67	72
	Central African Rep.	41	56
	Senegal	50	50
	Syrian Arab Rep.	15	50
	Various	57	102

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs (including multi-year planning)	
		cases	persons
Saudi Arabia/Bahrain/Qatar/Oman	China	25	125
	Egypt	15	75
	Eritrea	20	60
	Iraq	20	100
	Sudan	10	50
	Syrian Arab Rep.	100	500
	Various	26	90
Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	40	120
	Iraq	517	1,550
	Various	77	230
United Arab Emirates	Iraq	65	200
	Syrian Arab Rep.	135	400
	Various	65	200
Yemen	Eritrea	118	590
	Ethiopia	110	550
	Iraq	15	75
	Palestinian	10	50
	Somalia	30	150
	Syrian Arab Rep.	15	75
	Various	2	10
MENA Total		72,267	249,705
The Americas			
Caribbean	Various	180	250
Colombia	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	15	50
	Various	4	15
Cuba	Afghanistan	25	33
	Syrian Arab Rep.	23	30
	Various	21	28
El Salvador***	El Salvador	240	720
Guatemala***	Guatemala	240	720
Honduras***	Honduras	240	720
Ecuador	Colombia	512	1,537
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	212	637
Mexico	El Salvador	85	85
	Guatemala	80	80
	Honduras	85	85
The Americas Total		1,962	4,990
Grand Total		387,409	1,440,408

* Total projected resettlement needs do not include evacuees from Libya.

** Total projected resettlement needs include those to be evacuated to Niger for further processing.

*** These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2018

Introduction

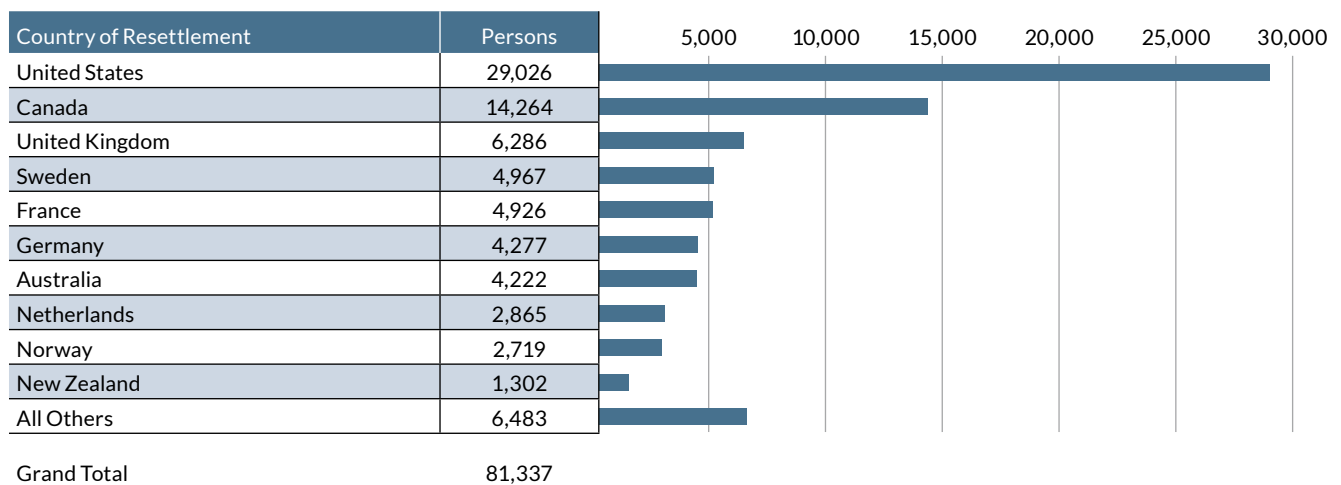
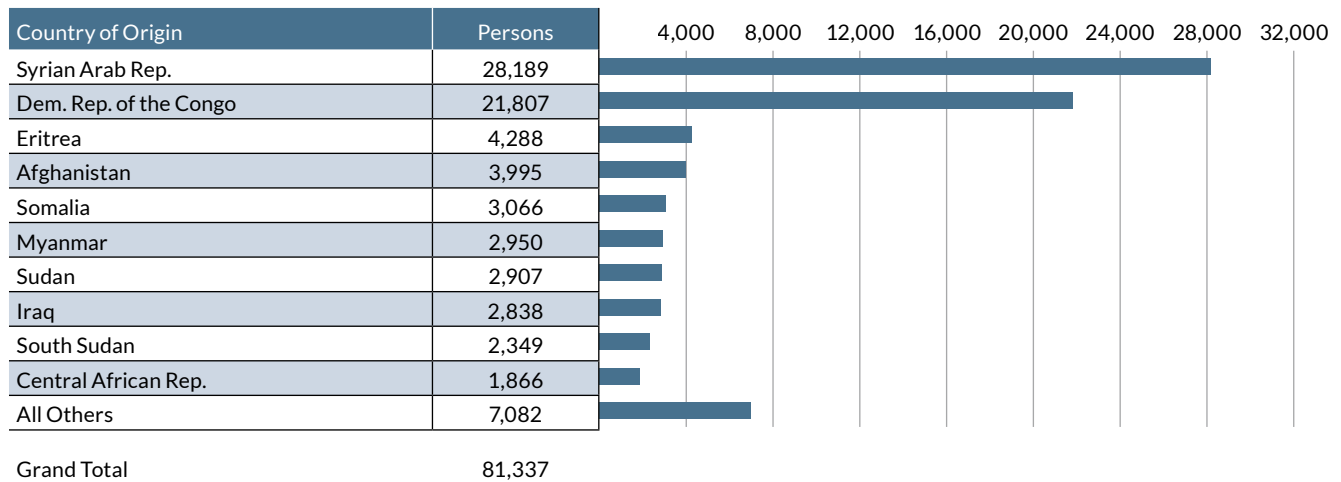
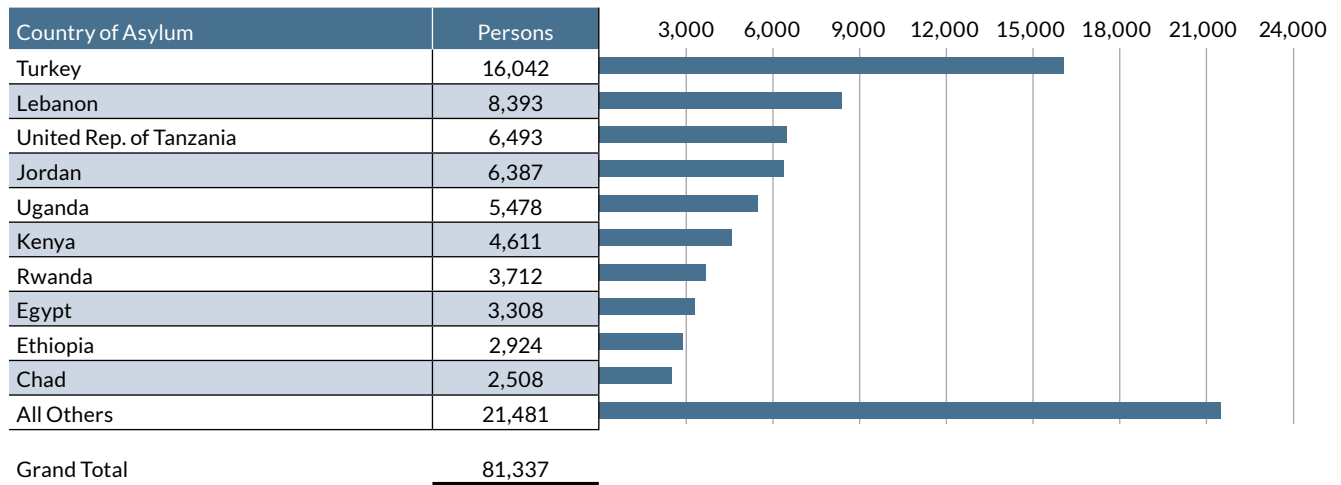
This report summarizes the resettlement activities of UNHCR Offices worldwide in 2018. The information for this report is drawn from the UNHCR Resettlement Statistical Reports (RSR), which are submitted by UNHCR country Offices on a monthly basis. Please consult the Resettlement Data Portal (rsq.unhcr.org) for detailed resettlement statistics.

