SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Monthly Statistical Report - UNHCR

as of 31 Jul 2023

Total Population

Total Population

163,119 individuals

Registered in 2023
1,378 individuals

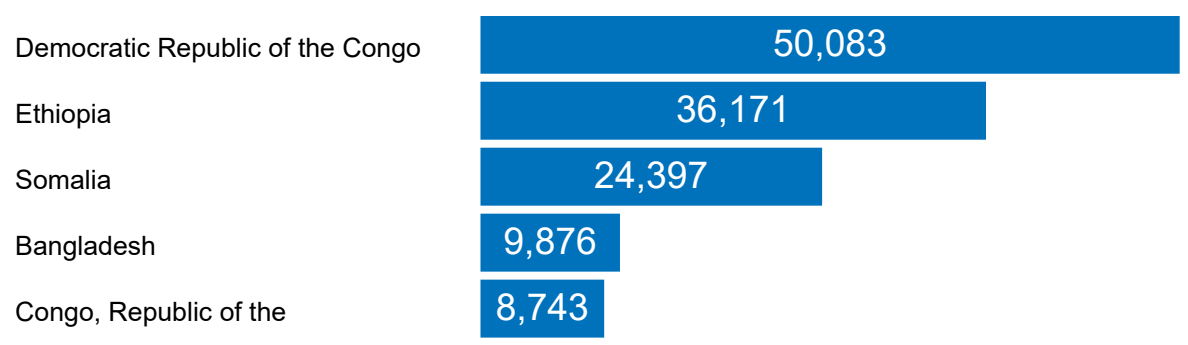
Arrived in 2023
1,181 individuals

Demographic Profile

11%	88%	1%
Children	Adult	Older Person

72% | 28%

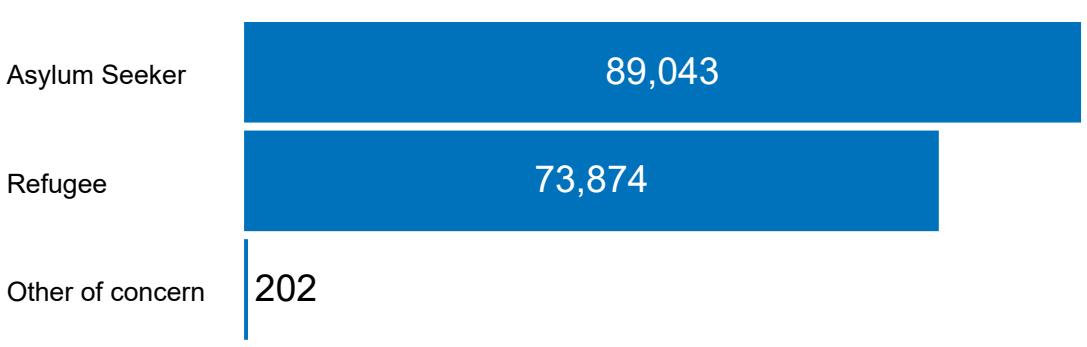
Country of origin



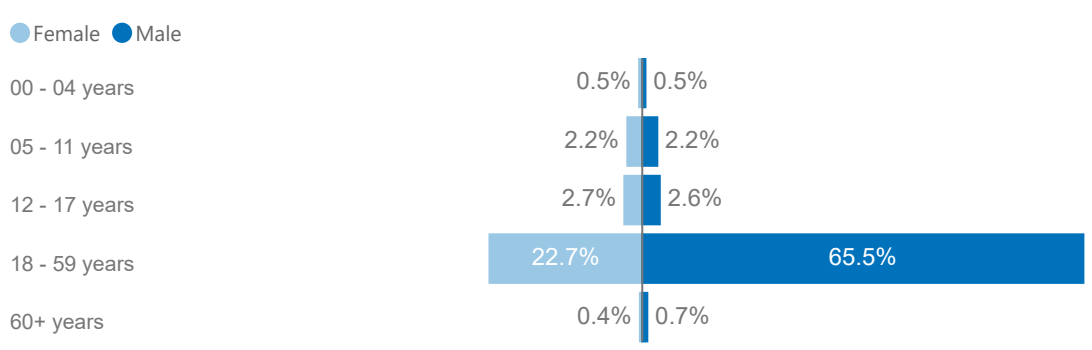
Country of Asylum

Country of Asylum	Asylum Seeker	Other of concern	Refugee	Not of concern	Total
South Africa	84,361	0	66,601	0	150,962
Namibia	2,257	87	4,946	0	7,290
Eswatini	1,503	15	1,182	0	2,700
Botswana	101	75	756	0	932
Lesotho	339	6	313	0	658
Madagascar	466	19	57	0	542
Mauritius	13	0	8	0	21
Comoros	3	0	11	0	14
Seychelles	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**89,043**	**202**	**73,874**	**0**	**163,119**

Legal Status



Demographic Profile



Highlights

■ **Registration:** Midyear Statistical Report for all SAMCO countries has been submitted except for South Africa. The Registration Unit is waiting for relevant data from the South African Government. In July, Botswana successfully carried out its food distribution, reaching 702 individuals from 263 households, which amounted to serving 83% of the population. The next distribution is scheduled for September.

