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**Emergency Assistance to Conflict Affected Populations (EACAP)**  
**Funded by USAID/ Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)**  
**Fiscal Year 2016, Quarter 1 Report**  
*October 1 – December 31, 2015*



*Esther Sylvanus – From Yobe to Gombe (Livelihood beneficiary used her grant to open a shop)*

**Project Summary:**

Award Number:

**AID-OFDA-G-14-00131**

Start Date: July, 15, 2014

End Date: July 1, 2016

Report Date: January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Total Award: \$3,450,955

## I. Program Overview

The ongoing humanitarian insecurity in northeast Nigeria caused by Boko Haram and the counter insurgency continues to create an urgent humanitarian situation in the country. According to the most recent published figures<sup>1</sup> 14.8 million people (out of a population of 15.2 million in the four (4) states of Borno, Yobe, Adamawa and Gombe) are affected by the crisis in the North East of Nigeria precipitated by Boko Haram violence since 2009.

The conflict has affected civilians already living in precarious conditions within the region and in particular the four most affected states have been disproportionately affected by the crisis with an estimated 7 million people including displaced, confined and hosted civilians currently in need of humanitarian assistance.

This massive displacement has led to the disruption of livelihoods and lack of access to markets and agricultural land. Poor host communities have been sharing resources with one of the largest IDP populations in the world and are now relying on negative coping strategies after their savings and assets have been used up.

To address the ongoing situation, Mercy Corps is implementing the OFDA-funded Emergency Assistance to Conflict Affected Populations (EACAP) program, which aims to respond to the mounting relief needs of conflict-affected communities in Gombe State. The expansion of the Strengthening Opportunities and Access to Resilience (SOAR) project, now called Emergency Assistance to Conflict Affected Populations (EACAP), has allowed Mercy Corps to provide urgently-needed support to additional conflict-affected IDPs in recently accessible Local Government Areas (LGAs) within Gombe State through interventions in livelihoods, provision of household commodities and protection.

Overall, the project expansion aims to benefit 100,874 individuals, out of which 72,975<sup>2</sup> are internally displaced persons, while the remaining are vulnerable host community members.

## II. Quarter Executive Summary

The quarter under review witnessed slight fluctuations in numbers of IDPs, though remaining well above 2.1 million,<sup>3</sup> with 84.5% displaced due to the insurgency. The fluctuation is assumed to be attributable to the movements of return observed in some locations.

The ongoing insurgency and counter-insurgency measures continue to result in significant protection risks and human rights violations, impacting the most vulnerable civilian populations in particular. Women and children (respectively constituting 51.8% and 55.7% of the overall population), remain the most vulnerable to serious protection concerns such as sexual and gender-based violence; conscription by armed militias for support roles and combat; and other abuse, exploitation or abandonment. Many members of the IDP community have been separated from their families, cannot meet their basic needs, and are unable to perform regular livelihoods activities. The well-being of host communities is strained by the large numbers of IDPs. Mercy Corps continues to deliver assistance as funded by the original SOAR, and subsequently, modified EACAP programs. A summary of the main activities is included below.

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<sup>1</sup> 2016 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for Nigeria

<sup>2</sup> Revised beneficiary target numbers to account for modified scope and timeframe.

<sup>3</sup> IOM Round VII Displacement Tracking Matrix Report for December 2015

The quarter under review involved the finalization of work and monitoring plans for the implementation of the new sector activities as well as the integration of expanded scope and targets to the existing sector activities.

**1) Provide displaced households and host communities with resources to meet immediate needs and sustain local markets:**

- The Three to Six (3 to 6) months' livelihood assessment was undertaken to determine the level of livelihoods restoration of beneficiaries who have received assistance within that timeframe.
- Seven hundred and forty (740) livelihoods grants totaling 13,262,680NGN or the equivalent of USD\$67,323.25 were disbursed resulting in a total of 2,532 beneficiaries reached.
- Applications for the remaining targeted beneficiaries (468) for livelihood grants have been compiled and submitted for review and approval to be disbursed in the coming quarter.
- Village agents recruited and trained under the Village Savings and Loans (VSLA) intervention have successfully established eight additional groups within the quarter, out of which five have formally registered with the State Ministry of Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation and obtained a certificate recognising them as an entity to carry out legal business and receive government support.
- In collaboration with the OFDA-funded project managed by the Women Refugee Commission (WRC), a joint assessment was conducted as part of piloting the Cohort Livelihood and Risk Analysis (CLARA) tool. The tool was tested in the field to assess protection and gender risks and considerations around livelihoods activities undertaken by both IDP and host communities.

