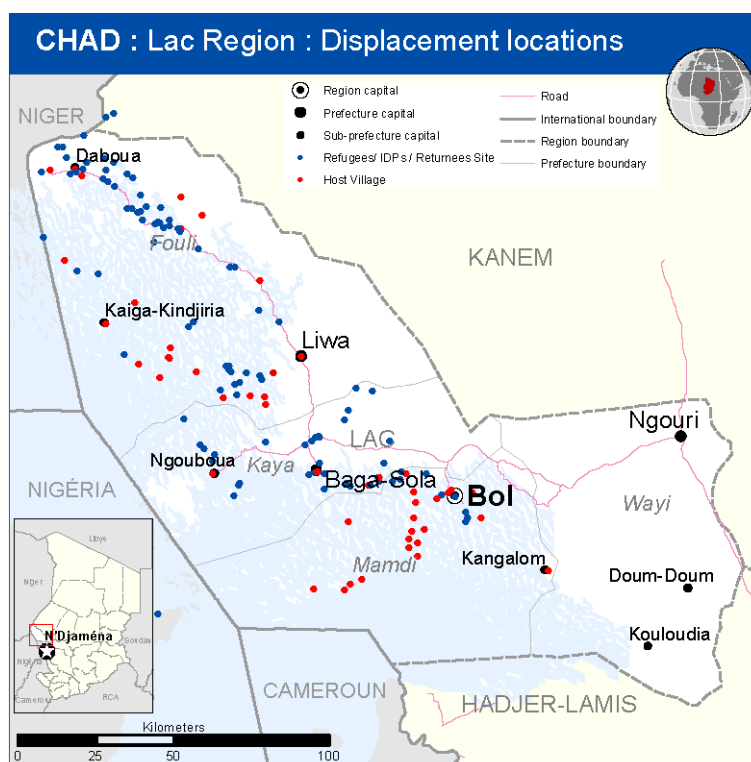




This SitRep was produced by OCHA in association with humanitarian partners and is focused on the internal displacements since 21 July 2015. It was published by OCHA Chad and covers the period from 1 January to 28 February 2018. The next publication will be around 15 May 2018.

Highlights

- The joint military operations of the Multinational Joint Taskforce in the Lake Chad Basin could lead to new population movements and limit humanitarian access in some areas.
- According to the results of the Harmonized Framework of March 2018, more than 159,000 people will be in “crisis” and “emergency” phases in the region during the 2018 lean season (June-August).
- The UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ursula Mueller visited Chad and went to the Lac region on 27 February. She called for increased funding to respond to the humanitarian and protection needs, as well as the implementation of durable solutions for people affected by the crisis in the Lac region.
- More than US \$ 179.4 million must be mobilized in 2018 for the humanitarian community to support the 353,000 most vulnerable people.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
 Sources : OCHA, CCCM, IOM, OSM

127,838*

Estimated displaced people since May 2015

Including:

- 101,905 internally displaced people
- 24,681 Chadian returnees
- 1,252 third-country nationals

Source: Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster – IOM (Displacement Tracking Matrix from October 2017)

51,000

Internally displaced returned to their villages of origin

Sources: multisector assessments from February and June 2017

9,494

Refugees, including 6,869 residing in Dar-es-Salam camp arrived since January 2015.

Source : HCR/CNARR (30/03/2018)

* While registration and verification operations are ongoing by the Shelter / NFI / CCCM cluster and IOM, these key figures are the figures used for the 2018 strategic planning.

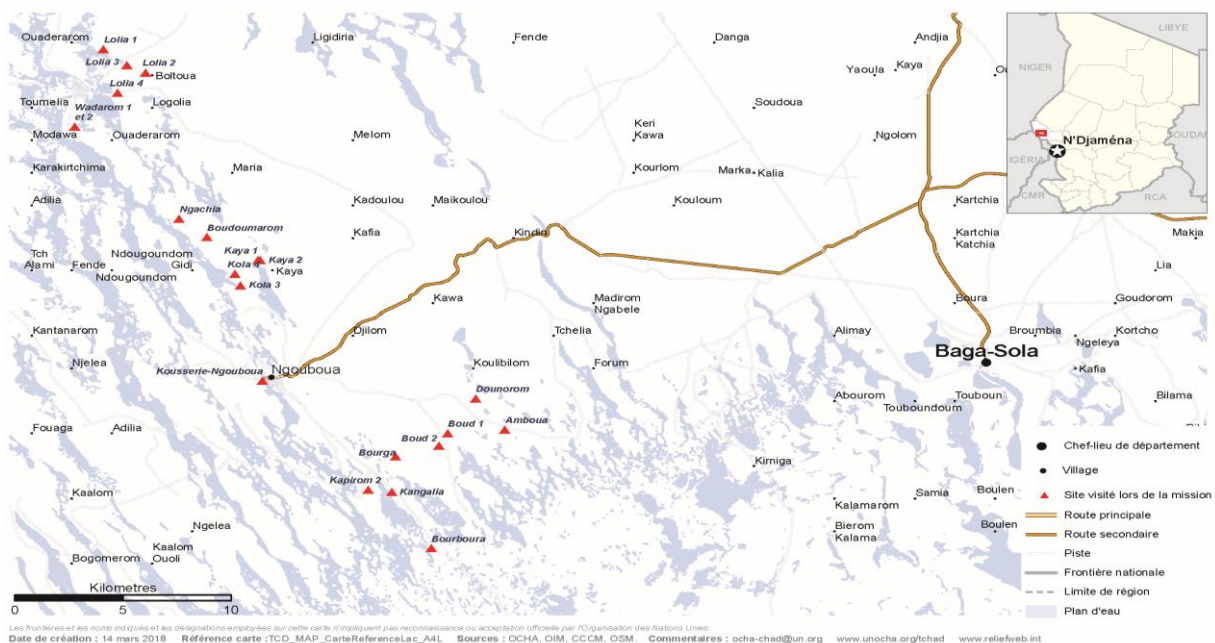
Situation Overview

The security situation is marked by the beginning of the joint military operation of the **Multinational Joint Taskforce** in the Lake Chad Basin, which is expected to take place mostly in Nigeria and last until the rainy season (June). Unlike previous operations, this joint operation will include aerial bombing and heavy artillery. This could lead to new population movements, limit humanitarian access and generate UXOs in areas where military operations take place.

According to the results of the humanitarian access survey, from October to December 2017, organizations responding to the survey state that their humanitarian interventions were moderately affected by insecurity and military operations, including 61% in Kaiga Kindjria sub-prefecture, and 65% in Ngouboua. Overall, this is an improvement compared to the third quarter of 2017, when a majority of organizations reported being heavily impacted. In general, the presence of humanitarian actors is still limited in some areas, such as Kaiga Kindjria and Tchoukoutalia.

A multi-sector assessment in Ngouboua sub-prefecture conducted from 6 to 7 February 2018 covered 20 sites hosting 9,015 people (2,523 households). This assessment is part of a series of assessments conducted since November 2017, following the identification by IOM of sites that have never been assessed. The [assessment in Ngouboua area](#) identified significant needs in food security, non-food items, health and education. **Eight priority sites have been identified:** Kola 3, Kola 4, Lolita 2, Kaya 1, Kaya 2, Boud 2, Boudoumarom and Kangalia.

Map of the sites visited during the multi-sector assessment (February 2018)



The fifth and last multi-sector assessment of this series was conducted from 27 to 29 March in **Kangalom islands**. Of the 13 sites and villages to be assessed, seven (Blarigui, Doubaba, Korodji, Farguimi, Tchongole, Barkaria 1 and Barkaria 2) were visited. The remaining six (Daal, Maday, Megra, Ridjibo, Ndjiguilia and Choua) were not assessed due to physical inaccessibility at a time when lake water levels are decreasing and shifting weeds are preventing smooth navigation in the water. Tchongole site was assessed by the REACH team who stayed in this area.

Following the finalization of this series of multi-sector assessments, a workshop was organized on 10 and 11 April, bringing together national cluster coordinators, regional sub-clusters, and regional state technical services, to analyze the results of these assessments, the response provided, and thus identify priority sites and needs not yet covered. Severity criteria were jointly defined and allowed for the revision of the severity level of each site and village according to the identified needs and the response provided. The needs quantified by sector are being finalized. This will strengthen the prioritization of the humanitarian response in the region as well as advocacy, in a context of low funding. A total of 95 sites were covered by the multi-sector assessments conducted between November 2017 and March 2018.

According to the [multi-sector assessment conducted by REACH](#) in November 2017, **the three main causes of displacement in the Lac region are insecurity, loss of livelihoods, and difficulties accessing food**. Food insecurity is therefore a major cause of displacement, resulting in secondary displacement to sites where humanitarian aid is available, as well as commuting and seasonal movements. Some of the sites visited by the mission were empty, thus confirming the dynamic of return to areas of origin, as well as the possibility that people commute between their land and the displacement sites depending on the agricultural season. Displacements occur mainly within the same sub-prefecture. Restrictions on the movement of goods and people continue to undermine access to livelihoods. Similarly, the fact that most IDPs live in the main sites limits access to land and leads to increased dependence on humanitarian assistance. For example, in 35% of the sites, IDPs report that they have no access to land, and food distributions are the main source of food in 62% of the sites. This can also lead to community tensions.

The REACH assessment also reveals that **access to basic services remains a major challenge for the entire population, whether displaced or not**: less than 30% of surveyed villages have a functioning primary school. Access to health care is limited by lack of transportation and the high cost of health care. Access to safe drinking water is also a challenge. A new assessment in return areas in islands south of Bol and in Kagalom was carried out in March/April and results are being finalized.

According to the results of the Harmonized Framework of March 2018, more than 159,000 people will be in “crisis” and “emergency” phases and will need emergency food assistance in the Lac region during the 2018 lean season (June-August). The food situation of more than 169,000 people will also be precarious. The situation has deteriorated compared to the 2017 lean season, during which 123,000 people were in “crisis” and “emergency” phases in the region.

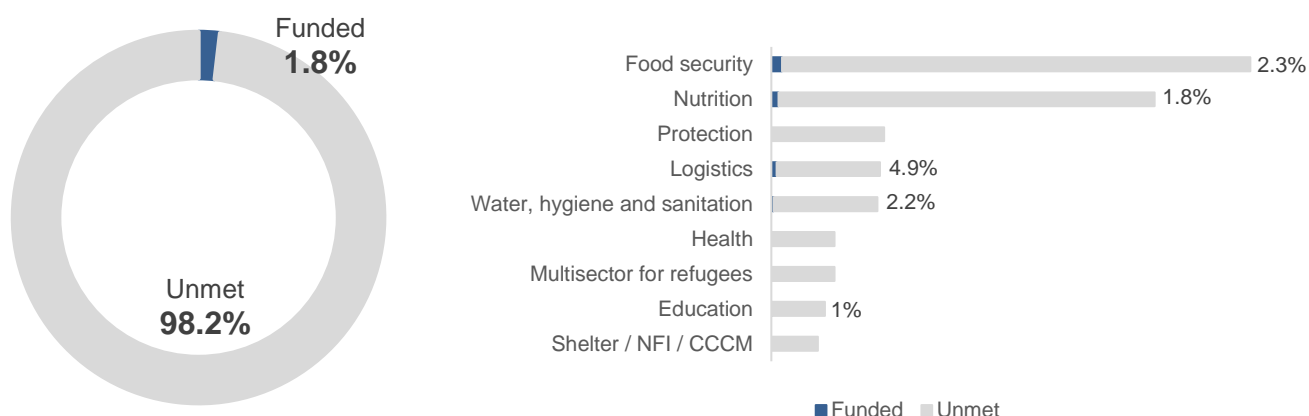
Fires are recurrent in the region, often related to fires lit in straw huts. On 11 April, a fire damaged a hut on Kafia site. On 8 March, a fire in Bah Boul village (7 km from Baga Sola) caused the death of a child and many material damages. In this context, it is necessary to sensitize communities to reduce the risks, to set up an early warning system and a preparedness strategy for this type of incidents as well as contingency stocks to support the victims of fires.

Funding

The [Lake Chad Basin Humanitarian Needs and Requirement Overview](#) identifies half a million people in need of humanitarian assistance in the Lac region of Chad. More than US \$ 179.4 million must be mobilized in 2018 for the humanitarian community to support the 353,000 most vulnerable people.

Cluster	Funding needs (USD)
Shelter/NFI/CCCM	5,907,641
Water, hygiene and sanitation	13,448,832
Education	6,766,604
Logistics	13,762,526
Nutrition	48,520,230
Multisector response for refugees	8,021,686
Protection	14,285,745
Health	8,021,730
Food security	60,669,362
Total	179,404,356

As of 19 April 2018, 1.8 per cent of the USD 179.4 million required in 2018 (USD 3.3 million received) for the response to the crisis in the Lac region of Chad have been covered.



All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

Humanitarian response (January and February 2018)



Shelter – Non-food items – CCCM (Coordination and management of IDPs sites – spontaneous sites and host villages)

Key figures on the response:

- Displacement tracking continues. According to the IOM report of February 2018, 142 locations were assessed (109 sites and 33 host villages) out of 202 identified.

Gaps, challenges and constraints:

- 30% of displacement sites have not yet been covered by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team.
- Lack of site profiles produced by the CCCM cluster.
- Underfunding of the DTM and the Shelter / NFI / CCCM Cluster.
- Multiplication of IDP sites in the Lac region following conflicts leading to the division of some sites and the search for assistance causing secondary movements. The situation has been more stable since the end of 2017.
- Lack of a biometric tool to guarantee identity during registrations.



Water, hygiene and sanitation

Key figures on the response:

- 32 boreholes were drilled in January and February 2018, resulting in a total of 341 boreholes out of an estimated need for 561 boreholes, promoting access to drinking water for 170,500 people (61 per cent water access rate in targeted sites and host villages).
- 603 latrines were built in January and February 2018, representing a cumulative total of 3,843 out of an estimated need of 11,579, representing a coverage rate of 33%.
- 4,382 hygiene kits were distributed in January and February 2018, for a total of 6,544 kits out of an estimated need of 53,907, representing a hygiene coverage rate of 12%.

61%

Rate of access to safe drinking water in targeted sites and host villages

Gaps, challenges and constraints:

- According to an IOM report from February 2018, 78 per cent of the sites (111 sites) do not have latrines. In sites with latrines, the ratio is 25 people per latrine. Despite the presence of latrines in some sites, they are little-used.
- According to a REACH multi-sector assessment from November 2017, Ngouboua sub-prefecture is the most precarious zone in terms of hygiene, with 92 per cent of the villages and 100 per cent of the sites where open-air defecation is reported.
- According to the same IOM report, regarding water quality, 51 per cent of the sites reported taste problems, 37 per cent reported problems related to cloudy water, 26 per cent problems linked to water drinkability, and 17 per cent problems of water odor. Twenty-six per cent of the sites reported no problem with water quality.


Education
Key figures on the response:

- 41,452 students in 181 schools received 29,072 textbooks in science, reading and mathematics in January 2018.
- In February 2018, in the areas of Bol and Baga Sola, 155 teachers and 170 members of the parents' associations of 85 schools of the Children of Peace project were trained in psychosocial support and risk management.
- 507 students benefited from WFP school meals in January, and 2,120 in February 2018.

176,000

Children in need of education in emergency

**Nutrition****Key figures on the response:**

- Treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM):
 - In February 2018, 2,773 children aged 6-59 months with SAM were treated in the Lac region.
 - In January 2018, 2,115 children aged 6-59 months with SAM were treated.
- Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM):
 - In February 2018, 1,134 pregnant and lactating women with MAM received nutritional supplements.
 - In January 2018, the treatment of acute malnutrition among children and pregnant or lactating women was suspended due to a break in the supply chain of nutritional supplements.
- Prevention of malnutrition:
 - In February 2018, 10,633 children aged 6-23 months benefited from nutritional supplements for the prevention of malnutrition in IDP sites.
 - In January 2018, 9,378 children aged 6-23 months benefited from nutritional supplements for the prevention of malnutrition in IDP sites.
- Results of malnutrition screenings conducted in January and February 2018:
 - In February, 409 children aged 6-59 months were screened, including 211 girls. The results show a prevalence of 2.44% (10 children) for SAM and 11.49% for MAM. There was no screening in January.
 - The table below presents the results of acute malnutrition screenings among children aged 6-23 months who are admitted in the program for the prevention of malnutrition in IDP sites. In January, 4 per cent suffered from malnutrition compared to 6 per cent in February. The slight increase in the proportion of children suffering from malnutrition in February 2018 is linked to the enrollment of children from new sites (whose nutritional situation is worrying) into the program to prevent malnutrition.

10,693

Children suffering from severe acute malnutrition in 2018

Month	Number of screened children	HEALTHY	GAM	MAM	SAM
January	7,892	96.29%	3.71%	3.09%	0.62%
February	6,383	94.27%	5.73%	4.89%	0.85%

Gaps, challenges and constraints:

- The multi-sector assessments that visited 95 sites have identified 56 sites in a worrying and critical situation based on the criteria validated by the health / nutrition sub-cluster and the national cluster (needs not covered or partially covered).
- Lack of funding leads to a lack of qualified human resources.


Protection / Community services
Key figures on the response:

- In January and February 2018, 144 protection incidents were reported, including violations of the right to property, violations of the right to life and physical integrity including sexual violence and violations of the right to freedom. Support provided to victims includes advocacy and referral of victims to the nearest health, humanitarian and legal facilities.
- In February 2018, 144 cases of gender-based violence (GBV) were reported; 28 per cent are cases of psychological violence, 26 per cent are physical assaults and 25 per cent are denials of resources. 95 per cent of survivors of GBV received psychosocial support, however only 24 per cent received medical support and 11 per cent legal support. In January 2018, 106 cases of GBV had been reported, including 33 per cent of physical assaults and 27 per cent of denials of resources. All survivors received psychosocial support, however only 20 per cent of those in need received medical support, and 3 per cent legal support.

