



MALI SITUATION UPDATE N° 20 | JUNE & JULY 2013

This update provides a snapshot of UNHCR and partners' response to the displacement of Malians in Mali and into Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger. The refugee response is led by UNHCR and is undertaken in coordination with the host governments.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of the end of July, UNHCR and partners are addressing the needs of **175,672 Malian refugees in Algeria, Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger**. The estimated number of **internally displaced persons (IDPs) inside Mali is 342,033** according to the Commission of Population and Movements.
- **On 18 June 2013**, the Government of Mali, the MNLA and the High Council for the Unity of Azawad signed a preliminary agreement in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, that provided an immediate ceasefire and include the return of the Malian army and re-establishment of government institutions in Kidal. It also created the Joint Security Committee, who entered for the first time in Kidal on 23 June 2013.
- **On 1st July 2013**, the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) has taken over from the African-led International Support Mission to Mali (AFISMA).
- **Frist round of Malian Presidential elections, 28 July 2013:** Out of 175,672 registered refugees, UNHCR estimated that some 73,000 were of the age over the age of 18 years and eligible to vote. UNHCR strengthened its role as humanitarian and non-political agency in helping the Malian government and neighboring countries to assist with out-of-country voting for Malian refugees. UNHCR and partners conducted awareness campaigns in all refugee camps as well as spontaneous refugee sites to inform refugees about the electoral process, facilitated their participation and helped ensure the voluntary nature of the electoral process in a safe environment. It also ensured that refugees who intended to vote and were registered on the National Civil registration Data (RAVEC), received their biometric ID cards (NINA cards) to be able to vote. Out of the **19,020 refugees** registered to vote in the presidential elections, a total of 10,299 were verified against the data in the National Civil Registration Data (RAVEC). Of these, **1,313 refugees effectively voted on Sunday 28 July 2013 for the first round; including 85 in Burkina Faso, 323 in Niger and 811 in Mauritania**, according to the estimation provided by authorities.



A Malian refugee in Goudoubou camp in Burkina Faso, proudly shows his NINA card, a biometric ID document which is necessary to be allowed to vote for the Malian presidential elections on Sunday 28 July, 2013. UNHCR/ H. Caux /July 27, 2013.

PROTECTION AND LIFE SAVING ASSISTANCE NEEDS AND RESPONSE

On-going preparation for the Level 3 registration process in Burkina Faso: UNHCR and the Government of Burkina Faso prepared the biometric registration (Level III) of Malian refugees, as well as the ongoing verification of the physical presence of refugees considered as being out of camps with partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC). The Biometric registration will start on 19 August.

More detailed operational information can be found on:

**UNHCR web portal for the Mali situation: <http://data.unhcr.org/MaliSituation/regional.php>

**Mali emergency page: <http://www.unhcr.org/emergency/50597c616-5093d81bc.html>

**UNHCR public website: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4f79a77e6.html>

Actual figures stand at **49,975** individuals pending the completion of these exercises in Burkina Faso. In addition, UNHCR, alongside local authorities and partners concluded an address exercise in Goudoubo refugee camp. It will continue in Mentao refugee camp and will allow a better monitoring of persons with specific needs.

Establishment of the second hosting area in Niger: Following to the establishment of the first hosting area "zone d'accueil" in Intekan in April 2013, a second hosting area was opened in June in Tazalite. Since the beginning of 2013, a total of **nearly 8,500 refugees have been successfully relocated in Tahoua area.**

In Mali, UNHCR together with Malian civil society, and the European Union, OHCHR, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNOCHA, has trained more than 470 Malian forces (FAMA) on internal humanitarian law and protection issues.

SEXUAL GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV)

In Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger, UNHCR continued to work with partners on prevention activities and identification of SGBV survivors. Training sessions on SGBV have been organized for partners and community workers to reinforce capacity building, to strengthen referral procedures and protection mechanisms existing in the camps.

CHILD PROTECTION

In Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger, UNHCR's partners continued to conduct activities to strengthen the referral mechanism for the identification of at risk children through training sessions, recreational activities and awareness raising on child rights, good hygiene practices and prevention of diseases in Child Friendly space.

EDUCATION

In Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger, the enrolment of school age children, especially girls, remained low, between 35 percent in Niger and 40 percent in Burkina Faso. UNHCR and partners conducted sensitization activities to parents on education and summer class rolled out. Action plans have been developed for the academic 2013 - 2014 school year with the local authorities to increase enrolment of school age children. In addition to ensure reception of children, additional classrooms are being built.

