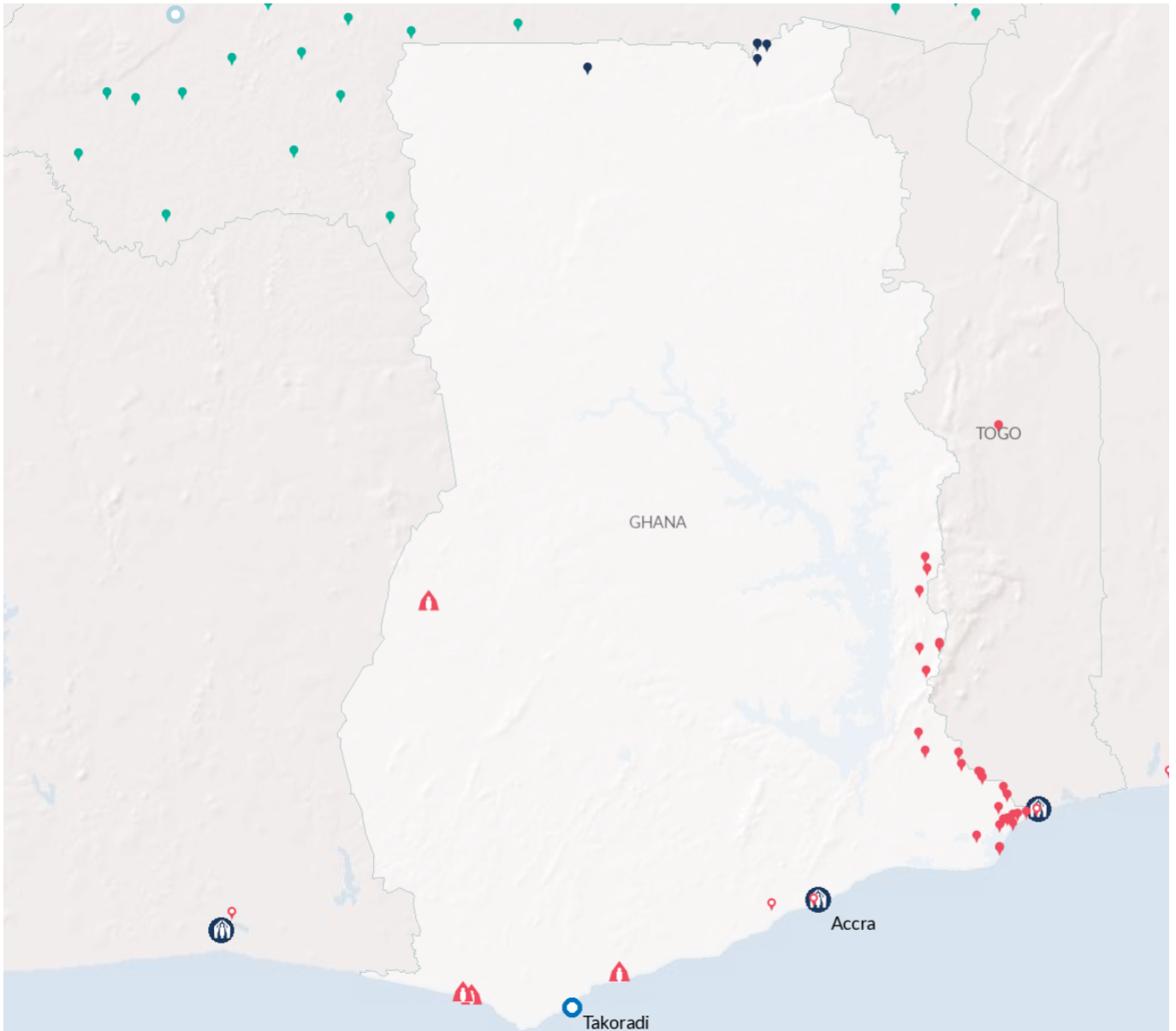


Operation: Ghana

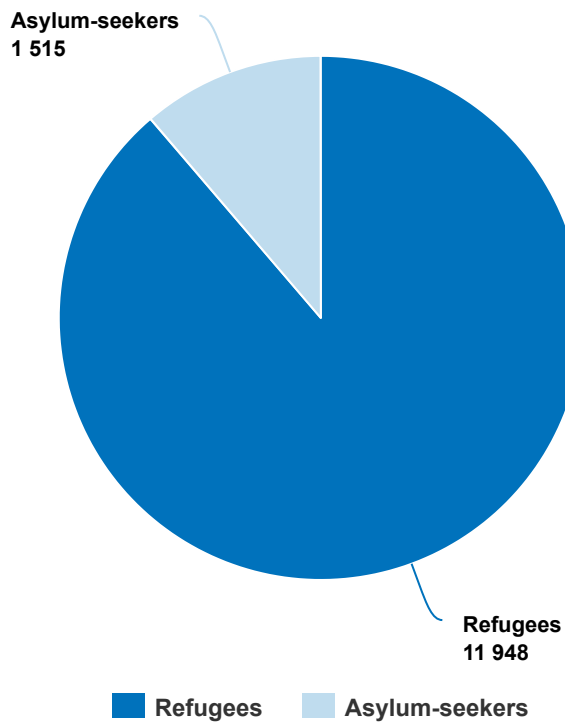


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

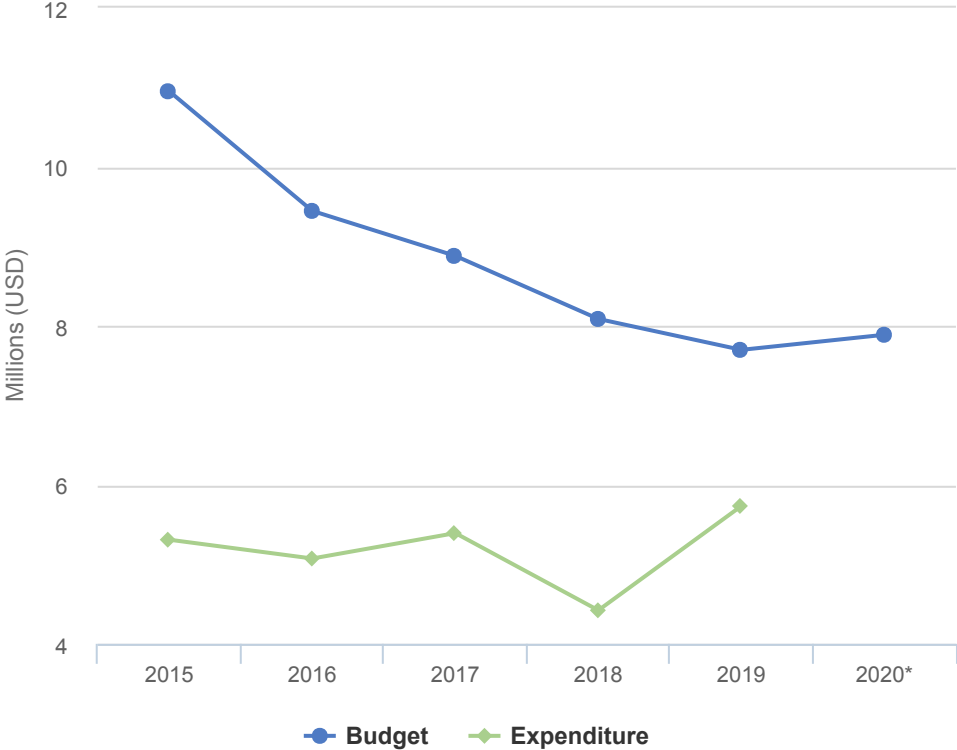
People of Concern

INCREASE IN
2% 2019

2019	13,463
2018	13,216
2017	13,470



Budgets and Expenditure for Ghana



Operational context

Ghana remained politically and economically stable in 2019, and while the country was generally considered safe, Ghana was on security alert due to the deteriorating security situation in the Sahel, more specifically in Burkina Faso, that was expected to result in an influx of refugees into Ghana.

With respect to the protection environment, UNHCR in Ghana continued with the implementation of the 2017-2021 multi-year, multi-partner protection and solutions strategy which includes the provision of five-year residency permits to refugees in a protracted situation. While alternative legal status in the form of resident permits was extended to former Liberian former refugees, the Government was yet to take a formal decision on the legal pathway towards de jure local integration for refugees mainly from Cote d'Ivoire. Moreover, despite UNHCR engagement with the Governments of Ghana and Togo, local integration for Togolese refugees who have been in Ghana since early 1990s remained unresolved in 2019.

In August 2019, the operation received an additional \$2.8 million from the multi-country solutions capital initiative, which aims to reinforce the Government's asylum structure, provide opportunities for durable solutions, prevent statelessness, facilitate refugees' self-reliance and guarantee their access to government services on par with nationals.

At the Global Refugee Forum in December 2019, Ghana pledged to advance the local integration and solutions for refugees in Ghana; adhere to the statelessness conventions by 2021; and support efforts of UNHCR to identify groups at risk of statelessness.

