

# Nigeria – Complex Emergency

JUNE 21, 2024

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- The prevalence of acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition among children has spiked in recent months, with 15.6 million children across Nigeria facing Crisis—Phase 3—or worse levels of acute food security, according to CH analysis.
- Nigeria’s Borno State Government plans to resettle 13,000 IDPs following its closure of Muna IDP camp on June 7, international media report.
- OAG activity continues to cause civilian casualties and displacement in northeastern Nigeria, generating significant protection needs among displaced populations, according to IOM.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b>	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$99,596,763
For the Nigeria Response in FY 2024	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$6,560,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$106,156,763</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6*

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Child Acute Food Insecurity and Malnutrition Rates Spike Across Nigeria

The prevalence of children experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) with complications in northern Nigeria has increased significantly in 2024, according to a June Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) report. The nongovernmental organization's (NGO) medical team admitted more than 1,200 children experiencing SAM with complications to an MSF-supported inpatient therapeutic feeding center in Borno's Maiduguri city during April, representing double the number of admissions recorded in April 2023. In addition, an MSF-operated facility in northeastern Nigeria's Bauchi State recorded a nearly 190 percent increase in SAM admissions during the first three months of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. MSF warned that the increase in case numbers of acute malnutrition occurred before the typical peak in July, placing strain on humanitarian organizations' capacity to sufficiently respond.

The surge in acute malnutrition cases coincides with a June 7 UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) report, which revealed that an estimated 11 million children in Nigeria, or one in every three children ages five years and younger, are experiencing severe child food poverty—the inability to access and consume a nutritious and diverse diet in early childhood—due to the compounding effects of climate crises, conflict, and poverty. Children experiencing severe child food poverty are up to 50 percent more likely to experience SAM, according to UNICEF. Meanwhile, approximately 15.6 million children across Nigeria, or one in every six children countrywide, were facing Crisis—Phase 3—or worse levels of acute food security ahead of the June-to-August lean season, representing a 25 percent increase in the number of food-insecure children in the country compared to the same period in 2023, according to a March Cadre Harmonisé (CH) analysis.<sup>3</sup> At least 490,000 of these children are expected to face Emergency—Phase 4—levels of acute food insecurity during the lean season, primarily in northeastern Nigeria's Borno State and northwestern Nigeria's Katsina State. Attacks, kidnappings, and killings by organized armed groups (OAGs) and other groups across northern Nigeria have adversely affected food production, disrupted local markets, and prompted farmers to leave agricultural areas.

Relief actors warn that significant barriers to accessing nutritious and diverse food continue to drive the high prevalence of children experiencing food insecurity and malnutrition in Nigeria. For example, nutrition services are available in less than 50 percent of wards in Borno due to humanitarian access constraints and ongoing OAG-related insecurity, UNICEF reports. Additionally, limited resources, poor governance structures, and weak health care systems inhibit progress in reducing malnutrition among children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW), according to the Northeast Nigeria Nutrition Sector. In response, USAID/BHA partners continue to improve access to food for conflict-affected households in northwestern and northeastern Nigeria through multi-sector assistance, including food assistance, nutrition screening, and SAM treatment support.

### Borno State Government to Resettle 13,000 IDPs Following Muna Camp Closure

Nigeria's Borno State Government began the closure of Maiduguri city's Muna internally displaced person (IDP) camp—one of the largest unofficial IDP camps in the country hosting more than 50,000 IDPs—on June 7, with the aim of permanently closing all IDP camps in the city, according to international media. Local government authorities plan to resettle nearly 13,000 individuals in nine Local

<sup>3</sup> CH is a standardized framework used across West Africa and the Sahel that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The CH scale is comparable across countries in West Africa and ranges from Minimal—Phase 1—to Famine—Phase 5.

Government Areas (LGAs) across the state and relocated more than 600 IDPs to LGAs between June 7 and 11, providing the IDPs with cash assistance and emergency relief commodities during the initial resettlement movement. Since 2021, the Borno State Government has relocated more than 200,000 IDPs from various camps within the state to LGAs. While an April International Organization for Migration (IOM) survey evaluating the intentions of conflict-affected people in northeastern Nigeria found that approximately 37 percent of IDP respondents intend to return to their areas of origin and an estimated 38 percent of respondents plan to integrate into their current locations, IDPs being resettled from Muna camp expressed concerns about the livelihood opportunities and security conditions in areas of resettlement. As of May 31, more than 2.3 million IDPs remained in northeastern Nigeria, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). State/PRM supports UNHCR to provide multi-sector assistance, including emergency relief commodities, protection services, and shelter support, to IDPs across the country.

### **GoN Launches Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe SAPs on Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement**

The Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe State Action Plans (SAPs) on Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement, launched by the Government of Nigeria's (GoN) Vice President on May 27, aim to address the immediate needs of IDPs while supporting longer-term resilience to prevent further displacement. The Adamawa SAP aims to facilitate the local integration of 75 percent of the state's IDPs within host communities, the safe relocation of 15 percent of IDPs to designated areas, and voluntary and dignified return of 10 percent of IDPs to their ancestral homes. The Borno SAP targets an estimated 5.5 million people—including 3 million host community members, 2 million IDPs, and 500,000 returnees—and the Yobe SAP targets approximately 2.8 million people, or more than one-half of the state's population.

### **OAG Violence Results in Civilian Casualties and Displacement in Northeastern Nigeria**

OAG activity continues to generate significant insecurity and cause civilian casualties and displacement in northeastern Nigeria. The UN documented nearly 150 OAG-involved safety and security incidents—including abductions, armed attacks, civil unrest, illegal vehicle checkpoints, improvised explosive device incidents, and other instances of criminal activity—adversely affecting an estimated 570 civilians across northeastern Nigeria's Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe states from March to April. Notably, 72 percent of the security incidents occurred in Borno. OAG hostilities also displaced more than 10,000 individuals for the first time during the same period, with IDPs migrating to seek greater access to humanitarian assistance, family reunification, and improved security conditions, according to IOM. Population movements continue to place civilians at risk, particularly as some OAGs have targeted areas where humanitarian actors are providing assistance. In Borno, OAGs attacked Bama LGA's Soye village twice in March and April following cash and food assistance distributions, resulting in civilian casualties. In addition, OAG attacks on communities in Yobe's Gujba LGA between May 22 and 26 resulted in the deaths of three civilians, injury to 12 individuals, and the displacement of more than 4,700 other people, including at least 2,700 children, IOM reports.

Ongoing hostilities by OAGs in northeastern Nigeria have generated significant protection risks for populations already experiencing high levels of humanitarian need. Protection actors highlighted more than 200 protection incidents involving OAG attacks on civilians between January 1 and April 29 in Borno's Bama, Damboa, Gwoza, Mobbar, and Ngala LGAs, representing a more than 190 percent increase in the number of incidents in the areas compared with the September-to-December 2023 period, according to the Protection Sector of North East (PSNE). The attacks resulted in the deaths of

77 civilians and injury to more than 70 other people, as well as more than 200 abductions, kidnappings, and forced disappearances of boys, girls, and men during the reporting period. Moreover, the attacks resulted in the secondary displacement of more than 600 IDPs to neighboring camps and LGAs, PSNE reports. In response to the attacks and associated insecurity, affected populations are relying on negative coping mechanisms, such as begging, hawking, and survival sex, to meet their basic needs. U.S. Government (USG) staff continue to monitor OAG-related threats to civilians and the effects of insecurity on the humanitarian operating environment. In addition, USAID/BHA is advocating with GoN entities to improve the process of identifying relocation areas and strengthening access and availability of critically needed services in areas of return. USAID/BHA partners continue to provide life-saving food, health, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to meet the needs of conflict-affected populations in northeastern Nigeria.

## KEY FIGURES



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USAID/BHA partners supporting nutrition activities



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USG-funded partners supporting health activities



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USG-funded partners supporting WASH activities

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA partners provide life-saving food and nutrition assistance in Nigeria as high levels of population displacement, increased food and fuel prices, low agricultural output, and climatic shocks continue to result in widespread acute food insecurity and malnutrition. USAID/BHA supports the UN World Food Program (WFP) and NGOs to provide cash transfers, in-kind food commodities, and food vouchers—which enable vulnerable populations to meet their food needs while supporting local economies in areas where markets are functioning—to at-risk households in remote areas of Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe. USAID/BHA also supports UNICEF, WFP, and ten NGOs to provide preventative and curative nutrition assistance for conflict-affected children and PLW to reduce the prevalence of wasting, the deadliest form of malnutrition.

