UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

UNHCR PROJECTED 2018 GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

23rd Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement

GENEVA
12-14 June 2017

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GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS

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Cover Photo: Eritrean refugee girl in Aysaita, Ethiopia.
She is part of an 11-member family, one of whom is a survivor of violence and torture. The family has chosen to live in town rather than the camp.
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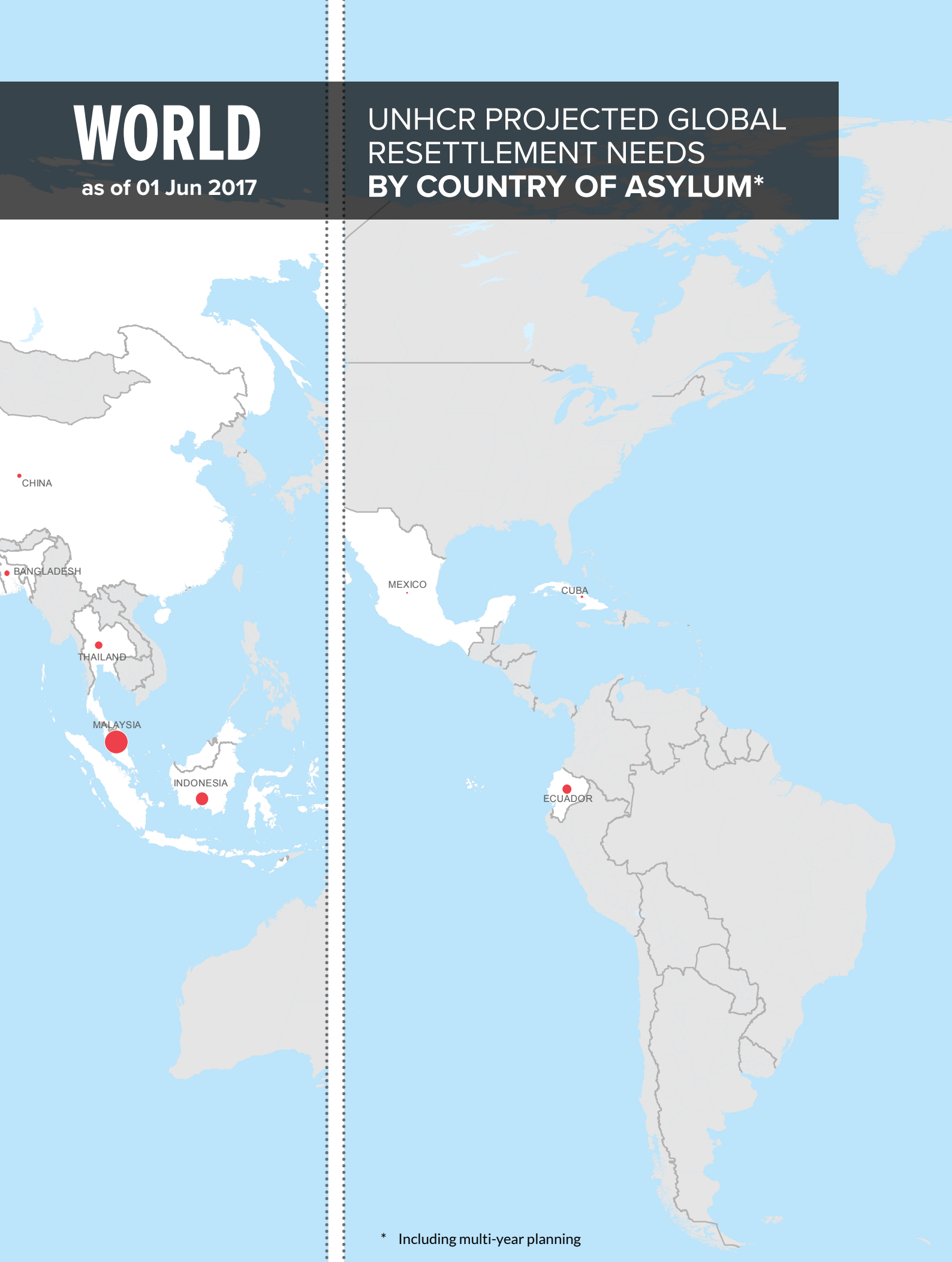
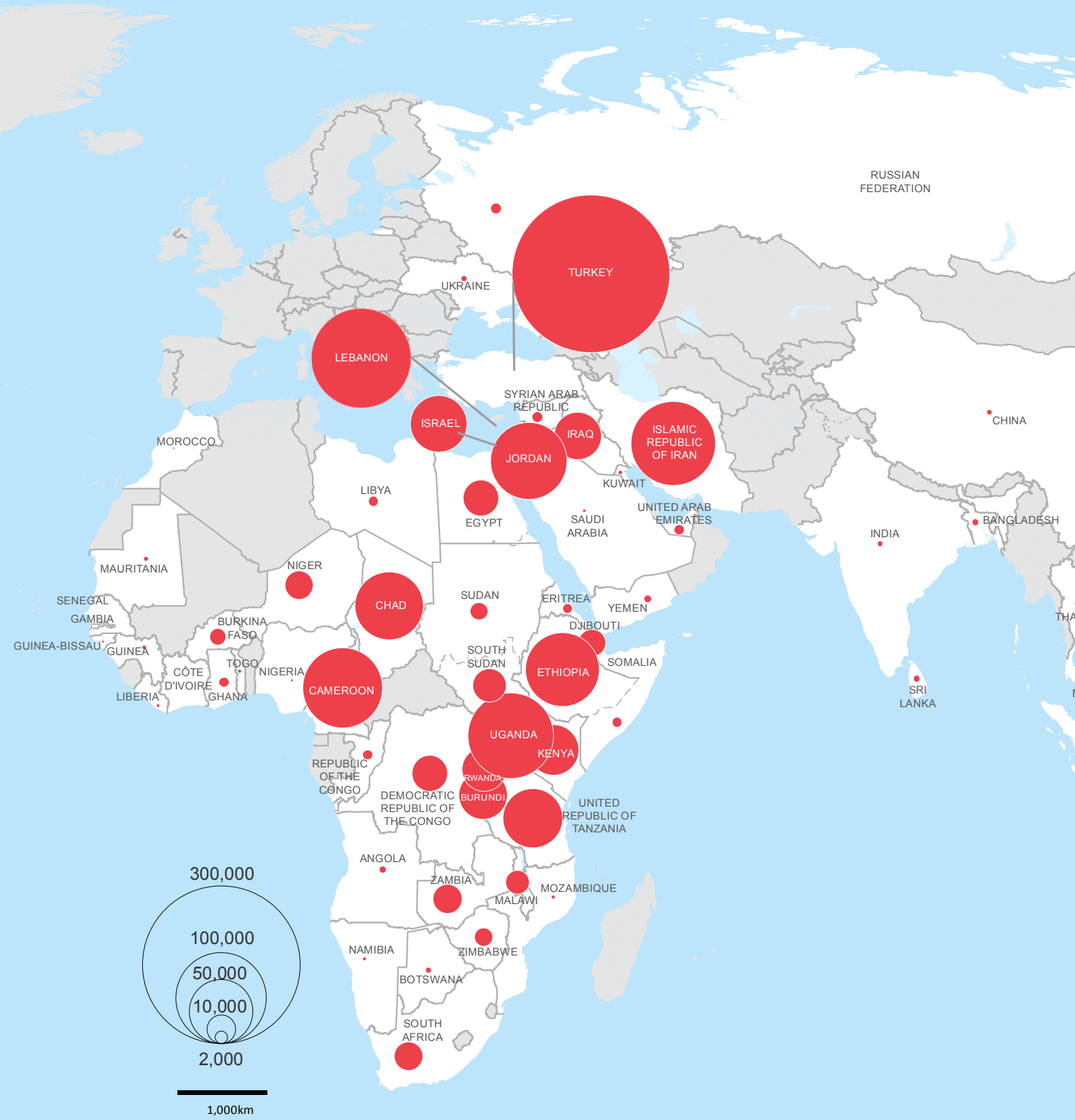
WORLD

as of 01 Jun 2017

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.

Printing date: 01 Jun 2017

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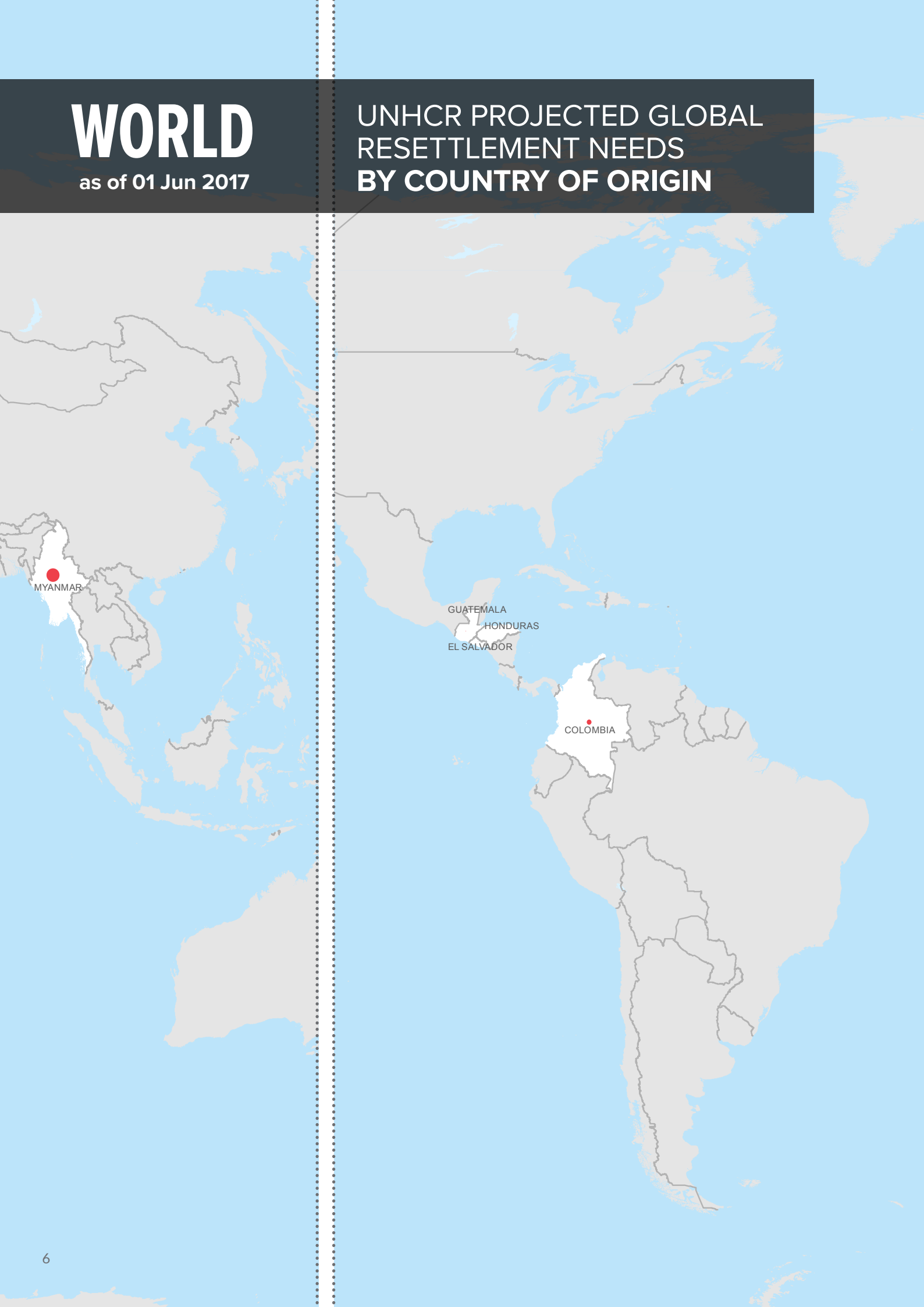
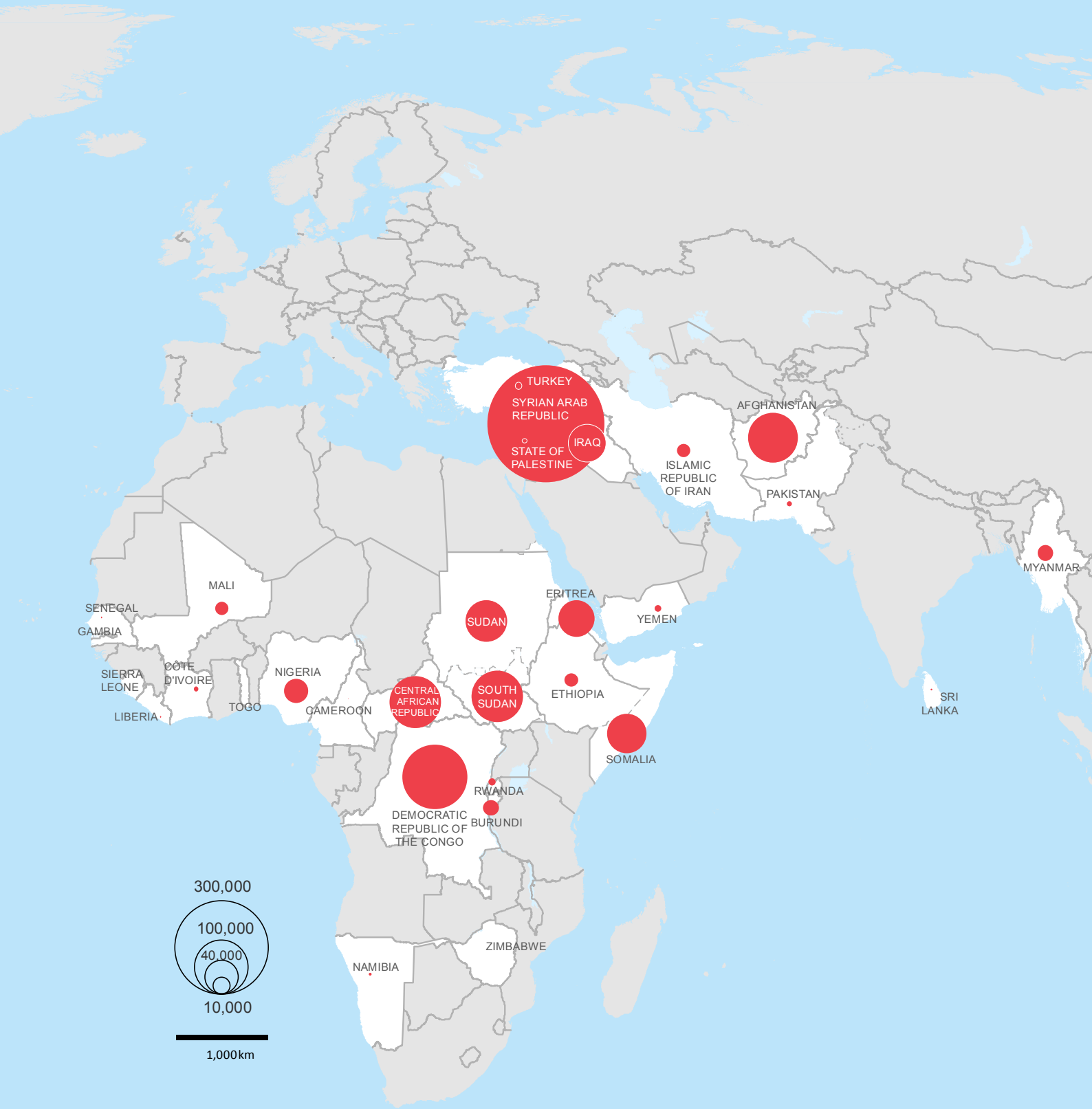
WORLD

as of 01 Jun 2017

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS **BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**





UNHCR's estimated total resettlement needs

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Introduction

Malta. On board the Phoenix. Refugees wrapped in blankets recover on board the Phoenix rescue boat. On 24 November 2016, the Phoenix rescue vessel, belonging to Migrant Offshore Aid Station (MOAS) intercepted an inflatable vessel carrying 146 refugees and migrants who had travelled from West African countries to Libya, and attempted to cross the sea to Europe. Their boat was seriously overloaded and in danger of sinking, four hours into their dangerous sea voyage from the port of Sabratha, on Libya's northern coastline. In 2016, more than 5,000 people died attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea. © UNHCR / G. Carotenuto / November 2016

"It is our aim to provide resettlement places and other legal pathways for admission on a scale that would enable the annual resettlement needs identified by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to be met."[1]

New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (2016)

Current levels of global forced displacement remain at unprecedented levels and as a result, resettlement continues to gain global attention as the search for protection and solutions for refugees is more urgent and challenging than ever before. Opportunities for voluntary repatriation and local integration of refugees in the current global landscape are increasingly limited, making resettlement an even more important tool for protection and for finding solutions for some of the world's most vulnerable refugees. Resettlement also serves as a tangible way to show solidarity and responsibility sharing with States hosting large numbers of refugees.

In this context, this 2018 Projected Global Resettlement Needs sets out in its detailed regional and country chapters information on the close to 1.2 million refugees identified as needing access to this key durable solution in the coming year. The total is slightly above 2017 levels and reflects needs from 63 countries of asylum, from both protracted and more recent refugee situations. It captures the need to continue efforts to assist refugees in the Middle East, with an ongoing focus on Syrians, while also bringing the spotlight to the much-overlooked refugee populations in Africa, some of whom are choosing to move onwards, including through the Central Mediterranean.

The need for greater solidarity and responsibility sharing to protect and assist refugees was recognized and addressed at the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants in September 2016[2]. The commitments made during the Summit, endorsed by 193 Member States, are known as the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (The New York Declaration). In the New York Declaration, and the annexed Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), States committed, among other objectives, to work towards increasing resettlement places and other legal pathways for admission of refugees on a scale that would match the annual resettlement needs identified by UNHCR. The practical application of the CRRF will inform the preparation of a Global Compact on Refugees for adoption in 2018.

[1] UN General Assembly, New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants: resolution /adopted by the General Assembly, 3 October 2016, A/RES/71/1, available at: http://www.refworld.org/docid/57ceb74a4.html

[2] United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants, 19 September 2016

2016 marked a ground-breaking year with UNHCR submissions of refugees for resettlement reaching a 20-year high with more than 162,500 refugees referred for resettlement and over 125,800 departing to rebuild their lives in safety. At the same time, there was a broadening and diversification of resettlement States with 37 States currently engaged in resettlement programming. In 2017, however, the global resettlement landscape has been characterized by fluctuations in state quotas resulting in a global net decrease in resettlement places available. This has been accompanied by increased scrutiny of resettlement by States as a result of heightened attention to national security and politicization of migration and refugee flows.

This Chapter first sets out estimated global resettlement needs and priorities for 2018, based on planning figures provided by UNHCR field offices around the world. This is followed by statistical updates for 2016, 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 for 2017-2018, summarizing initiatives, partnerships and frameworks to support the delivery of the global resettlement programme.

Projected Global Resettlement Needs in 2018

In 2018, UNHCR estimates the global resettlement needs to be close to 1.2 million persons including resettlement needs of refugees in a protracted situation where resettlement is envisioned over a period of several years. This figure remains stable vis-à-vis the previous year where needs amounted to approximately 1.19 million persons (less than 1 per cent increase). However, this global total includes some regional variances from last year.

Syrian refugees represent for a second consecutive year, 40 per cent of global resettlement needs, followed by refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (12 per cent), and the Central African Republic (8 per cent).

Africa remains the region with the highest projected resettlement needs with an estimated **510,676 refugees** in need of resettlement from 34 different countries of asylum. This marks a 16 per cent increase from the previous year. These needs reflect refugees from more recent emergency situations including the Central African Republic, Mali and South Sudan as well as those in protracted situations including Eritreans in Sudan and the Congolese.

The needs in Europe remain largely similar to those in 2017. Some **302,000 persons** are projected to be in need of resettlement in 2018, which reflects only a nominal decrease from the 2017 figure of 306,950 (less than 2 per cent decrease). Over 90 per cent of these needs are represented by Syrian refugees in Turkey.

Resettlement needs in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region are projected to be at **279,855 persons** which is in line with figures in 2017 and includes 201,970 Syrians. When combined with Turkey, approximately 10 per cent of the Syrian refugee population (which now totals 5 million) are in need of resettlement which, amounts to a total of 478,170 Syrians in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. In MENA, UNHCR is also urgently advocating for an increased and diversified resettlement quota from States to address the needs of the most vulnerable refugees from Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, and Eritrea as well as Palestinian refugees.

Resettlement needs for Asia in 2018 stand at **100,988 persons**, which represents a decrease of 34.1 per cent from 2017. This is in line with the downward trend observed since the completion of group processing in Thailand and Nepal.

The total projected resettlement needs for the Americas region in 2018, is 1,830 persons which shows a substantial decrease from 2017 (7,773). In this region UNHCR continues to see resettlement largely as a protection tool that focuses on specific profiles and complements local integration efforts.

To address these vast needs, in the context of the limited places available for resettlement globally, UNHCR will prioritize those most in need including where the protection risks are greatest. While the majority of refugees experience increased vulnerability as a result of changes to socio-economic and other circumstances in flight and in the country of asylum, specific groups of refugees experience acutely heightened protection risks in the country of asylum due to their age, gender, race, medical conditions, amongst others. For some of these refugees, resettlement may be the only means by which they will ever be able to live full and meaningful lives. For others within these groups, resettlement may be the sole durable solution that can provide adequate protection to ensure their survival. Children, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) refugees as well as detainees are examples of such groups for whom resettlement may play such a role.

The following table provides the global resettlement needs. As in previous years, operations have applied a standard methodology to estimate their resettlement needs.[3]

[3] See Annex 1.

UNHCR PROJECTED GLOBAL RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018 BY REGION OF REFUGEES' COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

A. Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs	
	Cases	Persons
Africa	147,896	510,676
Asia & the Pacific	23,876	100,988
Europe	81,497	302,000
Middle East and North Africa	97,427	279,855
The Americas	755	1,830
Grand Total	351,451	1,195,349

Achievements in 2016

An estimated 1.19 million persons were projected to be in need of resettlement in 2016. Against this need, UNHCR submitted 162,600 refugees for resettlement – an increase from 134,000 in 2015, and from 74,800 submissions in 2012. This represents an increase by 21 per cent compared to 2015 and more than a doubling of resettlement submissions since 2012. In total, over 125,800 refugees were able to depart and start a new life through resettlement in 2016.

The deteriorating situation in Syria and the increased movement of refugees and migrants to Europe in 2015 and 2016 generated new visibility and attention to the plight of refugees and the need for States to share responsibility and offer safe and legal pathways for refugees to receive protection outside the first country of asylum. A number of States responded by offering more resettlement places in 2016, including the United States, France, the United Kingdom and Sweden. Additionally, a number of States, particularly in Europe, established new resettlement programmes. New States were to a large extent encouraged to engage in resettlement through a series of initiatives at the European Union level, where work is ongoing on establishing a Union Resettlement Framework to provide a common approach to safe and legal arrival of persons in need of international protection in the European Union. Other States, including Argentina and Brazil, made fresh commitments to the resettlement of Syrians in the context of the Leaders' Summit on Refugees[4] hosted by the United States on 20 September 2016.

