

# Burkina Faso

1 October - 31 December 2022

According to data published by the National Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (CONASUR), **1,882,391 persons** have fled their homes seeking safety as of 31 December 2022. Burkina Faso also continued to generously **host 34,932 refugees and asylum seekers** whose majority is located in the Sahel region.

The **registration and verification** exercise for **refugees** and **asylum seekers** in Burkina Faso continued to produce results, with **27,719** refugees and asylum seekers registered in **Bobo-Dioulasso, Ouahigouya, Dori, Djibo** and **Ouagadougou** by the end of the year 2022. In Djibo, the operation was put on hold, following the 30 September coup d'état and the security situation.

As part of its mandate to protect, assist and seek durable solutions for persons of concern, UNHCR signed a **Partnership Agreement** with the **Institut Supérieur de Sécurité Humaine (ISSH)**. This partnership aims at developing together **innovative projects** of **training, research, and promotion** about the rights of refugees and IDPs as well as persons at risk of statelessness.

## KEY INDICATORS

# 29,665

Civil status and identity documents were distributed to IDPs and members of the host communities within the period under review.

# 25,928

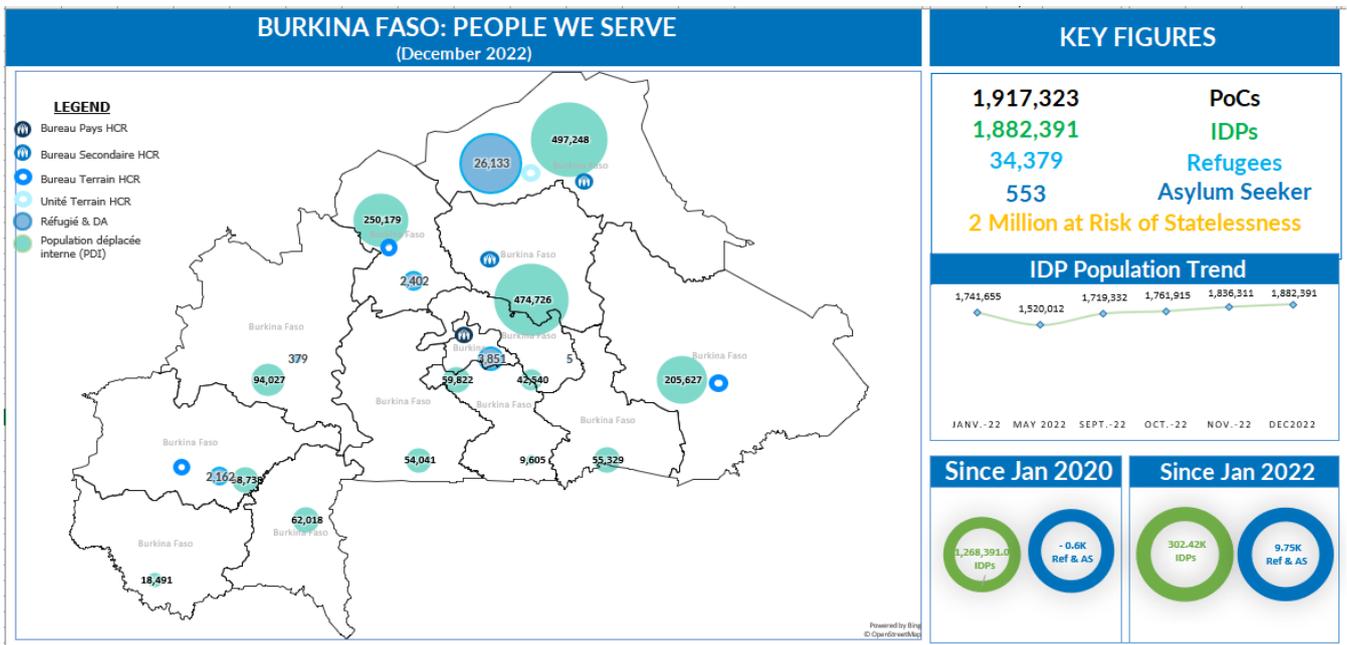
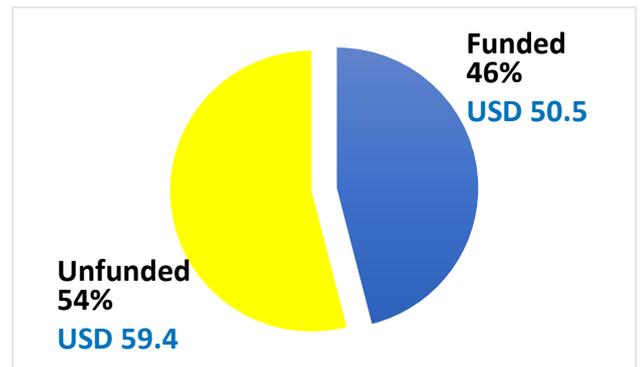
IDPs and host community members benefited from Emergency, semi-permanent and permanent shelters, within the period under review.

