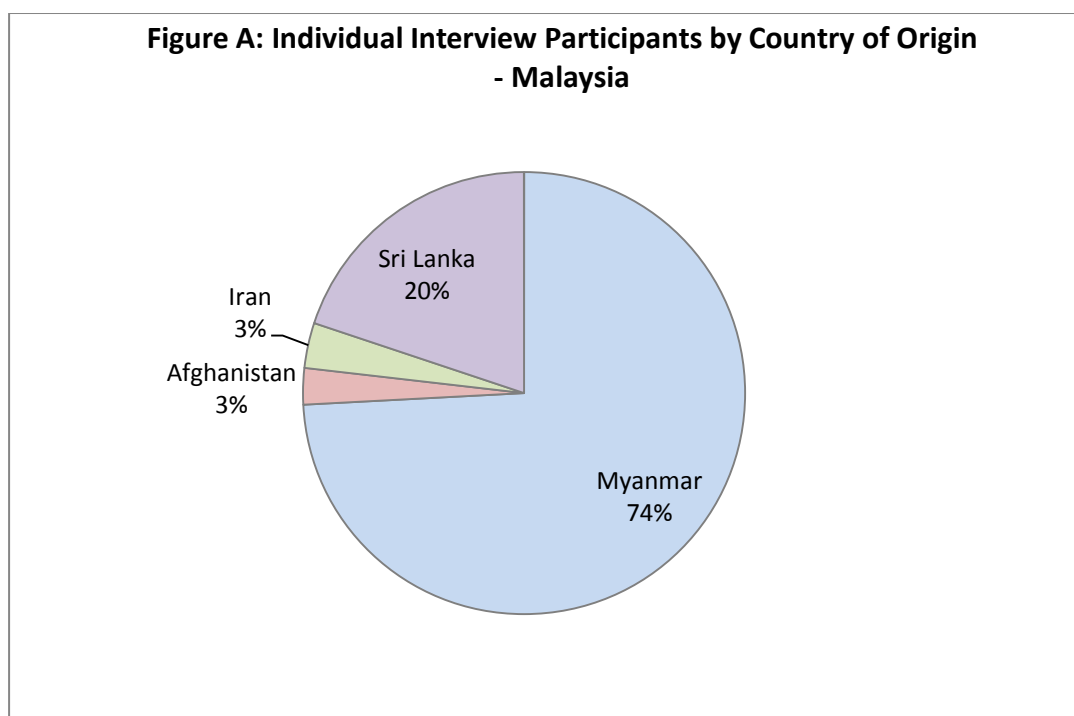


REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION IN 2012

Malaysia Fieldwork

The research team travelled to Malaysia in early June 2012, and was joined by a researcher already present in Malaysia who had experience working with UNHCR there. The research team employed mixed research methods. Researchers held qualitative focus and discussion groups with Refugee Ethnic Community representatives, Malaysian human rights NGOs and Malaysian Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs), carried out interviews with UNHCR Malaysia officials, and using purposive sampling, conducted individual interviews with one hundred and fifty-one refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities (and their families) in Kuala Lumpur and surrounding areas. Of these, 111 were adults and 40 were under 18 years of age. The vast majority of displaced persons in Malaysia come from Myanmar, from many different ethnic minority groups.¹ Others countries of origin include Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Pakistan and Somalia. The researchers managed to speak with persons from all of the above countries, with the exception of Pakistan and Somalia.



Site visits were also undertaken to Refugee Community Learning Centres, refugee homes and UNHCR-partnered medical clinics. Further to the above, UNHCR Malaysia commissioned a report on disability to examine their existing records of persons with disabilities² which was made available to the research team.

¹ Total number from Myanmar registered with UNHCR, at end of June 2012, was 91400. UNHCR Malaysia, *Figures at a Glance*, online, <http://www.unhcr.org.my/About_Us-@-Figures_At_A_Glance.aspx>.

Indonesia Fieldwork

The research team travelled to Indonesia in late September 2012 and spent two weeks carrying out similar research. The research was conducted in Jakarta, Bogor and Makassar. The individual interview tool was slightly adapted following an assessment of its success and efficiency in Malaysia.

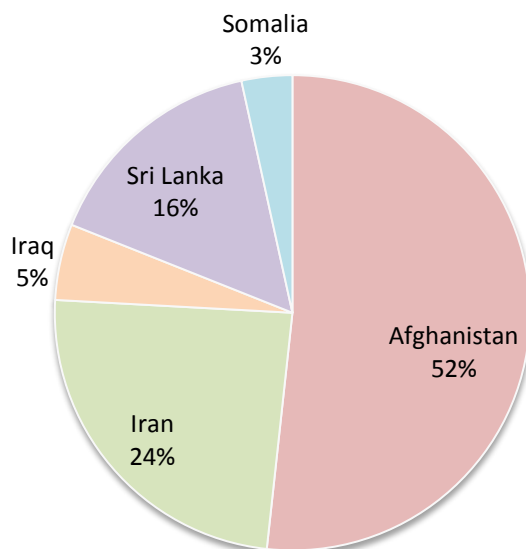
In Jakarta, the team met with representatives from UNHCR Jakarta, as well as its implementing partner, the Church World Service (CWS). They also met with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the major organisation supporting refugees and asylum seekers both in detention and living in the community in Indonesia. They also held a focus group for a number of Indonesian Disabled Persons' Organisations to elicit their knowledge about and experience with displaced populations and to encourage further engagement in the future.

