

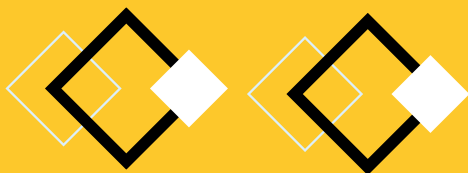
A close-up photograph of a smiling woman with dark skin, wearing a light blue headscarf and a patterned headband. She is holding a young child with dark skin and short hair, who is looking off to the side with a serious expression. The woman's hand is visible, resting on the child's shoulder. The background is dark with a pattern of small, light-colored dots.

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



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LETTER FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

2025 was a year of unprecedented challenges for humanitarian actors in Nigeria, and for the International Rescue Committee (IRC), it tested both our resilience and our resolve. The stop-work orders and significant funding reductions placed immense pressure on our ability to deliver life-saving assistance, yet our commitment to the communities we serve never wavered. Despite these obstacles, IRC reached over **980,000 individuals** across Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, Katsina, Sokoto, and Zamfara States, ensuring access to health, nutrition, education, child protection, protection & rule of law, and economic recovery services.

This year reaffirmed the power of **community partnership, local capacity, and innovation**. Our teams worked tirelessly to adapt programs, leverage technology, and strengthen local systems, ensuring that even in the most constrained environments, vulnerable populations could continue to access essential services. From providing lifesaving treatment for malnutrition and health care for children and mothers, to supporting safe learning spaces and empowering youth and caregivers, every intervention reflected IRC's core mission: to **save lives, restore dignity, and empower communities to thrive**.

We also witnessed the strength and resilience of the communities we serve. Families, volunteers, and local partners showed extraordinary ingenuity and perseverance, supporting each other to overcome barriers created by insecurity and resource constraints. Their courage and collaboration inspired our teams and reinforced the importance of integrated, people-centered humanitarian programming.



Babatunde Ojei

As we look ahead, IRC remains committed to **strengthening systems, deepening local partnerships, and scaling solutions that are sustainable and inclusive**. The lessons of 2025 will guide our path forward, ensuring that despite uncertainty, vulnerable communities continue to receive the support they urgently need, and that hope and opportunity remain steadfast in every corner of Northeast and Northwest Nigeria.

I am immensely grateful to our dedicated staff, partners, and donors whose unwavering support made this impact possible. Together, we continue to stand with communities in crisis, affirming that every life matters, every voice counts, and every action creates a lasting difference.

980,850

TOTAL CLIENTS REACHED

335,966

Women

147,664

Men

262,281

Girls

234,939

Boys

OVERVIEW OF IRC NIGERIA

IRC Nigeria has a strong presence in the country, with a head office in Abuja and operations in deeply affected regions including Katsina, Zamfara, Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe. Guided by our vision and mission to help people survive, recover, and gain control over their future, we are dedicated to delivering life-saving services and sustainable recovery efforts.

Our strategic goals emphasize empowering vulnerable communities, enhancing access to basic services, and advocating for systemic change to address the root causes of crisis

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive, recover and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to people forced to flee from war or disaster. At work today in some 40 countries and 22 US cities, we restore safety, dignity, and hope to millions who are uprooted and struggling to endure. The IRC leads the way from harm to home.

IRC OPERATIONAL SITES

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive, recover and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to people forced to flee from war or disaster. At work today in some 40 countries and 22 US cities, we restore safety, dignity, and hope to millions who are uprooted and struggling to endure. The IRC leads the way from harm to home.



In 2025, the humanitarian sector faced a major crisis due to reduced funding from the American government. This greatly affected our programs and the people we serve. Many things were lost, including staff positions and the number of beneficiaries we could reach. Despite these serious challenges, the IRC has remained strong and committed to supporting vulnerable women, children, and youth in the communities we serve.

Executive Summary

In 2025, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) delivered life-saving assistance, built resilient communities, and strengthened local systems across Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, Katsina, Sokoto, and Zamfara States, collectively reaching over 980,000 individuals affected by conflict, displacement, and crisis. Through integrated programming across Health, Nutrition, WASH, Education, Child Protection, Governance, Protection & Rule of Law, and Economic Recovery and Development, IRC provided holistic support that addressed immediate humanitarian needs while fostering long-term resilience and sustainability.

