



## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The security situation in Burkina Faso continues to be worrisome, armed groups continue to intimidate, and traffic controls have been reported, leading to increased operational risks and reduced humanitarian access in the country. Security analysis notes an increase in security incidents, particularly those related to the conflict. In September 2021, the intensification of security incidents, including threats against civilians, targeted killings, and kidnappings, forced more than 6,000 persons from 12 villages in the commune of Mangodara in the Cascades region to flee to the town of Mangodara. In addition, the attack on the rural commune of Barga (Yatenga province in the North region) by unidentified armed men in October 2021, led to displacements of over 6,000 persons to the communes of Ouahigouya, in the North region. In support to the national Government, through the Rapid Response Operational Coordination Group (GCOOR), coordinated actions have been put in place by the humanitarian community for a rapide and effective emergency response to newly displaced populations' needs in Mangodara and Barga. Humanitarian access became more hindered with the widespread use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and the blocking of certain locations by armed groups. Instability in Burkina Faso also created cross-border movements. Since January 2021, approximately 38,000 people have fled to neighboring countries (Niger, Mali, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire), nearly doubling the country's total number of refugees in just six months.

On a more positive note, the reporting period has been marked by the announcement of the 2021 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award Regional Winners. The UNHCR Nansen Award is presented annually to individuals, groups and organizations for their outstanding dedication to the protection of refugees, displaced persons and those at risk of statelessness. In 2021, amongst the 200 nominations submitted were two co-winners for the African region. From Kaya to Dori, Mr. Diambendi Madiéga and Mrs. Roukiatou Maïga have, through their actions, demonstrated exemplary hospitality and generosity by welcoming and taking care of thousands of IDPs. In addition, while forced displacement continues to create enormous needs in terms of urban planning, construction and rehabilitation of educational and health infrastructure, water and sanitation, as well as access to energy, the city of Ouagadougou has been recognized as one of the best "inclusive and sustainable cities" in Africa for its green belt reclamation project.

### *Flash update on latest developments in Goudoubo refugee camp*

As of 31 October, there were 24,072 refugees and asylum seekers in the country, 84 percent of whom are from Mali and 89 percent of whom lived in the Sahel region. Goudoubo refugee camp, located at 18 kms of the city of Dori in the Sahel region, was until recently the home to almost 13,000 Malian refugees and asylum-seekers. Since May 2021, there has been a rapid deterioration of the security situation with a number of targeted attacks in and around the camp. On 30 October and 6 November, armed groups led incursions into the camp, stealing food, medicine and tricycles. The camp has progressively emptied, with refugees leaving for the town of Dori and its surroundings. UNHCR and its partners have maintained a constant communication with refugee community leaders. The protection monitoring is being strengthened to rapidly identify of the location and needs of refugees. UNHCR will continue to support refugees wherever they are. A [press release](#) has been issued on the situation.



## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

### PROTECTION

- According to protection monitoring results of August and September, a total of 2,315 rights violations were recorded, of which 48.73% were violations of freedom and security, 20.86% were violations of property rights, and 10.45% were violations of the right to life. The main cities that received the most

IDPs were Fada N’Gourma in the East region, Toéni and Bourasso in the Boucle du Mouhoun region and Titao in the North region. 121 cases of Gender Based Violence (GBV) (compared to 135 in June and July) were reported during the reporting period, mainly affecting women (85%) and children (15%). The main causes of tension between communities are House Land and Property (HLP) issues and the lack of socio-economic opportunities. Thus, approximately 41% of the conflicts were between farmers and herders.

