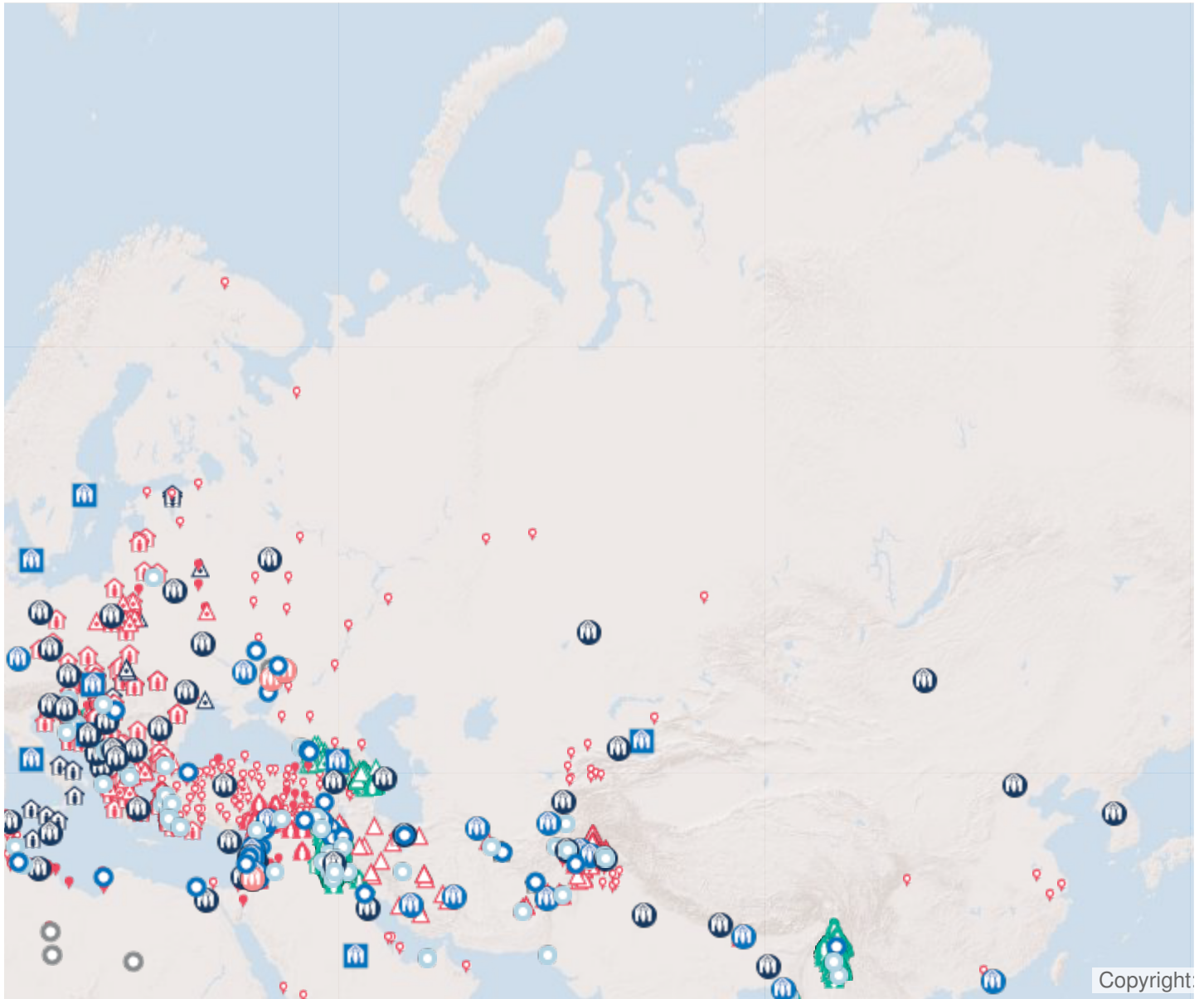


Operation: Russian Federation