In response, UNHCR significantly scaled up its resettlement activities during 2016. In February 2016, in an effort to meet increased global resettlement quotas, UNHCR launched a Supplementary Appeal for Strengthening Refugee Resettlement and other Pathways to Admission and Solutions (the Supplementary Appeal). Donor contributions enabled UNHCR to expand its workforce with close to 200 additional staff and deployees working across a range of resettlement and complementary pathways related functions, predominantly in the field in MENA and Africa.

The majority of resettlement submissions were processed by UNHCR offices in the MENA region with over 67,400 submissions (41 per cent), followed by Africa with 44,000 (27 per cent), Europe 29,200 (18 per cent), Asia and Pacific 20,700 (13 per cent) and the Americas 1,300 (<1 per cent). A third of all cases referred in 2016 fell under the Legal and Physical Protection Needs category, followed by Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (29 per cent), Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (19 per cent) and Women and Girls at Risk (10 per cent). In terms of urgency of resettlement cases, less than 1 per cent (194) were deemed an "emergency priority", requiring evacuation in 72 hours, often with support by States hosting emergency transit facilities. About 6 per cent (2,700 cases) were considered "urgent priority" needing removal within weeks.

Syrians continued to be the largest refugee group benefitting from resettlement in 2016, with more than 77,200 Syrians submitted to States, compared to 53,300 in 2015. Between 2013 and 2016, UNHCR has submitted close to 157,000 Syrians to resettlement states, of which the majority went to the United States (39 per cent) and Canada (24 per cent). The Democratic Republic of the Congo was the second highest country of origin for resettlement, with more than 22,800 refugees referred in 2016, mainly to the United States. Since the launch of the multi-year sub-regional initiative for the "Enhanced resettlement of Congolese" programme in 2012, over 80,000 Congolese have been submitted by UNHCR for resettlement. Other top countries of origin in 2016 included Iraq (12,800), Somalia (10,500), Myanmar (10,100), Sudan (5,400) and Bhutan (5,400).

The main countries for UNHCR refugee referrals were the United States (107,600) with 66 per cent of all submissions, followed by Canada (19,800), the United Kingdom (8,800), France (4,600), Australia (4,800) and Norway (3,700).

[4] The Leaders' Summit on Refugees was held on 20 September 2016 on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for Migrants and Refugees in New York.

Supporting Resettlement Delivery

Integrity

Against the backdrop of an expansion of resettlement processing in 2016, maintaining high standards of integrity in resettlement processing and increasing UNHCR's capacity to prevent, detect and address fraud by persons of concern remained a top priority. Strengthened registration and identity management processes are central to UNHCR's operational activities, and are increasingly recognized as fundamental to resettlement processing.

In the area of operational support, the Resettlement Service[5] continued to focus on providing practical support to resettlement operations in the field on reducing vulnerabilities to fraud. In addition to advice provided to individual operations including on operational oversight, fraud prevention measures and individual fraud investigations, four multifunctional technical support missions took place in 2016. These missions, which went to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, Cameroon, Pakistan and Ecuador, assessed and recommended measures for strengthening case processing systems and oversight, thereby reducing the operations' fraud vulnerability.

With respect to identity management, UNHCR has used biometrics since 2002 and currently has two primary biometric systems in operation: BIMS (Biometric Identity Management System) and IrisGuard[6]. In resettlement processes, biometric enrolment guards against substitution or identity fraud and ensures that only protection and durable solutions are accessed by the rightful beneficiaries. As refugees are often registered with biometrics years in advance of consideration for resettlement, this provides additional assurance that only the individuals originally registered are able to progress through each step of the process, including eventual departure to the resettlement country.

UNHCR will continue to expand its biometric coverage, with BIMS deployments ongoing throughout 2017. UNHCR plans to double its deployment capacity in 2018, bringing a further 20 operations online during the year. As part of its commitment to the Grand Bargain[7], UNHCR aims to reach a target of 75 operations using biometric registration by 2020. UNHCR has committed to partner with States to develop processes for the secure sharing of biometric data when making resettlement referrals, and for providing access to biometric identity verification by UNHCR systems in the course of resettlement processing.

Resettlement Innovation Project

Building on the progress made in the last two years to develop more streamlined and expedited processing modalities, UNHCR is moving forward with a project to more systematically explore innovative ideas and modalities in the resettlement process. The purpose of this project is to ensure that the UNHCR process is efficient, robust and fit-for-purpose, thereby strengthening the credibility and efficiency of resettlement as a tool for protection. Strengthening of resettlement processes will be particularly important in the context of CRRF implementation and movement towards the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees in 2018.

UNHCR will conduct an end-to-end review of the resettlement process and use a more evidence-based approach to design an optimal process that focuses on UNHCR's added value and reduces overlaps and redundancies in the process, while maintaining high quality and integrity. The comprehensive review of the resettlement process with recommendations for improvements is expected to be completed by fall 2017, after which consultations, piloting and broader implementation will take place throughout 2018.

Data Sharing

In order to increase transparency and the evidence base of resettlement activities, UNHCR has developed a new public resettlement data portal (www.unhcr.org/resettlement-data.html). The portal, which went live in early 2017, provides detailed resettlement statistics at a higher frequency than before and also includes historical resettlement data going back to 2003.

Training

Training programmes which concern both resettlement and other broader protection activities were identified as strategically important in light of growing resettlement quotas and evolving efforts to streamline procedures. With supplementary funding, during the course of 2016, UNHCR was able to substantially revitalize resettlement training through the design and the roll out of new and revised resettlement learning tools and trainings for UNHCR and affiliate workforce staff. These were delivered through a range of innovative training methods including Resettlement Learning Programmes, on-the-job learning workshops and thematic webinars on targeted topics within the resettlement context: Writing Effective Resettlement Registration Forms, Exclusion, Country of Origin

[5] The Resettlement Service is a section within the Department of International Protection in UNHCR headquarters in Geneva, which is focused on providing operational guidance and support globally to UNHCR field operations engaged in resettlement activities.

[6] Currently, BIMS is operational in 27 countries and holds 1.4 million enrolments while IrisGuard is operational in 5 countries in the Middle East region, and holds over 2 million enrolments

[7] The Grand Bargain is an agreement established during the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit between more than 30 of the biggest donors and aid providers, which aims to make humanitarian financing and response more efficient and effective.

Research, Resettlement Assessment Tools, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), Best Interests Assessments /Best Interests Determination, Integrity and Registration/Identity Management. More than 800 staff and affiliate workforce from MENA, Turkey and Africa participated in these training activities, representing functions across resettlement, protection, registration and Refugee Status Determination.

Capacity Building of New and Emerging Resettlement States and New Programmes

A new vehicle for the delivery of capacity-building support for new and emerging resettlement countries is the Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism (ERCM), a joint global platform led by UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) designed to facilitate and channel financial and technical support. Launched at the Leaders' Summit on Refugees in September 2016, the ERCM's objective is to enable more resettlement opportunities for refugees, as well as to foster responsibility sharing towards finding durable solutions for refugees. In 2017, the ERCM has initiated support to a number of countries to strengthen their respective resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes, linking to other relevant initiatives on private sponsorship programmes as a means of ensuring the sustainability of these programmes and optimizing integration outcomes.

Furthermore, as resettlement to Europe has expanded, particularly in light of the proposed Union Framework for Resettlement proposed by the European Commission in 2016, continued engagement and support to new and emerging resettlement states is key to ensure the sustainability of programmes and the best possible protection outcome for the refugees concerned. An important vehicle for this engagement is through the EU-FRANK project: Facilitating resettlement and Refugee Admission through New Knowledge, which aims to provide operational support to EU Member States in the field of resettlement in order to improve resettlement programmes and outcomes.

The second new initiative arising from the Leaders' Summit was the Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative (GRSI) – a partnership between the government of Canada, the Open Society Foundation, UNHCR, University of Ottawa and the Radcliffe Foundation – which seeks to promote and support the establishment of private/community sponsorship resettlement programmes for refugees to complement government supported resettlement programmes. In addition to providing increased opportunities for protection and durable solutions for refugees, these sponsorship programmes strengthen the engagement of communities and civil society in refugee support, create a more welcoming environment for refugees and build more diverse and inclusive societies.

Partnership and Coordination

A number of context-specific core or contact groups on resettlement under the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) remained active throughout 2016-17. The Syria Core Group met four times under Norwegian chairmanship from April 2016 to March 2017, bringing together experts from 24 member States, six observer States, the European Union, the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), IOM and UNHCR. The group continued to play an important role in mobilizing support for the resettlement of Syrian refugees, capacity building for States and dialogue with host states on resettlement. In addition, resettlement actors engaged in three important Working Groups on Resettlement, sharing experiences and practice on integration, integrity and anti-fraud as well as initiatives to expand and strengthen resettlement efforts.

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 2016, in line with upscaling efforts, the Global Resettlement Deployment Scheme was the largest it has ever been, with deployments carried out globally through the International Catholic Migration Commission and the Danish Refugee Council, through RefugePoint mostly in Africa, and through the International Refugee Assistance Project in the MENA region. Deployees under the Global Resettlement Deployment Scheme have also been involved in trainings on topics ranging from identifying refugees in need of resettlement to child-friendly interviewing techniques.

Emergency Resettlement and use of Emergency Transit Facilities

Wherever possible, cases involving refugees with emergency or urgent resettlement needs should be processed expeditiously, and resettled directly to their destination country. In 2016, 7,657 individuals were submitted for resettlement under urgent priority, representing about 5 per cent of the overall submission number of 162,575, and a decrease from the 2015 figure (14,727). Some 536 individuals, or less than 1 per cent of the overall figure of 162,575, were submitted under the emergency priority, almost identical to the figure in 2015 (548).

In 2016, 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 the case processing of refugee populations not accessible to resettlement states. During last year, 653 refugees departed for resettlement from the ETFs in the Philippines, Romania and Slovakia. In 2018, UNHCR will continue to seek State collaboration

to address the challenges of long processing times and refusals of preliminary-approved cases evacuated to the ETFs.

Strategic Direction of Resettlement in 2018

In the current complex refugee context, resettlement continues to be a a critical protection and solutions tool for many vulnerable refugees whose protection needs cannot otherwise be met, as well as a tangible mechanism for responsibility sharing among States. This was confirmed in the New York Declaration in the specific commitment made by States to scale up and increase global resettlement opportunities as well as pursue complementary pathways. Despite this positive momentum, there remains a growing gap between global resettlement needs and the available quotas.

Against this backdrop, UNHCR will continue to prioritize efforts to support the important commitments made by States on the shared pursuit of increased protection and solutions for refugees. UNHCR will do this by strategically working in several areas:

1. Ensure coherent, strategic and quality resettlement responses to new and protracted situations

UNHCR, in collaboration with resettlement states and other stakeholders, will work to ensure that resettlement programmes are **flexible, responsive, anchored in UNHCR protection and solutions strategies** and are premised on predictable engagement, prioritizing multi-year commitments.

Through the implementation of the Resettlement Innovation Project, UNHCR will also seek out innovative approaches and harness new developments to increase the **quality of the resettlement process** worldwide. After resettlement has been identified as the most effective response for a particular displacement situation, it is vital that the process itself is efficient, robust and fit-for-purpose. The objective is to ensure the credibility and efficiency of resettlement as a tool for protection and solutions.

In coordination with resettlement states, other interested States, NGOs and other stakeholders, and as part of the work of the ATCR, UNHCR will continue to bolster the **integrity of the resettlement process** through: promoting the use of innovative technologies, including biometrics, as additional safeguards to strengthen the integrity of the resettlement process; developing modes of secure sharing of biometric data with governments; and ongoing oversight and technical support and training of field colleagues.

2. Expand and strengthen resettlement through new partnerships and new approaches

UNHCR will continue to advocate for an **increase in global resettlement programmes** so that global places start to align with the commitments outlined in the New York Declaration. Through the ERCM, UNHCR in coordination with IOM will continue to enable new and emerging resettlement countries to develop sustainable and quality programmes.

In close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including States, private sector and civil society, UNHCR will support frameworks to allow **for private/community sponsorship resettlement programmes** for refugees that are complementary and additional to regular resettlement.

3. Advocate and strengthen complementary pathways to create additional opportunities for solutions

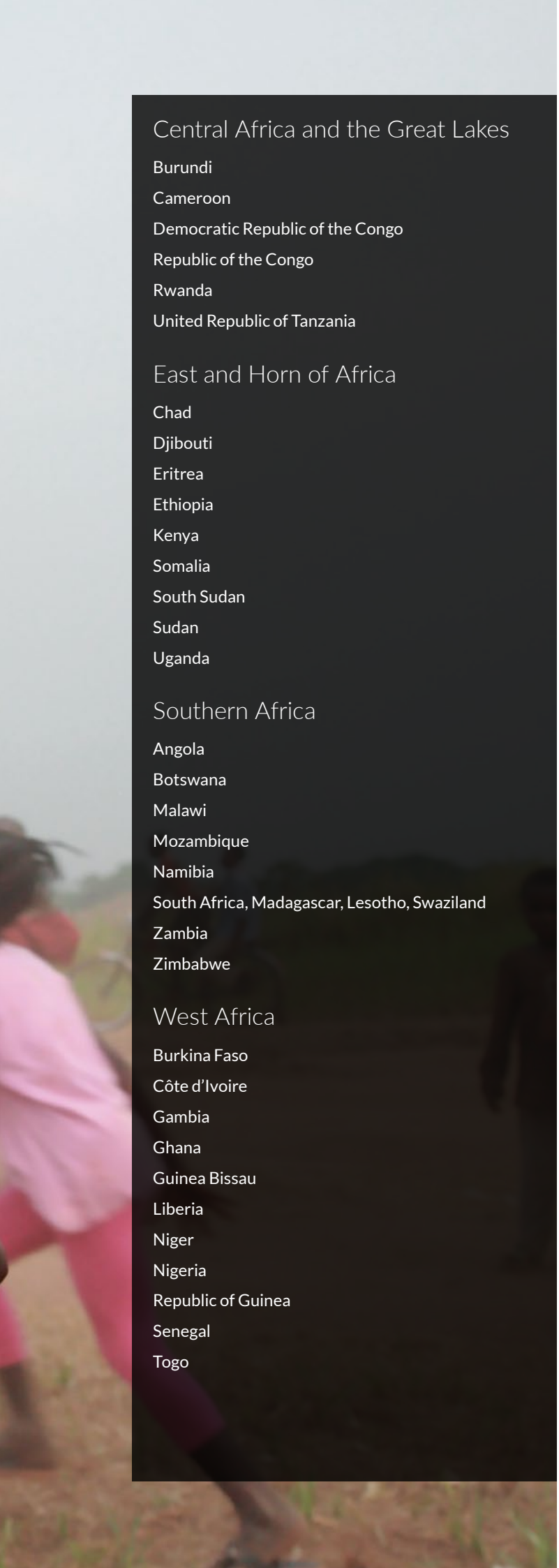
In parallel with increased global resettlement, UNHCR will continue to advocate for the **establishment and expansion of complementary pathways** to protection and solutions for refugees in collaboration with States and other partners. UNHCR will focus on advancing data and analysis for a stronger evidence base on pathways for admission, working with countries and relevant stakeholders to facilitate access to and build the conditions necessary to establish complementary pathways for refugees; and facilitating the take-up of opportunities for longer term solutions where available in host countries of asylum and in countries of destination. UNHCR is developing a framework on complementary pathways, as well as guidance tools for States, refugees, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders.

Resettlement continues to be a critical solution for some of the world's most vulnerable refugees. Its strategic use, within the context of a broader commitment to refugee support, as set out in the CRRF, should continue to be the shared pursuit of the international community. The needs, as set out in this publication for 2018 are clear. Collectively, there is the potential to close the gap through increased, flexible and protection-centred quotas from a more diverse group of States. We seek your support and contribution to this effort.

Hamza, Asma and their daughter Lajay, 3, walk to catch a bus after a community event at St Ethelwold's B&B, in Abingdon, United Kingdom. Shaker and his family arrived in the UK in December 2016. At the morning event in a local B&B refugees and local residents get to meet in a relaxed, friendly environment. © UNHCR / A. McConnell / March 2017

Africa

A young refugee shows the results of the writing exercise she had at school, in Inke refugee camp (near Gbadolite, Nord Ubangi Province, DR Congo), on 8 February 2016. More than 20,000 refugees from the Central African Republic live in this camp. © UNHCR / A. Kirchhof / February 2016



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
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Kenya
Somalia
South Sudan
Sudan
Uganda

Southern Africa

Angola
Botswana
Malawi
Mozambique
Namibia
South Africa, Madagascar, Lesotho, Swaziland
Zambia
Zimbabwe

West Africa

Burkina Faso
Côte d'Ivoire
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea Bissau
Liberia
Niger
Nigeria
Republic of Guinea
Senegal
Togo

Resettlement continues to provide a durable solution for vulnerable refugees in sub-Saharan Africa (Africa) without prospects for local integration or voluntary return, including those who have been living in protracted refugee situations, many for over 20 years. Resettlement submissions and departures from Africa have grown significantly over the last five years – an increase by 180 and 243 per cent respectively. Resettlement has served as an important responsibility sharing and protection tool, which has had a favorable impact on asylum space in many hosting countries. Despite this positive trend, the effort has been made by a very limited number of resettlement states and a drop in quotas available in 2017, and expected in 2018, will have a serious impact on the ability to submit new cases. At the same time, the difficult environment for refugees in Africa in host countries, exacerbated by new emergencies, continues to contribute to high levels of vulnerability.

The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) provides new impetus to strive towards increased protection space, assistance and durable solutions for many refugees in Africa with a view towards improving asylum conditions, and enhancing local solutions and self-reliance of refugees. The ability to realize the important commitments made by States in the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants would in part need to be achieved through much-needed increased resettlement quotas from a more diverse group of resettlement states; efforts to explore the potential for complementary pathways for refugees in Africa; and increased responsiveness including through adopting dossier submissions and video-conferencing for difficult to access refugee groups.

Trends in 2016

In 2016, UNHCR made a total of 43,978 resettlement submissions from Africa compared to 15,710 submissions in 2012.[1] Total submissions from 2012 to 2016 amount to 161,779 refugees. In 2016, a total of 38,925 refugees departed for their resettlement country compared to 11,342 departures in 2012.[2]

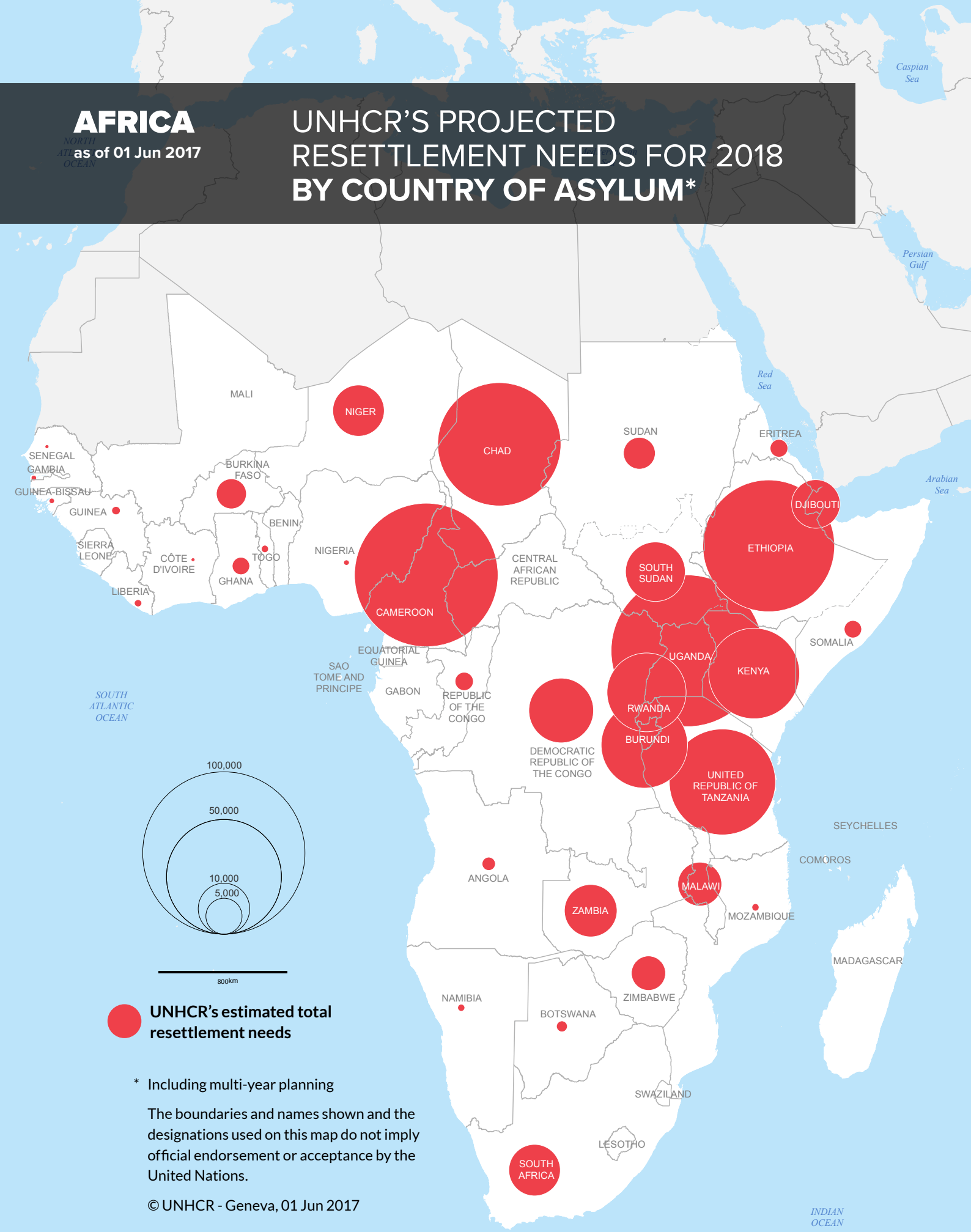
In 2016, resettlement submissions were made from multiple UNHCR field offices in 34 asylum countries in Africa. Refugees submitted for resettlement originated from more than 29 countries with 52 per cent from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) followed by 22 per cent from Somalia, 7 per cent from Eritrea, and 6 per cent from Sudan.

[1] 38,870 resettlement submissions in 2015, 35,079 submissions in 2014, 28,142 submissions in 2013, 15,710 submissions in 2012

[2] 24,016 resettlement departures in 2015, 19,199 departures in 2014; 14,858 departures in 2013; and 11,342 departures in 2012

AFRICA
as of 01 Jun 2017

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018 **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.

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While submissions were made to 11 different resettlement countries in 2016[3], over 90 per cent of all submissions (39,777 refugees) were made, as in previous years, to the United States which received 39,777 submissions. Canada received 3 per cent of the submissions, Sweden 2 per cent and the United Kingdom 1 per cent. The remainder were received by seven other countries.

The substantial increase of resettlement submissions out of Africa between 2012 and 2016 has been linked first and foremost to the large quota provided by the United States and to the multi-year sub-regional initiative for the enhanced resettlement of Congolese (DRC) from the Great Lakes and Southern Africa region, for which simplified identification mechanisms based on arrival date and area of origin were regionally agreed upon in 2011. Resettlement processing to the United States was further accelerated in the context of group resettlement processes in Rwanda[4] and Tanzania for Congolese refugees, which did not require the standardized resettlement registration forms. As a result, UNHCR was able to submit over 80,100 Congolese refugees between 2012 and 2016.

