NIGERIA PROTECTION: FACTSHEET
AS OF MAY 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- 8,020 stakeholders trained on protection principles in the North East and North Central region.
- 72,938 men, women and children reached with psycho-social support services in Borno, Yobe, Adamawa and Gombe.
- Protection monitoring ongoing through the deployment of 314 protection monitors in 10 states.
- Sub-National Protection Sector Working Groups established in Adamawa, Gombe and Yobe.
- Child Protection Sub-Working Group and Sexual and Gender Based Violence Sub-Working Group established at the National level.
- 11,488 dignity kits distributed to vulnerable women and young girls through 73 health care facilities in affected States. The health care facilities also provided clinical management of rape along with other essential sexual and reproductive health services.
- 2,000 solar lanterns distributed to vulnerable IDPs in Borno and Yobe.
- Advocacy on development of a national law and policy framework for the protection of IDPs ongoing. The Task Force on advocacy for the domestication of the Kampala Convention held its first meeting on June 3rd.
- Advocacy in ensuring the compliance of return of IDPs with applicable international, regional and national standards carried out. The PSWG has developed a paper on IDP returns which is currently under consideration by the HCT.
- IDP Return Task Force was established in Adamawa State and a survey of return trends was conducted.

PROTECTION TRENDS

- Serious protection risks and threats have arisen from the ongoing armed conflict in North East Nigeria. There are 1,491,607 IDPs in the North East as reported by the NEMA/IOM DTM in April 2015.
- Especially prone to vulnerabilities are groups such as survivors and those at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, children and young persons, persons with disabilities and chronic diseases, single female heads of households, pregnant/nursing women and elderly persons. Abductions, sexual slavery, forced recruitment and other major violations of human rights have affected thousands of women, children and their families.
- Many IDPs and affected communities have witnessed atrocities, resulting in significant trauma.
- Some IDPs have returned to their areas of habitual residence, especially in Adamawa State. Though some assessments and surveys have been carried out, the magnitude of such return of IDPs is yet to be established, considering that most of the IDPs are living in locations without proper and systematic registration.
To ensure that gaps in the response to protection issues are systematically identified and addressed including through protection monitoring activities and participation in joint assessments.

To advocate for a protective environment for vulnerable groups such as displaced persons, survivors and those at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, children and young persons, persons with disabilities and older persons.

To support HCT’s advocacy work in protection including compliance with international standards on durable solutions.

To provide targeted trainings and capacity building on protection for humanitarian actors, authorities and other relevant actors.

To support the effective mainstreaming of protection in all humanitarian sectors.

To provide support and guidance to sub-sector working groups and PSWGs at the State-level.

GOALS

• Ensure predictable, accountable and effective coordination of protection response at the National and State levels.

• Ensure the centrality of protection in the humanitarian response in Nigeria through effective mainstreaming of protection in all humanitarian sectors.

• Ensure that PSWG members are accountable to affected populations through consultative and feedback mechanisms.

OBJECTIVES

• To provide support and guidance to sub-sector working groups and PSWGs at the State-level.

• To ensure that gaps in the response to protection issues are systematically identified and addressed including through protection monitoring activities and participation in joint assessments.

• To advocate for a protective environment for vulnerable groups such as displaced persons, survivors and those at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, children and young persons, persons with disabilities and older persons.

• To support HCT’s advocacy work in protection including compliance with international standards on durable solutions.

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CHALLENGES

• Gaps in national legal and policy frameworks for the protection of IDPs.

• Gap in the availability of data/information on IDPs with specific vulnerabilities.

• 90% of IDPs are in host communities and many are in insecure locations, making it difficult for PSWG members to immediately address protection needs of particularly vulnerable IDPs.

• Urgent need to scale up psycho-social support/critical services for women, girls and boys who have survived abduction, or rape, or forced marriage or conscription into militias; to enhance reintegration into communities/families.

• 743,000 children have been displaced and millions more have been impacted by the insurgency. While child protection partners have been scaling up their activities this year and funds have been increasing, the need far outstrips the capacity and resources of the child protection sub-sector to respond to the enormous needs.

• Major gaps in ensuring protection of and assistance to “invisible” IDPs living in host communities.