

REPORT ON SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE RESPONSE

BORNO, ADAMAWA AND YOBE STATES
JANUARY - JUNE 2018



ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AIPD	Action Initiative for Peace and Development
AUN	American University of Nigeria
BOWDI	Borno Women Development Initiative
CRC	Child Right Convention
CRA	Child Right Act
CCCM	Camp Coordination Camp Management
CtA	Call to Action
CJTF	Civilian Joint Task Force
DGO	Data Gathering Organization
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FIDA	International Federation of Women Lawyers
FHI360	Family Health International
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GBVIMS	Gender-based Violence Information Management System
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IEC	Information Education Communication
ISP	Information Sharing Protocol
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LGA	Local Government Area
NSAG	Non-State Armed Group
NE	North East
NCDC	Nigerian Civil Defence Corps
NBA	Nigerian Bar Association
NFI	Non-Food Items
NHCR	Nigerian Human Right Commission
PSEA	Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
PAG	Protection Action Groups
PSWG	Protection Sector Working Group
SAFE	Safe Access to Fuel and Energy
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
WFP	World Food Programme
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT AND PROTECTION NEEDS


95%

of the population interviewed depend on firewood and charcoal for their daily cooking energy needs


85%

indicated that they face protection risk during collection of firewood


70%

of them have no access to the wood fuel resources in the immediate environment


78%

of survivors. Analysis of collected data shows this form of violence is generally perpetrated by relatives


1,142

cases of SGBV were reported to UNHCR and its protection monitoring partners between Jan-Jun



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Protection incidents, particularly Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) as well as Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) remains the major concerns in the north east of Nigeria.

Protection needs for SGBV and SEA are huge and complex. The inter-agency capacity to respond remain insufficient and challenging (poor coverage of specialised services, inadequate Individual case management in some locations, poor quality of collected data, drastic reduction of financial resources) in the current security situation.

Inaccessibility to certain areas and socio-cultural constraints has led to under reporting of SGBV incidents by the community. Therefore, establishing the real scale of SGBV among women, girls, men and boys internally displaced and returnees in north east of Nigeria during and after the conflict remains a challenge.

Risk mitigation of SGBV and improvement of quality of services is one of the main UNHCR's Global Strategic Objectives (GSP). Since January 2018, UNHCR in partnership with national and international organization is implementing its global SGBV strategy based on 3 pillars: Identification, Response and Prevention.

Through protection monitoring, focus group discussions and vulnerability screening, UNHCR and partners reported that a considerable number of IDPs and returnees experienced rape, abductions, child and forced marriage, undesired pregnancies, sexual exploitation, physical assault, denial of resources, etc. in the hands of Boko Haram before flight and during captivity, in the countries of asylum and in IDPs camp in Nigeria.

As of end of 2017, UNHCR, WFP and FAO carried out an assessment on « safe access to fuel and energy » within Borno state among IDPs, returnees and host population. The finding shows that **95%** of the population interviewed depend on firewood and charcoal for their daily cooking energy needs and **85%** indicated that they face protection risk during collection of firewood. Unfortunately, **70%** of them have no access to the wood fuel resources in the immediate environment.


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Woman and children under 18 especially girls have been negatively impacted by the crisis (lack of access to basic needs, SGBV, SEA, Abduction, etc.) and their level of vulnerability has increased; most of them are widows or single due the high rate of men killing during the conflict and also the current detention of some men for investigation purposes by the military. Women are now carrying the responsibility of feeding their families.

The change of gender role in IDP's households with a limited access to resources, both economic and social, restriction of movement for security reasons, reduction of assistance package and targeting of the most vulnerable represent a real risk in term of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) for women, men, boys and girls in the camps and host communities.

Many allegations of SEA in exchange for resources (money, assets, food etc.) by security actors as well as influential community members and humanitarian workers have been reported by IDP's.

UNHCR' interventions happen in a mixed situation where most returnees especially in Borno state have found themselves rather in IDP's camps given the fact that they are not able to proceed directly to their areas of origin, due to risk of non-state armed group's attacks and IEDs. This Insecurity and lack of basic services and resources (clothing, shelter, education and health facilities, income generating activities) in some areas of return has resulted in additional challenges for female-headed households and widows, increasing their vulnerability to rape, exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, forced and child marriage as well as domestic violence.

In many Local government areas particularly in Borno state, there is not yet the presence of civil authorities with almost a breakdown of law leading to impunity for SGBV perpetrator.

