THE STATE OF REFUGEES AND IDP IN AFRICA

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SUMMARY

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REFUGEE

UN 1951 Refugee Convention

- A person who due to **well founded fear** of being persecuted for reasons of **race, religion, nationality, member of a particular social group or political opinion**, is outside his country of nationality and is unable or owing to such fear unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country

- Not having a Nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence

1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of refugees in Africa

- Owing to **external aggression, occupation foreign dominion, or events seriously disturbing public order** in either part or the whole of his country of origin or nationality, is compelled to leave his place of habitual residence in order to seek refuge in another place outside his country of origin or nationality

Internally Displaced Person (IDP)

2009 AU Convention on the Protection and Assistance to IDPS (Kampala Convention)

- Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or leave their home or places of habitual residence in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the **effects of armed conflicts, situation of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human made disasters** and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State Border

- Internal displacement means the involuntary or **force movement, evacuation or relocation** of persons or groups of persons within an internationally recognized state borders.

Returnees

- Principle of Non-refoulement
- In Safety and Dignity
- Conditions for return

Migrant

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of ALL Migrants Workers and Members of their families

- A person who moves from one place to another especially in order to find work or better living conditions

Stateless Person

In International Law

- A stateless person is a someone who is not considered as a national by any state under the operation of its law

- Some stateless people are also refugees

- However not all refugees are stateless

- Refugees can become stateless

- Many people who are stateless have never crossed an international border

Global Displacement Situation (UNHCR – GTR June 2019)

Global 70.8 million

- 41.3m IDPs, 25.9m Refugee (92,400 resettled), 3.5m Asylum-Seekers and 3.9m Stateless People

- 80% of refugees live in countries neighboring their country of origin

- 37,000 people a day flee their homes because of conflict and persecution

- Top refugee producing countries Syria 6.7m Afghanistan 2.7mSouth Sudan 2.3m, Myanmar 1.1m, Somalia 900,000, Sudan 725,000, DRC 720,300

- Top refugee hosting countries Turkey 3.7m, Pakistan 1.4m, Uganda 1.2m, Sudan 1.1m, Germany 1.1m

Displacement situation in Africa

25.2 million Displaced Persons in Africa

1/3rd of Global Displacements

17.4 million IDPs

7.4 million Refugees

AU Frameworks

1. **AU Agenda 2063**

 – Peaceful and Secure Africa – Aspiration 4

- Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development - Aspiration 1

2. AU Theme of Year 2019

Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons – Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa

3. AU Theme of Year 2020

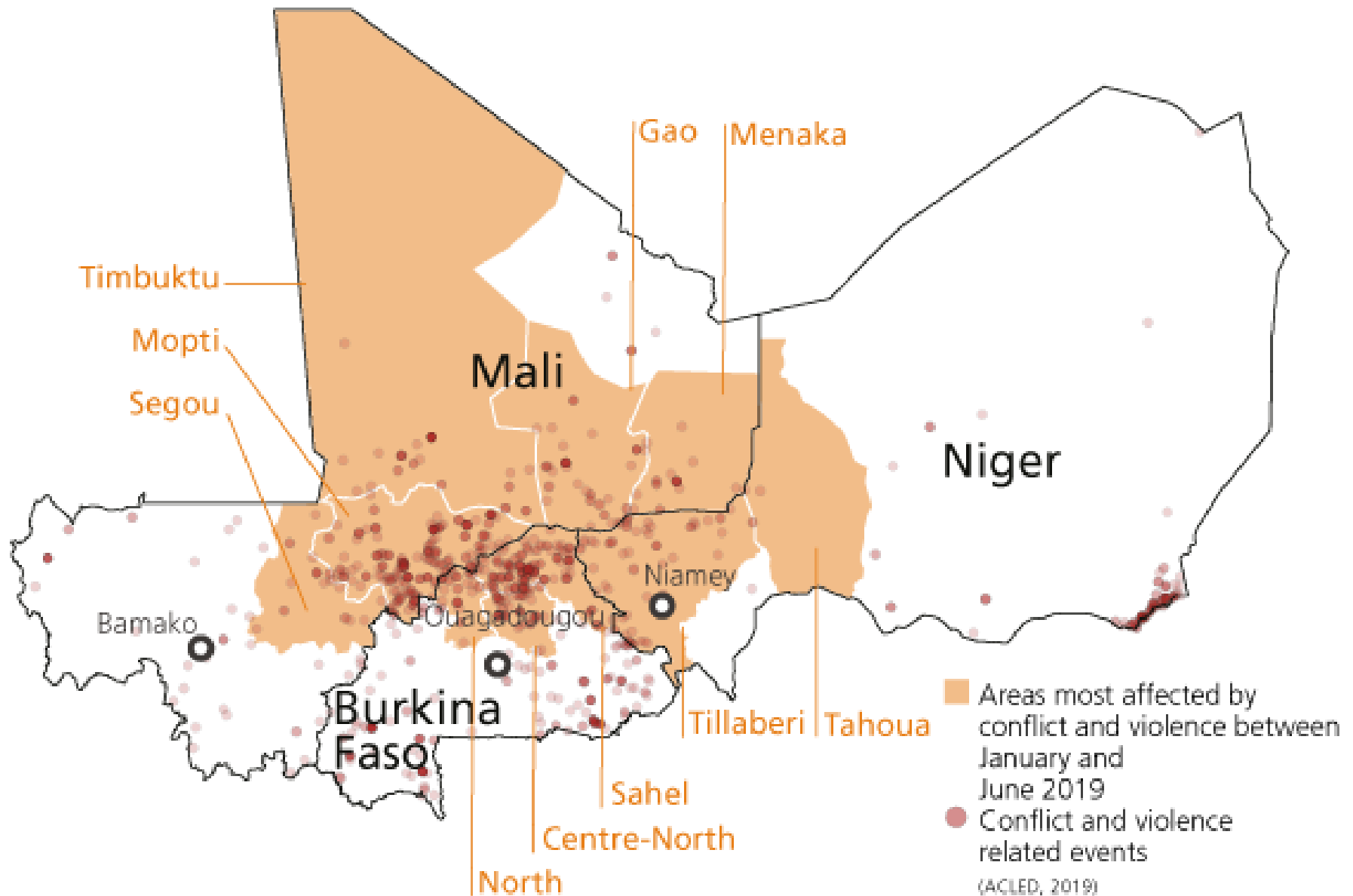Silencing the Guns; creating conducive conditions for Africa's Development