**2) Conflict-affected and vulnerable populations have reconstituted productive assets for agricultural production:**

- Continued support to the Ministry of Animal Husbandry for the adoption and utilization of the appropriate agreed upon reporting and monitoring tools.
- 538 livestock farmers received training through the trained paravets. The training was localized within communities resulting in higher number of livestock farmers, well above the targeted 400.

**3) Provide vulnerable households with essential non-food items:**

- Consolidation of master database for beneficiaries completed, which will facilitate and track distribution.

**4) Protection:**

- Thirty-three (33) community relief committees (CRC) were established in all the intervention communities within eight LGAs in Gombe State consisting of nine members each, including the traditional community leader, two religious leaders, a youth leader, a women leader, and two IDP representatives (male & female) along with two nominated community volunteers. The CRC will receive training on GBV and protection topics, specifically on how to identify and respond to cases in their communities.
- Thirty-four (34) women's groups constituted of 20 members each were successfully established and are planned to receive a Training of Trainers on GBV and protection topics for onward sensitization to the community with women as their primary target.

- Plans are being developed to support the coordination of the GBV subsector working group in Gombe state, specifically to facilitate the establishment of a referral network.

**5) Strengthen humanitarian space in Nigeria by building the capacity of local humanitarian workers:**

- The INGO forum underwent a shift in internal management of the executive committee structure and recruitment of a new coordinator was in the works. The incoming coordinator will work along with Mercy Corps to push forward the activities planned under this award as they align with complementary actions within Nigeria.

### **III. Security Context, Situation Overview and Operational Summary**

*Security:*

In the previous quarter, Gombe State witnessed consecutive suicide bombings resulting in a high number of casualties and subsequent limitation in movement. In response, Mercy Corps reviewed its security protocols to ensure the safety of its staff and assets, and activities continued. The quarter under review proved to be calm with no incidents to report in Gombe State. However, Abuja was targeted on two separate occasions during the month of October 2015 with suicide bombings allegedly perpetrated by Boko Haram raising the spotlight on their presence and reach beyond the North East area.

Meanwhile porous borders, regional insecurity, growing extremism and forced displacement in the Lake Chad Basin add a regional dimension to the present humanitarian crisis and security situation which needs to be monitored closely to adapt operational measures necessary to ensure safety of beneficiaries and resources.

In addition, host community household and community resources have been exhausted, which are causing fatigue on the part of the host communities and, if not addressed, could create difficulties between displaced people and host communities.

*Population movements:*

Some movement was recorded within the quarter in Gombe State and further investigation resulted in the understanding that it mainly involved male heads of household. Their movements were an attempt to acquire livelihood opportunities outside Gombe, leaving behind the women and children to fend for themselves. They cite relative peace in Gombe as a reason for leaving their family while they go in search of alternative livelihood in other towns. However that movement was not sustained and the majority were returning back to their location of displacement.

*Markets:*

Most markets in the Northeast remain closed or with minimal or restricted trade activities. Retail prices of staples for the area are higher than markets in other states. Generally, markets are functioning below normal and suicide bomb attacks on market spaces inhibit free trading and affect household income generating activities, including petty trading which is important during the lean periods. In addition, food prices are relatively high, limiting access and increasing the burden on households. Agricultural production in the last two seasons, including the dry-season production, was well below average, reducing food availability, and thus increasing the length of the lean season.

*Operations:* The quarter under review was focused primarily on building the capacity of human resources and the operationalization of working protocols in the newly accessed areas of operation. Mercy Corps also expanded its physical presence to Adamawa State with an ECHO-funded program

targeting needs of IDPs and host community members with unconditional cash transfers, WASH and protection interventions.