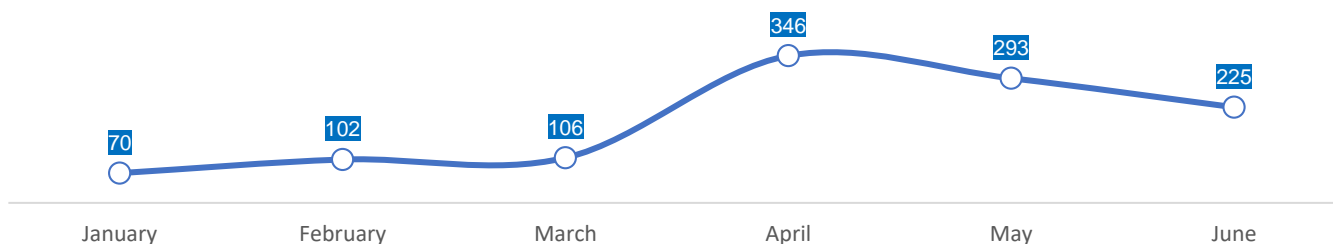
The current report presents SGBV cases identified by UNHCR and its partners from January to June 2018. The objective is to analyse the trends of SGBV among IDPs in North east in order to develop an effective evidence-based prevention and response program.

SGBV – KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

PILLAR I: IDENTIFICATION

From January to June 2018, **1,142** cases of SGBV (**1,087** females and **51** males) were reported to UNHCR and its protection monitoring partners through community based mechanisms established in **32** Local Government Areas in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states (Damboa, Gwoza, Mungono, Pulka, Banki, Dikwa, MMC & Jere, Ngala, Damasak, Bama, Hong, Gombi, Maiha, Mubi North, Mubi South, Michika, Madagali, Fufori, Girei, Song, Yola North, Yola South, Potiskum, Nguru, Damaturu, Fune, Nangere, Bursari, Bade, Gujba, Karasuwa).

1. Monthly trends of identified SGBV cases among IDP's



From the graph above, there has been a drastic increase of identified SGBV cases in April 2018 due to the influx of new arrivals (IDP's) from liberated areas following the military operations in Borno states.

Indicator: # of reported incidents of SGBV: 1142



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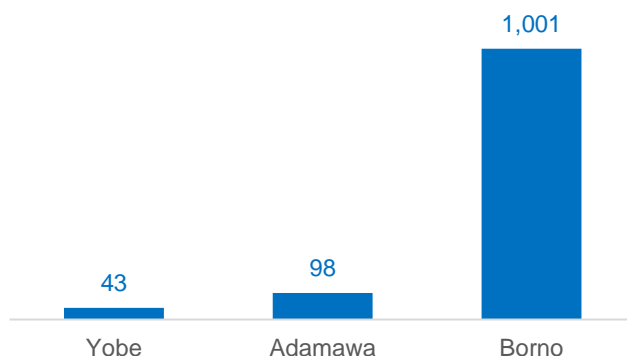


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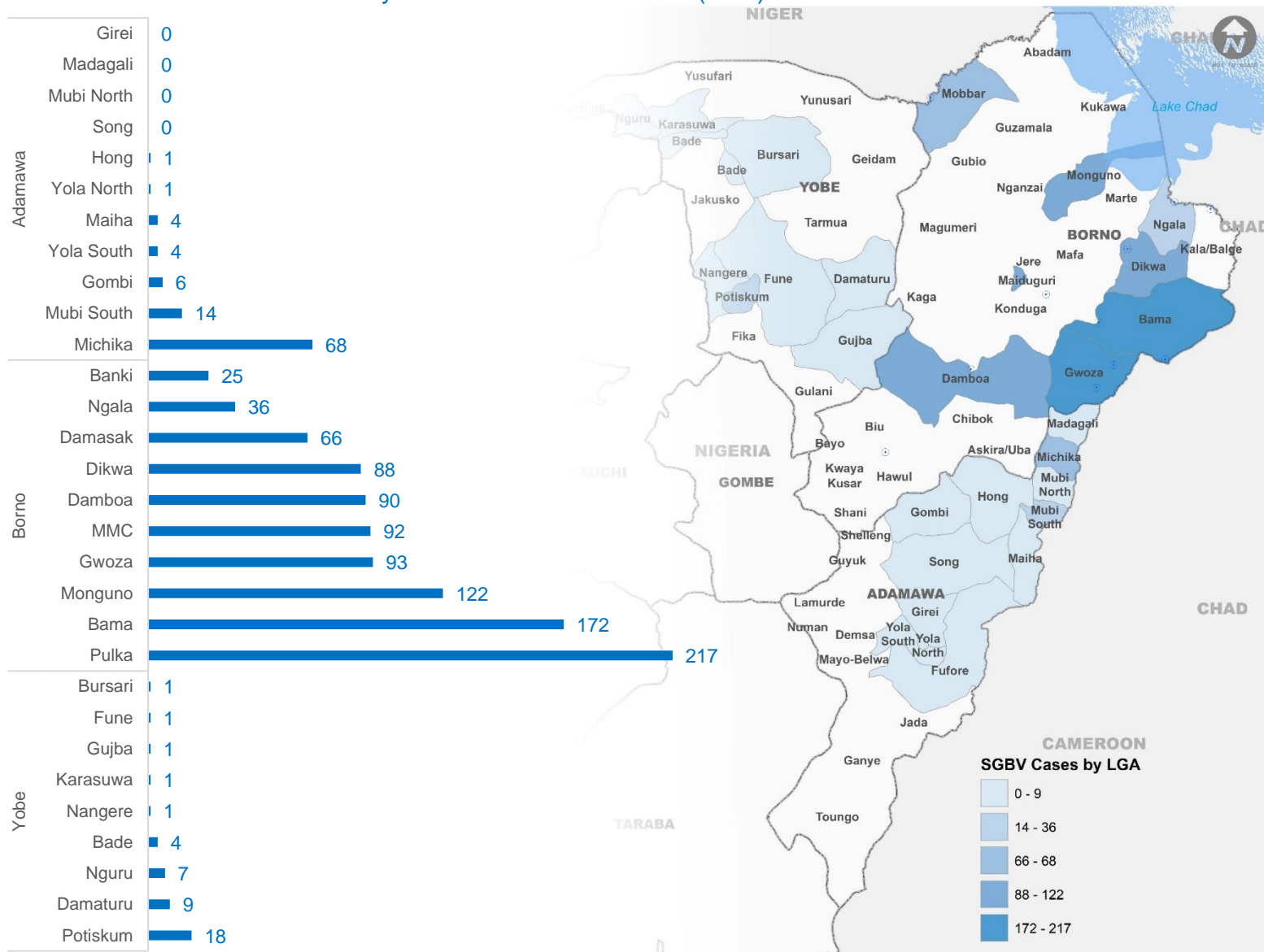
2. Incidents of SGBV per States

