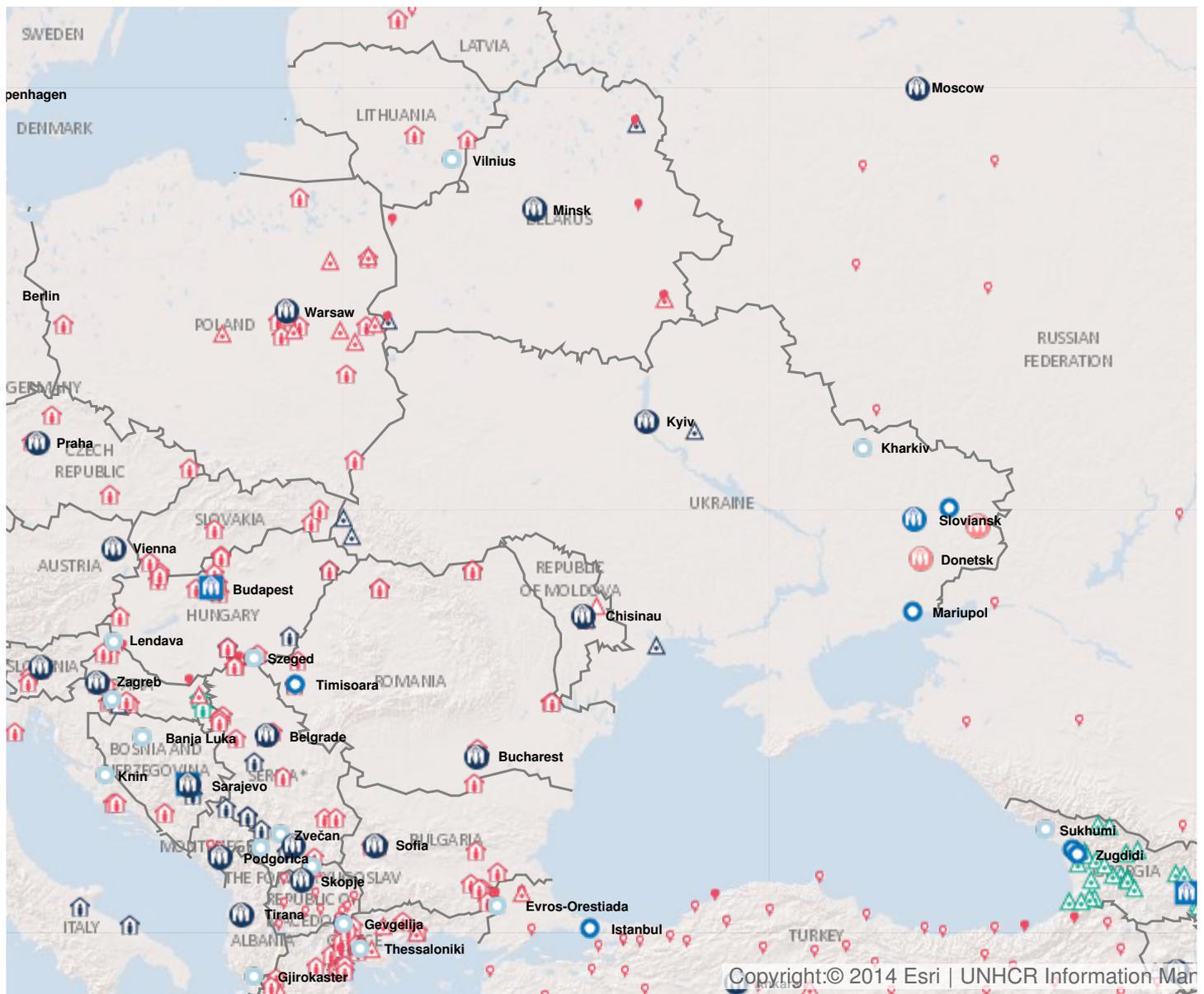


2018 Planning summary

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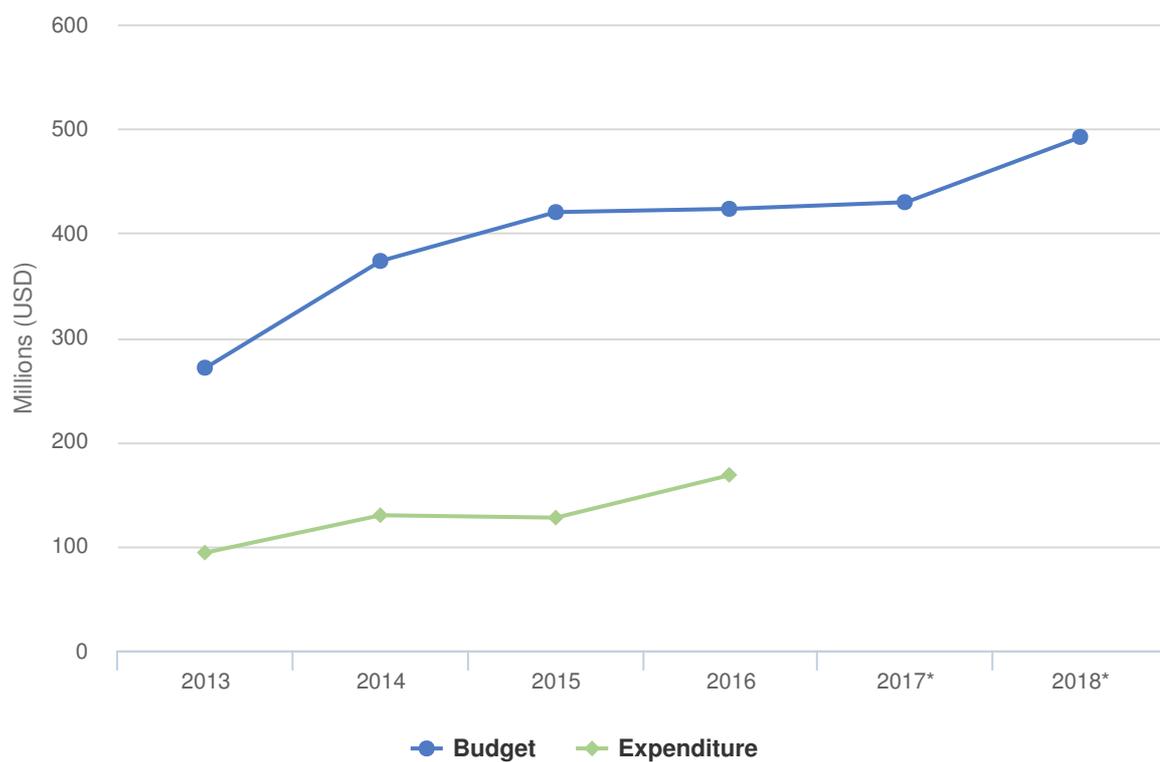
Subregion: Eastern Europe

| Armenia | Azerbaijan | Belarus | Georgia | Republic of Moldova | Russian Federation | Turkey | Ukraine |

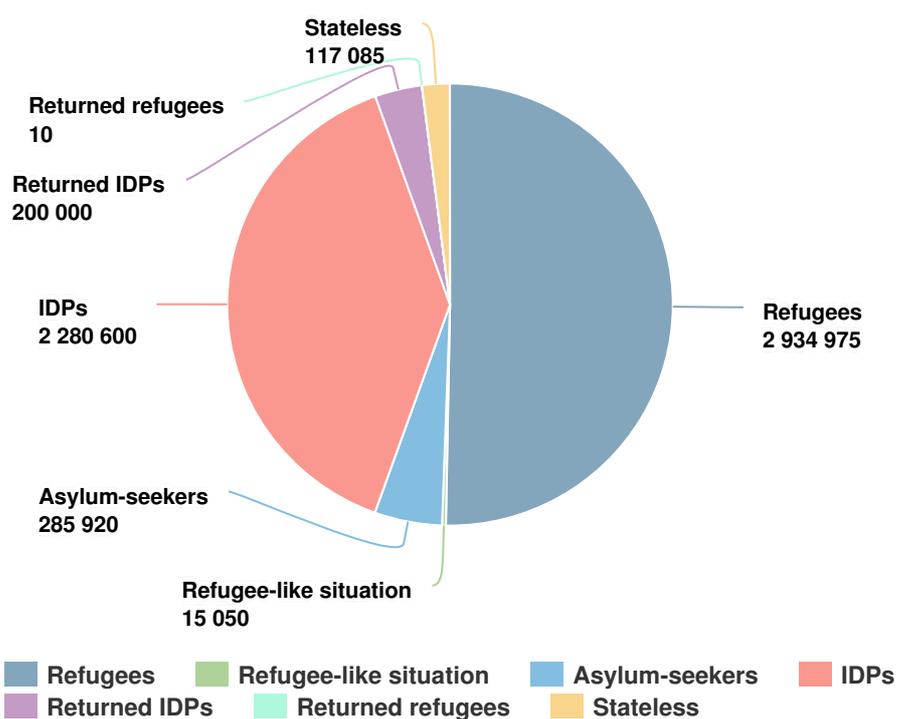


Latest update of camps and office locations 21 Nov 2016.

Budgets and Expenditure in Subregion Eastern Europe



People of Concern - 2018 [projected]



Operational environment

Eastern Europe continues to host a significant number of people of concern to UNHCR, including refugees, IDPs and stateless persons. UNHCR works to ensure that all people of concern receive protection, live in safety and dignity together with host communities, and progressively attain lasting solutions.

