



2024 Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways (CRCP)

Concept Note | Solutions in Action: Advancing the 2030 Roadmap

I. Background

The Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways (CRCP) (formerly the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement) bring together UNHCR, States, NGOs, refugees and other stakeholders to discuss and advance issues of common interest that relate to resettlement and other durable migration pathways for refugees. The CRCP allows for open and frank dialogue and strives to develop new and innovative ways to solve problems and combine resources to improve refugee resettlement, complementary pathways and integration in their new homes.

In June 2023, Australia assumed the Chair of the 2023-24 CRCP. The Australian Department of Home Affairs will serve as the State Chair and the Refugee Council of Australia will serve as the NGO Co-Chair. The Australian Chairs will work collaboratively with UNHCR and the Refugee Advisory Group to coordinate and implement the CRCP in 2023-24. This year, a troika structure to the chairing of the CRCP will be introduced, with the Australian Co-Chairs continuing to work with the previous Irish Co-Chairs and will work cooperatively with the incoming 2024-25 Chairs once identified.

II. Context

The 2023-24 CRCP will be held on 1-4 July 2024 in Geneva against a background of increasing global displacement and resettlement need. UNHCR has projected that over 2.4 million refugees will be in need of resettlement in 2024, marking a 20 per cent increase compared to 2023. The CRCP's catalytic role in coordinating and implementing UNHCR's *Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030* is as important as ever.

While resettlement in some contexts has stalled or gone backwards, there has been growth in other important areas, both in terms of increasing resettlement quotas in some countries, and the introduction or expansion of a significant number of new complementary pathways initiatives. As labour mobility, education pathways and community sponsorship programs and pilots are introduced, explored or embedded in different contexts, the need for shared learnings, innovations, coordination and efficiencies becomes greater. Challenges in facilitating departures of refugees who are eligible for visas remain in many contexts, with backlogs at various stages of processing that require consideration, coordination and concerted efforts.

The lead-up to the second Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in Geneva in December 2023, provides opportunities to mobilise new commitments and work collectively towards implementation of pledges. Many within the CRCP community are progressing commitments toward Objective 3 of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) to 'expand access to third-country solutions' by increasing the volume of resettlement opportunities for refugees (Recommendation 16), and building additional complementary pathways to third-country solutions (Recommendation 17). Other relevant objectives within the GCR include facilitating more systematic, inclusive, and meaningful refugee participation (Recommendation 6). The CRCP and WGR will aim to sustain momentum and implementation of pledges, in order to achieve the goals in the 2030 Roadmap.



III. Themes

The overarching theme of the CRCP 2023-24 is 'Solutions in Action: Advancing the 2030 Roadmap'. Themes for 2023-24 have been informed by 2023 ATCR participant feedback and build on the dialogue of previous years' consultations.

This year we will explore the following challenging questions and themes across the CRCP and working group meetings:

How do we grow the number of predictable resettlement and complementary pathway places by encouraging new countries to establish programs, and supporting smaller resettlement programs to maintain and enhance their capacity? We will continue to explore the challenges faced by emerging and smaller resettlement programs, exchanging successes and best practices to build quality resettlement programs that are designed to ensure refugees can rebuild their lives not just in safety, but with stability and security, so that they can fulfil their potential and become full and equal participants in our society.

How do resettlement and complementary pathways initiatives fit together within a broader third country protection and solutions framework? How do we share learning, innovations, coordination and efficiencies to expand access for refugees to third country solutions, consistent with the 2030 Roadmap? How do we ensure a robust focus on protection within this framework? This year we will deepen discussions on the intersections between resettlement and complementary pathways.

How can our resettlement efforts and complementary pathways have the greatest collective impact, supporting efforts to enhance refugee protection while easing pressure on host states and communities? We will re-examine the strategic use of resettlement in the light of current needs, exploring where increased engagement in resettlement and complementary pathways might support renewed dialogue with host states about refugees' access to legal protection, services and livelihoods.

How do we ensure refugees and refugee perspectives in our communities can influence resettlement and complementary pathway programming to improve decision making? We will explore and examine how lived experience can meaningfully inform decision-making processes and contribute to program outcomes. We will also consider how to better weave information about resettlement countries, integration expectations, and candidate decision-making into the counselling offered to refugees early in the resettlement process.

What can be done to strengthen and improve resettlement and complementary pathways processes in host countries? We will give space to focussed discussions on pre-departure challenges and experiences, exploring how to better facilitate case selection and pre-departure processes, address the challenges and concerns of host countries that impact on resettlement departures, and share innovations that crosscut both resettlement and complementary pathways, such as the issue of refugee travel documents.

In supporting the integration of refugees, what works and why? How can the experience of supporting resettled refugees be applied to refugees arriving through other (complementary) pathways? We will explore and share insights from different countries and contexts on how to create welcoming and inclusive communities; the differences between the integration of resettled refugees and those arriving on complementary pathways; and what works to support refugees post-arrival in the context of wider structural challenges in resettlement countries,



such as housing and cost of living pressures. Solutions to the significant and widespread challenges of securing accommodation for new arrivals will continue to be explored through the accommodation working group chaired by the Government of Ireland.

Recognising the current challenges of expanding resettlement programs, how can countries build community support for resettlement by changing the narrative and highlighting the positive impact of refugee resettlement?

We will examine and showcase approaches to ensuring that all stakeholders understand the positive impact of refugee resettlement in our societies and how to create welcoming and inclusive societies.

IV. Program

Date	Meeting	Focus
24 or 25-26 October 2023	CRCP-GRF Meetings <i>Virtual</i>	This meeting will focus on sharing information, discuss and progress multi-stakeholder GRF pledges relevant to the CRCP community.
Week starting 26 February 2024 (TBC)	CRCP Working Group on Resettlement <i>In Australia (some hybrid participation)</i>	This meeting will be held over 4 days in Sydney, Australia and will focus on post-arrival integration and settlement support. The meeting will include formal meeting and site visits. Hybrid participation in the formal meeting will be facilitated.
TBC	CRCP Accommodation Working Group Meeting <i>Virtual</i>	The accommodation working group that was established by the 2023 ATRC Chairs will continue its work in 2023-24, with meeting/s to be chaired by the Irish Government.
4-7 June	Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways <i>In Geneva (some hybrid participation)</i>	The CRCP will focus on key themes outlined in this concept note. Key discussions and outcomes from three working group meetings will be shared. Virtual participation in main plenaries will be facilitated, with potential hybrid options for some breakout discussions.