And as part of its humanitarian strategy for North East Nigeria and in an effort to support where needs are, Mercy Corps conducted two needs assessment missions to South Borno State specifically the LGAs of Biu, Hawul and Kwaya Kusar. Preliminary findings showed enormous priority needs for over 46,000 IDPs and host community members who to date have not been reached by assistance. Mercy Corps plans to expand its operations to South Borno as funding opportunities are made available with programs in the pipeline to provide immediate food assistance, support for emergency relief items, protection support and WASH interventions.

*Humanitarian Coordination:* Mercy Corps continues to maintain an active role and contributes to all humanitarian coordination groups. At the Abuja level, ongoing participation within the sector working groups, HCT (*Humanitarian Country Team*) and INGO forum ensures collaboration at all levels with all stakeholders. At the state level, Mercy Corps continues to maintain bilateral relations with relevant parties and ensures participation in state working groups. Coordination with both SEMA (*State Emergency Management Agency*) and NEMA (*National Emergency Management Agency*) in Gombe and Adamawa as well as various LGA heads of office and other relevant stakeholders occurs through monthly reports following the signature of a memorandum of understanding with the State.

Mercy Corps also helped facilitate and host a visit from US officials, namely representative of OFDA and the Office of Food for Peace (FFP) in early December for three days. The visit included an overview and presentation of Mercy Corps' activities as well as site visits to meet and discuss with beneficiaries.

Mercy Corps also participated fully in the HNO/HRP process that took place with HCT leadership in Abuja and ensured that emphasis on needs as reported by the affected population were prioritized and included in round table discussions.

*Staff Development:* Staff members of the humanitarian team attended the following trainings and workshops.

- On protection: A training on case management and working with survivors of sexual violence organized by the International Rescue Committee in Adamawa.
- On humanitarian response: The Director of Humanitarian Programs attended a workshop at Mercy Corps' headquarters on Emergency Response and co-facilitated a session on Humanitarian Impact and Learning.

#### **IV. Project Performance**

##### **AWARD-LEVEL BENEFICIARIES**

<b>Cumulative Period Targeted</b>		<b>Reporting Period Reached</b>		<b>Cumulative Period Reached</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>IDP</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>IDP</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>IDP</b>
100,814	72,575	7,825	4862	73,879	57,626

##### **SECTOR 1: ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND MARKET SYSTEMS**

**Objective:** To provide displaced households and host communities resources to meet immediate needs and sustain local markets.

Sector-Level Beneficiaries					
Cumulative Period Targeted		Reporting Period Reached		Cumulative Period Reached	
Total	IDP	Total	IDP	Total	IDP
37,884	30,307	7,287	4,432	29,421	22,140

Indicators	TARGET	PROGRESS (Q1)	TOTAL PROGRESS
<b>Sub-sector 1.1 – Livelihoods restoration</b>			
Number of people assisted through livelihood restoration activities, by sex	3000	740 (509M / 231F)	2532 (1373M / 1159F)
Percent of beneficiaries reporting their livelihoods restored within three to six months after receiving support	N/A	N/A	N/A <sup>4</sup>
Total USD amount channelled into the program area through sub-sector activities	150,000USD	67,323USD	235,247USD <sup>5</sup>
<b>Sub-sector 1.2 Microfinance</b>			
Number of people, disaggregated by sex, or MSEs newly receiving financial services or continuing to receive financial services due to USAID/OFDA support	800	223 (15M / 208F)	1396 (558M / 838F)
Percentage of financial services account/groups supported by USAID/OFDA that are functioning properly	VSLA: 40 groups, 100%	VSLA: 8, 100%	VSLA: 51, 100%
Total USD amount channelled into the program area through subsectors activities	n/a	n/a	n/a

### **Progress Narrative: Livelihoods Restoration**

With over 14 million people affected by the conflict in North East Nigeria, inequality in access to assistance has led to different patterns of need among displaced communities. However, the prevalence of risky livelihoods such as hawking, begging, and child labour indicates an urgent need

<sup>4</sup> Information has not yet been collected on this indicator. It will be available next quarter.

<sup>5</sup> The livelihood grants were matched from a private donation of 150,000USD

for basic services and livelihood assistance targeted at men and women to mitigate growing vulnerabilities and protect children from exploitation and violence.

