

This chapter provides a summary of the general environment in which UNHCR will operate in Africa in 2016. It presents an overview of the organization's strategy for the region, the main challenges foreseen and the financial requirements for its operational response.

Details of the operations in the region and its subregions in 2016 are presented on the Global Focus website at <http://reporting.unhcr.org>.

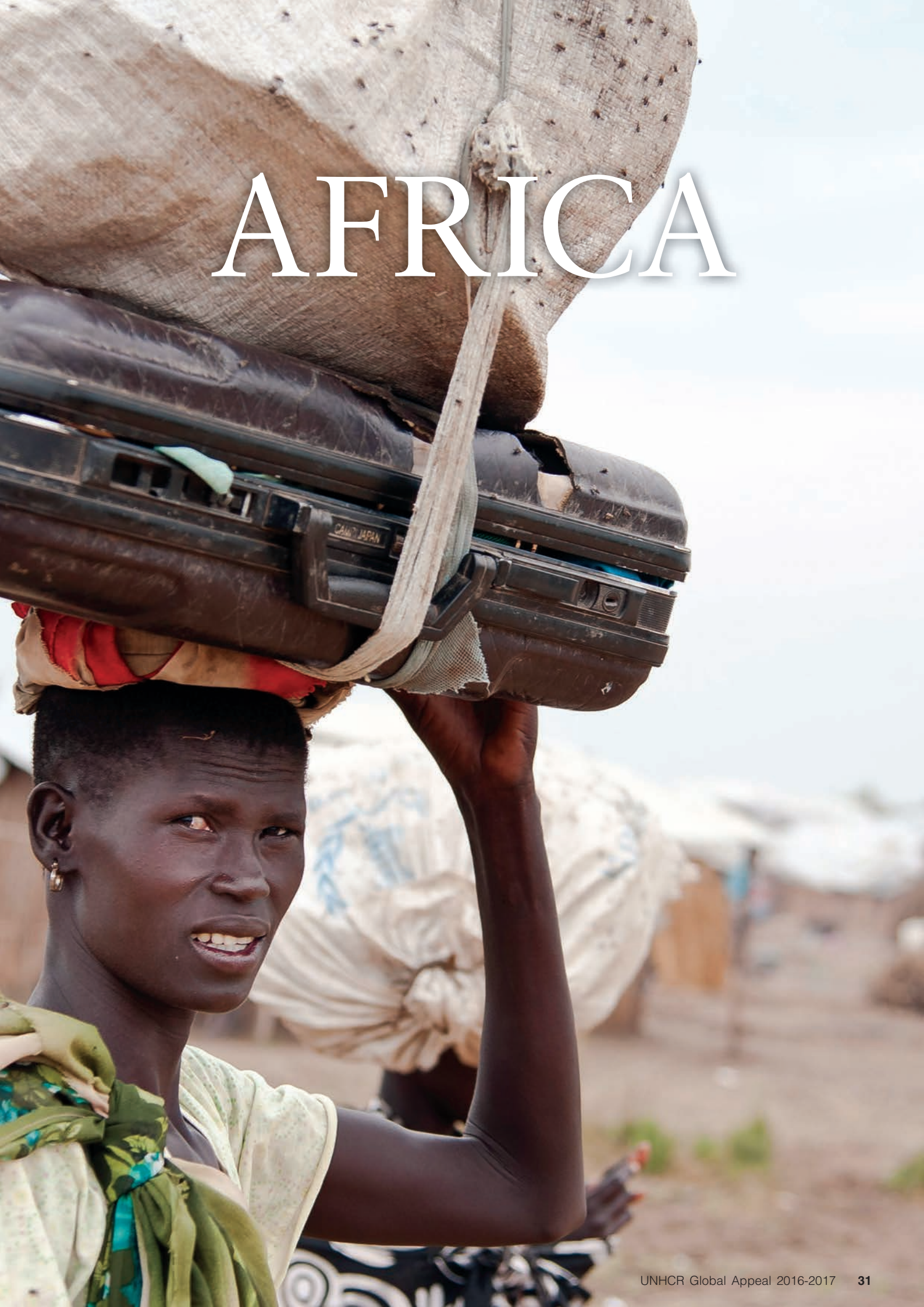
## | WORKING ENVIRONMENT |

- At the start of 2015, there were around 16.8 million people of concern to UNHCR in sub-Saharan Africa. That number increased by tens of thousands during the year, due in large part to the continuation of the humanitarian crises in the Central African Republic (CAR), Nigeria and South Sudan. Numbers grew also with the eruption of new emergencies in Burundi – affecting the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania (Tanzania), and Uganda, and in Yemen – affecting mainly Djibouti and Somalia. By the end of 2015, more than 18 million people are expected to be displaced in Africa.
