

Annual Results Report

2023

Thailand Multi Country

Acknowledgements

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- 4.1 – Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2023, escalating violence in Myanmar led to a sharp increase in the number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in South-East Myanmar and two significant influxes into Thailand. While Thailand's standard operating procedures did not change, humanitarian agencies were granted limited access to temporary safety areas in Tak and Mae Hong Son provinces before new arrivals returned.

Following the United States' announcement of large-scale resettlement from the nine border camps, a UNHCR and Ministry of Interior verification exercise updated population data. Eligible refugees from three camps expressed resettlement interest and the first cases were submitted to the United States.

1476 asylum-seekers were registered with UNHCR in 2023, more than double the rate in 2022 (439 individuals). A national screening mechanism begun gradual implementation in September 2023 although there remains a need to address law, policy and resourcing gaps related to the mechanism.

584 Rohingya people who were detained on arrival in Thailand were registered by year-end. In Viet Nam, UNHCR processed the cases of 136 asylum-seekers from Sri Lanka, who arrived by boat in late 2022.

The number of registered stateless people in Thailand increased by nearly 13,000 to approximately 587,000 in 2023, with nearly 8,000 people obtaining Thai nationality and 663 receiving permanent residency. Improvements in the legal framework in recent years and priority given to the registration of undocumented people, particularly children, were yet to achieve significant results.

In Cambodia, the new law on Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identification was enacted. In Viet Nam, UNHCR advocated for the Government to accede to the 1954 Convention relating the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

Following UNHCR's engagement with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) in Cambodia, forcibly displaced and stateless people were included as 'leave no one behind' target groups.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

Refugees and asylum-seekers have access to territory, are protected from refoulement, and are able to seek asylum and enjoy their full range of rights through strengthened national protection frameworks.

Statelessness is identified, prevented and reduced through effective implementation of improved law and policy frameworks, including those related to civil registration and vital statistics, legal identity and nationality procedures.

Country	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Actual (2023)
Thailand	1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence	Stateless Persons	Unknown	0.00%

In line with Thailand's standard operating procedures, refugees arriving from Myanmar after February 2021 were treated separately from those in the nine refugee camps and hosted in temporary safety areas, placed under the Royal Thai Army's jurisdiction. In 2023, Thailand recorded 26,211 refugees temporarily crossing into Thailand in several movements in search of international protection following armed clashes in south-east Myanmar. Unlike previous influxes, refugees were permitted to remain in temporary safety areas for a prolonged period as armed conflict continued along the border. Humanitarian agencies had limited access to provide assistance during refugees' stay. UNHCR continued to advocate for access to territory, adherence to the principle of non-refoulement, and humanitarian access to refugees during their stay in Thailand.

In 2023, the National Screening Mechanism, which aims to distinguish people who need international protection from economic migrants, is ongoing although law, policy and resourcing gaps remained. There were fewer instances of detention among the UNHCR-registered urban population – 54 asylum-seekers and refugees were detained by year-end. Meanwhile, Rohingya refugees remained subject to mandatory detention or accommodated in closed centres.

In Viet Nam and Laos, UNHCR conducted mandate refugee status determination (RSD) to resettle those with international protection needs but both countries lacked relevant protection frameworks. Viet Nam hosted a group of Sri Lankan asylum-seekers who disembarked there in late 2022. UNHCR was permitted to process the group and provide basic needs support. By year-end, there were 19 refugees in Viet Nam. In Cambodia, the Refugee Department did not make any decisions on pending asylum cases.

By year-end, 7,708 people had obtained Thai nationality, 663 permanent residency and 12,650 stateless people were identified and registered. Access to nationality and permanent residency slightly improved compared to 2022 but the reduction of statelessness relative to the stateless population in Thailand remained low.

A project with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in Chiang Rai provided legal assistance to 8,197 stateless people. The Royal Thai Government (RTG) granted nationality or permanent residency to 488 people with ADRA-supported applications. With UNHCR-support, the Internal Security Affairs Bureau and the Ministry of Interior enhanced their capacity on work related to immigration status and ethnic minority groups. As a result, local Government officials strengthened their understanding of granting legal immigration and permanent residency status using streamlined procedures.

Cambodia enacted a new law on Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identification. UNHCR provided technical support on the law's development, which was being implemented at the time of reporting.

Vietnamese officials took a study visit to Thailand to exchange and share good practices related to civil registration and resolving statelessness. UNHCR continued to advocate that the Government accede to the UN statelessness conventions.

UNHCR and UNFPA provided technical guidance on collecting statelessness statistics to Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos) in its preparations for its 5th Population and Housing Census in 2025. This included hosting a multi-government, capacity-building seminar on statelessness and the "international recommendations on statelessness statistics".

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

Refugees, asylum-seekers, returnees and stateless people enjoy improved access to basic rights and essential services through strengthened law and policy, improved understanding, capacity and coordination amongst service providers, and greater awareness of people we serve as rights holders.

Country	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Actual (2023)
Thailand	2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	98.17%	100.00%

UNHCR coordinated inter-agency responses and gained limited access to assist Myanmar refugees sheltered in the temporary safety areas.

By aligning case management with the Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees (COERR), UNHCR was able to better respond to children's physical, mental, psychological and social wellbeing needs, with twice as many child protection assessments completed in 2023. The number of children newly identified as being at heightened risk decreased by 28% in 2023 due to stronger community-based child protection and greater awareness of child rights and any violations of them.

UNHCR worked with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security to expand the network for child protection. The Office continued to advocate for access to employment outside the camps and an alternative for those children being held in immigration detention.

With IRC, UNHCR coordinated access to legal assistance, particularly for survivors of gender-based violence. Key achievements included revising the mediation and dispute resolution guidelines to ensure they were consistent with Thai law, facilitating survivors' access to the Thai justice system, and advocating the timely payment of state compensation.

In 2023, 47% of urban refugees received cash assistance, enabling them to prioritize and fulfil their needs in a dignified manner while contributing to the local economy. Forcibly displaced and stateless people in urban areas accessed primary health care through the Tzu Chi Foundation while UNHCR's partner, COERR, referred 348 people for secondary and tertiary health care, with 86% of severe and complicated medical cases receiving support.

A coordinated response to gender-based violence provided survivors with more holistic assistance, including protection counselling and referral to adequate partner services such as emergency medical care and emergency relocation support. UNHCR and partners also administered cash assistance to support survivors' protection so they could access mental health services.

