

HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2019

By beginning of 2019, Mali's security situation remained fragile and of concern despite the commencement of the Disarmament, Demobilizations and Reintegration (DDR) process. The complex attacks on civilians, national security as well as on international forces including

carjacking remain a challenge. On the humanitarian front, although the access is a challenge, humanitarian actors continued to work under strict security mitigation measures in order to protect and assist both Malian nationals as well as IDP returnees, returning refugees and

Refugees. The continued displacements within Mali and from the neighboring countries due to intercommunal and armed conflicts were additional problems that had adverse effects on UNHCR's operations amid budgetary constraints.

KEY INDICATORS

- ✓ **2,086 Malian returning refugees** arrived in their country of origin.
- ✓ The **Protection Cluster** consolidated **36 allegations of human rights violations**, reported by its partner AMSS.
- ✓ **1,366 persons on the move** were **identified** as part of the **Mixed Movements'** monitoring activities.

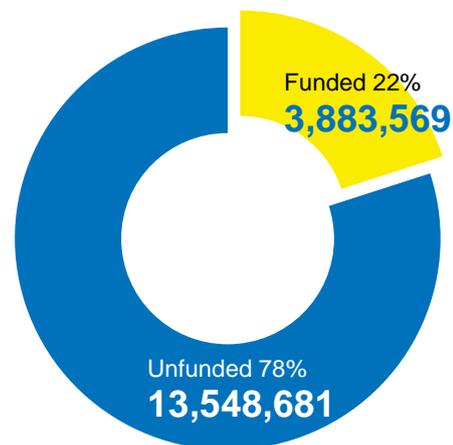
PRIORITIES

- Support voluntary repatriation of refugees in protracted situation.
- Continue the process of naturalisation for Mauritanian refugees who have indicated their desire for local integration.
- Support and advocate for the functioning of the Appeals Board as well as expedite the granting of refugee status to eligible applicants.
- Strengthen the protection of persons of concern through socio-economic activities and access to basic rights.
- Strengthen the advocacy for the domestication of the Kampala Convention for IDPs.
- Approach other UN Agencies to encourage them to intervene through projects to strengthen basic social structures (within the "delivering as one" context).



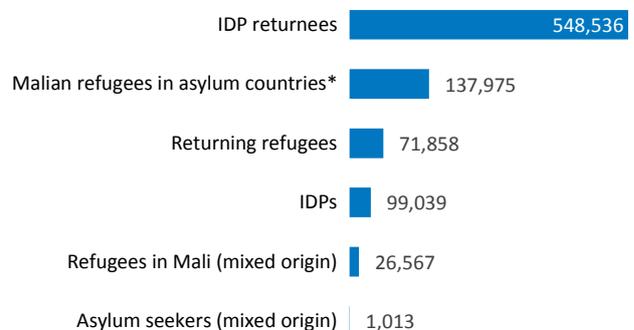
A group picture of the Niger-Mali-UNHCR Tripartite Commission's meeting in Niamey on 11&12 April on the voluntary repatriation of Malian refugees from Niger to their country of origin, Mali. ©L.Donovan-UNHCRNiger/2019

FUNDING AS OF 30 APRIL 2019



REQUESTED FOR MALI
USD 17,432,250

POPULATION OF CONCERN



Figures as of 31st March 2019.

