



## **HIGHLIGHTED UNDERFUNDED SITUATIONS IN 2017**

OCTOBER 2017

# UNHCR in 2017 – by the numbers

As of September 2017, UNHCR's budget is at an historic high of \$7.763 billion, which is currently 46% funded

This growth is concurrent with the unabated levels of global displacement, with 67.7 million people of concern to UNHCR worldwide.

The funding gap is widening, now standing at 54%. Based on indications received from donors and analysis of funding trends, UNHCR estimates the gap may reduce to 47% by year's end.

A 54% funding gap corresponds to \$4.4 billion, which would have a devastating impact on people on concern and require UNHCR to radically prioritize its support for critical needs.

## Comparative analysis

### Budget and funds available as of September 2017 (compared to final 2016 situation)

	2016	2017	Difference	%
Initial budget	6,546,288,000	7,309,704,000	763,416,000	12%
Final/current budget*	7,509,703,000	7,763,257,000	253,554,000	3%
<i>Voluntary contributions</i>	<i>3,902,255,550</i>	<i>3,313,601,144</i>	<i>-588,654,406</i>	<i>-15%</i>
Funds available**	4,410,812,000	4,214,600,000	-196,212,000	-4%
<b>Funding gap</b>	<b>3,098,891,000</b>	<b>3,548,657,000</b>	<b>449,766,000</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Funding gap against the final/current budget (%)</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>46%</b>		<b>5%</b>

#### Sources

Initial and final/current budget figures from ExCom documents

- A/AC.96/1158, 2 September 2016

- Advance copy, 25 August 2017

\* Budget increases in 2017 mainly due to 8 supplementary appeals (see <http://reporting.unhcr.org/publications>)

\*\* Includes voluntary contributions; carryover; UN Regular Budget; other income and adjustments. For 2017, the data is end Aug. 2017.

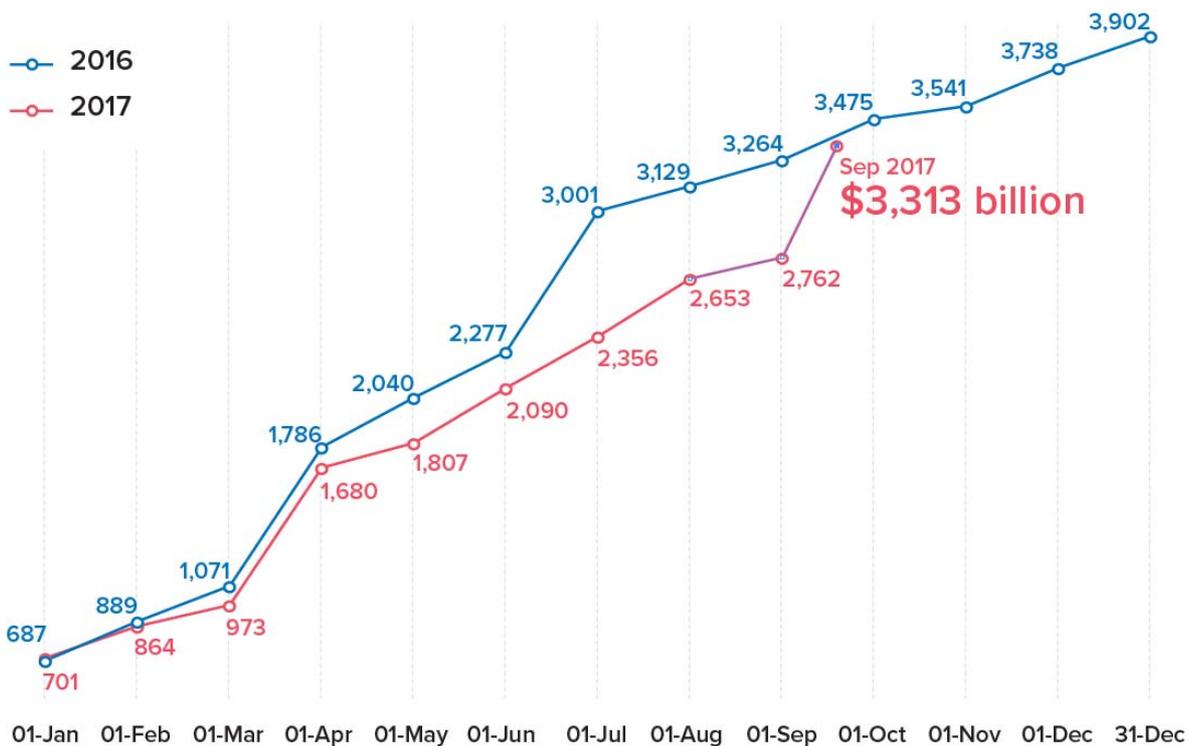
In terms of fresh income in 2017, UNHCR has recorded \$3,313,601,144 in voluntary contributions as of the middle of September. This is virtually the same amount as was received at the same time last year, despite the increase in requirements from 2016 to 2017 by 12 per cent. The lion's share of funding—91 per cent (see below)—has come from 21 donors, including private funding channelled through two of UNHCR's National Partners (in Spain and the USA).

