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# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# OVERVIEW OF PSWG OPERATIONAL IMPACT IN 2018

In 2018, the **Protection Sector**, including the **Child Protection, Gender-Based Violence, Mine Action and Housing, Land and Property Sub-Sectors**, focused upon the identification of people with critical levels of vulnerability and provision of life-saving protection assistance to meet their needs. The Protection Sector reached 2,586,884 individuals, 83% of which were in Borno state, 9% in Yobe and 8% in Adamawa, in North East Nigeria. This amounts to the Sector reaching 96% of the targeted 2.7 million people in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states.

## Geographic concentration

Protection Sector partners concentrated their operations in the areas most critically affected by conflict in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states, reaching the greatest numbers of individuals in Maiduguri MMC, Gwoza, Dikwa, Bama, Ngala, Jere and Konduga, Monguno, Damboa and Damaruru LGAs. Thereafter, Mafa, Hawul, Biu, Kala/Balge, Gujba, Hong, Kwaya Kusar, Bade, Mobbar, Gulani, Potiskum, Mubi South, Mubi North and Michika LGAs were the locations with the greatest numbers reached.

## Protection

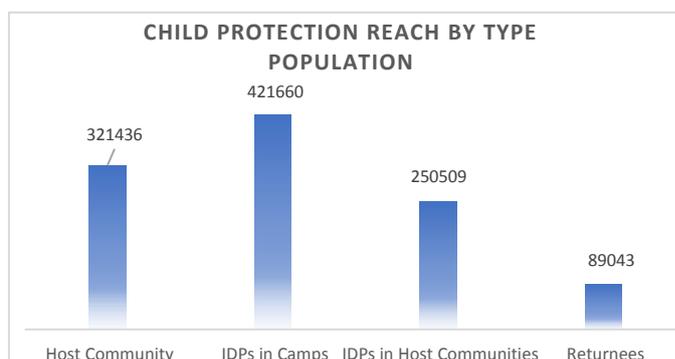
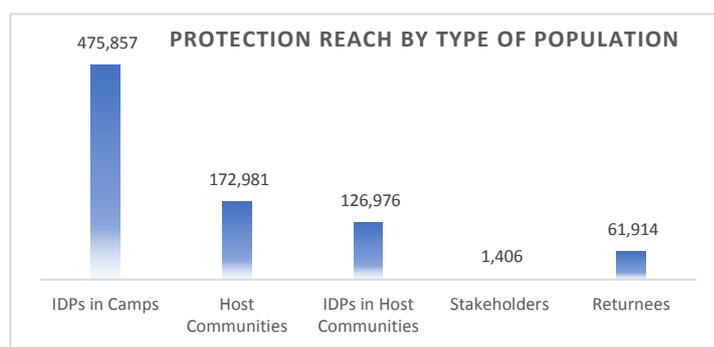
From January-December 2018, protection actors reached 697,045 individuals (172,959 girls, 150,964 boys, 194,575 women, 143,304 men) with services covering general protection interventions, mine action and housing, land and property. This includes 201,340 individuals who were **profiled, monitored and registered** to identify their particular protection needs. 194,769 persons were provided with **legal documentation** including birth certificates, statutory declarations of age and indigene letters to prevent

protection risks stemming from lack of identification and as the basis documents towards receiving a national ID card. Additionally, 140,455 vulnerable individuals were delivered **protection-based material assistance** to reduce protection risks, including solar lanterns, hygiene kits, charcoal and energy-efficient cooking stoves. 15,622 men, women, boys and girls were empowered with **livelihood** skills through specialized trainings, supplying them with start-up kits and establishing cooperative societies. 15,068 persons were reached with **legal aid and services**, including on **housing, land and property** issues. Such interventions include legal representation in court and legal counselling, through visits to detention facilities including police/prison visits and mobile courts within two IDP camps to bring justice closer to the people. 10,132 individual cases identified through protection monitoring were **referred for appropriate and specialized services** and 4,766 stakeholders were provided with **training** on core protection principles, including comprehensive capacity building for 447 members of **security forces** operating in field locations through 19 training sessions. Capacity building activities also included 8 protection mainstreaming and 12 gender mainstreaming trainings.

## Child Protection

In 2018, child protection actors in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states reached a total of 759,102 children (353,584 girls, 405,518 boys) and 323,121 caregivers (161,150 women, 162,396 men) with child protection services. A total of 495,588 children and caregivers (243,037 female, 252,551 male) were reached with **psychosocial support services** whilst 119,092 community members (70,494 female, 48,598 male) were reached through **awareness raising** on child care and child protection including on grave child rights violations. Out of a

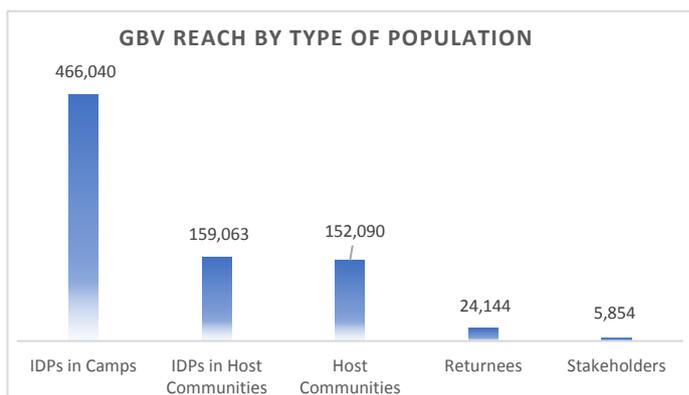
total of 21,059 unaccompanied and separated children and children with other protection risks who were identified by child protection partners, 907 children (303 girls, 604 boys) were **reunified with the parents/caregivers** and 6,034 children (2,944 girls, 3,090 boys) were **placed in alternative care and received follow up** visits by child protection staff. A total of 690 children and



adults (200 female, 490 male) associated with armed groups were **released from administrative detention** in 2018; a total of 833 (139 girls, 694 boys) were **formally handed over by the Civilian Joint Taskforce (CJTF)** to their families and relatives. In addition, 2,547 girls and 2,330 boys associated with armed groups received **socio-economic reintegration services**<sup>1</sup> including 120 girls and 361 boys who were handed over by the Civilian Joint Task Force as of December 2018. **Explosive Ordnance Risk Education** activities conducted by child protection partners reached 177,015 children and caregivers (78,305 female, 100,465 male). The Child Protection Sub-Sector developed **referral directories** for 16 LGAs in Borno state to improve the quality of information available for referral and action for child protection cases. There was a notable increase in the representation and participation of the number of national organizations in the Sub-Sector.

