

# Cameroonian refugee situation, Nigeria

1 - 15 October 2018

**117 refugees** received **cash grant** for **business start up** after completion of their vocational training in Calabar (Cross River state).

On 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018, the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) started a **three-month free healthcare project in Adagom settlement** (Cross River state).

**5,018** Cameroonian refugees **received food and non - food items** in Adagom and Anyake settlements (Cross River and Benue states).

## KEY INDICATORS

**27,877**

Cameroonian refugees registered with Level 1 and Level 2 registration [As of 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018]

**2,999**

Cameroonian refugees registered in Anyake settlement, Benue State [as of 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018]

**3,374**

Cameroonian refugees registered in Adagom settlement, Cross River State [as of 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018]



Cameroonian refugees waiting for medical consultation at the Primary Healthcare Centre in Amana, Cross River State © UNHCR / C. Cavalcanti

## Operational Context

Refugees continued to arrive in Nigeria from Cameroon through unofficial entry points mainly on foot, motorcycles and canoes as official borders remained closed. Around 800 new arrivals were identified by UNHCR in Amana and Utanga (Obanliku Local Government Area, Cross River state) during the reporting period.

## Update On Achievements

- **Protection Monitoring** – A protection monitoring visit was carried out in Calabar urban area (Cross River state) to assess the conditions and needs of refugees in order to provide necessary support. Refugees interviewed reported unmet needs in terms of food, clothes, healthcare and access to education but also in terms of protection from harassment and arbitrary arrests. A total of 27 refugees in need of registration were referred to National Commission for Refugees (NCFRMI) and six were referred to protection partner Caritas for assistance.
- **Registration** – Biometric registration resumed in the second week of October in Adagom settlement (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state). As of 15<sup>th</sup> October, a total of 8,879 refugees were verified, including 4,855 newly registered (including new-born babies, new arrivals and people living in remote locations not attended during Level 1 registration) and 7,150 enrolled in BIMS.
- **Relocation** – During the reporting period, 112 spontaneous arrivals were recorded in Anyake settlement (Kwande Local Government Area, Benue state). As of 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018, the population of the settlement accounted to 2,999 registered individuals. Moreover, 374 refugees arrived spontaneously to Adagom settlement (Cross River state) from host communities, bringing the population of the settlement up to 3,374 registered individuals as of 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018.
- **Education** - On 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018, UNHCR started distribution of cash grant for education to refugee children in primary and secondary schools in Calabar (Cross River state) to support them with the payment of tuition fees and school material including books and uniform. So far, six refugee children received their cash grant.
- UNHCR carried out an assessment to primary and secondary schools in Cross River and Benue states, with the aim to evaluate the educational facilities and establish a strategic long term plan on access to education for refugee children. Eight schools were assessed in Adagom (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state) and Adikpo (Kwande LGA, Benue state). The schools assessed have limited space to welcome additional students and are in dire need of rehabilitation. They also lack basic equipment (benches, chairs, books, etc.) as well as sanitation facilities. Also, the mission conducted advocacy for the integration of refugee teachers into Nigerian education system.
- **Livelihood** – On 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018, UNHCR partner Mediatrix started distribution of cash grant for business start up to refugees in Calabar and Ikom (Cross River state), who completed their vocational training in August 2018. So far, 117 refugees out of 231 who completed the training have received the cash grant. The distribution will continue in the coming weeks.
- **Food and non-food items** – During the reporting period, 2,973 refugees living in Anyake settlement (Benue state) received a one-month food ration (including rice, cassava flour, oil, salt and sugar). Moreover, in Adagom settlement (Cross River state) 2,045 refugees received food (rice, cassava flour, oil, salt and sugar) and non-food items (soap, solar lantern, mat, blanket, kitchen set, jerry can, bucket, and mosquito net).
- **Nutrition** - During the first week of October, a joint strategic mission was carried out by WFP and UNHCR representatives in Cross River and Benue states. The aim of the mission was to

find an agreement whereby WFP would support the work of UNHCR and partners through the provision of food assistance to vulnerable Cameroonian refugees and host communities. The team held meetings and focus group discussions with a wide range of stakeholders in Calabar, Makurdi, Ikom and Adikpo and recommended the use of cash as the most appropriate modality of assistance. The two organizations will work together to set up a cash distribution programme depending on availability of funds.

- Prior to the mission, an Emergency Food Security and Market Assessment was conducted among Cameroonian Refugees by WFP. Results showed that refugees are more food insecure compared to host community members (26% of refugees in settlements and 38% of out-of-camp refugees are severely food insecure compared to 9% of host community members). Female-headed households are particularly affected: 35% of female-headed households are severely food insecure compared to 23% of male-headed households in refugee settlements. The ratio is 42% against 32% in out-of-camp situations.
- **Shelter** - Construction of permanent shelters by Cameroonian refugees continued in Adagom settlement (Cross River state). As of 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 48 permanent shelters were being completed (roofing phase) with support from UNHCR and its partner Rhema Care. The project, funded by EU Humanitarian Aid, will support the construction of permanent shelters for 4,000 Cameroonian refugees.
- **Healthcare** – On 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018, the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) started a three-month free healthcare project in Adagom settlement (Cross River state). The project is aimed at providing free medical consultations, laboratory test (including test for malaria, cholera, hepatitis and blood sugar) and treatment to refugees living in the site. So far, 174 refugees have benefited from the project.
- From 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2018, UNHCR partner Rhema Care took over healthcare activities in Cross River state from former healthcare partner Health Initiative for Safety and Stability in Africa (HIFASS).
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** – 213 refugees in Anyake settlement (Benue state), were sensitized on hygiene and environmental sanitation in order to keep the settlement and WASH facilities clean. Moreover, in Adagom settlement (Cross River state), two latrine blocks and one shower block were installed by UNHCR partner Norwegian Church Aid (NCA).

