

ICRC NIGERIA

FACTS & FIGURES

JANUARY - JUNE 2025



INTRODUCTION

Armed conflict in Northeast Nigeria has displaced over 2.2 million people and severely impacted access to food, healthcare, and basic services. Civilian casualties continue to rise, with improvised explosive devices posing ongoing threats. An estimated 5.1 million people in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe are projected to face food insecurity during the 2025 lean season, with women and children among the most affected.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), present in Nigeria since 1988, works in partnership with the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to provide life-saving assistance, including healthcare, water, nutrition, and support to detainees. We also help reunite separated families and promote safe practices in areas affected by explosive hazards.

Guided by principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence, the ICRC advocates for the protection of civilians through the promotion of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), engaging with authorities, security forces, and academic institutions.



ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

- **1,048** surgeries for weapon-wounded patients were performed with ICRC support.
- **230** patients received surgical care (wound care, infection control, pain management) at the State Specialist Hospital in Maiduguri.
- **1,588** physiotherapy sessions were provided.
- **75** healthcare professionals (junior doctors and clinicians) were trained in Basic Surgical Skills and mass casualty response.
- **3,348** patients received mental health and psychosocial support.
- **13** primary healthcare centres in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States were supported with monthly medical supplies, staff incentives, and training for **99** Ministry of Health staff on Basic Emergency Care and Emergency Room Trauma.
- **296** people were trained in First Aid.
- **5,355** children under 5 and **6,858** pregnant and lactating women were treated for severe acute malnutrition at primary healthcare centres.
- **1,380** malnourished children under 5 were treated at stabilization centres.
- **9,336** detainees received curative consultations; **2,303** were screened for tuberculosis.
- **4** health facilities were constructed or rehabilitated, including stabilization centres in Biu, Mubi, Maiduguri, and Yobe.
- **15,327** people benefited from mental health and psychosocial services across the three states.
- **288** persons with disabilities accessed services at ICRC-supported Physical Rehabilitation Centres.
- **36** disability tricycles were donated to the PRC at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital.

ACCESS TO WATER AND IMPROVED SANITATION

- **45,826** internally displaced persons (IDPs) received hygiene promotion messages across IDP camps in Damboa, Rann, Dikwa, Monguno, and Maiduguri.
- **1,000** adolescent girls received menstrual hygiene products in the GGSS IDP camp in Monguno.
- **1,174** people received cholera prevention kits in Biu IDP camp, in Michika, Madagali, Chibok, Biu town, and Askira Uba.
- **200** units of latrines were constructed in Buni Yadi, Gujba Local Government Area, reaching **2,400** people and decreasing their risk to cholera outbreaks in areas where access to clean water and sanitation facilities are limited.
- 20km of pipes & fittings were donated to the Adamawa State Ministry of Water for the upgrade of the drinking water distribution network, benefitting **30,000** people with clean and safe water.
- The **40**-bed weapon-wounded ward of the ICRC-supported Maiduguri State Specialist Hospital was equipped with a solar system to increase its energy autonomy. In addition, **25** air conditioners were replaced with energy-saving models, improving the operating conditions in the health facility.
- **2** detention facilities benefited from hygiene promotion kits, enhancing the individual hygiene, well-being, and dignity of the detainees.

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

Agriculture

- Agricultural support was provided to **21,000** farming households. The support included seeds tailored to local climate conditions to boost their crop yields and strengthen resilience against climate challenges.
- To support farming activities and protect food security, **16,753** families across Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa states received cash assistance to buy essential agricultural inputs and prevent the consumption of seeds meant for planting. In addition, **100** community seed producers received foundation seeds and cash assistance for agricultural inputs to enhance local seed multiplication efforts and promote sustainable access to quality seeds within communities.

Livestock

- In Madagali, Michika, Damasak, Ngala, and Banki, **9,410** livestock farmers benefited from vaccination campaigns targeting Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR). These efforts helped prevent disease outbreaks, lowered animal mortality rates, and improved overall livestock health. In total, **436,248** animals, including cattle, goats, and sheep, were vaccinated, while **180,847** were treated.



Emergency Response

- Multipurpose cash assistance was disbursed to **1,912** conflict-affected families in Damasak, Monguno, Biu, and Bama. In addition, **36** households were supported with cash assistance through various referral programs. In Damasak and Monguno, **639** newly arrived families received cash to purchase basic household necessities, while **220** more families received essential household kits which include blankets, kitchen sets and hygiene supplies amongst others to meet their basic needs and improve living conditions for displaced persons.



