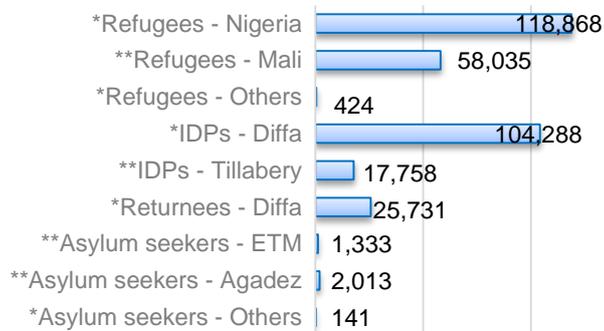


Niger



POPULATION OF CONCERN

328,591

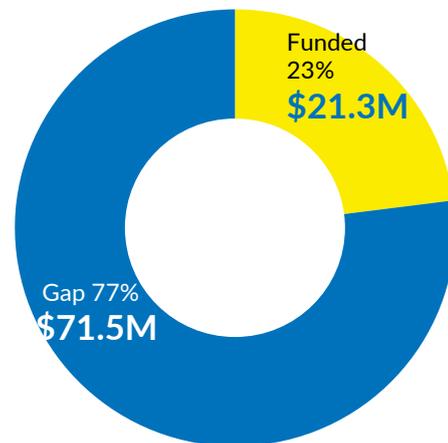


* Government of Niger official figures
** UNHCR figures

FUNDING (AS OF 03 JULY 2018)

USD \$92.8 M

requested for the Niger Country Operation



KEY FIGURES

1,536

Refugees evacuated temporarily from Libya to Niger as part of the ETM (Emergency Transit Mechanism) from November 2017 - June 2018

2,013

Persons profiled by UNHCR in Agadez seeking asylum

17,758

Persons internally displaced in the Tillaberi region



Day of the African Child celebrated in Sayam Forage refugee camp, Diffa region, Niger

Operational Context

The key situations include:

- 1. The Mali situation:** began in 2012 with the outbreak of conflict in northern Mali. The regions of Tillabéri and Tahoua bordering Mali and hosting the majority of the refugees are increasingly affected by insecurity and terrorism. A State of Emergency was declared last year, and extended for a further 6 months in February 2018. There are currently 58,035 Malian refugees in Niger. UNHCR aims to support the socio-economic integration of these refugees and the closure of the camps by the end of 2019 through urbanization and other programmes aimed at integration. A regional EU Trust Fund project was recently launched aimed at strengthening the resilience of displaced populations in northern Mali and supporting peaceful coexistence between communities.
- 2. The Nigeria situation:** began in 2013, with the arrival of the first Nigerian refugees across the border fleeing Boko Haram. The situation deteriorated with the first attacks in Niger territory in 2015. There are over 250,000 displaced persons in the region. The majority live in spontaneous sites or with the local population, while UNHCR manages one refugee camp, with 14,130 people (as of 3 July 2018). Another EU Trust Fund project is ongoing aimed at supporting economic recovery and municipal investments through the construction of durable housing.
- 3. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** The displaced population in the Diffa region is extremely mixed, including refugees, IDPs and Returnees. Efforts are underway to complete biometric registration of all displaced persons, including IDPs, who are often faced with similar protection risks as refugees. However, the IDP situation in Niger has become more complex with increasing insecurity in the region of Tillabéri, bordering Mali. In 2018, attacks and insecurity in the area have resulted in the internal displacement of at least 17,758 people so far. Protection monitoring, advocacy, capacity building sessions and coordinated efforts with humanitarian actors are ongoing to ensure close follow up on the situation.
- 4. Mixed Migration:** Niger is a major crossroads of migratory movements northwards towards Libya, Algeria and the Mediterranean. These migratory flows constitute mixed migration, including economic migrants as well as persons in need of international protection. In Agadez, UNHCR works to identify asylum seekers within the migratory flows and works with the government, as well as IOM and NGOs to provide these persons with information and assistance. 2,013 persons, mostly Sudanese, are currently profiled by UNHCR in Agadez. 24% of them are minors and 202 are unaccompanied or separated children. The situation has become more complex in the last months, with the addition of downward movements from Libya and Algeria.
- 5. Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM):** This unique programme aims to provide life-saving protection, assistance and long-term solutions to extremely vulnerable refugees trapped in detention in Libya, through temporary evacuation to Niger. The aim is to deliver protection and identify durable solutions, including resettlement for these refugees, who are mainly Eritrean, Somali, Ethiopian, and Sudanese. Their profiles mainly include survivors of torture or other forms of violence in the country of origin and/or transit countries (e.g. Libya) and others with compelling protection needs. Many of them are unaccompanied children (approximately 260) and women and girls at risk. To date, 1,536 people have been evacuated from Libya to Niger and a total of 203 individuals have departed for resettlement from Niger to France, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland. Other countries offering resettlement places are Germany, the UK, Finland, Canada, Belgium, Malta, Norway and the USA.

