

# Annual Results Report 2024 Burkina Faso

# Acknowledgements

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#### Note:

The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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# **Section 1: Context and Overview**

# 1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2024, Burkina Faso experienced a shifting socio-political context, marked by the confirmation of its withdrawal from the G5 Sahel and the Economic Commission for West African States (ECOWAS) as well as the consolidation of the Confederation of the Sahel States alongside Mali and Niger.

The year continued to be marked by internal and cross-border displacements, as communities continued to be affected by insecurity and the adverse impacts of natural disasters. As of 31 March 2023, the Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Rehabilitation (CONASUR) reported over 2,000,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) (10% of the population), and nearly 41,000 refugees and asylum-seekers were registered by the end of 2024. Furthermore, over 200,000 Burkinabè have fled to neighboring countries. This escalating insecurity has severely affected the protection environment, compromising civilian safety and freedom of movement. Despite these challenges, the Government announced in November 2024 that over 1 million Internally Displaced People (IDPs) have returned to their homes. Nevertheless, the overall situation remains dire. Access to essential services such as housing, water, healthcare, and education has been hindered by the challenging security landscape and the suspension of cash programs countrywide, hampering humanitarian work.

Forced displacements have exacerbated vulnerabilities, with women and children constituting over 80% of those displaced, depending heavily on limited humanitarian aid, including limited Cash assistance). Frequent natural disasters such as drought and floods play a significant role in exacerbating the situation for forcibly displaced people, those at risk of statelessness and host communities in Burkina Faso. The strain on natural resources has contributed to the fragility of the ecosystem, making it susceptible to climatic variations, adversely affecting livelihoods and social cohesion. In response to the evolving political and security situation in the central Sahel, UNHCR and the UN system would need to reevaluate their strategies and interventions. Despite these challenges, UNHCR remained committed to supporting and advocating for forcibly displaced populations, adapting its strategies and approaches to the changing conditions in Burkina Faso and the region, and focusing on collaborative long-term solutions.

# 1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

# 1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

By 2025 forcibly displaced and stateless persons of UNHCR will benefit from a favourable legal framework for the protection of their rights

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR benefit from civil registration and identity documents by 2026

Indicator					
Population Type Baseline Actual (2024)					
1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures					
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	gees and Asylum-seekers 92.10% 99.15%				
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence					
Refugees and Asylum-seekers 78.99% 74.35%					

In 2024, 99% of asylum-seekers had access to the asylum procedures established by the Government under the leadership of the National Commission for Refugees (CONAREF). This progress was made possible thanks to political commitment, which allowed asylum-seekers other than Malians (prima facie), particularly those fleeing crisis affecting the Central Sahel and the coastal countries. This enabled joint UNHCR-CONAREF teams to conduct missions to register potential asylum-seekers during which 1,019 people were processed. There is still a need to make this access to asylum permanent by continuing advocacy for the decentralization of asylum procedures. This activity is also an integral part of Burkina Faso's roadmap adopted following the regional meeting on Planning for quality, sustainable and sustainable asylum systems in West and Central Africa held in Dakar in September 2024.

The complex security environment restricts the law-guaranteed freedom of movement due to increased controls and documentation requirements. Only 78% of refugees have an identity document facilitating their movement within the country, compared to 87% for IDPs.

Refugees and asylum-seekers are regularly informed of military zones of interest identified by the army, particularly in the Sahel region. For those in outlying areas, regular exchanges take place between the administrative and security authorities to ensure that the areas/sites hosting refugees and asylum-seekers are included in the security arrangements. In this context, refugees are regularly sensitized by CONAREF and its partners on the importance of complying with security measures and possessing civil status documents.

A total of 1,205 members of the Internal Security Forces, Prison Security Guards and Administration were trained on international protection, with a focus on the principles of protection, including the principle of non-refoulement and the principle of non-criminalization of illegal entry.

# 2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

By 2025 forcibly displaced and stateless persons are included in national services and programmes

Indicator				
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)		
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities				
IDPs	36.10%	8.67%		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	18.41%	3.27%		
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	98.30%	94.67%		

Burkina Faso, ranked 185 out of 193 on the Human Development Index, continues to face significant development challenges. While humanitarian and development organizations support the government in providing essential services such as education and healthcare, access remains limited, particularly for those in remote areas or regions controlled by terrorists. In 2024, the proportion of refugees and IDPs with access to health care slightly declined compared to 2023. Ensuring universal healthcare access for forcibly displaced people remains constrained by geographic coverage limitations and the capacity of referral hospitals.

UNHCR's efforts to uphold rights of forcibly displaced people, those at risk of statelessness and vulnerable host community members focus on their inclusion in national programs and services. On 22 October 2024, the Prime Minister adopted the National Strategy on Social Protection (2024-2028) along with its Operational Action Plan (2024-2026). One important initiative regarding social protection is the establishment of Registre Social Unique (RSU), an initiative funded by the World Bank (WB). UNHCR has begun advocacy with the Technical Secretary of RSU throughout 2024 for refugee inclusion, and this will continue in 2025 to ensure practical refugee inclusion.

In 2024, UNHCR continued advocating for the integration of forcibly displaced people and those at risk of statelessness in local policies and programs to improve their socio-economic inclusion and living conditions. CONAREF pursued efforts to develop a National Strategy on Local Integration of Refugees, while support was provided to help displaced populations meet basic needs such as food, healthcare, and education costs. Despite these efforts, more than half of forcibly displaced people remained below the poverty line, highlighting the ongoing need for sustained support and solutions. Overall, more than 40% of the national population continues to live below the poverty line.

# 3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

Communities and local structures are independent and have the capacity to take the lead in emergency responses by 2026

Indicator					
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)			
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right	to decent work				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers 100.00% 19.08%					
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education					
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	48.00%	71.43%			
3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education					
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	8.03%	17.19%			
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark					
IDPs	54.88%	66.99%			

Refugees and Asylum-seekers	59.59%	74.35%

The ongoing displacement crisis has heightened humanitarian and development needs in Burkina Faso, while also increasing pressure on scarce natural resources. The massive presence of IDPs in some provinces has placed severe strain on essential socio-economic services, particularly school infrastructures.

Despite these challenges, continued efforts by education sector actors and partners, including UNHCR, have contributed to steady improvements in access, quality, retention, and academic performance in both primary and secondary education. In 2024, enrolment rates reached 45% at the primary level and 8% at the secondary level. Initiatives such as Primary Impact have enhanced learning conditions, while sustained community engagement has strengthened awareness of the importance of education, particularly for girls.

Although Burkina Faso's legal framework guarantees the right to decent work for all, access to economic opportunities remains limited in practice. Only 14% of refugees and 16% of IDPs currently have access to formal employment. In crisis-affected areas, recruitment tends to favor people from local host communities over displaced people, even when candidates have equivalent work experience.

In 2024, the efforts by the government to enhance security in certain regions contributed to an improvement in the proportion of forcibly displaced people who feel safe moving freely. Over half of refugees (69%) and IDPs (56%) reported feeling safe walking alone in their neighborhoods an increase from 60% and 55%, respectively, in the previous year.

While local communities and structures play a crucial role in responding to humanitarian needs, they continue to require support and capacity-building to effectively lead emergency responses. Forced displacement in Burkina Faso remains a complex humanitarian, development and peace challenge that requires the commitment of development partners to ensure that no one is left behind.

# 4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

A comprehensive response to the needs of forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR and host communities is ensured through the promotion of durable solutions with the support of the Government by 2026

Indicator					
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)			
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily retu	rn in safety and dignity to t	heir country of origin			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	15	3			
4.2a Number of people who departed on rese	ettlement				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0			
4.2b Number of people who departed throug	h complementary pathways	s			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0			
4.3a Number of stateless people for whom n	4.3a Number of stateless people for whom nationality is granted or confirmed				
Stateless Persons	0	0			
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed					
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	7			

UNHCR continued its search for sustainable solutions for the forcibly displaced people and those at risk of statelessness people in Burkina Faso in 2024.

UNHCR facilitated the voluntary repatriation of three refugees from Central African Republic (CAR). This

process involved close coordination with UNHCR in CAR to assess the socio-political and economic conditions in the return areas. UNHCR also played a key role in the revision of the existing Tripartite Agreement between Governments of Burkina Faso and Mali, and UNHCR which now includes provisions for the voluntary repatriation of Burkinabe refugees living in Mali.

UNHCR submitted 16 cases of 81 people for resettlement consideration.

As for refugee local integration, UNHCR continued its technical support to the Government of Burkina Faso, particularly with the planning and implementation of the field diagnostic study to assess refugee integration. In 2024, six refugees were granted residency status through naturalization.

As part of its ongoing efforts to implement the national action plan to combat statelessness (2017-2024), UNHCR is helping the Government issue civil status certificates and identity documents to at-risk populations. This is done through institutional support to the Direction Générale de la Modernisation de l'Etat Civil (DGMEC). Under this partnership, 45,441 civil status and identity documents were issued to populations at risk of statelessness. Awareness-raising activities in communities affected by the risk of statelessness were carried out during the reporting period for the benefit of affected communities and members of the host community on the importance of civil documentation and the need to declare civil status facts within the legal deadlines, as well as on documentation fraud.

To help address the challenge of destroying civil registries and centres in the conflict, Government of Burkina Faso has set up an integrated civil status management system with the help of UNHCR.

# 1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

Despite efforts to adhere to international standards for asylum procedures, only 92% of those seeking protection could access these procedures, highlighting systemic barriers like bureaucratic hurdles, lack of rights' awareness among asylum-seekers, and resource limitations. The insecurity has also severely impacted the freedom of movement of people affected by forced displaced including IDPs, returnees and host community as well as their access to livelihood with villages and towns under blockades by terrorists. This limitation infringed on their fundamental rights and hindered their access to essential services, employment, and social integration opportunities, therefore increasing their vulnerability.

Nevertheless, through the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), UNHCR continued to advocate for emergency assistance to returnees in response to requests from the authorities, pending more sustainable support for their reintegration.

Insecurity significantly affected forced displaced population's sense of safety, access to property, income, education and livelihood resources. Despite legal provisions for education and economic activity, low enrollment rates and engagement in economic activities persisted due to security concerns, inadequate infrastructure, and economic barriers. This issue Addressing these challenges requires multi-sectoral approach, including:

Stronger partnerships with national authorities, humanitarian actors, and development agencies, Targeted capacity-building to enhance protection frameworks, and economic inclusions, Sustained advocacy efforts to increase resettlement opportunities, mobilize donor support, and uphold displaced people' rights and

Adapted humanitarian responses that align with the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus, ensuring both immediate protection and long-term solutions for displaced populations. Through these efforts, UNHCR remains committed to enhancing protection, promoting socio-economic inclusion, and securing durable solutions for forcibly displaced people, those at risk of statelessness in Burkina Faso.

# 1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

Building on its Multi Year Multi Partner (MYMP) Strategy 2022-2025, UNHCR further advanced the protection of forcibly displaced and stateless people by collaborating closely with national and local authorities, humanitarian and development partners, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). These partnerships were integral to making progress toward expected impacts such as strengthening legal protections, enhancing access to documentation, and promoting the inclusion of forcibly displaced people in national programs.

In 2024, a key focus remained on supporting the Government's leadership structures, particularly the Ministries in charge of Humanitarian Action and National Solidarity —including the National Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (CONASUR) and Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation and Burkinabè Abroad —including CONAREF. These partnerships facilitated the enumeration, registration, and assessment of priority needs for IDPs, refugees, and asylum seekers. Since 2022, the Permanent Secretary for CONASUR has been responsible for transposing the Kampala Convention into Burkina's domestic legal framework, in collaboration with the protection cluster and the humanitarian community." This provision will strengthen the protection and assistance environment for IDPs. Collaboration with the DGMEC played a key role in securing civil status documents for IDPs, an essential step in ensuring their protection and social inclusion.

Beyond government cooperation, strategic alliances with UN agencies and with development partners enhanced response to essential needs, including basic social services. This multi-stakeholder engagement strengthened efforts to address critical needs in areas like health, shelter, and livelihoods. The Emergency Response Team (ERT), a joint initiative of UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and OCHA, remained central to coordinating the distribution of shelter materials, Core Relief Items (CRIs), dignity kits, and WASH kits for newly displaced populations.

Moreover, UNHCR's leadership of the Protection, Shelter/Non-food Items (NFIs), and Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM)/ management of temporary sites (GSAT) Clusters brought additional national and local partners into coordinated humanitarian responses. Information Management capacity provided to clusters by UNHCR has helped improve the data quality and joint protection analysis through various regular products which have strengthened in turn the clusters' credibility vis-a-vis donors, authorities and affected populations. Reenforcing its area-based approach and localization strategy, UNHCR worked with community leaders and local CSOs to ensure that IDPs and refugees were included in decision-making processes. These approaches also facilitated more sustainable solutions—an overarching goal of the MYMP strategy—through active community engagement.

Finally, UNHCR remained fully committed to the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) Nexus. By joining forces with IOM and FAO on a joint HDP initiative funded by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), UNHCR advanced a more holistic response that integrates humanitarian assistance, development objectives, and community cohesion. This engagement was further bolstered by UNHCR's co-lead role in the UN Country team/Resident Coordinator Office (UNCT/RCO) Flagship Programme Offer on the HDP Nexus, ensuring that protection and sustainable solutions stayed front and center in discussions with key technical and financial partners. Through continual participation in frameworks such as the Troika of technical and financial partners, the Programme Management Team (PMT), the HCT and the UNCT, UNHCR also strengthened advocacy for sustainable protection measures and pathways to durable solutions.

# **Section 2: Results**

# 2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

# 1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

Internally displaced persons are registered on an individual basis

People in international protection needs have access to asylum, registration and an identity document issued by the authorities.

