

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND ICRC RESPONSE

Millions of civilians are affected by the armed violence in North East Nigeria, including an estimated **2.1 million** internally displaced persons (IDPs) and a **1.8 million** host population. Moreover, violent communal clashes in the Middle Belt and violence in Niger Delta states have also affected the humanitarian situation.

In 2016, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has significantly scaled up its humanitarian response for those most in need in the North East, in particular by providing food, shelter and essential household items. It also facilitates access to clean water, shelter and medical care, and strives to restore family links. Since the beginning of the year, the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) and the ICRC gained access and assisted residents and IDPs living in very difficult conditions in previously inaccessible locations of Borno state such as Sabon Gari, Damboa, Dikwa Monguno, Gamboru-Ngala and others.

# HIGHLIGHTS: JANUARY TO JULY 2016

#### EMERGENCY RELIEF ASSISTANCE

Working together with the NRCS, the ICRC prioritises urgent humanitarian needs in north-eastern Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states. In particular, the Red Cross focuses on difficultto-reach areas where both IDPs and residents are facing severe food shortage. These communities have missed out on the current planting season that is vital for their survival and are likely to remain dependent on aid for the next months to come. The Red Cross distributed food and essential household items to IDPs, returnees and residents in Borno state (Maiduguri, Sabon Gari, Damboa, Dikwa Monguno, Gamboru-Ngala and others). In addition, the ICRC launched a cash programme to provide alternative means of survival for IDPs and help them through their displacement period.



**711,300** IDPs, returnees and hosts in North East Nigeria received food rations for up to three months.



**213,900** IDPs in North East Nigeria and the Middle Belt received essential household items.

**51** NRCS, NEMA and SEMA staff country-wide were trained in a humanitarian management program.



The ICRC assists IDPs in Maiduguri with food rations which helps to ease the discomfort of displacement

## LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT AND MICRO-ECONOMIC INITIATIVES

The ICRC has launched livelihood support programmes to help strengthen the resilience of people affected by the armed conflict and help them resume farming again. People returning to their areas of origin who wished to resume farming received seeds (maize, sorghum, beans or cowpeas) and fertilizers. Those returning to areas with functioning markets received cash or vouchers to re-build their livelihoods.

This programme aims to assist some **162,000** IDPs and vulnerable persons living in widow/female-headed households in 2016. By the end of July the first **41,000** persons in Yobe state received cash to purchase priority commodities. In addition, some **16,000** returnees in Adamawa and southern Borno states received a livelihood input grant. In Niger Delta, the ICRC supports victims of urban violence.

u upu	
ጠ	7

**245,370** returnees in the North East and the Middle Belt received agricultural inputs to start farming again.



**66,860** IDPs in north-eastern Borno and Yobe states, as well as victims of urban violence in Port Harcourt, Rivers state, received cash to enable them to purchase their priority commodities.



**1,000** widows/heads of households in Borno state, North East Nigeria, were registered to receive cash that will enable them to provide the basic necessities for their families, while an additional **250** received support for micro-economic initiatives. **220** widows/ women heads of house-holds living in urban shanty settlements in Niger Delta received training to enhance their capacity to start earning their livelihoods.

#### **HEALTH CARE**

Many health facilities in the North East have shut down, due to the prevailing security situation, lack of doctors, nurses medicine and equipment. The ICRC supports primary and mobile state health clinics mainly in Borno and Adamawa states in areas of rehabilitation, regular medical supplies, equipment supply and training of staff. Two ICRC surgical teams provide care for the weapon wounded and IDPs in need of emergency surgical care in Maiduguri State Specialist Hospital. In addition, the ICRC trains staff of Nigerian hospitals in order to enhance their capacity in the treatment and management of weapon wounded patients. ICRC's first aid training programme spans over **15** states and includes north-eastern, the Middle Belt and the Niger Delta states.



**225,000** patients attended **14** ICRC- supported centres for primary health care and **6** mobile clinics serving IDPs, returnees and residents in Adamawa and Borno states, North East Nigeria, the Middle Belt and the Niger Delta states.

9,200 children were delivered in ICRC supported clinics.

**2,200** children under 5 suffering from severe acute malnutrition were treated in ICRC-supported clinics in Borno South, North East Nigeria.



**1,300** mainly weapon-wounded patients were treated by the ICRC surgical team in Maiduguri State Specialist Hospital, Borno, North East Nigeria, out of whom more than **200** were hospitalised.



**1,300** people including NRCS members, community members, military/police personnel, religious groups and weapon bearers, were trained in first aid and emergency preparedness capacity.



**4,700** casualties were treated and evacuated by the ICRC-supported NRCS emergency first aid teams and trained community first aid r esponders in **15** states covered by the First Aid program.



