



**UNHCR**

The UN Refugee Agency

聯合國難民署

# 2021 Donor Impact Report



Looking back at what you,  
our valued supporters,  
helped make possible

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<b>Who we are</b> UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, protects people forced to flee their homes because of conflict and persecution.	<b>What we do</b> We are in the field in over 130 countries, saving lives, protecting rights, and helping build better futures.	<b>Why we matter</b> Every year, millions of children, women, and men are forced to flee their homes. We are the world's leading organization dedicated to supporting them.
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# Introduction

## 2021 was another difficult year.

Economic crisis, conflict, climate change, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic have demanded that we adapt to new challenges every day.

But the trials and tribulations of 2021 especially impacted some of the world's most vulnerable people: the over 84 million forced to flee their homes to escape war, persecution, and other life-threatening situations.

## Even in a year compounded by crisis, when confronted with their suffering, you stepped up.

And more than ever, your kindness, empathy, and compassion were essential to face the uncertainty that affected us all.

You helped UNHCR save lives, protect fundamental human rights, and build a better future for refugees and displaced and stateless people around the world.

This report showcases the lasting impact we made, together, at the hour of greatest need for millions of men, women, and children. Here, you will find stories of people your support helped last year. And you will gain insight into why UNHCR must remain prepared – every day – and how we can do so through the generosity of people like you.

At a time when the world's forcibly displaced population is at a record high, you helped transform the lives of the world's most vulnerable people.

**From all of us at UNHCR, thank you.**



# 2021 – a challenging year



## January

200,000 flee renewed violence in the Central African Republic

In the **Central African Republic (CAR)**, rising insecurity from the recent general election forces tens of thousands to flee their homes in search of safety. By the end of the month, [over 200,000 people had been displaced](#) by the violence – while many remained within CAR, more than 100,000 fled to neighboring countries, with as many as one thousand crossing the borders each day. Due to remote locations and poor road conditions, logistics are challenging and access to displaced people is difficult. However, with your support, UNHCR starts the year by registering arrivals, scaling up the delivery of food, shelter, and basic household items, and prepositioning supplies ahead of the rainy season.



## February

Conflict escalates in Yemen, aggravating a severe humanitarian crisis

[Renewed clashes in Yemen's Marib region](#) add to the suffering of thousands who are already displaced and in dire need. The situation in Yemen quickly became the world's most severe humanitarian crisis after the start of the conflict in 2015, with protracted and new displacement, poverty, and famine now [threatening the lives of over 20 million people](#), including four million internally displaced persons (IDPs). Despite challenges on the ground, UNHCR stays and delivers: we provide shelter, blankets, kitchen sets, and cash assistance, help ensure protection, and work to revitalize essential infrastructure to assist those in need, thanks to you.



## March

Fire brings destruction to Rohingya's Kutupalong camp in Bangladesh

A devastating fire ravages through **Bangladesh's Kutupalong settlement**, the world's largest refugee camp, [claiming the lives of 15 refugees, injuring over 500 people](#), and causing widespread destruction. With you by our side, UNHCR works hard to provide critical support and protection to some 48,000 refugees who lost their belongings and shelters in the blaze. In the days following the fire, we offer psychosocial services to those affected and help reunite over 600 children with their families. We also distribute blankets, solar lamps, and medical supplies and rebuild emergency sanitation facilities.

By donating to UNHCR, you have helped protect people forced to flee their homes. Our teams are on the ground in over 130 countries and territories, 365 days a year, caring for millions of people in the emergencies you've heard about – and the ones you haven't. Your support makes it all possible.

Last year was full of unprecedented challenges, conflicts, and crises. But together, we stayed ready. Together, we changed lives.



## April

### Armed attacks in Mozambique call attention to a silent crisis

[Tens of thousands flee their homes](#) to escape escalating violence by armed groups in **Cabo Delgado, northern Mozambique**, after insurgents attack the coastal town of Palma, killing dozens. Access to health services, water, shelter, and food is severely impacted by the violence. Newly displaced people – mostly women and children – arrive traumatized and without any belongings, bringing the number of those who have been forced to flee since the start of the crisis three years ago to [over 700,000](#). Responding quickly, UNHCR distributes blankets and sleeping mats, provides shelter, offers psychosocial support, and reunites families.



## May

### Volcano eruption uproots thousands in North Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo

The sudden and devastating eruption of the Mount Nyiragongo volcano in **Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**, on 22 May [forces thousands people to flee the area](#) in an attempt to keep safe and escape the destruction. This latest disaster comes on top of an already dire situation in the North Kivu province, which has seen brutal violence displace over 2 million people in the past few years. With you by our side, UNHCR rushes to provide life-saving aid, distributing emergency shelter and relief items, such as blankets and solar lamps, and providing a range of services, such as psychosocial support, to those affected.



