

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°22

1-31 March 2016

KEY FIGURES

2,241,484 IDPs
in Nigeria

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report,
Round VIII, February 2016)

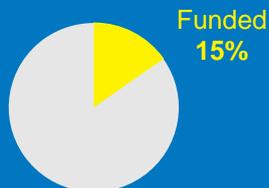
209,855

Total number of Nigerian
refugees in neighboring
countries

FUNDING

USD 93.5 million

UNHCR requirements for the
Nigeria situation



Gap
85%

PRIORITIES

Nigeria

Revise the contingency plan to
include the growing number of
Nigerian returnees arriving through
Adamawa State

Niger

Enhance the emergency shelter
response for persons settled
outside of camps

Cameroon

Enhance the response for IDPs
and host communities

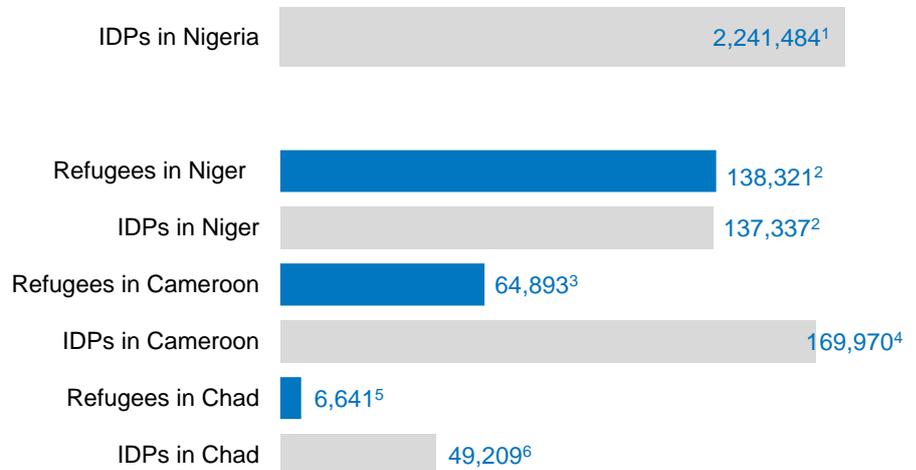
Chad

Strengthen the protection response
with a particular focus on
education and security

HIGHLIGHTS

- In the context of preparations for the return of Nigerian refugees from Cameroon, UNHCR continued to consult with government authorities and partners, including to organize a regional protection dialogue and develop a framework for voluntary and dignified returns.
- In **Cameroon**, the security situation in the Far North remained a concern, with insurgent incursions and landmine explosions reported in villages on the border with Nigeria. In Minawao camp and Gourounguel transit centre, the authorities deployed additional security personnel.
- In **Chad**, UNHCR prepared for the registration of some 500 persons of concern who had until recently opted to live outside the camp, were registered elsewhere or had missed the previous registration exercise.
- In **Niger**, after being postponed for security reasons since October 2015, the opening of Kabelawa camp primary school took place and the installation of solar powered water adduction systems in Sayam Forage and Goudoumaria was completed.

A total of **2,807,855** people of concern as of 31 March



¹ NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round VIII

² UNHCR/Government Estimation

³ UNHCR/IOM – including 56,000+ in Minawao camp

⁴ IOM DTM Report, Round II

⁵ UNHCR/Government – including 4,205 in Dar Es Salam camp

⁶ CCCM Cluster

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Operational Context

NIGERIA – Throughout the month of March, the Nigerian military, in collaboration with the Multinational Joint Task Force (MJTF) continued to target insurgent enclaves through airborne and ground operations, forcing them to disperse. The insurgents carried out numerous attacks on small villages and against civilians in the process. Most local government areas (LGAs) in Borno remain inaccessible to humanitarians as do parts of Yobe and Adamawa States. According to the Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG), the crisis has de-escalated in Adamawa, where 300,000 IDPs are reported to have returned to their LGAs. Regarding returns from Cameroon, 22,069 Nigerians had returned as of 27 March, many under conditions falling short of international legal obligations. Despite the progress made by armed forces, insecurity in and around IDP sites remains a major concern with 39 incidents caused by the insurgency recorded in January and February. In light of this, military and security actors have introduced security and vigilance measures. These include the transportation of IDPs during daylight to allow for sufficient screening time upon arrival at their destination; the use of military escorts; body searches and the deployment of anti-bomb squads to conduct sweeps in all the camps. The PSWG is updating its recommendations to reflect the current security environment and to ensure the response is informed by a respect for human rights and a civilian centred-approach.

