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**Congressional Presentation Document**  
**Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)**  
**FY 2016**

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**Migration and Refugee Assistance & Emergency Refugee  
And Migration Assistance Fund**  
(\$ in Thousands)

	FY2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
<b>Total MRA</b>	<b>3,058,980</b>	<b>3,059,000</b>	<b>2,453,595</b>

<b>Total Enduring - MRA</b>	<b>1,774,645</b>	<b>931,886</b>	<b>1,634,595</b>
<b>Overseas Assistance</b>	1,378,465	*	1,146,895
Africa	408,648	*	454,000
East Asia	69,332	*	54,600
Europe	48,651	*	31,000
Near East	480,909	*	329,400
South Asia	66,875	*	72,900
Western Hemisphere	61,100	*	45,300
Protection Priorities	215,450	*	139,695
Migration	27,500	*	20,000
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>	34,500	*	35,000
<b>Humanitarian Migrants to Israel</b>	10,680	10,000	10,000
<b>Refugee Admissions</b>	351,000	*	442,700

<b>Total Overseas Contingency Operations - MRA</b>	<b>1,284,335</b>	<b>2,127,114</b>	<b>819,000</b>
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<b>Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>
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*\*Final allocation of FY 2015 appropriation pending*

# U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration



FY 2016 Statement by  
Assistant Secretary Anne C. Richard

The Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) acts on behalf of the American people to save lives, ease suffering, and uphold human dignity for millions of the most vulnerable people in the world. With appropriated funds, PRM fosters U.S. global leadership in support of humanitarian goals, policies and operations. Together with USAID, we provide the resources to mount effective international responses to crises and conflict.

PRM's "populations of concern" include conflict victims, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), and people at risk because they are stateless or are migrants, victimized by crime or vulnerable to exploitation. Our work manifests the enduring compassion of the American people. And it is possible because of Congress's unwavering, bipartisan support.

PRM's diplomacy and assistance programs aid persecuted and uprooted people by raising awareness of their plight, funding emergency relief, and promoting long-term solutions. We work with international and non-governmental organizations and foreign governments to build global partnerships, and identify and encourage best practices. We champion adherence to humanitarian principles in the delivery of aid and strive to integrate an appreciation for them into our nation's foreign and national security policies. PRM's policies and programs help protect and advance American interests. PRM's ability to galvanize global humanitarian relief efforts helps ensure that other nations support them. Our aid and influence advance human rights, protect innocent lives, alleviate conditions that fuel strife and instability, and thus promote peace and security around the world.

## Unprecedented Challenges Worldwide

The global demands confronting PRM's programs and staff are vast and growing. There are 51 million forcibly displaced people in the world - more people than at any time since the 1940s, when the last World War raged across three continents. Conflicts seem more protracted than ever before. New ones erupt, while the old ones fester. These are primarily civil wars, disputes that seem to defy traditional political solutions and international consensus. And all too often the violence is indiscriminate. Rather than sparing women, children, innocent civilians and relief workers, some militants are targeting them intentionally.

## Meeting Urgent Needs Remains at the Core of PRM's Work

PRM is working on many fronts, **responding to new emergencies, persistent crises, and simmering conflicts.** The war in Syria, now in its fourth year, is the worst human-made calamity in a generation. It has driven more than half of Syria's population, roughly 12 million people, from their homes. More than 3.8 million refugees from Syria have fled to neighboring countries, and most of them live outside of camps, in cities and villages. One quarter of Lebanon's entire population is now made up of Syrian refugees, more than 600,000 Syrians have sought safety in Jordan, and Turkey now hosts over 1.6 million Syrian refugees. These countries need sustained international support to help cover the escalating costs of hosting so many refugees. The United States has contributed more than \$3 billion in humanitarian aid since the start of the Syria crisis, more than any other donor. Nearly half of this money was from the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA)

account and the MRA/Overseas Contingency Operations account. PRM has funded programs to meet the needs of refugees, and to get food, water, medical care, and other urgently needed supplies and services to besieged civilians inside Syria.

This past year, PRM also responded to other large-scale emergencies. The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant swept across roughly a third of Iraq, imposing a reign of terror. Civil wars have spread chaos and suffering across South Sudan and the Central African Republic. Bloody conflict in areas of southeastern Ukraine bordering Russia displaced hundreds of thousands of people and left thousands dead.

Renewed fighting broke out in Gaza between Hamas and Israel. And a flood of unaccompanied children fleeing violence in Central America risked their lives to reach our southwestern border. Meanwhile, protracted conflicts and a legacy of strife or persecution in countries such as Burma, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Afghanistan, have left large populations displaced and in continued need of help.

In 2014, in addition to providing humanitarian aid, PRM conducted vigorous diplomacy to influence foreign governments and international bodies on humanitarian issues. We helped persuade nations adjacent to conflict zones to keep borders open and aid flowing. We have repeatedly argued that aid agencies should be able to work unhindered inside Syria, Sudan, South Sudan, Iraq and in other places where governments or armed groups prevent aid from reaching people in need.

Where international funding ran short, PRM encouraged new donors to come forward and give generously. Some countries responded to United Nations humanitarian appeals for the first time.

### **Protecting People and Working Toward Solutions**

In addition to responding to the immediate, basic needs of those displaced by crisis and conflict, PRM will continue to work inside the State Department and across the U.S. government, at the United Nations, and internationally to promote policies and initiatives that save lives and protect human rights and dignity. Our goals include addressing global problems, and protecting the most vulnerable populations.

**Providing long-term solutions:** Many refugees today need more than temporary shelter and protection in camps. Today, two-thirds of the refugees assisted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) live outside of camps. Many refugees have lived outside of their country for over two decades. So, in addition to life-saving assistance, some PRM programs provide educational and vocational opportunities to help refugees support themselves and earn a decent living -- when they return home or while they live in exile.

**Protection for women and girls:** Women and girls caught in crises are highly vulnerable to violence, abuse, and exploitation. Our goal is not just to offer services to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), but to stop these abuses from occurring. Secretary Kerry launched the Safe from the Start Initiative in 2013, we expanded it in 2014, and we will continue it in 2015 and 2016. This funding is used to hire and deploy expert staff to crisis zones, offer mobile GBV services, and take measures such as improving lighting at camps to deter GBV. PRM will continue to work in a variety of international fora, building on the growing consensus that GBV perpetuates poverty and conflict and can and must be stopped. Our efforts to prevent GBV are closely linked to our focus on protecting and empowering women and girls and to advance reproductive rights through **population and development policies that respect human rights, promote gender equity, and improve public health.**

**More humane management of international migration:** Every year, thousands of journeys that begin in desperation end tragically in death. This past year, the number of migrants that perished during dangerous journeys reached 4,868 – twice as many as in 2013. PRM is working with other governments and organizations to find ways to save lives and protect the most vulnerable migrants. Together we are working to crack down on human smugglers and traffickers, and discourage dangerous migration, in part by promoting safe, legal and orderly alternatives.

**Addressing the global problem of statelessness:** At least 10 million people in the world lack citizenship in any country and over one third of the stateless are children. Stateless people suffer a host of dangers and indignities. Lack of citizenship may deny them schooling, health care, social services, lawful employment, travel opportunities, and equal protection under the law. We are working together with others in the Department and USAID, through programs such as the Secretary’s Women’s Nationality Initiative, to help the stateless and we are strong supporters of UNHCR’s mandate to prevent and reduce statelessness around the world.

**Resettling refugees:** Many refugees are never able to return home, and for them, resettlement in a third country may be the best option. The United States continues to be the world’s largest resettlement country, and our FY 2016 budget request will ensure that we remain the global leader in offering new homes and a new start to the most vulnerable refugees

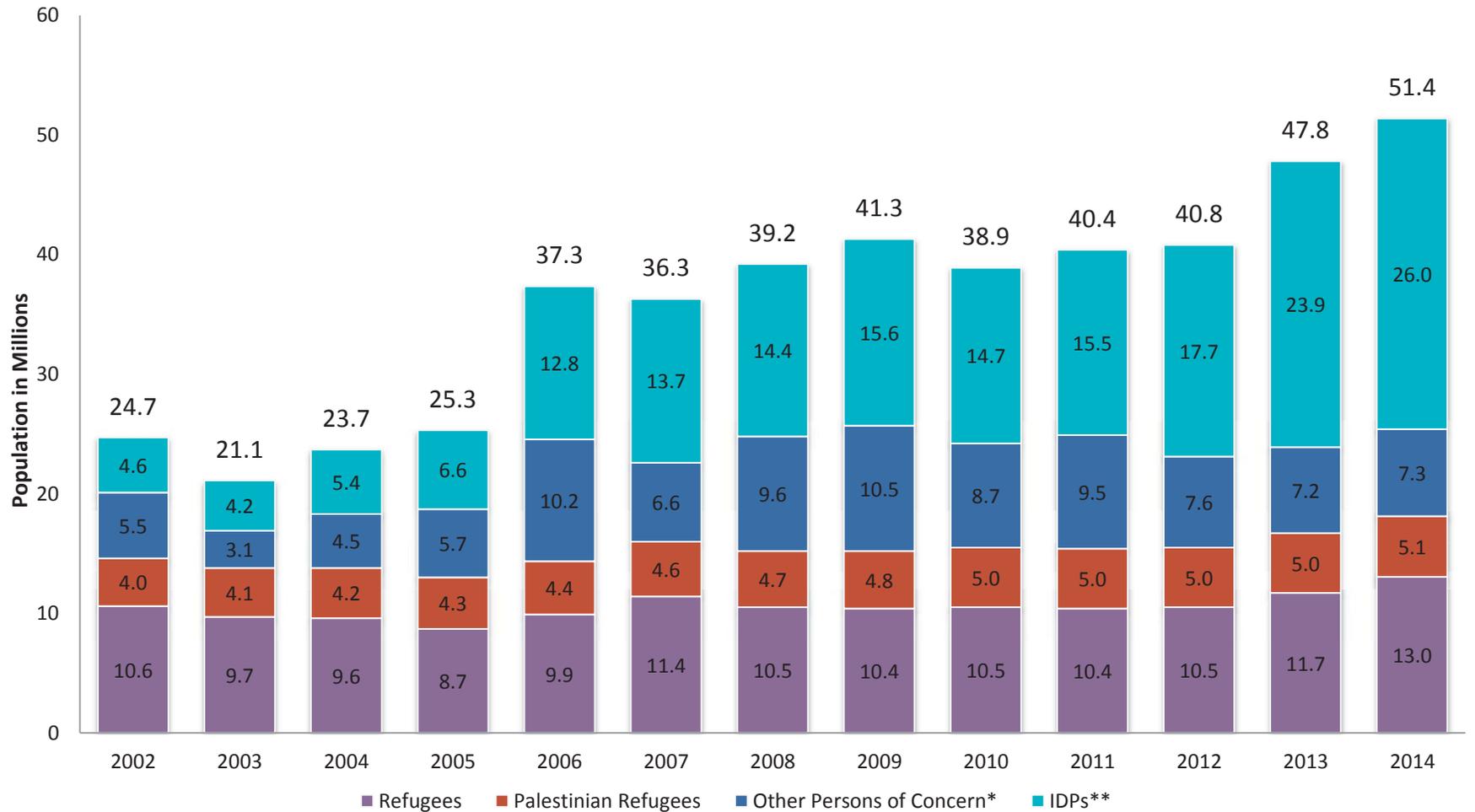
worldwide annual ceiling. This past fiscal year, we admitted more Iraqis than in any previous year (nearly 20,000) and more refugees from Africa in any year since 2006 (17,500). We worked with the Department of Homeland Security and law enforcement and intelligence agencies to prevent the refugee admissions program from being exploited by terrorists, and we provided refugee benefits to 10,241 Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs) – a record number. We designed a new program for Central American youth at risk of the widespread and indiscriminate violence in their own countries so that they could be reunited with their lawfully present parents in the United States.