## June

### Forced displacement reaches record levels

The number of people fleeing violence and persecution reached the unprecedented figure of [82.4 million in 2020](#) – the highest in recorded history – according to UNHCR's Global Trends Report. By the second half of 2021, that number had already risen to [84 million](#). Nearly half of those displaced are under 18 years old, and most have remained within their own countries. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, reinforces UNHCR's commitment: "Behind each number is a person forced from their home and a story of displacement, dispossession, and suffering. They merit our attention and support not just with humanitarian aid, but in finding solutions to their plight."



## July

### Escalating violence in Tigray worsens the humanitarian situation in northern Ethiopia

Intensifying violence from armed groups in **Ethiopia's Tigray region** aggravates the suffering of communities still reeling from the airstrikes that killed or wounded hundreds in June. With the [latest escalation of the conflict](#), the humanitarian situation throughout northern Ethiopia becomes increasingly desperate, as the risk of famine, displacement, and human rights violations, including gender-based violence and the forcible return of refugees to persecution or danger, threatens the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. UNHCR scales up its humanitarian response to address the growing needs, quickly deploying technical experts and providing emergency shelter, psychosocial services, and relief items.



## August

### Crisis in Afghanistan pushes hundreds of thousands into severe need

In **Afghanistan**, a conflict-hastened humanitarian emergency, after a period of deteriorating crisis, brings further insecurity and destitution to a country already on the brink. Widespread fighting, culminating with the takeover of power by the Taliban, [forces people to flee their homes](#) across the country to escape violence, hunger, and human rights abuses. Most of the newly displaced are [women and children](#). Thanks to your generous support, UNHCR can quickly scale up activities to respond to the new developments, providing cash, shelter, emergency supplies, sanitation services, and other life-saving assistance to those in need.



## September

### The pandemic continues to threaten the lives of refugees amid under-funding

Despite advances in the fight against COVID-19, UNHCR warns that the pandemic continues to represent a significant threat to the lives and wellbeing of people forced to flee their homes, most of whom live in developing countries. [Restrictions on travel, work, and school](#) – as well as the threat of weakened health and sanitation systems – challenge the basic survival of refugees, especially those most vulnerable, like the elderly. We continue providing health, water, sanitation, and hygiene services to displaced populations and keep ensuring asylum pathways are accessible to those who need them, all thanks to you. And with the [COVID-19 emergency topping UNHCR's list of underfunded crises](#), your help is more important than ever.



## October

Thousands stranded in Belarus-Poland border living in life-threatening conditions

[Thousands of refugees and asylum-seekers](#), many with specific protection needs, struggle to survive after having been left stranded in the **border areas between Belarus and Poland** since mid-August. Living in makeshift camps without proper shelter and secure sources of food and water, women, children, and men are forced to sleep in the open and with empty stomachs. Amid the quickly worsening conditions and facing the approaching winter, [lives hang in the balance](#). UNHCR delivers urgently needed support to the most affected, including hygiene items, blankets, and food, and works to assess the situation and find humane solutions to the crisis.



## November

The climate crisis has dire consequences for those displaced

The climate crisis is a human crisis. Globally, [90% of refugees and 70% of internally displaced persons](#) come from areas on the frontlines of the climate emergency. Extreme weather events are particularly threatening to those in developing countries – which host most displaced people worldwide –, as they compound the already devastating consequences of conflict and poverty and drive further displacement. This is the case of “climate hotspots” like [Honduras, in Central America](#), where natural disasters are becoming more frequent and destructive, making life harder for hundreds of thousands displaced by gang violence. Taking part in the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), UNHCR calls for urgent assistance for those who are most vulnerable.



## December

Tens of thousands flee clashes over scarce water resources in Cameroon

Fighting breaks out in **Cameroon’s Far North Region** between groups competing for dwindling water resources, as the climate crisis exacerbates existing tensions – in the past 60 years, the surface of Lake Chad has decreased by as much as 95%. [Amidst violence, at least 100,000 people](#), mostly women and children, are forced to flee their homes. While some remain in Cameroon, most cross the border into Chad, where they face harsh conditions. Thanks to your help, UNHCR rushes to deliver assistance to what had quickly become a dire situation, providing emergency shelter, health services, protection, and other life-saving assistance to those displaced. We also work, together with our partners, to foster inter-communal reconciliation.



# The Afghanistan emergency, explained



# 2021 was another intense and difficult year. Conflict, displacement, the climate crisis, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic have posed great challenges to us all.

