Custom House, IDP site Maiduguri. Photo: Alicia Gimeno-Blanco

Hazard Risk Management Plans for CMMM / Shelter and NFI Programs in North-East Nigeria

September 2025

GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements

UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

NIGERIA SHELTER SECTOR
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements

DMS/CCCM SECTOR Nigeria

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The suggestion from partners to establish a Risk Working Group reflects a strong shared commitment to sustaining DRR coordination in the BAY states.

"There is nothing natural about a disaster. Shocks and hazards do not inevitably lead to catastrophe. Yet every year, 67,000 people are killed, 26 million are driven into poverty, and nearly 200 million people are affected by natural hazards worldwide"- IFRC ■

Yawuri, IDP informal site. Maiduguri. Photo: Alicia Gimeno-Blanco

Abbreviations and Acronyms

BAY Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe

CCCM Camp Coordination and Camp Management

DRC Danish Refugee Council

DRR Disaster Risk Reduction

DRM Disaster Risk Management

ECOP Environment Community of Practice

EWS Early Warning Systems

GSC Global Shelter Cluster

IDP Internally Displaced Person

IEC Information, Education, and Communication

INGO International Non-Governmental Organisation

IOM International Organisation for Migration

GSC Global Shelter Cluster

NEMA National Emergency Management Agency

NFI Non-Food Item

NIHSA Nigerian Hydrological Services Agency

NiMet Nigeria Meteorological Agency

SEMA State Emergency Management Agencies

SMA Site Management Agency

UNDRR United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

WASH Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

BAY states Borno, Adamawa, Yobe

Contents

1. Executive Summary

The *North-East Nigeria Hazard Risk Management Plans* are a practical and strategic approach to strengthening DRR within CCCM, Shelter, and NFI programming in one of the most hazard-prone and displacement-affected regions of Nigeria. Developed through a collaborative process led by UNDRR and the Global Shelter Cluster, in partnership with the NE Nigeria CCCM/Shelter/NFI Sector and local stakeholders, the plans aim to support safer, more resilient, and risk-informed humanitarian responses across Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States.

With over 2.25 million IDPs across 259 sites, many of them informal and lacking site management, North-East Nigeria faces mounting exposure to floods, fires, extreme heat, and high winds, often worsened by overcrowded conditions, flammable shelter materials, and poor infrastructure.

This document provides the risk management plans for each of the four priority hazards, structured around the four phases of Disaster Risk Management cycle: Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Development incorporating Risk Reduction. These plans include actions tailored to the local context, enabling humanitarian actors, government agencies, and communities to reduce risk, respond effectively, and support longer-term recovery.

These preliminary hazard-specific risk management plans were co-developed during a three-day DRR Workshop in Maiduguri in June 2025, which brought together national and international stakeholders. Feedback was positive, with participants praising the practical tools, relevance, and collaborative spirit of the initiative.

Key elements of the Risk Management Plans include:

- Practical, site-level tools to guide programming across displacement settings;
- Alignment with national transition efforts as sector coordination shifts from agencies to government leadership;
- Integration of DRR into humanitarian operations to move from reactive responses to proactive risk management;

This work underscores that investing in DRR is not only life-saving but also highly cost-effective. Sector analysis estimates that hazard events in 2024–2025 resulted in over US$22 million in shelter and NFI losses in North-East Nigeria alone. Even in conflict-affected contexts, DRR can and must be mainstreamed. These plans offer a flexible and scalable model to support risk-informed programming both within the BAY states and in other high-risk displacement settings.

The plans were discussed and validated through a webinar in September 2025. They are intended to be living documents, designed to evolve as new information emerges and as agencies and communities test and refine approaches. Ownership is meant to rest primarily with local actors and institutions, who will use, adapt and update the plans to inform programming and ensure that they reflect realities on the ground ■

2. Overview

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR[1]), in collaboration with the Global Shelter Cluster[2] (GSC), has supported the Nigeria CCCM (Camp Coordination and Camp Management) / Shelter/ NFI (Non-Food Item) Sector[3], to integrate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and environmental sustainability into humanitarian operations in North-East Nigeria. The goal is to contribute to long-term resilience building through a shelter and settlements approach by enhancing the capacity of humanitarian actors to mainstream DRR.

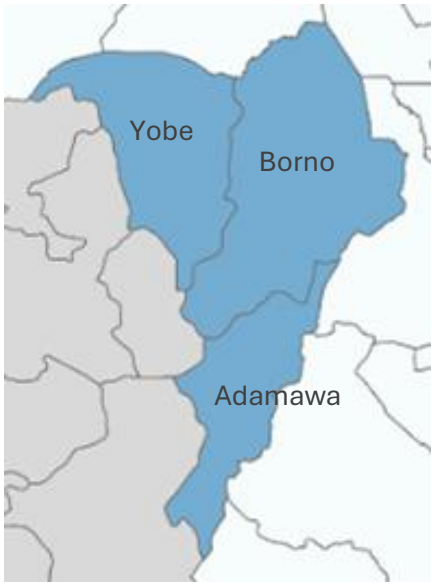
This strategy represents the outcome of several months of collaborative work to ensure that DRR remains a priority as coordination progressively shifts to nationally led systems.

1.1. Context

North-East Nigeria is deeply affected by conflict[4] and climate-related hazards, causing large-scale displacement and ongoing humanitarian needs. The region is increasingly vulnerable to floods, fires, droughts, windstorms, deforestation and erosion, with over 2.3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) spread across 1500 displacement sites, 75% of which are informal. Only 25% of these are formally recognised and coordinated[5].

Furthermore, 69% of these sites lack a Site Management Agency (SMA), limiting coordination and risk mitigation capacity[6]. Approximately 59% of IDPs live within host communities, while 41% are in sites.

Strengthening DRR within the management of displacement is crucial to reducing vulnerabilities and supporting recovery in a fragile humanitarian landscape.



Map 1: North-East Nigeria

1.2. Sector Coordination and Transition

Nigeria is among the eight countries identified by the Emergency Directors Group (EDG) in April 2025 for an accelerated transition of its humanitarian coordination and operational architecture. The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) serves as the lead government counterpart, with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) acting as co-leads. The current country coordination team is actively addressing national strategic priorities of the humanitarian response, while also

[1] UNDRR - Homepage | UNDRR

[2] Global Shelter Cluster | Shelter Cluster

[3] Nigeria: CCCM - Shelter and NFI | ReliefWeb Response

[4] North-East Nigeria faces the Boko Haram and ISWAP insurgency alongside farmer–herder conflicts over land and water. Banditry and intercommunal violence further destabilise the region and drive displacement.

[5] Nigeria — North-East Displacement Report Round 49 (March 2025) | Displacement Tracking Matrix

[6] Nigeria — North-East Displacement Report Round 49 (March 2025) | Displacement Tracking Matrix

working with the State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs) to strengthen operational coordination across Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) states.

These Hazard Risk Management Plans aim to maintain momentum around DRR during this transition. They serve as a practical resource for actors at all levels, government, NGOs, and UN agencies, to continue integrating risk-informed planning into programming, whether through direct implementation or technical support.

