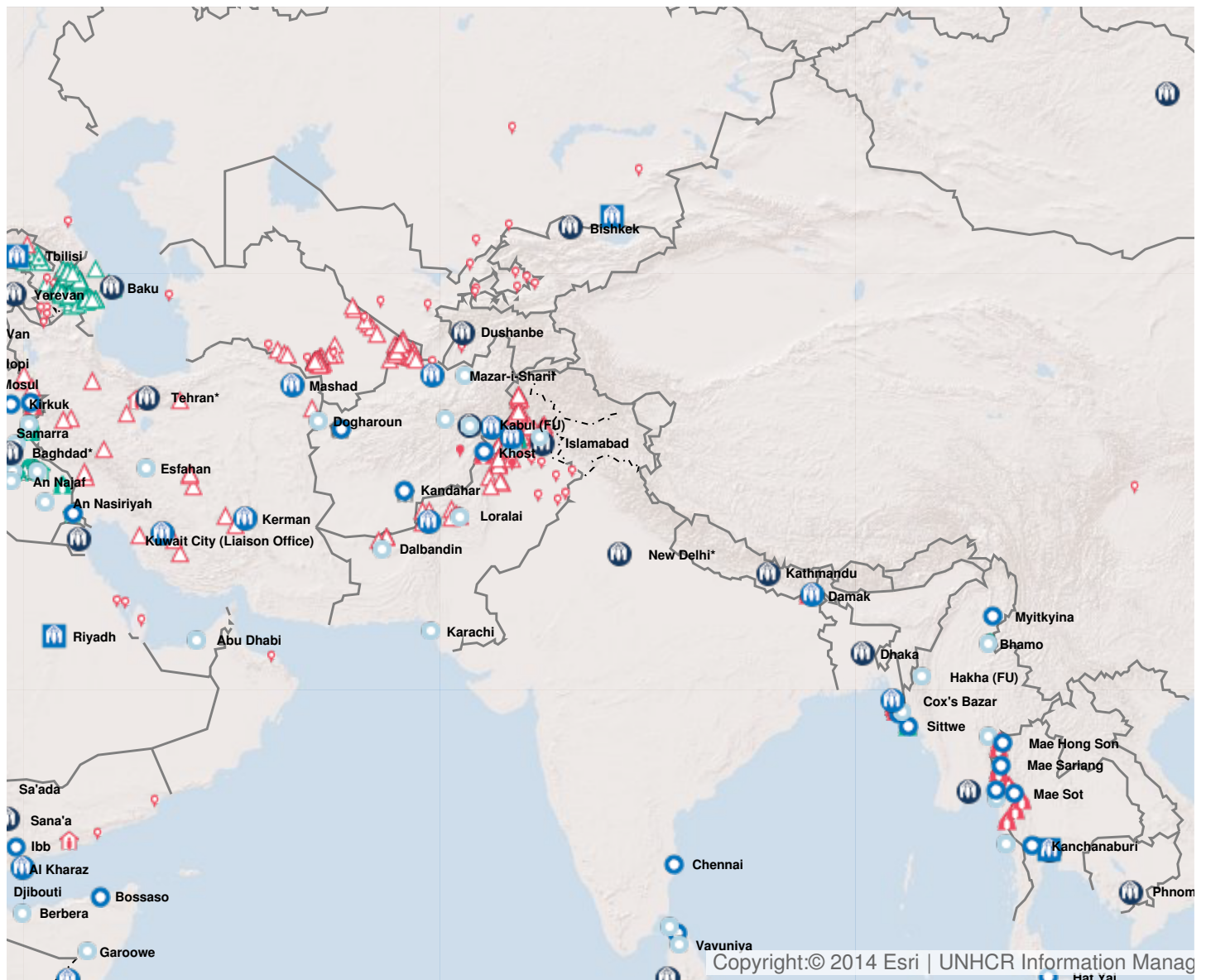# 2016 Planning summary

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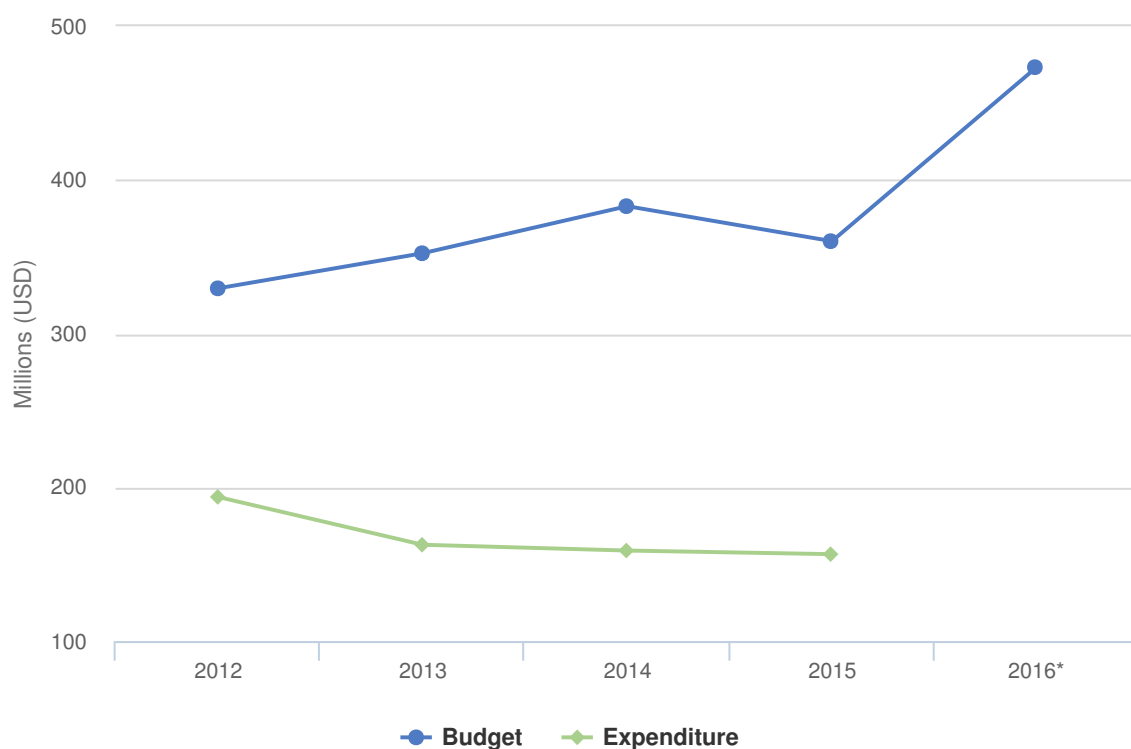