## Quantity and quality of funding

Regarding the **quality** of funding, 2017 has seen the **continued trend of an overall decline of unearmarked or broadly earmarked funding**.

In 2017 to date, 14 per cent of voluntary contributions—\$457 million—have been **unearmarked**. In percentage terms, this correlates closely to the amount received in 2016, but in dollar terms is quite significantly less—some \$105 million less, albeit with a quarter of the year still to come. Critically, 78 per cent of UNHCR's unearmarked funding was received in the first quarter of the year. This is a vital indication of timeliness, providing UNHCR with valuable flexibility.

The pace of contributions this year—between February and August—has been slower than that of 2016. As of September, the level of contributions had almost reached that of 2016. However, this needs to be put in perspective: UNHCR's budget is higher than 2016's.



**Broadly earmarked** funding—that is, funding that can be used flexibly across a region or situation—accounts for 19 per cent of income to date, or \$643 million. By the end of 2016, broadly earmarked funding accounted for 20 per cent of income, or \$793.4 million.

Much of UNHCR's **earmarked funding** is income earmarked to the country, operational, sectoral or thematic level. Some \$2.2 billion in earmarked funding has been received to date. This accounts for 67 per cent of overall income, a rise from the 65 per cent received in 2016. About 45 per cent of UNHCR's funding is income to the country or operational level, a slight rise in the 43 per cent recorded in 2016 and, as such, the continuation of an overall positive trend of earmarking away from the sectoral level.

UNHCR also recorded over \$325 million in multiyear funding—defined as contributions for which the implementation period is over 12 months—of which 7 per cent is unearmarked, 16 per cent is broadly earmarked, and 77 per cent is earmarked. Of the total amount, \$226 million is for 2018. Again, this is a valuable indicator of **predictability and flexibility**.

# Source of funding to date\*

## Quality and quantity of funding from donors contributing over \$20 million

Donor	Unearmarked	Broadly earmarked	Earmarked	Total
United States of America	-	479,240,000	930,617,181	1,409,857,181
European Union	-	-	416,541,786	416,541,786
Germany	12,273,212	74,015,070	215,924,102	302,212,385
Japan	24,850,314	2,688,654	116,570,806	144,109,773
Sweden	76,078,687	6,084,744	22,994,576	105,158,007
Canada	9,251,101	10,809,522	59,672,930	79,733,553
Norway	40,887,850	8,581,701	26,289,438	75,758,990
Netherlands	52,154,195	-	3,904,858	56,059,053
United Kingdom	-	-	54,273,266	54,273,266
Denmark	22,831,050	6,744,583	23,816,144	53,391,777
Private donors in Spain	41,230,998	2,989,582	2,547,487	46,768,068
Australia	18,670,650	-	19,153,366	37,824,015
France	14,000,000	2,171,553	20,996,072	37,167,625
Italy	10,078,387	-	23,726,269	33,804,656
Switzerland	14,792,899	-	15,527,072	30,319,972
Private donors in the Netherlands	1,763,774	42,713	27,135,348	28,941,835
Private donors in Qatar	-	1,000	26,353,578	26,354,578
CERF	-	-	25,431,947	25,431,947
Private donors in the Republic of Korea	20,040,491	2,323,071	357,238	22,720,799
Private donors in the USA	13,374,769	1,158,088	6,853,236	21,386,094
Private donors in Japan	10,299,732	937,417	8,818,656	20,055,805
<b>Sub-total from donors contributing over \$20 million</b>	<b>382,578,112</b>	<b>597,787,697</b>	<b>2,047,505,355</b>	<b>3,027,871,164</b>
Subtotal from donors contributing over \$20 million as percentage of total funding	84%	93%	93%	91%
<b>Total funding</b>	<b>456,611,530</b>	<b>643,553,488</b>	<b>2,213,436,126</b>	<b>3,313,601,144</b>

\* All data as of 8 September 2017

# Priorities for resource mobilisation for the remainder of 2017

UNHCR takes as basic principles in its fundraising that funds be raised first and foremost for prioritised activities, and that the funds raised are as flexible as possible given the range of locations, contexts and themes within which the Office works. Put simply, the preferences for income would be as follows.

- **Unearmarked funding** is the priority for resource mobilisation. Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR the critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern in the greatest need and at the greatest risk.
- Secondly, funding which is **broadly earmarked** at the situational or regional level: meaning, funding that can be used across the range of countries and activities in a given region or situation in accordance with the priorities and activities identified by UNHCR.
- Thirdly, funding which is **earmarked at the country or operational level**. Funding of this type allows UNHCR to allocated funding to its planned activities within a country in a context specific manner.
- Fourthly, funding which is **earmarked to the sectoral or thematic level**. This is the most restrictive level of funding.
- Ideally, all funds raised should be **flexible in their implementation period**; meaning, UNHCR should be able to carry funds to the following year. This will enable the smooth continuation of activities, make operations more predictable, and avoid situations of UNHCR receiving funds it may not be able to spend within the calendar year.
- Lastly, when considering it is now the fourth quarter, **income which is received as early as possible in the new year is vital**.

