



NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE

01 – 30 April 2017

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FIGURES

1,832,743
IDPs* in Nigeria

* 1.76 million displaced by the insurgency

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round XV, March 2017)

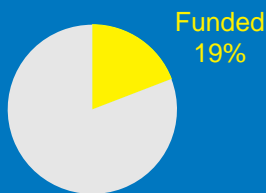
208,439

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighboring countries as of 30 April (or latest figures available)

FUNDING

USD 169.9 million

UNHCR requirements for the Nigeria situation in 2017



Gap
81%

- In **Nigeria**, the number of IED attacks around Maiduguri and in southern Borno rose, raising concern for the safety of IDPs settled in the camps. In the first quarter alone, 27 children **were used to serve in suicide attacks** across the region in comparison to nine children a year ago. Diverging Boko Haram (BH) factions continued to regroup and re-arm. The insurgents were also reported to be returning to the Sambisa forest area. In **Cameroon**, an increase in the number of incursions was reported, with deadly attacks, suicide bombings and kidnappings occurring on a regular basis. In **Niger**, the security situation deteriorated. BH insurgents carried out a major attack on a Niger Security and Defense force position near Gueskerou, and are suspected of having stolen food stocks, medication and cattle from various other locations. In **Chad's** Lake area, suspected BH elements armed with explosives and weapons were sighted in 20Km from Baga Sola and an attack took place near the village of Kaiga Kinjiria, resulting in one civilian death and two casualties.
- As of 10 April, UNHCR and the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) had registered a total of 143,409 returnees from Cameroon, 119,061 from Niger and 339 from Chad. Out of these, only 3% were registered as refugees in the countries of asylum, 86% were not registered as such and the rest are either asylum seekers or stated not knowing their status. The main reasons evoked by refugee returnees for their departures included participating in upcoming local elections, a return to stability in areas of origin, a resumption of economic activities but also a lack of food and water in hosting areas. In Cameroon, refugees have been made aware of the imminent establishment of the Tripartite Commissions in Cameroon and Nigeria, which will organize the voluntary repatriation process once conditions are conducive to return.
- Niger's Ministry of Public Health declared a hepatitis E outbreak on 19 April in the Diffa region. Authorities had sounded alarm bells at the beginning of the year when the first death was recorded. As of 30 April, 278 suspected and confirmed cases had been identified in the region and 27 deaths linked to the disease had been recorded. For its part, the Nigerian Ministry of Health had reported more than 9,600 cases of meningitis C and 839 deaths as of 30 April across seven States with Zamfara, Katsina and Sokoto (which all share a border with Niger), accounting for the great majority of cases. This has been the worst outbreak in the country since 2009. In Niger, 2,726 suspected meningitis cases and 165 deaths had been recorded as of 30 April. The impact of these epidemics on the region is exacerbated by weak health systems, high levels of illiteracy, poverty, inadequate water and sanitation systems and poor hygiene levels. In the Lake Chad Basin, these are compounded by the BH crisis and the threat of famine.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

NIGERIA

- On 12 and 14 April, UNHCR conducted two separate missions to the refugee returnee locations of Damasak and Banki. In Damasak, pendular movements have been observed with many refugees returning to Niger with food supplies provided in Nigeria. It was also noted that NIS presence at the border needs to be reinforced. UNHCR is providing plastic sheeting to address gaps in shelter and the Government has made a school available to house returnees. In Banki, refugee returnees from Minawao camp stated having returned because of improvements in the security situation and poor living conditions in Cameroon. UNHCR conducted a refresher training for 20 NIS officers in Banki and deployed them to conduct registration. A UNHCR shelter officer has been deployed to the border town in order to begin site planning for a new camp to accommodate the returns.
- UNHCR and ICRC provided assistance to 414 individuals out of a group of 600 rescued from Boko Haram in late 2016. Out of those assisted, 239 were children, who have been reunited with their families. The ICRC provided NFI kits and UNHCR some 200 mattresses. Among those rescued are nationals from Chad, Gabon, Niger and Togo. In collaboration with UNHCR and the ICRC, the NIS will facilitate their registration and repatriation. While the majority have been vetted allow to return home, those remaining are still in custody for further investigation and interrogation in Maiduguri's Diwa barracks. Those vetted for return to their areas of origin are being temporarily accommodated at the Ministry of Women's Affairs Rehabilitation Centre in Maiduguri. For the time being, UNHCR has not been allowed access to interview the foreign nationals.

