

SUMMARY

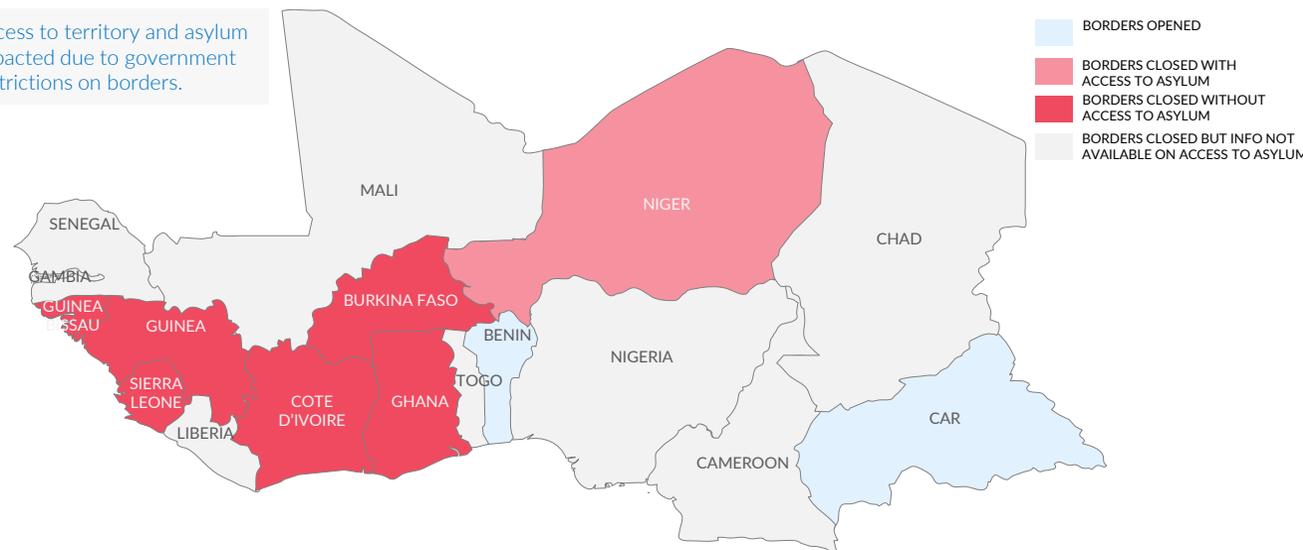
The COVID-19 pandemic represents an extraordinary and unprecedented emergency for States in West and Central Africa. In response, Governments are taking necessary and legitimate measures to prevent the spread of the virus and to protect populations. These measures are not specific to persons of concern to UNHCR, meaning refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless people and refugee returnees, and bear a general scope. However, some of these measures may have a disproportionate impact on displaced population due to their specific needs and vulnerabilities.

UNHCR is committed to working in close concert with national authorities and other relevant actors to ensure that all COVID-19 related prevention and response initiatives at the national level include persons of concern, while at the same time closely monitoring the application of these measures to ensure that people are not exposed to specific protection risks.

For more information, you may consult UNHCR's Note on the Impact of COVID-19 on the protection of displaced and stateless populations in West and Central Africa.

BORDER CLOSURE & ENTRY FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

Access to territory and asylum impacted due to government restrictions on borders.



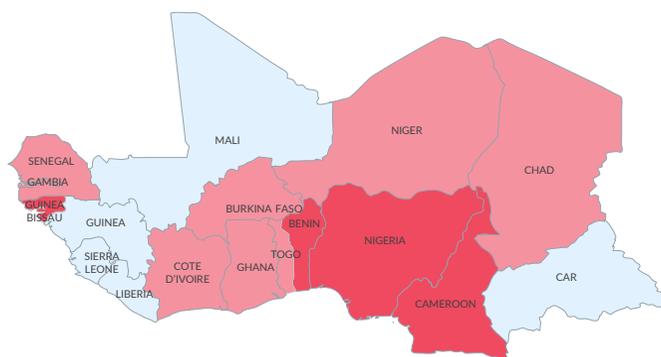
REFOULEMENT

YES



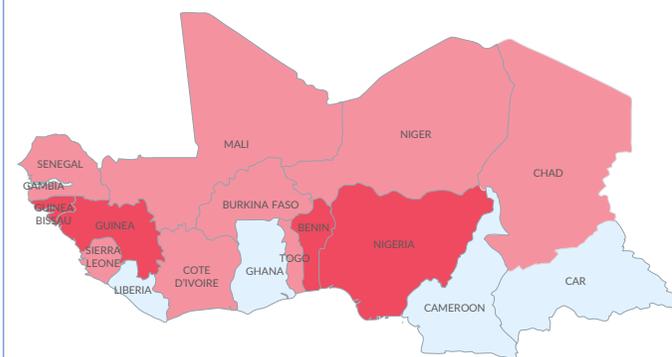
ACCESS TO ASYLUM REGISTRATION

YES
 PARTIAL
 NO
 INFO NOT AVAILABLE



ACCESS TO CIVIL REGISTRATION AND DOCUMENTATION

YES
 PARTIAL
 NO
 INFO NOT AVAILABLE

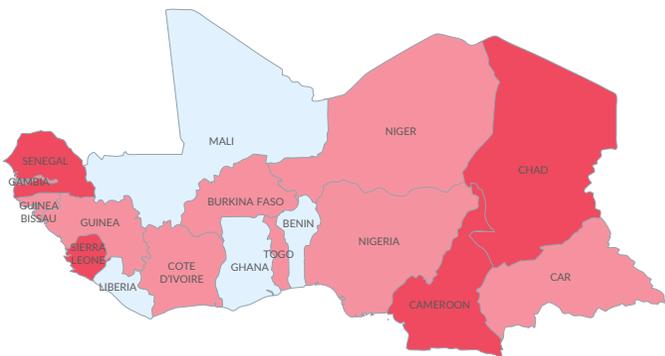


Access to registration reduced or suspended for asylum-seekers, including in major refugee-hosting countries.