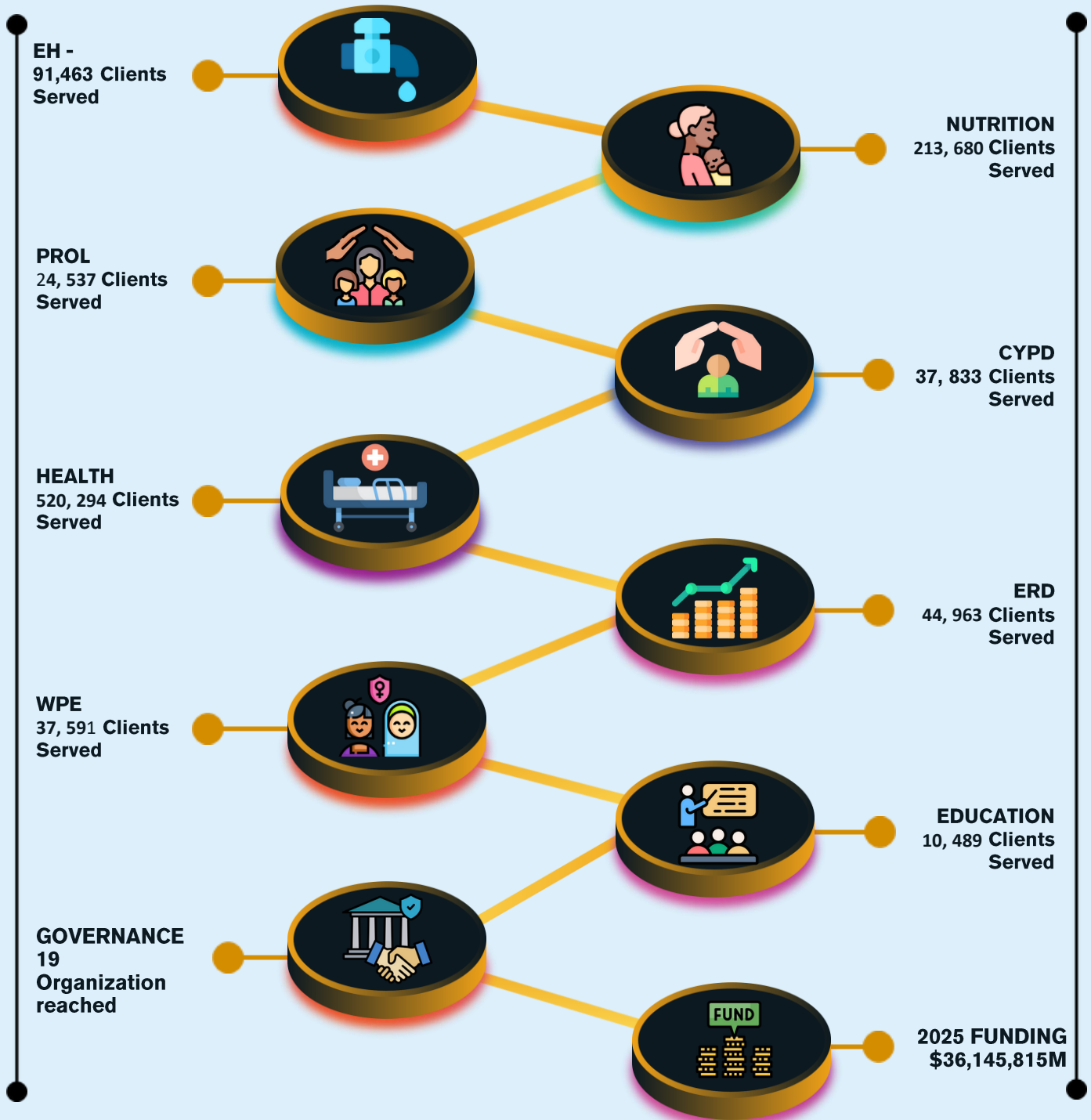
Our Nutrition and Health interventions reached hundreds of thousands of children, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and other vulnerable populations, delivering treatment for acute malnutrition, lifesaving primary health care, sexual and reproductive health services, and emergency preparedness across 89 health facilities and multiple stabilization centers. Child Protection and Education programs strengthened protective learning and care systems, expanded access to quality education for over 10,000 children including out-of-school youth—and provided psychosocial support, positive parenting guidance, and safe spaces to restore dignity and emotional wellbeing.

Through Economic Recovery and Development initiatives, IRC delivered over ₦2 billion in cash assistance to thousands of households, enabling families to meet basic needs, rebuild livelihoods, and mitigate the impacts of climate and conflict shocks. Protection and Rule of Law interventions supported legal assistance, access to justice, civil documentation, and economic recovery, while Governance programming strengthened local institutions, promoted accountability, and empowered communities to influence decisions affecting their lives.

