

North-East Nigeria

31 August 2019

UNHCR supported the issuance of **20,880 birth certificates** for internally displaced persons and returnees in the State of Borno to prevent statelessness.

71 awareness raising and sensitization sessions human rights, and peaceful coexistence reached 8,215 IDPs, returnees and host communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States.

6,854 women and girls of reproductive age received dignity kits to cover their need for six months in Borno State.

PERSONS OF CONCERN : 2,038,624

Internally Displaced Population: **2,018,513**

Refugee Returnees: **20,111**

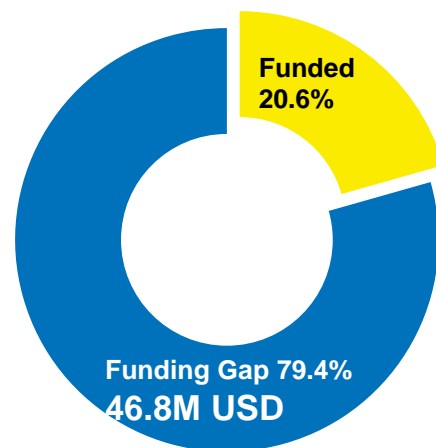
** IDPs refer to the number of IDPs in the States of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe provided by IOM and NEMA.*

Refugee Returnees: number of spontaneous refugee returnees from Cameroon, Niger and Chad as of 31 August 2019

FUNDING AS OF 26 AUGUST 2019

USD 59 M

requested for UNHCR's North-East Nigeria Operation



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

39 National Staff

21 International Staff

Offices:

01 Country Office in Abuja

01 Sub Office in Maiduguri

01 Field Office in Yola

06 Field Units in Damaturu, Gwoza, Bama, Ngala, Monguno, Banki



Refugee repatriated from Cameroon arrived to Yola, Adamawa State. UNHCR/ 2019

Operational context

Significant number of attacks and localized clashes between government forces and Non-State Armed Group (NSAG) were observed in settlements around Maiduguri, Bama and Nganzai LGAs the past months. The security situation has generated much concern especially with the attempted attack on a humanitarian hub and an incident involving a Person Borne Improvised Explosive Device (PBIED). On 18 August, there was a thwarted attempt to infiltrate the UN Humanitarian hub housing the humanitarian workers in Banki, Bama LGA just a week earlier on 11 August 2019, at Ngwom, Marte LGA, and 15Kms from Maiduguri a PBIED was used to attack the IDP camp killing the assailant and wounding some IDPs in the camp.

Additionally 17 more attacks were reported including an attempted truncating of main supply routes to the liberated locations. In Rann, the security situation is reported to have improved due to the trench dug around the town by the military. In addition to thwarting attacks by the NSAG, the military also conducts monitoring of Civilian Joint Task-Force (CJTF) activities in the absence of civil administration to deter acts of right abuse of persons of concern (PoCs).

In Adamawa and Yobe States, security situation has remained calm with only one reported kidnapping for ransom in Mubi. In Adamawa State, other security challenges like kidnappings, inter-communal farmers-herders conflicts, and Communal clashes have sprung up in recent times. Joint security operations, the state, and local government have taken decisive measures to establish a secure environment in the affected areas.

Working with Partners

UNHCR works closely with a wide range of partners including Nigeria Federal and State Government, UN agencies, NGOs and other humanitarian actors in the three state areas of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) to provide protection and life-saving support to the internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and affected population in camps and host communities.

Government partners: Ministry of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Resettlement (MRRR), State Emergency Management (SEMA), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), State Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development; Ministry of Justice; National Human Rights Commission (NHRC); National Population Commission (NPC), National Commissioner for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI), Nigeria Immigration Service;

UN sister-Agencies: UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA, UN-Women, UNOCHA, FAO, IOM, OHCHR, UNMAS, and WHO;

Implementing INGO and NGO partners: INTERSOS – ITALY; Family Health International (FHI360); Nigeria Bar Association (NBA); American University of Nigeria (AUN); Borno Women Development Initiative (BOWDI); SALIENT Humanitarian Organization (SALIENT); Grassroots Initiative for Strengthening Community Resilience (GISCOR) and Center for Caring, Empowerment and Peace Initiatives (CCEPI) and CARITAS Nigeria.

Main Activities

Protection by presence

UNHCR and its partners have effective presence in 15 Local Government Areas (LGA) in three states of North-East Nigeria: Nine LGAs in Borno State (MMC/Jere, Mobbar, Kala-Balge, Damboa, Bama, Ngala, Dikwa, Mungono, Gwoza,); four LGAs in Adamawa State (Michika, Madagali, Mubi and Yola); and two LGAs in Yobe State (Damaturu and Gujba). UNHCR additionally provides lead services to eight camps out of the 281 camps facilitated by the CCCM sector.

