

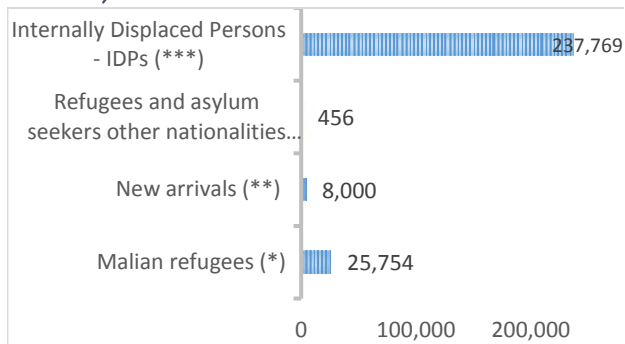
# Burkina Faso



Barsalogo IDP site © UNHCR / Romain Desclous

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

**271,979**



\* UNHCR figures (31 July 2019)

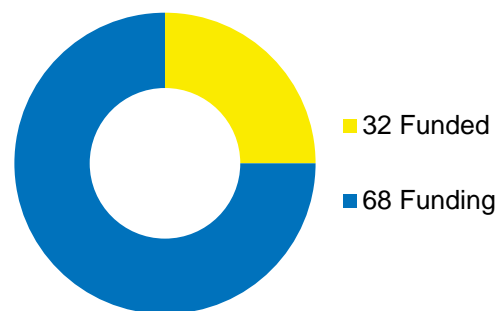
\*\* Government of Burkina Faso figures (July 2018)

\*\*\* Government of Burkina Faso figures (15 August 2019)

## FUNDING (AS OF JULY 2019)

**USD 30,3 Million**

needed for the Burkina Faso Country Operation



## KEY INDICATORS

**16,000**

Estimation of number of Burkinabe citizens who have looked for safety in neighboring countries

**22,000**

Number of birth certificates UNHCR helped to deliver to IDPs and host communities

**237,769**

people forced to flee their homes who have remained in Burkina Faso



Cash distribution to IDPs in Djibo. Ph UNHCR

## Operational Context

The security situation is continuing to deteriorate and spread over other areas within Burkina Faso with a growing number of security incidents being reported. This situation resulted in increasing number of IDPs and limiting access for UNHCR and its partners to provide protection and assistance to people in dire needs. By mid-August, the number of IDPs in Burkina Faso had risen to 237,769. The arrival of IDPs to new locations has an important impact on access to education, water supply and health services. The **additional burden on already limited natural resources and basic social infrastructure** may cause tensions between newly displaced people and host communities. This placed increasing demands on UNHCR's resources for protection monitoring and assistance.

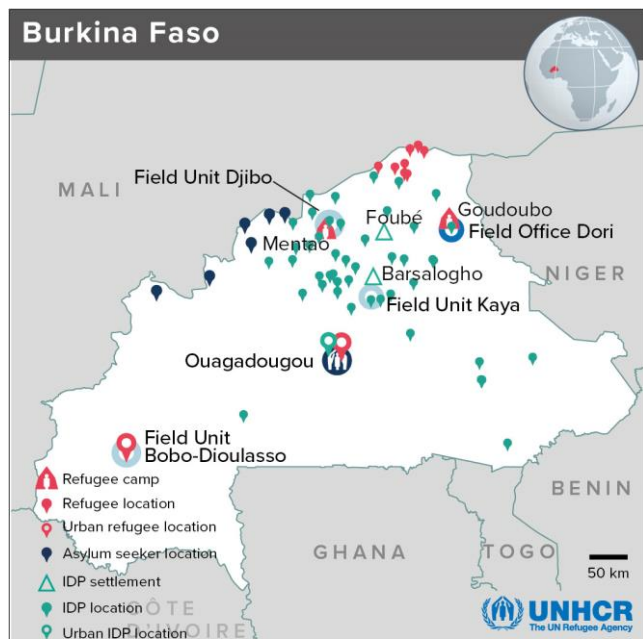
Since over one year, **thousands of asylum seekers from Mali** have continued to enter into **Boucle du Mouhoun and Nord regions**, fleeing an intensification of violence in Central Mali. According to authorities some 8,000 Malian asylum seekers live in spontaneous sites or with the local population. Due to rising insecurity in hosting areas, UNHCR has not been able to carry out its registration strategy jointly developed with the Government.

