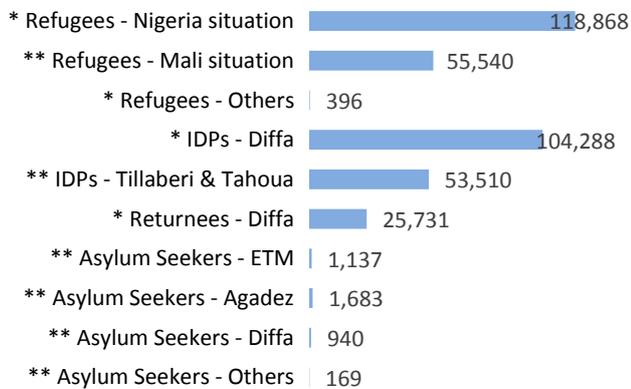


Niger



POPULATION OF CONCERN

362,262



* Government of Niger official figures.

** UNHCR figures.

KEY INDICATORS

2,332

Refugees evacuated temporarily from Libya to Niger as part of the ETM (Emergency Transit Mechanism) from November 2017 – January 2019

1,647

Persons profiled by UNHCR in Agadez seeking asylum

53,510

Persons internally displaced in the Tillaberi & Tahoua regions



Newly enrolled Malian refugee children in Tillaberi region (ICAHD Jan, 2019).

Operational Context

The key situations include:

- 1. The Mali situation:** began in 2012 with the outbreak of conflict in northern Mali. The regions of Tillabéri and Tahoua bordering Mali and hosting most of the Malian refugees are increasingly affected by insecurity and terrorism. A State of Emergency was declared in 2017, and extended and further expanded to areas bordering Burkina Faso at the end of 2018. There are currently 55,540 Malian refugees in Niger. The Government of Niger and UNHCR seek to accelerate the socio-economic integration of these refugees and the closure of the camps through urbanization by the end of 2020. An EU Trust Fund supported regional project as well as a GIZ supported project are supporting these efforts at local integration and development in Tillabéri and Tahoua regions.
- 2. The Nigeria situation:** began in 2013, with the arrival of the first Nigerian refugees across the border fleeing Boko Haram. The situation deteriorated with the first attacks on Niger territory in 2015. There are almost 250,000 displaced persons in the region (including 118,868 refugees, 104,288 IDPs, and 25,731 returnees). The majority live in spontaneous sites or with the local population, while UNHCR manages one refugee camp, with 15,136 people. In 2018, despite a complex security context, all actors agreed on the need to engage strongly in development oriented interventions. The Government of Niger, UNHCR and the World Bank are working closely in that direction. Additionally, an EU Trust Fund supported project is ongoing in Diffa region, aimed at supporting economic recovery and long term solutions through urbanization and the construction of durable housing.
- 3. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** The displaced population in the Diffa region is extremely mixed, including refugees, IDPs and returnees. However, the IDP situation in Niger has become more complex with increasing insecurity in the regions of Tillabéri and Tahoua, bordering Mali. In 2018, and into 2019, attacks and insecurity in the area have resulted in the internal displacement of at least 53,510 people. Protection monitoring, advocacy, capacity building and coordinated efforts with humanitarian actors are ongoing to ensure an adequate response to the situation. In December 2018, the Government of Niger adopted a national law for the assistance and protection of IDPs based on the Kampala Convention.
- 4. Mixed Movements:** Niger is a major crossroads of migratory movements northwards towards Libya, Algeria and the Mediterranean. These migratory flows constitute mixed movements, including economic migrants as well as persons in need of international protection. In Agadez, UNHCR works to identify asylum seekers within the migratory flows and works with the government, as well as IOM and NGOs to provide these persons with information and assistance. 1,683 persons, mostly Sudanese, are currently registered by UNHCR in Agadez. 24% are minors and 183 are unaccompanied or separated children. The majority are currently seeking asylum in Niger. The situation has become more complex, with the addition of downward movements from Libya and Algeria. A new Humanitarian Centre was built to accommodate and screen those seeking international protection in the second half of 2018. Over 1,200 asylum seekers are now accommodated at the centre, while the most vulnerable (around 200 people) are supported in 3 guesthouses in the city of Agadez.
- 5. Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM):** This unique programme aims to provide life-saving protection, assistance and long-term solutions to extremely vulnerable refugees trapped in detention in Libya, through temporary evacuation to Niger. The aim is to deliver protection and identify durable solutions, including resettlement for these refugees, who are predominantly Eritrean and Somali. Their profiles mainly include survivors of torture or other forms of violence in the country of origin and/or transit countries (e.g. Libya) and others with compelling protection needs. Many of them are unaccompanied children and women and girls at risk. To date, 2,332 persons have been evacuated to Niger – 1,137 of whom are still in Niamey while the others have already been resettled. With the support of the EU Trust Fund, a new transit centre is being built near Niamey to host the evacuees while they await resettlement to third countries.

