

and Relief Agency for Palestine Refugees in Near East, UNWRA), 10% of who live in the Americas. While this figure might be considered too high in terms of human suffering, it is important to mention that there are also 26 million of persons internally displaced (more than 3.6 million in Colombia alone) and 12 million stateless persons around the world.

Forced displacement often involves leaving everything behind, including, quite often, family members and to start over in a different community or country. Survivors of persecution, conflict and massive violations of human rights will adopt with resilience various coping mechanism based on the circumstances of fleeing and ensuring access to safety.

As far as putting an end to the cycle of displacement and finding solutions for refugee situations, we might see also some interesting trends at the end of 2011:

1. Voluntary repatriation (going back to the country of origin) became the best solution for only 532,000 refugees. This means that only 5% of the total number of refugees benefitted from this durable solution and that the prevailing conditions in countries of origin were not conducive for many refugees to consider the possibility of going back home. This is a significant change compared to the 90's where hundreds of thousands of refugees were able to voluntarily return to their countries of origin.
2. During the same year 2011, almost 80,000 refugees (1% of the total refugee figures) were able to travel to and establish themselves in a third country under resettlement arrangements with the participation of 25 receiving countries. 80% of those resettled refugees came to United States of America and Canada.
3. During 2011, 4/5 of the refugees fled to neighboring countries and 7.1 million refugees (out of 10.4 million under UNHCR) have been in exile at least 5 years. This means that under the present circumstances, remaining and starting a new life in the asylum country through local integration with the support of hosting communities should be further promoted and explored for the majority of the refugees in cooperation with hosting States, the international community and organizations of civil society.