The crisis in north-east Nigeria, has largely been triggered by an ongoing regionalized armed conflict, characterized by massive and widespread abuse against civilians including killings, rape and other sexual violence, abduction, child recruitment, burning of homes, pillaging, forced displacement, arbitrary detention, and the use of explosive hazards, including in deliberate attacks on civilian targets.

The armed conflict broke out in July 2009 following a violent incident between police and members of Boko Haram, the jihadist group founded in 2002 by Mohammad Yousouf, during which several of them were executed, including the founder himself, Yousouf. As early as 2010, the frequency, development and violence of Boko Haram’s attacks multiplied under the leadership of Yousouf’s right-hand man, Abubakar Shekau.

In early 2015, Boko Haram pledged allegiance to the Islamic state. Now divided among several factions, Boko Haram remains active in northeastern Nigeria and in the Lake Chad area at the border with Cameroon, Niger and Chad. The Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) against Boko Haram, created in 2015 and made up of troops from Chad, Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger and Benin, succeeded in taking over some of the strongholds of Boko Haram, without however, putting an end to the many suicide attacks directed at the civilian population, the police and the governmental institutions.

General elections were held in Nigeria on 23 February 2019 to elect the President, Vice President, House of Representatives and the Senate. Incumbent president Muhammadu Buhari won his re-election bid, defeating his closest rival Atiku Abubakar.

The increase in security incidents over the past few months due to elections, has led to new internal displacements. Between December 2018 and January 2019, the number of IDPs in four of the Maiduguri camps (Gabio Road, Teacher’s Village, Bakasi and Mogcolis) grew by nearly 30% as a result of the renewed hostilities in other parts of Borno. Therefore, the current security situation in the North-East continues to be volatile and unpredictable.
HEALTH SITUATION

The humanitarian situation in north-east Nigeria is alarming. 5.3 million people are in need of essential health services and 66% of health facilities have been damaged or destroyed. In many newly liberated areas, the capacities of health centers are outdated due to the flow of internally displaced populations.

Affected people remain at significant risk of epidemic-prone diseases, like cholera, measles and viral hemorrhagic fevers due to low access to essential healthcare, seasonal patterns, lack of access to potable water and sanitation infrastructure, and vulnerabilities as a result of continuous displacement. Women and children are left increasingly susceptible to disease outbreaks, especially cholera. Between July and December 2018, over 6,300 cholera cases have been reported across Borno State. The State officially declared the end of cholera outbreak on 15 January 2019 following zero new cases for more than two consecutive weeks.

Gender-Based Violence is widespread in the region. Urgent medical care is often required as GBV seriously affects all aspects of women’s health, especially for an estimated 700,000 women and adolescent girls of reproductive health age who might be at risk of sexual violence and exploitation.

MDM ACTION

Since the end of 2016, Médecins du Monde (MdM) intervenes in Borno State, one of the three most affected states in north-eastern Nigeria.

The aim of MdM’s intervention is to reduce morbidity and mortality of population affected by the crisis through an integrated health program including:

- **Primary Health Care services** by supplying essential medicines, routine immunization, giving access to SRH services and by rehabilitating identified medical sites.
- **Nutrition Treatment** through community-based management of acute malnutrition and on the basis of recommendations received by the Ministry of Health.
- **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support** for displaced and local populations with Psychosocial distress and difficulties within the areas of intervention.
- **Treatment of GBV survivors** among displaced and host populations by providing a Clinical Management of Rape and by implementing a safe referral system in coordination with pre-identified partners for a holistic response.

Activities are set up in 6 clinics in Maiduguri and Damboa LGA.

Following ISWAP attacks that devastated several areas of Borno State in the beginning of January 2019, an estimated 42,000 people fled from home and ended up in Maiduguri IDP camps. In this context, and after an assessment, MDM Emergency Response Team decided to implement health services in Teachers’ Village Camp by providing a minimum package of activities including Primary Health Care, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Gender Based Violence and Mental Health services. So far over 3,000 people attended MdM health facilities, despite security issues due to election period which made difficult providing services daily.

**FIRST QUARTER OF 2019 - MAIN ACTIVITIES**

- **21,200 CURATIVE consultations** (including 2,700 ante-natal consultations)
- **19,300** Community members attended Health Education sessions
- **8,800** MHPSS consultations (individual and group sessions)
- **28** people benefitted from GBV services

**DONORS**

MdM’s intervention in Nigeria is funded by **Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)** and the **German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)**.

- **129 STAFF MEMBERS**
- **4,500,000 € 2019 BUDGET**