

SITUATION UPDATE



SHELTERS AFFECTED AS A RESULT THE RAINS AND WINDSTORM IN BAKASSI CAMP© SAHEI, MAY 2018

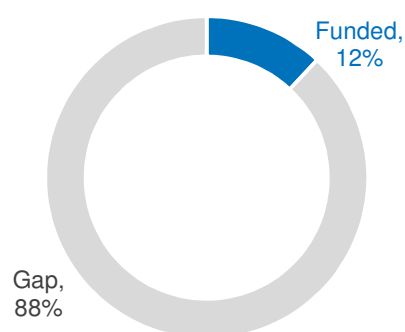
Key Figures on Beneficiaries (as per individuals)

Persons referred	41
Persons Trained	254
Shelter beneficiaries	3,295
≠ of persons sensitized	1,689
≠ of dignity kits	6,000
≠ of IDPs profiled	6,335
Perons receiving NFIs	14,340
≠ of IDPs documented	84,568
Total number of IDPs	1,881,198

*The IDP figures of were provided by IOM DTM of April 2018

Key Funding Information - Funding (in million USD)

A total of 70.2 million is required for the UNHCR NE Operation for 2018



Of that amount, only 870,000 (12%) has been funded, leaving a funding gap of 88%.

 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The first Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum organized by UNDP with financial support from Germany, Sweden, and Norway was held from 8-9 May in Maiduguri, Borno State. Government representatives from Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria as well as UN Agencies participated and discussed how the humanitarian-development nexus could be used as the catalyst for peace and solutions in the Lake Chad Region.

On 31 May, UNHCR held a consultative meeting in Maiduguri, Borno state to gather insights on sustainable returns to Bama. Under the theme "Perspective of Bama Community on Returns", 69 participants comprising members of the Transition Committee on Returns, community leaders including the Bama Chief Imam, elders and a member of the House of Representatives; community members of Bama; UN agencies and NGOs attended the meeting. During the discussions, the UNHCR Representative in Nigeria underscored the need to collectively take actions that would ensure the sustainability of returns. Some of the proposed solutions include:

- the need for a multisector approach to rehabilitate and/or construct permanent shelters;
- restore banking facilities affected by the crisis or establish new ones in areas where they were non-existent;
- provide water and sanitation facilities;
- ensure that residents can have access to their farmland by putting in place the necessary security measures;
- ensure the return of local government staff ; and
- provide livelihood opportunities especially for youth and women.

 SECURITY SITUATION

The period under review witnessed 21 security incidents in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. Persons-boned In-explosive Devices (PIEDs) were predominantly used in coordinated assaults against security and civilian infrastructure including villages and worship centers. The number of attacks and the magnitude of the resulting impact illustrate the continued threats faced by civilians in the North-East. The attacks also underscore the increasingly precarious nature of the security situation in the North-East, thereby reinforcing the need for staff to exercise maximum vigilance as they work to deliver the much-needed services to persons of concern.

 POPULATION MOVEMENT

Refugee Returnees: During the reporting month, a total of 245 households of 753 individuals arrived from Cameroon to Pulka in Borno State. Majority of those returning said they wanted to reunite with families in Nigeria and that their return was voluntary.

IDPs: Under an inter-agency framework to relocate internally displaced persons (IDPs), UNHCR provided transportation for 236 households comprising 929 individuals from Biu to Damboa. This is part of a decision by the government to relocate some 2,700 IDPs in the aftermath of the December 2017 twin-suicide bombings in Biu that killed several people and wounded dozens of others. Local residents had accused some IDPs of being sympathetic to the insurgent group that carried out the attacks on Biu.

In Pulka, UNHCR provided a three-day dry-food ration to 153 households of new IDP/refugee returnee arrivals of 765 individuals as they awaited regular food distribution.

Cameroonian Refugees: 14 new arrivals were reported in Gembu, Taraba State as a result of the ongoing crisis in Cameroon's English-speaking regions. The information about the cases was referred to Calabar Sub-Office for possible registration and relocation to South-South Nigeria where refugees fleeing the crisis in Cameroon are being supported with more structured emergency assistance.

 SHELTER RESPONSE

Strong windstorms and heavy rainfall during the second half of May caused the destruction of about 1,170 shelters in Gulak, Adamawa State; Ngala, Banki, Bama and Maiduguri camps in Borno State. Most of the affected households were relocated to temporary accommodations or moved with friends and extended family members. The extent of the damage was assessed and efforts started to immediately begin the repair of the affected shelters.