Regional developments

The protection environment in Africa is influenced by large scale and severely protracted displacement of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as long lasting and ongoing conflict situations resulting in fresh emergencies, e.g. the Central African Republic (CAR), Mali and South Sudan. South Sudanese constitute the highest number of displaced in Africa in 2016 (over 1.8 million refugees).

Throughout 2016, significant onward movement towards Europe took place from several countries, including Eritrea, Somalia, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Chad, Sudan and CAR. People in need of international protection originating from Africa will continue to seek safety in Europe in 2017 and beyond, regardless of the restrictions, including push-backs and other abuses at borders. The Central Mediterranean route has become the primary entry point to Europe for often very vulnerable refugees, including unaccompanied minors and separated children, victims of torture, survivors of sexual abuse, vulnerable women and persons with serious medical conditions or severe injuries acquired during their journeys.

In order to prevent further loss of life and reduce the risks to those who are seeking safety in Europe, legal pathways need to be effectively in place for some refugees to seek protection. Resettlement and other forms of admissions can play a significant role in reducing irregular and dangerous movements, and in offering a credible and safe alternative to some refugees.

Identification of resettlement cases has historically been one of the biggest challenges in sub-Saharan Africa due to inadequate registration data. Identification has improved over the past years following data re-verification exercises in various protracted refugee operations[5] and systematic efforts to involve all relevant staff and partners in strengthening identification mechanisms. Notably, substantial additional human and material resource support to enhance identification and processing, provided by the United States, has been the key to improvement in identification and growth in referrals.

Resettlement processing out of Africa has traditionally been more **resource intensive** than in other regions, not only due to the nature of individual casework, but also due to the logistical challenges caused by the sheer size of the continent and the location of the vast majority of refugee camps and settlements in remote locations far from the capitals. Processing sites close to the refugee population, which have been developed by the United States, e.g. in Kenya (Kakuma), Uganda (Nakivale) and Tanzania (Makere), have alleviated some of these difficulties.

Simplified processing and flexibility is required for refugee populations, which resettlement countries cannot reach for various reasons, be it difficulties in obtaining a visa (Eritrea), submission numbers that are too small to justify a mission (Western Africa and Southern Africa) or an unstable security situation in an emergency context (Somalia, South Sudan, CAR, Burundi, Niger, Nigeria). Some resettlement countries have already adapted and used video conferencing technology in over 23 countries in all parts of Africa. Others have increased their dossier submission quota. Both solutions help address some of these challenges in Africa.

The New York Declaration and the annexed CRRF call for increasing resettlement places and other legal pathways for admission of refugees on a scale that would match the annual resettlement needs identified by UNHCR. Africa's resettlement needs for 2017 stand at **441,523** refugees. Last year during the ATCR, UNHCR had set a target of submitting **55,387** refugees in 2017. Accordingly, it was expected that UNHCR would meet only 12 per cent of the needs against the initial target for 2017. However, resettlement countries have so far only pledged about 7,000 quota places for the whole of sub-Saharan Africa for 2017. To date, no other legal pathways have been offered in a systematic manner to refugees in Africa.

[3] 16 different resettlement countries in 2015

[4] In Rwanda, two P2 Group submissions were approved, one in 2012 and the other in 2016

[5] Data verification exercises were carried out in: Rwanda (2012), Burundi (2013), Uganda (2012, 2013, 2015-2016), Tanzania (2014), Djibouti (2014/2015), Chad (2015), Kenya (2016), Cameroon (2016), Rwanda (2017)

Africa: 2018 Projected Resettlement Needs

Sub-regional developments

UNHCR supports the comprehensive solutions strategies of UNHCR Country Offices through Headquarters and through the Regional Service Centre in Nairobi, as well as the Regional Offices in Pretoria and Dakar. These offices are central submission points for the countries they oversee and provide **oversight, guidance, coordination, monitoring and support** for resettlement activities 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 ensure timely submission to resettlement countries; liaison and advocacy with resettlement countries at regional level, and review of Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs). 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 East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region: Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Kenya is a stand-alone operation.

RSC Nairobi region submitted a total of 35,483 refugees in 2016 (including 7,163 refugees or 20 per cent in Kenya, mainly of Somali, Congolese, Sudanese, South Sudanese origin). From January to April 2017, they have submitted a total of 5,392 refugees.

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

RO Pretoria region submitted a total of 4,283 refugees in 2016 (including 1,207 refugees or 28 per cent in Malawi, mainly of Congolese nationality). From January to April 2017, they have submitted a total of 534 refugees.

The Regional Office in 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, Central African Republic and Chad.

RO Dakar submitted a total of 4,212 refugees in 2016 (including 3,226 refugees or 80 per cent in Chad, mostly from Sudan and CAR). From January to April 2017, they submitted a total of 259 refugees.

A very small percentage of African refugees have been able to access durable solutions in recent years. The implementation of the Ceased Circumstances Cessation Clause for Angolan, Liberian, Rwandan and Sierra Leonean refugees has paved the way for voluntary repatriation or local integration for most among these populations. Otherwise, **voluntary repatriation and local integration** continued to be extremely limited in 2016.

In this context, the total projected **resettlement needs** for Africa in 2018 is **510,676 refugees**[6], which constitutes 9 per cent of the total refugee population in Africa, residing in 37 different countries of asylum in sub-Saharan Africa.

Triage necessity for new submissions

Given the significant quota reduction, and the required triage of vulnerable refugees among the protracted population as well as those in old and new emergency situations, a substantial decline in submissions is expected in 2018 for all populations (as in 2017), unless substantial additional resettlement places are made available by States. Efforts have been undertaken to introduce increased resettlement options for refugees who fled some of the more **recent emergency situations, i.e. from Central African Republic (CAR), Mali and South Sudan**. South Sudanese are currently the largest refugee and displaced population in Africa with over 1.8 million refugees and 1.9 million internally displaced at the end of April 2017[7].

Refugee priority situations

It is hoped that emergency cases, including medical emergencies, will continue to be processed from any asylum country in Africa through the Regional Offices in Dakar, Pretoria and RSC Nairobi.

[6] Compared to 441,523 in 2017

[7] Source: http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php (accessed 31 May 2017)

Sudanese refugee, Adam Yahia, 56, has nine children, four of them are at school back in Djabal camp while five live and work with him in Khourma, a village 50 kilometres away. The family farms groundnuts across seven hectares in partnership with the Chadian host community. © UNHCR / O. Khelifi / October 2016

UNHCR will prioritize the following refugee situations for the submission of refugees in 2017 and 2018:

1. Refugees in CRRF pilot countries: Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda, Djibouti, and Somalia situation / Kenya

UNHCR considers it a priority to support refugee populations in the CRRF pilot countries in view of advancing and contributing to the wider CRRF goals. Supporting resettlement out of these countries not only serves individual protection needs, but is an expression of international solidarity and responsibility sharing with national, regional and local authorities. Multi-year resettlement processing commenced in many of the countries and Governments hosting refugees have made significant pledges during the Leaders' Summit on Refugees on 20 September 2016 to increase protection and solutions for refugees, including self-reliance.

2. Great Lakes enhanced resettlement of Congolese initiative: Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania (latter two are also CRRF countries)

Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania are part of the multi-year Great Lakes enhanced resettlement of Congolese initiative since 2012. The aim of this initiative was to assist in strengthening and widening the protection environment for the remaining refugees and to increase availability of other durable solutions in countries of asylum, in particular through self-reliance. For example, refugees in Uganda obtained freedom of movement and live in settlements where they are provided small plots of land for agriculture, which allows them to be as self-reliant as possible. Tanzania provided citizenship to some 160,000 refugees from Burundi in 2015. In Rwanda, refugees have the right to work, start businesses, continue education and are not subject to an encampment policy. The implementation of a livelihoods strategy, further roll-out of community-based protection structures inspired by and associated to Rwandan social protection structures, and inclusion of refugee children into national education systems are enabling factors towards alternatives to camps and improved self-reliance. Rwanda also made these pledges during the Leaders' summit.

3. Refugees in Sudan

A multi-year resettlement plan of resettling 9,500 protracted Eritrean refugees out of East Sudan was put forward to the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) in 2011 with the aim to contribute to the reduction of perilous onward migration movements and to local solutions for the remaining population. From 2012 until April 2017, only 5,328 Eritrean refugees were submitted from Sudan due to limited quota places offered.

4. Refugees in Chad, Cameroon and Zambia

Many countries, which are not CRRF pilot countries, have nevertheless made sizeable pledges to find solutions for refugees during the Leaders' Summit. For example, both Cameroon and Chad pledged to increase refugees' access to education and documentation. Chad pledged refugees' access to arable land and the adoption of a national refugee law. Zambia pledged to convert camps into settlements with a view towards integration, through the provision of arable land and projects to enhance economic productivity.

Priority profiles of refugees

Multiple displacements, the protracted nature of over 20 years of displacement of half of Africa's refugee population (mostly Somalis, Eritreans, and Congolese) residing in developing countries, as well as multiple emergencies (Burundi, CAR, DRC, Mali, Somalia and South Sudan) have made **refugees in Africa highly vulnerable with little prospect of a solution**. Selecting from among the refugees identified as in need of resettlement and managing expectations of those who remain is always a challenge.

The following are the majority profiles of highly vulnerable refugees often identified for resettlement:

1. **Women and children at risk:** The largest vulnerable group among the refugee population in Africa are women and children at risk, many of whom have experienced Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) and are facing serious protection risks. This is further compounded by the lack of support structures. With limited opportunities for employment, refugee women are often exposed to greater exploitation and abuse through domestic work or survival sex.

2. **Survivors of violence and torture:** Given the nature of the conflicts in Africa, there are large numbers of survivors of violence and torture among the refugee population, who continue to suffer from the effects of the violence they witnessed in their countries of origin.

3. **Serious medical condition/ disabilities:** Another large group in terms of vulnerability are refugees with serious chronic medical conditions or disabilities. Not only do they suffer from discrimination, social and economic exclusion, language barriers, abuse and exploitation, but they also face challenges in accessing service providers and mobility assistive devices in often inadequate medical systems. Large groups of refugees can put a strain on the public health systems of hosting States and at times, treatment is not available in their countries of asylum.

4. **Minorities:** In many host countries in Africa certain minorities face serious legal, social and physical protection needs. For example, refugees with albinism[8] are often rejected by their families and communities and children with albinism are frequently abandoned as they are seen as a source of bad luck. There is also widespread bias, lack of awareness and sensitivity to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) refugees and homosexuality is most often criminalized. Given the social exclusion of these and other minorities, they have often severely limited access to education, water, housing, social or health care and are exposed to violence. In addition, certain ethnicities and cases recognized under UNHCR's mandate may have severe protection needs which require a third country solution.

[8] See also UNHCR report "(UNHCR, *Witchcraft allegations, refugee protection and human rights: a review of the evidence*, January 2009, available at: http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1226_1273675507_4981ca712.pdf) The discussion of risk groups takes a different twist when considering the treatment of albinos in Africa. In much of the continent, albinos face discrimination and ostracism. They are not being persecuted for practicing witchcraft, but are mutilated and killed to benefit others through an illegal trade in albino skin, bones and hair that are used in potions and charms to bring good luck and make people rich. The graves of albinos have also been robbed for body parts.

PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018

A. Sub-Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
Central Africa & the Great Lakes	51,993	190,273
East & Horn of Africa	82,367	270,681
Southern Africa	10,158	33,734
West Africa	3,378	15,988
Grand Total	147,896	510,676

* including multi-year planning

South Sudanese refugee women at Al Waral site welcome a visiting delegation with a dance. Sudan has received over 350,000 refugees from South Sudan since December 2013. © UNHCR / March 2017

The Americas

"Starting from scratch in a new country is difficult." Margarita, 72, a Salvadorian refugee, has found a new lease on life in southern Mexico.
© UNHCR / D. Volpe / February 2017

The Americas

Caribbean States, Dominican Republic & Haiti

Cuba

Ecuador

Mexico

The Protection Transfer Arrangement for the Northern Triangle of Central America: Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador

In 2016, a number of important regional developments in the Americas took place, including the continued consolidation of the 2014 Brazil Declaration and Brazil Plan of Action as the protection framework anchoring the protection strategy in the region, the signature and entry into force of the peace agreement between Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the Government of Colombia, and the development with the Governments of the North of Central America sub-region of a Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (CRPSF) pilot to address the continued displacement taking place in this area. Against this background, resettlement will continue to be utilized by UNHCR as a key protection tool that complements local integration efforts, as well as an important solidarity and responsibility-sharing mechanism. In addition to a brief summary of submission and departure trends in 2016, the regional overview will elaborate upon the most relevant regional developments together with a brief analysis of the projected resettlement needs estimated for 2018.

Trends in 2016

Throughout 2016, 1,297 refugees were submitted in the Americas region, representing a slight 6.7 per cent decrease in respect of the figures reported for the previous year, which is attributed to continued efforts to strengthen local integration prospects for refugees in Ecuador, ensuring resettlement remains available for refugees presenting specific protection needs. With regard to departures, 821 departed from the region, a 5.1 per cent decrease compared with last year´s departure figure.

Regional Developments

The 2014 Brazil Declaration and ten-year Brazil Plan of Action (BPA) remains a relevant and important framework for strengthening protection standards and fostering comprehensive solutions in the region based on solidarity and responsibility sharing. It is considered to be a precursor of Annex I of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants adopted in September 2016, whereby States agreed on a Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) to address large-scale refugee movements and protracted refugee situations. Both frameworks also engage a wider array of actors in crafting and tailoring a response to refugee situations in a “whole-of-society” approach. While the BPA has proven to be an essential framework for achieving protection and solutions, there is room to optimize its use, particularly in the areas of solidarity and responsibility sharing.

THE AMERICAS

as of 01 Jun 2017

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018 **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.

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Makeshift rafts on the Suchiate River are a route into Mexico for thousands of refugees fleeing the Northern Triangle countries of El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala each year to escape gangs. © UNHCR / D. Volpe / October 2016

The peace agreement signed between the Government of Colombia and the FARC was approved by Congress and entered into force on 1 December 2016. The Government has also initiated peace negotiations with the National Liberation Army (ELN). Drawing upon its knowledge of the affected communities, UNHCR supports the peace-building efforts in accordance with the role it was assigned by the peace agreement, specifically in ensuring the rights of victims and finding solutions to their plight. In addition, UNHCR continues to monitor the volatile situation in regions that are experiencing displacement as a result of a reconfiguration and emergence of new armed groups in areas vacated by FARC.

The complex situation in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras continues to fuel mixed movements mostly to Belize, Costa Rica and Mexico, as well as further into North America. Children, adolescents and women, exposed to specific protection risks, including Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SBGV), continue to move in large numbers. Building upon the BPA chapter on solidarity with the North of Central America, nine countries made substantial commitments in the July 2016 San José Action Statement to implement actions that address root causes of displacement, enhance asylum and protection responses, and foster regional responsibility-sharing mechanisms.

Currently, UNHCR is engaged in advocating and developing with the Governments of the sub-region a regional Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (CRPSF) pilot for the North of Central America region. The CRPSF is the regional application of the CRRF that is outlined in the Annex I of the New York Declaration, and its intention is to complement and strengthen the follow-up to the San Jose Action Statement by bringing more interested stakeholders and more resources to the table, which will add depth and sustainability to the responses implemented.

The Caribbean region has been confronted with an increasingly complex phenomenon of mixed migration that involves asylum-seekers, refugees, victims of human trafficking and stateless persons, along with other categories of vulnerable migrants. The region has witnessed movements of persons of concern from Colombia, Cuba, Haiti and Jamaica, but also a sharp rise in the number of extra-continental arrivals from countries such as Syria, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nigeria and several other African countries. The region capitalized on the momentum created by the inclusion of a Caribbean chapter in the BPA with a number of regional efforts and initiatives on protection of persons of concern.

The Americas: 2018 Projected Resettlement Needs

The total projected resettlement needs for the Americas region in 2018, as identified by UNHCR offices, is 1,830. In this region UNHCR continues to see resettlement largely as a protection tool that focuses on specific profiles and complements local integration efforts.

Sub-regional overview

Ecuador

A Multi-Year Protection and Solutions Strategy for 2016 to 2018 was developed in 2016 building on the 2014-2016 Comprehensive Solutions Initiative for all persons of concern to UNHCR. Ecuador's Multi-Year Strategy (2016-18) aims at reducing dependency and promoting self-sufficiency, leading the way towards UNHCR´s gradual responsible disengagement. UNHCR does not promote voluntary repatriation and in fact a large number of refugees may not opt for this solution at this point in time. In this context, and within this Multi-Year Protection and Solutions Strategy, resettlement is still needed and will continue to be used primarily as a protection tool in respect of refugees whose specific protection needs may prevent them from achieving local integration.

The Caribbean

As part of UNHCR's strategic use of resettlement within a wider comprehensive solutions approach, resettlement is meant to complement local integration efforts of Caribbean States and overseas territories, and preserve protection space. UNHCR pursues resettlement for the most vulnerable refugees in the Caribbean as a protection tool, a durable solution, and as a responsibility-sharing mechanism. UNHCR identifies potential cases for resettlement shortly after completing mandate refugee status determination and an evaluation of the local integration prospects based on the individual circumstances in the country of asylum. With increasing numbers of refugees being identified in the region, resettlement from the Caribbean continues to be on the rise.

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

Central America

The Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA) was launched in 2016 as part of a broader response for persons in the NTCA in need of protection. It was a concrete outcome of the San Jose Action Statement of 2016 that was a strong expression of collective commitment to address the situation in the NTCA and to strengthen the search for protection and solutions for those affected. It is a responsibility-sharing mechanism based on this regional cooperation among the governments involved and offers a safe, legal and permanent solution for a limited number of vulnerable individuals at heightened risk in need of international protection. UNHCR's role includes submission of eligible cases to transit and receiving countries, and providing reception assistance in the transit country. UNHCR coordinates with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for the transfer of individuals to transit and reception countries. The programme is conducted in coordination with civil society partners as well.

The pilot phase began with El Salvador, Costa Rica and the United States as countries of origin, transit and reception, respectively, in mid-2016 and with a limited number of cases. It is currently fully operational in El Salvador and is expected to expand to Honduras and Guatemala during 2017. In this respect, it is hoped that more resettlement countries including from inside the region will participate in the PTA. As the needs exceed the available places, UNHCR urges States to offer more places in order to allow a larger number of persons to benefit from this life saving mechanism.

PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018

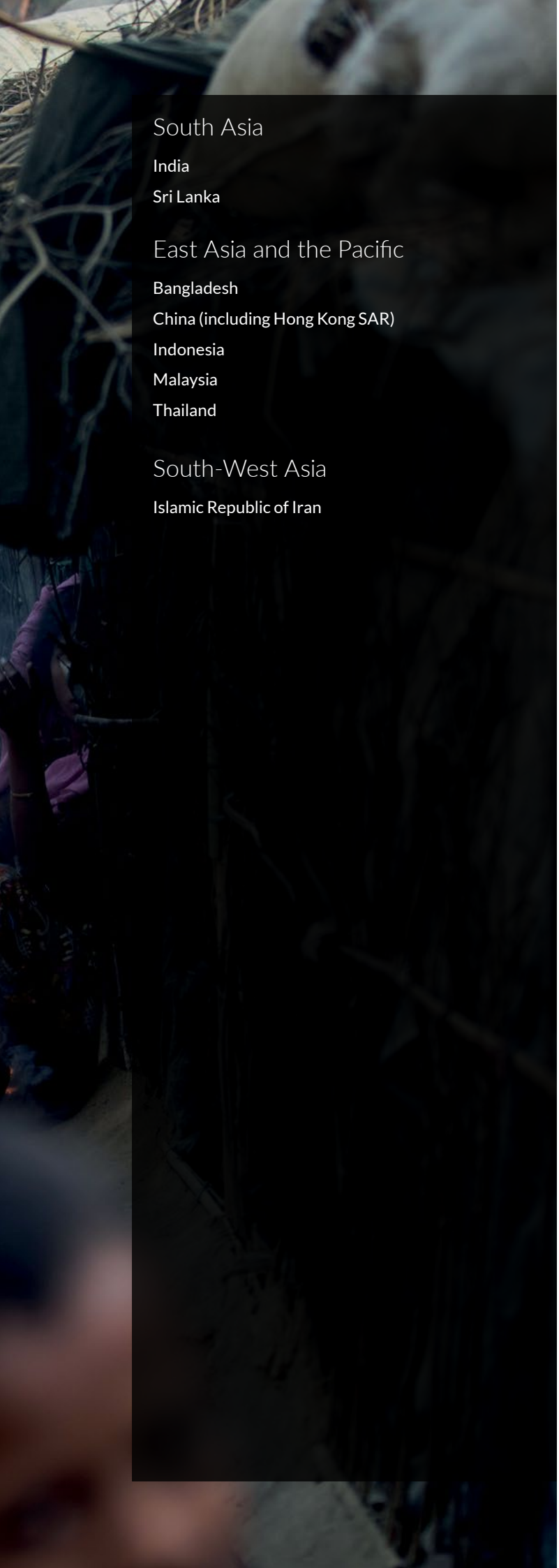
A. Sub-Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
The Americas	755	1,830
Grand Total	755	1,830

* Including multi-year planning. The figure does not include referral needs identified through the Protection Transfer Arrangement in the context of the Northern Triangle of Central America.

Colombian refugee children learning French with their families, before being resettled to Canada in 2017.
Quito, Ecuador. © UNHCR / P. Tinajero / 2017

Asia and the Pacific

Recently arrived Rohingya refugees live in overcrowded makeshift sites in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh since fleeing across the border to escape the October 2016 violence in Myanmar. New shelters are continuously built to house more families and deforestation of the area is occurring as a result.
© UNHCR / S. Huq Omi / February 2017



South Asia

India

Sri Lanka

East Asia and the Pacific

Bangladesh

China (including Hong Kong SAR)

Indonesia

Malaysia

Thailand

South-West Asia

Islamic Republic of Iran

Resettlement out of the Asia region has seen a decline in recent years as the region moves away from large scale resettlement to prioritizing refugees with more specific needs. Resettlement will continue to decrease as the region shifts to a comprehensive solutions strategy encompassing voluntary return, local integration, temporary protection and residence or migration though economic or free movement integration arrangements.

Trends in 2016

During 2016, Asia and the Pacific region submitted a total of 20,657 persons for resettlement. This constitutes a 4 per cent decrease compared with 21,620 submissions in 2015, and 27,450 submissions in 2014. The continued decrease is largely due to the winding down of large scale resettlement from Thailand, Malaysia and Nepal.

Approximately half of the refugees (49 per cent) submitted for resettlement from Asia and the Pacific region in 2016 originated from Myanmar (10,079 individuals), 26 per cent originated from Bhutan (5,407 individuals), 13 per cent originated from Afghanistan (2,609 individuals) and 3 per cent from Pakistan (653 individuals).

The five main countries receiving submissions from Asia and the Pacific region include the United States (16,356 individuals), Australia (2,558 individuals), New Zealand (841 individuals), Canada (496 individuals), and Sweden (278 individuals).

