



# Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

## *Common Template of EMN Focussed Study 2016*

Final version: 25/03/2016

**Subject:** Common Template for the EMN Focussed Study 2016 on "*Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?*"

**Action:** EMN NCPs are invited to submit their completed Common Templates by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016**.

If needed, further clarifications can be provided by directly contacting the EMN Service Provider (ICF) at [emn@icfi.com](mailto:emn@icfi.com) and directly to Maurice van der Velden ([Maurice.vandervelden@icfi.com](mailto:Maurice.vandervelden@icfi.com)) and Salvatore Sofia ([Salvatore.sofia@icfi.com](mailto:Salvatore.sofia@icfi.com)).

## 1 STUDY AIMS AND RATIONALE

### 1.1 STUDY AIMS

This EMN study aims to offer a comprehensive overview of challenges and current solutions regarding the functioning of resettlement schemes and humanitarian admission programmes for refugees in the EU Member States and Norway. The outcomes of the study will make it possible for the target audience to learn about and identify difficulties and success factors for resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes. Thus it aims to assist the elaboration and further development of both national programmes and joint European initiatives, also with a view to contribute to the handling of possible future refugee crises and humanitarian emergencies.

### 1.2 RATIONALE

According to the UNHCR, in 2015, the number of refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people worldwide has, for the first time in the post-World War II era, exceeded 60 million people.<sup>1</sup> This development was driven mainly by the war in Syria, which at the end of 2015 had displaced millions of people. Major new displacement were taking place in Africa – due to continued wars and failure to resolve or prevent conflict.

While most refugees have fled to neighbouring or other countries in their regions of origin, migration and refugee flows to Europe have also increased massively, with hundreds of thousands of refugees arriving in the EU Member States and Norway to apply for international protection, especially since the summer of 2015. Most of them entered the EU without registering, often via Greece or Italy, and then transited through a number of countries,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.unhcr.org/558193896.html>

both EU-Member States and non-members, hoping to reach Western and Central Europe or the Nordic countries. Under this exceptional migratory pressure, the border and mobility rules of the Schengen area and the Dublin regulation came under significant pressures, and for many refugees, the journey to Europe meant extreme uncertainty, risks and dangers. It also became obvious that many EU Member States were reluctant to accept significant numbers of asylum seekers onto their territory.

While the EU Member States and Norway are searching for adequate responses to the challenges of strongly increasing migratory pressures, several ideas and concepts to resolve, or at least alleviate, the resulting problems have been discussed, such as better controls at the external borders of the Schengen area, a strengthened approach against traffickers and smugglers of human beings, the implementation of a relocation scheme to distribute asylum seekers within the EU, assisting neighbouring states of conflict countries, as well as addressing the root causes of irregular migration by contributing to development and peace in affected countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. Last but not least, the need for opening up, or expanding existing, “legal routes” or pathways to protection in the EU has also been discussed. Resettlement is an important element of such legal routes and one (of three) main long-term solutions for refugees alongside return (the preferred solution) and local integration in the country of first refuge. Resettlement refers to the transfer of refugees from the country of first refuge to a country willing to admit them (see below under “Definitions”).

The goal of resettlement is to offer a durable solution for those fleeing conflict and to support first countries of asylum in their efforts to deal with displaced people seeking asylum and the pressure this places on their country’s infrastructure, resources and citizens. The European Commission confirmed the relevance of resettlement activities in its “European Agenda for Migration” of May 2015, and in July 2015, the EU Member States committed to welcome over 20,000 refugees in the next two years in this way. Also, at the EU-Africa summit on Migration that took place in November 2015 in Valletta, the participating states declared that “access to regular mechanisms for protection, such as resettlement, should be reinforced”. In its communication on the on the State of Play of Implementation of the Priority Actions under the European in February 2016,<sup>2</sup> the Commission indicated that the voluntary humanitarian admission scheme with Turkey must be put in place quickly to provide a legal pathway for Member States to offer international protection to persons displaced by the conflict in Syria. Following the agreement between the European Council and Turkey on the implementation of an EU-Turkey joint action plan (18<sup>th</sup> March), the Commission announced a proposal to amend a Council Decision to relocate people in need for international protection from Italy and Greece. The amendment would make possible to allocate 54,000 places, which were foreseen for relocations, for resettlement of Syrians from Turkey.<sup>3</sup>

While the momentum is growing for resettlement programmes, there is a need for increased knowledge-sharing and support between “old”, “new” and “emerging” resettlement countries. Some (Member) States have had resettlement schemes for many years, others have recently started them, and some are considering the possibility to do so. While there are already projects aiming to develop the practical cooperation between (Member) States, and while a certain amount of information on national resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes is available and is being described and analysed (see “Literature” below), there is still a need to update and improve knowledge and awareness of practical problems and key success factors for resettlement schemes that are well designed, successfully implemented and are able to expand the quota of persons to be resettled..

By looking into challenges faced by (Member) States that have resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes, while also aiming to understand the reasons of other Member States for not (yet) implementing such programmes, this study shall identify relevant common measures that may serve to increase the capacities for resettlement in Europe and improve the sustainability of the concept in times of high migratory pressure.

### 1.3 PRIMARY QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

The main questions the Study will aim to address are:

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<sup>2</sup> COM(2016) 85 final

<sup>3</sup> [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-981\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-981_en.htm)

- ★ What are the national political contexts for policies on resettlement and humanitarian admission in (Member) States? How have key national actors analysed and evaluated the experience with resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes?
- ★ How many persons have been resettled/admitted to EU Member States and Norway, and on what grounds? What are the distinctive features of national resettlement schemes and programmes? What are the practical components of existing resettlement schemes?
- ★ What are the methods and criteria for selecting persons to be resettled/admitted? Are there cultural orientation programs and, if so, how are they designed and how do they work? Which actors are involved in the pre-departure and post arrival stages? What post-arrival integration efforts are there for resettled persons?
- ★ What are the current challenges and “best practices” for resettlement programmes and humanitarian admission programmes and what are the ambitions and plans among EU Member States and Norway for the coming years?<sup>4</sup>

## 2 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study will look into policies and practices developed by the EU Member States and Norway regarding resettlement of third-country nationals. Humanitarian admission programmes are also covered when they are (operationally) similar or even identical to, even if not defined as, resettlement. Private sponsorship programmes are covered in this Study but as they are less common in the EU than official resettlement and/or humanitarian admission programmes, these will be covered in less detail. Not addressed in this Study are intra-EU relocation measures (i.e. programmes designed to reallocate asylum seekers or beneficiaries of international protection between the Member States of the EU) and other regular admission channels (e.g., for persons migrating for employment, study or family reunification purposes). For Member States that do not currently have resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes, the study will cover a number of areas potentially of relevance for those countries.

The study will briefly present, comment on, and compare the national political contexts for contemporary policies on resettlement and humanitarian admission in EU Member States and Norway, including relevant debates and views of key stakeholders. There will also be an analysis and evaluation of the implementation of resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes by the different national and international actors involved. The study is also relevant for Member States that do not yet have a resettlement or humanitarian admission programme but might wish to set one up in the futures.

Member State statistics on categories and nationalities of resettled/admitted individuals will be analysed, as well as distinctive features of national resettlement programmes and programmes carried out as part of the Joint EU Resettlement Programme.

The study will present methods and criteria used for selecting persons to be resettled/admitted, as well as the use of cultural orientation programmes and other measures in advance of resettlement. Post-arrival integration efforts for resettled persons will also be studied when they differ from integration measures for other migrants or persons granted protection following an application on the country’s territory.

Finally, the study will present and discuss the findings of any evaluations of resettlement programmes/humanitarian admission programmes, identify best practices, look into relevant public debates in the Member States, and examine any ambitions and plans among EU Member States and Norway for the coming years.

### 2.1 TEMPORAL SCOPE

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<sup>4</sup> Drawing also on the findings of the 2016 EMN study ‘Integration of beneficiaries of international protection into the labour market’.

The study covers approaches and experiences in EU Member States and Norway to resettlement during the period 2011-2015.

### 3 EU LEGAL AND POLICY CONTEXT

The 1999 Tampere Summit laid down the general direction for the Justice & Home Affairs Area and produced agreement on the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). In 2003 a Commission communication highlighted resettlement as a way for ensuring 'orderly and managed arrival'<sup>5</sup> and this culminated in the Council asking the Commission in January 2005 to put in place a resettlement programme. The Commission responded to this in September 2005 with an action plan for regional protection programmes, highlighting voluntary resettlement commitments.<sup>6</sup> A proposal for an EU-wide Resettlement programme was tabled in September 2009 and the Commission set out the aims for setting up such as a programme.<sup>7</sup> After long negotiations the Commission proposal was adopted by the European Parliament on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2013, and established common resettlement priorities for 2013 and allocated funding for resettlement by amending the Decision on the European Refugee Fund.<sup>8</sup> This provided the basis for furthering the allocation of resources and designating specific priorities under the AMIF Regulation for the 2014-2020 period. Currently, Member States mostly set their priorities in resettlement at national level. EU action aimed at maximising the strategic impact of resettlement through a better targeting of those persons in greatest need of resettlement, formulating common priorities, and providing financial EU support for persons resettled, and for Member States resettling for the first time.<sup>9</sup>

On 25<sup>th</sup> November 2014 a Resettlement and Relocation Forum took place with the aim to "work towards Solidarity in Practice through a specific use of solidarity measures, such as resettlement of refugees to the EU and other legal avenues for allowing persons in need to seek protection in the EU without having to resort to illegal practices".<sup>10</sup> It highlighted the Union Resettlement Programme, based on common EU priorities considered to be instrumental for providing financial incentives.

In the May 2015 European Agenda on Migration, the European Commission reiterated the EU's duty to contribute its share in helping displaced persons in clear need of international protection through safe and legal ways for them to reach the EU.<sup>11</sup> This was followed by the Commission Recommendation for a European Resettlement Scheme of 8 June 2015 in order to resettle 20,000 people in need of protection over two years. As a result, on 20 July 2015 Member State representatives meeting within the Council adopted conclusions to resettle, together with Dublin associated States (including Norway), 20,504 persons in need of protection.

The AMIF fund was amended in May 2015 for the financial year 2015 in order to respond to migratory pressures and foresees an additional amount of EUR 25 million for the implementation of the European Resettlement Scheme.<sup>12</sup> For the implementation of the scheme, the Conclusions of 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 highlighted the important role

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<sup>5</sup> COM(2003) 315 final, 3/6/2003 Towards more accessible, equitable and manageable asylum systems

<sup>6</sup> COM (2005) 0388 final, 1/9/2005 Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on regional protection programmes

<sup>7</sup> COM (2009), 447 final, 2/9/2009 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council of 2 September 2009 on the establishment of a joint EU resettlement programme

<sup>8</sup> Decision No 281/2012/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 March 2012 amending Decision No 573/2007/EC establishing the European Refugee Fund for the period 2008 to

2013 as part of the General programme 'Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows': <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:092:0001:0003:EN:PDF>

<sup>9</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:092:0001:0003:EN:PDF>

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014\\_2019/documents/libe/dv/18\\_paper\\_solidarityinpractice\\_/18\\_paper\\_solidarityinpractice\\_en.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/documents/libe/dv/18_paper_solidarityinpractice_/18_paper_solidarityinpractice_en.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/communication\\_on\\_the\\_european\\_agenda\\_on\\_migration\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/communication_on_the_european_agenda_on_migration_en.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> Regulation (EU) No 516/2014, of 16 April 2014, of the European Parliament and of the

of EASO in Member State and third country support in this regard, and should monitor the implementation of the scheme and report regularly on the implementation. The European Agenda on Migration reiterated cooperation with partners such as UNHCR and IOM.

EASO will take on a coordinating role (“clearing house”) in exchanging information and other actions on resettlement taken by EU Member States in cooperation with UNHCR and IOM. In cooperation with UNHCR and IOM, EASO will promote coordination between EU Member States in achieving agreed targets of resettlement. Further supporting this process, EASO is developing new tools and methodologies.

As part of the 2015 Conclusions, all EU and EFTA Member States– with the exception of Hungary – have agreed to resettle through multilateral and national schemes the following number of persons by 2017:

AT	BE	BG	HR	CY	CZ	DK	EE	FI	FR	DE	EL	HU	IE	IT	LV
1,900	1,100	50	150	69	400	1,000	20	293	2,375	1,600	354	-	520	1,989	50
LT	LU	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SK	SI	ES	SE	UK	NO	IS	LI	CH
70	30	14	1,000	900	191	80	100	20	1,449	491	2,200	3,500	50	20	519

In addition, several Member States have their own national resettlement schemes.

On 15 December 2015, the European Commission presented a recommendation for a voluntary humanitarian admission scheme with Turkey for persons displaced by the conflict in Syria who are in need of international protection and have been registered by the Turkish authorities prior to 29 November 2015.<sup>13</sup> The European Commission has further announced it would follow up on these initiatives with a proposal for a more coordinated EU-wide approach to resettlement.

At the moment no EU policy and legal developments have been formulated specifically for private sponsorship as a potential attractive alternative to irregular movements.

