



SECOND EDITION

GLOBAL COMPACT ON REFUGEES

Indicator Framework

December 2022

Cover photo:

Abdulrahman Alkayali, 42 and Silva Tanielian, 44 pose for portrait with their son Sam at the Charles Bridge in Prague Czech republic on May 31, 2021. The Syrian couple who had their honeymoon in Prague have now settled there as recognised refugees.

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Contact

If you have questions about the Global Compact on Refugees indicator framework, the Global Refugee Forum or the Global Compact on Refugees more generally, please contact UNHCR's Global Compact on Refugee Coordination Team at hggcr@unhcr.org.

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Refugee women in Nayakanda refugee camp in Ruyigi province in Burundi enjoy working on Handicrafts together.
© UNHCR/Samuel Otieno

1. Introduction

This second edition of the Global Compact on Refugees Indicator Framework caps a process of technical refinement led by UNHCR, following the release of the first [GCR indicator report](#) and its consideration at the [High-Level Officials Meeting](#) in December 2021. The GCR indicator framework, first published in July 2019,¹ is the backbone of the biennial GCR indicator report supporting assessment of progress towards the objectives of the Global Compact and its cross-cutting ambition to operationalize the principle of burden- and responsibility-sharing.

This technical refinement builds on methodological and data collection work undertaken by UNHCR, in collaboration with national and international partners, to populate the GCR indicator framework after extensive consultations with States and other GCR stakeholders.

The new edition does not deviate from the initial indicator framework. The main goal of the refinement has been to consolidate the 2019 framework in order to improve its measurement. An online survey of participants at the launch event of the GCR indicator report confirmed that expanding the range of GCR indicators was not to be prioritized. Among a group of five data-related actions suggested by UNHCR to accelerate the implementation of the GCR, “broadening the scope of the GCR indicator framework” was indeed the least selected option. By far, the highest priority action for respondents was “enhancing data on both refugees and host communities”. “Disaggregating refugee data by age, gender and diversity” came second, followed closely by “improving data collection on financing of refugee situations”.² In other words, stakeholders were more in favour of further improving the availability of data to measure the agreed GCR indicator framework than to revise it.

1 The 2019 edition of the GCR indicator framework is accessible [here](#).

2 Online audience response survey (Mentimeter) conducted by UNHCR during the launch event of the GCR indicator report (16.11.2021). To the question “in your opinion, which data areas should be prioritized for the success of the GCR? Please order by level priority”, 68 per cent of the 114 respondents selected “Enhancing data on both refugee and host communities” as either the first priority (43%) or the second (25%); 45 per cent, “Disaggregation of refugee data by age, gender and diversity” (17% first, 28% second); 37 per cent, “Improving data collection on financing of refugee situations” (15%, 22%); 25 per cent, “Facilitating participation of refugees in data work” (17%, 9%); and 17 per cent “Broadening the scope of the GCR indicator framework” (9%, 8%).

In this context, four main improvements have been made to the GCR indicator framework and are presented in this second edition:



Clarification of methodologies

All metadata sheets³ were reviewed to reflect changes in definitions and data collection methodologies that have occurred since the first edition of the GCR indicator framework. Among the most notable changes is the setting-up of a new data collection system, relevant to the five GCR indicators tracking Official Development Assistance (ODA) allocated to refugee situations (i.e. GCR indicators 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.1, 4.1.1, 4.1.2). The OECD, in consultation with UNHCR, has been working to develop and institutionalize a methodology and data collection process that will allow more regular data availability on bilateral ODA for the benefit of refugees and host communities.⁴ This new data collection system will replace the use of ad-hoc surveys previously applied by the OECD to collect data on financing for refugee situations.

Substantial changes were also introduced in relation to the indicators on access to decent work (2.1.1) and freedom of movement (2.1.2). A questionnaire containing close-ended questions has been developed by UNHCR, in consultation with the ILO, to facilitate the coding of national legislations in reference to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and ILO Conventions applying to Refugees. While this tool will help record changes over time, it was implemented for the first time in 2021 and does not capture all aspects of decent work or freedom of movement. Moreover, given the focus of these indicators on the *de jure* (in law) situations, complementary indicators on the *de facto* (in practice) enjoyment of these rights are suggested in the related metadata.

Introduction of complementary metadata fields

Three new fields have been added to all metadata sheets to facilitate the interpretation and analysis of GCR indicators. These fields provide a description of the extent of available data in terms of time periods, countries, and population coverages (*Data availability*), the quality and limitations of each indicator, or in other words “what it does and does not measure” (*Comments and Limitations*), and an illustrative list of indicators that may complement the measurement of GCR objectives and which may become increasingly available (*Complementary indicators*). The identification of complementary indicators has been guided

³ “Metadata are data that describe other data” or indicators in this case in terms of definition, rationale, methodology, computation, data sources, limitations, and other descriptive elements.

⁴ The objective of this process is to collect separate data on ODA for the benefit of (1) refugees, asylum-seekers, stateless persons, and host communities; (2) refugee returnees and receiving communities in their countries of origin; and (3) internally displaced populations (IDPs) and host communities.

by the same methodological considerations applied to GCR indicators, drawing on international statistical standards and practices. While the primary objective was to identify complementary indicators that are Tier 1, namely indicators for which a methodology is well established and data are largely available (see definitions in Section 3), several complementary indicators are classified as Tier 2. Many of these indicators will require additional data collection by national and international statistical actors.

Revision of the “GCR partner indicator”

GCR indicator 1.2.2 has been revised. The initial indicator on the *number of partners supporting national arrangements in the refugee-hosting country* was reformulated as the *number of partners in refugee response plans supporting refugee-hosting countries*. The revised indicator was introduced as a proxy in the first [GCR Indicator Report](#) (p. 33-34) due to definitional challenges and limited data collection capacity. Several complementary indicators have also been suggested in the related metadata to capture additional types of partners and support provided in other contexts.

Introduction of one new GCR indicator on complementary pathways

In support of the progress towards GCR objective 3, to *expand access to third country solutions* and its sub-outcome on access to complementary pathways, the technical refinement introduces a new indicator on the *number of countries offering safe admission and stay options through complementary pathways to refugees hosted in other countries*. This new indicator (3.2.2) reflects the commitment made in the GCR to an overall expansion of the number of countries offering complementary pathways for admission to third countries (GCR, para. 94). It is also consistent with GCR indicator 3.1.2 on the *number of countries receiving UNHCR resettlement submissions from the host country*.

Moving forward, a wide range of national and international actors need to take part in the implementation of the data and evidence agenda enshrined in the GCR (see Background). This should translate in a better measurement of the socio-economic conditions of refugees and host communities,⁵ access to durable solutions, and measurement of the impact arising from hosting, protecting, and assisting refugees with a view to assess gaps in international cooperation and promote more equitable, predictable, and sustainable burden- and responsibility-sharing. The GCR indicator framework and the GCR Indicator Report seek to operationalize the GCR’s commitment to improve data and evidence as one of the key tools for effecting burden- and responsibility-sharing (GCR, paras. 31-48). Nevertheless, the list of GCR indicators cannot be considered exhaustive and capable of measuring all the ins and outs of the GCR. It remains primarily a tool to support more in-depth, qualitative analyses and stocktaking exercises.

5 One of the main data gaps revealed in the first [GCR Indicator Report](#) is the lack of socio-economic data on refugees and host communities, which seriously hampers the measurement of GCR objective 2, to *enhance refugee self-reliance*.

2. Background

Measuring GCR objectives with indicators

The [GCR](#) was affirmed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018. Through the global compact, the international community commits to do its utmost to mobilize support for the achievement of four objectives, on an equal footing and through more predictable and equitable burden- and responsibility-sharing (GCR, para. 7), namely to:

- I. Ease pressures on host countries;
- II. Enhance refugee self-reliance;
- III. Expand access to third country solutions; and
- IV. Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

To measure progress towards these objectives, the GCR requires the development of indicators (GCR, para. 102).

A global data agenda for burden- and responsibility-sharing

With *funding and effective and efficient use of resources and a multi-stakeholder and partnership approach*, data and evidence are one of the three key tools outlined in the GCR for effecting burden- and responsibility-sharing (GCR, para. 45):

“Reliable, comparable, and timely data is critical for evidence-based measures to: improve socio-economic conditions for refugees and host communities; assess and address the impact of large refugee populations on host countries in emergency and protracted situations; and identify and plan appropriate solutions.”

The GCR outlines a wide-ranging data agenda to support evidence-based responses (GCR, paras. 45 - 48). States and relevant stakeholders commit as part of the GCR to promote harmonized standards for the collection, analysis, and sharing of age, gender, disability, and diversity disaggregated data on refugees and returnees.

The GCR data agenda calls for strengthening national statistical systems and supporting the *inclusion of refugees and host communities, as well as returnees and stateless persons as relevant, within national data and statistical collection processes* (GCR, para. 46). This is commonly referred to as ‘statistical inclusion’ and also echoes the central pledge anchored in the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) (the SDGs) to leave no-one behind. Allowing the compilation of socio-economic indicators on both displaced and host communities, statistical inclusion in the spirit of the GCR is a key tool for the formulation

and coordination of humanitarian, peacebuilding, and development interventions aiming to respond to large and protracted refugee situations in line with the 2030 Agenda.

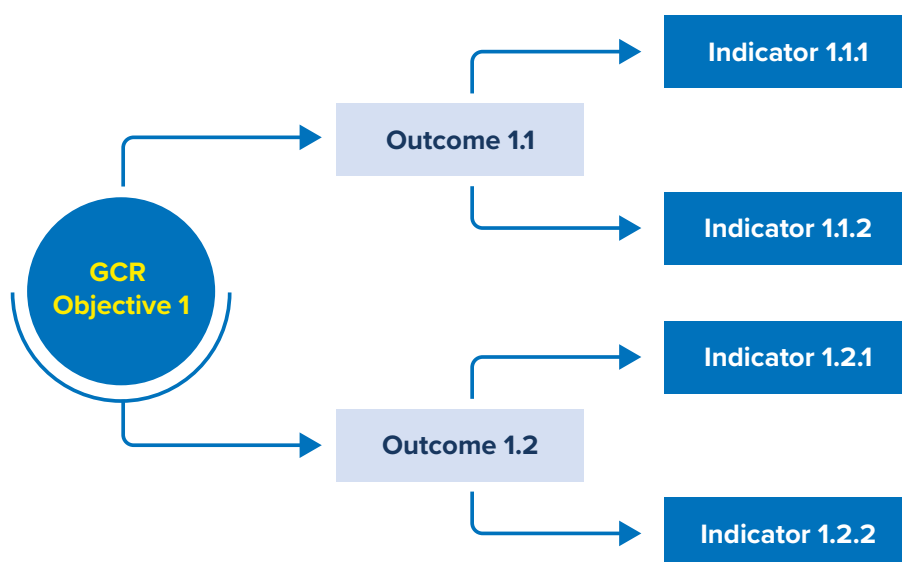
The GCR calls for improving data and evidence in support of solutions for refugees. It underlines the need for States, UNHCR, and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen data to assist in policies, investment, and programmes in support of voluntary repatriation to, and reintegration of returnees in, countries of origin, and to strengthen the availability and use of resettlement and complementary pathways for admission of those with international protection needs (GCR, para. 47).

Finally, part of the GCR data agenda is the development of the *measuring of the impact arising from hosting, protecting and assisting refugees* with a view to assessing gaps in international cooperation and promoting burden- and responsibility-sharing that is more equitable, predictable, and sustainable (GCR, para. 48).

In support of this global data agenda and related data harmonization, the GCR refers to the [International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics](#) (IRRS), the implementation of which is the primary responsibility of national authorities and international agencies (see Section 3).

3. GCR Indicator Framework: Overview

Each GCR objective is comprised of two expected outcomes within the indicator framework, each one reflecting a separate area of focus. Per outcome, two indicators provide the statistical framework for monitoring progress over time. The respective areas of focus are captured either through direct measurement or proxy indicators in view of the complexity of each. In total, there are 16 indicators.



To facilitate the implementation of the GCR indicator framework, all indicators are classified into two tiers based on their level of methodological development and the availability of data at the global level. The tiers are defined as follows:

Tier 1 Definition:

Indicator is conceptually clear. It has an internationally established methodology and standards are available. Data are regularly produced either by national or international institutions for at least 50 per cent of countries where the indicator is relevant or for at least 50 per cent of the concerned population.

Total Tier 1 indicators: 6

Tier 2 Definition:

Indicator is conceptually clear. However, either no internationally established methodology or standard is available, or data are not regularly produced by national or international institutions or does not cover at least 50 per cent of the concerned population.

Total Tier 2 indicators: 10

At the end of 2022, there were 6 Tier 1 and 10 Tier 2 indicators. This represents an improvement compared to 2019 when the framework counted 3 Tier 1 and 12 Tier 2 indicators. The three GCR indicators that were already Tier 1 in 2019 were those on resettlement (3.1.1, 3.1.2) and the number of refugee returnees (4.1.2). In 2022, the indicators on the number of partners (1.2.2), legal access to work (2.1.1) and freedom of movement (2.2.2) were added to the list of Tier 1 indicator.

All indicators are equally important, and the establishment of the tier system is intended solely to assist in the development of data-relevant global implementation and capacity-building strategies. As methodological or data collection improvements continue, UNHCR will periodically update the classification of GCR indicators. Increasing the part of GCR indicators classified as Tier 1 requires, however, significant technical and financial investment at national and international levels.

Each indicator is accompanied by a metadata sheet specifying its definition, rationale, concepts, methodology, data sources, data availability, other comments and limitations, and potential complementary indicators. As mentioned in the introduction, the three last fields of the metadata were added as part of the technical refinement of the GCR indicator framework undertaken in 2022, which also led to a revision of all metadata sheets.

In line with the Sustainable Development Goal agenda's commitment to leave no-one behind, disaggregation of SDG as well as GCR indicators is essential.⁶ At a minimum, disaggregation of relevant GCR indicators by sex, age, and diversity is encouraged.⁷ Practice has shown that higher levels of disaggregation require that national and international institutions put additional measures in place to allow this information to be captured through their data sets. As described in the metadata, the GCR indicator framework still shows a diverse level of disaggregation depending on the availability of data as well as collective investments in GCR data capacity.

To produce the type of "reliable, comparable, and timely data" required by the GCR to measure progress towards its objectives, the [International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics \(IRRS\)](#) are both an indispensable and authoritative tool.⁸ In March 2018, the United Nations Statistical Commission, the apex entity of the global statistical system, adopted the IRRS, which are also referenced in the global compact (GCR, p. 17).

6 See [Data Disaggregation for the SDG Indicators](#).

7 See [UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity \(AGD\)](#) or the guidance and standards contained in the IASC-issued [Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action](#). UNHCR is working towards strengthening collection and use of data on refugees with disabilities, including through integrating relevant questions at point of refugee registration and in statistical surveys covering refugees. These questions are in line with the [Washington Group on Disability Statistics](#).

8 See: International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics (IRRS) - EGRIS (egrisstats.org)

The International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics

The IRRS provide countries and international organizations with guidance on how to improve the quality of official statistics on refugee populations. It outlines, for the first time, a comprehensive statistical framework for those seeking international protection (including refugees) and other related population groups, and presents recommendations for the collection, analysis, reporting, and coordination of national statistics. The IRRS were developed by the Expert Group on Refugee, IDP, and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS) through a collaborative process including national authorities from many host countries and international agencies with relevant expertise. The recommendations promote inclusion of refugees in National Statistical Systems (NSS) by recognizing they are part of the resident population and sharing practical recommendations for the adaptation of specific data sources and coordination efforts. With a growing number of countries taking steps to implement these recommendations, this presents a key opportunity for global efforts to monitor progress against the GCR objectives and broad data agenda.

