

CAMEROON

AGREEMENT ON VOLUNTARY REFUGEE RETURN SIGNED

The Governments of Cameroon and Nigeria together with UNHCR on 2 March signed a tripartite agreement on the voluntary repatriation of Nigerian refugees in Cameroon. The parties agreed to provide people wishing to return with clear information on the situation prevailing in their areas of return, particularly in Nigerian north-eastern states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe to allow them make well-informed and voluntary decisions. This includes, among others, information on the security and economic situation as well as access to basic services. More than 85,000 Nigerians have sought refuge in Cameroon's Far North Region.

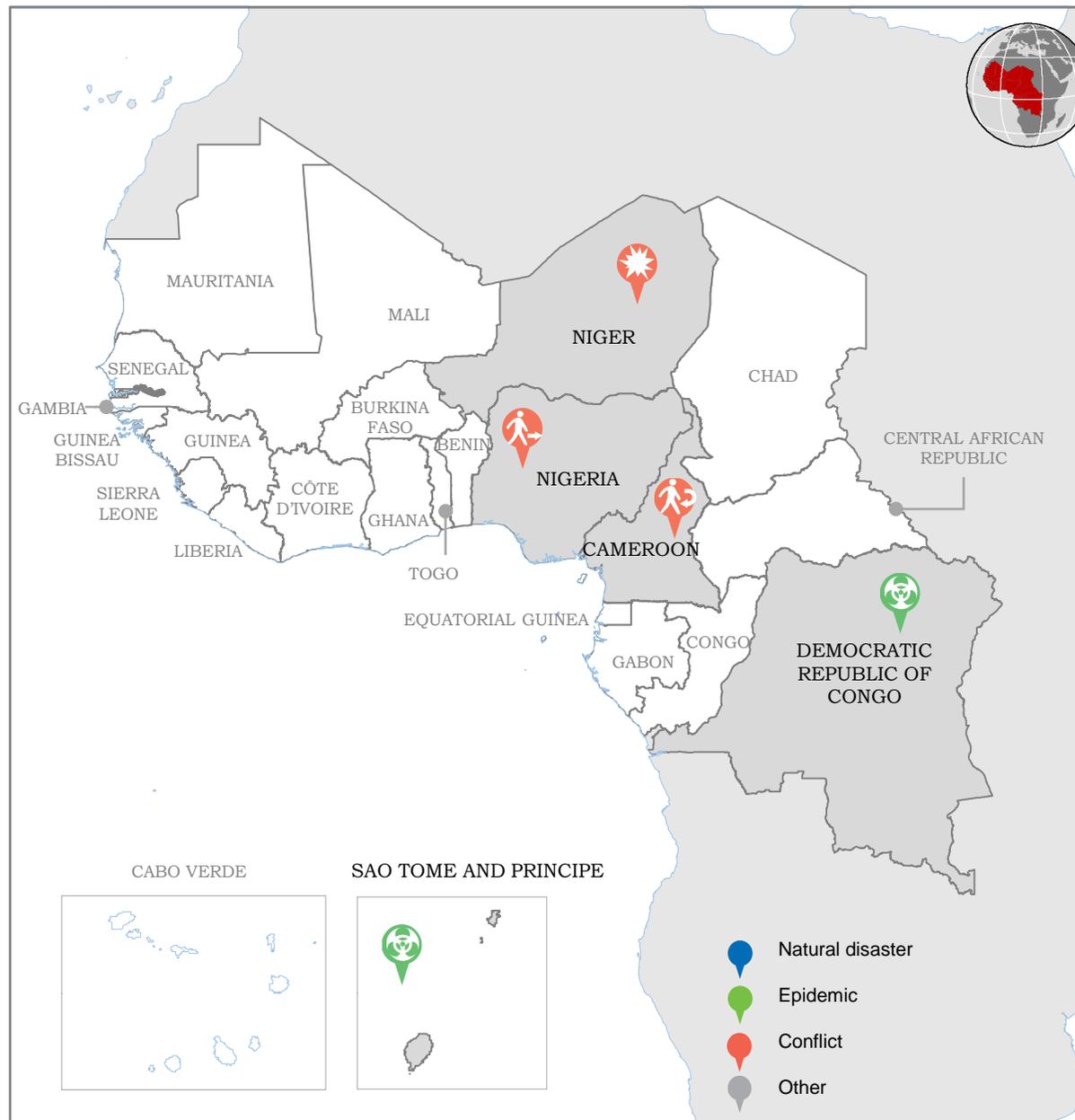
DR CONGO

OVER 280 MEASLES CASES RECORDED IN TANGANYIKA

Between 20 and 26 February, 288 cases of measles were recorded in the south-eastern Tanganyika province. They include 84 cases and 40 deaths among internally displaced people from the Twa community in Kansimba health district. An international NGO is running mobile clinics to attend to cases and offer primary healthcare. A vaccination campaign is being planned for the entire province.

PESTS DESTROY OVER 50,000 HECTARES OF CROP

Insects commonly known as whiteflies have ravaged more than 50,000 hectares of crop in Kailo, Kasongo, Kibombo and Pangi areas in the eastern Maniema province. Around 60 per cent of farmers have been affected by the destruction. Food scarcity could worsen in Kailo and Kibombo areas where residents are facing "emergency" levels of food insecurity. Moderate acute malnutrition in Kailo is already over 17 per cent.



NIGER

STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED IN BORDER REGIONS

The Government on 3 March declared a state of emergency in seven departments in the western Tillabery and Tahoua regions bordering Mali in the wake of attacks in recent months by armed assailants suspected to be from northern Mali. In February, 16 Nigerien soldiers were killed and 18 others wounded in an attack in Tillabery. In October 2016, a site hosting Malian refugees in Tahoua was ambushed and 22 soldiers killed. More than 547,000 people, or about 29 per cent of people in need of humanitarian assistance in the country, require humanitarian aid in Tillabery and Tahoua.

NIGERIA

SPATE OF ATTACKS TRIGGER DISPLACEMENTS

Boko Haram gunmen on 1 March waylaid vehicles heading to a local market in Askira district of Chibok locality in the north-eastern Borno state. They stole one vehicle and injured one person. The incident is the latest in a string of attacks targeting civilians in newly accessible areas of Borno. Some 4,500 people have fled their communities since 25 February in Chibok, according to IOM. Similar attacks have occurred in other newly accessible areas including Ngala, Dikwa, and Damboa.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE FOR NECROTIZING CELLULITIS

WHO has activated Grade 2 emergency response to an outbreak of necrotizing cellulitis - an acute skin infection - that has affected 1,331 people since September 2016. Grade 2 emergency entails moderate operational response primarily in the form of technical assistance and deployment of a multidisciplinary team. No deaths directly attributable to the outbreak have been reported so far. Its cause and mode of transmission remain unknown.