**We are determined to meet these daunting challenges in the year ahead and will continue to rely on the steadfast support of Congress and the American people.** In a world where violence and persecution imperil millions, PRM’s work embodies the capacity of the American people and our government to be generous in spirit and noble in purpose.



*PRM Assistant Secretary Anne C. Richard meets with Syrian refugee children at the Khalda Registration Center, Jordan, January 2014*

## Populations of Concern, 2003-2014



\*Other population of concern include asylum seekers, returnees, and stateless persons. These figures do not include conflict victims assisted by ICRC and vulnerable migrants.

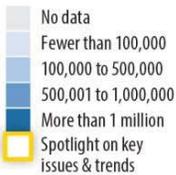
\*\*Includes only IDPs protected and assisted by UNHCR.

# PRM Global Impacts: 2014 Highlights

**More than 51 million people worldwide** had fled their homes by mid-2014 due to conflict, persecution, and other abuses. These refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), conflict victims, stateless persons, and vulnerable migrants were the principal recipients of U.S. humanitarian assistance programmed through the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM).

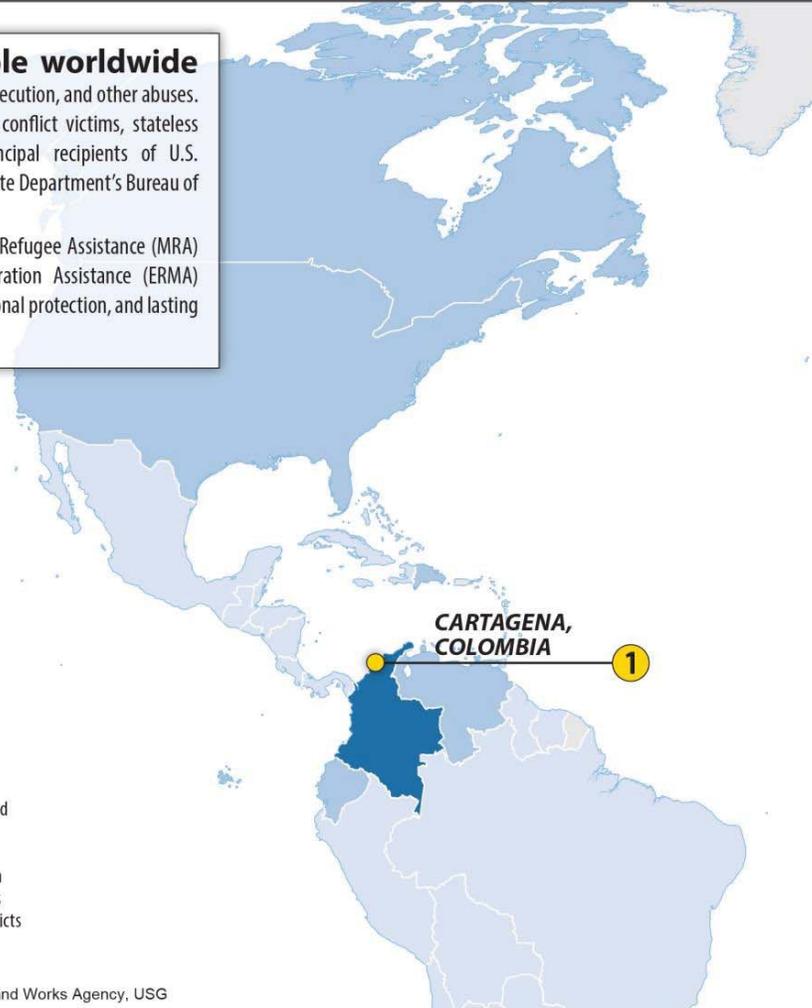
In FY 2014, nearly \$3 billion from the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) and the President's Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) accounts provided life-sustaining assistance, international protection, and lasting solutions to the world's most vulnerable populations.

## Total populations of concern by country of asylum as of June 2014\*



\* All population figures are estimates based on data released by UNHCR in June 2014 and by UNRWA in January 2015. These figures do not reflect population movements in late 2014, such as displacement as a result of conflicts in Syria, Iraq, and elsewhere.

Sources: UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Relief and Works Agency, USG



### 1 CARTAGENA ANNIVERSARY: HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY

2014 marked the 30th anniversary of the 1984 Cartagena Declaration on Refugees, the landmark regional refugee instrument that broadened the refugee definition for Latin America and proposed new approaches to the humanitarian needs of refugees and displaced persons. PRM's humanitarian diplomacy and support of international organizations such as UNHCR have helped to implement this Declaration. As part of the anniversary celebrations, 28 countries adopted the Brazil Declaration and Plan of Action, agreeing to work together to uphold the highest international and regional protection standards, implement innovative solutions for refugees and displaced persons, and end the plight of stateless persons in the region.

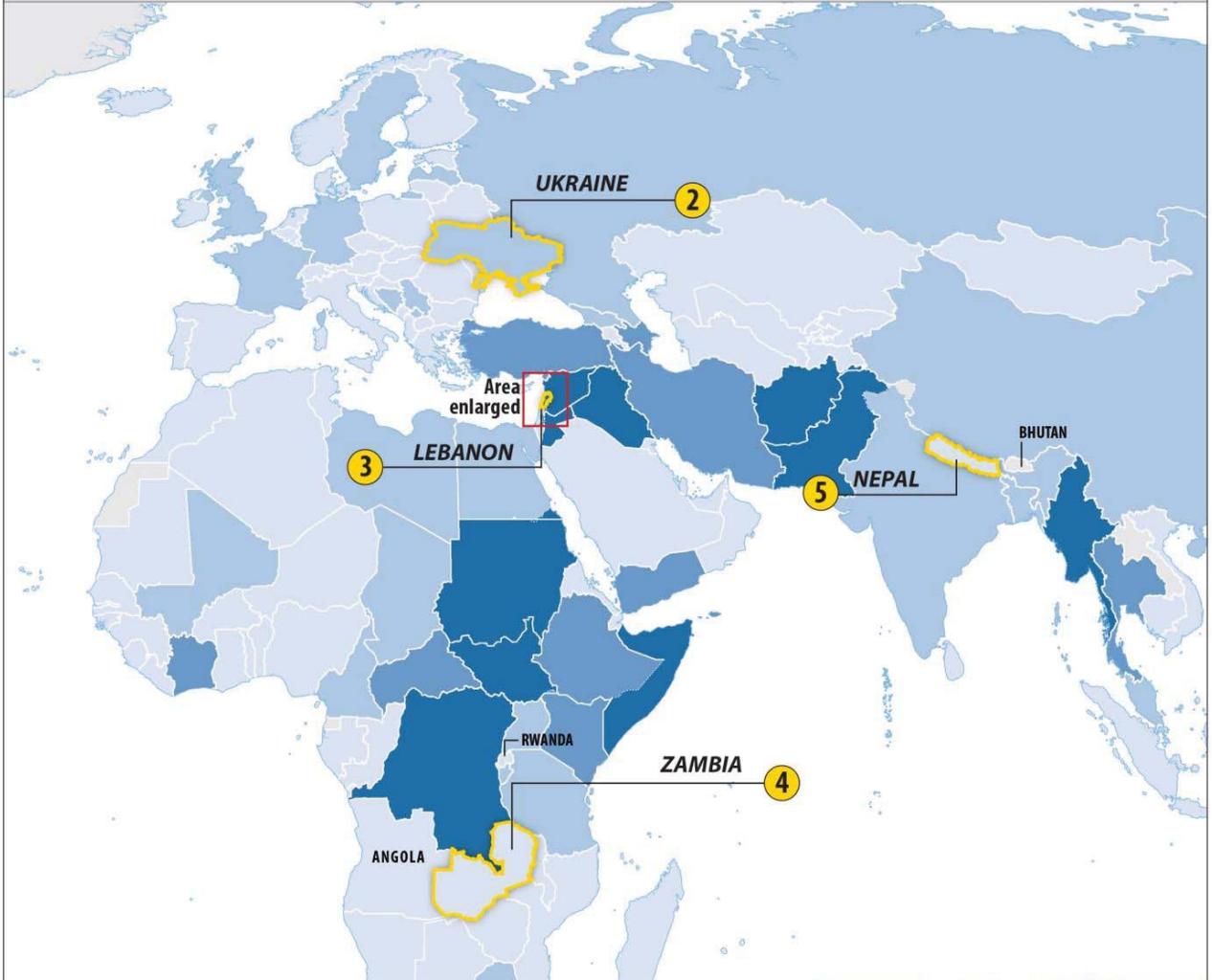
### 2 UKRAINE: EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Ongoing violence in Eastern Ukraine has forced nearly 1.5 million people to flee their homes. PRM supports programs to help internally displaced persons (IDPs), conflict victims, and refugees in neighboring countries access emergency assistance, social services, and find emergency shelter, while also supporting livelihoods and psychosocial programming to foster greater self-sufficiency. PRM funds will also facilitate and support IDP returns to Eastern Ukraine where possible. U.S. diplomatic efforts to support the emergency response effort have helped get aid to vulnerable populations in separatist areas, where few aid organizations are present.

### 3 LEBANON: HOST COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Syria's neighbors are hosting over 3.8 million Syrian refugees, with over 1.1 million in Lebanon representing over one quarter of Lebanon's entire population. The U.S. Government and other donors are working to link humanitarian and development assistance efforts, to support governments and communities hosting Syrians fleeing the conflict. In 2014 in Lebanon, 19.6% of the resources mobilized under the UN's Regional Refugee Response Plan (\$171.2 million), was directed to host community and institutional support. \$77.9 million was directed to national level support, and \$93.3 million to community-level support.

Names and boundary representation are not necessarily authoritative  
**UNCLASSIFIED**



**4 ZAMBIA: LOCAL INTEGRATION**

U.S. contributions to UNHCR in FY 2014 supported the local integration of former Angolan refugees in Zambia. Zambia has pledged to locally integrate up to 10,000 former Angolan refugees and already approved over 6,000 for permanent residence status. Zambia is also considering local integration for some 4,000 former Rwandan refugees. Local integration offers an important durable solution for these populations who fled conflicts decades ago and seek a permanent home in their country of asylum.

**5 BHUTANESE IN NEPAL: REFUGEE ADMISSIONS**

In December 2014, the 80,000th refugee from Bhutan departed from Nepal for resettlement in the United States. The United States, in close coordination with the government of Nepal, UNHCR, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), began resettling refugees from Bhutan residing in eastern Nepal in 2007. Since the first Bhutanese refugees departed Nepal seven years ago, more than 94,000 have been resettled in Australia, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Some of the 80,000 Bhutanese who have been resettled in the United States have already become naturalized American citizens.



