

# Niger

July 2021

Due to the growing insecurity in **Maradi** region, the number of **internally displaced persons** has raised up sharply and reached **17,262 persons**.

The number of **IDPs in Tillabéri and Tahoua regions** has increased with **55%** over the last 12 months. At least **157,804** persons are internally displaced.

With the support of the EU, UNHCR has constructed **3,233 social houses** for the most vulnerable refugees and Nigeriens in **Diffa region**.

## KEY INDICATORS

**3,361\***

vulnerable persons in detention in Libya have been evacuated to safety in Niger since November 2017.

**591,023\***

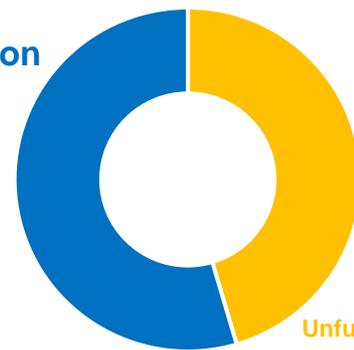
Persons who have fled their home countries or are internally displaced and living in Niger.

## FUNDING (AS OF 17 AUGUST 2021)

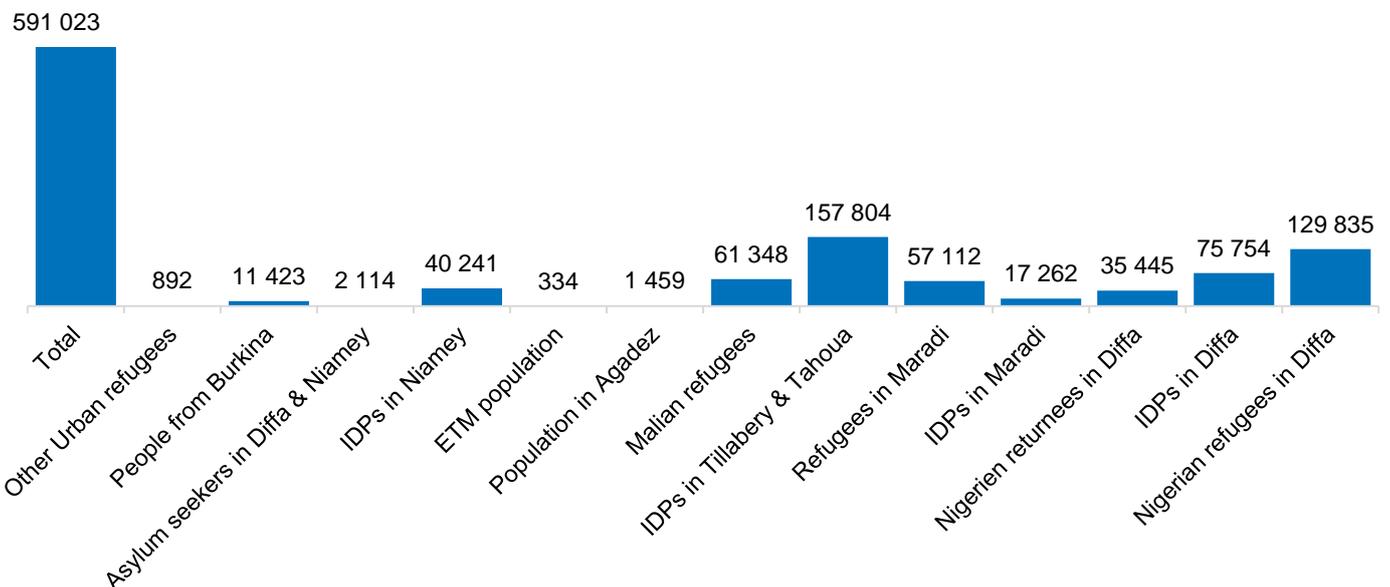
**USD 110.7 Million**

requested for the UNHCR Niger Operation

Funded 55%  
**60.46 Million**



Unfunded 45%  
**50.24**



# Update on Achievements

*The operation is managed by over 390 staff in 8 locations: 1 Representation, the ETM office and the one-stop-shop in Niamey; three Sub-Offices in Agadez, Diffa and Maradi; two Field Offices in Tahoua and Tillabéri, and two Field Units in Abala and Ouallam.*