EGRISS is currently delivering on its third mandate (2020-2024) received from the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC), focusing on implementation of the IRRS and its sister publication – the [International Recommendations on IDP Statistics](#) (IRIS) that were endorsed in 2020. The Group is also developing a third set of recommendations on statelessness statistics that will be presented to the UNSC in 2023.

Recognizing that the relationship between data and decision-making - between official statistics and national policy development and implementation - is both concrete and complex, where one enables and informs the other, the GCR and IRRS are mutually reinforcing frameworks. This is why the links and consistency between the GCR indicators and the IRRS are highlighted in the metadata sheets.

Finally, not every GCR indicator is relevant for every country. While some indicators are in principle universally applicable, such as indicators about the self-reliance of refugees and host communities, others will apply only to countries of origin or asylum, or to donor or recipient countries.

4. Data Sources

Various data sources contribute to the GCR indicator framework. They relate to administrative records (e.g. registered refugee returnees, legislation, official development assistance) or statistical surveys on refugees and host communities based on random statistical techniques (e.g. proportion of refugees and host communities living below the poverty line). These are primarily national data sources, directly involving national authorities, including national statistical offices.

The UN and other international organizations also play a key role in supporting data collection efforts at national level and compiling consistent and reliable data and aggregates at global and regional levels. In addition to UNHCR, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Bank Group, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and the International Labour Organization (ILO) are, for instance, involved in the provision of data relevant to the GCR indicator framework and also collaborate with national institutions on

related data collection. Where possible, existing primary or secondary data sources are utilized to avoid placing an additional burden on national statistical systems.

A critical aspect in measuring progress towards achieving the objectives of the GCR is to make high-quality official statistical information available, whether produced by national or international organizations. Therefore, it is expected that all stakeholders that are part of national or international statistical systems will adhere to the [Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics](#) endorsed by the General Assembly (A/RES/68/261).

5. Data Collection and Dissemination

The collection of GCR-indicator data is the joint responsibility of countries and international institutions, with technical support provided by UNHCR country offices and other stakeholders. In addition, the World Bank-UNHCR [Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement](#) has played a major role since its creation in improving the availability of socio-economic data on refugees and host communities.

The data of the GCR indicator framework are disseminated in aggregate form and analysed in the [GCR Indicator Report](#). The first report was released on 16 November 2021 ahead of the [High-Level Officials Meeting](#) held on 14-15 December 2021, two years after the first [Global Refugee Forum](#) (GRF). The second GCR Indicator Report is expected to be released about one month in advance of the GRF in December 2023.

6. Related Initiatives

The GCR indicator framework is one of the tools that Member States and other stakeholders have identified to support the implementation of the GCR. For instance, the indicators under GCR objective 3 are intended to align and provide data for the global strategy to increase the pool of resettlement and complementary pathways places: [Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030 – The next phase of the Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways \(2019-2021\)](#). The GCR indicator framework also complements data and analysis aimed at *measuring the impact arising from hosting, protecting and assisting refugees* which are being developed with Member States (GCR, para. 48).

Complementary data and reporting have also been developed by UNHCR to support implementation and follow-up on pledges submitted by States and other stakeholders at and after the first GRF. [GRF pledges](#) can take different forms, including financial, material, and technical assistance; resettlement places and complementary pathways for admission to third countries; as well as other actions that States have elected to take at the national level in support of the objectives of the GCR.

7. Summary table of the Global Compact on Refugees Indicator Framework

GLOBAL COMPACT ON REFUGEES: INDICATOR FRAMEWORK

Objective 1: Ease pressures on host countries	Objective 2: Enhance refugee self-reliance	Objective 3: Expand access to third country solutions	Objective 4: Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity
<p>Outcome 1.1: Resources supporting additional instruments and programmes are made available for refugees and host communities by an increasing number of donors</p>	<p>Outcome 2.1: Refugees are able to actively participate in the social and economic life of host countries</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1: Refugees in need have access to resettlement opportunities in an increasing number of countries</p>	<p>Outcome 4.1: Resources are made available to support the sustainable reintegration of returning refugees by an increasing number of donors</p>
<p>Indicator 1.1.1: Volume of official development assistance (ODA) for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee-hosting ODA recipient country</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.2: Number of donors providing ODA for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee-hosting ODA recipient country</p>	<p>Indicator 2.1.1: Proportion of refugees who have access to decent work by law</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.2: Proportion of refugees who are allowed by law to move freely within the host country</p>	<p>Indicator 3.1.1: Number of refugees who departed on resettlement from the host country</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.2: Number of countries receiving UNHCR resettlement submissions from the host country</p>	<p>Indicator 4.1.1: Volume of ODA for the benefit of refugee returnees in the ODA recipient country of origin</p> <p>Indicator 4.1.2: Number of donors providing ODA for the benefit of refugee returnees in the ODA recipient country of origin</p>
<p>Outcome 1.2: National arrangements and coordinated refugee responses are supported</p>	<p>Outcome 2.2: Refugee and host community self-reliance is strengthened</p>	<p>Outcome 3.2: Refugees have access to complementary pathways for admission to third countries</p>	<p>Outcome 4.2: Refugees are able to return and reintegrate socially and economically</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.1: Proportion of ODA for the benefit of refugees and host communities channelled to national actors in the refugee-hosting ODA recipient country</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.2: Number of partners in refugee response plans supporting the refugee hosting country</p>	<p>Indicator 2.2.1: Proportion of refugee children enrolled in the national education system (primary and secondary)</p> <p>Indicator 2.2.2: Proportion of refugee and host community populations living below the national poverty line of the host country</p>	<p>Indicator 3.2.1: Number of refugees admitted through complementary pathways from the host country</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.2: Number of countries offering safe admission and stay options through complementary pathways to refugees hosted in other countries</p>	<p>Indicator 4.2.1: Number of refugees returning to their country of origin</p> <p>Indicator 4.2.2: Proportion of returnees with legally recognized documentation and credentials</p>



Mohammad Bassam, refugee volunteer harvesting cucumbers from the hydroponic project in Azraq Camp.
© UNHCR/Hamzeh Al-Momani

8. GCR Indicator Metadata

1.1.1. Volume of official development assistance (ODA) for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee hosting ODA recipient country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: The indicator refers to total bilateral ODA disbursements, including both humanitarian and development, from Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and non-DAC provider countries for the benefit of refugees and their host communities in the refugee hosting ODA recipient country (i.e. a country of asylum). It does not include ODA “[in-donor refugee costs](#)”.

Rationale: Millions of refugees live in protracted situations, often in low- and middle-income countries facing their own economic and development challenges. There is a critical need for more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world’s refugees, while taking account of existing contributions, and the differing capacities and resources among States.

While contributions to burden- and responsibility-sharing go beyond funding, the mobilization of timely, predictable, adequate and sustainable public and private funding is key to the successful implementation of the *Global Compact on Refugees*. The total ODA flows captured in 1.1.1 quantify the public effort that ODA finance provider countries avail for the benefit of refugees and host communities in low- and middle-income countries.

Concept: Total ODA flows to countries and territories on the DAC list of ODA Recipients and to multilateral development institutions are:

- I. Provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies;
- II. Concessional (i.e. grants and soft loans) and administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as the main objective (see [OECD development finance standards](#)); and
- III. Measured in volume through the OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS), based on data reported by ODA provider countries.

ODA recipient countries are defined by the DAC. The DAC list of ODA Recipients shows all countries and territories eligible to receive official development assistance (ODA). These consist of all low- and middle-income countries based on gross national income (GNI) per capita as published by the [World Bank](#), with the exception of G8 members, EU members, and countries with a firm date for entry into the EU. The list also includes all of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as defined by the United Nations (UN). The DAC revises the list every three years. Countries that have exceeded the high-income threshold for three consecutive years at the time of the review are removed.

Refugees, for the purpose of tracking of development finance for refugee situations, includes persons falling under the following definition, and persons in refugee-like situations, including persons benefiting from “temporary protection” measures, other persons in need of international protection, and refugees under UNRWA mandate: “A “refugee” is any person who meets the eligibility criteria under an applicable refugee definition, as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR’s mandate, or in national legislation, including prima facie recognised refugees. Under international law and UNHCR’s mandate, refugees are persons outside their countries of origin who are in need of international protection because of feared persecution, or a serious threat to their life, physical

integrity or freedom in their country of origin as a result of persecution, armed conflict, violence or serious public disorder. Under international law, a person is considered a refugee as soon as they meet the relevant criteria, whether or not they have been formally recognised as a refugee. A person does not become a refugee because of recognition, but rather is recognised because they are a refugee”.⁹

For the benefit of refers to activities in ODA recipient countries with the objective of supporting refugee protection, hosting and assistance arrangements, including initial reception as well as longer-term sustainable development support towards integration and social service provision (e.g. integration in national social service systems and financing for these national systems), and durable solutions in the country of asylum (local integration, return support). The financing may benefit refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, and host communities.

Host community refers to a community that hosts a large population of refugees, whether in camps, integrated into households, or independently. For the purpose of this financial tracking, the host community may encompass immediate neighbours, populations in the municipality, and in the wider sub-national region affected by refugee presence.

Refugee-hosting country refers to a country of asylum.

⁹ See [UNHCR glossary](#).

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: data for indicator 1.1.1 are collected by the OECD, which is also responsible for verifying the consistency of the data with adopted definitional standards and the computation of the indicator. The volume of finance is calculated using the data reported by ODA provider countries to the OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS) with the hashtag/keyword “#refugees_host communities”.¹⁰

While ODA for “refugees and host communities” is expressed in United States dollars (USD) at the exchange rate prevailing in the year of the flow i.e. in current dollars, analyses of trends in aid over longer periods will be based on constant dollars

to take account of inflation and exchange rate variations. It will be based on a deflator used by the OECD. Concessional loan components of ODA will be reported as the totality of the flow.

Disaggregation: For 1.1.1, ODA is broken down by ODA provider country, recipient country, region, type of assistance (humanitarian or development), sectors, loans, and grants, among others.

The indicator may be classified as a Tier 2 indicator according to the definition outlined in the first part of this publication (22/09/2022).

DATA SOURCES

OECD’s Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and ad-hoc surveys: the new methodology for tracking ODA for refugees and host communities in the CRS was adopted in 2022 and was not in place for ODA reporting prior to 2022. In order to have the 2020-21 data available for the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023 and the second GCR Indicator Report, the OECD will pursue a “hybrid data collection approach” given the recent adoption of the methodology.¹¹ The OECD will conduct a

new survey on financing for refugee situations on 2020-21 flows.¹² Members/respondents will have the option to either validate data extracted from OECD’s CRS for these two years (based on a word search in the CRS descriptive data, i.e. text mining by the OECD), or to respond to the survey. The OECD indicates that the timeline for responding to the survey will be April 2023. For all data analysis cycles thereafter, the OECD CRS will be the source.

DATA AVAILABILITY

For indicator 1.1.1 data are currently available from 2017 to 2019 only. The data were collected through two ad-hoc surveys conducted by the OECD in 2018 and 2020. Comparability between the two surveys’ data is limited due to differences in methodology. The number of ODA provider countries who reported ODA for the year 2020 in the CRS amounted to 44, including 30 OECD DAC members. In terms of recipient countries (countries of asylum or origin),

more than 110 countries received ODA for refugee situations according to the OECD 2020 ad-hoc survey. With adoption of the hashtag / keyword methodology for tracking development finance for refugee situations through the OECD CRS in 2022, data will be available on an annual basis through the CRS. As an interim step for 2020/21 data, OECD will implement a third and final ad-hoc survey on financing for refugee situations.

¹⁰ See DAC development finance standards, ODA reporting directives on “Tracking support for refugee and IDP situations in ODA recipient countries in the CRS.”

¹¹ See updated ODA reporting directives on “Tracking support for refugee and IDP situations in ODA recipient countries in the CRS.”

¹² The survey will build on, and be a lighter version of, the two previous surveys on the same topic implemented by the OECD (see OECD publications on [Financing for Refugee Situations 2018-19](#) and [Financing Refugee-Hosting Contexts](#) released in 2021 and 2018 respectively).

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Development finance channelled through Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), as reported in the OECD 2020 survey on financing for refugee situations, is tracked separately through a complementary indicator. Although this amount of financing is significant, the OECD specified that not all of MDBs' financing qualifies as ODA, as MDB financing may include lending in non-concessional terms. Furthermore, development finance reported by the MDBs also includes volumes already reported by ODA provider countries, therefore there is a risk of duplication.

While formally adopted by DAC members, the use of keywords / hashtags in the CRS is voluntary. The scope and quality of data will therefore depend on the extent of usage, and related

outreach and advocacy to ODA providers to apply the methodology during their development finance reporting.

The target of 0.7 per cent of Gross National Income for all ODA is an integral part of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#): 17.2 *Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries.*

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following indicators may be available and complement the measurement of the progress made towards GCR objective 1, *to ease pressures on host countries*:

- Volume of ODA “in-donor refugee costs” in high-income countries (Tier 1; source: OECD CRS)
- Volume of un-earmarked core contributions by provider countries to United Nations funds or programmes with specific refugee protection and/or assistance mandates (e.g., UNHCR, UNRWA) (Tier 2; source: OECD CRS)
- Volume of concessional and non-concessional development finance by multilateral development banks (MDBs) for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee hosting country (Tier 2; sources: OECD CRS, and TOSSD)
- Volume of concessional and non-concessional development finance by private providers for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee-hosting country (Tier 2; sources: OECD CRS, and TOSSD)¹³

¹³ As part of UNHCR's complementary financial tracking, building on the [Refugee Funding Tracker](#) and the [Financial Tracking System maintained](#) by OCHA, further complementary indicators may be developed in the future.

1.1.2. Number of donors providing official development assistance (ODA) for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee-hosting ODA recipient country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the total number of donors (including DAC and non-DAC countries/ members) providing ODA for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee-hosting ODA recipient country.

Rationale: Millions of refugees live in protracted situations, often in low- and middle-income countries which face specific economic and development challenges. There is a critical need for more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees, while taking account of existing contributions, and the differing capacities and resources among States.

In addition to more and better financing, burden- and responsibility-sharing in the context of the Global Compact on Refugees implies expanding the support base (both beyond traditional donors but also to a wider range of new and protracted refugee situations). This indicator provides comprehensive data on the number of countries providing ODA to refugee-hosting ODA recipient countries at the country, regional and global levels.

Concept: This indicator aims to collect data to monitor progress towards the goals of the GCR, through “funding and effective and efficient use of resources” as a key tool for effecting burden- and responsibility-sharing among UN Member States when it comes to supporting the world's refugees.

Data collected will focus on donor presence and engagement in refugee-hosting countries

with the aim of tracking trends and variations over time, assessing gaps in international co-operation and broadening the base of burden- and responsibility-sharing.¹⁴

ODA recipient countries are defined by the DAC. The DAC List of ODA Recipients shows all countries and territories eligible to receive official development assistance (ODA). These consist of all low- and middle- income countries based on gross national income (GNI) per capita as published by the World Bank, with the exception of G8 members, EU members, and countries with a firm date for entry into the EU. The list also includes all of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as defined by the United Nations (UN). The DAC revises the list every three years. Countries that have exceeded the high-income threshold for three consecutive years at the time of the review are removed.

