

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°13

4 - 17 July 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- The security situation in the northeast of Nigeria continues to deteriorate despite measures taken so far by the new administration. Insurgents have been attacking and killing with impunity, almost on a daily basis.
- Over 10 civilians were killed by insurgents on 14-15 July in an attack on Gamgara, Niger near Bosso, on the Nigerian border. Following weeks of relative calm, attacks in the Diffa region have increased.
- On the night of 12-13 July, insurgents carried out a double terrorist attack on a market in Fotokol, Cameroon on the Nigerian border. According to the authorities, at least 12 people were killed. This is the first terrorist attack on Cameroonian soil since the insurgency began.
- Due to worsening security conditions on the Lake, Chadian authorities have requested that the humanitarian community expedite the relocation of refugees, IDPs, and returnees in Kaiga and Kindjiria and surrounding islands to the Dar Es Salam camp.

KEY FIGURES

1,385,298 IDPs in Nigeria

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, June 2015)

169,361

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 the Kablewa camp
- **Cameroon:**
 - Border monitoring, registration of new arrivals
- **Chad:**
 - Relocation of refugees from Lake Chad islands to Dar Es Salam site

Populations of concern

A total of **1,698,367** people of concern

IDPs in Nigeria	1,385,298 ¹
Refugees in Niger	100,000 ²
IDPs in Niger	50,000 ³
Refugees in Cameroon	55,977 ⁴
IDPs in Cameroon	81,693 ⁵
Refugees in Chad	13,384 ³
IDPs in Chad	12,015 ³

¹ NEMA/IOM DTM Report, June 2015

² Government estimates (refugees and returnees)

³ Government estimates

⁴ UNHCR/IOM – including 43,000+ in the Minawao/Gawar camp

⁵ UNHCR/IOM

NIGERIA: Operational Context

- The security situation in the northeast continues to deteriorate despite measures taken so far by the new administration. Insurgents have been attacking and killing with impunity almost on a daily basis. The wave of violence, especially in Borno, Bauchi and Yobe States, has kept over 1,380,000 persons in a situation of displacement. Insurgent activity may not have a direct effect on UN staff and operations, but the threat of terrorism is ever present and unpredictable, with the sect adopting a “hit and run strategy,” especially in Borno and Yobe States. Their intention is apparently to trigger panic in areas recently liberated by the Multinational Joint Task Force (MJTF).
- Joined by other members of government, the diplomatic corps and members of the public, President Buhari has condemned the attacks, restating his resolve to use every available means to bring the activities of the insurgents to a halt.
- President Buhari has also commended steps being taken by the Office of the National Security Adviser (NSA) and other agencies of government to rehabilitate victims of terrorism and violent extremism in Nigeria. He spoke in Abuja after receiving a briefing on the work of the Countering Violent Extremism Department in the NSA’s office. According to a statement issued by his aide, Buhari said the Federal Government will continue to do its best to ensure that victims of terrorism receive necessary support, even as his government will strive to rid the country of insurgency in the shortest possible time.

Achievements

There are an estimated 1.38 million insurgency-related IDPs in Nigeria, the majority of whom live in the northeastern States.

