

Mali

December 2017

Mali continues to face a volatile security situation amid growing threats of terrorism, criminality and intercommunity tensions in the northern and central regions.

Local populations face important protection risks amid limited access to public services, documentation, shelter, water, education and food security.

Despite significant challenges, the implementation of the Peace and Reconciliation Accord advances slowly in order to re-establish peace and security in the region.

KEY INDICATORS

29

Households (99 individuals) were **voluntarily repatriated** to their country of origin, Cote d'Ivoire.

5,439

Returnees received **cash grants** on an annual target of 5,391.

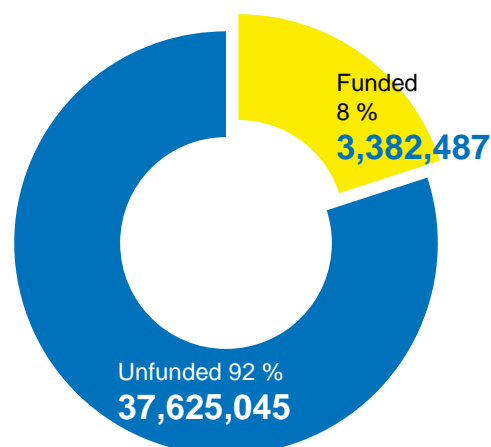
1,215

Birth certificates were distributed to Mauritanian refugees in Kayes region since the beginning of the year.

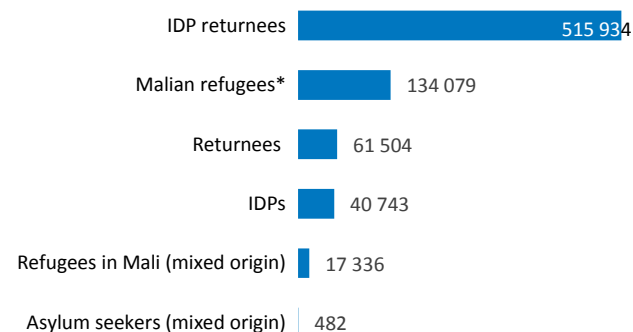
FUNDING (AS OF 2 JANUARY 2018)

USD 41,007,532

requested for Mali



POPULATION OF CONCERN



Figures as at October 31, 2017.

* Source: UNHCR. All other figures sourced from the Government of Mali. Number of Malian refugees in asylum countries.



UNHCR Mali, along with the German Embassy, the Government of Mali, NGO partners and beneficiary students, celebrating the 25th anniversary of DAFI Programme. ©UNHCR Mali/M. Diallo 2017

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

- The security situation in Mali remains volatile with threats of terrorism, criminality and intercommunity violence in the north and central regions impacting the protection environment for civilians and limiting humanitarian access. Violation of human rights continue to be recorded with local populations facing limited access to public services, documentation, water, education and food security.
- The humanitarian aid is frequently blocked or slowed down due to the security situation notably in the center and northern region of the Mali. Aid workers often face issues when planning or attempting to reach local populations to provide the required assistance.
- On 1 December, the Malian President announced the suspension of the draft constitutional revision. The decision follows significant tensions made by different political and civil society actors refusing this revision.
- On 24 December 2017, the former Malian President Amadou Toumani Touré, and his family members visited Mali after five years of exile following a coup d'etat that occurred in March 2012, which led to his resignation. It is to note that ATT returned back to Dakar on 30 December, after a week described as “symbolic comeback” by his relatives and the media.
- On 29 December, Malian Prime Minister Abdoulaye Idrissa Maiga presented his letter of resignation to the President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita. Subsequently, a new government was appointed on the 31st. The government is now headed by Soumeylou Boubeye Maiga as the new Prime Minister. Furthermore, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abdoulaye Diop, was replaced by Tieman Hubert Coulibaly, former Minister of Territorial Administration. The newly formed government includes the creation of new entities, such as the Ministry of Local Development and the Ministry of Local Government.
- The Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration continues its series of repatriation of Malian migrants in distress on Libyan territory. After the return of 143 migrants on 19 December, 164 others followed on the 28th, of whom 78 had just left the prisons in Libya. This wave is part of a monthly objective to repatriate 500 Malians from Libya.
- UNHCR proceeded with the closure of its Menaka antenna effective 31 December. All the office equipment was transferred to UNHCR Sub-Office in Gao.
- In line with UNHCR's Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming framework, a participatory evaluation exercise with urban refugees took place on 12 and 13 December. The activity consisted of a training for Multifunctional Teams and interviews with refugees. The objective of this exercise was to analyze the protection risks for refugees and other beneficiaries of UNHCR's assistance and protection in Mali, as well as to assess their situation and needs.