CAMEROON – The security situation in the Far North remained a concern, with insurgent incursions and land mine explosions reported in villages on the border with Nigeria. On 23 March, an operation launched by the Nigerian army in Nigeria's Kala Balge LGA, Borno State, forced insurgent combatants to regroup along the border. To pre-empt any additional incursions, the Cameroonian army reinforced its presence in the area but a number of incidents were reported nevertheless, which resulted in 10 deaths. To reinforce security and improve screening procedures in Minawao camp and Gourounguel transit centre, the authorities deployed additional security personnel after the presence of persons believed to be affiliated to the insurgent group in Minawao camp led since the beginning of the year to arrests. The month of March saw the lowest number of arrivals since the beginning of the year with only 302 persons, compared to 2,425 in January and 1,404 in February.

CHAD – The security situation in the Lake Region remained calm with minimal contact between armed forces and the insurgent group. However, a series of incidents in which military personnel posted in the vicinity of Baga Sola were involved were reported. The latter were banned from entering Dar Es Salam camp after being denounced by civil and military authorities for sowing disorder. UNHCR continues to advocate that the civilian character of the camp be maintained with the authorities.

Following protests at the end of 2015 and ahead of the presidential election, which is planned for 10 April, civil society and trade union groups intensified their mobilisation efforts. From 22 March onwards, their efforts to advocate against the rising cost of living, fiscal austerity measures, corruption, impunity, and the incumbent president's bid for a fifth term resulted in major gridlock, particularly with regards to access to public services, tribunals as well as hospitals in the capital and in certain metropolitan areas in the south. In the Kaya Department (where Baga Sola is located), humanitarian activities were not affected.

NIGER – In Niger, the security situation remained calm for the first half of the month before deteriorating. On 15 March, 20 alleged insurgent members were arrested by the Niger Security and Defence Forces (FDS) in the village of N'Gagam, 20 Km east of Diffa town. The FDS seized a large amount of gasoline and a sizeable sum of money. The next day was marked by an attack on Bosso town, which resulted in the death of one Niger soldier. On 22 March, a mine explosion in the Bosso commune claimed the lives of three civilians. Later in the month on 29 March, a herdsman in the Toumour commune 80 Km east of Diffa town was shot and evacuated, and 40 of his cattle were killed. Finally, on 30 March, elements of the Niger National Guard were ambushed in the Chétimari commune, 10 Km south west of Diffa town; two men were reported to have disappeared and many more were injured. In the rest of the country the situation remained calm despite the contested bid and successful election of the incumbent president for a second term.



NIGERIA

Achievements and impact

- In the context of preparations for the return of an anticipated 70,000 Nigerian refugees from Cameroon, UNHCR continued to consult with government authorities and partners, including on the organisation of a regional protection dialogue and the development of a framework for voluntary and dignified returns. A contingency plan was shared with members of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG). When meeting with UNHCR, the Director General of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) pointed to the fact that approximately 14 percent of the Nigerian refugees in Cameroon are unaccompanied and separated children. In light of this, NEMA designated a school in Yola town to accommodate them.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

- On 10 March, the Adamawa State Emergency Management Agency (ADSEMA) was requested to relocate IDPs settled in the National Youth Service Commission (NYSC) campus in Yola to another IDP camp to allow the Commission to resume its normal activities. The relocation plan is yet to be discussed but the humanitarian community has emphasized the importance of carrying out the process in a manner respectful of human rights and according to international protection standards. Similar concerns have been voiced in Maiduguri where relocations from a number of schools to IDP camps are taking place at the request of the authorities. Indeed, during a joint assessment visit to Dalori I and Bakassi camps, UNHCR and its partners found that recently relocated IDP families were faced with considerable challenges including inadequate food, shelter, WASH and NFIs but also compromised education opportunities, limited livelihood options and restricted freedom of movement. UNHCR has raised these concerns with the HCT and ISWG.

