

May 2021

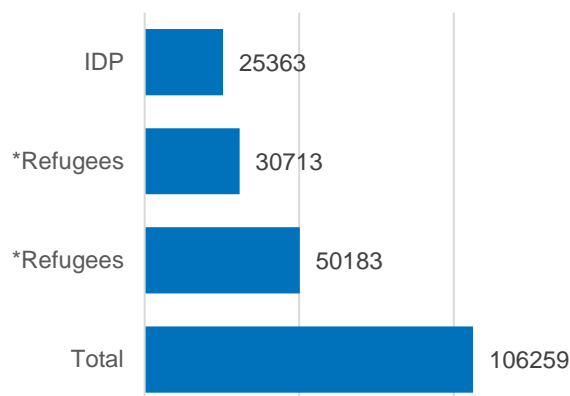
+ 52,000 Nigerian refugees biometrically registered in the Maradi region

Non-state armed groups killings, looting and kidnapping in Nigeria's North-Western States have forced **80,000 people** to flee 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.

The key response is the relocation of refugees in villages of opportunity, away from the border, to ensure their safety. **13,743 refugees have been relocated so far.**

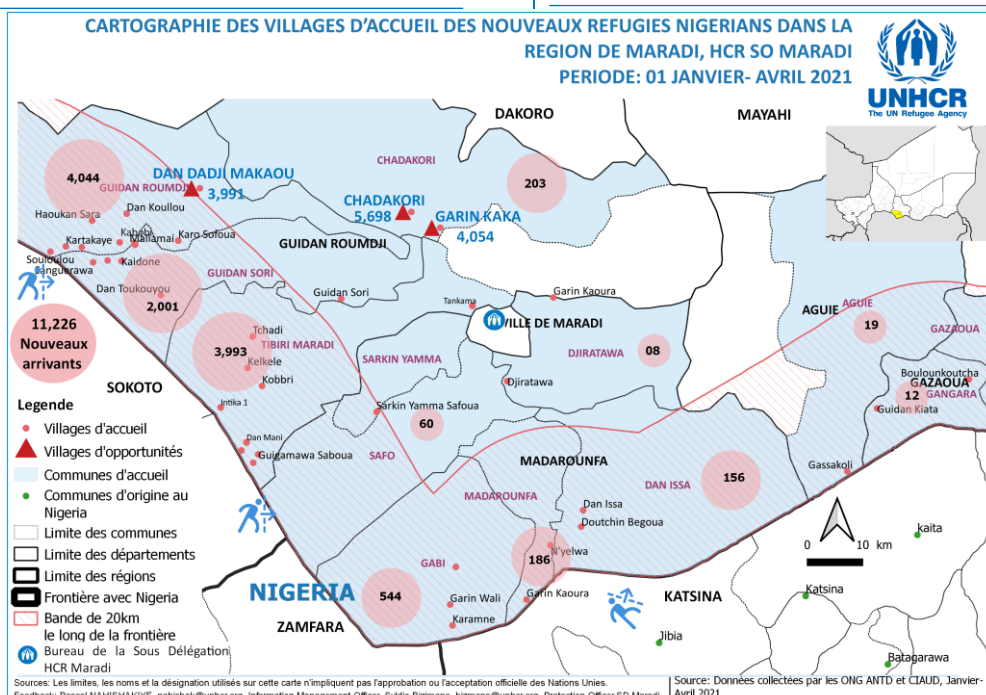
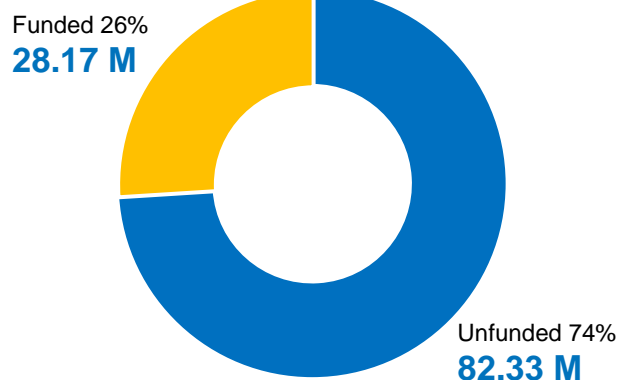
POPULATION OF CONCERN IN MARADI
(AS OF 1ST MAY 2021)



*Biometrically registered refugees
**Non-biometrically registered refugees
***Internally displaced persons

FUNDING (AS OF 1ST JUNE 2021)
USD 110.5 million

requested for the UNHCR Niger Operation



Operational context

For more than two years, non-state armed groups (NSAG) activism has forced 80,000 Nigerians to flee to Maradi region, Niger. In addition, repeated incursions on Nigerian Territory have triggered the internal displacement of some 23,000 people.

