Subregion: South East Asia
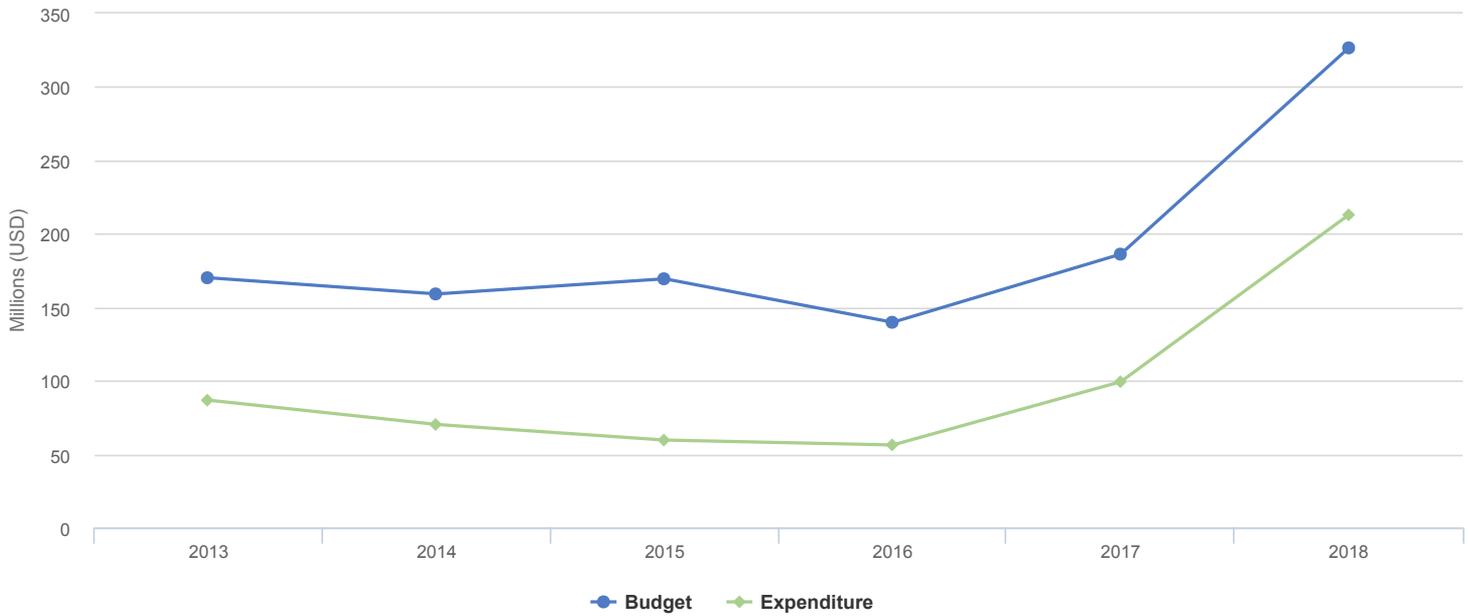
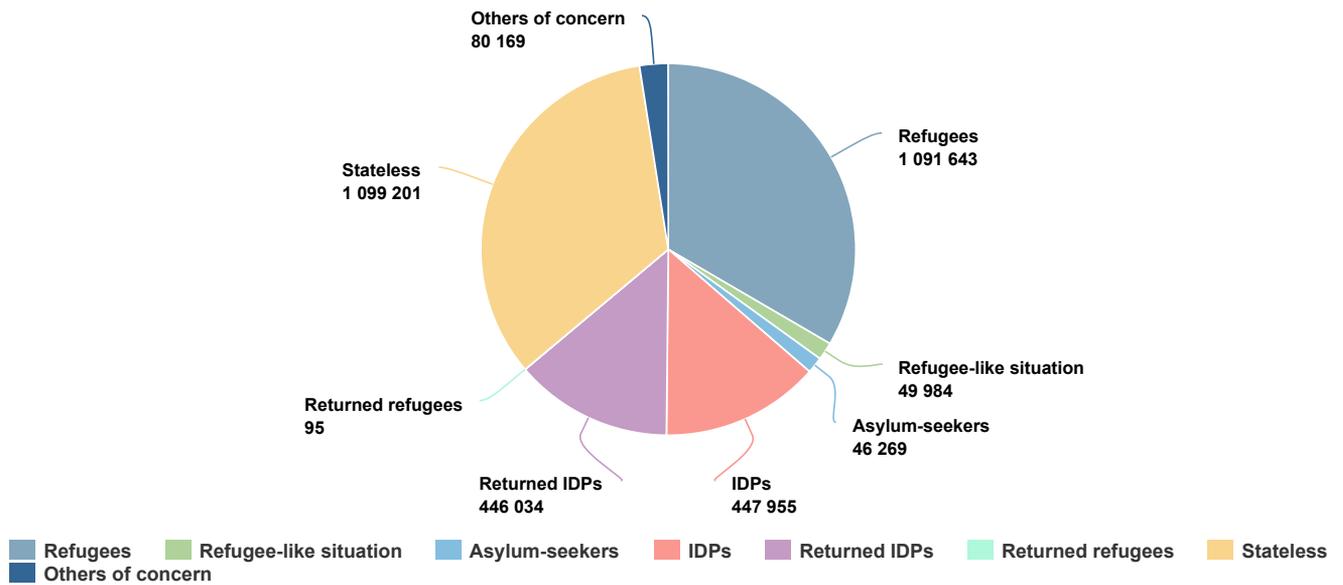| Bangladesh | Brunei Darussalam | Cambodia | Indonesia |Lao People's Democratic Republic | Malaysia | Mongolia | Myanmar | Philippines | Singapore | Thailand | Timor-Leste | Viet Nam |

