

# Annual Results Report

**2023**

**Mali**

## Acknowledgements

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# Section 1: Context and Overview

## 1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

The operational context in Mali in 2023 was dynamic, marked by significant factors. Notably, the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Mali (MINUSMA) withdrew definitively on 31 December 2023 at the request of the Malian authorities. Concurrently, the activism of Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) and military operations by the Malian Armed Forces (FAMA) and their partners led to a surge in insecurity across the country, with central and northern regions being particularly affected.

This context of insecurity and unpredictability, coupled with the socio-political and security situation in the sub-region, particularly in Burkina Faso, Niger and Mali, has had a profound impact on the humanitarian environment, including protection in Mali. The creation of the Alliance of Sahel States (Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso), the withdrawal of these three countries from ECOWAS and Mali's withdrawal from the Algiers Peace Agreement were all upheavals that marked the year 2023 in Mali, with an impact on humanitarian operations. The year was also marked by the blockade imposed by armed groups on the routes from the Mauritanian and Algerian borders at Timbuktu to the Algerian border at Menaka, resulting in prolonged shortages of foodstuffs and other basic necessities, and an increase in the price of goods, mainly from Algeria.

The deterioration in the security context in 2023 encouraged the perpetration of human rights violations, with a prevalence of protection incidents recorded in 2023 of over 96.13%, compared to 1,628 in 2022. Population movements inside and outside the country following clashes between FAMA and armed groups over the handover of MINUSMA camps and ongoing military operations also increased during the year. In December 2023, there were 354,739 internally displaced people in Mali, while 209,617 Malian refugees had been received and registered in neighboring countries, notably Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Niger and Guinea by 31 December 2023. In addition, Mali has taken in around 40,000 refugees from Burkina Faso and Niger over the same period, following terrorist attacks and clashes between national forces and armed groups in their countries of origin.

The humanitarian needs in 2023 of forcibly displaced people, people at risk of statelessness and host communities remained high throughout the year with populations affected by periodic cycles and multiple displacements in line with the development of the crisis and the action of terrorist and criminal groups. At 31 December 2023, the number of registered refugees was 66722, including 66443 refugees and 279 asylum seekers. There were also 35,000 returnees and 33,000 people awaiting registration.

## 1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

### 1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

**By 2026, forcibly displaced and stateless people enjoy a favorable protection environment**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Actual (2023)
1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	25.68%	30.82%
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	17.98%	19.00%

Despite the complex operational context in 2023, UNHCR continued to support the authorities and strengthened its partnership with all relevant actors to improve the protection environment for forcibly displaced people and people at risk of statelessness.

Although the asylum application procedure in Mali is centralised in Bamako at the permanent secretariat of the National Commission for Refugees (CNCR), efforts have been made to improve CNCR representation in the regions of Kayes, Sikasso, San (Tominian), Bandiagara, Tombouctou, Gao and Ménaka to facilitate the registration and documentation of Burkinabe and Nigerien refugees residing mainly in the central and northern regions (for whom a declaration of recognition of refugee status was made by the authorities in 2020). The CNCR has also undertaken new initiatives for asylum seekers of other nationalities living outside Bamako, including the organisation of remote (online) RSD interviews. Also, the reorganisation of the Eligibility Committee with four (04) new members and their formation in November 2023 has had a significant impact on the holding of Refugee Status Determination (RSD) sessions. Lastly, the members of the appeals and assistance committees were appointed during the year. UNHCR continued to advocate for the adoption of the national law on the protection and assistance of internally displaced persons (Kampala Convention).

In 2023, Mali embarked on the process of drafting laws and decrees on statelessness. The Ministry of Justice, in collaboration with the UNHCR, developed the draft law on the status of stateless persons and submitted it to the Inter-Ministerial Committee for the Fight against Statelessness (set up in 2016) for validation. This validation by the Committee has enabled the draft law and decree to be registered for adoption by the competent authorities by 2024. Mali has made this adoption a priority in its commitment to the 2023 World Refugee Forum.

### 2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

**By 2026, forcibly displaced and stateless people enjoy their well-being and access to economic rights and quality basic services**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Actual (2023)
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities	IDPs	3.61%	3.66%
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	24.14%	24.65%
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities	Returnees	31.56%	32.51%
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities	Stateless Persons	0.00%	0.00%

2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services	IDPs	8.42%	8.49%
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	13.10%	15.15%
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services	Returnees	29.65%	30.60%
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services	Stateless Persons	0.00%	0.00%

Faced with growing humanitarian needs in all regions, the UNHCR has stepped up its activities by providing support to local authorities and partners responsible for implementing activities. The UNHCR has also strengthened its coordination and partnership framework by setting up a refugee consultation framework (Groupe de Travail sur les Réfugiés - GTR) in the regions of Mopti, Gao, Ménaka and Timbuktu. While continuing its leadership in protection at national and regional levels, UNHCR has participated in and actively contributed to inter-agency coordination meetings and other regional consultation frameworks to ensure that forcibly displaced and stateless people are taken into account in the strategies and responses organised by humanitarian and development actors.

