

### Background:

- Finding durable solutions for displaced communities is an integral part of UNHCR's work and mandate, which includes the voluntary return of refugees back to their country of origin, in safety and dignity. **Voluntary return is a fundamental right of every refugee.**
- As of 31 December 2021, **130,023 Nigerian refugees** are registered in the Diffa region, mainly from the federal states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa. Amongst them, nearly 26,000 refugees are based in the Sayam Forage camp, established in 2014.
- The signing of a **Tripartite Agreement** between the two governments (Niger and Nigeria) and UNHCR is being finalised to ensure the voluntary return of refugees in dignity and security. As a basis for the agreement, **a survey has been planned to better understand and to quantify the intentions of Nigerian refugees to return to Niger**, once all the conditions are met.

### Objectives:

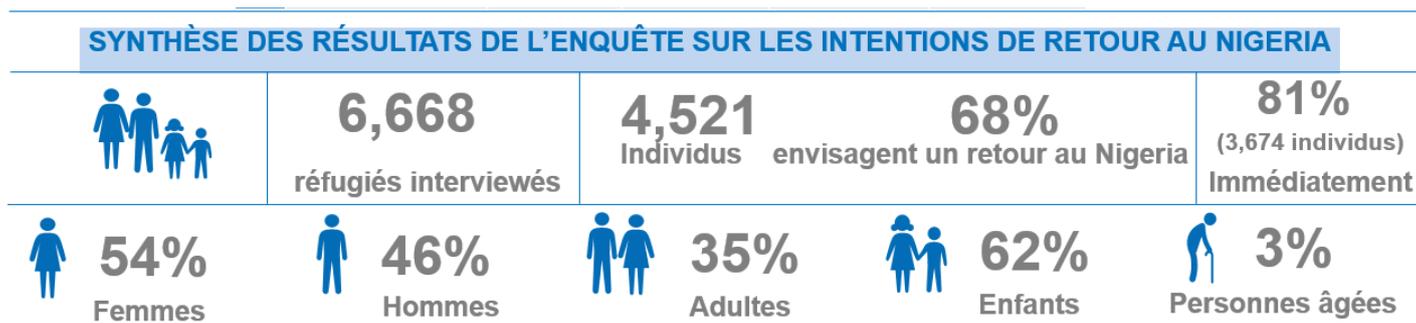
- The overall objective of the survey is to examine the intentions, and to provide reliable data to ensure the return of refugees, if they wish, in dignity and safety, and to better guide decisions and actions by all involved stakeholders.
- UNHCR, as part of its participatory approach, believes strongly in **listening to refugee men, women, girls, and boys, and** guides its decisions and actions based on their expressed hopes, wishes, and intentions.

### Methodology:

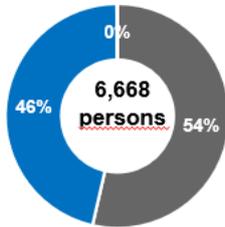
- The NGO Development, Equity, Sustainability and Innovation (DEDI) was asked by UNHCR and CNE to carry out a survey on the return intentions of Nigerian refugees in the Diffa region.<sup>1</sup> The survey took place between August and September 2021.
- The survey was conducted at nine refugees-hosting sites, including **Sayam Forage camp** and conducted on an individual level, targeting people who are able to answer the questions, and who are at least 18 years old. The total population eligible to participate in the survey was 48,130 and a total of **6,668 refugees**, of whom 3,573 were women (54%) and 3,088 men (46%) were finally being interviewed.

