

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°23

1-30 April 2016

KEY FIGURES

2,155,618 IDPs*
in Nigeria

*1.8 million displaced by the insurgency
(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round IX, April 2016)

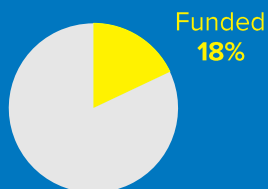
210,591

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighboring countries as of 30 April

FUNDING

USD 93.5 million

UNHCR requirements for the Nigeria situation



Gap
82%

PRIORITIES

Nigeria
Work with stakeholders to scale up presence in the north-east in light of increasing returns from Cameroon

Niger
Register all new arrivals in Kabelawa and Sayam Forage Camps

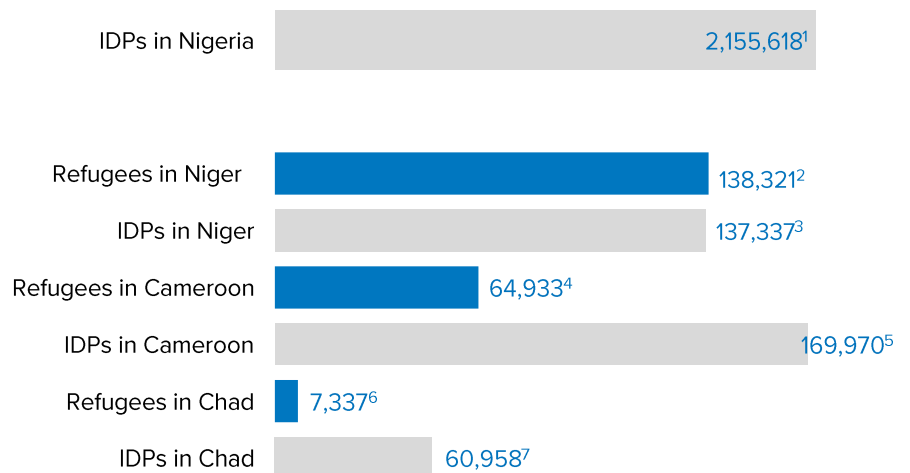
Cameroon
Conduct a return intentions survey in Minawao Camp

Chad
Biometrically register spontaneous arrivals, new-born children, and absentees from the last exercise in December 2015, in Dar Es Salam Camp

HIGHLIGHTS

- A Regional Protection Dialogue, which will take place on 6-10 June 2016 in Abuja, will bring together officials from the four Lake Chad Basin countries to discuss critical protection issues, including durable solutions.
- In **Cameroon**, UNHCR conducted a return intention survey in Minawao Camp. Preliminary results indicate that refugees are willing to return contingent upon conditions of safety being met across the board.
- In **Niger**, UNHCR increased its shelter response for displaced persons living outside the camps and registration efforts for new IDP and refugee arrivals in Kabelawa and Sayam Forage camps. The security situation deteriorated, following the trend observed since mid-March. A number of attacks were reported, which brings the risk of a weakened local economy and increases the risk of food insecurity.

A total of **2,734,474** people of concern as of 30 April



¹ NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round IX – April 2016 NB: 86% (1.8 million) displaced by insurgency

² UNHCR/Government Estimation, includes 68,321 refugees and 70,000 returnees – End April 2016

³ UNHCR/Government Estimation – End April 2016

⁴ UNHCR/IOM – including 56,000+ in Minawao Camp – 29 April 2016

⁵ IOM DTM Report, Round II – February 2016

⁶ UNHCR/Government – including 4,940 in Dar Es Salam Camp – End April 2016

⁷ CCCM Cluster – includes 50,129 IDPs, 10,224 returnees and 605 third country nationals – 19 April 2016

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Operational Context

NIGERIA – Throughout April, the military continued its counter-insurgency operations in the north-east, freeing several communities from insurgent control. The number of returns resulting from these advancements has not yet been established, given that 90 per cent of IDPs live with host communities and are not systematically registered. According to research carried out by UNHCR, over 6,200 civilians had been rescued or released from January to April 2016.