# Situation overviews

Overleaf are one-page overviews of the top six most underfunded Situations in terms of core priorities. As a summary, below are some of the main implications of a continued lack of funding on people of concern in these six priority Situations.

## Implications for a lack of additional funding...

<b>South Sudan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 175,000 IDPs will remain without core relief times.</li> <li>■ UNHCR will not be able to set up sustainable water supplies for refugees in Uganda, where many still rely on water trucking with 14.5 litres per person day – levels below emergency standards.</li> <li>■ 211,000 women and girls in Sudan are currently without sanitary materials.</li> <li>■ 330,782 children in Uganda and 91,000 children in Sudan are out of school.</li> </ul>
<b>Somalia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Restricted support for voluntary returns of Somalis from Kenya, in line with the “Tripartite Agreement”.</li> <li>■ Activities to promote reintegration and self-reliance will not be fully implemented.</li> </ul>
<b>Syria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Winterization assistance packages (cash, heating items and shelter insulation) will not be provided.</li> <li>■ Multipurpose cash for the most vulnerable will not be issued, with cash assistance cut or reduced as of October.</li> <li>■ Primary and secondary health care needs will go unmet.</li> <li>■ Shelter upgrades and repairs, drainage and infrastructure improvements in camps in Jordan and Iraq will not be implemented.</li> <li>■ Protection interventions will suffer or be curtailed.</li> </ul>
<b>CAR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 91,000 IDPs risk being without core relief times.</li> <li>■ 20,000 IDP households will remain without shelter assistance.</li> </ul>
<b>Afghan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Winterization cash assistance for 140,000 vulnerable individuals in areas with extreme weather risks not being distributed.</li> <li>■ Community Based Protection measures—critical for the sustainable reintegration of returnees and mitigating secondary displacement—or 70,000 households in 21 locations of high return and displacement may be discontinued.</li> <li>■ Urgent assistance to 9,000 people with specific needs may go undelivered.</li> </ul>
<b>Burundi</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 15,500 refugees in Rwanda will remain living under deteriorated emergency plastic communal hangars.</li> <li>■ 50% of cooking firewood needs in Rwanda will go unmet, with implications for women’s safety and children’s nutrition.</li> <li>■ Camp drainage systems, needed to avoid run-off of water in the host community and environmental degradation, will not be constructed.</li> </ul>

# SOUTH SUDAN SITUATION

**2 million**

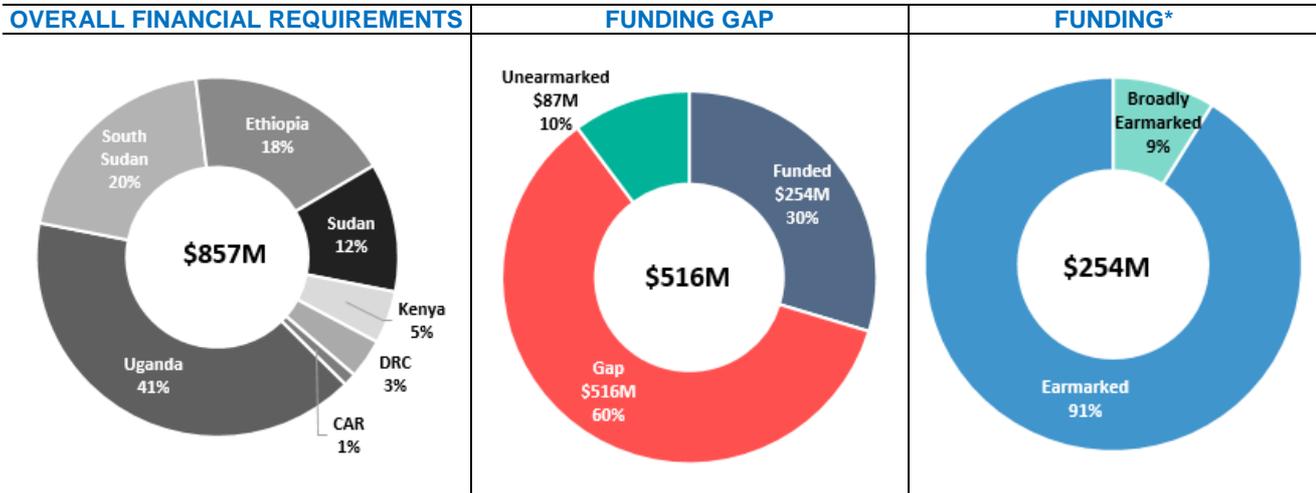
South Sudanese refugees hosted in the region, including approximately 575,000 new refugee arrivals in 2017

**63%**

Of South Sudanese refugees are children

**2.13 million**

South Sudanese refugees expected to be hosted in the region by the of 2017



Renewed violence in South Sudan, compounded by drought and the threat of famine, has led to **the world's fastest growing refugee situation**. An estimated 7.5 million people are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance inside South Sudan, including some 2 million IDPs. Complicating matters, close to 275,200 refugees are living in South Sudan.

