

# Indonesia

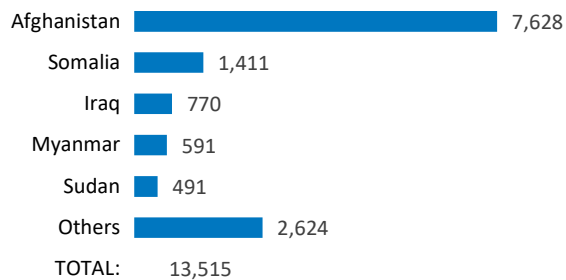
April 2020

**13,515 persons** registered with UNHCR - 72% adult and 28% children. Of the adult, 27% are women and 73% are men.

Of the **3,740 children** registered with UNHCR, 82 are **unaccompanied** by a parent or other adult relative and 44 are **separated** from their parents.

As part of the COVID-19 prevention, **20% additional cash assistance** are provided to **1,047 vulnerable refugees**. The assistance is also extended to **972 refugees** for 2 months.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

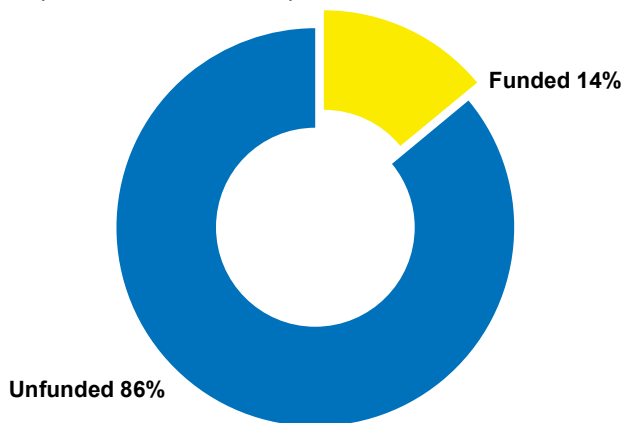


\* source: UNHCR proGres March 2020

## 2020 FUNDING (AS OF 29 APRIL 2020)

**USD 7.4 M**

requested for UNHCR's response in Indonesia



## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

- 24 National Staff
- 7 International Staff
- 26 Affiliated Work Force

### Offices: Makassar

- 1 Main office [Jakarta]
- 4 Out-posted locations [Medan, Tanjung Pinang, Pekanbaru, Makassar]



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## Working with Partners

- UNHCR works closely with counterparts of the Republic of Indonesia, particularly the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs and its department for Refugees and People Smuggling; the Ministry of Law and Human Rights, including the Directorate-General of Immigration; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of Social Affairs; and the Ministry of Home Affairs to provide protection and support, and to identify solutions for persons under UNHCR's mandate.
- UNHCR engages with international and national NGOs and civil society partners, and UN agencies, UNHCR-funded partners – Church World Service (CWS), Catholic Relief Services (CRS) – as well as other partners assisting refugees, including Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), the Indonesian Red Cross, Dompot Dhuafa, and the National Human Rights Commission, to assist the Government to ensure that refugees and stateless persons are protected and provided assistance. UNHCR works very closely with its direct partner CWS to provide lifesaving medical assistance to the refugees and to addresses the special needs of the unaccompanied and other children at risk. Meanwhile distribution of monthly cash allowance to the most vulnerable refugees is handled by UNHCR's other direct partner, CRS.

## Main Activities

### Protection

- While Indonesia is not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol, it has a long tradition of allowing access to and hosting refugees. Indonesia has enacted a comprehensive national refugee law, signed as a presidential regulation in December 2016, which provides access and temporary protection to refugees in the country until longer-term solutions can be found for them. Under the law, the Government has authorized UNHCR to help protect and find solutions for them.
- The 2016 refugee law includes provisions for the Government to rescue refugees on boats in distress near Indonesia and to help them disembark. UNHCR provides technical expertise as the Government moves to establish procedures implementing these provisions. UNHCR also supports related State initiatives under the Bali Process and other regional initiatives to ensure that protection-sensitive approaches – based on solidarity and responsibility-sharing among States – are part of a regional solution.
- Indonesia is not a party to the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on Reduction of Statelessness. In 2014, University of Indonesia's Child Protection Research Centre reported that some 40 million children in Indonesia do not have a birth certificate. However, there are recent indications from the Government that this figure has significantly been reduced. UNHCR awaits official confirmation on birth registration rates from the National Civil Registry Office.
- Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical for UHCR Indonesia to receive sustained funding to be able to deliver protection and complementary solutions to the persons of concerns as the pandemic posed further challenges to the already limited resettlement opportunity.

### Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Refugees do not have the right to work in Indonesia. Recognizing that direct assistance is not sustainable, UNHCR continues to advocate for refugees to be given access to livelihood opportunities and works with partners to create community-empowerment and self-reliance programs that benefit Indonesians and refugees. The programs

include vocational trainings and entrepreneurship schemes that promote economic development in Indonesian host communities.

- Male and female refugee leaders representing various nationalities participate in activities implemented by UNHCR and partners, such as assisting vulnerable refugees in accessing services, disseminating information among the refugee community, managing community learning centres, providing skills training and education for children and adolescents, and providing interpretation and translation services.
- UNHCR currently provide cash assistance to around 1,047 persons with specific needs, including 17 unaccompanied children in one of the three residential homes in Jakarta.

### Education

- Indonesia is a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and provides refugee children access to national schools through the Ministry of Education Circular Letter No. 75253/A.A4/HK/2019 issued on 10 July 2019. UNHCR encourages refugee children to enrol into the national school system, particularly at the primary school level. To prepare refugee children for enrolment in national schools, UNHCR is working with partners in Jakarta and the Greater area as well as out-posted locations to teach refugee children Bahasa Indonesia, as well as basic math and literacy, and local customs and culture.
- With our partners, UNHCR works for all refugee children to have access to national schools and as of end of April 2020, some 577 refugee children are enrolled in accredited national schools. Challenges to increase refugee children's enrolment rates include limited knowledge of Bahasa Indonesia, inadequate sources of funding, and reports of limited places in public schools where refugees reside.
- Other educational opportunities include enrolment in online, accredited university courses. UNHCR encourages refugees to complete accredited courses through Coursera for Refugees, a free online learning platform, in addition to non-formal educational and recreational activities made available for children and youth in children's homes. In Jakarta and the greater area, as well as in the other out-posted locations, refugee communities have several community-based learning centers for refugee children. Through these centres, UNHCR continue to encourage refugee parents to prepare their children with the necessary skills until they are ready to enrol in national schools. As of end of April, 3,461 refugees are enrolled in online university courses and in community – based learning programs.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, refugee children who previously attended public schools continue their studies with arrangements made by their respective school. Working with partners, online distant-learning are made available for refugee children at UNHCR learning centres and some community-based learning centres.

### Health

- Refugees have access to primary medical care through public health facilities, as well as community maternity and childcare, which provides immunizations. UNHCR works with partners to provide information on public health services and to raise health-prevention awareness and in covering life threatening/saving medical situation which is very expensive

### Durable Solutions

- With decreasing opportunities provided by countries offering resettlement out of Indonesia, the most vulnerable refugees are identified for submission for resettlement. In 2019, Australia, Canada, and the United States have offered limited resettlement places out of Indonesia. As of the end of 2019, 663 refugees departed for resettlement. This represents 4.8 percent of the total refugee population in the country. The outlook for resettlement places is a continued decrease, and it can therefore not be considered the only viable durable solution for the refugees in Indonesia.

- UNHCR facilitates voluntary repatriation for refugees who request return, with arrangements made in close cooperation with IOM through its assisted voluntary return program. As of the end of 2019, only 1.8% of the total persons of concern (252 people) have returned voluntarily to their countries of origin.
- UNHCR provides information and guidance to refugees who may have family members abroad and would like to pursue private sponsorship options. As of the end of 2019, UNHCR knows of 57 people (0.4% of total persons of concern) have departed abroad on private sponsorships.

## External / Donors Relations

**UNHCR is grateful for the support of the following donors for their funding either directly to the operation or via softly earmarked or unearmarked funds:** Australia | Canada | Denmark | European Union | Germany | Ireland | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Private Donors | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America

**In addition, UNHCR thanks the following organizations and private sector partners in recent years for their support and donation:** Bank Mayapada | Bina Nusantara School | Dato' Tahir | Global Jaya School | Indonesia for Refugees | Metro TV | PT. Eagle Indopharma | PT. Tan Kiang | SPH Lippo Cikarang School | SCTV | Tahir Foundation | Tunas Muda School | Unilever (UK) | Uniqlo | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | Wanda House of Jewels | Wardah Cosmetics

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### LINKS

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