CAMEROON – On 1 April, the Lake Chad Basin Commission and Benin Chiefs of Army Staff met in Yaoundé to discuss the launch of a major offensive aiming to permanently neutralize the insurgent group. The offensive is ongoing, and considerably fewer insurgent attacks were carried out in Cameroon's Far North region as a result. Despite this, pillaging, attacks, bombings and abductions continued, and high numbers of casualties and were recorded throughout April, causing further internal displacement and underscoring the need to strengthen monitoring for IDPs, refugees living outside the camp and host communities. The number of spontaneous arrivals at Gourounguel transit centre further decreased from 302 in March to 156 in April, bringing the total number of arrivals to 4,560 in 2016.

CHAD – Aside from a number of isolated security incidents that had no significant impact on humanitarian response, the situation remained calm in the Kaya Department during the month of April.

NIGER – Since mid-March, the security situation in the Diffa region has deteriorated. During the reporting period, a number of attacks and suicide bombings were reported, resulting in civilian and military casualties as well as arrests of suspected insurgent members. Given the heightened risk of insecurity, two rural markets in the Gagamari and Kindjandi communes were [closed](#) on 18 April, which could have far-reaching consequences for the local economy and for food security for all inhabitants.



Protection

NIGERIA

Achievements and impact

- Following the first [vulnerability screening exercise](#) which took place in December 2015, Round II was initiated in March in all six north-eastern states with a view to expanding coverage beyond the 17,000 households reached initially. Data collection was finalised as of end April and it is currently being processed. During the month, an agreement with WFP was reached to ensure households identified in Round I are accepted in the cash-based assistance programme, subject to conditions. A first list was shared with WFP, containing all registered vulnerable cases around Maiduguri. Regarding in-kind assistance for persons screened in Round I, UNHCR provided 658 households in Gombe State with NFI kits. In Taraba State, UNHCR conducted two distributions for 2,455 persons requiring urgent assistance (including returnees from Cameroon, female headed households and other vulnerable groups).
- With the intensification of military operations against insurgents and the liberation of numerous strongholds in Borno State, UNHCR was able to participate in a multi-sector rapid assessment mission in newly accessible areas. The mission focused on identifying protection risks and gaps in four local government areas (LGAs) and was conducted in collaboration with IOM, NEMA, WFP, WHO, UNDSS, UNFPA and UNICEF. This initial assessment identified serious protection risks in the satellite camps, highly traumatised and vulnerable populations, and an absence of civilian actors. In light of this assessment, UNHCR plans to lead a comprehensive assessment with the Borno Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) in early May, in six LGAs. Similar preparations are ongoing for the Geidam LGA in Yobe State, pending final clearance for humanitarian access.
- UNHCR met with the Acting Federal Commissioner of the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) to discuss the increase of NCFRMI's presence in the north-east in light of the rising numbers of returns from Cameroon. With a view to rapidly establishing a registration system for returnees, the Commission was recommended to reopen its office in Borno State. UNHCR and NCFRMI are finalising an agreement whereby 10 NCFRMI staff will be deployed to establish the registration system, covering the main entry points on the border with Cameroon. In addition to some 67,000 persons identified by the Cameroonian Government as having returned to Borno State from January to April 2016, UNHCR has registered over 22,000 returnees in Adamawa State.
- The Government of Cameroon has shared a draft tripartite agreement with the Government of Nigeria. A Regional Protection Dialogue, supported by UNHCR, which will take place on 6-10 June 2016 in Abuja, plans to bring together officials from the four Lake Chad Basin countries to discuss critical protection issues, including durable solutions.

The Dialogue will inform discussions on tripartite agreements with Lake Chad Basin States as a mechanism for advocacy on issues such as safe, voluntary and dignified return and international standards relating to forced return and the determination of conditions conducive to voluntary repatriation.

- UNHCR and the Government-related Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) began the implementation of the Community Peacebuilding and Coping Strategies Project. In this context, trainings were organised for stakeholders from the 14 most affected LGAs in Adamawa State, which included traditional leaders, young female leaders, as well as members of faith-based and civil organisations. The participants pledged their readiness to ensure the project is sustained in their respective LGAs and showed appreciation for its timeliness and essential role in ensuring peaceful co-existence.
- It was agreed that two training sessions would be organised by the PSWG for the benefit of female police officers tasked with handling sensitive SGBV issues in Maiduguri's IDP camps, the first of which took place at the end of the month, with the other planned for early May. UNHCR led the five-day training in collaboration with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) to cover fundamental protection topics with assistance from the Nigerian Bar Association.

