

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°10

30 May - 05 June 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- Following the swearing in of President Buhari on 29 May, during which he ordered that the Nigerian army Command Centre be relocated to Maiduguri with immediate effect, insurgents have increased their activities (armed conflict and terrorism) in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States.
- A taskforce on the establishment of an IDP Policy and legal framework in Nigeria, which was initiated by UNHCR, held its maiden meeting on 2 June at the UNHCR office in Abuja.
- Following the attacks in Maiduguri, increased security and armed forces have been positioned in Cameroon's Far North region.

KEY FIGURES

1,491,706 IDPs in Nigeria

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, April 2015)

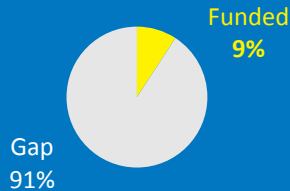
167,789

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighbouring countries

FUNDING

USD 114,530,270

Requested for the situation

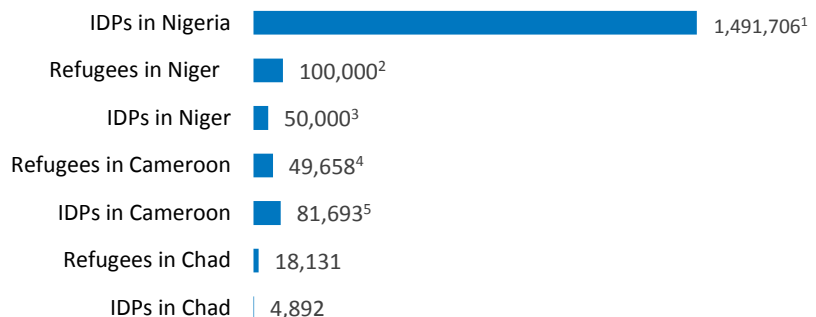


IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

- 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 **1,796,080** people of concern



¹ NEMA/IOM DTM Report, April 2015

² Government estimates (refugees and returnees)

³ Government estimates

⁴ UNHCR/IOM – including 37,171 in the Minawao/Gawar camp

⁵ UNHCR/IOM

NIGERIA: Operational Context

- The general security situation in the country has not evolved at the onset of the new administration. Insurgents continue to launch attacks in the Northeast. Political risk analysts believe that the sect's withdrawal from their previous strongholds could simply signal a return to guerrilla tactics.
- Attacks took place in and around Maiduguri during the week. After President Buhari's inauguration on 29 May, a nighttime assault on the town's outskirts took place on 30 May, in which 11 people were killed. On 31 May, a suicide bomber attacked a mosque in Maiduguri, killing at least 16 people and an improvised explosive device (IED) planted by suspected insurgent members exploded in one of the town's popular markets on the same day. On 1 June, a suicide bomber attacked a military checkpoint at the entrance of Biu, in Borno State but there were no casualties. In Baga, Borno State, several IDP returnees have been injured and several are feared dead after sporadic insurgent attacks took place during the week.
- The Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP) and other pressure groups have urged President Buhari and Vice President Professor Yemi Osinbajo, to "swiftly move to declare their assets publicly in order to be consistent with their apparent anti-corruption credentials and their expressed commitments to do so and in the best interest of transparency and accountability." The request followed the declaration of assets on 30 May by both leaders to the Code of Conduct Bureau, as required by the constitution.
- On 4 June Amnesty International accused the Nigerian military of responsibility for the death of 7,000 men and boys held in custody during its fight against the insurgents over the last four years. These deaths stand among more than 20,000 people who have been arrested during operations against the insurgents, the rights group added. However, the military has rejected the allegations, calling the report biased, and the statistics "spurious." At least 17,000 people have died in the conflict since 2009, insists Amnesty international.

