

The Campaign to End Statelessness July – September 2022 Update



Top events and news

- **Liberia** becomes the third country since the start of the #IBelong Campaign to reform legislation to grant women and men equal rights in passing on their nationality to their children.
- The 19th Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Council for Civil Registration, Identity and Vital Statistics took place in the **Dominican Republic**, adopting a Declaration including key commitments in support of preventing and addressing statelessness.
- **Nigeria** adopts a National Action Plan to Eradicate Statelessness and establishes a National Steering Committee to oversee its implementation.
- Through a quantitative survey, UNHCR is making efforts to better understand the issues of statelessness in **Iraq** and identify solutions.

Implementation of the Global Action Plan

Action 2: Ensure that no child is born stateless

In **Japan**, two cases of children born in the country to stateless Rohingya refugee parents were confirmed Japanese nationals based on Article 2(iii) of the Nationality Act. This Act provides for the granting of Japanese nationality to children born in Japan to stateless parents. The coordination between the Ministry of Justice's regional Legal Affairs Bureau, the municipalities and the Refugee Assistance Headquarters, a public welfare foundation with long experience in assisting refugees and expertise in statelessness and nationality matters, was a critical factor for the effective implementation of the provision.

In **Mali**, the president signed a decree which sets out the modalities and procedures regarding the acquisition and loss of Malian nationality, in accordance with the relevant provisions in the law regulating Malian nationality. Without this decree, access to nationality was not clearly regulated, and the lack of guidance or procedures related to access to nationality posed challenges related to accessing nationality. Through this decree, Mali partially implemented one of its pledges made during the 2019 HLS.

Action 3: Remove gender discrimination from nationality laws

In **Liberia**, the President signed an act to amend the Aliens and Nationality Law, removing genderdiscriminatory provisions preventing women to confer nationality to their children on an equal basis as men. Liberia is only the third country to reform legislation to grant women and men equal rights in passing on their nationality to their children since the #IBelong Campaign was launched in 2014, following Madagascar and Sierra Leone.

Action 6: Grant protection status to stateless migrants and facilitate their naturalization

In **Romania**, the government adopted amendments to broaden the scope for the benefit of Temporary Protection for people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. The amendments enabled Third Country Nationals, including those had received international protection in Ukraine, stateless persons and their family members. This will enable stateless persons from Ukraine to have easier access to the Temporary Protection status in Romania, and its corresponding rights and services.



Valentin Rakip, 20, who was born in North Macedonia, is stateless. After a 12-year legal battle, with the support of UNHCR and the Macedonian Young Lawyers Association, he is close to gaining citizenship. Once he has his ID card, Valentin plans to enrol in high school, pursue a culinary training, get a passport and travel outside of the country for the first time in his life. © UNHCR/Robert Atanasovski

In **Indonesia**, the Ministry of Education submitted a draft national education system law to Parliament for consideration. The law, once adopted, would provide access to education for stateless students at the national and local level.

In **Ukraine**, as of 31 August, foreigners and stateless persons legally residing in Ukraine can access and register on *Diya*, the government portal for population and business services. Stateless persons who received their residence permits in the form of a plastic card with an electronic chip after 25 April 2018 can take advantage of digital residence permits. Individuals registered on the portal whose ID documents are lost or damaged, can restore all relevant civil documentation using remote options, also relevant to **Action 8**.

Action 7: Ensure birth registration for the prevention of statelessness

In the **Philippines**, the Ministry of Social Services and Development, UNHCR, UNICEF, and local authorities, supported birth registration of children in the municipalities of Patikul in Sulu, Hadji Mohammad Ajul in Basilan, and Tandubas in Tawi-Tawi. As a result, a total of 1,131 children at risk of statelessness from the Sama Bajau community and unregistered displaced children were registered and are expected to receive their birth certificates by the end of September 2022. UNHCR also provided computers, scanners, printers, and servers to support the digitization processes of the Municipal Registrar's Offices.

In **Kenya**, the Haki Centre and Civil Registration Services conducted a 5-day mobile birth registration exercise in Lungalunga sub-county in Kwale county, targeting stateless and at-risk populations. A total of 2,133 children were registered, including through late birth registration procedures.