UNHCR created a child-friendly space for interviews equipped with developmental toys at its premises. The Office coordinated with IOM to provide people with core relief items (CRIs), and medical, psychological and social support to Rohingya children in Government shelters.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

Refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people are able to become self-reliant and benefit from access to inclusive and equitable quality education, meaningful livelihood opportunities and increased community empowerment and engagement in a safe and discrimination-free environment, including on gender-related grounds.

Country	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Actual (2023)
Thailand	3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	0.00%
Thailand	3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work	Stateless Persons	84.82%	100.00%
Thailand	3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	58.69%	63.70%
Thailand	3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education	Stateless Persons	71.87%	87.32%
Thailand	3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	65.22%	87.56%
Thailand	3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education	Stateless Persons	23.64%	19.93%

In the refugee camps, UNHCR managed different communication channels to engage, empower and seek feedback from refugees. Staff and partner agencies conducted joint outreach, focus group discussions and home visits to ensure refugees knew their rights, including their access to civil documentation, legal services, safe migration, livelihood opportunities, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. These sessions allowed them to share their views and concerns for follow-up.

Refugees also shared feedback with UNHCR through complaint boxes, phone hotlines and in-person protection counselling at each camp. Multi-lingual posters were displayed, encouraging camp residents to use their preferred platform for complaints, feedback or suggestions.

The Office conducted nearly 35 community outreach sessions on topics ranging from tertiary education to national screening mechanism updates, reaching more than 350 people from a broad spectrum of communities and ensuring a good representation in terms of age, gender and diversity. UNHCR expanded its community outreach in various ways, including by introducing the UNHCR help website.

Urban refugees gained better access to informal livelihood opportunities as the economy emerged from Covid-19 restrictions, meaning they required less cash assistance from UNHCR in 2023.

In partnership with COERR, UNHCR provided Thai language classes to 92 children to ease their integration into Thai public schools, with three times more children enrolling in 2023 than in 2022. Referrals to the formal education system saw 600 children study at the primary and secondary education level. For the first year, DAFI scholarships were introduced in Thailand, facilitating six refugees' access to tertiary education.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

Refugees and stateless persons have improved access to a range of durable solutions, including local integration, third-country solutions, facilitated voluntary return and acquisition of nationality.

Country	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Actual (2023)
Thailand	4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5	8
Thailand	4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	523	1,717
Thailand	4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	121	963
Thailand	4.3a Number of stateless people for whom nationality is granted or confirmed	Stateless Persons	4,639	7,708
Thailand	4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0

In 2023, UNHCR submitted 5,172 refugees for resettlement, with 1,721 departing Thailand for resettlement, primarily to Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. Among them, 885 were prioritized for urgent and emergency departures.

UNHCR also stepped-up efforts to provide refugees and asylum-seekers with alternative pathways for admissions and family reunification, both in urban and camp settings, with 963 departures facilitated through private sponsorship and family reunification programmes.

In collaboration with IOM, UNHCR supported a voluntary return support and reintegration assistance project aimed at assisting refugees and asylum-seekers who wanted to return to their country of origin. In 2023, one refugee successfully returned through this initiative.

Thailand made some progress offering solutions for stateless people, with 7,708 individuals obtaining Thai nationality and 663 people acquiring permanent residency. Another 12,650 people were also formally registered as stateless and provided with legal status – an essential step on the pathway to resolving statelessness.

The legal framework for forcibly displaced and stateless people in Thailand improved in recent years, particularly following a 2021 Cabinet resolution on the determination criteria for the legal status and rights of migrants staying in Thailand, which provided them with better access to permanent residency. However, significantly increasing access to solutions was not achieved in 2023.

In Viet Nam, efforts continued to resolve cases of statelessness and undetermined nationality.

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

UNHCR's access to new arrivals along the Thai-Myanmar border remained limited, making it difficult to assess and meet humanitarian needs. Sensitization of government partners on access to territory and non-refoulement remained necessary.

In the refugee camps in Thailand, refugees experienced movement restrictions and had limited access to formal and higher education. Facilitating their access to Thai institutions, including the justice system and employment, remained challenging, highlighting a need for continued engagement with Government entities.

Thailand's national screening mechanism launched in 2023. Significant gaps remained in its application, however, particularly with regards to legal status and the development of a protection framework for forcibly displaced people.

The number of Rohingya refugees arriving and detained in Thailand continued to rise. This group was subject to detention or accommodation in closed facilities. Government resources deferred their implementation of alternatives to detention for Rohingya children. The resolution of these issues remained subject to changes in RTG prioritization and policy.

In Thailand, despite some strengthening in the law and policy framework, complex administrative procedures and resourcing constraints impacted the RTG's ability to process cases involving legal identity and nationality procedures. Commitments made by Thailand at the 2023 Global Refugee Forum to address statelessness, including by developing a national action plan, as well as ongoing efforts by the RTG and stakeholders provided opportunities to address these issues.

Despite positive discussions with the Ministry of Interior in Cambodia, there were delays in supporting capacity-building efforts in relation to the roll out of the new Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity Law. It is expected that this will commence in 2024.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

UNHCR worked in close partnership with the RTG, UN agencies, humanitarian organizations, and civil society to improve the protection of and solutions for refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless people, while advocating for their inclusion in national systems. On the Thai-Myanmar border, UNHCR worked with the Committee for Coordination of Services to Displaced Persons in Thailand (CCSDPT), a consortium of NGOs that provide food, shelter, health, education, water and sanitation, protection and livelihoods to refugees in the nine border camps. UNHCR's main partners included Thailand's Ministry of Interior, ADRA, COERR, Humanity and Inclusion, IOM, UNOPS and UN Volunteers.

Strategic alliances with key international and national NGOs, civil society and faith-based organizations, as well as private sector partners and academia, helped address a range of issues, including alternatives to detention, improved access to domestic legal and social services, and alternative forms of temporary protection pending solutions.

In line with the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees, UNHCR jointly hosted and organized a "national stocktaking seminar on ending childhood statelessness" in Thailand with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior and UNICEF. In December 2023, Thailand made pledges at the Global Refugee Forum to address statelessness, including enhancing access to civil registration services and developing a national action plan to reduce statelessness.

UNHCR continued to coordinate with UN country teams across Thailand, Viet Nam, and Laos on the implementation of the UNSDCF, and with the UN country team in Cambodia on developing an inclusive UNSDCF.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

Refugees and asylum seekers have access to the territory and are profiled and registered.