Population trends

As of December 2019, Ghana was host to some 13,500 refugees and asylum-seekers. The operation continued a verification exercise which commenced in December 2018, and by the end of 2019 had covered all locations in Ghana. In 2019, the majority of asylum-seekers originated from Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Eritrea, Pakistan and the Syrian Arab Republic. In addition, approximately 2,000 asylum-seekers from Burkina Faso arrived in Ghana during the reporting period and were yet to be registered.

During the year some 800 people of concern chose to repatriate to their countries of origin - 96% of whom were Ivorians.

Achievements

- UNHCR launched an employment and entrepreneurship forum, to showcase refugee skills, highlight employment opportunities with the private sector, and to encourage policies that would facilitate the employment of refugees.
- UNHCR supported the renewal of passports for approximately 2,000 Liberian refugees in the process of local integration. The refugees will subsequently receive a 5-year residence permit (at a reduced cost) that will pave the way for indefinite residence permits. Over 200 newborns also received passports, thus confirming their nationality.
- Ghana pledged to adhere to the two statelessness conventions by 2021 and support efforts of UNHCR and UNFPA to identify persons at risk of statelessness.
- The operation in Ghana was able to enhance existing partnerships as well as to initiate partnerships with non-traditional actors in the private sector, academia and government to support the protection and solutions strategy.

Unmet needs

- Despite an increase in the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees in 2019, overall low interest continued to be a challenge.
- Due to security concerns, some 2,000 asylum-seekers from Burkina Faso were not registered.