- As part of its efforts to reduce the risk of statelessness in the country, UNHCR in partnership with CONASUR, has planned to issue 13,741 National Identity Cards (CNIB) to IDPs and host communities in the North, Center-North and Boucle du Mouhoun regions in 2021. As of 31 October, the National Identification Office (ONI) has produced 11,945 CNIB. 32,597 birth certificates have been distributed to members from the IDP and host communities from January to October 2021.
- On 6 September, in partnership with the Ministry of Women, National Solidarity, Family and Humanitarian Action (MFSNFAH), UNHCR distributed equipment worth more than XOF 260,000,000 (nearly USD 500,000) to strengthen the CONASUR’s registration and temporary sites management capacities.
- Over the reporting period, mixed movements have been observed, within and beyond the borders of the country. Out of the 4,812 people that have been identified as part of those mixed movements, there are 1,664 asylum-seekers mainly from Mali and Niger, 120 persons at risk of statelessness and 97 IDPs who aimed to join Cote d’Ivoire, Niger, Benin, Senegal and even Mali. In this context, UNHCR and its partners will maintain their efforts to address the root causes of these mixed movements.



*UNHCR representative symbolically handing over the keys of the distributed motorcycles to the MFSNFAH. @UNHCRBKF*

#### **Coordinated response in Mangodara and Barga**

Regarding the emergency response to new displacements in Mangodara and Barga, CONASUR deployed registration teams who identified 6,302 IDPs in Mangodara and 6,000 IDPs Barga. The government is at the forefront of the response and has 40 tons of food in Mangodara and 80 tons of food, 8 Polytanks and a truck for water trucking in Barga. Through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), a mission was conducted in Mangodara and Barga to assess urgent needs, which were found to be in the areas of food, shelter and core relief Items (CRI), as well as WASH and health. UNHCR’s partner INTERSOS provided psychosocial assistance to IDPs in Barga and a complaint mechanism through a toll-free number was shared to facilitate the reporting of cases of abuse and exploitation in Mangodara. UNHCR in collaboration with Humanitarian Action and local authorities through the distribution of CRIs to 738 families in Mangodara. Further, two community relays have been identified by UNHCR in Mangodara to follow up on protection incidents. In order to facilitate the development of the new site identified by CONASUR in Youba, for the settlement of IDPs from Barga, UNHCR has carried out a site development plan and plans to install more than 400 emergency shelters in the following weeks.



#### **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)**

- Over the reporting period, UNHCR and its partners continued to strengthen their actions to prevent and mitigate the risks of GBV and the response throughout the country. With the objective to improve the quality of health care for GBV survivors, 21 health agents from three provinces of the Center-North region were trained on both the Clinical Care for Sexual Assault Survivors and Caring for Child Survivors of

Sexual Abuse. In addition, from 21 to 23 October, UNHCR and its partners organized and facilitated a three-days training for the benefit of 30 National Police Officers from the Sahel region. Topics included International Protection, UNHCR's mandate, GBV prevention and response as well as Child Protection. This training aimed at raising awareness on protection issues faced by persons of concern and their own role in preventing, identifying, responding to and referring protection cases.

- The GBV area of responsibility (AoR)' Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) to which UNHCR is a permanent member is now officially in place. It will allow to provide policy and strategic direction, technical and coordination support to the GBV AoR in Burkina Faso.



### HEALTH AND COVID-19 RESPONSE

- As of 31 October, Burkina Faso has recorded 14,793 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 292 active cases, 214 deaths and 14,287 recoveries. UNHCR and its partners continued to support the Government of Burkina Faso in addressing the outbreak and focused their efforts on the sensitization, the prevention, and the response to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on persons of concern (PoC) in nine regions of the country. On 14 October, as part a joint project with funding from the African Development Bank (ADB), UNHCR donated equipment worth almost 1 million USD to the Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso. The equipment consisted of COVID-19 test kits, reactive, personal protective equipment, medicines, medical tents, reanimation beds and three medical ambulances. This will help strengthen the government's response and facilitate the care of vulnerable people.
- As part of vaccination against COVID-19, the health authorities of Burkina Faso received 400,000 doses of Sinopharm vaccines, donated by the Government of China. Since the start of the vaccination campaign launched by the Minister of Health on 2 June 2021 and up to 31 October 2021, 393,427 people – including health agents and 70 refugees from Djibo, have been vaccinated.