February 12, 2015 - U1177 STATE (HIU)



## Migration and Refugee Assistance Overview

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,109,000</b>	<b>3,109,000</b>	<b>2,503,595</b>	<b>-605,405</b>
<b>Overseas Contingency Operations</b>	<b>1,284,355</b>	<b>2,127,114</b>	<b>819,000</b>	<b>-1,308,114</b>
Migration and Refugee Assistance	1,284,355	2,127,114	819,000	-1,308,114
<b>Enduring/Core Programs</b>	<b>1,824,645</b>	<b>981,886</b>	<b>1,684,595</b>	<b>702,709</b>
Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance	50,000	50,000	50,000	-
Migration and Refugee Assistance	1,774,645	931,886	1,634,595	702,709

<sup>1/</sup> Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235)

### Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA)

The U.S. government's international humanitarian programs provide critical protection and assistance to some of the world's most vulnerable people: refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless persons, vulnerable migrants, and victims of conflict. Reflecting the American people's dedication to assisting those in need, programs funded through the MRA account save lives and ease suffering while upholding human dignity. They help stabilize volatile situations and prevent or mitigate conditions that breed extremism and violence, and are an essential component of U.S. foreign policy. The FY 2016 MRA request of \$1.6 billion will fund contributions to key international humanitarian organizations such as UNHCR and ICRC, as well as support to non-governmental organization partners to address pressing humanitarian needs overseas and to resettle refugees in the United States. MRA-funded programs meet basic needs to sustain life; provide protection and assistance to the most vulnerable, particularly women and children; assist refugees with voluntary repatriation, local integration, or permanent resettlement in a third country; and foster the humane and effective management of international migration policies.

The FY 2016 MRA request also includes \$819.0 million under the Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) heading for humanitarian needs related to Syrian and Iraqi displacement.

### Key Interventions:

- **Overseas Assistance (\$1.15 billion):** MRA programs aim to save lives and ease suffering, achieve durable solutions for populations of concern, protect vulnerable populations, and exert leadership in the international community. PRM provides humanitarian assistance in response to complex emergencies, in protracted situations, and in support of voluntary refugee and IDP return, and local integration. Protection strategies are integrated across multiple sectors including: water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, food, health and nutrition, education, livelihoods, and camp management. PRM-supported programs are designed to identify and protect the most vulnerable within affected populations, such as single heads of households, children, the elderly, and the disabled to ensure that they have equal access to life-sustaining goods and services. Coupled with U.S. diplomatic efforts, these programs seek to: help vulnerable populations maintain a basic level of dignity and self-reliance; prevent the forcible return of refugees to a place where their lives or freedom would be threatened; negotiate access for humanitarian agencies to operate safely and reach populations affected by conflict; resolve protracted refugee situations; prevent and reduce statelessness; and, promote adherence to international humanitarian and human rights law. PRM also provides core support to multilateral partners to build a strong international humanitarian response.

- Refugee Admissions (\$442.7 million): MRA programs aim to find durable solutions for populations of concern. Resettlement is a key element of refugee protection and an important solution for refugees when repatriation and local integration are not possible. As the country with the largest resettlement program in the world, the United States welcomes the most vulnerable refugees from a diverse array of backgrounds. Through non-governmental organization partners, these funds will help refugees and certain other categories of special immigrants to resettle in communities across the United States.
- Humanitarian Migrants to Israel (\$10.0 million): This funding supports the goal of finding durable solutions for populations of concern by maintaining U.S. government support for relocation and integration of Jewish migrants, including those from the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and Africa, to Israel.
- Administrative Expenses (\$35.0 million): PRM is responsible for the oversight of all programs funded through MRA enduring and OCO appropriations as well as any funding implemented from other accounts by PRM. Funds requested for FY 2016 will be used to ensure sound stewardship of resources and maximum impact for beneficiary populations and American taxpayers by stressing accountability and transparency in its management and monitoring of these critical humanitarian programs. The largest portion of administrative expenses will cover the salary, benefits, and travel costs of U.S. direct hire staff, including regional refugee coordinators posted in U.S. Embassies around the world.

*“Refugee crises reveal what is worst and best about us. The huts set on fire, the apartment buildings flattened, the bullets sprayed at innocent civilians, show the depths of our capacity for hatred and callousness. But those who aid and protect refugees demonstrate the opposite: our potential for valor and compassion.”*

*- President Barack Obama, World Refugee Day, June 20, 2014*

## Overseas Assistance

### FY 2016 Request

The world is witnessing the highest level of forced displacement since World War II, as people continue to flee intractable conflicts. Catastrophic wars in Syria, Iraq, the Central African Republic, and South Sudan, and long-standing refugee crises elsewhere, are stretching the international community's capacity to respond.

Most of the FY 2016 request for MRA will provide USG contributions to four international organizations to meet their requirements for calendar year 2016. These are the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The U.S. demonstrates strong leadership and commitment to these institutions through both proactive engagement in governing bodies and robust funding. Our expectation is that other donors – in the spirit of responsibility sharing – will provide commensurate support. Being an early and reliable contributor to these organizations also ensures that they can respond quickly to emergencies throughout the world to meet humanitarian needs.

UNHCR is an indispensable partner for the USG and a critical player in effective multilateral humanitarian response. The United Nations 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol give UNHCR a mandate to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and stateless persons and to provide lasting solutions to their displacement. UNHCR's global network, its staff in 125 countries, and its partnerships with other humanitarian organizations, provide protection, solutions, life-saving assistance, and advocacy for more than 46 million persons of concern. This includes millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs), pursuant to UN humanitarian reforms adopted in 2005. UNHCR programs provide legal and physical protection, and meet urgent needs for water, sanitation, shelter, food, health care, and primary education. UNHCR also plays an essential role in seeking permanent solutions for refugees. It supports safe and voluntary return and reintegration operations, facilitates local integration of refugees into host countries, and assists with third country resettlement.

ICRC has a unique status as an independent humanitarian organization mandated by the Geneva Conventions to protect conflict victims. Its respected neutrality, independence, and impartiality enable it to operate in war zones and often gain access to areas – and thus to people in need – that no one else can reach. This makes ICRC an invaluable partner in responding to humanitarian needs. The organization's primary goals are to protect and assist civilian victims of armed conflict (including millions of IDPs), trace missing persons, reunite separated family members, monitor treatment of prisoners of war, and disseminate information on the principles of international humanitarian law.

*“Even during challenging times, humanitarians must persevere. We must defend and rally support for humanitarian principles. We must attract new donors from across the globe, collaborate more, and seek new ways to respond nimbly and effectively.”*

*- PRM Assistant Secretary Anne C. Richard, December 31, 2014*

UNRWA has the sole mandate from the United Nations to provide education, health, relief, and social services to approximately five million registered Palestinian refugees residing in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the West Bank, and Gaza. UNRWA also provides emergency food, health, and other assistance to vulnerable Palestinian refugees during humanitarian crises, such as the war in Syria. U.S. support for UNRWA directly contributes to the U.S. strategic interest of meeting the Palestinians' humanitarian needs while promoting their self-sufficiency. UNRWA plays a stabilizing role in the Middle East through its assistance programs, serving as an important counterweight to extremist elements. Given UNRWA's unique humanitarian role in areas where terrorist organizations are active, the U.S. Department of State continues to monitor UNRWA closely to ensure that it takes all possible measures to keep terrorists from benefitting from U.S. government funding.

IOM is the leading international organization on migration and an important partner in advancing the U.S. policy objective of promoting orderly and humane migration. IOM works primarily in six service areas: assisted voluntary returns and reintegration; counter-trafficking; migration and health; transportation; labor migration; and technical cooperation on migration. International migration issues reflect and affect global trends, such as economic downturns, climate change, peace and security, and global health threats. U.S. government diplomatic engagement with IOM and our support for its assistance programs are critical.

MRA funds may also be provided to other international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to meet specific program needs and objectives. Other international organizations receiving MRA funds in the past include the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Program (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the UN Development Program (UNDP), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Of the 65 NGOs receiving MRA funds for overseas assistance in FY 2014, the top 10 recipients were the International Rescue Committee, International Medical Corps, Mercy Corps, Danish Refugee Council, Catholic Relief Services, International Relief and Development, Norwegian Refugee Council, Save the Children Federation, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, and Premiere Urgence-Aide Medicale Internationale. Funding for NGO programs typically covers a 12-month period, but multi-year funding is possible and helps facilitate planning when crises and displacement are protracted.

The U.S. Department of State may reallocate funds among regions or organizations within the Overseas Assistance request in response to changing requirements.



*Assistant Secretary Richard meets with IOM Director General William Swing, former European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva, and UNHCR High Commissioner Antonio Guterres at a donor meeting in Kuwait - January, 2014.*

## Assistance Programs in Africa

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2015 Estimate <sup>2/</sup>	FY 2016 Request <sup>3/</sup>	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	408,648	*	454,000	45,352

<sup>1</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2013 and FY 2014 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds and \$50 million in Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance funds were used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons, and conflict victims in Africa.

<sup>2</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2014 and FY 2015 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds will be used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons, and conflict victims in Africa.

<sup>3</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2015 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds will be used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons, and conflict victims in Africa.

### FY 2016 Request

The FY 2016 MRA request for Africa will enable the Bureau and its humanitarian partners to save lives and ease the suffering of African refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other victims of conflict. MRA funds will support UNHCR’s operations to provide protection and assistance and find durable solutions for populations of concern across the continent. Currently these people number more than 13 million, including nearly four million refugees and asylum seekers and 7.7 million IDPs. The request also will support ICRC operations in 30 countries in Africa to protect and assist conflict victims and promote compliance with international humanitarian law. Humanitarian needs are expected to remain high in FY 2016 due to continued conflict in the Central African Republic (CAR), South Sudan, Nigeria, Sudan, Libya, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Somalia. MRA funds will help maintain protection and assistance programs for refugees and conflict-affected populations in these insecure environments. Top priorities include maintaining first asylum, keeping refugee camps secure and neutral, preventing gender-based violence in all its forms, and achieving durable solutions to displacement whenever possible. In settings where safe, voluntary repatriation is taking place, the U.S. Department of State will lay the groundwork for longer-term development by ensuring that basic services are available in communities of return.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- PRM financial support and humanitarian advocacy were critical in mitigating the loss of life and suffering caused by two acute emergencies that broke out within days of each other in December 2013 and continued in 2014: communal violence and atrocities in the CAR that many feared could lead to genocide, and a new civil war in South Sudan, as well as by the depredations of the Boko Haram terrorist group in the Nigeria region and by the ongoing impact of conflicts in Mali, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and Somalia.
- PRM responded to the CAR crisis by providing more than \$70 million in assistance for civilians fleeing the widening conflict, including IDPs and refugees and returned migrants who sought refuge in Chad, Cameroon, the DRC, and the Republic of the Congo. PRM advocated for improved protection of civilians in the CAR-- a principle that is a key part of the mandate of the new UN peacekeeping force that was deployed along with thousands of other international troops in the country. In an extraordinary move to save lives, UNHCR facilitated the evacuation of thousands of severely at-risk Central Africans caught in Muslim enclaves, taking some of them as far as neighboring Chad in order to assure their safety. With PRM support, ICRC, UNHCR, and partners coordinated shelter, food, water, and medical assistance to more than 425,000 CAR refugees and some 500,000 IDPs inside CAR.