However, among this year's many crises, one stands out: Afghanistan. Here's what you need to know about the biggest emergency of 2021 – and how your support is helping protect and assist millions of displaced people.

## How did the emergency in Afghanistan develop?

The situation in Afghanistan – a country that has been immersed in conflict for over 40 years – started to deteriorate dramatically in January 2021, when clashes between armed groups escalated. As fighting raged on, large parts of the country were gripped by high levels of insecurity, posing a threat to the basic survival of Afghans and resulting in an all-time-high number of casualties.

The continuous and widespread violence reached a peak in the second half of 2021, culminating in the takeover of power by the Taliban in August. Although fighting has now largely stopped, new challenges are threatening the rights and lives of Afghans.

The recent rise in insecurity has thrown Afghanistan into a new and severe humanitarian crisis, aggravated by decades of conflict, increasing climate-related disasters, chronic poverty, and food insecurity. Throughout last year, the country also struggled with the health and socioeconomic effects of the COVID-19

pandemic, at the same time as many of its provinces were hit with devastating drought.

Facing such a dire situation, hundreds of thousands of Afghans were forced to flee their homes to escape violence and destitution. From January 2021 to mid-January 2022, while some 699,000 became displaced inside Afghanistan – joining the nearly three million who were displaced before 2021 –, around 141,200 sought refuge in neighboring countries.

Thanks to donors like you, UNHCR could stay and deliver in Afghanistan, expanding humanitarian aid and long-term support to meet the needs on the ground. Despite the often-dangerous conditions and the many difficulties in obtaining access to displaced persons, our teams are working around the clock to provide life-saving assistance and access to basic services for communities in need.

## What are the biggest challenges facing people affected by the latest crisis?

2021 has stretched the resilience of Afghans to the limit. Violence and insecurity

have prompted hundreds of thousands to flee, traumatized and with nothing but the clothes on their backs. On top of violence and displacement, the coronavirus pandemic and severe droughts have further pushed Afghanistan to the brink. And the harsh winter weather, which can reach temperatures as low as -12 degrees centigrade, has added to the difficulties and suffering of Afghan families.

As a result, hunger, poverty, and needs are at unprecedented levels: more than half of the people in Afghanistan require humanitarian assistance; one in three Afghans already struggles with high food insecurity; and 97% of the population could plunge into poverty in 2022.

Those forced to flee are in desperate need of shelter, water, food, household items, protection, and psychosocial support. The situation remains extremely uncertain and displaced people still need our help.

# How have your donations helped UNHCR respond?

Thanks to the support of caring donors like you, in 2021 UNHCR raised over US\$40 million to quickly scale up its response to the new emergency in Afghanistan.

We have been working in Afghanistan and neighboring countries for four decades, and despite the challenging situation, we were committed to stay and deliver for the Afghan people in their moment of highest need and uncertainty. By keeping our global warehouses stocked, our staff trained, and the funds available, we've been able to remain on the ground, providing safe shelter, sanitation, cash assistance, clean energy, medical and psychosocial support, protection services, and core relief items, such as mats and jerrycans, to those in need. We've also delivered thermal blankets, insulation kits, solar lamps, and other winter essentials to protect families from the cold temperatures.

**UNHCR supported more than 1.1 million internally displaced Afghans with life-saving assistance in 2021, including more than 926,000 from mid-August to the year's end.**

When families struggled with renewed violence, growing displacement, hunger, poverty, and the harsh winter in Afghanistan, UNHCR was there, by their side.

