Between October and November 2023, 16 recorded fire incidents raced through 14 IDP sites, leaving 2,990 households (14,832 individuals) without basic humanitarian needs in Borno State. Four casualties and eight individuals with minor injuries were reported during these incidents. The incidents recorded during this period increased by 84 percent compared to the same period last year. The fire incident destroyed 2,990 shelters (emergency shelters or self-made/make-shift), with most of the affected population losing their belongings, including registration, food ration cards, biometric identification cards, and food and non-food item. The fire outbreaks exacerbated the humanitarian needs, with 14,832 individuals, mainly women and children, being exposed to undignified living conditions and sleeping in open or crowded spaces, exposing them to protection and health risks.

IMMEDIATE HIGHLIGHTED NEEDS

Camp coordination and Management: An immediate need for camp coordination and management services such as site facilitation and coordination services, information management sharing and dissemination, and site environment and infrastructure maintenance and improvement work in the temporary settlements following the fire outbreak incidents.

Protection: The fire-affected population living out in the open or in overcrowded shared spaces requires protection services. 4 families lost their loved ones and eight individuals with minor injuries, need for specialized protection services across the affected sites. Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence remain key concerns.

Shelter: 2,989 shelter need for households affected by fire.

Food: Most of the IDPs lost their food, thus a need for supply for 248 HHs.

Health: There is a need for primary health care services for IDPs injured during the fire incidents in the affected locations.

Number of fire Indicents

- Out of 2,990 households affected by fire only one HH have received shelter response, current shelter gap for 2,989 HHs.
- Out of 2,610 households that lost NFIs, no any HHs have received NFI response, current NFI response gap is 2,610.
- The CCCM, Shelter, and NFI, albeit with a low response attributed to funding among partners, continue to advocate for responses.
- Sector organised assessments to the affected site in collaboration with partners.
- The State government through SEMA has extended support to 1,200 individuals, providing them with 15-kg bags of maize flour, mattresses, buckets, blankets, cooking oil, and essential condiments. In addition, IOM has committed to provide MPCA and loose ESK kits to the affected HHs as preparation to close the camp and relocate affected population will commence soon.

Reported Fire Triggers

- IDPs cooking close or inside shelters without proper fire mitigation measures;
- Flammable shelter materials;
- Burning garbage near camp or shelter.

Non-Food Items (NFI): Over 80 percent of the IDPs lost all their NFIs to the fire, thus exposing them to difficult living conditions in overcrowded spaces. Out of the 2,610 HHs affected by fire, 2,610 HHs urgently need NFIs such as mattresses, blankets, and hygiene kits. The lack of access to hygiene materials (soap, handwashing facilities) poses a health risk to the displaced fire-affected populations.