Refugees, for the purpose of tracking of development finance for refugee situations, includes persons falling under the following definition, and persons in refugee-like situations, including persons benefiting from “temporary protection” measures, other persons in need of international protection, and refugees under UNRWA mandate: “A “refugee” is any person who meets the eligibility criteria under an applicable refugee definition, as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR's mandate, or in national legislation, including prima

¹⁴ To ensure meaningful representation of the extent to which donor presence and engagement in a single country represents successful efforts to ‘broaden the base of burden- and responsibility-sharing’, context specific financial thresholds could be set to provide substantive parameters for analysis.

facie recognised refugees. Under international law and UNHCR’s mandate, refugees are persons outside their countries of origin who are in need of international protection because of feared persecution, or a serious threat to their life, physical integrity or freedom in their country of origin as a result of persecution, armed conflict, violence or serious public disorder. Under international law, a person is considered a refugee as soon as they meet the relevant criteria, whether or not they have been formally recognised as a refugee. A person does not become a refugee because of recognition, but rather is recognised because they are a refugee.”¹⁵

For the benefit of refers to activities in ODA recipient countries with the objective of supporting refugee protection, hosting and assistance arrangements, including initial reception as well

as longer-term sustainable development support towards integration and social service provision (e.g. integration in national social service systems and financing for these national systems), and durable solutions in the country of asylum (local integration, return support). The financing may benefit refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, and host communities.

Host community refers to a community that hosts large populations of refugees, whether in camps, integrated into households, or independently. For the purpose of this financial tracking, the host community may encompass immediate neighbours, populations in the municipality, and in the wider sub-national region affected by refugee presence.

Refugee-hosting countries refers to the countries of asylum.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: The sum of ODA provider countries contributing to refugee-hosting contexts (country, regional, and global levels).

Disaggregation: This indicator can be disaggregated by ODA provider and recipient country.

Methods and Guidance: [OECD development finance standards](#)

The indicator may be classified as a Tier 2 indicator, according to the definition outlined in the first part of this publication (22/09/2022).

DATA SOURCES

OECD’s Creditor Reporting System (CRS), and ad-hoc surveys: The new methodology for tracking ODA for refugees and host communities in the CRS was adopted in 2022 and was not in place for ODA reporting prior to 2022. In order to have the 2020-21 data available for the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023 and the second GCR Indicator Report, the OECD will pursue a “hybrid data collection approach” given the recent adoption of the methodology.¹⁶ The OECD will conduct a new

survey on financing for refugee situations on 2020-21 flows.¹⁷ Members/respondents will have the option to either validate data extracted from OECD’s CRS for these two years (based on a word search in the CRS descriptive data, i.e. text mining by the OECD), or to respond to the survey. The OECD indicates that the timeline for responding to the survey will be April 2023. For all data analysis cycles thereafter, the OECD CRS will be the source.

¹⁵ See [UNHCR glossary](#).

¹⁶ See updated ODA reporting directives on “Tracking support for refugee and IDP situations in ODA recipient countries in the CRS.”

¹⁷ The survey will build on and be a lighter version of the two previous surveys on the same topic implemented by the OECD (see OECD publications on [Financing for Refugee Situations 2018-19](#) and *Financing Refugee-Hosting Contexts released in 2021 and 2018 respectively*).

DATA AVAILABILITY

For indicator 1.1.2 data are currently available from 2017 to 2019 only. The data were collected through two ad-hoc surveys conducted by the OECD in 2018 and 2020. Comparability between the two surveys' data is limited due to differences in methodology. The number of ODA provider countries who reported ODA for the year 2020 in the CRS amounted to 44, including 30 OECD DAC

members. With adoption of the hashtag / keyword methodology for tracking development finance for refugee situations through the OECD CRS in 2022, data will be available on an annual basis through the CRS. As an interim step for 2020/21 data, OECD will implement a third and final ad-hoc survey on financing for refugee situations.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Development finance channelled through Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), as reported in the OECD 2020 survey on financing for refugee situations, is tracked separately through a complementary indicator. Although this amount of financing is significant, the OECD specified that not all of MDBs' financing qualifies as ODA, as MDB financing may include lending in non-concessional terms. Furthermore, development finance reported by the MDBs also includes volumes already

reported by ODA provider countries, therefore there is a risk of duplication.

While formally adopted by DAC members, the use of keywords / hashtags in the CRS is voluntary. The scope and quality of data will therefore depend on the extent of usage, and related outreach and advocacy to ODA providers to apply the methodology during their development finance reporting.

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following indicators may be available and complement the measurement of the progress made towards GCR objective 1, to ease pressures on host countries:

- Number of countries providing ODA “in-donor refugee costs” in high-income countries (Tier 1; source: OECD CRS)
- Number of donors (DAC and non-DAC countries/members) providing un-earmarked core contributions to United Nations funds or programmes with specific refugee protection and/or assistance mandates (e.g., UNHCR, UNRWA) (Tier 2; source: OECD CRS)
- Number of multilateral development banks (MDBs) providing concessional and non-concessional development finance for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee-hosting country (Tier 2; source: OECD CRS, and TOSSD)
- Number of private entities providing concessional and non-concessional development finance for the benefit of refugees and host communities in the refugee-hosting country (Tier 2; source: OECD CRS)

1.2.1: Proportion of official development assistance (ODA) for the benefit of refugees and host communities channelled to national actors in the refugee-hosting ODA recipient country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: The indicator is the proportion of ODA disbursements from Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and non-DAC provider countries for the benefit of refugees and their host communities channelled directly through national actors, namely expressed as a percentage of the total bilateral ODA for the benefit of refugees and their host communities in the refugee-hosting ODA recipient country.

Rationale: The Global Compact on Refugees emphasizes the importance of national ownership and leadership. Local authorities and other actors, in both urban and rural settings, are often first responders to large-scale refugee situations, and among the actors that experience the most significant impact over the medium term.

This indicator seeks to measure financial support provided to strengthen national and local institutional capacities, infrastructure and accommodation, including through funding and capacity development where appropriate – in recognition of the leading role played by national actors in refugee responses, as well as commitments made by donors and aid organizations to provide 25 per cent of global humanitarian funding to local and national responders ‘as directly as possible’ by 2020 under Workstream Two of the [Grand Bargain](#) – commonly known as ‘localisation’.

Concept: *National actors* refers to (a) central government, (b) local government, (c) national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs). With reference to category (c), “national” refers to NGOs and CSOs operating in the aid-recipient country in which they are headquartered, working in multiple sub-national regions, and not affiliated to an international NGO. This category can include local NGOs/CSOs operating (either formally/registered or informally/

unregistered) in a specific, geographically defined, sub-national area of an aid-recipient country, without affiliation to either a national or international NGO/CSO. This grouping can also include community-based organizations and faith-based organizations.

ODA recipient countries are defined by the DAC. The DAC List of ODA Recipients shows all countries and territories eligible to receive official development assistance (ODA). These consist of all low- and middle-income countries based on gross national income (GNI) per capita as published by the World Bank, with the exception of G8 members, EU members, and countries with a firm date for entry into the EU. The list also includes all of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as defined by the United Nations (UN). The DAC revises the list every three years. Countries that have exceeded the high-income threshold for three consecutive years at the time of the review are removed.

Refugees, for the purpose of tracking of development finance for refugee situations, includes persons falling under the following definition, and persons in refugee-like situations, including persons benefiting from “temporary protection” measures, other persons in need of international protection, and refugees under UNRWA mandate: “A “refugee” is any person who meets the eligibility criteria under an applicable refugee definition, as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR’s mandate, or in national legislation, including prima

facie recognised refugees. Under international law and UNHCR’s mandate, refugees are persons outside their countries of origin who are in need of international protection because of feared persecution, or a serious threat to their life, physical integrity or freedom in their country of origin as a result of persecution, armed conflict, violence or serious public disorder. Under international law, a person is considered a refugee as soon as they meet the relevant criteria, whether or not they have been formally recognised as a refugee. A person does not become a refugee because of recognition, but rather is recognised because they are a refugee.”¹⁸

For the benefit of refers to activities in ODA recipient countries with the objective of supporting refugee protection, hosting and assistance arrangements, including initial reception as well

as longer-term sustainable development support towards integration and social service provision (e.g. integration in national social service systems and financing for these national systems), and durable solutions in the country of asylum (local integration, return support). The financing may benefit refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, and host communities.

Host community refers to a community that hosts large populations of refugees, whether in camps, integrated into households, or independently. For the purpose of this financial tracking, the host community may encompass immediate neighbours, populations in the municipality, and in the wider sub-national region affected by refugee presence.

Refugee-hosting countries refers to the countries of asylum.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method:

$$\frac{\text{Bilateral ODA disbursements for the benefits of refugees and host communities channelled through national actors}}{\text{Total bilateral ODA for the benefits of refugees and host communities in the refugee hosting country}} \times 100$$

Disaggregation: This indicator can be disaggregated by type of aid, ODA provider country, recipient country and by geographical region and sub-region.

The indicator may be classified as a Tier 2 indicator according to the definition outlined in the first part of this publication (22/09/2022).

DATA SOURCES

OECD’s Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and ad-hoc surveys: the new methodology for tracking ODA for refugees and host communities in the CRS was adopted in 2022 and was not in place for ODA reporting prior to 2022. In order to have the 2020-21 data available for the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023 and the second GCR Indicator

Report, the OECD will pursue a “hybrid data collection approach” given the recent adoption of the methodology.¹⁹ The OECD will conduct a new survey on financing for refugee situations on 2020-21 flows.²⁰ Members/respondents will have the option to either validate data extracted from OECD’s CRS for these two years (based on a word

18 See [UNHCR glossary](#).

19 See updated ODA reporting directives on “Tracking support for refugee and IDP situations in ODA recipient countries in the CRS.”

20 The survey will build on and be a lighter version of the two previous surveys on the same topic implemented by the OECD (see OECD publications on [Financing for Refugee Situations 2018-19](#) and [Financing Refugee-Hosting Contexts released in 2021 and 2018](#) respectively).

search in the CRS descriptive data, i.e. text mining by the OECD), or to respond to the survey. The OECD indicates that the timeline for responding to

the survey will be April 2023. For all data analysis cycles thereafter, the OECD CRS will be the source.

DATA AVAILABILITY

Concerning OECD data: With adoption of the hashtag / keyword methodology for tracking development finance for refugee situations through the OECD CRS in 2022, data will be available on an annual basis through the CRS (channel codes).

As an interim step for 2020/21 data, OECD will implement a third and final ad-hoc survey on financing for refugee situations and collect data on the indicator.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Concerning OECD data: Development finance channelled through Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), as reported in the OECD 2020 survey on financing for refugee situations, is tracked separately through a complementary indicator. Although this amount of financing is significant, the OECD specified that not all of MDBs' financing qualifies as ODA, as MDB financing may include lending in non-concessional terms. Furthermore, development finance reported by the MDBs also includes volumes

already reported by ODA provider countries, therefore there is a risk of duplication.

While formally adopted by DAC members, the use of keywords / hashtags in the CRS is voluntary. The scope and quality of data will therefore depend on the extent of usage, and related outreach and advocacy to ODA providers to apply the methodology during their development finance reporting.

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following indicators may be available and complement the measurement of the progress made towards GCR objective 1, to ease pressures on host countries:

- Proportion of development finance for the benefit of refugees and host communities provided by United Nations funds or programmes with specific refugee protection and/or assistance mandates, channelled to national actors in the refugee-hosting country (Tier 2; sources: OECD CRS, TOSSD, and UNHCR)
- Proportion of development finance for the benefit of refugees and host communities by private providers, channelled to national actors in the refugee-hosting country. (Tier 2; source: OECD CRS)

1.2.2: Number of partners in refugee response plans supporting the refugee hosting country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the total number of organizational structures or affiliations listed as partners in refugee response plans developed and implemented in the refugee hosting country with the support of UNHCR. These partners may include all local, national and international non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations, academia, United Nations, and other international agencies engaged in supporting the formulation and/or implementation of inclusive and coordinated refugee responses at national and/or regional levels.

Rationale: Millions of refugees are either newly displaced or living in protracted situations, often in low- and middle-income countries who are facing their own economic and development challenges. Assisting both host countries and host communities on the one hand and refugees on the other, requires the mobilization of a wide range of local, national, and international stakeholders in a coordinated and systematic manner.

The GCR, and the New York Declaration before, have emphasised the value of including a wide range of stakeholders in refugee responses. While recognizing the primary responsibility and sovereignty of States, the GCR states that a multi-stakeholder and partnership approach is to be pursued, in line with relevant legal frameworks and in close coordination with national institutions, and that UNHCR should play a supportive and catalytic role. The number and type of partners supporting refugee response plans may be considered as a proxy-indicator for the partners supporting the national arrangements and related national plans recommended in the GCR (see Concept).

This indicator helps track trends and variations in the presence, engagement, and diversity of humanitarian and development actors supporting refugee responses.

Concept: National arrangements, as outlined in the GCR, are one of the three arrangements to support comprehensive responses to a specific refugee situation. National arrangements may be established by concerned host countries to coordinate and facilitate the efforts of all relevant stakeholders working to achieve a comprehensive response. The composition and working methods of national arrangements would be determined by host States, as would the need for capacity development for relevant national authorities to undertake such work. Such efforts could support the development of a comprehensive plan under national leadership, in line with national policies and priorities, with the assistance of UNHCR and other relevant stakeholders as appropriate, setting out policy priorities; institutional and operational arrangements; requirements for support from the international community, including investment, financing, material, and technical assistance; and solutions, including resettlement and complementary pathways for admission to third countries, as well as voluntary repatriation (GCR, paras. 20-21).

Refugee response plans refers to two types of publicly available multi-stakeholder response plans: regional Refugee Response Plans (regional RRP) and country Refugee Response Plans (country RRP). Regional RRP are strategic and programmatic documents designed to coordinate responses for large-scale or complex refugee situations where a refugee population has moved to several neighbouring countries in the region. In 2022 (August), they included the RRP for the Afghanistan, DRC, South Sudan, and Ukraine Situations, as well as the 3RP for the Syria situation (co-led with UNDP), and the RMRP for the Venezuela

situation (co-led with IOM). At the operational level, the coordination is led by UNHCR. These plans can also be developed for mixed refugee-migrant displacement situations (known as Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plans (RMRPs) and are sometimes co-led with another UN Agency. Country RRP are developed within one country but focus on all refugees found in that country and their host populations. At operational level, country RRP are also coordinated by UNHCR and summarize the assistance provided by partners for refugees and their host communities.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: For each refugee hosting country, publicly available regional RRP and country RRP are identified. Then, all partners listed in these plans as supporting the said country are enumerated and counted. For each refugee hosting country receiving support from partners in both regional and country RRP, duplications are eliminated so that the same partners are counted only once.

Disaggregation: The indicator may be disaggregated by categories of partners, including national NGOs, international NGOs, faith-based organizations, academia, United Nations

agencies and other international organizations (e.g. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies). Further disaggregation, for instance by refugee-led organizations, will be explored by UNHCR.

Methods and Guidance: For more information on Regional and Country Refugee Response Plans, UNHCR Emergency Handbook: [Inter-Agency UNHCR-Led Refugee Response Plans](#).

[Refugee Coordination Guidance Note](#)

UNHCR Emergency Handbook: [Refugee Coordination Model](#)

DATA SOURCES

Publicly available refugee response plans.