Achievements

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

IDPs

- UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) met on 26 May to finalize the joint planning of the of the forthcoming World Refugee Day (WRD) celebration. In Nigeria, the WRD will be celebrated on 22 June.
- On 27 May, UNHCR attended the National Humanitarian Platform meeting, chaired by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). Details of the inter-agency assessment mission planned for Yobe, Borno and Adamawa States, as well as the areas to be assessed, were reviewed. The mission will take place in mid-June. On 1 June the National Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) met to discuss assessment tools to be used in the mission and the protection sector's participation in the mission.
- A taskforce on the establishment of an IDP Policy and legal framework in Nigeria, which was initiated by UNHCR, held its maiden meeting on 2 June at the UNHCR office in Abuja. The following agencies, commissions and ministries were invited to join the taskforce: National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), NCFRMI, NEMA, the Federal Ministry of Justice (FMJ) and the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC). The taskforce was briefed on the passage of the draft policy and domestication of the Kampala Convention. It also designated focal points for advocacy, capacity building and legislative reforms-related activities, in view of drafting a work plan. The Ministry of Justice has also agreed to share information on the steps being taken to domesticate the Kampala Convention.
- As of 1 June, 30 beneficiaries of the UNHCR shelter support program in Benue State had completed the construction of their shelter units. Over N7.6 million (USD 38,200) are still needed to complete the project.
- UNHCR attended a meeting convened and chaired by OCHA on 2 June, to discuss the outcomes of its assessment mission to Maiduguri in Borno State. The assessment report highlighted the dire humanitarian situation in Borno. During the meeting, the urgent needs of IDPs in camps in Maiduguri were discussed, with

food, psycho-social, health and shelter needs particularly highlighted. Agencies were recommended to scale up their humanitarian activities in Borno State to respond to current gaps.

- On 28 May, UNHCR visited IDP camps in Ngala & Kukawa local government areas (LGAs) of Borno State, which host over 8,000 persons. The IDPs expressed satisfaction with the recent distribution of NFIs by UNHCR and its partners: the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRC) and the SEMAs.

NIGER: Operational Context

- The security situation in Diffa town is relatively calm, despite ongoing military operations against the insurgents which can be heard from afar. The town's population is under a lot of psychological pressure as a result.
- Military escorts continue to facilitate humanitarian assistance but the south Bosso area is still not accessible.

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.

- Of the 6,272 evacuees from Lake Chad identified as IDPs, 44% are willing to be relocated to the Kablewa camp. IDPs' intentions to be settled in Kablewa have increased since the beginning of the profiling exercise, due in part to UNHCR's fundraising efforts. It is estimated that this population represents only 24 per cent of IDPs.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps: Protection monitoring in the South East is difficult for security reasons and due to the ban on motor vehicle use.

Health

- Action Pour le Bien Etre (APBE) are prepared to undertake the first screenings and sanitation campaign in the Kablewa camp. They continue their work in the Kime Gana transit site (N'Guigmi) and have carried out close to 1,000 consultations since the beginning of the operation.
- In the Sayam Forage camp, IRC distributed mosquito nets to 44 pregnant and lactating women.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps: In the Kime Gana transit site it is estimated that 400 children are in need of assistance for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 1,200 for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). In the Yebi transit site (Bosso) it is estimated that 900 children are in need of assistance for SAM and 1,700 for MAM.

CAMEROON: Operational Context

- Following the attacks in Maiduguri, increased security and armed forces have been positioned in the Far North region. The atmosphere is tense in the border localities of Gwoza, Ashigashiya and Kolfata as individuals suspected of collaborating with the insurgents are pursued.
- The French Ambassador to Cameroon visited the Extreme North region to express France's solidarity towards Cameroonian authorities, refugees, IDPs, host communities and humanitarian actors. During her stay, she visited the Minawao/Gawar camp and met with humanitarian actors who briefed her on the situation. During her meeting with the latter, she reminded them of France's response to the Central African Republic and Nigerian crises and assured them she would continue to advocate for assistance.

CHAD: Operational Context

- The security situation in Baga Sola is relatively calm but remains volatile. There are regular troop movements through Baga Sola towards the border, in reinforcement to the ongoing military operations in the area.

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 13,131 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. UNHCR, IOM and CNARR have jointly registered 4,892 IDPs – 3,398 of whom are in Baga Sola and 1,494 in Bol – and 1,712 returnees. Profiling is ongoing for IDPs and returnees to obtain additional data from areas that have not yet been surveyed.

- UNHCR is going to increase its monitoring capacity in the Lake Region to obtain more information on Nigerian refugees who have been leaving Chad since mid-May. Some have returned to Nigeria and others are reported to have made their way to Niger.
- Some 46 Nigerian refugees left the Dar Es Salam camp on 31 May stating that the arrival of Niger Boudouma nationals and the swearing in of President Buhari were the main reasons for their departure. While both groups are not openly in conflict, Nigerians are weary of the Boudouma's presence because they are of the same ethnic group as the insurgents. The departing group was composed predominantly of men but also included a few families, all originally from Kukawa, Borno State.
- Refugees from Niger who arrived during the week, all of Boudouma ethnicity, were part of the second convoy from Karam. The group was composed of women and children and totalled 271 persons. The joint UNHCR-CNARR mission that organised the relocation had initially estimated that 1,152 persons were part of the group but many have chosen not to relocate for livelihood and cohabitation purposes among other reasons. Some 150 persons have yet to be relocated from Karam and another 200 could potentially join them. Reception and settlement into the Dar Es Salam camp have been carried out systematically; ration cards and refugee status attestations have been distributed likewise.

