

# Nigeria

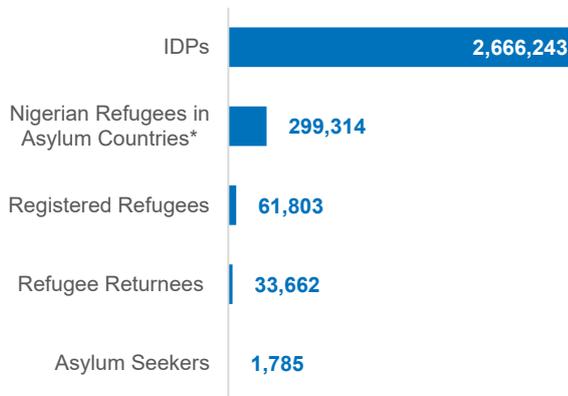
August 2020

SGBV prevention and response campaigns and messaging reached over **20,000 refugees and IDPs** across Nigeria.

**11,606** IDP children received birth certificates and **15,089** IDPs received indigene certificates.

**34,000** **Cameroonian refugees** received cash for food assistance.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

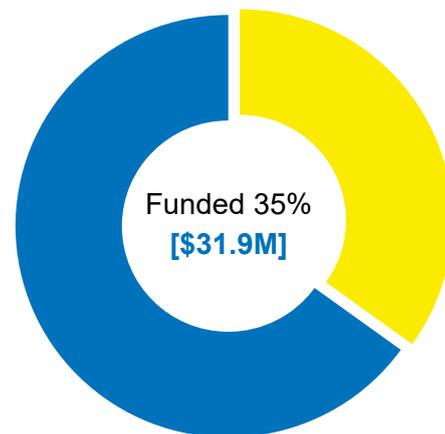


IDPs figures include North-East, North-West and North-Central regions based on DTM Round XXXII for North East (2,088,124) and DTM Round III for North-West and North-Central states (578,119). Refugee Returnees' figures based on spontaneous return assessment between 1 January – 31 August 2020. \*Nigerians in Asylum Countries, (Cameroon, Chad and Niger).

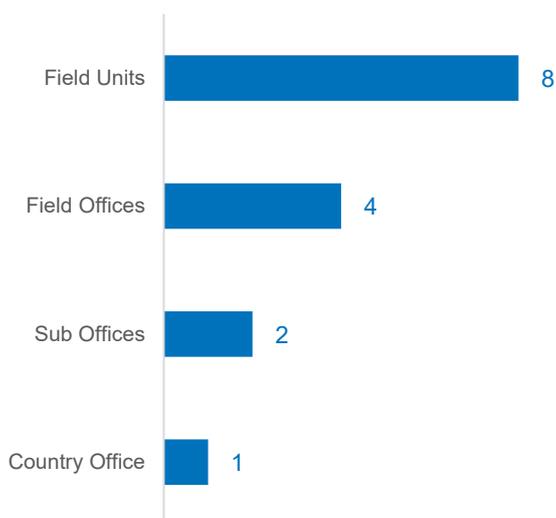
## FUNDING (AS OF 01 SEPTEMBER 2020)

**USD 90.6 M**

requested for the Nigeria Operation



## UNHCR PRESENCE



1 Country Office in Abuja, 2 Sub-Offices in Maiduguri and Ogoja, 4 Field Offices in Adikpo (Benue State), Calabar (Cross River State), Takum (Taraba State) and Mubi (Adamawa State), 8 Field Units in Lagos (Lagos State), Banki, Gwoza, Bama, Monguno, Ngala (Borno State), Markudi (Benue State) and Yola (Adamawa State)



A child washes his hand to prevent the spread of C-19 in Damasak, Borno State. ©UNHCR/May 2020

## Working with Partners

UNHCR works with the Government of Nigeria as its main counterpart in the response to the Internally Displaced Persons and returning refugees in the Northeast region and for Cameroonian refugees in the South-south region. The **National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI)** is the Government institution for all persons of concern to UNHCR in Nigeria. Other partner government institutions are the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), State/Local Emergency Management Agencies (S/LEMAs) and the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC). UNHCR also works with International and national NGOs including, Family Health International 360 (FHI-360), INTERSOS/Italy, Centre for Caring, Empowerment and Peace Initiatives (CCEPI), Action Initiative for Peace and Development (AIPD), Nigeria Bar Association (NBA), Grassroots Initiative for Strengthening Community Resilience (GISCOR), Integrated Centre and Sanitation & Hygiene Education Initiative (SAHEI), the American University of Nigeria (AUN), Borno Women's Development Initiative (BOWDI); SALIENT Humanitarian Organization (SHO), Save the Children International, Canadian University Service Overseas/International, CARITAS Nigeria, Foundation for Justice Development and Peace (FJDP), MEDIATRIX Development Foundation, Rhema Care Integrated Development Centre, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), Health Initiatives for Safety and Stability in Africa (HISSA) and the Nigeria Red Cross Society (NRCS). Operational partners include ICRC, MSF, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA, UN-Women, UNOCHA, FAO, IOM, OHCHR, UNMAS and WHO. UNHCR also collaborates with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Civil Society Forum to address issues of statelessness in Nigeria.

