

IOM Opens New Child Therapy Room in Nigerian Neuropsychiatric Hospital

IOM inaugurated a new child and adolescent therapy room on September 15 at the neuropsychiatric hospital in northeastern city of Maiduguri, Nigeria. The project, funded by the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), is part of IOM's psychosocial support services in the Boko Haram conflict-affected area.

In line with the government's Presidential Initiative for the North East (PINE), IOM refurbished the facility to support and encourage the use of play psychotherapies. It also provided toys, creative tools and psychological assessment tools to help the work of the child psychologists.

The facility comprises a family therapy room, two counselling rooms and a play therapy room. IOM and the neuropsychiatric hospital have been collaborating since 2014. IOM Regional Director for West Africa Richard Danziger attended the inauguration. "IOM will continue to provide mental health and psychosocial support services for people affected by the insurgency in northeast Nigeria," he said.

The crisis, which has created a wave of internal displacement, has impacted communities deeply at a psychosocial level. Many have been forced to flee their homes and live in camps with few



opportunities. Others were traumatized by events including the kidnapping of girls by Boko Haram, the death of loved ones and widespread destruction.

IOM has put in place psychosocial mobile teams who are providing services to alleviate emotional distress and rebuild support mechanisms. They have identified individuals with severe mental health disorders and referred them to the hospital for treatment. They also follow up on patients and provide psycho-education to the families.

Monica Ishaya, a parent of one of the young patients at the hospital, said that she had struggled to find adequate treatment for her daughter, but was impressed by the outcome. "Before I could not even play with my child, but now I play with her all the time. She can now even attend school."

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **IOM strengthens the capacity of Nigeria Immigration Service on the use of MIDAS**
- **IOM Delivers Aid to Over 12,000 Displaced in Newly Liberated Areas of Northeast**
- **Government of Nigeria Launches National Labour Migration Policy**
- **Nigerian Officials Trained on Mainstreaming Protection in Camp Management**
- **IOM Lagos Sub Office Moves into a new Premises**

IOM strengthens the capacity of Nigeria Immigration Service on the use of Migration Information Data Analysis System

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) has conducted a training for 25 officers of the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS). The training which was on the use and installation of Migration Information Data Analysis System (MIDAS) took place in Abuja from 25 – 29 July 2016.

MIDAS is a Border Management Information System that allows for the collection, processing, storage and dissemination of travellers' information when entering and exiting border points. It helps to facilitate improved border movement control and border management activities. MIDAS supports better evaluation of cross-border flows and helps determine optimum deployment of human and financial resources at borders.

This activity is under the European Union funding which supports the Government of Nigeria in immigration and border management activities. IOM is equipping six border posts with MIDAS namely Jibya, Illela, Mfum, Idiroko, Seme and Kamba. IOM is also providing solar power systems to five of the border posts which do not have stable electricity.

Migration Information Data Analysis System (MIDAS) was installed in Kamba, Kebbi State in October, 2015. Following specifications identified during technical assessments, high



Practical demonstration of the use of MIDAS equipment by participants

quality solar power system was deployed to ensure adequate power supply for the MIDAS systems.

The IOM Nigeria Chief of Mission Ms Enira Krdzalic while speaking about the training said: "given the global security, economic, political and environmental challenges, it is imperative to apply technological innovation to tackle the important task of efficient border management."

Mr Rabiul Ibrahim one of the trainee affirmed that "IOM has given NIS an opportunity to upgrade their skills in electronic passenger registration. MIDAS will enhance our capacity to overcome emerging migration challenges in the world today. It will also enable NIS to detect migrants on the security watch list. MIDAS provides us with authentic record and helps the NIS to monitor all the border posts in Nigeria."

The training workshop is beneficial as it provided a platform to enhance the knowledge and skills of Immigration officials. Officials who are trained at

the national level will be instrumental to step-down activities at the border crossing points.

Similarly IOM has completed technical assessment of 5 borders namely Maigateri (Jigawa State), Kongolam (Katsina State), Oron seaport (Akwa Ibom State), Calabar Seaport (Cross River State) and Chikanda (Kwara State). The assessment reports which is under the Japan funded project "Counter Terrorism By Enhancing Land Borders", will serve as a guide for procurement of IT and solar equipment for MIDAS installations needed for four out of the five sites. From 1-20 August, 2016, IOM installed MIDAS at Jibya BCP(Katsina state); Mfum BCP (Cross River State); Calabar State Command (Cross River State) and Illela BCP(Sokoto State).

MIDAS has been developed to support states to collect, process and record migrants' information for the purpose of identification, data collection and analysis. It can collect biographic and biometric data which is useful for monitoring migration patterns.



