

Congressional Presentation Document

Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

FY 2023

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U.S. Department of State

Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

FY 2023 Statement by Assistant Secretary Julieta Valls Noyes

As the daughter of refugees, I am both proud and humbled to serve as Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM). PRM leads for humanitarian assistance and diplomacy at the State Department. The Bureau is at the forefront of implementing crucial aspects of many national security priorities. My top priorities as Assistant Secretary are to advance humanitarian diplomacy in support of durable solutions for globally displaced persons, rebuild the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), and strengthen the Bureau's workforce and resources to address growing humanitarian needs around the world.

With our colleagues at USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), we are reinvigorating U.S. humanitarian leadership around the world, providing lifesaving protection and assistance in response to humanitarian crises and international disasters overseas, and enhancing protections for refugees, victims of conflict, and other displaced persons. We also work with colleagues across the Department, the interagency, and the humanitarian community to promote safe, humane, and orderly migration systems and address the root causes of irregular migration. PRM is committed to championing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility for all, both as part of our humanitarian response and within our own workforce.

In support of these goals, PRM administers the generous humanitarian assistance provided by Congress on behalf of the American people. That humanitarian aid saves lives and upholds human dignity for tens of millions of forcibly displaced and crisis-affected people, including refugees, victims of conflict, internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless persons, and vulnerable migrants. A few examples demonstrate how PRM's humanitarian assistance, protection efforts, and diplomacy spans the globe: We provide shelter for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. We advocate for humanitarian access to those experiencing conflict in Ethiopia and Syria. We support Afghan refugees fleeing their homes following the Taliban takeover, including many who are resettling in the United States. We assist countries providing safe haven for displaced Venezuelans. PRM funding helps Ukrainian refugees and others, assisting a historically unprecedented number of people fleeing due to Russia's unprovoked war and leading the charge for a response that meets the needs of the most vulnerable. We spotlight U.S. priorities in the international humanitarian sector, such as preventing and responding to gender-based violence and advocating education for all. And critically, PRM's FY 2023 budget request includes resources to continue rebuilding and strengthening the USRAP, demonstrating America's compassion for the world's most vulnerable refugees by offering resettlement to those who cannot safely return home or be locally integrated. The FY 2023 request will also strengthen the Bureau internally as we create a more diverse and inclusive workplace, with expanded staff equipped with the skills and knowledge to continue leading the world's humanitarian response.

Exerting Strong Leadership in Global Humanitarian Response

In May 2022, the High Commissioner for Refugees announced that we have hit a sobering record of more than 100 million people forcibly displaced, more than half within their own countries. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimated in December 2021 that 274 million persons (1 in 29 people worldwide) would need humanitarian assistance and protection in 2022, a number that has since increased. These vulnerable people depend on humanitarian assistance, which in turn depends on U.S. global leadership to meet their basic needs and defend their fundamental

rights. The continuing social and economic challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic have increased humanitarian needs, complicated the delivery of humanitarian assistance, reversed long-sought gains in child and maternal health and education, and negatively impacted some local and national economies by restricting displaced populations' access to income.

Moreover, Russia's war on Ukraine has created an outflow of refugees in Europe unprecedented since World War II, while exacerbating a global food security crisis. This, compounded by the continuing global supply chain and transportation challenges, is having an outsized impact on those in need of humanitarian assistance: more people are being pushed into greater vulnerability, costs to meet basic needs are increasing dramatically, and traditional donors are increasingly struggling to support global needs. Conflict-affected populations often have to choose between keeping children in school or sending them to work or, for girls, to marry; prioritizing their limited income among food, fuel, or health care; or forced into situations that make them more vulnerable to gender-based violence, sexual abuse and exploitation, or human trafficking.

With State regional bureaus, PRM promotes and engages in vigorous diplomacy to address and mitigate humanitarian crises around the world. Humanitarian diplomacy promotes respect for international refugee and humanitarian law and norms; safe, humane, and orderly migration policies; sustained and increased giving by other donors to address humanitarian needs; and achievement of durable solutions for displaced and vulnerable people. The Bureau's life-saving assistance, provided through a network of experienced humanitarian partners and with the critical support of local partners and stakeholders, supports protection and addresses a broad range of needs of refugees and others in vulnerable situations. Our funding to humanitarian partners is flexible to enable them to respond to new emergencies, like Russia's war on Ukraine or conflict in Ethiopia's Tigray region, while PRM's monitoring efforts and institutional engagement with partners prioritizes accountability both to the populations we assist and to the U.S. taxpayer.

U.S. humanitarian leadership includes well-managed resettlement of refugees to the United States through the USRAP, offering protection and a durable solution for

individual refugees and families. In FY 2022, PRM is building capacity to provide up to 125,000 refugees resettlement in the United States, concretely demonstrating the U.S. commitment to humanitarian leadership and human rights, including freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression. We seek to realize the Administration's vision, embodied in the Interim National Security Guidance, to "renew our promise as a place of refuge, and our obligation to protect those who seek shelter on our shores." The FY 2023 request will provide the resources necessary to rebuild and modernize the USRAP.

To exert global leadership and effectively fulfill our mission, the Bureau must also have the best people in the right positions. This includes building and equipping a diverse, inclusive, resilient, and dynamic workforce representative of the American people. PRM is currently expanding its workforce in response to pressing humanitarian needs in Afghanistan, Burma and Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Mexico and Central America, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, and Venezuela, among others, and to strengthen the USRAP.

FY 2023 Request

The FY 2023 request for the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account totals \$3,912 million and for the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) account totals \$100 million. Within the MRA account, the Overseas Assistance request is \$3,015 million, the Refugee Admissions request is \$822.5 million, the Humanitarian Migrants to Israel request is \$5 million, and Administrative Expenses is \$70 million.

On behalf of the Secretary of State and PRM staff, I thank the Congress and the American taxpayers for their continued support of the State Department's humanitarian operations. Together, we will continue to exert global leadership by providing humanitarian assistance to those most in need, while working to administer our operations and programs efficiently and effectively. I look forward to working closely with Congress to achieve our shared objectives on behalf of the American people.

Request by Account and Fiscal Year

The tables below present a summary, in thousands of USD, of requests by account and fiscal year, and display the amounts (i) spent in FY 2021, (ii) enacted in 2022, and (ii) requested in 2023. Funding for Overseas Contingency Operations as well as supplemental funding for Afghanistan, Ukraine, and American Rescue Plan Act are presented separately.

- For Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) funding:
 - FY 2021 Actual figures include \$500 million in supplemental ERMA funding.
 - FY 2022 Enacted figures include \$2.1761 billion in supplemental ERMA funding “for support for Operation Allies Welcome and related efforts by the Department of State, including additional relocations of individuals at risk as a result of the situation in Afghanistan and related expenses.”
- For Migration Refugee Assistance (MRA) funding:
 - FY 2021 Actual includes \$500 million in ARPA-MRA, \$100 million in supplemental MRA “to address humanitarian needs in Afghanistan and to assist Afghan refugees,” and more than \$1.7 billion in FY 2021 in MRA-OCO.
 - FY 2022 Enacted includes \$1.4 billion in supplemental MRA funding “to assist refugees from Ukraine and for additional support for other vulnerable populations and communities” and \$415 million in supplemental MRA funding “to address humanitarian needs in, and to assist refugees from, Afghanistan.”

**Table 1: Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) and
Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA)
Summaries**

Account	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request
TOTAL - ERMA and MRA	4,532,100	7,003,388	4,012,000
ERMA	500,100	2,276,200	100,000
MRA	4,032,000	4,727,188	3,912,000

Table 2: Enduring ERMA and MRA Summary

Operating Unit	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request
TOTAL - ERMA and MRA	1,730,683	3,012,288	4,012,000
ERMA	100	100,100	100,000
MRA	1,730,583	2,912,188	3,912,000
Africa	-	486,488	848,300
East Asia	209,600	180,740	247,500
Europe	-	83,200	80,000
Near East	560,805	905,680	1,048,000
South Asia	-	10,500	85,000

Western Hemisphere	308,300	310,600	398,000
Protection Priorities	319,348	301,580	257,700
Migration	47,000	66,900	50,000
Administrative Expenses	47,630	49,500	70,000
Humanitarian Migrants to Israel	5,000	5,000	5,000
Refugee Admissions	232,900	512,000	822,500

Table 3: Afghan Supplemental Summary

Operating Unit	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request
TOTAL - ERMA and MRA	600,000	2,591,100	-
ERMA	500,000	2,176,100	-
MRA	100,000	415,000	-
Administrative Expenses	-	15,000	-
Refugee Admissions	-	5,000	-
South Asia	100,000	395,000	-

Table 4: Ukraine and Other Supplemental Summary

Operating Unit	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request
TOTAL – Ukraine and Other Supplemental - MRA	-	1,400,000	-
Africa	-	427,512	-
East Asia	-	56,500	-
Near East	-	354,900	-
Western Hemisphere	-	93,900	-
Protection Priorities	-	467,188	-

Table 5: American Rescue Plan Act MRA Summary

Operating Unit	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request
TOTAL	500,000	-	-
Protection Priorities	500,000	-	-

Table 6: Overseas Contingency Operations MRA Summary

Operating Unit	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request
TOTAL	1,701,417	-	-
Africa	902,500	-	-
Europe	93,200	-	-
Near East	616,965	-	-
South Asia	68,400	-	-
Protection Priorities	20,352	-	-

Humanitarian Diplomacy, Partnerships, and Accountability

“Reinvigorate U.S. humanitarian leadership and provide lifesaving protection and assistance in response to international disasters and humanitarian crises overseas.”

FY 2022 – 2026 Joint Strategic Plan Goal 1, Objective 1.3

PRM’s humanitarian diplomacy, in collaboration with relevant bureaus and in accordance with the FY 2022-2026 State-USAID Joint Strategic Plan, strives to uphold **humanitarian principles** in U.S. foreign policy and throughout the multilateral system, in accordance with the Administration’s strategic priorities of championing human rights and advancing inclusion and racial and economic justice. This is accomplished by:

1. Advocating for the protection of the most vulnerable populations in crises, particularly, women, children, minorities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+) individuals, older persons, and persons living with disabilities;
2. Building a strong international infrastructure for humanitarian response through support to and engagement with multilateral humanitarian partners;
3. Advancing effective and humane international migration policies that expand opportunities for safe and orderly migration; and
4. Promoting effective international population policies, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, such as access to voluntary family planning and maternal health care.

Protection is at the core of PRM’s humanitarian mission. We seek to integrate protection for vulnerable people into our assistance programs and to reinforce these efforts through diplomacy. Fundamentally, PRM’s protection work is about supporting, defending, and empowering our populations of concern, who include those at risk of persecution, forced displacement, or statelessness. The Bureau’s protection priorities cover our diplomacy and

assistance to refugees, victims of conflict, internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless persons, and vulnerable migrants. Protection priorities include: preserve the opportunity to seek asylum and protect refugees from forcible return to a place where their lives or freedom would be threatened (*refoulement*); enable humanitarian organizations to reach people in need of assistance; provide registration, status determination, and documentation; uphold safety from physical abuse and violence, including from gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA); identify and protect those in particular situations of vulnerability; prevent and resolve statelessness; and reunify separated families.

Strong **partnerships**, including reliable contributions to *international humanitarian organizations*, combined with our humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy, provide the U.S. government an outsized influence in the humanitarian community, shaping international responses to humanitarian crises, maintaining global response capacity, and promoting responsibility-sharing by encouraging nations to provide more flexible, robust, and predictable funding and to meet their responsibilities to the forcibly displaced people they host, including non-refoulement.

In accordance with the Interim National Security Strategy Guidance, to “work with like-minded partners, and pool our collective strength to advance shared interests and deter common threats,” PRM uses all available diplomatic pathways to encourage other governments to share the global responsibility of providing humanitarian assistance, even as we remain the largest contributor. Through diplomatic engagement and advocacy, PRM strives to increase both the number and consistency of donor governments, as well as to grow the pool of private sector and civil society partners providing humanitarian aid, development bank financing, and in-kind support. At governing board meetings of international organizations (IOs), PRM leadership calls on governments both to increase humanitarian contributions and to provide more flexible, robust, and predictable funding, while also encouraging progress toward solutions, including increased refugee resettlement. The United States also uses these fora to advocate for humanitarian reforms that would help IOs reduce administrative expenditures and bureaucratic inefficiencies to allow more assistance to reach people in need.

These efforts have produced positive results. Through direct humanitarian diplomacy, we have seen overall progress by *partner nations* to expand humanitarian financing and enact legal reforms to allow refugees greater access to education and legal work in several countries, especially in areas close to home for many refugees. For example, on April 26, 2022, the United States joined the EU, OCHA, and representatives of the governments of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia at a High-Level Roundtable to raise awareness and funds to respond to severe drought conditions in the region, which risks becoming one of the worst climate-induced emergencies in recent history in the Horn of Africa. PRM has also initiated new partnerships to engage the private sector and the American people, such as with Welcome.US, a national non-profit initiative representing a coalition of over 250 organizations, aimed at galvanizing and organizing offers of support from the American people and the private sector to welcome and support Afghans and Ukrainians as they arrive in communities nationwide.

The United States supports efforts to leverage *multilateral development bank* (MDB) tools to support forcibly displaced people and the communities that host them. PRM works closely with the Treasury Department to support the World Bank's two refugee facilities, the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF) and the IDA-19 Window for Host Communities and Refugees (WHR), to provide concessional financing to both middle and low-income refugee-hosting countries. These facilities enable refugee-hosting governments to make refugee-inclusive investments that stimulate economic growth, expand access to educational opportunities, and alleviate strains on infrastructure and social services. In 2021, PRM, in collaboration with other U.S. agencies, led the provision of a \$40 million U.S. contribution to an Inter-American Development Bank and World Bank GCFF project to support implementation of Colombia's ten-year temporary protected status (TPS) for Venezuelan migrants. GCFF-supported TPS bolsters the socio-economic integration of Venezuelans into Colombian society and grants beneficiaries access to Colombian national public services. When countries seek approval to use GCFF or IDA-19 WHR financing to support projects, PRM informs the U.S. government vote by providing recommendations and advice to the Treasury Department on the refugee protection environment of that country and protection elements in the proposal.

“Promote a safe, humane, and orderly immigration and asylum system, address the root causes of irregular migration collaboratively with our partners, and enhance protections for refugees and displaced persons.”

FY 2022 – 2026 Joint Strategic Plan Goal 3, Objective 3.4

With **migration management** programs in every region of the world, PRM programming with IOM and other partners addresses the root causes of regional migration and aims to strengthen governments’ capacities to control borders humanely and assist vulnerable migrants, including unaccompanied children. In Central America and Mexico, PRM support helps government officials and civil society to identify, screen, protect, and assist vulnerable migrants and to strengthen national asylum systems and other protection capacities. PRM support for implementation of the Collaborative Migration Management Strategy, as outlined in Executive Order 14010, and the Executive Order on Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs to Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration (EO 14013) helps strengthen safe, humane, and orderly migration, including access to protection for vulnerable migrants, in North and Central America.

