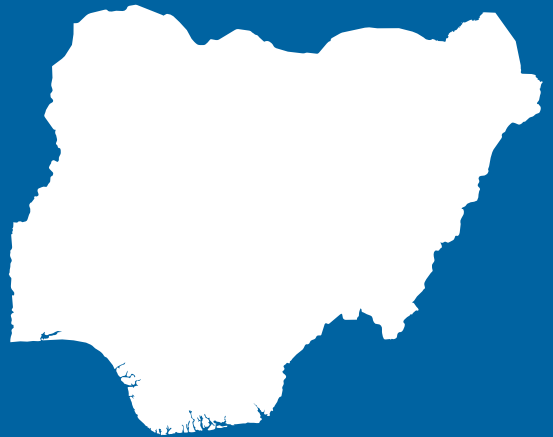


Nigeria

On its eighth year, conflict in Nigeria's northeast is fueling what is now Africa's largest humanitarian crisis, with 8.5 million people in need of lifesaving assistance and 1.7 million people displaced inside the country.

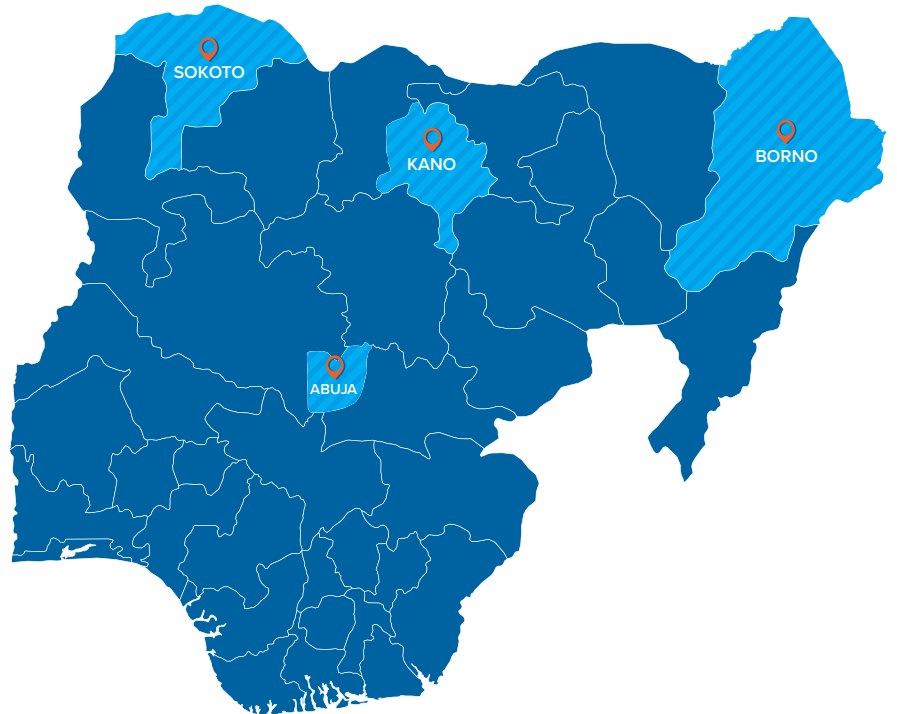
Food insecurity is particularly widespread, with an estimated five million people unsure of where their next meal is coming from and tens of thousands of people expected to be living in famine-like conditions. International Medical Corps is responding to emergency needs in Borno State—the epicenter of the crisis—as well as Sokoto and Kano states.



International Medical Corps has worked in Nigeria since 2013 and currently has teams in Sokoto, Kano, and Borno states, delivering programs in health, nutrition, water and sanitation, gender-based violence prevention and response, and food security.

WHERE WE WORK

- Abuja (main country office)
- Sokoto
- Kano
- Borno



In Borno, where the Boko Haram insurgency continues to drive instability and displacement, International Medical Corps is working in the state capital, Maiduguri, to provide lifesaving assistance to families who were forced from their homes by violence as well as vulnerable host community members. We are also providing emergency nutrition, gender-based violence, and water and sanitation services and supporting polio vaccination efforts across Borno State, including areas that have only just become accessible to humanitarian organizations.

NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY

Nigeria is home to one of the most widespread and severe food crises in the world, as the ongoing armed conflict with Boko Haram has destroyed livelihoods, livestock, and agriculture and eroded families' ability to feed themselves. More than five million people are expected to not have enough food to eat and approximately half a million children are facing life-threatening severe acute malnutrition, while tens of thousands are facing extreme food shortages in famine-like conditions.

