



# UNHCR NIGERIA WEEKLY UPDATE

06 May 2015

## HIGHLIGHTS

### KEY FIGURES

**1,491,706**

Internally Displaced Persons (IOM and NEMA, April 2015 DTM)

**2,095 refugees/ asylum seekers**

Refugees and Asylum Seekers of mixed nationalities as of April 2015

### FUNDING

**USD 23,024,553**

Requested for the IDP situation

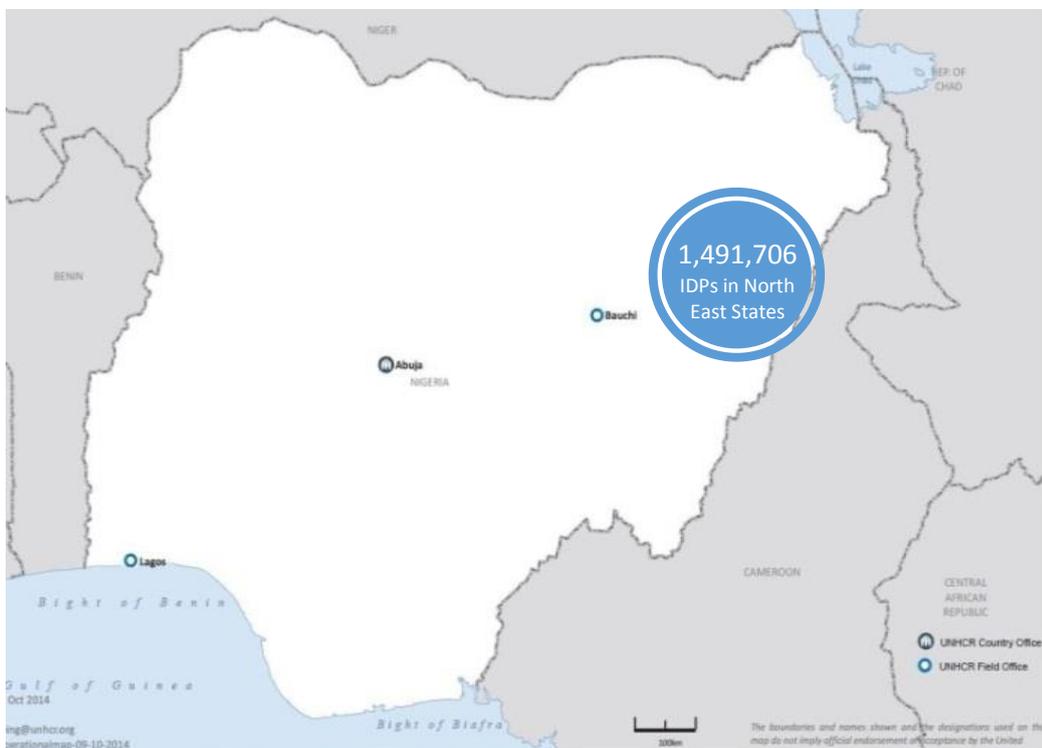
### PRIORITIES

- Profiling of IDPs
- Protection monitoring
- Capacity strengthening in protection
- Advocacy for policy and legal framework
- Implementation of comprehensive durable solutions for refugees
- Support for RSD



Protection monitors at the training in Makurdi, Benue State. Solomon Momoh ©UHNCR, Makurdi 30 April 2015.

- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Nigeria is training more than 30 persons from the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Emergency Management Agency in Camp Ccoordination, Camp Mmanagement (CCCM).
- UNHCR and NHRC completed a one-day training on the practical use of smartphones for protection monitors at Makurdi, Benue State, on 30 April 2015.
- UNHCR has completed the distribution of Non Food Items (NFIs) in 5 North East States, Adamawa, Borno, Bauchi, Gombe and Yobe, meeting the projected target of 13000 households of 65000 individuals selected among the most vulnerable IDPs.
- On the 6 May 2015, the humanitarian community in Nigeria met to discuss early recovery within the context of the displacement crisis in the country.



## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Operational Context

- The security situation in North East Nigeria continues to be unpredictable and volatile with insurgents still able to launch attacks. Terrorists' attacks have continued in Borno State, particularly in Kaga, Mafa and Marte Local Government Areas (LGAs). Nigerian military operations into the insurgent's stronghold of the Sambisa forest resulted in the capture of four terrorist camps.
- The military has so far liberated about 1,000 people, mostly women and children in their ongoing offensive in what has been said to be the last stronghold of the insurgents. The Nigerian military may succeed to some extent to totally clear the Sambisa forest of the remnants of the terrorists before the May 29 Presidential inauguration but the fight is far from over. Although they have been dislodged from the Sambisa forest, insurgents are likely to create other hideouts and continue with their hit and run tactics. The group abducted an estimated 2,000 women and girls last year as it sought to carve out an Islamic state in the North-East of Nigeria.
- Women and girls rescued from Boko Haram gave information about the militants, stating that they have been complaining about lack of guns and ammunition, with many were reduced to carrying sticks, and that their vehicles are either broken down or lack fuel. The liberated women and girls are reportedly suffering from various challenges including lack of food, clothing and other basic needs. The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) received the freed group in Yola, Adamawa State, and provided them with basic relief material.
- The Director of Emergency Medical Response Department, EMRD, Dr. Muhammad Ghuluze, in the Ministry of Health, disclosed that the Borno State government had deployed social workers to IDP camps in Maiduguri to address rising cases of psychosocial-trauma and psychiatric related problems among displaced persons, arising from activities of the insurgents. Clinics were reported to have been established in most IDP camps in Borno State since 2014.
- A non-governmental organization, Yellowjerrican Foundation, has called for the adoption of a national policy on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in order to have a coordinated, holistic strategy to address their plight. The coordinator of the group, Ms. Adaora Onyechere, said that government at all levels must spare no effort regarding the welfare of the IDPs in the country. She mentioned her disappointment that Nigeria had yet to domesticate the Kampala Convention, as this is detrimental to the situation of the IDPs.
- In continued preparations for the transition and to ensure that he hits the ground running after the May 29 hand over, President-elect Muhammadu Buhari has started putting together his cabinet. He has directed governors elected from his party, the All Progressives Congress (APC) to forward the names of their ministerial nominees and the governors.

### IDP Operation

- The bi-monthly PSWG meeting held in Yola, Adamawa State, was held on the 2 May 2015. Discussions focused on feedback on the draft PSWG terms of reference, which was shared for inputs from stakeholders.
- At the national level, the PSWG met in Abuja on 30 April at the UNICEF office. The way forward on the finalization of the PSWG 5W matrix, for referral mechanisms for protection monitoring cases and on the PSWG recommendations on the briefing to the Security Council Expert Group on the Protection of Civilians were agreed upon.
- The PSWG continued to reiterate the necessity to mainstream protection in the ongoing debate on durable solutions, especially the need to ensure that returns are based on well-informed decisions on the security situation and livelihood options available in areas of return and respect international principles with regards to safety and dignity for returnees. In that regard, the PSWG finalized its draft position paper on durable solutions for IDPs, including returns, and presented its recommendations to the HCT on 29 April 2015. Once the position paper is validated by the HCT, it will serve as the HCT's official position on the durable solutions/return of IDPs.
- Following the successful completion of a NFI distribution, UNHCR and Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) in Bauchi State, held a post-distribution evaluation, with the goal of improving on forthcoming NFI distributions. UNHCR and the NRCS also conducted a profiling exercise of the most vulnerable IDPs during the distribution, which will be consolidated and analyzed by UNHCR. A UNHCR monitoring mission was further dispatched to the field to ensure that the registration activities are in compliance with UNHCR IDPs registration standards.
- SO Bauchi is dispatching a protection mission to Yola, to conduct protection counseling with women and children recently rescued from the Sambisa forest by the Nigerian Army. The outcome of the protection counseling will also help in mobilizing other actors within their respective areas of expertise to provide the required support to this group of IDPs.

- A draft of monthly plan of activities (April - June) for community mobilization, participation/ engagement and projects initiation has been completed and shared internally for further discussion and guidance.
- A PSWG was established and inaugurated in Gombe State on 4 May 2015. The meeting was prepared in close collaboration with NEMA Operations Office in Gombe and SEMA Gombe. Twenty five participants including, Save the Children, Child Protection Network, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, the Prisons Services Department, the Police, NHRC and other stakeholders in Gombe metropolis, were present.
- The Senior Regional Shelter Officer from Dakar has completed an assessment mission in three states: Bauchi, Gombe and Adamawa. The forthcoming comprehensive report on the mission will inform and provide guidelines on UNHCR engagement in the shelter sector.
- UNHCR has discussed the possibility of providing healthcare and livelihood services for out-of-camp IDPs with ICRC. ICRC agreed to further discuss the matter with its office in Jos. UNHCR will proceed with further discussions on the proposal.
- On 6 May 2015, humanitarian actors and UN agencies in Nigeria held a meeting on the mechanisms of early recovery within the context of the displacement crises in Nigeria. Discussions during the meeting stressed the need to plan and coordinate for early recovery in order to shorten the time-span of the emergency phase, restore livelihoods and reduce vulnerability to future crisis.

## External Relations

- On 4 May 2015, the UNHCR Senior Liaison Officer, Mr. Wahid Ben Amor, held discussions with the ECHO Head of Country Office ECHO, Mr. Gaba Yasmine, and the Global Thematic Coordinator/Protection, Ms. Anne- Sophie Laenkholm, on the humanitarian effects of the displacement crisis and UNHCR Nigeria's protection response.

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### Websites

<http://data.unhcr.org/SahelSituation/country.php?id=502>

<http://nigeria.humanitarianresponse.info/Protection>