In the Bogor area, the research team met with other IOM and CWS representatives. They toured the IOM and CWS centres, as well as refugee community housing in Cisarua and surrounding areas and visited one of the CWS shelters for unaccompanied minors. They carried out 41 individual interviews with refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities.

In Makassar, the research team met with the IOM representatives there. They visited the detention centre there and held an informal group discussion with over 60 detainees, to better understand the conditions in detention in terms of access to basic needs, as well as to health services. They also visited the community housing and conducted interviews with 17 persons with disabilities.

In all, a total of 58 individual interviews were conducted. Those interviewed came from Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Sri Lanka and Somalia. Nine of the participants were minors, and 14 participants were female. This largely reflects the high numbers of adult male refugees and asylum seekers in Indonesia.

Figure B: Interview Participants by Country of Origin - Indonesia



Data Analysis

The individual interview data collected during these two field trips has been aggregated to gain insight into the particular types of disability the participants have, how they acquired these disabilities, and the type and level of access they have to supportive services and devices to afford them an adequate standard of living. All audio-recorded interviews with officials and others have been transcribed for use to support and elaborate key trends identified in the individual data. As a whole, this data will form the foundation of country-specific reports on disability in displacement, which are being put together. It was also drawn upon in papers presented by the research team at the symposium *Creating New Futures for all: Children, Youth, Disability and Situations of Forced Migration*, which was held at the Sydney University Law School between 28th and 30th of November.

Further to this, we have been able to progressively refine our disability identification tool, which forms a key component of our research. We are in talks with UNHCR and IOM about trialling and implementing this tool within their operations.

Expenditure

As will be seen in the acquittal, we finished the year under budget for the estimated overseas airfares and publication expenses for the project. There were modest variations in other areas. The main area where there has been a variation is for consultancy costs. As we began planning our fieldwork, we were fortunate to find a skilled and experienced researcher in Malaysia. Having her on the ground there meant that she was able to prearrange our whole schedule for our main research trip to Kuala Lumpur, as well as being on hand to implement our research tools during our time there.

This meant that we could work extremely efficiently while there, in turn meaning that we were able to collect a large amount of data in a shorter period of time than would have otherwise been possible,

thus decreasing our expenditure on accommodation and other related travel expenses. Given the success we had with this consultant and with her being familiar with UNHCR processes and our research tools, we were able to include her in the Indonesian fieldwork, once again saving expenses on having to fly someone from Australia and increasing what we could get done in a short time.

However, this, along with some other modest variations (eg per diems and other field work expenses explained in the attached document) meant that the amount of funding remaining for Professor McCallum's consultancy fees decreased. He is prepared to wear this shortfall for 2012 to ensure that we remain within the total allocation from AusAID.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR 2013

Field Trips

This year, the research team will travel to Uganda and Bangladesh. Planning is already underway in terms of selecting an appropriate time for each of these trips.

Individual questionnaire

Based on the research team's experiences in 2012, including talks with UNHCR representatives in Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia and Geneva, the team has emphasised the development of the disability identification tool and supporting questions which form the questionnaire for use when interviewing individual refugees and asylum seekers. UNHCR representatives have demonstrated an interest in trialling the disability identification tool section of the questionnaire, meaning that we have a strong interest in refining this.

From our experiences in the field, we realised that we would need to remain flexible in terms of adjusting the questionnaire to best fit with conditions on the ground and to best explore pertinent issues. We also shortened it to make it more efficient to administer and reworked the format for easier data extraction and subsequent analysis. In 2013 we will continue to remain open to adjusting the questionnaire to best fit the situation on the ground and have already made some changes pre-emptively in order to help achieve this.

Gatekeeper and participant outreach

Further, experience in 2012 led us to value the importance of reaching out to country-based contacts as early as possible, as this proved invaluable in terms of being able to efficiently use the limited time we had in each country in a meaningful way. We therefore plan to begin contacting these persons immediately and at the same time progressively expand our contact base.

Publications and other outputs

Professors Crock and McCallum submitted two articles for publication in 2012 that are related to this AusAID project. These are:

Mary Crock, Naomi Hart and Ron McCallum "War, Law and Disability: Ensuring Equality in Situations of Crisis", book chapter forthcoming in an edited collection of papers relating to the 2012 Shafallah Forum *Crisis, Conflict and Disability: Ensuring Equality* to be published in 2013 through Hart Publishing.

Mary Crock, Christine Ernst and Ron McCallum “Where Disability and Displacement Intersect: Asylum Seekers and Refugees with Disabilities” (2012) *International Journal of Refugee Law* (forthcoming).

An article exploring disability identification in displacement is currently being finalised and publication options will subsequently be explored.

Country reports for Malaysia and Indonesia will also be finalised and shared with stakeholders. In relation to this, the team will continue to advocate for a trial of the disability identification tool within UNHCR in Malaysia and IOM in Indonesia.