WASH (WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE)

Post-emergency standards for water, sanitation and hygiene have been reached in refugee camps **in Burkina Faso.** UNHCR and partners continued to work **to improve water and sanitation in the refugee camps in Niger,** the availability of water stands at 13 liters per person per day.



UNHCR organized with IOM, IRC and the Niger Red Cross the relocation of refugees from Mentas and Midal to the new hosting area ("Zone d'accueil") of Tazalit in Niger. UNHCR / Y. Etfagha/ June 30, 2013.

In Burkina Faso, over 40 humanitarians and refugee leaders participated in a workshop for the elaboration of a strategy regarding the identification and the prevention of early marriages.

In Mauritania, some 50 religious refugees' leaders, women refugees, members of child protection network and community agent have been trained on SGBV.

In Burkina Faso, four pre-school built in Mentao Center and Mentao South and additional six classrooms in Mentao Center and Mentao South are under construction.

In Mauritania, some 13 semi-permanent schools are under construction in Mbera refugee camp.

In Niger, six additional classrooms and ten semi-permanent classrooms are under-construction.

In this regard, ten boreholes out of a target of 13 have been constructed in Abala and Mangaize camps. In Tabareybarey, water-trucking and the construction of a new water treatment center is well underway.

In Mauritania, five boreholes are operational in the camp, including two boreholes constructed by the authorities and equipped by UNHCR's partner.

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HEALTH AND NUTRITION

In **Burkina Faso**, 66 percent of births were assisted. UNHCR and partners continued to conduct awareness-raising sessions to limit risks of unassisted birth.

In **Niger**, reported cholera cases have declined in the region of Tillabéri in June and in July. UNHCR and partners reached nearly 10,000 persons with sensitization activities on cholera and hygiene promotion.

Regarding nutrition situation in Burkina Faso, UNHCR is currently responding to the high rates of anemia (average 66.6 percent in the refugee camps) and acute malnutrition in Goudoubo camp (24.5 percent Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM)) by providing blanket-feeding programs and community based prevention mechanisms. Some **1,087 children** identified as being malnourished, are taking part of the blanket feeding programme. The 46 Food Security community agents trained by partner in Goudoubo camp, continued parents with children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).

In **Niger**, results from the national nutrition survey conducted by UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and the Niger Statistical Institute (INES) highlighted that the malnutrition rate remains on average above the **15 percent**. The GAM is highest in Mangaize refugee camp and stands at **21.1 percent** for children aged from zero to 59 months. To address nutritional situation, the wet feeding programmes have been extended for children between six and 59 months in the Abala, Mangaize, Ayorou refugee camps and in Intikane refugee hosting area. A researcher from IFORD, a pan-African Institute that undertakes research and trains population experts, is currently assisting UNHCR with the study. UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF, together with researchers of IFORD and others, will undertake additional studies so as to better understand the causes of malnutrition in the refugee camps, including cultural and educational behavior.

In **Mauritania**, the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP and other NGOs prepared a national nutrition survey which will start in September 2013.

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

In **Niger**, UNHCR and partners are working to improve shelters. In Mangaize camp, some 255 shelter kits have been distributed and 450 plastic sheeting for shelter repair in Abala camp.

In addition, some **22,500 women and girls** aged between 12 and 49 years benefited from sanitary hygiene kit distribution.

In **Mauritania**, some **9,176** semi-permanent shelters were built.

LIVELIHOOD

UNHCR partner TDH- Lausanne launched income generating activities program for refugees in all locations of **Burkina Faso**. Beneficiaries composed 237 women and 94 men in Goudoubo, Sag-nioniogo and Bobo-Dioulasso were provided with grants ranging from USD 80 to 100 depending of the activity.

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

On June 20th, refugees, UNHCR, partners and local authorities commemorated the World Refugee Day under the theme “*One family torn apart by war is too many*”. Conferences, recreational activities, equestrian show traditional dance and art exhibition have been organized to celebrate the day in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.



In Intikane hosting area in Niger, refugees on camels welcomed officials and donors. UNHCR/C. Arnaud/ June 20, 2013.

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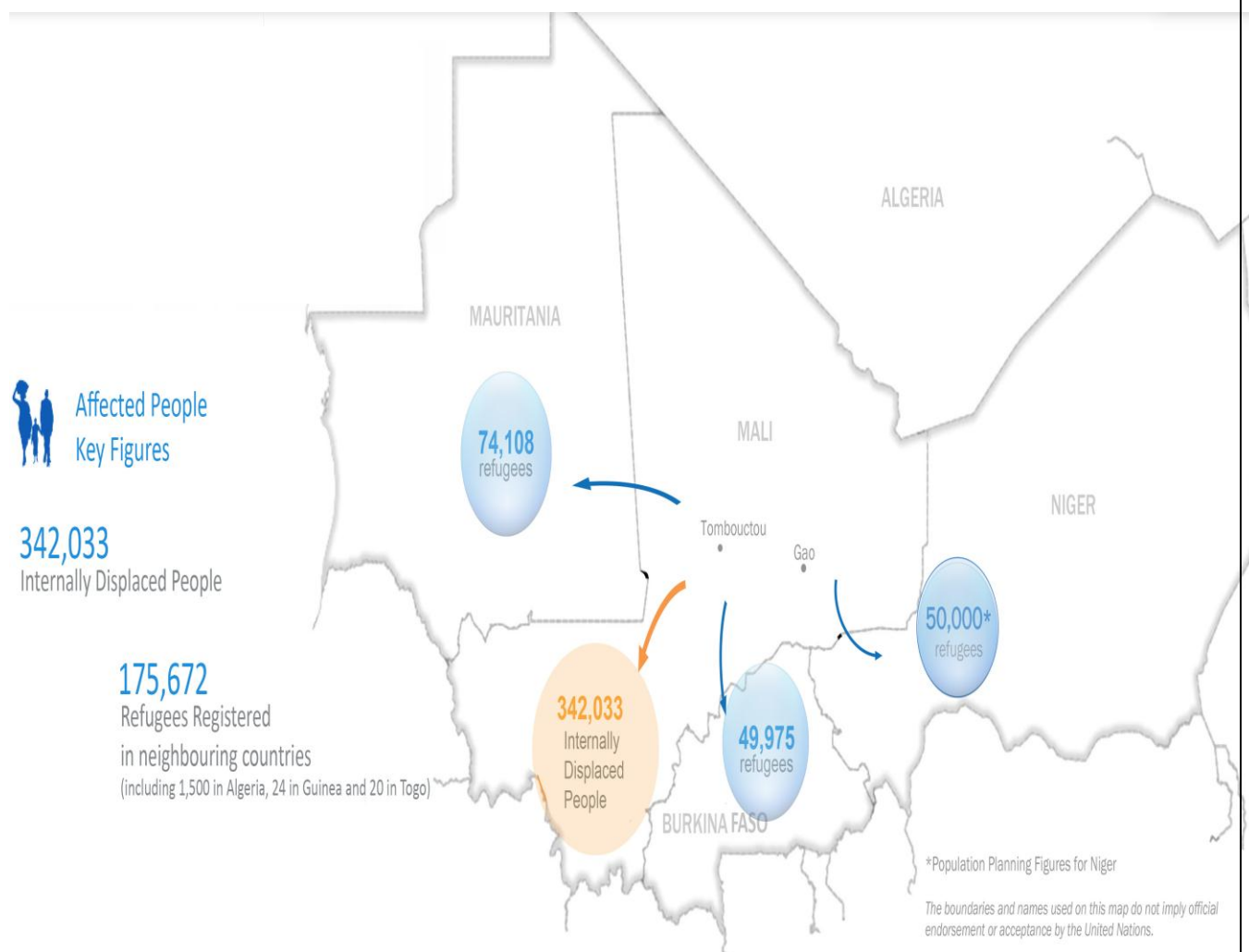
**UNHCR public website: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4f79a77e6.html>

FUNDING UPDATE

UNHCR's total financial requirements for the Mali Situation for 2013 stand at **USD 144 million** for the existing refugee and IDP operations in Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger and Mali. UNHCR is grateful to donors who have thus far committed pledges amounting to **USD 84.3 million** to respond to this crisis.

UNHCR and partners are appealing for urgent financial support from donors for the Malian displaced as the amount raised represents **59%** of the budget to date.

MALI SITUATION: Regional figures as of 31 July 2013



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