

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°11

6 - 12 June 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Nigeria, the security situation in the North East has not improved, with 11 insurgent attacks recorded in the last week. Despite successive gains by military forces in the region, the insurgency is growing in intensity.
- On 10 June, UNHCR Nigeria unveiled its 'Guma Shelter Project', a flagship project consisting of 100 low-cost bungalows made available for 200 vulnerable IDP families, aimed at supporting them in a sustainable manner.
- In the Minawao camp in Cameroon, spontaneous arrivals continue to be registered, but at a decreasing rate. The Minawao camp has been registering 60 to 70 persons per day since the beginning of the month as opposed to 400 a day between April and May.

KEY FIGURES

1,491,706 IDPs in Nigeria

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, April 2015)

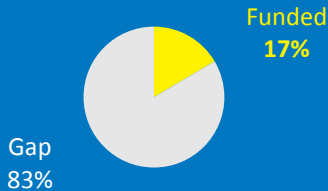
168,042

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighbouring countries

FUNDING

USD 114,530,270

Requested for the situation

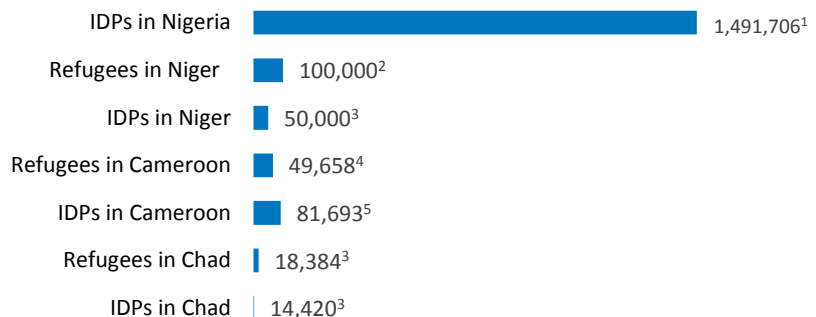


IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

- **Nigeria:**
 - Protection and assistance to most vulnerable groups among the IDPs and host communities
- **Niger:**
 - Relocation from hosting communities in Diffa region to Sayam Forage camp
- **Cameroon:**
 - Transfer of refugees from insecure border areas to Minawao camp
- **Chad:**
 - Relocation of refugees from Lake Chad islands to Dar Es Salam site

Populations of concern

A total of **1,805,861** people of concern



¹ NEMA/IOM DTM Report, April 2015

² Government estimates (refugees and returnees)

³ Government estimates

⁴ UNHCR/IOM – including 40,000+ in the Minawao/Gawar camp

⁵ UNHCR/IOM

NIGERIA: Operational Context

- The security situation in the North East has not improved, with 11 insurgent attacks in the last week. Despite successive gains by military forces in the region, the insurgency is gaining in intensity. The new administration is multiplying its actions to curb the violence, indeed on 8 June, Colonel Sani Kukasheka Usman confirmed that the command centre for Nigeria's military operation against the insurgents had been moved to Maiduguri.
- Heads of Governments of the Lake Chad basin and Benin met on 10 June in Abuja for an extra-ordinary meeting, during which it was agreed that Nigeria would retain the position of force commander in the operations against insurgents until end of mission. It was also decided that the positions of deputy force commander and deputy chief of staff would be rotated between Cameroon and Chad on a twelve month basis.
- The Group of 7 (G-7) have resolved to support President Buhari and his government and acknowledged the manner of the former's emergence as president as well as the monumental challenges confronting his government in its efforts at combatting the insurgent group.

Achievements

There are an estimated 1.49 million insurgency-related IDPs in Nigeria, the majority of whom live in the north-eastern States.

IDPs

- On 10 June, UNHCR Nigeria unveiled its 'Guma Shelter Project', a flagship project consisting of 100 low-cost bungalows made available for 200 vulnerable IDP families, aimed at supporting them in a sustainable manner. The Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for the UN System in Nigeria hailed the project milestone achievement and appealed to UN sister agencies to join the initiative. The Representative explained that this is a pilot initiative to be rolled out in the North East, targeting areas of IDP returns, which are conducive to return.
- Return Intention Survey results were shared with all stakeholders during the Adamawa State Humanitarian coordination meeting held in Yola on 4 June. All participants praised the professionalism of UNHCR and encouraged the agency to continue to play a lead role in Adamawa State.
- From 27 May to 6 June, UNHCR staff from Bauchi conducted a field mission to Borno State, during which 10 out of 15 formal camps were visited, most of them hosting IDPs from Bama and Gwoza Local Government Areas (LGAs). In all, there are 25 camps in the area, formal and informal. The crucial needs identified during the mission include shelter/NFIs, WASH, and livelihoods, among others. More training in CCCM and protection are also urgently required for NEMA and SEMA staff members. UNHCR immediately responded and distributed recently received NFI stock to a total of 300 households residing in two different camps. The NFIs, which were received by the Executive Secretary of SEMA in Borno, were jointly distributed by UNHCR and the Nigerian Red Cross (NRCS), targeting the most vulnerable IDPs in the two camps identified by UNHCR, SEMA and NRCS volunteers.
- UNHCR has finalized Memoranda of Understanding with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and ECOWAS Parliament, which are both awaiting signature. UNHCR will sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice on 17 June, on the sidelines of activities marking World Refugee Day 2015.
- UNHCR led the process of updating the National PSWG Terms of Reference, to reflect protection priorities and changes in the sector since the Terms of Reference (ToR) were initially drafted in 2012. The updated ToR will be shared with the National PSWG as a "living document."
- UNHCR has circulated the draft guidelines on the referral mechanism for protection monitoring cases to the National Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) for finalization. At the same time, child protection and