### Main Findings:

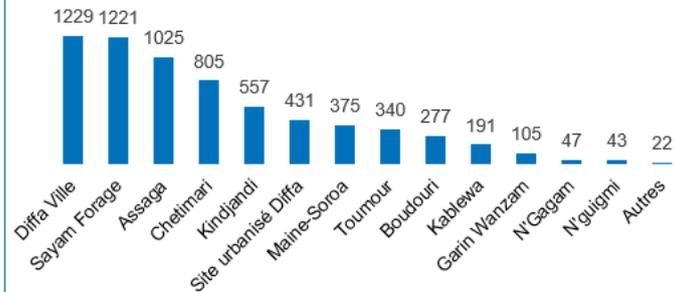
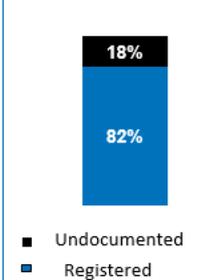
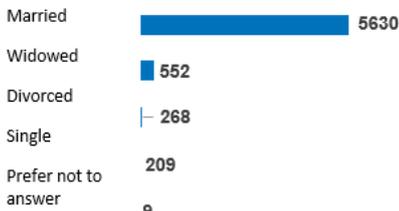
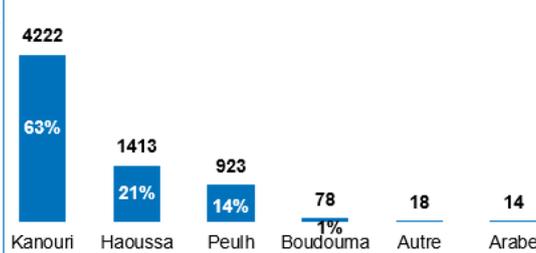
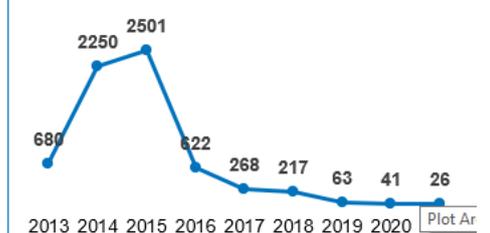
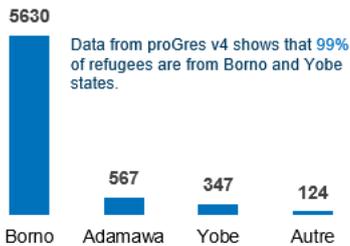
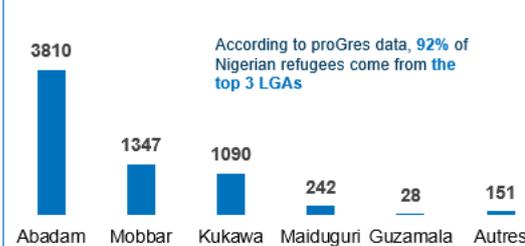
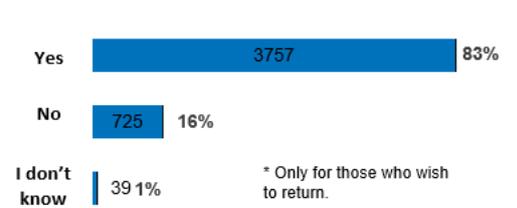
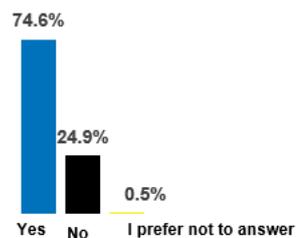
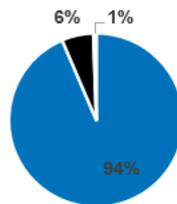
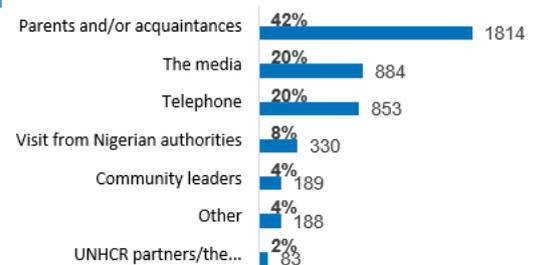
- A total number of 6,668 refugees, including 3,573 women (54%) and 3,088 men (46%) were interviewed. **68% of all interviewed refugees consider a return to Nigeria.** Out of these group, a total of 81% stated that they would return immediately.



