

Cameroonian refugee situation, Nigeria

16 - 31 July 2018

On 18th July, **healthcare coverage and in-patient care was extended** to Cameroonian refugees living in Akampka (275 individuals) and Calabar municipal (300 individuals) in Cross River state.

Clearing and construction works started in the **new Adagom settlement**, (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state) that will accommodate up to 4,000 refugees.

On 17th July, 185 Cameroonian refugees benefitted from **voluntary HIV/AIDS counselling** and testing services in Anyake settlement (Adikpo, Benue state).

KEY INDICATORS

21,291

Cameroonian refugees registered with Level 1 registration
[October 2017 – March 2018]

5,708

Cameroonian refugees registered with biometrics
[as of 31st July 2018]

1,873

Cameroonian refugees living in Anyake settlement, Benue State [as of 31st July 2018]



Workings ongoing in Ogoja settlement to welcome refugees in August © Rhema Care

Update On Achievements

- **New settlement** – UNHCR and its partners started clearing and construction works in Adagom site (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state), including rehabilitation of the transit center, set up of WASH facilities and access to water, access roads and warehouses. The site was granted to UNHCR on 12 June 2018 by Cross River state Government with the support of State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA). According to the last land survey, the settlement comprised 62 hectares (out of which around 44 hectares are usable land) with a capacity of around 4,000 individuals. The first relocation is planned for August. Refugees will first be accommodated in the transit center and after that in family emergency shelters, before the distribution of kits to build permanent shelters.
- **Protection** – UNHCR Protection identified 49 cases of people with specific needs, including persons with disabilities, chronic diseases, unaccompanied and separated children, and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) during the registration exercise held in Biajua (Boki Local Government Area, Cross River state) between 12th and 25th July 2018. Cases in need of medical attention have been referred to UNHCR healthcare partner Health Initiative for Safety and Stability in Africa (HIFASS) and survivors of SGBV received emergency psycho-social counselling by UNHCR, who was searching for

appropriate institutions for full referral. Unaccompanied and separated children were identified and Best Interest Assessments will be conducted.

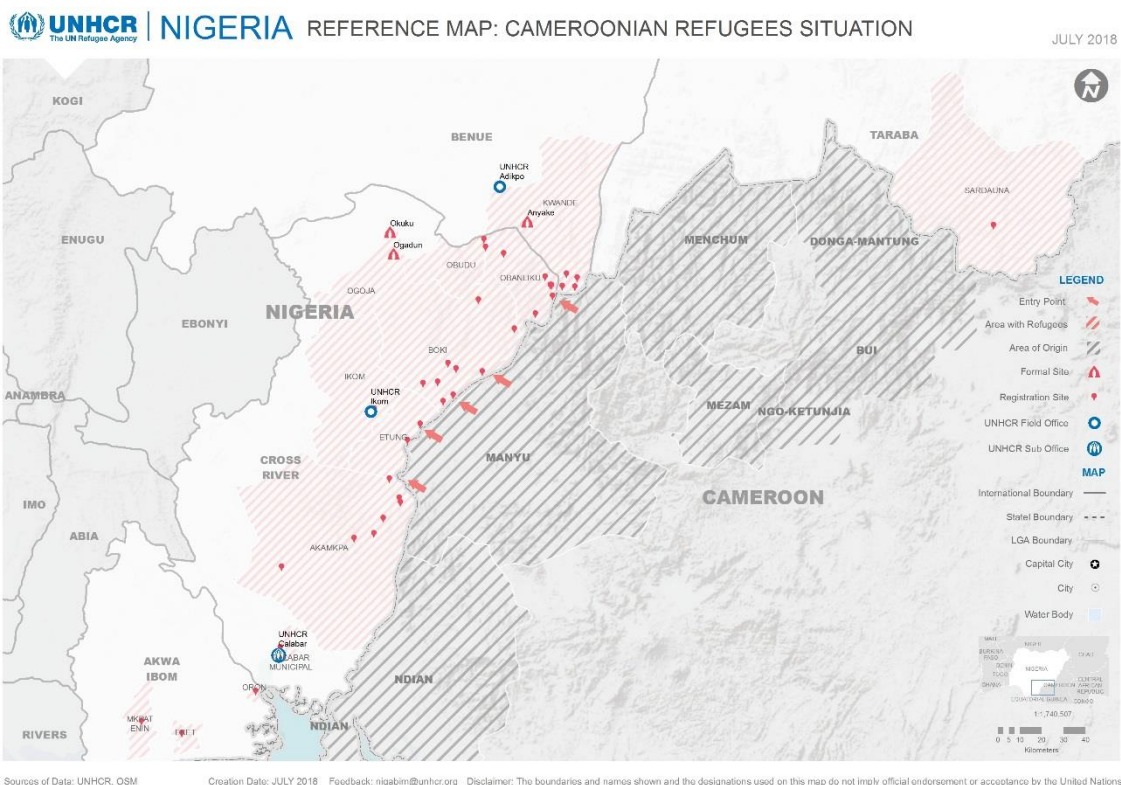
- **Relocation** – During the reporting period, 110 spontaneous arrivals were recorded, including 24 minors reunified with their families. UNHCR conducted follow – up family visits to the reunified families, and additional food and non-food items were provided. Counting in all the spontaneous arrivals, the total number of refugees living in Anyake is 1,873 as of 31st July 2018.
- **Registration** – UNHCR and National Commission for Refugees (NCFRMI) continued verification and registration of refugees with biometrics (including new arrivals) in the localities of Ikom (Ikom Local Government Area), Biajua and Abo Police, Boki Local Government Area, Cross River state.
- As of 28th July 2018, 7,195 refugees were verified using ProGres database, among whom 3,562 were new arrivals (including new-born babies, new arrivals and people living in remote locations not attended by level 1 registration). Among those verified, 5,708 had their biometric data captured.
- 1,365 Individual Identification cards were distributed to refugees as of 27th July 2018.
- **Shelter** – During the reporting period, 24 households from Anyake settlement (Adikpo, Benue state), completed the construction of their permanent shelter. Refugees received the certificate of completion and the final cash grant that will allow them to put finishing touches to their shelter. Distribution of shelter kit materials (including bricks, a bag of cement, nails, corrugated iron sheets, timber) and cash grant for labourers continued as well for other 37 refugee households. The project, funded by EU Humanitarian Aid, will support the construction of permanent shelters for 4,000 Cameroonian refugees.
- **Food and non-food items** – from 19th to 21st July, in the localities of Agbokim Waterfall and Ajassor (Etung Local Government Area, Cross River state), 71 refugee households (176 individuals) received food (rice, beans, oil, sugar and salt) and non-food items (soap, detergent, sanitary pads). Moreover, the same distribution was carried out in Anyake settlement for 40 refugee households (74 individuals).
- **Healthcare** – on 17th July, 185 Cameroonian refugees benefitted from voluntary HIV/AIDS counselling and testing services in Anyake settlement (Adikpo, Benue state) with the support of UNHCR healthcare partner HIFASS and the local NGO “Critical Case and Critical Research Nigeria”. Two positive cases have been identified and started Antiretroviral Therapy in Primary Health Care Center Igyom (Adikpo, Benue state).
- On 18th July, HIFASS extended healthcare coverage and in-patient care to Cameroonian refugees living in Akampka (275 individuals) and Calabar municipal (300 individuals) in Cross River state.
- **Nutrition** - On 23rd July, nutritional assessment was initiated by UNHCR partner HIFASS with the aim to establish general nutritional status of the refugees living in Anyake settlement and to detect malnutrition cases. No cases of malnutrition were detected out of 115 individuals screened during the reporting period. The assessment will continue to cover the entire refugee population of the settlement. Prior to the assessment, Benue state Nutrition Coordinator was approached by the partner in order to align and coordinate interventions. Moreover, the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC), supporting nutrition programmes for Internally Displaced People in the area, was approached to include refugees in their programme.
- **Water, sanitation and Hygiene** – A water tank in Ikom transit center (Cross River state) was rehabilitated by UNHCR partner HIFASS. The tank will give the possibility to increase the quality and quantity of clean water provided for 250 refugees living in the centre. Three water containers of 200 L were also given to Primary Health Center Igyom (Adikpo, Benue state) to allow water storage and improve hygiene.