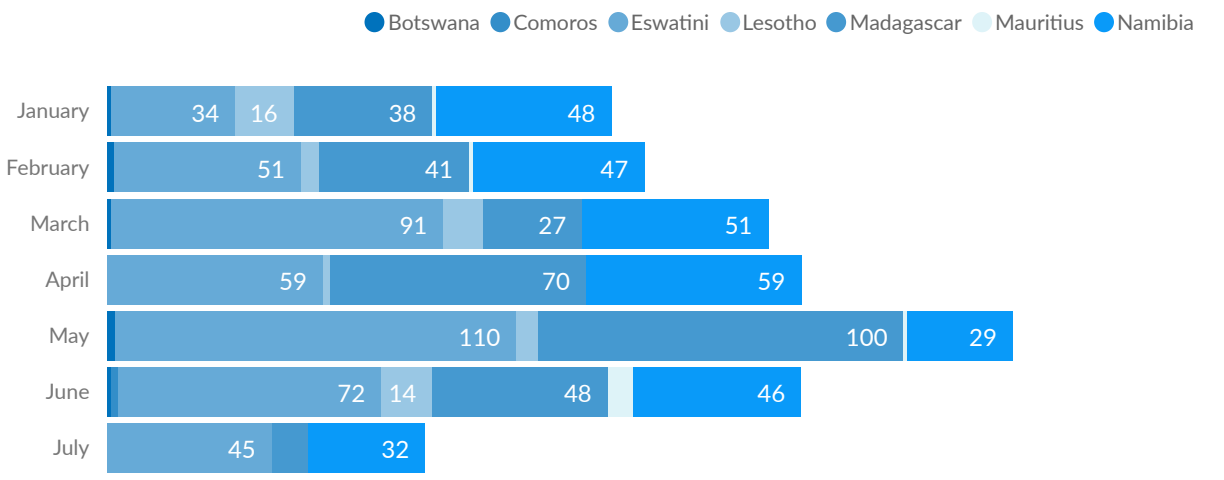
■ **Operational Protection (OPU)** : Two-day visit from Mastercard to SA to explore scholarship opportunities through their partners: UP, UCT, UWC and AIMS for refugees and asylum seekers (this is the first scholarship opportunity for asylum seekers in SA). OPU held a Post-mortem WRD meeting with community-leaders. The document for the Ndzevane project in Eswatini, has been drafted by WVI and SAMCO; there was a positive meeting with FAO for their collaboration, where we agreed that there will be a joint mission to explore their active engagement. WhatsApp launch for Madagascar and Mauritius

■ **Durable Solutions:** RRF writing mission to Madagascar where 41 refugees and asylum seekers were interviewed. A 16-year-old child in South Africa was finally reunited with her mother in Switzerland on 19 July after having been apart for seven years. SAMCO had worked with UNHCR Switzerland and other partners to facilitate their family reunification.Another student in South Africa was selected as a recipient of the UNICORE scholarship in July, bringing the total to two students selected for UNICORE in South Africa. On 24 July, SAMCO and RBSA had a meeting with the Mastercard Foundation, as well as several of their partner universities in South Africa, about their support for youth and students, including refugee students. Travel documentation for refugees wishing to study in a third country was discussed.
Another four Duolingo students successfully received their Convention Travel Documents in July, after months of advocacy by UNHCR; two had already received theirs in June.
Voluntary repatriation:In July, SAMCO facilitated voluntary return of a total of 74 individuals to their countries of origin: - 47 to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and 27 to Burundi. The total number of departures from South Africa stands at 225 individuals.

