



Plantation of trees in the courtyard of the school of Guirowell, Mopti Region © UNHCR

01 – 30 September 2015

KEY FIGURES

80

Trees planted in the courtyard of the school in Guirowell (region of Mopti) by the local community, UNHCR and partner.

7,376

birth certificates were established for Mauritanian refugees in the regions of Kayes and Yelimane, thanks to UNHCR support.

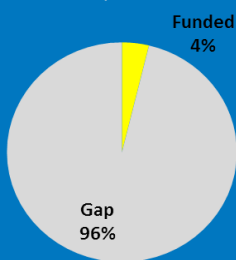
36

Ivorian refugees in Faragouaran received ID cards from the Malian authorities, thanks to UNHCR advocacy.

FUNDING

USD 67,8

requested for the operation

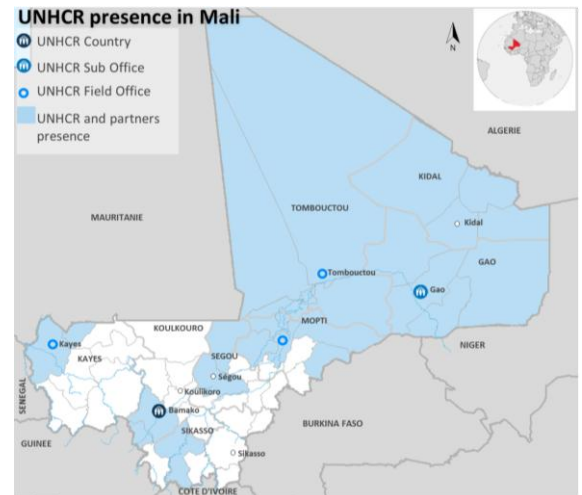


PRIORITIES

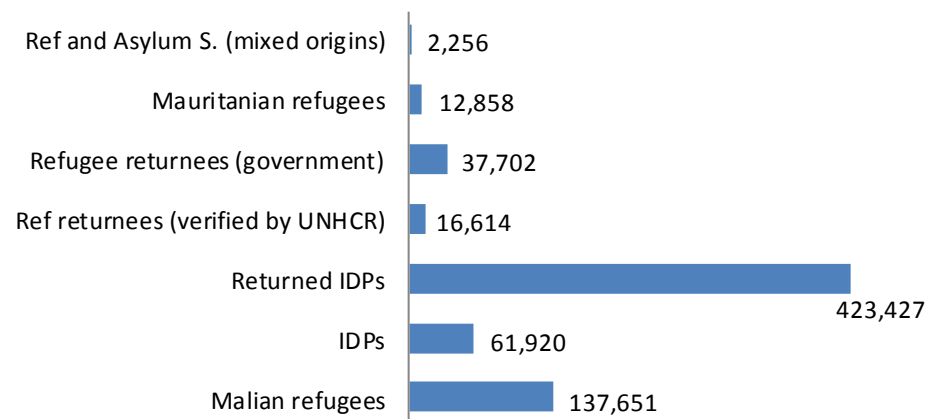
- Celebrate World UN Day (24 October)
- Finish rehabilitation and construction of shelter and water infrastructures in Kayes, and the North of Mali
- Carry out AGDM Evaluations in the all areas covered by UNHCR offices

HIGHLIGHTS

- A workshop for parliamentarians on Statelessness was organized by UNHCR in partnership with the Ministry of Justice, in Bamako, to raise awareness among Malian parliamentarians on Mali's accession to both Conventions on Statelessness of 1954 and 1961.
- The new school in Egaf Nanou/N'tillit (03 classrooms), including latrines and hand-wash basins, was finished at the beginning of the month. In October, 150 students and 03 teachers will be able to use the new facilities, in time for the new yearly cycle.



Population of concern (as of 30.09.2015)¹



¹ Sources: Refugee returnees (government, figures from 2013 to September 2015); Refugee Returnees, Refugee and Asylum Seekers (mixed origins), Mauritanian Refugees (UNHCR as of 30/09/2015); IDPs, Returned IDPs (Source: government, as of 30/09/2015).

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

Mali is slowly pulling out of the intense political and military crisis which started in 2012, the northern part still being under the influence of various armed groups. Though the armed conflict has calmed down since late September, the insecurity remains high due to aggravated terrorist and criminal threats. Violations of basic human rights are still reported, prices of basic necessities are high and local populations are in dire need of access to public services and food security. To date, more than 137,000 Malian refugees in neighboring countries and nearly 62,000 displaced persons in Mali are waiting to see whether conditions in their areas of origin improve to allow them to return in safety and dignity.

