

Slovak Republic

Country Operation Plan

2002

Part I: Executive Committee Summary

(a) Context and Beneficiary Populations

The Slovak Republic succeeded to the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol on 1 January 1993 as a result of the dissolution of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. The Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior was established later in 1993, as the main Government department responsible for refugee issues. In January 1996, Law No. 283/1995 on Refugees entered into force, replacing Law No. 498/1990 on Refugees inherited from the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. An amendment of Law 283/1995 on Refugees (Law No. 309/2000) has been adopted and entered into force on 1 November 2000. A new Refugee Law, fully harmonizing with EU standards, is planned to be adopted by the end of 2002.

A national asylum system has been established, which includes: a refugee status determination (RSD) procedure, a Government-funded infrastructure for the reception of refugees and asylum-seekers, a refugee integration programme jointly funded by the Government and UNHCR, and a UNHCR-funded network of five NGOs providing assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers across the country. The Slovak Republic is now developing its asylum system in response to increasing numbers of asylum-seekers and in order to ensure full implementation of its international obligations and full harmonization with the European Union (EU) acquis on asylum in preparation for membership of the EU. According to the Accession Negotiation Position of the Slovak Republic in Chapter 24 - Cooperation in Justice and Home Affairs, in order to harmonize the national legislation and practice with EU Acquis, Slovakia should establish the COI Documentary Center (2001) and throughout 2002 and 2003, it should adopt the new Refugee Law including the establishment of an independent second instance judicial body.

The principal State institution responsible for the asylum system is the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior. The Migration Office implements the RSD procedure at first instance runs the reception centres for asylum-seekers and manages a refugee integration centre in Zvolen in Central Slovakia.

The number of asylum-seekers increases rapidly: almost one third (1,556) of the 4,941 asylum-seekers registered with the Migration Office since 1994 were registered during 2000. And over the first five months of 2001, there has been close to 1,800 asylum-seekers registered, which, if the trend remains as such, will be more than doubling the numbers of 2000. Of these, 403 were granted refugee status between 1994 and the end of 2000, 10 during the year 2000, and 1 only since the beginning of this year. In addition, there are a stable number of registered stateless persons, 238, of whom all but 3 have been granted permanent residency permits (the 3 have long term residency permits).

Security situation

The Migration Office is responsible for reception centre security. No particular problems have been reported to UNHCR and no security measures are foreseen under the country programme.

UNHCR's role- protection, assistance, monitoring and coordination

The national asylum system is undergoing a process of great change and expansion, and this in turn means that UNHCR, the Migration Office and NGO partners, will have to plan together carefully throughout 2002 in order to ensure the most effective use of resources and that needs are met in 2002. For example, the establishment of a reception centre in Eastern Slovakia at the end of 2001 will result in the need for increased NGO legal and social service provision in the region, as well as training of new staff. New challenges and opportunities in the region were presented by the renovation of 17 apartments for refugee accommodation in Kosice, which was completed in December 2000.

In 2002, UNHCR will continue supporting its NGO partners to establish alliances with more donors, especially with the Government which is ultimately in the best position to provide long-term funding and bearing in mind also that there are various activities which can be carried out more efficiently and flexibly by NGOs than by the State. Ultimately, UNHCR aims to phase down its own funding of NGOs as other stable sources of funding can begin to replace the Office's contribution. Many donors are less flexible than UNHCR regarding the project costs which they can fund (e.g. many donors can not pay salaries) and therefore UNHCR, other donors and NGOs, need to plan together very closely to maximize the use of scarce resources, each organization contributing in the areas in which it is able.

In order to plan effectively for the future, UNHCR also sees a need to take stock of what has been achieved so far and therefore has, for example, been conducting a preliminary internal review of the measures it has taken to support the Government integration policy. Refugee integration is a complex subject, which has to be looked at in the light not only of the general socio-economic situation in the Slovak Republic and the effectiveness of measures taken by the Slovak authorities, UNHCR and NGOs to support integration, but also, for example, in light of the fact that many refugees and asylum-seekers aim in one way or another ultimately to transit the Slovak Republic and move on to the European Union.

