

# Burkina Faso

1 July to 31 August 2020

Continued violence has led **over 1 million people to flee** in search of safety. This represents 1% of the total population of the country or 1,600 people fleeing every day since January 2020.

The **air borders have reopened** on 1 August after being closed since the end of March to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak. Land borders remain closed until further notice.

The **Consultations Process** for the Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Forced Displacement began in the regions of the Sahel, Centre North and North.

## KEY INDICATORS

# 02

**mobile clinics** providing support to IDPs, refugees and host community survivors of sexual and gender-based violence

# 318,266 \$

Provided to IDPs to help them build sturdier homes during the rainy season

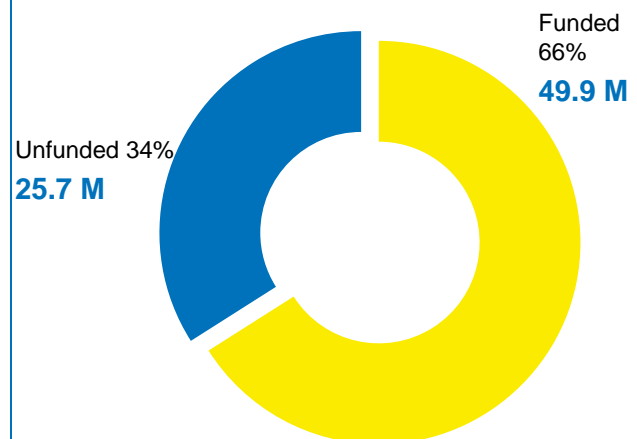
# 456

**Radios** distributed to refugee children to facilitate distance learning

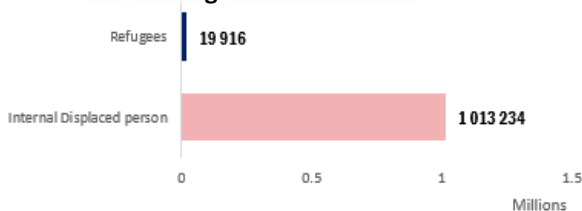
## FUNDING (AS OF 25 AUGUST)

# USD 75.7 M

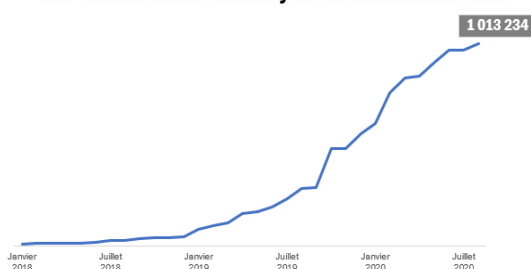
requested for the Burkina Faso Operation



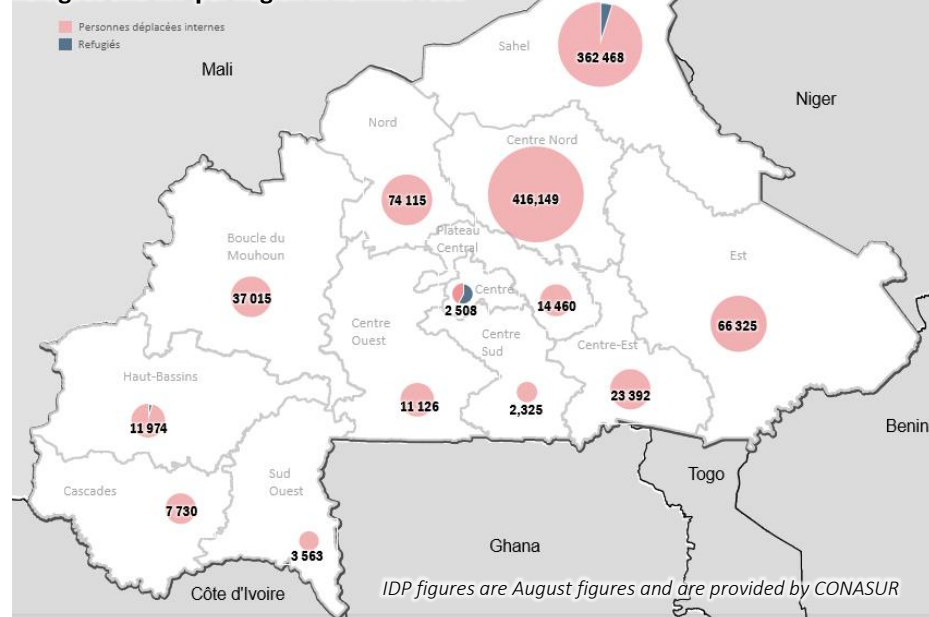
## IDP vs Refugees in Burkina Faso



## IDP trends since January 2018 in Burkina Faso



## Refugees and IDP per Region in Burkina Faso



## Operational Context

Widespread and indiscriminate violence by armed groups continues in several regions of the country, particularly in the Sahel, East, North and the Centre North. The military, authorities, local leaders and civilians are regular targets of the attacks. On 8 July, the Mayor of Pensa in the Centre North was ambushed and killed. A month later, on 11 August, the Grand Imam of the city of Djibo was kidnapped by armed groups. A few days later his body was found. His death comes months after the killing of the Mayor of Djibo in November 2019.

