



Humanitarian Preparedness and Response

in Nigeria



Protracted conflicts and displacement, a poor security situation, and high levels of food insecurity, exacerbated by the effects of climate change, epidemic outbreaks, and limited availability of social services in Nigeria, have resulted in a humanitarian crisis that affects over eight million people, 53% of them women. Over two million people (55% women) are displaced, and 1.5 million returnees (54% women) lack basic income opportunities and essential services. Given the existing and strongly gendered service disparities and barriers to empowerment in the north, girls and women represent a particularly vulnerable group in the Nigerian humanitarian context.

OUR HUMANITARIAN WORK

Officially registered in April 2017, with a primary mandate to respond to the humanitarian crisis in the conflict-affected north-eastern states of Nigeria, CARE Nigeria remains at the forefront of efforts to improve the timeliness, quality, and effectiveness of emergency response. Our humanitarian preparedness and response focuses on providing principled and coordinated humanitarian preparedness and response services to the most vulnerable populations affected by complex and natural humanitarian emergencies and disasters. This includes both immediate and lifesaving measures—especially for women and girls—but also building resilience to subsequent shocks.

Reach Since Inception

2,802,536

people (1,768,887 females)

Target Population

- Refugees
- Internally-displaced persons (IDPs)
- Host communities
- Disaster-affected communities

Approaches

- Rapid vulnerability assessments and community assessments contributing to community surveillance
- Provision of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention and response services (legal assistance, psychosocial and health support, etc.)
- SGBV mitigation (safeguarding)
- Provision of the Minimum initial Service Package (SRHR)
- Gender main-streaming and integration in humanitarian interventions
- Food and cash/voucher assistance
- Provision of emergency nutrition services,
- Women's leadership Emergencies in Emergencies (WLiE)
- Education in. Emergencies (EiE)
- Participation in the humanitarian cluster system
- Advocacy with disaster management and ministries

Donors

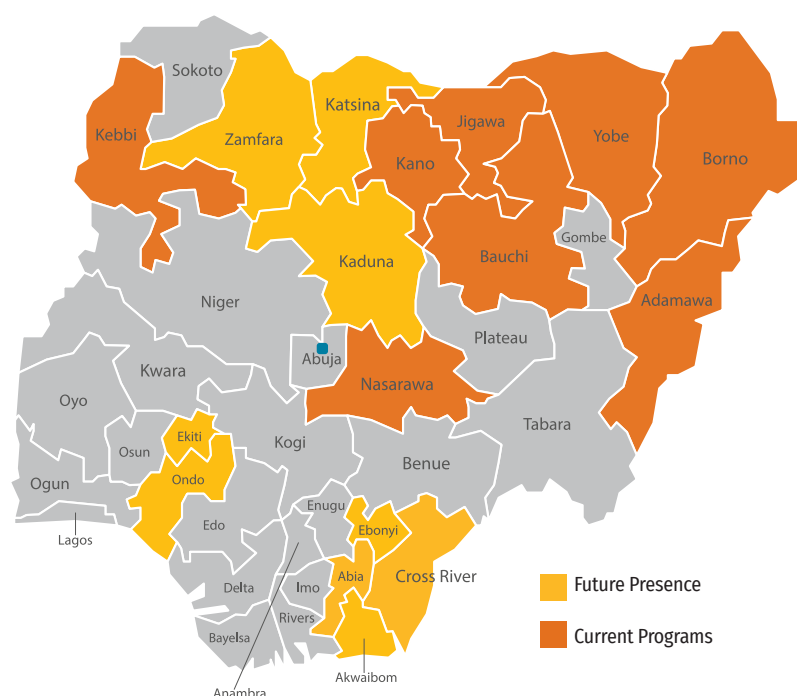
World Food Programme
 Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs -France
 Pfizer Foundation
 UN Office for the Coordinator of Humanitarian Affairs
 Nigerian Humanitarian Fund (NHF)
 Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
 UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
 European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO)
 CARE Emergency response funds
 General Electric
 Private Foundations
 United Nations Population Fund
 United Parcel Service (UPS)
 Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
 Central Emergency Response Fund

CARE's Rapid Gender Analysis examines existing gender inequalities, pre-existing vulnerabilities, and sectoral response gaps in order to focus on the gendered impact of conflict and recommended response. CARE Nigeria also promotes the localization agenda by partnering with local civil society organizations to respond to the ongoing crisis from a local lens, while building local capacities and cultivating long-term resilience to environmental shocks. In our humanitarian work, we are committed to meeting international standards of quality and accountability by making sure communities have a say in planning, implementing, and evaluating our responses through a robust feedback and accountability mechanism and social impact inquiries.