As far as UNHCR is aware, the Minister of Interior, as the asylum appeals authority, has never reversed a decision to reject status made by the Migration Office at first instance and has only ever cancelled a handful of decisions and returned the cases for re-examination. The Slovak Republic should establish an independent body as the second instance in the asylum procedure. The Slovak authorities have reasoned that it is not possible to achieve this any earlier than the end of 2002. UNHCR will be in regular contact with both the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice, in order to assist them with amending the relevant legislation process started in 2001, in particular with the amendment of the Civil Procedural Code, Section "Administrative Judiciary".

Amendments to the Refugee Law and to Government Regulation No. 67/1996 Establishing the List of Safe Third Countries and Safe Countries of Origin, were adopted in 2000. The amendment to the Refugee Law, that came into force as of 1 November 2000, inter alia: a) removed the 24-hour time limit for access to the RSD procedure; b) amends the definition of manifestly unfounded cases in line with 1992 London Resolution; c) lengthens the accelerated procedure at first instance from 7

days to 30 days and introduces a 30-day accelerated procedure at appeal; d) increases the time limits from 3 days to 7 days for appeal against an application rejected under the accelerated procedure at first instance; e) establishes the right to recognition as a refugee for purposes of family unity for minor children and spouses of recognized refugees (but only if the marriage took place in the country of origin); f) grants the Ministry of Interior the discretion to continue to accommodate rejected asylum-seekers in a reception centre under the same conditions as asylum-seekers “for a necessary period”.

Full harmonization of the Refugee Law with EU Acquis is expected by the end of 2002, when new Refugee Law will be adopted. A new Aliens Law is planned to be adopted by the end of 2001 and will aim to ensure that necessary measures for immigration and border control do not impact adversely on refugee protection.

Overview of each beneficiary population

In 2002 the country programme will assist directly and/or indirectly an estimated caseload of 2,500 asylum-seekers and 400 refugees. The programme will study the de facto and de jure situation of the 238 stateless persons who were residing legally in the Slovak Republic as of 31 March 2000, with a view to ensuring the full enjoyment of their rights under the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.

Programme protection and assistance activities foreseen in 2002 are as follows:

Themes #1 and #2 and Beneficiary Population #1 will be jointly supported by one project, 02/AB/SVK/LS/400, with a budget in local currency equivalent to 326,207.30 US dollars. In addition, the Representative and staff of BO Bratislava will carry out a large number of activities which are not reflected in the project budget, although they clearly contribute to the achievement of the programme objectives. Part II of this Country Operations Plan describes in detail both the project resources and the non-project staff resources allocated to each objective in 2002.

Protection and Assistance Programme for Theme #1: Quality asylum in a uniting Europe

The UNHCR programme will concentrate on the following activities in 2002: 1) Lobbying for changes to asylum-related legislation and providing technical advice and assistance with drafting legislation so that at a minimum changes will incorporate UNHCR and EU accepted minimum standards (with UNHCR standards prevailing when UNHCR and EU standards contradict each other) but ideally will incorporate European best practice; 2) Providing asylum-seekers and recognized refugees with free legal advice and assistance with the RSD procedure and with claiming their rights under the 1951 Convention and other international human rights instruments; 3) Monitoring all stages of the RSD procedure with focus on the first instance procedure in order to verify compliance with international standards and as a basis for making informed recommendations for improvements in the procedure; 4) Improving access to country of origin information by the RSD authorities and NGOs; 5) Providing social counselling to asylum-seekers; 6) Ensuring a supportive environment for asylum-seekers in reception centres and neighbouring communities; 7) Supporting the establishment of a new reception centre in Eastern Slovakia; 8) Supporting the Government integration programme by providing counselling and social and material assistance to recognized refugees to help them achieve basic independence; 9)

Promoting support by local communities for refugee integration; 10) Supporting refugees to obtain professional qualifications through university studies; 11) Providing Small Business Grant Scheme for recognised refugees; 12) Developing the professional skills of the key actors in the asylum system; 13) Providing support for the teaching of asylum and human rights curricula at the Police Academy and Law Faculties including the support for establishment and functioning Refugee Law Legal Clinics, 14) Helping NGOs to diversify their funding base and to develop their role in the asylum system; 15) Promoting a positive public image of UNHCR in the Slovak Republic; 16) Increasing the understanding of the general public of the difference between refugees and economic migrants; 17) Promoting receptiveness of the public towards the needs of refugees and asylum-seekers.

