

# NORTH AFRICA

Eritrean refugees at a training centre in Tunisia

UNHCR

2012 GLOBAL REPORT



Algeria

Egypt

Libya

Mauritania

Morocco

Tunisia

Western Sahara

UNHCR / D. ALACHI



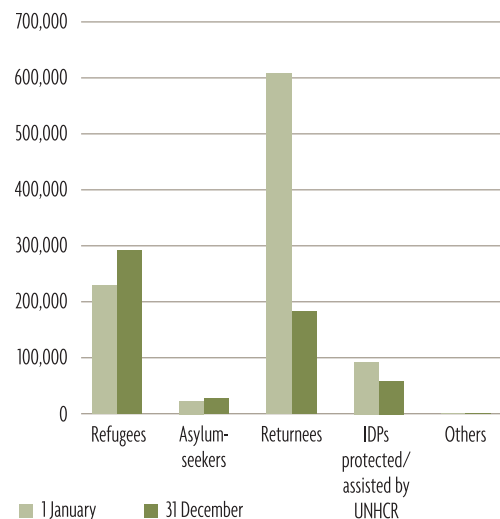
# | Overview |



## Highlights

- In 2012, some 54,000 Malians fled to Mauritania as a result of fighting between rebels and Government forces in northern Mali. Following the individual registration exercise that took place in Mbera Camp, Mauritania, between September and November 2012, the number of Malian refugees in the camp at the end of last year stood at some 54,000.
- March 2012 saw the completion of the voluntary repatriation programme for Mauritanian refugees in Senegal. Almost 25,000 Mauritanian refugees have returned home since the operation began in 2008.
- Significant progress was made in the processing for resettlement of refugees in Shousha and Salloum camps at the Libyan borders with Egypt and Tunisia.
- There are still some 59,000 IDPs in Libya, primarily members of minority communities, who are unwilling or unable to return to their areas of origin. As of December 2012, nearly 6,000 refugees and 6,000 asylum-seekers were registered with UNHCR in Libya, most of them living in urban areas.
- The Confidence Building Measures (CBM) programme of family visits and seminars for Sahrawi refugees in the Tindouf camps in Algeria and their relatives in *Western Sahara* was expanded.

People of concern to UNHCR in 2012  
North Africa



- UNHCR provided expert advice to the Algerian and Mauritanian Governments in the subregion to help prepare draft asylum laws and procedures.
- Some 23,000 Syrian refugees were registered in several countries across North Africa during 2012.

# | Report on 2012 results |

## Working environment

Of the six countries in this operational region, five (Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia) are signatories to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol. The one exception is Libya.

The severe security problems in the region have made it challenging to conduct humanitarian operations for the benefit of refugees, asylum-seekers and others of concern.

## Achievements and impact

### Favourable protection environment

- Confronted by the growing number of crises and protracted displacement situations in the region, UNHCR took important steps to enhance the protection space for people of concern and solicited international support for host countries. Priority was given to protection and basic humanitarian assistance, as well as the search for self-reliance opportunities, while seeking durable solutions.



- UNHCR worked with Governments and partners to identify and respond to mixed migratory movements across the region, using the framework of the 10-Point Plan of Action on mixed migration as the foundation for developing a regional strategy.
- UNHCR began to work on country-level plans to address statelessness in the region. Activities include extensive training on statelessness issues for UNHCR and partner staff, population profiling, legal mapping and the development of monitoring and intervention mechanisms.
- Following the Government of Algeria's request for support in developing national asylum structures, UNHCR identified an expert to help the Algerian authorities to update the draft asylum law in line with international standards. In Mauritania, the national asylum law, to which UNHCR contributed, was submitted to the Government for consideration in 2012.

### Fair protection processes and documentation

- Pending the implementation of national asylum systems, UNHCR continues to advocate for the delivery of documentation to urban refugees and the issuance of birth certificates for refugee children in countries in the region.

### Durable solutions

- The large-scale resettlement of refugees from Salloum Camp (Egypt) and Shousha Camp (Tunisia) delivered durable solutions to several thousand people.
- In consultation with the concerned parties, UNHCR expanded the programme of family visits between the Sahrawi refugees in Tindouf and their relatives in *Western Sahara* as part of the CBM programme.

### Basic needs and essential services

- In the Tindouf camps, UNHCR offered services in the areas of education, water supply, sanitation and hygiene, health, food and nutrition, shelter, energy, transport and logistics. Pending registration, this programme is based on a planning figure of 90,000 vulnerable refugees in the camps.
- In Mauritania, Malian refugees were provided with non-food items (NFIs), shelter and essential services such as health care, education and water supplies.

## Constraints

Multiple humanitarian crises, including significant displacement across the region with the escalation of armed conflict in Mali, were a feature of UNHCR's work in North Africa in 2012. The growing requirements, coupled with high levels of insecurity, stretched the organization's capacity to the limit and made the provision of protection and assistance to refugees and others of concern in the region increasingly challenging.

While there is a deep-rooted tradition of hospitality and protection of those seeking asylum in the North Africa subregion, the continued absence of legislative and administrative frameworks made it difficult to respond adequately to asylum needs and mixed-migration movements.

## Operations

*Operations in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania and Tunisia are covered in separate chapters.*

In **Morocco**, there was an increase in the number of asylum-seekers from Côte d'Ivoire and Syria. UNHCR requested the Government to provide temporary protection to these asylum-seekers, and organized training programmes for prosecutors, police officials and civil society on international protection issues.

