

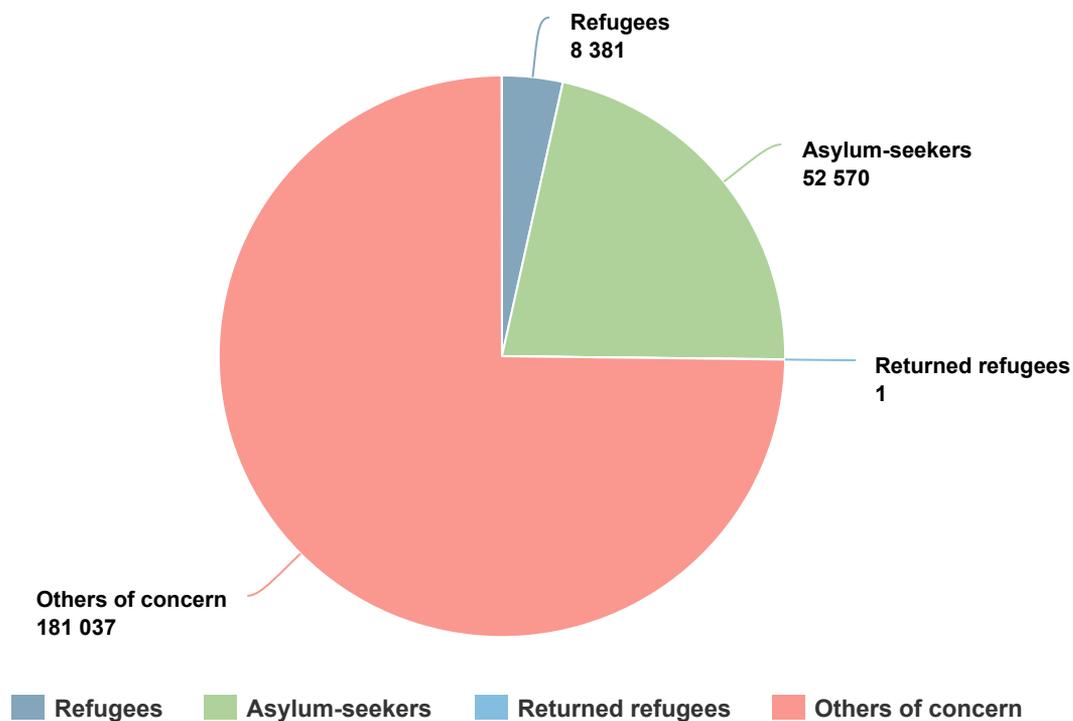
Operation: Argentina Regional Office



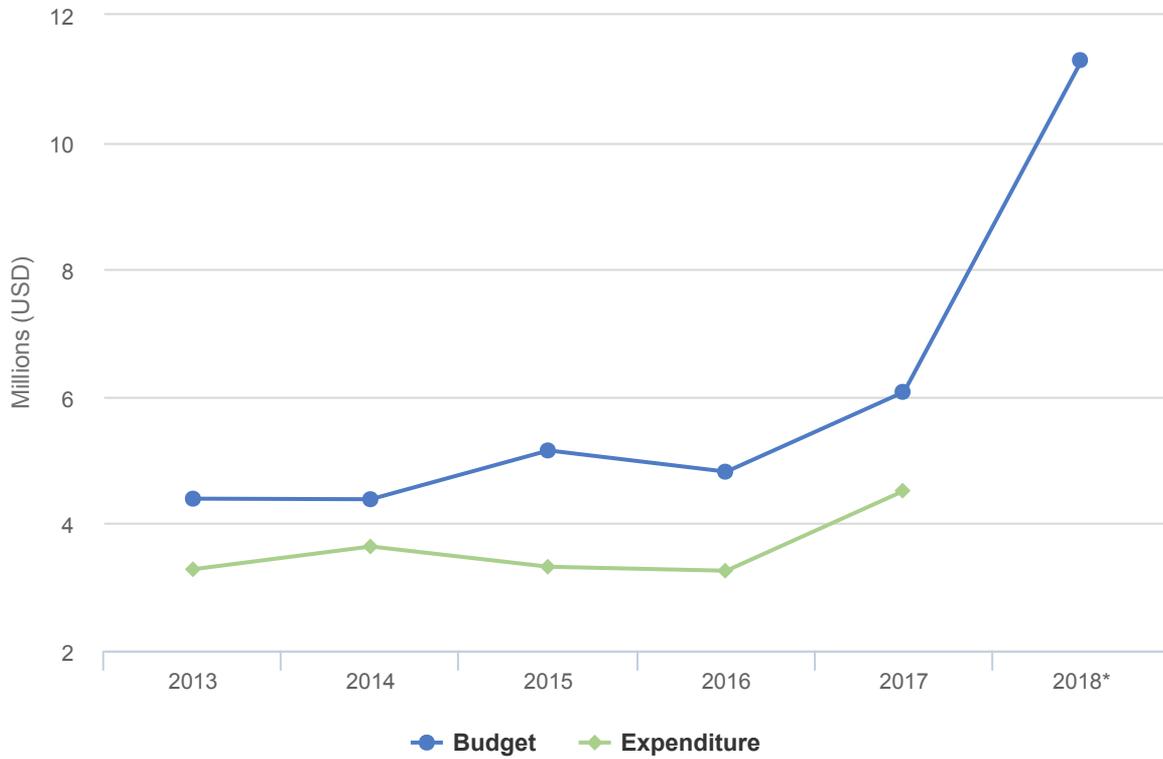
People of Concern

INCREASE IN
1,099% 2017

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|-------------|---------|
| 2017 | 241,989 |
| 2016 | 20,175 |
| 2015 | 10,428 |



Budgets and Expenditure for Argentina Regional Office



Operational context

In 2017, the main challenges in the six countries covered by UNHCR's Regional Office in Argentina were linked to the impact of the Venezuela situation with increased asylum claims and significant displacement in the region. Peru was most affected by the crisis, with more than 20,000 pending asylum applications estimated by the end of 2017. Local integration strategy continues to be promoted to guarantee effective protection environment for people of concern. Argentina, Chile and Uruguay demonstrated continuous solidarity with refugee crises worldwide by implementing resettlement programmes.

Population trends

At the end of 2017, there were some 36,100 people of concern in the region, of whom 36 per cent were female. This figure, however, does not include statistical information on the last six months of the year for Bolivia and Peru. Considering the influx of Venezuelans in Peru, the total number of people of concern in the six countries was estimated at 49,800, an increase of 121 per cent from 2016.

Key achievements

- 249 refugees were resettled to Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay in the frame of the Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism (ERCM).
- UNHCR established its presence in Peru and strengthened presence in border areas, consolidating the response to the Venezuela situation.
- National consultations, including participatory assessments, were held in all six countries for the evaluation of the Brazil Plan of Action
- A project law for accession to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness was approved by Parliament in Chile which will formally adhere soon.
- 158 persons at risk of statelessness were granted nationality in Chile in the frame of the *Chile Reconoce* project.
- More than 1,500 interviews with media were conducted, increasing UNHCR's visibility in the region.

Unmet needs

- Limited presence and funds in Peru did not allow for UNHCR to respond adequately to the Venezuela situation
 - Funds to support, expand and consolidate border protection strategies would have increased the Office's capacity to assess and monitor the overall protection situation in the region
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