In addition, Burkina Faso is a **transit country for migratory movements northwards**. These migratory flows are mixed and consist of economic migrants, as well as persons in need of international protection.

## Security Situation

The Sahelian strip in Africa is experiencing growing insecurity. Burkina Faso has seen the growth of local non-state armed groups in tandem with or as part of Jama'at Nasr al-Islam wal Muslimin and Islamic State in the Greater Sahara, allying with pre-existing criminal networks and exploiting underlying social tensions.

Today, insecurity and criminality are rapidly spreading and are mainly, but not only, affecting areas in the Sahel, North, East and Southeast of the country, along border areas with conflict-affected Mali and Niger. The situation is aggravating the vulnerability of refugees, host and displaced populations. We have witnessed incursions in villages, attacks against state and religious institutions and killings of civil servants, religious leaders and security forces. In response to the deterioration of the security situation, the defense and security forces have increased their presence and began counterterrorism operations.



Map Sources: UNCS and UNHCR

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Creation date: 03.07.2019.

Increasing insecurity, including attacks taking place in both refugee camps, car hijacks and kidnappings of humanitarian staff, and a resulting lack of humanitarian access in out of camp areas and many IDP hosting areas, continues to pose huge challenges. However, the field offices in the Sahel region are still operational, a new office has been opened in Kaya and assistance continues.



**PROTECTION**

- In order to reinforce protection environment, UNHCR and its partners (CONAREF and DRC) organized training sessions on international protection targeting defense and security forces. At the end of these sessions, participants were provided with information on UNHCR's mandate, humanitarian principles, the rights and duties of refugees. Trainings also focus on how the defense and security forces can contribute to address Gender-Based violence (GBV) and child protection. They were also made aware of the UNHCR Code of Conduct that they all signed. A total of 50 elements from the defense and security forces including the 18 newly deployed gendarmes at Goudoubo camp in Dori, replacing the previous team. A similar training session was organized for 23 police elements of the camp of Mentao in Djibo.
- In response to Gender Based Violence (GBV), two sensitization session were held on "sex for survival" targeting 30 people, including 11 women, 9 men, 5 boys and 5 girls. Participants appreciated the exchanges and promised to invest in helping to spread the advice within the refugee community.
- As part of the activities to prevent the risk of statelessness, 10,000 certificates of nationality and 5,000 national identity cards issued by the government with UNHCR support, are being handled to beneficiaries in the Sahel region (certificates of nationality) and in Central-north region (identity cards). Most of people in these regions do not have or lost their documentation. Without documents, people are struggling to realize their fundamental human rights, are at risk of arbitrary detention and cannot access basic services. Since the beginning of the year, 2 000 IDPs in Foubé and Barsalogho, 10 000 citizens in Barsalogho and Dablo (Centre-Nord region) and 10 000 citizens in Gayéri, Foutouri and Bartiebougou (Est region) have received a birth certificate.



**SHELTER AND NFIS**

- In order to address shelter issues in affecting areas, UNHCR, in coordination with the Government of Burkina Faso (CONASUR) and the micro-credit institution BAÏTOUL MAAL, launched on 25 July 2019 the distribution of cash assistance to 4,250 IDP households and the most vulnerable host communities in the Central-North (Kelbo - Barsalogho) and Sahel (Djibo) regions identified to receive shelter assistance and Non Food items. This cash intervention aims to provide beneficiaries with means to build their own shelters or pay rent. Each beneficiary household will be assisted with cash grants up to 200 000 FCFA (357 USD).
- In parallel, UNHCR continues to provide shelter and core relief items to the most vulnerable IDPs and Malian refugees. Over reporting period, 6 Refugee Housing Unit (RHU) were settled for IDP households bringing total number of RHU already installed to 1,494 including 1,394 for IDP and 100 for refugee households in Central-North and Sahel regions.
- Shelter and basic relief needs are extremely high. Host communities are no longer able to absorb the continuous and multiple displacements and feel overwhelmed.
- 1529 ménages de 7402 bénéficiaires ont été servis sur 1812 ménages 8329 de bénéficiaires prévus soit un taux de couverture 88.87%. Une rupture de ballots de friperies a eu lieu le dernier jour et une séance de rattrapage est prévu la semaine prochaine afin de servir les quelques 200 ménages qui n'ont pas reçus les friperies. Distribution is ongoing.



**COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE**

- In an effort to increase self-reliance of refugees, the Provincial Directorate of Agriculture in collaboration with UNHCR, distributed seeds for 158 refugee producers. It is a subsidized distribution of millet (about \$1 for 5kg), sorghum (about \$1 for 5kg) and cowpea (distributed for free to women). A total of 1000 kg of millet, 400 kg of maize, 405 kg of sorghum and 30 kg of cowpea were distributed.

- In Mentao, VSF-B, a UNHCR partner, trained 110 farmers, including 80 refugees and 30 persons from host community in agricultural production techniques. At the end of the training, they received a grant of seeds to enable them starting farming activities.
- Craftsmen (men and women) in basket making at Goudoubo camp started manufacturing 20 lamp shades and 20 decorative bowls ordered by a local company. Crafts are part of the self-reliance activities for refugees.
- As part of the vocational training to reinforce refugees skills, 30 refugees from Goudoubo camp are being trained in various domains such as computers, electronics, sewing, baking, solar energy and mechanics.



- **Insecurity has an enormous impact on access of populations to education and health services in Mentao refugee camp.** The primary school in Mentao camp is closed since 17 December 2018; secondary schools in Djibo have suspended courses since 19 March 2019 following the killing of two teachers on the road between Djibo and Bourzanga. UNHCR has **relocated 18 refugee students** from Mentao refugee camp to Goudoubo refugee camp allowing them to participate to their finals. Moreover, the health center in Mentao refugee camp has closed since 25 May 2019 following an attack targeting UNHCR's international health partner CSSI and the kidnapping of 3 local staff. Construction works for a new health center (CSPS) in Mentao camp have been halted since the May attack.
- In Goudoubo, UNHCR finalized the construction of a secondary school. The new building will allow refugee girls to continue their education nearby their homes, because their parents are often reluctant to send girls to the town of Dori to attend classes. Youngsters from surrounding villages will also have access to the school.
- As part of the national distribution campaign of long-acting impregnated mosquito net (LLIN), the health post distributed 2 mosquito nets to all households in Goudoubo camp. These mosquito nets were provided by the Dori Health District.

### Key Challenges

With insecurity on the rise in Burkina Faso and neighboring countries, UNHCR fears more displacement, both internally and into the neighboring countries, and increased humanitarian needs over the coming months.

- The high risk of **car hijacks and kidnappings** continues to pose the biggest challenge in several areas of Burkina Faso. The main consequence is the **lack of humanitarian access** in out of camp areas and many IDP hosting localities. This is particularly cumbersome in the Sahel region, where the majority of IDPs and 98% of Malian refugees are residing.
- Refugees and IDPs are subject to **protection risks and risks of conflict** with the local population over scarce natural resources such as wood or water. Gender-based violence is on the rise.
- With the **rainy season** coming up, sturdy **shelter for IDPs** able to withstand the lashing **rain** and high winds is urgently needed.

### UNHCR Presence in Burkina Faso

**Staff & Officer:** UNHCR counts a total of 85 national and international staff (*this includes consultants and affiliate workforce*) and has 1 Representation in Ouagadougou, 1 Field Office in Dori, 1 Field Unit in Djibo and Kaya and 1 Antenna Office in Bobo-Dioulasso. UNHCR has over 40 staff based in Dori and Djibo (Sahel region).

Since the month of May, **UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of a UN common office in Kaya** (Centre-Nord), and will soon open an office in Ouahigouya (Nord) to scale up its IDP response.

## Partners

Government of Burkina Faso (**CONAREF** – *Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés* and **CONASUR** – *Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Réhabilitation*), Danish Refugee Council (**DRC**), Centre de Support en Santé Internationale (**CSSI**), Christian Relief and Development Organization (**CREDO**), Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgique (**VSF-B**), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (**AIRD**).

## Financial information

**Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to 9,759,212 M USD**  
Thanks to the **Central Emergency Response Fund**, the **European Union**, **France**, **Italy**, **USA**, **Private Donors** and the **UN Peacebuilding Fund**.

### Special thanks to the major donor of softly earmarked contributions

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