Across sectors, IRC prioritized local capacity development, innovation, and systems strengthening, leveraging tools such as AI-driven teacher support, anticipatory cash programming, and integrated case management to ensure sustainable outcomes. Community structures, government partners, and humanitarian actors were actively engaged, reinforcing ownership, coordination, and preparedness for future crises.

Together, these efforts reflect IRC's commitment to delivering impact at scale protecting lives, restoring dignity, and empowering communities to thrive amid ongoing challenges. The achievements of 2025 demonstrate that strategic, integrated humanitarian and development interventions can save lives today while building the resilience of tomorrow.

RESULTS SNAPSHOT



SECTORAL IMPACT

NUTRITION

Total Clients
Reached

213,680

Across Borno, Adamawa, Katsina, Sokoto, and Zamfara States, escalating conflict, food insecurity, disease, and weak health and WASH systems have driven a worsening nutrition crisis. In 2025, 37 percent of assessed LGAs were classified as IPC Phase 3 (Serious) or Phase 4 (Critical), leaving millions of children and pregnant and breastfeeding women in urgent need of lifesaving nutrition services.

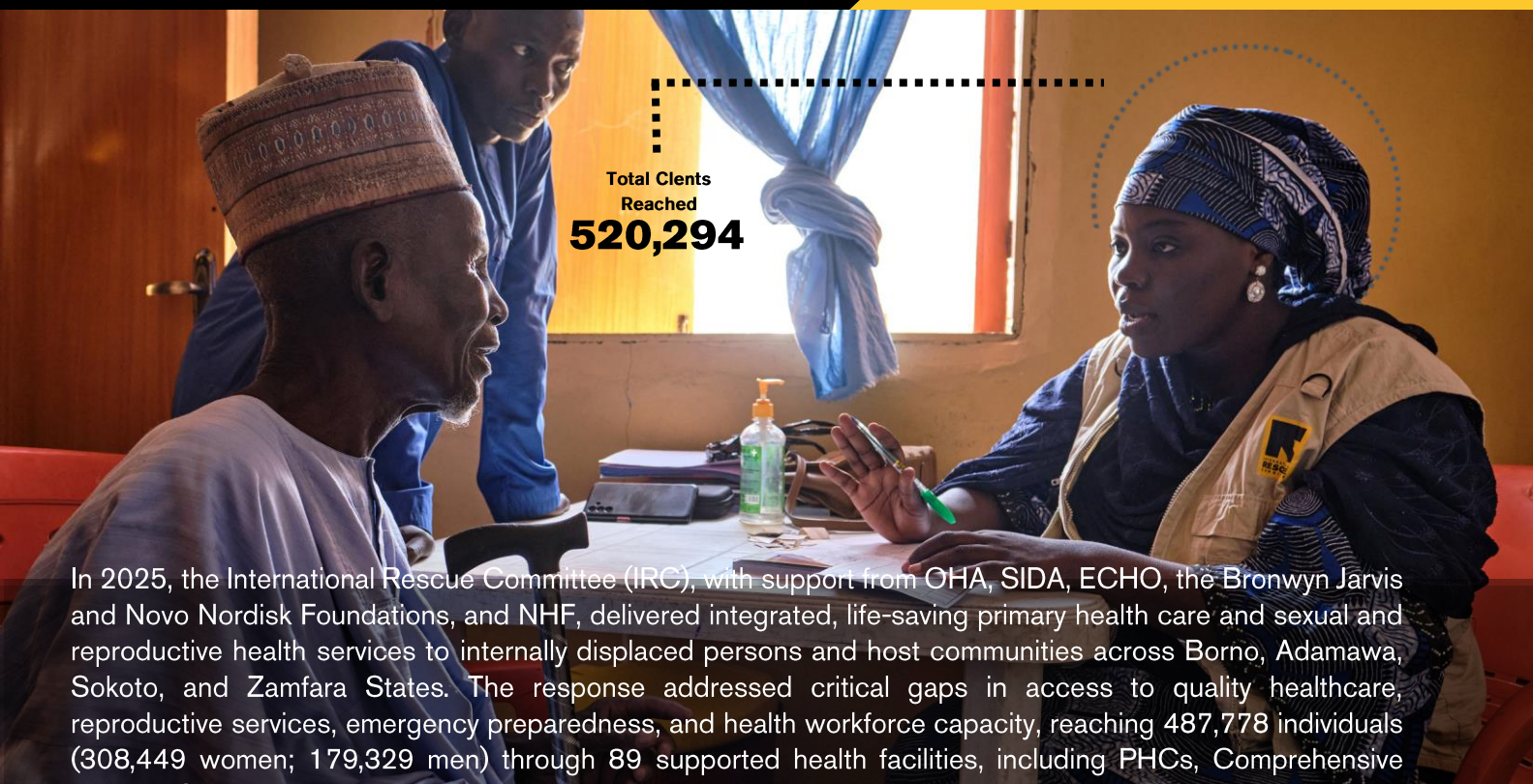
In response, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), with support from multiple donors and IRC Headquarters, delivered integrated, preventive, and curative nutrition services to internally displaced and host communities. Through a network of 60 Outpatient Therapeutic Program sites, 40 Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program sites, and 7 Stabilization Centers, IRC provided a full continuum of care that consistently met or exceeded national and Sphere standards. During the year, 97,804 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) received treatment through OTP services, while 10,254 children with medical complications were treated at stabilization centers. An additional 68,208 children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) were supported through supplementary feeding, preventing deterioration and reducing mortality.

