



Insecurity in the Lake Chad Basin – Regional Impact

Situation Report #24

31 March 2017

In Numbers (OCHA's 7 March update)

- 10.7m** people affected
- 4** countries affected
- 2.4m** people displaced
- 7.1m** people in need of food assistance

(An estimated 50,000 will face famine in north-east Nigeria during the lean season, June-August)

Highlights

- The scaling-up of military operations across all affected countries has resulted in further forced displacement. Spontaneous returns have also been observed in recently accessible localities, although the humanitarian situation remains critical.
- Limited food stocks will be depleted earlier than usual while prices of main staples will remain significantly above-average, limiting purchasing power through the lean season. Vulnerable households in the Lake Chad region will be worst affected.

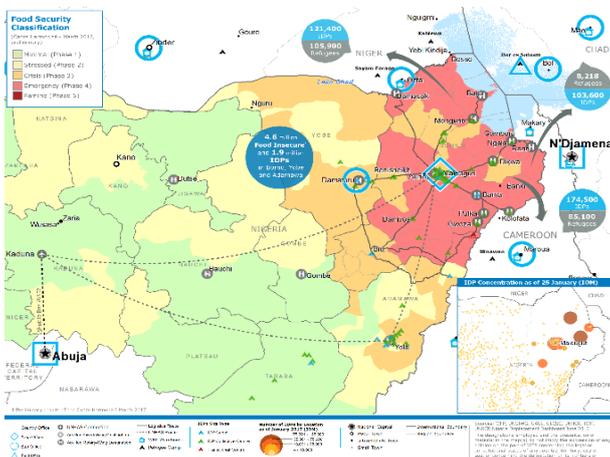
1.9 million People assisted* (see 2nd page)
March 2017

GENDER MARKER 2A EMOP 200777

Global Humanitarian Funding (USD) **Overall: 1.5 billion¹**
WFP share²: 584.5 million

WFP 6-month Net Funding³ Requirements USD 257 million

EMOP 200777	USD 584.5 million
Food Security Cluster*	USD 645 million
Logistics Cluster*	USD 12.2 million
ETC Cluster*	USD 5.8 million



Situation Update

- According to OCHA's 7 March update on the crisis, 10.7 million people across the Lake Chad Basin need humanitarian assistance, including 2.4 million displaced people and 7.1 million people who are severely food insecure. Famine-like conditions have been reported in parts of Borno State, Nigeria.
- Over the past few months an improved security situation has enabled the United Nations and its partners to get a stronger appreciation of the humanitarian situation.
- Ongoing Multi-National Joint Taskforce (MNJTF) operations at the border between Niger and Nigeria are triggering waves of displacement and have elevated the exposure to protection risks.
- The Lake Chad Basin humanitarian emergency is becoming the most acute food and nutritional crisis in Africa, but it has been largely overlooked outside of the region. Recent high-level efforts have however sought to change that. The Oslo Humanitarian Conference on Nigeria and the Lake Chad Region on 24 February mobilized greater international attention, raising 672 million by international donors over the next three years. From 1–7 March, a UN Security Council delegation travelled to the Lac Region to assess the situation.

WFP Response

- In an effort to improve the operational response in the Lake Chad Basin, two regional meetings were organized with ICRC on 7 March and UNHCR on 8, to exchange on good practices, find practical solutions to commonly identified challenges, and identify new synergies and opportunities.
- WFP successfully achieved the rapid scale up of food assistance in **Nigeria**, using the most appropriate and context-specific types of assistance and delivery

¹ 2017 Humanitarian needs and requirement overview.
² Total approved for 2017 is \$22 million + 62.5 million through a budget revision (for Nigeria only) which has not been approved yet.

** Funding requirements by cluster
³ March-August 2017

mechanisms to address the needs. WFP will be targeting over 1.3 million people in April, expanding its food assistance to Adamawa State in line with the findings of the March *Cadre Harmonisé* which estimates that 4.7 million people are food insecure in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States (3-5 phases). This number is expected to increase to 5.2 million, between June and August and an estimated 50,000 people would experience famine-like conditions during the lean season.

- In **Chad**, the March *Cadre Harmonisé* estimated 367,200 people to be in phase 3 (Crisis) and 13,100 in phase 4 (Emergency) between March and May. These figures are expected to increase to 861,300 and 36,115 respectively, between June and August. WFP is scaling up assistance through cash transfers and voucher distributions to provide affected communities with sustainable solutions.
- In **Niger**, assistance is being provided to an increasing number of refugees in and out of camps, returnees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host populations affected by the insecurity in Northeast Nigeria.
- In **Cameroon**, WFP scaled up food assistance from 113,000 to 140,000 IDPs. WFP expects to reach 70 percent of the identified IDP population, while coordinating with ICRC to ensure synergy and further maximize coverage of the humanitarian needs. In April, WFP will introduce an emergency school meals programme for 80,000 children in the Boko Haram affected areas.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- In addition to maintaining in-kind food distributions and nutrition interventions across the four countries, WFP is scaling cash-based assistance in areas where markets are accessible and functioning or responsive to cash injection. Market assessments in these countries have confirmed possibilities of cash-based transfers and highlighted the positive effects of the cash injection as traditionally livelihoods in the region are based on trade and market activities. School meals initiatives were also implemented in Chad and Niger.
- In both Borno and Yobe States in **Nigeria**, 1.2 million people (90 percent of the plan) were assisted through the various assistance modalities with over 17,869 mt (this represents a 10 percent increase compared to February 2017 and a 50 percent increase compared to January 2017) distributed and USD 4.1 million disbursed (cash transfers increased by 50 percent compared to February 2017 and by 10 percent compared to January 2017). This makes the fourth consecutive month since December 2016 that WFP provided assistance to over 1 million in the Northeast.
- In **Chad**, WFP provided food assistance combined with blanket supplementary feeding for children aged 6-23 months to 102,500 IDPs and 6,400 refugees from Nigeria in 51 settlement sites. Among them, 46,600 people received their entitlements through cash-based transfer. In addition, WFP distributed cash to 2,650 IDPs living in Kaya using SCOPECARDS for biometric authentication of the recipient's identity. A total of 22,000 children from IDPs and host communities also

received school meals and take-home rations were distributed to 570 girls.

- In **Niger** WFP provided food assistance to 187,000 people through in-kind and cash transfers in Diffa.



Supply Chain

- The recently established logistics hub in Kano (Nigeria) has been receiving food as of 31 March. The hub will provide an aggregation point for the regional pre-positioning of goods over the lean season and allow WFP to better access locally or regionally procured commodities, ultimately reducing lead times.

Clusters and Common Services



Food Security Cluster

- In March, food security actors participated in a Rapid Response Mechanism workshop in Diffa to include food assistance in the response to sudden displacements.
- In anticipation of the early onset lean season in Nigeria, sector partners have been sharing their planned activities to ensure better coordination and harmonise food and livelihood assistance in the coming months.



Logistics Cluster

- The **Logistics Sector** currently supports 45 humanitarian organizations in Nigeria and since November 2016, facilitated 1,695 truck movements carrying relief cargo on behalf of 11 organizations.



Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

- The **Emergency Telecommunications Sector** continues to provide internet services to humanitarian actors at the International Humanitarian Partnership base camp in Maiduguri and plans to support hubs as they open.



UN Humanitarian Air Service

- The international airport in Abuja in **Nigeria** closed on 8 March for a period of 6 weeks in order to conduct urgently required repairs. UNHAS transferred its operations to Kaduna and continues to serve Yola and Maiduguri regularly.
- UNHAS **Chad** provides flights between N'Djamena and Bol three days a week but the humanitarian community has expressed the need for a connection to be added between N'Djamena and Baga Sola to allow a faster access to the implementation sites in Baga Sola. An existing airstrip site has been identified though requires rehabilitation at a cost of USD 1 million before being serviceable.
- UNHAS continues to provide air transport services to the humanitarian community in all five regions of **Niger**. In March, UNHAS transported 1,521 passengers and 2,637 mt of cargo.
- On 13 March, UNHAS in **Cameroon** held its first steering committee meeting which validated a fleet review to replace the current 19-seater aircraft to a 37-seater in order to meet the increased demand.

WFP Operation

	2017 Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (March-August) (in USD)	People Assisted* (March 2017)	Female	Male
EMOP 200777 TOTAL (until December 2017)	584.5 million	99 million	257 million	1.9 million	n/a	n/a

** Figures are estimates and will be updated as country offices receive cooperating partners' reports.



Contacts

WFP Regional Bureau, Dakar, Senegal: +221 33 859 65 00

Margot van der Velden, Deputy Regional Director

Hae-Won Park, Regional IM and Reports Officer

Elizabeth Bryant, Regional Communications Officer