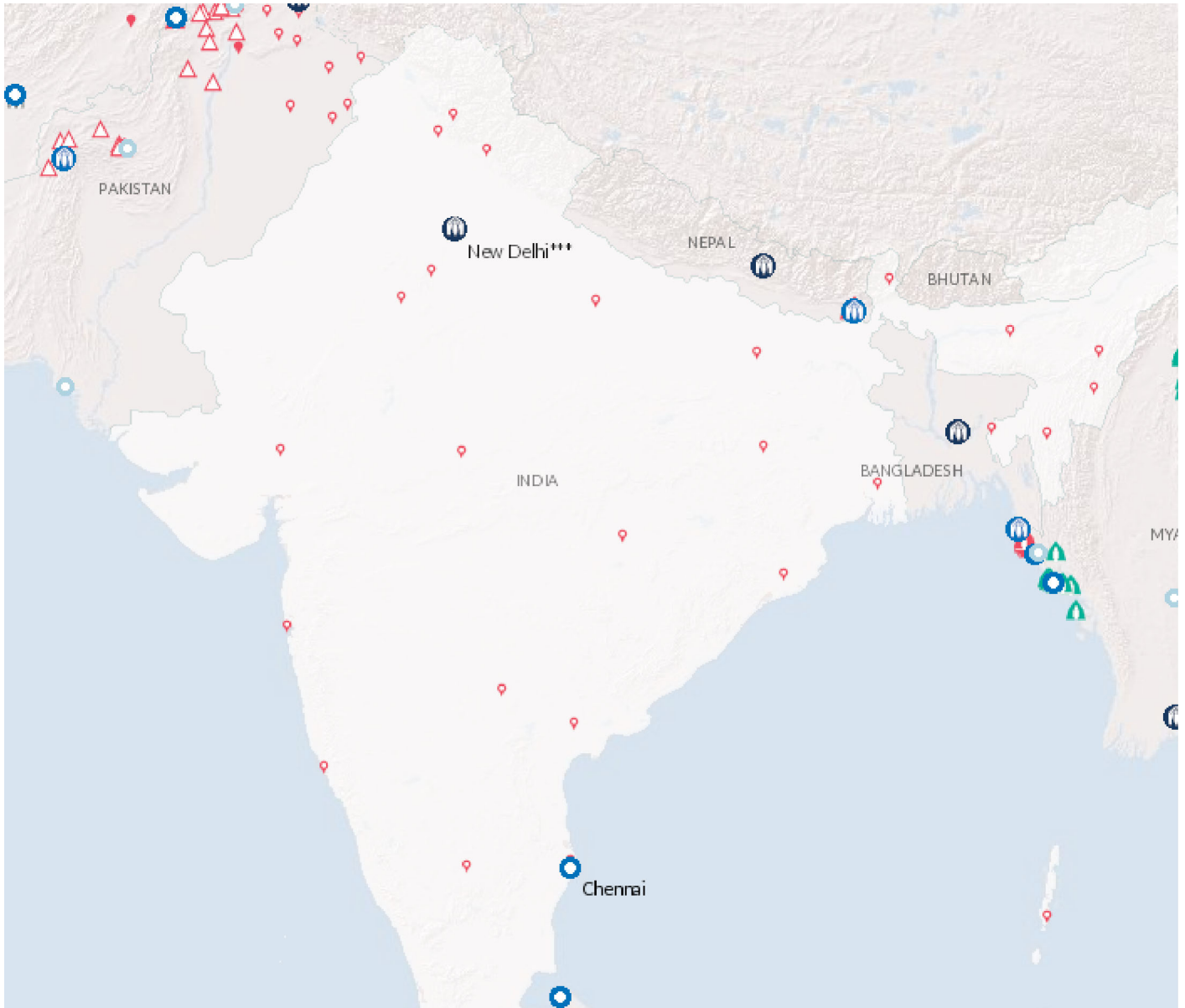


Operation: India

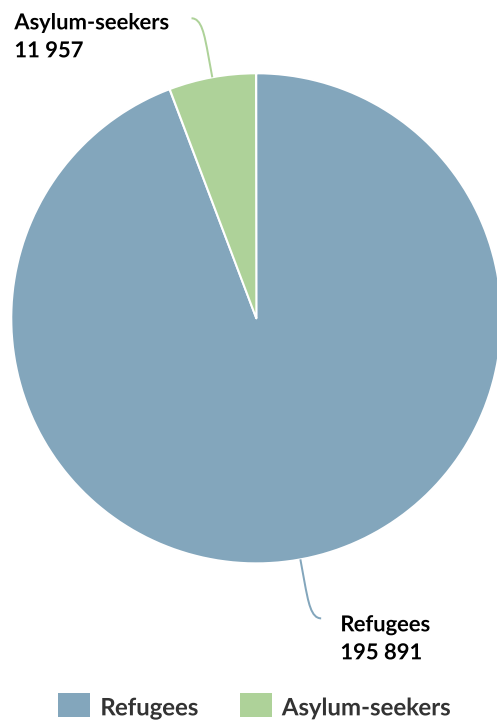


(<http://reporting.unhcr.org/admin/structure/block/manage/block/29/configure>)

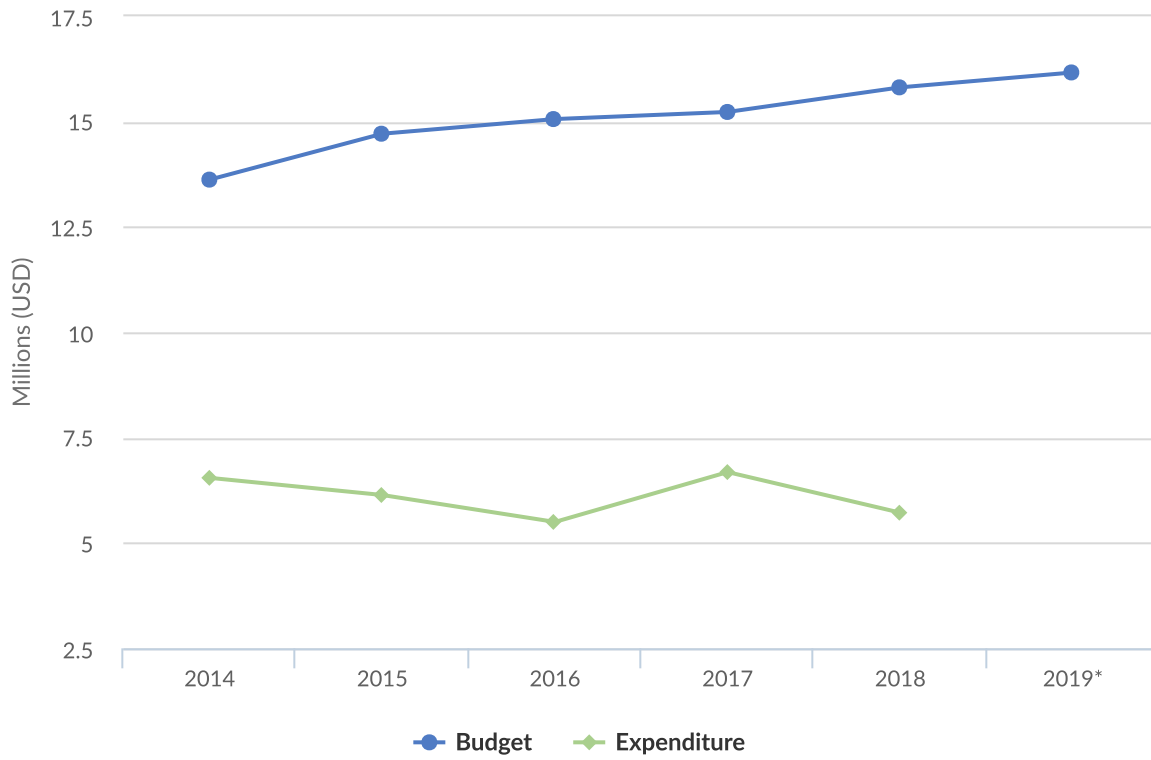
People of Concern

INCREASE IN
0% **2018**

2018	207,848
2017	207,665
2016	207,070



Budgets and Expenditure for India



Operational context

Although India is not yet a signatory to the international refugee instruments and does not have a national asylum procedure, it is a part of the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR). In 2018, India continued to host over 200,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, including 39,000 registered with UNHCR under its mandate, of which approximately 21,000 originate from Myanmar.

India strengthened its support to Bangladesh following the influx of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar, mainly in providing food and non-food items. India is also supporting the government of Myanmar in socio-economic development, including construction of houses for the returning Rohingya from Bangladesh.

The protection environment for refugees and asylum-seekers decreased in 2018, tighter border security measures were implemented and deportations of people of concern were reported.

Population trends

As of the end of 2018, UNHCR had registered some 39,100 people of concern, comprising of 27,080 refugees and 12,020 asylum-seekers. This represents a 3% increase from 2017. Out of the registered refugees, Rohingya constituted the largest group (59%) followed by Afghans (26%). Similarly to 2017, Afghans constituted the largest group amongst the newly registered.

Key achievements

In a challenging protection environment, UNHCR continued its core mandate activities of refugee status determination (RSD) and made efforts to fill the refugee protection and assistance gaps by working closely with its traditional partners, expanded its networks and coordination with non-traditional partners, civil society, UN Agencies, while increasing its advocacy and participation in inter-agency support to the Government.

With the limited funding available in 2018, UNHCR succeeded to prevent a significant drop in refugees' access to basic services. A major achievement towards the end of 2018 was extension of cash-based interventions (CBI) to Rohingya refugees in support of institutional deliveries, girls' education, those living with disability and older refugees, through which 216 people received cash grants.

Progress in the area of community empowerment and self-reliance included the revision of the Livelihood Strategy; selection of a new NGO partner specialized in entrepreneurship; skills development and market linkages, which engaged with production groups formed by refugee women and successfully piloted several forms of support for their capacity development and income generation; increased female participation in leadership and management structures from 46% to 51%; numerous peaceful co-existence activities engaging refugees and their host communities.

Durable solutions were achieved through the naturalization of 68 Afghan Hindu/Sikh refugees; departure of 154 refugees to resettlement countries and another 979 under third-country solution; as well as the voluntary repatriation of 1,283 refugees to Sri Lanka and another 154 refugees to other countries.

(<http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/24136/edit>)