Prevention and resilience-building remained central to the response. 145,449 caregivers received Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling, strengthening early care-seeking and nutrition practices at household level. To respond to seasonal spikes in malnutrition, IRC strengthened emergency preparedness by pre-positioning supplies, expanding stabilization center capacity by 80 additional inpatient beds, recruiting surge staff, and securing continuity of therapeutic food supplies through regional buffer stock mechanisms.

By combining lifesaving treatment with prevention, preparedness, and system strengthening, IRC's nutrition response reduced acute malnutrition, strengthened health service delivery, and protected the survival and development of the most vulnerable children and women in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

SECTORAL IMPACT

HEALTH



Total Clients
Reached
520,294

In 2025, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), with support from OHA, SIDA, ECHO, the Bronwyn Jarvis and Novo Nordisk Foundations, and NHF, delivered integrated, life-saving primary health care and sexual and reproductive health services to internally displaced persons and host communities across Borno, Adamawa, Sokoto, and Zamfara States. The response addressed critical gaps in access to quality healthcare, reproductive services, emergency preparedness, and health workforce capacity, reaching 487,778 individuals (308,449 women; 179,329 men) through 89 supported health facilities, including PHCs, Comprehensive Women Centres, and mobile clinics.

IRC provided comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services to 89,035 people, supporting 21,393 skilled deliveries, 21,852 newborns with postnatal care, and 55,005 first antenatal care visits. Family planning services reached 15,956 new acceptors, while 1,330 individuals received referrals for higher-level emergency care. Vulnerable populations, including 364 children under five, benefited from targeted emergency support. Health workforce strengthening remained central, with over 270 health workers trained in areas ranging from national antenatal guidelines and long-acting contraceptives, to clinical management of sexual assault, non-communicable diseases, and mental health. Training was reinforced with integrated supervision and on-the-job mentoring, improving service quality and continuity of care. Emergency preparedness was enhanced through pre-positioned supplies, ambulance support, rapid response teams, and outbreak response plans, enabling timely intervention during cholera, measles, and malaria outbreaks. During peak malaria season, long-lasting insecticidal nets were distributed to pregnant women and children under five, while safe delivery kits supported maternal and newborn health.

IRC also strengthened health systems through infrastructure upgrades, including rehabilitated maternity wards, laboratories, waste management systems, and waiting areas, alongside essential equipment and staffing. Innovations included a nine-month self-care NCD study with 870 participants, informing state-level policy and contributing to the launch of the Borno State NCD Technical Working Group. Evidence-based SRH programming was advanced through climate-sensitive research, the domestication of the Borno State Self-Care Guideline, and establishment of a Technical Advisory Group on Climate Change and SRH. IRC's 2025 health response delivered life-saving care at scale, strengthened health systems, safeguarded reproductive rights, and enhanced emergency preparedness in fragile contexts, demonstrating measurable improvements in access, quality, and resilience across vulnerable communities.

SECTORAL IMPACT

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Environmental Health (WASH): Clean Water, Safer Communities, Healthier Futures

Across Borno, Adamawa, Zamfara, and Katsina States, conflict and displacement have severely strained access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene, leaving families exposed to preventable disease and daily hardship. Women, children, and displaced households living in camps, host communities, schools, and health facilities face heightened risks from unsafe water sources, open defecation, and weak infection prevention systems.

In response, IRC rapidly expanded lifesaving and inclusive WASH services to reduce disease transmission and restore dignity. Through the construction of one motorized borehole and the rehabilitation of 47 additional water points, 83,500 people gained reliable access to safe drinking water. During cholera outbreaks, IRC delivered chlorinated emergency water trucking for 19 days, reaching 1,333 people in the most affected communities. Sanitation access was strengthened through the construction and rehabilitation of 952 latrine drop holes, benefiting 25,856 people, while 255 handwashing stations were installed across priority locations.

