

Burkina Faso

1 March – 30 April 2021

According to the National Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (CONASUR),

1,218,754 individuals have fled their homes seeking safety as of 30 April 2021, a 6.19% increase compared to February 2021.

As part of the fight against COVID-19, UNHCR will support the construction of an **oxygen production** unit in one of the main hospitals in Ouagadougou, for a total amount of near to **USD 435,000**.

On 12 March, UNHCR launched its project on the provision of **1,000 durable and ecological shelters** in the Center-North and the Sahel, financed by the Government of Belgium through a Euros 3 million contribution.

KEY INDICATORS

1

Oxygen production unit, worth USD 435,000, will be constructed with UNHCR's financial support in one of the main hospitals in Ouagadougou

18,800

people will receive birth certificates as part of the efforts to reduce the risk of statelessness

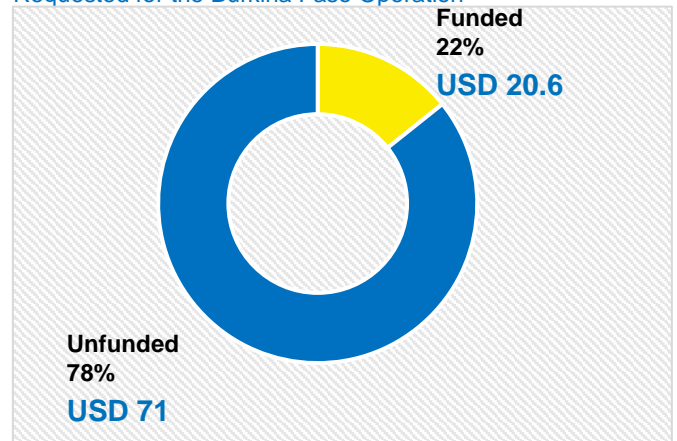
4,205 m³

Water provided to refugees on Goudoubo Camp as of April 2021

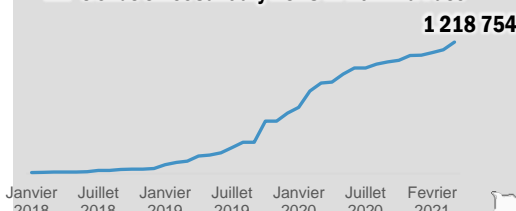
FUNDING (AS OF 20 APRIL 2021)