The deterioration of the security situation has resulted in over 1 million people displaced, including a majority of woman and children. This represents 1% of the population of the and an average of 1,600 people forcibly displaced has been recorded every day from January 2019 to August 2020 – making Burkina Faso the fastest growing humanitarian and protection crisis in the world. People have often moved multiple times and numbers are expected to continue to rise, possibly to 1.5 million by the end of the year. Needs remain critical in the areas of protection, shelter, food, water, and health.

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*“We had left our village over a year ago due to insecurity. We went back to plant our crops after hearing that the situation had improved. But armed groups returned and threatened us saying that we would not be able to harvest what we planted. They burnt 13 houses in the village leaving us no choice but to flee again. We walked for 25 kms in search of a safer place to stay.”*

Gomvinne a 50 years old internally displaced women now living in Pissila in the Centre North Region

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Despite facing internal turmoil, Burkina Faso has continued to generously host Malian refugees. Insecurity has also impacted the nearly 20,000 refugees still present in the country and recently prompted them to flee from Goudoubou and Mentao camps to Dori and Djibo respectively and other locations or return to Mali.

Humanitarian access to the Sahel, Centre North and North regions is becoming increasingly challenging. In the Sahel in particular, armed groups are slowly isolating cities as is the case of the city of Djibo which remains an enclave. Recently, a few incidents of diversion of humanitarian aid by such groups have been reported. Despite this complex operating environment, UNHCR continues to deliver protection and assistance to those forcibly displaced through its offices in Ouagadougou, Kaya, Dori, Ouahigouya, Bobo Dioulasso and through the presence of two refugee UN Volunteers in Djibo.

The COVID-19 pandemic, which started in March, is adding to an already extremely complex humanitarian situation. As of 31 August, there have been 1,375 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 55 deaths and 1,075 recoveries. 245 cases remain active. To date, there are no confirmed cases amongst populations of concern to UNHCR nor UNHCR staff. The Government had put in place some measures to curb the spread of the virus which have now been progressively eased, with the end of the curfew, reopening of the markets and places of worship, amongst others. Air borders reopened on 1 August, while land borders remain closed until further notice. The socio-economic impact of the sanitary crisis has further exacerbated existing vulnerabilities and needs amongst the host communities as well as displaced populations.

## Main achievements



### PROTECTION

- UNHCR and partners continue their efforts to strengthen protection monitoring in order to identify and respond to the needs of the displaced populations, including women at risk, children, people living with disability and the elderly. Those most vulnerable were provided with cash and were referred to pertinent institutions and organizations for follow up.
- UNHCR is strengthening the prevention and response to Sexual and Gender Based Violence throughout the country. On 3 August, together with its partner CSSI, UNHCR inaugurated the start of the mobile clinic on the site of Wendou near Dori, which hosts IDPs and the majority of refugees who spontaneously relocated from Goudoubo camp. This clinic will provide basic health consultations, including the identification and response to cases of SGBV. These services are available free of charge to IDPs, refugees and host communities living in the area. During the reported period, in Sahel, Boucle du Mouhoun, North, 73 SGBV cases received case management, medical and psychosocial assistance. Such mobile clinics are already active in the region of the Centre North and will soon be extended to the regions of the North, Hauts Bassins, East and Plateau Central. Furthermore, UNHCR continues to build the capacity of the partners on SGBV standard guidelines, psychosocial support and case management. A total of 52 educational talks and 08 caravans were conducted with 1900 participants including 1115 women, 216 girls, 433 men and 136 boys on these themes such as: - General information on GBV and types of GBV, Consequences of GBV, including domestic violence and the referral pathways.
- The Consultation Process on behalf of the UN Secretary's General High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement (HLP) has begun during the month of August. UNHCR and ACT Alliance partners, under the supervision of the Humanitarian Coordinator's office, and together with the CONASUR and United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY), have deployed multifunctional teams to carry out consultations with internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities. Focus group discussions with children, the youth, women, men, the elderly, and community structures from IDP and host communities have been carried out in the regions of the Sahel, North, Centre North and East. A final report will be issued in September.
- In strict respect of COVID-19 preventative measures, documentation activities for refugees took place during the reporting period. Indeed, the renewal of the ID cards for refugees has begun on 1 July in Dori and benefited to 527 individuals. In Bobo Dioulasso, 225 refugees whose documents expired since 2019 have been enrolled to receive new documents in the coming months. Furthermore, the operation plans to issue in 2020, 45,000 national ID cards and 92,000 birth certificates to IDPs and local population living with them in Boucle de Mouhoun, Centre North, North, Sahel and East regions is



