

KEY FIGURES

2,150,451 IDPs in Nigeria

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, June 2015)

176,165

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighbouring countries

FUNDING

USD 114,530,270

Requested for the situation



IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

Nigeria

Reinforce and extend protection monitoring to the borders, using expanded capacity, Protection Monitors and strategic partnerships.

Niger

Provide protection, shelter and NFIs, WASH and health care to the newly displaced population following the 25 September attack on N'Gourtoua, in the Chétimari commune.

Cameroon

Find the land for a new site to decongest the Minawao/Gawar camp and redirect all new arrivals.

Chad

Profile the mixed populations that have been displaced by military operations in the Lake Chad Region.

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°16

5 – 29 September 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- The security situation in **Nigeria's** north-east remains volatile and attacks continue to occur on a regular basis. More than 18 persons were killed in bomb blasts in the Capital Abuja on 3 October according to the latest news. The three-month deadline set by President Buhari for the sect to be defeated is approaching at an alarming rate.
- In **Niger**, the overall security situation in the Diffa region remained tense during the period under review. Attacks on 7-8 and 24-25 September claimed the lives of 18 people. Local authorities have requested that security at the camps and settlement sites be reinforced by the Niger Security and Defence Forces.
- In **Cameroon**, the period under review was punctuated by a series of suicide attacks perpetrated in different localities on the border with Nigeria, namely Kolofata, Mora, Gouzoundou and Kerawa. Aside from these attacks, many incursions that have resulted in kidnappings and killings continue to take place on the border villages and have claimed the lives of 30 people in the past month.
- The situation in **Chad** has remained calm but volatile. Other than a few exactions, which took place during the past week, no major security incidents have been reported. The security situation in the lake region is under control by the Chadian military.

A total of **2,515,471** people of concern

IDPs in Nigeria	2,150,451 ¹
Refugees in Niger	100,000 ²
IDPs in Niger	50,000 ³
Refugees in Cameroon	62,423 ⁴
IDPs in Cameroon	81,693 ⁴
Refugees in Chad	13,742 ⁵
IDPs in Chad	57,162 ⁵

¹ NEMA/IOM DTM Report, August 2015

² Government estimation - Nigerian refugees, displaced people from Nigeria claiming to be Niger nationals but lacking documents

³ Government estimation

⁴ UNHCR/IOM – including 46,000+ in the Minawao camp

⁵ UNHCR/IOM

⁶ IOM

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Operational Context

NIGERIA – The security situation in Nigeria's north-east remains volatile and attacks continue to occur on a regular basis. More than 18 persons were killed in bomb blasts in the Capital Abuja on 3 October according to latest news. The three-month deadline set by President Buhari for the sect to be defeated is approaching at an alarming rate.

The Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Yusuf Buratai, has approved the promotion of 5,000 soldiers who are combatting the insurgents in the north-east, assuring that the Army is closing in on the Chibok girls in the Sambisa Forest with a view to rescuing them. However, the likelihood of their release has frequently come into question given the duration of their captivity and the insurgent group's tactics regarding the treatment of captives. A worrying turning point was reached 11 September, when at least seven people were killed and 14 others injured, including 4 officials from the National Emergency Management Agency, after the Malkohi IDP camp in Yola, Adamawa State, was the target of a suicide bombing, the first of its kind since the escalation of the crisis in Nigeria.

NIGER – The overall security situation in the Diffa region remained tense during the reporting period, and sporadic attacks continue to occur, perpetuating the climate of insecurity that has plagued the region for over a year. Indeed, three simultaneous attacks took place on 7-8 September and claimed the lives of 3 people, two of which (an Imam and a village chief) had been specifically targeted. These occurred in the villages of Arikoukouri, Bori and Tchougoundi south of N'Guigmi near the shores of Lake Chad. More recently, on 24-25 September, 15 villagers including the village chief were slaughtered and houses were burnt down in N'Gourtoua, 20 km west of Diffa town. Military authorities have established a security post to ensure the village and its surrounding area are safe. The affected population has fled north to areas such as Gagamari and Chétimari. Traditional authorities are searching for a site in the commune of Chétimari in order for the displaced to live amongst friends and relatives.

