



NIGERIA HUMANITARIAN FUND

In February 2017, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator launched¹ the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF) – a Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF) managed by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian (OCHA) – in support of life-saving humanitarian and recovery operations. On 17 May 2017, the NHF Advisory Board requested the launch of a first round NHF Allocation 2017. The overall objectives guiding this, and future NHF allocations, include:

- Support principled, prioritized life-saving assistance.
- Strengthen coordination and leadership through the function of the Humanitarian Coordinator and the sector coordination system, promoting synergies and multi-sectoral responses.
- Expand assistance to hard-to-reach areas through frontline responders and enabling activities.
- Leverage the Nigerian private sector in support of humanitarian response.

HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

1. As it reaches its eighth year, the effect of armed conflict between Boko Haram and military counter operations in North East Nigeria² has reached devastating proportions with widespread forced displacement, acute food and nutrition insecurity and serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. While Nigerian Armed Forces and community security groups have made significant territorial gains and humanitarian access has improved in 2016/17, large groups of the population in six local government areas (LGAs) in Borno State still remain inaccessible. Thirteen LGAs in Borno, 5 in Yobe and 1 in Adamawa states are partially accessible through military secured main routes. Reaching³ all people in need remains a challenge due asymmetric warfare and large-scale armed conflict.
2. Malnutrition⁴ and food⁵ insecurity has reached extreme levels in parts of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states. Countrywide assessments⁶ conducted throughout 2016, established that over 4.4 million people were in crisis (phase 3), emergency (phase 4), or famine (phase 5) situations in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states. The *Cadre Harmonise*⁷ of February 2017 estimates that 4.7 million people are in the three categories and the figure is expected to increase to 5.2 million between June and August with about 44,000 people already in famine conditions.
3. Lack of basic shelters⁸, clean water, latrines and shower facilities⁹ is increasing the risk of communicable diseases, including cholera, and exacerbates malnutrition rates among children under five. Water and Sanitation infrastructure needs to be urgently rehabilitated/built in newly accessible LGAs to prevent waterborne diseases.
4. There are an estimated three million conflict affected children without access to basic education¹⁰. Prior to the conflict school enrolment and attendance rates in North East Nigeria were among the lowest in the country with girls particularly lagging behind. In some areas schooling has been interrupted for over two years due to armed conflict and overcrowding. In a marginalized area that was already

¹ Oslo Humanitarian Conference 2017, <http://oslohumanitarianconference2017.org/outcomestatement.cfm>

² Thematic Maps, <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nigeria/infographics>

³ Humanitarian Data Exchange, <https://data.humdata.org/group/nga>

⁴ Nigeria, Nutrition in Emergency Working Group, <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nigeria/nutrition>

⁵ Nigeria, Food Security Cluster, <http://fscluster.org/nigeria>

⁶ https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/fiche-nigeria_aout2016_ver3_asg.pdf

⁷ <http://reliefweb.int/report/nigeria/north-east-nigeria-food-security-sector-dashboard-february-2017>

⁸ Nigeria, CCCM, Shelter and NFI Sector, <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nigeria/shelter-and-nfi>

⁹ Nigeria, WASH Cluster, <http://reliefweb.int/organization/wash-cluster>

¹⁰ Nigeria, Education in Emergencies Working Group, <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nigeria/education>

underserved in terms of access to education, the targeted destruction of more than 1,200 schools had a devastating impact upon children's right to education.

