



TARGET

Baseline for primary school age :39%

Targeted: 50%

Malian refugees (registered and awaiting registration)

REACHED

46.0%

Malian refugees (registered and awaiting registration)

**% of children enrolled in primary school:
Country of Origin versus
Country of Asylum**

50,3% versus 59,8%

Source: IFORD - October 2013 - "Etude sur le profilage des réfugiés maliens au Niger"

BACKGROUND

When fighting broke out in Mali in 2012, thousands of people fled the country and crossed into neighbouring countries. Thousands crossed into Niger, 80% of them being women and children. These children required among other assistance, urgent access to education. Being nomads or pastoralist life, they had mostly not attended school previously so the baseline for enrolment rates was low. UNHCR coordinated efforts to build schools in Abala, Mangaize and Tabareybarey camps and later in two "Refugee Hosting Areas" in Intikane and Tazalite. School started in the 2012-2013 academic year but owing to a number of constraints, it did not take off until late 2012 and beginning 2013.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) To ensure that 100% of primary-school aged children are in school;
- 2) To improve quality of education through provision of better infrastructure and training of teachers;
- 3) to build capacity of public schools hosting refugees through construction of extra classrooms and latrines as well as provision of books, school supplies and IT equipment

CHALLENGES

- 1) Nomadic lifestyle does not encourage schooling and many children were previously not enrolled in school
- 2) Where they enroll in school, they drop out easily to take part in household chores and farming activities
- 3) Departure of Malian teachers left a gap in Abala and it took time for UNHCR and UNICEF to hire new teachers;
- 4) Overaged children fall outside the schooling age-group hence difficulties integrating them.

ACTIONS

- 1 Many sensitization sessions held with nomadic communities
- 2 Construction of semi-permanent classrooms done in all camp schools to ensure learning could take place
- 3 School started in Intikane and Tazalite for the first time in 2013-2014
- 4 Coordination with Ministry of Education and partners to give on-site training to teachers to improve their teaching skills
- 5 Support provided to government hosting refugees to increase their capacity and improve relations with host communities who are also benefiting from the improved learning conditions (provision of desks, IT equipment, text books and school supplies)
- 6 For urban refugees, equipment and educational material were provided to schools

CURRENT VALUE OF BASIC INDICATORS

This matrix is based on data available on 31 december 2013.

Indicators	Education	
	Percentage of girls enrolled in Primary School (Grades 1-8)	Percentage of boys enrolled in Primary School (Grades 1-8)
Units	%	%
Standard	100%	100%
Target	50%	50%
Mangaize	34	38
Abala	37	39
Tabareybarey	38	52
Intikane	33	44
Tazalite	44	90
Niamey	67	84

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

- ✓ Access to education is now ensured in all camps and "Refugee Hosting Areas"
- ✓ School started for the first time in Intikane and Tazalite. In Intikane, catch up classes held during the holidays enabled pupils to reach a suitable level to resume school in October 2013. As a result 694 pupils, consisting of 383 girls and 311 boys are currently in school

UNHCR has provided support to several public schools as follows:

- ✓ Complexe d' Education Secondaire Ayorou: IT materials (photocopying machine, desk top, printer, etc.)
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- ✓ Four primary schools in Niamey have received a donation of 200 desks
- ✓ UNHCR advocacy with UNICEF led to donation of school supplies to FOUR primary schools in Niamey
- ✓ Work ongoing to finalise and validate the Strategy document for Refugee Education 2013-2016.