Stateless people have access to civil registration and civil status documentation.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Thailand	1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	86.88%	100.00%	100.00%
Thailand	1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	Stateless Persons	Unknown	99.87%	99.88%
Thailand	1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	100.00%	100.00%
Thailand	1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials	Stateless Persons	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Outcome under Impact Statement 1A

New arrivals from Myanmar continued in 2023 and were recorded by the provincial Thai-Myanmar Border Command Centres but not registered as refugees. The authorities published daily press releases about the temporary safety areas, including the number of refugees, occasionally with gender and age breakdown, an assessment of the border situation and a summary of response activities.

A few NGOs also profiled refugees in some temporary safety areas and identified those with specific needs, sharing that information with Inter-Sector Working Group agencies.

The RTG resumed visits to refugee camps to conduct birth and continuous registration for verified refugees. In 2023, 1,862 birth certificates were issued. A joint verification exercise between May and December 2023 by UNHCR and Thailand's Ministry of Interior provided a holistic update on individualized registration data and the first opportunity for UNHCR to capture biometrics information since 2015.

In urban areas in Thailand, UNHCR registered 1,436 forcibly displaced people and had a total registered population of 5,213 asylum-seekers and refugees at the end of 2023. A large increase in new arrivals, particularly from Pakistan and Viet Nam, saw 1,957 approach UNHCR requesting registration. In Vung Tau, Viet Nam, UNHCR registered another 124 cases (136 people). Thai Immigration and UNHCR also worked to prepare a national screening mechanism.

Outcome under Impact Statement 1B

Efforts to reduce statelessness continued. While the number of registered stateless people in Thailand grew to 586,548, the country made progress in registering newly-identified stateless people, particularly students. During the year, 7,708 people obtained Thai nationality and 663 received permanent residency.

UNHCR and ADRA implemented a project aimed at reducing statelessness and sensitizing the community in Chiang Rai to the challenges stateless people face. The project legally assisted 8,164 people, prepared 5,039 new citizenship applications and submitted 3,502 applications to district offices.

A UNHCR-funded pilot project in Chiang Mai for stateless people trained seven community volunteers and assisted 33 stateless people with legal status and nationality-related procedures. The Office also funded 41 workshops and training sessions to improve understanding of government officials, community leaders and stateless people themselves on statelessness issues.

In Thailand, UNHCR supported the Bureau of Registration Administration's application of civil registration and nationality procedures. With the Internal Security Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Interior, it delivered training workshops on the administration of legal immigration status and ethnic minority groups to 294 local officials from 16 provinces and shared legislative handbooks with all district offices.

A national stocktaking seminar on ending childhood statelessness in Thailand was jointly hosted and organized by UNHCR with the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior and UNICEF in 2023. Thailand also made pledges at the Global Refugee Forum to address statelessness, including strengthening access to civil registration services and developing a national action plan to tackle it.

In Cambodia, UNHCR shared its technical expertise on developing a new Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity law and had preparatory discussions with authorities regarding capacity building support for its implementation.

UNHCR and UNFPA supported Laos' authorities to prepare for its 2025 Population and Housing Census, with a multi-government capacity-building seminar on statelessness and the "international recommendations on statelessness statistics".

The Office also supported a study visit to Thailand for officials from Viet Nam's Ministry of Justice where they exchanged experience and expertise on efforts to resolve statelessness, and shared learning and good practices on civil registration and nationality procedures.

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

Asylum seekers have access to quality status determination procedures.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	640.71	240.00	298.45
Thailand	2.2 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to legal representation	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Thailand	2.3 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The number of asylum-seekers submitted for RSD and approved by Thailand's Fast-Track Provincial Admission Board increased in 2023. Five Board meetings were held in Kanchanaburi, Mae Hong Son and Tak during the year. Dedicated UNHCR teams worked in each of the three provinces and ensured case submissions were harmonized. All cases were submitted in the first half of 2023 in preparation for the launch of a large-scale resettlement programme during the second half of the year. Of the 19 cases submitted, 18 affecting 80 people were adjudicated, resulting in 64 people obtaining registered

status. Among the cases, were 15 related to medical issues and three gender-based violence cases involving children.

Criteria for determining status as a protected person in Thailand were published in the Royal Gazette, along with nine annexes, before Thailand's national screening mechanism launched on 25 September 2023. To address remaining gaps in the mechanism, in terms of legal status and developing a protection framework, UNHCR advocated that the RTG align the regulation with international standards.

UNHCR trained 40 Government officials on status determination, particularly interviewing techniques, interpretation in refugee contexts, and status determination assessments, with the Immigration Bureau and civil society organization. UNHCR advocated for the development of required system capacities and protection-oriented procedures during bi- and multi-lateral fora.

Urban asylum-seekers increased substantively in 2023, with the largest groups coming from Cambodia, Pakistan and Viet Nam. UNHCR collaborated with legal aid providers, such as Asylum Access Thailand and the Center for Asylum Protection, to provide legal aid, prioritizing cases with protection and specific needs. The RTG also regularized UNHCR's access to detained asylum-seekers in 2023.

In Cambodia, UNHCR focused advocacy efforts on promoting a national asylum framework, in line with international standards.

In Viet Nam, the office conducted RSD on behalf of the Vietnamese authorities for 119 cases pertaining to 131 people.

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

Law and policy strengthened, and Administrative institutions and practice developed/strengthened.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol	None	Unknown	Not yet aligned: =69 points	Not yet aligned: ≤69 points
Thailand	3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness	None	Unknown	Progressing towards alignment:	Not yet aligned: ≤69 points

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Refugee and Asylum Seekers

UNHCR continued to advocate for access to territory for new arrivals along the Thai-Myanmar border, as well as adherence to the non-refoulement principle and refugees' access to humanitarian assistance while in the country. The RTG requested UNHCR and other agencies to deliver humanitarian assistance on a case-by-case basis.

In the camps, UNHCR worked with partners to enhance refugees' inclusion and access to Thai institutions. IRC and Malteser International referred serious medical cases to hospitals outside the camps. UNHCR and IRC also collaboratively ensured refugees' access to the Thai justice system for serious criminal cases. Survivors of gender-based violence accessed services from the One Stop Crisis Centre under the Ministry of Public Health and UNHCR and COERR engaged national stakeholders, including the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, to expand the network for child protection.

Following the lifting of COVID-19-related restrictions, the Ministry of Interior increased its personnel capacity to conduct birth registration and issue certificates in line with Thailand's 2008 Civil Registration Act.

UNHCR also engaged with local authorities to advocate for access to employment outside the camps.

A national screening mechanism was introduced in September 2023 with UNHCR technical and capacity-building support. The Office advocated for adjustments to the mechanism to address some legal status and protection gaps in the procedure, which remained at year-end. At the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, Thailand pledged to address these gaps.