Budgets and Expenditure in Subregion South East Asia

People of Concern - 2018

Response in 2018

At the end of 2018, the South East Asia sub-region hosted some 3.26 million people of concern to UNHCR, an increase of 15.4% compared to the end of 2017. The 17,000 Rohingya refugees who fled from Rakhine state in Myanmar to Bangladesh in 2018 were already of concern to UNHCR, due to their statelessness in Myanmar.

Following the large-scale displacement of over 700,000 Rohingya refugees from the northern townships of Rakhine State to Bangladesh in 2017, the conditions in Rakhine State did not become conducive for voluntary repatriation in 2018, as the root causes contributing to their flight remained largely unchanged. Some progress was made in implementing the tripartite MoU signed by UNHCR, UNDP and the Government of Myanmar in June 2018. Under the MoU, UNHCR and UNDP conducted needs assessments in Rakhine State in the second half of 2018 and proposed the implementation of quick impact projects. However, UNHCR's access to implement such projects and conduct further assessments was halted at the end of 2018 following an escalation in conflict between the Arakan Army and the Myanmar military.

In Bangladesh, a family counting exercise completed by UNHCR and the Government of Bangladesh in 2018 identified a total of 900,000 Rohingya refugees. In the second half of 2018, UNHCR and the Government of Bangladesh began registering refugees individually - some 35,000 were registered by the end of the year. Before and during the cyclone and monsoon seasons, UNHCR, working with the Government of Bangladesh and other partners, undertook major emergency preparedness measures to fortify 90,000 shelters, to level terrain on which to build new shelters, and to relocate the 27,000 refugees facing the highest risk of flooding and landslides. UNHCR also continued to lead the protection response in Cox's Bazar, ensuring that the principle of non-refoulement was upheld and supporting the Government of Bangladesh in efforts to identify and care for refugees with specific needs.

UNHCR sought regional support and solutions for Rohingya refugees in 2018 by engaging ASEAN and convening member states in Geneva and Bangkok to advance a Solidarity Approach for the people of Rakhine State. The Solidarity Approach aims to encourage support for Myanmar and communities in Rakhine State aimed at creating conditions conducive to voluntary return, as well as enhance solidarity and responsibility sharing with Bangladesh and other refugee-hosting countries in the region.

Elsewhere in the sub-region, as available resettlement spaces decreased in 2018, UNHCR pursued alternative solutions by facilitating the voluntary repatriation of some 1,280 refugees from India to Sri Lanka and 93 refugees from Thailand to Myanmar. UNHCR also worked with the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand to create education and livelihood opportunities. UNHCR extended capacity-building support to the three countries in the sub-region party to the 1951 Refugee Convention—Cambodia, the Philippines, and Timor-Leste—including the provision of refugee status determination training for asylum officials in the Philippines. UNHCR also worked to build the protection capacity of local actors to respond to the needs of IDPs in Myanmar and the Philippines.