- On 26 December, UNHCR and the representation of the German Ministry of Foreign affairs in Mali, celebrated 25 years of DAFI programme. The event was opened by UNHCR Representative, Ms. Angele Djohossou, the Malian Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Mr. Assetou Founé Samake Migan, and the Federal Republic of Germany's Ambassador to Mali, his Excellency, Mr. Dietrich Becker. The event served as a reminder on the importance of access to higher education by refugees.
- The need to uphold humanitarian principles remains of utmost importance to counter the shrinking of humanitarian space to conduct life-saving activities. Incorporating protection mainstreaming principles and promoting a meaningful access, safety and dignity for humanitarian aid remains key to humanitarian actors.

Achievements



PROTECTION

- **Protection Cluster**
- **Bamako:** a capacity building session for protection actors on the monitoring and reporting mechanism on the Six Grave Violations against Children during Armed Conflict as well as the international standards in collection and verification of information, was held on 11 and 12 December. This session enabled protection actors, including those from the government and NGOs working in the field, to acquire relevant knowledge on the monitoring and communication on the Six Grave Violations against Children during Armed Conflict.
- **Gao:**
- UNHCR participated in an emergency meeting organized by the Regional Directorate for the Promotion of Child and Family Women on 9 December. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the organization of a day for strategic thoughts on acts of rape on the roads, as well as to define a framework to come out with recommendations and a mechanism for monitoring the meeting's objectives.
- On 12 and 13 December, a capacity-building workshop for members of Gao's Regional Protection Cluster took place. The event was attended by representatives of UN agencies, national and international NGOs, technical services of public administration, as well as stakeholders in the field of protection in the regions of Gao, Menaka and Kidal. The topics discussed included the centrality of protection, the Kampala Convention and other national and international instruments for the protection of IDPs in the Malian context, and the harmonization of tools for the collection and analysis of data related to protection. As a result of the discussions,

several recommendations were made to improve the interventions and the coordination mechanisms for protection in the field.

- **Timbuktu:** a discussion session was held between UNHCR, IOM and partners AMSS and ADES on 6 December. The purpose of this meeting was to exchange ideas on how IOM, AMSS and UNHCR's team of monitors can work in the field within the context of Mixed Migration.

Achievements and Impact

- **Mixed migration:**
 - On December 12, 2017 a meeting was held in Bamako between UNHCR and IOM to discuss the collaboration of the two agencies in the context of mixed migration. The team in Bamako also finalized the 2018 Migration Mix project.
 - On 11 December 2017, an exchange meeting was held between UNHCR and AMSS in Mopti to review the monitoring activities.
 - Within the framework of UNHCR and IOM's interagency collaboration on mixed migration issues, standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the joint activities have been developed on 20 December.
 - On 21 December, Ms. Angele Djohossou, UNHCR's Representative in Mali, participated in a conference on 'Migration and Development' hosted by the Malian Minister for Malians Abroad and African Integration, Mr. Abdramane Sylla.
 - In the view of formulating alternatives to unsafe irregular migration, self-reliance and livelihoods activities targeting persons of concern and host communities are continuing to be implemented in Timbuktu, Gao, Mopti, and Kayes.
- **SGBV:** With the aim of reducing the risk of SGBV and improving the quality of response in Gao, Kayes, Mopti and Timbuktu regions, 259 sensitization sessions were carried-out, through UNHCR's partners AMSS and Stop Sahel, on the risks and consequences of SGBV, early marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), and the importance of girls' education, reaching at least 4,491 men and women from refugee returnee and local communities.
- **Social Cohesion:** In the regions of Gao, Kidal, Menaka, Kayes and Timbuktu through the partners AMSS and Stop Sahel, 31 sensitization sessions on social cohesion reached 427 men and women from refugee returnee and local communities.
- **Documentation:** In Kayes region, birth certificates continued to be issued to Mauritanian refugees through Stop Sahel. In total, since the beginning of the year, 1,215 birth certificates have been distributed out of the planned 2,659 for 2017.
- **Protection Monitoring:** 65 protection incidents were collected and documented through UNHCR's partner AMSS during this month, mostly in the regions of Timbuktu,

Gao, Kidal and Mopti. Most of the reported incidents relate to extortion, injuries and deaths. Since the beginning of the year, 881 protection incidents have been collected and documented (temporary figure, as of 31 December 2017).

