# **Lake Chad Basin:** Crisis Update No. 17

11 July 2017



This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. The next report will be issued in August 2017.

## Regional Highlights

- Only 28.5 per cent of the funds needed for food assistance programmes in north-east Nigeria has been received, prompting cut-backs and readjustments. The Government launches the distribution of 30,000 tons of cereals.
- Humanitarian actors and the authorities in Nigeria's Borno state develop a contingency plan to
  provide life-saving assistance during the current rainy season that carries the risks of flooding, food and
  nutrition insecurity, epidemics and displacement.
- More than 5.6 million children across the region are at risk of contracting waterborne disease as the
  rainy season gets underway. Flooding and roads rendered impassable due to the rains are expected to
  severely limit humanitarian access to remote areas for several weeks.
- Since mid-April, more than 13,000 Nigerian refugees have returned from Cameroon. Aid organisations are providing emergency assistance and preparing long-term measures to assist the returnees.
- Roadside bombs, suicide attacks and raids on villages continue to cause insecurity in Cameroon's Far North region, complicating humanitarian operations and subjecting civilians to persistent danger.

10.7m People in need 8.2m
Targeted for assistance

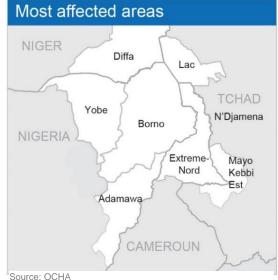
2.4m
People displaced

7.2m
People food insecure at crisis and emergency levels

515k Children suffering from severe acute malnutrition \$1.5b Funding requirement in 2017

### Situation overview

- Food insecurity will significantly deteriorate if adequate level of assistance is not provided. In Nigeria, due to funding constraints and the need to ensure the most vulnerable continue to receive food assistance, WFP has developed a prioritisation plan which includes shifting from status based to needs based targeting of food assistance. In Cameroon, lack of funding has forced the agency to reduce food assistance by 25 per cent to nearly 200,000 Nigerian refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Far North since January. In Niger, WFP has had to review its operational planning and targeting due to lack of funds.
- The rainy season is underway, which is a boost to agriculture, but also compounding the difficulties faced by millions of people displaced by conflict. More than 5.6 million children are at increased risk of contracting waterborne diseases across the region. Flooding and roads rendered impassable due to the downpours are likely to limit humanitarian access to remote localities. The authorities and aid agencies in Nigeria's Borno state have developed a contingency plan for the rainy season. The US\$148 million plan includes time-critical, life-saving activities as prioritised by sectors in the immediate term based on the most likely scenario, but within the overall 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan.



'Source: OCHA
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used
on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by
the United Nations.

#### **Population Movement**

- More than 13,000 Nigerian refugees have returned from Cameroon since mid-April. Partners have raised concerns about the increasing influx of refugees to border areas including Banki, Pulka and Gwoza where facilities and available resources are already overstretched. Aid organisations are providing emergency assistance and preparing long-term measures to support the returnees.
- Around 900 Nigerian refugees left Minawao camp in Cameroon's Far North region on 17 June for Nigeria. They were reportedly escorted by Cameroonian authorities up to Amchidé, a border-town close to Banki town, where the convoy was handed over to the Nigerian authorities. Most of those returning are originally from Pulka town in Nigeria's north-east. Efforts are underway to set up a humanitarian hub in Banki to assist the new arrivals.
- More than 11,000 Nigerian refugees in Niger have reportedly returned to Damasak town in Nigeria between January and May. However, much of the cross-border movements are reportedly back-and-forth, with many people returning to Niger due to insufficient humanitarian aid, loss of means of subsistence, limited access to basic services and insecurity experienced outside of the camps in Nigeria.
- Nine suspected Boko Haram fighters and over 100 accomplices were apprehended by Nigerian authorities during a screening process for 920 refugees who arrived in the border area of Banki from Cameroon on 28 June.

