

NIGERIA SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE N°21

1-29 February 2016

KEY FIGURES

2,241,484 IDPs
in Nigeria

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report,
Round VIII, February 2016)

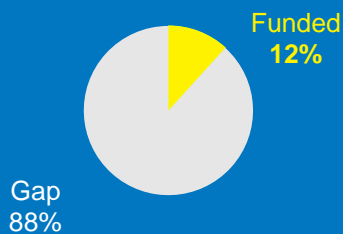
209,280

Total number of Nigerian
refugees in neighboring
countries

FUNDING

USD 97.3 million

UNHCR requirements out USD
198.7 million requested in RRRP
for January-December 2016



IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

Nigeria

Revise the contingency plan to include the growing amount of Nigerian returnees arriving through Adamawa State

Niger

Finalize the installation of three water networks in Goudoumaria and Sayam Forage

Cameroon

Construct additional family shelters in Minawao and expedite the Mokolo water adduction project

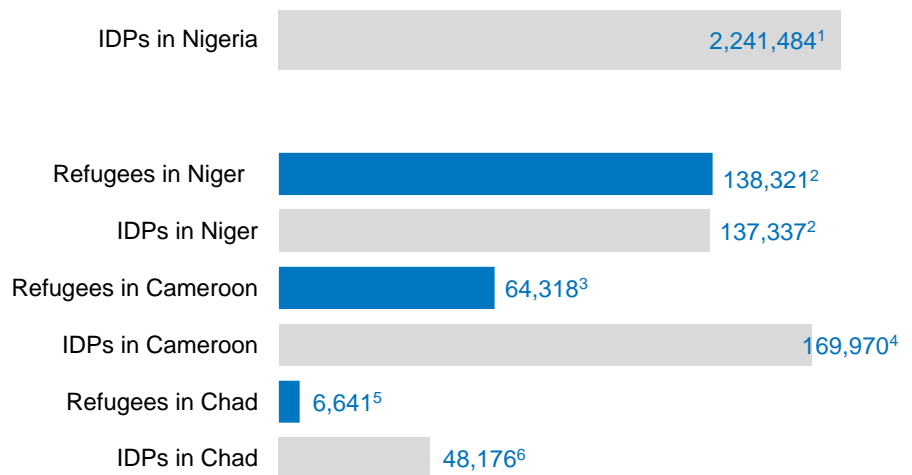
Chad

Strengthen protection response with a particular focus on education and security

HIGHLIGHTS

- In **Nigeria**, the month of February was marked by a series of insurgent attacks, including against an IDP camp in Dikwa in Borno State. Measures put in place to ensure better security by the Government are bearing fruit but access remains limited and conditions for return are not yet met in the majority of affected areas.
- In **Cameroon**, joint military operations carried out by Cameroonian, Nigerian and Multinational forces intensified during the month of February and resulted in over 100 insurgent deaths, the liberation of hundreds of hostages, the destruction of explosives plants, and training camps. Despite these successful operations, insurgent incursions into Cameroonian territory continue.
- In **Chad**, the security situation has remained stable, thanks to the continuous deployment of Multinational and Chadian military forces. The humanitarian community is extending its reach to newly accessible areas despite heavy military presence in the region.
- In **Niger**, security measures were reinforced during the second half of February as presidential and legislative elections took place on the 21st and 22nd respectively. No major security incidents were recorded during the reporting period but restrictions on movement and bans on trade are still in place.

