

Mali

November 2017

Mali continues to face a volatile security situation amid growing threats of terrorism, criminality and intercommunity tensions in the northern and central regions.

Local populations face important protection risks amid limited access to public services, documentation, shelter, water, education and food security.

Despite significant challenges, the implementation of the Peace and Reconciliation Accord advances slowly in order to re-establish peace and security in the region.

KEY INDICATORS

29

Households (99 individuals) were **voluntarily repatriated** to their country of origin, Cote d'Ivoire.

5,110

Returnees received **cash grants** on an annual target of 5,391.

1,071

Birth certificates distributed to Mauritanian refugees in the Kayes region since beginning of the year.

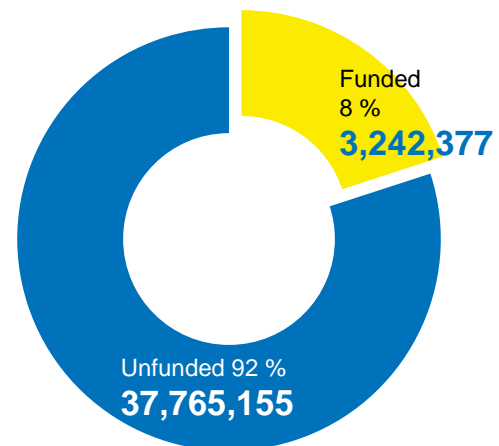


A UNHCR staff member and a government agent (CNCR) performing registration for a refugee family in Bamako, as part of the biometric registration activity. ©UNHCR Mali/M. Diallo 11.2017

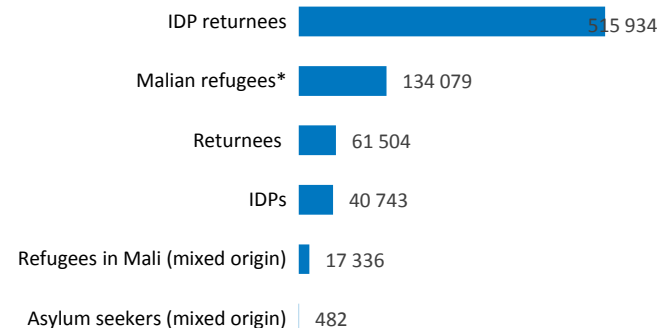
FUNDING (AS OF 228 NOVEMBER 2017)

USD 41,007,532

requested for Mali



POPULATION OF CONCERN



Figures as at October 31, 2017.

* Source: UNHCR. All other figures sourced from the Government of Mali.

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

- The security situation in Mali remains volatile with threats of terrorism, criminality and intercommunity violence in the north and central regions impacting the protection environment for civilians and limiting humanitarian access. Violation of human rights continue to be recorded with local populations facing limited access to public services, documentation, water, education and food security.
- The humanitarian aid is frequently blocked or slowed down due to the security situation notably in the center and northern region of the Mali. Aid workers often face issues when planning or attempting to reach local populations to provide the required assistance.
- On 4 November, multinational force G5 Sahel conducted its first operation. The objective of this mission, named “Hawbi”, is to symbolize the joint force’s first activity, despite that theirs is not real military issue. This raises hope among the populations in the areas mainly affected by the activities of extremist elements and acts of crime.
- On 9 November, the Special Representative of the Secretary General in Mali, Mr. Annadif, met the members of the specialized committees of the National Assembly, during an exchange and information session at the National Assembly of Mali, held under the chairmanship of the First Vice-President of the National Assembly. The United Nations country team participated in the session. At the request of parliamentarians, UNHCR Representative Ms. Angele Djohossou reported on the situation of displaced, repatriated and displaced Malians in the region, and on the reintegration of returnees in the center and north of the country.
- On November 11, the “Coordination des Mouvements de l’Entente” (Agreement Movement’s Coordination) was established. The project is the fusion of several dissenting movements of the Coordination and the Platform. Its purpose is the inclusion of all armed groups in the implementation of the 2015 Peace Agreement.
- Mali’s Justice Minister resigned on 27th November from its functions. This resignation intervenes following the acquittal of the popular radio presenter and activist known as Ras Bath, whose arrest of few months ago had generated public discontent and violence in Bamako.
- On 2 November, 29 households (99 refugees and asylum seekers) were repatriated to their country of origin, Cote d’Ivoire. This voluntary repatriation was made possible through collaboration between UNHCR and the National Refugee Commission (CNCR). The main destinations were Abidjan, Korhogo, Bouake and Abengourou. In total, since the beginning of the year, 493 persons have been repatriated to Cote d’Ivoire.
- On 2 November, the UNHCR Representation in Mali signed a funding agreement of CHF 400,000 with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in Mali to strengthen protection monitoring in central and northern Mali, thus strengthening the protection