1.3. Objectives of the Risk Management Plans

The purpose of this document is to provide practical, site-level actions to reduce hazard risks across CCCM, Shelter, and NFI activities in the BAY States, Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. The plans aim to:

1. **Enhance Community Resilience;** Empower IDPs and host communities to identify risks and take proactive measures to reduce vulnerability and respond effectively to hazards.
2. **Strengthen Institutional Capacity;** Build the capacity of local authorities, humanitarian agencies, and community leaders in DRR and displacement management.
3. **Promote Sustainable, Risk-Informed Recovery;** Integrate DRR into displacement management strategies to support sustainable recovery and durable solutions.

1.4. Approach and Methodology

This document presents the Hazard Risk Management Plans for the four priority hazards identified by the sector, which are affecting the IDP sites and host communities: flooding, fire, strong winds, and extreme heat. The plans are the outcome of a participatory and evidence-based process carried out between May and September 2025, and have been validated through a sector-wide webinar. They are intended as a working tool to guide programming, refined through partner input and practical application. Importantly, these plans are living documents: they will continue to be used, adapted and updated over time as new information emerges, as contexts change, and as communities and agencies test different approaches in the field.

The content is the result of a process conducted over a few months, involving:

- **Desk Review;** Analysis of existing DRR policies, risk data, coordination frameworks, and operational tools relevant to Shelter, CCCM, and NFI programming in the BAY States.
- **Stakeholder Consultations;** Ongoing engagement with national and state government bodies, UN agencies, INGOs, local NGOs, and the Red Cross Movement to ensure the plans reflect diverse perspectives and are contextually appropriate.
- **Field Visits;** Observational visits to key displacement sites, including Custom House and Yawuri, provided insights into hazard exposure, site layout, infrastructure, and community coping strategies.
- **North-East Nigeria DRR Workshop and Plan Co-Development;** At the end of June 2025, a three-day DRR Workshop was held in Maiduguri, jointly organised by UNDRR, the GSC, and the CCCM/Shelter/NFI Sector. The workshop served as a launching point for the co-development of preliminary risk management plans for each priority hazard. Plans were developed collaboratively by participants through group work and reviewed in plenary for

alignment and feedback. These drafts form the basis of the proposed plans included in this document.

- **Validation Webinar:** The draft plans were presented, discussed, and validated in a webinar in September 2025 that gathered more than 60 participants from government, humanitarian, and community stakeholders. The event also prioritised actions through live surveys, tested collective understanding of DRR concepts through a quiz, and gathered further recommendations via an online whiteboard. Feedback from the webinar has been incorporated into the finalised plans contained in this document.

1.5. Outputs and Use

These plans are intended to support the mainstreaming of DRR and environmental sustainability into CCCM, Shelter, and NFI programming across North-East Nigeria. Rather than creating new policy documents, the goal is to ensure these recommendations are integrated into existing operational tools, such as contingency plans, SOPs, and partner workplans. This ensures DRR becomes part of routine planning and response, not an add-on or parallel activity.

1.6. Next Steps and Alignment

The recommendations will continue to evolve through ongoing consultation, field validation, and coordination with sector partners.

Ultimately, this strategy supports:

- Greater local ownership of DRR processes.
- More sustainable and cost-effective programming.
- A shift from reactive to preventive humanitarian action in the BAY States.

1.7. Shelter, NFI, and CCCM Situation Overview in North-East Nigeria

Understanding the shelter conditions and living arrangements of IDPs in North-East Nigeria is essential for effective DRR and improved environmental outcomes. The types of shelters, the layout of sites, and the ways people are hosted all significantly influence vulnerability to hazards such as flooding, fire, erosion and extreme heat.

Humanitarian needs remain immense across Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states. An estimated 3.38 million people require shelter and NFIs, while 2.3 million IDPs and returnees are spread across more than 1,500 displacement sites[7]. The displaced population is composed of IDPs, returnees and host community members, with the majority facing severe or extreme shelter needs.

Shelter Conditions in Northeast Nigeria[8]

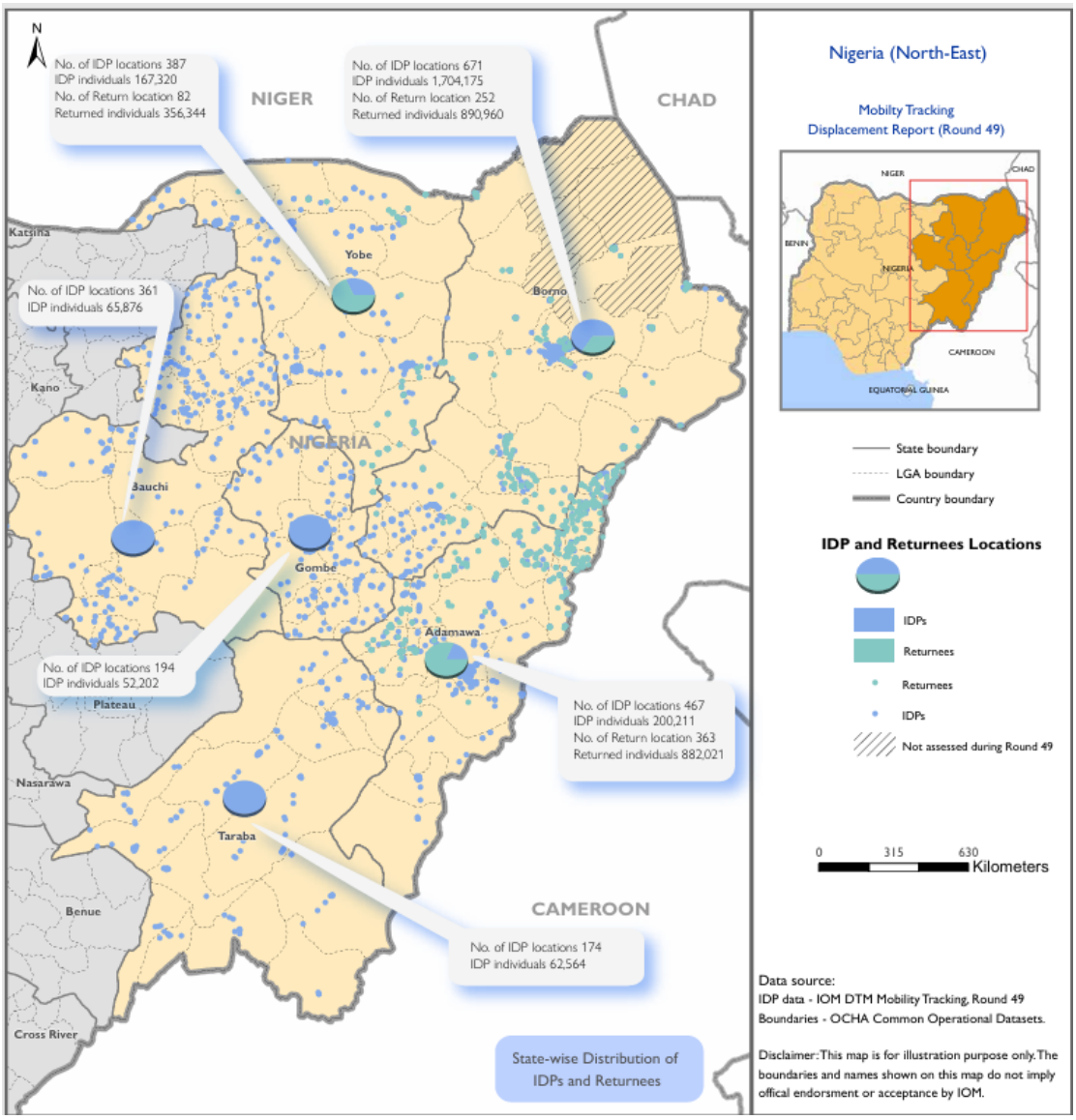
Shelter conditions remain highly precarious. In IDP sites and IDP sites-like settings, most families live in makeshift or temporary structures constructed from local and flammable materials, while only a very small proportion have access to more durable shelters built from brick or block. In