Departures from Asia and the Pacific region decreased slightly with 26,091 refugees departing in 2016, compared to 29,701 persons in 2015. The Asia and Pacific region constituted 21 per cent of all global departures.

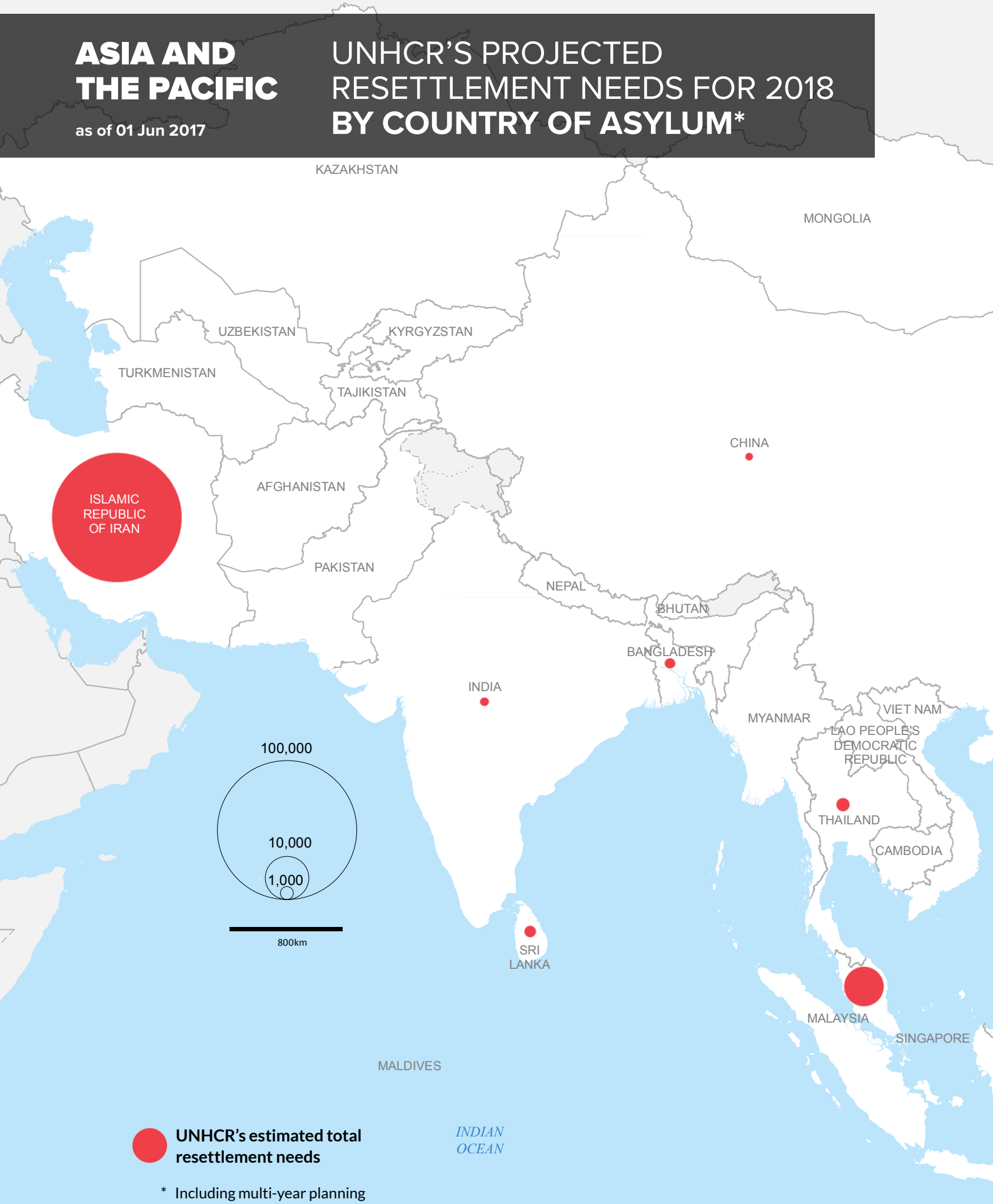
Regional developments

In Asia, and as a result of a regional response to the Bay of Bengal crisis of 2015, Asian leaders of 41 countries adopted the Ministerial Bali Declaration on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime. This Declaration articulates important commitments at regional level with regard to predictable disembarkation, reception, temporary protection, local-stay arrangements and legal pathways for asylum-seekers and refugees. It also notes the importance of comprehensive, long-term solutions to address mixed migration flows and highlights responsibility sharing of countries in the region to find solutions. Overall the Bali process, under Australian and Indonesian leadership, provides a strong foundation for the coordinated regional action required to manage and respond to mixed movements in a safe and humane way.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

as of 01 Jun 2017

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018 BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM*



UNHCR's estimated total resettlement needs

* Including multi-year planning

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DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REP. OF KOREA
REPUBLIC OF KOREA
JAPAN
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN
Hong Kong (CHN)
Taiwan (CHN)
PHILIPPINES
Northern Mariana Islands (USA)
PALAU
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
MARSHALL ISLANDS
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
INDONESIA
KIRIBATI
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
TIMOR-LESTE
SOLOMON ISLANDS
AUSTRALIA
VANUATU

With the need for resettlement places to shift to accommodate the many other needs globally, and shrinking financial resources for UNHCR's operations in Asia, it became more evident than ever that there was a need to focus more comprehensively on greater coordinated action by States within the region to share the responsibility for refugee protection.

In the spirit of the Bali and New York Declarations, UNHCR has been offering to support governments in the region in joint approaches to registration, determination of international protection needs and finding solutions including voluntary return, local solutions, including disembarkation, temporary protection and residence or migration through economic or free movement integration arrangements. In accordance with the regional solutions strategy, UNHCR will continue to work with all actors on implementing a key shift away from third country resettlement out of the region as a preferred solution, towards a compact that finds creative ways to attend to people in need of international protection within the region. Resettlement can, as a result, be employed as a protection tool to address the needs of individual refugees with heightened protection risks. The number of refugees from Bhutan in Nepal being submitted under large group resettlement programmes has come to an end. Submissions of refugees from Myanmar in both Thailand and Malaysia are decreasing significantly with the remaining residual group referrals or related referrals being processed. Such group (and associated) submissions will conclude in 2017 in both countries. These operations have moved into processing individual cases of diverse groups, including individuals from outside of the region (i.e. Somalis, Syrians, Palestinians, Iraqis, etc.) with special protection needs, vulnerability criteria or family links.

The largest refugee population in the sub-region are the Rohingya from Myanmar, who are also the largest stateless population globally and one of the region's largest populations of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). In line with the region's move to individual-based resettlement, the most vulnerable among the group will continue to be referred for resettlement. For the majority of the Rohingya refugee population, however, UNHCR's primary focus will be continued advocacy and promotion of temporary stay arrangements with work rights and access to national health and education services in their countries of asylum.

Afghan refugees constitute the second largest refugee population in the world and represent one of the most protracted situations. The regional 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 providing assistance to voluntary repatriation, sustainable reintegration and assistance to host countries. Continued targeted resettlement remains an important component of the Strategy.

Asia: 2018 Projected Resettlement Needs

The total projected resettlement needs for the Asia region in 2018 is 100,988 persons. This marks a 34.1 per cent decrease from the projected needs for 2017, which were 153,358. The number of persons projected for submission in 2017 is 9,200. The 37 per cent decline from the 15,878 persons planned for submission in 2016 is due to the previously mentioned completion of group processing in Thailand and Nepal.

Sub-regional Overviews

South-East Asia, East Asia and the Pacific

The South-East Asia, East Asia and Pacific sub-region is comprised of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China (including Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) and Macau SAR), Indonesia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, the Pacific Island States, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam.

Half of the countries/territories in this sub-region have not acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention and/or the 1967 Protocol (Brunei-Darussalam, Hong Kong SAR, Indonesia, the Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, most of the Pacific Island States, Singapore, and Thailand).

Resettlement will assist in addressing the needs of refugees with acute vulnerabilities and heightened protection needs, including those in detention where no other solution is possible, survivors of violence and torture, medical cases, and women and children at risk.

In 2016, Malaysia was the eighth top global submission country, of which 5,949 refugees were submitted, and 8,106 departed for resettlement. Consequently, refugees from Myanmar represented the nationality with the fifth largest resettlement submission rate globally, representing 6 per cent of all refugees submitted by UNHCR. Thailand was the eleventh largest submission country globally submitting 4,849 individuals in 2016 compared to 3,954 in 2015. Processing of refugees from Myanmar out of Southeast Asia has significantly reduced as the region moves away from

resettlement processing and focuses more on a wider durable solutions strategy.

The suspension of resettlement activities out of Bangladesh has been in effect since 2010. However, the Government of Bangladesh announced a National Strategy for the Rohingya in 2014, which included the possibility to recommence resettlement "after certain progress with implementation of the National Strategy." Refugees will benefit from multi-year planning and prioritization resettlement as a protection tool, should the Government of Bangladesh decide to re-open resettlement.

The Regional Office for South-East Asia in Bangkok, Thailand provides oversight, coordination, and support for resettlement activities in Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam. It does so in accordance with the Regional Solutions Strategy.

In 2018, activities by the Regional Office on resettlement within the region will include: providing operational support to country operations on resettlement; regional coordination and harmonization of resettlement approaches within the region as part of comprehensive solutions in accordance with the regional solutions strategy; and resettlement processing for a small number of cases in countries in South-East Asia with no or limited UNHCR presence (i.e. Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Singapore, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam) should the needs arise.

South Asia

The South Asia sub-region includes India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. None of these countries have acceded to the 1951 Convention or the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, nor have they developed national legal frameworks and procedures relating to refugee protection. Local integration remains a limited option for refugees residing in this region, with the exception of India where the Government permits the naturalization of Afghan refugees of Sikh or Hindu origin, who arrived in the country after 2007. In line with the regional solutions strategy for refugees, individual cases with special protection needs will continue to be considered for resettlement.

South-West Asia

The South-West Asia sub-region comprises the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Iran and Pakistan combined are currently hosting over 2.3 million registered Afghan refugees and they continue to be priority situations for the strategic use of resettlement.

Iran hosts the world's largest urban refugee population (951,142 Afghan refugees and 28,268 Iraqi refugees), with 97 per cent living in urban or semi-urban areas, and the remainder living in settlements. UNHCR continues its efforts to promote and expand resettlement and other durable solutions out of Iran. The implementation of a regional multi-year strategy supports voluntary repatriation, sustainable reintegration and assistance to host countries (Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan). Five outcomes that guide the strategy in Iran include voluntary repatriation, essential services and shelter, livelihood and food security, protection and resettlement.

PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018

A. Sub-Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
East Asia & the Pacific	6,006	12,888
South Asia	470	1,100
South-West Asia	17,400	87,000
Grand Total	23,876	100,988

* including multi-year planning

Europe

An Afghan refugee prays in freezing conditions in Belgrade. In derelict warehouses behind Belgrade's main train station, 1,200 male refugees are sleeping homeless in the freezing cold with temperatures dropping to -20C at night. ©UNHCR /D. Etter / January 2017

Eastern Europe

Russian Federation

Ukraine

Turkey

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 over 2.8 million refugees at the start of 2017. Despite the significant expansion of resettlement from Turkey during 2016, as the Syrian crisis becomes protracted, and due to the sheer size of the refugee population, infrastructure and resources continue to feel the strain, and refugees are increasingly engaging in negative coping mechanisms. It is projected that 300,000 refugees will need resettlement from Turkey in 2018, the majority of whom are Syrian, making Turkey the operation with the greatest needs globally. Therefore, in Turkey resettlement will continue to be used strategically and as a demonstration of international solidarity and responsibility sharing. Resettlement also continues to represent a critical component of UNHCR's protection strategy in other European countries, including Russia and Ukraine, where it is used as a tool for protection for refugees who are facing heightened protection risks.

Trends in 2016

The number of resettlement submissions from Europe increased to 29,239 in 2016 compared with 18,260 in 2015, representing an increase of 60 per cent. The increase was due to the large number of submissions made from Turkey operation, which submitted 28,926 individuals, making Turkey the resettlement operation with the second highest number of submissions globally. Departures to resettlement countries from the region increased from 7,577 persons in 2015 to 15,581 in 2016, also due to the high number of departures from Turkey.

At the beginning of 2017, the Syrian refugee population in Turkey was estimated to be around 2.6 million. Aside from the Syrian population, Turkey also hosts close to 290,000 refugees and asylum-seekers from other countries. Additionally, due to the conflict in Ukraine, over 300,000 refugees have sought protection in neighbouring countries, with the majority claiming asylum in the Russian Federation.

Regional developments

While the volume of refugee and migrant flows in Europe reached unprecedented levels in 2015 with over one million refugees and migrants arriving in the continent, this was greatly reduced in 2016 with approximately 362,800 sea arrivals through the Mediterranean[1].

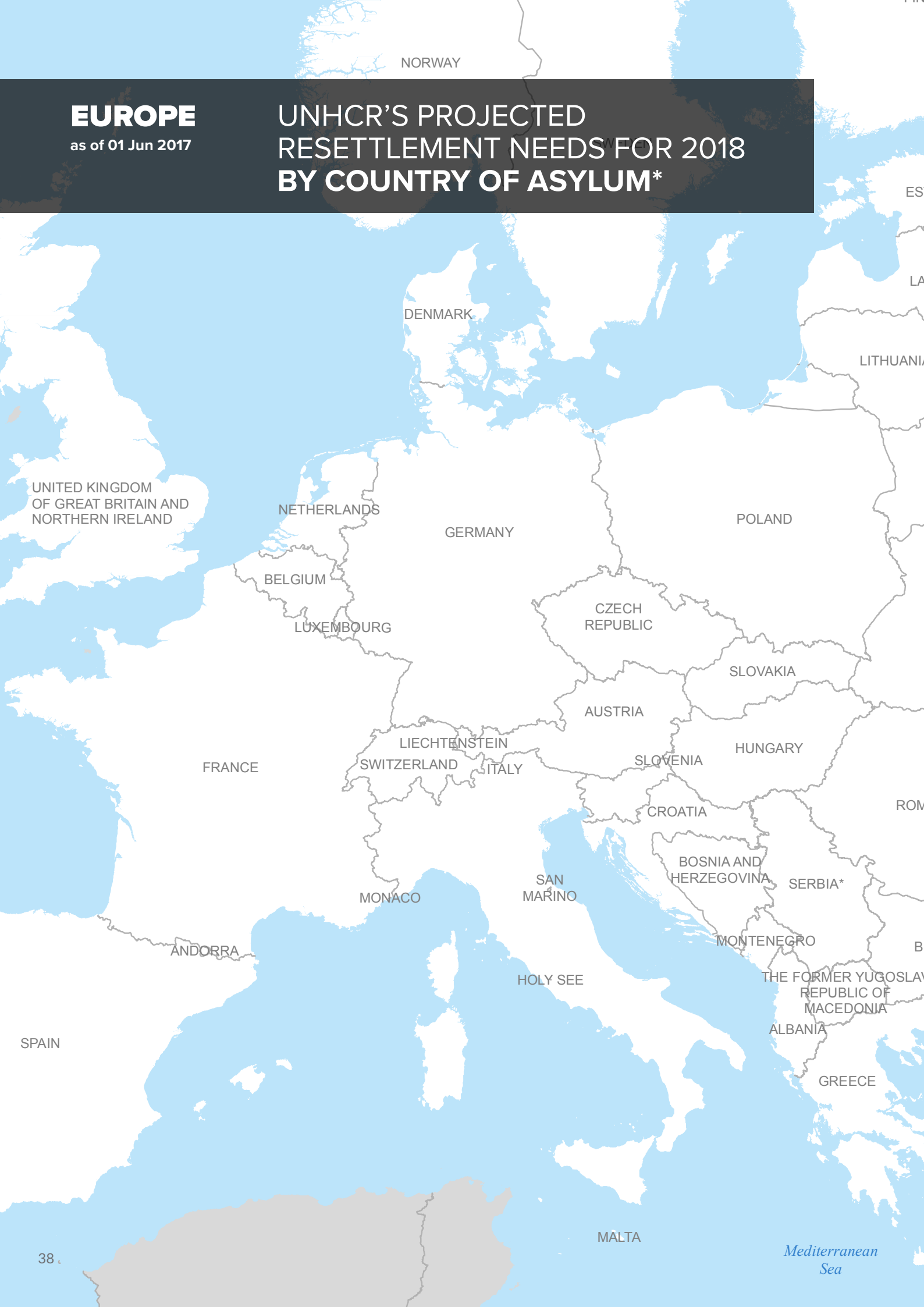
Turkey is the world's largest refugee hosting country and as such has the highest resettlement needs. As of end 2016, the Turkish authorities, with UNHCR's support, started a comprehensive verification process to update the registration information of all Syrian individuals under temporary protection in Turkey. The process, which will help

[1] Source: http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean (accessed 31 May 2017)

EUROPE

as of 01 Jun 2017

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018 **BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM***



100,000
5,000
1,500
400km
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
BELARUS
UKRAINE
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
GEORGIA
ARMENIA
AZERBAIJAN
TURKEY
CYPRUS
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, 01 Jun 2017

in the identification of vulnerable Syrians for the purpose of referrals to social services and resettlement, will continue in 2017 and into 2018. With the exception of Syrian nationals, asylum-seekers arriving from non-European countries undergo full registration and Refugee Status Determination (RSD) and are recognized on an individual basis by UNHCR under its mandate, occasionally in tandem with state-led RSD procedures. Discussions are ongoing with the Turkish authorities in relation to the full takeover of registration and RSD activities by the Government. In April 2017, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on data exchange with regard to asylum-seekers were agreed between UNHCR and the Ministry of Interior, paving the way for further progress on the asylum transition.

The implementation of expedited resettlement processes since late March 2016 has increased the possibility for Syrian refugees in Turkey to gain access to a durable solution, and a total of over 16,682 Syrians were submitted for resettlement from Turkey during 2016. In this context, resettlement will continue to be used both as a tool for protection for those who are most in need as well as a responsibility-sharing mechanism for Syrian refugees.

Turkey has seen an increase in both the number of resettlement states engaged as well as the types of pathways available, with Syrian nationals departing through resettlement, family reunification, private sponsorship, 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 impacts of responsibility sharing. The large scale and expedited resettlement of Syrians from Turkey is essential to developing comprehensive refugee responses addressing large movements of refugees as envisaged in the New York Declaration. As the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) goes into the implementation phase in a number of pilot countries and in the lead up to the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees in 2018, it will be essential for the international community to step up their efforts to meet the resettlement needs in Turkey, in line with the commitments made by States in the New York Declaration. The success of the international community in responding to the needs in Turkey on a large scale 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[2], the ongoing fighting in eastern Ukraine has increased the number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to one million at the end of 2016 while causing tens of thousands of Ukrainians to seek asylum in mostly neighbouring countries, notably the Russian Federation. Throughout the region, national asylum systems often lack the capacity to ensure effective protection and access to asylum continues to be a challenge particularly as there are insufficient safeguards within the process. For instance, in the Russian Federation, large numbers of Syrian asylum-seekers are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain or retain legal status. As a result, these individuals face serious protection risks and there has been a rise in the number of instances of *refoulement* documented. In Ukraine, due to the country's difficult economic conditions and limited local integration prospects, asylum-seekers face various types of exploitation. For the most part in the region, the protection environment remains volatile with prevailing xenophobia and homophobia. Consequently, certain groups of people such as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex (LGBTI) persons and ethnic and religious minorities face increased risks of violence, including Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV). UNHCR continues to work with the State authorities in the region to help ensure access to quality 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 primarily as a tool for protection for those refugees with specific needs, particularly those at risk of *refoulement*, in need of medical care, and/or at risk of SGBV. Resettlement will also be used strategically to advocate for a more rights-based approach to asylum and greater protection, as well as improved living standards for all refugees, including through relieving some of the burden placed on the increasingly strained resources of host governments.

In Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in South Eastern Europe, two countries in the region most affected by the 2015 European refugee crisis, persons potentially in need of international protection rarely apply for asylum, and if they do, often abscond and attempt to move onwards. However, with increasingly restrictive border measures put in place by countries on the external frontiers of the EU (Bulgaria, Hungary and Croatia in particular), the opportunities for onward movement are becoming slimmer. As a result, the number of refugees and migrants in the area has stabilized with some 6,700 people in Serbia in May 2017[3], of which most are accommodated in Government-run centres. Consequently, it is foreseen that the number of persons applying for international protection in the region, particularly in Serbia, will increase leading to the identification of a number of refugees (estimated at around 50) who may need resettlement as a vital tool for protection, including women and adolescents at risk.

[2] In accordance with UNHCR's geographical division, Eastern Europe in this context refers to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

[3] Source: https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/57087

Europe: 2018 Projected Resettlement Needs

The resettlement needs in Europe remain high in 2018, with 302,000 persons projected to be in need of resettlement. The projection for 2018 is only marginally less than the needs projected for 2017 which was 306,950. The ongoing armed conflict in Syria is the principal reason for substantial resettlement needs, with Syrians in Turkey making up 90 per cent of those projected to be in need of resettlement from Europe. The deteriorating situation in some Eastern European countries has also led to an increase in those who are urgently in need of resettlement.

Sub-regional overviews

Eastern Europe

The estimated resettlement needs in Eastern Europe (particularly in the Russian Federation and Ukraine) in 2018 is estimated to be 2,000 people. These refugees originate primarily from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Syria, and the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia).

The protection environment across the region remains volatile with certain groups of refugees such as LGBTI persons and ethnic and religious minorities facing a greater risk of violence. Other groups, such as Syrian refugees in Russia, are increasingly at risk of *refoulement* as a result of their inability to obtain or retain legal residency. In the face of this deteriorating protection environment, UNHCR plans to continue to use resettlement throughout the region, primarily as a tool for protection. In this respect the current estimate of 2,000 persons in need of resettlement will very likely need to be revised upwards.

Turkey operation

The estimated total resettlement needs in Turkey are 300,000 persons, the large majority (275,000) of whom are Syrian. The number of Syrians projected to need resettlement in 2018 has increased by 76 per cent compared with the figure of 170,000 Syrians in need of resettlement in 2016. The resettlement needs of Syrians in Turkey increased proportionate to the size of the Syrian refugee population in Turkey, which has risen considerably to over 2.8 million persons. Estimated resettlement needs of non-Syrian refugees in Turkey are around 25,000 persons, including refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and other nationalities. Syrian refugees in Turkey continue to benefit from temporary protection, and the Government has recognized that refugees and asylum-seekers will remain in Turkey for extended periods of time.

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 negative coping mechanisms, such as child labour and child marriages, while aggravating tensions among communities. Given the scale of the refugee population, and as the Syrian crisis becomes protracted, the infrastructure in Turkey is under pressure making it increasingly 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.