UNHCR's responses covered the urgent protection and assistance needs of forcibly displaced people, stateless people and host communities. Assistance for the resilience of people with special needs, awareness raising and advocacy for peaceful coexistence, capacity building and the inclusion of refugees in the national protection system mainly in terms of education and health and other social protection frameworks have been integrated into UNHCR's minimum response package in 2023.

UNHCR's "Village of Hope" initiative to minimise the challenges linked to physical protection and people's access to protection services in host areas continued in 2023 with the completion of the construction of the first "Cité de l'Espoir" in Gao: Cité Naata. This housing estate will provide 226 vulnerable households of forcibly displaced people with a protective space in a suitable location.

In order to meet protection needs along the borders, UNHCR continued its protection monitoring efforts at the main entry points through the border monitoring project, which covered 13,677 people, including internally displaced persons, refugees and host communities

### 3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

**By 2026, forcibly displaced and stateless people benefit from a wider range of empowerment and achieve gender equality within the local community**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Actual (2023)
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work	IDPs	1.68%	1.68%
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2.57%	3.08%
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work	Returnees	7.17%	7.17%
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work	Stateless Persons	0.00%	0.00%
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	11.61%	11.81%
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education	Stateless Persons	0.00%	0.00%

3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.31%	0.41%
3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education	Stateless Persons	0.00%	0.00%
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark	IDPs	10.10%	10.10%
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	12.84%	12.84%
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark	Returnees	36.34%	36.34%
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark	Stateless Persons	0.00%	0.00%

In 2023, the community-based protection approach was a priority to support humanitarian access and strengthen community resilience and their ownership of multi-sectoral assistance. It has strengthened community participation in all phases of the programming cycle, from planning to implementation and monitoring of projects. This strategy responds in part to the concern for community integration and empowerment in this mixed context where refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees share the same environment. It also supports the accountability of humanitarian action in the field. The UNHCR Blue Line mechanism and other communication and complaints structures have been strengthened and require community ownership and use in several locations. A fraud management capacity-building programme has been set up for staff and communities.

In addition, UNHCR has supported the participation of women's associations, particularly in environmental protection activities and empowerment projects. Initiatives aimed at community participation in the fight against gender-based violence (GBV) were supported, in particular those involving the participation of forcibly displaced people, people at risk of statelessness and host community leaders. UNHCR has also supported capacity-building for women's associations on gender-based violence, governance and financial management, as well as income-generating activities to support and facilitate the economic empowerment of women and young people.

## 4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

**By 2026, forcibly displaced and stateless people enjoy access to durable solutions and naturalization**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Actual (2023)
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	350	650
4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	2
4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	20
4.3a Number of stateless people for whom nationality is granted or confirmed	Stateless Persons	0	0
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	350	400

Progress has been made in terms of access to durable solutions. The programme to support the government in the naturalisation process for Mauritanian refugees at risk of statelessness continued in 2023. Statelessness activities focused on prevention, identification, protection and reduction. Two

information and awareness-raising workshops on statelessness and the risks of statelessness, and capacity-building for the authorities, humanitarian actors and partners were held throughout the country. 500 copies of the study on statelessness in Mali were distributed to the authorities and partners. Capacity-building sessions on the importance of registering and declaring births in civil status centres organised in Kayes, Ségou and Timbuktu.

By the end of 2023, 450 applications for naturalisation had been submitted to the Ministry of Justice and 69 favourable opinions had been obtained for minors. Three (3) workshops were organised respectively on the drafting of the preliminary draft law on the status of stateless persons, the validation of the preliminary draft law on the status of stateless persons and the draft decree creating the National Commission in charge of stateless persons, and the follow-up and evaluation of the recommendations and functioning of the regional consultation framework on the fight against statelessness in Ségou. A total of 60 participants from various ministries, institutions and civil society took part in these workshops, demonstrating the Malian government's interest in the fight against statelessness. Finally, two regional frameworks for the fight against statelessness were created in Kayes and Timbuktu by decision of the respective Governors.

The Tripartite Agreement amending the former Agreement between Burkina Faso, Mali and UNHCR was revised and submitted for signature in 2024 to include the voluntary repatriation of Burkina Faso refugees to Mali

## 1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

The major challenges to improving the protection environment lie in the socio-political and security context of the country and the sub-region, which puts security and national defence priorities higher on the administrative and political agenda than humanitarian and social issues. In addition, the security situation in the areas where new asylum seekers, refugees and other forcibly displaced people live does not allow for adequate protection and aid tailored to their needs. This is the case in Mondoro and Hombori, where there are around 20,000 Burkinabe refugees seeking protection, and to whom neither the military and administrative authorities nor humanitarian actors have had access for more than two months. There are also problems with the connectivity and maintenance of the equipment used to register refugees on site. The dispersal of asylum seekers' reception sites and their mobility as a result of livestock rearing and farming activities also pose an identification and monitoring challenge.

Despite the significant operational presence of the UNHCR and its implementing partners in the field, the implementation of activities in 2023 was hampered by humanitarian access constraints. These varied constraints are linked to the control of certain localities by non-state armed groups. This is the case, for example, in certain areas of Ménaka, Inchenanane, Anderamboukane and Inekar, which remain difficult to access, despite the fact that many people living there, particularly children and women, are in greater need of protection and assistance. Similarly, humanitarian access is still limited despite the authorities' return to Kidal in November 2023. Incidents affecting the security and operational capacities of humanitarian actors have forced many actors to reorganise or redirect their planning and activities to other sectors of assistance or easily accessible locations.

The volatile security situation is not conducive to facilitating voluntary repatriation and the registration of applicants. Support for local integration programmes has also been affected by the security situation in some areas. The challenge in terms of staffing for the resettlement unit has not enabled activities to be extended to all regions, despite the presence of potential cases. High expectations on the part of refugees with regard to resettlement, despite the fact that very little use is made of complementary protection measures. Limited human resources to implement resettlement activities as tools for protecting people in serious need of protection. The identification of candidates for resettlement was very low, often due to restrictions on movement during the blockade that affected refugees' places of residence. However, this solution could be considered in 2024 as an effective protection tool for people in particular need of protection.



In 2023, UNHCR signed 14 agreements, including 5 with government institutions, 7 with national NGOs and 2 with international NGOs. The mapping of UNHCR's partnerships reflects its commitment to work increasingly with local actors to find endogenous solutions to the accessibility challenge arising from the security context.

UNHCR in Mali works in synergy with a multitude of stakeholders with the aim of maximising complementarity in the effective and efficient delivery of the response to the needs of forcibly displaced and stateless people, as well as host communities. As part of the implementation of its 2023-2026 multi-year plan, several consultations with various partners and donors have produced positive results in terms of funding, strategic support, awareness-raising and advocacy for the needs of people in situations of forced displacement and at risk of statelessness.

The process of including refugees in existing national socio-economic response mechanisms is continuing, and UNHCR intends to make this a reality in the new Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (CREDD 2024-2029) currently being drafted. To this end, UNHCR intends to strengthen its collaboration with governing institutions at both central and regional levels.

Within the United Nations system, the UNHCR has continued to work with other agencies to develop joint funding proposals (UNHCR-UNDP-UN Women; UNHCR-UNESCO; UNHCR-WFP; etc.) and through joint inter-agency meetings to strengthen the inclusion of refugees in the various ongoing programmes.

In line with its policy of engagement in situations of internal displacement, UNHCR is working with the wider humanitarian community, donors and development actors to find solutions to the needs of internally displaced people (IDPs), specifically in the areas of protection, shelter/non-food items and site management

## Section 2: Results

### 2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

#### 1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

**By 2026, internally displaced persons have access to sustainable solutions**

**By 2026, refugees, asylum-seekers benefit from national reception procedures supported by UNHCR**

**Refugees & AS benefit from reception procedures**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	77.23%	79.00%	45.00%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	IDPs	10.00%	20.00%	25.00%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	62.66%	70.00%	40.00%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	Returnees	5.97%	10.00%	30.00%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	40.00%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials	IDPs	89.29%	90.00%	20.00%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials	Others of Concern	Unknown	Unknown	0.00%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	77.23%	79.00%	15.00%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	15.00%

#### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The operation's indicators relating to this result for the year 2023 were as follows: Indicator #1: Number of asylum seekers with access to the territory referred and registered; Indicator #2: Individuals with access to DSR (Legal Protection) interviews; Indicator #3: The number of documents issued to registered persons.

In December 2022, the number of refugees was 60,639. 86,030 registered refugees had been announced for 2023. At 31 December 2023, 66,443 refugees had been registered (77% achieved), i.e. 5,841 new people registered, for a natural growth rate of 10%. 895 asylum seekers were in the database in 2022. 655 of them were inactivated because they were not present in Mali. 100% of those registered were documented in 2023 and documents renewed, so that 3,203 refugee certificates and 3,971 refugee identity

cards had been distributed to improve their protection.

In terms of asylum procedures in 2023, 101 new asylum seekers were registered with the Permanent Secretariat of the National Commission for Refugees. As a result, 13 sessions were organised to examine 80 applications from 111 asylum seekers. In terms of mixed movements, 100% of the 5,531 potential refugees were referred. In line with the 10-point action plan, 100% of people identified as not falling under the UNHCR mandate should be referred to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). 8,146 people registered in 2023, excluding asylum seekers. However, little progress has been made on their referral, given the delay in finalising the agreement on sharing personal data.

## 4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

**By 2026, the risks of GBV are reduced, all survivors have adequate and timely access to quality services and GBV prevention programming effectively addresses root causes of GBV**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services	IDPs	7.00%	10.00%	7.00%
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services	Others of Concern	Unknown	Unknown	4.00%
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	7.00%	10.00%	7.00%
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services	Returnees	17.00%	20.00%	17.00%
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	7.00%
4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women	IDPs	7.00%	10.00%	7.00%
4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	13.00%	15.00%	13.00%
4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women	Returnees	13.00%	15.00%	13.00%
4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	7.00%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services	IDPs	13.00%	15.00%	13.00%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	13.00%	10.00%	7.00%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services	Returnees	7.00%	10.00%	7.00%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	7.00%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Prevention activities (through radio broadcasts, micro-trotters, focus groups, mass awareness-raising forums and capacity-building for stakeholders) and awareness-raising sessions on GBV have reached a large number of people in our intervention zones; the distribution of dignity kits, baby and hygiene kits and

the reporting of cases through official channels are activities carried out by partners and communities. Community initiatives have also been funded to combat GBV. Medical care, psychosocial support and reintegration services have been provided to survivors of GBV.

