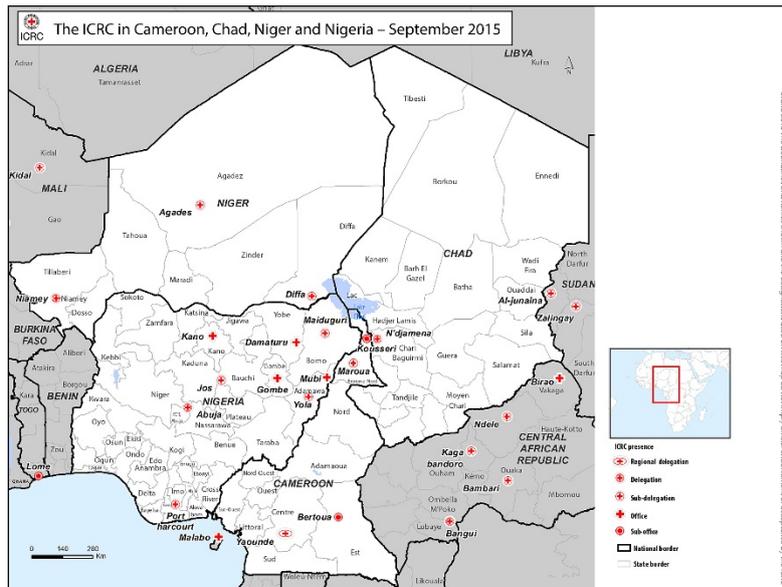




ICRC

Lake Chad crisis: Facts and figures 2015

In 2015, the ICRC stepped up its efforts to help some of the many hundreds of thousands of people affected by the Lake Chad conflict and who lack even the basic necessities of life. With the support of the Red Cross societies throughout the region, the ICRC built shelters, distributed food and essential household items, facilitated access to medical care and water, visited security detainees and helped to re-establish contact among families separated by the conflict.



Below is an overview of the ICRC's work in the region in 2015.

Food, household goods and livelihood support

Emergency relief distributed in conjunction with the Red Cross societies helped conflict/violence-affected people meet some of their needs and cope with their displacement.

- In **Nigeria**, 538,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees received food, 387,000 IDPs received essential household items, and 57,000 people received cash and vouchers to enable them to purchase basic necessities. A total of 52,000 people who had returned to their places of origin after fleeing violence received assistance (fertilizer, seed or vouchers for agricultural inputs), allowing them to harvest and rebuild their lives. A total of 1,400 women widowed by the conflict were helped to increase their resilience.
- In **Cameroon**, 14,500 displaced and host families received food; another 7,000 received essential household items; and 5,100 families hosting displaced persons each received 75 tonnes of seed and some 250 tonnes of fertilizer so they could grow staple foods.
- In **Niger**, 116,000 people received food, more than 9,000 people received seed and fertilizer, and 35,000 pastoral households were assisted to increase their cattle productivity and to ensure that they had sufficient food.
- In **Chad**, the ICRC and the Red Cross of Chad distributed household items to 2,000 families who had fled violence taking place on the islands of Lake Chad.

Health care

- In **Nigeria**, the ICRC renovated facilities, provided medical supplies/equipment and trained staff at 12 primary health centres, all of which allowed communities of 360,000 people to benefit from improved health-care services. A total of 1,000 victims of mass

casualty incidents were treated at hospitals receiving supplies from the ICRC; and 590 people received surgical care, most of them after having been injured in bomb explosions. A total of 700 IDPs benefited from psychosocial support.

- In **Cameroon**, the ICRC trained 29 health workers to manage bullet injuries. The ICRC will support two health centres in the far north of the country in 2016.
- In **Niger**, the ICRC performed 1,100 surgical interventions in the region of Diffa and supported medical facilities with medical personnel, financial resources and medical equipment.
- In **Chad**, the ICRC donated supplies to treat people suffering from war-related wounds, allowing hospital care to be administered to 75 casualties of two explosions.
- In all four contexts, victims of the conflict benefitted from first-aid services and medical evacuation support provided by Red Cross societies, which were among the first responders.

Shelter, water and sanitation

- In **Nigeria**, the ICRC renovated or upgraded water points and sanitation in communities affected by armed violence, as well as in IDP camps and sites. A total of 176,000 people received water, sanitation and hygiene assistance. Some 39,000 people were protected against cholera through hygiene promotion and chlorination of water points. Some 18,000 IDPs received tents or other shelter.
- In **Cameroon**, the ICRC improved access to water for the inmates of Maroua and Bertoua central prisons. Following an assessment done in 2015, 72 water points will be rehabilitated in the departments of Mayo-Tsanaga, Mayo-Sava and Logone-and-Chari, to benefit 7,000 families.
- In **Niger**, 100,000 individuals benefited from improved access to water.

Restoring family links

- In **Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger and Chad**, the ICRC and the national Red Cross societies collected close to 5,000 requests to trace separated family members. Throughout the region, some 7,500 free phone calls were provided for separated family members.



Waiting for news. Children use the phone and try to make contact with their parents via the ICRC antenna service in an IDP camp in Edo State, Southern Nigeria. ICRC/Ramin Hashempour

Management of human remains

- To help ensure that the deceased were properly identified, handled with dignity and notified to their next-of-kin, some 900 Nigerian emergency responders received training in human remains management.

Visiting detainees

- The ICRC visited people held in detention facilities and prisons to monitor their treatment and living conditions. It also ran health and nutrition programmes in certain prisons and enabled detainees to keep in touch with their families.

Relations with armed and security forces

- The ICRC maintained a confidential and bilateral dialogue with armed and security forces to remind them of their obligations under IHL, in particular in relation to the protection of people not taking part in hostilities.