Certain information in this report is organized by regions, reflecting the five UNHCR Regional Bureaus: 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 Service Centres/Offices as well as Headquarters.

Submissions

Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2018



UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2018

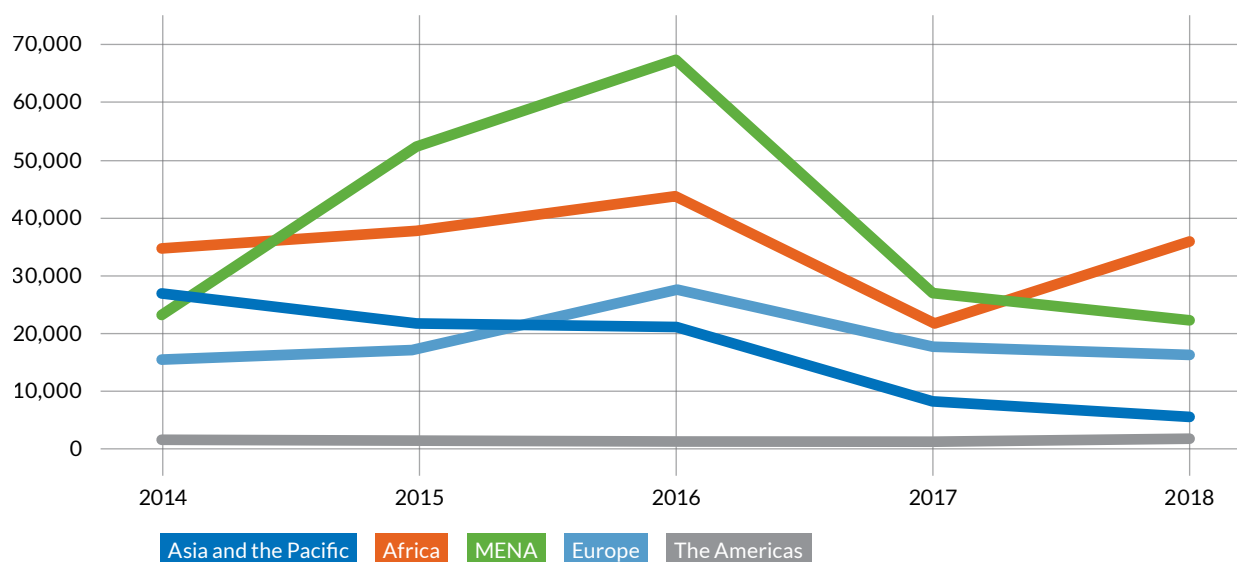
Submissions by Region of Asylum	Cases	Persons	% Total (persons)
Africa	10,786	36,408	44.8%
Asia and Pacific	1,881	5,796	7.1%
Europe	4,022	16,135	19.8%
MENA	5,365	21,542	26.5%
The Americas	515	1,456	1.8%
Grand Total	22,569	81,337	100.0%

Submissions by Region of Origin	Cases	Persons	% Total (persons)
Africa	12,309	40,028	49.2%
Asia and Pacific	2,640	8,023	9.9%
Europe	9	20	<1%
MENA	7,123	31,794	39.1%
The Americas	470	1,402	1.7%
Stateless	18	70	<1%
Grand Total	22,569	81,337	100.0%

UNHCR Submissions by Region of Asylum, 2014-2018 (persons)