Some countries in Eastern Europe have made significant advances in recent years in terms of aligning national legislation and procedures on asylum and statelessness issues with international standards. UNHCR continues to support the efforts to strengthen the state systems. In order to further build fair and impartial asylum procedures in Eastern Europe, UNHCR is engaged in the quality assurance initiative in Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus, focusing on enhancing the quality of refugee status determination procedures and related processes. UNHCR also continues to support measures to prevent and reduce statelessness, as well as accession to the two Statelessness Conventions for the countries that have not yet become the parties.

Yet, integration opportunities for refugees remain limited, in part due to the difficult economic situation, the lack of integration support mechanisms and resources, as well as incidents of xenophobia.

The conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic and Ukraine continue to impact the subregion. UNHCR closely monitors the situation of internally displaced Ukrainians, as well as the more than 1.4 million Ukrainians seeking asylum or other forms of legal pathways in neighbouring countries and other countries in Europe.

Unresolved conflicts in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia do not contribute to the resolution of displacement challenges. While the needs of the displaced are gradually being met, many people of concern are still in need of durable solutions. The re-escalation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in April 2016 resulted in displacement of some 12,000 people, and has put contingency planning and preparedness as high priority for 2018.

In 2018, UNHCR's work in Eastern Europe will focus on:

- Strengthening national asylum systems to ensure that people of concern to UNHCR have access to protection;
- Supporting access to durable solutions for refugees, primarily through local integration and, where appropriate, resettlement and voluntary repatriation;
- Supporting government actions for and accountabilities to all people of concern, including IDPs;
- Supporting peacebuilding initiatives in an effort to improve conditions for durable solutions and prevention of further displacement;
- Strengthening national legislation and procedures to prevent and reduce statelessness, and advocating accession to the two statelessness conventions;
- Assisting people of concern with specific needs, while working to facilitate access to public services and livelihoods for all people of concern;
- Work closely with relevant stake holders on contingency planning, as required

Response and implementation

*Operations in the **Russian Federation**, **Turkey** and **Ukraine** are presented in separate country pages.*

Armenia has been significantly impacted by the arrival of Syrian refugees in recent years, and some 14,000 Syrian nationals of Armenian origin remained in the country as at mid-2017. The most vulnerable Syrians will continue to benefit from support provided by UNHCR, in cooperation with the Government and NGOs, including in terms of accommodation and livelihoods.

As of mid-2017, some 1,200 refugees, 263 asylum-seekers, 3,600 stateless persons, and over 613,120 IDPs were present in **Azerbaijan**. UNHCR will continue to cooperate with the Government to strengthen implementation of

international legal instruments; improve the national legislative framework; develop Government action plans aimed at achieving solutions for people of concern; improve the national asylum procedure; ensure access to basic services and the labour market for all people of concern; and advocate for a needs-based approach to enhance targeting of most vulnerable IDPs.

In **Belarus**, the effects of the situation in Ukraine will continue to be felt in 2018. As of mid-2017, the country hosted about 165,000 Ukrainians. Some 6,000 stateless persons and 2,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, mostly from Ukraine, Afghanistan and the Syrian Arab Republic were also present in Belarus. In 2018, UNHCR will support efforts to strengthen the asylum system and provide protection. Activities will include: monitoring the application of the 1951 Convention and national asylum legislation; provision of legal and technical assistance to the Government; building capacity of Government departments dealing with statelessness; ensuring full and unhindered access to territory and refugee status determination procedures; prevention of *refoulement*; and enhancing local integration capacity.

In **Georgia**, UNHCR will support efforts by relevant stakeholders to protect, integrate and improve living conditions for displaced populations. As of mid-2017, some 2,200 refugees and people in refugee-like situations, 344 asylum-seekers, 600 stateless persons, and 276,000 IDPs (including people in an IDP-like situation in Abkhazia) were present in Georgia. UNHCR will seek to ensure that people of concern are informed of their rights, improve access to State services, and expand ongoing socio-economic support based on a combination of self-reliance and cash-based interventions, as well as social cohesion projects. Legal aid and counselling will continue to be provided to both refugees and IDPs, and the Office will carry out monitoring of reception conditions and access to territory. UNHCR will seek to strengthen the quality of national asylum procedures through capacity development activities and advocate a needs-based approach to assisting IDPs.

2018 Budget for Eastern Europe | USD

Operation	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 3 Reintegration projects	Pillar 4 IDP projects	Total
Belarus	1,595,197	43,000	0	0	1,638,197
Regional Office in the South Caucasus	11,149,900	505,777	0	4,972,920	16,628,598
Russian Federation	5,255,250	970,894	0	0	6,226,145
Turkey	436,573,729	2,790	0	0	436,576,519
Ukraine	6,029,065	816,550	0	24,240,896	31,086,511
Total	460,603,141	2,339,011	0	29,213,817	492,155,969