IDPs

- The Nigerian Federal Government, working closely with relevant actors, has finalized a resettlement and reintegration plan, which sets out joint actions in support of return and other solutions for IDPs. The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), following the Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) technical guidance and support, has also outlined a position paper for ensuring that return of IDPs is carried out in a manner that is consistent with international standards, particularly underlining the importance of returns taking place voluntarily and in a manner that guarantees safety, security, freedom of movement, recovery of property and land, access to basic services, and reconstruction.
- Bauchi State First Lady invited UNHCR to participate in the distribution of core relief items (CRIs) to IDP orphans and widows currently in Bauchi. The agency undertook the initiative in order to provide support to the most vulnerable IDPs during the Holy Month of Ramadan. The First Lady was accompanied by the Head of UNHCR Bauchi during the distribution exercise, after which they planned to discuss partnering in alleviating the precarious situation of IDPs.
- UNHCR also intervened with CRIs in Damaturu to assist 600 households, which were recently displaced as a result of attacks by insurgents on four villages (Gambir, Malanti, Mutiri and Alhaji Amaduri) in the Damaturu Local Government Area (LGA).
- UNHCR undertook field assessment mission to Shehu Sanda Kyarimi II IDP camp in Maiduguri, Borno State. Established in April 2014, the camp hosts about 8,000 IDPs from Dikwa and Mafa LGAs. The IDPs identified shelter, WASH, education and livelihood activities as their major needs.
- UNHCR also participated in a one-day UNICEF-led Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) workshop in Maiduguri, where the focus was on six grave offences perpetuated against children during armed conflict situations.
- UNHCR Head of Field Unit in Yola met with Deputy Governor of Adamawa to discuss the extension of the UNHCR shelter project in Benue State to Adamawa. The Governor used the occasion to present the project to the Vice President of Nigeria, Mr. Yemi Osinbajo, during the latter’s visit to Yola. In this regard, stakeholders are expected to meet the objective of fast-tracking the approval of lands for the project.

- A final draft of project proposal on vulnerability screening has been developed and shared based on a previously agreed upon concept note. This project covers all six affected northeastern States of Nigeria for a period of five months, starting August 1, 2015 through to December 31, 2015. UNHCR will implement the project of vulnerability screening and registration of vulnerable IDPs, using incentive workers from NRCS and NYSC, including six from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and field supervisors (one per State). The system will use an online database and tablets for data collection.
- In collaboration with the respective State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs), UNHCR has supported the establishment of three PSWGs in Yola (Adamawa State), Damaturu (Yobe State), and Gombe (Gombe State). Plans are under way to establish another similar group in Maiduguri (Borno State). UNHCR and the State Ministry of Women Affairs in Yobe have also supported the establishment of a GBV sub-sector, which will provide a platform for coordinating interventions for GBV response and prevention.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

- The Senior Shelter Assistant in Bauchi met with the Deputy Governor, heads of specialized services, legislators of most affected LGAs and the SEMA Executive Secretary to discuss land allocation for shelter. Considering the receptiveness towards the shelter project in Adamawa, it is critical for UNHCR to hire a more experienced shelter expert and quickly develop a roadmap to facilitate the implementation of this important project.

NIGER: Operational Context

- Insurgents killed over 10 civilians in an attack on Gamgara near Bosso, on the Nigerian border, on 14-15 July. There has been a recent increase of attacks in the Diffa region following weeks of relative calm. The security situation is worsening as clashes on the border occur more frequently. The Chadian and Niger armies have left the town of Damasak in Nigeria without being replaced, leaving a vacuum in which further attacks have taken place. The two members of the MJTF are said to have vacated the area because of the rising lake and Komadougou river waters – conditions in which both armies would have great trouble fighting. Thousands of Nigerians have been fleeing Damasak into Niger to Gagamari and Chétimari (with some 2,000 Nigerians thought to be in Chétimari alone). UNHCR and UN have not been able to access the area.

CAMEROON: Operational Context

- On the night of 12-13 July, insurgents carried out a double terrorism attack on Fotokol market. According to the authorities, at least 12 persons were killed. This is the first time a terrorist attack has taken place on Cameroonian soil since the insurgency began. On 10 July, insurgents intercepted a truck transporting food from WFP in between the villages of Zigague and Dabanga. The truck was on route to Kousseri. The driver was able to escape and alert Cameroonian armed forces, who immediately secured the abandoned truck. His assistant suffered wounds and was evacuated to Maroua for treatment. There were skirmishes between Cameroonian defence forces and insurgent elements on 6 and 7 July in Boda (25km from Fotokol). According to the defence forces, three assailants were killed, and many pieces of weaponry were retrieved.
- Spontaneous arrivals continue to be recorded from the border areas at an average rate of 90 persons per day. During the past week, 631 new arrivals were registered at the Minawao/Gawar camp.

Achievements

Protection

UNHCR and IOM have registered 55,977 refugees and 81,693 IDPs. The majority of refugees live in the Minawao/Gawar site (43,490), while IDPs live with host families; both groups live in Cameroon's Far North.

