

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA SETTLEMENT PROFILING Gwoza town, Gwoza LGA, Borno State, Nigeria

## June 2018

## Introduction

Since the conflict between Nigerian security forces and armed opposition groups (AOGs) escalated in 2013, more than two million individuals have been displaced. Most of them were displaced in Borno State, particularly to urban centres across all accessible Local Government Areas (LGA).1 The humanitarian response is challenged by many information gaps, including the security environment, access to services and areas of vulnerability. This settlement profiling assessment, conducted by REACH and facilitated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) in accessible LGA towns in Borno State, aims to support multi-sectoral coordination and response at the LGA level through information management support. This factsheet aims to present baseline data on displacement, freedom of movement, perceptions of safety, operational presence and challenges, and infrastructure of basic services in the surveyed towns. Context analysis, the first component of the assessment, was conducted through the review of secondary data and semistructured interviews with four humanitarian partner organisations working in Gwoza town. For the second component of this assessment, infrastructure mapping, data collection teams identified and recorded the GPS locations, along with other relevant information (e.g. functionality), for water access points, latrine blocks, schools, markets, and health facilities. Primary data was collected on 20 June 2018, and information presented in the context analysis should be considered indicative only.

## Population

Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):

## Freedom of Movement & Perceptions of Safety

Freedom of movement within the settlement:

Local authorities instituted a curfew from 9pm to 6am, with vehicles advised to stop movement from 7pm. Partner organisations reported that civilian movement was freely authorised outside of curfew hours.

#### Freedom of movement into and out of the settlement:

Partner organisations interviewed reported that civilian movement without escort into and out of the town outside curfew hours was challenged by a tight no-go zone area of two kilometres around the town. Movement following a military convoy was allowed through daily convoys.

<sup>1</sup>Local Government Areas constitute the 2<sup>nd</sup> administrative level in Nigeria. As of April 2018, only urban centres were accessible in most LGAs, and two LGAs remained inaccessible (OCHA, April 2018).
<sup>2</sup> IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM, April 2018), Round XXIII dataset of baseline assessment.

#### Perceptions of safety:

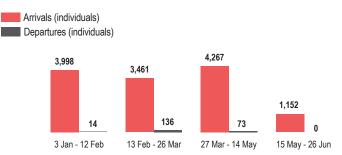
Although there were no reported security incidents close to the time of data collection, humanitarian partners mentioned a few incidents having occurred in the two months prior to data collection. Namely, a secondary security database indicated a civilian attempting to access land and fetch firewood outside of the town limits was reportedly abducted by armed opposition groups (AOG).

There were several reported incidents involving person-borne improvised explosive device (PBIED) carriers entering Gwoza town in the month prior to data collection resulting in one death and one arrest. Finally, within the town partners reported AOG threats to infiltrate IDP camps and mentioned some instances of civilian police bullying IDPs.

## **Displacement**

12,878 IDPs arrived in Gwoza town from 3 January to 23 April 2018, while 223 departed from the location.<sup>3</sup> Similar to the first monitoring round in April, humanitarian partners reported difficulty to cope with the high and steady influx of IDP populations. They mentioned that most arrivals stemmed from neighbouring areas, and were mostly due to AOG activity, difficult weather conditions, and lack of access to healthcare and food in areas of origin.

#### IDP arrivals vs. departures in Gwoza town in 2018<sup>3</sup>



## **Operational challenges**

Most of the operational challenges in Gwoza town can be linked to the influx of displaced populations since the beginning of 2018. Although security forces have pledged greater access in coming months to farming areas close to the town, partners reported the need to provide more livelihoods opportunities to affected populations within the town. One partner also highlighted the need for coordination in response to an expected programmatic scale-down from other organisations. <sup>3</sup> IOM DTM Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) - Reports No. 48 to No. 72.

Who does What, Where/\* - Gzowa: 18 partners (-1 compared to previous monitoring period)



62,394<sup>2</sup>

'OCHA (August 2018) Borno State, Ongoing Humanitarian Activities Overview (as of June 2018)

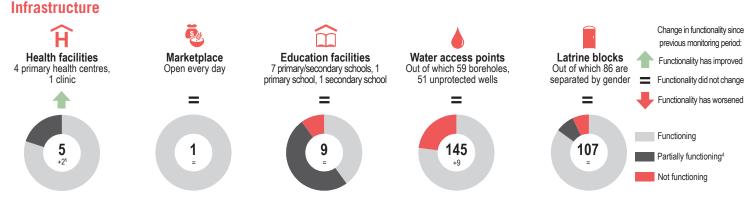




For more information on this factsheet, please contact reach.nigeria@reach-initiative.org



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA SETTLEMENT PROFILING: GWOZA TOWN



<sup>4</sup> "Partially functioning" latrines can include issues such as not clean, too crowded, insufficient water, blocked pipes, lack of privacy or a feeling of insecurity; "Partially functioning" educational facilities can include issues such as a damaged structure, insufficient number of teachers and/or school materials, or some people residing inside the building; "Partially functioning" health facilities can include issues such as insufficient staff and/or equipment and medicines.
<sup>5</sup> Sign "equal" or positive or negative number inside the pie chart refers to changes in the number of structures for each type of infrastructure.

#### **Gwoza Settlement Infrastructure**

