

Cameroonian refugee situation, Nigeria

16 - 30 November 2018

6,576 refugees received **cash support** to purchase the **food** of their choice in Adagom and Anyake settlements (Cross River and Benue states).

2,235 refugees were registered into the **National Health Insurance Scheme**, to improve access to health care services in Anyake settlement (Benue state).

288 refugees received **cash grant** for **business startup** after completion of their vocational training in Anyake and Adagom settlements (Benue and Cross River states).

KEY INDICATORS

32,601

Cameroonian refugees registered with Level 1 and Level 2 registration [As of 30th November 2018]

2,790

Cameroonian refugees registered in Anyake settlement, Benue State [as of 30th November 2018]

6,464

Cameroonian refugees registered in Adagom settlement, Cross River State [as of 30th November 2018]



UNHCR Regional Representative with refugees in their permanent shelter in Adagom settlement, Cross River state. ©UNHCR/L. Agiende

Operational Context

- Cameroonian refugees continued to arrive in Nigeria during the reporting period. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) partner Caritas recorded some 759 new arrivals in the border localities of Akamkpa, Bakassi, and Calabar (Cross River state).
- The Humanitarian Advisor, from the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DfID), Africa Regional Department visited Anyake refugee settlement (Kwande Local Government Area, Benue state) to assess the Cameroonian refugee situation. On the visit, Stephane Quinton, held consultations with host community members, government officials, traditional authorities, and refugees.
- UNHCR Regional Representative for West Africa and the Country Representative in Nigeria undertook a mission to Benue states and held meetings with key government officials, host community members, and traditional authorities to discuss challenges encountered by UNHCR and its humanitarian partners in the Anyake refugee settlement (Benue state).

Update on Achievements

- **Protection** – UNHCR in collaboration with partners including the government carried out participatory assessments with refugees in both Adagom and Anyake settlements. Key areas of discussion include: Registration and Documentation, Health, Security, Sexual and Gender Based Violence, Education and Child Protection, Shelter, Water and Sanitation, Livelihoods, Cash Based Interventions, etc. A total of 369 refugees (including 181 males and 188 females) from 10 years and older participated in the assessments. Key findings from the assessments indicate that about 98 percent of the refugees lack civil status documentation, namely, birth and marriage certificates; refugees engage in negative coping mechanisms due to limited livelihood opportunities; lack of access to financial/banking services and risks of arrest due to lack of recognition of refugee identity cards by various institutions.
- UNHCR facilitated a one-day capacity building session on 27 November 2018 for 37 officers of the Nigerian Immigration Service in Calabar (Cross River state) on international refugee protection. During the session, the officials were sensitized on rights of refugees including the issue of refugee ID card recognition to facilitate freedom of movement by refugees, amongst others.
- **Registration** – As of 30 November 2018, UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (NCFRMI) have registered a total of **32,601**, of which 17,702 were biometrically verified.
- **Relocation** – One hundred sixty-one individuals arrived spontaneously to Anyake settlement (Kwande Local Government Area, Benue state). As of 30 November 2018, the population of the settlement accounted to **2,790** registered individuals. Moreover, 902 spontaneous arrivals were recorded in Adagom settlement (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state), bringing the population of the settlement to **6,464** registered individuals as of 30 November 2018.
- **New settlement** – The land survey and blocks demarcation of the two new refugee sites in Okende and Akpakpanga (Ogoja, Cross River state) were completed during the reporting period while the site clearing and road construction were ongoing.
- **Livelihood** – On 23 November 2018, UNHCR partner Mediatrix started the distribution of cash grants for business start-ups to refugees and host community members who had completed their vocational training in Cross River and Benue states. So far, 288 out of 410 beneficiaries who completed the training have received the cash grant. The distribution will continue in the coming weeks.
- **Food** – On 16 November 2018, cash-based interventions (CBI) for food to refugees started in Anyake and Adagom settlements (Benue and Cross River states). In total, 6,576 individuals (1,933 households) received cash support.
- **Education** – UNHCR has so far distributed cash grants for education to 69 refugee students in primary and secondary schools in Calabar (Cross River state) to facilitate school enrolment and retention. This includes: tuition fees, textbooks, school uniforms, shoes, writing materials, and schoolbags. Similar support is ongoing for over 2,000 refugee children in the 2 settlements.
- On 23 November 2018, the local NGO Family Care without Borders (FCWB) distributed schoolbags to four hundred refugee and host community pupils of St. Peters Primary School in Adagom (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state).

- **Health care** – During the reporting period, UNHCR partner Rhema Care provided health assistance to 617 refugee children between one and five years of age in Adagom settlement.
- From 24 to 26 November 2018, UNHCR, in collaboration with NCFRMI, commenced enrolment of refugees into the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) to improve access and quality of health-care services to refugees. 2,235 refugees were registered thus far.
- **Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)** – During the reporting period, UNHCR partner Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) started the construction of latrines in the new refugee settlement of Akpakpanga in Cross River state. It is to be noted that NCA will be phasing out at the end of December 2018. The main gap in the WASH sector remains insufficient water supply in the settlements.

Working in partnership

- Together with the Nigerian Government, 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: Catholic Caritas Foundation Nigeria (CCFN); Catholic Diocese of Makurdi – Foundation for Justice Development and Peace (FJDP); MEDATRIX Development Foundation; Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) and Rhema Care Integrated Development Centre. Other partners also deliver services to the Cameroonian refugees with their own resources such as ADRA, ICRC, MSF, Save the Children, UNFPA and WHO.

CONTACTS

Josiah Flomo, Head of Sub Office, Calabar – Nigeria,
Cell + 2348090160750

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

LINKS

[UNHCR Operational Portal : Nigeria Country Page](#) - [UNHCR Nigeria website](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria on Global Focus](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria Facebook page](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria Twitter account](#) – [Web Story: Cameroonian refugees flee clashes and find safety in Nigeria.](#)