Access to justice for survivors of GBV remains a problem due to socio-cultural constraints, fear of reprisals from armed elements and the physical distance between judicial structures and communities

Our main activities during the year were as follows:

1597 refugees and 426 internally displaced persons took part in empowerment activities;

2710 refugees and 1232 internally displaced persons received information on gender- based violence;

44 refugees and 59 internally displaced persons received multi-faceted assistance;

140 cases of gender-based violence were receive care;

45 survivors of sexual assault, physical violence and female genital mutilation were treated (these survivors of gender-based violence received medical and psychological support. Female genital mutilation survivors received reconstructive surgery;

273 dignity kits were distributed to women and girls of childbearing age;

Organisation of 6 training sessions for 150 members (100 women and 50 men) of the protection committee;

410 awareness-raising broadcasts on local radio stations, reaching around 696,652 people;

01 training session for 90 state actors and community leaders on the different types of GBV, prevention methods and their management;

87 members of protection committees, 45 men and 42 women, have been retrained on GBV issues;

70 solar-powered street lamps installed at sites for internally displaced persons

## 7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

By 2026, people with and for whom UNHCR works have access to a wider range of solutions

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms	IDPs	5.00%	5.00%	3.00%
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms	Others of Concern	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms	Returnees	5.00%	5.00%	3.00%
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures	IDPs	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures	Others of Concern	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures	Returnees	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Women play an essential role in all activities in the field and participate actively. They are involved in decision-making and contribute to improving their situation through the creation of the Village Savings and Credit Association and community initiatives for the protection of children and GBV. The participation of women in the Blue Line proves that they are involved in the process of empowerment and that they are asserting their rights.

As part of its efforts to ensure protection, provide assistance and find lasting solutions to the situation of forcibly displaced and stateless people, UNHCR, through its partnership and the commitment of the community represented by the local protection and management committees, has placed particular emphasis on strengthening community mobilisation and participation. Thanks to consultations with the communities and their participation in the various phases of the programming cycle and the prevention and response process, the needs and concerns of the communities have been taken into account and have helped to strengthen the sense of ownership. In 2023, the various existing protection committees were revitalised and new committees were set up at the sites where the forcibly displaced persons had settled.

To strengthen women's participation, they were organised into associations. This has enabled them to strengthen their management skills and economic power, and their capacities have been enhanced through sessions on a range of topics. Forcibly displaced and stateless women played an active part in various commemorations and celebrations, including International Women's Day on 08 March, World Refugee Day on 20 June, 16 Days of Activism and Children's Day on 16 June.

In the context of child protection, the vast majority of forcibly displaced children, refugees, internally displaced persons and children at risk of statelessness are faced with precarious situations due to insecurity, armed conflict, the absence of state services, the scarcity of basic resources and services and the destitution of parents who are unable to meet their most basic needs such as food, clothing and health care. They are exposed to all forms of protection risk, abuse, violence, neglect, exploitation, the worst forms of child labour, abduction, recruitment and trafficking. Added to this is the risk of statelessness, because most of them have never been registered with the civil registry, and the civil registry services are sometimes inoperative in the areas of departure as well as in the localities where they settle.

150 children identified as being at increased risk are awaiting a best interests procedure.

563 children take part in community child protection programmes (fixed, mobile or alternative EAE) data not available. 100 unaccompanied and separated children benefit from alternative care in foster families.

## 8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

**By 2026, people with and for whom UNHCR works have adequate access to well-being support and assistance**

**By 2026, people with and for whom UNHCR works who are at heightened risk can meet their basic needs within six months of displacement**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items	IDPs	21.00%	23.00%	21.00%
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	21.00%	23.00%	21.00%
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items	Returnees	21.00%	23.00%	21.00%
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	21.00%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology	IDPs	3.00%	3.00%	1.00%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	3.00%	1.00%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology	Returnees	3.00%	3.00%	1.00%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	1.00%

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The efforts made to achieve the objective of improving the well-being and basic needs of forcibly displaced people and their host communities have made it possible to respond to and meet the basic needs of 37,636 refugees through support in the form of multiple-purpose cash transfers (MPC); assistance in the form of non-food items for 17,408 refugees, 4,778 internally displaced people and 2,724 people from host communities.

In addition, as part of the support for access to green energy and the mitigation of the risks of GBV, 750 refugees and 2,000 mixed individuals have been supported by the installation of solar street lamps to facilitate public lighting in IDP sites. In terms of progress made, the implementation rates are 87% for multiple-use cash support for refugees out of the targets set for 2023, 43% for non-food items for refugees and 24% for non-food items for internally displaced people.

On the other hand, implementation in terms of energy is relatively low, converging on a rate of 15% for refugees, although it represents 67% for communities in terms of access to energy. This performance is the result of a participatory and inclusive process involving forcibly displaced people, partners and financial service providers.

