AT-A-GLANCE
NIGERIA SITUATION JAN - FEB 2018

UNHCR OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

30,013

# of individuals reached by UNHCR from January to February 2018

BENEFICIARIES REACHED PER ACTIVITY

- # of persons provided with food and non-food items: 16,605
- # of persons screened and registered: 10,550
- # of persons provided with birth certificates and national ID: 2,200
- # of vulnerable persons provided with livelihood support: 400
- # of persons trained in SGBV, registration, peacebuilding and others: 151
- # of persons provided with legal support and services: 67
- # of persons referred for SGBV, Child Protection and other services: 40

DEMographics

- Girls: 8,693
- Boys: 7,364
- Women: 6,752
- Men: 5,211
- Elderly Women: 1,072
- Elderly Men: 920

BENEFICIARY TYPE

- IDPs: 7,691
- Refugee Returnees: 11,772
- Cameroon Refugees: 10,550

MONTHLY TREND

- Total: 15,999
- Jan: 15,999
- Feb: 14,014
- Mar: 0
- Apr: 0
- May: 0
- Jun: 0
- Jul: 0
- Aug: 0
- Sep: 0
- Oct: 0
- Nov: 0
- Dec: 0

Sources of Data: OCHA, UNHCR, OSM, IOM
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Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
KEY PRIORITES

- Strategy for Return Monitoring
- Protection monitoring, analysis and response
- Community-based protection
- Operationalizing the Tripartite Agreement and implementing the Return and Reintegration
- Registration and profiling
- Supporting livelihood and self-reliance activities
- Access to Justice Coordination of Protection Sector Working Groups at National and State levels
- Camp Coordination Management Camp, Shelter and Non-Food Items Sector activities in the North-East
- Resource mobilization

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

A. The North-East Situation

The general security situation in North-East Nigeria remains fluid and unpredictable. Although many areas previously occupied by Boko Haram have been recaptured, the group remains a threat to civilians, UN agencies and other aid organizations. Government counter-insurgency measures also remain one of the causes of continuous population displacement. Incidents of suicide bombings and ambushes on military and civilian road convoys as well as abductions linger in the three main affected states – Borno, Yobe and Adamawa.

Due to continued attacks and looming threats by insurgents on road movements, access remains a challenge. The only means of transport to ‘newly liberated areas’ for humanitarian workers is the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). However, operational demands and the limited capacity of the air service to provide comprehensive support to everyone at the same time make planning and implementation challenging, further narrowing operational parameters and scope. Notwithstanding the difficult operating environment, UNHCR continues to maintain presence where possible, through local partners and the rotational deployments of staff to reach people desperately in need of protection and other life-saving assistance. UNHCR has maintained its advocacy role as the Protection Sector lead agency, calling for appropriate actions to address the physical protection of the displaced, and to ensure that the civilian character of camps is not compromised.

In March 2017, UNHCR and the Governments of Nigeria and Cameroon signed the Tripartite Agreement for the voluntary repatriation of Nigerian refugees residing in Cameroon. Members of the joint team from UNHCR Nigeria and Cameroon have participated in cross border discussions to assess the operational circumstances of the voluntary repatriation plan. But while UNHCR and the two governments remain committed to supporting the return of Nigerian refugees from Cameroon, the parties are aware that organized movements should take place with security and restoration of basic services in the areas of return to ensure that the process is sustainable. A decision was made in November 2017 to begin the voluntary repatriation of 4000 Nigerian refugees in Cameroon originating from Adamawa state in the first quarter of 2018 after considerations that such returns should be done in safety and dignity.

B. The Cameroonian Refugee Influx

Since September 2017, Nigeria has been receiving hundreds of Anglophone Cameroonians affected by the crisis in the North-West and South-West Regions of the country between the government and activists calling for separation due to alleged marginalization by French-speaking dominated part of the country. The crisis started in 2016 when the English-speaking region of the country criticized the use of French in courts and
schools and, more broadly, the perceived marginalization of the minority Anglophone population. The situation escalated following the unilateral declaration of independence on October 1, 2017 by English-speaking Cameroonians calling separation. Some civilians and security forces have been killed in the aftermath of the self-declared independence.

The Cameroon refugee influx has so far affected four bordering states – Cross River and Akwa-Ibom in the south-south, Benue in the central belt and Taraba in the north-east. The influx has presented a new dimension to the already complex humanitarian situation in Nigeria; the implications of which could significantly undermine progress made so far by both the government and humanitarian agencies in the North-East. By the end of 28 February, the number of Cameroon asylum seekers registered in Cross River and Benue states by UNHCR and its main government partner, National Commission for Refugees, IDPs and Migrants (NCFRMI) had reached 17,677.

UNHCR’s response efforts for the Cameroonian arrivals have been primarily focused on providing protection and other life-saving support including monitoring, advocacy, registration, food and non-food items to the affected population in host communities. Due to the proximity of the receiving communities to the border, the government has requested UNHCR to move the asylum seekers about fifty kilometres away from border towns. In this regard, Nigeria has allocated land for the setup of shelter to ensure the safety and security of refugees. This will do well to support self-reliance, allowing persons of concern to live constructive and dignified lives.

Prior to the new Cameroon influx, the only refugee programme in Nigeria was the urban refugee population concentrated in Lagos, Nigeria. Around 2,000 of them were supported with documentation, status determination, livelihood and education assistance.

CORE UNHCR INTERVENTIONS IN NIGERIA
As the lead Protection agency, UNHCR Nigeria’s interventions have been concentrated in monitoring and response including provision of sexual and gender-based violence and psychosocial support; provision of material assistance such as shelter and non-food items (NFIs); livelihood and peacebuilding; Camp Management Camp Coordination (CCCM) support; advocacy; capacity building and awareness-raising; return monitoring, registration and vulnerability screening; access to justice; assistance to refugees/asylum seekers and status determination.

PARTNERSHIP AND COORDINATION
UNHCR’s main government partners are the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI); National Human Rights Commission (NHRC); Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMA) and National Identity Management Commission (NIMC).

International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs): Family Health International 360 (FHI-360); INTERSOS – Italy and American University of Nigeria (AUN). National Non-Governmental Organisations: Center 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); Rhema Care Integrated Centre and Sanitation & Hygiene Education Initiative (SAHEI).

UNHCR is also collaborating with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Civil Society Forum to address issues of statelessness in Nigeria.
OPERATIONAL SITUATION

2,008,567 # of persons of concern to UNHCR Nigeria as of 28 February 2018

POPULATION TYPE

IDPs 1,782,490
Nigerian refugees in countries of asylum 205,815
Refugees and asylum seekers in Nigeria 20,262

*The IDP figures were provided by IOM DTM Round XXI – February 2018

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