[7] Nigeria 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (January 2025) | OCHA

[8] Nigeria — Site Assessment — Round 49 (North-east) — IDPs and Returnee | Displacement Tracking Matrix

host communities, conditions are somewhat more stable but still fragile. Almost half of displaced households rent homes, while many others live in overcrowded arrangements with host families, in damaged or partitioned buildings, or in makeshift shelters. Durable shelter solutions are almost non-existent.

Map 2: North- East Nigeria Displacement Tracking Map by IOM



Key Challenges[9]

The challenges are severe. Overcrowding is common, with nearly half of IDP sites congested and often located in flood-prone areas. Poor site planning, combined with limited infrastructure such as drainage, firebreaks or safe cooking areas, exacerbates risks. The reliance on flammable shelter materials makes fire a constant threat. Environmental hazards further deepen vulnerabilities: floods caused by heavy rainfall and dam releases, recurrent droughts, erosion, desertification, wildfires, heatwaves and dust storms all have significant impacts on shelters, health and livelihoods.

[9] HNRP_2025_Nigeria final 23, January 2025 (2).pdf

Insecure land tenure compounds the problem. Nearly a quarter of IDP sites are on private land without formal agreements, creating the risk of eviction and preventing long-term planning. Protection risks are also acute, particularly for women, children, older persons and people with disabilities. Camp closures, especially in Borno State, risk pushing families into unplanned urban settlements, creating new layers of vulnerability. Insecurity continues to restrict access to services and hampers efforts to develop sustainable DRR or shelter solutions.

Gaps and Outlook

The gaps remain wide. In 2024, more than four-fifths of shelter and NFI needs were unmet. Thousands of households continue to live in makeshift shelters, overcrowded reception centres or in the open, while returnees often occupy damaged or self-built structures. Host communities, already under pressure, are struggling with growing competition for space and resources. Needs in 2025 are expected to remain high, driven by continued conflict, climate shocks, new displacements and the growing caseload of returnees and IDPs living in host communities[10].

Strategic Priorities

To reduce risk and improve living conditions, the Shelter/NFI and CCCM sectors must:

- Promote safe, dignified, and fire-resistant shelter solutions and fire-safe settlements.
- Improve site planning and invest in basic infrastructure.
- Strengthen tenure security and access to suitable land.
- Support community-based governance and participatory management.
- Integrate CCCM and Shelter/NFI responses to address both in-camp and out-of-camp needs in a coordinated, rights-based manner.
- Incorporate environmental sustainability into shelter design and site management.

Integrating DRR into shelter, settlement, and camp management in North-East Nigeria is essential, given the region's exposure to conflict, hazards, and recurring displacement. Overcrowded and informal displacement sites face high risks from floods, fires, and extreme weather.

Custom House, IDP site Maiduguri.
Photo: Alicia Gimeno-Blanco

Mainstreaming DRR shifts humanitarian action from short-term relief to longer-term resilience by promoting safer design, nature-based solutions and stronger governance. This approach helps save lives, protect assets and create more sustainable solutions. However, it comes at a time when humanitarian operations are being scaled down, making it vital to balance ambition

[10] Nigeria 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (January 2025) | OCHA

with the operational and resource constraints the sector faces.

3. Key Hazards in North-East Nigeria Impacting Shelter and Settlements

North-East Nigeria experiences recurring natural hazards, particularly floods, extreme heat and extreme winds, which are increasing in frequency and severity. These risks are compounded by climate change and environmental degradation. Man-made hazards, such as fires, often intensified by the seasonal Harmattan winds and "Haboobs" (strong frontal weather systems), also pose growing threats, especially in IDP sites where overcrowding and limited infrastructure heighten vulnerability. These challenges are further compounded by protracted conflict[11] and resource-based communal clashes, particularly between farmers and herders. Hazards and conflicts often intersect seasonally, creating high-risk windows for affected settlements.

The combination of natural hazards, such as floods and extreme heat, and man-made threats, such as fires and armed conflict, poses compound threats to shelter conditions, infrastructure, service delivery, and civilian protection.

Graphic 1: Seasonal Calendar of Events and Risks. North-East Nigeria (OCHA)

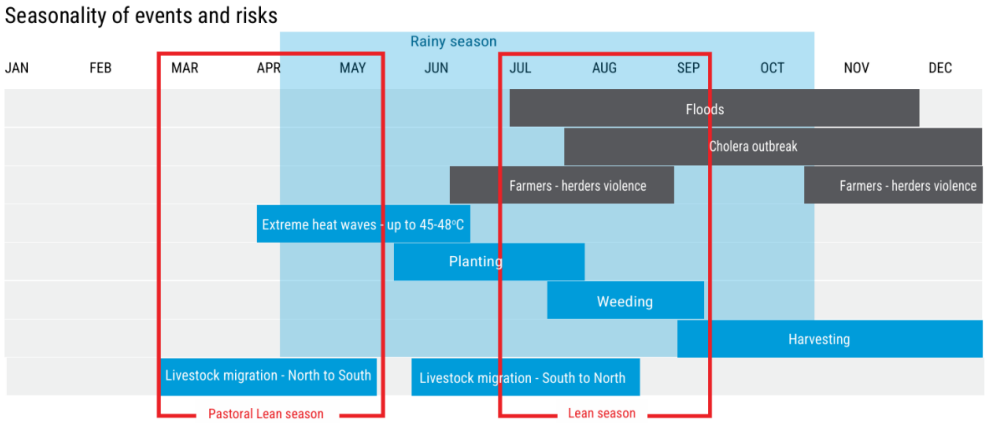
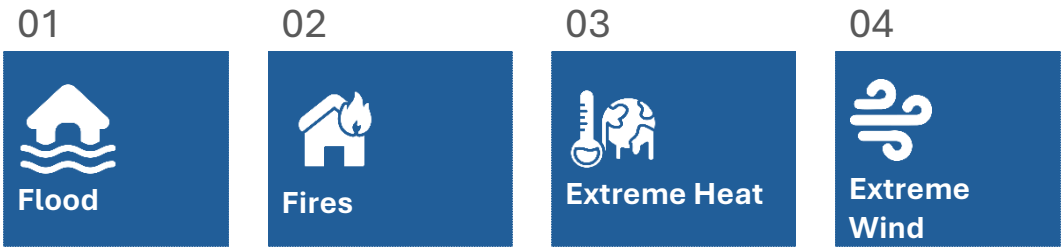


Figure 1: Key Hazards Identified as Priorities for the CCCM/Shelter/NFI Sector in North-East Nigeria



The boxes below contain a summary of each of the hazards.

