



HIGHLIGHTS

267

UNHCR secured ID cards have so far been issued this year to adult refugees

118

Persons with specific needs identified from July to date

64

Refugee identified for resettlement assessment interview

16

Persons departed on resettlement to Canada

Population of concern

A total of **7,854** people of concern

By country of origin

Gambia	Total PoC
Senegal	7,392
Cote d'Ivoire	192
Sierra Leone	119
Others	151
Total	7,854

UNHCR Presence

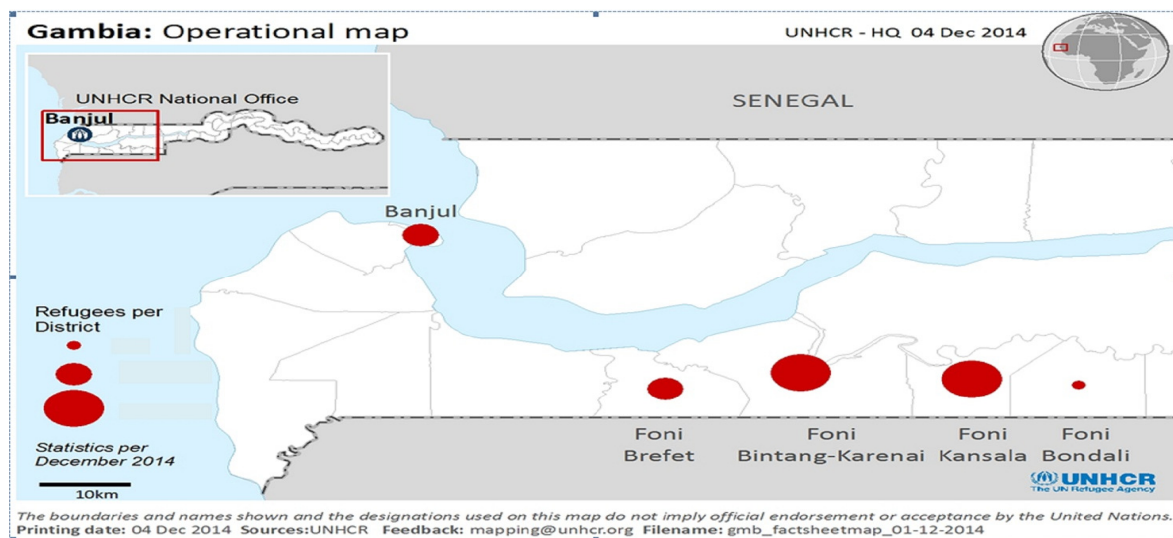
Staff:

07 national staff

03 national UNV

Offices:

01 office located in Banjul



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR works with 2 implementing partners, Gambia Food and Nutrition Association (sub-project with urban refugees) and The Ministry of Interior and The Gambia Commission for Refugees (protection of refugees). UNHCR is a member of the UN Country Team (UNCT) and regularly attends the UNCT weekly meeting where UN activities are discussed whilst also collaborating on various fronts with other UN agencies soliciting support and cooperation in highlighting refugee issues.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- GAFNA facilitated a participatory evaluation with communities of the American Embassy funded Child Protection project. Two external consultants were contracted to guide the process. Upart and Bitta villages were selected out of the six refugee communities where the consultants carried out Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRAs) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) sessions with parents (mothers/fathers) of enrolled children, Care-Givers, Facilitators and members of the Child Welfare Committees of the Child Friendly Centers (CFCs). The team also spoke to selection of enrolled refugee and host children in the CFCs and community members. Initial feedback from the consultants indicates that the project has impacted a lot on the lives of the community especially the enrolled children. The report of this evaluation will be widely shared with the benefitting communities, American Embassy and other stakeholders.
- 8th – 11th September – The Liberian Government sent a passport vetting mission to The Gambia to review the case of the former Liberian refugees (who opted to locally integrate in the Gambia in 2012, during the cessation). It would be recalled that these former refugees (48 in number) were refused the Liberian passport on the suspicion that they are not Liberian or not entitled to the Liberian nationality. After years of UNHCR advocacy with the Liberian Government, the latter decided to send another mission to review the case of those rejected by the first interview mission. Among those who were on the red coded list; 33 were processed, 13 did not show up, 1 person passed away and 1 person already got her passport. The initial indication is that all those processed will be considered favorably for the Liberian passport.
- The field protection monitoring mission was undertaken from 1st to 6th August 2016 in the rural refugee settlements of Foni, West Coast Region of the Gambia. The monthly mission is jointly conducted by UNHCR and its IP (GCR and GAFNA) and it is to assess and address the protection and related needs or problems of the rural refugees. During this mission continuous registration to update the refugee information in the ProGres database and issue ID cards to adolescent refugees (reaching 18 years) or refugees without the ID card was undertaken. The mission also conducts both group and individual counseling, sensitization on the durable solutions, including the long term residence permit offered by the Government. The vulnerable refugees or refugees with specific needs are also met for the assessment of their protection needs.
- GAFNA was represented by its Executive Secretary and Chair of Board of Directors in a joint grants signing ceremony by the United States Embassy - Banjul. GAFNA has been awarded a USD 25, 000 grant for the strengthening of a child protection project for rural refugee and host children in 6 hard to reach communities. The UNHCR Banjul Head of Office, senior Government officials and CSOs attended the signing ceremony.
- The Counseling Offer of GAFNA facilitated a training workshop on gender, power sharing and decision making that was held in GAFNA head office for selected urban refugee leaders. A total of 22 participants (14 male and 8 female) attended the workshop and was held during the period 22 to 24 August 2016. Eleven (11) Senegalese, 5 Ivorians, 5 Congolese and 1 Togolese attended the training. An external resource person was the main facilitator for the training.

Education

- On 29 August 2019, GAFNA facilitated a one day consultative awareness raising meeting on the UNHCR exit strategy on education and promoting enrollment, retention, completion, quality and protective education for urban refugee and host children. A total of 33 participants (25 male and 8 female) attending with the following nationality breakdown: 14 Senegalese, 9 Ivorians, 9 Congolese, and 1 Gambian Teacher.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR, GAFNA, NGOs and other local government officials joined the staff of the American Embassy Banjul to inaugurate the last set of Child Friendly Centers for host and refugee children in Gikess Dando and Bajonkoto. These centers are part of a child protection project funded by the American Embassy and implemented by GAFNA.
- Facilitated 4 days (16 and 19 August) management and leadership training for 30 (16 female and 14 male) rural refugees and hosts. The training is meant to capacitate participants with leadership and management skills/techniques to effectively manage their respective groups and projects.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [Canada](#) | [Denmark](#) | [European Union](#) | [France](#) | [Japan](#) | [Liechtenstein](#) | [Nigeria](#) | [Republic of Korea](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [United States of America](#) |

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