

Almost 12,000 new arrivals in Sayam Forage Camp during the second half of 2020 January 2021

The Diffa region hosts **265,696*** **Nigerian refugees, internally displaced persons and Nigerien returnees.** More than 80% of them live in **spontaneous settlements.**

(*Government figures)

Since April 2019, movements are restricted on many roads following **attacks, kidnappings and the increased use of explosive devices.**

The security situation has a strong negative impact on the economy of the region, **reducing opportunities for both host and displaced populations.**

KEY INDICATORS

226,383

Number of people of concern registered biometrically in UNHCR database.

5,395

Households of 25,109 individuals were registered in Sayam Forage Camp as of 31 January 2021.

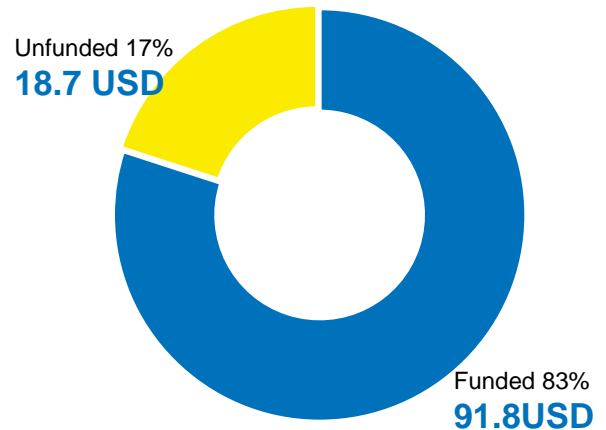
2,409

As of 31st December 2020, houses built in Diffa region. 55% of the final target.

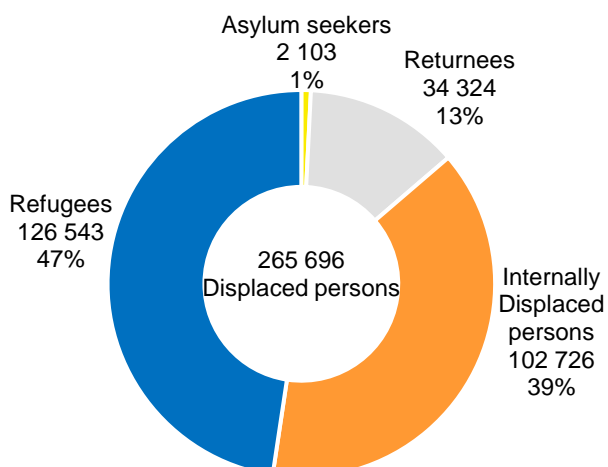
FUNDING (AS OF 2 FEBRUARY 2020)

USD 110.5 million

requested for the UNHCR Niger Operation



POPULATION OF CONCERN IN DIFFA (GOVERNMENT FIGURES)



Operation Strategy

The key pillars of the UNHCR strategy for the Diffa region are:

- **Ensure institutional resilience** through capacity development and support to the authorities (locally elected and administrative authorities) in the framework of the Niger decentralisation process;
- **Strengthen the out of camp policy** around the urbanisation program through sustainable interventions and dynamic partnerships including with the World Bank; Ensure a coordinated and high-quality **protection response** and maintain an **emergency response capacity**

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

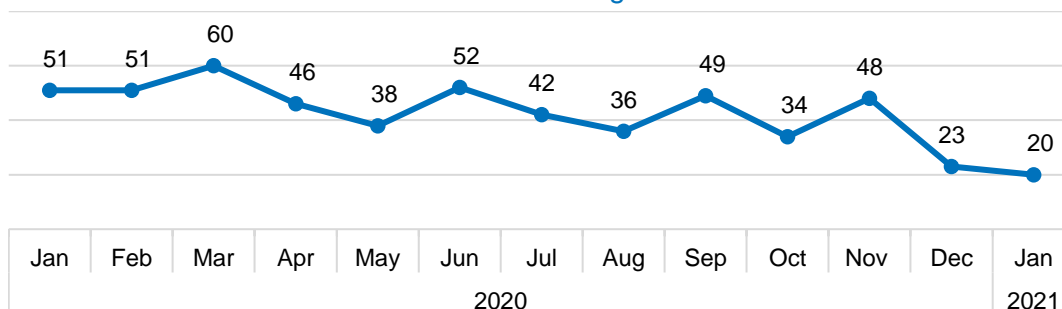
The Diffa region has been hosting Nigerian refugees fleeing terrorist violence in the northern states of Nigeria since 2013. In the wake of the first attacks on Niger soil in 2015, the situation has dramatically deteriorated. In May 2015, the authorities decided to evacuate the population living in the Niger region of the Lake Chad Islands.

Since April 2019, movements are restricted on the Gueskerou, Toumour and Bosso roads following the finding of explosive devices, consecutive attacks and kidnappings.

