

2016 Planning summary

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Operation: Argentina Regional Office

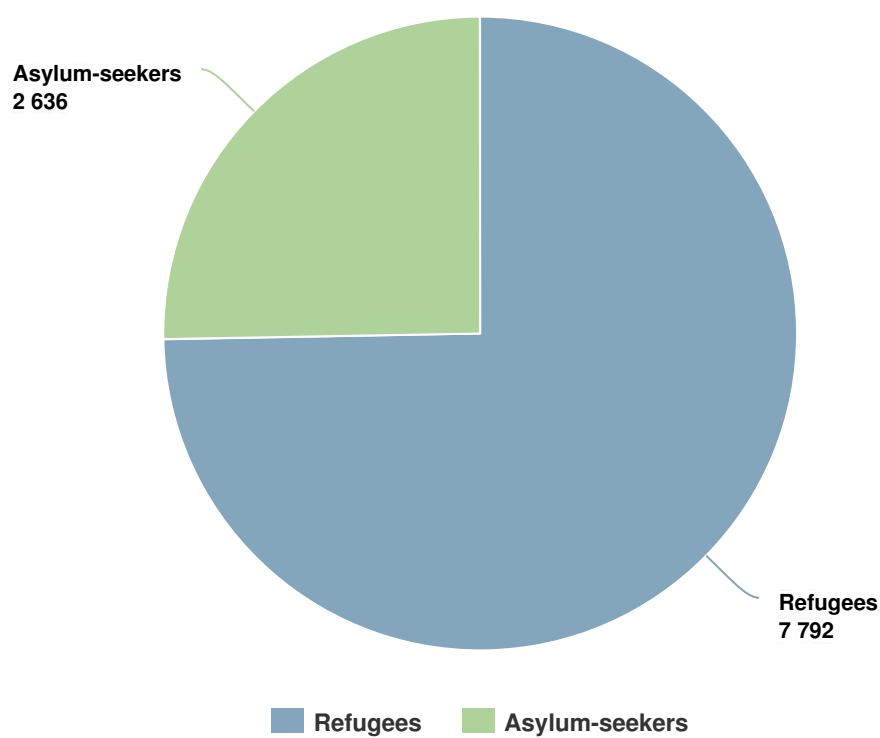
Location



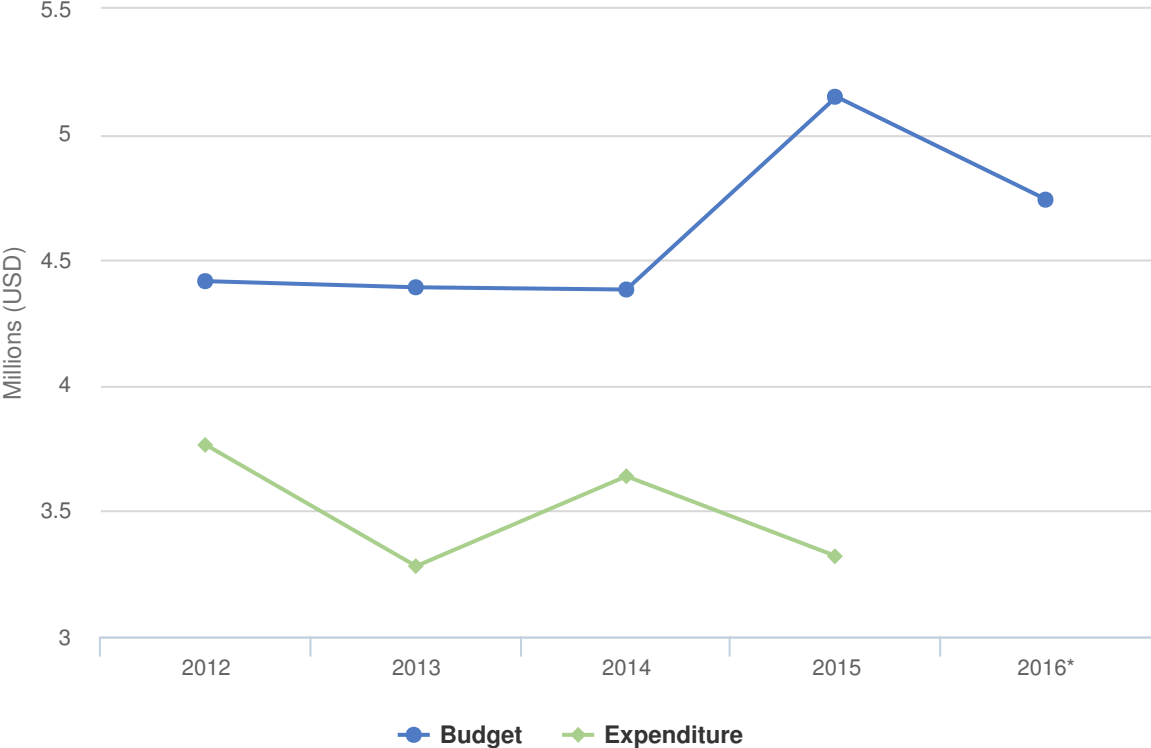
Latest update of camps and office locations **13 Jan 2016**. By clicking on the icons on the map, additional information is displayed.