Protection and Assistance Programme for Theme #2: Europe's support for UNHCR and refugees worldwide:

The UNHCR programme will concentrate on the following activities in 2002: 1) Lobbying the Government for the Slovak Republic to continue making annual voluntary contributions to UNHCR even at a symbolic level; 2) Lobbying the Government to apply for full membership of the Slovak Republic in ExCom; 3) Promoting a positive public image of UNHCR in the Slovak Republic; 4) Increasing the understanding of the general public of the difference between refugees and economic migrants.

Protection and Assistance Programme for Beneficiary Population #1: Statelessness

The UNHCR programme will concentrate on the following activities in 2002: 1) Reviewing Slovak nationality legislation to determine whether there are any gaps in national law with respect to the 1954 UN Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness to which the Slovak Republic acceded in 2000; 2) To share the results of the survey on the de facto and de jure situation of stateless persons in the Slovak Republic in the light of the provisions of both 1954 and 1961 UN Conventions mentioned above, with the Government and to assist the Government with the setting up of steps leading to the full harmonization of the national legislation and practice with UN standards; 3) Making recommendations regarding any legislative and/or other changes needed to ensure full implementation of the 1954 and 1961 Conventions; 4) Dealing with individual cases of statelessness which approach the Office for assistance in claiming the benefit of the 1954 and 1961 Conventions.

Core issues to be addressed by the UNHCR programme

- 1) Assuming the draft of the new Aliens Law will be adopted by Parliament by the end of 2001 and will include provisions for granting tolerated stay for non-refoulement cases, as well as family reunification provisions, the remaining protection gaps to be addressed by the planned new Refugee/Asylum Law will include: a) to shift the appeals procedure from the Minister of Interior to independent judiciary, b) the exclusion clauses of the Refugee Law exceed the scope of Art. 1F of the 1951 Convention; c) the definition of a "safe third country" and its application in the RSD procedure is not in conformity with UNHCR standards.
- 2) There have been significant improvements in access to the RSD procedure since 2000, but access will still be required to be monitored.

- 3) There are currently two procedures in the national law which determine the need for international protection: a) the RSD procedure under the Refugee Law which provides for the grant of refugee status under the 1951 Convention or for humanitarian reasons, and b) the deportation procedure to which rejected asylum-seekers may have recourse under the Aliens Law and, most probably, according to the current version of the new Aliens Law draft, will be granted tolerated stay - legal status for rights for persons protected against refoulement; persons not fulfilling the inclusion criteria of the 1951 Convention refugee definition but who are in need of complementary protection because, for example, they are victims of civil war or are protected against expulsion by other international human rights instruments such as the European Convention on Human Rights are, in general, not granted refugee status for humanitarian reasons.
- 4) While there have been improvements in motivation of determinations of refugee status, decisions are often still insufficiently motivated in law and in fact; as far as UNHCR is aware, a rejection of refugee status at first instance has never been reversed at appeal. This will be further improved after independent courts will act as appeal bodies competent to review first instance decisions in law, procedure and in facts.
- 5) As is the case with administrative proceedings in general, the State does not fund free legal aid for the RSD procedure and, given the increasing numbers of asylum-seekers, NGOs lack the resources to provide legal advice and assistance which meets the twin demands of quality and quantity.
- 6) The RSD authorities and NGOs will have gradually improving access to country of origin information and international refugee jurisprudence after the building of the COI Documentary and Research Unit has commenced in 2001. According to the Migration Office, they expect the COI Documentary and Research Unit to become fully operational in 2003/2004. UNHCR's support will be focused on the phase of building up of the COI Documentary and Research Unit.
- 7) The skills of key actors in the national asylum system should continue to be developed in both the legal and social spheres.
- 8) Expansion of the asylum system in Eastern Slovakia should ensure that NGO disposes of sufficient staffing capacity to meet the needs of asylum-seekers for legal and social advice and assistance.
- 9) Adult asylum-seekers are not allowed to work and need more activities in which they can involve themselves while they wait for a decision on their claim for refugee status, in order to prevent apathy and depression and to provide for a smooth path to integration of asylum-seekers who are recognized as refugees.
- 10) A study should be carried out on the impact of the refugee integration programme so far, in order to identify, based on lessons learned, what improvements can be made.
- 11) Refugee-assisting NGOs need support with fundraising, increasing the impact of their work, and in developing their organizational skills in the areas of strategic planning, partnership relations and constituency-building fundraising.
- 12) The majority of asylum-seekers continue to abandon the RSD procedure and migrate irregularly to the EU; some recognized refugees also move on from the Slovak Republic.
- 13) There is a general lack of awareness amongst the public and many officials of the distinction between refugees and economic migrants and of the needs of refugees and asylum-seekers.

