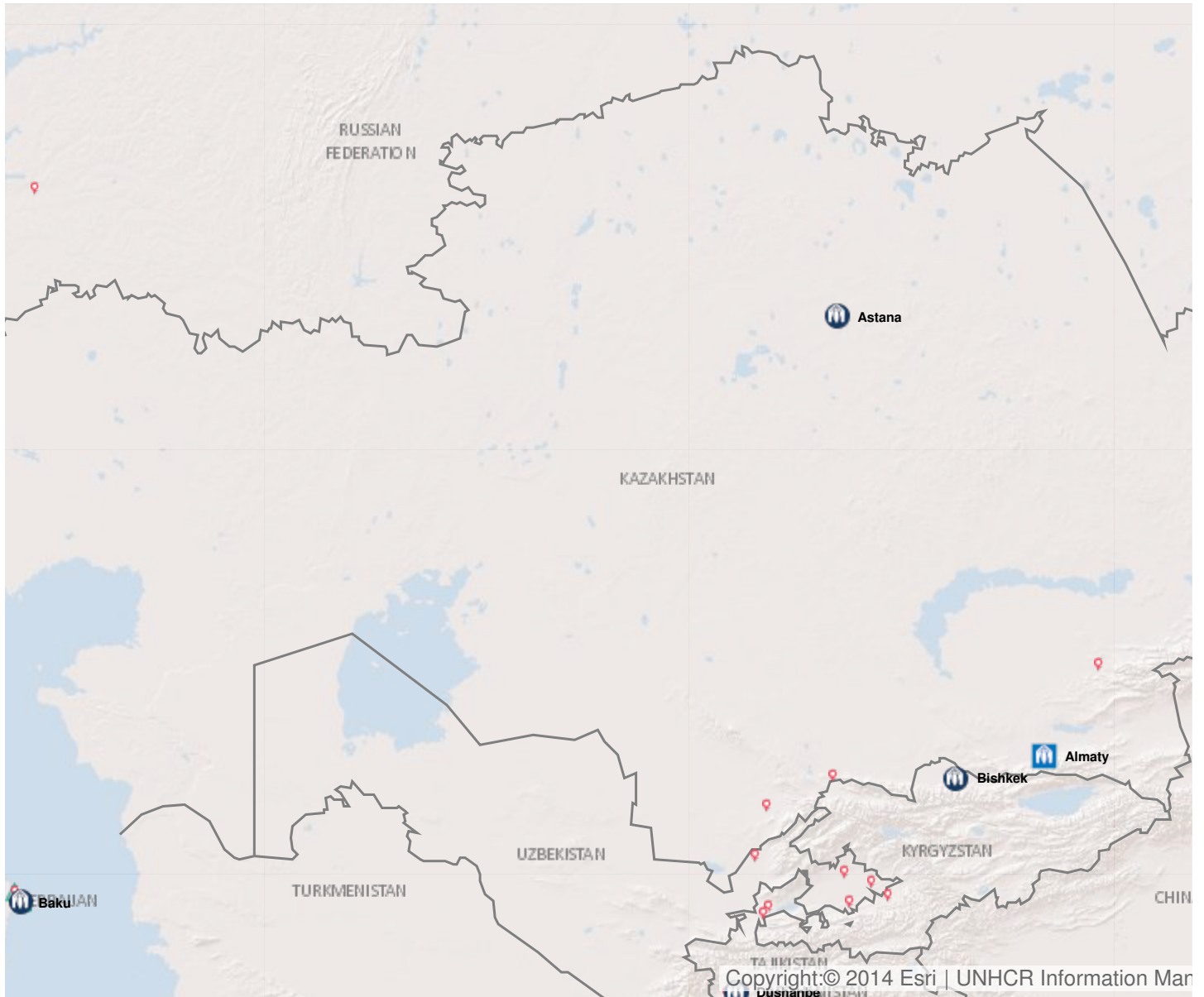


Operation: Kazakhstan Regional Office

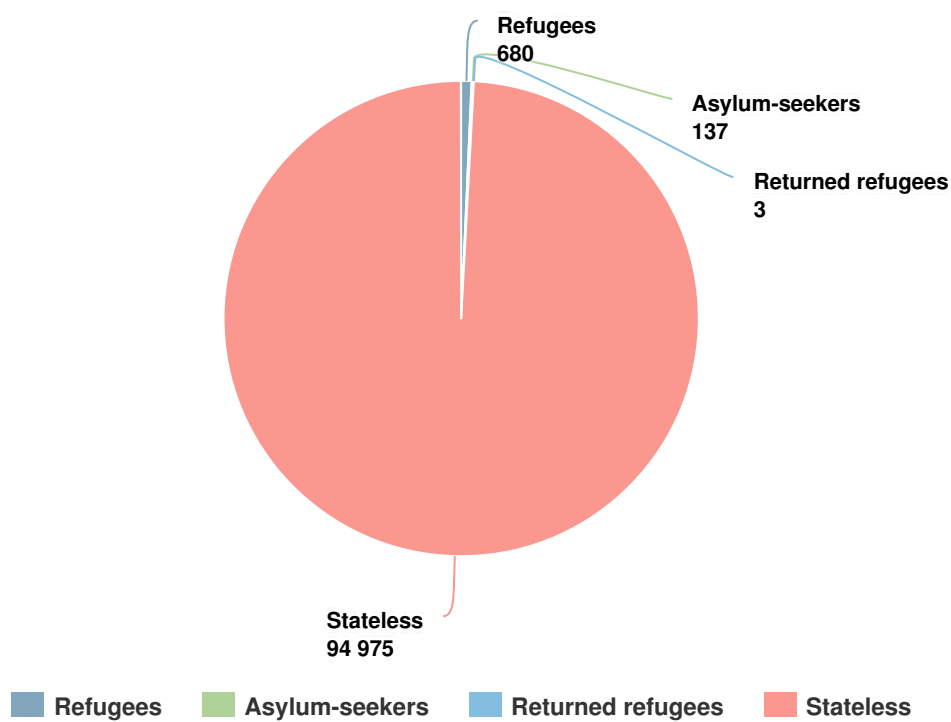


Latest update of camps and office locations **21 Nov 2016**.

