

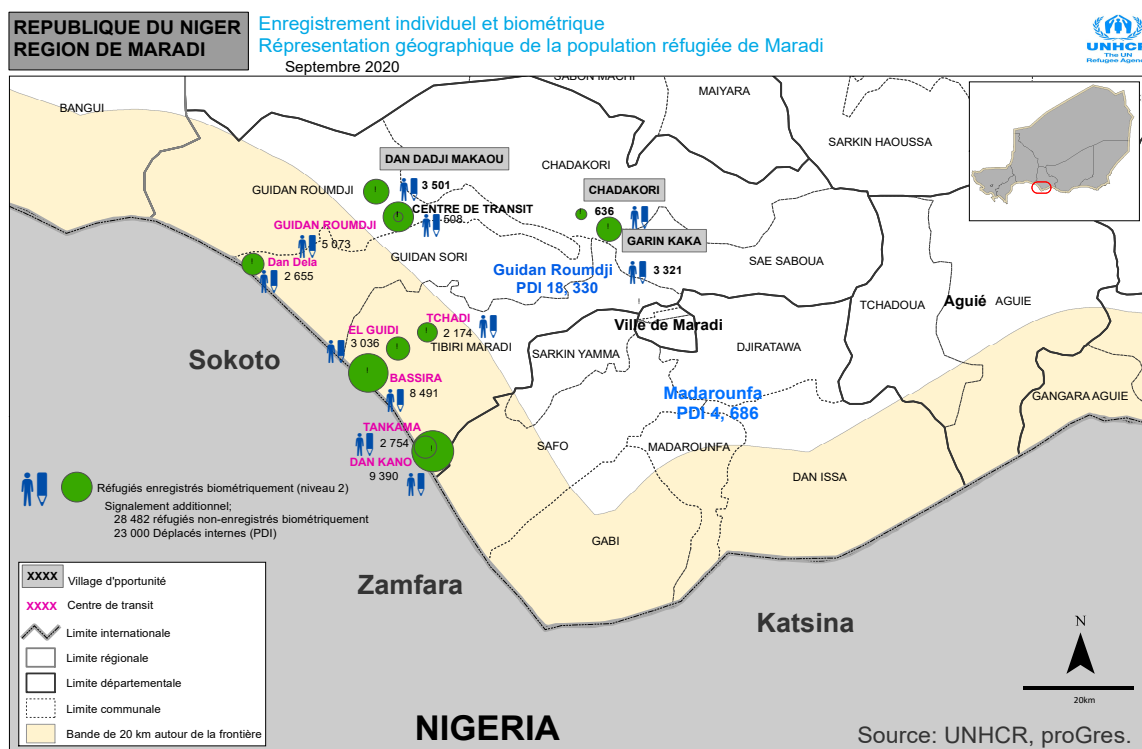
# A new relocation campaign will start in Maradi

October 2020

Non-state armed groups killings, looting and kidnappings in Nigeria's North-Western States have forced **70,000 people** to take refuge in Maradi region, Niger over the past two years.

In September 2019, **UNHCR opened a sub-office in Maradi** to coordinate, assistance provision, including registration, protection, health, housing, access to WASH services and education.

A key feature of the response is the relocation of refugees in villages of opportunity, away from the border, to ensure their safety. For now, **8,000 have been relocated**.



## Context

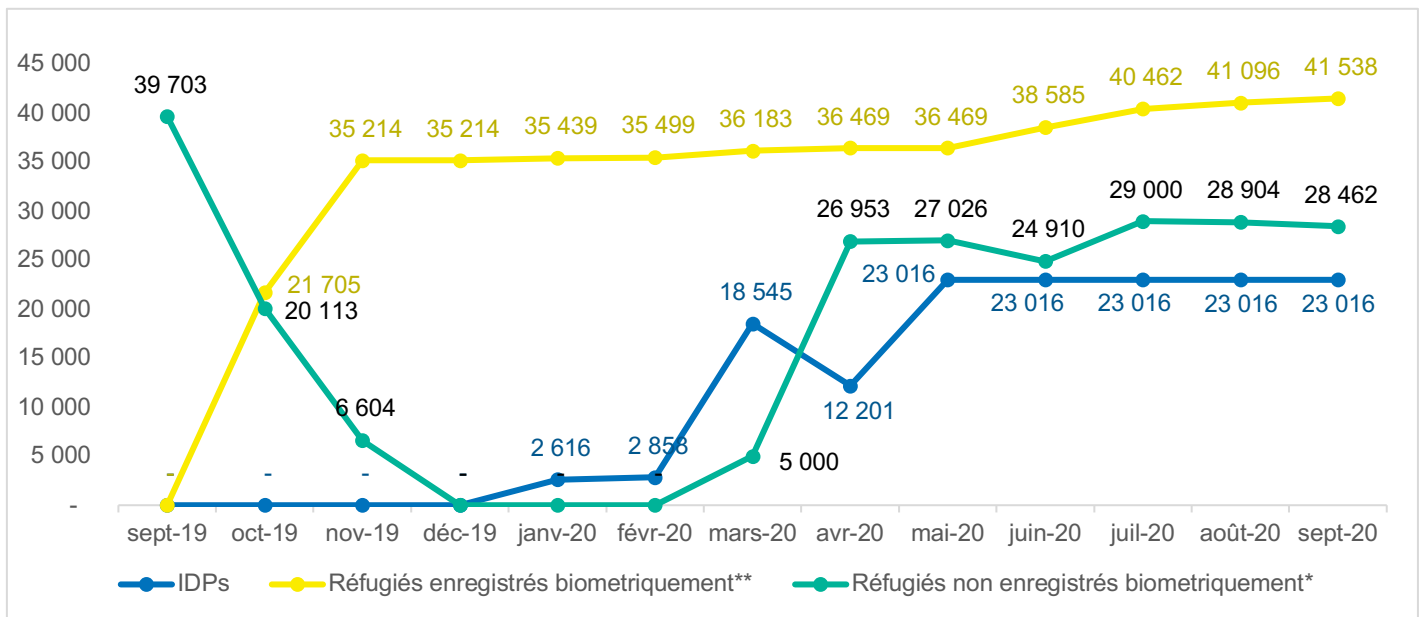
Since September 2018, non-state armed groups (NSAG) activities have forced 70,000 refugees to flee to Maradi region, Niger. In addition, their repeated incursions on Nigerian soil have triggered the internal displacement of over 23,000 people.

