



**SUPPORTING
REFUGEES WORLDWIDE**

 **AIR**[®]
Advancing Evidence.
Improving Lives.

Tens of millions of people around the world

have fled their homes to escape life-threatening conditions. The threats include armed conflict, persecution, climate change, and food, income, and housing insecurity. The global refugee crisis has exploded over the past decade. Not since World War II have so many people been so vulnerable—and very few can ever return home.

The magnitude of the problem demands “durable solutions at increasing scale,” asserts [UNHCR, the United Nations Refugee Agency](#). American Institutes for Research (AIR) has a demonstrated record of answering this call to action—and we recognize the importance of this extraordinary challenge. We partner with governments, UN agencies, and other key stakeholders to evaluate programs and policies to better understand what works. We implement evidence-based interventions that protect the rights and dignity of refugees and forcibly displaced populations.

Our team of experts has conducted high-quality research, evaluation, and in-the-field technical assistance in response to urgent humanitarian needs in dozens of countries. This work delivers on our mission of generating and using rigorous evidence that contributes to a better, more equitable world.





The Global Scope of the Humanitarian Crisis

2021

89.3 million

The number of people worldwide who were **forcibly displaced in 2021** is more than double number of refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced, and stateless people a decade ago.

2022

100 million+

The war in **Ukraine and other disruptions in 2022** have dramatically increased the number of people who have been forced to flee their homes.

