

Multi-Year Pilots Promoting Solutions in Ghana, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Costa Rica and Ecuador 2016-2019



September 2016

Cover photograph:

South Sudanese refugee children in Northern Uganda.

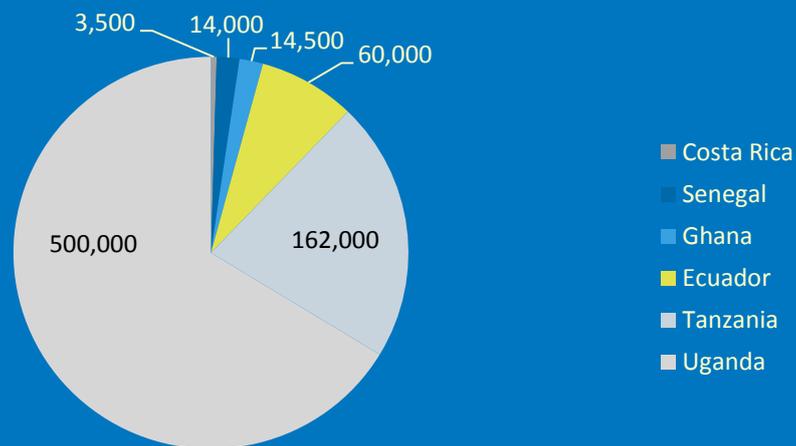
UNHCR / Will Swanson

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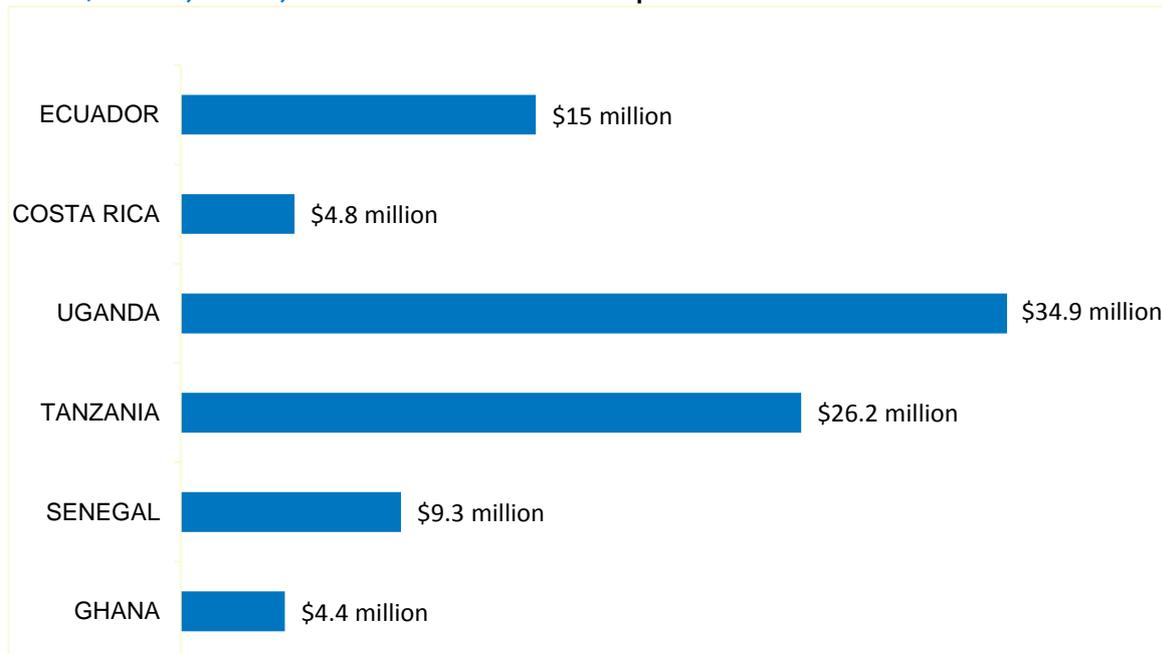
AT A GLANCE

A total of 1,475,444 people of concern



* Includes host community populations

US\$101,126,484¹ in financial requirements for 2016-2019



¹ All dollar signs in this document denote United States dollars. This figure includes regional activities and support costs (7%).

A PROGRESSIVE APPROACH TO SOLUTIONS

Multi-Year and Multi-Partner Pilots

In 2015, UNHCR launched multi-year, multi-partner planning pilots in six operations—Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ghana, Senegal, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania—to test new approaches to the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of UNHCR country programmes. The aim is to provide tools for UNHCR to develop more innovative long-term programmes with partners, which are complementary to ongoing development efforts and enable UNHCR to be a more predictable partner. This pilot draws on lessons learned of the criticality for long-term planning that extends beyond immediate humanitarian needs allowing focus on effective protection, sustainable self-reliance of persons of concern and durable solutions for all populations of concern, including those in protracted situations. In the longer term these interventions should reduce the conventional humanitarian parallel services that are not sustainable and that do not support local and national systems.