Around 2 million South Sudanese have fled the country. Uganda—where the number of refugees from South Sudan has now reached one million people—is the largest host country in sub-Saharan Africa, followed by Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic. Refugees from South Sudan have been granted prima facie refugee status by these countries, demonstrating strong commitment to refugee protection despite limited national resources.

UNHCR and its partners are continuing to support host Governments to maintain their exceptional open door approach towards people fleeing conflict, and to provide adequate protection and assistance. **Essential service delivery is prioritized** to ensure refugees have life-saving and life-sustaining support.

The **Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees in June 2017 provided an opportunity to mobilize international support and funding**. However, without further funding and support, UNHCR will struggle to deliver life-saving assistance and provide even the most basic aid. The funding shortfall will affect UNHCR's operations particularly in the following areas: 175,000 IDPs will not receive core relief items, South Sudanese refugees in Uganda will not have access to sustainable water supply, over 211,000 women and girls will not receive sanitary materials

**Donors to the South Sudan Situation** (including funding earmarked to the country level)

<p><b>Earmarked funding</b> - AU; Australia; Belgium; Canada; CERF; CBPF; Denmark; EU; Finland; France; Germany; Holy See; IGAD; Ireland; Japan; Luxembourg; Netherlands; Norway; Pooled Funds; Private donors; Republic of Korea; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; UNDP; UK; USA</p>	<p><b>Broadly earmarked funding</b> – Finland; Germany; Ireland; Norway; Sweden; Private donors</p>
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**\* FUNDING**

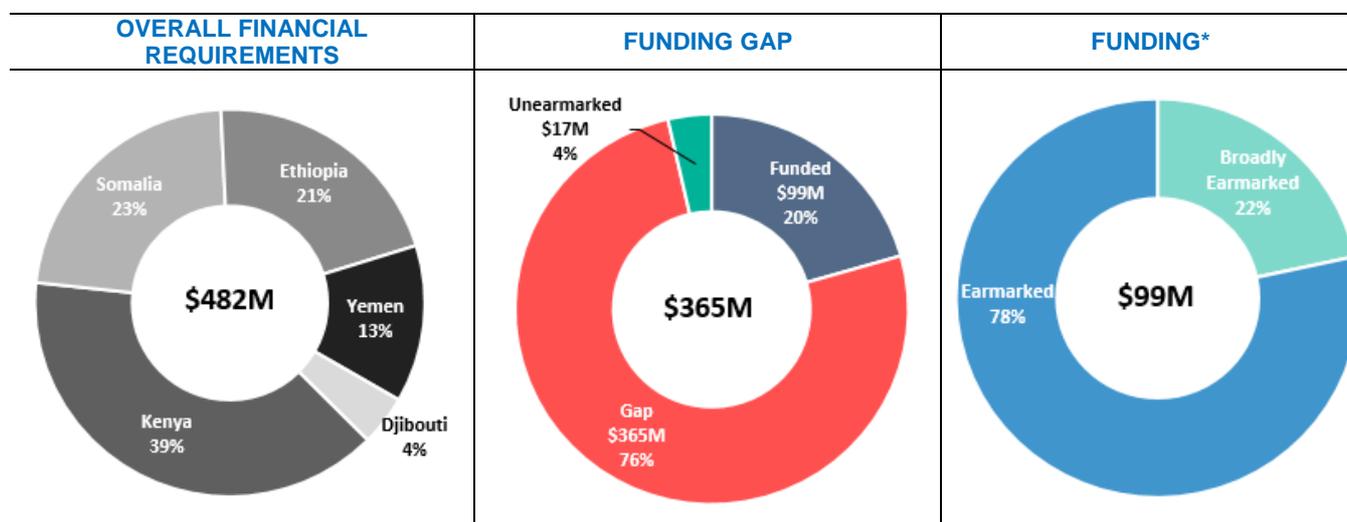
**Unearmarked funding** - Allocation of unearmarked contributions is provisional and as at mid-August. Allocations will change based on evolving needs and contributions throughout the year

## SOMALIA SITUATION

**900,000**  
Somali refugees  
in the region

**28,700**  
Somali refugees supported to return  
home from Kenya

**1.5 million**  
People displaced  
within Somalia



More than two million Somalis are currently displaced by a conflict that has lasted over two decades. An estimated 1.5 million people are internally displaced in Somalia and nearly 900,000 are refugees in the near region, in Kenya, Yemen and Ethiopia.

