Nigeria
April –June 2022

During the reporting period, 800 refugees were registered, bringing the total number of registered Cameroonian refugees to 77,487 as of 30 June 2022. More than 16,000 refugees, IDPs, refugee returnees and host community members benefitted from awareness raising campaigns on Gender Based Violence (GBV) and COVID-19 pandemic. More than 37,000 Cameroonian refugees benefitted from cash assistance to buy their daily food as well as food assistance as of 30 June 2022.

UNHCR is present in Abuja, Maiduguri, Ogoja, Adikpo, Calabar, Takum, Yola, Lagos, Banki, Gwoza, Bama, Monguno, Ngala, Makurdi, Gembu, Sokoto,Damaturu and Yola

The Lagos state governor following signing the Cities with Refugees Declaration on behalf of Lagos state on 27 June 2022 seen with the UNHCR Representative in Nigeria and the Federal Commissioner for Refugees. @UNHCR/ Gabriel Adeyemo
Working with Partners

- From 6 to 13 June, UNHCR, the Federal Ministry of Health, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, and Disaster Management, The National Commission for Refugees, Migrants, and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI), State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), and other partners, conducted an inter-agency technical mission to Taraba State to assess the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and humanitarian interventions. The team held focus group discussions with government officials representing education, health, water/sanitation, livelihoods, women’s affairs and planning sectors, as well as with refugees, and host communities, to assess the inclusion of refugees in basic social services, identify challenges and examine the impact of security on social inclusion of refugees and locals. A comprehensive assessment report was presented to the Governor of Taraba State and government officials.

Protection

- UNHCR, refugees, host communities, and partners commemorated World Refugee Day 2022, to show solidarity with refugees around the world and the hospitality of the communities hosting refugees in Nigeria. The Lagos state governor, Mr. Babjide Sanwo-Olu signed the Cities with Refugees Declaration on behalf of Lagos state on 27 June 2022 making Lagos the third city in Nigeria to have signed the Cities with Refugees Declaration, following Abuja, the capital of Nigeria and Cross Rivers State. The Governor pledged that the State would remain a refugee-friendly city and provide economic opportunities to displaced persons legitimately seeking to rebuild their lives. Lagos city hosts more than 1600 refugees and 600 asylum seekers from 34 countries.

- Refugees - UNHCR has been providing access to asylum and territory, registration and documentation; relocation of refugees from border areas for safety; access to education, healthcare, water and sanitation facilities; identification and support to individuals with specific needs through community-based approaches; protection of vulnerable individuals and groups against gender-based violence (GBV), abuse and exploitation; child protection, including identification and foster care for unaccompanied and separated children; empowering refugees through self-reliance and sustainable livelihood activities. In the second quarter of 2022 over 800 refugees were registered, bringing the total number of registered Cameroonian refugees to 77,487 as of 30 June 2022.

- Over 6,000 refugees benefitted from awareness campaigns on GBV and COVID-19, and over 37,000 refugees received cash for food assistance as of 30 June 2022 thanks to the generous donation from Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives and ECHO. Some 500 vulnerable refugees and new arrivals received non-food items including blankets, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, solar lanterns and soap in Akwa Ibom, Benue and Cross River States.

- Over 1,000 Cameroonian refugees reportedly fled from Cameroon into Nigeria, following a renewed violence in the Southwest and Northwest regions, as well as in the communities in Cross River State (CRS) and Taraba State. In CRS, UNHCR and its partners visited the Bebekete border community in Obanliku and Bashu border community of Boki, to confirm the spontaneous arrival of new refugees from Cameroon.

- Internally displaced persons (IDPs) - In the North-East, UNHCR established a community-based structure of protection coordinators and protection monitors, human rights monitors and 457 protection action group members to deliver protection monitoring, vulnerability screening, capacity building and access to justice, while mainstreaming age, gender and diversity. As of 30 June 2022, 10,500 (56 % females) IDPs, refugee returnees and host community members benefitted from COVID-19 and GBV awareness campaigns. Over 16,000 (76% female) IDPs, IDP returnees and refugee returnees accessed 30 protection desks located in 10 LGAs. More than 100,000 (59% females) IDPs, IDP returnees and refugee returnees were also sensitized on risk reduction, especially in the areas of access to justice, child protection, Gender-Based Violence, as well as community-based structures covering key themes such peaceful coexistence, human rights, child abuse, child safety, human trafficking, girl child education, and security. UNHCR distributed more than 3,000 standard non-food item (NFI) kits to IDPs and refugee returnees in Adamawa State.

- UNHCR and its partner, Nigeria Bar Association, printed more than 38,000 birth certificates and around 49,000 indigene certificates for community members, IDPs, and refugee returnees in the BAY States. These activities constituted the first phase of UNHCR’s support to the issuance of 200,000 birth and indigene certificates in the BAY States. Around 200 letters of administration were issued on behalf of IDPs and returnees whose parents/relatives died without wills to enable them to claim inheritance properties left behind by their deceased relatives.

- More than 31,000 new arrivals and more than 3,400 departures were recorded across different LGAs in the BAY States, with their movements reportedly triggered by fear of attacks by Non-State Armed Groups (NSAG) and counterattacks by the military, poor living conditions, improved security in their LGAs of destination, and government-assisted relocations. Most of the new arrivals reportedly chose to stay in camps or camp-like settlements where facilities and services had already been overstretched. In April 2022, The Borno State Government facilitated the relocation of 680
Households from Gwoza and Pulka IDP camps to Warabe community in Gwoza LGA where it has constructed 340 houses.

- **Urban Refugees** – As of 30 June 2022, a total of 5,290 registered refugees and 1,536 asylum-seekers were reported from Niger, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Syria, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Turkey, Cote d'Ivoire and other countries.

- UNHCR organized a five-day training on Refugee Status Determination (RSD) for 28 staff members of the NCFRMI and the Nigeria Immigration Service from Lagos, Abuja, and Kano. The overall objective of the training was to improve RSD procedures.

- UNHCR provided transport allowance to 30 refugees based in different locations in the Lagos State who are receiving various livelihoods training (such as fashion design, furniture, record keeping and marketing) through Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation.

- Education allowance was paid to 191 (43% females) refugee children in primary school schools and 149 (47% females) in secondary schools in Lagos, Abuja, Kano, and Ijebu-Ode respectively.

- **North West** - As of 30 June 2022, 72,000 individuals have been displaced in Sokoto State, due to the deteriorating security situation with the attacks by NSAG and Organized Crime Groups as well as communal clashes between farmers and herders for control over natural resources.

### Coordination

- UNHCR had a meeting with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the National Population Commission (NPC) to discussing on the inclusion of refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and other vulnerable populations in the forthcoming national census in line with Nigeria’s commitment to the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). Despite the fact that the questionnaires for the census have been finalized, a space for adjustments would be requested to the Director of Census.

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**CONTACT**

Mohamed Rahmathullah, Associate Reporting Officer, mohamrah@unhcr.org