

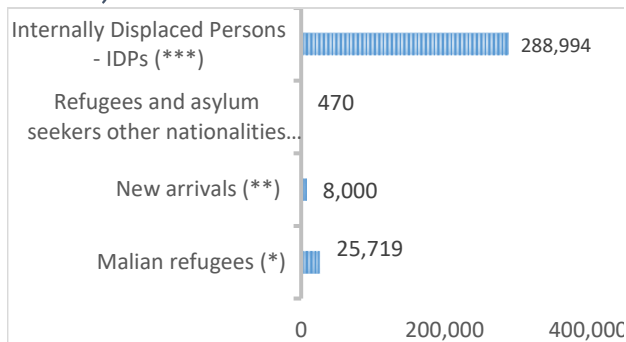
Burkina Faso



Barsalogo IDP site © UNHCR / Romain Desclous

POPULATION OF CONCERN

323,183



* UNHCR figures (31 August 2019)

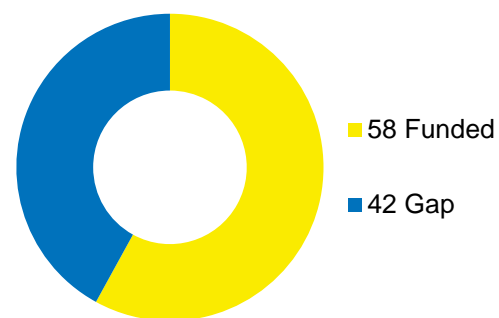
** Government of Burkina Faso figures (July 2018)

*** Government of Burkina Faso figures (6 Sept. 2019)

FUNDING (AS OF 10 SEPT. 2019)

USD 30,3 Million

needed for the Burkina Faso Country Operation



KEY INDICATORS

16,000

Estimation of number of Burkinabe citizens who have looked for safety in neighboring countries.

27,960

Number of birth certificates UNHCR helped to deliver to IDPs and host communities

33,007

people forced to flee their homes who have been registered in August.



Cash distribution to IDPs in Barsalogo has helped Tiengha, a displaced woman to build a house for her family. Ph UNHCR/K. Male

Operational Context

Despite government efforts to counter armed groups' attacks, the security situation in Burkina Faso, mainly in the northern part of the country continues to deteriorate. This results in an increasing number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and limiting access to UNHCR and its partners to provide protection and assistance to refugees and IDPs who are in dire need for assistance. As of 6 September 2019, the number of IDPs in Burkina Faso has reached 288,994 – triple the number of displaced persons in January 2019.

The arrival of IDPs to new locations has an important impact on access to education, water supply and health services. The additional burden on already limited natural resources and basic social infrastructures may cause tensions between newly displaced people and host communities. This places increasing demands on UNHCR's resources for protection monitoring and assistance.

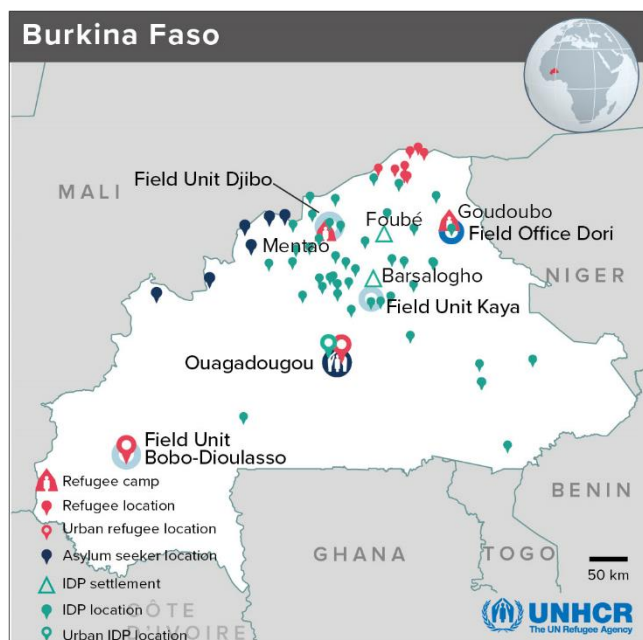
For over a year, **thousands of asylum seekers from Mali** have continued to enter Boucle du Mouhoun and Nord regions, fleeing an intensification of violence in Central Mali. According to authorities some 8,000 Malian asylum seekers live in spontaneous sites or with the local population in the Nord and Boucle du Mouhoun regions. Due to rising insecurity in hosting areas, UNHCR has not been able to carry out its registration strategy jointly developed with the Government.