The ongoing process of political and security stabilization in Somalia presents a critical moment in **renewing efforts to finding durable solutions for Somali refugees**, whilst maintaining the protection space in countries of asylum and responding effectively to the drought that is increasing the risk of famine-induced displacement in the region.

The Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia—adopted by a special summit of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development Assembly in March 2017—endorsed a **comprehensive regional approach** to deliver durable solutions for Somali refugees while maintaining protection and promoting self-reliance in countries of asylum and calling for greater international solidarity. UNHCR aims to reinforce asylum and protection in the region while also renewing efforts to find durable and sustainable solutions, including support infrastructure and stabilization in Somalia to ensure sustainable reintegration.

**In hosting countries**, the Office will address the return and reintegration needs of 50,000 Somali refugees returning from Kenya and 10,000 returning from Yemen, as well as the emergency pre-famine response in Somalia for 250,000 most vulnerable newly displaced, including drought-related outflows of Somalis to neighbouring countries. From January to June 2017, UNHCR supported the return of over 28,700 Somali refugees from Kenya and provided them an enhanced return package and cash based interventions to restore their lives in Somalia.

### Donors to the Somali Situation (including funding earmarked to the country level)

**Earmarked funding** – Australia; Belgium; Bulgaria; Canada; CERF; EU; France; Germany; Holy See; IGAD; Ireland; Italy; Japan; Netherlands; Private donors; Sweden; Switzerland; UK; UN Peacebuilding Fund; USA

**Broadly earmarked funding** – Germany; Private donors

### \* FUNDING

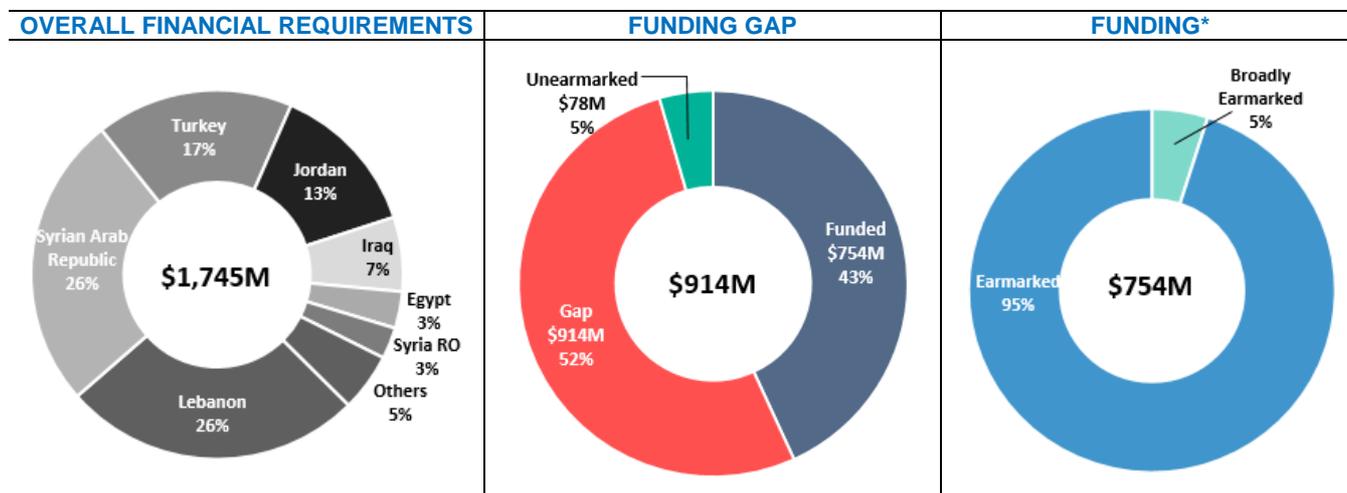
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# SYRIA SITUATION

**5.1 million**  
Syrian refugees hosted in neighbouring countries

**70%**  
Of people in need are woman and children

**6.1 million**  
Estimated displaced people within Syria



The war in the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria) entered its seventh year in March 2017. Over 5.1 million people have fled Syria, seeking safety in Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. Refugees have grown increasingly vulnerable—with the vast majority living below the poverty line and facing difficulties in accessing services and providing food, housing, healthcare and other basic needs for their families.

UNHCR's response to the **needs of Syrian refugees and IDPs** is **critically underfunded**, with additional contributions required to avoid dramatic cuts to essential and life-saving services to Syrians in the last quarter of the year. For example, without urgent funding up to 300,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq may not receive cash assistance from October onwards. Other needs that will go unmet across the region include life-saving healthcare interventions, winter assistance, prevention and response to SGBV and child protection cases and shelter upgrades, as well as support to the 50,000 persons stranded in dire conditions at the Berm between Jordan and Syria.

**Inside Syria**, where there are 6.1 million IDPs, the security situation is fluid, with complex patterns of continuing displacement and some areas of relative stability emerging. Between January and July 2017, over 600,000 IDPs and 26,300 refugees reportedly returned spontaneously to their homes. UNHCR is scaling up its response, primarily in light of the potential spontaneous return of larger numbers of IDPs and, in time, of refugees. UNHCR will expand its **humanitarian and protection response** to monitor return movements, improve shelter conditions, and assist in the rehabilitation of social infrastructure and basic essential services. At the same time, UNHCR Syria urgently needs funding for priority interventions responding to new and ongoing displacements such as from Ar-Raqqa, including for core relief items and shelter interventions; protection interventions; access to basic services such as primary health care; winter assistance; and for livelihood opportunities, through UNHCR's network of 69 community centres

## Donors to the Syria Situation (including funding earmarked to the country level)

**Earmarked funding** - AU; Australia; Belgium; Canada; CERF; CBPF; Denmark; EU; France; Germany; IGAD; Ireland; Italy; Japan; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Netherlands; Norway; Pooled Funds; Private donors; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; UK; UNDP; USA;

**Broadly earmarked funding** - Denmark; Finland; Germany; Iceland; Ireland; Isle of Man; Japan; Norway; Philippines; Private donors; Russian Federation; Spain; Sweden; USA

### \* FUNDING

**Unearmarked funding** - Allocation of unearmarked contributions is provisional and as at mid-August. Allocations will change based on evolving needs and contributions throughout the year

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

## 513,686

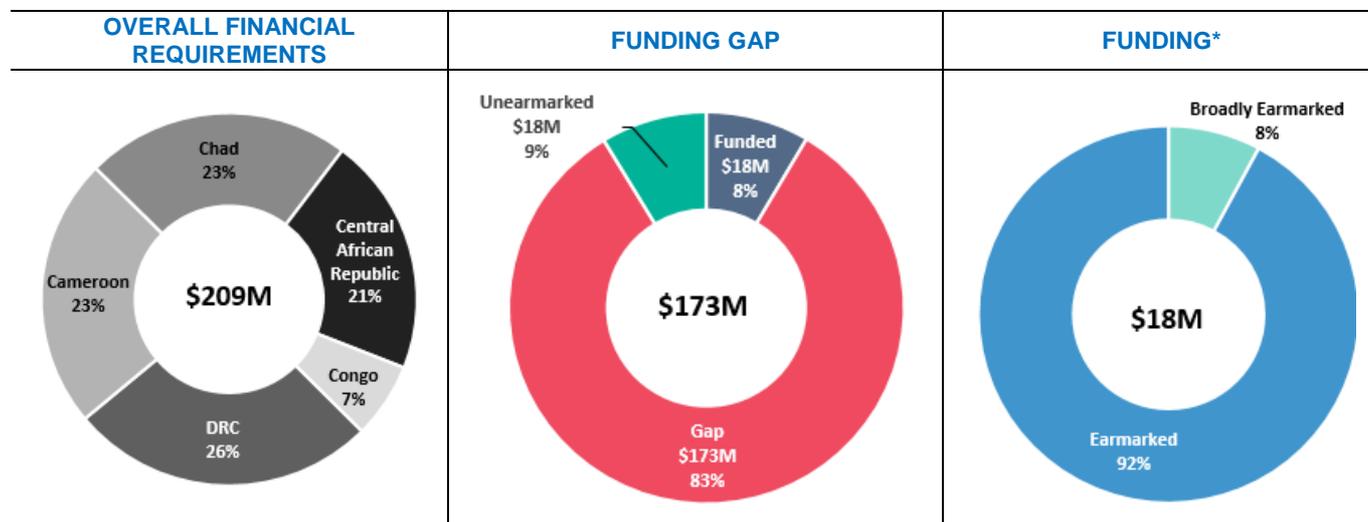
Central African refugees hosted and registered in the sub-region

## 35,630

Central African refugees have spontaneously returned to CAR

## 592,254

IDPs within CAR



**Renewed violence** in south-east and central CAR **has triggered new displacement within the country during the last months**. One in every five Central Africans is now either internally displaced or has fled to a neighbouring country, the number of IDPs **increased by more than 25 per cent** to over half a million, while small numbers of refugees **continued to spontaneously return** from neighbouring countries throughout the year. In August 2017, the number of Central African refugees in neighbouring countries reached the highest number of Central African refugees seen since the start of the crisis in 2013.

In response to the widespread displacement in CAR, **UNHCR has expanded its field presence to new areas where possible** and maintains a constant presence and emphasis on protection and camp coordination and camp management. The Office assists people with shelter and non-food items, however, although deliveries by air have been delayed or blocked by armed groups hampering humanitarian access.