In Benue State, the Farmer-Herder Peace Forum brings farmers, herders, civil society and other stakeholders in the crisis, together, for deliberations and experience sharing on best practices for peacebuilding.

## Main Activities

### 1. Cameroonian refugees in South-south Nigeria

#### Protection

- Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria are in 15 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in three main States namely, Benue, Cross River (CRS) and Taraba States. 53% of the refugees live in about 87 host communities, while the remaining 47% live in three out of camp settlements – Adagom, Ukende (CRS) and Ikyogen (Benue).
- The Office facilitated the renewal of a two-year Temporary Protection Status for Cameroonians refugees by the Government of Nigeria (GoN), following expiration of the former in May 2020.
- 1,043 refugee children have been issued birth certificates by the National Population Commission in Benue, CRS and Taraba States.
- At least 25 refugees detained by the Police and Immigration Officials in Cross River (CRS), Benue and Taraba States were released, thanks to advocacy by UNHCR and its partners.
- Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) prevention and response awareness campaign reached over 10,000 refugees.
- 317 SGBV cases reported in the refugee settlements and host communities received multi-sectoral assistance, including legal assistance, material assistance and psychosocial counselling.

### Education

- UNHCR and GoN are committed to integrating refugee children in the national education system. About 50% of the refugee population are children. Before their arrival in Nigeria, majority of the refugee children were out of school as a result of crisis. The Office is improving school infrastructures, WASH facilities and providing furniture in schools where refugee children are enrolled.
- UNHCR offers educational support and payment of tuition to primary and secondary level refugee children in Adagom, Ikyogen and Ukende settlements, and urban refugees in Calabar.
- With the beginning of new school year 2019/2020, about 3,500 refugee students in Benue and CRS were enrolled, while academic materials including school bags, writing materials and uniforms were distributed.
- Construction of laboratories, classrooms, staff offices and assembly halls in eight schools in Benue and CRS is in progress.
- The German/DAFI university scholarship programme was granted to 20 refugee students (including five women) for the 2019/2020 school year.
- **Gaps** in education assistance has been exacerbated by the COVID19 outbreak. Schools in refugee host communities suffer the lack of insufficient handwashing equipment, hand sanitizers, congested WASH facilities, insufficient temperature checking thermometers, COVID-19 infantry, face masks and a non-comprehensive sensitization for teachers and related school personnel on adherence to social and physical distancing.

### Health

- The UNHCR Health Strategy integrates refugees and asylum seekers into the Nigeria healthcare and health insurance systems. It seeks to improve existing health facilities in refugee host communities and avoid creating parallel systems. Some 25,000 refugees receive healthcare assistance through the health insurance scheme. equipment.
- A 32-bed capacity children's ward was rehabilitated to serve as a COVID-19 isolation centre for refugees and locals at the Ogoja General Hospital in CRS.
- UNHCR provided essential equipment, consumables and personnel to 13 primary health centres (PHCs), 10 in CRS, one in Benue and two in Taraba, to improve services to refugees and host communities.
- Construction of a 10-bed isolation/infectious disease control centre in General Hospital Adikpo, Benue State is ongoing.
- Remodelling of a COVID19 isolation centre and molecular laboratory at General Hospital Takum, Taraba State, is in progress.
- In Benue, CRS and Taraba, 460 bedsheets, 360 medical scrub shirts and pants, surgical masks, bath buckets, sharps bins, dirty linen baskets, solar lanterns, bleach, hand sanitizers and liquid soap were provided to improve infection control in health facilities.
- Solar panels, inverters and solar-powered refrigerators to supply uninterrupted power to PHCs were installed in Adagom, Ogoja (CRS) and Ikyogen (Benue).
- In Benue, CRS and Taraba, incinerators have been constructed in 12 PHCs to improve waste management.
- The Office is rehabilitating and constructing additional structures including pharmacies, hospital wards, laboratories, WASH facilities and accommodation blocks for health care workers in seven PHCs, in key refugee host locations in the South-south of Nigeria.

### Food Security and Nutrition

- Over 20,000 refugees and vulnerable host community members were provided with food items in Benue, CRS and Taraba States.
- A total of USD 2.7 million was distributed as cash for food assistance in 2020. The number of beneficiaries increased threefold from 10,160 in January 2019 to over 34,000 beneficiaries in June 2020.

