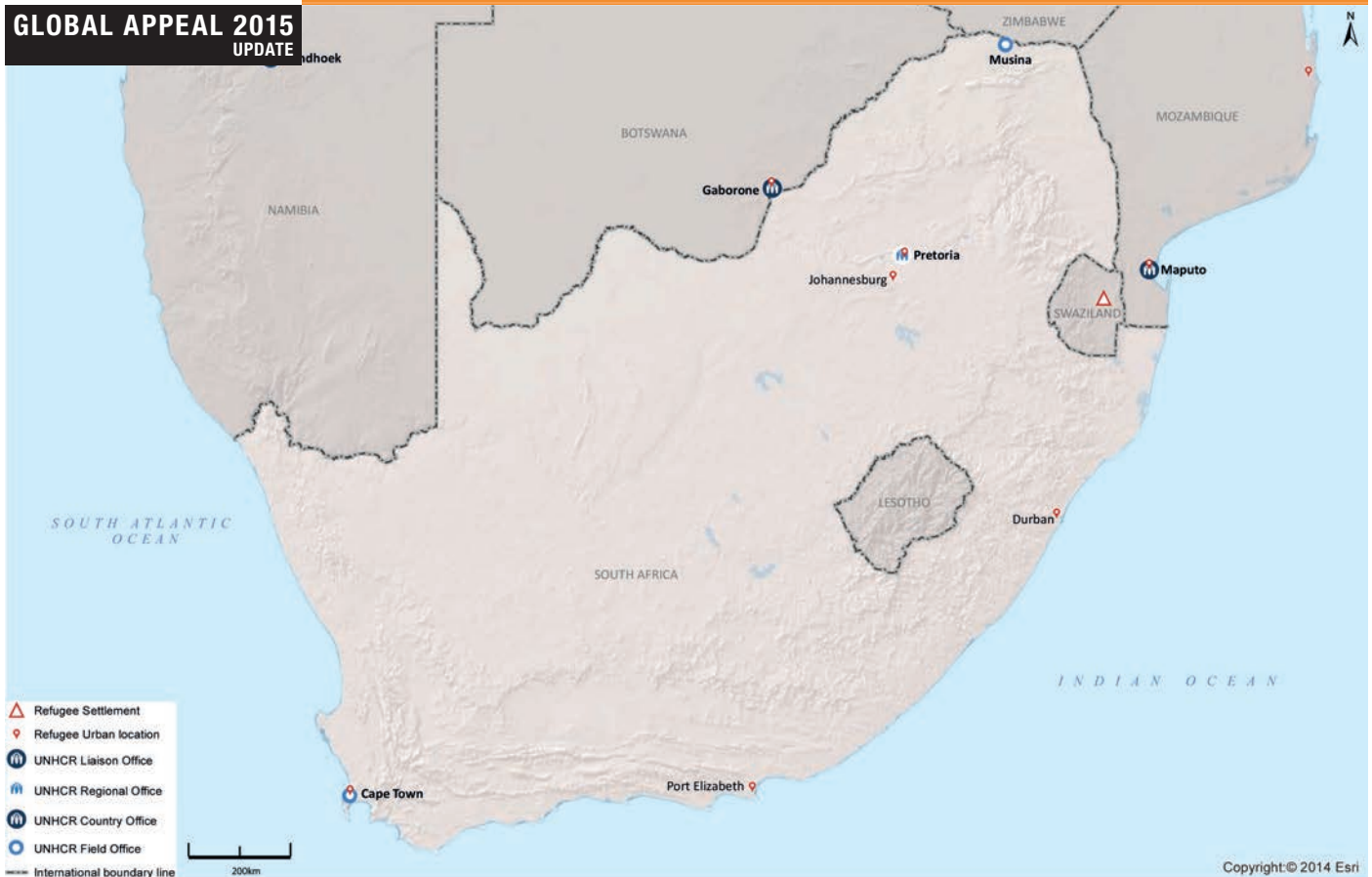




UNHCR

**GLOBAL APPEAL 2015
UPDATE**

SOUTH AFRICA



Planned presence

Number of offices	3
Total personnel	79
International staff	23
National staff	38
JPOs	1
UN Volunteers	8
Others	9

2015 plan at a glance*

332,000	People of concern (PoC)
USD 27.3 million	Overall funding requirements
30,000	Refugees targeted to receive legal support
15,000	Registered children targeted to be enrolled in primary education
15,000	Vulnerable refugees targeted to receive specific support
1,300	Estimated referrals to resettlement countries
250	Officials to be trained on child protection and children's rights

