

Mali

October 2017

Mali continues to face a volatile security situation amid growing threats of terrorism, criminality and intercommunity tensions in the northern and central regions.

Local populations face important protection risks amid limited access to public services, documentation, shelter, water, education and food security.

Despite significant challenges, the implementation of the Peace and Reconciliation Accord advances slowly in order to re-establish peace and security in the region.

KEY INDICATORS

13

Young refugees received **DAFI tertiary education grant** offered by the German Government in 2017-2018

12

Central African Republic refugee households **voluntarily repatriated** from Mali to Bangui in October

1,028

Birth certificates distributed to Mauritanian refugees in the Kayes region since beginning of the year.

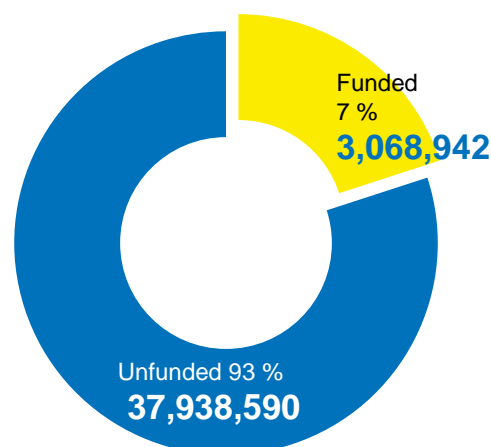


A group of returned refugee women in Timbuktu, crafting leather bags and other products they sell as a mean for livelihood. ©UNHCR Mali/M. Diallo 2017

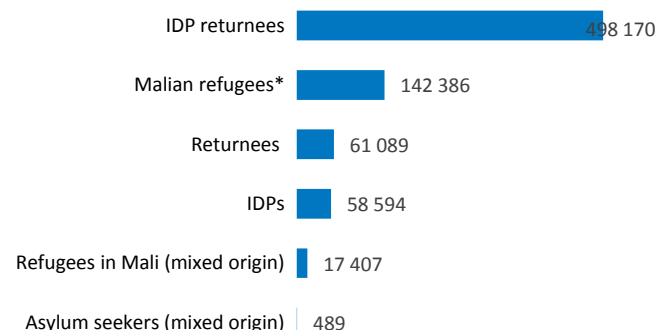
FUNDING (AS OF 27 OCTOBER 2017)

USD 41,007,532

requested for Mali



POPULATION OF CONCERN



Figures as at September 30, 2017.

* Source: UNHCR. All other figures sourced from the Government of Mali.

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

- The security situation in Mali remains volatile with threats of terrorism, criminality and intercommunity violence in the north and central regions impacting the protection environment for civilians and limiting humanitarian access. Violation of human rights continue to be recorded with local populations facing limited access to public services, documentation, water, education and food security.
- The state of emergency in Mali was extended for another 12 months following a decision by the Malian government on 20 October. The new extension is effective 31 October and follows a previous one that was decreed on 19 April 2017 and covered a period of six months.
- Within the framework of the fight against terrorism, the Malian Prime Minister Abdoulaye Idrissa Maiga visited Europe from 9 to 14 October, where he called for the establishment of a 3.34 billion Euro Malian Marshall Plan aiming at developing northern regions. Additionally, he seized the opportunity to reiterate that the primary concern should be the fight against terrorism.
- A visit by the UN Security Council to the Sahel region took place from 19 to 22 October and met with the Government, representatives of the French military operation Barkhane, members of diplomatic representations in Mali, the UN agencies, representatives of armed group signatories to the Accord for Peace and members of the civil society. The mission aimed at delivering a message on the importance of the implementation of the 2015 Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, assessing the level and nature of the threat posed by terrorism and transnational organised crime, and promoting support to the joint G5 Sahel force.
- On 30 October, Washington pledged a financial aid of 51 million Euros for the G5 Sahel force. In the meantime, the force became operational on 31 October.
- The need to uphold humanitarian principles remains of utmost importance to counter the shrinking of humanitarian space necessary to conduct life-saving activities. Incorporating protection mainstreaming principles and promoting a meaningful access, safety and dignity for humanitarian aid remains key to humanitarian actors.
- On 19 October, UNHCR participated to the launch of the Solidarity Month ceremony in Niono, Segou region. The Month is an initiative by the Malian Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian action.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Protection Cluster

