

## Nigeria – Crisis

### ETS Situation Report #14

Reporting period 1/12/17 to 31/12/17

As global lead of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC), the World Food Programme (WFP) is convening the Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) in Nigeria, responding with government, private sector and humanitarian partners on the ground to ensure a coordinated response. ETS SitReps are issued monthly.

### Highlights

- The Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) conducted a mission to Bama to assess the quality of the existing ETS services deployed at the humanitarian hub.
- Tracking features of the Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) over Very High Frequency (VHF) radio network in Maiduguri are being tested by the ETS, Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) and the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) teams in North-East Nigeria.
- The ETS team met with the Emergency Coordination Centre from the Nigerian Government to present its planned activities for next year.



The ETS carrying out a follow up mission at the humanitarian hub in Bama, Borno state.

*Photo: WFP/ Katja Hildebrand*

### Situation Overview

On 21 December, Nigeria's Borno State Commissioner of Health announced the end of the state's cholera outbreak after more than two weeks with no new recorded cholera cases. Health officials recorded nearly 5,400 suspected and confirmed cholera cases, including 61 related deaths, between mid-August and December 2017.

The security situation in North-East Nigeria remains extremely volatile. In late December at least seven alleged Boko Haram attacks resulted in nearly 60 civilian casualties, according to international media. The incidents follow attack on 16 December on a convoy transporting UN World Food Programme (WFP) commodities in Borno state that resulted in four casualties.



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## ETS Response

- The ETS organised a mission to Bama on 2 December to assess the status of the Internet connectivity and security services deployed at the humanitarian hub for the use of the entire response community. The ETS coordinator met with the camp manager from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to gather feedback and to improve existing services and end-user experience. The camp manager received basic training from the ETC on the use of the Very High Frequency (VHF) and High Frequency (HF) radio technology.
- As part of the DMR roll-out in Maiduguri the ETS has set the tracking of staff and vehicles feature over VHF network. At this stage, only the ETS team, UNDSS and MSB staff are testing this upgrade. This feature increases the safety and security of humanitarians so they can carry their activities more efficiently. In addition, to allow real time tracking of humanitarians and assets, the ETS has installed displays on which locations are shown at all times at the UNDSS Security Information and Operations Centre (SIOC) and at the Communications Centre (COMCEN) in Maiduguri.
- The ETS handed over two generators to the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) to be set up at the next humanitarian hubs in Monguno and Banki to provide a reliable power solution to humanitarians.
- As the next humanitarian hub will be established in Monguno, the ETS has prepositioned IT and security telecommunications equipment in the warehouse in Maiduguri and is coordinating its transportation to Monguno.
- As part of the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) process for 2018, the ETS held a meeting with the Emergency Coordination Centre from the Nigerian Government to present its planned activities for next year and strengthen links with government actors involved in the humanitarian response.

## Planned Response

- As part of the upgrade of the existing radio network in Maiduguri to DMR, more organizations will be gradually migrated to digital radio to benefit from the tracking of staff and vehicles over VHF network.
- The ETS is planning a maintenance, upgrade and radio training mission in Damaturu. This will include the upgrade of the radio network to DMR to provide Damaturu the same enhanced services as in Maiduguri.
- The ETS will organize maintenance, upgrade and radio training missions to the humanitarian hubs in Ngala, Gwoza, Bama and Dikwa.
- As part of the second phase of the humanitarian hubs deployment project, the ETS will conduct an assessment and deployment missions in Monguno, Damasak and Rann.
- A mission will be carried out by the ETS in the humanitarian hub in Banki and Monguno to assess the progress of the construction works and plan the deployment of ETS services accordingly.

## Challenges

- The ETS continues working on obtaining the required new radio frequencies for the North-East Nigeria with the relevant authorities.



## Funding

- The ETS revised its funding requirements for the first half of 2018, requiring US\$2.8 million.

## Meetings

- The Global ETS Nigeria teleconference is part of the Joint Global ETC teleconference held monthly. The next Joint Global ETC teleconference will be scheduled at the end of January.

## Information

- ETS Nigeria information can be found on: [www.etcluster.org/emergencies/nigeria-crisis](http://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/nigeria-crisis)
- The latest ETS Services map can be found here: [www.etcluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/NGA\\_ETC\\_Services\\_A3L\\_20171204\\_0.pdf](http://www.etcluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/NGA_ETC_Services_A3L_20171204_0.pdf).

## Key ETS Contacts

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## Acronyms

COMCEN	Communications Centre
DMR	Digital Mobile Radio
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
HF	High Frequency
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IHP	International Humanitarian Partnership
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IT	Information Technology
MSB	Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
SIOC	Security Information and Operations Centre
UN	United Nations
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security



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VHF            Very High Frequency  
WFP            UN World Food Programme

**All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ETC website: [www.ETCluster.org](http://www.ETCluster.org)**

**For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: [Nigeria.ETS@wfp.org](mailto:Nigeria.ETS@wfp.org)**