In response, IRC rapidly expanded lifesaving and inclusive WASH services to reduce disease transmission and restore dignity. Through the construction of one motorized borehole and the rehabilitation of 47 additional water points, 83,500 people gained reliable access to safe drinking water. During cholera outbreaks, IRC delivered chlorinated emergency water trucking for 19 days, reaching 1,333 people in the most affected communities. Sanitation access was strengthened through the construction and rehabilitation of 952 latrine drop holes, benefiting 25,856 people, while 255 handwashing stations were installed across priority locations.

To strengthen environmental health systems, IRC improved waste management and infection prevention in health facilities and communities. Five solid waste disposal pits were constructed, 25 existing pits maintained, and eight medical incinerators constructed, rehabilitated, or upgraded. In parallel, 47 health workers were trained, and facilities received 84 IPC material sets and 90 waste management kits, significantly improving readiness to prevent and respond to disease outbreaks.

Community leadership and behavior change were central to sustaining impact. IRC trained 104 community hygiene volunteers, who reached 111,101 people through household visits and hygiene promotion campaigns. These efforts were reinforced through the distribution of 5,790 hygiene kits, 3,029 cholera kits, and 950 menstrual hygiene kits, supporting 28,604 people to adopt safer hygiene practices across camps, schools, OTPs, health facilities, and host communities.



“Access to clean water and safe toilets has changed our daily lives. Our children are healthier, and we feel safer and more dignified,”

— Binta Alhaji, 20, displaced mother of three, GSS IDP Camp, Gwoza, Borno State.

Strategically, these interventions reduced vulnerability to cholera and other waterborne diseases, strengthened health systems through improved infection prevention, and promoted sustainable behavior change through community-led approaches. Integrated WASH programming across multiple settings ensured efficiency, scale, and lasting impact.

IRC worked in close partnership with State Ministries of Health and Water Resources, local authorities, camp management, community leaders, and health facilities, with support from donors and consortium partners, ensuring coordinated, accountable, and locally aligned delivery.

Looking ahead, IRC will prioritize expanding durable water infrastructure, scaling hygiene promotion and IPC support in high-risk and hard-to-reach areas, and strengthening community ownership to sustain WASH services and protect public health.

SECTORAL IMPACT

CHILD PROTECTION

Total
Clients
Reached
37,833

In 2025, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) delivered integrated child protection services across conflict-affected and vulnerable communities in Borno, Adamawa, Sokoto, Katsina, and Zamfara States, addressing critical gaps in safeguarding children from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence. Interventions reached 37,833 children and caregivers (17,341 girls; 14,134 boys; 3,585 women; 2,773 men), focusing on prevention, psychosocial support, case management, and community-based protection systems.

Prevention efforts engaged 6,415 community members through awareness campaigns on child safety, positive discipline, and risk mitigation, while 1,643 caregivers participated in the Families Make a Difference (FMD) program, strengthening nurturing practices at home. Adolescents benefited from psychosocial support through the SAFE Adolescent program, with 1,633 young people gaining resilience, coping skills, and social connectedness in safe group sessions. Child protection was seamlessly integrated into nutrition services, screening 27,289 children (15,077 girls; 12,212 boys) for protection risks, ensuring timely referrals and follow-up for high- and medium-risk cases. Targeted case management supported 721 vulnerable children, including separated and unaccompanied minors, restoring safety, wellbeing, and access to essential services.

The sector strengthened systems and local capacity through training 132 child protection partners, including government and community actors, enhancing coordination, adherence to standards, and overall service quality. These efforts reinforced community-based protection structures, promoting sustainability, accountability, and resilience.

SECTORAL IMPACT

WOMEN PROTECTION AND EMPOWERMENT

In 2025, the IRC Women's Protection and Empowerment (WPE) sector continued to transform lives across Borno, Adamawa, Zamfara, and Katsina states, addressing the urgent risks women and girls face from gender-based violence (GBV), economic vulnerability, and harmful social norms. Limited access to support services often left survivors isolated, while communities struggled to prevent and respond to violence. Through survivor-centered interventions, skills-building programs, and community engagement, the WPE sector brought hope, care, and opportunity to thousands.

Over the year, more than 54,000 people women, girls, men, and boys—benefited from awareness sessions, psychosocial support, and safe spaces designed to build resilience and promote community accountability. Programs such as Girl Shine empowered adolescent girls with life skills, while Engaging Men through Accountable Practices (EMAP) challenged harmful gender norms and encouraged men to champion women's safety and dignity.