The rate of unreported births and of forcibly displaced and stateless persons in lacking identification documents is reduced

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator				
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)	
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum s	eekers registered on a	an individual basis		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	92.10%	95.00%	94.00%	
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years	of age whose births h	ave been registered	with a civil authority	
IDPs	77.42%	65.00%	85.44%	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	58.54%	100.00%	70.40%	
Stateless Persons	Unknown	0.00%	0.00%	
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials				
IDPs	49.69%	65.00%	0.00%	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	79.71%	100.00%	62.42%	

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
01.1.1 Number of people registered on an individual basis		
IDPs	468,860	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	41,411	
01.2.1 Number of people supported to obtain civil status, identity or legal status documentation		
IDPs	29,336	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	11,621	

# **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Despite several challenges faced by the operation during the third year of the UNHCR MYMP strategy

2022-2025, the momentum of Stay and Deliver remained steady. The registration rate for refugees and asylum-seekers increased from 92% to 94% (38,884 registered people as at Dec.2023 and 40,411 at Dec.2024 with women at 56%), nearly 4% increase (2,527) on previous year closing figures. These achievements were made possible through the joint efforts of operational teams, including UNHCR, its partners and designated government counterparts, who worked to ensure the registration of displaced populations wherever access was possible. These achievements are due to the boosting of continuous registration activities of refugees and asylum-seekers, capturing new births, new arrivals and regularization cases.

The official IDP population figures of 31 March 2023 is around 2 million people. To facilitate the update of these figures, UNHCR collaborates with the Government to support the biometric registration of IDPs. UNHCR has continued to advocate for the resumption of the official publication of IDP data, recognizing its importance for effective humanitarian planning and response.

Access to documentation remains an issue. As of December 2024, 62 % of refugees and asylum-seekers aged 15 and above held valid proof of registration, with over 8,000 people refugee attestations delivered during the year. Further, 961 people refugee attestations are projected to expire during 2025. Refugee Identity cards production is based on the possession of a valid Individual Attestation (proof of registration). In 2024, 707 ID cards have been delivered by CONAREF in collaboration with Office national d'identification (ONI).

The proportion of refugee and asylum-seeker children under five whose births have been registered with a civil authority has risen significantly, from 51% in 2023 to 70% in 2024, achieved thanks to community awareness-raising efforts by CONAREF and Mouvement Burkinabe des Droits de l'Homme (MBDHP) on the importance of birth registration, organization of mobile hearings to issue birth certificates to refugee and asylum-seeking children in some localities. This awakens the conscience of parents, who are now registering their children on time. Efforts to promote the delivery of births in health centers have also contributed to the achievement of this result. In terms of impact, birth registration enables access to basic social rights. For example, even if free health care for children aged 0 to 5 is not conditional on the possession of a birth certificate, it avoids the deprivation of health care linked to the contestation of age in the absence of a document.

To prevent the risk of statelessness among forcibly displaced people and vulnerable members of the host community, UNHCR supported the Government of Burkina Faso in issuing 18,557 national identity cards. This was done in partnership with the DGMEC and in collaboration with the ONI.

#### 2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

Access to efficient and quality asylum procedures is guaranteed to forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR throughout the country

Access to territory is guaranteed to Forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR in need of international protection

The rate of unreported births and of forcibly displaced and stateless persons in lacking identification documents is reduced

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator				
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)	
2.2 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to legal representation				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	
2.3 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
02.1.1 UNHCR has provided capacity development support to strengthen the national status determination system(s), in accordance with international standards	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

### **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Despite operational challenges, significant progress was achieved in refugee status determination (RSD) during 2024. The Eligibility Committee held two of the four planned ordinary sessions, and the Appeals Committee held one of the two annual sessions. These sessions addressed the claims of urban asylum-seekers processed through the individual RSD procedure. In total, the Eligibility Committee reviewed 40 out of 62 pending applications, and the Appeals Committee examined 5 out of 7 appeals.

To finalize cases under the simplified RSD procedure—primarily for asylum-seekers from Niger, Togo, and Benin—the Eligibility Committee held one extraordinary (decentralized) session in November 2024. This session examined 529 applications covering 979 people, out of a total of 1,495 registered claims. The remaining people had been registered in 2023 and had already received decisions, although their proGres events had yet to be updated.

To ensure that simplified RSD procedures complied with applicable standards, CONAREF eligibility officers and UNHCR protection staff were trained in the use of the simplified forms. Country of origin information (COI) was also provided in advance to inform decision-making. At the end of each field mission, completed forms were subject to joint quality control by the Identity Management and Analysis team and the mission protection supervisor, before secure transmission to CONAREF.

Members of the Eligibility Committee were trained on the new procedures and on the core elements required to assess international protection needs. To allow adequate preparation, case files—including personal data and COI—were shared at least 15 days prior to the sessions, which were organized as five-day retreats outside Ouagadougou to facilitate focused review. Recommendations emerging from these sessions included the need to strengthen the quality of supporting information in certain applications—six of which were deferred for that reason—and improve biodata quality control due to some identified errors.

It is important to note that registration missions were conducted only in regional capitals, thereby covering asylum-seekers residing in those areas.

In parallel, UNHCR—together with its partner, the MBDHP—has pursued a multi-year project to promote access to justice for refugees and asylum-seekers. One of the key components of this initiative is the provision of legal and judicial assistance to ensure fair asylum procedures and effective support in formulating claims. In 2024, 100% of asylum-seekers received legal advice or representation. The right to

appeal remains firmly established in Burkina Faso, and all asylum-seekers whose applications are rejected at first instance are systematically informed by CONAREF's eligibility officers of their right to file an appeal within 60 days. Occasionally, this information is also shared during the first instance review session itself.

However, some challenges remain in ensuring that are sufficiently detailed to support the appeals process. Constructive engagement has continued with CONAREF to encourage alignment with international standards, and ongoing capacity-building efforts are expected to support further progress in this area.

In addition to asylum-related procedures, the MBDHP has provided broader legal assistance through the Legal Assistance Fund (FAJ)—a national mechanism that supports access to justice for low-income people. In 2024, MBDHP submitted 38 applications for legal aid under the FAJ on behalf of refugees and IDPs, 35 of which were approved, representing a 92% success rate. This initiative played a critical role in ensuring equitable access to justice and reinforcing legal protections for the people with whom and for whom UNHCR work.

To further strengthen the asylum system, UNHCR organized a training on RSD procedures in 2024 for members of the RSD Committees, CONAREF staff, and MBDHP staff. The country also continued prima facie registration of Malian asylum-seekers and maintained regular updates of refugee records in the proGres database.

# 3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

The national legal frameworks includes provisions on conventions to which the Government has committed

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol			
None	Progressing towards alignment	Broadly aligned	Broadly aligned
3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness			
None	Progressing towards alignment	Broadly aligned	Broadly aligned

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
03.1.1 UNHCR has engaged in legislative and judicial processes to strengthen laws and policies for the protection of refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless people and/or the reduction and prevention of statelessness	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

# **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Several years ago, Burkina Faso embarked on a reform of its legal framework relating to asylum to bring it in line with international standards and norms. It has therefore begun the process of revising Law 042-2008/AN of 23 October on the status of refugees in Burkina Faso and its implementing decrees. A preliminary draft law on asylum was developed with the involvement of all those responsible for asylum,

under the lead of the CONAREF, with technical and financial support from UNHCR. The next stage will be the examination of the draft bill by the Technical Committee for the Verification of Draft Bills (COTEVAL) and submission for adoption to the Council of Ministers under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation and Burkinabè Abroad. Regarding the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, UNHCR has supported the reform of the Code of Persons and the Family in its provisions relating to civil status and nationality to remove the provisions that constitute sources of statelessness, since the beginning of the law reform process. During 2024, the bill was examined and adopted by the Council of Ministers on 10 July 2024. The bill was then submitted to the Transitional Legislative Assembly for consideration and final adoption.

