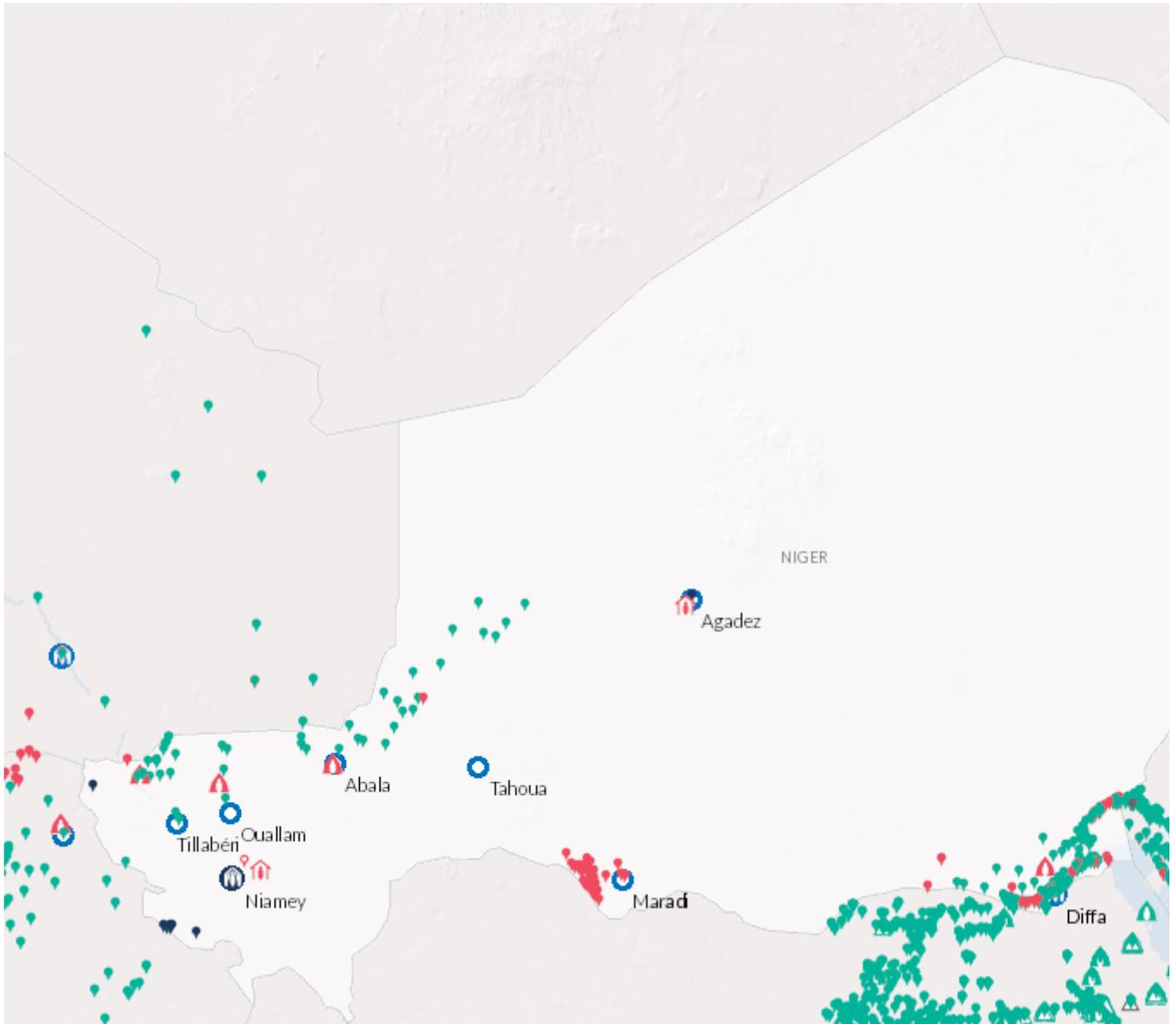


## Operation: Niger

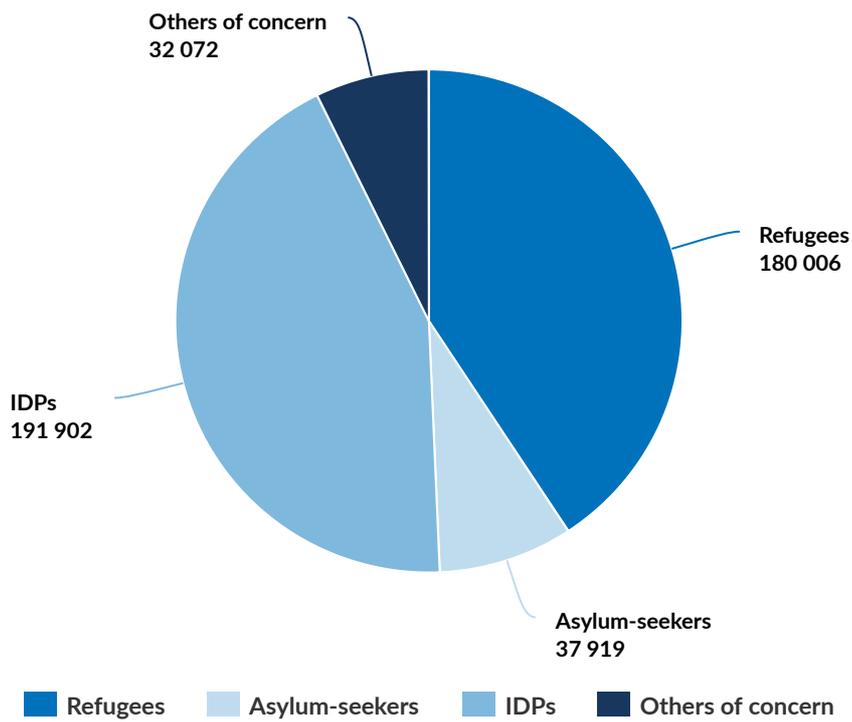


*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.*

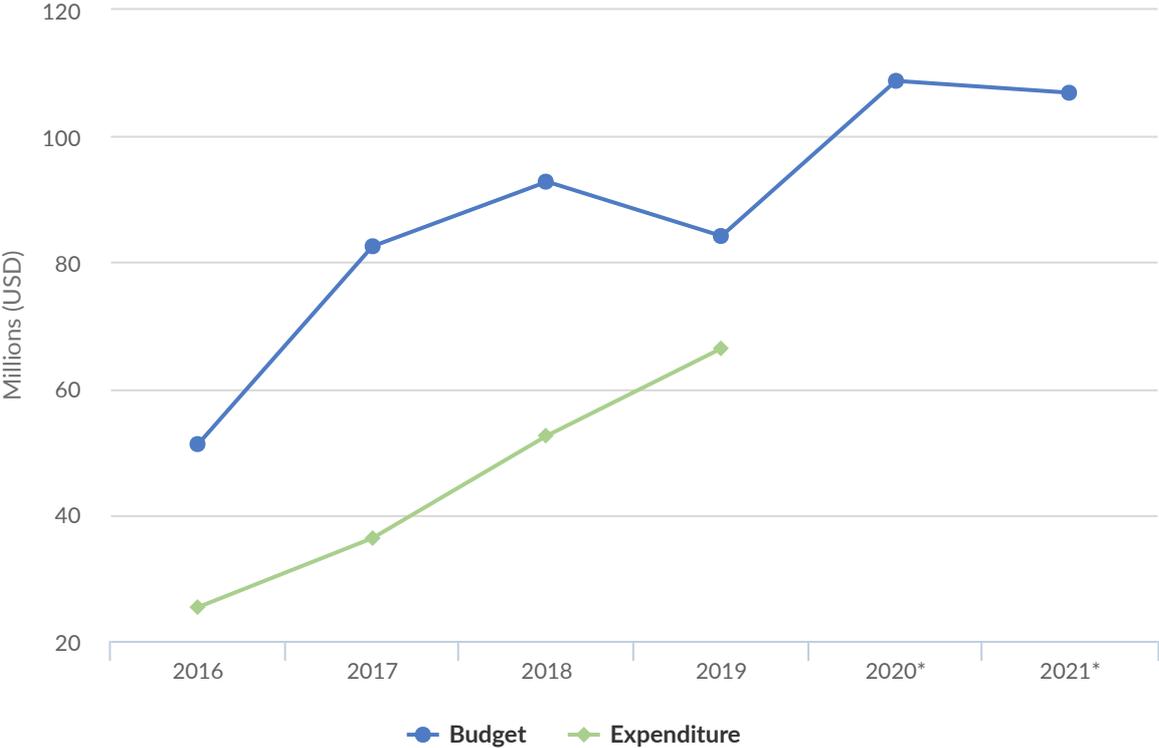
# People of Concern

INCREASE IN  
**14%** **2019**

2019	441,899
2018	386,978
2017	315,723



# Budgets and Expenditure for Niger



## Operational environment

The conflicts in the Lake Chad Basin and Sahel regions continue to fuel forced displacement across most of Niger, where growing insecurity hinders humanitarian access to populations of concern.

The Tahoua and Tillabery regions are seeing continuous influxes from neighbouring Burkina Faso and Mali, while internal displacement has increased. More than 45,000 Nigerian refugees still live in the Maradi region, which is seeing growing internal displacement caused by the spillover of the ongoing instability and violence in Northern Nigeria. In the Diffa region, refugees and IDPs continue to arrive, joining an already protracted displacement situation. Finally, Niger is a major transit country for mixed movements of migrants and asylum-seekers towards the Central Mediterranean, which are expected to continue and intensify in 2021 as the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic unfolds.

Despite this challenging security situation and complex forced displacement emergencies, authorities are showing a strong commitment to their international engagements, linked to security, asylum and a search for durable solutions.

In this context, UNHCR will continue to support the Government to strengthen its asylum system and maintain a favourable protection environment. UNHCR will also provide emergency humanitarian relief in key hosting areas while supporting the Government's out-of-camp approach and