#### **Food Insecurity and Malnutrition**

- Food prices have begun to rise in several localities in the region, as household stocks decline and market demand increases, according to Famine Early Warning Systems Network. In Niger, millet and sorghum prices are 27 -30 percent higher than average in Zinder, Nguigmi and Maradi markets. In Nigeria, currency depreciation has caused inflation, especially in conflict areas where prices are about 150 per cent higher than in 2015.
- On 12 June Chad's Ministry of Production, Irrigation and Agriculture declared a crisis over diminishing pasture in eight regions of the central Sahel belt and in northern Chad. Recurrent rainfall deficits in recent years have accelerated desertification and reduction of pastureland and water, particularly in the Sahel belt. The situation has significantly worsened since February, leading to an early pastoral lean season and livestock deaths. Herders begun migrating earlier than usual. This has sparked tensions over access to water and grazing land and increased conflicts between the herders themselves and with farmers. The Food Security cluster is in contact with the ministry to jointly develop a plan to tackle the crisis.

#### **Protection**

- Nigeria's army has pledged to investigate alleged sexual exploitation and abuse of displaced women in certain camps in the north-eastern region. A local rights group launched a petition in June, reporting that displaced women at a camp in Bama town and hospital have accused soldiers and members of a civilian vigilante group of rape and demanding sex, jewellery and clothing in exchange for food. The military said it was not aware of the incidents, but promised to investigate.
- Chadian authorities on 7 June began the issuance of official documentation to 4,500 returnees living in the outskirts of the capital N'Djamena. The humanitarian community is advocating similar measures for around 70,000 returnees in the south of the country where they have lived since 2013. Ninety-two per cent of all Chadian returnees do not have any official documentation.

## Advocacy and Humanitarian Funding

- Partners are working on the first allocation of the Nigerian Humanitarian Fund established in February 2017. The first allocation of \$10 million will be split between three priorities: (i) increase access in hard to reach areas in north-east Nigeria; (ii) enhance protection of civilians in vulnerable communities, including establishing mechanism to monitor human rights violations and referral to protection services; and (iii) increase ability to respond to emergency needs where flooding, disease outbreaks, or new displacements take place. A second allocation will be in August.
- Following the UN Secretary-General call for action in February 2017, several high-level events have been organised on the four African and Middle-Eastern countries threatened by famine. In north-east Nigeria, a highlevel event on preventing famine was held on the margins of the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment on 21 June. Panellists and partners called for increased and flexible humanitarian funding, reinforced humanitarian access and more sustainable engagement in working towards solutions.

## **Operational Updates by Country**

#### **Nigeria**



PEOPLE IN NEED (2017)



INTERNALLY DISPLACED



PEOPLE TARGETED (2017)



6.9м

SEVERELY MALNOURISHED CHII DREN





 $1.05_{B}$ 

SEVERELY FOOD INSECURE



5.2<sub>M</sub>

- More than 13,000 Nigerian refugees have returned from Cameroon since mid-April. The influx has overstretched the already inadequate infrastructure and services in towns and localities. The population of Banki, a town on the Cameroon-Nigeria border, has increased from 28,000 people in mid-March to over 44,000 in mid-May. Aid organisations are providing emergency assistance and preparing long-term measures to assist the returnees.
- Only 28.5 per cent of funds for food security programmes has been received even as the lean season gets underway and food shortages worsen. WFP has been forced to cut emergency food aid for 400,000 people and aid groups providing food assistance have had to re-prioritise response. The Government has launched a new food assistance programme to distribute 30,000 metric tons of cereals. It is also willing to provide additional 5,000 metric tons of rice to any humanitarian organisation interested in distributing it. A Task Force within the Food Security Sector has been established to support the Government in better defining its response and ensuring there are no overlap.
- According to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the ongoing food distribution launched a month ago by the Government of Nigeria has so far reached 120,000 people in eight camps and informal settlements/host communities across Maiduguri, the Borno state capital hosting a vast majority of the displaced populations. The government had announced the release of 30,000 metric tons of food, including cereals, millet, rice and beans for populations across the north-east region with the introduction of a door-to-door delivery of food to minimize the risk of diversion and theft by officials.
- Nigeria's drug law enforcement agency raised concerns that the trauma of displacement and constant threat of Boko Haram attacks have led IDPs, mostly women and girls in Borno state, to drug addiction/abuse, including to tramadol and cough syrups containing codeine, as a coping mechanism. Partners are scaling up psychosocial services, including counselling sessions to manage cases of drug addiction and depression among IDPs.
- The army on 6 June said it will investigate alleged sexual exploitation and abuse of female IDPs by soldiers following a petition by a local rights group. Some women IDPs at Bama camp and hospital have accused soldiers and members of a civilian vigilante group of rape and demanding sex, jewellery and clothing in exchange for food. In a statement, the military said it was not aware of the incidents, but pledged to investigate.
- On 18 June, suspected Boko Haram attackers killed 16 people near Dalori camp for the displaced in Borno state. The National Emergency Agency said the attack was carried out by four female suicide bombers, two of whom tried to gain entrance to the camp where security agents intercepted them. An unspecified number of people were wounded in the Dalori Kofa village. Attacks targeting sites hosting the displaced in Borno's capital Maiduguri have been on the rise.

