



# BVOR NEWS

Refugee  
Sponsorship  
Training  
Program

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## Highlights from the UNHCR Global Trends 2019 Report

- At the end of 2019, there were 79.5 million forcibly displaced persons worldwide.
- 26 million are refugees, 45.7 million are internally displaced persons and 4.2 million are asylum seekers.
- 85% of the world's refugees are hosted in developing countries.

Only 4.5% of refugees identified as needing resettlement were resettled in 2019.

76% of all 2019 UNHCR submissions were:

- Survivors of torture and violence
- Legal and physical protection needs cases; and
- Women and girls

52% of submissions were children

For further information and statistics on refugees and forcibly displaced persons around the world, please refer to the recently published [UNHCR Global Trends 2019 document](#).

**Resettlement/refugee sponsorship is a life saving durable solution and protection tool for refugees**

### UNHCR Canada's Video on Resettlement

UNHCR Canada has created a video that explains what resettlement means – please take a look at the video at the following links:

- [English](#)
- [French](#)

## The Blended Visa Office-Referred (BVOR) Program

The BVOR Program helps resettle refugees identified by United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) as the most vulnerable in need of resettlement. It is called blended because it is a cost sharing arrangement. Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) provides up to six months of income support for the newcomers, while private sponsors provide another six months of financial support, start-up costs and up to one year of social and emotional support.

## Projected Global Resettlement Needs 2021

Over 1.44 million refugees in need of resettlement in 2021. Populations with the highest resettlement needs are:

- Syrians
- Congolese
- South Sudanese

Africa region covers more than 32 different countries of asylum and represents 43% of the total global needs.

## COVID-19 Impact on Refugees and Resettlement

Refugees and other displaced people are particularly at risk during this COVID outbreak because they often have limited access to water, sanitation systems and health facilities. Due to COVID, resettlement, which has always been a lifesaving tool for refugees, temporarily went on hold, but on June 18th, UNHCR and IOM announced resumption of resettlement departures for refugees. However, many travel restrictions still remain in place. To read the full statement, [click here](#)

## World Refugee Day

June 20th marked World Refugee Day, we recognize the strength, resilience and courage of refugees all around the world. We also recognize the need for protection and resettlement for many who do not have another durable solution.

Please consider sponsoring a refugee or refugee family through the BVOR Program, as now is the time to prepare, so that you are ready once the program resumes.

### World Refugee Day Webinar:

To mark World Refugee Day, the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP) and UNHCR Canada did a webinar on the global refugee crisis and the impact of COVID-19 on refugees and resettlement. There was a discussion on how Canadians can help by sponsoring refugees through the BVOR program. If you missed the webinar, [click here for the recording](#).

### Online/Virtual Event to Mark and Celebrate World Refugee Day:

For information about the online and virtual events that took place across Canada to celebrate World Refugee Day, please [click here](#).

### World Refugee Day 2020 Resources:

- [UNHCR](#)
- [UNHCR Canada](#)
- [UNHCR Global Trends 2019](#)
- [Statement by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees](#)

## Questions about the BVOR program

The BVOR program staff is available to answer your questions regarding the BVOR program, cases that are in process as well any questions related to COVID-19 and BVOR sponsorships.

Tel: 416.290.1700 ext.2403

Toll-free: 1.877.290.1701

E-mail: [BVOR@rstp.ca](mailto:BVOR@rstp.ca)

RSTP also continues to provide a full range of virtual services to Canada's refugee sponsorship community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please check our website, [www.rstp.ca](http://www.rstp.ca), for dates and times of upcoming online workshops and courses.

RSTP trainers across Canada are available for virtual consultation from 9 to 5 each day, by appointment. Among the services they provide by [telephone](#), [email](#) and virtual platforms are:

- Support with refugee sponsorship applications.
- Guidance for sponsors with post-arrival issues.

Please refer to our website's contact list for the name, [phone number](#) and [e-mail address](#) of the RSTP trainer in your region.

## BLENDED VISA OFFICE-REFERRED (BVOR) PROGRAM

For more information, visit [www.rstp.ca](http://www.rstp.ca)  
or email [bvor@rstp.ca](mailto:bvor@rstp.ca)

Refugee  
Sponsorship  
Training  
Program



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada

