

Mali

January 2018

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

14

Sensitization sessions on **SGBV** were carried-out reaching at least **520 returnee men and women** and local communities.

69

Protection Incidents related to extortion, injuries and deaths, were **collected and documented**.

371

People on the move were identified by **protection monitors** in Bamako, Gao, Mopti and Timbuktu.

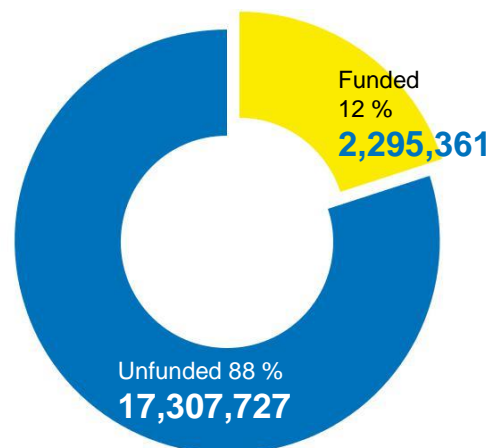


During a launching ceremony of vocational training for refugee and Malian women, UNHCR, its partner Stop Sahel, and the NGO Muslim Hands pose in a group photo with the beneficiaries. ©UNHCR Mali/A.Konate 2017

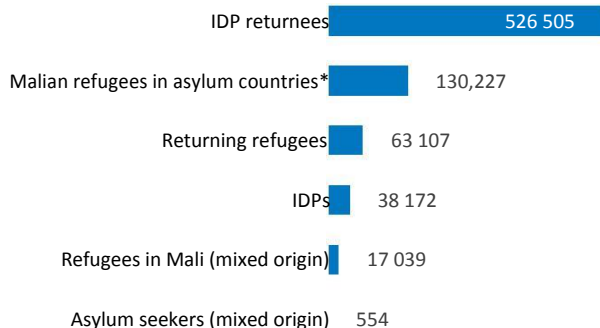
FUNDING (AS OF 29 JANUARY 2018)

USD 19,603,089

requested for Mali



POPULATION OF CONCERN



Figures as of 31 December 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 humanitarian aid is frequently blocked or slowed down due to the security situation notably in the central and northern regions of Mali. Aid workers often face issues when planning or attempting to reach local populations to provide the required assistance.
- Following the resignation of the Malian Prime Minister, Abdoulaye Idrissa Maiga, and the appointment of Soumeylou Boubèye Maiga on 30th December 2017, the latter asserted that he is ready to take "strong measures" to reinforce the security of Malians, especially in the central region of the country faced with a rise in violence and unrest. This statement was made during an interview with AFP on 7th January. Furthermore, the newly appointed government was highlighted by other notable reshuffles. For instance, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abdoulaye Diop, was replaced by Tieman Hubert Coulibaly, former Minister of Territorial Administration. The newly formed government includes the creation of new entities, such as the Ministry of Local Development and the Ministry of Local Government.
- On 8 January 2018, a ministerial meeting on the operationalization of the G5 joint force was held, as a follow-up on the high-level meeting that took place in France, on 13 December 2017. According to the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretary, Najim El Hadj Mohamed, this meeting discussed, among other topics, mechanisms for creating mobilization of contributions to the joint force, the organization and functioning of the Support Force and Control Committees, as well as the establishment of a communication and information mechanism and the preparation of several other upcoming meetings.
- On 19 January 2018, the Malian authorities addressed a letter to the Nigerian Government to organize a high-level meeting in Niamey on 22 and 23 February 2018, involving Malian refugees' countries of asylum (Burkina Faso, Niger and Mauritania) and UNHCR. This meeting will focus on the security problem of Malian refugees and the acceleration of their organized repatriation.
- On 25 January 2018 a transport vehicle from Burkina Faso on its way to a fair in Boni village in Mopti region was blown up by an improvised explosive device (IED). Furthermore, a second fully burned vehicle belonging to a Burkinabe individual was also found near. According to media reports, there was a death toll of 26 civilians, including 16 men, six women and four children. It should be noted that the victims are of Malian and Burkinabe nationalities. Among these victims, three Malian refugees - (two from the Mentao camp and one recorded in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso) - were identified by their proGres identifiers. This calamity confirmed that Malian refugees continue commuting between Mali and Burkina Faso, as part of their commercial activities. Although several raising awareness campaigns were

carried out on the problem of landmines and road hazards, it is crucial to strengthen refugees' understanding of the Sahel's precarious security situation.

- According to reports filtering from MINUSMA, their Sector North advanced post, located 4 kilometres north-east of Kidal camp came under direct fire from unidentified assailants on 9th January 2018; the second advanced post at 3 km east of MINUSMA camp was also attacked. No injuries were reported.
- On the same day, a National Guard patrol came under direct fire attack near Diablo village, approximately 4 km south of Djenné Commune in Mopti Region. Initial reports indicated that one gendarme was killed, five others were seriously injured and a vehicle burnt.
- On 10 January, a MINUSMA Force escorting a logistic convoy from Tessalit to Aguelhok, hit an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) damaging the armed personnel carrier (APC).
- On 27 January, FAMa (Malian Armed Forces) soldiers were attacked in Soumpi (Timbuktu). As indicated by the Malian Armed Forces through their social networks, 14 persons were killed, while 18 others were injured. Reportedly, this event provoked a state of fear and panic among the inhabitants of Soumpi.
- On 28 January, a group of violent persons attacked a National Guard camp in Menaka, in an area close to the Niger border and around 700km east of Timbuktu. According to reports, the attack left at least 4 dead Malian military soldiers.
- On 4 January, a meeting was held between UNHCR's Representative in Mali, Ms. Angèle Djohossou and the Minister of Malians Abroad and African Integration, Dr. Abdramane Sylla. During this meeting, discussions revolved around collaboration between the Government of Mali and UNHCR in the context of mixed migration. Both parties expressed interest in this cooperation and urged their respective technical teams to act accordingly.
- Following arrivals of Burkinabe populations to Malian lands in the region of Timbuktu, fleeing Military operations around the border strip, a team composed of UNHCR and governmental agents carried-out a mission to two sites in the commune of Gossi, Timbuktu on 20 January. UNHCR is following-up on the issue with the relevant counterparts to provide the required assistance to the persons in need. The expressed needs were food, non-food and core relief items, emergency shelters and health care. Due to the ongoing registration activities, figures will be shared later.
- On 20 January, a meeting was held with WFP and UNICEF to discuss the situation of the displaced persons from Burkina Faso, currently in Gossi. The gathering also touched upon organizing a joint mission to assess the needs of these populations. WFP and UNICEF have indicated their availability to participate in the mission once the date is set.
- The need to uphold humanitarian principles remains of utmost importance to counter the shrinking of humanitarian space 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.

Achievements



Protection Cluster

Bamako:

- On 3 January 2018, the Protection Cluster consolidated the protection alert on the violation of the physical integrity and forced displacement of populations recorded in the commune of Bourem Inaly, Timbuktu region. The alert was shared with relevant protection actors for information and to solicit responses to the committed human rights' violations.
- On 15 and 19 January, a working session was held with UNHCR's partner AMSS to discuss the following points: corrective measures for the protection information sharing within the deadlines, the training needs to be met by the protection monitors, and a revision of protection monitoring tools in order to set them in line with international standards.
- The protection cluster has consolidated and monitored protection incidents recorded in northern and central Mali, including the flash of 25 January regarding alleged community tensions between Tuareg and Fula (Peulh) communities from Burkina Faso. These incidents were shared with the concerned protection actors to solicit protection responses.

Gao: The Protection Cluster finalized a mapping of tension zones in the three regions of Gao, Kidal and Menaka. The map's purpose is to give a better visibility of social cohesion. This understanding will allow for more sensitization activities to prevent inter-community clashes and conflicts.

Mopti: On 10 January, the Social Cohesion Thematic Group meeting was held to take stock of the situation in Koro. At the end of the meeting, the coordination of the Protection Cluster gave the members some orientations and strategies to adopt in order to cover all the circles of the region.

Timbuktu: On 4 January, an SGBV sub-group working session on the survivors' access to justice was held. The participants suggested their amendments to finalize the document.

Achievements and Impact

■ Mixed Movements:

- As part of the empowerment activities, monitoring of beneficiaries' projects continued in Timbuktu, Gao and Mopti. In Gao, 6 groups of market gardening, cattle fattening, carpentry, small processing and fish farming were empowered with equipment. This support, in addition to previously-distributed cash, aims to prevent the protection risks associated with irregular movements in the region.
- Protection monitoring was conducted through UNHCR's partner AMSS. 371 people on the move were identified in Bamako, Mopti and Timbuktu. These persons are from Guinea, Senegal, Gambia, Liberia and Burkina Faso. Their main destinations are Spain and Algeria. No persons of concern to UNHCR were identified among these groups.
- As part of the empowerment activities, from 8 to 10 January, 15 groups-associations of people on the move were trained through the partner TSF (Terres Sans Frontières) on the techniques of cattle fattening, market gardening, fish farming, carpentry and processing food and non-food items, in order to carry out their respective activities. These trainings were organized in Gao, Ansongo and Bourem.
- In Gao, from 10 to 11 January 2018, a monitoring of the 2017 activities was carried out by UNHCR and its partners TSF and AMSS. It was recommended to follow-up on the activities and to reinforce the field agents' capacities.
- According to security sources, on 7th January, 7 Syrian women with unidentified children reportedly disembarked from a public transport vehicle in N'Tahaka (45 km from Gao). They were transported by two armed men on a pickup truck to Gourma-Rharous circle in Timbuktu region. No additional information was received regarding their journey. UNHCR was not able to access these people.

■ Multi-Year Multi-Partner Protection & Solutions Strategy (MYMPSS)

- Following the 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, UNHCR was tasked to develop and implement the Declaration through the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) that sets out the key elements for a comprehensive response to any population movement. In this context, UNHCR Executive Committee announced in 2016 the creation of multi-year multi-partners pilot strategies aiming at institutionalizing a collaborative long term planning to develop more innovative programmes with development and stabilization partners.
- Identified as one of the pilot, UNHCR Mali is currently finalizing its Multi-Year Multi-Partners Protection and Solutions Strategy (MYMP). The Strategy has been developed in consultation with key partners, and works towards achieving the economic, legal, socio-cultural, and civil-political dimensions of

solutions—working with local and national authorities to strengthen communities while reducing the risk of disenfranchisement among people of concern as well as host communities. The MYMP describes UNHCR’s contribution to the CRRF over the period 2018-2022.

- **SGBV:** With the aim of reducing the risk of SGBV and improving the quality of response in Gao, Kayes, Mopti and Timbuktu regions, 14 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 520 men and women from returnees 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 334 men and women from returnees and local communities.
- **Protection Monitoring:**
 - 69 protection incidents were collected and documented through UNHCR’s partner AMSS during this month, mostly in the regions of Gao, Kidal, Mopti and Timbuktu. Most of the reported incidents relate to extortion, injuries and deaths. The predicted number of protection incident for 2018 is 1,000.
- **Voluntary repatriation:**
 - **Registration:** On 25 January, a meeting was held with la Commission Mouvement de Populations (the Commission of Populations’ Movement). During the monthly meeting, the Government announced that it had registered 1,603 returnees in December 2017. Since the start of the activity, a total of 63,107 returnees have been registered by the Government with the support of UNHCR.
 - **Follow-up on arrivals:**
 - **Timbuktu:** 8 repatriated leaders in Timbuktu region (Agouni, Timbaradjan and Aregh sites) were received as part of reception activities to express their needs.
 - **Other:** On 18th January, UNHCR participated in the Coordination of Humanitarian Response Meeting to respond effectively to the expected food and pastoral crisis. This meeting was initiated by the Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action. UNHCR has been designated to take part in a technical committee set up to monitor the work plan.
 - The organization of a high-level meeting on 22 and 23 February 2018 in Niamey regrouping countries of asylum (Niger, Burkina Faso, Mauritania) as well as UNHCR is underway. This meeting will focus on the security problem of Malian refugees and the acceleration of their organized repatriation. To date, 133,610 Malian refugees are still in asylum.

**EDUCATION****Achievements and Impact**

- By end of 2017, 685 pupils have received school assistance including 406 children in primary schools and 279 secondary school pupils. This assistance allowed them to secure their scholastic year and have a proper education.

**HEALTH****Achievements and Impact**

- By end of 2017, more than 200 persons of concern subscribed to a health insurance programme in Bamako and Kayes.

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**

- By end of 2017, in Gao, 3 borehole drillings are being constructed, while 3 are being rehabilitated, on an annual objective of 6.
- By end of 2017, in Mopti region, 2 water points are being constructed while 3 are being rehabilitated, on an annual objective of 4.
- By end of 2017, in Timbuktu, 1 water point is being rehabilitated while 4 are ready to be used, on an annual objective of 5.

**SHELTER AND NFIS****Achievements and Impact**

- By end of 2017, in Gao, 100 traditional and 150 mud shelters are being rehabilitated, on annual objective of 250. It is to mention that 820 mud and 220 traditional shelters exist in Gao region.
- By end of 2017, in Mopti, 100 mud shelters are being constructed to be added to an existent 100, while 100 traditional shelters have been rehabilitated.
- By end of 2017, in Timbuktu, 53 vegetal boxes are being constructed in addition to other existent 290. The good management of the budget resulted in 53 extra vegetal boxes. It is to mention that 100 mud shelters within the same region were rehabilitated in 2017.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

