

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°8

16 -22 May 2015

KEY FIGURES

1,491,706 IDPs in Nigeria

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, April 2015)

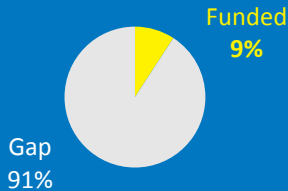
167,789

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighbouring countries

FUNDING

USD 114,530,270

Requested for the situation



IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

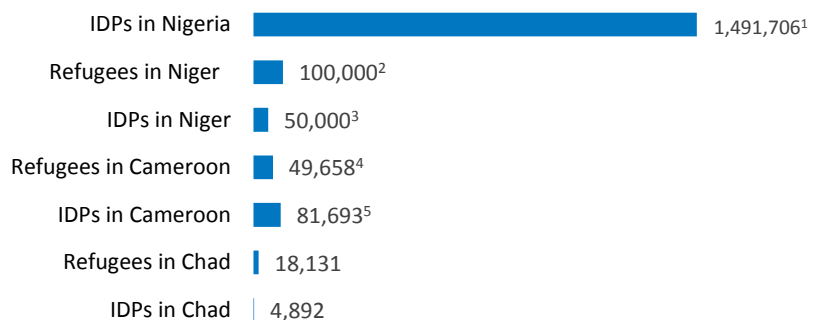
- **Nigeria:**
 - Protection and assistance to most vulnerable groups among the IDPs and host communities
- **Niger:**
 - Relocation from hosting communities in Diffa region to Sayam Forage camp
- **Cameroon:**
 - Transfer of refugees from insecure border areas to Minawao camp
- **Chad:**
 - Relocation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

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 20 and 21 May, the UNHCR Representative for West Africa, Ms. Liz Ahua held meetings with a number of State partners in Nigeria, but also with the UN Country Team (UNCT). During the meetings, the need for UNHCR to strengthen existing ties with partners was emphasized. As for the UNCT, it expressed the wish of having UNHCR take up more responsibilities in the shelter and CCCM sectors.
- The Embassy of France in Chad and UNHCR have signed a funding agreement that will provide budgetary support of 400,000 Euros to improve the living conditions of Nigerian refugees in Chad and enable the execution of empowerment projects.
- The data collection phase of the UNHCR/IOM profiling exercise in northern Cameroon is over. It has revealed the presence of almost 50,000 refugees and just over 81,000 IDPs in the Far North region. The majority (75 per cent) of refugees live in the Minawao camp.

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 security situation in north-eastern Nigeria has become increasingly less stable as the amount of insurgent attacks continues to rise. Despite gains by the Multinational Joint Task Force (MJTF), the border town of Marte was re-captured on 15 May and insurgent elements who fled Sambisa forest are now regrouping in Marte according to security forces. A number of other attacks and abductions have also taken place in Adamawa State.
- The Nigerian military has cautioned UNHCR and sister agencies' field staff to avoid military bases as well as certain settlements and motor parks in Borno and Yobe States, which have become the targets of frequent attacks by the insurgent group.
- Ahead of the 29 May handover of Nigeria's Federal Government administration to President Buhari, friendly countries have continued to show interest in who will be occupying key posts in the incoming administration. They have particularly cautioned him on his choice of petroleum minister.

Achievements

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

IDPs

- The Nigerian Government has begun an assessment of the territories destroyed by insurgents, especially in the north-eastern states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe, in order to rehabilitate and reconstruct the affected areas and allow for the return of IDPs.
- During the monthly inter-sector working group meeting held on 18 May, members discussed the UN/INGO/government-led position on a joint humanitarian assessment mission to the communities that were recently recovered from insurgents in Yobe and Adamawa States. Participants discussed how to strengthen coordination at the federal and state levels, and how to achieve synergy between both.
- In conjunction with the military, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) will share the list of communities that are safe to be assessed, as well as a schedule for the assessment. At a meeting with national and UN sector leads, NEMA requested urgent shelter supplies for IDPs in Borno State.
- On 18 May, UNHCR handed over relief items to IDPs in Lafia, Nasarawa State capital. The items were received on behalf of the Governor of Nasarawa State by Dr. Abdullahi Idriss. In Maiduguri, Borno State, NEMA has donated a large quantity of relief items to IDPs living in host families and camps.
- Although the MJTF force has liberated most of the communities under the control of the insurgents in Borno State, IDPs find it difficult to return to their homes and re-establish their livelihoods as the roads and streets leading to the affected communities and farmlands are not safe because of undiffused landmines.
- On 19 May, UNHCR inaugurated the Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) in Yobe, and it will co-chair the group with SEMA. Sub-sector groups in SGBV and child protection were also created in Adamawa and Gombe States.

NIGER: Operational Context

- During the week, the National Eligibility Commission (INEC) announced its arrival in N'Guigmi, where it has started census and identification processes for the displaced population settled in the Kime Gana transit centre. To initiate the relocation of individuals who do not want to settle into camps, the presence of INEC is a pre requisite. Discussions with the authorities to find appropriate solutions are ongoing.

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 Protection Cluster has developed a new protection strategy that will hinge on the Child Protection and SGBV working groups. Developed at the national level, it will prioritize capacity building, the training of partners and actors, and the strengthening of relations with authorities.



Health

Evacuation - Nigerian returnees and Niger IDPs: Action Pour le Bien Etre (APBE) continues to provide sanitary assistance in the Kime Gana transit site, N’Guigmi. Through UNHCR funding, APBE is also distributing essential drugs such as paracetamol and penicillin. Of the 481 consultations held this week, 144 children aged between 6-59 months women were diagnosed as suffering from moderate acute malnutrition. A mobile clinic has been equipped in Kime Gana, to deal with referrals.



Food Security and Nutrition

Evacuation - Nigerian Returnees: Through IRC, UNHCR continues to assist the displaced population arriving in the Diffa and Kime Gana transit centres with drinking water, sardines and bread. Distributions are carried out on a daily basis.



Shelter and NFIs

IDPs: A total of 600 shelters were constructed in the Kablewa camp in view of the upcoming relocation process.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- Security forces in the Sayam Forage camp benefited from code of conduct and internal camp regulation trainings.

CAMEROON: Operational Context

- The security situation remains volatile, and particularly on the border, where Cameroonian and Chadian military forces have concentrated their troops to counter incursion attempts by the insurgents.
- 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 109 new arrivals were recorded this week. The mixed UNHCR-government registration team established last week began its screening and pre-registration activities for spontaneous arrivals in the Minawao camp. Over 1,000 of the spontaneous arrivals who had made their way to the camp during the last two weeks were pre-registered. Refugees explained that they had been waiting to cultivate their crops and had intended to return, but they also cited sporadic insurgent attacks as reason for leaving.

Achievements

Protection

UNHCR and IOM have registered 49,658 refugees and 81,693 IDPs. The majority of refugees live in the Minawao/Gawar site (37,171), while IDPs live with host families; both groups live in Cameroon’s Far North.

- The IDP profiling exercise of the Far North region undertaken by IOM and UNHCR has revealed the presence of 12,487 refugees living outside of the Minawao/Gawar camp. This brings the total amount of refugees in the Far North to 49,658.
- UNHCR has continued to discuss obtaining land for a new camp site with authorities, to decongest the Minawao/Gawar camp. The level of water exploitation in Minawao is on the verge irreversibly damaging the water table and even contaminating it.