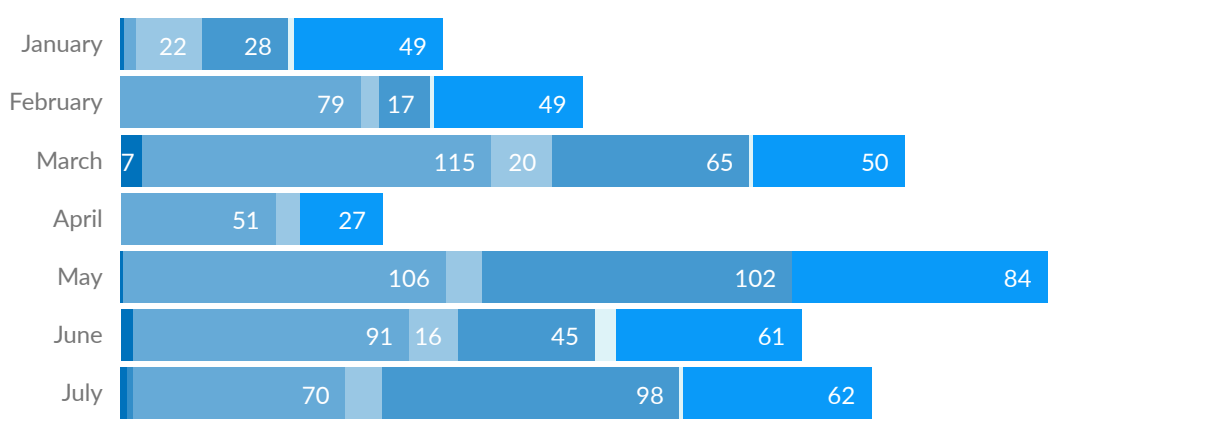
■ **CwC:** During the month of July, the main reasons for calling the UNHCR Helpline included Personal Security (294), RST Follow-Up (166) and Documentation (50). A total of 3 incidents related to challenges around social cohesion/xenophobia were reported during this period. The top three provinces are Gauteng (207), Western Cape (143) and KwaZulu Natal (128). The increased number of calls from Western Cape were triggered by the US visit to CT for RST interviews. 71 calls were from people requiring services that UNHCR does not provide. During the reporting month, the closure of the Helpline due to contract related challenges and technical challenges (CISCO) contributed to both the high number of unattended calls and the lowest number of calls handled (648) since the beginning of 2023

■ **Asylum Law and Policy:** The team submitted applications for the Digital and Data Innovation Funds. While attending the UNHCR SADC RSD Workshop with DIP, RBSA and Regional State Counterparts, the team organized side meetings between UNHCR's Chief of Asylum Systems and Determination Unit, DIP and South Africa. The team led a meeting with Judge President Mlambo, president of Africa chapter of IARMJ, to take forward JE in SA and PRM to update on the Backlog Project. HR submissions were sent to HQ for Mauritius (UPR) and South Africa (CRPD). The team prepared a session on how to develop a Legal Framework for the SPO's mission to Madagascar.

Arrival Trend



Registration Trend



*South Africa refugee population data is reported by DHA as of 31/12/2022
** 88 Individuals are officially reported but not yet registered
***Three individuals were deported, two in July 2022 and one in February 2023

Creation Date : 31 Jul 2023

Source: - UNHCR Joint Registration Exercise

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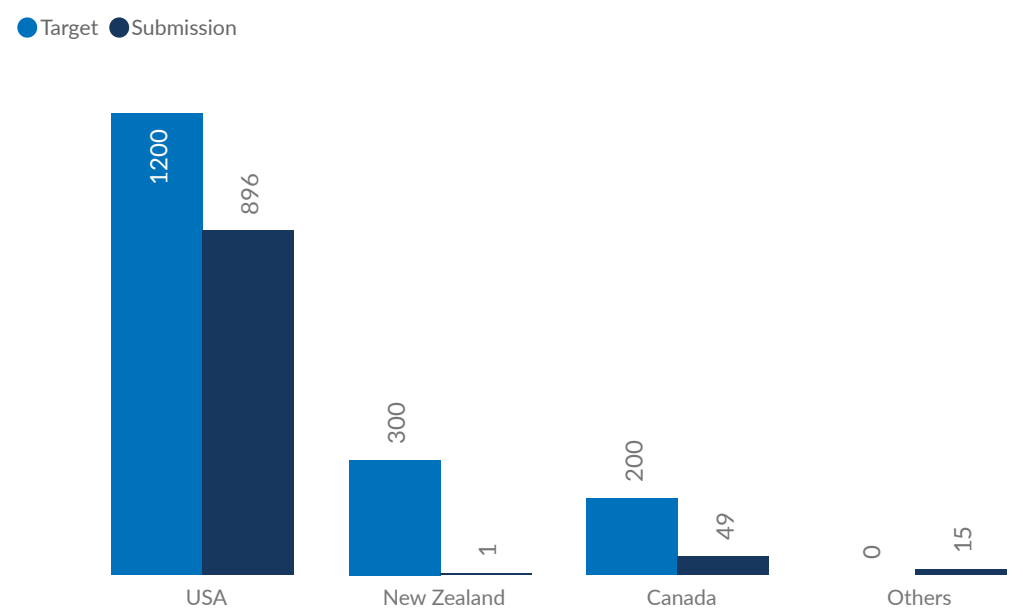
Resettlement*