- On 3 and 4 October, the Humanitarian Response Planning (HRP) Workshop was held in Bamako, which served as a framework for the cluster to provide strategic guidance to address the protection needs of vulnerable populations. The Protection Cluster took advantage of this workshop to work with other clusters on mainstreaming cross-protection and centrality of protection into their humanitarian response plan. Thus, reference documents for the integration of transversal protection in humanitarian actions were shared and explained. This support for other sectors throughout the humanitarian response planning process will continue in order to promote the effective integration of the elements of transversal protection.
- The protection cluster monthly meeting took place in Bamako on 18 October. It revolved around the 2018 HRP process. The Cluster sectorial response plan was amended and adopted by members. OCHA facilitated the session on the Online Project System (OPS). This presentation focused on how to create an OPS account for members and upload projects in the system.
- On 11 October, the meeting of the regional Protection Cluster took place in Timbuktu. During the meeting, discussions focused on the analysis of the protection situation, the activities of the member organizations, the HNO / HRP and the programming of protection assessments, and finally the action plan for the training sessions on the transversal protection in other clusters. In the protection situation analysis, a decrease in incidents (robbery, attacks against humanitarian workers...) has been noticed since the intercommunity meeting that was held on 26-27 September, organized by the governors of Timbuktu and Taoudeni, Timbuktu region.
- On 4 October, a meeting of the heads of the Gender-Based Violence and Child Protection thematic groups was held in Gao, based on a recommendation that followed the escalation of rape cases on road axes in the region. The objective was to involve all actors (authorities, civil society and humanitarian actors) for high-level advocacy on this situation. The Directorate for the Promotion of Women, Childhood and Family was conveyed and an inclusive day of reflection and advocacy was organized.

Achievements and Impact

- **Mixed migration:** With the aim of tackling mixed migration issues and strengthening coordination with key partners and stakeholders, UNHCR met with IOM in Timbuktu, with IOM and AMSS in Mopti, with stakeholders in Gao, and meetings with IOM and authorities are in preparation in Bamako. Monitoring activities have been launched in

entry and transit points in Bamako, Gao, Mopti and Timbuktu regions. In the view of formulating alternatives to unsafe irregular migration, self-reliance and livelihoods activities targeting persons of concern and host communities are being implemented in Timbuktu, Gao, Mopti, and Kayes. Groups of beneficiaries have been identified in all locations. Additionally, training has been delivered to the partner Stop Sahel in Kayes, where 6 sensitization sessions on the risks of irregular migration and *refoulement* have been held as well. In October, 28 new Protection Monitors have been deployed in the above-mentioned regions.

SGBV: With the aim of reducing the risk of SGBV and improving the quality of response in Gao, Kayes, Mopti and Timbuktu regions, 169 sensitization sessions were carried-out through UNHCR's partners AMSS and Stop Sahel, on the risks and consequences of SGBV, early marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), and the importance of girls' education, reaching at least 2,460 men and women from refugee returnee and local communities.

- **Social Cohesion:** In the regions of Gao, Kidal, Menaka, Kayes and Timbuktu through the partners AMSS and Stop Sahel, 24 sensitization sessions on social cohesion reached 411 men and women from refugee returnee and local communities.
- **Documentation:** In Kayes region, birth certificates continued to be issued to Mauritanian refugees through Stop Sahel. In total, since the beginning of the year, 1,028 birth certificates have been distributed out of the planned 2,659 for 2017.
- **Protection Monitoring:** 42 protection incidents were collected and documented through UNHCR's partner AMSS during this month, mostly in the regions of Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal and Mopti. Most of the reported incidents relate to extortion, injuries and deaths. Since the beginning of the year, 708 protection incidents have been collected and documented (temporary figure, as of 31 October 2017).
- **Voluntary repatriation:**
 - On 26th October the Tripartite Commission Mali-Burkina Faso-UNHCR on the voluntary return of Malian refugees in Burkina Faso took place in Ouagadougou.
 - From 2 to 6 October, a mission to collect the repatriation intentions of Ivorian refugees was conducted in the Sikasso region. At the end of this exercise, 105 people clearly expressed their desire to repatriate to Côte d'Ivoire. Actions are underway with the National Commission for Refugees to finalize the list to be shared with UNHCR in Côte d'Ivoire. A repatriation convoy is to leave to Côte d'Ivoire on 2 November 2017.
 - The spontaneous returned refugees identified by the Government (DNDS) under verification in the countries of asylum continue to request the office of the Sub-Delegation of Gao for their closure in these countries of asylum and receive assistance in Mali. This week, 18 households were received, listened to and sensitized on the ongoing repatriation process.