working towards better cooperation between humanitarian and development actors, for a more comprehensive and sustainable response benefiting displaced populations. In line with the Global Compact on Refugees, implementing the urbanization programme is key to the socio-economic inclusion of displaced populations, both in the Tillabery and Diffa region.

The Office will maintain the Emergency Transit Mechanism and the development of opportunity villages to accompany the voluntary relocation of Nigerian refugees in the Maradi region, established away from the border to ensure refugees' safety and ease the pressure on host communities.

UNHCR will also advocate more resettlement opportunities and alternative pathways (such as family reunification, and study and work permits), while providing humanitarian assistance to asylum-seekers and vulnerable refugees evacuated from Libya.

## KEY PRIORITIES

In 2021, UNHCR will focus on:

- Maintaining and strengthening a favorable protection environment, including through the Emergency Transit Mechanism programme.
  - Ensuring an emergency preparedness and response capacity for potential new influxes while sustaining assistance to refugees and IDPs and supporting their access to basic social services.
  - Supporting the voluntary relocation of Nigerian refugees in the Maradi region by developing additional opportunity villages.
  - Accelerating the urbanization programme and the construction of social houses for Malian refugees in Tillabery region and Nigerian refugees in the Diffa region.
  - Strengthening partnerships to implement joint solution and the nexus-oriented vision together with the Government, development actors, donors, UN agencies, NGOs and the private sector.
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