

My name is Rita Masoud and I am a refugee. I was born in war-torn Kabul, Afghanistan. When I was seven, my family and I fled to Europe with our belongings in a single suitcase, hoping for a safer and better future. Our journey involved many dark train and bus rides, as well as hunger, thirst, cold and fear. Fortunately, we received asylum in The Netherlands, where I grew up in a safe environment and was able to find my way in life. Today, I work for Google in California. I was lucky. But as the refugee and migrant crisis has grown, many people like my family are desperate for help. Last week, Google announced a €1 million (~\$1.1 million) donation to organizations who are providing front-line humanitarian relief to refugees and migrants around the world. Today, we're inviting you to [join us](#). To double the impact of your contribution, we'll match the first €5 million (~\$5.5 million) in donations globally, until together we raise €10 million (~\$11 million) for relief efforts.

Your donation will be distributed to four nonprofits providing aid to refugees and migrants: [Doctors Without Borders](#)

, [International Rescue Committee](#)

, [Save the Children](#)

and

[UN High Commissioner for Refugees](#)

. These nonprofits are helping deliver essential assistance—including shelter, food and water, and medical care—and looking after the security and rights of people in need.

Visit google.com/refugeerelief to make your donation. Thank you for giving.



En route with a train from Afghanistan, with my family and some belongings. You can read more about my journey [on my blog](#).

Posted by Rita Masoud, Product Marketing Manager, Google.org

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