Launch of Zero Tolerance Village Alliance in Bama, Borno State.
UNHCR/Bisu November 2019

Operating Environment
The security situation in the States of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe (BAY) is unpredictable and volatile. Insecurity and attacks by Non-State Armed Groups continue to affect UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies’ activities in North-East Nigeria in addition to causing population movements. A ban was imposed on the movement of transport vehicles by roads connecting Maiduguri to Damasak, Monguno, and Damaturu areas of UNHCR operation. The recent seasonal flooding has significantly impacted IDPs and returnee’s quality of life in all the camps including host communities. Hundreds of shelters were destroyed causing secondary displacement to some of the already vulnerable IDP Households. Humanitarian agencies continue to carry out response activities in terms of recovery of shelters.

Adamawa State continued to be impacted by conflict between farmers and herdsmen in Saminkaka, Sabon Peggi, Rumde, Ngolumba, Gudawo and Namtari communities, Ngurore and Namtari wards, Yola South. These conflicts resulted in the loss of livelihoods and heightened tension within the communities. Moreover, cases of abduction, hostage-taking, and armed banditry continued to be reported in communities in Mubi South and North, Michika and Madagali LGAs.

Protection Environment
Continuous population movements and risk: No influx has been registered during this reporting period. However, in Borno State, over 300 families of 1300 individuals arrived in Bama, Banki, Ngala, Gwoza, and Pulka citing the lack of security and family reunification as their reasons for displacement. This population escaped violence in Local Government Areas of Rann, Maiduguri and Bama, and local communities of Wangari and Sagini in Bama LGA. This number includes also 58 families of 249 individual refugee returnees from Cameroon, that returned in search of reunification with their family. In Adamawa State, the lack of access to livelihood in Gwoza LGA has led to the pendular movement of 300 IDPs and returnees and their teenage girls to three camps -GSS, Wakane and 20housing unit- and local communities. They move to work in the host communities’ farms. These pendular movement exposes Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) to protection risks such as Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and physical attacks. Cases killing and abduction have been reported by the Persons of Concern.

The absence of local authorities, civil administration and access to justice in several LGAs such as Gwoza and Bama continues to hinder UNHCR’s ability to effectively deliver on its responsibilities.
Protection by presence: UNHCR and its partners sustained presence in the three states – Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) - through regular protection monitoring missions in 15 Local Government Areas. Protection Monitoring visits have been conducted to deep field locations - in camps and settlements, areas of return and host communities - by both UNHCR staff and its partners such as GISCOR, INTERSOS, CCEPI, NHRC, BOWDI and FHI360.

UNHCR Field Units in Gwoza, Ngala, Banki, Bama have been fully operational, and staff maintained a permanent presence, and is coordinating meetings, and perform protection oversight activities and monitoring the implementation of UNHCR Programmes, working in collaboration with local authorities and other stakeholders.

UNHCR has also completed the construction of Protection Desk in Dalori camp, Gubio camp, Stadium camp, and Pulka transit center. These protection desks will provide PoCs in the camp with a suitable, safe and confidential environment to access protection services, such as reporting protection incidents, counseling, and feedback on previous reports.

Community-based protection outreach: Protection Action Groups (PAG) continued to be a key community-based outreach actor and involved in protection monitoring activities. There are 416 PAG members in BAY States.

Protection Monitoring Findings: According to the Protection Monitoring carried out this month, 33,254 PoCs (Men:7,691; Women: 8,038; Boys: 8,442 and Girls: 9,083) were reached through 425 Protection monitoring missions conducted in the BAY States by UNHCR and its partners.

Roll out of the Protection Monitoring tools: Parallel to the Protection Monitoring, UNHCR interviewed 1,560 key informants (KII) as part of the methodology used for site/camp protection monitoring, aiming to collect information on access to fundamental rights, incidents, service mapping, community structures and referrals.

The monitoring method is community-based with key informants drawn from various profiles and background including heads of households, community leaders, PAG members among others.

Feedback and complaint mechanisms: According to 34.9% of key informants, Protection Desks remain the most preferred feedback and complaint mechanism in the community. This contrasts with the situation in Adamawa and Yobe States where respectively 25.73% and 28.93% of respondents reported Community leaders as the most preferred feedback and complaint mechanism. This can be explained by the fact that Adamawa and Yobe States are predominantly return areas where institutions including traditional leadership structures are beginning to stabilize. Major protection incidents: 58 incidents were reported in November through KII bringing to 84 incidents reported between October and November 2019 in the BAY States.

