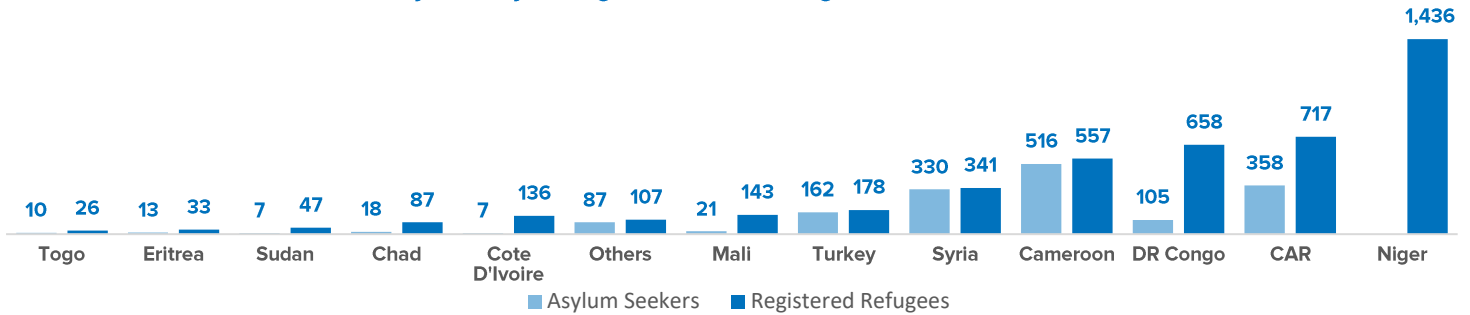


Chart below shows breakdown by country of origin for Urban Refugees.



## Access to Asylum

Between 1 May - 31 May 2021, **24** (21 males and 3 females) asylum seekers were received in Abuja. The asylum seekers are mainly of Cameroonian, Syrian, Turkish and Ethiopian origin. They were subsequently captured for registration, issued attestation letters, and scheduled for interview.



## Refugee Status Determination

2nd Eligibility Committee on RSD for 2021 was held in Lagos between 24 – 27 May 2021 with attendance from Representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Chair), Office of the Vice President and the Nigeria Immigration Service NCFRMI Head of RSD from Abuja served as Secretariat and UNHCR was represented by the Head of Field Unit, Lagos and the Senior Protection Officer from Abuja as observers for UNHCR. A total of **127** asylum applications were considered from Syria, Cameroon, Palestine, Central Africa, and Turkey) with the following recommendations for **109** cases to be recognized, **17** cases to be rejected and **3** case kept in view for further review/interview and resubmission.

In addition, the secretariat presented a case of a refugee for possible withdrawal of status. The case is that of a Cameroonian refugee who has procured a Nigerian passport. It was agreed that the provisions of section **12** of the NCFR Act dealing with withdrawal of status be complied with as per the need for the IC to be informed and be able to defend himself. The Secretariat promised to comply with the provisions on or before the next meeting.

Members of the EC engaged with interest as the SPO expounded on the administrative and quasi-judicial role of the committee as among the agencies charged with the responsibility to ensure Nigeria fulfils its international obligation to provide asylum and protection to those found in need of international protection. A review of earlier concerns on the quality of the RSD assessments prior to their presentation to the EC and the need for an enhanced review process by the NCFRMI were revisited by UNHCR. EC members raised administrative concerns in preparation for their attendance to the committee sessions and recommended remedial measures to ease efficiency.



## Skills Acquisition

The Lagos State Employability Trust Fund Graduation ceremony was held on 8 May 2021. **7** PoCs (3 female and 4 males) were amongst the graduands. The graduands were also given start up kits on the skills acquired.

On 5 May 2021, JDPC assisted the **8** PoCs currently undergoing training with the Lagos State Ministry of women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation with transportation allowance for the month of May.



## Capacity Building

UNHCR in collaboration with the National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) organised three-day capacity building training for NAPTIP Caregivers from 17 - 19 May 2021, with the theme 'Building and Strengthening the Capacity of Care Givers In Combatting Trafficking In Persons.' The training had specific objective to ensure that Caregivers are equipped with the necessary knowledge and tool for identification, protection, and assistance of victims of Human Trafficking, especially those who may need international protection.