## 4 RELEVANT SOURCES AND LITERATURE

### *Relevant studies*

There is a wide array of documents and studies at international level relevant for this study, such as:

- ★ European Parliament (2013): Comparative study on the best practices for the integration of resettled refugees in the EU Member States, Doc.-no. PE 474.393 [<http://www.ecre.org/component-/downloads/downloads/747.html>].
- ★ Capps, R., K. Newland (2015), The integration outcomes of U.S. refugees: Successes and Challenges: Migration Policy Institute
- ★ Kumin, J (2015), Welcoming engagement: How private sponsorship can strengthen refugee resettlement in the European Union, Migration Policy Institute Europe (MPI Europe)
- ★ UNHCR (2011): UNHCR Resettlement Handbook, Geneva [<http://www.unhcr.org/4a2ccf4c6.html>].

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Council establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, amending Council Decision 2008/381/EC and repealing Decisions No 573/2007/EC and No 575/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Decision 2007/435/EC, O.J. L 150 of 20.05.14.

<sup>13</sup> [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-15-6330\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6330_en.htm)

- ★ Perrin, D. (ed.) (2013): Refugee Resettlement in the EU – 2011-2013 Report, KNOW RESET RR 2013/05, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, San Domenico di Fiesole: European University Institute [<http://www.know-reset.eu/>].
- ★ ICMC (2013): Welcome to Europe! A comprehensive guide to resettlement.
- ★ IOM (2011): Facilitating Integration through Cultural Orientation [<http://icmc.ttp.eu/sites/icmc.ttp.eu/files/NLCO%20Publication.pdf>].
- ★ UNHCR (2013): The Integration of Resettled Refugees: Essentials for Establishing a Resettlement Programme and Fundamentals for Sustainable Resettlement Programmes.
- ★ UNHCR (2013): Clarifying UNHCR Resettlement: A few considerations from a legal perspective [<http://www.refworld.org/docid/5294b2f84.html>]

#### Relevant EMN Outputs

The following examples of EMN outputs are also relevant:

#### Ad Hoc Queries

- ★ 2015.727 *Resettlement Programmes (2)*
- ★ 2015.726 *Resettlement Programmes (1)*
- ★ 2015.697 *Type of status in relocation/resettlement schemes*
- ★ 2015.695 *Resettlement costs*
- ★ 2014.638 *Risk to national security in resettlement context*
- ★ 2014.627 *Resettlement financing*

#### EMN Studies / EMN REG outputs

- ★ Integration of beneficiaries of international protection into the labour market (2016)
- ★ Organisation of reception facilities for asylum seekers (2013)
- ★ Non EU-harmonised protection statuses (2010)

#### Websites

- ★ The European Resettlement Network (<http://resettlement.eu>)

## 5 METHODOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

As with all EMN Studies, the National Reports should be primarily based on secondary sources. In particular, information on national policies and approaches will be a key source of information, while available evaluations should provide evidence of the effectiveness, good practices and lessons learnt of existing approaches in resettlement and humanitarian admission. In addition, when identifying the different channels of information dissemination in your Member State (see section 4 of the Common Template), it may be useful to **conduct interviews** with stakeholders at national, regional and local level, particularly on their effectiveness and challenges faced.

## 6 AVAILABLE STATISTICS

#### Eurostat

Some basic statistics on resettlement are available in the Eurostat database, i.e. annual numbers on resettled persons by age, sex and citizenship for all EU Member States, as well as and Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland. These will be incorporated into the respective sections of the national contributions to be produced by each EMN NCP.

If, following discussions within the advisory group for this study, Eurostat statistics are not considered sufficient, other national statistics may be used. Since Eurostat does not collect data on the countries where resettlement is carried out, such data might be added by EMN NCPs from national sources.

## 7 DEFINITIONS

The following key terms are used in the Common Template. The definitions are taken from the EMN Glossary v3.0<sup>14</sup> unless specified otherwise in footnotes.

**Applicant for international protection:** *a third-country national or a stateless person who has made an application for international protection in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken.*

**Application for asylum:** *an application made by a foreigner or a stateless person which can be understood as a request for protection under the Geneva Convention of 1951 or national refugee law.*

**Application for international protection:** *A request made by a third-country national or a stateless person for protection from a Member State, who can be understood to seek refugee status or subsidiary protection status, and who does not explicitly request another kind of protection, outside the scope of Directive 2011/95/EU, that can be applied for separately.*

**Asylum:** *A form of protection given by a State on its territory, based on the principle of non-refoulement and internationally or nationally recognised refugee rights and which is granted to a person who is unable to seek protection in their country of citizenship and / or residence, in particular for fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.*

**Asylum seeker:** *in the global context, a person who seeks safety from persecution or serious harm in a country other than their own and awaits a decision on the application for refugee status under relevant international and national instruments. In the EU context, a person who has made an application for protection under the Geneva Convention in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken.*

**Beneficiary of international protection:** *means a person who has been granted refugee status or subsidiary protection status*

**Durable solutions:** *Any means by which the situation of refugees can be satisfactorily and permanently resolved to enable them to live normal lives.*

**Geneva Convention:** *means the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, as amended by the New York Protocol of 31 January 1967*

**Humanitarian protection:** *a person covered by a decision granting authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons under national law concerning international protection by administrative or judicial bodies. It includes persons who are not eligible for international protection as currently defined in the Qualifications Directive (Directive 2011/95/EU) but are nonetheless protected against removal under the obligations that are imposed on all Member States by international refugee or human rights instruments or on the basis of principles flowing from such instruments. [...] persons granted a permission to stay for humanitarian reasons but who have not previously applied for international protection are not included under this concept."*

**Integration:** *in the EU context, a dynamic, two-way process of mutual accommodation by all immigrants and residents of Member States.*

**International protection:** *In the global context, the actions by the international community on the basis of international law, aimed at protecting the fundamental rights of a specific category of persons outside their*

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<sup>14</sup> Available at: [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european\\_migration\\_network/docs/emn-glossary-en-version.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/docs/emn-glossary-en-version.pdf)

countries of origin, who lack the national protection of their own countries. In the EU context, protection that encompasses refugee status and subsidiary protection status.

**Orientation courses:** Orientation courses typically provide factual information about the country of destination but may also aim to foster positive attitudes for successful adaptation in the long run. These could include opportunities for migrants to gain (and practice) the necessary skills needed to facilitate their integration and to develop helpful attitudes including pro-activity, self-sufficiency and resourcefulness (knowing how to find the information they are seeking); skills include knowing how to conduct oneself in certain situations, time management and goal-setting, as well as being able to navigate complex systems including banking, social, health and emergency services, transportation etc. (Source: IOM Best Practices IOM's migrant training and pre-departure orientation programmes).

**Person eligible for subsidiary protection:** a third-country national or a stateless person who does not qualify as a refugee but in respect of whom substantial grounds have been shown for believing that the person concerned, if returned to his or her country of origin, or in the case of a stateless person, to his or her country of former habitual residence, would face a real risk of suffering serious harm and is unable or, owing to such risk, unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country;

**Refugee:** In the global context, either a person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group, is outside the country of nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country, or a stateless person, who, being outside of the country of former habitual residence for the same reasons as mentioned before, is unable or, owing to such fear, unwilling to return to it. In the EU context, either a third-country national who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group, is outside the country of nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country, or a stateless person, who, being outside of the country of former habitual residence for the same reasons as mentioned above, is unable or, owing to such fear, unwilling to return to it, and to whom Art. 12 (Exclusion) of Directive 2011/95/EU does not apply.

**Refugee status:** The recognition by a Member State of a third-country national or stateless person as a refugee.

**Residence permit:** Any authorisation issued by the authorities of an EU Member State allowing a non-EU national to stay legally in its territory

**Subsidiary protection status:** recognition by a Member State of a third-country national or a stateless person as a person eligible for subsidiary protection;

**Third-country national:** means any person who is not a citizen of the Union (including stateless persons) within the meaning of Article 17 (1) of the Treaty and who is not a person enjoying the Community right of free movement, as defined in Article 2(5) of the Schengen Borders Code.

**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees:** The refugee agency of the United Nations (UN) mandated to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide, and to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees;

In addition, the study uses on the following concepts and definitions:

**Dossier selection:** in the context of this study, the selection of third-country nationals or stateless persons for the resettlement/humanitarian admission programme on the basis of a written document, as alternative to in-country selection. In the case of resettlement, such documents are usually submitted by UNHCR.

**Humanitarian admission:** The term "admission" is defined as "the lawful entry of an alien onto the territory of a State after inspection and authorisation by an immigration officer". The term "humanitarian admission" is however not defined. In the context of this study, humanitarian admission refers to schemes which are similar to resettlement but for varying reasons do not fully match the definition of resettlement. For example, resettlement may be a permanent solution for the people benefiting from it, while humanitarian admission may be temporary.

Also, whilst a precondition for resettlement is the eligibility to international protection, (determined by the UNHCR), humanitarian admission could be available to a wider range of potential beneficiaries. Humanitarian admission is therefore intended as the transfer from a third country to a Member State of a third-country national for humanitarian reasons under national law concerning international protection by administrative or judicial bodies.

**Private sponsorship:**

There is no common and agreed definition of private sponsorship. A key element of private sponsorship is that a person, group or organisation assumes responsibility for providing financial, social and emotional support to a resettled person or family, for a predetermined period of time (usually one year or even longer) or until the person or family becomes self-sufficient. Additionally, sponsors have the option of naming the person or family they are willing to support in resettlement, though some sponsors do not have specific persons in mind but rather seek to match a certain profile.<sup>15</sup>

**Resettled person:** in the context of this study, a third-country national or stateless person transferred from a third country to a Member State under a resettlement scheme.

**Resettlement:** In the global context, the selection and transfer of refugees from a state in which they have sought protection to a third state which has agreed to admit them as refugees with permanent residence status. The status provided ensures protection against refoulement and provides a resettled refugee and his/her family or dependants with access to rights similar to those enjoyed by nationals. Resettlement also carries with it the opportunity to eventually become a naturalized citizen of the resettlement country.<sup>16</sup>

In the EU context and specifically for the purposes of this Study, the transfer, on a request from UNHCR and based on the need for international protection of a third-country national or stateless person, from a third country to a Member State, where they are permitted to reside with one of the following statuses:

- (i) refugee status within the meaning of Art. 2(d) of Directive 2011/95/EU; or
- (ii) a status which offers the same rights and benefits under national and EU law as refugee status.”

**Selection missions:** in the context of this study, the in-country visit carried out to select third-country nationals or stateless persons for the resettlement/humanitarian admission programme, organised as a mission of Member States representatives to the third country. In the case of resettlement, such missions are usually prepared in cooperation with UNHCR.

## 8 ADVISORY GROUP

For the purpose of providing support to EMN NCPs while undertaking this Focussed Study and for developing the Synthesis Report, an “Advisory Group” has been established. The members of the Advisory Group for this Study, in addition to COM and the EMN Service Provider (ICF), are (currently) NO (proposer), AT, BE, NL and UK EMN NCPs. EMN NCPs are thus invited to send any requests for clarification or further information on the Study to the following “Advisory Group” members:

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<sup>15</sup> MPI Europe, “Welcoming engagement: How private sponsorship can strengthen refugee resettlement in the European Union”, available at <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/Asylum-PrivateSponsorship-Kumin-FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>16</sup> UNHCR Resettlement Handbook: <http://www.unhcr.org/46f7c0ee2.pdf>. Although resettlement has legal foundations in the international framework, the application of the legal instrument is subject to various interpretation. See UNHCR (2013): Clarifying UNHCR Resettlement: A few considerations from a legal perspective, p.15. Therefore, a clear definition of the term remains subject to interpretation from the resettlement country (i.e. the selection process may differ from one resettlement country to another).

- ★ COM: Magnus OVILIUS [Magnus.OVILIUS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Magnus.OVILIUS@ec.europa.eu) and Blanca BRENOSA SAEZ DE IBARRA [Blanca.BRENOSA-SAEZ-DE-IBARRA@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Blanca.BRENOSA-SAEZ-DE-IBARRA@ec.europa.eu) and Aleksandar ROMANOVIC [Aleksandar.ROMANOVIC@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Aleksandar.ROMANOVIC@ec.europa.eu)
- ★ EMN Service Provider: Maurice VAN DER VELDEN: [Maurice.vandervelden@icfi.com](mailto:Maurice.vandervelden@icfi.com) and Salvatore SOFIA [Salvatore.sofia@icfi.com](mailto:Salvatore.sofia@icfi.com)
- ★ AT EMN NCP: Katerina KRATZMANN [KKratzmann@iom.int](mailto:KKratzmann@iom.int)
- ★ BE EMN NCP: Martine Hendrickx [martine.hendrickx@ibz.fgov.be](mailto:martine.hendrickx@ibz.fgov.be), Yaël CHEMIN [Yael.Chemin@ibz.fgov.be](mailto:Yael.Chemin@ibz.fgov.be) and Elisa Van der Valk [Elisa.Vandervalk@ibz.fgov.be](mailto:Elisa.Vandervalk@ibz.fgov.be)
- ★ FI EMN NCP: Kielo BREWIS [kielo.brewis@migri.fi](mailto:kielo.brewis@migri.fi)
- ★ FR EMN NCP: Christelle CAPORALI-PETIT [christelle.caporali-petit@interieur.gouv.fr](mailto:christelle.caporali-petit@interieur.gouv.fr)
- ★ LT EMN NCP: Audra SIPAVIČIENĖ [audra@iom.lt](mailto:audra@iom.lt) and Mantas JERSOVAS [mantas@iom.lt](mailto:mantas@iom.lt)
- ★ NO EMN NCP: Dobromira Ilkova TJESSEM [ditj@udi.no](mailto:ditj@udi.no)
- ★ SE EMN NCP: Marie BENGTTSSON [marie.bengtsson@migrationsverket.se](mailto:marie.bengtsson@migrationsverket.se) and Bernd PARUSEL [bernd.parusel@migrationsverket.se](mailto:bernd.parusel@migrationsverket.se)
- ★ UK EMN NCP: Carolyne TAH [Carolyne.Tah@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Carolyne.Tah@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

## 9 TIMETABLE

The following implementation timetable has been agreed for the Study:

Date	Action
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2015	First meeting of the Advisory Group for the Study (NO)
22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2016	First draft of the Common Template for review by Advisory Group
29 <sup>th</sup> February 2016	Revision of the comments of the Advisory Group
4 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Second draft of the Common Template for review by Advisory Group
8 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Discussion at the Advisory Group Meeting
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Discussion at the EMN NCP meeting
11 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Circulating third draft of the Common Template for review by all EMN NCPs
18 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Final review by Advisory Group before launch
25 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Launch of Study
Submission of completed Common Templates	<b>17<sup>th</sup> June</b>
First draft Synthesis Report	<b>1<sup>st</sup> July</b>
Final Synthesis Report	15 <sup>th</sup> September

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>
Presentation at EMN Conference	TBD

## 10 Target audiences

The main target audiences for this study are national and EU officials in Government ministries and State authorities concerned with policy-making regarding resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes, practitioners working with the implementation of such programmes, international organisations such as UNHCR and IOM, as well as the general public.

