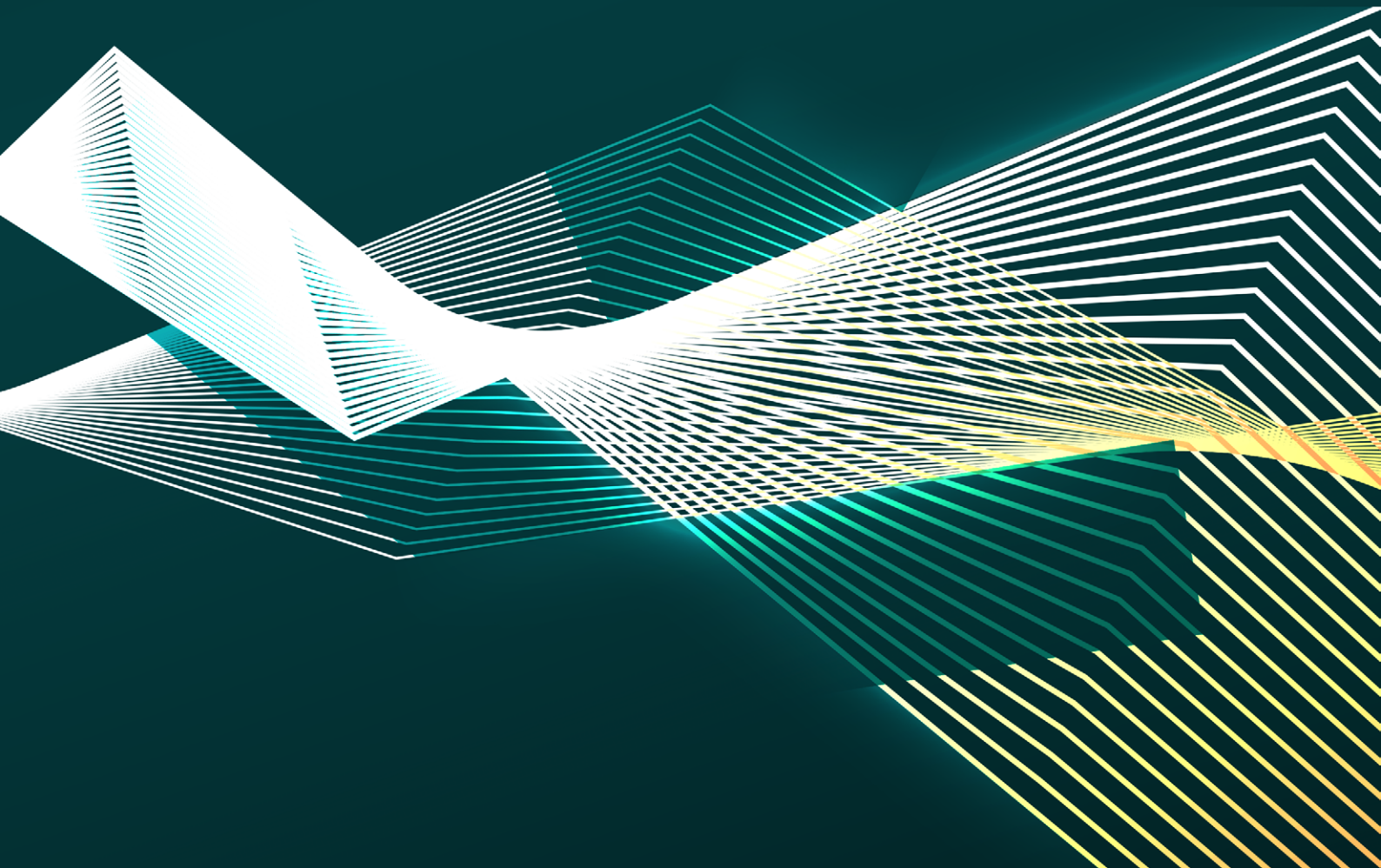




REGIONAL STABILIZATION FACILITY FOR LAKE CHAD

REGIONAL ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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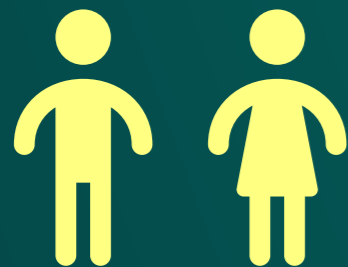
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FOREWORD

As we reflect on the culmination of our efforts throughout 2023, we are compelled to express our gratitude to the dedicated teams, partners, and communities that have been pivotal in steering the Regional Stabilization Facility (RSF) towards impactful outcomes.

Our journey has been marked by a steadfast commitment to evidence-based interventions, results, and an unwavering focus on gender considerations. The overarching goals to enhance security, protect human rights, and fortify civilian well-being in the Lake Chad Basin (LCB) have entailed resilience in the face of dynamic challenges.

The notable rise in perceptions of feeling safe across RSF Joint Action Plan (JAP) locations underscores the tangible impacts of our initiatives.



With an increase from 50 percent in 2020 to an impressive 86 percent in 2023,

we have empowered over

1.1 million

people, including 620,000 women, to reclaim a sense of security.

Although persistent challenges remain, the progress made — including constructing and rehabilitating community infrastructure, activating community stabilization committees (CSCs), training security personnel, expanding access to essential social services, promoting economic opportunities, and working with regional partners on a range of regional initiatives — has laid a strong foundation for expanding stabilization across the LCB.

The transition of the UNDP-led Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery, and Resilience (RS-SRR) Secretariat to the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), which managed and implemented the RS-SRR in 2023, marked a significant milestone in regional coordination.

Cross-border collaboration has remained integral to our programming, fostering understanding and trade across borders. The LCBC 4th Governors' Forum, the 2nd Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region, and the High-level Conference on the LCBC have been crucial platforms for advancing peace, collaboration, and garnering substantial support.

Our journey is encapsulated not only in triumphs but also in valuable lessons learned. The diverse challenges faced — from security threats to political change, inflation, and beneficiary selection intricacies — have steered us towards enhanced resilience. As we navigate the concluding phase of the RSF in August 2024, sustained investments become the bedrock for consolidating achievements and expanding stabilization in the LCB.

The RSF's transformative impacts on the ground are having real-world impacts on real people's lives; these successes are a testament to our collective local, regional, and bilateral partnerships. I extend my appreciation to everyone who has been part of this journey, and I invite you to join us in the continued pursuit of stability, resilience, and prosperity in the Lake Chad region.



Blerta Cela

Director of the Regional Stabilization Facility,
UNDP Regional Office for West and Central Africa

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Context: Security, Human Rights, and Civilian Protection

From January to December 2023, the overall security situation across the four Lake Chad countries (Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria) was relatively stable, although there were sporadic months of volatility, including the July coup d'état in Niger¹.

The number of security incidents and deaths across the Lake Chad Basin (LCB) region remained stagnant between 2019 and 2023². In 2023, there were 1,835 security incidents, which is 29 percent higher than the five-year average of 1,427. However, the 3,946 deaths in 2023 were 5 percent lower than the five-year average of 4,132³.

Security incidents in the LCB region have targeted both civilians and national security forces. In 2023, there were 629 incidents against civilians compared to the five-year average of 519. The number of civilian deaths, 834, was lower than the five-year average of 906⁴.

Overall, there is a slight increase in the number of security incidents and a slight decrease in the number of deaths over time. This reflects a nuanced security situation, possibly indicating an increase in resource-related conflicts, improved security responses from local governments or a combination of these and other factors. Overall, the situation has not fully stabilized, and ongoing efforts to address the root causes of insecurity are still needed.

Between December 2022 and December 2023, there was a 2 percent decline in IDPs, a 25 percent increase in the number of returnees, and a 3 percent increase in the number of refugees⁶.

For 2024, Cameroon, Chad, and Nigeria are classified as High Risk, indicating regular conflict, criminal activity, or civil unrest. Niger is classified as Extreme Risk, indicating active conflict⁷.

What We Achieved: Security and Justice

At the outcome level, perceptions on safety and security in JAP locations have increased to — and have remained stable at — high levels over time. Across Cameroon, Chad, and Nigeria, the number of households reporting that they felt safe and secure rose from 50 percent in 2020 to 86 percent in 2023, an increase of 36 percentage points⁸. This translates into approximately 1,150,000 people (620,000 women) reporting safety and security in 2023, an increase of 480,000 people (260,000 women) from 2020.

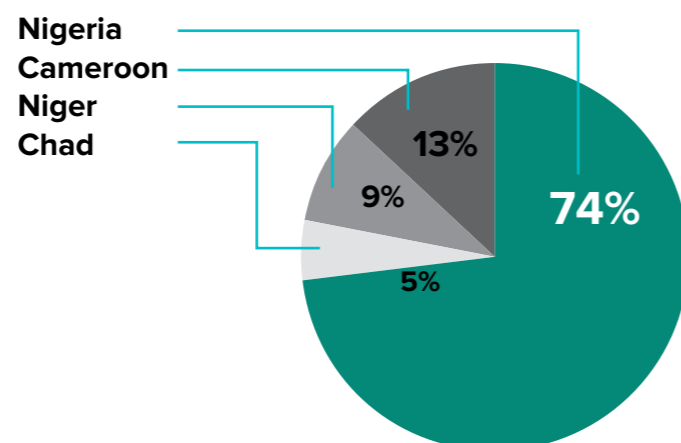
Satisfaction with the state provision of security services remains stable in RSF JAP locations. In 2020, the average satisfaction was 53 percent. It increased by 30 percentage points to 83 percent in 2021 and remained at this level through to 2023⁹. The percentage of households who report having access to justice continues to increase. In 2023, 69 percent reported having access to justice, up 12 percentage points from 2022 and 43 percentage points from 2021¹⁰. Overall, JAP communities benefitted from significant progress across all security and justice interventions.

What We Achieved: Essential Social Services

The percentage of households satisfied with access to essential social services has increased from 53 percent in 2020 to 78 percent in 2023, an increase of 25 percentage points¹¹. This translates into approximately 1,040,000 people (565,000 women) reporting improved access to essential social services, an increase of 585,000 (310,000 women) from 2020. JAP communities have benefitted from significant progress across all essential social services interventions. In 2023, there were 1,560 achievements across all indicators. Cumulative progress against all indicators is 116 percent¹².

At the end of the year, over **6 million** people (including internally displaced peoples (IDPs), returnees, and refugees) were impacted across the four countries⁵

The majority of individuals were in



1. CrisisWatch is a monthly, global conflict tracker published by The International Crisis Group. Designed as an early warning tool, it identifies conflict trends and escalation risks across 70 countries. International Crisis Group (2024) CrisisWatch. Available at: <https://www.crisisgroup.org/crisiswatch> (Accessed: 15 January 2024).
 2. While this analysis covers the entire LCB region, RSF only operates in a small number of communities (JAP locations).
 3. Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) Project. Data was filtered by regions where the Regional Stabilization Facility operates, including Adamawa, Borno, Diffa, Extreme-Nord, Hadjer- Lamis, Lac, and Yobe. All Event Types were selected. ACLED (2024) ACLED Dashboard. Available at: <https://acleddata.com/dashboard/#/dashboard> (Accessed: 16 January 2024).
 4. Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) Project. Data was filtered by regions where the Regional Stabilization Facility operates, including Adamawa, Borno, Diffa, Extreme-Nord, Hadjer- Lamis, Lac, and Yobe. All Event Types were selected except Strategic Developments. Interactions included all against rioters, protestors, civilians, other. ACLED (2024) ACLED Dashboard. Available at: <https://acleddata.com/dashboard/#/dashboard> (Accessed: 16 January 2024).
 5. International Organization for Migration (2024) West and Central Africa — Lake Chad Basin Crisis Monthly Dashboard 59 (December 2023). Available at: <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/west-and-central-africa-lake-chad-basin-crisis-monthly-dashboard-59-december-2023> (Accessed: 21 February 2024)

6. IDPs increased in Cameroon (18 percent) and Niger (4 percent) and decreased in Nigeria (6 percent).
 7. Global Guardian (2024) 2024 Global Guardian Risk Map + Taiwan Shock Index. Available at: <https://www.globalguardian.com/risk-map> (Accessed: 18 February 2024).
 8. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581).
 9. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581).
 10. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581).
 11. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581).
 12. Calculation: Sum of cumulative progress divided by sum of cumulative targets (6,493 / 5,616 = 116 percent).

What We Achieved: Livelihoods

From 2020 to 2023, the percentage of households satisfied with state efforts in providing livelihood opportunities rose from 60 percent to 78 percent, an increase of 18 percentage points¹³. This improvement reflects a rise in the number of people reporting confidence in the state in promoting local economic opportunities, with the figures increasing by approximately 580,000 to reach a total of about 1,050,000 people, of whom 560,000 are women (up from 295,000 women in 2020). At the output level, JAP communities have benefitted from significant progress across all livelihoods interventions. In 2023, there were 6,912 achievements across all indicators. Cumulative progress against all indicators is 96 percent¹⁴.

What We Achieved: Regional Coordination

In 2023, the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) transitioned from the UNDP-led RS-SRR Secretariat to LCBC-managed RS-SRR implementation, thereby enhancing regional collaboration. Cross-border collaboration remained an integral programming component, including an informative study on cross-border trade that identified barriers and investment opportunities. The 4th Governors' Forum emphasized peace, collaboration, and RS-SRR progress; the 2nd Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region focused on sustainable development; and the 3rd High-level Conference highlighted RSF's role and garnered over US\$500 million in support. Launched platforms including GStabilize, LCBC Community Connect aid coordination, and the Conflict Analysis Network (which facilitates conflict understanding and strategy development among UNDP field teams and partners).

Lessons Learned, Challenges, and Opportunities

Non-state armed groups (NSAGs) targeted JAP locations, causing delays and implementation limitations in all four project countries. Lessons learned emphasize accelerating early warning systems and implementing adaptive management policies. Recurrent flooding and road damages posed challenges, prompting future planning to integrate environmental threats, consider alternate access, and plan for flooding timelines. Political leadership changes in Niger and Nigeria disrupted relationships, emphasizing the need for diversified communication and local-level advocacy. High inflation rates (which averaged 11 percent) impacted RSF activities, necessitating fiscal scenario planning for budget flexibility.

Completed infrastructures in Chad remained underutilized, prompting ongoing monitoring and support post-handover. Beneficiary selection challenges highlighted the importance of regular reviews, whistleblower protection, and independent monitoring. Population increases in JAP locations stressed essential services, emphasizing the need for prioritizing social cohesion and population projections in future programming.

13. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581).

14. Calculation: Sum of cumulative progress divided by sum of cumulative targets (82,026 / 85,868 = 96 percent).

Financial Resources and Partnerships

A total of
\$44,695,036

(89 percent) were delivered in 2023. Most of the resources were disbursed to essential social services (25 percent), followed by security and justice (15 percent), and livelihoods (10 percent).



In terms of delivery ratios, Chad delivered 96 percent of its budget, Nigeria delivered 93 percent of its budget, Cameroon delivered 87 percent of its budget, Niger delivered 77 percent of its budget, and regional delivered 89 percent of its budget. As a share of all delivery in 2023, Nigeria delivered the largest share with 42 percent, followed by Cameroon with 21 percent, Chad with 13 percent, Niger with 12 percent, and regional with 11 percent.

Expanding Areas of Stabilization

As the RSF concludes in August 2024, sustained investments will be critical for the consolidation of past achievements and working towards expanding stability in the Lake Chad Basin. This includes reaching more JAP locations, which, when combined, can stabilize larger and larger areas, promoting cross-border trade and prosperity and supporting all partners in the realization of the RS-SRR.

ACRONYMS

CIMIC	Civil-military cooperation
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DDRRR	Disarmament, Demobilization, Rehabilitation, Reinsertion and Reintegration
DPPA	Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
ISWA	Islamic State in West Africa
JAP	Joint Action Plan
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LCB	Lake Chad Basin
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NSAG	Non-State Armed Group
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
RSF	Regional Stabilization Facility
RS-SRR	Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery, and Resilience
RSS	Regional Stabilization Strategy
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

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CONTEXT: SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND CIVILIAN PROTECTION

From January to December 2023, the conflict situation across the four Lake Chad countries (Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria) remained relatively stable month-to-month, with sporadic months of volatility. Cameroon and Chad each experienced three deteriorating months, while Niger and Nigeria each experienced one deteriorating month.