The training had **31** participants from NAPTIP, Network of CSOs Against Child Trafficking, Abuse and Labour (NACTAL), and Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF). It was co-facilitated with resource persons from UNHCR, NAPTIP, the Office of the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI), and WOTCLEF.



## Follow up activities - Telling the Real Story

The Edo State Taskforce Against Human Trafficking (ETAHT)-UNHCR Billboard design process was completed. Hoisting and unveiling is set to follow. On 11 May 2021, UNHCR and JDPCI - Uromi completed plans for a three phased training in June 2021 for the community anti-human trafficking committees in the three Local Government Areas (LGAs). Each of the LGA has three community committees which will function at their various community levels but can come together as a single body at the larger level. This is necessary for effective coordination, experience sharing and shared learning.

## General Protection

UNHCR staff in Lagos met with Representatives of the Urban Refugees on 20 May 2021 in furtherance of regular meetings held in the past and in order to reduce communication gap on UNHCR activities and receive feedback with a view to taking action where relevant or refer pending issues to partners or UNHCR Management as the case may be..

## Strengthening Partnerships and Capacity Building

- A tripartite meeting between National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI, NASSCO (National Social Safety-Nets Coordinating Office) and UNHCR held on 20 May 2021. The meeting which was facilitated by NCFRMI had the objective of ensuring access to potential links for cooperation between UNHCR and NASSCO. The mandate of NASSCO is to establish the building blocks and delivery of targeted safety net transfers and livelihood support to extremely poor and vulnerable households in Nigeria. NASSCO is also in charge for building the National Social Register of poor and vulnerable households in Nigeria which is the basis for any social protection intervention. It liaises with many development actors including the World Bank, UNICEF, WFP, UN Women, Save the Children in data sharing but also aligning various programmes. Under the GCR framework, NASSCO can act as a catalyst to advocate for inclusion of refugees in the existing development programmes. It was agreed that there are many opportunities for inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers. Technical details would be taken forward by a technical team of NASSCO, NCFRMI and UNHCR.
- On 6 May 2021, a refresher session on 2017 UNHCR Policy on addressing fraud committed by POC, organised in collaboration with the Senior Resettlement & Complementary Pathways Officer based in the Regional Bureau for West Africa. The objective of the session was to familiarise anti-fraud focal persons from all offices with the 2017 Policy and Operational Guidelines on Addressing Fraud Committed by Persons of Concern to ensure compliance. While anti-fraud components have been mainstreamed in various thematic Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) such as the Refugee Status Determination, Resettlement, Non-food Items and Cash-Based Intervention SOPs etc, next steps from the refresher is the drafting of an anti-fraud SOP.

## Monitoring

On 18 - 19 of May, JDPC conducted monitoring exercise on skill training centers operated by the Lagos State Ministry of women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation. The monitoring which targeted **8** female PoCs currently undergoing skill training on Hair dressing, Fashion Designing and Photography was conducted with the aim of ascertain how the PoCs in the centers are coping.

## DAFI Project

On 5 May, JDPC conducted monitoring of a DAFI scholar at Osun State University, Okuku campus with the aim of ascertaining her level of academic performance. She is currently in her final year and would be resuming her final exams soon.

After careful review of UNHCR Nigeria request of **110** DAFI sponsorship slots for new enrolment of students in 2021 and based on financial standing, Headquarters have on 6 May 2021 granted **15** initial new scholarship slots to Nigeria Operation for 2021. Noting that the female ratio in the Nigeria DAFI programme is very low, and in order to help Headquarters to achieve the global target of gender parity, the operation was advised to allocate **50%** of the slots to female students and further to select more students than the numbers allotted now and have the rest on a waiting list for more enrolments if more funding is made available by headquarters.

On 20 May, the DAFI Annual Students workshop was held in Abuja with **44** (**16** femals and **28** males) students in attendance. The students also had their election and elected new executives for the association. A total of **6** executives (**4** males and **2** females) were elected and 4 students (3males and 1female) were appointed as floor members of the executives.

## Resettlement

In Collaboration with IOM, the office facilitated the departure of a Cameroonian refugee to Canada on resettlement. The PoC departed Lagos on 12 May via Murtala Mohammed International airport. She was resettled on the primary category of Legal and/physical Protection Needs and on the secondary category of Woman at Risk.

*This document and further information are available on UNHCR Data Portal Nigeria Page. Please scan the QR code or click on the link below: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/nga>*

