Refugee Protection Experts

ICMC DEPLOYMENT SCHEME: EXPERTISE WHEN AND WHERE IT’S NEEDED
“We are grateful for the innovation and professionalism you bring to our shared efforts to enhance protection for women and girl refugees in countries at the forefront of implementing the Global Compact on Refugees. Our SGBV project partnership demonstrates that new ways of working are possible when states can rely on the excellence of trusted humanitarian NGOs like our ICMC colleagues, with the close cooperation of UNHCR.”

Edwina O’Shea, Assistant Director, Protection Policy, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

MEETING THE CHALLENGE TO PROTECT REFUGEES

Every day, conflicts, serious human rights violations and persecution force millions of men, women and children to flee their homes to seek safety. Often, these refugees continue to face serious risks in neighboring countries which do not offer adequate protection.

This leaves many with little or no choice but to move onwards on perilous journeys. In this context, third country options – such as resettlement and complementary admission pathways – are the only alternatives for protection and long-term solutions.

In order to address these serious challenges, the international community needs trusted, reliable partners to support their efforts.

The International Catholic Migration Commission has been deploying experts to work in partnership within UNHCR field operations across the globe for over two decades to ensure timely protection to refugees and other vulnerable persons.

We draw on a diverse and highly-qualified pool of protection experts to deliver a rapid, focused response providing support in resettlement and complementary admission pathways, child protection, refugee status determination, anti-fraud measures and more.

ICMC experts also directly assist multi-lateral organizations and governments in interviewing refugees and processing applications for refugee status determination and resettlement. In Greece, for instance, a pool of nearly 100 ICMC national experts provides critical capacity and technical support to the UNHCR, the Ministry of Migration Policy and several municipalities.

By supporting ICMC, governments can contribute to addressing the needs of the growing number of refugees who need resettlement and to safeguard their rights and well-being.

Trust us to meet the challenge of providing protection to vulnerable refugees.
**AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

ICMC deployees offer expertise in a wide range of areas, which include the following activities:

### Resettlement and Complementary Pathways
- Interviewing refugees and assessing their needs and capacities to identify the best third-country solution
- Preparing resettlement registration forms to refer refugees to third countries
- Assisting refugees to access other pathways for admission, such as humanitarian visas and family reunification
- Managing refugee expectations through information-sharing, counseling and outreach
- Managing overall case review and preparation
- Mitigating resettlement fraud
- Developing Standard Operating Procedures on resettlement

### Anti-Fraud Prevention
- Assisting with the establishment and enhancement of appropriate mechanisms to detect, prevent and respond to fraud
- Preventing and identifying fraud in field operations through oversight, advice and guidance to staff, partners and persons of concern
- Conducting fraud investigations and case management
- Providing capacity-building and promoting awareness of the importance of preventing fraud and mitigating strategies.

### Capacity-Building and Leadership
- Building the protection capacity of national and local government, partners and civil society through targeted protection trainings
- Coordinating capacity-building initiatives for communities and individuals to assert their rights
- Training on RSD, Resettlement, Child Protection, SGBV prevention procedures, including UNHCR standards, policy and practice
- Developing training materials and reviewing and updating office operating procedures
- Overseeing teams and supervising case workers and providing coaching as needed.

**ICMC EXPERTS’ DEPLOYMENT LOCATIONS:**
- 17% Europe
- 54% Africa
- 18% Americas
- 6% Asia
- 17% MENA

**WHERE ICMC EXPERTS COME FROM:**
- 42% Europe
- 20% Africa
- 14% Asia
- 6% Oceania
- 6% Americas
- 17% MENA

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**Refugee Status Determination**
- Overseeing and undertaking Refugee Status Determination (RSD); endorsing and reviewing RSD decisions
- Contributing to the development and implementation of RSD strategies, including Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and case management strategies.
The ICMC expert “is an excellent durable solutions officer who is able to do solid casework that puts the refugees first, without losing sight of the overall strategic direction of the operation.”

Pia Paguio, 
Senior Protection Officer, 
UNHCR Thailand

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### Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)

- Developing, revising and implementing a comprehensive strategy and protection plan to address the specific needs of SGBV survivors
- Overseeing and managing individual SGBV cases
- Identifying refugees at increased risk of sexual and gender-based violence to ensure that all actions are taken in their best interests.

### Emergency Response

- Supporting UN agencies and governments to protect refugees in emergency operations
- Rapidly deploying Child Protection, SGBV and other protection experts around the world.

### Child Protection

- Identifying situations that require a Best Interests Procedure for refugee children, with a view to ensuring the best interests of the child
- Identifying children at risk, conducting Best Interests Assessments and Determinations (BIAs/BIDs), following up on cases
- Providing training and capacity-building to governmental counterparts, partners, and other stakeholders
- Developing and/or revising Child Protection SOPs and ensuring the implementation and oversight of the Best Interests Determination process
- Developing and implementing country-level child protection plans.

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ICMC EXPERTS SPEAK ENGLISH AND MORE THAN 70 LANGUAGES, INCLUDING:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
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EXPERTS ON MISSION

INTEGRITY

The International Catholic Migration Commission considers safeguarding the integrity of refugee protection activities a top priority. That is why we follow the strictest procedures in recruiting and vetting our experts (also known as “deployees”). We meticulously check each candidate’s background, experience and knowledge, consult their references and screen for any past instances of misconduct.

QUALITY

Our experts bring proven on-the-ground resettlement and protection experience.

ICMC experts possess solid refugee-protection knowledge. They have completed training above and beyond mandatory UNHCR courses. They are thoroughly versed in security and anti-fraud measures as well as in international legal frameworks, refugee policies and guidelines.

Deployees put their expertise into practice with dedication, passion and commitment. They relate to vulnerable and traumatized people with sensitivity and professionalism.

EFFICIENCY

Thanks to the diverse linguistic skills and cultural backgrounds of our deployees, we can match skills and experience to the specific requirements of each field operation.

Poised to depart rapidly, our deployees are able to work in difficult conditions – whether that means remote or insecure locations, hardship living conditions or uncertain political environments. They also have the demonstrated ability to deliver results under significant time pressure, manage heavy caseloads and engage effectively in multicultural teams.

Choosing ICMC means choosing expertise when and where it is needed.

ICMC EXPERTS IN NUMBERS:

- 600 Protection Experts
- 70+ Nationalities

“*I have had the privilege to meet people from all walks of life throughout my career. I can’t remember two similar cases; the challenges were always different. At times, I had to interview refugees at airports and prisons. Each person made me feel blessed for having crossed their path. Each experience was unique and meaningful in its own way. It’s been a blessed journey.*”

* Maha Ganni, ICMC first deployee*
The mission of the International Catholic Migration Commission is to protect and serve uprooted people, including refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced people, victims of human trafficking and migrants – regardless of faith, race, ethnicity or nationality. ICMC advocates for policies that uphold the dignity and rights of refugee and migrant families and are consistent with Catholic teaching. Founded in 1951 by Pope Pius XII, ICMC convenes a network of national Conferences of Catholic Bishops and other Catholic-inspired institutions worldwide. Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, ICMC has affiliated offices in Brussels, Washington, D.C. and Boston and operational offices in Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Pakistan and Turkey.

ICMC effectively supports governments in providing unique and valid solutions for refugees.

CONTACT US

We can offer a tailored solution to best help refugees. Please contact us for further information.

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