COUNTRY OPERATION UPDATE JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2020

Burkina Faso



POPULATION OF CONCERN

808,500				
Internally Displaced Persons - IDPs (***)				779,741
Refugees and asylum seekers other	461			
New arrivals (**)	2,855			
Malian refugees (*)	25,44	3		
	0	400,000	800,	,000

* UNHCR figures (31 Jan. 2020)

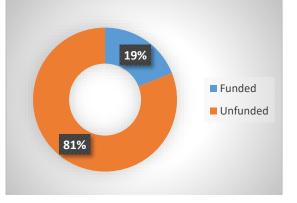
- ** Government of Burkina Faso figures (Nov. 2019)
- *** Government figures (29 Feb. 2020)

FUNDING (AS OF 06 MAR. 2020)



needed for the Burkina Faso Country Operation

Displaced families provided with shelter in Centre-Nord region ©UNHCR /M. Bougma



KEY INDICATORS

779,741

people forced to flee their homes to find safety elsewhere in Burkina Faso

34, 076

IPD households are still without adequate shelters and in need for NFIs

An average 60%

of IDPs still need Identity Documentation to enjoy their fundamental human rights.



An internally displaced woman with her baby in the Bissinogo IDP hosting site in Kaya

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- 1. Malian refugees: In 2012, conflict broke out in northern Mali. Today, over 25,443 Malians have found refuge in Burkina Faso and are biometrically registered by UNHCR. The Sahel region, bordering Mali and Niger, hosts 98% of Malian refugees and is affected by so far uncontrolled insecurity and violence. Asylum-seekers from Mali have continued to enter the Boucle du Mouhoun and Nord regions and live mainly in spontaneous sites or with the local host population. About 2855 have recently been enrolled by the Government as asylum seekers.
- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): Attacks and clashes between Burkinabe security forces and nonidentified armed groups have grown in intensity, causing casualties on both sides. The civilian population is increasingly targeted, resulting in more people forced to flee with the number of IDPs recorded at over 765,000 as of 12 February 2020.
- 3. Mixed Migratory Movements: Burkina Faso is a transit country of mixed migratory movements northwards. These migratory flows are mixed and consist of economic migrants, as well as persons in need of international protection.
- 4. **Statelessness:** Burkina Faso hosts a large number of stateless people or people at risk of statelessness, especially in border regions. According to a UNHCR funded preliminary study, 30% of people living in the Sahel have no identity documents, and therefore cannot prove their Burkinabe nationality. In such difficult security situation, having no identity document limits freedom of movements especially to displaced people, and exposes them to arbitrary arrests, abuses and violation of their human rights.

SECURITY SITUATION

The already volatile security situation in Burkina Faso, mainly in the Sahel, Centre-Nord, Nord and East regions, has continued to deteriorate and spread. Humanitarian access to refugees and internally displaced populations is increasingly challenging.

While Djibo, Kelbo, Barsalogho, and out of camp areas in the Oudalan province remain dangerous to go, Dori is increasingly turning into an unstable area, as extremist activities have grown in this town and all around. Attacks. incursions. abductions and assassinations are more and more reported in Goudoubo village, around a nearby mining area, including in and around the Goudoubo refugee camp, which security post was attacked several times. As a result of these attacks, all schools in Goudoubo village, as well as the ones in the refugee camp are closed since end of January, and villagers forcibly moved to Dori.

Between January and February 2020, at least 11 attacks specifically targeted civilians in Centre-Nord, Sahel and East region, killing more than 81 individuals.





After a field visit by the High Commissioner for Refugees in early February 2020, the Agency declared an L3 emergency for Burkina Faso (on February 10, 2020), calling for more attention to the crisis and more aid to respond to the emergent and lifesaving needs of IDPs and their host communities.



- Between January and February 2020, at least 352 protection incidents were reported in the Centre-Nord (Barsalogho, Kaya and Kongoussi) and Hauts-Bassins (Houndé and Banzon) regions through protection monitoring activities carried out by UNHCR's implementing partner. More than 77% of the reported incidents (physical and psychological violence including torture; violation of rights to freedom, security and property: theft/looting; and Gender-based violence: levirate marriage, rape and abuse) concerned women, against only 22% men.
- UNHCR partner was trained on IDP protection monitoring and data collection in Ouahigouya (Nord region) from 18-20 February, 2020. This will contribute to capturing, reporting and addressing all protection issues/incidents experienced by IDPs in the region.
- Nearly 3000 people in Centre-Nord region were reached through sensitization activities on various topics including GBV prevention and reporting, child protection, early marriage, child labor, child exploitation, hygiene and sanitation, social cohesion, etc.
- At least 44 women head of households with specific needs and survivors of psychological trauma received particular assistance including medical care, Food and Non-food items.