Principles for peace and reconciliation were adopted by the parties during the 2015 spring and validated through an Agreement signed on 15 May and 20 June 2015. Yet, on 17 August, violent clashes between elements of the (pro-government) Platform coalition and the dissenting Coordination of Azawad movements (CMA), resumed and resulted in GATIA (pro-government) taking control of the CMA stronghold Anéfis (100 km south-west of Kidal). On 5th September, the Platform announced its withdrawal from Anéfis, which took effect on 14 September. But tensions between the Platform and the CMA persisted in the far north, up to the Algerian border in the Inkhalil area. On 27 September the belligerents decided to engage in negotiations and organized to that purpose a complex round of inter-community meetings.

During the month of September, conflict-related incidents have been scarcer. Regions were preparing for the local and regional elections, scheduled on 25 October. Yet, population and civil society remained skeptic in regards the scheduled date, given the security conditions. The CMA declared that the elections could not be held as long as insecurity remains and refugees have not returned. Eventually the government decided to postpone the elections.

Security incidents perpetrated by criminal and terrorist groups have been following an increasing tendency since the signing of the Agreement; actually, they have increased in the north of the country and expanded into central and southern territories. This security situation remains preoccupying, and makes the use of escorts and armored vehicles mandatory, and access to persons of concern increasingly difficult. The heavy seasonal rains have caused important material damage and delays in UNHCR's implementation of activities in the regions of Mopti, Kayes, Gao and Menaka. UNHCR and partners have developed strategies to continue activities.

UNHCR followed closely the events in neighboring countries, and namely the Coup d'Etat led in Burkina Faso, and their impact on security of refugee populations in Mali, and their intentions to return. UNHCR Mali is particularly concerned by the fact that the event caused security forces to head to Ouagadougou, and leave the borders without surveillance, which may facilitate in and out movements of terrorist and criminal groups.

Achievements



Protection

Protection Cluster

- The Protection Cluster, led by UNHCR and co-facilitated by the Danish Refugee Council, participated in the workshop organized by OCHA, for the 2016 humanitarian planning, gathering participants of the 09 countries of the Sahel region, from 30 August to 02 September, in Senegal.

Achievements and Impact

- Thanks to the support of UNHCR and partners, all 36 Ivorian refugees in Faragouaran received identity cards from the Malian authorities.

- A workshop for parliamentarians on Statelessness was organized by UNHCR in partnership with the Ministry of Justice, on 16 September in Bamako. Presentations and debates were an opportunity to raise awareness among Malian parliamentarians who are about to discuss and adopt bills on Mali's accession to both Conventions on Statelessness of 1954 and 1961.
- UNHCR in Kayes continued to advocate for the transcription of the remaining birth certificates on town registers. By the end of September, 7,376 birth certificates were established in the regions of Kayes and Yelimane.

■ Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

- Timbuktu: A case of denial of rightful access to economic resources was identified in Timbuktu Region and was provided psychosocial support by UNHCR's partner, Handicap International. 14 psychosocial counseling sessions were organized for survivors in Timbuktu and Soboundou. 04 discussion group sessions with survivors were organized in Timbuktu. 03 legal counseling sessions were provided to SGBV survivors. 18 awareness sessions on prevention and response to SGBV were carried out in Timbuktu, Soboundou, Rharous, and Alafia, and touched nearly 500 people (including 335 women). UNHCR Timbuktu and partners continued to hold the monthly meetings with 20 community centres in Timbuktu, Soboundou, Rharous, and Alafia. 02 workshops were organized for local leaders on SGBV in Rharous and Soboundou gathering 31 participants (including 18 women). UNHCR and its partner, Handicap International, participated in the training of local media on SGBV.



Awareness-raising activity on SGBV in Rharous © Handicap International

- Mopti: 02 awareness-raising activities touching around 950 people (630 women and 320 men) were conducted on the issues of early marriage in Hombori and Konna (Mopti region). 03 awareness sessions were organized with focus groups in Koro, Kiri and Bih (Mopti region) to discuss SGBV with 28 women and 23 men. Community focal points and centers in Koro (Mopti region) were trained on SGBV prevention and rights of survivors on 07-08 September. UNHCR and Partners continued to gather information on SGBV incidents. 07 new cases received psychosocial counseling and 04 discussion group sessions were organized in Douentza and Mopti. 01 new complaint was filed at the police station in Koro (Mopti Region). The SGBV survivor received legal counsel.
- Gao: an awareness session gathered in Gao city 150 people (105 women and girls/45 men and boys) including 75 refugee returnees, 37 IDPs and 38 locals. Handicap International also conducted 20 other awareness sessions in Gao city, Ansongo, Bourem and Gossi, touching 596 people among which 441 women and girls. 04 workshops were organized with focal points in Gao, Ansongo, Bourem and Gossi to discuss the use of image boxes during community sensitization. 24 new cases of SGBV were identified and all received psychosocial support. 05 new cases were filed at the police stations in Gao and Gossi. 02 Focal points were trained to draft complaints. Reinforcing capacities and knowledge of survivors on their rights is encouraging them to be more confident and less reluctant about the possibilities to take their cases to the courts. 24 survivors were referred to Mercy Corps for socio-economic support.