## 9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

**By 2026, people for and with whom UNHCR works has sufficient access to energy**

**By 2026, people with and for whom UNHCR works have access to adequate dwellings**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing	IDPs	12.90%	15.00%	13.00%
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	13.00%	15.00%	13.00%
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing	Returnees	13.00%	15.00%	13.00%
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	13.00%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting	IDPs	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting	Others of Concern	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting	Returnees	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The shelters met the needs of 4,304 refugees, 322 returnees, 16,321 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 70 from host community. The housing integrated various shelter components according to specificities and phases of displacement, whether in an emergency or for a prolonged period. To this end, the achievements resulted in the construction of 385 transitional shelters on sites for IDPs and host families, the rehabilitation of 65 transitional shelters and the fitting out of sites with lateritic materials, estimated at 770 m<sup>3</sup> of volumes supplied, on which these activities were carried out to mitigate the risks of flooding. In the same vein, IDPs occupying schools during winterization and victims of terror attacks were relocated to sites and provided with 133 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs). Similarly, in response to the influx of Burkinabe refugees to Sikasso, 163 RHUs were set up to receive and house them.

On emergency response, 2,200 shelter kits were distributed to refugees and IDPs in the centre, west and north of the country. As a prelude, a community approach was developed to train beneficiaries in locally resilient construction techniques, with cash assistance packaged in two instalments. This approach, through inclusiveness, particularly of women and other vulnerable categories, has strengthened their empowerment and resilience. It has also facilitated access to shelters for 624 people living with disabilities and reduced mobility.

In terms of impact, the community approach enabled beneficiaries to develop their own community architecture, their environment and culture, the women who benefited from this support in cash packaged in two instalments embellished their homes by having the choice to use other additional materials and felt considered with dignity that the kits allowed for household size increments.

The target has been met by achieving an implementation rate of 24% for refugees, 32% for returnees and 82% for internally displaced persons.

The actions implemented to facilitate access to drinking water have led to the rehabilitation of 4 water points with Improved Village Hydraulic Systems (SHVA) using solar-powered pumping as a means of drainage. Each SHVA consists of a pumping and delivery system, two standpipes, two livestock watering basins and a photovoltaic drainage kit. These projects have been carried out in host areas where there is a high concentration of refugees and where the pressure on existing infrastructure has been exacerbated by the demographic pressure of displacement on communities' scarce water resources. Although limited, these projects have strengthened the social cohesion between the refugees and their host community and are a



protective factor in ensuring that the community remains anchored and that secondary movements do not take place

## 10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

By 2026, health status of the population improved

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Providing medical care to forcibly displaced people and stateless people remains a real challenge for the Mali operation. UNHCR Mali has implemented a strategy to encourage populations to join a mutual health insurance scheme in order to alleviate the suffering of patients. This health insurance made it possible to cover 25% of cases of illness. For example, only 22% of the inhabitants of Kayes and 28% of the inhabitants of Bamako have joined the mutual health insurance. Pathologies move from chronic diseases (Diabetes, Hypertension, etc.) to diseases such as malaria and typhoid. In the event of a complication, some patients are evacuated from the regions to Bamako.

Health coverage for forcibly displaced people reached in 2023, 1,359 people out of 5,414 members of the mutual health insurance, among whom 78 children aged 9 months to 5 years were vaccinated against measles, 74 refugee women were followed until At delivery by qualified health workers, 3 health centers were supported with medical equipment. This health coverage for 2023 is 25%, below the annual objective of 47%. This rate does not take into account forcibly displaced people who are not affiliated with health insurance. In terms of HIV/AIDS care, 180 messages were disseminated in Peul, Soninké, Khassonké and Bambara on prevention, transmission of HIV and the importance of HIV testing, targeting 79,000 people. A forum theater was held in the refugee camp for 365 people. An HIV awareness campaign was carried out in 15 sites, reaching 2,748 people, including 1,263 women and 1,485 men. A voluntary screening campaign was organized on the site. Ninety-seven refugees, including 59 women and 38 men, were screened and all tested negative. The 10 PLHIV households received a food and hygiene kit consisting of pasta, milk, sugar, milk and toiletries. Psychological care for 167 people, including cases related to GBV and assault.

## 11. Outcome Area: Education



**By 2026, people with and for whom UNHCR works have access to primary, secondary, and tertiary education**

**By 2026, refugees, asylum-seekers benefit from national reception procedures supported by UNHCR**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The closure of schools due to insecurity is a significant obstacle to access to education. Children are thus deprived of their fundamental right to learn, compromising their future and perpetuating the cycle of vulnerability. As part of our support for education, a number of activities have been carried out, facilitating access to quality education for children who have been forcibly displaced and are at risk of statelessness.

The primary school enrollment rate of refugee children fell from 33.33% to 32.6%, a slight decrease of 0.73%. The rate at secondary and tertiary levels both increased from 1.9% in 2022 to 3.9% in 2023, mainly due to the continuation of targeted aid and a slight increase in the number of scholarships available at tertiary level. Efforts include expanding schools' capacity through the construction of nine classrooms, three improved hangars and 30 center of Alternative Strategy for Accelerated Education/bridge schools SSA/P and six latrine blocks, improving the learning environment through 1,121 cash transfers, and the enrolment of 706 pupils, improving the quality of education by providing 12,903 school kits and materials, and training 190 teachers.