Participants at the Abuja training

IOM Delivers Aid to Over 12,000 Displaced in Newly Liberated Areas of Northeast Nigeria

As part of its humanitarian efforts to alleviate the suffering of families displaced by the violence in North East Nigeria, IOM Nigeria and IOM Cameroon in a joint operation distributed 3,000 non-food relief item (NFI) kits to internally displaced people (IDPs) in the Nigerian border town of Banki from 23-24 August 2016.

Banki, which shares a border with Cameroon, is located in Bama Local Government Area (LGA) of Borno State, Nigeria. It was once a vibrant border town where trade between Nigeria and Cameroon was the main economic activity.

Head of Office of IOM Cameroon Roger Charles Evina said: "Despite the daunting security and logistical challenges, IOM Cameroon is determined to support IOM Nigeria to reach an affected population that is in dire need of humanitarian assistance."



Displaced Family after collection of their NFI in Banki Community



Displaced women and children in Banki Community

The NFIs, which included mosquito nets, sleeping mats, laundry and bathing soaps, jerry cans, sanitary pads and water purification tabs, were funded by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) and the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in Nigeria. They were procured and distributed by IOM Cameroon, in close cooperation with IOM Nigeria.

IOM Nigeria, with funding from ECHO and CERF, also provided emergency shelters for about 6,800 people in recently liberated Bama and Gwoza LGAs in Borno State.

IOM Nigeria Chief of Mission Enira Krdzalic reiterated the need for continuous support for the displaced population. "IOM remains committed to supporting the government of Nigeria in ensuring that the plight of the IDPs is alleviated," she said.

The successful distribution in Banki was closely coordinated with

Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Nigerian and Cameroonian authorities. But more aid is needed in Banki, as the IDP population is greater than expected, totalling an estimated 26,000 people, including women, children and the elderly, according to Krdzalic. "Strong cross-border coordination and cooperation in all Lake Chad Basin countries will remain key for continuing efficient and timely delivery of life-saving assistance to affected populations," she noted.

IOM has provided assistance to affected populations in the Lake Chad Basin region with the support of ECHO, CERF, WFP and the governments of the United States, Italy, France, Germany and Japan.

It is currently appealing for USD 56.6 million to continue to provide emergency and recovery assistance in the four affected countries, including scaling up its operations in Nigeria, where it is appealing for USD 25 million.

IOM Supports Nigeria in Launch of National Labour Migration Policy

The Federal Government of Nigeria with support from the International Organization for Migration on Thursday (18 August) officially launched the National Labour Migration Policy in Abuja. The policy which was approved by the Federal Executive Council in October 2014 aims to promote good governance of labour migration; protect migrant workers and promote their welfare; and optimize the benefits of labour migration on development, while mitigating its adverse impact. The accompanying Plan of Action outlines concrete projects which will contribute to the overall achievement of the Policy's goals. During this occasion, an information brochure for migrant workers and the National Electronic Labour Exchange (NELEX) website, a database for migrant workers were also launched. The Social Partners Advisory Board and the National Policy on Labour Migration Implementation Committee who will be responsible for the implementation of the policy's Plan of Action was also inaugurated at the



The Hon Minister of Labour and Employment Dr Chris Nwabueze Ngige, the Chief of Mission IOM Nigeria Ms Enira Krdzalic, the EU Deputy Head of Delegation Richard Young, and ILO Country Director Mr Dennis Zulu launching the policy

event. During the event, Honourable Minister of Labour and Employment Sen. (Dr.) Chris Nwabueze Ngige said "The Policy and its Plan of Action, was one of several initiatives of the Government of Nigeria to strengthen the legal and policy framework for organized labour migration. It will enhance the capacity of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment (FMLE) in the governance of labour

migration in Nigeria." The Chief of Mission IOM Nigeria, Ms. Enira Krdzalic in her remark reiterated the importance of institutional collaboration and coordination between FMLE and other relevant institutions in effective implementation of the policy. She said that "it is vital for the Ministry to build synergies with relevant institutions and to establish mechanisms for smooth implementation of the policy in Nigeria." She appreciated the European Union and IOM Development Fund for the financial support towards the launching of the policy. The policy will not only help to address many of the challenges of labour migration but also enhance the capacity of the ministry to effectively manage labour migration to and from Nigeria.



The Chief of Mission IOM Nigeria Ms Enira Krdzalic making her remark at the Launch of the Labour Migration Policy in Abuja

IOM, Partners Train Nigerian Officials on Mainstreaming Protection in Camp Coordination and Camp Management

IOM, in collaboration with UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA, organized a two-day training session for Nigerian government authorities and local partners on mainstreaming protection in camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) from 22 to 25 August 2016.

