



4,971 confirmed cases

In Nigeria with 164 deaths recorded as of 14 May.

USD 13,136,000.00

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



Construction of self-quarantine shelter in Borno State. Photo: © IOM 2020



COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

IOM continues to promote coordination among relevant actors at all levels to support the COVID-19 preparedness and response, particularly in coordinating cross-border efforts.

- Coordination and planning in Dikwa, Gwoza, and Monguno continue in collaboration with the rapid response teams, the Disease Notification and Surveillance Officers, and the directors for primary healthcare on COVID-19 response. Through joint efforts, IOM aims to facilitate active case search and the implementation of surveillance strategies.
- IOM participated in the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) network meeting on 7 May to respond to PSEA issues during COVID-19. Main highlights include the endorsement of the PSEA Community-Based Complaint Mechanism by the Humanitarian Country Team and the finalization of the information-sharing protocol.
- Through the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Sector working group a roster for MHPSS COVID-19 responders was established to provide MHPSS support at isolation centers. The roster comprises 19 staff including psychiatric nurses, consultant psychiatrists and clinical psychologists and was created in coordination with relevant partners including the Borno State Ministry of Health and the Federal Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital (FNPH) in Maiduguri.



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 reliable information. This is achieved through COVID-19 awareness-raising and sensitization, focusing on risks, preventive measures to be adopted, and available services in displacement sites. The Organization is also disseminating information about COVID-19 to help dispel myths and decrease stigmatization.

- Through mobile speakers, IOM's Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) team carried out 403 awareness sessions on COVID-19 across 58 sites, reaching an estimated 500,000 individuals. Nine Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Borno State and four LGAs in Adamawa State were covered.

IOM's CCCM team is preparing rapid assessments to be conducted in all IDP camps to better understand IDPs awareness and perceptions on COVID-19, including on the sources of information, self-quarantine, and use of face

masks. Assessments and relevant findings will be made available in the coming weeks.

- IOM's WASH team reached 44,134 individuals with handwashing hygiene promotion messages across seven LGAs. Messages were shared via door-to-door visits, reaching 109,103 individuals.
- By using a public address system (microphones, amplifiers, loudspeakers and related equipment), IOM WASH shared messages on methods of transmission, symptoms and preventive measures across 24 sites. The importance of physical distancing at water fetching points and proper usage of handwashing stations were especially highlighted.
- IOM's WASH team continues to train hygiene promotion volunteers to reinforce preventive measures and early identification of cases. During the reporting period, 43 volunteers received training on hygiene promotion messaging, handwashing and identification of signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and methods of referral. The training sessions were conducted in three LGAs, benefitting 443 individuals.
- IOM's MHPSS team conducted health sensitization sessions to raise awareness and disseminate key messages on COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures. A total of 3,984 beneficiaries were reached across 17 LGAs.
- To strengthen family and community support systems and promote community engagement, IOM MHPSS reached 696 individuals through support group sessions across nine LGAs.
- As part of its migrant protection and assistance in southern Nigeria, IOM Lagos sub-office mobilized returnees under the Volunteer Field Officers (VFOs) project. Via their online platforms, VFOs shared messages among their peers on preventive measures based on the guidelines of the World Health Organization and the Nigerian Ministry of Health. Two videos were developed and shared through returnee WhatsApp platforms and other social media platforms. The videos aim at enlightening returnees on safety and hygiene practices.



POINTS OF ENTRY (POEs)

IOM provides strategic support to the Government of Nigeria and the Ministry of Health by strengthening core capacities to implement public health measures at POEs. This is achieved through, for example, the identification of POEs for health screenings, gathering of essential information and facilitating referrals and monitoring of travellers' health status.

- In coordination with relevant actors and partners, including Government and health stakeholders, IOM is currently identifying POEs for the construction of quarantine facilities. Efforts at POEs would reinforce COVID-19 preparedness and response and prevent the spread of the virus. Quarantine facilities will be supported by different actors to provide essential services such as food, health and WASH.



