

# West and Central Africa – Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, and the Central African Republic

West and Central Africa is considered a protection crisis, affected by a combination of human right violations, major protracted and recurrent displacement crises that stem from high levels of violence, climate and environmental changes, severe food insecurity, pressure on diminishing resources and rights under pressure. West and Central Africa also cover some of the poorest and most fragile countries in the world – they have some of the lowest education rates, highest mortality, highest gender inequality, highest poverty rate and lowest governance index.

The compounded impact of such factors and crises on the most vulnerable people is devastating and causes persisting, fast-escalating needs. Further, exposure to risks of children, women and men affected by the crises, including serious violations of human rights and International Humanitarian Law, has significantly escalated within the last decade.



## DRC's Response

DRC assists people affected by forced displacement, contributes to the protection of their rights, and enhances resilience to achieve a better future. To address the complexity of displacement situations in an environment constraint by access and resource restrictions, DRC focuses on responding to 5 major trends:

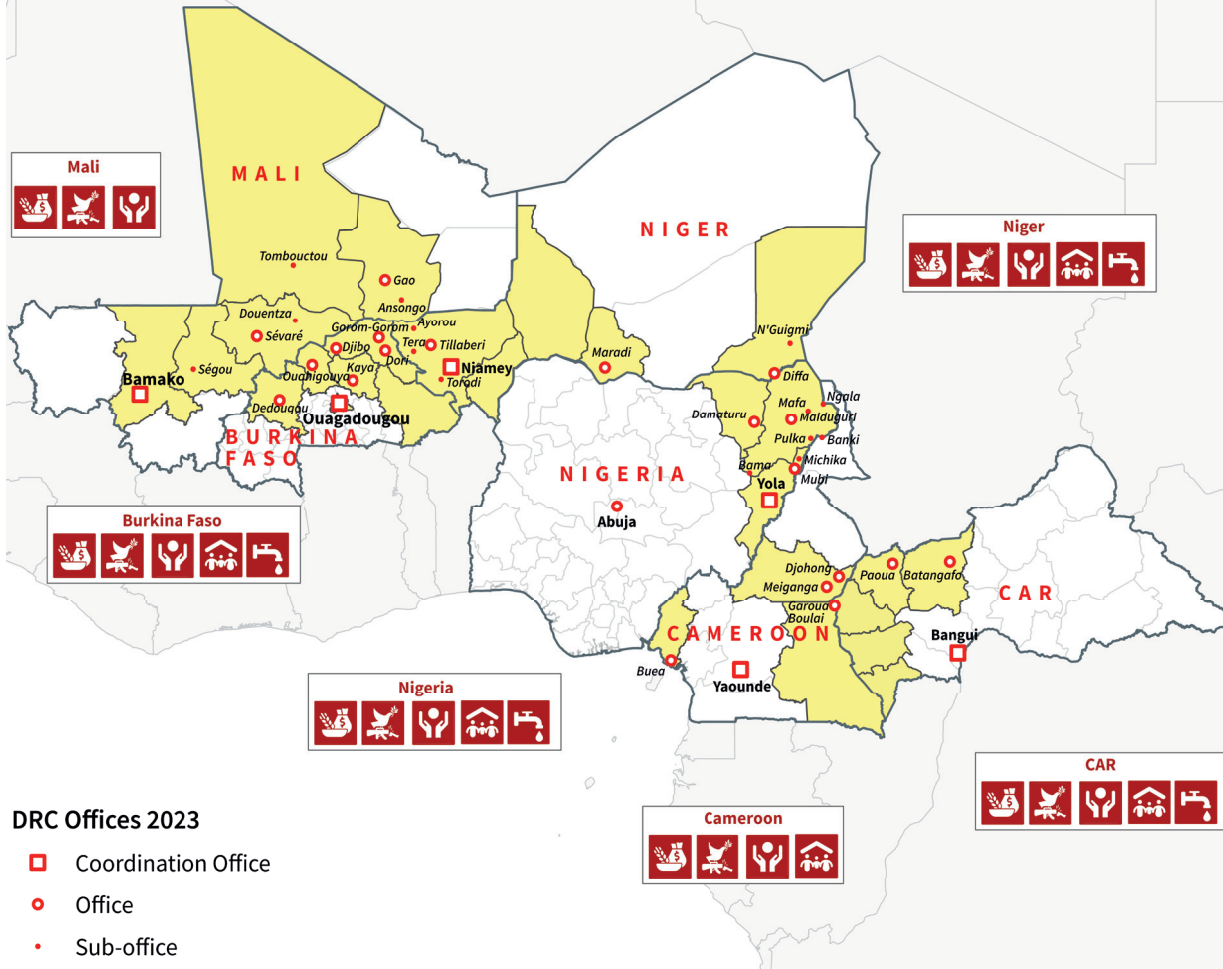
- 1. Food crisis:** DRC reinforces market systems and financial inclusion to enable displacement-affected people and communities to better resist and responds to short term humanitarian needs with food distribution.
- 2. Scarce resources:** DRC develops innovative long-term programming, and tailored approaches to increase to mitigate the effects of diminishing resources fueled by population growth, climate change and forced displacement.
- 3. Rights under pressure:** DRC continues investing on access and alliances to expand a principled response in hard-to-reach areas. We reinforce the collection of evidence, the monitoring of human right violations and provide an adapted response to reduce risks and protect people affected by forced displacement.
- 4. Violence & conflict:** Violence & conflict: DRC expands and deepens its protection response to prevent and address consequences of violent behavior and develop multisector comprehensive responses to reduce inter-community tensions and increase social cohesion. We also promote conflict sensitivity and work alongside affected communities to make our responses more inclusive.
- 5. Vulnerable youth:** DRC makes sure youth and women participate in its interventions. We work to reinforce their leadership and influence in community processes; advocate for youth and women inclusion in decision making processes, develop program to reinforce their socio-economic autonomy.

