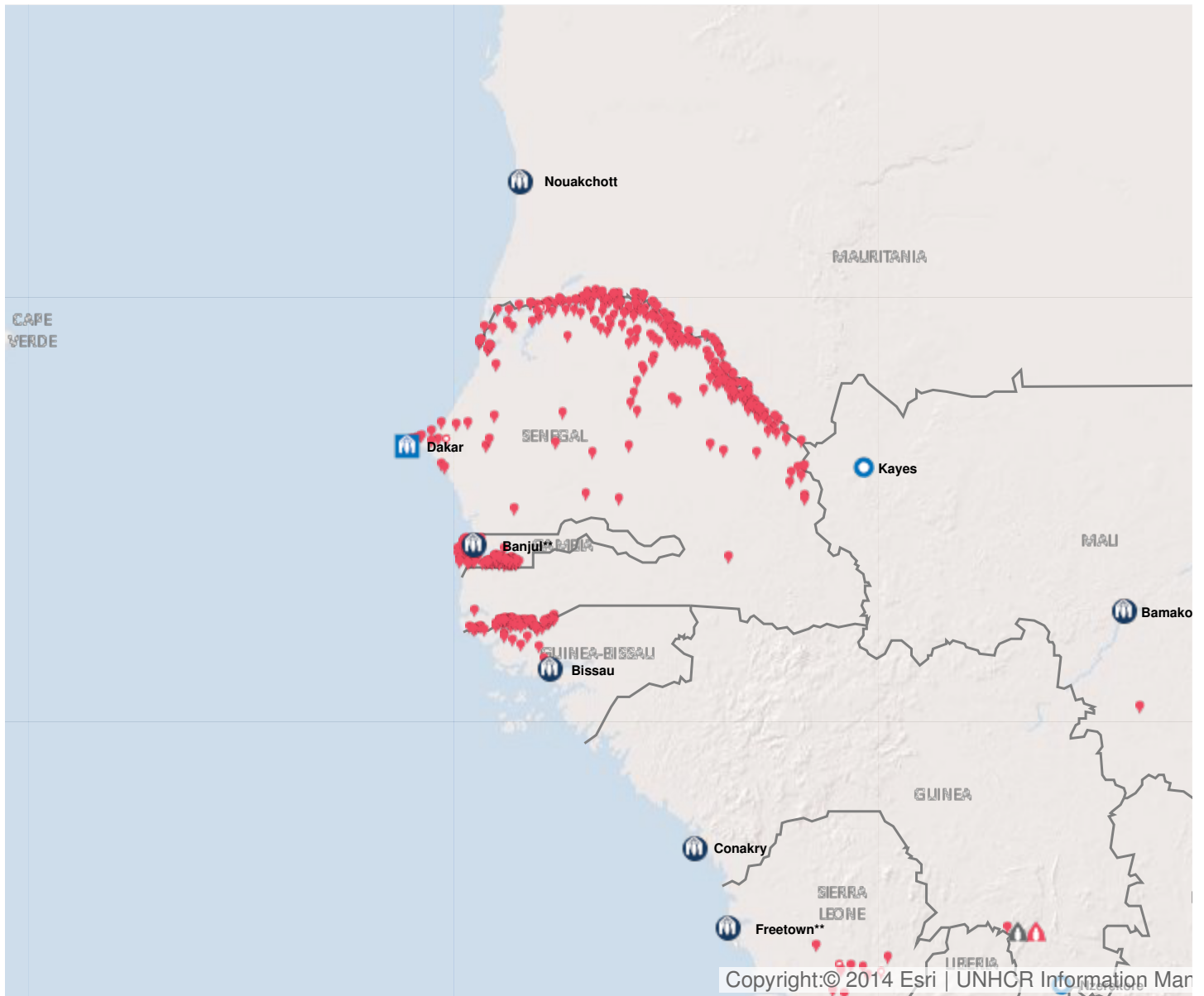


Operation: Senegal Regional Office

Location

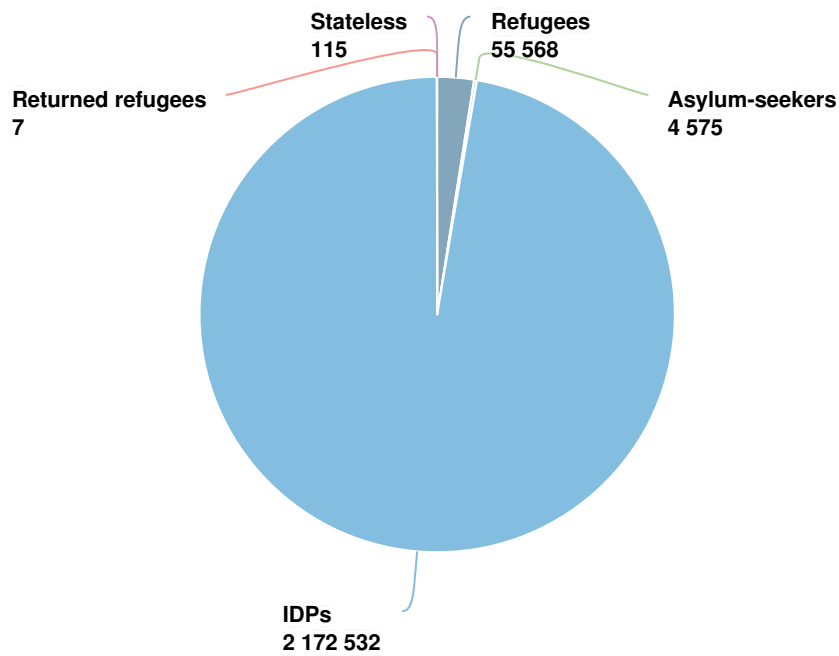


Latest update of camps and office locations **21 Nov 2016**. By clicking on the icons on the map, additional information is displayed.

