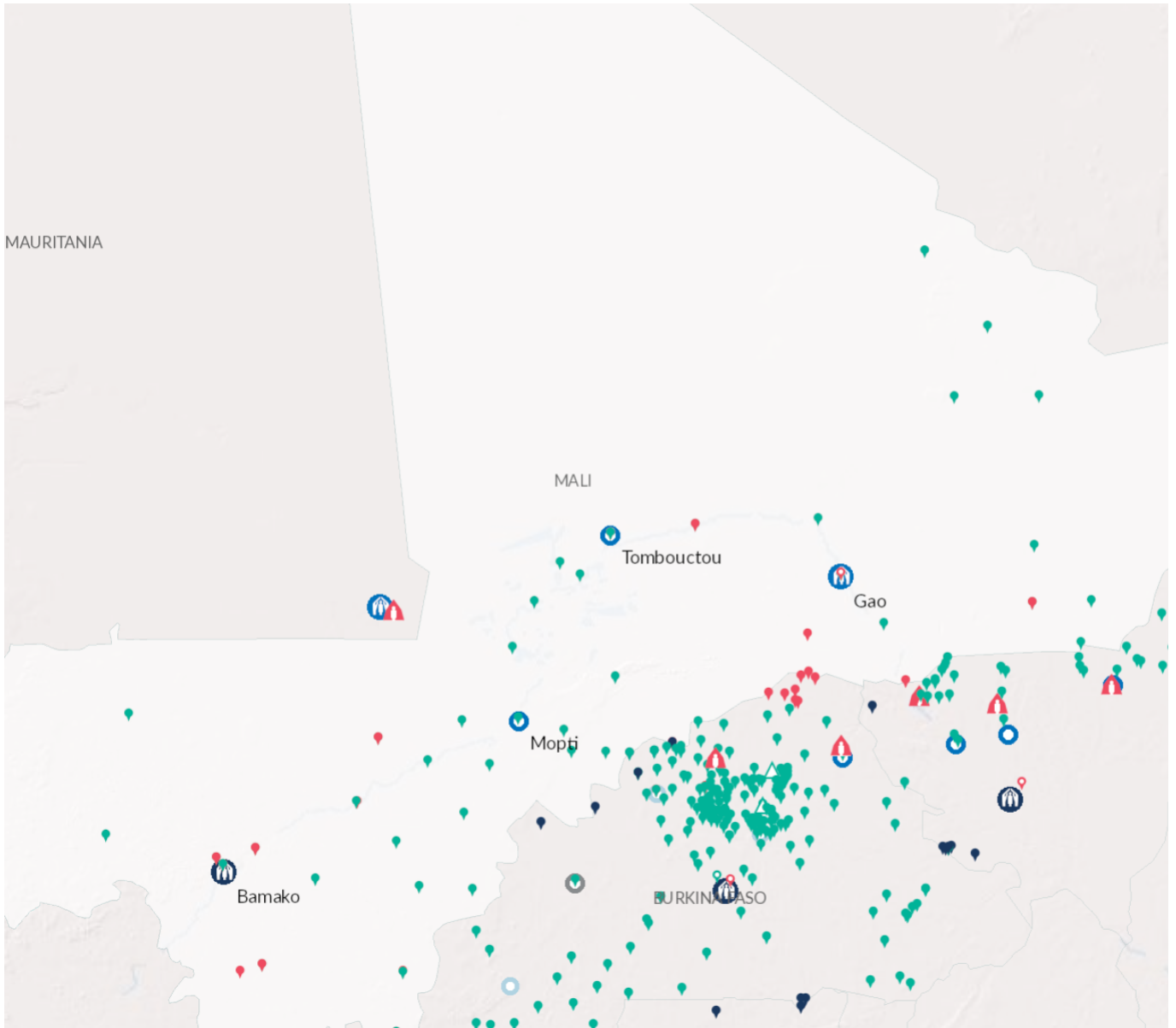


## Operation: Mali



*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.*

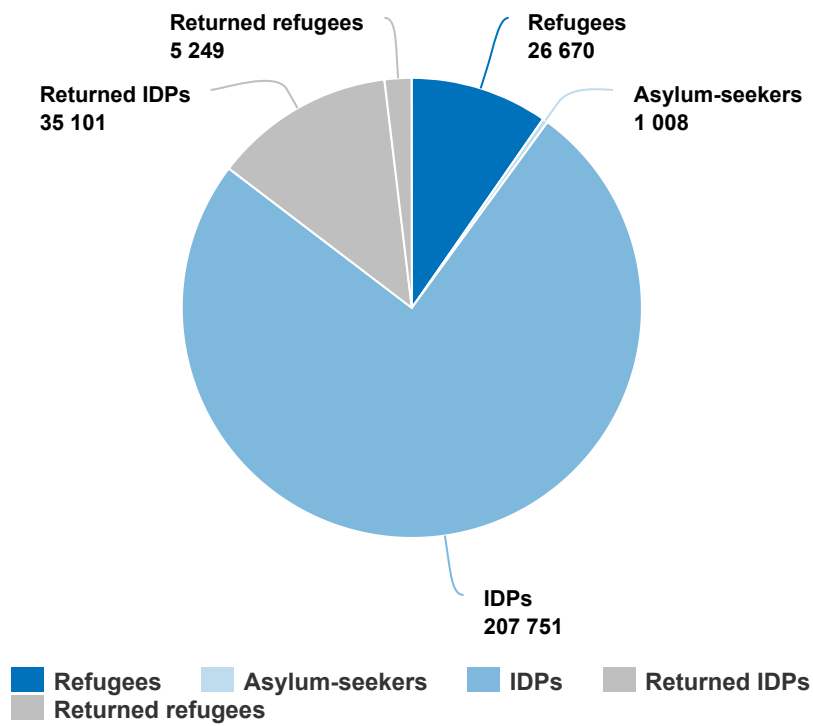
# People of Concern

**79% INCREASE IN  
2019**

