Asia-Pacific Stats Café Series

Asia and the Pacific Regional Trends on Forced Displacement and Statelessness

Date and Time: 11:00 – 12:15 (Bangkok time), 15 September 2025

Venue: MS Teams

Registration

Concept

The Asia-Pacific region continues to face multifaceted and evolving displacement challenges. From large-scale emergencies requiring immediate humanitarian assistance to long-standing protracted situations demanding sustainable solutions, millions of people in the region remain uprooted from their homes. The majority of refugees seek safety in neighboring countries, many of which are low- or middle-income nations facing their own development pressures. Meanwhile, climate-induced disasters, environmental degradation, and increasingly frequent extreme weather events further exacerbate humanitarian needs, creating new risks of displacement and statelessness.

UNHCR works closely with governments, humanitarian actors, and development partners to provide protection and assistance to forcibly displaced and stateless populations, while advocating for their inclusion in national data systems such as censuses, surveys, and Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS). Strengthening data on displacement and statelessness is critical to evidence-based policymaking and durable solutions.

To better understand and communicate the scale, characteristics, and emerging dynamics of forced displacement and statelessness, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBAP) produces annual flagship reports titled *Asia & the Pacific Regional Trends – Forced Displacement and Statelessness*[1]. The 2024 edition estimates that 17.3 million people were forcibly displaced, stateless, returnees, or otherwise of concern to UNHCR by the end of 2024—a 10 per cent increase from 2023. The region now hosts 13 per cent of the global population under UNHCR's mandate (17.3 million of 129.9 million globally), 18 per cent of the world's refugees and asylum-seekers (7.2 million of 39.3 million), and 58 per cent of the global stateless population (2.5 million of 4.4 million).

Addressing forced displacement and statelessness requires a multi-dimensional approach involving stakeholders from different but interconnected sectors. CRVS can play a pivotal role in ensuring that every person is recognized under the law, regardless of their circumstances. In June 2025, leaders from across Asia and the Pacific convened at the Third

[1] See Asia & the Pacific Regional Trends – Forced Displacement and Statelessness

Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific[2] to celebrate achievements since the start of the Asia-Pacific CRVS Decade 2015-2024 and reaffirm their commitment to universal and responsive CRVS systems by extending the Decade to 2030. The Ministerial Declaration on a Decade of Action for Inclusive and Resilient CRVS in Asia and the Pacific[3] explicitly noted that refugees, internally displaced persons and stateless persons still face significant barriers to gaining access to civil registration services, due to challenges such as the lack of requisite documents. Countries in the region have committed to addressing these barriers by 2030, enabling these population groups to have access to services and protections needed to fully exercise their rights and freedoms.

Objectives

In light of this, Statistics Division, ESCAP and UNHCR are organizing a Stats Café to:

- Share key findings and trends on forced displacement and statelessness in Asia and the Pacific based on UNHCR's 2024 Regional Trends Report.
- Showcase the Philippines' experience in including forcibly displaced persons and populations at risk of statelessness in the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS), providing a model for inclusive national statistics.
- Highlight Thailand's integrated CRVS approach to ending statelessness for nearly half a million people.

Agenda

Time	Program
11:00 – 11:05 (5 mins)	**Introduction** Moderator: Mr. Sovannaroth Tey, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, ESCAP
11:05 – 11:10 (5 mins)	**Opening remarks** Ms. Karen Whiting, Head of Bureau Protection and Solutions Service, Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, UNHCR

[2] See ESCAP/MCCRVS/2025/6

[3] The key outcome document of the Third Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific. See ESCAP/MCCRVS/2025/6/Add.1

Time	Program
11:10 – 11:25 (15 mins)	**Presentation:** Regional forced displacement and statelessness trends – Mr. Chao Huang, Statistics and Data Analysis Officer, Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, UNHCR
11:25 – 11:40 (15 mins)	**Country presentation:** An integrated CRVS approach to ending statelessness in Thailand – Mr. Gunn Sirisingha, Special Case Officer, Professional Level, Bureau of Justice Enhancement Affairs, Department of Special Investigation, Ministry of Justice, Thailand
11:40 – 11:55 (15 mins)	**Country presentation:** Inclusion of forcibly displaced and stateless people in Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) – Ms. Marizza Grande, Assistant National Statistician, Philippine Statistics Authority, Philippines
11:55 – 12:15 (20 mins)	Q&A