The true impact of this work is reflected in the lives it has changed. Fanna, a young girl from Hoyo, was sexually assaulted and left traumatized. Through IRC awareness activities and referral services, she received counseling, medical care, and skills training that enabled her to safely deliver her child, start a small business, and rebuild her life with confidence. Aisha Ridwan from Kwata community gained financial independence and self-confidence through vocational skills training, and now mentors other women to do the same. Sarah Yohanna from Madagali LGA overcame emotional distress and academic struggles, gaining resilience and life skills that helped her pursue a university degree. These stories show that integrated protection, psychosocial care, and economic empowerment restore dignity, hope, and self-reliance.



Partnerships with government authorities, local communities, donors, and consortium partners strengthened response systems, improved referrals, and ensured coordinated action. Advocacy events such as the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV, International Women's Day, and the International Day of the Girl Child amplified women's voices, promoted social norms change, and reinforced public commitment to preventing GBV. Looking ahead, the WPE sector will continue to expand safe spaces, strengthen case management, and scale adolescent girls' and survivor-focused programs to reach more vulnerable populations. With sustained collaboration, innovation, and a survivor-centered approach, the IRC remains committed to ensuring that women and girls live free from violence, regain independence, and thrive in their communities.

SECTORAL IMPACT

PROTECTION AND RULE OF LAW

In 2025, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) strengthened safety, dignity, and access to rights for conflict-affected and displaced populations in Adamawa, Borno, Katsina, and Zamfara States, addressing critical protection gaps through integrated legal, community-based, and protection services. The PRoL sector reached 122,731 clients through awareness campaigns, capacity strengthening, legal assistance, targeted support, referrals, and information services, improving access to justice, restoring dignity, and promoting resilience across communities.

Total
Clients
Reached

24,537

Through the Access to Justice program, 4,985 individuals (2,709 women, 1,555 men, 386 girls, 335 boys) received legal counselling, court representation, and detention monitoring support, reclaiming rights and accessing essential services. PRoL also supported 100 vulnerable households with cash assistance, while 1,210 individuals received non-food items and mobility aids, prioritizing persons with disabilities and those affected by trauma, discrimination, or stigma. Awareness sessions engaged 12,467 community members on human rights, gender-based violence, human trafficking, and access to protection services, complemented by mobile help desks providing legal and psychosocial support. Structured referrals enabled 2,572 individuals to obtain birth certificates and national identity cards, unlocking access to education, social services, and safer movement, while 230 clients accessed economic recovery support through cash vouchers and income-generating activities. PRoL's Signpost initiative provided reliable information to 92,054 clients through online and offline platforms, including Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, and IRC websites, enhancing informed decision-making in fragile settings.

SECTORAL IMPACT

ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) delivered critical cash assistance and economic empowerment programs to conflict-affected and displaced populations across Adamawa, Borno, Yobe, Katsina, and Zamfara States, addressing urgent economic vulnerability and strengthening household resilience. Through interventions such as Anticipatory Action (AA) Cash Transfers, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) for food and WASH, emergency response, and financial inclusion initiatives, the sector supported households and communities to absorb shocks and rebuild livelihoods.

The ERD sector provided over \$956,000 USD in anticipatory cash assistance to 4,896 households in Adamawa and Borno States to mitigate climate-related impacts, while 2,936 crisis-affected individuals in Katsina and Zamfara States received timely MPCA to meet urgent food and basic needs. Youth-focused interventions reached 103 entrepreneurs in Yobe and Adamawa States with business development training, growth grants, and access to credit through six functional Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA), strengthening income generation, savings, and economic stability. Additionally, under the Northwest Integrated Emergency Response project, 3,600 households across Katsina and Zamfara States received cash support for food and WASH, totaling ₦690 million disbursed.

Total
Clients
Reached

44,963

The sector's strategic engagement extended beyond direct assistance. Collaborating with the Nigerian Government, IRC organized the Anticipatory Action Conference: "Unlocking the Power of Data-Driven Anticipatory Action in Nigeria", convening government, private sector, and partner stakeholders to strengthen evidence-based programming and promote government ownership of AA interventions. These efforts collectively enhanced household economic resilience, supported sustainable livelihoods, and fostered inclusive, data-driven approaches to crisis preparedness.

SECTORAL IMPACT

EDUCATION

Total
Clients
Reached

10,489

Advancing Inclusive Learning and Protecting Children's Futures

Conflict, displacement, and prolonged school disruption continue to deny thousands of children in IRC operational areas access to safe, inclusive, and quality education. Girls, out-of-school children (OOSC), and other vulnerable learners are particularly at risk of exclusion, interrupted learning, and protection threats, highlighting the urgent need for flexible pathways to restore education and strengthen resilience.