- In the East and Horn of Africa region, more than 1.6 million people are internally displaced in South Sudan, and 620,000 South Sudanese have sought safety in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. While land has been identified to accommodate the large number of displaced people, pressure is mounting on hosting communities to cope with the influxes. A system-wide Level 3 emergency, declared in February 2014, is still in force at the end of 2015.
- Since March 2015, the conflict in Yemen has not abated, with ongoing movements of refugees into Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan. A Regional Refugee Coordinator for the Yemen situation has been appointed and UNHCR will continue to coordinate the inter-agency response to the situation in the Horn of Africa through 2016.

South Sudanese refugee  
in Leitchuor camp,  
Ethiopia.

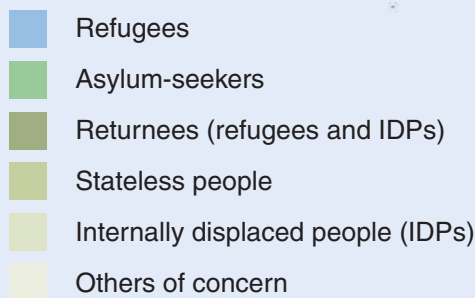
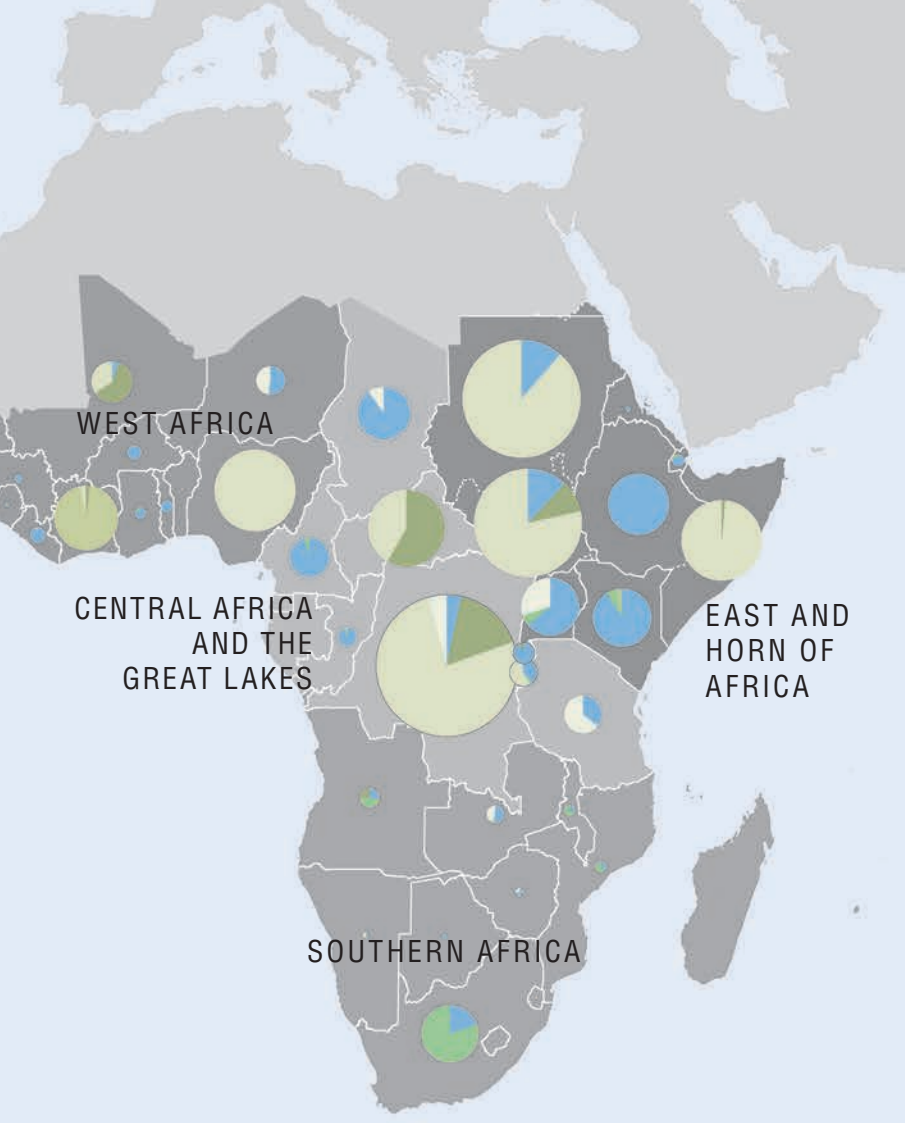