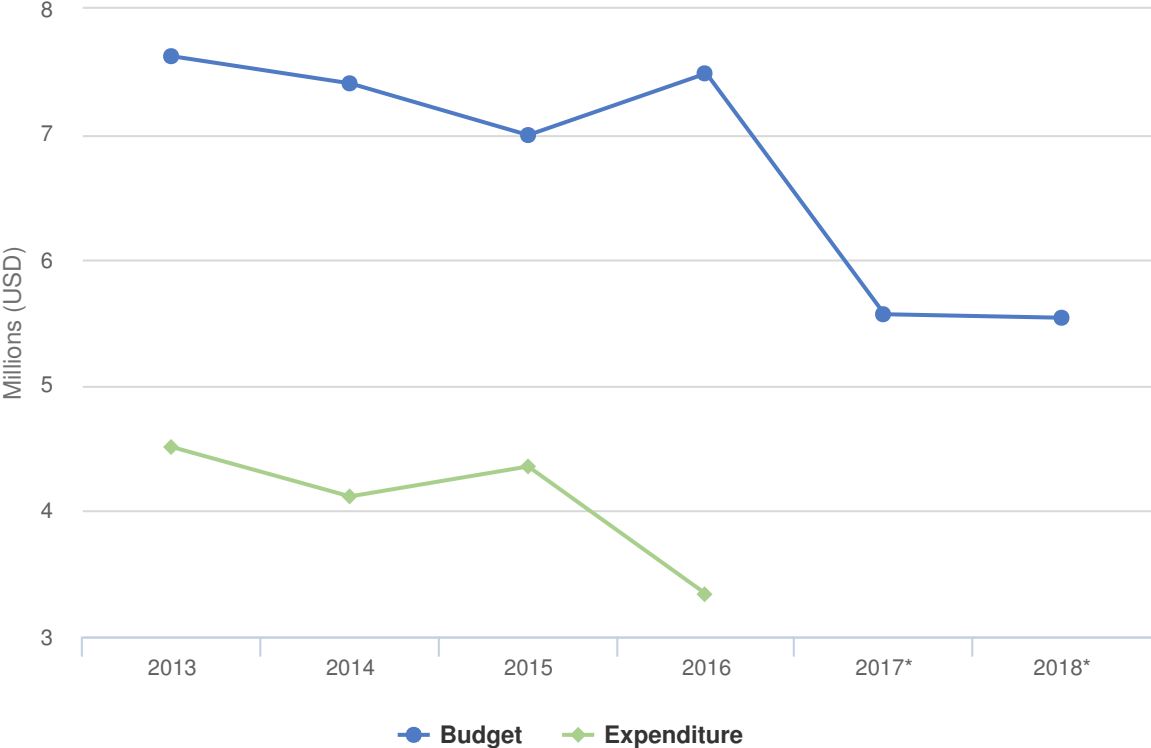
People of Concern

INCREASE IN
0% **2016**

2016	95,795
2015	95,524
2014	94,592



Budgets and Expenditure for Kazakhstan Regional Office



Working environment

In 2017, Kazakhstan adopted amendments to the Constitution aimed at transferring part of the president's functions to the government and the parliament. The new Constitution also newly established the norm on deprivation of citizenship for the commission of terrorist crimes and for causing other grave harm to vital interests of Kazakhstan, potentially increasing statelessness. As a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council in 2017-2018, Kazakhstan aims to draw attention to conflict prevention and other issues facing the region, providing effective support to Afghanistan to build stability and hosting Astana Syria Talks, among other. For the first time in the region, Kazakhstan hosted EXPO 2017: "Future Energy - Solutions for Tackling Humankind's Greatest Challenge". The border region is expected to remain stable, no drastic changes in the political and socio-economic situation are expected.

The majority of refugees originate from Afghanistan, followed by Uzbekistan and Syria. The largest number of new asylum-seekers arrive from Afghanistan. Most of the people of concern to UNHCR live in urban areas and are concentrated mainly in three regions of the country: Almaty region Almaty and Shymkent city. Based on past years' trends, some 240 people are expected to arrive in 2018. The number of refugees will remain around 650, taking into account nearly equal numbers of increases in newly recognized refugees and decreases due to naturalization and departure. The number of stateless persons is expected to decrease from 6,706 in 2018 to 5,000 in 2019. UNHCR and partners will work towards the resolution of all cases of persons with undetermined nationality, including 500 new persons with undetermined nationality to be identified by UNHCR's partners, and increasing government's role in undertaking identification and resolution activities.

Key priorities

UNHCR will focus on reducing refugees' dependency and enhancing their self-reliance with the Government for a more durable legal status and their inclusion in the national assistance programmes. In 2017, UNHCR has shifted its assistance from sectorial in-kind assistance to cash-based interventions. Cash-based interventions allow effective protection and assistance, with a reduced number of partners and administrative costs. New partnership opportunities will be explored with private sector, financial institutions, academics, and NGOs to pursue solutions to refugees and statelessness. Kazakhstan's stability will continue to provide an opportunity to promote the improved conditions for refugees and advocate for prevention and reduction of statelessness.
