UNHCR IN 2018

Mission
The High Commissioner for Refugees is mandated by the United Nations to lead and coordinate international action for the worldwide protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems. As of December 2018, 149 States are parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and 73 to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

UNHCR’s primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. In its efforts to achieve this objective, the Office strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, and to return home voluntarily. By assisting refugees to return to their own country or to settle permanently in another country, UNHCR also seeks lasting solutions to their plight.

UNHCR’s Executive Committee (102 Member States as of October 2018) and the UN General Assembly have authorized involvement with other groups. These include former refugees who have returned to their homeland, internally displaced people, and persons who are stateless or whose nationality is disputed. As of December 2018, 91 States are parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 73 to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

The Office seeks to reduce situations of forced displacement by encouraging States and other institutions to create conditions which are conducive to the protection of human rights and the peaceful resolution of disputes. In all of its activities, it pays particular attention to the needs of children and seeks to promote the equal rights of women and girls.

The Office carries out its work in collaboration with many partners, including governments, regional organizations, and international and non-governmental organizations. It is committed to the principle of participation, believing that refugees and others who benefit from the Office’s activities should be consulted over decisions which affect their lives.

Global Presence
UNHCR is present in 131 countries with offices in 501 locations.

GLOBAL WORKFORCE 16,672
STAFF MEMBERS 12,088
AFFILIATE WORKFORCE 4,584

Gender breakdowns of UNHCR workforce

Modern presence by region

Refugees (Refugees and IDPs) are reported 56,400 people who were formerly stateless or of undetermined nationality acquired nationality or had their nationality confirmed in 24 countries. The actual number of stateless persons is higher, but a true figure remains difficult to obtain.

Returnees (Refugees and IDPs) are 306,246

The largest numbers of pending cases were in

People of concern to UNHCR worldwide

The Americas: 1.3 million
Europe: 1.2 million
Africa: 484,224

Refugee populations by region of asylum

* Includes 905,635 Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh and 125,000 stateless IDPs in Myanmar who are also counted in refugee and IDP populations.
Key data and achievements in 2018

Core relief items
Over $34M worth of core relief items delivered to 39 emergency-affected countries

Cash-based interventions
$568M ($502M in 2017) implemented CBIs

Shelter
3.4M refugees provided with shelter in planned settlements
134,540 tents delivered in 39 countries
13,602 refugee housing units in 27 operations

Building better futures

Resettlement
1.2M refugees in need of resettlement
81,337 resettlement submissions to 29 countries
55,680 UNHCR-facilitated departures to 27 countries

Top 5 resettlement countries
1. United States of America
2. Canada
3. United Kingdom
4. Sweden
5. France

Top 5 countries of origin
1. Syrian Arab Republic
2. Democratic Republic of the Congo
3. Eritrea
4. Afghanistan
5. Somalia

Education
61% of refugee children attend primary school
23% of refugee children attend secondary school
1% of refugee youth attend university

Livelihoods and economic inclusion
75 countries implemented livelihoods and economic inclusion initiatives
1.8M beneficiaries (people of concern and members of host communities)

Safeguarding fundamental rights

Registration
2.4M biometric registrations in 2018
7.2M individuals biometrically registered by the end of 2018, mainly in Africa (48%) and in the Middle East and North Africa (38%)

Partnerships
$1.407B allocated to partners
666 national NGOs
195 international NGOs
195 government partners
17 UN agencies
33% of global expenditure to partners

Responding with lifesaving support

Emergencies
10 active emergencies
5 new emergency declarations in 2018
- Cameroon
- Chad
- The DRC
- The North of Central America
- The Venezuela situation

Emergency deployments
• 285 from UNHCR
• 135 from standby partners

$4.226
$4.184
$8.220

Unit: billion

Funds available: contributions (voluntary contributions and UN Regular Budget); carry-over; other income and adjustments

FINAL BUDGET
CONTRIBUTIONS
EXPENDITURE