

# NRC's operations in Nigeria

## Humanitarian overview

The protracted crisis across the north-eastern BAY region (Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states) continues to see a deteriorating humanitarian situation. The scope of the crisis, coupled with increased insurgency, has started affecting other parts of Nigeria, including the north-western states of Sokoto, Zamfara and Katsina, and the central states of Plateau, Benue and Taraba. In Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states, a total of 7.8 million people remain in need of assistance, of whom 1.8 million are internally displaced.

Protection remains a grave concern for many, especially for girls and women living in camp settings, who are at higher risk of gender-based violence. Overcrowding in many of the camps severely affects living conditions for internally displaced people (IDPs). Almost all of those living in camps or camp-like settings endure inadequate conditions and services, such as overcrowding, protection risks, and insufficient WASH facilities and food.



Photo: Samuel Jegede/NRC

## Our core activities



Education



Information, counselling  
and legal assistance (ICLA)



Livelihoods  
and food security



Protection  
from violence



Shelter  
and settlements



Water, sanitation  
and hygiene (WASH)

### NRC in Nigeria

Established	2015
International staff	19
National staff	322

## Our areas of operation

### Abuja (country office)

### Borno State:

- Jere
- Monguno
- Gwoza
- Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC)
- Mafa

### Adamawa State:

- Yola
- Lamurde

- Numan
- Mubi
- Michika
- Madagali
- Fufore
- Girei

### Plateau State:

- Shendam
- Wase
- Bassa
- Riyom
- Mangu
- Bokkos



## Our activities in detail

NRC in Nigeria stands in solidarity with displacement-affected Nigerian communities to meet their basic needs, improve their livelihoods, enhance their self-reliance and access longer-term solutions. In 2024, NRC reached over 393,957 people with assistance through different core competencies, including thematic areas like Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). As part of our partnership efforts, we reached 285,468 through local partners. Additionally, NRC in Nigeria works on building self-reliance and enabling pathways to durable solutions as per the 2022–25 country strategy.



**37,871 people reached in 2024** ▼

## Education

NRC works to improve access to quality education for internally displaced children, returnees and host communities. Education services are focused on improving the overall learning environment. Learning outcomes include the provision of specialised services to children through NRC's Better Learning Programme (BLP) for displacement-affected out-of-school children. As part of our localisation strategy, NRC also engages with local operational partners to respond to child protection and safety concerns in schools. Additionally, NRC works with adolescent boys and girls to help them acquire the skills needed to improve their living conditions. We:

- provide support in formal and non-formal education settings for out-of-school children

including catch-up classes for ages 6–14 and youth education for ages 15–24 with vocational skills training and social cohesion and life skills needed for them to engage productively in their communities

- distribute education kits and hygiene kits for teachers and students
- provide capacity building for teachers and school-based management committees on classroom management, pedagogy, gender and disability mainstreaming, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and prevention of attacks on schools and on children in schools
- construct temporary learning centres in camps and existing government schools, and rehabilitate damaged classrooms to increase access to education for out of school children
- provide access to water, sanitation and gender-segregated facilities in schools and latrine cleaning kits for best hygiene practices to improve sanitation and hygiene in schools
- provide vocational skills training and start-up kits for adolescent boys and girls to engage income generation initiatives for self-sustenance



93,564 people reached in 2024 ▼

## Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)

A single document holds the key to shaping or shattering a life's course. Our ICLA team aims to empower IDPs, returnees, and vulnerable host community members to claim and exercise their rights by: 1) improving access to legal identity and civil documentation; 2) addressing barriers to the enjoyment of adequate housing and land rights; 3) strengthening community-based dispute resolution; and 4) removing legal obstacles to employment, business and entrepreneurship opportunities. We:

- provide information and legal awareness on processes, procedures and requirements to obtain essential civil, identity, and HLP documents
- provide counselling and legal/administrative support to facilitate the issuance of essential identity and land documents, in collaboration with the local authorities
- provide training, technical and material support to government agencies and community leaders on HLP rights and collaborative dispute resolution (CDR) strategies
- advocate on removing legal and administrative barriers to the enjoyment of rights related to legal identity, HLP, employment, and entrepreneurship opportunities



60,070 people reached in 2024 ▼

## Livelihoods and food security

NRC focuses on improving access to food through market purchase where cash and voucher assistance (CVA) is provided, as well as agriculture productivity and systems strengthening. Additionally, NRC supports the creation of livelihoods, economic empowerment and community resilience through supporting business, employment and entrepreneurship aimed at generating skills and incomes. LFS works at preventing and mitigating the effects of climate change.