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

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 1,144 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.

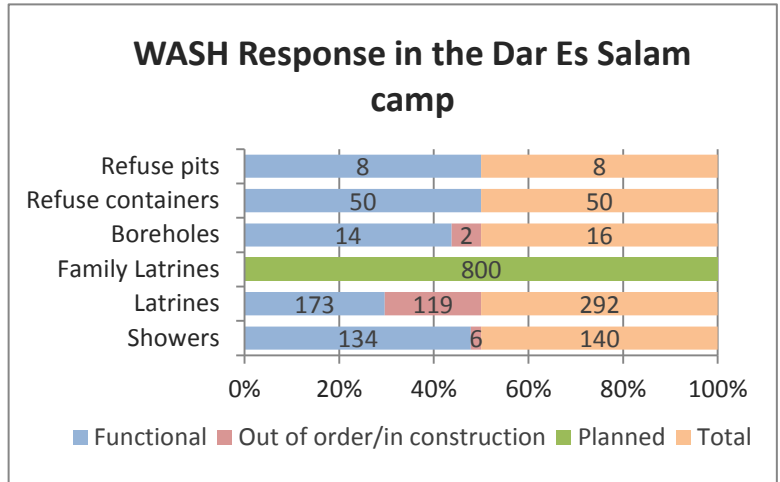
Health

- UNICEF distributed 250 mosquito nets in the Baga Sola district during the week.
- UNHCR provided psychotropic drugs to the mental health service in the Dar Es Salam camp on 26 May.
- The identification of persons with specific needs (PWSNs) amongst recently arrived Nigerian refugees is continuing. During the week one case was referred to IMC and two others to the psycho-social centre in the Dar Es Salam camp. Among these persons, many are in need of social support and if possible a sustenance or

stipend which would allow them to cope and fare successfully. Two home visits were undertaken to newly arrived Niger refugees’ homes to identify PWSNs.

Water and Sanitation

- MSF Switzerland is providing assistance for the construction of 100 family latrines that will be supported by a superstructure constructed by the Chadian Red Cross.
- An awareness raising session on the theme of ‘household hygiene’ benefited 319 persons and took place in the Dar Es Salam camp from 22 to 24 May.
- An awareness raising session on the theme of home waste management took place for 279 persons in the Dar Es Salam camp during the week. Two ‘hygiene clubs’ have been created in both of the Baga Sola schools; each club is composed of 16 pupils and UNICEF has provided them with WASH kits.



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:

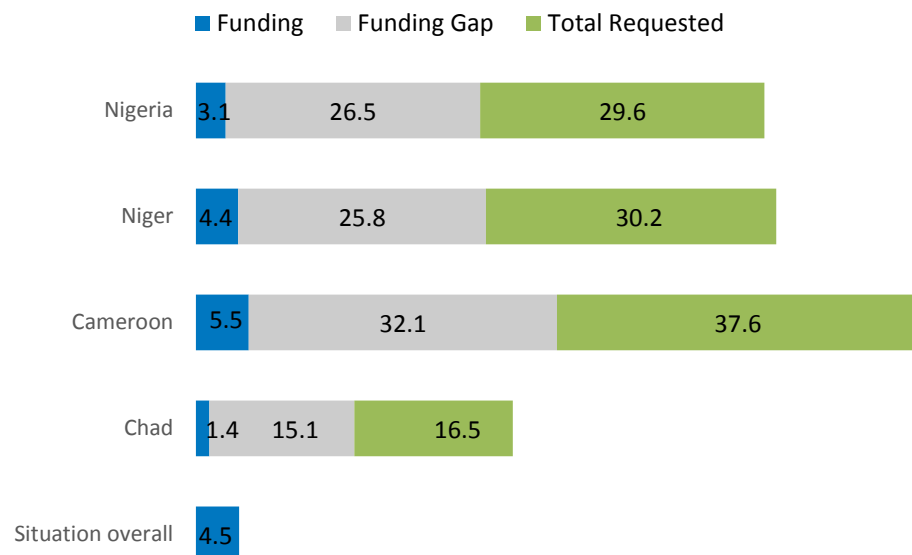
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Private Donors:

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Funding:

A total of **USD 18.9 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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