- Kayes: Following discussions between UNHCR and the Regional Department for the Promotion of Women, Children and Families conducted in August 2015, an action plan on SGBV was drafted and includes refugee sites.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Within the region of Timbuktu, 3 registration points are currently functional (Soumpi, Goundam and Timbuktu). Two additional registration points (Dire and Lere) are planned.

Education

Achievements and Impact

- On 05th September, a community activity for the plantation of more than 80 trees in the courtyard of the school in Guirowell was organized with the support of UNHCR Mopti and Partner Stop Sahel.
- On the three equipped schools (including latrines and wash basins) being built in N'tillit (region of Gao), the school in Egaf Nanou (03 classrooms) was finished at the beginning of the month. In October, 150 students and 03 teachers will be able to use the new facilities.



Plantation of trees in the courtyard of the school of Guirowell, Mopti Region © UNHCR

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The conflict had serious impact on access to education in the north of Mali in general. Needs to rehabilitate or build classrooms remain significant.



Health

Achievements and Impact

- In the framework of the health insurance plans in the region of Kayes, the community health centers, partners to the project, have provided healthcare to 20 Mauritanian refugees (including 13 women), at a lower cost.

Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- 02 water points were rehabilitated in Hombori and Haire (Douentza, Mopti Region) where est. 5,844 people live, among which 415 refugee returnees. Such activity has an important impact on the improvement of social cohesion in the area. 12 awareness sessions, including 90 participants among which 56 women, were carried out in Barbé Pintala, Massaya Daga, Komoguel 2 and Sambaoulo (Mopti Region), on themes such as “Maintenance of collective facilities”, “Paiement of maintenance fees”, “Social cohesion”.
- Two rural water systems were built in Sinkole and Hermankono, and will benefit at least 715 Mauritanian refugees in the regions of Kayes and Yelimane. They will have easy access to potable water all year round. Such achievement has a direct impact on reducing diseases and reinforcing peaceful coexistence between local and refugee communities.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- 80 loin clothes were donated to women associations to support their efforts towards self-reliance and social cohesion.
- In order to build capacities and share lessons learnt with the newly hired local staff from the NGO Stop Sahel, a three days training on the NFI distribution process was held in Mopti from 29 September to 01st October.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNHCR and partner ACTED are currently rehabilitating with the involvement of the community 360 shelters in Gao (49), N'tillit (71) and Anderamboukane (120).

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and Impact

- A workshop on community-based enterprise development was organized for community development staff from 14-19 September in Kayes. 11 staff from Stop Sahel were trained.

Working in partnership

Besides UNHCR's regular cooperation with the authorities, international organizations, NGOs, and coordination mechanisms, one may highlight the following:

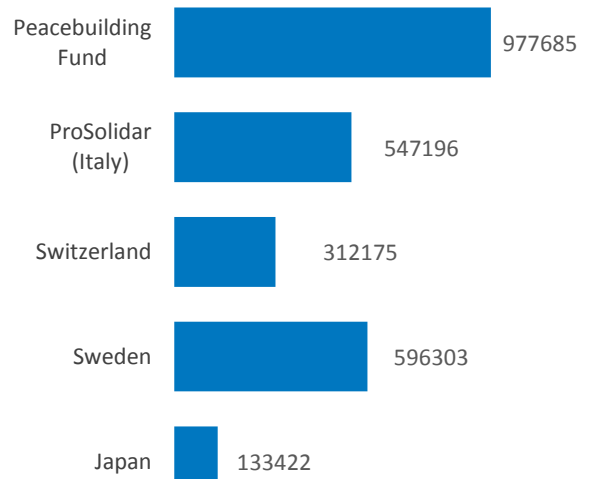
- In cooperation with Unicef, women and parent associations were identified in Menaka, with a view to supporting these women with income generating activities.
- UNHCR continued to work in cooperation with partners and the International Organization for Migration in the framework of the projects funded by the UN Peacebuilding fund.
- The UNHCR office in Kayes has been in close contact with government counterparts and local NGOs to discuss the insertion of Mauritanian refugees within nutrition and SGBV plans.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 2,566,781 million**, including **US\$ 1,289,860 million** for the situation.

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 and broadly earmarked funds.