A total of **2,806,247** people of concern as of 29 February



¹ NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round VIII

² UNHCR/Government Estimation

³ UNHCR – including 56,000+ in Minawao camp

⁴ IOM DTM Report, Round II

⁵ UNHCR/Government

⁶ CCCM Cluster

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Operational Context

NIGERIA – The month of February was marked by a series of insurgent attacks, including against an IDP camp in Dikwa, Borno State which resulted in the death of at least 50 persons and injured close to 80. The insurgent group's control or lack thereof over Local Government Areas (LGAs) especially in Borno State, is an issue under constant discussion, but its presence remains a serious threat. The Government has intensified awareness-raising campaigns aimed at encouraging civilians to unite against the insurgency and the army has started to make use of newly acquired equipment, better adapted to asymmetric warfare. These measures have yielded results as the Nigerian Military and Multinational Joint Task Force (MJTF) engaged the insurgents on numerous occasions during the month. Nevertheless, access remains limited in Borno State and measures implemented to stem the group's ability to raise funds (e.g. closing cattle markets) have been met with much resistance by local populations. The Nigerian Army has established a human rights desk to address relevant concerns, especially in the north-east. Its establishment has been advocated by the UN since 2013 and the UN Country Team (UNCT) is currently determining the ways in which it will assist the army in this respect.

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has started to plan for the possible return of approximately 60,000 Nigerians currently living in Cameroon's Far North department. During the visit of the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR advocated asylum space and offered to provide technical assistance to support governments in the region with the development of a regional strategy, for the eventual voluntary, dignified and safe return of refugees, including through a tripartite agreement. Currently, UNHCR is working with authorities to organize a regional protection dialogue, which will involve governments and partners, with a view to crafting a regional framework.

As of 29 February, a total 21,998 Nigerian refugees had returned from northern Cameroon into Nigeria through Sahuda in Adamawa State. Out of these returns, 36 per cent have settled with host communities while the rest have relocated to IDP camps in Yola or Maiduguri. Of the 2.2 million IDPs in Nigeria, the overwhelming majority (92 per cent) live with host communities.

CAMEROON – Joint military operations carried out by Cameroonian, Nigerian and MJTF forces intensified during the month of February and resulted in over 100 insurgent deaths, the liberation of hundreds of hostages and the destruction of explosives plants and training camps. Despite these successful operations, insurgent incursions into Cameroonian territory continue. During the reporting period, a number of attacks were recorded, the most deadly resulting in 24 deaths and 115 injured in Mémé Village market, located 16 km southeast of Mora on 19 February. The attack took place in the wake of a double suicide bombing the week before in Nguetchewe (29 km west of Mora) which left 8 people dead and 50 injured.

The crisis has had a devastating impact on the Far North department. The number of IDPs has more than doubled since June 2015 to 169,000 persons according to IOM's Displacement Tracking report for the month of February. Insurgents have reportedly infiltrated humanitarian distribution sites as well as Minawao camp. On 15 February, the arrest of 25 Nigerian citizens "disguised as refugees" and suspected of belonging to the insurgent group has further stigmatized refugees, who face pressure to return. UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection visited Nigeria and Cameroon during the month to assess the protection situation and meet with governmental officials and religious leaders. Key discussions were held around the need guarantee the right of refugees to voluntary return in safety and dignity from Cameroon. To this end, a tripartite agreement will be signed between UNHCR, Cameroon, and Nigeria to ensure that voluntary return, once conditions allow, upholds key principles and international protection standards. In light of this, a Regional Protection Dialogue is planned to take place during the second half of April. The Dialogue is expected to bring together a range of actors including host governments, UN and NGO partners and civil society.

CHAD – The security situation in the Lake Chad Region has remained stable, thanks to the continuous deployment of MJTF and Chadian military forces. However, there are many reported incidents of cross-

border arms trafficking and recruitment. Insurgents in the region continue to make use of improvised explosive devices combined with armed attacks although the increased use of female suicide bombers has been noted, as has also been the case in Cameroon. Although insurgent activity in Chad is mostly limited to the lake islands with no major attacks reported, counter insurgency measures are forcing many to flee and relocate in areas where the humanitarian preparedness of local authorities is poor. Many spontaneous sites and IDPs remain inaccessible to the humanitarian community for security reasons. Despite this situation, the humanitarian community has managed to extend its multi-sectoral assessments beyond the Bol and Baga Sola axis to areas such as Daboua, Liwa, Ngouboua and Tchoukoutalia.

