

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°6

2-8 May 2015

KEY FIGURES

1,491,706 IDPs in Nigeria

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, April 2015)

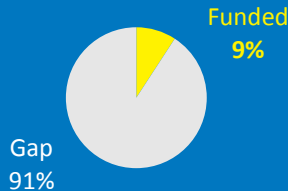
192,131

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighbouring countries

FUNDING

USD 114,530,270

Requested for the situation



IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

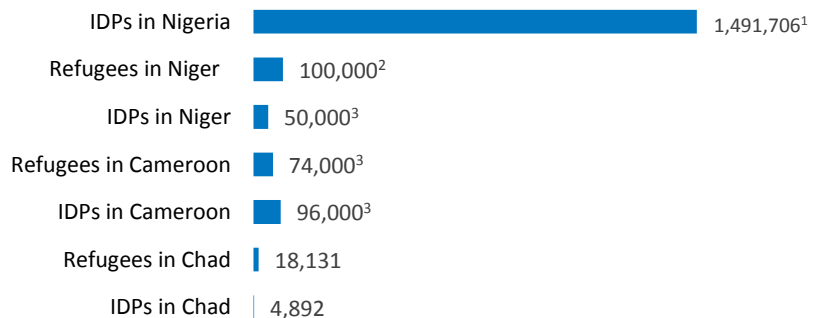
- **Nigeria:**
 - Protection and assistance to most vulnerable groups among the IDPs and host communities
- **Niger:**
 - Assistance to populations evacuated from the lake.
 - Relocation from hosting communities in Diffa region to Sayam Forage camp.
- **Cameroon:**
 - Transfer of refugees from insecure border areas to Minawao camp
- **Chad:**
 - Assistance to populations evacuated from the lake.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Following the insurgent attack on the island of Karamja on 25 April, during which 46 Niger soldiers and 28 civilians were killed, Niger authorities in the Lake Region have ordered thousands of people in villages on the islands to evacuate.
- UNHCR has completed the distribution of NFIs in 5 north-eastern States (i.e. Adamawa, Borno, Bauchi, Gombe and Yobe) meeting the projected target of 13,000 households, which include 65,000 individuals selected among the most vulnerable IDPs.
- UNHCR issued a revised Supplementary Appeal on 8 May, which covers the needs of refugees and IDPs in countries of asylum, as well as those of IDPs in Nigeria. This brings the total requirements for 2015 for the Nigeria Situation to USD 114.5 million, including USD 97.5 million additional financial requirements.

Populations of concern

A total of **1,834,729** people of concern



¹ NEMA/IOM DTM Report, April 2015

² Government estimates (refugees and returnees)

³ Government estimates

NIGERIA: Operational Context

IDPs

- **- Continued violence** - The security situation in north-eastern Nigeria remains unpredictable and volatile. Attacks have continued in Borno State, mainly in the Kaga, Mafa, and Marte Local Government Areas (LGAs). Nigerian military operations in the Sambisa Forest, an insurgent stronghold, have resulted in the capture of four camps. Despite the Nigerian army's major gains, return trends are erratic. In the wake of peaceful elections, IDPs have been encouraged to return to their areas of origin, but many do not have homes to go back to, in spite of having received assistance from the Government. Moreover, the majority of those displaced are women and children who have expressed a fear of return and face elevated risks associated with sexual and gender-based violence, forced recruitment and trafficking.
- **- Increased displacement** - The new Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), which was created by IOM in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), indicates that the number of IDPs has increased 28 per cent since their last report released in February. The number of IDPs is now just below 1.5 million in north-eastern Nigeria. This rise in numbers is due to several factors. Most notably, attacks and military interventions are ongoing, particularly in Borno and Yobe States. Second, the number of captives freed by the Nigerian military has increased as military operations have been successfully carried out. Finally, with more areas made accessible, the scale of the forced displacement is revealed. While returns may be on the rise in Adawana State, there are increasing numbers of IDPs in Borno State. Monitoring and profiling is rendered difficult when many IDPs and returnees lack identity documents.
- **- In the background** - Ongoing military operations and attacks have greatly exacerbated forced displacement and the hardship of people of concern to UNHCR. A lull in violence has allowed for preliminary assessments of longer-term displacement patterns in Nigeria, which have shown that the demographic makeup of the region is changing. The consequences of the insurgency are growing in severity; to address a rising number of cases of psychosocial trauma and related problems, the Borno State Government has deployed social workers to camps in Maiduguri. Structural issues are also being brought to the fore. Ms. Adaora Onyechere, Coordinator of the Yellow Jerrycan Foundation, recently called for the adoption of a national policy on IDPs.
- **- Setting a precedent** - In continued preparations for the transition and inauguration on 29 May, President-Elect General Muhammadu Buhari has started putting his cabinet together. He has instructed Governors elected from his party – the All Progressives Congress (APC) – to forward the names of their ministerial nominees, and the Governors have started responding. With the insurgent group currently destabilised, the President-Elect appears to have a window of opportunity to take action and address the ongoing crisis.