#### Cameroon



PEOPLE IN NEED (2017)



1.6м

INTERNALLY DISPLACED

204k

PEOPLE TARGETED (2017)



767k

REFUGEES



2017 REQUIREMENTS (US\$)



191м

SEVERELY FOOD INSECURE



**1.5**M

- On 17 June, around 900 refugees left Minawao camp for Nigeria through Banki town. Cameroonian authorities reportedly escorted the trucks ferrying the refugees up to Amchidé, a border-town close to Banki, where the convoy was handed over to the Nigerian authorities. Most of those returning are originally from Pulka town in Nigeria's north-east. Efforts are underway to set up a humanitarian hub in Banki to assist the new arrivals.
- Forceful returns of Nigerian refugees have continued and regional authorities started to publicly express their intention to send back Nigerians from Kolofata, where they have sought refuge. On 27 June, UNHCR reported that the almost 900 Nigerian refugees, most of them children, were rounded up and forcibly moved to Banki town in Nigeria by a joint Nigeria-Cameroon operation. This brings up to 4,300 the number of refugees forcefully returned to Nigeria against their will this year. This is in addition to 76,000 forced returns in 2016. UNHCR and partners continue to conduct awareness campaigns to inform refugees that security conditions and assistance are not yet sufficient to make returns safe and sustainable in their areas of origin.
- Since April when the movements started, more than 13,000 refugees have left Minawao to go back to Nigeria. According to the refugees, most have decided to leave after receiving information from their relatives on reported improvements in the security situation in their areas of origin.
- Five suicide bombings rocked the Far North region between 7 and 10 June. Roadside bombs and suicide attacks are the main causes of insecurity in the region, complicating humanitarian operations. The five attacks occurred in Mora and Kolofata localities, Mayo-Sava Department, which host thousands of people displaced by persistent Boko Haram attacks. As of June 28, a total of 17 suicide attacks have been reported in the Department.
- Despite major access challenges, both in terms of security and road practicability as the rainy season begun, the humanitarian community continues to provide live-saving assistance in Logone-and-Chari department in the north-east of Cameroon, NGOs and UN agencies have strengthened their operational presence in the main town of Kousseri to facilitate project deployment and multi-sectoral meetings are held there every two weeks to facilitate coordination.
- Partners have started to implement projects through the \$10 million allocated through CERF Under Funded Emergency window for the crisis in Far North region. UNICEF reported that 12,000 WASH kits have already been purchased and distributed to host communities. CODAS Caritas and ALDEPA started their field activities to provide protection to conflict-affected women and children. FAO reported that more than 60 tons of seeds and 150 tons of fertilizer have been distributed.

#### Chad



PEOPLE IN NEED (2017)

INTERNALLY DISPLACED

104k



345k

233k

PEOPLE TARGETED (2017)