**We were ready for this emergency and will be ready for the next, thanks to you.**

# Emergency assistance provided between August and December 2021, with your support:



**926,900**  
persons supported



**34 out of 34**  
provinces reached



**263,200**  
persons benefited from cash for winterization



**74,300**  
persons benefited from cash assistance for protection needs



**88,900**  
persons benefited from cash for rent, shelter & shelter repair



**199,900**  
persons benefited from core relief items



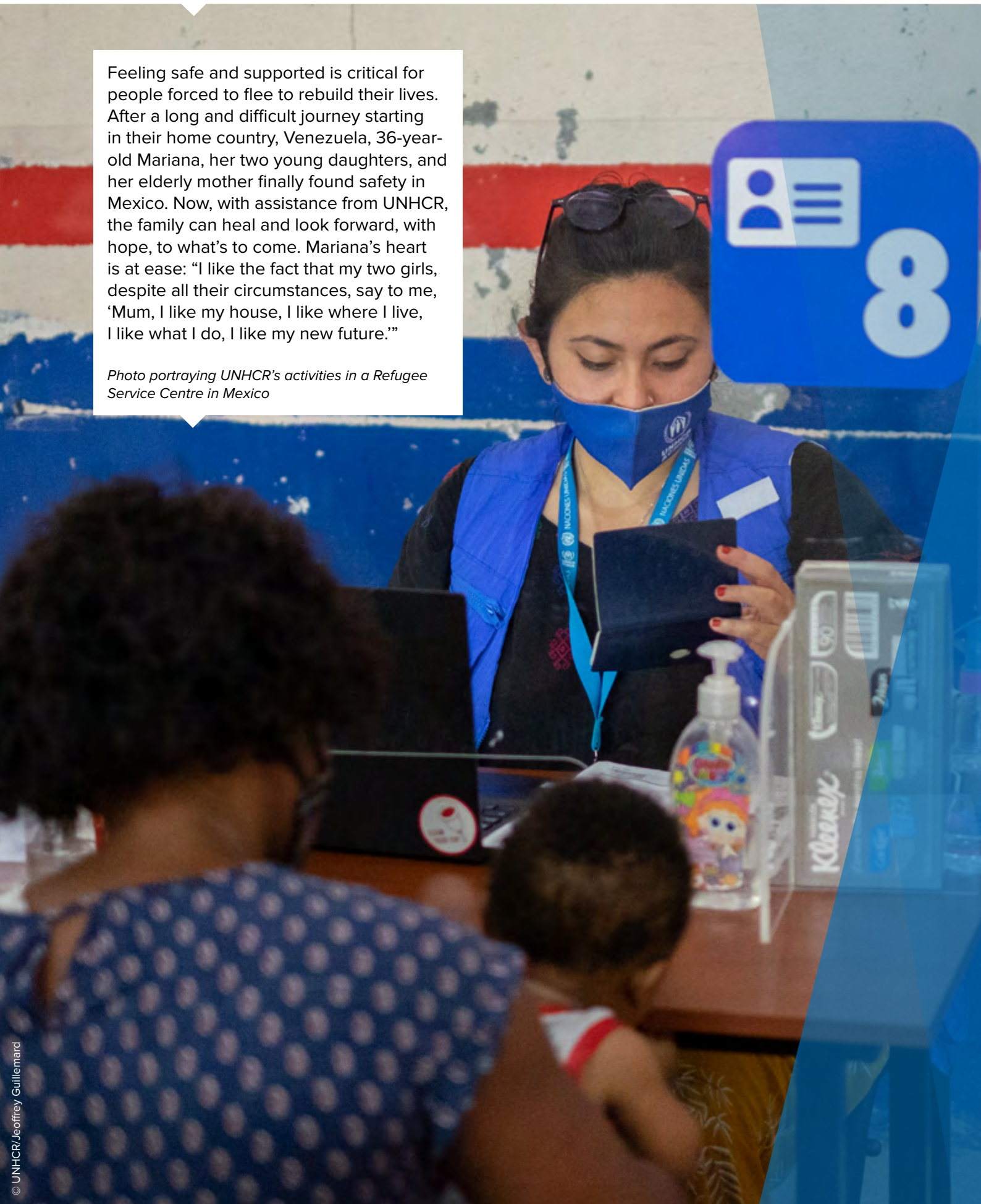
**54,700**  
persons benefited from cash for reintegration (CARE)



**64,400**  
persons benefited from hygiene kits

Feeling safe and supported is critical for people forced to flee to rebuild their lives. After a long and difficult journey starting in their home country, Venezuela, 36-year-old Mariana, her two young daughters, and her elderly mother finally found safety in Mexico. Now, with assistance from UNHCR, the family can heal and look forward, with hope, to what's to come. Mariana's heart is at ease: "I like the fact that my two girls, despite all their circumstances, say to me, 'Mum, I like my house, I like where I live, I like what I do, I like my new future.'"

*Photo portraying UNHCR's activities in a Refugee Service Centre in Mexico*





# Protecting people forced to flee their homes

Every year, millions of people are forced to flee violence and persecution at a moment's notice. Uprooted from their homes, they have to leave their jobs, their cherished belongings, and sometimes even their loved ones behind, embarking on harrowing journeys in search of safety.

This reality is what moves UNHCR. Since 1950, when the UN Refugee Agency was created, everything we do has had one goal: to protect and assist people forced to flee their homes. Today, over 70 years later, we are still hard at work to save lives, protect rights, and help build better futures for those who have been displaced, anytime and anywhere.

UNHCR is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions. As new emergencies arise and older ones persist, your donations makes it possible for us to keep doing this work. And as we continue to face record levels of displacement, your support is now more important than ever before.

