

This report is produced by OCHA Nigeria in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period January to March 2020. The next report will be issued in June 2020.

OVERVIEW

Adamawa State continues to experience increased humanitarian needs driven by conflict, attacks by non-state armed groups (NSAGs), and inter-communal clashes. Insecurity continues to pervade the state with a series of armed attacks in communities around the fringes of the Sambisa forest by NSAGs. The growing insecurity continues to hamper access to vulnerable returnees in Michika, Madagali, and now some parts of Gombi LGAs that require much-needed relief and recovery assistance.

The Adamawa State Government is engaged in a process of merging two IDP camps; Malkohi and Fufore camps into one. This is intended to facilitate the ease of management of the camps due to a decrease in IDP population in the camps since many have returned back to their communities of origin or integrated into host communities. The merger will also allow Government agencies to use the IDP camps for their intended purpose, to create learning space.

The Adamawa State Government has been proactive in its preparedness and response efforts on COVID-19, with the establishment of a Preparedness Planning and Response Committee, led by the Secretary to the State Government (SSG) was appointed as Chairman of the committee. The state Ministry of Health in collaboration with WHO are supporting capacity building efforts among partners.



Security and Humanitarian Access

During the reporting period, attacks by NSAGs were recorded in Garkida community in Gombi LGA, and in Michika Town, leading to loss of lives and widespread destruction to property. Two people were killed in Garkida, while in Michika, the Chairperson of the Christian association was kidnapped. There were also reports of kidnapping incidents perpetrated by criminal gangs.

Populations living in areas controlled by NSAGs remain outside the reach of humanitarian assistance. Meanwhile, access to remote areas in northern Adamawa State, bordering southern Borno State also remains a challenge. This due to occasional infiltration and attacks by suspected NSAGs. Humanitarian access is also affected by the temporary restrictions put in place by the military on civilian movements and vital inputs, including the movement of agricultural inputs such as fertilizers. Humanitarian partners have also reported that military personnel based in Mubi have intimidated their field staff.

Internal Displacement/Population Movement

Since the last reporting period, the number of IDPs in Adamawa State has increased by 4 per cent from 196,888 to 204,691. The movement was triggered by the farmer herder conflict and insecurity as a result of the NSAG operations and ongoing military operations around the Sambisa forest. Most IDPs in the State have been displaced multiple times especially as a result of communal clashes. Some 11 per cent of IDPs in the State have said they have been displaced more than three times.

¹ IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix round 30 reports of December 2019.

Adamawa State still hosts the second-highest number of displaced persons in the north-east although most of them are living in host communities. Most IDPs in camps are originally from the southern part of Borno State (Gwoza, Bama, Gamburu, Ngala, Damboa and Dikwa LGAs).

COVID-19

As part of efforts to prevent, control and contain COVID-19 the state closed all public, private, primary, secondary and tertiary institution for a one-month recess subject to review. All public gatherings of more than 50 people has been banned. The State Government also set up temperature checks at the airport, parks and all entry points into Adamawa State. On 30 March 2020, the State Government imposed a lockdown for 14 days throughout the State to curb the spread of the virus.

UNICEF is developing a COVID-19 Education Contingency Plan to support the Adamawa State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) should the pandemic persist. This plan will be put into action by 27 April 2020 if schools, which are scheduled to reopen on that day, remain closed. The overall objectives for education interventions under this plan include: preventing the infection and transmission of amongst learners, teachers and non-teaching staff; continuing formal and non-formal education in the event of an ; providing uninterrupted education throughout a potential outbreak ; training and sensitizing all teachers, parents and community members on preventive measures; providing psychosocial support for learners, parents and community members; and coordinating the Education Sector response.

Localization

The Network of Adamawa National Non-Government Organization (NANGO), a Civil Society movement with well over 120 registered members, continues to play a crucial role in the state humanitarian and development response. During the reporting period, a number of its members were engaged in several projects across different sectors. In January 2020, project volunteers screened 9669 IDPs and Nomads, and amongst which 63 new TB cases and 4 cases were found to be HIV positive cases which have been linked to ART sites for treatment, care, and support. Despite the enormous contributions to the state response, Local actors continue to face funding shortfalls to carry out and sustain their intervention.

SECTORAL SITUATION ANALYSIS



CCCM

Sector partners, in collaboration with SEMA and NEMA responded to the needs of the 12,000 IDPs in formal and informal camps, as well as host communities. The Sector carried out fire sensitization campaigns in all 24 camps across Adamawa State. Moreover, partners carried out mass campaigns to counter human trafficking in collaboration with the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) in all the formal and informal camps and host communities; more than 4,000 individuals were reached. Partners assessed shelter needs in Malkohi village and Wuro Yanka of Yola South LGA, and held a CCCM capacity building training for State officials and civil society organizations.



Education

13-24 January, UNICEF carried out a school enrolment drive, which found that 272,442 children across five LGAs in Adamawa State are not enrolled in school. Consequently, a total of 69,125 (32,182- girls and 26,943 boys) were enrolled into 456 primary schools across Fufore, Girei, Guyuk, Mubi North and Yola South LGAs. Partners assessed a total of 41 schools in Fufore LGA and 40 schools in Guyuk LGA for rehabilitation and construction of additional learning spaces. Partners have assessed a total of 41 schools in Fufore LGA and 40 schools in Guyuk LGA for rehabilitation and construction of additional learning spaces. The Adamawa State Universal Basic Education Board (ADSUBEB) conducted School Record Keeping (SRK) Training across seven LGAs targeting 1,301 head teachers of whom 203 were women. A key sector partner distributed school supplies through the Adamawa State Universal Basic Education Board (ADSUBEB) to 98,320 learners in Fufore, Guyuk, Girei, Mubi North and Yola South LGAs of Adamawa State. A total of 202, 817 pupils were targeted to benefit in the five LGAs. Mubi North and Yola south LGAs have completed their distribution as planned, providing learning materials to 27,672 pupils (14,351 girls and 13,321 boys)

and teaching materials to 692 teachers (183 women and 509 men) in Mubi North LGA. In Yola South LGA, 34,475 pupils (17,552 girls and 16,923 boys) received learning materials and 964 teachers (483 women and 481 men) received teaching materials.



Food Security and Livelihood

Access to timely food assistance remains a major challenge, this has led to riots by IDPs. On 26 February, IDPs in Fufore camp staged a protest due to the inconsistent supply of food. IDPs had not been given assistance in four months. While the matter was addressed, there is need for enhanced advocacy with the State.



Protection

Protection partners are implementing a number of activities to ensure a protective environment for the affected population through advocacy efforts and other services. Between December 2019 to February 2020, 48 Children (29 Girls, 19 Boys) who were resettled into Adamawa communities from Borno transit center have been supported with economic reintegration support. Other children supported include unaccompanied and separated children 76 (35 girls, 41 Boys) and other children at risk 94 (41 Girls, 53 Boys). The implementation of EU-UN spotlight Initiative on ending Violence against Women and Girls is supporting social mobilisation efforts at the community aimed at promoting behavioral change in addressing harmful practices such as child marriage, capacity building for police, judges and social workers. The primary prevention efforts are complementing the response activities by GBV partners.



WASH

WASH Sector partners in Adamawa State have continued to support communities and IDPs camps with access to safe drinking water, improving sanitation and promoting hygiene. Most of the activities are follow-up and monitoring exercises to ensure that that facilities and hygiene practices are maintained. In February 2020, the WASH Sector in collaboration with the health sector developed the first-ever State-wide Cholera Contingency Plan to support prevention, control and mitigation of any potential cholera outbreak. Also in February 2020, the WASH Sector was able to dislodge all the filled-up latrines in IDPs camps and host communities, thereby increasing access to safe sanitation facilities. The WASH Sector is presently sensitizing people on the prevention and control of malaria and cholera in communities of Girei and Song LGAs. These activities are funded with support from the 2019 Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF). Two WASH Sector partners (NRC and Tearfund) are resuming their activities in Adamawa State, which will help increase coverage for the crisis-affected population in need of WASH facilities and services. However, the Sector is still facing challenges due to lack of funding.



Coordination

The Adamawa State House of Assembly has passed a bill for the establishment of the State Agency for humanitarian and development affairs in an attempt to enhance coordination between Humanitarian and Development actors. The purpose and objectives of the agency are to coordinate projects and programs for reconstruction, rehabilitation, resettlement, and sustainable development of affected communities, amongst other functions. Efforts are being made to strengthen linkages with the ISWG in Maiduguri to ensure greater coherence and visibility of the activities in Adamawa.

HUMANITARIAN/DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

The relatively stable security environment and access opportunities across most of Adamawa State provides unique opportunities humanitarian and development actors to rollout pilot humanitarian and development nexus programmes. Some partners in the state have adjusted their programs to implement both humanitarian and development interventions. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), with established presence in Mubi North and Mubi South LGAs, has reestablished presence in Yola, from whence it will be implementing activities in Yola North, Yola South, Numan, Demsa, parts of Girei and possibly Fufore LGAs. The expanded operations will implement projects in WaSH, Shelter, and Information Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA). The ICLA program will aim to enable people affected by displacement (IDPs, Returnees, and Host Communities) to claim and exercise their rights and find lasting solutions and also prevent further movement to those at risk.

The state ICLA program will focus on two thematic areas, which are Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) and Legal and Civil Documentation (LCD). This is done via the following activities: Information sharing, counseling, training, and Legal Assistance. Meanwhile, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), has distributed unconditional cash grants to the Very Poor and Poor Categories every month over the reporting period to 5,152 households funded by FFP-USAID.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Strengthening information management and analysis to the state humanitarian Sectors:** To strengthen programming and delivery to meet growing needs and ensure accountability to affected people effectively, the state humanitarian sectors need to continue to develop a strong evidence base for interventions, with solid analysis. This will require strong coordination between Bay state sector coordinator and their Adamawa state sector counterparts, and joint information management and seamless information exchange and collection.
- **Enabling relief-recovery and transition:** Efforts to strengthen the humanitarian and development nexus remain challenged by the need for change in attitudes and systems by humanitarian and development actors. There is a need for the state humanitarian operations to be connected with recovery and development efforts, which will ultimately reduce humanitarian caseloads over time. This will mean operationalizing a clear vision and strategy, and establishing systems that enable humanitarian-development coherence, supported by joint gap analysis and programming.
- **Promoting localization:** The state has a formidable civil society network know as Network of Adamawa state National Non-Governmental Organization (NANGO). This local entity needs to be strengthened by building on partnerships with international actors to support training, access to information, financing that will enhance community resilience and capacities on the ground.
- **Assistance in livelihoods** (seeds, fertilizers, etc.), preferably in the form of cash transfers assistance since most of the IDPs in informal settlements have access to land from the host communities.

HUMANITARIAN PRESENCE/3WS