USD 91.6M

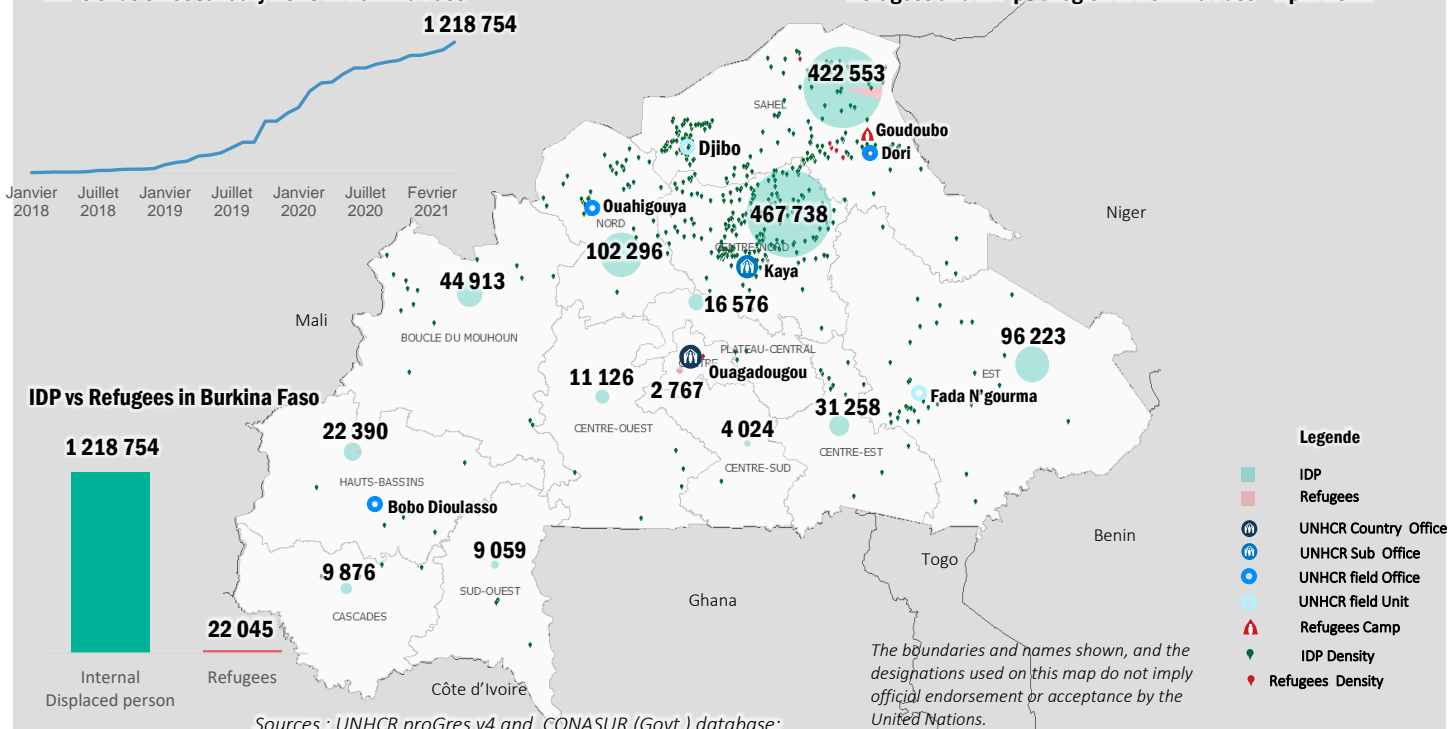
Requested for the Burkina Faso Operation



IDP trends since January 2018 in Burkina Faso



Refugees and IDP per Region in Burkina Faso – April 2021



OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The security situation remains volatile throughout the country, with a concentration of incidents reported in the regions of Sahel, North, East and Center-North. Attacks targeted the Forces of Defense and Security (FDS) and Volunteers for the Defense of the Fatherland (VDP) as well as civilian populations. Growing violence has led to population movements in the East, North and Sahel regions. On 28 April, two Spanish journalists and an Irish director of a wildlife foundation were killed in the East region. The Governments of Burkina Faso, Spain and Ireland confirmed the deaths of the three individuals, while the incident was widely covered in national and international media.

Following the relocation of some 6,571 refugees to the Goudoubo camp, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Burkinabe Abroad, Alpha Barry, visited the camp on 11 March. The Governor, UNHCR Acting Representative, the CONAREF Permanent Secretary, humanitarian agencies operating in the camp, refugee leaders and representatives from host community representatives met with the Minister and his delegation. The Minister expressed his appreciation for UNHCR and its partners' efforts for all of the work done to revive Goudoubo camp. He called upon the refugee and the host communities to act as 'agents of peace' in order to maintain and reinforce social cohesion in the area.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS



PROTECTION

- The results of the Regional Protection Monitoring (Project 21) for the month of April indicate that populations have been impacted by the deterioration of the security situation through Burkina Faso, with 36% of persons sharing that they feel unsafe, compared with 12% in the previous month. Similarly, up to 43% of people stated that they cannot move freely, up from the 18% reported in March. The main protection incidents include kidnapping (28%), beatings and injuries (18%), theft and pillage (18%) and homicides (16%). The data also