CAMEROON – The period under review has been punctuated by a series of suicide attacks perpetrated in different localities on the Cameroonian border with Nigeria, namely Kolofata, Mora, Gouzoundou and Kerawa. Aside from these attacks, many incursions that have resulted in kidnappings and killings continue to take place on the border villages and have claimed the lives of 30 people in the last month. Spontaneous arrivals continue to be registered in the Gourounguel Transit Centre, located 4km from Minawao camp.

CHAD – The situation in Chad has remained calm but volatile. Other than a few exactions, which took place during the past week, no major security incidents have been reported. The security situation in the lake region is under control by the Chadian military. The curfew for pedestrians and vehicles and the military patrols that have been established in Baga Sola since 1 June are still in effect.



Protection

NIGERIA - The latest IOM and Nigerian Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) report indicates that there are 2.15 million insurgency-related IDPs in Nigeria.

Achievements and impact: UNHCR provided non-food items (NFIs) to 43,000 IDPs located in various camps in Jalingo, capital of Taraba State. According to the ongoing UNHCR-National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) joint protection monitoring exercise, Taraba State has experienced inter-communal violence and attacks against IDP returnees in recent weeks.

- UNHCR organized protection training for 27 immigration officers, 5 military officers and 1 Defence Security Service (DSS) officer in charge of receiving Nigerian returnees from Cameroon at several border entry points in Adamawa State. The objective of the training was to raise participants' awareness of

international protection standards and of the practical challenges that exist on coordination and registration issues, in the returnee response management context.

- As part of efforts to ensure the adoption of the national IDP Policy and the domestication of the Kampala Convention, UNHCR met with the Director-General of the National Institute of Legislative Studies (NILS) on 16 September to discuss a planned advocacy workshop for parliamentarians. This, in view of launching the UNHCR-Inter-Parliamentary Union Handbook for members of parliament. This tool will contribute to putting adequate legislation in place, which should enable States to assume their responsibility in preventing displacement, protecting and providing assistance to IDPs. The DG promised the support of the NILS including immediate follow-up with the National Assembly. In this light, UNHCR in collaboration with the National Commissions for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) has initiated plans for joint courtesy visits to the President of the Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and the Senator representing Adamawa North senatorial district, Senator Binta Masir Garba (considered a strong advocate on IDP issues).

Challenges and gaps: In Taraba, it was reported that the State Government has called on traditional rulers to ensure that all IDPs return to their places of origin and that all confiscated land be returned to IDP returnees. Inter communal violence has been reported as a result. Returnees in Dan Anacha Village in the Gassol Local Government Area (LGA) and in Kortse Village were attacked, resulting in the death of 7 civilians. The government has reportedly alerted the police, military and State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) to ensure that this directive is implemented. Four community leaders have been suspended by the Taraba Governor for fuelling communal crisis in their areas. UNHCR and other PSWG partners are closely following up on the implementation of the administrative directive on IDP returns.

- Following the outbreak of cholera in several IDP camps in Maiduguri, UNHCR participated in an extraordinary HCT meeting on 18 September to discuss the humanitarian response to the situation. The situation report revealed 11 fatalities; 246 cholera cases; and over 11,000 individuals who are at risk of contagion. There are fears that the threat may be spreading to the city. In addition to other agencies UNHCR is planning to distribute urgently needed NFIs and emergency shelter support.
- In Adamawa State, following the on-going security screening of Nigerian returnees from Cameroon, suspected terrorists were intercepted and arrested by the Nigerian State Security Service in Fufere and Mubi. This has created increased fear among IDPs. More than 11,000 Nigerian nationals have been forcefully returned/deported from Cameroon since July.
- A number of terrorist suspects were arrested in IDP camps in Damaturu, Yobe State, and consequently, authorities have suggested that UNHCR issue ID cards to the internally displaced. IDPs are screened by the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) and security forces. At the border, UNHCR facilitates the screening and registration of returnees by the NIS before they are relocated to IDP camps, where they are screened once again by the Nigerian army. The camps are entirely managed by NEMA, SEMA and the Nigerian Red Cross.

NIGER - The Government of Niger has estimated that the insurgency-related population of Nigerian refugees and Niger nationals who had been living in Nigeria (Niger returnees) has reached 100,000. It also estimates the IDP population at 50,000 persons.

