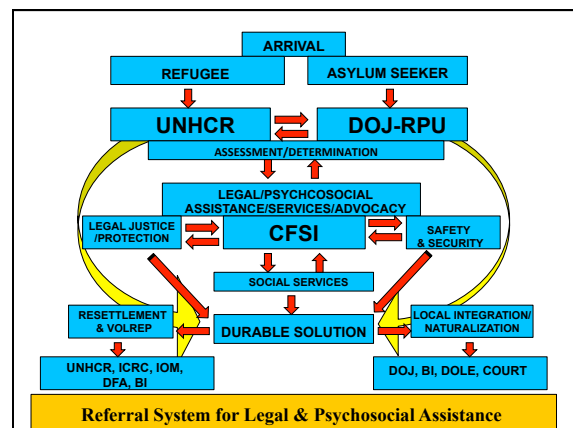
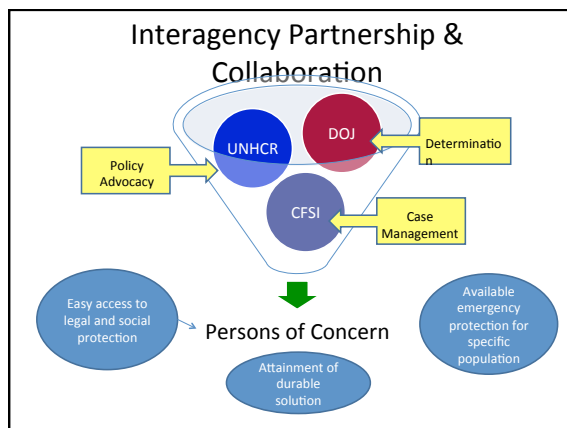


Best Practice: Philippine Model

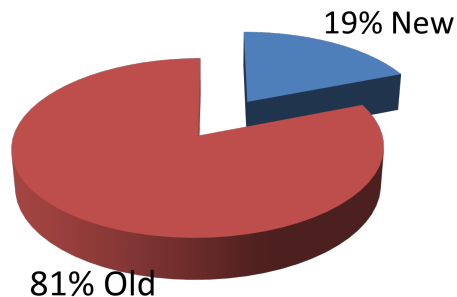
Ofelia C. Mendoza, RSW, MSW
 Project Coordinator/Senior Social Counselor
 Urban Refugee Project, Community and Family Services International
 Philippines

Elements of Refugee Protection Regime in the Philippines

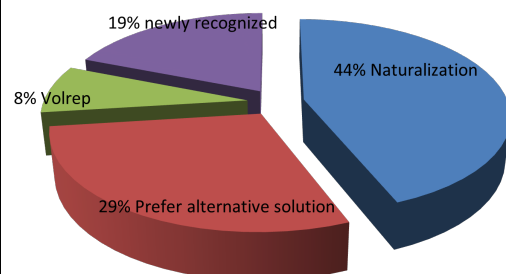
- Intensive policy advocacy of UNHCR
- Existence of government policy and procedure
- Interagency coordination and collaboration between and among implementing partners (UNHCR, DOJ & CFSI)
- CFSI collaboration and coordination with government and non-government agencies/service providers
- The case management approach in the provision of legal and psychosocial services to refugees and asylum seekers by the implementing partner (CFSI).

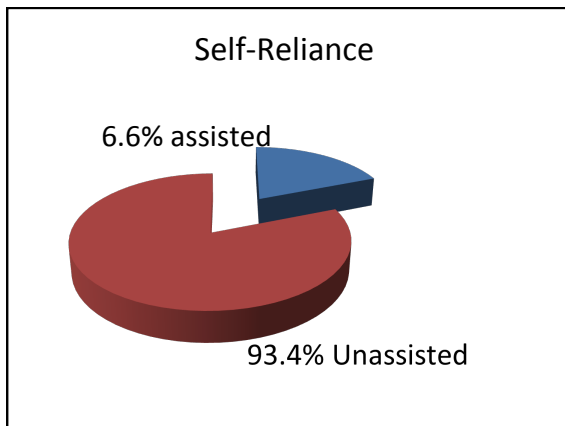


Statistics of New & Old Cases



Durable Solution





- Favorable Environment/Facilitating Factors**
- Access to regular employment and business opportunities
 - Access to formal and non-formal education / vocational skills training in private and government schools/training centers
 - Graduates of college education in Philippine colleges/universities will be allowed to take the professional board examination to be able to practice their profession in the country.

- Favorable Environment/Facilitating Factors**
- Freedom of movement within the country and option to travel outside of the country
 - Enjoyment of right to establish own family
 - Access to social protection mechanisms such as SSS, Philhealth and Pagibig
 - Enjoyment of basic human rights equal to citizen including the right to practice religion

- Favorable Environment/Facilitating Factors**
- Enjoy equal access to social services and health services of the government and private institutions
 - Filipinos by culture are accommodating of any foreign nationals as the country respects diversity of people.

- Challenges for Social Workers/ Counselors**
- Refugees who prefer alternative solution e.g. migration do not make effort to locally integrate or immerse into the community
 - Language barrier for many new cases
 - Lack of capacity for employment
 - Refugees cultural background/orientation presents some difficulty for immersion into the area of residence/community

- Challenges for the Programme**
- Stateless persons are still in the process of being identified by UNHCR and government (mapping on-going)