Table 1: CrisisWatch Monthly Conflict Tracker, 2023¹⁵

Month	Cameroon	Chad	Niger	Nigeria
January				
February				
March				
April				
May				
June				
July			coup d'état	
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				
Legend	Deteriorated Situation	Unchanged Situation	Improved Situation	

Between 2019 and 2023, the total number of security incidents and deaths across the Lake Chad Basin (LCB) regions remained relatively stable¹⁶. In 2023, there were 1,835 security incidents, which is 29 percent higher than the 2019–2023 average of 1,427. However, in 2023, there were 3,946 deaths, which is 5 percent lower than the average of 4,132 during the 2019–2023 period. The majority of security incidents in the LCB region have targeted civilian populations, followed by national security forces¹⁷. The Sahel region continues to see more violent events and casualties¹⁸ than South Asia and MENA combined, accounting for 43 percent of the world's victims of terrorism¹⁹.

15. CrisisWatch is a monthly, global conflict tracker published by The International Crisis Group. Designed as an early warning tool, it identifies conflict trends and escalation risks across 70 countries. International Crisis Group (2024) CrisisWatch. Available at: <https://www.crisisgroup.org/crisiswatch> (Accessed: 15 January 2024).

16. While this analysis covers the entire LCB region, it should be noted that RSF only operates in a small number of communities (JAP locations).

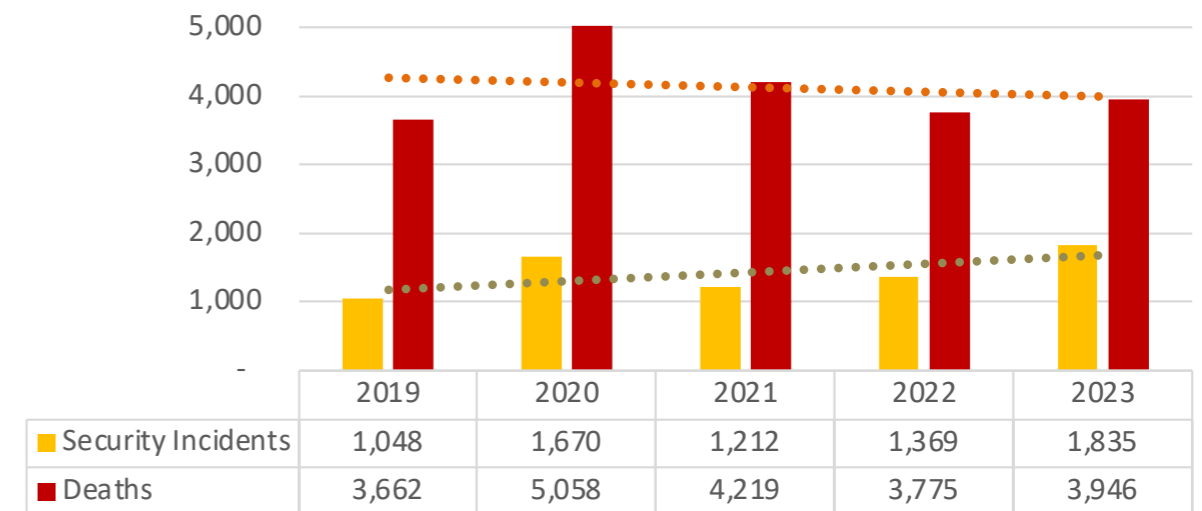
17. ACLED (2024) ACLED Dashboard. Available at: <https://acleddata.com/dashboard/#/dashboard> (Accessed: 16 January 2024).

18. Africa Center for Strategic Studies (2023) African Militant Islamist Group-Linked Fatalities at All-Time High. Available at: <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/africa-militant-islamist-group-linked-fatalities-at-all-time-high/> (Accessed: 17 January 2024).

19. Green, M. A. (2023) The Sahel Now Accounts for 43 percent of Global Terrorism Deaths. Available at: <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/sahel-now-accounts-43-global-terrorism-deaths> (Accessed: 17 January 2024).

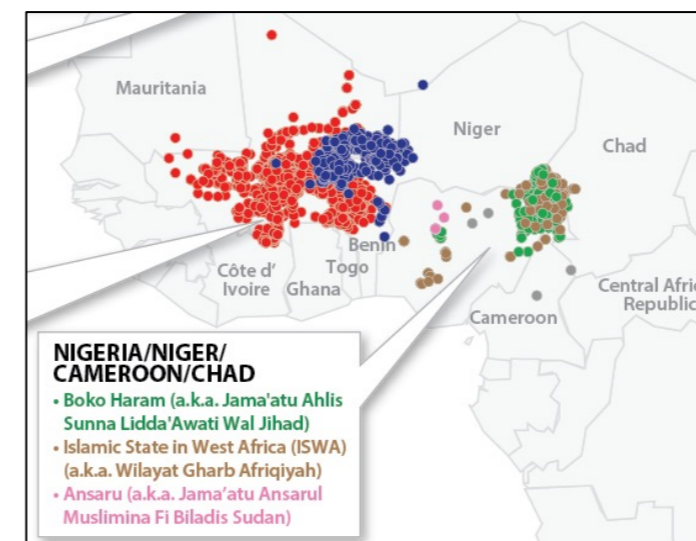
Overall, there is a slight increase in the number of security incidents and a slight decrease in the number of deaths over time. This indicates a nuanced security situation, possibly indicating an increase in resource-related conflicts, improved security responses from local governments or a combination of these and other factors. Overall, the situation is not fully stabilized, and ongoing efforts to address the root causes of insecurity are still needed.

Figure 1: Security Incidents and Deaths, Lake Chad Basin Regions²⁰



The main non-state armed groups (NSAGs) in the LCB are Boko Haram²¹ and Islamic State in West Africa (ISWA)^{22 23}

Figure 2: Non-State Armed Groups in Lake Chad Basin in 2023²⁴



20. Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) Project. Data was filtered by regions where the Regional Stabilization Facility operates, including Adamawa, Borno, Diffa, Extreme-Nord, Hadjer- Lamis, Lac, and Yobe. All Event Types were selected. ACLED (2024) ACLED Dashboard. Available at: <https://acleddata.com/dashboard/#/dashboard> (Accessed: 16 January 2024).

21. a.k.a. Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'Awati Wal Jihad (JAS).

22. a.k.a. Wilayat Gharb Afriqiyah.

23. In 2016, Boko Haram split into two groups: JAS and ISWA. JAS is commonly referred to as Boko Haram while Islamic State in West Africa is commonly abbreviated to ISWA or ISWAP.

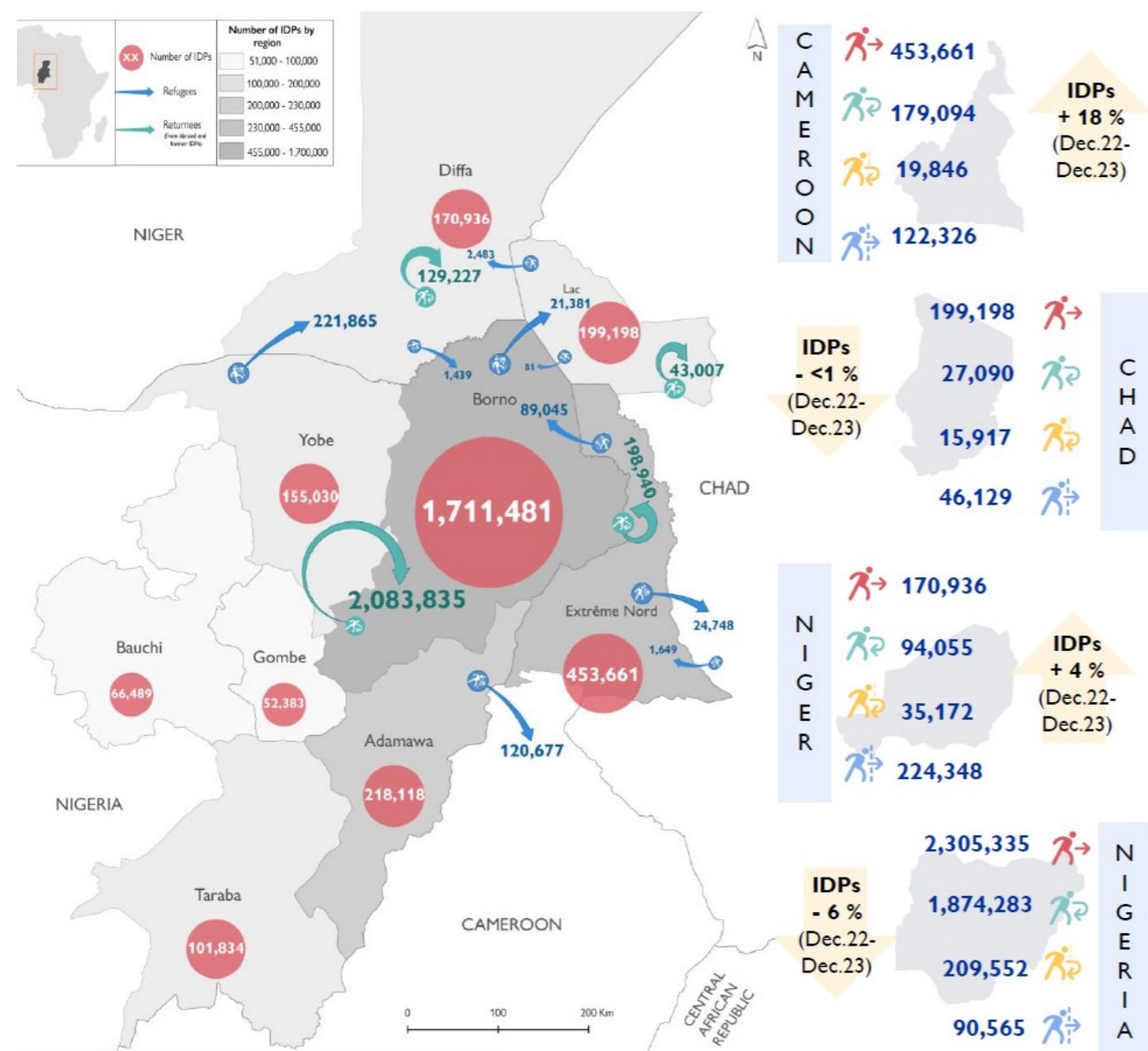
24. Africa Center for Strategic Studies (2023) Africa's Active Militant Islamist Groups. Available at: <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/fatalities-from-militant-islamist-violence-in-africa-surge-by-nearly-50-percent/> (Accessed: 17 January 2024).

Human Rights and Civilian Protection

Population Displacement

Population displacement continued in the LCB throughout 2023. At the end of the year, over 6,000,000 people (including internally displaced peoples (IDPs), returnees, and refugees) were impacted across the four countries. The majority of individuals were in Nigeria (74 percent), followed by Cameroon (13 percent), Niger (9 percent), and Chad (5 percent). Between December 2022 and December 2023, there was a 2 percent decline in IDPs, a 25 percent increase in the number of returnees, and a 3 percent increase in the number of refugees²⁵.

Figure 3: Population Displacement in the Lake Chad Basin²⁶



25. IDPs increased in Cameroon (18 percent) and Niger (4 percent); the number of IDPs decreased in Nigeria (6 percent).
 26. International Organization for Migration (2024) West and Central Africa — Lake Chad Basin Crisis Monthly Dashboard 59 (December 2023). Available at: <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/west-and-central-africa-lake-chad-basin-crisis-monthly-dashboard-59-december-2023> (Accessed: 21 February 2024).

Violence against Civilians

The number of incidents and deaths against civilians between 2019 and 2023 has remained relatively stable. In 2023, the number of incidents against civilians, 629, was higher than the five-year average of 519. The number of deaths, 834, was lower than the average of 906.

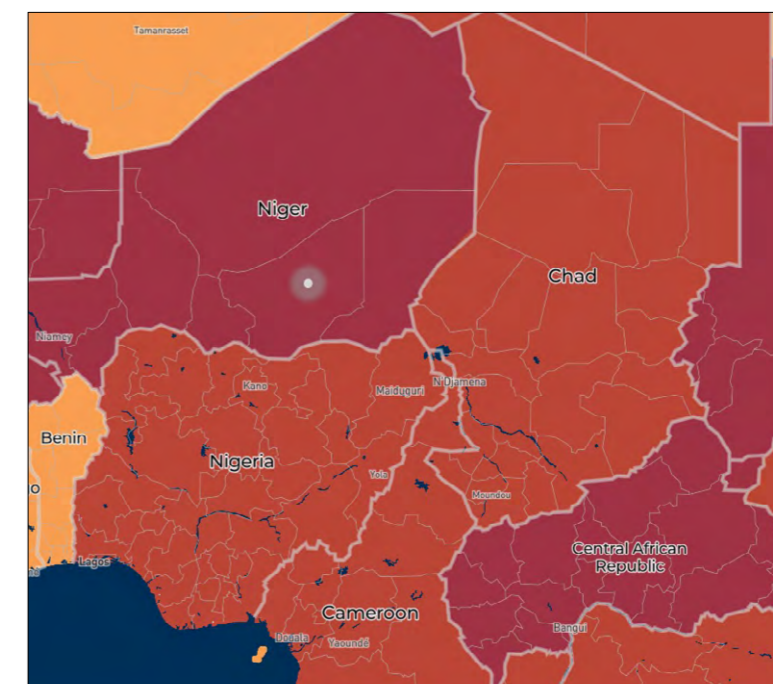
Table 2: Violence against Civilians, Lake Chad Basin, 2019-2023²⁷

Year	Incidents	Change Year Prior	Deaths	Change Year Prior
2019	447	57%	1,055	-4%
2020	652	46%	1,194	13%
2021	379	-42%	585	-51%
2022	488	29%	860	47%
2023	629	29%	834	-3%

Security Outlook for 2024

For 2024, Cameroon, Chad, and Nigeria are classified as High Risk, indicating regular conflict, criminal activity, or civil unrest. Niger is classified as Extreme Risk, indicating active conflict²⁸.

Figure 4: Global Guardian 2024 Risk Assessment Map, Lake Chad Countries



27. Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) Project. Data was filtered by regions where the Regional Stabilization Facility operates, including Adamawa, Borno, Diffa, Extreme-Nord, Hadjer- Lamis, Lac, and Yobe. All Event Types were selected except Strategic Developments. Interactions included all against rioters, protestors, civilians, other. ACLED (2024) ACLED Dashboard. Available at: <https://acleddata.com/dashboard/#/dashboard> (Accessed: 16 January 2024).
 28. Global Guardian (2024) 2024 Global Guardian Risk Map + Taiwan Shock Index. Available at: <https://www.globalguardian.com/risk-map> (Accessed: 18 February 2024).

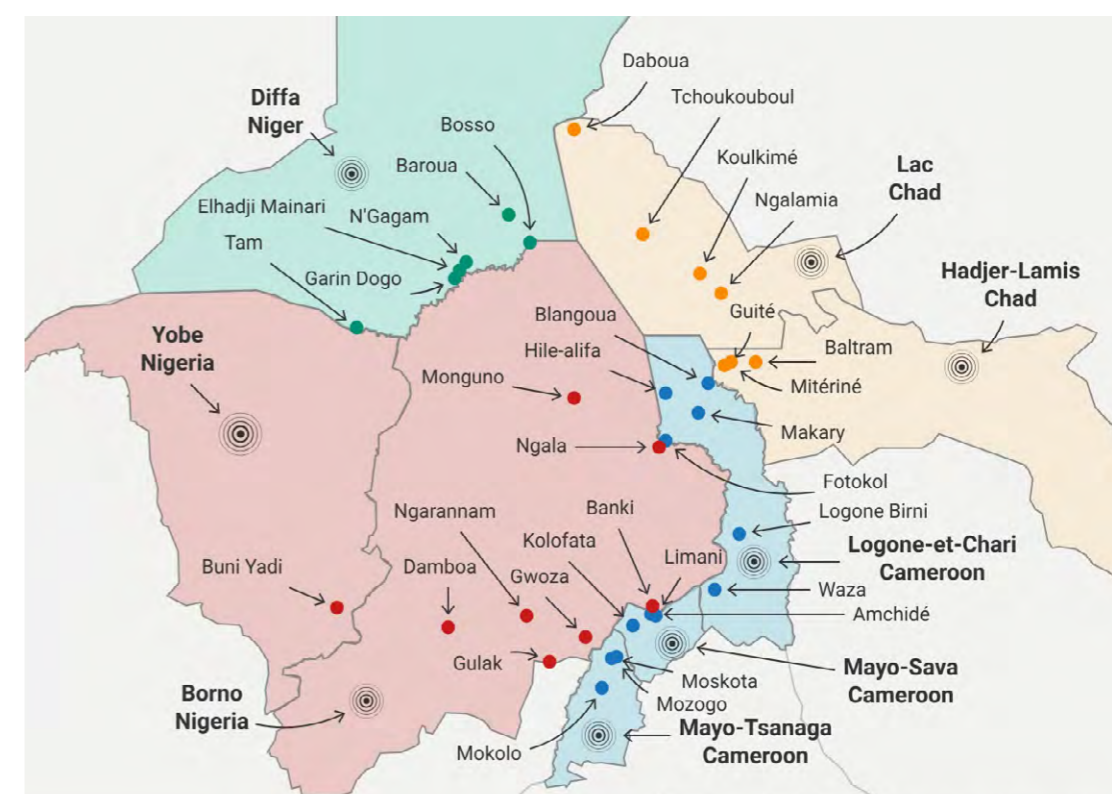
WHAT WE ACHIEVED

RSF worked in 33 Joint Action Plan (JAP) locations across the LCB in 2023, benefitting approximately 1,370,000 people (730,000 female) which represent 6 percent of Lake Chad Basin total population.