In addition, Burkina Faso is a transit country for migratory movements northwards. These migratory flows are mixed and consist of economic migrants, as well as persons in need of international protection.

Security Situation

Insecurity and criminality in Burkina Faso are rapidly spreading and are mainly, but not only, affecting areas in the Sahel, North, East and Southeast of the country, along border areas with conflict-affected Mali and Niger. The situation is also aggravating the vulnerability of refugees, host population and IDPs. Raids in villages, attacks against state and religious institutions, killings of civilians and security forces are regularly reported. In response to the deterioration of the security situation, the defense and security forces have increased their presence and counterattacks operations are underway.

Despite deterioration of the security situation, UNHCR field offices in the Sahel region are still operational.



 **PROTECTION**

- Over the reporting period, the protection monitoring of refugees carried out in the provinces of Oudalan and Soum in the Sahel region identified 47 individual protection cases, including 18 cases of rights violations and 29 cases of vulnerability. Cases of rights violations mainly concern refugee children living outside the camps, deprived from birth documents, while cases of vulnerability concern isolated elderly people without resources, single-parent families without support and/or having many dependents and families extremely vulnerable. Those people are in urgent need of food support, legal support and support for the development of income-generating activities.
- As part of the Asylum and Migration component, UNHCR facilitated a training on international protection and UNHCR's code of conduct for 50 resource persons from Danish Refugee Council, including 20 at Dori and 30 at Seytenga. Those resource persons have been identified to form a community network for the protection of refugees, IDPs and vulnerable migrants in mixed flows of populations.
- In order to strengthen the prevention and response to Gender Based Violence (GBV), 12 educational talks were conducted in the Mentao (4) and Goudoubo (8) camps on "Psychologist and Emotional Violence" and allowed to reach 194 people including 77 women, 59 men, 40 girls and 18 boys. The participants promised to put into practice the advices provided.
- As part of the facilitation to return, UNHCR accompanied by CONAREF and AIRD paid cash grant for the facilitated return of 38 households composed by 192 individuals settled in the outcamps (7 households / 56 people in Dibissi) and in the camp of Mentao (31 households /136 people) who confirmed their wish to voluntarily return to Mali. The final manifest was shared with UNHCR Mali to enable them to make necessary arrangements to welcome returnees to their respective destinations.
- CREDO, in collaboration with the Children's Club, the Refugee Steering Committee, and UNHCR, organized a film screening for children, followed by awareness raising on children's rights. In total, 357 participants attended that activity including 204 girls and 153 boys from Goudoubo camp.

 **SHELTER AND NFIS**

- In order to improve housing conditions for IDPs, UNHCR and AIRD are continuing the installation of Refugee Housing Units (RHU) according to the Governments priority areas. During the reporting period, 344 RHU shelters were installed in Djibo and 31 in Gorom-Gorom for the benefit of the IDPs with the support of the Social Action of the Municipality of Djibo. End of August the RHU installation was ongoing in both locations. In addition, 1007 UNHCR tarpaulins were distributed to 338 vulnerable and disaster-stricken households to reinforce their shelters.
- Construction work on the security infrastructure at Goudoubo camp is underway and the overall progress rate is 65%. In addition, the construction work of the Health and Social Promotion Center in Mentao is ongoing with a general progress rate estimated at 58%. When finished, this infrastructure which is an upgrade of the existing health post will offer more health services to refugees and host communities as it will be equipped with additional facilities.

 **COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE**

- In an effort to increase self-reliance of refugees and host community, 25 persons (20 refugees and 5 from host community) who have completed their training in bakery and making soap received installation kits provided by OCADES / CRS.
- OCADES has carried out a complementary distribution of livestock feed for the beneficiaries of the Alistekal In-Hanan project (phase 2 & 4). This distribution targeted 666 beneficiaries including 479 refugees and 187 persons from the host population and each was entitled 150 kilogrammes of

livestock feed. In addition, chicken coop construction kits were provided to 45 beneficiaries including 5 refugees and 40 persons from the host community.

- Animal vaccination is ongoing at Goudoubo camp. A total of 670 small and 37 big ruminants were vaccinated.
- VSF-B distributed fertilizer to 110 agricultural producers including 80 refugees and 30 people from the host community.
- In order to improve the technical and management capacity of refugees, VSF-B organized 2 training sessions on business management and financial technics. The meeting brought together the heads of micro enterprises, the operators of the Goudoubo business center and craftsmen.



