



World Humanitarian Day 2017

Every year, [World Humanitarian Day](#) brings the world together to rally support for people affected by humanitarian crisis and pay tribute to the aid workers who help them. This year, the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) joins OCHA's global campaign to reaffirm that civilians caught in conflict are [#NotATarget](#), and to demand global action to protect them.

Thousands of UN Volunteers have been supporting global, regional and national humanitarian crisis over the last 5 years, including through the provision of life-saving assistance to the affected communities after [Typhoon Haiyan](#) hit Philippines in 2013, support and logistics for the [Ebola response](#) in West Africa in 2014, damage assessment and debris removal after a [devastating earthquake](#) in Nepal, the provision of interpretation and protection services in the frontlines of the [refugee crisis](#) throughout Europe, and support with crisis communications and awareness-raising in countries affected by stark [food shortages and famine](#) in the Arab States and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Each year, national and international UN Volunteers take on assignments in very dangerous environments, sometimes in remote areas and in the midst of conflict. Around 1,500 UN

Volunteers are currently serving in peacekeeping operations across the world, and more than 1,000 serve with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the [UN Population Fund \(UNFPA\)](#) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in the frontlines of humanitarian catastrophes in countries such as the [Central African Republic](#), the [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), [Syria](#) or Yemen.

In this context, UN Volunteers work to protect and improve the lives of people, including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), children, targets of sexual violence and other vulnerable groups, to alleviate suffering and to uphold human dignity. At the same time, they are exposed to great security risks: in some countries, medicine and relief supplies are looted, hospitals and ambulances are bombed, and humanitarian aid workers are detained or denied access to people in desperate need.

The stories below shed some light on the work and risks UN Volunteers face in their daily duties. When humanitarians are prevented from delivering aid, it’s people in need who suffer most.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD: SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA



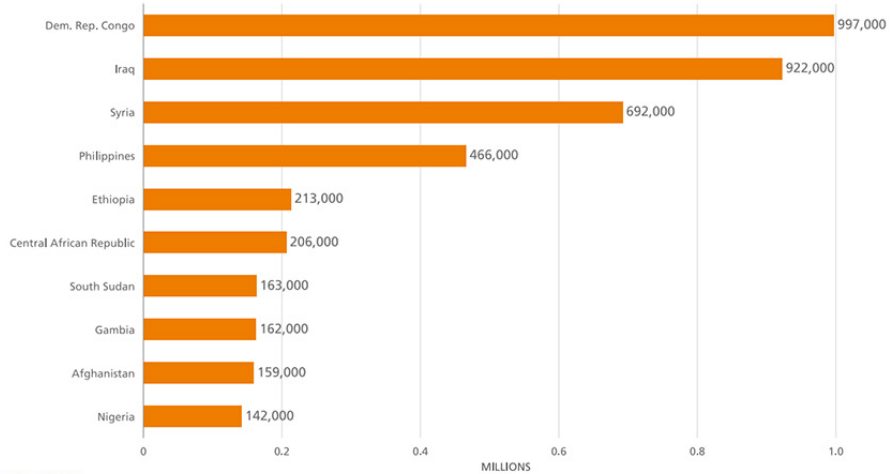




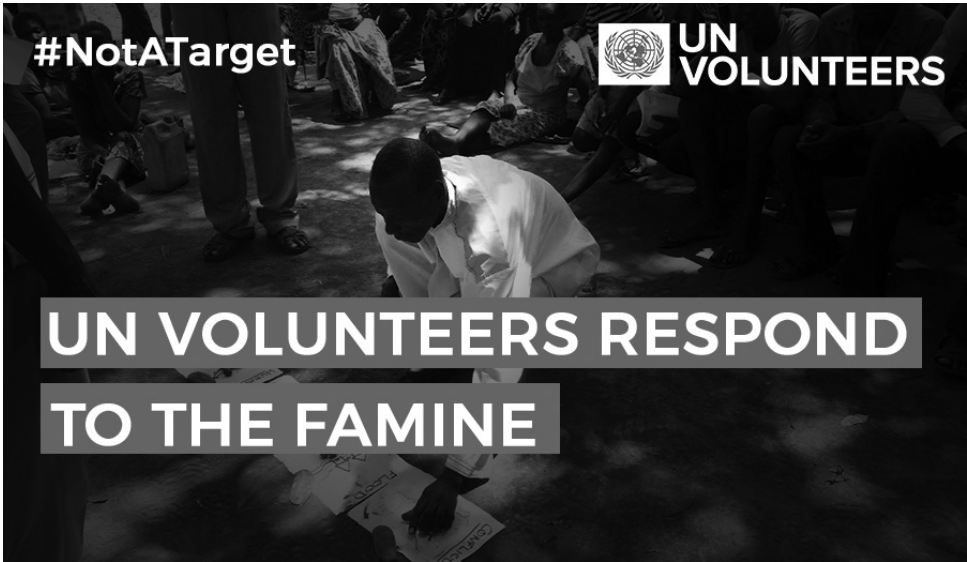


NEWLY DIPLACED PEOPLE DUE TO CONFLICT, 2017

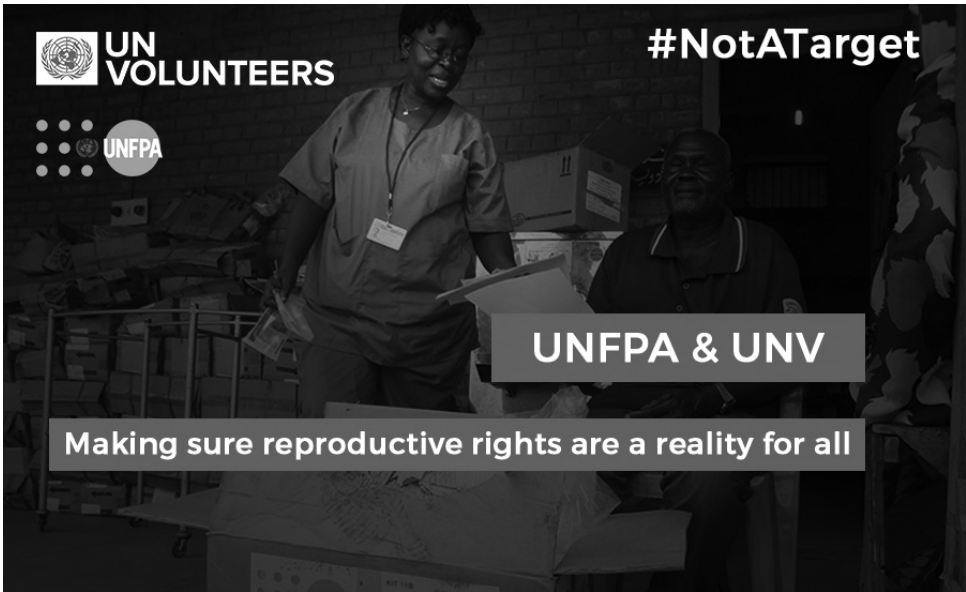
COUNTRIES WITH MOST NEW DISPLACEMENTS BY CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE IN 2017 (JAN-JUNE)



UN VOLUNTEERS RESPOND TO THE FOOD CRISIS IN NIGERIA, SOMALIA, SOUTH SUDAN AND YEMEN



UNFPA PARTNERS WITH UNV TO SUPPORT REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS



STORIES FROM THE FIELD: UNV'S RESPONSE TO THE SYRIA CRISIS

**General
enquires**

Email: unv.media@unv.org
Tel: +49-228-815 2000
Fax: +49-228-815 2001

**Partnership
enquires**

Email: partnershipsupport@unv.org
Tel: +49-228-815 2000
Fax: +49-228-815 2001

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THE FUNDING OF UN APPEALS

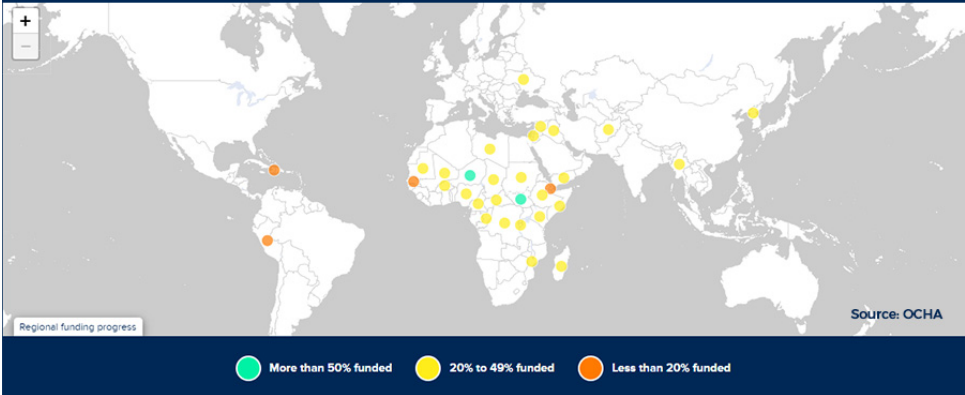
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HUMANITARIAN AID CONTRIBUTIONS, 2017



• World Humanitarian Day • Humanitarian assistance • OCHA

Sustainable Development Goal: [SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions](#)