Security Situation

The regions of **Tahoua** and **Tillabéri** continue to be affected by armed groups and inter-ethnic violence resulting in displacement of population in all the departments close to the Mali border. Movements of suspected extremists near the border have been reported, as well as incursions in villages, cattle thefts and market attacks by armed extremists. The situation along the border with Burkina Faso also deteriorated significantly with attacks targeting

the defence and security forces (DSF) as well as the civil population (schools burned, people abducted). A state of emergency is still in place in 11 departments of the Tillaberi region (on a total of 13).

On the 26 of January, an attack by armed elements occurred in the outskirts of the town of Tillaberi, against a DSF position showing the capacity of these groups, even far from the border area. One suspected member of the non-state armed group was killed, while a member of the DSF was injured. Earlier in January, another position was attacked in Boni, 50kms away from Makolondi, killing 1 Nigerien military. Moreover, 2 military trucks exploded due to land mines, causing 4 deaths and 9 injuries in the commune of Torodi.

With the deterioration of the situation, humanitarian workers are being urged to reduce missions/travel throughout the Tillaberi region. The mobility of these armed groups enable them to reach their target in the whole region.

In **Tahoua**, several armed attacks occurred in January, mainly including thefts against cars and trucks on the road.

In the **Diffa** region in January, the security situation continued to be marked by repeated attacks by the Boko Haram (BH) armed group with more than 20 major incidents in which at least 6 people lost their lives and 6 were abducted. These incidents, which occurred mainly in the communes of Gueskerou, Toumour and Bosso, in the border zone of the Komadougou River, whose waters are beginning to retreat, are perceived as a sign of a deterioration of the security situation in the region.

The security context in the **Agadez** region continues to be marked by repeated armed attacks, particularly on the main roads converging towards Agadez. Armed attacks and groups of bandits create a constant psychosis among the population of Agadez and among road users.

Key Developments & Achievements

- In Diffa region, at the end of January, movements of 3,785 people were registered. 1,255 of them are internal population movements, from Bosso and Toumour communes, and 2,530 are cross border movements coming from Nigerian communes near the border. These movements are due to ongoing incursions and attacks in the area by BH.
- On the 28 of January, 130 persons in need of international protection arrived in Niamey from Tripoli on the first evacuation flight of 2019 through the ETM. All newly arrived were registered and accommodated in guesthouses. With this flight, UNHCR has evacuated more than 3,000 people from Libya, including 2,332 to Niger, since the beginning of the ETM programme in November 2017.
- Local authorities in Arlit and Tchibarakaten (in the Agadez region) welcomed a joint UNHCR-IOM mission. The mission took place to assess the living conditions of migrants and possible asylum seekers in the area.
- A "Go and See" mission of UNHCR staff, mayors of the communes hosting Malian refugees, and representatives of the Malian refugees (Tillaberi region) was organized in Diffa. The objective was to share experience and lessons learned on the EU Trust Fund project (urbanization/ construction of social houses) for the implementation of a similar intervention with the support of GIZ and the aim of closing the Malian refugees camp by 2020.