environment in these areas. The one-year project started immediately upon the signature of the agreement.

- From 16 to 28 November, a verification and biometric registration exercise of refugees and asylum seekers took place in Bamako. This activity follows a training session on BIMS procedures and Progress that was held from 8 to 15 November for registration agents from UNHCR and CNCR. A mission of UNHCR registration specialists from UNHCR regional offices in Dakar and Nairobi also took place from 6 to 19 November in Bamako to support the exercise. The registration activity included nearly 2,500 refugees and asylum seekers living in and around Bamako.
- From 21 to 23 November, the regional meeting of Representatives in West African countries took place in Dakar. Discussions revolved around the regional coordination structures and mechanisms of Africa bureau and regional representations. The opportunity was seized to present the different operations' protection and operational priorities.
- On the sidelines of this meeting, discussions were held on the request of the Malian Minister for Solidarity and Humanitarian Action, to organize a high-level regional meeting on the repatriation of Malian refugees to discuss the possibility of passing from facilitation to the promotion of voluntary repatriation. It was decided that UNHCR will organize a regional protection meeting to develop "position papers" on the voluntary repatriation of Malian refugees.
- On 26 November, the Council of Ministers announced the deferral of the regional elections amid security concerns. The elections will take place in April 2018, instead 17 December 2017.
- The need to uphold humanitarian principles remains of utmost importance to counter the shrinking of humanitarian space to conduct life-saving activities. Incorporating protection mainstreaming principles and promoting a meaningful access, safety and dignity for humanitarian aid remains key to humanitarian actors.

Achievements



PROTECTION

- **Protection Cluster**
- The protection cluster continued the process of developing the HNO & HRP - 2018. The analysis and validation of protection projects registered in the OPS (Online Project System) have been finalized. In total, 27 projects were validated out of 35 submitted in the system by protection actors. 3 out of 4 UNHCR protection projects registered in the system have been validated.

- On November 2, the inter-cluster meeting was held in Timbuktu to prepare for the presentation meeting of the activities with the Governor of the region on 30 November 2017. The analysis shows an increase of closed schools from 53 to 65 compared to last year. This issue is largely due to threats by radical groups.
- In Mopti, a discussion session was held with the Regional Directorate for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family to plan for the 16 days of activism related activities. During this session, the leadership emphasized the celebration of Rural Women's Day, which was planned to be celebrated on November 28, 2017.
- On 9 November, an advocacy meeting initiated by the Regional Directorate for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family was held with the participation of the cluster. The advocacy messages aimed to involve the administrative, security and civil society authorities in the total eradication of all forms of violence against women and encourage the denunciation and seeking justice against perpetrators of these acts. This action was motivated by the allegations of numerous cases of rape on roads, particularly in Timbuktu and Gao regions.
- On 13 November, a meeting was held with the humanitarian mission of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. The protection cluster seized the opportunity to brief the participants on the cluster-defined humanitarian needs in the 2018 HNO (ongoing), to mention the key protection challenges of 2017, and to raise financial requirements for the HRP 2018. Mixed migration issues were addressed by the mission before expressing the interest of the Swedish Cooperation to support the Humanitarian Response Plan on the situation of Mali.
- On 14 November, a follow-up meeting was made by the coordination of the cluster with the partner AMSS and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in Timbuktu, following inter-community. The deliberations of the discussions were to better involve the conflict management committees and protection committees in order to ease these tensions.

