

## Nigeria – Crisis

### ETS Situation Report #30

Reporting period 1/04/19 to 30/04/19

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 ETS assisted the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) in relocating the Security Communications Centre (SCC) in Abuja and in conducting a refresher training for radio operators.
- Two connectivity kits part of the [Crisis Connectivity Charter](#) were received in Maiduguri for testing purposes before its deployment to field hub locations in North-East Nigeria.
- The ETS received a contribution of US\$883,000 from the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).



ETS IT specialist conducting maintenance works on the ETS communications services at the humanitarian hub in Bama.

Photo: IOM

### Situation Overview

The security situation across North-East Nigeria continues to be extremely volatile and unpredictable. On the evening of 8 April 2019 the Nigerian military ordered the immediate departure and forced the relocation of up to 10,000 civilians from Jakana town to Bakassi camp for internally displaced people in Maiduguri, Borno State. According to official sources, civilians were relocated for security reasons ahead of planned operations in the area. The United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria, Mr. Edward Kallon, called on the Government of Nigeria to provide humanitarian assistance to and protect the forcibly displaced people from Jakana.

Over the Easter weekend, two humanitarians from Mercy Corps and the International NGO Security Organisation (INSO) were killed in a resort in Kaduna, close to Abuja.



---

## ETS Response

- Since the beginning of the year, the ETS has provided Internet connectivity services to over 2,000 humanitarians from 75 organisations at the hubs deployed across North-East Nigeria. Monguno, Banki and Dikwa are the humanitarians hubs with a higher daily average number of ETS Internet users - 71, 40 and 37 respectively. In a given day, more than 180 devices are connected simultaneously on the ETS network at the Red Roof base camp in Maiduguri.
- The ETS assisted in relocating the UNDSS SCC in Abuja and conducted a refresher training for radio operators to efficiently conduct their jobs. This SCC in Abuja will cover communications operations countrywide, including North-East Nigeria.
- The ETS started the development of training materials for technical and non-technical humanitarians responding in North-East Nigeria to build their skills on security communications services and infrastructure. These activities underpin the provision and support to communications services in the long term.
- During the reporting period, preventive maintenance missions were carried out on the ETS infrastructure and services deployed in Bama, Banki and Ngala to ensure their full operability and better support humanitarian activities. In Ngala, the ETS team managed to restore the VHF coverage up to Gamburo- bordering town with Cameroon- and beyond.
- The ETS received in Maiduguri two satellite kits part of the Crisis Connectivity Charter to test the solutions ahead of future activations of the Charter. One of them was mounted at the Red Roof humanitarian base camp. The ETS team will test their performance in Maiduguri before deploying them in two field humanitarian hubs in North-East Nigeria.
- The ETS delivered a module on standard communications procedures to 19 humanitarians from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) during the Safe and Secure Approaches to Field Environments (SSAFE) training organised by the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) in Maiduguri. The training ensured that participants familiarised themselves with handheld radios and focused on practical exercises to confidently conduct radio checks and contact the Communications Centre (COMCEN) when required.
- Following the bandwidth upgrade done in January this year, the ETS continued monitoring the performance of the ETS Internet services in the humanitarian hubs in Bama, Banki, Gwoza, Dikwa, Monguno and Ngala to ensure the international service provider is allocating the agreed bandwidth.

## Planned Response

- The ETS will engage with humanitarian organisations on the ground to ensure a smooth implementation of the new High Frequency (HF) frequency plan according to the frequencies granted by the Nigerian Ministry of Telecommunications to the ETS.
- The ETS is planning to conduct preventive maintenance missions in Bama, Dikwa and Gwoza to continue to ensure ETS communications services are fully functional.



- In line with the ETS localization efforts, a Vacancy Announcement for an Information Management assistant will be launched at the beginning of May.

## Funding

- The ETS operation in Nigeria in 2019 requires US\$3.4M to maintain the existing services and expand them to 4x planned operational areas. After receiving a contribution of US\$883,000 from ECHO, the ETS is currently 79% funded.

## Meetings

- The next Joint Global ETC teleconference covering Bangladesh, Nigeria and Central African Republic operations will be held on 22 May 2019.
- The next local ETS Working Group meeting in Maiduguri is scheduled on 10 May at 10:00 (Abuja time, UTC+1) at the Red Roof base camp (Mala Kachala House).

## Information

- ETS Nigeria information can be found on: [www.etcluster.org/emergencies/nigeria-crisis](http://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/nigeria-crisis)
- The latest ETS Dashboard displaying where ETS services are available and planned can be found here: [www.etcluster.org/document/ets-nigeria-dashboard-26-april-2019](http://www.etcluster.org/document/ets-nigeria-dashboard-26-april-2019)

## Key ETS Contacts

### [Nigeria.ETS@wfp.org](mailto:Nigeria.ETS@wfp.org)

LOCATION	NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
Nigeria	Ekue Ayih	ETS Coordinator	<a href="mailto:ekue.ayih@wfp.org">ekue.ayih@wfp.org</a>
Nigeria	Khawar Ilyas	ETS Coordinator a.i.	<a href="mailto:khawar.ilyas@wfp.org">khawar.ilyas@wfp.org</a>
Nigeria	Leopold Happy	Head of WFP IT & SCOPE Operations a.i.	<a href="mailto:leopold.happy@wfp.org">leopold.happy@wfp.org</a>
Nigeria	Erika Iglesias	ETS Information Management Officer	<a href="mailto:erika.iglesias@wfp.org">erika.iglesias@wfp.org</a>

## Acronyms

COMCEN	Communications Centre
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
HF	High Frequency
INSO	International NGO Security Organisation



---

IOM	International Organization for Migration
SCC	Security Communications Centre
SSAFE	Safe and Secure Approaches to Field Environments
UN	United Nations
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
VHF	Very High Frequency
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

**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)**