

North-East Situation Update

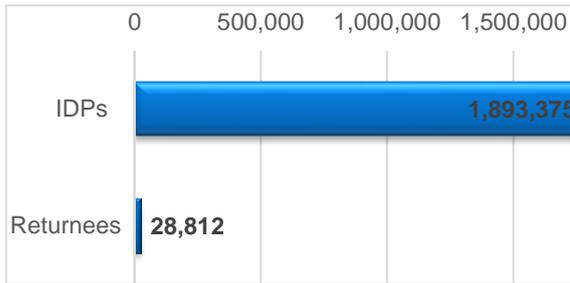
June 2020

24,684 Persons with Specific Needs identified for targeted assistance.

Additional 8 Protection Monitors and 6 Nurses recruited to reinforce border monitoring. **4,081** individuals crossed the Nigerian borders.

UNHCR supported the issuance of **15,107 civil documentation** for IDPs, returnees and host community members to prevent Statelessness.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

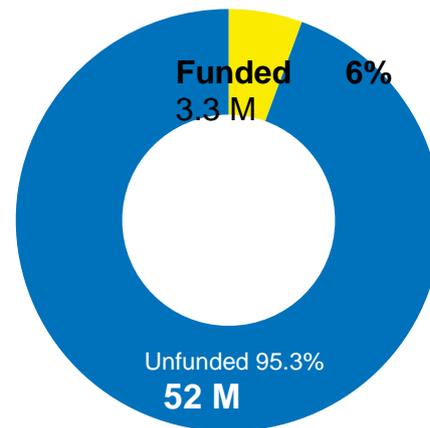


* IDPs in the States of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe provided by IOM DTM report Round 32.

FUNDING (AS OF 22 JULY)

USD 55.4 M

requested for the North-East Nigeria situation



UNHCR Presence in the North-East

Staff:

43 National Staff

24 International Staff

Offices:

01 Country Office in Abuja

01 Sub Office in Maiduguri

01 Field Office in Yola

05 Field Units in Gwoza, Bama, Monguno,

Ngala, Banki



Beneficiaries of non-food items in Gwoza, Borno State. © UNHCR

Security and operational environment

The security and operational environment in the States of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe, North-East Nigeria referred to as **BAY States**, continued to be volatile. In June, incidents of civil unrest, fire outbreaks and criminal activities further fragilized the affected population already impacted by the measures enacted by the Government to curb the spread of COVID-19 pandemic.

In the State of Borno, Non-State Armed Groups (NSAG) carried out indiscriminate attacks targeting communities in Dikwa, Nganzai, Monguno and Ngala, using various means, including mounting of illegal checkpoints and planting IEDS on the main supply Monguno-Maiduguri road axis. Civilians have been abducted, looted, and killed. Humanitarian actors were not spared; NSAG launched attacks on trucks conveying humanitarian aid along Maiduguri-Damaturu main supply routes, on the humanitarian hub in Monguno, and kidnapped five humanitarians.

In **Adamawa State**, insurgent activities were reported in the northern axis of Michika LGA while cattle rustling, kidnapping and gun threat were reported in the southern parts. Two communal clashes over the ownership of farmlands in Lagule community, and between Tangalere and Bare communities over community boundary resulted in burning of houses in Adamawa Central.

The Measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 such as the restriction of interstate movements, closure of Courts and curfews were still in effect, impacting negatively on the socio-economic lives of the affected populations. The impacts which include reduced income and loss of livelihoods due to inter-state travel ban as well as an increase of prices for basic necessities such as food and firewood. Cases of domestic violence and children begging and hawking as schools have been closed are on the rise.



PROTECTION

Protection Activities

UNHCR and partners maintained a presence and delivered on its mandate in line with its Business Continuity Plan (BCP) and in accordance with the "stay and deliver" principle. They also worked to implement the response to the COVID-19 in compliance with the guidelines and measures put in place by the authorities. UNHCR covers **21 locations in 19 LGAs** including 13 locations in Borno State (Jere, MMC, Konduga, Bama, Banki, Mungono, Damboa, Dikwa, Gwoza Pulka, Damasak, Gamboru-Ngala, and Rann); 06 in Adamawa State (Yola North, Yola South, Mubi North, Mubi South, Madagali and Michika); and 02 in Yobe State (Damaturu and Gujba). In the BAY States, UNHCR presence is ensured by UNHCR staff in Maiduguri, Yola and in deep field locations, and by Partner Personnel (GISCOR, NHRC, FHI360, INTERSOS, NBA, Caritas, AUN, BOWDI, MRRR and SALIENT).