The major types of incident of the month include SGBV incident (22), Attack by NSAG (8), Physical Assault (4), Destruction of property (3), Land disputes(2) and others(19) While in Borno and Yobe States the major incidents are Security and GBV related, in Adamawa and Yobe States, the incidents include forceful evictions and disputes over land property. For two consecutive month, SGBV incidents and attacks by NSAG are the main incidents recorded.

The alleged perpetrators were Family Members (15) (mostly SGBV cases), NSAG (14 cases) and the host Community (10). This is consistent with the two predominant incidents which are SGBV and attacks. The diversity of alleged perpetrators suggests the inclusion of all concerned in prevention actions.

Other protection concerns in BAY States: Freedom of movement within the sites, camps and community in general has been reported as a major issue. 59.64% of 1, 569 KII administered in the BAY states indicated that they can always move freely within the sites. However, movements outside the sites and in particular to other LGAs remain of great concern in Borno and Adamawa States as reported by 38% of respondents (33%
for hardly and 5% for never). Three main factors restricting freedom of movement outside the camp/site to other LGAs include insecurity 62.92%, followed by the lack of documentation and curfew (27.18 and 8.97% respectively).

Birth certificates, indigene certificates and voters ID are the commonly possessed documents in the community. This explained the ongoing programmes by UNHCR, NRC and UNICEF in support of birth registration and documentation, as well as, those enabling the provision of certificates of indigene to IDPs and returnees. Voters’ cards provided to IDPs to enable their participation in the presidential elections remain in use. The lack of legal documentation is still hampering the freedom of movement of PoCs and other human rights violations. The lack of birth certificate also puts individuals, especially children at risk of statelessness, early marriage, abduction and inability to access education which is already a concern in BAY states.

As confirmed by the key informants, lack of documentation in Borno State seems to be a major problem as raised by 46% of them. In Yobe and Adamawa States the lack of individual documentation appears to be less problematic since reported only by 4% and 5% key informants respectively. This could be explained by the relatively good presence of authorities responsible for issuing individual documentation. In Borno State, difficulty to access the civil registrar’s office (21% respondents) and distance to civil registrars’ office 17% are the main barriers to accessing individual documentation.

Priority Needs:

As shown by the table, food need and livelihood remain the major priority in BAY States with 62.05% of the key informants in the 3 states reporting access to food was insufficient (below the standards of 2,100 kcal/person/day).

Issues of mental illness: It is estimated that over 500 PoCs are affected from mild to extreme cases of mental illness in UNHCR areas of intervention in Borno and Adamawa States, but could not be effectively attended due to lack of specialized mental institutions. Additional issues included a shortage of water and absence of NFIs.

Issues of Housing Land and Properties affect 19.2% of respondents in the community, of which 62.3% were reported in Adamawa State. Main HLP issues reported include the destruction of crops (18.4%), destruction of property (18.34%), fraud or theft (14.73%) being the highest problems in all states while the destruction of farm crops remains the highest problem in Adamawa State. This can best be alluded to the reported incidents of clashes between the farmers and herders. If not addressed this situation has the potential to generate tensions between individuals and communities as well as hinder the sustainability of returns already happening in the 3 states.

Protection response and impact

UNHCR continues to deliver Protection Monitoring, response and support activities such as capacity building and awareness-raising, legal representation, access to justice, documentation as well as response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Psychosocial Counselling. Materials assistance such as shelter, food and non-food items (NFIs), as well as, protection safety nets were provided to the affected PoCs.

This month, 3,564 protection concerns cases were identified in the BAY states (Borno: 2,072; Adamawa 1,467; Yobe 25). 3,033 (85%) were referred for response while the remaining 531 are pending solutions. In Borno State, there was an increase in identified cases compared to the previous reporting periods. This could be
attributed to strengthened identification and referral mechanisms including in new locations such as Dikwa, Gwoza as a result of an enhanced protection by presence. The major cases referred were serious medical conditions (78.21%) referred for medical support followed by pregnant and lactating women (10.26%) referred for nutritional support. Effective response to cases referred continue to be challenged by the absence or limited number of service providers in the LGAs.