In 2025, the IRC Education Sector reached over 6,600 learners (3,299 boys and 3,301 girls) by establishing 84 safe learning environments and delivering the Accelerated Basic Education Programme (ABEP) alongside remedial classes. These interventions enabled 3,360 learners (1,713 boys and 1,647 girls) to transition successfully into formal schools, restoring access to sustained education. Across project sites, 152 teachers and facilitators (85 male, 67 female) were equipped with targeted training in pedagogy, inclusive practices, and child protection, improving classroom quality, fostering protective learning spaces, and enhancing student outcomes. Vulnerable children were further safeguarded through 138 referrals to confidential protection mechanisms, ensuring their right to uninterrupted learning even in crisis contexts.

To expand reach and strengthen learning continuity, IRC introduced aprendIA, an AI-driven, low-bandwidth WhatsApp chatbot that delivers personalized professional development and real-time classroom guidance to teachers in remote or insecure settings. This innovative tool enables teachers to access evidence-based strategies, confidence-building resources, and adaptive support where traditional workshops are not feasible, directly improving instructional quality and children's learning outcomes.

Community engagement reinforced program effectiveness and sustainability. Local structures were equipped to support emergency preparedness and continuity of learning, while joint monitoring with education stakeholders ensured accountability, technical quality, and local ownership. By integrating accelerated learning, teacher capacity building, protection mechanisms, and innovative digital solutions, the IRC Education Sector advanced inclusive education, strengthened community resilience, and provided vulnerable children with durable pathways to formal schooling and lifelong learning.

Looking ahead, IRC will continue to expand accelerated and remedial education, scale up digital teacher support through aprendIA, strengthen protection and referral systems, and deepen partnerships with education authorities and communities to ensure every child has a safe, inclusive, and continuous pathway to learning.

SECTORAL IMPACT

GOVERNANCE

Enabling Voices, Accountability, and Sustainable Local Systems

Across Borno, Adamawa, Katsina, Sokoto, and Zamfara States, conflict and fragility continue to limit community voices and strain government systems, undermining accountability and the sustainability of humanitarian investments. Women, youth, and marginalized groups are often the most excluded from decision-making processes that directly affect their lives and livelihoods.

In 2025, IRC's Governance Sector strengthened inclusive engagement, social accountability, and system resilience across multiple projects and locations. Through regular stakeholder analysis and engagement platforms, IRC convened government institutions, local authorities, civil society organizations, and community representatives to jointly review progress, address challenges, and agree on practical solutions to address long-term humanitarian crises. Quarterly engagement and project review meetings were held across Borno, Adamawa and Northwest Nigeria, improving coordination, partnership alignment with government priorities, and shared ownership of interventions.



To sustain impact beyond project cycles, IRC supported structured transition and sustainability planning, establishing sustainability committees and operationalizing sustainability frameworks in MMC, Jere, Monguno, Katsina, Sokoto, and Zamfara. In parallel, IRC strengthened local systems through organizational development support to key ministries and health facilities and applied the Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation (PDIA) approach across 13 health facilities, improving institutional capacity, adaptability, and service responsiveness.

By embedding governance across sectors, IRC ensured that programs were not only delivered, but locally owned, accountable, and positioned for long-term impact.

SECTORAL IMPACT

COMPLIANCE

In 2025, Compliance, Ethics and Risk Management played a critical enabling role in safeguarding programme integrity, strengthening accountability, and ensuring responsible stewardship of resources across the Nigeria Country Programme. Working in close alignment with the Global Ethics and Compliance Unit, the function provided strategic oversight, assurance, and advisory support during a year marked by heightened operational risks, funding constraints, and increased donor and regulatory scrutiny.

A key focus of the year was strengthening risk awareness and shared accountability across all levels of the organization. The Compliance Unit established and operationalized a Risk Champions Network, bringing together 23 staff from field offices and departments to embed compliance and risk management closer to programme delivery. Through targeted training on ethical conduct, fraud risk awareness, whistleblowing mechanisms, and field-level risk identification, the network strengthened first-line risk management and improved early detection and mitigation of operational risks. This effort was reinforced through the introduction of an Annual Compliance Commitment Pledge, endorsed by senior management, which strengthened tone-from-the-top and reinforced individual accountability.

Capacity building and engagement with key stakeholders remained central to the Compliance Unit's work. During the year, 222 staff, 423 incentive workers, and 33 partner staff across five partner organizations received training on ethics, compliance, and risk management, alongside engagement with 44 active vendors. These efforts focused on ethical conduct in client-facing operations, accountable programme delivery, partner resource management, emergency response risk mitigation, and compliance with donor and statutory requirements—contributing to safer, more transparent, and more accountable programming.



