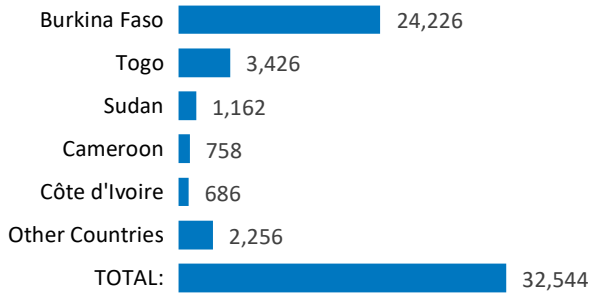
Ghana

January-June 2026

As of June, **Ghana hosted 32,500 refugees/asylum-seekers**, with three quarters from Burkina Faso. UNHCR is supporting protection services for them and asylum systems strengthening efforts. Partnerships with the Government, private sector, and development actors are **improving refugees' social and economic inclusion and other durable solutions such as resettlement.** **UNHCR supports the Ghana Agri-business Sustainability Programme,** with 6,000 hectares of land already secured for agriculture, benefitting 1,000 targeted households.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Country of origin

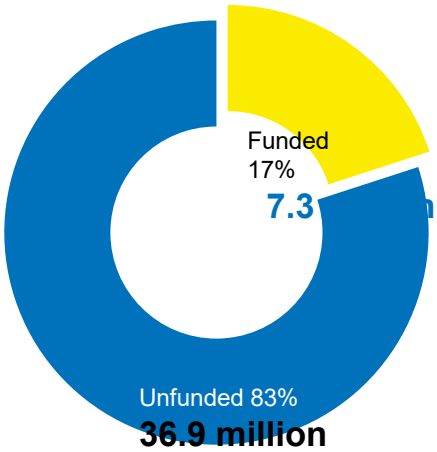


**Of the 32,544 refugees and asylum-seekers in Ghana, 21,700 are registered and 10,900 are still waiting for individual registration. Women and children account for around 72 per cent of the total refugee population.*

FUNDING (AS OF 30 JUNE)

USD 44.2 million

requested for the Gulf of Guinea countries



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

19 National Staff

0 International Staff

Offices:

1 Branch Office in Accra

1 Field Offices in WA

0 Sub Office

With a solar lamps distributed to by UNHCR, a refugee father in Ghana's Upper East Region helps his daughter learn to read, nurturing the promise of a brighter future © UNHCR/2026

Coordination and Partnerships

- UNHCR is strengthening coordination with the Government of Ghana, through the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB), to improve access to asylum, registration and refugee protection. During the first half of the year, UNHCR participated in the quarterly board meeting of the GRB, which, in addition to its adjudicatory function, allowed parties to discuss specific urgent protection and solutions priorities, including the registration of refugees in northern Ghana and progress on a proposed refugee bill to replace the current Refugee Act.
- UNHCR participated in the Inter-Agency Emergency Response Group, contributing to coordinated efforts to respond to recent flooding in Ghana's coastal regions, including inter-agency assessments.
- UNHCR continues to build partnerships with development and private sector partners to promote the inclusion and self-reliance of forcibly displaced people in social and economic systems. UNHCR convened a public-private sector dialogue in Accra in April, focused on mobilising resources and expertise in agribusiness to ensure the sustainability and profitability of the Ghana Refugee Agribusiness and Sustainability Programme (GRASP). The dialogue brought together private agribusinesses, financial institutions, development actors, government and UN agencies. GRASP is expected to directly benefit approximately 1,000 refugee and host community households, advancing sustainable livelihoods, economic inclusion and social cohesion through agriculture-based value chains.
- UNHCR finalized a partnership agreement with the KGL Foundation, a digital solutions company, to fund four student scholarships and psychosocial support for 40 refugees in Ghana. The student beneficiaries are currently receiving tuition support, stipends, accommodation and laptops.
- During the reporting period, the World University Service of Canada (WUSC), World Vision, the Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE), the MasterCard Foundation and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) engaged in discussions with UNHCR on refugee livelihoods through skills-training, agribusiness and interventions in education, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and broader inclusion.