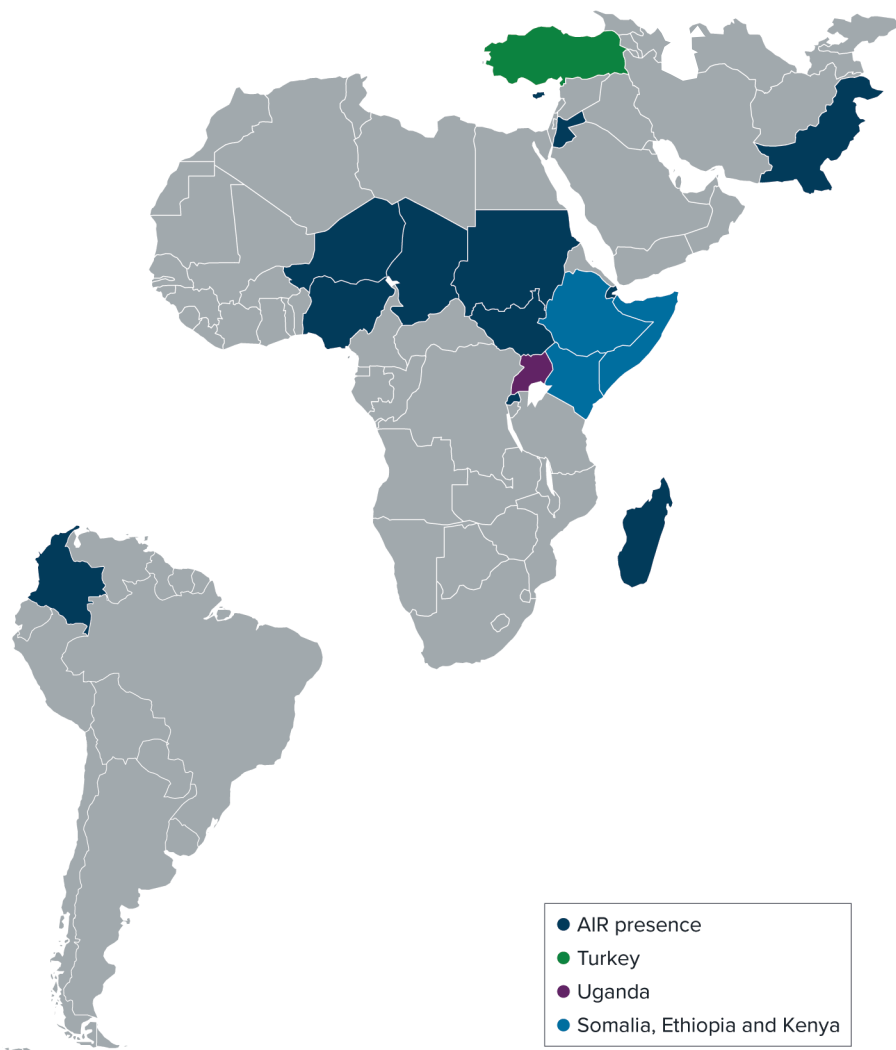
Source: [UNHCR](#), 2022



**1 in 78 people on earth
has been forced to flee**

Source: [UNHCR](#), 2022

AIR's Global Presence | Current and Recent Refugee Projects



For UNICEF Turkey, AIR conducted the first rigorous evaluation of a program that provides Syrian and other refugees with cash transfers and child protection services. **The program achieved its goal of improving school attendance, the study found, contributing to the evidence base on successful interventions.**

Turkey has the largest population of refugees worldwide.

AIR is partnering with USAID, the AVSI Foundation, and the Government of Uganda to help 13,200 extremely poor refugee and Ugandan households “graduate to resiliency.” **Our researchers are applying methodological rigor to study interventions designed to significantly reduce food insecurity and its devastating health effects on children.**

In Myanmar and the Horn of Africa, AIR provides USAID with timely, data-driven analyses and decision-making support for strategic direction of programming. **AIR has a demonstrated ability to adapt and pivot in regions of conflict and changing economic and political circumstances.** After the 2021 coup in Myanmar and the resulting Rohingya refugee crisis, AIR shifted immediately to remote data collection, encryption, and respondent security. Gathering of on-the-ground perspectives continued without interruption.

AIR's Rigor, Insight, and Solutions

Scaling up effective interventions requires rigorous research, evaluation, and technical assistance. But there are **major evidence gaps** on the impact, cost-effectiveness, and implementation of interventions aiming to improve the lives of refugees and internally displaced populations. For example, AIR's [systematic review](#) on education in emergencies found only a small number of impact evaluations and even fewer cost-effectiveness analyses.

Crisis settings come with unique challenges. Refugees and internally displaced people can be highly mobile, vulnerable, traumatized, and distrustful. AIR has developed targeted solutions to navigate these environments successfully.



Select Capabilities

Research

- Quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods research and evaluations
- Economic evaluations
- Shared measurement
- Predictive modeling of migrations due to climate change, such as droughts

Risk Management

- Security, risk reduction, and mitigation systems to address safety concerns
- Strategies to build trust in communities and track displaced people over time for longitudinal research

Technical Assistance

- Methods to transform systems
- Evidence-based approaches to program design, training, technical assistance, and coaching
- Trauma-informed practices
- Cultural and linguistic competence

Top Clients for Projects Focused on Refugees and Internally Displaced Populations

- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- UNICEF
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- World Bank



AIR's Mission in Action

In 2022, AIR donated \$100,000 to the Norwegian Refugee Council, which supports refugees fleeing war and conflict in more than 35 countries. Through this significant contribution, we are building a relationship with this independent organization and exploring opportunities to partner.

Contact



Jonathan Simonetta

*Vice President, International
Development Division*

+1.202.403.5000

jsimonetta@air.org



Thomas de Hoop

Managing Economist

+1.202.403.5000

tdehoop@air.org



Learn More

[Refugees and Migrant Issues](#)

About AIR

Established in 1946, with headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, the American Institutes for Research® (AIR®) is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization that conducts behavioral and social science research and delivers technical assistance to solve some of the most urgent challenges in the U.S. and around the world. We advance evidence in the areas of education, health, the workforce, human services, and international development to create a better, more equitable world. For more information, visit [AIR.ORG](https://www.air.org).



AIR® Headquarters

1400 Crystal Drive, 10th Floor | Arlington, VA 22202-3289
+1.202.403.5000 | [**AIR.ORG**](https://www.air.org)