UNHCR held various workshops to increase State authorities' understanding of the Rohingya refugee protection context and strengthen inter-governmental coordination on alternatives to detention for children and their mothers. UNHCR also worked with officials to advocate for the transfer and release of children and their mothers. Four multi-day workshops for 131 Thai officials on child protection principles and alternatives to detention supported these efforts.

Statelessness

In Thailand, there was a modest increase in legal immigration and permanent residency status approvals – up from 330 in 2022 to 663 in 2023.

During the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, Thailand made several pledges on statelessness, including developing a national action plan within two years, enhancing civil registration, strengthening access to education and health care, expediting the nationality process, and participating in the Global Alliance to End Statelessness with UNHCR.

A national stocktaking seminar on ending childhood statelessness, jointly hosted by UNHCR and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior and UNICEF, enhanced collaboration between responsible Government agencies and other national stakeholders, offering a platform to address concerns and advocate for changes to law and policy.

Efforts to increase the understanding of statelessness issues among the public included collaboration with Chiang Mai University on a public e-learning course due to launch in 2024, while Government officials improved their understanding of new local procedures for granting immigration and permanent residency status through UNHCR-funded capacity-building activities with Internal Security Affairs Bureau (ISAB).

UNHCR also led two studies in Thailand to evidence future advocacy for greater access to solutions and education.

Meanwhile, in Viet Nam, a regional roundtable on statelessness co-hosted by UNHCR and the Office advocated for Viet Nam to accede to statelessness conventions. A UNHCR-funded study visits by a Vietnamese delegation to Thailand enabled the exchange and sharing of good practices related to civil registration and resolving statelessness.

In Cambodia, a new law on Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identification developed with UNHCR support should strengthen access to civil registration, including for people who fall under UNHCR's mandate. The law is in the process of being implemented.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

Risk of gender-based violence is reduced and the quality of response improved, and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse is mainstreamed in all areas.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers		100.00%	92.50%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In Thailand's refugee camps, UNHCR provided legal counselling to survivors of gender-based violence,

facilitated referrals to the Thai Justice System, provided interpretation support, coordinated with the authorities to ensure cases were processed, and identified durable solutions when required.

UNHCR provided legal services to 17 people at risk, or survivors of gender-based violence. In Tak province, the Office built the capacity of gender-based violence committees to improve the assistance available to survivors by enhancing service provision and identifying needs.

The Office also organized awareness-raising and training sessions via focus group discussions and dialogue sessions on gender-based violence for 9,931 refugees. In Tak, UNHCR trained 216 refugee security volunteers on adequate responses to gender-based violence. Volunteers learnt about key concepts, legal case response and referral pathways.

The Engaging Men through Accountable Practice project was concluded in five camps. Following this, women refugees reported better gender dynamics at home and men who participated in the project demonstrated a change in mindset and an eagerness to serve as role models for others in their communities.

In addition, UNHCR conducted 24 training sessions on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse for UNHCR camp-based refugees, camp leaders, partners and Government officials, and produced related information materials.

In urban areas, 60 survivors and people at risk of gender-based violence received counselling and individual case management, with 39 receiving psychological and social support. These services included referrals for emergency medical care and relocation support as well as cash assistance for protection and access to mental health services.

UNHCR informed survivors of criminal complaint processes and even accompanied some of them to the police (upon their request) to lodge formal complaints. All staff involved in responding to gender-based violence were trained to identify survivors and safe referral mechanisms.

There was greater demand for specialized mental health support for gender-based violence survivors in 2023. To address this, UNHCR increased the availability of psychological counselling to tackle these acute mental health needs. It targeted four refugee communities – Vietnamese Montagnard, Vietnamese Hmong, Pakistani Ahmadi and Pakistani Christians – to raise awareness about prevention and response to gender-based violence. As a result, more survivors felt safe to report gender-based violence to UNHCR.

The Office initiated several community-based protection projects on family planning, safe touch information for children and caregivers, and awareness raising on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. It also dedicated a section of Protection Working Group meetings it led to gender-based violence to bolster partners' response.

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Protection of children strengthened through effective structures and response services.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	26.97%	100.00%	26.89%
Thailand	5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	76.28%	90.87%	73.51%
Thailand	5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	98.28%	100.00%	99.60%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR and COERR strengthened child protection in refugee camps and conducted best interest procedures for 962 children at risk of violence, exploitation, abuse or neglect residing in border camps, of whom 509 were unaccompanied and separated children. COERR updated its database to incorporate all elements of the best interest assessment and adopted UNHCR's short form to streamline case referrals and management between the two organizations. The Office also monitored COERR's file management system and shadowed community-based refugee staff trained by COERR when conducting home visits to ensure newly-trained teams received appropriate support.

In parallel, COERR supported the establishment of youth clubs, which served as representative bodies. These clubs organized activities for 9,362 children, nearly two-thirds of whom were girls, involving sports, music and environmental protection.

With UNHCR's support, COERR expanded its programmes to monitor conditions in boarding houses hosting mostly unaccompanied and separated children. COERR also organized workshops in the child protection referral system to enhance child protection coordination among stakeholders in the refugee camps and key Government departments.

Following best interest procedures, UNHCR supported 36 children at risk, including 29 who were unaccompanied and separated. Internal training enhanced the identification of child protection issues, which sped up referrals for best interest procedures. UNHCR presented and finalized best interest determination for six children under resettlement consideration, most of whom were unaccompanied and separated and included Rohingya children in State shelter facilities.

UNHCR regularly visited government shelters to meet Rohingya children and increase coordination with shelter staff. It advocated that the RTG implement alternative to detention (ATD) for children through training with relevant authorities and stakeholders. The Office also participated in a review of the 2019 memorandum of understanding on alternatives to detention for children and their mothers and coordinated with other UN agencies to support the RTG in developing child-friendly procedures in the national screening mechanism.

UNHCR also established a newly designed child-friendly interview space and partnered with a local toy company to offer four structured play activities for more than 100 children with protection issues or vulnerabilities and their caregivers.

UNHCR worked with partner organizations on child protection issues, including through the urban protection working group, sharing general updates on services, child protection trends, risks and activities while case conferences were convened with relevant partners for individual case coordination.

To address the gap in case management for children in urban settings and strengthen child protection, UNHCR identified a new child protection partner in 2023. This new partnership is expected to begin in 2024.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

Refugees and asylum seekers have access to legal assistance and legal remedies.

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2023, UNHCR provided legal services to 1,035 camp refugees and ensured they had access to the Thai Justice System through direct intervention and operational partners. The type of cases referred were mainly related to gender-based violence.