"Go and see mission of Mayors of Tillaberi communes, to Diffa region, to observe the progress of the Urbanization project (UNHCR, Jan 2019).



Protection Cluster

- The December 2018 Protection Cluster bulletin is published [here](#).

- The annual Protection Monitoring Report on Tillaberi region is available [here](#).
- An evaluation of the protection situation of displaced population in Diffa region at the end of 2018 is published [here](#).
- Overview of the interconnection between major incidents in northern Mali and the repercussions on the northern part of the Tillaberi and Tahoua regions (January to December 2018) is available [here](#).
- More than 53,510 people have been internally displaced in the Tillaberi and Tahoua regions as of 30 of December. Please see the latest map [here](#).
- 3,995 Malian refugees have been voluntary repatriated between January and December 2018.

Nigeria situation

- The December 2018 Protection Monitoring Report on Diffa is available [here](#).
- Follow-up is being undertaken regarding the situation of the new arrivals of displaced population from Nigeria and from Bosso and Toumour communes. Many of them are women and children, with only 16% men reported.
- In Maradi region, 198 newly displaced refugees from Nigeria were registered by the Regional Directorate of Civil Status, Migration and Refugees (DREC-MR), following the previous registration mission in November 2018, during which 660 individuals were registered.
- In Tahoua region (Madaoua department), 751 newly displaced persons arrived from the Nigeria border areas and have been pre-registered by the Bangui municipal authorities, including 328 children aged 0 to 5 years. From 29 to 30 January, a joint mission composed of UNHCR and the DREC-MR of Tahoua was organized to collect additional information on the population movements and assistance needed.



Displaced women coming from the border areas of the Zangara State in Nigeria, (UNHCR, Jan 2019).

Mali Situation

- The December 2018 Protection Monitoring Report on Tillaberi is available [here](#).

IDP situation

- The follow up continues for the monitoring of the 300 IDPs that have arrived at Tabareybarey refugee camp to seek protection.



Over 300 IDP have arrived at the Tabareybarey refugee camp in the Tillaberi region, seeking protection (UNHCR, Jan 2019).

- An illustrative map of the main protection incidents in the municipalities of the Tillaberi region in December is available [here](#)

Mixed Movements situation

- On the 30 of January, the UNHCR Protection unit organized a working session with the Judge for Minors of Agadez, to discuss the legal issues regarding the prevention and response to SGBV in reception areas of asylum seekers and refugees in the region. The judge provided expertise on the special procedures for survivors of SGBV.
- UNHCR facilitated the readmission to the first countries of asylum of 6 Sudanese refugees to Chad and 2 Central Africans to Benin and Cameroon. A work plan is established to advocate for new travel documents policies with the authorities.
- In the context of the identification of refugees or potential asylum seekers in mixed movements, the Regional Council of Agadez with the support of the UNHCR has set up a system for collecting data on migratory flows. The data collected helps to better guide the community mobilization strategy in the identification and referencing of potential asylum seekers in the region.

Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM)

- To date, 2,332 people have been evacuated from Libya to Niger and a total of 1,184 individuals have departed for resettlement to Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, The United Kingdom and The United States.
- UNHCR has received a total of 4,411 resettlement pledges for refugees out of Niger for 2018-2019; the pledges also include resettlement places for some refugees already hosted by Niger. Of those already hosted in Niger, 353 refugees from Mali, Nigeria, Central Africa, Mauritania and Ivory Coast have departed for resettlement.



HEALTH & NUTRITION

Mali situation

- Health infrastructure improvement is ongoing in the Tillaberi and Tahoua regions which will benefit both refugees and host population, including the construction of 2 CSI Type II health centres for the Abala (73% complete) and Ayorou (70% complete) urbanized sites, as well as strengthening of the existing CSI at Intikane.