## EMN FOCUSED STUDY 2016 : Norway

### Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

#### 11 TEMPLATE FOR NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

This template outlines the information that should be included in the National Contributions to this focused study. The indicative number of pages to be covered by each section is provided in the guidance note. For national contributions, the total number of pages should **not exceed 60 pages**, including the questions and excluding the statistical annex. A limit of **25** pages will apply to the Synthesis Report, in order to ensure that it remains concise and accessible.

The study's outcomes will consist of national reports for every country participating in the EMN, an EU-level synthesis report, and one or more short "EMN Informs", summarising the main results. The study shall be disseminated to policy makers and practitioners through the regular dissemination channels of the EMN. Since the study is topical to policy development, the dissemination plan may also include EU-level and national Conferences. To discuss the study at an EMN Annual Conference could be one option. The Swedish EMN NCP envisages to present and discuss the study at a national network conference in autumn 2016. The EMN should also look into possibilities of disseminating the study results outside the EU as third-countries may be interested in learning about EU Member States' experiences. The Metropolis Conference 2016 as well as international political meetings may be suitable fora.

#### Top-line "Factsheet" (National Contribution)

##### *National contribution (one page only)*

*Overview of the National Contribution – introducing the study and drawing out key facts and figures from across all sections of the Focussed Study, with a particular emphasis on elements that will be of relevance to (national) policymakers.*

Norway is among the traditional resettlement countries. Resettlement has been offered on ad hoc basis in the aftermath of WWII and, since the 1970s, by way of annual quotas. Resettlement operations are carried out in close co-operation with UNHCR. The vast majority of refugees offered resettlement in Norway are referred by UNHCR. While Norway primarily accepts cases where the applicant is in need of international protection as proscribed by the national immigration law, in some cases resettlement can be undertaken because of Norway's participation in broader strategic resettlement programs. In exceptional circumstances Norway will also accept applicants solely on the basis of strong humanitarian considerations. Norway offers resettlement opportunities within annual quotas set by the Parliament following proposals made by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security. The Ministry of Justice and Public Security allocates the annual quota to specific refugee groups taking into account the advice of UNHCR and Norwegian government agencies, notably the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, the Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion, and the Directorate of Integration and Diversity. Norway has sub-quotas for medical cases, emergency cases, and an unallocated sub-quota. The resettlement places available on annual quotas may be applied flexibly within a three-year period according to procedures given by the Ministry of Justice. The main quota is allocated to a number of refugee situations where selection missions are undertaken. Norway applies a strengthened gender focus, and gives priority on the quota for women and girls. The respective authorities conduct selection missions but also accept referrals for resettlement on dossier basis to all the sub quotas. Accelerated processing is offered in situations where a refugee's life or freedom depends on emergency resettlement. When cases are accepted on *dossier basis*, the refugee receives an entry permit with a residence and work permit that is valid for one year. Shortly after arrival the refugee receives a status decision that gives the refugee a residence and work permit valid for three

years from the date of registration with the Norwegian police. Refugees that are accepted on the basis of the *Norwegian Directorate of Immigration's resettlement missions* receive a status decision that gives the refugee a residence and work permit valid for three years issued prior to his/her entry to Norway. After three years of residence in Norway, the foreign national has, upon application, the right to be granted permanent residency provided certain conditions are satisfied. A resettled refugee has the same rights to family reunification as someone who has been granted protection in an asylum procedure. The settlement of the resettled refugees in municipalities is managed by the *Directorate of Integration and Diversity*. The municipalities are the principal actors in ensuring that the goals of settlement, and they receive integration subsidies from the state for settlement and integration of refugees during the five initial years after a refugee has been settled. The integration subsidy is the most important measure to achieve rapid and good settlement. Norway's annual resettlement scheme has wide political support. None of the political parties represented in the national parliament (Storting) have spoken out against its continuation. However, the Syrian refugee crisis of 2015 provoked a heated political debate over a proposal to nearly triple the annual quotas in an effort to alleviate the burdens of host countries in the region. While a parliamentary majority supported this, the minority held that by an increase in humanitarian assistance would be better. The national policy on resettlement did not undergo any significant changes as a consequence of the surge in the number of asylum seekers in Norway in 2015. However, the agreement between EU and Turkey might affect the resettlement program and the Norwegian authorities are discussing how to meet the requirements of the quota allocation to Norway(?).

## [Executive Summary \(Synthesis Report\)](#)

*Synthesis Report (up to three pages)*

*Executive Summary of Synthesis Report: this will form the basis of an EMN Inform, which will have EU and National policymakers as its main target audience.*

## Section 1: Overview of national context

*This section will briefly outline the Member State legal framework and policies on resettlement and/or humanitarian admission.*

i. General overview of the legal framework on resettlement or humanitarian admission in your Member States. Please also include any recent changes in the legal framework (i.e., as a result of the refugee situation in 2015-2016)

The legal basis for refugee resettlement in Norway is laid down in the Immigration Act 2008 (section 35) which confers to the Directorate of Immigration (UDI) the authority to issue entry permits to refugees referred for resettlement by UNHCR, other international organisations or other bodies determined by the Government. The criteria for issuing entry permits for that end are given by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security in the form of a circular. UDI also determines the legal status for persons offered resettlement in line with the status determination conducted for asylum seekers. Normally, refugee status is accorded. In exceptional cases humanitarian status may be accorded. Status determination is based on the criteria presented above and in accordance with the *Norwegian Directorate of Immigration's (UDI) asylum-practice* regarding the specific country in question. Normally, Norway will only accept cases for resettlement where the applicant is in need of international protection as stated above. In addition to resettling those who are in need of protection, criteria that also are taken into consideration when assessing resettlement cases, are for example Norway's participation in broader strategic resettlement programs. In exceptional circumstances Norway will also accept applicants solely on the basis of strong humanitarian considerations, for example when a refugee has an accompanying family member of a different nationality without protection needs. More detailed issues related to resettlement cases are regulated by numerous soft law sources: circulars, internal memos, practice notes. The most relevant is: Circular G-04/2015 Guidelines for work with resettlement cases after the Immigration Act from 2008 (No.35)<sup>17</sup>. The Circular was produced by the *Ministry of Justice and Public Security (JD)* and the *Ministry of Children, Equality and Integration (BLD)*. Other soft law legal instruments of importance are:

The Ministry's annual letter for establishing and distributing the annual resettlement quota<sup>18</sup>

- Internal memos on granting entry permission, residence permit to resettled refugees<sup>19</sup>, granting/refusing residence permit to persons submitted through dossier<sup>20</sup>,
- internal memo on work with family reunification cases where the sponsor is a resettled refugee<sup>21</sup>,
- Practice note on selection criteria for resettling refugees<sup>22</sup>.

For full list with relevant sources see: <http://rvp/no/sok/?q=overf%c3%b8ringsflyktninger>

ii. General overview of specific policies in resettlement or humanitarian admission in your Member States. Please also include any recent changes in the policy framework (i.e., as a result of the refugee situation in

<sup>17</sup> <http://rvp/no/rettskilder/departementets-rundskriv-og-instrukser/g-042015/>

<sup>18</sup> <http://rvp/PageFiles/95797/Kvoten%20for%20overf%c3%b8ringsflyktninger%202016.pdf>

<sup>19</sup> <http://rvp/no/rettskilder/udi-interne-meldinger/im-2010-024/im-2010-024v3/>

<sup>20</sup> <http://rvp/no/rettskilder/udi-interne-meldinger/im-2010-024/im-2010-024v1/>

<sup>21</sup> <http://rvp/no/rettskilder/udi-interne-meldinger/im-2010-016/>

<sup>22</sup> <http://rvp/no/rettskilder/udi-praksisnotater/pn-2008-034/>

2015-2016)

Norway is among the traditional resettlement countries. Resettlement was first offered on ad hoc basis in the aftermath of WWII and, since the 1970s, by way of annual quotas. Resettlement operations are carried out in close co-operation with UNHCR, and the vast majority of refugees offered resettlement have been referred by UNHCR.

Norway recognizes and supports resettlement as an important instrument of international protection and as a durable solution to the plight of refugees. The size of the annual quota is set by *Stortinget* (the Parliament) following proposals made by the MoJ. The MoJ allocates the annual quota taking into account the advice of UNHCR and Norwegian government agencies, notably the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), the UDI, and the Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi). Sub quotas are allocated to specific refugee groups taking into account:

- UNHCR's assessment of resettlement needs;
- possibilities for multinational efforts to solve refugee situations;
- possibilities for strategic effects, i.e. solutions or improved premises for refugees who are not offered resettlement;
- experience with UNHCR country offices, including the capability to submit cases that meet Norwegian resettlement criteria;
- municipalities' capacity to provide services that address specific needs of refugee groups, and municipalities' evaluation of settlement and integration results.

Norway may also convert a number of quota places in order to release funding for alternative resettlement projects. Norway has shared experience and best practices with emerging resettlement countries through twinning projects. Norway has also funded secondments of Norwegian personnel to UNHR and cooperates and consults with UNHCR before deciding how to make these allocations. The resettlement places available on annual quotas may be applied flexibly within a three-year period according to further guidance given by the MoJ. This allows for advance use of quota places from the following year. The current flexible period runs from 2016 to 2018.

The national policy on resettlement has been somewhat adjusted in recent years. First, the present Government, which took office in October 2013 declared that resettlement should to a larger degree be offered to refugees with good prospects for successful integration into the Norwegian society. The circular defining selection criteria was amended to this end in 2015. The circular stress that the need for international protection and a durable solution will still be the fundamental criteria, but consideration should also be taken to the educational and professional credentials of the refugees. In 2015 a Parliamentary majority petitioned the Government to increase considerable the resettlement quota as a response to the refugee crisis in the Middle East. As a way of alliviating the burdens of regional hosting countries (Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey) it was decided to offer resettlement to 8 000 Syrian refugees over the period 2015-2017 In 2016 Norway has volunteered to contribute to the implementation of the 1:1 mechanism of the EU Turkey statement.

iii. Brief overview of national debate on resettlement in the Member State. Please indicate key points of discussion and players involved in this debate. It is suggested the debate also covers the discussion on resettlement following the refugee situation in 2015-2016 and the resettlement scheme proposed in the EU-Turkey negotiations. Sources of national debate to include may be national media reports, parliamentary debates, and statements of NGO/civil society organisations or International Organisations (IOs).

Norway's annual resettlement schemes have wide political support. To the contrary, as indicated above, the Syrian refugee crisis of 2015 provoked a heated political debate and an eventual decision to nearly triple the annual quotas in an effort to alleviate the burdens of hosting countries in the neighboring region. While a parliamentary majority supported this, the minority held that an increase in humanitarian assistance would be more effective. The question of taking national concerns when selecting refugees to be offered resettlement has also been debated. A majority favoured the inclusion of integration potential as a supplementary selection criterion. A minority held that such national concerns were not in line with the basic humanitarian objective of resettlement.

In general can be said that in Norway the debate is generally more focused on the issue of asylum seekers and not resettlement. In the winter of 2016 the General Director of the UDI blogged about his ideas for the future of the international refugee protection regime, where he sketched a protection system based on organized and dramatically increased resettlement programmes, combined with the abolishment of the right to 'spontaneously' seek asylum<sup>23</sup> in a (potential) host country.

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<sup>23</sup> <https://blogg.udi.no/2016/01/15/a-better-international-refugee-system/>

## Section 2: Overview of the national resettlement and/or humanitarian admission programme

The purpose of this second section is to provide a detailed overview of the national resettlement and/or humanitarian admission programme(s). It describes the characteristics of these programmes. While the questions appear at the front in this Common Template, Member States may wish to move the statistics to an annex when developing their own National Reports for publication. The statistics may also be described in an annex in the Synthesis Report.

### 2.1 NATIONAL RESETTLEMENT AND/OR HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION PROGRAMME

**Q1a. Does your Member State have a resettlement programme, humanitarian admission programme or other similar programme in place, or did your Member State have one in the past?**

**Note:** in case of more than one programme, please make it clear in the textbox and then refer to 'Programme 1', 'Programme 2' and so on when answering the next questions. If your Member State had a programme in the past please fill out the sections below, but make it clear in the answers that it concerns a previous programme.