NIGER – Security measures were reinforced during the second half of February as presidential and legislative elections took place on the 21st and 22nd respectively. Incumbent President Mahamadou Issoufou won with the majority of votes as did his party and its allies in the legislative elections. The security situation in the Diffa region remains volatile but the number of attacks has decreased since December with three recorded incidents in February. These improvements can be related to the intensified counter-offensive operations carried out by the Nigerian and Cameroonian forces as well as the MJTF. The humanitarian community has not been directly targeted but stands the risk of collateral damage. To date, the security measures in place have been satisfactory. Restrictions on movement and bans on trade are still in place, and continue to hamper local populations' ability to engage in livelihoods activities.

Protection

NIGERIA – The latest IOM and Nigerian Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) report for the month of February indicates that there are 2.24 million IDPs in Nigeria, across twelve states and Abuja. Out this population, 1.9 million persons have been displaced by the insurgency and the remainder by natural disasters and community clashes. Over half of the population are children, of which 26 per cent are five years old or younger. A total of 84 IDP camps and camp-like settlements have been identified through the assessment.

- The humanitarian community is exploring ways to reach inaccessible areas of the country. NEMA has reported that ICRC has delivered significant food and non-food item assistance to Dikwa and plans to target two other Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Borno State. MSF is delivering healthcare assistance in Dikwa and UNHCR has distributed dignity kits in this location through the Nigeria Red Cross Society (NRCS). Humanitarian access challenges remain, predominantly in Borno, but also in Yobe and Adamawa. In Adamawa, UNHCR trained local emergency committees in seven LGAs to enhance returnee tracking capacities and improve community based protection projects in place.
- The pilot exercise for the relocation of 33,586 IDPs registered in six schools serving as camps, out of some 42,000 registered across eight camps (schools) in Maiduguri took place during the month and is scheduled to end by mid-March. During the last week of February, in collaboration with the High Powered Committee (HPC) as well as humanitarian and State actors, UNHCR facilitated the relocation of 3,896 IDPs from one of the camps named 'Government College' to Bakassi camp, where they are settled in 450 shelters built by UNHCR. Upon arrival, UNHCR provided 3,150 IDPs with NFIs and further distributions are planned for to take place next month. As of 28 February IOM had biometrically registered IDPs in the next school camp targeted for relocation to Bakassi, which will take place on 1 March.
- UNHCR has stepped up monitoring activities in accessible host community areas and in IDP camps in Yobe State and in Yola, Adamawa State. In Borno State, UNHCR carried out an assessment in three LGAs and found that the number of IDPs coming from areas where counter-insurgency activities are taking place was steadily increasing. Overall, findings revealed that there are major needs in the areas of water, food, shelter and basic NFIs in Yobe and Borno, whereas in Adamawa, limited access to livelihood activities was highlighted, especially given their role in facilitating the reintegration of Nigerians arriving from Cameroon.

CAMEROON – As of 29 February, UNHCR had registered 56,210 Nigerian refugees in Minawao camp. Through the second round of its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) for the month of February, IOM estimated the number of unregistered refugees living out of camp at 8,108 persons (for a total of 64,318) and the number of IDPs at 169,870 persons. IOM's figures were endorsed by the Governor of the Far

North Region on 14 March. During the reporting period, 1,404 individuals were registered at Gourounguel transit centre, bringing to 3,892 the total amount of registered arrivals in 2016.

Achievements and impact: UNHCR carried out its Age Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) evaluation with a focus on the refugees in Minawao camp and IDPs at the Zamai site. Discussions were held on protection, education, community mobilisation, social cohesion and food distributions among other subjects. These allowed refugees and IDPs to express their concerns and needs, which they were able to voice in the presence of UNHCR staff as well as partners and Government officials.

- During the month, 3,133 new admissions were recorded in Minawao camp's child friendly spaces (CFS) bringing to 22,442 the total number of youths participating in the socio-educational activities organised by *Action Locale pour un Développement Participatif et Autogéré* (ALDEPA) in the CFS. As regards IDPs, a total of 2,529 children took part in activities organised by ALDEPA in selected schools and host communities.
- ALDEPA organised a mass awareness-raising campaign in Mora for religious bodies (Ecclesiastical communities in Mokolo), protection committees and traditional leaders on violence against children and the risks they face in being recruited by the insurgent group. Furthermore, a total of 2,329 persons participated in discussion groups on the consequences of GBV and early marriage as well as on the existing laws prohibiting these practices. During the reporting period, 14 new cases were identified and provided with assistance.