At international entry points in Damasak, Banki, Ngala and Pulka, **Border Monitoring team comprising 08 Protection Monitors and 6 nurses** conducted border monitoring, health screening and provided hygiene materials. They also conducted COVID 19 prevention and awareness raising campaigns targeting populations crossing the borders. In collaboration with WHO, IOM and Government officials, Border Monitor conducted coordination meetings and made referrals to address urgent concerns on the ground.

Despite the closure of borders to contain the spread of the pandemic, **4,081 individuals crossing the border** were screened and recorded at official and unofficial entry points of which: Damasak 2,892, Gamboru-Ngala 710, Pulka 111, and Banki 362. By nationalities, 3,953 were Nigerians, 72 Cameroonians, 53 Nigeriens, and 3 Chadians. Family visits, job opportunity, and seasonal movements were the major push factors recorded for the movements.

Population movements: In June, 338 households (1,159 individual new arrivals) were registered in camps in Bama, Damasak, Ngala, Gwoza LGAs from various locations in North-East Nigeria. In Adamawa State, 20 households displaced following fire exchange between NSAG and the Nigerian Army at Shuwari and Kirchinga, Madagali LGA.

Protection Responses

Protection Sector Coordination:

As the **Protection lead agency**, and in line with its responsibility to build capacity for preparedness and response, the Protection Sector North-East (PSNE) Nigeria continues with the delivery of Virtual

Learning sessions to support the development of partners' capacities in responding to protection-related issues in the North-East. In June, protection partners were trained on Housing Land and Property issues; The integration of SGBV in humanitarian action, on Legal Frameworks for protection of IDPs and Durable Solutions. The sector is also collaborating with iMMAP to provide capacity building to Information Management Officers and protection partners.

Prioritized Needs: The Protection Sector North-East Nigeria notified all protection partners to submit project proposals under the prioritization of needs and activities under Humanitarian Response Plan 2020 for which the Protection Sector was awarded \$2.10 million.

Protection Sector Engagements: The protection sector engaged in cross border meetings with general protection partners and also in meetings with global protection cluster on responses to the COVID-19. This month, the PSNE participated in the Coordination meeting between the UNHCR Branch Office in Abuja, the National Commission for Refugee, Migrants and IDPs (NCFRMI) and UNHCR Sub Office Maroua, Cameroon, concerning the spontaneous returns of the Nigerian Refugees from Cameroon and Niger to Nigeria.

The sector shared **rainy season guidance and actions** for community engagement and coordination for better resilience of the camp communities. With the rainy season underway it is expected that protection issues will be aggravated. As such, protection partners were urged to develop key messages for sensitizations and awareness-campaigns.

Protection challenges in North-East: PSNE made a presentation to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) on prevailing protection environment in the North-East and NSAG associated challenges such as abductions, lack of administrative presence and services in LGAs, using evidences from Protection Monitoring and incidents reporting data collected from the field. The HCT was urged to keep Protection as a standing agenda item.

COORDINATION: Protection coordination meetings took place, both at State and LGA levels. At the LGA level, Protection Sector Working Group meetings were held in Banki, Bama, Gwoza, Ngala and Monguno, and mostly chaired by UNHCR and/or its partners. At these meetings, protection issues such as lack of access to firewood, insufficient food ration including delay/ non-provision of food ration card; lack of secondary health facilities, education challenges, and denial of resources were discussed, solution-oriented actions recommended for implementation in addition to sharing minutes of these meeting with Protection Sector North-East (PSNE) at the State level. At State level due to the COVID 19 related restrictions meetings were held via teleconference.

