



Insecurity in the Lake Chad Basin – Regional Impact

Situation Report #23

28 February 2017

In Numbers ¹

6.6 million people food insecure in areas affected by the conflict, of which 70% in Nigeria

4 countries affected

3.6 million people displaced (82% in Nigeria)

¹ IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix, December 2016; 2017 Requirements Overview Chad & Cameroon.

1.6 million People assisted
February 2017



GENDER MARKER 2A

Situation Update

• In **Nigeria**, the fragile security situation is likely the most significant impediment to humanitarian aid access and often requires military escorts on roads and increased air transportation for field missions where threats of attack remain high. Attacks on civilian sites remain a serious threat to stability and mitigation measures are undertaken at each distribution point. The prolonged humanitarian crisis has had a devastating impact on food and nutrition security in the region leading to famine-like conditions in some areas. Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States are predominantly sustained by subsistence farming and small-scale seasonal-dependent agriculture. For a third consecutive year, these livelihoods were disrupted by sporadic insurgent attacks resulting in inadequate harvests. As a result, the annual lean season is expected to start earlier in May, instead of July. By not having safe access to land and with their depleted purchasing power and household stocks, IDPs,

returnees and vulnerable host communities are likely to remain severely food insecure until October 2017.

- During a [press briefing](#) at the *Palais des Nations* in Geneva, UNHCR stated that in 2017, **Cameroon** has – so far – forcefully returned over 2,600 refugees back to the Nigerian border villages. The Mora-Kousseri axis remains prohibited to UN staff missions due to insecurity while the security situation on both sides of the border in Mayo Sava region has significantly improved in February, due to military operations in the area.
- In **Niger**, the security situation remained volatile in the Diffa region, along the border with Nigeria, particularly in the departments of Bosso, Nguigmi and Diffa due to the military operations at both Lake Chad and Nigeria/Niger borders. February was also marked by new inter-community clashes in the Diffa region. Several ethnic clashes were observed in recent months. The Governor of the Diffa region is taking the necessary measures to put an end to the ethnic confrontations.

WFP Response

- In February, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to 1.6 million vulnerable people across the Lake Chad Basin countries (Nigeria, Niger, Cameroon and Chad). Some 82 percent of them were reached through in-kind food distributions and 18 percent through cash-based transfers. For March 2017, over 2.3 million people are planned to be assisted with food and cash transfers across the four countries covered by the LCB EMOP.
- The [2017 Requirement Overview](#) for **Cameroon** indicates that food insecurity remains a critical issue in the northern regions, where the effects of droughts and floods are coupled with insecurity and loss of livelihoods. Nearly 2.6 million people are food insecure (approximately 80 percent living in the northern and extreme north regions). To stretch limited resources due to funding constraints, WFP in Cameroon reduced food rations by 30 percent since January 2017 to

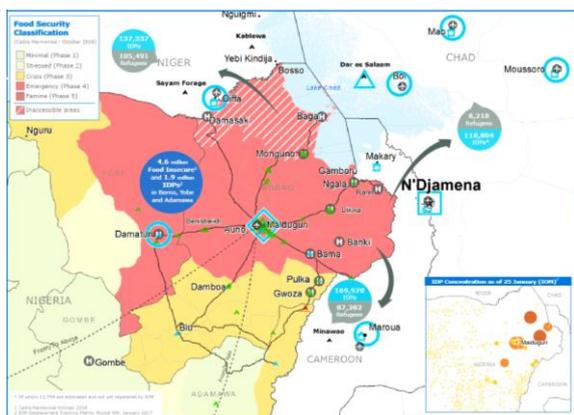


Photo: Bakassi_Monguno camps - Maiduguri_northern Nigeria. WFP/Andre Vornic.

continue providing food assistance to the vulnerable people. The reduction continues up to March and without sufficient funds to cover the needs, food-insecure people are likely to continue receiving reduced rations.

- Across **Chad**, a total of 897,408 people will require assistance during the lean season, 80 percent of whom living in the Sahelian belt, which includes the Lake region. The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis (*Cadre Harmonisé*, March 2017) indicates a deterioration of food security in the four departments of the Lake region and 123,275 members of host communities are expected to face a crisis situation (phase three or above) during the upcoming lean season. In addition, 98 percent of the 130,000 IDPs remain dependent on external assistance for food access and all the 130,000 IDPs continue to require assistance (ENSA 2016).
- In **Niger**, in response to a rapid assessment mission conducted on eight islands in January (jointly with the Regional Delegation for Social Affairs and the NGO IHDL) to obtain additional information on the food needs, WFP decided to provide assistance to those vulnerable villages, starting with 19,000 people (following concertation with the rest of the humanitarian community). On 10 and 15 February, a multi-sectoral assessment mission visited these islands again as well as eight sites on the mainland and confirmed the need for food assistance. The Humanitarian Country Team is currently developing a multi-sectoral response plan and WFP will be requested to scale up assistance from 19,000 to 40,000 people.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- In February, WFP reached over 1 million vulnerable people in **Nigeria**, both directly and through partnerships, with in-kind general food distributions (GFD), cash-based transfers (CBT) and blanket supplementary feeding (BSF) for children aged 6-59 months. Through BSF programme, WFP provided specialised nutritious food assistance to over 259,000 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing women. During the lean season, increased livelihoods support will be implemented through an integrated two-fold approach with FAO and partners. The joint approach combines food assistance (in-kind food or CBT by WFP) with support to smallholder agriculture production through the provision of seeds and inputs, livestock restocking and aquaculture programmes (by FAO and partners).
- WFP provided food assistance to 258,000 vulnerable people in **Cameroon**. Some 108,000 IDPs and 56,000 refugees were assisted through GFD. To combat acute malnutrition, WFP distributed blanket supplementary feeding (BSF) to some 98,000 children aged 6-23 months. WFP will continue assisting 140,000 IDPs living in the most affected areas of the Far north region to meet their acute food needs through either in-kind or CBT. At current planning figures, WFP is covering more than 70 percent of the identified IDP population, creating synergy with ICRC to maximize coverage of the humanitarian needs. The number of people assisted with CBT scaled up from 34,500 to 36,400 with new vulnerable people in Mokolo. All of them received a telephone SIM card and a cash transfer in February.

- In **Niger**, 196,000 people received food assistance in February, including 139,000 through GFD and 11,600 through CBT. Some 11,000 children aged 6-59 months were provided BSF to prevent acute malnutrition. UNHCR is proceeding with the relocation of refugees from the temporary site of Toumour to the refugee camp of Sayam Forage, both in the Diffa region. In February, 38 households were transferred to the Sayam Forage camp and most of the refugees relocated in Toumour had not yet received food assistance. WFP will deliver 30-day ration to 500 people who are planned to be relocated.
- In **Chad**, WFP provided food assistance to 104,000 food-insecure people in February. Some 6,000 refugees and 98,000 IDPs received unconditional food assistance. Among them, 36,000 were provided cash-based assistance (direct cash or vouchers). Food assistance through all three modalities is coupled with supplementary feeding for 10,000 children aged 6-23 months to prevent the deterioration of their nutritional status. Also, WFP increased the number of targeted people for GFD by 19,000 and children for BSF by 3,800 following the assessments in the islands. Further increase to 32,000 people will be necessary based on the dire situation assessed in the villages hosting returnee women and children. Due to difficult access, WFP is using boats to deliver commodities in these locations. Also, schools started re-opening in January after several months of closure due to nation-wide strikes. WFP re-launched the school meals programme in January and is progressively increasing the number of children assisted. In February, 13,894 children in 42 schools received food assistance.



Supply Chain

- WFP is establishing a logistics hub in Kano, **Nigeria**, to provide a decongestion and aggregation point for the pre-positioning of goods over the next months. The planned scale-up will require more resources, especially considering the advanced onset of the lean season, which necessitates replenishment of stocks. *Kano has been chosen for its strategic location and also as the largest sub-regional market for grains; this will allow WFP to better access locally or regionally procured commodities.*

Clusters and Common Services



Logistics Cluster

- On behalf of the Logistics Sector, the NGO *Premiere Urgence Internationale* manages an inter-agency warehouse in Maiduguri, **Nigeria**. Bi-lateral meetings were held with *Solidarités International* and Danish Refugee Council for the potential management of the common storage sites in Monguno and Ngala.

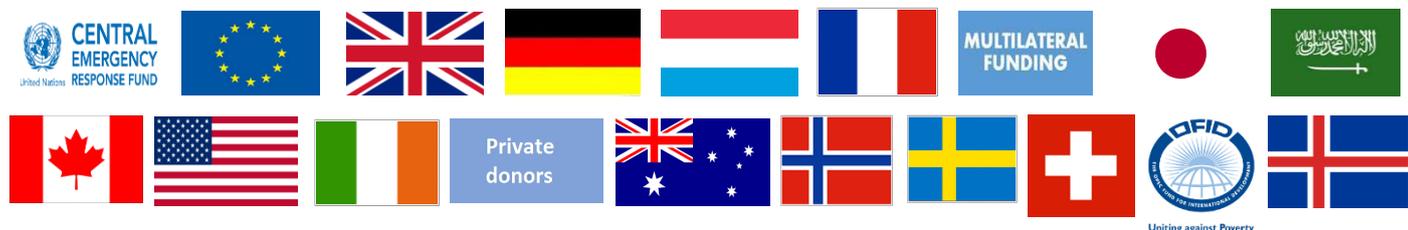


UN Humanitarian Air Service

- In **Nigeria**, since the commencement of operations in August 2015 and as of 28 February 2017, UNHAS fixed wing fleet transported some 15,000 passengers and 50,000 kg of cargo.
- In **Cameroon**, UNHAS served 37 humanitarian organizations, transported 518 passengers, along with 1,500 kg of light cargo, and supported two medical evacuations in February. A new UNHAS schedule was approved by a Users Group Committee. UNHAS will be flying five days a week effective from 1 March 2017.

WFP Operations

| | 2017 Requirements (in USD) | Total Received in 2017 (in USD) | 6 Months Net Funding Requirements (March –August 2017) (in USD) | People reached (February 2017) |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Regional EMOP 200777 (until December 2017) | USD 522 million | 76 million 14.5% | 257 million | 1.6 million |



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