### Water and Sanitation

- A solar borehole with 32-litres/person/day capacity and 9m tower was constructed for the Adagom refugee host (Ndok) community in Ogoja, CRS.
- Four additional wells, 179 gender segregated latrines and 260 bathing shelter facilities were constructed and rehabilitated, to improve WASH conditions for refugees in Adagom, Ukende and Ikyogen settlements (Benue and CRS).
- Installation of 24 gender segregated latrines is ongoing in PHCs and schools hosting refugees in Benue, CRS and Taraba.
- Environmental health and good hygiene campaign reached 31,461 refugees in Benue, CRS and Taraba States.

### Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR has established three refugee settlements in Ikyogen (Benue), Adagom and Ukende in CRS.
- Two quarantine centres were constructed in Adagom and Ikyogen settlements in response to the COVID19 outbreak.
- In Adagom and Ukende settlements, CRS, 556 emergency shelters were constructed to accommodate new arrivals and decongest the settlements.
- In the Ikyogen settlement, 123 transitional shelters are under construction.
- To curb the spread of COVID19, face masks, soap, hand sanitizers and buckets were distributed to some 19,782 Cameroonian refugees in CRS.
- At least 5,000 refugees received non-food items including mats, solar lanterns, buckets, clothing, blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets and sanitary pads in Benue, CRS and Taraba States.

### Coordination and Management of Settlements

- UNHCR and the GoN have established three **settlements** in Benue and CRS, where shelters have been provided for Cameroonian refugees within the host communities. The Benue and CRS State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMA) monitor and manage the refugee settlements, ensuring the security of refugees and work to build peaceful coexistence with host communities.
- More than 100 potential conflict cases between refugees and host community members were resolved. SEMA also coordinated and facilitated police investigation and prosecution of suspected criminal activities reported by local security guards in the settlements and host communities.

### Access to Energy

- Energy saving stoves were distributed to 1,000 refugee and host community households in Ogoja, Ikom, Boki, Akamkpa and Calabar in CRS.

### Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR is supporting refugees and members of host communities through entrepreneurship and vocational trainings to promote their self-reliance.
- In 2020, 3,000 households in Benue and CRS will receive training and start-up kits towards agriculture and skills acquisition. Some 1,000 households (800 refugees and 200 host community) have been supported with agricultural inputs in Benue and CRS for micro gardening and other farming activities to improve their food security. Additionally, 1,000 refugees have received entrepreneurship and vocational skills training in Benue and CRS. Distribution of start-up kits is ongoing.
- Construction of a poultry and fish farmhouse for about 65 households in Ikom, CRS is in progress.

## 2. Internally Displaced Persons and Refugee Returnees in Northeast Nigeria

### Protection

- Since January 2020, UNHCR has expanded its protection and multisectoral assistance to persons of concern (POC) living in 29 locations across 24 LGAs in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States (BAY States), Northeast Nigeria.
- In addition to the field offices, UNHCR's presence has been strengthened through a network of Protection Monitors, Protection Desks, Protection Action Groups (PAG) and other the community-based structures. In the context of COVID19, eight additional monitors and six nurses work at border entry points for COVID19 monitoring.
- **Access to Legal Documentation:** UNHCR has supported the issuance of 26,695 legal documentation including 11,606 birth certificates for children aged 0-17 years and 15,089 indigene certificates to facilitate the movement of POC and prevent statelessness.
- **Access to Justice:** As of 31 July, UNHCR and partners have provided free legal representation to 463 POC, and legal counselling and awareness on access to justice to 834. An additional 339 persons received legal assistance. In Borno, 40 radio discussions were carried out on access to justice. Two mobile courts are available in the Bakassi and Gubio IDP camps, as well as 136 sitting courts.
- **Advocacy interventions:** In Borno State, IDPs, returnees, community members and leaders participated in 52 advocacy sessions organized by UNHCR and partners to address protection concerns. According to the Return Intention Survey conducted in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC) to understand the main obstacles hindering IDPs returns to Gwoza and Nganzai LGAs, 92.41% of the households surveyed were willing to return if the security situation improved and were provided with support for livelihood activities.
- **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)** remains the most visible manifestation of the crisis in Northeast Nigeria. The 2019 Humanitarian Need Overview (HNO) estimated that three million persons needed GBV prevention and response in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States. In terms of prevention, UNHCR conducted community awareness sessions and capacity building on SGBV. Community-based GBV structures and approaches have been established including male engagement, Zero Tolerance Village Alliance and Peer to peer support groups. Over 10,000 POC were reached with SGBV, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and COVID19 prevention messages. SGBV capacity building was organized for 432 POC.
- Women are being empowered through skills acquisition and are producing face masks for the camps and local communities. In the BAY States, 1,600 women and girls received a distribution of dignity kits to cover six months, 3,800 received solar lamps. Also 10,000 fuel efficient stoves were distributed in the BAY States. Psychosocial support was provided to 3,007 women. UNHCR has renovated additional Safe Houses for Women and Girls in Northeast Nigeria. These houses provide a safe environment where women are supported and interact with other women to facilitate their recovery.

