

# Ghana

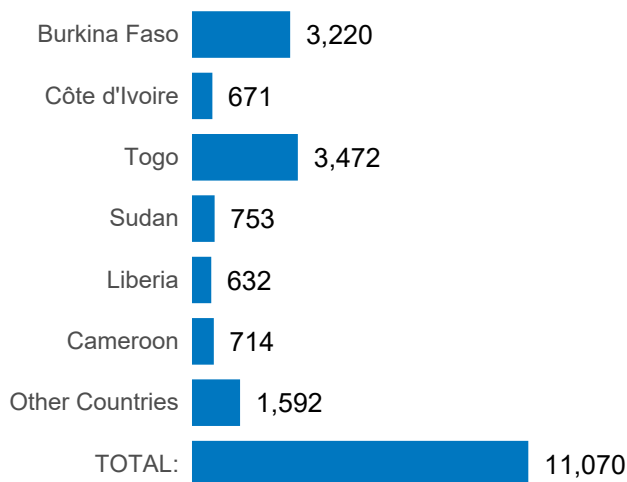
June 2023

New **Refugee Reception Centre** opens at Tarikom in the Upper East Region of Ghana.

**World Refugee Day** marked in Accra

**Refugees from Burkina Faso** continue to arrive in Ghana. UNHCR provides core relief items.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS OF JUNE 2023)

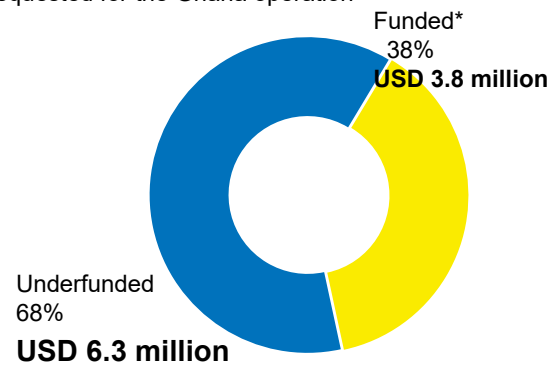


\*The number includes 576 Ivorians who opted for alternative Legal Status whose residence status is pending and are still considered to be refugees.

## FUNDING (AS AT JUNE 2023)

**USD 10.2 million**

requested for the Ghana operation



\* The contributions earmarked for Ghana shown above are combined with an indicative allocation of the softly earmarked and unearmarked contribution.

## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

- 32 National Staff
- 04 International Staff
- 04 UNOPS
- 02 ERT

### Offices:

- 01 Country Office in Accra
- 01 Field Office in Takoradi
- 01 Field Office in Bolga



Some Sudanese and Afghan refugees displaying their culture during WRD @UNHCR/PFolley



Arrival of asylum seekers at the new Tarikom Refugee Reception Centre in the Upper East region

## Working with Partners

- **Government Partners:** Ministry of the Interior, the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB), and other relevant government departments and ministries such as Ghana Education Service, Ghana Health Service, Ghana Immigration Service, Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice, and Ghana Police Service to mention a few.
- **Partners:** Christian Council of Ghana (CCG), National Catholic Secretariat (NCS), the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Caritas Ghana/NABOCADO and World Vision Ghana.
- **UN Agencies:** WFP, UNFPA, IOM, UNAIDS, and UNICEF.
- **Private Sector Partnerships:** UNHCR Ghana is exploring expanded partnership opportunities with the Private Sector and other development partners.

## Main Activities

### Protection

- Asylum seekers from Burkina Faso continue to arrive in Ghana. It is estimated that over 8,000 Burkinabes have so far arrived in Ghana. UNHCR and the Ghana Refugee Board have until now biometrically registered 3,218 of the arrivals, with registration still ongoing.
- UNHCR and the Ghana Refugee Board have opened a new Reception Center in Tarikom, in the Upper East Region of Ghana to receive refugees from Burkina Faso. So far 386 asylum seekers have been relocated from the border areas to the Reception Center on the orders of the national security agencies. The relocation exercise became necessary due to security concerns about the proximity of the asylum seekers to the Burkina Faso border. UNHCR provided core relief items such as jerrycans, blankets, mosquito nets, buckets, kitchen sets, solar lamps for all asylum seeker households in the reception center. The asylum seekers are provided with emergency shelter at the Center. WASH facilities have been constructed and wet food rations are also provided throughout their stay in the center. Simultaneously, work has begun in the Settlement where they will be transferred to once they are screened and registered. The plan is to have the relocation from the Reception Centre to the Settlement happen within two weeks upon arrival.
- In a related development, the National Security Advisor to the President, accompanied by the Upper East Regional Minister, and Regional Commanders for the Armed Forces and Immigration Services visited Tarikom Refugee Reception Center in the reporting period to assess firsthand the response mechanism in place vis a vis the security concerns of the government.