People of Concern
INCREASE IN
8% **2015**

2015	10,428
2014	9,668
2013	9,247



Budgets and Expenditure for Argentina Regional Office



UNHCR's Regional Office in Argentina covers activities in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

Operational context and population trends

In the last decade, countries covered under UNHCR's office in Buenos Aires – Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay – have developed a comprehensive legal framework for the protection of refugees, and the respective National Refugee Commissions have assumed full responsibility for refugee status determination (RSD) procedures in these countries. Five out of the six countries are party to the Statelessness Conventions.

The main challenge in the coming years will be to effectively achieve comprehensive, complementary and sustainable solutions for refugees. Based on the very solid legal and institutional frameworks in the Southern Cone, states have the opportunity to assume a leading role in the promotion of local integration policies and livelihood opportunities for refugees in coordination with local governments, NGOs and the private sector. The development of comprehensive local integration mechanisms will also facilitate implementation of sustainable resettlement and humanitarian visa programmes for refugees from inside and outside the region (e.g. Middle East, Africa).

At the end of 2015, the population of concern to UNHCR in the region stood at some 10,700 individuals, 34 per cent of whom were female. Given current trends in the region, it is estimated that by the end of 2016, the number of people of concern will have reached around 13,200 refugees and asylum-seekers, mostly from the Latin America subregion – although there are also people of concern from Africa (primarily from Senegal and Nigeria), as well as an increasing number of new arrivals from Syria.

Key priorities in 2016

Within the framework of the Brazil Plan of Action (BPA), UNHCR's key priority is to consolidate a regional protection space in the Southern Cone by pursuing the following objectives:

- Achieve high international protection standards as a foundation for sustainable comprehensive, complementary and innovative durable solutions for all people of concern;
- Work closely with countries assuming leadership roles in the implementation of the BPA in South America, within the framework of regional integration mechanisms such as MERCOSUR. Special efforts will be aimed at promoting state leadership in local integration strategies;
- Support UNHCR's regional and global agenda, through resettlement and other humanitarian admission schemes developed by relevant countries.

UNHCR will support the achievement of these objectives by:

- Promoting the consolidation of the National Refugee Commissions' Presidents Refugee Forum (within MERCOSUR) for the implementation of the BPA, the exchange of best practices, as well as the incorporation of protection safeguards in existing migratory systems;
 - Enhancing and strengthening the asylum system in the region through the Quality Assurance Initiative (QAI), a tool applied by countries with the support of UNHCR to examine and improve their existing systems;
 - Raise awareness on regional and global crises, such as those unfolding in the Middle East and Africa, to promote UNHCR's agenda in the Southern Cone through resettlement opportunities, fundraising opportunities, and south-south cooperation for countries to share their best practices and lessons learned.
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