The synergy of action and good coordination between the government, the Education cluster, the Education Dialogue Group and the implementation partners made the success of these achievements possible. The contribution of the Education Cannot Wait project is to be welcomed, as it contributed to the creation of: 9 classrooms, 3 modern sheds and 8 latrine blocks. 887 learners in 30 center of Alternatives Strategie for Accelerated Education/ bridge school. Direct registrations concerned 3,608 students. The cash transfer reached 1,121 students. 10,628 school kits and educational materials were distributed to students. Capacity building for 332 teachers in psychosocial protection and first aid, as well as education for emergency situations. The tertiary sector concerns 20 DAFI scholarships and 3 Bioforce laureates

## 13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

## By 2026, people with and for whom UNHCR have access to livelihood and economic inclusion activities

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	IDPs	1.00%	3.00%	1.00%
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1.01%	5.00%	1.00%
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	Returnees	1.00%	3.00%	1.00%
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	1.00%
13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year	IDPs	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year	Returnees	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%
13.3 Proportion of people (working age) who are unemployed	IDPs	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
13.3 Proportion of people (working age) who are unemployed	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
13.3 Proportion of people (working age) who are unemployed	Returnees	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%
13.3 Proportion of people (working age) who are unemployed	Stateless Persons	Unknown	Unknown	3.00%

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The activities contributed to the target result for 2026, in particular access to decent, formal employment or self-employment. In fact, the bulk of employment in 2023 consisted of self-employment, which reached 1,378 out of a forecast 1,366 beneficiaries in 2023.

93 Village Savings and Credit Associations (VSCAs) created;

157 young people trained in various trades;

19 Women's and young people's groups supported with equipment (agriculture, livestock farming, small-scale market gardening) ;

220 Individual income-generating activities (IGAs) financed ;

100 refugee households received support in the form of agricultural equipment and improved seeds.

## 14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

**By 2026, people with and for whom UNHCR works have the necessary information and resources to voluntarily return to their country of origin**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
14.1 Proportion of returnees with legally recognized identity documents or credentials	Returnees	3.00%	5.00%	3.00%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2023, 576 returnees, mainly spontaneous, from Burkina Faso, Niger and Mauritania were registered in the Timbuktu region (95%). 16 priority return municipalities have been updated to inform refugees in countries of asylum, 2 Regional Tripartite Agreement Monitoring Committees have been set up in the Gao and Timbuktu regions and 40 protection and civil registry agents have been trained to register returnees at the 28 entry points into Mali. In addition, 2 tripartite meeting sessions were held in July and December 2023 between Burkina Faso, Mali and UNHCR.

In 2023, 2,250 substitute judgements were issued and distributed to repatriated children in the regions of Timbuktu, Gao, Mopti, Ségou, Ménaka, Bamako and Koulikoro. 4,4528 people were made aware of the importance of civil documentation, including 1,403 people who benefited directly from civil status documents in the areas of Mopti, Djenne, Teninkou, Youwarou, Bandiagara, Bankass, Koro and Douentza. All these activities, in the interests of social cohesion, benefited the host population.

Two (2) collective income-generating activity groups and 30 individual income-generating activities for returnees have been assisted, 10 SSAP centres have also been set up to recover and provide schooling for returnee children affected by forced displacement and who are over school age, and 4 improved village water systems have been built in areas of return to improve access to water and promote sustainable return. Only 15 refugees were repatriated to their country of origin, including 14 Central Africans and 1 Congolese (DRC).

Activities to prevent, protect and reduce the risk of statelessness involved training 55 people in Timbuktu, and 70 community relays in Kaye, including 13 women and 57 men. The distribution of 150 encouragement kits comprising loincloths, basins and soap to households that had freely declared the births of their children at the civil registry centres in Kayes, and 16 birth certificates issued in Kayes to help these children get into school.

## 15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

**By 2026 people with and for whom UNHCR Serves have access to sustainable solutions**

Indicators	Population Type	Strategy Baseline	Target (2023)	Actual (2023)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	32	7	32
15.2 Average processing time from resettlement submission to departure under normal priority	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	32.00	7.00	32.00
15.3 Number of people admitted through complementary pathways from the host country	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	32	7	32

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2023, a quota of 30 people was allocated to Mali for submission for resettlement. The unit prepared 11 Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs) for 32 people, all approved by Dakar and submitted to the USA. In addition, the unit facilitated remote interviews of 18 households of 73 refugees by the US resettlement partner RSC-Africa based in Nairobi, Kenya. In addition, 4 Resettlement Registration Forms (RRFs) for 23 people were approved by Dakar. These files are awaiting submission to the resettlement countries.

In addition, the resettlement unit organised capacity-building sessions for partners, including Stop Sahel and the National Commission for Refugees in Kayes, on case identification, referral and fraud prevention. Fact-finding and awareness-raising missions were organised to 03 refugee sites in Kayes and several others for urban refugees in Bamako. The themes developed concerned the resettlement process and fraud prevention. In terms of achievements for 2023, 01 household of 2 people were resettled in France on 6 September 2023.

