

## HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2019

In 2019, Mali's security situation continues to be fragile characterized mainly by intercommunal conflicts, organized crimes, terrorist attacks and worst of all killings and injuries caused by Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). This situation continues to create a challenging and precarious working environment for humanitarian workers. According to the Education Cluster 849 schools out of 8421 as of February, 2019 remain closed as compared 849 in January 2019 due to insecurity in the Central and Northern Regions of the country. 123,574 IDPs (20,314 households) were recorded, an increase of 3,276 as of February 2019 compared to December 2018 (120,298); in parallel, 526,505 returnees were registered by the teams of the National Directorate of Social Development (DNDS).

### KEY INDICATORS

- ✓ **SGBV focus groups** comprising **118 refugees and host populations** were carried-out in **6 sites**
- ✓ The **Protection Cluster** consolidated **180 allegations of human rights violations**, reported by its partner AMSS.
- ✓ **1,568 persons on the move** were **identified** as part of the **Mixed Movements'** monitoring activities.

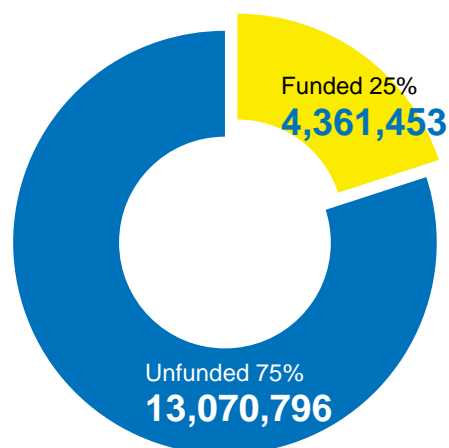
### PRIORITIES

- Support voluntary repatriation of refugees in protracted situation.
- Continue the process of naturalisation for Mauritanian refugees who have indicated their desire for local integration.
- Support and advocate for the functioning of the Appeals Board as well as expedite the granting of refugee status to eligible applicants.
- Strengthen the protection of persons of concern through socio-economic activities and access to basic rights.
- Strengthen the advocacy for the domestication of the Kampala Convention for IDPs.
- Approach other UN Agencies to encourage them to intervene through projects to strengthen basic social structures (within the "delivering as one" context).



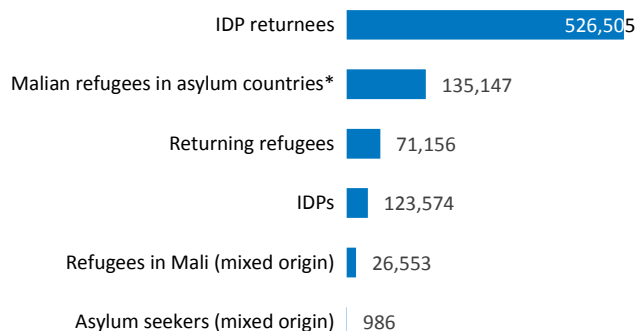
Mr. Volker Turk, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection hands a birth certificate document to a returnee child, during his visit to Timbuktu, northern Mali, on 7 February 2019. ©UNHCRMali/2019

### FUNDING AS OF 6 FEBRUARY 2019



**REQUESTED FOR MALI**  
**USD 17,432,250**

### POPULATION OF CONCERN



Figures as of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

\* Source: UNHCR. All other figures are sourced from the Government of Mali.