UNHCR response in Maradi focuses on the relocation of refugees away from the border to ensure their safety and ease the pressure on host communities in the border strip. Refugee sites have been built nearby rural villages. Services such as water adduction, health and education are provided to both refugees and host communities. For now, three villages of opportunity host a total of 7,966 refugees and 4,400 more should be relocated by the end of the year. A fourth site has been identified and will open soon.

## Population statistics

As of 15 September, UNHCR and the government (National Eligibility Commission, CNE) carried out the biometric registration of 41,538 Nigerian refugees (10,999 households), 68% of whom are minors, 23% women and 9% men. **In addition, an estimated 28,500 non-biometrically registered refugees live in the area.** The number of Internally displaced people (IDPs) has surge since late March, reaching 23,016 people

### People of concern in Maradi region over the past year



\*\* Biometrically registered refugees

\* Pre-registered refugees

## Main activities

### Protection

- A new relocation campaign will be launched on 16 October. **The goal is the relocation of 4,400 refugees**, currently living in 11 host villages of the border strip, to the village of opportunity of Chadakori.
- The partner CIAUD conducted **two training sessions on protection monitoring to 88 focal points in Guidan Roudji and Madarounfa departments**. Representatives from the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and the CNE took part. The training allowed in-depth exchanges on the deterioration of the security situation.
- UNHCR partners CIAUD, ANTD and APBE organized sensitization campaigns on a wide range of topics including **COVID-19 prevention, child protection and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)**, reaching 14,919 persons of concern and members of host communities

## Education

- Since mid-July, the partner NRC has prepared **2,641 children, including 1442 members of host communities and 1,199 refugees, to enter primary school** in nine villages including the opportunity villages of Garin Kaka and Dan Dadji Makaou.
- NRC has **trained 113 members of host communities and refugees, including 34 women, in school support** and distributed megaphones.
- School infrastructures will be reinforced with **15 semi-permanent classrooms**, 15 blocks of latrines and the installation of 21 temporary reception areas



*Remedial courses in the school of Sakaraoua village*

## WASH

- The partner World Vision International completed the construction of the drinking water supply system of the village of opportunity of Chadakori, supplying to both refugees and the host community's school and municipality.

## Main challenges

- **The security situation remains volatile.** Attacks by criminal groups are still frequent in spite of the deployment of security forces on both sides of the border. Relentless incursions by Nigerian armed groups into Niger pose a serious threat to humanitarian activity. The regional authorities have suspended food distribution in the border area due to security reasons and require the presence of security forces escorts to enter the zone.
- **Financial resources remain insufficient.** In 2020, UNHCR and the other actors responding to the Nigerian refugee situation in Niger require 68 million USD to cover both Diffa and Maradi regions. Concurrent needs in other Nigerien regions strain humanitarian actors' financial resources and hence their capacity to respond.

## External / Donors Relations

### Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2020

Japan (1,200,000 \$) | Italy (1,102,535.83 \$) | UN Central Emergency Response Fund (2,117,826 \$) | United States of America

### CONTACTS










**Mr. Selim MEDDEB**, Associate Reporting Officer (Niamey), meddebha@unhcr.org,

Tel: +227 80 06 81 87

**LINKS : [HERE](#)**

### ANNEX

#### Operational presence of humanitarian actors in Maradi: April 2020

	Area	Partners
	Shelter & Infrastructures	NRC, APBE
	Livelihood	APBE
	Pacific coexistence	DRC
	WASH	WORLD VISION
	Formal education	NRC
	Environment	APBE
	Health and mental health	APBE
	Community mobilization	APBE
	Protection (Overall & Children)	CIAUD, ANTD, DRC, SAVE THE CHILDREN, NRC