INFECTION AND PREVENTION CONTROL (IPC)

The provision of safe water, sanitation, and hygiene is fundamental to adopting prevention efforts during infectious disease outbreaks such as COVID-19. Combined with improved access to WASH services, IOM continues to support national capacity to implement infection prevention and control measures to prevent or limit disease transmission.

- To prevent and control infection through hygiene measures, 14 handwashing stations were installed across camps in Dikwa, Borno State, bringing the total number of handwashing stations installed under COVID-19-response to 247 in seven LGAs. Additionally, 1,425 cubic meters of sludge were disposed of from 285 latrines across camps in Banki.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

IOM continues to provide life-saving support to affected populations and supports the overall COVID-19 preparedness and response measures in camps and camp-like settings. This is achieved by ensuring that IDPs continue to receive life-saving assistance and that mitigating activities are in place in all sites.

- By adding the SMS functionality, IOM is enhancing complaints and feedback mechanisms in all IOM managed sites to reduce physical interaction in responding to IDPs' needs. Feedback mechanisms provide a channel for affected

- populations to communicate with IOM and ensure that IOM can respond or adapt programmes to any issues and suggestions arising. Usual channels used includes surveys, focus group discussions or feedback boxes.
- IOM finalized the construction of six additional units of Self-Quarantine Shelters (SQS) in Pulka, bringing the total of SQSs constructed so far to 18 (12 in Pulka and six in Gwoza). Technical supervisors in construction sites received infrared thermometers to monitor the temperature of workers. IOM is constructing additional SQSs in other locations including Gwoza (10), Monguno (20), Damboa (16) and Bama (20) and continues to identify locations to construct SQSs in other LGAs such as Dikwa and Ngala. The quarantine shelters consist of individual units with a latrine, shower, handwashing station and living quarters. Facilities also have separate entrance and registration areas as well as restricted areas for health personnel.
 - IOM carried out assessments of three different structures in Monguno to identify potential holding areas in case of mass influx and minimize the risk of disease transmission in congested locations. Additionally, after IOM rehabilitated 10 buildings in Ngala, international NGO INTERSOS started relocating IDPs, with 99 households relocated so far.
 - To rapidly respond to IDPs needs, IOM is dispatching 106 COVID-19 Non-Food Items kits containing, among others, mats, blankets, mosquito nets and sanitary pads, to locations with quarantine facilities, including Pulka, Dikwa, Monguno, Bama, Banki and Ngala.



PROTECTION

Protection concerns are currently being exacerbated by the COVID-19 emergency. Preexisting vulnerabilities and risks of violence and discrimination intersect with other factors such as gender, age, and disability, but also status, and ethnic origin. IOM is committed to maintaining protection of affected populations and host communities at the centre of its COVID-19 response.

- IOM conducted Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) sensitization sessions, including on issues such as domestic violence and intimate partner violence, for 986 individuals. Additionally, IOM provided lay counselling to 553 individuals across 12 LGAs, facilitated and followed up on referrals of 21 individuals across three LGAs, and conducted Counter-Trafficking sessions for 488 individuals across four LGAs to show trends and patterns and increase awareness on the risk of being exposed to trafficking due to COVID-19.
- To promote support from community-based structures, IOM developed key messages for women's committees to support tackling GBV through proper management of GBV disclosures and facilitating referrals of survivors. The role of the community will not only be fundamental to promoting community engagement but also to ensuring continued protection assistance during COVID-19.
- During the first week of May, 103 returnees received reintegration counselling, of whom 102 vulnerable migrants received counter-trafficking, protection and MHPSS counselling and 32 returnees set-up their businesses in southern Nigeria. 16 individuals were provided with assistance in the form of income-generating activities.
- IEC materials were designed to strengthen resilience of vulnerable returnees and support coping mechanisms in the context of COVID-19. An information brochure on "how to cope with stress during COVID-19 outbreak" was translated into three local languages to be disseminated to returnees via WhatsApp.

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