* All PoC figures refer to projected 2015 end-year information at time of planning (mid-2014)

| Overview |

Working environment

- South Africa's national legislation incorporates the basic principles of refugee protection, including freedom of movement, the right to work, and access to basic social services. However, some public institutions do not recognize refugees' permits, preventing them from benefitting fully from these rights. The current socio-economic environment – high unemployment, poor service delivery, and economic inequality – has strained relations between refugees, asylum-seekers and host populations.
- Reaching refugees remains a challenge for UNHCR as most reside in urban areas.
- South Africa continues to be a major destination for asylum-seekers, as well as migrants and others seeking better economic and social opportunities. There

- are confirmed reports of human smuggling and trafficking.
- The asylum system is overwhelmed. The large number of applications has created a backlog, affecting the quality and efficiency of refugee status determination (RSD). Without a comprehensive immigration system, migrant workers and others sometimes try to make use of the asylum system to stay legally and gain access to South Africa's services. The Government is establishing a border-management agency to regulate immigration and, in July 2014, new regulations came into effect.
- RSD is carried out by the South African Government. In 2015, it will continue to support international efforts to protect and assist refugees through providing access to health facilities, schools and social services.

People of concern

The majority of refugees and asylum-seekers in the South Africa operation have fled the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the security situation in Somalia or are individuals who claim to have faced persecution in Burundi, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Zimbabwe.

There are approximately 65,000 recognized refugees in South Africa. Many of them have been there for years. In

addition, at the end of 2013, there were 230,000 asylum-seekers awaiting decisions, according to Department of Home Affairs figures.

In January 2014, the Government of South Africa publicly stated that it is considering a visa for Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) economic migrants, which may reduce new asylum applications.

Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Jan 2015		Dec 2015	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	15,000	3,000	16,000	3,200
	Ethiopia	9,600	1,920	11,600	2,320
	Somalia	24,000	4,800	27,000	5,400
	Various	20,400	4,080	22,900	4,580
Asylum-seekers	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	8,500	1,700	9,000	1,800
	Ethiopia	4,600	920	4,400	880
	Various	189,900	37,980	194,600	38,920
	Zimbabwe	43,000	8,600	46,000	9,200
Total		315,000	63,000	331,500	66,300

| Response |

Needs and strategies

The main needs of refugees remain access to: documentation; a fair and functioning asylum system; basic social services, provided in national legislation and policy; occasional emergency assistance for the most vulnerable, including shelter and food; and social cohesion programmes.

UNHCR's approach continues to focus on enhancing strategic partnerships and strengthening coordination in its main areas of intervention. In 2015, the Office will advocate that the current asylum space be preserved, allowing refugees and asylum-seekers to work, study and access health and social services. UNHCR will continue to provide technical support and advice to the Department of Home Affairs, promote self-reliance, and

enable local integration. Short-term material assistance will be provided for vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers who cannot access other essential assistance, such as shelter and food, until they can benefit from local charitable or governmental social services.

The Office will intensify efforts to ensure that survivors of sexual and gender-based violence receive the necessary support and assistance. Resettlement will continue to be a protection tool for individuals with critical needs. Special efforts will be made to pursue preventive actions and advocacy, including awareness campaigns, conflict resolution programmes and other community interventions aimed at promoting social cohesion.

Main objectives and targets for 2015

The following matrix contains examples of some of the main activities planned in 2015.

Using a selection of objectives from UNHCR's programme plans for the 2014-2015 biennium, it is designed to illustrate:

- what - under the global needs assessment planning and prioritization process - has been planned (**Planned activities**) for particular groups of people of concern (**People of concern**);
- the identified needs that can be covered if full and flexible funding is made available (**2015 comprehensive target**); and
- the needs that may not be met if funding falls short of the ExCom-approved budget (**Potential gap**). The estimation of a potential gap is based on the country operation's own assessment of the likely impact of a global funding shortfall. Calculations are based on various criteria, including the particular context,

strategic priorities and experience of resource availability for the respective area of activity in previous years.

Activities under objectives on child protection (including best interest determination), education and prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are core areas which are given priority in the allocation of funding (priority area). In order to ensure the necessary flexibility in the allocation of funds, UNHCR relies on unrestricted contributions from its donors.

It should be understood that in some cases, targets for activities or delivery of services may not be reached for reasons other than a funding shortfall, e.g. lack of access to people of concern, cases not reported, changing circumstances, security problems, insufficient capacity to implement all programmes planned, etc. In the Global Report 2015, an explanation of why any target may not have been reached will be provided.

