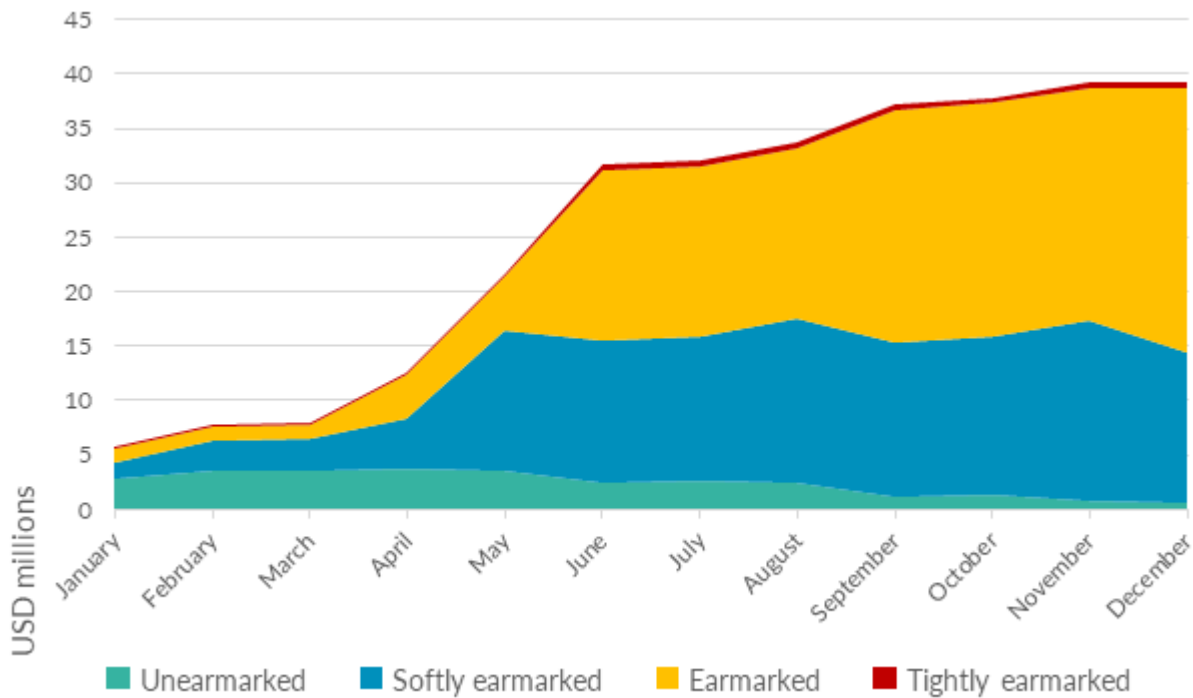


Flexible Funding Report 2023

BURKINA FASO



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Approximately 36% of final expenditure of \$39.3 million came from flexible funding

Burkina Faso is a protracted crisis, one characterized by political unrest within and outside the country, and where there are over 2 million people who are IDPs and 38,000 refugees, mostly from Mali. Flexible funding was pivotal in driving a responsive and adaptive approach to evolving needs, particularly in healthcare and education. With UNHCR’s assistance, the Government initiated reform of the asylum legal framework to align it with international standards and strengthen the protection environment for refugees and asylum seekers in the country.

In the first quarter, the operation depended almost entirely on flexible funding amounting to \$7.9 million or 82% of income, to maintain activities providing protection and assistance to people in need. Boosted by flexible funding, a new law and decree on the status of refugees in the country was adopted. In addition, in collaboration with the Burkinabe Movement for Human Rights and People’s Rights responsible for access to justice for forcibly displaced people and those at risk of statelessness, all refugees and asylum-seekers had access to legal advice or representation regarding asylum procedures. Similarly, all failed first instance asylum-seekers were granted the right to appeal before the National Appeals Committee within 60 days following the notification of the first-instance decision.

With registration key to ensuring access to assistance, including documentation, 92% of refugees were registered by UNHCR and 50% of IDPs by the government. UNHCR also supported the government issue birth certificates and identity documents for refugees, IDPs and host communities, helping as well reduce statelessness.

Flexible funding also assisted with integration and other local solutions for refugees and IDPs. In particular, 143,909 vulnerable households were registered in the single social register enabling access to social services. UNHCR also secured land tenure of 112 hectares for housing and 20 hectares for production needs for IDPs. UNHCR advocated the inclusion of refugees in local solutions and social safety nets to the extent that the government has begun to develop a national integration strategy, which was announced at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023.

Other areas that benefited from flexible funding included education, with the reopening of 1,080 schools and the continuation of education for thousands of children affected by school closures due to the insecurity; and in health, with the government assisted to combat a measles epidemic and boost vaccination coverage to over 95%.