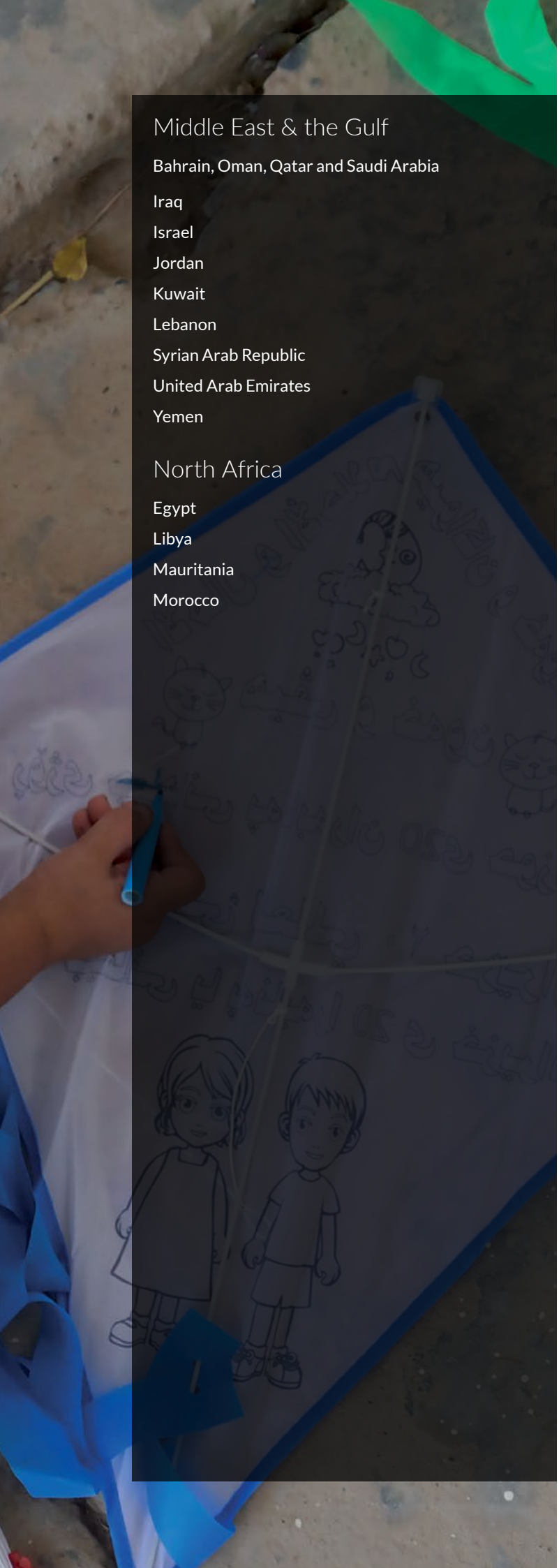
PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018

A. Sub-Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
Eastern Europe	1,385	2,000
Turkey	80,112	300,000
Grand Total	**81,497**	**302,000**

* including multi-year planning

Middle East and North Africa

A young Syrian girl colours her "Hopes and Dreams" kite in Domiz-1 refugee camp in Duhok governorate. The kites were donated by UNHCR for World Refugee Day, as a way to help displaced children express their dreams for the future.
© UNHCR / R. Hussein Rasheed / June 2016



Middle East & the Gulf

Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia

Iraq

Israel

Jordan

Kuwait

Lebanon

Syrian Arab Republic

United Arab Emirates

Yemen

North Africa

Egypt

Libya

Mauritania

Morocco

With almost 280,000 refugees expected to be in need of resettlement within the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region in 2018, resettlement will continue to be an integral component of UNHCR's Protection and Solutions Strategy in the region. As the region continues to be shaped by the ongoing conflict in Syria, Syrian refugees, a population of 201,970, continue to be the largest refugee population in need of resettlement. While there has been an important expansion in the resettlement of Syrians over the last years due to the concerted efforts of resettlement states, the unprecedented scale of the crisis and the growing vulnerability of the Syrian refugee population requires a proportionate and adequate resettlement response, which does not only address the protection needs of those refugees but also acts as a meaningful responsibility-sharing mechanism. In addition to Syrian refugees, resettlement will continue to be used as a tool for protection for refugees from other nationalities who are at heightened risk. This includes refugees at risk of Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV), arrest and detention and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) refugees. Additionally, a key priority in the region will be expanding opportunities for resettlement and other complementary pathways for refugees who are living in countries affected by conflict. In this regard, focus will be put on pathway opportunities for refugees in Libya in an effort to reduce the numbers taking dangerous sea journeys across the Central Mediterranean in the absence of safe pathways to protection.

Trends in 2016

In 2016, 18 UNHCR country offices in the MENA region submitted a total of 67,404 urban and camp-based refugees to 21 resettlement countries. The vast majority were Syrian refugees who constituted 89 per cent of the total submissions from the region. The number of refugees submitted for resettlement from the MENA region was 26 per cent higher than in 2015, and far exceeded the original target for the year of 50,500 submissions, largely due to the increased availability of resettlement places for Syrians as well as the use of streamlined resettlement processing modalities. In 2016, 44,168 refugees departed from the MENA region, an increase of 133 per cent compared with the previous year when 18,948 departures were recorded by UNHCR.

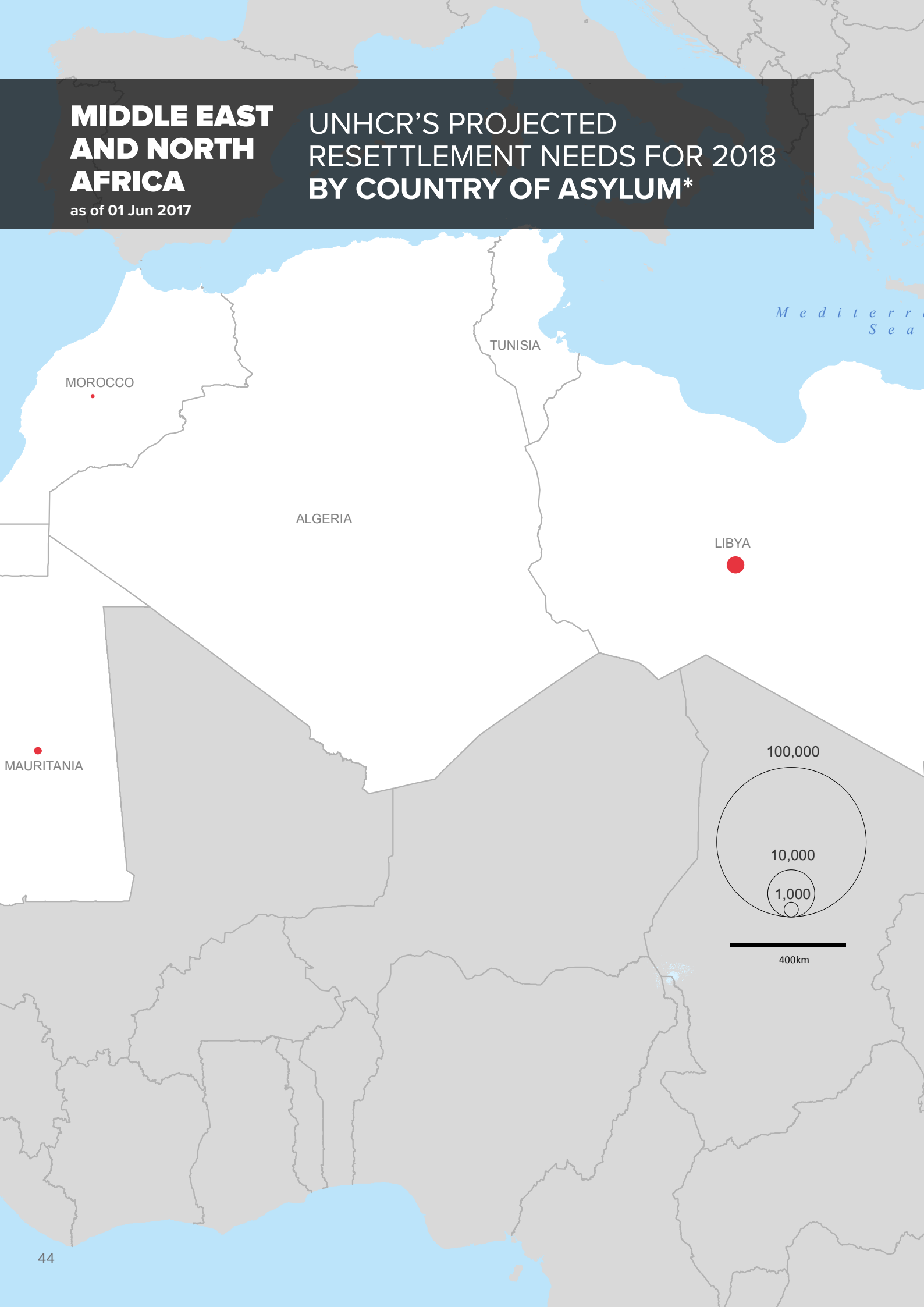
During the High-Level Meeting on Global Responsibility Sharing through pathways for admission of Syria Refugees held on the 30th of March 2016 in Geneva, the UN Secretary General and the High Commissioner for Refugees called on States to increase opportunities for the admission of Syrian refugees through resettlement and complementary pathways. At the event of the High-Level meeting, UNHCR called on States to make available places for resettlement and other admission pathways for at least 10 per cent of the Syrian refugee population[1]

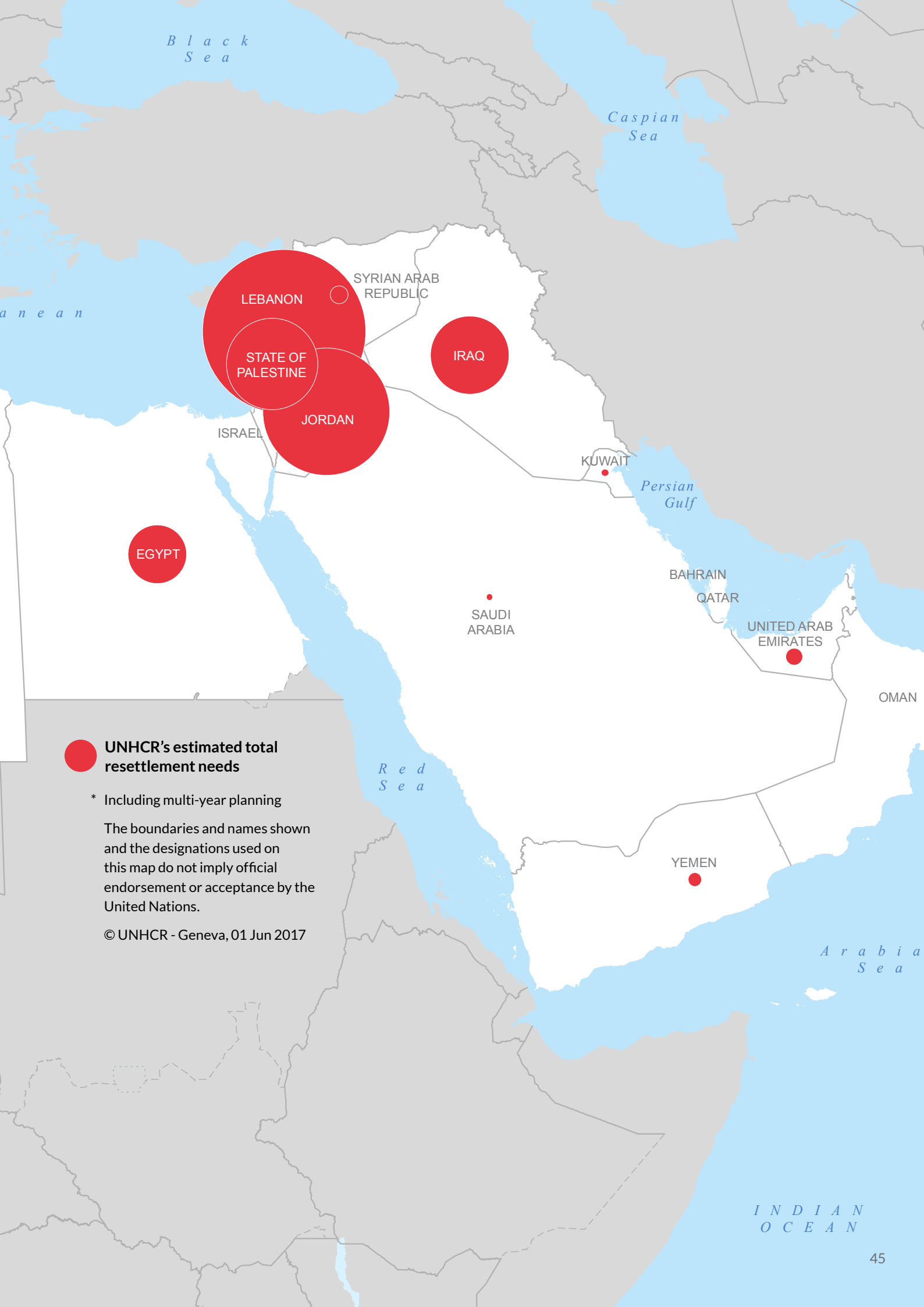
[1] 5,050,029 million as of 1 May 2017

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

as of 01 Jun 2017

UNHCR'S PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018 **BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM***




Black Sea
Caspian Sea
LEBANON
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
STATE OF PALESTINE
IRAQ
JORDAN
ISRAEL
KUWAIT
Persian Gulf
EGYPT
BAHRAIN
QATAR
SAUDI ARABIA
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
OMAN
Red Sea
YEMEN
Arabia Sea
INDIAN OCEAN
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, 01 Jun 2017

by the end of 2018 as a demonstration of international solidarity and responsibility sharing for the world's largest refugee crisis since World War II. While as of February 2017, 34 States had pledged to admit 252,270 Syrians through resettlement and other admission pathways signifying pledges for half of the 10 per cent target, more needs to be done to achieve this objective. Over 40,000 of those pledges are for non-resettlement pathways such as humanitarian visas, private sponsorship and academic scholarships. As of the end of April 2017, UNHCR had globally submitted a total of almost 170,000 Syrian refugees for resettlement to 31 countries since Syrian resettlement started on a large scale in 2013.

New countries have stepped forward and pledged admission programmes for Syrian refugees, including the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Malaysia, Argentina and Chile, complementing the efforts of traditional resettlement states. In addition to increased resettlement, the MENA region has seen an increased focus on complementary pathways during recent years as the region continues to attract various new initiatives, offering a foundation for the further expansion in the number and range of pathways available for refugees in line with the commitments made by States in the New York Declaration and the objectives of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF).

Yet, the Syrian refugee population has now reached 5 million (including 2.8 million Syrians in Turkey), and as the crisis becomes protracted further efforts are needed by resettlement states in order to respond to this unprecedented crisis and show solidarity with host states. Against the backdrop of immense needs within the Syrian refugee population, in 2016 resettlement continued to serve as an immediate protection response for Syrian refugees who had compelling protection needs as well as an important gesture of responsibility sharing towards the Syrian refugee crisis. Throughout 2016 momentum for Syrian resettlement processing was maintained and high submission rates were achieved through the use of innovative and streamlined resettlement processes. In 2016, a total of 77,210 Syrians were referred for resettlement by UNHCR globally, matching the total number of Syrian submissions during the previous three years. According to UNHCR data, almost 70,000 UNHCR referred Syrians have departed for resettlement since 2013, of which 68 per cent took place during 2016.

Many countries in the MENA region, such as Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Libya, remain embroiled in conflicts impacting the level and quality of protection afforded to refugees and making them vulnerable to violence and exploitation. In 2016, 10 resettlement countries responded to UNHCR's calls for the increased resettlement of refugees from conflict areas and 2,514 refugees were submitted for resettlement consideration from Libya, Syria, Yemen and Iraq.

In September 2016, the last remaining residents of Camp Hurriya in Iraq, were transferred to Albania. This significant achievement is the culmination of five years' worth of coordinated international efforts and close cooperation among all partners.

The adoption of the New York Declaration and its annexed CRRF by the UN General Assembly in September 2016 stimulated commitments from host and third countries alike to consider durable solutions for refugees and helped unlock complementary solutions for refugees in the region. In addition to resettlement opportunities, a number of initiatives offering complementary pathways for refugees from the MENA region, in particular Syrians, have been pursued in 2016. For example, there are currently 11 scholarship programmes that are being implemented or considered for refugees in MENA region. Other complementary pathways, such as labour mobility schemes, will need to be more rigorously pursued. With thousands of Syrian refugees in the region having nuclear family members in Europe and other industrialized countries, there is an urgent need to invest in robust family reunification pathways for Syrian refugees. This would not only facilitate successful integration outcomes for those family members already in Europe but can also prevent the refugees from feeling compelled to undertake perilous journeys or fall victim to exploitation schemes. Expanding resettlement and complementary pathways opportunities for refugees in the MENA region will continue to be a priority for UNHCR, which will be achieved through working with new actors including civil society and the private sector.

Regional developments

The region's protection environment is influenced by Level 3 emergencies in Syria, Iraq and Yemen, as well as large-scale and protracted displacement in other countries. The operational context within the MENA region is volatile and is likely to remain so. The region is experiencing increasingly protracted crises with complex political outlooks, rapidly shifting strategic geo-political alliances, growing social and economic tensions, and escalating vulnerabilities as a result. Prospects for political solutions remain low and vulnerabilities of refugees are expected to increase further.

At the same time, there have been positive developments in many MENA countries. In Mauritania, UNHCR is supporting the Government to draft the national asylum law and establish national Refugee Status Determination (RSD) procedures. Following the London Conference in February 2016, the requirements for Syrian refugees to obtain work permits have been relaxed in Jordan, resulting in greater access to the job market. Change in regulations in Lebanon resulted in more refugees being able to obtain residency permits. The UAE has announced that it will offer status to Syrian refugees either by

"I know it's really cold in Finland, but we will not feel it." Father-of-four Nadim, his wife and kids prepare to depart their house in Nouakchott after being granted resettlement in Finland. Today is their last day in Mauritania. © UNHCR / H. Pes / February 2017

regularizing the status of Syrians staying within the country or through the admission of Syrians from asylum countries in the region.

Despite these positive developments, the general outlook for refugees in MENA is of increasing vulnerability, strained relationships with host communities, and limited humanitarian services due to funding shortfalls. Persons of concern to UNHCR continue to try to seek protection outside of the region, including through undertaking perilous sea journeys across the Eastern and Central Mediterranean. While there has been a significant reduction in movements from the region through the Eastern Mediterranean route, significantly more refugees and migrants perished in the Central Mediterranean sea while trying to reach safety in 2016 compared with 2015. The humanitarian tragedy along this route is exceptional and requires a response above and beyond the limited existing opportunities for resettlement and other complementary pathways for admission. As such, there is an urgent need to address the root causes that drive this movement, as well as to expand credible, safe and orderly pathways for people in need of international protection to reach Europe through, inter alia, resettlement and family reunification. As such, resettlement and access to other pathways for admission remain a critical component of UNHCR Protection and Solutions Strategies, which will require an expansion in the number and range of opportunities available for refugees in the region, in particular Syrians, refugees in conflict zones and other vulnerable groups.

Syrian refugees

The Syrian refugee population continues to put a considerable strain on host governments and communities in the MENA region. The scale and needs of the Syrian refugee population remain immense and, despite the considerable support provided by host countries, there have been increases in incidents of xenophobia demonstrating the need to ensure that asylum space is maintained. As the Syrian conflict becomes more protracted many refugees throughout the region have depleted their savings and sold off their assets and are living in substandard accommodation. For example, in Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Turkey, livelihood opportunities for Syrian refugees remain limited, placing them in a precarious situation with more refugees being dependent upon humanitarian assistance. As a result, refugees are adopting negative coping strategies and in 2016 a larger number of Syrian refugees resorted to emergency coping mechanisms compared with the previous year. 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. Incidents of *refoulement* have been reported and detention is often used for migration-related offences.

Given the continued uncertainty in relation to the security outlook, human rights and humanitarian situation in Syria, and the absence of a political solution at this point in time, UNHCR does not promote or facilitate returns to Syria.

As a result of sustained advocacy by all parties, including States, NGOs and UN agencies, resettlement places for Syrian refugees have increased every year since 2013. The large scale resettlement of Syrians has played a role in enabling other solutions, and represents a solid demonstration of international solidarity and responsibility sharing with host countries. These responses, however, remain far from responding to the needs as only 252,270 places have been pledged for resettlement and other pathways for admission as of end of February 2017. This is far from the milestone of 10 per cent of Syrian refugees resettled or admitted to third countries by 2018 that UNHCR called for during the March 2016 High-Level Meeting. As the CRRF goes into the implementation phase and in the lead up to the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees in 2018, it will be critical that states continue to actively engage and step up their efforts to meet the resettlement needs of Syrians as identified by UNHCR and achieve this milestone.

Much progress has been made during recent years with regard to the use of biometrics and in most of the major Syrian refugee hosting countries, Syrian refugees above the age of seven have been iris-scanned (with the exception of those refugees whose irises could not be captured due to disability or medical reasons). Some resettlement countries have benefitted from the enhanced use of biometrics to verify the identity of refugees as part of visa issuing processes shortly before departure, which has helped to prevent fraud and enhance the overall integrity of the process.

Refugees of other nationalities

The MENA region continues to host significant numbers of Iraqi, Somalis, Sudanese, Eritreans and Palestinian refugees. The number of Iraqi refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the region significantly increased in light of the ongoing conflict in Iraq, including the Mosul offensive. Refugees from sub-Saharan African countries in the MENA region often endure prolonged asylum, and are affected by limited assistance and support mechanisms in countries of asylum. Several refugee groups in the MENA region continue to be at risk of SGBV and arrest and detention. Protection risks are particularly heightened for LGBTI refugees as well as refugees who are victims of trafficking. Resettlement remains the main protection tool and the only durable solution for many refugees in the region when conditions in their countries of origin are not conducive to return in safety and dignity. Despite the needs, resettlement places are particularly limited for these caseloads. An increased and diversified resettlement quota from States is needed in order to address the needs of the most vulnerable refugees from all refugee populations in the region.

Palestinian refugees living in Baghdad continue to face both indiscriminate and targeted attacks, including harassment and threats based on nationality, verbal and physical abuse, sexual violence, kidnapping, extortion, killings as well as house-to-house searches at the hands of state and non-state actors. The renewed violence in Central Iraq and discrimination against some groups, in particular persons of Palestinian origin, has also resulted in heightened protection risks for this group of refugees. Following the completion of a recent verification exercise, 782 Palestinian refugees in Iraq are projected to be in need of resettlement and this particular refugee population will continue to be prioritized for resettlement processing, provided that States make places available for them.

The conflict in Iraq has witnessed grave atrocities against the civilian population by armed groups targeting various sections of the Iraqi society including minority groups. While UNHCR and the rest of the humanitarian community in Iraq continue to work closely with the Iraqi authorities to provide protection and assistance to those affected, there remain several challenges in meeting their needs particularly psychosocial ones. An effort, led and coordinated by UNHCR, to provide a durable solution through resettlement to the extremely vulnerable IDPs in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq has been jointly carried out by government authorities including resettlement states, UN agencies and local and international NGOs. The identification and processing methodology is firmly based on protection principles with respect for non-discrimination, family unity, confidentiality and voluntariness, while ensuring integrity.