In **Sudan**, UNHCR and the Sudanese Civil Registry launched birth registration campaigns in eight states. The campaigns are targeting 13,500 individuals at risk of statelessness, including returnees, IDPs, refugees, and members of the host community, to ensure that every child has a birth certificate. In Yemen, UNHCR, its partners and the Civil Status and Civil Registry Authority continued to work together to ensure birth registration of vulnerable children, including refugees, asylum-seekers, and internally displaced persons. In northern Yemen, where birth registration services for asylum-seekers and refugees have been temporarily suspended due to the security situation, UNHCR's partners supported access to birth registration for more than 500 refugee and asylum-seeking children. Advocacy by UNHCR for the resumption of birth registration activities remains ongoing. UNHCR and partners continue regular identification activities of unregistered children, provide advice to displaced families and support the referral to the Civil Status and Civil Registry Authority. More than 4,500 IDP and IDP returnee children were assisted to access birth registration.

In **Chad**, UNHCR and its government partner, the Agence Nationale des Titres Sécurisés, facilitated the organization of 15 mobile courts in the southern region of the country to enable access to civil documentation for refugee children who were previously unable to access birth registration leaving them at risk of statelessness. A total of 1,287 children were issued supplementary judgments by the courts which enabled the issuance of their birth certificates.

In **Benin**, UNHCR's partner Amnesty International Benin and the National Agency for the Identification of Persons jointly organized the distribution of 9,200 birth certificates to children who were previously undocumented in Ouidah and the Karimama regions. Children born in these remote rural areas bordering Niger may struggle to prove their parentage and links to Benin, placing them at risk of statelessness.

In **Ukraine**, the Parliament adopted a law introducing a simplified procedure to establish the facts of birth or death of a person, as well as a waiver of court fees during martial or emergency law and in temporarily occupied territories. In **Kosovo** (UNSRC 1244, 1999) the Strategy for the Advancement of the rights of Roma and Ashkali communities 2022-2026 was adopted. It foresees the creation of a specific mechanisms in relevant government institutions and services for the identification, prevention, and reduction of statelessness. Among other things, the Strategy also commits to ensure birth registration for all members of the Roma and Ashkali communities.

Action 8: Issue nationality documentation to those with entitlement to it

In **Yemen**, UNHCR and partners supported more than 7,000 IDPs and IDP returnees to access national ID cards and other identification documents in cooperation with the authorities.

In **Burkina Faso**, UNHCR's support to the Government enabled the delivery of 23,179 civil status and identity documents to 12,748 internally displaced persons and 10,431 members of the host community in Boucle du Mouhoun, North, Hauts-Bassins, South-West and East regions.

In **Chad**, 2,300 IDPs in the Chad Lake Region, received their first ever ID cards issued by the Agence Nationale des Titres Sécurisés, the government body in charge of the issuance of ID documents in Chad. These IDPs belong to a group of people living in the border region between Chad and Nigeria who are settled in both countries. In addition, these populations live in hard-to-reach areas making it difficult for them to access civil registration and documentation.

In **Ukraine**, <u>amendments</u> to the law 'On Free Legal Aid' came into force. According to the amendments, persons without IDs and documents confirming Ukrainian nationality are entitled to secondary legal aid in court proceedings for the confirmation of legal facts related to issuance of such documents.

Action 10: Improve quantitative and qualitative data on stateless populations

In Iraq, UNHCR is accelerating efforts to improve data on communities affected by statelessness. To better understand the situation of stateless and atrisk populations in Iraq and enable targeted action, a quantitative study was conducted by UNHCR and its local partner, the Legal Clinic Network, focusing on Faili Kurds and Bidoons in 10 governorates (see the summary factsheet of findings). Almost 1,200 household-level interviews covering close to 5,000 individuals were completed. The survey collected data on the nationality and possession of civil documentation, identified households requiring legal assistance or support to secure nationality documentation and identified obstacles and challenges to (re)acquiring Iragi nationality and obtaining the Iraqi Nationality Certificate.



From left to right, the Federal Commissioner for NCFRMI, UNHCR Nigeria Representative, Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Minister of Interior, and Minister of Women Affairs, holding copies of the National Action Plan to eradicate statelessness during the launch of the NAP and the inauguration of the Steering Committee. ©UNHCR/Gabriel Damilare Adeyemo

Enhancing coordination on statelessness

Africa

In **Nigeria**, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development and UNHCR, launched a National Action Plan to Eradicate Statelessness in Nigeria (NAP), and the Steering Committee responsible for its implementation was inaugurated. With the launch of the NAP and the inauguration of the Steering Committee, Nigeria took an important step towards the prevention and reduction of statelessness and demonstrating Nigeria's efforts to implement its commitments made during the 2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness (HLS).

