

# RSTP Bulletin

## UPDATE ON BVOR MATCHING

As of July 27, 2015, RSTP has received 317 cases, containing 763 refugees that require matching. The BVOR pool currently consists of 18 refugee populations who are being resettled from four continents. To this date, the BVOR worker has been able to match and find sponsors for 218 refugees. According to Felisa Ponce, the main difference this year ( from previous years ) is the huge unmet demand for Syrian BVOR cases. There have only been a few Syrian cases posted, and this is impacting the matching of other refugee populations. "The sense I get from talking with CGs and SAH reps is that many groups have not yet sponsored because they've been waiting specifically for Syrian cases."

The following is a quick analysis done by Debra Simpson (from the SAH Secretariat) on the rates of matching *vis-a-vis* outstanding cases.

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### **Uptake:**

The overall rate is 27%. The biggest uptake was Syrians at 100%, which is no surprise, but it is a very small number (6 cases). There is decent uptake on Iraqis (52% of 33 cases), Burmese at 37% of 59 cases and Iranians (87.5%), although the number of posted Iranian cases is small (8).

### **Populations:**

The largest populations of BVORs are:  
 Eritreans (120 cases) with a 18% uptake  
 Burmese (59 cases) with a 37% uptake  
 Iraqi (33 cases) with a 52% uptake  
 Congolese (23 cases) with a 4% uptake  
 Ethiopian (21 cases) with a 24% uptake

**No uptake** thus far on the following populations:

Bhutanese (9 cases posted)  
 Burundian (3 cases posted)  
 CAR (2 cases posted)  
 Chinese (2 cases posted)  
 Liberian (1 cases posted)  
 Mali (1 cases posted)  
 Somali (5 cases posted)  
 Sudanese (11 cases posted)

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Considering the large number of refugees waiting to be sponsored, RSTP calls your attention to the current list of available cases , while continuing to ask for more Syrian BVOR cases.

## *Available BVOR cases*

### [VOR 333 — A Congolese family of 4](#)

The PA is a 40 year old Congolese male accompanied by his wife. They have 4 children who are currently missing. The couple fled the DRC on the grounds of their political opinion and have both been victims of violence. Both the PA and his wife speak French. They would greatly benefit from the support of a sponsoring group.

*Possible OYW for 3 children.*

**Urgency: HIGH**

### [VOR 200 & 201— an Eritrean woman with 3 adult children](#)

The PA is a widowed 49 year old Eritrean woman at risk with 3 children, ages 26, 23 and 18. The eldest child is cross-referenced on VOR 201. She has experience working as a hairdresser and cleaner. She cannot return to Eritrea for fear of her safety.

**Urgency: HIGH**

### [VOR 274- an Eritrean woman with 5 children](#)

The PA is a married 33 year old Eritrean woman at risk accompanied by her 4 children, ages 8, 7, 5 and 3. She has experience working as a hairdresser and cleaner. She cannot return to Eritrea for fear of her safety.

*Possible OYW for husband & son.*



# INQUIRIES & RESPONSES

**YOU ASKED...** As the situation in the middle eastern region changes with borders closing and opening temporarily, we're getting more inquiries about sponsoring asylum seekers stuck in so-called no man's lands in between states, such as the thousands of Syrians stranded between Syria and Turkey. Would they meet the eligibility criteria with respect to being outside of their country of origin? Apart from the logistical difficulty in accessing as well as interviewing such individuals, how would a visa office interpret their location?

**OUR REPLY...** We have contacted CIC for clarification and they have provided us with the following information :

*"Syrians in the no man's land do not meet the definition of a Convention refugee or meet the criteria of the asylum country category because they have not left their country of nationality. The no man's land is still within the borders of Syria. Non-Syrians in the no man's land would present admissibility issues. Processing these applications would be logistically impossible regarding interview, medical, exiting the country, etc. "*

**YOU ASKED...** It seems that the Ankara VO is asking sponsors/PAs to submit the generic form, schedules, supporting documents, and other forms all again on the day of the interview. Since this does not seem to be a one-off, we were wondering if you could assist us in getting clarification or more information about this.

**OUR REPLY...** We have received a response from CIC which states that the visa office in Ankara clarified that the interview letter states that new forms must be submitted **unless the same form has been provided within the last 24 months**. So the visa office is actually providing a 24 month grace period for updated forms. Regarding the forms that are not part of the IMM6000 kit, these are additional forms help speed up the processing of the application.

## *Available BVOR cases ...*

### [VOR 144 – an Eritrean woman with 2 children](#)

The PA is a single 36 year old Eritrean woman at risk with a 9 year old daughter. She has 7 years of formal education and experience working as a waitress. She cannot return to her home country for fear of illegally leaving Eritrea and repercussions of allegedly evading compulsory national military service. The PA would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor.

*Possible OYW for child's father.*

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## *Upcoming Events*

### [CCR working group meetings](#)

**FRIDAY 28 AUGUST:**

9:30am - 5pm: [Overseas Protection & Sponsorship Working Group](#) meeting

**SATURDAY 29 AUGUST:**

9:30am - 5pm: [Inland Protection Working Group](#) meeting

9:30am - 5pm: [Immigration and Settlement Working Group](#) meeting

### **Location**

St. James United Church  
1435, rue City Councillors  
Montreal, QC H3A 2E4