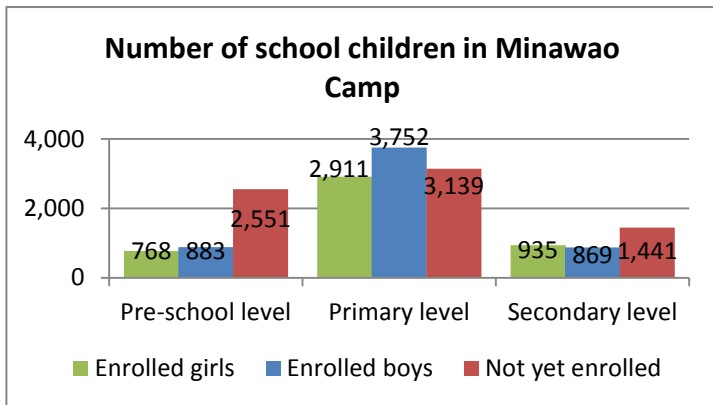
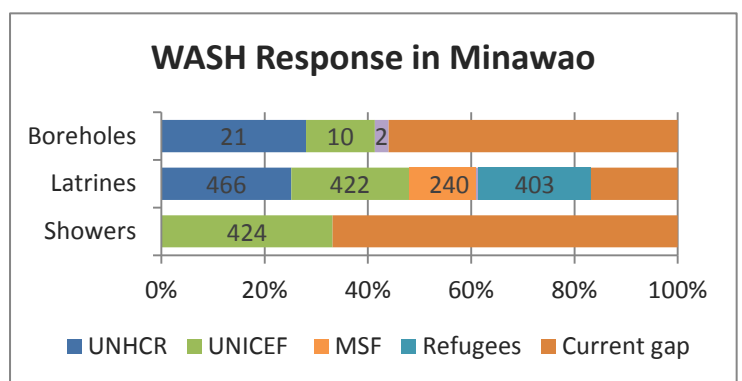
- On 11 May, UNHCR organised a training session on international protection for five lawyers from different law firms. This training has taken place in view of assisting refugees who are currently in jail. Some have been incarcerated for 8 months without judgement, and ignore the reason for their detention because they are not represented and cannot communicate due to language barriers.
- As a follow up to the advocacy efforts undertaken by UNHCR towards with authorities, the Commander of Mokolo constabulary has pledged to reinforce security around the Minawao/Gawar camp to facilitate security screenings for spontaneous arrivals. Since 15 May, five new members of local police force have arrived at the camp.

 **Health**

- Over the past two weeks, five cases of measles were registered amongst newly arrived refugees in the Minawao camp. In collaboration with WHO and UNICEF, the Mololo health district launched a retaliation campaign in the district and in the Minawao camp. The campaign lasted from 11-17 May and benefited children aged 6 month to 15 years.

 **Water and Sanitation**

- UNHCR, UNICEF, MSF and local authorities combined efforts to provide 452,000 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.



 **Education**

A training session was organised and benefited 59 primary school teachers from 13-16 May. The topics of education in emergency contexts and peacebuilding as well as everyday competencies were covered. This training was organised with the support of Plan Cameroon and the Ministry for Basic Education.

 **Shelter and NFIs**

- During the week, Public Concern continued setting up family tents provided by Plan Cameroun. A total of 460 tents were set up, bringing to 1,479 the total number in the camp. These tents will be used by families living in community shelters once latrines are constructed in the area.
- During the shelter sector meeting held on 13 May, it was decided that refugees, IDPs and vulnerable host populations should be included in the response plans of all actors working in the sector. In light of this, IDP and host population needs will be evaluated.
- IFRC distributed NFIs to 600 households in the Mayo-Sava and Mayo-Tsanaga departments.

IDPs

- The data collection phase in the IDP profiling exercise of the Mayo-Tsanaga and Mayo Sava, Logone-et-Chari and Diamare departments is over. Over 470 localities were covered out of the 521 planned. Some 81,693 IDPs have been registered and priority needs have been identified. These are food security, water, health, and livelihood activities. Data collected indicate in increasing order of magnitude, that populations most at risk are as follows: children aged 0-5 years, children aged 5-12 years and persons aged over 60 years. IDPs aside, the exercise allowed for the registration of 35,987 IDP returnees and 12,487 refugees in the Logone-et-Chari departments.

CHAD: Operational Context

Protection

There are just over 18,000 Nigerian refugees in Chad, with 3,000 arrivals registered prior to the emergency. Some 9,300 have been registered by the Commission Nationale d'Accueil, de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Repatriés (CNARR), and 6,140 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.

