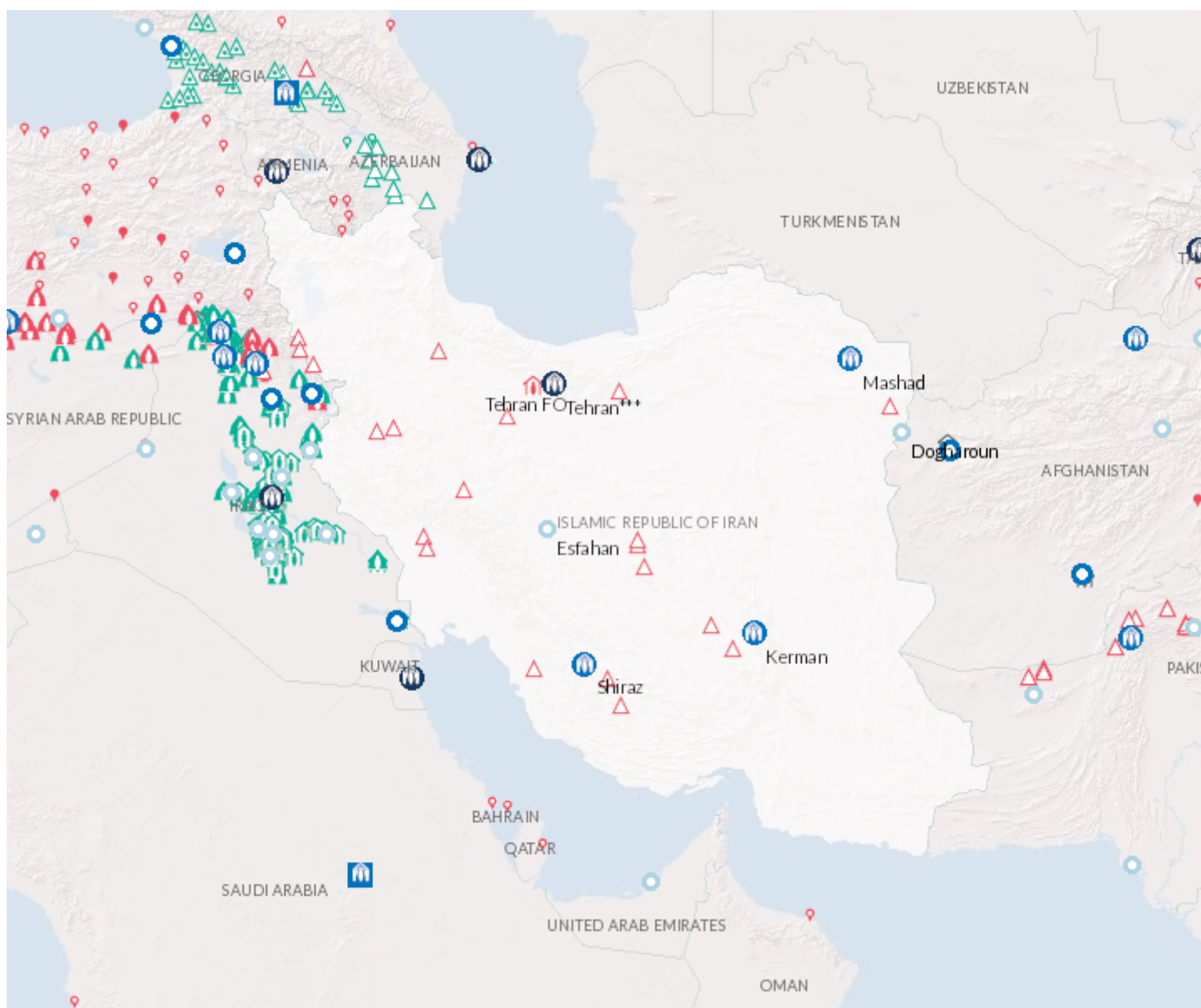


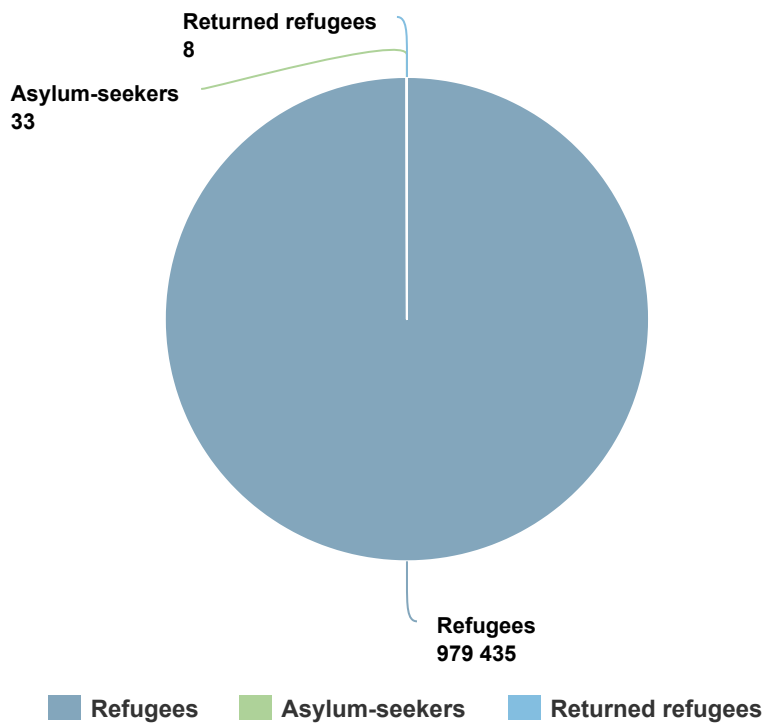
Operation: Islamic Republic of Iran



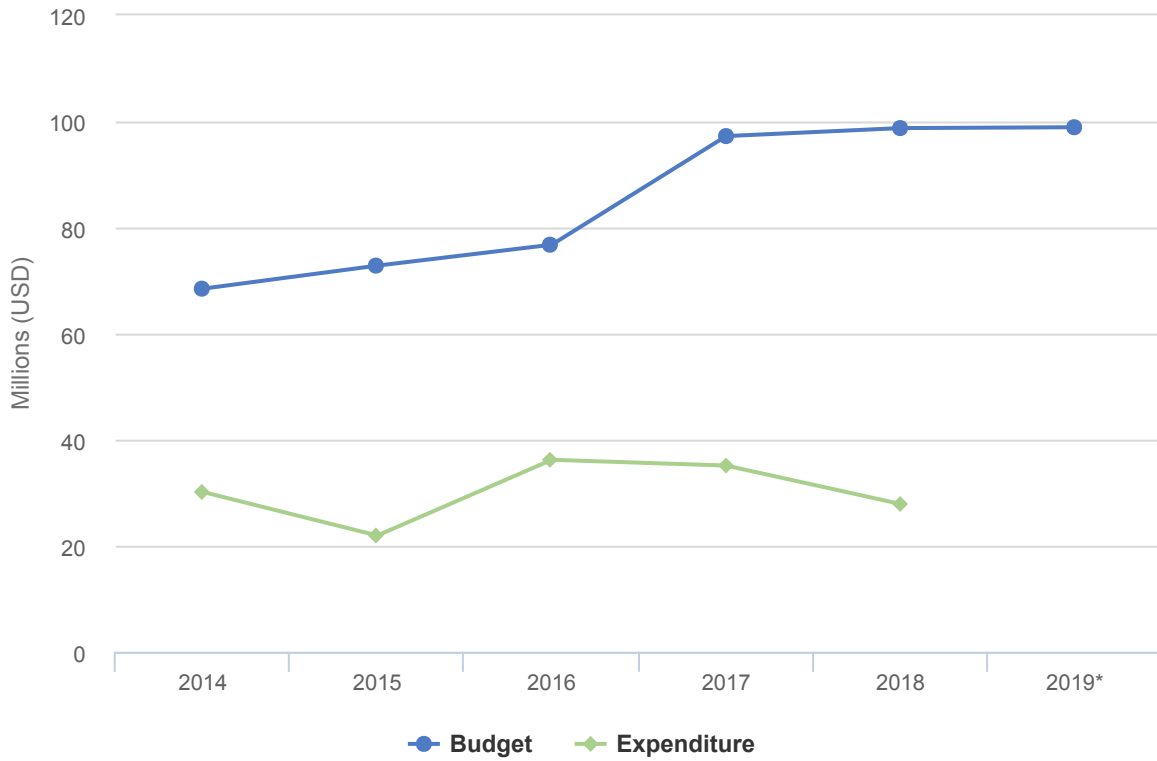
People of Concern

DECREASE IN
0% 2018

2018	979,476
2017	979,525
2016	979,537



Budgets and Expenditure for Islamic Republic of Iran



Operational environment

The Islamic Republic of Iran remains the second largest host country of Afghan refugees, and the fifth largest refugee hosting country worldwide. In spite of the socio-economic challenges Iran has continued to face, it has generously hosted a large population of refugees for four decades. UNHCR continued its close partnership with the Government to ensure a sustainable protection environment for refugees, through inclusive government policies in the areas of health, education, and livelihoods. These efforts continued to be pursued within the framework of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR), which is the principal refugee policy framework in the region.

In partnership with relevant Government counterparts, all refugees continued to have access to the Universal Public Health Insurance (UPHI), on par with the health insurance package available to nationals. 92,000 vulnerable refugees received free health insurance coverage, and benefitted from fully subsidized health insurance premiums to which UNHCR contributed. Furthermore, some 11,950 refugees enrolled by paying the premium themselves. Refugees enrolled in the insurance scheme benefitted from services in public hospitals countrywide.

In addition, with Government and partners, UNHCR implemented key interventions to support people with specific needs, increased access to livelihoods, and provided multi-purpose cash grants to the most vulnerable refugees.

Voluntary repatriation remained low. Factors contributing to low returns numbers included continuing insecurity, incipient political transitions and uncertainty regarding ongoing peace processes in Afghanistan. Though the rate of return remained low over the last year, a slight increase of return of Afghan refugees was observed. In 2018, 1,970 Afghans and 12 Iraqis opted for voluntary repatriation compared to 1197 Afghans and 21 Iraqis in 2017.