During the reporting period, UNHCR and its partners identified the largest number of SGBV cases in Borno State (88%).



Since the beginning of the crisis, Borno State has the highest number of IDP's in the North East due to the multiple security hotspots unlike Yobe and Adamawa States.

3. Identified SGBV cases by Local Government Areas (LGA)

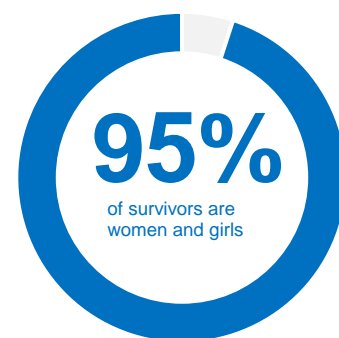


The highest number of identified SGBV cases was reported in Pulka and Dikwa. The 2 LGAs have received many new arrivals during the month of April 2018.

4. Profile of SGBV survivors

Sex of Identified survivors

Both male and female experienced Sexual and Gender Based violence during the reporting period, although Women and girls are disproportionately targeted. During the reporting period, **95%** of survivors were women and girls. However, many cases of SGBV particularly perpetrated on men and boys remained under reported. In fact, culture, taboos and absolute lack of reporting have refrained the understanding of the scope of SGBV among males who continue to suffer from the consequences in silence.

