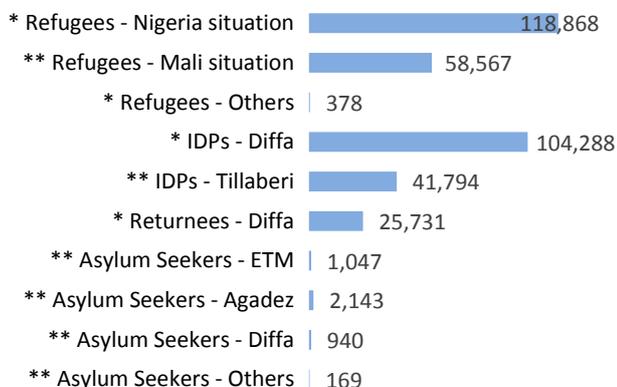


Niger



POPULATION OF CONCERN

353,925



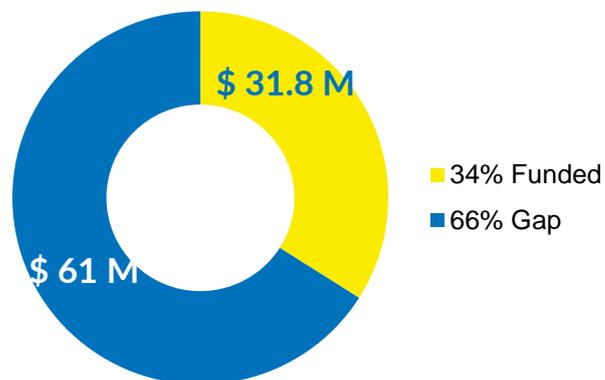
* Government of Niger official figures.

** UNHCR figures.

FUNDING (AS OF OCTOBER 03 2018)

USD 92,8 Million

requested for the Niger Country Operation



KEY INDICATORS

1,536

Refugees evacuated temporarily from Libya to Niger as part of the ETM (Emergency Transit Mechanism) from November 2017 – September 2018

2,143

Persons profiled by UNHCR in Agadez seeking asylum

41,794

Persons internally displaced in the Tillaberi & Tahoua regions



Nigerian refugee family at the UNHCR Urbanization site in Diffa town. They will soon move into their newly constructed durable home, supported by the EU Trust Fund

Operational Context

The key situations include:

- 1. The Mali situation:** began in 2012 with the outbreak of conflict in northern Mali. The regions of Tillaberi and Tahoua bordering Mali and hosting the majority of the Malian refugees are increasingly affected by insecurity and terrorism. A State of Emergency was declared last year, and extended this year. There are currently 58,567 Malian refugees in Niger. UNHCR supports the socio-economic integration of these refugees and the closure of the camps by the end of 2020 through urbanization and other programmes aimed at integration.
- 2. The Nigeria situation:** began in 2013, with the arrival of the first Nigerian refugees across the border fleeing Boko Haram. The situation deteriorated with the first attacks in Niger territory in 2015. There are over 250,000 displaced persons in the region. The majority live in spontaneous sites or with the local population, while UNHCR manages one refugee camp, with 14,405 people. An EU Trust Fund project is ongoing in Diffa region, aimed at supporting economic recovery and long term solutions through the construction of durable housing.
- 3. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** The displaced population in the Diffa region is extremely mixed, including refugees, IDPs and returnees. However, the IDP situation in Niger has become more complex with increasing insecurity in the regions of Tillaberi and Tahoua, bordering Mali. In 2018, attacks and insecurity in the area have resulted in the internal displacement of at least 41,794 people (with more than 10,000 in Tillia department this month). Protection monitoring, advocacy, capacity building and coordinated efforts with humanitarian actors are ongoing to ensure an adequate response to the situation. A humanitarian corridor will be set up in early October to secure access for evaluations, targeting exercises and emergency response of humanitarian actors.
- 4. Mixed Migration:** Niger is a major crossroads of migratory movements northwards towards Libya, Algeria and the Mediterranean. These migratory flows constitute mixed migration, including economic migrants as well as persons in need of international protection. In Agadez, UNHCR works to identify asylum seekers within the migratory flows and works with the government, as well as IOM and NGOs to provide these persons with information and assistance. 2,143 persons, mostly Sudanese, are currently profiled by UNHCR in Agadez. 25% are minors and 227 are unaccompanied or separated children. The situation has become more complex, with the addition of downward movements from Libya and Algeria. A new humanitarian centre is being built to accommodate and screen those seeking protection.
- 5. Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM):** This unique programme aims to provide life-saving protection, assistance and long-term solutions to extremely vulnerable refugees trapped in detention in Libya, through temporary evacuation to Niger. The aim is to deliver protection and identify durable solutions, including resettlement for these refugees, who are mainly Eritrean and Somali. Their profiles mainly include survivors of torture or other forms of violence in the country of origin and/or transit countries (e.g. Libya) and others with compelling protection needs. Many of them are unaccompanied children and women and girls at risk.

