

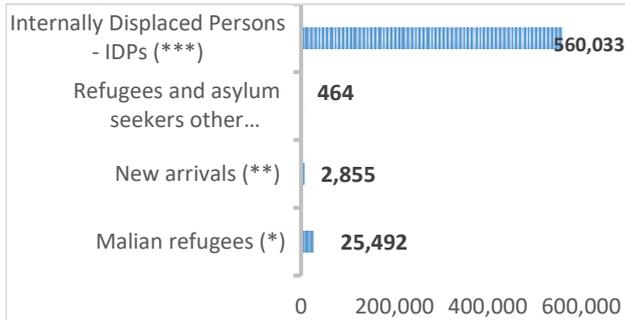
Burkina Faso



Young refugee girls who are happy to be able to attend the new secondary school in Goudoubo camp in Dori, funded by the European Union Trust Fund ©UNHCR /M. Bergman

POPULATION OF CONCERN

593,989



* UNHCR figures (30 Nov. 2019)

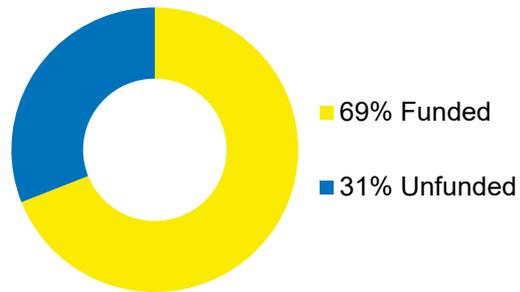
** Government of Burkina Faso figures (Nov. 2019)

*** OCHA figures (9 Dec. 2019)

FUNDING (AS OF 9 DEC. 2019)

USD 30,5 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

76,000

Number of birth certificates UNHCR helped to deliver to IDPs and host communities in 2019

560,033

people forced to flee their homes to find safety elsewhere in Burkina Faso



Mounira, 2, is internally displaced in Burkina Faso © UNHCR /M. Bergman

Operational Context

1. **Malian refugees:** In 2012, conflict broke out in northern Mali. Today, over 25,000 Malians have found refuge in Burkina Faso and are biometrically registered by UNHCR. The Sahel region, bordering Mali and Niger, hosts 98% of Malian refugees and is affected by insecurity and violence. Asylum-seekers from Mali have continued to enter the Boucle du Mouhoun and Nord regions and live mainly in spontaneous sites or with the local host population.
2. **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** Attacks and clashes between Burkinabe security forces and non-identified armed groups have grown in intensity, causing casualties on both sides. The civilian population is increasingly targeted, causing more people to flee with the number of IDPs recorded at over 560,000 on 9 December 2019.
3. **Mixed Migratory Movements:** Burkina Faso is a transit country of mixed migratory movements northwards. These migratory flows are mixed and consist of economic migrants, as well as persons in need of international protection.
4. **Statelessness:** Burkina Faso hosts a large number of stateless people or people at risk of statelessness, especially in the Sahel. According to a UNHCR study, 30% of people living in the Sahel are without a nationality in a situation, which leaves them struggling to realize their fundamental human rights and to access to basic services most people take for granted.

Security situation

The already volatile security situation in Burkina Faso, mainly in the Sahel, Centre-Nord, Nord and East regions, has continued to deteriorate and spread. Humanitarian access to refugees and internally displaced populations is increasingly challenging.

In addition to Djibo, Barsalogho, Kelbo, and out of camp areas in the Oudalan province, Dori has been added to the list of dangerous areas. The security post in Goudoubo refugee camp near Dori was attacked twice by unidentified armed individuals in November and December, and partner vehicles were attacked on their way back from the camp towards Dori on 22 December. Although no casualties or injuries were reported, activities in the camp, including the distribution of cash grants for the voluntary repatriation of some 350 refugees, were temporarily suspended.