Total Submissions in 2023	Submissions in Jun 2023
961	228

Total Departure in 2023	Departure in Jun 2023
318	74

Target vs Submissions



Voluntary Repatriation**

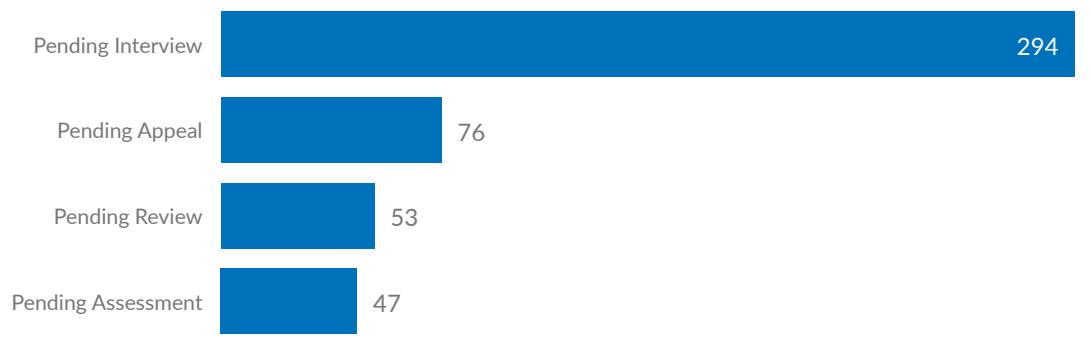
Total Departure in 2023	Total Departure in Jun 2023
225	74

Refugee Status Determination

Active RSD Cases	RSD Cases Created in Jun 2023
470	63

First Instance Recognition (YTD)	Cases Referred to RST
97%	6

RSD Status

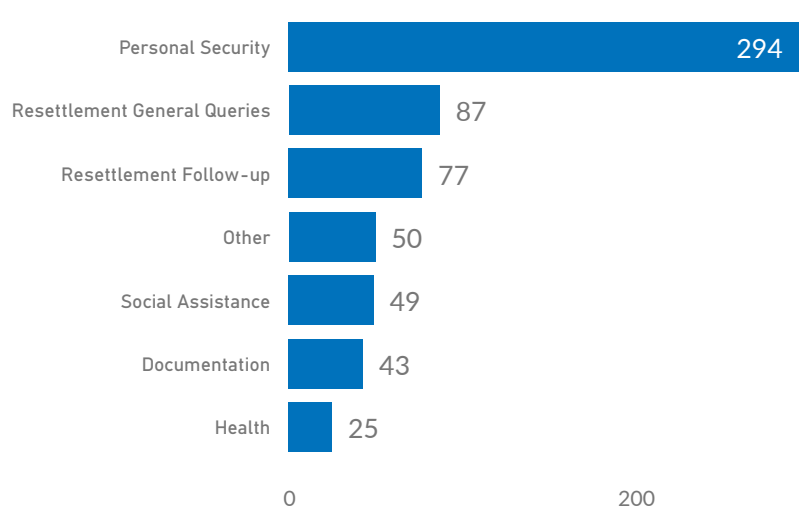


Operational Protection

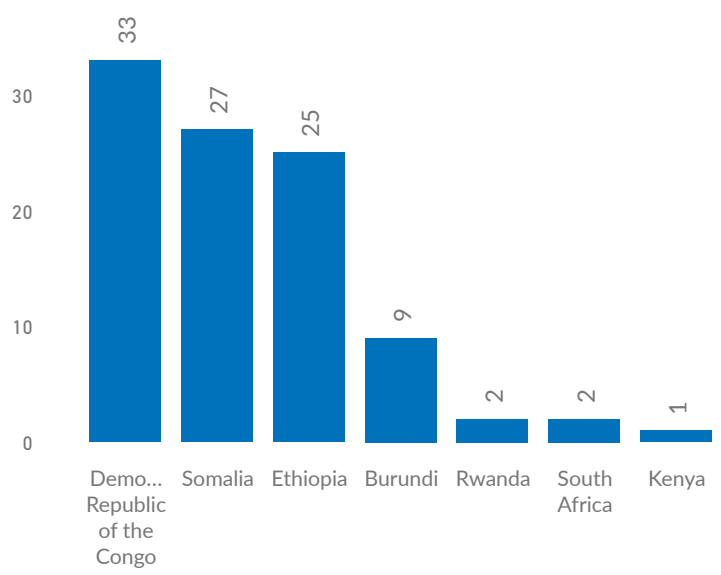
Helpline Calls Received	Reception (New Calls)	Referrals	Communications (Return Callers)
719	101	72	648

Child Protection	Protection Case Conference (PCC)	Best Interest Determination (BID)	Medical Cases
0	30	4	0