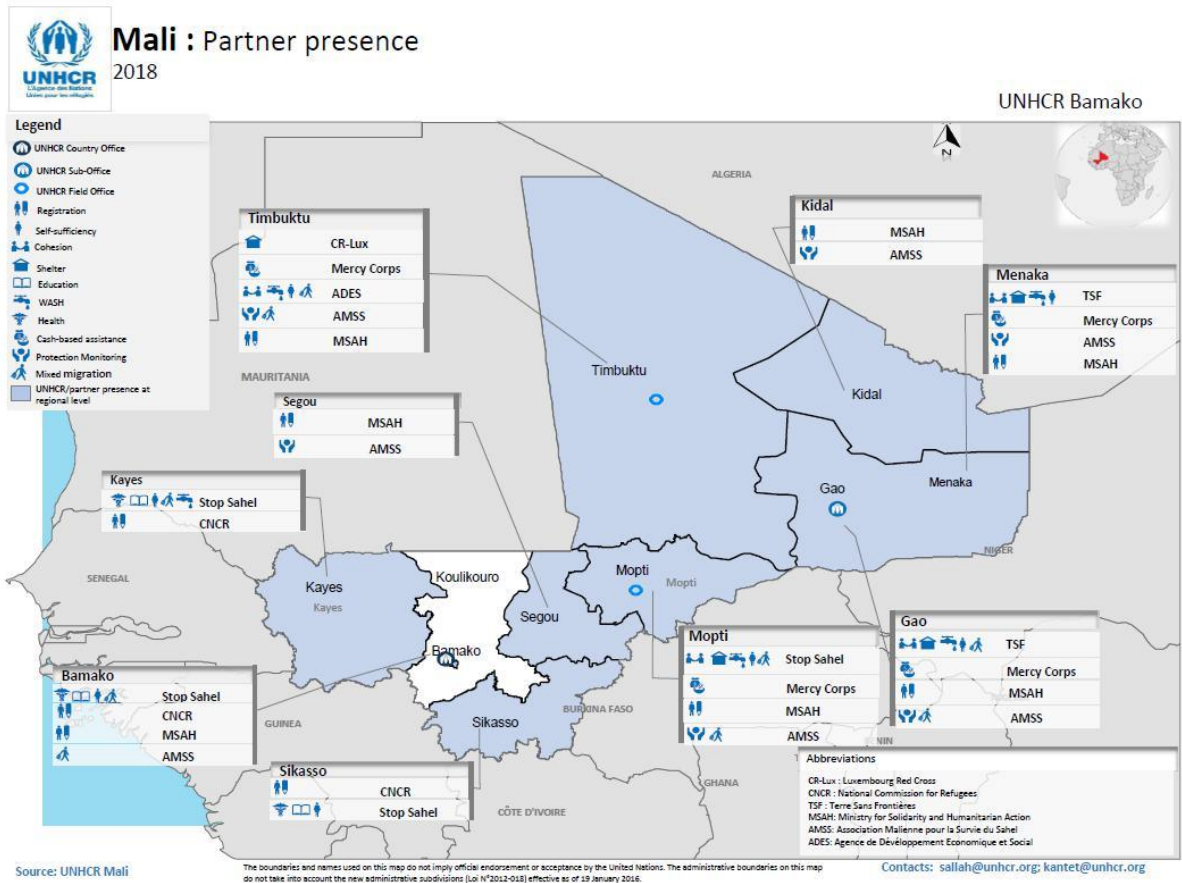
Achievements and Impact

- **Income-Generating Assistance:**
 - **Mopti:** a follow-up session of the activities was conducted with the partner Stop-Sahel. During the session, the discussions focused on the strategies to be implemented to support and assist the beneficiaries of the Income-Generating Assistance programme. Groups that have also benefited from provision of equipment will be visited to monitor their use.
 - UNHCR's partner Stop-Sahel received for the benefit of groups and associations in Mopti region. It consists of 6 warehouses built for saponification, fattening and livestock breeding associations, a market gardening plot and a modern henhouse for poultry farming.
 - **Timbuktu:** Within the framework of Income-Generating Assistance, UNHCR's partner ADES started targeting beneficiary groups. In January,

multifunctional teams were able to visit three groups in Benkadi, Tanminack and Tiyabou in the urban district of Timbuktu. These groups are traders and have small markets.

- A follow-up of 11 women groups was carried out through the partner ADES to identify challenges and needs.
- A monitoring of economic activities targeted 4 sites with vegetable gardens. The report indicated that the level of progress of the activities was increasing.

Working in partnership

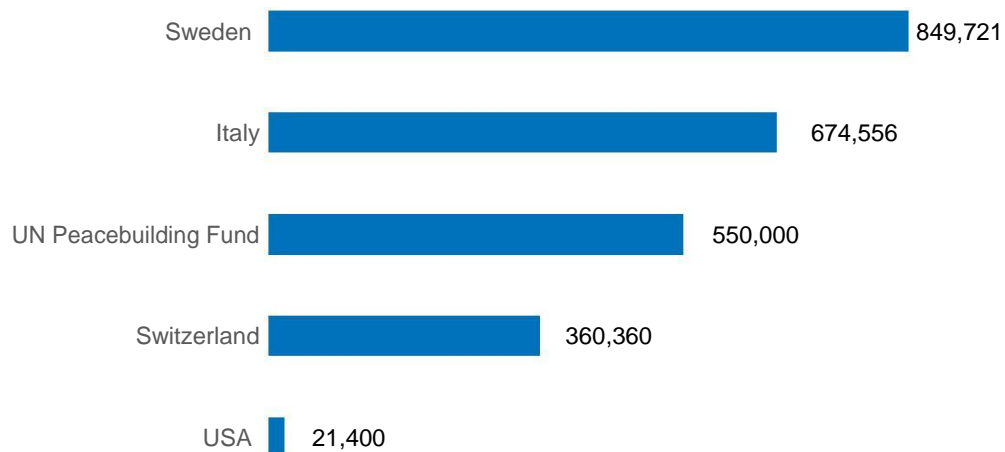


Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 2,295,361** million, including **US\$ 3,188,140** 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 2018

Sweden (98 M) | Norway (43 M) | Netherlands (39 M) | United Kingdom (32 M) | Denmark (25 M) | Australia (19 M) | Switzerland (15 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2018

Algeria | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Canada | China | Estonia | Finland | Indonesia | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Serbia | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | UN Peacebuilding Fund | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private Donors

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