Subregion: Central Asia

- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan
### Budgets and Expenditure in Subregion Central Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018*</th>
<th>2019*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### People of Concern - 2019 [projected]

- **Refugees**: 3,420
- **Asylum-seekers**: 702
- **Stateless**: 99,903
- **Others of concern**: 1
Operational Environment

The overall political context in Central Asia remains relatively stable. The sub-region continues to be affected by the population movements of its citizens towards Russia, primarily of economic character. Asylum policies are predominantly guided by national security considerations, rendering access to asylum and limiting the protection space. The Almaty Process remains the only inter-governmental consultative platform where migration and asylum issues in the region are discussed.

Ongoing reforms in Uzbekistan continue to positively impact on regional cooperation, as witnessed in March 2018 at the first Summit of Central Asian leaders in nearly 20 years. To pursue regional peace and stability, Central Asian states are taking a more prominent role in engaging with Afghanistan, where 90 per cent of the refugees in Central Asia originate from.

With the exception of Uzbekistan, all Central Asian countries are signatories to the 1951 Refugee Convention, whilst Turkmenistan is the only State party to the Statelessness Conventions in the region.

The 2019-2021 strategic orientation in Central Asia, which is aligned with the UNHCR Global Priorities and Strategic Directions for 2017-2021, is guided by the following priorities:

1. eradication and prevention of statelessness in partnership with interlocutors;
2. achieve sustainable asylum systems through strengthened partnerships;
3. development of efficient emergency preparedness.

The strategy has two important milestones: the Global High-Level Conference on Statelessness scheduled for October 2019 and the 30th independence anniversaries of the Central Asian countries in 2021. In 2019-2021 UNHCR plans to continue its work with Governments and encourage them to play greater and more prominent role with regard to identification and eradication of statelessness in accordance with the goals of I Belong Campaign.

Strategy and Response

In Turkmenistan, UNHCR will continue cooperation with the Government and will support its efforts to resolve the existing estimated 4,300 stateless cases, and assist the Government to prevent future statelessness by adopting the 2018-2024 national action plan to address statelessness. Furthermore, UNHCR will work with the Government to continue seeking durable solutions for a small group of 23 mandate refugees, and enhance its work with Government on emergency preparedness.

Uzbekistan participates in the statelessness related activities of UNHCR in the region and UNHCR will continue to expand opportunities for cooperation with the authorities in areas of prevention and reduction of statelessness.

2019 Budget for Central Asia | USD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operation</th>
<th>Pillar 1 Refugee programme</th>
<th>Pillar 2 Stateless programme</th>
<th>Pillar 3 Reintegration projects</th>
<th>Pillar 4 IDP projects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan Regional Office</td>
<td>4,328,075</td>
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