UNHCR and the Borno State Judiciary conducted joint assessments on existing court structures in Monguno, Gwoza, and Dikwa. UNHCR will use findings from the assessment to inform its collaboration with the state judiciary to identify dilapidated infrastructure for possible rehabilitation. This will help to expand court sittings and re-establish the rule of law. UNHCR and the government hope that the expansion of the facilities will improve the access to justice for IDPs, returnees and host community residents using the courts to resolve conflicts and other post-crisis disputes.

During the reporting period, UNHCR completed the expansion of court in Ganye Local Government Area from a Magistrate to High Court. The project is part of UNHCR's support to the state government to restore rule of law and provide the people of the area with their first-ever High Court since it became a chiefdom.

UNHCR also completed the fencing of the Mubi Transit Centre in Adamawa state in preparation for the voluntary repatriation of some 4,000 Nigerian refugees from Cameroon. UNHCR and the Governments of Nigeria and Cameroon in March 2017 signed a Tripartite Agreement to facilitate the return of Nigerians from Cameroon in safety and dignity. However, UNHCR and the two governments have decided to focus on return to Adamawa State for the time being until the situation improves in other states.

 NON-FOOD ITEM (NFI) DISTRIBUTION

UNHCR distributed a total of 1,555 standard NFI kits in May benefitting 14,340 vulnerable individuals in response to protection concerns. The standard kit comprises of a jerry can, a bucket, antiseptic soap, detergent, a mattress, two mats, five pairs of slippers, five women's pants and sanitary pads, a solar lantern, three cooking pots, two blankets and a mosquito net. The distribution targeted beneficiaries in IDP camps in Bama, Maiduguri, Ngala, and Dikwa in Borno State; while in Yobe State, UNHCR NFIs distribution to IDPs and refugee returnees in Postiskum and Fune LGAs was a support to the response to the cholera outbreak in the state.

Meanwhile, on 28 May, UNHCR distributed dignity kits to 6,000 girls attending the Government Girls Science School & Technical College (GGSTC) in Potiskum, and Government Girls Secondary School (GGSS), Fune in Yobe State to mark Children's Day celebration.

 SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV)

During the month, 142 SGBV incidents were reported. Although there was a reduction in reported cases in May as compared to April with 175 cases, the trend of the data recorded validates the scenario that multiple population displacements expose individuals to incidents of SGBV. For example, the May cases were recorded in locations with large numbers of new IDP arrivals – Bama (29), Dikwa (25) and Pulka (15).

 CAPACITY BUILDING

From 23–24 May, 25 staff from the American University of Nigeria (AUN) in Yobe and Borno States participated in a training covering international humanitarian principles, prevention of child labour and the concept of database and statistics in Information Management (IM). A special session on the purpose of vulnerability screening tool and how it may be used to inform appropriate responses and action was also held. The training was conducted in Maiduguri, Borno State.

The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Nigeria conducted a three-day training on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) covering mediation, negotiation, effective communication, and Suhlu–Islamic/Sharia Arbitration in May. Participants included 19 ADR Corridor Unit staff from Borno State High Court and Sharia Court and ten community leaders from 10 LGAs in Borno State.

UNHCR jointly facilitated with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) a two-day training session for 135 security officers from the army, police, and civil defence force. security officers on Human Rights in Damaturu, Yobe State, Maiduguri in Borno State and Yola, Adamawa State.

The training was a refresher session intended to enhance the understanding of security personnel on human rights and international humanitarian principles in the context of an emergency and the road to recovery.

UNHCR trained 41 individuals to support the implementation of the vulnerability screening exercise in Damaturu, Potiskum and Bade, Yobe state The individuals were identified from UNHCR partner agencies - Centre for Caring, Empowering & Peace Initiative (CCEPI), National Emergency Management Agency, (NEMA), State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and the National Red Cross Society (NRCS). The screenings are used to inform UNHCR's targeted interventions.

On 16 May, nine protection monitors and Protection Action Group members in Bama participated in a training session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). The main objective of the training was to increase the knowledge and understanding of participants on SGBV and to build their skills in SGBV prevention and response at the field level.

25 sensitization and information sessions were conducted in Tungushe, Kaga, Damboa, Damasak, and Gwoza in Borno State reaching 1,689 individuals during May. Personal and environmental hygiene, school enrolment and GBV issues were the key discussion points. Separate sessions on peaceful co-existence and the risk of sending children to fetch firewood in Damasak and Gwoza also targeted parents and caregivers.



KEY OPERATIONAL CHALLENGE

In addition to dwindling resources to adequately respond to the needs of affected populations, the scaling down of activities by some partner organizations in the North-East continues to adversely impact on established referral pathways and service delivery. The departure of these NGOs is leaving a technical and functional vacuum where the expertise is needed most.