With the recent return of refugees to Goudoubo camp, protection services and assistance have resumed. Some 9,256 refugees benefitted from the monthly cash for food distribution. With spontaneous arrivals from refugees living outside of the camp and asylum-seekers from Mali, there has been increased pressure on available services and resources. Each refugee was provided with 14.2 litres of water per day – slightly below the sphere standard of 20 litres daily, while animals and gardening also require additional water. In order to enhance livelihood opportunities in the area, UNHCR, authorities, refugee and host community representatives identified a location between the camp and the town of Goudoubo to establish the local market.

captures that populations are increasingly considering fleeing abroad, with 13% of people attempting to leave Burkina Faso in April compared to 4% in March. Women continue to be particularly affected by the violence, with the most common form of gender-based violence (VBG) being forced marriage (23%) and physical violence (18%). In addition, the main child protection issues reported included child labour (29%), forced marriage (19%) and unwanted pregnancy (17%), while 70% of adults described

schools as being unsafe. Host community tensions appear to have risen exponentially, with only 33% of people mentioning feeling safe in the host community, compared with 100% in March.

- As part of its efforts to reduce the risk of statelessness in the country, UNHCR has supported authorities with the launch of an operation which will provide over 18,800 people with birth certificates in the regions of Cascades and Hauts-Bassins.
- In the area of social coexistence and cohesion, UNHCR and UNDP are developing a joint project in the regions of Cascades, Hauts-Bassins and South-West which aims at reinforcing the accountability and civil participation at the local level, strengthening the capacity of social/civil services for vulnerable groups and IDPs and strengthening the capacity of local actors for social coexistence and cohesion, amongst others.



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

- In order to build the capacity of its partners on the prevention and response to GBV, UNHCR organized a 3-day training on GBV core concepts, case management (including GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS) incident classification and intake form and interviewing techniques), prevention, mitigation, recovery and resilience activities as well as monitoring and evaluation. Staff members from INTERSOS, CREDO and UNHCR participated in the workshop.
- As part of the efforts to strengthen the protection response and to ensure that those most in need can access adequate services and care, the Protection Sub-Cluster in the Sahel has validated the referral mechanisms for general protection, GBV and child protection cases in the Provinces of the Seno, Yagha, Soum and Oudalan. Three toll-free numbers are available and focal points amongst humanitarian actors have been identified. Sensitization and awareness raising sessions will be conducted in all sites in the region to ensure that IDPs know how to access the available services. In addition, in the region of the Boucle du Mouhoun, two out of the three community centers, which will contribute to the management of GBV cases and psycho-social support for internally displaced persons have been completed.
- While several awareness raising campaigns about the criminalization and negative consequences of child marriage have been carried out in remote areas, traditions and customs continue to prevail over the law. With the aim to achieve lasting change in social norms and societal expectations regarding the role of girls and women, UNHCR worked with community leaders in Barsalogho (Center-North) to develop an action plan to end child marriage.
- The month of March was marked by the celebration of International Women's Day 8 March and a series of activities were organized across the country from focus groups discussions to bike races and football matches. Whether the discussions focused on female leadership, ("Female leadership: For an egalitarian future in the world of Covid-19" (global level)), or on the digital financial inclusion of women, (theme chosen at national level by the Ministry of Women "digital financial inclusion for the economic development of women"), it was an opportunity to reflect on achievements, what lies ahead including the opportunities that await future generations of women.