The resettlement quota was reduced drastically in 2018. Those cases who were submitted for resettlement consideration comprised 658 people, with 263 refugees departing for resettlement.

In the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees, the Government has been calling for equitable and predictable responsibility and burden sharing, having hosted a very large refugee population in a protracted environment for over four decades. UNHCR has worked jointly with the Government and the broader international community to garner stronger international support for refugees in this regard.

Population trends

The Islamic Republic of Iran hosts some 951,140 Afghan refugees (Amayesh card holders), 26,270 Iraqi refugees and 25 refugees from diverse countries. The majority of refugees, 97%, live in urban areas while 3% reside in 20 state-managed refugee settlements. Furthermore, there are approximately 450,000 Afghan nationals in Iran who hold Afghan passports with Iranian visas. The Government estimated that approximately 1.5 to 2 million undocumented Afghans also reside in the country. The thirteenth round of Amayesh registration was completed in 2018. Another significant development was a headcount exercise of 850,000 undocumented Afghans, which was conducted in 2017 was a first step towards status regularization. UNHCR stands ready to support the Government in this effort.

Key achievements

With UNHCR support, refugees continued to have improved access to national services, including but not limited to country-wide primary and secondary education within the national system, as well as Primary Health Care and improved access to the national health insurance system. In addition, outreach to refugees was enhanced through increased community engagement.

Other achievements include the enhancement of UNHCR's case management procedures (with a strong focus on

women and children, amongst others through the roll-out of Best Interests Procedures). Some 16,500 Afghan refugees benefited from harm-reduction, SGBV prevention, or community-based rehabilitation activities implemented by partners.

Some 8,170 Afghan refugees benefited from legal aid through 16 Dispute Settlement Committees and UNHCR-hired lawyers. UNHCR also engaged with national actors, including lawyers and other interlocutors, to enhance protection for refugees. Following the Supreme Leader's 2015 decree, undocumented Afghan children continued to be registered at national public schools.

Unmet needs

Against a backdrop of increased needs due to the current economic situation, UNHCR's financial resources available last year allowed support for the construction of only 8 schools against a planned 25 schools (OP), while the needs identified by the Government to accommodate Afghan children (refugees and undocumented) in safe learning spaces remained significantly higher. As a result, it is estimated that thousands of children were either unable to access schooling or to benefit from a safe school environment. In addition, close to 4,000 people of concern could not enrol in literacy classes, many of whom were out-of-school children or over-age children requiring education.

Over 3,000 refugees could not benefit from vocational training opportunities and/or employment and income generation opportunities offered through partners. This may have impacted their basic living standards and increased the risk of engaging in negative coping mechanisms.

SGBV and child protection activities could not be expanded, mainly due to limited resources.

2018 Expenditure for Islamic Republic of Iran | USD

The following table presents the final budget and funds available by pillar and the final expenditure at the objective-level, as reported at year-end.

	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Total
Final Budget	98,756,622	98,756,622
Income from contributions*	15,582,496	15,582,496
Other funds available / transfers	12,481,949	12,481,949
Total funds available	28,064,445	28,064,445
Expenditure by Objective		
Favourable Protection Environment		
Law and policy	193,845	193,845
Legal remedies and legal assistance	659,236	659,236
Public attitudes towards persons of concern	571,976	571,976
Subtotal	1,425,057	1,425,057
Fair Protection Processes and Documentation		
Reception conditions	190,513	190,513
Individual documentation	190,513	190,513
Civil status documentation	190,513	190,513
Subtotal	571,538	571,538
Security from Violence and Exploitation		
SGBV prevention and response	587,997	587,997
Non-arbitrary detention	381,024	381,024
Child protection	661,503	661,503
Subtotal	1,630,524	1,630,524
Basic Needs and Essential Services		
Health	13,907,926	13,907,926
Shelter and infrastructure	355,771	355,771
Basic and domestic and hygiene Items	1,108,759	1,108,759
Services for persons with specific needs	2,287,939	2,287,939
Education	2,475,137	2,475,137
Subtotal	20,135,533	20,135,533
Community Empowerment and Self Reliance		
Community mobilization	245,232	245,232
Co-existence with local communities	190,513	190,513
Self-reliance and livelihoods	1,311,450	1,311,450

	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Total
Subtotal	1,747,194	1,747,194
Durable Solutions		
Solutions strategy	196,053	196,053
Voluntary return	338,952	338,952
Resettlement	498,160	498,160
Subtotal	1,033,165	1,033,165
Leadership, Coordination and Partnerships		
Donor relations	387,684	387,684
Subtotal	387,684	387,684
Logistics and Operations Support		
Supply chain and logistics	451,912	451,912
Operations management, coordination and support	492,111	492,111
Subtotal	944,024	944,024
Headquarters and Regional Support		
Protection advice and support	925	925
Subtotal	925	925
2018 Expenditure Total	27,875,643	27,875,643

**Income from contributions includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the “New or additional activities – mandate-related” (NAM) Reserve. Contributions towards all pillars are included under Pillar 1.*