



NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE

01 – 31 January 2017

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

KEY FIGURES

1,770,444
IDPs* in Nigeria

* 1.71 million displaced by the insurgency
(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round XIII, December 2016)

198,322

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighboring countries as of 31 January (or latest figures available)

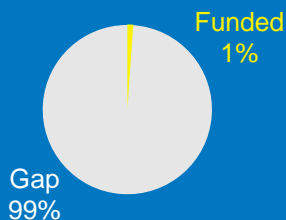
164,281

Total number of Nigerian returnees, including refugees from Cameroon, Chad and Niger registered by UNHCR and NIS (as of 31 January 2016)

FUNDING

USD 170.2 million

UNHCR requirements for the Nigeria situation in 2017



- The Cameroonian, Chadian, Niger and Nigerian armed forces and the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) continued to drive Boko Haram (BH) insurgents from their hideouts during the reporting period. With this fragmentation in their ranks, BH have intensified their attacks on commercial convoys, military barracks, villages and IDP camps. The group is also increasingly making use of suicide bombers in Maiduguri, using female bombers to target security personnel and members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF).
- On 17 January, according to the Nigerian Air Force (NAF), a jet mistakenly bombed an IDP camp in Rann, in the Kala Balge LGA, which borders Cameroon. According to the NAF, 115 persons have died, many succumbing to wounds from shrapnel and debris. In addition to the loss of lives, infrastructure and houses were destroyed in the process and the event has resuscitated the debate on the safety and security implications of establishing humanitarian hubs outside of Maiduguri. The need to collaborate more closely with the Nigerian army on the inclusion of the human rights component in their rules of engagement has also been raised.
- On 24 January, at the request of the Resident Coordinator (RC), UNHCR organized an inter-agency consultation in Maiduguri to initiate the development of a Protection and Solutions strategy for the six north-eastern states affected by the insurgency. The strategy, which covers IDPs and refugee returnees, will be presented at the Oslo Humanitarian conference on Nigeria and the Lake Chad Region 24 February. In several Local Government Areas, (LGAs) IDPs and refugees are returning to areas nearer to their former homes but villages on the outskirts of many LGA headquarters remain unsafe. As of 30 November 2016, seven LGAs remained inaccessible to humanitarians, due to insecurity.
- Government authorities in Adamawa and Borno have stated their intention to close all IDP camps by March and May 2017 respectively. Despite the fact that previous announcements of camp closure did not materialize, there are indications that several IDP camps and formal settlements will soon be closed. UNHCR has approached the Governors of both states to request that they allow the ongoing return intention survey and protection activities to take place.
- In the Lake Chad area, military operations are ongoing to remove insurgents from the islands. Compounded with those in the Sambisa Forest, these operations are expected to create additional internal displacement but also returns of IDPs, refugees and nationals from neighboring countries. As concerns, Chad, civilians have been given a corridor to evacuate the islands. Regarding Niger, a major bridge was recently repaired and as a result, it is expected that in the three weeks there will be an increase in the number of returnees from this country. The greatest number of returns (often forced) has been from Cameroon but a noteworthy number of Nigerians are also choosing to register as refugees in Cameroon given the high levels of insecurity in the border areas and sub-par living conditions in IDP camps in Nigeria. As of 31 January, UNHCR and the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) had registered 164,281 returns, including refugees.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

NIGERIA

- Following HC Grandi's visit to Nigeria on 18-19 December 2016, UNHCR has been following up on the commitments it has made relating to the provision of protection support for the Government's human rights body, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), with which an agreement has been signed.
- UNHCR is working with UNDP and the Humanitarian Country Team to prepare a Protection and Solutions strategy. To address the pressing issue of camp closure and encourage a search for solutions above all, UNHCR is engaged in advocacy with the Government and relevant international and national stakeholders such as the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs, the RC and the DHC. UNHCR's advocacy centres around the protection of IDPs with particular focus on their priority protection concerns
- UNHCR secured USD 1.2 M from the CERF for Protection and Shelter/CCCM and has worked on the submission of a prioritization strategy to identify the critical activities, target groups and geographical locations in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe, that will be addressed. The CERF proposals have been submitted to OCHA.