Achievements and Impact

- **Mixed migration:**
 - With the aim of strengthening partnerships with key partners and stakeholders, UNHCR met with IOM in Bamako as to present its vision and mandate on mixed migration, and to start a collaboration that will be formalized by the end of the year. UNHCR also met in Bamako the partner AMSS, which is implementing the Protection Monitoring in the context of irregular mixed migration flows. The aim of the meeting was to clarify the scope of data collection and the purpose of identifying and assisting potential persons of concern in the monitoring activities. The latter have been conducted in entry and transit points in Bamako, Gao, Mopti, and Timbuktu.

- Sensitizations activities addressing persons of concern on the risk of irregular migration and access to asylum, as well as focus groups addressing authorities, have been planned in Bamako, Gao, Mopti and Timbuktu to take place in December.
- In the view of formulating alternatives to unsafe irregular migration, self-reliance and livelihoods activities targeting persons of concern and host communities are continuing to be implemented in Timbuktu, Gao, Mopti, and Kayes.
- **SGBV:** With the aim of reducing the risk of SGBV and improving the quality of response in Gao, Kayes, Mopti and Timbuktu regions, 220 sensitization sessions were carried-out through UNHCR's partners AMSS and Stop Sahel, on the risks and consequences of SGBV, early marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), and the importance of girls' education, reaching at least 3,657 men and women from refugee returnee and local communities.
- **Social Cohesion:** In the regions of Gao, Kidal, Menaka, Kayes and Timbuktu through the partners AMSS and Stop Sahel, 64 sensitization sessions on social cohesion reached 1208 men and women from refugee returnee and local communities.
- **Documentation:** In Kayes region, birth certificates continued to be issued to Mauritanian refugees through Stop Sahel. In total, since the beginning of the year, 1,071 birth certificates have been distributed out of the planned 2,659 for 2017.
- **Protection Monitoring:** 25 protection incidents were collected and documented through UNHCR's partner AMSS during this month, mostly in the regions of Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal and Mopti. Most of the reported incidents relate to extortion, injuries and deaths. Since the beginning of the year, 733 protection incidents have been collected and documented (temporary figure, as of 30 November 2017).
- **Voluntary repatriation:**
 - On 2 November, 29 households (99 refugees and asylum seekers) were repatriated to their country of origin, Cote d'Ivoire. This voluntary repatriation was made possible through collaboration between UNHCR and the National Refugee Commission (CNCR). The main destinations were Abidjan, Korhogo, Bouake and Abengourou. In total, since the beginning of the year, 493 persons have been repatriated to Cote d'Ivoire.
 - On 15 November, UNHCR in Burkina facilitated the voluntary repatriation of 178 households (693 individuals) living in the refugee camp in Burkina. UNHCR Mali has exchanged with the Social Development Direction for the arrangements to be made.
- **Participatory evaluation:** On 15 November, a participatory evaluation was held in Timbuktu, with participants from returnees from Ber, Lafia and Alafia within the same region. The issues raised by returnees are largely related to youth employment, health, child-rearing, income-generating activities, shelter and others.

**EDUCATION****Achievements and Impact**

- Following the selection of the 10 new refugee candidates to start their study thanks to grants from the German Government (known as the DAFI grant), an invitation was sent to them to sign an agreement related to the programme. By signing, the students certified their full-commitment to their studies, an ethical behavior, as well as to actively participate in activities that would contribute to their communities' welfare. Furthermore, the above-mentioned new students - in addition to three others have received checks through HCR's partner Stop Sahel to cover their subsistence fees during the first semester of the academic year 2017-2018.
- In Kayes region, 71 sensitization sessions on the importance of the enrolment of children in school have been carried-out by Stop Sahel reaching 666 persons from both refugee and host communities in refugee hosting sites.
- In the frame of promotion activities of education for rural refugees, 263 education kits have been distributed to children through Stop Sahel in Kayes region, in 4 communes.
- In Kayes region, 5 school dormitories were put in place with the capacity of 120 refugee students.
- In Kayes and Timbuktu, 3 raising-awareness sessions on education took place targeting 33 persons.
- In Bamako, 550 students benefited from education kits (350 from primary and 205 from secondary schools). The distribution took place during early October 2017.