**Awareness raising**

A total of 15,352 individuals (Men: 4,177; Women: 7,169 Boys: 1,741; Girls: 2,265) were reached through 133 awareness raising and community engagement sessions in the States of Borno Adamawa and Yobe. These include 82 awareness sessions reaching 5,619 (Men: 1,618; Women: 2,640; Boys: 549; Girl: 812) individuals in Borno, 49 awareness sessions reaching 4,937 (Men: 1,092; Women: 1,364 Boys: 1,143; Girls: 1,338) in Adamawa State as well as two (2) awareness sessions reaching 129 Individuals (Men: 0; Women: 93; Boys: 6; Girls: 30) in Yobe State. Major theme discussed were human rights, child protection, income generation activities, girl child education, forced and child marriage. The sessions aimed at preventing or addressing protection concerns to impulse a change as well as to create more awareness on rights and service provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Cases identified</th>
<th>Cases referred to (% out of total)</th>
<th>Cases managed (% out of total)</th>
<th>Response needed/ provided</th>
<th>Comparison to the previous reporting period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borno</td>
<td>2,072</td>
<td>1, (75%)</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>Medical, PSS, legal, PSN, access to food, shelter, CP, SGBV</td>
<td>1,216 in August 1,089 in Sept 1,529 in October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adamawa</td>
<td>1,467</td>
<td>1, (99%)</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>PSS, CP services, GBV case management, medical support, education, legal, protection safety-nets</td>
<td>353 in October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yobe</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25 (100%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>CP, SGBV, medical support</td>
<td>43 in October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legal representation and legal assistance**: UNHCR partner Nigeria Bar Association (NBA) represented five (5) PoCs in Court for Criminal cases while 14 cases were registered at Gubio mobile courts in MMC (civil: 12 and criminal: 2). An assessment of the status of court structures in Monguno, Mobbar, Dikwa, Bama, Gamburu Ngala, Damboa LGAs conducted by the UNHCR protection team found that, except for Gwoza, the court structures were not functional, and needed renovation and equipment.

**Legal documentation**: In Adamawa State, 4,000 IDPs and returnee women in Mubi, Michika and Madagali LGAs were supported through the Nigerian Bar Association with probate and administration letters of estate at the probate registry of High Court of Justice Adamawa State. Furthermore, in Mubi LGA 11,091 (Boys: 5,612; Girls: 5,479) IDP and returnee children aged 0-17 years have been issued with Birth Certificates. Of this population, 3,435 were IDPs in host communities and 7,656 returnees. Indigene Certificates were also issued to 2000 IDPs and returnees (Men: 1,538; Women: 462) in Mubi South.

**Sexual Gender-Based Violence and response**

UNHCR and its partners continued to address issues of gender inequality and power dynamics through identification, prevention and response by community involvement. Working with community volunteers, peer to peer groups, advisory groups, male engagement, stakeholder engagement and the Zero- Toleration Village Alliance are the approaches used. A total of 6,890 women and girls and 450 men and boys of reproductive age were reached by psychosocial support activities and educational sessions, awareness raising, skills acquisition training, literacy classes, distribution of dignity kits in BAY states. In addition, 21 SGBV cases (15 in Mubi and 6 Yola comprising of 6 physical abuse, 1 denial of resources, 14 rape cases) have been identified and are undergoing case management and follow up.

On 25 November, the celebration of the 16 days of Activism against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence kicked off in North-East Nigeria with activities conducted in UNHCR areas of intervention. In Bama LGA, UNHCR and Partner Borno women Development Initiative (BOWDI) launched the Zero Tolerance Village
Alliance (ZTVA) as a community-based piloted project to fight and prevent SGBV in the presence of representatives of the Local Government Areas and humanitarian actors, community leaders and IDP women leaders. Additional activities UNHCR conducted in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe included:

- Symposium on Anti-trafficking for humanitarian actors;
- Joint sensitization for school teachers and student on generation equality;
- Door to door awareness and sensitization on the referral pathway on GBV related;
- Sensitization to persons living with disabilities.

**Advocacy:**

UNHCR conducted 05 advocacy meetings with State Legislators in Borno, Adamawa, Bauchi, Taraba, and Gombe States to seek their support in advocacy efforts for the domestication of the African Union Kampala Convention on IDPs. At the LGA Level in Borno State, ten (10) advocacy visits were conducted.

**National consultation on Global**

Compact on Refugees: After consultation meetings in the States of Adamawa, Borno, Lagos, and Cross-River during which pledges, and contributions were proposed to the Federal Government of Nigeria towards the achievement of the objectives of the GCR. The national consultations took place in Abuja from 27-28 November. The National consultation meeting was preceded by the meeting of the Technical Working Group (25-26 & 29 November) comprised of UNHCR and NCRFMI from the above-mentioned state to consolidate, prioritize and finalize the proposals of pledges to be discussed during the consultation meeting. The next meeting, the Global Refugee Forum, will take place on 17-18 December in Geneva.