Another way we enhance protection for and solutions to refugees is through the **U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP)**, also referenced in EO 14013. In FY 2022, PRM is building capacity and modernizing the USRAP in order to resettle up to 125,000 refugees in the United States.

Performance and Evidence

Ensuring **transparency and accountability** to both U.S. taxpayers and beneficiaries is paramount. As the world’s leading humanitarian donor, the United States has an opportunity for impact when we model good humanitarian donorship. This includes maximum efforts to use taxpayer dollars efficiently and effectively, including by addressing the self-identified needs and priorities of affected populations. PRM is committed to the rigorous monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of its assistance programs to prevent fraud, maximize cost-effectiveness, and spark innovation. PRM strengthens its learning through

a continuum of training, robust M&E, and research. The Bureau develops strategies for regional, functional, and organizational policies and programs that incorporate and align to the goals and objectives of PRM's Functional Bureau Strategy. PRM offices conduct annual reviews of these strategies prior to funding programs that emerge from them. The Bureau offers an annual week-long M&E course for new PRM staff with oversight responsibilities to equip them with the knowledge and skills to oversee PRM's humanitarian programs, as well as regular workshops to further hone M&E knowledge and application. PRM monitoring includes a combination of regular desk and on-site reviews of programmatic and financial performance; PRM expanded its use of remote monitoring functions in the COVID-19 environment.

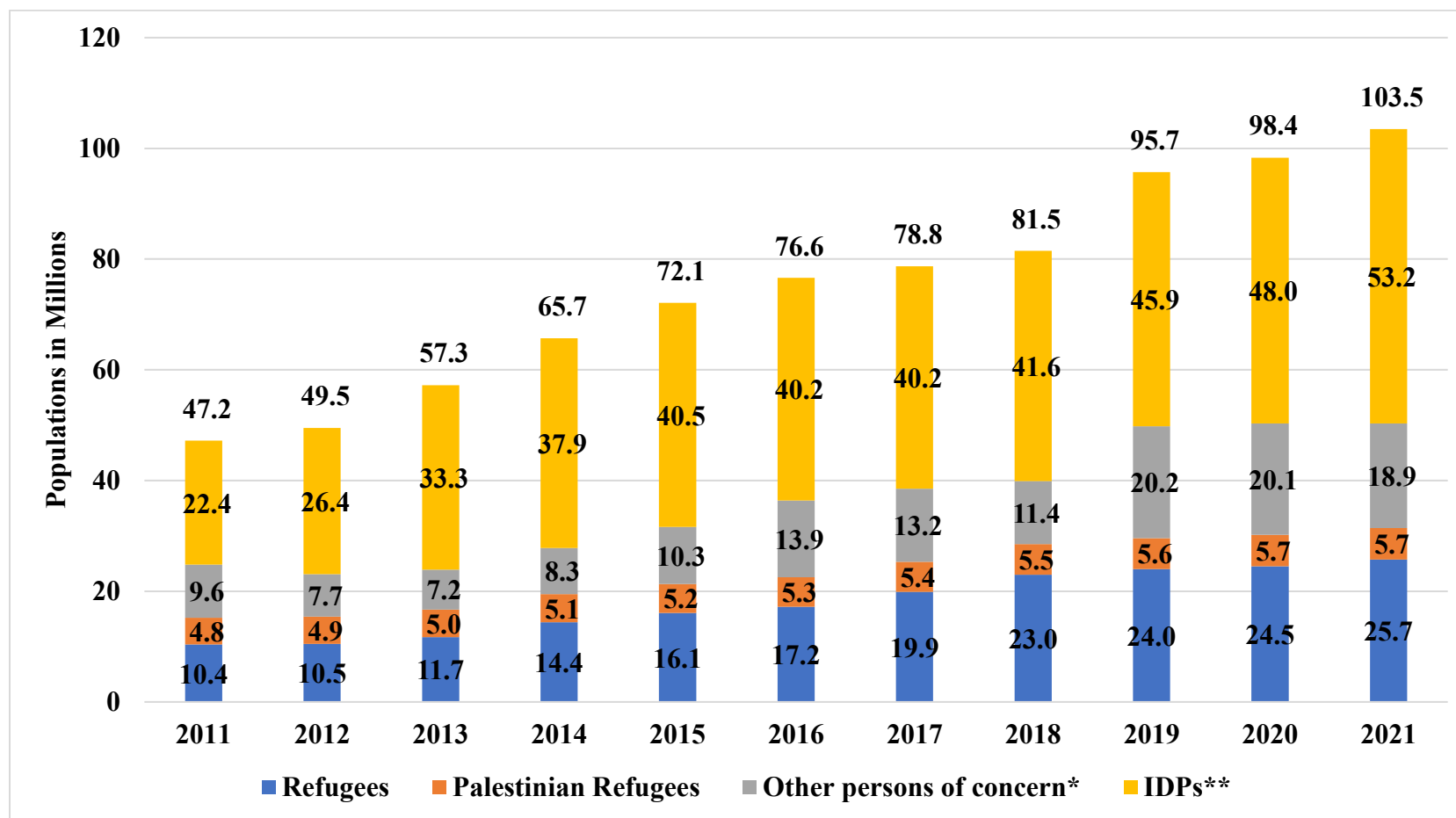
A 2020-2021 Office of Inspector General audit of State's risk assessments and monitoring of voluntary contributions to public international organizations commended PRM for going above and beyond Department policy for -

- identifying, assessing, and responding to risks before awarding funds
- ensuring voluntary contributions include specific, measurable objectives, and
- requiring documentation of monitoring activities to demonstrate achievement of award objective

PRM continues to integrate the principle and practices of *Accountability to Affected Populations* (AAP) into its policies and programming, aiming to give affected communities influence in the design and implementation of humanitarian programming that affects their lives in a way that accounts for their diversity. This approach results in PRM programming that is more inclusive, responsive, and transparent while yielding better program outcomes. PRM has modified proposal review and program monitoring protocols to assess the extent to which partners and programs are meeting accountability standards and indicators, including by developing an internal Framework for Accountability to persons of concern and operational guidance for field staff. PRM co-leads a "Participation Revolution" workstream within the "Grand Bargain" humanitarian reform framework that includes the world's leading multilateral aid agencies, NGOs, and the largest humanitarian donors. In this role, PRM promotes collective actions to provide

crisis-affected individuals and communities a meaningful voice in the humanitarian programming and projects that affect their lives.

Chart: PRM Populations of Concern (2011-2021)



* “Other Persons of Concern” include asylum seekers, stateless persons, and returnees. Figures do not include all conflict victims assisted by ICRC or vulnerable migrants.

** Includes only conflict-affected IDPs as reported by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC).

Table 7: Migration and Refugee Assistance Overview

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
Migration and Refugee Assistance	4,032,000	4,727,188	3,912,000	-815,188
Enduring - MRA	1,730,583	2,912,188	3,912,000	999,812
Afghans Supplemental - MRA	100,000	415,000	-	-415,000
Ukraine and Other Supplemental - MRA	-	1,400,000	-	-1,400,000
ARPA-MRA	500,000	-	-	-
MRA-OCO	1,701,417	-	-	-

PRM is the humanitarian arm of the Department of State that, along with USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), works to thoroughly integrate humanitarian principles into U.S. foreign and national security policy. PRM's mission is to provide protection, ease suffering, and resolve the plight of persecuted and forcibly displaced people around the world. PRM provides life-saving assistance and protection to people in some of the world's most vulnerable situations, including refugees, victims of conflict, IDPs, stateless persons, and vulnerable migrants, and works to achieve durable solutions for the millions of forcibly displaced people across the globe, including through refugee resettlement in the United States. PRM-funded activities support U.S. strategic foreign policy objectives and contribute to regional stability.

In partnership with international and non-governmental humanitarian organizations, programs funded through the Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account save lives and ease suffering, uphold human dignity, and play a critical role in responding to complex humanitarian situations with regional and global impact, assisting citizens of Afghanistan, Burma, Ethiopia, Iraq, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen, and elsewhere. MRA funding also plays a role in the U.S. government's comprehensive approach to collaboratively manage migration in the Western Hemisphere, including by expanding access to international protection, when needed. PRM's humanitarian assistance, coupled with diplomacy, form an essential component of U.S. foreign policy by helping to strengthen bilateral relationships with refugee-hosting countries, such as Bangladesh, Colombia, Jordan, Turkey, and Uganda.

The FY 2023 MRA request of \$3,912 million will support continued U.S. leadership on refugee and humanitarian issues as we remain the leading contributor to UN and other humanitarian organizations. The request will fund contributions to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), as well as other international and non-governmental organizations that address pressing humanitarian needs overseas. It also provides the resources necessary to continue to rebuild and expand the refugee admissions program to resettle refugees in the United States.

Contributions to multilateral international humanitarian organizations, combined with humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy, demonstrate U.S. government leadership in the humanitarian community, shaping international responses to humanitarian crises, maintaining global response capacity, bolstering responsibility sharing, and providing support to host nations for more flexible, robust, and predictable funding and to meet their responsibilities to forcibly displaced people.

Highlights

- **Overseas Assistance (\$3,0145 million):** PRM's FY 2023 Overseas Assistance request level reflects humanitarian needs that are globally driven by the expanding

number of new emergencies and protracted crises and a corresponding growth in forcibly displaced populations worldwide. United States' overseas support is commensurate with strengthened U.S. humanitarian and multilateral leadership to address some of the most pressing crises across the globe. MRA-funded programs meet basic needs of refugees and other vulnerable populations, including water and sanitation, nutrition and health care, emergency shelter, and family reunification, while also promoting self-reliance of refugees through education and economic opportunities and supporting their host communities. PRM programs and diplomatic efforts emphasize protection of the most vulnerable, including women, children, older persons, persons living with disabilities, and LGBTQI+ persons; support solutions to displacement through voluntary repatriation, local integration, or refugee resettlement in a third country; advocate for safe, humane, and orderly international migration policies; and uphold respect for humanitarian principles.

- **Refugee Admissions (\$822.5 million):** The U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) represents an important element of both refugee protection and durable solutions. In line with the Executive Order on Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs to Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration (EO 14013), the FY 2023 MRA request includes the resources necessary to continue to rebuild and expand the domestic and international refugee resettlement infrastructure. Funding will enable international and non-governmental organizations to help refugees and certain other categories of special immigrants to resettle in communities across the United States. The USRAP focuses on providing initial reception and placement services for refugees, and on assisting them achieve economic self-sufficiency. USRAP priorities in FY 2023 include the continued expansion of legal pathways for Central Americans; enhanced access to the USRAP for Afghans at-risk due to their affiliation with the United States; increased resettlement of LGBTQI+ refugees; priority access for at-risk Uyghurs, Hong Kong refugees, and Burmese dissidents; continued resettlement of Ukrainians via Lautenberg program processing and potential new referral mechanisms; increased numbers of U.S.-affiliated Iraqis processed with new integrity measures in place; and possible large-scale resettlement of Burmese Rohingya in Bangladesh.

- **Humanitarian Migrants to Israel (\$5 million):** The FY 2023 MRA request helps identify durable solutions by maintaining U.S. government support for the relocation and integration of Jewish migrants to Israel, including those displaced by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and others from the former Soviet Union, in the Near East, and in Ethiopia.
- **Administrative Expenses (\$70 million):** The FY 2023 request will support monitoring and oversight of MRA-funded programs and the Department of State's lead role in humanitarian, migration, and population policy issues, policy oversight of PRM funded IOs and other partners, and related diplomatic engagement. The largest portion of administrative expenses will cover the salaries, benefits, and travel costs of U.S. direct hire staff, including regional refugee coordinator posts in 32 U.S. embassies worldwide.

Table 8: Overseas Assistance

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL - Overseas Assistance	3,746,470	4,140,688	3,014,500	-1,126,188
Enduring - MRA	1,445,053	2,345,688	3,014,500	668,812
Africa	-	486,488	848,300	361,812
East Asia	209,600	180,740	247,500	66,760
Europe	-	83,200	80,000	-3,200
Near East	560,805	905,680	1,048,000	142,320
South Asia	-	10,500	85,000	74,500
Western Hemisphere	308,300	310,600	398,000	87,400
Protection Priorities	319,348	301,580	257,700	-43,880
Migration	47,000	66,900	50,000	-16,900
Afghans Supplemental - MRA	100,000	395,000	-	-395,000
South Asia	100,000	395,000	-	-395,000

Ukraine and Other Supplemental - MRA	-	1,400,000	-	-1,400,000
Africa	-	427,512	-	-427,512
East Asia	-	56,500	-	-56,500
Near East	-	354,900	-	-354,900
Western Hemisphere	-	93,900	-	-93,900
Protection Priorities	-	467,188	-	-467,188
ARPA-MRA	500,000	-	-	-
Protection Priorities	500,000	-	-	-
MRA-OCO	1,701,417	-	-	-
Africa	902,500	-	-	-
Europe	93,200	-	-	-
Near East	616,965	-	-	-
South Asia	68,400	-	-	-
Protection Priorities	20,352	-	-	-

FY 2023 Request for PRM Funded Partners

Most of the FY 2023 MRA request will be used to provide U.S. contributions to IOs to meet their requirements for calendar year 2023. Among PRM's primary partners are UNHCR, ICRC, IOM, and UNRWA. The United States demonstrates strong leadership and commitment to institutions through proactive engagement in governing bodies, robust funding, and active monitoring on the ground through refugee coordinators overseas and PRM program officers. 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 allows them to respond quickly to emergencies throughout the world to meet urgent humanitarian needs.

UNHCR is an indispensable partner for the United States and a critical player in effective multilateral humanitarian response. The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness give UNHCR a mandate to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and stateless persons, respectively, and to work toward lasting solutions to their displacement. UNHCR's global network of staff in 132 countries, and its partnerships with other humanitarian organizations provided protection, solutions, life-saving assistance, and advocacy in 2021 for more than 94.6 million persons of concern, including 51.3 million IDPs. (Russia's war on Ukraine has now pushed that total figure over 100 million.) UNHCR programs provide legal and physical protection and meet urgent needs for water, sanitation, shelter, food, health care, and education. UNHCR also plays an essential role in seeking permanent solutions for refugees. It supports safe and voluntary repatriation 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 other organization can reach, making the ICRC an invaluable partner in responding to humanitarian needs. ICRC's primary goals are to protect and assist civilian victims of armed conflict and other situations of

violence (including millions of IDPs), trace missing persons, reunite separated family members, monitor treatment of prisoners of war and detainees, and disseminate information on and build respect for the principles of international humanitarian law. As part of its current 2019-2024 strategy, ICRC has committed to increasing its impact through collaboration and partnership with a wide array of external entities.