**HEALTH****Achievements and Impact**

- New enrolments were registered to the health insurance scheme. Since the beginning of the year, more than 292 families (2,209 individuals) have newly subscribed to the programme, out of an annual objective of 300 households (2000 individuals).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Many urban refugees suffer from serious or chronic diseases. Due to resource constraints, it is not possible to assist all of them. A targeted support is provided to the most vulnerable only, leaving others relying on their own resources.
- Also, many urban refugees do not accept to contribute to health expenses through the health insurance scheme. Sensitization is carried out in order to explain the benefits of such a scheme.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In Mopti region, 2 borehole drillings are being constructed, while 2 were rehabilitated in addition to 1 water point .
- In Gao, 3 borehole drillings are being constructed, while 3 are being rehabilitated.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- Since the start of 2017, 244 shelters composed of 100 traditional and 144 mud shelters, have been constructed out of an annual objective of 250 shelter for this year. This action is being implemented through UNHCR's partner TSF.
- In Gao, 89 out of every 100 banco shelters are completed, while 11 are underway in Tinhadou within the same region.
- In Kidal region, out of 20 shelters 18 are completed. In Wadicharif within the same region, 18 shelters out of 20 have been finalized, for an annual goal of 150 shelters in mud. Traditional boxes totalling 100 are 100% complete.
- In Mopti, 89 out of 100 banco shelters have been completed, while 11 banco shelters are underway in Tinhadou within the same region.
- In Timbuktu, some savings resulted in 53 additional kits for self-construction of plant boxes. The list of 53 beneficiary households was validated. Additionally, 17 plant kits were distributed in Teherdje in the commune of Ber.



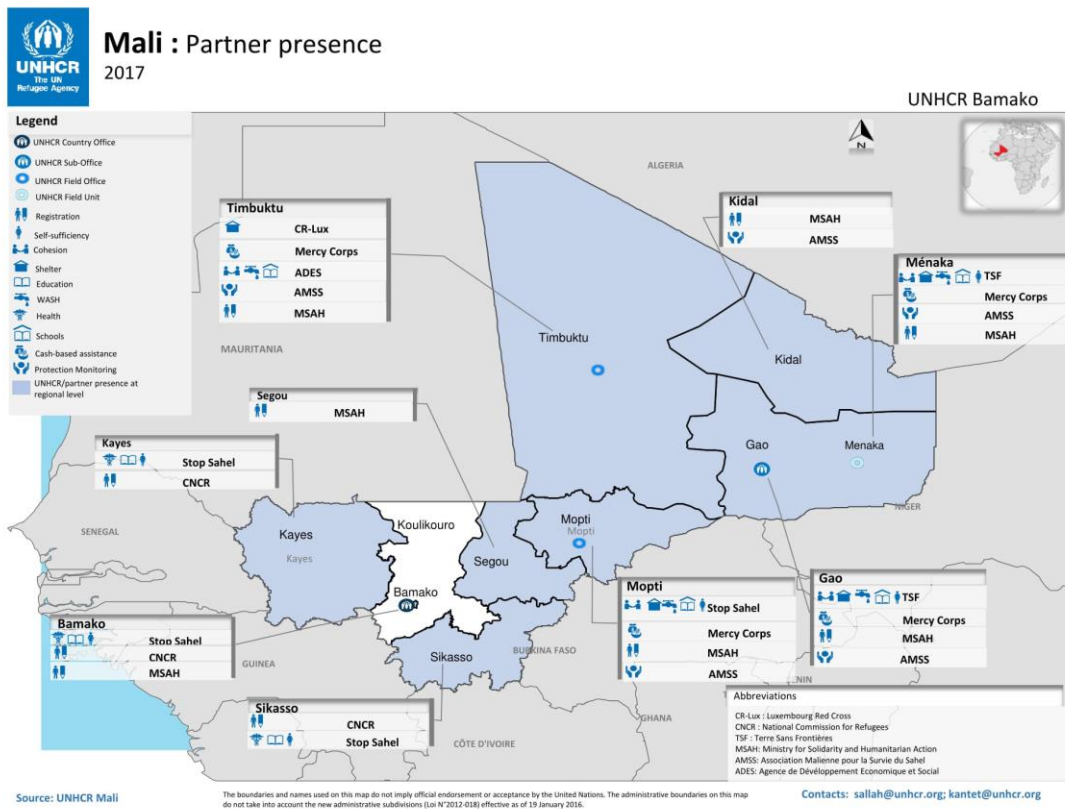
COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- **Cash grants:**
 - UNHCR, through its partner Mercy Corps, is providing cash grants to refugee returnees to meet their basic needs and support their reintegration since the beginning of the year. 5,391 returnees are targeted to receive this support in 2017. As of 30 November, 5,110 returnees received cash grants in Gao, Menaka, Mopti and Timbuktu regions. The implementation rate reached nearly 95%.

