

Nigeria – Crisis

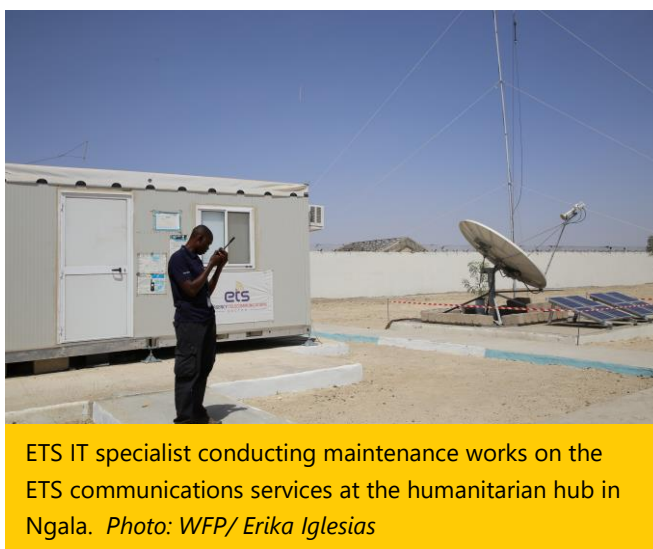
ETS Situation Report #19

Reporting period 1/05/18 to 31/05/18

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

- In view of the coming rainy season, the Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) transferred all ETS equipment to solid prefabricated structures in Gwoza, Bama and Dikwa.
- The Nigerian Ministry of Communications granted the ETS the requested radio frequencies for the use of ETS security telecommunications services by the humanitarian community in North-East Nigeria.



Situation Overview

The upcoming June-to-August rainy season will likely prompt additional humanitarian needs for an estimated 536,000 vulnerable people in North-East Nigeria, according to the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) – responsible for humanitarian inter-sector coordination activities in North-East Nigeria, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders

Relief actors have recently expressed concern regarding gradual increases in military-related displacement, noting an average of 4,500 newly Internally Displaced People (IDPs) per week across northern Adamawa and Borno states between November 2017 and May 2018, in comparison to an average of 1,400 new IDPs per week in October.

Health actors in Borno and Yobe states report a decreasing trend of suspected cholera cases in recent weeks, although cholera transmission continues. On 4 May, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Edward Kallon, requested US\$2 million through the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF) to address the needs of the cholera-affected populations in areas of Yobe where relief actors plan to discontinue or cannot scale up projects due to a lack of resources.

ETS Response

- Given the connectivity challenges in North-East Nigeria, the ETS organised a meeting between partners on the ground and ETS International Internet Service Provider (ISP) in remote locations to find suitable solutions and support humanitarian operations on the ground.
- Taking into consideration the connectivity needs in remote locations in North-East Nigeria, the Humanitarian Hub Task Force agreed to extend the opening timings of the hubs from 09:00 to 12:00 and from 14.00 to 17:00 to access ETS Internet services. The ETS communicated this information to the wider humanitarian community.
- The ETS obtained nine HF radio and 18 VHF radio licenses from the Nigerian Ministry of Communications Technology. This allows the ETS to go ahead with the setup of the planned full Digital Mobile Radio network for North-East Nigeria.
- During May, the ETS team visited the hubs in Ngala and Monguno to carry out maintenance works on the Internet connectivity and security telecommunications services deployed in the hubs to ensure their full operability.

Planned Response

- During the first week of June, the ETS will deploy vital Internet connectivity and security telecommunications services at the humanitarian hub in Banki.
- The ETS plans to install an additional satellite terminal at the humanitarian hub in Maiduguri, which will increase current capacity and will, at the same time, be a back-up Internet solution.
- As part of the preparedness component of the ETS project in North-East Nigeria, the ETS is planning an emergency preparedness mission in July. The ETS will engage with partners on the ground, including UN agencies and NGOs, as well as with government entities involved in emergency response activities.

Challenges

- The delay in the recruitment of radio operators by the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) / UN Development Programme (UNDP) remains a challenge as the Communications Centres (COMCENS) deployed by the ETS in the field hubs in Ngala, Bama, Damasak, Dikwa, Gwoza and Monguno are not yet operational.

Funding

- The ETS requires US\$5.5 million to carry out its project until the end of 2018. The ETS is currently 29% funded.



Meetings

- The next Joint Global ETC teleconference covering Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo and Central African Republic operations will be held on 6 June.

Information

- ETS Nigeria information can be found on: www.etcluster.org/emergencies/nigeria-crisis
- The latest ETS Services map can be found here: [https://www.etcluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/NGA ETS Services A3L 20180417 0.pdf](https://www.etcluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/NGA%20ETS%20Services%20A3L%2020180417%200.pdf)

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Acronyms

COMCEN	Communications Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
ISP	Internet Service Provider
ISWG	Inter-Sector Working Group
IT	Information Technology
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHF	Nigeria Humanitarian Fund
UN	United Nations
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
WFP	UN World Food Programme

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ETC website: www.ETCluster.org

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: Nigeria.ETS@wfp.org