Subregion: South-West Asia

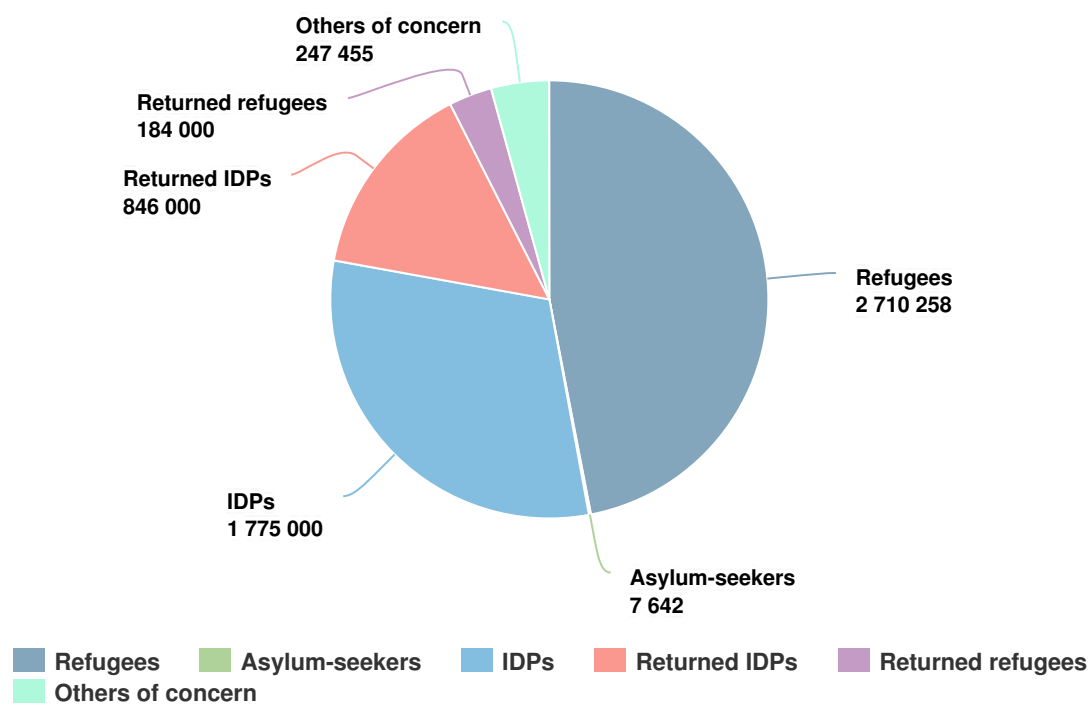**| Afghanistan | Islamic Republic of Iran | Pakistan |**