In Mentao camp near Djibo, schools and health posts remain closed, basic services are unavailable, and police are not present in the camp. As local populations in and around Djibo are fleeing to other areas to find safety, refugees in Mentao camp have also expressed a wish to be relocated elsewhere due to security concerns. However, on 30 December the Government decided that refugees were not allowed to leave Mentao camp, citing potential unrest and linking refugees to security concerns. UNHCR has strongly objected to these new guidelines in particular since the police station in Djibo was again targeted by an attack on 31 December, thereby highlighting further the dangerous conditions in the area. Before the new administrative instruction was published, some refugees had repatriated voluntarily to Mali and others had spontaneously relocated to safer areas such as Ouagadougou and Bobo Dioulasso, where cash support was made available to facilitate their integration. As it was deemed necessary to temporarily relocate staff members to other offices due to security considerations in November, UNHCR currently has a limited presence in Mentao camp with two refugee volunteers providing a vital link to the refugee population.




PROTECTION

- Around 240 refugees had relocated from Mentao (Djibo) to Goudoubo camp (Dori) during 2019 following the worsening security situation in Djibo. More tried to leave in December, but the Government published new guidelines forbidding refugees from leaving Mentao camp and the local population from providing refugees with assistance. UNHCR raised strong objections to this new policy with the Government and more specifically with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;
- A training of 80 investigators and field staff of the new partner responsible for protection monitoring (ICAHD) in the Centre-North and Hauts-Bassins took place 15-16 November in Kaya.
- The 2019 age, gender and diversity participatory assessment took place 18-21 November for the refugees in Goudoubo camp, the host population and the internally displaced.
- In November, a total of 41 monitoring visits were carried out in the provinces of Oudalan and Soum. These visits identified 49 protection cases, including four cases of human rights violations and 45 cases with specific needs
- As part of gender-based violence prevention, eight educational talks on the theme of human trafficking were carried out in Goudoubo camp, reaching 135 people, including 70 women, 16 men, 39 girls and 10 boys.
- An evaluation of IDP sites and settlements in the Centre-Nord region took place from 20 November to 5 December. It included a mapping of Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) partners, a needs analysis, consultations with the humanitarian community, draft TORs for establishment of a Working Group on Coordination of Temporary Sites and a Strategic Advisory Group to be further deliberation with the Minister of Humanitarian Action.
- Twenty members of the security forces (FDS) from Seno and Oudalan were trained on international protection and the Burkinabe national asylum framework from 17 to 18 December.
- On 10 December, a workshop consisting of donors, UN, NGO and State representatives involved in the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), including CONASUR in charge of humanitarian affairs, was held in Ouagadougou. The main thematic areas covered were related to rapid evaluation of the needs of persons targeted under the RRM, targeting criteria, registration of target populations, coordination of the response with government entities, the sectors and partners of the RRM, as well as access-related issues.


SHELTER AND NFI

- A distribution of NFIs was organized from 19 to 23 December to some 400 IDP households in the town of Djibo from different municipalities in the province of Soum (Arbinda, Baraboule, Djibo, Diguel, Nassoumbou, Pobe-Mengao, Tongomayel, Kelbo and Koutougou) The IDPs received blankets, mats, mosquito nets, buckets, jerry cans and kitchen kits.
- In total, **2668 shelters** were constructed, including 1518 through cash grants, and **4736 core relief items** were provided, including 2736 through cash grants, in November and December.



An internally displaced man in Barsalogo is standing in front of the house he built with the help of a cash grant provided by UNHCR.
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COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- Two big orders for UNHCR's **MADE51 initiative** were finalized by refugee artisans working for the social enterprise partners AAKS and Afrika Tiss.
- AAKS trained 6 women from Goudoubo camp in the development of a new collection of lamp shades, and the association Namoi in Gorom trained 35 refugee women, including 5 from Mentao camp, on how to develop new artisan products.
- Together with partner VSF-B, **44 young refugees and members of host communities** took part in vocational training to enable them to acquire skills in bakery, electrics and solar energy, mechanics, computer technology, sewing, woodworking, ICT and mobile phone repair.
- Some 100 refugees and 70 people from the host community around Goudoubo camp people received materials and seeds ahead of the dry season.



