

Nigeria – Crisis

ETS Situation Report #4

Reporting period 13/02/17 to 15/03/17

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.

Highlights

- The Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) is maintaining the Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) in Maiduguri and is redesigning the whole radio network in North-East Nigeria to make sure it can cope with the communications requirements of the entire humanitarian community.
- The ETS is working on a reliable connectivity solution to support the UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) operations at Maiduguri airport.
- The ETS conducted assessment missions in Dikwa and Bama where the next humanitarian hubs will be deployed.
- The ETS continues to deliver security telecommunications training and radio programming activities.



The ETS delivering training on radio standard operating procedures to the humanitarian community in Maiduguri.

Photo: WFP/ ETS Nigeria

Situation Overview

A wave of armed attacks in February has triggered new displacements of civilians in areas that have recently opened up in Nigeria's north-eastern Borno state. Return movements have also been observed in Borno, especially in locations that have recently become accessible.

The first significant response to the funding needs of the Nigeria Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2017 took place on 24 February at the Oslo Humanitarian Conference on Nigeria and the Lake Chad Region co-hosted by Germany, Nigeria, Norway and the United Nations (UN). By the end of the conference, pledges totalled almost US\$672 million.



Representatives of donor countries and agencies conducted a mission to Borno between 13-15 February. The purpose was to increase their understanding of the complex challenges of the region, by engaging with officials and Internally Displaced People (IDPs). Their observations were shared during the Oslo conference.

A delegation from the 15-nations member United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on Sunday 5 March 2017 visited Maiduguri. The UNSC team came to the country to obtain first-hand information on the effects of the crisis in the region and the efforts at tackling them.

ETS Response

- Information and Communications Technology (ICT) equipment has been prepositioned in Gwoza where the first humanitarian hub will be deployed. This equipment will allow the provision of Internet connectivity and security telecommunications services at this camp.
- The ETS continues to provide Internet services to humanitarian workers at the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) base camp in Maiduguri. As of 12 March, 100 humanitarian workers from 12 organisations have used these services.
- The ETS continues to provide radio reprogramming services and radio training to the entire humanitarian community in North-East Nigeria. As of 10 March, the ETS has trained 62 radio users from 10x different humanitarian organisations in Maiduguri and 192 radios from 12 humanitarian organisations were reprogrammed.
- The ETS is working on a reliable connectivity solution to support the UNHAS operations at Maiduguri airport. A radio point-to-point link will be established for this purpose.
- The ETS is reviewing the radio frequency plan and defining a set of radio frequencies to be submitted to the Ministry of Communications and Technology for license issuance.

Planned Response

- Given the scale up of humanitarian operations in North-East Nigeria, the ETS is planning to conduct Local ETS Working Group meetings in Maiduguri. The current local Telecommunications Working Group takes place only in Abuja with members in Maiduguri joining by phone.
- Due to the delay in the establishment of the humanitarian hubs, the ETS is exploring alternative options to start providing basic security telecommunications and Internet connectivity in the common operational areas (Gwoza, Ngala, Monguno, Dikwa, Bama and Gulani) to support humanitarian operations.
- The ETS will carry out a mission to Damaturu from 15 to 17 March to provide radio training and radio programming services and to carry out an assessment and maintenance activities on the security telecommunications network.



Challenges

- Staff movements are restricted due to the security situation in North-East Nigeria which impacts the timely delivery of ETS services.
- The ETS continues to follow up with the local authorities to obtain written authorization to deploy security telecommunications services at the humanitarian hubs.

Funding

- The ETS continues to appeal for US\$3.6 million to provide vital communications services until the end of 2017. The ETS is actively seeking funding opportunities at global and local levels.

Meetings

- The next Local Telecommunications Working Group will be held on 21 March.
- The next Global ETS Nigeria teleconference is scheduled for 28 March.

Information

- ETS Nigeria information can be found on: <https://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/nigeria-crisis>
- The latest ETS Services map can be found here: https://www.etcluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/NGA_ETC_Services_A3L_20170311_0.pdf

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Acronyms

DMR	Digital Mobile Radio
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IDP	Internally Displaced People
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IHP	International Humanitarian Partnership
UN	United Nations



UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
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

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