144
Cases of gender-based violence reported in February 2018

Gaps, challenges and constraints:

- A major challenge to respond to humanitarian needs in the Lac region is the lack of reliable information on the risks and population movements. Physical access to some sites is another challenge due to security reasons and environmental conditions.
- Holistic care for victims is a persistent unmet need. The lack of legal support is linked to insufficient legal structures in the region, the lack of knowledge of the procedures by victims, and the fear of reprisals and stigmatization, which pushes victims to decline legal assistance.


Health
Key figures on the response:

- In February 2018, 6,338 people gained access to health care through support to health centers and mobile clinics, and 6,599 in January 2018. The most common pathologies were acute respiratory infections, malaria and diarrhea.
- 3,835 children were immunized against poliomyelitis, 3,568 children were given vitamin A and 3,498 children were de-wormed during the polio immunization campaign from 2 to 5 March 2018. The distribution of children by status (refugees, displaced people and host communities) is in the table below:

6,338
people had access to healthcare services in February 2018

Children	Polio	Vitamin A	Mebendazole
Refugees	1,269	1,148	1,148
IDPs	1,860	1,757	1,701
Host communities	706	663	649
Total children vaccinated	3,835	3,568	3,498

Gaps, challenges and constraints:

- There is a need to fund three mobile clinics in the 12 sites covered by the NGO IRC. To date, three mobile clinics are functional out of the six requested.
- Due to the civil servants' strike, activities were slowed down in health facilities.



Food security / Livelihoods

Key figures on the response:

- Food distributions:
 - In February 2018, food distributions reached 74,733 people, including 2,345 refugees and 72,388 internally displaced people.
 - In January 2018, food distributions reached 66,655 people, including 2,345 refugees and 64,310 internally displaced people.
- Cash transfers:
 - In February 2018, cash transfers reached 42,079 people, including 6,225 refugees and 35,854 displaced people.
 - In January 2018, cash transfers reached 40,927 people, including 6,189 refugees and 34,738 displaced people.
- Livelihoods:
 - In February 2018, livelihoods activities reached 6,282 people, including 1,724 people in host communities and 4,558 displaced people. They included distributions of agricultural equipment, seeds, and training.

116,812

People benefitting from food assistance in February 2018

Gaps, challenges and constraints:

- The completion of solar drilling for the start of market gardening activities has been delayed due to the breakdown of the drilling machine.
- Market gardening sites are not fenced and beneficiaries fear devastation by pests and other animals such as gazelles.
- Farmland is remote for some beneficiaries of market gardening projects. Women who return late because of distance are at risk of gender-based violence.
- There is a lack of all-purpose carriers for the transportation of garden products for remote sites.

Coordination

- **High-level visit:** On 26 and 27 February, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ursula Mueller visited Chad, including the Lac region on 27 February, to see first-hand the humanitarian consequences of the Lake Chad Basin crisis. She met with the Governor of the Lac region, affected populations (displaced and host) and the humanitarian and development partners operating in the region. At the end of her visit, [Ms. Mueller called for increased funding](#) to respond to the humanitarian and protection needs, as well as the implementation of durable solutions for people affected by the crisis in the Lac region.
- **Humanitarian and development nexus:** the regional authorities are preparing a security and development plan for the Lac region. The drafting process was officially launched on 6 April in Bol, under the direction of the Governor of the Lac region and with the participation of the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. Stephen Tull, the European Union and other partners. The visit to Kadoulou island, about ten kilometers from Bol, where displaced people have returned, underlined the necessity to include the areas of return in the development plan, with activities aiming to strengthen access to basic social services and livelihoods. A committee to develop the plan has been set up and the plan is expected by September.

Background on the crisis

Since early 2015, the Lac region has been severely affected by the impact of the Nigerian crisis. Ongoing military operations and security incidents (attacks on villages, cattle thefts, UXOs), particularly in border areas with Nigeria and Niger, resulted in the displacement of more than 130,000 people and affected already vulnerable local communities. The closure of borders with Nigeria, the establishment and prolongation of the state of emergency measures and the resulting movement restrictions have had a negative impact on livelihoods, increasing food insecurity and malnutrition. In a context of poor access to essential basic services (health, education, water), displacements increase pressure on existing structures.

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