

May 2021

+ 8,500 new arrivals in Sayam Forage Camp during the first quarter of 2021.

The Diffa region hosts **265,696*** **Nigerian refugees, internally displaced persons, and Nigerien returnees.** More than 80% of them live in **spontaneous settlements.**

(*Government figures)

Since April 2019, movements are restricted on many roads following **attacks, kidnappings, and the increased use of explosive devices.**

The security situation has a strong negative impact on the economy of the region, **reducing opportunities for both host and displaced populations.**

KEY INDICATORS

228,147

Persons of concern registered biometrically in UNHCR database. These include refugees, asylum seekers, returnees, and internally displaced persons

6,198

Households of 29,540 refugees and returnees registered in Sayam Forage Camp as of 30th April 2021.

2,926

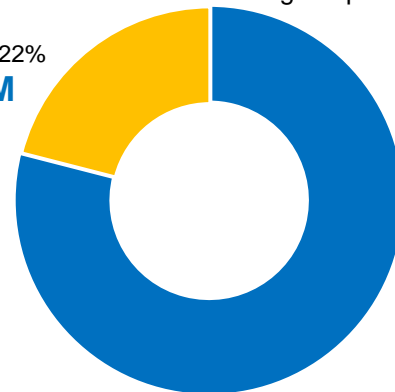
Houses built in Diffa region as of 30th April 2021.

FUNDING (AS OF 04 MAY 2020)

USD 110.5 Million

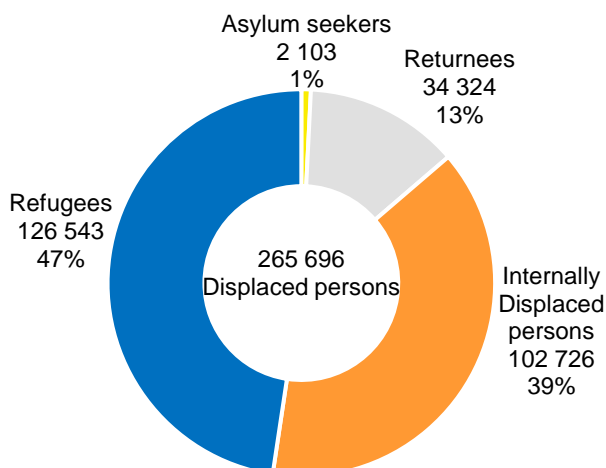
requested for the UNHCR Niger Operation

Funded 22%
24.8 M



Unfunded 78%
85.7 M

POPULATION OF CONCERN IN DIFFA
(GOVERNMENT FIGURES)



Operation Strategy

The key pillars of the UNHCR strategy for the Diffa region are:

- **Ensure institutional resilience** through capacity development and support to the authorities (locally elected and administrative authorities) in the framework of the Niger decentralisation process.
- **Strengthen the out of camp policy** around the urbanisation program through sustainable interventions and dynamic partnerships including with the World Bank. Ensure a coordinated and high-quality **protection response** and maintain an **emergency response capacity**

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

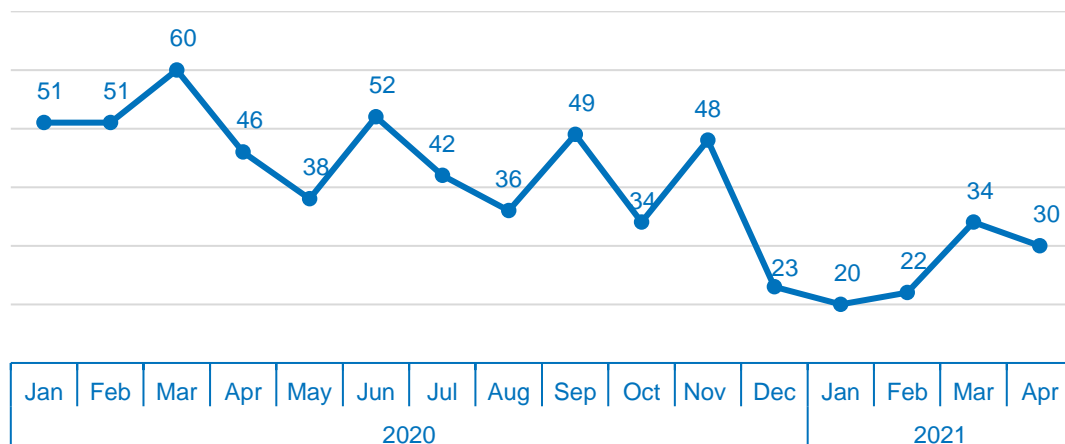
The Diffa region has been hosting Nigerian refugees fleeing terrorist violence in the northern states of Nigeria since 2013. In the wake of the first attacks on Niger Territory in 2015, the situation has dramatically deteriorated. In May 2015, the authorities decided to evacuate the population living in the Niger region of the Lake Chad Islands toward an internally displaced camp launched in Kablewa, however this latter has been closed in July 2017 following bombing attack in the camp and recurrent security situation .

Since April 2019, movements are restricted on the Gueskerou, Toumour and Bosso roads following the finding of explosive devices, consecutive attacks, and kidnappings.

In April 2021, the security situation continued to deteriorate in the Diffa region due to terrorist activism despite government efforts to stabilize the administrative and security situation, making the humanitarian access to certain areas difficult. The number of incidents recorded in April is among the highest of the year 2021.

Forced recruitments of civilians, looting of the army logistics stocks, kidnappings, cattle theft as well as the use of improvised explosive devices against the Defense and Security Forces were also reported.

