



# NIGERIA SITUATION

## UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE

01 – 31 March 2017

### OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

#### KEY FIGURES

**1,899,830**  
**IDPs\* in Nigeria**

\* 1.84 million displaced by the insurgency

(NEMA/IOM DTM Report, Round XIV, January 2017)

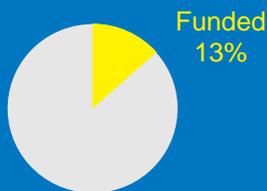
**200,346**

Total number of Nigerian refugees in neighboring countries as of **31 March** (or latest figures available)

#### FUNDING

**USD 169.9 million**

UNHCR requirements for the Nigeria situation in 2017



Gap  
87%

- In **Nigeria**, Boko Haram (BH) elements are reported to have regrouped after having been forced from their stronghold in the Sambisa forest. As such, a greater number of synchronized attacks (mostly improvised explosive devices) targeting the military, roadsides and small villages were reported in March and more are expected in the weeks to come. In **Cameroon**, there were fewer security incidents than in the first two months of the year, with incursions reported predominantly in the Mayo-Sava department near the town of Kolofata, which borders Borno State in Nigeria, near the Sambisa forest. In **Niger**, military clearance operations in northern Borno caused BH elements to disperse and a number of incursions into Niger were reported. These operations are also ongoing in the border area between Cameroon and Nigeria and the Lake Chad islands. In **Chad's** Lake area, minor security incidents resulting from of inter-communal tensions were reported.
- In Yaoundé, on 2 March, the Governments of the Republic of Cameroon and the Federal Republic of Nigeria together with UNHCR, signed the Tripartite Agreement for the Voluntary Repatriation of Nigerian refugees living in Cameroon. Despite this agreement, UNHCR remains concerned by continuing forced returns of refugees from Cameroon's far north region to north-eastern Nigeria. So far this year, Cameroon has forcefully returned over 2,600 refugees back to Nigerian border villages against their will. In recent talks with the Cameroonian government, UNHCR has expressed the deep concern of the Organization over the forced returns and sought reassurances from the Government about its commitment to the tripartite agreement. The Government of Cameroon has denied any wrong doing.
- In Adamawa and Borno States, government authorities have put IDP camp closures on hold, with the Borno State Governor advocating for voluntary returns when and where conditions allow. Stemming from the fact that conditions are not conducive to return, the humanitarian community's stance against precipitated closure was reinforced with the completion of a return intention survey (RIS), carried out by UNHCR from 8-11 March in Adamawa. In close collaboration with the State and National Emergency Management Agencies (N/S-EMA), UNHCR conducted the RIS in the three camps that were to be closed.
- In coordination with key agencies and civil society organizations working on protection at national and regional levels, UNHCR finalized the Regional Protection Strategic Framework. The document provides a framework on key protection issues relating to persons of concern in the Lake Chad Basin Situation, including refugees, IDPs and other affected persons. It provides a comprehensive overview of key protection concerns and risks, with a focus on cross-border and common protection issues, and elaborates main objectives, priorities and the response strategy for each. The Framework should be read in conjunction with the [2017 Nigeria Regional Refugee Response Plan \(RRRP\)](#) and the 2017 [Lake Chad Basin Humanitarian Needs and Requirements Overview \(HNRO\)](#) and the relevant country humanitarian response plans for 2017. The document has been finalized and will be circulated in early April.

# UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

## NIGERIA

- UNHCR took steps to institutionalize and mainstream the use of cash-based interventions (CBIs) in the provision of assistance to its persons of concern (PoCs). In March, several trainings and capacity building activities were used to broaden the understanding of UNHCR and partner staff in the systematic use of CBIs across the operations. From 15-18 March, a CBI Learning Programme Workshop was held for 22 UNHCR staff in Maiduguri and a similar training was held for Protection Sector Working Group members. Cash-based interventions continue to play an important role in many UNHCR operations, given the agency's wide-ranging mandate and its lead responsibilities for protection, emergency shelter and camp coordination and camp management.
- UNHCR and Nigerian authorities met to discuss the operationalization of the Tripartite Agreement signed with the Government of Cameroon on 2 March following the forced return of some 2,600 Nigerians. Nigerian officials stated that they were pleased with the steps taken by UNHCR Cameroon to engage with the Government during the incidents and that they hoped Cameroon would ensure that the Agreement would be respected.

## CAMEROON

- In efforts to strengthen border and protection monitoring and referral mechanisms, Joint Protection Committees (consisting of local authorities and UNHCR staff) were established in the Logone-et-Chari, Mayo Sava and Mayo Tsanaga departments in April 2016. From 20-21 March 2017, UNHCR organized a workshop in Maroua to evaluate and plan the activities of the Committees. The event was attended by members of the joint committees, representatives of the Far North region's Governor's office, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Maroua's Appeals Court and the Prosecutor General's Office. Also present were the representatives of various UN agencies and humanitarian NGOs, all members of the protection network. The first day consisted of taking stock of the protection issues in the respective departments and the second was devoted to reviewing identified protection gaps and challenges and presenting UNHCR's strategic focus on international protection in the operational zone. This was the first such workshop since the Committees were set up in 2016.
- To promote peaceful coexistence between host communities and refugees, UNHCR conducted awareness-raising campaigns in Minawao camp to prohibit the cutting of wood in the forest reserve of Zamai. In total, 5,737 people were reached by the campaigns. Awareness-raising activities were also carried out to encourage refugee mobilization on the occasion of World Water day on 22 March. Activities organized around this topic touched upon the roles and responsibilities of camp block leaders and the importance and necessity of water chlorination.

## CHAD

- Since July 2016, more than 1,200 persons associated to BH have surrendered to Chadian authorities, been detained in Baga Sola and then authorized to return to their villages of origin. Following a recommendation from the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), the Inter-Cluster Coordination team organized a multisectoral evaluation from 10-15 February in the Lake Chad islands to evaluate return conditions for persons having surrendered and to determine the needs of populations in the islands of origin. Following the evaluation, a response plan was finalized this month and will serve as a basis for response in the return areas and as an advocacy tool to mobilize humanitarian, development and Government actors. The plan's requirements amount to US\$ 16 M out of which US\$ 495,000 has already been funded. The HCT has retained Food Security, Health, Protection and WASH as priority sectors for which the CERF allocation will be requested.

## NIGER

- A joint evaluation mission to Bosso and Toumour – two previously inaccessible areas in eastern Diffa – was undertaken during the month. Some PoCs expressed their desire to be relocated to Sayam Forage refugee camp and UNHCR is urgently taking action to respond to their request.
- Owing increasing SGBV rates including survival sex, protection actors in Diffa established 11 women's spaces across a number of spontaneous sites and in the Sayam Forage and Kabelawa camps. An evaluation of the SGBV prevention activities in place was also carried out to improve response and the results will be shared in April. In addition, from 27-28 March, the Protection Working Group under UNHCR's leadership, organized a training on Protection Mainstreaming. The process has been unanimously supported by the humanitarian and donor community with particular focus on its impact on shelter/NFI response and on access to basic services.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In total, for refugee response in asylum countries as well as response for IDPs in Nigeria, UNHCR's requirements amount to USD **169.9 million in 2017**. UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to the Nigeria situation as a whole.

### Donors:

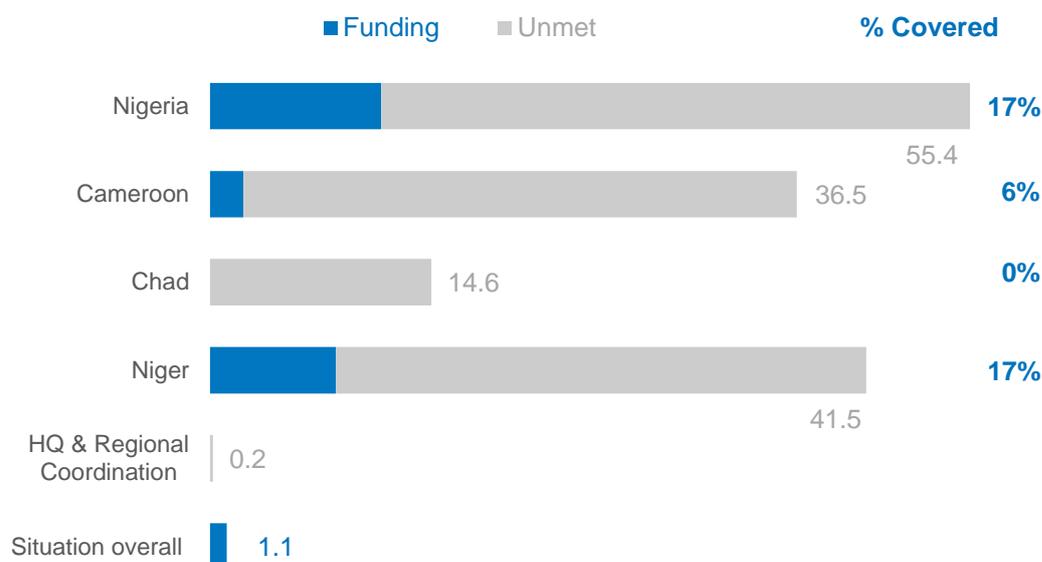
CERF  
European Union  
Germany  
Japan  
United States of America

### Funding:

A total of **USD 22.9 million** has been received out of USD 169.9 million requested by UNHCR, representing 13% of funding needs:

### Private donors:

Australia  
Spain  
Sweden



### Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Germany (12 M)

### Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Indonesia | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Morocco | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Zambia | Private Donors

1. The total of contributions received includes the programme support component.

2. All financial information contained in this funding update is indicative and does not constitute official UNHCR financial reporting.

3. Unrestricted and regional funds mentioned above include all sub-regional and regional contributions worldwide.

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### Links:

Nigeria regional web portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/SahelSituation/country.php?id=502>

UNHCR Tracks: <http://tracks.unhcr.org>

UNHCR's Kora blog: voices of refugees in West and Central Africa: <http://kora.unhcr.org/>

Twitter: [@UNHCRWestAfrica](https://twitter.com/UNHCRWestAfrica)

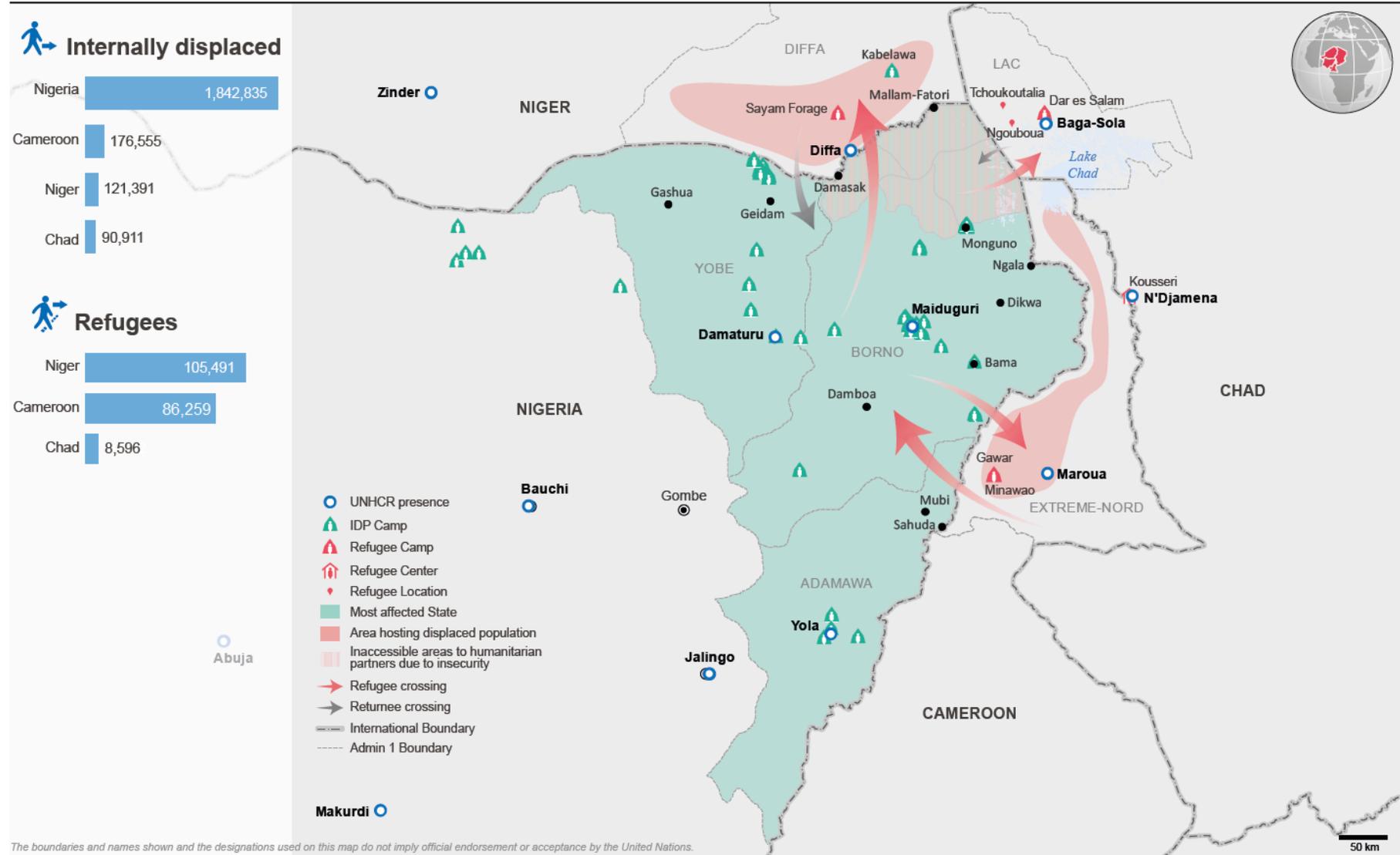
Facebook: [UNHCR West Africa](https://www.facebook.com/UNHCRWestAfrica)



# NIGERIA SITUATION

## Populations forcibly displaced by the insurgency in the Lake Chad Basin Region

As of 31 March 2017 or latest figures available



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Creation date: 31 March 2017 Sources: UNHCR Feedback: mapping@unhcr.org