People of Concern

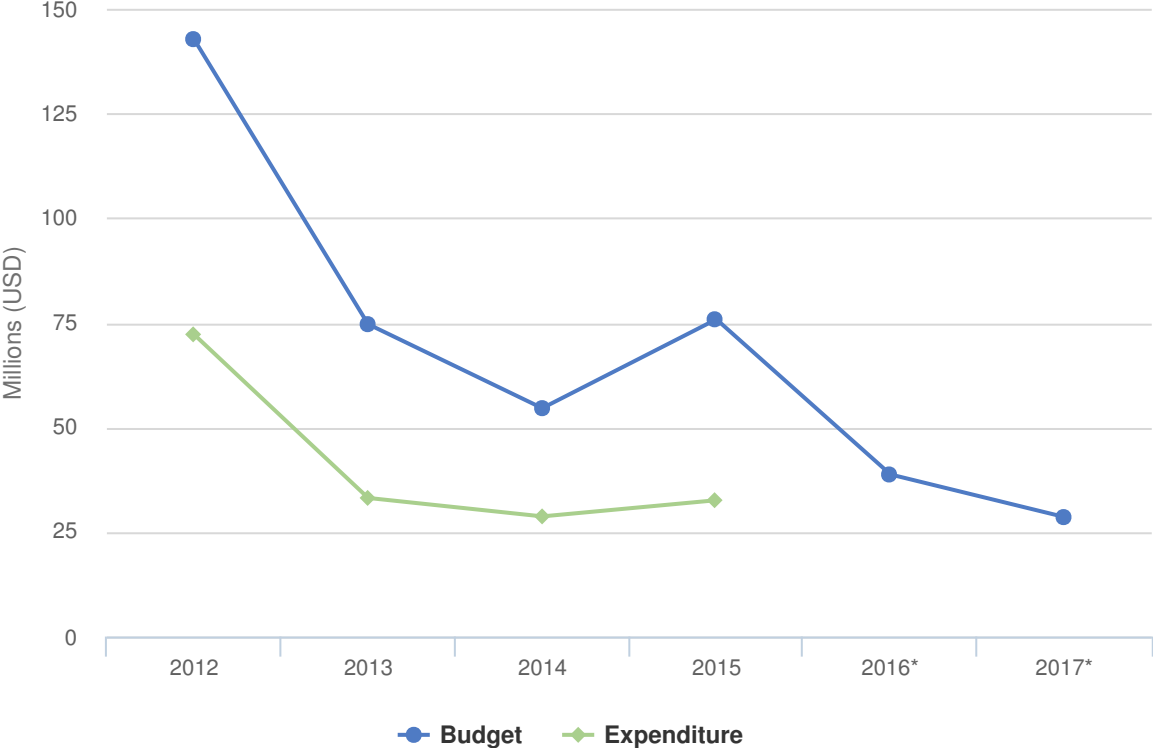
INCREASE IN 78% 2015

2015	2,232,797
2014	1,252,221
2013	61,984



■ Refugees ■ Asylum-seekers ■ IDPs ■ Returned refugees ■ Stateless

Budgets and Expenditure for Senegal Regional Office



Working environment

It is expected that West Africa will be home to more than 3 million people of concern to UNHCR by 2017. UNHCR will therefore continue to develop and implement strategies aiming to provide protection and assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers, people affected by or at the risk of statelessness, returnees, and internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Peaceful elections were a milestone in a number of countries in West Africa. In late 2016, Gambia is expected to hold elections, with the current President seeking a fifth term in office. Ghana also plans to hold elections in 2016, which will likely be tightly contested. In Cabo Verde, the current President will be seeking a second term as head of State, after first taken the office in 2011. In 2017, Liberia and Sierra Leone will also be holding general elections. In Nigeria, violent conflict in the north-eastern region has resulted in the displacement of some 2.7 million people within the country and forced tens of thousands to seek refuge in neighboring countries. While the situation will take some time to stabilize, the actions of the government in Abuja may help to gradually improve conditions for displaced populations.

With respect to Senegal, the relatively stable democracy of over 35 years may be undermined by the unresolved situation in Casamance. A low intensity conflict continues to hinder the voluntary repatriation of Senegalese refugees from Gambia and Guinea-Bissau. Although the spontaneous return of some Senegalese refugees has been reported over the last two years, a number of barriers, including unexploded ordnance and landmines, preclude return in greater numbers.

Key priorities

- In Benin, UNHCR will focus on aligning the national legal framework with international standards.
 - In Gambia, solutions will be pursued, including through the local integration of Senegalese refugees through the acquisition of long-term residence permits or alternate status, or through voluntary repatriation.
 - In Guinea-Bissau, priority has been given to processing pending naturalization cases, the formalization of land rights and self-reliance interventions.
 - In Senegal, UNHCR will seek durable solutions for Mauritians refugees in the form of local integration.
 - In Togo, local integration for Ghanaians refugees will be actively pursued through socioeconomic activities as well as through access to naturalization or long-term residence status.
 - In Sierra Leone, UNHCR will prioritize capacity building to phase down and hand over operations to the government.
 - With respect to statelessness, UNHCR will aim to implement the Abidjan Declaration on the eradication of statelessness, in partnership with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).
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