

NIGERIA

SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER BRIEFING 2018



Humanitarian Figures

7.7 million

Estimated people in need of life saving assistance across the north-east states of Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe

(UN – September 2018)

1.76 million

Estimated IDPs in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, according to UNHCR September 2018

Reports sourced by [USAID](#)

6.1 million

Estimated People were targeted for lifesaving assistance in 2018, according to a [OCHA report](#) released in September

3,700,000

Food insecure people across Nigeria were reported as being in need of aid, according to

[OCHA](#)

\$1 billion

Appealed for by UN and partners for 176 humanitarian projects to be implemented by 60 organisations, the sixth largest appeal globally, according to [UNOCHA](#)

Highlights

- > Conflict and violence in the middle-belt and northeast region continues
- > Two attacks by Boko Haram on Nigerian troops
- > Upcoming elections see competition for presidential power between two Fulanis

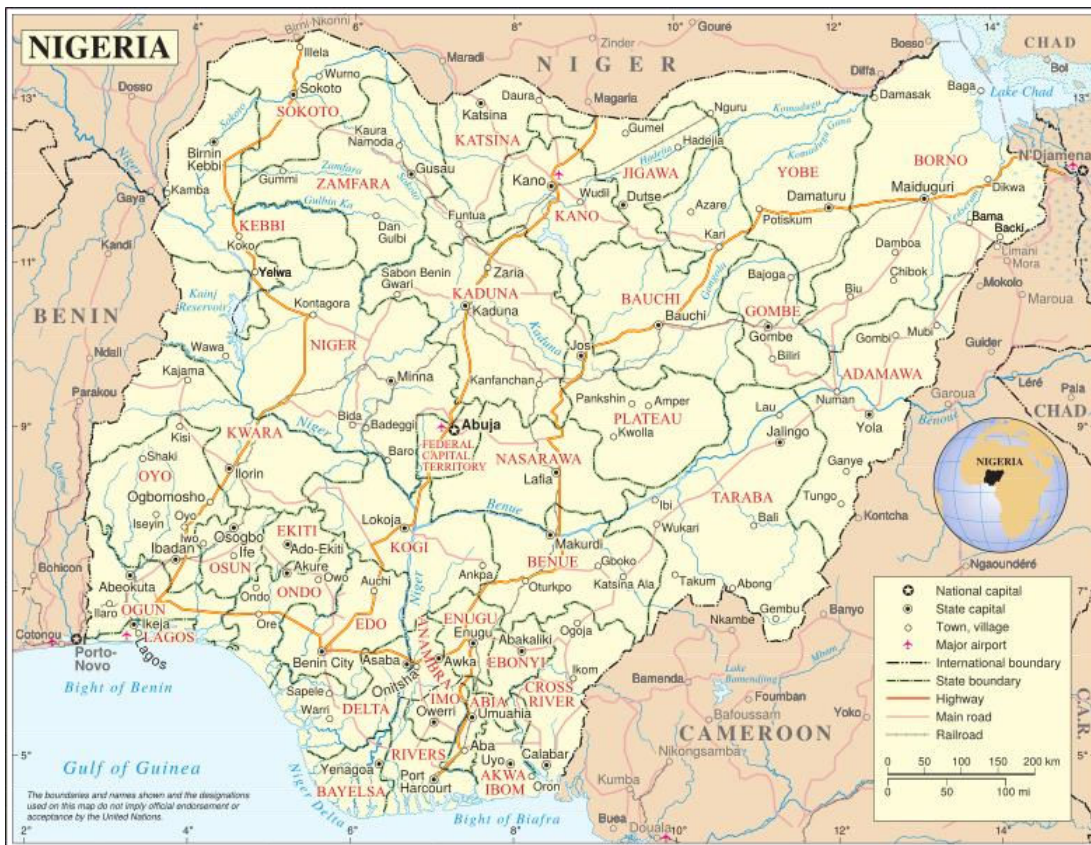
Key Developments

- > Boko Haram militants continue to threaten the security of the northeast region, with reported attacks on civilians and troops
- > The ongoing conflict between Fulani herdsman and farmers remains complex as motives vary – issues of livestock grazing have been exacerbated by religious and ethnic tensions.
- > Two International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) aid workers were killed in September and October after being kidnapped in March.
- > Buhari remains the chosen head of the ruling All Progressive Congress (APC), while the opposing party People's Democratic Party (PDP) has elected Abubakar in the run up to the February 2019 presidential election.
- > Nigerian soldiers opened unprovoked fire on a group of Shia Muslim peaceful protestors, according to evidence collected by Amnesty International.
- > Nigeria has declared a national disaster after severe flooding that has affected 80% of the country and killed at least 100 people.
- > Food insecurity is becoming more of a concern with the continued violence across the country restricting agricultural output.

Context

As more people become displaced due to ongoing conflict, northeast Nigeria remains in a humanitarian crisis stemming from the threats made by Boko Haram. [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 in camps and host communities for IDPs. More recently, this displacement has been exacerbated by clashes between semi-nomadic cattle herders, mostly of Fulani ethnicity, and sedentary farmers.

The Fulani herdsman have historically grazed their cattle in the area of the Lake Chad basin however the [landlocked lake has shrunk](#) from 22,000 square kilometres in the 1960s to fewer than 1,500 today due to changing climate patterns. This has forced the herdsman 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 predominantly Muslim, whilst the latter are Christian. 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 produce a solution to the complex situation.



Political Map of Nigeria

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

Yobe, Borno and Adamawa states of north-east Nigeria host the greatest 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.

Latest Developments

Across Nigeria

[Emergency levels](#) of food security in north-eastern Nigeria are nearly wholly a result of disruptions caused by conflict.

[3-4 September](#) – Germany, Nigeria, Norway and the United Nations hosted the High-Level Conference on the Lake Chad Region.

- 27 nations, 24 regional and international organisations and representatives of national and international civil society [convened to discuss](#) the ways in which those affected by the humanitarian crisis in the area could be addressed, building resilient communities in the face of growing violence.

[18 September](#) – Nigeria has declared a national disaster after the two major rivers burst their banks, killing at least 100 people and affecting 80% of the country.

[19 September](#) – Muslim and Christian religious leaders, in the presence of the UN, signed an agreement to hold the peace in anticipation of the February 2019 election.

[7 October](#) – Nigeria opposition party PDP has selected Abubakar as their candidate for the 2019 presidential election. The ruling APC party has chosen Buhari. The [two have been in every election](#) since 1999 and 2003 respectively.

[Leading Nigerian companies](#) from a range of sectors are working with the United Nations to support the Government to tackle the humanitarian crisis in the northeast. More than 7 million people are in need of life-saving aid.

North East Region

[3 September](#) – A Boko Haram attack on a Nigerian army post in northern Borno State has resulted in a death toll of 48.

[8 September](#) – Islamist extremists attacked a northern Nigerian town, after the Nigerian government asked displaced people to return in June. Several people are reported to have been killed and many forced to flee their homes.

[17 September](#) – An ICRC aid worker kidnapped in March by Boko Haram militants has been killed.

[24 September](#) – 7 Boko Haram militants were killed in a rescue operation conducted by Nigerian troops that freed 73 hostages.

[12 October](#) – 833 child soldiers have been released from an armed group in northeast Nigeria.

[16 October](#) – A second ICRC aid worker has been killed after being kidnapped by Boko Haram alongside the aforementioned aid worker in March.

[21 October](#) – A row at a market in Kaduna State caused by sectarian violence between Muslim and Christian youth has left 55 dead.

[23 October](#) – At least 12 farmers have been killed in Borno state, risking aggravating the current food crisis.

[31 October](#) – A camp for internally displaced people has been attacked by a non-state armed group, killing at least 8 people. Hundreds have been displaced from the camp, which hosts 12,600 civilians that have already sought refuge having fled violence previously.

[693 people were killed](#) in October alone by the ongoing violence. In the period of September – November Borno State experienced the highest number of casualties, with 284 killed.

[21 November](#) – A Nigerian army commander and dozens of soldiers have been killed by Boko Haram militants. The group left with arms, ammunition and military equipment.

Middle-Belt

[3 September](#) – 11 villagers have been killed in Plateau State, in a town just outside of Jos. 11 people were also injured as a result of the growing violence between the Fulani herdsmen and Christian farmers.

[26 October](#) – Benue State Government has warned of a threat from herdsmen of fresh attacks in Benue.

Initially a product of competition over scarce water and land, Nigeria's farmer-herder clashes have religious and ethnic overtones, and the violence has caused more casualties than Boko Haram in 2018.

- In response, the states of Benue and Taraba have banned open-grazing. Traditional leaders have mediated agreements in some areas, providing settlements to farmers for damage to crops by livestock.

[1 November](#) – 55 Shia protestors have been killed by Nigerian troops in the capital, Abuja. Shia Muslims were peacefully protesting the imprisonment of their leader.

- The Nigerian military said that troops were acting in self-defence, although no casualties have been reported among security forces.