In North-East Nigeria, UNHCR works with ten (10) national and international partners to provide protection responses to Persons of Concern (PoC) through legal assistance and court representation, advocacy, capacity building, awareness and sensitization, sexual and gender-based violence related services, psychosocial counselling, material assistance and protection safety nets to.

In June, **756 Protection Monitoring visits** reached **52,764** individuals (Male; 30,208, Women; 5,255, Boys; 3,991 and Girls; 4,619) in the BAY States (Borno State: 45,214, Adamawa State: 3,311, and Yobe State: 4,299). A total of **1,957 key informant interviews (KII)** were conducted in Bama, Ngala, Monguno, and MMC among IDPs, returnees and host community members. Eight (8) focus group discussions (FGD) were held to deepen the understanding of the experience of the affected population over the key concerns raised during the KIIs, in the context of COVID-19.

Protection Monitors also conducted **vulnerability screening and registration** to understand the major needs of the vulnerable individuals in BAY States. In June, **24,485 persons with specific needs were identified**, and their expressed needs included food (86%), water (62%) and livelihood (40%). The major protection concerns reported by PoCs included arbitrary arrests (23%) and forced recruitment (20%). Women with specific needs included female headed households, lactating and pregnant women while children with specific needs included child marriage, child headed households, and unaccompanied and separated children.

Protection Incidents: In June, Using Protection Monitoring tools, UNHCR recorded 76 incidents affecting 80,253 persons in BAY State including NSAG attacks (30%) and destruction of property (14%) and others (15%). Other incidents reported were abduction of civilians, SGBV and injuries by Improvised Explosive Devices.

At the protection Desk, IDPs and spontaneous returnees reported **1,624 individual Protection incidents** including Child Protection, SGBV, rights violation: arrest and detention, forceful eviction, torture and physical violence. The total individual protection cases included 750 persons with specific needs (PSN). Of which **70% of PSNs** were referred for services such as health care, antenatal care and access to services. Most Elderly and women at risk concerns are pending solution. **59% of SGBV** incidents were referred for specialised services which include case Management, Medical and Psychosocial Support, and 71% of human rights violation cases were referred for resolution to UNHCR's partner the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

Access to Justice: In Borno State, the mobile court sittings in Gubio and Bakassi IDP Camps were exceptionally allowed to hold hearings twice a week in adherence to COVID-19 prevention measures. **31 cases** have been registered at the two courts. **Group legal counselling** and awareness reached **115 individuals** (Men:45, Women:70) in Borno State. Key messages included Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), probate matters, matrimonial, inheritance, documentation, registration and human right violation. **11 individuals** (Men: 5 and women: 6) were provided individual legal counselling and assessed for litigation on probate matters, matrimonial, inheritance, documentation, registration and human right violation.

Documentation: This month, UNHCR and partners supported the issuance of **11,985 birth Certificates** to IDPs, returnees and host community children (Boys: 4,903; Girls: 7, 082) in Bama, Ngala, Gwoza, Pulka and Banki. Also, **3,122** individuals (Boys: 2, 017; Girls:1105) have been issued with **Certificates of Indigenes** in Mobbar and Gwoza LGAs. Birth Certificates, Certificate of Indigenes and Voter Registration are the key civil documentation to prove the State of Origin and nationality in Nigeria.

Training and capacity building: A total of **65 opinion leaders** (Men: 26; Women: 39) were trained in **Damasak, Gwoza** and **Bama** on Protection Principles, Age, Gender and Diversity and how to respond to protection concerns in their communities. Opinion Leaders play a significant role in addressing protection concerns in the community using traditional methods that result in amicable resolution of issues in the communities.

Awareness sessions and sensitization: A total of 269 awareness sessions and sensitizations reached 17,472 individuals in the BAY States (Men – 6,661; Women – 9,243; Boys - 696; Girls - 869) with protection-based messaging on COVID-19. Of this number, 75 % were in Borno State, 19 % in Adamawa State and 7 % in Yobe State. **Thematic areas** covered included Human rights, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and the referral pathway. Information on the Prevention and Response to COVID-19 have been mainstreamed into daily protection awareness sessions.