**Protection safety nets**

UNHCR works with two partners: the American University of Nigeria (AUN) and CARITAS, the Catholic Foundation to provide protection safety nets in the form of livelihood activities. On 27 November, 120 vulnerable PoCs who completed their livelihood skills training received their start-up kits in a graduation ceremony organized by UNHCR and the partner American University of Nigeria. In terms of profiling, these new beneficiaries were identified through the UNHCR vulnerability screening database while others were chosen from the communities to reinforce peaceful coexistence and included 100 females and 20 males aged 16 to 59, of which 60 were internally displaced persons, 40 returnees and 20 from the host community. They were trained in five skills areas: 35 persons on Groundnut oil extraction, 30 persons in Local Spaghetti making, 30 persons in Soup condiments trading, 20 persons in Tea brewing (Mai Shayi) and 5 persons in Fries – bean cakes. Upon completing their courses, the beneficiaries took a two-day mandatory Financial Literacy and Business Development course to enhance their financial management skills, they also received a cash grant.

**CCCM shelter NFIs Sector**

The need for Non-food items (NFI), emergency and transitional shelter have been exacerbated by insecurity and torrential rains and floods that continue to affect IDP and host communities in Borno and Adamawa States. In response to identified priority needs and to mitigate protection concerns, UNHCR and partners provided NFI kits to 230 families of 769 individuals new arrivals and persons with vulnerabilities in Bama. In response to emergency shelter needs, 1,558 shelter solutions benefitting approximately 7,790 individuals have been constructed in Borno State including the construction of 680 emergency shelters in El-Yakub settlement, Dalori 1 camp, and Munguno camp extension, and the repair of 878 shelters partially damaged in Dalori 1, Dalori 2 camps and Shuwari settlement. In Bama, UNHCR also rehabilitated two burnt block shelters to accommodate 28 households of 140 individuals. According to key informants, shelter availability remains one of their top priority needs.

**Coordination**

UNHCR leads the Protection Sector and co-lead the CCCM/Shelter and NFIs Sector. In November 2019, both sectors held their annual review meeting; the CCCM/Shelter and NFIs Sector on 25 - 26 November and the Protection Sector on 26 and 27 November. UNHCR chaired the Protection meetings held at Stadium Camp and Gubio Road Camp. Several recommendations were made during the protection meeting, of which UNHCR will address the following action points from other camps referred to the Sector for follow up - Stadium camp
1. Advocate to relevant stakeholders for increased access to educational services for children in TVC camp;
2. Advocate for increased access to livelihoods (including for men) for parents and caregivers as a way of relieving pressure and temptation to push children in to early marriages;
3. Advocate to relevant stakeholders to strengthen laws that support child rights.

**CCCM/Shelter and NFIs Sector**

IDPs and returnees in camps and communities in North-East Nigeria need shelter and NFIs. In Adamawa State, on 05 November, OCHA held a meeting to discuss the challenges posed by the heavy downpour of 26 October 2019 on the communities in Demsa, Numan, Girei, Fufure, Yola North and South LGAs. According to information provided, 173,049 persons were affected, of which 19,000 were displaced. Properties were destroyed, and 7,666 houses submerged. Though NEMA and ADSEMA responded rapidly to the situation, affected communities are still in need of support. Agencies/organizations in attendance pledged to support according to their respective mandates.

The Sector covered displaced persons in 275 IDP camps across North-East Nigeria. As of 31 October, **18,548 population movement** has been recorded in North-East Nigeria (7,049 arrivals and 10,858 departures). The main trigger of these large-scale IDP movements is ongoing conflict, poor living conditions and voluntary relocation into sites and host communities. The highest arrivals were recorded in Bama (2,302), Monguno (1,593), Gwoza (1,281), Nganzai (1,130), Dikwa (1,115), Magumeri (1,013) LGAs. The highest departures were recorded in Adamawa State.

The Sector supports activities in 143 IDP sites hosting 764,103 individuals. In seven (7) locations, the Sector manages the reception center to accommodate new arrivals. However, this activity has been hindered by the lack of expansion space. Nevertheless, the Sector is working to improve the lives of affected PoCs. In October, **NFIs kits were provided to 3,977 families of 19,885 individuals; 1,778 emergency shelters kits benefitted 8,890 individuals and 6,282 Emergency shelter Bama Type built benefitted 31,415 individuals in need of shelter support.**

**Funding**

UNHCR remains grateful to all donors supporting its interventions to meet the needs of affected population in North-East Nigeria.

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