

Highlights

- As of 25 January, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) medical teams had performed surgeries on 78 people injured during the military airstrike on Rann on 17 January. In Rann itself, 107 people were treated.
- Those who underwent operations had broken limbs, suffered burns or shrapnel wounds.
- A total of 98 people were airlifted for treatment in Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state. The majority of them were children, some of whom were not accompanied by their families. Nigeria Red Cross volunteers are looking after the unaccompanied minors.
- The humanitarian community continues to express shock over the airstrike and show solidarity with the victims and their families. The Nigerian military has said it is investigating the circumstance that led to the incident.



Situation overview

Surgical teams have been working hard to treat the dozens of injured civilians. Over three days, 98 people were evacuated to hospitals in Maiduguri, where two boys in serious condition unfortunately succumbed to their injuries. Nine Nigerian Red Cross Society volunteers remain in critical state. Six of their colleagues died in the bombardment that occurred as they were starting food distribution to displaced people in Rann. The food distribution to 25,000 people was completed on 23 January with the help of local volunteers.

UN Humanitarian Air Service and military helicopters were instrumental in the emergency medical evacuation that saw the UN air service airlift 967 kg of medical cargo to Rann and ferry medical teams to the ground.

Aid agencies have called for better protection of civilians and respect of humanitarian space in the ongoing conflict that has brought deep devastation to millions of people across north-eastern Nigeria. An inter-agency assessment in Rann on 9 January found that around 35,000 people were displaced in the locality, with the majority living in makeshift shelters and lacking sufficient food, water, health and sanitation services.

The long-running conflict has left some 8.5 million people in need of assistance in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe. This year, humanitarian organizations plan to assist 6.9 million people in dire need of nutrition, food, shelter, health, education, protection and water and sanitation. A projected 5.1 million people will face serious food shortages as the conflict and threat of unexploded devices have hampered farming for a third year in a row.