## Humanitarian Overview <sup>\*entire region</sup>

- People in need: 42,2Mo
- Refugees and displaced: 13Mo

## Strategic Programme Initiatives

- Protection of the hard-to-reach
- Access to legal aid
- Better market access for all
- Reinforced climate and conflict resilience



## DRC in West Africa

DRC established an operational presence in West Africa in 1998. Since 2020, DRC has consolidated its regional presence and strategic positioning to respond to protracted or protracting crisis through: development of strategic partnerships; innovative programming and research; creation of longer-term integrated programs around the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus, scale up of cash and voucher modalities and reinforcement of accountability systems and cultures. Today, DRC is a leading displacement organization in the region.

## Target Population

DRC targets people most affected by conflict and displacement and will work wherever protection threats and marginalization are most acutely felt:

- IDPs in camps (official and spontaneous) and in host communities
- Refugees, Asylum seekers and Returnees
- People in transit or at risk to engage in unsafe movements (mixed migration).
- Host Communities (hosting IDPs or receiving returnees)
- Conflict-affected communities

## Multi-Country Operations

Given the cross-border/transnational specificities of the crises, DRC has deployed several multi-country operations:

- For improved evidence-based programming
- For anticipatory action, context analysis and support to the response
- For multi-country responses

## Sectors



Protection



Humanitarian  
Disarmament &  
Peacebuilding



Shelter & NFI





Economic Recovery



Water Sanitation  
& Hygiene

# DRC Activities and Impact

West, Central, and North Africa

		 <b>Target Population</b> – direct and indirect				
 <b>Objective</b>	 <b>Activities</b>	Central Sahel	North Africa	Lake Chad Bassin	CAR Crisis	West & Central Africa
Safer communities have capacity and systems to reduce all forms of violence	Community Committees And Protection Mechanisms, Awareness Raising, EORE, Conflict Mediation And Management, PSS And Case Management, Humanitarian Mine Action	217,097	226,584	1,447,422	306,339	1,626,194
People's basic needs are met	Food Security, IPA, NFI And Emergency Shelter, Psychological First Aid	583,197	49,470	587,600	100,481	918,673
Duty bearers act to respect, protect, and fulfil the rights of people	Engagement With Duty Bearers And Influencers/ Leaders	5,075	18,846	59,213	27,915	76,904
People can claim respect for, protection of, and fulfilment of, their rights	Access To Legal Aid, Access To Feedback And Complaint Mechanisms	176,522	37,345	434,362	275,578	610,884
People can effectively leverage systems to fulfil their rights	Access To Social Protection, Access To Public Services, Referrals	46,205	28,355	360,965	201,507	527,882
People have more decent and resilient livelihoods	Livelihood, Graduation Approach, Decent Work, Ergotherapy	62,641	30,951	78,349	45,654	150,433
Social cohesion in communities / societies is enhanced	Community Based Protection, Community Dialogues, Group Mediation	127,670	3,675	54,378	8,353	86,483
People can effectively participate in a just and equitable civic life	Gender Empowerment And Equality, Participation In Advocacy And Engagement With Duty Bearers	65,199	17,039	125,129	125,529	188,128
Exposure and vulnerability to disasters and shocks is reduced	Disaster Risk Reduction, Early Warning, Early Action, Life Skills, Psycho-Social Support	269,375	12,789	233,757	78,548	355,650



Founded in 1956, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is Denmark's largest international NGO, with a specific expertise in forced displacement. DRC is present in 40 countries and employs 9,000 staff globally. DRC advocates for the rights of and solutions for displacement-affected communities and provides assistance during all stages of displacement: In acute crisis, in exile, when settling and integrating in a new place, or upon return. DRC supports displaced persons in becoming self-reliant and included into hosting societies. DRC works with civil society and responsible authorities to promote protection of rights and inclusion.

DRC's code of conduct sits at the core of our organizational mission, and DRC aims at the highest ethical and professional standards. DRC has been certified as meeting the highest quality standards according to the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability.

To read more about what we do, see: [www.drc.ngo](http://www.drc.ngo)

**DRC** DANISH  
REFUGEE  
COUNCIL  
• We are there