

OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW – MARCH 2019



CAMEROON – Conflict

Remote Distributions

In 2014 the Boko Haram Islamist insurgency spread from Nigeria into the border regions of Cameroon. Minawao Camp was initially opened to host 35,000 people, however the number now living in the camp has almost doubled.

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Through our in-country partner IEDA Relief the current project aims to provide new arrivals into Minawao camp with a tent and supporting aid package, with items such as blankets, sleeping mats, water carriers, mosquito nets and solar lights. Outside of Minawao camp, the project aims to provide ShelterKits and supporting aid items to IDPs (Internally displaced people). This has the additional benefit of relieving pressure on host communities. The ShelterKits are intended to support IDPs in improving their existing shelters in the sites or the villages in which they reside. Distributions are continuing and are expected to finish in April, with the post distribution reporting expected to be complete by the end of May.



MALAWI – Cyclone Idai

Assessments

Heavy rains since the 6th March 2019 have affected most parts of the Southern region of Malawi following the formation of a tropical disturbance over the Mozambique channel. Estimates are that almost 1 million people across southern Malawi, Madagascar and Mozambique have been affected. In Malawi at least 125,000 people have been forced from their homes. On the 8th March 2019, the President of Malawi declared a State of Disaster, which included a call to international organisations to help the government to provide relief to affected Malawians. The first ShelterBox Team arrived in country on the 21st March and have been working closely with local partners to get a better idea of the situation on the ground, including our global partner Habitat for Humanity. The team have also been in regular contact with local Rotary clubs, District Governor Hutchson Mthinda and with the Malawian Disaster Management Agency. A charter flight of ShelterBox aid for 2,000 families arrived in Lilongwe on Sunday the 7th April and distributions are



SYRIA – Conflict

due to start soon.

Remote Distributions

ShelterBox has been responding to the crisis in Syria since 2012, providing essential aid items to families displaced by the conflict. We work with three implementing partners in Syria; Hand in Hand for Aid and Development (HIHFAD), ReliefAid, and Bahar Organisation. Syria is currently facing sub-zero temperatures. Families that have fled conflict and violence still face life-threatening danger from the severe weather conditions.

Our in-country partner Hand in Hand for Aid and Development (HIHFAD) has been carrying out distributions throughout March. The aim of this was to support newly displaced families with tents and supporting aid packages that include items such as blankets, mattresses, roll mats, solar lights, water carriers, tool kits and kitchen sets. This distribution has supported 1,272 families.



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NIGERIA – Conflict

Remote Distributions

Boko Haram control has spread across the states of Borno, Kaduna, Yobe, Bauchi and Kano. According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, as of October 2018 there are 1.9 million internally displaced people in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa alone. 7.7 million people are reported as being in need of assistance. Following coordinated attacks in December a splinter group of Boko Haram has taken control of the whole of the Kukawa Local Government Area. As a result, there have been enormous population flows out of these areas and into both formal and informal sites inside Maiduguri Metropolitan Centre. During the month of March, with the help of our local partner ACTED, ShelterBox has been distributing ShelterKits and non-food items to support 499 households. We are now waiting on post distribution monitoring.



SOMALILAND - Drought

Assessments

Somaliland has a population of 4.5 million and the capital Hargeisa has a population of around 650,000. The republic unilaterally declared independence from Somalia in 1991. Up to this day, the central government in Mogadishu, along with the rest of the world, refuses to recognise Somaliland's independence. Half of rural communities in Somaliland are nomadic pastoralists who rely on livestock for their income and survival. Due to prolonged drought, killing up to 80% of livestock, followed by heavy rains and flooding 2.6 million people have been internally displaced. ShelterBox has supported a total of 3,400 families since 2017 and we are now in the process of putting a project together with ActionAid to support a further 1,000 families.



ETHIOPIA – Conflict

Planning

Ethiopia is home to the second largest refugee population in Africa, with over 900,000 people, mainly from South Sudan and Somalia. There are also currently 2.9 million IDPs (Internally displaced people) in the country, of whom 2.35 were newly displaced in 2018. Across Ethiopia, the security situation remains volatile, with armed conflict and political protests displacing people. A ShelterBox Response Team travelled to Ethiopia to perform in-country assessments, with the focus of evaluating the potential for a further project. ShelterBox is working with IOM (International Organization for Migration) on a Memorandum of Understanding to agree future distributions.