Our Humanitarian and Preparedness work is linked to SDG 1, 2, 3, and 6. CARE mainstreams conflict sensitivity, advocacy, climate change, and gender in its humanitarian and DRR work.

COUNTRY PRESENCE

CARE is currently present in eight states: Borno, Yobe, Kebbi, Nasarawa, Jigawa, Bauchi, Adamawa and Kogi. We plan to expand our presence from our current locations to the following, starting in 2025: Kano area (Katsina, Zamfara, Kaduna), Lagos area (Ondo, Ekiti), Akwa Ibom, Cross River, and Ebonyi.



HUMANITARIAN PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE STRATEGY

CARE Nigeria works with national and international development partners and government agencies to deliver its humanitarian preparedness and response programming to vulnerable people affected by crisis and climate-related disasters in the most hard-to-reach areas. CARE's interventions with government and partners are also focused on policy advocacy, strengthening systems and institutional capacity, to meet the needs of people affected by disasters.



Participation of affected populations is important to ensure that the response meets their needs and to build their capacity to cope in the event of future emergencies. Feedback and accountability mechanisms (FAM) are also key in our humanitarian response work. This is done through FAM and reviews that involve those affected by disasters, to ensure appropriate course correction. Feedback on our work ensures course corrections and adaptations to enhance impact.

OUR APPROACH

Nexus Programming: CARE Nigeria links humanitarian work to longer-term Disaster Risk Reduction and resilience-building work. This creates linkages between our response and anticipatory action and with long-term development. Vulnerability and risk analyses are incorporated into our programming, and our humanitarian preparedness and response activities are developed to be conflict-sensitive and do no harm.

Local Partnerships: We ensure that our responses are led by local civil society (women-led organizations) and advocate for increased local partnerships. CARE Nigeria has increased its work with both local governments and civil society partners to significantly improve delivery of life saving assistance and protection. In the absence of adequate partner technical capacity, CARE Nigeria has implemented accompaniment and/or direct implementation to meet the needs of vulnerable communities.

Focus on Women and Girls in Emergencies: The humanitarian program has strengthened the capacity of its staff and partners in gender and protection interventions so they can effectively assess the impacts of emergencies on women and girls while ensuring the protection of their rights during the response. The program addresses gender inequalities in humanitarian responses. CARE Nigeria supports partners to create awareness of what women and girls need during emergencies for protection in disaster-prone areas of the northeast. We and our partners prioritize the mitigation of safeguarding risks, data protection, conflict sensitivity, and humanitarian principles, and risks of violence, including GBV, linked to programming.

2024–2030 Strategic Plan



Humanitarian Preparedness & Response

Women Lead in
Emergencies

SGBV response and
mitigation services in
Emergencies

Minimum Initial Service
Package (MISP) in
Emergencies (SRHR)

Food assistance and
nutrition services

WASH in Emergencies

Education in
Emergencies

Climate vulnerability
assessments

Disaster surveillance
and community
preparedness planning

Impact Target:
3.2 million people

Leveraging our Regional and Global Expertise: CARE Nigeria will leverage its regional and global pool of expertise to scale-up its response to complex emergencies, thus meeting the needs of those most vulnerable. CARE's regional and global teams can be called on to support our work while we bring in required local and international expertise as permanent teams to respond to crises.

LOOKING AHEAD

By 2030, CARE Nigeria will provide humanitarian response to 3.2 million vulnerable individuals affected by complex and natural humanitarian emergencies and disasters.



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