Security Situation

The regions of **Tahoua** and **Tillabéri** continue to be affected by terrorist groups and by inter-ethnic violence. The security situation in the **Tillabéri** region remained unstable and unpredictable in June. Military operations continue, including the joint operation Barkhane-G5 Sahel in progress since 20 of

May, in the zone of "3 borders" Mali - Burkina Faso - Niger, as well as other military operations such as Operation Dongo. Overall, the main threat in the Tillabéri region remains activism of non-State armed groups, while conflicts between armed groups in the border strip of Niger with Mali have gradually turned into an interethnic cross-border conflict between Tuareg and Fulani. On 15 of June, a group of 30 armed bandits attacked the Tuareg camp in the village of Tintihoun (25 kms West of Inates) and killed the chief of the village and his son. The communes of Inates, Ayorou, Banibangou and Abala were directly affected by the different attacks of the last few months.

In **Diffa** region in June, the security situation was marked by repeated incursions of the Boko Haram (BH) group in Gueskérou, Maine Soroa and Chétimari communes, which resulted in health centres and other supply stocks being looted. The purpose of the lootings is to constitute a stock of food and medicine to cope with the rise of Komadougou river with the rainy season, which is a natural barrier, preventing movements in the islands of Lake Chad.

On the 4 of June, three suicide bombers blew up their charges in the Kura neighborhood in Diffa city, including one in a mosque. 9 people were killed and several seriously wounded, who were taken to the hospital of Diffa. A temporary suspension of field missions of United Nations Agencies was imposed until 11 of June

These attacks confirm the rise in the level of the terrorist threat, which has resulted in repeated incursions into villages near the border with Nigeria and the probable dispersion of the BH group into small commando teams, due to the withdrawal from their regular occupied zones in Nigeria.

Tensions are also observed in **Agadez** region. The situation, with new arrivals of Sudanese in recent months and with ongoing deportations from Algeria is very volatile and fragile in terms of peaceful coexistence.

Key Developments & Achievements

World Refugee Day was celebrated in Niamey, Diffa, Agadez, Intikane ZAR, Abala, Tabareybarey and Mangaize camps on the 20 of June. **“Now more than ever, we need to stand #WithRefugees”**



The HC with the winners of the soccer tournament organized in Niamey – refugees evacuated from Libya



The HC visited the extension of the Guichet Unique where young people evacuated from Libya did a painting workshop

“Niger is an example of solidarity and generosity in a world where many states practice a policy of rejection,” the High Commissioner said.



PROTECTION

- The Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons on her mission to Niger has been published [here](#).
- The Youth Protection Strategy in Niger has been finalized. The main objective is to effectively guide the programmatic approaches of all protection actors, with a view to better care for young people.
- The BIMS biometric registration of the displaced population in the Diffa region has reached a total of 194,811 persons (56,972 households), among those 115,218 refugees, 53,884 IDPs, 24,391

returnees and 1,318 asylum seekers. This represents 77% of the total number of displaced people as indicated by the Niger government (Oct 2017). More info available [here](#).

- The June Protection Cluster Bulletin is published [here](#).