In hosting countries, **UNHCR provides life-saving assistance and protection to new arrivals**. Their immediate needs also include health care and nutrition, shelter and education. The situation is unfolding at a time when **CAR faces an already dire humanitarian situation amidst a funding crunch**. Given the challenges of responding to humanitarian needs at such a scale and across the entire region, early and adequate contributions are vital to ensure timely and planned delivery of protection and aid programmes. The lack of funding available will severely affect UNHCR's operations, for instance in CAR 91,000 IDPs will remain without core relief items, and 20,000 IDP households will remain without shelter assistance

## \* FUNDING

### Donors to the CAR Situation (including funding earmarked to the country level)

**Earmarked funding** – Canada; Pooled Funds; EU; France; Germany; Holy See; Italy; Japan; Luxembourg; Private donors; Republic of Korea; Spain, Sweden; Switzerland; UNAIDS; UK; USA

**Broadly earmarked funding** – Ireland; Private donors

**Unearmarked funding** - Allocation of unearmarked contributions is provisional and as at mid-August. Allocations will change based on evolving needs and contributions throughout the year

## AFGHANISTAN SITUATION

**2.3 million**

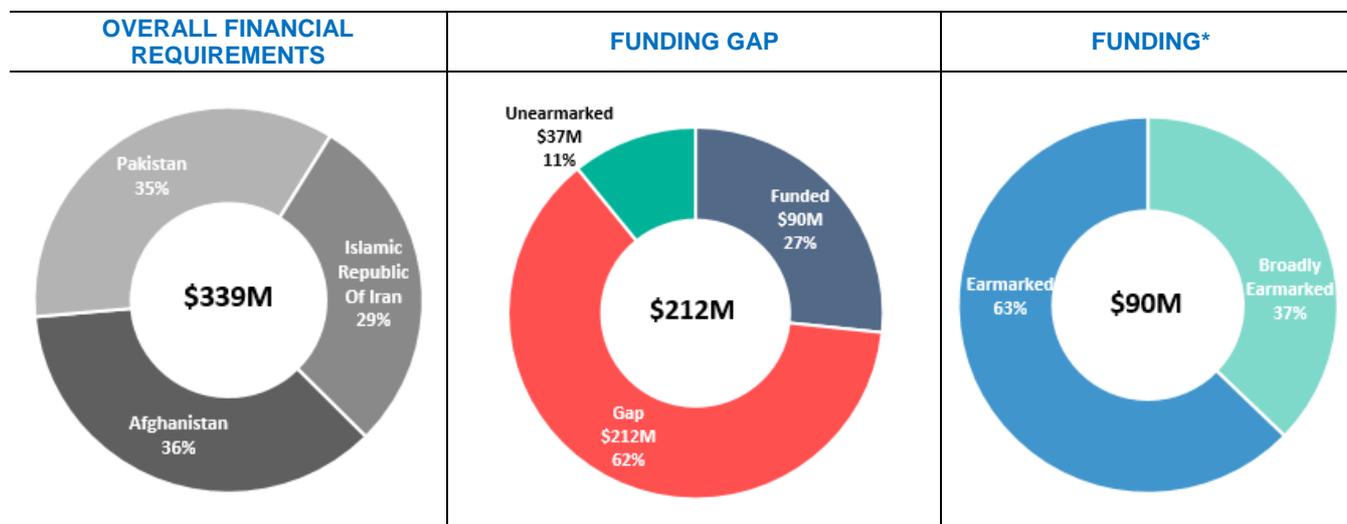
Registered Afghan refugees hosted in the Islamic Republics of Iran and Pakistan

**49,000**

Afghan refugees returned and assisted upon arrival in Afghanistan from January-August 2017. Over half the returnees were under 18 years

**1.8 million**

Estimated people displaced across Afghanistan, including 200,000 new people displaced as of mid-September 2017



The “**Solutions strategy for Afghan refugees to support voluntary repatriation, sustainable reintegration and assistance to host countries**” remains the overarching framework for solutions to Afghan displacement. Given the country’s limited absorption capacity and ongoing violence, UNHCR did not promote refugee returns to Afghanistan. However, in accordance with its mandate, the Office supported those who chose to return, including through a cash grant to facilitate reintegration. Since the beginning of 2017, UNHCR supported over 49,000 refugee returnees. UNHCR continues to advocate with the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to redouble their efforts to create conditions for sustainable return.

In the Islamic Republic of Iran, UNHCR supported the expansion of refugees’ access to healthcare through the universal public health insurance scheme. As of the end of July 2017, some 125,700 refugees were registered in the scheme, giving them access to the same level of services as Iranian nationals.

The lack of funding will have severe consequences in particular in Afghanistan, where 140,000 people risk not receiving winterization cash assistance and community-based protection measures will not be implemented for 70,000 households in 21 locations. In the Islamic Republic of Iran, some 160,000 vulnerable refugees will not have access to health assistance. In Pakistan, accelerated education programmes will not be implemented and some 781,000 people of concern in 54 refugee villages will not have access to critical and child health care services.