# AFRICA

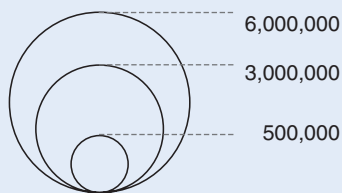


- Following the ministerial pledging conference on Somali refugees in October 2015, UNHCR will work with partners to achieve sustainable solutions for the 1.1 million Somali refugees around the globe, including by expanding opportunities for voluntary repatriation across the region.
- In 2015, the new or renewed conflicts in Burundi, the CAR and the DRC have added to previous levels of displacement, leaving more than 5 million people uprooted in the Central Africa and Great Lakes region. Although the CAR situation had stabilized with apparent progress in the peace process through the Bangui Forum, conflict has flared up once again, with tens of thousands of internally displaced people (IDPs) seeking shelter at M'poko – the site at the Bangui airport that was scheduled to close in mid-September 2015.
- The instability surrounding the Burundi elections that began in March 2015 is not yet resolved and the capacity of camps in receiving countries is stretched to the limit. In Tanzania, measures are being taken to move refugees from overcrowded sites to newly constructed camps by the end of 2015 to relieve the pressure and avoid the spread of communicable diseases.
- In 2016, UNHCR will continue to focus on preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence throughout the region, where it is a major risk in situations of continued conflict and violence, particularly in the eastern DRC.
- Conflict continues in Nigeria and this has spilled into neighbouring Cameroon, Chad and Niger. More than 2.3 million IDPs, and another 178,000 displaced across borders, are currently in insecure areas, requiring UNHCR to further boost its field presence and expand protection monitoring efforts. However, the Regional Refugee Response Plan, issued in 2015 by the organization and its partners, is severely underfunded, adding to the challenges of managing this unpredictable humanitarian situation.
- In Mali, despite the signature of peace agreements in May and June 2015, insecurity continues to hamper voluntary return efforts. Recent renewed fighting in northern Mali has driven more families into exile. UNHCR will continue to support Malians in exile, and, once conditions are secure, support their voluntary return.

| STRATEGY |



**Size of population of concern**  
As of January 2015



UNHCR has focused its strategy for Africa on the most urgent protection and assistance needs: planning and responding to emergencies; identifying innovative solutions for protracted solutions; and promoting partnerships with agencies and institutions that can help to fill these gaps. In 2016, the Office will respond to the needs of people of concern in the region by:

○ *Addressing the protection and assistance needs of people of concern*

This is the mainstay of UNHCR’s work across the region, and will be key to developing adequate responses in countries such as Cameroon, Chad, the DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and other countries hosting large numbers of refugees. Hosting communities will also be supported, where possible, to reduce tensions and allow for some level of normality to be attained while populations remain in displacement.