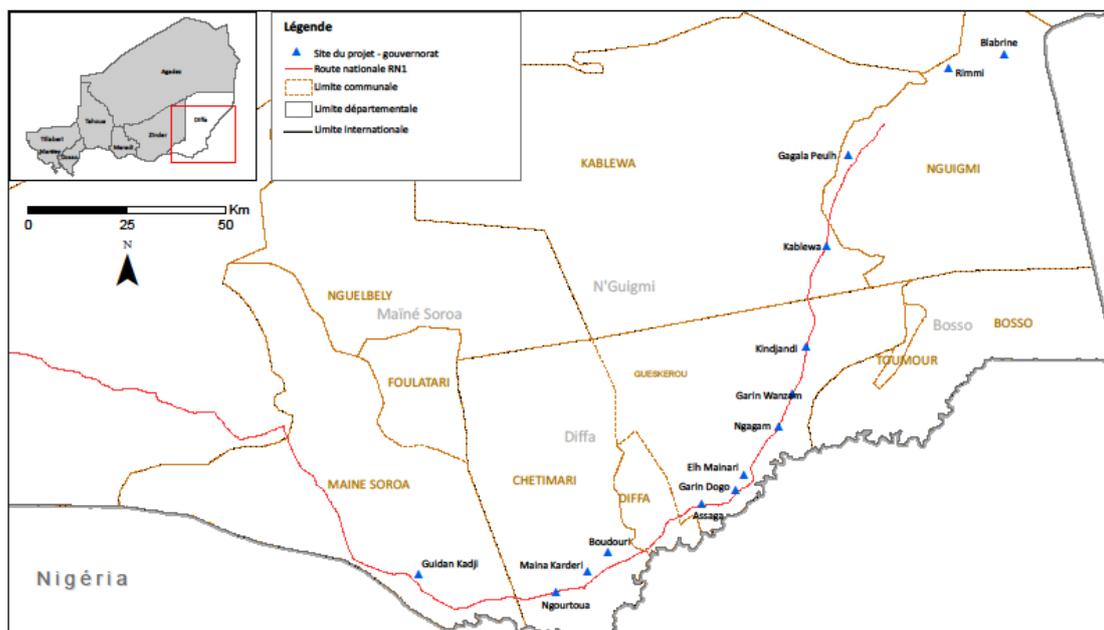
Nigeria situation

- **Day of the African Child** was celebrated on the 16 of June in several cities of Niger. In Diffa, on the 26 of June, with the theme: "No children left behind for the development of Africa", the ceremony was organised at Sayam Forage refugee camp and attended by the regional director of Child Protection in Diffa.
- In April 2018, the Guiding Principles (GP20) Plan of Action was presented to the Humanitarian Country Team and nearly 100 government representatives, defence and security forces, inter-cluster members, Protection Cluster members, and UN agencies were trained on the Guiding Principles in collaboration with the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs. One of the recommendations from the training was to adapt the GP20 Plan of Action to the local context of Niger, which is proceeding - a workshop has been organized at Diffa level on 28 of June with varied stakeholders, under the leadership of the Gouvernement. Radio messages on the Guiding Principles and their importance in Niger are being disseminated, and the messages were translated into local languages.
- 27 SGBV sensitization sessions were conducted at the sites of Kindjandi, Garin Wanzam, Sayam and Kablewa. These focused on the consequences of SGBV including sexual violence, forced marriage and domestic violence, cohesion within the couple, and the services available. 860 people were reached by these activities.
- The project for the management of spontaneous sites hosting displaced persons in the region of Diffa is a project run by the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and supported by UNHCR that started in 2016. 3 axes are defined (Diffa-Mainé-Soroa; Diffa-Gueskerou and Gueskerou-N'guigmi) and 15 sites are identified to better coordinate protection and assistance provided to displaced population in those spontaneous sites. Objectives of this project are to encourage empowerment of households, to identify durables solutions, to improve security of displaced population and to provide assistance and protection through targeted services and capacity building.



NIGER: PROJET DE GESTION DES SITES A DIFFA - GOUVERNORAT

(Au 2 juillet 2018)



Les noms et les limites utilisés sur cette carte n'impliquent aucune acceptation ou reconnaissance du Cluster Protection.
 Date de création: 2/ 7/ 2018 Source: GTP Auteur: Cluster Protection Feedback: Valérie Svobodova, svobodov@unhcr.org Nom du fichier: NER_DIFFA_GESTION_SITES_JUILLET_2018
 Pour plus d'information visitez: <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/niger/protection>