- In anticipation to the 2019-2020 school year, the Regional Delegation for Education and UNHCR and its partners have developed a strategy to ensure access to education for refugee students in the Mentao camp. This strategy concerns preschool, primary, post primary and higher education. The primary school in Mentao camp has been closed since 17 December 2018; secondary schools in Djibo have suspended classes since 19 March 2019 following the killing of two teachers on the road between Djibo and Bourzanga.
- UNHCR continues to facilitate the obtaining of certificates of school attendance for the refugee students who moved from Mentao camp to Ouagadougou. It should be noted that certificates of school attendance were also issued to 32 refugee students from Mentao camps who returned with their families to Mali through facilitated repatriation.
- At Goudoubo camp, 1,037 consultations were recorded (902 refugees and 135 among host populations). Malaria, acute respiratory infections, intestinal parasitic infections and skin infections are the main causes of morbidity. In addition, 6 deliveries were recorded, including 4 on the refugee side and 2 on the host community side. With regard to refugees living in Mentao camp, 187 patients received a curative consultation at the Ambulatory Medical Center of the Urban Medical Center of Djibo. Malaria, acute respiratory infections are the main cause of morbidity. In general, no death was reported both in Goudoubo and Mentao camps.
- The health center of Goudoubo camp in collaboration with the health district of Dori organized a campaign of the chimio-prevention of seasonal malaria in Goudoubo camp. This campaign consisted of the preventive administration of anti-malarial drugs for children aged 24 to 59 months. It has been coupled with screening for malnutrition of children of the same age group. In Mentao, 6 awareness campaigns on the importance of the seasonal malaria chimio prevention campaign reached 799 people.
- As part of the national distribution campaign of long-acting impregnated mosquito net, all households in Goudoubo camp received 2 mosquito nets each. These mosquito nets were provided by the Dori Health District.
- 44 sensitization sessions on the use of impregnated mosquito nets with a focus on a door-to door strategy were organized in Mentao (32 sessions) and Goudoubo (12 sessions) camps. This will help prevent malaria which is one of the diseases most affecting refugees.
- 12 awareness sessions on open defecation with a door-to-door strategy were conducted within the Goudoubo camp.
- 20 sensitization sessions on handwashing and sixteen (16) sensitization sessions on the maintenance of showers and latrines were conducted in Mentao camp and reached 1,403 people including 309 men, 418 women and 676 children.
- Training of 20 people on the promotion of hygiene on the Participation in the Transformation of Hygiene and Sanitation, water-related diseases, communication for behaviour change and the role of community mobilisers.

Key Challenges

With insecurity on the rise in Burkina Faso and neighboring countries, UNHCR fears more displacement, both internally and into the neighboring countries, and increased humanitarian needs over the coming months.

- The high risk of car hijacks and kidnappings continues to pose the biggest challenge in several areas in Burkina Faso. The main consequence is the lack of humanitarian access in out of camp areas and many IDP hosting localities. This is particularly cumbersome in the Sahel region, where the majority of IDPs and 98% of Malian refugees are residing.
- Insecurity has an enormous impact on access of populations to education and health services in Mentao refugee camp. Refugees and IDPs are subject to protection risks and risks of conflict with the local population over scarce natural resources such as wood or water. Gender-based violence is on the rise.
- With the rainy season coming up, sturdy shelter for IDPs able to withstand the lashing rain and high winds is urgently needed.

UNHCR Presence in Burkina Faso

Staff & Offices: UNHCR counts a total of 98 national and international staff (*this includes consultants and affiliate workforce*) and has 1 Representation in Ouagadougou, 1 Field Office in Dori, 1 Field Unit in Djibo and Kaya and 1 Antenna Office in Bobo-Dioulasso. UNHCR has over 40 staff based in Dori and Djibo (Sahel region).

Since the month of May, UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of a UN common office in Kaya (Centre-Nord), and will soon open an office in Ouahigouya (Nord) to scale up its IDP response.

Partners

Government of Burkina Faso (**CONAREF** – *Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés* and **CONASUR** – *Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Réhabilitation*), Danish Refugee Council (**DRC**), Centre de Support en Santé Internationale (**CSSI**), Christian Relief and Development Organization (**CREDO**), Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgique (**VSF-B**), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (**AIRD**).

Financial information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 19,209,881 M

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