



NIGER: DIFFA OFFICE

UNHCR WEEKLY UPDATE

16 – 22 September 2015

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

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

- Increased security for sites for displaced persons in the region, through enhanced cooperation and communication between humanitarian actors and regional authorities.

Diffa – Security Context

- Although the security situation from 16 to 22 September was dominated by relative calm, the situation remains fragile and insecure. In particular following the recent attacks on fishing populations living in the Komadougou River valley, and similarly in many areas around the region.
- The daily life in Diffa is continuing in a calm manner, despite the worries and constraints with which the population has been living with since the beginning of the crisis. The ban on the use of cars between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. remains in place, along with the curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. and the ban on the wearing of the hijab. Despite the security situation affecting the Diffa region, there were no incidents reported concerning UN staff or their families or any UN facilities during the reporting period.

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 16 September, the UNHCR Diffa field office received a field mission from the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sahel Region, Toby Lanzer. The Regional HC insisted that it was necessary to go forward with the plan for sustainable development in order to move forward from the crisis in the region. He emphasized that the local populations who were welcoming the displaced were themselves also vulnerable and facing enormous difficulties due to natural catastrophes and a general lack of rainfall in throughout several winter seasons. Overall, joint efforts must be undertaken – to provide emergency assistance, while also focusing on sustainable development.
- The strengthening of security at the sites, Kablewa camp in particular has been requested from the Director of the National Mechanism for the Management and Prevention of Crises and Disasters. The latter represented the office of the Prime Minister within the Humanitarian Coordinator’s delegation.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Protection

- On 21 September, the UNHCR protection team undertook a mission to the Assaga site for displaced people to seek volunteers for relocation to the Sayam Forage camp. A total of 22 households (18 headed by women) – 139 people in all sought the voluntary relocation. However, overall there was a lack of interest on the part of the majority of the 250 participants at the assembly. A follow up meeting will be held on 29 September.
- World Vision have confirmed that the Child Friendly space in the Sayam Forage camp will be operational in October. The recruitment of staff and purchase of materials is ongoing.
- The International Rescue Committee (IRC) reported having conducted identification and documentation activities on protection cases in the sub-bases of Diffa; Maine Soroa; Kablewa-Bosso (due to inaccessibility, the cases are processed from Kablewa for the sub-base of Bosso). Protection cases identified this month so far by IRC include: 22 child protection cases, 28 cases of persons with specific needs, 7 GBV cases – 4 in Diffa, 2 in Maine Soara and 1 in Bosso. Psychosocial and psychological support was provided in certain instances and others were referred to Livelihoods for adhoc assistance.
- IRC led an awareness raising ‘caravan’ on the protection of the child in ten communities in the period from 17 to 22 September. Some 3,700 People including 1,035 children benefitted from the activities.
- IRC put 7 child education committees in place during the week in different regions of Diffa. They will respond to questions on violations, abuse and exploitation of children and conduct awareness raising campaigns at the various sites.
- Some fights between young people have been reported despite the committees put in place to mitigate this. These fights are apparently due to young people overdosing on pain medication acquired from ambulance pharmacies. Action will be taken by the UNHCR protection team through awareness-raising sessions with the youth.

Health

- Under the UNHCR ‘Remote Management’ framework, a mobile health clinic was installed in the site at Yebi, which is working with the CSI (Centre Santé Intégré) to administer healthcare to the displaced populations.
- Regarding the high number of repeat admissions of certain children to CRENI (hospitals for children with severe malnutrition and other complications), the health NGO APBE have explained that this is due to the CSB (corn-soy blend) being administered in the wrong way.

Food Security and Nutrition

- The problem of the storage of food was emphasised by the Camp Manager at the coordination meeting at Sayam Forage. The WFP representative responded and indicated that the necessary materials had been ordered.
- During the monthly food distribution, WFP carried out home visits to inform the populations about the food rations to be distributed per person and depending on the size of the household.



Water and Sanitation

- The Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) reported that the emergency latrines in the Sayam Forage camp were being replaced by semi-permanent latrines. The emergency latrines are in the process of being closed.



Shelter and NFIs

- On 16 September, APBE completed the distribution of 500 emergency shelters to benefit the displaced population in the site of Yebi, in the commune of Bosso.
- New needs in terms of shelters have been noted in Assaga. An evaluation will be done in order to identify appropriate solutions.
- Discussions with the local authorities have been initiated regarding the possibility of developing the ‘urbanization’ project at the Assaga site for displaced people. The authorities welcomed this idea and intend to cooperate fully for its realization.

Challenges, identified needs and remaining gaps

- At the site of Djalori, in the commune of Gueskerou situated 15km from Diffa, 339 new households are in need of assistance. This includes
 - NFIs and shelter for each household
 - Health: The site has no health infrastructure. The two closest health centres are 4 and 5 kilometers away, and are not permanent due to the lack of security. However illnesses such as malaria, flu and whooping cough are common. Three deaths have been registered: 2 children from malaria, cough and diarrhoea, and an additional person from old age.
 - Security: In the village there is little security or defence post, however it is close to a surfaced road and has regular military patrols.

Camp management – Camp Coordination

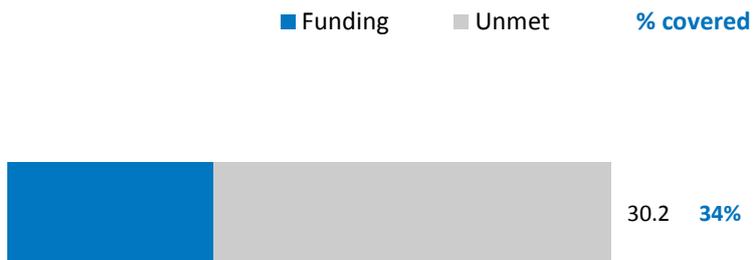
- The Representative of the refugees at Sayam Forage Camp has noted a number of difficulties, including the collection of firewood which is difficult as it takes place further and further from the camp; the grain mill is out of order; and women are facing difficulties in acquiring appropriate clothing (veils) since the ban on wearing the hijab.

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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