## Gender-Based Violence

Between January and December 2018, GBV Sub-Sector partners collectively reached 807,191 individuals with various GBV prevention and response activities covering 50 LGAs in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (500,576 of which were through projects monitoring by the Humanitarian Response Plan). 572,616 individuals were **sensitized on GBV principles** and/or engaged in community activities; 239,760 were reached with **psychological first aid and mental health and psychosocial support services**; 17,423 women and girls were reached with critical **material support**; 15,437 women and girls at risk of GBV were benefited from **livelihood** activities; 7,792 individuals were supported with **case management and referrals**; 3,679 survivors and persons at risk of GBV benefited from **access to justice** mechanisms; 2,061 persons received life-saving **medical care** (including clinical management of rape/sexual assault/violence). 85 healthcare facilities were supported to provide GBV response services and 67 **Women and Girls Friendly Spaces** were supported by 16 partners to facilitate access to various services. 119 health facilities received equipment and supplies necessary for providing clinical management of rape treatment. 15 locations were covered by **referral directories** to facilitate timely and comprehensive service provision to survivors and those at risk. Further, the **Sexual Assault Referral Centre** was launched at the Umar Shehu specialist hospital in Maiduguri, equipped to handle rape and related sexual violence cases, with improved forensics, examination rooms, counselling rooms, a six-bed capacity monitoring room and a center for data collection and analysis.



Further, the **Sexual Assault Referral Centre** was launched at the Umar Shehu specialist hospital in Maiduguri, equipped to handle rape and related sexual violence cases, with improved forensics, examination rooms, counselling rooms, a six-bed capacity monitoring room and a center for data collection and analysis.

## Mine Action

In 2018, the Mine Action Sub-Working Group increased its activities. 355,784 conflict-affected persons in IDP camps and host communities benefited from Explosive Ordnance **Risk Education** (desegregated to 100,465 men, 78,305 women, 92,803 boys and 84,211 girls), as well as 1,957 stakeholders (government officials, service providers and care givers). Members of the Mine-Action Sub-Working Group also released awareness messages on **radio broadcasts** to reach large numbers of people affected by the conflict. For the sustainability of the clearance operations of explosive hazards, partners provided **explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) trainings** to the Police EOD teams.

Mine Action partners also conducted Non-Technical surveys in 8 LGAs in Borno and 1 LGA in Adamawa. These actions resulted in the release of safe lands and the confirmation of explosive hazards to include Explosive Remnants of War and two Improvised Explosive Devices.

## Housing, Land and Property

The Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Sub-Working Group reached 56,580 individuals (31,158 women, 25,261 men, 62 girls and 64 boys) with interventions in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states. 50,860 people were reached with **sensitizations on HLP issues**, including on rights and process to access property and documentation. 3,336 reached with **legal aid and services on HLP**, including counselling, participation in community forums on conflict resolution and case management. Additionally, 2,364 stakeholders were providing with specialized **trainings on HLP**.

<sup>1</sup> This includes children who were released or handed over prior to 2018 but were reached with socio-economic reintegration services in 2018.

# KEY PSWG ADVOCACY AND COORDINATION ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

## Protection

**Durable Solutions:** In 2018, the Protection Sector continued to strongly engage the government on concerns pertaining to return and relocation within Borno state, in order to reinforce relevant standards on durable solutions, in line with Nigeria's international commitments. The Sector worked closely with the Borno State Government to develop the **Borno State Return Strategy** (September 2018), a strategic framework on durable solutions setting minimum conditions for safe, dignified, informed and voluntary returns, and defining the roles of each actor involved in the process.

**HCT Centrality of Protection Strategy and Action Plan:** In order to ensure that leadership, coordination, and engagement in humanitarian action is more strategic, aligned and directed toward a stronger response, the Protection Sector led the process of developing an HCT-level Centrality of Protection Strategy (endorsed in December 2017) and Action Plan (finalized in April 2018). The vision of the strategy is to guarantee that conflict-affected civilians are protected and are able to enjoy their rights, including the right to move freely in safety and dignity, and to enable re-establish their lives.

**Detention of IDPs:** The Sector noted with concern a rise in the numbers of cases of individuals newly displaced by the conflict who, upon arrival to secured military areas, were being detained by security apparatus for extended periods of time as they underwent screening. The Sector shared an **advocacy note on the detention of IDPs** in January in order to advocate for the importance of conducting screenings in respect with basic human rights.

**Law and Policy:** The Sector supported the House of Representatives' Committee on IDPs, Refugees and North-East Initiatives with a range of activities towards the **domestication of the AU Kampala Convention** for the protection of IDPs. This included: providing substantive input to the House of Representatives' Public Hearing on incorporation of protection principles for IDPs into national law; capacity building for members of the Committee and other key stakeholders; and state and regional level consultations on domestication. In Adamawa and Yobe, the key stakeholders were engaged in the House of Assembly in the respective states on the necessity to pass the **Child Rights Act**.

**Access to Justice Best Practices:** In strengthening its access to justice operations, the Sector developed a set of best practices to guide protection actors intervening in the North East on detention; gender-based violence; domestic disputes; documentation; housing, land and property; and trafficking and forced labour. The best practices, endorsed in August, highlight key considerations to ensure that operations are guided by lessons learnt by actors working in access to justice in the North East and adhere to the humanitarian principles.