Critical needs and priorities

- **Education** – A rapid education assessment was conducted in Calabar area, where 300 urban refugees live. Gaps on education are evidenced on the extremely low school enrolment; stood at 25% by February 2018. Main reasons cited by parents were the inability to provide for school materials, tuition fees and desks, while still being able to meet their household priorities. As a result, 75% of children are out of school and have not been in school for the past two academic years as a result of political strife within Cameroon. These challenges expose children to risks of abuse and exploitation within their communities. Following UNHCR advocacy, the Ministry of Education remains committed to supporting refugee children access education in Cross River State. Additional funding is needed to support refugees with those fees, for provision of school material and uniforms, for rehabilitation of school infrastructures and additional teachers at the benefit of both refugees and host communities.
- **Protection** – Border monitoring missions conducted in border localities of Abande and Ugugu (Benue state) reported presence of newly arrived refugees who are willing to relocate to Anyake settlement. In Abande, 79 new arrivals were found in urgent need of assistance, and people with specific needs were identified. In Ugugu, there were 75 refugees who move from Cross River state hoping to be relocated to Anyake settlement as well. UNHCR will assess the capacity of the site to address the situation.
- **Healthcare** – UNHCR conducted monitoring of two healthcare facilities where refugees receive treatment in Benue state: Abande Primary Health Care Centre and Igyom Primary Health Care Centre. There was need for additional drugs, beds, mattresses and trolleys. Also hygiene (waste disposal and protection of water sources) need to be improved.

Working in partnership

- Together with the Nigerian Government, through the National Commission for Refugees (NCFRMI), and State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), UNHCR ensures international protection and delivery of multi-sectoral assistance to the Cameroonian refugees and has established a monthly coordination meeting in Calabar to foster closer collaboration with other UN agencies and humanitarian actors. The following partners implement specific sector activities in this situation: Benue State NGO Network - BENGONET, Catholic Caritas Foundation Nigeria – CCFN, Catholic Diocese of Makurdi – Foundation for Justice Development and Peace – FJDP, Health Initiative for Safety and Stability in Africa – HIFASS, MEDATRIX Development Foundation, National Commission for Refugees – NCFRMI and RHEMACARE. Other partners also deliver services to the Cameroonian refugees with their own resources such as ADRA, Save the Children and NCA.



CONTACTS

Elizabeth Mpimbaza, Snr External Relation Officer, BO Abuja - Nigeria,
 mpimbaza@unhcr.org, Cell +234 809 016 143 8

Chiara Cavalcanti, Reporting Officer, SO Calabar – Nigeria, cavalkan@unhcr.org,
 Cell + 234 908 748 663 5

LINKS

[UNHCR Nigeria website](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria on Global Focus](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria Facebook page](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria Twitter account](#)