**Thank you for choosing to help. We couldn't do this without you.**

Four years ago, Abraham was forced to flee Eritrea with his four children. The family found safety in Tigray, northern Ethiopia, where UNHCR services renewed their hope. “Back then, we knew that we were not forgotten. UNHCR tried to give us a future,” he says.

But in November 2020, as conflict escalated in Tigray, UNHCR lost access to hundreds of people in desperate need. After weeks of negotiations, we were able to return to the area in January 2021, fully prepared – thanks to donors like you – to provide life-saving assistance for refugees and newly displaced persons.

For Abraham and many others like him, our return was a relief: “We waited for you. Now, not everything is good, but it is looking better.”

*Photo portraying UNHCR's distributions in Tigray*





## Responding with life-saving support

When an emergency hits, people often lose everything – their belongings, their homes, their safety nets, their communities. But all around the world, UNHCR is on standby, prepared to help within 72 hours. In any crisis, our first priority is saving lives. We do this by providing refugees and internally displaced persons with safe shelter, clean water, food, and medical care.



© UNHCR/Andrew McConnell





## Supporting Mullah\* and his family through the cold

**Mullah's\* children gaze at the flames licking up the inside of the family's small stove. The fire provides much-welcomed warmth to their mud-brick house, keeping, although for a short time, the cold of the Kabul winter from entering through the curtain door.**

The space is small and the fumes from the fire hang thick, but there is no heat in the other room in the house, so most of the 14-member family crowd in close. Under the glow of the flames, Mullah's 3-year-old daughter, Aseela, barefoot and wearing thin, tattered clothes, chews a small scrap of bread. Much of the time, bread is all the family has to eat.

Five months ago, they all had to flee their home in eastern Afghanistan to seek safety in Kabul. Since then, Mullah has been struggling to provide for his family amidst the country's destruction and economic collapse. And with the arrival of the bitter winter weather – which can go as low as -25 degrees Celsius – the situation has become even more dire. "I'm very worried about the rest of the winter," he says.

Unfortunately, Mullah's story is shared by hundreds of thousands of Afghans. For families like his, humanitarian aid is the only hope of avoiding a downward spiral of crippling debt and continuous hunger.

From the start of the emergency in mid-2021 – as well as during decades of ongoing conflict and crisis in the country – UNHCR has been helping Afghan families survive. Through your generosity, we have distributed blankets, shelter items, cooking stoves, buckets, hygiene kits, and kitchen sets to thousands of displaced persons in Kabul.

We have also provided those who are most vulnerable with cash assistance. For Mullah and his family, the help has come just in time: this money will help them cover the costs of firewood, extra blankets, and proper clothes to keep warm during the long winter.

*\*Name changed for protection reasons*

When the first cases of COVID-19 emerged in Bangladesh in March 2020, there was widespread concern about the potential for the virus to spread through the densely populated refugee settlements in the country that are home to nearly a million Rohingya. Quickly, UNHCR put in place a response aimed at protecting both refugees and local Bangladeshi communities from the coronavirus.

Since 2020, UNHCR and partners have helped establish isolation and treatment centers inside the refugee camps and in the surrounding areas in Cox's Bazar. We have also promoted community outreach campaigns, many of which were led by refugee health workers. And more recently, after discussions with the government, UNHCR teams were able to ensure the inclusion of Rohingya refugees in the national COVID vaccination rollout.

Shokiba, a Rohingya refugee who spent 20 days with her seven-year-old daughter, Jainak Bibi, in a UNHCR COVID-19 treatment facility, feels happy with the services provided. "The doctors were very good, and they treated all the patients well. There were also Bangladeshi patients with us, [and] nobody was treated differently," she recounts with a smile.

*Photo portraying a UNHCR COVID-19 center in Cox's Bazar*





## Safeguarding fundamental human rights

When people are forced to flee, their basic human rights are often in danger. In their struggle to find safety and survive, they can lose access to essential services and become vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. But with your support, UNHCR is on the ground to protect and safeguard their rights and wellbeing. Together with governments, we work to ensure those who have been displaced are safe and can get documents, go to school, earn a living, and access healthcare. We also work towards ensuring the stateless achieve their right to a nationality.



© UNHCR/Shubucki

# Helping Arsalan\* empower other children

**Arsalan\* knows about the risks of violence and exploitation firsthand. Armed groups used to barge into the shop where he worked in Kabul, Afghanistan, and threaten to kill him.**

When he was suddenly forced to leave his home behind to seek safety at just 16 years old, he saw smugglers beat and mistreat other children who, like him, were fleeing alone. Now an asylum seeker in Serbia, he draws on his experiences to teach a UNHCR-sponsored course for refugees like himself.