*Focus group discussion held with women from the host community in Kaya and facilitated by UNHCR, ICAHD and ATAD. ©UNHCR/Burkina Faso.*

nearing completion. Between 2017 and 2019, with UNHCR's financial and technical support, the country has delivered 157,850 civil documents, such as birth certificates, nationality documents and ID cards to those who were not registered at birth – thus facilitating their access to national services, such as health and education, as well as fundamental rights, including freedom of movement or the right to vote.



#### COVID-19 RESPONSE

- UNHCR and its partners continue to support the Government in addressing the sanitary crisis and focusing its efforts on sensitization, prevention and response to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on persons of concern in nine regions of the country.
- As part of sensitization efforts, UNHCR's partner broadcasted 1,620 awareness-raising spots and 2,280 short programmes on local radio stations in French, More and Fulfulde across the regions of Sahel and Centre-North. Protection committees also organized 84 awareness-raising sessions for the benefit of over 8,500 people. Furthermore, on 21 August, the EU donated 700 solar radios and 45 loudspeakers to UNHCR, which will benefit over 350,000 IDPs in the regions of Centre North, North and Sahel and will allow IDP families to listen to the radio programmes developed by UNHCR's partner, the Fondation Hirondelle, on COVID-19. 37 radio stations actually broadcast all the programs within the framework of the project. A new program has been added to "Let's talk about coronavirus", which is a cultural social program "Covid Reem" where artists talk about their their efforts in managing the pandemic.
- In addition, 42 young IDP girls from Kaya, Djibo, Ouahigouya were trained in interview techniques and became kind of reporters on IDP sites.
- UNHCR and its partners continued the distribution of relief items to facilitate the respect of prevention measures such as hand washing. To date, over 4,000 hand washing devices, some 225,000 bars of soap, 9,000 containers of liquid soap, and more than 116,835 masks were distributed. UNHCR also provided in-kind donations, composed of three ambulances one of which is medicalized, medicine, pharmaceutical supplies, information posters on COVID-19, isolation tents to regional health authorities for a total amount of USD 1,388,723 since the start of the sanitary crisis.
- Furthermore, the Refugee Agency was invited on 25 August to a ceremony of handover by the German Embassy and GIZ to the Government of Burkina Faso of materials for more than 400 health centres in four regions of the country. UNHCR is supporting GIZ to distribute and monitor the use of the material in the Centre North region.



#### SHELTER AND CRIS

- With this year's rainy season, which has brought particular heavy rainfalls and strong winds, UNHCR and shelter partners continue to help families affected by floods through distribution of shelter and core relief items (CRIs) and advocacy for prompt relocation to non-flood prone areas. In the city of Dori in the Sahel, nearly 200 displaced families who were living in flood prone areas will be relocated to a new site of the stadium where the on-going preparations are almost completed. In addition, in the Centre North region, the assessment of shelter needs continued allowing the identification of 7,000 vulnerable families. The provision of shelter kits is on-going, while the construction of the shelters will start shortly. Some 485 IDP households have also been provided with cash, for a total of 97,035,000 XOF (USD 175,636) to allow them to build their homes.

- In Bobo Dioulasso, the second phase of the shelter and CRI project implemented by UNHCR's partner Plan International was launched. The project foresees to support 320 families with the construction of shelters and the distribution CRI kits in the Boucle de Mouhoun. The first phase of the project saw the building of shelters for 300 families.