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

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

- On 18 April, former Malian Prime Minister Soumeylou Boubeye Maiga submitted his resignation letter to the President of Mali. Four days after his resignation, on 22 April, Mali appointed the former Minister of Economy and Finance, Boubou Cissé, as the new Prime Minister. The first impact of this resignation with regard to UNHCR was the postponement of Mauritania-UNHCR-Mali Tripartite Commission's meeting that was planned to be held from 23 to 25 April in Nouackchott, Mauritania.
- In general the security situation throughout Mali remains volatile and unpredictable. It is characterized by criminality and intercommunal clashes mainly in the central region of the country, a situation which impacts on humanitarian activities. During the period under review, the MINUSMA Super camp in Kidal came under indirect fire attack on 3 of April killing one police officer, injuring two peacekeepers and inflicting damages on their equipment including helicopters. In another incident, a leader of the "Mouvement pour le Salut de l'Azawad-Dahoussahak" (MSA-D) and a civilian were shot dead on April 7 by two unidentified gunmen in Menaka. The trend of stealing of vehicles was on the rise during April. These vehicle theft incidents were mainly perpetuated by unidentified armed individuals. In Timbuktu, a German INGO (WHH) vehicle carrying staff members, another ICRC vehicle also with staff members on board, as well as a Malian Armed Forces' vehicle, were all robbed. Other types of intimidation and assassination attempts against personnel of local authorities were also reported.
- Despite the call by the Government and the International community to halt the intercommunal clashes between Dozos and Fulanis, clashes between these two ethnic groups continued during the reporting period leading to the death of at least 16 people mainly in Bankass and Bandiagara areas in the Mopti Region. The situation led to additional forced displacements of people to relatively safer areas.
- According to the Ministry of Defense, eleven Malian soldiers, were killed by suspected Jihadists who attacked a Malian army post on 21 April near the Mauritanian border, a month after an assault on a military camp in which nearly 30 soldiers perished.
- UNHCR Mali participated in the Niger-Mali-UNHCR tripartite meeting in Niamey from 11th to 12th of April on the voluntary repatriation of Malian refugees from Niger to their country of origin, Mali. The discussions of the workshop focused on the "review of the Action Plan prepared by the Tripartite Commission in Bamako". A joint statement was signed at the end of the meeting.
- As of April 2019, the Education Cluster reported that the total number of schools closed due to insecurity increased to 953 out of a total number of 8,421 schools in the central and northern regions of Mali. This represents an increase in closures of 11% and a figure of

87 schools that closed in April only. It is worth noting that the region of Mopti continues to be the most affected by this situation.

- As of April, the Education Cluster indicated that nearly 250,000 school-aged children, including refugees, are affected by school closures in central and northern Mali.



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

Protection Cluster

- In April, the Protection Cluster consolidated 12 alerts extracted from flash reports from the Protection Monitoring. The 12 alerts included 36 allegations of human rights violations and abuses, including 13 violations of the right to life, 10 assaults on liberty and security of the person, 10 assaults on physical integrity, and 3 attacks on property. These violations were recorded in the regions of Mopti, Timbuktu and Gao. Analysis of these alerts highlight the recurrence of attacks on villages by unidentified armed individuals and attacks on community leaders in Mopti region. For instance, on 14 April, unidentified armed individuals (unknown number) reportedly attacked the village of Teme, 62 km northeast of Koro (in Bamba commune, Koro district, Mopti region). During the attack, 4 people were reportedly killed, houses and equipment were burned and livestock was carried away by the attackers.
- The analysis of these protection alerts allowed the Clusters' coordination to refer allegations of human rights violations to relevant actors including civil-military coordination and authorities for appropriate responses.
- On 9 May, the Commission of Population Movement (CMP) validated the statistics of internally displaced persons in Mali as of April 30, 2019. Thus, a current number of 106,164 internally displaced persons represents an increase of 7% compared to 99,039 IDPs in March.
- From 15 to 17 April, the Protection Cluster participated in a Coordination Training in Dakar organized by UNHCR's Regional Representation for West Africa. The training aimed, inter alia, at strengthening the understanding of UNHCR staff to effectively coordinate multi-sectoral and inter-agency interventions.
- From 23 to 26 April, the National Coordination of the Protection Cluster took part in the inter-Cluster mission in Gao, northern Mali. The objective of the mission was to support regional sectoral and cross-sectoral humanitarian coordination for humanitarian response in line with the humanitarian programming cycle. The participants paid a visit to Gao authorities to gather their views and guidance on coordination mechanisms and the challenges related to the humanitarian context in Gao. Discussions with the authorities revealed difficulties in meeting the growing needs of IDPs living in Gao from within the region but also from other regions such as Menaka, Kidal and Mopti. Thus, the need to find shelter / NFIs for the newly displaced persons was emphasized as the rainy season is approaching.