International Medical Corps is currently providing life-saving treatment for moderate and severe acute malnutrition for approximately 160,000 children under five years old in Sokoto and Borno States. This work is supported by teams of community volunteers who go house-to-house to screen children for malnutrition and refer cases as needed to our nutrition clinics for further care, which are managed by both International Medical Corps and Ministry of Health staff. The community volunteers also educate mothers and caretakers on healthy infant young child feeding practices, especially among pregnant and breastfeeding mothers.

Together with the UN World Food Programme (WFP), International Medical Corps is preventing malnutrition and



improving household food security by distributing nutrient-dense, ready-to-use supplementary food to children under five as well as vitamin-fortified flour and oil to pregnant and breastfeeding women. These distributions reach an estimated 176,000 people in Borno State—most of whom are internally displaced.



HEALTH PROGRAM FOCUS: POLIO ERADICATION

After more than two years without any cases, two children were reported paralyzed with wild poliovirus in Borno State in August 2016—a tragic ripple effect of the conflict, which has disrupted families' access to routine immunizations and health care services.

International Medical Corps, as part of the Core Group Polio Project, a consortium of NGOs actively supporting polio eradication in seven countries, is working in Borno and Kano states to vaccinate children under five against polio. Together with state emergency operations centers in Borno and Kano, International Medical Corps supports vaccination campaigns as well as routine household outreach and monitoring to ensure that caregivers adhere to their children's immunization schedules. The immunization campaigns, which International Medical Corps supports alongside the World Health Organization and the Ministry of Health, provides vaccines to more than 180,000 children in Borno and more than 85,000 in Kano.

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

International Medical Corps is providing access to drinking water improving hygiene and sanitation to nearly 300,000 people across six Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Borno State. Our teams work in communities hosting a large number of internally displaced families as well as camps to improve and increase access to water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion (WASH) services. This includes rehabilitating boreholes fitted with hand pumps, restoring small water distribution systems with solar-powered submersible pumps, chlorinating water at the source and in households, and disseminating key hygiene messages. We also improve overall sanitation and hygiene in communities by constructing and managing latrines, providing garbage cans, and creating drainage systems. This infrastructure is complemented by teams of community volunteers who educate families about the importance of personal hygiene in health and how to prevent potentially deadly waterborne diseases, such as cholera.

We are also working with four health facilities in Borno State to improve WASH infrastructures in these facilities. The entails rehabilitating waste management zones, including the construction of incinerators, installing of hand-washing stations within health facilities, providing latrines and showers, and training health facility staff on medical waste management.

HEALTH CARE

International Medical Corps is working with the State Ministry of Health to make health care services available to internally displaced families and vulnerable host community members.

This includes rehabilitating primary health care facilities and supporting health care providers with trainings and supportive supervision. This work has improved the quality of and access to health care for 225,000 Nigerians in four LGAs. Meanwhile, in close collaboration with the State Ministry of Health through The State Primary Health Development Agency in Kano and Borno, International Medical Corps is actively contributing to polio eradication by targeting communities and health facilities and ensuring there are strong referral systems. International Medical Corps is also working to build the capacity of community-based organizations to strengthen existing local structures.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

International Medical Corps works to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV) cases in four LGAs of Borno State. Community volunteers reach more than 100,000 people with information about what GBV is and its consequences as well as what services are available to them, including women-friendly spaces that offer healing and empowerment for vulnerable women and GBV survivors. The women-friendly spaces are places where women and girls can socialize and make small handcrafts, such as embroidered traditional caps and beaded handbags, which sell to make a small profit for their families. Our case workers are also in the centers to provide one-on-one counseling services and to make referrals as needed to specialized and more advanced care. International Medical Corps also trains health care workers on the clinical management of rape to ensure that survivors receive appropriate care when referred to health facilities by our case workers and volunteers.



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

Since 1984, International Medical Corps has demonstrated the ability to deliver major relief and development programs to improve lives and strengthen national capacity through health, education, and social programming. International Medical Corps has responded to complex emergencies and implemented transitional development programs in more than 70 countries worldwide.



www.InternationalMedicalCorps.org

Since its inception 30 years ago, International Medical Corps' mission has been consistent: relieve the suffering of those impacted by war, natural disaster and disease, by delivering vital health care services that focus on training. This approach of helping people help themselves is critical to returning devastated populations to self-reliance.

SEPTEMBER 2017

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