*“I’ve spoken with heroes in Juba who are today doing everything they can to provide an estimated 3.9 million South Sudanese with food and save an entire generation from famine.”*

*- Secretary John F. Kerry, World Humanitarian Day, August 19, 2014*

These agencies worked to prevent and respond to gender-based violence while meeting urgent, life-saving needs. The CAR crisis also affected thousands of migrants from neighboring countries and third-country nationals who were caught in the conflict; PRM assistance to IOM supported evacuation and basic return assistance for more than 125,000 of these vulnerable individuals.

- As a result of the war in South Sudan, nearly 500,000 South Sudanese sought refuge in neighboring countries, while 1.5 million were internally displaced. PRM provided more than \$232 million in assistance for IDPs and refugees in South Sudan, and South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda. The funding allowed international and non-governmental organizations to provide refugees and IDPs with access to clean water and sanitation; food, health care, and essential household items; gender-based violence prevention and response programs; critical services to treat malnutrition; distribution of seeds, tools, and agricultural support kits; new employment skills training; and programs to protect children, including education; and supported efforts to reunite families that had been torn apart.
- Mali has not fully recovered from the compound effects of the Tuareg rebellion, coup, and subsequent territorial seizure of northern Mali by extremist groups. In FY 2014, humanitarian organizations were still responding to the consequences of the crisis that had engulfed Mali. During the crisis, refugees arrived in neighboring countries with alarmingly high rates of malnutrition. In response, UNHCR employed a



*PRM Assistant Secretary Anne C. Richard meets with refugee children in Shire, Ethiopia.*

comprehensive approach to actively manage malnutrition cases, lowering the Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate among refugees in Niger from emergency levels over 21 percent in 2012 to an average GAM rate of 8.3 percent by 2014. PRM also supported ICRC's health, sanitation, and relief efforts for conflict-affected Malians. This included supporting a medical team at the hospital in Gao and strengthening six health centers in northern Mali, providing care to 52,000 people and allowing 17,000 children to receive their first dose of polio vaccine in 2014. ICRC was also able to assist nearly half a million conflict-affected Malians with food, household essentials, and water.

- In addition to effective emergency response, seeking durable solutions and providing basic services for refugees languishing in protracted displacement while awaiting political resolution of the conflicts from which they fled were made possible by MRA-funded assistance programs and diplomatic engagement. In 2014 voluntary return of DR Congolese refugees from the Republic of the Congo (ROC) was concluded thanks to PRM financial support to fill the final gap in financing household reintegration packages. Permanent local integration of former Angolan refugees into Zambia was also advanced with PRM support.

## **FY 2015 Objectives**

- The core objectives are to: maintain asylum space even as some African countries are feeling overwhelmed by continuing refugee inflows – sometimes from multiple neighbors, ensure that all persons of concern are “safe from the start” when new emergencies occur, reach and sustain basic international standards of assistance, address particularly vulnerable refugees such as those with disabilities, prevent militarization of refugee and IDP camps, push for self-sufficiency wherever possible, ensure peaceful coexistence between uprooted and host populations, and achieve genuinely durable solutions. Among specific examples of FY 2015 objectives:

- In South Sudan, PRM will continue to work with UNHCR and host countries to formulate long-term plans for addressing the needs of South Sudanese IDPs and refugees, including expanding educational and livelihoods opportunities.
- Enhance efforts in CAR to protect conflict-affected individuals from violence, including attacks, sexual assaults, and child recruitment into armed groups.
- As conditions allow and if security improves in Mali, PRM will support UNHCR efforts to facilitate the voluntary return of refugees to their homes, while maintaining assistance for refugees who remain displaced in the region. If the conflict does not end, PRM will continue to work with UNHCR and host countries to formulate long-term plans for addressing the needs of displaced Malians and, as possible and where appropriate, host communities.
- PRM will respond to emerging needs as a result of the humanitarian crisis in northeastern Nigeria, supporting protection and assistance to IDPs and Nigerian refugees in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.
- Ensure refugees are included in Ebola preparedness and response plans in the region and first asylum is maintained amidst the crisis.
- Support voluntary return and reintegration for those Somali refugees who can return safely.
- Support local integration opportunities for refugees in Southern Africa, particularly in Namibia and Zambia.
- Encourage the government of Tanzania to complete the formal naturalization of the 1972-era Burundi caseload.
- Improve protection of, and assistance to, refugees, migrants, asylum-seekers, and IDPs in North Africa, for example, helping to improve the legal framework for addressing asylum-seekers as well as mixed migration and irregular movements through Algeria and Morocco.



*USAID/DCHA Assistant Administrator Nancy Lindborg and State/PRM Deputy Assistant Secretary Catherine Wiesner meet with South Sudanese IDPs living at a United Nations Protection of Civilians site in Juba, South Sudan, March 2014.*

## Assistance Programs in East Asia

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	69,332	*	54,600	-14,732

### FY 2016 Request

The FY 2016 request will enable humanitarian partners to save lives and alleviate human suffering in East Asia through programs that protect and assist highly vulnerable populations. These include Burmese throughout the region, including Rohingya and Kachin populations, as well as North Koreans outside the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) – in accordance with the North Korean Human Rights Act.

Burmese are the single largest refugee group in East Asia. There are currently 630,000 Burmese refugees, asylum seekers, and other persons of concern in Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh, India, and China as well as over 800,000 stateless Rohingya in Burma and some 490,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Burma. The FY 2016 MRA request will help UNHCR and ICRC improve humanitarian conditions for Burmese, vulnerable Rohingya, and other ethnic minorities within Burma displaced by ongoing conflict. Continued MRA support for NGO partners working along the Thailand-Burma border will help ensure food security and maintain the health and nutritional status of refugees until conditions within Burma allow for safe, voluntary return. The Bureau will lead by advocating with the Burmese government and other host governments in the region to respect the rights of refugees, IDPs, and vulnerable migrants.

*“From Syria to Burma to central Africa, more than 50 million people have been driven from their homes, and forced to seek refuge from violent conflict, political, religious or ethnic persecution... Every person fleeing their home deserves compassion and help, and to live with dignity.”*

*- U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power, World Refugee Day, June 20, 2014*

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- At the urging of the U.S. government and others, the Government of Bangladesh released a National Rohingya Strategy in February 2014, which offers an opportunity to improve protection and assistance to hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees who fled violence in Burma. During 2014 PRM partners, including IOM, UNHCR, and NGOs, played an instrumental role in improving protection of and assistance to over 32,000 registered Rohingya refugees in two official camps and 200,000-500,000 unregistered Rohingya residing in makeshift settlements, towns and villages in Cox’s Bazar District of Bangladesh. As part of this effort, WFP established an electronic voucher program through which registered refugees purchase locally procured foods, empowering them to make their own dietary choices.
- PRM and its partners significantly increased protection and assistance for the growing number of urban refugee and asylum seekers in East Asia. With PRM support, UNHCR established health insurance programs for urban refugees in Thailand and Malaysia. In FY 2014, PRM began funding NGOs to protect and assist urban refugees and asylum seekers in Bangkok by providing them with access to legal aid services, psychosocial support, primary healthcare, and comprehensive case management support.
- ICRC facilitated the rehabilitation of disabled persons throughout East Asia, including through the production of prostheses, orthoses and crutches.

## FY 2015 Objectives

- Through diplomatic engagement with the government of Bangladesh and funding for IOM, UNHCR, and NGO partners, ensure the National Rohingya Strategy is implemented in a manner that strengthens protection and assistance for both registered and unregistered Rohingya.
- Engage the governments of Thailand and Bangladesh to ensure that any returns to Burma are conducted in a manner that is safe, voluntary, and sustainable. Persuade the Government of Burma to make citizenship acquisition possible for stateless Rohingya in a transparent, consultative, and voluntary process that does not require identification of ethnicity or race in the citizenship verification process.
- Persuade the governments of Thailand and Malaysia to improve urban refugee protection, for example, by expanding opportunities for refugee children to attend school and for adults to work without fear of detention or exploitation.
- Engage host governments throughout the region on the importance of respecting the rights of particularly vulnerable asylum seekers and refugees such as Uighurs, Rohingya, and North Koreans.
- Support ICRC in its efforts to maintain a wide network of comprehensive rehabilitation services throughout the region and to improve the conditions of prisons and detention centers.



*PRM Deputy Assistant Secretary Simon Henshaw meets with refugee children at the IOM Daycare at Suan Phlu Immigration Detention Center in Bangkok, Thailand.*

## Assistance Programs in Europe

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	48,651		*31,000	-17,651

### FY 2016 Request

The FY 2016 request will address ongoing humanitarian needs of displaced and vulnerable populations in Ukraine, the Balkans, and the Caucasus. It will also address the needs of non-Syrian refugee populations in Turkey. Overseas assistance programs in Europe will support efforts to strengthen asylum regimes and reduce statelessness. Over 2.6 million individuals are displaced or stateless throughout Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, and the requested FY 2016 funding will provide protection and assistance to save lives and alleviate suffering in the region.

Ongoing violence in Eastern Ukraine has forced nearly 1.5 million people to flee their homes. MRA-funded programs will help internally displaced persons (IDPs) conflict victims, and refugees in neighboring countries access emergency assistance, social services, and shelter, while also supporting livelihoods and psychosocial programming to foster greater self-sufficiency. This request will also facilitate and support IDP returns to Eastern Ukraine where possible. Funds will also support vulnerable IDPs in Georgia who are unable to return to the Russian-controlled breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

In the Balkans, MRA-funded programs will provide assistance to the over 380,000 people displaced by the Balkan conflicts of the 1990s who have not returned to their country of origin. This includes thousands of Roma, Askhali, and Egyptian minorities, who remain in need of durable solutions.

Funding within the Europe line includes support for UNHCR’s refugee status determination operation in Turkey, its largest in the world.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- In response to the conflict in Ukraine, PRM contributed over \$5.6 million in FY 2014 in response to the humanitarian needs of over 920,000 IDPs from eastern Ukraine and Crimea. These funds included support to ICRC, which delivered more than 2,000 tons of aid to areas not controlled by the Ukrainian government in the Donetsk and Lugansk regions, including food and hygiene items, medical supplies, blankets and tarpaulins. ICRC also worked with the national Red Cross societies and others to provide training courses on identifying human remains, and restore contact between family members separated by the conflict.



*U.S. contributions to ICRC supported the distribution of blankets and other essential items to people displaced by conflict in Ukraine. (Photo: ICRC)*

- In the Caucasus region, U.S. support to UNHCR and NGO partners assisted IDPs with integration, and promoted self-reliance and confidence building initiatives through a variety of grassroots livelihoods and income-generating projects.
- In response to the flood of Syrian refugees in Turkey, PRM joined USAID in advancing a campaign which helped persuade the Government of Turkey to register and accept assistance from NGOs for refugees outside of camps. With U.S. support NGOs are now running community centers, schools, providing psycho-social programs for children, Turkish language classes, and youth programs, as well as helping refugees get access to health and other available services.
- In 2014 construction activities for the Balkans Regional Housing Program officially got underway in Croatia and Serbia with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro soon to follow suit. PRM joined representatives of the EU, Switzerland, the Council of Europe Development Bank, and other donors to mark the start of construction activities. PRM contributed an additional \$10 million (total contribution of \$20 million since 2012) to this \$750 million program to provide housing to up to 70,000 of the most vulnerable persons who were displaced by the 1991-95 conflict in the Western Balkans.