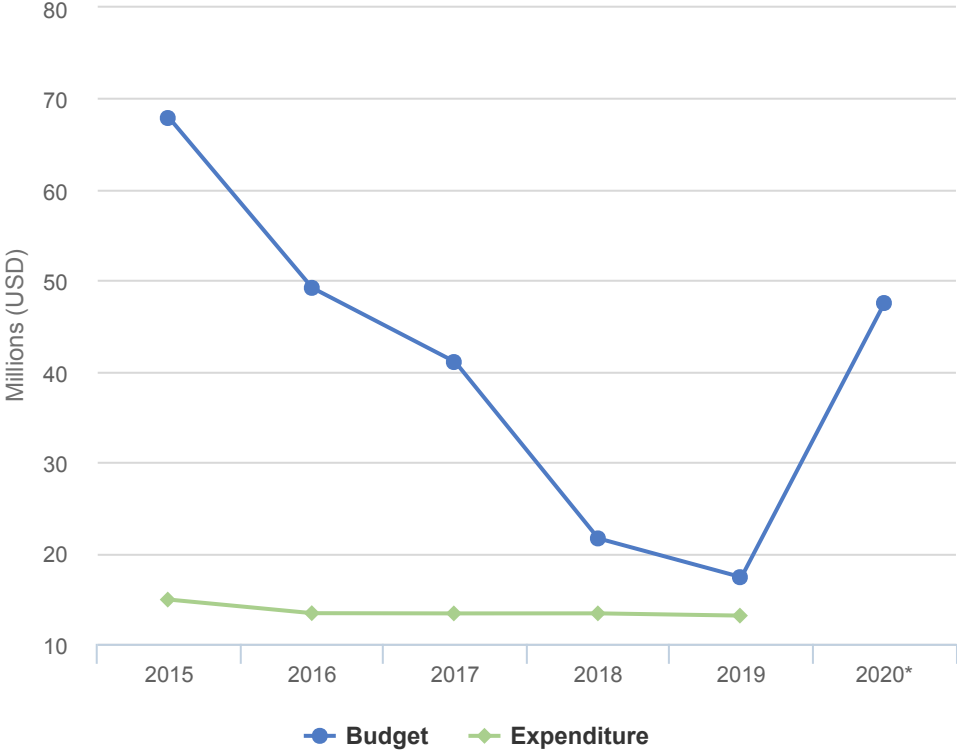
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<b>2019</b>	<b>275,779</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>154,432</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>84,081</b>