**Donors to the Afghanistan Situation** (including funding earmarked to the country level)

**Earmarked funding** - Australia; Canada; China; Denmark; EU; France; Germany; Japan; Mexico; Norway; Private donors; Russian Federation; Switzerland; UNAIDS; USA

**Broadly earmarked funding** – USA

**\* FUNDING**

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## BURUNDI SITUATION

### 419,000

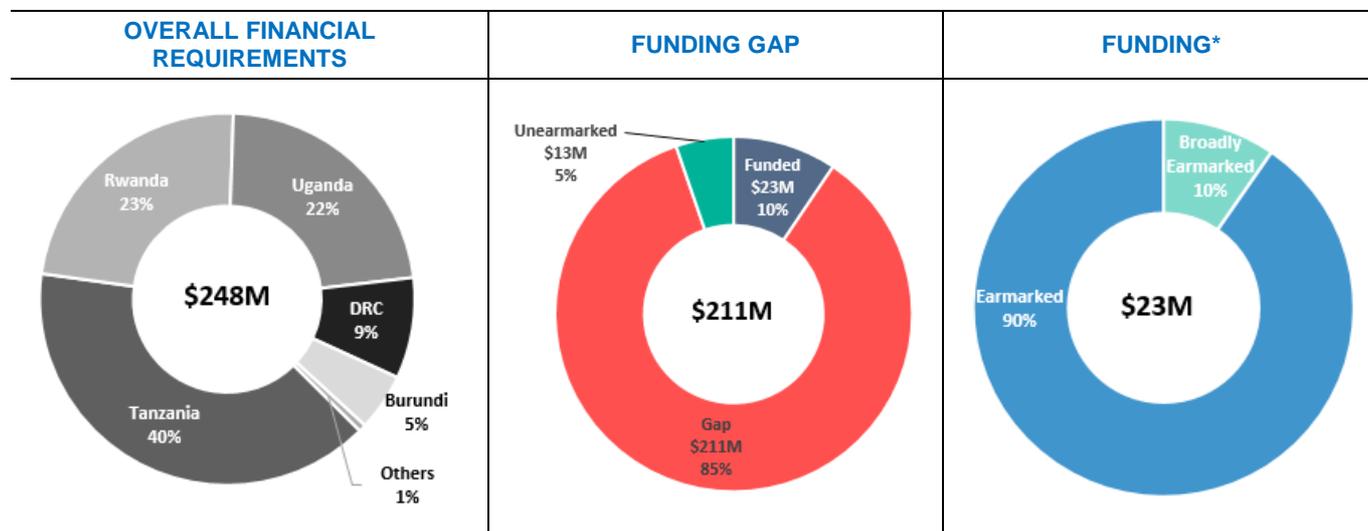
Burundian refugees and asylum seekers who have fled since 1 April 2015

### 61%

of Burundian refugees are children

### 534,000

Expected Burundian refugees by the end of 2017



Since the outbreak of civil conflict in April 2015, some 419,000 Burundian refugees have sought and been granted refuge mainly in United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, including **over 52,500 Burundian refugees between January and June 2017**. The human rights situation inside Burundi remains volatile with an estimated 209,200 people displaced in nine provinces within the country.

**In host countries**, UNHCR provides protection and emergency assistance to new arrivals while improving conditions in the camps, while seeking avenues to improve livelihoods for refugees and host communities. Nevertheless, host countries **whose capacity is already overstretched**, particularly in the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, require continuous support to provide assistance to the growing needs of the refugee population. The regional Refugee Response Plan has been revised.

In parallel, joint verification exercises conducted by the Government of Burundi, UNHCR and partners **have showed a number of spontaneous returns** and, although conditions are not conducive, up to 50,000 people are expected to return spontaneously by the end of 2017 and will require assistance to reintegrate. As some refugees have expressed the wish to return to Burundi, UNHCR and the United Republic of Tanzania will ensure the voluntary nature of such returns and that all safeguards for protection are met.

The **Burundi situation continues to be severely under-funded**, and is one of the most underfunded refugee emergencies in the world. This is severely hampering reception capacities, straining asylum space, and the quality of protection rendered by host countries. For example, 15,500 refugees in Rwanda are still living in deteriorated emergency plastic communal hangars; 50 per cent of cooking firewood needs are not met; camp drainage systems are needed to avoid run-off of water in the host community.

#### Donors to the Burundi Situation (including funding earmarked to the country level)

**Earmarked funding** - African Union; Belgium; Canada; Denmark; EU; Finland; France; Germany; Holy See; Japan; Luxembourg; Private donors; Republic of Korea; Sweden; Switzerland; The Global Fund; UK; UNAIDS; UNDAO; USA

**Broadly earmarked funding** – Germany, Sweden

#### \* FUNDING

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#### COVER PHOTO

A primary school in Awbarre refugee camp,  
Ethiopia. © UNHCR/F.Courbet