Yes, currently

**Q1b. Is it a resettlement programme, humanitarian admission programme or another programme?**

The definitions and differences are described above under "7. Definitions".

(Resettlement programme / Humanitarian admission programme / Other programme)

If other, please specify:

Resettlement programme

**Q1c. Is it a permanent (programme-based) or temporary (ad-hoc) programme?**

Please substantiate your answer below.

The Norwegian resettlement quota is programme – based. The available resettlement places for the following year, are subject to the budget process in Parliament. The resettlement places available on annual quotas may be applied flexibly within three-year periods according to further procedures given by JD. This allows for advance use of quota places from the following year within three-year periods. If annual ceilings are not reached, unused places may be transferred to the following year.

**Member States that do not currently have an operational resettlement or humanitarian admission programme or that are currently setting them up, please fill out the sections below (where applicable) and, if not applicable, please go directly to Section 2.4 (question 21)**

**Q2. Please indicate what the main objectives of the resettlement or humanitarian admission programme are (i.e. stemming irregular migration flows, contributing to humanitarian relief in third countries, provide legal avenues for migration, etc.)**

Norway recognizes and supports resettlement as an important instrument of international protection **and** as a durable solution to the plight of refugees.

**Q3. How has your Member State set up the resettlement or humanitarian admission programme?**

This question aims to investigate how the programme was conceived and its functioning. Please describe briefly (a) the process followed by your Member States in setting up such a programme, (b) the steps taken from its inception until the current status (working with NGOs, UNHCR, IOM, through bilateral agreements, study visits to third countries) and (c) the organisational structure of the programme.

About the general history of how Norway sets up its programs, see previous answers to Section 1.

The process leading to the decision of the volume and allocation of the following year's resettlement quota starts in the spring. The UDI and IMDI share resettlement experiences from the previous year and the first six months of the current year with the JD. Their report to JD includes an evaluation of: experienced cooperation with UNHCR country offices, including capabilities to submit cases that meet the Norwegian criteria for recognition of refugee status and the Norwegian resettlement criteria; experiences with settlement and introductory program for refugee groups; a recommendation of whether these groups should be offered continued resettlement; a judgment of needs for health services, specifically for medical cases. The IMDI invites NGO's to present their views on which refugee groups they think should be offered resettlement. At the same time, the UDI suggests the allocation of next year's quota, after consultations with IMDI. The JD follows up the reports and suggestions above with consultations with the MFA, BLD and UNHCR. The JD shares a preliminary allocation of next year's quota with the UDI by the 15<sup>th</sup> of October. This enables the two directorates to start planning next year's resettlement process. Finally, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of December, the Parliament decides the state budget, including the total size of next year's quota. The JD decides the allocation of the quota. The UDI immediately notifies UNHCR about the decision.

**Q4. Please provide the main characteristics of the resettlement or humanitarian admission programme by completing the table below. As mentioned above, in case of more than one programme, please make it clear in the textbox and then refer to 'Programme 1', 'Programme 2'**

Question	Answer
<b>When did your Member State start the resettlement programme and/or humanitarian admission programme?</b>	Norway has a long history of resettlement practice. Already after the WWII started resettling on ad hoc bases, first experiences gained though resettling Hungarians, then gaining more knowledge and experience thought work with the boat refugees in the - 50s and - 60s, further on in the - 70s. In the early -80s Norway established an annual program.
<b>Does your Member State set geographical priorities in resettlement or humanitarian admission during the 2011-2016 period? (such as regions,</b>	The geographical priorities change from year to year. In 2014 and 2015 Syrian refugees dominated the national quota. Another group that is regularly selected and had turned into almost a permanent group for resettlement is the group of Afghan women, residing in Iran, single or head of households and residing in Iran.

Question	Answer					
<i>nationalities)</i>	Other groups that have been selected during the years are refugees from Congo, Bhutan, Burma, and Eritrea.					
<i>Have nationals of countries in the following regions been included in resettlement or humanitarian admission for the years 2011-2016?</i>  Yes/No	North Africa <sup>24</sup>	Sub-Saharan Africa <sup>25</sup>	Middle East <sup>26</sup>	Other parts of Asia	Americas	Other, please specify
		Uganda	Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Syria	Iran	Columbians from Ecuador (2013)	
<p><b>Does the resettled/admitted person need to have been recognised as refugee by UNHCR or a third country?</b></p> <p><b>Can the person be a beneficiary of subsidiary protection?</b></p>	<p>In practice yes, though being recognized as a refugee by UNHCR is not a formal requirement stipulated by the national legislation. The relevant regulation ( a circular) stipulates that the majority of cases to be processed are the cases that UNHCR refers to the authorities. In addition cases can be referred by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Norwegian NGOs with presence in areas where UNHCR is not present or does not have a mandate to refer the person for resettlement,</li> <li>- Norwegian embassies in the countries of origin</li> <li>- P.E.N. Norway, where the applicant will be part of Cities of Refuge Network,</li> <li>- International criminal courts with which Norway has witness resettlement agreements.</li> <li>- Another exception of the principle are the cases where family members ( that are not recognized by UNHCR as refugees) of an resettled refugee are also resettled with her/him.</li> </ul> <p>Yes, but one should bear in mind that the Norwegian legislation does not differentiate in status those who receive refugee status in accordance with art 1 A from the Refugee convention ( section 28, point 1a from the Immigration act) and subsidiary protection status ( those who receive protection in accordance with art 3 ECHR section 28 point 1 b from the Immigration Act). Both groups receive a protection status that leads to the same set of rights and obligations.</p>					
<p><b>Does your Member State reassess the recognition of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission by UNHCR?</b></p>	Despite the fact that in principle all cases that Norway accepts have been granted a mandate status by UNHCR each case is processed individually by UDI. The refugee must meet the criteria in accordance with	If yes, when is this done?  If it is a dossier case, the decision is taken on the base of the information in the dossier file. If it is a case referred by	If yes, where is the reassessment carried out?  In Norway or in a course of a selection mission.	If yes, how is the reassessment carried out  Selection missions and dossiers		

<sup>24</sup> See UN geographical division at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm#africa>.

<sup>25</sup> All of Africa, except Northern Africa as per UN geographical division (see previous footnote).

<sup>26</sup> Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

Question	Answer			
	<p>the law of 2008 no 35 (the Immigration act) paragraph 28. Relevant points are the refugee's reason for leaving his/her country of origin, possible risks if the refugee returns to his/her country of origin and the security situation in the first country of asylum.</p> <p>UNHCR's evaluation of the refugee claim forms the basis for these considerations.</p> <p>When assessing the protection needs of cases submitted for resettlement it will primarily be only accepted cases that would have been granted refugee status if they were to seek asylum from within Norway. They are also subject to the same credibility assessments as applicants seeking protection in Norway.</p> <p>In addition the person must be in need of resettlement which implies that prospects for other durable solutions should be considered in the short term as well as in a longer perspective.</p>	<p>UNHCR but subject to final selection mission, a draft decision is prepared based on the referral but a final decision is taken only after the interview that takes place under the selection mission.</p>		

Question	Answer					
<b>Does your Member State set an annual or multi-annual quota for resettlement/humanitarian admission?</b>	The principle is annual quota, but it is a flexible application and can be spread over a 3 years period.					
<i>If applicable, please indicate the <u>regular quota per year</u></i>	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	1370	1120	1120	1620	2620	3120 – Syrians + health cases , 120 including 60 – others
<i>If applicable, please indicate the <u>emergency quota per year</u></i>	75 included	75 included	75 included	75 included		For 2016 unallocated places on the emergency quota are included in the 120 slots for dossiers- .Mostly dossier basis submissions via HQ, Nairobi and Beirut/Amman HUBs.
<b>How are the above quota determined and applied? (please indicate who determines the quota, how they are set and what are the quota for both regular and emergency resettlement)</b>	See the answers to Q 3 and Section 1.					
<b>In the period 2011-2015, have quota differed</b>	The arrival numbers might vary but the practice is that one counts the taken decisions and not the arrivals. Persons who are resettled and granted					

Question	Answer
significantly from the actual number of persons resettled/admitted? If so, how (much) and why?	international protection in Norway arrive at the end, but they might not arrive in the year of the decision. This is due to the fact that the entry permit is valid for 6 months after approval.

## 2.2 PRE-DEPARTURE AND DEPARTURE PHASE

**Q5. Please indicate in the table below which authority/actor is responsible for each of the actions/measures indicated and briefly explain their responsibilities.** Please note that more details as to how each task/step of the resettlement process is carried out, are further detailed in subsequent questions (e.g. selection criteria, etc.).

Action/measure	Authority/actor responsible	Explanation of responsibilities (when, how and what)
Polymaking on national resettlement or humanitarian admission programme/strategy (including objectives, geographical focus, priorities, etc.)	The Ministry of Justice and Public Security ( JD)	The Ministry of Justice and Public Security allocates the quota through consultations with the Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion (BLD) <sup>27</sup> and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs( MFA), on the basis of information, judgments, and suggestions made by the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) after consultations with the Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDI).
Identification of the candidate for resettlement/humanitarian admission	UNHCR, NGOs like, P.E.N. organisation, The Norwegian Helsinki Committee,, see also answer to Q 4.	See answers to Q3 and Q4. Consultations with representatives of these organisations are taken in advance of proceeding with composing the quota.
First selection of the candidate for resettlement/humanitarian admission	N/A	
Security screening	Norwegian Police Security Service. (PST)	UDI cooperates with PST. The UDI may consult the PST with cases that might raise national security concerns. Norway will not accept persons who may constitute a

<sup>27</sup> From the autumn of 2015 the department in BLD that has responsibility for policies on “quota refugees” is moved to JD.

		<p>threat to national security.</p> <p>If a case concerns fundamental national interests or might affect Norway's foreign relations, the UDI has a duty to report to the JD.</p>
Interviews with pre-selected persons	<p>Norway has no practice of interviews in pre-selection phase. A person is either selected or is not selected and those who are selected can be interviewed in a selection mission</p>	
Health checks	<p>UNHCR, UDI, IOM</p>	<p>UDI may request that UNHCR provides a medical examination before a decision is made, if the result of the examination is decisive for the decision. The examination must result in a complete and transparent typed medical report. UDI will not cover these costs.</p> <p>If active tuberculosis is discovered, the refugee will have to be treated before departure. Other conditions that makes the refugee unfit to travel will be treated if travel cannot be suspended until s/he is fit to travel. The UDI will cover these costs.</p> <p>IOM may be requested to conduct medical examinations before departure for refugees who have been accepted for resettlement. The purpose is to prepare the municipal health service and secure that relevant follow-up can be provided. These examinations may be requested for selected cases or for groups. They may encompass specific or general examinations. If Norway considers a request for examinations for a group, IOM will be asked to give a price estimate in advance.</p>
Decision on the final selection of a candidate for resettlement/humanitarian	<p>UDI</p>	<p>Decisions are finalized and permits are given within three weeks after the selection mission has been completed. Some cases may, however, be pending longer due to</p>

<p>admission</p>		<p>the need for further documentation or if there are issues concerning national security and/or foreign policy. If the case includes foreign policy concerns or issues relating to national security, the case will be subject to political scrutiny and the decision will depend on involvement from the ministerial level of government. UNHCR is informed about all decisions by the UDI.</p>
<p>Pre-departure assistance/measures</p>	<p>IOM</p>	<p>Vaccinations, see the answer on health checks.</p>
<p>Departure and travel</p>	<p>UDI/IOM</p>	<p>UDI has the responsibility, but the actual service is commissioned to IOM. Also the Norwegian People's Aid Organization ( NPAID) is present at Gardermoen ( the main airport of Oslo) and assists those who need to connect to onward domestic flights.</p>
<p>Provision of information to the selected person (<u>before departure</u>)</p>	<p>UDI</p>	<p>The selected persons receive a short guidance on procedure and time periods and what follows from their selection procedure.</p>
<p>Provision of cultural orientation to the selected person (before departure)</p>	<p>IOM</p>	<p>The Cultural Orientation Programme provides pre-departure cultural orientation (CO) classes for refugees accepted for resettlement to Norway. IOM Oslo, in close coordination IOM offices in hosting countries, organizes training for selected target groups of refugees, aged 8 years and above, on the practicalities of life in Norway. The primary objective of the programme is to promote smoother integration of refugees into the Norwegian society. It prepares them for the initial adjustment period after arrival in Norway, addressing unrealistic expectations, and limiting the culture shock. Classes are conducted in the refugees' own</p>

		<p>language. The use of the refugees' own language as the language of instruction maximizes effective learning.</p> <p>The cultural orientation programme also provides the receiving Norwegian municipalities with relevant and current information about the refugees and their situation prior to their arrival in Norway. The information to municipalities is provided through Country Information Seminars and Country Profiles.</p> <p>The pedagogical base of the CO programme is the bi-cultural trainer. A bi-cultural trainer is a person who has an origin or background similar to the refugee group in question and who also has a solid background from and living experience in Norway. He or she speaks the language of the CO participants thus eliminating the need for an interpreter. Similar ethnic and immigrant/refugee background and ability to speak the same language as the refugees facilitates creation of trusting and open atmosphere in the class room. Bi-cultural trainers also act as a role model for refugees as the bi-cultural trainer him/herself has gone successfully through an integration process in Norway, learned the language and has also managed to professionally establish him/herself in Norway.</p> <p>Each course consists of 20 hours of intensive CO training given over period of four days for adults aged 15 and above. Children aged 8 to 14 years receive two days, a total of ten hours, of CO training. The programme is funded by the IMDi. It is implemented by IOM Oslo in close partnership with IMDI, UDI, IOM and UNHCR offices in the training site countries.</p>
<p><i>Please add rows where necessary</i></p>		

The questions below concern the identification of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission.