### Coordination

- UNHCR leads the Protection Sector in the Northeast (PSNE). In line with its responsibility to build the capacity for preparedness and response, the PSNE organized 17 Virtual Learning sessions to support the development of national partners' capacities for better delivery of protection-related services as per humanitarian principles. Sessions included Protection Principles, Protection Mainstreaming, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE), Trafficking in Persons, Accountability to Affected Populations and Protection Monitoring, Housing, Land and Property; integrating GBV in humanitarian action, on legal frameworks for the protection of IDPs, Durable Solutions and Information Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA). An average of 30 participants from government agencies, protection sectors including sub-sectors, Civil Society Organizations, INGOs, and NGOs attended the event.

- The Protection Sector participated in the COVID-19 Addendum to the HRP 2020 initiated by OCHA and in the Programme Criticality exercises at Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) level in the COVID-19 context. The Sector also contributed with risk communication and community engagement initiatives including IEC materials and also producing guidelines for isolation centres, assessing and addressing protection challenges for advocacy, adapting case management and service delivery and referrals to include community volunteers, online engagements, fewer meetings, and FGD. Community volunteers were engaged to disseminate risk communication messages and for community engagement for awareness of COVID-19 related risks and necessary precautions to be adopted. This was enhanced with protection mainstreaming of preventive and response measures.

#### **Shelter and non-food items (NFIs)**

- UNHCR has constructed 1,998 emergency shelters and repaired 2,392 others benefitting over 21,950 individuals in Borno State. Also, 11,270 non-food items were distributed to 56,350 individuals.
- In response to COVID-19, UNHCR has installed 500 handwashing stands in four LGAs, and constructed emergency shelters in Banki, Ngala and Monguno camps to decongest the camps.
- In support to the Government, UNHCR donated 300 refugee housing units to be used as isolation area at border/entry points, and shelter for IDPs and refugee returnees from Niger in Damasak, Borno.
- Community-based Protection Action Groups (PAG) and community volunteers conduct awareness on the COVID19 pandemic through door-to-door visits, meetings with POC, posting of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials at Protection Desks.
- Over 200 daily workers have been engaged on **flood prevention** and response in four project locations, and were provided with tools, community participation, and cash for work (pumps, dikes, sandbags, canals, drainage clearance).

#### **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance**

- In the BAY States, 5,216 POC were empowered through entrepreneurship and business trainings. Meanwhile, 2,950 POC received inputs for agriculture, fishery and livestock.

#### **Camp Coordination and Camp management/Shelter/NFIS Sector**

- Activities of the Sector include site facilitation, service monitoring, community mobilization and strengthening, site maintenance, capacity building, mainstreaming of protection, GBV and out of camp approach. In response to the COVID19 pandemic, six self-isolation centres were established, 1,105,219 individuals were sensitized to COVID19 prevention.

## 3. Farmer-Herder conflict displacements in Benue State

### Protection

- Protection Action Group Members in 10 communities undertake monitoring and reporting of any incidents. There have been 41 incidents of herdsmen attacks, over 35 deaths resulting from the attacks and over 20 persons severely injured from the attacks while several thousands have been displaced. A total of 42 SGBV incidents and five Child Protection cases were reported. These incidents were communicated to government authorities for appropriate action.
- Beginning in mid-August, herdsmen attacks declined while SGBV (rape and domestic violence cases) increased. The decline in herdsmen attacks is attributed to the abundance of vegetation resulting in reduced encroachments on farms. Reasons for increase in SGBV is not clear, but the impact of COVID-19 on livelihood opportunities in the community has exacerbated the underlying root causes of SGBV. Both security and traditional institutions continue to take punitive actions on rape perpetrators.

### Shelter

- Under the UN Human Security Trust Fund Project, UNHCR has commenced the construction of shelters for 80 most vulnerable IDP households in Benue.

### Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- Livelihoods beneficiaries have been selected across 10 communities and identification of trainers in various vocational skill areas is done.
- Training of 200 livelihood beneficiaries in vocational skills commenced in August 2020.

### Special thanks to major donors of softly earmarked and unearmarked funds as of 01 September 2020:

Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan | Belgium | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Denmark | Estonia | Finland | France | Germany | Holy See | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Jersey | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | Netherlands | New Zealand | Norway | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | South Africa | Spain | Sri Lanka | Sweden | Switzerland | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | United Kingdom | United States of America | Private donors in Australia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Spain, United Kingdom, United States of America.

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