- The security situation in Baga Sola and surrounding area is calm according to authorities. However, the most recent insurgent exactions in Niger and military operations in three Niger villages on the border have created an influx of refugees, IDPs and returnees into a number of localities in Chad.
- The CNARR estimates that there are 3,100 returnees in Hakoui Tchoulouma and according to MSF, IDPs in the area amount to over 4,200 families.
- In order to respond to the influx into Karama (35 km from Daboua), an inter-agency mission went to the Daboua sub prefecture on 17 May and established contact with approximately 2,000 Niger refugees, predominantly of Boudouma origin. These families come from a village in Niger called Lelea and the majority have Niger documentation. Inhabitants of this village continue to arrive in Chad. The group has settled on the outskirts of a forest in Karama, with trees and makeshift shelters serving as physical protection and water/WASH resources constituting their most urgent needs.
- A joint CNARR/UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF/OCHA/IMC/HELP mission provided food and NFIs to the 2,000 Niger refugees in Karama. The second objective of the mission was to relocate these arrivals from Karama to the Dar Es Salam camp, in line with the Lake Region Governor's recommendations. To do this, the communities were regrouped around their respective leaders or Boulama in order to be registered. Each household was specifically asked what its intentions were with regards to relocation, and it was made clear that the majority did not want to relocate because of the impact on their cattle's ability to graze. UNHCR provided information on the voluntariness of return and the service it was offering and proposed to relocate individuals with specific needs. This awareness raising session yielded positive results, as 95 per cent of the population expressed their willingness to return once it was finished. A first convoy has taken 82 persons to the Dar Es Salam camp.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps:

- Community services and child protection partners
- Lack of participation from various refugee committees in the community life

 **Education**

- Teachers and managerial staff in both schools of Baga Sola received training during the week on subjects such as teaching reading to primary level students. A total of 20 persons participated in this activity.

 **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.

- Out of the 1,054 shelters constructed in the Dar Es Salam camp, 883 have been officially assigned, 81 are empty and 90 are currently being finalised. There are approximately 5 persons per shelter. Another 1,250 shelters will be constructed to assist new arrivals.

 **Water and Sanitation**

- There are 15 functional water points in the Dar Es Salam site, which provide 51 litres of water per person per day. The chlorination of all water points is undertaken by CRT and ADERBA. UNICEF plans to construct 15 boreholes in the villages surrounding Baga Sola to assist new returnee and IDP arrivals.
- UNICEF distributed family kits to 850 households in Baga Sola, the Dar Es Salam camp and Hakoui Tchoulouma.

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:

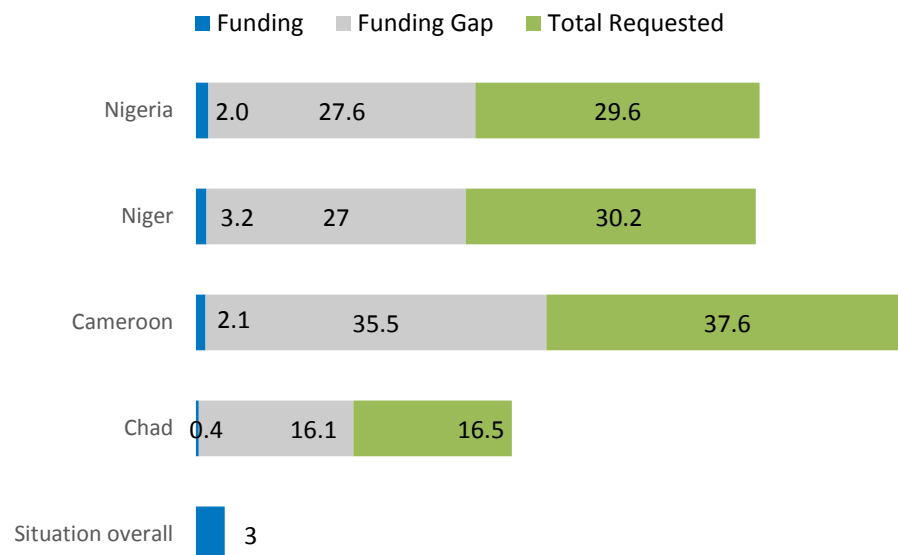
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Private Donors:

Germany
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Funding:

A total of **USD 10.7 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>