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact

- Humanitarian actors working in Minawao camp organised a number of training sessions during the month aimed at reinforcing the capacities of government and NGO partners working in the protection sector. From 17 to 19 March, UNHCR and INTERSOS organised a workshop for 48 monitors from neighbouring departments on protection monitoring. From 22-23 March, UNHCR organised a workshop on international protection, refugee rights, gender-based violence (GBV), asylum procedures and the UNHCR code of conduct. The workshop benefited 45 new police recruits working in Minawao camp and Zamay IDP settlement. Finally, Plan International organised a workshop facilitated by the Global Protection Cluster on child protection case management in emergency situations. In total, 38 persons including administrative authorities and partners took part. The main areas of focus were child development, case management, communication with children and self-care.

CHAD

Achievements and impact

- In Dar Es Salam camp, preparations for the registration of individuals who had missed the previous exercise in December 2015, chosen to settle outside the camp or who were registered elsewhere, were carried out throughout the month. The 500 persons in question were provided with bracelets to avoid cases of fraud ahead of the exercise.

NIGER

Achievements and impact

- Since the mid-term report at the end of February ([see update n°21](#)), the number of displaced persons in the region identified through the ongoing census exercise had more than doubled, reaching 145,192 persons and the figure is expected to grow. According to the Regional Directorate for Civil Status and Refugees (DREC-R), responsible for carrying out the process, the majority are IDPs (68%), followed by refugees (25%) and returnees (7%). In the Bosso and Yebi communes, the census was temporarily postponed due to the attacks in the middle of the month.
- In the two camps of Kabelawa and Sayam Forage, a census exercise was also organised and carried out by UNHCR. In the former, the total population registered amounted to 8,001 persons, excluding over 3,300 new arrivals pending registration. In the latter, a total of 1,830 were registered, excluding 100 pending registration. Owing to the drastic increase in Kabelawa's size since December 2015 ([see update n°21](#)), an awareness-raising session on security and peaceful coexistence with host communities was organised and benefited 200 persons. Additionally, two training sessions were held with community-based vigilance committees, to place further emphasis on the roles and responsibilities of the various security actors working in and around the camp.

 Education

NIGER

Achievements and impact

- In Kabelawa, a primary school was opened, thanks to the joint efforts of the Government, *Cooperazione Internazionale* (COOPI) and UNHCR. Due to the prevailing security situation, the opening had been postponed since October 2015, causing students inside the camp to miss the first five months of the curriculum. A total of 477 students (241 boys and 236 girls) have started to attend classes that are led by eight teachers, and the students are making encouraging progress towards catching up the material they have missed. To read more, [click here](#).



Health

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact

- In Minawao, over 4,200 consultations were carried out during the month. Acute respiratory infections were found to be the main cause of morbidity, given current high temperatures and the frequent occurrence of sand storms. Conversely, and for the first time, the prevalence of water-related illnesses decreased significantly in Minawao.
- In the context of HIV prevention, the Mokolo Sanitary District carried out a screening exercise. Out of the 850 persons screened, 13 tested positive. Out of these, a number were already receiving treatment from IMC - in total, 600 condoms were distributed.



Food Security and Nutrition

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact

- Results from the blanket feeding and screening exercise for children aged 6-23 months carried out in February by IMC and WFP revealed a 1.3 percent global acute malnutrition rate (GAM) and a 0.3 percent acute malnutrition rate. While these rates are within the standards, results are not representative of the entire camp. UNHCR's yearly Standardised Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS), which is planned to take place between April and May, will provide a more accurate picture of refugees' nutritional status.



Water and Sanitation

CAMEROON

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

- Works on the water adduction project were postponed during the month as WASH equipment was held back by customs. The project is now expected to be finished in June 2016.

NIGER

Achievements and impact

- In Sayam Forage camp, a water retention basin and piping connection to the reservoir were constructed during the last week of March. In addition, a manual water pump and a second water tanker were made available to assist with water trucking efforts. As a result, the amount of water available to camp residents doubled, reaching an average of 19 L/person/day. Until the adduction system is complete, these improvements should ensure the camp is provided with sufficient quantities of water. In Kabelawa, the adduction system was completed, but regular power cuts in the village are preventing its use. The provision of electricity was therefore delegated to a third party. The average daily quantity of water available in Kabelawa stands at 17 L per person. Finally, in Goudoumaria, works on the adduction system were completed and are pending inspection by the Regional Directorate for Hydraulics.

