



2020 Planning summary

2/12/2019

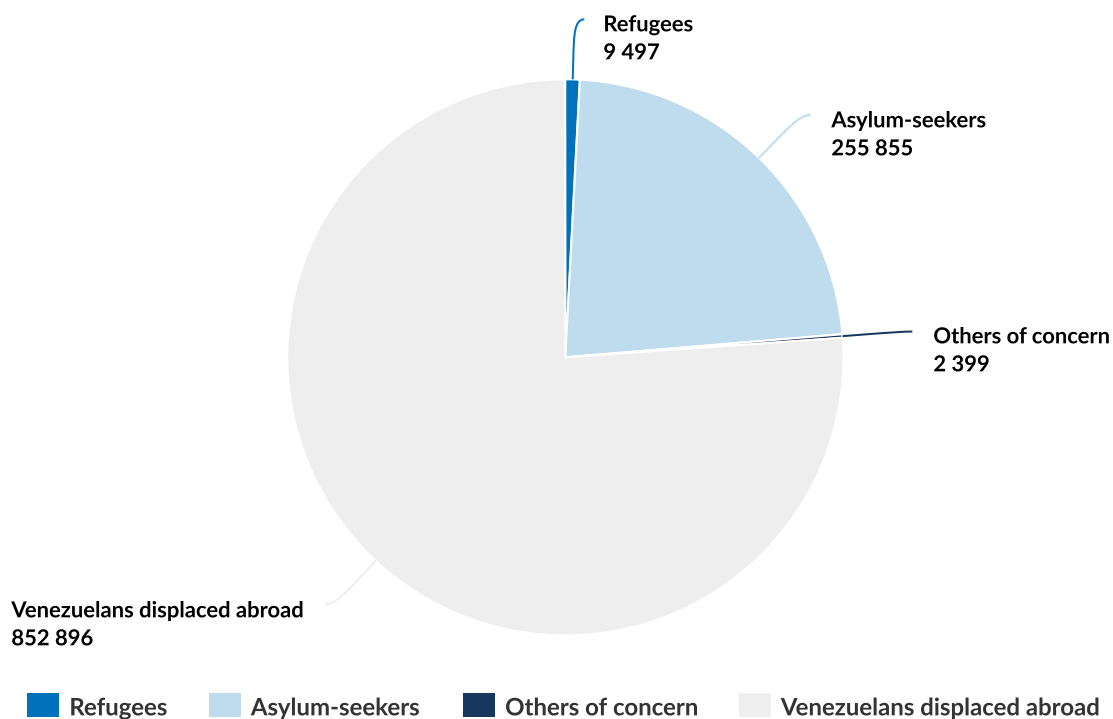
Operation: Argentina Regional Office



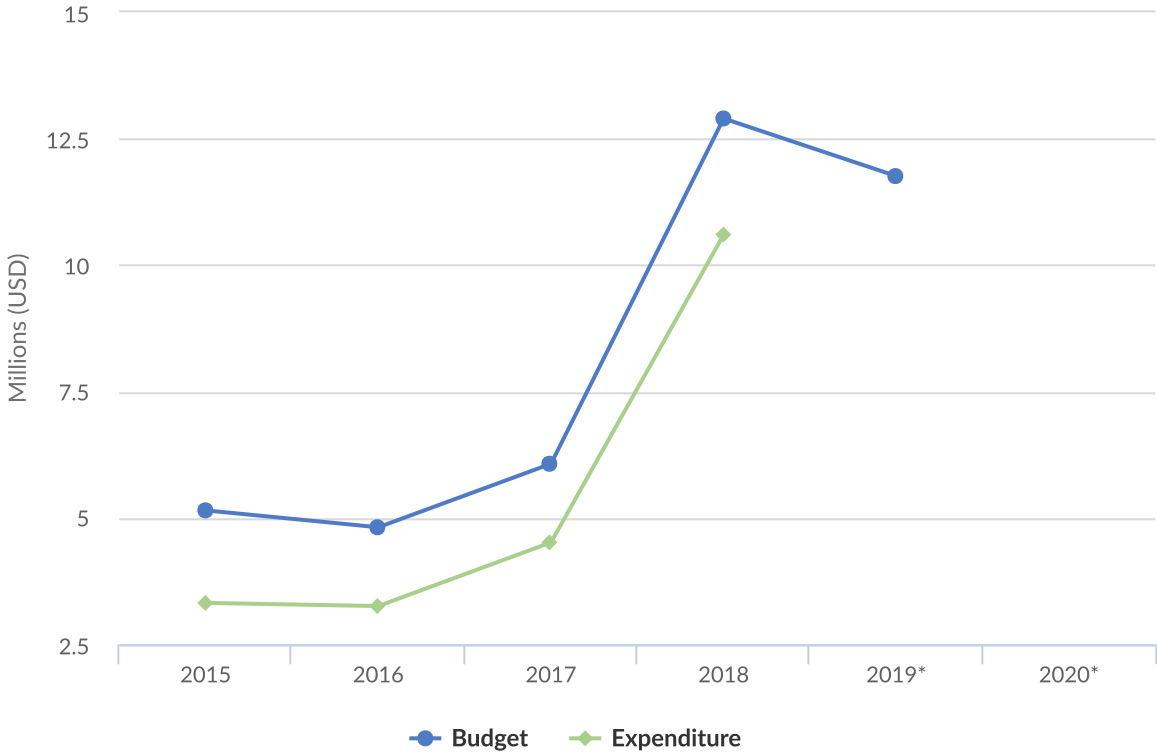
People of Concern

INCREASE IN
363% 2018

2018	1,120,647
2017	241,989
2016	20,175



Budgets and Expenditure for Argentina Regional Office



Response in 2020

The regional dynamics and political developments in Venezuela, as well as measures taken by the countries in the region to ensure asylum and migratory pathways remain open to Venezuelans, will considerably affect the operational environment of the Southern Cone. Elections in several countries are likely to lead to changes and relationships with government counterparts will need to be re-established. An increased number of arrivals with heightened vulnerabilities and fewer economic means, in addition to a pessimistic economic outlook in the region, mean it will be imperative to focus on addressing protection risks, work with host communities and foster socio-economic and financial inclusion.

The dramatic rise in Venezuelan arrivals during 2019 is expected to continue, and possibly accelerate, in 2020. By the beginning of 2020, the region is expected to host approximately 622,964 people of concern from Venezuela (213 refugees, 6,204 asylum-seekers and 616,547 Venezuelans displaced abroad). These figures suggest a total population of 726,463 by the end of 2020 (362 refugees, 8,130 asylum seekers and 717,971 Venezuelans displaced abroad). The population assisted by UNHCR is also expected to increase in the region, and it is estimated that more than 90% of assisted persons will be Venezuelans. Approximately 95% will be Venezuelans.

To achieve maximum impact, UNHCR is working closely with a range of partners. The main government counterpart in all countries is the National Refugee Commission, as well as the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Public Defender's Office and the Office of Domestic Violence in Argentina, the ombudsperson in Bolivia and Chile are among the other structures providing advice, and monitoring, access to legal assistance and protection of people of concern. In addition to co-leading the regional platforms for coordination of the regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan with IOM, UNHCR has created close partnerships with the private sector to foster access to labour and job markets, and achieve financial inclusion. Cooperation with municipalities, cities of solidarity and academia at national and regional level is key to help shape public policies. Close coordination with the UN as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is important to UNHCR's partnership strategy.

