

Burkina Faso

1 August - 30 September 2022

According to the National Council Emergency for Relief and Rehabilitation (CONASUR), 1,719,332 persons have fled their homes seeking safety as of 30 September 2022. This represents almost a 12% increase compared to April 2022. As of 30 September 2022, Burkina Faso also continued to generously host 33,530 refugees whose majority is located in the Sahel region.

Thanks to the partnership between the UNHCR and the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) - whose main objective is to improve the access of refugees to higher education, in their countries of asylum or in third countries - two refugees' students have been selected to benefit from a scholarship of Open and Distance Learning (FOAD). As part of the **Refugee Identity Card** (RIC) program, in collaboration with the National Commission for Refugees (CONAREF) and the National Identification Office (ONI), the enrolment operation for refugees continued in the Sahel. So far **4**,**156** refugees were enrolled in Dori.

KEY INDICATORS

29,663

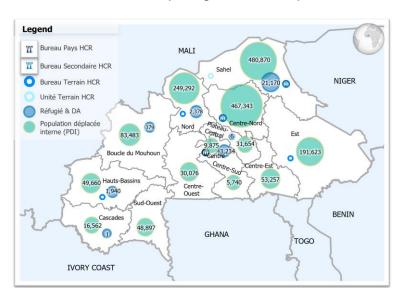
Civil status and identity documents were distributed to IDPs and members of the host communities within the period under review.

3,243

IDPs and host community members benefited from Emergency, semi-permanent and permanent **shelters**, within the period under review.

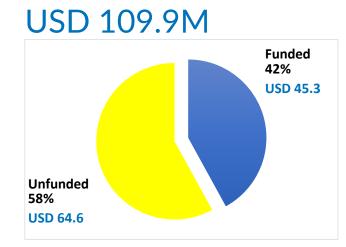
389

Protection incidents resulting from the precarious security and protection environment were collected and documented within the period under review



Persons of concern (PoCs) per region as of 30 September 2022

FUNDING REQUESTED FOR UNHCR BURKINA FASO OPERATION (AS OF 29 SEPTEMBER 2022)



Number of IDPs registered since Jan. 2018



PoCs as of 30 September 2022





OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The security situation in Burkina Faso remains worrisome, owing to the increasing number of incidents in the Sahel, Center-North, North, East, Boucle du Mouhoun, Center-East and Hauts bassins, and the high price paid by civilians, causing continuous movements of people mainly toward urban centers. According to the National Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (CONASUR), 1,719,332 persons have fled their homes seeking safety as of 30 September 2022, representing almost 12% increase compared to April 2022. UNHCR supports regular verifications to ensure that the database is as accurate as possible to continue to provide assistance on the basis of vulnerability.

Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) are increasingly used by non state armed groups (NSAGs) to destroy state symbols and infrastructure in the Centre, Centre-East, Centre-South and Sahel regions,. According to the latest UNMAS data, as of 30 August, the average number of incidents have increased from 6 per month in 2020 to 8.8 in 2021 and 20.3 in 2022. In addition, road blocking, vehicle and convoy attacks are becoming more frequent. Last 26 September 2022, a commercial convoy escorted by national security forces and directed to Djibo, was the target of an attack by non identified armed groups near the locality of Gaskindé, Soum Province. The convoy was carrying essential commodities to refurnish the town and the surrounding communities, where thousands of IDPs and some 8,000 Malian refugees currently live. This area is under siege since March 2022, due to the control of several non identified armed groups. This accident - reporting 11 casualties, 28 wounded and around 50 civilians missing - is the last of many evidences about the fast deterioration of the security situation in the Sahel region. UNHCR made a plea to the Regional Directorate of Social Action to include refugees and other vulnerable groups among the population in need to receive food asistance. The Sahel sub-national Protection Cluster also prepared an advocacy note to stress the need to strengthen the protection of civilians in the Sahel region. UNHCR is closely monitoring the latest developments with all stakeholders.

This growing insecurity has a severe impact on the protection of civilian populations and prevents humanitarian actors from reaching communities in need. In addition, Burkina Faso rising inflation, due to an increase on the price of hydrocarbons for the second time in six months, is seriously impacting the population's purchasing power as well as the financial operativity of the humanitarian response . UNHAS flights, which had been affected by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) sanctions that have now been resolved, remain the most appropriate means of accessing hard-to-reach areas and providing assistance. UNHCR and other humanitarian actors are facing incrising communication's difficulties, shortages of food and supplies, difficult access to vulnerable population . Despite the situation, UNHCR and its partners continue to strengthen community engagement and ensure continuity of the response to the needs of the affected population.

During the period under review, the socio-political context has become more tensed as population's demand for stronger security, resulting in a military coup happened on 30 September 2022, led by Captain Ibrahim Traoré, who led to the resignation of Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba from transition presindency and the leading of the *Mouvement Patriotique pour la Sauvegarde et la Restauration* (MPRS) after a first coup eight months earlier, in January 2022. The coup resulted in the suspension of the Constitution and the Transition Charter as well as the dissolution of the Transition Government and of the Legislative Assembly of the Transition.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

Protection

UNHCR's Protection Monitoring (Project 21) has contributed to identifying protection needs and informing the humanitarian community's multi-sectoral responses, notably through the Protection Cluster's Protection Monitoring Working Group. From 1 August to 30 September 2022, 808 families, 49% of which are headed by single women, were interviewed throughout 148 communes. A total of 389 Protection incidents resulting from the precarious security and protection environment were



collected and documented. These human rights violations include Gender-based violence (32%), violations of the right to freedom and security (24%), violations to physical and psychological integrity (16%), violations of the right to life (14%), violations of the right to property (13%) amongst others. These Protection incidents have affected 1,131 victims and survivors within both displaced and host communities. In this context, UNHCR has continued reinforcing its partners' capacities to conduct Protection Monitoring activities through training and capacity building. In addition, through its protection response, UNHCR has supported 4,879 persons, amongst which 3,969 through cashbased interventions (CBI), 75 through referrals and 101 with psychosocial support.

- During the period under review, the verification and registration of refugees and asylum seekers in the Sahel region continued despite the persistent deterioration of the security situation. As of 30 September, a total of 5,559 refugees and asylum seekers households, namely26,728 persons, have been verified and registered in ProGres v4¹, the UNHCR registration database
- During the period under review, a total of 4,286 persons were identified in the context of mixed movements including 1,099 men, 852 women, 1,143 girls and 1,192 boys. UNHCR, through its partner CIAUD, provided assistance to 1,346 persons, including 1,025 cases referred to partner structures (CONAREF) for the follow-up of procedures to claim asylum and 221 persons with specific needs who received cash or in-kind assistance to cover urgent needs. In addition, 23 awareness-raising sessions, reaching 650 persons, were organized in order to discuss risks associated to mixed movements and alternatives to risky onward movements as well as community protection and social cohesion. Moreover, 18 protection committees in the West and Sahel regions were trained on international protection, community-based protection, protection of IDPs, gender-based violence, child protection and PSEA.
- As part of its efforts to mitigate the risks of statelessness, through its partner Directorate General of Civil Status Modernization (DGMEC), UNHCR enabled the distribution of 29,663 documents to IDPs and members of the host community, including 15,172 declaratory birth certificates, 14,043 national identity cards and 448 files of persons at risk of statelessness, which were identified and handed over to the judiciary for the production of nationality certificates. 52% of the total number assisted was composed by women, Furthermore, UNHCR continues its support to the government as part of the deployment of "ICIVIL" technology in the commune of Gourcy (North region) to prevent and reduce the risks of statelessness. As of 31 August 2022, 2,424 birth certificates, including 1,259 for boys and 1,165 for girls, have been issued.
- As part of the global #iBelong campaign to eradicate statelessness by 2024, UNHCR continues to support the Government's efforts to improve its legal and institutional framework and better fulfil its international and regional commitments. Among other activities, UNHCR trained 174 actors in charge of civil status administration, working in the regions of Hauts-Bassins, South-West and Boucle du Mouhoun, on the procedures for issuing birth certificates.
- Moreover, the Government has developed a draft law on civil status and nationality as well as the domestication of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons as part of the efforts to improve the national legal framework. In this context, UNHCR supported the organization of a workshop on the validation of the draft law on Code of Persons and the Family with the objective to implement two of the Government's commitments on statelessness made in 2019, namely: (i) Reform the law on nationality and civil status; (ii) Adopt a law on the status of stateless persons. This legislative reform aims to extract from positive law the provisions resulting in sources of statelessness risks, facilitate people's access to civil documentation, domesticate the 1954 Convention relating to the status of stateless persons and put in place procedures for determining stateless status.