**HEALTH AND COVID-19 RESPONSE**

- As of 30 April, Burkina Faso has recorded 13,319 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 109 active cases, 157 deaths and 13,053 recoveries.
- The Ministry of Health has issued a note informing that, given the positive evolution of the identification and follow up of COVID-19 cases, the support provided by the central Government through health agents and volunteers will come to an end at 31 March 2021.
- UNHCR and its partners continue to support the Government in addressing the crisis and focusing their efforts on sensitization, prevention, and response to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on persons of concern in nine regions of the country. Following the request for support by the Minister of Health, UNHCR had agreed to fund the construction of an oxygen production unit in CHU Tengandogo, one of the main hospitals in Ouagadougou, for a total amount of near to USD 435,000.
- In the Sahel region, UNHCR through its partner AIRD distributed WASH kits, composed of hand-washing devices, bars of soap, liquid soap, and bins to seven schools and eight literacy centers in the towns of Dori and Bani to promote the respect of preventative measures, including hand-washing. Sensitization of staffs and their dependents on the strict respect of preventative measures in offices and homes continued.
- A measles outbreak has been reported in the Sahel region, with 61 cases identified and treated in Goudoubo camp. To date, a total of 3,512 children aged between 6 months and 14 years old (67%) have been vaccinated from February to April. Similarly, a proliferation of cases has been reported in IDP sites in the area of Wendou in Dori. The hospital in the area is overwhelmed, but thankfully no deaths have been reported so far. Awareness sessions were held in the refugee camp and Wendou.

**SHELTER AND CRIS**

- UNHCR continues to strengthen the shelter response and the distribution of CRIs throughout the country to improve the living conditions, the physical safety and the dignity of displaced populations. The Shelter Cluster continues to coordinate the shelter and CRIs response. Over 7,000 shelters have been built by Cluster partners at almost mid-year against a target of 74,497 planned shelters. With continuous displacements, the needs in shelter are growing and additional resources are urgently needed. In 2021, due to resource constraints, needs are covered at 9% - with UNHCR covering 42% of these interventions.
- On 3 March, in the Center-North, a fire broke out at the Kyella IDP site. The fire devastated several tents and food stocks. There was no loss of human life, but nine IDP families were affected by the fire. UNHCR conducted focus group discussions to assess the protection needs of the affected families and the host families. In collaboration with the Provincial Directorate of Humanitarian Action, material assistance was provided to these nine families. A total of 39 Refugee Housing Units (RHU) were installed for IDPs families in Tougouri and Kyella. Each family also received packs of clothes, blankets, soap and plastic buckets and cans of water.

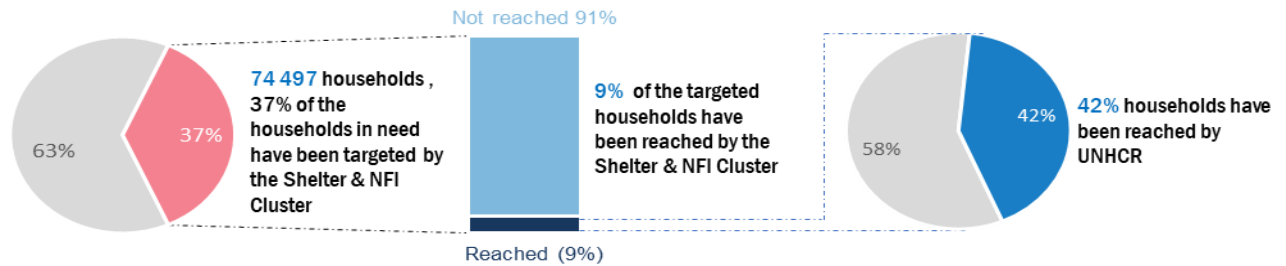


Figure 1: UNHCR's footprint in shelter response



EDUCATION

- UNHCR continues to strengthen its efforts to facilitate access to education for refugee children. As part of preschool education support in the Sahel region, UNHCR and its partners are continuing efforts to rehabilitate school infrastructure in order to accommodate kindergarten children in adequate conditions and facilitate access to school meals for 400 children in Goudoubo camp. However, without further financial support for school feeding for preschool children, UNHCR's education partner, will have to reduce class schedules. As part of the protocol concluded between UNHCR and the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) to expand access to higher education for refugees, a questionnaire was put online to help identify qualified and interested refugees with an advanced university degree. Refugee students selected will be able to be part of the next AUF cohort.
- Women and children are particularly impacted by violence. The closure of schools due to growing insecurity in the province of Sourou in the Boucle du Mouhoun is of particular concern, with almost 450 displaced children, including a majority of girls, having dropped out of schools and left towards urban centers in search of employment.



ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

- UNHCR has supported efforts to facilitate access to water in Goudoubo camp through the extension of the water distribution network to new shelter construction sites. Thanks to these additional installations, 4,207 m³ of water was pumped during the month of April. Each refugee benefited from an average of 14.52 liters of water per person per day in March and 15.20 liters of water per person per day in April. So far, through its partners, UNHCR has installed four solar pumps, seven hand pumps (PMH) and three water tanks in the camp. Water was supplied 24 hours a day through daily activities involving, solar and mechanical pumping, water treatment, analysis and daily quality control of water from 10 boreholes. In addition, as part of its environmental work, on 12 March, UNHCR launched its project on the provision of 1,000 durable and ecological shelters called Nubian Vaults in the Center-North and the Sahel, financed by the Government of Belgium through a USD 3 million contribution. Accompanied by the customary chief, the Principal Advisor of the Belgium Embassy symbolically laid the first stone of one of the shelters.

 **WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP**

- In Burkina Faso, UNHCR works with a network of 11 partners, including the Government of Burkina Faso, UN sister agencies, International and National Non-Governmental Organizations, and development actors.

UNHCR continues to fully play its leading and coordination role of the protection and shelter / CRI Clusters and Temporary Reception Sites Management Working Group (GSAT). UNHCR is also pursuing advocacy to have the CCCM Cluster activated in the country. During the reported period, the Protection Cluster validated its 2021-2023 Strategy and developed a draft action plan. It also shared its quarterly protection report for the period from January to March 2021 has been finalized with strong recommendations for civil-military coordination (CIMCoord) and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). The report shows an achievement rate of 13% over the period from January to March 2021, i.e. 134,152 people reached out of 1,002,197 people targeted under the HRP. The report presents the response provided by the members of the cluster within the framework of the areas of responsibility and the working groups on protection in Burkina Faso, the major challenges as well as the perspectives. The protection sector in Burkina Faso encompasses 4 areas of responsibility and 2 working groups namely the sub-sectors of child protection, GBV, mine action, housing, land and property (HLP). The active working groups that support the activities of the protection cluster are those of protection monitoring, mental health and psychosocial support (SMSPS). This report strengthens analyses that women and children are the most affected by increasing violence. One in two children is affected by physical violence or mistreatment in the 6 regions affected by the humanitarian crisis, of which 82% are girls. Concerning GBV, during the 1st quarter of the year 2021, 352 survivors of GBV were identified by actors in the area of responsibility in the regions of Center- North (212), East (108), Sahel (18) and North (14). In the context of mine action, over the period from January to March 2021, 14 improvised explosive device (IED)-related incidents were reported in the regions of Sahel (8), North (2), East (2), and Center-South (1). Roads remain one of the main targets of explosive contamination, particularly IED contamination. Regarding access to land, housing and property, nearly 27% of the 264 households surveyed mentioned among the difficulties, the marginalization of women and other specific groups.

The Shelter Cluster is examining the possibility of diminishing the environmental impact of Shelter/CRI interventions, including through a review of the typology of shelters and the availability of local materials, amongst others. As part of its GSAT activities, UNHCR carried out a field monitoring mission in five IDP sites in the town of Dori in the Sahel. The mission identified gaps and unmet needs, including issues relating to food ration, WASH, shelter and CRIs for the new arrivals. A report was shared with the respective/responsible Clusters for their follow up.



PUBLIC INFORMATION

Regional portal - UNHCR operation page

■ [Fresh start for Malian refugees in Burkina Faso as camp reopens](#) (Story, 1 April 2021)

Twitter - Facebook

Our best [tweet](#) of March

Meilleur Tweet a obtenu 1 923 impressions

Ce 12 Mars à Kaya, en présence des autorités régionales gouvernementales et traditionnelles, UNHCR et l'Ambassade de Belgique BE, ont lancé le projet de fourniture d'abris écologiques aux déplacées internes et aux communautés hôtes du Centre-Nord et au Sahel.