These legal reforms reflect the government's ongoing commitment to strengthening the protection of refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless people, in collaboration with UNHCR and other partners, to ensure a legal framework that upholds international standards and safeguards the rights of affected populations.

#### 4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

Protection of at-risk groups including children and people with disabilities is achieved

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator				
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)	
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services				
IDPs	85.39%	80.00%	15.58%	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	82.98%	100.00%	12.63%	
4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women				
IDPs	73.09%	75.00%	60.32%	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	93.30%	85.00%	79.44%	

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator			
Population Type Actual (2024)			
04.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from specialized GBV programmes			
IDPs 54,195			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	19,079		

### **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

In 2024, UNHCR Burkina Faso continued to intensify its efforts to prevent and mitigate violence against women and girls (VAWG). In the challenging operational context, ensuring sustained access to essential services for women and girls who survived violence remained a key priority. As a result, 100% of refugees and 90% of IDPs reported knowing where and how to access available services, including referral pathways and support mechanisms. This achievement was made possible by the strong presence of humanitarian actors consistently disseminating VAWG-related information, with the support of community and religious leaders and established community structures.

To foster positive social change and advance gender equality, 10 male role model groups were established within refugee and displaced communities. These groups promote women's rights and support changing

harmful social norms in regards to VAWG. Acting as community facilitators, they organize awareness sessions and refer cases of violence against women and girls to the appropriate structures or case managers. Their engagement has contributed to shifting perceptions and encouraging broader male participation in combating VWAG.

Over the year, UNHCR and its partners conducted a series of awareness-raising activities, reaching nearly 50,000 refugees, IDPs, and host community members. These sessions addressed VAWG typologies, positive masculinity, prevention and mitigation strategies, available support services, and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). Activities were carried out using diverse channels, including educational discussions, mass sensitization events, community theatre (fora théâtre), and radio broadcasts, as part of UNHCR's area-based approach (ABA).

In terms of case management, 1,195 survivors received psychosocial and medical support through UNHCR's partners. Post-assistance satisfaction surveys revealed that 100% of refugee and IDP survivors were satisfied with the services provided. To support survivors and people at heightened risk, 3,867 women and girls received dignity kits (either in-kind or through cash assistance), and 1,360 women received energy kits aimed at reducing protection risks linked to firewood collection. Additionally, seven VAWG safety audits were conducted to inform and strengthen protection programming.

Recognizing the risks posed by food insecurity, more than 1,000 edible tree seedlings were planted in IDP sites and schools, reducing the need for women and girls to venture into high-risk areas to collect food resources.

To support the economic empowerment of women and girls at risk of VAWG, income-generating activities (IGAs) were implemented for both IDPs and refugee women. Moreover, seven Women-Led Organizations (WLOs) across UNHCR's field locations received financial support of USD 4,000 each through the Safe from the Start initiative. These funds supported the economic empowerment and VAWG risk mitigation of 595 women.

#### 5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Application of the country's child protection framework

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	24.34%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	11.45%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
05.1.1 Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	131	

# **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

UNHCR has intensified the promotion and respect of the rights of children in situations of forced displacement and statelessness, in accordance the policy of 26 January 2024. UNHCR has worked in collaboration with the child protection Area of Responsibility (AoR), the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Solidarity, CONAREF for the inclusion of refugee children in national programmes. Advocacy was made to benefit from their technical support and support programs for the protection of refugee children. This agreement paves the way for better coordination and consideration of refugee children in existing programs. In addition, UNHCR has strengthened the capacity of CONAREF and CREDO's social actors in case management.

Awareness-raising campaigns on children's rights were carried out among communities and host families, accompanied by recreational activities organized in partnership with the children's club. The days dedicated to children mobilized more than 600 children around fun and educational activities (tales, games, songs, traditional and modern dances), chosen and led by the children themselves. Social assessments have made it possible to provide 292 financial assistances to children and their families in Bobo-Dioulasso, Ouagadougou and Ouahigouya. In the Sahel (Dori and Djibo), in response to the suspension of cash assistance, 250 children received essential items. These interventions have been effective in meeting the basic needs of children.

UNHCR reinforced its partnership with community structures, for the prevention, identification, and referral of children-at-risk to care services.

These efforts have contributed to maintaining widespread care for all unaccompanied children among identified refugees (100%) through home visits, access to health care, education, and monetary support for acquiring clothing, food, and hygiene kits. Additionally, in 2024, best interest assessments were also conducted for 148 other at-risk children to assess protection risks and provide an appropriate response.

Recognizing the vital role of host families in child protection, UNHCR provided training on guardianship responsibilities, emphasizing respect for children's rights. This approach aimed to strengthen the capacity of caregivers while ensuring a protective environment for displaced children.

# 7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Community governance and participation mechanisms in displacement sites and areas are put in place to ensure good community representation and improve participation and accountability to beneficiaries

Community-based protection mechanisms are strengthened

Referral and complaint mechanisms are put in place in sites and areas hosting internally displaced people

Temporary reception sites (developed sites, spontaneous sites, collective centers, reception areas for displaced persons) have a manager or are manned by a mobile management team

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator					
Population Type Baseline Target (2024) Actual (2024)					
7.1 Extent participation of displaced and stateless people across programme phases is supported.					
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Extensive	Extensive	Extensive		

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments		
IDPs	0	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,203	
07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback & response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback		
IDPs	4,572	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5,392	
07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services		
IDPs	0	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	83,163	

# **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

In 2024, UNHCR continued to advance community-based mechanisms aimed at strengthening the self-management capacities of forcibly displaced people across temporary reception sites and areas (ZAD and SAT). Particular attention was given to increasing women's participation in refugee contexts and improving community governance structures under the CCCM/GSAT frameworks for IDPs. Efforts also focused on enhancing accountability to affected populations (AAP) across all settings.

For refugee communities, UNHCR strengthened the operational capacities of refugee steering committees. For IDP communities under CCCM/GSAT, initiatives to reinforce self-governance led to the establishment of approximately 108 mixed committees, involving around 1,080 members from both host and displaced communities. These inclusive structures fostered active community involvement in site management, contributing significantly to improved cohabitation and social cohesion.

Collaborative capacity-building sessions on committee roles and responsibilities were held with a strong emphasis on gender inclusion, promoting deeper community engagement and accountability. While participation of displaced and stateless populations in program phases was broadly observed, there remains scope for improvement—particularly in enhancing community involvement in strategic planning processes and consultations.

Burkina Faso also piloted the CERF-funded AAP project. This initiative bolstered inter-agency feedback mechanisms, with special adaptations for communities with low literacy levels. As a result, inter-agency coordination on AAP was strengthened, allowing for better resource optimization to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and expanding geographic coverage more efficiently.

