

This SitRep was produced by OCHA in association with humanitarian partners and focuses on people who have allegedly surrendered. It was published by OCHA Chad and covers the period from 23 December 2016 to 4 January 2017. The next publication will be issued around 20 January 2017.

Highlights

- Due to a lack of food for several days, most of the people having allegedly surrendered and held at Baga-Sola high school had fled the site in search of food. Most have returned, bringing the total to 327 people currently being held.
- These 327 people have been relocated to a new site, still in Baga-Sola, following advocacy to free the high school and preserve its civilian character.
- 457 out of 458 children transferred to their cantons of origin on 24 November were located by the joint follow-up missions by the authorities, UNICEF and NGO partners.

327

People presently at the site*

Including:
3 children waiting to be transferred to the CTO

Sources: authorities (as of 6 January 2017)

10

Children suspected of association with an armed group at the CTO in Bol, waiting to be reunified

Sources: authorities, UNICEF

729

Women and children transferred to their villages of origin (including 15 since 23 December)

Sources: authorities, UNICEF

70

Children reunified with their families (including 7 since 23 December)

Source: UNICEF

*The status of these people has yet to be determined by competent authorities.

Situation Overview

Advocacy by the humanitarian community continues for competent authorities to clarify the status of the persons still being held and to provide for their vital needs, in accordance with human rights and the Geneva Conventions. Indeed, faced with unmet needs in food and blankets, people having allegedly surrendered have reportedly left the site in several waves since 22 December. Of the 237 people who reportedly left the site, 233 have allegedly returned after a few days.

Following advocacy by the humanitarian community, Baga-Sola high school was freed and 327 people having allegedly surrendered are now held in a site close to the Tigo antenna, still kept under the Multinational Joint Taskforce's surveillance.

The situation remains dynamic as people continue to surrender. The last wave dates back to 28 December: seven people including three women and two children have reportedly presented themselves to military authorities in Ngouboua.

Local authorities are carrying out preventive actions to sensitize populations on peaceful cohabitation in order to promote access to hygiene and sanitation, medical and nutritional care for people who have been transferred to their villages of origin.

Response by the humanitarian community



PROTECTION

- Of the 458 children (252 boys and 206 girls) transferred to their cantons of origin on 24 November, 457 children were located and their situation monitored by the authorities, UNICEF and NGO partners. A child reunified with his mother on Nguinamaram island could not be visited due to difficulties of physical access.

- From 24 to 28 December 2016, seven children including two girls were reunified with their families.
- On 4 January 2017, two 16-year-old children arrived at the site from Kaiga Kindjiria. The joint team composed of the Regional Delegation for Social Action of the Lac region (DRAS-Lac), UNICEF and the NGO IHDL is currently working on their transfer to the Transit and Orientation Centre (CTO) in Bol.
- A cross-border family research process is being undertaken for a boy currently in the CTO.



HEALTH / NUTRITION

- Indirect assistance in health and nutrition is provided to the most vulnerable people having allegedly surrendered via support to Baga-Sola district hospital by non-governmental organizations.
- Indirect assistance in health and nutrition is provided to children presently at the CTO in Bol via support to Bol regional hospital by non-governmental organizations.

Background on the crisis

Since July 2016, more than 1,100 people have presented themselves to military authorities in the border areas of the Lac region and have been transferred by the authorities to Baga-Sola in sites under the Multinational Joint Taskforce's surveillance. On 24 November, 714 women and children among these people were transferred by the authorities to their cantons of origin. Separated and unaccompanied children are transferred to the Transit and Orientation Centre (CTO), awaiting family reunification. The humanitarian community monitors the situation and potential protection risks to which these people are exposed, in regular communication with the authorities. In the absence of a determination of their status by competent authorities, and in accordance with humanitarian principles, the humanitarian community can not provide direct assistance to people having allegedly surrendered and held in Baga-Sola, but supports technical state services (health, education, hydraulic...).

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