

NORTH-EAST NIGERIA

MARCH 2019

The security situation in North-East Nigeria remained generally fluid and unpredictable during the month of March. Dozens of Non-State Armed Group (NSAG) incidents were recorded. They ranged from suicide bombings to armed attacks against military and civilian infrastructure. Even though the military had made further efforts in the government-led counter-insurgency measures, indiscriminate attacks resulted to further population displacements, death and destruction of property. Access to affected populations was also a challenge for humanitarian workers as the only means of transport is the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) which is usually overbooked due to huge demands from UN/humanitarian agencies delivering protection and assistance in the deep field. The situation makes deep field monitoring unpredictable.

UNHCR has made progress in the establishment of field presence in Bama, Banki, Gwoza, Ngala, Damasak and Monguno and the recruitment of staff to be deployed to those locations is underway. Pulka will continue to be covered from Maiduguri until a Humanitarian Hub is established as per the UN Security Management System guidelines.

KEY FIGURES AS OF 31 MARCH 2019

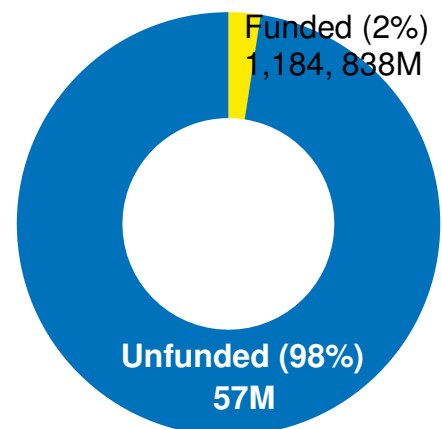
Registered IDPs in the three affected states	1.9 M
Registered Refugee Returnees	11,140
Registered Refugees in Asylum Countries	272,639
TOTAL	2,183,779

The IDP figures were provided by IOM DTM Round XXVI – February 2019

FUNDING (AS OF MARCH)

USD 59 M

requested for the North-East Operation



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff: 54

37 National Staff (68.5%)

17 International Staff (31.5)

Offices:

01 Country Office in Abuja

01 Sub Office in Maiduguri

01 Field Offices in Yola

01 Field Unit Damaturu

Some UNHCR provided shelters, New Stadium Camp in Maiduguri, Borno



Country Strategy

The overarching objective of UNHCR North-East Nigeria strategy is protection and solutions-driven for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees including Nigerian refugees from neighboring Lake Chad Basin (LCB) countries. Because it is largely an IDP Operation, UNHCR's interventions are done within the context of inter-agency collaboration.

UNHCR leads the Protection Sector, and co-leads the Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM)/Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFIs) Sector. The support being provided responds to the critical protection and assistance needs of communities affected by activities of the Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states. Those interventions are based on five core strategic directions - protection, response, inclusion, empowerment, and solution.

Working with Partners

To help UNHCR implement its protection and material assistance for the affected population, the agency works with a wide range of Government, UN and NGO partners in the three states. UNHCR offices in the three states also collaborate sister UN agencies and an array of other humanitarian actors working together to provide protection and life-saving support to the affected population in affected communities.

Government partners: Ministry of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Resettlement (MRRR); State Emergency Management (SEMA), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), State Ministry of Women Affairs; Ministry of Justice

UN sister-Agencies: UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, UN-Women, UNOCHA, FAO, IOM, WHO,

International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs): INTERSOS – ITALY; Family Health International (FHI360)

National Non-Governmental Organisations: Nigeria Bar Association (NBA); American University of Nigeria (AUN); Borno Women Development Initiative (BOWDI); SALIENT Humanitarian Organization (SALIENT); National Human Rights Commission (NHRC); Grassroots Initiative for Strengthening community Resilience (GISCOR) and Center for Caring, Empowerment and Peace Initiatives (CCEPI); CARITAS Nigeria.