Achievements

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

Returnees

- The Niger Government has been evacuating islands on Lake Chad in the wake of the attacks that took place on 25 April near Bosso, Niger in order to launch counter attacks. Nigerians living in the area have been given the option of either moving to a transit site in Diffa or returning to Nigeria. The main entry point is Geidam in Yobe State, where refugees are hosted in two transit sites before being helped to return to their states of origin by NEMA/SEMAs.

IDPs

- **- Protection** - The Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) presented its draft position paper on durable solutions and recommendations to the HCT on 29 April. Once validated the paper will serve as the HCT's official position on durable solutions and returns for IDPs. At the national level, the PSWG met in Abuja on 30 April. The way forward on the finalisation of the 5W matrix for referral mechanisms was agreed upon. Recommendations on the briefing to the Security Council Expert Group were also discussed. The PSWG reiterated the necessity of including protection in the ongoing debate on durable solutions, which focus mainly on the need to ensure that returns are voluntary, and based on well-informed decisions of the security

situation as well as on livelihood options. During the Regional PSWG meeting held on 2 May in Yola, Adamawa State, feedback on the draft Terms of Reference (ToRs) was discussed. On 4 May, a PSWG meeting was convened for the first time in Gombe State in close collaboration with NEMA and SEMA. Twenty-five participants including Save the Children, the Ministry of Justice, the State Police and NHRC were present.

- In Bauchi, a mission was dispatched to offer protection counselling to women and children rescued from Sambisa Forest. The outcomes should help mobilise other actors within their respective areas of expertise. A monitoring mission was also dispatched to ensure that registration activities are in compliance with UNHCR's standards.
- **- NFIs, health and livelihoods** - The distribution of NFIs in Bauchi State was completed successfully, with lessons learned and future improvements discussed between UNHCR and the Nigerian Red Cross (NRCs). UNHCR has also discussed the possibility of providing healthcare and livelihood services for out-of-camp IDPs with ICRC.
- **- Recovery** - On 6 May 2015, humanitarian actors and UN agencies in Nigeria held a meeting on the mechanisms of early recovery. Discussions stressed the need to plan and coordinate for early recovery in order to shorten the emergency phase, restore livelihoods and reduce vulnerability to future crises.

NIGER: Operational Context

- **- Evacuation** - Following the insurgent attack on the island of Karamja on 25 April, during which 46 Niger soldiers and 28 civilians were killed, the Diffa region authorities ordered thousands of people in villages on the islands of Lake Chad to evacuate the region by 1 May at the latest. Without transportation, many evacuees walked from the shore to N'Guigmi, halfway between Diffa and the border with Chad. UNHCR was able to reach the area on 6 May to distribute NFIs. Thousands of Nigerian evacuees are being transferred to Yobe and Borno States in Nigeria through the Diffa transit centre, where UNHCR is providing food and water. Among others, MSF is providing health and life-saving assistance in the centre. Authorities have drafted a strategic plan on how to temporarily settle displaced Niger citizens from the islands. The plan foresees transit centres, host community placements, and voluntary relocations to IDP camps. Third-country nationals from Mali and Benin have been repatriated by IOM.
- Monitors from UNHCR and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) are ascertaining the voluntariness of returns to Nigeria, given that Nigerians have the choice of either returning to Nigeria moving to a UNHCR run refugee camp. UNHCR is participating in the Crisis Committee set up by the Niger PM's Office. In this context, UNHCR has called for the improvement of conditions during the evacuation movements and has also pledged to provide further support to the Government for the voluntary return of Nigerians, subject to respecting international obligations. UNHCR has offered logistic assistance to transport evacuees to areas other than Yobe and Borno States in Nigeria, where security conditions are still not conducive to return.

Achievements

Refugees and returnees

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 security situation still prevents humanitarian actors from assisting the displaced population in the Lake Chad area. Furthermore, all field missions have been suspended as of 1 May due to security concerns.
- In a recent visit to N'guigmi and Diffa, the Niger Prime Minister took note of the shortcomings of the evacuation process, namely with regards to poor transit conditions.

Protection

Evacuation and deportation

- The evacuation of civilian populations from the Lake Chad Region was conducted in an ad hoc manner by the Niger authorities; hence proper assistance by the Niger Humanitarian Country Team was not provided to ensure safe and dignified evacuation and transportation of the concerned population. Hence, Niger's Prime Minister, Mr. Brigi Rafini on 7 May acknowledged the failure to ensure a dignified evacuation process and invited UN agencies and partners to set up an appropriate evacuation response. According to Niger authorities, the evacuation exercise will be carried out for at least 3-4 weeks for an estimated total of 28,000 people living on the Lake Chad islands.
- UNHCR and IRC organised focus group discussions and interviews with Nigerian and Niger nationals evacuated from the Lake region to identify protection incidents likely to have taken place during the displacement. Some individuals are reported to have died on the way between the Lake and transit centres.
- While the displaced Niger nationals are dispatched in various villages, the Nigerians are transported to the North-eastern State of Yobe in Nigeria. UNHCR holds regular meetings and group discussions to ascertain whether the evacuees are indeed returning to Nigeria voluntarily or whether they prefer to settle in the Sayam Forage refugee camp.

Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR carried out water trucking for people evacuated from the Lake on 3 May at the Maison des Jeunes et de la Culture (MJC) of Diffa. This activity was taken over by the Diffa Fire Department on 4 May. MSF is distributing water with storage bladders provided by UNHCR.
- In the Sayam Forage camp, the construction of latrines is ongoing and IRC has provided a fountain for the Maine Soroa reception centre to respond to the needs of the displaced.

Shelter and NFIs/ Logistics

- In N'Guigmi, CARE distributed NFI kits to 5,000 people evacuated from the lake, in follow-up to the visit of the Prime Minister. Transportation was provided by UNHCR.

CAMEROON: Operational Context

- The security situation in the Far North region is relatively calm. No insurgent attacks have been reported.
- Certain refugees, who had chosen to remain at the border with a view to returning to their areas of origin, have been arriving spontaneously at the Minawao/Gawar camp. Some 733 new arrivals were recently recorded.

Achievements

Protection

The Government of Cameroon has registered 74,000 refugees. UNHCR has registered over 42,000 refugees so far. The Government has estimated that the number of insurgency-related IDPs to be some 96,000. The majority of refugees live in the Minawao/Gawar site, while IDPs live with host families; both groups live in Cameroon's Far North.

- UNHCR and UNICEF coordinated the Child Protection (CP) Working Group. Standard operating procedures (SOPs), TORs and the training of CP actors on the handling of cases, including best interest determination procedures, were covered during the meeting.
- UNHCR organised a training on SGBV prevention in emergency contexts for 19 people from UN Women, Lutte contre les Violences faites aux Femmes (ALVF), IEDA, IMC, ALDEPA (Action Locale pour un Développement

Participatif et Autogéré), Plan Cameroun, Public Concern, the Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS), the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Family (MINPROF) and UNHCR.

- IEDA provided ad hoc assistance consisting of clothes and food for 94 refugees with specific needs. The group was also directed to services available to them in the Minawao/Gawar camp, for additional assistance. Over 6,800 persons with specific needs have been identified in the camp.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps: Same as previous update



Health

- From 27 April to 3 May, WHO supervised and funded poliomyelitis vaccinations for 500 refugees, as well as measles vaccinations for 280 refugee children aged 6 to 15 months old.
- UNHCR has agreed to cover the laboratory examination and medico-surgical costs of Nigerian refugees in Mokolo District Hospital. A similar agreement between WHO and the Hospital is still in effect for the provision of drugs and medical equipment.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

- Poliomyelitis and measles vaccinations for all new arrivals in the Minawao/Gawar camp
- Vaccination campaign against measles in the camp and in the Mokolo health district to achieve 95 per cent coverage of the children targeted



Food Security and Nutrition

- The food distribution in April ended on 29 April. Over 32,000 refugees benefited from a 30-day food package.
- In Mokolo District Hospital, MSF established a patient care centre for severe acute malnutrition cases, increased the capacity of the paediatric centre and deployed a significant amount of personnel. MSF covers the costs of malnutrition and paediatric care.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps: Same as previous update