Refugees in conflict zones

As various parts of the MENA region continue to be affected by conflict, UNHCR will continue to advocate and facilitate resettlement from countries in conflict such as Yemen, Libya, Syria and Iraq. In these countries, refugees are often trapped in the midst of fighting and resettlement serves as a critical protection tool and a life-saving intervention. UNHCR will continue to facilitate the use of videoconference technology to ensure access to refugees who resettlement countries cannot access in person. The situation in Libya is particularly dire where the ongoing conflict in the country coupled with the lack of safe pathways for protection continues to compel refugees to undertake perilous journeys across the Central Mediterranean. This is further compounded by the extremely limited resettlement opportunities for refugees in Libya as well as the significant operational challenges resulting from the deteriorating security situation in the country. As such, UNHCR is currently exploring options for the evacuation of small groups of refugees at heightened risk from Libya to allow for processing for resettlement and other complementary pathways, particularly family reunification in a safe and secure environment.

MENA: 2018 Projected Resettlement Needs

The total projected resettlement needs for the MENA region in 2018 as identified by UNHCR offices is 279,855 persons. It should also be noted that the projected resettlement needs and targets for the MENA region do not include the relevant figures for Turkey, where 300,000 refugees are projected to be in need of resettlement. It is estimated that 10 per cent of the Syrian refugee population are in need of resettlement, amounting to projected resettlement needs in 2018 for a total of 475,200 Syrians in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

Sub-regional overviews

The Middle-East and the Gulf

The total projected resettlement needs for 2018 for the Middle East and the Gulf are 262,238 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. As displacement situations in the region remain protracted and vulnerabilities exacerbate, UNHCR will continue its efforts to identify and process vulnerable Syrian refugees for resettlement, including through its comprehensive vulnerability assessment framework, community-based protection and outreach activities. Refugees with compelling specific protection needs from 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 17,617 persons. North Africa is characterized by mixed-migration movements from sub-Saharan Africa, but the region also hosts other refugee groups including Syrians. In a context that is dominated by mixed migration, there are challenges with ensuring that resettlement is not seen as a pull factor. 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 be stepping up its efforts to identify those refugees who are in need of resettlement. This will not only serve as a tool for protection but will also dissuade refugees from undertaking dangerous journeys across the Mediterranean to reach safety. As resettlement opportunities for refugees in Libya have generally been limited, there is a need for resettlement states to step up their efforts in Libya in 2018. UNHCR will also be exploring options for the evacuation of small groups of refugees at heightened risk from Libya to other transit countries to allow for processing for resettlement and family reunification.

PROJECTED RESETTLEMENT NEEDS FOR 2018

A. Sub-Region of Asylum	B. Total projected resettlement needs*	
	cases	persons
Middle East	90,835	262,238
North Africa	6,592	17,617
Grand Total	97,427	279,855

* including multi-year planning

Dossier Submissions

UNHCR Headquarters Geneva, Processing Unit

The Processing Unit (PU) of the Resettlement Service at UNHCR Headquarters facilitates the submission of urgent and emergency resettlement cases on a dossier basis, received from Regional and Field Offices in Africa (Regional Office in Dakar), Eastern and South Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America, Cuba, and the Caribbean. The PU also manages the allocation of places under the normal, urgent, emergency and medical dossier cases quotas and distributes places to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Protection Services in Amman, Regional Service Centre (RSC) in Nairobi and Regional Office in Pretoria for direct submission of dossier cases from their respective regions.

Resettlement

Throughout 2016, the PU in Headquarters made 75[1] resettlement submissions on behalf of 157 refugees including stateless persons. Some 142 Resettlement applications on behalf of 376 refugees were submitted by the MENA Protection Service Amman. Some 113 cases on behalf of 351 refugees were submitted by the RSC Nairobi, and 59 cases on behalf of 228 refugees were made by Regional Office Pretoria between 1 January and 31 December 2016, bringing the total number of cases submitted to 389 cases on behalf of 1,112 refugees. Of this number 33 per cent of the cases were submitted under Legal and/or Physical Protection needs.

The highest numbers of dossier submissions originated from UNHCR Branch Offices in Lebanon, Zambia, and Sudan. Dossier submissions for urgent and emergency processing represented 56 countries of asylum. Of the total number, 23 per cent concerned refugees who originated from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and 18.5 per cent were refugees from Syria.

Some 15 per cent of the submissions were made under the Women and Girls at Risk category. Refugee women and girls are frequently subjected to or at risk of Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV), including exploitation, forced marriage, domestic violence and harmful traditional practices. In such situations, urgent or emergency resettlement provided an immediate protection response.

Another 26.5 per cent of the dossier cases were submitted under the Medical Needs category. Medical treatment available to refugees remains very limited and highly-costly in many operations globally. 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, often while trying to cope with the violence and trauma they have endured. For many of these refugees and their families, expedited resettlement on a dossier basis is the only option for ensuring their survival and preventing the further deterioration of their medical condition.

Concerning the submissions made through the PU at Headquarters in 2016, 44 per cent were under the Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs category as a primary resettlement need. Out of these referrals, 30 per cent of the cases involved refugees who were either in transit zones or pre-removal detention centres, pending deportation from their country of asylum, or in hiding being at high risk of being arrested and detained in the country of asylum and deported, or refouled to their country of origin, mostly due to violations of domestic immigration policy or absent asylum systems.

The highest numbers of dossier submissions made through the PU originated from UNHCR Branch Office in Russia (18 per cent), Chad (13 per cent), and Pakistan (8 per cent). Dossier submissions for urgent and emergency processing were referred from 22 countries of asylum. Refugees originating from Afghanistan comprised 31 per cent of the submissions, 11.5 per cent were from Central African Republic, and 10 per cent were originating from Sudan.

Refugees with medical needs counted for 21 per cent of the PU resettlement referrals on a dossier basis, half of them were referred by the Chad operation covered by Regional Office Dakar, which represented an increase compared to 2015. Some 13 per cent of the PU resettlement referrals on a dossier basis in 2016 were Women and Girls at Risk (primary resettlement category); all of which, except one, were submitted on an urgent and/or emergency category basis.

In total, dossier submissions were made to six resettlement countries; Denmark, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. Dossier cases submitted to France, the Netherlands, and to some extent Norway also included normal priority cases.

The combined acceptance rate of dossier submissions made in 2016 by the PU, MENA Protection Services in Amman, RSC in Nairobi and Regional Office in Pretoria

[1] Of which 61 cases / 129 persons were new submissions.

Zuhair is from Iraq and he is also working on getting a food truck started as well as maintaining his catering business called Falafel al Jailawi. He is part of The Spice Kitchen Incubator project, a project of the International Rescue Committee (IRC), in partnership with Salt Lake County. It is a business incubator that brings together resettled refugees and other disadvantaged community members interested in starting a full or part-time food business. Spice Kitchen Incubator ensures participants receive technical assistance and training, have affordable access to commercial kitchen space and learn the steps to establishing a successful food business. Entrepreneurs participating in the programme develop successful food businesses, preserve their culinary traditions and share their talents with the Salt Lake County community. © IRC / B. Yang / 2016

was 66 per cent, which is an increase compared to 2015 when the acceptance rate was around 50 per cent. The PU will continue to work closely with the resettlement countries with the objective of focusing to continue increasing the acceptance rate in 2017/2018.

Dossier submissions are an essential component of the resettlement programme, particularly where resettlement country selection missions cannot take place due to security conditions or because the remote locations of refugees. Dossier submissions provide an avenue for the use of resettlement as a protection tool for particularly vulnerable refugees. Most importantly, they enable expedited resettlement processing for refugees who have urgent or emergency protection or medical needs, which constitute the majority of dossier referrals made under urgent and emergency priorities.

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Annex 1

Standardized methodology

Identifying and estimating the number of refugees in need of resettlement

The figures in this document indicating the projected resettlement needs for 2018 have been drawn from the Operations Plans for 2018 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 resettlement needs based on the actual resettlement needs and, where applicable, involving the strategic use of resettlement.

In addition to the Operations Plans for 2018, 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 2018, 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, 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 2018 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 2018

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs for 2018 with the region of refugees' countries of asylum

Region of Asylum	Total projected resettlement needs	
	Cases	Persons
Africa	147,896	510,676
Asia and the Pacific	23,876	100,988
Europe	81,497	302,000
Middle East and North Africa	97,427	279,855
The Americas	755	1,830
Grand Total	**351,451**	**1,195,349**

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs for 2018 with the region of refugees' countries of origin

Region of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs	
	Cases	Persons
Africa	177,368	545,110
Asia and the Pacific	25,794	103,430
Europe	513	2,053
Middle East and North Africa	141,245	529,598
The Americas	575	1,575
Various	**5,956**	**13,583**
Grand Total	**351,451**	**1,195,349**

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs 2018 by country of asylum

Sub-Region of Asylum	Country of Asylum	Total projected resettlement needs	
		Cases	Persons
Africa Region			
Central Africa & the Great Lakes	Burundi	7,680	28,418
	Cameroon	26,085	78,255
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	4,000	16,000
	Republic of the Congo	450	1,350
	Rwanda	5,278	23,750
	United Republic of Tanzania	8,500	42,500
East & Horn of Africa	Chad	9,063	57,227
	Djibouti	2,347	8,966
	Eritrea	307	1,242
	Ethiopia	18,687	65,750
	Kenya	10,100	31,213
	Somalia	246	1,191
	South Sudan	11,112	13,632
	Sudan	1,685	3,960
	Uganda	28,820	87,500
Southern Africa	Angola	330	660
	Botswana	150	455
	Malawi	2,062	7,218
	Mozambique	40	200
	Namibia	75	205
	South Africa	3,350	10,000
	Zambia	2,624	10,496
	Zimbabwe	1,527	4,500
West Africa	Burkina Faso	568	3,476
	Côte d'Ivoire	30	60
	Gambia	24	125
	Ghana	350	1,190
	Guinea-Bissau	23	127
	Liberia	70	210
	Niger	2,045	10,105
	Nigeria	38	135
	Republic of Guinea	120	300
	Senegal	30	60
	Togo	80	200
Africa Region Sub-Total		**147,896**	**510,676**
Asia and the Pacific Region			
East Asia & the Pacific	Bangladesh	105	610
	China & China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	229	393
	Indonesia	1,500	2,700
	Malaysia	3,800	8,185
	Thailand	372	1,000
South Asia	India	155	400
	Sri Lanka	315	700
South-West Asia	Islamic Rep. of Iran	17,400	87,000
Asia and the Pacific Region Sub-Total		**23,876**	**100,988**

Sub-Region of Asylum	Country of Asylum	Total projected resettlement needs	
		Cases	Persons
Europe Region			
Eastern Europe	Russian Federation	945	1,500
	Ukraine	440	500
Turkey		80,112	300,000
Europe Region Sub-Total		**81,497**	**302,000**
Middle East and North Africa Region			
Middle East	Iraq	5,695	27,893
	Israel	29,650	38,050
	Jordan	22,100	72,125
	Kuwait	70	300
	Lebanon	32,197	120,000
	Bahrain, Oman, Qatar & Saudia Arabia	40	200
	Syrian Arab Rep.	470	1,500
	United Arab Emirates	450	1,350
	Yemen	163	820
North Africa	Egypt	5,940	15,735
	Libya	409	1,442
	Mauritania	159	310
	Morocco	84	130
Middle East and North Africa Region Sub-Total		**97,427**	**279,855**
The Americas Region			
The Americas	Caribbean	80	100
	Cuba	100	155
	Ecuador	500	1,500
	Mexico	75	75
The Americas Region Sub-Total		**755**	**1,830**
Grand Total		351,451	1,195,349

UNHCR projected global resettlement needs 2018 by country of origin

Sub-Region of Origin	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs	
		Cases	Persons
Africa Region			
Central Africa & the Great Lakes	Burundi	2,634	9,256
	Central African Rep.	23,645	94,581
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	40,031	148,554
	Rwanda	567	1,726
East & Horn of Africa	Burundi	20	100
	Eritrea	30,436	45,831
	Ethiopia	2,133	6,621
	Somalia	15,236	55,158
	South Sudan	28,245	92,537
	Sudan	26,436	60,763
Southern Africa	Namibia	80	230
	Zimbabwe	5	10
West Africa	Cameroon	15	15
	Côte d'Ivoire	320	1,105
	Gambia	17	17
	Liberia	35	85
	Mali	1,072	6,286
	Nigeria	6,404	22,008
	Senegal	32	206
	Sierra Leone	4	20
	Togo	1	1
Africa Region Sub-Total		**177,368**	**545,110**
Asia and the Pacific Region			
East Asia & the Pacific	Myanmar	4,008	9,090
South Asia	Sri Lanka	50	105
South-West Asia	Afghanistan	18,758	86,940
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	2,623	6,515
	Pakistan	355	780
Asia and the Pacific Region Sub-Total		**25,794**	**103,430**
Europe Region			
Turkey		513	2,053
Europe Region Sub-Total		**513**	**2,053**
Middle East and North Africa Region			
Middle East	Iraq	19,628	48,736
	State of Palestine	216	892
	Syrian Arab Republic	120,945	478,170
	Yemen	456	1,800
Middle East and North Africa Region Sub-Total		**141,245**	**529,598**
The Americas Region			
The Americas	Colombia	500	1,500
	El Salvador	32	32
	Guatemala	10	10
	Honduras	33	33
The Americas Region Sub-Total		**575**	**1,575**
Various Nationalities		5,956	13,583
Grand Total		351,451	1,195,349

Top 10 by Country of Asylum

Country of Asylum	Total projected resettlement needs	
	Cases	Persons
Turkey	80,112	300,000
Lebanon	32,197	120,000
Uganda	28,820	87,500
Islamic Rep. of Iran	17,400	87,000
Cameroon	26,085	78,255
Jordan	22,100	72,125
Ethiopia	18,687	65,750
Chad	9,063	57,227
United Republic of Tanzania	8,500	42,500
Israel	29,650	38,050
All Others	78,837	246,942
Grand Total	351,451	1,195,349

Top 10 by Country of Origin

Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs	
	Cases	Persons
Syrian Arab Republic	120,945	478,170
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	40,031	148,554
Central African Rep.	23,645	94,581
South Sudan	28,245	92,537
Afghanistan	18,758	86,940
Sudan	26,436	60,763
Somalia	15,236	55,158
Iraq	19,628	48,736
Eritrea	30,436	45,831
Nigeria	6,404	22,008
All Others	21,687	62,071
Grand Total	351,451	1,195,349

Combined Statistics

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs	
		Cases	Persons
Africa Region			
Angola	Eritrea	200	400
	Somalia	70	140
	Various	30	60
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	30	60
Botswana	Namibia	80	230
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	45	150
	Various	25	75
Burkina Faso	Mali	468	3,276
	Central African Rep.	90	150
	Various	10	50
Burundi	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	7,680	28,418
Cameroon	Central African Rep.	20,919	62,757
	Nigeria	5,002	15,006
	Rwanda	76	229
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	44	132
	Various	44	131
Chad	Sudan	7,806	31,227
	Central African Rep.	757	25,000
	Various	500	1,000
Côte d'Ivoire	Central African Rep.	10	20
	Liberia	10	20
	Various	10	20
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	Central African Rep.	1,400	5,600
	South Sudan	1,080	4,320
	Burundi	800	3,200
	Various	720	2,880
Djibouti	Somalia	1,321	5,207
	Yemen	436	1,700
	Ethiopia	345	1,420
	Eritrea	243	630
	Various	2	9
Eritrea	Somalia	270	1,144
	Various	37	98
Ethiopia	Somalia	6,500	25,000
	South Sudan	6,000	24,000
	Eritrea	4,000	10,000
	Sudan	2,025	6,480
	Various	162	270
Gambia	Senegal	15	85
	Various	4	15
	Sierra Leone	3	15
	Liberia	2	10
Ghana	Côte d'Ivoire	160	645
	Various	120	445
	Sudan	70	100
Guinea-Bissau	Senegal	17	121
	Gambia	2	2
	Nigeria	2	2
	Togo	1	1
	Central African Rep.	1	1

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs	
		Cases	Persons
Kenya	Somalia	4,607	16,301
	South Sudan	2,975	8,837
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,211	2,663
	Ethiopia	842	2,312
	Burundi	150	342
	Sudan	90	269
	Eritrea	76	153
	Rwanda	55	110
	Various	94	226
Liberia	Côte d'Ivoire	60	180
	Various	10	30
Malawi	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,379	4,827
	Burundi	427	1,496
	Rwanda	241	842
	Various	15	53
Mozambique	Burundi	20	100
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	20	100
Namibia	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	50	150
	Burundi	15	30
	Rwanda	5	15
	Zimbabwe	5	10
Niger	Nigeria	1,400	7,000
	Mali	600	3,000
	Various	45	105
Nigeria	Various	12	60
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	15	45
	Mali	4	10
	Central African Rep.	3	10
	Sierra Leone	1	5
	Liberia	3	5
Republic of Guinea	Côte d'Ivoire	80	200
	Liberia	20	50
	Various	20	50
Republic of the Congo	Central African Rep.	250	750
	Rwanda	100	300
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	100	300
Rwanda	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5,278	23,750
Senegal	Central African Rep.	10	30
	Gambia	15	15
	Various	5	15
Somalia	Ethiopia	200	1,000
	Yemen	20	100
	Various	26	91
South Africa	Somalia	1,500	4,500
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,200	3,600
	Burundi	200	600
	Eritrea	200	600
	Ethiopia	200	600
	Various	50	100

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs	
		Cases	Persons
South Sudan	Sudan	9,216	11,526
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,507	1,682
	Ethiopia	231	244
	Central African Rep.	157	179
	Various	1	1
Sudan	Eritrea	1,535	3,610
	Ethiopia	90	235
	Various	60	115
Togo	Côte d'Ivoire	20	80
	Central African Rep.	30	60
	Rwanda	10	20
	Various	10	20
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	10	20
Uganda	South Sudan	18,000	55,000
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	10,000	30,000
	Burundi	500	1,500
	Somalia	150	500
	Various	100	300
	Eritrea	35	100
	Rwanda	35	100
United Republic of Tanzania	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	8,300	41,500
	Various	200	1,000
Zambia	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,796	7,185
	Burundi	447	1,788
	Somalia	328	1,311
	Various	53	212
Zimbabwe	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,350	3,950
	Burundi	95	300
	Various	37	140
	Rwanda	45	110
Africa Region Sub-Total		**147,896**	**510,676**
Asia and the Pacific Region			
Bangladesh	Myanmar	105	610
China & China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	Various	229	393
India	Afghanistan	70	220
	Various	85	180
Indonesia	Afghanistan	855	1,540
	Myanmar	170	300
	Somalia	110	200
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	75	135
	Iraq	75	135
	Pakistan	60	110
	State of Palestine	60	110
	Various	95	170
Islamic Rep. of Iran	Afghanistan	16,400	82,000
	Iraq	1,000	5,000
Malaysia	Myanmar	3,500	7,480
	Somalia	85	195
	Pakistan	45	120
	Sri Lanka	50	105
	Various	120	285

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs	
		Cases	Persons
Sri Lanka	Pakistan	250	550
	Afghanistan	45	100
	Various	20	50
Thailand	Myanmar	233	700
	Various	139	300
Asia and the Pacific Region Sub-Total		**23,876**	**100,988**
Europe Region			
Russian Federation	Syrian Arab Republic	800	1,200
	Various	145	300
Turkey	Syrian Arab Republic	68,750	275,000
	Iraq	7,386	16,250
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	2,272	5,000
	Afghanistan	1,363	3,000
	Various	341	750
Ukraine	Various	440	500
Europe Region Sub-Total		**81,497**	**302,000**
Middle East and North Africa Region			
Egypt	Syrian Arab Republic	3,870	11,600
	Sudan	1,040	2,080
	Iraq	330	655
	Somalia	255	510
	South Sudan	190	380
	Eritrea	115	230
	Ethiopia	105	210
	Various	35	70
Iraq	Syrian Arab Republic	4,735	23,600
	Turkey	513	2,053
	Islamic Rep. of Iran	276	1,380
	State of Palestine	156	782
	Various	15	78
Israel	Eritrea	24,000	30,000
	Sudan	5,250	7,500
	Various	400	550
Jordan	Syrian Arab Republic	18,500	65,000
	Iraq	2,750	6,000
	Sudan	200	325
	Various	650	800
Kuwait	Somalia	40	150
	Iraq	20	100
	Syrian Arab Republic	10	50
Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic	23,800	100,000
	Iraq	7,400	18,500
	Sudan	667	1,000
	Various	330	500
Libya	Syrian Arab Republic	177	775
	Sudan	72	256
	Iraq	47	156
	Eritrea	32	108
	Various	81	147

Country of Asylum	Country of Origin	Total projected resettlement needs	
		Cases	Persons
Mauritania	Syrian Arab Republic	70	180
	Various	89	130
Morocco	Syrian Arab Republic	8	40
	Central African Rep.	18	24
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	16	22
	Cameroon	15	15
	Various	27	29
Bahrain, Oman, Qatar & Saudia Arabia	Syrian Arab Republic	25	125
	Various	15	75
Syrian Arab Rep.	Iraq	420	1,340
	Afghanistan	25	80
	Various	25	80
United Arab Emirates	Iraq	200	600
	Syrian Arab Republic	200	600
	Various	50	150
Yemen	Ethiopia	120	600
	Various	43	220
Middle East and North Africa Region Sub-Total		97,427	279,855
The Americas Region			
Caribbean	Various	80	100
Cuba	Various	100	155
Ecuador	Colombia	500	1,500
Mexico	Honduras	33	33
	El Salvador	32	32
	Guatemala	10	10
The Americas Region Sub-Total		755	1,830
Grand Total		351,451	1,195,349

Annex 3

UNHCR Global Resettlement Statistical Report 2016

Introduction

This report summarizes the resettlement activities of UNHCR Offices worldwide in 2016. The information for this report is drawn from the UNHCR Resettlement Statistical Reports (RSR), which are submitted by UNHCR Country Offices on a quarterly basis.

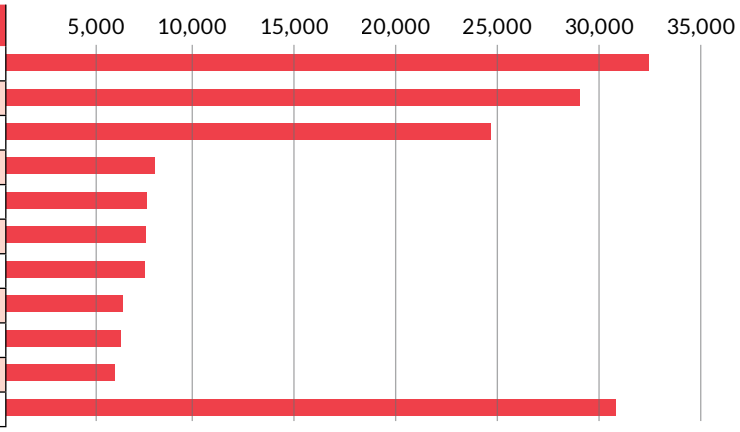
Certain information in this report is organized by regions, reflecting the five UNHCR Regional Bureaus: Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and MENA (Middle East and North Africa).

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 Resettlement Hubs, Regional Offices as well as Headquarters.

