



### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Sep 1982

Acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol

#### 1978-1979

Settled 260,000 Indochinese refugees in China

#### 1981-1982

Provided resettlement opportunities for 2,500 Lao and some Cambodian refugees from camps in Thailand

#### July 2013

China's new Exit-Entry Administration Law came into force .

#### Oct 2013

Letter of Intent signed with the Ministry of Civil Affairs regarding disaster reduction, preparedness and emergency response

### Population of concern

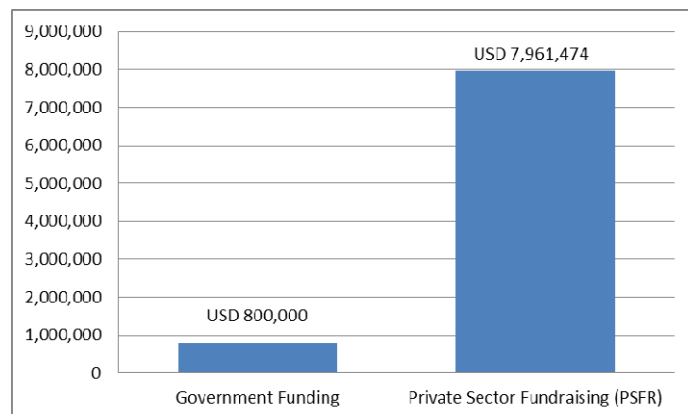
By country of origin (as of 31 December 2015)

Country	Total PoC
Viet Nam	300,895 *
Somalia	182
Nigeria	86
Iraq	52
Liberia	45
Others	362
<b>Total</b>	<b>301,622</b>

Source: UNHCR Beijing Office

\*Indo-Chinese refugees in Mainland de facto integrated pending Government regularization

### 2015 Fundraising Results



### UNHCR Presence

#### Beijing Office Staff:

- 3 international staff
- 6 national staff
- 5 affiliated staff

#### Hong Kong Office Staff:

- 10 National staff (3 PSFR)
- 12 UNOPS staff (10PSFR)

#### Offices:

- 1 Office in Beijing
- 1 Office in Hong Kong SAR



## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

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**Mainland China:** the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Civil Affairs, and the Ministry of Public Security

### **Hong Kong**

**Government:** Security Bureau, Immigration Department and Social Welfare Department

**Operational partners:** Christian Action (Chung King Mansions) and Justice Centre Hong Kong

### **Macao**

**Government partners:** Refugees Commission, Office of the Secretary for Administration and Justice and Social Welfare Bureau

**Operational partners:** Refugee Welfare Association, Caritas Macau and Macau Child Development Association

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

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### Protection & Advocacy

- The Exit-Entry Administration Law (with the Article 46 regarding refugee/asylum-seeker's documentation) was adopted on June 30 2012. It came into force on July 1, 2013. The Implementing Regulations of the above Exit-Entry Administration Law came into force on September 1, 2013. However there are no implementing regulations regarding the above Article 46, and UNHCR is lobbying for its adoption.
- Lobbying for the adoption of a comprehensive national law on asylum.
- Registering and issuing UNHCR certificates to persons of concern on an individual basis.
- Conducting individual RSD under UNHCR's mandate.
- Enhancing protection for all persons of concern
- Pursuing durable solutions for refugees in mainland China (e.g. advocating for the regularization of the Indo-Chinese refugees or facilitating resettlement to a third country for urban refugees).
- Developing the capacity of the Government of China to implement its obligations under the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.
- Promoting extension of the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol to Hong Kong Special Administration Region (HKSAR).
- Providing training on specific technical elements related to the refugee definition and determination process in support to the HKSAR authorities to ensure that cases under the Unified Screening Mechanism (USM) are properly adjudicated in accordance with accepted international standards.
- Undertaking an assessment of substantiated claimants referred from HKSAR authorities to confirm that they fall under the refugee definition.
- Pursuing durable solutions for refugees in HKSAR.
- Increasing public understanding and support by Governments and private donors for refugees worldwide.
- Improving the national protection regimes for both refugees and stateless people in the region.

### Assistance

- As the Government of China does not provide assistance to refugees, the UNHCR office in Beijing has a direct assistance programme that covers essential needs of the entire refugee population (numbering approximately 200) and exceptionally vulnerable asylum seekers in the sectors of food, shelter, health, education, and social services..
- HKSAR Social Welfare Department ("SWD") provides material support to asylum seekers and refugees in Hong Kong through a contract with International Social Service Hong Kong ("ISS"). Core assistance in the form of basic food and shelter is supplemented by contributions from a number of other private individuals and organizations.

## Public Awareness Building

- Private Sector Fund Raising (PSFR) organizes extensive activities to spread awareness among the Chinese public at large about UNHCR's work. Current activities include:
  - Introducing refugee issues in schools and universities and involving students in education or fundraising projects for the benefit of persons of concern to UNHCR.
  - Organizing activities around World Refugee Day (June 20) in Beijing, Hong Kong, and Macao with a focus on the annual Refugee Film Festival and photography exhibition.
  - Setting up a booth every July at the Hong Kong Book Fair, the largest in Asia.
  - Maintaining a website- [www.unhcr.org.hk](http://www.unhcr.org.hk) (in English as well as simplified and traditional Chinese) as a platform to illustrate UNHCR's work and appeal for support. Action taken to also establish a China Mainland website.
  - UNHCR Beijing Office supported the global campaign of Ikea and Uniqlo in favor of UNHCR also in mainland China

### ■ Social Media

Using social media to raise awareness about UNHCR's work among the Chinese public at large. The HK office recorded more than 19,485 followers on Facebook and Beijing Office with more than 72302 on Weibo as of December 2015.

### ■ Goodwill Ambassador

- A Patron since 2010, Ms. Yao Chen was appointed GWA in 2013. One of China's most popular actresses, a world's top micro-bloggers with more than 78,000,000 followers, and listed by Time Magazine in 2014 among the 100 most influential people in the world, Ms. Yao Chen supports UNHCR, inter alia, contributing to increasing awareness on the plight of refugees and UNHCR's work. She is especially influential in the Chinese-speaking world. Ms. Yao Chen has also undertaken field missions to the Philippines, Thailand, Ethiopia, Lebanon. More recently, the GWA visited Nansen Refugee Award winner, Afghan Refugee Teacher Ms. Aqeela Asifi in Pakistan in December 2015 inter alia contributing through her posts in social media to raising awareness about refugee education problems

### ■ Developing other sources of income

- In addition to the 800,000USD donated by the PRC's Government to UNHCR in 2015, the Ministry of Commerce of China announced on 27 November 2015 that Government of PRC will additionally donate 2 Million USD to UNHCR.
- While individual monthly donors collectively donate most of the funds privately raised in China, PSFR is gradually obtaining more support from the local corporate sectors, commercial chambers and foundations. A portion of the contributions is generated through online activities, mainly UNHCR Hong Kong's local website. The team is also exploring the potential of the Leadership Giving program.

Contributions from volunteers and supporters

- PSFR also relies on a team of volunteers and students who contribute significantly to UNHCR's work.

The Hong Kong SAR government has provided the office space for UNHCR Sub-Office in Hong Kong.

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