**PSWG Adamawa Assessment Report:** The Protection Sector undertook an extensive protection assessment in October in order to gain a better understanding of the protection situation Madagali, Michika, Mubi North and Mubi South LGAs and make appropriate recommendations for response. The assessment report identified severe drug abuse, child protection and gender-based violence issues, requiring urgent interventions.

**Advocacy with Security Forces:** Sector advocacy with the military on critical sexual violence and exploitation issues has led to establishment of the Civil-Military Working Group on Protection at the 7 Division of Operation Lafiya Dole, as well as the establishment of the Human Rights Desk, manned with a resource personnel. Further, advocacy on the necessity of re-establishing civil authority within Borno LGAs resulted in the deployment of customs and police officers to Banki in April. The Sector has also engaged with security personnel in order to obtain improved security measures outside the perimeter of IDP sites.

**Abduction of girls:** In response to the kidnapping of 110 school girls by non-state armed groups in Dapchi, Yobe state, in February, the Sector compiled an **advocacy note** reiterating the fundamental protection of children's rights, which must be upheld during the course of any conflict, condemning the targeting of civilian facilities and providing recommendations for state actors to enhance civilian security in and around schools and the protective environment within schools.

**LGA-level protection coordination:** The Sector has sought to expand its coordination activities to the LGAs most affected by conflict in Borno state, as well as in Mubi to reach northern LGAs in Adamawa state.

## Child Protection

The **Standard Operating Procedures for Unaccompanied, Separated and other Vulnerable Children** in north-east Nigeria were developed to provide standardized procedures for effective case management.

Sustained advocacy efforts on **detention and release of children associated with armed groups** continued; however, the handover protocols for children associated with armed groups have not been finalized. There was notable improvement in the coordination and level of response for socio-economic reintegration services for children associated with armed groups. The Child Protection Sub-Sector took part in the global review of the Child Protection Minimum Standards; consultations were conducted with child protection partners as well as WASH and Education sectors.

## Gender-Based Violence

Standard Operating Procedures for Inter-Agency **Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)** Community Based Complaints Mechanisms were developed. This enables the reception of allegations of exploitation through an integrated complaint mechanism and the provision of referrals between the agencies in a safe and confidential manner to reduce impunity and ensure protection of survivors and witnesses.

In 2018, the Sub-Sector was provided with a **Nigeria Call to Action Roadmap**, to facilitate increased donor engagements and escalate attention on critical thematic areas such as child survivors of violence and quality of service to GBV survivors.

Following the surge in population displacements in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states throughout the year, the GBV Sub-Sector developed **Operational Framework & Guidelines for Transit Facilities and Reception Centers** to guide interventions by partners for new arrivals of women and girls formerly associated with armed groups.

## Mine Action

The Sub-Working Group ensured that Mine Action was included in the development of the Borno State Return Strategy in order to meet the essential criteria for the safe return of the population.

## Housing, Land and Property

The Housing, Land and Property Sub-Sector Working Group has developed a **security of tenure verification guide and procedure** for the recovery of lost documents, for the use of IDPs, IDP returnees, refugee returnees, as well as humanitarian actors.

# LOOKING AHEAD AND BRIDGING THE GAPS

## Protection

The Protection Sector will continue to stress the importance of meeting **standards on durable solutions**, ensuring that all IDP returnees are well informed about security and living conditions in their areas of return, and organizing movements in safety, dignity, and security, as agreed upon in the Borno State Return Framework.

The Sector will focus on **strengthening its provision of critical protection assistance, with a focus on support for longer-term, sustainable solutions** as the conflict and resulting displacement is becoming protracted. Access to quality protection assistance must be expanded, including interventions on: access to justice, including for IDP detainees; assistance on housing, land and property issues; provision of legal documentation; explosive ordnance risk education, non-technical surveys, reinforcement of security services' mine action capability and identification of areas with explosive hazards; reintegration efforts for individuals previously associated with armed groups; and comprehensive SGBV prevention and response services.

Protection by presence in the deep field remains a serious challenge coupled with staffing constraints and lack of critical specialized services such as adequate GBV response or Explosive Ordnance Disposal capabilities. Lack of partners coupled with institutional capacity of predominantly local NGOs in critical areas in Borno marks a gap in the capability to ensure adequate coverage of protection response throughout the most affected LGAs. The Sector is seeking to focus upon **increasing its footprint for coordination and protection operations** in hard-to-reach areas of displacement and return in Borno State, as well as critically-affected areas in Adamawa and Yobe States, to enhance its ability to effectively monitor, refer and respond to violations.

Despite severe protection needs, **funding remains critically low for protection actors**, with the Sector having received \$22.4 million of its funding requirements of \$113.7 million for 2018, accounting for 20% of the funding requirements. Urgent support is needed by the donor community to fund the scaling up of prioritized protection activities, especially in critical areas of return and displacement in Borno state.

## Child Protection

Focus in 2019 will rely heavily on strategies and mechanisms for **improving the quality of child protection interventions** including accountability to the affected population. Advocacy on the situation of **children associated with armed groups** will be sustained in tandem with monitoring and reporting mechanisms on grave child rights violations.

The Child Protection Sub-Sector will continue its efforts on enhancing the **participation of national organizations** in governance and implementation structures within the sub-sector as well **as localization of child protection coordination**; this will be part of the overall strategy for capacity development in 2019. The **Child Protection Information Management System+ (CPIMS+)** will be launched in 2019 in Nigeria; this is not only aimed at improving the collection and analysis of data and information but also at bettering the quality of case management.

Funding constraints continue to affect the quality and continuum of child protection services particularly for case management of vulnerable children.