Table 3: Programme Sites²⁹

Cameroon		Chad		Niger		Nigeria	
Location	Pop.	Location	Pop.	Location	Pop.	Location	Pop.
Amchidé	25,442	Baltram	20,153	Baroua	6,274	Banki	59,202
Blangoua	38,062	Daboua	15,545	Bosso	6,597	Buni Yadi	58,471
Fotokol	72,458	Guitté	15,877	Elhadji Mainari	7,507	Damboa	81,522
Hile Alifa	32,393	Koulkimé	1,360	Garin Dogo	4,448	Gulak	12,044
Kolofata	59,884	Mitériné	25,068	N'Gagam	3,519	Gwoza	155,105
Limani	14,831	Ngalamia	6,214	Tam	2,200	Monguno	199,208
Logone Birni	6,276	Tchoukouboul / Baga sola	2,500 +70,000			Ngala	205,821
Makary	104,105					Ngarannam	3,604
Mokolo	57,080						
Moskota	15,088						
Mozogo	38,976						
Waza	16,982						

Figure 5: Map of JAP Locations



29. Populations in JAP locations are regularly increasing due to increased stability and an influx of IDPs, returnees, refugees, and reintegrated persons.

Internally Displaced Persons

An estimated 435,000 formerly IDPs may have returned (returnees) to RSF target locations since 2020³⁰, accounting for around 20 percent of all IDP returnees³¹ in the Lake Chad Basin. In the eight RSF-targeted locations in Nigeria, 325,800 women and men have returned home.

A high number of IDPs moving to JAP locations has been observed through to 2023. 613,800 internally displaced people have so far moved to an RSF site, likely due to perceived increased safety and services. However, it is unclear how many moved voluntarily and what proportion might have been pushed there or moved for other reasons. Such moves likely increase pressures on host communities.

In Nigeria, for example, 40 percent of people that have been internally displaced in North-East Nigeria and that have moved to a host community (not a camp or camp-like structure) have moved to an RSF JAP location³². In Borno state in Nigeria, 31 percent of all returnees are located in the eight RSF target sites, and 33 percent of all IDPs in Borno state are in RSF-supported target locations³³. While the return of IDPs to a JAP site is a success for the RSF, the arrival of high numbers of IDPs in a 'stabilized' JAP puts pressure on these communities and available resources, which can ultimately undermine the success of the JAP. It is expected that larger stabilized areas and corridors of stability will reduce the pressure on stabilized JAPs, as IDPs move into these relatively secure but (much) larger and more numerous JAP locations. This can be addressed by ensuring our commitment to scale to cover as many sites as possible.

30. Sources: a) Nigeria: International Organization for Migration (IOM), May 10 2023. DTM Nigeria — North-east — Mobility Tracking Round 44 IDP and Returnee Atlas (April 2023). IOM, Nigeria, <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/nigeria-north-east-mobility-tracking-round-44-idp-and-returnee-atlas-april-2023>, communication with IOM office in Northeast Nigeria, b) Niger: Survey by the Direction Régionale de l'Etat Civil et des Réfugiés of the Diffa region, financed by UNHCR (2021 data), c) Cameroon: Primary data collection by RSF team based on estimations by sub-prefects that consulted traditional authorities with knowledge of the population (no formal survey), Chad: Primary data collection by RSF Chad project team through community stabilization committees, confirmed by opinion leaders.

31. Note: 'Returnees' according to IOM definitions are indeed former IDPs that have returned home. If they have moved to another location, they are still considered IDPs, not returnees.

32. Source: International Organization for Migration (IOM), May 10 2023. DTM Nigeria — North-east — Mobility Tracking Round 44 IDP and Returnee Atlas (April 2023). IOM, Nigeria, <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/nigeria-north-east-mobility-tracking-round-44-idp-and-returnee-atlas-april-2023>, communication with IOM office in Northeast Nigeria, own calculations.

33. International Organization for Migration (IOM), May 10 2023. DTM Nigeria — North-east — Mobility Tracking Round 44 IDP and Returnee Atlas (April 2023). IOM, Nigeria, <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/nigeria-north-east-mobility-tracking-round-44-idp-and-returnee-atlas-april-2023>, communication with IOM office in Northeast Nigeria, own calculations.

Figure 6: Journey of Solange: From Forced Displacement to Aspiring Footballer

32-year-old Solange was forced to evacuate her hometown of Kassalare, Hadjer-Lamis, due to the threat of NSAGs. However, she has been able to rebuild her life in the JAP location of Baltram.

Testimony

“

Leaving our home was an extremely difficult decision, but fortunately, in Baltram, we felt very welcomed and accepted. We received land and agricultural equipment to help restart our farming activities. Today, I can cultivate corn and some rice, regaining a semblance of the normal life I had in Kassalare. I also have access to a small school, which was not the case in Kassalare. Workshops on conflict prevention were organized, along with social activities to bring people together, such as football matches between host communities and displaced persons. When invited to join the football team, I immediately accepted as it was an opportunity to foster positive exchanges with our host community. It was my first time playing football; usually, it's the boys who play. Through football, I felt we were becoming a team, and it was amazing. I even became the captain and won several tournaments. It gives me hope for a better future, not just for me but for our entire community.

”

Solange, IDP from Kassalare who resettled in Baltram



Solange accepting a trophy on behalf of the football team
© UNDP Chad

Security and Justice

At the outcome level, perceptions on safety and security in JAP locations have increased to high levels over time and remain stable. Across Cameroon, Chad, and Nigeria, the number of households reporting that they feel safe and secure rose from 50 percent in 2020 to 86 percent in 2023, an increase of 36 percentage points³⁴. This translates into approximately 1,150,000 people (620,000 women) reporting safety and security in 2023, an increase of 480,000 people (260,000 women) from 2020.

Testimony

“

Our village has completely transformed, especially at night, as every street is now illuminated. Children play, young girls dance to traditional tunes, and the trauma of insecurity is less palpable in Tam because there is no fear during the night; everyone goes about their business. We never imagined such a Tam, which we now call ‘Tam Birin,’ meaning ‘New Tam.’

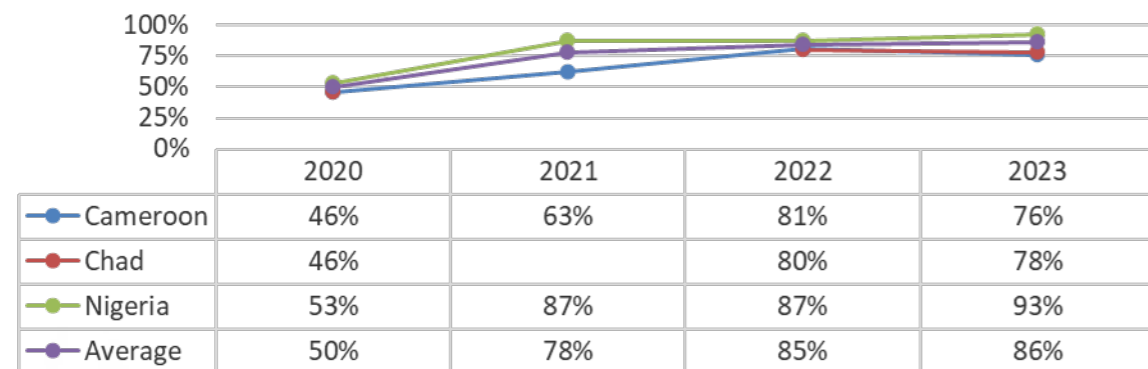
Toura Aboucar, Youth Representative of Tam

”



Solar-powered streetlights (Left: Far North, Cameroon | Right: Tam, Niger)
© UNDP Cameroon | © UNDP Niger

Figure 7: Percentage of Households in JAP Locations Reporting Feelings of Safety and Security³⁵

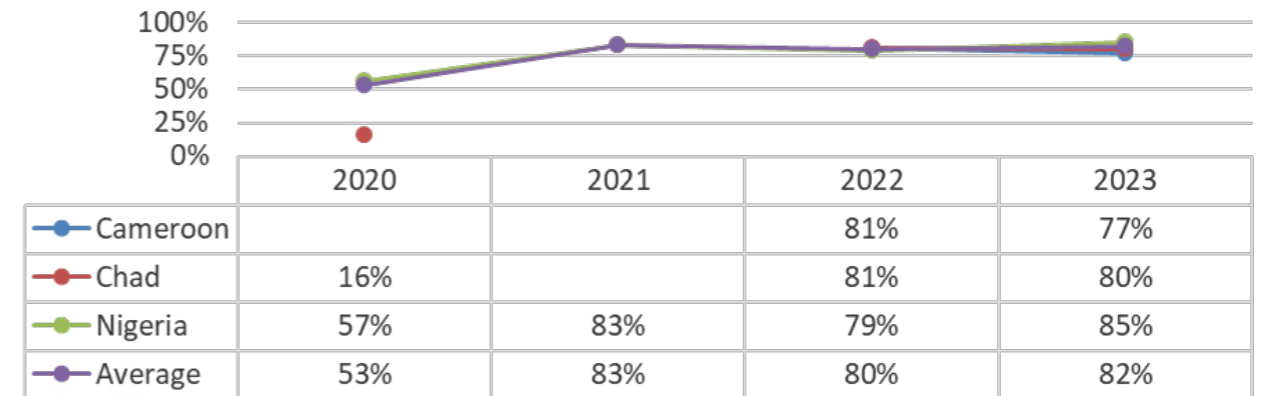


34. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581).

35. Community Perception Survey. Outcome indicator 1.1: Percentage of households in JAP locations who say there is safety and security. The average is weighted by population. 2020, 2021 and 2022 averages have been recalculated using the same methodology.

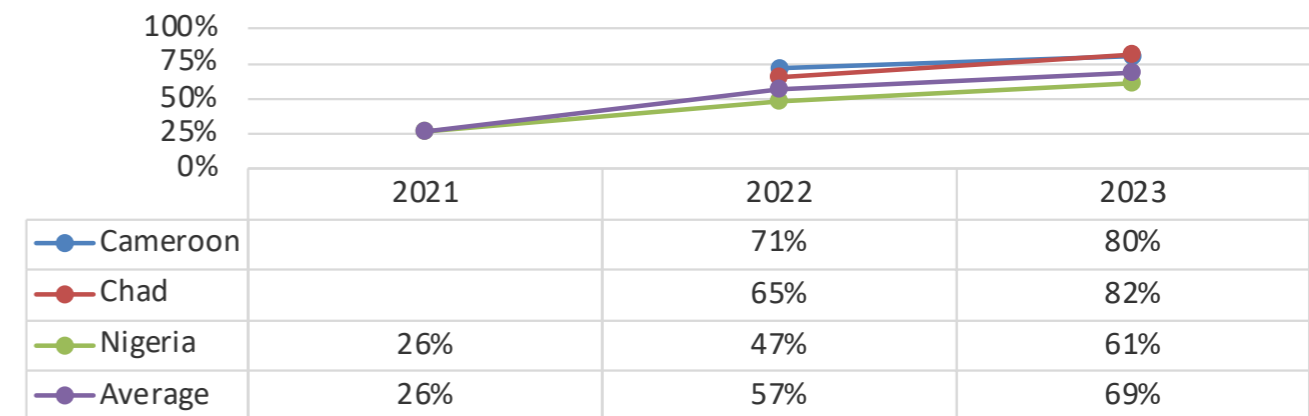
Satisfaction with state provision of security services remains stable in RSF JAP locations. In 2020, the average satisfaction was 53 percent, increasing 30 percentage points in 2021 to 83 percent and maintaining through to 2023³⁶.

Figure 8: Percentage of Households in JAP Locations Satisfied with State Security Services³⁷



The percentage of households who report having access to justice continues to increase. In 2023, 69 percent reported access to justice, up 12 percentage points from 2022 and 43 percentage points from 2021³⁸.

Figure 9: Percentage of Households in JAP Locations Who Report Having Access to Justice³⁹



Overall, JAP communities benefitted from significant progress across all security and justice interventions. In 2023, there were 4,010 achievements across all indicators. Cumulative progress against all indicators is 122 percent⁴⁰.

36. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581). 2020, 2021 and 2022 averages have been recalculated using the same methodology.

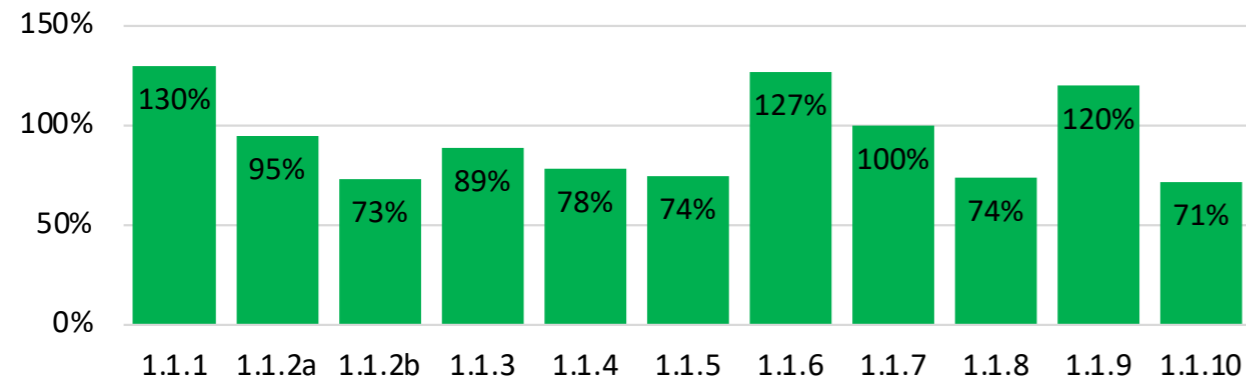
37. Community Perception Survey. Outcome indicator 2.4: Percentage of households satisfied with government security services.

38. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581).

39. Community Perception Survey. Outcome indicator 1.2: Percentage of households in JAP locations who say they have access to justice.

40. Calculation: Sum of cumulative progress divided by sum of cumulative targets (9,658 / 7,906 = 122 percent).

Figure 10: Cumulative Progress against Security and Justice Indicators, All Countries⁴¹



Key Highlights

A total of 127 security and justice infrastructures have been constructed/rehabilitated, including 33 in 2023. These include police and gendarmerie stations, security staff quarters, judicial buildings, security trenches, perimeter walls, community conflict management centres, and strategic outposts.

A total of 91 security and justice infrastructures have been equipped, including 23 in 2023. These include operational equipment, furnishings, and logistical support vehicles.



Handover and testing of motorcycles in Hadjer-Lamis
© UNDP Chad

41. 1.1.1 Number of stakeholder relationships and collaboration with security forces (military, law enforcement agencies, government recognized community security groups) at established and functional at community, district, governorate, state, and national levels.
 1.1.2a Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) constructed/rehabilitated.
 1.1.2b Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) equipped.
 1.1.3 Number of JAP sites with Community Stabilization Committees or similar structures established.
 1.1.4. Percentage of female representatives (including female presidents) within Community Stabilization Committees or similar structures.
 1.1.5 Number of JAP locations with operational early warning systems.
 1.1.6 Number of security providers trained on human rights and prevention of gender-based violence.
 1.1.7 Number of JAP locations in which local human rights defenders are reporting on human rights violations and issues surrounding civilian protection.
 1.1.8 Number of training /sensibilization activities on risk of mine carried out in JAP sites.
 1.1.9 Number of streetlights installed in JAP Location.
 1.1.10 Number of JAP location demined and decontaminated (Chad only).