Advocacy interventions: 566 individuals participated in **57 advocacy and community meeting in BAY States**. These advocacy sessions held with camp managers and opinion leaders sought to resolve food, sanitation and health concerns identified in the communities in line with Accountability to Affected Population.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence:

UNHCR and its SGBV Partners BOWDI and FHI 360 conducted activities towards Prevention, Risk Mitigation and response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in the BAY States. These activities included Awareness and sensitisation, case management and operations at Women and Girls and Integrated Safe Spaces, Psychosocial First Aid and Material Assistance. This resulted in creating a positive impact and build UNHCR capacity in the prevention and response to SGBV concerns in the community.

Capacity building: - From 5 to 17 June, Virtual training sessions were conducted on GBV case management. A total of 32 partner staff attended. The training empowered participants with skills on general GBV Case Management, the guiding principles and the step by step process of survivor centered case management. A total of **21 Awareness sessions** reaching **1,843 individuals** (Men:539; Women:686; Boys:248; Girls:370) were conducted in the BAY States on thematic areas such as Domestic violence, Rape, Denial of Resources and Sexual exploitation and Abuse.

Case Management: BOWDI registered **62 new cases in Borno State**. Of this number, 21 were referred for Psychosocial Support (PSS), 8 cases for legal services, and 6 for Health Care and shelter services. On June 30, there were 117 active cases. During the month, 36 cases were closed after the cases were solved.

Material Assistance: To help women and girls maintain their dignity during humanitarian crises including covid-19 pandemic, and to mitigate SGBV risks associated with the lack of hygiene and sanitary materials, UNHCR/BOWDI provided 1,500 kits to women and girls in BAY States: **In Borno State, 1,100 vulnerable women and girls of reproductive ages**, comprising pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls, GBV survivors and Persons Living with Disability (PLWD) from the camps of Bakasi Camp (100), Bama (200), Banki (200), Dalori I Camp (200) and Ngala (200), and Teachers Village Camp (200) benefitted. In New Stadium camp, 46 girls of reproductive age received packs of sanitary pad for the promotion of menstrual hygiene and additional 10 women were assisted with soap for the promotion of hygiene. **In Adamawa State, 400 dignity kits** were distributed to vulnerable women and girls in Mubi and Yola.

Safe Spaces. The Integrated Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS) continued to provide a safe and educative environment as well as a place for economic empowerment to women and girls. Staff and community volunteers continued to provide PSS activities through literacy sessions, recreational activities (games, singing, dancing, and storytelling). These activities served as a venue to help vulnerable women and girls heal, improve their support systems and rebuild their social structures. This month, **899** (Men:20; Women:601; Boy:30, Girl:248) individuals used the Integrated and Women and Girls Safe Spaces services in Borno and Adamawa States.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM), SHELTER AND NFIS

The CCCM, Shelter and NFI Sector and partners continued to respond to shelter needs in camps and camp-like settings for IDPs whose suffering have been exacerbated as a result of the insurgency and effects of the current heavy rains and windstorms experienced in the region. The existing needs for Shelter and NFIs have heightened, surpassing the humanitarian capacity to respond. This is due to COVID-19 related movement restriction that has affected timely delivery of consignments into the country. Most of the procurement processes have therefore been delayed. To fill in this gap, the sector is releasing its prepositioned shelter stockpiles to respond to the most recently highly affected camps in Maiduguri Metropolis, Jere, Konduga and Kaga.

According to the DTM Flash Report released on 4 July, a total of 700 Household of 2,584 individuals living in 19 camps and camp-like structures needed 575 shelters. This number is likely to go up as partners are still sending assessment reports. UNHCR has rehabilitated 397 emergency shelters reaching 1,985 individuals in stadium IDP camp in Maiduguri as an effort to respond to this disaster. In order to track records on response to flooding, damages by rains and windstorm, the sector will be issuing a bi-weekly update covering response as well as highlighting gaps.