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# Budgets and Expenditure for Mali



## Operational context

Mali's security and humanitarian situation worsened rapidly in 2019. Armed attacks spread from the north to the centre of the country, as well as at the borders of Burkina Faso and Niger, and caused displacement of populations on both sides. The situation in the centre of the country also triggered intercommunal conflicts, with the creation of self-defense militias by communities in conflict posing serious threats to both State authorities and civilians. Attacks against Fulani and Dogon villages in the Mopti region in January, March and June 2019 led to the death of hundreds of civilians, making 2019 the deadliest year for civilians since the outbreak of the crisis in 2012.

This situation of instability limited the ability of humanitarian actors, including UNHCR, to access and provide assistance to vulnerable people.

As part of its 2019 project implementation strategy, four partnership agreements were signed with the Government of Mali, five were signed with international NGOs and two agreements were signed with national NGOs.

Response activities conducted by UNHCR and its partners included registration, protection and protection monitoring, shelter and non-food item assistance, and awareness-raising (e.g. on the risks and dangers of irregular migration, social cohesion, and sexual and gender-based violence), as well as the prevention of statelessness (by facilitating access to naturalization procedures as well as to issuance of civil documentation). In September, the Government of Mali, with UNHCR's support, organized a Regional Dialogue on Protection and Solutions in the context of forced displacement in the Sahel. During this dialogue, the Governments of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger confirmed the centrality of the protection of people forced to flee and the need for durable solutions, through a document called the 'Bamako Declaration'.

## Population trends

As of 31 December 2019, there were some 275,800 people of concern in Mali, comprising: 207,700 IDPs (a 73% increase from the previous year); in addition to 26,700 refugees and 1,000 asylum-seekers of various nationalities.

Nearly 300 refugees were assisted to voluntarily return to their countries of origin in 2019 (90% to Côte d'Ivoire and 10% to the Central African Republic).

Some 141,000 Malian refugees were being hosted in neighbouring countries (Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger).

As part of the implementation of the action plan for the eradication of statelessness by 2024, the Ministry of Justice began the process of facilitated naturalization for 1,300 people. Some 900 applications were submitted to the authorities (69%), some 650 of which related to declaration of nationality and 250 were others to be naturalized.

## Achievements

Despite the challenging security environment, protection milestones were achieved in Mali during 2019. As part of the process of integrating the Kampala Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa into national law, a validation workshop was held in August, with the support of UNHCR, to discuss the latest amendments to the draft law before its adoption by the National Assembly.

With regard to the voluntary return and reintegration of Malian refugees, four tripartite commission meetings were held with Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger. Almost 280 refugees were repatriated to Côte d'Ivoire

(250) and the Central African Republic (26) in 2019.

The DAFI programme for the 2019-2020 academic year reached 20 beneficiaries, including 13 girls. Financial support was provided for the affiliation of refugees and asylum-seekers to the Technical Mutual Union, accompanied by three awareness-raising campaigns that led to 89 households joining the health system.

## Unmet needs

The security context limited access to vulnerable populations, and the operation was funded at only 61% by December 2019. Accordingly, unmet needs included the following:

- Lack of return monitors affecting coverage of certain areas and outdated registration tools, particularly the tablets used by agents.
  - Lack of complete and up-to-date mapping of protection services by region and type of service, limiting in turn the referral of identified people to appropriate structures.
  - Suspension of resilience activities due to a lack of funding for many partners, while more than 50% of refugees who had opted for local integration were still awaiting assistance to regularize their situation.
  - Only 450 out of some 1,100 returnee households benefitted from shelter assistance.
  - One out of two returnees did not receive cash assistance due to lack of financial resources.
  - The challenging humanitarian access in many localities in Mali made it impossible to reach populations living in areas affected by insecurity.
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