The first training took place in Maiduguri and another one will be carried out in Yola on 30-31 August. The training was developed based on the results of a learning needs assessment conducted by IOM at the national and state level in 13 states. A total of 63 representatives from National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) HQ, NEMA Zonal and Operations Offices, State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), and local partners from northeast Nigeria took part in the training session.

During the protection mainstreaming training, participants addressed the protection legal framework, child protection, gender-based violence and counter trafficking. NEMA and SEMA field staff currently working in camps shared their experiences.

IOM has also trained 378 NEMA, SEMA, Nigerian Red Cross and other local partners in psychological first aid (PFA), CCCM, SPHERE standards and Emergency Shelter to build their capacity to cope with the unfolding humanitarian crisis in northeast Nigeria. Some 53 counterparts have also been trained as trainers. The training is part of two IOM projects: “Strengthening the humanitarian response to the displacement crisis in North East Nigeria” and “Emergency mental health and psychosocial support for affected population in North East of Nigeria” funded by USAID/OFDA.



Husnur Esthiwahu IOM Capacity Building Programme Officer making presentation on mainstreaming protection in Camp management

Humanitarian Needs Escalate in Nigeria with Over Two Million Internally Displaced



The Boko Haram conflict affecting the Lake Chad Basin area, particularly in northeast Nigeria, has resulted in large scale displacement and a significant protection crisis. In Nigeria alone, over 2.2 million people are internally displaced, including many living in temporary sites without basic services, where conditions fail to meet the most basic standards. Numbers are growing rapidly as aid agencies gain access to more areas.

IOM has so far provided humanitarian support to nearly 325,000 people in northeast Nigeria through provision of non-food relief items, shelter, psychological first aid, camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) and training to meet SPHERE minimum standards in humanitarian relief. But it needs significantly more financial support to continue to provide shelter, displacement tracking and biometric registration, camp management and



Displaced women and children in Northeast Nigeria

psycho-social help for people affected by the crisis. IOM leads the shelter and CCCM cluster, together with the Nigerian Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). Its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), implemented in close collaboration with the government, is the principal tool through which essential data on displacement levels, locations and conditions are collected, analysed and shared.

Significant resources have been mobilized over the past 18 months with steps taken by IOM to deploy additional technical experts in the area of shelter, camp management and displacement tracking. Economic disruption caused by ongoing violence has left millions in a situation of acute food insecurity, prompting the Nigerian authorities to declare a food and nutrition emergency in Borno state, where most of the internally displaced are located. Women, children and the elderly are at particular risk. Conditions in the region have now deteriorated to a point where it now meets the criteria required to activate Level 3 emergency status, the highest level of humanitarian

crisis, according to IOM Director General William Lacy Swing. “The Level 3 Emergency Response will initially be for six months and will apply to IOM’s relief operations in Nigeria, and related activities carried out in neighboring countries. We hope that this will result in a better resourced and more coordinated response to this major humanitarian crisis,” he said.

IOM LAGOS SUB OFFICE MOVES INTO A NEW PREMISES

The IOM Lagos Sub office moved to a new Facility on June 23, 2016. The move was necessitated by the need to accommodate more staff due to an increase in the number of programs in the Lagos sub office. For many years,

the AVRR programme was the only program operating from the Lagos sub office. However in the last years saw new programmes such as MHAC and Canadian Orientation Abroad (COA) added.

The new office has all the IOM Lagos programs under the same roof for easy access and communication between staff and our beneficiaries. The new location on Isaac John street ,very close to Ikeja Cantonment and a walking distance from the Leventis bus stop. The environment is secure, serene and very spacious to accommodate our expanding clientele. We are looking forward to supporting our beneficiaries in ensuring ‘humane and orderly Migration for the benefit of all in Nigeria’. You can pay us a visit at No 1 Isaac John Street, adjacent Oduduwa way, GRA Ikeja and you can contact us on **08072191112, 081675489994, 09029390545,** **atiomlagosops@iom.int,** **iomlagosmedicalbooking@iom.int** or **coanigeria@iom.int.**



IOM staff members in Lagos Sub office

Assisted Voluntary Returns of Migrants from Libya Approach 11,000

International organization for migration facilitated another safe repatriation of 241 Nigerian migrants back to Lagos Nigeria, on 23 August 2016. With the voluntary return of these 174 men and 67 women, included several teenagers, IOM has now repatriated nearly 11,000 migrants from Libya to their countries of origin since the overthrow of the Gaddafi regime in 2011.

