

NIGERIA

JUNE - AUGUST 2019 BRIEFING

HUMANITARIAN FIGURES

7.1 million

People are in need of life-saving humanitarian assistance across the states of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe in Nigeria, according to the [UN Office of Humanitarian Affairs \(OCHA\)](#)

3.5 million

People remain food insecure in the Lake Chad Basin region in 2019. Conflict-induced food insecurity and severe malnutrition render many Nigerians dependent on assistance, according to the [UN High Commissioner for Refugees \(UNHCR\)](#)

2.7 million

Estimated people have been displaced since the Nigerian Refugee Crisis began six years ago. 1.9 million are still internally displaced (IDPs), including 440,000 women, 364,000 men, 614,000 girls, and 516,000 boys with 94% of the displacement attributed to ongoing hostilities, according to the [UN High Commissioner for Refugees \(UNHCR\)](#)



Humanitarian
Aid Relief Trust

NEWS & HEADLINES

- **July 13th- 19th:** The Council on Foreign Relations reported that 47 deaths and 14 kidnappings occurred due to Boko Haram and Fulani Herdsman- related skirmishes over this one week. ([Council on Foreign Relations](#))
- **July 20th:** President Muhammadu Buhari condemns the killing of 37 innocent people by bandits in the Sokoto State. ([Bloomberg News](#))
- **July 22nd:** It was reported that Fulani killings of Nigerian Christians meets standard for 'genocide', when it comes to the massacres of Christian farming communities. By June 12, there had been at least 52 Fulani militant attacks so far this year. ([Christian Post](#))
- **July 27th:** In Borno, more than 60 dead as Boko Haram target a funeral procession, in retaliation to an alleged incident where villagers fought off a earlier Boko Haram attack. This was the deadliest attack so far in the region this year. ([Sky News](#))
- **July 29th:** 25 Soldiers and 47 Boko Haram militants were killed during a clash in Kukawa, Borno. Boko Haram killed 25 soldiers in Kaga, Borno. ([Council on Foreign Relations](#))
- **August 2nd:** 5 pastors were reportedly abducted by the Fulani on their way to attend an annual church conference in Ogun State. Only one of the pastors has been rescued to date. ([Daily Post](#))

HARTS Partners in Nigeria

School and Clinic in Bari, Kano State (Northern Nigeria)

This school and clinic was built to serve children of any faith, whose families are otherwise unable to pay for healthcare.

The Christian Institute in Jos, Plateau State (Nigeria's Middle Belt)

This educational institution offers courses in healthcare, theology, communications, and computing. In previous years, HART has funded the building of dormitories at the school.

Mai Adiko Peace Project in Jos, Plateau State (Nigeria's Middle Belt)

Set in Jos (a city wracked by inter-communal violence for a number of years), the Mai Adiko Peace Project aims to build peace by bringing together members of the Christian and Muslim communities for a broad range of activities, including skill sharing, training, sporting competitions and the generation of small businesses. The project provides educational activities, including computer and literacy classes, teaching, equipment, meeting space and loans to women and young people, enabling them to generate their own income, thereby helping to improve their future livelihood.

- **August 4th:** A Nigerian priest was killed by suspected Fulani gunmen, southern Nigeria in Ugbawka. This is additional to the 5 pastors whom were abducted. ([Christian Post](#))

- **August 12th:** 8 killed in jihadist attacks on an army base and village in north-east Nigeria. ([News 24](#))

CONTEXT

The increase in number of displaced Nigerians has largely been caused by two conflicts. The first conflict arose from attack made by Boko Haram, or The Islamic State in West Africa, a jihadist terrorist organization based in the Northeast of Nigeria. The second conflict, boiled down to its simplest form, involves the Fulani Herdsman/(Militia), an ethnic group of nomadic or semi-nomadic pastoralists, and local farmers in the



Political Map of Nigeria

Located in northern central Africa, the Lake Chad Basin currently faces insecurity, affecting areas of Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.

Yobo, Borno and Adamawa states of north-east Nigeria host the largest amount of individuals and households affected by conflict. HART partners are located in Jos, the capital of Plateau state; and Bari, south of Kano state capital.



In 2014 the Fulani Militia was named the fourth deadliest terrorist group in the world by the Global Terrorism Index, after Boko Haram, ISIS, and the Taliban.



Middle Belt of Nigeria. Their disputes were initially driven by socio-economic factors like land and cattle, but have grown to have a religious and ideological undertone. Aside from the direct death toll, these two major conflicts have resulted in a tragic litany of secondary issues (that stem off the displacement of people from their homes) such as food insecurity, malnutrition, and loss of religious freedoms.

A lack of state presence has allowed criminal networks to operate freely for decades, however since the emergence of the Islamist militia nine years ago there have been countless insurgencies, forcing households to leave their homes and relocate to camps and host communities for IDPs. More recently, however, the migration of the Fulani herdsman has exacerbated the displacement of people.



Map of Nigeria showing the separation of the country into the North, Middle Belt, and South regions

The Middle Belt, indicated in yellow, shows the handful of states straddling the pre-colonial line dividing Nigeria’s predominantly Muslim north from its Christian south.

The Fulani herdsman have historically grazed their cattle in the area of Lake Chad basin however the landlocked lake has shrink from 22,000 square kilometres in the 1960s to fewer than 1,500 square kilometres today, due to changing climate patterns. This has forced the herdsman

Photos from HART's 2018 Visit to Nigeria



Above, Canon Hassan, John, from the Mai Adiko Peace Project, stands before his destroyed church. During the visit, the HART delegation witnessed how areas occupied by Boko Haram have been devastated of homes, crops, churches, and mosques.



Above, Baroness Cox meet internally displaced children at an IDP camp.

Below, a mother and daughter smile despite of it all.



to migrate southwards, triggering disputes with farmers. It has also been observed that religion has played a part in the conflict between the herdsman and the farmers, as the former are predominately Christian (though a diversity of religions are practiced in the Middle and Southern regions of Nigeria). Significant challenges facing Nigeria pertain to ongoing conflicts, and are exacerbated by poverty, climate change and underdevelopment. It is therefore necessary that the Nigerian government cooperate with humanitarian organisations to ensure one hundred percent of aid is received by those affected, and to eventually reach a solution to the complex situation.

Latest Developments re. HART's Work

The UN states that millions of people in north-east Nigeria rely on humanitarian assistance to survive. Despite significant improvements in 2017 and 2018, the food security and nutrition situation remains fragile in the north-east, with 2.7 million people in the bay states in need of food assistance in 2019. More than 5 million people need health assistance, with two thirds of health facilities in the bay states having been damaged by the conflict. Basic survival needs are compounded by access and security impediments.

HART's work in Jos and Bari in Nigeria hopes to combat these major humanitarian crises by supporting efforts that primarily involve education (ie. vocational education, healthcare education, and education in reconciliation between different ethnic/religious groups e.t.c).

HART continues to support **The Christian Institute**, on the edge of Jos, where over 100 students are in training. Most recently, HART is directing its funds towards providing books and other visual aids that are more up-to-date and fitting to the institute's academic curricula.

In investing into the facilities and academic materials of educational institutions, HART hopes to provide a better future for the Nigerians who benefit from them.