## EDUCATION

- Throughout the country, some 2,500 schools have been forced to close after being targeted by violence thus affecting almost 350,000 students. This has been further impacted by the sanitary crisis. In such a context and in order to ensure continued learning, UNHCR has already distributed 456 radios to refugee and host community students to access distance learning.
- The exam session for primary and secondary class students began on 14 July. Overall, 83 refugee students took part in this session, which was postponed by a month due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



*Alimata has received a portable radio which will allow her to continue learning during the school holiday. ©UNHCR/Burkina Faso.*

## Working in partnership

- In Burkina Faso, the Refugee Agency works with a network of 16 partners, including the Government of Burkina Faso, UN sister agencies, International and National Non-Governmental Organizations, and development actors.
- As part of the Cluster System, UNHCR is leading the Protection and Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI) Clusters. Discussions are on-going for the activation of the CCCM Cluster, while the CCCM working group is already active and co-led by the Government and UNHCR. Taking into account the increasing protection needs, UNHCR has made available to the Protection Cluster eight (08) full-time positions (1 P5, 2 P3, 1 P2, 1 NOB, 3 G6), and is also co-leading with NRC the Housing, Land and Property Area of Responsibility under the Protection Cluster.
- Following consultations with IDPs and technical partners, the Shelter Cluster continued its review of shelter prototypes to ensure durable shelter solutions, which are better adapted to the climate in Burkina Faso. The Cluster has also enhanced its engagement with local partners.
- The revised 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) has been [finalized](#). It highlights the rapid deepening of the crisis, with a 40% increase in the number of persons displaced and a 32% increase in the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance since the start of the year. The HRP targets 2.1 million people out of the 2.8 million considered to be in need of such assistance. Requirements total USD 424 million.



UNHCR Burkina Faso @UNHCR\_BF - Aug 19  
 Merci Ould, un de nos #RealLifeHeroes qui est réfugié et travaille en tant que UN Volontaire pour le UNHCR à Djibo et qui ne ménage aucun effort pour améliorer le quotidien de sa communauté malgré un contexte sécuritaire difficile  
 @UNHCRWestAfrica @IKimyaci #WorldHumanitarianDay



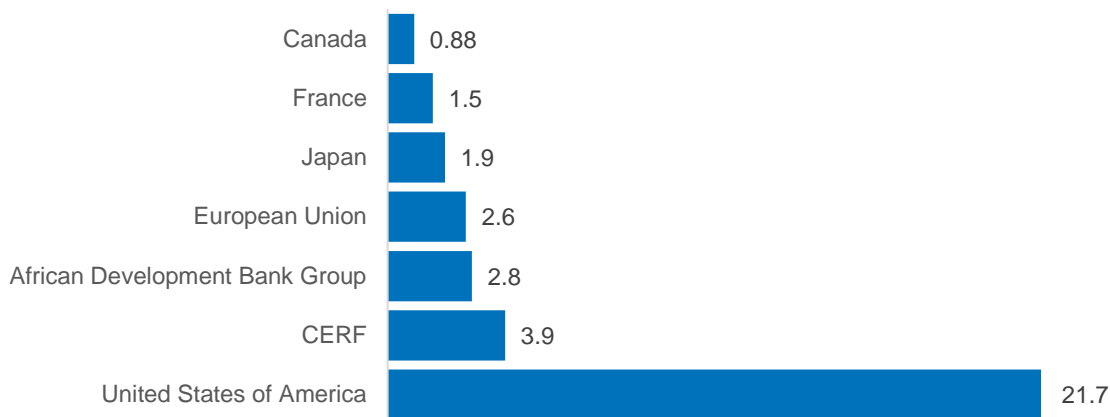
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## Financial Information

So far in 2020, total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD **49.23 M**. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked or broadly earmarked funds.

### Funding received (in million USD):



### Special thanks to the major donors of regional funds in 2020

Germany (70.7 M) | United States of America (46.8 M) | United Kingdom (24.8 M) | Denmark (14.6 M) | Canada (10.2 M) | Private donors USA (7.7 M) | Private Donors Australia (7.4 M) | Private donors Japan (4.4 M) | France (3.5 M) | Spain (3.4 M) | Ireland (3.3 M) | Private donors Germany (3.1 M) | Sweden (3 M) | Private donors United Kingdom (2.3 M)

### Thanks to other donors of unrestricted funds in 2020

Sweden (76.4 M) | Private donors Spain (45.9 M) | Norway (41.4 M) | Netherlands (36.1 M) | Denmark (34.6 M) | United Kingdom (31.7 M) | Germany (25.9 M) | Private donors Republic of Korea (23.9 M) | Private donors Japan (17.9 M) | Switzerland (16.4 M) | France (14 M) | Private donors Italy (10.8 M) | Italy (10.6 M)

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## LINKS

[Regional portal](#) - [UNHCR operation page](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Facebook](#)

UNHCR, [Mounting violence forces one million to flee homes in Burkina Faso](#), 18 August.

UNHCR, [Schools caught up in armed conflict sweeping across the Sahel](#), 27 August.

UNHCR, [Landmines, improvised explosive devices pose deadly risks for displaced in Sahel and Lake Chad](#), 28 July.