[11] The protracted conflict in North-East Nigeria stems from the Boko Haram and ISWAP insurgency, which began in 2009. It has caused mass displacement, widespread insecurity, and severe disruption to livelihoods and services.

01 Floods

Peak risk period: July - November
Trigger: Rainy season, poor drainage, dam releases (e.g. Cameroon)
Preparedness: April - May

The BAY states; Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe, are highly vulnerable to seasonal flooding and periodic droughts, both of which are expected to intensify due to climate change.
Since 1998, flooding has severely affected an average of 520,000 people annually in the region, including between 20,000 and 100,000 IDPs each year.
In the coming year, an estimated 532,384 individuals are expected to be impacted by floods[12].

Seasonal Context

- Flooding aligns with the rainy season (June–October), peaking in August and September.
- Flash floods typically occur from July to September, while riverine floods extend into November.
- The flood season overlaps with the lean season, end of planting, and weeding period.
- Often coincides with a lull in farmer–herder clashes, offering temporary stability.

Aggravating Factors

- Poor soil conditions: Much of the region has low-permeability soils that absorb water slowly and are prone to erosion, causing water to pool and flow across the surface.
- Lack of vegetation: Deforestation and overgrazing reduce the natural absorption and retention capacity of land.
- Unplanned settlements: Many IDP sites and informal communities are built without proper drainage systems or consideration for site topography and flood risk.
- Congestion in sites: During new influxes, people build shelters in any available space, affecting both planned and unplanned sites and often disrupting layout, drainage, and access.
- Urban expansion: Growth in urban areas often outpaces infrastructure, leading to blocked drainage and increased surface runoff.
- Dam releases: Water releases from upstream dams (e.g., in Cameroon) increase downstream flood risk without sufficient local preparedness.

Impact on Shelter

- Makeshift shelters (e.g., tarpaulin, thatch, mud) are easily damaged or collapse when waterlogged.
- Flooding weakens shelter structures and encourages mould, which affects health and liveability.

Impact on Settlements

- Flooded latrines and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) infrastructure, leading to outbreaks (cholera, diarrhoea).
- Blocked access roads delay emergency response and disrupt market supply chains.
- Disruption of schools, health posts, and community gathering spaces.
- Damage to livelihood structures (e.g. markets, shops, farmland in peri-urban areas).

[12] Nigeria 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (January 2025) | OCHA

02 Fires

Peak risk period: March - May
Trigger: Dry conditions, open cooking, flammable shelter materials, electrical shorts
Preparedness: January-February

In North-East Nigeria, the rising number of fire outbreaks in IDP site settings continues to place additional strain on an already overstretched humanitarian response, further increasing the vulnerability of the affected population. Between January and June 2024, 97 fire incidents were reported across 32 IDP sites in Borno State, affecting 12,376 households. Most of the affected families lost their shelters and essential belongings, including registration documents, food ration cards, biometric ID cards, and vital food and non-food items[13].

Seasonal Context

- Fire outbreaks align with the dry season, when vegetation is highly combustible and humidity is low.
- This period overlaps with land preparation and early planting, when bush burning is common.
- It also marks the start of herder migration; a period often linked to heightened tensions between farmers and herders.

Aggravating Factors

- Flammable shelter materials: Many shelters are made of thatch, plastic sheeting, and tarpaulin, which ignite and spread fire rapidly.
- Shelter density: Closely built shelters in overcrowded sites allow fires to spread quickly and uncontrollably.
- Open flames and unsafe cooking: Use of open fires or unstable stoves in or near shelters increases fire risk.
- Lack of firebreaks and response tools: Most sites lack designated firebreaks, fire extinguishers, or trained community responders.
- Electrical hazards: Unregulated and improvised wiring for lighting or charging can cause electrical shorts and sparks.

Impact on Shelters

- Fires can rapidly destroy entire rows of shelters, particularly in tightly packed areas.
- NFIs, food stores, documents and household possessions are often completely lost.
- Reconstruction efforts are delayed by limited resources and space constraints.

Impact on Settlements

- Fires often wipe out entire sections of sites, necessitating emergency relocations.
- Absence of fire safety infrastructure allows fires to burn unchecked.
- Overcrowding and panic during fires lead to injuries and additional shelter damage.
- Protection and shelter actors face pressure to respond rapidly, often with limited resources.

[13] CCCM, Shelter/NFI Sector - Fire Incidents Report | January - June 2024 - Nigeria | ReliefWeb

03 Extreme Heat (45-48 degrees)

Peak risk period: April to June
Trigger: Prolonged dry season, poor ventilation, climate change
Preparedness starts: February/March

In North-East Nigeria, extreme heat events are becoming increasingly severe and frequent, largely due to climate change and prolonged dry seasons. Temperatures between 45°C and 48°C are regularly recorded in the lead-up to the rainy season, creating harsh and often life-threatening conditions, especially in overcrowded and poorly ventilated site settings.
This period overlaps with the fire season and directly precedes flood preparedness efforts, often leading to gaps in targeted heat-risk planning.

Seasonal Context

- Heatwaves typically occur immediately before the onset of the rainy season, peaking in April to June.
- Coincides with herder migration, which increases competition over water and grazing resources.
- This timing overlaps with the start of the planting season, affecting livelihoods and labour productivity.

Aggravating Factors – What Makes Extreme Heat Worse

- Inadequate shelter design: Tarpaulin and zinc structures trap heat, transforming shelters into “hot boxes” with no insulation or airflow.
- Poor ventilation: Closely packed shelters and lack of windows or shade worsen indoor temperatures.
- Limited access to cooling and water: Few IDP sites have shaded communal areas, and water scarcity limits coping capacity.
- Inadequate planning: Heatwaves are not consistently factored into DRR or humanitarian response plans.
- Health service strain: Health centres are often ill-equipped to handle heat-related illness, such as dehydration or heatstroke.

Impact on Shelters

- Tarpaulin, plastic, and zinc roofs intensify internal temperatures, leading to dangerous living conditions.
- Shelter materials degrade faster under prolonged exposure, reducing lifespan and protection.

Impact on Settlements

- High water consumption strains already fragile water supply systems, particularly in areas dependent on trucking or boreholes.
- Communal facilities such as learning centres and health posts become unusable during the hottest hours.
- Vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and those with chronic health conditions, face elevated risk of heatstroke and dehydration.
- Daytime economic activity declines as movement is limited to early morning and late evening.

04 Extreme Winds

Peak risk period: November - March
Trigger: Dry, dusty winds from the Sahara; low humidity; flammable shelter materials
Preparedness: September/October

Harmattan winds are a seasonal climatic phenomenon in North-East Nigeria, characterised by strong, dry, and dust-laden winds blowing from the Sahara Desert. These winds drastically reduce humidity levels, desiccate vegetation, and increase the flammability of shelters and natural surroundings. Their impact is especially severe in IDP sites, where overcrowding and poor shelter design amplify the risk of rapid fire outbreaks and structural damage.
This period overlaps with early fire season preparedness and exacerbates other environmental risks, including respiratory health issues and reduced visibility for humanitarian operations.

Seasonal Context

- Typically occurs between November and March, preceding the fire and heatwave seasons.
- Often coincides with the harvest and dry season movement of populations.
- Leads to widespread dryness and wind-driven dust, affecting both living conditions and service delivery.

Aggravating Factors

- Flammable conditions: The dryness increases the likelihood and spread of fires, especially in sites with thatched or plastic shelters.
- Shelter damage: Strong gusts can damage makeshift structures, especially those with loose tarpaulin or roofing.
- Respiratory health impacts: Dust particles aggravate asthma and respiratory conditions, particularly in children and the elderly.
- Low visibility: Dust haze reduces road visibility and complicates logistics and humanitarian access.

Impact on Shelter

- Increased wear and tear on plastic sheeting and roofing, reducing shelter durability.
- Structural instability due to wind pressure on weak shelter frames.
- Higher likelihood of fire ignition and rapid spread due to dry, dusty conditions.

Impact on Settlements

- Outdoor communal activities are disrupted due to dust and poor air quality.
- Logistics and response coordination may face delays due to visibility and road hazards.
- Compound risks when combined with fire outbreaks, especially in dense sites lacking firebreaks.

Table 1: Multi-Hazard Risk Matrix – Shelter and Settlement Impacts in North-East Nigeria

Risk	Season Peak	Shelter Impact	Settlement Impact
Flooding	July-November	Makeshift shelters collapse or become uninhabitable; water damage; mould growth.	Flooded latrines and boreholes; blocked access roads; disrupted services (schools, health posts, markets).
Fire	March-May	Rapid destruction of flammable shelters; loss of NFIs and essential documents.	Entire shelter blocks wiped out; absence of firebreaks; panic; injuries; lack of fire response infrastructure.
Extreme Heat	April-June	Tarpaulin/zinc shelters trap heat ("hot boxes"); material degradation.	Increased water demand; reduced use of overheated communal spaces; health risks (heatstroke, dehydration).
Extreme Winds	Nov - March	Shelter damage from wind gusts; faster wear of plastic and tarpaulin; higher fire risk.	Respiratory health issues; reduced visibility for logistics; increased flammability and fire spread.
Farmer-Herder Conflict	April-Jun, Oct-Dec	Shelter destruction, forced re-displacement.	Protection risks; closure of services; disrupted coexistence; restricted mobility.
Lean Season	Jul - Sep	Overcrowding; increased use of makeshift shelters due to food insecurity.	Food stress; malnutrition; pressure on host communities and public infrastructure.

4. Conceptual Framework: Integrating DRR Across the Disaster Risk Management Cycle

To effectively guide hazard-specific risk management plans for CCCM, shelter and NFI programs in North-East Nigeria, it is essential to understand and apply the Disaster Risk Management Cycle (DRM) through a DRR lens. Each phase; Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Development incorporating Risk Reduction, offers opportunities to prevent or reduce the impact of hazards. However, these phases are often misunderstood or merged with relief operations. This section clarifies each phase specifically from a hazard risk reduction perspective. For more information on the integration of DRR into humanitarian programming, please refer to the OCHA/UNDRR Checklist on Scaling Up DRR in Humanitarian Action.

4.1. Disaster Risk Management Cycle from a DRR Perspective

The DRM Cycle comprises four interlinked phases, all of which are essential for effective disaster risk reduction.

Graphic 1: Disaster Risk Management Cycle

1. Preparedness (Before Hazard Impact)

Preparedness includes actions taken in advance of a hazard occurring to strengthen the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, and systems to anticipate, respond to, and recover from hazard events.

DRR Perspective: Preparedness is not just about stockpiling supplies. In a DRR context, it means strengthening systems and building resilience before a hazard strikes. The focus is on early actions that reduce exposure and vulnerability.

Examples:

- Risk and hazard mapping
- Community-based early warning systems (EWS)
- Education, training and awareness raising
- Response plans

➡ *Stockpiling food or relief kits only qualifies as DRR if the materials are specifically intended to reduce risk (e.g. storing fire control tools).*

Early Warning Systems (EWS)

An EWS is a core element of preparedness and a critical tool for reducing disaster risk. It refers to an integrated system of hazard detection, forecasting, risk assessment, communication, and readiness actions that enables individuals, communities, and institutions to take timely and informed action ahead of hazardous events.

Effective end-to-end and people-centred early warning systems encompass four interrelated pillars:

1. **Disaster risk knowledge** based on the systematic collection of data and disaster risk assessments;
2. **Detection, monitoring, analysis and forecasting** of the hazards and possible consequences;
3. **Dissemination and communication,** by an official source, of authoritative, timely, accurate and actionable warnings and associated information on likelihood and impact; and
4. **Preparedness** at all levels to respond to the warnings received.

These four interrelated components need to be coordinated within and across sectors and multiple levels for the system to work effectively and to include a feedback mechanism for continuous improvement. Failure in one component or a lack of coordination across them could lead to the failure of the whole system.

In North-East Nigeria, multi-hazard EWS must be localised, community-based, and adapted for use in informal settlements and IDP sites. The failure of any component risks failure of the whole system.

2. Response (During and Immediately After Hazard Impact)

The Response phase includes immediate actions taken during or shortly after a hazard occurs to minimise harm and begin stabilising conditions.

DRR Perspective: While humanitarian response typically focuses on relief (e.g. food, water, shelter), DRR actions during response are those that prevent further damage or reduce future risks, even as the hazard is unfolding.

Examples:

- Provide fire- or flood-resistant emergency shelters.
- Restore natural drainage systems to reduce flood risk.
- Use less flammable materials for emergency shelters and reconstruction.
- Install shade nets in communal and high-exposure areas to reduce heat.

Clarifying the Difference: DRR Response vs. Humanitarian Relief

A frequent issue in disaster management planning is the blurring of lines between emergency relief and DRR actions in the response phase. While both types of activities may occur at the same time, their objectives are fundamentally different.

It is therefore critical to distinguish DRR from relief. DRR actions during the response phase are intentional efforts to reduce future risk, whereas humanitarian relief focuses on meeting immediate needs and stabilising the situation.

Type	Objective	Example
Relief (Humanitarian)	Provide life-saving aid and stabilise the situation	Emergency food, water, shelter kits, et.
RR during Response	Reduce future risks while responding to current impacts	Fire-retardant shelter materials.

This distinction helps ensure that disaster response not only saves lives in the short term but also contributes to greater resilience in the future.

3. Recovery (Post-Hazard Rebuilding and Transition)

Recovery refers to the process of restoring or improving of livelihoods and health, as well as economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets, systems and activities, of a disaster-affected community or society, aligning with the principles of sustainable development and "build back better"[14], to avoid or reduce future disaster risk.

DRR Perspective: Recovery is a strategic opportunity to build back in ways which are safer for individuals and communities, including reducing risks in ways which engage local culture and reflect the expectations of the affected populations. DRR in this phase focuses on correcting vulnerabilities and improving the safety of rebuilt environments.

Examples:

- Relocating shelters away from hazard-prone areas
- Reinforcing structures to withstand future shocks (e.g. stronger roofs for high wind areas)
- Restoring natural drainage
- Replace shelters with less flammable designs

Key Insight: *The transition from response to recovery must be used to embed DRR into reconstruction. Recovery is not just about replacing what was lost, but about eliminating the conditions that created the risk in the first place.*

[14] While the official UN term is "Build Back Better", in the shelter sector this is often expressed as "Build Back Safer" to underline measurable risk reduction. This distinction matters because "better" can be interpreted differently by agencies and affected communities, whereas "safer" places the emphasis on reducing disaster risks while still recognising community priorities.