The multi-year planning pilots are based on multi-year protection and solution strategies with an overall vision for the next three to five years, as well as strategic objectives and milestones, key stakeholders, leadership and coordination structures, risk assessments, and resource requirements. These strategies work towards achieving the economic, legal, socio-cultural, and civil-political dimensions of solutions—working with local and national authorities to strengthen communities while reducing the risk of disenfranchisement among people of concern as well as host communities. The approach entails a continuous advancement towards greater enjoyment of rights in countries of asylum while durable solutions are pursued.

Two of the operations—Tanzania and Uganda—are currently responding to emergency situations as well as supporting refugees who are in a protracted displacement situation. In these contexts, interventions for both emergency and protracted situations fall under a broader protection and solutions programming umbrella. This ensures a solutions-oriented approach from the outset of displacement and early engagement of development actors in emergency settings.

In 2016, UNHCR senior management endorsed the six strategies. Lessons learned are already feeding into the institutionalization of a more strategic and progressive approach to solutions with UNHCR playing a central role in supporting governments and acting as a catalyst for action by other types of stakeholders. The strategy development process has had significant intrinsic value. It has improved situation analysis, prioritization and decision-making while embedding broad ownership among key operational stakeholders. Consequently, the framework for protection and solution strategies was included in the 2016 planning instructions to all operations. Over the next few years, UNHCR will monitor the implementation of these six pilots so as to determine where and how to expand and refine them.

Population data

	CONCERNED POPULATIONS <i>as of 31 December 2015</i>	PLANNED ASSISTED POPULATIONS <i>by December 2019</i>
Ghana	3,600	3,600*
Senegal	20,687	20,687
Tanzania **	382,620	604,712*
Uganda**	512,966	640,496
Costa Rica	6,883	13,000
Ecuador	185,785	192,949
TOTAL	1,112,541	1,475,444

*Reflects planned assisted populations as of December 2018 due to pilot duration for this operation

***Reflects the total number of people of concern for the entire multi-year solutions strategy. However, only a proportion of the budget for that strategy is presented in this document.*

Financial summary (US\$)

Financial requirements for 2016 planned activities related to the multi-year planning pilots in Ghana, Tanzania and Uganda as presented in this document are also reflected in UNHCR's requirements in the Global Appeal 2016-2017. Financial requirements for 2016 planned activities related to the multi-year planning pilot in Costa Rica are not presented in this document as they are already included in UNHCR's Supplementary Appeal for the Northern Triangle of Central America Situation (June 2016).

Financial requirements for activities related to the multi-year planning pilots planned in 2017, 2018 and 2019 as presented in this document will also be included in future Global Appeals for the corresponding budget year. This document *does not* present the total financial requirements for the multi-year pilots in Tanzania and Uganda. The expected results against the funding requested represent a percentage of the overall outcomes, as described in the country chapters.

Operation	2016	2017*	2018*	2019*	Total
Africa					
Ghana	1,173,162	1,595,430	1,666,830	0	4,435,422
Senegal	0	2,533,825	4,076,355	2,684,136	9,294,316
Tanzania	7,476,636	11,214,953	7,476,636	0	26,168,225
Uganda	7,476,636	11,214,953	7,476,636	8,691,589	34,859,815
Subtotal Africa	16,126,434	26,559,161	20,696,457	11,375,725	74,757,778
Americas					
Costa Rica	0	2,376,478	2,376,478	0	4,752,956
Ecuador	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	0	15,000,000
Subtotal Americas	5,000,000	7,376,478	7,376,478	0	19,752,956
Subtotal Africa and Americas	21,126,434	33,935,639	28,072,935	11,375,725	94,510,733
Support costs (7%)	1,478,850	2,375,495	1,965,105	796,301	6,615,751
TOTAL	22,605,284	36,311,134	30,038,040	12,172,026	101,126,484

** Requirements for 2016 are part of the ExCom-revised requirements, with requirements for 2017 onward included in the ExCom submission and subject to ExCom approval.*

Overall coordination

Along with people of concern themselves, States are the central actors in the pursuit of solutions. UNHCR will continue to support and work closely with governments and affected communities, both displaced and host. Furthermore, UNHCR is committed to expanding and enhancing partnerships in the area of protection and solutions with a broad range of actors, including the UN system in each operation and other multilateral organizations, donors, NGOs, civil society, and the private sector. At the country level, UNHCR's operational plans are implemented and managed by the UNHCR country office. In the development of multi-year multi-partner strategies and associated plans UNHCR Offices emphasise the catalytic and pro-active advocacy role of the organisation in developing partnerships to achieve agreed joint strategic objectives and plan interventions.