Mixed Movements

Meetings & Partnership:

As part of the advocacy for strengthening partnerships, on 18 April, UNHCR met with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to provide immediate protection and assistance to the most vulnerable on the road between Bamako and Gao. The purpose of this meeting was also to introduce the UNHCR Mixed Movements Program and to discuss opportunities for collaboration (awareness, data collection, analysis and sharing within the framework of 4Mi where the UNHCR Regional Office in Dakar is in partnership with DRC and other NGOs). Following the exchanges, it was decided to deepen the reflections on the awareness and to enhance the capacity of the border posts.

Monitoring:

- On 17 April, a technical workshop on 12 recommendations related to Protection Monitoring activities was jointly conducted by the Swiss Cooperation and UNHCR. It allowed the active participation of many Protection actors in Mali. Since the Protection Monitoring is now fully in line with the EHP's Protection Strategy, EHP is kept informed about the proceedings.

- As part of the Protection Monitoring of people on the move, carried out by UNHCR's partner AMSS, 1,366 people in total (456 in Mopti / Bamako and 910 in Timbuktu) from Guinea Conakry, Sierra Leone, Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, The Gambia, Nigeria, Liberia, Comoros Islands, Benin, Mauritania, Guinea Bissau, DRC and Ghana were identified. Among them, 1,089 persons were identified in the outflows while 277 others in the inflows, among whom 44 were evicted from Algeria (all to Timbuktu) and 233 voluntary returning refugees from Algeria, also identified in Timbuktu. In total, 27 women of various nationalities were also identified in Timbuktu in the outflow migratory routes.
- A total number of 33 unaccompanied and / or separated children were identified (31 in Timbuktu and 02 in Mopti) in the migratory flows. They are of Guinean, Comorian, Liberian, Gambian, Burkinabe, Malian, Ivorian and Sierra Leonean nationalities. Among them, vulnerable children were referred to IOM and to the NGO ASPOLDCE Timbuktu (l'Association pour le Soutien aux Populations Démunies et Lutte Contre l'Exclusion), for adequate support.
- On 9 April, UNHCR organized a capacity building session with its partner AMSS on the identification, referral and reporting tools. One of the aims of this capacity building was to improve the identification, referral and a harmonized reporting of Mixed Movements activities and to strengthen the collection and analysis of data with consistent disaggregated information.
- In Timbuktu, a refresher session on the notions of Mixed Movements was organized for the agents of AMSS partner, including 2 monitors and 1 protection agent. The session enabled participants to recapture key notions such as UNHCR's mandate, the difference between migrants and refugees, the rights of people on the move, the role of UNHCR in Mixed Movements, etc. The session aimed at improving the practical skills of instructors in profiling people on the move. At the end of this session, it was recommended to reinforce the capacity of the instructors on communication techniques in order to conduct the interview with people on the move.

Awareness:

In April, UNHCR and its partners carried-out 38 sensitizations (28 in Mopti and 10 in Timbuktu), involving 427 people in transit movements (inflows and outflows), including 360 men and 67 women. In total, 267 people participated in Mopti (213 men and 54 women) and 160 in Timbuktu (147 men and 13 women) on "the consequences of irregular mixed movements and statelessness", "the risks and consequences of mixed movements "the inevitable dangers of clandestine mixed movements on the highways," "human rights violations related to mixed movements and on UNHCR's mandate."

Livelihood:

Regarding durable solutions to irregular migration, self-reliance and livelihoods activities targeting persons under UNHCR's mandate and host communities continue to be implemented and monitored.

In Mopti, for instance, UNHCR's partner Stop Sahel continued the monitoring of 7 individual beneficiaries of funds for their income-generating activities.