*The Minister of Health of Burkina Faso, testing one of the medical ambulances received by his department. ©Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso*



### SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRI)

- UNHCR continues to strengthen its shelter response and the distribution of CRIs throughout the country to improve the living conditions, the physical safety and the dignity of IDPs. During the reporting period, UNHCR provided a total of 2,471 shelters and 554 CRIs to IDPs, refugees and vulnerable families from the host community.
- The Shelter Cluster continues to coordinate the shelter and CRIs response. Over 14,509 shelters have been built by partners against a target of 74,497 planned shelters. With increasing new displacements, the needs in shelter are growing and additional resources are urgently needed. As of 30 September, due

to resource constraints, needs were only covered at 19 %, with UNHCR covering 44% of these interventions.



### ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

- Throughout the country, interviews conducted with IDPs continue to illustrate that one of the main challenges faced is caused by the lack of domestic energy availability. UNHCR and its partners continue to provide domestic gas kits as a mean to reduce the impact on natural resource, mitigate protection risks and preserve social coexistence between the forcibly displaced and their hosts. In the Sahel region, 102 refugees' families were provided with gas refills, while in Center-North, UNHCR and its partners distributed energy kits, comprised of gas bottle of 12 kgs, a stove and refill fee for three gas cylinders, to 40 displaced women and from the host community.

## DURABLE SOLUTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

- As a great achievement for UNHCR in Burkina Faso, it is worth noting that the technical assistance project to PACT (Programme d'Appui aux Collectivités Territoriales) has ended on 30 September. The implementation of the PACT project funded by the World Bank targeted 108 communes of the six prioritized regions in the Humanitarian Response Plan. This project - thanks to the support of UNHCR - helped deliver CRIs kits to almost 400,000 IDPs and provide capacity building sessions to nearly 500 local authorities in IDP sites management in the most affected regions of the country.
- In the context of on-going efforts to facilitate IDPs' access to employment opportunities, UNHCR advocated with two experimented business owners to financially support IDPs from the Center-North region. Those "business angels" committed to sponsor IDPs with a business plan to set up their micro enterprises. In addition, still in the Center-North, UNHCR and its partners organized evening classes for 40 young people from the IDPs and host communities on the theme of "business life" with the objective to provide them with skills to facilitate their socio-professional and economic integration at the end of their training.
- In the Cascades region, to reinforce their empowerment and contribute to livelihood opportunities 50 displaced women were trained and equipped with soubala production kits and two groups of 10 IDP displaced men were equipped with production equipment and trained on the techniques of fruit tree nurseries (mango, cashew, papaya, guava, etc.).



### WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

- In Burkina Faso, UNHCR works with 20 partners including the Government, UN sister agencies, development actors and implementing partners.
- UNHCR presented its 2022-2025 multi-year and multi-partner strategy (MYMP) to governmental and non-governmental, as well as donors present in Burkina Faso during a national workshop held in Ouagadougou on 11 October.