Over 5,000 security personnel (including nearly 2,000 in 2023) have been trained on human rights, the prevention of gender-based violence, and the management of criminal proceedings within the context of violent extremism. Specific topics included understanding and applying human rights law in complaints and procedures, promoting prevention of and responses to gender-based violence, conducting criminal investigations, handling terrorism-related offences, executing judicial warrants, and maintaining professional ethics.

Testimony

“

The trainings allowed us to identify our areas of need and allowed us to acquire skills to improve them, in particular, the strengthening of security management, the execution of procedures, and the maintenance of administrative and judicial order in the context of extremism in our region

Lekunze Membo, Chief Warrant Officer, Cameroon

”



Training of local law enforcement on community policing and professional ethics
© UNDP Nigeria

Community stabilization committees (CSCs) have emerged as instrumental contributors to security and human rights improvements in JAP locations. CSCs have overseen the successful implementation of JAPs, adopted early warning systems, partnered with legal groups to reduce harassment from security leaders and extortion attempts of beneficiaries, and resolved agricultural land issues⁴².

A total of 29 JAP locations have operational early warning systems in place, including nine installations in 2023. Following NSAG activities in Cameroon, JAP residents in Mokolo, Moskota, and Tourou played an active role in improving the security of their communities. Training was provided to strengthen the skills of community vigilance committees, in addition to the provision of early warning equipment to detect security threats and alert local authorities.

Testimony

“

Before, it was very difficult to do our job. Communication was difficult, and we couldn't get there in time. Today, we are very happy; the training and equipment we received make our work much easier. We can now move quickly around the community, especially during night patrols, and communicate quickly with the police while giving the location with a GPS. In addition, we can now quickly mobilize the entire community in the event of an attack. The security situation in our community is improving significantly thanks to project support.

Mr. Abe Silas, President of the Vigilance Committee of the Tourou Sector, Cameroon

”



Mr. Abe Silas, during the handover of Early warning working materials
© UNDP Cameroon

In Nigeria, about 200 community stakeholders, including traditional and religious leaders from Borno, participated in capacity-building exercises that focused on reintegrating and resettling surrendered Boko Haram associates and returnees who were victims of the insurgency. The exercises also aimed to build the capacities of community stakeholders in early warning and conflict prevention using informal and traditional mechanisms for intelligence gathering and information sharing with government security agencies. Community stakeholders made several recommendations regarding pathways to sustainable peace, including the need for restorative justice, reparations for victims, empowerment of traditional and religious leaders as local interlocutors for peace, integration of peace education into school curricula, and socio-economic empowerment of unemployed youth.

A total of 14 community trainings on the risk of mines and improvised explosive devices have been carried out in Cameroon and Chad, including nine in 2023. In Cameroon, trainings reached more than 8,500 people across six JAP locations, and six local monitoring units were established. In collaboration with the Chadian Commission on Demining, a month-long demining and decontamination between 25 April and 23 May 2023 sensitized communities about the dangers of unexploded ordinances



Demining and decontamination activities in Chad
© UNDP Chad

42. ACK International (2023) Mid-term Review of the Lake Chad Basin Regional Stabilization Facility, pp. 32, 81, 93 – 94.

Over 4,000 solar-powered streetlights have been installed across JAP locations, including more than 1,800 in 2023. Streetlights have been installed in major public areas, including main roads and nearby newly constructed/rehabilitated infrastructure. By deterring potential security threats, the streetlights contribute to the improvement of nighttime safety and encourage economic activity beyond sunset. The streetlights also serve as a sustainable solution to providing community lighting.

Essential Social Services

Testimony



As a teacher, nothing brings me more joy than seeing children learn in a positive environment. Our school is equipped with everything that is essential to their education: solar power, a playground, and all the necessary amenities. The fact that children come to school with enthusiasm reflects the impact of a good and supportive learning centre

Indagidu Bitrus, teacher at Ngarannam Primary School, Nigeria



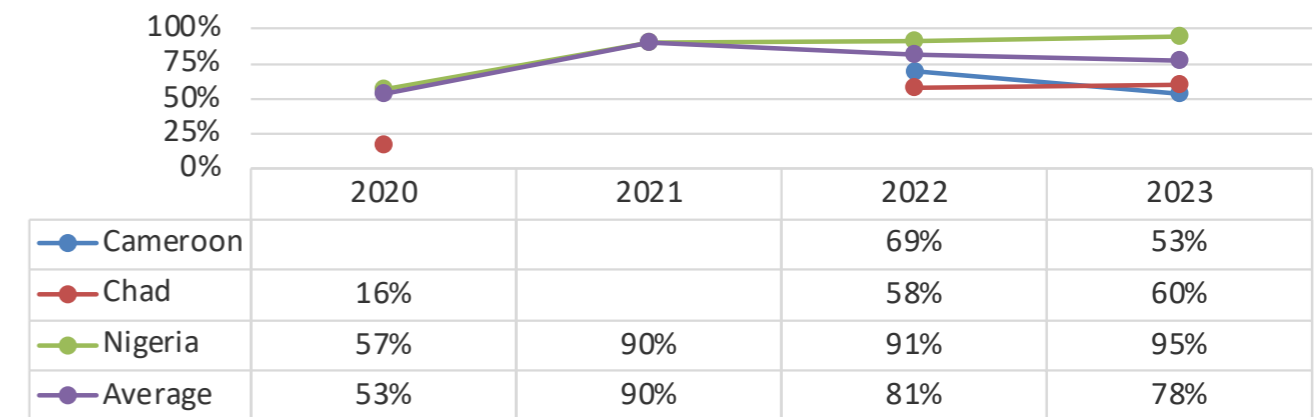
Left: Ngarannam Primary School | Right: Teacher Indagidu Bitrus with students
© UNDP Nigeria

The percentage of households satisfied with access to essential social services has increased from 53 percent in 2020 to 78 percent in 2023, an increase of 25 percentage points^{43,44}. This translates into approximately 1,040,000 people (565,000 women) reporting improved access to essential social services, an increase of 585,000 (310,000 women) from 2020. While levels in Nigeria and Chad continue to increase, Cameroon decreased between 2022 and 2023. This is mainly attributable to previously completed boreholes and water points not being maintained. In response, local CSCs are prioritizing a recommendation to implement sustainability plans, including training local repair personnel and identifying repair supply chains.

43. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581). 2020, 2021 and 2022 averages have been recalculated using the same methodology.

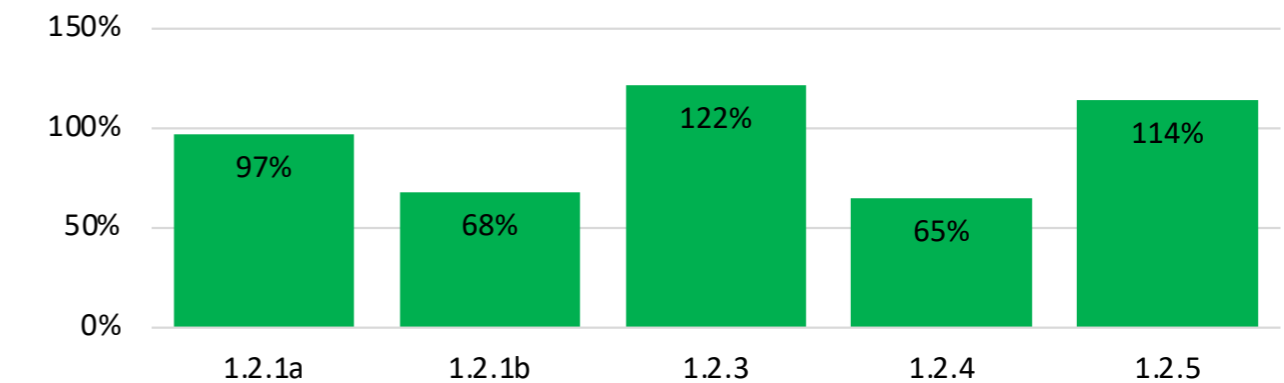
44. In 2021, only Nigeria was surveyed and recorded 90 percent satisfaction, increasing from 2020, and increasing again in 2022 and 2023. The weighted average for 2022 and 2023 is lower than 2021 for this reason.

Figure 11: Percentage of Households in JAP Locations Satisfied with Access to Social Services⁴⁵



JAP communities have benefited from significant progress across all essential social services interventions. In 2023, there were 1,560 achievements across all indicators. Cumulative progress against all indicators is 116 percent⁴⁶.

Figure 12: Cumulative Progress against Essential Social Services Indicators, All Countries⁴⁷



Key Highlights

A total of 292 essential social services infrastructures have been constructed/rehabilitated, including 50 in 2023. These include health centres, schools, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene facilities), and administrative infrastructure. A total of 117 essential social services infrastructures have been equipped, including 18 in 2023. These include operational equipment and furnishings.

45. Community Perception Survey. Outcome indicator 1.3: Percentage of households satisfied with provision and access to social services. The average is weighted by population. 2020, 2021 and 2022 averages have been recalculated using the same methodology.

46. Calculation: Sum of cumulative progress divided by sum of cumulative targets (6,493 / 5,616 = 116 percent).

47. 1.2.1a Number of new or rehabilitated essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities.

1.2.1b Number of equipped essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities.

1.2.3 Number of permanent housing units constructed.

1.2.4 Number of public facilities and infrastructure equipped with renewable technologies.

1.2.5 Number of water points (including boreholes) constructed/rehabilitated in JAP location

* 1.2.2a Number of bridges constructed/rehabilitated; and 1.2.2b Number of km of roads constructed/rehabilitated not active.

Testimony



With their return to school, children are thriving as they learn, play with their friends, and enjoy the constant presence of their parents in the village. They are experiencing a normal childhood, with access to hygiene services. The health centre rehabilitated by the project has brought health care closer to the entire village population and those in surrounding villages. It's a holistic approach.

Boulama Oumara Maigari, Teacher, Garin Dogo Primary School, Gueskerou Commune, Niger



Nearly 5,800 permanent and semi-permanent housing units have been constructed, including 1,400 in 2023 in Nigeria. The cumulative units provide over 10,600 bedrooms, supporting approximately 40,000 people⁴⁸. The housing units strengthened housing security for local populations and are expected to contribute to longer-term incentives for the return of IDPs and the development of economic activity. Additionally, the housing units are expected to contribute to improving access to housing for populations affected by armed conflict and violence in the targeted sites and enabling the return of IDPs.

48. In Nigeria: 1,860 permanent units = 3,720 bedrooms; 3,000 semi-permanent units = 6,000 bedrooms; and 900 transitional units = 900 bedrooms. Calculation of supported population based on estimated average bedroom occupancy of 3.5 persons.

A total of 184 (41 in 2023) public facilities and infrastructures have been equipped with renewable technologies. These include solar panels, solar systems, solar lighting, and electric generators. This has provided reliable power to critical infrastructure, such as medical centres that previously had frequent power outages but now have a constant supply of electricity, contributing to improved working conditions and public access.

A total of 127 water points (solar-powered pumps, boreholes) have been constructed and/or rehabilitated, including 51 in 2023. These water points have contributed to expanding JAP residents' access to improved water sources.

Testimony



I used to spend several hours a day fetching water for my family's needs. This arduous task often prevented me from engaging in other productive activities such as education or economic activities. Also, my children often felt sick. Our population has increased dramatically with the Boko Haram crisis, and there are refugees and internally displaced people in addition to the local population, children who have missed school just to carry water for their homes

Famlata Mamoudou, resident of Waza, Cameroon



Residents using new water sources (Left: Waza, Cameroon | Right: Ngarannam, Nigeria)
© UNDP Cameroon | © UNDP Nigeria

Livelihood

Testimony



The stabilization transfers came at the right time. As you know, we are in the onion harvest season, and we have just started the karal (off-season crop). It is as if the stabilization project has been on schedule. It's the right time. Right now, seeds are almost impossible to find and are expensive, so it's a boon for the people.

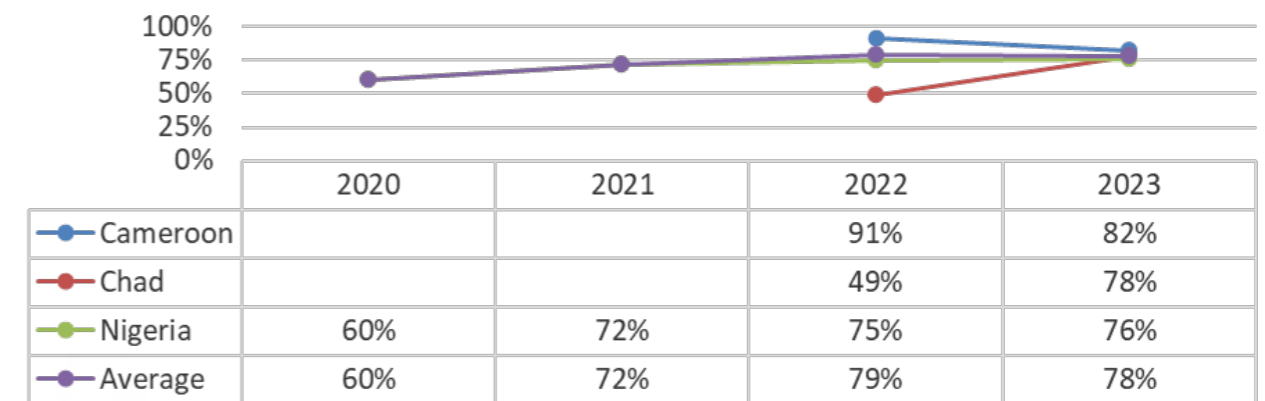
- Boukar Satomi, Mayor of Kolofata, Cameroon



Transfer of productive assets to 50 local agricultural groups in Far North
© UNDP Cameroon

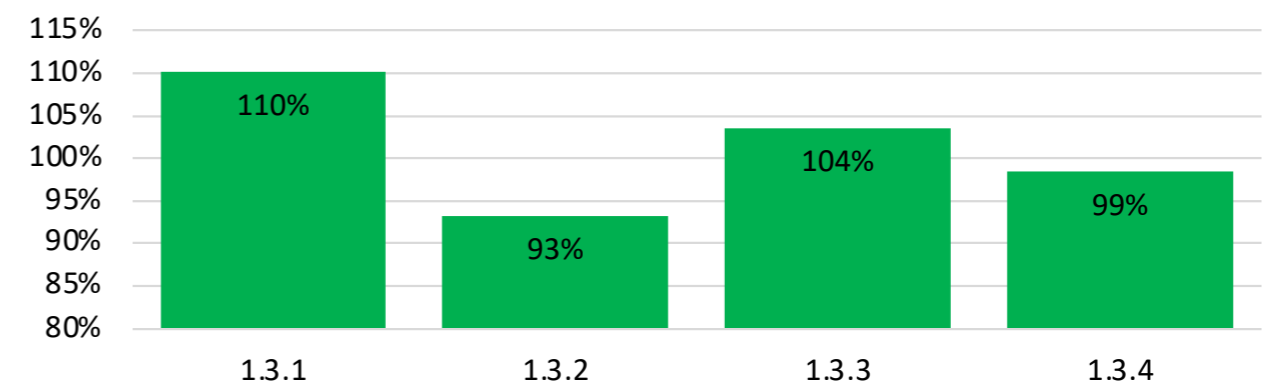
The percentage of households satisfied with state efforts in providing livelihood opportunities has increased by 18 percentage points from 60 percent in 2020 to 78 percent in 2023⁴⁹. This translates into approximately 1,050,000 people (560,000 women) reporting confidence in the state in promoting local economic opportunities, an increase of 580,000 (295,000 women) from 2020.

Figure 13: Perception of State Performance in Providing Livelihood Opportunities⁵⁰



At the output level, JAP communities have benefitted from significant progress across all livelihoods interventions. In 2023, there were 10,132 achievements across all indicators. Cumulative progress against all indicators is 99 percent⁵¹.

Figure 14: Cumulative Progress against Livelihoods Indicators, All Countries⁵²



49. Weighted population average across Cameroon (481,577), Chad (76,717), and Nigeria (778,581).

50. Community Perception Survey. Outcome indicator 1.5: Perception of government performance in providing livelihood opportunities. The average is weighted by population. 2020, 2021 and 2022 averages have been recalculated using the same methodology.

51. Calculation: Sum of cumulative progress divided by sum of cumulative targets (85,246 / 85,868 = 99 percent).

52. 1.3.1 Number of rehabilitated or constructed productive infrastructure projects (such as small business offices and market structures).

