

In this issue

[Northeast Nigeria: 2013 in Review](#) P.1

[Humanitarian Needs Overview](#) P.2

[ECHO's Humanitarian Implementation Plan](#) P.3

[Funding Update](#) P.4



HIGHLIGHTS

- An estimated 1,224 civilians, insurgents and military personnel killed in some 48 Boko Haram-related attacks since the state of emergency was declared in May 2013.
- An estimated 2,882 cholera cases reported in Nigeria this year, about eight times more than this time last year.
- ECHO commits USD\$10.3 million for its Humanitarian Implementation Plan for Nigeria in 2014.

KEY FIGURES IN THIS EDITION

Nb. of reported cholera cases from Jan-Nov 2013

2,882

Nb. of deaths

145

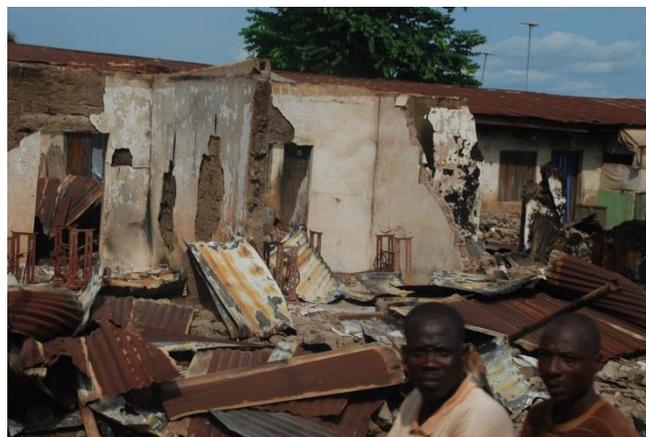
Nb. of states with confirmed cholera cases

16

Source:
UNICEF/WHO

Northeast Nigeria: 2013 in Review

Six million affected, 1,224 killed by Boko Haram related attacks



Damage in Borno State assessed in a Joint Assessment Mission to the Northeast

The humanitarian situation in northeast Nigeria has been increasingly worrisome over the course of 2013 due to violent attacks by the militant armed group, Boko Haram, and ongoing counter-insurgency operations in the region. Since May 2013, the Government of Nigeria has imposed a State of Emergency (SOE) in the three northeast states of Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa.

In November, the SOE was extended for another six months. A Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) conducted in September by national authorities, the UN and the Nigerian Red Cross, reported that of the 11 million Nigerians living in the SOE states, up to six million have been affected by the insecurity, four million of whom live in Borno State.

Heavy toll on civilian population

Since the SOE became effective, some 1,224 people have been killed in Boko Haram related attacks in the SOE states. The total number of injured people is unknown. The most recent attack was on 2 December when Boko Haram militants attacked a Nigerian military airbase, prompting a 24-hour curfew and a total ban on movements in Maiduguri (Borno State) with no air traffic permitted within or out of Borno state. The worst period of attacks in the past six months was in September when a reported 491 persons (civilians/insurgents/military) were killed in nine attacks.

In November, media sources reported that Boko Haram members had begun abducting Christian women, converting them to Islam and then forcing them to marry Boko Haram fighters. Also in November, Human Rights Watch published a report highlighting the recruitment of child soldiers as young as 12 years old by Boko Haram and the appalling conditions of detention of those arrested by security forces. These groups add to a growing list of Boko Haram soft targets,

FUNDING OF THE SAHEL STRATEGY

2013:
USD\$22 million requested
USD\$ 19.4 million received*

*CAP and non-CAP contributions

which have included teachers, students, motorists and youth groups this year.

Internally displaced persons and refugees

The scope of displacements in the northeast states remains hard to gauge due to limited access and difficult communication. The last available figures on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are 5,432 IDPs, as reported by UNHCR in August 2013. As regards refugees, UNHCR reported in October that some 10,000 Nigerians fled the northeast to neighbouring countries Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. National authorities in Niger reported in October that 8,385 Nigerians had sought refuge in Niger along with 28,947 Nigeriens also fleeing the violence.

The influx of refugees and the spill-over of violence to neighbouring countries have created tensions between Nigeria and its neighbours. In October, Cameroonian authorities reportedly attempted the refoulement of 111 Nigerian refugees from Northern Cameroon. In response, UNHCR issued a statement urging countries in the region against forced returns to Nigeria. Following the fleeing of over 37,000 Nigerians and Nigeriens to the Diffa region in Niger, Nigeria and Niger agreed to establish a Joint Border Patrol Command to address increasing security challenges attributed to insurgency and counter-insurgency activities.