## Gender-Based Violence

The GBV Sub-Sector will focus on **strengthening coordination and referral mechanisms**, particularly in field locations. **Localization** efforts will promote women's participation and women's leadership in interventions.

Prioritized issues for interventions include conflict-related sexual violence, specialized care for child survivors, intimate partner violence and provision of safe shelter facilities. Capacity building for partner agencies will aim to **improve the quality of GBV service provision**.

The Sub-Sector will work to **address harmful social norms** on GBV, promoting prevention. The Sub-Sector will further **expand its engagement with security actors** on critical GBV issues.

## Mine Action

The Mine Action Sub-Sector will concentrate its efforts on further **developing** explosive ordnance **risk education** activities for IDPs and host communities, conducting **non-technical surveys** wherever possible to identify the type, extent and level of contamination and release lands that are safe from explosives.

In parallel, the Sub-Sector will pursue its efforts to consolidate Mine Action coordination activities aiming to improve freedom of movement of the civilian population, safer access to socio-economic activities and enabling safer access to humanitarian aid. As part of these efforts, the participation of federal and state authorities, as well as the participation of national organizations, will be encouraged. For instance, the Mine Action Sub-Sector will initiate a pilot project consisting of transferring the Explosive Ordnance Risk Education capability to a Nigerian youth association. The technical capacities of Police Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit to effectively, efficiently and safely address explosive hazards will also be developed especially through training and the elaboration of formalized processes.

## Housing, Land and Property

Moving forward, the HLP Sub-Sector will continue to **identify solutions for internally displaced persons residing within schools in the North East**, working with local and state authorities to advocate for the allocation of alternative land and more permanent solutions. The HLP Sub-Sector will also focus on **expanding interventions and coordination mechanisms within areas of return** to address critical issues relating to the loss of title/ownership documentation, recovery of property, accessing inheritance and secondary occupation of previously abandoned land.



# OVERALL ACHIEVEMENTS

**2,586,884**

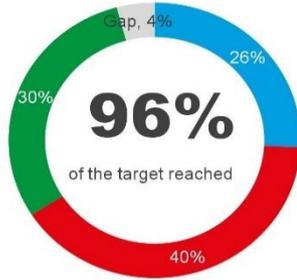
**Individuals**  
reached through Protection Activities



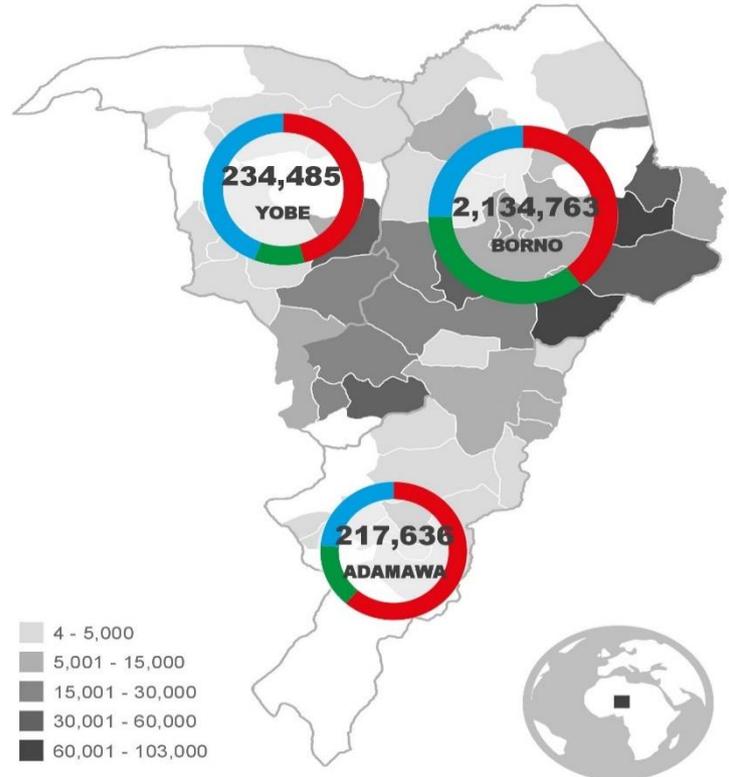
## POPULATION PROFILE

**5.8M**  
People in Need

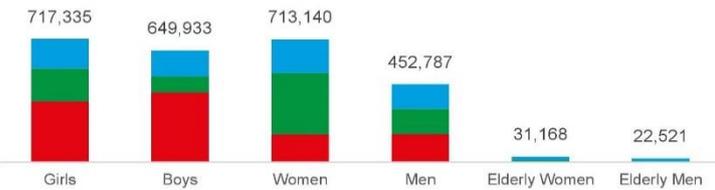
**2.7M**  
People Targeted



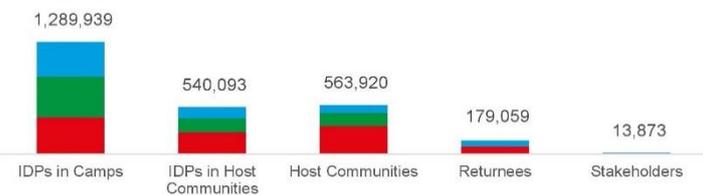
## OVERVIEW BY LOCATION



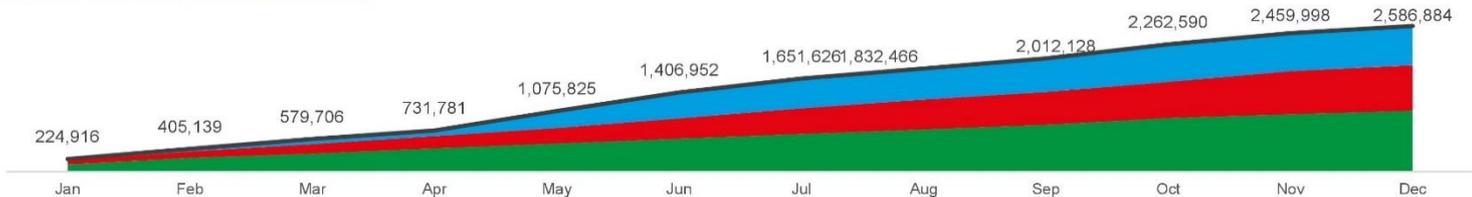
## DEMOGRAPHICS



## BENEFICIARY TYPE



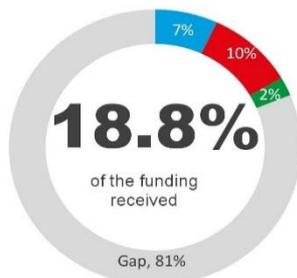
## MONTHLY TRENDS (Individuals reached)



