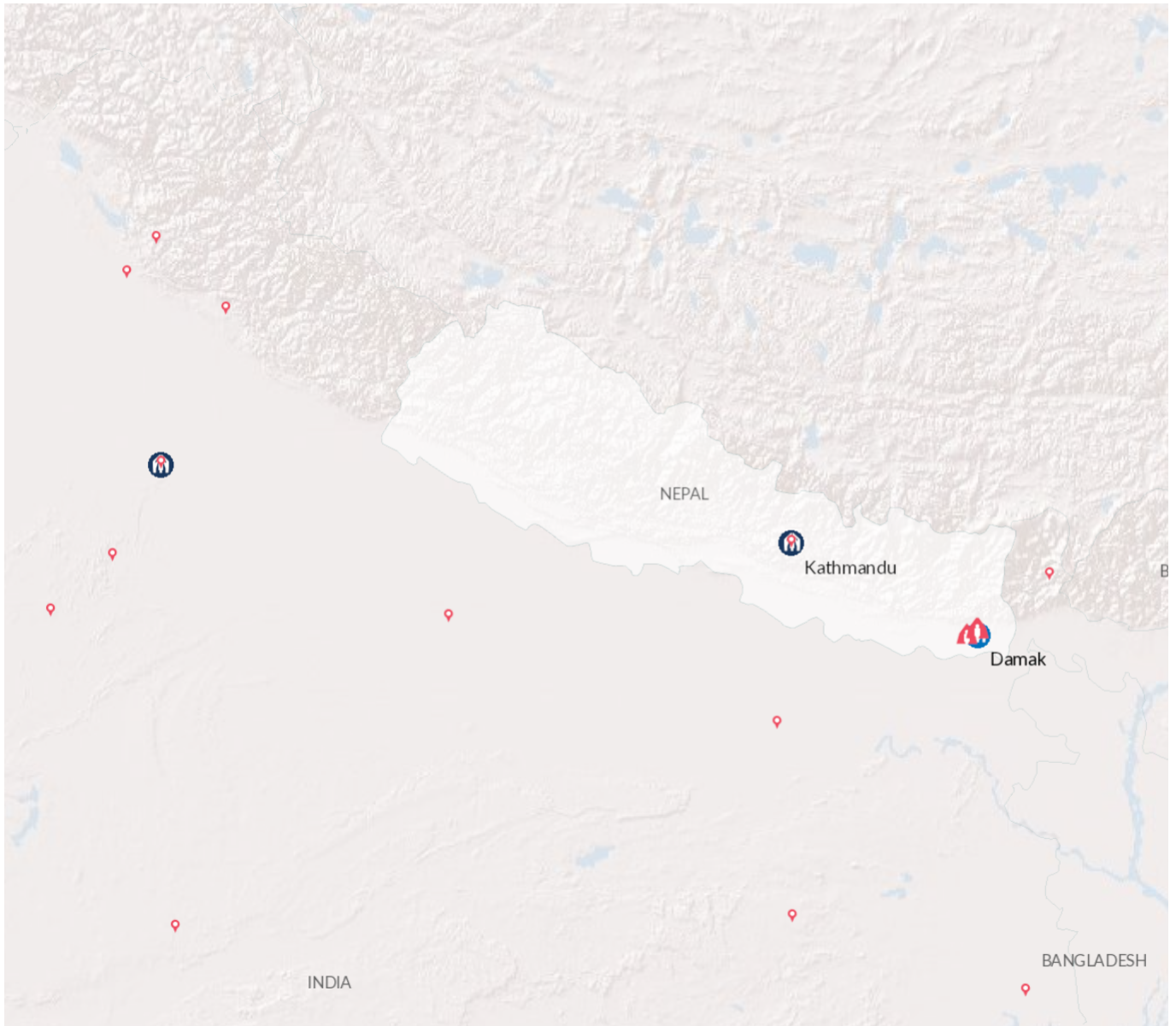




## Operation: Nepal



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

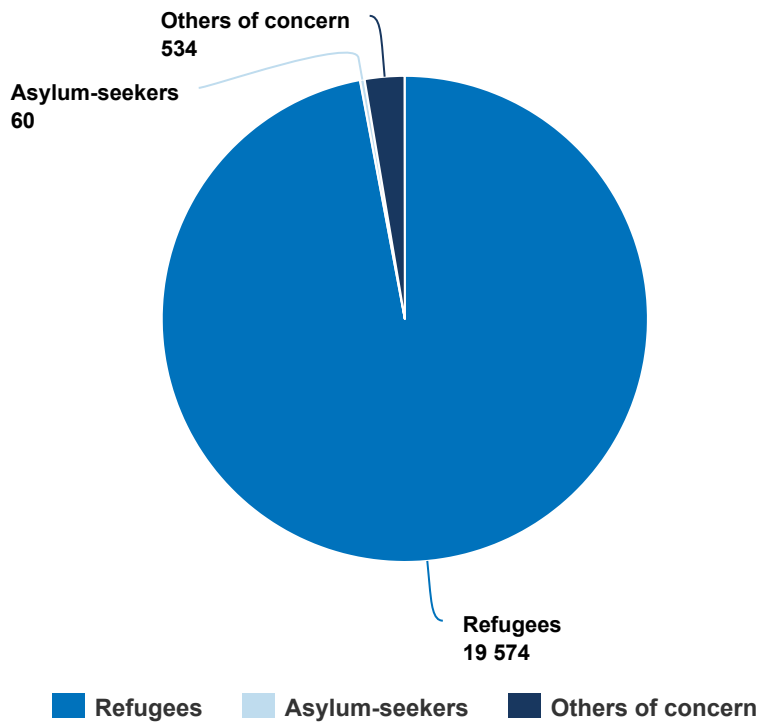
# People of Concern

**6%** DECREASE IN  
**2019**

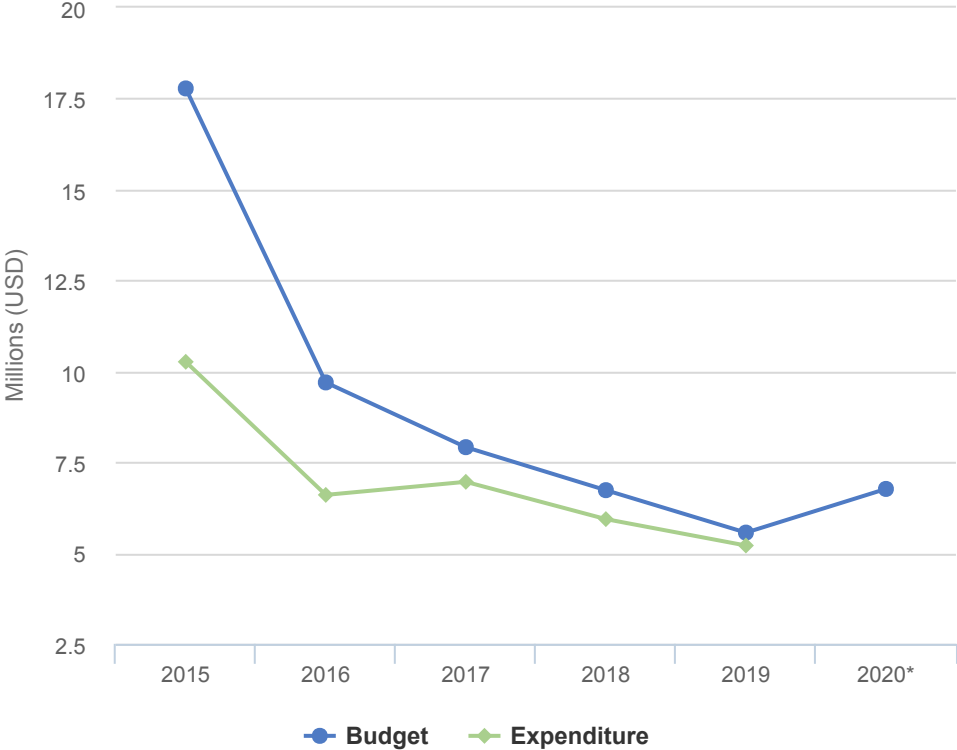
---

<b>2019</b>	20,168
<b>2018</b>	21,406
<b>2017</b>	22,248

---



# Budgets and Expenditure for Nepal



## Operational context

In 2019, UNHCR supported local public health and education facilities to enhance refugees' resilience and access to services. It also helped to transform the Bhutanese refugee camps into resilient, economically and socially cohesive communities.

A Government plan to digitalize data of long-staying Tibetan refugees was commenced but finished in 2019, with approximately three-quarters of the population remaining without documentation. UNHCR continued to offer training and support to the Government in the exercise. Women continued to face gender discrimination in legal provisions and customs, resulting in difficulties accessing citizenship and birth registration for their children. Through civil society and partners, UNHCR advocated for proposed amendments to a draft citizenship law that would render it gender equal.

## Population trends

At the end of 2019, Nepal was host to nearly 19,600 refugees (64% Tibetan and 32% Bhutanese). Over 600 refugees lived in urban settings. Nepal also hosted 60 urban asylum-seekers and over 500 other people of concern. Between 2007-2019, UNHCR facilitated the resettlement of more than 113,500 Bhutanese refugees to third countries, of whom 310 departed in 2019.

More than 50 urban refugees also departed through private sponsorship and emergency resettlement programmes in 2019, while more than 20 left Nepal spontaneously. Statelessness figures were unconfirmed, but civil society groups projected that up to 6.3 million people may lack citizenship certificates due to lack of awareness, procedural obstacles or gender discrimination in citizenship provisions and practices.

## Achievements

UNHCR expanded refugees' access to social and financial services by supporting public health and education facilities through the construction of classrooms, supporting access to bank accounts, providing of medical supplies, and supporting health insurance for Bhutanese refugees. Nearly 800 families paid for the renewal of their own national health insurance, an achievement towards refugee self-reliance and inclusion. Urban refugees received counselling, legal services and targeted material support for education, and financial assistance for vulnerable cases.

In the areas of participation and representation, refugee camp management committees achieved 50% refugee women representation in executive positions. Of the more than 100 refugees who participated in self-help groups focusing on self-reliance, 65% were women. Meetings on educational policy development at provincial and local levels included refugee children.

## Unmet needs

Due to limited resources, UNHCR prioritized interventions targeting only the most vulnerable and marginalized, though others also had significant needs. Local authorities identified limited capacity for national schools to include refugees (envisaged to begin in 2020), however UNHCR was able to provide only minimal support.

Due to limited resources at the local government (ward) level, not all refugees born in Nepal received birth registration certificates.

---