Access increasingly difficult

Most international partners have withdrawn from the northeast due to security threats, and information on the situation is scarce. In some areas (i.e. Borno state), access to mobile phone and radio communications is limited. Only few programs are continuing, with ICRC currently implementing a cash transfer program in Maiduguri (capital of Borno state) and *Action Contre le Faim* (ACF) providing emergency nutrition in Yobe. UNHCR is monitoring the situation from Diffa in Niger.

In November, the United States government formally designated Boko Haram a foreign terrorist organization, and the ICC categorized the conflict in the northeast as a civil war. This classification brings the ICC in line with a similar determination made by the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) earlier this year.

Humanitarian Needs Overview

Food insecurity, floods, cholera

Nigeria continues to face on-going humanitarian issues related to food insecurity, vulnerability to natural disasters such as floods, and epidemics.

Food Insecurity

Initial figures from the United Nations' Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for 2013, to be published in mid-December, indicate a significant increase in food insecurity. IPC 3 emergency food insecurity levels are reported in the northeast states of Yobe, Borno and Adamawa. An estimated 2.3 million people affected by the 2012 floods are reportedly food insecure. Food prices are stable overall, but increases have been reported in the northeast due to the insecurity.

Floods

In 2013, 81,506 Nigerians have been affected and 7,924 displaced by heavy rains/floods. An estimated 2,217 farmlands were destroyed. The impact this year is markedly lower than the damage caused by heavy rains and floods in 2012 when over 7.7 million Nigerians were affected. However, several million living in flood plains along the Benue and Niger Rivers and in the Delta area remain exposed to floods.

Epidemics

Nigeria is currently witnessing a declining trend in the incidence of cholera. Week 47 estimates from WHO report 53 suspected cases, down from 73 suspected cases in week 45. A worrying outbreak of the disease had occurred in recent months, with a high of 1,806 cases reported in October. In total, to date some 2,882 cases were reported in 2013, as compared to 597 reported this time in 2012. However, this figure remains far below the ten-years average. To note, cholera reporting in Nigeria is delayed by over one month so end-of-year trends may change upon new information.

Response

To support the government's humanitarian response capacity, UN agencies, the Red Cross and NGO partners have supported national authorities at the state and federal level (e.g. the State Emergency Management Agency and the National Emergency Management Agency) and ECOWAS with trainings on Disaster Risk Management, Camp Management, and Joint Humanitarian Assessment and Planning.

ECHO Humanitarian Implementation Plan

Three-pillar approach at the cost of USD\$10.3 million

The European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) held a meeting with humanitarian actors in Nigeria on 26 November to discuss pressing humanitarian concerns and share the Commission's Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) 2014 for Nigeria.

Two million in need of food assistance

According to the HIP, 4.2 million Nigerians are affected by various humanitarian crises in the country, related to conflict, food insecurity, and natural disasters, *inter alia*. This figure includes 2.1 million people in the Northeast who have reached IPC Level 3 and require emergency food assistance, and an additional 3 million who are moderately food insecure and at risk of falling into emergency levels. The HIP further reported that out of the 1.4 million children under five who are acutely malnourished, almost half a million are suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) requiring life-saving treatment.

Three-pillar approach

To address the humanitarian needs identified, the HIP envisage a three-pillar approach to humanitarian assistance in Nigeria at the cost of USD\$10.3 million. Pillar One will focus on the management of acute malnutrition and associated diseases in order to reduce mortality. Pillar Two will prioritize the provision of

essential assistance and protection of victims of violence in Nigeria and in the neighbouring countries (Niger, Chad, and Cameroon). Pillar Three is the response to natural disasters and epidemics. The HIP focuses on improving access to malnutrition and related health care for vulnerable children under five years old and pregnant and nursing women. Other HIP priorities include emergency food assistance and emergency cash transfers.

Funding Update

Nigeria funded at 88 per cent, Protection remains funded at only 39 per cent

As of 6 December 2013, Nigeria has received 88 per cent (USD\$19.4 million) of the USD\$22 million requested, up by USD\$3.2 million from the last reporting period in November. Protection/Human Rights/Rule of Law funding did increase from 7 percent to 39 per cent presently. However, with the significant increase in relief needs and growing protection concerns the on-going conflict in the northeast has caused, more support is urgently required in this sector.