



#### TERMS OF FORCIBLE DISPLACEMENT

Refugees are outside their country, afraid to return and protected from forced repatriation.

Asylum seekers request permanent refuge in a foreign country.

Internally Displaced People (IDP) are forced to flee their homes, but not their country.



#### MAJOR REFUGEE POPULATIONS

6.5m Syria	1.3m Myanmar
5.7m Ukraine	931,900 DR Congo
5.7m Afghanistan	836,800 Sudan
5.5m Venezuela	790,500 Somalia
2.3m South Sudan	748,300 CAR



#### TOP REFUGEE HOSTING NATIONS\*

3.6m Turkey	1.5m Uganda
3.4m Iran	1.3m Russia
2.5m Colombia	1.1m Sudan
2.1m Germany	976,400 Peru
1.7m Pakistan	971,100 Poland



#### MAJOR IDP POPULATIONS

6.8m Colombia	3.6m Sudan
6.8m Syria	3.3m Nigeria
5.9m Ukraine	3.3m Afghanistan
5.5m DR Congo	3.0m Somalia
4.5m Yemen	2.7m Ethiopia



#### REFUGEE REALITIES

1 in 74 people today are forcibly displaced  
51% are women and girls  
41% are children  
70% are hosted in neighboring countries  
20% are hosted in least developed countries

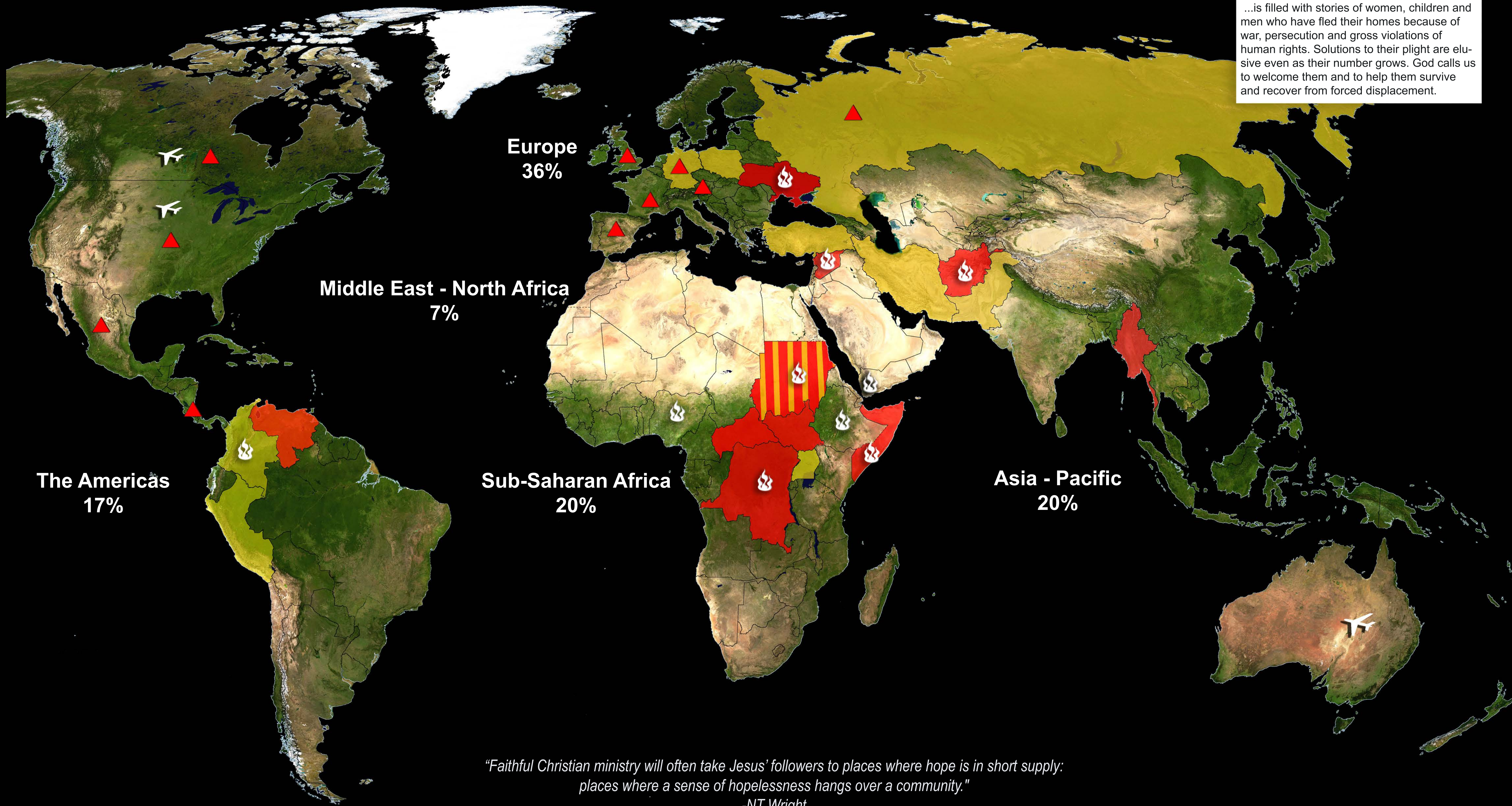
# The REFUGEE HIGHWAY

The well worn paths people travel in search of safety and a peace



#### The REFUGEE HIGHWAY

...is filled with stories of women, children and men who have fled their homes because of war, persecution and gross violations of human rights. Solutions to their plight are elusive even as their number grows. God calls us to welcome them and to help them survive and recover from forced displacement.



#### The Refugee Highway

108.4 million women, children and men were forcibly displaced in the world at the end of 2022. While the majority were displaced within their own country, 35.3 million were compelled to seek refuge in another country. Another 5.4 million people risked dangerous journeys to distant nations where they hoped to find asylum and the opportunity to rebuild their lives. The number of forcibly displaced people grew by 19 million between 2022 and 2023 - the biggest annual increase ever recorded by the United Nations.

There are some well-worn paths that they travel in their desperate search for safety. These paths are the Refugee Highway. is a clear

#### Elusive Solutions

As the number of protracted refugee crises continues to multiply worldwide, forcibly displaced people have few long-term solutions from which to choose. The causes for their flight must be resolved before they can consider returning home. As 76% of the world's refugees are hosted by low- and middle-income countries, few are given the option of integrating into their host nation and remaining permanently. In 2022, only 114,300 refugees were resettled to another country. With no solution in sight, many people remain forcibly displaced for over a decade - and increasingly for decades.

#### Biblical Perspective

Jesus and his parents fled in the night to Egypt to escape persecution in Palestine. He later identified himself with "the stranger" and said that hospitality to the stranger would mark his followers.

Faith, hope and love play a central role in human resilience and in recovery from forced displacement. These are among the life-giving contributions the church has to offer as we seek the protection and welfare of those traveling the Refugee Highway.

Sometimes it is difficult to know where to begin. IAFR is here to help. Visit [www.IAFR.org](http://www.IAFR.org) to learn more.

[www.IAFR.org](http://www.IAFR.org)



#### KEY

- major refugee producing countries
- top countries hosting refugees
- top destinations of asylum-seekers
- main countries of resettlement
- major IDP populations
- % of refugees/asylum seekers by region

Map discussion resources and credits: [www.IAFR.org/toolbox](http://www.IAFR.org/toolbox)