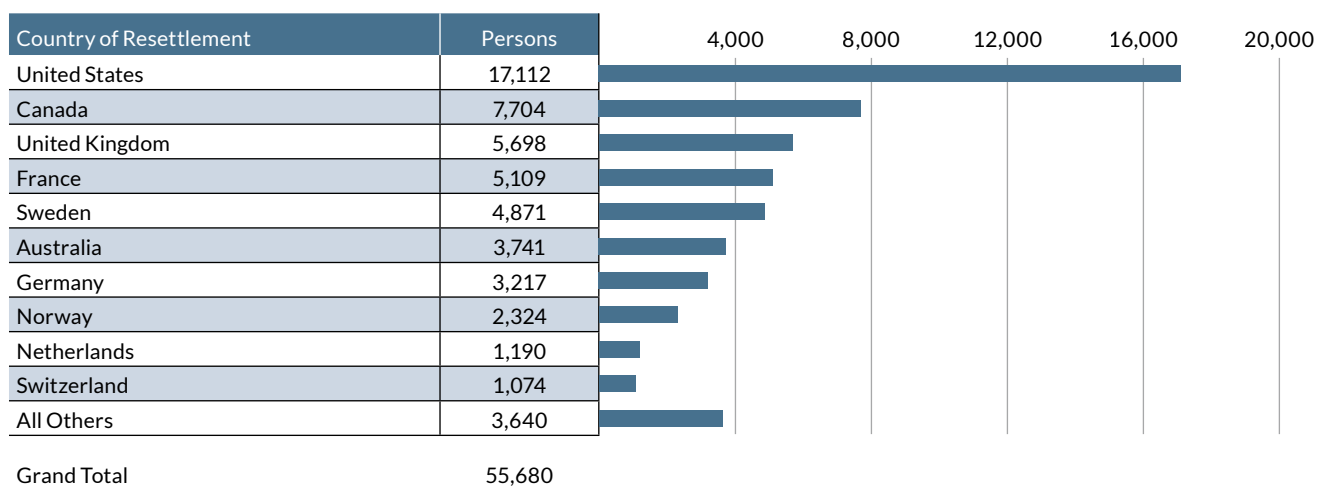
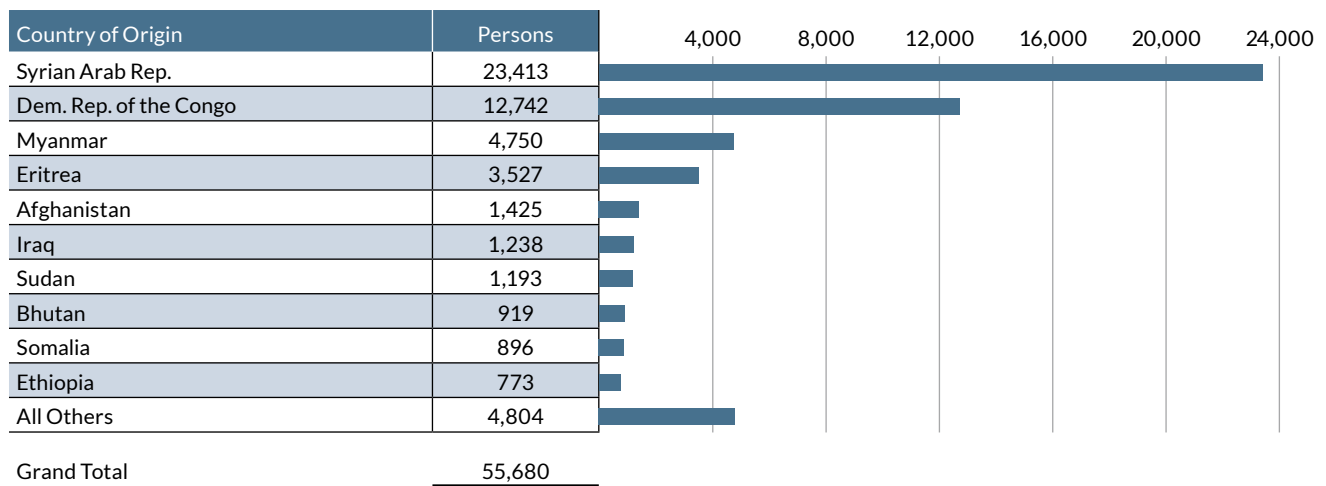
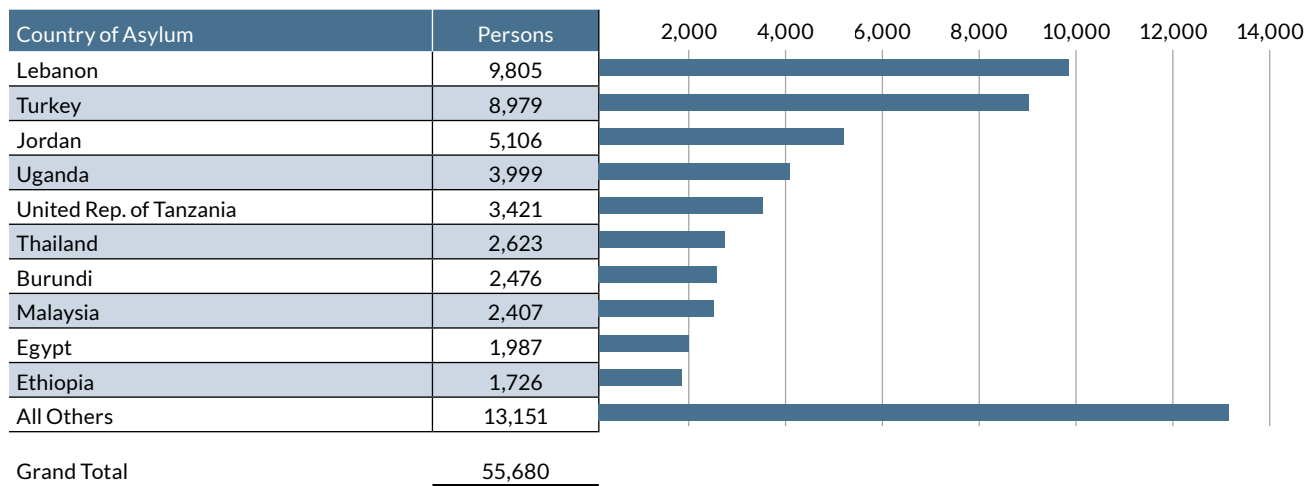
Region of Asylum	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Africa	35,079	38,870	43,978	21,507	36,408
Asia and the Pacific	27,450	21,620	20,657	7,983	5,796
Europe	16,392	18,833	29,447	17,413	16,135
MENA	23,169	53,331	67,723	27,231	21,542
The Americas	1,800	1,390	1,401	1,054	1,456
Grand Total	103,890	134,044	163,206	75,188	81,337

UNHCR Submissions by Region of Asylum, 2014-2018 (persons)



Departures

Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2018*



* Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR resettlement processes.

UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2018

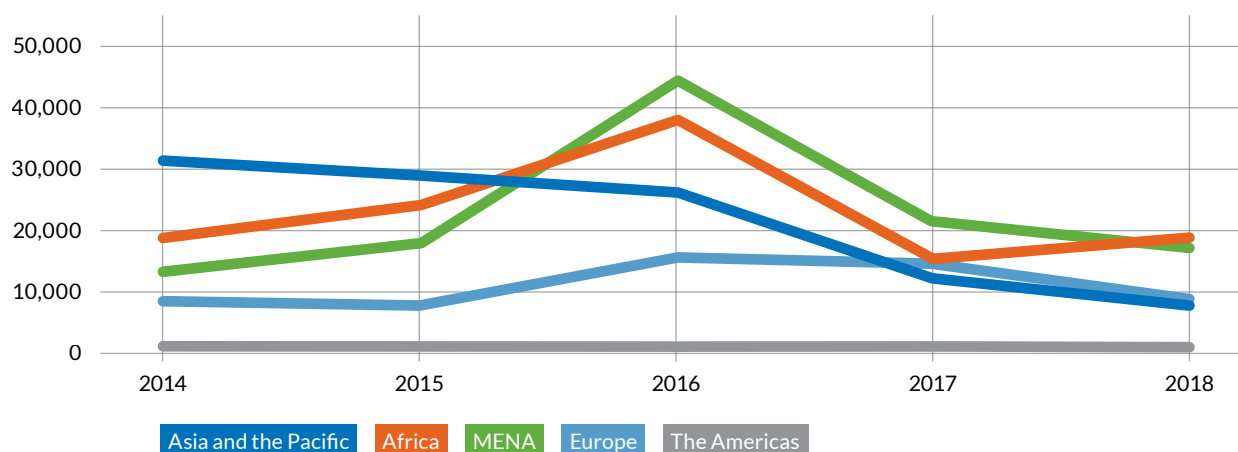
Departures by Region of Asylum	Persons	% Total (persons)
Africa	19,327	34.7%
Asia and Pacific	8,057	14.5%
Europe	9,125	16.4%
MENA	18,428	33.1%
The Americas	743	1.3%
Grand Total	55,680	100.0%

Departures by Region of Origin	Persons	% Total (persons)
Africa	21,312	38.3%
Asia and Pacific	8,386	15.1%
Europe	9	<1%
MENA	25,182	45.2%
The Americas	717	1.3%
Stateless/Various	74	<1%
Grand Total	55,680	100.0%

UNHCR Departures by Region of Asylum, 2014-2018 (persons)

Region of Asylum	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Africa	19,250	24,016	38,925	15,830	19,327
Asia and the Pacific	30,827	29,677	26,091	12,052	8,057
Europe	9,653	8,334	16,192	15,200	9,125
MENA	12,851	18,972	44,240	21,213	18,428
The Americas	1,027	892	843	814	743
Grand Total	73,608	81,891	126,291	65,109	55,680

UNHCR Departures by Region of Asylum, 2014-2018 (persons)



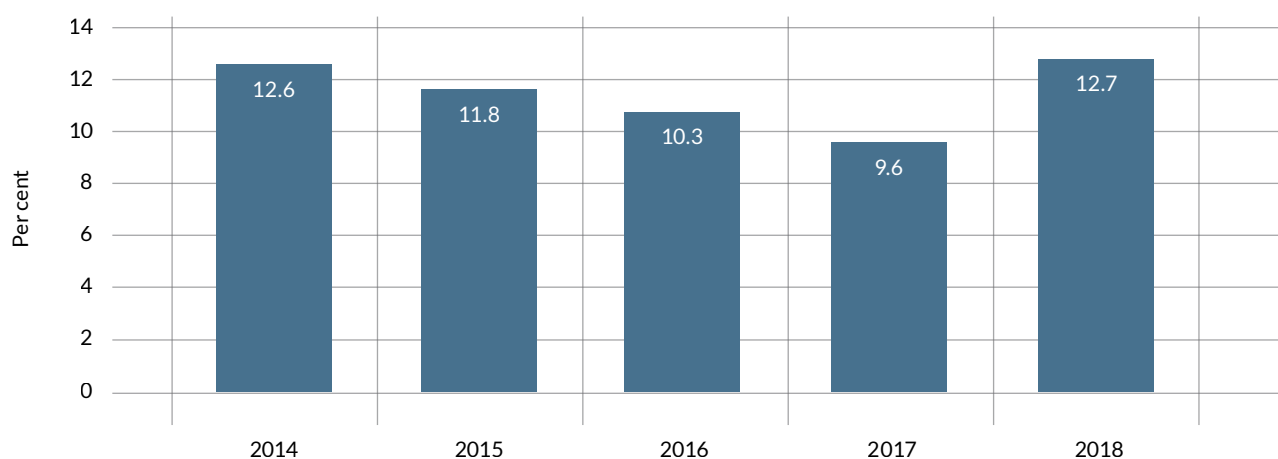
Resettlement Categories

UNHCR Resettlement by Submission Category in 2018

Category	Cases Submitted	Persons Submitted	% Cases Submitted
Legal and/or Protection Needs (LPN)	6,299	23,573	27.9%
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)	6,106	22,029	27.1%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (LAS)	4,620	16,428	20.5%
Women and Girls-At-Risk (AWR)	2,863	8,369	12.7%
Children and Adolescents-At-Risk (CHL)	1,745	7,484	7.7%
Medical Needs (MED)	808	3,148	3.6%
Family Reunification (FAM)	127	305	<1%
Others/Unspecified	1	1	<1%
Grand Total	22,569	81,337	100.0%

UNHCR Resettlement under the Women and Girls at Risk Category*

Women and Girls at Risk Cases as a Percentage of Total Resettlement Submissions by UNHCR, 2014-2018 (cases)



Top Ten Countries of Asylum: Submissions Under the Women and Girls at Risk Category (AWR), 2018