## 2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

In the delivery of the UNHCR response, forcibly displaced and stateless people are treated equally without discrimination on the basis of sex or gender. In the area of coverage, all UNHCR and partner activities take into account the AGD dimension (age, gender and diversity). Women and girls take part in assessments and in the planning and implementation stages at the same time as men and boys. Responses are provided in consideration of the cultural and social realities of the people we serve, as well as principles of inclusion that take disability into account.

## Section 3: Resources

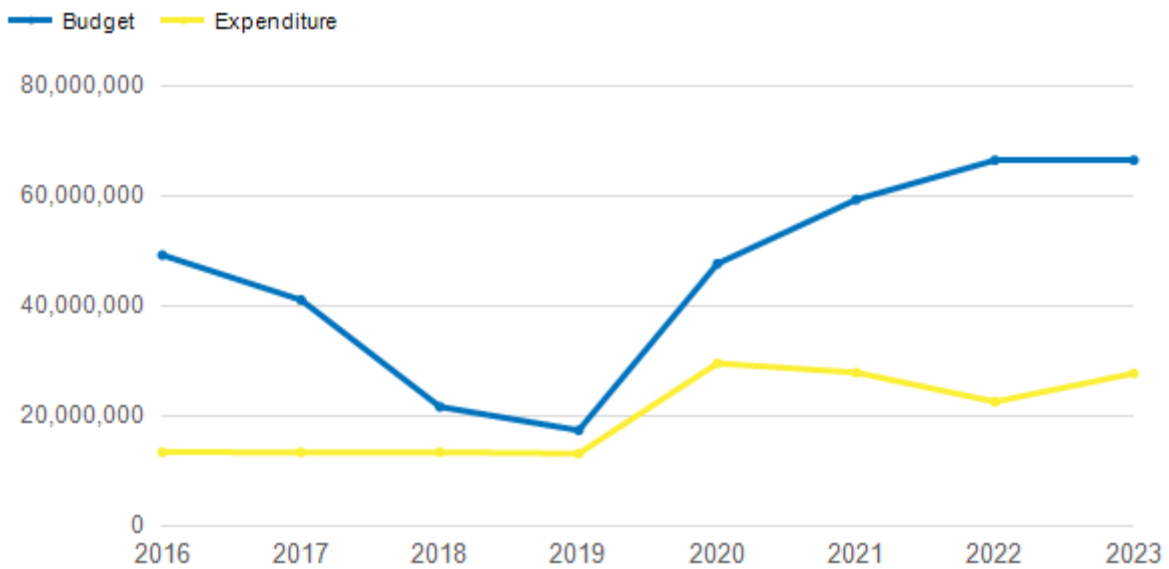
### 3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

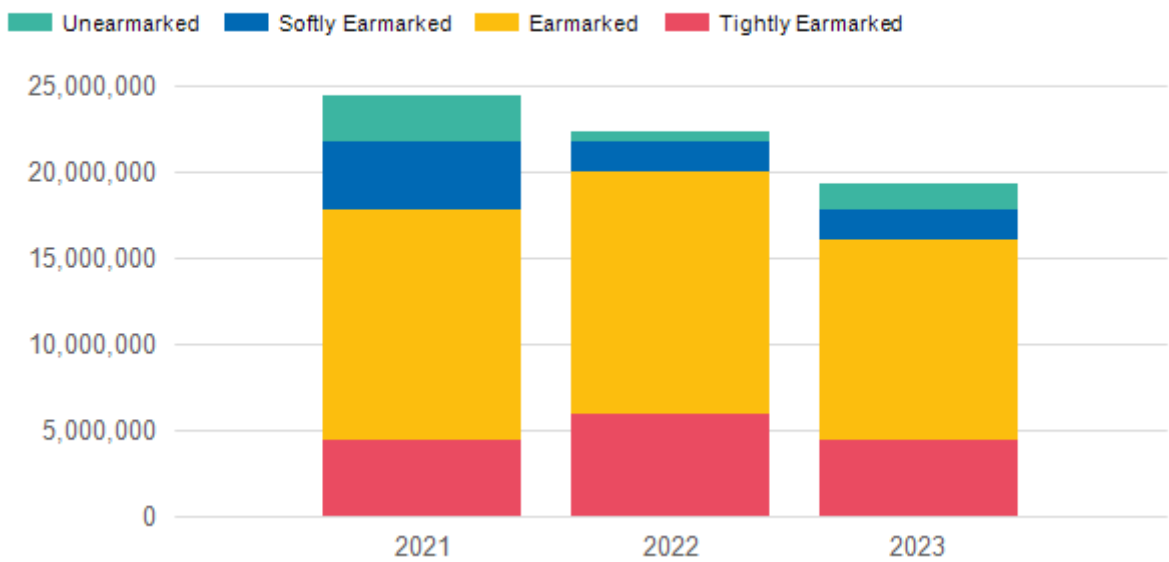
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	6,994,241	3,725,347	53.26%	3,725,347	100.00%
IA2: Assist	29,383,006	11,553,477	39.32%	11,285,102	97.68%
IA3: Empower	14,368,079	5,586,505	38.88%	5,586,505	100.00%
IA4: Solve	15,664,184	7,076,373	45.18%	7,076,373	100.00%
All Impact Areas		49,479			
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,409,511</b>	<b>27,991,182</b>	<b>42.15%</b>	<b>27,673,327</b>	<b>98.86%</b>