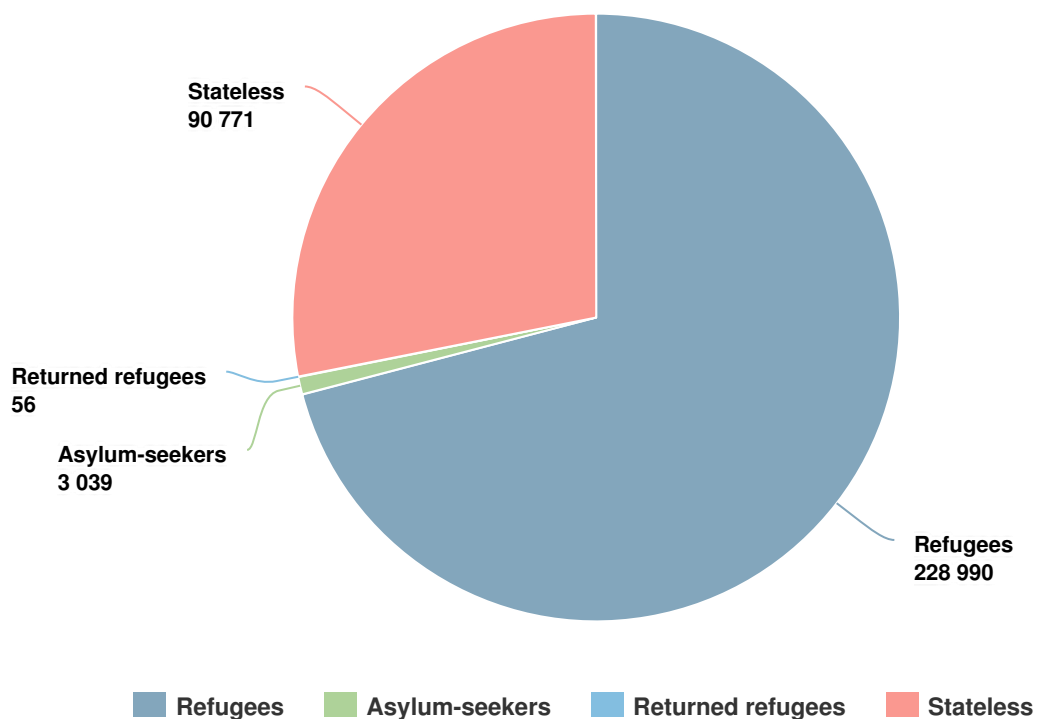


Latest update of camps and office locations 21 Nov 2016.