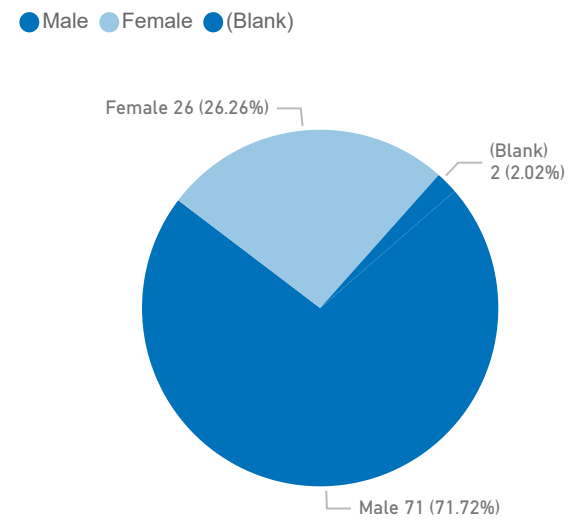
Call received Category (Top 7)



Reception Created by Country of Origin



Reception Created By Gender



* RST Data from : South Africa, Madagaskar, Botswana, Namibia

**VolRep Data from South Africa, Botswana, Namibia

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Monthly Statistical Map Report - UNHCR

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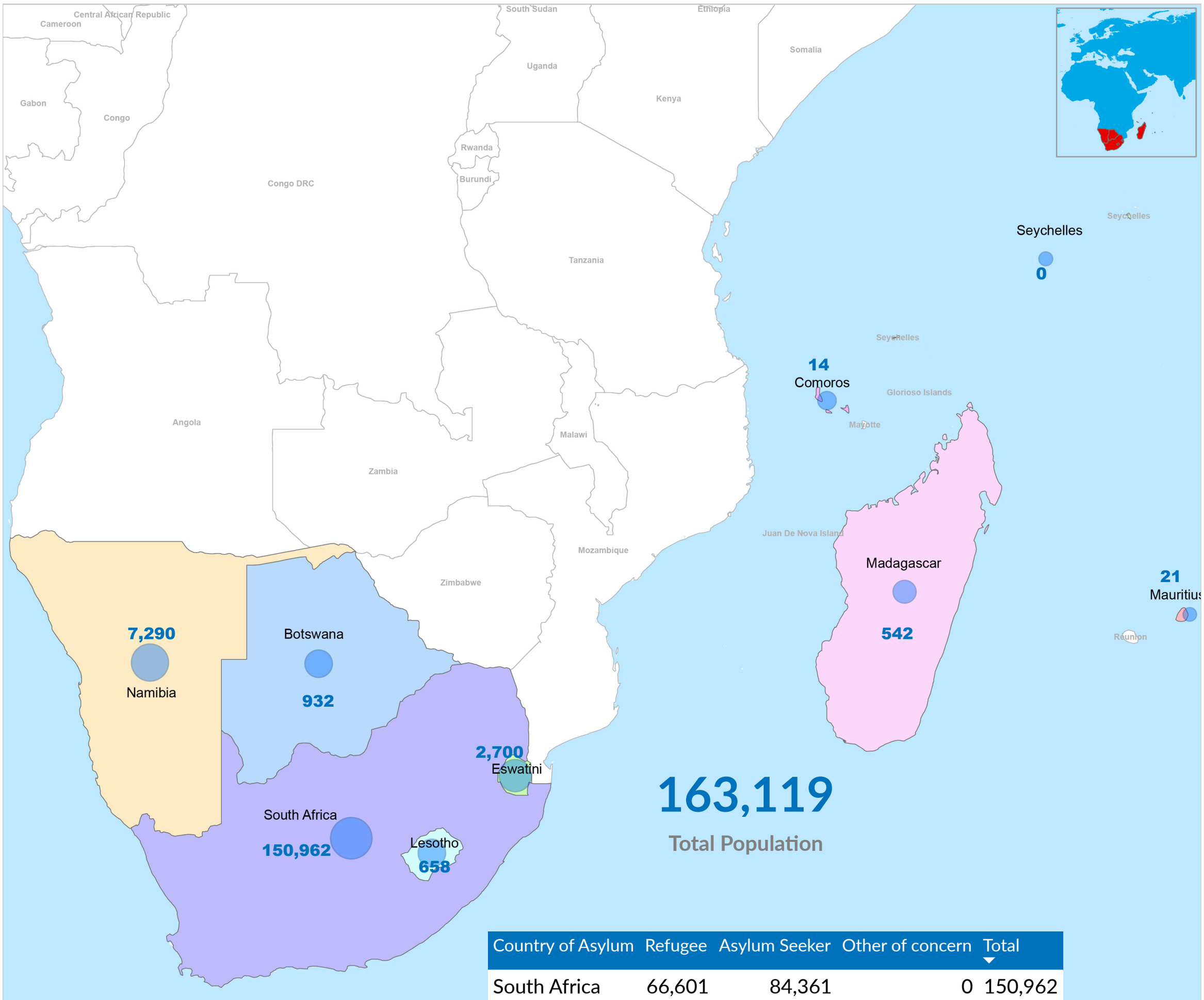

