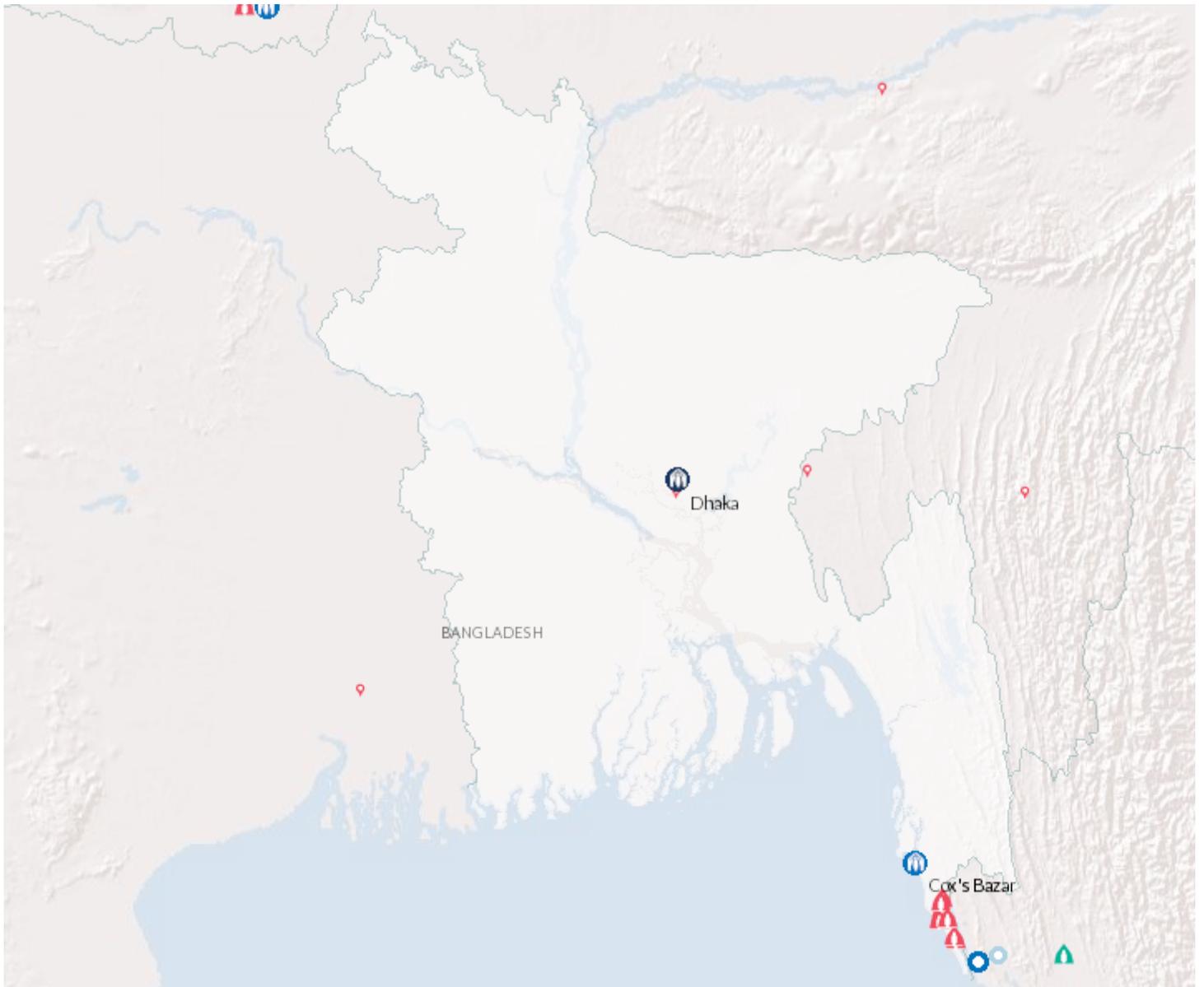


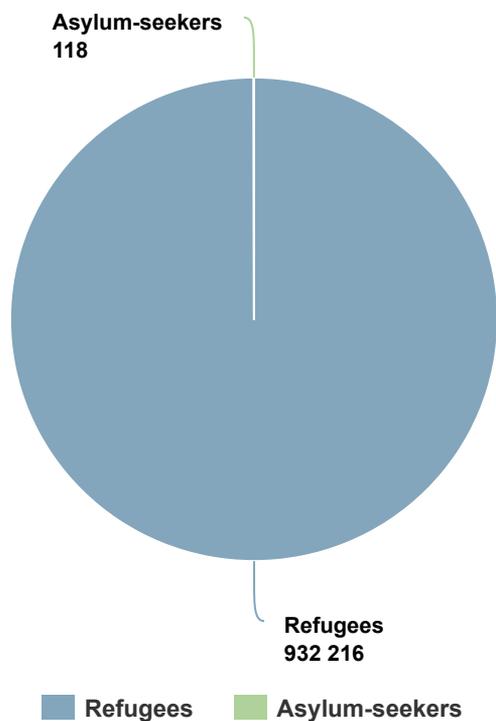
Operation: Bangladesh



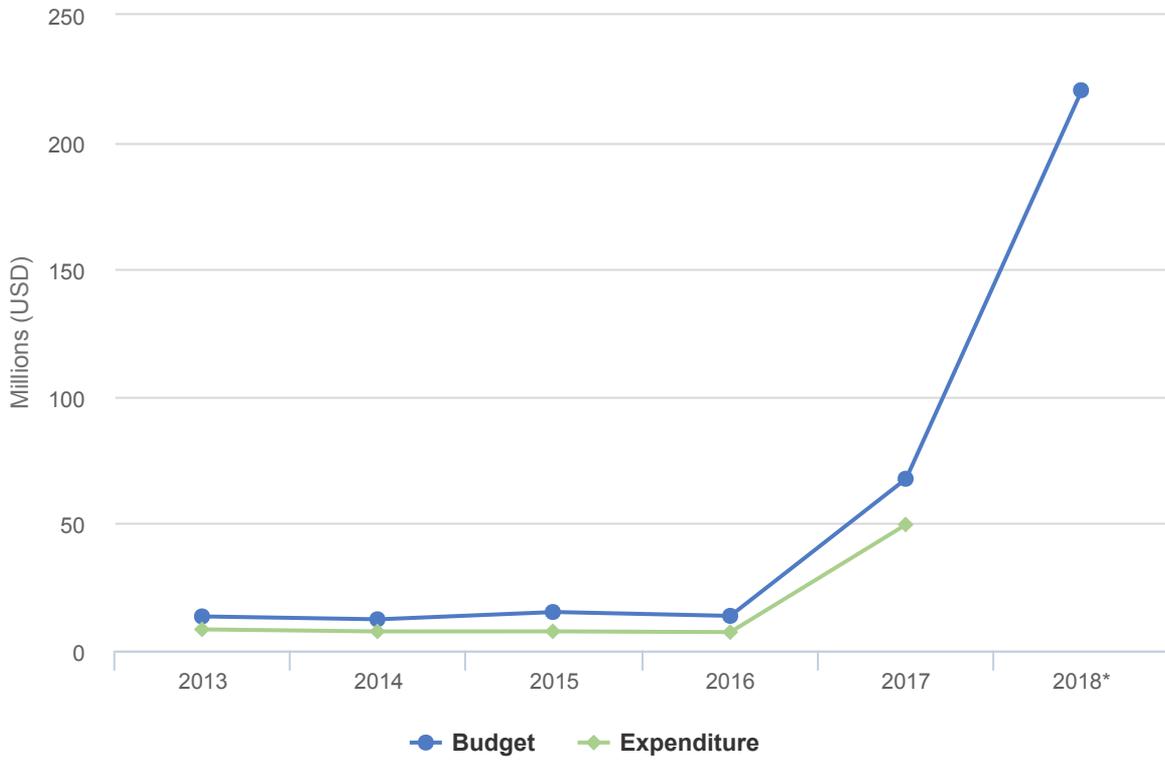
People of Concern

INCREASE IN
238% 2017

2017	932,334
2016	276,208
2015	231,958



Budgets and Expenditure for Bangladesh



Operational context

The speed and scale of the influx of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar led to the declaration of a UNHCR internal Level 3 emergency in September 2017. The refugee population is highly vulnerable, having fled conflict and experienced severe trauma, and now living in extremely difficult conditions in Bangladesh. In addition, the sudden influx has put a strain on the hosting communities. At the initial stage, UNHCR focused on protection and meeting the emergency standards of service provision to refugees. UNHCR, in close coordination with all actors in the area, contributed at the operational level in the provision of protection, health, nutrition, shelter, site management, WASH and core-relief items. UNHCR enhanced partnerships with different humanitarian actors and stakeholders with a focus on collaboration with local NGOs.

The overall response has forged ahead since then and critical protection, shelter, water, sanitation, health, nutrition and other needs have been addressed. Extensive physical, structural, infrastructural and engineering works have been undertaken to organize settlements and establish access and other public service networks. UNHCR has made its largest deployment of its organizational emergency response capacities, and dramatically upped its coordination and operational footprint on the ground.

As the Governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar started to discuss and work out arrangements for the return of the refugees to Myanmar, UNHCR engaged with both to underscore the imperatives of any returns being voluntary, in safety and dignity, sustainable, and with international humanitarian presence and monitoring.