Countries with highest refugees & IDPs

Most Refugees producing countries	Most Refugees hosting countries
2.4 m – South Sudan	1,4m - Uganda
986,400 - Somalia	906,600 - Sudan
725,000 - Sudan	694,506 - Ethiopia
720,300 - DRC	536,000 - DRC
545,498 - CAR	471,300 - Kenya
Countries with most IDPs (by conflicts, violence and disasters)	
Ethiopia – 3.2m	
DRC – 1.9	
Nigeria – 1.2	
Somalia – 1.1	
CAR – 641,000	
Burkina Faso – 486,360	
Cameroon – 437,000	

Causes of Displacement

1. Conflicts - Somalia, South Sudan, Libya, CAR, DRC, Western Sahara

2. Generalized Violence – Lake Chad Basin (Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger) and the Sahel (Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso)

Conflict and Violence in Sahel

Areas most affected by conflict and violence between January and June 2019

Conflict and violence related events

(ACLED, 2019)

Sahel Countries affected by Violence

Mali	Burkina Faso	Niger
138,720 – refugees in Mauritania, Niger and Burkina Faso 187,139 - IDPs	487,360 – IDPs 16,000 - refugees	77,935 – IDPs 40,000 - Disasters

Displacements in Lake Chad Basin

Cameroon	Chad
262,831 – IDPs 99,973 – Returnees (former IDPs) 10,050 – returnees (from Abroad) 102,963 - Refugees	133,338 – IDPs 9,730 – Returnees (former IDPs) 33,058 – Returnees (from Abroad) 15,915 – Refugees
Nigeria 2,024,668 – IDPs 1,505,207 – Returnnes (former IDPs) 132,957 – Returnees (from Abroad)	CAR 600,136 – IDPs 590,642 – refugees in Cameroon 291,803 –n Chad 173,079 – Congp 103,562 - DRC
Niger 104,288 – IDPs 25,731 return from Abroad 118,868 -refugees	

Disasters

- Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania), Southern Africa Region (Mozambique, Malawi, Zimbabwe),

- Sahel Region (Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania,

- Sahara Dessert (Algeria, Mali, Morocco, Sudan, Chad, Mauritania, Egypt)

Statistics on displacement in Africa

Ethiopia 266,000 disasters	DCR – 81,000	Nigeria – 613,000
Somalia 547,000 disasters 578,000 - conflicts	Kenya – 336,000 Madagascar 75,000	Less than 50, 000 Tanzania,Malawi, Benin, Mozambiue, Zimbabwe, Burundi, Niger, Rwanda

Sahel Dessert

Affecting
Northern Senegal,
Southern Mauritania
Southern Mali
Southern Niger
Mali
Burkina Faso
Central Chad
Sudan
(8mths dry season, June, July Aug 4 – 8inches of rain)
Resulting in drought, famine, desertification

Sahara dessert

Affect
Algeria
Mali
Morocco
Sudan
Chad
Mauritania
Egypt
(1,18 inches of rain annually, powerful sandstorm)

Kalahari Dessert

Affecting
Botswana
Zambia
South Africa
Zimbabwe
Namibia
Angola
DRC
(dry spells, drought, famine)

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

GOVERNANCE

HUMANITARIAN

PEACE AND SECURITY

DEVELOPMENT