¹ ProGres v4 is NHCR's corporate registration, identity and case management tool which allows to record and manage data information in relation to assistance, protection case management, protection interventions, provision of documentation and cash-based assistance



As part of the Refugee Identity Card (RIC) program, in collaboration with the National Commission for Refugees (CONAREF) and the National Identification Office (ONI), UNHCR continued the enrolment operation for refugees hosted in the Sahel region. 4,156 refugees out of a total planned of 6,000 (69.26% enrolment rate) were enrolled in Dori. The issuance of these identity cards to refugees will improve the protection environment by ensuring protection against arbitrary arrests and abusive detentions and will facilitate refugees' access to basic services, assistance, livelihood, and durable solutions.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- GBV and Child protection represent the main risks amongst affected population. In collaboration
 with partners, UNHCR continues to implement prevention, case management, response and risk
 mitigation activities. GBV mobile teams are operational in eight regions and a total of 22 communityled safe spaces have been constructed/refurbished since 2020 to offer women and girls information
 about available services and on issues relating to women's rights, health in safety and confidentiality.
- During the period under review, UNHCR and its partners in the Center-North conducted 4 sensitization activities with the support of the protection committees, reaching 189 persons including 145 IDPs and 44 host community members. These awareness-raising activities were designed to promote human rights and prevent gender-based violence.
- In order to build the capacity of its partners to address mainstreaming of GBV Risk Mitigation in their respective field of expertise, UNHCR office in Fada-N'Gourma (East region) conducted two workshops to reinforce the capacity to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and GBV of 57 humanitarian actors and social workers, coming from the decentralized structures of the state, associations and NGOs working in the field of GBV.
- In the framework of PSEA commitments at Inter-agency level, UNHCR leads, along with ACTED, WFP and Tin Tua, the Community based Mechanisms/ Community Feedback Mechanisms (CBCM/CFM) Inter-Agency Strategic Steering Committee.

Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

- UNHCR continues to provide shelter assistance ranging from the provision of emergency shelters to semi-durable and durable shelters, combined with the distribution of CRIs throughout the country. These interventions aim at improving the living conditions, the physical safety, and the dignity of IDPs as well as host communities. During the period under review, 462 emergency shelter and 94 semi-permanent shelter were provided to displaced and host families, benefitting to 3,243 individuals. In addition, 1,115 CRI kits were distributed in kind to 1,115 displaced and host households.
- UNHCR continues to coordinate the shelter and CRIs response through its leadership role in the Humanitarian Shelter Cluster. In 2022, the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Burkina Faso targeted 62,669 households (438,680 persons) as in need of adequate and immediate shelter and CRIs. During the period under review, UNHCR provided shelter and CRIs to 4,144 and 8,137 households respectively, contributing to cover the 12% of the overall number of shelters provided by all shelter actors and 19% of the overall number of CRI kits distributed throughout the country.

L Edu

- Education
- Two refugee students from Burkina Faso will benefit of a scholarship from the Open and Distance Learning program (FOAD) of the European Union, within the framework of the partnership between UNHCR and the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), with the main objective to improve the access of refugees to higher education, in their countries of asylum, in third countries, but also thanks to distance learning.
- The Bioforce Africa Training Center in Dakar has opened the selection process for the second cohort of scholarships for refugee students coming from six West African countries, including Burkina Faso.