Shelter and NFIs

NIGER

Achievements and impact

- During the month, considerable efforts were made to meet the emergency and transitional shelter needs of the rapidly growing camps. In total, 578 emergency shelters were distributed in Kabelawa and 49 in Sayam Forage by *Action pour le Bien-Etre* (APBE). In April, APBE plans to increase distribution to populations living outside the camps for 1,500 persons in the Bosso commune and along the *Route Nationale 1*. COOPI continued to distribute transitional shelters, including 141 in Kabelawa and 90 in Sayam Forage.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

CHAD

Achievements and impact

- A number of trainings were organised by the CCCM cluster. One in Baga Sola for administrative and military authorities and traditional leaders with a view to reinforcing camp management and a second for humanitarian actors (local and national NGOs and UN agencies) working in IDP sites, on rapid needs assessments. Indeed, during the month, a number of rapid needs assessments were carried out in various IDP sites and on a number of islands, where profiling had taken place in June 2015. Additionally, the CCCM cluster made a new form available to humanitarian actors working in the region, with a view to enhancing and harmonising the needs assessment process.

Livelihoods, energy and environment

CHAD

Achievements and impact

- In Minawao, Plan International distributed 27 grain mills to refugee groups working to improve the camp's nutritional well-being. The NGO also followed up on the establishment of 144 vegetable gardens. In Kousséri, FAO continued with its distribution of poultry as well as goats and sheep to 25 households.

CHAD

Achievements and impact

- As of end March, a total of 750 refugees were benefiting from fishing activities in the context of the livelihoods programme. During the reporting period, beneficiaries were provided with guidance and support on the use energy efficient ovens for smoking fish. Some 150 persons (including 50 new beneficiaries) received equipment. Furthermore, awareness-raising sessions on fishing legislation were carried out, outlining prohibited equipment use.
- A total of 2,900 persons were benefiting from agriculture activities as of end March. Three motor pumps were installed in the fields used for agro-business, exceeding the amount originally planned and 50 new beneficiaries were given seeds. Maize farmers were allocated parcels of land and provided with technical guidance to ensure their preparedness ahead of the rain.

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:

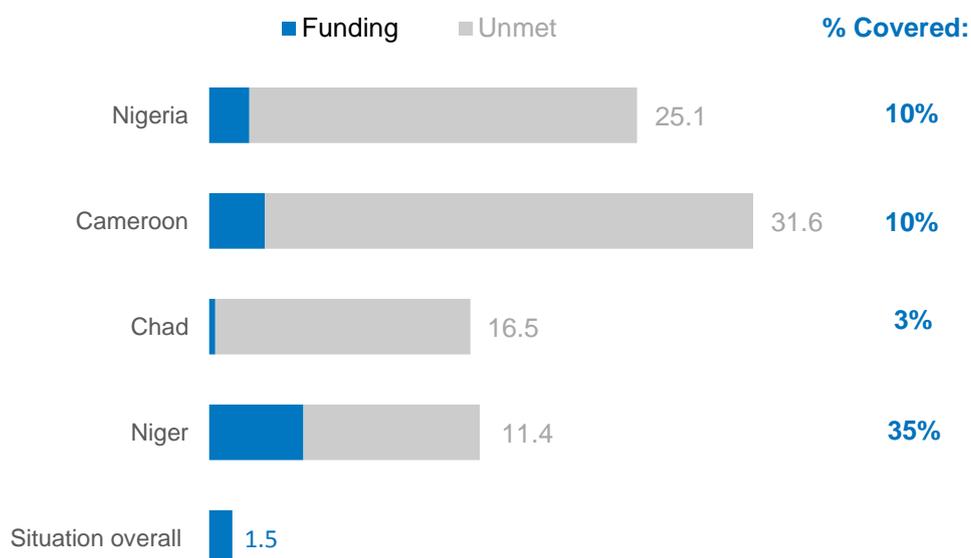
CERF
European Union
France
Italy
Japan
Switzerland

Funding:

A total of **USD 14.3 million** funded out of USD 93.5 million requested by UNHCR, representing 15% of the needs:

Private Donors:

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Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2016

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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/>
Twitter: @UNHCRWestAfrica
Facebook: UNHCR West Africa

