

# Nigeria

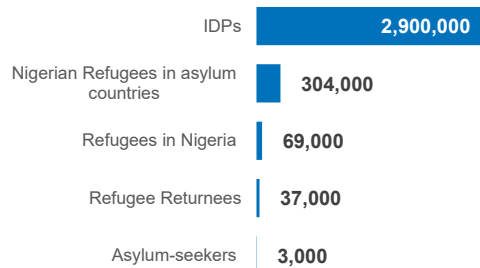
January - March 2021

**Sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response campaigns reached over 24,000 refugees and almost 17,000 internally displaced people.**

**Over 100,000 people - 35,000 refugees and almost 74,000 internally displaced people - benefited from awareness raising campaigns on the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**More than 21,000 refugee women and men benefited from cash-based assistance in to buy their daily food in the first three months of 2021.**

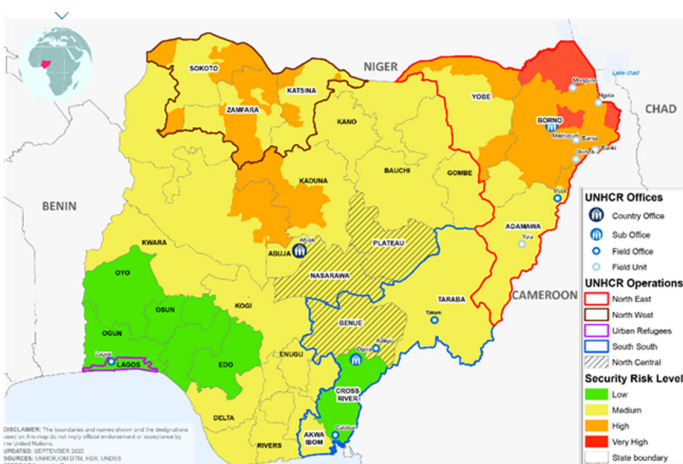
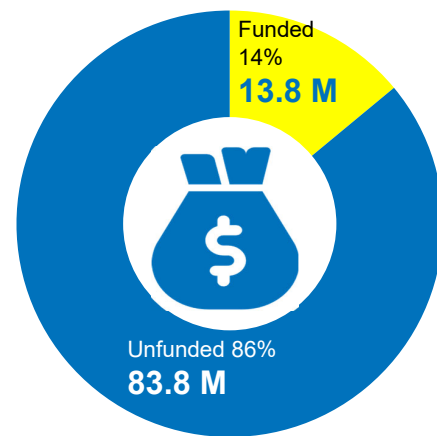
## AFFECTED POPULATION



- IDP figure refers to displaced people in North-East, North-West and North-Central Nigeria due to insurgency, communal clashes and natural disasters.
- Nigerian refugees in asylum countries: Cameroon, Chad and Niger.
- Registered refugees: Cameroonians in South-East Nigeria and different nationalities in urban areas.
- Refugee Returnees only covers spontaneous refugees returns since 2019

## FUNDING (AS OF 24 MARCH 2021)

USD 97.7 M Required



UNHCR is present in Abuja, Maiduguri, Ogoja, Adikpo, Calabar, Takum, Mubi, Lagos, Banki, Gwoza, Bama, Monguno, Ngala, Markudi and Yola.



Women waiting for their turn in the distribution of renewed IDs at Ukende refugee settlement. ©UNHCR/Roland Schönbauer

## Working with Partners

- In line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, the Nigerian government and humanitarian actors provide multi-sectoral assistance and solution-oriented protection services for refugees and asylum-seekers, returnees and internally displaced people. In addition, they work together to prevent statelessness. UNHCR is pursuing a humanitarian response to address critical protection and assistance needs of affected populations. It collaborates with other agencies to help authorities find solutions, with emphasis on protection, response, inclusion and empowerment.

## Protection

- **Refugees**—UNHCR has been providing access to asylum and territory, registration and documentation; relocation of refugees from the border areas for safety; access to education, healthcare services, water and sanitation facilities; identification and support to individuals with specific needs through community-based approaches; protection of vulnerable individuals and groups against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), abuse and exploitation; child protection, including identification and foster care for unaccompanied and separated children; empowering refugees through self-reliance activities and sustainable livelihood opportunities; as well as prevention of statelessness. Since the beginning of the year, over 59,000 refugees benefited from awareness campaigns on SGBV and COVID-19. Over 21,000 refugees received cash for food.
- **Internally displaced people**—Direct interventions are undertaken with local and national authorities to ensure that internally displaced people (IDPs) in camps or out of camps live in safety. In the North-East, UNHCR established a community-based structure composed of 17 protection coordinators, some 100 protection monitors, nearly 50 human rights monitors and 250 protection action group members to deliver protection services such as protection monitoring, vulnerability screening, capacity building and access to justice, while ensuring age, gender and diversity mainstreaming. Since the beginning of 2021, over 91,000 IDPs benefited from awareness campaigns on SGBV and COVID-19.
- **Returnees**—Voluntary, safe and dignified return is a priority for UNHCR, the government and the humanitarian community. UNHCR has signed a tripartite agreement with Nigeria and Cameroon for a refugee repatriation framework, which saw 2,400 Nigerians return since the first convoy in March 2021. The returns to Banki and Bama towns in Borno State are an initiative by the two governments and based on the desire of refugees to go home. UNHCR monitors this initiative and assists the returnees.

## Farmer/Herder conflict related displacements (IDPs in Benue State and elsewhere)

- The United Nations Interagency Project on Transforming from Humanitarian Response to Long Term Development (Peace Project) facilitated the establishment of the Farmer-Herder Peace Forum, in Benue, which brings the two groups, civil society and other stakeholders together for deliberations and experience sharing on best practices for peacebuilding. UNHCR shares experiences from the field, using the reports from the Protection Action Groups in target communities. The humanitarian coordination meetings of Benue State are irregular but provide a platform for humanitarian actors to network and leverage on efforts to support peace building, protect from sexual exploitation and abuse and provide water, shelter and livelihoods support.

## Sector Coordination

- UNHCR leads the protection sector and co-leads the camp coordination and camp management as well as the shelter and NFI (non-food items) sectors in North-East Nigeria. The protection sector encompasses general protection, child protection, GBV, housing and land and property as well as mine action. The sector works with national and local authorities as well as all protection actors. They bring together partners working in different areas to ensure that agencies operate in a coordinated manner to prioritize interventions and available resources, minimize gaps and overlaps, and speak with one voice on key protection issues and human rights violations, with an overall goal of enhancing the protection of conflict-affected populations.

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR provides material assistance such as shelter and core relief items like blankets, mats and jerry cans to cover the most basic needs of vulnerable refugee and IDP families. In addition, protection safety nets/livelihoods have been tailored as part of the protection and mixed solutions approach for affected people, in response to identified priority needs. UNHCR and partners also assist women and girls with dignity kits. To reduce dependence on humanitarian assistance, improve self-reliance and support solutions, refugees and IDPs are provided with skills, entrepreneurial training and support to set up trades. Cash assistance is further prioritized as a measure to maximise protection benefits in the COVID-19 context and its economic effects.

## Integration of Refugees

- In line with the GCR, UNHCR is working closely with the Government of Nigeria to ensure that refugees are included in the communities from their arrival on. The government allows refugees to benefit from national health and education systems. UNHCR has started consultations with the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development on how to leverage inclusion of refugees into national social safety nets through cash-based interventions. Meanwhile, UNHCR provides community focused assistance to ensure that host communities and refugees jointly and harmoniously benefit from the limited resources available.

## Special thanks to major donors of un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as to donors who have contributed directly to the Nigeria operation in 2021 (as of 24 March 2021)

Algeria | Armenia | Australia | Belgium | Bulgaria | Canada | Central Emergency Relief Fund | Costa Rica | Denmark | Estonia | Finland | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Japan | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Netherlands | New Zealand | Norway | Portugal | Private donors Nigeria | Private donors Spain | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Sweden | Switzerland | Thailand | Turkey | United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security | Uruguay

## CONTACTS

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