

THE REFUGEE HIGHWAY

The well worn paths people travel in search of refuge and a peaceful life

TERMS OF FORCIBLE DISPLACEMENT

Refugees are outside their country, afraid to return and protected from forced repatriation.

Asylum seekers request permanent refuge in a foreign country.

Internally Displaced People (IDP) are forced to flee their homes, but not their country.



MAJOR DISPLACED POPULATIONS

11.7m Syria	2.6m South Sudan
7m Colombia	2.5m Yemen
4.9m Iraq	2.4m Nigeria
4.2m Afghanistan	2.3m Somalia
3.9m Sudan	2.2m D.R. Congo



TOP REFUGEE HOSTING NATIONS

2.5m Turkey	664,000 Jordan
1.6m Pakistan	554,000 Kenya
1.1m Lebanon	477,000 Uganda
980,000 Iran	383,000 DR Congo
736,000 Ethiopia	370,000 Chad



REFUGEE REALITIES

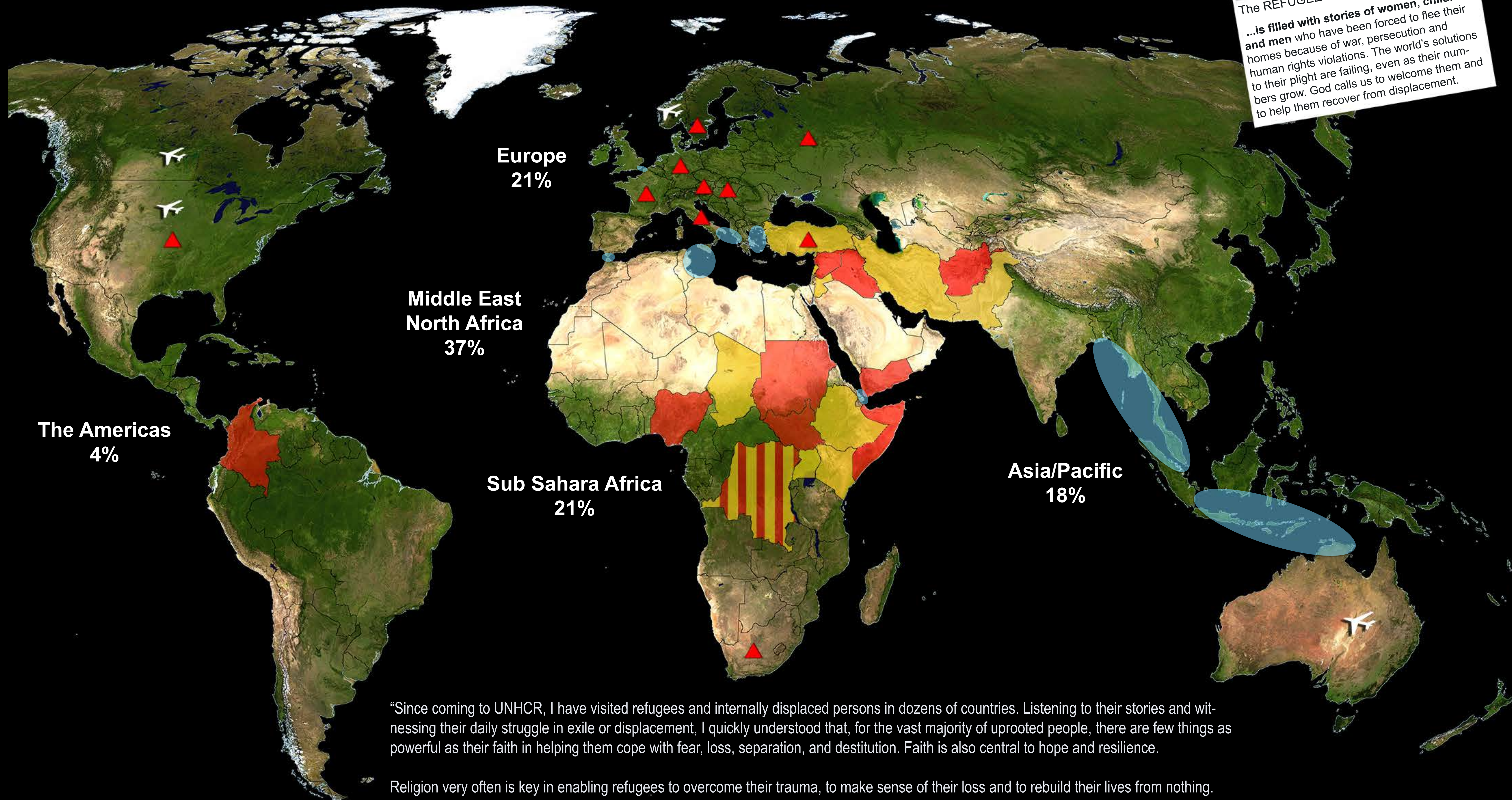
- * 1:113 persons are forcibly displaced today
- * 34,000 are newly uprooted every day
- * 86% are in developing nations
- * 51% are under 18 years old
- * 47% are women



FINDING GOD ON THE HIGHWAY

"You hear, O LORD, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry, defending the fatherless and the oppressed, in order that man, who is of the earth, may terrify no more."

Psalms 10:17-18



The REFUGEE HIGHWAY
...is filled with stories of women, children and men who have been forced to flee their homes because of war, persecution and human rights violations. The world's solutions to their plight are failing, even as their numbers grow. God calls us to welcome them and to help them recover from displacement.

Antonio Guterres, Former UN High Commissioner for Refugees

The Refugee Highway

65.3 million women, children and men were forcibly displaced in the world at the beginning of 2016. An incomprehensible 34,000 people were forced to flee their homes **every day** in 2015 - that's 24 newly displaced people every minute! While the majority were displaced within their own country, over 21 million were compelled to seek refuge in another country. Many risked long and dangerous journeys to distant nations where they hoped to find asylum and the opportunity to rebuild their lives.

There are some well-worn paths that they travel in their desperate search for safety. These paths are the Refugee Highway.

More Crises - Fewer Solutions

As the number of protracted refugee crises continues to multiply worldwide, forcibly displaced people have few long-term solutions from which to choose. The causes for their flight must be resolved before they can consider returning home. As 9 of every 10 refugees are hosted by developing countries, few are given the option of integrating into their host societies and remaining permanently. And in 2015, only 107,100 refugees were resettled to another country. The average amount of time people are forcibly displaced is 17 years. These realities drove over 1m desperate people to risk the dangerous trip to Europe in search of refuge.

Biblical Perspective

Jesus and his parents fled in the night to Egypt to escape persecution in Palestine. He later identified himself with "the stranger" and said that hospitality to the stranger would mark his followers.

Faith, hope and love play a central role in human resilience and in recovery from displacement. These are among the critical contributions the church has to offer as we seek the protection and welfare of those traveling the Refugee Highway.

Sometimes it is difficult to know where to begin. The Refugee Highway Partnership is here to help.

www.refugeehighway.net



KEY

- major refugee producing countries
- top countries hosting refugees
- top destinations of asylum-seekers
- main countries of resettlement
- active sea routes

Asia/Pacific 18%

Map credits & discussion resources: www.iafr.org