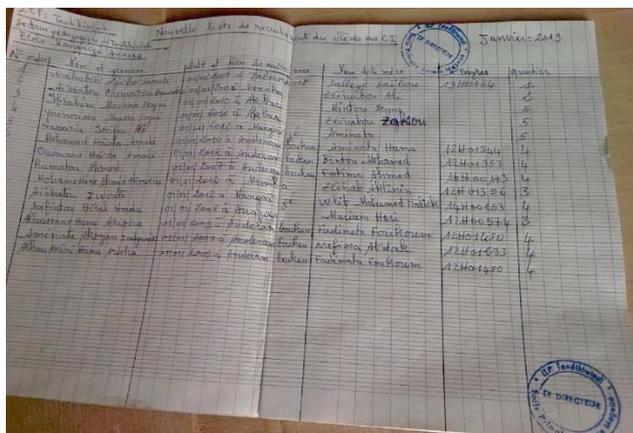
Curative ward and Maternity ward in Abala



EDUCATION

Mali situation

- UNHCR education partner, ICAHD, organized an awareness campaign to increase school enrolment of the Malian children. The rates of enrolled children increased significantly, but it still requires further work to ensure that attendance is maintained.



Enrolment book of the primary school of Mangaize refugee camp, following a mobilisation campaign to enroll Malin refugees in school (left) and laying of the "first brick" for new school infrastructure in Intikane, in the Tahoua region (right).

- On the 21st of January, with the presence of the local authorities, an official ceremony was held to launch the construction of the school infrastructure in Intikane, by the NGO ASB. The intervention includes the construction of 3 new classrooms and rehabilitation of 5, the construction of 5 houses and offices for teachers and the director, as well as sanitary and kitchen blocks. This intervention is central to transform the school of Intikane into a formal Nigerien public school.


SHELTER AND NFIS
Mixed Movements situation

- Relocation of asylum seekers from Agadez to the new Humanitarian Centre was successfully concluded at the end of January. This brings the total of the population living on the site to 1,264. UNHCR is maintaining 3 guesthouses in the city to assist the most vulnerable asylum seekers/refugees.

Nigeria situation

- In the context of the Urbanization project, activities continued in January in Diffa:
 - The construction of 560 houses is in progress in the Diffa commune, with 191 houses completely finished; 221 households are already living on the site in temporary Refugee Housing Units (RHUs).
 - The construction of 108 houses was finished by the partner CISP on the urbanized site of Chétimari. 302 more houses are finished on the urbanized site of N'Guigmi.

Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM)

- As part of the EU Trust Fund supported ETM project, work is ongoing on the site of the new ETM centre in Hamdallaye, 40kms away from Niamey. Following the training of 160 workers (refugees + host population), 312 RHUs have been installed to house refugees evacuated from Libya. This, along with the completion of 105 latrines and showers, as well as several communal gathering areas, has concluded the first phase of the construction plan. The rest of the infrastructure for basic services is still being developed, prioritizing the cooking areas and the clinic.
- A mission was organized on the 31st of January with the Governor of the Tillaberi region to visit the site and meet the local population working on the site.



A 100m³ water tank provides water to the site but also to the neighboring villages with the help of a solar pump at the ETM transit centre in Hamdallaye (UNHCR, Jan 2019).


COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE
ETM

- In the context of the peaceful coexistence and integration of the evacuees from Libya with the host community in Niamey, several activities were organized in January 2019. A cooking competition between different nationalities and the host community was held in presence of the Governor of Niamey, as well as a football match with students of the Abdou Moumouni University in Niamey. Both events were supported and attended by local authorities.
- On a separate occasion, on the 24th of January, a "Refugee Food Night", a culinary event, with food prepared by the evacuees from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Somalia and Sudan, as well as music performed by some unaccompanied children participating in music classes, was organized in collaboration with the Franco Nigerien Cultural Centre (CCFN). Over 100 tickets were sold.