The Office also intervened in individual cases related to the detention of camp residents both in and outside the camps and monitored camp detention facilities to prevent arbitrary detention and ill-treatment. UNHCR leveraged these visits to identify detainees in need of legal assistance and provide technical support to camp security teams to safeguard the rights and well-being of detainees.

UNHCR collaborated with the camp leadership and IRC's Protection and Legal Assistance Center (PLAC) to update the "mediation and dispute resolution guidelines" in line with Thai law and the evolving context in the camps. As a result, detention penalties for minor crimes were removed and the maximum detention penalty was reduced from six months to one. Furthermore, protection safeguards were strengthened for survivors of gender-based violence and children charged with offences.

Across all refugee camps, UNHCR provided protection counselling to 2,108 refugees. These sessions enabled all camp residents to approach UNHCR directly. Questions covered a broad range of topics including registration, resettlement and protection concerns.

UNHCR conducted more than 800 protection counselling sessions for 500 registered refugees and asylum-seekers on legal rights, their status in Thailand and protection issues. UNHCR conducted 125 monitoring visits to assess their condition and counselled urban refugees and Rohingya detained at the Bangkok Central Immigration Detention Centre. This assessment informed policy-related advocacy efforts with authorities. In 2023, at least 125 monitoring visits were conducted.

UNHCR counselled close to 300 refugees and asylum-seekers through its protection hotline. The service operated after office hours to assist refugees and asylum-seekers who encountered emergencies such as arrests, evictions, assaults and detention. Additionally, 64 people were counseled on legal and protection issues, including arrest, assault, and risk of refoulement.

In 2023, UNHCR conducted 180 monitoring visits at immigration detention centres in all locations and counselled 1,682 people in Thailand. It also counselled 250 Rohingya held in detention centers and shelters during 55 monitoring visits. The Office also conducted close to 1,500 counseling sessions for newly-arrived people, including 632 registration interviews.

UNHCR worked with legal NGOs to establish query and referral mechanisms and share monthly information through the Protection Working Group as well as ad hoc meetings to leverage support to cover refugees and asylum-seekers' bail from immigration detention centre.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Community mobilization strengthened and expanded.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	24.05%	28.20%	27.85%
Thailand	7.1 Extent participation of displaced and stateless people across programme phases is supported.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	Extensive: =70 points	Extensive: ≥70 points

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In refugee camps, UNHCR scaled up communication with communities. In total, 2,023 refugees (72% women) accessed protection counseling in-person and through a hotline. 2,157 refugees participated in focus group discussions and key informant interviews following age, gender, and diversity considerations.

In all locations, focus group discussions and key informant interview outcomes informed protection

interventions and referrals to relevant partners. In Kanchanaburi, UNHCR evaluated the efficiency of awareness-raising and feedback mechanisms and identified areas for improvement. The team also updated the terms of reference for camp-based volunteers of the camp outreach teams to increase their interaction with the communities. In Tak, camp-based volunteers of the Community Communication Network conducted 377 home visits to people with specific needs, including people with physical disabilities.

Through Humanity & Inclusion, UNHCR assisted 1,175 people with disabilities and 571 caregivers and family members, including through physical rehabilitation, disability and social inclusion, mental health and psychological and social support (MHPSS), and capacity building for camp-based staff and members of self-help groups to ensure people with disabilities could claim their rights.

UNHCR launched a Thailand page on the UNHCR help website, which served as a one-stop shop where people in urban settings could find detailed and updated information on UNHCR and partner services, including relevant contact information for specialized protection issues. The page complemented existing, robust feedback and response mechanisms such as a dedicated email address, a reception line, emergency hotline, weekly in-person counselling and established partner referrals.

UNHCR actively organized 35 sessions to share relevant information on topics of importance to the urban population such as tertiary education or updates on the national screening mechanism. More than 350 people from a broad spectrum of communities were targeted and selected in line with age, gender and diversity principles. With close to 5,000 subscribers, UNHCR used a messaging application to inform refugee and asylum-seekers about changes to procedures such as card renewal, announcements of new partner services and projects, and other topics of general concern.

UNHCR led the urban protection working group and organized monthly meetings with more than 10 implementing and operational partners. The meetings were an opportunity to share information on services, security issues and trends, and collect relevant information to be passed on to refugees and asylum-seekers.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

All refugees can sufficiently cover their basic needs.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	75.71%	97.62%	58.32%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2023, UNHCR provided CRIs and food to 15,521 people. Along the Thai-Myanmar border, CRIs were distributed to 5,886 refugees affected by natural disasters, including older people, people with specific needs and women of reproductive age, with the aim of helping them meet their immediate needs and improving their wellbeing. The distribution included kitchen sets, plastic tarpaulin sheets, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, plastic buckets and sanitary towels. UNHCR also coordinated the distribution of clothing to vulnerable refugees affected by landslides and carton furniture sets to schools and camp-based organizations in Mae La Oon and Mae Ra Ma Luang camps.

The conflict in Myanmar continued in 2023, prompting new arrivals in Thailand. Refugees were sheltered in temporary safety areas placed under the jurisdiction of the Royal Thai Army and humanitarian access was limited. Upon the authorities' request, UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies also provided new arrivals with CRIs and clothing.

UNHCR also provided clothes, bedding items, and hygiene essentials to 301 Rohingya refugees in Thailand and disbursed different types of cash assistance to 2,898 refugees and asylum-seekers. Food and basic items were also distributed to 163 vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers in Cambodia.

and Viet Nam.

With COERR, the Office reviewed 1,773 vulnerability assessments conducted for 821 urban refugee households, covering 2,305 people. Of them, 1,798 (78%), were given multi-purpose cash grants, with monthly rates ranging from THB 3,000 to 9,000 depending on their family size. The average amount per household was THB 3,700 per month, with this assistance benefiting around 47% of Thailand's urban refugee population.

At immigration detention centres, 41 urban and 578 Rohingya refugees in Thailand received cash assistance. Another six refugees living in urban areas received financial support for funeral cost.

In Laos, emergency cash assistance enabled one refugee to cover his basic needs, bringing the total number of people receiving UNHCR cash assistance to 2,899.

9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

Population has sufficient access to clean energy.

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2023, UNHCR supported the transition to solar-generated power in refugee camps by installing solar panels in UNHCR workstations in Ban Mai Nai Soi, Mae Ra Ma Luang and Mae La Oon camps, as well as in the office of UNHCR volunteers in Umpium and Nupo camps.