DATA AVAILABILITY

In 2022 (August), there were 50 countries/territories covered by regional or country Refugee Response Plans, for which, therefore, partners may

be enumerated. There were 6 regional plans and 6 country plans.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Many partners contributing to refugee responses are not listed in Refugee Response Plans. This includes small, local responders such as volunteer groups, and partners who engage in the response after the plan has been developed. The contributions of Member States, international financial institutions (IFIs), and bilateral development actors are also outside the scope of Refugee Response Plans.

The number of partners counted as part of this indicator is dependent on the existence of RRP. More or fewer RRP will automatically translate in more or fewer partners. In addition, partners listed in Refugee Response Plans vary significantly in their capacity, resources, and level of engagement in the refugee response. This is true both within one

context, and between contexts. These phenomena limit comparisons between countries and over time. To mitigate these limitations, in addition to calculating the change between the total number of partners for all available RRP each year, it may be useful to measure the change between the total number of partners only for those RRP that have existed for at least two consecutive years.

Regional RRP and Country RRP have also a resource mobilisation function. This means that partners listed in these plans tend to be appealing for funding; and those who are contributing or intend to contribute to the response using their own resources (such as private sector companies, foundations, academia, public sector donors etc.) tend not to be listed.

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

Data for the following indicators can provide further information on the evolution of partnerships supporting responses in refugee hosting countries:

- Number of refugee-hosting countries receiving specific support for their refugee situation from the World Bank Group or other IFIs
- Proportion of UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) that mention refugees in their outcome statements and/or in their results frameworks
- Number of partners participating in the type of Support Platforms recommended in the GCR in support of national arrangements
- Proportion of RRP budget funded

2.1.1: Proportion of refugees who have access to decent work by law

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the proportion of refugees who have access to select attributes of decent work in the host country, as provided by domestic law. The attributes of decent work assessed through this indicator are legal access to wage-earning employment, self-employment, to workplace protection (safe and healthy working conditions; non-salary discrimination; and protection against child employment), and protection from discrimination on gender, age, disability, or any other grounds prohibited by international law.

Rationale: Under international law, decent work for everyone is prescribed in Article 23 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Articles 6 and 7 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Furthermore, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls on States to take action to leave no-one behind and to promote “sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all” (Goal 8). Additionally, ILO Conventions and Recommendations apply to all workers, including refugees, unless otherwise stated.²¹

The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol acknowledge the importance of socio-economic rights for refugees, containing four specific provisions on access to work and rights at work: the right to wage earning employment (Article 17), the right to self-employment (Article 18), the right to practice a liberal profession (Article 19), and the right to benefit from labour regulations (Article 24). The opportunity for refugees to access decent work and participate in local economies is an intrinsic part of

the refugee protection and solutions framework. Access to decent work fosters refugee self-reliance – one of the four main objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees.

Despite the specific work rights afforded to refugees in international law, they remain vulnerable to exploitation and discrimination in the work place. In many countries, refugees are not formally allowed to work or face practical barriers such as costly work permits, language restrictions, or failure to recognize foreign diplomas. Because of their often precarious status, they may be less well paid than nationals, have longer working hours, and be exposed to more dangerous working conditions. Refugee women and children, in particular, should be protected from exploitation.

In exercising work rights, refugees can bring new skills, goods, and services to host countries, filling labour and skills shortages or gaps in local markets, and benefiting refugees as well as host communities through diversification, growth and prosperity. Commercial activities of refugees help create job opportunities for other refugees as well as locals. Access to legal work improves the stability and safety of communities as it minimizes reliance and recourse to negative coping strategies. Working allows for more interaction between refugees and host communities, and helps foster peaceful

²¹ See also ILO's Guiding Principles on Access of Refugees and other Forcibly Displaced Persons to the Labour Market and the Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 (No. 205).

coexistence. Working also prepares refugees for longer-term solutions, whether they return to their countries of origin, resettle in third countries, or locally integrate in the host country.

The [IRRS](#) refers to the definition of integration and outlines its main dimensions, including legal and economic dimensions, and related recommendations in terms of indicators (paras. 292 -302).

Concept: This indicator aims to provide an assessment of the proportion of the global refugee population for whom States' domestic legal framework provides equal access to the labour market and workplace protection in accordance with the 1951 Convention, as complemented by international human rights and labour law. The [IRRS](#) stipulates that the dimensions of integration are firstly the acquisition of legal rights whereby refugees are granted a progressively wider range of rights and entitlements by host States that are broadly commensurate with those enjoyed by its citizen, and these include inter alia access to the labour market (p. 296).

Decent work encompasses all forms of work, both independent self-employment and dependent wage-paid work. It is recognized that, while a favourable legal framework may not by itself bring about employment under fair conditions, inclusive and authoritative laws that provide effective access to decent work are one precondition for this to happen. Consequently, analysis of the domestic legal framework contributes to an understanding

of economic inclusion in refugee-hosting areas, as well as of the capacity of refugees to meet their own needs in a sustainable manner and to contribute to the formal economy.

More broadly, supplementary data and analyses assessing refugees' enjoyment of (a) the right to work; (b) just and favourable conditions of work; (c) social protection; and (d) participation in trade unions and other professional associations will contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the quality of work and the challenges refugees face in economic inclusion.

Refugee is a person who meets the eligibility criteria under the applicable refugee definition, as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR's mandate, and/or in domestic legislation. For the purpose of this indicator, the refugee population may also include asylum-seekers, people in refugee-like situations and other people in need of international protection.

Decent work involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income; security in the workplace; social protection for families; prospects for personal development and social integration; freedom for people to express their concerns, organize, and participate in decisions that affect their lives; and equality of opportunity and treatment for people of all genders. Decent work for refugees is fundamental to their resilience, benefitting both refugees and host economies and societies, and enhancing prospects for durable solutions.

Domestic laws refer to formal, publicly-available legal and administrative instruments (including laws, regulations, proclamations,) issued by a national authority (legislative, judiciary or executive branch), that affect refugees' admission to the country, their acquisition of legal status and legal rights, and the conditions under which they live and work.

Wage-earning employment refers to work governed by an employment relationship between

employer and employee, and for the performance of which the employee is provided a periodic wage or remuneration.

Self-employment refers to independent economic activities and businesses – registered in their own name – with the aim of earning money, including, but not limited to, agriculture, industry, handicrafts, and services and commercial sectors.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: Using a list of standardized questions and YES/NO answers, this indicator is compiled by UNHCR through a review of a host country's labour and related laws pertaining to refugees' access to the following three attributes to decent work: a) wage-earning or salaried employment; b) self-employment; and c) workplace protection. The questionnaire also examines the legal framework for its protection against discrimination in the context of these three attributes, including gender, age, disability, nationality, religion, and other grounds as prohibited by international law.

Following this legal analysis, if data availability and capacity allow, the proportion of refugees with access to decent work as provided in the legal framework of the host country is estimated. If this proportion cannot be estimated, the indicator will classify the country's legal framework as providing full, no, or only partial access to decent work for refugees.

Disaggregation: The indicator, which may be compiled for any refugee hosting country, is disaggregated by three attributes of decent work (access to wage-earning employment, to self-employment, and to workplace protection) and by concerned population groups (e.g. refugees by country of origin, sex, and age), provided data availability and capacity allow.

Methods and Guidance: UNHCR has developed a Coding Guidance, containing a questionnaire with YES/NO answers and guidance that assist country operations reporting against this indicator. The Coding Guidance supports UNHCR operations in analyzing how access to three attributes to decent work for refugees is provided for in the domestic legal framework and the proportion of refugees in the country who have effective access to decent work by law.

DATA SOURCES

The data sources of this indicator are current domestic laws. This includes the country's general labour laws, as well as laws pertaining specifically to refugees with respect to wage-earning employment, self-employment, and workplace protection, particularly fair remuneration and safe and healthy workplace conditions. Relevant laws and policies may be available at a national level,

through Government databases or counterparts, or other partners. The country's asylum laws may be available on [Refworld](#) and its labour laws on [NATLEX](#), an ILO maintained database of national labour, social security, and related human rights legislation. When using Refworld or NATLEX, please check that they include the latest versions of the legislation.

The data to estimate the proportion of refugees is published in [UNHCR's statistics and data finder](#). This dataset is established based on registration data collected and maintained by the host government

or UNHCR, where appropriate. Registration data may be supplemented by administrative data, surveys, census or estimated data.

DATA AVAILABILITY

For the first GCR indicator report, a total of 25 countries, across all regions, were covered by the UNHCR survey. These countries accounted for more than 11.1 million refugees, which represented more than half (54%) of the world's refugees. Twenty of these countries were States party to the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol. For the first report, population estimates (i.e. proportion of

refugee with in-law access to decent work) could not be compiled due to a lack of disaggregated data. Instead, country legislations were classified as providing full, no, or only partial access to work. Analysis could not extract data on working-age population and for 5 countries, only partial data were available.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

The indicator does not provide a thorough description of the legal framework for refugees' access to decent work, or even to the entirety of the attributes – wage-earning, self-employment and workplace protection – that is included. In addition, as it focuses on the legal framework (*de jure*), the indicator does not measure the situation in practice (*de facto*). This is a significant limitation, as even

when the legal right to work is granted, there may be obstacles hindering access to decent work in reality. Also, the non-enjoyment of other rights (such as freedom of movement, housing, land, education, justice, and property rights), both in law and in practice, and the lack of access to relevant services (such as financial services, certification, or business registration) may prevent access to decent work.

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following indicator (Tier 1) will be useful to complement this GCR indicator and contribute to measuring the progress towards GCR objective 2: the proportion of international treaties relevant for access to decent work for refugees acceded to by States.

In addition the following indicators (Tier 2 and survey-based indicators) may also complement this

GCR indicator and contribute to the measurement of the progress towards GCR objective 2: proportion of refugees and host communities (working age) who are employed; and proportion of refugees and host communities covered by social protection. These are also indicators that relate to the indicator framework of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as internal UNHCR surveys undertaken to inform UNHCR planning.

2.1.2: Proportion of refugees who are allowed by law to move freely within the host country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the proportion of refugees who can exercise attributes of the right to move freely within the territory of the host country, as provided by domestic law. Characteristic attributes of the freedom of movement assessed through this indicator include free movement and the free choice of place of residence.

Rationale: Refugees want to regain stability, become self-reliant, and live with dignity. Host countries that accord refugees the legal right to choose their place of residence and move freely within their territory foster refugee self-reliance – the second objective of the Global Compact on Refugees.

The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol require States to provide protection to refugees, and to assure them the widest possible exercise of their fundamental rights and freedoms without discrimination. Article 26 of the 1951 Convention provides that States “shall accord to refugees lawfully staying in their territory the right to choose their place of residence and to move freely within its territory subject to any regulations applicable to aliens generally in the same circumstances.”

In international human rights law, the right to freedom of movement is incorporated in Article 12(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, declaring that “everyone lawfully within the territory of a State shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence.”

States which allow refugees freedom of movement and the right to choose a place of residence in

accordance with international human rights and refugee law, facilitate refugees’ access to decent work in practice. Allowing refugees’ freedom of movement, whether in urban or rural areas, facilitates their access to economic opportunities, supports them in achieving self-reliance, and allows them to contribute to the communities in which they are living and to stimulate local economies and development.

Concept: *Moving freely* refers to the requirement that by law, refugees are free to choose their place of residence and move freely within the territory of the host country. Efficient and effective administrative mechanisms are in place to obtain the necessary authorizations. The [IRRS](#) stipulates that the dimensions of integration are firstly the acquisition of legal rights whereby refugees are granted a progressively wider range of rights and entitlements by the host States that are broadly commensurate with those enjoyed by its citizen, and these include inter alia freedom of movement (p. 296).

Refugee is a person who meets the eligibility criteria under the applicable refugee definition, as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR’s mandate, and/or in domestic legislation. For the purpose of this indicator, the refugee population may also include asylum-seekers, people in refugee-like situations, and other people in need of international protection.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: using a list of standardized questions and YES/NO answers, this indicator is compiled by UNHCR through a review of a host country's legal framework regarding access to freedom of movement and the right of refugees to choose the place of residence in the host country. The questionnaire also examines the legal framework for its protection against discrimination in relation to free movement, including gender, age, disability, nationality, religion, and other grounds prohibited by international law.

The effective exercise of this right can only be restricted under exceptional circumstances and provided these limitations are permissible under international law, provided by national law, necessary to achieve a legitimate purpose, and that they conform to the principle of proportionality.

Following the legal analysis, if data availability and capacity allow, the proportion of refugees with the right to move freely and choose their place of residence as provided in the legal framework of the

host country is estimated. If this proportion cannot be estimated, the indicator will classify the country's legal framework as providing full, no, or only partial freedom of movement for refugees.

Disaggregation: This indicator, which may be compiled for any refugee hosting country, will be disaggregated, if data and capacity allow, by attributes of freedom of movement (free choice of place of residence and free movement) and by concerned population groups (e.g. refugees by country of origin, sex, and age).

Methods and Guidance: UNHCR has developed a Coding Guidance, containing a questionnaire with YES/NO answers and guidance that assists country operations reporting against this indicator. The Coding Guidance supports operations in analysing the how free movement for refugees has been provided for in the domestic legal framework and the proportion of refugees in the country who have free movement by law.

DATA SOURCES

The data sources of this indicator are current domestic laws governing the rights to choose a place of residence and to move freely within the country for refugees lawfully in the country. This includes laws and policies of general application, as well as laws pertaining specifically to refugees. Relevant laws may be available at a national level, through Government databases or counterparts,

or other partners. The country's asylum laws and policies may be available on [Refworld](#).

The data to estimate the proportion of refugees is published in [UNHCR's statistics and data finder](#). This dataset is established based on registration data collected and maintained by the host government or UNHCR, where appropriate. Registration data may be supplemented by administrative data, surveys, census or estimated data.

DATA AVAILABILITY

For the first GCR indicator report, a total of 25 countries, across all regions, were covered by the UNHCR survey. These countries accounted for more than 11.1 million refugees, which represented more than half (54%) of the world's refugees. Twenty of these countries were States party to the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol. For the

first report, population estimates (i.e. proportion of refugee who are legally allowed to move freely within the host country) could not be compiled due to a lack of disaggregated data. Instead, country legislations were classified as providing full, no, or only partial freedom of movement.



Gabriela Davila is a Venezuelan entrepreneur who arrived in Ecuador 5 years ago. Thanks to the pastry knowledge she learned in Venezuela, she started a coffee and pastry business and today provides employment to refugees, migrants, and locals. She enjoys local traditions, so on the Day of the Dead, celebrated in Ecuador every 2 November, she prepares colada morada and guaguas de pan, following the traditional recipe but adding a couple of ingredients from Venezuela.

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COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

The indicator does not provide a thorough description of the legal framework for refugees' freedom of movement. In addition, as it focuses on the legal framework (de jure), the indicator does not measure the situation in practice (de facto). This is a significant limitation, as even when this freedom is granted in law, there are several obstacles that may hinder freedom of movement on the ground. The

non-enjoyment of other freedoms or rights (such as housing, land, education, justice, and property rights), both in law and in practice, and the lack of access to relevant services (such as financial services, certification, or business registration) may prevent the respect and protection of freedom of movement.

