

ACTION FOR REFUGEE EDUCATION

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Inclusion

We commit to action to support the inclusion of refugees in national education systems:

- 1.1 In line with the New York Declaration and the Global Compact on Refugees, UNHCR commits to inclusive and equitable quality education for all refugee and stateless children and youth that enables them to learn, to thrive and develop their potential, to build individual and collective resilience, to enable peace, and to contribute to their societies.

Timeframe and/or implementation plan:

2019-2023, UNHCR will:

- Promote and support sustainable inclusion in national education systems and in education sector plans.
- Foster enabling environments that support learning for all children.
- Enable children and youth to use their education toward sustainable futures and sustainable peace.
- Act through partnerships cutting across government, civil society, private sector, communities as well as humanitarian and development actors.
- Support collaborative learning and capacity development.
- Apply innovative approaches with a focus on evidence and growth.
- Invest a minimum USD 160 million annually in refugee education.

- 1.2 Primary Education: UNHCR commits to support and enable expanded primary education access and completion within national education systems and under the same conditions as nationals for a minimum of 1.5 million refugee children.

Timeframe and/or implementation plan:

2019-2023, UNHCR will:

- Work with national and sub-national government and partners to increase/rehabilitate schools and enhance teacher qualifications to meet diverse needs.
- Address barriers of distance and poverty through, e.g., transport, school meals, provision of school supplies, textbooks and/or cash grants.
- Create conditions for access by marginalized children, including girls, stateless children, students with special needs, and overage learners,

through targeted programmes for safe learning environments, policy adoption, and flexible programming.

- 1.3 Secondary Education: UNHCR commits to support and enable expanded secondary education access and completion within national education systems and under the same conditions as nationals for a minimum of 1 million refugee youth.

Timeframe and/or implementation plan:

2019-2023, UNHCR will:

- Advocate with regional bodies and individual governments for recognition and equivalency of educational credentials and placement based on learning levels and skills.
- Work with government and partners to increase secondary school availability with qualified teachers to meet demand, including facilities such as ICT and science labs necessary to fulfil secondary schooling requirements.
- Address barriers of distance and poverty.
- Create conditions for access by marginalized youth, including girls, students with special needs, and overage learners through targeted programmes for safe learning environments, policy adoption, and flexible programming.

- 1.4 Tertiary Education: UNHCR commits to support and enable expansion of access to tertiary education within national education systems and under the same conditions as nationals for a minimum of 50,000 refugee youth.

Timeframe and/or implementation plan:

2019-2023, UNHCR will:

- Advocate with governments, universities, colleges, technical and vocational schools for the admission of refugee youth at the same cost as nationals and recognition and equivalency of educational credentials obtained elsewhere.
- Expand scholarship opportunities for refugee youth and create a platform to assist refugees in locating appropriate tertiary education scholarships available through individual universities, foundations, and the private sector.
- Provide support services including mentorship, psychosocial support, and network building.
- Grow connected learning opportunities accessible to refugee youth, including support from the private sector.

- 1.5 Girls' Education: UNHCR commits to support and enable the expansion of access to and retention in secondary and higher education under the same conditions as nationals for a minimum of 500,000 refugee girls.

Timeframe and/or implementation plan:

2019-2023, UNHCR will:

- Incentivise families to increase girls' enrolment in secondary school, higher education, technical and vocational education training programmes.
- Support the increase of female teachers in secondary schools by helping female students to obtain teaching qualifications.
- Support school transport and appropriate and safe school infrastructure and services for girls.
- Support extra-curricular activities, enrichment and mentoring services, including female role models from the community, for girls to study enabling them to catch up, boost their studies and thrive academically and emotionally.

Improvement

We commit to ensuring quality learning opportunities for all:

- 2.1** UNHCR will support access to quality education for refugee and stateless children and youth that allows them to learn, develop to their potential, to build individual and collective resilience, and contribute to their societies.

Timeframe and/or implementation plan:

2019-2023, UNHCR will:

- Support activities that provide for curriculum, pedagogy, language, assessment, safety and social cohesion to enable learning across the continuum of education.
- Engage with government, humanitarian, development and private sector partners to support the development of teachers and school leaders on whose work the success of these policies and programmes for learning depend.
- Strengthen partnerships with refugee and host communities to engage in meaningful decision-making around policies and programmes supporting their children's learning.

Investment

We commit to mobilising the funding to scale up quality learning for refugees:

- 3.1** UNHCR commits a minimum of USD 160 million annually to refugee education, and to leverage extensive global, regional and national support to meet the goals of the Global Compact on Refugees the SDGs.

Timeframe and/or implementation plan:

2019-2023, UNHCR will:

- Work with Governments and Ministries of Education in refugee hosting countries, in collaboration with a broad range of partners, to support

quality education access in the spirit of the Comprehensive Refugee
Response Framework