Based on recommendations by refugee committees, UNHCR also worked with partners to enhance the safety and protection of refugees by installing 100 additional solar streetlights in communal spaces in the Nupo, Umpium and Mae La camps and four solar lights in bathing facilities to mitigate the risk of gender-based violence in the Ban Mai Nai Soi refugee camp.

The loudspeaker in Tham Hin camp was also upgraded to solar power to ensure it could be better heard by people across the camp. UNHCR's operational partner for charcoal distribution (used for household cooking) also started a pilot project to support the transition from charcoal to gas.

Furthermore, UNHCR provided solar lights for one communal kitchen in the temporary safety area of Ban Mai Nai Soi, where up to 4,000 newly-arrived refugees resided.

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

Health status of the refugees improved.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	19.40%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR's work along the Thai-Myanmar border focused primarily on protection and solutions for forcibly displaced and stateless people, while other sectoral areas including health were covered by NGOs.

In 2023, IRC and Malteser International offered inpatient and outpatient services, including MHPSS, antenatal care for pregnant women, and treatment for acute malnutrition. Malteser International regularly reported camp refugees' health data into the UNHCR integrated refugee health information system. The data feeds into a report that will be used to advocate for refugees' improved access to health care and overall protection.

UNHCR partnered with COERR to serve as an entry point for medical referrals to secondary and tertiary care at the Bangkok Refugee Centre. It also worked with partners to provide information to refugees and asylum-seekers on access to other available services, including free primary healthcare at the Tzu Chi Foundation Clinic.

The burden on Thai hospitals nationally reduced in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the health information and referral desk at Bangkok Refugee Centre saw a decrease in demand for its services, falling from 3,027 patients in 2022 to 2,371 in 2023. This allowed the desk to process more referrals for secondary and tertiary care to other health facilities that were less congested. In 2023, 348 services were processed compared to 292 in 2022. Most received only partial support due to limited resources.

Through COERR, UNHCR provided psychological and social counselling and support to 273 refugees and asylum-seekers. COERR's medical unit staff accompanied refugees and asylum-seekers seeking psychiatric care and provided interpretation. A UNHCR psychologist conducted psychological consultations and assessments for 136 refugees and asylum-seekers with serious or acute mental health needs. The Office also facilitated phone calls for 135 Rohingya refugees held in detention facilities to relieve their stress and improve their mental well-being by giving them an opportunity to talk to their loved ones.

In Viet Nam, UNHCR supported outpatient care for 38 refugees and asylum-seekers in Vung Tau.

11. Outcome Area: Education

Displaced and stateless people have optimal access to inclusive and equitable education and learning opportunities within the national education system.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	53.80%	77.54%	49.29%
Thailand	11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system	Stateless Persons	53.98%	62.00%	60.37%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2023, more than half of the urban refugee children (600) aged six to 17 years were enrolled in Thailand's formal education system at the primary and secondary level. Additionally, UNHCR supported the continuity of Thai formal education for 26 urban refugees over 17 years old.

In addition, 92 children attended Thai language classes and were equipped with skills to access public schools – three times as many as in 2022. The surge in participation was due to revised financial assistance for students and caregivers of young students and a longer curriculum, which was extended from six to eight months.

The curriculum extension was introduced in May 2023 to enhance the programme's effectiveness and support students to be better prepared for enrolment in Thai schools as well as help reduce the number of school dropouts. The revamped programme proved successful, with student attendance increasing to 80% between the start and end of term. Furthermore, the intensive Thai language programme was opened to 85 adults aged between 18 and 45.

In 2023, DAFI scholarships were introduced in Thailand, facilitating access to tertiary education for six refugees, providing an opportunity for them to build a more secure future for themselves and their families.

UNHCR also supported Government shelters in their provision of language classes to 18 Rohingya children. This support, together with education items, allowed them to develop their academic skills in Thai, English, mathematics, and social studies.

The right to education for stateless people in Thailand was protected under the Thailand Constitution 2017 and its subordinate policies and legislation, allowing stateless people without any documentation and regardless of legal status to access education service on an equal footing with Thai nationals.

In 2023, UNHCR co-hosted with UNICEF the National Stocktaking Seminar on ending childhood statelessness in Thailand whereby Government counterparts, including the National Security Council and the Ministry of Education attended.

Recommendations were made to amend the Student Loan Fund Act 2017 to grant registered stateless children access to education loans, provide freedom of movement and reduce or end the need for them to obtain permission to travel beyond the province, particularly children who frequently travel for educational purposes.

At the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, the RTG pledged to review supported schemes for education and skills development for stateless children, signaling an intention to address some of the issues raised at the national stocktaking seminar.

Phase one of a UNHCR-funded study on access to education for stateless children was completed. The study aimed to contribute to an understanding of education-related gaps in existing law and policy and will be used to advocate strengthened access to education for stateless people. The study is expected to be finalized in 2024.

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

Stateless people are self-reliant through access to means of livelihoods.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Registered stateless people in Thailand had the right to work, albeit with some restrictions, including in relation to freedom of movement. There was a slight dip in the number of stateless people holding work permits in 2023, possibly due to the residual economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting unemployment.

In 2023, UNHCR worked with the Department of Learning Encouragement under Thailand's Ministry of Education in Chiang Saen District of Chiang Rai to conduct livelihood skills training activities in small engine repair and auto mechanics and fruit and vegetable processing. Of the 73 people trained, 55 were stateless and 18 were host community members. These skills aimed to enable villagers to carry out some sustainable

livelihood activities and practical skills, while generating income for their families and communities.

14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

Potential for voluntary return realized.

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The volatile situation in Myanmar continued to limit any prospects for return. While UNHCR did not promote or facilitate voluntary repatriation among refugees residing in the camps along the Thai-Myanmar border, it continued to monitor the situation and maintained regular dialogue with refugees to gain a better understanding of their needs and concerns.

Assisted voluntary return and reintegration for urban refugees remains a component of a comprehensive approach to solutions by assisting and supporting the return and reintegration of refugees and asylum-seekers who are unable or unwilling to remain in host or transit countries and wish to return voluntarily to their country of origin. In this regard, UNHCR referred refugees and asylum-seekers to IOM for assisted voluntary return and reintegration, offered counseling, and facilitated exit procedures for those who wished to return to their country of origin.

In 2023, UNHCR provided voluntary repatriation counselling to 24 refugees and asylum-seekers and referred 16 people to IOM. Of them, one departed through IOM and seven others voluntarily returned to their country of origin by their own means. The remaining eight people were still in the pipeline to return via IOM support by year-end.

Resettlement will continue to be an important protection tool for refugees at heightened risk but will not be the answer for most of Thailand's urban refugee population. As such, UNHCR closely monitored changing conditions in the countries of origin to ensure suitable solutions were identified and opportunities for refugees and asylum-seekers interested in returning were pursued.