In Borno State this month, 64 protection monitoring missions were conducted to camps to deep field locations outside the formal camps. UNHCR staff member are present to ensure protection monitoring in deep field - Rann, Damboa, Bama, Pulka, Damasak, Mungono and Dikwa - where partners are permanently stationed to coordinate and perform protection activities. UNHCR partners CCEPI and NHRC conducted 34 protection monitoring missions in Yola and eight (8) in Yobe.

Protection and related activities

In August, UNHCR registered 1,529 **individual protection incidents**. By typology they included sexual and physical assaults, domestic violence and child protection risks - child labor, neglect, exploitation and abuse.

In Borno State, most reported **protection incidents** were abduction, physical assault, child marriage, arbitrary arrest and detention, forced displacement of populations and mental health condition.

Identified **protection risks** are camp overcrowding and difficult access to land for camp expansion; lack of access to adequate shelter and other basic services, food insecurity, limited access to livelihood opportunities and limited or no access to education. All these continue to expose persons of concern to resort to negative coping mechanisms, including transactional sex for food or money.

Protection response

In August, **812** out of the 1,529 cases identified were referred to agencies for medical care and state agencies specialized in child protection of which UNHCR and partners managed 224 cases.

Access to Justice - Legal representation and legal assistance: In Borno State, 15 cases were registered at the mobile court in Bakassi and Gubio Road Camp in MMC. In Yola, 16 letters of probate and administration of estate were issued at probate registry of High Court of Justice Adamawa.

Legal documentation: **20, 880** PoCs comprising children from 0-17 years were issued birth certificates in Bama, Borno State. Other major services provided to respond to priority needs expressed by IDPs were the establishment of **Protection Desks** in GSSS Bama IDP camp and the recruitment and deployment of **4 Protection monitors and 4 additional Protection Action Group (PAG)** members to Rann by GISCOR to boost the current number of the PAG members to 10 (6 Male, 4 Female).

Five (05) Advocacy sessions directed to audiences such as the Police, other security officials, government authorities and service providers, using various platforms were conducted by UNHCR protection team, NHRC and protection monitors during the month in Borno State. The activities aimed at encouraging compliance with existing national, international legal frameworks governing the protection of IDPs, impulse a change of behaviors and subsequently contribute to a more favorable protection environment for IDPs, returnees and other affected populations in Northeast Nigeria.

Sensitization and awareness-raising campaigns: **8,215 individuals** were reached through 71 awareness and sensitization activities in the three states. Community-based protection structures participated and meaningfully contributed to the delivery of these activities. In Borno State, sensitization activities reached 5,859 (1,281 Male; 2,756 Women; 838 Boys; 984 Girls) IDPs and spontaneous refugee returnees. In Yola, 1,648 (386 Male; 584 Women; 349 Girls; 329 Boys) IDPs and spontaneous refugee returnees were reached through Awareness. In Yobe, 708 IDPs (283 Women; 210 Male; 110 Girls; 105 Boys) were reached. Themes discussed were SGBV, Security awareness in the camp, Importance of vulnerability screening, Peaceful resolution of disputes, Positive impact of child education, Peaceful coexistence, Basics key protection Issues, Use of complaint boxes, UNHCR mandate, Security and safety measures, Rights of persons with disabilities, Strengthening the PAG, Importance of security awareness against kidnappers and timely reporting of unknown persons, Rights of a child, the role of parents, Obeying constituted authorities, respecting community laws, Entrepreneurship as a means of livelihood and Access to justice.

UNHCR also provided **training and capacity building** to **42** community-based protection structures and partner staff on Community mobilization strategies, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, SGBV, Humanitarian Translation, SGBV, and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence. These training and awareness-raising sessions have encouraged PoC to know their rights and report violations to protection monitors and case managers and claim for their rights to duty bearers.

Durable Solutions: the Voluntary Repatriation of **25 households of 134** Nigerian refugees from Cameroun to Adamawa State coordinated under the Tripartite Agreement signed by the Government of Nigeria, the Government of Cameroon and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency was effective on 22 August 2019. The returnees received support to return to their areas of origin for most part located in Adamawa and Bauchi States. In addition **9,211 Households** comprising **20,111 individuals** spontaneously returned to Nigeria mainly from Cameroon (15,811 individuals), Niger (3,533 individuals) and Chad (734 individuals).

Sexual Gender Based Violence

Since January, **1,153 SGBV** survivors have been identified and referred for appropriate responses of which 98 percent were female, 41 percent under 18 years and 93 percent of SGBV cases were reported

in Borno State. By typology, the highest 27.4 percent were denial of resources followed by 27 percent child and force marriage. SGBV responses provided to survivors included psychosocial support, legal assistance and protection safety net activities.

