Nigeria – Crisis

ETS Situation Report #33

Reporting period 1/07/19 to 31/07/19

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 Nigeria SitReps are issued monthly.

Highlights

- The ETS conducted maintenance missions in Monguno, Bama, Ngala, Damasak and Banki to ensure full operability of security communications services.

- The recruitment process for a local ETS Information Management (IM) associate is progressing with interviews held on 19 July.

- Having received additional funding from donors, the ETS operation in Nigeria is currently 79% funded out of the US$3.4 million required for 2019.

The ETS team updating the radio communications system in the humanitarian hub in Damasak.

Photo: ETS

Situation Overview

In early July, a mission from the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Emergency Directors Group (EDG) visited Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State as well as some Local Government Areas (LGA) affected by the crisis, including Damboa, Dikwa and Rann.

The humanitarian crisis in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states in North-East Nigeria needs renewed support to face the recent escalation in violence and the evolving humanitarian needs. Tens of thousands of people have fled the violence and are at risk of disease with rainy season approaching. The UN and its partners have appealed for US$848 million in 2019 to provide lifesaving assistance to 6.2 million people. So far, the response is 32.6 per cent funded.

ETS Response

- The ETS continues to provide Internet connectivity and security telecommunications services in nine common operational areas. Since the beginning of the year, the ETS has provided Internet connectivity services to more than 2,740 humanitarians from 92 organisations at the hubs deployed across North-East Nigeria.

- The ETS conducted an assessment and oversight mission to Damaturu to check the status of the Security Communications System (SCS).

- The ETS conducted maintenance missions in Monguno, Bama, Ngala and Damasak to ensure full operability of security communications services. The team also carried out a maintenance mission and radio communications procedures training to responders in Banki.

- The ETS continues to coordinate the rotation of 14 radio operators at seven humanitarian hubs to ensure the Security Operations Centres (SOCs) are operational to support the humanitarian response, improving the safety and security of responders.

- During a SSAFE training activity from 9–11 July, the ETS supported the delivery of the Security Telecommunications module to 25 humanitarian workers.

- The recruitment process for a local ETS Information Management (IM) associate is progressing with interviews held on 19 July.

- The ETS supported the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Emergency Directors Group (EDG) mission in early July by providing all necessary telecommunications assistance.

- ETS WiFi connectivity services continue to be provided in Logistics Sector Mobile Storage Units (MSU) facilities managed by INTERSOS in Bama, Banki and Ngala and by ACTED in Dikwa and Damasak, to allow real-time transactions in warehousing operations.

Planned Response

- The ETS plans to deploy an additional Internet connectivity link from a local Internet Service Provider (ISP) in Maiduguri and an additional VSAT terminal in Monguno.

- The ETS will continue working on the activation and testing of the connectivity equipment as part of the Crisis Connectivity Charter before deploying it to field hubs.

- The ETS will continue discussions with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on the handover of connectivity services deployed at the humanitarian hubs planned for 1 January 2020.

- The ETS will continue carrying out maintenance missions in deep-field humanitarian hubs to ensure security communications services are fully operational for humanitarian use.

Challenges

- The ETS is facing some logistical delays moving a satellite terminal from the stock in Ngala to Monguno, via Maiduguri.

Funding

- The ETS operation in Nigeria is currently 79 per cent funded out of the US$3.4 million required for 2019.

Meetings

- The next Global ETC Joint teleconference covering Bangladesh, Central African Republic, Nigeria and Venezuela (UNHCR) operations will be held on 25 September 2019.

Information

- ETS Nigeria information can be found on: www.etcluster.org/emergencies/nigeria-crisis

- The latest ETS Dashboard displaying where ETS services are available and planned can be found here: https://www.etcluster.org/document/ets-nigeria-dashboard-1-august-2019

Key ETS Contacts

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Acronyms

EDG Emergency Directors Group (EDG)
ETC Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS Emergency Telecommunications Sector
HF High Frequency
IASC Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDP Internally Displaced Person
IM Information Management
IOM International Organisation for Migration
ISP Internet Service Provider
IT Information Technology
LGA Local Government Area
MNO Mobile Network Operators
MSU Mobile Storage Units
SCS Security Communications System
SOC Security Operations 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

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