- On 15 November, UNHCR's partner Mercy Corps partner performed cash distribution activity in Menaka and Timbuktu for 198 households of 848 returnees (302 adults and 546 children).
- Identifications for the cash assistance continue with a focus on the last returnees from Burkina Faso (1,106 persons of concern).
- **Income-Generation Assistance:**
 - In Bamako, funding for 66 new beneficiaries of income-generating activities was approved during the last week of November. A total of 76 urban refugees (57 women and 19 men) have benefited from IGA assistance since the beginning of the year. These 76 beneficiaries were trained in basic financial management.
 - 5 women survivors of GBV (2 in Gao and 3 in Menaka) received monetary assistance for income generating activities. This aid aims to reduce their vulnerability by strengthening their economic activity.
 - In Gao, a meeting held with the partner Terre Sans Frontières recommended the selection of 15 groups to be assisted in economic recovery instead of 9. These groups were initially targeted in the circles of Ansongo, Gao, and Bourem. The support also includes households of people on the move in the city of Gao.
 - In Kidal region, health monitoring of domestic animals was carried out through UNHCR's partner TSF, with the support of the veterinary services. The activity consisted in the administration of medical care and vaccines to the animals of 3 groupings assisted in breeding.
 - In Mopti, 50 individuals and 11 groups were identified and validated to benefit from income generating activities. A monetary support ceremony for individual beneficiaries was organized in collaboration with the local authorities. IGAs include catering, small business, tailoring, hairdressing etc.
 - In Timbuktu, the rehabilitation works of the vegetables garden of Adjachou are in provisional acceptance phase.

Working in partnership

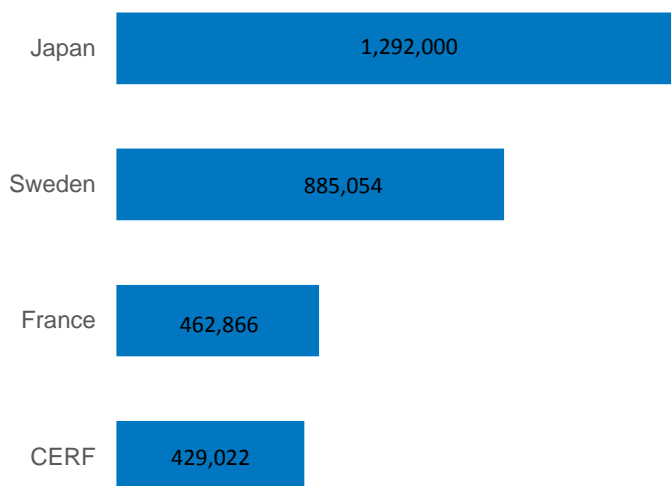


Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 3,068,942 million**, including **US\$ 1,785,622 million** for the Mali situation.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Earmarked funding received (in USD)



External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Priv Donors Spain (29 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (12 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (12 M) | Italy (10 M) |

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 20XX

Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Chile | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Morocco | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Zambia | Private Donors |

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