During the first semester of 2021, the security situation has deteriorated on both sides of the border forcing 11,226 Nigerians to seek refuge in Maradi region and 6,555 Nigerien to flee in their own country.

NSAG attacks in Maradi region has significantly increased since the beginning of the year. Thus, 33 people were killed, 44 injured and 59 have been kidnapped, and thousands of animals have been stolen by the bandits.

A new case of COVID-19 has been documented in the Maradi region in April. Since the beginning of the pandemics, the region has registered 67 cases and 9 deaths.

Operational strategy

UNHCR response in Maradi focuses on the relocation of refugees away from the border to ensure their security and ease the pressure on host communities. Refugee sites have been built nearby rural villages. Services such as water adduction, health and education are provided to both refugees and host communities. As of 30th April, the three “villages of opportunity” were hosting a total of 13,743 refugees of 3,120 households.

Population statistics

As of 30th Mai, UNHCR and the government of Niger (National Eligibility Commission, CNE) carried out the **biometric registration of 50,183 Nigerian refugees** (12,969 households), 69% of whom are minors, 23% women and 8% men. The biometrical registration is ongoing. **In addition, an estimated 30,713 non-biometrically registered refugee live in the area.** The number of internally displaced people (IDPs) has significantly surge since late March 2020. Enrolment stopped in September 2020. Since then, UNHCR partners have reported new arrivals bringing the **estimated total of IDPs to nearly 25,363 individuals.**



Biometric registration session of Nigerian refugees in the Maradi region © / UNHCR

Main activities

Protection

- In May, UNHCR has **relocated 498 refugees** to three “villages of opportunity”. In total, **14,241 refugees are hosted** in the three villages of opportunity. These include 5,698 refugees in Chadakori; 4,056 in Garin Kaka and 4,487 in Dan Dadjji Makaou.
- UNHCR partners CIAUD and APBE led sensitization campaigns on a wide range of topics including body and environmental hygiene, open defecation, the advantages of attending health centers, prevention against the spread of Covid 19 and the benefits of vaccination, prevention against fires in the RHU; the reminder on the popularization of the internal regulations of the villages of opportunity; respect for the rights of neighbors. The sensitizations focus also on child protection and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). **The implementing partners have reached more than 25,000 persons of concern and members of host communities through these activities** in many villages of the Maradi region.
- A total of **243 persons with specific needs**, including people living with disabilities, separated children, children at risk of going to school, women head of households and single elders have been identified and referred to partners for care and support. **Quite 70% of case** have been identified during the ongoing biometrical registration. 75 case have been referred to COOPI, DRC, APBE and the regional directorate of women empowerment for their needs.
- In May, UNHCR and its partners has identified **41 cases of SGBV**. The survivors have benefitted from psychosocial support and referral to appropriate services. Awareness raising on SGBV issues and on available services in the three villages of opportunity were also conducted.
- Moreover, UNHCR partners, APBE and CIAUD **organized 6 individual talks and 6 focus group discussion** for 217 women, 46 men, 48 girls and 61 boys living in the sites of Garin Kaka, Dan Daji Makaou, Chadakori, Maraka, Dan Makaou, Bargaja and Guidan Roudji. The themes of the sensitization sessions focused on SGBV typologies, early pregnancy among minors and the need to access reproductive health services.
UNHCR participated in the commemoration of the national day of the Nigerien woman celebrated on May 18th of each year. This year's theme is: "Female renaissance: what strategies for sustainable development? UNHCR participated in conferences and debates on GBV issues, particularly on the management of cases and the minimum emergency response, while remaining within its mandate. In Maradi, the regional directorate of child protection and women's promotion coordinated the activities that were part of the celebration of the day.
- Following a note from the Ministry of Primary Education prohibiting the creation of literacy centers, and faced with this situation, the partner NRC proposes to readjust its activities through the establishment of 5 learning spaces. In the 31 elementary

school monitored by NRC in the department of Guidan Roundji 2977 refugee children of which 1319 boys and 1658 girls among the 12528 children enrolled.