4. Development incorporating Risk Reduction (Development Modality)

Development incorporating Risk Reduction includes proactive and long-term efforts to reduce the likelihood or impact of future hazards through planning, policy, and infrastructure.

DRR Perspective: This is the core phase of hazard risk management. It involves addressing root causes and systemic vulnerabilities that make communities susceptible to hazard impacts.

Examples:

- Establishing and enforcing safe building codes
- Land-use planning and zoning regulations
- Nature-based solutions (e.g. tree planting along flood-prone rivers)
- Sustainable land-use planning
- Institutionalising DRR in governance and budgeting
- Investing in resilient infrastructure (e.g. drainage, firebreaks, wind barriers)

Key Insight: *Development incorporating risk reduction is a continuous process, often aligned with development planning. It should not be treated as a separate activity, but as a core part of humanitarian and development operations.*

Cross-Cutting Actions Across the Cycle:

Effective DRR recognises that managing hazard risk is not a step-by-step process, it can be cyclical or interconnected. Some risk reduction actions start in one phase and naturally continue into others, reinforcing resilience over time.

Some activities serve multiple phases and create stronger links between them:

- **Risk assessments** → inform *Preparedness* and Development incorporating *Risk Reduction*
- **Impact/damage assessments** → guide both *Response* and *Recovery*
- **Fire safety measures** → may start in *Response*, expand in *Recovery*, and become policy in Development incorporating *Risk Reduction*

Examples: Fire risk may begin in the *Response* phase (e.g. using fire-retardant materials), evolve in *Recovery* (e.g. reorganising shelters to create firebreaks), and be institutionalised in Development incorporating *Risk Reduction* (e.g. planning codes, fire safety standards).

Key Insight: *DRR should be embedded across all phases, not treated as a separate, post-emergency activity. This shift allows for more effective, resilient, and sustainable preparedness, response, and recovery.*

Emphasising a "Risk Reduction, Early" Approach

Building on the idea of *Early Recovery*, this plan promotes a Risk Reduction, Early approach, ensuring risk-reducing actions are implemented as early as possible.

Instead of waiting until the recovery or development phases, DRR should be integrated throughout the entire risk management cycle.

By adopting this DRR-centred understanding of the risk management cycle, humanitarian and development actors can work together to ensure that every phase, not just Recovery or Preparedness, contributes meaningfully to reducing future disaster risks.

Custom House, IDP site Maiduguri. Photo: Alicia Gimeno-Blanco

5. The Cost-Effectiveness of DRR

DRR is not only essential for saving lives and protecting infrastructure and livelihoods, it is also one of the most cost-effective strategies in humanitarian and development programming.

While certain hazards cannot always be prevented from happening, their impact can be significantly reduced through early, targeted, and well-designed interventions. These include strengthening shelter infrastructure, improving site planning, enforcing safer building practices, and ensuring early warning systems are functional and community-led.

5.1. Global Evidence: High Returns on DRR Investments

Investing in DRR has been shown to lower the impacts of disasters and reduce associated costs, such as those linked to health, displacement, education, and economic productivity. Similarly, strengthening the resilience of infrastructure can decrease the need for costly reconstruction[15]. While the scale of benefits varies across contexts, evidence consistently points to the value of prevention and resilience in reducing disaster impacts. Despite the clear cost benefits of prevention and resilience, only 50 cents of every US$100 in disaster-related Official Development Assistance (ODA) is allocated to protecting development from the impact of disasters[16].

5.2. DRR in the Context of North-East Nigeria

In North-East Nigeria, displacement sites face recurrent seasonal hazards that repeatedly destroy shelter and infrastructure, forcing families to start over. A lack of structural resilience means the same humanitarian needs resurface year after year, draining limited resources.

Case Snapshot: Cost of Inaction

In 2024–2025 alone, the CCCM/Shelter/NFI Sector estimates show that:

- Over 89,000 shelters and 83,000 NFI kits were lost to hazard events
- The replacement cost exceeded $22 million USD

[15] Microsoft Word - inofrmation notes no 3_high level dialogue.doc
[16] Our impact | UNDRR

Table 2: Summary of Hazard-Related Losses and Replacement Costs in NE Nigeria

Incident	Houses Destroyed	NFIs Lost	Cost of Emergency Shelter Kits US$	Cost of NFI Kits - US$	Replacement Cost for Shelter - US$	Replacement Cost for NFIs - US$
Fire	18,020	15,714	112	146	2,018,240	2,294,244
Flooding	51,561	48,482	112	146	5,774,832	7,078,372
Heavy rainfall	5,942	5,942	112	146	665,504	867,532
Windstorm	10,154	9,956	112	146	1,137,248	1,453,576
Windstorm & Flood	3,653	3,767	112	146	409,136	549,982
Total	89,330	83,861	**560 US$**	**730 US$**	**10,004,960** US$	**12,243,706** US$

Even reaching just 20% of affected households would require over $4 million USD, underscoring how reactive humanitarian response is more expensive than strategic prevention.

Most of these losses could have been reduced or avoided through low-cost DRR interventions, such as:

- Firebreaks and community training on cooking safety
- Elevated shelter designs and drainage improvements
- Tree planting and shaded communal areas
- Fire- and flood-resistant shelter materials

Financing DRR in Conflict Contexts

Despite its cost-effectiveness, DRR is often excluded from humanitarian appeals, especially in conflict-affected contexts like North-East Nigeria.

To address this, a dual-track financing approach is proposed:

- Conflict-related humanitarian aid remains the focus of traditional appeals.
- Parallel funding for hazard risk reduction, implemented by the same humanitarian partners, could be allocated to support DRR in displacement sites.

This approach could work to avoid misuse of conflict-allocated funds and reduce the economic burden on displaced households who often rebuild using their own limited resources.

Investing in DRR now, through resilient infrastructure, planning, and policy, will reduce future response needs, protect lives and assets, and contribute to greater sustainability through the adoption of a humanitarian-development nexus approach.

6. Hazard Risk Management Plans for CCCM / Shelter and NFI Programs in North-East Nigeria

Attached to this document are the Hazard Risk Management Plans for CCCM, Shelter, and NFI interventions in North-East Nigeria. These plans were developed collaboratively by government actors, humanitarian agencies, and local stakeholders through a participatory process that culminated in the DRR Workshop held in Maiduguri in June 2025 and the validation webinar in September 2025.

5.3. Structure of the Plans

Each Risk Management Plan sheet is organised around the four phases of the disaster risk management cycle:

- Preparedness (before a hazard strikes)
- Response (immediate actions during or after impact)
- Recovery (post-crisis rebuilding with resilience)
- Development incorporating Risk Reduction (long-term development and prevention)

The plans are hazard-specific and focus on the four priority hazards affecting IDP sites and host communities:

- Flooding (flash and riverine)
- Fire
- Extreme Heat
- Extreme Wind

Each sheet includes the following:

- Clear categorisation of actions: Structural (Hard/Soft) and Non-Structural (e.g. capacity building, planning, policy)
- Detailed descriptions of each activity and its purpose

This modular format allows partners to adopt the sheets directly into site-level programming or adapt them to local conditions. Each hazard-specific sheet is designed to function as a living tool, subject to refinement through field validation, implementation feedback, and updated risk data.