1.3.2 Number of people benefitting from cash for work as income generating opportunities in the JAP locations.

1.3.3 Number of people benefitting from short-term and quick-fix training in JAP locations.

1.3.4 Number of people benefitting from provided productive or business grants or assets.

Key Highlights

A total of 195 productive infrastructures (42 in 2023) have been constructed/rehabilitated. These include market stalls, small shops, multipurpose centres, and agropastoral facilities. These assets serve as an economic base from which local community members can trade in a safe and productive environment, contributing to short- and medium-term economic development.



Shops at Fotokol Market
© UNDP Cameroon

A total of 18,027 people (27 percent female; 70 percent youth) have benefitted from cash-for-work opportunities, including 2,679 (52 percent female; 51 percent youth) in 2023. Programme beneficiaries participated in community infrastructure rehabilitation projects at the daily market rate, including infrastructure labour, painting, public cleaning, waste treatment, drilling, and borehole rehabilitation.

A total of 33,876 (53 percent female; 47 percent youth) people have benefitted from short-term and quick-fix training, including 4,479 (56 percent female; 11 percent youth) in 2023. Crop and livestock farmers and fishers were trained on advanced productivity techniques, and small business owners and entrepreneurs were trained on small business management. In Nigeria, 500 women in Damboa were empowered to boost livestock farming; vulnerability to violent extremism of 500 youth in Buniyadi was reduced with vocational skills training; and 2000 people in Ngarannam, Ngala, and Damboa were trained on briquette making and micro-gardening to enhance climate adaptation. In Cameroon, farmers' groups in Blangoua, Fotokol, and Hile Alifa increased agricultural yields of onion and maize by 300 tons over 2022. In Chad, the women-led multifunctional platform in Guitté became fully operational. Community members were trained by skilled instructors on mill machinery, including their mechanisms, operation, maintenance, and safety.



Livelihood participants in Nigeria
© UNDP Nigeria



Hands-on training for farmers
© UNDP Cameroon



Community members trained on mill operations in Guitté
© UNDP Chad



Youth technical training in Mainé-Soroa, Niger
© UNDP Niger



Briquette Making beneficiaries displaying their start-up kits, Nigeria
© UNDP Nigeria

A total of 33,148 people (54 percent female; 50 percent youth) have benefitted from the transfer of productive assets and business grants, including 2,932 (46 percent female; 29 percent youth) in 2023. JAP residents have benefited from grants for the creation of businesses and assets such as transport tricycles, potholders, motorized pumps, wheelbarrows, agricultural paymasters, fishing equipment, and improved seeds. Residents have been able to stimulate economic activity in the community through an increase in productive activities and trade.

Testimony

“

For eight years, I was in an IDP camp because our community was destroyed. With the help of the government and the stabilization project, we returned home. I received 100,000 Nigerian Naira to start a business. I've opened a mini shop, and business is doing well so far. This has been very helpful to me and my family, as we can provide for our basic needs.

- **Pusam Modu, mother of seven and start-up grant recipient, Ngarannam, Nigeria**

”



Pusam Modu in her shop in Ngarannam
© UNDP Nigeria

Testimony

“

This business allows me to buy water and food for my family. In addition, I can restock my store and save up to send my eldest to the University of N'Djamena

- **Issa Hassan, business start-up grant recipient, N'Djamena, Chad**

”



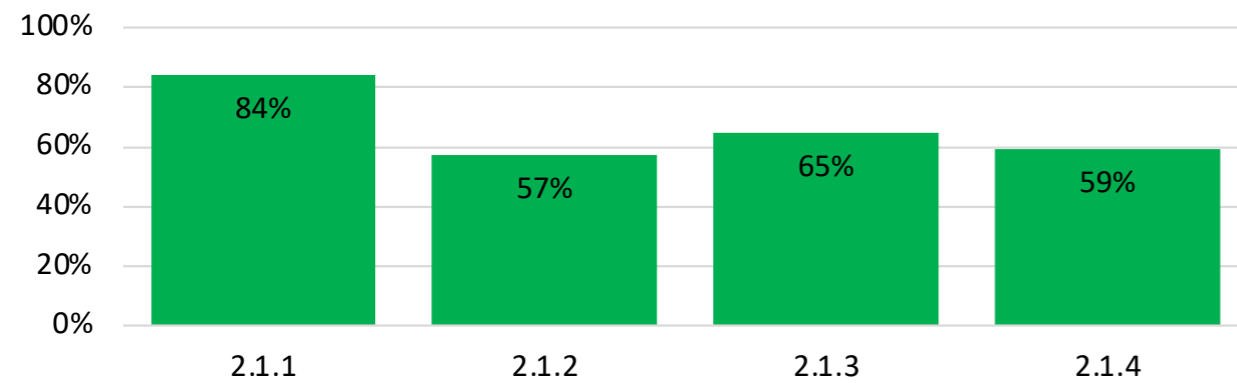
Issa Hassan selling eggs in Guitté
© UNDP Chad

Regional Coordination

Overall, there was significant progress in stabilization consolidation and coordination. In 2023, there were 454 achievements across all indicators. Cumulative progress against all indicators is 68 percent⁵³.

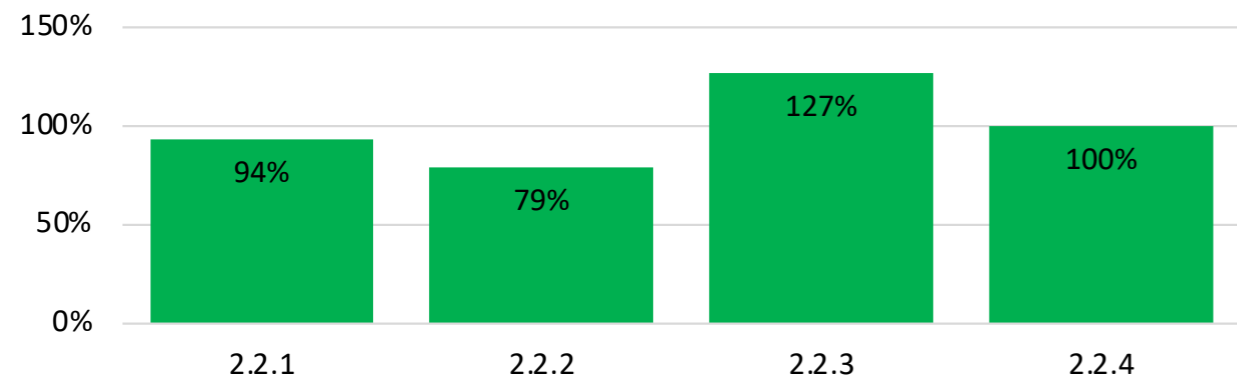
53. Calculation: Sum of cumulative progress divided by sum of cumulative targets (2,981 / 4,372 = 68 percent).

Figure 15: Cumulative Progress against Consolidation Indicators, All Countries⁵⁴



Overall, there was significant progress in cross-border coordination and cooperation. In 2023, there were 48 achievements across all indicators. Cumulative progress against all indicators is 107 percent⁵⁵.

Figure 16: Cumulative Progress against Cross-border Indicators, All Countries⁵⁶



The regional stabilization facility continued to work closely with the four countries and the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) as its core institutional partner to strengthen regional collaboration and coordination. In 2023, the LCBC successfully transitioned from an RSF-managed to an LCBC-managed implementation of the RS-SRR. A transition plan that aligns with the overarching UNDP and LCBC objective of ensuring a strong and sustained partnership was developed.

54. 2.1.1 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGO, CSO, as well as Community Stabilization Committees trained on promoting social cohesion.
 2.1.2 Number of Members/staff of local structures involved in stabilization trained on promoting gender equity.
 2.1.3 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGO, CSO, as well as Community Stabilization Committees trained on community-based participatory planning approaches.
 2.1.4 Number of coordination meetings, joint advocacy, and fundraising with UNDP, UN, and other development partners.
 55. Calculation: Sum of cumulative progress divided by sum of cumulative targets (175 / 163 = 107 percent).
 56. 2.2.1 Number of surge capacity to national windows. Regional window only.
 2.2.2 Number of RSF knowledge products developed by all RSF.
 2.2.3 Number of RSF strategic communications products and programmes developed.
 2.2.4 Number of active cross-border JAP sites where cross-border trade is conducted.

The first phase of the transition has been successfully implemented with, among other things, a completed capacity assessment, the participation of six LCBC staff in the UNDP Stabilization Academy, the initiation of the RS-SRR evaluation (ongoing), handover of documents and files, and the handover of partnership management. This included the proactive engagement of the LCBC in the development of inter-agency project proposals, the LCBC's involvement in the design of the new special multi-partner delivery fund, and a completed working visit (September 2023) of the LCBC team for an exchange with the RSF and discussions on the implementation of the transition plan.

Phase two of the transition is ongoing and includes the presentation of the capacity assessment recommendations to the Council of Ministers for approval, completed transfer of the RS-SRR Knowledge Management Platform to the LCBC, the ongoing asset transfer, the successful handing over of the technical management of the non-UN recruited capacity to the LCBC (operational support remains with UNDP for the interim period), and the drawdown of UNDP staff seconded to the LCBC (effective December 2023 for international staff and March 2024 for local staff).

The Strategic Assessment and Institutional Evaluation of the LCBC was finalized in 2023 (publication of the evaluation report, January 2024). The Strategic Assessment was carried out under the overall supervision of the Executive Secretary of the LCBC with support from the RSS-Secretariat and the LCBC Technical and Administrative Departments. It includes:

1. Strategic recommendations on immediate, short-term (one to two years), medium-term (two to five years), and long-term (beyond five years) actions to address deficiencies across key business processes, reinforce LCBC institutional capacity to mobilize additional funds and enable them to satisfactorily discharge their mandate; and
2. Priority short- and medium-term recommendations that are critical for the effective implementation of the Regional Stabilization Strategy by the LCBC Executive Secretariat.

A key recommendation is the development of a clear strategy to enable funding core activities and discharge the LCBC's mandate in an effective manner. As part of an overarching strategy, the LCBC should reduce risks associated with the management and operationalization of its financing strategy. As a priority, it is recommended that core knowledge management functions should be included in the core budget, whereas the procurement of assets required for effective knowledge management should be outsourced and funded by donors but should be directly implemented by the LCBC. The broader peace and security activities,

while coordinated by the LCBC, should be implemented directly by donors. For example, the joint LCBC-Multinational Joint Task Force Civil-Military Cooperation Cell should be further developed and supported in part by a new conflict sensitivity expert.

To ensure the sustainability of the RSS beyond August 2024, a key recommendation is that the LCBC does not simply add the functions of the RSS Secretariat as a Project Coordination Unit, but rather that the roles and responsibilities of the RSS Secretariat are fully integrated into the LCBC's organizational structure. This will enable the LCBC to realize its potential role in regional donor government coordination in the Lake Chad Basin region. Specifically, to strengthen the implementation of the cross-border activities under the RS-SRR, LCBC should engage with member states to support them to develop roadmaps, develop a project database to record and track implementations, and to produce regular RS-SRR strategy implementation and aid effectiveness reports.

In partnership with Germany, two more cohorts (the fifth and sixth overall) of the UNDP Stabilization Academy were launched this year as a key platform to enhance stabilization teams' knowledge and skills. The fifth cohort, which took place from early February to early March, included 45 trainees from Lake Chad and Liptako-Gourma countries, Ethiopia, and Mozambique. The sixth cohort, which took place from the end of May to the end of June, was attended by 45 participants representing six UNDP country offices (Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, and Somalia) and, for the first time, trainees from the LCBC. The cohorts were opened by Heike Thiele, Director for Crisis Prevention and Stabilization German Foreign Office; Ahunna Eziakonwa, Regional Director of the Africa Regional Bureau; and Asako Okai, Director of the UNDP Crisis Bureau.

The Stabilization Academy analyses why a business-as-usual approach is not an option for stabilization. It covers the roles of partnerships in achieving and sustaining stabilization as well as achieving speed, scale, and strengthening the social contract. It also unpacks the three pillars of stabilization (community security, social service infrastructure and boosting the local economy) and how to apply principles of human rights, gender equality, do no harm and conflict sensitivity throughout programming. Of particular importance, the Stabilization Academy explores creative ideas to measure, monitor and adapt to ever-changing contexts.

Policy Advocacy Platforms

Cross-border work was a key area of programming in 2023 and is becoming increasingly more important as a means to promote larger areas of stabilization. There are a total of six active cross-border JAP locations (one in Chad, two in Cameroon, one in Niger, and two in Nigeria).

In support of RS-SRR implementation, RSF conducted a study on cross-border trade targeting the cross-border regions of Diffa, Niger and Lac, Chad. The study identified critical barriers, enabling factors that can be expanded upon, and private-sector investment opportunities. The recommendations produced will be integrated into future RSF programming.

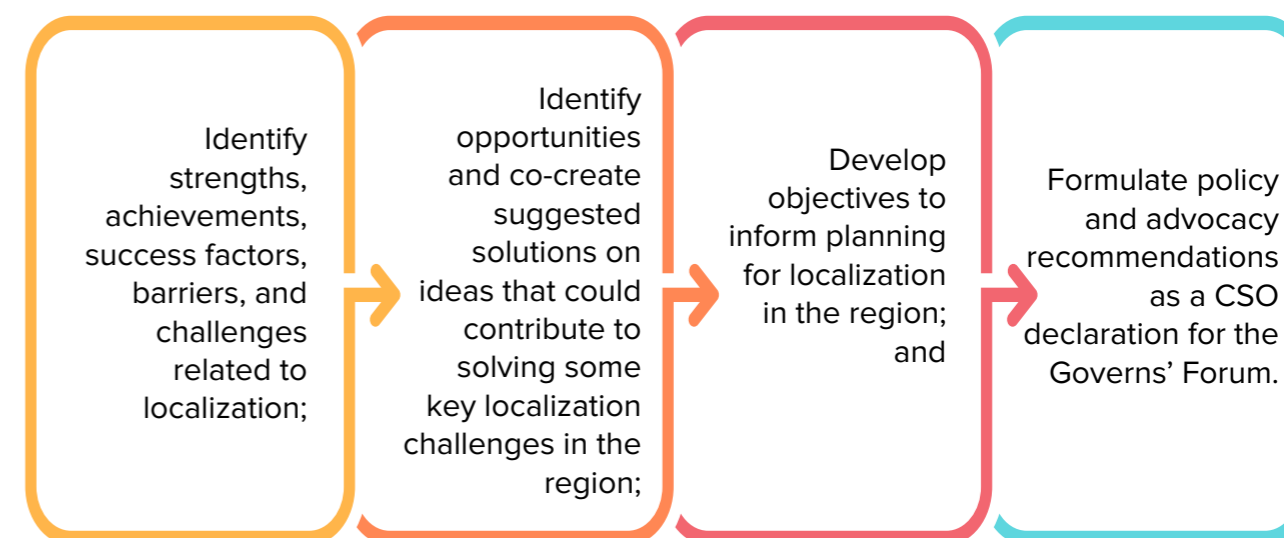
The 4th Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum provided a strong platform for cross-border collaboration and coordination and explored opportunities for promoting peace and strengthening regional collaboration⁵⁷. Organized from 5 to 7 July 2023 in Chad by the LCBC,

57. Lake Chad Basin Commission (2023) End of the 4th Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum. Available at: <https://cblt.org/4th-lake-chad-basin-governors-forum/> (Accessed: 24 February 2024).

the Forum brought together the governors of the eight Boko Haram-affected territories in the LCB and more than 750 participants from member states, the African Union, the United Nations, multilateral and bilateral institutions, donors, civil society organizations, traditional and religious leaders, and the media.

Participants took stock of progress made in implementing the RS-SRR and advancing stabilization, recovery, and resilience across the region. All partners were urged to maintain their commitments and activities to achieve the above objectives, giving greater priority to socio-economic development as the main means of putting an end to insecurity and sustainably dealing with the crisis throughout the region.

As a precursor to the 4th Lake Chad Basin Governors Forum, a CSO Forum to the 4th Governors' Forum was organized for CSOs, with support from GIZ and NORCAP. The CSO Pre-forum brought together representatives from 24 local and national CSOs from the four RSF-supported countries. The Forum used the innovative 'sprint' methodology, which is a methodology NORCAP uses to foster the co-creation of solutions identified by participants. The specific objectives of the CSO sprint were to:



The output of the CSO Forum was a CSO declaration that was read by a CSO representative during the Opening Ceremony of the 4th Governors Forum.

The 2nd Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region, organized by LCBC in Niamey from 22 to 23 May, in collaboration with the World Bank, focused on sustainable development, climate resilience, mobility, peace, stability, and regional integration. Participants shared ideas and knowledge on challenges in natural resource management and discussed proactive strategies for regional integration, cooperation, peacebuilding, and sustainable development.

The Third High-level Conference on the Lake Chad Region, hosted in Niamey, Niger, from 23 to 24 January and coordinated by Germany, Norway, and the UN, emphasized the ongoing crisis, focusing on humanitarian aid, security, and development challenges. Participants highlighted the vital role of the RSF in operationalizing the Regional Strategy, reinforcing the 'do no harm' principle, respecting human rights, and sustainably managing the exit from extremist groups in line with international norms. Partners have announced over US\$500 million in support.

The RS-SRR Secretariat participated in an Expert Preparatory Session on Vigilante Groups and Government-affiliated Security Actors in the Lake Chad Region, organized by the German government in Abuja from 11 to 12 May. The Preparatory Session produced recommendations for managing risks and opportunities associated with community-based security actors. Participants included representatives from the Government of Nigeria, the German Federal Foreign Office, the UK High Commission, UNDP, and researchers. The Session aimed to formulate concrete operational options and recommendations for political leaders and decision-makers dealing with the challenges and opportunities posed by community-based security actors. The Session's initial focus on Nigeria, particularly on issues related to RS-SRR implementation, serves as a crucial starting point.

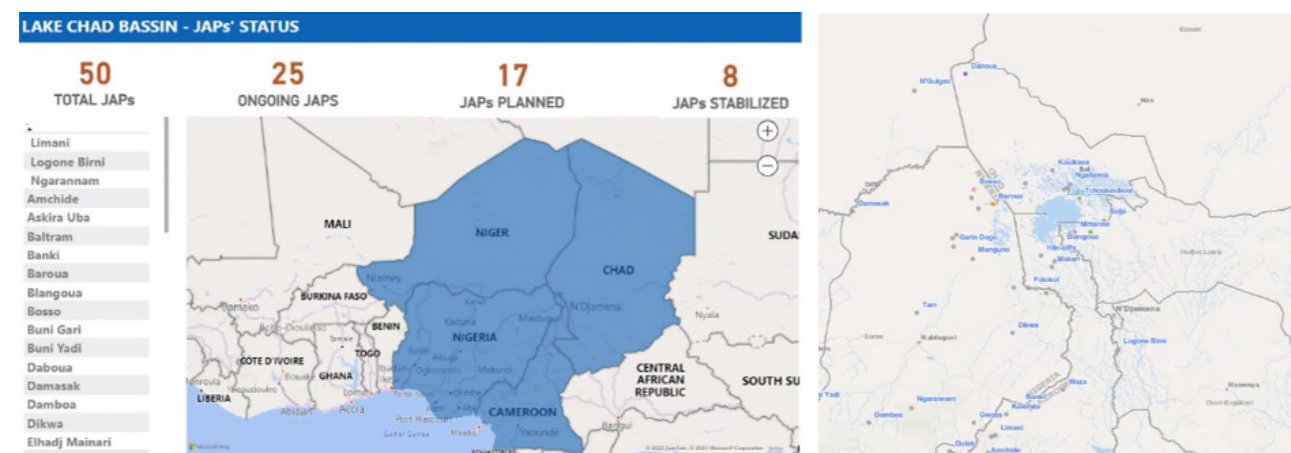
As part of the overall support of building CSO capacities to effectively participate in the implementation of the RS-SRR, LCBC, with GIZ and the African Union, conducted participatory mental health and psychosocial support training for CSOs in Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. The sessions, featuring lectures, group work, and role-playing, enhanced participants' awareness of concepts, principles, and tools in mental health and psychosocial support. The purpose of these trainings was to initiate the creation of a network of community-based mental health and psychosocial support service providers who can contribute to the implementation of the humanitarian assistance pillar of the RSS (Pillar 4). Following the training, the participating CSOs created action plans; GIZ continues to support plan implementation.

Knowledge Management

To facilitate the sharing of experience and knowledge, the facility has developed online platforms and conducted thematic studies.

Two important knowledge management platforms were established (the Geospatial Information Stabilization Platform and LCBC Community Connect). These platforms will enable improved information and coordination of stabilization activities across the Lake Chad Region.

Geospatial Information Stabilization Platform (GISTabilize): The GISTabilize platform enables the collection and visualization of stabilization data to support conflict-sensitive programming to provide information on activities on the ground, improve coordination with partners, and improve the identification of opportunities and synergies.



GISTabilize Platform
© UNDP Dakar

The LCBC Community Connect knowledge management platform serves as a resource for policymakers and practitioners supporting stabilization to share information, connect with others, and contribute to strategic efforts in the LCB region. The knowledge management platform's three main objectives are to serve:

- as the go-to source for news and information on all aspects of the stabilization, recovery and development efforts around Lake Chad;
- as a repository for assessment reports, lessons learned, and good practices, both regional and global;
- as a dynamic tool for coordination and the networking of like minds.

LCBC staff were trained on managing the knowledge management platforms as part of the transition from a UNDP-managed RSS Secretariat to an LCBC-led implementation of the RSS. Following the handover of the knowledge management platforms, the LCBC will operationalize the communities of practice and link the platforms to the LCBC information management system.

A consultant seconded by NORCAP conducted a study on cash-for-work that focused on RSF programmes. Cash-for-work initiatives link economic activities with impoverished communities, particularly targeting IDPs, returnees, and conflict-affected populations. UNDP's implementation of cash-for-work initiatives faced challenges related to coordination, security risks in remote areas, and a lack of collaboration between development and humanitarian actors.

The study emphasized the need for a review to reassess cash utilization, improve assistance delivery, and establish harmonized standard operating procedures for RSF cash-for-work programmes. The study noted that cash-for-work could effectively meet population objectives, contribute to economic revitalization and empower women and youth.

A comprehensive study on civil-military cooperation (CIMIC) looked at enhancing community engagement, collaboration with the humanitarian community, capacity building, and coordination with security forces and the Multinational Joint Task Force in the four countries within the Lake Chad Basin region. The study collected best practices, lessons learned, and impactful stories from each country, emphasizing their regional implications; shed light on cross-border CIMIC engagements within communities of the Lake Chad Basin region; documented existing tools, mechanisms, and operational frameworks that facilitate coordination and interaction; reviewed and shared international experiences that hold relevance to the Lake Chad Basin Commission's (LCBC) context; and provided valuable insights for CIMIC Advisers operating in the region. Overall, the study serves as a valuable resource for optimizing CIMIC strategies and practices in the complex and dynamic environment of the Lake Chad Basin.

The study on community stabilization committees, led by researcher Martin de Lavernée, had the overall objective of assessing how community stabilization committees, both in the Lake Chad and the Liptako-Gourma regions, are carrying out their functions as indicated in project documents and as agreed upon by local stakeholders. The study aims to establish a typology of the different characteristics and functions of the CSCs across the target countries and how they are influenced by the local context; assess the extent to which the CSCs in each country have been able to carry out their expected functions (and if not, why not); and propose a set of programmatic recommendations to enhance the effectiveness, inclusiveness, and sustainability of the CSCs.

This study is expected to serve as an example of how CSCs can contribute to the establishment of more inclusive, just, peaceful, and prosperous societies in the Lake Chad Basin and Liptako-Gourma regions and to initiate exchanges and discussions on improving programmes and services.

The Conflict Analysis Network was established to bring together UNDP field teams, civilian and military officers, and UN partners (Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), IOM, OCHA and UNHCR) to share and consolidate collective knowledge and analysis pertaining to conflict dynamics in the region. The Network followed the recommendations of the Humanitarian Dialogues on Stabilization and the subsequent policy brief. Its focus will be on understanding the drivers of conflict and devising strategies to anticipate, prevent, and respond to diverse conflict dynamics. In doing so, the Network will facilitate information sharing, data collection and analysis among key actors working with stabilization sites.

New Financing Mechanisms

The Special Multi-Partner Delivery Fund for the Lake Chad Basin Region, launched at the Third International Lake Chad Region Conference, aims to support the implementation of the RSS. The Delivery Fund will be instrumental in facilitating joint action by UN agencies, governments, donors, civil society, and other public- and private-sector stakeholders to actively contribute to implementing RS-SRR pillars and to achieve collective impact in the LCB region.

Interventions will support the priorities of the RS-SRR (particularly LCBC RS-SRR Pillar 3 on Disarmament, Demobilization, Rehabilitation, Reinsertion and Reintegration (DDRRR), reframed as Screening, Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration).

Nigeria was the first country window activated on DDRRR as part of the One UN offer to implement the Borno model; Cameroon and Chad are currently developing their proposals. The regional window (jointly with LCBC, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), UNDP, and UNODC) is expected to be activated in 2024. The regional window will guide the LCBC and LCB governments in developing harmonized solutions to assist the eight territories that are most affected by Boko Haram cope with the growing number of exits. It will also support cross-regional harmonized approaches to screening, categorizing, rehabilitating, reintegrating, and supporting transitional justice.

The Nexus Funding Window, launched at the Third International Lake Chad Region Conference, will support interventions on strengthening the humanitarian, peace, and development nexus in line with the RS-SRR humanitarian pillar. It will support one or a consortium of actors, including CSOs, in contexts where humanitarian needs have to be addressed in parallel with stabilization interventions that focus on security, social, and economic infrastructure and long-term development.

GENDER EQUALITY



Gender Equality work is in full swing. A gender specialist, seconded by the Netherlands to ensure that stabilization efforts fully integrate gender equality dimensions, has been working with the regional team since the end of May. A conflict-sensitive gender analysis in programme locations and an assessment of gender integration in RSF stabilization activities have been launched; they will be completed in 2024. To support the assessment, Sweden engaged its Gender Help Desk to conduct a desk review of gender research in the Lake Chad Basin and Liptako-Gourma regions. The assessment will inform on the gender inequalities and develop recommendations to address them in future programming.

Females participated in livelihoods programming at a higher rate in 2023 compared to the 2022. Female cash-for-work beneficiaries increased from 26 percent to 47 percent female. Similarly, short-term and quick-fix training rose from 54 percent to 57 percent. However, female beneficiaries of productive assets and business grant transfers decreased from 61 percent to 46 percent in 2023.

Support for dedicated community spaces for women has a multiplier effect on encouraging women's participation in stabilization activities. In Chad, for example, the instillation of the Women's Platform building in Guitté supported women's inclusion by providing a safe space for community exchange and discussion, product storage, and the processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products.

Perception data collection tools were revised to better integrate gender, including strengthening the questionnaire and interview guide with additional gender-related questions. A study on gender mainstreaming in RSF initiative implementation was completed; results will feed into the gender-sensitive conflict analysis.

In Cameroon, gender perspectives are considered when selecting participants for training sessions on human rights, international humanitarian law, and gender-based violence. Women's associations, national NGOs headed by women, and female leaders are prioritized as potential recipients of training courses. To date, the participation rate of women in these capacity-building activities is around 40 percent.

To revitalize the human rights monitoring platform, more women's CSOs have been engaged in active roles in addressing human rights violations, particularly reporting issues. Resources have been provided to support meetings organized by the human rights monitoring platform and to encourage women leaders in the region to participate.

In Banki, Nigeria, women account for 25 percent of CSC members (24 males and six females). The CSC specifies that the women of Banki played a key role in securing the locality. "They shared information concerning women from the community who were clandestinely transferring food to insurgents in the bush, while the men had gone out to their subsistence activities. This information led to the implementation of effective countermeasures by the Civilian Joint Task Force to intercept people and items entering and leaving the community, which helped put an end to these practices."⁵⁸

58. ACK International (2023) Mid-term Review of the Lake Chad Basin Regional Stabilization Facility, p. 93.

LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

1. Security threats created challenges for programme implementation.

There were recurring instances of NSAGs threatening JAP locations throughout the year, including the use of armed threats, kidnappings, and improvised explosive devices. There were security incidents in Cameroon (Mokolo and Mozogo), Chad (Daboua-Nguigmi and Ngouboua-Toumour), Niger (Diffa), and Nigeria (North-East). NSAGs actively threatened Cameroon JAP locations in Amchidé, Fotokol, Hile-Alifa, Limani, and Tourou. In Nigeria, security threats limited farmers' access to farmlands, reducing crop yields. These security threats limited access to various project sites, led to the suspension of some activities, and created delays in implementation.

While early warning systems have been a part of programme design, their creation and activation need to be accelerated across all JAP locations. This should be combined with the development of adaptive management policies and procedures that allow for contingency planning and alternate project activities.

2. Flooding and rainfall hindered access to programme sites.

Recurrent flooding, rainfall capture, and damages to roads hindered access to certain JAP areas in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger. In Nigeria, heavy rains destroyed large areas of crops. Yearly flooding in certain JAP locations continues to be a major implementation challenge.

Early warning and adaptive management should also respond to environmental threats, particularly flooding. Future JAP planning should specifically consider timelines around flooding and location inaccessibility and include options for alternate access routes, transportation options, and other temporary measures that can improve access.

3. Changes in political leadership limited relationships and advocacy building for programme interventions.

In Niger, the July coup d'état severely impacted democratic governance and stabilization progress by limiting resource availability. This resulted in lengthened infrastructure completion timelines against a backdrop of increased demand for housing. Presidential elections in Nigeria in February also saw changes in leadership, as incumbent President Muhammadu Buhari was term-limited.

While RSF country windows have established and maintained relationships with a range of stakeholders, expanding local-level advocacy and diversifying communication efforts can build stronger support for implementation over time, regardless of higher-level political leadership changes.

4. Programming was significantly impacted by high inflation rates

The average annual inflation rate in 2023 was 11 percent across the four country windows (Cameroon 7.2 percent, Chad 7.0 percent, Niger 4.6 percent, Nigeria 25 percent).⁵⁹ A loss of local purchasing power and increased prices impacted the acquisition of construction materials and other project asset deliverables. These inflationary pressures negatively affected RSF activities. Local and regional governments were also negatively impacted by price increases, hindering their budgets and ability to procure appropriate personnel to deliver services from new and equipped infrastructure.

As global economic uncertainty continues against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic recovery and large-scale conflicts around the world, fiscal scenario planning for budget flexibility may be required for future programming. Budget scenarios should consider possible economic forecasts and their impact on fluctuating prices. Budgets should also include contingency funds for possible forecasts of higher inflation.

5. Instances of completed infrastructure being under-utilized by local and state authorities risk short- and medium-term consolidation of stabilization achievements.

In Chad, multiple infrastructures remained underutilized or not utilized at all months after completion. JAPs are developed based on local needs assessments.

Local needs assessments should be done alongside local and regional level government capability assessments to budget for and operate hand-over infrastructures and equipment. Additionally, the handover of achievements should be followed up with regular monitoring and support and be measured against operationalization performance metrics.

6. Beneficiary selection remained challenging.

As resources continue to be invested in JAP locations, there have been persistent challenges around beneficiary selection. In Cameroon, there were attempts at local political interference in targeting and selection processes for livelihoods interventions. In Nigeria, political pressures, a higher population, and corresponding resource demands increased the difficulty of the beneficiary selection process. In Gulak, Nigeria, there were reports that community stakeholders were demanding kickbacks from returnees who had been provided with supportive cash grants.

The primary lesson learned is that beneficiary selection processes and the transfer of cash and assets need to be regularly reviewed against potential opportunities for exploitation. Future programming should incorporate whistleblower protection and reporting mechanisms (e.g. policies combined with confidential communication channels), independent monitoring (e.g. hiring external parties for monitoring checks and asset transfer audits), and the inclusion of targeted questions in community perception surveys (e.g. asking whether beneficiaries received and kept the full amount of a cash grant or other benefit).

7. An increase in the number of returnees from neighbouring sites created pressures within programme sites.

As JAP locations continue to stabilize, they are attracting more IDPs, returnees, refugees, and other people.⁶⁰ In Damboa, Nigeria, the population has more than doubled over the past few years. In Nigeria, large increases in host community populations put supply pressure on new and existing essential social services, including schools, health centres, and water points. Population increases were partly driven by IDPs and the reintegration of former NSAG members. Social acceptance rates across locations are mixed.

The lesson learned is that future programming should further prioritize the promotion of social cohesion, including community engagement strategies that foster inclusivity, understanding, and collaboration to mitigate tensions arising from population increases and changes in community composition. Additionally, during JAP development, local needs assessments should conduct population projections that take into account expected population increases and the corresponding impacts on essential social services.

59. Statista (2024) Cameroon: Inflation rate from 1988 to 2028. Available at: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/446717/inflation-rate-in-cameroon/> (Accessed: 21 February 2024).

60. ACK International (2023) Mid-term Review of the Lake Chad Basin Regional Stabilization Facility, p. 84.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND PARTNERSHIPS⁶¹

A total of **\$44,695,036** (89 percent) was delivered in 2023. Most of the resources were disbursed to essential social services (25 percent), followed by security and justice (15 percent), and livelihoods (10 percent).

Table 4: Financial Summary, 2023

Output	Budget	Expenses ⁶²	Delivery Ratio	Output Ratio ⁶³
1.1 Security and Justice	8,558,683	6,807,289	79.5%	15.2%
1.2 Essential Social Services	12,833,025	11,356,091	88.5%	25.4%
1.3 Livelihoods	6,740,502	4,346,992	64.5%	9.7%
2.1 Consolidation	1,401,073	1,690,188	120.6%	3.8%
2.2 Cross-border Coord. & Coop.	1,390,500	1,324,355	95.2%	3.0%
2.3 LCBC Capacity	1,440,000	551,729	38.3%	1.2%
2.4 LCBC Coordination and Territorial Action Plan Implementation	1,000,000	1,433,850	143.4%	3.2%
6.0 Reintegration (Nigeria only)	7,816,532	5,983,642	76.6%	13.4%
Subtotal	41,180,316	33,394,136	81.3%	74.9%
Programme Management	6,138,570	8,842,753	144.1%	19.8%
General Management Support	2,715,516	2,358,148	86.8%	5.3%
Total	50,034,402	44,695,036	89.3%	100%

In terms of delivery ratios, Chad delivered 96 percent of its budget, Nigeria delivered 93 percent of its budget, Cameroon delivered 87 percent of its budget, Niger delivered 77 percent of its budget, and regional delivered 89 percent of its budget. As a share of all delivery in 2023, Nigeria delivered the largest share with 42 percent, followed by Cameroon with 21 percent, Chad with 13 percent, Niger with 12 percent, and regional with 11 percent.

61. Unless otherwise noted, financial information is presented in United States Dollars.

62. Includes expenses and commitments.

63. Calculation: Output expenditure divided by total expenditure.

Figure 17: Country Window Delivery Share against Total RSF Delivery

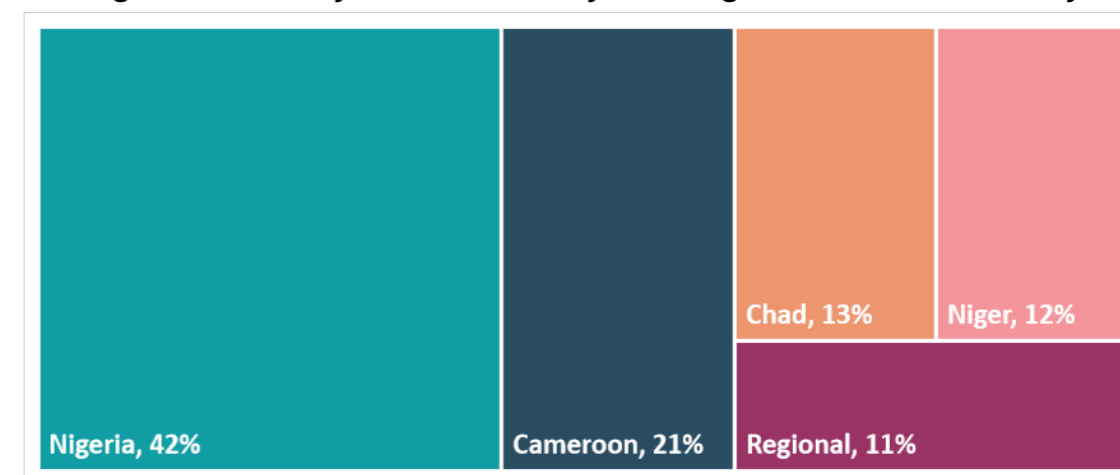


Figure 18: Budget vs Expenses, Delivery Ratio, Country Window, 2023

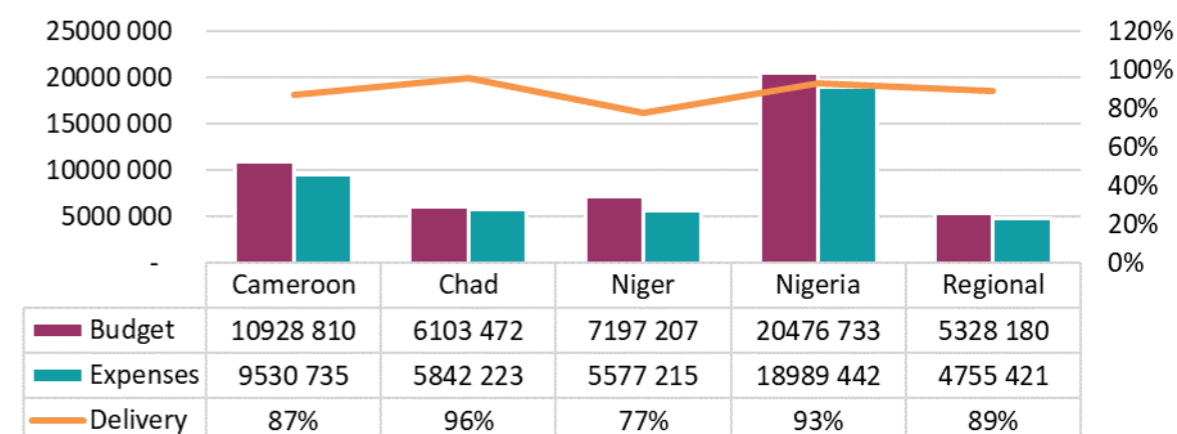
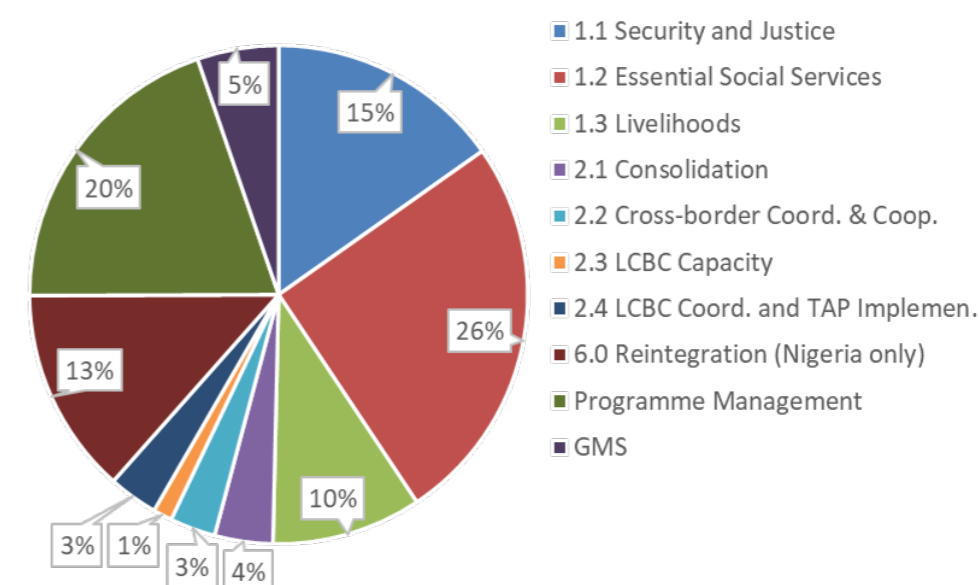


Figure 19: Output Ratio, Outputs, 2023



Resources Mobilized in 2023

The Regional Stabilization Facility in the Lake Chad Basin was replenished with donor resources by Germany, European Union¹, United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands, Japan, Norway, UNDP, and UNFPA with 40.2M USD in 2023.

1. Committed funds to be received in January 2024.

REINTEGRATION AND RECONCILIATION – NIGERIA

RSF reintegration and reconciliation interventions are contributing to preparing the ground for the arrival of former Boko Haram associates to communities.

The following results were achieved in 2023:

01

The provision of shelters and housing is alleviating the burden on host communities by providing returnees with accommodations. A total of 900 temporary shelters and 500 permanent houses were provided in Munguno in 2023.

02

CSCs and community-based organizations in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states were trained, strengthening their capacity and engagement on pathways for reintegration, dialogue, reconciliation and social cohesion within the context of mass exits from NSAGs.

03

1,250 conflict-affected community members in Buni Yadi were supported with diverse livelihood initiatives, including livestock support, cash-for-work, fish farming kits and cash grants, improving local food security.

04

Capacity building on reconciliation and reintegration for traditional and religious leaders from over 10 conflict-affected Local Government Areas in Borno State has significantly increased community cohesion and enhanced peace-building efforts. Three trainings/exercises were conducted for 200 participants.

05

2,000 households in Damboa and Ngala were trained and provided support on briquette-making and micro-gardening techniques. This has reduced women's vulnerability by significantly reducing the number of trips to the bush needed for firewood and farms.

06

Increased access to medical facilities in Gwoza through the provision of 171 units of hospital consumables and medical equipment, including patient beds, trolleys, sanitisers, boots, drip stands, caesarean section packs, medical test kits, refrigerators, microscopes, oxygen and other gas cylinders, stethoscopes, patient monitors and drugs.

07

Provided irrigation farming support to 500 households in Konduga and livestock support to 2,500 households in Pulka supported with livestock.

08

Advocated for the Borno State Government Community Based Reconciliation and Reintegration Policy (CBBR) and the operationalization of its manual.

09

1,380 conflict-affected community members and returnees were supported with agricultural inputs and cash grants in Gulak



Residents of Buni Yadi receiving small business cash grants
© UNDP Nigeria



Resident of Buni Yadi receiving small business cash grants
© UNDP Nigeria



Asset recipient
© UNDP Nigeria



Residents of Ngala briquette making
© UNDP Nigeria



Resident of Ngala briquette making
© UNDP Nigeria



Resident of Ngala gardening
© UNDP Nigeria

Human Rights and Civilian Protection

The Special Multi-Partner Delivery Fund was launched in 2023, in line with the commitments made at the Lake Chad Basin High-Level Conference on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus in Niamey. The Fund is part of efforts to reintegrate persons who were associated with Boko Haram or lived in areas controlled by the group. The first initiative funded under this mechanism is the implementation of the Borno model in northeastern Nigeria regarding the mass exits of former Boko Haram associates. The Borno State government has registered over 100,000 former associates of Boko Haram. The Borno State Government leads the project along with IOM, UNICEF, UNODC and UNDP (coordinator) as partners.

The initiative focuses on six key outcomes aimed at promoting safe and dignified reintegration pathways that strengthen community reintegration, safety and social cohesion:

01. Strengthening strategic communication systems and capacities;
02. Strengthening technical and logistical capacities for child protection at reception;
03. Establishing functional systems for identifying, screening and categorizing persons exiting insurgent groups and the areas controlled by them, and developing referral pathways for their handling, victim-centred accountability and treatment.
04. Developing government centres' and community systems' effective capacities for reception, management and rapid rehabilitation of individuals and families exiting areas controlled by insurgent groups.
05. Enhancing community-sensitive and victim-centred political, economic and social reintegration of individuals exiting areas controlled by insurgent groups.
06. Strengthening reconciliation, healing and conflict and crime prevention for sustainable peace and stability.

This is the first joint UN effort to respond to the Borno model. The Governance Board has been constituted to oversee the overall UN Offer to support the implementation of the Borno model under the joint leadership of the Governor of Borno State and the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator. UNDP is the fund manager; IOM, UNICEF and UNODC are participating agencies.

Approximately

\$12 million

has been mobilized from Germany, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Key activities on screening and community-based reintegration have begun. The initiatives build on the gains achieved under the RSF in the region. Eight coordination meetings have taken place since the beginning of the project.

ANNEXES

Key Security and Political Updates by Country

Cameroon

In August, the army stepped up its surveillance operations in the Far North in response to a series of jihadist attacks. After the Mayo-Sava and Mayo-Tsanaga departments saw an upsurge in violence in August, soldiers thwarted Boko Haram raids on the villages of Limani and Djakana in Mayo-Sava department on 9 September, killing two militants. On 21 September 2023, the army ambushed Boko Haram fighters in the village of Galdala (Mayo-Tsanaga), killing three people. In October, unknown assailants carried out mass kidnappings in the northern region. On 21 and 23 October, unidentified gunmen kidnapped at least 50 people near the town of Touboro in the Northern Region.

Jihadist and intercommunal violence persisted in the Far North region. On 3 October 2023, authorities in Mayo-Sava department imposed a nighttime curfew in the towns of Kolofata and Mora in response to rising jihadist violence. On 4 October, Boko Haram militants killed two vigilantes in the village of Grea, Mayo-Sava. On the same day, an unidentified jihadist group kidnapped the local leader and two staff members of a multinational company in the locality of Bargaram, Logone-et-Chari department. Meanwhile, Kotoko farmers and Choa Arab herders clashed on 6 October in Makary, Logone-et-Chari, leaving one dead and four injured.

On the political front, on 6 November, the ruling party held rallies in several cities to celebrate the 41st anniversary of President Biya's rise to power and called on him to run for an eighth term in the 2025 presidential election.

Chad

On 5 August, Boko Haram beheaded four captives after their families failed to pay ransom in the western province of Lac (West). On 6th August, the chieftaincy conflict between two sub-clans of the Mbaye community turned violent in the locality of Bekourou, in the southern province of Mandoul; the conflict left four dead and 35 injured. The southern province of Logone Oriental was the scene of several attacks by unidentified gunmen, with two Arab herders and a farmer killed on 13 and 14 August. Clashes between herders and local farmers on 18 and 19 August left at least 10 people dead in the village of Abkhoura, Mangalme department, southern Guera province.

In the south, the prominent Fulani rebel leader in southern Chad, Baba Laddé, on 22 August, called on all "patriotic forces" to unite for a "national uprising" against Déby.

On the political front, Succès Masra, leader of the Transformers party, returned to Chad on 3 November after a year in exile; the agreement for his return, facilitated by the Economic Community of Central African States, includes amnesty for all military and civilian actors involved in the deadly violence of 20 October 2022 and Masra's commitment to support the transition process. On 5 November, authorities released 72 members of the Transformers who had been detained since 2022. On 19 November, Masra addressed hundreds of supporters in the capital, N'Djamena and called for "reconciliation" with the military rulers. This return

suggests a calming of the situation and is likely to help reduce the violence caused by confrontations between members of the opposition and the government.

Niger

Niger experienced an abrupt political change following the coup d'état perpetrated by the Presidential Guard on 26 July 2023. Senior officers from different branches of the Defence and Security Forces formed a junta, dubbed the National Council for the Safeguarding of the Homeland, and announced the seizure of power on a television broadcast. On 25 August, the junta ordered France's ambassador, Sylvain Itte, to leave the country within 48 hours. On 28 August, French President Macron said Itte would remain in his post, prompting the junta in the following days to order police to deport him. This situation has accentuated the deterioration of relations between France and the new authorities of Niger, leading to the breakdown of military cooperation between the two countries.

On 8 November, in the Diffa region (southeast), Boko Haram killed three soldiers along the Nigerian border near Abadam village. Three youths from Bosso were killed by Boko Haram on 9 June. An explosive device suspected to have been planted by ISWA destroyed a military vehicle on 16 June, killing seven soldiers in Chetima Wangou.

On 10 May, the military announced that it had intercepted 1,400 Boko Haram militants since March. The militants had been fleeing into Diffa following battles with ISWA.

Improvised explosive devices suspected to have been planted by ISWA killed multiple soldiers and one civilian in Bosso between 9 and 15 April. Additionally, Boko Haram abducted at least three civilians in N'Guigmi department between 15 and 17 April.

On 11 March, military forces killed approximately 30 suspected Boko Haram fighters in Diffa and arrested 960 members. Between 13 and 19 March, approximately 20 ISWA and 83 suspected members were killed and captured by military forces in N'Guigmi. On 11 March, in Diffa, Boko Haram killed nine civilians who had been kidnapped two days prior near Toumour, Bosso.

On 8 January 2024, ISWA kidnapped five children in Maissirodi, Diffa.

Nigeria

On 6 June in northeastern Borno State, the air force bombed an enclave believed to be the camp of prominent Boko Haram leader Ali Ngulde in the Gwoza area. The attack killed a number of insurgents but not Ngulde. On 8 June, an ISWA convoy was reportedly hit in the Damboa area, killing an unconfirmed number.