“I try to convey this knowledge to my peers in the asylum center here... I am certain they will find it useful,” he says.

UNHCR, together with partners, piloted the project in 2018 in response to the increasing number of unaccompanied children arriving in Serbia. Through 16 sessions over three months, participants from several different countries are taught about their rights, how to recognize abuse and how to get help.

The course includes sessions on trafficking, exploitation, and discrimination, as well as modules on sexual and gender-based violence and LGBTQI+ rights. Young refugees like Arsalan are trained to educate their peers on these topics, facilitating exchanges and connections among young people going through the same experiences. As a result, the course helps foster a sense of community between refugee children and integrate them into local society.

The number of unaccompanied children arriving in Serbia was on the rise before the coronavirus-related restrictions imposed new obstacles to those forced to flee. Still, thousands of young people continue to make the dangerous journey to safety through the country, coming from distant places like Afghanistan and Syria – while by late 2019 an average of 340 unaccompanied refugee children were entering Serbia each month, by the end of 2021 that number had fallen to some 110.

Despite their lower numbers, children traveling alone are increasingly vulnerable to trafficking, especially due to the higher economic insecurity caused by the pandemic.

Through the peer educators project, UNHCR is helping young people process the experiences they have endured so far and is informing them of the risks associated with their journeys, which include exploitation and abuse at the hands of smugglers.

Arsalan is happy with his work. “The course was useful, the examples easy to understand, and our discussions [were] lively,” he says, with a big smile.

With the support of caring donors like you, we are empowering unaccompanied children to advocate for themselves and make the best decisions to safeguard their physical and mental wellbeing.

*\*Name changed for protection reasons.*

## Did you know?

- Millions of people are trafficked every year. Women and girls, especially those unaccompanied by other family members, account for the largest number of detected victims.
- Forcibly displaced children traveling alone are at a heightened risk of trafficking.
- The socioeconomic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic have made displaced youths even more vulnerable. Deepening poverty and disruptions in education have left many children exposed to sexual exploitation, child labor, and child marriage.



The Minawao settlement, in Cameroon, hosts nearly 70,000 refugees who have fled violence linked to the Boko Haram insurgency in neighboring Nigeria. In an arid region already badly affected by climate change, the refugees' arrival has accelerated the desertification process as they cut down the few surrounding trees for firewood.

As a result, the price of wood has risen considerably, causing conflicts with host communities. Women have been forced to walk far into the bush to fetch wood, exposing themselves to potential attacks. Animals have found it increasingly difficult to feed themselves.

Faced with this ecological and human disaster, UNHCR, together with partners, launched a unique program aimed at reversing deforestation in Minawao and surrounding villages. This approach includes scaling-up tree planting and clean cooking programs, investing in solar energy systems, and reducing plastic waste.

“The trees bring us a lot,” says Lydia, a Nigerian refugee who manages a tree nursery. “First, they provide the shade necessary to grow food. Then, the dead leaves and branches can be turned into a fertilizer for cultivating. Finally, the forest attracts and retains water,” she explains, with a sparkle in her eyes.

*Photo portraying UNHCR's environmental programs in Cameroon*



## Building better futures

People forced to flee need support to restart their lives and build a better future for themselves, their families, and their communities. With you by our side, UNHCR works hard to find durable solutions that allow refugees to take back control of their stories in safety and dignity.







## Improving Therese's\* self-reliance

**Therese\* draws a small crowd as she kneels before the broken-down engine of a truck parked near her house in the outskirts of Kananga, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Her neighbors listen in amazement as she carefully assesses the extent of the damage, explaining what repairs are needed.**

While the 47-year-old may appear out of place in the traditionally male-dominated field of auto mechanics, it was in a mechanic's garage that she first found hope again after surviving a brutal sexual assault.

In 2017, violent clashes between armed groups engulfed Therese's hometown of Luebo. After her husband was killed and her house set ablaze, she escaped into the forest with her 10 children. But her nightmare was just beginning. In the jungle, she and her daughter were violently attacked by armed men, and her two youngest children died of starvation.

When the family finally made it out of the bush and into Kananga three weeks later, Therese was so heavily traumatized and isolated by stigma that she was unable to support herself and her remaining children.

But hope finally came in the form of vocational training activities sponsored by UNHCR, made possible by your support. The program, implemented with the help of our partners, provides survivors like Therese with psychosocial care and training in traditionally male-dominated sectors such as auto mechanics, electronics, and information technology. After completing their coursework, women leave with the necessary skills to support their families while also challenging gender stereotypes. Their communities, in turn, benefit from their new skillsets and expertise.