To address that need and under the current reporting period Mercy Corps has successfully reached an additional 740 beneficiaries of the targeted 3,000, which adds up to a total of 2,532 households (HHs) having received a grant for livelihoods activities in the value of the equivalent of \$100 in local currency. In addition, a total of 468 applications with a focus on agricultural inputs have been received and evaluated for approval and disbursement in the first quarter of 2016. Monitoring during the reporting period showed a high interest in engaging in the income generating activities approved for funding. Beneficiaries visited were observed engaging in their chosen business and have utilized the trainings received on bookkeeping to manage their basic accounting transactions. Also, a large number of the livelihoods grant beneficiaries have joined the VSLA groups in their communities in an effort to borrow additional funds to boost their businesses and invest their profits.

Mercy Corps also conducted a 3-6 months livelihoods restoration survey, administered to beneficiaries who have received the livelihood grant within the 3-6 months' timeframe. The distribution of livelihoods grants was 68% IDP households and 33% host community.

Preliminary findings had noted that compared to the vast majority of households (80%) who consumed three meals per day consisting of dietary variety before the crisis, this had dropped to one meal per day for an estimated 31% and two meals per day for an estimated 52% consisting of reduced variety of foods. Following Mercy Corps' intervention and complementary funding from FFP on food assistance, an increase to 96% of households was noted who were able to consume three meals per day with an increase in variety.

In terms of income, and before the crisis, 46% of the households had more than one source of income, while 36% had one regular source of income, 8% had irregular income and 10% had no source of income. Following the crisis, the level of income for households dropped and 70% were reported with no regular income, 20% with one regular source of income and 11% with no income at all. The assessment findings show that 41% of households report increased income, 53% are with stable income and 6% with irregular income. Overall the assessment indicated that 94% of the households reached have their livelihoods restored.

*The table below illustrates a summary of the number of activities by community and beneficiary numbers as approved.*

	Community	Activities	No. Activities /beneficiary	Beneficiaries	Amount approved
1	Kagarawal	Trade	11	21	376,760
		Service	8		
		Livestock	1		
		Craft	1		
2	Mallam Inna 2	Trade	23	38	694,520
		Service	14		

2		Livestock	1		
		Craft			
3	Pantami 2	Trade	75	112	2,151,121
		Service	32		
		Livestock	5		
		Craft			
4	Maikaho	Trade	192	374	6,540,240
		Service	81		
		Livestock	11		
		Craft	4		
5	Dadin Kowa	Trade	139	211	3,652,340
		Service	29		
		Livestock	40		
		Craft	3		
				<b>756</b>	<b>NGN 13,414,981</b>

As listed above, a total of 756 beneficiaries were approved to receive livelihoods grants across five intervention communities within the reporting quarter. There were 16 people absent at the end of the disbursement exercise, mainly due to inaccurate contact details provided during the application process, resulting in a total of 740 grants issued.

*Below is a table that illustrates number of beneficiaries who received the livelihood grants, segregated by community and gender along with total amounts.*

Community	Sex/Status				Total # of supported beneficiaries	# of absentees	Total # of approved beneficiaries	Number of activities	Total amount disbursed in NGN
	IDP		Host Community						
	M	F	M	F					
Mallam Inna 2	22	16	0	0	38	0	38	11	694,520
Kagarawal	11	8	0	1	20	1	21	7	364,760

2									
Pantami 2	70	29	2	2	103	3	112	11	2,083,220
DadinKowa	71	37	58	39	205	6	211	30	3,579,940
Maikaho	148	38	127	61	374	0	374	36	6,540,240
<b>Total</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>756</b>		

In preparation for each disbursement activity, trainings are conducted on basic bookkeeping, hygiene management and sustainability of the activity to equip the beneficiaries with sufficient basic knowledge on small business start-up and management to effectively utilize the cash grants awarded.

Post-monitoring activities are also conducted within the communities with a random sampling of 20%, which indicated that over 95% of the grants are being utilized towards the purpose indicated in the approved application forms. Beneficiaries had started by purchasing the necessary assets and commodities and effectively started up their small business while reporting increased business from community members.