Achievements and impact: During the past week, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) organised workshops on child protection in the Kablewa camp and the towns of Boss, Chétimari, and Goudoumaria.

- On 21 September, the UNHCR protection team undertook a mission to the Assaga site to seek volunteers for relocation to the Sayam Forage camp. A total of 22 households (139 people) opted for voluntary relocation. There was an overall lack of interest from the 250 participants present at the assembly as the option of living with host communities to avoid dependence on humanitarian assistance is favoured by these populations.
- IRC organised an awareness raising 'caravan' or procession, on the subject of child protection in ten communities from 17 to 22 September. Some 3,700 people including 1,035 children benefitted from the initiative.

- From 16 to 22 September, IRC established seven child education committees in Diffa town, the Gagamari, Chétimari, Kangouri settlements and in the Sayam Forage camp. They will respond to cases of child rape, abuse and exploitation, and serve to organise awareness-raising campaigns.
- The *Directorat Régional de l'Etat Civil* (DREC) has started registering births in the Sayam Forage camp and IRC will undertake birth registration monitoring. This step is particularly significant in that it will contribute to the fight against statelessness, a risk faced by large amounts of the displaced in the region.
- UNICEF provided support to the Regional Directorate for the Advancement of Women and the Protection of Children, with the recruitment of 10 monitoring staff for separated/unaccompanied children. They also provided support to *Cooperazione Internazionale* (COOPI) with the creation of 10 'child friendly spaces' in the camps and settlements of the Diffa region, the last of which will be completed in Yebi within the next two weeks.
- UNICEF held a training session for members of the Sub-Cluster for Child Protection and for the Security and Defence Forces on child protection to improve the quality of support provided to separated or unaccompanied children, and children involved with armed groups.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: There is an urgent need to provide assistance to the newly displaced in the village of Koublé (N'Gourtoua attack) and UNHCR has shared its findings in this regard with the humanitarian community. Arrangements are being made with CARE, The Luxemburg Red Cross (CRL) and *Action Pour le Bien-Etre* (APBE) to respond to the urgent shelter, NFI, WASH, and healthcare needs that have declared themselves.

CAMEROON - UNHCR and IOM have registered 62,423 refugees and 81,693 IDPs in the Far North. The majority of refugees live in the Minawao and Gawar annexe site (46,082), while IDPs live with host families.

Achievements and impact: During the reporting period, UNHCR registered 402 spontaneous arrivals at Gorounguel the transit centre. The Minawao camp is largely over capacity and UNHCR continues to advocate that regional authorities provide the land for a new site, in order to decongest the camp.

- UNHCR and INTERSOS, who are heading the protection monitoring project, organised a training session for 30 monitors and 3 field coordinators on human rights and humanitarian principles; the UNHCR mandate; the code of conduct; protection monitoring tools and good practice, as well as data collection and map making fundamentals.
- During the reporting period, UNICEF collaborated with the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Family, to train 40 persons (27 social workers, 2 facilitators, 2 legal assistants, 6 defence staff and 3 humanitarians) on the identification, documentation and research required for family reunification. An additional training for 30 individuals such as policemen and social workers took place on the subject of 'age verification' of minors who have suffered through traumatic events.
- In the context of family reunification, 7 Nigerian children who attend the Koranic school in Maroua were identified by *Action Locale pour un Développement Participatif et Autogéré* (ALDEPA) and referred to UNHCR. Once screened, 6 of the children were reunited with their families and one was placed in a foster family.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps:

- The Minawao camp is over capacity. Originally meant to host 15,000 refugees, it now hosts over 46,000.
- Despite efforts undertaken by local authorities, too few police are deployed in the Minawao camp. UNHCR is advocating that more personnel be assigned to this task.
- Psycho-social support staff is lacking

CHAD - The humanitarian community estimates that there are about 13,742 refugees currently living in the Lake Region, of which 9,089 have been registered by UNHCR and IOM. Out of these, 7,139 refugees composed of 6,715 Nigerians and 424 Niger refugees are currently living in the Dar Es Salam site. The remainder chose to undertake

economic activities in the surrounding villages and not move to the site. IOM have profiled 57,162 IDPs in accessible areas of the Lake region.