With the exception of the Rohingya population, there were positive developments in combatting statelessness, and efforts to support Governments in reducing statelessness continued throughout the year. At the regional level, UNHCR continued its partnership with ASEAN's Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) to promote the legal identity of women and children, completing a report on research into the gaps in laws and policies in ASEAN member states.

UNHCR Operations in South East Asia in 2018

Operations in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand are presented in separate country chapters. For other UNHCR operations in the subregion, please see below.

To support **the Philippines** in enhancing the asylum system and to address statelessness, UNHCR successfully advocated for the inclusion of people of concern in national programmes promoting self-reliance and enabling access to protection and documentation. Furthermore, in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, UNHCR continued its Protection Cluster lead role for IDPs, crafting a protection strategy which was endorsed by the Humanitarian Country Team.

Of the 14 countries covered by UNHCR's Regional Office in Bangkok, the following seven do not have, or have only a minimal, UNHCR presence. In **Cambodia**, the Government reviewed its civil registration law to enhance the process for all populations in the country. UNHCR provided technical assistance to the Government to ensure that the changes increase access to legal documents for persons at risk of statelessness. In **Mongolia,** UNHCR registered new asylum-seekers, conducted RSD, prepared the resettlement applications for qualifying refugees, and actively engaged in individual case management, referring individuals to support services as necessary, while also supporting the extension of residence permits for people of concern. UNHCR received interns from a university in **Singapore** to work on emergency preparedness, protection and statelessness issues. In **Viet Nam**, the Government reviewed its law and policies, including nationality laws, in order to prevent and reduce statelessness. In December 2018, it granted citizenship to nearly 140 previously stateless persons and processed an additional 1,665 naturalization applications.

UNHCR undertook no major activities in Brunei Darussalam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, nor in Timor-Leste in 2018.

2018 Voluntary Contributions to South East Asia | USD

Earmarking / Donor	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
South East Asia overall					
United States of America	0	0	0	21,600,000	21,600,000
South East Asia overall subtotal	**0**	**0**	**0**	**21,600,000**	**21,600,000**
Bangladesh					
Australia	14,005,255	0	0	0	14,005,255
Canada	2,196,666	0	0	0	2,196,666
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	2,926,734	0	0	0	2,926,734
Denmark	2,536,462	0	0	0	2,536,462
Education Cannot Wait	282,807	0	0	0	282,807
Estonia	61,728	0	0	0	61,728
European Union	9,177,763	0	0	0	9,177,763
France	525,000	0	0	0	525,000
Germany	2,885,017	0	0	0	2,885,017
International Organization for Migration	59,696	0	0	0	59,696
Ireland	1,142,857	0	0	0	1,142,857
Japan	4,383,417	0	0	0	4,383,417
New Zealand	1,405,481	0	0	0	1,405,481
Norway	4,424,851	0	0	0	4,424,851
Private donors in Australia	1,433,269	0	0	0	1,433,269
Private donors in China	328,846	0	0	0	328,846
Private donors in Denmark	116,685	0	0	0	116,685
Private donors in Egypt	2,810	0	0	0	2,810
Private donors in France	7,292	0	0	0	7,292
Private donors in Germany	2,411,252	0	0	0	2,411,252
Private donors in India	687	0	0	0	687
Private donors in Italy	38,283	0	0	0	38,283
Private donors in Japan	1,082,890	0	0	0	1,082,890
Private donors in Kenya	10	0	0	0	10
Private donors in Kuwait	645,264	0	0	0	645,264
Private donors in Lebanon	33,085	0	0	0	33,085
Private donors in Mexico	61	0	0	0	61
Private donors in Oman	7,162	0	0	0	7,162
Private donors in Philippines	22,228	0	0	0	22,228
Private donors in Qatar	6,448,208	0	0	0	6,448,208
Private donors in Saudi Arabia	344,966	0	0	0	344,966