CHAD – UNHCR and the Government have registered 6,641 Nigerian refugees currently living in the Lake Region. Out of these, 1,612 are currently living in Dar Es Salam refugee camp. The remainder chose to work in the surrounding villages. The CCCM cluster lead by UNHCR and co-lead by IOM have profiled 48,176 IDPs, 11,066 returnees and 771 third country nationals.

Achievements and impact: UNHCR staff in Baga Sola were trained in the management of the continuous registration mechanism, which was established following the verification exercise organised in December 2015. In this respect, UNHCR and the Government arm, *Commission Nationale d'Accueil de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés* (CNARR) screened people claiming to have missed the previous verification exercise because they were elsewhere in the region.

- Since December, new police units have been established at prefecture level to reinforce national response. In Baga Sola, 10 police officers rotated through Baga Sola to assist with the protection of Dar Es Salam camp during the month, after receiving training by the police department and being provided with shelter and NFIs by UNHCR.
- In Dar Es Salam, UNHCR provided material assistance in the form of dignity kits to women and girls aged 15-49 years, and organised awareness-raising activities on early marriage, with a focus on the legislative measures in place banning this practice in Chad. In the IDP sites, the SGBV working group met with religious leaders to establish a local committee for the prevention and response to SGBV in the Kafia site. Furthermore, in Kafia and Dar Nahim, UNHCR organised awareness-raising activities on early marriage and female exploitation.
- New displacement areas are becoming accessible in various localities such as Daboua and Liwa. Registration operations, intention surveys and sectoral assessments are ongoing in these areas and will provide a clearer image of the scale of displacement in the region as a whole.

NIGER – As of end 2015, UNHCR and Government of Niger estimated that the insurgency-related population of Nigerian refugees and Niger nationals who had been living in Nigeria (Niger returned migrants) had reached 138,000. They also estimated the IDP population at 137,000 persons.

Achievements and impact: Teams from the Regional Directorate for Civil Status and Refugees (DREC-R) have been carrying out registration activities along the RN1 road, where the displaced have settled forming numerous but distinct sites. The mid-term report by the end of February indicated the presence of 69,421 individuals and the exercise is ongoing.

- From 19 to 21 February UNHCR carried out its AGDM evaluation in the Diffa region, in the camps and in the spontaneous sites. A total of 566 refugees, returnees and IDPs participated. The main priorities raised by the beneficiaries were the need for CRIs, livelihood opportunities, shelter and education. They

raised issues pertaining of GBV, child protection, documentation, the environmental impact of the crisis and returns to places of habitual residence.

- The population of Kabelawa camp grew by 171 per cent between December 2015 and February 2016 and currently stands at 8,000 individuals. As host populations become increasingly unable to accommodate the displaced, the latter choose to move into camps in order to benefit from humanitarian assistance and services. A number concerns have arisen due to this increase, especially with regards to security, for which focus group discussions took place during the month, in order to establish a discussion forum between inhabitants of the camp and security forces. Furthermore, in the first week of February, meetings were held between various groups including the central, reception, complaints and youth committees. In addition, an awareness-raising session on peaceful coexistence was carried out and benefited 400 persons.

Education

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: As of 29 February, 16,603 students were regularly enrolled into the Minawao camp schools (1,294 in pre-school, 12,921 in primary and 2,388 in secondary school). In primary school attendance is 55 per cent and 46 per cent in secondary. In order to improve attendance rates, UNHCR and its partners continue to carry out awareness-raising activities aimed encouraging parents to ensure their children are regularly enrolled and able to attend school.

- The Ministry of Education assigned three teachers to the primary level and one for the secondary level. Furthermore, the NGO Public Concern initiated a recruitment process for voluntary primary and secondary level teachers.

CHAD

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: During the month, overall attendance in both of the Baga Sola schools dropped by 40 per cent. While certain students attributed this decrease to temporary issues related to the UNHCR funded feeding programme, others noted the departure of many families to other areas of the Lake Region in search of work. Following discussions held with refugee leaders to encourage attendance, a slight improvement was observed in the last week of February.