## Operational Context

Prevention and response to the **global COVID-19 pandemic** is key today. While UNHCR continues to deliver aid, the organization has set up a strategy which focuses on the centrality of protection in all interventions, as well as the need of increasing coordination with the Government and other stakeholders to respond to the pandemic. Prevention is paramount and carried out through communication campaigns, distribution of hygiene kits and site planning. UNHCR has donated tons of medical supplies and equipment to the Government of Niger, including Refugee Housing Units (RHU) to isolate confirmed cases. An estimated **5,992,023 USD** is needed to continue and scale up prevention measures in UNHCR's field operations to help respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and prevent further spread.

**The Sahel Situation** began in 2012 with the outbreak of conflict in **northern Mali**. UNHCR and the Government of Niger have developed a joint strategy to close the camps in the Tillabéri region and to support the socioeconomic integration of **61,348 Malian refugees** into the country. With the support of the EU Trust Funds and GIZ, as well as development partners such as the World Bank and ILO, Malian refugees and their host communities have access to land, housing and livelihood opportunities, while national health, education and water infrastructures are being reinforced.

The deteriorating security situation has caused the **internal displacement of 157,804 persons** in the Tillabéri and Tahoua regions. Protection monitoring, especially in the border areas, and an adequate protection response for identified cases is ongoing. Due to rising insecurity in these areas, at least 6,534 Nigeriens, mainly women and children fled to Mali. Most of them are settled in the Cercle of Anderamboukane and Menaka.

The presence of armed groups in **Burkina Faso** has triggered the cross-border displacement of at least **11,423 persons**. Armed incursions into Niger from Burkina Faso's have also caused internal displacements. The displaced persons are stuck in inaccessible areas near the border. Their exact number is expected to be higher. This situation is expected to continue over the next months.

**The Nigeria Situation** began in 2013, with the arrival in the region of Diffa of Nigerian refugees and Nigerien returnees who had been settled in Nigeria for decades. The

situation has become increasingly mixed following attacks on Nigerien Territory since 2015. To date, there are almost 269,589 forced displaced persons in the region (including **129,835 refugees, 74,754 IDPs, 35,445 returnees and 2,114 asylum seekers**). Many of them are in secondary movement. The majority live in spontaneous sites or with the local population, while UNHCR manages the Sayam Forage refugee camp, with over **25,117 people**. UNHCR is strongly engaged in development-oriented interventions. The Government of Niger, UNHCR, NGO partners and the World Bank foster economic recovery and long-term solutions through urbanization and the construction of durable housing.

**The Maradi region** witnessed an influx of refugees since May 2019, fleeing gruesome killings, rape, kidnappings for ransom and pillaging of property by armed groups in North Western Nigeria. To respond to that emergency, UNHCR opened a field office and deployed a team. UNHCR and partners are relocating refugees to “opportunity villages” away from the border to ensure their safety and ease pressure on the host population. In cooperation with the Government of Niger and with the support of the humanitarian and development community, UNHCR improves infrastructure and access to basic services while giving an emergency response. To date, **UNHCR has biometrically registered 57,112 refugees**. Moreover, the number of IDPs is on the rise as security deteriorates sharply in the border region. Currently, Maradi region registers **17,262 IDPs**.

As of July 31<sup>st</sup> 2021, **3,361 persons have been evacuated to Niger** through the **Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM)**; 334 are still in Niamey while 3,105 have left Niger, and 154 departures are pending.

Niger is a **major crossroads of migratory movements** northwards towards Libya, Algeria and the Mediterranean region. These migratory flows constitute mixed movements, including economic migrants as well as persons in need of international protection. **1,459 asylum seekers and refugees**, mostly Sudanese, are based in Agadez since 2018. The most vulnerable (about 100 people) are housed in guesthouses in the city of Agadez. The Government of Niger, UNHCR, IOM and NGO partners identify asylum seekers within the migratory flows and provide them information and assistance. The situation has become more complex, with the addition of mixed movements leaving Libya and Algeria.

## CONTACTS

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## LINKS

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