

IOM NIGERIA

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SITUATION REPORT #6: 23 MAY - 29 MAY 2020



Forty-nine Nigerian vulnerable migrants returning voluntarily from Lebanon with IOM support.

IOM supplied **7,219,425** litres of water from **59** solar-powered boreholes to people living in 41 camps in Borno State.



Returnees conduct hygiene promotion in Benin City, Edo State. Photo: © Elijah Elaigwu/IOM 2020



RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (RCCE)

IOM provides comprehensive disease risk communication to internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, host communities and other target individuals in a timely, context-specific and reliable manner. Combined with strengthened community engagement, IOM promotes public health messaging through awareness raising and sensitization sessions on COVID-19 as well as on the services available in displacement sites. The information also contributes to dispel myths and decrease stigmatization.

IOM's Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) team reached 34,009 individuals with messages on handwashing across 30 sites in six Local Government Areas (LGAs) in north-east Nigeria, bringing the total number of individuals reached to 237,115. Additionally, IOM continues to sensitize individuals across 24 sites on methods of transmission, symptoms and preventive measures. The importance of physical distancing at water fetching points is highlighted.

IOM's Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) team carried out 500 rounds of COVID-19 awareness sessions in 78 sites across 14 LGAs in Borno and Adamawa states, reaching an estimated 460,453 individuals.

IOM conducted health sensitization sessions for 708 beneficiaries across 15 LGAs, and reached 298 individuals with follow-up support group sessions across nine LGAs to strengthen family and community support systems.

Two Volunteer Field Officers (VFOs) in Benin City were engaged to produce videos on COVID-19 preventive measures. The video targets potential irregular migrants via online community platforms.

The last episode of "Abroad Mata" radio programme aired in May 2020. As part of the programme, information and public service announcements on COVID-19 preventive measures were disseminated by three radio stations in Edo State and one in Delta State reaching an estimated one million listeners.



POINTS OF ENTRY (POEs)

IOM works with the Government of Nigeria in strengthening public health measures at POEs. IOM supports the Ministry of Health, border authorities and relevant partners to

identify prioritized POEs to strengthen public health measures, including conducting health screenings, gathering of essential information and monitoring of travellers' health status.

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Across the north-eastern states of Borno and Adamawa, IOM monitored the movement of 170 individuals from 17 POEs.

Additionally, 17,875 movements were observed from 20 flow monitoring points in north-east Nigeria. 11,033 of these movements were inflows and 6,842 outflows.

To ensure the safety of individuals by mitigating the risk of COVID-19 transmission, IOM is coordinating with government counterparts and health partners, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), for the selection of POEs to construct self-quarantine shelters.



INFECTION AND PREVENTION CONTROL (IPC)

The provision of safe water, sanitation, and hygiene is fundamental to adopting prevention measures during infectious disease outbreaks such as COVID-19.

Twenty handwashing stations were installed by IOM across various camps in the north-east, bringing the total number of handwashing stations installed under the COVID-19 response to 288 in seven LGAs.

Construction of new sanitation facilities is ongoing across 120 locations in two IDP sites in Borno State.

IOM supplied 7,219,425 litres of water from 59 solar-powered boreholes and 20 handpumps for people living in 41 camps in eight LGAs in Borno State.

IOM distributed 5,954 bars of soap to 2,977 people in camps in Borno State, accompanied by sensitization on their use.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

IOM provides life-saving assistance to affected populations and supports overall COVID-19 preparedness and response measures in camp and camp-like settings across the north-east. This is achieved by ensuring that IDPs continue to receive life-saving assistance and that health and WASH activities are in place in all sites.

In Borno State, preparation is ongoing for the construction of supporting facilities in 28 completed self-quarantine shelters (SQS), while 40 SQS are under construction in Monguno and Bama.

As a result of IOM's advocacy efforts, the construction of 32 SQS in Banki and Ngala was approved. IOM will assess possible locations for construction in Dikwa, Ngala and Yola upon approval from the respective authorities.

IOM continues to search for solutions to decongest overcrowded camps and transit sites and minimize the risk of disease transmission. Alternatives for decongestion include the rehabilitation of existing structures such as public buildings and the construction of additional shelters. Locations to be assessed include Dikwa, Gwoza, Bama and Pulka.



PROTECTION

IOM is committed to maintaining the protection of affected populations and host communities at the centre of its COVID-19 response. Protection concerns, which are currently being exacerbated due to the pandemic, can intersect with other factors such as gender, age, and disability, but also status, or ethnic origin.

IOM conducted gender-based violence (GBV) sensitization sessions for 314 individuals, provided lay counselling to 183 individuals, and facilitated and followed up on GBV case referrals of two individuals. Additionally, to increase awareness on the risk of being exposed to trafficking due to COVID-19, IOM conducted counter-trafficking sessions for 336 individuals.

During the reporting period, IOM provided reintegration assessment and counselling to 77 women and 7 men to

identify the form of businesses the returnees would like to set up. The cases are currently being processed for payment.

Forty-nine Nigerian vulnerable migrants stranded in Lebanon returned to Nigeria with support from the Lebanese and Nigerian Government in close coordination with IOM. The returnees are currently in quarantine. IOM Nigeria is providing post-arrival assistance including onward transportation and reintegration. While in quarantine, the returnees are being assisted with hygiene kits, and they will receive virtual reintegration counselling once contact with the returnees has been established.

IOM Nigeria continues to engage virtually with legal actors in Delta, Edo and Lagos states for the establishment of the Legal Hub for the provision of legal services to victims of human

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trafficking. In the reporting period, the legal actors provided inputs to the finalisation of the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the legal hubs in the three states. A final review and endorsement meeting for the draft ToR is scheduled for June 2020.

Mental health and psychosocial support teams developed infographics on positive coping skills during COVID-19 in

English, Pidgin, Hausa and Yoruba languages. The infographics will be distributed through social media.

In the reporting period, 44 vulnerable returnees received reintegration counselling, of which 43 were supported with income-generating activities such as business set-up.



COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

IOM continues to promote collaboration among relevant actors to support COVID-19 preparedness and response, particularly in coordinating the provision of services. As cochair of the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) sub-working group in north-east Nigeria, IOM is coordinating the review of the MHPSS work plan to be included in the updated COVID-19 preparedness and response plan in collaboration with the Borno State Ministry of Health. The

plan will be implemented in Borno State during the next three months.

In collaboration with Médecins du Monde (MDM), IOM is following-up on the hotline centre and the toll-free number established to support the implementation of continued MHPSS service delivery such as tele-counselling and remote psychosocial support in the north-east.



Temperature screening at checkpoint in Damboa, north-east Nigeria. Photo: © IOM 2020



WASH teams conducting hygiene promotion in Borno State. Photo: $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ IOM 2020

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