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following indicator (Tier 2 and survey-based indicator) may also complement this GCR indicator and contribute to the measurement of the progress towards GCR objective 2: proportion of refugees and host communities feeling safe walking alone

in their neighbourhood. This is also an indicator that relates to the indicator framework of the Sustainable Development Goals and UNHCR's results based management system.²²

²² The [IRRS](#) (see table 5.2, p. 92) lists additional complementary indicators on the type of contract of employees (permanent/casual/temporary); average hourly earnings; working environment; physical and psychological; sector/industry of employment; recognition of qualifications in host country.

2.2.1: Proportion of refugee children enrolled in the national education system (primary and secondary)

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the proportion of refugee students enrolled in the national education system, or in other words in *public educational institutions* (public schools, for short), at primary and secondary levels.

Rationale: The literacy and numeracy skills learned at primary and secondary levels form the basis of lifelong learning. These enable refugee children and youth to continually build their knowledge and competencies in order to survive and thrive in their personal lives. Inclusion in the national education system through enrolment in public educational institutions is thus very important for refugees for many reasons, including improved interactions with host community and certification of their education.

children (both boys and girls), adolescents, and youth to primary, secondary, and tertiary education (GCR, para. 68).

Concept: Enrolment here refers to the refugee [Gross Enrolment Ratio \(GER\)](#) rather than the [Net Enrolment Ratio \(NER\)](#). [GER](#) measures the total enrolment of refugees in primary and secondary public education institutions, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the total number of eligible official school-age refugees corresponding to the same levels of education in a given school year.

A *public educational institution* is controlled and managed directly by a public education authority or agency of the country where it is located or by a government agency directly or by a governing body (council, committee etc.), most of whose members are either appointed by a public authority of the country where it is located or elected by public franchise (UNESCO Institute for Statistics, [glossary](#)).

Consistent with the overarching GCR objective to enhance refugee self-reliance, the Global Compact aims to expand and enhance the quality and inclusiveness of national education systems to facilitate access by refugee and host community

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method:

For primary education:

$$\frac{\text{Number of refugees enrolled in public primray school}}{\text{Total number of eligible official school-aged refugees corresponding to the primary education level}} \times 100$$

For secondary education:

$$\frac{\text{Number of refugees enrolled in public secondary school}}{\text{Total number of eligible official school-aged refugees corresponding to the secondary education level}} \times 100$$

Disaggregation: This indicator is required to be disaggregated by sex and level of education (primary, secondary). When data allows, this indicator could be disaggregated by age to show the percentage of refugees included in each education cycle at the right age (Net Enrolment Ratio), and the percentage of [over-age](#) refugees included in each education cycle. The indicator may also be disaggregated by disability, especially in the context of household surveys including questions

about education and disability (see [Washington Group set of questions](#)).

Methods and Guidance: The [UNESCO Institute for Statistics](#) has guidelines on the compilation of data to calculate Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios. However, enrolment and population data referred to here concern only refugees.

The indicator may be classified as a Tier 2 indicator according to the definition outlined in the first part of this publication (22/09/2022).

DATA SOURCES

In contexts of inclusion, where refugees are attending public education institutions, education data may be derived from administrative sources typically coordinated and disseminated through the Ministry of Education, such as the national [Education Management Information System \(EMIS\)](#) which is a system for the collection, processing, and dissemination of data and information on a number of education indicators.

It is important to note that one of the main limitations to data availability from this source is that disaggregation by protection status is often not provided by authorities (see also [IRRS](#), p. 66). In such cases, data from household surveys conducted or supported by independent statistical agencies, in particular national statistical offices and international organizations operating in accordance with the [Fundamental Principles of](#)

[Official Statistics](#) (A/RES/68/261), will be particularly useful, if available.

In contexts of non-inclusion, where there is a parallel education response provided by UNHCR and/or implementing partners, UNHCR's Refugee Education Information Management System (REMIS) may serve as a complementary data source. REMIS is currently being piloted in Chad, Burundi, and Tanzania. Implementing partners of UNHCR may also be collecting data that can be used to generate an estimate for the GCR indicator. If primary data needs to be collected, household surveys supported by UNHCR and with an education module can be used. An education specific entity in UNHCR's registration system, ProGres, has also been developed and it can be used during registration or verification processes.

DATA AVAILABILITY

For the first GCR indicator report, 2019/2020 data for estimating Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) at the primary and secondary levels were available for 40 countries. Data available is generally disaggregated by sex. To mitigate the data availability gap on the GCR indicator, a proxy-indicator was used. Country operations were asked to review existing national education policies and legislation and determine whether the latter: i) indicates explicitly that refugees

can access education under the same conditions as nationals; ii) indicates that refugees can access education but face limitations; iii) indicates that refugees cannot access education; iv) seems to contain no official policy for refugees. In total, UNHCR was able to gather data on legislation for 97 countries for this proxy indicator, allowing for the compilation of global and regional indicators.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Children account for 30 per cent of the world's population, but 41 per cent of all forcibly displaced people (see UNHCR [Global Trends on Forced Displacement](#)).

At the end of 2019, data on primary and secondary education enrolment of refugee children (indicator 2.2.1) were available only for 12 host countries representing 51 per cent of the global refugee population (UNHCR 2020, [Coming together for Education](#)). This had improved to over 40 countries reporting for the 2021 report [Staying the Course](#).

In settings of education inclusion, where refugee children are absorbed in national education systems, EMIS is not disaggregating student data by international protection status. This makes it difficult to report on the GCR indicator.

Where refugees attend schools managed by UNHCR and implementing partners, UNHCR has data on refugees in camp-based schools that are not part of the public system. However, this does not mean that all refugees are attending camp-based schools, as there could be urban refugees

also attending public institutions. In many of these cases, UNHCR does not have data on urban refugees attending public schools, making it difficult to accurately report on the GCR indicator. Education data may need to be collected through relevant household surveys (as cited above) where data is unavailable.

The compilation and use of a proxy-indicator reviewing legal and policy frameworks for inclusion in national education systems proved to be useful, though it is unlikely that legislation and policy frameworks will markedly change from one reporting period to the next.

The [International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics](#) (IRRS, p. 97) state that “Educational attainment is an important indicator of the human capital an individual has at their disposal. It also indicates an integration outcome (e.g., education levels of refugee children compared to children in the host population) and is an explanatory factor when looking at labour market outcomes (individuals with higher education levels tend to have better labour market outcomes).”

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following indicators may complement the measurement of the progress towards GCR objective 2, to enhance refugee self-reliance. While some of these indicators relate to SDG indicators, namely to the internationally agreed indicator framework measuring progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, most indicators may still be classified as Tier 2 due to the lack of disaggregated data by refugees and host communities:

- Gross/Net Enrolment Ratios for refugee and host community children in pre-primary, primary, secondary, and tertiary education
- Proportion of refugee children residing in a country where inclusion in the national education system is guaranteed within the legal or policy framework²³

23 Further examples of complementary indicators, such as on literacy, numeracy, and on years spent out of education, are listed in the [IRRS](#) (p. 92).

2.2.2: Proportion of refugee and host community populations living below the national poverty line of the host country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the percentage of the total refugee and host community population that lives below the national poverty line of the host country.

Rationale: Enhancing self-reliance of refugees, one of the four objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees, takes into account the multi-dimensional aspects contributing to and shaping the levels of self-reliance and well-being of refugees.

Understanding poverty levels of refugee and host community populations is a key aspect in analyzing progress towards self-reliance and socio-economic development within a specific country context. At the national level, monitoring poverty is important for country-specific development planning and monitoring. As such, national poverty lines are used to make more accurate estimates of poverty, consistent with the country's specific economic and social circumstances, and are not intended for international comparisons of poverty rates.

In order to strengthen the comparability of data and use of agreed upon measurement concepts, this indicator has been designed based on the existing Sustainable Development Goal indicator 1.2.1: [Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age](#).

Concept: In order to ensure technical standards and comparability, poverty related data on refugees will be consistent with national poverty measurement approaches and standards in the hosting country.

In assessing poverty in a given country, and how best to reduce poverty according to national definitions, one naturally focuses on a poverty line that is considered appropriate for that country. Poverty lines across countries vary in terms of their

purchasing power, and they have a strong economic gradient, such that richer countries tend to adopt higher standards of living in defining poverty. Within a country, the cost of living is typically higher in urban areas than in rural areas. Some countries may have separate urban and rural poverty lines to represent different purchasing powers.

The most conventional view of poverty is seen largely in monetary terms. This approach defines well-being as the command over commodities in general, so people are better off if they have a greater control over resources. The main focus is on whether households or individuals have enough resources to meet their needs. Typically, poverty is then measured by comparing individuals' income or consumption with some defined threshold below which they are considered to be poor. This view is the starting point for most analyses of poverty.

Consumption is the preferred marker for measuring poverty levels for a number of reasons (Deaton, 2003). Income is generally more difficult to measure accurately. For example, the poor who work in the informal sector may not receive or report monetary wages; self-employed workers often experience irregular income flows; and many people in rural areas depend on idiosyncratic, agricultural incomes. Moreover, consumption accords better with the idea of the standard of living than income, which can vary over time even if the actual standard of living does not. Thus, whenever possible, consumption-based welfare indicators are used to estimate poverty measures. But consumption data are not always available. For instance, in Latin America and the Caribbean, the vast majority of countries collect primarily income data. In those cases income data is used.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: The formula for calculating the proportion of the total urban and rural

population living below the national poverty line, or headcount index, is as follows:

$$P_0 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N I(y_i < z) = \frac{N_p}{N}$$

Where $I(\bullet)$ is an indicator function that takes on a value of 1 if the bracketed expression is true, and 0 otherwise. If individual consumption or income y_i is less than the national poverty line z (for example, in absolute terms the line could be the price of a consumption bundle or in relative terms a percentage of the income distribution), then $I(\bullet)$ is equal to 1 and the individual is counted as poor. N_p is the total number of poor. N is the total population.

Consumption is measured by using household survey questions on food and non-food expenditures as well as food consumed from the household's own production, which is particularly important in the poorest developing countries. Consumption, however, can be underestimated or overestimated. Best-practice surveys typically administer detailed lists of specific consumption items. These individual items collected through the questionnaires are aggregated afterwards.

National poverty rates use a country-specific poverty line, reflecting the country's economic and social circumstances. In some cases, the national poverty line is adjusted for different areas (such as urban and rural) within the country.

Disaggregation: At a minimum, this indicator is required to be disaggregated by sex, age, and, where possible, disability.

Methods and Guidance: Refugee poverty estimates are derived from household survey data. To be useful for poverty estimates, surveys must be representative of the refugee population. They

must also include enough information to compute a comprehensive estimate of total household consumption or income (including consumption or income from own production), and to construct a correctly weighted distribution of consumption or income per person.

National statistical offices measure poverty using a multi-dimensional approach to capture all households' consumption and expenditure. The Household Budget Survey (HBS) is a statistical survey performed to obtain data on expenditures for consumption, self-consumption, household incomes and basic socio-economic environments in which families live. This survey provides data that will be used as an input for measuring the consumption of private households at the country level within the timeframe specified. One of the specific objectives of the HBS is obtaining necessary data for assessing the weight used to calculate the consumer price index.

It is important to keep in mind that the concept of national poverty estimates is different from international poverty estimates. National poverty rate is defined by country-specific poverty lines in local currencies, which are different in real terms across countries and different from the \$1.90-a-day international poverty line. Thus, national poverty rates cannot be compared across countries or with the \$1.90-a-day poverty rate.

The indicator may be classified as a Tier 2 indicator according to the definition outlined in the first part of this publication (22/09/2022).

DATA SOURCES

The data sources for this indicator will be comparable national poverty assessments for refugees conducted by national statistical offices and/or the World Bank, typically as part of a national survey effort. The World Bank periodically prepares poverty assessments of countries in which it has an active programme, in close collaboration with

national institutions, other development agencies, and civil society groups. Poverty assessments report the extent and causes of poverty and propose strategies to reduce it. The poverty assessments are the best available source of information on poverty estimates using national poverty lines.

DATA AVAILABILITY

National governments typically collect data for poverty measurement every 3-5 years. Until recently, refugees were almost entirely excluded from these efforts and even today, the number of completed surveys with the necessary components to measure the poverty level of refugees remains relatively limited. Based on current progress, it is anticipated that some form of comparable monetary poverty estimates will be available for refugees in 15-20 countries globally by 2023/2024.

At this rate, fewer than half of the world's refugees will be covered by this indicator, highlighting the critical need for States – whose national statistics offices are the primary entity responsible for the collection of these data – to include refugees into their poverty survey efforts.

Where there is sufficient data, disaggregation is generally available by age, sex, and other population groups, such as disability status, education level, or place of residence.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

While poverty “headcount” is one of the most commonly calculated measures of poverty, alone it does not capture income inequality among the poor, nor the depth of poverty. For instance, it fails to account for the fact that some refugees may be living just below the poverty line, while others experience far greater shortfalls. Policymakers seeking to make the largest possible impact on the headcount measure might be tempted to direct their poverty alleviation resources to those closest to the poverty line (and therefore least poor).

More broadly, monetary poverty measures may not fully reflect other dimensions of poverty, such as access to public goods, vulnerability, and the lack of voice and power of the poor. In recent years, this recognition has led to the development of multidimensional poverty and other deprivation-

focused measures, with their own advantages and limitations.

In all cases, refugees and other marginalized and hard to reach groups present particular methodological challenges, due to their lack of rights, limited access to markets, and high degree of reliance on assistance. Efforts are underway to understand the scope of these considerations, the impact of poverty measurement for refugees, and the development of recommendations, tools, and guidance for assessing the needs of these populations.

Efforts are underway to address the practical and methodological challenges accompanying measurement of refugee poverty. The Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons, and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS), mandated by



Abdou (wearing tie), from Chad, and Rony, from the Central African Republic, both refugees living in Niger, arrive at Charles de Gaulle Airport with scholarships to study at 3A School of Responsible Business and International Development in Lyon. © UNHCR/Corentin Fohlen

the UN Statistical Commission, has made significant progress supporting countries and regional and international organizations to enhance their collection, production, and dissemination of official statistics on forcibly displaced populations. At the same time, the World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center, together with World Bank country offices and other partners, has facilitated investment in primary data collection and the inclusion of refugees in regular survey efforts. While the Covid-19 pandemic led to a pause in many traditional survey efforts, significant advances were made during this time

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The value of an individual's consumption is an important marker of their levels of well-being and a signal of their ability to procure necessary goods and services. Direct measures of access to goods and services, including those provided outside the market, such as infrastructure services like clean water and electricity, and other essential components of welfare, such as health and education, can also be used to assess levels of well-being. Access to health services, basic drinking water services, and safe household toilets are examples of indicators

to include refugees and other forcibly displaced populations alongside national populations in more than a dozen high frequency phone surveys. These efforts, often undertaken by national governments, provided critical insights on the impact of the crisis on living conditions and access to services. With surveys returning to in-person formats, now is the time to redouble commitments to the inclusion of refugees in surveys that measure poverty.

For a full listing of data limitations, see the [Metadata overview for Sustainable Development Goal indicator 1.1.1](#).²⁴

that contribute to and complement monetary poverty as measures of progress towards self-reliance for refugees and host communities. While the methodologies for these indicators are established and efforts are underway to improve data collection and disaggregation, limited data still exist on refugees. In the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics, these complementary indicators relate to the measurement of material deprivation (p. 104- 105).