To further support accountability, UNHCR backed its government partner in launching a Green Line for

refugees, rolled out the UNHCR Help webpage, and implemented Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs) tailored to include people with disabilities and specific needs. In 2024, around 80% of sites had operational feedback systems in place, allowing for regular collection and response to community concerns. Members of mixed community committees were trained on these mechanisms and maintained regular communication with their constituencies.

The expansion of feedback channels led to an increase in IDPs reporting access to effective feedback systems. However, findings from the participatory assessment revealed that only 36% of refugees reported having access to such systems—showing no improvement from the previous year. This highlights the need for targeted action to ensure greater inclusivity and access in refugee settings.

Despite women comprising 60% of forcibly displaced populations in Burkina Faso, their representation in mixed leadership and management structures remains insufficient. To promote gender equality, Vice-President roles in ZAD/SAT Committees were reserved for women. Currently, women hold 35% of leadership positions among refugees and 40% among IDPs.

These efforts form part of a broader strategy to enhance women's empowerment, promote meaningful participation in decision-making processes, and strengthen the resilience of communities affected by forced displacement in Burkina Faso.

### 8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

The promotion of alternative (sustainable) energy and access to sustainable alternative energy sources for Forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR are ensured

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items			
IDPs	26.65%	55.00%	20.64%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	33.84%	80.00%	17.28%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology			
IDPs	5.50%	50.00%	9.91%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	16.62%	50.00%	15.65%

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
08.1.1 Number of people who received cash assistance		
IDPs	0	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	56	
08.2.1 Number of people who received non-food items		
IDPs	0	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	7,994	
08.3.1 Number of people supported with improved cooking options		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	

### **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

UNHCR continued to ensure access to basic needs assistance and facilitated clean cooking energy for vulnerable forcibly displaced people, those at risk of statelessness and host communities, aiming to save lives and prevent distress.

Despite UNHCR's efforts to improve living conditions through NFI distributions, rising humanitarian needs—driven by insecurity and ongoing displacement—have outpaced resources. NFI needs remain significant, particularly among newly displaced households, especially those headed by women, the elderly, or children. NFI assistance is crucial for refugees, host communities, and IDPs, ensuring survival, dignity, and protection while fostering resilience and self-reliance.

Aligned with its humanitarian mission, UNHCR tailored NFI distributions to specific needs and cultural considerations, including hygiene kits and gender-sensitive items. Due to restrictions on cash assistance, all 2024 NFI support was in-kind. UNHCR provided 30,797 NFI kits to 215,578 people, covering 73% of total NFI assistance in Burkina Faso.

To support environmental sustainability and healthier living conditions for displaced people, UNHCR contributed to reforestation by integrating tree planting into shelter projects.

To mitigate environmental degradation, reduce protection risks, and enhance social cohesion, UNHCR promoted fuel-efficient cooking solutions by distributing improved cookstoves and gas kits to refugees and IDPs. Displaced community groups received training in eco-friendly charcoal production, reducing dependence on firewood and associated VAWG risks. These interventions also economically empowered women, reinforcing self-reliance and peaceful coexistence with host communities.

Despite efforts, limited funding and rising needs have reduced assistance coverage. In 2022, 72% of refugees and 67% of IDPs and host communities received NFI aid. By 2023, this fell to 34% for IDPs and 27% for refugees, further declining in 2024 to 17% and 21%, respectively.

#### Collaboration with Humanitarian Partners

In 2024, to enhance response efforts, UNHCR coordinated closely with UN agencies, including OCHA, UNICEF, and WFP, through the ERT. This collaboration facilitated the distribution of 24,399 NFI kits to 148,394 vulnerable IDPs and host community members of which 90% were contributed by UNHCR. The support included essential household items such as blankets, mats, jerrycans, kitchen sets, and hygiene kits tailored to the needs of women, children, and elderly people. Additionally, joint assessments ensured targeted aid delivery, while coordinated logistics and distribution mechanisms improved efficiency, reducing duplication and maximizing resource utilization. Despite funding constraints, this collective effort strengthened humanitarian response capacity in hard-to-reach area, ensuring critical assistance reached the most at-risk populations in a timely manner.

# 9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR are supported to access housing, Settlements and alternative to camps/sites

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing			
IDPs	16.04%	60.00%	23.68%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	10.33%	75.00%	16.77%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting			
IDPs	71.21%	60.00%	83.41%

Refugees and Asylum-seekers	73.14%	65.00%	67.45%	

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator			
Population Type	Actual (2024)		
09.1.1 Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance			
IDPs 73,971			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,106		

### **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

In Burkina Faso, the demand for humanitarian shelter assistance is escalating rapidly due to ongoing conflict and insecurity, which have compelled thousands to flee their villages. Many families have been displaced multiple times, more and more toward urban areas. Displaced populations often reside in overcrowded informal settlements or host communities, where resources are severely strained. The lack of adequate shelter leaves vulnerable groups, especially women and children, exposed to risks such as VAWG, exploitation, and health-related challenges.

According to the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), 67% of refugees report not having received any shelter assistance. This is largely due to challenges in accessing land since the closure of camps in 2021. UNHCR continues to engage with government authorities and local stakeholders for land availability for refugees, and these efforts are beginning to yield results, with a slight improvement of 2% observed in 2024 compared to 2023.

Meanwhile, the percentage of IDPs living in adequate housing increased from 16% to 26%. This increase is largely attributed to a shift in the response strategy, prioritizing emergency shelter solutions over durable housing following the ban on cash assistance. The high cost of durable housing—nearly twice that of emergency shelters—has impacted overall shelter assistance coverage, explaining the relative improvement in access to temporary housing solution.

Shelter Assistance and UNHCR's Contribution.

In 2024, UNHCR delivered 6,500 shelter units to support 40,000 people, providing critical protection from the elements and restoring a sense of safety, privacy, and dignity. This assistance contributed to stabilizing living conditions, reducing exposure to health and protection risks, and enabling displaced families to begin rebuilding their lives with a greater sense of security. At the national level, the Shelter/NFI Cluster reported that all humanitarian actors collectively built 13,800 shelters. As lead of the Shelter/NFIs cluster and last resort provider, UNHCR's contribution alone accounted for 47% of the total shelter construction carried out by humanitarian organizations in Burkina Faso.

Enhancing Access to Energy in Displacement Settings: Given the lack of access to electricity in many SAT/ZAD and host communities, UNHCR distributed portable solar lamps to 29,565 households, providing a reliable lighting source where alternative energy solutions remain unavailable.

By distributing solar torches and streetlights, UNHCR has addressed a critical need while enhancing safety, dignity, and well-being for forcibly displaced people, particularly women and girls. These initiatives have contributed to reducing protection risks, improving social cohesion, and sustaining economic activities in displacement settings.

### 10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR have access to national health services and programmes

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	73.08%	100.00%	75.96%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	91.76%	95.00%	97.90%

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
10.1.1 Number of individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care services		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	38,054	

### **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

In Burkina Faso, the humanitarian situation remains highly concerning, with conflict and insecurity severely impacting access to essential services, including healthcare. As of 2024, 424 (18%) of health facilities have closed, while 309 (13%) hospitals are operating at minimal capacity, and 46 ambulances have been withdrawn, depriving more than 4 million people of access to healthcare (Ministry of Health).