Funding received (in million USD)



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Links:

[Mali Situation UNHCR portal](#) – [UNHCR Mali Facebook](#) - [UNHCR Twitter](#) – [La Nationalité : Le droit d’avoir des droits](#)

ANNEXES

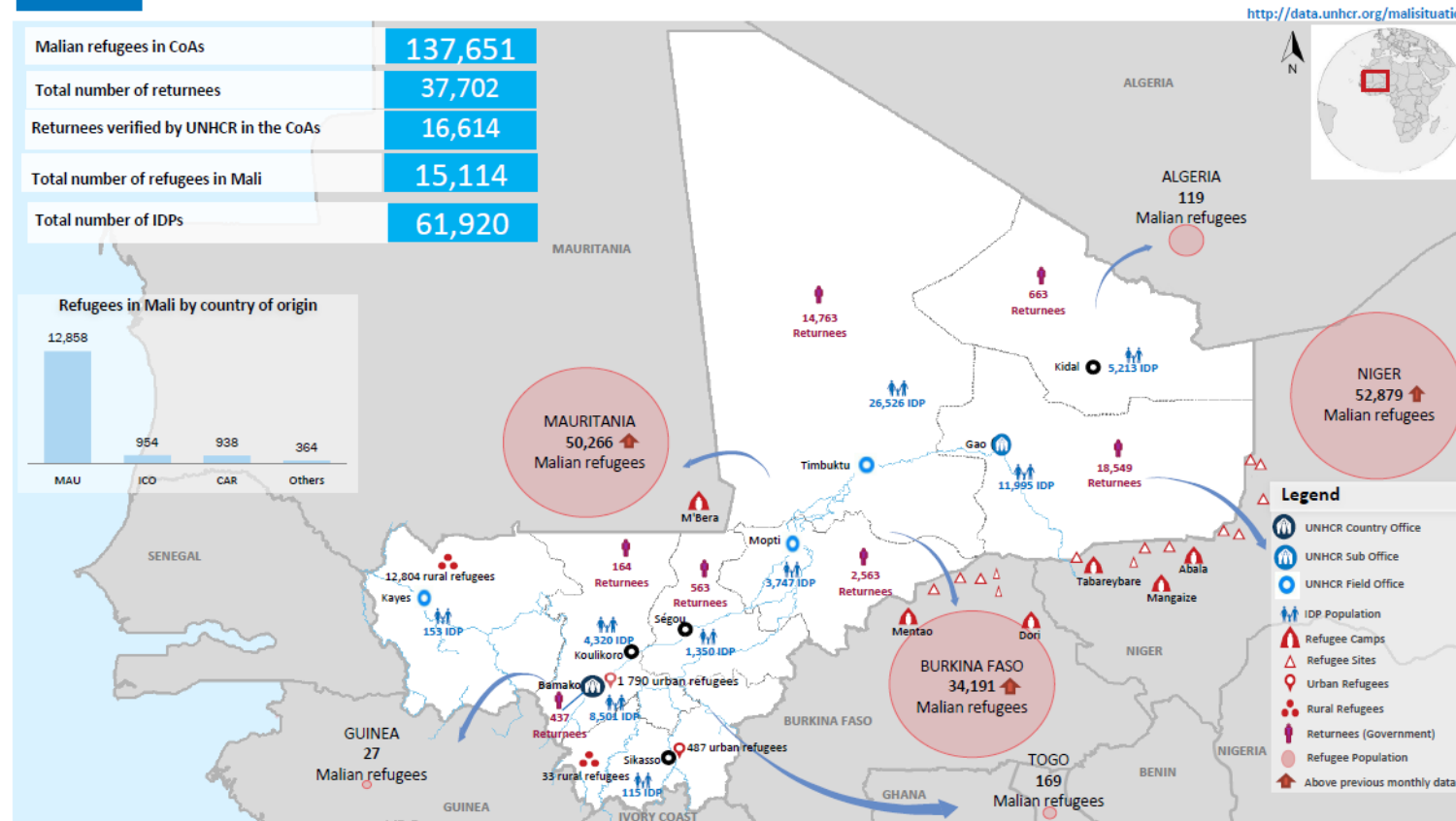
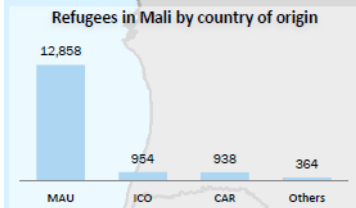


Mali: Refugees, returnees and IDPs September 30, 2015

UNHCR Mali



Malian refugees in CoAs	137,651
Total number of returnees	37,702
Returnees verified by UNHCR in the CoAs	16,614
Total number of refugees in Mali	15,114
Total number of IDPs	61,920



Sources : Government of Mali for Refugees, Returnees and IDPs, and UNHCR for Malian refugees and verified returnees