**Q6. How does your Member State approach the identification of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission in terms of first steps and relations with key stakeholders (such as UNHCR and third countries)? Please describe the process followed by your Member State. If this process is not always the same, please describe when they differ and why this is the case?**

UDI gives UNHCR a profile of the persons to be selected, based on instructions from JD. UDI informs UNHCR about priority cases and their order ( vulnerable women, families with children, medical cases). Norway will prioritize vulnerable women and families with minor children. Then UNHCR finds cases that meet the profile.

The questions below concern the criteria used by your Member State and/or UNHCR for the selection of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission.

**Q7. Please indicate which methods are used for the selection of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission**

Method	Existence of a defined method (Yes/No)	Further explanation
<u>Selection missions</u>		
Selection missions to the third country	yes	<p>Selection missions normally include officers from both the UDI and IMDI. The delegations are led by an officer from the UDI. For the selection of Syrian refugees, the Police is also included in selection missions.</p> <p>UNHCR submits cases on dossier for consideration prior to the actual mission, for pre-screening purposes. The delegation conducts interviews on the basis of the pre-screening. Some cases might be rejected already during pre-screening.</p> <p>UDI requests that all identity documents in the refugees' possession are listed and are included in the referral. To obtain status as refugee, the identity of persons included in the case has to be documented. In the absence of documentation the identity given by the refugee to UNHCR is deemed to be correct. UDI needs to be provided with detailed material facts of the case, as well as both inclusion and exclusion evaluations. Medical cases must be supplemented with a typed medical assessment form (MAF) unless otherwise has been agreed with Norway prior to the submission. UDI requests all refugees to present identity documents during the interview. All decisions are made by UDI after concluding the mission. IMDI provides advice regarding the capacity municipalities have for receiving particular caseloads, for instance persons in need of medical care. Receiving capacity in Norway may therefore influence the selection of the individual cases. IMDi also provide advice regarding cases where integration potential may have an impact on the outcome (not cases with minor children or vulnerable women. The final results from the mission are conveyed to UNHCR, who then presents the decisions to the refugees.</p>

Method	Existence of a defined method (Yes/No)	Further explanation
		<p>When the decisions have been made, IMDI makes settlement arrangements with Norwegian municipalities for each family unit accepted for resettlement to Norway. The municipalities then prepare practicalities for receiving the refugees. When they are ready, UDI is notified through IMDI and UDI issues the travel request to IOM.</p> <p>In addition one has to bear in mind that UDI has a continuous dialogue with a medical adviser at Oslo University Hospital, whereby the directorate is advised about the Norwegian health service capacity to treat a given medical problem.</p> <p>A resettlement case can be rejected if required special treatment is not available. Availability of health services varies. At times there are capacity problems within the fields of psychology and psychiatry. As a consequence, it is often not possible to provide sufficient services that would be advisable for traumatized refugees.</p> <p>.</p>
<p><i>If selection missions are carried out, a) how often? b) Are they carried out to all countries from which persons are resettled?</i></p>	<p>a) Depends on the quota. In 2016 UDI has planned 7 missions for taking out the targeted 3120 persons</p> <p>b) It depends on the size of the quota. In principle missions are conducted to all countries but not the ones where dossier case come from.</p>	
<p>Personal on-site interviews with candidates</p> <p><i>(If yes, please indicate who carries out the interviews)</i></p>	<p>UDI and IMDI, Immigration police ( for the Syrians)</p>	<p>The refugees usually undergo three separate interviews, one with an officer from each directorate and one with the Police. UDI will focus on the need for protection and the Police will focus on the verification of identity, while IMDI will focus on topics such as language skills and education. The interview conducted by the UDI is used for assessing the case, while the interview conducted by IMDI is used to help the municipalities in preparing for the arrival of the refugees.</p>
<p>Dossier-based selection</p> <p><i>(i.e., UNHCR submission of file)</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Norway accepts referrals for resettlement on dossier basis to all sub quotas, but mostly under the medical and emergency quota, and the unallocated quota. UDI requests that all identity documents in the refugees' possession are scanned and included in the referral. To obtain status as a refugee, the identity of persons included in the case has to be documented. However, in the absence of documentation, the identity given by the refugee to UNHCR is deemed to be correct.</p> <p>UDI needs to be provided with detailed material facts of the case, as well as both inclusion and exclusion evaluations. Medical cases must be supplemented with a typed medical assessment form (MAF).</p>

Method	Existence of a defined method (Yes/No)	Further explanation
		UDI takes the decisions in normal or urgent resettlement priority cases within three weeks from referral. For emergency cases the decision is taken within 48 hours. If the case includes foreign policy concerns or issues relating to national security, the case will be subject to political scrutiny and the decision will depend on involvement from the ministerial level of government.
Video/telephone interviews with candidates	No	Only in exceptional cases
Consultations with UNHCR/IOM (tripartite consultations) <i>(If yes, please indicate when and how often)</i>	N/A	
Consultations with EASO <i>(If yes, please indicate when and how often)</i>	NO	
Consultations with civil society/NGOs on criteria for selection of candidates	No	See previous explanations about the roles of NGOs in the forming of quota/referrals
Consultations with authorities of the country where the resettled person is present	No	
Arrangement of interpreters for interviewing candidates	Yes	Hired via IOM and UNHCR
<i>Other method, please specify</i>  <i>Please add more rows where necessary</i>		

**Q8a. Does your Member (State) use criteria to prioritise the selection of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission (either official or in practice)? These criteria should be understood as additional ones to the key requirement of being eligible for international protection and those applied by UNHCR in its selection**

The basic criteria are that a refugee must be recognized as such according to the 1951 UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. Further on Norway gives priority to women and girls. Norway's participation in broader strategic resettlement programs may be considered within the resettlement selection process. Exceptionally, applicants may be considered solely on the basis of strong humanitarian considerations, for example where a refugee has an

accompanying family member of a different nationality and without protection needs.

When selecting refugees for resettlement, UDI and IMDI also consider the capacity for municipalities to offer

appropriate facilities and services for the refugee(s) in question. For example, capacity to settle refugees with very special needs is currently limited. Where refugees require specialist treatment, such as that related to previous experiences of torture, the availability of these services is considered as part of the selection decision-making process. UDI can request, via UNHCR, that specific refugees undergo medical examinations before a decision is taken on their resettlement. Cases will normally be rejected if appropriate treatment is not available in Norway.

*If yes, please see questions 8b and 8c. If no, please go to question 9.*

\*The Synthesis Report will highlight that the selected person must be eligible for international protection, therefore the Member State will verify that there are no exclusion clauses under Article 12 of the Qualification Directive 2011/95/EU, which reads as follows:

**"Exclusion**

*1. A third-country national or a stateless person is excluded from being a refugee if: (a) he or she falls within the scope of Article 1(D) of the Geneva Convention, relating to protection or assistance from organs or agencies of the United Nations other than the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. When such protection or assistance has ceased for any reason, without the position of such persons being definitely settled in accordance with the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, those persons shall ipso facto be entitled to the benefits of this Directive; (b) he or she is recognised by the competent authorities of the country in which he or she has taken up residence as having the rights and obligations which are attached to the possession of the nationality of that country, or rights and obligations equivalent to those.*

*2. A third-country national or a stateless person is excluded from being a refugee where there are serious reasons for considering that: (a) he or she has committed a crime against peace, a war crime, or a crime against humanity, as defined in the international instruments drawn up to make provision in respect of such crimes; (b) he or she has committed a serious non-political crime outside the country of refuge prior to his or her admission as a refugee, which means the time of issuing a residence permit based on the granting of refugee status; particularly cruel actions, even if committed with an allegedly political objective, may be classified as serious non-political crimes; (c) he or she has been guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set out in the Preamble and Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations.*

*3. Paragraph 2 applies to persons who incite or otherwise participate in the commission of the crimes or acts mentioned therein."*

If you have comments on this aspect, please state it below:

**Q8b. If yes, who sets such criteria and how?** Please specify what is the rationale behind setting the criteria, if there is a quota approach and if a specific weighting is used.

The criteria are set by JD and applied by UDI.

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**Q8c. If yes, please indicate the relevant criteria to prioritise the selection of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission.** These criteria could be general pre-defined criteria matching with those identified by UNHCR, but can also be preferences and part of the discretionary power of Member States applied on a case by case basis.

<b>Criterion</b> <i>(in italic some suggested)</i>	<b>Please comment on the degree of priority attributed to the criteria and explain the circumstances when this one is applied</b>
<b>Assessed degree of vulnerability of the person(s)</b> See answer to Q 8a. Although the responsible authorities take into consideration the UNHCR's vulnerability assessment in each individual case as well as the need for protection, including criteria as described under categories in this table, the authorities make their own assessments and don't give any specific priority on individual bases apart from the ability of individual municipalities to receive refugees with certain profiles, for example unaccompanied minors, medical cases or single refugees, may vary. In general Norway gives priority to women and girls above men, and families above single men. Therefore UDI will provide UNHCR with specific requests in accordance to the capacities of the municipalities.	
<i>Survivors of violence and/or torture</i>	See above explanation
<i>At risk of violence and/or torture and people at serious risk of violence and/or torture due to persecution</i>	See above explanation
<i>Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions</i>	See above explanation
<i>Internal displacement inside the country of origin is not possible</i>	See above explanation
<i>Persons in need of medical assistance, including critical illness, treatment for genital mutilation</i>	See above explanation
<i>Persons at serious risk of persecution due to their sexual orientation or gender identity</i>	Norway gives priority to women above men, especially cases including women and girls at risk. However, it is not given priority to families with minor girls above minor boys. The female perspective does not mean that it resettlement is not offered to men with strong protection needs. Norway gives priority to men and boys who are vulnerable because of their gender identity, or sexual orientation (LGBTI).
<i>Persons at serious risk of persecution due to Religion/beliefs (also specific focus on non-believers)</i>	See above explanation
<i>Persons at serious risk of persecution due to political beliefs</i>	See above explanation
<i>Persons at serious risk of persecution due to belonging to specific ethnic group, social group</i>	See above explanation

<b>Criterion</b> <i>(in italic some suggested)</i>	<b>Please comment on the degree of priority attributed to the criteria and explain the circumstances when this one is applied</b>
<i>or belonging to minority, indigenous group, nationality</i>	
<i>Legal and/or physical protection needs of the refugee in the country of refuge (this includes a risk of refoulement);</i>	See above explanation
<i>Other criterion, please specify</i>  <i>Please add more rows where necessary</i>	
<b>Other criteria</b>	
Sex (men, women)	Norway gives priority to women above men, especially cases including women and girls at risk. However, we will not give priority to families with minor girls above minor boys.
Age (i.e. adults, children, elderly)	Norway gives priority to cases including families with children under the age of 18.
Religion / (non-) religious group	
Family unit: preference to resettle entire family groups.	
Presence of family members in the Member State	
nationality/ethnic group he/she belongs to	
Integration potential or assessed/expected motivation of integrate	Norway gives priority to refugees with good prospects for successful integration into the Norwegian society. That means, e.g., that priority shall be given to refugees with educational or professional credentials of relevance for Norwegian working life. Cases including women and girls at risk and families with minor children are to be prioritized irrespective of the integration perspective. More specifically, the integration perspective will be taken into consideration when the protection and solution needs are similar, and when the number of cases exceed available quota places. Persons who express resentment about integrating in the Norwegian society, labour market or participation in the Introduction program may therefore be rejected under this perspective.
<i>Other criterion, please specify</i>  <i>Please add more rows where necessary</i>	

**Q9a. Does your Member State use criteria to exclude/deprioritise certain persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission?** Such criteria are those which lead to the exclusion or postponement of the transfer once the pre-selection has been concluded.

Yes

If yes, please go to questions 9b and 9c. If no, please go to question 10.

**Q9b. Who sets the criteria for excluding/deprioritising and how is this approached in practice?**

Where the exclusion clauses as incorporated in the law of 2008 nr 35 paragraph 31 apply, resettlement shall, as a rule, not be offered. Exclusion will be considered if there are serious reasons for considering that the foreign national:

- (a) has committed a crime against peace, a war crime, or a crime against humanity, as defined in the international instruments drawn up to make provision in respect of such crimes;
- (b) has committed a serious non-political crime outside the country of refuge prior to his admission to that country as a refugee; or

(c) has been guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

The criteria for exclusion/deprioritizing of certain persons are further on elaborated by JD. UDI cooperates with PST. UDI may consult PST with cases that might raise national security concerns. Norway will not accept persons who may constitute a threat to national security.

