

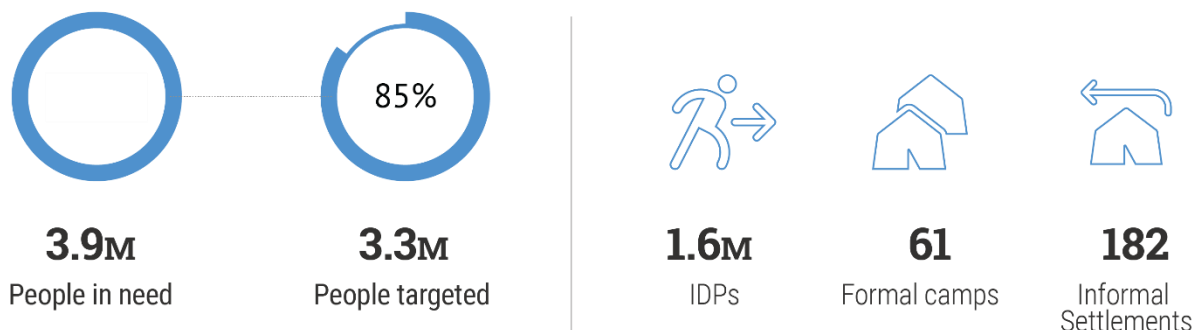


Nigeria: Borno State

Weekly Situation Report No. 3

28 June 2021

This report is compiled by OCHA Nigeria in collaboration with humanitarian partners.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Food and nutrition partners reach over 40,000 people with vital supplies in Damasak border town as more internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugee-returnees arrive.
- 230 cases of several acute malnutrition (SAM) identified in Rann border town as partners intensify critical services.
- Over 2,200 new arrivals facing shelter gaps amid increasing influx in Ngala LGA.
- 68 cases of measles and two related fatalities as access constraints impede vaccination in some high-risk locations.
- Over 1,100 IDPs affected by flash flooding in Dikwa LGA.
- President Buhari commissions 4,000 new homes as part of durable housing solutions for IDPs.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Food distribution in hard-to-reach area, Damasak

More than 40,000 people, including IDPs and returnees in Damasak town were reached with food assistance and vital nutrition supplies during the week. It was the second major food distribution in the town near the border with Niger Republic since international humanitarian partners temporarily reduced footprints in mid-April due to escalating insecurity marked by attacks and clashes that targeted and affected aid assets. An OCHA mission that visited Damasak on 14 June reported relative calm, including for many IDPs recently relocated from Maiduguri, the state capital. Deployment of security has increased and additional measures such as the extension of trenches are being implemented. Several IDPs and returnees who initially fled to the Nigerien side continue to arrive in Damasak town in dire need of urgent assistance. The gradual resumption and scale-up of multi-sectoral operations is expected to continue in the coming weeks, although renovation of damaged assets, including the humanitarian hub that enables overnight missions will be critical.

Emergency flood response

Flash flooding from heavy downpours continued to cause damages to critical facilities and infrastructure across camps and host communities in the state. Some 377 IDP households (approximately 1,100 people) across six camps in Dikwa were directly affected during the week, according to a rapid assessment conducted by local partners. Urgent needs of affected households include non-food items (NFIs), food and shelters. The entire area is in dire need of WASH services, including the expansion of water channels. Response capacity is currently low with only one partner actively responding to priority needs. The humanitarian presence remains low in the LGA following an escalation of violence since mid-April. In Bama LGA, partners are scaling up assistance to some 77 households directly affected by flash flooding from a heavy downpour at the GSSS camp during the week. Rehabilitation of damaged shelters and sand filling activities are ongoing to push back floodwater in the camp. As the rainy season gathers momentum, partners across sectors continue to intensify measures to mitigate impacts and risks of water-borne disease outbreaks.

Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods response

Nutrition partners this week intensified operations in Rann town, near the Cameroonian border, where access constraints continue to impact humanitarian programming and response for over 25,000 people. Operations include inpatient therapeutic feeding and out-patient programmes. Malnutrition cases continue to rise in the border town, with 230 SAM cases recorded in the month of May, including 95 that were discharged after treatment and 19 complicated cases transferred to Maiduguri for intensive care. Food Security Sector partners prepositioned 950 tons of food to Rann two weeks ago to support affected populations during the rainy season, when the area is usually cut off by flooding for several weeks. Rann is one of the most challenging operational contexts in the state due to repeated attacks and clashes that have claimed hundreds of civilian lives, including aid workers, and access challenges during the rainy season.

Health

Updates from a monthly health review meeting this week indicate that some 68 cases of measles and two related fatalities were recorded across camps and communities in May, bringing the total reported cases to 289. Nearly all IDP camps in the state have reported cases since the outbreak started in March, with children under five among the worst affected. Vaccination programmes are being intensified across LGAs, although insecurity is impeding access to some locations, especially in the northern axis of the state. Hard-to-reach teams are being deployed to work with government partners on how best to reach populations in these locations with vaccination and other critical health services.

Security

General deterioration of security and shrinking operational contexts remained major concerns during the week. Although no direct or indirect attacks were reported in IDP locations during the week, non-state armed group (NSAG) operatives maintained illegal vehicle checkpoints (IVCPs) across key supply routes in the northern and southern axes of the state. All through the week, NSAG operatives mounted IVCPs along Damboa-Biu road, in Damboa LGA, stopping civilian commuters and demanding to see their identity documents before allowing them to go. An aid worker abducted at one of such IVCPs along Maiduguri-Damaturu road in early January regained freedom during the reporting week after over five months in captivity.

Housing as durable solutions for IDPs

On 17 June, President Muhammadu Buhari commissioned some 4,000 newly constructed homes across Maiduguri as part of efforts to provide durable housing solutions for displaced populations, most of whom are currently living in congested camps and host communities. The “10,000 housing project” was launched in June 2020 as part of a strategy to rebuild damaged or destroyed homes across all affected LGAs in the state. The State Government has in recent months intensified relocation of IDPs from public facilities to some of the newly constructed homes to promote their dignity and return public infrastructure to their original purposes. The presidential visit was also to review the ongoing military counter-operations in the state, which is the worst affected by the ongoing conflict. President Buhari gave assurances of continued support to the military to restore peace and stability to ensure displaced populations can return to their original communities.

High-level visit from Northeast Nigeria Ambassadors Group

On 23 June delegates from Canada, the European Union, France, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America as well as the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund (IMF) visited Borno State to better understand operational challenges and humanitarian and development efforts to respond to the crisis. The mission included two parallel visits to Banki in Bama LGA and Stadium IDP Camp in Maiduguri, as well as engagement with government stakeholders including H.E Governor of Borno State, Prof. Babagana Zulum. Following the visit, Canada announced \$26.95M in humanitarian assistance to north-east Nigeria.

Gaps

Over 2,200 people (450 households) are facing shelter shortages in Ngala LGA, where an increasing influx of new arrivals, mostly from unreached areas, continues to stretch resources and facilities in already congested camps and host communities. Partners are struggling with limited space to scale-up shelter construction. Most of the affected households are currently staying at the reception center, which is also overcrowded, while others have moved in with relatives. Food, NFIs, nutrition and WASH are among other priority needs as the influx is expected to continue in the coming weeks. Initial assistance including daily wet feeding, NFIs and WASH services are being provided by partners.

Funding Overview

Out of \$1.0 billion required for the 2021 humanitarian response in north-east Nigeria, \$503 million is required for Borno State.



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