## Update on Achievements

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### Operational Context

- During January, the overall security situation in Mali, particularly in the center and north of the country, remained unstable and unpredictable. It was actually characterized by several incidents in several localities. For instance, an armed fire killed the Mayor of Anderamboukane in of Meneka region on 4 February, that coincided with an indirect fire attack that targeted the MINUSMA camp in Meneka during the same day, a civilian vehicle that hit an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in Yorobou village killing three civilians and injuring 14, and a vehicle driven by a Kamikaze exploded on the road to the airport in Timbuktu. It was also reported that clashes between signatory groups left at least 24 dead. Furthermore, on 23 February, 03 peacekeepers were killed and 1 injured following an attack between Bamako-Siby axes (50 km South-west of Bamako). On 24 February, an extremist attack (VBIED) against the Ecole Militaires Inter-Armes (EMIA) of Koulikoro resulted in the wounding of Malian soldiers (FAMa) and 01 civilian. In light of these recent incidents, it seems that the extremist groups' activities are expanding towards the south even though they are more intense in the northern and central regions coupled with intercommunal clashes and other crimes.
- The Assistant High Commissioner for Protection Mr. Volker Türk visited Mali from the 5th to the 7th of February 2019. The mission focused mainly on protection issues. The AHC-P met and discussed with the authorities of the Government of Mali including key line Ministries, the DRSG/RC/HC, the MINUSMA, the Humanitarian Country Team, the Head of the ICRC Delegation in Bamako and other protection actors. In Kayes he had discussions with the Mauritanian refugees on reasons for their flight from Mauritania in 1989, their living conditions in Mali as well as the prospects in terms of durable solutions. As part of his visit, the Governor of Kayes issued certificates of nationality to some Mauritanian refugees. In Tombouctou, the AHC-Protection also held discussions with the refugees from Burkina Faso, IDPs, IDP returnees and returnees from other asylum countries. They requested UNHCR, the Government of Mali and other partners to increase assistance such as water, health, education and livelihood activities especially for the youths. His delegation was accompanied by the Regional Representative Ms. Liz Ahua, UNHCR's Representative in Mali Ms. Angele Djohossou, the Snr. Reg. Communication/PI Officer Mr. Romain Desclous, the Snr. Regional Protection Officer Mr. Maurice Azonnankpo, representatives of five Government line ministries and the media.
- Following the information on the trafficking and exploitation of Nigerian girls by the National Agency for the Prohibition of trafficking in Persons (NAPTIT) in gold mining sites in Mali early January 2019, the Government of Mali, through the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Persons (a structure attached to the Ministry of Justice), has indicated the opening of investigations to shed light on these revelations of the Nigerian agency NAPTIP. (source: The "Comité National de Lutte contre la Traite des personnes »).
- The Prime Minister of the Republic of France Edouard Philippe ended his working visit in Mali on the 24th of February, 2019. His visit was made 3 years after the signing of the Peace and Reconciliation Agreement from the Algiers process which still leaves the country in search of peace. Speaking to the French forces (Barkhane) in Gao, the Prime

Minister expressed the need for commitment of all parties including the MINUSMA, European Mission and the G5 Sahel in finding peace in Mali.

- With support from HQ, the Content Team mission carried out a mission in Gao with the objective of producing audio visual materials on the project co-funded by the European Union entitled “Strengthening the resilience of displaced populations by instability in Northern Mali and support for peaceful coexistence between communities.” Visibility is key to the success of the project as emphasised by the donor. The mission also covered the payment of repatriation grants to 96 returnees in 26 households.
- Mali also hosted the mission of the Senior Regional Protection Officer Asylum and Migration Unit in the Regional Representation for West Africa, Ms. Simone Schwartz-Delgado, and the Senior Legal Officer, DO / Bureau of Africa / policy and legal unit Ms. Nagette Belgacem. The team met with key government counterparts, relevant UN agencies, and NGOs, and visited “strategic” locations including those in the field to have more insights into the diverse protection challenges and issues related to Mixed Movements.
- On 22 February, 2019, UNHCR Mali initiated a teleconference with Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger to discuss the spontaneous repatriation of Malian refugees. It should be noted that UNHCR in Mali is increasingly met by administrative authorities, NGOs, community leaders and MINUSMA on the issue of spontaneous return of refugees. One of the recommendations that emerged from the teleconference is to strengthen the facilitation process in the asylum countries by making it more fluid so that refugees who wish to repatriate can repatriate as quickly as possible while respecting the rules and procedures of UNHCR.

