

LAKE CHAD BASIN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #7, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

APRIL 27, 2016

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

5.6
million

People in Need of
Emergency Food
Assistance in the Region
OCHA – January 2016

2.4
million

People Displaced by Boko
Haram-related Insecurity
in Lake Chad Basin
OCHA – April 2016

2.2
million

IDPs in Nigeria
IOM – February 2016

169,970

IDPs in Cameroon
IOM – March 2016

58,926

IDPs in Niger
OCHA – April 2016

58,100

IDPs in Chad
OCHA – April 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- UN estimates that Boko Haram exploits children for 20 percent of bombing attacks
- ASYG/RHC Lanzer advocates for additional assistance for the Lake Chad Basin
- Ambassador Power announces more than \$40 million in new USG assistance for the Lake Chad Basin response

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015–2016

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$33,141,118
USAID/FFP ²	\$102,436,217
State/PRM ³	\$74,600,000
USAID/Nigeria	\$33,800,000
\$243,977,335	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Assistant Secretary-General and Regional Humanitarian Coordinator (ASYG/RHC) for the Sahel Toby Lanzer is advocating for further humanitarian assistance to the Lake Chad Basin response, following an early April trip to the region—the ASYG/RHC’s third visit since August 2015. During the trip, ASYG/RHC Lanzer traveled to northeastern Nigeria as part of a multi-UN agency assessment that reinforced the need for continued emergency food assistance, host community support, and protection services. In recent weeks, USAID and State/PRM officials in Washington, D.C., and Nigeria’s capital city of Abuja have engaged closely with ASYG/RHC Lanzer on the evolving humanitarian response.
- On April 19, Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Samantha Power announced more than \$40 million in new U.S. Government (USG) funding to meet urgent needs in the Lake Chad Basin. The assistance includes more than \$21.3 million from State/PRM and more than \$18.8 million from USAID/FFP to support response efforts in Cameroon, Niger, and northeastern Nigeria. Together with recently committed funding, the announcement—made during Ambassador Power’s mid-April trip to Cameroon, Chad, and Nigeria to highlight critical needs in the region—brings total FY 2015-2016 USG humanitarian assistance for the Lake Chad Basin crisis to nearly \$244 million.
- USAID/FFP recently provided \$24.8 million to scale up emergency food assistance in northeastern Nigeria. The total includes \$18.8 million announced by Ambassador Power, as well as \$6 million in new funding to the UN World Food Program (WFP) to support mobile phone-based cash transfers to vulnerable households in the northeast.

¹ USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

REGIONAL

- The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is coordinating with the governments of Cameroon and Nigeria on a regional tripartite agreement to guarantee safe, dignified, and voluntary returns for Nigerian refugees, the UN reports. Approximately 64,000 Nigerian refugees returned from Cameroon's Far North Region between January and March; this total includes both voluntary and involuntary returns, according to UNHCR. The UN has urged the governments of the Lake Chad Basin countries to ensure voluntary and safe returns for all displaced people. Similarly, USG humanitarian offices encourage all stakeholders in the Lake Chad Basin response to uphold international humanitarian law as pertains to internally displaced person (IDP) and refugee returns.
- With nearly \$7.6 million in FY 2016 funding, State/PRM is assisting UNHCR to provide IDPs in Nigeria and Nigerian refugees in Niger with emergency relief commodities, as well as health, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance. State/PRM is also supporting UNHCR's protection efforts—including ensuring access to asylum and preventing *refoulement*—across the Lake Chad Basin region.
- The 2016 Nigeria Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) requests \$198.8 million to assist 514,000 people across Cameroon, Chad, and Niger through December 2016. As of April 4, donors had contributed more than \$24 million—or approximately 12 percent—of the requested total. The previous RRRP for Nigeria, which requested \$174.4 million for 2015, received \$81.3 million—or 47 percent—of requested funding.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- Persistent insecurity in the Lake Chad Basin is resulting in deteriorated food security and nutrition levels among vulnerable households, according to preliminary results from the March *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH), a process used throughout West Africa for the classification, analysis, and reporting of food insecurity. In affected areas of Chad, Niger, and Nigeria, nearly 3.7 million people are experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity, the CH reports.⁴ Of the total, approximately 3.2 million are in northeastern Nigeria; the CH estimates that an additional 217,000 people in Nigeria's Borno State are experiencing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity.
- WFP recently released the preliminary results of a regional market assessment conducted in Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria, in collaboration with non-governmental organization (NGO) and government partners. The assessment found that border closures and high transport costs—resulting from high fuel prices, inefficient transit routes to avoid insecure areas, and the collection of fees at formal and informal checkpoints—have reduced the flow of food commodities within and between Boko Haram-affected countries. As a result, food prices have increased, significantly impacting areas already dependent on imported food. The continued devaluation of the Nigerian naira is also negatively affecting trade and decreasing Nigerian traders' purchasing power for imported goods.

NIGERIA

- During a March 31–April 1 visit to Borno's capital city of Maiduguri, Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) for Nigeria Fatma Samoura voiced concerns that the concentration of relief efforts in official displacement sites has created a deficit of assistance for host communities, as well as for IDPs sheltering outside camps, who comprise more than 90 percent of all IDPs in northeastern Nigeria. RC/HC Samoura highlighted that IDP returns and relocations should occur voluntarily and commended the Borno governor's efforts to ensure safe and dignified IDP returns. The RC/HC's delegation also distributed approximately 10,000 dignity kits and 144 reproductive health kits to local protection and health actors.
- From March 22–24, representatives from USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, and USAID/Nigeria traveled to Maiduguri to meet with the Government of Nigeria (GoN), UN agencies, and response partners and assess the humanitarian situation. The trip marked the first official USG visit to Borno since the GoN declared a state of emergency in March

⁴ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

2013. The delegation aimed to observe the ongoing response and discuss humanitarian needs with partners in Maiduguri local government area (LGA), where the International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates there are more than 825,000 IDPs.

- The USAID delegation visited Maiduguri's Bakasi IDP camp, managed by Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), on March 23. The camp hosted nearly 8,500 IDPs, and NEMA was planning for another 15,000 arrivals in the coming months as a result of GoN relocations of IDPs from schools in Maiduguri. The camp had six functioning water points, sufficient for a maximum of 3,000 people, according to Sphere standards.⁵ To accommodate the anticipated influx of IDPs, a USAID/OFDA partner was constructing latrines and supporting hygiene programs at the camp. To date, USAID/OFDA has supported five NGO partners with more than \$2 million in FY 2015–2016 assistance to provide IDPs and other vulnerable households in northeastern Nigeria with critical WASH assistance.
- Between January and April, an estimated 4,700 civilians escaped Boko Haram captivity, partially as a result of military interventions in northeastern Nigeria, UNHCR reports. Of the total, more than 4,200 survivors had been captive in Borno—including more than 1,600 in Dikwa LGA and nearly 1,300 in Konduga LGA—and more than 450 others in Adamawa State. During the same period, terrorist attacks in the northeast resulted in at least 220 civilian deaths and 240 injuries. The UN warns that Boko Haram continues to conduct attacks on IDP sites and public places in the region despite military clearance operations.
- Protection concerns remain a key issue throughout the Lake Chad Basin. The UN recently reported that Boko Haram uses children to carry out nearly one-fifth of all bombing attacks; more than two-thirds of these children are girls. Additionally, gender-based violence (GBV) and the stigmatization of those who survive abduction by Boko Haram are affecting vulnerable women and girls in IDP camps and host communities, particularly in northeastern Nigeria. Between January and March, a USAID/OFDA partner reached more than 46,000 IDPs and host community members in Adamawa and Borno with critical protection activities, including awareness raising on GBV and other protection issues; psychosocial support; and GBV-related case referrals to service providers. From March 21–April 8, the NGO provided psychosocial support—including skills-building activities such as bead-making and knitting—to nearly 2,900 vulnerable women and girls in IDP camps and host communities in Adamawa. The partner also offered protective spaces and emergency education to nearly 5,000 children in Borno's Jere LGA and Adamawa's Mubi South LGA.
- At the global level, USAID/OFDA provided the International Rescue Committee with nearly \$450,000 in FY 2015 funding to develop a *Safe Healing and Learning Spaces* toolkit for front-line protection actors. The kit—a key resource for NGO partners in the Lake Chad Basin—includes a package of recreational, social, and emotional learning activities, non-formal literacy and numeracy materials, parenting resources, training materials for practitioners, and monitoring tools.
- Approximately 3.2 million people in northeastern Nigeria were experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity as of March, according to the CH. In addition, nearly 217,000 people in Borno were facing Emergency levels of food insecurity. The CH analysis projects that more than 330,000 people in Borno and Yobe states will likely experience Emergency levels from June–August due to seasonal variations in food supply, exacerbating existing food insecurity.
- In response to acute food security needs, USAID/FFP recently committed \$24.8 million for emergency food assistance in northeastern Nigeria. Of the total, USAID/FFP provided more than \$18.8 million to NGO partners for targeted cash transfers and food vouchers to enable vulnerable families to purchase food in local markets. USAID/FFP also committed \$6 million to WFP for mobile phone-based cash transfers in four LGAs in Borno and Yobe, targeting more than 70,500 food-insecure people. USAID/FFP is supporting partners to reach displaced people in newly accessible areas, where IDPs and host communities have yet to receive sustained humanitarian assistance. To complement cash-based programming, USAID/FFP partners are also conducting community outreach regarding nutrition-related messages, including teaching women how to prepare nutritious meals using locally available foods.
- As of April 27, donors had contributed more than \$33.7 million—approximately 14 percent of the requested