CAMEROON

- As a result of UNHCR's advocacy efforts, the Governor of the Far North region authorized the establishment of three transit centres in Mora (Mayo Sava), Fotokol (Logone-et-Chari) and Boukoulou (Mayo Tsanaga). This critical development will improve screening procedures for new arrivals and contribute to preventing *refoulement*. In terms of repatriation in the context of the Tripartite Agreement, the transit centres will be used as exit points.
- UNHCR, Intersos and members of the joint protection committees of the Mayo Sava and Mayo Tsanaga departments travelled to Kolofata to screen out of camp refugees who had fled BH attacks and counter-insurgency operations. The refugee population in this location comes mainly from Bama in Borno State and consists predominantly of women, children and elderly persons. In total, 300 refugees were screened and provided with medical attention. UNHCR is in the midst of discussions with regional administrative authorities to transfer this group to Minawao camp.

CHAD

- Although counter-insurgency operations in the Lake region have limited the number of successful BH attacks, local populations have suffered from a number of human rights abuses at the hands of both conflicting parties. These have included physical harm, arbitrary detention, and lack of freedom of movement and of humanitarian assistance. Measures in place to reintegrate the displaced are inadequate and little to no provisions exist to address the challenge of stigmatization and its impact on social cohesion. To address the needs of some 15,000 IDP returnees but also of persons having surrendered to the Chadian authorities as well as host communities in the Lake region, a CERF project proposal totaling USD 694,801 was submitted by the UNHCR-led protection cluster. Within this proposal, UNHCR will lead a community-based protection sub-project that will include the establishment of committees and the organization of trainings for all stakeholders. The overall project aims to provide urgently needed preventative assistance to the inhabitants of a number of (often isolated) communities, identified as being particularly vulnerable and at risk of SGBV such as children, persons with specific needs and persons suffering from a disability.

NIGER

- On 19 April, UNHCR and the Ministry of the Interior held a workshop in Niamey, for the validation of the Diffa region biometric registration project. The joint project aims to biometrically register Diffa's entire population, including refugees and IDPs. In a region where over 80 per cent of the population lacks identity documentation, this is an essential step towards reducing the risk of statelessness, improving assistance delivery and monitoring, and population movement monitoring.
- To respond to the hepatitis outbreak (see p.1) and under the supervision of its government counterpart, UNHCR and other humanitarian stakeholders formed three emergency sub-committees in the communication, health and WASH sectors. A joint multisectoral contingency plan is being developed and in addition to awareness-raising, UNHCR is working to improve access to clean drinking water in both camps and ensure medication is available in the health centres.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

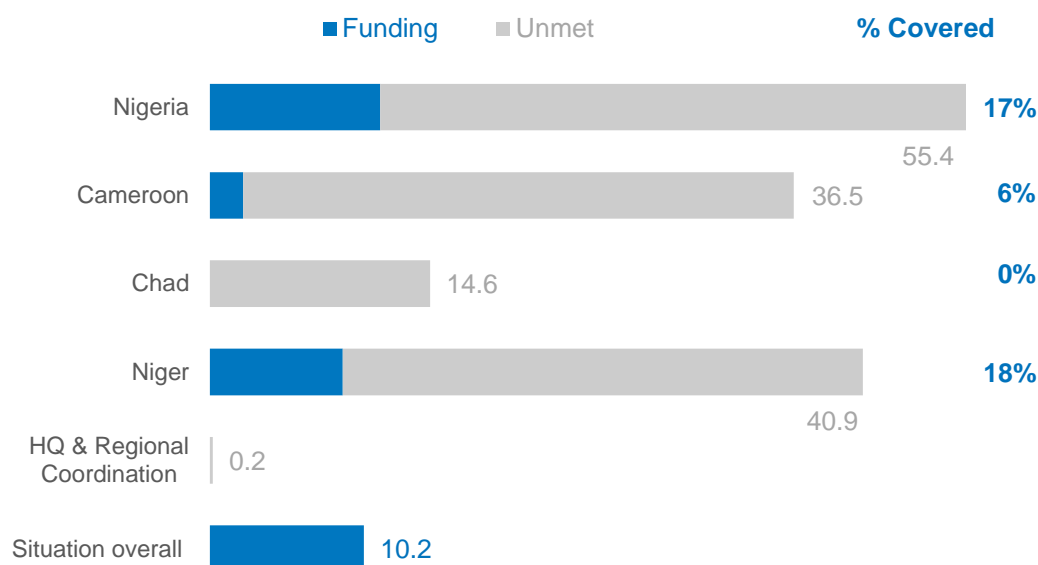
In total, for refugee response in asylum countries as well as response for IDPs in Nigeria, UNHCR's requirements amount to USD **169.9 million in 2017**. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to the Nigeria situation as a whole.

Donors:

CERF
European Union
Germany
Japan
Norway
United States of America

Funding:

A total of **USD 32.5 million** has been received out of USD 169.9 million requested by UNHCR, representing 19% of funding needs.