The partnership established between the UNHCR and Bioforce and funded by the Monegasque Cooperation will allow refugees students to be trained to several humanitarian carriers. The courses concerned are Water, Hygiene and Sanitation Project Management (RPEHA) and Humanitarian Action Project Coordination (CPAH). As reminder, following the selection of the first cohort, six refugees in Burkina Faso have been selected for vocational training on Child Protection, Project Management in Emergency Situations (RPPESU), Human Resources and Finance Management (RRHF) and Humanitarian Action Logistics Managers (LOG).

As part of the education support mission held from 15 to 21 September, the UNHCR Regional Education Officer from the Western and Central Africa Regional Bureau met with key education stakeholders in Burkina Faso. These meetings provided an opportunity to inquire about the state of preparations for the start of the 2022-2023 school year, which has been severely disrupted by the closure of almost 5,000 schools due to the tense security situation. UNHCR has pleaded with the Technical Secretariat for Education in Emergencies (ST-ESU) to consider refugee children, the integration of children with disabilities and access to areas of shock where children still live within the strategical planning

Health and COVID-19 Response

- As of 30 September 2022, Burkina Faso has recorded 21,747 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 81 active cases, 393 deaths and 21,273 recoveries. All persons living on the national territory, including IDPs and refugees, are included in the national COVID-19 vaccination plan. UNHCR and its partners continue to support the Government to address the outbreak and focus their efforts on sensitization, prevention, and vaccination.
- On 26 September 2022, UNHCR donated equipment worth of more than XOF 137,000,000 million XOF (almost USD 210,000) to the Ministry of Health. The donation is composed mainly of epidemic prevention equipment including 25 oxygen concentrators, 20 Flow Splitter, 250 boxes of Nitriles Gloves, 1,500 boxes of surgical gowns and 150 boxes surgical masks.
- As part of prevention and mitigation of HID/AIDS among the refugees and host communities in Burkina Faso, UNHCR continues its support to the government effort. During the period under review, through its partners CSSI and the *Réseau pour une grande implication des personnes vivant avec le VIH dans la lutte contre le Sida au Burkina Faso* (REGIPIV_BF), UNHCR conducted a 3-days training for 55 health workers in Dori on sexual and reproductive health, the fight against STIs/HIV/AIDS, distribution of condoms, home visits and awareness raising on prevention.

Durable Solutions and Development

- Third-country resettlement remains an important international protection tool for the most vulnerable refugees. In the reported period, seven refugees were recommended for resettlement to the United States of America (USA) under Legal and Physical Protection Needs and Survivor of Violence/Torture categories while a mission took place to Dori in order to interview nine refugee households of total 65 persons.
- UNHCR supported the government in the organization of the National Tree Day. This event, celebrated on 6 August in Kaya, is part of the improvement of the living environment and the energy resilience of host communities and IDPs. UNHCR offered 400 fruit plants and 380 protection grids to IDPs and host communities to reforest the Wayalghin and Louda IDP sites.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

In Burkina Faso, UNHCR works with 21 partners including the Government, UN sister agencies, development actors and implementing partners. UNHCR continues to fully play its leading and coordination role within the (i) Protection, (ii) Shelter/CRI and (iii) GSAT/CCCM (Gestion des Sites d'Accueil Temporaire) Clusters. During the period under review, the three clusters continued to work



with the government, partners and OCHA to elaborate and contribute to the 2023 Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC).