In Timbuktu, on the basis of the information collected by UNHCR's partner ADES on the groups and according to the selection criteria previously established, the panel, composed of the Regional Directorate of Social Development and Economic Solidarity (DRDSES), UNHCR and ADES, validated the groups to be assisted in 2019. These three groups are specialized in livestock farming, petty trading and crafts. Regarding market gardening, the panel decided to wait until the favorable period for market gardening starts.

Thus after the validation, on April 29, 02 associations in Timbuktu were assisted; it is the association of livestock farming of Gena who received assistance in livestock farming (composed of 50 heads of female goats and 20 heads of male goats) and the association Coop Souba Nafa evolving in the processing and the sale of grain products received a kit (consisting of 10 bags of millet, 15 bags of flour, 15 bags of semolina, 10 cartons of yeast, pairs of gloves, basins and seals). Note that in 2019, there is assistance for 15 associations for the region of Timbuktu.

Reception and orientation

- In February, UNHCR received and oriented refugees and asylum seekers. This brings the total number to 81 individuals (50 women and 59 men) since the beginning of 2019 on an annual target of 200, representing a reception and orientation rate of 54.5%. The major needs expressed by these refugees are medical, documentation and livelihoods.

SGBV

- In Kayes, focus groups sessions under the theme "The short-term consequences of FGM / Excision" were carried out in 16 sites. These focus groups included 312 people including 279 refugees (181 women and 98 men) and 33 women from the host population.
- As regards the dissemination of awareness messages, so far, 66 awareness messages on early marriage, FGM and other GBV were released, bringing the overall broadcasting rate to 41% on an annual target of 160 broadcasts.

Voluntary Returns

- On 8 April, UNHCR in Burkina Faso announced the facilitation of a voluntary repatriation of 11 household (51 individuals) from Goudoubo refugee camp in Burkina Faso. The main areas of return are Gossi in Timbuktu region and N'Tillit in Gao region. On 15 April, UNHCR Mauritania also announced the voluntary repatriation of 492 households (2,086 individuals). The main area of return is Goundam Circle in Timbuktu region, northern Mali.

The first arrivals were flagged to UNHCR in Timbuktu and other humanitarian actors in order to provide a coordinated response to this influx of returnees. UNHCR's governmental partner, the National Directorate of Social Development (DNDS), has strengthened accordingly its protection and civil registration teams to facilitate the registration of returnees and their referrals for protection needs.

- On 19 April, UNHCR and its partner Mercy Corps finalized the distribution of cash to 1,718 Malian returnees including 641 in the region of Menaka, 632 in Timbuktu and 445 in Gao.
- From 24 to 27 April 2019, UNHCR carried out an intention survey of voluntary return among Ivorian refugees. At the end of the exercise, it was noted that 20 households composed of 89 Ivorian refugees, living in the Sikasso region, expressed their wish to return to their country of origin. It was indicated by these refugees that 27 June 2019 would be a favorable tentative date for their return to Ivory Coast.
- The follow-up of these 2,086 returning refugees from the M'Bera camp to the region of Timbuktu continued. UNHCR's partner AMSS, in charge of Protection Monitoring activities, returned from a UNHCR-supported mission to Koigouma with a first draft report on the Protection situation of returnees on the spot. UNHCR's other partner DRDSES, in charge of the registration, registered 1,837 returnees. An action plan to ensure a better coordination of the response was expanded to a general humanitarian briefing and an inter-agency mission was prepared for a multi-sectoral assessment in Koigouma.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- In April, visits of some schools hosting refugee children, in Aourou and Boutinguisse were conducted despite the absence of classes due to teachers' strike. It was noted that schools still welcome refugee children who are serious and committed to education. For instance, the Director of the school of Boutinguisse informed that there were 176 students enrolled at this school, including 41 refugee children from three sites: Boutinguisse, Kaffa and Siankole. Of these refugee students, 31 are residents of the community boarding school, including 14 girls and 17 boys.
- A field mission was carried out by UNHCR Mali and UNHCR's Regional Representation for West Africa (education) jointly with UNHCR's partner Stop Sahel from 9 to 12 April. The purpose of this mission was to identify and address the educational needs of children in three refugee sites in Kayes region. Among the main barriers to access to education, communities highlighted the long distances between school and shelters, as well as access to water.
- Awareness sessions on the "Importance of Schooling for Children" were carried out in 08 sites of the communes of Karakoro and Sahel. These focus groups brought together 130 refugees, including 60 women and 70 men.
- Furthermore, a refugee student was enrolled in the "MWALIMU NYERERE 2019" scholarship program funded by the African Union. This scholarship is valid for refugees

