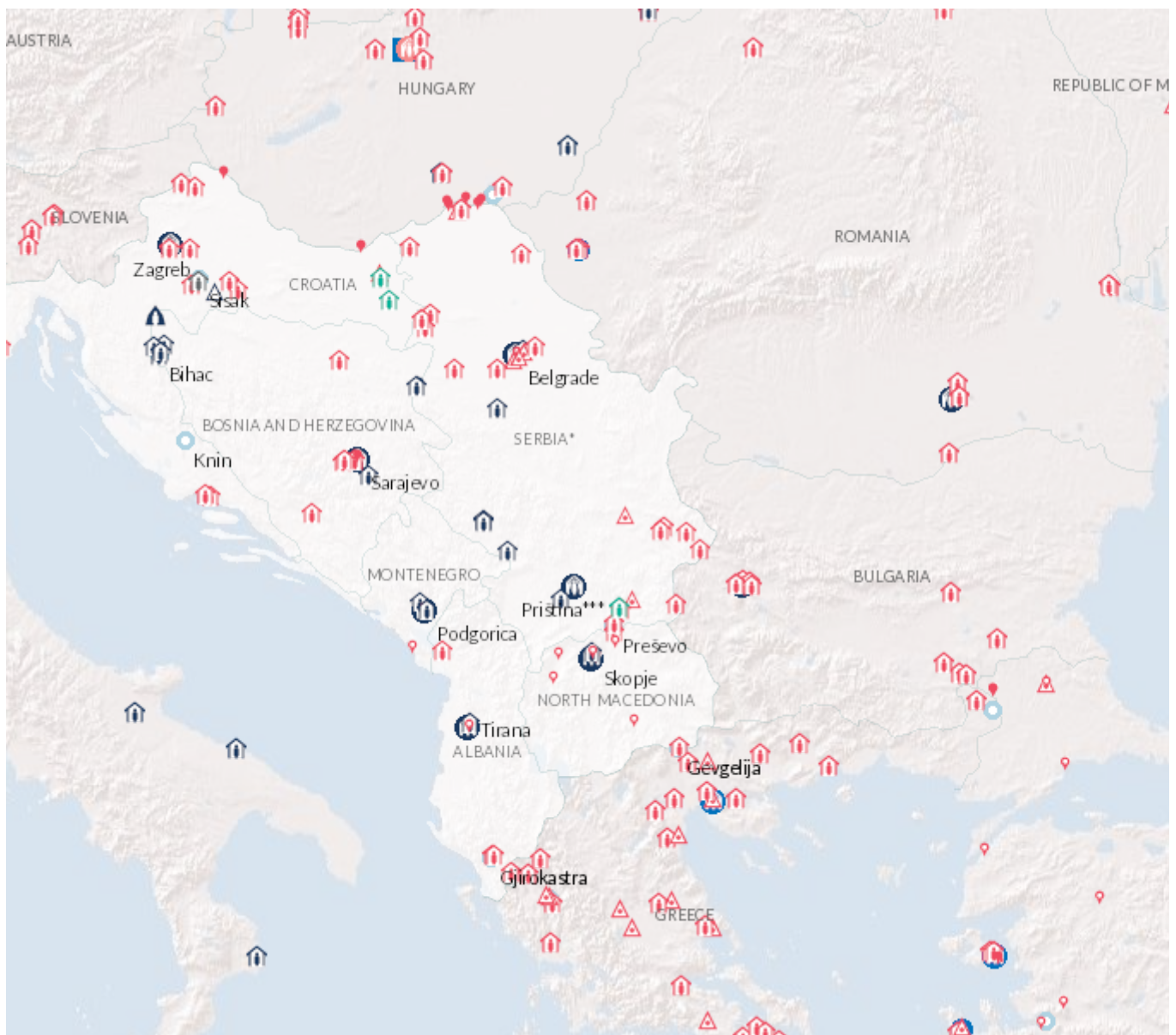


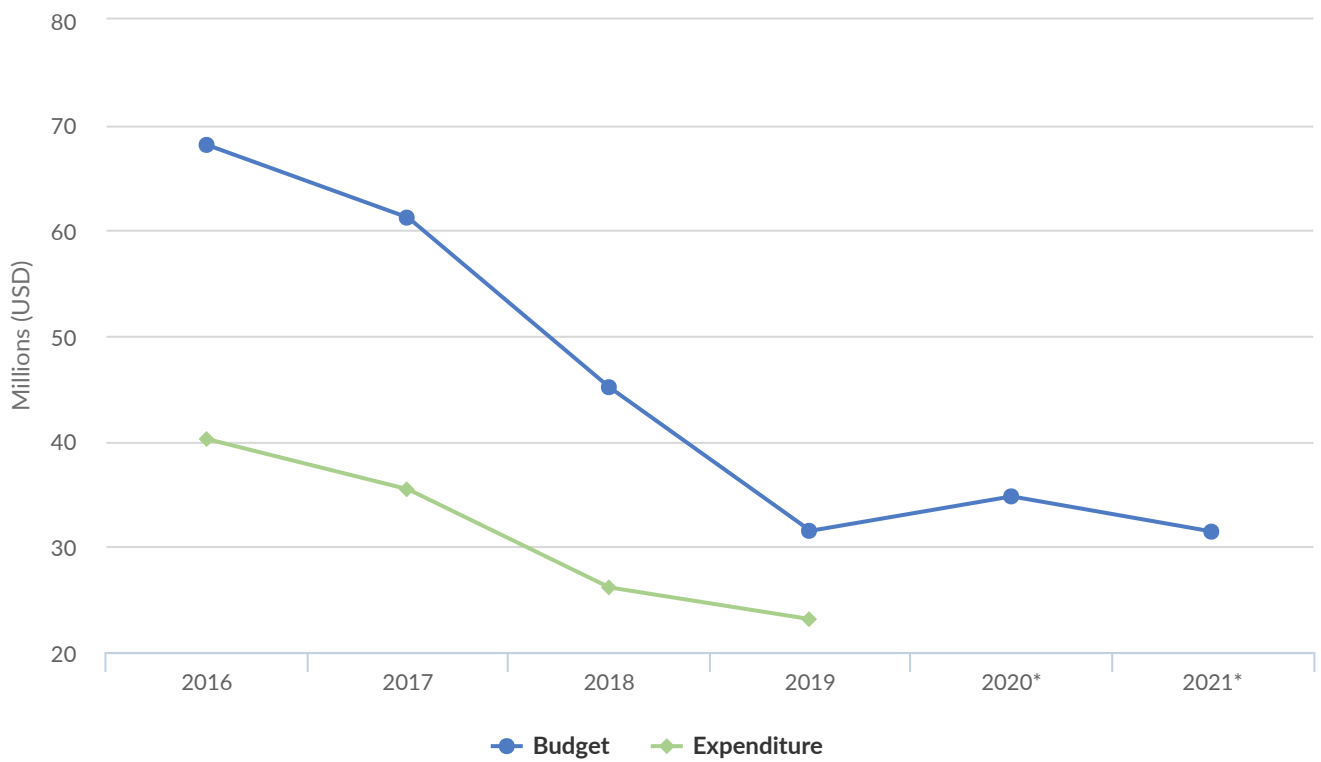
## Subregion: South-Eastern Europe

| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Montenegro | Serbia (and Kosovo: Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)) | The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia |

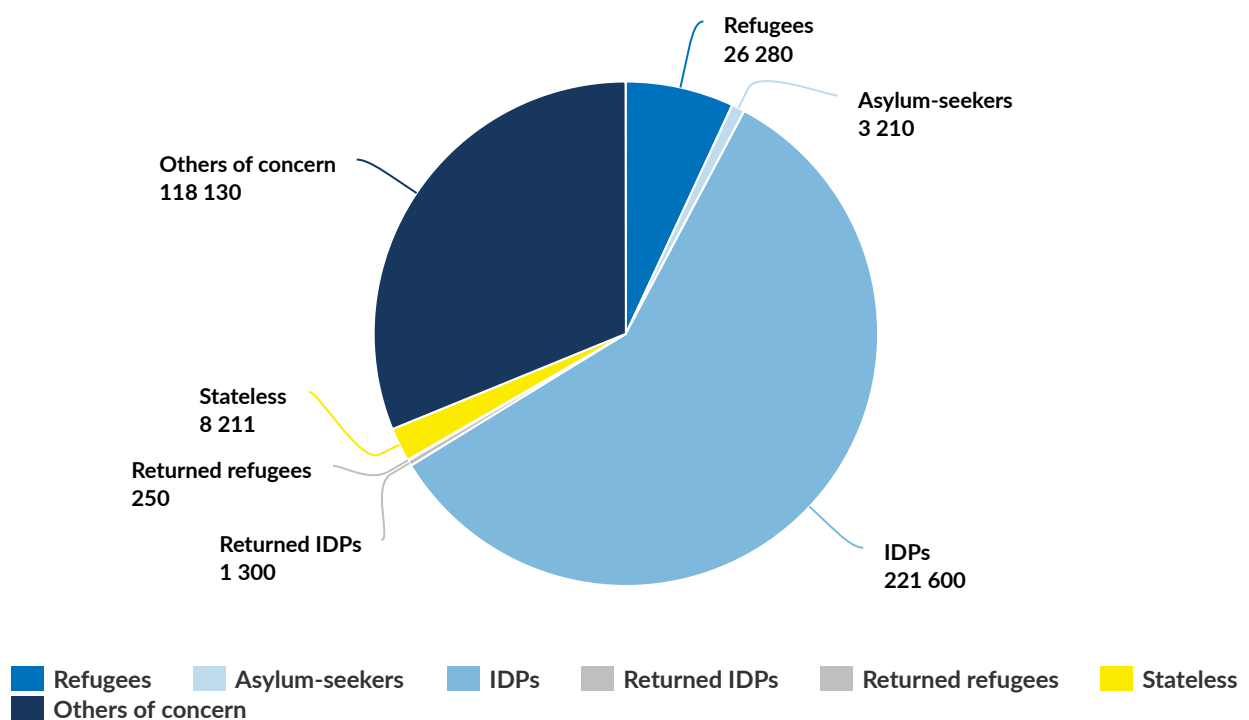


*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.*

## Budgets and Expenditure in Subregion South-Eastern Europe



## People of Concern - 2021 [projected]



## Operational environment

In the 1990s, refugees and IDPs in South Eastern Europe were mostly from within the region, with many of those displaced still waiting for a durable solution. However, in recent years, the region has seen a significant increase in mixed movements, generally consisting of people who have already transited through multiple countries, including EU Member States, and who are trying to reach western or northern EU countries.

In 2020, an estimated 52,500 people attempted to transit through the region yet only some 4,600 (9%) submitted an asylum claim. Asylum systems in the region throughout 2020 appear to have been largely overwhelmed by the mixed movements as only 281 RSD interviews were conducted, and only 85 people were granted refugee status. Some 2,600 cases were closed as people continued their journey.

Current asylum capacities in the region are inadequate and need strengthening. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated critical gaps in the management of mixed movements and sparked anti-refugee and migrant rhetoric throughout the region.

In addition, the region still hosts 5,961 persons at risk of statelessness. While the protection environment for them has improved in the past few years, the lack of personal documents, as well as difficulties in collecting comprehensive data on persons at risk of statelessness remain a challenge.

## Key priorities

In 2021, UNHCR will focus on:

1. Strengthening the capacity of States and other stakeholders to address mixed movements. It will seek to facilitate the identification of people in need of international protection by supporting the alignment of State asylum legislation and procedures with international standards and promoting their effective implementation through a quality assurance initiative.
2. Advocating with States to adopt measures to eliminate statelessness, including providing legal assistance to people at risk of statelessness in the region.
3. Supporting States in South Eastern Europe to identify and implement durable solutions, and in particular local integration, including for people displaced within the region.

## Strategy: Response and implementation

In 2021, UNHCR will roll out its Strategy for Engagement in Mixed Movements in the Western Balkans. The strategy sets out UNHCR's plan for operational and advocacy engagement aimed at supporting national authorities in the Western Balkans region in gradually shifting from a region of transit and humanitarian response to a region that offers both protection and solutions to third country nationals in need of international protection. Through this shift, it also aims to contribute to a more efficient management of mixed movements at the border of the EU.

UNHCR will work with authorities to better identify and profile new arrivals and provide differentiated referral processes for those who might have international protection needs and those who do not. In addition, UNHCR will continue its strong collaboration with governments in the region to strengthen fair and efficient asylum adjudication and provide quality assurance support to the asylum authorities in line with their respective needs and varying stages of development of their asylum systems. In terms of solutions, the priority for 2021 will be the implementation of solution-related pledges made by Western Balkans States during the 1st Global Refugee Forum.

With regard to statelessness, UNHCR will continue to collaborate with countries in South Eastern Europe who have made great strides to eradicate statelessness in the region and pledged additional measures for the remaining caseload.

## 2021 Budget for South-Eastern Europe | USD

Operation	Pillar 1 Refugee programme	Pillar 2 Stateless programme	Pillar 3 Reintegration projects	Pillar 4 IDP projects	Total
Albania	3,034,322	184,484	0	0	3,218,806
Bosnia and Herzegovina	9,371,024	614,112	0	0	9,985,136
Kosovo (S/RES/1244 (1999))	2,695,033	779,388	0	0	3,474,422
Montenegro	1,914,712	197,715	0	0	2,112,427
North Macedonia	3,950,428	321,248	0	0	4,271,676
Serbia	6,222,388	2,137,118	0	0	8,359,506
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,187,907</b>	<b>4,234,066</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31,421,973</b>

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