Two meetings were held in 2012 in Geneva to reinforce the CBM programme for Sahrawi refugees and their families in **Western Sahara**. The meetings saw the participation of Morocco and the *Frente Polisario*, with Algeria and Mauritania represented as neighbouring countries, and UNHCR. The family visits programme has been expanded using a larger aircraft. A seminar aiming to build a humanitarian bridge between the two communities was held in 2012 in Portugal with the participation of Sahrawis from the camps in Tindouf and *Western Sahara*.

## | Financial information |

Following the dramatic changes that have swept through North Africa, the comprehensive needs for the region have grown considerably. In 2012, overall financial requirements amounted to USD 171.3 million, including the supplementary budget created for Mauritania to cope with the influx of Malian refugees. Supplementary budgets that had been created in 2011 were mainstreamed into the financial requirements to cover the costs of sustaining basic services for people of concern at

the Egyptian and Tunisian borders, and to continue protecting and assisting refugees and IDPs inside Libya. This also included the costs for the RSD and resettlement operations in Egypt and Tunisia, which required the deployment of additional staff. For the North Africa subregion overall, funding was available to cover expenditures totalling USD 91.4 million to implement activities for people of concern in 2012.

## Budget and expenditure in North Africa | USD

Operation		PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
Algeria	Budget	25,554,625	0	0	25,554,625
	Expenditure	13,624,844	0	0	13,624,844
Egypt Regional Office	Budget	24,594,557	68,890	0	24,663,447
	Expenditure	20,598,247	65,446	0	20,663,693
Libya	Budget	14,437,885	0	16,925,723	31,363,608
	Expenditure	8,091,272	0	4,565,979	12,657,251
Mauritania	Budget	38,145,437	0	0	38,145,437
	Expenditure	23,427,581	0	0	23,427,581
Morocco	Budget	2,763,868	0	0	2,763,868
	Expenditure	2,193,707	0	0	2,193,707
Tunisia	Budget	34,587,051	0	0	34,587,051
	Expenditure	11,969,214	0	0	11,969,214
Western Sahara (Confidence Building Measures)	Budget	13,222,319	0	0	13,222,319
	Expenditure	5,873,236	0	0	5,873,236
Regional activities	Budget	1,021,000	20,000	0	1,041,000
	Expenditure	1,001,945	18,060	0	1,020,005
<b>Total budget</b>		<b>154,326,742</b>	<b>88,890</b>	<b>16,925,723</b>	<b>171,341,355</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>86,780,046</b>	<b>83,506</b>	<b>4,565,979</b>	<b>91,429,531</b>

## Voluntary contributions to North Africa | USD

Earmarking / Donor	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
<b>NORTH AFRICA SUBREGION</b>				
Liechtenstein			107,991	107,991
Turkey			300,000	300,000
United States of America			11,000,000	11,000,000
<b>North Africa subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,407,991</b>	<b>11,407,991</b>
<b>ALGERIA</b>				
Brazil	120,000			120,000
Consiglio Italiano per i Rifugiati	152,255			152,255
Deutsche Stiftung für UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe	125,471			125,471
European Union	2,236,025			2,236,025
France	328,947			328,947
Ireland	331,126			331,126
<b>Algeria subtotal</b>	<b>3,293,823</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,293,823</b>
<b>EGYPT REGIONAL OFFICE</b>				
European Union	971,488			971,488
Japan	4,000,000			4,000,000
United States of America			3,200,000	3,200,000
<b>Egypt Regional Office subtotal</b>	<b>4,971,488</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,200,000</b>	<b>8,171,488</b>
<b>LIBYA</b>				
Charities Aid Foundation			19	19
España con ACNUR			60,983	60,983
European Union	535,656	733,204		1,268,860
Japan Association for UNHCR			557	557
United States of America			5,000,000	5,000,000
USA for UNHCR			28,608	28,608
<b>Libya subtotal</b>	<b>535,656</b>	<b>733,204</b>	<b>5,090,167</b>	<b>6,359,027</b>

Earmarking / Donor	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
<b>MAURITANIA</b>				
African Union	50,000			<b>50,000</b>
Bouamatou Foundation	59,576			<b>59,576</b>
Brazil	300,000			<b>300,000</b>
Central Emergency Response Fund	1,640,000			<b>1,640,000</b>
European Union	2,777,588			<b>2,777,588</b>
France	219,298			<b>219,298</b>
Germany	432,901			<b>432,901</b>
Switzerland	311,203			<b>311,203</b>
United Arab Emirates	39,703			<b>39,703</b>
United States of America	64,824			<b>64,824</b>
<b>Mauritania subtotal</b>	<b>5,895,094</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,895,094</b>
<b>MOROCCO</b>				
Monaco	106,667			<b>106,667</b>
Switzerland	26,123			<b>26,123</b>
<b>Morocco subtotal</b>	<b>132,790</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>132,790</b>
<b>TUNISIA</b>				
European Union	948,027			<b>948,027</b>
Germany	908,864			<b>908,864</b>
Switzerland	195,760			<b>195,760</b>
United States of America	2,000,000			<b>2,000,000</b>
United Nations World Food Programme	476,776			<b>476,776</b>
<b>Tunisia subtotal</b>	<b>4,529,426</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,529,426</b>
<b>WESTERN SAHARA (CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES)</b>				
Germany	245,098			<b>245,098</b>
Italy	37,267			<b>37,267</b>
Morocco	28,534			<b>28,534</b>
Spain	306,373			<b>306,373</b>
<b>Western Sahara (Confidence Building Measures) subtotal</b>	<b>617,272</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>617,272</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,975,550</b>	<b>733,204</b>	<b>19,698,158</b>	<b>40,406,912</b>

Note: Includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the “New or additional activities – mandate-related” (NAM) Reserve.