UNHCR, the, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (CEMAC), co-organized a virtual meeting with civil society organizations and persons affected by statelessness to seek feedback and contributions to the draft *regional model law on statelessness determination procedures, the protection of stateless persons and the facilitation of their naturalization*. Over 70 civil society organization attended the consultations. Substantial contributions were provided to the draft model law which will be reviewed and finalized for validation by technical experts from ECOWAS and CEMAC Member States. In **Kenya**, UNHCR, UNICEF and the Kenya Human Rights Commission met with the head of the Department for Civil Registration Services to discuss strengthening collaboration to improve access to regular and late birth registration for stateless individuals. The meeting was followed by consultations with civil registration officers, national government administration officers and the <u>Shona community</u>, to listen to community concerns and identify challenges related to late birth registration procedures. Following the consultations, standard operating procedures were developed to guide late birth registration procedures for members of the community. A rapid mobile birth registration exercise for the Shona community is planned for October 2022.

In **Sudan**, UNHCR and the Ministry of Social Development organized a <u>workshop on gender</u> <u>equality in nationality matters</u>. The workshop was attended by the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, members of the judiciary, and participants from civil society. Issues regarding gender discrimination in the nationality legislation and relevant administrative procedures were discussed. Participants recommended amending the nationality law to ensure conformity with international standards, intensify sensitization among civil registry staff, provide legal aid and representation to affected women and accede to the UN Statelessness Conventions. In the **Central African Republic**, during an official ceremony held on the 14 September, the UNHCR Representative officially handed over various types of in-kind support to the Minister of Justice, to support the work of the National Committee for the Fight against Statelessness. This is in line with the National Action Plan to eradicate statelessness, and supports the commitments made at the 2019 HLS.

In **Benin**, UNHCR, the National Commission in charge of Refugees and the Law Commission of the National Assembly co-organized an information session on the Draft Law on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons. UNHCR presented its comments on the draft and made recommendations to ensure its compliance with international standards on the protection of refugees and stateless persons. UNHCR also called on the National Assembly to accelerate reforming the nationality legislation to ensure adequate safeguards are in place to prevent and reduce statelessness. The seminar was attended by 50 parliamentarians.

In **Mali,** the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights organized a workshop to develop two important documents relating to statelessness, namely a draft decree creating a government body responsible for the implementation of the statelessness determination procedures (SDPs) and a draft text on the design and procedures of the SDPs.

In the **Republic of Congo**, the Council of Ministers adopted a decree establishing the inter-institutional technical committee for the eradication of statelessness. This technical body will contribute to the implementation of the government's policy to combat statelessness. The committee will soon commence its activities aimed at identifying and protecting persons affected by statelessness, and ultimately processing applications for stateless status.

Europe

In **North Macedonia** the Ministry of Justice formed a working group for the preparation of a Draft Civil Registry Law, comprising representatives of the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, UNHCR, UNICEF, other national authorities, international and national NGOs, which will also address issues of statelessness. In **Armenia**, UNHCR and its partner "Mission Armenia" met with the municipalities of Meghri, Kajaran and Kapan in the Syunik province to raise awareness on the "Provision of Assistance in Identification of Undocumented Persons and Those at Risk of Statelessness" project. During the meetings, municipalities were encouraged to identify and refer persons at risk of statelessness to the UNHCR Armenia hotline or to Mission Armenia for counselling and free legal assistance.

Government officials from **Georgia** conducted a study visit to **Spain**, organized by UNHCR. The aim of the study visit was to gather information on legislation, institutional requirements and good practices related to citizenship and statelessness, with a focus on childhood statelessness and statelessness determination procedures.

In **North Macedonia**, the Council of Europe and UNHCR organized a roundtable on access to social and economic rights for asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless persons. This roundtable was organized as a follow up to the Council of Europe's pledges submitted during 2019 HLS.

Middle East and North Africa

Over 60 representatives from 17 Arab states convened in Cyprus for a multi-stakeholder conference on progressing gender-equal nationality rights. The conference was co-hosted by the Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights, UNHCR and UNICEF. During the conference, participants enhanced their understanding of the benefits of gender equal nationality rights, learned from recent progress and positive experiences in the region and exchanged ideas on actions that could be taken to work towards progress at the country and regional level. Various areas for future collaboration were identified. Participants included government officials, parliamentarians, members of civil society organizations, UN officials, affected persons and other experts.