## FUNDING

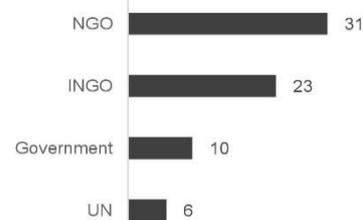
**113.7M**  
Funding Required

Although the financial tracking system (FTS) denotes that the Sector has been provided with 18.8% of funding towards its target of 113.7 million, this does not reflect the full funding picture for Protection operations in 2018. Many Protection interventions have been funded thus far through internal agency sources, including unmarked contributions, that are not included in the tracking system. Any such sources of funding will be reflected at years end within the financial tracking system.



## PARTNERSHIP

**70**  
Protection Partners



Gorretty Omala, OPSWG  
omalag@unhcr.org

Markus Topp, NPSWG  
topp@unhcr.org



Joyce Mutiso, CP SWG  
jmutiso@unicef.org



Sylvia Opinia, GBV SWG  
opinia@unfpa.org



# 697,045

## Individuals

reached through Protection Activities

### MONTHLY TRENDS (Individuals reached)



### OVERVIEW BY SECTOR, OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

1. Targeted protection services are provided to vulnerable individuals and communities with critical protection needs.

Number of vulnerable individuals referred for specialised services

25,813 | Target



Number of vulnerable persons provided with protection-based material assistance (solar lanterns, hygiene kits...)

276,106 | Target



2. Enhance protection of people in need through livelihood, recovery, and social cohesion; promote a rights-based approach to durable solutions and strengthen justice systems.

Number of persons provided with legal aid and services (including access to justice and housing, land and property assistance)

10,228 | Target



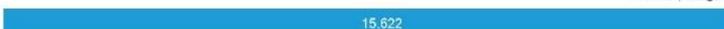
Number of persons provided with access to legal documentation

134,923 | Target



Number of vulnerable persons provided with livelihoods support

10,129 | Target



3. Protection issues are effectively addressed and protection is mainstreamed across all sectors, while respect for principled humanitarian action and space is enhanced through capacity building and coordination, including with the military.

Number of persons reached with protection messaging through sensitisations and community-based initiatives (including mine-risk education)

297,364 | Target



Number of vulnerable persons screened, registered or monitored

434,101 | Target



Number of persons trained

N/A | Target



### REACHED

39%

51%

147%

144%

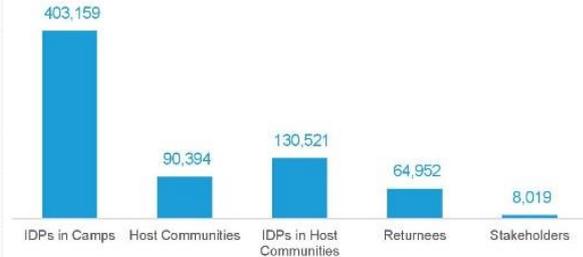
154%

102%

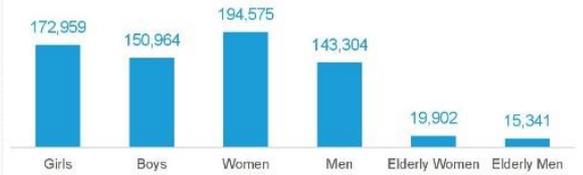
46%

N/A

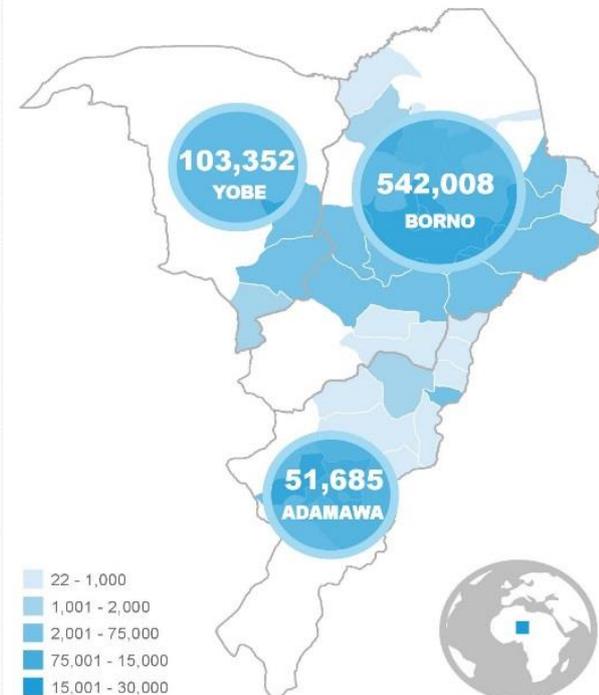
### BENEFICIARY TYPE



### DEMOGRAPHICS



### OVERVIEW BY LOCATION



### PARTNERS

Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council, OXFAM International, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Mine Action Service, Nigeria Bar Association, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, National Human Rights Commission, State Emergency Management Agency, American University of Nigeria, Family Health International 360, Action Initiative for Peace and Development, Centre for Caring, Empowering & Peace Initiative, Grassroots Initiative for Strengthening Community Resilience, Institute for Peace & Conflict Resolution, Sanitation & Hygiene Education Initiatives



## 1,082,648

### Individuals

reached through Child Protection Activities

#### MONTHLY TRENDS (Individuals reached)



#### OVERVIEW BY SECTOR, OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

**1: Conflict-affected children, adolescents and caregivers receive quality protection services, including psycho-social care, life skills and livelihoods support to enhance their resilience to cope with the protracted crisis.**

Number of children, adolescents and caregivers benefitted from psycho-Social Support, life skills and/or livelihood support



Number of community members and caregivers of conflict affected children who benefit from child care and child protection information



Number of children, adolescents and caregivers benefiting from mine-risk education.