The decongestion strategy and the implementation plans proposed was presented and approved by the Borno State Government. This would include the formulation of a state-led technical committee to provide strategic direction, constituting of a technical committee under the umbrella of Inter-Sector Working Group, with CCCM/Shelter/NFI as the secretariat, Localization of the decongestion strategy, Integration into local community and decongestion approach for urban and Peri-urban areas. The state government also gave directives on the construction of transitional shelters in Maiduguri, Jere and Konduga, immediate expansion of security perimeters in Monguno, Bama, Pulka and Dikwa and the utilization of the Gubio land.

UNHCR and partners under the coordination of INTERSOS, are finalizing the identification of IDP Households to be relocated to the newly constructed shelters. IDPs have requested that camp managers should install protection and security infrastructure such as security light, a watch tower, and clearing of at least 2km of space outside the wall to deter the NSAG from using the area as a hideout. This request is under discussions with SEMA Camp Manager and key stakeholders. UNDP in collaboration Ministry of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Reintegration (MRRR) have finalized the perimeter wall fencing in Banki IDP camp.

UNHCR and INTERSOS continue with COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Mobilization in the 4 LGAs of CCCM response. However, IDP community are reluctant to accept COVID-19 testing due to stigma and the myths around the disease. The health sector is encouraging CCCM partners to continue with support in screening at designated entry points to the camps, identification of suspected COVID-19 cases and to report through the existing government structures (the Rapid Response Teams) for

immediate action. Due to the important role of CCCM in prevention and response, the health sector has appealed to CCCM/Shelter/NFI sector and partners to prioritize surveillance and point of entry screening for staff, volunteers, community leaders and other community networks involved in the process.

Shelter and Non-Food Items: To decongest the overcrowded camps, UNHCR and partners constructed **600 emergency shelters** in Ngala reaching 3,000 individuals. The beneficiaries were survivors of the fire incidents that occurred in Ngala in the last two months. As part of preparation for the raining season, UNHCR rehabilitated 397 emergency shelters reaching 1985 individuals in stadium IDP camp Maiduguri.

In response to the combined effects of COVID-19, Windstorm and fire outbreak previously reported in Borno State, UNHCR distributed **3,008 NFI Kits** benefitting vulnerable households in 4 LGAs (Bama - 270, Jere - Elmiskin, Farm Centre 1,048, MMC/New Stadium Camp 650, Pulka – 600, Gwoza – 490, Adamawa;Girei 150, Yola South 350). In **Adamawa State**, **500** vulnerable households in Malkohi, Yola South LGA and Viniklang and Sangere Dutse in Girei LGA benefitted from NFIs under the **NHF funded project**.



LIVELIHOOD AND PROTECTION SAFETY NETS

Protection Safety Nets and livelihood: In June, to reduce the risk of poverty and desperation among the affected population, UNHCR targeted vulnerable PoCs in entrepreneurial skills, vocational Skills, livestock production and sustainable agriculture.

In **Borno State**, **530 individuals** (Women: 203; Men: 327) have received material assistance to continue with income generating activities in entrepreneurship, livestock breeding and sustainable agriculture. In Bama, with Funding from the **People of Japan**, UNHCR and Partner AUN conducted entrepreneurial development for 200 (Men: 60; Women: 140) PoCs. After completing their training in Cap making, they formed 20 cooperative groups and have been assisted with materials to enhance their business. **40 individuals** (Men:11; women: 29) were trained in livestock breeding and empowered with the livestock for onward breeding. **100** (Men: 60; Women: 40) individuals have been selected for rain fed agriculture. **80** (Men: 14; Women: 44) and **30** (Men: 10; Women: 20) individuals continue to train in micro business and vocational skills. In **MMC**, 60 POCs (Men: 22; Women :38) continue to train in Carpentry, Tailoring, Shoe making, ICT, Pillow and Bedsheet making. In **Ngala**, 20 POCs (Male: 10; Female: 10) trained in carpentry and tailoring and received business start-up kits.

In **Adamawa State**, as part of livelihood support, **200 returnee households** (Men:48; Women:142) in Michika and Madagali LGAs benefitted each from 2 goats (male and female). In Mubi North and South, Michika. In Yola North and South, **300** PoCs (Men: 121; Women: 179) were assisted with NGN30,000 (\$77.59) each as a grant to boost their existing small-scale businesses under the livelihood project through UNHCR's partner CARITAS.

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