# 823

Protection incidents resulting from the precarious security and protection environment were collected and documented within the period under review

## FUNDING REQUESTED FOR UNHCR BURKINA FASO OPERATION (AS OF 29 DECEMBER 2022)

# USD 109.9M



## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

Burkina Faso is facing an increase in violence caused by the activism of Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs), inter-community conflicts, high political instability, poverty, food insecurity, high population growth, and rapid environmental changes. Civilians are the first victims of the upsurge in violence and the exponential increase in human rights violations. According to the latest figures published by CONASUR, 1 882 391 persons were internally displaced as of 31 December 2022, an increase of 19.14% compared to 31 December 2021. Most regions maintain the same degree of insecurity, with attacks continuing to have a significant impact on the protection of civilians as well as the functioning of essential social services, resulting in the closure of most of them and causing the people to relocate to avoid the violence of armed groups. The presence of NSAGs in many provinces, as well as violence against civilians, ultimatums, house burnings, and the destruction of telephone and school infrastructure, characterized the security situation in the country during the period under review. In addition, the destruction of crops and granaries, as well as the impossibility for populations to access their farmlands, are increasing the needs of the population and could be the cause of an exodus of populations towards larger agglomerations.

This convergence of multifaceted crises contributes to dramatically exacerbating poverty, hunger, malnutrition, inequalities, degrading the overall protection environment, and significantly impacting the livelihoods and well-being of displaced communities and the most vulnerable hosts. This situation is coupled with a massive population displacement to urban centres and an accelerated access restriction to displaced populations by most humanitarian actors who are now facing increasing challenges in terms of shelter/CRIs, food provision and basic protection assistance. Meantime, in a letter dated 28 November, the Governor of the Sahel Region invited humanitarian actors in the Sahel Region to suspend all activities using the cash distribution modality starting 31 December 2022. In his letter, the Governor urges humanitarian actors to redirect the related funding to training or capacity building of groups, associations, or cooperatives, to facilitate and effectively support the resilience of vulnerable populations affected by the security and humanitarian crisis in the region. This decision could have a considerable impact on the assistance provided to vulnerable populations, particularly in a region such as the Sahel where humanitarian actors face numerous access problems. Furthermore, humanitarian access remains critical not just for providing protection and humanitarian assistance, but also for facilitating access to basic services for the population wherever they are throughout the country. In many localities, humanitarians are forced to constantly readjust their posture and plan to continue delivering. Under these conditions, the humanitarian community must become increasingly vigilant and do everything possible to ensure that its actions in support of the State's and the humanitarian interventions are based on the principles of neutrality, impartiality, humanity, and independence, in order to preserve as much space and room for maneuver as possible. UNHAS continues to assist passenger and cargo flights to humanitarian priority areas, including nutritional and food supplies, medical supplies, dignity kits, and WASH. UNHCR, while ensuring the safety of its staff, continue to stay and deliver by adapting its strategy, in close collaboration with its partners including the government partners operating despite socio-political uncertainty and access constraints.