Evolution of Protection incidents in the Diffa region from Jan 2020 to April 2021



Achievements

Protection response

- In April, UNHCR and other protection actors continued to improve the **coordination mechanism and the quality of the response**, through an improved involvement of the community and the creation of a more effective referral mechanism. Interviews for resettlement were conducted and profiling was carried out for durable solutions.
- Through the protection monitoring system, UNHCR observed a 13% decrease in documented protection incidents compared to March 2021. A total of **30 protection incidents were documented in April** compared to 34 in March 2021 affecting 226 people against 138 in March 2021. This increase could be explained by the fact that terrorists use to intensify their attacks during the fasting period and may also be linked to the withdrawal of water of the komadougou river which marks the border between Niger and Nigeria for 140 km.
- As part of the statelessness prevention, UNHCR has identified 1,039 children at risk of statelessness on the sites of Guidan Kadji, Charrey, Djori Koulo and at the camp of Sayam forage. They were registered by local authorities for the issuance of birth certificates. In addition, 312 Nigeriens returnees have also been identified.
- UNHCR has identified 21 new **child protection** cases. 100% of cases have been documented and benefited from psychosocial support. UNHCR and its partners have also conducted series of awareness raising sessions on child protection related issues, reaching more than 500 individuals in N'Guel Madou Mai, Garin Wanzam, Boudouri, Chetima Wango, Guidan Kadji, Sabon Gari, Madouri and the refugee camp of Sayam forage.
- UNHCR with the support of local authorities provided 89 national identity cards to Nigerien returnees and 115 refugees attestation to Nigerian refugees who live in the refugee camp of Sayam forage. 23 other refugees have received the proof of their registration.
- In April, UNHCR has identified and **documented 11 new cases of gender-based violence cases** in the department of Diffa. They include 4 cases of denial of resources and 4 physical violence, a case of rape and another of forced marriage. **All survivors have benefited from psychosocial support** and have been referred either to health facilities, police and/or to justice for other services.
- Awareness raising activities on SGBV topics such as early pregnancy, sexual exploitation and availability of services were conducted by UNHCR at the Sayam forage camp and at the sites of N'Guel Madou Mai, Chateau and charrey, **reaching 351 persons**. UNHCR has also organised 7 group discussions with 38 persons among the new displaced population that flee Damasak in Nigeria and seek refuge in the department of Diffa.
- In April, UNHCR with the support of community structures has identified **290 persons living with specific needs**. UNHCR has also donated non-food kits composed of clothes, shoes, a solar flashlight and pieces of soap to 47 persons living with specific needs among the most vulnerable.

Shelter

- The innovative **EU-funded program** on urbanization simultaneously ensures **legal access to land for social housing for refugees** and vulnerable host households, while **revitalising the local economy** which has been deeply affected by the terrorist group conflict in the region. To date, **2,926 sustainable houses** for the most vulnerable families have been built, while 433 are ongoing; 5,817 jobs were created, 2,564 persons were trained in the construction and in the framework of

the project, more than 50,263 persons got a better access to water in 5 districts (Assaga, Diffa, Chetimari, Mainé soroa and NGuiguimi).

- UNHCR has identified and supported **63 household with emergency shelters** at the refugee camp of Sayam forage.

Health

- UNHCR and its partner APBE received **1,842 individuals for medical consultations**, among which 34 cases with critical conditions who have been referred to the regional hospital of Diffa.
- UNHCR has received 243 women for reproductive health service including family planning and prenatal consultations.

Education

- UNHCR and its partners promote children education at the refugee camp of Sayam. As of 30th April; 1,325 children were attending primary education in two schools in the camp.
- 534 children were attending five distance learning schools, alongside the registration for the National Examination Council (NECO) were closed. These students benefited from a UNHCR's support with chalk and notebooks, while the primary school students benefited from hot meals, as part of the school feeding programme, in view to promote and encourage school attendance.

WASH

- 29,754 persons had access to potable water produced by three pumping stations built by UNHCR at the Sayam Forage camp, with an average consumption of 8 litres / person / day. More than 5,908 individuals were reached out on hygiene, sanitation promotion, malaria prevention and the COVID-19 prevention measures sensitizations.

Main Challenges

- The hosting areas are generally poorly equipped. Structural but costly infrastructural investments in irrigation, water supply and electricity are required to enable the population to develop income generating activities.
- The Niger public services are highly dependent on humanitarian actors, which creates a risk of a sharp deterioration in living conditions for the population in case of a funding shortfall.
- Irregular access for humanitarian actors due to the security situation and military operation.
- A worsening security situation generates new major displacements and secondary movements; possible movements of Nigerian refugees back towards Nigeria might also occur.
- Recurrent flooding of the Komadougou river force refugees to make a secondary displacement toward the Sayam Forage camp.

Financial Information

Special thanks to the donors who have participated to UNHCR's response in Diffa

European Union

Donors who have contributed to UNHCR's response in Niger¹

African Development Bank | Canada | Central Emergency Response Fund | Education Cannot Wait | European Union | Germany | Italy | Monaco | Spain | United States of America | Other Private Donors

Other softly earmarked contributions²

United States of America 12.2 million | Germany 9.2 million | Canada 8.5 million | Iceland | Malta | Norway | Private donors

Unearmarked contributions³

Norway 80 million | Sweden 66.9 million | Netherlands 36.1 | Denmark 34.6 million | Germany 26 million | Private donors Spain 21.5 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Ireland 12.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 10.8 million

Algeria | America | Australia | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Luxemburg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Philippines | Portugal | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private Donors

1. Contributions to Niger are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.
2. Due to their earmarking at the region or sub-region, or to a related situation or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for Niger. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contributions is shown.
3. Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contribution \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.

External / Donor Relations

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