24 Further references include: Deaton, Angus. 2003. *Household Surveys, Consumption, and the Measurement of Poverty*. Economic Systems Research, Vol. 15, No. 2, June 2003; World Bank 2019. International Comparison Program; Tiberti, Marco, and Valentina, Costa. 2020. [Disability Measurement in Household Surveys - A Guidebook for Designing Household Survey Questionnaires](#). LSMS Guidebook. World Bank. [online][Accessed on 2nd August 2022]



Jules, a 26-year-old student from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, studies in the social science library at the University of Florence. Jules is enrolled in a natural resources management course at the city's university. He came to Italy under the University Corridors for Refugees Project, which gives refugee students the opportunity to complete, or have access to, university courses in Italy.

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3.1.1: Number of refugees who departed on resettlement from the host country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the number of refugees who have been submitted for resettlement to States by UNHCR and who subsequently departed from their country of asylum to the resettlement State.

Rationale: Expanding access to third country solutions is one of the four overarching objectives of the GCR. Resettlement is an invaluable tool for international protection to address the needs of refugees whose life, liberty, safety, health, or fundamental human rights are at risk in the country where they sought refuge. It also provides refugees with a durable solution, and serves as a responsibility-sharing mechanism by signalling support for countries hosting large refugee populations.

States are not obliged to accept refugees for resettlement, but rather voluntarily offer resettlement places as a tool to provide refugees with protection and solutions and as a tangible expression of international solidarity. Offering resettlement places may also have strategic value, in that providing a durable solution through resettlement for a number of refugees may open avenues for others remaining behind to benefit from improvements to the protection environment in the country of asylum.

Resettlement can thus be an important element of comprehensive solutions.

Concept: As defined in the [UNHCR Resettlement Handbook](#): Resettlement under the auspices of UNHCR involves the selection and transfer of refugees from a State in which they have sought protection to a third state that has agreed to admit them - as refugees - with permanent residence status. The status provided by the resettlement State ensures protection against *refoulement* [forced return] and provides a resettled refugee and their family or dependents with access to civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, similar to those enjoyed by nationals. Resettlement also carries with it the opportunity to eventually become a naturalized citizen of the resettlement country.

Departing refers to the physical transfer of refugees from the country of asylum to the resettlement State.

Resettlement country refers to a country that offers opportunities for the transfer and permanent settlement of refugees. This would be a country other than the country of origin or the country in which refugee status was first recognized.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: Number of refugees who departed from the country of asylum to the resettlement State during the reference period.

Disaggregation: This indicator is required to be disaggregated by resettlement State, country of origin and country of asylum (i.e. the country the refugee departed from). In addition, it should also be disaggregated by sex and age.²⁵

Methods and Guidance: The [UNHCR Resettlement Handbook](#) offers resettlement management and policy guidance and is a key reference tool for resettlement States and NGOs on global resettlement policy and practice.

This GCR indicator may be classified as a Tier 1 indicator according to the tier classification outlined in the first part of this publication.

DATA SOURCES

Data on refugees who were submitted for resettlement by UNHCR and subsequently departed to a resettlement State are recorded

in UNHCR's registration system *proGres*. Such statistics are published on a monthly basis in [UNHCR's Resettlement Data Finder \(rsq.unhcr.org\)](#).

DATA AVAILABILITY

As of 31 July 2022, the data on the number of UNHCR-referred refugees who departed on resettlement indicated departures to 21 countries of resettlement ([Resettlement Data Finder](#)). Data are

updated on a monthly basis. Of all cases submitted by UNHCR to States in 2021, 50 per cent concerned women and girls, and 52 per cent children (see UNHCR [Resettlement at a glance in 2021](#)).

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

The indicator only includes departures of refugees submitted for resettlement by UNHCR. Refugees may access state resettlement programmes without UNHCR's submission through referrals by NGOs, government agencies or embassies, civil society, or private individuals. In order to ensure comparability of data over time, this indicator is limited to departures as a result of UNHCR's resettlement submissions.

Of all cases submitted by UNHCR to States in 2021, 86 per cent were for survivors of torture and/or violence, people with legal and physical protection needs, and particularly vulnerable women and girls

(see UNHCR [Resettlement at a glance in 2021](#)).

In June 2022, UNHCR released the [Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030](#), which follows on from the [Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways \(2019-2021\)](#). The latter, which is referred to in the GCR (para. 91), was launched in June 2019 and established a three-year framework while also laying out an ambitious plan for the systematic expansion of third country solutions over a ten-year period. A [final report](#) reflecting both the achievements and unmet goals of the Strategy was published on 28 March 2022. The Roadmap 2030

²⁵ The [IRRS](#) provides consistent guidance for disaggregation of this indicator (p. 37): a) Age or date of birth; b) Sex; c) Country of birth; d) Country of citizenship (including stateless, undetermined status and multiple citizenship); e) Date of arrival; f) Reason for migration; g) Country of previous or last residence; h) Date of first displacement/leaving previous country of habitual residence; i) Parents' refugee statuses; j) If an unaccompanied child; k) Legal residential/international; protection status as applicable to the national context (with variable vii) refugee resettled in a third country under persons in need of international protection).

builds on the Strategy and focuses on transitioning from foundation building to implementation and significant scaling of third country solutions.

This GCR indicator is supported by the [IRRS](#) that refer to a consistent indicator on “the number of

persons entering the country within the reference year who have been resettled from another host country to this (third) country as a result of resettlement programmes” (p. 36).

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The indicator on *proportion of resettlement needs fulfilled by actual departures following a UNHCR submission* complements the measurement of

the progress towards GCR objective three, to expand access to third country solutions. This complementary indicator may be classified as Tier 1.

3.1.2: Number of countries receiving UNHCR resettlement submissions from the host country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the number of countries who received the submission for resettlement by UNHCR of at least one refugee during the reference period.

Rationale: Expanding access to third country solutions is one of the four overarching objectives of the GCR. Resettlement is an invaluable tool for international protection to address the needs of refugees whose life, liberty, safety, health, or fundamental human rights are at risk in the country where they sought refuge. It also provides refugees with a durable solution, and serves as a responsibility-sharing mechanism by signaling support for countries hosting large refugee populations.

avenues for others remaining behind to benefit from improvements to the protection environment in the country of asylum. Resettlement can thus be an important element of comprehensive solutions.

This indicator seeks to measure progress in efforts to increase the pool of resettlement places, including countries not already participating in global resettlement efforts, as well as to consolidate emerging resettlement programmes.

Concept: As defined in the UNHCR Resettlement Handbook: Resettlement under the auspices of UNHCR involves the selection and transfer of refugees from a State in which they have sought protection to a third State that has agreed to admit them – as refugees – with permanent residence status. The status provided by the resettlement State ensures protection against *refoulement* [forced return] and provides a resettled refugee and their family or dependents with access to civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights similar to those enjoyed by nationals. Resettlement also carries with it the opportunity to eventually become a naturalized citizen of the resettlement country.

States are not obliged to accept refugees for resettlement, but rather voluntarily offer resettlement places as a tool to provide refugees with protection and solutions and as a tangible expression of international solidarity. Offering resettlement places may also have strategic value, in that providing a durable solution through resettlement for a number of refugees may open

Submission refers to the transfer of personal data of refugees and other protection information, to a resettlement country for the purpose of resettlement processing and to support the attainment of durable solutions in accordance with UNHCR's mandate.

Resettlement country refers to a country that offers opportunities for the transfer and permanent settlement of refugees. This would be a country other than the country of origin or the country in which refugee status was first recognized.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: Sum of the number of countries who received at least one submission for resettlement from UNHCR during the reference period.

Disaggregation: This indicator is required to be disaggregated by resettlement State, country of

origin and country of asylum (i.e. the country the refugee was submitted from).

Methods and Guidance: The [UNHCR Resettlement Handbook](#) offers resettlement management and policy guidance, and is a key reference tool for resettlement States and NGOs on global resettlement policy and practice.

DATA SOURCES

Data on refugees who were submitted by UNHCR for resettlement to a State are recorded in UNHCR's registration system *proGres*. Such statistics

are published on a monthly basis in UNHCR's [Resettlement Data Finder](#).

DATA AVAILABILITY

Data are updated on a monthly basis to the Resettlement Data Finder. As of 31 July 2022, there

were 21 countries of resettlement (Resettlement Data Finder as of 31 July 2022).

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

The indicator does not include countries recording resettlement arrivals outside UNHCR's submissions. Refugees may access state resettlement programmes without UNHCR's submission through referrals by NGOs, government agencies or embassies, civil society, or private individuals.. In order to ensure comparability of data over time, this indicator is limited to countries of resettlement as part of UNHCR's resettlement submissions.

established a three-year framework while also laying out an ambitious plan for the systematic expansion of third country solutions over a ten-year period. A [final report](#) reflecting both the achievements and unmet goals of the Strategy was published on 28 March 2022. The Roadmap 2030 builds on the Strategy and focuses on transitioning from foundation building to implementation and significant scaling of third country solutions.

In June 2022, UNHCR released the [Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030](#), which follows on from the [Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways \(2019-2021\)](#). The latter, which is referred to in the GCR (para. 91), was launched in June 2019 and

The *Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030* provides an action plan to grow resettlement, including working with partners like the European Union Asylum Agency (EUAA) to do analysis on countries that have stepped back from resettlement since 2016 in order to

develop a plan to re-engage these countries as resettlement partners and leveraging existing States and regional resettlement networks through

coordination by relevant partners and stakeholders to ensure participation of new, emerging, and returning States.

3.2.1: Number of refugees admitted through complementary pathways from the host country

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the number of refugees who have been admitted through a complementary pathway from their country of asylum to a third country.

Rationale: Expanding access to third country solutions is one of the four overarching objectives of the GCR. Complementary pathways for admission serve as an important expression of international solidarity and cooperation and as a contribution to more equitable responsibility-sharing, additional to and separate from resettlement programmes. They must be designed and implemented in such a way that the rights of refugees and their international protection needs are safeguarded.

They may include one or a combination of the following:

- **Family reunification procedures**, which are rights-based and state-provided legal avenues for refugees to reunite with their family members where more effective protection, longer-term solutions, and family support are possible. These can also reunite refugees with extended family members and with those who have a relationship of dependency
- **Humanitarian pathways**, programmes which offer an admission opportunity to individuals in need of international protection through their identification and transfer from the country of asylum to a third country (different from their current country of asylum) based on protection and/or general humanitarian needs, and allow the beneficiaries to apply for asylum or a protection status upon arrival. These legal avenues or programmes often rely on humanitarian visas issued prior to departure
- **Sponsorship pathways** (often known as Private Sponsorship programmes) are programmes that allow individuals, groups of individuals, or organizations to directly engage in admission efforts by identifying, selecting, and supporting the entry and stay of nominated individuals in need of international protection
- **Employment pathways**, by which a refugee may enter or stay in another country through safe and regulated avenues for purposes of employment, with the right to either permanent or temporary residence. Candidates' eligibility for programmes is assessed based on their professional qualifications and experience

- **Education pathways**, including private and community or institution-based scholarships, traineeships, and apprenticeship programmes which provide refugees with appropriate safeguards, such as documentation and legal entry and stay arrangements for the duration of their studies/traineeship, and clear post-graduation options, which may include permanent residency or post graduate study or employment stay permits. Candidates' eligibility for programmes is assessed based on their academic merit
- **Other entry and stay options**, distinct from those mentioned above, that may be used as safe and regulated avenues to admit refugees to third countries and provide an opportunity for extended or permanent legal stay

Concept: *Complementary pathways* for admission are safe and regulated avenues that complement and are additional to refugee resettlement, by providing lawful access and stay in a third country where their international protection needs are met. Refugees may be admitted in a country and have their international protection needs met while they are able to support themselves to potentially reach a sustainable and lasting solution.

Admitted refers to the authorization for a refugee to enter or stay lawfully.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: Number of refugees who have been issued a first-time residence permit or visa by the national authorities during a reference period for the specific purpose (employment, study, family reunification, or humanitarian reasons).

Disaggregation: This indicator is required to be disaggregated by country of admission, country of origin, country of asylum (i.e. the country the refugee departed from) and type of complementary pathway for admission. In addition, it can also be disaggregated by sex and age.

Methods and Guidance: Residence permits and visa are defined as any authorization issued by a country to a foreign national to enter or stay lawfully.

For purposes of this indicator, only residence permits of a specific type issued to a person for the first time shall be considered. Permits issued to refugees or asylum-seekers that used the national asylum determination system to enter or stay in the country are excluded.

Statistics on first residence permits or other administrative data sources typically do not enable the identification of refugees if they do not hold a humanitarian-related permit. The [International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics](#) which were endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2018, can be used as a reference guide for national and international work concerning statistics on refugees and asylum-seekers.

DATA SOURCES

Data on residence permits and visa are entirely based on administrative sources. They are provided predominantly by Ministries of Interior or related immigration agencies. Since 2018, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) International Migration Division and

UNHCR's Division of International Protection have been working together to develop more systematic collection, sharing and analysis of data related to the availability and use of complementary pathways for admission to third countries.

DATA AVAILABILITY

The data used in the first GCR indicator report were available for 35 of the 37 OECD countries, plus one non-OECD country.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

The need for the establishment of a Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways is enshrined in the GCR (paras. 90-96). The GCR calls for contributions from States, and the assistance of other relevant stakeholders, to enlarge the scope, size, and quality of resettlement programmes. It also underlines the need that complementary pathways for admission, as a complement to resettlement, are made available on a more systematic, organized, sustainable and gender-responsive basis, that they contain appropriate protection safeguards, and that the number of countries offering these opportunities is expanded overall.

Regarding data limitations, the indicator may suffer from both over- and under-estimation. In terms of overestimation, while the indicator should include complementary pathways provided to individuals residing in country of asylum, it is possible that some of the data received by the OECD and UNHCR cover individuals who arrive directly from their countries of origin. In addition, while the data should cover only first-time granted permits, and not permit

renewals or status changes in the destination country, it is not possible to distinguish these situations in the data received from some countries. In terms of underestimation, not all the countries that offer complementary pathways provided data to the OECD and UNHCR. For some countries, there were missing data for certain complementary pathways and/or years. Furthermore, data on admissions through humanitarian pathways has not been collected yet.

Obtaining reliable and comprehensive data on the movement of refugees through complementary pathways and family reunification remains a challenge. Improving data on complementary pathways is part of the Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030. UNHCR will continue to work with States, the OECD, and other stakeholders to improve data availability and quality for the compilation of this GCR indicator on complementary pathways. (See [Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030. The next phase of the Three Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways \(2019-2021\)](#), June 2022)

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following (Tier 2) indicators may complement the measurement of the progress towards the third objective of the GCR, to expand access to third country solutions, and its sub-outcome on access to complementary pathways:

- Number of refugees admitted through skills-based complementary pathways (such as education or employment)
- Number of refugees admitted through family reunification procedures
- Number of refugees admitted through humanitarian pathways programmes (including humanitarian visas)
- Number of refugees admitted through private sponsorship pathways

3.2.2: Number of countries offering safe admission and stay options through complementary pathways to refugees hosted in other countries

DEFINITION AND CONCEPTS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the number of countries that offer safe and legal admission and stay options through complementary pathways to refugees hosted in other countries of asylum. It comprises options for admissions through humanitarian, sponsorship, employment, and education pathways as defined below. The indicator does not include legal avenues for admissions through family reunification procedures in line with their international obligation.