Achievements and impact: With the help of the N'Djamena office, the shelter location of 6,493 refugees living in the Dar Es Salam camp was updated. Secondly, the database software was updated to support biometric data.

- UNHCR and MSF organised an art class in the context of psycho-social support efforts undertaken for children in the Dar Es Salam camp. Some 10 children aged 10 to 14 years of age participated in the activity.
- Family reunification efforts allowed 35 women and children to re-establish ties with their families in their respective locations of origin on 20 September. The departure ceremony was presided by the Baga Sola *sous-préfet*.

Education

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: In the Minawao camp the school year has begun and 78% of the children identified for primary school are enrolled. This promising figure is the result of intensified door to door awareness-raising on the subject. As regards higher education, UNHCR and the refugee committee have joined efforts to raise awareness around the criteria and steps required to apply to the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative scholarship for students wishing to pursue their education.

- Following a recommendation from UNICEF, a meeting on education took place, which regrouped all relevant actors in the area. It was presided by the Departmental Delegate for Basic Education of the Mayo Tsanaga department, and aimed to harmonise education assistance in the camp and further involve the Departmental Delegation in the pedagogical guidance and supervision of educational activities. Two main recommendations emerged from the discussion, firstly that the Delegation be more involved in the recruitment and supervision of teachers in the camp and secondly that a plan for the reinforcement of teacher capacity (financed by UNICEF) be prepared by the Delegation in collaboration with Public Concern.

NIGER

Achievements and impact: Works on the Distance Learning Centre (*Centre d'Education à Distance – CED*) in Bosso have come to an end. The opening of the centre has been accompanied by a “Come back to school” campaign organised by COOPI. In addition to Bosso, the center in Diffa is in the process of resuming its functions. In the Kablewa site, land has been allocated for a new CED and its construction is expected to begin soon.

CHAD

Achievements and impact: The academic year started successfully in the Dar Es Salam camp on 15 September. The official commencement speech was made by the Baga Sola *sous-préfet* during a ceremony organised at the Ecole Espoir 2, which was presided by the Regional Coordinator of the Chadian Red Cross (CRT) and education partners, in the presence of the refugee community and a number of other high profile guests such as the Baga Sola Brigade Commander. In the contributions made by the various participants, the good collaboration between local authorities and the humanitarian community was underlined and child protection associations from the various communities were encouraged to promote child education, particularly for girls. All participants took stock of the infrastructural and capacity related gaps that impede children from fully enjoying their right in this respect, and the ceremony ended by a guided tour by the CRT, of the already highly attended classrooms on this first day of school.



Health

NIGER

Achievements and impact: The Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) is ongoing in the Chétimari and Gagamari sites. This vaccination campaign is routine in the Kabléwa and Sayam Forage camps.

- Eight discussion group meetings and three awareness-raising sessions were held at the beginning of September in Gagamari, Chétimari, Kimegana and N'Guigmi, focusing on prenatal care, exclusive breastfeeding and the importance of treated mosquito nets. Approximately 1,403 people benefitted from these sessions.
- APBE sent a mobile clinic to the Yébi site in Bosso town on 10 September. Yébi hosts an important displaced population (IDP, returnees and refugees). APBE have also hired two permanent nurses for consultations.
- ACTED is working on community mobilization in the Kablewa and Sayam Forage camps, to encourage refugees to make use of official health centers.
- The UNHCR 'Remote Management' framework was established in the Bosso commune when it became inaccessible due to the security situation, and provides mobile health services and shelters. UNHCR operates the framework with APBE and manages it remotely from the Diffa Office. During the reporting period, and in this context, mobile health clinic was installed in the Yebi site, and is working with the integrated health centre to administer healthcare to the displaced populations.

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: UNICEF and WHO provided technical support to MSF with the organisation of the second round of the cholera vaccination campaign, aimed at refugees aged over 1 year old, in the Minawao camp and in surrounding villages. Support was also provided for the tetanus vaccination campaign aimed at women aged 15 to 49 years old.

- Cholera prevention activities followed the vaccination campaign, and touched on the issues of personal and collective hygiene and on the 'health promotion' events organised by WASH partners such as IMC, Public Concern, Plan International, IEDA Relief and MSF.
- The Ministry of Public health initiated the 'Local Poliomyelitis Vaccination Days' (LVD) on 25 September, which will cover the Extreme North region, including refugees in the Minawao Camp. UNICEF and WHO provide organisation and implementation support.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: Limited capacity of public health infrastructures around the Minawao camp, including Gadala Health Centre and Mokolo District Hospital.