Security Situation

On the 17 September, The Niger Council of Ministers decided to extend for an additional 3 month period, the State of Emergency in the regions of Diffa, Tahoua and Tillaberi.

The regions of **Tahoua** and **Tillaberi** continue to be affected by armed groups and inter-ethnic violence resulting in displacement of population in the departments of Abala, Ayorou, Ouallam and Banibangou.

The department of Tillia in Tahoua region was particularly affected this month with more than 10,000 persons displaced in Agando and Assagueyguey communes. Movements of suspected extremists near the border have been reported, as well as incursions in villages by armed extremists threatening the population.

In the **Diffa** region in September, the security situation continues to be marked by repeated attacks by the Boko Haram (BH) armed group against military sites and civilian population. 23 attacks and lootings confirm the rise in the level of the terrorist threat, which has resulted in deaths among the Nigerien Security and Defence Forces (FDS) personnel and civilians, as well as repeated incursions into villages.

Tensions are also observed in the **Agadez** region. While the situation, with new arrivals of Sudanese in recent months and with ongoing deportations from Algeria is still fragile, it is slowly stabilizing in terms of peaceful coexistence.

The cholera epidemic caused 68 deaths since the beginning of July in the region of **Maradi** out of 3,692 patients declared, according to the Ministry of Public Health on 1st October. The regions of Dosso, Tahoua and Zinder have also been affected in September.

Key Developments & Achievements



Protection Cluster

- The September 2018 Protection Cluster Bulletin is published [here](#).
- The September 2018 Protection Monitoring Report on Tillaberi is available [here](#).
- The August Protection monitoring mission report on Tillia and Tassara departments (Tahoua region) is available [here](#).

Nigeria situation

- The community-based structures of Sayam Forage camp were renewed during the last week of September. The results of the elections of the candidates to the various posts for the 4 committees (central, women, youth and vigilance committees) were announced.
- On the 24 September, a workshop on statelessness and civil documentation was held in Nguigmi for 20 persons in charge of civil registration within the Communal services.
- Nigerian refugees arrived for the first time in **Maradi region** during the month of July, reaching a total of 426 at the end of September. The Regional Directorate for Civil Status, Refugees and Migration (DREC-RM) is registering the refugees and monitoring the situation with the support of UNHCR. NFI kits have been distributed to them in September.
- New offices of the communal sections of the Nigerien Federation of Handicapped Persons were established throughout the region, including in Chetimari, Maine Soroa, Diffa, Toumour, Kablewa, N'Guigmi, and Gueskerou by the partner Humanity and Inclusion (HI). An office has also been set up in Sayam Forage refugee camp.
- The Accountability Task Force meeting was held in Diffa on the 18 of September. The report is available [here](#).

IDP situation

- More than 41,000 people have been internally displaced in the Tillaberi and Tahoua regions as of 30 of September. Please see the latest map [here](#).
- A [link](#) has been developed on an interactive website, which shows in real time the number of displaced people (disaggregated by sex and age) and the number of households in the regions of Tillaberi and Tahoua, based on protection monitoring information.

- A map of the 160 villages monitored in the 3 departments under the State of Emergency in the Tillaberi region has been developed and is available [here](#).
- A protection monitoring dashboard of the Tillaberi region covering the period from January to September has been published [here](#).
- A map of the 29 villages covered by 69 protection focal points in Tahoua has been published [here](#).

Mixed Migration situation

- In Agadez, UNHCR continues to follow up on cases of persons deported from Algeria. So far, the total number from January 2018 to 31 of September is 17,989 – of which 11,359 are Nigerien.
- 04 to 14 September, a joint UNHCR – National Eligibility Commission mission started Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews in Agadez for unaccompanied and separated children. 5 newly appointed RSD caseworkers received training and commenced interviews on 24 September 2018.
- Progress has been made on the new humanitarian centre for asylum seekers in Agadez, including the installation of refugee housing units (RHUs), construction of a security station, latrines and kitchen, and the installation of solar street lights and poly tanks. To date, 327 RHUs, 7 streetlights, 32 latrines, 16 showers, 4 community kitchen blocks, and 2 security stations have been installed.
- A MoU was signed with Medecins Du Monde (MDM) Belgique that provides water trucking to the beneficiaries of the humanitarian centre with 36,000L/day.
- 56 mass sensitization sessions were conducted towards the different beneficiaries in September. The themes were related to mental health, migration, peaceful coexistence, hygiene and sanitation.
- 585 persons with specific needs (PWSN) were identified in September through the systematic evaluation carried out during the registration of asylum seekers. Cases of chronic disease and survivors of SGBV are subject to special monitoring.

Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM)

- UNHCR has been evacuating refugees from detention centres in Libya to Niger temporarily since November 2017. In December, UNHCR signed a MoU with the Govt. of Niger regarding the ETM process. To date, 1,536 people have been evacuated from Libya to Niger and a total of 494 individuals have departed for resettlement to Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and The United States.
- UNHCR has received a total of 3,886 resettlement pledges for evacuated refugees out of Niger for 2018-2019; the pledges also include resettlement places for some refugees already hosted by Niger. Of those already hosted in Niger, 173 refugees from Mali, Nigeria, Central Africa, Mauritania and Ivory Coast have departed for resettlement.
- A sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) prevalence assessment was carried out with 101 women from Ethiopia, Somalia and Eritrea on 27 September. 3 focus group discussions were carried out on SGBV incidents, prevention and response. The discussions built confidence among the teams and created an environment of trust. A prevention mechanism and cash based support were recommended as means to consolidate a protection environment against SGBV.



HEALTH & NUTRITION

Mali situation

- As part of the [EU Trust Fund Mali Situation project \(#AfricaTrustFund\)](#), health infrastructure improvement is ongoing in the Tillaberi and Tahoua regions which will benefit both refugees and host population:
 - Rehabilitation of the integrated health centre (CSI) of Intikane is finished.
 - Delivery of the site for the construction of a CSI Type II for the Abala urbanized site was carried out in the presence of local authorities, technical services and partners. The purchase of materials is underway and the fabrication of bricks started in late September.
 - A CSI Type II will also soon be built at the Ayorou urbanized site. The handover of the site was carried out in mid-September. The preliminary works of the cleaning of the site have started.

 **EDUCATION****Nigeria situation**

- The Disabled People's Association of Sayam Forage camp has identified 44 disabled children of school going age in the camp. Special assistance will be provided to ensure that they have access to education at the same level as other refugee children.
- The academic year began in the 5 Distance Education Centers on the 3 of September. A total of 574 children should be enrolled this year. Registrations are in progress and data and statistics will be available in October.

 **SHELTER AND NFIS****Nigeria situation**

- In the context of the **EU Trust Fund Urbanization project (#AfricaTrustFund)**, activities continued in September in Diffa:
 - The construction of 265 houses is in progress in the Diffa commune, with new construction teams recruited;
 - Water supply was provided for the construction and consumption of the N'Guigmi construction site, using the 3 boreholes equipped with solar energy. This will allow the partner CISP teams to start construction activities on the site;
 - Construction of 108 houses in Chetimari and 302 houses in Nguigmi has begun.

Mali situation

- In Abala, a meeting was organised on the 8 of September to launch the process of the future urbanisation site. Local authorities, refugee representatives and UNHCR met to outline the limits of the site. The topographic data processing phase has begun.
- In Ayorou urbanised site, of the 206 rehabilitated houses, 129 have been allocated to beneficiaries (including 22 for vulnerable host population households). They received a cash contribution and materials and have started building their latrines, in partnership with Plan Niger. The remaining houses will soon be rehabilitated by the partner APBE. This project will include 450 houses, with 50 for the local community.

 **COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE****Nigeria situation**

- In the communes of Maine Soroa and Chetimari, in the Diffa region, the NGO partner APBE distributed animal feed for 105 vulnerable households who received 105 goats. Vaccinations were done in September.
- Training of 5 groups of refugees, in market gardening and fish farming activities by the University of Diffa was carried out, before proceeding with the distribution of the fish ponds in Sayam Forage camp, to the various groups, to ensure their ownership of the project and stronger accountability. The drilling and landscaping process of the market gardening site continues in collaboration with the Directorate of Hydraulics and the Rural Engineering Department of Diffa.
- Sensitization sessions were completed by the partner CDR for the host population and refugees, on the benefits of using alternative sources of energy as a substitute for wood at Garin Dogo, Guidan Kadji, Chétimari and Adjiri N'Galewa sites.

