People affected

800 000 more people lacking basic health services
14.8 million affected by crisis
3.4 million people targeted for health services

Impact on the health sector

More than 50% health facilities poorly or not functioning
14% rate of severe acute malnutrition
4X mortality rates higher than emergency thresholds
2 cases of polio

Funding needs

Health Sector (HRP 2016)
US$ 25 million requested
US$ 5 million requested by WHO
US$ 0.7 million received by WHO

WHO (for Scale-up Plan Borno State)
US$ 8.1 million requested

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Update
Conflicts in North East Nigeria
02 September 2016

Major health risks:
- Conflict-related injuries
- The spread of diseases including measles, polio and malaria
- Severe malnutrition
- Limited access to essential health services

Health risks

More than half of the health facilities in Borno State, the area most severely affected, are not functioning. Initial assessments reveal urgent health problems among the population in 15 local government areas (LGA) formerly held by insurgency groups.

Estimated mortality rates in some of the areas are four times higher than emergency thresholds. The rate of severe acute malnutrition is estimated to be 14%.

In addition, Nigeria reported two polio cases in Borno state on 17 August, two years after the last recorded case in the country. One of the cases is from an LGA that is still inaccessible to health service delivery, while the other is from a newly accessible LGA. Measles cases have also been reported in the area, and a severe measles outbreak is likely, which further complicating a challenging humanitarian environment.

Action taken by WHO and Health partners

WHO is scaling up its emergency response activities, together with partners, to assist hundreds of thousands of people in desperate need of health services. The immediate goal is to urgently reduce the rates of death and disease by rapidly scaling up life-saving health services. WHO will work closely with local officials and specialist agencies to address the health risks posed by malnutrition, disease outbreaks, and long-term lack of access to basic health services.

WHO recently deployed expert staff to Nigeria for emergency operations, coordination, diseases surveillance and data management. A team is on the ground in Borno State to help with the polio outbreak response. The government has already launched emergency polio vaccination activities, with support from WHO and partners. WHO has also dispatched emergency drugs and supplies with more efforts planned, including a scaled-up measles vaccination campaign to reach some 4.5 million children.

Funding needs

Funding needs for the health sector in Nigeria are estimated at US$25 million as part of the overall 2016 “Humanitarian Response Plan” which is currently being reviewed with partners in light of the latest events. Given the rapidly escalating humanitarian needs identified by increased access in newly liberated areas, WHO has developed an immediate Scale-Up Plan for Borno State, where the needs are the most extreme. WHO funding needs for the Scale-Up plan in Borno State for the period September-December 2016 are US$ 8.1 million.

Recent contributors to WHO’s work in Nigeria

WHO would like to acknowledge financial support from CERF for the Organization’s response to the ongoing crisis in Nigeria in 2016.