Among the refugee population, 25% are women, and 59% are children, making them particularly vulnerable and in need of targeted health interventions. Additionally, over 70% of refugees live in hard-to-reach areas, where medicine stock is limited. Healthcare personnel, and access constraints further exacerbate the situation. Despite these challenges, 35,000 refugees and host families have had access to public health facilities, thanks to the good collaboration between UNHCR, local partners, and the Ministry of Health.

Integration into National Health Services:

Thanks to various health interventions, all refugees are integrated and included in national public health programs. 90% of refugees have accessed primary and secondary healthcare. Additionally, the policy of free healthcare adopted in 2016 for pregnant women and children aged 0-5 has significantly reduced maternal and child mortality rates, saving many lives.

The zero-dose vaccination strategy achieved 91% measles coverage among children aged 6-59 months within refugee. In 2024, only 69% of births were attended by qualified personnel, compared to a target rate of 90%. This low rate is attributable to the closures of health centers and the customs of the populations. These assisted births allow children to obtain birth certificates.

Strengthening Health Services and Local Partnerships:

UNHCR continues to advocate for the inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in the national health systems. The localization strategy which facilitated partnership with local association has played a key role in strengthening community health interventions.

Additionally, 70 community health workers were trained to enhance community-based awareness and

health promotion efforts. UNHCR also facilitated access to healthcare through mutual health insurance schemes, providing 650 vulnerable refugees with health insurance cards.

Moving forward, UNHCR remains committed to supporting the Government of Burkina Faso in ensuring equitable access to healthcare for forcibly displaced people, while continuing to strengthen community resilience and national health system capacity through sustainable interventions.

#### 11. Outcome Area: Education

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR are included in the national education system

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator						
Population Type Baseline Target (2024) Actual (202						
11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education						
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.04%	25.00%	4.08%			
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system						
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	32.01%	70.00%	44.91%			

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator				
Population Type	Actual (2024)			
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	17,072			

# **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Burkina Faso is the country most affected by school closures in the region due to insecurity. In 2024, out of a total of 14,364 closed schools in the Sahel region, 5,319 were in Burkina Faso, impacting 2.1 million children. Regardless of this, the country continues to have a significant impact on the education sector. As of 30 November 2024, the Secrétariat Technique de education en situation d'urgence (ST-ESU) reported that 406,020 internally displaced students, including 199,277 girls, were re-enrolled in reopened and relocated host schools, demonstrating resilience and adaptation efforts within the national education system.

Despite this context, UNHCR has kept progressing in improving educational access and quality for refugee children. The enrollment rate of forcibly displaced children in the national education system increased, reaching 45%. These improvements were reflected in the better performance of students, that is above the national average. Additionally, educational assistance has been extended to 1,400 internally displaced and host communities' children. Other 7,700 refugees, IDP and host communities' students, women entrepreneurs, and teachers used IT materials in the multimedia rooms to learn new skills.

The inclusion of refugee youth in tertiary and higher education continues to improve, with enrollment increasing from 2% in 2023 to 3% in 2024.

UNHCR facilitated the rehabilitation and construction of eight classrooms, and one block of latrines, ensuring that educational facilities were accessible and conducive to learning for 520 teachers in Dori.

UNHCR also provided school supplies to over 6,000 students and supported the establishment and management of four school gardens to enhance the sustainability and nutritional quality of school canteens for 1,560 children. Teacher and community members training programs were implemented to enhance the quality of education, benefiting 500 participants with new skills. Furthermore, UNHCR's advocacy efforts led to the integration of 62% school-aged refugee children into national schools, ensuring their inclusion and continuity in education. Additionally, a Results Monitoring Surveys (RMS) commissioned by UNHCR has also helped capture 3,702 refugees who are receiving education outside of direct UNHCR assistance, further informing program planning and response strategies.

The ministry of Basic Education, Literacy, and the Promotion of National Languages has facilitated the integration of refugee children into public schools by inviting these schools to accept them. Additionally, the Government has supported teacher training by sending its experts to conduct training sessions. Community leaders and parents also contributed by actively participating in school management committees, ensuring a supportive and protective environment for students.

Moving forward, UNHCR remains committed to supporting the resilience of the national education system, by strengthening partnerships to ensure sustainable and inclusive learning opportunities for all children.

### 12. Outcome Area: Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Forcibly displaced and stateless persons UNHCR have access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator						
Population Type Baseline Target (2024) Actual (20						
12.1 Proportion of people using at least basic drinking water services						
Refugees and Asylum-seekers 59.96%		80.00%	37.83%			
12.2 Proportion of people with access to a safe household toilet						
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	69.95%	80.00%	82.72%			

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator				
Population Type	Actual (2024)			
12.1.1 Number of people supported with access to water and/or sanitation services				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,000			

# **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Ensuring access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation remains a NFI critical challenge for refugees and host communities in Burkina Faso, exacerbated by ongoing insecurity, environmental pressures, and resource constraints. The arid climate and environmental degradation in the Sahel region further limit the availability of water sources, leading to increased competition for scarce resources. This situation heightens the risk of tensions within communities.

While boreholes were constructed in 2022 and 2023, the lack of regular maintenance has rendered some non-functional, contributing to a decline in the proportion of forcibly displaced people and vulnerable host community members using at least basic drinking water services from 60% to 43%. Despite these setbacks, significant progress has been made in sanitation. The proportion of forcibly displaced people and vulnerable host community members with access to a safe household toilet increased by 14%, driven by the construction of 50 household latrines as complementary intervention to the shelter response. These facilities enabled 50 household to transition away from open defecation, which is a major contributor to environmental contamination and waterborne diseases.

Beyond improving sanitation conditions, the availability of safe and private latrines has had a direct impact on the protection and dignity of displaced people. The lack of secure sanitation facilities disproportionately affects women and girls, exposing them to heightened risks of VAWG, particularly at night. By increasing access to household toilets, UNHCR has contributed to enhancing the safety and well-being of displaced women and girls, reducing their exposure to protection risks.

Moving forward, UNHCR continues to advocate for sustainable water and sanitation solutions, emphasizing community-led maintenance of water points and strengthened partnerships to ensure long-term access to clean water and adequate hygiene services.

#### 13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR and host communities enjoy economic rights

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator						
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)			
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider						
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	77.58%	90.00%	57.68%			
13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year						
IDPs	10.50%	75.00%	1.79%			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	13.92%	65.00%	17.10%			

#### **Core Output Indicators**

Indicator				
Population Type	Actual (2024)			
13.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions				
IDPs	4,156			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,291			

# **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Burkina Faso's legal and policy framework supports the financial inclusion of refugees, with refugee identity cards officially recognized by financial service providers for opening bank accounts and registering for mobile money services. However, according to the 2024 RMS, only 40% of refugees currently have access

to these services—a 27% decrease compared to 2023. This decline is likely linked to frequent displacement and limited access to financial institutions in conflict-affected areas.