- UNICEF assisted the Regional Delegation of Social Affairs in ensuring that 84 children, who had been admitted to the Cameroonian Institution of Childhood, be returned to their parents. Ten of these children were reunited with their parent in the Minawao/Gawar camp, and the rest in host communities in the Far North.
- The construction of a transit centre is under way some 4km from the Minawao/Gawar camp in order to strengthen efforts to screen new arrivals.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps: Despite efforts undertaken by local authorities, too few police are deployed to the Minawao/Gawar camp.

Education

- UNICEF undertook a mission to the Minawao/Gawar camp to assist with the accelerated preparation of curriculums and rapid reinsertion of refugee and IDP children into primary school. This allowed UNICEF to assess the feasibility of the project in the various educational institutions of the Minawao/Gawar camp and properly identify the children targeted for this activity.

Health

- On 3 July, the Ministry of Health launched the poliomyelitis vaccination, worm disinfection and vitamin A supplementation campaign in the Minawao/Gawar camp. Alongside this, the cholera vaccination campaign is ongoing, and partner staff have been trained to transport cholera patients. Some 19 participants from IMC, IEDA Relief, Public Concern and Plan International were recently trained. Two teams have been constituted, each composed of nurses and disinfection staff. Furthermore, MSF continues to build the Cholera Treatment Centre in the Gawar extension of the camp.

Food Security and Nutrition

- Some 860 people received food as contested cases and new arrivals were assisted by WFP. In total, some 737,563 tons of food have been distributed to over 40,000 refugees in this month's distribution.
- To reinforce nutritional response in the Minawao/Gawar camp, IMC has recruited 40 community volunteers to carry out nutrition and health community mobilisation activities, alongside 30 volunteers from the Red Cross.
- The Week of Action for Infantile and Maternal Nutritional Health took place in 15 health districts in the Far North, including in the Minawao/Gawar camp. Over 12,000 people were found to be suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

Water and Sanitation

- UNICEF, UNHCR, MSF and CAMWATER's efforts have contributed towards improving water supply in the Minawao/Gawar camp through the construction of boreholes and water trucking, allowing for 17 litres per day per person to be distributed.

Community Empowerment and Self-Management

- To provide refugees with the means of becoming more autonomous, over 430 persons were chosen by Public Concern to undertake training in saponification (production of soap), sewing, embroidery, staining and mechanics. Some 70 refugees already participate in trainings on carpentry, masonry and brick making (with the help of 'Hydraform' machines). Alongside this professional training, alphabetisation classes continue to take place.
- To encourage refugees to take part in this training, UNHCR organised an awareness-raising session for all camp block leaders (men, women and children heads) to inform them of the creation of a selection and follow-up committee for those wishing to be involved in these vocational trainings. Selection criteria adopted by the committee are the following: camp origin of the candidate (where in the camp the person is from, vulnerability, gender, ethnic and religious diversity).

CHAD: Operational Context

- Twenty-three people died and over 100 were wounded after suicide bombers detonated their charges in front of two police buildings in N'Djamena on 15 June. Since then, several attacks have taken place in Chad. On 13 and 14 July, at least 6 people were killed on Tetewa Island, some 80 km north of N'Djamena. Again, on 12 July, 15 people were killed and 80 wounded in the Chadian capital when an assailant detonated his charge at the entrance of the city's main market.