Refugee artisan woman in Goudoubo camp making a lampshade for the UNHCR MADE51 initiative © UNHCR/ M.Bergman



EDUCATION

- A training on education in emergencies and the rights of children was held for primary school teachers and members of community structures from 28 to 29 November. The training brought together 47 participants, including 20 women.
- As of December 19, the Government reported that 2,087 schools were closed, affecting 303,090 students and 9,264 teachers. The closure of schools is noted mainly in the Centre-Nord (Bam, Sanmatenga), the Est (Tapoa, Gourma and Gnagna) and the Nord (Loroum and Yatenga) regions.
- By the end of the 2019-2020 school year, a total of 2,266 **refugee children** attended school (1,168 boys and 1,098 girls), including 357 in preschool (150 boys and 207 girls), 1,652 primary students (904 boys and 748 girls), 230 secondary school students (100 boys and 130 girls) and 27 high school students in urban areas (13 girls and 14 boys), including 12 DAFI fellows (7 boys and 5 girls).



Refugee students in class in the newly constructed secondary school in Goudoubo. © M.Bergman/UNHCR



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- A targeted distribution of food took place from 11 to 19 December in Mentao refugee camp. This distribution consisted of a 2-month ration of food composed of rice, beans, salt, oil, and one-month ration of corn soya blend (CSB) to combat child malnutrition. The distribution reached some 1,690 households of around 7,440 refugees.

Key Challenges

- With the deterioration of the security situation in the country, the number of people fleeing violent attacks is ever increasing, straining the already meagre resources and coping mechanisms of the local communities.
- The specific needs of refugees in the Mentao camp are increasing with no functioning schools, health centre or police presence. Under new Government guidelines, refugees are forbidden to leave the camp.
- Following attacks against the security post in the Goudoubo refugee camp in the Sahel and vehicles of partners leaving the camp, it is feared that humanitarian access to refugees will also become more difficult.
- Refugees' identity cards have essentially expired since September 2019 in both the Mentao and Goudoubo camps. Taking into account the importance of this document for refugees, especially in the current security context, it is imperative that arrangements be made for the renewal of identity cards as soon as possible.

UNHCR Presence in Burkina Faso

Staff and Offices: UNHCR counts a total of 92 national and international staff, which includes consultants and affiliate workforce, with 1 Representation in Ouagadougou, 1 Field Office in Dori, 1 Field Office in Kaya and Antenna Offices in Bobo-Dioulasso and Ouahigouya. Staff formerly based in Djibo have been temporarily relocated to Kaya.

Partners

The Government of Burkina Faso (**CONAREF** – Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés and **CONASUR** – Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Réhabilitation), African Initiative for Relief and Development (**AIRD**), Mouvement Burkinabe des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples, Danish Refugee Council (**DRC**), Centre de Support en Santé International (**CSSI**), Christian Relief and Development Organization (**CREDO**), Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgique (**VSF-B**), Mouvement Burkinabe des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples (**MBDHP**), **PLAN INTERNATIONAL**, Norwegian Refugee Council (**NRC**), Initiative De Cooperation Et D'appui Aux Actions Humanitaires et de Developpement (**ICAHD**), **InterSos**.

Financial information

The total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD 20,949,180 Million as of December 9, 2019 by: Canada | the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) | Denmark | the European Union | Italy | France | the United States of America | Private Donors | United Nations Programme On HIV/AIDS | United Nations Peacebuilding Fund

Softly earmarked contributions

United States of America 27.8 million | Private donors Australia 12.5 million | Canada 6.8 million | Germany 4.5 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.6 million
Denmark | Japan | Liechtenstein | Norway | Private donors

Unearmarked contributions

Sweden 99.8 million | Private donors Spain 73.8 million | United Kingdom 44.6 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 43.1 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 37.9 million | Germany 26.7 million | Japan 25.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Private donors Japan 20.5 million | Private donors Italy 17.5 million | Switzerland 15.1 million | France 14 million | Private donors Sweden 12.3 million | Private donors USA 11.7 million | Ireland 10.2 million | Italy 10 million
Algeria | Argentina | Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan | Belgium | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Islamic Republic of Pakistan | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

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