

BENEFITS OF LEGAL AID DURING UNHCR RSD PROCEDURES

TO UNHCR ELIGIBILITY OFFICER (EO)	TO RSD SYSTEM	TO THE REFUGEE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Helps refugee build trust with a refugee professional enabling him/her to better express him/herself in the interview ➤ Increases EO efficiency by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Helping refugee express facts coherently that are relevant to the core of the claim ○ Providing pinpoint COI ○ Providing evidence in support of legal claims such as the documentation of torture ○ Providing documents supporting the claim that refugee gathered at encouragement of legal advisor ○ Identifying errors in procedure, facts and law ➤ Assists in the identification of vulnerabilities or preferences prior to interview (some but not all are flagged at UNHCR registration) ➤ Possibly helps reduce the numbers of frivolous claims, appeals and reopenings ➤ Reduces translation work by supporting the submission of appeals and reopenings in English 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increases efficiency through provision of regular, informal monitoring of RSD system ➤ Provides external support for positive change ➤ Identifies vulnerable ICs as early as possible ➤ Links UNHCR and ICs: assists in locating ICs and communicating interview dates and other important information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Helps refugee understand asylum procedures ➤ Provides refugee with a realistic assessment of his/her refugee claim ➤ Helps refugee become familiar with the interview format ➤ Encourages refugee to be truthful ➤ Encourages refugee to fully disclose relevant information ➤ Encourages refugee become comfortable in front of an interpreter ➤ Encourages refugee to disregard “bad advice” (e.g., to tell UNHCR false claim) ➤ Helps refugee identify facts relevant to the core of his/her refugee claim ➤ Helps refugee effectively express those facts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In chronological order ○ With sufficient detail ➤ Supports refugee in recalling and describing traumatic events ➤ Encourages refugee to gather complementary evidence in support of refugee claim ➤ Supports illiterate ICs submit appeal and reopening requests ➤ In the appeal / reopening context: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Turkey, allows refugee to access the detailed reasons for rejection through Assessment Form ○ Generally, helps refugee understand the grounds for appeal or reopening.