*“The groundbreaking here today in Korenica, the first for the Regional Housing Program, is important ... for those families who have been waiting so long for a durable solution.... It is the result of extensive diplomatic and political efforts throughout the region to find solutions for over 70,000 vulnerable refugees and internally displaced persons in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and Montenegro.”*

*- PRM Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Simon Henshaw, Korenica, Croatia, June 24, 2014*

## **FY 2015 Objectives**

- Support efforts to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons and conflict victims in Ukraine and refugees from Ukraine in neighboring countries. Where possible, PRM will support IDP returns to areas restored to government control.
- In Turkey, work to expand opportunities to assist Syrians, Iraqis, Afghans, and other vulnerable asylum seekers.
- Seek durable solutions for the vulnerable displaced persons from Kosovo in Serbia, for returnees to Kosovo, and throughout the Caucasus.
- Support the full implementation of the Balkans Regional Housing Program to address the protracted refugee situation from the 1991-95 break-up of Yugoslavia.
- Throughout the region, work with UNHCR and NGO partners to prevent statelessness, shift to development-oriented solutions, prevent gender-based violence, and prepare for a variety of contingencies in the event of future conflicts.

## Assistance Programs in the Near East

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2015 Estimate <sup>2/</sup>	FY 2016 Request <sup>3/</sup>	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	480,909		*329,400	-151,509
Migration and Refugee Assistance - Overseas Contingency Operations			*819,000	819,000

<sup>1</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2013 and FY 2014 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds was used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced, and conflict victims in the Near East.

<sup>2</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2014 and FY 2015 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds will be used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced, and conflict victims in the Near East.

<sup>3</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2015 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds will be used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced, and conflict victims in the Near East.

### FY 2016 Request

The FY 2016 request will maintain core support for UNHCR, ICRC, and UNRWA activities throughout the region and supports the Bureau’s primary goal to provide humanitarian assistance that saves lives and eases suffering. It incorporates funding for protection and assistance programs for Iraqi refugees, conflict victims, and displaced persons inside Iraq as well as maintaining support for critical humanitarian programs of international organization and NGO partners to meet basic needs for Iraqi refugees in Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon.

The conflict in Syria continues, with nearly 200,000 dead, approximately 12.2 million affected by the conflict, 7.6 million IDPs, and more than 3.8 million refugees. The FY 2016 request anticipates that significant humanitarian needs, including large numbers of refugees in neighboring states and further increases in North Africa and Europe, millions of IDPs and conflict victims lacking regular access to food, health care, clean water, sanitation, and adequate shelter, will persist. The FY 2016 budget will maintain robust support to the humanitarian response related to the conflict in Syria primarily through the OCO request. PRM funding, in keeping with the Bureau’s goal to exert humanitarian leadership in the international community, will prioritize support to UNHCR, UNRWA, and ICRC to reinforce their critical response roles inside Syria and the region, as well as support for other international organizations, UN agencies and NGOs assisting refugees and conflict-affected individuals in neighboring countries.

The FY 2016 request includes support to UNRWA, the UN agency responsible for providing education, health care, and other assistance to more than five million Palestinian refugees in Gaza, the West Bank, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan. MRA funding to UNRWA is essential to the organization, which remains an indispensable counterweight to extremism in the region, fulfilling critical needs for humanitarian services and assistance that likely would otherwise be met by extremist groups. FY 2016 funding will support UNRWA’s General Fund and emergency activities in Gaza and the West Bank and in response to the Syria crisis.

*“I’ve witnessed the commitment of aid workers in refugee camps on the Syrian border, helping Syria’s people and its neighbors cope with one of the cruelest humanitarian crises in generations.”*

*- Secretary John F. Kerry, World Humanitarian Day Statement, August 19, 2014*

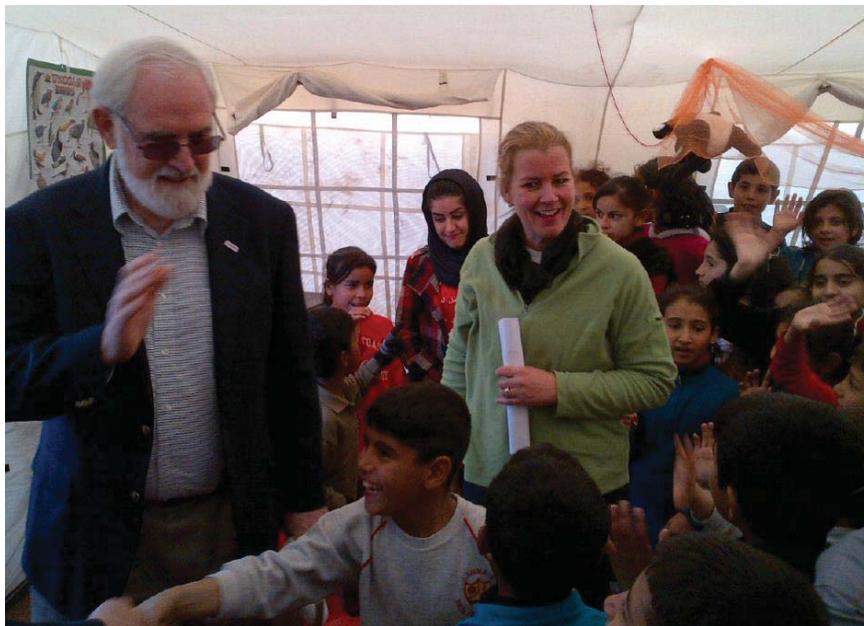
The FY 2016 request also includes modest support for Yemeni IDPs and conflict victims displaced by violence in northern Yemen, including military operations against al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula. This aid will focus primarily on providing shelter, food and water, medical care, protection, and support for returnees and early recovery efforts.

## FY 2014 Accomplishments

- In FY 2014, the United States was the largest contributor to the Syria humanitarian effort, providing over \$1.3 billion to multilateral and NGO partners, of which nearly half was from the MRA and MRA/OCO account. In addition, U.S. humanitarian diplomacy continued to advocate strongly for neighboring countries to keep borders open for vulnerable asylum seekers.
- Within Syria, MRA-funded contributions to UNHCR provided core relief items including mattresses, blankets, kitchen supplies, and hygiene kits to nearly 4.4 million individuals. More than 60,000 private and collective shelters were improved and more than 533,000 Syrians accessed health care. Across the region, UNHCR registered or pre-registered one million refugees during 2014, and provided refugees with shelter, health care, and other vital assistance. UNHCR also advocated for Syrian asylum seekers to be afforded protection in neighboring countries and for their access to public services including education and civil registration.
- PRM's contributions to IOM assisted over 500,000 individuals affected by the Syria crisis. More than 75,000 refugees were screened for TB and 68 cases were detected and treated. IOM immunized nearly 47,000 refugees against measles and nearly 40,000 against polio. IOM transported over 80,000 newly arrived refugees from the border and provided material assistance to thousands of newly arrived refugees stuck at the Syria-Jordan border.
- In Syria, PRM funding to ICRC provided food for five million Syrians in 12 governorates and emergency relief items for 1.3 million. ICRC conducted water supply repairs benefitting more than 19 million people and emergency water and sanitation assistance for 600,000. ICRC saw 70,000 patients through mobile health clinics and provided chronic disease medication for 80,000 individuals.
- With PRM support, UNFPA established 123 reproductive health clinics and mobile teams in Syria and refugee-hosting countries; ensured safe delivery for more than 3,000 babies in in camps in Iraq and Jordan with no maternal deaths in Jordan; provided gender-based violence services for 200,000 Syrian refugees; and provided hygiene kits to 300,000 Syrians.
- PRM-funded NGOs in Turkey helped urban refugees increase their access to healthcare, education, legal services, and provided psycho-social support and assistance to the most vulnerable, often through the creation of Syrian community centers.
- More than 540,000 Palestinian refugees were living in Syria when the crisis erupted. With PRM support, UNRWA ensured access to education for 50,000 refugee children and operated 14 primary health centers and 10 health points. The organization reached more than 105,000 Palestinian refugee families inside Syria with cash and food assistance, and assisted more than 44,000 Palestinians from Syria who fled to Lebanon and 14,000 who fled to Jordan.
- During the July-August 2014 Gaza conflict, nearly a quarter of the Gaza Strip's population sought shelter in UNRWA schools. UNRWA's health centers recorded over 988,000 patient visits, and UNRWA provided psychosocial support and emergency education activities to Gazans affected by the crisis. UNRWA delivered over \$10.6 million in non-food items to those impacted by the conflict, including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, flashlights, soap, and toilet paper. Working with the World Food Program, UNRWA ensured that 1.8 million Palestinians – the entire civilian population of Gaza – received food assistance.
- Over 2.1 million people were displaced by Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) advances in 2014, dramatically increasing humanitarian needs in the region. In FY 2014, PRM provided more than \$182 million in humanitarian assistance for displaced Iraqis in Iraq and nearly 200,000 Iraqi refugees in neighboring states. This funding ensured conflict-affected Iraqis received shelter, water, sanitation, health care, protection from gender-based violence, education, and legal assistance to help obtain identification documents.

## FY 2015 Objectives

- Through robust humanitarian diplomacy, encourage neighboring countries to maintain open borders and first asylum for conflict-affected Syrians, Iraqis, and Palestinians. Emphasize the importance of balancing security needs with humanitarian principles, including non-refoulement.
- Maintain strong funding for UNHCR, ICRC, and UNRWA to provide protection and assistance to Syrian refugees, IDPs, and conflict victims, and, through close coordination with development actors, expand the capacity of refugee hosting countries to extend national services to displaced populations.
- Support UNRWA diplomatically and financially to ensure that it is able to protect and assist Palestinian refugees in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, the West Bank, and Gaza.
- Through support to UNHCR, ICRC, UNFPA, UNRWA, and NGO partners, ensure that women, children, and other vulnerable populations are protected from all forms of gender-based violence and that vulnerable populations are able to access humanitarian assistance.
- Provide sufficient funding for UNHCR, UNRWA, ICRC, other international organizations and NGOs to respond to new, unanticipated waves of displacement as a result of conflict.



USAID/DCHA Acting Assistant Administrator Thomas Staal and State/PRM Deputy Assistant Secretary Kelly Clements speak with Iraqi IDP children at Garmawa transit center in the Kurdish region of Iraq.

## Assistance Programs in South Asia

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual <sup>1,2/</sup>	FY 2015 Estimate <sup>3/</sup>	FY 2016 Request <sup>4/</sup>	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	66,875	*	72,900	6,025

<sup>1</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2014 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds was used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced, and conflict victims in South Asia.

<sup>2</sup> In addition, \$8.9 million of re-programmed ESF funds was used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced, and conflict victims in Pakistan to support the Refugee Affected and Hosting Area program.

<sup>3</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2014 and FY 2015 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds will be used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced, and conflict victims in South Asia.

<sup>4</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2015 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds will be used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees, internally displaced, and conflict victims in South Asia.

