

DAFI Programme in West & Central Africa 2020 Highlights

Higher education is a priority outlined in the [Education 2030: A Strategy for Refugee Education](#), forming an integral part of UNHCR's protection and solutions mandate.

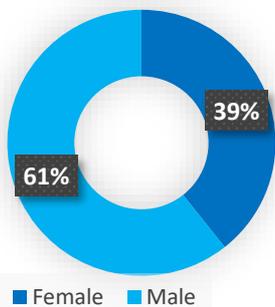
The **DAFI** (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) **scholarship programme** offers qualified refugee and returnee students the possibility to earn an undergraduate degree in their country of asylum or home country.

UNHCR's goal is to increase refugee enrolment in higher education from the current 3% to 15% by 2030 (15by30).

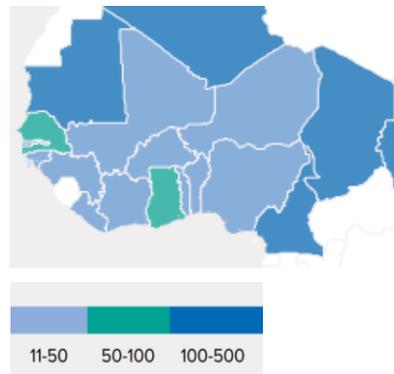
Learn more about the [DAFI Programme](#) and the [15by30 Roadmap](#).



Number of DAFI students in WCA



Female: 288
Male: 444
Total: 732



Students' Voices: Felix (Ghana)

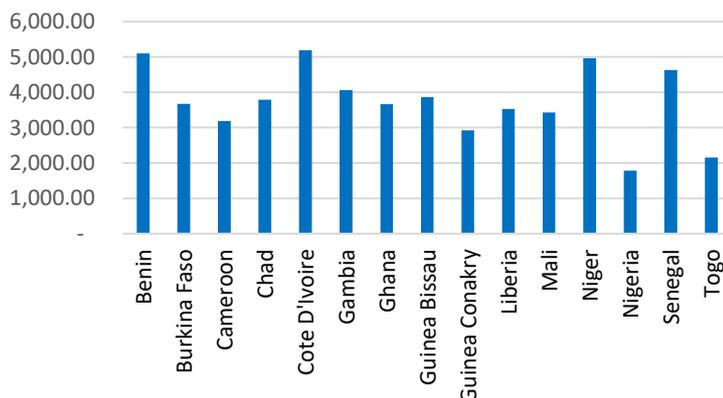
'Being on a DAFI scholarship was a great and satisfactory journey. It didn't only restore me hope but also granted me a career. It's refreshing that this tremendous feat makes me feel refined from being defined as a refugee. Going forward, I aspire to pursue my Master's degree in Public Health.'

Felix is a young Sierra Leonean refugee from Krisan Camp in Ghana who just graduated with a BSc Nursing Degree.



Felix attending the Global Refugee Forum in Geneva in December 2019.

Average scholarship amount per student (in USD)





Students' Voices: Maimouna (Niger)

'The DAFI scholarship allowed me to be a role model in the Malian refugee community in Niamey. In the future, I wish to work with humanitarian organizations to bring in innovation and support humanitarian workers so they can better serve the affected populations.'

Maimouna is a young Malian refugee in Niger who recently graduated with a BTS in Human Resource Management.

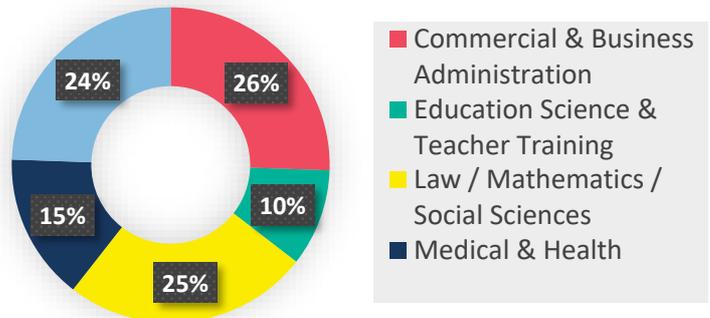


Girl Leadership Group awareness campaign for girls' secondary education in Cameroon.

DAFI students in Ghana during the 16 Days Campaign – Watch their video [here](#).



DAFI students' main fields of study



DAFI Clubs: Outstanding Activities

DAFI students mobilized strongly during the response to the **COVID-19 pandemic** and contributed in many ways to support their community during this difficult period. In **Chad**, they organized free tutoring sessions to refugee Baccalareate candidates to support their preparation. In **Cameroon**, 21 youth from the 'Girls Leadership Group' and the DAFI Club assisted primary and secondary students in examination years with distance learning to help them get ready for their return to school. In **Senegal**, DAFI students collected donations and hygiene equipment to deliver to vulnerable refugee families.

DAFI students are also continuously engaged in skills training and career coaching, aiming to support refugee students' **transition to employment**. In **Mali**, DAFI students have developed a capacity building plan with training sessions in entrepreneurship, business management, community development, and English language. In **Senegal**, the DAFI Club organized a workshop on career plan management, in collaboration with [Ashinaga Senegal](#).

DAFI students are also committed activists! During the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence**, DAFI scholars in Ghana have produced a [video](#) to raise awareness on the various forms of GBV and on what can be done to prevent them.



DAFI is a UNHCR Tertiary Education programme funded by the Governments of Germany, Denmark and Czech Republic and private donors and foundations.