**158 IDPs** benefitted from ICRC's mental health and psychosocial support program.

#### SHELTER, WATER AND SANITATION

Only around **10%** of IDPs fleeing the armed conflict live in IDP camps, while the vast majority is hosted by communities in North East Nigeria. In some cases, the size of the population has more than doubled due to the influx of IDPs (e.g. Maiduguri metropolis). The existing infrastructure, especially water and sanitation installations, too often breaks down under pressure from the increased population. In both IDP camps and most affected host communities the ICRC creates or upgrades water points and sanitation facilities, provides tents or builds emergency shelters. It also supports the NRCS and IDPs themselves to clean and maintain hygiene in the camps.



**97,800** IDPs, returnees and residents in North East Nigeria' and Middle Belt received ICRC support to access water and improve their sanitation and hygiene conditions.



**1,400** returnees in Mubi (Adamawa) and **720** persons affected by communal clashes in Kaduna and Bangui in Plateau state had their houses reconstructed.



**19,000** IDPs living in camps in Adamawa and Borno States, North East Nigeria, received temporary or emergency shelter.

### **RESTORING FAMILY LINKS**

Hundreds of thousands have left home in the course of the armed violence often losing contact with their families. The ICRC works with the NRCS Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and others in the region to help reunite family members by facilitating contact with each other using red cross messages and free phone calls.



**726** new tracing files for persons searching for missing relatives were opened by the ICRC and the NRCS. **146** red cross messages were exchanged among separated family members.



**472** free phone calls were made available by the Red Cross to persons who were separated from their families.



9 children were recently re-united with their families. They travelled from Dar Es Salaam camp, Chad to Maiduguri, Borno State on an ICRC plane.



The ICRC has distributed over 1000 temporary shelters in Sabon Gari, Borno State.

#### **DETENTION VISITS**

As in more than 90 countries around the world, in Nigeria the ICRC visits persons detained in relation to the armed conflict and violence and supports the authorities in their efforts to improve detention conditions.



**20,100** detainees in prisons as well as police and military detention facilities country-wide were visited by the ICRC. Wherever needed, the detainees also benefited from improved access to clean water, sanitation or hygiene following ICRC rehabilitation activities and assistance.

#### SUPPORT TO THE NIGERIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY (NRCS)

The ICRC supports the NRCS and its country-wide network of volunteers to ensure that persons affected by armed conflict and violence are assisted as quickly and effectively as possible. The ICRC enhanced the operational capacity of the NRCS by providing training, office equipment and material for two of its branches and donating generators and five 4x4 vehicles. The ICRC and the NRCS hosted Nigeria's first round table on the safe access to health care in Port Harcourt.



Around **2,000** volunteers received training on first aid, hygiene, nutrition screening, assessment in emergencies, operational communication and safer access during emergency response interventions.



**3,000** volunteers of the NRCS were covered under the International Federation's Volunteer Insurance Scheme through the support of the ICRC.

# Communication and dissemination of international humanitarian law (IHL) and humanitarian principles

Dissemination sessions for military, police and civilians took place all over the country on ICRC work, international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL). Thousands of people, among them civilian authorities, community / religious leaders and beneficiaries, also participated in information sessions on ICRC working modalities and its operations.

The ICRC further strengthened its relationship with the Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS),

# through support to the ECOWAS Standby Force, in order to integrate IHL into its operational documents. In collaboration with academics, the ICRC also carried out a survey in north-eastern Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states on operationalization of the African Union Convention on Assistance for and Protection of IDPs ("Kampala Convention").



Over **2,400** army and police personnel including those deployed in the North East, in the Middle Belt and in Niger Delta states increased their knowledge of IHL and IHRL.



The ICRC worked with academics, think-tanks and over **600** students from **24** Nigerian universities, in order to enhance the teaching of IHL in Nigeria.

#### **ICRC IN NIGERIA**

The ICRC protects and assists people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence in the North East, the Middle Belt and Niger Delta states. It promotes the respect for rules that protect people in armed conflict and violence, and works in collaboration with the NRCS.

The ICRC has been present in Nigeria since 1988. Today, its main office is located in Abuja, while it also has offices in Damaturu, Gombe, Jos, Kano, Maiduguri, Mubi, Port Harcourt and Yola. The essence of ICRC's presence is to maintain proximity to the people affected by armed violence, to understand their needs and respond appropriately.



#### ICRC MISSION

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the Geneva Conventions and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It directs and coordinates the international activities conducted by the Movement in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.



# ICRC in Nigeria

5 Queen Elizabeth Street, Asokoro District, FCT P.M.B 7654, Abuja, FCT

T: +234 700 5000 4000 Email : abj\_abuja@icrc.org