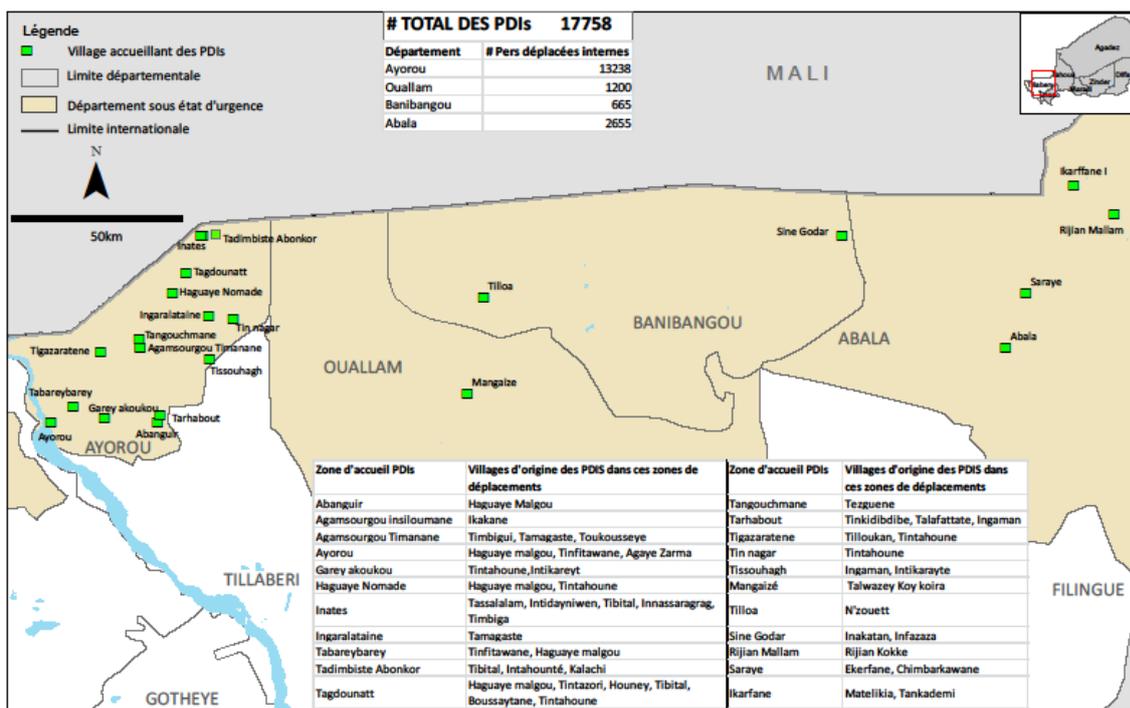
Mali situation

- Training was given OCHA for all humanitarian actors in Tahoua from 25-26 of June. The objective was to build capacity for the CIMCOORD cell members on civil-military coordination mechanisms.
- From the 27-29 June 2018 the 11th meeting of the Mali-Niger-UNHCR Tripartite Commission on the Voluntary Repatriation of Malian Refugees living in Niger was held. This was an opportunity to discuss the progress of the recommendations made during the previous meeting held in February.

IDP situation in Tillaberi region

- Military operations are still underway in the North of Tillaberi region. As a result of operations, armed groups are scattered throughout the northern Tillaberi region resulting in 25 protection incidents in June.
- Inter-communal conflicts in northern Mali and northern Tillaberi persist and contribute to the continued displacement of the population. To 30th of June, approximately 17,758 people are displaced across 23 areas in the departments of Ayorou, Ouallam, Banibangou and Abala.
- The 3 host villages proposed by the Government (Inates, Tilloa and Tangoutchman) are validated by all actors. Inates and Tangoutchman sites will receive assistance in July. A humanitarian corridor has been agreed by the military forces in the area and specific days for humanitarian actors to deliver assistance are being defined.

NIGER: LOCALISATION DES PERSONNES DEPLACÉES INTERNES DANS LA REGION DE TILLABERI
Mise à jour du 9 juillet 2018



Les noms et les lignes utilisés sur cette carte n'impliquent aucune acceptation ou reconnaissance officielle du Cluster Protection.
Date de création: 10/ 7/ 2018 Source: Monitoring de protection, Autorités administratives et locales, IRC Auteur: Cluster Protection Feedback: Valérie Svobodova, svobodov@unhcr.org Nom du fichier: NER_TILLABERI_LOCALISATION_IDP_JULLET_2018

Mixed Migration situation

- In the region of Agadez, 2,013 persons of concern have been biometrically registered by UNHCR (as of 3rd of July). The registration exercise reveals that 88% of these people are Sudanese, mainly from Darfur. 525 of them are hosted in 6 guesthouses, and 731 in the “Centre d’hébergement solidaire”.
- UNHCR technical staff undertook a mission from 5 - 12 June for the evaluation of the site selected to build a transit facility for asylum seekers in Agadez. UNHCR chaired 2 meetings in June between the UNHCR technicians and the various technical Directorates including urban planning, hydraulics, rural engineering and DRECR-M to agree on a priority action plan.
- 66 persons of concern were registered during the month of June; an average arrival of 2 people/day. The majority are Nigerians (37), followed by 18 Sudanese and 11 of other nationalities.