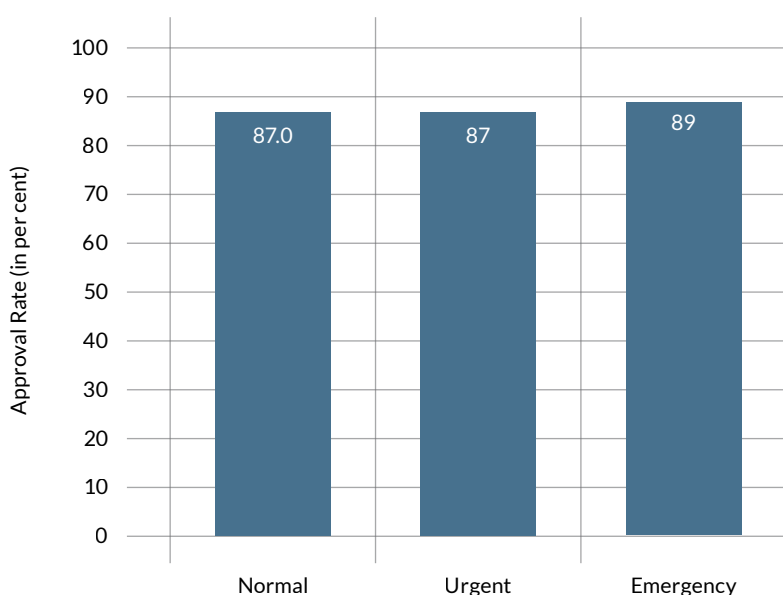
Country of Asylum	Cases Submitted	Rate of AWR Submissions (% per Asylum Country)	Persons Submitted
Turkey	325	8%	844
Chad	264	35%	860
Kenya	239	20%	935
Egypt	230	22%	554
Uganda	199	14%	613
Niger	195	12%	264
Lebanon	164	9%	529
Ethiopia	150	17%	557
Burundi	118	20%	421
Islamic Rep. of Iran	100	57%	335

* Cases submitted under the Women and Girls at Risk as the primary submission category.

UNHCR Resettlement Under the Medical Needs Category in 2018

Top Ten Submissions by Country of Asylum	Cases	Top Ten Submissions by Country of Origin	Cases
Turkey	376	Afghanistan	218
Lebanon	89	Syrian Arab Rep.	201
Malaysia	58	Iraq	115
Indonesia	55	Myanmar	58
Egypt	30	Somalia	39
Uganda	30	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	37
Thailand	24	Islamic Rep. of Iran	23
Rwanda	20	Sudan	19
Chad	14	Eritrea	17
Iraq	13	Burundi	17
All Others	99	All Others	64
Grand Total	808	Grand Total	808

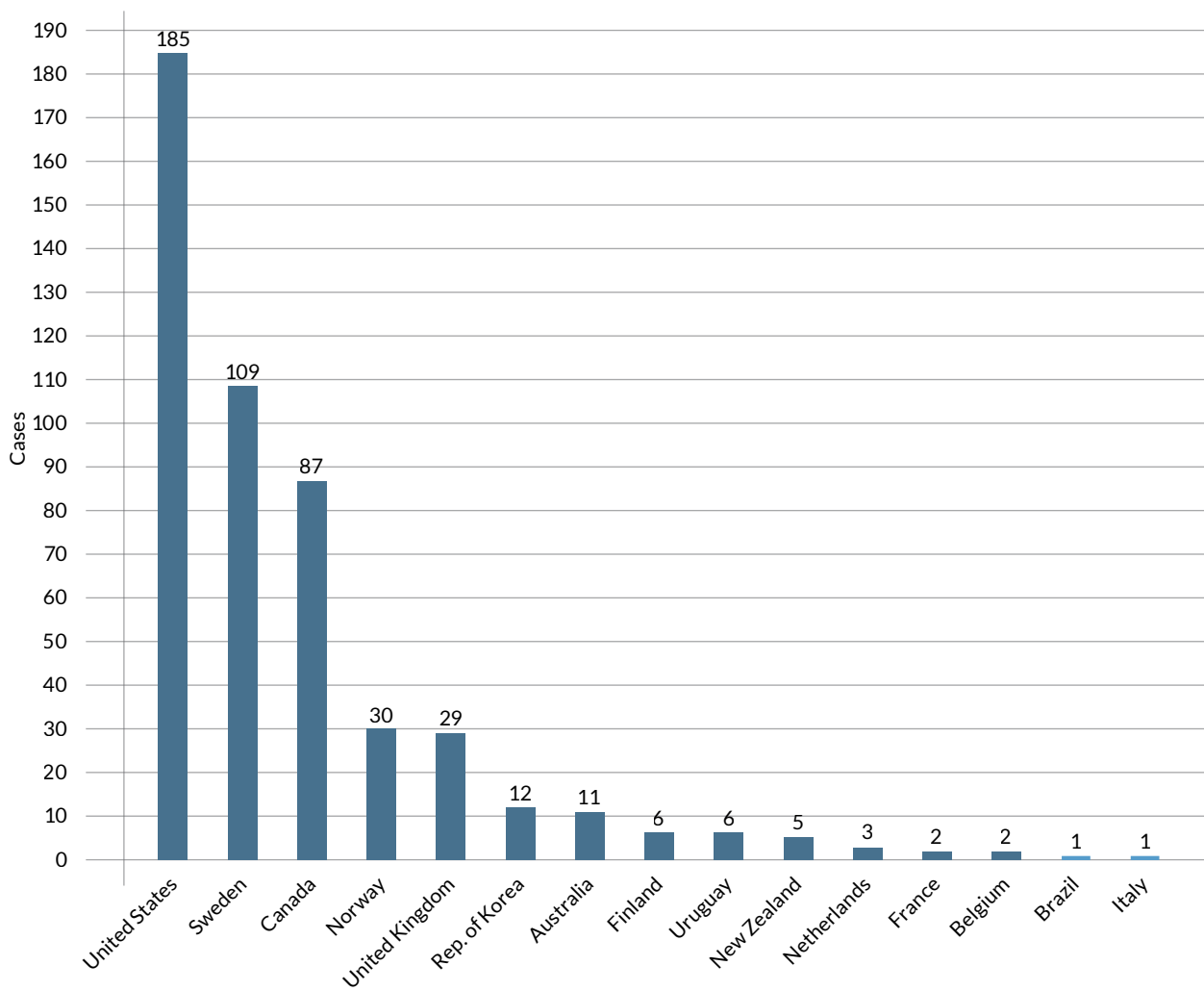
Resettlement Country Acceptance Rates Under the Medical Needs Category by Priority in 2018 (in %)