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The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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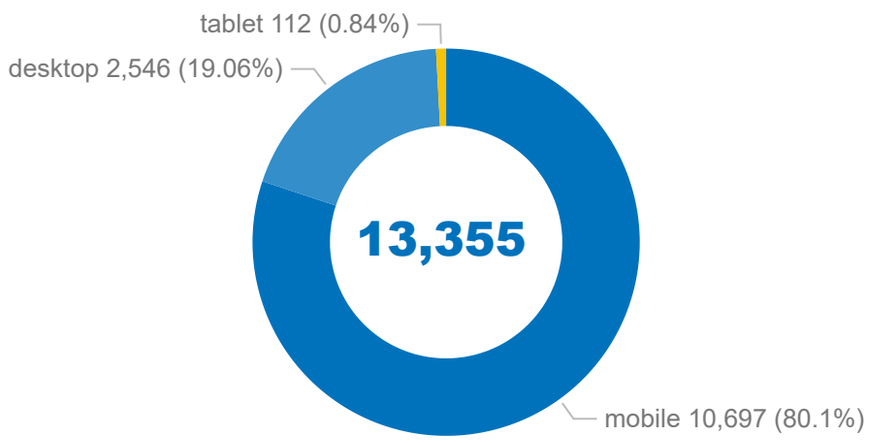
Monthly Help.Unhcr.Org Dashboard