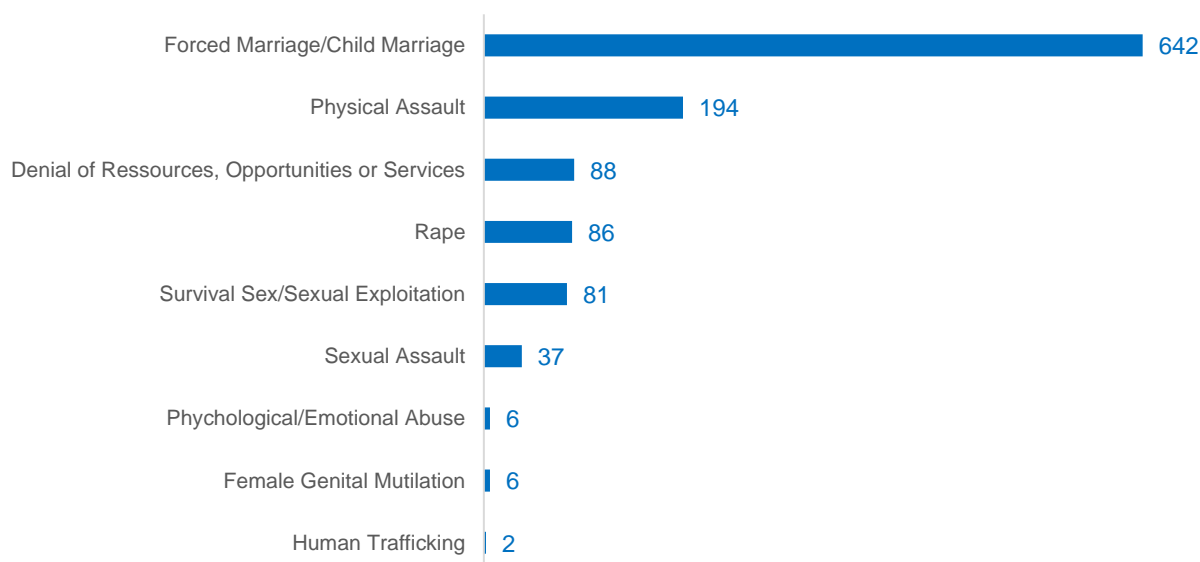


Age of survivors

Out of the **1,142** survivors, more than half were under 18 (**67%**) and almost **97,5%** were girls. Collected data shows that children particularly girls under 18 are impacted by the crisis.

5. Typology of reported SGBV incidents

During the reporting period, a total of nine typologies were monitored among which eight different types were identified.



Incidents reported during this period showed forced and child marriage as the most common type of SGBV identified amongst women and girls.

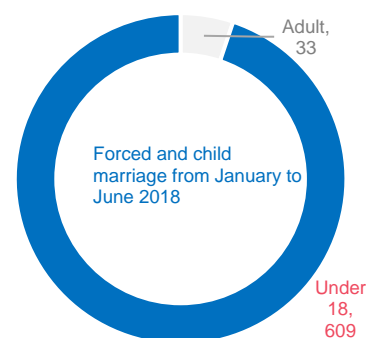
It is important to note that the methodology used for data collection as well as classification of GBV typology between the GBVIMS and the UNHCR SGBV incident report is different. For example, in the GBVIMS Q1 Report, among all incidents of GBV, Physical Assault was the most reported, followed by psychological/emotional abuse and denial of resources while for the UNHCR SGBV incident report identified more cases of Forced/child marriage, physical assault and denial of resources. The difference seen are because (1) UNHCR protection monitors actively seek and collect data on protection issues in target communities, whereas for GBVIMS data is collected at the level of service provision (2) child marriage is socially, culturally, and religiously accepted which reduces the number of self-reported cases in the GBVIMS whereas for the UNHCR SGBV protection monitoring, all minors under 18 years identified as being married- even if not reported by the survivor- are classified as an SGBV case.

1. Forced and Child marriage

Forced and child marriage represents the highest number of SGBV cases identified during the reporting period (**56%**). There has been a clear increase of reported child marriage and forced marriage cases during the period of April 2018. This particular trend seems to be related to new arrival of people in IDP camps after military operations (e.i. Pulka, Dikwa, Bama).

Child marriage is very common in IDP communities in North east. During the reporting period, **53%** of SGBV cases were related to child marriage and all the survivors were girls.

In a focus group discussions (FGD) on child marriage organised in Bama by UNHCR partner (AIPD), girls aged 10 to 15 stated that some of them were forced to get married by their parents or non-state armed group (NSAG); others got married because they thought that was the only way to escape harassment by boys and men; some of them mentioned cultural believes, religion and the lack of Education as the root causes of their decision for early marriage. The girls mentioned that they prefer to get married early but with a person of their choice to avoid getting forcibly married to a member of NSAG.



It is important to note that child marriage in the context of Borno state is a serious concern and requires extra effort by all actors.

In addition to socio-cultural and religious factors, the crisis has exacerbated the protection risks children face. Child marriage is perceived by girls as a protective measure against violence, abuse, harassment and sexual exploitation by not only the members of their community but also and above all by the NSAG.

In Nigeria, the fight against child marriage remains challenging due to the ambiguity on the minimum age of marriage despite the adoption of Child Right Act (CRA) since 2003. This legal document has been adopted for the purpose of domestication of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). This law is yet to be applied. In fact, in Nigeria, for any legal document to enter into force it needs to be adopted by all the 36 states. The CRA has been adopted by 24 states including Borno and Adamawa states. Under the Sharia, marriage is allowed if a girl reaches the age of puberty which could be as low as 9 years old.

Recommendations:

- Protection actors (Child protection, GBV, education and Health partners) should strengthen actions against child marriage in NE.
- Advocacy to the Borno and Adamawa States Government and the House of Assembly in Borno and Adamawa states to pass the Child's Right Act to ensure the protection of all children.
- Community awareness on the negative impact of child marriage.
- Capacity building of actors on child protection case management particularly child marriage.
- Develop Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on Child and Forced Marriage

2. Physical assault

From January to June 2018, **17%** of survivors reported physical assault. Women represented **78%** of survivors. Analysis of collected data showed that this form of violence is generally perpetrated by relatives (spouse, partner, etc.) in a domestic environment.