#### **Progress Narrative: Microfinance (VSLA)**

During the quarter under review the trained village agents established an additional eight VSLA groups in addition to the three reported in the previous quarter. This comes as an addition to the existing 40 groups established directly by Mercy Corps. These eight groups have a total number of 223 members (208 women and 15 men), and five out of the eight groups are currently registered formally with the State Ministry of Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation. Two of the existing groups carried out the first group share-out on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2015 in Tumfure community.

*Table below lists groups formed by village agents*

S/No.	Community	# of groups formed	# of male	# of female	Total members
1	Bolari	2	7	43	50
2	Tumfure	4	3	115	118
3	Pantami	1	-	25	25
4	Dadin Kowa	1	5	25	30
		<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>223</b>

*The table below illustrates VSLA groups across all communities of intervention segregated by gender.*

LGA	Community	Saving group name	# of members	Sex	
				Male	Female
Gombe	Fed. low cost	Adalci	28	28	0
		Temako	30	0	30
		Aminci	26	8	18
		Aminci	30	0	30
		Hadin kai	28	2	26
	Jeka da fari	Doma	27	18	9
		Jaurari	28	22	6

		Checheniya	25	9	16	
	<b>Nassarawo</b>	Nagarta	25	25	0	
		Adalci	30	5	25	
		Rahama	30	7	23	
		Himma	29	0	29	
		Gadarallalahu	25	25	0	
		Hamdala	26	6	20	
	<b>Pantami</b>	Nagari	26	26	0	
		Himma	29	0	29	
		Nagarta	25	25	0	
		Gaskiya	26	0	26	
		Nagarta 2	25	25	0	
	<b>Tumfure</b>	Salama	31	1	30	
		Kauna	27	12	15	
		Alheri	28	4	24	
		Nasarawa	30	30	0	
		Bege	30	30	0	
		Taimako	30	30	0	
		Adalchi	28	25	3	
	<b>Kagarawal</b>	Nasara	25	20	5	
	<b>Mallam inna</b>	Alheri	25	23	2	
		Haddin Kai	30	7	23	
	<b>Bolari</b>	Alheri	25	9	16	
		Tattali	25	5	20	
		Zummunci	30	25	5	
		Miyetti	25	10	15	
		Kauna	25	21	4	
		Alheri	25	22	3	
<b>YamaltuDeba</b>	<b>Kuri</b>	Amana	29	0	29	
		Nasara	28	0	28	
		Alheri	25	25	0	
		Adalci	25	25	0	
	<b>Maikaho</b>	Hazaka	30	21	9	
		Nasara	30	21	9	
		Rahama	30	30	0	
		Himma	25	11	14	
		Alheri	28	28	0	
	<b>Deba</b>	Sa'a	27	13	14	
		Haske	27	15	12	
	<b>Dadin kowa</b>	Tattali	26	10	16	
		Tallahi	27	2	25	
		Hadin kai	26	9	17	
		Rufin asiri	26	11	15	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>1396</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>645</b>

**SECTOR 2: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY**

**Objective:** Conflict-affected and vulnerable populations have reconstituted productive assets for agricultural production.

Sector-Level Beneficiaries					
Cumulative Period Targeted		Reporting Period Reached		Cumulative Period Reached	
Total	IDP	Total	IDP	Total	IDP
7,280	5,824	538	430	589	430

Indicators	TARGET	PROGRESS (Q1)	TOTAL PROGRESS
<b>LIVESTOCK</b>			
Number of animals benefiting from or affected by livestock activities	n/a	-	18,172 animals
Number of people benefiting from livestock activities, by sex	400	538 (453M / 85F)	589 (502M / 87F)
Number of veterinary interventions (eg, treatments, vaccinations, etc.) in livestock activities	n/a	-	674,929
Number of animals treated in livestock activities	n/a	-	674,929

**Progress Narrative: Agriculture and Food Security**

During the period being reported a total of 538 livestock farmers received a 5-day training by the trained paravets. The training module covered the following topics:

1. Animal vaccination
2. Improved livestock production as a business
3. External parasites of animals
4. Internal parasites of animals
5. Herd management for improved livestock production

Out of the 538 farmers trained, 453 were male and 85 female. The training was facilitated by the 26 private veterinarians who received training and were equipped to provide services to their respective communities. The exercise is expected to be an ongoing program under the oversight of the Ministry of Animal Husbandry.

