Using this Handbook

Each section of the Handbook has been written so as to be as self-contained as possible so that it can be read either in part or in its entirety. It is divided into three parts.



PART ONE sets the context for planning resettlement programs. It discusses the nature and consequences of the refugee and resettlement experiences and their implications for planning, and defines broad planning goals. The features distinguishing planning environments and resettlement programs are also described to provide readers with a context for considering some overriding planning issues as well as to evaluate the relevance of specific ideas in the Handbook in their local environment. This Part concludes with a Chapter describing the basic steps involved in establishing a new resettlement program.



PART TWO is divided into 11 Chapters dealing with the individual components that together make up a resettlement program (see Table of Contents). Each begins with a checklist which foreshadows the content of the Chapter while at the same time providing a summary of the key activities to consider. Each concludes with a list of 'good practice features'. The checklists distinguish between those activities which are a priority in the establishment phase of a resettlement program and those which can be developed as resources permit and the program matures.



PART THREE explores some of the particular issues which need to be taken into account to ensure that the needs of all resettled refugees are considered in the planning process. It has been included recognising that, as is the case with the general community, there is significant diversity within refugee populations in terms of gender, age, special needs and past experience.



Throughout the text, particular issues of concern or strategies of interest to emerging resettlement countries are highlighted in specially marked boxes.



TAKE CARE boxes draw attention to issues which, while important, can be readily overlooked.