- 14) Xenophobia is prevalent amongst certain sections of the population and has resulted in racist attacks against minorities and foreigners, including refugees and asylum-seekers.

Policy issues

UNHCR's programme in the Slovak Republic supports the Office's overall strategy for the Central European and the Baltic States (CEBS) for the period 2001 – 2005, which is composed of two themes and one beneficiary population: Quality asylum in a uniting Europe (Theme #1), Europe's support to UNHCR and refugees worldwide (Theme #2) and Statelessness (Beneficiary Population #1). In this context, UNHCR is working towards three goals in the Slovak Republic:

1. The national asylum system will develop as an institution which:
 - a) aims to apply European best practice and, at a minimum, functions *de facto* and *de jure* at UNHCR and EU accepted minimum standards, with UNHCR standards prevailing where UNHCR and EU standards contradict each other;
 - a) has adequate resources and operates with a minimum of UNHCR funding.
2. Slovak Republic will increase its support to UNHCR and refugees internationally.
3. Slovak Republic will protect the rights of persons on its territory who are stateless and will take measures to prevent statelessness.

Linkages to other countries within a defined situation

In 1999 and 2000 there has been a linkage with other country operations in the CEBS within the framework of the Phare Horizontal Programme and the Asylum Judges Support Project, which were both aimed at developing the capacity of the CEBS to implement the EU *acquis* on asylum. The Slovak Migration Office intended to continue with similar activities in 2001, within the Odysseus 2001 Programme, with twinning partners from two EU members countries (The United Kingdom and The Netherlands), but the deadline for lodging the application was not met.

The European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) is cooperating with UNHCR in NGO capacity-building in the CEBS.

Regular coordination meetings are held between UNHCR, the Migration Office and NGO partners. NGO staff also participate in regular training activities organized by UNHCR and other actors, e.g. the PHP and the Twinning Project.

Capacity and presence of implementing partners

UNHCR cooperates with five NGO partners in the Slovak Republic: the Bjornson Society (BJS), Society of Goodwill (GWS), Slovak Helsinki Committee (SHeC), Organization for Aid to Refugees (OPU) and Slovak Humanitarian Council (SHC). The implementing partner's activities include:

1. Providing refugees and asylum-seekers with legal advice and assistance with the RSD procedure, residency rights, family reunion, applications for Slovak citizenship, exercise of socio-economic rights, etc.