Mali situation

- A ceremony was held in Tahoua to deliver cheese fabrication kits to the 234 young refugees trained by UNHCR partner ADES in the past weeks, in breeding techniques, processing and marketing of dairy products.

Key Challenges

Mali situation

- Increasing insecurity, due mostly to armed attacks and ethnic tensions, continues to pose the biggest challenge in the area of the country bordering Mali and Burkina Faso.

Nigeria situation

- In the Diffa region, in addition to the threat posed by terrorism, the level of criminality is increasing significantly. Killings and lootings are becoming more and more frequent, creating tensions and fears among the local community.

IDP situation

- The massive increase in the magnitude of internal displacements in Tillabéri, increasing to 42,000 IDPs, is creating significant protection challenges and is underfunded.

Mixed Migration

- In the Agadez region, UNHCR must continue strengthening cross border coordination in order to support refugees coming from the bordering countries. Works on the humanitarian centre must continue so that all persons of concern are accommodated and protection and basic needs provided.

Emergency Transit Mechanism

- For those refugees evacuated from Libya, the main challenge remains to improve the fluidity of the process of departures for resettlement, in order to free more refugees from the Libyan detention centres. With ongoing conflict in Libya, major efforts must be made to ensure the evacuation of the most vulnerable.

UNHCR Presence in Niger

Staff: a total of 317 national and international staff (*this includes consultants and affiliate workforce*)

Offices: 1 Head Office Niamey, 2 Sub-Offices Diffa and Agadez; 2 Field Offices Tillabéri and Tahoua; 2 Field Unites Abala and Ouallam.

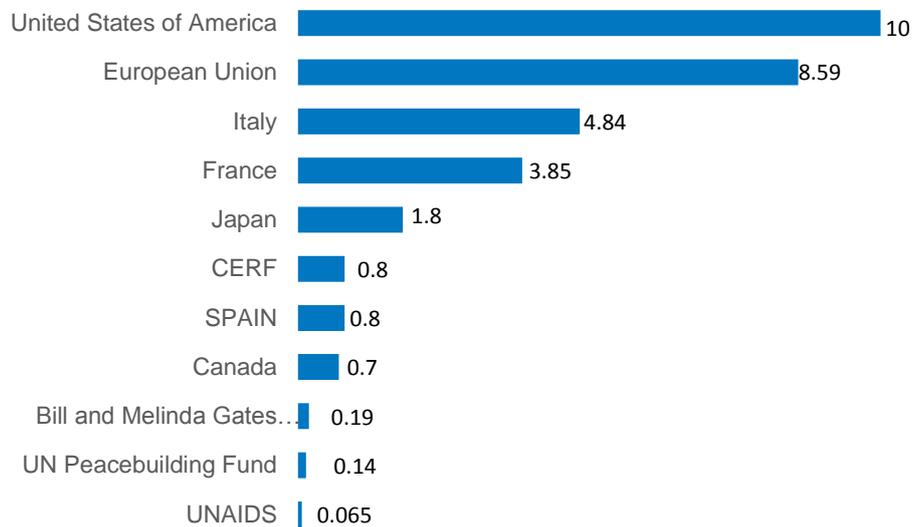
Partners

Govt. of Niger, ACTED/REACH, ADES, Adkoul, APBE, Care, CDR, CIAUD, CISP, COOPI, DEDI, DRC, Forum Réfugié Cosi, FRC, GVD, HI, IRC, SFCG, SDO.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US \$ 31,8M.**

Funding received (in million USD)



Special thanks to the major donors of earmarked contributions

United States of America (131.6 M) | Priv Donors Australia (9.7 M) | Germany (7.6 M) | Canada (3.3 M) | Italy | Norway | Sweden | Private Donors

Thanks to other donors of unearmarked contributions

Sweden (98.2 M) | Priv Donors Spain (58.7 M) | United Kingdom (45.3 M) | Norway (42.5 M) | Netherlands (39.1 M) | Denmark (25.5 M) | Priv Donors Rep of Korea (25.4 M) | Switzerland (15.8 M) | Priv Donors Japan (14.6M) | France (14 M) | Germany (13.7M) | Priv Donors Italy (13.5M) | Italy (11.2 M) | Priv Donors Sweden (11.2M) | Algeria | Argentina | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Bulgaria | Canada | Chile | China | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | India | Indonesia | Ireland | Israel | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private Donors

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LINKS: [Regional portal](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Blog](#)