IOM is the leading international organization on migration and an important partner in advancing the U.S. policy objective of promoting safe, humane, and orderly migration. IOM promotes safe, humane, and orderly migration management, international cooperation on migration, and practical solutions to migration problems; it also provides humanitarian assistance to displaced migrants in need. IOM programs include refugee resettlement processing, transportation, and health screening; transportation and emergency humanitarian assistance to vulnerable migrants and forcibly displaced persons; tracking and monitoring displacement and population mobility; preventing trafficking in persons and assisting trafficking survivors; and facilitating assisted voluntary returns. 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 to helping governments manage migration while ensuring migrants are treated with dignity and can seek international protection when needed.

UNRWA is mandated by the United Nations to provide education, health, relief, and social services to some 5.7 million registered Palestinian refugees residing in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and the West Bank and Gaza. UNRWA also provides emergency food, health care, livelihoods, and other assistance to vulnerable Palestinian refugees during humanitarian crises, such as the war in Syria and during the May 2021 escalation in Gaza. UNRWA plays a stabilizing role in the Middle East through its assistance programs, serving as an important counterweight to extremist elements. Given UNRWA's operations in areas where terrorist organizations are active, the U.S. Department of State continues to monitor UNRWA closely, including to verify the agency is taking all possible measures to keep terrorists from benefitting from U.S. government funding and to ensure UNRWA's neutrality.

MRA funds may also support the activities of other IOs and NGOs to strengthen responses to specific program needs and objectives. Other IOs receiving MRA funds include the UN Children's Fund (**UNICEF**), UN Population Fund (**UNFPA**), the UN Development Program (**UNDP**), the World Food Program (**WFP**), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (**IFRC**), and the World Health Organization (**WHO**).

Of the nearly **80 NGOs** receiving MRA funds for overseas assistance in FY 2021, the top 10 recipients were: the International Rescue Committee, HIAS, Save the Children, Norwegian Refugee Council, Jesuit Refugee Service USA, Pan American Development Foundation, Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), International Medical Corps, Danish Refugee Council, and Relief International. Funding for NGO programs is typically provided in 12-month increments but may support multi-year projects for 24 to 36 months. Multi-year projects help facilitate longer-term planning, particularly when crises and displacement are protracted. In FY 2021, 82 percent of PRM's overseas assistance cooperative agreements with NGOs were multi-year, nearly a 40 percent increase compared to 2018. Such multi-year support also supports Grand Bargain commitments.

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

Table 9: Assistance Programs in Africa

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	902,500	914,000	848,300	-65,700
Enduring - MRA	-	486,488	848,300	361,812
Ukraine and Other Supplemental - MRA	-	427,512	-	-427,512
MRA-OCO	902,500	-	-	-

FY 2023 Request

The FY 2023 MRA request for Africa will enable the Bureau to support programs and operations that save lives and ease the suffering of African refugees, victims of conflict, IDPs, and stateless persons. Africa was home to over 7.5 million refugees and asylum seekers and 25 million IDPs at the start of 2022, a number that has steadily risen due to both protracted and new crises. The need for humanitarian aid remains high. Conflict that began in northern Ethiopia's Tigray region and spread into surrounding regions has resulted in over two million IDPs and displaced nearly 60,000 Ethiopian refugees into neighboring Sudan. In Mozambique, the Islamic State insurgency in the province of Cabo Delgado has subjected civilians to gross human rights abuses and driven 735,000 civilians from their homes to overcrowded towns, villages, and displacement sites in the southern part of the province as well as neighboring provinces. In Northeast Nigeria, widespread displacement from years of conflict perpetuated by Boko Haram and other militant groups persists, and in South Sudan, a brutal civil conflict has led to the largest refugee crisis in Africa. Increased violence, food insecurity, and climate change have displaced nearly three million people – both as refugees and IDPs – in West Africa's Central Sahel region. Humanitarian workers

are increasingly at risk of being targeted by terrorists, and insecurity has severely hampered access and service delivery to the most vulnerable, including displaced women and children.

Countries are frequently hosting refugees from more than one country. Chad, for example, is simultaneously coping with more than 500,000 refugees from Nigeria, the Central African Republic (CAR), and Sudan's Darfur region, while Ethiopia is hosting more than 830,000 refugees, mainly from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea, and Sudan. Uganda is the largest refugee host on the continent with over 1.5 million refugees including both the largest population of South Sudanese refugees – more than 960,000 – and the largest number of refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) – more than 450,000. In the Sahel, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Mauritania host more than 440,000 Malian, Burkinabe, Mauritanian, and Senegalese refugees. West Africa's coastal countries hosting refugees from CAR, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, and Togo, have long offered protection to those fleeing conflict despite limited resources and lack of donor attention.

MRA funds will support UNHCR's operations to provide protection and assistance and find durable solutions for populations of concern, including those who are stateless or at risk of statelessness, in nearly every country across the continent. The request also will support ICRC operations in 35 countries in Africa to protect and assist conflict victims and to promote compliance with international humanitarian law. Humanitarian needs are expected to remain high in FY 2023 due to stubbornly protracted conflicts and new violence in such places as Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, the DRC, Ethiopia, Mali, and Nigeria. Top priorities include maintaining opportunities for asylum, keeping refugee and IDP sites secure and neutral, preventing GBV in all its forms, achieving humanitarian access in conflict zones, biometrically registering and documenting refugees for protection and accountability purposes, reaching minimum standards of assistance for those people who need aid, promoting self-reliance whenever possible, achieving maximum social cohesion between refugees and hosts, and sustaining voluntary returns by helping to make sure that basic services are available when and where refugees return home. PRM and the organizations it supports see opportunities in Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal for refugees to voluntarily return home, and even to some parts of the DRC, Nigeria, and Somalia - and to complete local integration in Guinea-Bissau and Zambia.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- PRM's humanitarian advocacy and more than \$900 million in assistance in FY 2021 helped keep borders open to those fleeing persecution and conflict; saved lives; prevented malnutrition and starvation; and provided health care to refugees, victims of conflict, and IDPs throughout Africa. PRM worked with international partners and governments to provide immediate, life-saving goods and services as well as economic empowerment and education to those displaced by conflicts in the **CAR, the DRC, Ethiopia, Mali, South Sudan, and Somalia**. PRM support also aided people displaced by the violent extremist groups of ISIS in West Africa in the Lake Chad Basin Region (including **Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria**) and the Islamic State in **Mozambique and DRC**.
- Responding to PRM advocacy on the desirability of providing refugees with more access to legal work and educational opportunities, several of the largest refugee-hosting countries on the continent (**Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zambia**) made significant progress on implementing commitments made during the 2016 and 2019 refugee summits to better integrate refugees into their countries. For example, in 2021, Kenya passed a new Refugee Act, affirming refugee access to identification, public services, and employment. The new law also introduced a new residency program for refugees from other East African Community member states who voluntarily give up their refugee status. The implementing regulations for the law will determine how significant its impact on refugee integration will be.
- In FY 2021, PRM-funded humanitarian organizations provided protection and multi-sectoral assistance for refugees and conflict victims in **South Sudan and South Sudanese** refugees in neighboring countries. PRM-supported protection, education, health and nutrition, and medical services for approximately 2 million IDPs in South Sudan and more than 2.3 million South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries. PRM implementing partners, including UNHCR and ICRC, continued to prioritize GBV prevention and response activities. PRM-supported programs were vital to bringing aid to parts of South Sudan previously blocked due to ongoing fighting.

- The **Lake Chad Basin** crisis, provoked by the violent extremist groups ISIS in West Africa and Boko Haram, has displaced millions of people across four countries, and the situation is particularly threatening in northern Nigeria, where there are now over 2.5 million IDPs. PRM partnered with IOs, including UNHCR and ICRC, and worked with governments in the region to address the humanitarian crisis, while countering any efforts to forcibly return refugees and IDPs.
- Increased fighting in eastern **DRC** continued to forcibly displace hundreds of thousands, adding to the 5.6 million IDPs and more than 1 million Congolese refugees across the continent. With PRM support, UNHCR's established protection monitoring structure provided timely information on human rights abuses and attacks. PRM support to UNHCR and an NGO provided clean water, health care, shelter, and protection to more than 210,000 CAR refugees, including more than 70,000 in December 2020 who fled violence around the CAR Presidential elections to remote areas of northern DRC. In addition, PRM support enabled UNHCR to assist refugee populations in eastern DRC, as well as returning Congolese refugees re-integrating in the Kasai region.
- In **Egypt**, PRM supported urban response programming for over 230,000 refugees, primarily from Syria and sub-Saharan Africa. As Egypt struggles economically and the protection space deteriorates, PRM partners have provided key interventions in cash assistance, legal assistance, GBV prevention and response, and psychosocial services programming.
- In **Algeria**, PRM continued to support the longstanding Sahrawi refugee community. PRM contributions to UNHCR and WFP helped to provide a wide range of protection and assistance, including innovative livelihoods initiatives.
- In **Libya**, PRM's contributions to UNHCR and other partners supported critical protection and assistance programming for Libyan IDPs as well as refugees and migrants, including detention monitoring.
- In **Mozambique**, PRM contributions to UNHCR and ICRC assisted IDPs with health care, shelter, family reunification, and non-food items (such as sleeping mats,

blankets, and jerry cans). UNHCR supported the issuance of identity documents, monitored the protection environment, and sought to prevent and respond to situations of GBV and SEA.

- In the **Sahel, which includes Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger**, a surge in violence and terrorism since 2019 caused an unprecedented emergency and displaced nearly 2.9 million people across the region. Borders are porous, government reach is limited, and displacement and insecurity are growing. Regional violence affecting the Central Sahel has spilled over into the coastal countries of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, and Togo. PRM contributions to UNHCR, ICRC, and other partners supported refugees, victims of conflict, IDPs, and food-insecure populations with essential protection and assistance with health care, shelters, livelihoods, education, food, and non-food items.
- PRM also provided UNHCR, ICRC, NGOs, and other humanitarian actors across the continent with funding to address the additional challenges brought about by COVID-19 and advocated for borders to be open to asylum seekers despite the pandemic.
- PRM continued to support, where possible, voluntary refugee return in safety and dignity. Combined with spontaneous returns in 2021, Africa saw nearly 390,000 refugees return home. In 2021, UNHCR facilitated the voluntary return of over 63,000 Burundian refugees and will continue to support returns in 2022. PRM provided funding to assist the reintegration of returnees in their communities of origin and supported Burundian refugees who remain in host countries. In addition, in late 2021, UNHCR facilitated the return of 5,500 CAR refugees from the DRC to safe areas around Bangui. The facilitated voluntary repatriation of over 105,000 Ivorian refugees with UNHCR support since 2011 also stands out as a regional success story. In September and October 2021, UNHCR and regional governments updated a regional roadmap for Ivoirian refugee repatriation and local integration and recommended cessation of Ivoirian prima facie status by June 2022. PRM worked with Embassy Nairobi (Kenya), UNHCR, and other donors to support voluntary returns to Somalia while maintaining safe asylum for those in Kenya and the rest of the Horn of Africa still unable or unwilling to return. While significant returns to

Somalia did not take place in 2021 due to pandemic-related travel restrictions, nearly 300 Somalis voluntarily repatriated to Somalia. UNHCR assisted 700 voluntary repatriations to Ethiopia from Kenya and Djibouti in 2021. Since 2018, UNHCR reports more than 500,000 South Sudanese have spontaneously returned to their country. In 2021, UNHCR began its Pockets of Hope initiative that works to fortify areas of refugee returns for long-term settlement. PRM supported UNHCR's work with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the governments of South Sudan and Sudan to develop national solutions strategies for their combined 7 million displaced persons.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Successfully address protection challenges**, including coerced returns of Nigerian refugees and forced relocations of IDPs; recruitment of refugees into fighting forces; pressure to join extremist groups; attacks on refugees and IDPs by armed groups in Mozambique, DRC, and the Sahel; sexual exploitation, including by national authorities; and unwarranted detention of refugees in places such as Libya.
- **Improve and expand programming to prevent and respond to GBV** for refugee and IDP populations in Africa, both in new emergencies and protracted situations. Engage directly with refugee hosting governments to improve legal frameworks relevant to GBV, integrate refugees into national social service provision, and expand access to law enforcement and the judiciary to respond to GBV.
- **Respond quickly to new refugee emergencies** that arise or worsen, such as the violence in northern Ethiopia which has forced new refugees into Sudan, the December 2021 violence that saw tens of thousands of Cameroonians seek protection across the border in Chad, and the Sahel regional violence which is forcing new refugees to join longstanding refugee populations in Mauritania and Niger. As Sahel-based violence spreads southwards, so does displacement, with Burkinabe refugee numbers in Côte d'Ivoire expected to rise in 2022.

- **Support the Government of Kenya's shift to a refugee integration strategy**, including UNHCR's engagement to enhance integration solutions and on the development and implementation of regulations for Kenya's new Refugee Act of 2021.
- **Continue to promote refugee self-reliance** by aligning development resources in humanitarian settings and by supporting innovative international financing models through the World Bank, particularly in the DRC, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Republic of Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda.
- **Encourage and support refugee-hosting governments**, particularly Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, Nigeria, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe to further implement policies to expand refugee access to educational opportunities and to promote economic inclusion of refugee communities. Support UNHCR's engagement with the World Bank in Kenya as they develop proposals to further integrate refugees into the national education system under newly approved IDA-19 financing.
- **Draw international attention to drought, flooding, and other effects of climate change**, which are exacerbating existing humanitarian crises in the Sahel, Somalia, southern Africa, South Sudan, and Sudan.
- **Support voluntary return and reintegration** of refugees at the appropriate time, while working to ensure continued asylum where needed, particularly regarding returns to Mali, Somalia, and South Sudan. Support the governments of Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal in fostering an environment conducive for, and continuing to support, the return and reintegration of refugees in line with international humanitarian principles.
- **Maintain diplomatic engagement to address legal and administrative barriers to reducing and preventing statelessness**, particularly in southern Africa, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, and Sudan. Support UNHCR's efforts to expand identification and protection of stateless populations in West Africa, particularly Burkina Faso.

- **Improve access to protection and assistance**, including for refugees in urban and other non-camp situations, through PRM engagement with government authorities on policies and procedures governing entry, refugee status determinations, documentation, and residence of refugees. Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, and Uganda have large and growing urban refugee populations of concern; well over half of refugees globally no longer live in camps.
- **Support alternatives to camps**, including settlements and integration with host communities, in refugee-hosting areas in Burkina Faso, the DRC, Mauritania, Niger, and Uganda. Engage on refugee inclusion and out-of-camp policies promoting access to the local economy, sustainable livelihoods, and services during displacement.
- **Establish alternatives to detention for migrants in Libya** while improving protection and assistance for migrants in detention and in the country writ large. In cooperation with USAID and State’s Middle East Partnership Initiative colleagues, help provide humanitarian aid for conflict victims in Libya.