- Lack of staff for tending to pathologies requiring expertise.



Food Security and Nutrition

CHAD

Achievements and impact: From 10 to 12 September, a 15 day food ration distribution took place in the *Kousseri 1* IDP site and benefited 5,187 persons. The monthly food distribution took place in the Dar Es Salam camp from 16 to 18 September and benefited 4,853 out of the 4,856 refugees targeted.

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: On 25 September the Mayo Tsanaga Prefect provided food on behalf of the Cameroonian president, in the form of grain, oil, and flower stocks worth 142,920,700 CFA. This is not the first time refugees have benefited from such solidarity on behalf of President Biya, similar donations have been made for Nigerian and Central African Republic refugees in the past.

- The general food distribution by WFP ended on 12 September and benefitted 44,983 persons, this was complemented by a distribution of 1,350 18kg bags salt and 500 boxes of stock cubes by CARITAS.



Water and Sanitation

NIGER

Achievements and impact: An official WASH committee established by ACTED in August has begun carrying out awareness-raising campaigns in the Sayam Forage camp on hygiene and sanitation practices, and the maintenance of health infrastructures in the camp.

- UNICEF and ACTED reported that 330 latrines have been constructed in the Gagamari, Chétimari and Assaga sites.
- In the Sayam Forage camp, ACTED have reported that emergency latrines are being disassembled and replaced by semi-permanent ones.
- UNICEF and IEDA relief completed the distribution of 5,000 hygiene kits for IDPs and refugees in the Kabléwa camp at the beginning of the month. The distribution was accompanied by an awareness-raising campaign on the promotion of hygiene, with focus groups, which reached 9,148 people. UNICEF also reported the distribution of 566 female hygienic kits to women of childbearing age in the Kabléwa refugee camp at the beginning of the month.
- In the Chétimari settlement, IRC held an awareness-raising session at the beginning of the month, on hygienic practices, which was attended by 135 people. In addition, capacity development sessions were organised for 36 community workers in the Kablewa camp and settlements such as Gagamari and Kimegana on the use and maintenance of emergency latrines.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: The Koublé site requires rapid WASH response. Only one cemented well is functional and ponds in the area will soon dry up, when the winter season ends.

- The Sayam Forage camp is experiencing water provision challenges as the water trucks have not been able to access the premises, due to heavy rainfall. The camp water point is currently under repair and Care International are able to continue trucking water with a 16,000 litre capacity UNHCR truck, capable of filling five 10,000 litre water containers a day, thus meeting the daily consumption needs of the population.



Shelter and NFIs

NIGER

Achievements and impact: UNHCR has been working on an urbanisation project with national authorities in Chétimari and N'Guigmi, which aims to support local authorities with land development to enable vulnerable populations to settle. This project may also be implemented in Assaga; discussions are underway.

- On 16 September, APBE completed the distribution of 500 emergency shelters in the Yebi site, Bosso commune.
- At the end of August, a rapid evaluation mission was undertaken in Tchoungoua by CARE, CRL, IRC and APBE which yielded the following results: 1,040 households, comprising approximately 7,272 people, are in need of shelter and improved access to water (the closest water point is 3km from the site). These results will be used to inform decision-making processes and priorities for the coming months. Since then, NFI kits have been distributed to about 1,010 households by UNICEF and IRC, in partnership with UNHCR, to displaced people at the site.
- Following the collapse of a number of houses in the Diffa region, CRL recently completed the distribution of shelter kits containing wooden poles, rope, plastic sheeting and tarpaulins to 45 households in Diffa. They also distributed tarpaulins for shade and shelters to new arrivals in the Kabelawa camp.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: There are urgent shelter and NFI gaps in the Koublé site, which currently hosts 800 households. The CRL is transporting 1,000 shelter kits from Niamey to Diffa and these will be distributed in Koublé but also Djalori, where 357 households are settled.

