

Terminology

A *refugee* has crossed a border and in this sense is different from an *internally displaced person* (IDP). The *host country* is the country that has received the refugee. The *home country* is the country from which the refugee has fled, also known as the *country of origin*. Both refugees and IDPs are considered to be *forced migrants*. Article 1 of the UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, as amended by the 1967 protocol, defines a refugee as:

A person who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it (cited in Shacknove 1985: 275).

Recognition of a person by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as a *prima facie refugee* (the term can also apply to a group, however large, who arrive en masse for the same reasons) does not automatically imply recognition by the host government concerned. It is often just a preliminary step. Most countries have a process through which people must pass before they are recognised fully as a refugee. This is usually called *refugee status determination* (RSD) (names for the procedure can differ from country to country).

Meanwhile the refugee is (formally or informally) an *asylum-seeker*. While waiting to be accepted as a refugee, an asylum-seeker's access to services or rights, such as the right to live outside a camp, may be limited administratively. Further, even being a fully recognised refugee still does not guarantee all the same rights as a citizen.

Refugees are deemed to have left their country because of a *well-founded fear of persecution*. In common talk the refugee has been *pushed* from his country. In many cases there is also a *pull* to a better economic situation or better education. When the pull is the only recognised reason for migrating, the person is *not a refugee* but rather an *emigrant* or *migrant worker*. The term *economic refugee*, which is commonly used, is therefore strictly speaking not accurate as it does not conform to the term 'well-founded fear of persecution'. The exception to this is when life at home has become unliveable because of the economic actions of a state, which is of course a push factor, though in practice there is often a *tipping point* where pull is stronger than push. 'Severe economic restrictions which deprive a person of all means of earning a livelihood can amount to persecution' (UNHCR 2005: 34).

Certain countries apply a rule of *country of first asylum*. Under this rule refugees are obliged to apply for asylum in the country they first arrive in. Thus under this rule a Somali should not be able to get asylum in Uganda by passing through Kenya. This rule is not always applied, but may be invoked in specific cases.

Refugee situations should always come to an end one day, with one or more *durable solutions*. There are three possible durable solutions, which can apply to individuals or whole refugee communities. These are: (i) *settlement* (integration) in the host country, a rare solution these days; (ii) *voluntary return home* when conditions permit; or (iii) being moved to another country (*third country*), a solution that is highly dependent on the goodwill of third countries and currently open mainly to specific vulnerable people or groups.

Forcible return (also known as *refoulement*) is not permitted, though it does occur, often for political reasons.

Only settlement and return are considered in this report, as the usual reasons for moving to a third country are not connected with being a teacher.

The word 'migrant' has specific connotations in South Africa, where the term 'migrant worker' has been used for many years. It is found advisable therefore to limit the use of the term 'forced migrant', and in this work we use the non-jargon word 'refugee' by preference, but not exclusively.

In this study 'teacher' can include a trainer (in skills) or a tutor (of individuals or small groups). It does cover a refugee who teaches but is not qualified to do so. No distinction is made here between formal and non-formal education, nor between different levels such as primary and secondary. Primary predominates. The study did not look into pre-primary or early childhood education teaching.

Many different words are used in practice for teachers such as *tutors*, *facilitators*, *educators*, and so on. This is sometimes because the word *teacher* has legal implications. However, a *lecturer* is not, for the purposes of this book, included in the definition of a teacher.