Table 10: Assistance Programs in East Asia

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	209,600	237,240	247,500	10,260
Enduring - MRA	209,600	180,740	247,500	66,760
Ukraine and Other Supplemental - MRA	-	56,500	-	-56,500

FY 2023 Request

Rohingya and other ethnic minority populations displaced in Burma and throughout the region continue to face persecution and violence. Highly vulnerable North Koreans outside the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Uyghurs throughout the region, and the growing number of urban refugees and asylum seekers in detention in Thailand and Malaysia will all be able to be assisted with humanitarian diplomacy and programs funded under the FY 2023 MRA request. Humanitarian partners will continue to save lives and alleviate suffering in the East Asia region through programs that protect and assist refugees, asylum seekers, victims of conflict, IDPs, and stateless persons.

Burmese are the single largest forcibly displaced group in East Asia. Violence, conflict, and systematic persecution continue throughout Burma, including in Rakhine, Chin, Magway, Sagaing, Kachin, northern Shan States, and southeast Burma. More than two million Burmese refugees, asylum seekers, and other persons of concern are scattered throughout Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. Since an outbreak of violence in August 2017, more than 740,000 Rohingya refugees have fled to Bangladesh bringing the total number of Rohingya refugees in the country to 930,000, as of March 2022. An estimated 600,000 stateless Rohingya remain in Burma's northern Rakhine State. The Burmese military seized control of Burma in a coup d'état on February 1, 2021, leading to additional violence and displacement, and further delaying prospects for voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable returns of refugees and IDPs. Humanitarian partners estimate over 800,000 Burmese, including up to 150,000 Rohingya, are IDPs or living in IDP-like situations.

The FY 2023 MRA request will help UNHCR and other partners improve humanitarian conditions for Rohingya and other vulnerable ethnic minorities within Burma, those displaced by violence and conflict, and the growing number who are urban refugees, asylum seekers, and vulnerable migrants in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and elsewhere in the region. Continued MRA support also will enable international and NGO partners working in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Thailand, and along the Thailand-Burma border to meet the basic humanitarian needs of refugees and asylum seekers until conditions within Burma allow for their safe, dignified, voluntary, and sustainable return.

PRM will continue to engage in humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy to address root causes of displacement, develop sustainable solutions, including to create conditions allowing for future sustainable and voluntary returns, and with host governments in the region to protect the rights of refugees, IDPs, and vulnerable migrants.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- U.S. diplomatic engagement and MRA funding to humanitarian partners helped protect refugees and asylum seekers residing outside their countries of origin from refoulement, promoted long-term cooperation among countries in the region to meet the needs of the displaced Burmese population, and responded to the humanitarian crisis in Burma's Rakhine State and elsewhere in the country.
- In **Bangladesh**, PRM-funded humanitarian assistance met critical needs of more than 920,000 Rohingya refugees and over 540,000 Bangladeshi host community members affected by the humanitarian crisis following genocide in Rakhine State. PRM responded to appeals from UN and IOs including UNHCR, IOM, UNFPA, IFRC, ICRC, WHO, and UNICEF to provide shelter, improve access to water and sanitation, support protection programs, strengthen disaster response mechanisms, and address health needs, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), response to GBV, assistance to people with disabilities, the COVID-19 response, and promoting proper nutrition among refugee and host communities.
- PRM partners focused on building a favorable protection environment for refugees, including by ensuring that survivors of GBV have access to case management, health and psychosocial services, legal assistance, and safe shelters. By September 30, 2021, a two-dose COVID-19 vaccination campaign had been completed for Rohingya aged 55 and above, reaching 77 percent of the target population with support from several PRM UN and NGO partners. In FY 2021, UNICEF trained teachers, acquired supplies, and designed lesson plans in preparation for the 2022 launch of a pilot program to offer Rohingya children a formal education in the Burmese national curriculum. As a part of efforts to restore the environment and

provide refugees reliable access to energy sources, UNHCR and IOM provided liquid petroleum gas to 97 percent of refugee households as a replacement for firewood.

- With PRM support, and in coordination with other donor governments, UNHCR and NGOs in **Thailand** provided protection and basic life-saving assistance to the approximately 92,000 Burmese refugees in nine official camps on the Thailand-Burma border. PRM remains the largest donor in the camps along the border, providing health services, nutritional assistance, vocational training, women's protection, GBV and psychosocial care, water, sanitation, mine risk education, and COVID-19 preparedness, prevention, and response activities in all nine camps. Key progress was made on nutritional assistance through the Food Voucher Program after a full rollout in all nine camps was completed by September 2020. Evaluations of the program found that it improved access to nutritious foods and as intended, positively contributed to the livelihoods of the camp community.
- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Bangkok-based refugee coordinators and Centers for Disease Control officials jointly created a coordination mechanism that included Royal Thai Government (RTG) health and security officials, UNHCR, and a key PRM NGO health partner. As a result of this initiative, as well as continued PRM funding related to COVID-19 during FY 2021, COVID-19 cases in the densely packed camps along the Thai-Burma border have remained well below Thailand transmission rates, and additionally, refugees are now able to access COVID-19 vaccinations—a public health and refugee protection achievement.
- Through NGO partners and leveraging local Thai capacities, PRM directly supported the provision of protection and basic life-saving assistance to nearly 10,000 refugees and asylum seekers residing in and around Bangkok. Due to the significant number of people from Burma crossing into Thailand after the coup, the number of urban refugees and asylum seekers nearly doubled from 5,175 to 9,900 by mid-March 2022. Extended U.S. advocacy helped produce a commitment by the RTG to develop its own screening and registration mechanism for urban asylum seekers and refugees and adopt legislation to provide better protection against refoulement. While the national screening mechanism entered into effect in June 2020, the RTG

continues to delay implementation as it deliberates on how to process applicants and what specific benefits to provide beyond protection from deportation. UNHCR and PRM-funded NGO partners reported difficulties meeting the needs of the growing Burmese population, many of whom lack local connections and thus are heavily reliant on outside assistance.

- In **Malaysia**, PRM worked to close critical gaps in humanitarian assistance for over 181,000 registered urban refugees and asylum seekers. To this end, PRM funded three NGOs to meet needs in primary healthcare, MHPSS, and GBV prevention and response for urban refugees and asylum seekers in Kuala Lumpur and the surrounding areas, as well as in Penang and Kedah States. UNHCR continues to work with the Government of Malaysia to allow refugees access to limited legal employment opportunities. Extended U.S. advocacy helped push the government of Malaysia not to forcibly return Rohingya refugees and other vulnerable Burmese back to Burma and Uyghur asylum seekers to China.
- In **Indonesia**, PRM met critical humanitarian gaps in Jakarta by funding an NGO partner to expand and strengthen protection and care for unaccompanied and separated refugee children, including providing alternatives to detention. PRM-funded support to IOM in Aceh met critical needs of new arrivals of Rohingya refugees, to include shelter, non-food items, protection, and health services, including mental health and the COVID-19 response. PRM has also helped coordinate advocacy between Embassy Jakarta, UNHCR, and IOM to keep Indonesia as a country that will allow for Rohingya to disembark on its shores.
- PRM coordinated closely with other bureaus and Embassies around the world to successfully prevent several cases of potential refoulement of Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious minorities fleeing persecution in Xinjiang, China, and to advocate at the highest levels of hosting governments for protection of such asylum seekers.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Provide protection and life-saving humanitarian assistance** to refugees, asylum seekers, and IDPs throughout the region, with a focus on Rohingya, Burmese, Uyghurs, Chinese dissidents, and North Koreans.
- **Increase senior-level humanitarian diplomacy** and advocacy to urge Burma and affected governments in the region to address the root causes of displacement, allow humanitarian access for IOs and NGOs, and develop durable solutions for the stateless Rohingya and other displaced Burmese. Coordinate with UNHCR and likeminded donors on a comprehensive solutions package for Rohingya refugees.
- Ensure any negotiations between Bangladesh and the Burmese military regime respect a sustainable and voluntary repatriation process when conditions support the return in safety and dignity of refugees and IDPs.
- Protect Rohingya residing in neighboring countries from refoulement and coordinate with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and the Bali Process to continue developing platforms for international cooperation to address the plight of the Rohingya throughout the region.
- Continue to track efforts to arrange onward movement from Burma and Bangladesh by water, land, and air of Rohingya. In 2020 and 2021, maritime movements of Rohingya reached levels not seen since the 2015 migrant crisis in the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea; deteriorating conditions in Burma and Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, may fuel further increases. PRM will continue to urge governments in the region to strengthen search and rescue operations at sea, to harmonize disembarkation and reception conditions, and to offer temporary protection to people in need of international protection while durable solutions are sought.
- Continue to urge the government of Malaysia to allow UNHCR and IOM access to immigration detention facilities, extend work authorization to registered refugees, improve access to education and health care, and protect refugees from arbitrary detention, exploitation, and vulnerability to extortion from local authorities.

- Sustain service provision and work to enhance protection for urban refugees and asylum seekers in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.
- Protect from refoulement any Uyghurs and other Chinese ethnic and religious minorities fleeing persecution in Xinjiang.

Table 11: Assistance Programs in Europe

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	93,200	83,200	80,000	-3,200
Enduring - MRA	-	83,200	80,000	-3,200
MRA-OCO	93,200	-	-	-

FY 2023 Request

The increased humanitarian needs of displaced and vulnerable people in Ukraine as well as refugees from Ukraine, the Balkans, the Caucasus, and Central Asia affected by ongoing conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic will all be addressed by the FY 2023 MRA request for Europe. It will also help non-Syrian refugees in Turkey, and in Europe, and will support efforts to strengthen asylum regimes and reduce statelessness.

Prior to the Russian war on Ukraine, there were more than 12 million people in Europe and Central Asia living as refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs, or stateless persons. Russia's war on Ukraine has had a devastating humanitarian impact on the country. As of March 16, 2022, the UN notes that 12.65 million people in Ukraine are directly affected by the war, including 6.48 million IDPs. More than 3.6 million refugees fled Ukraine in the first month of the conflict. MRA-funded programs will continue to provide refugees, victims of conflict, IDPS, and other vulnerable groups with access to emergency assistance, social

services, shelter, livelihoods, and psychosocial support. PRM will continue to engage our European Union (EU) allies that have responded to the crisis with unprecedented generosity, including through implementation of the EU Temporary Protection Directive for the first time in the EU's history. Funding availability for the Ukraine response in this FY 2023 budget request was developed prior to the Russian invasion, and PRM will remain in close contact with Congress regarding FY 2023 requirements as the situation continues to evolve.

While many issues of humanitarian concern in Central Asia are long-standing, including statelessness and the refoulement of ethnic Uyghurs to China, the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan in 2021 created new challenges. Increased refugee flows to Central Asia could result in immediate protection needs for Afghans, such as access to territory, protection from refoulement, and access to lifesaving assistance.

In the Caucasus, MRA-funded programs in Georgia will seek to respond to the protracted humanitarian situation in the Russia-occupied territories, particularly in Abkhazia.

In Armenia and Azerbaijan, PRM remains committed to responding to the needs of displaced persons and host families affected by the fall 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. PRM funding will support affected people, including those unable to return to their homes in Nagorno-Karabakh or the surrounding territories, estimated at over 28,000 according to the Government of Armenia.

In the Balkans, MRA-funded programs will continue to assist the most vulnerable of the more than 350,000 individuals uprooted during the Balkan conflicts of the 1990s who still have not found a durable solution. This includes PRM support to UNHCR which, in coordination with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), ensures the fair and transparent selection of 11,800 Regional Housing Program beneficiaries in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Croatia.

PRM's support to ICRC will continue to foster regional reconciliation in the Balkans and the Caucasus and continuing its efforts on behalf of non-combatants in Ukraine. This includes family tracing and helping to resolve the fate of the remaining 10,000 unaccounted-for individuals from the wars in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo,

and Serbia. PRM financial support to ICRC work in the region, as well as facilitation of requests for satellite and aerial imagery to locate mass gravesites and overall advocacy efforts, will continue to help resolve one of the most contentious issues remaining in the region.

PRM will engage in diplomacy with EU member states and relevant European institutions to coordinate effective and humane approaches to protection-sensitive migration management. Mediterranean migrant arrivals rose in 2021 after a temporary downturn in 2020 attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. Credible allegations of migrant pushbacks by authorities in several European countries, including Greece, continued to be made in 2021. Thousands of migrants continued to travel via this dangerous route to flee violence and strife in the Middle East, Afghanistan, and Africa, and arrivals will likely increase once the pandemic eases. PRM funding also supports UNHCR efforts to transform the Balkans from a region of transit to a region of solutions by working with host governments to strengthen their asylum procedures and integration support, so refugees do not have to make an onward journey to Western Europe. UNHCR efforts also aim to align the asylum procedures in the Balkans with EU standards to aid eventual EU-accession efforts.

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

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- In **Ukraine**, even prior to Russia's war, access restrictions related to COVID-19 had increased the needs of individuals living in the non-government-controlled areas (NGCA) by reducing their ability to access pensions in the government-controlled areas (GCA). PRM support, including through UNHCR, ICRC, IOM, and UNICEF, provided essential protection and assistance, as well as livelihoods support and water infrastructure rehabilitation.
- In **Georgia**, MRA funding enabled PRM to provide humanitarian assistance to displaced and vulnerable people in the Russia-occupied territories of South Ossetia

and Abkhazia. For example, ICRC provided health-related assistance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and continued programs to resolve missing persons cases from the 1990s war and the 2008 conflict. UN Women continued to provide GBV support services to crisis centers in Sokhumi and Gali. As a participant in the Geneva International Discussions working group on humanitarian issues, PRM advocated for displaced individuals' protection and freedom of movement and supported UN and Government of Georgia efforts to meet these goals.

- In **Armenia**, MRA supported UNHCR and ICRC as each provided humanitarian assistance to refugees and those in refugee-like situations. UNHCR was able to negotiate a memorandum of understanding with the Armenian government to provide multi-purpose cash assistance to refugee-like persons. In **Azerbaijan**, UNHCR provided legal assistance to IDPs and other vulnerable groups, while ICRC provided support to mitigate mine contamination, including technical guidance and education.
- In **Central Asia**, UNHCR provided support to strengthen asylum and refugee systems and to combat statelessness. PRM funding supported UNHCR and UNICEF assistance for refugees from Afghanistan across the region.
- PRM humanitarian assistance also helped fill discrete gaps in Europe's humanitarian response to the continued mixed migration flows into Western Europe via support for UNHCR, IOM, and UNICEF. UNHCR focused in the Balkans on strengthening asylum procedures and integration opportunities so refugees and asylum seekers can find durable solutions in the region without having to make the dangerous onward trek to Western European countries.
- In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, PRM support to IOM in **Greece** safeguarded the health of unaccompanied minors and separated children asylum-seekers by procuring personal protection equipment, enhancing COVID-19 public awareness efforts, and supporting mobile health units to intervene in illnesses related to COVID-19 among the target population. In **Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia**, PRM funding underpinned the long-running Regional Housing Program as it worked to provide durable housing solutions for thousands of IDPs from the

Balkan wars of the 1990s; nearly 8,000 housing units have been delivered during the life of the program.