CHAD

Achievements and impact: Between 12 and 20 September, UNHCR distributed NFIs (buckets, mosquito nets, jerrycans, blankets, soap, plastic sheeting, etc...) to a total of 12,752 persons in the Darn Nahim 1, 3, and 4 sites and in the Malia Kalidar site.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

NIGER

Achievements and impact: A UNHCR census mission undertaken in late August to the Chétimari and Gagamari settlements to identify those wishing to volunteer for relocation indicated that a total of 171 households of 707 people have volunteered to be relocated to the Sayam Forage camp. Actions are currently underway to assist with their transfer which is expected to take place in October.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: In the Sayam Forage camp, the refugee representative has pointed to a number of problems, including to the distance of firewood from the camp, to the grain mill being out of order, and to the fact that women are facing difficulties in acquiring appropriate clothing (veils) since the ban on wearing the hijab.



Community Empowerment and Self-Management

CHAD

Achievements and impact: During the past week, the *Secours Catholique et Développement* (SECADEV) obtained the netting and twine that will serve to construct the large fishing nets required to undertake fishing activities in the context of the livelihoods programme. The SECADEV also obtained the tools needed to finish building the boats that will be used to this end. On 16 September, these tools were distributed to the beneficiaries and the construction work on the boats has been finalised since then. The boats have yet to be allocated.

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: In the context of the livelihoods and ecology programmes, Plan International trained 30 volunteers in the Minawao camp on environmental protection and agriculture. This training was organised in collaboration with staff members from the Regional and Departmental Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development and of the Regional and Departmental Ministry of Flora and Fauna.



Access to Energy

NIGER

Achievements and impact: In the Sayam Forage camp, the installation of solar panels began on 29 September. These will provide electricity at all times and facilitate night time manoeuvres. The health centres in N'Gawea, Sayam town, Goudoumaria and N'Guigmi will soon be equipped with solar panels as well.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: The populations of the Sayam Forage and Kablewa camps are enthusiastically awaiting gas distributions. They have completed training on the safe use of gas and constructed outdoor cooking areas. The distribution should begin in the coming weeks.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds. Funding requirements for the refugee and IDP components of the Nigeria Situation now amount to USD 114.5 million, including USD 97.5 million in additional requirements for 2015.

Donors:

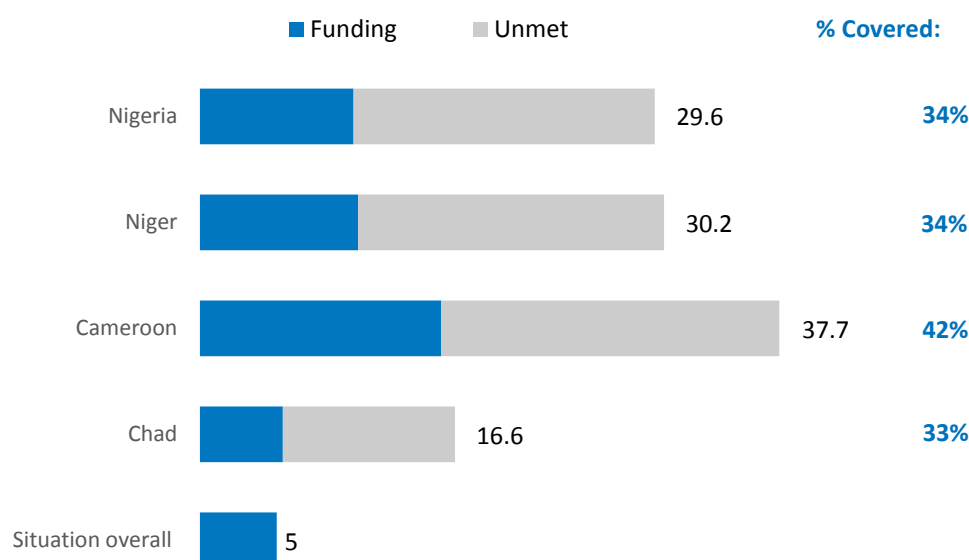
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A total of **USD 46.7 million** has been funded out of a **USD 114.5 million** requested



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Links:

Nigeria regional web portal: data.unhcr.org/NigeriaSituation
UNHCR Tracks: <http://tracks.unhcr.org>
UNHCR's Kora blog: voices of refugees in West and Central Africa: <http://kora.unhcr.org/>
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