Regarding the socio-political context, following the second coup, on 14 October, a new Transitional Charter was ratified, outlining the key bodies of the Transition and designated a new President, Captain Ibrahim Traoré. In the wake of his investiture as President of the Transition, Captain Ibrahim Traoré appointed Mr. Apollinaire Joachim Kyélem de Tambèla as Prime Minister on 21 October, who has appointed a new transitional Government of 20 Ministers and three Deputy Ministers, including 25% of women. On 11 November, Ousmane Bougouma was elected President of the Transitional Legislative Assembly (ALT), the body responsible for voting on the texts of the reforms planned during the Transition. UNHCR will continue to engage with its institutional counterparts to promote, uphold and protect refugees, IDPs and persons at risk of statelessness, including through the search of durable solutions.



## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

### Protection

- UNHCR's Protection Monitoring (Project 21) has contributed to identifying protection needs and informing the planification of the humanitarian community's multi-sectoral responses in Burkina Faso. Inter-Agency exchanges held within the framework of the Protection Cluster's Protection Analysis Coordination Group has allowed to successively discuss Protection trends identified by the Project 21 for the months of October and November 2022. From 1 October to 31 December 2022, a total of 823 **Protection incidents** resulting from the precarious security and protection environment and affecting 4,956 victims and survivors within both displaced and host communities, were collected and documented. Through its protection response, UNHCR has supported 2,448 persons, amongst whom 820 through cash-based interventions (CBI), 342 through referrals, 1,177 through direct assistance and 109 with psychosocial support.
- In such a context, guided by its localization strategy, UNHCR has continued reinforcing its partners' capacities to conduct Project 21 activities through training and transfer of expertise. Thus, from 25 to 28 October 2022, UNHCR trained 37 Protection volunteers from three Burkinabe Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) that have become part of the Project 21 ecosystem, in the Boucle du Mouhoun, North, Centre-West, Centre-East and East regions. The trainees coming from hard-to-reach areas, have been equipped with smartphones for Protection data collection and their capacities on Protection, identification of persons with special needs, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), interview techniques, referrals have been strengthened. Since then, the 37 Protection volunteers are fully part of Project 21 ecosystem and have established protection committees within their localities.
- In line with UNHCR's priorities for 2022, the registration and verification exercise for refugees and asylum seekers in Burkina Faso launched on 26 April was almost finalized on 10 November. This operation, planned to cover a total of five sites, namely Bobo-Dioulasso, Ouahigouya, Dori, Djibo and Ouagadougou, registered within the period, 27,719 refugees and asylum seekers. The exercise, which was in its final stages in Djibo and Ouagadougou, was put on hold due to the 30 September coup d'état and the security situation. The activity was able to resume three weeks later in Ouagadougou and was effectively completed on 10 November, but in Djibo the security situation still does not allow for the operation to resume.
- As part of its efforts to mitigate the risks of statelessness, UNHCR provided technical and financial support to the government through capacity building of 354 key actors (administrative authorities, community agents, traditional and religious authorities, village development advisors) and media in the Boucle du Mouhoun, North and East regions on legal standards for issuing civil status documents for people at risk of statelessness. This capacity building facilitated the issuance of 29,665 civil status and identity documents to IDPs and members of host communities, including 14,329 birth certificates, 14,329 national identity cards, and 7,785 nationality certificates. In 2022, thanks to UNHCR support, 69,300 civil and identity documents were distributed to IDPs and members of host communities in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Sahel, Centre-North, North, Hauts-Bassins, South-West and East regions.
- On 26 November, UNHCR supported the General Directorate for the Modernisation of Civil Status (DGMEC) in holding a panel discussion on the importance of birth registration procedures for the population especially in this context of forced population displacement, bringing together representatives from the Ministry of Territorial Administration, Decentralisation and Security, the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, UNHCR and Thomas Sankara University representatives. The discussions led to the formulation of two major recommendations: - Initiate a framework for consultation between the actors of the administration in charge of civil status services and the judicial actors in order to deepen the dialogue and draw up a special law on civil status; - Improve the national legal framework and introduce provisions in line with the context of forced population displacement.



## Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- In collaboration with its partners, UNHCR continues to implement prevention, case management, response and risk mitigation activities. Mobile GBV teams are operational in eight regions and a total of 28 community-led safe spaces have been built/renovated since 2020 to provide women and girls with information on available services and issues related to women's rights, safe health and confidentiality. Community mobilization activities were intensified during the 16 Days of Activism campaign, including 100 educational seminars in the Boucle du Mouhoun and North regions, UNHCR participated in an inaugural symposium on the theme "The role of women and girls in the fight against GBV: difficulties and perspectives" and a forum theatre on violence against women and girls, attended by about 100 people in Bobo Dioulasso.
- As part of its efforts to mainstream GBV risk mitigation, including PSEA, since 2020, UNHCR organized a two-day workshop for its implementing partners on 16 and 17 November. This workshop ensured that UNHCR's implementing partners include essential measures in each humanitarian sector and area of action in their planning for 2023. This in turn will reduce risk and exposure to GBV as well as improve security by reducing contributing factors and prioritizing people's safety and dignity in all interventions without harming them.
- To prevent them from engaging in harmful coping mechanisms, including the exchange or sale of sex, and to strengthen their capacity to meet their basic needs and reduce their dependence on external assistance, 7,497 at-risk women and girls have benefited from the distribution of dignity kits or multi-purpose cash throughout the country.



## Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)

- UNHCR continues to provide shelter assistance ranging from the provision of emergency shelters to semi-durable and durable shelter, combined with the distribution of CRIs throughout the country. During this period under review, UNHCR and its partners improved the living conditions, the physical safety, and the dignity of 25,928 IDPs and host community members through the construction of 4,182 shelters (3,947 emergency shelter and 235 semi durable shelter) and the distribution of 4,374 kits of CRIs. So far in 2022, 67,462 IDPs and vulnerable host community members benefited from the shelter assistance, and 77,989 IDPs and host community members benefited from CRIs assistance.
- UNHCR continues to coordinate the shelter and CRIs response through its leadership role in the Shelter Cluster. In 2022, the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Burkina Faso targeted 62,669 households (438,680 persons) as in need of adequate and immediate shelter and CRIs. During the period under review, UNHCR contributed to cover 8% of the overall number of shelters provided by all shelter actors and 11% of the overall number of CRI kits distributed throughout the country. So far, out of 438 680 persons targeted by the Shelter Cluster in 2022, 392,700 persons were assisted with adequate Shelter and CRI solutions as of 31 December 2022.



## Education

- According to the Technical Secretariat for Education in Emergency Situations, as of December 2022, more than 6,200 schools were closed. These closures, representing approximately 24% of Burkina Faso's educational structures, affect over 1 million pupils, 49% of whom are girls, and almost 31,000 teachers.
- As part of the capacity building of education actors in Bobo Dioulasso, UNHCR with the support of its education partner (CREDO), trained 50 participants including 39 men and 11 women in child protection, psychosocial support, and the fight against gender-based violence (GBV).
- As part of its mandate to protect, assist and seek durable solutions for persons of concern, UNHCR signed a Partnership Agreement with the Institut Supérieur de Sécurité Humaine (ISSH) on 2 December 2022. This partnership agreement aims to develop together innovative projects of

training, research, and promotion of the rights of refugees and internally displaced persons as well as persons at risk of statelessness.

- From 17 to 22 December 2022, a workshop was held in Koudougou in the Centre-West Region to develop a system for the care of internally displaced children (IDCs) and refugees. This workshop, organized by the General Directorate of Studies and Sectoral Statistics (DGESS) with the technical and financial support of UNHCR, brought together 40 participants, including three women from the Ministry of Education, EDUCO and UNHCR.
- In the framework of the recruitment for the DAFI 2022-2023 scholarship, six laureates were selected to benefit from the scholarship that will improve their academic conditions during the first academic years.



## Health

- As part of the activities of the International Breast and Uterine Cancer Control Month, more than 300 refugees, host families and asylum seekers were sensitized on early detection and prevention of cancer. A total of 39 refugee women received free cervical cancer screening.



