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Situation Report

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Armed conflict in North-East Nigeria continues to place lives at risk

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Country:	Nigeria
Emergency type:	Conflict
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Covering Period:	December 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024
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Key Figures



Highlights

- Nearly 8 million people in Nigeria, including 1.8 million women of reproductive age, need humanitarian assistance due to conflict, food insecurity, lack of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, lack of education, and protection concerns, which disproportionately affect women and girls in crisis settings, increasing their vulnerability to gender-based violence.
- The arrest and detention of minors in Nigeria for alleged involvement in protests raises serious concerns about their heightened risk of experiencing gender-based violence (GBV) while in custody.



- The high number of out-of-school children in Nigeria, particularly girls, increases their vulnerability to exploitation, abuse, and GBV, especially in conflict zones.
- Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) continued attacks, resulting in deaths, injuries, and displacement. Borno State was particularly affected by violence, with bomb explosions and killings reported.
- Millions of Nigerians were internally displaced due to conflict and natural disasters. The ongoing conflict in the Northeast, particularly in Borno State, has resulted in repeated displacement.

Situation Overview

- Insecurity and Conflict: In December 2024, Nigeria continued experiencing multiple security incidents, including a landmine explosion. These events, alongside ongoing attacks by NSAGs, heighten the risk of GBV and limit access to maternal healthcare for women and girls. A clash in Riyom Local Government Area (LGA), Plateau State, in December resulted in the tragic deaths of at least 13 people. The exact number of casualties is still being determined.
- Crime and Violence: There were reports of criminal activities, including the recovery of unexploded ordnances and explosives in Borno, highlighting the ongoing threat of violence. The police have also recovered grenades and other explosives in Borno.
- **Growing Food Insecurity in Northern Nigeria:** In Northern Nigeria, 33 million people, including 5.44 million children and 787,000 pregnant and lactating women, will face acute food insecurity by 2025. This crisis forces women and girls into harmful coping mechanisms, increasing their vulnerability to exploitation, abuse, and GBV.
- **Poverty and hiking prices of commodities:** Economic hardship and rising inflation increased poverty levels, making it difficult for many families to afford necessities.

UNFPA Response

To support women and girls in vulnerable situations, UNFPA has implemented targeted interventions in the following areas:

- 17,781 individuals received SRH services through UNFPA-supported facilities, including the clinical management of rape (CMR), antenatal and postnatal care, assisted births by skilled personnel, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and family planning.
- 13,636 individuals accessed protection and GBV services, including case management, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), temporary safe shelter, psychological first aid (PFA), security and legal support, and referrals to specialized services.
- 3,694 women and adolescent girls participated in skills acquisition sessions, while 2,381 were specifically trained in tailoring, cap making, bag making, room décor, and hand fan making.
- UNFPA reached 19,929 community members with key SRH and GBV messages, including on family planning, through outreach and awareness campaigns led by frontline workers.
- On December 3, 2024, UNFPA commemorated the International Day for Persons with Disabilities, themed "Amplifying the Leadership of Persons with Disabilities for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future," focusing on disability inclusion and advocacy for accessible SRH, GBV, education, and basic services. At Muna Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Camp in Maiduguri, activities emphasized community engagement, inclusivity, and



improved living conditions, with frontline workers providing SRH/GBV support and skills training to empower women and girls.

- UNFPA commissioned a safe space in Bokos to deliver GBV and SRH services to beneficiaries from Bokos, Barkin Ladi, and Mangu LGAs in Plateau State.
- In Plateau State, the 16 Days of Activism campaign continued in December, featuring awareness creation, stakeholder engagement to address and report GBV, road walks, dialogue sessions, and radio jingles. UNFPA actively participated to emphasize the elimination of GBV.
- A one-stop center was constructed in Gulak, Adamawa State, to meet the urgent GBV and SRH needs of displaced and vulnerable persons, particularly women and girls. The center was commissioned by the Honorable Commissioner of the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (MWASD), UNFPA representatives, traditional leaders, and the implementing partner, Action Health Incorporated (AHI).

Results Snapshots





Coordination Mechanisms

Gender-Based Violence

UNFPA, through its leadership within the GBV Area of Responsibility (AoR) and in collaboration with key partners, has made significant strides in addressing GBV in the region. Key achievements include:

- UNFPA provided essential GBV services to 667,558 women and girls in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states while implementing mobile outreach programmes that reached over 855,755 people with critical GBV information. Training sessions were conducted for 13,731 individuals to strengthen GBV response capabilities, focusing on case management, psychological support, and community capacity building. Additionally, 15,784 dignity kits were distributed to GBV survivors, vulnerable women, and adolescent girls.
- The GBV Sub-Sector (GBV SS) partners concluded the 16 Days of Activism against GBV campaign on December 10, 2024, led by the Gender Equality Peace and Development Center (GEPaDC), with events such as female football matches, paint and sip sessions, and poetry performances, aired on NTA in Nigeria. The GBV AoR Coordinator participated in USAID's Brownbag session on GBV and its impact across sectors at the US Embassy in Abuja, sharing perspectives and field experiences on GBV prevention and response.
- UNFPA actively engaged in regional coordination meetings, including the Plateau State Humanitarian Emergency Operation Center (EOC) partner coordination meeting, providing updates on GBV and SRH interventions such as the establishment of Women and Girls' Safe Spaces (WGSS) and distribution of reproductive health kits.
- The Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network held its annual strategic workshop in Abuja, refining the PSEA strategy and action plan for 2025, and explored collaborations with police and UNOCD to integrate reporting mechanisms and improve accountability for PSEA. These efforts reflect UNFPA's commitment to comprehensive GBV and SRH service delivery and coordination.

Sexual and Reproductive Health

- The SRH Working Group meeting in Adamawa was held on December 13, 2024, co-led by the State Reproductive Health Coordinator and UNFPA. UNFPA's implementing partner, the Center for Community and Public Health Research (CCPRH), with financial and technical support from UNFPA, conducted SRH and GBV needs and gap assessments in selected LGAs in Northeast and Northwest Nigeria, integrating inputs from SRH Working Group members into concept notes and assessment tools.
- To support SRH service delivery, six Inter-Agency Reproductive Health (IARH) kits were delivered to the International Medical Corps (IMC), an SRH Working Group partner. Data collection from SRH partners continued, with the monthly SRH 5Ws being compiled for analysis. The SRH dashboard summarizing these findings is scheduled for release in the second or third week of January 2025.



K Other working groups led by UNFPA

• UNFPA remains an active member of the Dignity Kit Task Force, leading and supporting the group's activities to address the needs of vulnerable populations. It also coordinates the Clinical Management of Rape Task Force through the SRH Working Group, under the leadership of the State Ministry of Health, to ensure effective and timely support for survivors. Additionally, UNFPA coordinates and supports Justice Sector Reform Teams across Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe (BAY) states, facilitating monthly coordination meetings aimed at improving access to justice for GBV survivors.

Funding Status

In 2025, UNFPA Nigeria will require US\$ 15,712,729 to fund its Humanitarian Needs Response Plan, which focuses on delivering critical SRH and GBV services to vulnerable populations. In 2024, out of the sum of US\$ 20,928,452 required to fully implement the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan, as of December 2024, only 31.9 percent of the required funding had been mobilized, amounting to US\$ 6,675,000, with contributions from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Government of Canada, and the Government of Norway. This leaves a significant funding gap of 68.1 percent (US\$ 14,253,452) of UNFPA's humanitarian appeal, which jeopardizes UNFPA's ability to meet the needs of those most affected by ongoing humanitarian crises.

