



# **MAURITANIA**

## **FACTSHEET**

August 2015

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

14,283

Malian households in Mberra camp

5,487

People with specific needs assisted in Mberra Camp 395

New arrivals from Mali registered since 28 April 2015 30L

Of potable water available per person per day in Mberra Camp 2,588

Voluntary returns since 2013

# Population of concern

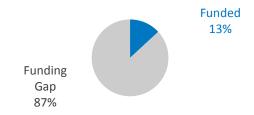
A total of 51,425 people assisted in 2015

		Total	
Refugees from Mali		49,911	
Other (urban)	refugees	987	
Asylum (urban)	seekers	527	
Total		51, 425	

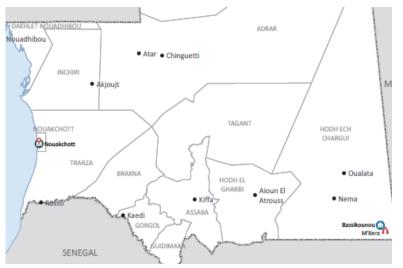
## **Funding in 2015**

USD 24.4 million requested

USD 3.2M received from the Government of Japan



## **UNHCR Presence**



### **UNHCR offices and staffing:**

**2** offices: Nouakchott and Bassikounou

**80** staff, including **18** international staff

## **WORKING WITH PARTNERS**

UNHCR collaborates with the Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization and local authorities for the coordination of protection and assistance to refugees in Mauritania. The organization takes part in the UN Country Team and Humanitarian Country Team, and works closely with national and international NGOs and has eight implementing partners in the country: Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization, Commissariat à la sécurité alimentaire, Agence nationale du registre des populations et des titres sécurisés, Action Contre la Faim — Espagne, Association pour la Lutte contre la Pauvreté et le sous-développement, Fédération luthérienne mondiale, InterSos and SOS Désert.

## **MAIN ACTIVITIES**

#### Protection

- **Biometric registration** of new arrivals and **updating** of the database in the camp and in urban areas and refugee status determination conducted for refugees in urban areas.
- Identification of and targeted assistance to more than 5,000 people with specific needs through home visits, psychosocial counseling and specific food, non-food item and shelter assistance.
- Ensuring protection of beneficiaries with a particular emphasis on gender-based violence and child protection through prevention activities (home visits, awareness-raising campaigns), trainings (for teachers, social workers and refugee leaders), support to community-based committees and support to victims (medical, counseling and financial supports).
- Support to the authorities for the development of a national refugee law and organization of sensitization and training activities for the Mauritanian authorities on international protection of refugees and asylum seekers.

#### Education

- Support to primary education in Mberra camp through incentives for 100 teachers, 6 school directors and 6 associate supervisors from the refugee community). Primary/secondary education support for urban refugees through tuition coverage and the organization of remedial courses.
- Literacy/numeracy classes for 500 adults in Mberra camp.

#### Health

- Support to primary health care with the **supply of medicine** to the camp's health center.
- Medical evacuation for refugees with serious medical conditions in need of secondary or tertiary health care.
- Facilitate access to the national health system and primary health care for urban refugees with specific needs.

### Food Security and Nutrition

- Monthly food distribution (rice, pulses, oil) and Food Basket Monitoring for all refugees as well as quarterly Post-Distribution Monitoring.
- Awareness-raising campaigns carried out by 43 auxiliaries from the refugee community delivering key messages on nutrition and general food distribution.

### Access to energy

Distribution of natural gas for 200 households in Mberra camp and charcoal for 1,500 households, targeting people with specific

### Shelter and Non-food items

- Replacement of **deteriorated basic items** (jerry cans, mosquito nets) and **shelters** in Mberra camp.
- Maintenance of communal buildings (23 structures maintained) in the camp.
- Distribution of **hygiene kits** to women of childbearing age in Mberra camp and in urban areas.

### Water and Sanitation

- Maintenance of the existing camp's water distribution network, construction/rehabilitation of semi-permanent communal latrines and waste management in the camp.
- Monthly distribution of soap for all refugees and distribution of hygiene kits to women of childbearing age twice a year in Mberra camp.
- Awareness-raising campaigns carried out by 43 auxiliaries from the refugee community on hygiene and hand-washing.

## Self-reliance and Community Empowerment

- Support (financial and training) of **80 new income-generation activities** (sewing activities, shops and butcheries) in 2015 and follow-up on 115 income-generation projects from 2014 in Mberra camp.
- Access to gardening activities (provision of tools and land) for 1,800 women and distribution of 500 dairy goats to improve refugees' nutritional diet and income in the camp.
- Consultation with and empowerment of community-based coordination and sectoral committees in Mberra camp and in urban areas.
- Provision of micro finance grants for 39 urban refugees to support small businesses (e.g. loincloth crafting, fish and grocery shops).
- Literacy programme targeting 15 urban refugees and provision of vocational training for 50 individuals.

## Peaceful coexistence in the Camp

- Awareness-raising campaigns on **peaceful coexistence** between refugees and host communities in the camp and nearby villages.
- Implementation of **15 community-based projects** (construction of wells, shops etc.) supporting the host community in villages around Mberra camp.
- **Supply of medicine** to health posts in Bassikounou, Mberra village and Nema.

#### **Durable Solutions**

• Identify and support durable solutions in urban areas through submission of resettlement cases, assistance to voluntary returns and support to local integration for refugees whose status has ceased.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR, including the  $\frac{\text{Government of Japan}}{\text{Mauritania}}$  who contributed  $\frac{\text{USD 3.2M}}{\text{UNHCR's programme in Mauritania}}$ 

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