During the focus group discussions organised by UNHCR and its partner with internally displaced persons in Banki camp, men spoke about the targeting approach for humanitarian assistance which is almost “women oriented”; as one of the main cause of domestic violence. The perception of the men is that, humanitarian workers are only targeting women as recipients of assistance, and this is placing men in a vulnerable position as compared to women. The ineffective implication of men and boys as primary and secondary beneficiaries limits their knowledge of humanitarian interventions, thus, promotes power change within households as women and girls are direct beneficiaries. This unprepared power change frustrates men and boys; making them to become aggressive.

Recommendations:

- Protection actors to engage men and boys through sensitization and capacity building with the objective of reducing if not eradicating abuses and violence caused by the perceived power change.
- UNHCR as well as other humanitarian actors’ interventions should be dynamic and inclusive in the sense that men, boys, women and girls are involved in the project life cycle and allocated space for men and boys in assistance.

3. Survival Sex/Sexual exploitation

Survival sex and Sexual exploitation remain a big issue and is extensive in all locations in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states despite the under reporting of the incident.

It occurs within a pre-existing situation of gender inequality; lack of livelihood opportunities, reduction of assistance, targeting approach for delivery, restriction of movement, high number of women whose husbands are missing or have been killed etc. This context increases the level of vulnerability of women and girls to sexual exploitation and abuse.

During the reporting period, **7%** of survivors reported to UNHCR and partners, having been sexually exploited in the camps.

Women and girls are the most affected groups and are often left impregnated without any means to cover their daily basic needs.

Survivors have identified community members particularly volunteers of humanitarian organisations and the CJTF members as perpetrators.

During the Focus group discussion organised in Bama by UNHCR’s partner AIPD, woman and girl reported that they have experienced sexual exploitation from NSAG during captivity.

Women and girls described how Aid workers and Civilian JTF members are taking advantage of the lack of food, and basic needs such as condiment to coerce women into unwanted sexual relationships some of which involve being available for sex on an ongoing basis.

A 20-year-old woman said: 'They will give you food but, in the night, they will come back around 5pm or 6pm and they will tell you to come with them. One [Civilian JTF] man came and brought food to me. The next day he said I should take water from his place [and I went]. He then closed the tent door behind me and raped me. He said I gave you these things, if you want them we have to be husband and wife'.

Other women said that they were also coerced into becoming 'girlfriends' of aid workers to save themselves from starvation.

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"The soldier showed his interest by bringing me food and clothes. I accepted him because I needed help to take care of me and my three children. Feeding in the camp is difficult so you have to accept any help that comes. We started having sex in my camp tent – my sister who was sharing it with me left – or at night in the open field. Five months later when I realized I was pregnant and told him, he stopped coming. I have not seen him since then. I feel so ashamed because my neighbours talk and stare at me. I cry whenever I think about him. I delivered the baby two months ago but he is also suffering – I eat once a day so [am] not producing enough milk to breast feed him well. Things are so bad in the camp, there is no means for livelihoods especially for women.

Recommendations:

- Humanitarian actors to continue extending livelihood support to the most affected categories as an alternative survival package, and at the same time provide opportunities for economic empowerment of Women and girls.
- Capacity building and awareness sessions be conducted for influential community members as well as the available community structures and the CJTF on SGBV particularly sexual exploitation.
- Community based complaint mechanism be put in place as a strategy to reduce sexual exploitation and abuse in IDPs camps.
- A join risk assessment exercise by PSEA focal point be conducted in Bama IDP camp as soon as possible to identify risk points and suggest appropriate prevention measures.
- UNHCR, UNFPA and other actors should think about the link between SGBV and reproductive health program (family planning, etc.) to better support survivors
- SEA awareness should continue among UNHCR staff as well as partners
- Humanitarian actors should support training of trainers on SEA for military in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states

4. Rape and Sexual assault

Women and girls have reported incidents of rape and sexual assault in **7.5%** of case. Majority of reported incidents occurred in the camps during the night around sanitary facilities (latrines and showers) and out of the camps (in the bush) during the day whilst collecting firewood.

Women and girls in Banki reported during a focus group discussion that they don't feel safe in the camp due to the lack of light during the night. They mentioned that they have to accompany their daughters to the toilet in the night to prevent any sexual assault.

Despite the written indication on some latrines and showers in camps in Borno state, the newly arrived IDPs found difficult to recognised it during the night particularly for girls.

