

2017 Planning summary

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Operation: Brazil

Location

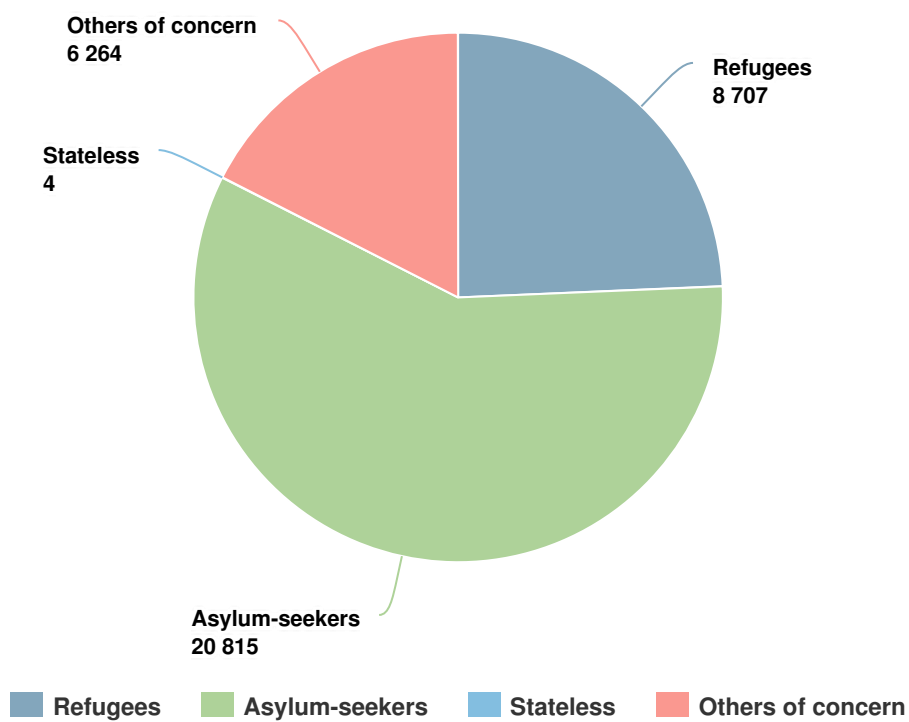


Latest update of camps and office locations **21 Nov 2016**. By clicking on the icons on the map, additional information is displayed.