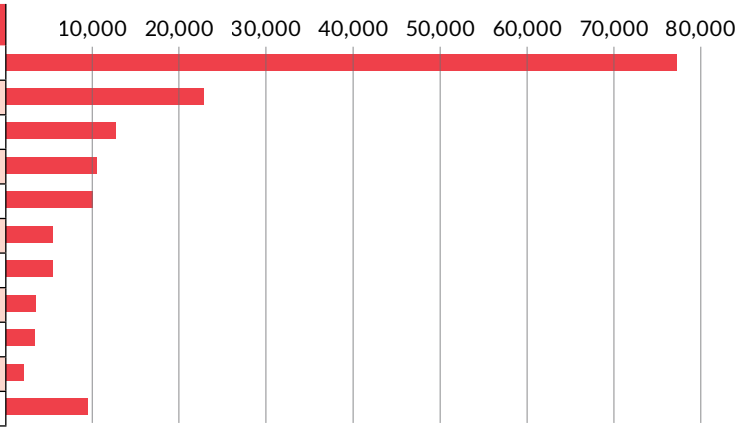
Submissions

Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2016

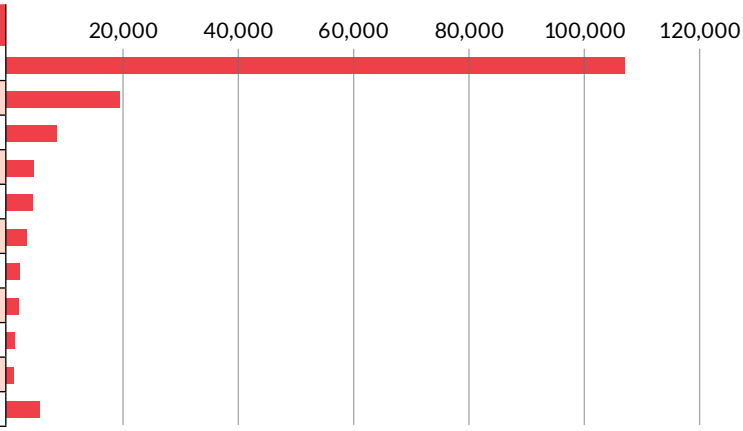
Country of Asylum	Persons
Jordan	32,405
Turkey	28,926
Lebanon	24,426
United Rep. of Tanzania	7,531
Kenya	7,163
Ethiopia	7,037
Egypt	7,006
Malaysia	5,949
Nepal	5,850
Uganda	5,524
All Others	30,758
Grand Total	162,575



Country of Origin	Persons
Syrian Arab Rep.	77,210
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	22,824
Iraq	12,770
Somalia	10,517
Myanmar	10,079
Sudan	5,439
Bhutan	5,407
Eritrea	3,441
Afghanistan	3,374
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	2,051
All Others	9,463
Grand Total	162,575



Country of Resettlement	Persons
United States	107,662
Canada	19,781
United Kingdom	8,837
Australia	4,809
France	4,571
Norway	3,690
Sweden	2,384
Germany	2,250
New Zealand	1,539
Netherlands	1,236
All Others	5,816
Grand Total	162,575



UNHCR Resettlement Submissions in 2016

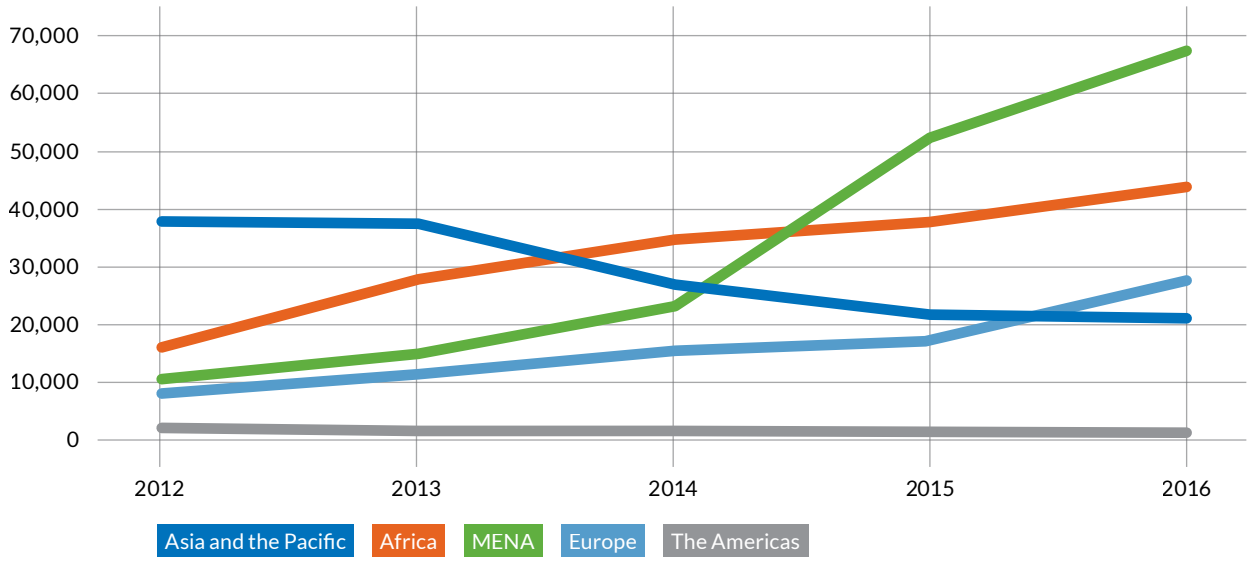
Submissions by Region of Asylum	Cases	Persons	% Total (persons)
Africa	12,831	43,978	27.1%
Asia and the Pacific	7,290	20,657	12.7%
Europe	8,036	29,239	18.0%
MENA	14,934	67,404	41.5%
The Americas	432	1,297	<1%
Grand Total	43,523	162,575	100%

Submissions by Region of Origin	Cases	Persons	% Total (persons)
Africa	14,565	48,276	29.7%
Asia and the Pacific	8,295	22,233	13.7%
Europe	7	22	<1%
MENA	20,207	90,733	55.8%
The Americas	374	1,199	<1%
Stateless/Various	75	112	<1%
Grand Total	43,523	162,575	100%

UNHCR Submissions by Region of Asylum, 2012–2016 (persons)

Region of Asylum	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Africa	15,710	28,141	35,079	38,870	43,978
Asia and the Pacific	38,020	37,559	27,450	21,620	20,657
Europe	8,526	11,096	16,392	18,833	29,239
MENA	10,519	14,247	23,169	53,331	67,404
The Americas	2,065	1,872	1,800	1,390	1,297
Grand Total	74,840	92,915	103,890	134,044	162,575

UNHCR Submissions by Region of Asylum, 2012–2016 (persons)



Planned Targets vs. Submissions, 2014-2016 (persons)

Country of Asylum	2014			2015			2016		
	2014 Targets	2014 Sub	% Target	2015 Targets	2015 Sub	% Target	2016 Targets	2016 Sub	% Target
Africa									
Angola	500	9	2%	300	0	0%	350	20	6%
Benin	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Botswana	400	138	35%	315	23	7%	50	64	128%
Burkina Faso	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	150	38	25%
Burundi	2,700	3,777	140%	4,400	3,346	76%	3,500	2,159	62%
Cameroon	350	253	72%	1,000	413	41%	1,000	260	26%
Chad	1,600	1,140	71%	4,722	1,313	28%	5,098	3,226	63%
Côte d'Ivoire	50	92	184%	250	150	60%	300	67	22%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	637	18	3%	600	179	30%	200	392	196%
Djibouti	720	0	0%	1,305	130	10%	750	246	33%
Eritrea	75	20	27%	50	175	350%	50	102	204%
Ethiopia	3,890	3,715	96%	5,965	5,999	101%	6,465	7,037	109%
Gabon	100	11	11%	50	0	0%	n/a	0	n/a
Gambia	n/a	56	n/a	50	1	2%	50	28	56%
Ghana	200	145	73%	200	93	47%	270	92	34%
Guinea-Bissau	n/a	10	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	20	11	55%
Kenya	6,280	6,805	108%	6,550	7,586	116%	7,000	7,163	102%
Lesotho	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Liberia	200	28	14%	225	42	19%	174	46	26%
Madagascar	n/a	22	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Malawi	700	787	112%	1,200	736	61%	900	1,207	134%
Mali	n/a	0	n/a	10	11	110%	n/a	0	n/a
Mozambique	300	117	39%	450	56	12%	300	162	54%
Namibia	740	460	62%	400	299	75%	120	193	161%
Niger	n/a	0	n/a	100	0	0%	300	38	13%
Nigeria	80	23	29%	40	9	23%	45	11	24%
Republic of Guinea	120	63	53%	200	145	73%	160	185	116%
Republic of the Congo	210	360	171%	240	233	97%	240	306	128%
Rwanda	3,000	2,708	90%	2,400	2,609	109%	3,500	4,121	118%
Senegal	n/a	6	n/a	n/a	17	n/a	67	25	37%
Seychelles	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	1	n/a
Somalia	25	114	456%	200	65	33%	200	66	33%
South Africa	1,350	1,534	114%	1,300	1,424	110%	1,100	1,176	107%
South Sudan	n/a	8	n/a	n/a	16	n/a	n/a	17	n/a
Sudan	2,815	1,372	49%	1,785	1,002	56%	2,265	819	36%
Swaziland	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	6	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Togo	184	106	58%	240	72	30%	155	185	119%
Uganda	4,270	4,504	105%	4,270	4,612	108%	4,270	5,524	129%
United Republic of Tanzania	4,520	5,221	116%	5,020	6,852	136%	6,020	7,531	125%
Zambia	1,000	1,128	113%	1,000	923	92%	1,000	995	100%
Zimbabwe	450	326	72%	450	321	71%	450	465	103%
Africa Region Sub–Total	37,466	35,079	94%	45,287	38,870	86%	46,519	43,978	95%
Asia									
Bangladesh	n/a	0	n/a	50	0	0%	50	0	0%
Cambodia	n/a	18	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	13	n/a
China & China, Hong Kong SAR	293	112	38%	135	123	91%	88	77	88%
India	400	304	76%	300	304	101%	300	303	101%
Indonesia	875	1,531	175%	1,400	1,500	107%	1,200	1,238	103%
Islamic Rep. of Iran	4,000	1,063	27%	2,500	741	30%	1,000	957	96%
Kazakhstan	100	36	36%	100	2	2%	n/a	0	n/a
Kyrgyzstan	100	85	85%	100	1	1%	n/a	0	n/a

Country of Asylum	2014			2015			2016		
	2014 Targets	2014 Sub	% Target	2015 Targets	2015 Sub	% Target	2016 Targets	2016 Sub	% Target
Malaysia	15,000	11,361	76%	10,000	7,147	71%	6,500	5,949	92%
Mongolia	10	0	0%	n/a	8	n/a	n/a	10	n/a
Nepal	7,320	5,726	78%	2,580	4,869	189%	1,040	5,850	563%
Pacific Islands Region	45	5	11%	37	15	41%	n/a	5	n/a
Pakistan	4,000	2,153	54%	2,200	2,364	107%	1,500	797	53%
Singapore	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Sri Lanka	216	217	100%	280	505	180%	500	405	81%
Tajikistan	159	38	24%	200	63	32%	n/a	204	n/a
Thailand	4,300	4,800	112%	4,000	3,974	99%	3,700	4,849	131%
Uzbekistan	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Asia Region Sub–Total	36,818	27,450	75%	23,882	21,620	91%	15,878	20,657	130%
Europe									
Armenia	n/a	10	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Azerbaijan	75	4	5%	25	0	0%	n/a	5	n/a
Belarus	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	15	n/a
Bosnia and Herzegovina	n/a	16	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Georgia	n/a	5	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	1	n/a
Malta	475	413	87%	475	392	83%	450	138	31%
Russian Federation	430	135	31%	425	111	26%	370	122	33%
Turkey	8,000	15,738	197%	25,000	18,260	73%	20,000	28,926	145%
Turkmenistan	15	0	0%	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Ukraine	70	71	101%	100	68	68%	100	32	32%
Europe Region Sub–Total	9,065	16,392	181%	26,025	18,833	72%	20,920	29,239	140%
MENA									
Algeria	n/a	21	n/a	n/a	20	n/a	n/a	23	n/a
Egypt	2,000	3,674	184%	4,000	6,292	157%	4,500	7,006	156%
Iraq	55	461	838%	1,410	1,122	80%	1,800	2,055	114%
Israel	100	226	226%	200	168	84%	200	258	129%
Jordan	1,200	7,284	607%	7,700	24,374	317%	8,200	32,405	395%
Kuwait	250	200	80%	250	255	102%	250	0	0%
Lebanon	1,700	9,188	540%	13,800	19,516	141%	9,300	24,426	263%
Libya	150	23	15%	50	13	26%	150	5	3%
Mauritania	20	28	140%	n/a	62	n/a	100	153	153%
Morocco	125	56	45%	n/a	100	n/a	110	75	68%
Saudi Arabia	100	117	117%	125	113	90%	155	156	101%
State of Palestine	n/a	24	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	30	n/a
Syrian Arab Rep.	2,500	1,499	60%	1,920	922	48%	1,700	454	27%
Tunisia	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	33	n/a
United Arab Emirates	150	260	173%	315	298	95%	200	325	163%
Yemen	300	105	35%	300	73	24%	200	0	0%
MENA Region Sub–Total	8,650	23,169	268%	30,070	53,331	177%	26,865	67,404	251%
Americas									
Argentina	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Caribbean	50	89	178%	80	50	63%	80	41	51%
Costa Rica	40	12	30%	18	0	0%	n/a	0	n/a
Cuba	n/a	8	n/a	n/a	7	n/a	120	42	35%
Ecuador	2,000	1,664	83%	1,300	1,319	101%	1,000	1,214	121%
Panama	9	0	0%	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	15	27	180%	15	13	87%	15	0	0%
The Americas Region Sub–Total	2,114	1,800	85%	1,413	1,390	98%	1,215	1,297	107%
Grand Total	94,113	103,890	110%	126,677	134,044	106%	111,397	162,575	146%

The previous table represents an overview of published targets as compared to actual submissions over the last three years. In 2014, 2015 and 2016, UNHCR surpassed its overall planned global submission targets, with submissions in 2016 reaching a record high of 162,575 submissions against a planned target of 111,397. Some individual operations consistently over-submitted over the past years, while other countries have struggled to meet their targets for a variety of reasons:

Identification: Identifying refugees for resettlement has been one of the main challenges for some operations due to inadequate registration data. This may be further aggravated for operations where UNHCR does not have access to Government owned data. In other regions improved identification of cases (particularly in the MENA region) resulted from enhanced registration and/or verification exercises, innovative approaches to case management, the use of online tools to record vulnerability assessments from a variety of sources / partners as well as the use of biometrics as a means of identity verification, which eventually assisted operations in surpassing targets.

Security and Access: The prevailing situation of insecurity and conflict in some first countries of asylum has prevented some resettlement countries from conducting selection missions.

Staffing and Resources: Challenges have included high staff turn-over, time-limited deployments, insufficient child protection staff to carry out best interest assessments / determinations, re-deployment of protection/ resettlement staff to emergency situations, slow processing of entry visa and travel permits for international staff and deployees by countries of first asylum and poorinfrastructure / office facilities in deep field offices.

Quota allocations: Resettlement in 2015 and 2016 witnessed expressions of solidarity through large scale resettlement initiatives, which benefited some operations / regions more than others. As a result, some operations had the possibility to submit significantly above their initially planned targets, while others were confronted with less available places than anticipated. In those regions insufficient quota allocations resulted in reduced staffing and resources which further affected the operations' capacity to meet their targets.

Ensuring Integrity: Some operations experienced delays in processing caused by lack of access to required documents as well as verification of identity and complex family compositions.

Operational Scale: Many resettlement countries have traditionally preferred to process resettlement out of large scale operations rather than small operations.

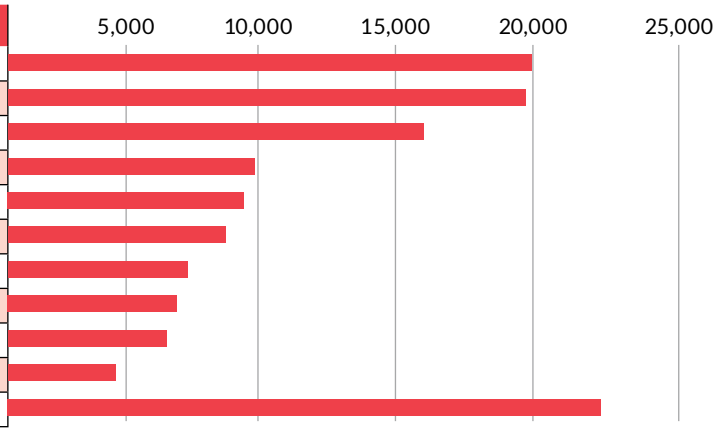
Enhanced Regional/Sub-regional Initiatives: Sub-regional resettlement enhancement initiatives have sometimes simplified identification mechanisms for specific refugee populations, which in turn increased submissions. For example, the multi-year sub-regional initiative for the enhanced resettlement of Congolese (DRC) from the Great Lakes and Southern Africa region increased the number of Congolese submitted for resettlement.

Group Resettlement: This modality has facilitated large scale (P2) group resettlement programmes, which have allowed some regions to meet high targets in a shorter period of time.

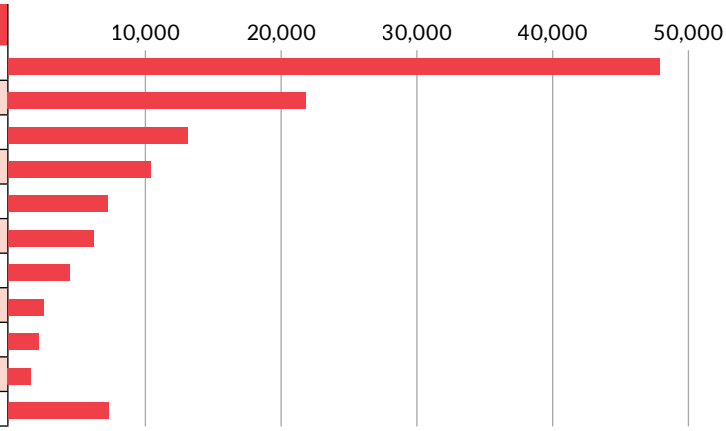
Departures

Top Ten: UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2016

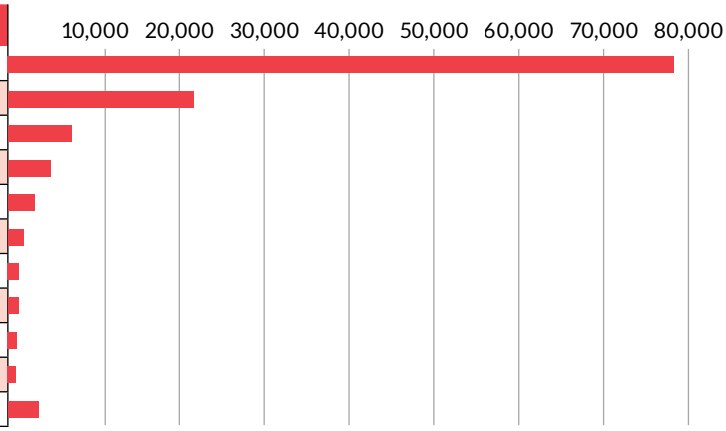
Country of Asylum	Persons
Lebanon	19,502
Jordan	19,303
Turkey	15,581
Kenya	9,286
United Rep. of Tanzania	8,873
Malaysia	8,106
Nepal	6,765
Uganda	6,299
Thailand	5,890
Egypt	4,035
All Others	22,195
Grand Total	125,835



Country of Origin	Persons
Syrian Arab Rep.	47,930
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	21,911
Myanmar	13,234
Somalia	10,540
Iraq	7,346
Bhutan	6,297
Afghanistan	4,544
Eritrea	2,640
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	2,252
Sudan	1,714
All Others	7,427
Grand Total	125,835



Country of Resettlement	Persons
United States	78,340
Canada	21,838
Australia	7,502
United Kingdom	5,074
Norway	3,149
Sweden	1,864
France	1,328
Germany	1,229
Finland	926
New Zealand	895
All Others	3,690
Grand Total	125,835



UNHCR Resettlement Departures in 2016

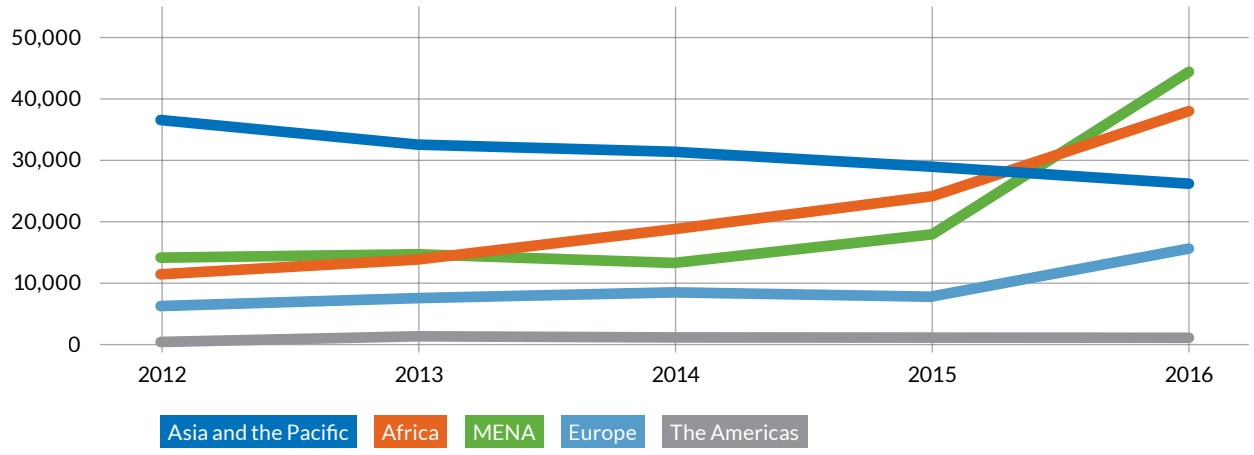
Departures by Region of Asylum	Persons	% Total (persons)
Africa	38,925	30.9%
Asia and Pacific	26,091	20.7%
Europe	15,830	12.6%
MENA	44,168	35.1%
The Americas	821	<1%
Grand Total	125,835	100%

Departures by Region of Origin	Persons	% Total (persons)
Africa	41,494	33.0%
Asia and Pacific	27,862	22.1%
Europe	18	<1%
MENA	55,598	44.2%
The Americas	790	<1%
Stateless/Various	73	<1%
Grand Total	125,835	100%

UNHCR Departures by Region of Asylum, 2012-2016

Region of Asylum	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Africa	11,342	14,699	19,250	24,016	38,925
Asia and the Pacific	37,394	32,731	30,827	29,701	26,091
Europe	6,473	7,939	9,653	8,336	15,830
MENA	13,725	14,855	12,851	18,948	44,168
The Americas	318	1,225	1,027	892	821
Grand Total	69,252	71,449	73,608	81,893	125,835

UNHCR Departures by Region of Asylum, 2012-2016 (persons)