- Regarding the worsening of the insecurity in the East region and its impact on the protection of civil population, the national protection cluster organized a support mission to the area to revitalize the sub-cluster of the region. During this mission the cluster met the regional and administrative authorities and the IDPs and host communities as well. As part of the Housing, Land and Property (HLP) area of responsibility (AoR) activities, the cluster organize a training session on the right of access to HLP for 28 government actors and humanitarians. As a result of this capacity building session, a HLP working group was activated and will be chaired by the Director General of Urban Planning. The shelter Cluster organized a workshop on 30 august 2022 to the benefit of 30 partners of the shelter cluster in order to harmonize the shelter and CRI's kit price due to inflation.
- UNHCR participated on 17 August, along with UNICEF, UNDP, and UN-Habitat, in the preparation process of the National Strategy for the Recovery of IDPs and Host Communities (SNR-PDICA) organized by government counterpart CONASUR. This meeting allowed the Government, through the Ministry of Humanitarian Action, to express its wish to see the drafting process of the Strategy and its Operational Action Plan (OAP) completed in the fall of 2022 so that the technical and political validation is effective before the end of the year. A team of consultants is working to carry out this mission under the leadership of the monitoring committee, which includes UNHCR.



Western & Central Africa Regional Portal Sahel Crisis Portal Burkina Faso Portal Facebook / Twitter

World Humanitarian Day 19 August 2021

UNHCR celebrated, throughout Burkina Faso, World Humanitarian Day on 19 August, with the #ItTakesAVillage campaign. UNHCR in Burkina Faso has shared and posted on social networks portraits

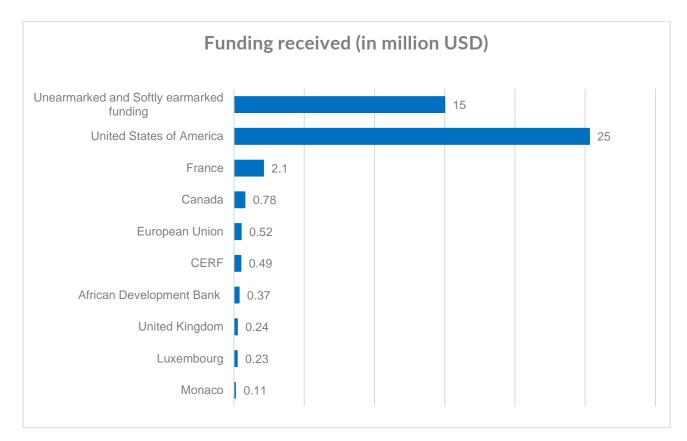
and quotes from some colleagues to showcase the work that is done daily, often under difficult circumstances. A panel was organized by OCHA focused on the theme "community engagement and the humanitarian response: how to create together efficient solutions to the need of affected populations. The United Nations Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), the Minister of Health and Mr. Madiega - one



of the co-winners of the 2021 Nansen Refugee Award for Africa - participated alongside other invitees.



As of **30 September**, UNHCR Burkina Faso's Operation has received **USD 45.3 million**, representing **42%** of the requirements funded, while the 58% remains unfunded and needs are rapidly increasing. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to its operation in Burkina Faso as well as to those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked or broadly earmarked funds.



Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked funds

United States of America 29.3 million | Private donors Australia 9.4 million | Canada 7.8 million | Private donors USA 7.2 million | Private donors Germany 5.2 million | Denmark 4.4 million | Finland 3.4 million

Thanks to other donors of unearmarked or broadly earmarked funds

Sweden 99.3 million | Norway 72.5 million | Private donors Spain 56.9 million | Private donors Japan 40.9 million | United Kingdom 40.1 million | Netherlands 37.2 million | Denmark 35.6 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 28.6 million | Germany 27 million | Private donors USA 26.2 million | Japan 21.7 million | France 18.5 million | Switzerland 18.4 million | Private donors Italy 16 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.8 million | Private donors Canada 11.8 million | Private donors Sweden 11.4 million | Italy 10 million.

CONTACTS

Valeria Dell'Aquila, External Relations Officer – dellaqui@unhcr.org Bernadette Ippet, Associate Reporting Officer – ippetlet@unhcr.org Jacques De Ginestel, Associate External Relations and Reporting Officer – deginest@unhcr.org Moussa Bougma, Communications and Public Information Associate – bougma@unhcr.org