### FY 2016 Request

Afghanistan and Pakistan remain top foreign policy priorities. The FY 2016 MRA request will continue support for Afghan refugees and returnees displaced throughout the region and for Pakistanis internally displaced by continued conflict. Pakistan and Iran continue to host one of the world’s largest refugee communities, with a combined total of some 2.5 million Afghan refugees. Afghanistan has an estimated population of more than 805,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs). The FY 2016 request includes funding to meet basic needs of Afghan refugees, returnees, and IDPs, including support for water and health services. At the same time, MRA-funded partners will continue to work with the Afghan government to transition these programs to local and national authorities. The security situation in Pakistan is also expected to remain uncertain in FY 2016. As of late 2014, more than 1.4 million people remained displaced due to military operations in the northwest. While access remains challenging, humanitarian assistance helps instill confidence in civilian-led government institutions and mitigates the risk of extremist influence.

Assistance programs in South Asia also address the humanitarian needs of Tibetan and Bhutanese refugees in Nepal, Tibetan refugees in India, returning refugees in Sri Lanka, and urban refugees and asylum seekers in all three countries. Services provided to the Tibetan community in Nepal include protection and reception services for safe transit of Tibetan refugees to India and support for infrastructure, livelihoods, education, and water and sanitation for the longer-staying refugee community. In India, assistance for Tibetan refugees provides health and education services with an increasing focus on livelihoods and long-term sustainability. In Sri Lanka, FY 2016 humanitarian programs will focus on urban refugees and asylum seekers.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- At the urging of U.S. government and other partners, the Government of Pakistan permitted UNHCR to renew Proof of Registration cards for 1.6 million Afghan refugees, extending their legal stay through December 31, 2015. The government also issued 800,000 birth certificates for Afghan refugees.
- With USG contributions, UNHCR provided protection to almost 1.6 million Pakistani IDPs, including registration of some 630,000 newly displaced during 2014. In Afghanistan, UNHCR protected and registered more than 780,000 internally displaced Afghans, an increase of over 150,000 people over the previous year.

*“...[U.S.] support for Tibetan refugees is very much a humanitarian issue. We are cognizant of their plight. We are cognizant of the need for them to be educated, to have livelihoods, to preserve their culture and their language, both as refugees in other lands and, of course, as any citizen of China within China.”*

*- Under Secretary Sarah Sewall,  
Washington, DC, November 24, 2014*

- With PRM funds, UNHCR provided emergency assistance to over 286,000 Pakistani refugees who crossed into Afghanistan following anti-militant operations in North Waziristan Agency in June 2014.
- UNHCR facilitated access to primary education for over 73,000 Afghan refugee children in Pakistan. With PRM support to the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) Initiative, UNHCR expanded opportunities for Afghan children to study in their host communities.
- Beginning in July, ICRC significantly ramped up assistance to conflict-affected populations in North Waziristan by deploying six mobile health units, improving water and sanitation infrastructure, providing food for over 23,000 people, and providing funding and technical assistance to the Pakistan Red Crescent.
- Six years after being set up by the ICRC, the Muzaffarabad Physical Rehabilitation Center in Pakistan-administered Kashmir became autonomous in 2014. The center will continue to provide services for people disabled by mines, bomb blasts, diseases, natural disasters and other hazards.
- In Nepal and India, through U.S. funding to the Tibet Fund, more than 26,000 refugees received essential health services and education in 2014; over 4,400 women received reproductive health education, screenings, maternal care, and other services; more than 1,000 children received free vaccinations; over 12,000 students were screened for tuberculosis; over 170 Tibetans refugees received subsidized TB treatment. Further, more than 5,300 students received subsidized primary, secondary, vocational, or traditional education.



*Disabled Afghan refugees in Pakistan receive wheelchairs through PRM funding to a local NGO.*

### **FY 2015 Objectives**

- Build the Afghan government's capacity to: (1) address the humanitarian needs of IDPs, including by implementing its national IDP Policy; and (2) protect and assist refugee returnees from Pakistan, Iran, and elsewhere.
- Encourage the government of Pakistan to extend the validity of refugee registration beyond 2015 in order to prevent Afghan refugees from being exploited and/or sent back to Afghanistan against their will.
- Ensure that UNHCR and ICRC have the support to address new waves of displacement that may occur in Pakistan and Afghanistan as a result of intensified conflict with insurgents.
- Through ICRC, build the capacity of the Pakistan and Afghanistan Red Crescent Societies to play a greater role in assisting populations affected by conflict and natural disasters.
- In both Afghanistan and Pakistan, collaborate with USAID and other development actors to transition NGO partners from parallel structures to more sustainable methods of long-term service delivery.
- Work with the government of Nepal to maintain protection space and safe transit for Tibetan refugees continuing on to India and support health, education, and water and sanitation programming for the longer-staying refugee community.
- In India, support protection, health, water and sanitation, and educational programming for Tibetan refugees with an emphasis on increasing self-reliance over time.

## Assistance Programs in the Western Hemisphere

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	61,100	*	45,300	-15,800

<sup>1</sup> In addition, \$7 million of re-programmed ESF funds was used to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to Colombian refugees and internally displaced persons.

### FY 2016 Request

Decades of ongoing violence in Colombia have displaced an estimated 5.8 million people, approximately 10 percent of Colombia’s population. The request supports protection and assistance for an estimated 150,000 newly displaced Colombians inside Colombia and for over 400,000 Colombian asylum seekers and refugees in neighboring countries (Ecuador, Venezuela, Panama, and Costa Rica). At the same time, the FY 2016 request recognizes significant resources the Government of Colombia is devoting to the reintegration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) as the country continues to implement its Victims and Land Restitution law. That legislation seeks to restore land and provide reparations to victims of the conflict, 90 percent of whom are IDPs. Given this commitment by the Colombian government, funding will focus on supporting Colombian refugees in neighboring countries and providing replicable model programs for IDPs in Colombia. The FY 2016 request also supports efforts to strengthen refugee protection in Ecuador, which hosts the largest recognized refugee population in Latin America, as that country debates a new Human Mobility Law.

The FY 2016 request will also fund the regional programs of UNHCR to protect and assist refugees, stateless persons, and asylum seekers and programs of ICRC and IOM throughout the Caribbean. The FY 2016 request enables the U.S. Department of State to meet its commitment to support the Migrant Operations Center at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base under Executive Order 13276. The Department is responsible for migrants determined to be in need of protection as well as assistance with their initial resettlement in third countries.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- In Colombia, U.S. contributions to UNHCR advanced the organization’s “protection by presence” strategy. With MRA funding, UNHCR is helping Colombia’s government develop its legal framework for IDPs and address the needs of vulnerable groups, including indigenous people, Afro-Colombians, women, and children. PRM funding also supported ICRC’s efforts to distribute food and provide shelter for displaced persons in conflict areas lacking government presence. PRM funding to NGOs provided basic humanitarian aid, including food, non-food items, shelter, health, and psychosocial support to IDPs in Colombia and Colombian refugees.
- In the Dominican Republic, the U.S. government worked with international organizations to encourage the Government of the Dominican Republic to pass legislation to provide a path to citizenship for an estimated 200,000 people affected by the 2013 Constitutional Tribunal ruling, which stated that individuals of irregular migration status cannot confer Dominican citizenship to their children.
- U.S. support to UNHCR helped to address forced displacement from Central America and Mexico with a particular focus on children’s protection needs. PRM funds have enabled UNHCR to increase its presence and capacity in the region.

*“Everyone deserves human dignity and respect. Including diverse sectors of the population in the decision-making process to solve shared problems and reduce barriers to discrimination is a strategic and effective way to strengthen all societies. ”*

*– U.S. Ambassador to the Dominican Republic James “Wally” Brewster*

## FY 2015 Objectives

- Provide aid to Colombian refugees and vulnerable asylum seekers in neighboring countries.
- Fill gaps in the provision of humanitarian assistance for Colombian IDPs and support implementation of the Victims and Land Restitution Law by helping to improve the Colombian government's response capability.
- Strengthen IDP/victims' registration, regional asylum, and refugee status determination processes to ensure that systems are accessible, credible, efficient, and fully incorporate protection and security concerns.
- Support durable solutions in Colombia and the region, including refugee returns, security permitting.
- Raise greater awareness of the Colombian IDP and refugee situation and the need for international assistance.
- Continue efforts to ensure successful implementation of the Government of the Dominican Republic's legislation for a path to citizenship for Dominicans of Haitian descent.
- Support UN agencies to help Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico build their capacity to protect children from family separation, violence, exploitation, and other abuses.
- Fulfill Department of State responsibilities under E.O. 13276 regarding migrants interdicted in the Caribbean who are found to be in need of protection.



*The inauguration of a PRM-funded project by the International Organization for Migration to improve sanitation for Colombian refugees in San Lorenzo, Ecuador.*

## Protection Priorities

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2015 Estimate <sup>2/</sup>	FY 2016 Request <sup>3/</sup>	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	215,450	*	139,744	-75,706

<sup>1</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2014 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds was used to respond to emergency needs.

<sup>2</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2014 and FY 2015 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds will be used to respond to emergency needs.

<sup>3</sup> In addition, a portion of the FY 2015 MRA Overseas Contingency Operations funds will be used to respond to emergency needs.

### The FY 2016 Request

The FY 2016 MRA request supports the core capacities of key humanitarian partners to respond to humanitarian needs, including support for UN management reform that is critical to the U.S. government’s broader UN reform agenda. By providing strategic support to headquarters operations of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), MRA funding ensures that these organizations have the tools to respond quickly and effectively to emerging crises, improve the safety of humanitarian workers in increasingly insecure environments, and enhance accountability through results-based management reforms. Funds are also included to support the U.S. government’s response to new humanitarian emergencies worldwide. This request supports global humanitarian and U.S. government priorities, such as addressing the pernicious problem of gender-based violence; protecting the most vulnerable populations, including women, children, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) refugees; identifying and addressing needs of increasing numbers of refugees in urban and non-camp environments; and seeking to make international humanitarian response more accountable and effective through improved performance data collection and analysis, innovative research, and independent evaluations of programs that draw on beneficiary feedback.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- Emergency funding within this line allowed PRM to provide life-saving assistance in rapidly evolving conflict situations, for example, in South Sudan, the Central African Republic, Iraq, and Ukraine.
- In September 2014, Secretary Kerry announced an additional \$12 million in new funding for *Safe from the Start*, a joint initiative with USAID designed to strengthen prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV) in humanitarian emergencies. The announcement brings the total funding for *Safe from the Start* to more than \$22 million since Secretary Kerry launched this initiative in September 2013. These programs are laying the groundwork for system-wide change to better prevent and respond to GBV in future emergencies and responding to immediate needs in current crises. PRM provided *Safe from the Start* funding to UNHCR, ICRC, and NGOs to hire and train new staff, including support for new surge deployments of GBV experts to Iraq, Cameroon, Egypt, Afghanistan, and Ethiopia through UNHCR, and to launch new GBV programs such as providing mobile GBV services for adolescent refugee girls in Lebanon and developing a pilot e-learning program on GBV for humanitarian staff.
- In FY 2014, 30 percent of PRM-funded NGO or other IO projects included targeted activities to prevent and respond to GBV. PRM’s overall funding toward GBV increased in 2014, reflecting PRM’s efforts to expand GBV programming. PRM supported

*“We all know that investing in women and youth isn’t just the right thing to do; it’s a strategic necessity. It’s how you create stability, foster sustainable societies, and promote shared prosperity, because societies where women and girls are safe, where women are empowered to exercise their rights and move their communities forward, these societies are more prosperous and more stable – not occasionally but always...”*

- Secretary John F. Kerry, U.S. Institute of Peace, September 2014

more than \$24.9 million worth of programs specifically focused on preventing and responding to GBV through both regular GBV regional programming and the *Safe from the Start* initiative.

