

KEY SUMMARY

FINAL PROGRESS REPORT

Global Strategy Beyond Detention 2014-2019

This [third and final Progress Report](#) aims to provide an update of the implementation of [UNHCR's Global Strategy – Beyond Detention 2014-2019](#), a five-year initiative that has sought to support governments to end the detention of asylum-seekers and refugees.

THE REPORT COVERS THE PERIOD FROM 2018 TO MID-2019,
AND PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF THE OVERALL PROGRESS ACHIEVED TOWARDS
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY'S THREE MAIN GOALS:

- 1** to end the detention of children;
- 2** to ensure that alternatives to detention (ATDs) are available in law and implemented in practice; and
- 3** to ensure that conditions of detention, where detention is necessary and unavoidable, meet international standards.

The Strategy generated guidance on how to achieve these goals, including by defining areas of engagement such as advocacy interventions, awareness-raising and campaigning, strengthening partnerships, strategic litigation and data-gathering and evaluation. It has also facilitated access to places of immigration detention for UNHCR and/or its partners, including for the purpose of carrying out regular monitoring.

This final report builds on the qualitative and quantitative data provided by participating UNHCR country operations for the period January 2018 to June 2019, including on:

- **Overall progress towards the achievement of goals**, including positive outcomes reported over the entire period of the Global Strategy's implementation; as well as outstanding challenges that remain to be addressed;
- **Developments at the global level**, including an overview of the main actions undertaken, and tools produced, by UNHCR and partners to support the roll-out of the Global Strategy;
- **Results by country**, with overviews of the main national trends related to detention and alternatives during the reporting period. Indicators corresponding to the three main goals are also presented.
- **Recommendations for the future mainstreaming of good practices and approaches on detention**, developed with UNHCR operations;
- **Information on the Global Strategy's implementation**: including an annex containing select examples of the various types of activities carried out by UNHCR operations and partners as part of the implementation of the Global Strategy; and
- **Quantitative data**: with an annex containing available statistics on the number of adults and children placed in immigration detention.

At the end of the implementation phase of the Global Strategy, we see this as an opportunity to take stock of the wealth of materials developed and ensure the promising practices and outstanding challenges are used in the course of ongoing protection work on detention. To this end, the Strategy can provide insights into lessons learned for a wider advocacy and roll-out of activities to address this key protection challenge affecting many persons of concern worldwide.

In consultation with the participating operations, recommendations to achieve this goal and continue strengthening advocacy and engagement around detention have been developed and set out in the final report. These include:

- Ongoing participation by interested operations and colleagues in the **UNHCR Community of Practice on Detention**;
- Continued work to **build and maintain UNHCR's evidence base on the effectiveness of alternatives to detention**, as well as on challenges associated with its ongoing use,
- **Advocacy for alternatives to detention**, and continued prioritization of this issue at global and regional, as well as national level, as relevant.
- **Provision of operational guidance and support** by HQ and regional bureau, including identification of resource opportunities.
- **Support to judicial engagement and cooperation on strategic litigation strategies** around detention.

As a further source of information, UNHCR has also commissioned an independent desk review of the Global Strategy to generate an evaluative report with an overview of achievements and lessons learned from the implementation of the Global Strategy at country and regional levels, with a view to making recommendations for mainstreaming good practices and approaches. The report is publicly available [here](#).

Further information on the Global Strategy or on ongoing policy and legal support on detention is available from Madeline Garlick (garlick@unhcr.org) or Christelle van Rosmalen (vanrosma@unhcr.org) in the Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section in the Division of International Protection.

PPLA/DIP
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