



NIGER: DIFFA OFFICE

UNHCR WEEKLY UPDATE

9-16 September 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FIGURES

100,000

Nigerian refugees and displaced people from Nigeria claiming to be Niger nationals lacking identification documents

50,000

IDPs according to Niger authorities

FUNDING

USD 30,203,773

Requested for the operation



PRIORITIES

- The distribution of gas to the populations living within the Kablewa and Sayam Forage camps is a priority this month. During the reporting period, the gas has been transported from Niamey to Diffa, and will be distributed during the next weeks.

Diffa Security Context:

- Life remains active in the region, despite restrictions which include a curfew from 10 p.m., a ban on wearing the hijab and restrictions on the movement of vehicles at night between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- The security situation was relatively calm in the town of Diffa, however three simultaneous attacks on villages in the region have shown the unstable nature of the situation in the region as a whole.
- On the night of 7-8 September, at approximately 10 p.m., three villages – Arikoukouri, Bori and Tchougoundi – were targeted by the insurgents. These attacks resulted in the deaths of three villagers, one in each village, and the serious injury of one other person, who has been transferred to hospital in N’Guigmi. Another security source reports that two of the aforementioned victims, in the villages of Arikoukouri and Bori, were specifically targeted. One was the village chief, while another was the village Imam.
- Despite these attacks, and the ongoing state of emergency and subsequent security restrictions, social life within the town of Diffa continues to take its course normally.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Protection

- *Action Pour le Bien-Etre* (APBE) have confirmed the availability of a register for the declaration of births which has been put in place by the DREC (*Directorat Régional de l'Etat Civil*) in the Sayam Forage camp. Monitoring of the birth registration will be done by the International Rescue Committee (IRC). This step is particularly positive in that it contributes to the fight against statelessness, which is particularly prevalent in the region.

Education

- According to ACTED, the works on the Distance Learning Centre (*Centre d'Education à Distance – CED*) in Bosso have been completed and are awaiting the official opening. This will be accompanied by a “Come back to school” campaign led by *Cooperazione Internazionale* (COOPI) during September, to encourage students to return to school, following the closure of the centre due the insecurities that have plagued the region since February. In addition to Bosso, the center in Diffa is in the process of launching its programmes, while in Kablewa, a site has been chosen for the construction of an additional centre, and authorization to begin the construction is expected soon.
- From 15 to 16 September, COOPI organized capacity development training on planning and student evaluations, for the tutors at the 3 existing CEDs in the region. They have also sent files to UNHCR for study grants for 42 students.
- A French language programme that is being implemented by COOPI, which has been ongoing since the beginning of August and is due to last until end September, has seen up to 140 refugee and IDP children participate per camp, in the Diffa, Kablewa and Maine Soroa camps.

Health

- APBE sent a mobile clinic to the Yébi site on 10 September and hired two permanent nurses for consultations. Yébi hosts a large displaced population (IDPs, returnees and refugees).
- ACTED is working on community mobilization within the camps of Kablewa and Sayam Forage, to encourage refugees to increase their attendance at formal health centres.

Food Security and Nutrition

- ACTED distributed food to 1,239 people. These food rations include rice, cereal, corn-soya blend, vegetables, oil and salt. Food distribution was also ongoing for the displaced population at Kablewa camp.
- During the month of August, ACTED undertook a survey to assess the situation of pastoralists in the region of Diffa, around the Lake Chad Basin, and the north of Komadougou Yobé. The results will inform a development framework comprising durable solutions for the populations in the zones mentioned. The survey note increased pressure on pastoralists to find grazing land and adequate water points for their livestock, based on the unstable security situation and the resulting limits on their mobility. This also results in increased pressure on grazing lands, while the price of feed is being forced upwards as the demand increases, and the price of livestock is reducing as the supply increases. Interaction with the local authorities has enabled the identification of potential projects to be put in place.



Water and Sanitation

- ACTED, with funds provided by UNHCR will begin construction of new latrines and shower blocks in the camps. In the Sayam Forage camp, 20 blocks of latrines and 20 blocks of showers are planned, while at Kablewa, 40 blocks of showers and 40 blocks of latrines are planned.
- ACTED continue to manage solid waste at the camp level through the collection of the waste using donkey carts, in the interim period until waste management facilities are put in place.
- There was a water shortage for the population of Sayam Forage camp in the last weeks of August due to problems trucking water to the camp due to heavy rains in the region. However a temporary water point was installed, allowing partner Care International to continue trucking water with a UNHCR truck of 16,000 litre capacity, capable of filling the 5 10,000 litre bladders in one day, and thus meeting the daily consumption needs of the population.
- In August, ACTED established an official WASH committee, who have begun sensitization campaigns in Sayam Forage camp regarding healthy hygiene and sanitation practices, and the maintenance of health infrastructure in the camp.



Shelter and NFIs

Shelter:

- ACTED have announced that they will be receiving new canvasses for shade to improve the existing shelters. These will arrive and be distributed to both camps in the region in the coming days. ACTED have also installed a hangar to provide shade for patients in the waiting area of the health centre.
- Under the remote management project, APBE have begun the distribution of shelters in Yébi in August, following an exercise to ascertain the target beneficiaries. This distribution will be completed during the month of September.

NFIs:

- Funeral kits, consisting of perfume, a linen shroud and a stretcher have been provided by ACTED to the heads of neighbourhoods in the case of deaths amongst the population. This is to avoid the difficulties associated with burials.



Access to Energy

- The populations of both Sayam Forage and Kablewa camps are enthusiastically awaiting the distribution of gas. They have now all completed a broad sensitization campaign on the use of gas, safety issues etc. They have also completed construction of outdoor cooking areas. The distribution of the gas should begin this week, as it had been transported last week from Niamey to Diffa.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

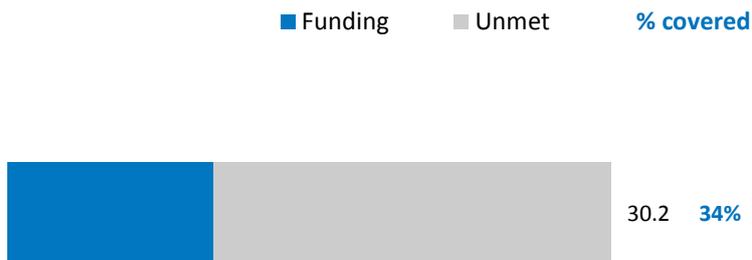
- On 9 September, ACTED organized a training on the use of the 6W matrix – created by REACH/ACTED and UNHCR. This training included a representative of all agencies and humanitarian organizations active in the Diffa region. The matrix is a very useful tool to track all progress and activities. The training explained the use of the matrix to all actors, and how it should be assimilated into their practices.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unremarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed to the situation.

Funding (in million US\$)

A total of **10.34 million** has been funded



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Links:

<http://unhcrniger.tumblr.com/>

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