Access to national civil registration reduced or suspended for all, including persons of concern to UNHCR.

FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

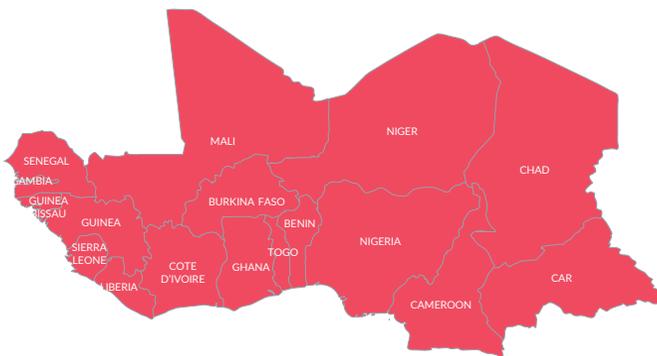
- YES
- PARTIAL
- NO
- INFO NOT AVAILABLE



Freedom of movement reduced or suspended for all, including persons of concern to UNHCR in camps/camp-like settings and urban areas.

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

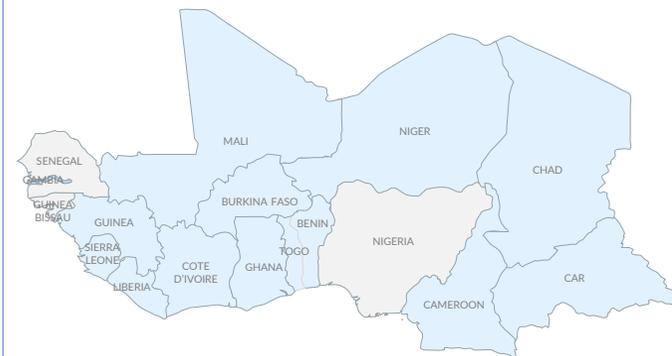
- YES
- PARTIAL
- NO
- INFO NOT AVAILABLE



Facilitated voluntary repatriation of refugees suspended throughout the region.

ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES

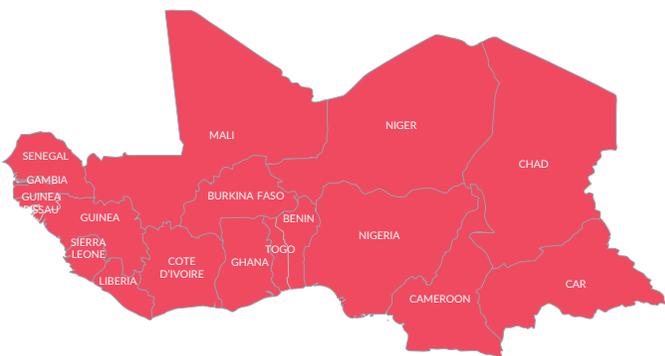
- YES
- PARTIAL
- NO
- INFO NOT AVAILABLE



Legal access to under pressure national health services ensured for persons of concern to UNHCR.

NATIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEMS

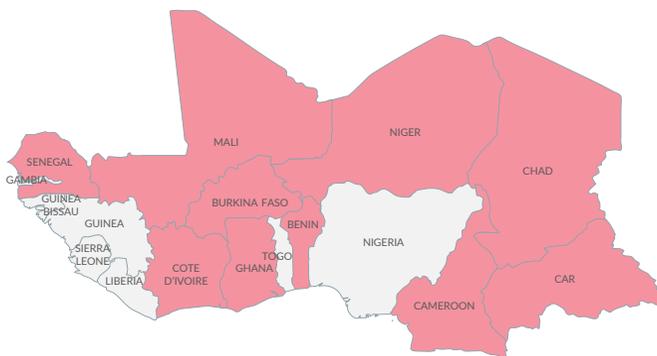
- SCHOOLS CLOSED



National education systems, in which persons of concern to UNHCR are included throughout the region, are directly impacted by government measures, leading to the closure of all schools.

ACCESS TO NATIONAL DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

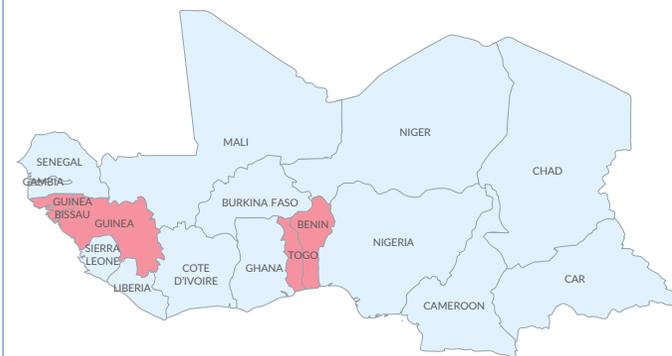
- YES
- PROGRAMMES IN DEVELOPMENT
- NO
- INFO NOT AVAILABLE



Development of avenues to ensure forcibly-displaced children and youth have access to national distance education programmes.

COMMUNICATION CHANNELS WITH FORCIBLY-DISPLACED COMMUNITIES

- ACTIVE
- IN DEVELOPMENT
- NO
- INFO NOT AVAILABLE



Communication channels with persons of concern to UNHCR in place in almost all countries in the region.