

# NRC's operations in **Burkina Faso and Niger**

## Humanitarian overview

Situated in the heart of the Sahel, both Burkina Faso and Niger are facing acute and growing humanitarian crises driven by the spread of violence, population displacement, and limited capacity to respond. The two countries are deeply interconnected through shared border dynamics, displacement flows, and the broader Liptako-Gourma crisis.

In **Burkina Faso**, violence and insecurity have led to an unprecedented humanitarian emergency. More than 1.3 million people are internally displaced, and in 2026, over 4.5 million people required urgent assistance. With schools closed due to insecurity, more than 1.9 million children are unable to access education. Burkina Faso has been among the world's most neglected crises for two consecutive years (2023 and 2024).

In **Niger**, humanitarian needs are driven by conflict across three fronts: the Liptako-Gourma crisis in the north-west (Tillabéri and Tahoua), the Lake Chad crisis in the east (Diffa), and cross-border pressures from Nigeria in the south (Maradi). Niger hosts more than 548,000 internally displaced people and a growing refugee population, with ongoing disruptions to trade and supply chains further straining humanitarian operations.



## Our core activities



Education



Information, counselling  
and legal assistance (ICLA)



Protection  
from violence



Shelter  
and settlements



Water, sanitation  
and hygiene (WASH)

## NRC in Burkina Faso and Niger

Established	2019
International staff	9
National staff	198

## Our areas of operation

### Burkina Faso:

- Ouagadougou (country office)
- Soum, Liptako (coordination office in Dori)
- Bankui (through local partner)
- Kuilsé, Sirba, Goulmou (coordination office in Fada N’Gourma)

### Niger:

- Niamey (country office)
- Maradi
- Tillabéri, Tahoua, Diffa



## Our activities in detail

NRC opened its first office in the region in March 2019 in Niger, followed by Burkina Faso in July 2019. Both countries are managed together to foster synergies and maximize impact across the Sahel.

Combined, NRC reached a total of 340,702 people – over half of them women and girls – across both countries in 2025. Our interventions include education, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA), and protection from violence.



**68,851 people reached in 2025** ▼

## Education

Focusing on education in emergencies, we are:

- supporting the formal system to increase capacity for internally displaced children
- providing adapted learning conditions to ensure the retention of students in schools
- conducting awareness-raising campaigns to promote inclusive education and enhance social cohesion and peaceful cohabitation between displaced and host community children
- distributing education kits to improve the learning conditions of students
- constructing semi-permanent school blocks and repairing existing classrooms
- working to improve access to education in areas where schools have been forcibly closed by armed groups, while protecting children from harm and promoting safe and inclusive learning environments
- providing vocational training for marginalised youth while promoting apprenticeships, mentoring and career guidance
- initiating the Better Learning Programme in targeted schools to support out-of-school children who have experienced trauma
- building the capacity of teachers and community members on the newly introduced Better Learning Programme



94,289 people reached in 2025 ▼

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## Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)

We are assisting affected communities to:

- access information on legal and civil documentation processes
- obtain the civil and identity documentation necessary to access rights and services
- understand and protect their housing, land and property rights

Our teams:

- organise capacity-building sessions for local authorities and civil documentation officials on issues pertaining to land and civil documentation
- lead the housing, land and property rights working group to build capacity and advocate with authorities, humanitarian actors and other stakeholders



64,989 people reached in 2025 ▼

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## Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

Our WASH teams are:

- improving access to safe water through construction and rehabilitation of solar-powered systems, boreholes, and emergency water points in displacement sites, schools and host communities
- improving sanitation conditions through construction and rehabilitation of inclusive latrines and handwashing facilities, and promoting hygiene behaviour change through community education and hygiene kit distribution
- strengthening the sustainable management of WASH infrastructure by supporting local communities and municipalities in collaboration with decentralised water and sanitation services



30,130 people reached in 2025 ▼

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## Protection from violence

Our site management teams are:

- reinforcing site management programming
- improving access to protection and assistance
- establishing and strengthening coordination mechanisms and community participatory structures
- strengthening community safety and violence prevention
- supporting community-driven risk reduction action plans



82,443 people reached in 2025 ▼

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## Shelter and settlements

Our shelter teams are:

- providing essential household items including kitchen sets, bedding, solar torches, and mosquito nets
- providing complete shelter solutions and education infrastructures either through temporary or transitional models (including long-term models for schools)
- conducting site coordination activities, especially site planning, to enable the installation of shelters and minimum basic services, delivered by NRC or in coordination with other actors
- advocating on issues related to the establishment of new sites
- constructing permanent houses to contribute to the local resettlement of internally displaced people
- contributing positively to the shelter cluster on global and local issues

## Our donors

### We are grateful for the generous support from our donors:

- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA/HUM)
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
- US Department of State (DoS)
- European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO)
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Fonds humanitaire régional pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest et centrale (FHRAOC)
- Sahel Regional Fund (SRF) - FCDO
- UNICEF
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- Novo Nordisk Foundation (NNF)
- Monegasque Cooperation

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