SGBV Sub-Working Groups are in the process of providing referral focal point information for each of the 10 States in which protection monitors are operating.

- The National PSWG met on 9 June at the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI). PSWG members discussed the finalization of the PSWG ToR, guidelines on the referral system, and PSWG reporting mechanisms. It was agreed that members would share information concerning humanitarian access to women and girls rescued from Sambisa Forest.
- In preparation for the inter-agency assessment mission in the Northeast, the National PSWG provided recommendations that the mission to Yobe and Borno conduct a humanitarian needs assessment, while the team in Adamawa conducts a return intention survey. UNHCR, as co-lead of the National PSWG, is working with members to propose changes to the assessment tools before the planned inter-agency mission at the end of the month.
- The inaugural meeting of the Task Force on advocacy for the domestication of the Kampala Convention and development of an IDP policy and legal framework was held on 1 June to review the status of the draft policy and agree on concerted advocacy efforts on the domestication process. The Task Force agreed to review the policy and requested the Ministry of Justice to draft a note on key steps that would be taken regarding the Kampala Convention domestication exercise.
- UNHCR provided comments on the note on conflict sensitivity language, developed by UNICEF. The note provides guidance in addressing some challenges humanitarian actors face in communicating about the armed conflict in North East and the armed groups involved.

NIGER: Operational Context

- The security situation has been calmer in the Diffa region as insurgents are reported to have changed their modus operandi. Indeed, rather than carrying out mass attacks, the group is now using explosive devices to attack sporadically and in isolation. The apparent calm is a lull in a cyclical pattern of violence, and humanitarian workers have been encouraged to remain vigilant and follow strict security rules.

Achievements

Protection

The Government of Niger has estimated that the insurgency-related population of Nigerian refugees and returnees from Niger has reached 100,000. It also estimates the IDP population to be some 50,000.

- The first relocation convoy to the Kablewa camp for IDPs from the Kime Gana transit site took place 4 June and transported a total of 350 people. Since then 5 convoys have made the trip, and as of 9 June, over a thousand people had been relocated to the camp but poor road conditions between Kime Gana and Kablewa slow down the process. Furthermore, according to the Mayor of Kablewa, 100 households from Kablewa town have shown interest in being relocated to the Kablewa camp.

Health

- Health care is undertaken in Kablewa town health centre to reinforce local capacity avoid creating a parallel system.

Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR installed two water bladders in the Kablewa camp. Each have a capacity of 10,000 L and provide 7.5 L per person per day.

Shelter and NFIs

- Some 279 shelters were pre-established or distributed by the Luxembourg Red Cross to new arrivals in the Kablewa Camp and a warehouse was constructed to stock additional shelters. All households arriving in the camp receive a shelter kit and an NFI kit.

CAMEROON: Operational Context

- Spontaneous arrivals continue to be registered but at a decreasing rate. The Minawao camp has been registering 60-70 persons per day since the beginning of the month as opposed to 400 a day between April and May. Since the month of April, 6,373 spontaneous arrivals have been pre-registered.
- Cameroonian authorities in the Far North continue to reinforce border areas with security and defense personnel.
- In the Minawao camp, three presumed insurgent members were arrested and detained in Mokolo jail on 10 June by police officers ensuring camp security. This intervention followed a denunciation by refugees who reported having seen the suspects arrive spontaneously in the Minawao camp from Banki, Nigeria (95km from Maroua). UNHCR Maroua is monitoring the case alongside Mokolo police department to find out more information on the suspects' identities and intentions, to better adjust risk mitigation techniques already in place for the Far North region.
- The Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation, Mr René Emmanuel Sadi visited Nigerian refugees in the Minawao camp on 11 June. This is the Minister's second visit, during which 400 tons of food were distributed. On the next day, the Ministry distributed an identical amount to IDPs and defence forces in the Far North.

CHAD: Operational Context

- The Lake Region Governor has instructed local and administrative authorities to inform people having fled from insurgent activity to settle in the Dar Es Salam camp if they are refugees, and in urban centres if they are returnees or IDPs.
- Chadian armed forces have progressed towards the Nigerian border and insurgents continue to be pursued. In Baga Sola, security forces' capacity has been reinforced and humanitarian personnel have been advised to remain at home during evenings.
- With large population movements in the area and ongoing military operations, humanitarians have been called to be more vigilant and encouraged to use escorts on the Baga Sola-Ngouboua-Tchoukoutalia-Liwa and Daboua roads.

