



# The Swedish Refugee Quota 2012

Pool slots and continued focus on the Horn of Africa

*Every year, the government sets aside a certain amount of funding for a Swedish refugee quota. The refugee quota is a way for Sweden to support refugees around the world who do not have the possibility to return to their country of origin, nor to be granted protection in the country to which they have fled. The Swedish Migration Board has been assigned by the government to resettle refugees, based on a proposal from UNHCR. In 2012, the Swedish Migration Board plans to resettle 1900 refugees and persons in need of protection, to Sweden.*

The ambition to ease the situation for the millions of refugees from the Horn of Africa, remains a priority in the resettlement program for 2012. Selection missions will be conducted in Kenya, Sudan and Djibouti, where Somali and Eritrean refugees, amongst other nationalities, will be selected for resettlement. Through this initiative, Sweden contributes to UNHCR's multi-annual effort in trying to reach long-term durable solutions for refugees in the region. By providing, even a few, the opportunity to be resettled, the living conditions for those refugees who remain, can be improved. For countries receiving refugees, for example Kenya where approximately 400 000 refugees have settled in the Dadaab camp, a long term, coordinated resettlement program can make it possible for those countries to keep their borders open for persons seeking protection.

The approximately one million Afghan refugees in Iran are part of another difficult protracted refugee situation, where UNHCR together with resettlement countries has agreed on joint efforts. Sweden is one of the countries which plans to conduct a selection mission to Iran this year.

The upheavals in Libya in 2011 led to hundreds of people being displaced. The majority could – with the help of UNHCR – return. However some refugees remained in neighboring countries like Tunisia, where Sweden conducted its first selection mission in 2012. The sudden, large flow of refugees experienced lately, has contributed to UNHCR's appeal to refugee receiving countries to make places available in order to meet the resettlement need in emergencies. For this reason, Sweden has disposed 250 such quota slots for a non-targeted 'pool', and will at the same time keep 350 emergency slots for refugees around the world in need of immediate protection.

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Bild: From Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya



COUNTRY OF STAY	NATIONALITY AND NUMBERS	ARRIVAL TO SWEDEN
Kenya	Somalis	350 December 2012–first quarter 2013
Sudan	Eritreans	150 September 2012
Djibouti	Somalian	100 September/October 2012
Iran	Afghans	400 June, September 2012
Tunisia	Mixed nationalities	200 April–May 2012
Ecuador	Colombians	100 First quarter 2013
Pool	Slot not allocated	250 October–December 2012
Emergency	Mixed nationalities	350 Throughout the year