



Returnees in Baga Sola, Chad
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SITUATION OVERVIEW

Nearly 1.5 million internally displaced people (IDPs) have been identified in Nigeria's North East as Boko Haram continues to create a volatile situation in the Lake Chad region, with displacement also impacting neighboring Cameroon, Chad and Niger.

In Nigeria, concerns are shared by national authorities and humanitarian actors about spontaneous returns of IDPs to some areas of origin, given the continued levels of insecurity. For example, on 27 April, allegedly 21 IDPs attempting to return home to Gujba LGA to recover some of their harvest were killed by Boko Haram. A one day meeting was organized by NEMA in Adamawa state to design a strategic and sustainable IDP return process, with heads of organizations, security and military formations, United Nations entities, INGOs, NGOs, traditional and religious leaders invited. On 28 April, the army rescued 200 girls and 93 women from the Sambissa forest, who are still in army custody. On 2 May, 275 women and girls who had been rescued earlier were brought to Malkohi camp in Adamawa. The Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development has organized an ad hoc emergency meeting of protection stakeholders in order to harmonize response activities and address increasing protection concerns.

The security situation has remained relatively calm in Cameroon's Far North, whilst Boko Haram attacks in border

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Nigeria:** IOM's third DTM report was released, indicating the total number of displaced persons in six north eastern states has risen to nearly 1.5 million (1,491,706).
- **Chad:** A revised profiling exercise methodology has been developed and is currently being tested in the field.
- **Niger:** 169 transitional shelters were installed during the reporting period in Kindjandi with the help of the Nigerien Cross.
- **Cameroon:** IOM identified 59,055 displaced Cameroonian nationals in four departments in the Far North.

areas were reported in Niger, causing new movements of people to the Lac region of Chad. Hundreds of Boko Haram elements temporarily held control of Karamga island in Lake Chad. Niger's armed forces regained control over the territory. Reports indicate that there were 28 civilian casualties, as well as 46 military members and about 150 Boko Haram elements killed. Survivors recall witnessing Boko Haram gunmen kidnapping an unconfirmed number of women and children as they fled.

DISPLACEMENT PATTERNS

IOM's third DTM report was released on 30 April. The total number of displaced persons in six north eastern states has risen to nearly 1.5 million (1,491,706). A growing number of refugees who are returning home but unable to settle in their places of origin contribute to a further increase in displacement numbers. The highest number of IDPs were identified in Borno (939,290), followed by Adamawa (222,882) and Yobe (139,591). Only 10% of IDPs in Nigeria's North East live in camps, whilst 90% are displaced in host communities. More than half of the IDP population are less than 18 years old. Furthermore, Nigerian government sources indicate that in the past few days, some 2,000 IDPs fled the towns of Gwoza and Bama to Borno's capital Maiduguri. Movements of returns continue to be witnessed in Adamawa most especially toward Michika, Madagali, Mubi North and Mubi South LGAs. The states authorities are currently looking into providing support in some of the return areas with construction material, agricultural implements and seeds.

An inter-agency mission conducted by CNARR, UNHCR, and OCHA in Chad's Lac region on 3 May indicates that approximately 1,000 migrants have recently arrived after travelling for three to five days in small wooden boats. The majority of recent arrivals are Chadian returnees, in addition to Nigerian refugees and some IDPs. The arrivals reported fleeing as a result of calls by the Nigerien authorities to clear certain areas in preparation for military operations against Boko Haram, or threat of forced recruitment by armed elements. While the inter-agency mission was unable to visit islands close to the Chad-Niger border, the sub-prefect of Daboua visited the locality of Kaiga-Kinjiriya, located six kilometers from Niger, where it is estimated that 7,000 people have arrived and further arrivals are expected.

IOM and WFP have observed a decrease in numbers of IDPs in Cameroon. IOM's initial data indicates that in the four departments of Diamare, Mayo Sava, Mayo Tsanaga and Logon-et-Chari in the North of the country there remain 59,055 displaced Cameroonian nationals. This includes 40,833 IDPs and 18,225 returnees who fled the violence in Nigeria, and have not yet reached their final destination. The large majority (91%) are staying in host communities.

In Niger, the Government of Diffa has urged people living on islands in Lake Chad to come to the mainland, promising measures will be taken to ensure their safety and eventual resettlement. To date, however, little assistance has been provided to the displaced that left their homes hastily and mostly on foot in order to reach cities such as N'Guingimi, Bosso or Barwa. A joint delegation composed of humanitarian and local authorities – with IOM Niger participation – was sent on 6 May to Bosso and N'Guingmi to assess the situation. There are concerns that such hasty and unorganized evacuations provide opportunities for Boko Haram to invade, ransack and burn down abandoned villages, as has happened on the island of Gadira (department of Bosso) on 2 May. The overall number of people displaced remains unclear.

Further findings from the third DTM report can be found at <http://nigeria.iom.int/dtm>

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

(Based on current SRP figures, which will be revised)

USD 6.1 million received **requested 31.9 million**

IOM Response

NIGERIA

The national ES and NFI Working Group meeting was held and co-chaired by IOM on 24 April.

Preparations have been made for trainings to be held in the coming days for IOM data collectors and partners as part of the 4th round of DTM assessments. These trainings will include a section on protection conducted by UNICEF, Save the Children and IRC to allow for a better identification of vulnerable cases and for the establishment of a referral pathway.

A total of 381,604 individuals have benefited from lifesaving ES and NFI sector distributions between January and April 2015. An updated 4W matrix shows that there has been an increase in shelter and NFI interventions in Nigeria's North East.

IOM in coordination with NEMA/SEMA and IRC in Adamawa has identified a total of 3,379 beneficiary households in seven locations for an upcoming mosquito net distribution.

Procurement of NFIs is ongoing for a distribution of NFI kits for 1,000 families in Maiduguri.

IOM psychosocial support mobile teams have visited and provided psychosocial first aid for a group of 275 released women and girls now staying in Yola. The psychosocial assistance coordination team continues to provide technical guidance to the mobile teams as well as national authorities.

Renovation activities for IOM's new office in Yola town have been completed and the premises will be operational within the week.



IDPs in N'Guigmi, Niger, in transit after fleeing the Lake Chad islands

CHAD

To date, 3,398 IDPs have been profiled by IOM, UNHCR and CNARR in the Baga Sola and Dar Salam villages in the Lac region, whilst IOM has registered 2,010 returnees.

A revised profiling exercise methodology has been developed with support provided through a technical deployment from IOM's regional office in Dakar. The questionnaires can be used on tablets to expedite data collection and analysis.

Six team leaders were trained in order to develop the capacity to train further field staff in applying the new questionnaires and technical solutions.

Tablets were purchased whilst maps and locality data were developed and compiled to prepare for upcoming data collection exercises.

Four additional staff have been deployed to Baga Sola to enhance IOM's response capacity in the field, bringing the total number of IOM staff in Baga Sola up to eight.

NIGER

Shelter stocks have been deployed in the region. On 29 April, 169 transitional shelters were installed in Kindjandi with the help of the Nigerien Cross.

The PCCN (Programme de Cohésion Communautaire au Niger) has, among other activities, temporarily hired 400 youth at risk of being recruited by extremist groups and provided them with equipment to remove 100 hectares of the invasive brush species in three locations: Tam, Kanama Ligaridi and Gremadi.

IOM participated in two high-profile visits: A visit by OCHA's Operations Director John Ging on 1 May, and the Prime Minister's visit to N'Guiguimi IDP site, located 128 km from Diffa town, on 5 May.

CAMEROON

IOM finalized a dashboard based on data collected in early April, indicating the number of IDPs and returnees who have not yet reached their final destination and thus remain displaced.

Consultations were held with UNHCR, and a joint UNHCR-IOM joint IDP profiling data collection exercise was launched to streamline efforts to gather comprehensive information on displacement in Cameroon's Far North.

IOM sent 20 data collection staff to a joint IOM-UNHCR training prior to the data collection exercise, which commenced on 30 April.

A short questionnaire to collect key information on informal sites was developed, with site assessments ongoing in three departments: Mayo Sava, Mayo Tsanaga, Diamare.

Beneficiary selection for IOM's first round of NFI distribution is ongoing. A distribution protocol and beneficiary validation form have been finalized and implementing partners have been brought on board to support the NFI distributions. NFI kits for 1,250 households have been ordered.

A transition and recovery expert is currently in the Far North Region to explore programming possibilities, meet with local authorities and partners, and visit field sites.



IDP woman and child in Diffa region, in transit after fleeing the Lake Chad islands, Niger