5. Protection¹¹ needs, particularly in recently accessible areas, remain severe, especially for vulnerable groups including women and children. Civilians face grave human rights violations and human rights abuses including death, injury, sexual and gender-based violence, arbitrary detention, disappearances, and forced displacement. IDP sites are frequent targets for attacks by Boko Haram.
6. There are limited safe, voluntary and sustainable returns of IDPs and refugees. While movement is being organized to bring IDPs back towards their areas of origin, most IDPs are being placed within LGA capitals, and therefore remain displaced. The organized movements of IDPs into their LGAs, without access to the rural areas and agricultural inputs will likely further increase their vulnerability. As of May 2017, the continued return of displaced persons to their areas of origin continues to stretch already scarce resources to the limit. Since 9 April, more than 6,000 returnees have been registered with the National Immigration Service, and the first two weeks of May were characterized by a significant influx of returnees from Cameroon (1,500 refugees reported to have returned from Minawao camp). Reports are anticipating an additional 2,500 refugees expected to enter shortly through the Ngala and Banki border posts. The conditions in return areas are very poor and camp sites are overcrowded. The situation continues to deteriorate with serious protection implications.
7. Health¹² facilities in the conflict affected areas have been completely or partially damaged leaving them unable to deliver adequate health provision. According to the Health Resources Availability Monitoring System report (HeRAMS)¹³, one third of more than 700 health facilities in Borno State have been completely destroyed. Of those facilities remaining, one third is not functioning at all. The State Government and health partner's capacity to respond has been overstretched with the continued increasing requirements. Capacity has been reduced to such an extent that in Borno State there is virtually no secondary health provision outside of the capital Maiduguri and access to primary services is limited and not comprehensive in most locations.
8. The start of the 2017 rain- and lean season¹⁴ is putting increased pressure on humanitarian actors to scale up their response before road access is longer possible due to i.e. flooding. The first storms and heavy rainfall of this season damaged hundreds of emergency shelters, latrines, temporary learning spaces, as well as permanent infrastructure.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN 2017

9. The 2017 Nigeria Humanitarian Response Plan¹⁵ (HRP) was launched in November 2016. It is focusing on 8.5 million people in need of urgent assistance in the most affected states and aims to reach 6.9 million people with humanitarian support. To this end the HRP encompasses the following three overall strategic objectives:
 - Support lifesaving activities and alleviate suffering through integrated and coordinated humanitarian response focusing on the most vulnerable people.
 - Enhance access to humanitarian assistance and protection services through principled humanitarian action
 - Foster resilience and durable solutions for affected people through restoration of livelihoods and basic social services
10. The HRP requests US\$ 1,054 million to enable life-saving assistance and to prevent further hardship for affected populations in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe State.

¹¹ Nigeria, Protection Sector Working Group, <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nigeria/protection>

¹² Nigeria, Health Sector Response Strategy, <http://reliefweb.int/report/nigeria/nigeria-health-sector-response-strategy-20172018>

¹³ HeRAMS, Report, <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2016/north-east-nigeria/en/>

¹⁴ Famine Early Warning Systems Network, <http://www.fews.net/west-africa/nigeria/key-message-update/may-2017>

¹⁵ Nigeria, HRP 2017, <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/programme-cycle/space/document/nigeria-2017-humanitarian-response-plan>

HRP requirement by sector and funding status (Source: FTS¹⁶, as of 5 June 2017)

Sector	Requirement (million US\$)	Funding (million US\$)	Coverage (%)
Protection	88.3	20.9	23.7%
Food Security	480.3	114.1	23.8%
Health	93.8	9.1	9.7%
Water and Sanitation	49.7	8.7	17.6%
Emergency Shelter and NFI	70.3	4.8	6.8%
Camp Coordination and Management (Displacement Management Systems)	11.6	0	0%
Education	56.3	6.2	11%
Early Recovery and Livelihoods (Response and Recovery Planning)	44.6	0	0.1%
Nutrition	110.3	57.8	52.4%
Logistics	12.2	10	81.3%
Emergency Telecommunications	5.8	0.6	9.6%
Coordination and Common Services	31.2	19	61%
[Not specified in FTS by agency/donor]	n/a	39.5	n/a
Total:	1,054.4	290.7	27.57%

NHF contributions status (Source: GMS BI¹⁷, as of 5 June 2017)