CAMEROON

- UNHCR's border monitoring network in the Far North region reported the arrival of over 200 Nigerian refugees, including 107 UAMs, in Bodo (Logone et Chari department) following the alleged accidental bombardment by the NAF of the IDP site in Rann, on 17 January. These arrivals are being sheltered in Diamo, Babline and Abounire where a small number of out of camp refugees had already settled. The UAMs have been placed with host families. A UNHCR led protection monitoring mission determined their main needs are in food and shelter.
- A new maternity building and two school buildings have been constructed in Minawao camp. The latter will be used for kindergarten. Additional classrooms, currently constructed at 70%, will further decongest existing schools.

CHAD

- Following the first Protection Cluster meeting on 11 January in Baga Sola, it was decided that an inter-cluster protection assessment mission would take place in areas receiving persons associated to Boko Haram, who have chosen to surrender to Chadian authorities. An initial screening has revealed that 241 men are held in Baga Sola by the authorities. In addition, 292 women and 458 children have been handed over to traditional leaders in their areas of origin for reintegration.
- From 15-16 January, in the context of the WB/UNHCR partnership programme to improve self-reliance in Chad, a joint UNHCR/WB mission visited Chad to continue working on a concept note identifying key sectors that would support self-reliance for PoCs and the host population, as well as possible policy, legal or other right-oriented 'asks' that will be instrumental for obtaining funding. UNHCR will be defining the 'asks', providing statistics and other information as needed. In the next 6-12 months, UNHCR will engage in collecting poverty, risk and vulnerability-related data for refugees and in rigorous monitoring of existing/forthcoming programming related to the 'to-be identified' sectors.

NIGER

- Since December, ex-Boko Haram fighters have been surrendering to Niger authorities in the Diffa region. To date, approximately 100 fighters have turned themselves in, some with their family members. The HCT has requested that the UNHCR-led Protection Cluster draft a position paper that will guide the humanitarian community in its involvement with the Government on the issue.
- UNHCR has initiated an audit of community structures¹ that are active in the Diffa region's displacement areas. The exercise will contribute to obtaining information on such structures (e.g.: type, number, location, modus operandi, gaps). Based on this audit, UNHCR and its partners will design/fine-tune modalities for engaging with and strengthening community structures, as a way to deliver protection and other services.
- In order to provide better protection and facilitate government leadership in the Diffa region's spontaneous sites, UNHCR recently established an agreement with the main government response department, the CCH² to establish community-led site management structures in 3 pilot sites (Goudoumaria, Diffa, N'Guigmi) with support from local NGOs. The project has been well-received and is planned to be expanded to other sites.

¹ Village elders, youth and women's committees, etc.

² Humanitarian Coordination Cell

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

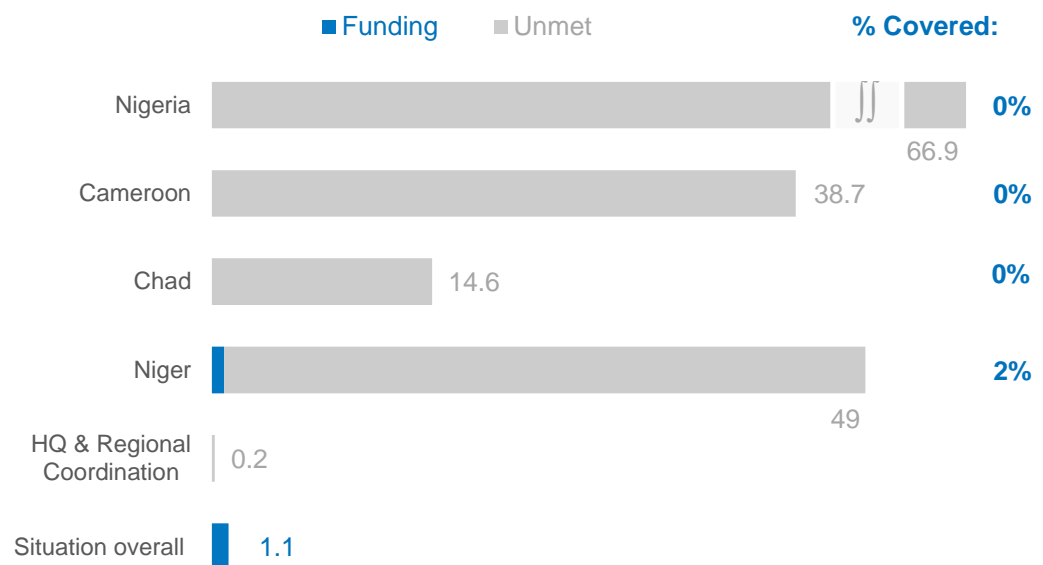
In total, for refugee response in asylum countries as well as response for IDPs in Nigeria, UNHCR's requirements amount to USD **170.2 million in 2017**. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to the Nigeria situation as a whole.