The joint assessment (UNHCR, WFP and FAO) conducted on safe access to fuel and energy within Borno State among IDP's, returnees and host population showed that **95%** of the interviewed population depend on firewood and charcoal for their daily cooking energy needs and **85%** indicated that they faced protection risks (rape, sexual assault, abduction,

etc.) most often during firewood collection which is not any more available in the immediate environment; meaning that they have to travel to unsecure places to get firewood.

Recommendations:

- Humanitarian actors through the SAFE working group should strengthen and promote alternative source energy (briquette, stove distribution) and encourage individual lighting distribution (i.e. solar lamp distribution) for women and girls.
- Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) should continue its advocacy with the WASH sector to raise the concern of signalisation of latrines and showers with luminescent paint in order to increase visibility during the night.
- PSWG should continue to advocate to the CCCM sector to take into account SGBV prevention and response in relation to all the services provided in the camps.
- Provision of solar lanterns/lamps and night solar powered lights in the camps.
- Innovative approaches such as introduction of SGBV activists and as well hotlines to improve SGBV reporting and referral
- Support the effort to form and train Male Action/Engagement groups in the IDP camps to prevent SGBV

5. Denial of resources, opportunities and services

Denial of resources, opportunities and services have been reported in 8% of cases mostly by women.

Analysis of monitoring reports showed that when the men get married with a second wife, they transfer the food voucher to the newly married wife preventing the first spouse and her children from access to food. Most of the women who find themselves in such situation preferred to be separated/divorced from their husbands in order to secure their own food ration card to feed their children.

Many other women mentioned that they are facing many challenges in accessing food during general distribution due to the lack of ration card.

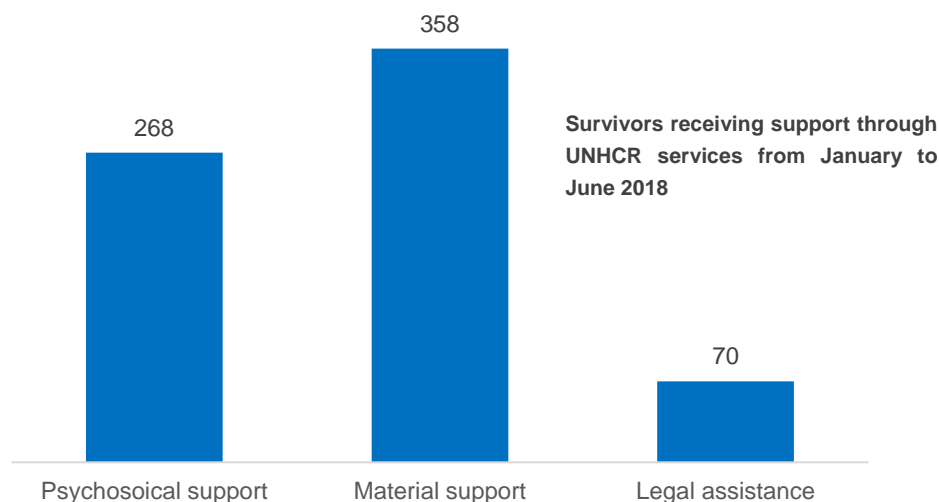
Additionally, women and girls identified as “BH wife” reported during the FGD, that due to their status, it was very difficult for them to be registered and access food ration card (e.i. Dikwa, Dalori, etc.).

In Borno state, focus group discussions and field visits (Ngala, Banki) indicated that due to cultural constraints, women don't have access to the market to work as sellers. Women reported that they are allowed to sell only from house to house. This situation exposes women to different risks as most of them are single heads of families. Selling from house to house has many challenges which include: Being tedious particularly for women who nurse infants that cannot be left at home alone; It also increases the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse among women and hinders women's economic independence as their potential customers by nature of their house to house business take items on credit. This would not be the case if they were to sell their items in the market place where buyers pay in cash.

Recommendations:

- Humanitarian as well as development actors need to expand a tailored livelihood program taking into account the cultural constraints of women
- Humanitarian actors should explore innovative community- based approaches to promote equal gender norms
- To an extent, PSWG should explore possibility of involving the Alternative Dispute Resolution process in the mediation at community level.

PILLAR II: MULTISECTORAL RESPONSE



1. Access to justice

Under UNHCR access to justice project, **70** survivors of SGBV (**6%**) agreed that their case to be filed in the court., **44** cases are still pending in the court, while **22** have been disposed of, by either granting the plaintiff relief for divorce by repayment of dowry to the husband or by compelling the husband to pay for his wife and/or children maintenance as provided by law. Prison sentences have been given to perpetrators of SGBV in **5** cases in Adamawa and Yobe state. In Borno state, cases of survival sex/sexual exploitation are either disposed by convicting the culprit or discharging him by striking out of the case for lack of locus standi/proof, as required under Section 387 of the Penal Code Law, Laws of Borno State 1994.