Dishes prepared by refugees evacuated from Libya are presented at a cooking competition held in Niamey (left) and a football match between evacuated refugees, against students of Niamey's national University (right).

Key challenges

Mali situation

- Increasing insecurity, due mostly to armed attacks and ethnic tensions, and a resulting lack of humanitarian access continues to pose the biggest challenge in the area of the country bordering Mali and Burkina Faso.

Nigeria situation

- In the Diffa region, in addition to the threat posed by terrorism, the level of criminality is increasing significantly. Killings, lootings and kidnappings are becoming more frequent, creating tensions and fears among the local community.

IDP situation

- The massive increase in the magnitude of internal displacement in Tillaberi and Tahoua, increasing to over 53,000 IDPs, is creating significant protection challenges and is underfunded. Regular access remains the main issue.

Mixed Movements

- In the Agadez region, UNHCR must continue strengthening cross border coordination in order to support refugees coming from the bordering countries. Work must continue to provide adequate protection to persons of concern in the humanitarian centre as well as in the guesthouses.

Emergency Transit Mechanism

- For those refugees evacuated from Libya, the main challenge remains to improve the fluidity of the process of departures for resettlement, in order to free more refugees from the Libyan detention centres.

UNHCR Presence in Niger

Staff: a total of 315 national and international staff (*this includes consultants and affiliate workforce*)

Offices: 1 Head Office Niamey, 2 Sub-Offices Diffa and Agadez; 2 Field Offices Tillaberi and Tahoua; 2 Field Units Abala and Ouallam.

Partners

Govt. of Niger, ACTED/REACH, ADES, Adkoul, APBE, Care, CDR, CIAUD, CISP, COOPI, DEDI, DRC, Forum Réfugié Cosi, FRC, GVD, HI, IRC, SFCG, SDO.

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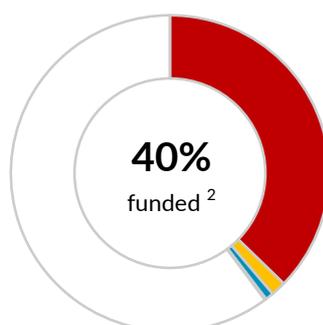
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\$75.9 million

 UNHCR's financial requirements 2019 ¹


NIGER

as of 6 February 2019



CONTRIBUTIONS ³ | USD

	■ Unearmarked	■ Softly earmarked	■ Earmarked	■ Tightly earmarked	Total
European Union	-	-	-	18,341,971	18,341,971
Germany	-	-	-	8,442,209	8,442,209
Italy	-	-	91,848	1,137,657	1,229,506
UN Programme On HIV/AIDS	-	-	-	35,000	35,000
Miscellaneous private donors	-	-	-	87,957	87,957
Sub-total	-	-	91,848	28,044,794	28,136,642
Indicative allocation of funds and adjustments	102,782	630,787	1,058,399	296,413	2,088,381
Total	102,782	630,787	1,150,247	28,341,207	30,225,023

Methodology: Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund prioritised activities. This funding update includes an indicative allocation of funds so as to accurately represent the resources available for the country. The contributions earmarked for Niger shown above are combined with an indicative allocation of the softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions listed below. This allocation respects different levels of earmarking. Adjustments relate to programme support costs and carry-over.

■ OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS ⁴ | USD

Germany 3.3 million

■ UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS ⁵ | USD

Sweden 90.4 million | Denmark 54.9 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 27.3 million | Switzerland 15.1 million

Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Canada | Estonia | Indonesia | Monaco | Montenegro | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

Notes:

- The financial requirements for Niger include requirements for the O.
- The percentage funded (40%) and total funding amount (\$30,225,023) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of \$45,703,885 representing 60% of the financial requirements.
- Contributions to Niger are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.
- Due to their earmarking at the region or sub-region, or to a related situation or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for Niger. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contributions is shown.
- Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contribution \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.

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