Coordination mechanisms set up to advance the strategies are in alignment with already existing coordination approaches. In Tanzania and Uganda, where the Solutions Alliance national groups are established, the strategies specifically plan for coordination in that forum. At Headquarters, the Solutions Steering Group—an interdivisional group with participation from the Divisions of International Protection, of Programme Support and Management, of External Relations, and from the regional bureaux—provides targeted technical support to the pilots. The Group is tasked with ensuring a

coordinated, collaborative and coherent approach to efforts to advance solutions, and supporting the institutionalization of the multi-year planning approach.

MULTI-YEAR PLANNING PILOTS IN AFRICA

GHANA

Context

At the end of 2015, Ghana was hosting around 19,000 people of concern, of which a large proportion is protracted. While the largest group of refugees in Ghana are Ivorian refugees, the durable solutions strategy for Ghana focuses particularly on 3,600 refugees, including an estimated 3,000 of Togolese origin and smaller numbers of Liberian, Sierra Leonean and Rwandan refugees.

Ghana offers a conducive environment for piloting a multi-year, multi-partner protection and solutions strategy due to its political stability, asylum policy and the Government's commitment and willingness to pursue solutions for protracted refugees. The Government will apply local integration policy to Togolese refugees and other small populations and has made it possible for every foreign resident in the country, including refugees, to have the same access as nationals to basic services, including public health and education services. Refugees can enrol in the National Health Insurance Scheme through payment of a fee to access health care. Free tuition and a capitation grant are provided by the State to every child enrolled in public school, including refugees, to ensure access to basic education.

Strategy and partnerships

The objectives of the 2016-2018 multi-year, multi-partner protection and solutions strategy for Ghana are:

- i. Refugees opting to return are assisted to do so and provided with return assistance;
- ii. Refugees that opt for local integration are supported to attain an alternative legal status such as indefinite residency or naturalization, and have access to Ghanaian or country of origin nationality documents;
- iii. Locally-integrating refugees have access to economic opportunities equivalent to nationals and are capable of making a contribution to the development of Ghana;
- iv. Locally-integrating refugees are included in social protection programmes, including those that fall under the national social protection policy and legal framework, on an equal footing with nationals.

This multi-year, multi-partner protection and solutions strategy is in line with the Strategy Policy Paper drafted by the Secretariat of the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB), which focuses on finding solutions for protracted displacement with a focus on enhancing livelihoods and supporting local integration through naturalization or long-term residency permits.

The main partners and stakeholders in this process include:

- i. Togolese, Rwandan, Sierra Leonean and Liberian refugees
- ii. Government authorities including in Ghana and Togo
- iii. UNHCR Ghana and UNHCR Togo
- iv. ECOWAS
- v. The UN system in Ghana

Planned activities

Building upon existing cooperation and established opportunities, the multi-year planning pilot will start by formalizing the agreement to the solutions approach with the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between UNHCR and the Government of Ghana to guide the implementation of the multi-year, multi-partner protection and solutions strategy. Tripartite talks will be initiated with the respective countries of origin to agree on access to nationality documents. A mass sensitization campaign to inform people of concern about solutions options and processes will be jointly carried out and an advocacy strategy will be developed and implemented. A legal aid partner will be engaged to provide tailored support to refugees in the areas of refugee status determination (RSD), prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), child protection as well as counselling and support on legal pathways and access to nationality documents for locally-integrating refugees.

Activities also include a study to gain an understanding of the solutions intentions of some 3,600 refugees, and provide 3,000 refugees with a one-off cash grant to strengthen livelihoods and social service access. Additional support, based on the results of a comprehensive needs assessment, will be provided to refugees who are accommodated outside of Krisan camp.

Those willing to return to their countries of origin will be appropriately supported based on needs identified.

All refugees who opt for local integration and acquisition of indefinite residence status or naturalization will be assisted to obtain appropriate documentation. To foster inclusion of locally-integrating refugees UNHCR will work to broaden partnerships and strengthen advocacy to include refugees in development plans to facilitate their access to basic social services, economic opportunities, and social protection programmes.

Fair protection processes and documentation

Identification of statelessness improved

- Undertake 1 study to identify the causes of statelessness in Ghana in order to prevent the risk of statelessness among protracted populations, including Togolese refugees in Ghana.

Favourable protection environment

Access to legal assistance and remedies

- Engage a legal aid partner to ensure provision of tailored legal support to refugees in the areas of RSD, SGBV, child protection, counselling, and legal pathways and access to nationality documents for locally integrating refugees.

Durable solutions

Comprehensive solutions strategy

- Conduct high-level advocacy meetings to support the development of a comprehensive solutions strategy agreed

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