Regular reporting by the private veterinarians to the Ministry of Animal Husbandry on service rendered was also emphasised, as this will ensure adequate tracking and documentation of trends in the rural areas which hitherto has been missing with a huge disconnect between the veterinary activities at the state and local government level.

The Ministry of Animal Husbandry also made a formal request for support specifically to equip three public veterinary clinics with basic items to allow accessibility and service to the neighboring

communities where public or private veterinarians are not available. Mercy Corps plans on revising the request to identify eligibility and impact as well as related costs involved.

### **SECTOR 3: LOGISTICS, SUPPORT AND RELIEF COMMODITIES**

**Objective:** To provide vulnerable households with essential non-food items.

Sector-Level Beneficiaries					
Cumulative Period Targeted		Reporting Period Reached		Cumulative Period Reached	
Total	IDP	Total	IDP	Total	IDP
53,340	34,804	-	-	39,340	31,472

Indicators			
	TARGET	PROGRESS (Q4)	TOTAL PROGRESS
<b>NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)</b>			
Total number of NFIs distributed by type	7,620 (7,000 consumable kits / 620 new arrival kits)	-	5,620 (5,000 consumable kits / 620 new arrival kits)
Total cost of NFIs by type	5,000 consumable kits \$36 620 new arrival kits \$219 2,000 consumable kits \$200	-	5,000 consumable kits \$29.45 620 new arrival kits \$142 n/a
Total number of beneficiaries receiving NFIs	7,620 HH	-	5,620 HH (47,782 beneficiaries, 21,185 male, 26,597 female)
Total number of long-lasting insecticide nets distributed	8,000 LLINs	-	-

#### ***Progress Narrative: Relief Commodities***

As noted within the previous quarterly report and the annual report, the target was reached with the distribution of cash vouchers to 5,000 households (HHs) for redemption against non-food item (NFI) consumable kits and 620 HHs for redemption against NFI starter kits.

With the modification of the scope, timeline and geographical area of the program intervention, Mercy Corps worked on the target to address the gaps in the provision of basic NFIs in new LGAs within Gombe State that have received inconsistent or minimal support to date and have a high concentration of IDPs. Those LGAs include Funakaye and Nafada, both previously inaccessible to due security concerns in addition to Billiri, Balanga, Kwami and Akko.

As such efforts were geared towards establishing presence within the six new LGAs selected for intervention in Gombe State. Advocacy visits were made to the local government authorities, community leaders (Emirs) and other traditional leaders within the LGAs. This resulted in the identification of 33 communities hosting large numbers of IDPs.

Community Relief Committees (CRC) were established in each of the 33 communities with a total of 73 nominated community volunteers to ensure a community-based approach to the ongoing interventions. In addition efforts to mobilize, evaluate and contract 97 vendors based on established criteria for evaluation and assessment was completed.

With all necessary community structures in place, a registration exercise was conducted and over 2,000 vulnerable households were registered. Beneficiary validation was also completed with the support of the CRCs to finalize the list of selected households that would receive the non-food item assistance through vouchers.

Mercy Corps plans to transition its paper voucher distribution to its existing electronic platform Red Rose which has proven a huge success in the delivery of monthly food assistance through electronic vouchers. It is also plans that that the distribution of the electronic vouchers will be accompanied by a distribution of the donated Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) from the USAID-funded Malaria Program in Nigeria.

#### **SECTOR 4: PROTECTION**

**Objective:** Community-based prevention and response mechanisms for addressing protection risks are strengthened, with a particular focus on gender-based violence mitigation, and the effectiveness of humanitarian response in Nigeria is strengthened through improved collection of data on IDPs.