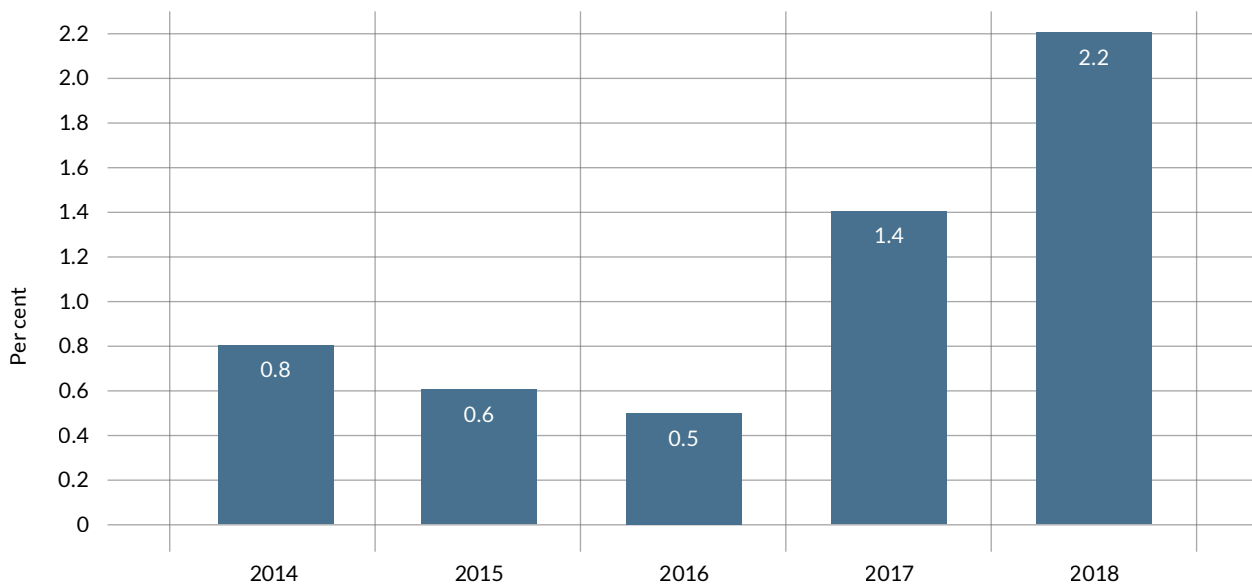
UNHCR Resettlement by Priority in 2018

UNHCR Submission Priority	Submissions		
	Cases	% Cases	Persons
Normal	18,629	82.5%	72,808
Urgent	3,451	15.3%	7,318
Emergency	489	2.2%	1,211
Grand Total	22,569	100%	81,337

UNHCR Emergency Submissions by Country of Resettlement, 2018 (cases)



Emergency Cases as a Percentage of Total Resettlement Submissions by UNHCR (2014-2018, cases)



Acceptance Rates and Other Indicators

Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Countries in 2018

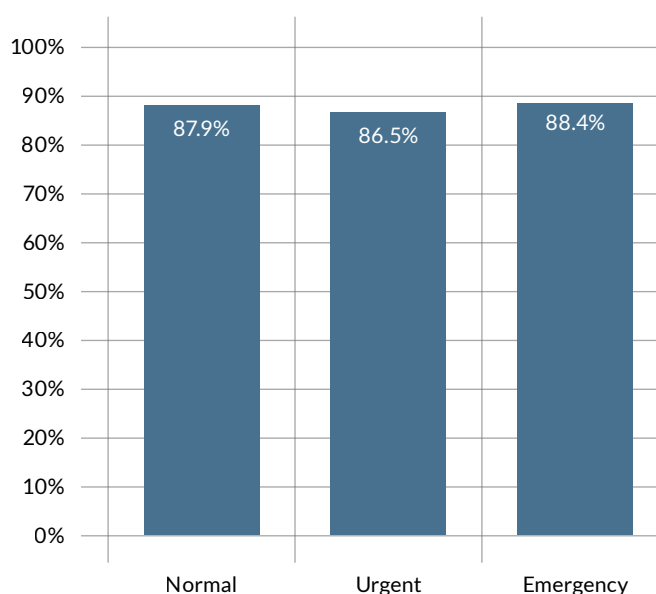
Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Country of Origin in 2018

Country of Origin	Cases Submitted	% Cases Accepted
Syrian Arab Rep.	5,996	85.9%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5,612	92.1%
Eritrea	2,352	93.5%
Afghanistan	1,328	83.0%
Somalia	984	67.6%
Iraq	857	85.8%
Sudan	856	95.9%
Myanmar	802	95.5%
Central African Rep.	593	94.4%
South Sudan	554	93.0%
All Others	2,635	85.4%
Grand Total	22,569	87.3%

Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Category in 2018

Submission Category	Acceptance Rate
Legal and/or Protection Needs (LPN)	87.1%
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)	86.7%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (LAS)	87.3%
Women and Girls-At-Risk (AWR)	91.9%
Medical Needs (MED)	87.5%
Children and Adolescents-At-Risk (CHL)	87.6%
Family Reunification (FAM)	94.2%

Acceptance Rates of Resettlement Countries by UNHCR Resettlement Priority in 2018