Water and Sanitation

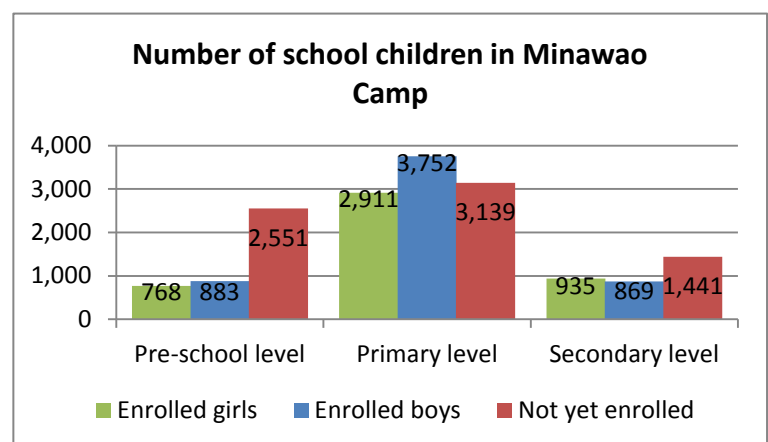
- UNHCR, UNICEF, MSF and local authorities combined efforts to provide 480,000 litres of water per day to the refugees in the Minawao/Gawar camp. The arrival of new refugees has caused a slight decrease in the amount available per refugee per day. Access to water has improved nevertheless, since September 2014.
- Plan Cameroun has finalised the construction of additional boreholes in the Minawao/Gawar camp and installed twelve 10,000-litre bladders, which are available to UNHCR to increase water provision in the camp.



Education

- During an education sector meeting held on 29 April, which was chaired by the Regional Education Delegate, Plan Cameroun announced that it would build additional educational infrastructures, namely 7 classrooms and 3 latrine blocks in the Minawao camp. Plan will also distribute 2,000 school kits to the children in the camp.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps:
Same as previous update



IDPs

- UNICEF headed the third education sector meeting. During the meeting, TORs were validated and the number of operational schools assessed (i.e. 136 for 39,000 students). The Regional Delegation of the Ministry of Basic Education (MINEDUB) confirmed that all students having prepared educational profiles would pass their exams this year, even without birth certificates. During the meeting, the Regional Delegation shared a number of measures (e.g. construction of classrooms, boreholes and latrines) initiated by the Cameroonian Government to benefit IDPs and host communities.

CHAD: Operational Context

- **Evacuation** - The evacuation operation undertaken by the Government of Niger has caused displacement into Chad. An estimated 6,000 persons arrived to the village of Kaida Kindiria, a town on the Chadian border with Niger, which is inaccessible for security reasons. Over 2,000 persons crossed the lake to Hakoui Tchoulouma, (Daboua) a village located 95 km from Bagasola, where they were assisted. Among them, 500 were identified as Nigerian refugees and, out of these, only 200 agreed to be relocated to the refugee site of Dar Es Salam in Bagasola. Of this group, those identified as Chadian returnees have gone back to their respective families and only 200 remain.

When interviewed, people crossing Kaida Kindiria to Hakoui Tchoulouma reported that Chadian authorities had requested that they relocate in preparation for an offensive attack against the insurgents. Furthermore, UNHCR was informed on 4 May by the *Sous-Prefet* of Karam, a town located at 35 km from Daboua, of the presence of 1,076 refugees from Niger; the latter are all documented. An inter-agency mission is scheduled to carry out profiling of the population.

Joint UNHCR, IOM and CNARR (Commission Nationale d'Accueil, de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Repatriés) profiling exercises are being undertaken to identify IDPs and returnees and to provide them with support. According to local authorities, the Chadian Government is building bridges to the islands on Lake Chad to facilitate military operations against insurgents in the coming weeks, which could increase displacement.



Protection

There are just over 18,000 Nigerian refugees in Chad, with 3,000 arrivals registered prior to the emergency. Some 8,894 were registered by the CNARR, and 5,468 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, 235 kilometres south of N'Djamena. The Government has estimated that another 7,000 are living in remote areas. UNHCR, IOM and CNARR have jointly registered 4,892 IDPs – 3,398 of whom are in Baga-Sola and 1,494 are in Bol – and 2,010 returnees. Profiling is ongoing for IDPs and returnees to obtain additional data from areas that have not yet been surveyed.

- UNHCR's protection unit in N'Djamena provided support to the Baga Sola Office by organising two training sessions for administrative, military and traditional authorities, as well as operational partners on international protection, in Baga Sola and Bol on 25 and 30 April. This training touched upon UNHCR's mandate, child protection and durable solutions. Outcomes of the meeting highlighted the need to continue such trainings and widen the audience to include more women and refugees, among others.



