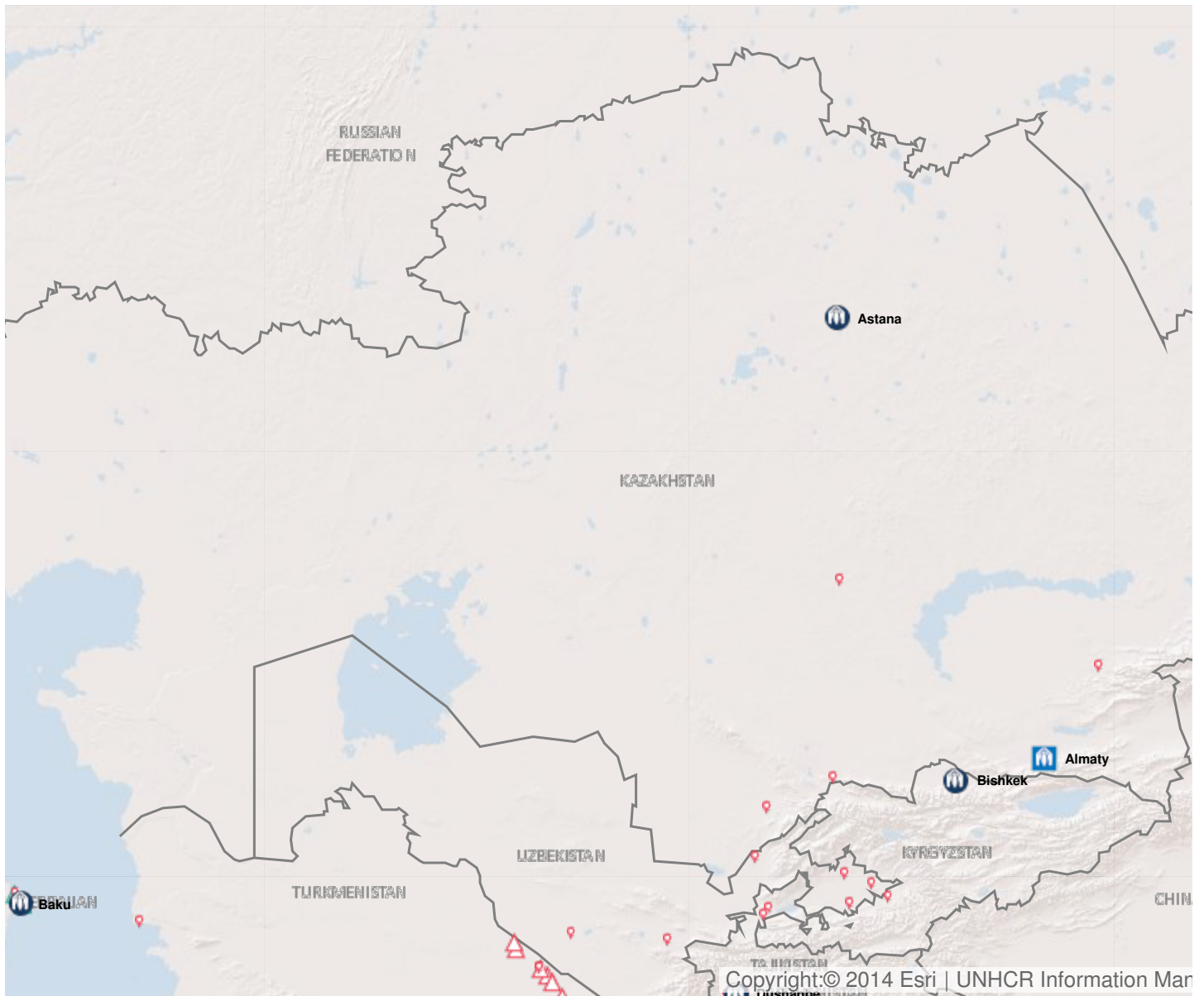


Operation: Kazakhstan Regional Office

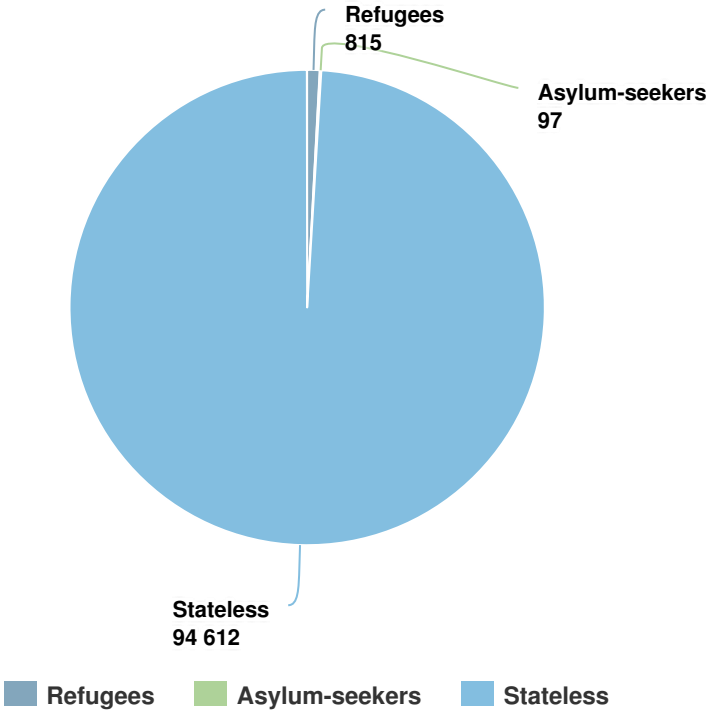
Location



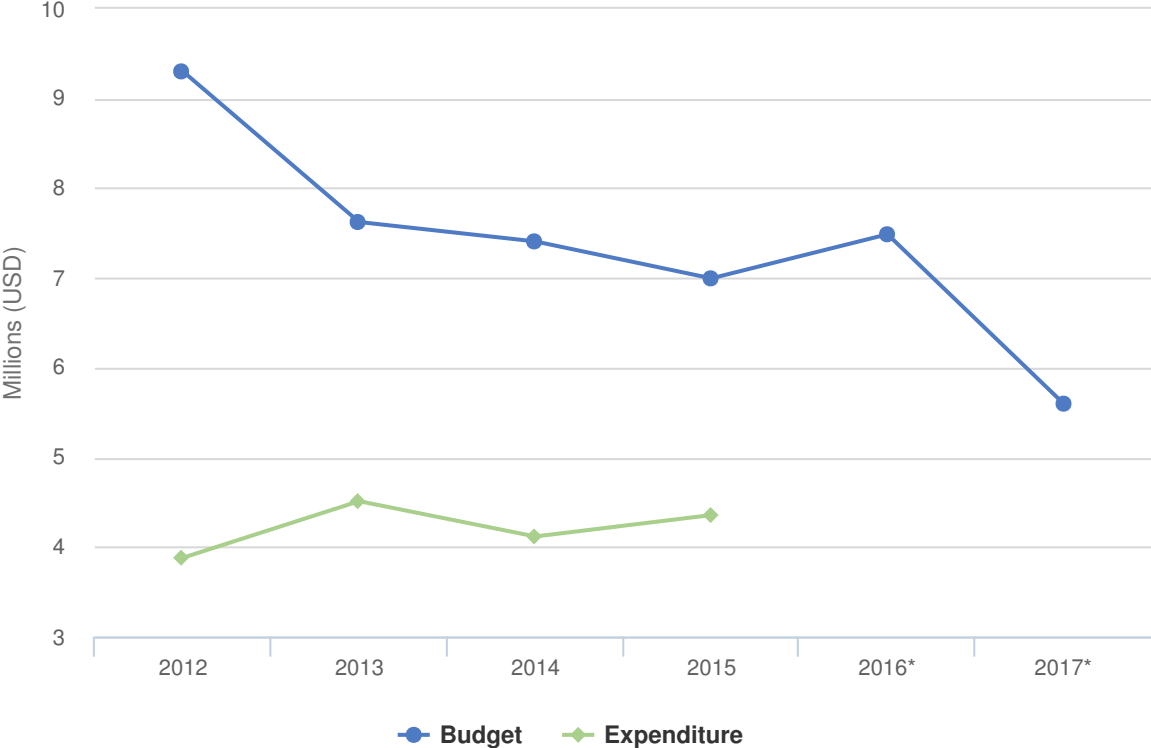
Latest update of camps and office locations **21 Nov 2016**. By clicking on the icons on the map, additional information is displayed.

People of Concern
INCREASE IN
1 % **2015**

2015	95,524
2014	94,592
2013	11,419



Budgets and Expenditure for Kazakhstan Regional Office



Working environment

Kazakhstan, like other Central Asian countries, has been affected by economic instability as a result of the 2014 sanctions on Russia and decreasing oil prices. The falling exchange rate of the Russian Ruble obliged Kazakhstan to devalue its currency by 19 per cent.

No major changes are expected in the political and security situations. However the current economic climate may result in increasing needs for the population of concern to UNHCR.

Significant improvements in the Government's management of RSD have led to the phase out of this responsibility by UNHCR. By 2017, UNHCR expects to have completed the necessary preparative work for the revision of the Refugee Law by the Government. A working group amending the national legislation related to citizenship has been established.

Since 2015, refugees and asylum-seekers in Kazakhstan have free access to the same primary healthcare as nationals.

Key priorities

In 2017 UNHCR's operation in Kazakhstan will focus on advocacy towards:

- The establishment by the State of a referral mechanism for asylum-seekers arriving at the border;
- Capacity building of national authorities and judges dealing with asylum-seekers/refugees and stateless persons ; and
- Amendment to the national legislation so that recognized refugees can acquire permanent residence or legal status with associated rights, including work permits.

Additional funding would be required to cover the costs of essential medicines, health care training, medical treatment and life-saving surgery. Additional funding is needed for cash grants for vulnerable refugees, especially given the recent currency devaluation in Kazakhstan.
