



## 54 confirmed cases

In north-east Nigeria  
(Borno, Adamawa and Yobe  
states, as of 28 April)

**USD 13,136,000.00**

Requested as part of IOM's  
Global Strategic  
Preparedness and Response  
Plan for COVID-19



Construction of a quarantine facility in Pulka where 56,014 IDPs live in camps and host communities. Photo: © IOM 2020



## COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

IOM is providing technical support to coordination mechanisms for COVID-19 preparedness and response. IOM has actively engaged and contributed to relevant partners, including the Health and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sectors.

- IOM is leading the development of the Shelter and NFI “COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Strategy”. The draft was finalized and shared with Sector partners before distribution.
- To ensure continued delivery of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services during COVID-19, IOM provided technical advice to the Sexual and Reproductive Health Sub-Working Group on the MHPSS key priority areas of the “Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child, Adolescent Healthcare services response plan in Borno State”.
- Along with national and international partners, IOM conducted 2 simulation exercises within camps to analyse the actions and measures to be taken in case of COVID-19 cases are identified.



## RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (RCCE)

IOM works with RCCE counterparts at the national level to ensure that aspects of migration and mobility are considered in public health messaging and that internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities have access to timely, context-specific and accurate information. This is achieved through COVID-19 awareness raising and sensitization, focusing on the associated risks, the preventive measures to be adopted, and the available services in displacement sites. The Organization is also sharing information about COVID-19 to help dispel myths and decrease stigmatization.

- IOM Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) carried out 1,014 COVID-19 awareness sessions across nine Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Borno State, including Reception Centers and host communities, reaching an estimated 23,528 individuals. To disseminate information widely and increase reach, 5 additional mobile speakers were deployed to three sites and host communities. For inaccessible locations like Bennishekh and Rann, awareness sessions were conducted through community-based volunteers and pre-recorded messages.
- COVID-19 awareness and sensitization sessions were also conducted by IOM WASH at water points in Dikwa, emphasizing the importance of physical distancing and proper use of handwashing stations.

- Hygiene promotion messages on handwashing were conducted by IOM WASH teams across 7 LGAs, reaching 13,185 individuals and bringing the total number of individuals reached to 36,358.
- Health sensitization campaigns were conducted by IOM MHPSS, reaching 3,649 beneficiaries across 13 LGAs.
- To reinforce preventive measures and early identification of cases, IOM WASH trained 24 hygiene promotion volunteers in three LGAs on handwashing and identification of signs and symptoms of COVID-19, bringing the total number of volunteers trained to 108.
- To strengthen family and community support systems, promote community engagement and raise awareness regarding COVID-19, IOM MHPSS reached 606 individuals through support group sessions and focus group discussions.



## POINTS OF ENTRY (POEs)

IOM is supporting the Ministry of Health and borders authorities and partners to enhance the preparedness of prioritized POEs.

- IOM agreed on the methodology and outputs with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the State Ministry of Health to collect data at POEs, including on health screening results and travel history, to ease contact tracing and mitigate the spread of the disease.
- To strengthen health surveillance at entry points, 20 IOM staff were trained by WHO before their deployment into POEs across selected locations in Borno State. So far, 10 (out of 20) have already been deployed.



## INFECTION AND PREVENTION CONTROL (IPC)

By strengthening infrastructure and the provision of critical WASH facilities and services, IOM contributes to minimising the risk of contagion in camps and camp-like settings.

- To prevent and control infection through hygiene measures, 55 handwashing stations were installed in two LGAs, bringing the total number to 178 handwashing stations in seven LGAs.
- To reduce the risk of infection among most vulnerable groups, IOM identified 3,722 elderly persons (above 54 years old) living in camps and camp-like settings across 49 sites in 10 locations. This identification exercise would enable IOM to promptly separate vulnerable groups should COVID-19 cases are confirmed within sites.
- In Dikwa, the IOM Reception Center is being used as a self-quarantine facility while waiting for the construction of Self-Quarantine Shelters (SQS).



## CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

IOM supports measures in camps and camp-like settings by ensuring that IDPs continue to receive basic services and that Health and WASH mitigating activities are in place in all sites.

- IOM started the construction of 48 Self-Quarantine Shelters (SQS) in Pulka, Gwoza, Monguno, Damboa. SQS will allow new arrivals and persons with COVID-19 travel or contact history, to voluntarily stay in quarantine for 14 days while monitoring their health conditions. These shelters are not an isolation facility, therefore, their emergency-like shelter structure has integrated WASH facilities per unit and a front porch with cooking options.
- To minimize the risk of disease transmission in congested locations, IOM rehabilitated 10 buildings in Ngala and 2 in Gwoza, converted 10 transit shades into communal shelters in Bama. IOM started the relocation of IDPs from Reception Centers and congested camps in Monguno in partnership with INTERSOS. So far, 1,517 shelters have been allocated to IDPs (882 constructed by IOM).

- As a response to the index case in Pulka, IOM conducted a community mapping of Bulamas, or community leaders, to prepare for remote management through community leaders, should access to the camp be restricted.



## PROTECTION

By implementing MHPSS activities that integrate a COVID-19 response focus, IOM continues to enhance capacities and response to ensure the protection and access to services for IDPs and host communities.

- To provide continued protection assistance and strengthen protection mechanisms during COVID-19 and possible reduced access to camps, IOM conducted GBV sensitization sessions in 21 IDP camps, reaching 789 individuals; facilitated referrals of 4 Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases; conducted Counter-Trafficking sensitization sessions, reaching 249 individuals; and linked law enforcement officers to community committees to strengthen social support.
- In coordination with the GBV Sub-Sector, IOM updated the service availability mapping -or identification- in locations where IOM operates in the North-East. By identifying the existing services, IOM aims to update referral pathways, outlining the various support and referral services, sensitize partners and facilitate referrals.
- IOM developed protection monitoring tools to gather information on at-risk groups and inform programming, referrals and response during COVID-19.



Rehabilitation works of existing structures, Gwoza. Photo: © IOM 2020



The community practising physical distancing, Jere. Photo: © IOM 2020

### CONTACT US:

#### IOM Humanitarian Response:

Dave Bercasio, Head of Sub-Office

[dbercasio@iom.int](mailto:dbercasio@iom.int)

#### IOM Programme Support Unit Maiduguri

[psumaiduguri@iom.int](mailto:psumaiduguri@iom.int)



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