- Persons with Specific Needs (PWSN) are systematically identified during registration and referred as appropriate to UNHCR partners APBE for health care and COOPI for psychosocial care. These PWSN are housed in a secure environment and receive assistance.
- Sensitization sessions on peaceful cohabitation in the guesthouses and the “centre d’hébergement solidaire” continued. Tensions with the host community have visibly reduced. .
- Protection and assistance risk assessment interviews were conducted with 191 children from the 5 - 12 June for a Best Interests Determination (BID) evaluation. This was supported by community leaders who raised awareness on child protection and the identification of foster families and adults ready to host children under 13 years of age.
- Preparation was underway in June for the “Forum Régional sur l’espace d’asile dans le contexte de la migration mixte à Agadez”, scheduled to take place on 4 July. This will be hosted by the regional authorities and UNHCR, with the aim of increasing dialogue and seeking durable solutions for those seeking asylum in Agadez.
- During the month of June, 655 people were deported from Algeria in 3 convoys. The total number of deported people since January is 14,053 of whom 6,839 are Nigeriens (48%). There is no reception mechanism in Assamaka, and the deportees often wait 2 or 3 days without any food, medical and accommodation assistance before their transfer to the IOM transit center in Arlit or Agadez. UNHCR is deeply concerned about this situation.

Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM)

- UNHCR has been evacuating refugees from detention centres in Libya to Niger temporarily since November 2017. In December, UNHCR signed a MoU with the Govt. of Niger regarding the ETM process. The flights were temporarily paused in March and April to enable case-processing and resettlement departures. The flights resumed in May. In June, there were two flights, the first evacuating 121 persons while the second evacuated a further 128 persons.
- UNHCR has received a total of 2,681 resettlement pledges for evacuated refugees out of Niger for 2018-2019; the pledges also include resettlement places for some refugees already hosted by Niger. Since the beginning of the evacuations, UNHCR has submitted more than 1,200 refugees for resettlement consideration, the large majority consisting of evacuees from Libya.
- UNHCR, UNICEF and the competent Niger authorities have also put in place a mechanism for the determination of the determination of the best interests of the child, with regard to solutions. To date, this mechanism, known as the BID Panel, has decided upon 227 cases of evacuated unaccompanied children.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Nigeria situation

- In the context of the **EU Trust Fund Urbanization project**, activities continued in June in the Diffa urbanized sites :
 - 152 people were trained and employed for the construction of social houses and RHUs (Refugee Housing Units).
 - The first 10 social houses and 175 RHUs were set up to host the first beneficiary households in the land parcels. A visit of the Director General of Refugees and Civil Status was conducted to monitor the progress.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT, SELF RELIANCE AND ENVIRONMENT

Mali situation

- On the 26-28 June, a workshop was organised jointly by UNHCR and WFP, on improving the targeting process. During this workshop, representatives of these 2 agencies, the local authorities of the regions of Tillaberi, Abala and Ouallam, the CNE members managing the refugee camps as well as representatives of the refugees, had the opportunity to work on options for improving the targeting process, mainly for those refugees who were absent from initial targeting, and newcomers.

- In Abala camp, UNHCR distributed 66 million FCFA to a total of 2,487 households through the local micro-finance institution ASUSU. This resumed the distribution of targeted multi-purpose cash assistance to help refugee households cover their basic needs and was made possible through the support of AECID.

Nigeria situation

- Activities of fish farming and gardening in Sayam Forage camp continued, while 250 hectares have been given to UNHCR beneficiaries in Chetimari commune to develop agriculture activities.
- Environmental awareness activities with the NGO CDR (Contribution au Développement Rural) in Sayam Forage camp were carried out, including the establishment of environmental committees, garbage collecting activities, and sensitization on the use of gas as an alternative to wood.