## Durable Solutions and Development

- Third-country resettlement remains an important international protection tool for the most vulnerable refugees. During the reported period, a family of ten Malian refugees were recommended for resettlement to the United States of America (USA) under Legal and Physical Protection Needs and Survivor of Violence/Torture categories, making this case the last in the quota dedicated to PRM. By the end of December 2022, the Burkina Faso operation has submitted 102 individuals to the USA for resettlement consideration.



## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

- In Burkina Faso, UNHCR works with 21 partners including the Government, UN sister agencies, development actors and implementing partners. UNHCR continues to fully play its leading and coordination role within the (i) Protection, (ii) Shelter/CRI and (iii) GSAT/CCCM (Gestion des Sites d'Accueil Temporaire) Clusters. During the period under review, following the launch of the humanitarian programme cycle (HPC) 2023 process, the three clusters worked alongside others in identifying people in need.
- Furthermore, during the period under review, the protection cluster continued its efforts to consolidate the protection and legal environment for IDPs, in particular by continuing the process of national ownership of the [Kampala Convention](#). According to the roadmap elaborated with the CONASUR, 224 people including humanitarian actors and authorities in the Centre, East, North, Boucle du Mouhoun, Sahel and Centre-North regions, participated in workshops and discussed on the best way for the transposition of the Kampala Convention into Burkina Faso's internal regulations. The process continues so that in 2023, a law more adapted to the protection and assistance of IDPs will be adopted.
- Based on lessons learned and the operational context, the Shelter Cluster technical working group held in November 2022 a technical meeting to revise shelter typologies, composition of Core Relief Items as well as unit costs. These revisions will be considered in the development of the 2023 HRP. For this last quarter of 2022, the GSAT cluster has planned training and accountability assessments with beneficiaries as part of the humanitarian response. The cluster has also finalized its priorities for the year 2023 including: information management in the temporary host site (SATs) and reception area for IDPs (ZADs), governance and accountability mechanisms, particularly in SATs and ZADs with difficult access, in collaboration with humanitarian action structures, and alternative settlement solutions for IDPs.
- As part of the Evaluation Workshop of the 2022 Action Plan and 2023 Planning of the PSEA Network in Burkina Faso was held on 15 November. UNHCR presented the process of assessing the organizational capacities of UN implementing partners in the field of PSEA. This workshop, held

under the High Patronage of the Resident Coordinator of the UN System and Humanitarian Coordinator and the auspices of the UNCT-HCT PSEA Champions Team, resulted in the creation of a working group of UNCT PSEA focal points, with the objective of improving coordination, harmonizing practices, and streamlining the workload for partners and UN agencies/organizations.



## PUBLIC INFORMATION

[Western & Central Africa Regional Portal](#)  
[Sahel Crisis Portal](#)  
[Burkina Faso Portal](#)  
[Facebook / Twitter](#)

