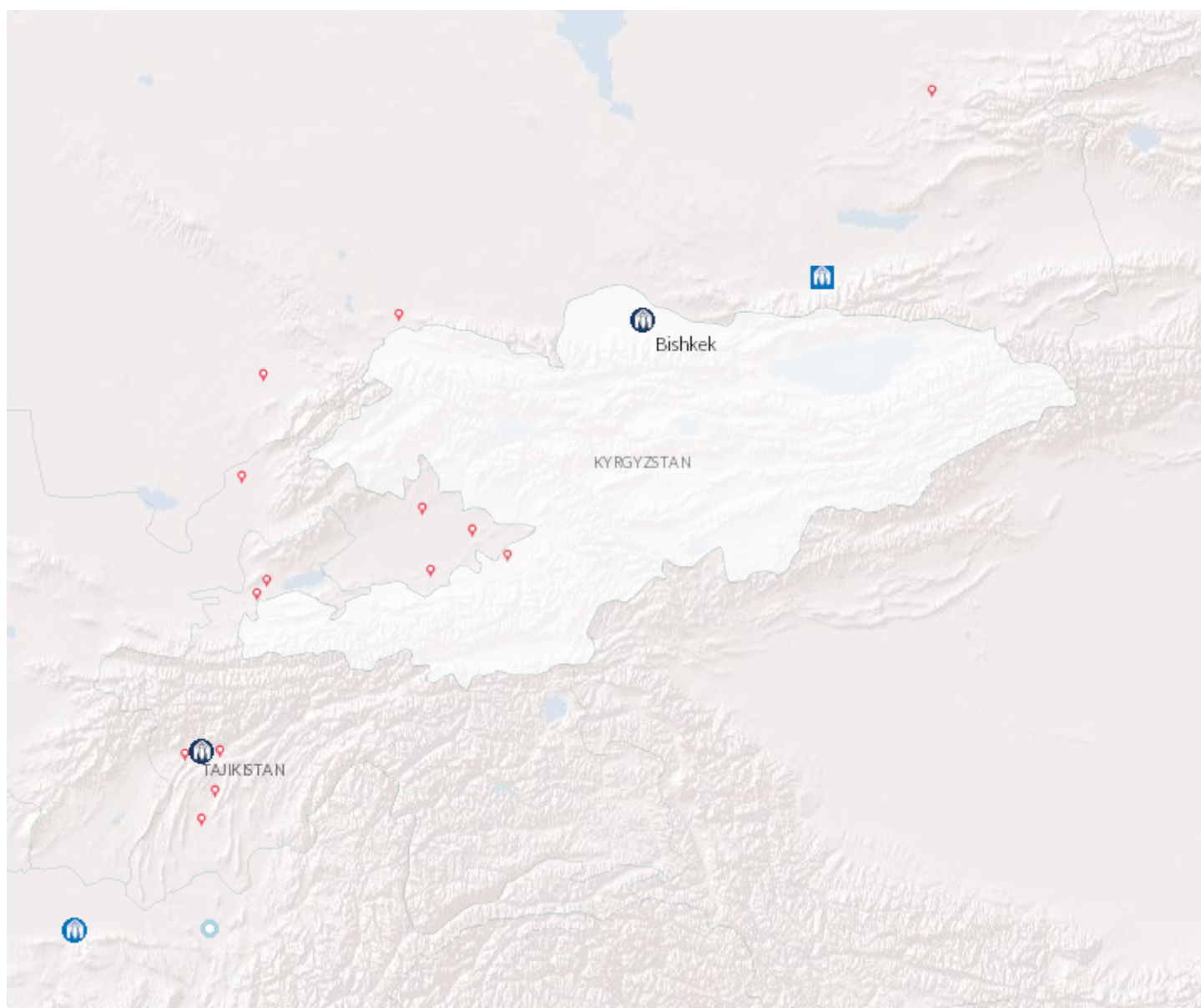


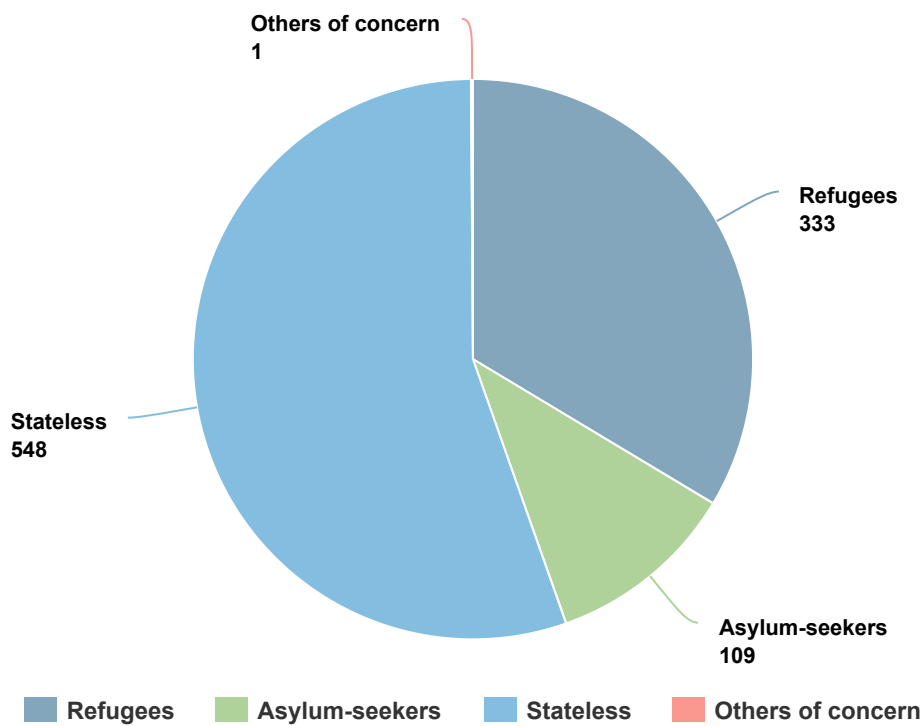
Operation: Kyrgyzstan



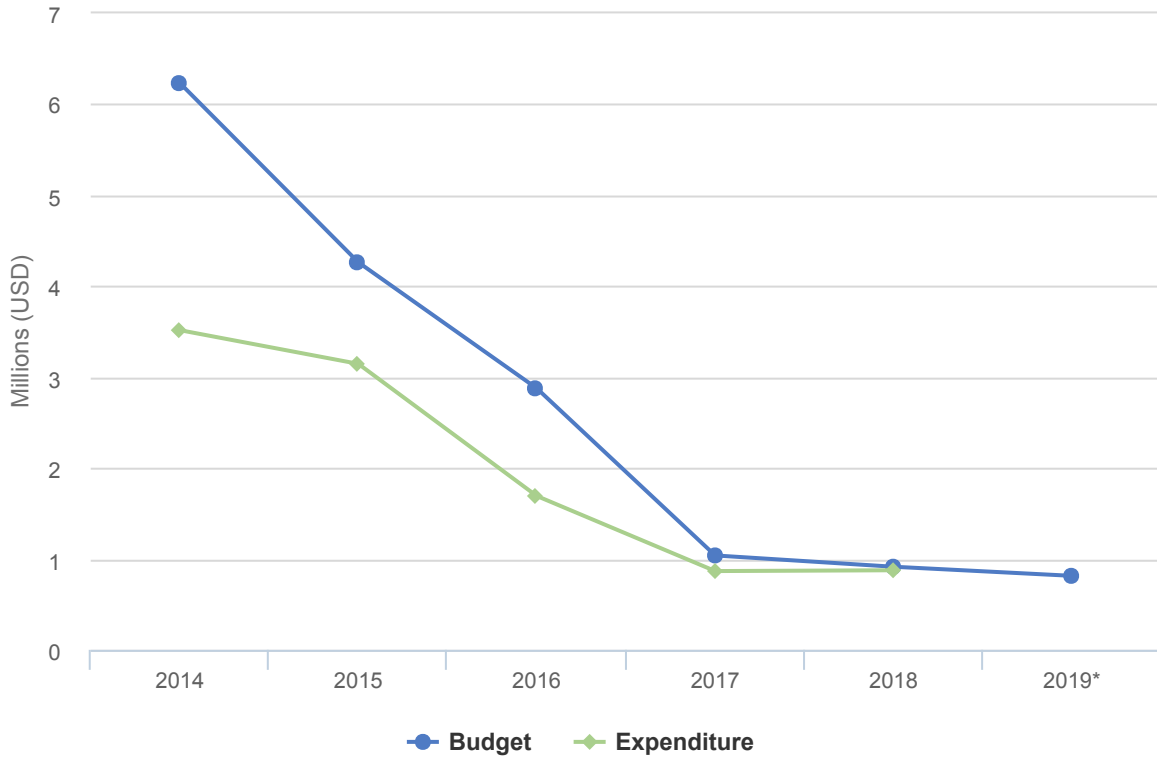
People of Concern

DECREASE IN
24% **2018**

2018	991
2017	1,302
2016	2,793



Budgets and Expenditure for Kyrgyzstan



Operational environment

Following the peaceful transfer of power after the presidential elections in 2017, internal wrangling amongst political factions intensified in 2018, prompting frequent cabinet reshuffles, new appointments at various levels, as well as several criminal cases and the detention of former high-ranking politicians and officials.

No major changes with regard to the policies, legislation or practices related to asylum and refugee issues took place in 2018.

Population trends

By the end of the year, there were 333 refugees and 109 asylum-seekers in Kyrgyzstan. Five refugees voluntarily repatriated, and another five refugees acquired Kyrgyz citizenship. The majority of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country are from Afghanistan (257 people), with smaller numbers from the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and other countries.