and internally displaced persons in Africa only for master's degree programs in natural sciences, agriculture, health, education, engineering and social sciences. With an undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering, the refugee student submitted the application for the Civil Engineering and Public Works program at the Master 1 and 2 level.

DAFI Program:

- Preliminary results of the 3rd semester of the 6 students of the International Institute of Management (IMM) License 2 were received. All the students succeeded the first session.
- The DAFI Club held its general meeting, the following points were discussed:
 - Activities completed during the DAFI club's past term;
 - A presentation by UNHCR's Education and discussions on employment opportunities;
 - Miscellaneous topics.

This meeting allowed to exchange around employment opportunities and specifically the United Nations Volunteer Program open to the DAFI Program students. Other information on the organization of the World Refugee Day was shared with the DAFI Program students with the best ranks, with a view to involving them in this celebration.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

Bamako

- In April, the contribution to the health insurance scheme supported by UNHCR through its partner Stop Sahel continued. In total, 57 households composed of 194 beneficiaries are up to date with the payment.
- In addition, households continued to adhere to the mutual health insurance. This brings the total number to 11 households composed of 87 beneficiaries since the beginning of the year.
- 9 refugees (7 women and 2 men) received medical support and their cases were taken care of by UNHCR. This support addressed some of their urgent needs and improved their health status.

Kayes

- In April, households continued to adhere to the mutual health insurance. This brings the total number to 36 memberships (149 beneficiaries) since the beginning of 2019, on an annual objective of 150 memberships (1,000 beneficiaries).

DAFI Program Students

- Access to the mutual health insurance by DAFI program students granted to students who wanted to benefit from it. Accordingly, 2 students from the DAFI program have already been registered with the mutual health insurance.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In Gao Region, 2 water points are being constructed in Gao and Menaka, on an annual objective of 2 water points.
- In Mopti, works on 5 hand pumps are in a finalization stage in Korientze, Tenenkou and Diankabou.
- In Timbuktu region, 3 water points are being rehabilitated.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

Gao

- The construction of 77 mud shelters is underway in Gao and Menaka regions. In addition, the construction of 117 traditional shelters is underway in Gao and Menaka where Nigerian refugees dwell. It is to note that the annual objective is 194 shelters.

Mopti

- Out of 100 traditional shelters, the construction of 40 was finalized bringing the implementation rate to 40%.

Timbuktu

- 140 traditional shelters (including 60 emergency shelters) are being constructed while 50 mud shelters are being rehabilitated. While the implementation rate is still to be defined, UNHCR set an objective to construct 140 traditional shelters and to rehabilitate 50 others in mud.