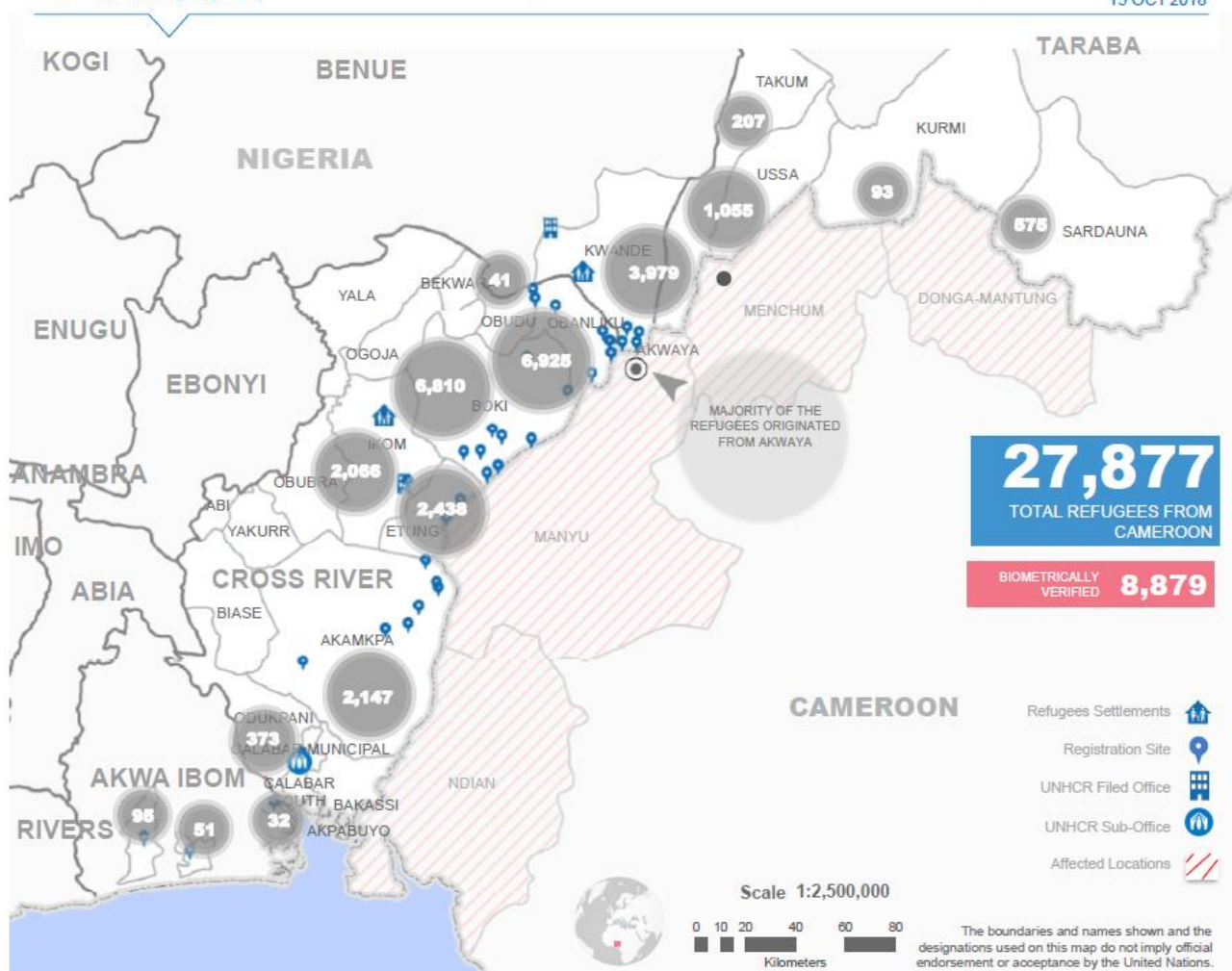
## Critical needs and priorities

- **Education** - In Cross River and Benue states, primary and secondary school structures assessed are in dire need of rehabilitation, they lack basic equipment (benches, chairs, books, etc.) and sanitation facilities to accommodate school aged refugee children. In Anyake settlement (Benue state), 1,200 school aged refugee children were profiled but are currently out of school because, they need tuition fees and other school materials including books and uniform to facilitate their enrolment. Also, 1,038 refugee children from Adagom settlement enrolled in kindergarten, primary and secondary schools of Ogoja face challenges due lack of school material and unpaid tuition fees, which can result in school drop-out.

- In Anyake settlement (Benue state), 2,000 mosquito nets are required in order to reduce the incidence of malaria among refugees in the site.

## 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 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 ICRC, MSF, Nigerian Red Cross, Save the Children, UNFPA, WHO.



**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, cavalcanti@unhcr.org,  
Cell + 234 908 748 663 5

**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.](#)