As suggested by partners, a dedicated Risk Working Group could be established, beginning with the BAY states. This group could emerge as a formal outcome of the DRR workshop, supporting continued coordination and technical guidance on risk management.

5.4. Partner Priorities

The development and validation of the Hazard Risk Management Plans through the Maiduguri workshop and the September 2025 webinar not only provided a framework of actions but also highlighted the areas where partners see the greatest need to focus efforts. Through interactive surveys and discussions, participants were able to indicate which actions they considered most effective, as well as to suggest realistic recommendations for the future.

The plans include more than 200 actions, some of which apply to more than one phase of the disaster risk management cycle. These actions are colour-coded to make them easier to navigate. Given the size and diversity of this list, it was not realistic to expect all actions to be given equal weight. Instead, the webinar focused on identifying the most relevant actions for partners — particularly within the preparedness and response phases. These phases were chosen because they are where humanitarian actors have the strongest mandate and resources, and where the gap between urgent needs and available solutions is most visible.

To support this exercise, the survey grouped actions into blocks of related measures — for example, "structural works" or "relief assistance and protection." This approach allowed participants to quickly identify which types of actions they considered most relevant, without being overwhelmed by the full catalogue of detailed activities.

The results revealed consistent trends across the four priority hazards:

- **Floods**; For preparedness, structural measures such as drainage systems, waterways, and rainwater harvesting were considered the most effective. For response, partners prioritised relief assistance and protection, including shelter kits, NFIs, and relocation to safer areas.
- **Fires;** For preparedness, partners highlighted fire-control structures such as firebreaks and buffer zones, followed closely by strengthening community structures and capacity. For response, the strongest preference was for immediate assistance and support, including emergency kits and psychosocial services.
- **Strong Winds**; For preparedness, the focus was on wind-resistant construction and anchoring, with early warning and forecasting also valued. For response, the most prioritised actions were emergency shelter solutions, with rapid assessments also seen as important.
- **Extreme Heat**; For preparedness, partners leaned towards early warning and monitoring, alongside structural measures and improved site planning. For response, relief and protection actions, such as water resupply and cooling centres, were considered the most effective.

Across all hazards, a consistent pattern emerged:

- For preparedness, partners prioritised structural solutions as the main way to reduce risks.
- For response, the strongest focus was on immediate relief and protection to meet urgent needs.
- Cross-cutting priorities included early warning systems, governance, and community capacity-building, which were consistently recognised as critical enablers of effective preparedness and response.

5.5. Challenges Identified by Partners

Alongside identifying priorities, the webinar also created space for participants to discuss the practical challenges that hinder effective disaster risk reduction (DRR) in North-East Nigeria. Through surveys, plenary discussions, and a collaborative whiteboard exercise, several recurring barriers were highlighted:

- **Funding constraints;** The most widely reported challenge was the lack of sufficient resources for DRR activities. Even when funds are available, restrictions on how they can be used often prevent investment in preventive or resilience-building measures, reinforcing a cycle of reactive response rather than proactive risk management.

- **Policy and enforcement gaps**; While national and state governments have developed a range of disaster-related policies, these are inconsistently applied on the ground. Weak enforcement and poor coordination between different authorities reduce their impact and leave communities exposed.

- **Insecurity and access limitations;** Ongoing conflict and military restrictions were cited as major barriers, especially when they prevent partners from carrying out essential mitigation work such as clearing drainage channels or relocating households from high-risk areas.

- **Weak community engagement**; Community engagement presents challenges that relate both to ownership and to means. In many cases, communities continue to depend on external actors to take action, for example in maintaining drainage channels or fire safety practices. While behaviour change and proactive engagement remain limited, resilience cannot be sustained without stronger community ownership. At the same time, limited engagement may also reflect a lack of resources rather than a lack of willingness; when maintenance costs exceed what communities can afford, the issue is one of means rather than commitment. Addressing both dimensions is essential for lasting impact.

- **Technical capacity gaps;** Both agencies and communities face shortfalls in skills and knowledge for safer construction, risk-sensitive site planning, and hazard monitoring. Limited capacity in these areas reduces the effectiveness of preparedness measures and slows down response.

- **Monitoring and coordination challenges;** Participants stressed that reliable, localised data is often missing, which makes it difficult to plan based on evidence or to capture lessons from past events. Coordination mechanisms also remain inconsistent, particularly at state level, limiting the efficiency of joint action.

7. Recommendations

Building on the priorities and challenges highlighted during the workshop and webinar, the following recommendations are presented in two blocks: low-cost, immediately feasible measures and higher-investment, longer-term measures. This balance reflects the need to act quickly while also planning for sustained risk reduction.

A. Low-Cost and Immediately Feasible Actions

These recommendations require modest resources and can be integrated into existing humanitarian programmes:

- **Structural preparedness at site level**
    - Community-led drainage clearance and small-scale water channels through cash-for-work.
    - Establish firebreaks around sites and distribute improved stoves to reduce fire risk.
    - Promote simple shelter anchoring techniques and minor upgrades to strengthen structures against wind.
    - Provide low-cost shading and ventilation (tarpaulins, shade nets, tree planting) to reduce heat impacts.
- **Strengthening early warning communication**
    - Translate forecasts into simple community alerts via radio, SMS, megaphones, and town criers.
    - Identify local focal points in each site/community to relay warnings quickly and clearly.
- **Community engagement and ownership**
    - Form or revitalise Community Resilience Committees (CRCs) to lead DRR activities such as drainage and fire monitoring.
    - Promote household-level responsibilities (e.g., maintaining drains, safe cooking practices) through awareness campaigns.
- **Training and simulation exercises**
    - Use Training-of-Trainers (ToT) to build local NGO and community volunteer capacity on DRR basics.
    - Institutionalise annual flood and fire drills, led jointly by SEMA/NEMA and partners, to clarify roles and improve readiness.
- **Data and monitoring**
    - Collect basic site-level hazard data (fire incidents, flooding levels) using simple templates.
    - Share findings across partners to update and refine the Hazard Risk Management Plans.

B. Higher-Investment and More Complex Actions

These recommendations require stronger donor support, government leadership, or technical expertise, but will have a significant long-term impact:

- **Larger-scale structural measures**
    - Construction of durable drainage systems, waterways, and rainwater harvesting infrastructure in flood-prone areas.
    - Building permanent fire control structures such as buffer zones.
    - Upgrading shelters with wind-resistant designs and insulation for heat resilience.
    - Establishment of designated cooling centres with reliable water and energy supply.
- **Emergency preparedness at scale**
    - Positioning relief stocks (NFIs, shelter kits, water storage and purification equipment) across the BAY states for rapid response, while incorporating risk reduction elements such as low-maintenance water filters and fire-resistant shelter materials.
    - Development of safe relocation plans for high-risk sites, in coordination with local authorities and communities.
    - Capacity development for rapid damage assessments after windstorms and floods to inform response planning.
- **Stronger coordination and technical leadership**
    - Establishment of a formal Risk Working Group under sector coordination to guide implementation, provide technical advice, and ensure the plans are updated.
- **Funding**
    - Consolidating evidence from pilots and site-level DRR actions to advocate for dedicated DRR funding within humanitarian appeals and to tap into climate/development finance.

Some of the above may be possible to integrate and/or fund through humanitarian programmes, while development programmed and funding may be required for some.

Custom House, IDP site Maiduguri. Photo: Alicia Gimeno-Blanco

8. Conclusion

The development and validation of the Hazard Risk Management Plans marks an important step in advancing DRR in North-East Nigeria. This joint effort brought together government authorities, humanitarian agencies, and local actors, demonstrating a strong commitment to risk-informed humanitarian action.

The DRR Workshop in Maiduguri confirmed both the urgency and feasibility of moving from reactive responses to preventive planning. This was further reinforced during the validation webinar in September 2025, which brought together a broader group of stakeholders to review, refine, and endorse the plans. Across both events, participants' feedback was positive, recognising the practical value of the tools developed and the inclusive, collaborative process behind them.

Discussions highlighted that partners want to focus their efforts on structural solutions for preparedness and immediate relief and protection for response, supported by stronger early warning, governance, and community capacity-building. At the same time, partners identified persistent challenges, spanning systemic barriers such as funding, policy enforcement, and coordination, as well as operational gaps in community engagement and technical capacity. Addressing these will require stronger partnerships and more predictable resources.

These plans are living documents, designed to evolve with new evidence, field experience, and community input. Their flexibility makes them adaptable across diverse contexts, from congested informal sites to remote host communities, supporting actors at all levels to tailor risk reduction to local realities.

This has been a truly joint initiative, showing that even in conflict-affected environments, DRR can be meaningfully integrated into humanitarian programming. The proposal to establish a Risk Working Group in the BAY states, as recommended by partners, offers a clear opportunity to sustain coordination, technical guidance, and momentum.

As operations shift toward nationally led systems and humanitarian budgets shrink, investing in DRR is more critical than ever. It saves lives, protects resources, and supports safe, dignified, and sustainable living conditions for displaced populations. These plans provide a practical entry point for that shift.

Finally, while this stage marks the end of UNDRR's direct engagement in the initiative, it is not the end of the process. The responsibility now lies with humanitarian and development partners, government actors, and local communities to carry this work forward, ensuring that the momentum created is sustained and that DRR remains central to humanitarian programming in North-East Nigeria.

Glossary[17]

Anticipatory Action: Acting ahead of a predicted hazardous event to prevent or reduce impacts on lives and livelihoods, as well as humanitarian needs before they fully unfold.

Aims to reduce the humanitarian impact by acting in a pre-defined manner on early warnings and forecasts ahead of predictable shocks.

Climate: Climate in a narrow sense is usually defined as the average weather, or more rigorously, as the statistical description in terms of the mean and variability of relevant quantities over a period of time ranging from months to thousands or millions of years.

Climate adaptation: Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects.

Climate change: Climate change refers to a change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g., by using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer.

Climate extreme (extreme weather or climate event): The occurrence of a value of a weather or climate variable above (or below) a threshold value near the upper (or lower) ends of the range of observed values of the variable. For simplicity, both extreme weather events and extreme climate events are referred to collectively as "climate extremes". See also Extreme weather event.

Climate change mitigation: Reducing or preventing greenhouse gas emissions or enhancing carbon sinks.

Climate resilience: Is the ability to prepare for, recover from, and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Contingency planning: A management process that analyses disaster risks and establishes arrangements in advance to enable timely, effective and appropriate responses.

Coping capacity: The ability of people, *institutions*, organizations, and systems, using available skills, values, beliefs, resources, and opportunities, to address, manage, and overcome adverse conditions in the short to medium term.

Cost-effectiveness: A measure of the cost at which policy goal or outcome is achieved. The lower the cost the greater the cost-effectiveness.

Disaster management: The organisation, planning and application of measures preparing for, responding to and recovering from disasters.

Disaster risk: The potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets which could occur to a system, society or a community in a specific period of time, determined probabilistically as a function of hazard, exposure, vulnerability and capacity.

Disaster risk assessment: A qualitative or quantitative approach to determine the nature and extent of disaster risk by analysing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of exposure and

[17] https://www.undrr.org/drr-glossary/terminology

vulnerability that together could harm people, property, services, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend.

Disaster risk information: Comprehensive information on all dimensions of disaster risk, including hazards, exposure, vulnerability and capacity, related to persons, communities, organizations and countries and their assets.

Disaster risk management: Disaster risk management is the application of disaster risk reduction policies and strategies to prevent new disaster risk, reduce existing disaster risk and manage residual risk, contributing to the strengthening of resilience and reduction of disaster losses.

Disaster risk reduction: Disaster risk reduction is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development.

Early warning system: An integrated system of hazard monitoring, forecasting and prediction, disaster risk assessment, communication and preparedness activities systems and processes that enables individuals, communities, governments, businesses and others to take timely action to reduce disaster risks in advance of hazardous events.

Emergency relief: Immediate assistance after a disaster to save lives and meet basic needs.

Environmental protection: Actions to prevent or reduce environmental damage.

Environmental sustainability: Managing natural resources to meet current humanitarian needs without compromising future generations.

Evacuation: Moving people and assets temporarily to safer places before, during or after the occurrence of a hazardous event in order to protect them

Exposure: The situation of people, infrastructure, housing, production capacities and other tangible human assets located in hazard-prone areas.

Hazard: A process, phenomenon or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation.

Human-induced disasters: Disasters resulting from human actions like conflict, pollution, or industrial accidents.

Multi-hazard: means (1) the selection of multiple major hazards that the country faces, and (2) the specific contexts where hazardous events may occur simultaneously, cascading or cumulatively over time, and considering the potential interrelated effects.

Mitigation: The lessening or minimising of the adverse impacts of a hazardous event.

Preparedness: The knowledge and capacities developed by governments, response and recovery organisations, communities and individuals to effectively anticipate, respond to and recover from the impacts of likely, imminent or current disasters.

Prevention: Activities and measures to avoid existing and new disaster risks.

Reconstruction: The medium- and long-term rebuilding and sustainable restoration of resilient critical infrastructures, services, housing, facilities and livelihoods required for the full functioning of a community or a society affected by a disaster, aligning with the principles of sustainable development

and “build back better”, to avoid or reduce future disaster risk.

Recovery: The restoring or improving of livelihoods and health, as well as economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets, systems and activities, of a disaster-affected community or society, aligning with the principles of sustainable development and “build back better”, to avoid or reduce future disaster risk.

Rehabilitation: The restoration of basic services and facilities for the functioning of a community or a society affected by a disaster.

Resilience: The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management.

Risk assessment: The process of identifying and analysing hazards, vulnerabilities, and exposure.

Structural and non-structural measures: Structural measures are any physical construction to reduce or avoid possible impacts of hazards, or the application of engineering techniques or technology to achieve hazard resistance and resilience in structures or systems. Non-structural measures are measures not involving physical construction which use knowledge, practice or agreement to reduce disaster risks and impacts, in

Vulnerability: The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards.

Custom House, IDP site Maiduguri. Photo: Alicia Gimeno-Blanco