2. Providing refugees and asylum-seekers with social counselling and assistance, including specialized psychiatric services where needed.
3. Organizing activities for asylum-seekers in the reception centres, including day-care for pre-school age children in one centre, computer classes and recreational and other activities.
4. Supporting refugees to achieve self-sufficiency as part of the process of their integration in Slovakia by providing assistance with finding and settling-in, to accommodation, language and vocational training, labour insertion, registration with labour and social offices, enrolment of children in school, interventions with local authorities and other advocacy measures.
5. Monitoring practices in relation to access to the RSD procedure, monitoring of borders, use of detention, reception conditions for asylum-seekers, determination of refugee status, gender issues, the rights of asylum-seekers and refugees and the best interests of separated children and unaccompanied minors; intervening as necessary with the authorities and promoting clarification and improvement in standards and identifying and promoting best practice.
6. Offering legal practice for law school students in the frame of Refugee Law Legal Clinics under the supervision of the lawyers.
7. Carrying out public information activities.

It can be seen that the activities of NGO partners are wide in scope and very labour-intensive. However, resources are thinly stretched and NGOs, given the pressing needs of refugees and asylum-seekers, often face the dilemma of quantity versus quality in service provision. So far, the lack of additional sources of support has meant that the NGOs have been almost 100% reliant on the funding that UNHCR is able to provide for their activities on behalf of refugees and asylum-seekers. However, unless NGOs can begin to identify additional sources of funds, they are likely to face increasing difficulties in providing services of sufficient quality and scope as the asylum system expands and the numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers increase.

NGO partners have already made some progress in the diversification of their funding base. For example, the premises of the Society of Goodwill (GWS) were donated by the municipality and include units, which GWS is able to rent out to raise revenue for some of its activities. In February 2000 the Migration Office, for the first time, provided modest funding to an NGO, the Organization for Assistance to Refugees, to organize day-care for pre-school age children in one of the reception centres and to provide specialized psychiatric services to refugees and asylum-seekers in need. In 2001, Migration Office also provided funding to Goodwill Society, to assist and monitor the integration of refugees accommodated at the reconstructed housing at Vodarenska street in Kosice. The Bjornson Society and other NGO partners have also managed to raise donations in kind, for example, of clothing and second-hand furniture.

In 2001 UNHCR, the Open Society Foundation (OSF) and the American Bar Association - Central and East European Law Initiative (ABA - CEELI) continued together as a group of donors to support the creation of a refugee and human rights and refugee law legal clinics. The purpose of the clinic is to provide an academic course in refugee and human rights law and an opportunity for the law students to practice their legal skills and gain experience working on real cases under close

supervision in refugee and human rights NGOs. The purpose equally encourages pro-bono work in the legal sector and provides free legal services to the indigent, including refugees, asylum-seekers and others who present legal cases involving human rights issues, such as victims of domestic violence. Two project proposals for establishing Refugee Law Legal Clinics are expected to be submitted to the donors: a) by the Department of International Law at P.J. Safarik University in Kosice in partnership with NGO Goodwill Society in Kosice and b) by the Department of International Law at Trnava University in partnership with NGO the Slovak Helsinki Committee. In order to become a part of the university's curriculum, both projects should be submitted to the Academic Institutions of Kosice and Trnava Universities in April 2001. The donors' group will support one or both clinics depending on the quality of project, staffing conditions and other circumstances. UNHCR's support will be combined, financial as well as intellectual, including training support. From UNHCR's perspective, a successful legal clinic could, over time and in a low-cost manner, help expand the provision of legal services to refugees and asylum-seekers, increase the professionalism of the services provided and contribute towards creating a pro-bono culture and the next generation of refugee law practitioners.

Presence and role of other UN agencies and international organizations.

IOM has a small representation in the Slovak Republic and has an agreement with the Ministry of Interior under which IOM will organize the voluntary return of migrants, including rejected asylum-seekers, to their country of origin. However, in practice there has been virtually no take-up of the voluntary return scheme and the vast majority of migrants are intent on attempting irregular movement to the European Union. IOM has also been involved in producing the document "The Living and Social Conditions of Roma in Slovakia."