Food Security and Nutrition

- WFP has provided UNHCR with 1 tonne of biscuits, which are currently being stocked in Ngouboua. UNHCR and the Chadian Red Cross (CRT) will ensure transportation and distribution to new arrivals.
- In Dar Es Salam, food distribution is undertaken by CRT, in partnership with WFP. Over 3,000 refugees received food. In addition, 351 others received high energy biscuits (HEBs).



Health

- The final steps of the national vaccination campaign against poliomyelitis took place alongside vaccinations for vitamin A supplementation, and mebendazole treatments. Partners IMC and UNICEF are providing logistical support for the poliomyelitis campaign.
- On 1 May, a social mobilisation meeting took place in the Baga Sola Sub-prefecture in view of the vaccination campaign against neo-natal and maternal tetanus for women of reproductive age. The campaign took place from 2-8 May in the presence of partners, community leaders and religious authorities. The Dar Es Salam health centre was improved with the addition of two new reception hangars for the ailing.



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 Bagasola). To date, a total of 1,054 family shelters have been constructed with the use of plastic sheeting. Additional shelters are now under construction. CRT is currently evaluating shelters used effectively.

- UNHCR organised the distribution of clothes and hygienic kits for men, women and children. During the distribution, particular attention was paid to persons with specific needs.



Water and Sanitation

- Hygiene promotion is ensured by the Chadian Red Cross. Awareness-raising activities involving 180 refugees took place. Domestic waste management, disease vector control, and the emptying of rubbish pits were the main themes addressed.
- There are 16 functional water points in the Dar Es Salam site, which provide 50 litres of water per person per day. The chlorination of all water points is undertaken by CRT and ADERBA.
- A total of 292 latrines, 173 of which are functional, and 134 showers have been built, with the current ratio being 31 persons per latrine and 38 persons per shower. These emergency latrines are filling up fast, and family latrines will increasingly be used. Moreover, eight rubbish pits are available. The construction of shelters, latrines and water points is ongoing.



Community Empowerment and Self-Management

- Meetings were organised within the Dar Es Salam camp with various refugees committees (e.g. women, central committees or "Boulamas," youths, and vigilance committee) to gain a better understanding of and evaluate their needs. Key messages shared touched on community mobilisation, profiling, and income-generating activities.
- An SGBV prevention committee was established and is composed of 6 women and 6 men from all parts of the camp.



*Chad/Arrival of Nigerian refugees from Kaiga Kindiria
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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.

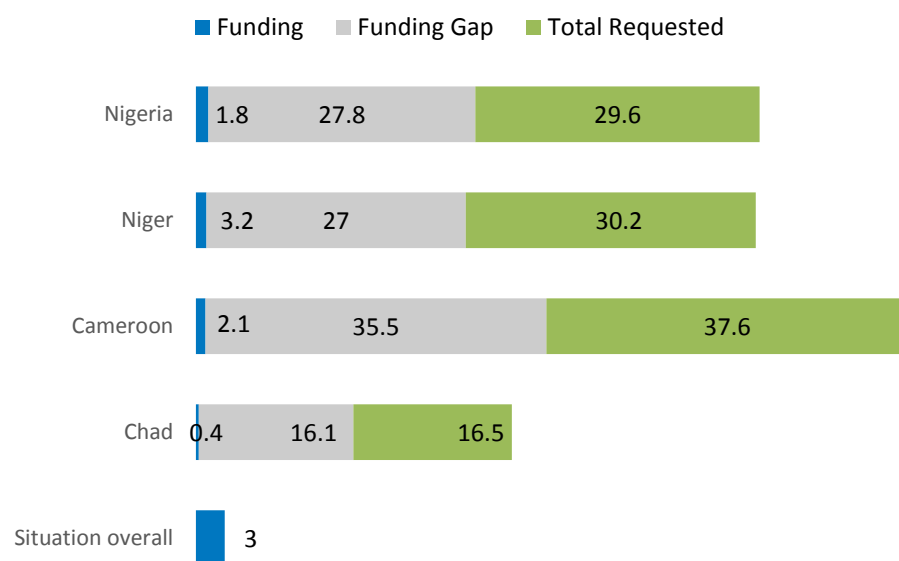
Donors:

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Private Donors:
Germany
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Funding:

A total of **USD 10.5 million** has been funded out of a **114.5 requested**



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