⁵The Sphere Project was launched in 1997 by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), UN, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and donors to develop a set of universal minimum standards for humanitarian assistance and thereby improve the quality of assistance provided to disaster-affected persons and to enhance the accountability of humanitarian agencies.

total—toward the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Nigeria. Released by the UN in January, the HRP requests \$248 million in humanitarian assistance to meet the urgent needs of approximately 3.9 million people in northeastern Nigeria. To date in FY 2016, the USG has provided nearly \$37.5 million to assist Boko Haram-affected households in Nigeria.

CAMEROON

- Of the Lake Chad Basin countries, Cameroon has experienced the greatest number of bombing attacks using children; the UN reports at least 20 incidents recorded between January 2014 and February 2016. As of late February, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) had provided psychosocial support to more than 11,200 Boko Haram-affected children in Far North, including more than 7,100 IDPs and nearly 4,100 Nigerian refugees. UNICEF is facilitating recreation activities for vulnerable children through child-friendly spaces in Far North’s Minawao refugee camp, as well as in host communities and 22 public schools in Far North’s Diamaré, Logone-et-Chari, Mayo-Sava, and Mayo-Tsanaga departments. The UN agency has also conducted awareness-raising sessions on child protection issues for at least 6,900 displaced people in Minawao camp and IDP sites throughout Far North.
 - In January, WFP reported that approximately 1.4 million people—one third of the population—in Far North were experiencing moderate to severe food insecurity due to successive poor harvests and the effects of Boko Haram-related violence and resultant displacement. In March, USAID/WFP partner WFP increased emergency food assistance to vulnerable households in the region, reaching nearly 170,000 people, including approximately 115,000 IDPs and vulnerable host community members and an estimated 54,000 Nigerian refugees sheltering in Minawao camp. In addition, WFP expanded a malnutrition prevention program for refugees in Minawao camp to include IDPs and host communities in five priority districts in Far North. The UN agency provided preventive malnutrition treatment to approximately 30,000 children younger than five years of age in Far North and treated an estimated 24,900 children and pregnant and lactating women for acute malnutrition.
 - The 2016 HRP for Cameroon seeks \$282 million in humanitarian assistance to support approximately 1.1 million vulnerable people throughout the country, including 624,000 people in Far North affected by Boko Haram-related insecurity. As of April 27, donors had contributed nearly \$34.7 million—approximately 12 percent of the requested total—toward the appeal. The USG has provided nearly \$13.7 million in FY 2016 assistance to date for response efforts in Cameroon.
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CHAD