This month, **3,854** women and girls aged between 11 to 49 years in MMC benefitted from dignity kits to cover their needs for six (6) months. This brings to **6,854** - 30 percent of the targeted figure -the number of dignity kits distributed in Borno State (Stadium camp; 3,154, Gubio camp; 2,000 and Dalori 1 camp; 1,700).

Activities to engage the community such as the Zero Tolerance Village Alliance (ZTVA) campaign, commenced and are progressing well. In addition to **the safe-space** in Bama, UNHCR has completed the construction of a second safe-space in Stadium Camp, as well as two Listening Centers to provide privacy and security to SGBV survivors who are willing to report their cases.

Livelihoods

UNHCR provides protection safety nets through livelihood opportunities. In Borno State: The partner AUN started with the second batch of the micro-business skills and vocational training for women in Stadium and GSSS Bama camps as well as Ngala where 200 individuals have been trained.

In Adamawa State, The partner CARITAS trained 949 Individuals on entrepreneurial development using the ILO modules of "Start Your Business". Additionally **637** (257 male, 380 Women) have completed the six weeks **vocational skills training** in Mubi and Michika. Each beneficiary is expected to train one person in skills such as shoemaking, beads weaving, carpentry and joinery after they are empowered with start-up kits by UNHCR. In Yobe, AUN **mobilized NGN 125,900 (\$347)** savings from 50 women previously trained in the Micro Business skills in August. Meanwhile, the 3rd batch of the micro-business skills training started for 50 women.

Coordination

Protection Sector in North-East Nigeria

The Protection Sector, North East Nigeria organized a mid-year review of its operations on 22 August 2019. The review encompassed all Protection Sub-Sectors, namely Child Protection (CP), Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Housing, Land and Property (HLP) and Mine Action as well as the General Protection Working Group. All three states namely, Borno, Adamawa and Yobe were represented. The mid-year review workshop included a review of the current situation in all three states in terms of accessibility, number of Persons of Concern (PoCs), needs, targets, achievements and constraints. There was also a validation of key actions that the Protection Sector will be undertaking in the coming months to enhance coordination with government, intra and inter sector collaboration and enhance protection mainstreaming and analysis.

CCCM, NFIs Shelter

Since January UNHCR has **provided 2,709 non-food items** (NFI) benefitting **13,545 IDPs** and returnees in the States of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe. The shelter activities carried out in Borno State included the construction of 1,161 shelters out of the 4,000 planned and the construction of 10 Communal Partitioned Shelters for 200 IDPs families of 1,000 individuals. In term of rehabilitation, 1,200 transitional shelters to accommodate **2400** families of **12,000** IDPs and 1081 emergency shelters for 5,155 individuals were rehabilitated in GSSS Bama camp. In Adamawa state, 130 families comprised of 650 individuals benefitted from plastic tarpaulin cover. **300 emergency shelters** have been constructed in response to the need caused by flood in Ngamdu area of Kaga LGA.

On 5 August 2019, at *Bama LGA level*, UNHCR assumed the leadership of the Protection Sector Working Group Meeting (PSWG) as part of its responsibility in IDP operation. IOM will lead the GBV Sub-sector and UNICEF, the Child Protection Subsector. In MMC, Gubio, Teacher Village camp and other locations, UNHCR and its partners chaired the local PSWG meetings on 21, 22, 23, and 29 August respectively. **At the State Level:** UNHCR as part of other Coordination mechanisms led by OCHA in Maiduguri such as the Civil-Military Coordination and Accountability to the Affected Population (AAP) Meetings held in Maiduguri.

6 August, in Yobe State, UNHCR and its partners attended the GBV Sub-Working Group Meeting as well as the Humanitarian Coordination meeting chaired by OCHA. In the GBV subsector meeting, the

Yobe State GBV referral pathway was discussed with inputs of the stakeholders and the plans for the 2019 Humanitarian Day celebration were discussed during the Humanitarian Coordination Meeting.

In Adamawa State, UNHCR held several meetings under the Technical Working Group coordination mechanism in preparation for the voluntary repatriation of the Nigerian refugees from Cameroun. On 14 August, the meeting was held with the Secretary to the Adamawa State Government in preparation for the voluntary repatriation of Nigerians from Cameroun. Other Coordination meetings attended by UNHCR in Yola include the health Sector Working group meeting where preparedness for the Cholera response was discussed and agreed upon on 8 August 2019.

Funding

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors who have contributed to the North-East Operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Contacts:

Alexander Kishara, Head of Sub-Office Maiduguri, North-East Nigeria

Email: kishara@unhcr.org; Mobile: +234 908 744 7516

Danielle Dieguen, Reporting Officer, Sub-Office Maiduguri, North-East Nigeria

Email: dieguend@unhcr.org; Mobile: +234 908 739 6086