**2: Children facing protection risks (violence, neglect, abuse and family separation) receive integrated case management and referral to specialised services.**

Number of children facing protection risks (family separation, violence, neglect, abuse) who received integrated case management services.



Number of Unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their families



Number of Unaccompanied, separated and children with other protection risks who have been placed in alternative care and/ or follow up have been made



Number of children and adolescents referred to legal services, nutrition services, specialized health services and other specialized support



**3: Grave violations against children are monitored and reported; and children and adolescents who have suffered from such violations, including those formerly associated with armed groups or those returning from captivity, are supported to successfully reintegrate into their communities.**

Number of children and adolescents suffering from grave child rights violations, including those formerly associated with armed groups or returning from captivity, who benefited from socio-economic assistance to successfully reintegrate into their communities.



Number of children, adolescents and adults reached through awareness raising campaign on grave violations against children and women



Number of children, adolescents and women who are survivors of conflict related sexual violence who benefit from quality survivor centred GBV services



#### REACHED

64%

64%

180%

140%

57%

75%

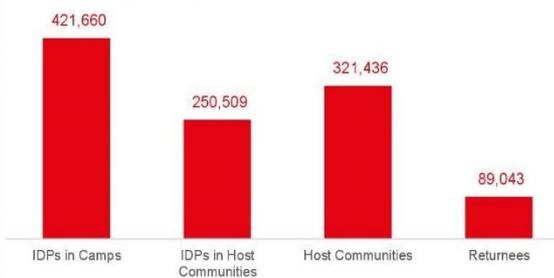
71%

70%

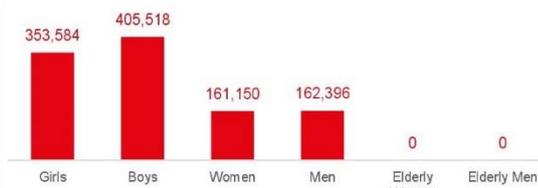
63%

94%

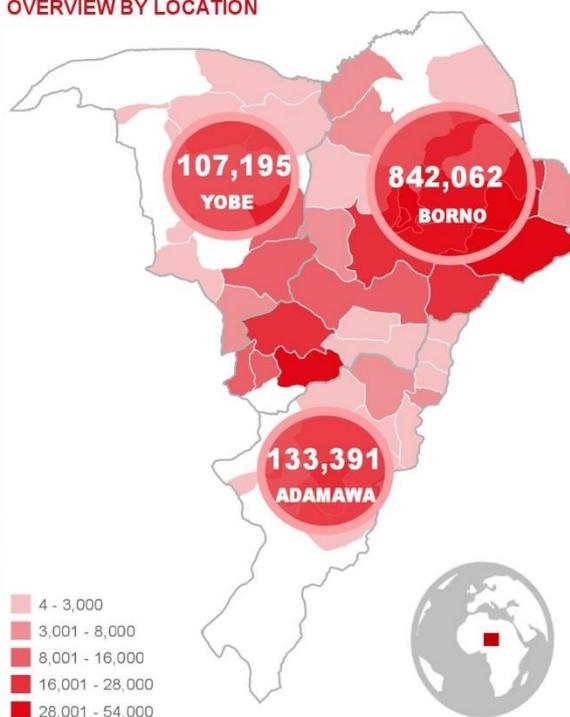
#### BENEFICIARY TYPE



#### DEMOGRAPHICS



#### OVERVIEW BY LOCATION



#### PARTNERS

Cooperazione Internazionale, Danish Refugee Council, International Alert, International Organization for Migration, International Rescue Committee, Plan International, Save the Children, United Nations Children's Emergency Fund, Ekelisiyar Yanuwa A Nigeria, Center for Community Health Development, NEEM Foundation, Women in New Nigeria, NEYIF, HERWA CDI, Nigeria, FOMWAN, American University of Nigeria, Terre de Homes, Street Child, Mines Advisory Group; United Nation Development Program, Ministry of Women and Social Development, Borno & Adamawa, Ministry of Youth, Social sector and Community Development, Yobe, Gender Equality Peace and Development Center, Health Care Development Focus Initiative, Ministry of Local Government and Emirate Council Affairs, Borno, Youth Federation for World Peace

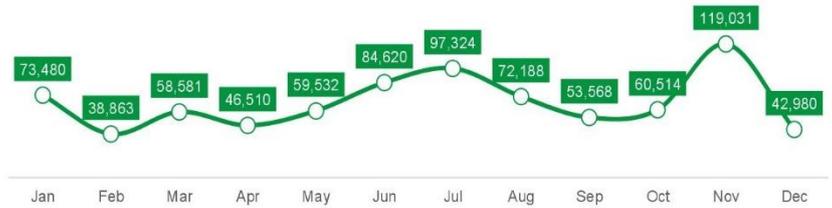


**807,191**

## Individuals

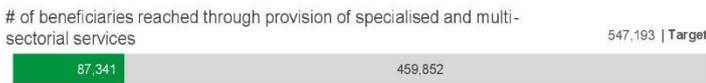
reached through Gender-Based Violence Activities