If a case concerns fundamental national interests or might affect Norway's foreign relations, UDI is obliged to report to the Ministry of Justice and Public Security

**Q9c. Please indicate if there are criteria for excluding/deprioritising certain persons from the selection for resettlement/humanitarian admission (either official or in practice).**

<b>Criterion</b> <i>(in italic some suggested)</i>	<b>Please comment on the importance of the criterion and explain the circumstances when it is applied</b>
<b>Knowledge of substantial ab(use) or criminal record of the refugee</b>	Persons of known criminal behaviour, excessive behaviour or heavy drug users will, as a rule, not be offered resettlement. Furthermore, people who give explicit support to violent ideologies will not be offered resettlement.
<b>Refugees assessed to lack integration potential</b>	The settlement services' ability to settle quota refugees will be affected by the refugees' needs and individual municipalities might sometimes have trouble offering adequate services for those being resettled. This might therefore have to be taken into account when considering resettlement for individuals with special needs.
<b>Refugees with family composition issues</b> <i>(unresolved child custody issues, underage marriage)</i>	
<b>Refugees with complex profiles, including:</b> <i>high-ranking members of government/authorities, judges, prosecutors</i>	See Q 9b regarding exclusion concerns and national security concerns
<i>Individuals involved in the military or private security, intelligence branches, paramilitary and militant groups</i>	See Q 9b regarding exclusion concerns and national security concerns
<i>Members of police forces</i>	See Q9 b regarding exclusion concerns and national security concerns

<b>Criterion</b> <i>(in italic some suggested)</i>	<b>Please comment on the importance of the criterion and explain the circumstances when it is applied</b>
<i>Staff at prisons or detention centres</i>	See Q 9b regarding exclusion concerns and national security concerns
<i>Informers</i>	See Q 9b regarding exclusion concerns and national security concerns
<i>Individuals on the EU sanctions list<sup>28</sup></i>	See Q 9b regarding exclusion concerns and national security concerns
<i>Individuals who (allegedly) committed serious (non-political) crimes in their country of origin</i>	See Q 9b regarding exclusion concerns and national security concerns
<b>Persons who have direct family members engaged as combatants</b>	See Q 9b regarding exclusion concerns and national security concerns
<i>Other criterion, please specify</i>  <i>Please add more rows where necessary</i>	

The following questions regard the period after the selection to resettle but before actual departure to the Member State.

**Q10a. What is the overall procedure followed in the immediate aftermath of the decision to resettle/admit?** Please indicate the administrative steps to be taken and how authorities and responsible stakeholders prepare for departure. Please describe the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders involved in this process.

*In case of dossier:* UDI makes the decisions in normal or urgent resettlement priority cases within three weeks from referral. For emergency cases the decision is taken within 48 hours. If the case includes foreign policy concerns or issues relating to national security, the case will be subject to political scrutiny and the decision will depend on involvement from the ministerial level of government. UNHCR is informed about all decisions by the UDI. All accepted refugees are given an entry visa to Norway valid for six months. Within this time frame (for normal and urgent priority cases), receiving municipalities will decide when they are ready to receive the refugees. Travel requests are sent to IOM based on information given from the receiving municipality in each case. The average time from decision to departure is 4-5 months.

In emergency cases, IMDI finds a receiving municipality for the refugees within 48 hours of the decision to accept the case. As soon as the receiving municipality has been identified, the travel request is sent for departure as soon as possible.

*In case of a selection mission:* Decisions are finalized and permits are given within three weeks after the selection mission has been completed. Some cases may, however, be pending longer due to the need for further documentation or if there are issues concerning national security and/or foreign policy. If the case includes foreign policy concerns or issues relating to national security, the case will be subject to political scrutiny and the decision will depend on involvement from the ministerial level of government. UNHCR is

<sup>28</sup> Consolidated list of persons, groups and entities subject to EU financial sanctions, accessible at [http://eeas.europa.eu/cfsp/sanctions/consol-list/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/cfsp/sanctions/consol-list/index_en.htm)

informed about all decisions by the UDI.

All accepted cases are given an entry permit to Norway valid for six months. Within this time frame (for normal and urgent priority cases), receiving municipalities will decide when they are ready to receive the refugees. The UDI sends travel request to IOM based on information given from the receiving municipality in each case. The average time from decision to departure is 4 months. Given that selected refugees are settled throughout Norway in numerous municipalities and the municipalities decide when they can receive them within the time span of six months, they travel to Norway in smaller groups.

Due to difficulties that may occur with exit arrangements or formalities in the country of asylum, departure is sometimes prolonged. The entry permit may be extended beyond six months under such rare circumstances.

Cases selected through selection missions, may also be processed as emergency cases and according to the emergency procedures for such cases. Although the case has not been flagged as an emergency case by UNHCR, the delegation may decide to process the case as such if emergency protection or medical needs are detected during the interview.

There is no right of appeal regarding the decision to grant or deny entry permit for cases processed under the quota for refugees. However, status determination for quota refugees may be appealed to the Immigration Appeals Board after the refugee has taken up residence in Norway.

**Q10b. Is there a formal agreement signed by both the resettled/admitted person and Member State after selection and before departure? If yes, what is covered by such an agreement? For instance, how are dependent children dealt with?**

No

**Q11a. How is the person actually transferred to the Member State?** Please indicate who organises the travel, how travel is carried out in practice (individual, charter or normal commercial flight; transit arrangements via Schengen or non-Schengen States) and what services are normally included (special arrangements for persons with disabilities, access to medication where necessary, etc.). (For services immediately upon arrival, see below.)

The Norwegian Foreign Service mission issues emergency travel documents (*laissez passers*) and Schengen visas to refugees before departure. Norway is a donor to IOM, and makes use of its services. IOM arranges travel for refugees accepted for resettlement in Norway under the quota.

The entry permit granted to a refugee when accepting the case, is valid for six months. UDI refers the case to IMDI, who is responsible for making an agreement with a municipality that will settle the refugee. Within the six-month period, the municipality decides when to receive the refugee. A travel request to the IOM office in the country of residence is submitted from UDI, asking for booking according to a period of possible arrival. This period is regulated by the entry visa and when the settling municipality can receive the refugee. A copy of the travel request is submitted to the Norwegian Foreign Service mission in the country of residence, with an instruction to issue emergency travel document (*laissez passers*) and visa.

IOM will report to UDI with an Advanced Booking Notification (ABN) that shows ports of transit and times of departures and arrivals. UDI will notify the receiving municipality about arrival time.

The same procedure is followed in emergency cases. When submitting the travel request, IOM will also be notified as well as the Foreign Service Mission that the case has emergency priority.

Regular flights are used to fly in the resettled refugees.

**Q11b. Are there specific services available for vulnerable persons when they are being transferred to the Member State?** (Special pick-up from the place of stay, at the airport, during the flight).

Yes.

### 2.3 POST-ARRIVAL AND INTEGRATION PHASE

This phase concerns the period right after the physical arrival of the resettled person or admitted under humanitarian admission programme on the territory of the Member State.

**Q12a. Is policy and law for the integration of resettled refugees different than integration policy/law for recognised refugees after an asylum application? If yes, briefly mention on what aspects.**

**There is no differentiation in integration policy between the two groups.**

**Q12b. Who are the key players/actors and which are their responsibilities in the post-arrival and integration phase?** This concerns national, regional and local state actors, NGOs, schools and education providers, health care providers, private sector entities, religious institutions, etc.

Player	Responsibilities
Example: Ministry of {}, NGO {name}, Office for {}, individual tutors and counsellors, etc.	Example: responsible for pick-up on arrival, responsible for organising housing, responsible for assisting the resettled person, etc.
Ministry of Justice and Public Security	The Department of Integration in the Ministry of Justice develops integration policy targeting the immigrant population.
Directorate of Integration and Diversity	Directorate for Integration and Diversity (IMDi ) is the implementation agency for integration policy, and is under the Ministry of Justice .  IMDi is an administrative and expertise directorate that works to strengthen the sectoral authorities, local authorities and other partners' in integration and diversity.
Municipalities	With some few exception refugees are settled in almost every municipality in Norway. Municipalities are responsible for pick-up on arrival, providing housing, clothing, integration program and education etc, access to all welfare rights.

NGOs	There several voluntary NGOs involved in the implementation of integration program in the municipalities. Notable among them is Red Cross of Norway and their Refugee Guide project. The refugee is connected with a person of the same sex, age, place of residence, family situation and interests. They meet regularly, i.e. twice a month and do things together. Refugee Guide also invite the refugee to public events that the refugee can avail him/herself of. Red Cross have a low threshold Norwegian Training program for immigrants who want to become better in spoken Norwegian.
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**Q13. What is the immediate support available upon arrival (presumably by plane) for resettled/admitted persons?** This concerns only the immediate support on arrival, most likely within the first hours or day. Please fill in the table below and add extra rows if necessary.

Measure	Yes/No	Further explanation
Airport pick-up	yes	Municipality meet the refugee upon arrival
Provision of (temporary) documentation	yes	UDI, IOM and the police ensure that the refugee has the necessary documentation
Food	yes	The municipality ensures that there is food, clothing and shelter for the refugee.
Lodging ( <i>more detailed questions below</i> )	yes	Housing is already secured before the refugee arrives.
Clothing	yes	
Medical examination	yes	Compulsory medical examination within 7 days on arrival
Other form of health care	yes	
Interpretation upon arrival		
<i>Other, please specify</i> <i>Please add more rows</i>		

where necessary		
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The following questions regard the permit granted to the person admitted under resettlement or humanitarian admission.

**Q14a. What status is granted to the person resettled or admitted under humanitarian admission? Does it differ from the status given to persons granted international protection for 'regular' asylum applications?** Please indicate the duration and other relevant details (extension, etc.).

**See previous answers.** When cases are accepted on dossier basis, the refugee receives an entry permit with residence and work permit that is valid for one year. Shortly after arrival the refugee receives a status decision that gives the refugee a residence and work permit valid for three years from the date of registration with the Norwegian police.

Refugees that are accepted on the basis of the UDI's resettlement missions receive a status decision that gives the refugee a residence and work permit valid for three years issued prior to his/her entry to Norway.

**Q14b. If the person is not granted the 'standard' international protection status and related residence permit upon arrival, what legal title is granted?** If there are multiple types of resettlement or humanitarian admission, please add more rows or clearly distinguish this information.

Type of programme	Permit/residence title granted	Initial duration of the permit (in months)	If applicable, extensions possible for the permit	Please provide further details where necessary/applicable
Resettlement Programme				
Humanitarian Admission Programme				

**Q15a. Do resettled persons or persons admitted under humanitarian admission have the right to family reunification?**

Norway has no humanitarian programme. Family reunification cases are not counted within the Norwegian resettlement quotas. Applications shall be submitted to the nearest Norwegian Embassy or the Embassy assigned to handle applications for the country in question. UNHCR is requested to assist in this process where necessary. As of February 2011, all applicants can register the application online on the following website: <https://selfservice.udi.no/>. Supporting documents must be delivered to the relevant embassy or consulate.

**Q15b. If yes, to what extent is the right to family reunification for resettled persons or persons admitted under humanitarian admission different than for others persons granted refugee status?**

- Not different, same set of rules apply as for persons who had received protection status after applying for asylum in Norway. A newly adopted legislative proposal excepts resettled refugees from certain changes in the family reunification regime for the refugees who had been granted status after an application for asylum in Norway and with that giving the resettled refugees a privileged status. The amendments introduce an *attachment requirement* for family immigration (both establishment and reunification). This entails that an application may be rejected if the family would be able to live safely in a third country were the family's overall connection is stronger than its connection to Norway. The attachment requirement applies to cases where the Sponsor is a beneficiary of international protection in Norway with a temporary residence permit, and does no longer apply when the Sponsor has received a permanent residence permit.

introduce a requirement were only those over the age of 24 are authorised to establish a family. The aim is to countering forced marriage. Exceptions may be made if the marriage or cohabitation is clearly voluntary. The amendments have not yet entered into force. But as said, the resettled refugees are excepted from these rules.

**Q15c. Do resettled persons or persons admitted under humanitarian admission have access to naturalisation/citizenship?**

Norway has no humanitarian admission programme but for the case of resettled refugees, yes.

**Q15d. If yes, to what extent is access to naturalisation/citizenship for the resettled person or person admitted under humanitarian admission different than for other persons granted refugee status?**

No difference. After three years of residence in Norway, the foreign national has, upon application, the right to be granted permanent residency if the following requirements are met:

- (a) The foreign national has not spent more than seven months outside Norway for the last three years he/she has resided in Norway.
- (b) The foreign national is still eligible for the status that formed the basis for the original residence permit (for resettlement purposes it means that *the applicant must still be considered to be a refugee in need of protection/ residence based on humanitarian considerations*)
- (c) The foreign national has not committed acts that could initiate expulsion according to Norwegian law
- (d) The foreign national has completed mandatory Norwegian language training

Any person has a right, upon application, to Norwegian nationality if the applicant at the time the administrative decision is made:

- (a) has provided documentary evidence of or otherwise clearly established his or her identity;
- (b) has reached the age of 12;
- (c) is and will remain a resident of the realm;
- (d) fulfils the conditions for permanent residence;
- (e) has spent a total of seven years in the realm during the last ten years, with residence or work permits of at least one year's duration, residence during one or more application-processing periods to be included in the seven-year period;
- (f) satisfies the requirement regarding Norwegian language training;
- (g) has not been sentenced to a penalty or special criminal sanction;
- (h) satisfies the requirement regarding release from another nationality.

The applicant is not entitled to Norwegian nationality if this is contrary to the interests of national security or to foreign policy considerations.

The application for nationality shall be accompanied by a comprehensive certificate of good conduct issued by the police. The said certificate shall also show any offences for which the applicant has been charged or indicted.

The person applying for Norwegian citizenship must, as a rule, renounce his/her former citizenship. However, exemptions may be granted if the fee for renouncing former citizenship is unreasonably expensive, the process takes an unreasonable length of time or the applicant, for reasons of security, should not contact the authorities

of his/her home country.