This brings the total number of 581 Nigerians returned from Libya in 2016 to 581. Since the onset of the Libyan crisis in 2011, some 1,624 Nigerians have returned home from Libya with IOM. This compares with some 3,000 migrants returned from Libya to Niger – a country which shares a land border with Libya. IOM charters have also repatriated migrants from Libya to Sénégal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Conakry, Ghana, Sudan and The Gambia. “The humanitarian repatriation programme ensures humane, dignified and safe return for stranded migrants back to their home countries,” said IOM Libya Chief of Mission Othman Belbeisi. “This is the third return flight to Nigeria since the beginning of 2016. Our office in Nigeria is providing reintegration assistance to the most vulnerable of these



Nigerian migrants waiting to board flight from Libya to Nigeria (Photo by IOM Libya/Ashraf)

returnees,” he added.

Emmanuela, the mother of a 3 year-old boy, told IOM that she had been working in Libya as a housemaid, while her husband took care of their son in Nigeria. She was affected by Libya’s deteriorating economy and political turmoil. “I was working for very little money and in some cases, I didn’t receive any. It was difficult to save because of lack of income and high prices. I had no money to return home until the Nigerian Church put me in touch with IOM. Now I will be able to be with my son when he starts school.” Alhaji, 22, had an even worse experience. “I came here in 2011 to work and maybe one day make enough to go to Europe. I was working as a barber when I was stopped by a group of men who wanted my phone and everything I had on me. They ended up shooting me and I was left there

until a local man took me to a clinic.” Doctors had to remove one of his testicles and he now has to use a silicon tube to urinate. Ellsa, 20, had nearly made it across the Mediterranean, but the boat in which she was travelling was intercepted by the Libyan Coastguard. “I paid 400,000 Nigerian Naira (\$1,000) in Nigeria to get to Italy, but I never want to leave again. I never thought Libya would be worse than back home. I am happy to be going back,” she said.

Nigerians are among the top nationalities rescued from rubber dinghies and other small crafts in the Channel of Sicily by Italian and other vessels. IOM Rome reports that between January 1, 2015 and the end of July 2016 at least 40,824 Nigerians arrived in Italy after being rescued at sea. Almost all of them sailed from

Libya. Suliman Alabi, a consular assistant with the Nigerian embassy in Tripoli, says that without the IOM charters, many of the migrants would still be stranded in detention centres. He estimates that there may be as many as 6,000 undocumented Nigerian nationals still in detention centres or living in Libyan towns. "Although many are leaving, many continue to come," he notes.

Before boarding the IOM charter flight to return home on Tuesday, each migrant was provided with a hygiene kit, underwear, a shirt, tracksuit and shoes. A mobile patrol from the Libyan Directorate of Combating Illegal Migration (DCIM) escorted the buses to Mitiga airport.

On arrival at Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA), the returnees were met by IOM Nigeria staff. They were provided with post-arrival assistance and given cash grants to facilitate their onward transportation. The most vulnerable migrants – 18 percent of the group will be given reintegration assistance by IOM Nigeria over the next six months. The cost of the charter was covered by three IOM projects funded by the Swiss Secretariat of Migration, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.



IOM Assists about 36 Returned Migrants and Youths at Risk of Irregular Migration in Katsina State

As part of reintegration process, IOM in collaboration with Women Economic Empowerment Organization (WEEO) Katsina State is providing support to 36 Nigerian returnee migrants in skill acquisition training in Magama, Jibia and Bagemu, Baure Communities. This livelihood support is under EU and DFID funded the Migration Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM) Niger Phase 1 project.

The project provides assistance to returned migrants and youth at risk of irregular migration through implementation of group reintegration activity and community projects to create better socio-economic conditions for the communities/ returnees and reduce the irregular migration among youths within the communities.

In Magama, Jibia Community 8 beneficiaries are being trained on tailoring based on their choice. Most of them have been involved in irregular migration into countries like Niger, Libya and Benin republic. Some spent three-six months, while some spent over a year in these countries. They all travelled through land.

The beneficiaries are currently engaged in sewing about 100 school uniforms for vulnerable primary school students who cannot afford to sew or buy school uniforms for the new academic session. This initiative



from the group was to better the lives of other vulnerable persons in the society.

One of the beneficiaries Umar Mohammed has this to say "I have improved on my sewing skills. I can't believe I sewed this lovely school blouse that I am holding. Thanks to IOM. I will continue to improve on my sewing skills and train other youths. Since I have something to do now, I will remain in my home country."

Another beneficiary Nura Adamu said "I was in Niger when my parents contacted me about this new development in our community and I quickly came back. Luckily, I was selected as a beneficiary. I have informed my friends who are still there and they wish to come back. I will remain in my community and establish in this tailoring business and train more youth." All the beneficiaries agreed to speak against irregular migration and share the dangers involved with other youth hoping to engage in irregular migration.