Main Activities

Protection: Strengthening asylum systems

- UNHCR participated in refugee status determination (RSD) adjudication meetings to provide technical assistance under the auspices of the GRB governing board. During the first half of the year, 81 cases were adjudicated, with a total of 131 asylum-seekers granted refugee status.
- The GRB, with funding from the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), has conducted an organizational assessment on the asylum regime aimed at strengthening its protection system across the country.

Protection: Registration and documentation

- UNHCR and the Government conduct biometric registration and issue documentation to refugees and asylum-seekers, strengthening protection and enabling access to essential services. During the second quarter of 2026, 76 people from 14 countries were registered, including 42 asylum-seekers and 34 refugees. The main countries of origin were Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Sudan and Syria.
- All registered individuals received appropriate documentation: asylum-seekers received attestations, while refugees received refugee attestations or refugee identity cards. However, by the end of June, around 10,900 people still lacked individual registration, underlining the need to accelerate registration and documentation.

Statelessness

- UNHCR continued to support efforts to prevent statelessness by convening a regional virtual meeting on statelessness, with the participation of the Government of Ghana, represented by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Interior. The Government reaffirmed its commitment to acceding to the Statelessness Conventions and advancing the adoption of the National Action Plan to End Statelessness.

Self-reliance and socio-economic inclusion

- UNHCR promotes refugee self-reliance and socio-economic inclusion by supporting the Government of Ghana to integrate refugees into national development programmes, with the Ghana Refugee Agribusiness and Sustainability Programme serving as the flagship initiative. Key achievements of GRASP include the identification and securing of more than 6,000 hectares of agricultural land, completion of a comprehensive baseline survey, and selection of around 1,000 refugee and host community households as beneficiaries.
- In addition, UNHCR has strengthened partnerships with organizations such as the World University Service of Canada (WUSC), enabling 635 refugees to access livelihood opportunities, while engaging government institutions, development partners, academia and the private sector to expand sustainable economic inclusion for refugees and host communities.

Localization and community-based approaches

- UNHCR is advancing its localization agenda in Ghana by promoting government leadership in the refugee response and strengthening the capacities of national and local institutions to deliver sustainable, inclusive solutions. Through partnerships with the Ghana Refugee Board, District Assemblies, traditional authorities, civil society and community structures, UNHCR promotes community participation in planning, implementation and decision-making, ensuring that refugees and host communities jointly shape interventions. These approaches have strengthened local ownership, enhanced social cohesion, improved accountability and increased the sustainability of refugee inclusion and livelihood programmes, particularly through the implementation of GRASP.