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact

- Given relative improvements in the security situation in north-eastern Nigeria, UNHCR and partners conducted a return intention survey for residents of Minawao Camp from 11 to 13 April. The survey examined a sample of 1,839 households, including 46 per cent men and 54 per cent women (7,939 persons in total) representing 14 per cent of the camp's population. Preliminary results indicated 76 per cent of respondents were favourable to return, although half mentioned having no information on their locations of origin with the rest declaring that their villages were either unsafe or deserted. Overall, respondents stated that they trusted their sources of information. As conditions for return, they expressed the need for the Nigerian army to regain complete control of the territory and of its permanent presence in their areas of origin, the rehabilitation of community infrastructure and the establishment of reintegration programmes.
- In the context of IDP protection interventions, UNHCR undertook a mission to the Logone et Chari Department and agreed to establish mixed protection committees with the authorities. To facilitate the implementation of this protection strategy, authorities pledged to name departmental representatives and district focal points.

CHAD

Achievements and impact

- UNHCR carried out biometric registration for 529 spontaneous arrivals to Dar Es Salam Camp, 125 new-born children and 72 persons who had been absent during the exercise carried out in December 2015. This registration brought the Dar Es Salam Camp population to 5,373 including 4,940 Nigerian refugees.
- With a view to reinforcing SGBV response capacity including reporting and monitoring, UNHCR organised two training sessions during the month for various refugee committees in Dar Es Salam Camp given their role in the community and as peer to peer educators. The sessions were based on examining the causes and consequences of SGBV as well as its impact on the school environment. The two sessions, which lasted five days each, benefited 373 persons including peer to peer educators, refugee community leaders and members and humanitarian partners. In light of this, the Chadian Red Cross (CRT) plans to establish committees for SGBV prevention in both schools of Dar Es Salam Camp.
- For persons with specific needs (PWSN), 25 out of the 40 shelters under construction as per the agreement between UNHCR and the CRT were finalised and 15 are still under construction. Furthermore, some 93 PWSN were provided with clothes and 22 PWSN received maternity kits. During April, the Baga Sola Office received training on fundamental child protection concepts, children's rights, at risk identification, communication, confidentiality, and best interest assessments (BIA) with the CRT and focal points identified to strengthen response. UNHCR, partner and governmental staff benefited from the training.
- In Baga Sola, from 18-21 April, UNICEF and OCHA trained officers from the Multinational Joint Taskforce (MJTF) on the monitoring and reporting mechanism ([MRM](#)) and on fundamental humanitarian principles. The aim of the training was to introduce child protection and child rights notions to the trainees and to ensure children's dignity, and safety are safeguarded, given the high levels of insecurity and the circulation of arms, which are prevalent in IDP camps across the Lake region.

NIGER

Achievements and impact: As of end April, the ongoing census exercise ([see update n°22](#)) had identified 152,613 individuals comprised of 70 per cent IDPs, 23 per cent refugees and 7 per cent returnees, living in spontaneous settlements along the *Route Nationale 1* (RN1) road. This figure is not final and includes only those persons living in

spontaneous settlements and not those staying with local families or integrated in host communities. In Sayam Forage Camp, which hosts refugees and Kabelawa Camp which hosts a majority of IDPs, figures had increased to 1,977 and 8,638 respectively as of end April. Owing to the population increase in both camps, awareness-raising activities were scaled up. Throughout the month, more than 800 persons across both camps benefited from sessions on issues ranging from camp security and peaceful coexistence to SGBV prevention and children's rights.

Education

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: UNHCR and the NGO Public Concern finalised the construction of eight classrooms in Minawao high school, enabling the decongestion of overcrowded classrooms. In the same vein, UNHCR began constructing additional classrooms in Zamai for IDPs and host communities. With regards to training, the regional delegation of the Ministry for Secondary Education and UNICEF organised a workshop for refugees engaged in peer to peer education on HIV prevention in children and adolescents. This training was carried out in the context of a cooperation programme between the Cameroonian Government and UNICEF for the 2013-2017 period. In total, 80 participants participated in the session.