Health

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: From 26-28 February, UNICEF and its partners organised a vaccination campaign against poliomyelitis in the Far North's 30 health districts for a total of 1,187,750 children aged 0-59 months including IDPs and refugees. Furthermore, 355 new arrivals aged 6 months to 15 years were vaccinated against poliomyelitis in Gourounguel transit centre bringing the total number to 585 since the beginning of the year.

- With a view to enhancing medical response for refugees in Minawao, UNHCR and MSF are considering the establishment of a third consultation centre. A space for the establishment of this facility has been reserved.

CHAD

Achievements and impact: Through IMC, UNHCR improved health facilities catering to IDPs and host populations during the month. An incinerator and rubbish collection area were constructed in the Dar Es Salam health centre and similar constructions as well as the renovation of the surgery ward in Baga Sola hospital are underway.

NIGER

Achievements and impact: In Sayam Forage, a training session was held for a group of 20 women on referral mechanisms, and in this case, to the health centre for prenatal consultations. In Kabelawa, awareness-raising sessions on good health practices were held in the health centre and benefited 150 persons.



Food Security and Nutrition

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: With the support of WFP, IMC initiated the first round of blanket feeding for children aged 6-23 months in Minawao. Out of the 7,785 children targeted, 7,162 were assisted.

Challenges, needs and remaining gaps: Through the Cameroonian Red Cross, UNICEF screened 420 newly arrived refugee children at the Gorounguel transit site. Two children suffering moderate acute malnutrition were detected as well as 34 of moderate acute malnutrition and three of acute malnutrition during the blanket feeding exercise. All were transferred to the nutritional centre in the camp.



Water and Sanitation

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: To improve water provision in Minawao camp, and owing to the drying up of the Mayo Louti river, UNHCR in Maroua, with the authorisation of local authorities, organised water trucking with MSF vehicles to the Woudahaye dam and to boreholes built by UNHCR, UNICEF and Plan Cameroun. As a result, the daily amount of water available per person/day increased by one litre since the last report to 13 L/person/day.

- Works on the water adduction project from Mokolo to Minawao continued during the reporting period. To date 41 per cent of the project is complete, and according to CAMWATER, it should come to fruition by the end of March.

NIGER

Achievements and impact: Awareness-raising activities were carried out in Sayam Forage and Kabelawa on hygiene and sanitation for a total of 602 people. Additionally, in Sayam Forage awareness raising sessions on the management of solid waste were organised for a total of 96 persons. On 23 February, IRC visited newly arrived refugees in the commune of Maïné-Soroa and carried out awareness raising activities on social cohesion, sanitation and hygiene for a total of 426 people.

- Three water adduction systems, powered by solar panels that pump water from boreholes to a tank - itself connected to a network of pipes and taps - are under construction in the Diffa region. In Goudoumaria and Sayam Forage, works are underway, and the system was finalised in Kabelawa on 18 February. UNHCR met with the Regional Hydraulics Directorate to expedite the finalisation of the remaining systems.



Shelter and NFIs

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: In order to enable IDPs living in the Zamai site to construct their shelters from semi-durable materials (adobe bricks and corrugated iron sheets), UNHCR and *Action pour un Développement Economique et Social* (ADES) provided shelter and construction kits to 25 households living in Zamai village located 15 km from Minawao. This group originates from the Logone-et-Chari department and following a request from local authorities, has been allowed to settle in Zamai village, where there is grazing land and water for cattle.

NIGER

Achievements and impact: APBE distributed 300 emergency shelters to persons living in one of the displacement sites located 55 km from Diffa town on the RN1 road. In Kablewa, CARE International received 500 emergency shelter kits and distributed 100. The rest will be distributed in March. Earlier in the month, the community mobilisation team organised the distribution of 500 plastic sheets to new arrivals. Furthermore, 120 transitional shelters were constructed and another 80 are expected in the coming weeks. Finally, in Sayam Forage, 74 transitional shelters were constructed and the same amount is expected to be delivered for construction in the coming days.

