

## **Nigeria – Crisis**

### **ETS Situation Report #7**

**Reporting period 17/05/17 to 16/06/17**

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) deployed vital communications services at the humanitarian hubs in Ngala and Bama.
- The ETS received a new contribution from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and it is now 79% funded.
- The ETS is working on the recruitment of local staff to support the operation in the long-term.



The ETS IT specialist deploying a satellite kit at the humanitarian hub in Ngala.

*Photo: WFP/ William Twyford*

### **Situation Overview**

The security situation remains volatile and dynamic due to recurrent attacks and ongoing military operations. Military offensives and insecurity in parts of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states continue to cut off numerous people from assistance.

Ongoing returns from Cameroon to Nigeria through Banki have raised concerns among humanitarian partners given the prevailing insecurity, the lack of adequate assistance and access to basic services in already overstretched transit zones and areas of return. To decongest camps in Banki and Pulka, the Borno State Government and humanitarian partners are assessing response capacity for relocating up to 20,000 Internally Displaced People (IDPs) to two new camps to be established in Bama and Gwoza.

The deployment of the humanitarian hubs continues and the procurement of prefabs and security upgrade for Maiduguri as well as the modalities of use of the newly-opened Gwoza hub, obtaining security clearance for Ngala, the completion of the Bama hub, and breaking of the ground for the Dikwa hub was discussed by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the humanitarian community.



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## ETS Response

- During the reporting period, the ETS completed the deployment of vital communications services in Ngala and Bama, the second and third humanitarian hubs established in North-East Nigeria after Gwoza. The deployments comprised the installation of a radio base station and a VHF radio repeater for security telecommunications, a satellite kit to provide Internet connectivity and the set up for the Communications Centre (COMCEN).
- The ETS supported the relocation of the main COMCEN in Maiduguri from the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) office to the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) base camp so that the COMCEN is streamlined with the UNDSS Security Information and Operations Centre (SIOC) based at the camp.
- Since the beginning of the operation, the ETS has provided Internet connectivity services to 305 humanitarians from 33 organisations at the IHP base camp in Maiduguri, with the support of ETC members Ericsson Response and the Government of Luxembourg.
- The ETS continues to deliver training on radio communications procedures and radio programming activities to ensure humanitarians can carry out their activities in a safely manner. As of 16 June, the ETS has trained 268 radio users from 12 different humanitarian organisations in Maiduguri and 535 radios from 17 humanitarian organisations were reprogrammed.
- To ensure the sustainability of the ETS project in North-East Nigeria, 3x national staff are being recruited: 1x Telecommunications specialist, 1x IT expert and 1x Admin specialist. The recruitment process is expected to be finalised by the beginning of July.
- As part of the ETS objective to provide reliable security telecommunications services in North-East Nigeria, 18x radio operators are being recruited: 5x for Maiduguri, 5x for Damaturu and 2x for each of the 4x humanitarian hubs across Borno state. These positions will be funded by the ETS. On behalf of the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), the UN Development Programme (UNDP) is assisting the ETS in the recruitment process.

## Planned Response

- In Dikwa, the ETS is waiting for the construction work of the humanitarian hub to finish as it has been delayed. The site needs to be completed and have security in place before the ETS deploys any equipment.

## Challenges

- The rainy season is affecting the establishment of the humanitarian hubs and the focus is currently on the humanitarian hub in Dikwa to be completed by mid-July. The establishment of the remaining hubs (2 to 4) will take place after the rainy season (from September).

## Funding

- The ETS received a new contribution from Norway so it is now 79% funded. Out of the US\$4.8 million total budget until the end of this year, the ETS has received US\$3.8 million.



- The ETS continues to appeal for US\$1 million to deliver vital communications services to the humanitarian community in North-East Nigeria until the end of 2017.

## Meetings

- The next Global ETS Nigeria teleconference is scheduled for 4 July.

## 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\\_20170606\\_0.pdf](https://www.etcluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/NGA_ETC_Services_A3L_20170606_0.pdf)

## Key ETS Contacts

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## Acronyms

COMCEN	Communications Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IHP	International Humanitarian Partnership
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
SIOC	System Information and Operations Center
UN	United Nations
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
WFP	UN World Food Programme



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

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