Planned activities	People of concern (PoC)	2015 comprehensive target	Potential gap
BASIC NEEDS AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES			
Services for people with specific needs strengthened			
Vulnerable people, such as individuals with disabilities or the elderly, often have difficulty in accessing governmental social assistance grants due to challenges with their documentation and language barriers. An assessment has identified the most vulnerable, who receive financial grants until they can be absorbed into the Government's social grant system. UNHCR will intensify efforts to disseminate information to refugees and staff at relevant institutions on the eligibility and application process for social grants, so all vulnerable refugees can enjoy access to them.			
Number of PoC assessed for vulnerability	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	15,000	10,000
COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE			
Self-reliance and livelihoods improved			
Language barriers and documentation challenges make it difficult for those of concern to UNHCR to earn a living. Some refugees with small shops in townships are often targeted during xenophobic violence. In 2015, UNHCR will implement a holistic self-reliance and livelihoods support strategy that has been developed in consultation with civil society, self-reliance consortia and NGOs. Small business grants, business and entrepreneurship training, language training, and facilitation of qualifications/certificates will help refugees and asylum-seekers become self-reliant. The intended impact is for PoC to have formal access to work opportunities in South Africa.			
Number of PoC provided with entrepreneurship / business training	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	500	250
Number of PoC provided with language training for livelihoods purposes	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	2,000	1,000

Planned activities	People of concern (PoC)	2015 comprehensive target	Potential gap
FAVOURABLE PROTECTION ENVIRONMENT			
Public attitude towards PoC improved			
<p>Competition for jobs, business opportunities, public services, and housing can cause tension between foreigners, including refugees, and host communities. UNHCR will advocate the rights of PoC and conduct community-awareness and outreach campaigns, encouraging community dialogue and social cohesion.</p> <p>The aim is to minimize the impact of xenophobia, racism and intolerance on PoC. This problem is significant, as South Africa receives the second largest number of asylum applications worldwide.</p>			
Number of media representatives and journalists trained	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	150	75
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved			
<p>PoC report that public institutions, such as banks, business-licensing boards and hospitals, do not recognize asylum permits, which are temporary. Changes in asylum procedures have made obtaining and renewing permits difficult. Asylum-seekers and refugees who fail to renew their documents on time must pay a fine and risk arrest and detention; UNHCR will provide legal assistance and enhance their access to rights and services. It will provide protection information and counselling to PoC, and will train and sensitize officials on: refugees' rights; their obligations to provide basic services; monitoring detention facilities; reviewing refugee claims and submitting appeals; policy analysis; and advocacy. Where applicable, litigation may be used to promote refugees' rights, but only when all other channels have been exhausted.</p> <p>The intended impact is to ensure PoC can access legal support.</p>			
Number of PoC receiving legal assistance	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	30,000	10,000
SECURITY FROM VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION			
Risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is reduced and quality of response improved			
<p>In the informal settlements where most refugees reside, violent crime and rape incidents are high. Reports received by UNHCR indicate high rates of domestic violence among refugee communities. Reports of sexual assault are common from people who enter the country via unofficial border points, but victims are often reluctant to report them, fearing delays in the asylum process. Furthermore, PoC are often unable to access income-generating activities and some resort to survival sex.</p> <p>UNHCR will continue with national level advocacy. It will call for enhanced protection of women and girls, irrespective of their status. PoC will be advised to report incidents and access assistance, such as the justice system, including getting court interdicts. Service providers will be trained in comprehensive care; law enforcement officials and justice systems on sexual exploitation and abuse among conflict-affected populations.</p> <p>The aim is to reduce SGBV incidents and provide timely assistance to survivors.</p>			
Number of partner, government and UNHCR staff trained on SGBV prevention and response	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	40	priority area
Number of reported SGBV incidents for which survivors receive psychological counselling	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	350	priority area

| Implementation |

Coordination

UNHCR's main partner in South Africa will continue to be the Department of Home Affairs. Cooperation is established through the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO). Development actors will help create livelihood opportunities. As the lead agency for the Protection Working Group, UNHCR will provide strategic leadership and direction

on international protection issues. It will continue to collaborate closely with relevant Government authorities, other UN agencies, civil society, and other stakeholders. UNHCR is involved in the elaboration and implementation of the UN Strategic Cooperation Framework (UNSCF) with sister UN agencies and the Government.

Partners

Implementing partners

NGOs:

The Agency for Refugee Education, Skills Training and Advocacy; Cape Town Refugee Centre, Caritas Swaziland, Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, Displaced and Migrants Persons Support Programme, Future Families, Jesuit Refugee Services; Lawyers for Human Rights and Refugee Social Services, the Study Trust.

