

CREATING BETTER LIVES FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN

Every year, conflicts and disasters force millions of children and their families to flee their homes. Many seek refuge in humanitarian camps or in cities—often for years—for safety, shelter, food, clean water and livelihood opportunities. We help refugee families through the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and leading international organisations. We do this by creating [circles of prosperity](#), making sure refugee children have a place to call home, a healthy start, a quality education and a sustainable family income. In this way, we can offer hope for a better future.

“This shelter feels more like a house than the tent we lived in the first night.”

- Bilar (not pictured), aged 11, a Syrian refugee in a UNHCR refugee camp in Greece. Read his story in the [2015 Annual Review](#).



FAST FACTS



- Since 2010, we've committed €148 million to UNHCR to provide shelter, access to education, livelihood opportunities and renewable energy, to families and children living in Ethiopia, Sudan, Chad, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Jordan.
- Working with social enterprise Better Shelter and UNHCR, we've created a [safer and more durable shelter](#). In 2015, UNHCR bought 10,000 shelters to house displaced families in several countries, including Greece, Iraq, Djibouti, Chad and Serbia.
- Our [Brighter Lives for Refugees campaign](#) in IKEA stores raised €30.8 million in 2014 and 2015, to bring sustainable lighting, energy and education to refugee camps.

HOW WE ARE HELPING SYRIAN REFUGEES



"Working through several of our partners, we support refugee families around the world, including many of those who have fled the conflict in Syria. We are deeply concerned with the recent developments in Europe—however since the vast majority of refugees have fled to countries in the Middle East and Africa, that is where the IKEA Foundation focuses the majority of its grant making."

Per Heggenes, IKEA Foundation CEO

HOW WE ARE IMPROVING LIFE FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN



Better homes and livelihoods for refugee families

The flat-pack shelter we helped create can be built quickly and gives families who lose their homes during conflicts and disasters a more dignified life. We also support UNHCR's search for innovations such as solar energy to improve life in refugee camps. In Bangladesh, Sudan, Burkina Faso and Ethiopia, we support programmes to help refugees become more self-reliant.

Improving education

We fund programmes that improve education and that help children and young people living in refugee camps and surrounding communities develop the skills they need to cope with adversity. These include using e-learning to help refugee children keep up with their studies, and a sports and play-based programme to bring back joy into children's lives. We are also funding the world's first university programme for people living inside a refugee camp in Kiziba, Rwanda.

Reconnecting displaced families

Family and friends make a house a home for children. That's why we fund innovative technology to help refugees and displaced people reconnect with separated family members worldwide.

Supporting local organisations

Local organisations are often best placed to help refugees and displaced families, as they are on the ground and can reach the most vulnerable communities. We are investing in programmes to strengthen local organisations that work directly with refugees, and to help national and international aid agencies work better together.

PARTNERS



Here are some of the partners we are working with to help refugee children and families:

[Better Shelter](#)
[Ground Truth Solutions](#)
[ICVA \(International Council of Voluntary Organisations\)](#)
[Kepler University](#)
[Médecins Sans Frontières \(MSF\)](#)
[Overseas Development Institute](#)
[Oxfam Novib](#)
[Refugees United](#)
[Right to Play](#)
[Save the Children](#)
[Show of Force](#)
[UNHCR](#)
[UNICEF](#)
[War Child](#)