Donor	OCT ¹⁸ Number	Present Status	Contribution for 2017 (US\$)	Pledge ¹⁹ for 2017 (US\$)	Pledge for 2018 (US\$)
Sweden	5651	Pledge		7,891,770	
Sweden	5523	Paid	3,953,016		
Germany	5599	Paid	5,307,856		
Norway	5627	Paid	1,742,970		
Republic of Korea	5647	Paid	1,000,000		
Luxemburg	5580	Pledge		266,809	
AGFUND	5588	Pledge		25,000	
Malta	5569	Paid		21,345	
Azerbaijan	5644	Pledge		12,500	
Sri Lanka	5583	Paid	1,250		
Belgium	5532	Pipeline			[2,134,472]
Belgium	5531	Pipeline		[2,134,472]	
Fund Administration Fees			- 240,101.84		
Total (US\$)			11,764,990	8,217,424	

1st NHF STANDARD ALLOCATION 2017

11. A total amount US\$ 10,000,000 has been made available for the first NHF allocation. The total amount will to be split between the three allocation priorities. A second NHF allocation is envisaged for August 2017.

¹⁶ OCHA, Financial Tracking System, <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/536/summary>

¹⁷ OCHA, Grant Management System, Business Intelligence (Public Access) <https://gms.unocha.org/content/cbpf-contributions>

¹⁸ OCHA Contribution Tracking, <https://oct.unocha.org>

¹⁹ **Pledge:** Pledges are a non-binding announcement of an intended contribution or allocation by the donor. **Committed:** Creation of a contractual obligation regarding funding between the donor and UN OCHA (Source: FTS). **Pipeline:** Pre-Pledge stage.

12. In compliance with OCHA global guidelines²⁰ for country based pooled funds, the following administration and auditing fees apply:

- Fund Administration provided by OCHA.
Cost: 2% of all funds allocated as direct costs to projects.
- Fund Auditing conducted through contracted provider.
Cost: 1% of all funds allocated to projects implemented by NGOs.

13. The following rules apply:

- This allocation is open to national and international NGO partners that successfully passed the NHF eligibility process²¹, including a partner capacity review and a due diligence assessment.
- The Grant Management System²² (GMS) will be used to administer all aspects of this allocation.
- Maximum indirect cost rate (Project Support Costs) per project is 7%.
- Contingency budget lines are not permitted.
- Project implementation period is 12 months maximum.

ALLOCATION PRIORITIES

14. This allocation is supporting the most critical elements of the humanitarian operation envisaged by the 2017 HRP. The NHF allocation strategy is closely aligned to 2017 HRP strategic objectives and therefore responds to the life-saving humanitarian needs in Nigeria. This allocation will contribute to the achievement of:

- Support life-saving activities and alleviate suffering through integrated and coordinated humanitarian response focusing on the most vulnerable people.
- Enhance access to humanitarian assistance and protection services through principled humanitarian action.

15. The NHF Advisory Board is inviting eligible implementing partners to provide funding proposals to address the following three key priorities:

- *Increase access of humanitarian agencies to populations in hard to reach LGAs in the North East. Establishing locations and a permanent presence that will enable scale-up of life saving humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable populations.*

Allocated amount for this priority in US\$: 3,000,000

This priority will enable humanitarian agencies to establish presence in areas where people i.e. have been heavily affected by armed conflict, and scale up the provision of assistance. More specifically, it will support activities to establish working facilities with internet access, security communications, warehousing and staff accommodation based on current planning by the *Humanitarian Hub Task Force*²³ in priority geographic locations such as Banki, Gubio, Rann, Damasak, to enable more agencies to have a continuous presence in order to deliver a more effective humanitarian response.