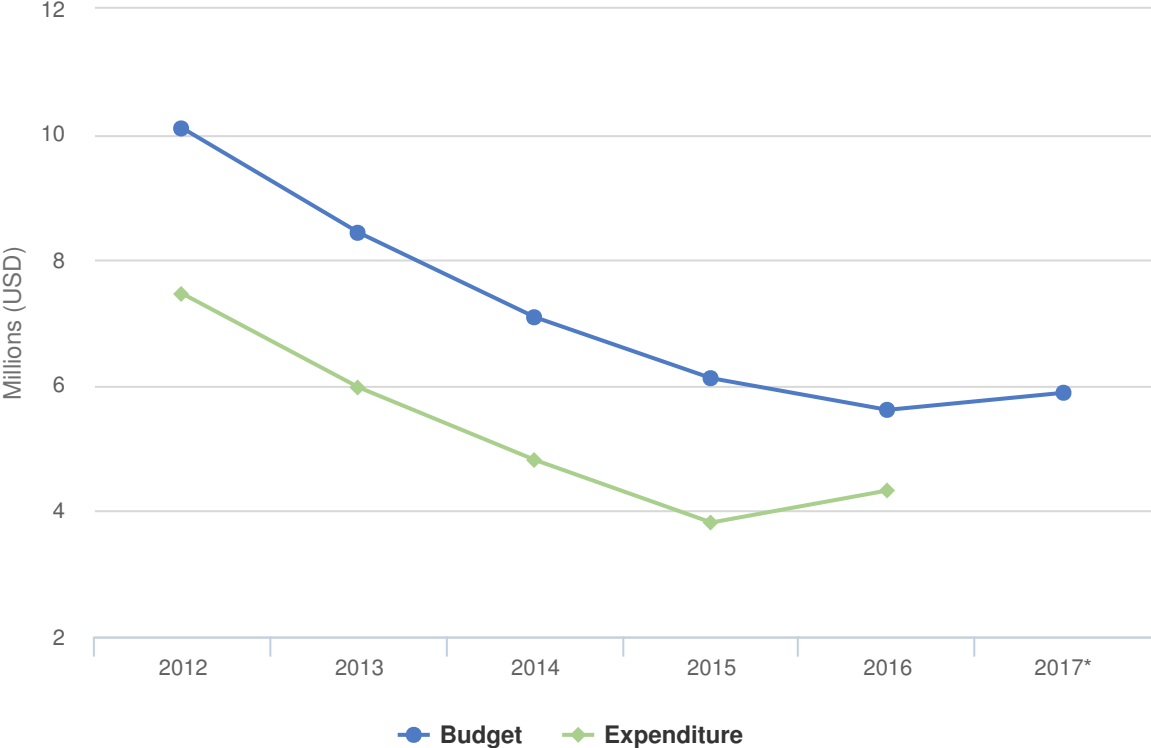
People of Concern

DECREASE IN
23% **2016**

2016	322,856
2015	418,411
2014	354,450



Budgets and Expenditure for Russian Federation



Working environment

The Russian Federation continues to be affected by the situation in Ukraine and large-scale arrival of Ukrainians, transfer of the functions of the Federal Migration Service (FMS) to the Ministry of the Interior, as well as by more global developments, such as migration and refugee crisis in Europe and national security concerns.

The Government continued to lead the operational response for asylum-seekers from Ukraine.

Asylum-seekers from countries other than Ukraine experienced longer waiting periods to access asylum procedures, and were vulnerable to risks associated with the absence of relevant documentation, such as detention and hampered access to public services.

UNHCR and its partners implemented awareness-raising activities and provided legal assistance to stateless individuals or those at risk of statelessness to assist them in regularizing their status. The 2002 Citizenship Law, which provides simplified naturalization for certain categories of stateless people from the former Soviet Union, was extended to 1 January, 2020.

Population trends

- The Russian Federation hosted 272,000 registered refugees, including 269,000 Ukrainians, 1,300 Syrians and more than 700 Afghans. Approximately 800,000 Ukrainians enjoyed other forms of legal stay.
- Since January 2014, some 421,000 Ukrainians have applied for temporary asylum in the Russian Federation. In 2016, approximately 21,600 applied for temporary asylum and 240 for refugee status.
- An estimated of 90,800 people are stateless, according to the 2010 national census.

Achievements and impact

- UNHCR strengthened litigation of non-access to asylum procedures through courts. UNHCR implemented a number of capacity-building initiatives in refugee protection for migration State authorities, detention centres, the Bailiff's Office, Ombudsmen's Offices, State-run temporary accommodation centres (TACs), and NGOs.
- In order to increase opportunities for local integration of people of concern, UNHCR established two integration centres in the Moscow region to provide Russian language classes. A similar centre was already functioning in St. Petersburg. UNHCR also supported an integration centre, ran by the Afghan diaspora, providing Russian language classes to Afghan refugees.
- In order to improve public opinion towards refugees and asylum-seekers, UNHCR signed memorandums of understanding with seven universities in Moscow and across Russia to organize public lectures on refugee issues, develop courses on refugee law and provide legal aid to people of concern, with UNHCR's assistance.

Unmet needs

- Limited outreach capacity beyond Moscow region, hampering UNHCR's ability to conduct a more thorough analysis of people of concern in the Russian Federation.
 - UNHCR was only able to cover legal counselling in 27, out of 39, counselling points. A serious constraint for resettlement remained the lack of places for emergency cases.
-