Main Activities

- Protection Monitoring and Response;
- Supporting activities related Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Psychosocial Counselling;
- Provision of material assistance such as shelter, food and non-food items (NFIs);
- Livelihood and Peacebuilding;
- Camp Management Camp Coordination (CCCM) support;
- Advocacy;
- Capacity building and Awareness-raising;

- Return Monitoring;
- Registration of new arrivals and returnees;
- Vulnerability Screening;
- Access to justice; and
- Documentation.

Key Achievements by Sector

Protection

- UNHCR and other humanitarian actors supported the relocation of **8,319** IDPs in **1,807** families from the Teachers Village Camp to the New Stadium Camp in Maiduguri, Borno State capital. This was part of the interagency approach to respond to the congestion of the camp situation following renewed hostilities in parts of eastern Borno that forced more than **60,000** internally displaced persons (IDPs) into the state capital. The Teachers Village exceeded its normal capacity by more than **66%** from **10,000** to over **30,000** IDPs between December 2018 and February 2019.
- UNHCR supported the installation of **70** solar lights around the camp to reduce protection risks and address issues of Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV).
- UNHCR conducted protection monitoring, profiling, awareness raising, referral and provided non-food items, legal support, documentation and SGBV support to **9,836** IDPs in camps and in host communities; **3,091** host community members and **17,959** refugee and IDP returnees in Bama, Gwoza, Jere, Konduga and Maiduguri, Borno State and Mubi North in Adamawa State. Profiling, documentation and awareness raising accounted for **99%** of all the interventions for the period. Of those reached, girls and boys combined represented about **70%** - underscoring the potential risks young people are exposed to during displacement. Majority of those assisted were in Borno State (**59%**); followed by Adamawa (**28%**) and Yobe (**13%**).
- In Yobe State, UNHCR participated in the Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment for the newly displaced population in Damaturu, Nguru, Bade and Geidam. The humanitarian situation of the new arrivals remained dire, as many of the people who escaped without their properties lack food, shelter, livelihood and other essential services. As a result, they are exposed to several protection risks such as negative coping mechanisms and harsh weather conditions that could lead to possible disease outbreaks.

Shelter

- A total of **2,550** individuals moved into their **500** individual emergency shelters and **10** communal shelters provided by UNHCR in support of the decongestion of overcrowded camps in Maiduguri.

SGBV

- UNHCR in partnership with the Borno Women Development Initiative (BOWDI) started a campaign called "Make Water Points SGBV Free, Safe and Accessible for Women and Girls" in Bama LGA of Borno State. The activity was in response to girls and women

revealing to UNHCR that water scarcity increases SGBV risks and incidents as women and girls report physical assaults and harassments at water collection points. Issues of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse were also discussed with community members, focusing on the need for reporting. The campaign increased awareness in the targeted community. Consequently, community protection mechanisms and structures around water points were established to ensure safety, mitigate risks and report incidents of SGBV.

Durable Solutions

- **5,179** refugee returnees from neighbouring Cameroon, Chad and Niger were biometrically registered by UNHCR partner, Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) at main border towns in Banki, Damasak, Ngala and Pulka in Borno State. Most of the returnees are not reaching their final areas of origin due to insecurity or absence of essential services to sustain their return and reintegration. This eventually makes them to end up in secondary displacement situation. UNHCR is maintaining its advocacy with the government and other humanitarian actors to ensure that conditions to which uprooted populations return are favourable including safety and dignity.

The UNHCR Operation in North-East Nigeria remains grateful to the Federal Government of Nigeria and the Governments and peoples of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Korea Republic, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America providing resources to support affected populations in 2019. UNHCR is also grateful to the UN Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF) for the funding to support affected populations.

CONTACTS

Alexander Kishara, Head of Sub-Office Maiduguri, North-East Nigeria
Email: kishara@unhcr.org; Mobile: +234 9087447516

Tom Winston Monboe, Reporting Officer, Sub-Office Maiduguri, North-East Nigeria
Email: monboe@unhcr.org ; Mobile: +234 8090160763