Resettlement Departures, 2014-2018*

Country of Resettlement	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Albania	278	483	-	-	-
Argentina	21	-	-	-	3
Australia	6,162	5,211	7,502	4,027	3,741
Austria	269	642	81	380	-
Belarus	-	14	-	-	-
Belgium	32	276	456	1,294	894
Brazil	44	6	31	2	-
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-	21
Canada	7,233	10,236	21,865	8,912	7,704
Chile	-	-	-	66	-
Croatia	-	-	-	40	88
Czechia	4	-	22	-	-
Denmark	332	486	317	5	-
Estonia	-	-	11	19	29
Finland	1,011	964	928	1,094	611
France	378	700	1,328	2,505	5,109
Germany	3,467	2,097	1,229	3,005	3,217
Hungary	4	2	4	-	-
Iceland	4	13	56	47	52
Ireland	98	178	359	273	338
Italy	-	96	528	985	400
Japan	23	19	18	29	22
Latvia	-	-	6	40	-
Liechtenstein	5	17	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	-	25	59	18
Luxembourg	28	49	52	182	-
Malta	-	-	-	17	-
Mexico	1	-	-	-	-
Monaco	-	-	6	23	-
Netherlands	743	428	689	2,262	1,190
New Zealand	639	756	895	986	982
Norway	1,188	2,220	3,149	2,799	2,324
Portugal	14	39	12	167	33
Rep. of Korea	14	42	64	44	27
Romania	44	2	-	43	-
Slovakia	-	-	-	4	-
Slovenia	-	-	-	-	34
Spain	30	92	288	1,066	80
Sweden	1,812	1,808	1,868	3,346	4,871
Switzerland	139	664	667	610	1,074
United Kingdom	628	1,768	5,074	6,202	5,698
United States	48,911	52,583	78,761	24,559	17,112
Uruguay	52	-	-	16	8
Grand Total	73,608	81,891	126,291	65,108	55,680

* All figures in 2018 are provisional and subject to change. This table includes countries with special resettlement programmes/ ad-hoc resettlement intake. Resettlement country figures (submissions and departures) may not match UNHCR reported figures as resettlement country figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR auspices. UNHCR figures may also include cases in which UNHCR assisted, i.e. obtained exit permits for humanitarian admissions or family reunion but did not primarily submit.

Per Capita Resettlement by Country of Resettlement in 2018

Country of Resettlement	Resettled refugees in 2018*	National Population**	Population per Refugees Resettled	Number of resettled refugees per 1,000 inhabitants
Argentina	3	44,688,864	14,896,288	0,0
Australia	3,741	24,772,247	6,622	0,2
Belgium	894	11,498,519	12,862	0,1
Bulgaria	21	7,036,848	335,088	0,0
Canada	7,704	36,953,765	4,797	0,2
Croatia	88	4,164,783	47,327	0,0
Estonia	29	1,306,788	45,062	0,0
Finland	611	5,542,517	9,071	0,1
France	5,109	65,233,271	12,768	0,1
Germany	3,217	82,293,457	25,581	0,0
Iceland	52	337,780	6,496	0,2
Ireland	338	4,803,748	14,212	0,1
Italy	400	59,290,969	148,227	0,0
Japan	22	127,185,332	5,781,151	0,0
Lithuania	18	2,876,475	159,804	0,0
Netherlands	1,190	17,084,459	14,357	0,1
New Zealand	982	4,749,598	4,837	0,2
Norway	2,324	5,353,363	2,304	0,4
Portugal	33	10,291,196	311,854	0,0
Rep. of Korea	27	51,164,435	1,894,979	0,0
Slovenia	34	2,081,260	61,214	0,0
Spain	80	46,397,452	579,968	0,0
Sweden	4,871	9,982,709	2,049	0,5
Switzerland	1,074	8,544,034	7,955	0,1
United Kingdom	5,698	66,573,504	11,684	0,1
United States of America	17,112	326,766,748	19,096	0,1
Uruguay	8	3,469,551	433,694	0,0

* Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR resettlement processes.

** Source: United Nations, Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision, New York, 2017. For the purpose of this analysis, the 2018 population projections (medium fertility variant) have been used. (See: <https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/>).

Demographic Composition of Refugees Submitted for Resettlement in 2018 (persons)

Country of Asylum	Submissions 2018	Demographic indicators*			
		<18 years	18-59 years	60+> years	% Women and girls
Africa					
Angola	31	48%	48%	3%	48%
Botswana	132	52%	47%	1%	54%
Burkina Faso	55	53%	45%	2%	51%
Burundi	2,434	55%	42%	3%	52%
Cameroon	638	57%	41%	1%	52%
Chad	2,508	56%	42%	2%	52%
Congo, Republic of	29	59%	38%	3%	59%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	54	57%	43%	0%	54%
Djibouti	282	55%	44%	1%	50%
Ethiopia	2,924	57%	42%	1%	50%
Gambia	9	33%	67%	0%	33%
Ghana	25	24%	76%	0%	64%
Kenya	4,611	56%	43%	1%	50%
Madagascar	5	0%	100%	0%	20%
Malawi	1,060	64%	36%	1%	47%
Mauritius	1	0%	100%	0%	0%
Mozambique	110	51%	49%	0%	52%
Namibia	154	52%	47%	1%	50%
Niger**	2,351	33%	67%	0%	36%
Nigeria	4	50%	50%	0%	50%
Rwanda	3,712	51%	45%	4%	50%
Senegal	18	0%	100%	0%	6%
Somalia	161	60%	40%	1%	57%
South Africa	717	52%	48%	0%	52%
South Sudan	16	56%	44%	0%	63%
Sudan	1,008	53%	45%	2%	50%
Togo	15	7%	93%	0%	53%
Uganda	5,478	55%	43%	2%	50%
United Rep. of Tanzania	6,493	53%	44%	3%	52%
Zambia	708	55%	43%	2%	49%
Zimbabwe	665	60%	40%	1%	52%
Africa Sub-Total	36,408	53%	45%	2%	50%
Asia & the Pacific					
Afghanistan	11	45%	55%	0%	55%
China & China, Hong Kong SAR	75	20%	71%	9%	49%
India	325	50%	46%	5%	56%
Indonesia	1,070	48%	50%	2%	46%
Islamic Rep. of Iran	649	45%	52%	3%	67%
Malaysia	2,327	46%	52%	1%	47%
Nepal	3	100%	0%	0%	0%
Palau	4	50%	50%	0%	25%
Papua New Guinea	5	40%	60%	0%	40%
Pakistan	6	100%	0%	0%	33%
Sri Lanka	275	35%	63%	1%	39%
Thailand	1,046	59%	39%	2%	50%
Asia & the Pacific Sub-Total	5,796	48%	50%	2%	49%