○ *Strengthening emergency preparedness and response*

Eight presidential elections are expected between the third quarter of 2015 and the end of 2016 in a region where elections have often precipitated violence. While it is hard to predict if and when unrest will occur, insecurity seems likely to continue in countries such as Burundi, Cameroon, the CAR, Chad, eastern DRC, Niger, northern Nigeria and parts of Somalia, and the organization is required to put in place mechanisms for early and proactive response.

### ○ *Pursuing durable solutions*

Following the call made during the High Level Segment on Africa, held in the context of the 2014 Executive Committee plenary session, UNHCR is intensifying efforts to find solutions and promote lasting security and opportunities for refugees in protracted situations. During the past year, UNHCR has reinforced efforts to find solutions for Angolan, Rwandan and Somali refugees, particularly in the East and Horn of Africa. These initiatives will continue in 2016 in order to allow the organization to end these long-standing situations.

### ○ *Working towards ending statelessness*

Following the launch in November 2014 of UNHCR's global campaign to end statelessness by 2024, the Office has intensified efforts to address the issue in Africa through advocacy, public awareness campaigns, creating legal avenues to provide documentation and a host of similar projects intended to significantly reduce the estimated 750,000-plus stateless population in the region.

### ○ *Focusing on alternatives to camps*

Keeping in mind UNHCR's policies on alternatives to camps and on refugee protection and solutions in urban areas, operations in Africa will endeavour to advocate for out-of-camp solutions whenever possible, building on advances made in countries such as Ethiopia and Uganda. In 2016, UNHCR will lobby for increased services for urban refugees across the continent.

### ○ *Providing leadership in situations of internal displacement*

In recent years, UNHCR's involvement in situations where people are internally displaced has evolved and intensified, with the organization taking on more leadership, particularly in the areas of protection, camp coordination and management, and shelter. Situations that have large numbers of IDPs, such as the DRC, Nigeria and South Sudan, will be supported within the inter-agency framework to address critical protection and assistance needs.

## | CHALLENGES |

Continuing conflict and violence – particularly in the CAR, Cameroon, Chad, eastern DRC, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan – hamper access for UNHCR and partners, who are striving to provide protection and assistance in the region. In some areas, attacks on humanitarian workers have prevented or delayed humanitarian action and left tens of thousands of displaced people without essential goods and services, such as food and shelter. Terrorist and insurgent activities have also created an increasingly restricted environment for displaced and hosting communities.

Logistical constraints cause major obstacles to access in countries with poor infrastructure, lack of passable roads during inclement weather, and administrative hold-ups at shipping points. Furthermore, the region's extreme weather

patterns frequently create additional hardship for refugees, IDPs and hosting communities. Flooding, drought and other harsh weather conditions often limit agricultural production, access and availability of resources for populations of concern to UNHCR, hampering resilience and livelihood efforts.

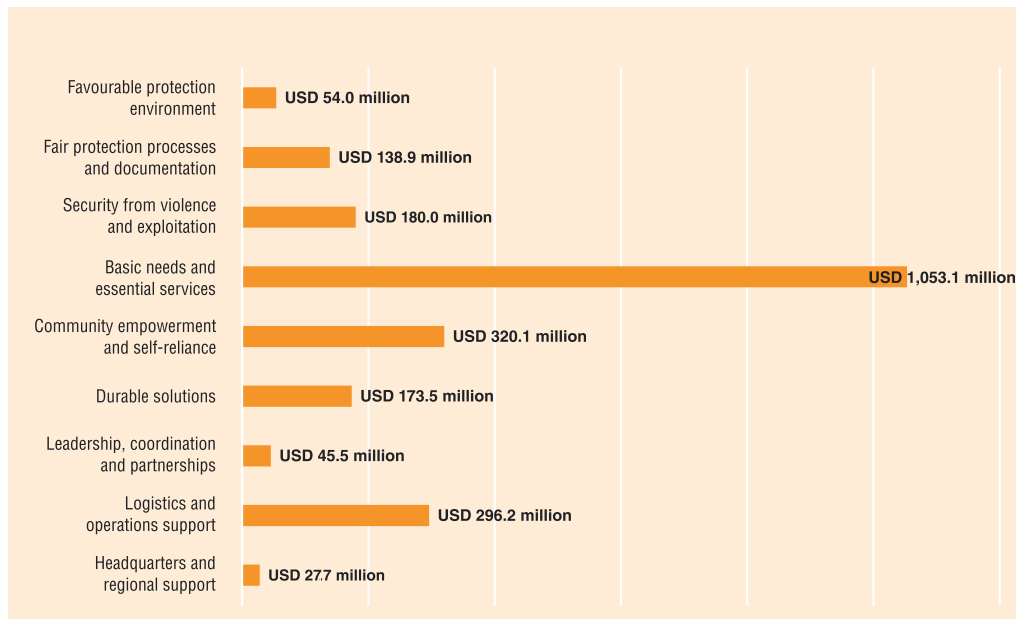
In 2015, in the Africa region, UNHCR has established 12 new camps and expanded seven others to respond to refugee emergencies. While it is important to note that in several host countries new arrivals are being accommodated outside of camps, additional land for the establishment of more camps or sites is currently being sought in countries where new arrival rates are still high. The overcrowding of such sites due to new movements has become a critical problem that the Office struggles to address. ■