Design and implementation adopt the markets-based programming (MBP) approach, where robust assessment and analysis inform activities that use, support and influence markets and systems. NRC collaborates and partners with the government, private sector and local partners in implementing emergency, recovery and livelihoods activities. Our teams:

- support farmers by providing agricultural kits consisting of seeds, tools and organic fertilisers
- complement this with training on appropriate agronomic practices and climate-smart agriculture (CSA) to improve agricultural productivity in a sustainable manner
- promote market linkages for farmers and support engagement in climate-smart value chains
- support farmers with access to water for agriculture production during the dry season through construction and rehabilitation of new and existing wells or boreholes and rainwater harvesting infrastructure
- support livestock farmers with small livestock, livestock feed, livestock health services and training in sustainable livestock production techniques and associated value chains
- support food and agriculture systems through seed systems strengthening, livestock health equipment or infrastructure and extension services strengthening
- support women and young people to generate income through the provision of small business start-up kits (cash/in-kind or a combination) and training in basic small business management
- support young people and women in accessing employment opportunities through TVET training, apprenticeships/internships, and training in soft skills to prepare them for formal employment opportunities
- support financial inclusion by promoting access to informal credit lines through the village savings and lending associations (VSLA) approach and linking them to formal financial markets
- support awareness-raising, prevention and adaptation to the effects of climate change through establishment and training in early warning systems, anticipatory action, and disaster risk reduction structures and community-based natural resources management



58,122 people reached in 2024 ▼

## Protection from violence

NRC's response focuses on site management, general protection services, capacity building and coordination. We are involved in:

- urban displacement and out-of-camp (UDOC) interventions in MMC covering 12 communities
- supporting community coordination meetings and capacity building of leaders
- supporting community site maintenance and responding to emergencies such as flooding, heavy winds and fire outbreaks
- providing specialised protection services such as individual protection assistance and case management, including referrals to support people facing protection risks and violence
- protection monitoring to analyse protection trends and generate response and advocacy actions
- establishing and strengthening community-based protection structures



22,974 people reached in 2024 ▼

## Shelter and settlements

NRC provides access to different housing and shelter solutions including linking to other complementary core competencies. We:

- provide in-kind assistance for essential non-food items
- distribute flood mitigation kits to committees of IDP and host communities
- distribute emergency shelter kits
- provide cash assistance for rental subsidies
- construct transitional shelters for displaced people in IDP hosting sites
- upgrade permanent and semi-permanent shelters for displaced people residing in existing or uncompleted homes
- provide durable mud shelters for IDPs and returnees in host communities
- rehabilitate permanent housing structures
- provide training in carpentry, masonry and other habitability and environmental measures



251,472 people reached in 2024 ▼

## Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

NRC improves access to safe, clean water and sanitation facilities, improves approaches to solid waste management, co-leads on key coordination platforms (including the WASH cluster and technical working groups) and supports governance structures. We:

- prevent the spread of diseases, including cholera and other waterborne and sanitation-related diseases, by conducting awareness-raising sessions, both in camps and out-of-camp settings
- support the adoption of positive hygiene practices by installing handwashing stations and distributing hygiene kits
- construct, rehabilitate and maintain boreholes and sanitation structures for families living in camps and out-of-camp settings, ensuring that the water distributed is sufficiently treated (chlorinated)
- construct and rehabilitate, along with dislodging, filled-up latrines for families living in camps and out-of-camp settings to ensure good hygiene and access to latrines

**Sustainability and community engagement:** to ensure lasting impact, NRC involves local communities in water management and provides capacity-building activities. Collaboration with local authorities, community-based organisations and humanitarian actors helps us maximise reach and avoid duplication of efforts. We support solid waste management through different state agencies and established community structures.

Recognising the broader implications of WASH services, NRC ensures that functional and safe WASH facilities are accessible in schools to support education, particularly for girls who might otherwise face barriers. WASH programmes complement NRC's efforts in shelter, education and livelihoods, contributing to improved living conditions and livelihood opportunities.

Through these targeted and sustainable interventions, NRC enhances the resilience and wellbeing of conflict-affected populations,

saving lives, preventing diseases, promoting dignity, and contributing to broader humanitarian and development goals in Nigeria.

## Coordination and advocacy

We coordinate with other humanitarian actors, government authorities and local agencies to ensure a coherent and effective response. In collaboration with other actors, and using evidence from our programming, NRC seeks to amplify the voices of those affected by crisis and hold duty bearers to account.

NRC advocates for changes in laws, policies and practices that improve access to communities in need, enable a principled response, and enable sustainable solutions to displacement. In Nigeria, NRC is a member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG). NRC is the co-lead of the WASH sector, and is co-lead of the housing, land and property (HLP) sub-working group. NRC, in collaboration with the Nigeria INGO Forum and the Nigeria Network of NGOs, established the Civil Society Organization (CSOs) Advocacy Working Group for IDPs to coordinate advocacy efforts for the rights and welfare of IDPs in Nigeria.

NRC is now working with the WASH sector and the Global WASH Cluster to create the Northeast WASH Advocacy Working Group. This group aims to develop a comprehensive advocacy strategy to raise awareness and call for action on critical WASH issues, ensuring that vulnerable populations facing severe WASH needs receive the necessary support.

## Partnerships

NRC in Nigeria launched Naija Ignite, its partnership support facility, in 2024. To establish best practices on the localisation of humanitarian aid, and making strides to extend its funding framework to local partners for core support, NRC onboarded three local partners in 2024 into the pilot phase of the facility. NRC provided funding to these partners for core support of their strategic efforts in the country. In turn, these partners reached 285,468 individuals with humanitarian assistance.

We expect to expand our partnership efforts in 2025 through the Naija Ignite facility to prove cost effectiveness, and to best support local civil society in Nigeria whose missions align with NRC's own.

## Our donors

### We are grateful for the generous support from our donors:

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- EU/Directorate-General for International Partnership (INTPA)
- Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF)
- Education Cannot Wait (ECW)
- Equinor
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
- AKO Foundation
- IPSOS

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