- *Enhanced protection of civilians in vulnerable communities and those trapped in conflict areas. Reinforcement, or establishing mechanism to monitor human rights violations and referral to protection services.*

Allocated amount for this priority in US\$: 1,000,000

This priority will enable humanitarian agencies to provide urgently required community based protection programs and monitoring support to highly vulnerable populations in priority geographic

²⁰ <https://www.unocha.org/legacy/what-we-do/humanitarian-financing/cbpf-global-guidelines>

²¹ CBPF Global Guidelines, Annex 10, <https://www.unocha.org/legacy/what-we-do/humanitarian-financing/cbpf-global-guidelines>

²² OCHA, Grant Management System, <https://cbpf.unocha.org/>

²³ <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nigeria/event/orno-humanitarian-hub-task-force>

locations such as Rann, Pulka, Kaga, Banki, Ngala. In particular, assisting vulnerable women, girls and at risk within IDP and host communities by providing timely and comprehensive survivor-centered response to GBV, as well as improved access to well-coordinated child protection services and psychosocial support activities.

- *Increased ability to respond to emergency needs of highly vulnerable populations where access is intermittent and where flooding, disease outbreaks, or new displacements take place.*

Allocated amount for this priority in US\$: 6,000,000

This priority will enable humanitarian agencies to provide urgently required support, primarily through the provision of Health Services, Shelter, Water and Sanitation, to highly vulnerable populations in priority geographic locations such as Pulka, Rann, Kaga, Mafa and Dikwa that are experiencing a significant influx of IDPs and where seasonal conditions (Rain Season) impact on humanitarian service delivery, as well as access.

ALLOCATION PROCESS

16. Sector Co-Leads are asked to take the following parameters into consideration during the preparation of their funding dossiers:

- Projects that are included in the HRP (OPS²⁴ coded);
- Projects that meet the NHF allocation priorities for this allocation.
- Projects that include a strong gender mainstreaming component that is linked directly to the HRP;
- Projects that demonstrate best value for money:
 - Partners that have other donors for similar activities are required to demonstrate how any new funding will be complementary and not duplicative;
 - Partners are required to indicate the amounts and sources of any co-funding of proposals;
 - Proposals demonstrating better cost effectiveness will be prioritized, where: a) for comparable activities and outputs, the total cost is less; b) the cost per beneficiary ratio is reasonable; c) the level of support costs is reasonable and in line with accepted levels for a given type of activity; d) the proposed period of implementation is adequate and represents best use of resources at that time.
 - In cases where sectors wish to endorse more than one proposal for the same activities within the same geographic area, robust justification must be made for the efficacy of such arrangements.
 - Whenever possible, and in order to limit overheads and administrative costs, implementing partners should not enter into subcontracting agreements.

17. Sectors may develop additional prioritisation criteria based on programmatic specificities, and best practices considering the general categories described below:

Strategic relevance	Alignment with HRP Strategic Objectives. Alignment with Sector Objectives. Alignment with priorities of this allocation.
Program relevance	Based on in-depth and up to date needs analysis. Links objectives with activities, outputs and outcomes. Covers hard to reach and under-served areas.
Cost effectiveness	Proposals demonstrating stronger cost effectiveness and cost per beneficiary ratio. Proposals demonstrating the lowest cost compared with activities and outputs. Proposals demonstrating reasonable support costs. The proposed period of implementation represents best use of resources.
Management and monitoring	Demonstrable field based assessment and post distribution monitoring mechanisms in place. Feedback and complaints mechanisms in place. Indicators aligned with standard sector outcome indicators.
Engagement with coordination	Partner engages in sector and other relevant coordination meetings. Partner shares information and engages with coordination mechanisms. Partner engages and coordinates with government authorities and structures.

²⁴ OCHA, Online Project System, <https://ops.unocha.org/Home.aspx>

18. All correspondence regarding the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund should be sent to ocha-nhf@un.org
19. Further information about the NHF is available at <http://www.unocha.org/nigeria>
20. Feedback and complaints regarding the NHF and the Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU) should be sent to ocha-nga_hfucomplaints@un.org The OCHA Head of Office (custodian of the NHF) will receive, address and refer any critical issues to the Humanitarian Coordinator for decision-making.
21. Allocation Timeline. See page 7 of this document.

