

Nigeria Situation

01-31 July 2017

1,825,321*

IDPs in Nigeria *1.75 million displaced by the insurgency (NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round XVII, June 2017)

205,403

Nigerian refugees in Cameroon, Chad and Niger as of 30 July 2017 (or latest figures available).

FUNDING USD 179.5 M requested for the Nigeria situation Funded 23% 41.1 M Unfunded 77% 138.3 M

HIGHLIGHTS AND OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- In Nigeria, lack of road access to IDP hosting sites and return areas outside Maiduguri severely affected the humanitarian response. Boko Haram targeted and looted relief convoys, taking drivers and staff hostage in exchange for ransom. UN helicopters remain the only means of transport for humanitarian workers in the area. In Maiduguri, attacks on the town and on IDP camps made humanitarian interventions and service delivery particularly challenging.
- Security restrictions in place to prevent infiltrations and potential attacks hindered efforts to decongest IDP camps in Banki and Ngala, in Borno State, on the border with Cameroon. UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies are concerned by the detrimental impact these restrictions are having on their capacity to expand services such as shelter and access to firewood and on the ability of returnees and IDPs to engage in farming and other productive activities. Living conditions are becoming increasingly dire as the population remains overly dependent on humanitarian assistance. Under the current circumstances, women and children continue to be subjected to abuse and exploitation in exchange for services.
- In Cameroon's Minawao camp, awareness-raising activities on the modalities of the Tripartite Agreement and on the current conditions in Bama, Banki, Gwoza and Pulka (Nigeria) continued to take place. No new spontaneous return movements from Minawao camp to Nigeria were reported during the month.
- In collaboration with UNHCR and REACH, the Shelter/NFI working group in Niger's Diffa region completed a widespread needs assessment in July. The exercise, which had started in May, aimed to identify shelter and NFI distributions that took place during the past 6 months for the displaced population in the region, and to identify shelter and NFI needs and distribution gaps to improve immediate response planning. The final results can be accessed here.
- As of mid-July, Chad's 'Lac' region witnessed the arrival of large groups of people from Niger. The Chadian Government's Refugee Commission carried out preliminary assessments and registration. According to this assessment, more than 6,600 persons have settled not far from the Dar Es Salam refugee camp. New arrivals stated they had come from the villages of Kidjindi, Ankadndougoune and Tchortchouri, in the N'Guiguimi vicinity of eastern Diffa. The group claimed to have come from central Chad originally but that their grandparents had left decades ago, owing, among other reasons, to persecution by the Habre regime. UNHCR, OCHA and IOM visits to the site corroborated this information and 11 people were found to have documentation supporting their Niger citizenship. The new arrivals told the UNHCR team that they had left Niger following the withdrawal of Chadian soldiers patrolling the area. UNHCR is currently leading a needs assessment at the site and has dispatched trucks containing NFIs to cover the needs of 10,000 people. The new arrivals have been vaccinated against hepatitis E and meningitis. The status of these new arrivals is being determined in collaboration with the Ministry of Territorial Administration and the Refugee Commission. It is expected that more people will arrive in the weeks to come, owing to ongoing insecurity in Niger.



Update on achievements

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UNHCR continued strengthen its physical presence in areas receiving Nigerian refugee returnees from Cameroon, Chad and Niger. To date, UNHCR has expanded its presence to receive returnees in five of Borno State's Local Government Areas (Bama, Damasak, Gwoza, Monguno and Ngala), where reception conditions are being improved. Over the month, UNHCR conducted several monitoring missions to obtain first-hand information on the humanitarian needs of new arrivals. Upon arrival, returnees are hosted in UNHCR transit facilities and provided with cooked meals for three days until they can be relocated to shelters. UNHCR also provides returnees with essential NFIs as well as charcoal to mitigate the protection risks of venturing outside the camps to obtain cooking fuel.

CAMEROON

- From 17-22 July, UNHCR and the Government of Cameroon undertook a joint mission to the Far North region in the context of designing activities to reduce the risk of statelessness. The mission looked at the assessment and identification of persons at risk of statelessness, meeting with members of the Joint Protection Committees, local and traditional authorities, and the affected populations in the Departments of Mayo-Sava and Mayo-Tsanaga. It is planned to extend the process to the Logone-et-Chari Department and to train authorities and partners involved in working against statelessness.
- The registration exercise for refugees residing outside of camps ended in the Logone-et-Chari Department with a total of 18,450 registered refugees. The operation in the Mayo-Tsanaga Department only resumed at the end of the month following authorization from the authorities; a total of 1,271 households had been registered prior to suspension of the exercise.
- On 19 July, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner in charge of Protection, Mr. Volker Türk visited Cameroon. During his mission, Mr. Türk met with the Ministers of External Relations and Territorial Administration and Decentralization, and with the Secretary General of the Presidency of the Republic. The exchanges focused on UNHCR's protection assistance for Nigerian refugees living in the Far North region and included a discussion on the return of Nigerian refugees to their country of origin, during which Mr. Türk stressed that it was essential for UNHCR to ensure that returns were made in a manner that respected international standards.

CHAD

- In the villages of Ngouboua, Tchoukoutalia, Tchoukoudoum, Tchingam and Litri as well as Dar Es Salam camp, UNHCR's livelihood partner, the Chadian Red Cross (CRT) identified 889 refugees who had successfully obtained plots for farming activities during the rainy season, using funds provided by UNHCR to secure the land from the host community. In total, they were able to secure 110 hectares (0.5 hectare per household).
- To prevent the environmental degradation caused by the exploitation of the 'Lac' region's woodland, UNHCR and the CRT distributed fuel-efficient woodstoves to 500 refugee households in the Dar Es Salam camp. The distribution can only cover the needs of 25 per cent of the camp's population and the gap will be covered by UNHCR through the purchase of other types of energy-saving stoves in the coming weeks.

NIGER

- Local authorities in the Canton of Chétimari and UNHCR completed a verbal handover process for 250 hectares of land to UNHCR to expand Sayam Forage Refugee Camp in order to carry out agricultural activities including growing crops for sale in local markets.
- In light of the population movements caused by continued attacks in the Diffa region, child protection actors carried out a needs and risk of exploitation/abuse assessment in two of the region's displacement sites where children are tasked with fetching water and firewood and where several cases of forced marriage have been recorded. The assessment will serve to inform the preparation of an action plan and reinforce child protection in the area.

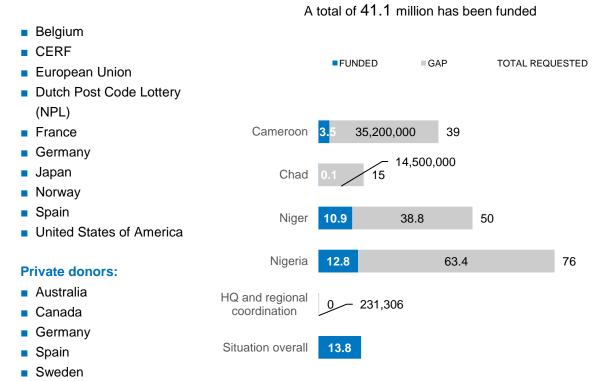


Financial Information

In total, for refugee response in asylum countries as well as response for IDPs in Nigeria, UNHCR's requirements amount to USD **179.5 million in 2017**. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to the Nigeria Situation as a whole.

Donors:

Funding (in million USD):



Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Priv Donors Spain (29 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (15 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (12 M) | Italy (10 M)

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NIGERIA SITUATION

Populations forcibly displaced by the insurgency in the Lake Chad Basin Region

As of 31 July 2017 or latest figures available