In January 2021, the security situation remained worrying in the Diffa region due to terrorist activism despite government efforts to stabilize the administrative and security situation, making the humanitarian access to certain areas difficult. Armed groups attacks were recorded during the reporting period targeting the Defense and Security Forces (FDS) as well as civilian population. Three persons, among whom a woman, were kidnapped during armed groups attack in the village of Gremadi, and a woman were killed in the village of Issari-Bagara.

Forced recruitments of civilians, looting of the army logistics stocks, as well as the use of improvised explosive devices against the Defense and Security Forces were also reported during the reporting period.

Evolution of Protection incidents in the Diffa region from Jan 2020 to Dec 2021





New arrival in the city of Diffa as a result of the attack against the village of Toumour © UNHCR / Ramatou Issa

Achievements

Protection response

- In January, UNHCR and other protection actors continued to improve the coordination mechanism and the quality of the response, through an improved involvement of the community and the creation of a more effective referral mechanism. Interviews for resettlement were conducted and profiling was carried out for durable solutions.
- Through protection monitoring system, UNHCR observed a 5 % decrease in documented protection incidents compared to December 2020. A total of 20 protection incidents were documented in January compared to 23 in December 2020 affecting 22 people against 57 in December 2020.
- **SGBV:** a total of 35 new cases of gender-based violence have been reported and documented affecting only female persons of concern at the Djori Kolo and Charré sites. 100% of survivors have benefited of psychosocial support and have been referred either to health facilities, police and/or justice for other services.
- **Persons with specific needs:** UNHCR has identified 95 individuals in Djori Koulo (12) – among the IDP population from Toumour- and on the sites of the urban area of Diffa (83 among whom 45 are orphans).

Shelter

- The innovative EU-funded program on urbanization simultaneously ensures legal access to land for social housing for refugees and vulnerable host households, while revitalising the local economy which has been deeply affected by the Boko Haram conflict in the region. To date, 2,409 sustainable houses for the most vulnerable families have already been built, while 1 050 are ongoing, 3,419 jobs were created, 2,490 persons were trained in the construction and more than 36,900 persons got a better access to water in 3 districts (Diffa, Assaga and Chetimari).

Livelihood

- The training of manufacturing face masks and hygiene products by 20 women at the Sayam Forage camp took off in January. A total of 3,840 soaps, 6,009 liters of

bleach, 3,090 liters of liquid soap and 13,011 masks were produced with the support of UNHCR and its partners.

WASH / COVID-19

- UNHCR and its partners scaled up the production by refugees of soap, bleach and masks for distribution in the Sayam Forage camp. Awareness raising activities were conducted and no case were registered among persons of concern.
- At the Sayam Forage camp, 24,928 persons had access to potable water produced by 3 pumping stations built by UNHCR with an average consumption of water of 9 litres / person / day. More than 12,000 individuals were reached out on hygiene, sanitation promotion, malaria prevention and the COVID-19 prevention measures sensitizations at the Sayam Forage camp.
- 1,150 menstrual kits were distributed at the Sayam Forage camp. 1,200 hygienic kits were distributed at the Sayam Forage.

Main Challenges

- The hosting areas are generally poorly equipped. Structural but costly infrastructural investments in irrigation, water supply and electricity are required to enable the population to develop income generating activities;
- The Niger public services are highly dependent on humanitarian actors, which creates a risk of a sharp deterioration in living conditions for the population in case of a funding shortfall;
- Irregular access for humanitarian actors due to the security situation and military operation;
- A worsening security situation generates new major displacements and secondary movements; possible movements of Nigerian refugees back towards Nigeria might also occur.
- Recurrent flooding of the Komad
- ougou river force a lot of refugees to make a secondary displacement toward the Sayam Forage camp

Financial Information

Special thanks to the donors who have participated to UNHCR's response in Diffa

European Union

Donors who have contributed to UNHCR's response in Niger¹

African Development Bank | Central Emergency Response Fund | European Union | Germany | Italy | Monaco | Spain

Other softly earmarked contributions²

Germany 9.2 M |
Iceland | Private donors

Unearmarked contributions³

| Norway 80 M | Sweden 66.9 M | Netherlands 36.1 M | Denmark 34.6 M | Germany 22.1 |
Switzerland 16.4 M | Ireland 12.5 M | Belgium 11.9 M

Algeria | America | Canada | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco |
Montenegro | New Zealand | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore
| Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

1. Contributions to Niger are shown by the earmarking modality as defined in the Grand Bargain.
2. 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.
3. 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.

External / Donor Relations

CONTACTS

Marlies Cardoen, External Relation Officer, cardoen@unhcr.org , Tel: +227 80 06 81 49,
Cell +227 80 06 81 49

Gloria Ramazani, Associate External Relations Officer, ramazang@unhcr.org. Tel: +227 80
06 81 83, Cell +227 80 06 81 8

Moustapha Djibrilla, Communication / Public Information Associate, djibrill@unhcr.org ,
Tel: +227 80 09 61 41, Cell +227 80 09 61 41

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