Donors:

European Union
Germany

Funding:

A total of **USD 1.9 million** has been funded out of USD 170.2 million requested by UNHCR, representing 1% of the needs:



Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Switzerland (15 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

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Links:

Nigeria regional web portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/SahelSituation/country.php?id=502>

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)

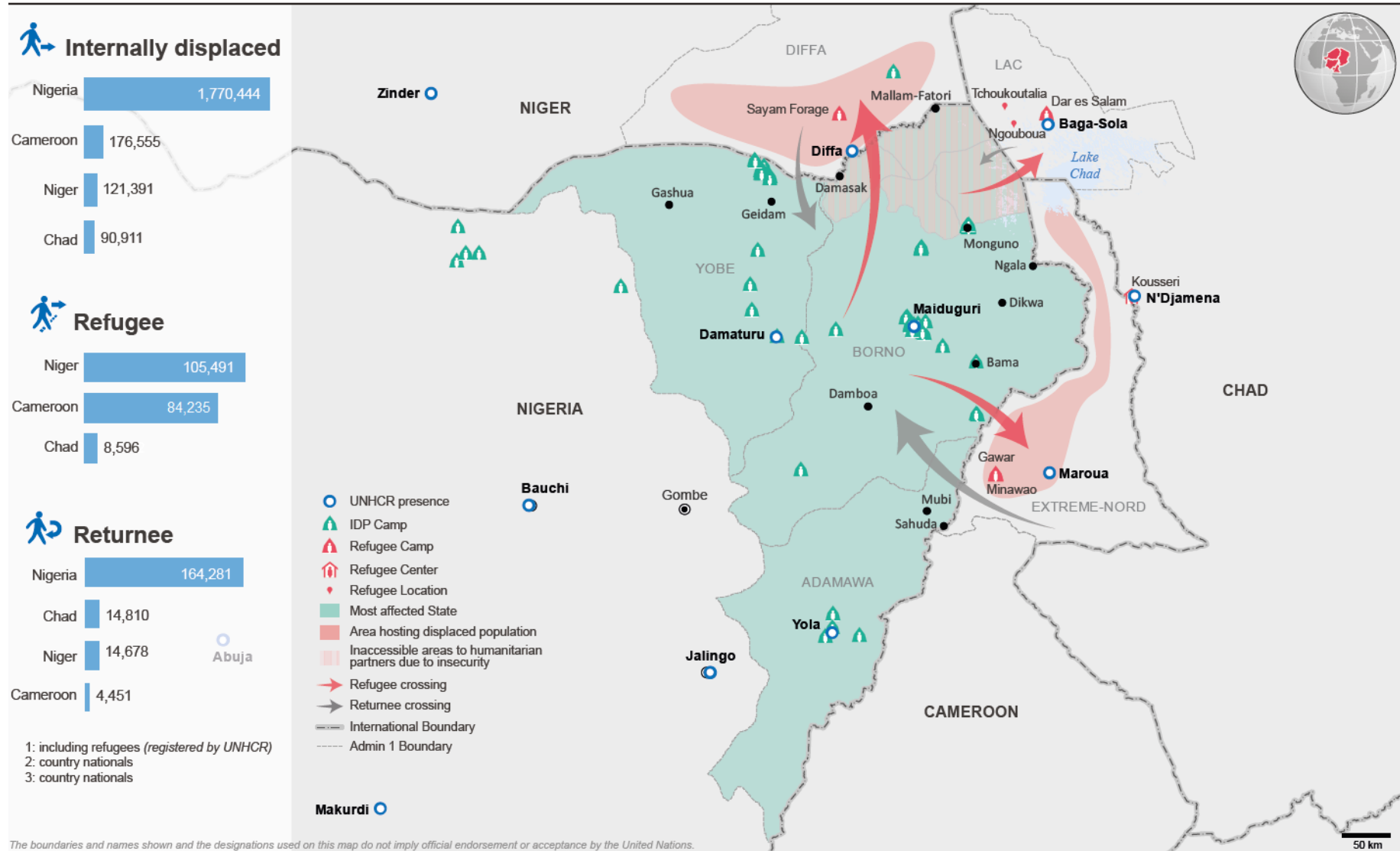
Facebook: [UNHCR West Africa](https://www.facebook.com/UNHCRWestAfrica)



NIGERIA SITUATION

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

As of 31 January 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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