Population trends

Combined with the refugee population present prior to 25 August 2017, over 932,000 refugees are accommodated in various sites and settlements of Cox's Bazar District. According to the family counting exercise conducted between October and December 2017, some 81 per cent of this population arrived between August and December 2017. Of the total, 55 per cent were under 18 years and 52 per cent were female.

Key achievements

- UNHCR established a consolidated, comprehensive identity management system that ensure reliable data at the individual level for management and the delivery of assistance. The unified data facilitates the evidence-based case management at both the individual and collective levels, the out-reach to families to ensures appropriate support and follow-up, and the improvement of protection and delivery of assistance to the refugees.
- Community outreach through construction of seven community centers with integrated information points and 50 trained Community Outreach Members.
- Identification of new settlement areas and development of a macro development plan for Kutupalong settlement in consultation with the Government.

Unmet needs

- The process of the Government registration for international NGOs remained lengthy and complicated, which slowed down the operational capacity in the overall response.
- Due to the magnitude of the influx, refugees arrived at new sites before adequate infrastructure and services could be established, resulting in the service delivery only at emergency standards.
- In Ukhia and Teknaf sub-districts, the refugee influx has had a significant impact on host communities, including market access, labour competition, deforestation, and inflation. More support is required to address the needs of host communities for their sustainable socio-economic development, which would also have an impact on the life of refugees.