The priority for the regional office for southern Latin America in 2020 will continue to be addressing the protection, assistance and integration needs of Venezuelans, in line with the regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan, while ensuring that other people of concern benefit equally from existing programmes. UNHCR will provide life-saving assistance in border areas as well as main cities, while cooperating with the private sector to achieve financial and socio-economic inclusion.

In line with UNHCR's global strategy, the operation will prioritize and scale-up cash-based interventions for emergency assistance and integration. Cities of solidarities play an important part in helping people of concern integrate in host countries and communities and ensure a sustainable approach to development, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Protection services, such as the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence, family reunification, legal counselling and access to documentation, will be provided to address, in particular, the needs of women and girls. Through partners, UNHCR will increase its field presence in nine key locations in the Southern Cone to work more closely with communities and grass-root organizations. The implementation of the "Global action plan to end statelessness: 2014-2024" and "The three-year (2019-2021) strategy on resettlement and complementary pathways" to strengthen third-country solutions in the region will be another important part of UNHCR's protection strategy.

As part of the recommendations of the Global Compact on Refugees, UNHCR in Argentina is mainstreaming a multi-stakeholder approach and reinforcing innovative solutions for responsibility sharing. Using an age, gender and diversity approach to ensure people of concern feel empowered and involved throughout the programme cycle while strengthening mechanisms to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment will be key to UNHCR's programme approach in the Southern Cone.
