RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT TO GAJIRAM TOWN

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Assessment Team:
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Basic details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s) of field assessment</th>
<th>28 December 2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>Nganzai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location type</td>
<td>Town, LGA capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location name</td>
<td>Gajiram Town</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-location name</td>
<td>Government Lodge</td>
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Methodology

The assessment utilised key informant interviews (KII), focus group discussions (FGDs) and structured direct observation (DO) as the methodology. The tools used were adapted to suit the context and designed to triangulate information collected. The assessment design and methodology attempted to capture maximum extent of information from multiple sources, while considering views and needs of various groups in the population in shortest possible timeframe.

Team: The assessment team was composed of members that were previously trained on the use of the tools and are practitioners in the emergency response field. The members received pre-departure brief and a de-brief upon return. The team comprised of both male and female members that were conversant with the area and spoke the local languages.

The team held separate FGDs for men, women, adolescent boys, and adolescent girls. Further key informant interviews were held with two community leaders (one male and one female) to strengthen the quality of the information.

Due to the short timeframe for data collection errors and omissions are possible. Please share any comments and observations through abubakar.tayib@nrc.no.
Context, general security situation, population movements

Gajiram is a town along Maiduguri-Monguno Road, Borno State. Since the beginning of insurgency in 2014, most of the community fled the surrounding villages and sought safety at the town centre. However, the town also sustained significant damage thereby affecting the livelihood of the community. The town also recorded an influx of people from surrounding villages due to threat from Boko Haram and military operations. The displaced persons settled in spontaneous camps and camp-like settlements, while a smaller caseload sought refuge in the host community. The current security situation inside Gajiram town remains relatively stable with and no major tensions between various communities.

Estimated population and affected population in the area

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Estimated current population of site</th>
<th>Total HH</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gajiram.</td>
<td>IDPs</td>
<td>250 (estimated)</td>
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</table>

A more accurate figure for displaced families will be available upon completion of registration. Through discussions with key informants and FGDs, there as an influx of between 150-200 families in the current wave of IDPs from the close to 4 communities that were recently affected by the conflict.

Key problems and priorities identified by the affected population

Priorities stated during all interviews:
1. Food
2. NFIs – tarpaulins, cooking utensils, sleeping mats, blankets, hygiene items and clothing
3. Shelter
4. WaSH

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Water availability was cited as main priority across all interviews. There is one water point (borehole), which is serving the previously-displaced caseload and the current influx. There are not enough accessible water points to satisfy the demand, and this was cited in all FGDs and KIs in the IDP camp. The assessment also observed open defecation in several locations in the camp due to non-availability of latrines. The IDPs had managed to dig some pits where they were dumping both solid and human waste. There are no visible bathing facilities and very limited availability of soap hygiene items for female IDPs.
SHELTER AND ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)

All of the newly-arrived IDPs are living in makeshift shelters within the camp-like settlement. The shelters are made from sorghum stalks. The sorghum stalks are currently available because it is the harvest season.

however, the IPDs cited the need to have plastic sheets or tarpaulins to cover the superstructures in the event of sudden rainfall. In addition, due to the haste in leaving the villages, many of the IDPs in the camp have little clothing with most having limited clothes, cooking utensils, sleeping mats, water containers, light sources and hygiene items.

FOOD AND LIVELIHOOD

IDPs cited access to food as main priority across all interviews. Respondents reported that they are consuming two meals per day, which is mainly comprised of millet and sorghum. Firewood is the only source of energy and is being collected after a long walking distance amidst security fears. The assessment also noted that some of the IDPs had managed to bring their harvested crop to the camp. The IDPs also informed the assessment that they lack resources to restart agricultural activities such as seeds, tools, other inputs or livestock. An estimated 90% of the IDPs are farmers.
MARKETS AND MARKET SUPPLY CHAINS
The local market in Gajiram is functioning relatively well and can meet the needs of the populace albeit to a limited degree. This is made possible because the Maiduguri-Monguno Road is still open and accessible to civilian transport. The sale of firewood is one of few livelihood activities widely practiced by the IDPs. Traders have easy access to Gajiram market from Maiduguri Metropolitan Council without military escort.

EXTERNAL CAPACITY - LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS OPERATING IN THE AREA
Implementing organisation and type of programme
Number of organisations are delivering assistance in Gajiram, however coordination needs to be improved. ACF are conducting general food distribution and NFI’s, while NRC had in the past responded by construction latrines, bathing shelters, emergency shelters and distribution of core relief kits to new arrivals.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – LOGISTICS, COMMS AND ACCESS
The Maiduguri-Monguno Road remains accessible without military escort. However, the road is manned by several military checkpoints along the way. Gajiram is covered by AIRTEL mobile network service.