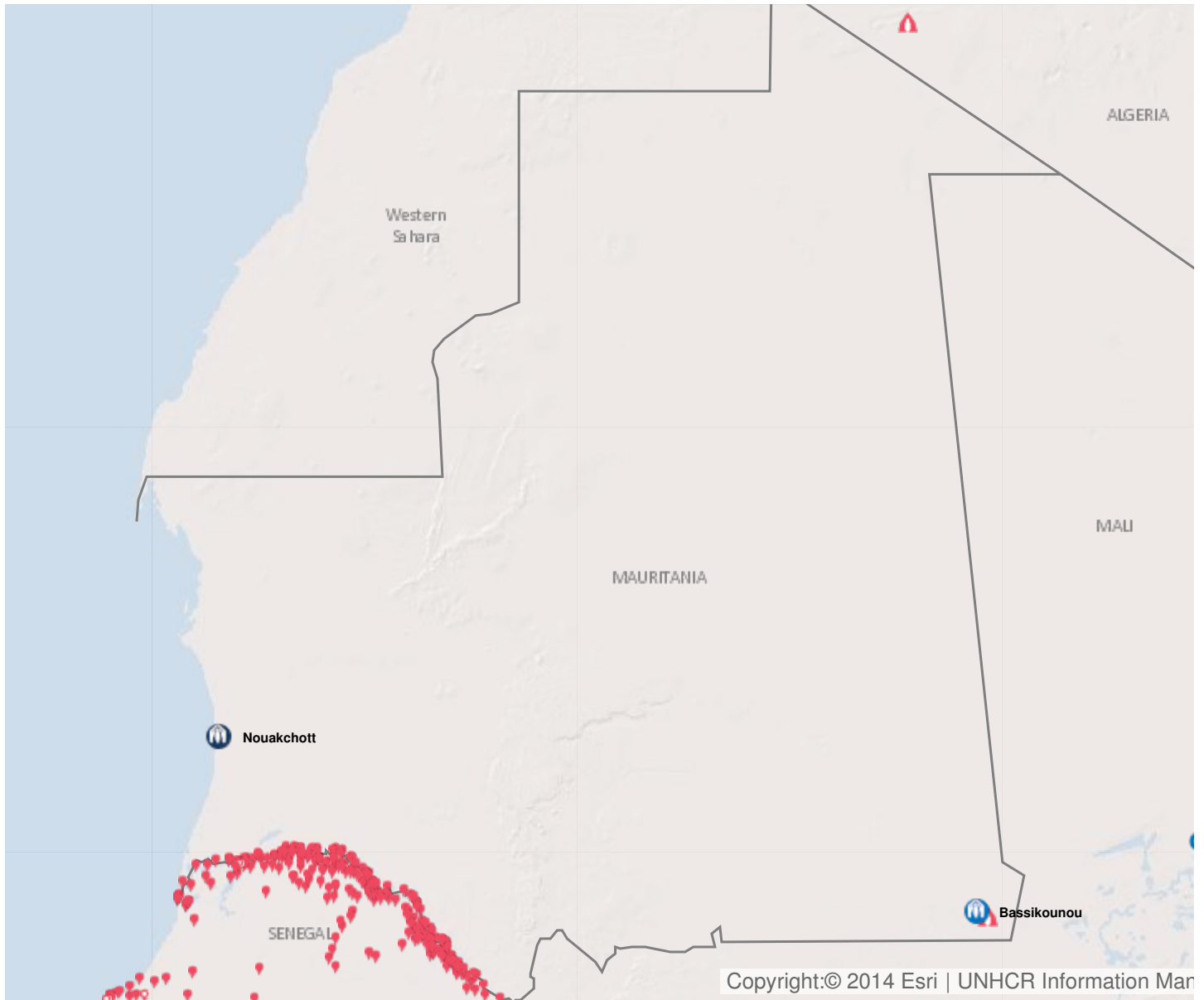


Operation: Mauritania

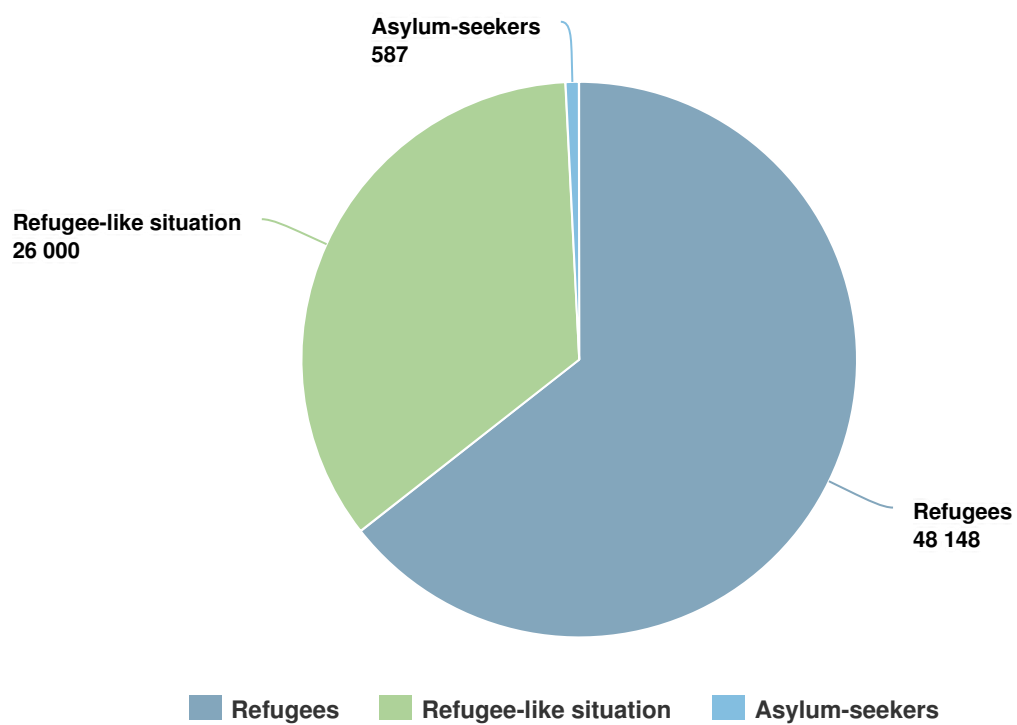


Latest update of camps and office locations **21 Nov 2016.**

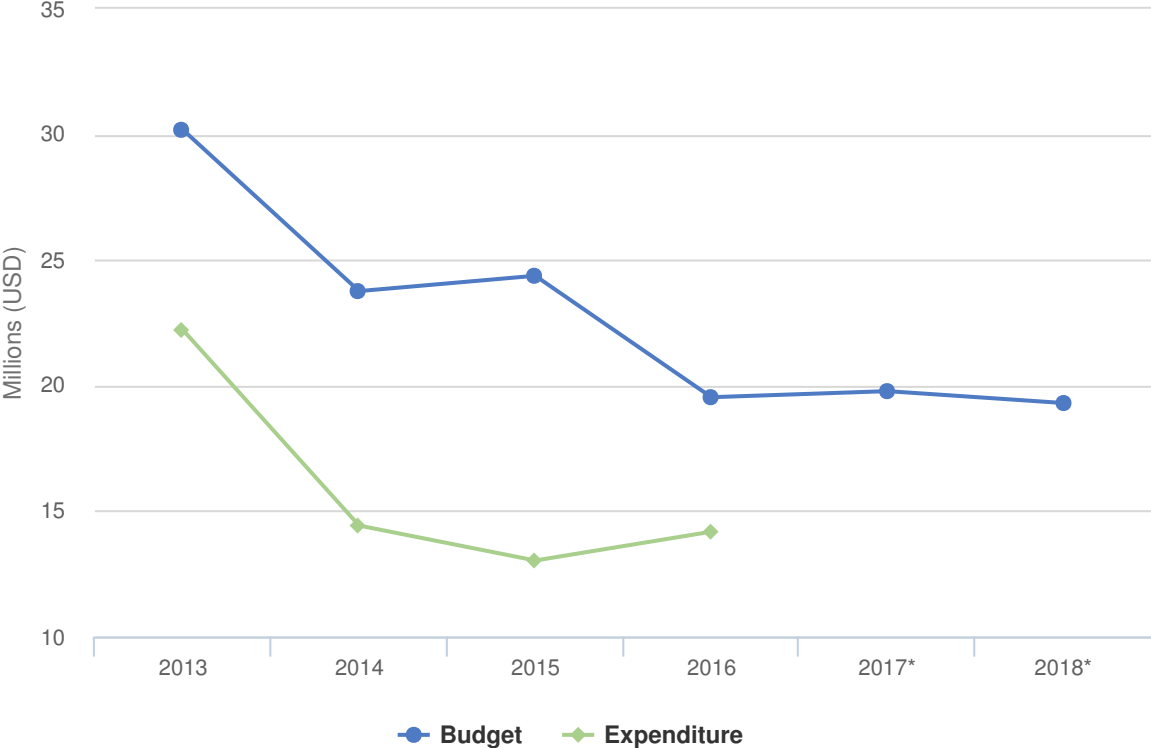
People of Concern

DECREASE IN
4% **2016**

2016	74,735
2015	77,891
2014	76,048



Budgets and Expenditure for Mauritania



Working environment

Mauritania has so far maintained its generous open-door policy towards refugees and asylum-seekers. Signatory to the Refugee Convention and OAU Convention, Mauritania is expected to adopt a national asylum law, formalizing refugee protection, including non-refoulement, civil rights and access to social services, in Mauritania. UNHCR works closely with national authorities, to promote knowledge and respect for refugee rights, and to lay the groundwork for the establishment of a national asylum system.

Due to the unstable situation in northern Mali, large scale returns of Malian refugees are not expected in 2018. UNHCR will continue to provide life-saving assistance to refugees in Mbera camp, targeting the most vulnerable. Moreover, UNHCR will continue to advocate with development actors to offer increased self-reliance opportunities for refugees and their host community in the Bassikounou region.

In urban areas, the number of people approaching UNHCR to claim asylum in Mauritania is expected to steadily increase. UNHCR will provide assistance to people with specific needs and increase their access to services (such as health and education), including training opportunities.

UNHCR works closely with the Government of Mauritania and the United Nations Country Team, to fully integrate refugees and asylum-seekers, in alignment with the development framework. UNHCR will continue to coordinate protection and assistance for refugees in Mauritania, in close cooperation with national authorities, other UN agencies, NGOs and donors.

Key priorities

UNHCR's overall protection and solutions strategy for all refugees in Mauritania is based on five key components:

- Ensuring protection and access to essential services,
- Empowering refugees in becoming self-reliant,
- Supporting the host population to promote peaceful coexistence,
- Providing refugees with access to durable solutions, and
- Advocating with authorities towards the adoption of a national asylum law and issuance documentation for refugees in Mauritania.

In Mbera camp, UNHCR's strategy is aligned with the Regional Strategy for Protection and Assistance to Malian Refugees, adopted in 2015, to harmonize the response to the Mali situation across asylum countries. In 2018, UNHCR will focus on creating income-generating opportunities and literacy programs, in close cooperation with communities in order to progressively increase refugees' self-reliance
