

Note on Protection

Inter-Sector Working Group | 6 April 2016

Protection Situation Analysis

- **Return of Nigerian Refugees:** As of 27 March 2016, **22,069** Nigerians have returned back from Cameroon, many under conditions falling short of international legal obligations. There are anxieties and expectations on **imminent return of large number of Nigerians** from Cameroon and other neighboring states. It is anticipated that as many as **75,000** Nigerians may be returning back to Nigeria in 2016 and 2017. **A regional protection dialogue** is being planned, as well as ongoing discussions over tripartite agreements with Lake Chad Basin States as a mechanism for advocacy on issues such as safe, voluntary and dignified return and international standards relating to forced return and determination of conditions conducive to voluntary repatriation.
- **Return/Relocation of IDPs:** An estimated **300,000** IDPs have returned to their habitual LGAs in Adamawa and relocation of IDPs from six camps to Bakassi and Dalori proceeds in Borno. While acknowledging strong engagement by authorities in Borno with humanitarians on the relocation of IDPs, they are encouraged to ensure respect of protection standards. While return may generally look premature, it is important to underscore the fact that **Adamawa and Borno are at different stages**, with the latter still not conducive to return due to continued active conflict as well as lack of access to basic services and lack of presence of humanitarian actors. In situations where return is realistic and feasible, authorities and humanitarians must promote safe, dignified and voluntary return of IDPs.
- **Rescue of Captives:** By end of February, a total of **565 civilians were reportedly rescued** in Borno. On 22 March 2016, it is reported that **829** abductees were freed by the Army in villages of Kala balge LGA. On 31 March 2016, **21** captives were further rescued in Wulwuta village of Bama LGA. Protection actors are verifying this information and undertaking efforts to gain humanitarian access to these civilians as well as advocate for the reintegration of rescued women and girls.

- **Insecurity/Targeting of IDP sites:** Insecurity is ongoing particularly in the most affected areas in Borno, with **49 security incidents** took place in January and February, of which **39** incidents are due to Boko Haram insurgency with **125** civilians killed and injured **109** civilians. The attempted attack on Dalori on 30 January and the February attack on Dikwa Camp (and subsequent foiled attack) marks an alarming trend in the targeting of IDP sites. PSWG is updating the Recommendations on Enhancing Security & Protection around IDP Sites to reflect the changing security considerations.

Achievements in January and February 2016: **146,521** reached by Protection Sector (5% of targeted)

- **PSWG: 43,709** reached with protection activities (5% of targeted) including **13,471** vulnerable persons provided with targeted material assistance, **10,557** persons reached through awareness raising and community-based initiatives, **14,107** individuals referred to appropriate specialized services, **3,090** vulnerable persons screened/profiled, 1,113 of persons trained, **888** provided with psychosocial support and **451** reached with specific protection services.
- **CP-SWG: 74,878** individuals reached with child protection activities (9% of targeted) including **72,476** boys and girls reached with psychosocial support through child friendly spaces/child clubs, **570** unaccompanied and separated children identified, **1,341** children at risk and survivors supported through inter-agency case management system and **116** unaccompanied and separated children placed in alternative care arrangements who benefited from follow up.
- **SGBV-SWG: 28,305** individuals reached with SGBV activities (5% of targeted) including **15,104** persons reached through community sensitization on SGBV and SEA, **12,682** affected individuals reached with timely and appropriate psychosocial support, **141** survivors and vulnerable women and girls provided with dignity kits, **158** vulnerable women and girls accessing livelihood support and **220** number/types of IEC materials using verbal or visual messages produced and distributed.

Expectations from ISWG and members:

- ISWG should ensure dedicated discussion on returns and the contingency plan.
- ISWG should prioritize holding its next meeting in Borno as agreed and discuss relocation challenges, such as congestion in Bakassi, as well as remaining shelter and WASH concerns.