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

udgets and Expenditure in Subregion South-West Asia

Budget — Expenditure

eople of Concern - 2016 [projected]

Others of concern
247 455

Returned refugees
184 000

Returned IDPs
846 000

Refugees
2 710 258

IDPs
1 775 000

Asylum-seekers
7 642

Refugees Asylum-seekers IDPs Returned IDPs Returned refugees
Others of concern

626 Number of **personnel** (international and national)

16 Number of **offices**

5,345,485 Estimated number of **people of concern** (PoC)

345.1 million Overall **funding requirements** in USD (ExCom-approved 2016 budget)

Operational Environment and Strategy

The Afghan situation remains the largest protracted situation involving refugees under UNHCR's mandate, with some 2 million registered Afghan refugees hosted in over 70 countries. The vast majority (approximately 95 per cent) of Afghan refugees are hosted in two countries – the Islamic Republics of Iran and Pakistan.

While more than 55,000 Afghan refugees, mostly from Pakistan, have returned in 2015, the situation in Afghanistan likely to remain challenging in 2016. Afghans continue to seek asylum outside the country, including in Europe. Ongoing instability has also contributed to the rising number of internally displaced people (IDPs), which has reached over 1 million.

The Afghan National Unity Government has prioritized the pursuit of durable solutions for its displaced populations. Regional coordination between the Governments of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Pakistan has been strengthened through the development of a common approach to finding solutions for Afghan refugees. In 2016, complementary plans have been developed to support the voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of Afghan refugees, as well as to ensure continued protection arrangements for them in the host countries. The regional Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries (SSAR), developed by the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan together with UNHCR, remains the main vehicle for furthering these efforts which will require strong support in 2016, in particular from development actors.

Response and Implementation

In the **Islamic Republic of Iran**, in 2016 UNHCR will advocate with the Government to enhance protection of refugees in the country and facilitate durable solutions, including collaboration on safeguards related to alternative stay arrangements. The Office will pursue a community-based approach to assist the most vulnerable refugees who may not be currently benefiting from assistance, and to ensure full participation of people of concern in decisions that will affect their lives.

In 2016, UNHCR's strategy for its operations in **Pakistan** will revolve around three key priorities: 1) durable solutions to resolve the protracted refugee situation; 2) protection and assistance for people of concern; and 3) enhanced partnership and collaboration to achieve these objectives. Within these broad themes, UNHCR will focus on core activities in support of the Government of Pakistan's strategy for the management of Afghan refugees being developed under the SSAR, with the overall objective is supporting sustainable return to and reintegration in Afghanistan, while maintaining asylum space in Pakistan.

In Pakistan, military operations in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), which started in 2014, are ongoing. There are currently 1.2 million IDPs, although more than 600,000 have returned home since March 2015 when the Government of Pakistan started to implement large-scale return operations in Khyber Agency, South Waziristan and North Waziristan.

2016 Budget for South-West Asia | USD

Operation	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 3 Reintegration projects	Pillar 4 IDP projects	Total
Afghanistan	187,894,489	0	42,006,524	29,332,852	259,233,865
Islamic Republic of Iran	76,765,380	0	0	0	76,765,380
Pakistan	68,048,813	234,630	50,342,629	18,726,284	137,352,356
Total	332,708,683	234,630	92,349,153	48,059,136	473,351,601

Operation	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 3 Reintegration projects	Pillar 4 IDP projects