<b>Sector-Level Beneficiaries</b>					
<b>Cumulative Period Targeted</b>		<b>Reporting Period Reached</b>		<b>Cumulative Period Reached</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>IDP</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>IDP</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>IDP</b>
2,090	1,640	-	-	-	-

<b>Indicators</b>			
<b>PROTECTION</b>	<b>TARGET</b>	<b>PROGRESS (Q4)</b>	<b>TOTAL PROGRESS</b>
<b>4.1 Protection coordination, advocacy and information</b>			
Number of people trained in protection by sex	2,050	-	-
Number of people trained in IDP profiling by sex	40	-	-
<b>4.2 Prevention and Response to Gender based violence</b>			
Number of people trained in GBV prevention or response by sex	2,050	-	-
Number of people benefitting from GBV services, disaggregated by sex	2,050	-	-
Percentage and number of IDP women's groups who are confirmed to have received economic and social support through participation in project related activities	37	-	-

#### ***Progress Narrative: Protection***

With over seven million people suffering from the extreme consequences of armed conflict including displacement, deprivation and disease, affecting the most vulnerable in particular, Mercy Corps' efforts aim at raising awareness around gender based violence and protection issues generally. People targeted have been subjected to killings, security incidents and flagrant human rights violations. A high toll of physical abuse, abduction, extortion, disappearances, maiming, forced conversion, theft, sexual exploitation, sexual violence and forced recruitment into Boko Haram has been endured by women and children making the need for protection support a primary focus.

Pursuant to multiple coordination efforts, the protection team had initiated the preliminary activities required to kick-start the protection component. A total of 680 women separated into groups of 20 have been mobilized within the 33 intervention communities to receive the first phase of awareness raising training on gender based violence (GBV) and protection issues facing IDPs and host community planned for the second quarter of 2016.

Mercy Corps is leveraging on the activities of other partners within Gombe State such as the Ministry of Women Affairs, Action aid, UN Women and UNHCR to ensure GBV and protection issues receive the attention required.

#### ***Progress Narrative: IDP profiling***

With the recruitment of a new INGO coordinator, efforts will be pursued to review the planned activities and align them with needs of the humanitarian community to ensure complementarity to ongoing actions and defined necessary efforts.

### **SECTOR 5: RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE**

**Objective:** Strengthen humanitarian space in Nigeria by building the capacity of local humanitarian workers.

Sector-Level Beneficiaries					
Cumulative Period Targeted		Reporting Period Reached		Cumulative Period Reached	
Total	IDP	Total	IDP	Total	IDP
120	N/A	-	-	100	N/A

Indicators			
	TARGET	PROGRESS (Q4)	TOTAL PROGRESS
<b>5.1 Risk Management Policy and Practice</b>			
Number of people trained in disaster preparedness, mitigation and management, by sex	120 people	100	100
Number of trainings conducted	2 trainings	1 training	1 training
Percentage of people trained who retain skills and knowledge after two months	80% of 120 people	-	-

**Progress Narrative:**

With the recruitment of a new INGO coordinator, efforts will be pursued to review the planned activities and align them with needs of the humanitarian community to ensure complementarity to ongoing actions and defined necessary efforts.

**SECTOR 6: HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

**Objective:** Support involvement of local organizations into the humanitarian system in Nigeria and improve the scope and quality of information gathering.

Sector-Level Beneficiaries					
Cumulative Period Targeted		Reporting Period Reached		Cumulative Period Reached	
Total	IDP	Total	IDP	Total	IDP
100	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A

<b>Indicators</b>			
	<b>TARGET</b>	<b>PROGRESS (Q4)</b>	<b>TOTAL PROGRESS</b>
<b>6.1 Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management</b>			
Number and percentage of humanitarian organizations utilizing information management services	20 Local NGOs	-	-
Number and percentage of humanitarian organizations directly contributing to information products	40 Organizations	-	-
Number of products made available by information management services accessed by clients	4 products	-	-

***Progress Narrative: Mapping exercise local actors***

With the recruitment of a new INGO coordinator, efforts will be pursued to review the planned activities and align them with needs of the humanitarian community to ensure complementarity to ongoing actions and defined necessary efforts.

***Progress Narrative: 12 Indicators workshop***

With the recruitment of a new INGO coordinator, efforts will be pursued to review the planned activities and align them with needs of the humanitarian community to ensure complementarity to ongoing actions and defined necessary efforts.