In contrast, 67% of IDPs reported owning a bank account in 2024, reflecting a slight increase from 2023. Nevertheless, many IDPs continue to face challenges in accessing financial services due to the loss of identity documents during displacement. Unemployment rates remain high, reaching 44% among refugees and 47% among IDPs, indicating a significant increase compared to the previous year.

In partnership with other organizations, UNHCR supported 2,317 people—including refugees, IDPs, and host community members—through agro-sylvo-pastoral activities. These interventions resulted in the production of 245 tons of food over 231 hectares of cultivated land, generating approximately XOF 23 million in income. Additionally, 600 tons of organic compost were produced and sold for XOF 64 million, contributing to food security and sustainable agricultural practices.

Support to economic initiatives reached 1,892 people (84% women), enabling them to develop small businesses generating daily sales ranging between XOF 5,000 and XOF 30,000. In the area of vocational training, 222 people were trained and placed with master craftsmen for advanced courses lasting two to four months. Upon completion, they received installation kits, and 60% were able to establish their own businesses.

In the crafts sector, total revenues amounted to XOF 8 million, including XOF 5 million from the sale of MADE51 products, showcasing refugee artisanship at the international level.

Efforts to promote financial inclusion also included the establishment of 98 savings groups comprising 2,450 members—primarily women—who collectively mobilized savings amounting to XOF 117.6 million.

# 14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

The voluntary return of people is carried out in dignity and security to ensure conditions for sustainable return and reintegration

# **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Voluntary repatriation of refugees remains a key sustainable solution for many of those living in Burkina Faso. According to UNHCR's 2024 annual participatory assessment, 36% of surveyed refugees and asylum-seekers identified voluntary repatriation as their preferred long-term solution. However, the feasibility of repatriation is heavily influenced by the security and political conditions in countries of origin.

In 2024, UNHCR facilitated the voluntary repatriation of three individuals to the CAR. A significant challenge encountered that year was the decision by the Government of CAR to suspend all repatriations in July, which was only partially lifted in December. Throughout this process, CONAREF remained a key partner, assisting with the issuance of necessary documents and raising awareness among border and airport authorities to ensure the safety, dignity, and informed nature of the repatriation process.

Progress was also made in strengthening the legal framework for repatriation in 2024. The 2015 Tripartite Agreement between Burkina Faso, Mali, and UNHCR, which previously governed the repatriation of Malian refugees from Burkina Faso, was revised to include the repatriation of Burkinabe refugees from Mali. This revision was in response to the increasing number of Burkinabe refugees fleeing to neighboring countries, particularly Mali, due to ongoing insecurity and the humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso. As of December 2024, there were over 93,000 Burkinabe refugees and asylum-seekers in Mali. The revised Tripartite Agreement was signed on March 27, 2024, by the two governments and UNHCR in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Despite this achievement, a key challenge in 2024 was the postponement of the Tripartite Commission meeting, which had been scheduled for the second half of the year.

In addition to Mali, the movement of Burkinabe nationals across other neighboring countries has been

increasing. To address this, UNHCR, in collaboration with the Government of Togo, initiated a regional inter-governmental dialogue. The third session of this dialogue took place in Lomé, Togo, in October 2024, with representatives from the Governments of Togo, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ghana. One of the key outcomes was the recognition of the need to establish a legal framework for repatriation through Tripartite Agreements. Burkina Faso had previously committed at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023 to signing similar agreements with Mali, Niger, Benin, Togo, Ghana, and Côte d'Ivoire. This signals a broader regional effort to ensure that repatriation, when feasible, is conducted in a coordinated and sustainable manner.

# 15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

People in need have access to resettlement opportunities and complementary pathways

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator							
Population Type Baseline Target (2024) Actual (2024)							
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement							
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	41	100	81				

### **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Local integration remains a key a sustainable solution to be explored and pursued in Burkina Faso. According to the annual participatory assessment conducted by UNHCR in 2024, 45% of surveyed refugees and asylum-seekers responded that local integration is their sustainable solution of choice, against 36% opting for voluntary repatriation and 19% for resettlement.

In 2024, UNHCR continued technical assistance to the Government of Burkina Faso in its effort to draft a national strategy on local integration for refugees. CONAREF led a diagnostic field study to assess the current state of local integration of refugees. UNHCR supported CONAREF throughout the process by providing technical advice on the conception of the study and development of tools such as the questionnaire. For example, all technical sectors such as Livelihoods, Education and Health contributed to review the questionnaire, resource person interviews were held with the Senior Protection Officer, Assistant Protection Officer and Durable Solutions Officer, and advocacy was done to make the questionnaire more holistic, spanning across the three dimensions of legal, economic and socio-cultural. UNHCR also tablets for data collection. As of December 2024, CONAREF is drafting the final report of this diagnostic field study, which is expected to guide the drafting of the national strategy in 2025. The Government of Burkina Faso had previously committed at the GRF in December 2023 to draft the national local integration strategy for refugees and its action plan, underscoring the political will to advance this important solution.

Regarding land tenure security, UNHCR continued its efforts to support IDPs. According to a study commissioned by UNHCR in 2024, 56% of IDPs and 78% of refugees lived on land of which they are not the owner. Not having land tenure documents such as lease contracts expose forcibly displaced people to risk of forced eviction. In response, UNHCR, in collaboration with its partner l'Observatoire National du Foncier (ONF), facilitated access to 122 hectares of land intended for agriculture for IDPs. Additionally, UNHCR and ONF supported the establishment and capacity building of local land commissions, conducted awareness-raising sessions for IDPs, and engaged in advocacy towards host communities and local authorities.

Regarding social protection, UNHCR continued its advocacy efforts in 2024 especially with the Ministry in charge of humanitarian action and its Technical Secretariat of the RSU to advocate for the inclusion of refugees in the database of vulnerable households for social assistance programs being developed

currently. In 2025, advocacy will continue with a focus on bringing together CONAREF and ST/RSU.

### 16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

The three dimensions of local integration (legal, economic and socio-cultural) in favour of the Forcibly displaced and stateless persons to UNHCR competence are ensured

#### **Core Outcome Indicators**

Indicator							
Population Type Baseline Target (2024) Actual (2024)							
16.2 Proportion of people covered by national social protection systems							
IDPs Unknown Unknown 54.09%							
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	51.27%	45.00%	59.24%				

### **Progress Against the Desired Outcome**

Local integration remains a key a sustainable solution that should continue to be explored and pursued in Burkina Faso. According to the annual participatory assessment conducted by UNHCR in 2024, 45% of surveyed refugees and asylum-seekers responded that local integration is their sustainable solution of choice, against 36% opting for voluntary repatriation and 19% for resettlement.

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Regarding land tenure security, UNHCR continued its efforts to support people. According to a study commissioned by UNHCR in 2024, 56% of IDPs and 78% of refugees lived on land of which they are not the owner. The same study found that only 7% of IDPs and 3% of refugees own land tenure documents. Not having land tenure documents such as lease contracts expose the forcibly displaced to risk of forced eviction. In response, UNHCR, in collaboration with its partner l'Observatoire National du Foncier (ONF), facilitated access to 122 hectares of land intended for agriculture for IDPs. Additionally, UNHCR and its partner ONF supported the establishment and capacity building of local land commissions, conducted awareness-raising sessions for IDPs, and engaged in advocacy towards host community and local authorities.