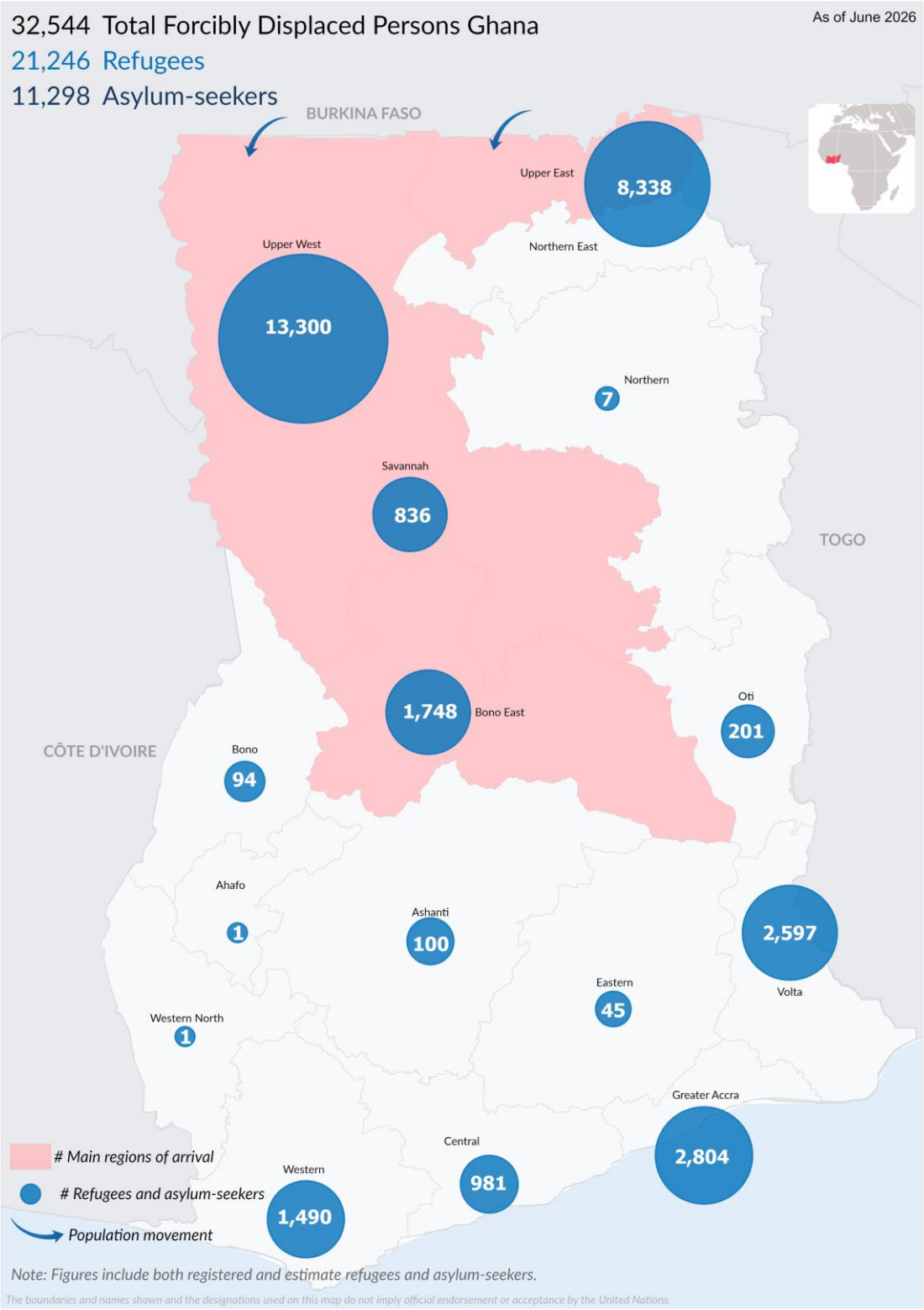
Solutions

- UNHCR explored third-country solutions for some refugees in Ghana by identifying and profiling 50 cases for resettlement consideration under the global unallocated quota as of 30 June, although resettlement remained a very limited option due to insufficient quotas.

Financial Information

UNHCR expresses its gratitude for the generous support of donors to UNHCR's response in coastal countries in West Africa, as well as to those who have contributed to UNHCR's operations globally and regionally through unearmarked and softly earmarked funding, including:

Australia | Belgium | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | Norway | Republic of Korea | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | United States of America | Central Emergency Response Fund | Argentina for UNHCR | Australia for UNHCR | España con ACNUR | Japan for UNHCR | New Zealand for UNHCR | Portugal com ACNUR | Sweden for UNHCR | Switzerland for UNHCR | UK for UNHCR | UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe | USA for UNHCR and private donors in Italy, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, and the United Arab Emirates.



CONTACTS:

Tetteh Padi, UNHCR Head of National Office, Ghana

padit@unhcr.org, Tel: +233 24 284 5096**, Cell:** +233 24 431 9630

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