

Niger

October 2021

Highlights

- UNHCR has provided cash assistance for basic needs and for income generating activities to **1,033 vulnerable refugees** in Tillabéri region.
- In October, all refugees - and internally displaced children **have returned back to school in the country benefitting from upgraded school facilities.**
- UNHCR has facilitated the **resettlement of 29 refugees** to Canada, Finland, Great Britain, and Sweden.



Abdou, a Malian refugee living with specific needs has received a Cash grant for basic needs and a cash for income generating activities in Ayorou. © / UNHCR Moustapha Djibrilla



PROTECTION

- Since the closure of the Refugees Hosting Area of Intikane on 16 June 2021, **UNHCR's protection monitoring teams have conducted remote monitoring activities** including the tracing of population movements.
- As of 31 October 2021, a total of **3,274 refugee households of 18,080 individuals and 4,382 IDPs households of 33,536 persons have been traced in 25 opportunity villages** in the departments of Tillia and Tassara in the Tahoua region. They are mainly concentrated in the villages of Telemcess and Tillia. This may be linked to the fact that these villages are relatively secure and offer easy access to basic social services such as health, education, and water.
- UNHCR and its partners continue to identify **new GBV cases** in Niger. All documented cases have benefitted from psychosocial support. The cases requiring specific and appropriate care were referred to the various partners and care structures. To prevent GBV cases, UNHCR and its partners conducted awareness sessions on risks and consequences, the referral mechanism, as well as on available care services.
- In October, UNHCR and its partners continued the **identification and follow up of child protection cases. 307 cases** were identified and managed by case workers and through the community mechanisms. The most vulnerabilities identified were lack of access to education and documentation, child labors, abuse and exploitation. In addition, **6,884 persons were reached through awareness raising on** child protection issues and

referral mechanisms. Nine groups composed of 356 children and teenagers were supported through life skills activities in Maradi.

- UNHCR and its partners continues to identify and document **persons living with specific needs** among the displaced people living in Niger. They benefitted from direct assistance or were referred to partners for appropriate care. Furthermore, UNHCR and its partners organized several sensitization sessions on prevention measures against Covid-19 and on the promotion of peaceful coexistence, reaching thousands of persons.
- As of 31 October, the Sayam forage Camp was hosting **30,429 persons of concern to UNHCR, including 26,318 refugees, 3,907 Nigerien returnees and 204 asylum seekers**. Refugees are mainly originating from Damasak and Geidam in Nigeria.
- Local authorities with the support of UNHCR provided **refugee attestations, and refugee identity cards** to Nigerian refugees whose documents were expired or lost, as well as to new arrivals.
- For security reasons and to cope with the sphere standards, UNHCR has **relocated 3,833 households of 17,041 individuals** to three “villages of opportunities” in Maradi region where protection services are available. These include 7,520 refugees in Chadakori: 5,193 in Dan Dadji Makaou and 4,328 in Garin Kaka. However, the recent regional authority measure suspended the relocation process until further notice.
- UNHCR implementing partners APBE, CIAUD, and DRC have conducted several sensitization sessions on protection issues and availability of services, such as, water, hygiene, and sanitation, and prevention of the Covid-19 and cholera among other topics in 15 host villages and in the three “villages of opportunity” of Chadakori, Dan Dadji Makaou and Garin Kaka. **More than 50,000 people from the host community, refugees and IDPs were reached**.



EDUCATION

- UNHCR and its partners continued to support refugee children hosted in the guesthouses in Agadez. Once those children obtain a decent level of French, they get registered in the public education system. Moreover, INTERSOS and COOPI continue to provide informal education sessions and assistance to the minors hosted at the Humanitarian Center.
- UNHCR continues to advocate for increased enrolment rates of girls and boys, including those living with disabilities in all areas where refugees and internally displaced persons are located.
- In Niger, **refugee children have been included in the national education system since 2016**. They have access to the different levels (primary, secondary, and tertiary), and are treated as national pupils and students. One exception are the Nigerian refugees enrolled in secondary school in Diffa who, due to language barriers, continue to follow the Nigerian curriculum in distance learning centers.
- In general, access to post-primary education (secondary, higher education, and vocational training) remains very limited, with admission rates significantly lower than national rates.
- Active since 2017 in Niger, **the DAFI program has enabled 28 refugee students** to pursue higher education and validate their undergraduate degree.