- In **Turkey**, PRM funding supported IOM as it provided over 40,000 refugees and migrants rescued by the Turkish Coast Guard after trying to get to Greece, with food, water, medical, and protection assistance. This includes assisting the approximately 10,000 refugees who amassed at the border area in Edirne between February and March 2020 after President Erdogan announced that the “borders are open.” IOM provided more than 20,000 of these refugees with MHPSS services and referrals for extremely vulnerable cases.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Provide lifesaving humanitarian assistance to our partners in Ukraine** and in countries in Europe hosting refugees from Ukraine, sustaining a significant United States response for those impacted by Russia’s war on Ukraine. Continue engaging with European governments providing support to refugees via the EU Temporary Protection Directive. The U.S. response is, and will continue to be, based on an assessment of the needs, in coordination with the Government of Ukraine, the governments of countries welcoming those fleeing Ukraine, the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations, and donors. Humanitarian organizations are delivering needs-based assistance with impartiality, humanity, neutrality, and independence.
- **Engage with governments in Central Asia so that they provide access to territory and asylum for refugees** fleeing Afghanistan and support the work of our partners providing humanitarian assistance to those in need in the region.
- **Fill gaps in humanitarian assistance to refugees and vulnerable migrants in Europe through programming and advocacy**, in coordination with relevant U.S. government, European, and international entities including USAID, the Department of Defense, the EU, and the OSCE.

- **Support ICRC to identify the fate of the remaining individuals still unaccounted for from the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia**, in order to foster regional reconciliation and bring closure to the families who have suffered during the past two decades by not knowing the fate of their loved ones.
- Work with European partners to promote sustainable integration of refugees and migrants in European countries.
- Advocate with EU member states to increase access to humanitarian aid and livelihood opportunities in countries of first asylum. Urge protection-sensitive border management thorough screenings, creation of additional reception places, respect for humanitarian principles when employing military capabilities in support of migration management efforts, and bolstered regional coordination and information sharing on migrant flows and trends.
- In Armenia and Azerbaijan, respond to the needs of displaced persons and host families that continue to be affected by the fall 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and uphold the safety and voluntariness of any IDP returns. Provide sustainable assistance for refugee-like persons in Armenia unable to return to their homes in Nagorno-Karabakh or the surrounding territories.
- Respond to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Russia-occupied Georgian territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia through support to IO partners providing life-saving assistance.
- In Central Asia, support UNHCR efforts to eradicate statelessness by 2024 and strengthen asylum and refugee systems.
- Work with the EU, European member states, and states in the Western Balkans to provide shelter and sustainability for the most vulnerable among refugees and persons displaced by conflict in other regions to prevent continued displacement.

Table 12: Assistance Programs in the Near East

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	1,177,770	1,260,580	1,048,000	-212,580
Enduring - MRA	560,805	905,680	1,048,000	142,320
Ukraine and Other Supplemental - MRA	-	354,900	-	-354,900
MRA-OCO	616,965	-	-	-

FY 2023 Request

The FY 2023 request will maintain core support for UNHCR, UNRWA, ICRC, and other IO activities throughout the Near East region, supporting the Bureau's primary goal of providing humanitarian assistance that saves lives and eases suffering. It will fund protection and assistance programs for victims of conflict and displaced persons inside Iraq and Syria, and for refugees, victims of conflict, and vulnerable migrants in Yemen. It will also continue to sustain essential humanitarian programs run by IO and NGO partners in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, and the West Bank and Gaza to meet Palestinian, Syrian, Iraqi, and other refugees' basic needs.

The UN estimates that as of February 2022, 2.5 million people need assistance in Iraq and that 1.2 million Iraqis are internally displaced. According to OCHA, less than one percent of Iraqi IDPs see themselves returning home this year. The request anticipates continuing needs of vulnerable Iraqis due to continued displacement of some segments of the population and the need to support safe, voluntary, and dignified returns.

The conflict in Syria has left more than 500,000 dead and more than 14.6 million in need of humanitarian assistance, a nine percent increase over 2021 and the highest increase in needs since the start of the conflict in 2011. Roughly 6.9 million Syrians are displaced inside the country, and more than 6.6 million are refugees. The fighting in Syria continues despite progress toward the defeat of ISIS in Syria and de-escalation of the underlying civil war in some parts of the country. PRM's FY 2023 request anticipates significant ongoing humanitarian needs. The situation in Syria remains unlikely to be conducive to large-scale refugee returns and millions of Syrian refugees remain in neighboring states without the resources to meet their basic needs. Inside Syria, millions of IDPs and conflict victims continue to face physical insecurity and lack regular access to food, health care, clean water, sanitation, and adequate shelter; the pandemic and economic crisis in the country have only exacerbated Syrians' vulnerability and needs. PRM funding will provide urgent humanitarian aid and help address the effects of this protracted crisis, including the pressing need to educate refugee children, provide psychological counseling, and assist communities that host refugees as their resources dwindle and local infrastructure is stressed. PRM funding will prioritize support to UNHCR, UNRWA, ICRC, and UNICEF to reinforce their critical response roles inside Syria and in the region. Funding will also support the work of IOs and NGOs assisting refugees in neighboring countries.

The FY 2023 request also includes support for Yemenis facing the world's largest humanitarian crisis. The UN estimates that there are more than four million IDPs in Yemen, of whom nearly 500,000 have experienced displacement for more than two years. Some 20.7 million people need assistance. Yemen currently faces the largest food insecurity crisis and one of the largest cholera outbreaks in the world. FY 2023 funding will focus primarily on providing the millions of vulnerable Yemenis, including refugees and displaced persons, with shelter, access to safe drinking water and medical treatment to help reduce the risk for severe illness, malnutrition, suffering, and death, as well as non-food items, water, sanitation and hygiene, and protection services.

PRM's request also includes continued support for UNRWA. In accordance with its UN mandate, UNRWA provides education, health care, and emergency relief to "Palestine refugees" in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The U.S.

government's support for UNRWA is a counterweight to violent extremism and is essential for stability in the Middle East region. UNRWA provides education for more than 539,000 children, including 282,000 in Gaza alone. With PRM funding, UNRWA also provides education on human rights, conflict resolution, and tolerance in its schools. In the absence of UNRWA, many of these children would be unable to attend school or would be forced to attend schools influenced by extremist groups. UNRWA health facilities conduct approximately 8.7 million patient visits for basic primary healthcare in over 140 primary health facilities per year. Health care visits include providing immunizations, check-ups, pre-natal and post-natal care, clean water, mental health assistance, and, developed with targeted U.S. funding, a gender-based violence education and referral program. In Syria, UNRWA assistance makes certain that 136,000 of the most vulnerable refugees receive food assistance. In Gaza, where years of on-and-off conflict and economic restrictions and decline have left 80 percent of the population dependent on international aid, UNRWA provides food assistance to over one million registered refugees. The Department is deeply committed to reforms necessary to improve UNRWA's efficiency and effectiveness and confirm consistency with UN principles, such as neutrality, tolerance, respect for human rights, and anti-discrimination, across UNRWA's operations, including staff activities, facilities, and education materials. PRM will continue to engage with UNRWA on these issues and other needed reforms in FY 2023.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- Inside **Syria**, MRA funds supported ICRC in providing millions of people with health care, water, sanitation, and shelter projects. In 2021, ICRC helped over 408,000 individuals access health services, equipped thirty-five hospitals, and provided water and habitat interventions that benefited more than 15 million individuals. ICRC also provided more than three million people with food, and more than 1.7 million people with essential household items, such as blankets, mattresses, and hygiene items.
- In addition, U.S. contributions to UNHCR in Syria protected and assisted IDPs and vulnerable host community members, including by providing winter and core relief items, such as sleeping mats, kitchen sets, and diapers to approximately 200,000

households in 2021. UNHCR provided medical consultations and community-based health programming at 26 community center clinics and 11 UNHCR-run primary health care facilities in Syria to more than 185,000 individuals. In addition, UNHCR provided MHPSS services to 14,440 individuals, as well as non-formal education to nearly 50,000 children. In northeast Syria, UNHCR distributed over 11,000 tents in eight formal and informal camps. UNHCR also implemented 1,919 community and youth-led initiatives and provided legal assistance to nearly 75,000 IDPs, returnees, and host community members. UNHCR further renewed identification for more than 26,000 refugees inside Syria, further protecting them from refoulement and enabling them to access basic services and freedom of movement.

- U.S. contributions to UNHCR also supported efforts to help the most vulnerable Syrian refugees in neighboring countries to access health and education services, cash for medicine and food, stoves and fuel for heating, insulation for tents, thermal blankets, and winter clothing.
- In **Lebanon**, the United States continued to support basic assistance and lifesaving services for the most vulnerable Syrian refugees and Lebanese individuals, helping to mitigate the pressure of the ongoing refugee crisis, economic deterioration, and the COVID-19 pandemic. With PRM support, UNHCR reached more than 125,000 persons with primary healthcare consultations, mental health consultations, and hospital admission referrals in 2021. As part of its COVID-19 response, UNHCR administered nearly 38,000 vaccine doses in 2021. In response to the widespread shortage of medicines and other critical medical supplies in Lebanon, PRM contributions supported UNICEF with the delivery of 97 metric tons of lifesaving medicines and other medical supplies sufficient to support an estimated one million women and children.
- In **Jordan**, PRM funding advanced local refugee integration and self-reliance. Through PRM's diplomacy and programming, Jordan has provided Syrian refugees with access to more opportunities to obtain work permits, legal assistance, job training and placement, and small business support. These measures contributed to the Jordanian government issuing a record 62,000 work permits to Syrian refugees in

2021. Additionally, PRM diplomacy contributed to Syrian refugees having access to more sectors of employment, including services and sales, crafts, forestry and fisheries, skilled agricultural, plant and machine workers, and in basic industries. PRM continued to collaborate with development actors, including USAID, to expand Syrian and non-Syrian refugees' access to public healthcare and education. This coordination reduced the need for parallel service provision by donors. In addition, PRM contributions to UNICEF continued to increase enrollment of refugees in public education. In the 2020-2021 school year, UNICEF supported enrollment of 143,765 Syrian refugee children in public education.

- In **Turkey**, PRM contributions supported protection services for over 200,000 refugees, through a network of 80 UNICEF-supported child and adolescent-friendly spaces and social service centers. In addition, more than 80,000 children were provided with targeted MHPSS services and over 50,000 individuals were provided with GBV response and mitigation services. 170 Education Information Network centers allowed children without a computer and/or internet access at home to continue learning during school closures related to the pandemic. PRM funding to IOM assisted over 390,000 beneficiaries in Turkey with a variety of support, including for shelter, protection, and livelihoods and provided over 200,000 refugees with food, hygiene kits, and multi-purpose cash assistance. PRM contributions to UNHCR helped it build Turkish government capacity for the refugee response, including in areas such as registration and documentation, identification of individuals with particular vulnerabilities, and monitoring voluntary returns. In 2021, UNHCR conducted 178,000 vulnerability assessments, answered and provided support during 120,000 counseling calls, and supported over 72,000 households with multi-purpose cash assistance related to COVID-19. PRM funding to UNFPA supported providing sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services to over 20,000 individuals, providing GBV programming for over 35,000 beneficiaries, and providing hygiene kits and other basic support to over 30,000 refugees. In addition, U.S. support helped UNFPA continue its critical work to build the capacity of the Turkish Ministry of Health to be able to provide sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and GBV services

through the Migrant Health Centers, which included providing trainings on SRH services and supporting the national reproductive health working group.

- In **Iraq**, PRM contributions to UNHCR, among other IOs and NGOs, helped to meet the needs of refugees, IDPs, and other populations of concern. Through support for UNHCR and NGOs, PRM continued to support protection activities to reduce risk for refugees and IDPs, including case management, child protection and child safeguarding training, and support for community centers. PRM funding for UNICEF and several NGOs helped thousands of displaced children re-enroll in schools following COVID-19-related school closures and access in-person and hybrid education services, which is a key need for refugee, IDP, and returnee families. PRM support for education also included training for teachers and other education personnel on student retention, developing effective distance learning modules, and psychosocial support. In 2021, PRM also continued to support programs that promote economic opportunity and recovery, including income-generating and livelihoods opportunities for IDPs and refugees.
- PRM contributions to IOM supported its Displacement Tracking Matrix, which has become the standard for tracking IDPs and displacement conditions in Iraq and is also used in other contexts, such as Yemen. PRM also continued its support for IOM's Community Revitalization Program, which works with communities to rebuild livelihoods, rehabilitate damaged infrastructure, and improve social cohesion among IDPs and host community members.
- U.S. contributions to UNHCR in Yemen provided essential humanitarian aid and protection services to IDPs and refugees and included activities aimed to support the needs of adolescent women and young girls and legal assistance to facilitate access to identity documentation and public assistance. PRM support also addressed specific health needs of migrants, refugees, and other vulnerable populations throughout Yemen.
- PRM advanced a "one refugee" policy throughout the region, encouraging humanitarian partners to undertake an equitable response to all refugee (and displaced) populations in need, regardless of nationality.

- PRM support to UNRWA in FY 2021 included funding for the emergency response to the May 2021 escalation of violence in the **West Bank and Gaza**. During the May escalation, UNRWA provided safety and assistance to 71,000 individuals in UNRWA's designated emergency shelters. UNRWA's assistance in 2021 included quarterly food baskets for more than 1.1 million refugees, cash-for-work for abject poor refugees, and support to the humanitarian vaccination campaign in Gaza, including vaccination of 172,803 people in 18 of UNRWA's health centers.
- PRM also funded UNRWA to undertake several special projects to advance specific U.S. government priorities. These included support for UNRWA's human rights, conflict resolution, and tolerance education program, which is taught in UNRWA schools in all five fields, as well as support to strengthen mental health and psychosocial support services for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. PRM also funded the strengthening of UNRWA's Department of Internal Oversight Services, verification of beneficiaries' identification as a fraud prevention measure, and modernization of UNRWA's financial policies to be aligned with UN best practices. Finally, PRM supported a project to strengthen UNRWA's adherence to humanitarian principles, including neutrality, at all levels of the organization. This included hiring several new international staff to serve as Protection and Neutrality Officers, formerly known as Operational Support Officers, who will conduct integrated checks of all Agency installations to ensure adherence to UNRWA's neutrality policies.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Improve humanitarian access in Syria** and maintain protection in neighboring countries for those fleeing the conflict. Prioritize advocacy efforts to reauthorize and expand the cross-border humanitarian access provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 2533 to make sure that affected populations in northwest Syria can access life-saving assistance. Advocate for more efficient UN and ICRC operations and urge other donors to maintain fair share contribution levels.
- **Sustain protection and assistance for Iraqi IDPs, returnees, and refugees** through regular dialogue and advocacy with host governments and IO and NGO

partners, as well as through targeted NGO assistance and support for UNHCR and others.