- In FY 2014, UNHCR completed a PRM-funded initiative to develop e-learning modules for its staff on implementing its Urban Refugee Policy, including specific training modules on urban livelihoods, health, and education programming.
- In November 2014, UNHCR launched a Global Campaign to End Statelessness over the next ten years, guided by a Global Action Plan featuring 10 major goals. U.S. contributions to UNHCR and diplomatic efforts support this campaign. In FY 2014, the United States also supported the launch of an International Campaign to End Gender Discrimination in Nationality Laws. The campaign is focused on global and national advocacy in 12 countries around the world where nationality laws discriminate against women.
- The U.S. government funded 14 American Junior Professional Officers in key UNHCR locations around the world. These officers gain working experience in the fields of protection, humanitarian assistance in emergencies and other areas such as technical support services and are an invaluable asset for UNHCR. For example, in 2013-2014, American JPOs in Amman, Jordan; Beirut, Lebanon; Cairo, Egypt; and Tel Aviv, Israel provided key support to UNHCR offices managing increased numbers of Syrian refugees. American JPOs in Uganda, Ethiopia, and Sudan helped UNHCR respond to outflows of refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, and Eritrea.
- UNHCR launched a special child protection initiative for Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt and Yemen (*Live, Learn, Play Safe Regional Initiative 2014-2016: Protecting Children at Risk in Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan, Yemen*). The project was developed in response to a unique and dire protection situation of primarily adolescent unaccompanied and separated children in the Horn of Africa, who are at risk of smuggling and trafficking.

## **FY 2015 Objectives**

- Maintain strong support for programs that protect conflict-affected women and children, including preventing and responding to GBV, by strengthening the humanitarian community's response to GBV at the onset of an emergency through the *Safe from the Start* initiative.
- Support child protection programming in humanitarian response around the globe, including through the *No Lost Generation Initiative* for children of Syria, through work being undertaken by our partners, such as UNHCR's *Framework for the Protection of Children* and ongoing support for the goals of the U.S. Action Plan on Children in Adversity.
- Ensure rapid initial response to emerging humanitarian crises.
- Sustain UN reform efforts such as the Transformative Agenda and its focus on enhancing leadership, coordination, and accountability, to strengthen the international humanitarian system and promote effective emergency response and protection of vulnerable populations.
- Strengthen the performance of the UN protection cluster for internally displaced persons, including UNHCR's leadership of the protection cluster in conflict-related displacement situations.
- Improve protection of refugee and stateless children by expanding access to education and birth registration.
- Exert global leadership in addressing the specific protection needs of LGBT refugees and conflict victims.
- Continue to improve the capacity for evidence-based decision making within the State Department and its international partners, thereby strengthening accountability to American taxpayers and maximizing the positive impact of humanitarian programs for beneficiaries.

## Migration

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	27,500	*	20,000	-7,500

### FY 2016 Request

The FY 2016 request supports the U.S. government objectives of protecting and assisting asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants, advancing orderly and humane migration policies, and enhancing security and stability and promoting fundamental human rights. MRA funds support national and regional efforts to build the capacity of governments to develop and implement effective migration policies, to protect and assist asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants and to discourage irregular migration in Africa, Asia, Mexico and Central America, the Caribbean, and Central Asia. These funds are especially important given the increase in mixed population flows that include refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, unaccompanied children, and/or victims of human trafficking in all regions of the world. The FY 2016 request provides modest but essential funding for assistance to some of the most vulnerable migrants, primarily through the International Organization for Migration (IOM). These include programs to protect and assist victims of xenophobic attacks, human trafficking, and other human rights abuses. The FY 2016 request also includes funds for the U.S. government’s assessed contribution to IOM.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- Assistant Secretary Richard announced the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) initiative at the October 2013 UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, garnering praise from UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the UN Special Representative on International Migration. MICIC aims to strengthen the international community’s capacity to manage situations of vulnerable migrants who find themselves in a country in acute crisis. The initiative was officially launched at the May 2014 Global Forum on Migration and Development.
- The United States continued its strong leadership and cooperation in the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum, and Refugees, the Regional Conference on Migration, the U.S.-EU Platform for Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum and Migration, and the International Organization for Migration’s (IOM) International Dialogue on Migration, to address a wide variety of issues, including challenges related to unaccompanied child migrants.
- PRM funding for IOM’s regional programs demonstrated notable successes, including:
  - *In the Americas:* In response to an unprecedented surge in the number of families and unaccompanied children from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras arriving at the United States’ southwest border in the summer of 2014, PRM provided additional funding to IOM so it could expand its Mesoamerica regional migration program and increase its focus on protection for unaccompanied children, and to build the capacity of government officials and civil society in Central America and the southern border of Mexico to identify, screen, protect, and assist vulnerable migrants.

*“Responding to irregular migration may be politically and logistically difficult, and even migrants traveling legally may face harassment, discrimination, and abuse. But our priority is and must be saving lives.”*

*- U.S. Department of State Spokesperson Jen Psaki, December 18, 2014*

- *In the Horn of Africa:* IOM provided humanitarian assistance and registered over 23,000 migrants and voluntarily returned nearly 900 stranded migrants with support from PRM. Assistance is provided through six Migration Response Centers located along major transit routes from the Horn of Africa to the Arabian Peninsula, which also advises on the dangers of irregular migration.
- *In North Africa:* With MRA funding, IOM and partners established the North-Eastern Africa Multinational Task Force (NOAH-MTF) to promote a strong regional governmental dialogue on irregular migration and increase local government capacity to address it. The MTF met twice during the year in addition to informal regular coordination with IOM offices in Egypt, Libya, and Sudan. IOM's North Africa program is also conducting research on new migratory trends in the region. The program's direct assistance component has provided life-saving aid and transportation to hundreds of migrants in Libya, Egypt, and Sudan.
- *Southeast Asia:* The issue of trafficked fishermen has become a focus of IOM's work in the region and was highlighted in an awareness-raising video funded by PRM, which the government of Cambodia plans to use to discourage men from being lured into working in the fishing industry under false pretenses.
- *East Asia:* IOM advanced a number of issues through PRM-funded activities, including providing comprehensive input into China's 2<sup>nd</sup> National Plan of Action to Address Trafficking and expanding the Chinese definition of trafficking to address cross-border trafficking, male victims, and labor exploitation.
- Support to IOM's Global Assistance Fund ensured critical services were offered to vulnerable individuals who are victimized by human traffickers and in need of urgent, specialized support not otherwise available to them. Between the start of the project in August 2000 and through March 2014, these tailored assistance packages helped nearly 1,800 survivors around the world.
- Support to the IOM program "Support to Trafficking Victims Found in the USA: Global Return and Reintegration, and Family Reunification" allowed for the reunification of 234 family members with their relatives who had been trafficked to the United States and helped four trafficking victims voluntarily return to their home countries.

## **FY 2015 Objectives**

- Advance migration management policies that protect the rights and respect the dignity of migrants while also preserving states' abilities to enforce their immigration laws and ensure the safe, orderly, and humane movement of people into and out of their countries.
- Support IOM-based Secretariat to advance Migrants in Countries in Crisis initiative and related activities including regional consultations to draft voluntary guidelines articulating stakeholder responsibilities towards migrants caught in countries in crisis.
- Continue to develop, articulate, and advance U.S. positions on migration and development, labor, human rights, and climate in international forums, including through follow-up to 2013 UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, Global Forum on Migration and Development, Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum, and Refugees, and Regional Conference on Migration.
- Support IOM's International Dialogue on Migration, which presents the latest international migration issues to a broad audience of representatives from governments, international organizations and civil society.

## Humanitarian Migrants to Israel

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease from FY 2015
Migration and Refugee Assistance	10,680	10,000	10,000	-

<sup>1</sup> Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235)

### FY 2016 Request

Since 1973, the U.S. government has helped secure durable solutions for vulnerable Jewish migrants through their resettlement to Israel from the former Soviet Union (FSU), Eastern Europe, Africa, the Near East, and other designated countries. The FY 2016 MRA request for Humanitarian Migrants to Israel seeks to maintain the FY 2015 level of support for the relocation and integration of migrants through the United Israel Appeal (UIA). In FY 2016, we expect the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), UIA's implementing partner, to bring upwards of 10,000 migrants to Israel from the FSU, Ethiopia, and other countries. U.S. Department of State funding supports a three-year package of services for these migrants that includes pre-departure assistance, transportation to Israel, transitional shelter, and orientation services of language training and youth education.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- The Humanitarian Migrants to Israel program supported the United Israel Appeal (UIA) to promote the emigration of Jewish migrants Israel and their successful integration into Israeli society. In FY 2014, over 10,400 people arrived in Israel and were assisted by program. Services included transportation, transitional housing, education and vocational training, and Hebrew language instruction.
- In FY 2014, the program exceeded its goal of reaching 93 percent satisfaction among beneficiaries for services received through the program; actual satisfaction reached 98 percent of 350 households interviewed.
- Of the humanitarian migrants from the former Soviet Union receiving effective Hebrew language training, 93 percent advanced one grade level.
- Eight-five percent of post-high school students completed a one-year program to prepare them for university level education for technological programs in Israel, exceeding the target of 82 percent.

### FY 2015 Objectives

- UIA/JAFI continues to strengthen and refine programming to support emigration to Israel and enable humanitarian migrants to become self-sufficient members of Israeli society within the period of grant support.
- PRM resources are used effectively to meet program goals.

## Refugee Admissions

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	351,000		*442,700	91,700

### FY 2016 Request

Achieving durable solutions for refugees, including third-country resettlement, is a critical component of the U.S. Department of State’s work. The FY 2016 request will support the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. This is an important humanitarian undertaking. It demonstrates America’s compassion for the world’s most vulnerable displaced people when voluntary return and local integration are not possible. MRA resources will be used to fund the costs associated with the overseas processing of refugee applications, transportation-related services, and initial reception and placement (R&P) services to all refugees admitted through the program. These include housing, furnishings, clothing, food, medicine, employment, and social service referrals. The FY 2016 request will support the admission of larger numbers of Syrian and Congolese refugees as well as Special Immigrant Visa applicants from Iraq and Afghanistan. The request includes a modest increase in the R&P grant to keep pace with inflation and maintain adequate support for refugee families during their initial weeks in the United States.

The U.S. Department of State implements the program by providing funding to non-governmental organizations involved in both overseas processing functions and domestic reception and placement services. In addition, the International Organization for Migration receives MRA funds for overseas processing and medical screening functions in some locations and for transportation-related services for all refugees resettled in the United States.

The number of refugees to be admitted in FY 2016 will be set after consultations between the Administration and the Congress before the start of the fiscal year. The request also includes funding to provide refugee benefits to Iraqi Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) applicants and their families as mandated by the Refugee Crisis in Iraq Act of 2007 and to Afghan SIV applicants and their families as mandated by the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- In FY 2014, the United States admitted 69,987 refugees for permanent resettlement. For the second year in a row, this represents nearly 100 percent of the regional ceilings established by Presidential Determination.
- The program admitted nearly 20,000 Iraqi refugees, more than any previous year. PRM provided refugee benefits to a record number of 10,241 Iraqi and Afghan SIV applicants who supported U.S. efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- PRM, DHS, and law enforcement and intelligence agencies successfully protected the refugee admissions program from infiltration by bad actors.