## Achievements



### PROTECTION

#### Achievements and Impact

##### Protection Cluster

- In February, the Protection Cluster consolidated and shared with civil-military coordination and protection actors as well as authorities, 181 allegations and violations of human rights in the regions of Gao, Timbuktu, Menaka and Kidal. The analysis of these protection incidents demonstrated an increase in the trend of protection incidents, with 75 incidents in Mopti, 64 in Gao, 22 in Menaka, 15 in Timbuktu and 05 in Kidal. This trend is explained by the resurgence of community tensions, the circulation of weapons and the risk of explosive devices (IED).
- On 27 January, under the chairmanship of the Minister of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action, the humanitarian community organized the official launching ceremony of the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Mali in the presence of the main donors, state services, humanitarian organizations and notably the Country Humanitarian Team. The humanitarian partners’ response plan for 2019 is the result of the joint needs assessment and response planning exercise in support of the Government of Mali. This process was marked by a close collaboration with state services at both national and regional levels. The overview of humanitarian needs in 2019, determined that 3.2 million people are affected by the consequences of conflicts and climatic hazards in Mali. For the year

2019, the funding request related to the Humanitarian Response Plan amounts to USD 296 million. It aims to address the urgent needs of 2.3 million vulnerable people, while focusing on resilience activities to support the recovery of communities affected by the crisis.

- On February 14, the Malian government released statistics on forced population movements as of January 31, 2019. According to the report, 123,574 internally displaced persons (20,314 households) are internally displaced, an increase of 3,276 people, compared to December 2018 (120,298).

### Mixed Movements

#### Meetings - Familiarization mission:

During the mission of the Senior Regional Protection Officer, from the Asylum and Migration Unit at the Regional Office in Dakar and the Senior Legal Adviser, at the office of the Special Envoy for the Central Mediterranean Situation, several aspects on mixed movements were discussed with different actors, particularly the context of migration, partnerships, coordination, the issue of the protection of persons within mixed flows under UNHCR's mandate, asylum, protection and assistance of children as well as vulnerable persons on the move, partnerships in identification and referral activities. Following these meetings, a field visit to Gao allowed the mission to understand the dynamics of mixed movements in Mali in a context of insecurity, mixed movement trends, migration routes, types of profiles, reasons for departure, cooperation between actors, coordination of actions (protection and assistance). At the end of the visit, recommendations regarding the strengthening of the asylum system, and alternative solutions to irregular migration for persons under UNHCR's mandate were made.

#### Monitoring:

As part of the Protection Monitoring of people on the move, carried out by UNHCR's partner AMSS, 1,568 people in total (353 in Mopti / Bamako, 302 in Gao and 913 in Timbuktu) from various countries were identified. Among them, 1,215 persons were identified in the outflows while 353 others in the inflows, of which 96 were evicted from Algeria (18 to Gao and 78 to Timbuktu) and 257 voluntary returning refugees of various nationalities from Algeria (37 to Gao and 220 to Timbuktu). In total, 35 women of various nationalities were also identified in Timbuktu in the outflow migratory routes.

73 unaccompanied and / or separated children in total were identified (59 in Timbuktu and 14 in Mopti) in the migratory flows also of various nationalities.

On 10 February, an extortion incident carried-out by unidentified armed individuals against 15 people on the move 220 km away from Ber was recorded in Timbuktu. The victims were dispossessed of their belongings (money, phones, clothes, etc.), however, no physical violence was reported.

In addition, within the framework of the Cross Regional Coordination platform set up on the initiative of the Office of the Special Envoy for the Central Mediterranean, 01 teleconference with the offices of Algeria, Mena, Niger and Mali was organized in order to monitor the expulsions from Algeria.

#### Awareness

A total of 52 sensitizations, (26 in Mopti, 13 in Timbuktu & 13 in Gao) were organized for 603 people in transit movements (inflows and outflows), including 517 men and 86 women. In all, 315 people were sensitized in Mopti (277 men and 38 women), 179 in Timbuktu

(170 men and 09 women) and 109 in Gao (70 men and 39 women) on "the risks and consequences of migration and on human rights", "the stakes, risks and consequences of mixed movements", "the dangers of irregular migration and dangers on the roads", "human rights violations related to mixed movements and the importance of identity documents" and "the consequences of irregular migration and statelessness".

### **Livelihoods**

With regards to formulating durable solutions to irregular migration, self-reliance and livelihoods programs targeting persons under UNHCR's mandate and host communities continue to be implemented and monitored.

It is to note that for this year, the assistance is targeting 12 groups (4 in breeding, 4 in market gardening and 4 in small trade / crafts) as well as 3 individuals.

### **Reception and orientation**

- In February, UNHCR continued to receive and orientate refugees and asylum seekers. This brings the total number to 55 individuals (29 women and 26 men) since the beginning of 2019 on an annual target of 200, representing a reception and orientation rate of 27.5%. The major needs expressed by these refugees are medical, documentation and livelihoods assistance.

### **SGBV**

- In Kayes, focus group sessions under the theme "The short-term consequences of FGM / Excision" were carried out in 06 sites. These focus groups targeted 118 people including 101 refugees (67 women and 34 men) and 17 persons from the host population (11 women and 06 men).
- Dissemination of awareness messages: 03 awareness messages on early marriage, FGM and other GBV were released. The annual target is 160 messages to be broadcast.

### **Voluntary Returns**

- On 25 February, UNHCR followed up on the correspondence sent by the Government of Mali to the main countries of asylum, particularly Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger to encourage them to propose dates for the future tripartite commission meetings with each of these countries.
- On 25 February, a list of 118 households (410 individuals), who are candidates for facilitated returns, was shared by UNHCR in Burkina Faso with UNHCR Mali with the aim of coordinating protection and assistance with the various partners for the returnees in their respective areas of return.



## **EDUCATION**

### **Achievements and Impact**

- In February, three (3) refugees were enrolled in the University of Social Sciences and Management of Bamako (FSEG), as part of the enrolment of graduates. Among them, two (2) are registered in the first year Bachelor of Science in Management and the third is enrolled in the first year Bachelor of Economics. The different meetings and consultations with the heads of the faculties allowed the beneficiaries to be enrolled on the same basis as the nationals.

As part of the access to education for urban refugees, follow-ups were made on: follows:

- An Ivorian refugee, beneficiary of an academic professional training at the School of Industrial and Commercial Technical Training (EFTIC) in electronics class, with an average of 15.27 / 20 and being first in his class;
- Two (2) refugee children of Congolese nationality in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades, with very satisfactory averages of 8.77/10 and 8.04/10 respectively;
- A Central African refugee upgrading to 2<sup>nd</sup> year in electricity studies, with an average of 16.04/20, at the Centre of Commercial and Industrial Education;
- Finally, the decision authorizing the registration of the only bachelor that had been rejected at the beginning of the registration process for baccalaureate refugees in the different faculties was made.

#### **DAFI Program:**

- The DAFI club elected its new Board of Directors for the academic year 2018-2019. In accordance with the club's internal rules, the new office is composed of five (5) members.
- As part of the implementation of the DAFI program, one of the activities was the evaluation of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester for students enrolled at the International Institute of Management (IIM).
- Within the framework of implementing its action plan, the DAFI Club held its 1<sup>st</sup> general assembly for the year 2019.



#### **HEALTH**

##### **Achievements and Impact**

- In February, UNHCR registered the adherence of 2 refugee households (17 individuals) to the health insurance scheme, bringing the total number to 4 households (22 individuals) for this year. A total of 50 households (179 individuals) are contributing regularly.
- 16 refugees (10 women and 6 men) received medical support and their cases were taken in charge by UNHCR. This support allowed to alleviate some of their urgent needs and improved their states of health.