Achievements

Protection

- Chadian authorities estimate that there are 13,384 refugees in the Lake Region, of which 8,731 have been registered by UNHCR and the Commission Nationale d'Accueil et Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Repatriés (CNARR). They are currently living in the Dar Es Salam site. The remainder chose to continue their economic activities in the surrounding villages and not move to the site. Humanitarian assessment missions in the Lake Region have indicated the presence of an estimated 12,015 IDPs, and an inter-agency mission has estimated that some 8,707 Chadian returnees are present around the Lake.
- Local authorities have requested that the humanitarian community proceed swiftly with the relocation of refugees, IDPs, and returnees in Kaiga and Kindjiria and surrounding islands to the Dar Es Salam camp. The sub-prefect of Baga Sola has stated that military personnel are available to assist with the relocation process.
- Coordination measures have been put into place at the N'Djamena level to find durable solutions for those arrested following the attacks on 15 June (see previous update). In the meantime, humanitarian agencies will assist those who have stayed at the Dar Es Salam camp.
- Over 70 Malian refugees were transferred from the Dar Es Salam camp to the locality of Bol, where they are now being assisted by IOM. The latter have received food rations for a month from WFP. Water is available in Bol, but latrines are lacking. MSF Switzerland has agreed to provide some latrines. Shelters also need to be improved.
- Of the 396 persons relocated from N'Djamena to the Dar Es Salam camp, only 49 were present at the time of their settlement into shelters that had been attributed to them.

Education

- Since the month of May, the number of children who have been going to the school canteen has increased significantly. Some 978 children now attend; the initial budget for this canteen planned for 800 individuals.
- In light of this, the construction of an additional classroom is being considered for the next academic year. It is also expected to benefit 10 local children out of the 18 currently attending the school. Additionally, grading books and school identity cards will be provided.

Food Security and Nutrition

- FAO will provide 10,160 households (returnees, IDPs, host families) with seeds for pluvial crops, in partnership with the Société de Développement du Lac (SODELAC). WFP will ensure IDPs, returnees and host populations, who have already been assisted, are targeted. An agreement is under way between both agencies.
- On 5 July, those arrested in N'Djamena received food rations for 10 days. Out of the expected 121 beneficiaries, 85 were assisted. This gap is due to many leaving the camp for their countries of origin.
- The NGO Help, distributed sugar, rice, flower, maize, oil and salt in the Tchoukoutalia sub-prefecture in 4 sites for a total of 4,000 persons, out of 13,126 identified across 20 sites.



Water and Sanitation

- Three boreholes were constructed for the host population in Baga Sola at the request of local authorities.
- A cholera prevention training was organised for 16 community volunteers from the Chadian Red Cross, the Association pour le Développement de la Region de Baga Sola (ADERBA), the camp population and local residents of Baga Sola.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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. 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.

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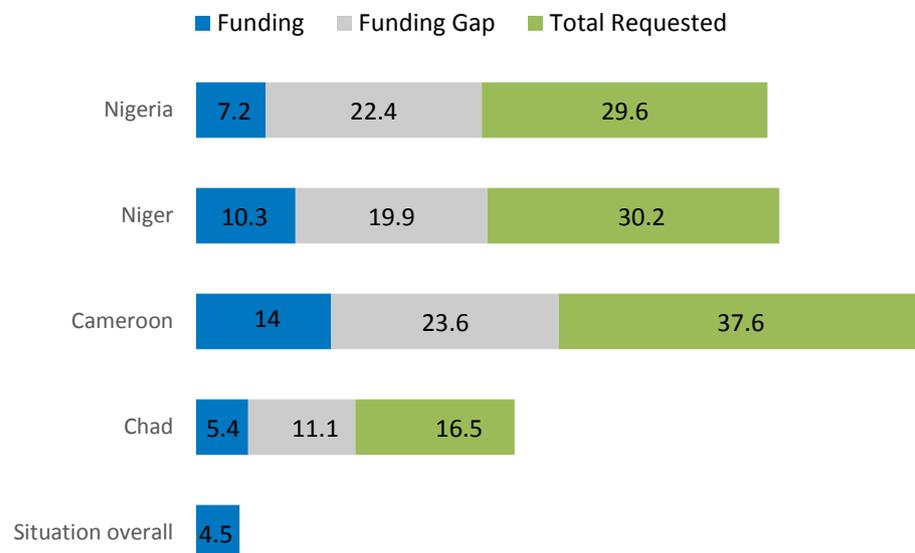
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A total of **USD 41.4 million** has been funded out of a **USD 114.5 million requested**



Contacts:

Mr. Ulysses Grant, Liaison Associate, grantu@unhcr.org Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8730