### Health

- There is an outbreak of anthrax in the Upper East which has led to a 30 day ban against any movement of livestock in the region. Refugees with livestock or other ruminants cannot move until after the ban is lifted. UNHCR is advocating for the inclusion of refugees in the vaccination campaign and has contributed 5000 vaccines for this purpose.
- UNHCR partnered with the Bawku West District Health Service and Caritas Ghana/NABOKADO to conduct a health screening exercise for a hundred and fifty-eight (158) asylum seekers relocated to the Tarikom Reception Centre. Drugs were provided for minor medical cases diagnosed, and those who required referrals were provided with the service. Nurses from the Ghana Health Service accompanied the relocation convoys in case of a medical emergency. In a related development, children under five years in Tarikom Reception Centre received malaria treatment course of sulfadoxine/pyrimethamine plus amodiaquine (SPAQ) as part of the national effort to reduce the incidence of malaria. Incidence of malaria is high among children under five, especially during the rainy season. The inclusion of

the asylum seekers in the national program is the result of continuous advocacy for their inclusion into the national health framework.

### Livelihoods

- UNHCR organised a mini employment and entrepreneurial fair and a livelihood exhibition at Krisan Camp as part of activities for this year's World Refugee Day celebration. The objective of the fair was to engender more private sector support for the economic inclusion of refugees to ensure their self-reliance and inclusion in development in general. The fair was attended by various corporate organizations and government agencies within the Ellembelle district including ENI Ghana, TechnoServe Ghana and ICODE Ghana. The District Chief Executive of the Ellembelle District, in the delivery of his keynote address, called on corporate organizations in the district to support the employment and entrepreneurial endeavours of refugees to ensure their inclusion.
- A Local Social Enterprise (LSE) in Ghana by name Akooshi that transforms used coconut shells into products such as bowls, planters, jewellery etc has been identified and selected by the UNHCR Made 51 team to partner with selected refugee artisans in Ghana. The onboarding processes and orientation is ongoing. In June, Akooshi received orientation from the Made 51 team as well as from the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO), an implementing partner for Made 51.

### Community Services

- World refugee Day was observed with a colourful ceremony at the Blue Oasis in Accra. The clarion call was for refugees to be included in national systems and to give them the opportunity to contribute to their local economy. The Guest of honour was the Chairman of the Ghana Refugee Board and while enumerating the significant achievements in the last year including the Cessation for the Ivorian Refugee situation, he assured the Burkinabe refugees that they would likewise benefit from international protection in Ghana until such a time that they can voluntarily return home in safety and dignity. The UN Resident Coordinator also participated in the celebrations and advocated for the inclusion of refugees in development plans to ensure that they are not left behind. The UNHCR Representative in her speech, while commending Ghana for her progressive asylum policy of inclusion and integration of refugees in national systems and services, called for more support to the hosting communities to enhance the absorption capacity and avoid conflicts over resources. The policy of integration requires support to enhance the absorption capacity of the services and infrastructure, for example in health, WASH and Education to buttress peaceful coexistence between the refugees and their hosts. The refugees took charge of the celebration and gave a beautiful display of culture from different nationalities represented by refugees in Ghana. They used the occasion to also share stories about their journeys and what has given them hope while away from home.

### 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 programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.**

### OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

**United States of America 6.5 million | Private donors Australia 5.2 million Canada | Private donors**

### UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

**Sweden 69 million | Norway 63.1 million | Netherlands 36.3 million | Denmark 35.6 million | Private donors Spain 30.4 million | United Kingdom 28.9 million | France 26.7 million | Germany 23.1 million | Private donors Japan 21.2 million | Switzerland 18.9 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 15.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.9 million Algeria | Australia | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland |**

**Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Thailand | Türkiye | Uruguay | Private donors**

### **CONTACTS**

**Esther Kiragu (Ms.)**, UNHCR Representative, Ghana

[kiragu@unhcr.org](mailto:kiragu@unhcr.org), Cell +233 244 319630

**Patience Folley (Ms.)**, Communication and Public Information Associate

[folley@unhcr.org](mailto:folley@unhcr.org), Cell +233 244 313448

### **LINKS**

**Website:** [UNHCR Ghana](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Data portal](#)