TIMELINE – 1st STANDARD ALLOCATION 2017

Date	Responsible	Action
17 May 2017	Advisory Board (AB) Humanitarian Coordinator (HC)	Initiation of Allocation Process HC / AB requesting NHF to launch the allocation process HC / AB advise NHF on key allocation criteria
17 May - ongoing	NHF / HFU (Humanitarian Financing Unit)	Launch of NHF/HFU in Maiduguri Establishing the HFU and NHF Office (equipment and staffing) Provision of information sessions and technical trainings (incl. GMS) to Sector Co-Leads and prospective implementing partners.
05 – 12 June	NHF ISWG NGO Forum	Consultation Process NHF consults with groups of stakeholders re Allocation Strategy (based on AB guidance). NHF develops Draft Allocation Paper.
13 – 23 June	NHF Prospective NGO Partners	Capacity Assessments, Due Diligence Process and GMS Training for prospective implementing partners (INGO and NNGO) NHF starts inviting prospective partners.
14 June	NHF FCS (Funding Coordination Section)	Technical validation of Draft Allocation Paper NHF provides draft Allocation Paper to FCS. NHF incorporates FCS inputs.
15 June	NHF OCHA Head of Office Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator (DHC)	Internal validation of Draft Allocation Paper NHF provides draft Allocation Paper to OCHA HoO and DHC for comments. NHF incorporates OCHA HoO and DHC inputs.
16 June	HC AB NHF	HC/AB validation of Draft Allocation Paper AB and HC validate (by email) the draft NHF Allocation Paper. NHF incorporates AB / HC inputs.
17 June	NHF Sector Co-Leads	Release of Final Allocation Paper to Sectors NHF circulates the final Allocation Paper to Sector Co-Leads.
17 – 19 June	Sector Co-Leads Sector Partners Inter-Sector Workgroup (ISWG) NHF	Sector priorities and Strategic Review Committee (SRC) Sector Co-Leads disseminate Allocation Paper and initiate discussions with sector partners. Sectors form SRTs, supported by NHF.
19 – 27 June	Sector Partners	Submit project proposals in GMS Sector Partners submit project proposals based on Allocation Paper.
28 – 30 June	SRCs Sector Co-Leads NHF	Review of Proposals SRCs review and score project proposals in GMS using scorecard, supported by NHF. Sector Co-Leads submit minutes of SRT meetings to NHF.
01 July	NHF	NHF compiles list of reviewed proposals NHF compiles list of reviewed proposals and score (Annex 1) and circulates it to the AB.
02 July	Sector Co-Leads	Sector portfolio preparations for the Advisory Board Sector Co-Leads prepare portfolio presentation.
03 July	AB Sector Co-Leads HC NHF	Sector portfolio presentations to the Advisory Board (Meeting in Abuja) Sector Co-Leads present sector funding proposed portfolios. AB makes funding recommendations to HC. HC debriefs Sector Co-Leads on the outcome of the AB.
04 July	Sector Co-Leads SRCs	Implementation of Advisory Board recommendations Sector Co-Leads and SRCs inform sector partners about HC feedback on funding decisions.
4 – 8 July	Sector Partners	Proposal submission Partners submit revised proposals in GMS based on the AB feedback and inputs from SRC.
9 – 11 July	Sector Co-Leads NHF	Technical review and finalisation of proposals Sector Co-Leads and NHF jointly review proposals, ensuring feedback to implementing partners is provided and that budgets comply with CBPF Global Guidelines.
12 – 21 July	OCHA HQ/FCS NHF Sector Partners	FCS NHF provides feedback to implementing partners. Partners revise proposals/budgets if needed. OCHA HQ/FCS clears final budgets in GMS. NHF Prepares Grant Agreement and decides final start date of projects in consultation with partners.
13 July - onwards	HC NHF Sector Partners	Final approval by HC and Grant Agreement HC signs Grant Agreement. Partners counter-sign Grant Agreement.
As of 13 July - until 31 July	OCHA/HQ	Grant Agreement and disbursement of funds Following signature, first tranche is disbursed to the partner within 10 days.