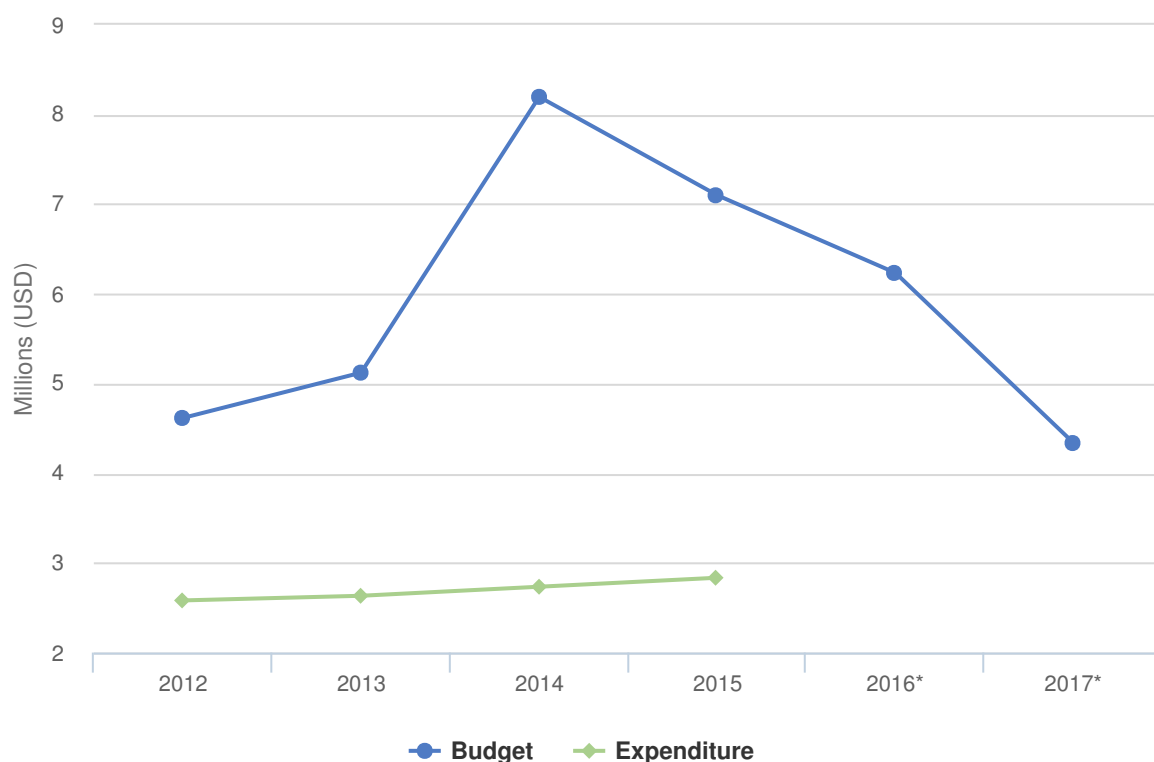
People of Concern

DECREASE IN
25% **2015**

2015	35,790
2014	47,946
2013	22,150



Budgets and Expenditure for Brazil



Working environment

Brazil is the main recipient of asylum claims in the Southern Cone region; and the country in Latin America receiving most asylum claims from outside the continent, with an unprecedented increase in recent years.

Brazil plays a leadership role in the region in finding innovative solutions to protect refugees and displaced people. Brazil has granted permanent residency to some 44,000 Haitian asylum-seekers on humanitarian grounds. São Paulo became the first city in the region to have a public policy framework for the promotion and respect of the rights of refugees and migrants at the municipal level approved by a Municipal Bill.

A new national migration law is about to be adopted which will result in more legal avenues for legal migration to Brazil reducing the pressure on the asylum system. The prevailing political and economic situation in the country makes this a challenging proposition, however.

The increase in the cost of living has affected the situation of people of concern, with persons facing particular difficulties in finding and securing adequate shelter and employment. Local currency fluctuations since January have severely affected programme implementation, and state-driven austerity measures might reduce resources for immigration and refugee programmes, in particular efforts to further socio-economic local integration prospects for refugees.

Despite the Government's willingness expand resettlement programmes, the implementation of large scale resettlement projects may be affected by resource constraints.

Key priorities

In line with the 2015-2017 Protection and Solutions Strategy for the Southern Cone, UNHCR will support Brazil in

the strengthening of its leadership role within the implementation of the Brazil Plan of Action at both national and regional levels.

The UNHCR operation will focus on:

- Supporting the institutionalization, professionalization and strengthening of the Comitê Nacional para os Refugiados (CONARE) in a sustainable manner
- Providing technical support to the Government to implement the RSD backlog project resulting in a reduction of 80 % of pending applications and improved quality of asylum.
- Providing technical support for the development and implementation of a National Local Integration Plan, and engage municipalities and the private sector to help generate livelihoods opportunities;
- Strengthening the coordination of relevant government and NGO institutions to facilitate effective access for refugees to solidarity-based public services within current legal frameworks
- Promoting and providing technical support for the implementation of policies on regional mobility including the two Pilot Projects on labor mobility with ILO and Global compact
- Designing policies and programmes at the local level to promote intercultural integration of refugees and host communities
- Enacting Cities of Solidarity agreements with municipalities to exchange good practices and foster municipal ownership.

In view of the prevailing economic situation in the country, with the implementation of the Government's austerity measures, social programmes and public policies are likely to be adversely affected in 2017. A reduction in the financial requirements of UNHCR programme in Brazil will result in vulnerable new arrivals not being adequately assisted. Due to insufficient investment in local integration, refugees will no longer be able to enrol in language and life skills training, resulting in a much reduced access to the labour market. Given the low degree of engagement of development actors, more refugees will continue to remain dependant on UNHCR and Partner assistance, moving further away from achieving self-reliance and seeing their livelihoods improved. The RSD backlog will continue to increase.