*“This country was built by people who fled oppression and war, leapt at opportunity, and worked day and night to remake themselves in this new land.”*

*- President Barack Obama, World Refugee Day Statement, June 20, 2014*

## FY 2015 Objectives

- Achieve 70,000 admissions in FY 2015, exhibiting continued U.S. leadership on refugee resettlement.
- Work with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to significantly increase the referral of Syrian refugees for resettlement, laying the groundwork for increased numbers of Syrians resettled in FY 2016 and beyond. Achieve modest increase in Syrians resettled in FY 2015.
- Persuade other countries, particularly in Europe, to increase their refugee resettlement quotas.
- Open in-country processing for minors in Central America with a lawfully present parent in the United States.
- Re-start in-country processing for U.S.-affiliated Iraqis in Baghdad to honor our obligation to those who served us in Iraq.
- Strategically increase admissions from Africa, particularly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to leverage local integration opportunities for the majority of refugees who will not be resettled.



*Resettled refugees at a preschool program in San Diego. (Photo: International Rescue Committee)*

## Administrative Expenses

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Estimate	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease from FY 2014
Migration and Refugee Assistance	34,500		*35,000	500

### FY 2016 Request

The FY 2016 request includes resources to cover the administrative expenses of the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM). Administrative funds support salaries, travel expenses, and other necessary administrative costs. These funds allow the Bureau to effectively and responsibly manage humanitarian assistance programs funded through the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) and any other appropriations that are provided to the U.S. Department of State, and to conduct the diplomacy that is essential in advancing U.S. government humanitarian objectives.

In FY 2016, the Bureau expects to continue overseeing programs in protracted humanitarian situations. These programs aid Burmese refugees in Thailand, Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and others. The Bureau also expects to support significant emergency humanitarian operations in Syria, Iraq, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, and elsewhere. Effective Bureau emergency response depends on adequate administrative support to carry out needs assessments and oversee operations. When emergencies develop, Bureau staff is often deployed to U.S. embassies in the region to work with host governments and implementing partners to advance U.S. foreign policy objectives and provide sound oversight and management of foreign assistance programs. Performance management is at the heart of the Bureau's mission, and enables it to provide funding according to need and to meet the simultaneous imperatives to provide assistance effectively, efficiently, and in a sustainable manner. The FY 2016 request provides continued investment in an active monitoring and evaluation training program for staff so they may better assess the impact of U.S. government programs. With this request, the Bureau's administrative costs remain low, at less than 2 percent of the overall MRA request of \$2.5 billion.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments

- In 2014, PRM's direct hire staff, including regional refugee coordinators stationed at 20 U.S. Embassies around the world, helped maintain global USG humanitarian leadership through active diplomatic engagement with refugee-hosting countries, including in Kenya, Nepal, Pakistan, Chad, Jordan, and Turkey.
- In FY 2014, Bureau staff actively engaged and oversaw emergency operations in Africa and the Middle East. PRM staff deployed to Lebanon, Iraq, and Turkey in response to refugee crises stemming from conflicts in Syria and Iraq.
- Management and oversight of growing humanitarian assistance and admissions programs remained a top priority for the Bureau in FY 2014. Throughout the year, Washington staff and overseas refugee coordinators regularly monitored humanitarian operations worldwide.
- PRM continued to ensure close coordination and oversight of the key international organizations it supports, including through regular site visits and shaping the work of these organizations through active participation in governing boards and donor meetings held throughout the year.

## FY 2015 Priorities

- Maintain robust humanitarian diplomatic engagement to help protect the world's most vulnerable.
- Strengthen overseas and domestic staffing to ensure strong management and oversight of admissions and assistance programs worldwide.
- Continue to enhance the monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian partners to ensure accountability, program effectiveness, and maximum benefit for populations of concern on behalf of American taxpayers.
- Conduct active monitoring and oversight of emergency humanitarian operations.
- Continue to exercise due diligence to ensure that USG funds are provided only to recipients with no links to terrorist organizations.



*PRM's Regional Refugee Coordinator for West Africa, Luis Mendez (in gray scarf), meets with Malian refugees in Burkina Faso.*

## Summary of External Evaluations

Consistent with the U.S. Department of State’s evaluation policy and guidance, PRM has commissioned external evaluations of its programs. These evaluations are funded through the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account. They do not include evaluations commissioned by PRM partners (such as UNHCR, ICRC, IOM, UNRWA) that are supported by U.S. contributions to those organizations. PRM’s external evaluations are available on the Bureau’s public website at <http://www.state.gov/j/prm/policyissues/prmfund/index.htm>.

The findings from the evaluations are used to identify best practices for PRM staff and to help inform funding recommendations; developing policy; designing and monitoring programs; and engaging host governments, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations on relevant issues.

### Completed Evaluations

#### *Evaluating Effectiveness of Gender Based Violence Prevention Programs for Refugees in Chad, Malaysia, and Uganda*

**Summary:** The evaluation examined the effectiveness of gender-based violence (GBV) prevention programming funded by PRM. Findings revealed that with respect to primary GBV prevention, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) funded by PRM used a variety of awareness-raising strategies and approaches to target refugee communities and specific population subsets. In most cases, referral systems for GBV survivors and GBV response were well established. However, implementation of GBV response programming was less likely to be in accordance with international standards, and in some cases, basic infrastructure such as medical services or safe houses was inadequate. Additional attention must be given in each country to address and counter the harmful effects of traditional norms, particularly those associated with men and boys.



*Refugees at a PRM-funded Women’s Center in Touloum Camp, Iriba, Chad (Photo: Social Impact)*

### ***Evaluating the Effectiveness of Humanitarian Engagement and Programming in Promoting Local Integration of Refugees in Zambia, Tanzania and Cameroon***

**Summary:** This evaluation of integration efforts focused on three populations: Angolan refugees in Zambia, Burundi refugees in Tanzania, and refugees from the Central African Republic in Cameroon. The assessment explored the extent to which programming and engagement of PRM and UNHCR promoted local integration; the degree to which programmatic and diplomatic interventions were successful; and what PRM and partner organizations should be doing to support the self-reliance of refugee populations for whom voluntary return and resettlement are not feasible. The findings highlighted how the most critical factors in economic, social, and legal integration are controlled by the host governments and host villages. These factors can be supported through interventions by UNHCR, PRM, and other partner governments.

#### Ongoing Evaluations

### ***Evaluating PRM-funded Refugee Livelihoods Programming in Burundi and Ethiopia***

**Summary:** This evaluation will prioritize identifying: (1) the qualities of successful refugee livelihoods programs; (2) whether PRM-supported programs were designed and implemented using best practices; (3) whether PRM-supported livelihoods programs promoted self-sufficiency; (4) whether self-sufficiency was a realistic objective; and (5) the secondary benefits/impact, if any, of participation in livelihoods programs. The evaluation will also analyze the economic, social, and legal factors that influence the success or failure of livelihoods programs in refugee settings.

### ***Evaluating Vulnerabilities and Developing Mitigation Strategies at PRM-funded Resettlement Support Centers in Ecuador, Jordan, Kenya, and Turkey***

**Summary:** This evaluation will examine the complex series of steps and processes associated with refugee processing and resettlement to determine the potential vulnerabilities within PRM-funded Resettlement Support Centers (RSCs). The evaluation will conduct assessments of RSCs in Ecuador, Jordan, Kenya, and Turkey to identify the measures RSCs are taking to prevent internal malfeasance, the areas in which they are most vulnerable, and the areas where prevention methods can be strengthened. In addition to highlighting factors that promote or reduce accountability within and across sampled RSCs, the evaluation will investigate the extent to which procedures for preventing and responding to internal malfeasance are understood by RSC staff and refugees.



## Migration and Refugee Assistance – Overseas Contingency Operations

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	Increase /
	Actual	Estimate <sup>1/</sup>	Request	Decrease from FY 2015
Migration and Refugee Assistance/Overseas Contingency Operations	1,284,355	2,127,114	819,000	-1,308,114

<sup>1</sup> Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235)

Conflicts in the Middle East have caused millions people to flee their homes in search of safety. With continued violence and conflict in Syria and Iraq, humanitarian needs are expected to remain high in FY 2016.

The FY 2016 Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) request of \$819.0 million will fund humanitarian assistance programs that meet basic needs to sustain life, including emergency shelter and medical care; provide protection and assistance to the most vulnerable, including aiding those affected by gender-based violence; and help ease the burden of host communities supporting refugees from Syria and Iraq. These funds will support the humanitarian response efforts of several international organizations including the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross, as well as non-governmental organization partners to address the immense humanitarian needs of individuals inside these countries and refugees throughout the region. In FY 2014, the U.S. government provided more than \$1.77 billion as part of the humanitarian response to these crises, the majority of which was from OCO resources.



*Syrian refugees crossing the Tigris River into northern Iraq - 2014*

## Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA)

	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual <sup>1/</sup>	FY 2016 Request	Increase / Decrease from FY 2015
U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance	50,000	50,000	50,000	-

<sup>1</sup>Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235)

The Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund enables the President to provide humanitarian assistance for unexpected and urgent refugee and migration needs worldwide. The FY 2016 request of \$50.0 million will allow the United States to respond quickly to urgent and unexpected needs of refugees and other populations of concern.

In FY 2014, the President provided \$50.0 million from ERMA to address emergency humanitarian needs related to the crisis in South Sudan.

In **FY 2014**, \$50.0 million was drawn from the Fund:

- \$50.0 million provided shelter, health care, education, and protection to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in South Sudan and South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries.

In **FY 2013**, \$15.0 million was drawn from the Fund:

- \$15.0 million provided shelter, health care, education, and protection to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Syria and Syrian refugees in neighboring countries.

In **FY 2012**, \$36.0 million was drawn from the Fund:

- \$10.0 million provided shelter, protection, and health and nutrition assistance to IDPs in Mali and Malian refugees throughout the region.
- \$26.0 million addressed the humanitarian needs of Sudanese refugees in South Sudan and Ethiopia who fled conflict in the Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States of Sudan.

In **FY 2011**, \$52.6 million was drawn from the Fund:

- \$12.6 million addressed the needs of those displaced as a result of violence and insecurity in Côte d'Ivoire, including shelter, protection, and water/sanitation support.
- \$15.0 million supported humanitarian needs resulting from unrest in Libya, including emergency evacuation of third country nationals.
- \$15.0 million provided assistance and protection to those affected by conflict in Côte d'Ivoire and Libya.
- \$10.0 million provided critical humanitarian assistance to Somali refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Djibouti, including emergency nutritional support, access to water, health care, and essential non-food items.

In **FY 2010**, \$75.5 million was drawn from the Fund:

- \$33.0 million extended the Dadaab/Ifo refugee camp in Kenya, established a food distribution center for Somali refugees in Kenya, and averted serious food pipeline breaks in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and South America.

- \$9.5 million provided shelter, warm clothing, and health care services to returned refugees and IDPs in the Kyrgyz Republic.
- \$33.0 million provided emergency shelter, food, clean water, and health care to Afghan refugees and Pakistanis displaced as a result of the floods in Pakistan.



*Assistant Secretary Anne C. Richard with internally displaced children in South Sudan.*