Ms. Wendy Rappeport, Senior External Relations Officer, rappepor@unhcr.org Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8993

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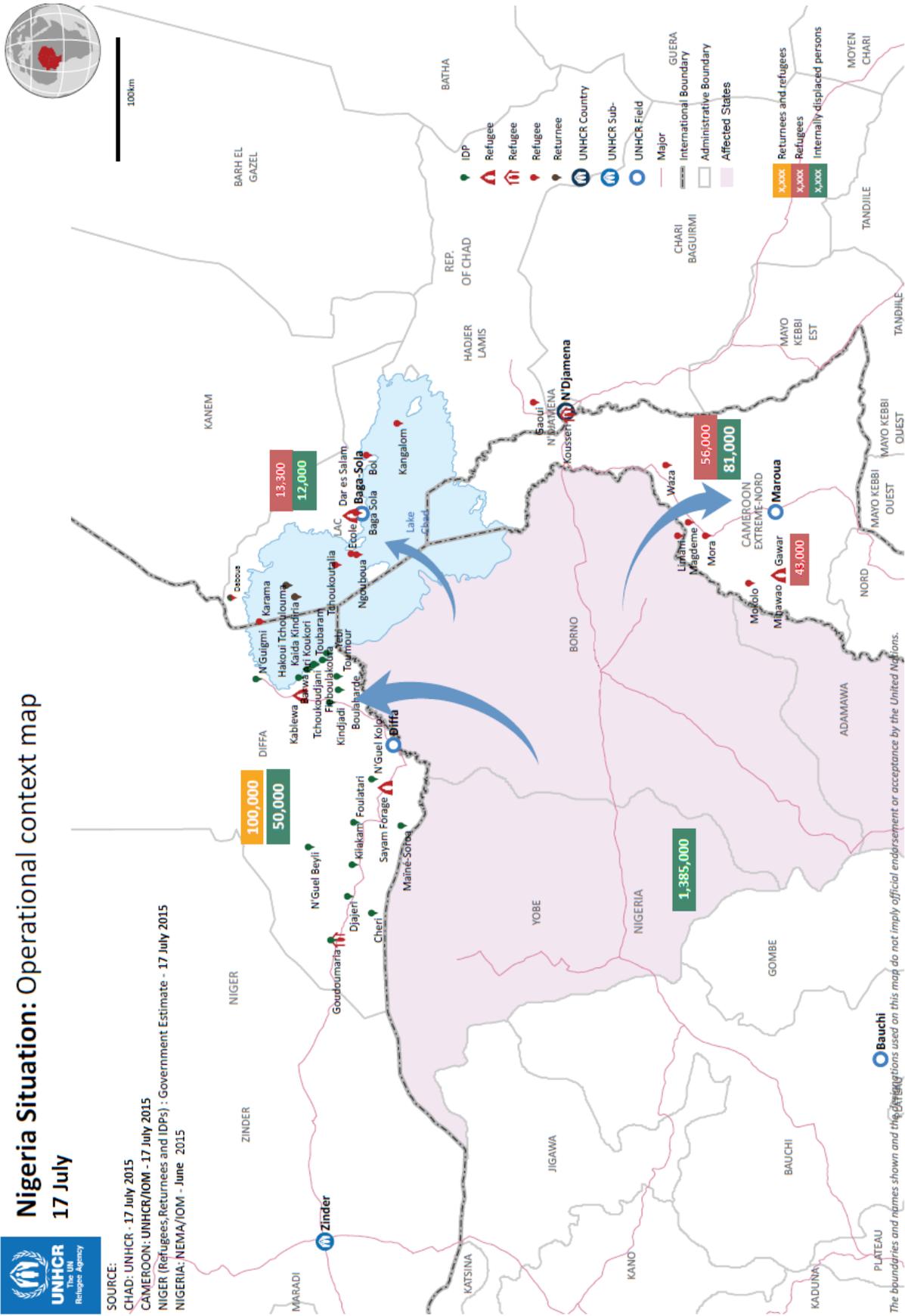
Nigeria regional web portal: data.unhcr.org/NigeriaSituation

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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