- **Improve humanitarian access and provide protection and assistance to displaced and conflict-affected populations**, including Yemenis as well as African refugees and migrants living in Yemen, through support to IOs and diplomacy with parties to the conflict and other donors.
- **Re-assert U.S. humanitarian leadership towards Palestinian refugees** through continued funding to UNRWA and public support for the Agency’s mission, as well as strengthening UNRWA’s financial sustainability, adherence to humanitarian principles, and accountability.

Table 13: Assistance Programs in South Asia

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	168,400	405,500	85,000	-320,500
Enduring - MRA	-	10,500	85,000	74,500
Afghans Supplemental - MRA	100,000	395,000	-	-395,000
MRA-OCO	68,400	-	-	-

FY 2023 Request

Afghanistan and Pakistan remain top foreign policy priorities given the economic and humanitarian crises in Afghanistan. The FY 2023 request will continue support for Afghan IDPs, refugees, returnees, and other forcibly displaced persons throughout the

region. Following the Taliban takeover on August 2021, the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan deteriorated rapidly; in 2022, over 22 million people face acute food insecurity. Over the past year, funding to humanitarian partners in Afghanistan has helped stabilize the worst effects of the humanitarian and economic crises; continued, stable and robust support through MRA funding is necessary to mitigate the impacts of food insecurity, COVID-19, economic shocks, and issues facing Afghan refugees in the region.

There are 3.4 million Afghan IDPs and 2.2 million Afghan refugees living in Pakistan and Iran, making them one of the largest and most protracted refugee populations in the world. MRA funding for UNHCR, ICRC, other IOs, and NGOs supports programs promoting self-sufficiency for those displaced by the protracted crisis and provides critical assistance and reintegration support to IDP and refugee returnees in Afghanistan.

Humanitarian protection and assistance programs in South Asia also address the needs of Tibetan and Bhutanese refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless populations in Nepal; Tibetan, Rohingya, and other Burmese refugees in India; returning refugees in Sri Lanka; and urban refugees and asylum seekers in all three countries. The FY 2023 request will continue to meet the basic needs of the Tibetan community in Nepal, including protection and reception services, for safe transit of Tibetan refugees to India and support for infrastructure, livelihoods, education, prevention of GBV, and water and sanitation for the longer-staying refugee community. In India, assistance for Tibetans will continue to meet the health and education needs of the population with an increasing focus on livelihoods and long-term sustainability. FY 2023 programs in India will also include support for Afghans, Rohingya, and other Burmese populations fleeing violence in Burma. Since the February 2021 Burmese military coup, more than 31,000 people fleeing violence and persecution in Burma have sought refuge in northeast India. In Sri Lanka, FY 2023 humanitarian programs will focus on urban refugees and asylum seekers, primarily from Pakistan and Afghanistan, and on supporting voluntary returns of Sri Lankan refugees from India.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- In FY 2021, PRM funding supported the work of UNHCR, IOM, ICRC, other IOs, and NGOs to provide support for voluntary returns and sustainable reintegration; water and sanitation services; livelihoods training; GBV awareness and referral services; protection and legal aid for women and children; and to expand health care, and psychosocial, and COVID-19 response and care to **Afghan refugees and IDPs**.
- PRM supported an IOM program to register and coordinate assistance for 234,468 undocumented Afghans who returned from the Islamic Republic of Iran and 3,188 returned from Pakistan. IOM and NGOs provided trainings and support for livelihoods for displaced and vulnerable Afghans, assisted in enrolling returning refugee children in school, and facilitated access to national ID cards. With MRA-support, NGOs supported protection activities, including 1,224 household surveys with undocumented returnees; 217 focus group discussions and 252 key informant interviews to understand the protection environment across 11 provinces; and the establishment of eight Safe Healing and Learning Spaces, eight Community Protection Spaces, and two Women and Girls Safe Spaces. UNHCR also continued to provide legal support for Afghan refugees.
- In **India**, with PRM support UNHCR assisted about 45,000 urban refugees, primarily from Burma and Afghanistan, and facilitated the voluntary return of Sri Lankan and Afghan refugees.
- In **Sri Lanka**, UNHCR assisted more than 1,000 urban refugees and asylum seekers, primarily from Pakistan and Afghanistan. PRM's regional contributions to UNHCR and ICRC also supported protection and livelihoods activities for Sri Lankan refugees returning from India.
- In 2021, PRM funded livelihoods, health, education, water/sanitation, protection, and local NGO capacity-building activities for **Tibetan refugees in India and Nepal**. PRM funding for COVID-19 prevention and response in 2020 and 2021 safeguarded the financial resilience of Tibetan communities while enabling them to minimize

transmission and death rates, including at a time when India alone accounted for nearly half of all new COVID-19 cases in a worldwide surge.

- In **India and Nepal**, PRM supported UNHCR and local NGO advocacy efforts to reduce statelessness.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Apply U.S. diplomacy and international advocacy to uphold a principled humanitarian response** in Afghanistan for the protection of IDPs, Afghan refugees, and other Afghans with protection concerns in the region.
- **Provide vulnerable Afghans, IDPs, and returning refugees with effective, immediate humanitarian assistance** in Afghanistan.
- **Support IOs and NGOs to improve the living conditions and promote self-reliance** of vulnerable Afghan refugees in Pakistan.
- **Use programming and advocacy to expand access to services, advance self-reliance, mitigate GBV, and increase socioeconomic integration for refugees in protracted settings**, particularly Tibetan, Bhutanese, and Rohingya.
- **Expand assistance in northeast India to newly arriving refugees from Burma** through support to IOs and NGOs.
- **Support international and local NGO efforts to proactively address statelessness**, especially in India and Nepal.

Table 14: Assistance Programs in the Western Hemisphere

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	308,300	404,500	398,000	-6,500
Enduring - MRA	308,300	310,600	398,000	87,400
Ukraine and Other Supplemental - MRA	-	93,900	-	-93,900

FY 2023 Request

Throughout the Americas region, the FY 2023 request will fund the regional programs of UNHCR, IOM, ICRC, and programs of other key IO and civil society partners to protect and assist refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, stateless persons, and vulnerable migrants, such as unaccompanied children. Mexico and Central America continue both to produce and to host a large number of refugees, asylum seekers, and vulnerable migrants predominantly from within the region but also including increasing numbers of mixed populations from outside the Western Hemisphere. Some of the greatest humanitarian needs are generated by pervasive corruption and lack of governance in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras that hamper economic prosperity and enable violent transnational criminal gangs to thrive. The political crisis in Nicaragua has forced more than 140,000 Nicaraguans to flee since 2018 and upcoming elections are likely to foment new violence and increased refugee outflows. Countries in the region – primarily Mexico and Costa Rica – also host Venezuelan and Colombian refugees and vulnerable migrants.

PRM funding to IOM and UNHCR in Mexico and Central America provides protection and direct assistance to refugees, asylum seekers, and other vulnerable migrants. It also supports capacity building for Mexican and Central American officials and civil

society to identify, screen, protect, and assist vulnerable migrants, while strengthening national asylum systems and other protection capacities. PRM funding to UNICEF provides protection to refugee and vulnerable migrant children and families across the region, including through child protection-focused capacity building for local authorities and civil society. PRM plans to build out new NGO programming to augment its Mexico and Central America response.

Venezuela's political and economic crisis continues. Severe food and medicine shortages have driven more than six million Venezuelans to flee the once-prosperous country since 2015. The crisis, marked by devastating hyperinflation, has resulted in rising prices and falling wages; a crumbling infrastructure, which has disrupted electrical, water, and sanitation services; lack of access to food and rising malnutrition; and a collapsing health system that has led to increases in the prevalence of once-rare diseases, creating serious public health concerns in Venezuela and the region, concerns further exacerbated by COVID-19. PRM will fund key IO partners for the response under the Regional Migration and Refugee Response Plan (RMRP) for the Venezuela situation. PRM will also fund ICRC and IFRC outside of the RMRP to provide support to local Red Cross societies and support to hospitals, for example. PRM will also fund NGO partners to complement and strengthen the response in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and in the southern Caribbean region.

Decades of ongoing violence in Colombia have displaced more than 9.2 million people, or approximately 18 percent of Colombia's population within the country and abroad. The MRA request supports protection and assistance for more than 167,000 Colombian asylum seekers and refugees in Ecuador and Venezuela, a decrease from previous years as many Colombian asylum seekers and refugees returned to Colombia from Venezuela in FY 2021 due to the deteriorating conditions there and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

PRM will assist countries in the Caribbean to provide protection for vulnerable persons of concern, such as those who are at risk of statelessness or those who take to sea crossings to flee persecution or torture at home. In the Dominican Republic, PRM funding to IOM and UNHCR will assist civil society, international partners, and the

Dominican government in aiding vulnerable migrant communities, stateless persons, and those at risk of statelessness. The FY 2023 request also meets the U.S. Department of State commitment to support the Migrant Operations Center at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base under EO 13276. The Department is responsible for migrants whom the U.S. Coast Guard has interdicted in the Caribbean Sea or who have crossed from Cuba into the Naval Base, and whom DHS has determined in need of international protection and assistance with their initial resettlement in third countries. This program supports interagency goals to provide international protection to those in need as well as deter dangerous journeys by sea and a mass migration to the United States.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- In **Mexico**, U.S. contributions to UNHCR since 2018 helped the Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance (COMAR) increase its asylum registration and processing capacity by 400 percent in 2021. With UNHCR's support, COMAR was able to quickly pivot to virtual asylum processing at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. UNHCR also relocated refugees and asylum seekers from impoverished areas to the industrial corridor allowing for local integration. UNICEF continued strengthening child protection authorities' capacities including through multidisciplinary teams which reached 5,083 children on the move. UNICEF also supported the inauguration of pioneering foster care programs resulting in 152 children fostered by local families, and UNHCR provided hygiene kits, cleaning supplies, hygiene education, and handwashing stations to thousands of children and adults.
- In **El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala**, ICRC has provided nearly 6,000 children, women, and other detainees in prisons with upgraded water and sanitation facilities and access to protective equipment. In **Guatemala**, the national government began operationalizing recommendations solicited from UNHCR to streamline its asylum system, including commitment to appoint a national coordinator for its refugee agency. With UNHCR support, Guatemala registered more than 1,000 new asylum claims in 2021 – more than double any other previous year. In **Honduras**,

with PRM support UNHCR established four mobile units along the southern border with Nicaragua to serve as information points on the right to seek asylum in Honduras and created two new safe spaces for young children at risk of displacement in San Pedro Sula.

- In **Costa Rica and Panama**, NGO partners are providing access to legal counsel, GBV protection and response, shelter, and other critical humanitarian needs services for vulnerable migrants and refugees, including for those coming out of the Darien, all funded by PRM.
- In **Brazil**, as of the end of 2021, and with support of UNHCR, Brazil's National Refugee Committee (CONARE) had officially recognized more than 49,000 Venezuelans as refugees, the largest recognized Venezuelan refugee population in Latin America. According to CONARE, Brazil's overall refugee population amounted to more than 54,000 people from 77 different countries, of which more than 90 percent were Venezuelans. By the end of 2021, Brazil's "Operation Welcome" had voluntarily resettled more than 66,000 Venezuelans. This relocation has been partially funded through PRM contributions to UNHCR, IOM, and NGO partners.
- PRM provided nearly \$46 million in humanitarian assistance to IO and NGO partners to assist **Colombian IDPs, refugees, and vulnerable migrants** in the region. PRM continues to work closely with relevant UN organizations and ICRC to assist more than 7.7 million Colombian IDPs and refugees that have been displaced by continued violence perpetrated by illegal armed groups inside Colombia and the Colombia-Venezuela border.
- The Colombian government announced in February 2021 the provision of a ten-year temporary protected status (TPS) for the more than 1.8 million Venezuelans resident in Colombia. In support of the implementation of Colombia's generous and historic TPS decision, PRM provided funding to UNHCR, UNICEF, and other partners which purchased biometric card printers and assorted IT infrastructure, two million biometric cards, and additional remote printing capacity. PRM also acted in a coordinating role, bringing USAID and DHS resources to bear on implementation challenges, enabling an increased pace of registration and ensuring proper protocols for the protection of

biometric data. By the end of FY 2021, Colombia had registered over 1.3 million Venezuelans for TPS and approved and delivered the first TPS cards shortly thereafter.

- In Ecuador and Peru, PRM continued to advocate for legal protection mechanisms for Venezuelan refugees and migrants. In **Ecuador**, the government concluded a regularization process in 2020 that resulted in the issuance of more than 53,000 humanitarian visas for Venezuelans. PRM funding has supported not only the issuance of these visas but also the registration of more than 150,000 Venezuelan migrants through the provision of equipment and software. In 2021, the Ecuadorian government pledged to launch a second process to regularize Venezuelan refugees and migrants, and PRM will continue to support such regularization efforts going forward with our humanitarian partners.
- With support from PRM's partners in **Peru**, the Government of Peru continued to institutionalize and expand its regularization processes for Venezuelan refugees and migrants and other foreign nationals, including those who entered the country irregularly. In 2021, for example, Peru continued to confer a special humanitarian migration status for Venezuelan asylum applicants. Under a separate process, Peru continued to issue a one-year temporary stay permit for all foreigners who entered the country irregularly. PRM funding in Peru has supported the establishment of migrant registration centers responsible for enrolling migrants, reviewing their applications, and producing identification cards.
- PRM continued to advocate for protection throughout the **Caribbean**. In the Dominican Republic, UNHCR continued to work with the Government of the Dominican Republic to create a solution for remaining undocumented persons, mainly of Haitian descent.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Meet urgent humanitarian and protection needs of refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, and vulnerable migrants** across Mexico and Central America, including

through support to access to legal services, GBV prevention and response, local integration, health care and psychosocial support, shelter, and other critical humanitarian needs.