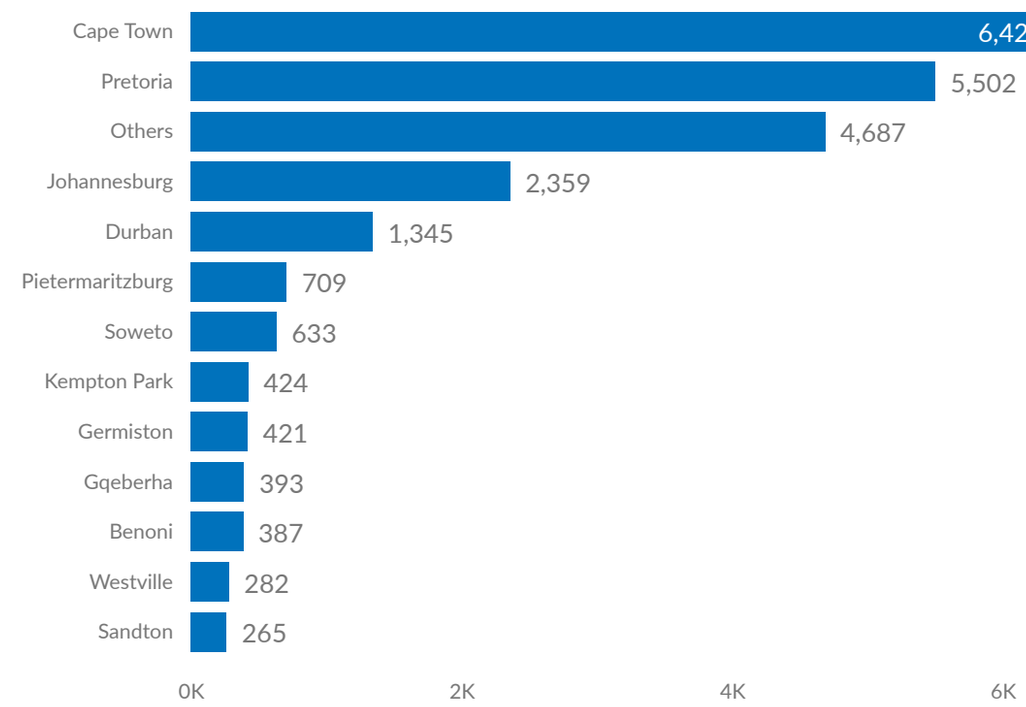
as of 31 Jul 2023

Total Page Views	Total Site Views
24,604	13,355

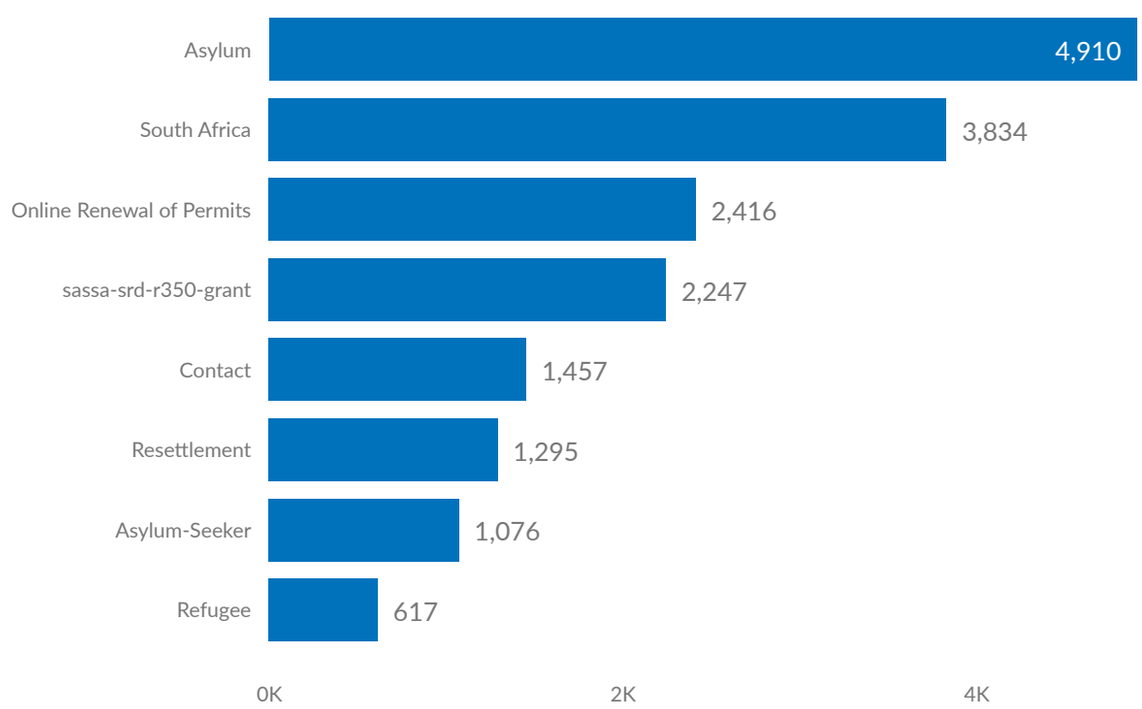
Device Used



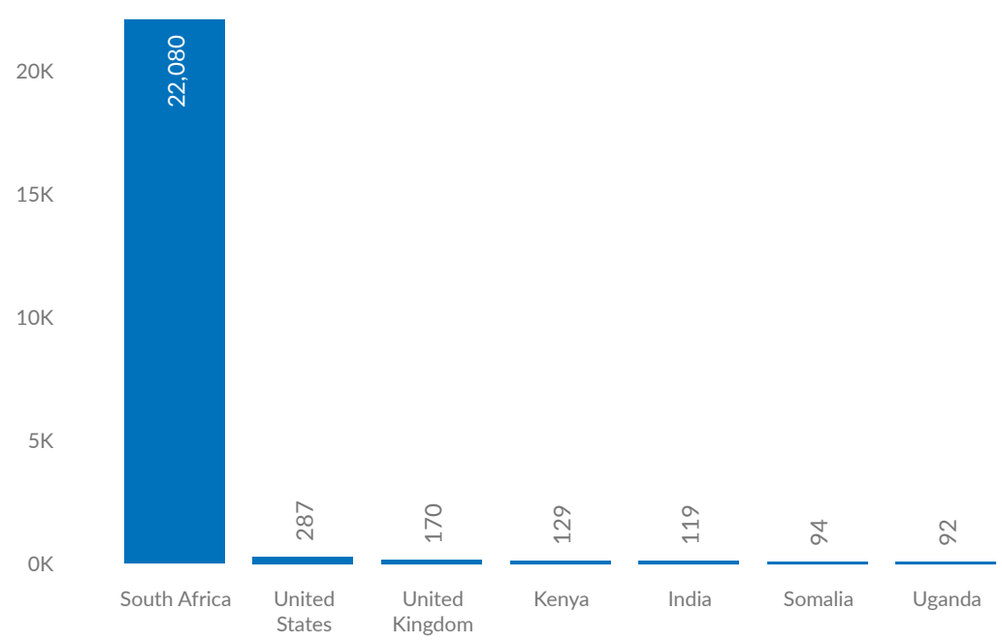
Visited by Cities in South Africa



Most Visited Pages (Top 10)



Visited by Countries (Top 7)