In 1999 and 2000, the UNHCR country programme has cooperated with three projects funded by the EU's Phare Programme: i) the Phare Horizontal Programme in which all CEBS are participating along with UNHCR, several EU Member States and the German BAFI; ii) a Twinning Project on Asylum between the Migration Office and BAFI; iii) the multilateral Asylum Judges Support Project, managed by the Association of Slovak Judges, in partnership with UNHCR, judges associations in Central Europe and refugee law judges from selected EU Member States. All three Phare projects have finished at the end of 2000 and no other Phare projects related to asylum are foreseen for 2001. It is anticipated that bilateral cooperation between BAFI and the Migration Office will continue on a small scale in 2002.

UNFPA

Following initial introductory meetings with the representative of the newly established UNFPA Office in Slovakia, further contacts will be developed between both Offices, mainly in the area of reproductive health care of refugee women. UNHCR in cooperation with UNFPA and WHO (Office in Slovakia) will provide support and assistance in this very specific and sensitive area of health care. UNFPA can provide their assistance also in the area of violence against women, caring for mother and babies programs, breast-feeding, etc.

UNDP

UNHCR is going to be cooperating with the Regional Office of UNDP in the field of human rights and minority rights.

Delegation of EU Commission

UNHCR will be cooperating with the Delegation of EU Commission in Justice and Home Affairs in particular on harmonization of the national legislation in line with the EU *Acquis on asylum*.

Documentation Centre of the Council of Europe

UNHCR will be cooperating with the Documentation Centre of the Council of Europe in the field of human rights education and will be involved in common training activities.

Like the other CEBS, during 2000 the Slovak Republic participated in the Phare Horizontal Programme (PHP) on Asylum which was aimed at supporting the CEBS to harmonize their asylum systems with the EU *acquis* on asylum and related international standards. Before the end of the two year period of PHP programme implementation, the Slovak Migration Office, together with EU experts, agreed on and completed a document - "The Future Report," summarizing all key issues which were discussed and where progress was achieved in the context of the PHP, as well as summarizing all issues not yet addressed, including recommendations for follow-up. All key issues in the field of asylum are reflected in an official Government document, "The Accession Negotiation Position of the Slovak Republic - cooperation in Justice and Home Affairs" submitted to the EU Commission in early 2001.

(a) Selected Programme Goals and Objectives

Name of Beneficiary Population/Theme: Asylum seekers, Refugees/Quality asylum in a uniting Europe	
Main Goal(s): Access to Territory	
Principal Objectives	Related Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes in asylum-related legislation will incorporate standards no lower than the minimum standards for refugee protection accepted by UNHCR and the EU (with UNHCR standards prevailing where there is a contradiction) and, where feasible, will incorporate European best practice• Support will be provided for the teaching of asylum and human rights curricula at the Police Academy• All Aliens and Border Police will receive basic guidance in detecting and understanding requests for asylum and instructions to refer all asylum-seekers to the Migration Office.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National asylum relating legislation is fully harmonized with EU <i>Acquis</i> and UNHCR standards• Asylum seekers have unrestricted access to RSD procedure in Slovakia Number of asylum seekers is increasing• Refugee Law and Human Rights education will become a part of the Police Academy curricula• Police Academy students and trained by the Police Academy officers are sufficiently informed about the rights of refugees relating to their access to the territory• MOI will issue clear instruction on RSD procedure binding the Alien Police officers and the Migration Office to refer all asylum seekers to the Migration Office