On 15 and 22 June, suspected Boko Haram elements killed at least 23 civilians and abducted others in the Jere and Mafa areas, suggesting that some units are still hiding in the forests around the state capital, Maiduguri, making the risk of violence high. On 30 June, suspected ISWA fighters fired a rocket-propelled grenade at the town of Damboa after failing to overrun the community; five people were killed. On 23 June, Boko Haram and ISWA clashed between the towns of Gajiganna and Gajiram in the Nganzai region, resulting in unconfirmed deaths.

ISWA killed dozens of Boko Haram members on 5 July in the Sambisa Forest near the Bama region. On the same day, the air force continued counterinsurgency operations by bombing

an ISWA assembly near the town of Marte. On 15 July, airstrikes were launched on ISWA camps in the southern islands of Lake Chad. On 20 July, the army repelled an ISWA attack on a military post near the town of Monguno. In two attacks on 25 July in the Gudumbali forest and the Gubio area in Borno State in the northeastern zone, ISWA killed 32 civilians, including 25 herders.

On 12 August, Boko Haram fighters attacked a military base near the town of Konduga, killing three soldiers. Later the same day, the fighters killed ten farmers in Maiwa village, 5 km from Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State. On 22 August, the group kidnapped more than 40 women from their farms near the Maiduguri-Mafa road in the Jere region; the women were released three days later after a state official reportedly paid a ransom. On 15 August, inter-ethnic clashes between Boko Haram fighters reportedly left 82 people dead in the Kukawa. The crisis was allegedly sparked by the execution of seven Buduma fighters after they tried to surrender to government troops. In what may be the deadliest clash to date, Boko Haram and ISWA clashed on 18 and 19 August near the town of Marte, resulting in the deaths of more than 100 fighters on both sides.

As part of military operations against NSAGs in Borno State, the Air Force announced on 12 September that it had bombed fighters of the ISWA in the Kala/Balge region. Meanwhile, in neighbouring Bauchi State, authorities reported an increase in attacks by armed groups fleeing military operations in neighbouring states on 13 September, while on 16 September, security agents rescued more than 30 abductees in the Alkaleri region.

On 30 and 31 October, suspected ISWA militants shot villagers and detonated a landmine in the Gaidam area of Yobe State, killing at least 37 people.

In the northeast, on 18 November, clashes between Boko Haram and ISWA left about 70 people dead on the island of Tumbum Ali in the Marte region of Borno State. Security sources said the fighting intensified following the influx of weapons and fighters from the Islamic State’s Sahel Province who had joined ISWA. On 26 November, two trucks loaded with ISWA militants struck a landmine in the Marte area, killing about 50 people. On 6 November, also in Borno, Boko Haram fighters killed at least 15 farmers in the Mafa area.

On the political front, on 6 September, the Court of Requests for the Presidential Elections rejected opposition parties’ challenges to Bola Tinubu’s victory in the February presidential election. In the following days, the main opposition presidential candidates appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court. This court decision could give way to the opposition parties’ protests against Bola Tinubu’s election.

Table 5: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Security and Justice, All Countries

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
All	4,010	9,658	7,906	122%

Table 6: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Security and Justice, Cameroon

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.1.1 Number of stakeholder relationships and collaboration with security forces (military, law enforcement agencies, government-recognized community security groups) at established and functional community, district, governorate, state, and national levels	7	15	17	88%
1.1.2a Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) constructed/rehabilitated	22	46	50	92%
1.1.2b Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) equipped	12	38	50	76%
1.1.3 Number of JAP sites with community stabilization committees or similar structures established	1	12	12	100%
1.1.4. Percentage of female representatives (including female presidents) within community stabilization committees or similar structures	41%	41%	40%	103%
1.1.5 Number of JAP locations with operational early warning systems	3	8	12	67%
1.1.6 Number of security providers trained on human rights and prevention of gender-based violence	1,556	3,844	3,000	128%
1.1.7 Number of JAP locations in which local human rights defenders are reporting on human rights violations and issues surrounding civilian protection	12	12	12	100%
1.1.8 Number of training /sensibilization activities on risk of mine carried out in JAP sites	6	6	12	50%
1.1.9 Number of streetlights installed in JAP Location	300	490	490	100%
1.1.10 Number of JAP locations demined and decontaminated	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	1,919	4,471	3,655	122%

Table 7: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Security and Justice, Chad

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.1.1 Number of stakeholder relationships and collaboration with security forces (military, law enforcement agencies, government-recognized community security groups) at established and functional community, district, governorate, state, and national levels	-	14	20	70%
1.1.2a Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) constructed/rehabilitated	-	8	17	47%
1.1.2b Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) equipped	-	8	37	22%
1.1.3 Number of JAP sites with community stabilization committees or similar structures established	-	7	7	100%
1.1.4. Percentage of female representatives (including female presidents) within community stabilization committees or similar structures	12%	12%	25%	48%
1.1.5 Number of JAP locations with operational early warning systems	-	7	7	100%
1.1.6 Number of security providers trained on human rights and prevention of gender-based violence	206	353	300	118%
1.1.7 Number of JAP locations in which local human rights defenders are reporting on human rights violations and issues surrounding civilian protection	-	7	7	100%
1.1.8 Number of training /sensibilization activities on risk of mine carried out in JAP sites	3	8	7	114%
1.1.9 Number of streetlights installed in JAP Location	-	-	5	0%
1.1.10 Number of JAP locations demined and decontaminated	1	5	7	71%
Total	210	417	414	101%

Table 8: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Security and Justice, Niger

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.1.1 Number of stakeholder relationships and collaboration with security forces (military, law enforcement agencies, government-recognized community security groups) at established and functional community, district, governorate, state, and national levels	6	16	20	80%
1.1.2a Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) constructed/rehabilitated	2	2	2	100%
1.1.2b Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) equipped	1	1	2	50%
1.1.3 Number of JAP sites with community stabilization committees or similar structures established	-	6	10	60%
1.1.4. Percentage of female representatives (including female presidents) within community stabilization committees or similar structures	25%	25%	40%	63%
1.1.5 Number of JAP locations with operational early warning systems	6	6	10	60%
1.1.6 Number of security providers trained on human rights and prevention of gender-based violence	-	-	-	-
1.1.7 Number of JAP locations in which local human rights defenders are reporting on human rights violations and issues surrounding civilian protection	-	10	10	100%
1.1.8 Number of training /sensibilization activities on risk of mine carried out in JAP sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1.1.9 Number of streetlights installed in JAP Location	679	1,050	849	124%
1.1.10 Number of JAP locations demined and decontaminated	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	694	1,091	903	121%

Table 9: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Security and Justice, Nigeria

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.1.1 Number of stakeholder relationships and collaboration with security forces (military, law enforcement agencies, government-recognized community security groups) at established and functional community, district, governorate, state, and national levels	96	104	58	179%
1.1.2a Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) constructed/rehabilitated	9	71	65	109%
1.1.2b Number of security and justice infrastructures (law enforcement agencies, gendarmerie, courts, etc.) equipped	10	44	35	126%
1.1.3 Number of JAP sites with community stabilization committees or similar structures established	1	8	8	100%
1.1.4. Percentage of female representatives (including female presidents) within community stabilization committees or similar structures	20%	20%	20%	100%
1.1.5 Number of JAP locations with operational early warning systems	-	8	10	80%
1.1.6 Number of security providers trained on human rights and prevention of gender-based violence	225	954	750	127%
1.1.7 Number of JAP locations in which local human rights defenders are reporting on human rights violations and issues surrounding civilian protection	1	8	8	100%
1.1.8 Number of training /sensibilization activities on risk of mine carried out in JAP sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1.1.9 Number of streetlights installed in JAP Location	845	2,482	2,000	124%
1.1.10 Number of JAP locations demined and decontaminated	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	1,187	3,679	2,934	125%

RESULTS FRAMEWORK: ESSENTIAL SOCIAL SERVICES

Table 10: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Essential Social Services, All Countries

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
All	4,010	9,658	7,906	122%

Table 11: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Essential Social Services, Cameroon

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.2.1a Number of new or rehabilitated essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities	-	51	50	102%
1.2.1b Number of equipped essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities	-	27	37	73%
1.2.3 Number of permanent housing units constructed	-	13	17	76%
1.2.4 Number of public facilities and infrastructure equipped with renewable technologies	-	27	120	23%
1.2.5 Number of water points (including boreholes) constructed/rehabilitated in JAP location	-	7	7	100%
Total	-	125	231	54%

Table 12: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Essential Social Services, Chad

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.2.1a Number of new or rehabilitated essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities	-	51	50	102%
1.2.1b Number of equipped essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities	-	27	37	73%
1.2.3 Number of permanent housing units constructed	-	13	17	76%
1.2.4 Number of public facilities and infrastructure equipped with renewable technologies	-	27	120	23%
1.2.5 Number of water points (including boreholes) constructed/rehabilitated in JAP location	-	7	7	100%
Total	-	125	231	54%

RESULTS FRAMEWORK: LIVELIHOODS

Table 13: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Essential Social Services, Niger

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.2.1a Number of new or rehabilitated essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities	6	33	35	94%
1.2.1b Number of equipped essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities	-	6	6	100%
1.2.3 Number of permanent housing units constructed	-	-	30	0%
1.2.4 Number of public facilities and infrastructure equipped with renewable technologies	2	15	20	75%
1.2.5 Number of water points (including boreholes) constructed/rehabilitated in JAP location	3	3	11	27%
Total	11	57	102	56%

Table 14: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Essential Social Services, Nigeria

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.2.1a Number of new or rehabilitated essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities	25	150	135	111%
1.2.1b Number of equipped essential social service infrastructure projects (administrative, health, WASH, and education) handed over to local authorities or communities	14	44	50	88%
1.2.3 Number of permanent housing units constructed	1,400	5,760	4,500	128%
1.2.4 Number of public facilities and infrastructure equipped with renewable technologies	27	90	75	120%
1.2.5 Number of water points (including boreholes) constructed/rehabilitated in JAP location	25	63	45	140%
Total	1,491	6,107	4,805	127%

Table 15: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Livelihoods, All Countries

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
All	10,132	85,246	85,868	99%

Table 16: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Livelihoods, Cameroon

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.3.1 Number of rehabilitated or constructed productive infrastructure projects (such as small business offices and market structures)	21	50	45	111%
1.3.2 Number of people benefitting from cash for work as income-generating opportunities in the JAP locations	-	1,500	2,500	60%
1.3.3 Number of people benefitting from short-term and quick-fix training in JAP locations	1,455	5,094	4,914	104%
1.3.4 Number of people benefitting from provided productive or business grants or assets	742	3,148	4,226	74%
Total	2,218	9,792	11,685	84%

Table 17: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Livelihoods, Chad

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.3.1 Number of rehabilitated or constructed productive infrastructure projects (such as small business offices and market structures)	-	3	6	50%
1.3.2 Number of people benefitting from cash for work as income-generating opportunities in the JAP locations	1,800	3,131	3,831	82%
1.3.3 Number of people benefitting from short-term and quick-fix training in JAP locations	-	1,708	2,000	85%
1.3.4 Number of people benefitting from provided productive or business grants or assets	-	3,780	4,320	88%
Total	1,800	8,622	10,157	85%

RESULTS FRAMEWORK: REGIONAL CONSOLIDATION

Table 18: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Livelihoods, Niger

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.3.1 Number of rehabilitated or constructed productive infrastructure projects (such as small business offices and market structures)	1	5	6	83%
1.3.2 Number of people benefitting from cash for work as income-generating opportunities in the JAP locations	-	717	1,000	72%
1.3.3 Number of people benefitting from short-term and quick-fix training in JAP locations	24	84	800	11%
1.3.4 Number of people benefitting from provided productive or business grants or assets	-	40	100	40%
Total	25	846	1,906	44%

Table 19: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Livelihoods, Nigeria

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
1.3.1 Number of rehabilitated or constructed productive infrastructure projects (such as small business offices and market structures)	20	137	120	114%
1.3.2 Number of people benefitting from cash for work as income-generating opportunities in the JAP locations	879	12,679	12,000	100%
1.3.3 Number of people benefitting from short-term and quick-fix training in JAP locations	3000	26,990	25,000	98%
1.3.4 Number of people benefitting from provided productive or business grants or assets	2,190	26,180	25,000	105%
Total	2,869	62,766	62,120	101%

Table 20: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Consolidation, All Countries

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
All	454	2,981	4,372	68%

Table 21: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Consolidation, Cameroon

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.1.1 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGOs, CSOs, as well as community stabilization committees trained on promoting social cohesion	135	240	120	200%
2.1.2 Number of members/staff of local structures involved in stabilization trained on promoting gender equity	45	45	140	32%
2.1.3 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGOs, CSOs, as well as community stabilization committees trained on community-based participatory planning approaches	-	60	80	75%
2.1.4 Number of coordination meetings, joint advocacy, and fundraising with UNDP, UN, and other development partners	1	12	11	109%
Total	181	357	351	102%

Table 22: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Consolidation, Chad

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.1.1 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGOs, CSOs, as well as community stabilization committees trained on promoting social cohesion	-	567	1,000	57%
2.1.2 Number of members/staff of local structures involved in stabilization trained on promoting gender equity	-	567	900	63%
2.1.3 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGOs, CSOs, as well as community stabilization committees trained on community-based participatory planning approaches	-	567	900	63%
2.1.4 Number of coordination meetings, joint advocacy, and fundraising with UNDP, UN, and other development partners	-	12	15	80%
Total	-	1,713	2,815	61%

RESULTS FRAMEWORK: REGIONAL CROSS-BORDER

Table 23: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Consolidation, Niger

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.1.1 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGOs, CSOs, as well as community stabilization committees trained on promoting social cohesion	-	-	-	-
2.1.2 Number of members/staff of local structures involved in stabilization trained on promoting gender equity	-	-	190	0%
2.1.3 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGOs, CSOs, as well as community stabilization committees trained on community-based participatory planning approaches	-	-	190	100%
2.1.4 Number of coordination meetings, joint advocacy, and fundraising with UNDP, UN, and other development partners	8	20	60	33%
Total	8	20	440	5%

Table 24: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Consolidation, Nigeria

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.1.1 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGOs, CSOs, as well as community stabilization committees trained on promoting social cohesion	120	327	227	144%
2.1.2 Number of members/staff of local structures involved in stabilization trained on promoting gender equity	16	223	227	98%
2.1.3 Number of officers of local government and municipality, NGOs, CSOs, as well as community stabilization committees trained on community-based participatory planning approaches	120	327	300	109%
2.1.4 Number of coordination meetings, joint advocacy, and fundraising with UNDP, UN, and other development partners	9	14	12	117%
Total	265	891	766	116%

Table 25: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Cross-border, All Countries

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
All	48	175	163	107%

Table 26: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Cross-border, Dakar

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.2.1 Number of surge capacity to national windows	4	15	16	94%
2.2.2 Number of RSF knowledge products developed by all RSF	2	7	10	70%
2.2.3 Number of RSF strategic communications products and programmes developed	11	16	10	160%
Total	17	38	36	106%

Table 27: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Cross-border, Cameroon

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.2.1 Number of surge capacity to national windows	1		3	0%
2.2.2 Number of RSF knowledge products developed by all RSF	11		8	0%
2.2.3 Number of RSF strategic communications products and programmes developed	-	2	2	100%
Total	-	2	13	15%

Table 28: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Cross-border, Chad

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.2.1 Number of surge capacity to national windows	-	19	25	76%
2.2.2 Number of RSF knowledge products developed by all RSF	-	19	4	475%
2.2.3 Number of RSF strategic communications products and programmes developed	-	1	1	100%
Total	-	39	30	130%

Table 29: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Cross-border, Niger

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.2.1 Number of surge capacity to national windows	7	8	5	160%
2.2.2 Number of RSF knowledge products developed by all RSF	-	-	2	100%
2.2.3 Number of RSF strategic communications products and programmes developed	1	1	1	100%
Total	8	9	8	113%

Table 30: Results Framework, Output Indicators, Regional Cross-border, Nigeria

Indicators	Progress 2023 Only	Progress Cumulative	Target Cumulative	% Progress Against Cumulative Target
2.2.1 Number of surge capacity to national windows	-	7	9	78%
2.2.2 Number of RSF knowledge products developed by all RSF	22	78	65	120%
2.2.3 Number of RSF strategic communications products and programmes developed	1	2	2	100%
Total	6	70	76	92%



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