Regarding social protection, UNHCR continued its advocacy efforts in 2024 especially with the Ministry in charge of humanitarian action and its Technical Secretariat of the RSU to advocate the inclusion of refugees in the database of vulnerable households for social assistance programs being developed currently. In 2025, advocacy will continue with a focus on bringing together CONAREF and ST/RSU.

# 2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2024, UNHCR made significant strides in implementing the 2018 Age, Gender, and Diversity (AGD) Policy, ensuring equitable access to protection, assistance, and decision-making for forcibly displaced communities, those at risk of statelessness and host communities. The PA exercise was successfully conducted in Bobo, Dori, Fada, and Ouagadougou though security constraints prevented its implementation in Kaya and Ouahigouya. A total of 1,203 people, including 417 women, 306 men, 154 girls, 120 boys, 127 elderly people, and 79 people with disabilities, were able to participate and express their concerns and opinions regarding the programming and planning of projects conducted by UNHCR and its partners. The various priorities identified during this exercise were analyzed and taken into consideration in the planning for 2025, ensuring alignment with the specific needs of different demographic groups.

UNHCR and its partners maintained a strong commitment to community engagement, ensuring forcibly displaced and stateless people were involved in decision-making at all stages of programming decisions.

AGD-sensitive programming helped address protection risks specific to women and girls, particularly those related to VAWG and economic vulnerabilities. However, women's participation in leadership and coordination meetings remained inconsistent due to cultural norms, security concerns, and household responsibilities. Adolescent girls were given special attention, recognizing their unique challenges and the need for tailored interventions. Structural barriers and socio-cultural norms continue to limit women's full inclusion, highlighting the need for continued advocacy and targeted initiatives to strengthen gender equality.

Moving forward, UNHCR will reinforce targeted advocacy, capacity-building initiatives, and community-based approaches to foster greater inclusion and equality in its operations, taking account communities in the programme cycle.

# **Section 3: Resources**

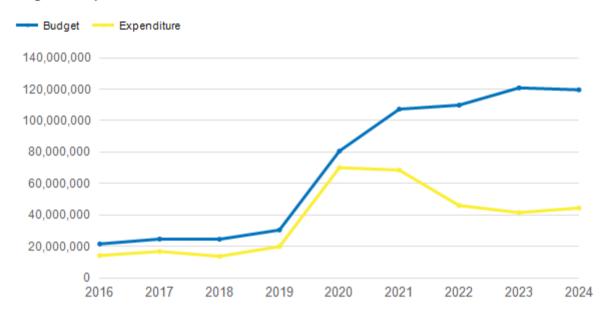
# 3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

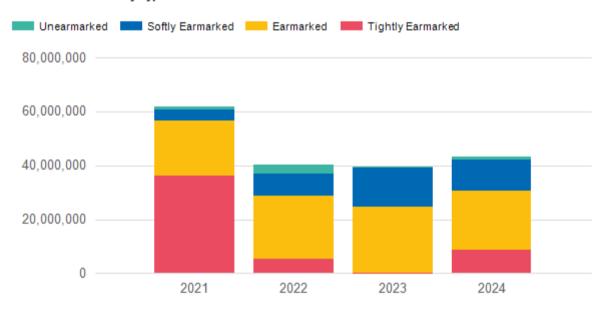
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	30,655,379	14,073,900	45.91%	13,769,603	97.84%
IA2: Assist	51,289,397	14,085,297	27.46%	13,588,485	96.47%
IA3: Empower	28,149,848	13,848,935	49.20%	13,848,935	100.00%
IA4: Solve	9,528,821	3,419,639	35.89%	3,321,541	97.13%
All Impact Areas		923,491			
Total	119,623,446	46,351,263	38.75%	44,528,564	96.07%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	10,629,097	6,191,920	58.25%	5,887,623	95.09%
OA2: Status	12,491,447	6,950,581	55.64%	6,950,581	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	7,534,836	931,399	12.36%	931,399	100.00%
OA4: GBV	6,301,829	2,112,067	33.52%	1,942,672	91.98%
OA5: Children	3,071,163	1,031,284	33.58%	1,031,284	100.00%
OA7: Community	16,343,705	5,475,935	33.50%	5,228,056	95.47%
OA8: Well-being	3,548,092	946,714	26.68%	946,714	100.00%
OA9: Housing	21,267,591	10,974,857	51.60%	10,974,857	100.00%
OA10: Health	6,643,717	2,029,744	30.55%	2,029,744	100.00%
OA11: Education	8,103,665	1,772,433	21.87%	1,692,895	95.51%
OA12: WASH	2,751,516	990,422	36.00%	990,422	100.00%
OA13: Livelihood	11,407,968	2,600,775	22.80%	2,600,775	100.00%
OA14: Return	1,668,654	439,721	26.35%	439,721	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	1,382,322	442,746	32.03%	442,746	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	4,997,909	2,092,326	41.86%	1,994,228	95.31%
EA20: External	1,479,936	444,846	30.06%	444,846	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		923,491			
Total	119,623,446	46,351,263	38.75%	44,528,564	96.07%

#### **Budget and Expenditure Trend**



#### Contributions Trend by Type



# 3.2. Resources Overview

Despite authorities' considerable efforts to provide security several locations, the humanitarian situation remains fragile. In response, the operation in Burkina Faso continued to prioritize solutions-oriented humanitarian assistance for forcibly displaced, stateless people and vulnerable host communities.

In 2024, the overall needs for the operation in Burkina Faso amounted to USD 119.6 million, a 1,08 % decrease from the \$120.9 million required in 2023. At the same time, the year saw a surge in internal and cross-border displacements. As of 31 March 2023, the government reported over 2 million IDPs (10% of the

population), alongside nearly 41,000 refugees and asylum-seekers registered by the end of 2024.

While donor support remained steady, the operation faced constraints with funding. At the beginning of 2024, the available budget covered only 7% of the overall needs, but through proactive fundraising and advocacy efforts, this figure grew to 30% by year-end. Although 83% of the resource mobilization was characterized by earmarked funds, this did not hinder the operation from efficiently responding to humanitarian needs. The operation was able to maintain an effective response to humanitarian needs, thanks to local fundraising, which specifically addressed identified needs. It's noteworthy that 98% of available funds received in 2024, came from government donors, while only 2% was allocated through the Private sector.

Given the increasing humanitarian needs, the operation prioritized intervention areas where it had a leading role, including multisectoral protection of refugees and asylum-seekers, protection coordination, assistance to IDPs, shelter/NFIs, and CCCM/GSAT. Sixty three percent (63%) of the budget was allocated to partners (INGOs, NGOs, and governmental partners), while the remaining 37% was implemented directly, including cash assistance. A significant portion (62%) of the budget was dedicated to areas crucial for protection, like safety and empowerment. Despite challenges in accessing some areas, the operation successfully used all the allocated funds by the end of 2024.

# Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

# 4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

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