Key Challenges

Mali situation

- The key challenge as regards to the Mali situation is the increasing insecurity, armed attacks and ethnic tensions that create increased protection risks. Regarding the out of camp strategy, bringing public infrastructure (health, education) up to standard to absorb the refugee population into the national services mechanisms is one of the main challenges in progress towards the closure of the camps. With the support of the EU Trust Fund, UNHCR will launch the construction of 3 public health centres, ensuring the quality of health services for both local population and refugees.

Nigeria situation

- In the Diffa region, there is a need to increase coordination between civilian and military aspects of the humanitarian response. Several villages along the Komadougou River are threatened to be ordered to evacuate, but without protection measures in place for the civilian population. This must be rectified, and effective protection measures established - there is an ongoing advocacy with the governor and respective regional directorates.

IDP situation

- The IDP situation in Tillaberi region is becoming critical and absence of funds to cover basic protection services in the region, such as response to GBV cases and child protection issues, as well as interethnic tensions, is worrying and requires urgent action. The protection cluster has convened for a focused meeting with donors on the situation.

Mixed Migration

- In the Agadez region, UNHCR must strengthen cross border coordination in order to support refugees who are victims of expulsion.
- The capacity of areas hosting asylum seekers in the city of Agadez are full. The authorities of Agadez have granted a site to UNHCR outside of the city, to allow the voluntary relocation of asylum seekers present in the city of Agadez.

Emergency Transit Mechanism

- As regards to refugee evacuations from Libya, one of the main challenges is improving the fluidity of the process of departures for resettlement – the more and faster refugees depart for resettlement, the faster other refugees will be evacuated from Libya.
- There is a need for more resettlement places from third countries, as more refugees and asylum-seekers need to be evacuated from Libya.
- Solutions, including resettlement for unaccompanied child refugees should continue to be prioritised by resettlement countries, as a large number of children are detained in Libya. Few countries have so far made pledges for the resettlement of unaccompanied children. UNHCR has completed Best Interest Determination assessments for all unaccompanied/separated children evacuated from Libya.

UNHCR Presence in Niger

Staff: 162 national, 138*international (*this includes international consultants and affiliate workforce)

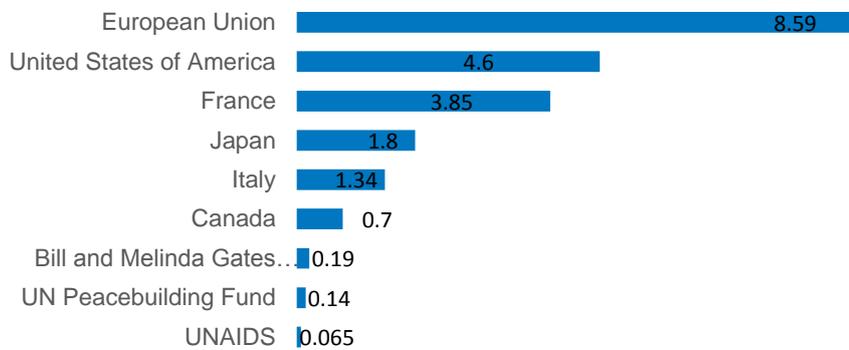
Offices: 1 Head Office Niamey, 2 Sub-Offices Diffa and Agadez; 2 Field Offices Tillaberi and Tahoua; 2 Field Unites Abala and Ouallam

Partners

Govt. of Niger, ACTED/REACH, ADES, Adkoul, APBE, Care, CDR, CIAUD, CISP, COOPI, DRC, Forum Réfugié Cosi, FRC, GVD, HI, IRC, SFCG, SDO, UNAIDS

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 21.3 million**,
Funding received (in million USD)



Special thanks to the major donors of earmarked contributions

United States of America (60.5 M) | Germany (7.6 M) | Priv Donors Australia (6.2 M) | Canada (3.3 M)
 Italy | Norway | Sweden | Private Donors

Thanks to other donors of unearmarked contributions

Sweden (98.2 M) | Norway (42.5 M) | Netherlands (39.1 M) | Priv Donors Spain (37.8 M) | United Kingdom (31.7 M) | Denmark (25.5 M) | Priv Donors Rep of Korea (15.8 M) | Switzerland (15.2 M) | France (14 M) | Italy (11 M) | Algeria | Argentina | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Canada | China | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Germany | Iceland | India | Indonesia | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private Donors

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