- **Through IO partners, continue to build and improve national asylum systems** and other protection capacities within the region to increase access to protection for those in need.
- **Provide essential humanitarian assistance and protection to Venezuelan refugees and vulnerable migrants** in the region, including access to emergency shelter and core relief items; emergency medical care, including psychosocial health services; child and maternal health services; programs to prevent and respond to GBV and SEA; legal services; and identity documents.
- **Expand support for local integration of Venezuelans**, access to education, employment/livelihoods, and social cohesion opportunities, especially considering various regularization efforts in the region, to reduce tensions with host communities, improve institutional capacity to provide services, and promote self-reliance of Venezuelans.
- **Increase stakeholder coordination, donor responsibility, and responsibility-sharing** across the region.
- **Coordinate closely with USAID** to fill gaps in the provision of humanitarian assistance for Venezuelan refugees and migrants, Colombian IDPs and refugees, and other persons in need of international protection; increasingly link humanitarian assistance with medium- and long-term development initiatives focused on building resilience and institutional capacity.
- **Apply humanitarian principles to U.S. interagency maritime migration management in the Caribbean Sea.** This includes facilitating the protection of unaccompanied minors and potential victims of trafficking interdicted in the Caribbean Sea through coordination with relevant State Department bureaus and

offices, IO partners, DHS counterparts, and the Global Maritime Operational Threat Response Center (GMCC).

Table 15: Protection Priorities

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	839,700	768,768	257,700	-511,068
Enduring - MRA	319,348	301,580	257,700	-43,880
Ukraine and Other Supplemental - MRA	-	467,188	-	-467,188
ARPA-MRA	500,000	-	-	-
MRA-OCO	20,352	-	-	-

FY 2023 Request

Core capabilities of key humanitarian partners to protect and assist refugees, asylum seekers, victims of conflict, IDPs, stateless populations, and vulnerable migrants are supported through the Protection Priorities line of the MRA request. It also advances the U.S. government's broader UN reform agenda by promoting changes that will help these partners prevent and respond to conflict more effectively and efficiently. MRA funds support the global operations of UNHCR and ICRC, providing these critical first responders with the flexibility to act quickly and effectively when crises erupt, maintain

staffing and monitoring in increasingly insecure environments, and enhance accountability through results-based management reforms. This request also supports global humanitarian and U.S. government priorities, such as increasing the capacity of multilateral and NGO partners to address GBV and protect vulnerable women, children, and LGBTQI+ refugees; ending statelessness; advancing refugee self-reliance; meeting international standards of humanitarian assistance; strengthening participation by and accountability to affected populations in humanitarian policies and programs; training foreign government officials and civil society leaders in international refugee law; and using innovative research, data collection and analysis, and independent evaluations to build the evidence base for effective humanitarian programming, policy, and diplomacy.

The FY 2023 MRA request also makes it possible to respond to emergencies in a fluid humanitarian environment where needs reached record levels in 2022. In FY 2023, \$59.8 million is requested within Protection Priorities for emergency and unplanned priority needs to enable the bureau to respond to new needs quickly.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- To meet emergency requirements, PRM made effective use of the emergency response fund resources within Protection Priorities. In FY 2021, PRM provided \$142.5 million (in non-COVID-19 assistance) to help meet the urgent and unanticipated needs of refugees, victims of conflict, and IDPs from Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Mexico/Central America, and other emergencies.
- PRM's GBV funding totaled \$79.5 million in FY 2021, including \$38.2 million programmed from Protection Priorities, reflecting PRM's continuing commitment to expanding these programs. Of this amount, \$18 million was in support of the *Safe from the Start* initiative, a joint effort by PRM and USAID/BHA to better address the needs of women and girls from the onset of humanitarian emergencies. By dedicating significant and new resources, PRM has been a leader in preventing and responding to GBV by elevating this issue as a life-saving priority within the humanitarian community. PRM *Safe from the Start* funding invests in protection and empowerment programming, trains and highlights the work of first responders, and builds in safety mechanisms into

humanitarian systems through IO and NGO partners. For example, with PRM support in 2021, UNHCR issued its *UNHCR Policy on the Prevention of, Risk Mitigation, and Response to Gender-Based Violence*, they deployed Senior GBV Officers to the field, implemented a project on mainstreaming GBV risk mitigation, enhanced engagement with women-led organizations, tested innovative approaches to prevent GBV through multi-sectoral programming, built the capacity of staff at all levels with respect to GBV, strengthened case management and information management, enhanced interagency coordination, and shared best practices and lessons learned in GBV prevention and response.

- In 2021, the United States demonstrated its profound commitment to promoting refugee self-reliance by making three pledges to advance self-reliance at the December 2021 UNHCR High Level Officials Meeting.
 1. The United States pledged to join the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative in its commitment to promoting opportunities for refugees to become self-reliant and achieve a better quality of life, jointly promising across the coalition to reach 250,000 refugees with self-reliance programming in at least five countries,
 2. The United States also pledged to continue supporting MDB financing for refugees and host communities, with the aim to enhance refugee self-reliance, and
 3. The United States pledged to support ten existing pledges advancing refugee inclusion and self-reliance. By supporting refugees to achieve self-reliance, PRM works to reduce long-term dependence on humanitarian assistance, improve the quality of life of the most vulnerable refugees, promote personal dignity, and support local economies. Enhancing opportunities for refugees to become self-reliant also helps prepare them for any of the durable solutions and is a core objective of the Global Compact on Refugees.
- In 2021, U.S. contributions to UNHCR supported implementation of pledges made at the 2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness by the governments of Indonesia, the Horn and Great Lakes region of Africa, Rwanda, Tajikistan, Thailand, and Somalia. U.S.

pledges made at UNHCR's High Level Officials Meeting in December 2021 also included a groundbreaking commitment to improve protection of stateless persons residing in the United States by establishing a statelessness definition and determination procedure for U.S. immigration purposes. The United States also re-joined the Core Group that leads the Geneva-based Group of Friends of UNHCR's #iBelong Global Campaign to End Statelessness. PRM resumed support for civil society efforts to promote women's equal right to nationality, particularly in countries where women are prohibited from conferring citizenship on their children on an equal basis with men.

- PRM worked closely with other Grand Bargain signatories, including UN agencies, other donors, and NGOs, to shape and then advance the new Grand Bargain 2.0 framework that focuses on achieving better humanitarian outcomes for affected persons through improved efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee endorsement of an agreed model for cash coordination in the humanitarian architecture represented a particularly key achievement of U.S. government engagement in the Grand Bargain. PRM and USAID/BHA represented the U.S. government and other donors in the Cash Coordination Caucus convened under the Grand Bargain 2.0, ushering forward a groundbreaking cash coordination model at both the country and global levels. The relevant Grand Bargain workstream on accountability, which PRM co-leads, began implementation of a new workplan to enhance the voices of affected people as well as local and national NGOs through the creation and leadership of National Reference Groups made up of local organizations to guide Grand Bargain activities at the national level.
- The U.S. government funded 15 U.S. citizen Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) posts in key UNHCR locations around the world in FY 2021. This program is a valuable tool to provide highly visible U.S. support for key operations while also promoting the hiring of U.S. citizens by UNHCR. JPOs gain invaluable experience in protection, emergency response, and other technical support services. For example, in 2021, U.S. citizen JPOs assisted in emergency responses in Yemen, Iraq, Sudan, and Bangladesh, among others.

- PRM funded the UNHCR-led Global Protection Cluster to strengthen humanitarian protection response at the field level. Among other things, this funding supported peer-to-peer exchange, implementation of national laws and policies on internal displacement consistent with global best practices, strengthened engagement with local protection actors, and training for protection cluster coordinators and members to increase their effectiveness.
- PRM continued to support the Sphere Project's multi-sectoral work in promoting minimum standards in humanitarian assistance across a growing range of humanitarian actors in diverse operating environments.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Leverage USG leadership to support rapid, efficient, and effective response to emerging humanitarian crises** by the international community, including non-traditional donors, international financial institutions, and the private sector.
- **From the outset of an emergency, address the special assistance and protection needs of particularly vulnerable populations**, including women, children, LGBTQI+ persons, and persons living with disabilities.
- **Improve the humanitarian community's response to GBV** at the outset of an emergency through programming that protects and empowers conflict-affected women and girls.
- **Strengthen humanitarian response to address the unique needs of children**, including birth registration, child protection access to education, child safeguarding, and early childhood development.
- **Improve protection of IDPs**, particularly by strengthening UNHCR's response to conflict-related displacement and through support to the Global Protection Cluster.

- **Support access to and provision of health services**, including MHPSS, and reproductive and maternal health care, for crisis-affected populations, especially vulnerable populations.
- **Improve refugee and IDP self-reliance through strengthened collaboration with development actors**; increased access to education, legal employment, financial services, and other livelihoods strategies; and support to the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative.
- **Accelerate global efforts to prevent and reduce statelessness**, particularly by strengthening support for UNHCR's statelessness mandate, and by expanding U.S. engagement with civil society and development actors. Continue to implement recommendations from the 2021 external evaluation of PRM-supported efforts to prevent and reduce statelessness.
- **Continue PRM's leadership role in the Grand Bargain** and other initiatives to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the humanitarian system and reinforce the links to greater UN reform efforts.
- **Contribute to progress in evidence-based decision making within the State Department** and its partners, thereby demonstrating value and strengthening accountability to beneficiaries and American taxpayers.

Table 16: Migration

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	47,000	66,900	50,000	-16,900
Enduring - MRA	47,000	66,900	50,000	-16,900

FY 2023 Request

Prioritizing safe, orderly, humane, and fair migration policies that protect migrants in vulnerable situations, contribute to secure and humanely managed borders, and expand legal pathways for regular migration are the U.S. government objectives for migration funding. MRA funds support municipal, provincial, 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 reduce irregular migration. The FY 2023 request provides essential funding for capacity building to advance the Administration's goals of strengthening regional migration collaboration, advocating for the protection of vulnerable populations, and exerting leadership in the international community. The request also includes funds for the U.S. government's contributions to IOM to strengthen its organizational capacity, so it is a more effective U.S. government partner.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- In FY 2021, PRM migration programs advanced the overarching goal of protecting vulnerable migrants and building governments' capacity to humanely manage migration by focusing on three areas: international migration policy formulation and implementation; programming to help build targeted countries' protection and migration management capacity; and diplomatic engagement. The United States enhanced cooperation and migration management, protected migrants in situations of vulnerability, and addressed the root causes of irregular migration.
- The United States continued its strong leadership and cooperation to address a wide variety of international migration issues in the G7 Migration Experts Sub-Group; the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum, and Refugees; the Regional Conference on Migration; and the U.S.-EU Platform on Migration and Asylum. For example, the United States released the "Report on the Impact of Climate Change on Migration," marking an important milestone in recognizing climate change as significantly impacting displacement and migration and calling on a whole-of-government approach

to respond. The United States also released its revised national statement on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), which endorsed the vision of the GCM and committed to working with countries to enhance cooperation and manage migration in ways that are safe, orderly, and humane.

- PRM funding for IOM's regional migration programs demonstrated notable successes, including but not limited to:
 - **Americas:** IOM facilitated a bilateral dialogue between the Governments of Belize and El Salvador to discuss opportunities to improve labor migration regularization procedures between both countries and assessed how to best promote programs for regular labor migration among migrant communities. In addition, with PRM funding, Costa Rica and Panama held two cross-border meetings and made progress on the development of their strategic plan and corresponding annual work plan. At the local level, IOM supported an experience exchange between authorities that assist migrants both in Darién, at the southern border, and in Chiriquí, at the northern border, including members of the Committee for Vulnerable Migrant Protection (COPPAMI by its Spanish acronym) and the Darién Coordination Group “Mesa Darienita,” with the aim of improving dialogue and interinstitutional coordination among Panamanian authorities and with Costa Rican counterparts.
 - **Horn of Africa:** PRM supported the African Union-Horn of Africa Initiative to produce the first ever statistical report on irregular migration for member states. IOM's regional Data Hub in the East and Horn of Africa launched an online course on migration data for policy makers and staff of national statistical offices across the continent. With PRM support to IOM, Ethiopia established three additional border control posts, thereby strengthening border management systems. IOM supported the development of a new Disaster Management Act in Tanzania to strengthen the legal and regulatory environment for disaster management.
 - **North Africa:** IOM trained government officials on the protection of vulnerable migrants, victims of trafficking, smuggling of migrations, labor migration,

psychological first aid, and relevant international and national legal frameworks in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.

- **Southeast Asia:** PRM supported activities through IOM that sensitized more than 720 representatives from provincial and central governments, academics, and civil society organizations on the National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Trafficking in Thailand and organized a training on trauma-informed investigations for victims of trafficking in Cambodia. PRM supported the Governments of Cambodia and Thailand by offering technical support during a consultation on the bilateral return and reintegration SOPs.
- **Migration Management Framework:** The PRM-IOM program built on prior U.S.-funded projects to develop research and present a tool for use by governments that request baseline assessments of migration management practices, policies, and strategies. IOM's implementing partner, the Economist Intelligence Unit, produced Migration Governance Indicators assessments for 26 countries and eight cities and produced country profiles for 25 countries and eight cities.
- **U.S. TIP Program:** PRM and the IOM's program titled "The Return, Reintegration, and Family Reunification Program for Victims of Trafficking in the United States" provided pre-departure assistance to 412 beneficiaries resulting in reunifications of 205 family members with 102 foreign national victims of human trafficking identified in the United States. The bureau funds return and reintegration and family reunification services for trafficking survivors and other vulnerable clients identified in the United States.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Collaborate with governments, civil society, IOs, and other partners to strengthen protection** for vulnerable migrants and support humane migration.
- **Promote legal pathways for protection and durable solutions;** strengthen public messaging on migration; protect child migrants; and support family unity.

- **Strengthen migration-management capabilities** of countries in key migration corridors.
- **Encourage countries to adopt policies that reduce migration outside of legal pathways.**
- **Build other governments’ capacity** to identify and assist vulnerable migrants.
- **Increase cooperation among governments** to facilitate safe, orderly, and regular migration.
- **Coordinate U.S. government engagement on migration-related issues** in IOs, regional organizations, and bilateral discussions and negotiations, as well as with NGOs, local government representatives, civil society groups, and other stakeholders.