After almost eight months of training, Therese is now able to drive a car, and knows how to dismantle and repair engines, tires, and brakes. Today, she has renewed self-confidence and can look to the future with hope again. She is waiting to start working at a new garage, which will open in the coming months with support from UNHCR.

"I learned a profession which I really love. It will allow me to be independent and take care of my family."

*\*Name changed for protection reasons*

# Your support in 2021

## Our campaigns



### Aiming higher

Education is the key to a brighter future for individuals and their communities. Yet thousands of refugees and displaced and stateless people still face incredible challenges in accessing higher education and fulfilling their potential.

With the help of caring supporters like you, UNHCR is making a difference. Thanks to our wonderful donors, the Aiming Higher Campaign has raised US\$7.5 million for the UNHCR Refugee Scholarship Program, which will fund the higher education of 586 smart and dedicated young refugee scholars in all six continents.

Through your generosity, we are closer to fulfilling our vision of a future where all refugees can become self-reliant and provide positive, sustainable contributions to the communities that host them.



## Ramadan Campaign

Ramadan is a time of celebration for the Islamic world. During this holy month, Muslim families around the globe come together to observe a period of reflection, community, and charity.

In 2021, thousands of people honored this special month's spirit of solidarity and generosity by helping families forced to flee their homes. With our supporters' caring donations, this year's Ramadan campaign raised US\$10.6 million to provide life-saving assistance to 58,000 displaced persons for a full year. Families in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Mauritania, Mali, Syria, Yemen, and Bangladesh have received much-needed support, thanks to the amazing contribution of donors like you.



## The Winter Campaign

The freezing temperatures and harsh weather that mark the winter months are incredibly challenging for people who have been forced to flee their homes. Without proper shelter, warm clothing, money for heating, and access to medicine, displaced families struggle to survive the cold.

During this time of the year, your support is more valuable than ever – and you have shown up for those in need. Thanks to the kindness and generosity of donors like you, in 2021 UNHCR raised over US\$17.5 million to help refugee families in Afghanistan, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, and Iraq, so they can stay warm and healthy in the cold months.

# Key figures at a glance

## Your funds in action

If you had to leave your home with no warning, faced with looming danger, what would you take with you?

People who are forced to flee their homes often have no time to grab important belongings. Vital items like medication, glasses, birth certificates or other identity documents, diplomas, and precious possessions – photo albums, favorite toys, sentimental heirlooms – may be left behind in the rush to find safety.

Most people forced to flee leave with few belongings,

carried in makeshift bags or stuffed in pockets – some, having to carry children or elderly relatives to safety, are unable to take anything at all. Many arrive at their destinations after long and dangerous journeys with nothing more than the clothes on their backs.

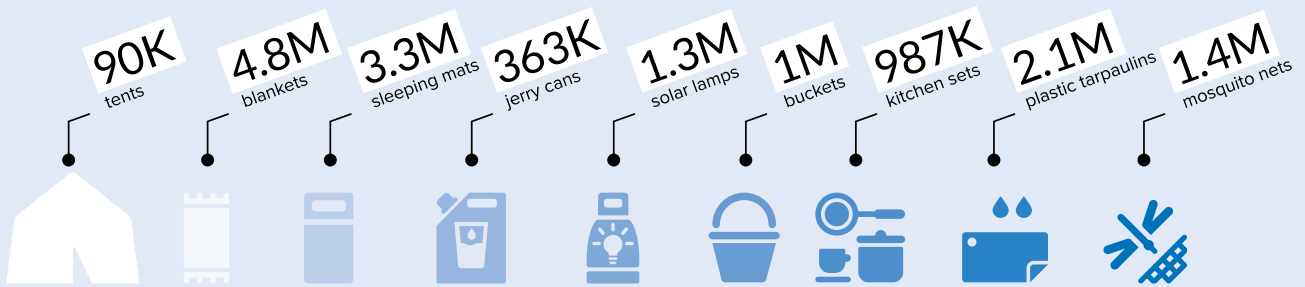
That means that when they finally reach safety, they need basic supplies, like blankets to keep warm, tents to protect their families from the elements, or jerry cans to store clean water.

And that’s where UNHCR comes in.

With caring donors like you by our side, we are able to keep warehouses fully stocked so that when an emergency hits, we can act fast and quickly deliver life-saving assistance.

In 2021, our teams shipped millions of essential supplies from our global warehouses and through our partners to new emergencies and ongoing operations around the world, to support up to 35.5 million people.

**These items include:**



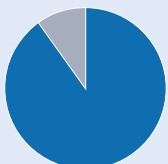
## UNHCR in action



**UNHCR is present in over 130 countries and territories worldwide,** responding to needs in hundreds of places, from bustling cities to remote villages.