#### **WATER AND SANITATION**

##### **Achievements and Impact**

- In Gao region, the construction of 2 water points is ongoing in Gao town and Menaka, on an annual objective of 2 water points.  
In Mopti, 5 water points are being rehabilitated.
- In Timbuktu region, 3 water points are being rehabilitated.



#### **SHELTER AND NFIS**

##### **Achievements and Impact**

###### **Gao**

- The construction of 77 mud shelters is underway in Gao and Menaka regions. Furthermore, the construction of 117 traditional shelters is underway in Gao and Menaka regions for the Nigerian refugees. It is to note that the overall objective is 194 shelters.

###### **Mopti**



- The construction of 100 traditional shelters and the identification of their beneficiaries are underway.

#### Timbuktu

- 140 traditional shelters (including 60 emergency shelters) are being constructed while 50 mud shelters are being rehabilitated. UNHCR set an objective to construct 140 traditional shelters and to rehabilitate 50 others in mud.



### COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

#### Achievements and Impact

- As part of supporting social integration and refugee empowerment in urban areas, 16 Income Generating Activities (IGA) requests were registered for the year 2019.
- In Bamako, with a view to strengthening local integration and refugee empowerment, the partnership with Muslim Hand in 2018 has been renewed this year, with the aim of ensuring optimal apprenticeship skills for 10 refugees who were selected from among those who expressed interest. As a prelude to this training in cut and sewing, a meeting was held on 21 February with Stop Sahel and Muslim Hand to harmonize the preparations for the training.
- In Kayes, the bank of Diaby was visited, the premises are in good condition and the management committees are functional.
- In Kayes, the groups established in Nahaly, Tecchibe and Melga through the Mixed Movements program were monitored and the results are satisfactory.
- The follow-up of the Thiokerdan Association grouping of 160 members was this week, 48 women have received their loans out of the 160 and the amount in cash is increasing.

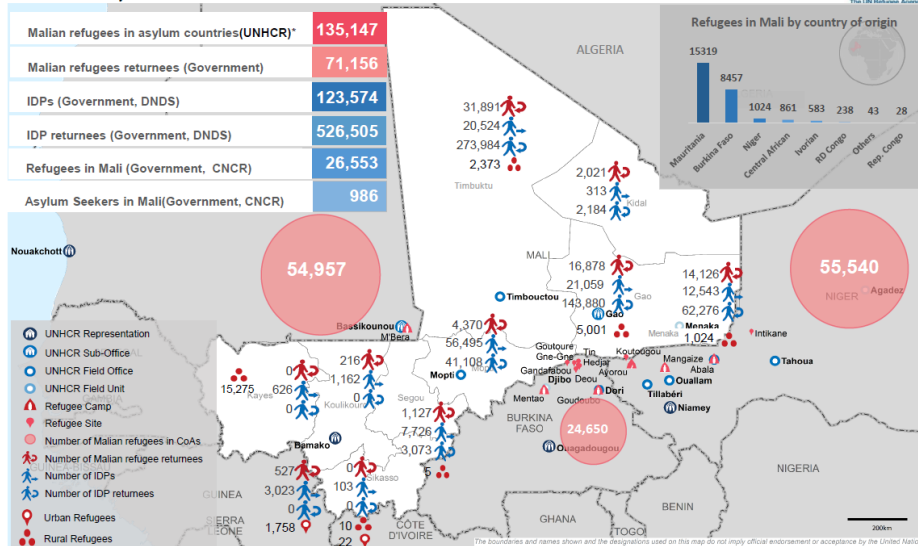
#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- 75% of applications for IGA funding remains to be met for refugees.
- 12% of school-age children in urban areas are not covered.
- 25% of the refugee population did not join the health scheme
- 1,000 refugee identity cards need be produced for urban refugees while 11,500 Mauritanian refugees are waiting for theirs.
- 51% of Malian returnees do not have civil status documents, mainly children.
- 1,161 Mauritanian refugees were naturalized in 2018. The required funds represent the cost of the package accompanying the naturalization of 3,000 Mauritanian refugees).
- The Burkinabe situation in Gossi and N'tilit remains unfunded notably the lack of adequate shelters as a major challenge. Since their arrival, these refugees have been living in improvised tents made of random materials. They are therefore exposed to unfavourable weather, notably the persons with special needs, including children, women, elderly and people with serious medical conditions.
- Although registration and documentation of Burkinabe and Nigerien refugees continue, their needs in terms of shelter, water, health, food and NFIs remain a concern due to resource constraints. A targeted support is provided to the most vulnerable only, leaving others relying on their own scanty resources.