Country of Asylum	Submissions 2018	Demographic indicators*			
		<18 years	18-59 years	60+> years	% Women and girls
Europe					
Armenia	4	0%	100%	0%	100%
Azerbaijan	1	100%	0%	0%	100%
Malta	2	50%	50%	0%	100%
Russian Federation	54	24%	76%	0%	28%
Serbia and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)	25	52%	48%	0%	48%
Turkey	16,042	50%	48%	3%	49%
Ukraine	7	29%	71%	0%	14%
Europe Sub-Total	16,135	49%	48%	3%	49%
MENA					
Algeria	109	35%	65%	0%	51%
Bahrain	15	67%	33%	0%	33%
Egypt	3,308	50%	48%	2%	51%
Iraq	1,003	51%	45%	4%	51%
Israel	253	43%	55%	2%	47%
Jordan	6,387	57%	41%	2%	50%
Kuwait	40	35%	63%	3%	58%
Lebanon	8,393	56%	42%	1%	47%
Libya	918	47%	50%	3%	49%
Mauritania	83	31%	67%	1%	52%
Morocco	191	33%	66%	1%	45%
Qatar	2	0%	100%	0%	50%
Saudi Arabia	94	46%	52%	2%	55%
Syrian Arab Rep.	376	39%	56%	4%	54%
Tunisia	14	7%	93%	0%	21%
United Arab Emirates	195	41%	57%	3%	43%
Yemen	161	35%	65%	0%	25%
MENA Sub-Total	21,542	54%	45%	2%	49%
The Americas					
Caribbean	64	14%	84%	2%	31%
Cuba	33	15%	85%	0%	27%
Ecuador	700	49%	50%	1%	53%
El Salvador***	275	35%	59%	6%	52%
Guatemala***	167	44%	56%	1%	62%
Honduras***	138	40%	60%	0%	51%
Mexico	76	17%	82%	1%	39%
Suriname	3	0%	100%	0%	0%
The Americas Sub-Total	1,456	41%	57%	2%	51%
Grand Total	81,337	52%	46%	2%	49%

* Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

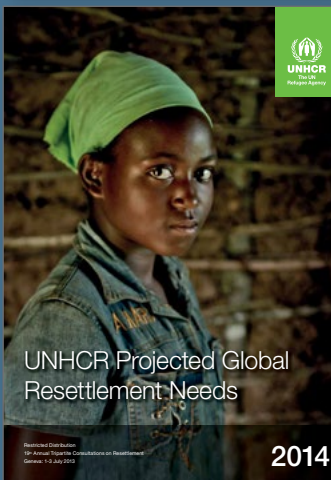
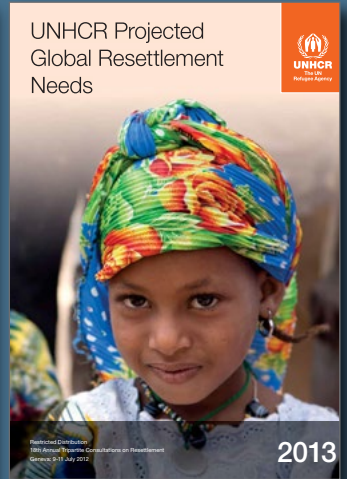
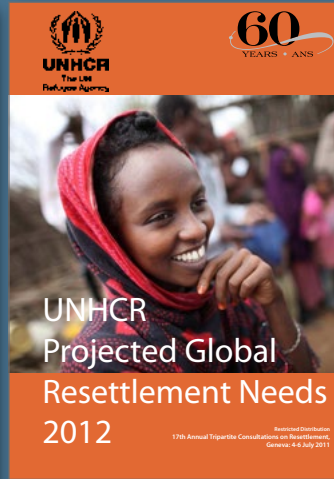
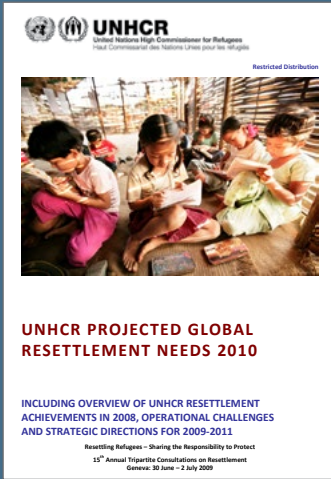
** Demographic data in Niger is available for 1,944 of the 2,351 submissions.

*** These figures include cases of internally displaced persons from the North of Central America (NCA) namely El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. The cases are referred as part of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA).

UNHCR Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) & Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) 2018 Arrivals & Departures

Country of Asylum*	Country of Origin	Resettlement Country	Number of Cases	Number of Individuals	In centre as of year end 2018	Departed	Others (+/-)	Vol.Rep
Manila, Philippines								
Thailand	Zimbabwe	United States	2	8	0	8	0	0
Thailand	Vietnam	United States	1	3	0	3	0	0
Cambodia	Vietnam	Canada	3	7	0	7	0	0
Palau	Syria	Sweden	1	4	0	4	0	0
Total			7	22	0	22	0	0
Timisoara, Romania								
Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	Georgia	1	2	0	2	0	0
Iran	Afghanistan	United States	1	5	0	5	0	0
Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	1	4	0	4	0	0
Syrian Arab Rep.	Somalia	United Kingdom	1	4	0	4	0	0
Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	United Kingdom	3	12	0	12	0	0
Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	United Kingdom	10	28	23	5	0	0
Syrian Arab Rep.	Somalia	United Kingdom	1	2	0	2	0	0
Syrian Arab Rep.	Afghanistan	United Kingdom	1	3	0	3	0	0
Syrian Arab Rep.	Ethiopia	United Kingdom	1	1	0	1	0	0
Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	France	1	2	0	2	0	0
Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	France	1	8	0	8	0	0
Niger	Eritrea	Netherlands	24	24	0	24	0	0
Niger	Somalia	Netherlands	1	1	0	1	0	0
Niger	Eritrea	Belgium	30	33	0	33	0	0
Niger	Somalia	Belgium	9	9	0	9	0	0
Vietnam	Yemen	Netherlands	1	1	1	0	0	0
Libya	Eritrea	Norway	7	20	6	14	0	0
Libya	Sudan	Norway	18	80	36	44	0	0
Libya	Syrian Arab Rep.	Norway	13	66	46	20	0	0
Total			125	305	112	193	0	0
Grand Total			132	327	112	215	0	0

* Country of asylum prior to entering the ETC/ETM.



Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Service
 Division of International Protection
 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
 Case Postale 2500, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 739 8111
<http://www.unhcr.org>

Layout&Design: BakOS DESIGN
 © UNHCR 2019