- UNHCR has updated the number of teachers in the 10 schools supported through the NEFM2017 project in order to advocate with the government for the next school year. Thus, the situation shows 110 operational teachers and a gap of 8 teachers to cover.
- The implementing partner, DRC has given non-food items and food to living 3 nursing mothers and head of household, a person living with disability and an orphan.

Health

- UNFPA has donated a large amount of medicine to the 3 integrated health centers (CSI) built by UNHCR in the opportunity villages of Garin Kaka, Chadakori and Dandadji Makaou to address health need of both refugees and host communities.
- The first donation, received on May 31, 2021, is essentially composed of kits for the reinforcement of essential obstetrical and neonatal care, delivery assistance, per partum, post-partum, post-abortum care, etc; while the second and the most important is made up of equipments, medical and biomedical materials for the benefit of 3 new IHCs built in as part of their operationalization.



Reception ceremony of medical products and equipment donated by UNFPA to the 3 villages of opportunity © / UNHCR

- UNHCR has initiated a mobile clinic with the support of the Guidan Roundji Health District. The objective of this activity, which covers 6 days every month, is to provide health care to refugees and host populations living in tightly populated host villages. In May, more 1,386 persons were received for curative care and reproductive health services. 21 of them were put under observation among which 9 children under 5 years old.
- UNHCR conducts routine health activities in the 3 villages of opportunity, thus more 3,594 persons were received for curative care and reproductive health services. 25 of them were referred to the regional and mother and child health centre of Maradi.

Shelters

- For the 266 shelters in banco, the target has changed and is now 281 instead of 266, the work is in progress: 135 shelters are finalized, 30 other small houses are implanted, that is to say a total of 165 implanted as of 31 May.
- UNHCR has proceeded to the donation of 10 houses in banco for the benefit of 10 people living with specific needs and extremely vulnerable living in the village of opportunity of Dan Dadji Makaou.
- The construction of three medical centers and 6 classrooms in durable materials are at the final stage of completion in the three villages of opportunity.

Wash

- UNHCR continues to provide water to the three opportunity villages. Throughout the month of May 2021; 4,574 m3 of water were supplied, including 1,668 to Dan Dadji Makaou, 1,593 to Garin Kaka, and 1,313 to Chadakori.
- In its efforts to combat the spread of Covid-19, UNHCR has installed 48 handwashing devices in the three opportunity villages, including 25 in Dan Dadji Makaou, 12 in Garin Kaka, and 11 in Chadakori. These devices are installed in front of latrine/shower blocks, meeting spaces, community sheds and health centres.

Main challenges

- **The security situation has sharply deteriorated.** The attacks and violence of NSAG have increased since the beginning of the year. This poses a serious threat to humanitarian activities. Regional authorities have extended measures requiring military escorts for all humanitarian movements.
- **Financial resources remain scarce.** Since the onset of the crisis, UNHCR and other humanitarian actors responding to the situation in Maradi face a lack of financial resources. Simultaneous needs in other Nigerien regions strain humanitarian actors' financial resources and hence their capacity to respond to the crisis.

External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the donors who have participated to UNHCR's response in Maradi

CERF | Italy

Donors who have contributed to UNHCR's response in Niger¹

African Development Bank | Canada | Central Emergency Response Fund | Education Cannot Wait | European Union | Germany | Italy | Monaco | Spain | United States of America | Other Private Donors

Other softly earmarked contributions²

United States of America 12.2 million | Germany 9.2 million | Canada 8.5 million
Iceland | Malta | Norway | Private donors

Unearmarked contributions³

Norway 80 million | Sweden 66.9 million | Netherlands 36.1 | Denmark 34.6 million | Private donors Spain 28.3 million | Germany 26 million | France 20 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 14.3 million | Ireland 12.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Private donors Japan 10.9 million

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1. Contributions to Niger are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.
2. Due to their earmarking at the region or sub-region, or to a related situation or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for Niger. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contributions is shown.
3. Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contribution \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.

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