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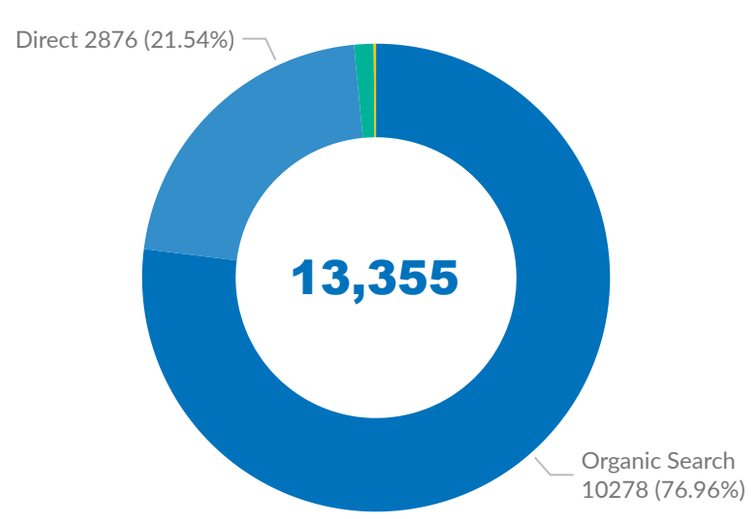

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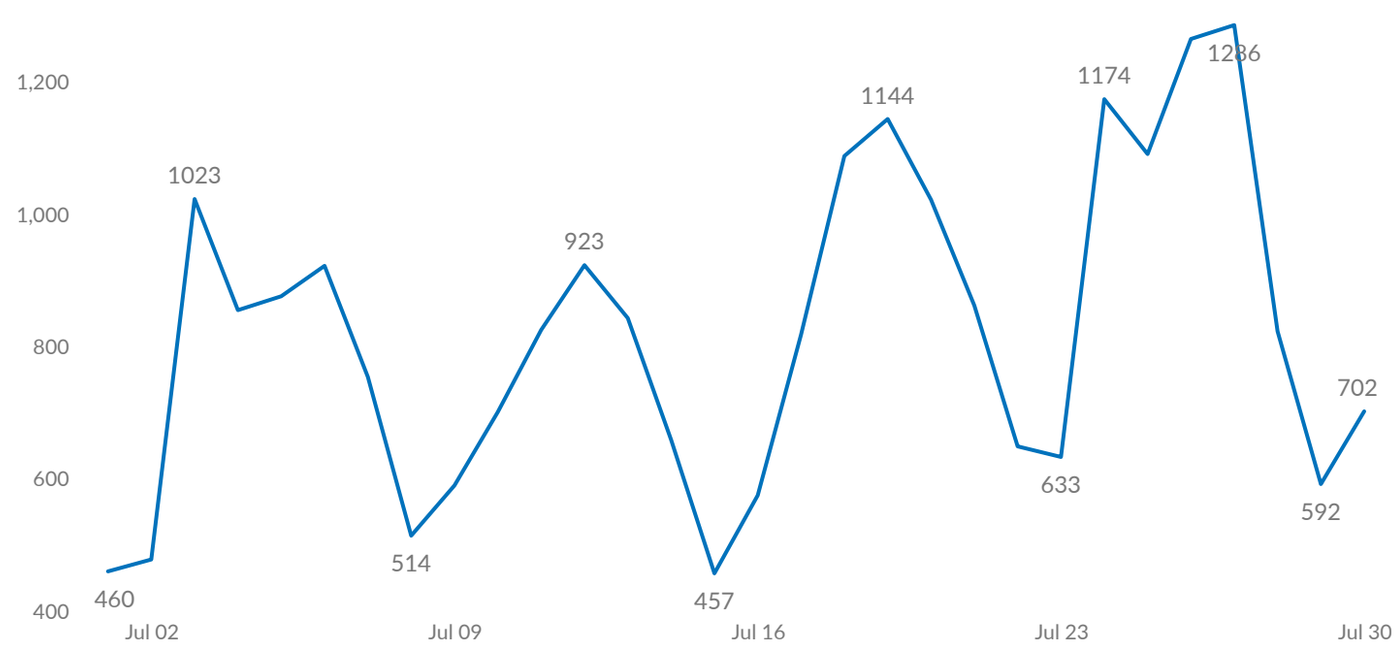

Month Overview

The Help Site Page for South Africa received 24 604 page views during July. The most visited sites being Help Asylum Process, SASSA grant and Online Renewal of Permits.

Mailer

6 Mailers reaching out to more than 1200 people were sent out alerting refugee communities on a scam about resettlement, on a call for applications - Amahori Coalition funding opportunity for RLOs, on the UWC on Mastercard Foundation Full Scholarship Masters' Program, on a call for application - US exchange program for High School students, on the closure of the Helpline from the 3rd to the 7th of July 2023 and on Talent beyond Boundaries (TBB) connecting refugees with international employment opportunities. The TBB opportunity was sent out to 7 out of the 9 SAMCO countries (South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, Namibia, Madagascar, Mauritius and Eswatini.)