

# NORTHEAST NIGERIA: STRONGER AND MORE STABLE COMMUNITIES

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Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

**THE CRISIS** Over the last seven years the Boko Haram insurgency has further victimized the already vulnerable local population in northeast Nigeria. Nearly seven out of ten people are living below the extreme-poverty line, on less than \$1.90 day, and economic opportunities are severely limited. For the last three years, most farmlands have remained uncultivated in the largely agrarian region following the sacking of local communities who have fled to safety in IDP Camps with food prices skyrocketing to almost 150% higher than in 2016. Food insecurity is rampant and northeast Nigeria resulting in a near-famine situation. With about 2 million displaced people living in camps and host communities, the need is urgent to not only address the humanitarian crisis, but longer-term recovery plans must be put in place and accelerated to prevent further calamity in this vulnerable region.

- Over 5 million people are food insecure in Nigeria's northeast.
- Around 187,000 people have fled to neighbouring Cameroon, Chad and Niger.
- Around eight out of every ten of those internally displaced are living with families in host communities or in makeshift camps, putting extra pressure on already vulnerable host communities.
- 8.5 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance with 4.5 million targeted for early recovery support.
- Over 950,000 houses, approximately 660 municipal buildings and around 700 power distribution substations have been destroyed in Borno alone.
- Over 5,000 schools and 200 health facilities, around 1,600 water supply sources, 16 parks and other recreation facilities have also been destroyed.
- 86 percent of households spend more than they earn, and 30 percent of households are economically inactive.

**UNDP'S RESPONSE** Swift delivery of aid, combined with a political solution to the conflict, recovery and emergency development work, can address the looming famine and build the resilience of Nigerian communities. UNDP Nigeria is expanding its early recovery work in the region by delivering an holistic recovery package that aims to stabilize communities through the simultaneous implementation of an integrated range of short to longer term early recovery interventions. This ensures communities are secure; have access to basic services like education, healthcare, and potable water; have both immediate and sustainable economic opportunities; and local governance structures are revived.

With a fully-fledged Sub-Office team based in Maiduguri, Borno State, UNDP is working in partnership with the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Resettlement in the State and collaborating with sister UN Agencies and international organizations like WHO and FAO, and The British Council to maximize the vast expertise of our partners, and further strengthen the web of

resilient communities across the vulnerable region.

In the coming two years, UNDP aims to reach 1 million people by stabilizing at least 20 communities across the 3 States hardest-hit by the conflict and building a strong web of resilience by:

- Building economic opportunities through small grants, skills training and trade assistance.
- Restoring local governance and rule of law in affected communities.
- Repairing or rebuilding public infrastructure such as schools, health centres, waste management services.
- Preventing violent extremism and terrorism through promotion of social cohesion and religious tolerance.
- Restoring agricultural production with improved seedlings, tools, fertilizer, animals and more.

**OUR ACHIEVEMENTS** The Integrated Community Stabilization Programme builds on UNDP's previous and on-going interventions in the northeast. With support from the Governments of Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the European Union, USAID, and the host Government of Nigeria, UNDP has achieved promising results including:

- Between the second half of 2016 and the first half of 2017, an estimated 450,000 most vulnerable conflict-affected people including women and children have benefitted either directly or indirectly from interventions by UNDP.
- Unconditional cash grants have been provided to about 82,000 of the most vulnerable conflict-affected persons.
- Schools, healthcare facilities, water boreholes and government buildings have been reconstructed sometimes through cash-for-work programmes that have benefitted over 4,000 skilled and unskilled community workers.
- Over 5,000 farmers (over 20% women) have been supported with agricultural inputs, farm implements and cash to restart farming activities.
- Over 3,200 small business owners supported with grants, equipment or training for diversification and new skills.
- 4.2 million people reached with radio public service announcements and dramas on peace-building and gender-based violence prevention messages.
- 258 IDPs completed technical and vocational training in 7 trades (Modern Automechanics, Modern Automechatronics, Welding & Panel Beating, Auto Spraying & Painting, GSM Repair, Aluminium Fabrication and Welding & Fabrication).
- 313 IDPs undergoing technical and vocational training in nine trades (Modern Automechanics, Modern Automechatronics, Welding & Panel Beating, Auto Spraying & Painting, Tailoring, Catering & Decoration, Shoe/Leather Work, Hairdressing and Computer Studies).