- UNHCR continues to fully play its leading and coordination role of the protection, shelter / CRI and GSAT/CCCM Cluster. UNHCR, along with the Global Protection Cluster and UN Habitat, held the first mission of the IDP Protection Expert Group in Burkina Faso. The mission engaged in high-level dialogues and exchanges with the national authorities, took part in field visits, consulted with relevant international and national stakeholders as well as displacement-affected populations. This mission, led by the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs, Ms. Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, aimed at bolstering the analysis of responses to immediate protection challenges, and to create the space to examine considerations for a comprehensive IDP protection approach through the building of a conducive protection environment for the prevention of and durable solutions to internal displacement.
- The Shelter cluster continued its activities of improving the capacity of partners as well as the quality of the response, by carrying out trainings on three axes: Site planning, Build Back Better and technical standards in the construction of shelters. These trainings allowed participants to acquire more knowledge to better conduct their activities. The workshop was characterized by active participation of government actors.
- On 9 September, the first regional meeting of the CCCM/GSAT Cluster was held in the Sahel region, with the presence of UNHCR, its partners, UN sister agencies as well as the CONASUR. This was the occasion, to organize a two-days capacity-building training on GSAT to the benefit of implementing partners. In addition, faced with mass displacement due to insecurity in the North region, the CCCM/GSAT Cluster participated in two field missions held by CONASUR in Ouahigouya with the aim of securing land for newly displaced persons in the commune. A site has been identified on the Youba road by the authorities to accommodate the 6,000 newly arrived IDPs from Barga.
- In the context of the ongoing efforts to mainstream Protection from Sexual Misconduct, UNHCR participated in the protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) inter-agency meeting during which it was decided to develop an inter-agency PSEA action plan and conduct both a SEA risk analysis and a mapping exercise during the last quarter of the year.
- The German technical cooperation agency (GIZ) has officially launched on 1 October, the PDICA (Project for Resilience of IDPs and host communities) to support the most displacement affected municipalities of the Center-North region of Burkina Faso. This project of EUR 3.5 million will focus on strengthening municipal capacities in basic public services delivery, such as strengthening the technical capacities of municipalities in order to reinforce the control of communal works, particularly related to education. UNHCR provided technical support for the identification and preparation phases of the project.



*Family photo after the meeting between the IDP expert group and the cabinet of the MFSNFAH. ©UNHCRBKF*



## PUBLIC INFORMATION

### Regional portal - UNHCR operation page

- [Education under attack in West and Central Africa](#) (Advocacy note, October 2021)
- [Burkina Faso's local heroes honored for giving shelter to the displaced](#) (Nansen regional winners for Africa, Story, 29 September)
- [Continued insecurity forces Malian refugees in Burkina Faso to leave Goudoubo camp](#) (Press release, 12 November)

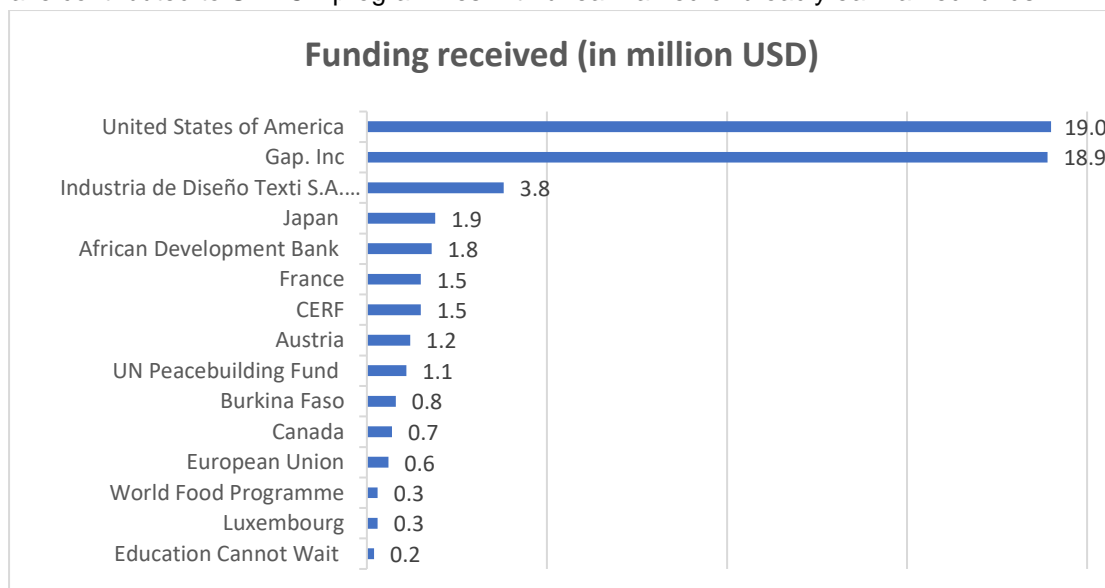
### Twitter - Facebook

- Our best [tweet](#) of September
- Our best [tweet](#) of October



## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As of 26 October 2021, the total recorded contributions for the operation amount to USD **61.4M**. 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.



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

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