There are separate rules for children under the age of 18 applying for citizenship. They can be granted citizenship if the father or mother of the child has already acquired Norwegian citizenship, or if the father or mother is applying for citizenship at the same time as the child. The rules for children as bi-person do not apply to children who are married or registered partners. The child needs to have at least two years of legal residence on permits each granted for at least one year.

It is possible to submit an individual application for citizenship for a child above the age of 12. The person with the custody rights (usually the mother and/or the father) has to submit the application on behalf of the child. The child needs to have at least five years of legal residence within the last seven years, on permits each granted for at least one year. Apart from that the general requirements apply.

The following set of questions describe the geographical distribution of resettled persons or admitted under humanitarian admission and the allocation of (different types of) accommodation. The aim is to better understand the specific practices in Member States in the physical resettling of persons immediately upon arrival and the period straight after.

**Q16a. Is there geographical distribution in the Member State of the resettled persons or admitted under humanitarian admission?** Geographical distribution is the placement of resettled persons in different areas/provinces/municipalities of the Member State according to national priorities.

In a way is practiced a distribution on certain terms

Please explain:

See answer to Q 16 b

**If no, go to question 17. If yes, please answer 16b.**

**Q16b. Who decides on geographical distribution and how does it work in practice?** (in terms of funding allocated to municipalities taking in resettled persons, availability of accommodation, access to schools and employment, preferences of the person)?

IMDI decides the distribution of refugees to receiving municipalities. IMDI administer important economic instruments in the work with integration and diversity policy measures and instruments. There are six IMDI regional settlement offices that select areas of settlement in about 300 of 430 municipalities in Norway

Municipalities are responsible for housing and other essential welfare services related to integration and inclusion. Municipalities are responsible for the settlement, the implementation of Norwegian language training programs, and for vocational training in basic qualifications of refugees and their family members. Municipalities ensure that refugees have access to the national introduction program. About the program in Norwegian<sup>29</sup>:

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.imdi.no/opplaring-og-utdanning/introduksjonsprogram/grunnleggende-om-programmet-roller-og-ansvar/>

The number of places available in municipalities is determined by the number of positive responses received from local authorities to the requests for settlement submitted by the Directorate of Integration and Diversity. The main goal for settlement of refugees in Norway is that the refugee will become self-reliant as soon as possible. Usually, refugees from one ethnic group are settled in the same or in neighbouring municipalities in order to use better existing but also develop networks, reduce isolation and make it feasible for municipalities to develop better programmes for larger groups of refugees.

Municipalities sometimes specify which groups of refugees they would like to accommodate, based on origin and/or family composition. Although the decision to accommodate refugees is voluntary, once an agreement to accept a group for resettlement is made, the Government holds municipalities responsible for integration.

The municipalities provide the same services to resettled refugees as to the rest of the population. These services include health, education, housing, vocational training, and employment.

**Q17a. Please indicate which types of accommodation are available to resettled persons or admitted under humanitarian admission upon arrival, and how accommodation is arranged in your Member State by indicating the maximum duration and who provides the accommodation.**

Accommodation for resettled person(s)	Yes-always Yes-Often Yes-Seldom/rarely Not used	Maximum duration (months/permanent)	Who provides the accommodation? (e.g., government, NGOs, resettled person, religious institutions)	Further explanations
Accommodation in reception centres	no			
Accommodation in temporary shelter/housing (tents, converted buildings such as schools)	no			
Accommodation in social/council housing	yes	Short and medium term (3-5 years)	municipalities	
Accommodation in hotels or other types of housing (formerly foreseen for tourists)	no			
Accommodation in regular/private housing	yes	Medium and long term	municipalities	
Other, please specify Please add more rows where necessary				

**Q17b. Is a resettled/admitted person allowed to freely move elsewhere within the Member State after his/her arrival or once accommodation has been allocated?**

Yes, immediately

**Yes, when certain conditions have been satisfied, which are:**

**Q17c. Is a resettled person allowed to freely travel to another Member State once housing has been allocated?**

Yes, immediately

**Yes, when certain conditions have been satisfied, which are:**

The following set of questions describe the services and resources available for the integration of resettled persons or admitted under humanitarian admission. The aim is to better understand the specific practices in Member States in the physical resettling of persons immediately upon arrival and the period straight after. Please note that information and cultural orientation are not covered here but rather in the next set of questions on p.27.

**Q18. Please indicate in the table below which integration measures are available specifically to persons admitted under resettlement and/or humanitarian admission, and who provides them.**

The EMN Focussed Study “Integration of beneficiaries of international/humanitarian protection into the labour market: policies and good practices” covers labour market migration and elements covered at length in that study do not need to be repeated here if they are exactly the same as for resettled persons. However, if the services available and integration measures provided are different for resettled persons than for other persons granted refugee status, please fill out the entire table below.

Service or measure	Available (Yes/No)	Who provides the service?	For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)	Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice	Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?
<b>Weekly or monthly allowance</b> (please indicate the amount per person)	yes	municipality	As long as the refugee is not earning his/her own income	Refugees have equal rights with the rest of population to welfare services.	The services are the same
<b>In-kind support</b> (food, clothing, transportation, furniture, household supplies, and other basic needs)					

<b>Service or measure</b>	<b>Available (Yes/No)</b>	<b>Who provides the service?</b>	<b>For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)</b>	<b>Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice</b>	<b>Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?</b>
<b>Initial medical check-up</b> (including screening, vaccinations)	yes	municipality	Normal welfare services offered to residents of the community	Refugees have equal access to welfare services as any other resident of the community/municipality	The services are the same
<b>Full access to healthcare</b> (for specialised care, etc.)	yes	State/municipality	Normal welfare service	Refugees have equal rights to welfare services as any other resident of the community/municipality	The services are the same
<b>Access to specialised services for survivors of violence and victims of torture, women or girls at risk, children at risk, refugees with disabilities, elderly, persons not likely to enter the labour force</b> (including counsellors, psychologists, mental health checks, etc.)	yes	municipality	As long as there is the need for it	Specialist health service for everyone in need of such services	The services are the same
<b>Education support</b> ((a)school registration for children, (b) recognition of qualifications)	yes	municipality		Kindergarten is an educational service for children under compulsory school age. It is voluntary, and children can start attending kindergarten at different ages, but all children are entitled to a kindergarten place in their home municipality from the age of one.	

Service or measure	Available (Yes/No)	Who provides the service?	For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)	Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice	Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?
				<p>All children in Norway must attend school for ten years. All children staying in Norway for more than three months are entitled and obliged to attend school. If the child has not been in Norway for three months, but is likely to stay in the country for more than three months, the child is entitled to go to school. All public primary/lower secondary education is free.</p> <p>Compulsory education is divided into two main parts. The first seven years (first to seventh grade) are called primary school and the next three years are called lower secondary school (eight to tenth grade).</p> <p>Pupils attending primary or lower secondary school who have a first language other than Norwegian or Sami are entitled to special language tuition in Norwegian. This right applies</p>	

Service or measure	Available (Yes/No)	Who provides the service?	For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)	Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice	Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?
				<p>until the child is sufficiently proficient in Norwegian to follow normal teaching at the school.</p> <p>Pupils who do not or are unable to benefit satisfactorily from ordinary tuition are entitled to special education. This applies regardless of why special education is required.</p> <p>Young people who have completed primary/lower secondary education or similar, are entitled to three years of upper secondary education. After completing three years of upper secondary education, students will have higher education entrance qualifications, a vocational qualification or lower-level qualifications. Everyone has a right to be accepted for one of the three alternative education programmes they</p>	

Service or measure	Available (Yes/No)	Who provides the service?	For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)	Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice	Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?
				<p>apply for, and to two years of additional education that builds on the education programme. To be admitted to a university or a university college you need higher education entrance qualifications. Students who have completed vocational training can take a supplementary course to gain higher education entrance qualifications.</p> <p>Students have a right to free upper secondary education, but they may be required to cover the costs of necessary equipment.</p> <p>Students attending upper secondary school who have a first language other than Norwegian or Sami have a right to adapted education in Norwegian. The right applies until they are sufficiently proficient in Norwegian to follow normal teaching at</p>	

Service or measure	Available (Yes/No)	Who provides the service?	For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)	Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice	Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?
				the school.	
<b>Social support</b> (family reunification, legal support, advocacy and community outreach)	yes	municipality			
<b>Availability of interpreters/translation for reception and orientation sessions and appointments with service providers</b>	yes	municipality			
Other, please specify Please add more rows where necessary					

**Q19a. What funding is made available specifically for resettlement or humanitarian admission, to whom is it made available, and how is this allocated?** Is there a monthly or annual fixed sum per resettled person or an overall annual budget regardless of the number of resettled persons? Please indicate whether this covers funding at national, regional and local level and to what extent the Member State relies on EU (AMIF) funding. Please clearly indicate whether this funding is available to all persons granted international protection by your Member State or is specific funding under resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes.

An annual integration grant is paid for 5 years to the municipality for settlement of persons granted protection with refugee status (asylum) in Norway, people who have been granted residence permits on humanitarian grounds under the Immigration Act on the basis of an application for asylum, and people granted collective protection and resettlement entry permit.

**Q19b. Please indicate the annual funding available for resettlement or humanitarian admission (only resettlement activities until the arrival in the (Member) State, not including the budget/funding for after-arrival services).** If funding is allocated as a fixed sum per resettled person please consider all funding that were allocated for all resettled persons. Please also indicate what the funding includes.

<i>If yes, please indicate the quota</i>	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Budget for resettlement</b>		651 500 NOK (70 485 €)	666 500 NOK (72 180 €)	717 600 NOK (77 637 €)	746 200 NOK (80 731 €)	767 400 NOK (83 024 €)
<b>What does it include?</b>	This is the budget a municipality receives per person to cover a period of five years from the year of settlement.					

The following set of questions concern the provision of information and cultural orientation.

**Q20a. To what extent is information and cultural orientation provided to resettled persons/admitted under humanitarian admission programmes upon arrival? Please include the information in the table below and indicate to what extent the information and orientation provided under resettlement and humanitarian admission is different from the one provided to other persons granted international protection by your Member State**

What information/cultural orientation is provided	When is the information/cultural orientation provided	Who provides the information/cultural orientation?	How is the information/cultural orientation provided	Is the information/cultural orientation different from what is provided to other persons granted international protection (not under resettlement)?
<i>e.g., community orientation, transportation and travel, overview of rights, role of the police, opening bank account, etc.</i>	<i>e.g.: upon arrival, during the first week/month etc.</i>	<i>e.g., social worker, municipality officers, Police, etc.</i>	<i>e.g., oral/written, leaflets, etc.</i>	
<i>Knowledge of Norwegian society history, culture and way of life</i>	Pre-departure CO for Norway bound refugees	Bi-cultural trainers from IOM Oslo	5 day course for adults and 3 days for children	Yes. There is CO for only refugees selected on Norwegian selection missions in collaboration with UNHCR

**Q20b. How is the receiving community at local level prepared for the arrival of the resettled/admitted person(s) through the provision of information? Please indicate the type of information provided (oral or written information), the receivers of such information (local authority offices, schools, community centres) and how this information is spread.**

Municipalities receive written information gathered from interview with the refugees conducted by government officials from IMDI

**Q20c. How are government officials, municipalities, local NGOs, citizens and other people at local level informed/trained on how to deal with the arrival of resettled/admitted persons? Who provides and who receives this information/training, how is it provided and what qualification/background does the training staff have?**

Case officers dealing with refugees at municipal levels are qualified persons offering services to refugees within the framework of normal welfare services provision to residents.

<http://www.imdi.no/no/Tilskudd/Integreringstilskudd/>

Parliament has set the following rates for integration grants in 2015:

Integration rates	Settlement year	Rate
	Year-1 (2015)	Euro 19 714 (adult)*
		Euro 19 714 (child)*
		Euro 25 130 (single adult)
		Euro 182 000 (unaccompanied minors)
	Year -2	Euro 22 747
	Year -3	Euro 16 464
	Year -4	Euro 8 903
	Year -5	Euro 7 582

The municipalities are the principal actors in satisfying the goal of settlement, and they receive integration subsidies from the state for settlement and integration of refugees during the five initial years after a refugee has been settled.

The integration subsidy is the most important measure to achieve rapid and good settlement. When the settlement of refugees is confirmed, the municipality will receive an integration subsidy to provide for benefits (housing, education, healthcare and welfare) over a five-year integration period.

Upon arrival, refugees are received by municipal officials and are immediately accompanied to an arranged home or apartment.

The **Introduction Programme** for new immigrants applies to refugees and family members reunited with them, in addition to persons granted residence on humanitarian grounds and family members reunited with them. The individual's right and obligation under the Introductory Act only apply to immigrants who require basic qualifications. Women participate on an equal footing with men.

The aim of the programme, which will be adapted to individual needs and abilities, is to provide basic skills in the Norwegian language, as well as insight into the Norwegian society and to prepare for participation in working life and/or further education. Participation in the programme is both a right and an obligation for persons between 18 and 55 years within the target groups.

#### 2.4 MEMBER STATES WITHOUT OR CURRENTLY SETTING UP A RESETTLEMENT OR HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION PROGRAMME

Member States that currently do not have a resettlement or humanitarian admission programme might be interested in having such a programme or have specific reasons why they currently are not able or do not wish to set up such a programme. The questions below will explore in further details Member States' considerations.