Response to malnutrition

- **16,032** children under 5 years old and **2,604** pregnant or lactating women were screened for malnutrition.
- **459** children under 5 years old with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) received supplementary feeding treatment at community level using the locally produced Tom Brown formula. **37** care groups were created to produce Tom Brown formula.
- **11** Tons of raw food commodities (millet, maize, sorghum, soya beans, ground nuts, moringa and salt) were distributed to the families of malnourished children under 5 years to produce Tom Brown to treat moderate acute malnutrition.
- A **five**-day training was held on the preparation of Tom brown in Mubi for **20** lead mothers, **20** community nutrition volunteers and **10** volunteers of the Nigerian Red Cross Society from Askira and Madagali.



Addressing sexual violence

- **152** staff and volunteers of the Nigerian Red Cross Society were trained and sensitized on sexual violence to build their capacity to respond appropriately to disclosures of sexual violence with a survivor-centred approach.
- **16** focal points were trained to address sexual violence and gender-based violence and prevent sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (PSEAH) in communities affected by armed conflict within Adamawa and Borno.
- **5** integrated trainings on sexual violence were conducted, during which a total of **136** members of the Armed Forces of Nigeria reinforced their knowledge on the issue under International Humanitarian Law and other applicable laws, with an emphasis on their roles as protectors and first responders. In addition, **109** members of Community Defense Groups, including vigilantes and hunters, were sensitized to enhance community protection and their understanding of the issue of sexual violence.
- **298** stakeholders, including representatives from government ministries, departments, agencies, civil society organizations, journalists, and health workers, were sensitized on the survivor-centered approach to addressing sexual violence, this included training on the need for emergency medical care for victims/survivors and strategies to reduce stigma, thereby improving access to services. These efforts were delivered through dedicated sexual violence sessions as well as the integration of sexual violence topics into other thematic areas, including First Aid Training, and Basic Emergency Care.
- The ICRC engaged with communities to relay messages on stigma reduction and the importance of access to health care for victims/survivors of sexual violence. This was achieved through sensitization and awareness raising sessions targeting community members including **70** adolescent boys and girls.
- To address the immediate needs, the ICRC supported **21** victims/survivors with cash assistance. Through a partnership with the N3lewa Sexual Assault Referral Centre, **141** sexual violence victims/survivors received psychosocial support. In addition, **19** survivors were identified to participate in an educational vocational program as part of a livelihood income-generating initiative, aimed at reducing their risk of engaging in survival sex.

LISTENING TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT

- Through the ICRC's Community Contact Center (CCC) and Red Cross Feedback Kiosk (in specific areas), we processed **1,770** calls and walk-in feedback from communities in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States, informing us about their needs, providing feedback regarding our assistance or sharing concerns.



SUPPORTING HUMANE CONDITIONS AND TREATMENT OF DETAINEES



PROTECTING THE SEPARATED, THE MISSING AND THE DEAD

Thousands of families live in uncertainty, not knowing the fate or whereabouts of their loved ones due to the armed conflict in northeast Nigeria. By the end of May 2025, the ICRC and the NRCS had **23,606** active tracing requests, **565** of them are for Unaccompanied/Separated Children. By June 30, 2025, ICRC and NRCS had collected **451** new cases. In addition, **515** cases were resolved positively, most of them by the families, **8,455** received tracing actions and contact was maintained with **2,543** individuals who requested services or followed up on their cases. The ICRC and NRCS also facilitated the family reunification for **7** unaccompanied/separated children.

- The ICRC and NRCS collected **1216** Red Cross Messages (RCMs) to facilitate communication between separated family members and **523** RCMs were distributed. Of these, **1,010** RCMs were collected from detainees and **195** were distributed.
- The ICRC & NRCS in Damaturu, Yobe State, enabled **421** successful phone calls for refugees from Niger Republic to maintain contact with their families.
- The ICRC's collaboration with the National Emergency Management Agency resulted in the validation and public launching of the National Mass Fatality Response Plan (NMFRP). A pilot project aiming to put into practice the NMFRP and other policies on the management of the dead was prepared to be presented to and rolled out in Yobe, with the support of Federal and State level representatives and practitioners. The ICRC organized **1** workshop with **25** participants of the Armed Forces of Nigeria and **1** sensitization session with **15** personnel members to discuss the identification mechanisms to prevent the deceased from becoming missing.



PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE FROM THE EFFECTS OF ARMED CONFLICTS

- The ICRC held several confidential and bilateral meetings with duty bearers, including armed actors, on the conduct of hostilities, treatment of civilians and the respect of the laws of armed conflicts.
- **30** specialised sessions focusing on the protection of civilians were conducted with authorities, communities and weapon bearers (**3,200** members of the Armed Forces of Nigeria, their affiliates and the Nigerian Police Force) to help disseminate International Humanitarian Law and the rules governing armed conflicts.
- **75** focus group discussions were held to understand and support Community-Based Protection (CBP) mechanisms to better understand the needs of vulnerable populations. These discussions with vulnerable groups, including female heads of households, the elderly, children, women, adolescents, people with disabilities, IDPs, and other victims of conflict aimed to identify their specific needs and look into how the ICRC can support them.
- **2** Community-Based Protection workshops were conducted with **292** civilians as part of the design of a Youth Livelihood Project in Mubi.
- In response to immediate needs, the ICRC provided cash assistance to **105** conflict-affected individuals including **21** children. **9** children received child protection kits to help maintain their dignity. **4** children associated to the armed forces and armed groups and **10** unaccompanied minors were registered and followed-up individually based on their vulnerabilities. Furthermore, **37** volunteers of the Nigerian Red Cross Society and accompaniers received training on child safeguards.
- In Bama, the Child Protection Project helped **33** children to receive sensitization sessions on weapon contamination and explosive remnants of war while **10** mental health and psychosocial support group sessions were organized for **55** children and their caregivers.



PROMOTING SAFETY OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY WEAPON CONTAMINATION

- The ICRC carried out refresher trainings for **66** NRCS volunteers from Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states to educate communities on risk awareness and safe behavior. These volunteers reached **46,582** people affected by conflict in these states through Risk Awareness and Safer Behavior (RASB) sensitization sessions.
- To promote wider coverage of Risk Awareness and Safer Behavior, radio jingles in Kanuri, Hausa and Shuwa languages were aired on radio stations including live phone-in discussion programs in Borno state.



PROTECTION OF HEALTHCARE

- **125** healthcare community members were trained on de-escalation techniques to address reactive violence in hospital settings, continuing the initiative started in 2024 in collaboration with the Nigerian Red Cross Society.
- Over **30** radio jingles promoting the protection of healthcare were aired in local dialects across Adamawa, Kaduna, Zamfara, Plateau, and Cross River States, sustaining public awareness efforts initiated in 2024.



PROMOTING RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

- The ICRC welcomed Nigeria as one of the co-chairs of workstream **5** (protection of hospitals) of the “Global Initiative to Galvanize Political Commitment to IHL” and facilitated Nigeria’s participation in other workstreams of the Initiative.
- The ICRC contributed to the first-ever “High-Level IHL Dialogue” event, organized by the National Committee for the Implementation of IHL Treaties in Nigeria (NCIHLIN), which convened **120** participants from across various stakeholder levels.
- One official was supported by the ICRC to attend the African Union Counterterrorism Center (AUCTC)-ICRC’s “3rd Interregional Roundtable on Promoting Respect for IHL in the Prevention and Fight against Terrorism in Africa”, in Algiers, Algeria.
- **22** universities participated in the written stage of the National IHL Competition, of which four will advance to the oral stage; the winning university will be sponsored to take part in the Regional IHL Competition.
- **20** journalists were trained on IHL and conflict reporting.
- Military and police personnel engaged in **31** nationwide events on topics ranging from IHL to ICRC operational identity and protection concerns. Among the **3,247** personnel involved, **499** were women.