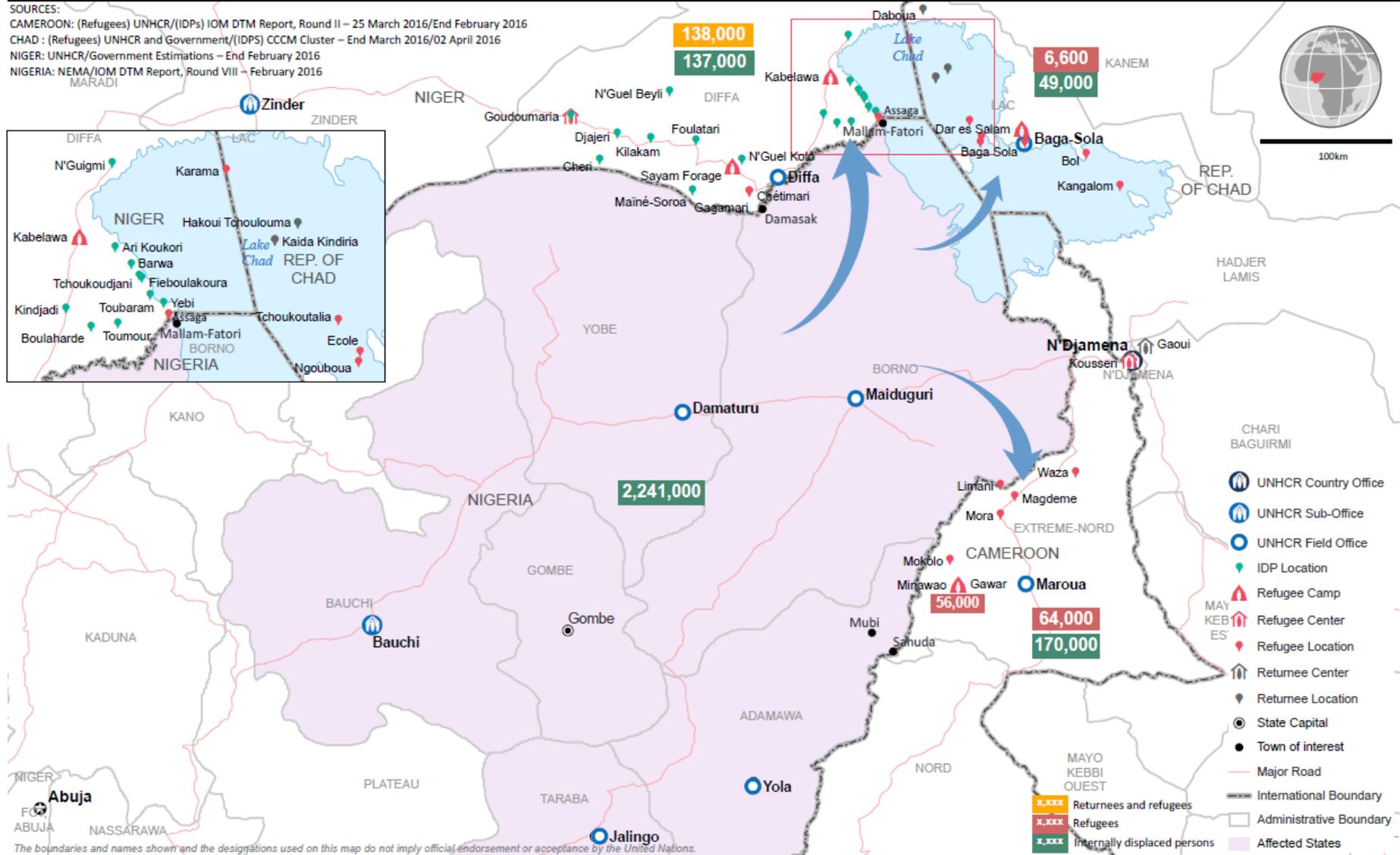


Nigeria Situation

Operational context map

Updated as of 05 April 2016

SOURCES:
 CAMEROON: (Refugees) UNHCR/(IDPs) IOM DTM Report, Round II – 25 March 2016/End February 2016
 CHAD : (Refugees) UNHCR and Government/(IDPs) CCCM Cluster – End March 2016/02 April 2016
 NIGER: UNHCR/Government Estimations – End February 2016
 NIGERIA: NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round VIII – February 2016



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