Majority of the cases are still solved through friendly traditional or traditional conflict resolution mechanisms, alternative dispute resolution process. This is the major barrier to access on justice, and it apparently will most likely sustain impunity.

However, despite the funding challenges experienced by UNHCR to expand access to justice and legal response project in all the LGAs in Borno and Adamawa state, UNHCR and its partner NBA (in Borno), FIDA (in Adamawa) are following up on referred SGBV reported cases by providing legal assistance to the survivors and the family.

Currently, in Borno state, the justice system in the LGAs is not complete due to the absence of mobile courts, where justice would be dispensed and a limited presence of the police personnel, who have responsibilities to arrest, investigate and prosecute crimes and offences perpetrated, such as SGBV cases.

As of now, UNHCR supports two mobile courts in Bakassi and Gubio road IDP camps in Maiduguri, Borno state which enhances accessibility of legal services for the displaced population including SGBV survivors.

Impact Indicator: # of reported cases of SGBV for which survivors received legal support: 701142

Recommendations:

- Protection actors should scale up its interventions out of Maiduguri and Jere LGAs in Borno and strengthen support in Adamawa and Yobe states
- UNHCR should review its 2018 project in order to include advocacy, community sensitization and awareness to promote use of justice system
- Advocacy should continue for the return of civil administration particularly judiciary system and institution of administration of justice structures
- Build the capacity of stakeholders and government counterpart on response; prevention and legal assistance to SGBV survivors
- Encourage establishment and training of Local Barraza Courts and available community structures (Religious leaders, cultural leaders, opinion leaders etc.) on National Laws and legal jurisdictions

2. Access to Psychosocial Support

During the reporting period, SGBV focal points of UNHCR partners have provided psychosocial support to identified victims. In locations where UNHCR partners does not have capacity, identified victims have been referred to other partners such as IOM, fhi360 and Chad.

A total of **268** survivors (**23%**) were provided with a basic psychosocial support by UNHCR partners focal points. In Borno states, according to the SGBV focal points in the field particularly Ngala LGA, survivors are reluctant to be referred for psychosocial support due to lack of confidentiality from some community volunteers. This situation negatively affects the access to available psychosocial services.

UNHCR will strengthen psychosocial services (safe spaces, counselling, community empowerment, etc.) during the second semester in 6 LGAs in Borno states in partnership with fhi360 (Banki, Dikwa and Ngala) and BOWDI (Bama, Gwoza and Pulka).

Impact Indicator: # of reported SGBV incidents for which survivors receive psychosocial counselling: 268

Recommendations:

- There is a need of permanent sensitization and education of community volunteers on confidentiality
- SGBV focal points as well as PAG members and protection monitors should be trained in psychosocial support to insure its integration at community level at early stage

3. Access to Material Support

During the reporting period, **31.3%** of identified survivors (**358**) received material support in term of non-food items directly from UNHCR partners. Some other survivors were referred to other organisation for material support.

It is important to notice that not all identified survivors are in need of material support. Upon arrival, all IDPs receive systematically CRI assistance per household.

Analysis has showed that survivors of denial of resources, child marriage and sexual exploitation are the ones in need of material support most of the time.

Impact Indicator: # of reported SGBV incidents for which survivors receive material support: 358

Recommendations:

- SGBV focal points in the field should assess on an individual basis the need of material support of the survivors
- SOPs should be developed to facilitate access of survivors to material support

PILLAR III: PREVENTION

1. Capacity Building

During the reporting period, a total of **236** partner staff, government and IDPs community (PAGs members) were trained in 3 modules on SGBV prevention and response (introduction of SGBV in humanitarian settings, Preventing SGBV and Multi sectoral response) as well as protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in Borno.

In March 2018, UNHCR supported training for **27** security actors (Nigerian police, Nigerian army, CJTF, NCDC) on PSEA.

In June 2018, UNHCR trained **85** Immigration Officers on SGBV in humanitarian setting and PSEA in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States.

Impact Indicator: # of partner, government and UNHCR staff trained on SGBV prevention and response :236

2. Women economic empowerment through livelihood:

Livelihood is a main pillar for UNHCR in terms of prevention of SGBV.

The objective aims at fighting against harmful measures to survive such as survival sex/sexual exploitation by empowering women economically through skills acquisition and start up kits for business.

Under UNHCR livelihood Project in partnership with AUN, **555** IDPs (**324** females and **231** males) have been trained in livelihoods and vocational training, financial, literacy and business development in Borno State.

Recommendations:

- Humanitarian actors should scale up the livelihood interventions to cover more beneficiaries
- There is a need to engage men and boys, community leaders in order to prepare them to the change of economic power and to see themselves as secondary beneficiary and change agents.
- To ensure sustainability of cooperatives, it would be better to form them based also on their future areas of return. It should not be based on their current location which is a temporary displacement

3. Field Visits

From January to June 2018, UNHCR SGBV unit conducted field visits in Borno state (Banki, Ngala, Dikwa, Bama, Pulka, Munguno,), in Adamawa state (Yola and Mubi), in Yobe state (Damaturu, Kukareta) for coaching and capacity building of SGBV focal point, protection monitors and PAGs members and integration of GBV prevention in CCCM.

OTHER ONGOING JOINT ACTIVITIES

UNHCR and the Call to Action Pilot Initiative in North East Nigeria:

UNHCR is a key stakeholder of the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies at the global level. To maximize the value and impact of the Call to Action in Nigeria, global partners working in the Northeast Nigeria have come together with key government partners at the Federal and State levels as well as civil society stakeholders under the leadership of UNFPA to pilot the development and implementation of a Road Map to help close the most pressing gaps in the humanitarian response in the Northeast.

The stakeholders contributing to the Call to Action Road Map for Northeast Nigeria have chosen to focus their collective efforts in five priority areas in 2018-2019:

- Strengthening Coordination to ensure a timely, accountable, holistic, inter-sectoral approach to preventing and responding to GBV.
- Improving Access to Quality Services for Survivors by ensuring that sufficient and timely access to these services is an essential component of the humanitarian response.
- Strengthening the Capacity and Expanding the Engagement of Local Partners to improve GBV prevention and response efforts.
- Securing Sufficient Funding for GBV programming through improved coordination and advocacy.
- Engaging Security Actors to improve GBV prevention and response.

A mid-year review meeting for the northeast Nigeria Call to Action Road Map is planned for July 2018.

Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS):

UNHCR is a key global partner in development, implementation and the roll out of the GBVIMS at Global level. In Nigeria, UNFPA acts as the lead coordinating agency of the GBVIMS since 2015 with coordination structures in Maiduguri (GBVIMS Technical Working Group), a National Technical Working Group in Abuja, with plans of commencing deep field technical working groups in LGAs with numerous Data Gathering Organisations (DGOs).

In April 2018, UNFPA appointed a GBVIMS Inter Agency Coordinator who revitalised the whole system through revision of the content in the Information Sharing Protocol (ISP), revision of the membership of data-gathering organisations as well as provided technical support and capacity building for existing DGOs.

In coordination with UNFPA, UNHCR has supported the revitalisation of the GBVIMS by:

- Providing feedback to UNFPA and in-country GBVIMS-IAC on the gaps in the GBVIMS structure i.e. lack of external data sharing, quality of GBVIMS data, need for regular reports etc. These issues have now been addressed and the GBVIMS structure improved with strengthened partnerships.
- UNHCR played a great role in advocacy for the inclusion protection monitoring partners among the DGOs to improve the representativeness of all partners providing protection services across the NE, and not make analysis limited to only case management and psychosocial support actors. GBVIMS-IAC currently in process of reviewing potential protection monitoring partner's suitability for inclusion into the GBVIMS structure.
- UNHCR is a key UN partner for the GBVIMS, is supporting coordination by periodically hosting monthly meetings and had committed to (1) active participation in GBVIMS data analysis sessions (2) provision of funds for capacity building initiatives of all GBVIMS partners, and (3) provision of equipment for new GBVIMS partners supported by UNHCR (i.e. laptop, filing cabinets etc.).

CHALLENGES

- The SGBV objective in UNHCR country operation Plan is not adequately funded in 2018 and Lack of adequate human resources to support monitoring of activities is a major challenge;
- Pre-existing situation of gender inequality among communities in NE and Lack of livelihood opportunities contribute to SGBV;
- Protection incidents including SGBV against women during firewood collection (rape, killing, etc.);
- Insufficient resources to expand livelihood activities including alternatives access to energy (briquette, etc.)
- Increase of the level of vulnerability of women and girls due to the crisis (restriction of movement in some camps, etc.);
- Abduction of woman and girls by NSAG without a proper monitoring mechanism;
- Child marriage remain a bid issue which need to be seriously address;
- High rate of undesired pregnancies among women and girls;
- Poor quality of available services in some LGAs;
- Big number of women from whom husband are missing or have been killed (widows);
- Allegations of SGBV against member of community, military, CJTF and NSAG;
- Lack of civil administration (judiciary and police) which led to impunity for perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence at LGA level.

UNHCR IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS FROM JANUARY TO JUNE 2018

SGBV Strategic Pillar	Partner	State
Identification	GISCOR, AIPD, SAHEI, NHRC, CCEPI AUN, NBA, FIDA	Borno, Adamawa, Yobe
Prevention		
Multi-Sectoral Response		