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

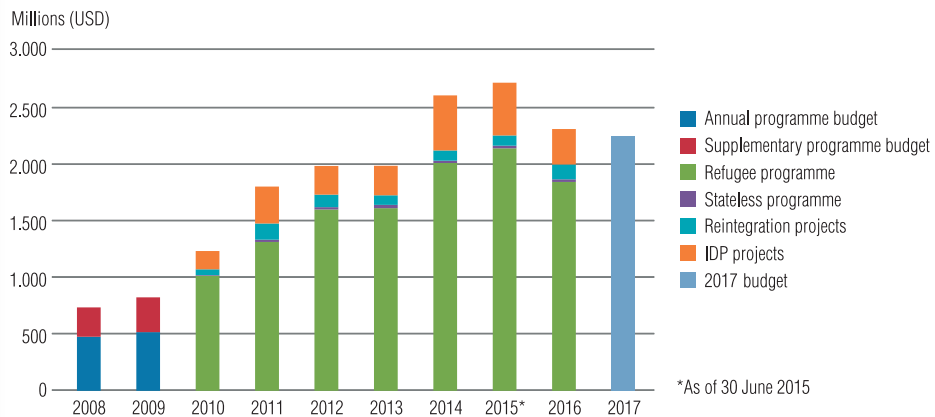
The growing gap between the organization's financial requirements to respond to emergencies and the need to maintain an adequate response to ongoing and protracted crises has been a critical challenge in 2015, and is likely to continue in 2016. Education and livelihood programmes, not seen as immediate lifesaving interventions, may be curtailed for hundreds of thousands of refugees.

The 2016 budget for the Africa region stands at USD 2.3 billion, an increase of approximately USD 120 million when compared to the 2015 budget approved in October 2014. This does not include additional requirements for the recent Burundi and Yemen situations, which will be detailed in supplementary budget appeals.