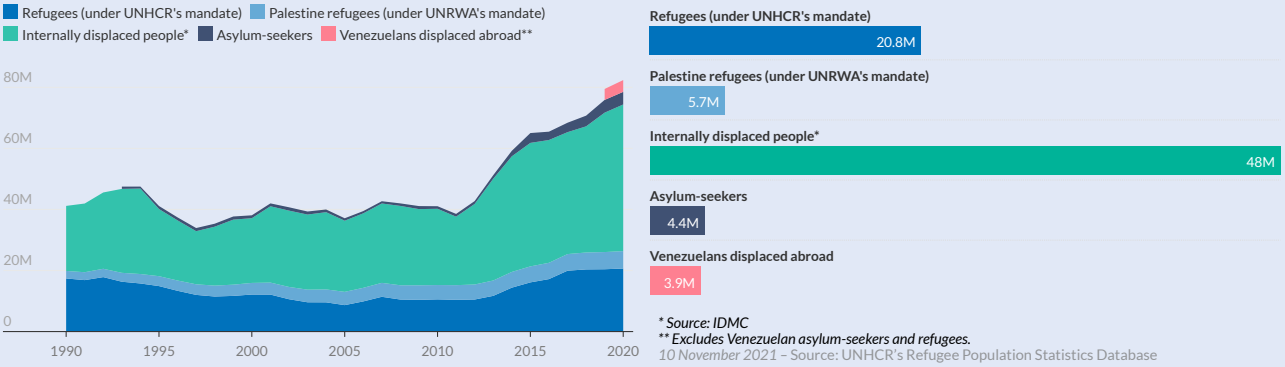
**Within 72 hours of an emergency, UNHCR can launch an emergency operation,** thanks to our global network of suppliers, specialist agencies, and partners. We also keep experts ready to deploy at a moment’s notice.



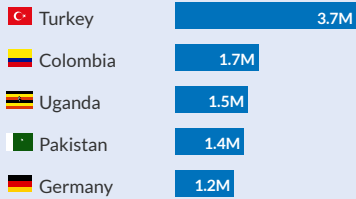
**Over 90% of our more than 18,000 staff are based in the field** – often in far-flung or hazardous locations – in direct contact with people in need.

# The challenge in numbers

There are **84 million** forcibly displaced people worldwide

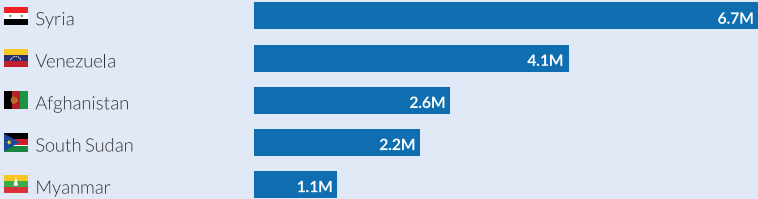


**39% are hosted in five countries\***  
 includes Venezuelans displaced abroad:



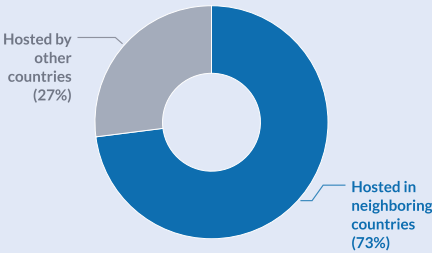
\*Excludes Palestinian refugees under UNRWA's mandate and includes Venezuelans displaced abroad.  
 10 November 2021 – Source: UNHCR's Refugee Population Statistics Database

**68% of people displaced across borders originate from just five countries\***



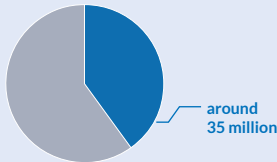
\*Excludes Palestinian refugees under UNRWA's mandate and includes Venezuelans displaced abroad.  
 10 November 2021 – Source: UNHCR's Refugee Population Statistics Database

**73% are hosted in neighboring countries**  
 Most refugees and Venezuelans displaced abroad live in countries neighboring their countries of origin.



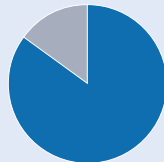
10 November 2021  
 Source: UNHCR's Refugee Population Statistics Database

**42% are children**  
 (as of Dec 2020)



**4.3 million people are stateless**  
 (as of mid-2021)

**85% are hosted in developing countries**  
 (as of mid-2021)



**90% of refugees and 70% of internally displaced persons come from areas on the frontlines of the climate emergency** (as of 2021)