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	14,442,902	5,865,524	40.61%	5,865,524	100.00%
OA4: GBV	2,757,227	1,067,763	38.73%	1,067,763	100.00%
OA7: Community	3,221,715	1,473,821	45.75%	1,473,821	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	16,301,384	4,729,104	29.01%	4,729,104	100.00%
OA9: Housing	5,429,457	3,309,067	60.95%	3,309,067	100.00%
OA10: Health	3,075,375	740,416	24.08%	740,416	100.00%
OA11: Education	7,150,751	2,608,912	36.48%	2,340,536	89.71%
OA13: Livelihood	4,150,144	1,339,882	32.29%	1,339,882	100.00%
OA14: Return	3,200,285	1,989,052	62.15%	1,989,052	100.00%
OA15: Resettle		595,954		595,954	100.00%
EA17: Systems	2,487,966	1,255,476	50.46%	1,255,476	100.00%
EA18: Support	2,088,824	1,251,039	59.89%	1,251,039	100.00%
EA20: External	2,103,480	1,715,692	81.56%	1,715,692	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		49,479			
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,409,511</b>	<b>27,991,182</b>	<b>42.15%</b>	<b>27,673,327</b>	<b>98.86%</b>

### Budget and Expenditure Trend



### Contributions Trend by Type



## 3.2. Resources Overview

During 2023 UNHCR Mali continued to explore funding sources and to meet with traditional and non-traditional donors to discuss funding opportunities. UNHCR benefited from significant financial contributions from the US Government, Spain, Germany, Sweden, United Kingdom, Education Cannot Wait, and CERF. These financial contributions have made it possible to meet certain needs of persons affected by forced displacement and persons at risk of statelessness. The Representation continued advocacy efforts through regular meetings and information-sharing with diplomatic representations (embassies and cooperation), kept Embassy focal points abreast and explored new funding opportunities.

UNHCR intends to maintain donors' interest, by capitalizing on funding opportunities from both traditional and non-traditional donors to fund mid and long-term solution initiatives that facilitate the socioeconomic inclusion and self-reliance of forcibly displaced persons. The Protection Strategy for Mali, which was elaborated in consultation with several donor countries, paved the way for UNHCR to align its strategic priorities to the ones found in most of donor countries' strategies for Mali. For this, talking points and briefing notes are drafted for meetings at the leadership level between UNHCR and embassies, in which reference is made to potential collaboration and financial contributions, based on common priority sectors. Also, there were consultations with some embassies with UNHCR, as a prelude to the development of their new country strategies. During these consultations, UNHCR pushed and raised for the consideration and inclusion of uprooted populations and their needs.

Furthermore, taking into the insecurity in the northern and central parts of Mali, where most of projects are being implemented, digital communication is a field to be further explored and developed by the External Relations staff. Donors in Mali are not always keen on planning visits in areas where they fund projects, implemented by UNHCR, mainly for security reasons. For this, UNHCR has concluded that digital communication is an effective way to meet with donors, further put emphasis on their visibility through visuals, videos, photography, graphics, storytelling, texts, etc. For this, the External Relations capacity and technical skills will further be sharpened to keep abreast with the latest developments and produce appealing visuals, based on narratives revolving around lifechanging actions in the benefit of forcibly displaced persons, while subtly ensuring donor visibility.

Finally, a fundraising and resource mobilization strategy will be developed and implemented to identify funding gaps and sources throughout 2024 to 2026 and maintain a good funding level during the same period. Its implementation would sustain a holistic response to forcibly displaced persons in Mali, considering the degrading security and sociopolitical situation, which are deepening the overall humanitarian situation.

## Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

### 4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

The drafting of Mali's 2023 annual report in Mali and the workshop related to the Strategic Moment of Reflection held last end of February, highlighted a number of issues from which the operation can learn in order to redirect its strategy towards greater productivity and impact for refugees, IDPs, returnees and people at risk of statelessness.

With diminishing resources, the Mali operation should seek to do more with less and increase the strategic allocation of resources in order to better demonstrate the impact of interventions, including through area-targeted approaches, the rationalisation of strategic partnerships, the gradual introduction of nationalisation and the strategic use of bi/tri cluster approaches. To this end, it must make more effective and efficient use of existing partnerships and coordination mechanisms (protection, non-food items and refugee working groups) to strengthen the response to refugees and internally displaced people. Despite a historic challenge to partnership arrangements, a new approach to improving operational effectiveness on the ground is seen as crucial in the long term.

UNHCR must maintain adequate institutional and operational capacity and resources to respond to emergencies, fill critical life-saving gaps due to the withdrawal or absence of implementing partners and the limited capacity of line ministries, and manage reputational risks. Better consultation with affected communities and partners is needed to set operational, planning and implementation objectives to achieve shared outcomes and foster inclusion and ownership. Programme design should be better adapted to the context. For example, the theory of change, risk mitigation strategies and results frameworks should be updated following major events or changes. In implementation, UNHCR should adopt a solutions- and resilience-based approach to humanitarian assistance and make strategic use of unconditional cash to empower beneficiaries. Systematic analysis of post-distribution monitoring results, including in-kind assistance, should be used to refine programmes at regular intervals.





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