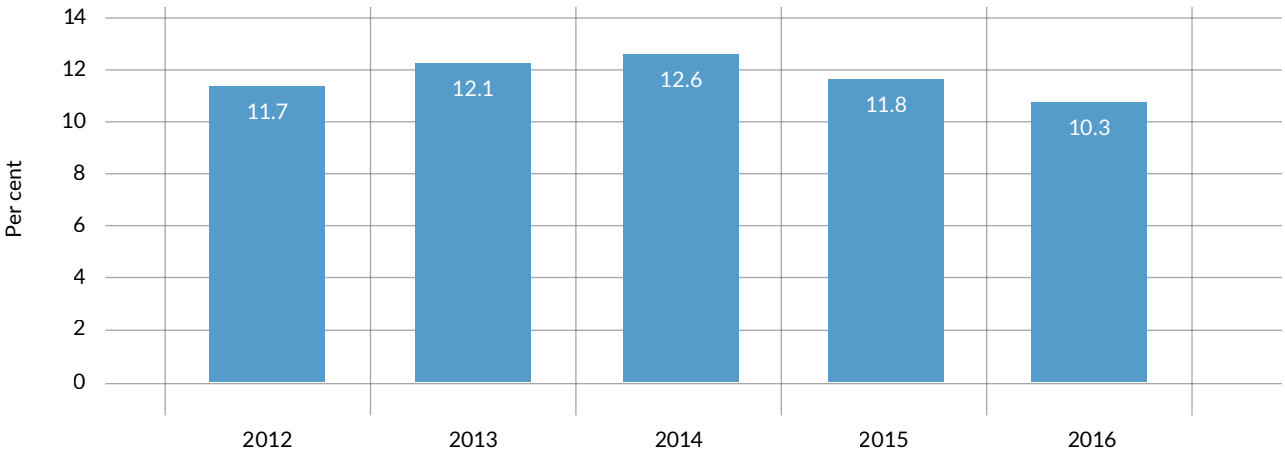
Resettlement Categories

UNHCR Resettlement by Submission Category in 2016

Category	Cases Submitted	Persons Submitted	% Cases Submitted	Persons Departed	% Persons Departed
Legal and/or Protection Needs (LPN)	14,495	53,768	33.3%	43,131	34.3%
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)	12,694	52,598	29.2%	32,199	25.6%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (LAS)	8,386	28,999	19.3%	31,759	25.2%
Women and Girls At Risk (AWR)	4,501	12,791	10.3%	9,556	7.6%
Medical Needs (MED)	1,549	6,536	3.6%	4,254	3.4%
Children and Adolescents At Risk (CHL)	1,285	6,200	3.0%	2,891	2.3%
Family Reunification (FAM)	516	1,392	1.2%	1,421	1.1%
Others/Unspecified	97	291	<1%	624	<1%
Grand Total	43,523	162,575	100%	125,835	100%

UNHCR Resettlement Under the Women and Girls at Risk Category in 2016

Women and Girls at Risk Cases as a Percentage of Total Resettlement Submissions by UNHCR, 2012-2016 (cases)



Top Ten Countries of Asylum: Submissions Under the Women and Girls at Risk Category (AWR), 2016*

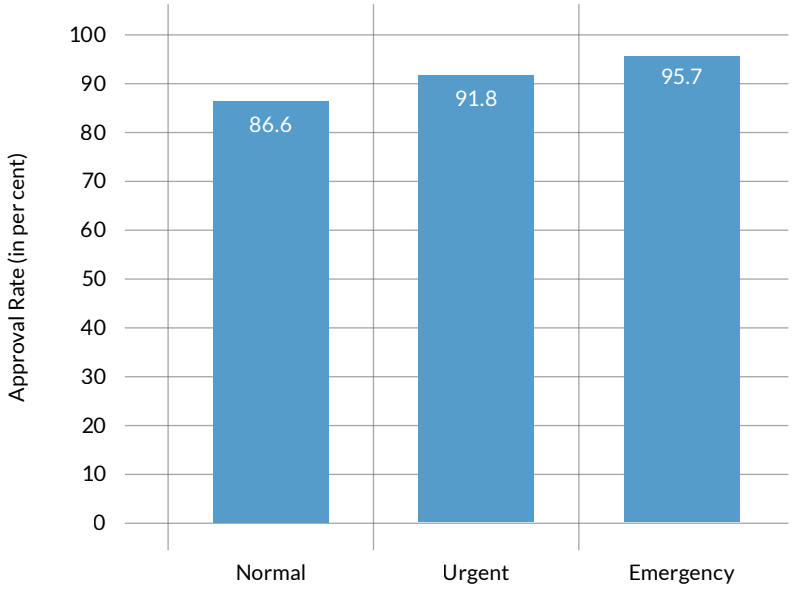
Country of Asylum	Cases Submitted	Rate of AWR Submissions (% per Asylum Country)	Persons Submitted	Persons Departed
Turkey	663	8.5%	1,614	1,150
Kenya	476	18.4%	1,404	1,367
Ethiopia	388	19.4%	1,413	764
Egypt	349	17.3%	959	468
Nepal	255	12.9%	646	320
Jordan	254	3.7%	627	312
Chad	236	26.3%	782	186
Uganda	203	13.3%	635	712
Lebanon	189	3.8%	550	533
Burundi	184	31.3%	668	183

* AWR% calculated using primary submission category, by case.

UNHCR Resettlement Under the Medical Needs Category in 2016

Top Ten Submissions by Country of Asylum	Cases	Top Ten Submissions by Country of Origin	Cases	Top Ten Departures by Country of Resettlement	Persons
Turkey	702	Syrian Arab Rep.	532	United States	2,388
Jordan	255	Iraq	496	Canada	724
Lebanon	132	Somalia	97	United Kingdom	301
Egypt	69	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	78	Sweden	287
Malaysia	63	Myanmar	73	Norway	148
Kenya	53	Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	72	Australia	128
Uganda	32	Afghanistan	63	Denmark	82
Iraq	27	Sudan	41	France	61
Thailand	26	Eritrea	20	Netherlands	40
Ethiopia	23	Burundi	12	Finland	37
Indonesia	23				
All Others	144	All Others	65	All Others	58
Grand Total	1,549	Grand Total	1,549	Grand Total	4,254

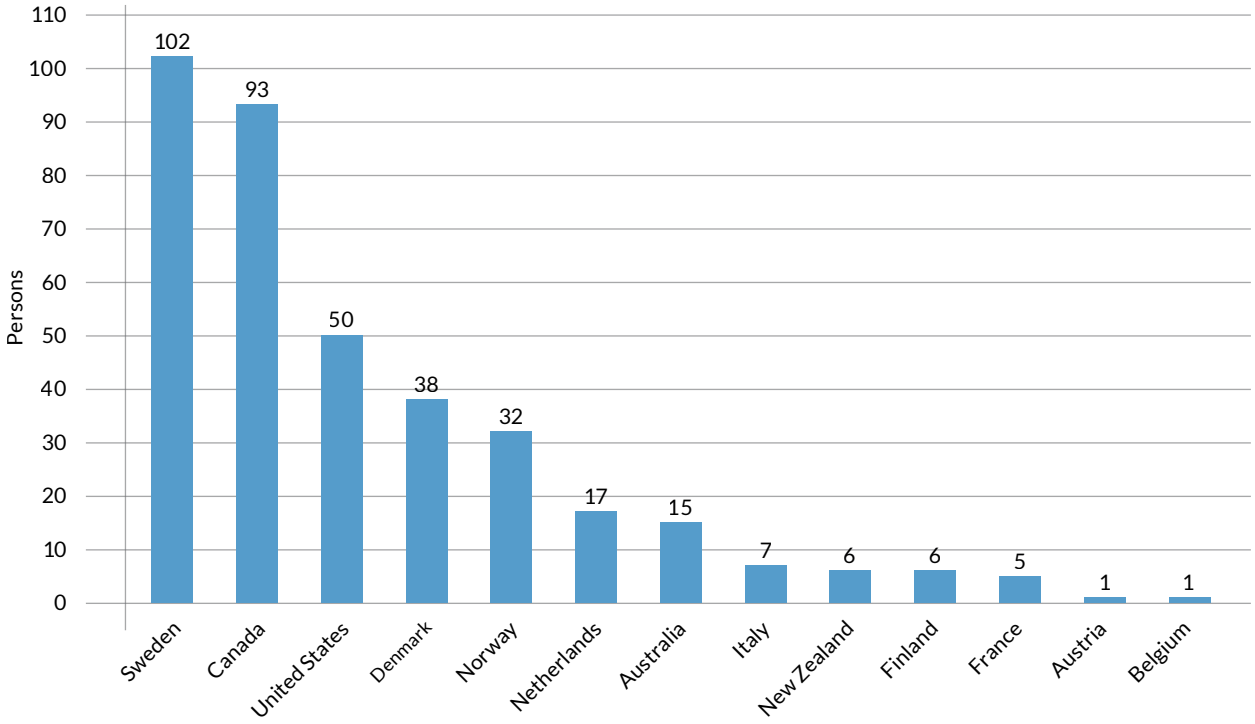
Resettlement Country Approval Rate Under the Medical Needs Category by Priority in 2016 (cases)



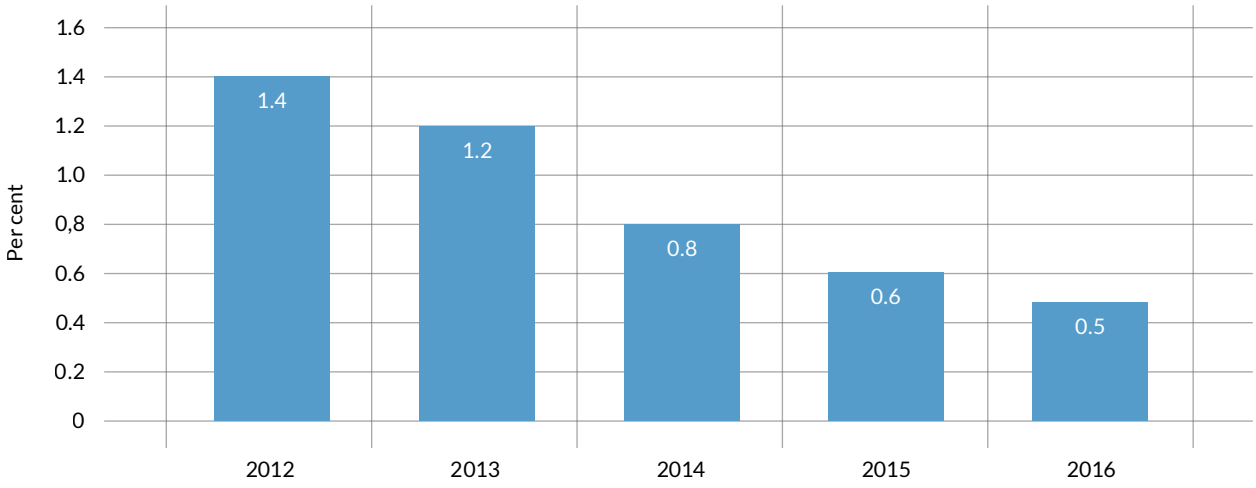
UNHCR Resettlement by Priority in 2016

UNHCR Submission Priority	Submissions			Departures	
	Cases	% Cases	Persons	Persons	% Persons
Normal	40,569	93.2%	154,186	118,600	94.3%
Urgent	2,703	6.2%	7,657	6,282	5%
Emergency	194	<1%	536	373	<1%
Unspecified/Other	57	<1%	196	580	<1%
Grand Total	43,523	100%	162,575	125,835	100%

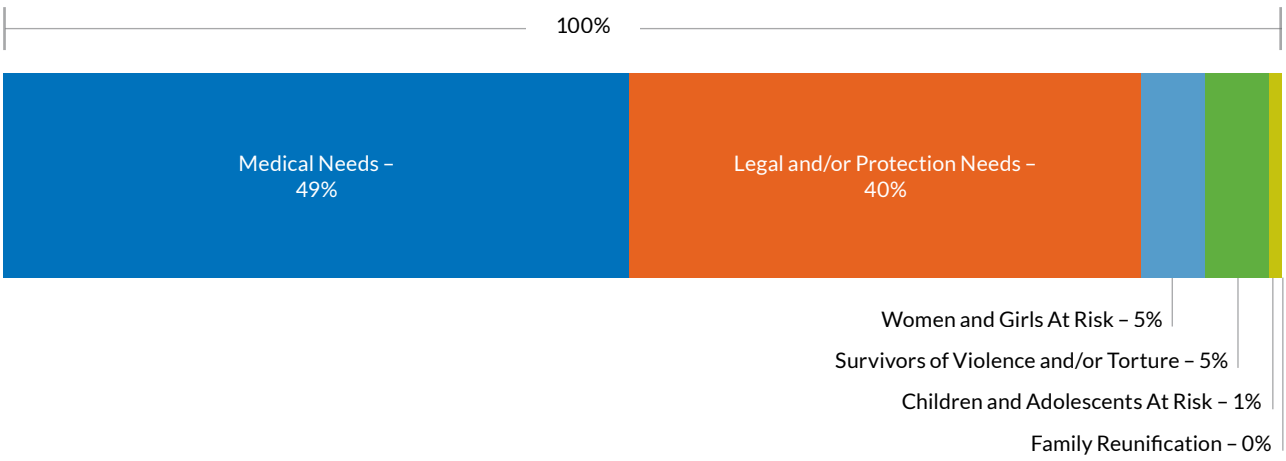
UNHCR Emergency Departures by Country of Resettlement, 2016 (persons)



Emergency Cases as a Percentage of Total Resettlement Submissions by UNHCR, 2012-2016 (cases)



UNHCR Emergency Departures by Category, 2016 (cases)



Acceptance Rates

Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Resettlement Countries in 2016

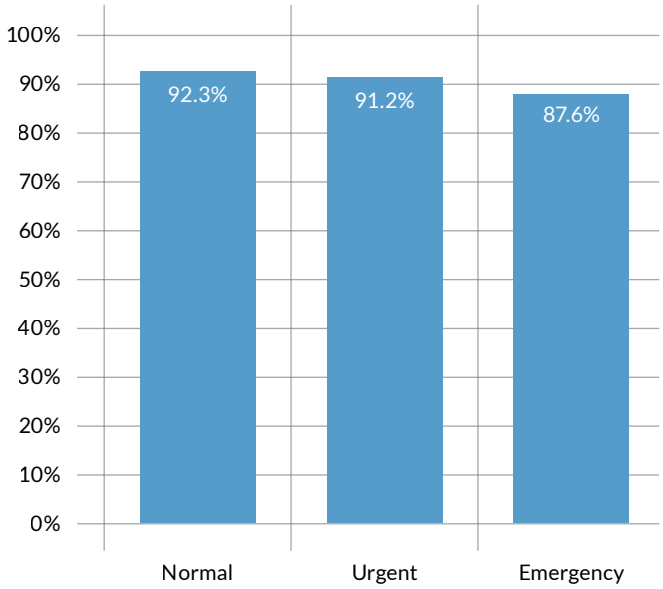
Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Country of Origin in 2016

Country of Origin	Cases Submitted	% Cases Accepted
Syrian Arab Rep.	15,948	94.6%
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	6,142	97.7%
Iraq	3,988	83.2%
Myanmar	3,533	97.7%
Somalia	3,186	83.9%
Bhutan	1,972	95.2%
Sudan	1,602	88.3%
Eritrea	1,455	91.3%
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	1,294	89.3%
Afghanistan	1,139	88.0%
All Others	3,264	84.5%
Grand Total	43,523	92.2%

Acceptance Rates of UNHCR Submissions by Submission Category in 2016

Submission Category	Acceptance Rate
Legal and/or Protection Needs (LPN)	92.8%
Survivors of Violence and/or Torture (SVT)	93.2%
Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions (LAS)	91.2%
Women and Girls At Risk (AWR)	91.4%
Medical Needs (MED)	88.6%
Children and Adolescents At Risk (CHL)	95.1%
Family Reunification (FAM)	96.2%
Others/Unspecified	100%

Acceptance Rates of Resettlement Countries by UNHCR Resettlement Priority in 2016



UNHCR Resettlement Departures, 2012-2016* (persons)

Country of Resettlement	2012	2013	2014	2016	2016
Argentina	5	7	21	0	0
Australia	5,079	11,117	6,162	5,211	7,502
Austria	0	4	269	642	81
Belarus	0	0	0	14	0
Belgium	1	100	32	276	456
Brazil	8	56	44	6	31
Canada	4,755	5,113	7,233	10,236	21,838
Chile	3	3	0	0	0
Czechia	25	1	4	0	22
Denmark	324	471	332	486	315
Estonia	0	0	0	0	11
Finland	763	665	1,011	964	926
France	84	100	378	700	1,328
Germany	323	1,092	3,467	2,097	1,229
Hungary	1	0	4	2	4
Iceland	9	0	4	13	56
Ireland	40	62	98	178	359
Italy	9	0	0	96	528
Japan	0	18	23	19	18
Latvia	0	0	0	0	6
Liechtenstein	0	0	5	17	0
Lithuania	0	0	0	0	25
Luxembourg	0	0	28	49	52
Mexico	0	0	1	0	0
Monaco	0	0	0	0	6
Netherlands	262	362	743	428	689
New Zealand	719	682	639	756	895
Norway	1,137	938	1,188	2,220	3,149
Poland	0	0	0	2	0
Portugal	21	6	14	39	12
Rep. of Korea	20	31	14	42	64
Romania	0	0	44	2	0
Spain	80	0	30	92	288
Sweden	1,483	1,832	1,812	1,808	1,864
Switzerland	54	78	139	664	667
United Kingdom	989	750	628	1,768	5,074
United States of America	53,053	47,750	48,911	52,583	78,340
Uruguay	5	14	52	0	0
Grand Total	69,252	71,449	73,608	81,893	125,835

* All figures in 2016 are provisional and subject to change. This table includes revised figures for 2016 and 2017. 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 2016

Country of Resettlement	Persons Resettled in 2016	National Populations*	Population per Refugees Resettled
Canada	21,838	35,940,000	1,646
Norway	3,149	5,211,000	1,655
Australia	7,502	23,969,000	3,195
United States	78,340	321,774,000	4,107
New Zealand	895	4,529,000	5,060
Sweden	1,864	9,779,000	5,246
Iceland	56	329,000	5,875
Finland	926	5,503,000	5,943
Monaco	6	38,000	6,333
Luxembourg	52	567,000	10,904
Switzerland	667	8,299,000	12,442
United Kingdom	5,074	64,716,000	12,754
Ireland	359	4,688,000	13,058
Denmark	315	5,669,000	17,997
Netherlands	689	16,925,000	24,565
Belgium	456	11,299,000	24,779
France	1,328	64,395,000	48,490
Germany	1,229	80,689,000	65,654
Austria	81	8,545,000	105,494
Italy	528	59,798,000	113,254
Lithuania	25	2,878,000	115,120
Estonia	11	1,313,000	119,364
Spain	288	46,122,000	160,146
Latvia	6	1,971,000	328,500
Czechia	22	10,543,000	479,227
Rep. of Korea	64	50,293,000	785,828
Portugal	12	10,350,000	862,500
Hungary	4	9,855,000	2,463,750
Brazil	31	207,848,000	6,704,774
Japan	18	126,573,000	7,031,833

* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2015). World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision, DVD Edition.

UNHCR Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) & Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) 2016 Arrivals & Departures

Country of Asylum*	Country of Origin	Resettlement Country	Number of Cases	Number of Individuals	In centre as of year end 2016	Departed	Others (+/-)	Voluntary Repatriation
Humenne, Slovakia								
Eritrea	Somalia	USA	17	68	1	67	0	0
Lebanon	Sudan	USA	11	15	4	11	0	0
Lebanon	Ethiopia	USA	0	2	0	2	0	0
Eritrea	Somalia	USA	14	58	13	45	0	0
Lebanon	Sudan	USA	10	11	0	11	0	0
Lebanon	Eritrea	USA	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lebanon	Ethiopia	USA	0	1	0	1	0	0
Lebanon	Libya	USA	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lebanon	DRC	USA	1	1	0	1	0	0
Eritrea	Somalia	USA	8	37	0	37	0	0
Yemen	Somalia	USA	8	46	27	19	0	0
Total			**71**	**241**	**45**	**196**	**0**	**0**
Philippines								
Palau	Ghana	Netherlands	1	1	0	1	0	0
Cambodia	Vietnam	Canada	13	13	13	0	0	0
Mongolia	Afghanistan	USA	2	2	0	2	0	0
Total			**16**	**16**	**13**	**3**	**0**	**0**
Timisoara, Romania								
Syria	Iraq	Initially USA	2	3	3	0	0	0
Yemen	Somalia	USA	1	5	0	5	0	0
Yemen	Somalia	Finland	1	4	0	4	0	0
Iran	Afghanistan	USA	12	54	0	54	0	0
Syria	Iraq	Initially UK	1	5	5	0	0	0
Syria	Iraq	UK	8	20	0	20	0	0
Iran	Afghanistan	USA	6	29	0	29	0	0
Burundi	DRC	UK	8	23	0	23	0	0
Syria	Iraq	UK	4	12	0	12	0	0
Burundi	DRC	UK	12	32	0	32	0	0
Burundi	DRC	UK	14	45	0	45	0	0
Burundi	DRC	UK	13	34	0	34	0	0
Burundi	DRC	UK	8	16	0	16	0	0
Syria	Iraq	UK	4	16	0	16	0	0
Iran	Afghanistan	USA	7	32	0	32	0	0
Saudi Arabia	Syria	The Netherlands	1	1	0	1	0	0
Iran	Afghanistan	USA	6	23	7	16	0	0
Syria	Iraq	UK	9	26	0	26	0	0
Iran	Afghanistan	USA	8	32	27	5	0	0
Syria	Iraq	UK	10	27	0	27	0	0
Syria	Iraq	UK	8	23	0	23	0	0
KD-Iraq	Syria	The Netherlands	1	1	1	0	0	0
Syria	Somalia	France	2	4	0	4	0	0
Syria	Iran	France	1	4	0	4	0	0
Yemen	Somalia	France	1	7	0	7	0	0
Syria	Iraq	UK	4	11	0	11	0	0
Iran	Afghanistan	USA	8	40	40	0	0	0
Somalia	Ethiopia	France	1	8	0	8	0	0
Total			**161**	**537**	**83**	**454**	**0**	**0**
Grand Total			**248**	**794**	**141**	**653**	**0**	**0**

*Country of asylum prior to entering the ETC

* # of cases/ individuals at the ETC Timisoara at the beginning of 2016 (from previous years) is 43/155

* # of cases/ individuals who arrived at the ETC Timisoara in 2016 is 118/382

* # of cases/ individuals who departed from the ETC Timisoara in 2016 is 158/454

* # of cases/individuals who arrived in 2015 is 84; one individual arrived in 2014.

Carrying banners and placards, thousands of people take part in the Refugees Welcome Here march in London on 17 September 2016 to urge the Government to take more action on the refugee crisis. © UNHCR / Andrew McConnell / September 2016

Congolese refugee Bora Riziki (second from the left) is from Uvira in South Kivu Province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. As a teenager, she fled to South Africa after her parents were killed. But after settling in the township of Delft, Bora's husband was murdered in front of her in a car-jacking, leaving her alone to care for her two children – one of whom is deaf. Soon afterwards her brother was also killed. After a difficult journey, she is now leaving from the Cape Town International Airport to be resettled in France. © UNHCR / James Oatway / March 2017

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