

# NRC's operations in Nigeria

## Humanitarian overview

In 2025, Nigeria's humanitarian context continued to be shaped by protracted crisis, recurrent intercommunal violence, worsening socio-economic conditions and intensifying climate-related shocks. In the north-eastern BAY region (Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states) insecurity continues to drive displacement, restrict access to essential services, and undermine the safety and dignity of internally displaced people, returnees and vulnerable host communities. 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.



### 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 Nigeria

Established	2015
International staff	20
National staff	265

## Our areas of operation

### Abuja country office

#### Borno State:

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

#### Adamawa State:

- Yola
- Lamurde
- Numan

- Mubi
- Michika
- Madagali
- Fufore
- Girei

#### Yobe:

- Damaturu

#### 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 2025 NRC reached 347,694 people with assistance through different core competencies, including thematic areas like Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). As part of our partnership efforts, we reached 637,525 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.



**32,540 people reached in 2025** ▼

### 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. NRC provides specialised services to children through 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 support income generating activities and self-reliance



112,496 people reached in 2025 ▼

## 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 for the removal of legal and administrative barriers to the enjoyment of rights related to legal identity, HLP, employment, and entrepreneurship opportunities
- contribute to the development and advancement of laws and policies through sustained advocacy, stakeholder engagement, and community sensitisation aimed at strengthening rights and improving access to justice for affected populations



20,299 people reached in 2025 ▼

## 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



**125,107 people reached in 2025** ▼

## Protection from violence

NRC's Protection from Violence programme supports displacement-affected populations to exercise their right to freedom from violence, coercion, exploitation, abuse, and deliberate deprivation. We are involved in:

- building the capacity of community structures, partners, and authorities on protection principles, referral pathways, and risk mitigation
- coordinating and engaging with government, humanitarian actors, and communities to strengthen protection systems and advocate for the rights of displacement-affected populations
- providing specialised protection services such as individual protection assistance and case management, including safety planning, protective accompaniment, and referrals for individuals at risk of violence and protection violations
- protection monitoring and analysis to identify protection risks, inform humanitarian responses, and support evidence-based advocacy and decision-making
- establishing and strengthening community-based protection structures, awareness raising, and community engagement to enhance local protection mechanisms



**20,992 people reached in 2025** ▼

## Shelter and settlements

NRC supports displaced populations and vulnerable host communities with safe, dignified, and sustainable shelter solutions. Interventions combined emergency assistance with longer-term housing support to improve

living conditions, enhance protection, and strengthen resilience. We:

- constructed and handed over durable mud shelters for vulnerable displaced households
- repaired and rehabilitated damaged housing units to improve safety and habitability
- upgraded existing shelters to enhance privacy, protection, and resilience against weather-related risks
- provided essential household items, including bedding, cooking utensils, personal hygiene items, and other core relief items, towards reducing dependencies and negative coping mechanisms
- delivered targeted assistance to households affected by emergencies such as flash flooding and new displacement
- provided cash-for-rent assistance to vulnerable households, enabling access to safe and adequate housing
- supported households with flexible cash assistance to address priority shelter needs and reduce negative coping mechanisms
- improved communal infrastructure and services (drainage canals cleaning) within displacement-affected communities
- trained local artisans and community members on improved construction techniques and shelter maintenance
- strengthened community capacity to support shelter construction, repairs, long-term upkeep and environmental protections



**188,277 people reached in 2025** ▼

## 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 co-led the WASH sector until the second half of 2025, 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.

### **Partnerships**

NRC in Nigeria launched Naija Ignite, its partnership support facility, in 2025. 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 six local partners in 2025 into the second 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 637,525 individuals with humanitarian assistance.

We expect to expand our partnership efforts in 2026 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:

- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)
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- The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- EU/Directorate-General for International Partnership (INTPA)
- Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF)
- Education Cannot Wait (ECW)
- Equinor
- AKO Foundation
- IPSOS

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