- During rapid assessments in Chad’s Lac Region in March, relief actors identified more than 35,000 additional people displaced by Boko Haram-related violence since May 2015, the UN reports. The response community had previously registered more than 58,000 IDPs in Lac; actors now estimate that violence has displaced approximately 93,000 people in the region.
- On April 26, the Government of Chad extended a state of emergency for the area surrounding Lake Chad by six months, given persistent insecurity, international media report. The designation, in effect since November 9, 2015, was scheduled to end on March 22. While cross-border attacks have decreased, Boko Haram militants abducted nearly 60 civilians in early March, and two suicide attacks occurred in Lac in January.
- Despite sporadic attacks, improved security in Lac’s Daboua and Liwa sub-prefectures since December 2015 has enabled response actors to reach additional violence-affected households. As of early April, more than 20 humanitarian actors were providing food security, health, nutrition, and protection assistance, among other interventions, in the region, according to the UN. In recent months, UNICEF supplied more than 7,000 IDPs in Lac with emergency relief commodities and WASH kits. In addition, humanitarian actors had distributed school kits for approximately 2,000 students and constructed at least 20 temporary schools as of late March.

- Due to chronic drought and food insecurity, vulnerable communities throughout Chad face persistent malnutrition. The UN reports critical malnutrition conditions at eight IDP sites in Daboua and Lima, with global acute malnutrition levels of nearly 19 percent and severe acute malnutrition levels of 6.5 percent—well above the UN World Health Organization emergency thresholds of 15 percent and 2 percent, respectively. More than 3,300 children between six and 23 months of age at displacement sites in the two districts received blanket supplementary feeding in recent weeks, and response actors have increased the number of mobile clinics in Daboua and Liwa.
- The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports that despite a strong 2015/2016 cereal harvest, the presence of IDPs in Lac has caused vulnerable host communities to rapidly deplete cereal stocks. In addition, insecurity continues to disrupt livelihoods, markets, and trade in the region. Market disruptions in Lac have negatively affected food security conditions in neighboring Bahr el Gazel and Kanem regions, where households typically rely on Lac's maize exports. As of March, more than 328,000 people in the three regions—including more than 136,000 people in Lac—were experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity, according to the CH.
- To address emergency food needs in Lac, WFP distributed 30-day food rations to nearly 32,000 displaced people in Daboua and Liwa in February and March. To date in FY 2016, USAID/WFP has provided WFP with more than \$6.4 million for emergency food assistance in Lac.
- The 2016 HRP for Chad seeks \$567 million to assist approximately 1.8 million vulnerable people throughout the country, including more than 250,000 people in Lac. As of April 27, donors had contributed nearly \$26.4 million—approximately 5 percent of the requested total—toward the appeal. The USG has provided more than \$7.4 million in FY 2016 assistance to date for response efforts in Chad.