- On 26th October 2017, 12 households (i.e. 23 individuals) of CAR refugees were repatriated from Mali to Bangui. Since beginning of the year, 42 CAR refugees have repatriated from Mali. Before departure, they received information on the actual security situation in their country of origin, in order to take a decision on an informed basis.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Following the selection of 10 new refugee candidates to start their study thanks to the tertiary education grant from the German Government (known as the DAFI grant), an invitation was sent to them to sign an agreement related to the programme. By signing, the students certified their full-commitment to their studies, an ethical behavior, as well as to actively participate in activities that would contribute to their communities' welfare. In total, 13 refugees will study this year thanks to the grant. All of them received support through UNHCR's partner Stop Sahel to cover their subsistence fees during the first semester of the academic year 2017-2018.
- In Kayes region, 71 sensitization sessions on the importance of the enrolment of children in school were carried-out by Stop Sahel reaching 666 persons from both refugee and host communities in refugee hosting sites.
- In the frame of promotion activities of education for rural refugees, 263 education kits were distributed to children through Stop Sahel in Kayes region, in 4 sites.
- In Kayes region, 5 school dormitories were put in place with the capacity to host 120 children.
- In Kayes and Timbuktu regions, 3 raising-awareness sessions on education took place targeting 33 persons.
- In Bamako, 550 refugee children benefited from education kits (350 at primary school and 200 at secondary school). The distribution took place early October.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- New enrolments were registered to the health insurance scheme. In Bamako 54 household newly adhered. Since the beginning of the year, more than 212 families have newly subscribed to the programme, out of an annual objective of 300.
- In Kayes region, 15 households newly enrolled to the scheme.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Many urban refugees suffer from serious or chronic diseases. Due to resource constraints, it is not possible to assist all of them. A targeted support is provided to the most vulnerable only, leaving others relying on their own resources.
- Also, many urban refugees do not accept to contribute to health expenses through the health insurance scheme. Sensitization is carried out in order to explain the benefits of such a scheme.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In Mopti region, 12 sensitization sessions were carried-out on hygiene and sanitation around water spots. 343 persons benefitted from these activities, including 180 women.
- Two water holes were rehabilitated in Gao and Menaka regions.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- Since beginning of 2017, 244 shelters composed of 100 traditional and 144 mud shelters, have been constructed out of an annual objective of 250 shelters for this year. This activity has been implemented through UNHCR's partner TSF.
- 2 shelters in Hombori and 12 others in Tinhabou are being rehabilitated, both located in Mopti region.
- In Gao region, 98 shelters have been constructed, while 130 others have been finalized in Menaka region.