Rejected asylum-seekers, refugees with no prospect of resettlement and those considering return were provided with information on the conditions in their country of origin to enable them to make informed decisions regarding return. UNHCR also addressed individual queries on voluntary return and provided and distributed informational materials on the assisted voluntary return and reintegration programme.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Potential for resettlement and complementary pathways realized.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	472	5,500	5,165
Thailand	15.2 Average processing time from resettlement submission to departure under normal priority	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,086.00	730.00	2,473.00

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2023, the United States announced its intention to resettle the entire verified camp population of approximately 82,000 refugees, through a comprehensive resettlement programme that was launched and implemented in Thailand. This entailed strategic negotiations with officials from the RTG and the United States on eligibility criteria and programme design. In 2023, 4,000 people were submitted to the United States, surpassing the initial target of 2,500 referrals.

UNHCR continued to prioritize the resettlement of urban refugees facing serious protection risks in Thailand and Viet Nam. A priority was the resettlement of people being detained, particularly the Rohingya population, who faced indefinite detention in Thailand. People identified for resettlement were primarily submitted to Australia, Canada and the United States.

In Viet Nam, UNHCR identified 19 Sri Lankan refugees in Vung Tau as having urgent resettlement needs. They were among a group of people rescued off the Viet Nam coast in late 2022.

During the year, UNHCR submitted 1,375 resettlement registration forms, assisted 883 refugees for resettlement departure to Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States with urgent or emergency needs and facilitated exit permits for 908 refugees. Those residing in camps and urban areas were encouraged to explore alternative pathways for admission to third countries.

To enhance complementary pathways for refugees in 2023, UNHCR also offered interpreter support to third countries, informed refugees and asylum-seekers of their interview schedules, provided pre-departure counselling and assisted with exit procedures for refugees departing, primarily to Australia and Canada through private sponsorship and family reunification programmes.

16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

Potential for integration realized.

Plan	Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
Thailand	16.2 Proportion of people covered by national social protection systems	Stateless Persons	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Thailand hosts one of the largest stateless populations globally, with 586,548 registered stateless people residing in the country by year-end. This was an increase of 12,650 compared to 2022, largely caused by the new registration of undocumented people, including students. Progress in resolving statelessness was modest in 2023, with 7,708 people obtaining Thai nationality and 663 becoming permanent residents. In terms of access to nationality and permanent residency, this represented a slight improvement from 2022 although the reduction of statelessness relative to the population in Thailand remained low.

A project with ADRA in Chiang Rai provided legal assistance with civil status registration or documentation to 8,164 stateless people. Through this project, 5,039 new applications were prepared and 3,502 submitted to district offices. The RTG granted nationality or permanent residency to 488 people whose applications were supported by ADRA. ADRA also conducted training for 1,844 community members, community leaders and project staff to sensitize and improve their capacity to address legal issues related to statelessness. 294 local Government officials also enhanced their understanding of granting legal immigration and permanent residency status to people using streamlined procedures, thanks to a joint initiative between UNHCR and the Internal Security Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Interior on the

administration of legal immigration status and ethnic minority groups.

To create more sustainable support for stateless people, UNHCR implemented a pilot community support project in Chiang Mai. The project trained 67 community volunteers and relevant stakeholders on legislation and procedures related to nationality and civil registration. It also supported 33 stateless people to prepare and follow up on their nationality applications and advocated that the responsible district offices identify solutions for on-hold cases and accelerate the application process.

At the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, Thailand pledged to develop a national action plan to address statelessness and review existing laws and regulations to facilitate access to nationality.

Viet Nam's Ministry of Justice continued to work to resolve cases of statelessness. However, statistics on access to solutions for those falling under UNHCR's statelessness mandate in Viet Nam for 2023 were not yet available.

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

Disaggregated data was collected on the Thai-Myanmar border wherever possible. UNHCR focused on ensuring women, men, girls and boys were among the refugees participating in its programmes. Women and girls increasingly participated in community leadership structures in all camps. Focus group discussions addressing child protection and gender-based violence were also held.

During a verification exercise in the nine camps, special arrangements were made for people with specific needs who could not visit the site, including transportation and home visits. Regular protection counselling gathered feedback on individual concerns and provided adequate responses.

In urban settings, UNHCR enhanced the range of mechanisms and tools to consult, collect feedback and respond to the population's needs through its Help.UNHCR.org website, dedicated email and reception lines, the emergency hotline, weekly in-person counselling, established partner referrals, and physical complaint boxes.

UNHCR reached 350 people via 35 community outreach sessions on topics ranging from tertiary education to updates on Thailand's national screening mechanism. The sessions applied age, gender and diversity principles when targeting participants. UNHCR ensured the findings and recommendations from the community sessions were shared with relevant stakeholders, including its funded partner, to inform programming.

Specific age, gender and diversity-informed interventions included but were not limited to structured play events for children with protection issues and strengthening gender-based violence-related interventions across diverse populations.

ADRA implemented activities aimed at bolstering access to legal identity and resolving statelessness for older people. Its programme involved the use of mobile legal support activities and a range of awareness-raising media to ensure that a diverse range of stateless people, including those hard to reach and less mobile, would receive assistance.

Section 3: Resources

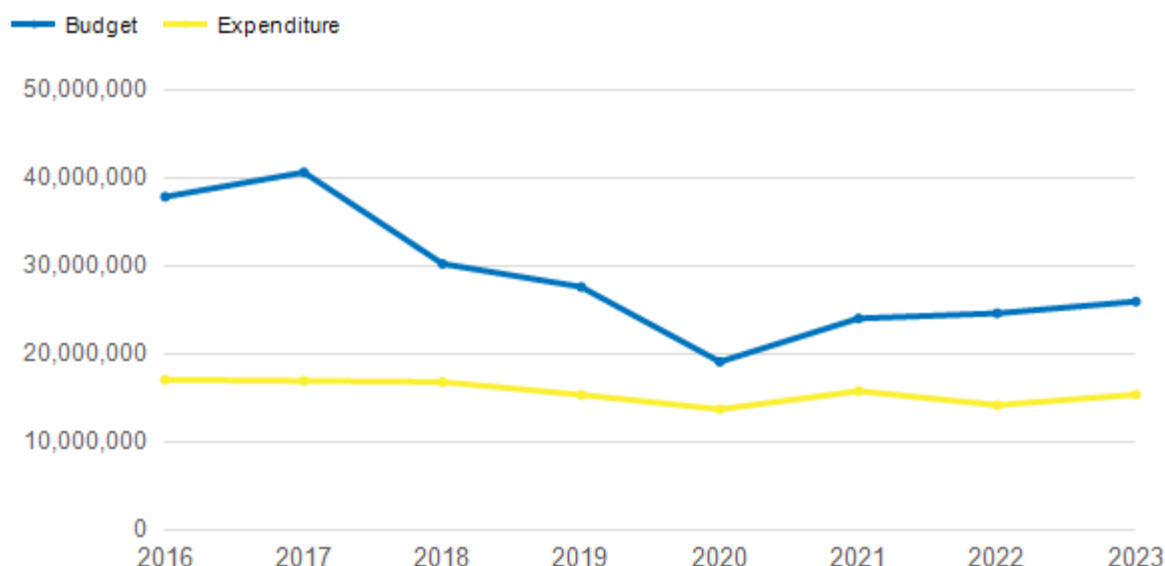
3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

