Resettlement is a protection tool for refugees whose lives and liberty are at risk; a durable solution alongside local integration and voluntary repatriation; and an expression of solidarity with those developing countries that host the majority (85%) of the world’s refugees.

Refugee resettlement is defined by UNHCR as ‘the selection and transfer of refugees from a state in which they have sought protection to a third country that admits them – as refugees – with a permanent residence status’.

IOM works closely with governments, UNHCR, NGOs and other partners to help refugees in need.

For more than 65 years, IOM has played a vital role in resettlement providing a range of supporting activities upon request of the receiving states.

These include case processing; health assessments and travel health assistance; movement and travel operations; and pre-departure and post-arrival integration support.

In 2018, IOM has assisted governments to receive more than 87,000 refugees globally through resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes (HAP).

Countries in the European Economic Area alone have received 26,852 refugees through national and EU programmes.

Resettlement and humanitarian admission to the EEA 2018
**Gender of beneficiaries - 2018**

- Male: 51%
- Female: 49%

**Age of beneficiaries - 2018**

- Adult: 48%
- Child (<18): 52%

**Nationality of beneficiaries - 2018**

- Syrian: 75%
- DRC: 7%
- Eritrean: 4%
- Afghani: 2%
- Sudanese: 4%
- Other: 8%

**Resettlement and humanitarian admission to the EEA**

**Top 10 departure countries**

- Lebanon: 7,929
- Turkey: 7,656
- Jordan: 3,913
- Egypt: 1,438
- Uganda: 1,276
- Niger: 1,084
- Iraq: 568
- Chad: 567
- Burundi: 450
- Iran: 257

**Resettlement and humanitarian admission to the EEA**

Beneficiaries supported by IOM (2014-2018)

- 2014: 11,156
- 2015: 14,265
- 2016: 17,816
- 2017: 26,673
- 2018: 26,852