ECOWAS

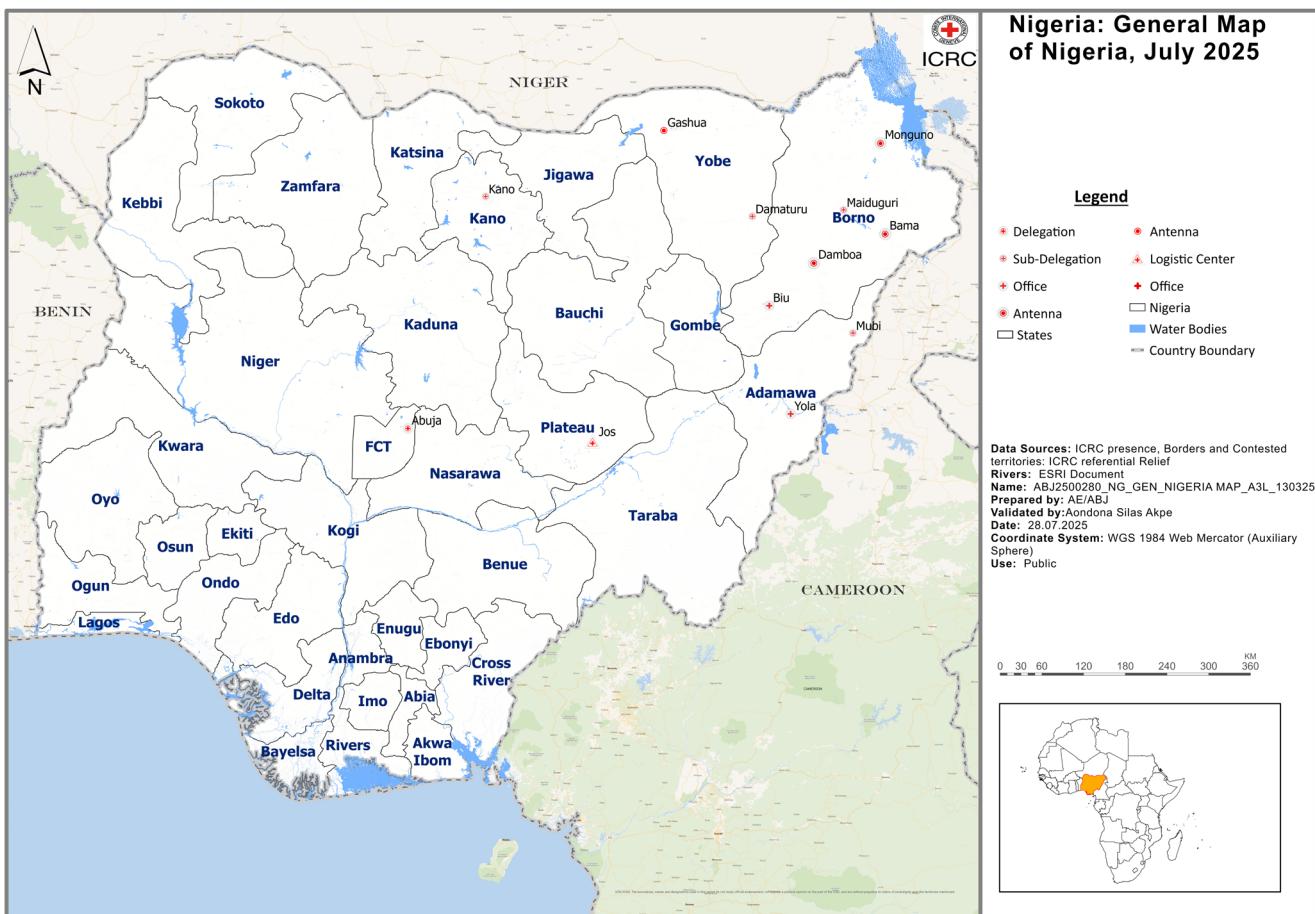
- Confirming its commitment to implementing the Regional Plan of Action on International Humanitarian Law (IHL), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) submitted a second pledge to the 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. This is part of the longstanding collaboration between ECOWAS and the ICRC. This pledge sets out key strategic commitments for 2024–2028, including establishing and strengthening National IHL Commissions; enhancing the protection of children and schools in armed conflict; ensuring rapid, safe, and unimpeded humanitarian access; supporting the regulation of autonomous weapons systems; and endorsing measures to protect civilians from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas. These priorities underscore ECOWAS Member States’ dedication to promoting respect for IHL and safeguarding vulnerable populations across the region.



Supporting the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS)

- To promote a principled and safe humanitarian response, **685** NRCS volunteers from nine branches were sensitized on the Safer Access Framework, while selected staff from one branch were trained to conduct safer access sensitizations themselves.
- To reinforce the NRCS’s emergency response capacity, the ICRC supported the retraining of **27** Emergency First Aid Teams (EFATs), involving **405** volunteers across nine NRCS branches.
- **130** NRCS volunteers from Mubi North, Mubi South, Biu, Askira, and Madagali in Adamawa state received training on hygiene promotion, sanitation practices, and cholera prevention. In addition, **116** staff and community volunteers from Maiduguri, Borno State, were trained as the WASH Committee.





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Cover photo:

Exterior view of the newly built nutrition stabilisation centre in Damaturu.

The 80-bed facility built by the ICRC is the largest in the state and is located at the Yobe State Specialist Hospital. This life-saving facility, donated to the Yobe State Ministry of Health, will play a vital role in scaling up treatment for severe acute malnutrition in children under five and vulnerable women across Yobe State, while also serving as a key referral point for managing complicated cases of malnutrition throughout the state.



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