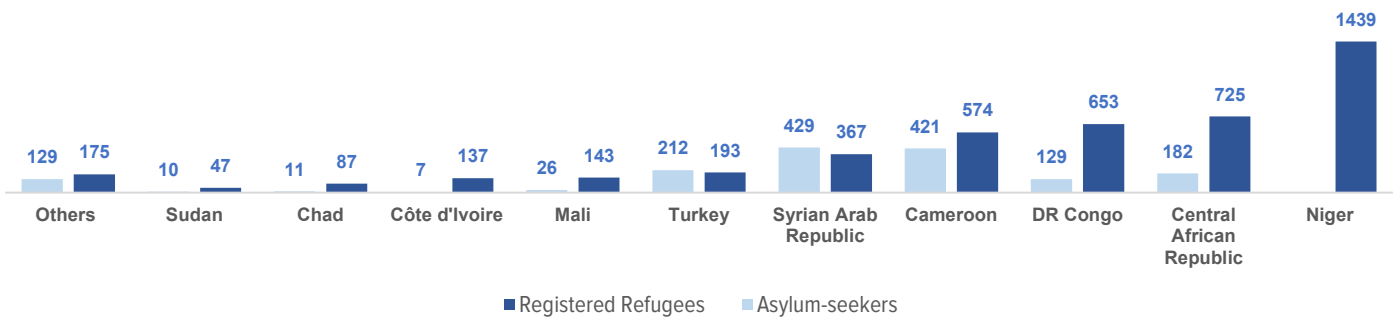


Chart below shows breakdown by country of origin for Urban Refugees.



Access to Asylum

93 new asylum applications registered, **62** (**44** males and **18** females) in Lagos; and **31** (**21** males and **10** females) in Abuja. Asylum seekers mainly from Cameroon, Central African Republic, Syria, and Mali.



Status Determination

The third sitting of the Eligibility Committee on status determination was held from 26 to 28 October in Abuja and reviewed one hundred and seventy-eight (**178**) asylum cases. In compliance with the NCFR Act, the sitting, chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also had representatives from the Nigeria Immigrations Service, the Office of the Vice President as members and UNHCR as observer. At the end of the sitting: one hundred and forty-six (**146**) were recommended for recognition of refugee status, and eleven (**11**) cases recommended for rejection of their claim. Eleven (**11**) cases were kept in view for further review and eight (**8**) cases were withdrawn for resubmission in subsequent sittings. The report of the EC sitting will be finalised by the EC Secretariat and subsequently submitted to the Federal Commissioner for endorsement of the EC recommendations.



Anti-trafficking Awareness

UNHCR partnered with Idia Renaissance to facilitate comic arts competition to depict the risks of human trafficking and dangers of irregular movement among students from **9** schools in Oredo local government area in Edo State. The competition ended with submissions, exhibitions and an award ceremony on 29th October 2021 at the Idia Renaissance hall premises. Submissions from the competition will appear on UNHCR's Telling the Real Story Nigeria Facebook page, tagging the respective participating schools, and partners. The winning entries will be published in comic books for outreach distribution to schools in Edo State, in which a foreword is provided and endorsed by UNHCR Representative to Nigeria.



Statelessness

On 21 October, UNHCR conducted a one-day awareness raising session on the *National Action Plan (NPA) for the Eradication of Statelessness* and introduced a draft Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Determination of Statelessness. Ten (**10**) senior NCFRMI reviewed the specific of NCFRMI in the NPA and during the technical review of the proposed draft SOPs. The team also contributed to final recommendations for NCFRMI take steps to ensure the domestication of the *1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons* incorporates provisions to give legal backing to the statelessness determination procedures as articulated in the proposed draft SOPs, and organise a multi stakeholders meeting to review and validate the SOPs.



Self-Reliance and Skills Acquisition

Counselling sessions were conducted for **21** persons of concern (PoCs) (**12** females and **9** males) in Lagos on livelihood support, skill training, including support for their children's education.

Transport allowances for the month was paid to **7** female refugees undergoing training on hairdressing, fashion design with the Lagos state vocational training centers to aid their mobility.

Justice Development and Peace Commission (JDPC) undertook routine monitoring exercises for PoCs in training and those in business (**10** females and **3** males) in Ijebu Ode and Lagos respectively. This is aimed at providing ongoing support to the trainees. **5** female refugees undergoing training on hairdressing with the Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation training center in Adeniji LGA of Lagos completed their **9** months skill training and will commence internship for **3** months in 2022.

General Protection

17 refugees identified with specific needs received targeted assistance in form of one-time assistance to **8** refugees (**5** females and **3** males) and subsistence allowance **9** refugees (**5** females and **4** males). The beneficiaries were identified individually during period assessments conducted by National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI), UNHCR, and JDPC.

On 21 and 26 October, JDPC organised two town hall meetings on education, verification with PoCs based in Ijebu-ode, Ikorodu and the environs. **49** persons of concern were in attendance comprising of **32** females and **16** males. Transport allowance was paid to the PoCs after the meetings.

Protection Monitoring for Sokoto

On 25 October, UNHCR protection team on mission together with GISCOR team deployed to Sokoto since July 2021 conducted protection monitoring training in Sokoto State. A familiarization on the use of using mobile data collection tools for eight protection monitors was undertaken. The monitors cover Sokoto, Goronyo and Rabah Local Government Areas (LGAs) of the state and comprise two females and six males. Following the training, systematic protection monitoring is now rolled out in the 3 LGAs.

UNHCR also engaged in consultations with protection actors including NEMA, SEMA and UNICEF in Sokoto State, to better understand the operational context, and improve synergy in responding to the needs of the people affected by armed banditry in the state.

Education

For the month under review, education allowance was paid to **122** refugee children in Primary School and **88** in secondary schools.

Pre- selection process for DAFI refugee scholarship was completed in October. A total number of **134** students applied for scholarship and **69** were pre-selected. Considering that majority of the applicants are based in and around Ogoja, interviews are scheduled to hold from 15 to 19 November 2021 in Ogoja.

Health

On the 9th October, the Health Management Organization (HMO) and NCFRMI at Igbogbo Ikorodu, Lagos captured and registered **46** PoCs for National Health Issuance Scheme (NHIS). On 14th October additional **21** PoCs (**13** males, **8** females) were registered by the HMO at the NCFRMI Office in Lagos.

Engagements with Ministries on the implementation of GCR

On the 25th October 2021, UNHCR held meetings with key staff of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (FMWASD), and the National Population Commission.

At FMWASD, UNHCR was received by the Director of Economic Services and four other staff. Following a briefing on the GCR and Nigeria's pledges, two of the staff of the Ministry were nominated as contact persons and Ministry is expected to share details of contributions to the draft roadmap.

At the National Population Commission, UNHCR was received by the agency's Director Vital Registration. He availed the UNHCR team of some vital information for the update of the roadmap with a promise to share additional information including the mandate of the organisation to enable update of the draft roadmap.

Engagements was also initiated with the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) and National Bureau of Statistics. Feedback on the draft road is also expected from the two agencies of government to further enrich and update the draft roadmap.