### MONTHLY TRENDS (Individuals reached)



### OVERVIEW BY SECTOR, OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

**1: Increase the geographical reach and quality of life-saving gender-based violence response services.**



**2: Enhance strategies that empower women and girls, promote resilience, risk mitigation and prevention of GBV/SEA.**



**3: Strengthen GBV response and prevention through capacity-building, mainstreaming, advocacy and coordination.**



### REACHED

83%

16%

93%

128%

96%

298%

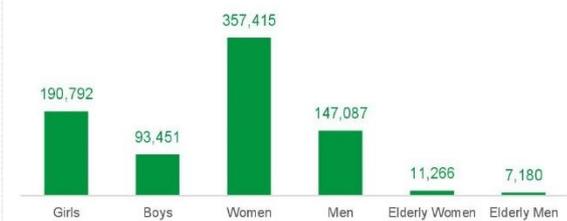
60%

228%

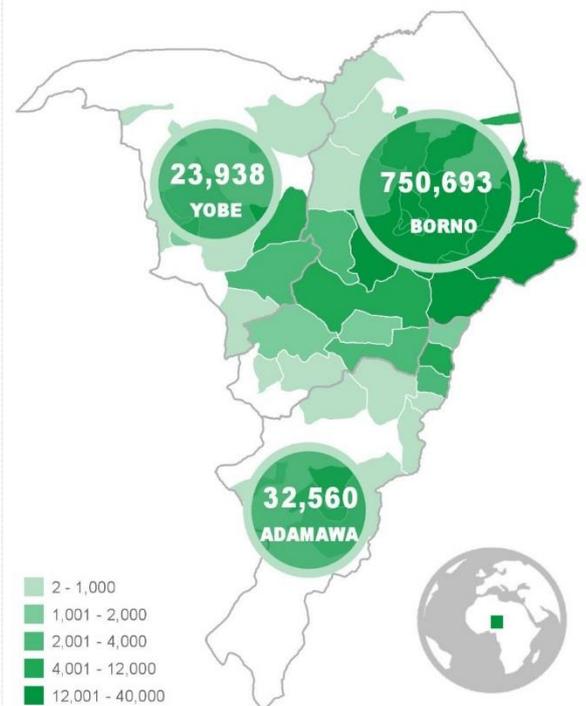
### BENEFICIARY TYPE



### DEMOGRAPHICS



### OVERVIEW BY LOCATION



### PARTNERS

ActionAid, AHI, AIPD, ALIM, CARE, COOPI, CPPLI, EYN, FHI360, FIDA, FOMWAN, GEPDC, GESDI, GISCOR, GPON, HECADF, HERWA, IA, IMC, INTERSOS, IOM, IRC, JDF, KFP, LABDI, LETSAI, MC, MdM, NCA, NEYIF, NF, NHRC, NRCS, OXFAM, PHC, Plan, PUI, SAHEI, SCI, SCoN, SIF, SMOH, SMOWASD, SRF, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WINN, YIPDI, TIF.

## Behind the Numbers

### Freed from a death sentence

*An account of the impact of the Nigeria Bar Association (NBA)/United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) access to justice project*

“I was wrongfully arrested and charged to High Court of Borno state for the offence of murder. During my trial, Boko Haram attacked my village and my mother and other family members were taken hostage. I have not heard from my husband since then. I was left alone in prison with my one year old child. I had no one to stand by me.

On 12 December 2014, I was convicted of murder and sentenced to death by hanging. While waiting to be taken to the gallows in Maiduguri Maximum Prison, a joint team of UNHCR and NBA visited the prison on one of their periodical visits in September 2016 to offer legal assistance to IDPs. It was during an interview and assessment that the UNHCR/NBA team took up my case. My notice of appeal and other papers were filed on my behalf at the Court of Appeal, Jos Division. While still waiting—waiting to be hanged, waiting to be freed—the NBA lawyer came to me in the prison and broke the news that I was acquitted by the Court of Appeal and would be discharged! On 23 November 2018, I was finally released from prison and reunited with my mother and brothers in a host community of Maiduguri.”

--Fatima Ali\* from Badare, Marte LGA, Borno State

*\*name changed for confidentiality*



## Empowering a widow to provide for her six children

*An account of the impact of the Street Child of Nigeria/NEYIF child protection project*

Amina Yusuf\* is a 37 year old IDP returnee from Kukawa community, Gulani LGA in Yobe. Upon return to her village, she discovered that attackers had looted or destroyed all of her family's property.

Two years ago, her husband was killed by a non-state armed group, leaving her as the sole provider and caretaker for six children. Amina's husband had been the breadwinner, while she was the one caring for her children. After he was killed, Amina's primary concern became having food for the family to eat for survival. She looked for daily jobs on farms and had to resort to sending out her children to find and sell firewood, in order to get small amounts of money for the family to be able to eat. All of her children were out of school as she was not able to pay school fees.

Street Child, in partnership with NEYIF, identified the family during a child protection monitoring visit to Kukuwa community, as Amina's children were out of school and working to collect and hawk firewood. The children were registered for case management and Amina was identified as a vulnerable caregiver, qualifying her for Street Child's family business programme. Amina was provided with a ₦20,000 cash grant, as well as training on business skills. This gave her the opportunity to start up a small trading business, enabling her to take care of her family.

According to Amina, the future is looking brighter--"Right now I can proudly say I'm a business owner."

*\*name changed for confidentiality*

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## From captivity to self-sufficiency—Borno and Yobe women move on to make over 1.6 million naira

*An account of the impact of the American University of Nigeria (AUN)/UNHCR livelihood project*

25 all-female cooperatives have formed in Borno and Yobe states, providing much needed empowerment to women who have otherwise desperately struggled to provide for their households. These include women who had been abducted by non-state groups, those heading their households and those widowed by the conflict. 3 additional cooperatives have formed that include men.