Others:

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, University of Cape Town (UCT) – Refugee Rights Clinic

Operational partners

Government agencies:

City Councils of Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, Polokwane and Tshwane; Department of Basic Education; Department of Health; Department of Home Affairs; Department of International Relations and Cooperation; Department of Social Development; national and provincial disaster management centres; provincial Governments of Gauteng, Eastern Cape, KwaZuluNatal, Limpopo, and Western Cape; South Africa Social Security Agency, South African Police Service, and the South African Human Rights Commission

NGOs:

Black Sash, Child Welfare South Africa, Childline South Africa, Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa, ICMC, Lifeline, National Alliance for the Development of Community Advice Offices, RefugePoint, Sonke Gender Justice, Save the Children, and Scalabrini

Others:

ICMC, ICRC, African Centre for Migration and Society (ACMS), IOM, UN Information Center, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, OCHA, and the University of South Africa (UNISA)

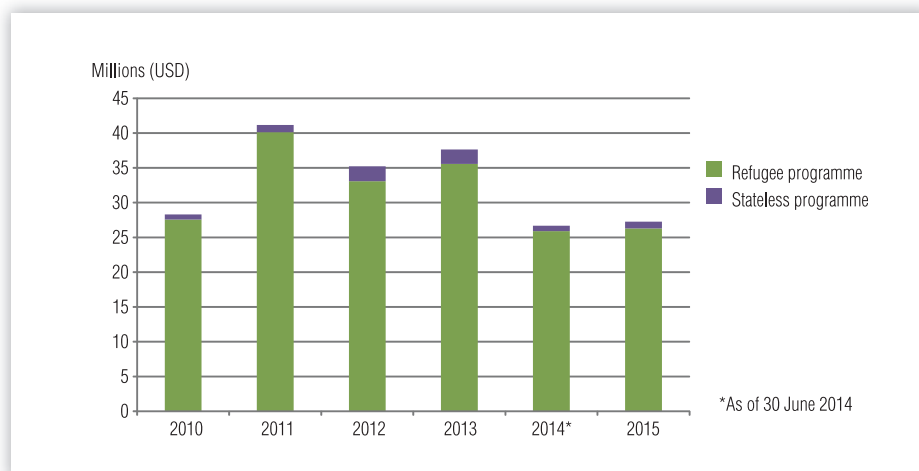
| Financial information |

A significant drop in new asylum-seeker arrivals has led to a decrease in requirements, from USD 37.6 million in 2013 to USD 26.7 million in 2014.

In 2015, the comprehensive-needs budget has increased by three per cent to USD 27.3 million, due to a rise in the cost of living and fuel prices, as well as to the inclusion of a budget for Namibia where UNHCR's presence is expected to be phased out by mid-2015.

This budget has been drawn up to address: regional resettlement projects; the RSD process; registration of people of concern; public information and voluntary repatriation; the protection and assistance of refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas of South Africa; and programmes to address statelessness in the region.

Budgets for South Africa | 2010–2015



2015 budget for the South Africa Regional Office | USD

Budget breakdown	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	Total
2014 revised budget (as of 30 June 2014)	25,901,656	776,385	26,678,041
Favourable protection environment			
International and regional instruments	0	66,989	66,989
Law and policy	204,228	0	204,228
Access to legal assistance and remedies	1,199,441	361,680	1,561,121
Public attitude towards people of concern	2,509,357	0	2,509,357
Subtotal	3,913,026	428,669	4,341,696
Fair protection processes and documentation			
Reception conditions	1,854,856	0	1,854,856
Identification of statelessness	0	106,283	106,283
Registration and profiling	638,794	0	638,794
Status determination procedures	2,377,407	0	2,377,407
Individual documentation	0	436,984	436,984
Subtotal	4,871,058	543,267	5,414,324
Security from violence and exploitation			
Prevention and response to SGBV	593,080	0	593,080
Protection of children	305,199	0	305,199
Subtotal	898,279	0	898,279
Basic needs and essential services			
Health	441,951	0	441,951
Reproductive health and HIV services	572,563	0	572,563
Basic and domestic items	1,087,353	0	1,087,353
Services for people with specific needs	1,210,978	0	1,210,978
Education	1,173,709	0	1,173,709
Subtotal	4,486,554	0	4,486,554
Community empowerment and self-reliance			
Community mobilization	525,991	0	525,991
Self-reliance and livelihood activities	1,470,422	0	1,470,422
Subtotal	1,996,413	0	1,996,413
Durable solutions			
Comprehensive solutions strategy	1,039,713	0	1,039,713
Voluntary return	1,387,805	0	1,387,805
Integration	2,386,893	0	2,386,893
Resettlement	1,468,973	0	1,468,973
Subtotal	6,283,384	0	6,283,384
Leadership, coordination and partnerships			
Coordination and partnerships	1,354,856	0	1,354,856
Subtotal	1,354,856	0	1,354,856
Logistics and operations support			
Logistics and supply	254,856	0	254,856
Operations management, coordination and support	2,240,384	0	2,240,384
Subtotal	2,495,241	0	2,495,241
2015 total budget	26,298,812	971,936	27,270,748