Americas

In the Dominican Republic, the 19th Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Council for Civil Registration, Identity and Vital Statistics (CLARCIEV) took place from 30 June to 1 July and gathered high level representatives from 19 civil registry offices from across Latin America and the Caribbean to participate in panel discussions under the general theme of "Learning and Innovation in Civil Registry and Identification Processes". International organizations also participated in the event, including UNHCR, the Organization of American States, the World Bank, UNDP, and UNICEF. UNHCR facilitated panel discussions and interventions on inclusion and legal identity, innovation, and the interoperability of identification systems. The meeting concluded with the adoption of a **Declaration** including key commitments in support of preventing and addressing statelessness, recognizing its partnership with UNHCR and the interoperability between various data base systems, with special attention to guarantee access to a legal identity and documentation in situations of human mobility and mixed movements. The declaration further recognized the validity of the Global Action Plan

to End Statelessness and the commitments made by States within the framework of the 2019 HLS, the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Refugee Forum.

During the CLARCIEV meeting, the President of the Central Electoral Board (Junta Central Electoral) of the **Dominican Republic** presented his commitment to a draft bill sent to Congress to amend the Law 659 on Civil Status Acts (Ley 659 sobre Actos del Estado Civil) from 1944. The proposed amendments aim at improving birth registration, among other things. The draft bill is currently under discussion by the Senate.

In the **Dominican Republic**, UNHCR and partners from civil society commemorated the 9th anniversary of the Constitutional Court ruling 168-13, which collectively and retroactively revoked the nationality of those born in the country after 1929 to parents with a "non-resident" or an irregular immigration status. People affected by the ruling visited <u>newspapers, television, digital media</u> and <u>State institutions</u> to demand the restitution of their Dominican nationality. In addition, a digital campaign was launched and various talks were organized with the <u>Plataforma Dominicanos por Derecho</u> and the Reconocido movement.



Spokespersons of the Dominicans by Right Platform demonstrating in front of the National Palace to commemorate the 9th anniversary of the Constitutional Court ruling 168-13. © Juan Carlos González/UNHCR

In **Colombia**, UNHCR and the Legal Clinics' Network of the NGO Opción Legal held a workshop on statelessness, with participation of member universities, UNHCR field offices and other NGOs working on legal assistance. The workshop was livestreamed throughout the country. The workshop discussed the main barriers to Colombian nationality, possible solutions and ways to work together. Barriers highlighted included binational indigenous communities without documentation and the cancelation of ID documents of Colombian returnees by the National Registrar's Office.

In **Haiti**, UNHCR sponsored the 3rd session of the *Institut Haitien des Droits de l'Homme* (IHDH) summer course with the theme "Public Freedom and Democracy". The event included presentations and discussions on the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness and UNHCR's support to the Haitian Government. The activity gathered 30 participants including graduating students of Law, human rights activists, and law practitioners as well as local NGO representatives. The participants are expected to become ambassadors towards ending statelessness in their respective areas of work.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights published a <u>Practical Guide to Improve</u> International Protection and the Regularization of Legal Status in the Context of Large-Scale Mixed Migration Movements in the Americas.

The guide includes good practices from the region related to the prevention of childhood statelessness and recommends states to implement measures to prevent statelessness, including on birth registration and introducing legal safeguards against statelessness.

In **Costa Rica**, UNHCR hired a psychology expert to support the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to strengthen the statelessness determination procedure, to ensure that persons with specific vulnerabilities are identified through the process and provided with the adequate support.

In **Chile**, UNHCR met with representatives of the National Civil Registry and Identification Service to start collaborating on the application of statelessness safeguards introduced by the new immigration law N°21.325. The National Civil Registry and Identification Service agreed to work with UNCHR to reduce the gap for "children of foreigners in transit" registered in Chile.

Asia

In the **Philippines**, UNHCR, the Department of Justice, and the Bureau of Immigration held a meeting with the newly appointed Consul General of **Indonesia**, Honourable Achmad Djatmiko. The meeting discussed the next steps of the final stage of the Persons of Indonesian Descent Project. Both Governments reaffirmed their commitments to the project and the identification of remaining persons of Indonesian descent.

In **Thailand**, UNHCR met with the Internal Security Affairs Bureau and the Bureau of Registration Administration to strengthen collaboration and discuss the way forward to address statelessness in Thailand, especially with respect to granting legal immigration status, permanent residency, and temporary stay status to registered stateless people.

In **Viet Nam**, the Department of Civil Registration, Nationality and Authentication and UNHCR organized a series of workshops across different provinces targeting local authorities. The workshops introduced and discussed the implementation guidelines of the 2020 Prime Minister's Decision (402/QD-TTg) related to the reduction and prevention of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons and persons of undetermined nationality.

In **Tajikistan**, UNHCR and its partners, Chashma and Right & Prosperity, handed over IT equipment to the Passport Registration Services of the Ministry of Interior of Tajikistan. The equipment will facilitate the registration and follow-up of cases which fall under the country's Amnesty Law and cases of persons with undetermined nationality. The equipment also will enhance the quality of data collection and processing of cases by digitalizing the filing system, facilitating the data entry process, ensuring the security of personal data, individual case tracking and enabling age and gender segregated statistical reports.



Focus Group Discussions on access to civil documentation with women in Rakhine (Central) State, Myanmar. © UNHCR/Eliza Stephen

In **Myanmar**, UNHCR and UNICEF co-organized a series of initiatives to address childhood statelessness in Myanmar, including the development of a baseline analysis of activities undertaken by humanitarian and development actors on birth registration, associated obstacles, and proposed solutions in Rakhine (Central) State. The events included bilateral meetings with local and international legal partners to discuss their work, focus group discussions with affected communities, and a one-day workshop with a wide range of partners. The workshop focused on developing a workplan and strategy for birth registration and addressing access to citizenship in Rakhine (Central) State.

Training and awareness-raising

In **Kazakhstan**, to celebrate "Knowledge Day", the day children start the new school year in the country, UNHCR and its partner, Sana Sezim distributed gift certificates to 30 undocumented stateless children at an event in Shymkent, which was attended by local authorities. The event raised awareness on the importance of children's rights to education and legal identity, and drew attention on statelessness. During the event, one of the stateless children was issued with his first identity document – a birth certificate. In the **Kyrgyz Republic**, Legal Clinic Adilet and UNHCR delivered a training on statelessness for 58 members of the Department of the Population Registration in the Jalal-Abad and Osh districts. The training focused on the international legal framework on statelessness, accession to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions, statelessness determination procedures, and the importance of birth registration to prevent further cases of statelessness.



Participants at the Training of Trainers Workshop for Statelessness NGO and civil society (CSO) partners in Kenya on 20 – 22 July 2022. ©UNHCR/Charity Nzomo

In **Turkmenistan**, UNHCR and UNFPA, funded by the World Bank–UNHCR Joint Data Centre, supported the Government of Turkmenistan to convene a seminar on the upcoming population and housing census, attended by around 100 representatives from the State Committee for Statistics. UNHCR delivered a session on statelessness identification in national censuses and provided enumerators with a better understanding of statelessness and specific challenges regarding the inclusion of stateless respondents in censuses. The census is planned to take place in December 2022.

In **Thailand**, UNHCR's partner ADRA and the Mae Fah Luang District Office organized a workshop for Subdistrict officers and village heads on civil registration and nationality legislation related to elderly stateless persons. The purpose of the workshop was to strengthen the understanding and the application of relevant legislation and procedures. The findings and recommendations of studies on administrative bottlenecks were shared and discussed. In **Kenya**, UNHCR organized a Training of Trainers workshop on the eradication of statelessness for civil society organizations partners in Kenya. The objective of the training was to equip participants with the relevant knowledge and skills to advocate and implement activities on the eradication of statelessness in Kenya. The meeting resulted in the adoption of key strategic priorities to be achieved through collaboration, strategic advocacy, and communication. In **Sudan**, UNHCR, the Police High Academy Rabat University and Child Rights Watch Organization, co-organized a one-day symposium on the right to a nationality and the prevention of statelessness. The seminar targeted around 200 police officers and discussed the right to a nationality, Sudan's legal framework and civil registration system and measures to prevent statelessness. As outcome of the symposium, it was recommended to include statelessness and international protection of refugees as part of the regular curriculum of the academy.

In **Jordan**, the Jordanian Civil Status Department, in cooperation with UNHCR, conducted five internal trainings reaching more than 120 participants and focused, amongst other things, on civil documentation as a tool to prevent statelessness.

UNHCR in collaboration with the Catholic University of Central Africa in Cameroon, organized the fourth edition of the **French course on statelessness and nationality**. The objectives of the course were to build awareness on the international legal framework on statelessness and nationality, encourage research, share experiences, and mobilize efforts towards the achievement of the #IBelong Campaign. The course was attended by 32 practitioners from various backgrounds from across the West and Central Africa regions, including government statelessness focal points, lawyers, researchers, and university students.

In **Benin**, UNHCR and Amnesty International Benin held a national consultation workshop with civil society organizations for the revision of the National Action Plan to eradicate statelessness. In line with Benin's 2019 HLS pledge, this review aims to highlight the priority sectors and actions to be taken by the government towards the prevention and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons. In **Chile**, UNHCR and the Legal Clinic of the Alberto Hurtado University participated in the Workshop: "Statelessness and International Protection", organized in collaboration with the National Immigration Service, to sensitize and train local government officials on the international and regional aspects of statelessness in the Americas, as well as the identification of current statelessness risks in Chile.

In the **Dominican Republic**, UNHCR provided training to a total of 281 civil and military officials of the Haina and Santiago Immigration Detention Centers and the border points of Dajabon, Jimani and Elias Piña. The training focused on international standards related to the protection of forcibly displaced persons and the identification and protection of stateless persons. The trainings aim to prevent deportation and arrest of persons who are stateless or at risk and ensure access to justice.

In **Greece**, the European Network on Statelessness, the Greek Council for Refugees, with the support of UNHCR, organized an (online) seminar on statelessness, attended by more than 100 participants, including civil servants and staff from civil society organizations active in the fields of asylum and migration. relevant to diverse contexts.

#IBelong Campaign in the Media

In **Kazakhstan**, UNHCR, its partner Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs Migration Committee, held a **press briefing** to present the results of a joint country-wide statelessness identification and documentation campaign. Launched in October 2020, the 20-month campaign identified 8,822 undocumented persons, after which 4,800 people confirmed their citizenship of Kazakhstan, and around 2,700 people received assistance with documentation.

Also in **Kazakhstan**, UNHCR released a <u>web story</u>, showing how changes in Kazakhstan's nationality laws have been putting citizenship within reach for many stateless families.

In Tajikistan, UNHCR's legal partner, Right & Prosperity released a film called <u>"Citizenship</u>", which describes the story of children and their mothers who are undocumented and stateless in Tajikistan. The Passport Registration Services of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan in cooperation with UNHCR's legal partner, Right and Prosperity also released a video called <u>"the Law on</u> <u>Amnesty and Its Implementation."</u> In **Nepal**, the long-awaited Bill to amend the existing Nepal Citizenship Act, 2006, which was recently passed by both houses of the Federal Parliament, was not authenticated by the President by the deadline of 20 September. It has taken seven years to attempt to pass such Bill with the aim to align it with the provisions of the new 2015 Constitution of Nepal. It is estimated that through the passing and implementation of the Bill, up to 1.18 million eligible Nepalis could receive citizenship certificates. The Amendment's future is now uncertain. This news was picked up by several media outlets, including the following sources:

- <u>https://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/nepal-in-</u> <u>fresh-political-conflict-as-president-declines-to-</u> <u>sign-citizenship-law</u>
- <u>https://kathmandupost.com/</u> <u>national/2022/09/22/parties-scramble-for-</u> <u>response-to-sheetal-niwas-subterfuge</u>
- <u>https://kathmandupost.com/visual-</u> stories/2022/09/20/stateless-youths-stage-sitin-urging-authentication-of-citizenship-bill
- https://en.setopati.com/political/159649

In **Nigeria**, the adoption of the National Action Plan to Eradicate Statelessness was covered by national and local media:

- <u>Statelessness: FG launches NAP to tackle issues</u> affecting IDPS, refugees, others (blueprint.ng)
- FG launches national action plan on eradication of statelessness | The Guardian Nigeria News
 Nigeria and World News — Nigeria — The Guardian Nigeria News – Nigeria and World News

Campaign Resources

Want to support the Campaign? Take a look at our **#IBelong website** and post a digital banner on your website, mobilize your social media contacts by sharing one of our posts, download and post our

Twitter cards or embed a short video that explains statelessness. Videos, photo essays and web stories can be found on our **#IBelong stories page**. Legal resources are available on **Refworld**.



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