<sup>1</sup> Location: Diffa Region: Sayam Forage, Diffa city, Chétimari, Boudouri, Mainé-soroa, Assaga, Kindjandi, Kablewa, Toumour & N'guigmi

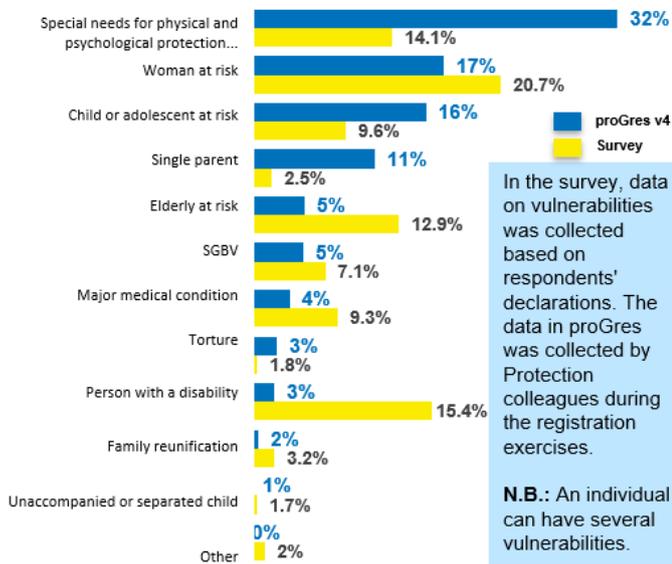
**GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE TARGET GROUP INTERVIEWED**
**Breakdown by Sex**


■ Women  
 ■ Men  
 ■ Prefer not to answer

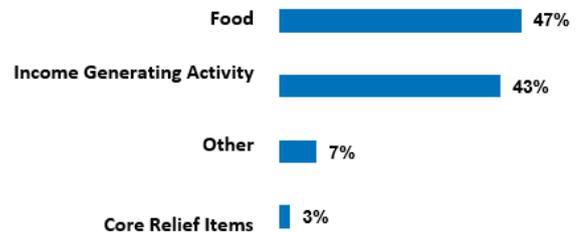
**Breakdown by registration centre**

**Registered with UNHCR**

**Marital Status**

**Ethnic background**

**Arrival years in Niger**

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (COI) INFORMATION**
**States of origin**

**LGA of origin (Nigeria)**

**Can you return to your home/flat or the place where you have lived before?**

**Would you be willing to move to another location in Nigeria?**

**94% of refugees are keen to return to their village of origin against 6% who would like to change location.**

**How do you get country of origin information?**


## VULNERABILITIES & SPECIFIC NEEDS

### What are your specific protection needs?



### What are your main basic needs?



57% of respondents would like to have additional information on the security situation and the practical arrangements for repatriation, including logistics and the planned period for the start of repatriation.

### Key Messages:

- According to the results, 68% of the interviewed refugees intend to return to their country of origin. Of these, 94% would like to return to their village of origin and 6% would like to change location/place. Out of the 68%, a total of 81% stated that they would return immediately.
- 32% of the refugees stated that they have no intention of returning to Nigeria for the time being.
- The main reasons for wanting to return are **security, food, access to income-generating activities and employment opportunities**.
- The main reasons for wanting to stay in Niger are **insecurity in their places of origin, fear/trauma, lack of state authority and crime**.
- 92% of landowners in Nigeria do not have any documents justifying that the property belongs to them and only 8% have a land title, a village attestation, or a notarial act.
- 36% of the families with the intention to return had at least 1 child, who was born during their stay in Niger.
- 87% of refugees who got married while in Niger have no legal marriage documents.
- Out of those refugees who conducted vocational training in Niger, only 3% own a certificate and 89% expressed the need for UNHCR's support in obtaining documentation of their certificate.
- **The majority of refugees surveyed would like to be kept informed** of developments in the security situation and the plan to facilitate repatriation.