**AFRICA 2016 BUDGET | by Rights Group**



**BUDGETS FOR AFRICA | 2008-2017**



Operation	2015	2016				Total	2017
	Current budget (as of 30 June 2015)	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects		
<b>WEST AFRICA</b>							
Burkina Faso	20,567,209	20,971,553	707,620	0	0	21,679,174	15,277,500
Côte d'Ivoire	26,549,754	2,589,638	3,990,442	24,204,940	0	30,785,020	29,861,469
Ghana	10,693,861	9,444,755	0	0	0	9,444,755	7,273,786
Guinea	7,178,568	7,463,159	0	0	0	7,463,159	3,075,920
Liberia	34,164,707	23,860,907	0	0	0	23,860,907	14,585,893
Mali	67,810,517	27,088,674	1,066,948	17,775,719	3,240,572	49,171,913	60,011,228
Niger	49,817,155	48,986,938	783,728	0	0	49,770,666	24,552,395
Nigeria	0	1,821,559	0	0	27,667,739	29,489,299	31,051,117
Senegal Regional Office <sup>1</sup>	76,064,563	36,931,623	1,798,172	0	0	38,729,795	40,138,910
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>292,846,334</b>	<b>179,158,808</b>	<b>8,346,910</b>	<b>41,980,659</b>	<b>30,908,312</b>	<b>260,394,688</b>	<b>225,828,218</b>
<b>EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA</b>							
Chad	170,688,787	200,177,492	911,419	0	0	201,088,911	173,027,100
Djibouti	36,801,203	19,987,830	0	0	0	19,987,830	19,947,458
Eritrea	5,913,217	4,891,037	0	0	0	4,891,037	2,769,188
Ethiopia	307,947,642	269,651,805	0	0	0	269,651,805	255,449,974
Ethiopia (Regional Liaison Office to the AU and ECA)	1,439,099	2,042,045	0	0	0	2,042,045	1,796,808
Kenya	251,196,114	226,278,884	500,000	0	0	226,778,884	214,372,696
Kenya Regional Support Hub	8,725,134	7,415,949	0	0	0	7,415,949	7,232,932
Somalia	92,306,670	23,979,857	0	21,950,433	37,640,414	83,570,704	85,302,915
South Sudan	413,880,856	167,757,752	4,795,794	0	103,012,668	275,566,213	245,155,865
Sudan	170,657,859	108,278,306	1,548,266	0	30,598,637	140,425,209	148,014,520
Uganda	221,407,173	242,723,113	108,044	0	0	242,831,157	299,327,742
Regional activities	12,306,350	11,628,599	0	0	0	11,628,599	11,667,024
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,693,270,103</b>	<b>1,284,812,668</b>	<b>7,863,523</b>	<b>21,950,433</b>	<b>171,251,719</b>	<b>1,485,878,343</b>	<b>1,464,064,221</b>
<b>CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE GREAT LAKES</b>							
Burundi	25,823,000	18,275,950	928,345	0	0	19,204,295	20,788,098
Cameroon	114,697,644	89,476,460	1,885,381	0	7,262,762	98,624,603	97,600,001
Central African Republic	51,415,889	8,521,130	0	18,018,858	25,709,243	52,249,231	52,463,150
Congo	35,341,593	32,000,000	0	0	0	32,000,000	28,000,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo Regional Office <sup>2</sup>	205,016,778	84,457,173	1,923,405	29,819,203	74,839,658	191,039,439	191,039,447
Rwanda	110,904,382	35,955,380	0	6,031,085	0	41,986,465	41,986,485
United Republic of Tanzania	91,004,007	27,848,556	0	12,164,242	0	40,012,798	41,000,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>634,203,292</b>	<b>296,534,649</b>	<b>4,737,131</b>	<b>66,033,388</b>	<b>107,811,662</b>	<b>475,116,830</b>	<b>472,877,182</b>
<b>SOUTHERN AFRICA</b>							
Angola	5,433,056	3,731,490	0	0	0	3,731,490	3,731,490
Botswana	4,191,907	3,333,215	0	0	0	3,333,215	2,000,000
Malawi	6,146,255	5,628,015	0	0	0	5,628,015	5,547,516
Mozambique	5,149,280	5,115,057	387,825	0	0	5,502,882	5,917,735
Namibia	546,748	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Africa Regional Office	27,270,748	24,740,916	1,089,531	0	0	25,830,446	25,530,446
Zambia	19,500,008	17,210,761	0	0	0	17,210,761	11,774,620
Zimbabwe	5,806,701	6,084,611	349,510	0	0	6,434,122	6,434,122
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>74,044,704</b>	<b>65,844,065</b>	<b>1,826,866</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>67,670,930</b>	<b>60,935,929</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,694,364,433</b>	<b>1,826,350,190</b>	<b>22,774,429</b>	<b>129,964,480</b>	<b>309,971,693</b>	<b>2,289,060,791</b>	<b>2,223,705,549</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes activities in Benin, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone and Togo

<sup>2</sup> Includes activities in Gabon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo