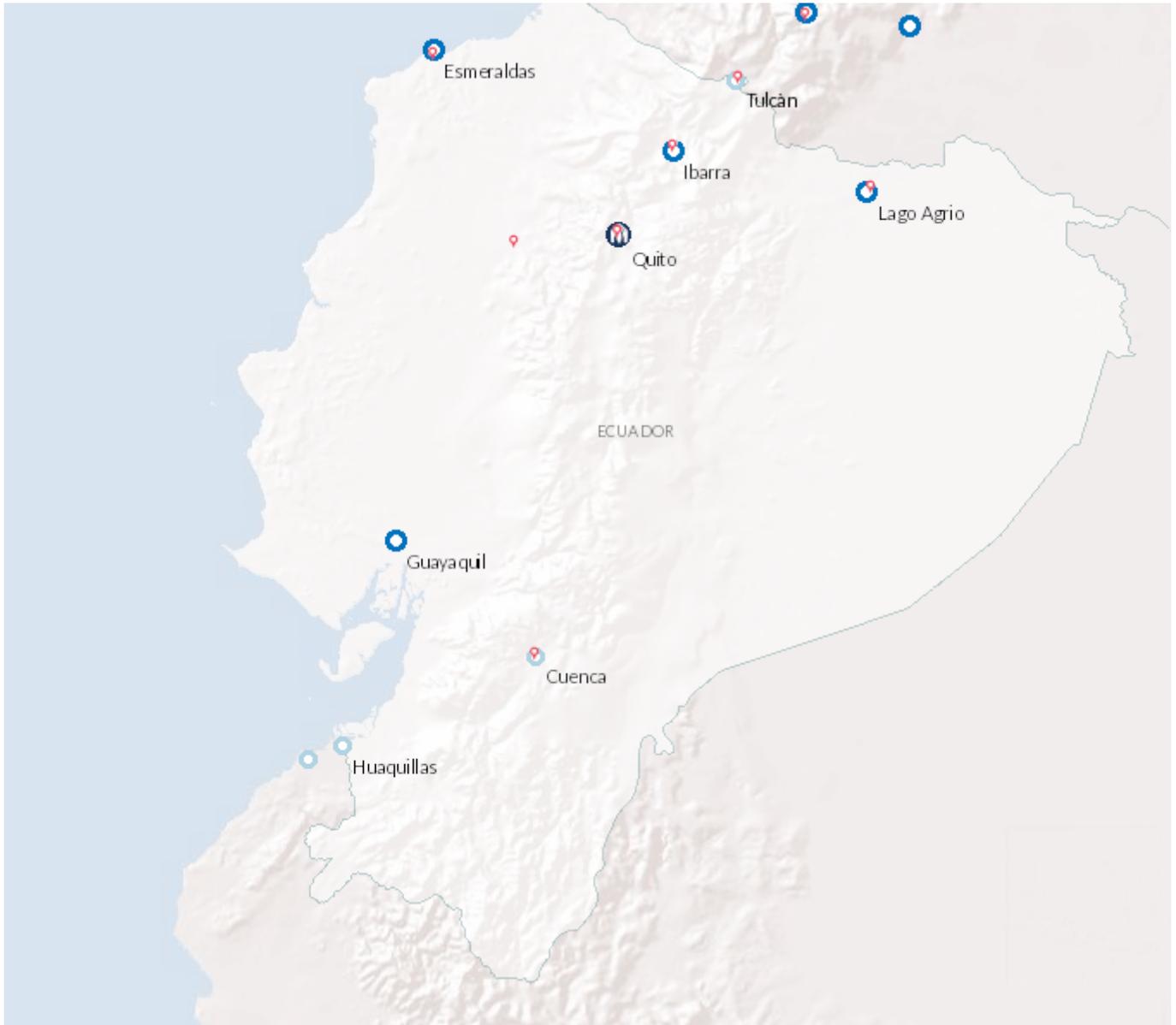


Operation: Ecuador

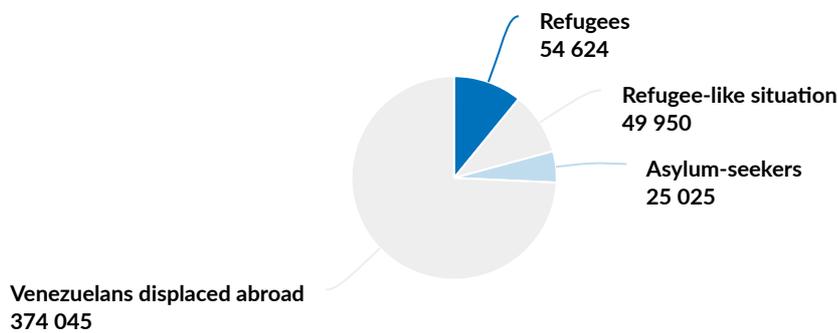


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

People of Concern

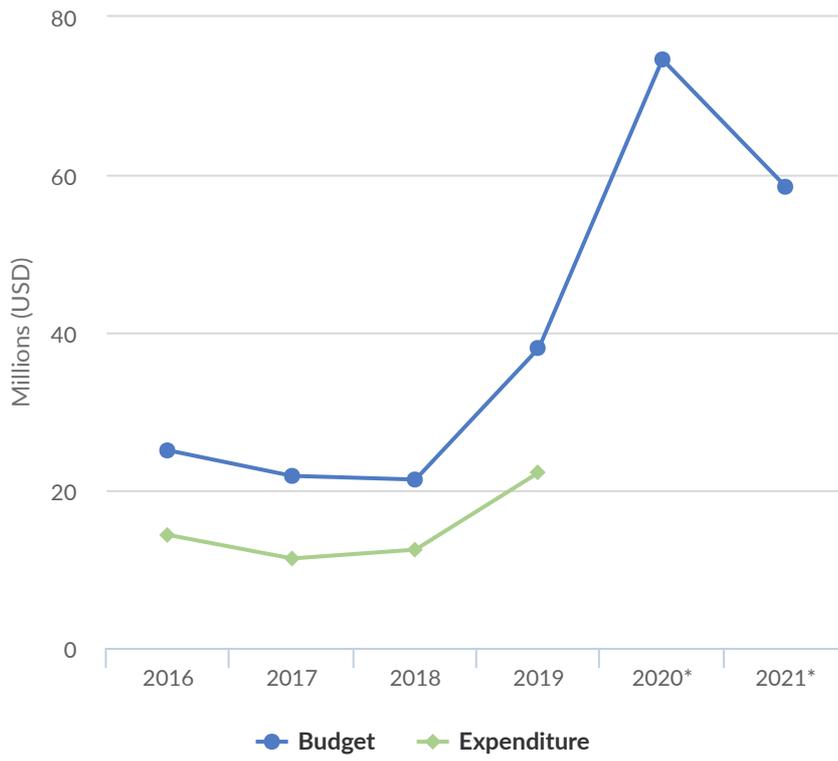
INCREASE IN
34% 2019

2019	503,644
2018	374,879
2017	145,333



Refugees Refugee-like situation Asylum-seekers
Venezuelans displaced abroad

Budgets and Expenditure for Ecuador



Operational environment

By the end of 2020 Ecuador was hosting some 418,000 Venezuelan refugees and migrants. As a result of COVID-19-related border restrictions, irregular entries have increased, a trend that is expected to continue even when borders re-open. Return movements to Venezuela may continue in 2021, but on a very low scale as seen in 2020.

Arrivals of Colombians in seek of asylum will continue with numbers likely to surpass 6,000 given the deteriorating human rights situation in Colombia, particularly in areas bordering Ecuador.

In 2021, the pandemic-induced economic downturn is expected to continue in Ecuador, which will adversely affect refugees and migrants. Livelihoods will be affected and competition with host communities for informal and low-skilled jobs will increase. This may trigger more xenophobia and create further obstacles to integration.

UNHCR will continue to support livelihoods opportunities for both refugees and host communities, in conjunction with national and local authorities and the private sector. The Office will also work to strengthen community-based interventions to promote peaceful coexistence.

Though the first half on 2021 will be dominated by the economic downturn caused by the pandemic and the expected Government change as a result of the scheduled presidential elections in February, , human mobility will still attract public attention. UNHCR will strengthen its advocacy for access to territory and asylum, as well as support to the asylum system and alternative migration options.

UNHCR, together with partners, will continue to support the Government to extend its social protection services to refugees and migrants most in need.

In 2021, UNHCR, together with IOM, will ensure leadership of the inter-agency response to the Venezuela situation, in close coordination with the authorities, bringing together UN agencies and NGOs to coordinate, respond and inform through the Working Group on Refugees and Migrants composed of 44 members.

Key priorities

In 2021, UNHCR will focus on:

- Monitoring arrivals to identify individuals in need of international protection and respond to their needs.
 - Providing emergency assistance to vulnerable population of concern.
 - Supporting the Government to ensure fair and efficient asylum procedures through the implementation of Quality Assurance Initiative.
 - Engaging with local and displaced population, particularly children, women, the elderly or LGBTIQ+ people of concern, to facilitate access to specialized services and to foster peaceful coexistence.
 - Working with national and local authorities, UN agencies, civil society organizations, host communities and the private sector to promote and support social and economic inclusion.
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