SHELTER AND NFI

- 500 IDP households in Kaya (250), Boussouma (25), Korsimoro (25), Yalgho (100) and Tougouri (100) received NFI kits between January and February.
- To host some new IDP households arrived in Wendou, Yanrala and Petit-Paris IDP sites (in Dori, Sahel region), UNHCR provided and helped construct 222 shelters including 122 Refugee Housing Units (RHU) and 100 Sahel-type emergency shelters. 200 RHUs provided to host some IDPs in Djibo are yet to be installed.
- In the Centre-Nord region, 365 shelters were constructed to host 90 households in Kaya, 25 in Boussouma, 25 in Korsimoro, 100 in Yalgho, 100 in Tougouri and 25 in Pissila.



RHUs constructed in Kaya to host IDPs newly arrived from Pensa, following recent attacks that killed 9 civilians. ©UNHCR/M.Bougma

• 30 community workers, and 08 Government agents were trained from 24 – 26 February



 UNHCR installed 4 water tanks of 5000 m³ each on Wendou IDPs site in Dori to store and facilitate IDPs' access to potable water.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- Refugees' handcrafted products were exhibited at the Frankfurt Ambiente Saloon from 04 -11 February 2020.
- UNHCR continues to follow-up micro-entreprises created to build young refugees' resilience and selfreliance in camps.
- 47 refugees trained in bakery, dressamaking, carpentry, computing, building/electricity/solar energy and auto-mechanics under EU Funding have completed their training and are awaiting to be integrated for intership in their respective areas of competence.
- 17 young refugees received start-up kits to commence their business in sewing in early February, 2020 .





EDUCATION

Besides the schools in Mentao refugee camp that have been closed since end of 2018, all schools in Goudoubo village, including those in the Goudoubo refugee camp have been closed, following the incursion on February 11 of armed individuals in a primary school in the village, stealing food.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

 Despite increased insecurity in Dori and Djibo, targeted food distributions took place in February 2020 and 98% of refugee households were covered. However, it remains that following the suspension of movements of humanitarians to Mentao camp, and the suspension of public transportation services towards Djibo, transport of food to Mentao camp for distribution is now impossible. Also, food assistance to refugees living in out-ofcamp areas has been stopped since January 2020 to limit exposure to high jacking during transport.

KEY CHALLENGES

- With the deterioration of the security situation in the country, the number of people fleeing violent attacks is ever increasing, straining the already meagre resources and coping mechanisms of the local communities.
- Host families are getting overcrowded, and increasingly lack capacities to support the burden of in-coming IDPs.
- The specific needs of refugees in the Mentao camp keep increasing, as the Soum province is gradually disconnected (landlocked) from other parts of the country with the recent suspension of public transport services in Djibo. So far ongoing Government guidelines prevent refugees from leaving the camp.
- Humanitarian access to Goudoubo refugee camp is currently being hampered by the increased presence and activities of armed individuals in Goudoubo village. Attacks, assassinations and abductions/looting have aggravated the fear in the population of the village who started to move to Dori.
- In view of the situation, secondary movements of refugees are expected, as refugee children no longer have access to education due the closure of all schools in refugee hosted villages, including Goudoubo and Mentao.

UNHCR PRESENCE IN BURKINA FASO

Staff and Offices: UNHCR has recently stepped up its capacity with the creation of new positions since January and currently counts a total of 103 national and international staff, which includes consultants and affiliate workforce, with 1 Representation in Ouagadougou, 1 Field Office in Dori, 1 Field Office in Kaya and Field units in Bobo-Dioulasso and Ouahigouya. Staff formerly based in Djibo have been temporarily relocated to Kaya and Ouahigouya and are operating remotely. Additional positions are being created under the L3 emergency.

PARTNERS

The Government of Burkina Faso (**CONAREF** – Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés and **CONASUR** – Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Réhabilitation), African Initiative for Relief and Development (**AIRD**), Mouvement Burkinabe des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples, Danish Refugee Council (**DRC**), Centre de Support en Santé International (**CSSI**), Christian Relief and Development Organization (**CREDO**), Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgique (**VSF-B**), Mouvement Burkinabe des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples (**MBDHP**), **PLAN INTERNATIONAL**, Norwegian Refugee Council (**NRC**), Initiative De Cooperation Et D'appui Aux Actions Humanitaires et de Developpement (**ICAHD**), **InterSos**.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 6,365,037 Million as of March 06, 2020 by: United States of America | European Union| UN Peace Building Fund | Japan | United Nations Programme On HIV/AIDS |

SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

United States of America 13.9 million | Germany 4.4 million | Canada 2.3 million Morocco | Slovakia | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

Sweden 76.4 million | Norway 41.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 25.9 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Private donors Spain 13.2 million Belgium | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

CONTACTS

Mr. Moussa Bougma, Senior PI Assistant, bougma@unhcr.org, Tel: +226 25 36 10 28, Cell +226 65 50 47 69 More information: Regional portal - Twitter - Facebook - Humanitarian Response