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Name of Beneficiary Population/Theme: Asylum seekers, Refugees/Quality asylum in a uniting Europe	
Main Goal(s): Harmonization of the asylum system in conformity with international standards	
Principal Objectives	Related Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in asylum-related legislation will at a minimum incorporate UNHCR and EU accepted minimum standards and ideally will incorporate European best practice • All stages of the RSD procedure (access, first instance, appeal and judicial review) will be monitored to ensure that it is fair and efficient and in order to promote UNHCR standards. • Access to country of origin information (COI) by the RSD authorities and NGOs will be improved. • Asylum-seekers and recognized refugees will have access to free legal advice and assistance with the RSD procedure and with claiming their rights under the 1951 Convention, other international human rights instruments and national law. • Asylum-seekers will have access to social counselling and assistance. • Reception centres and neighbouring communities will provide a supportive environment for asylum-seekers and the new reception to be established in Eastern Slovakia will be of adequate standards. • Refugees will be supported to achieve self-sufficiency as part of the process of their integration in the Slovak Republic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refugee Law legislation will fully Harmonize with EU Acquis and UNHCR standards • The quality of RSD will be improved • Number of recognized refugees will increase • Number of remedies will decrease • The average length of RSD procedure will be shortened • The COI Documentary Center at Migration Office will be developing and enriching its information database on regular basis • NGOs dealing with legal counselling will have access to this database • Sufficient staffing (number of staff and qualification) • NGOs dealing with legal counselling will be improving and strengthening their capacity to provide asylum seekers with legal advice • Refugee Law Legal Clinics at universities will be able on regular basis to provide asylum seekers with free of charge legal counselling and advice • Quality of RSD procedure and final decisions will improve • Strong network of NGOs/social counsellors is established • Social conditions of asylum seekers/refugees is improved • Number of asylum seekers leaving camps during the procedure will decrease • Potential tensions between asylum seekers and the camp staff as well as between asylum seekers will decrease

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The professional skills of the key actors in the asylum system will be further developed. • A university refugee and human rights legal clinic will be established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher employment rate of recognized refugees • Earlier integration of refugees into the society • Professionalism of key actors will increase • The quality of RSD procedure will increase • The time for integration of recognized refugees will be shortened and relating costs will decrease • University students will gain sufficient amount of information and experience about refugees and their rights • The number of asylum seekers/refugees whom were given legal advice will increase
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Name of Beneficiary Population/Theme: Asylum seekers, Refugees/Quality asylum in a uniting Europe	
Main Goal(s): Public information	
Principal Objectives	Related Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNHCR will have a positive public image in the Slovak Republic. • A greater percentage of the public will understand the difference between refugees and economic migrants and will be receptive towards the needs of refugees and asylum-seekers. • Local communities will support refugee integration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officials and more representatives of general public will perceive UNHCR as the world's leading refugee-assisting organisation and as a core institution helping to develop a national asylum system and assist refugees in Slovakia • More tolerant attitudes of the public towards genuine refugees, demonstrated also by the overall help and understanding provided to refugee population staying in Slovakia • General public will better understand the consequences of illegal migration and trafficking and the position of UNHCR regarding this problem • General public will be better informed about the international obligations of Slovakia in the area of asylum • Better domestic environment for reception and integration of refugees by local communities • Increasing tolerance and diminishing feelings of xenophobia shown by

	inhabitants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better quality of life of recognised refugees and more adequate conditions for their integration process in various fields
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Name of Beneficiary Population/Theme: Allocation of resources to programme objectives in 2002	
Main Goal(s): Europe's support to UNHCR and refugees worldwide	
Principal Objectives	Related Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Slovak Republic will continue making annual voluntary contributions to UNHCR's global operations. 	The Slovak Government will further provide Annual voluntary contribution to UNHCR in an increased amount (compared to 2001)

Name of Beneficiary Population/Theme: Allocation of resources to programme objectives in 2001	
Main Goal(s): More and better informed support from the public	
Principal Objectives	Related Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The problem of refugees will be perceived as the global world humanitarian problem • Public information materials / briefings and well prepared PA campaigns will draw attention to the refugee problem from an international perspective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regular dispatching of information on world refugee crisis and domestic refugee developments • presenting of positive examples of people's, donors', governments' attitudes/ practices towards refugees in the context of common • burden-sharing strategy • regular presenting of asylum and refugee problems in the context of EU harmonisation process • translating and presenting informational materials, launching provided by HQs or designed to domestic circumstances

Name of Beneficiary Population/Theme: Allocation of resources to programme objectives in 2002	
Main Goal(s): States uphold UNHCR protection concerns internationally	
Principal Objectives	Related Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of the Slovak Republic will support UNHCR on selected issues in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good relations and regular contacts with the host Government

international and regional fora, including ExCom, the OSCE and Council of Europe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular exchange of information between UNHCR and the host Government
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