Table 17: Humanitarian Migrants to Israel

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	5,000	5,000	5,000	-
Enduring - MRA	5,000	5,000	5,000	-

FY 2023 Request

Since 1973, the U.S. government has helped vulnerable Jewish migrants from the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Africa, and the Near East to resettle in Israel. The FY 2023 MRA request for Humanitarian Migrants to Israel supports this relocation and integration of humanitarian migrants through the United Israel Appeal (UIA). Prior to Russia’s February 24, 2022, invasion of Ukraine, the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), UIA’s implementing partner, planned to assist approximately 17,000 migrants to emigrate to Israel from Russia, Ukraine,

Ethiopia, and other countries in FY 2022. In the first month of the war, JAFI resettled 8,000 Jews from Ukraine to Israel. JAFI estimates it will resettle between 15,000 and 60,000 Ukrainian Jews to Israel, depending on the duration of the war. These estimates do not include an estimated 25,000 Jewish migrants JAFI anticipates resettling from Russia, Belarus, and other countries in the region. PRM funding supports services for these migrants, including pre-departure assistance, travel to Israel, and short-term housing for vulnerable migrants. The funding also provides language, preparatory, and vocational education, including for youth, as well as independent monitoring of the program.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- The Humanitarian Migrants to Israel program supported the UIA to promote the emigration of Jewish migrants to Israel and their successful integration into Israeli society, overcoming unique obstacles resulting from COVID-19. In FY 2021, JAFI assisted 9,338 Jewish humanitarian migrants to depart their countries of origin, as well as thousands of other migrants who had already arrived in Israel.
- In FY 2021, the program had a 97 percent satisfaction rate among beneficiaries for services received through the program in Israel, reflecting UIA's proactive measures to address COVID-19 related challenges to its program.
- UIA standardized data collection across multiple fields of operation and took steps to better integrate Ethiopian beneficiaries, including by identifying tailored livelihoods training to improve their absorption into Israeli society, in line with recommendations from an external evaluation.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Increase opportunities for humanitarian migrants, particularly those from Ethiopia, to secure housing and become self-sufficient** through UIA/JAFI programming and engagement with national authorities.

- **Provide high quality services to humanitarian migrants** as evidenced by high levels of satisfaction.
- **Adjust to the changing profile of humanitarian migrants and unique post-pandemic challenges** to maximize the likelihood for successful integration into Israel.
- **Improve program efficiency** to reduce the time migrants, particularly those from Ethiopia, stay in absorption centers.

Table 18: Refugee Admissions

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	232,900	517,000	822,500	305,500
Enduring - MRA	232,900	512,000	822,500	310,500
Afghans Supplemental - MRA	-	5,000	-	-5,000

FY 2023 Request

Resettlement via the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) reflects America's generosity and compassion for the world's most vulnerable refugees, including those who cannot be locally integrated in their current location nor safely return home, and demonstrates responsibility-sharing with refugee-hosting countries. Expanding access to third-country resettlement is a critical component of the work of the U.S. Department of State and PRM. The FY 2023 request will support the continued restoration and expansion of the USRAP and the admission to the United States of up to 125,000 refugees. MRA resources will be used to fund PRM processing of refugee

applications overseas, providing transportation to the United States, and initial reception and placement (R&P) services to all refugees admitted through the USRAP. These services include the provision of housing, essential furnishings, clothing, food, assistance with enrollment in employment services, and other social service referrals for the initial 30-90 days after arrival.

PRM implements the program by providing funding to NGOs both for overseas processing and for domestic R&P services. UNHCR and IOM also receive MRA funding to assist with operational aspects of the USRAP. For UNHCR, this includes funding to implement initiatives related to increasing resettlement referral capacity, while MRA funding for IOM is used to support overseas processing and medical screening 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 2023 will be set after consultations between the Administration and the Congress before the start of the fiscal year; in FY 2022, the admissions target was set at 125,000 refugees. The FY 2023 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 2021 Accomplishments

- The United States safely admitted 11,411 refugees and 8,515 Afghan and Iraqi SIV recipients in FY 2021 despite the global COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, PRM leveraged its domestic resettlement infrastructure to support a historic relocation effort, including providing the same benefits that resettling refugees receive (see page 65, in the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Account section).
- Refugees resettled to the United States in FY 2021 included 4,891 from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1,246 from Syria, 872 from Afghanistan, 803 from

Ukraine, 772 from Burma, and smaller numbers of refugees from more than 10 other nationalities.

- PRM engaged the nine domestic resettlement agencies to assess the most critical capacity development needs to meet program goals. Various programmatic changes were made to allow increased flexibility and effectiveness; an additional 60 new local affiliates were approved; additional direct assistance to support refugees in their R&P period with unmet housing, nutrition, and/or technology needs was provided; and the resettlement program continued to focus on strengthening community engagement and sponsorship.
- PRM finished developing and deployed START, a new refugee case management system, to its seven overseas Resettlement Support Centers, established a live connection between START and the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services Global system for refugee application adjudications, and retired the legacy Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System (WRAPS). Through the completion of this IT modernization effort, PRM has significantly improved the security of the IT system used to process refugees and enabled more efficient refugee processing through modern data exchanges with partners.
- PRM completed an interagency review to strengthen the vetting process for the USRAP, which identified enhancements to refugee vetting and screening procedures to allow for expanded refugee admissions while maintaining the security and safety of the American people.

FY 2022 Objectives

- **Demonstrate U.S. leadership on refugee resettlement by rebuilding and expanding the USRAP** commensurate with global need while also administering the USRAP in a manner that embodies transparency and accountability.
- **Increase USRAP refugee admissions** with a particular focus on several key populations and programs including Central Americans, Afghans at risk due to their

affiliation with the United States, at-risk Uyghurs, Hong Kong refugees, Burmese dissidents, and Burmese Rohingya.

- Welcome Afghan refugees through OAW to the United States connecting them with resettlement agency partners and local communities that provide additional critical support.
- **Expand access to USRAP for eligible LGBTQI+ refugees**, including through greater use of NGO referrals and a private sponsorship pilot program.
- **Reflect the principle that reunifying families is in the national interest through resumption of the Central American Minors (CAM) Program** and making Priority 3 (P-3) processing available to individuals of all nationalities, including stateless individuals.
- **Seek opportunities to enhance access to the USRAP for people who are more vulnerable to persecution**, including women, children, and other individuals who are at risk of persecution related to their gender, gender expression, or sexual orientation.
- **Work with security vetting partners** to ensure vetting procedures are efficient, meaningful, fair, and complemented by appropriate fraud detection measures for all USRAP applicants.
- **Rebuild and expand the capacity of domestic partners, and forge new partnerships**, to welcome and support refugee arrivals. Coordinate and consult with our PRM domestic resettlement partners to enhance support for recently arrived refugees to promote successful integration into their new communities.
- **Expand community sponsorship** through existing co-sponsorship models with domestic resettlement agencies and the implementation of a private sponsorship pilot whereby community members will take on the primary responsibility of welcoming and providing initial support to newly arrived refugees.

- **Leverage technological solutions to strengthen data-driven decision-making** and streamline refugee processing with the deployment of the START and Global while enhancing the security of all refugee processing systems.
- **Fully implement enhancements of refugee vetting and screening procedures**, including increasing the collection of biographic information and improve information sharing to uphold the safety and security of the American people while also achieving U.S. humanitarian and foreign policy goals.
- **Strategically leverage U.S. resettlement to increase refugee protection** in countries of first asylum and other resettlement countries. Exert international leadership by encouraging other countries to increase their own commitments and leveraging resettlement to achieve additional humanitarian outcomes in refugee contexts around the globe.
- **Encourage UNHCR to advance resettlement as a form of protection**, elevating this function within its own organization and mobilizing resettlement countries to step up their respective efforts.
- **Work with domestic resettlement agencies to improve efficiencies** and bolster a national network of resettlement providers closely aligned with expected refugee arrivals in FY 2022 and beyond.

Table 19: Administrative Expenses

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	47,630	64,500	70,000	5,500
Enduring - MRA	47,630	49,500	70,000	20,500
Afghans Supplemental – MRA	-	15,000	-	-15,000

FY 2023 Request

PRM oversees all programs funded through MRA-enduring and any MRA supplemental appropriations, as well as any funding transferred to PRM from other accounts and any ERMA funds implemented by PRM. The \$70 million in MRA funds requested in FY 2023 will support monitoring of critical humanitarian programs. The largest portion of administrative expenses will cover the salary, benefits, ICASS, contracts, and travel costs of U.S. direct hire staff, including regional refugee coordinators posted in U.S. embassies around the world.

FY 2021 Accomplishments

- To combat the high levels of prolonged understaffing and meet the Bureau's strategic goals, PRM obtained authority to establish 68 new full time equivalent positions. Of these, 32 Civil Service and 17 Foreign Service positions (six overseas in Bangladesh, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama) have been established and are filled or in recruitment as of May 31, 2022.

- PRM also obtained authorization to establish five temporary Foreign Service overseas positions to manage the Afghan relocation program. Additionally, PRM expanded the use of its contract capacity by 107 percent to provide technical support in monitoring and evaluation, and data analysis.
- To support the success of PRM staff in the COVID-19 environment, PRM procured an additional 100 virtual desktop devices bringing PRM's total to 252, ensuring all staff were technologically prepared and PRM employees were able to carry out their duties seamlessly and safely remotely.
- To further assess training needs and promote a diverse and inclusive workplace, PRM continued increasing its budget for external training courses and broadly advertised opportunities throughout the Bureau. PRM created a quarterly Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access newsletter to better inform staff on diversity and inclusion related topics and information. PRM held various training sessions to include Equal Employment Opportunity training for both employees and supervisors as well as presentations on refugee experiences, unconscious bias, and disability rights. PRM's Professional Development and Training Review Committee participated in the selection of staff for professional development opportunities, making recommendations to the selection process for various opportunities to improve fairness and transparency.

FY 2022 Priorities

- **Prioritize and fill Civil Service and Foreign Service staffing vacancies** so that PRM can more effectively implement Department and Bureau humanitarian goals and objectives and more efficiently program, manage, and monitor billions of dollars of foreign assistance to IO and NGO partners.
- **Explore options for building PRM's surge staff capacity** so that PRM can quickly, flexibly, and effectively respond to urgent, critical humanitarian needs as they arise. Work with Department leadership and other partners to request domestic personal service contracting authority to allow for the ability to surge staff to support emerging

crises, from Burma and Ethiopia to the U.S. Southwest border, and be able to shift resources as new priorities emerge.

- **Collaborate with colleagues across the Department on a remodeling plan** for PRM's office space that accommodates the growing workforce.
- **Assess, identify, and implement internal and external recommendations to rebalance the workload resulting from new or growing humanitarian crises.** PRM will also establish new bureau policies on emergency and surge staffing, M&E, and data analysis.

Summary of External Evaluations

Through its Monitoring and Evaluation strategy, PRM leverages research and external evaluations to address evidence gaps, where they may exist, and to inform programmatic and resource decisions. Consistent with the U.S. Department of State's evaluation policy, PRM strives to commission two external evaluations annually to rigorously assess performance, address evidence gaps, optimize program effectiveness and efficiency, and promote evidence-based decision-making. These evaluations are funded through the MRA account and are in addition to evaluations commissioned by PRM partners, such as UNHCR, ICRC, IOM, and UNRWA, that are supported by U.S. contributions to those organizations.

Findings from evaluations are used to identify best practices for PRM staff and partners; to help inform funding recommendations, policy development, and program design; and to influence PRM engagement with host governments, IOs, and NGOs on relevant issues. Detailed information on PRM's external evaluations is available on the [Bureau's public website](#).

External Evaluations to be completed in 2022

- **Evaluating PRM-Supported Initiatives on Africa Urban Refugee Youth Protection**

This evaluation is focused on the challenges faced by refugees aged 15-24 residing in urban settings in Africa and the adequacy/effectiveness of PRM-funded IO and NGO programs for them. This age group, which reaches beyond the traditional age range of primary education, often has limited access to secondary or tertiary education, and faces challenges in finding formal work. These individuals are at particularly high risk of GBV, exploitation, and psychosocial issues. The evaluation consists of a desk review followed by fieldwork in urban African locations to determine the greatest needs/gaps for this population and study what programming is most/least successful and why. It will make recommendations for PRM programming going forward. Although focused on Africa, PRM will use the evaluation findings to inform programming for urban refugee youth populations elsewhere in the world.

- **Evaluating PRM-Supported Initiatives on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)**

This evaluation is reviewing the scope and effectiveness of existing PRM-supported MHPSS programming (both IO and NGO), including the impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of MHPSS programming, and will make recommendations to inform the development of the Bureau's MHPSS strategy. The evaluation consists of a desk review followed by fieldwork in two countries where PRM has supported specific MHPSS interventions and/or MHPSS integration into sectoral programming.

External Evaluations Expected to Begin in 2022

- **Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)**

This evaluation will include an in-depth analysis of the frameworks PRM collects from implementing partners to determine how PRM can improve partners' AAP capacities and measurable impact. It will focus on how and whether AAP components of PRM-funded programs generate credible and useful information about how beneficiaries perceive the impact and responsiveness of those programs and how this information is being used to inform PRM programming

decisions. It will also look at how PRM works across the system for a coordinated and collective AAP process and monitoring of partners' AAP policies and programming.

- **Livelihoods Support to Syrian Refugees**

This evaluation will analyze the effectiveness and impact of livelihoods support to Syrian refugees in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and/or Turkey. It will compare what has worked and what has not in PRM-funded livelihoods programs, as well as examine the impact of external factors on program success, with particular attention to impact when refugees are able to work legally, the job skills held by refugees upon arrival in the host country, and the socio-economic status of the host communities in which they find work. This evaluation will inform PRM's expansion of livelihoods programming to other regions as well as future PRM interventions for Syrian refugees or other vulnerable populations in the region.

Table 20: U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA)

(\$ in thousands)	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Request	Change from FY 2022 Enacted
TOTAL	500,100	2,276,200	100,000	-2,176,200
Enduring - ERMA	100	100,100	100,000	-100
Afghanistan Supplemental – ERMA	500,000	2,176,100	-	-2,176,100

The President's Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) Fund enables the President to respond quickly to address urgent and unexpected refugee and

migration needs worldwide, including support to strengthen protection and provide emergency assistance for refugees, victims of conflict, and other persons at risk.

In FY 2021, the President authorized a total of \$600 million from ERMA to support unexpected urgent refugee and migration needs of refugees, victims of conflict, and other persons at risk due to the situation in Afghanistan, including applicants for Special Immigrant Visas. Further, \$2.176 billion in ERMA funding appropriated during FY 2022 is for the purposes of meeting unexpected urgent refugee and migration needs to support Operation Allies Welcome (OAW) and related efforts by the Department of State, including additional relocations of individuals at risk due to the situation in Afghanistan and related expenses. It has been authorized for drawdown for this purpose. \$100.1 million was also appropriated in FY 2022 for use in any emergency worldwide.

PRM established the Afghan Placement and Assistance Program (APA) and provided per capita funding to local U.S. resettlement affiliates to provide critical direct assistance, such as food, clothing, and furnishings, for Afghans paroled into the United States under Operation Allies Refuge and Operation Allies Welcome (OAW). This funding also provided arrival services, beginning with point of entry support, such as assistance with access to employment, medical, housing, and legal services, and case management during newcomers' first 30-90 days in their U.S. communities; similar to the assistance provided to refugees. In FY 2022 and into FY 2023, the current ERMA drawdown is supporting overseas processing activities for Afghans relocated to the United States through OAW, as well as providing critical support through domestic resettlement agency partners and local communities and interagency agreements with the General Services Administration (GSA), Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Defense (DOD).