### HEALTH

State/PRM and USAID/BHA partner with UNHCR, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and nine international NGOs to provide essential health care services to conflict-affected populations in Nigeria. Often implemented in coordination with nutrition and WASH programming, USAID/BHA health assistance provides medical supplies, trains community health workers, and supports urgent services at health facilities, such as the provision of confidential gender-based violence (GBV) treatment and care. USAID/BHA partners also deploy mobile teams to deliver health care and nutrition services—including communicable disease prevention and treatment—to hard-to-reach populations, particularly in conflict-affected areas of northeastern Nigeria.

### WASH

USAID/BHA funds IOM, UNICEF, and 11 implementing partners to conduct critical WASH activities, including constructing WASH infrastructure—such as boreholes and hand pumps—at IDP sites, monitoring WASH facilities, and

promoting WASH messaging through community health workers. USAID/BHA-supported activities also include cleaning water containers and latrines, clearing drains, and managing solid waste. In addition, State/PRM partners support refugees and host communities by constructing and repairing WASH infrastructure and conducting water quality checks.



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USG-funded partners providing protection services

## PROTECTION

USG partners integrate protection programming throughout all USAID/BHA and State/PRM-supported activities, while USG protection partners specifically address protection concerns among conflict-affected and displaced populations in Nigeria, providing child protection, GBV prevention, mental health and psychosocial support, and other specialized protection services. Additionally, USAID/BHA-supported protection programming includes education to mitigate risks related to mines and unexploded ordnance, which continue to threaten the safety of Nigerians.



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USAID/BHA partners implementing shelter programs

## SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

USG assistance provides safe, covered living spaces for people who have been displaced by conflict and climatic shocks in Nigeria. USAID/BHA supports IOM and other partners to fortify shelters, engage at-risk populations in shelter design and construction, and reduce security risks for IDPs and host communities in northeastern Nigeria. Additionally, USAID/BHA partners provide household items to at-risk populations to enable them to meet basic needs and support community-led disaster risk reduction committees in IDP camps with safety materials to reduce the risk of flooding. State/PRM partner UNHCR, in collaboration with various NGOs, provides shelter and settlements support to IDPs and refugees.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Armed attacks led by Jama'atu Ahlus-Sunnah Lidda'Awati Wal Jihad and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria–West Africa have resulted in high levels of insecurity in northeastern Nigeria, exacerbating humanitarian needs and displacing more than 3.3 million people since 2013. Violent clashes between the armed groups and government forces have hampered humanitarian access to affected regions, increasing civilian vulnerabilities to armed group activity. Separately, in northwestern Nigeria, increasing levels of armed criminal group activity and intercommunal conflict have generated widespread humanitarian needs, displacing many residents within the region and to neighboring Niger.
- From November 2016 to October 2018, USAID maintained a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG response to the humanitarian crisis in northeastern Nigeria. To support the field activities of the DART, USAID also established a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team, which deactivated in August 2018. Support was transitioned to the USAID/BHA Humanitarian Assistance Response Technical Office based in Nigeria's capital city of Abuja at that time.

- On November 8, 2023, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i. William Stevens renewed the declaration of humanitarian need in Nigeria for FY 2024 due to the ongoing complex emergencies in the northeastern and northwestern areas of the country.

## USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NIGERIA RESPONSE IN FY 2024<sup>1,2</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA), Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Shelter and Settlements, Protection, WASH	Adamawa, Borno, Yobe	\$6,799,857
UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	HCIMA	Adamawa, Borno, Yobe	\$499,809
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture	Adamawa, Borno, Yobe	\$2,000,000
UNFPA	HCIMA, Health, Protection	Adamawa, Borno, Yobe	\$2,499,994
UNICEF	Nutrition	Katsina, Sokoto, Zamfara	\$5,500,000
UN Mine Action Service	Protection	Countrywide	\$450,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Food Vouchers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP); Logistics Support; Nutrition	Adamawa, Borno, Yobe	\$25,700,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Adamawa, Borno, Yobe	\$9,996,454
Implementing Partners	Agriculture, Early Recovery and Market Systems, Health, HCIMA, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Adamawa, Borno, Katsina, Sokoto, Yobe, Zamfara	\$45,115,000
Program Support			\$35,649
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$99,596,763</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,600,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,960,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$6,560,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE NIGERIA RESPONSE IN FY 2024</b>			<b>\$106,156,763</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 18, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> 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 [interaction.org](https://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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:

- USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://cidi.org)
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)