



Strengthening Resilience in North-East Nigeria

Improving living conditions in host and return communities of internally displaced persons in the states of Borno and Adamawa

Challenge

Nigeria has more than 200 million inhabitants, making it the most populous country in Africa. It is also one of the poorest. Poverty, food insecurity and inadequate access to education and health care are particularly severe in the Northeast. The activities of the terrorist organisation Boko Haram have drastically exacerbated the situation. Since 2009, there have been repeated violent attacks, especially in Borno state. To date, more than 36,000 people have lost their lives in these attacks, and some 2.1 million have been displaced from their communities of origin. The majority of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are now living in Borno and the neighbouring states of Yobe and Adamawa.

Consequently, the already weak health and education system has come under further strain through targeted attacks by Boko Haram, hence further limiting the resources available to IDPs and host communities. Basic infrastructural facilities such as clean water, energy and sanitation are overstretched, and the local markets can no longer provide sufficient food supplies to the population. These developmental challenges and humanitarian needs exceed the current capacities of the Nigerian government, which it aims to address through the engagement of external support.

Our Approach

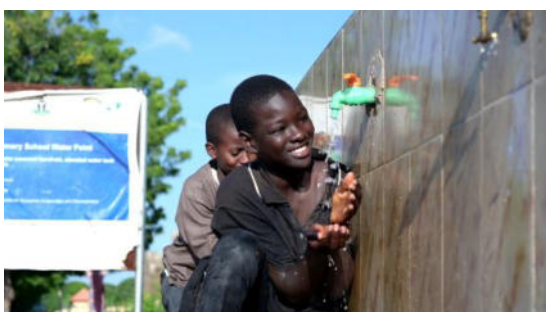
On behalf of the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH renders support to improving the living conditions of people in the two states. Working at the nexus between emergency relief and development cooperation, the GIZ strengthens local institutional capacity to improve service provision in the long run and promotes self-

reliance by boosting the resilience of the most vulnerable households.



Project name	Support to Strengthening Resilience in North-East Nigeria
Commissioned by	The European Union (EU) The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Lead executing agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Project region	Federal States of Borno and Adamawa, North-East Nigeria
National Partner	Ministry of Budget and National Planning of Nigeria
Duration	08/2016 – 07/2022
Financial volume	€ 54.5 million

The Programme targets IDPs, host communities, returnees and return communities. Through the rehabilitation of schools, health, WASH and market-related facilities, it contributes to the improvement of basic service infrastructure. The Programme further promotes the resumption of agricultural and economic activities and fosters youth economic empowerment through vocational training support. To address the significant needs in the education sector, the Programme focuses on eliminating access barriers to education and improving the quality of basic education through targeted systems strengthening support.



Children beneficiaries enjoy clean water at Lokuwa 1 Primary School, Lokuwa (left) and Mother and Child beneficiaries of Education project, Auno (right).

Implemented by





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Beneficiaries participate in CDP sessions in Bahuli (left) and borehole waterpoint in Mubi (right).

Through Community Development Planning (CDP), the Programme strengthens the relationships between local communities and leaders, government institutions and civil society. The weakness of these relationships is seen as one of the reasons Boko Haram has been able to gain that much traction.

Simultaneously, the Programme builds the capacities of local and state governments as well as civil society and community-based organisations for improved service delivery. Combined, the four components reflect the Programme's holistic approach for strengthening social cohesion and sustainable development of basic services, thus improving the living conditions of people in North-East Nigeria, while.

Impact in Numbers...

Across its four components, the Programme directly reached about 657,736 people thus far. This ranges from 40,909 children and youths through education-related interventions to 517,673 people directly benefitting from the infrastructure measures which have been completed to date. The latter include newly furnished primary and secondary schools, boreholes and rehabilitated schools, warehouses, health centres, and vocational training centres.

9,170 community members have participated in 90 community development sessions across Maiha, Mubi North, Mubi South, Hong and Gombi in Adamawa State and Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC), Hawul and Shani in Borno State, resulting in the finalisation of 90 Development Plans, one for each ward of the local government areas (LGAs). Community-based committees have been set up to oversee the implementation of the plans by the local authorities in the communities and to advocate for the integration of the plans in state planning. This has resulted in measures identified in the plans to be part of the state-level budget and planning in both Adamawa and Borno. Throughout the process, about 1,204 political, traditional and religious leaders have been reached. So far, more than 2.1 million people benefit from the CDP processes across 8 LGAs through improved local governance and service provision through this process.

Across its interventions, the Programme places a strong emphasis on protection and gender mainstreaming. For example, beneficiaries of infrastructure measures are 52.2% female, while CDP session participants are 41.4% female and an estimated 12% from other vulnerable groups, such as youth, widows, and persons with disabilities.

...and in Stories

Hajiya Adamu is a native of Auno community in Borno state. As a parent, Hajiya was provided with an Income Generating Activity as an incentive to enable her children to go to school despite the constant threat of Boko Haram attacks. She received five bags of flour and was assisted to set up a pastry business. She was able to use proceeds from her pastry business to set up a provision store and sustain a livelihood, to enable her children to attend school.



"I am very happy now, that my children are attending school. I want them to be doctors or engineers. I am truly grateful to GIZ and the EU. They have given my family an opportunity to live a good and meaningful life. They are the ones God is using to answer my prayers."

The Programme is part of the special initiative 'Tackling the Root Causes of Displacement, Reintegrating Refugees'. Via this special initiative, funds are provided to support IDPs, refugees and host communities in the short term and eliminate structural causes for displacement, such as inequality and food insecurity in the long term. This project contributes to improving living conditions of displaced persons, host communities and communities of origin and strengthens social cohesion, to stabilise the region in the long run.

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