CHAD

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: Children whose parents are engaged in fishing were increasingly absent from school during April. It was recommended that education partners identify absentees and work with the Government to find solutions to this challenge without compromising family unity. Finding alternative arrangements for refugees such as these is reflected in UNHCR's 'Out of Camp' policy. Both schools in Baga Sola saw a drop in attendance during the month of March, at 55 per cent of the attendance (1,861 students) recorded in January 2016, but following a number of activities aimed at reversing the trend such as awareness-raising, the re-establishment of the school canteen and trainings for refugee leaders, April saw the attendance level increase to reach 83 per cent of the January figure.

NIGER

Achievements and impact

- UNHCR and the NGO *Cooperazione Internazionale* (COOPI) undertook a mission in early April to Kano in Nigeria to enrol 40 Nigerian refugee students from Niger into the examination centre. The students travelled to Kano during the last week of April to complete their final exams for the junior secondary school cycle.
- In the Diffa region an encouraging trend has been observed with regards to primary education, in response to the growing number displaced persons. Indeed, the number of schools increased from 23 to 51 during the month of April. Currently, 17,825 students benefit from emergency schooling but this figure is indicative and subject to constant population movements and fear owing to insecurity.



Health

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact

- In Minawao, some 5,780 consultations were carried out during the month. Acute respiratory infections accounted for a quarter of the consultations. After 19 months, April marked the end of the measles outbreak in the camp, which has been sustained by continuous, unvaccinated arrivals, and difficult access to water, resulting in six deaths. Of the 1,480 persons affected, the majority were children under five years of age.
- Actors intervening in the health sector as well as the Regional Health Delegation finalised standard operating procedures (SOPs) pertaining to the medical referrals of Nigerian refugees. The SOPs will determine the referral process of Nigerian refugees (according to pathologies) to Mokolo District Hospital, Maroua Regional Hospital and selected hospitals in Yaoundé. In addition the SOPs determine the administrative, logistical and financial modalities regulating referrals and counter-referrals.

NIGER

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: A number of health-related challenges have resulted from population movements currently affecting the region. In the N'Guigmi commune, a high level of HIV prevalence was detected, during April. The trend is most likely attributable to population movements but also new arrivals in Kabelawa Camp. Protection and health partners will carry out screening and awareness activities in the area to reduce negative coping strategies exacerbating the situation, such as survival sex. In Kabelawa, in order to respond to the population influx, a wide-spread vaccination campaign took place benefiting 2,100 children aged 0-59 months. Similarly in Sayam Forage

Camp, a Poliomyelitis vaccination campaign took place for some 560 children in the same age group. In Yebi, Bosso commune, 250 children were vaccinated against measles by partner *Action pour le Bien-Etre*.



Water and Sanitation

NIGER

Achievements and impact

- The water adduction system in Goudoumaria was inspected by the Regional Directorate for Hydraulics, local authorities and the company contracted to construct it; it is now fully operational. The system can provide water for 4,000 persons and Goudoumaria is ready to welcome new populations that will be relocated in the coming weeks.
- In Kabelawa and Sayam Forage, UNHCR carried out awareness-raising sessions on latrine use and maintenance for a total of 211 new arrivals. Further sessions will be carried out for populations not yet registered.



Shelter and NFIs

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: UNHCR provided construction equipment to long-standing refugees in Minawao Camp to encourage them to transform their emergency shelters into transitional shelters, using locally obtained materials. To date, 779 construction kits have been distributed and have enabled refugees to construct 1,649 shelters themselves. The distribution will continue in the rest of the camp. UNHCR and Public Concern will construct shelters for vulnerable households. In Zamai IDP camp, *Action pour un Développement Economique et Social* provided 156 IDPs with shelter kits for the construction of adobe brick shelters. During the reporting period, 22 of the 25 households provided with kits finalised their shelters.

NIGERIA

Achievements and impact: Government actors including NEMA and SEMA urged agencies to consider shelter interventions in newly liberated areas of both Borno and Yobe States. SEMA Yobe recently reported that approximately 50 per cent of IDPs had returned to their areas of origin in two of the State's LGAs. In light of this, UNHCR conducted a focus group discussion with IDPs from these areas still living in IDP camps. The IDPs indicated that they were willing to return but expressed concerns over destroyed shelter, the lack of basic infrastructure, assistance and coordinated return plans by government and humanitarian actors. Some IDPs mentioned the presence of landmines in farming areas, with unconfirmed reports of seven related deaths. They requested agricultural training and equipment given their access to farm land in Yobe and vocational training for youths to prevent them from remaining idle in the camps. A comprehensive return intention survey will be conducted in Yobe with the participation of the University of Damaturu.