Rationale: Expanding access to third country solutions is one of the four overarching objectives of the GCR. Complementary pathways for admission serve as an important expression of international solidarity and cooperation and as a contribution to more equitable responsibility-sharing, additional to, and separate from, resettlement. They must be designed and implemented in such a way that the rights of refugees and their international protection needs are safeguarded. The GCR calls for an overall expansion of the number of countries offering complementary pathways for admission to third countries (GCR, para. 94). They may include one or a combination of the following:

- **Employment pathways**, by which a refugee may enter or stay in another country through safe and regulated avenues for purposes of employment, with the right to either permanent or temporary residence. Candidates' eligibility for programmes is assessed based on their professional qualifications and experience, as well as language skills.
- **Education pathways**, by which a refugee may enter or stay in another country through safe and regulated avenues for purposes of higher education with safeguards, such as documentation and legal entry and stay arrangements for the duration of their studies/traineeship, and clear post-graduation options, which may include permanent residency or post graduate study or employment stay permits. Candidates' eligibility for programmes is assessed based on their academic merit and language skills.
- **Sponsorship pathways** (often known as Private Sponsorship programmes) are programmes that allow individuals, groups of individuals, or organizations to directly engage in admission efforts by identifying, selecting, and supporting the entry and stay of nominated individuals in need of international protection.
- **Humanitarian pathways**, programmes which offer an admission opportunity to individuals in need of international protection through their identification and transfer from the country of asylum to a third country (different from their current country of asylum), based on protection and/or general humanitarian needs, and allow the beneficiaries to apply for asylum or a protection status upon arrival. These legal avenues or programmes often rely on humanitarian visas issued prior to departure.

Concept: *Complementary pathways* for admission are safe and regulated avenues that complement and are additional to refugee resettlement, by providing lawful access and stay in a third country where their international protection needs are met.

Refugees may be admitted in a country and have their international protection needs met while they are able to support themselves to potentially reach a sustainable and lasting solution.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: the indicator counts all the States offering at least one relevant admission programme – humanitarian, sponsorship, employment or education pathways – to refugees hosted in another country.

Disaggregation: This indicator is required to be disaggregated by country of admission and type of complementary pathway for admission.

Methods and Guidance: Residence permits and visas are defined as any authorization issued by a country to a foreign national to enter or stay

lawfully. For the purpose of this indicator, only the countries providing entry visas or residence permits to refugees hosted in another country on employment, education, or humanitarian grounds, or based on a private sponsorship programme are included.

The [International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics](#) (IRRS) which were endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2018 can be used as a reference guide for national and international work concerning statistics on refugees and asylum-seekers.

DATA SOURCES

If available, the primary data sources for this indicator are administrative records maintained by governmental entities. To mitigate significant

data gaps, UNHCR will also collaborate with other partner organizations involved in complementary pathways, as relevant.

DATA AVAILABILITY

Aggregated data for this indicator are currently not available and will be compiled in preparation for the second GCR indicator report.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

The need for the establishment of a Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways is enshrined in the GCR (paras. 90-96). The GCR calls for contributions from States, and the assistance of other relevant stakeholders, to enlarge the scope, size, and quality of resettlement programmes. It also underlines the need for complementary pathways for admission, as a complement to resettlement, to be made available

on a more systematic, organized, sustainable, and gender-responsive basis, that they contain appropriate protection safeguards, and that the number of countries offering these opportunities is expanded overall.

Improving data on complementary pathways is part of the Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030. UNHCR will continue to work with States, the OECD, and other stakeholders

to improve data availability and quality for the compilation of this GCR indicator on complementary pathways. (See [Third Country Solutions for](#)

[Refugees: Roadmap 2030. The next phase of the Three Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways \(2019-2021\)](#), June 2022)

4.1.1: Volume of official development assistance (ODA) for the benefit of refugee returnees in the ODA recipient country of origin

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator refers to total bilateral ODA disbursements, including both humanitarian and development, from DAC and non-DAC provider countries for the benefit of refugee returnees in the ODA recipient country of origin. This indicator also captures assistance provided in the country of origin to facilitate the return of refugees (for example, in the context of a UNHCR-facilitated voluntary repatriation programme).

Rationale: Voluntary repatriation in conditions of safety and dignity remains the preferred solution in the majority of refugee situations. The overriding priorities are to promote the enabling conditions for voluntary repatriation in full respect of the principle of *non-refoulement*, to ensure the exercise of a free and informed choice and to mobilize support to underpin safe and dignified repatriation.

Voluntary repatriation is not necessarily conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin, in order not to impede the exercise of the right of refugees to return to their own country. It is equally recognized that there are situations where refugees voluntarily return outside the context of formal voluntary repatriation programmes, and that this requires support.

The GCR encourages the international community as a whole to contribute resources and expertise to support countries of origin, upon their request, to address root causes, to remove obstacles to return,

and to enable conditions favourable to voluntary repatriation. States and relevant stakeholders will contribute resources and expertise to support countries of origin upon their request with respect to social, political, economic, and legal capacity to receive and reintegrate returnees.

This indicator provides data on the volume of ODA provided to countries of origin in support of refugee returns and reintegration at the country, regional and global levels. It provides the opportunity to track trends and variations in ODA provided in support of refugee returns and reintegration across countries of origin.

Concept: This indicator seeks to collect data to monitor progress towards objective 4 of the GCR, which aims to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity. Data collected will identify the contributions made to support returns and reintegration of refugees, including through highlighting trends in official development assistance. The scope of financing data includes ODA flows to countries and territories of origin on the DAC List of ODA Recipients reported with the hashtag/keyword “#VoluntaryRefugeeReturn_Reintegration”:

- I. Provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies;
- II. Concessional (i.e. grants and soft loans) and administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as the main objective (see [OECD Development finance standards](#)); and
- III. Measured in volume through the OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS), based on data reports by ODA provider countries.

For the purpose of this indicator, *refugee returnees* refers to refugees, asylum seekers (pending decision and/or rejected), and persons in refugee-like situations, who decide to return to their country of origin. Returns may be spontaneous, that is, outside the context of formal voluntary repatriation programmes, or organized.

This category does not include funding for refugees or asylum seekers who are forcibly returned to their country of origin, or assistance to migrants for return to, or for their sustainable reintegration in, their country of origin (for example, through Assisted Voluntary Return programmes). It does not include pre-departure assistance provided to refugees in donor countries in the context of voluntary returns.²⁶

Country of origin refers to country of origin and/or habitual place of residence. Habitual place of residence describes a factual situation where a person has chosen a certain country as their centre of living at least for some duration, but does not require any formal connection with that country of residence.²⁷

ODA recipient countries are defined by the DAC. The DAC List of ODA Recipients shows all countries and territories eligible to receive official development assistance (ODA). These consist of all low- and middle-income countries based on gross national income (GNI) per capita as published by the World Bank, with the exception of G8 members, EU

members, and countries with a firm date for entry into the EU. The list also includes all of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as defined by the United Nations (UN). The DAC revises the list every three years. Countries that have exceeded the high-income threshold for three consecutive years at the time of the review are removed.

Refugees, for the purpose of tracking development finance for refugee situations, includes persons falling under the following definition, and persons in refugee-like situations, including persons benefiting from “temporary protection” measures, other persons in need of international protection, and refugees under UNRWA mandate: “A “refugee” is any person who meets the eligibility criteria under an applicable refugee definition, as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR’s mandate, or in national legislation, including prima facie recognised refugees. Under international law and UNHCR’s mandate, refugees are persons outside their countries of origin who are in need of international protection because of feared persecution, or a serious threat to their life, physical integrity or freedom in their country of origin as a result of persecution, armed conflict, violence or serious public disorder. Under international law, a person is considered a refugee as soon as they meet the relevant criteria, whether or not they have been formally recognised as a refugee. A person does not become a refugee because of recognition, but rather is recognised because they are a refugee.”²⁸

26 Reference DCD/DAC/ STAT (2018)9/FINAL/ Converged Statistical Reporting Directives for the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and the Annual DAC Questionnaire, pp.25-30. See also definition of CRS Code 15190 on Financing of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration.

27 Grahl Madsen, A. 1966, *The Status of Refugees in International Law*, vol. I, p.160

28 See [UNHCR glossary](#).



Refugee families on a bus from Tanzania to Burundi. UNHCR, the Government of Burundi, and partners are supporting the return and reintegration of Burundi refugees. © UNHCR/Samuel Otieno

For the benefit of refers to activities in ODA recipient countries with the objective of supporting refugee return and reintegration, including initial voluntary repatriation and reintegration, as well as longer-term sustainable development support

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: The sum of ODA flows from all provider countries for the benefit of refugee returnees in the ODA recipient country of origin. Data for indicator 4.1.1 are collected by the OECD, which is also responsible for verifying the consistency of the data with adopted definitional standards and the computation of the indicator. The volume of finance is calculated using the data reported by ODA provider countries to the OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS) with the hashtag/keyword *#VoluntaryRefugeeReturn_Reintegration*”.

While ODA for refugee and reintegration is expressed in United States dollars (USD) at the exchange rate prevailing in the year of the flow

DATA SOURCES

The main source of data will be the OECD’s Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and ad-hoc OECD surveys: The new methodology for tracking ODA for refugees and host communities in the CRS

towards integration and social service provision (e.g. integration in national social service systems and financing for these national systems). The financing may benefit refugee returnees and host communities.

i.e. in current dollars, analyses of trends in aid over longer periods will be based on constant dollars so as to take account of inflation and exchange rate variations. It will be based on a deflator used by the OECD. Concessional loan components of ODA will be reported as the totality of the flow.

Disaggregation: This indicator can be disaggregated by ODA provider country, recipient country, region, type of assistance (humanitarian or development), sectors, loans and grants, among others.

The indicator may be classified as a Tier 2 indicator according to the definition outlined in the first part of this publication (22/09/2022).

was adopted in 2022, and was not in place for ODA reporting prior to 2022. In order to have the 2020-21 data available for the next Global Refugee Forum in December 2023, and for the second GCR

Indicator Report, the OECD will pursue a “hybrid data collection approach” given the recent adoption of the methodology. The OECD will conduct a new survey on financing for refugee situations on 2020-21 flows. Members/respondents will have the option to either validate data extracted from OECD’s CRS

for these two years (based on a word search in the CRS descriptive data, i.e. text mining by the OECD), or to respond to the survey. The OECD indicates that the timeline for responding to the survey will be April 2023. For all data analysis cycles thereafter, the OECD CRS will be the source.

DATA AVAILABILITY

Data are currently available from 2017 to 2019 only. The data were collected through two ad hoc surveys conducted by the OECD in 2018 and 2020. Comparability between the two surveys’ data is limited due to differences in methodology. The number of ODA provider countries who reported ODA for the year 2020 in the CRS amounted to about 44, including 30 OECD DAC members. In terms of recipient countries (countries of asylum or

origin), more than 110 countries received ODA for refugee situations according to the OECD 2020 ad-hoc survey. With adoption of the hashtag / keyword methodology for tracking development finance for refugee situations through the OECD CRS in 2022, data will be available on an annual basis through the CRS. As an interim step for 2020/21 data, OECD will implement a third and final ad-hoc survey on financing for refugee situations.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Concerning OECD data: Development finance channelled through Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), as reported in the OECD 2020 survey on financing for refugee situations, is tracked separately through a complementary indicator. Although this amount of financing is significant, the OECD specified that not all of MDBs’ financing qualifies as ODA, as MDB financing may include lending in non-concessional terms. Furthermore, development finance reported by the MDBs also

include volumes already reported by ODA provider countries, therefore there is a risk of duplication.

While formally adopted by DAC members, the use of keywords / hashtags in the CRS is voluntary. The scope and quality of data will therefore depend on the extent of usage, and related outreach and advocacy to ODA providers to apply the methodology during their development finance reporting.

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following indicators may be available and complement the measurement of progress made towards GCR objective 4, to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity:

- Volume of concessional and non-concessional development finance by multilateral development banks (MDBs) for the benefit of refugee returnees and host communities in the country of origin (Tier 2; sources: OECD CRS, and TOSSD).
- Volume of concessional and non-concessional development finance by private providers for the benefit of refugee returnees and host communities in the country of origin (Tier 2; sources: OECD CRS, and TOSSD).

4.1.2: Number of donors providing official development assistance (ODA) for the benefit of refugee returnees in the ODA recipient country of origin

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the total number of donors (including DAC and non-DAC countries/members) providing ODA for the benefit of refugee returnees in the ODA recipient country of origin. This indicator also captures assistance in the country of origin to facilitate the return of refugees from one country to another (for example, in the context of a UNHCR-facilitated voluntary repatriation programme).

Rationale: Millions of refugees live in protracted situations, often in low- and middle-income countries facing their own economic and development challenges. Voluntary repatriation in conditions of safety and dignity remains the preferred solution in the majority of refugee situations. The gap between needs and humanitarian financing continues to widen. There is an urgent need for more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees, while taking account of existing contributions, and the differing capacities and resources among States.

While contributions to burden- and responsibility-sharing go beyond funding, the mobilization of timely, predictable, adequate and sustainable public and private funding is key to the successful implementation of the GCR. In addition to more and better financing, burden- and responsibility-sharing in the context of the GCR implies expanding the support base (both beyond traditional donors and to a wider range of new and protracted refugee situations).

This indicator provides data on the number of donors providing ODA for the benefit of refugee returnees in countries of origin. It provides the opportunity to track trends and variations in donor presence and engagement in responses for refugee returnees in countries of origin.

Concept: This indicator seeks to collect data to monitor progress towards objective 4 of the GCR, which aims to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity. Data collected will focus on donor presence and engagement in support of refugee returnees in countries of origin, with the aim of tracking trends and variations over time, assessing gaps in international co-operation, and broadening the base of burden- and responsibility-sharing.²⁹

For the purpose of this indicator, *refugee returnees* refers to refugees, asylum-seekers (pending decision and/or rejected) and persons in refugee-like situations who decide to return to their country of origin. Returns may be spontaneous, that is, outside the context of formal voluntary repatriation programmes, or organized.

This category does not include funding for refugees or asylum-seekers who are forcibly returned to their country of origin, or assistance to migrants for return to, or for their sustainable reintegration in, their country of origin (for example, through Assisted Voluntary Return programmes). It does not include

²⁹ To ensure meaningful representation of the extent to which donor presence and engagement in a single country represents successful efforts to 'broaden the base of burden- and responsibility-sharing', context specific financial thresholds could be set to provide substantive parameters for analysis.

pre-departure assistance provided to refugees in donor countries in the context of voluntary returns.³⁰

Country of origin refers to country of origin and/or habitual place of residence. Habitual place of residence describes a factual situation where a person has chosen a certain country as their centre of living at least for some duration but does not require any formal connection with that country of residence.³¹

ODA recipient countries are defined by the DAC. The DAC List of ODA Recipients shows all countries and territories eligible to receive official development assistance (ODA). These consist of all low and middle income countries based on gross national income (GNI) per capita as published by the World Bank, with the exception of G8 members, EU members, and countries with a firm date for entry into the EU. The list also includes all of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as defined by the United Nations (UN). The DAC revises the list every three years. Countries that have exceeded the high-income threshold for three consecutive years at the time of the review are removed.