NIGER

- While Niger reported a successful 2015/2016 cereal harvest, Boko Haram-related violence in Diffa has disrupted livelihoods and limited household market access, FEWS NET reports. Nearly 160,000 people—more than a quarter of Diffa's population—were experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity as of March, according to the CH. FEWS NET anticipates that vulnerable households in the region will experience Crisis and Stressed—IPC 3 and 2, respectively—levels of food security until at least September 2016 as a result of the violence. According to preliminary results from WFP's Lake Chad Basin market assessment, for example, approximately 40 percent of commercial carriers surveyed in Diffa reported that they had suspended transport activities due to security concerns.
- Despite persistent insecurity, WFP and NGO partners reached more than 80,000 vulnerable people in Diffa with emergency food assistance in February and March. Additionally, approximately 3,000 children between six months and five years of age received blanket supplementary feeding to prevent and treat acute malnutrition.
- Between late March and early April, a USAID/OFDA partner conducted multi-sector assessments in four villages in Diffa's N'guigmi Department. The partner found that between 30 and 60 percent of surveyed communities had sub-standard shelter, and almost no assessed households had access to latrines. Respondents reported traveling far distances to fetch water, exacerbating protection risks among households that include significant percentages of women and children. Between 27 and 60 percent of respondents exhibited poor food consumption scores due to factors including a lack of dietary diversity, insufficient income-earning opportunities, and reduced daily meals. Given assessment results, the partner recommends additional humanitarian assistance for affected communities, including relief commodity kit and shelter material distributions, improved WASH infrastructure and services, activities targeting food insecurity and livelihoods, and improved follow-up on protection violations, as well as a more thorough protection assessment.
- As of April 27, donors had contributed more than \$65.6 million—approximately 21 percent of the requested total—toward the 2016 HRP for Niger. The HRP seeks \$316 million to assist approximately 1.5 million vulnerable people throughout the country, including more than 150,000 IDPs, refugees, and returnees in Diffa affected by Boko Haram-related violence. To date in FY 2016, the USG has provided more than \$17.1 million for response efforts in Niger.

CONTEXT

- Following escalated violence in northeastern Nigeria, the GoN declared a state of emergency in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe in March 2013. In the first half of 2014, attacks carried out by Boko Haram militants killed more than 3,000 people, and in mid-2014, a shift in tactics to the seizing and holding of territory further exacerbated the region's humanitarian crisis. Significant numbers of people fled Boko Haram in northern Nigeria, exacerbating humanitarian needs in the surrounding countries of Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.
- In late 2014 and early 2015, Boko Haram attacks spread further into neighboring countries, with suicide bombings and other attacks beginning in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger, causing internal displacement in each of the three countries already hosting significant Nigerian refugee populations.
- Violence continues to displace populations across Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. In communities hosting IDPs, refugees, and returnees, the presence of additional displaced families is straining local resources and exacerbating food, relief commodity, shelter, livelihood, and protection needs, among others. In late 2015 and early 2016, the U.S. Ambassador to Chad James A. Knight, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Matthew D. Smith, and U.S. Ambassador to Niger Eunice S. Reddick redeclared disasters for the complex emergencies in Chad, Cameroon, and Niger, respectively.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2016¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA³			
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Protection	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$262,513
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$1,000,000
		Chad, Countrywide	\$500,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Chad, Countrywide	\$500,000
	Program Support Costs		\$90,844
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$2,353,357
USAID/FFP²			
Implementing Partners	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers	Northeastern Nigeria	\$18,806,476
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Northeastern Nigeria	\$6,000,000
	Humanitarian Coordination and Risk Management Policy and Practice	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$800,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Far North, Cameroon	\$10,989,338
	Food Vouchers	Lac, Chad	\$1,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Lac, Chad	\$5,409,600
	Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Procurement	Diffa, Niger	\$2,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Diffa, Niger	\$6,997,900
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$52,003,314
STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance to Victims of the Conflict	Northeastern Nigeria	\$7,700,000
		Far North, Cameroon	\$2,150,000
		Diffa, Niger	\$2,700,000
UNHCR	Protection and Multi-Sectoral Assistance to IDPs	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$2,800,000

	Protection and Multi-Sectoral Assistance to Refugees and Returnees	Diffa, Niger	\$4,750,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Cameroon, Countrywide	\$500,000
		Niger, Countrywide	\$700,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$21,300,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2016			\$75,656,671

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015–2016

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$33,141,118
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$102,436,217
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$74,600,000
TOTAL USAID/NIGERIA FUNDING			\$33,800,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015–2016			\$243,977,335

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 27, 2016.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>