■ **Voluntary repatriation:**

- **Registration:** 66 households (235 individuals) repatriated mostly from Mauritania and Burkina Faso, were registered by the Regional Directorate of Social Development and Solidary Economy (DRDES). These people are settled in the communes of Timbuktu, Doukouria Goundam Essakane, Léré in Timbuktu region.
- **Follow-up on arrivals:**
- **Gao:** 18 heads of households representing 58 persons were received to express their needs.
- **Timbuktu:** 4 repatriated leaders in Timbuktu region (Taoudenit and Alafia) were received as part of reception activities to express their needs.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Following the selection of the 10 new refugee candidates to start their study thanks to grants from the German Government (known as the DAFI grant), an invitation was sent to them to sign an agreement related to the programme. By signing, the students certified their full-commitment to their studies, an ethical behavior, as well as to actively participate in activities that would contribute to their communities' welfare. Furthermore, the above-mentioned new students - in addition to three others, have received checks through HCR's partner Stop Sahel to cover their subsistence fees during the first semester of the academic year 2017-2018.
- In Kayes, 11 sensitization sessions on the importance of school attendance included 115 refugees.
- In Bamako, 550 students benefited from education kits (350 from primary and 205 from secondary schools).



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- New enrolments were registered to the health insurance scheme. Since the beginning of the year, more than 292 households (2,209 individuals) have newly subscribed to

the programme, out of an annual objective of 300 households (2000 individuals) in Bamako and Kayes.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Many urban refugees suffer from serious or chronic diseases. Due to resource constraints, it is not possible to assist all of them. A targeted support is provided to the most vulnerable only, leaving others relying on their own resources.
- Also, many urban refugees do not accept to contribute to health expenses through the health insurance scheme. Sensitization is carried out in order to explain the benefits of such a scheme.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In Gao, 3 borehole drillings are being constructed, while 3 are being rehabilitated, on an annual objective of 6.
- In Mopti region, 2 water points are being constructed while 3 are being rehabilitated, on an annual objective of 4.
- In Timbuktu, 1 water point is being rehabilitated while 4 are ready to be used, on an annual objective of 5.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- In Gao, 100 traditional and 150 mud shelters are being rehabilitated, on annual objective of 250. It is to mention that 820 mud and 220 traditional shelters exist in Gao region.
- In Mopti, 100 mud shelters are being constructed to be added to an existent 100, while 100 traditional shelters have been rehabilitated.
- In Timbuktu, 53 vegetal boxes are being constructed in addition to other existent 290. The good management of the budget resulted in 53 extra vegetal boxes. It is to mention that 100 mud shelters within the same region were rehabilitated in 2017.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

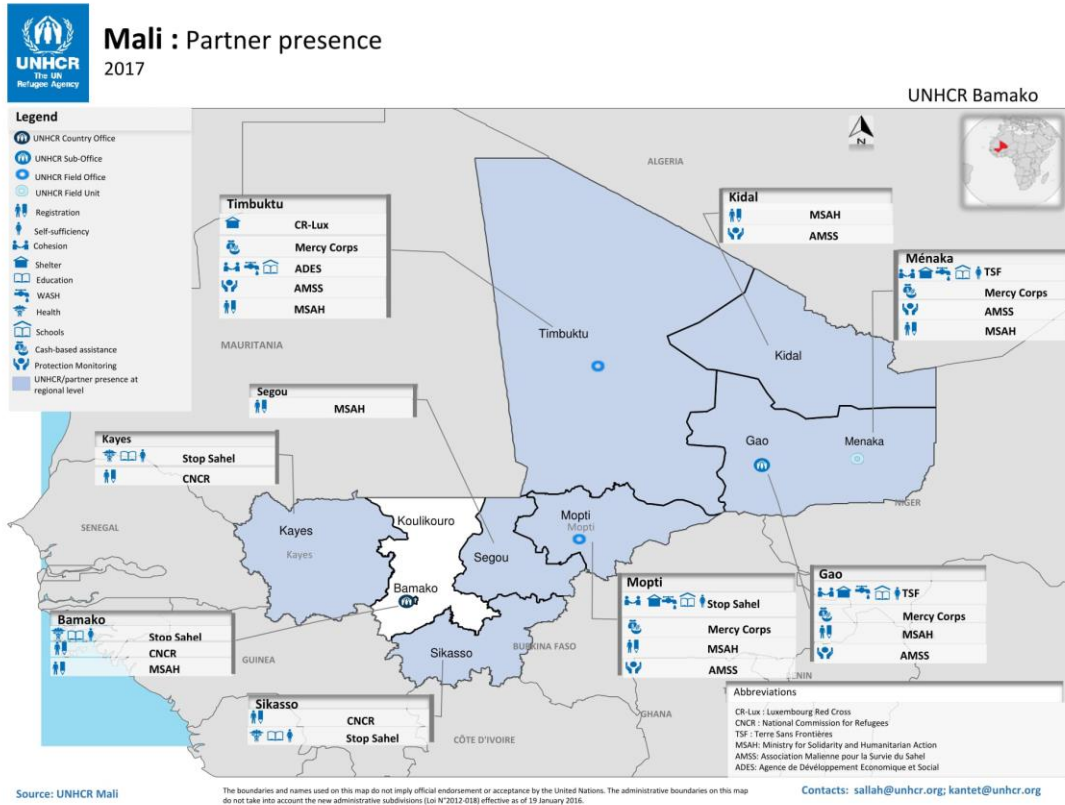
■ Cash grants:

- **Timbuktu:** UNHCR performed a post-distribution monitoring activity in the second week of December for 6 households.
- 5 households of 12 returnees received cash assistance through UNHCR's partner Mercy Corps. Another post-distribution monitoring was conducted at the level of 10 households. The analysis of the data summarizes that the beneficiaries used the cash in the purchasing of food, repayment of debts, schooling of children and the purchase of goats.
- On December 12, a meeting was held with UNHCR's partner Mercy Corps to discuss the 2017 activities and to give an outlook of 2018's in Timbuktu region. A total of 666 households of 2,102 returnees were assisted with cash in 15 communes of Timbuktu region.
- UNHCR, through its partner Mercy Corps, is providing cash grants to refugee returnees to meet their basic needs and support their reintegration since the beginning of the year. 5,439 returnees received the cash assistance, out of the 5,391 planned for 2017.

■ Income-Generation Assistance:

- In Gao, 3 market garden groups received vegetable kits through partner Terre Sans Frontières (TSF) as part of the project to support the reintegration of Malian returnees.
- In Kayes, a total of 215 naturalization applicants received funds for economic activities. They come from 5 different communes in Kayes.

Working in partnership

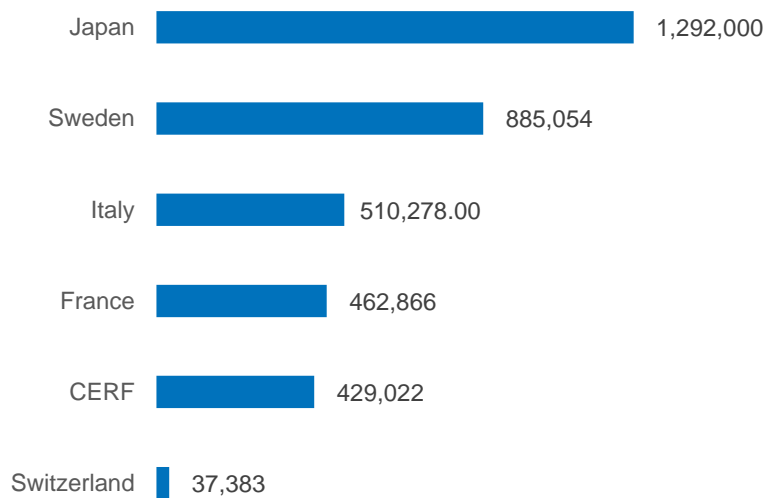


Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 3,382,487 million**, including **US\$ 1,785,622 million** for the Mali situation.

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 unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Earmarked funding received (in USD)



External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Priv Donors Spain (29 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (12 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (12 M) | Italy (10 M) |

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 20XX

Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Chile | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Morocco | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Zambia | Private Donors |

CONTACTS

Bockarie Kallon, External Relations Officer, Mali
kallonbo@unhcr.org, Tel: +223 75997262

Chadi Ouanes, Associate Reporting Officer, Mali
ouanes@unhcr.org, Tel : +223 75997247

Mahamadou Diallo, Public Information Assistant, Mali
diallmah@unhcr.org, Tel : +223 94945268

LINKS

[Mali Situation UNHCR Portal](#) – [Mali UNHCR Portal](#) - [Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#)