



NIGERIA

New Way of Working – Progress Update

As of 19 October 2018

The purpose of these updates is to provide examples of where the New Way of Working is being operationalized, and to show the steps that have been taken in different contexts to reduce need, risk and vulnerability.

Overview

Over the past two years the policy dialogue on the New Way of Working (NWOW) has gained a solid ground, with both the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) and humanitarian and development actors.

The need to stem the cycle of continuous humanitarian response by systematically and jointly reducing need, risk and vulnerability, with a gradual increase in resilience enhancing and development interventions, is essential in preventing the continuation of the crisis north-east Nigeria.

In August, a joint OCHA-UNDP mission identified potential thematic areas for collective outcomes that humanitarian, development and other relevant actors could achieve jointly over a period of 3-5 years, in order to reduce people's needs, risks and vulnerabilities in north-east Nigeria.



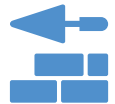
Where do we stand?

Consultations led to defining five broad areas for which collective outcomes could be articulated and achievable through interventions by both humanitarian and development actors. These areas for potential collective outcomes offer the starting point for stakeholders in Nigeria to articulate and refine concrete, measurable outcomes.



Food Security and Nutrition

North-east Nigeria, though semi-arid, was primarily an agriculture-based economy. The combination of the displacement of the populations from their farmland with a dependence on food aid in the displaced camps and continued insecurities, means that agricultural output has been severely curtailed. This has resulted in further malnutrition, and also a dependence on food aid.



Durable Solutions

The most visible aspect of the crisis in the north-east is the internal displacement of 1.8M people in both camp settings and among the host population, many of whom have been displaced for several years. This is in addition to another 225,000 who found refuge in neighboring countries.



Basic Services and Local Governance

Whether IDPs are planning to integrate locally, settle elsewhere in the country or to return, it is essential to boost access to basic services to enable self-reliance. This includes ensuring the provision of essential basic services in areas of origin, in particular health, education and the provision of clean water.



Livelihoods

Supporting communities affected by Non-State Armed Groups and preparing conditions for durable solutions will require an investment in providing sustainable economic opportunities both in the public and private sector, both in areas of displacement and IDPs' areas of origin, including in urban and peri-urban areas.



Reconciliation

Finally, there is a need to ensure that both the Government and the international community plays its part in repairing the social fabric of the affected communities by promoting social cohesion, reconciliation, as well as a form of transitional justice.

Barriers and Enablers



Security

Achieving security across the three most affected states, with a freedom of movement, business and ability to live in areas of origin is paramount. This is dependent on the actions of the Government and the armed forces, but also investing in the right law enforcement infrastructure to keep the areas secure and eventually demilitarized.



Development Coordination

While coordination of international humanitarian activities is carried out in the north-east and can be tapped into, there is a lack of equivalent coordination on both development activities, as well as "nexus" programmes/projects. There is a general lack of development actors outside state capitals.



Multitude of Government actors at State and Federal level

There is the need to better harness and support the biggest development actor – the Government. Finding a more streamlined entry point within the Government that works equally hard at addressing the nexus in the public sector engagement/investment is absolutely crucial. There is however keen interest by the Government to engage on Nexus activities through the Presidential Committee on the North East Initiative and Ministry of Budget and National Planning.



Area Based Approach

While north-east Nigeria is often seen as homogenous, there are various degrees of progress and opportunities across the three states. A more concerted effort to conduct shared analyses of the vulnerabilities, challenges and opportunities by both humanitarian and development actors.