NIGER

Achievements and impact: In April, shelter distribution took place predominantly for populations settled outside the camps. Almost 1,800 emergency shelters were distributed to persons in the Bosso commune and in sites along the RN1 road, bringing the overall amount distributed by UNHCR to 2,880 in 2016. COOPI continued to distribute transitional shelters in Kabelawa and Sayam Forage. Since the beginning of 2016, a total of 797 families have received transitional shelters and COOPI plan to complete the construction of 1,300 by the end of June.



Livelihoods, energy and environment

NIGER

Achievements and impact: During the course of April, an additional 632 gas bottles were distributed in both camps, bringing the total to 1,346 distributed to date. Furthermore, 100 additional gas-adapted cooking areas were built in Kabelawa and extensive awareness-raising was carried out on the safe use of gas and benefits associated with using this type of energy. In many of the settlements located along the RN1 road, although gas distributions have not yet started, cooking areas are being constructed, and awareness-raising sessions were conducted during the month. Community mobilisers were identified and are being trained by the Regional Directorate for the Environment and the Regional Directorate for Energy in close cooperation with UNHCR. Once all beneficiaries for gas distribution outside the camps have been identified, mobilisers will play an important role in the successful implementation of the project. Furthermore, a committee composed of relevant stakeholders was established to oversee the upscaling of the project to the out of camp context. The provision of gas is expected to begin in May.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

On 7 December 2015, a Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for the Nigeria Situation was launched by 28 UN agencies and NGO partners, requesting a total USD 198.7 million for refugee response in Cameroon, Chad and Niger in 2016. UNHCR's financial requirements within the RRRP amount to USD 62.3 million. In total, for refugee response in asylum countries as well as response for IDPs in Nigeria, UNHCR's requirements amount to USD **93.5 million**. 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:

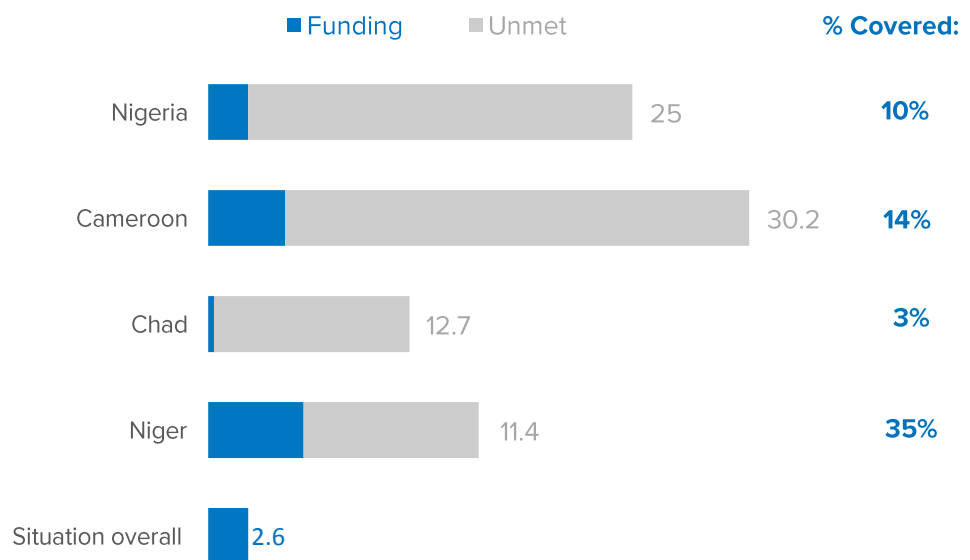
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Funding:

A total of **USD 16.8 million** funded out of USD 93.5 million requested by UNHCR, representing 18% of the needs:

Private Donors:

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Australia



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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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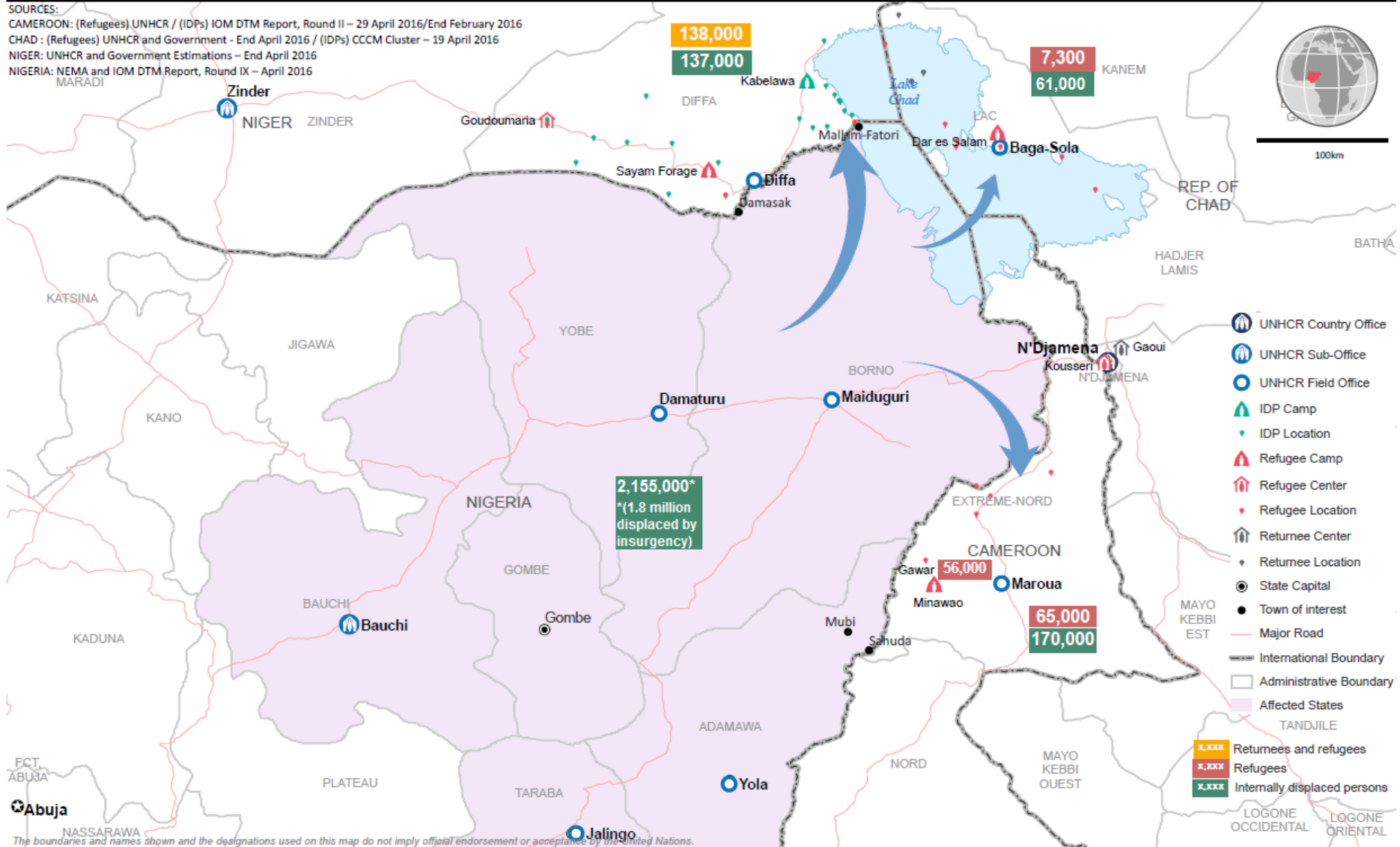
Nigeria Situation

Operational context map

Updated as of 20 May 2016

SOURCES:

CAMEROON: (Refugees) UNHCR / (IDPs) IOM DTM Report, Round II – 29 April 2016/End February 2016
 CHAD : (Refugees) UNHCR and Government - End April 2016 / (IDPs) CCCM Cluster – 19 April 2016
 NIGER: UNHCR and Government Estimations – End April 2016
 NIGERIA: NEMA and IOM DTM Report, Round IX – April 2016



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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