[@UNHCRWestAfrica](#)

pic.twitter.com/4fU4hC9u13



Our best [tweet](#) of April

Meilleur Tweet avec média a obtenu 567

impressions

M. Abdouaouf Gnon-Kondé , Représentant du HCR au BF, a présenté sa lettre de créances à [@AlphaBarry20](#) , Ministre des affaires étrangères, de la coopération, de l'inclusion africain et des Burkinabes de l'Extérieur

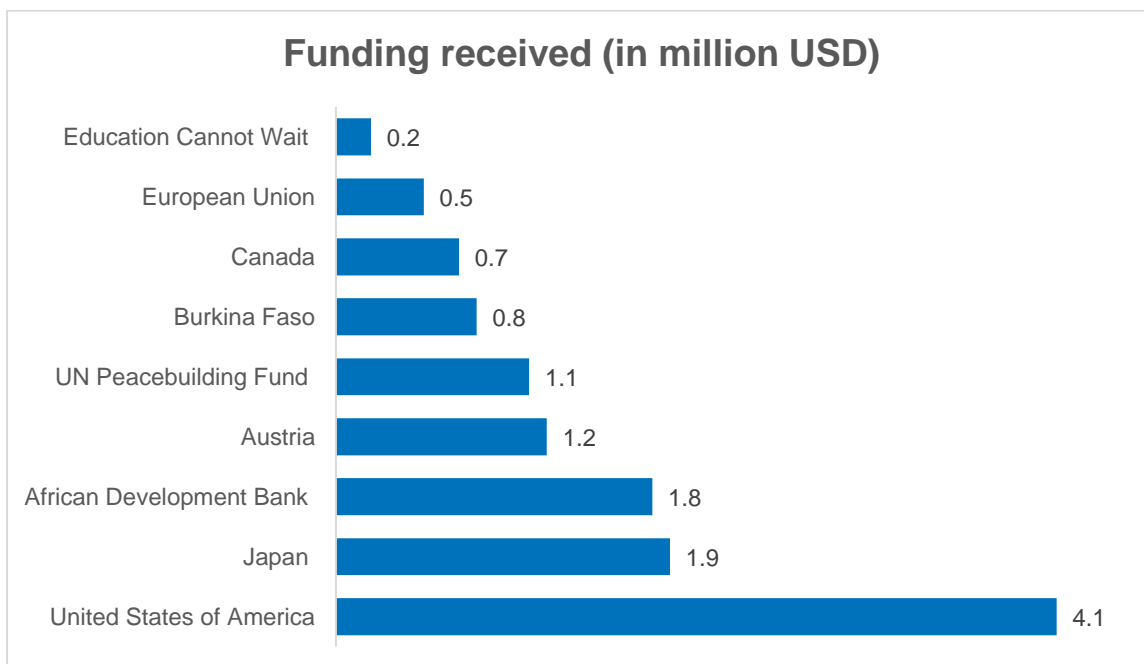
[@UNHCRWestAfrica](#)

pic.twitter.com/sEsXpt4se9



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As of 20 April 2021, total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD **20.6 M**. 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 or broadly earmarked funds.



Special thanks to the major donors of regional funds

United States of America (12.2 M) | Canada (8.5 M) | Germany (8 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted funds

Norway (80 M) | Sweden (66.9 M) | Netherlands (36.1 M) | Denmark (34.6 M) | Private donors Spain (21.5M) | Switzerland (16.4M) | Ireland (12.5 M) | Belgium (11.9 M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (10.8M)

CONTACTS

Melike Trigg, External Relations and PI Officer, trigg@unhcr.org.

Bernadette Mah Ippet-Letembet, Ass. External Relations and Reporting Officer, ippetlet@unhcr.org.

Moussa Bougma, Communications and PI Associate, bougma@unhcr.org.