##### **Q21. Are there any plans to establish such a programme in the foreseeable future?**

Yes / No

Please substantiate your answer below.

**Q22. Is there a debate in your Member State about whether to set-up a resettlement programme? Please indicate the pros and cons presented whether or not to have a national resettlement programme**

**Q23. Please indicate what the current status of your resettlement programme is, what is the time-frame for carrying out the first resettlement activities and what are the challenges/obstacles/difficulties in setting up a resettlement programme? E.g.: *not a priority, legal obstacles; limited support base for resettlement in society; limited or insufficient technical know-how on how to set-up a resettlement programme; limited or insufficient public human resources; limited or insufficient public financial resources; limited resources for the reception and integration of resettled persons at local level.***

Norway has a long history of resettlement program. Almost all municipalities in Norway are involved in resettlement. Resettlement work is firmly rooted in local authorities and municipal planning and service delivery.

### Section 3: National legislation and policies on private sponsorship programmes

In light of the discussion on safe and legal ways for refugees to reach EU territory, private sponsorship is often not considered in the EU.

Private sponsorship programmes shift primary responsibility for assisting refugees (pre-departure and post-arrival) from the government to private actors (including International Organisations, NGOs, etc.). These private sponsors usually accept a degree of responsibility, either financial, material or other, for the resettled person, for a certain period of time. Often they are able to select or indicate the persons they would like to sponsor for resettlement, but decision-making remains the exclusive competence of the relevant government authorities. Private sponsorship in this Study therefore only concerns those programmes where final decision-making lies with relevant government authorities.

Note: in some Member States, Humanitarian Admission Programmes may contain an element of private sponsorship (e.g., by a family member). These elements should be reported primarily in section 2 and, where applicable, can be cross-referred here in section 3.

**Q24. Does or did your Member State have a private sponsorship programme for enabling resettlement of third country nationals? If yes, are they permanent programmes or rather ad-hoc?**

No

**Q26a. Is your Member State considering to set up/repeat a private sponsorship programme? Please indicate what are reasons for having or not having/repeating such a programme.** (e.g. practical obstacles (such as access to reception, housing, integration services, social support) or indication of lack of interest in private sponsorship, limited or insufficient technical know-how, limited or insufficient public human resources, limited or insufficient public financial resources, etc.)

No

**Q26b. If your Member State is interested in setting up such a programme for the first time, what is of particular importance to consider in setting up a private sponsorship programme?** (e.g. technical support from other (Member) States currently having such a programme, handbooks/manuals/toolkits, relevant European or international fora for discussing private sponsorship).

N/A

The below questions are to be answered by Member States that currently have or had in the recent past a private sponsorship programme, either permanent or ad-hoc.

**Q27. Please indicate what are or were the main objectives of the private sponsorship programme?** (e.g. increase possibilities for resettlement, increase national quota for resettlement, provide avenues for legal migration, provide legal avenues for expanding the concept of family reunification, etc.)

N/A

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**Q28. Please indicate the main *characteristics* of the private sponsorship programme by completing the table below.**

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<b>When was the sponsorship programme started/when did it run?</b>	N/A
<b>Who can sponsor a resettled person?</b> <i>(e.g., Citizens or permanent residents, groups of persons, NGOs, universities, other organisations or companies)</i>	N/A
<b>Who can be sponsored?</b> <i>(i.e. All nationalities or only specific nationalities (i.e. Syrians))</i>	N/A
<b>Were (international) organisations involved in setting-up the programme?</b>	Yes N/A /No
<b>How does the selection/preference process work?</b>	N/A
<b>Does the sponsored person need to be recognised as refugee by UNHCR or a third country?</b>	Yes/No N/A
<b>Does the sponsored person need to be in their country of origin or can they also be somewhere else (another third country)?</b>	Yes/No N/A
<b>Can only one person be sponsored at a time or more than one (family)?</b>	Yes/No N/A
<b>Which persons can or cannot be sponsored through the programme?</b> <i>(low-skilled persons, high-skilled persons, persons with medical need, family members of</i>	N/A

Question	Answer
<i>persons already residing in the Member State, )</i>	
<b>Is the sponsorship programme permanent or temporary?</b> <i>(for the latter, only a short period of time in which sponsorship was possible)</i>	N/A
<b>How does the sponsored person enter the Member States?</b> (directly, indirectly)	N/A
<b>Is a family link with the sponsor needed?</b>	Yes/No N/A
<b>Duration of obligations of sponsorship (in months or years)?</b>	N/A
<b>What status is granted to the sponsored resettled person or family?</b>	N/A
<b>Is there an annual quota for persons that can be resettled through a private sponsorship programme?</b>	Yes/No N/A
<b>Is the quota in addition to the resettlement quota?</b>	Yes/No N/A

**Q29. What are the obligations of the sponsor?**

Question	Answer (Yes/No)	Amount in euro, and further details
Is there a minimum income requirement for the sponsor?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover the visa fee?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover the airfare/travel to the Member State?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover the cost of medical exams and other medical costs?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover housing expenses?	N/A	

Question	Answer (Yes/No)	Amount in euro, and further details
Does the sponsor need to cover household expenses?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to provide other types of economic/social support?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover administrative fees or costs? (Registration, contributions to ensure access to the health care system, social security, education).	N/A	
Other obligations of sponsor	N/A	
If other, please specify Please add more rows where necessary	N/A	

**Q30a. Are there consequences for a private sponsor not being able to meet support requirements? Can the sponsor turn to the government for support?**

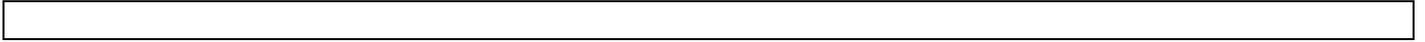
N/A

**Q30b. Do persons resettled through private sponsorship have access to the same (integration) support actions and measures available to persons resettled under the government resettlement programme?** (i.e. support with accessing education and vocational training, access to language training, access to skills and job training, job finding support)

N/A

**Q31a. What happens when the sponsorship programme ends? Is there a minimum timeframe established by national legislation to maintain the sponsorship?**

**Q31b. How is the private sponsorship programme monitored and evaluated?**



## **Section 4: Evaluations and identified challenges, good practices and lessons learnt**

Section 4.1 examines the existing *challenges and obstacles* for the design and implementation of specific policies on resettlement. EMN NCPs may also report on any challenges /barriers reported for resettling third-country nationals if available through available studies / evaluations.

Section 4.2 aims to highlight any *good practices* of the (Member) States that have successfully implemented and managed resettled third country nationals through their resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes. This section can include also lessons learnt from the practical implementation of specific policies, programmes or schemes in resettlement: lessons learnt may address also assessments of the expected and/or unintended (positive and negative) consequences of specific measures.

In principle only those Member States that have or have had resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes are asked to fill out this Section.

### **Section 4.1: Challenges and obstacles for designing and implementation of resettlement programmes and/or humanitarian admission programmes**

#### **Q32. Are you aware of any evaluations at national, regional or local level of resettlement programmes and/or humanitarian admission programmes in your Member State from 2011? If so, what were the main findings?**

Evaluations could concern the design and implementation of resettlement programmes, pre-departure, post-arrival, integration, etc.

Some interesting findings can be found in the National Statistical Service report 7-2012 Resettled refugees in Norway:

[https://www.ssb.no/a/publikasjoner/pdf/rapp\\_201207/rapp\\_201207.pdf](https://www.ssb.no/a/publikasjoner/pdf/rapp_201207/rapp_201207.pdf)

Just like other refugees, resettlement refugees are settled in all parts of Norway, through an agreement between the state and the municipalities. Compared to other refugees, they are less likely to move from rural to more urban parts of Norway, but like other immigrants, resettlement refugees are more likely to live in and

around Oslo compared to the general population. Around 9 800 resettlement refugees were employed in the 4th quarter of 2010, equalling a share of 48 per cent of those between 15 and 74 years. This is 2.8 per

cent less than all refugees. The employment level among resettlement refugees has increased by 5 percentage points since the 4th quarter of 2005. The employment level among resettlement refugees varies between the different country groups, and the variation is partly due to a difference in duration of

residence in Norway. Whereas 63 per cent of all resettlement refugees from Vietnam are employed, the same is true for only 34 percent among those from Iraq. The Vietnamese have lived in Norway for a long time, while the Iraqis are a more mixed group when it comes to duration of residence; some have just arrived in Norway and participate in the mandatory Introduction Programme, whereas others came in the 1980's. There are large variations in the employment level of resettlement refugees by municipalities. Among the ten counties with the largest number of resettlement refugees, Bærum has the highest level of 56 per cent, 20 percentage points more than

Fredrikstad. The income level of resettlement refugees is lower than that of the total population, but only marginally different from other groups of refugees. The income level increases with duration of residence. Those who have lived in Norway for more than 30 years, mainly refugees from Vietnam, have an income level equal to that of the total population.

Earlier in 2008 ( May 1) UDI commissioned an evaluation of the Norwegian resettlement program to Olsen and Long. The questions this report answered among other things problems and challenges with the integration criteria as a criteria. For more information you find the report here:

[https://www.udi.no/globalassets/global/forskning-fou\\_i/beskyttelse/evaluation-of-the-norwegian-program-for-resettlement-of-un-refugees.pdf](https://www.udi.no/globalassets/global/forskning-fou_i/beskyttelse/evaluation-of-the-norwegian-program-for-resettlement-of-un-refugees.pdf)

**Q33. In your Member State, have any practical challenges/obstacles related to designing, implementing and running resettlement /humanitarian admission programmes been identified?** *(This could concern the time it takes to actually resettle a person, administrative obstacles including obtaining travel documents and visa, challenges in working with third countries and their authorities). Source can include evaluations, stakeholder interviews, etc.*

Phase	Challenges (if any)
<p><i>Pre-departure and departure (including identification and selection)</i></p>	<p>From UDIs perspective: This phase is often politically regulated and can be subject to sudden changes. The selection missions may experience insufficient security, and deficient logistical and organizational support in the country where they selection takes place. Often there is inadequate quality of interpreters’ service compared to what the asylum seekers are entitled to.</p> <p>From IMDi’s perspective delays in departure from third countries may represent a problem: Quota refugees should arrive in Norway within 6 months from the date the refugee is granted entry permit for resettlement.</p> <p>Receiving municipalities are required to rent apartment or buy house prior to the refugee’s arrival. There have been situations where refugees could not depart for various reasons. This creates major administrative, economic and other logistics problems for the receiving communities</p>
<p><i>Arrival and post-arrival (including integration)</i></p>	<p>Cultural shock. Many refugees experience cultural shock in terms of the climate in the winter season and life in general.</p> <p>Many refugees are not used to the modern amenities in their new homes in Norway. This include use of electrical appliances in the kitchens in particular. There are reported incidence of refugees taking down fire alarms in their house for fear that they are under surveillance and that their private life is being monitored by the authorities.</p> <p>High rates of posttraumatic stress and psychological illness challenges put extra pressure on the mental health system in Norway.</p> <p>High rate of low functional literacy among refugees means that municipalities may have to spend proportionally large amount of resources for the refugee qualification program.</p>

Others, please specify.	

Section 4.2: Good practices and lessons learnt

**Q34a. If there are specific examples of good practices or lessons learnt of the resettlement programme in your Member States worth highlighting, please fill in the box below.** These can include priorities, types of information necessary for a successful resettlement programme, do's and don't's, etc. *Source can include evaluations, stakeholder interviews, etc.*

It is particularly positive that the different stakeholders who participate and manage the programme work together, conduct the selection missions in close cooperation, and exchange information which contributes to increase the effectiveness and save resources.

The goal is maximum 6 month for arrival in Norway. The average period for refugees to arrive in Norway for resettlement has been 5 months. It is important that refugees can arrive as soon as possible after selection, for them to be able to start a new life.

A receptive municipality and positive engagement of local communities and neighbourhood contribute to successful settlement.

Empowerment of refugees. Provision of language training as part of the introduction program is important step towards empowerment. Some refugee women are coming out of the homes for the first time to take part in public life.

Public acceptance of introduction program for refugees. Refugee guide programs run by the Norwegian Red Cross in collaboration with receiving municipalities.

Supportive political climate and policies for the integration of refugees create good platform for implementation of viable and durable refugee/integration programs

**Q34b. If there are specific examples of good practices or lessons learnt of the humanitarian admission programme in your Member States worth highlighting, please fill in the box below.** *Source can include evaluations, stakeholder interviews, etc.*

## **Section 5: Conclusions**

*The Synthesis Report will outline the key findings, main observations of the Study, present conclusions relevant for policymakers at national and EU level and identify policy pointers for future actions. Specific conclusions drawn by (Member) State should be included in the Top Line Factsheet to prevent duplication of efforts.*

## Annex 1 Statistics

Statistics on resettlement available on Eurostat will be used for the synthesis report. However, for humanitarian admission programmes no such data is available and for those Member States that have such programmes, data would need to be collected at national level.

**Table A.1: National Statistics**

Indicator	Year					Source	Method used to reach the estimates, as well as any caveats as to their likely accuracy
	2011 (total)	2012 (total)	2013 (total)	2014 (total)	2015 (total)		
Total number of persons resettled under the <b>humanitarian admission programme</b> (where possibly disaggregated by sex, age, citizenship and country of transit). <i>This data is additional the data available on Eurostat</i>							
Total number of persons resettled by country of transit	1270	1230	955	1285	2375		
Total number of persons resettled under the <b>private sponsorship programme</b>							