

19 June 2009

UNHCR World Refugee Day breakfast

Neil Cochrane, Deputy CEO and Global Head of Business Development, spoke at Australia for UNHCR's World Refugee Day breakfast on behalf of Colonial First State Global Asset Management on Friday 19 June.

More than 380 people attended the breakfast, including Australia's Governor General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, which raised almost \$100,000 to support the UN refugee agency's emergency humanitarian operations for those displaced by conflict in Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

Mr Cochrane spoke about Colonial First State Global Asset Management's role in helping some of the world's most disadvantaged people. Mr Cochrane said, "As the largest fund manager in Australia, we acknowledge that - as a responsible corporate citizen ourselves - our responsibility goes beyond providing superior investment returns.

"We especially look to reach people who are most affected by ESG issues; such as those who are displaced through climate change, social unrest or tyranny.



Photograph: Australia for UNHCR

The photograph above shows people at the breakfast making a 'protective' roof over their heads. This mirrors the 'protecting hands' of the UNHCR logo. Protection is at the heart of UNHCR's work, ranging from the protection of the legal and human rights of refugees to physical protection, such as providing shelter, health care and education.