Achievements

Protection

Chadian authorities estimate that there are over 18,000 Nigerian refugees in Chad, with 3,000 arrivals registered prior to the emergency. Some 13,384 have been registered by UNHCR and the Commission Nationale d'Accueil, de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Repatriés (CNARR), and 6,781 of these refugees live in the Dar Es Salam site (Baga Sola), with the remainder living in communities or areas such as Mayo Kebbi East. The Government has estimated that another 7,000 are living in remote areas. Humanitarian assessment missions in the Lake Area have indicated the presence of an estimated 14,420 IDPs, and an Inter-Agency mission has estimated that some 12,936 Chadian returnees are present around the Lake.

- An inter-agency multisectoral mission to Koufoua Island in the Kangalam sub prefecture took place, aimed at assessing the situation, and evaluating the needs of some 7,000 persons present (refugees, returnees and IDPs combined). Upon arrival, the team composed of NGOs and UN agencies, split into two groups: one to distribute NFI kits and the other to carry out a multisectoral evaluation. Findings of the mission revealed that WASH needs are dire for the local population (5,000 persons) let alone for the persons of concern mentioned above. Cleanliness is a problem, as the locals and animals drink from the same lake water supply. The local health centre is underequipped and understaffed to deal with these issues.
- Registration activities did not take place this week due to a server failure, the relocation of refugees from Karam to the Dar Es Salam camp has been postponed.
- According to the policemen of the Dar Es Salam camp, reasons for the recent departure trend of certain refugees are varied and range from the arrivals of Boudouma Niger nationals, to the fact that Ramadan is nearing. The UNHCR protection team is following the issue with refugee camp block heads to communicate the risks involved in such a departure.

Education

- The number of students attending class in the Baga Sola school continues to increase and stands at 893. The establishment of a school canteen is the determinant factor.

Shelter and NFIs

- In the Dar Es Salam site, the construction of shelter, water points, latrines and showers is provided by UNHCR and its partners CRT, APSELPA (Action pour la Protection de la Santé de l'Environnement et de Lutte contre la Pénurie Alimentaire), UNICEF and ADERBA (Association pour le Développement de la Région de Baga Sola). To date, a total of 1,144 family shelters have been constructed with the use of plastic sheeting and upkeep has been undertaken by the Association pour le Développement Economique et Sociale (ADES) during the week. Additional shelters are under construction. Work on shelters for persons with specific needs has begun.

Water and Sanitation

- Latrines in the camp are quickly filling up. MSF Switzerland has planned the construction of 12 community latrines to alleviate the issue, while each camp block builds its own family latrines. Some 36 family latrines have been constructed in the first 5 camp blocks out of 93 planned. However construction has been postponed due to material shortages.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds. Funding requirements for the refugee and IDP components of the Nigeria Situation now amount to USD 114.5 million, including USD 97.5 million in additional requirements for 2015.

Donors:

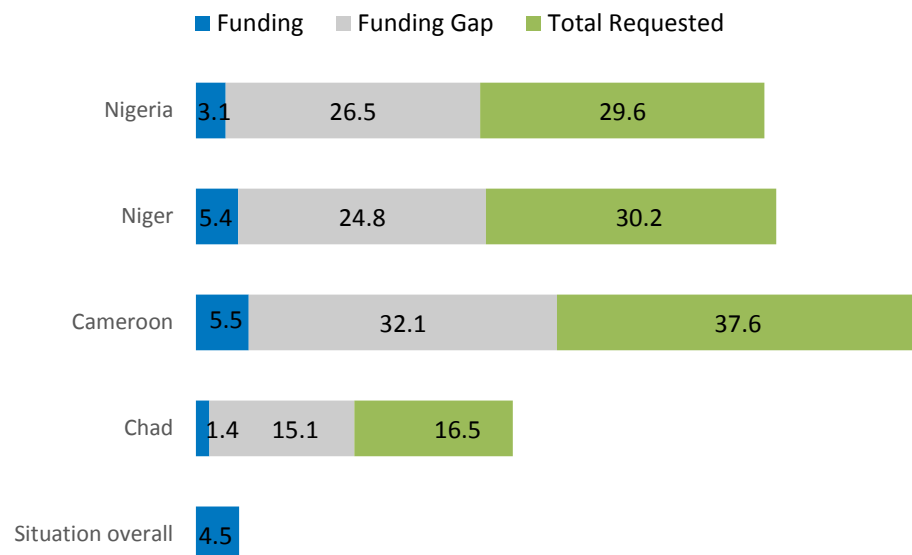
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Funding:

A total of **USD 19.9 million** has been funded out of a **USD 114.5 million requested**



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Links:

Nigeria regional web portal: data.unhcr.org/NigeriaSituation

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

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

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