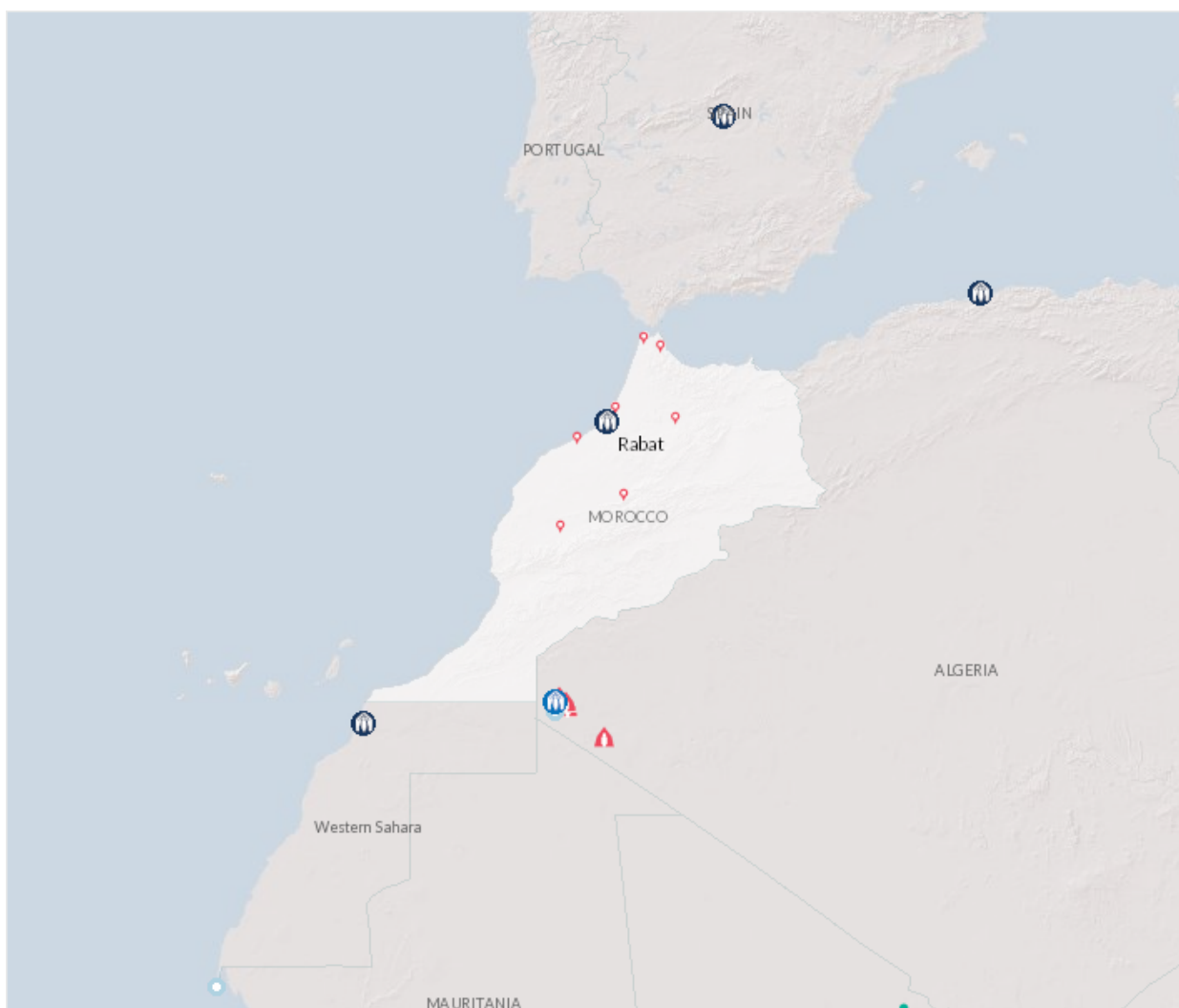


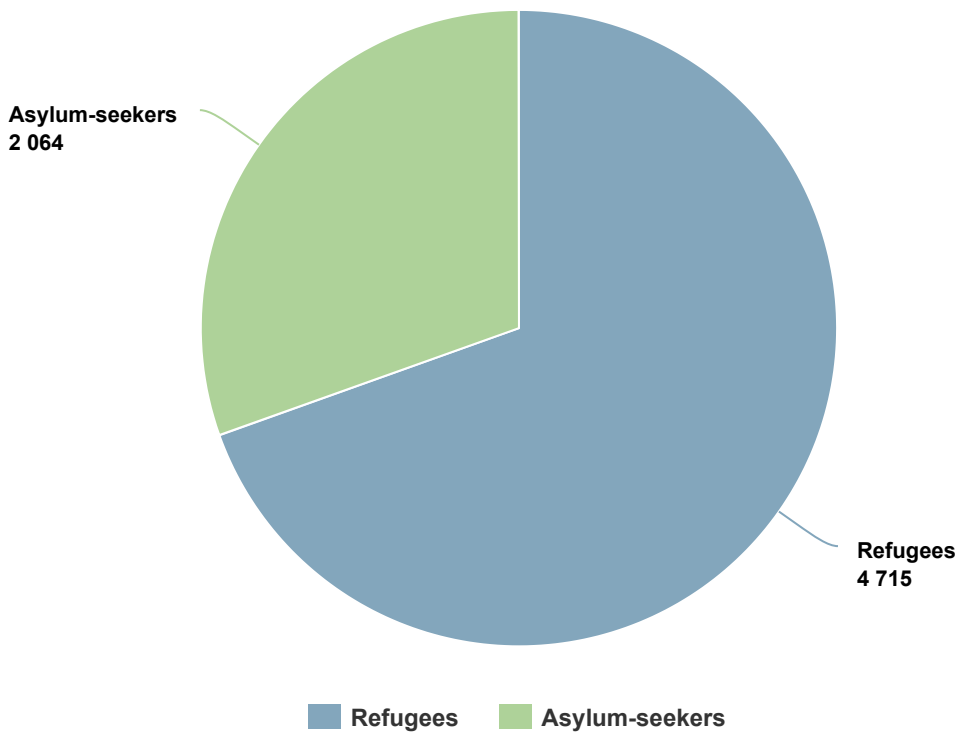
Operation: Morocco



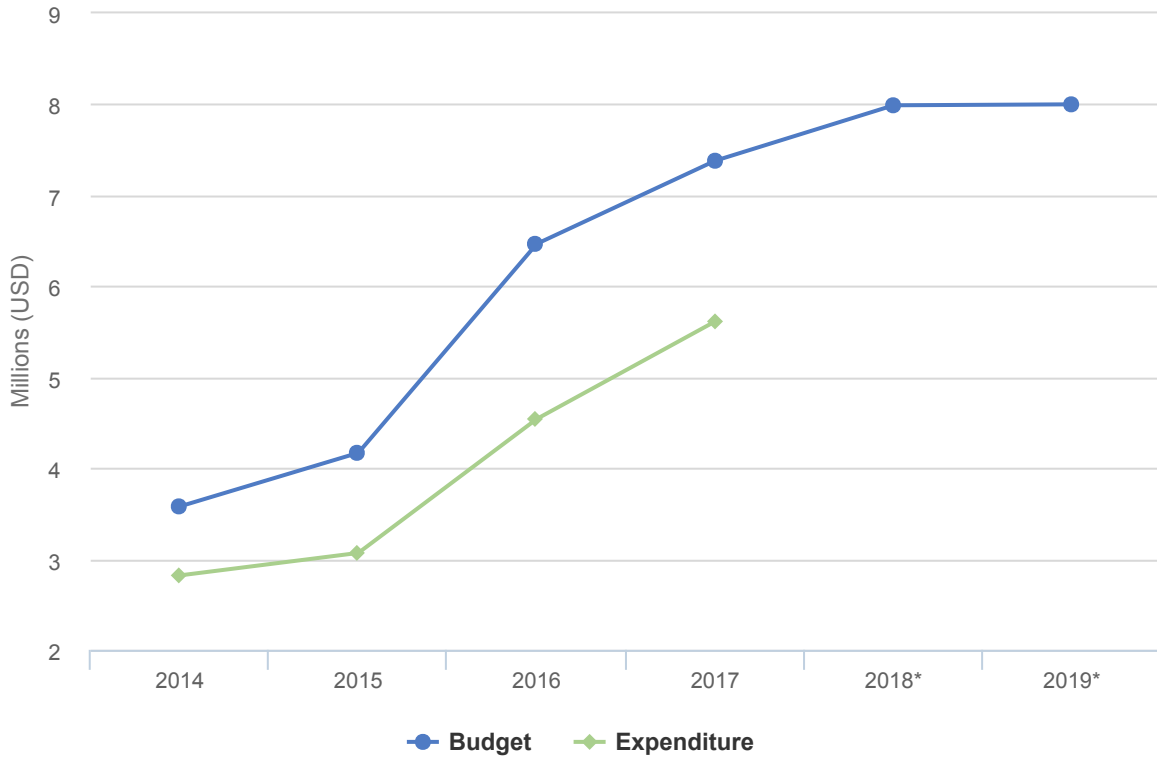
People of Concern

INCREASE IN
1% 2017

2017	6,779
2016	6,733
2015	5,473



Budgets and Expenditure for Morocco



Operational Environment

Refugees in Morocco originate from 38 countries, with some 59 per cent from the Syrian Arab Republic. In 2019, the number of people of concern in Morocco is estimated to increase to 8,700 people, residing in 50 locations across the country. Morocco has increasingly become a place of destination for refugees and migrants.

UNHCR has adopted a proactive outreach strategy consisting of: expanding cash-based interventions through the postal bank to reach the most vulnerable refugees, even in remote locations; expanding the capacity of partners and undertaking regular joint outreach missions with partners and the government to the field; organizing one-stop shops for people of concern; and engaging with and capacitating local governments, most notably the regional offices of the National Mutual Aid (*Entraide Nationale*), with the objective of including refugees in national social services.

The National Immigration and Asylum Policy enables refugees to enjoy protection in Morocco, including access to essential services, such as primary health-care and education. However, due to delays in extending the medical insurance scheme to refugees, gaps in access to secondary health-care remain.

Pending the submission of the draft asylum law to Parliament, UNHCR remains responsible for the registration and refugee status determination (RSD) of asylum-seekers. Those found to qualify for refugee status are referred by UNHCR to the Inter-ministerial Commission on Regularisation under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, the Commission was suspended in March 2017. Without the refugee status and sojourn permit, people of concern have no access to the formal job market, which leaves them in a precarious situation.

Key priorities

In 2019, UNHCR will focus on:

- Supporting the Government in the establishment of a national asylum system;
 - Resuming the registration of asylum-seekers and refugee status determination procedure in collaboration with the authorities;
 - Providing humanitarian aid and protection to refugees, particularly to the most vulnerable;
 - pending the submission of the asylum bill to Parliament, delivering capacity-building of national institutions and civil society
 - Implementing durable solutions for refugees, focusing on socio-professional integration or resettlement to a third country for the vulnerable.
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