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) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Priv Donors Spain (18 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Germany (12 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

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1. The total of contributions received includes the programme support component.

2. All financial information contained in this funding update is indicative and does not constitute official UNHCR financial reporting.

3. Unrestricted and regional funds mentioned above include all sub-regional and regional contributions worldwide.

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Links:

Nigeria regional web portal: <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/nigeriasituation>

UNHCR Tracks: <http://tracks.unhcr.org>

UNHCR's Kora blog: voices of refugees in West and Central Africa: <http://kora.unhcr.org/>

Twitter: [@UNHCRWestAfrica](https://twitter.com/UNHCRWestAfrica)

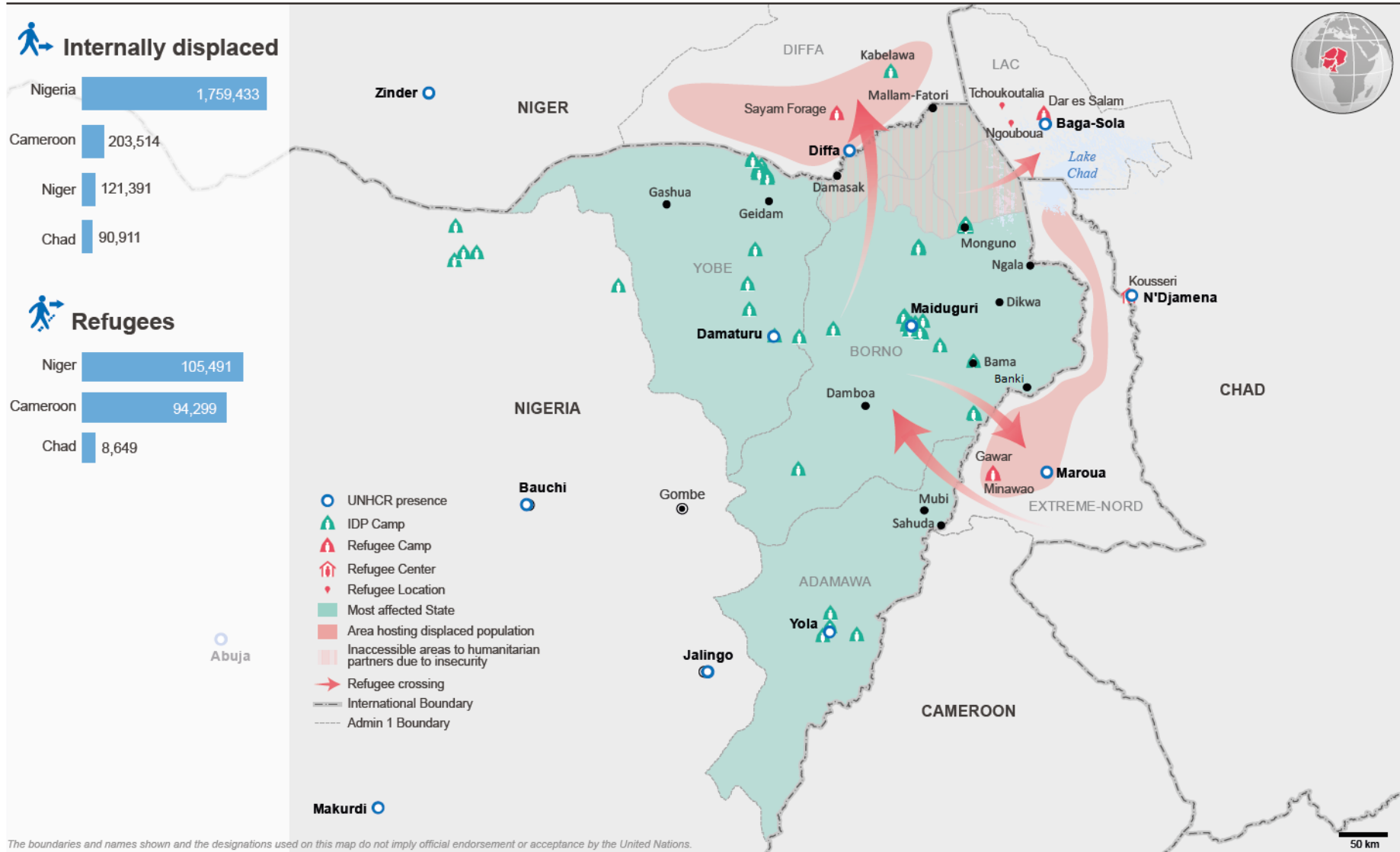
Facebook: [UNHCR West Africa](https://www.facebook.com/UNHCRWestAfrica)



NIGERIA SITUATION

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

As of 30 April 2017 or latest figures available



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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