Earmarking / Donor	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
Private donors in Singapore	152,165	0	0	0	152,165
Private donors in South Africa	10	0	0	0	10
Private donors in Sweden	31,306	0	0	0	31,306
Private donors in Switzerland	1,475,373	0	0	0	1,475,373
Private donors in Thailand	23,299	0	0	0	23,299
Private donors in the Netherlands	33,611	0	0	0	33,611
Private donors in the Republic of Korea	111,559	0	0	0	111,559
Private donors in the United Arab Emirates	370,867	0	0	0	370,867
Private donors in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	20,326	0	0	0	20,326
Private donors in the United States of America	4,465,062	0	0	0	4,465,062
Qatar	2,387,304	0	0	0	2,387,304
Republic of Korea	1,400,000	0	0	0	1,400,000
Saudi Arabia	1,754,329	0	0	0	1,754,329
Spain	7,779	0	0	0	7,779
Sweden	3,508,081	0	0	0	3,508,081
Switzerland	2,559,267	0	0	0	2,559,267
Thailand	100,000	0	0	0	100,000
UNOPS	3,754,796	0	0	0	3,754,796
United Arab Emirates	2,084,700	0	0	0	2,084,700
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	13,089,005	0	0	0	13,089,005
United States of America	55,000,000	0	0	0	55,000,000
Bangladesh subtotal	**151,265,569**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**151,265,569**
Indonesia					
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	0	0	1,070,000	0	1,070,000
European Union	58,218	0	0	0	58,218
Private donors in Australia	0	0	45,008	0	45,008
Private donors in Canada	0	0	44,284	0	44,284
Private donors in China	0	0	411,922	0	411,922
Private donors in Egypt	0	0	3,382	0	3,382
Private donors in France	0	0	28,499	0	28,499
Private donors in Germany	0	0	68,182	0	68,182
Private donors in India	0	0	5,973	0	5,973
Private donors in Indonesia	0	0	2,144	0	2,144
Private donors in Italy	0	0	41,203	0	41,203
Private donors in Japan	0	0	141,339	0	141,339

Earmarking / Donor	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
Private donors in Kenya	0	0	49	0	49
Private donors in Kuwait	0	0	14,236	0	14,236
Private donors in Lebanon	0	0	76,645	0	76,645
Private donors in Oman	0	0	7,515	0	7,515
Private donors in Philippines	0	0	14,880	0	14,880
Private donors in Qatar	0	0	8,014	0	8,014
Private donors in Saudi Arabia	0	0	54,242	0	54,242
Private donors in Singapore	0	0	155,570	0	155,570
Private donors in South Africa	0	0	93	0	93
Private donors in Spain	0	0	1,123,708	0	1,123,708
Private donors in Sweden	0	0	227,471	0	227,471
Private donors in Switzerland	0	0	42,420	0	42,420
Private donors in Thailand	0	0	44,770	0	44,770
Private donors in the Netherlands	0	0	12,698	0	12,698
Private donors in the Republic of Korea	0	0	119,077	0	119,077
Private donors in the United Arab Emirates	0	0	90,266	0	90,266
Private donors in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	0	0	44,521	0	44,521
Private donors in the United States of America	0	0	256,000	0	256,000
Spain	0	0	4,545	0	4,545
United Arab Emirates	0	0	251,000	0	251,000
Indonesia subtotal	**58,218**	**0**	**4,409,654**	**0**	**4,467,872**
Malaysia					
European Union	737,849	0	0	0	737,849
Private donors in Japan	387,976	0	0	0	387,976
Private donors in Qatar	488,716	0	0	0	488,716
Private donors in Singapore	300,000	0	0	0	300,000
UNAIDS	0	0	0	90,000	90,000
United States of America	130,540	0	0	0	130,540
Malaysia subtotal	**2,045,082**	**0**	**0**	**90,000**	**2,135,082**
Myanmar					
Australia	0	0	0	753,580	753,580
Canada	0	0	0	274,941	274,941
European Union	0	544,444	319,753	0	864,198
France	0	525,000	0	0	525,000

Earmarking / Donor	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
Germany	0	0	0	542,888	542,888
Japan	0	1,346,785	0	1,547,761	2,894,545
Luxembourg	0	0	0	261,506	261,506
Republic of Korea	0	0	0	500,000	500,000
Switzerland	0	0	508,130	0	508,130
Myanmar subtotal	**0**	**2,416,229**	**827,883**	**3,880,676**	**7,124,788**
Philippines					
Australia	0	0	766,284	756,430	1,522,713
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	0	0	500,000	0	500,000
Denmark	0	0	100,000	0	100,000
Private donors in Philippines	0	0	371,016	0	371,016
Philippines subtotal	**0**	**0**	**1,737,300**	**756,430**	**2,493,729**
Thailand					
Private donors in Thailand	4,322,969	0	0	0	4,322,969
Thailand subtotal	**4,322,969**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4,322,969**
Total	157,691,838	2,416,229	6,974,837	26,327,105	193,410,009

Note: