



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

# A Report on Rapid Shelter Needs Assessment in Baga, Kukawa LGA



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## **1. Introduction:**

As of 31 December 2016, the Shelter team of IOM Maiduguri undertaken a preliminary and general shelter assessment in Baga. The assessment conducted by the team follows an approach to work based on age, gender and socio-cultural diversity present in the displacement sites. This assessment should eventually contribute to a better information and documentation of all stakeholders on the impact of interventions and responses to the affected population, the gap identified, prospects and action to follow up in conjunction with the beneficiaries. The main sectors and Items addressed during this assessment are related to aspects of emergency shelter and WASH.

The ongoing and potential influx of IDPs into Baga town from the shores of Lake Chad and surrounding areas would see an increased need for humanitarian aid, particularly in the sectors of Shelter, where gaps are to be identified by the sectors.

## **2. Objectives:**

The objectives of the assessment are to:

- Identify the emergency Shelter needs and gaps for the most vulnerable IDPs within Baga town;
- Serve as basis for more in-depth Shelter assessment and further project design.

## **3. Methodology:**

Data collection in the field was carried out through key informant interviews, and field observations together with IDPs in Baga.

- Visit of infrastructures (direct observation)
- Discussion with IDP representatives
- Discussion with military commander
- Debriefing

### **3.1 Key Informant Interviews:**

The key informant (KI) interviews were carried out on 31 December 2016. KI interviews were conducted with IDPs within the displaced area, each representing a different cluster of households. The interviewees were selected according to their availability. All IDPs interviewed had been living in the area for a sustained period of time. The majority of those interviewed were men. The average size of families consisted of 5 persons.

### **3.2 Field Observation:**

The team also made random observations to assess the general living conditions and availability of space for shelter construction.

### **3.3 Limitations:**

The current situation of IDPs is very volatile, with many new IDPs coming and predicted to arrive to Baga in near future. The total number of IDPs is likely to have increased citing the need to provide enough shelters.

## **4. Key Findings:**

- Baga is a town in the northern Borno approximately 196km from Maiduguri and close to Lake Chad. It is located within the Kukawa Local Government Area. Town Coordinates: *13.094N 13.821E*.
- IDPs are living mostly in the host community in Baga town occupying homes of people who fled away during the peak of the insurgency. The IDPs who are residing in the host community are estimated to be 7200 and these comprise 1440 families.
- There are 700 IDPs comprising 140 families who are currently living in Baga Central Primary school. This is a collective centre where IDPs are living in overcrowded conditions in school buildings.
- The IDPs have maintained their traditional leadership structures (Bulamas) which continue to liaise with the Nigerian army on matters of concern for both parties. The Nigerian army is the one administering and managing the affairs of the displaced population.
- The assessment team visited the "Doron Baga" ward, where quite significant number of severely damaged buildings were found. Damages were widely distributed across the ward, with multiple clusters of near total building destruction. Virtually all building damages exhibit signatures fully consistent with fire, including the presence of burn scars, destroyed trees as well as intact load-bearing walls without a roof.



*Destroyed buildings in “Doron Baga”*

- All the affected population from Doron Baga are displaced to Baga town and living inside the school and empty buildings where they have been given a notice to vacate the buildings as soon as possible.
- There is no official camp in Baga town. However, 700 IDPs (140 households) are living in camp like settlement in addition to over 7,000 IDPs in the host communities. The assessment team has quickly gathered information on the approximate number of IDPs living in Baga.

No.	Location	No. of Individuals	No. of Households
1.	Central Primary School	700	140
2.	Host communities	7,200	1,440
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7,900</b>	<b>1,580</b>



*IDPs living inside Central Primary School, Baga*

- There are numerous gaps in assistance and services to the IDPs. IDPs have limited access to water, sanitary facilities, food, NFI, education, health and shelter. There is also need for psycho social support services for the displaced population.
- Overall, the shelter need in Baga is immense. IDPs located inside the school as well as those in host community areas both require immediate shelter assistance.
- To date, no humanitarian agencies have provided shelters, NFI and WASH facilities in Baga town.
- The current structural capacity of the Baga Primary School is not able to contain all the IDPs. Multiple families are living inside one shelter. The newcomers do not always manage to find spaces where to stay; especially families of more than 5 people. The population level requires urgent action with the construction of additional shelters and the provision of sanitation facilities.
- There is an open space available inside the National Inland Waterways Authority compound to build the new shelters for IDPs. This location has the area of approx. 63,541 square meter where approximately 500 Bama model shelters can be built.



*Open Space for New Shelters in National Inland Waterways Authority Compound*

- Households reported a priority need for emergency shelter, including tarpaulins, and timber frames, NFIs and adequate WASH facilities.

## 5. Recommendations:

- The assessment revealed that the IDPs have limited access to shelter and WASH facilities. There is a significant disparity between the existing living standards of the IDP population in Baga and the Sphere standards, which requires an immediate and comprehensive action.
- Given that, Baga should be prioritized to address assessed needs and conduct further in-depth assessments in areas that could not be performed in this assessment.
- IOM has to provide a comprehensive package of assistance to the IDPs in Baga Town within its portfolio of assistance. This includes NFIs, Shelter, Psychosocial Support and WASH.
- Other assistance needs such as Health and Education need to be referred to other organisations.
- IOM has to liaise with NEMA and SEMA on the immediate opening of a new camp in Baga town using the identified available land. This can provide a great relief to the shelter less IDPs.
- There is need for camp management support in Baga Town, even if a camp is not opened. This support will target the IDPs living in the host community as well as the ones at Baga Central Primary School. IOM will need to assist the IDPs to have representative IDP leadership structures. There will be a need to improve coordination of humanitarian actors as soon as more assistance will start trickling in. There is need to collect multi sector data to be used in advocating for the needs of the displaced population.
- The need to move in with Psycho Social Support activities in Baga town is urgent. This will assist the traumatised segment of the population to cope with the effects of the crisis.
- As soon as the Nigerian army lifts the temporary ban on commercial activities in Baga Town, livelihood assistance need be considered as well.
- Based on assessment findings in relation to shelter, it is recommended that the following interventions may be considered to facilitate the provision and improved accessibility of shelters and WASH facilities to the IDPs:
  - Construction of 1,000 emergency shelters (Bama model) as per the availability of land/s.
  - Construction of temporary VIP latrines and bathing facilities, which will help mitigate health risks and prevent and control disease outbreaks and epidemics.
  - Provision of boreholes for safe drinking water.

- Provision of NFI kits. There is an urgent need for standard NFI kits including clothes and shoes to protect the population against diseases and the risk of epidemics.