2017 REQUIREMENTS (US\$)



**121**M

REFUGEES



SEVERELY FOOD INSECURE



**123**k

- Multiple security incidents, mostly attacks by armed men against villages in Tchoukoutalia and Kaiga Kindiiria areas, have affected humanitarian access and the protection of civilians in the Lac region. Several new displacements have been reported, with more than 700 people reportedly displaced to five displacement sites in the northern part of the Lac region. A new displacement site has also been discovered at the end of June, where many households are reported to come from Wangui village, which was the scene of an attack at the end of May, 3km away from Tchoukoutalia. A rapid assessment is under preparation to confirm this information.
- 160 protection incidents have been reported in May through the protection monitoring mechanism set up by UNHCR and the Chadian Red Cross. The most substantial increase is in Kaiga village, where 22.5 per cent of the cases have been registered. Violations of the right to property are the most recurrent, followed by violations of the right to life and physical integrity. Presumed authors are, in many cases, elements of an armed group, followed by men in uniform.
- 134 cases of gender-based violence have been reported in May by the GBV sub-cluster. Psychological violence represents half of the cases. 89 per cent of victims are internally displaced women, 7 per cent are women from host communities and 4 per cent are refugee women. Legal care continues to be the most substantial gap: only 6 per cent of victims received legal assistance in May.
- According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification analysis, more than 312,000 people will be food insecure during the June - August lean season, with more than 123,000 facing severe food insecurity. In addition, 14,810 Chadian returnees and 8,218 refugees will suffer from significant food scarcity. This brings to more than 335,000 the number of people food insecure, of whom 146,000 severely food insecure. Due to lack of funding, less than 10 per cent of the food security needs of local populations are currently being covered.
- A multisector needs assessment conducted from 7 9 June on Kangalom island identified 11.000 returnees in need of humanitarian assistance. WASH and education are the top priorities, followed by distributions of nonfood items, access to documentation, and emergency food assistance during the lean season. This difficult-toaccess area was previously considered empty following evacuations in 2015. Return movements have already been observed in the island area south of Bol, where 40,000 people have been identified by a multisector assessment in February 2017.
- 19 new outpatient nutritional units were opened by partners in Liwa and Bol health districts in May. This allowed the care of 3,098 cases of severe acute malnutrition in the Lac region, which represents a 20 per cent increase since April.
- Following the suspected case of hepatitis E identified by MSF on 24 May, health and WASH partners have developed preventive measures including strengthening of epidemiological surveillance, training of health staff on hepatitis E, training of community volunteers to increase sensitizations on good hygiene practices, and water treatment. Around 1,800 people including 48 per cent of women have been sensitized on the prevention of hepatitis E and hygiene practices by the NGO OXFAM in May.
- UN agencies, NGOs, donors and local authorities on 6 June held the first Humanitarian-Development Forum in an initial step to develop a joint approach to address the chronic vulnerabilities in Chad. The New Way of Working, a key outcome of the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, and priority for Chad's crisis-affected regions was at the heart of the discussion. Participants agreed to better link humanitarian and development programmes and strengthen analysis of development challenges. Priorities for durable solutions in the Lac region include supporting voluntary returns in a secure context, ensuring a response to the most urgent needs of both displaced and host communities, strengthening livelihoods and local development, and improving existing basic social services.

#### Niger



PEOPLE IN NEED (2017)

340k

PEOPLE TARGETED (2017) 326k

2017 REQUIREMENTS (US\$)



140м

SEVERELY FOOD INSECURE



340k

INTERNALLY DISPLACED



106k

**REFUGEES** 

- The Council of Ministers meeting held on 18 June 2017 has extended the state of emergency in the Diffa region for an additional 3 months. The state of emergency was initially declared in February 2015 following a Boko Haram attack on Diffa and Bosso towns.
- There are currently 247,9911 forcibly displaced people in the Diffa region. New displacements are mainly internal, and due to ongoing military operations and recent Boko Haram attacks. On 15 June, 178 households were reported to have fled from Fefewa village to Mambio village in Nguigmi department following a Boko Haram attack on 26 May.
- 7 security incidents related to Boko Haram activities were recorded during the month of June. Attacks are increasingly targeting health facilities. On 23 June, Assaga Health Facility located at 15 km East of Diffa, was looted and medical supplies burgled.
- At least four people including two internally displaced persons and one inhabitant of the Kablewa camp<sup>2</sup> died in a female suicide bomber attack on 28 June. Eleven other people injured by the explosion were admitted in the local health centre. Since the beginning of the crisis, this is the first terrorist attack directly targeting displaced people in the Diffa region. According to the Regional Civil Census Direction statistics in May 2017, the camp hosts 16,512 persons, of whom 452 are refugees<sup>3</sup> and 15,947 IDPs. Following the incident, regional authorities have expressed their will to see the camp relocated to a more secure area beyond the National Road 1, and refugees transferred to Sayam Forage refugee camp.
- The hepatitis E outbreak announced in April 2017 is still spreading out in the region. On 29 June, 1,096 cases had been reported, with 34 deaths. Ninety-seven per cent of the cases were recorded in the Diffa, Bosso, and Nguigmi districts.
- Between January and May 2017, 290,000 persons received food assistance with 21,417 tons distributed and 1,3 billion CFA distributed in cash.