- The 946 beneficiaries of the Urbanization project in Chétimari and N'Guigmi received their land ownership documents, thus putting an end to this phase of the project.



Livelihoods, energy and environment

CAMEROON

Achievements and impact: Plan International distributed seeds to 90 households for the cultivation of crops and to 28 groups who had received equipment for income generating activities aimed at preventing acute malnutrition in Minawao. Furthermore, UNHCR began the distribution of energy efficient stoves to women in the camp. Finally, the FAO began distributing cattle to households in Kousséri and finalised the construction of vaccination pens for cattle in a number of localities in the Maroua area.

CHAD

Achievements and impact: Refugees involved in the market farming and fishing activities that have been put in place in Baga Sola since the third quarter of 2015 are seeing their efforts rewarded, and additional beneficiaries are being identified to expand the project's reach. Refugees involved in fishing activities make a modest living and are able to provide for their households.



Access to Energy

NIGER

Achievements and impact: The second round of the gas distribution project was carried out for 250 households in Sayam Forage and for 750 in Kabelawa. The identification of beneficiaries is underway for the second phase, aimed at persons with specific needs living outside of camps. Care International is carrying out the exercise and has identified almost 15,000 households to date which include IDPs and the host population. The remaining households that will be surveyed are located in the Bosso commune.

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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/>

Twitter: @UNHCRWestAfrica

Facebook: UNHCR West Africa

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

On 7 December 2015, a Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for the Nigeria Situation was launched by 28 UN agencies and NGO partners, requesting a total USD 198.7 million for refugee response in Cameroon, Chad and Niger in 2016. UNHCR’s financial requirements within the RRRP amount to USD 62.3 million. In total, for refugee response and response for IDPs in Nigeria, UNHCR’s requirements amount to USD **97.3 million**. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to the Nigeria situation as a whole.

Donors:

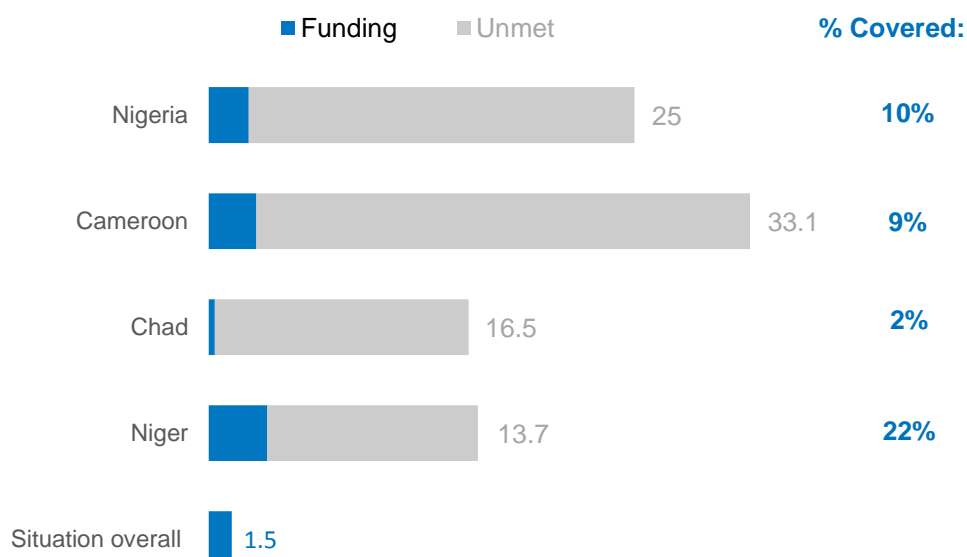
CERF
European Union
France
Italy
Japan
Switzerland

Funding:

A total of **USD 11.4 million** funded out of USD 97.3 million requested by UNHCR, representing 12% of the needs:

Private Donors:

Canada



Nigeria Situation

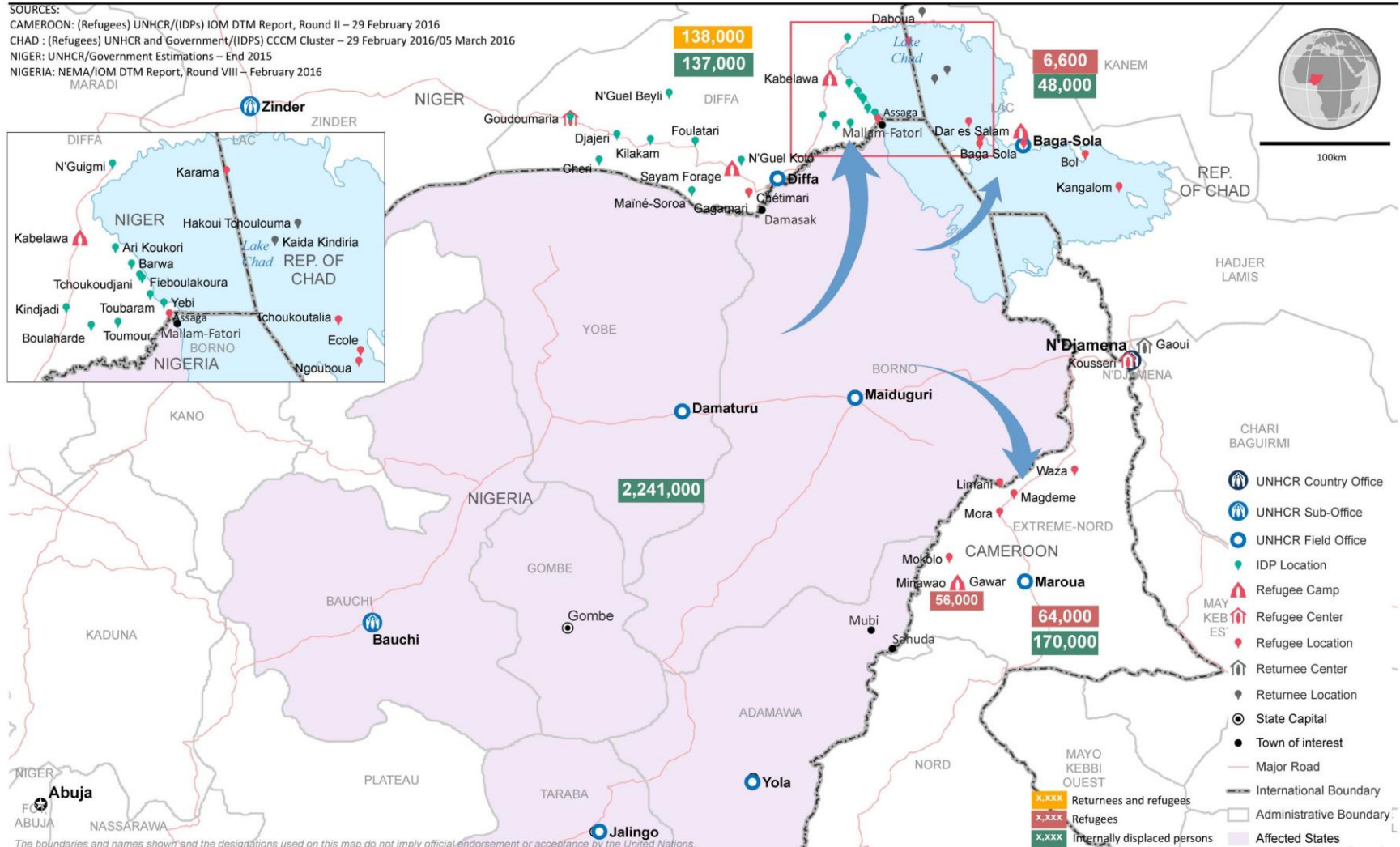
Operational context map

Updated as of 22 March 2016



SOURCES:

CAMEROON: (Refugees) UNHCR/(IDPs) IOM DTM Report, Round II – 29 February 2016
 CHAD : (Refugees) UNHCR and Government/(IDPs) CCCM Cluster – 29 February 2016/05 March 2016
 NIGER: UNHCR/Government Estimations – End 2015
 NIGERIA: NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round VIII – February 2016



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
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