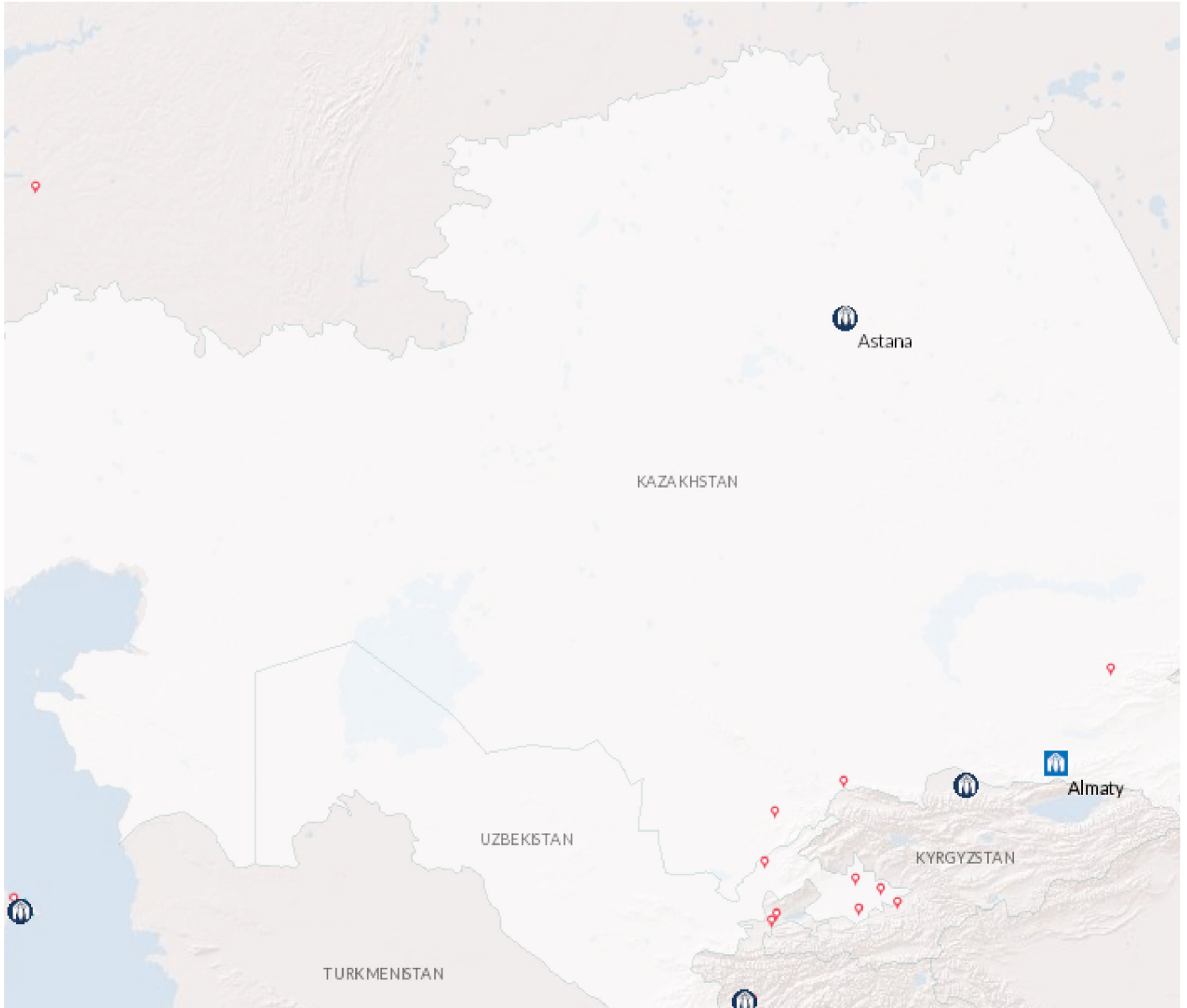


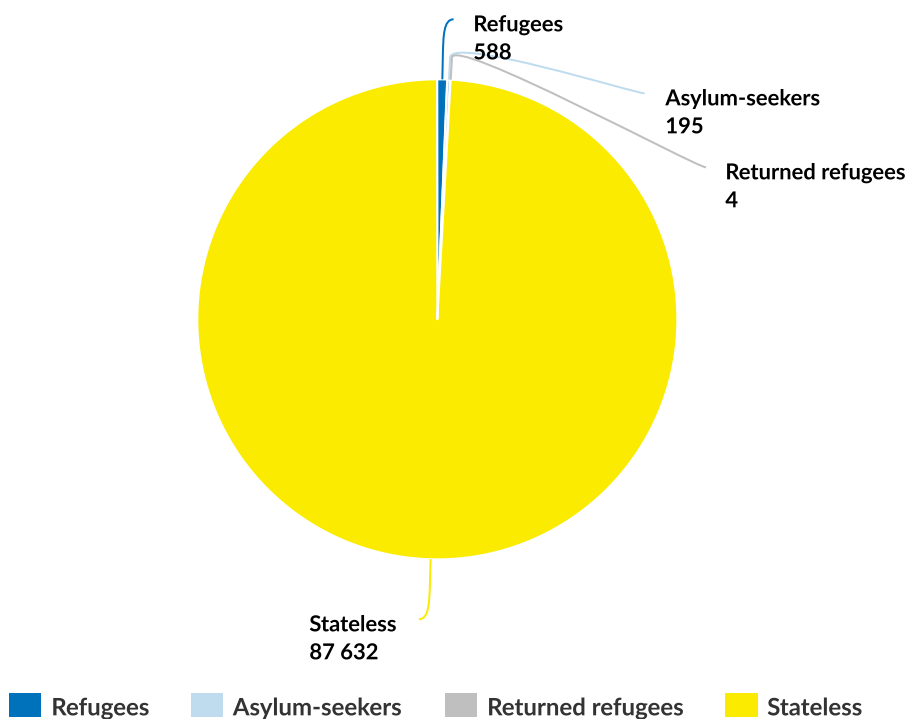
Operation: Kazakhstan Regional Office



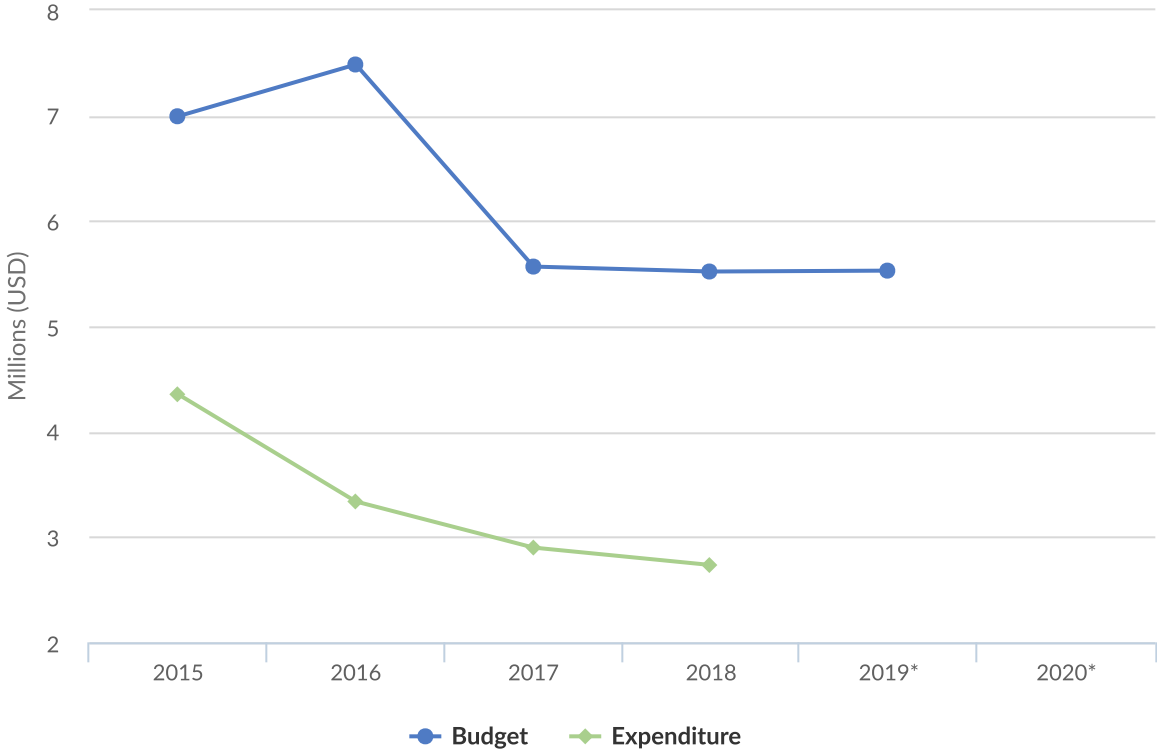
# People of Concern

DECREASE IN  
**6%** 2018

2018	88,419
2017	94,532
2016	95,795



# Budgets and Expenditure for Kazakhstan Regional Office



## Working environment

In Kazakhstan, there are 574 refugees and 195 asylum-seekers, predominantly from Afghanistan. Based on the past years' trends, the number of new arrivals is expected to remain low in 2020 with up to 100 people estimated to arrive throughout the year. Majority of the new arrivals will most likely be from Afghanistan due to prevailing security situation there. It is possible that small groups may apply for asylum from neighbouring countries, if they are not able to obtain other legal status in Kazakhstan. The overall numbers of refugees will probably decrease to 450 in 2020, considering a decrease in new arrivals, low recognition rate, naturalization and acquisition of alternative legal status.

The current number of officially registered 7,156 stateless persons in Kazakhstan is likely to decrease considerably in 2020 due to the government's efforts to facilitate naturalization of officially registered stateless persons and to adopt Statelessness Determination Procedure which will facilitate resolution for persons with undetermined nationality. In 2020, UNHCR's NGO partners will continue to support identification and resolution for the 534 persons with undetermined nationality.

UNHCR's key strategic partners on asylum and refugee issues will remain with the state institutions and more specifically with the Ministry of Interior, Migration Service, and justice, and border services.

## Key priorities

In 2020, UNHCR will provide legal aid, representation and limited financial support to the vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees through NGO partners.

On the statelessness front, UNHCR will capitalize on its global partnership with UNICEF and will actively participate in the UNDAF working groups to address the birth registration gaps in the national legislation. This also includes working closely with the state institutions and line ministries such as the president's offices and the parliament to advocate for the improvement of the national citizenship and nationality laws and to follow up on the implementation of the pledges made at the High-Level Conference on Statelessness in Geneva in 2019.

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