<sup>1</sup> Source: DREC, May, 2017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The camp of Kablewa hosting IDP only.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The 452 refugees temporarily located in Kablewa will be transferred to Sayam refugees' camp

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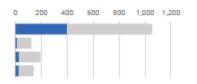
Figures in US\$ HRP Funding Unmet Requirement

REQUIREMENT US\$ 1.5 billion
FUNDING US\$ 465.0 million
UNMET REQUIREMENT US\$ 1.0 billion



#### CONTRIBUTION PER COUNTRY

			Unmet	
Location	Requirement	Funding	Requirement	Coverage
Nigeria	1,054,431,494	398,131,325	656,300,169	37.8%
Chad	121,261,684	13,888,782	107,372,902	11.5%
Cameroon	191,437,412	28,199,535	163,237,877	14.7%
Niger	139,610,848	24,774,458	114,836,390	17.7%



CONTRIBUTION PER CLUSTER					
Cluster	Requirement	Funding	Coverage		
Food Security	645,064,888	154,988,662	24%		
Nutrition	160,066,320	71,311,283	45%		
Protection	145,167,576	36,865,907	25%		
Health	125,144,616	16,936,883	14%		
Shelter & NFIs	90,871,098	10,137,810	11%		
Education	84,055,988	11,839,215	14%		
WASH	81,215,927	16,617,428	20%		
Early Recovery	62,539,597	28,701	0%		
MultiSector	45,162,544	1,772,862	4%		
Coordination	37,807,417	22,868,801	60%		
Logistics	12,238,706	12,037,695	98%		
CCCM	11,560,000	#VALUE!	-		
Telecoms	5,846,761	2,437,415	42%		
CI. not specified	0	104,687,832	-		

Donor	Contribution	Pledge
JSA, Government of	103,711,758	-
ECHO	87,688,455	-
United Kingdom, Government of	54,559,851	-
Germany, Government of	45,840,838	4,343,106
CERF	42,629,498	-
Sweden, Government of	26,684,524	-
WFP	25,256,934	-
Canada, Government of	17,824,651	-
lorway, Government of	13,815,888	-
Japan, Government of	9,905,260	-

#### CONTRIBUTION PER COUNTRY AND PER CLUSTER

Cluster	Requirement	Funding	Coverage
Food Security	55,387,226	5,495,514	10%
MultiSector	33,384,663	1,772,862	5%
Protection	18,343,842	3,597,889	20%
Early Recovery	17,986,008	-	0%
Nutrition	17,023,664	2,751,650	16%
WASH	13,698,474	3,315,214	24%
Education	11,753,684	2,251,311	19%
Health	11,646,815	3,423,264	29%
Coordination	6,613,755	3,831,762	58%
Shelter & NFIs	5,599,281	1,760,069	31%

Cluster	Requirement	Funding	Coverage
Food Security	49,034,862	4,081,844	8%
Nutrition	25,301,122	642,187	3%
MultiSector	11,777,881	-	0%
Protection	11,357,945	3,556,479	31%
Health	10,669,960	2,185,202	20%
Education	6,641,907	959,464	14%
WASH	3,881,207	-	0%
Shelter/Cccm	2,596,800	-	0%

#### NIGER

Cluster	Requirement	Funding	Coverage
Food Security	60,382,367	8,769,055	15%
Protection	27,191,638	4,253,354	16%
WASH	13,900,000	3,441,377	25%
Shelter & NFIs	12,342,581	3,587,976	29%
Education	9,321,153	2,453,604	26%
Health	9,000,243	2,269,092	25%
Nutrition	7,472,866	-	0%

#### NIGERIA

Cluster	Requirement	Funding	Coverage
Food Security	480,260,433	136,642,249	28%
Nutrition	110,268,668	67,917,446	62%
Health	93,827,598	9,059,325	10%
Protection	88,274,151	25,458,185	29%
Shelter & NFIs	70,332,436	4,789,765	7%
Education	56,339,244	6,174,836	11%
WASH	49,736,246	9,860,837	20%
Early Recovery	44,553,589	28,701	0%
Coordination	31,193,662	19,037,039	61%
Logistics	12,238,706	12,037,695	98%
CCCM	11,560,000	-	0%
Telecoms	5,846,761	2,437,415	42%
CL not specified	_	104 687 832	_