Refugees, for the purpose of tracking of development finance for refugee situations, includes persons falling under the following definition, and persons in refugee-like situations, including persons benefiting from “temporary

protection” measures, Venezuelans displaced abroad, and refugees under UNRWA mandate: “A “refugee” is any person who meets the eligibility criteria under an applicable refugee definition, as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR’s mandate, or in national legislation, including prima facie recognised refugees. Under international law and UNHCR’s mandate, refugees are persons outside their countries of origin who are in need of international protection because of feared persecution, or a serious threat to their life, physical integrity or freedom in their country of origin as a result of persecution, armed conflict, violence or serious public disorder. Under international law, a person is considered a refugee as soon as they meet the relevant criteria, whether or not they have been formally recognised as a refugee. A person does not become a refugee because of recognition, but rather is recognised because they are a refugee.”³²

For the benefit of refers to activities in ODA recipient countries with the objective of supporting refugee return and reintegration, including initial voluntary repatriation, reintegration, as well as longer-term sustainable development support towards integration and social service provision (e.g. integration in national social service systems and financing for these national systems). The financing may benefit refugee returnees and host communities.

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: The sum of ODA provider countries contributing to refugee return and reintegration in the country of origin.

Disaggregation: This indicator can be disaggregated by ODA provider and recipient country.

Methods and Guidance: ODA provider countries are identified based on financing flows reported with

the hashtag/keyword “#VoluntaryRefugeeReturn_Reintegration” in the OECD CRS, or based on data raised from OECD ad-hoc surveys on refugee financing (see also OECD [Development finance standards](#))

The indicator may be classified as a Tier 2 indicator according to the definition outlined in the first part of this publication (22/09/2022).

30 Reference DCD/DAC/ STAT (2018)9/FINAL/ Converged Statistical Reporting Directives for the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and the Annual DAC Questionnaire, pp.25-30. See also definition of CRS Code 15190 on Financing of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration.

31 Grahl Madsen, A. 1966, *The Status of Refugees in International Law*, vol. I, p.160

32 See [UNHCR glossary](#).

DATA SOURCES

OECD's Creditor Reporting System (CRS), and ad-hoc surveys: The new methodology for tracking ODA for refugees and host communities in the CRS was adopted in 2022 and was not in place for ODA reporting prior to 2022. In order to have the 2020-21 data available for the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023 and the second GCR Indicator Report, the OECD will pursue a "hybrid data collection approach" given the recent adoption of the methodology.³³ The OECD will conduct a

new survey on financing for refugee situations on 2020-21 flows.³⁴ Members/respondents will have the option to either validate data extracted from OECD's CRS for these two years (based on a word search in the CRS descriptive data, i.e. text mining by the OECD), or to respond to the survey. The OECD indicates that the timeline for responding to the survey will be April 2023. For all data analysis cycles thereafter, the OECD CRS will be the source.

DATA AVAILABILITY

Data are currently available from 2017 to 2019 only. The data were collected through two ad-hoc surveys conducted by the OECD in 2018 and 2020. Comparability between the two surveys' data is limited due to differences in methodology. The number of ODA provider countries who reported ODA for the year 2020 in the CRS amounted to 44,

including 30 OECD DAC members. With adoption of the hashtag / keyword methodology for tracking development finance for refugee situations through the OECD CRS in 2022, data will be available on an annual basis through the CRS. As an interim step for 2020/21 data, OECD will implement a third and final ad-hoc survey on financing for refugee situations.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Concerning OECD data: Development finance channelled through Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), as reported in the OECD 2020 survey on financing for refugee situations, is tracked separately through a complementary indicator. Although this amount of financing is significant, the OECD specified that not all of MDBs' financing qualifies as ODA, as MDB financing may include lending in non-concessional terms. Furthermore, development finance reported by the MDBs also includes volumes already reported

by ODA provider countries, therefore there is a risk of duplication.

While formally adopted by DAC members, the use of keywords / hashtags in the CRS is voluntary. The scope and quality of data will therefore depend on the extent of usage, and related outreach and advocacy to ODA providers to apply the methodology during their development finance reporting.

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

The following indicators may be available and complement the measurement of the progress

towards GCR objective 4, to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity:

33 See updated ODA reporting directives on "Tracking support for refugee and IDP situations in ODA recipient countries in the CRS."

34 The survey will build on and be a lighter version of the two previous surveys on the same topic implemented by the OECD (see OECD publications on [Financing for Refugee Situations 2018-19](#) and [Financing Refugee-Hosting Contexts released in 2021 and 2018 respectively](#)).

- Number of multilateral development banks (MDBs) providing concessional and non-concessional development finance for the benefit of refugee returnees in the country of origin (Tier 2; sources: OECD CRS, and TOSSD)
- Number of private entities providing concessional and non-concessional development finance for the benefit of refugee returnees in the country of origin (Tier 2; sources: OECD CRS, and TOSSD)

4.2.1: Number of refugees returning to their country of origin

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: Total number of refugees who have returned to their country of origin spontaneously or in an organized fashion.

Rationale: Voluntary repatriation is one of the traditional durable solutions emphasized in the GCR. The Global Compact underlines that voluntary repatriation is, above all, the responsibility of the country of origin towards its own people and that the international community should provide support to address root causes and facilitate sustainability of return. The decision to repatriate voluntarily is an individual one that is affected by many factors, including the circumstances surrounding travel and conditions for return. Refugees commonly return home to their country of origin or habitual residence when conditions in the country of origin enable a safe and voluntary return and reintegration. Trends in the number of voluntary returns tend to mirror the conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity (GCR objective 4).

repatriation in full respect of the principle of *non-refoulement*, to ensure the exercise of a free and informed choice and to mobilize support to underpin safe and dignified repatriation.

Voluntary repatriation is not necessarily conditional on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin, in order not to impede the exercise of the right of refugees to return to their own country. It is equally recognized that there are situations where refugees voluntarily return outside the context of formal voluntary repatriation programmes, and that this requires support.

Refugee returnees are former refugees who have returned to their country of origin, either in a self-organized manner or in an organized fashion, but are yet to be fully re-integrated. The [IRRS](#) (p. 33) also refers to *repatriating refugees*: “persons, likely to be citizens, who have returned to their home country after having enjoyed asylum abroad. Both refugees returning under internationally assisted repatriation programmes and those returning spontaneously should be included in this category.”

The right of refugees to return to their country of origin is recognized in international law: [Art. 13\(2\) Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#); [Art. 12\(4\) International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights](#); [Art. 5\(d\) \(ii\) International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination](#); [UNGA Resolutions including 69/152 \(2014\)](#).

Concept: As noted in paragraph 87 of the GCR, voluntary repatriation in conditions of safety and dignity remains the preferred solution for the majority of refugees. The overriding priorities are to promote the enabling conditions for voluntary

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method: Sum of number of refugees that have returned to their country of origin during the reference period. For statistical purposes, a maximum cut-off period of one calendar year (12 months) is applied.

Disaggregation: This indicator is required to be disaggregated by country of origin, country of asylum, sex, and age.

Methods and Guidance: In some cases, statistics reported on refugees repatriating from the country of asylum and those returning to the country of origin may differ. This may be due to differences in the reporting of spontaneous and organized returns. For purposes of statistical reporting, the higher number is reported in official return statistics as this better reflects spontaneous returns.

DATA SOURCES

The main source of data are registration records maintained by national authorities and/or UNHCR.

DATA AVAILABILITY

In 2021, UNHCR reported data on the number of returnees for 41 countries of origin and for 62 countries of asylum (UNHCR data finder,

08/06/2022). Data disaggregated by age and sex were available for 23 per cent of refugee returnees.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

UNHCR does not promote returns to countries of origin where sustainable conditions are not in place for the safe and dignified return of refugees. However, the organization recognizes the right of all individuals to return voluntarily to their country of origin.

The number of returns tends to be underestimated. Returns in some contexts are difficult to verify, as they may be self-organized and occur in areas where access is often limited.

The fourth objective of the GCR aims to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity. While this GCR indicator is not a direct measure of these conditions, there is generally a positive correlation between the number of returns and the existence of favourable conditions in the countries of origin. Obstacles to return in many countries of origin include persistent insecurity, human rights violations, the absence of basic services and/or lack of livelihood opportunities.

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

Proportion of refugees who plan to return to their country of origin in the next 12 months (Tier 2 indicator compiled with data collected through

household surveys, such as return intention surveys implemented with the support of UNHCR).

4.2.2: Proportion of returnees with legally recognized identity documents or credentials to support return

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition: This indicator is defined as the total number of refugee returnees that have legally recognized identity documents or credentials to support return. *Refugee returnees* are former refugees who have returned to their country of origin, either in a self-organized manner or in an organized fashion, but are yet to be fully re-integrated.

Rationale: The commitments made by States as part of the *Global Compact on Refugees* (GCR) emphasize the creation of enabling conditions for voluntary repatriation and the mobilization of support to facilitate sustainable reintegration.

Crossing a border and returning home is not the end of the process of achieving durable solutions for refugees: this is achieved when refugee returnees have fully re-established themselves in their country of origin, and enjoy their civil, cultural, economic, political, and social rights to the same extent as their fellow nationals and habitual residents, without discrimination on account of their displacement.

A key element for reintegration and accessing services is possession of legally recognized documents or credentials that are a proof of legal identity including nationality (acquisition, reacquisition or confirmation of an effective nationality) or lawful residence in the case of stateless persons and the consequent legal ties to the country to which refugees return. In some cases, the replacement or issuance of national identity cards or credentials will be sufficient. In other situations, multiple steps might be required to fully document a returnee's legal status and residence upon return.

By measuring the proportion of returnees with legally recognized documentation or credentials, this indicator contributes to measuring the quality of reintegration and, depending on the national context, may in some national situations provide a proxy on the extent to which returnees can access services.

Concept: As noted in paragraph 87 of the GCR, voluntary repatriation in conditions of safety and dignity remains the preferred solution in the majority of refugee situations. The overriding priorities are to promote the enabling conditions for voluntary repatriation in full respect of the principle of *non-refoulement*, to ensure the exercise of a free and informed choice and to mobilize support to underpin safe and dignified repatriation.

Voluntary repatriation is not necessarily conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin, in order not to impede the exercise of the right of refugees to return to their own country. It is equally recognized that there are situations where refugees voluntarily return outside the context of formal voluntary repatriation programmes, and that this requires support.

The indicator focuses on legally recognized documents or credentials that are proof of legal identity, including nationality or, in the case of stateless persons, lawful residence. Identity documents and credentials which establish these attributes vary from country to country. For the purpose of this indicator, legally recognized documents and credentials can include the following:

- A valid identity document or credential, including a digital credential, issued by the country of origin which establishes nationality. In the case of a stateless person, a valid identity document or credential issued by the country of origin which establishes status and legal residence
- A valid passport issued by the country of origin which establishes nationality. In the case of a stateless person, a valid stateless person’s travel document issued by the country of origin; and
- In the case of children, a birth certificate issued by the civil registry of the country of origin (see [IRRS](#), p. 95)
- Refugee ID documents or credentials, issued by the country of asylum; or
- Documents or credentials which establish that an individual is recognized as a person before the law but do not also establish nationality, or in the case of stateless persons, legal status and residence

In most countries, identity documents such as national identity cards, voter cards, passports or, in the case of children, birth certificates can provide proof of legal identity.

An identity document is any document or credential which is legally recognized as proof of identity, which may also establish the individual’s nationality or legal status and associated rights in respect of the country of origin. An identity document or credential is “legally recognized” if national law provides that it establishes legal identity including nationality or, in the case of stateless person, legal residence. Common types of identity credentials include, but are not limited to, identity cards, certificates, or unique identity numbers. A biometric identifier can also be used as a credential if it has been registered with the identity system.

For the purpose of this indicator, identity documents or credentials do not include the following:

- Refugee Convention travel documents issued by the country of asylum
- UNHCR issued documents to facilitate return (Voluntary Repatriation Form) or UNHCR issued registration document

METHODOLOGY

Computation Method:

Number of refugee returnees with legally recognized identity documents or credential during the reference period

Total number of refugee returnees during the reference period x 100

Disaggregation: This indicator is required to be disaggregated by country of origin (return), country of asylum (departure), sex, age, and disability status, if available.

Methods and Guidance: In some cases, statistics reported on refugees repatriating from the country

of asylum and those returning to the country of origin may differ. This may be due to differences in the reporting of spontaneous and organized returns. For purposes of statistical reporting, it is typically the higher number.

DATA SOURCES

In some countries, information on legally recognized documents and credentials can be obtained through official sources of national statistics, including census data and household surveys such as the

Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS). In addition, there are other related sources such as the World Bank’s Identity for Development Global [Dataset](#)

and the [Global Findex Database](#). However, these sources tend not to provide disaggregated data on refugee returnees. In countries of return therefore, there will usually be a need to support inclusion

of refugee returnees in national data collection systems, disaggregation, and/or conduct specific surveys targeting these population groups.

DATA AVAILABILITY

In 2022, data availability continues to be severely limited. Data is available only for a handful of countries, hindering the compilation of global indicators and baselines. To improve data availability for this and other relevant indicators, UNHCR has engaged with national and international partners in support of the

inclusion of refugees and displaced populations in national surveys, as well as taken the lead in the design and roll-out of household surveys targeting this population. As a result of these activities, which are still at an early stage, data availability for this indicator is expected to increase gradually in the coming years.

COMMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Measuring progress towards GCR Objective 4 using this indicator has been hampered by a lack of data. There is an urgent need to increase data availability for this indicator. However, given that refugees may return to their country of origin outside organized channels, enumerating and collecting data on refugee returnees may remain challenging. In addition, the acquisition or renewal of legal documents or credentials is generally a time-consuming process. UNHCR may also not be involved or informed of the process.

narrow in terms of measuring the ability of refugee returnees to reintegrate socially and economically (GCR outcome 4.2). This calls for exploring the use of possible complementary indicators. Furthermore, it may be useful to contextualise this indicator, taking into account the lack of legal documentation or credentials that may already exist for the general population of the countries or sub-regions when the refugees return.

More inclusion of refugee returnees in census and relevant statistical surveys conducted by national statistical offices or other national authorities, and complementary surveys targetting former displaced populations, such as those supported by UNHCR, are essential tools for filling this data gap.

The IRRS (p. 87) underlines the importance of measuring the living conditions and reintegration of refugee returnees, but also that former conflict countries often have a limited statistical capacity. The IRRS recommends that censuses and surveys in these countries include a method for identifying former refugees. The method should maintain the privacy of the refugee returnees to ensure their safety.

Although this indicator measures a key aspect of GCR objective 4, its scope remains relatively

COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

Here are examples of illustrative indicators (all Tier 2 and survey-based) that may complement the measurement of the progress towards GCR objective 4: proportion of refugee returnees and host communities with access to health services; proportion of children of refugee returnees and host communities enrolled in primary and secondary

education; proportion of refugee returnees and host communities feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood; and the proportion of children (refugee returnees and host communities) under age 5 whose births have been registered with a civil authority.

Acronyms

CRS	Creditor Reporting System
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
EGRIS	Expert Group on Refugee, IDPs, and Statelessness Statistics
GCR	Global Compact on Refugees
HBS	Household Budget Survey
IDPs	Internally Displaced Populations
ILO	International Labour Organization
IRRS	International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
NATLEX	National labour, social security, and related human rights legislation
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODA	Official development assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
proGres	Profile Global Registration System
REMIS	Refugee Education Information Management System
TOSSD	Total Official Support for Sustainable Development
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNRWA	The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East



SECOND EDITION

GLOBAL COMPACT ON REFUGEES

Indicator Framework

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Back cover:

Rohingya refugee Rofiqua Begum and her family use bottled LPG gas to cook. Previously they had to gather firewood, which damaged the environment and caused tension with the host community. She says LPG has reduced smoke in their shelter, improving the health of her four children.

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