### Statistical Overview & Infographics

## MALI SITUATION

Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Returnees  
as of 31 January 2019



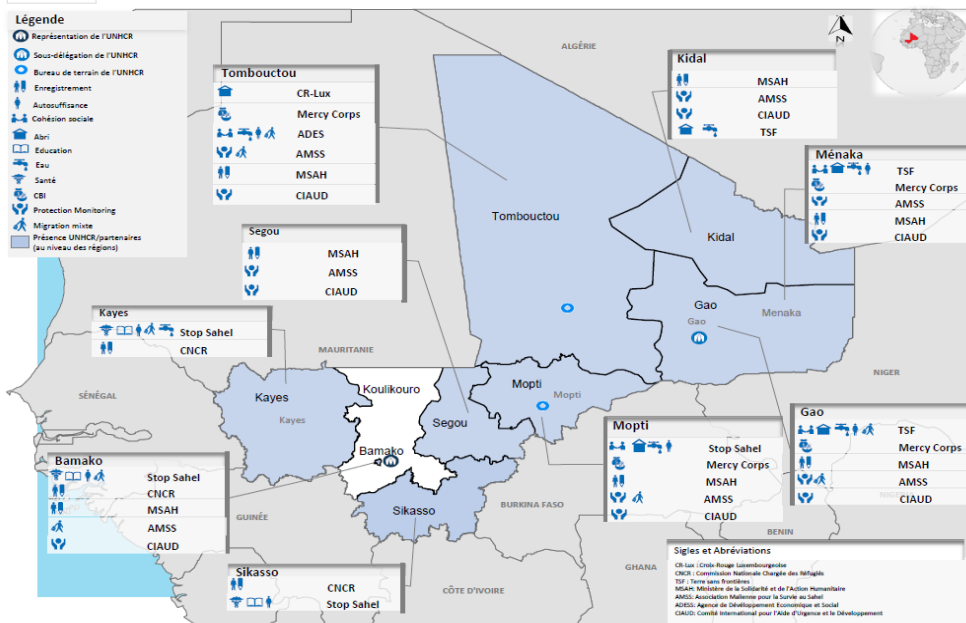
\*Niger figure date from 31 December 2018

## Working in partnership



Mali : Présence des partenaires  
2019

UNHCR Bamako



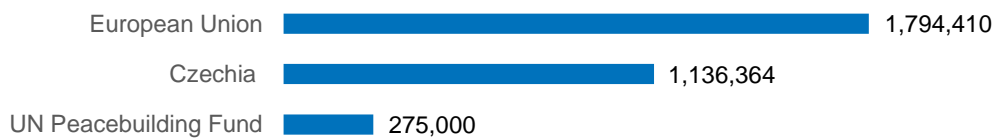


## Financial Information

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 programs with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 4,361,453** million, including **US\$ 19,598,489** million for the Mali situation.

### EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FOR MALI | USD



### UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS (FOR WEST AFRICA) | USD

Sweden 90.4 million | Denmark 54.9 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 27.3 million | Switzerland 15.1 million | Austria | Belgium | Canada | Estonia | Indonesia | Monaco | Montenegro | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

### OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS (FOR WEST AFRICA) | USD

Germany 3.3 million

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