

## REFUGEE PROTECTION AT SEA

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26 APRIL 2016



## **UNHCR**

Refugees

Asylum-seekers

Stateless people

Returnees

**IDPs** 



# Global displacement

42,500

displaced by conflict and persecution **per day** in 2014

20 million

refugees worldwide (at mid-2015)

86%

of refugees hosted by **developing countries** 



## Crisis?

Perhaps, but maybe not the one you are thinking of...

- Syria conflict alone has led to almost 5 million refugees (as well as some 6.5 million IDPs)
- Turkey is hosting over 2.7 million Syrian refugees
- Lebanon over 1 million registered Syrian refugees
- Pakistan approx 1.5 million refugees (Afghans)



# Refugees and migrants at sea



- Mediterranean
  - Central Mediterranean
  - Eastern Mediterranean
  - Southeast Asia
  - Caribbean
  - Gulf of Aden ... the forgotten route?



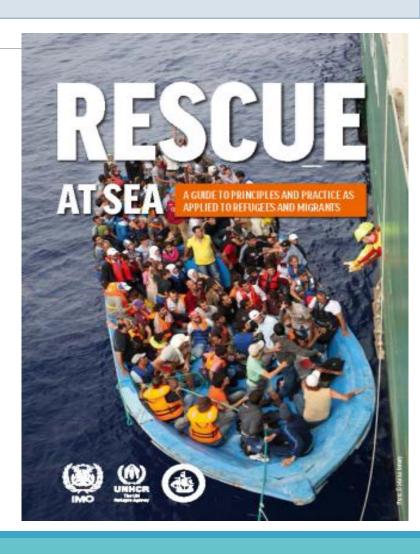
# Refugees and migrants at sea

- Along many routes today, majority are refugees fleeing conflict or persecution
- Why should that matter?
  - SAR = Saving lives at sea
  - Access to asylum / international protection
  - Ongoing 'drivers' of dangerous sea journeys



## **Protection at sea**







### **Protection at sea**

- Protection at sea ... begins with protection on land
- Saving lives at sea what are the gaps?
- Non-refoulement and the right to seek and enjoy asylum
- Humane treatment of rescued persons



### **Protection at sea**

- Protection at sea also ends with protection on land
  - safe disembarkation arrangements
  - first assistance and reception
  - access to asylum procedures and other services
  - protection from further risks trafficking, SGBV, family separation...