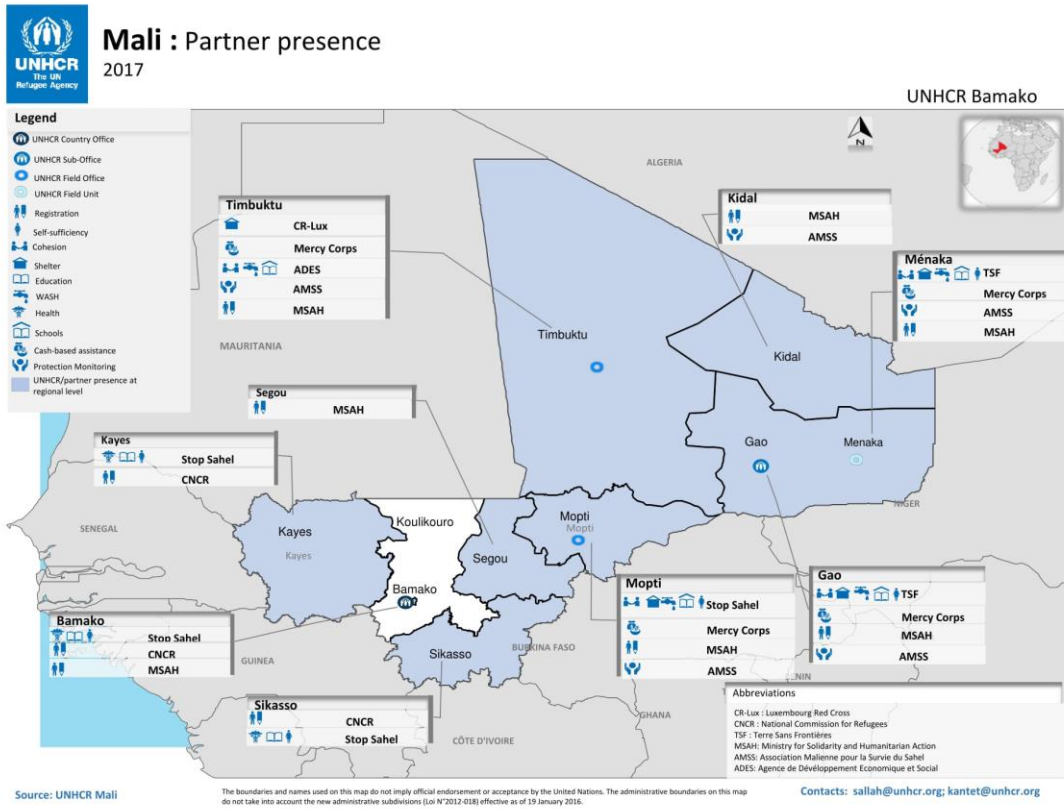
COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- **Cash grants:**
 - UNHCR, through its partner Mercy Corps, is providing cash grants to refugee returnees to meet their basic needs and support their reintegration since the beginning of the year. 5,391 returnees are targeted to receive this support in 2017. As of 31 October, 4,005 returned refugees have received cash grant in Gao, Menaka, Mopti and Timbuktu regions.

- In Gao and Menaka, 53 households composed of 244 individuals received cash assistance in Anberamboukane.
- Furthermore, 172 returnee households composed of 289 persons located in Gao, were identified by UNHCR's partner Mercy Corps, to receive cash assistance in the upcoming period.
- Within the framework of a post-distribution monitoring mission on cash assistance – done through UNHCR's partner Mercy Corps, counselling was given to beneficiaries on efficient and effective ways to use cash and its impact on them.
- **Income-Generation Assistance:**
 - In Bamako and Kayes region, 18 persons were selected for professional apprenticeship programme.
 - In Timbuktu and Kidal regions, farming and market gardening kits were distributed to 7 groups composed of women.
 - In Menaka region, 20 persons were trained on corporate culture and microenterprise management. Also, 6 persons received cash in support to income generating assistance activities. Three of them are SGBV survivors, while the three others are with specific needs.
 - In Mopti, 42 persons received a second instalment of the monetary assistance in support to the accomplishment of their income-generating activities.
 - On 19 October, agricultural kits were distributed among 3 groups of women of all communities who work as market gardeners.
 - On 20 October, two SGBV survivors received economic support within the framework of assistance to persons with specific needs, through UNHCR's partner TSF. In total, 20 persons with specific needs received this support since the start of the year, including 5 SGBV survivors.

Working in partnership

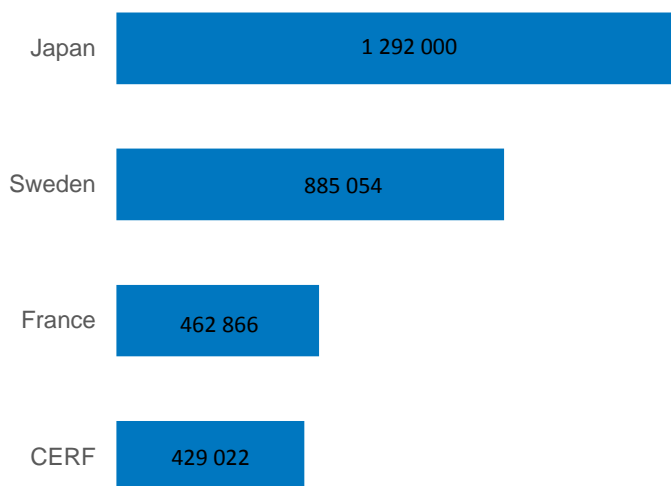


Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 3,068,942 million**, including **US\$ 1,785,622 million** for the Mali 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.

Earmarked funding received (in USD)



External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Priv Donors Spain (29 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (12 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (12 M) | Italy (10 M) |

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 20XX

Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Chile | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Morocco | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Zambia | Private Donors |

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