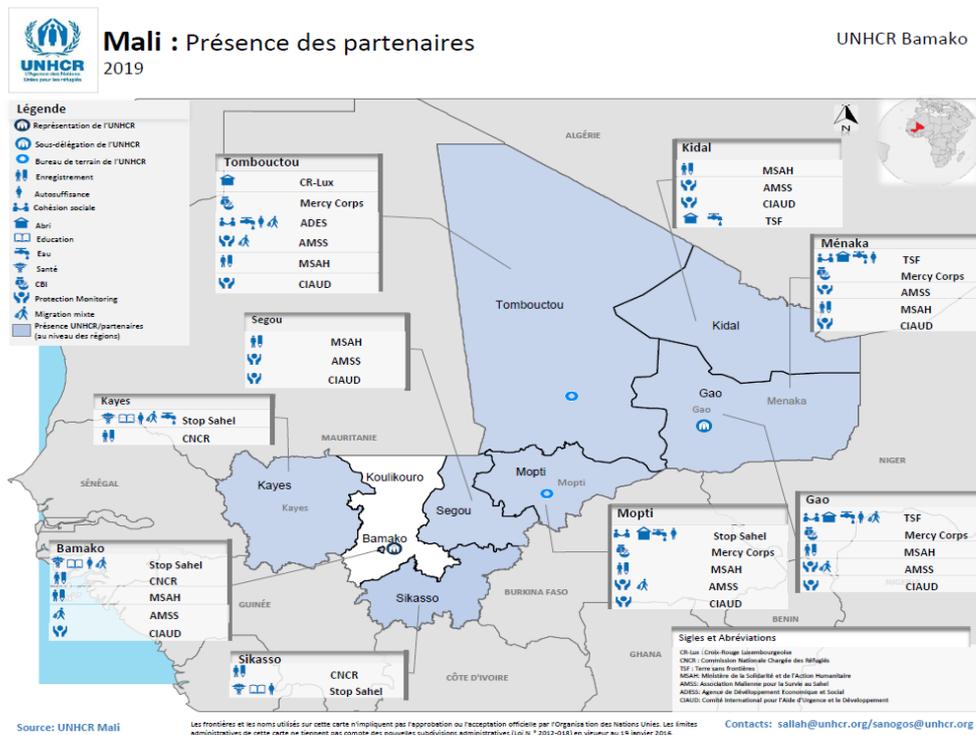
COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- As part of supporting social integration and refugee empowerment in urban areas, 20 Income Generating Activities (IGA) requests were registered in April. For these applications, social surveys were conducted with IGA promoters, bringing the number to 27 surveys conducted in April.
- In Bamako, with a view to strengthening local integration and refugee empowerment, follow-up was conducted at the Tailoring Training Centre of the NGO Muslim Hands. The training is proceeding normally though 2 cases of absence were reported.
- 4 recipients of IWC-funded projects at the Amré and Horongnewa sites in 2018 were followed up with the establishment of their general operating account, which shows satisfactory results.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 75% of applications for IGA funding remains to be met for refugees.
- 12% of school-age children in urban areas are not covered.
- 25% of the refugee population did not join the health scheme
- 1,000 refugee identity cards need be produced for urban refugees while 11,500 Mauritanian refugees are waiting for theirs.
- 51% of Malian returnees do not have civil status documents, mainly children.
- 1,161 Mauritanian refugees were naturalized in 2018. The required funds represent the cost of the package accompanying the naturalization of 3,000 Mauritanian refugees).

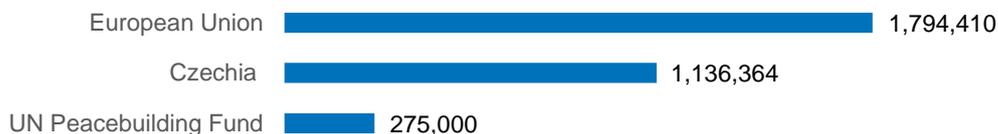


Financial Information

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 programs with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 4,361,453** million, including **US\$ 19,598,489** million for the Mali situation.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FOR MALI | USD



UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS (FOR WEST AFRICA) | USD

Sweden 90.4 million | Denmark 54.9 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 27.3 million | Switzerland 15.1 million
 Austria | Belgium | Canada | Estonia | Indonesia | Monaco | Montenegro | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS (FOR WEST AFRICA) | USD

Germany 3.3 million

CONTACTS

Bockarie Kallon, External Relations Officer, Mali

kallonbo@unhcr.org, Tel: +223 75997262

Chadi Ouanes, Associate Reporting/External Relations Officer, Mali

ouanes@unhcr.org, Tel: +223 75997247

Aissata Konate, Public Information/Communications Assistant, Mali

konate@unhcr.org, Tel: +223 71166324

LINKS

[Mali Situation UNHCR Portal – Mali UNHCR Portal - Facebook - Twitter](#)