- More flexible opportunities are required for out-of-school refugee and IDP youth, considering their pre-existing professional skills to enhance their employability and insertion into the labor market.



HEALTH

- UNHCR Niger provides medical assistance to all its persons of concern hosted in Agadez, through the partnership with APBE. They benefit from medical consultations and referrals to public health structures. The partner also provides reproductive health services for women as well as malnutrition management services for children. APBE continues to conduct collective and individual awareness sessions on compliance issues related to drug prescriptions, malaria prevention, family planning, food hygiene and on the prevention of Covid-19.
- **1,708 individuals benefitted from medical consultations** in October. 18 cases with critical conditions have been hospitalized in the health centers managed by UNHCR's partners while 20 most critical cases have been referred to the regional hospital.
- Since end of June 2021, UNHCR and its partners have reorganized the presence and structure of health facilities in the Tahoua region (Health Center of Telemcess) after the closure of the Refugees Hosting Area (Intikane).



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- UNHCR Niger in Agadez provides hot meals to persons of concern living in the humanitarian center as well as to those in the guesthouses. Specific dietary needs are taken into consideration and followed-up by the implementing partners COOPI and APBE.



WATER AND SANITATION

- **30,329 persons** had access to safe drinking water produced by three pumping stations built by UNHCR at the Sayam Forage camp and trough water tracking, with an average consumption of 10 liters / person / day.
- In Tahoua, Tillabéri and Maradi regions, refugees and internally displaced persons have access to safe drinking water through water tracking or through the boreholes built by UNHCR with the support of its partners.



SHELTER AND NFIS

- As of the end of October, the construction of **1,284 social houses** was ongoing. 1,081 have been completed in the Tillabéri region (715 in Abala, 328 in Ouallam and 38 in Ayorou).

- Some 3,449,097 bricks have been produced so far. A total of 6,068 persons have been employed in brick production and another 2,400 persons in house construction since the beginning of the project.
- The innovative **EU-funded program** on urbanization ensures **legal access to land for social housing for refugees** and vulnerable host households, while **revitalising the local economy**, which has been deeply affected by the terrorist group conflict in the region. To date, **3,266 sustainable houses** for the most vulnerable families have been built, while 523 are under construction; 5,817 jobs were created, 2,564 persons were trained in the construction, and more than 50,263 persons got a better access to water in 5 districts (Assaga, Diffa, Chetimari, Mainé-soroa and N'guiguimi).



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- UNHCR Niger promotes access to solutions (asylum, readmission, repatriation, regularization of stay) for the different groups identified in the mixed movements. As of 29 October 2021; 1,273 households of **1,715 individuals have been biometrically registered in Agadez.**
- UNHCR Niger guarantees adequate follow-up of all cases of PoCs proposed for Resettlement or other Complementary Pathways in third countries, and manages the reparation of files, eligibility procedures, request of laissez-passer to the Government for PoCs on departure, transfer to Niamey pre-departure, medical screening procedures, etc.
- The Emergency transit Mechanism (ETM) Niger has a population of 399 evacuees. ETM Niger has currently 105 refugees pending departure. During the month of October, UNHCR has facilitated the resettlement of 29 refugees to Canada, Finland, Great Britain, and Sweden. Among these were 22 evacuees from Libya, one Sudanese refugee who was reunited with his family, three Malian refugees living in Tillabéri region, and three Nigerian refugees living in Diffa.

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