Insecurity in northern Nigeria — Regional Impact

Resourcing Situation

- WFP requires USD 50 million to respond to this crisis over the next six months. Without immediate funds WFP will be unable to scale-up its assistance. In the past, inability to cover food needs of IDPs in Far North Cameroon resulted in a peak in severe food insecurity among the group.

In numbers

- **WFP** launched UNHAS in Nigeria in August. As of 06 November, UNHAS Nigeria has carried over 800 passengers from 27 different organizations, and 3.5 mt of cargo.

**WFP**

Resourcing Situation

- WFP continues its provision of United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) to ensure access, and safe and reliable air transport services to the humanitarian community across Chad, Niger and Nigeria. In October, UNHAS obtained government clearance to operate in Northern Cameroon for an initial three months.

**Highlights**

- As the tensions in northern Nigeria continue, the displacement of populations remains ongoing, greatly impacting the ability of border countries to cope with the crisis.

- In the areas worst affected by the crisis, rates of malnutrition among children under five surpass the World Health Organization’s emergency threshold.

- In September, WFP reached over 340,000 food insecure people in the Lake Chad Basin, however continued insecurity is making it difficult and costly for WFP to provide life-saving assistance to the people who need it most. Without additional funds WFP will be unable to scale-up its assistance to meet increasing needs.

**Situation Update**

- Food plays a critical role in mitigating tensions in this type of volatile context, wherein an already vulnerable host population is facing the burden of a population influx combined with a reduction of their own services and livelihoods.

- Intense military activity across the region has disrupted trade and other income generating activities, laying the ground for an economic crisis which will further compound the humanitarian situation.

- The crisis has exacerbated the food insecurity of internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, returnees, and has greatly impacted the coping strategies of local populations.

- In September, WFP provided life-saving food rations to over 340,000 people in the worst-affected areas of Cameroon, Chad, and Niger; achieving 68 percent of the month’s target as insecurity continues to hinder access to many beneficiaries.

- WFP is also providing specialized nutrition products in an effort to stabilise the worsening nutrition situation of the most vulnerable groups. To date, more than 42,000 malnourished children and mothers have been assisted.
WFP Response

As the tensions in northern Nigeria continue, and the displacement of populations remains ongoing, border countries continue to support refugees, returnees, vulnerable host-populations and IDPs affected by the crisis. WFP is providing life-saving food assistance to the most vulnerable and food insecure populations in the affected areas of Cameroon, Chad and Niger. In Nigeria, WFP is working alongside the government and its national and state emergency agencies, to reinforce their technical and operational capacity, strengthen food security monitoring through mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM), and providing access to affected states via UNHAS.

Cameroon

• In Northern Cameroon, reports indicate a significant deterioration in food security, mainly due to disrupted farming activities, affecting one in every three households.
• On 16 October, a first round of food assistance was made available to a group of 10,000 newly identified IDPs in Kousseri. High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) are being prepositioned in the Minawao camp to serve the urgent needs of some 2,200 newly arrived refugees at the camp.
• To help stabilise the deteriorating nutritional status of the most vulnerable groups, nutrition-specific interventions started on 26 October in Minawao, targeting 7,000 children. Currently, 11,000 women and children are enrolled in the malnutrition treatment programme.
• WFP is piloting a three-month mVAM project from November to ensure consistent food security monitoring in the remote northern areas.

Chad

• Local livelihoods are greatly impacted by civilian deaths, displacement, as well as disruption to trade and local farming. Meanwhile, livestock mortality is rising making access to food increasingly difficult for these primarily pastoral communities. Additionally, inflation is further compounding the loss of purchasing power.
• A significant deterioration in food security was observed not only in Chad’s Lake region but also in neighbouring Bahr El Gazal and Kanem regions.

Niger

• Due to insecurity related movement restrictions, the export of fish, livestock and cash crops has been banned in the Diffa region. Although market prices are relatively stable thus far, increases are anticipated given the growing demand caused by the population influx, combined with concerns about the quality of the upcoming harvest in Diffa. This in turn will start to negatively affect both refugee and host community food security. Not only is there an acute humanitarian crisis but an impending economic crisis that will make it exceedingly difficult for recovery efforts.
• Distributions to refugees and displaced populations in the Sayam Forage and Kablewa camps through NGO partners continue, as do nutrition interventions for children aged 6-59 months.
• WFP maintains its nutrition support to patients of pilot mobile clinics ran by partner Médecins Sans Frontières. The pilot’s objective is to improve the nutritional situation of the population living in remote areas through mobile clinics that provide preventive care and malnutrition treatment. The fifth tour of the clinics ended on 10 October, and covered roughly 100 locations in the municipalities of Fouliatou, Goudoumaria, and N’Guelbely.

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WFP Operations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>WFP Operations</th>
<th>Planned no. of people</th>
<th>Total requirements (USD)</th>
<th>Total received (USD)</th>
<th>Shortfall (%)</th>
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Contacts

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