## **V. Monitoring and Evaluation**

M&E activities for the quarter under review included beneficiary registration and lists validation, consolidation of the database master list for voucher distributions, post-distribution monitoring, market transaction monitoring, complaints and feedback loop.

Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) of livelihood activities: A monitoring exercise was undertaken after the disbursement of livelihood grants to 740 beneficiaries. The majority of the beneficiaries procured the items approved on their business proposals for the income generating activity. The book-keeping training they received was also observed to be utilized in documenting all the transactions undertaken, while quite a number of them had joined the VSLA groups established within their communities.

The main activities conducted for the quarter in view includes:

- Tracking of feedback and complaints
- Para – veterinarians- livestock owners step down training monitoring
- Collection of beneficiaries success stories

***Tracking of feedback and complaints:*** For the quarter under review, a total of thirty seven [37] registered feedback calls were received from the community through the hotline. Most feedback received was related to the livelihoods grants from Tumfure and Federal Low-Cost communities; 65% of the beneficiaries wanted

clarification on the outcome of their application, while 35% required information on VLSA groups specifically on how to undertake group share out.

## VI. Security

In response to the security context described above, Mercy Corps' security protocols are constantly revised to update risks and mitigating measures. .

## VII. Challenges

Generally, while the overall program implementation is on track and within target, a few challenges are encountered and plans for addressing them are being developed. The challenges include:

- Certain expectations from host community members to receive additional assistance in proportion to the assistance being provided to IDPs. Recognition of the exhaustion of resources within the host communities and the understanding of the need for taking a “Do No Harm” approach is guiding Mercy Corps' review and redesign of the activities to fold in host community members as a key target for sustainability and acceptance.
- The ongoing lack of adequate IDP tracking in the humanitarian community in Nigeria creates difficulties in reporting accurate numbers and movement trends and presents a challenge in terms of advocacy for additional assistance to meet immediate needs.
- Weak and decentralized coordination efforts on national and state level present a gap in the ability to share reliable information which defines needs, gaps and response.

## VIII. Plans for next quarter

Sector	Main activities
<b>Sector 1:</b> Economic recovery and market systems	<p><i>Livelihoods Recovery</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Livelihood grants disbursement to reach remaining 468 target beneficiaries in intervention communities.</li> <li>➤ Undertake livelihood assessment to determine the level of livelihood restoration among beneficiaries.</li> <li>➤ Incorporate findings of the Cohort Livelihood and Risk Analysis (CLARA) assessment tool in subsequent livelihood activities.</li> <li>➤ Beneficiary registration, selection and validation (1000HH).</li> <li>➤ Sensitization and distribution of applications.</li> </ul> <p><i>VSLAs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Provide additional support and guidance to the Village Agents in the establishment of more VSLA groups, registration with State Ministry of Animal Husbandry and linkages to financial institutions.</li> <li>➤ Review activity to identify lessons learned and potential development of case study of impact of VSLA on IDPs in conflict.</li> </ul>
<b>Sector 2:</b> Agriculture and Food Security	<p><i>Livestock</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Providing supported supervision to the activities of the trained para vets and ensuring the linkage established for</li> </ul>

	<p>report between them and the Ministry of Animal Husbandry is maintained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Potentially support provision in kind to veterinary clinics within intervention communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Sector 3:</b> Logistics, support and relief items	<p><i>Relief Items</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Market assessment and mapping.</li> <li>➤ Vendors' training on the electronic voucher system</li> <li>➤ Electronic voucher platform setup.</li> <li>➤ Hygiene promotion to accompany electronic vouchers distribution.</li> <li>➤ Distribution of LLINs along with NFI electronic vouchers.</li> <li>➤ First installment of NFI vouchers to 2,000HH</li> </ul>
<b>Sector 4:</b> Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Development of protection training with focus on GBV and SGBV and protection mainstreaming</li> <li>➤ Establish women groups across all the intervention communities</li> <li>➤ Risk mapping exercise and protection stakeholder analysis</li> </ul>
<b>Sector 5:</b> Risk Management policy and practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Security management training to partners of INGO forum</li> </ul>
<b>Sector 6:</b> Humanitarian Coordination and information management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Develop SOW for consultancy on mapping local humanitarian actors and assessing capacity</li> </ul>