

# **Global Forced Displacement and the work of UNHCR**

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# The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)



*Established by the UN General Assembly in 1950, the UN Refugee Agency leads and coordinates international action for the worldwide protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems.*



# Who is a **Refugee**?

The Definition of a Refugee is based on the 1951 Convention, a refugee is any individual, who:

*“owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of **race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion**, is outside the country of his (or her) nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself (or herself) of the protection of that country...”*

# Refugees or migrants?



**Migrants**: People who choose to leave

**Refugees**: People forced to flee

All Signatories to the 1951 Convention or the 1967 Protocol

are bound to uphold the principle of

***NON-REFOULEMENT***

States may not return a refugee to a country where his or her life or freedom would be threatened.

Refugee Convention Article 33

# Who is an Internally Displaced Person (IDP)?

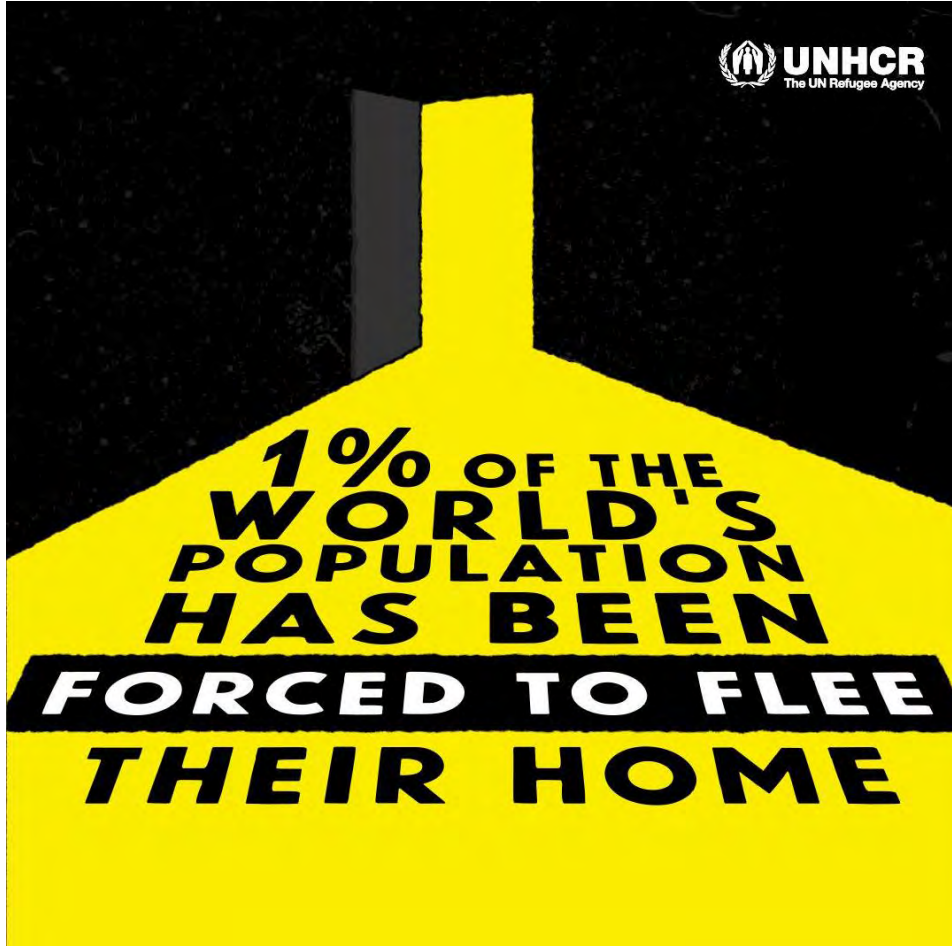
- Has been forced to flee his or her home for the same reason as a refugee, but...
- Remains in his or her own country and has not crossed an international border



# Who is an Asylum Seeker?

- Someone who claims to be a refugee, but whose case has not yet been evaluated.





# 79.5 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO FLEE THEIR HOME

- 45.7 million internally displaced people
- 29.6 million refugees
- 4.2 million asylum seekers

# Largest refugee and IDP groups by Country of Origin

## Refugees:

- Syria: 6.6 million
- Venezuela: 3.7 million
- Afghanistan: 2.7million
- S. Sudan: 2.2 million
- Myanmar: 1.1 million

## IDPs:

- Colombia: 7.9 million
- Syria: 6.2 million
- DRC: 5.0 million
- Yemen: 3.6 million
- Somalia: 2.6 million
- Afghanistan: 2.6 mill

**TWO-THIRDS OF THE  
PEOPLE DISPLACED ACROSS  
BORDERS CAME FROM JUST  
5 COUNTRIES:**

**SYRIA**  
6.6 MILLION

**AFGHANISTAN**  
2.7 MILLION

**VENEZUELA**  
3.7 MILLION

**SOUTH SUDAN**  
2.2 MILLION

**MYANMAR**  
1 MILLION

- **80%** of the world's displaced people are in countries affected by **acute food insecurity and malnutrition**
- **73%** of displaced people are hosted in **neighboring country**. The 5 top hosting countries are
  - Turkey (3.6 million)
  - Colombia (1.8 million)
  - Pakistan (1.4 million)
  - Uganda (1.4 million)
  - Germany (1.1 million)

# What future does a refugee face?

## Durable Solutions

**Voluntary Repatriation**



**Local Integration**



**Third-country Resettlement**



## WAITING



▶ The average displaced person spends 19 years uprooted

# **COVID-19 Response: “Stay and Deliver”**




# Construction of Isolation and Treatment Centres (ITC)

2020/4/22 11:07





Hand wash  
facilities  
installed in  
refugee  
settlements



Distribution  
of PPE to  
local  
hospitals

SHOT ON MI 9T  
RANA





Awareness  
raising on  
Prevention  
of COVID-19