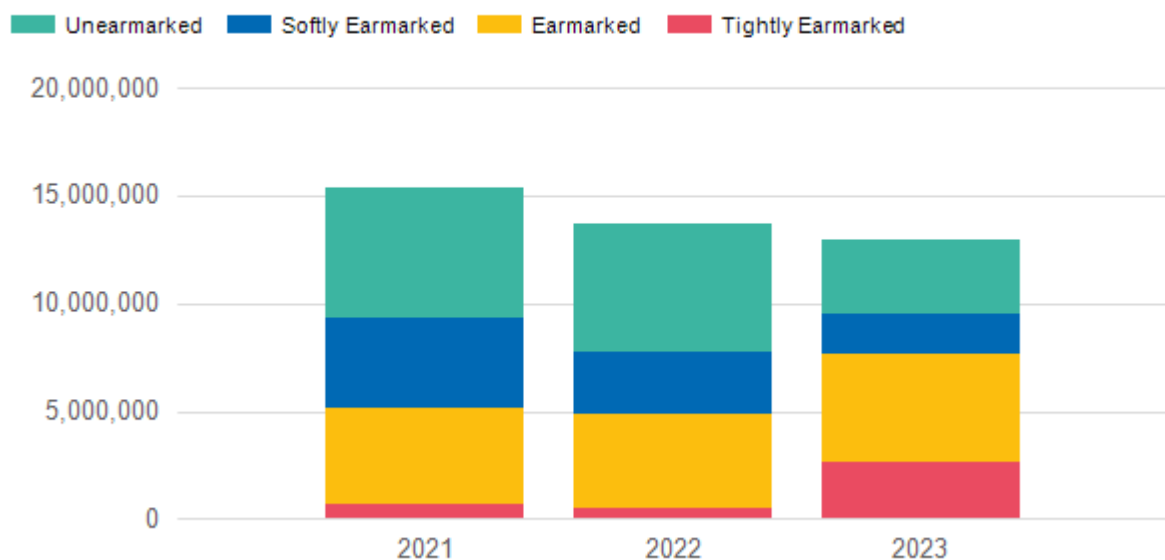
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	9,750,949	7,053,375	72.34%	7,053,375	100.00%
IA2: Assist	10,331,200	5,457,535	52.83%	5,457,535	100.00%
IA3: Empower	3,847,960	2,164,276	56.24%	2,164,276	100.00%
IA4: Solve	1,976,764	666,974	33.74%	666,974	100.00%
Total	25,906,872	15,342,160	59.22%	15,342,160	100.00%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	6,996,318	4,805,773	68.69%	4,805,773	100.00%
OA2: Status	1,231,311	1,361,117	110.54%	1,361,117	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	679,113	498,608	73.42%	498,608	100.00%
OA4: GBV	1,178,311	280,916	23.84%	280,916	100.00%
OA5: Children	2,038,518	1,477,540	72.48%	1,477,540	100.00%
OA6: Justice	844,207	387,877	45.95%	387,877	100.00%
OA7: Community	865,836	1,038,398	119.93%	1,038,398	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	5,130,232	2,801,257	54.60%	2,801,257	100.00%
OA9: Housing	226,952	27,527	12.13%	27,527	100.00%
OA10: Health	1,598,636	744,226	46.55%	744,226	100.00%
OA11: Education	2,810,616	1,124,109	40.00%	1,124,109	100.00%
OA13: Livelihood	171,507	1,769	1.03%	1,769	100.00%
OA14: Return	168,552	45,330	26.89%	45,330	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	596,655	244,238	40.93%	244,238	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	1,211,557	377,406	31.15%	377,406	100.00%
EA18: Support	158,552	126,069	79.51%	126,069	100.00%
Total	25,906,872	15,342,160	59.22%	15,342,160	100.00%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

In line with its strategy, UNHCR directed resources to protection activities and the provision of refugees’ basic needs, including gender-based violence, child protection, RSD, legal assistance, health, cash assistance and education. In addition,

a border-wide verification exercise was prioritized to pave the way for large-scale resettlement for camp refugees to the United States.

In terms of support for stateless people, the Office focused its resources on building the capacity of civil registration officials and Government agencies to process civil registration and legal identity documents.

While the post-COVID-19 economy had improved, some refugees and asylum-seekers still suffered from its lingering effects. To address this, UNHCR conducted a vulnerability assessment and directed cash assistance to the most vulnerable urban refugees.

Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

In the absence of a national legal framework for the protection of urban refugees and asylum-seekers in Thailand, UNHCR delivered critical protection and assistance to these groups. With limited opportunities for resettlement to third countries and no right to access employment, many urban asylum-seekers and refugees depended on humanitarian or other forms of assistance, including from UNHCR, to support themselves. To address this issue more sustainably, there is a need for continued investment in supporting implementation of the National Screening Mechanism.

Young people's engagement in child protection activities in the camps demonstrated the importance of fostering a protective environment and equipping children and young people with the knowledge and skills to reduce the risk of abuse. Young people will continue to play a vital role as active contributors to child protection in the camps.

Strengthening the level of knowledge and skills of camp-based refugee staff on child protection has been essential to ensuring that all children in need of assistance are promptly identified and referred to the appropriate service providers. UNHCR will continue to broaden training and capacity building to a wider range of child protection stakeholders such as child protection committees in the camps.

The number of Government staff providing support under the documentation registry was limited. To achieve the initially planned objectives, UNHCR and partner staff need to work more closely with Government staff to support the application process.

Accessing remote locations to assist stateless people remained challenging given the limited resources. Working with organizations that already have a presence on the ground will be advantageous while also bearing in mind the limitations of such partnerships.



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