After graduating from a variety of comprehensive skills courses, the project has helped participants arrange themselves into cooperatives. The cooperatives have focuses ranging from shoe making, cosmetology and tailoring to groundnut oil processing, rice milling and catering. The cooperatives have been provided with necessary machines and products in order to be able to start up their own businesses. For instance, the cooperative of women trained in tailoring received a sewing machine, while those trained in rice milling received a mill. These expensive and critical tools are then shared among the women in the cooperative to produce items and make profit together.

Beyond making over ₦1,586,000, the impact of the cooperatives has been life-changing. For instance:

- An all-female cooperative\* in Yobe state, made up of women who had previously been abducted by non-state armed groups, was given training in groundnut oil processing and provided with the relevant machine. The cooperative currently has a savings of ₦70,000 and have now **been able to enroll their children in school from the cooperative income**.
- A female cooperative\* in Maiduguri MMC made up of vulnerable women from Bama, underwent training on small business management and therefore began producing and selling local perfume. Having saved an impressive ₦200,000 of their profit, women within the cooperative now proudly report to be **taking care of their families without needing to wait for assistance** from Government or aid agencies.

- The Mogolis Tailoring cooperative is made up of women who were provided with tailoring training. Through the cooperative profits, they have been able to **purchase two additional sewing machines** and still have been able to save ₦18,000.

From vulnerable displaced to self-sufficient businesswomen—the difference a year can make.

*\*Cooperative name and location has been omitted for confidentiality purposes*

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## Addressing the trauma and needs of a rape survivor

*An account of the impact of the INTERSOS protection monitoring project*

Rahama Mohammed,\* a 20 year old woman from Kukawa, Borno, was widowed in 2015 when her husband was killed during a non-state armed group attack in her village. Despite the tragedy of her husband's death, Rahama had to carry on with her life and provide for herself, so she began selling bean cakes by a military checkpoint in Kukawa. In January 2018, Rahama was attacked and raped on the walk home from selling bean cakes. Rahama later realizing that she was pregnant from the rape and suffered from the trauma in secret. She lived in fear that she would be stigmatized by community members after they discovered the pregnancy, as she was a widow. She felt that people wouldn't believe that she was raped and would even blame her as having had an affair.

In August 2018, when she was seven months pregnant, Rahama was identified during a house-to-house protection monitoring visit by the INTERSOS protection team. She agreed to go with a team member to the community center, where she was registered for case management. At the time, she had not received any medical attention for the physical or psychological trauma of the rape, nor for the pregnancy. Rahama was referred to the health facility in Kukawa, where she was able to receive an immediate medical checkup, prenatal care and was registered for antenatal care. Thereafter, she was referred for psychosocial support and for the receipt of a package of non-food items.

Two months later, Rahama gave birth to a baby girl and came to the INTERSOS community center to introduce the baby and to express her appreciation for the assistance provided. She shared with the team that she now wants to reopen her business.

*\*name changed for confidentiality*

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## Losing Lives due to an Explosive Ordnance

*An account of the impact of the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) risk education and non-technical survey project*

“Friday, 3 June 2016 started like every other day. After a few delays with preparation, we started driving heading to Monguno LGA from Gajiram in Nganzai LGA. I was driving my wife, Yan Ziya, her younger sister Falmata and Falmata's infant baby boy for a condolence visit. A few days before, there had been an attack in Kulu Kuwaya village here in Nganzai LGA and some of my wife's relatives were killed.”

“After about 30 minutes of traveling we reached Birimary village and I saw a big pothole, so I swerved to a smaller pothole beside it. I do not remember clearly what happened then. I just woke up to voices repeatedly saying in Hausa, ‘*Wanan Mutum Ya Mutu*’ (the man is dead). The words seemed like a wakeup call from a distant sleep.”

“It took me a few minutes to be fully conscious. I still could not see clearly, so I tried lifting myself up. But my right hand was lifeless. I used my other hand to wipe my dusty face only to realize that my left eye was out of the socket. I quickly felt my other eye and tried to keep it open with my hand. It is then that I realized my right arm was bleeding, and I also saw the two passers-by whose voices had woken me. I tried standing up slowly and with great difficulty, and then I saw the lifeless body of Yan Ziya, Falmata, and her little baby, all scattered around. My vehicle was badly damaged as well and was almost not recognizable.”

“I managed to walk to a pond nearby. The pond was used for cattle and its source of water was from a borehole nearby. I don’t know how long I must have been lying by the pond but I was awoken by the voice of some soldiers, who asked me a lot of questions; a few questions were not clear to me even then. However, I am sure I must have given them a few details about me and the incident because I remember them asking if I wanted to be taken to Monguno or back to Nganzai and I requested to be taken back to Nganzai.”

“I do not remember the journey back, but I remember in Nganzai, some people recognized me and immediately called my family members and the Nganzai Police to inform them of the incident. I remember people whispering that I would die – ‘Ahmed Yusuf, he is dead, he will certainly not make it.’ My family took me to Maiduguri General Hospital immediately, and rumors spread in Nganzai that I was already dead. I was in the hospital for 25 days, constantly under oxygen and had surgery three times.”

“My life changed drastically after my encounter with the explosive item. I lost my wife, and until this day my right hand is still in bad shape. I can’t do any job that requires some physical activity and I have to always support my right hand with my left. I also lost my job due to these reasons, and my wife’s sister and her child also died due to the explosive item.”

“I would like to go to the orthopedic hospital in Kano to fix my bones properly but I have other responsibilities: two other wives and 12 children (8 children currently in school). I have a small medicine shop, but my income is low, I have to manage my life this way because I want my children to continue schooling.”

“I learnt about risk education here in Nganzai through a friend as he knew my experience. Now, I understand better the risk education sessions provided by organizations, including about roads and safe paths to use while walking and driving. I am glad such lessons about explosive items are provided, as it is definitely going to save a lot of lives here in our communities.”



-- Ahmed Yusuf\* from Nganzai LGA, Borno State

\*Name changed due to confidentiality

# Protection Sector Structure in Nigeria