### [16 days of activism against gender-based-violence](#)

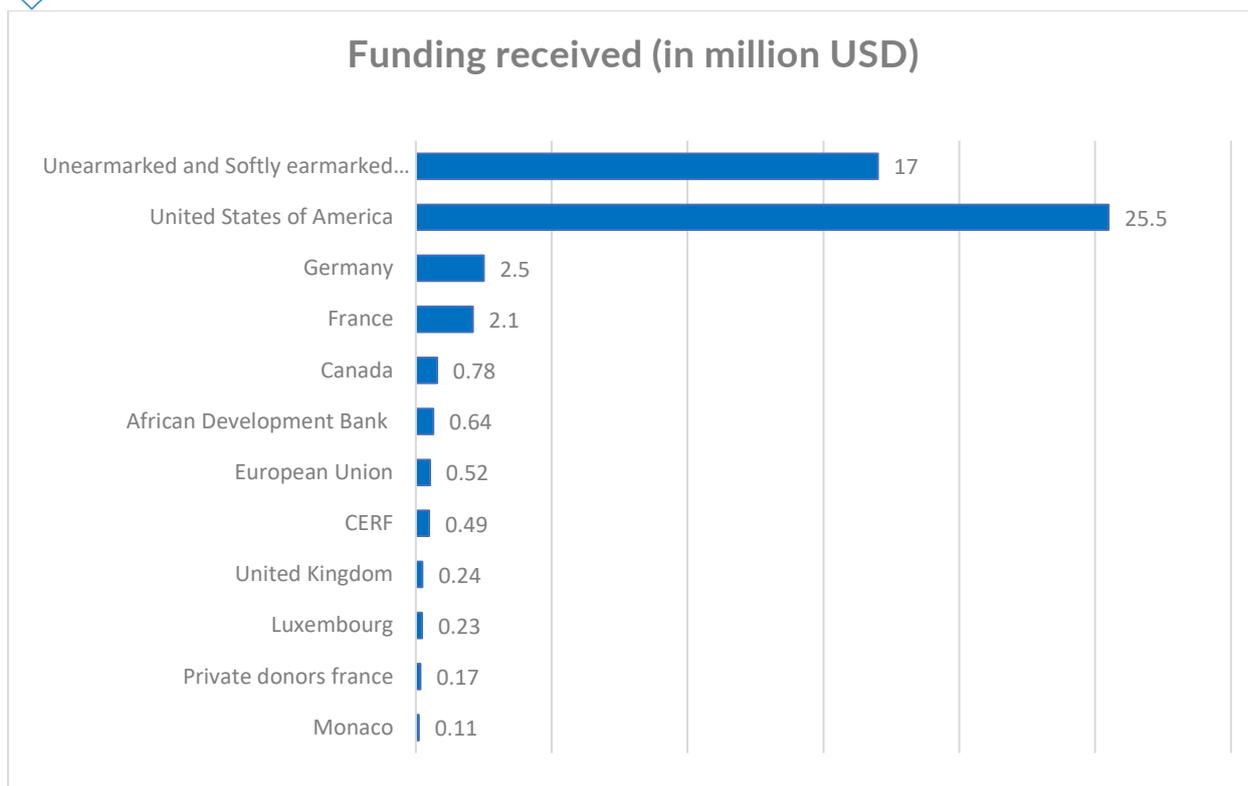


*As part of the 16 Days of Activism celebration, UNHCR team in Ouagadougou, mobilized against GBV in Burkina Faso.  
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## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As of **29 December 2022**, UNHCR Burkina Faso's Operation has received almost **USD 50.5 million**, representing **46%** of the requirements funded, while the 54% remains unfunded and needs are rapidly increasing. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to its operation in Burkina Faso as well as to those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked or broadly earmarked funds.



#### Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked funds

United States of America 29.3 million | Private donors Germany 18 million | Private donors Australia 12.2 million | Canada 7.8 million | Private donors USA 7.4 million | Denmark 4.4 million | Finland 3.4 million | Private donors Spain 2.7 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.2 million.

#### Thanks to other donors of unearmarked or broadly earmarked funds

Sweden 99.3 million | Norway 72.5 million | Private donors Spain 72.1 million | Private donors Japan 59.1 million | United Kingdom 40.1 million | Netherlands 37.2 million | Denmark 35.6 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 34.4 million | Private donors USA 29.9 million | Germany 24.4 million | Japan 21.7 million | Private donors Italy 19.2 million | France 18.5 million | Switzerland 18.4 million | Private donors Canada 13.6 million | Private donors Sweden 13.3 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.8 million | Italy 10 million.

#### CONTACTS

**Valeria Dell'Aquila**, External Relations Officer – [dellaqui@unhcr.org](mailto:dellaqui@unhcr.org)

**Bernadette Ippet**, Associate Reporting Officer – [ippetlet@unhcr.org](mailto:ippetlet@unhcr.org)

**Jacques De Ginestel**, Associate External Relations, and Reporting Officer – [deginest@unhcr.org](mailto:deginest@unhcr.org)

**Moussa Bougma**, Communications and Public Information Associate – [bougma@unhcr.org](mailto:bougma@unhcr.org)