There were 97 new arrivals in 2018, of which approximately 43% were from Afghanistan. The number of refugee status adjudications continued to decline from 213 in 2016, to 143 in 2017 and 89 in 2018. The recognition rate in 2018 was 32%.

The number of stateless persons decreased to 548 by the end of the year, due to state registration efforts, and a nation-wide registration and documentation campaign jointly undertaken by UNHCR, the government, and UNHCR's non-governmental partners.

Key achievements

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic with the support of UNHCR revived discussions on exploring alternative solutions for mandate refugees residing in the country. The key state entities dealing with registration and documentation matters, as well as National Security, agreed to look into possibilities of alternative stay arrangements for 146 mandate refugees within the national legal framework.

The State Border Service, State Migration Service, UNHCR and its partner organizations agreed on joint visits to border entry points across the country to capacitate border officials at entry points on the identification and referral of refugees and asylum-seekers arriving at the borders of Kyrgyzstan, monitor reception facilities at entry points for asylum-seekers and exchange information on refugees and asylum-seekers arriving to entry points.

The Office continued to pursue the reduction of statelessness and prevention strategy in line with the UNHCR Global Action Plan to End Statelessness. Notable progress was achieved in resolving the status of identified cases since the implementation of the country-wide reduction campaign, which began in 2014. Out of an identified 13,707 stateless persons since 2014, only 548 persons remained in need of resolution of their statelessness as of December 2018.

In 2018, amendments to the Law on Civil Acts were initiated by the State Registration Service with the support of UNHCR and UNICEF to ensure the right of every child to state registration and a birth certificate regardless of the nationality and/or legal status of their parents.

The Kyrgyz government successfully completed two-year Chairmanship of the Almaty Process in 2018, handing it over to Tajikistan in 2019.

Unmet needs

In terms of statelessness-related activities, more timely and elaborate public information campaigns would have been beneficial for both the reduction and prevention of statelessness.