The Unit also strengthened assurance through targeted compliance reviews and field spot checks in Yola, Monguno, and Gwoza, as well as an ongoing compliance review of the People & Culture function. All previously aged investigation cases were closed, while new cases were managed in line with global protocols, with lessons learned informing corrective actions and system improvements. Externally, the Compliance Unit supported strong regulatory engagement, including participation in a national Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CFT) assessment aligned with international standards. This engagement concluded successfully, with IRC receiving formal recognition from authorities for its cooperation and compliance posture.

Overall, Compliance, Ethics and Risk Management strengthened the foundations that enable effective, ethical, and accountable humanitarian action—supporting programme quality, protecting organizational integrity, and reinforcing donor and stakeholder confidence.

SECTORAL IMPACT

PARTNERSHIP

Advancing Equitable Collaboration in 2025

In 2025, IRC Nigeria strengthened its partnership management function, consolidating systems and advancing the Country Programme's localization commitments in line with the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) adaptation for Nigeria. A revised Partnership Action Plan provided a clear framework for consistent partnership implementation, accountability, and quality management across the full partnership lifecycle.

Despite a challenging funding environment driven by reductions in USG funding and shifting donor priorities, IRC Nigeria demonstrated sustained commitment to localized collaboration. Expenditure through national partners increased from 4.7 per cent in 2024 to over 6.5 per cent in 2025, reflecting continued progress toward equitable partnerships. During the year, the Country Programme engaged more than 23 local organizations in joint proposal development, strengthening the partner pipeline and enhancing local visibility, even though fewer partnerships materialized due to external funding constraints, particularly from USG, ECHO, and FCDO.

Collaborative programme design was fully institutionalized in 2025, with all donor proposals developed jointly with partners from inception. To reinforce partnership quality and shared accountability at field level, in-person PEERS trainings were delivered in Katsina, Yola, and Maiduguri, strengthening partner understanding of IRC systems, expectations, and roles across the partnership lifecycle.



Targeted capacity-sharing support was provided to partners including GHIV Africa, GREENCODE, CHAN, LHI, GISCOR, and CHAD, with a focus on Finance, Procurement, and MEAL systems. These efforts were complemented by peer-learning exchanges between IRC and partner staff, contributing to strengthened local technical capacity and more effective programme delivery.

Progress continued on strategic partnerships, with five strategic partnership agreements active during the year and two additional partnerships under discussion, keeping IRC Nigeria on track toward SAP localization targets. By year-end, the Partnerships Unit managed eight active partnerships (six national), with five to six new partnerships in development, and successfully closed ten partnerships during the financial year demonstrating strong portfolio oversight and lifecycle management.

Broader efforts to strengthen the partner ecosystem included national partner mapping through an online portal and the application of Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR) equalization for national partners, supporting institutional strengthening and sustainability.

Overall, 2025 marked steady and deliberate progress in localization, partnership quality, and system strengthening, reinforcing IRC Nigeria's commitment to accountable, inclusive, and sustainable collaboration with national and local partners.

SECTORAL IMPACT

SAFEGUARDING

Strengthening Trust, Accountability, and Protection

In 2025, IRC Nigeria reinforced a safeguarding culture grounded in accountability, dignity, and zero tolerance for exploitation, abuse, harassment, and abuse of power. Efforts focused on addressing power imbalances, promoting survivor-centered reporting, and maintaining accessible, confidential feedback mechanisms for clients, staff, and partners and Making IRC-Nigeria CP safeguarding Culture organization.

Safeguarding remained a leadership priority, with organizational values and the Code of Conduct consistently reinforced. Dedicated resources are provided to support prevention, risk mitigation, and response, while survivors were supported to access needed services.

Key system strengthening milestones included rollout of the updated Safeguarding Policy, full compliance (8/8) in the UN PSEA Implementing Partner assessment, and operationalization of an Incident Response SOP to enhance timely, consistent, survivor-centered case management and Technical support was also provided to partners.

Capacity building reached 267 staff (63%) and 501 incentive workers (48%) through safeguarding trainings. Refresher sessions and targeted awareness sessions were conducted for focal points and Associates.

Community accountability was strengthened through engagement with 7,254 clients, with 45% demonstrating strong awareness of expected staff behavior and safeguarding Misconducts. Community Safeguarding Champions supported local awareness and prevention efforts.

Safeguarding was integrated across all active grants, supported by an investment of approximately USD 36,000. IRC Nigeria also contributed to national PSEA Network coordination, cluster-level technical support, PSEAH Key emergency messaging, and Training of Trainers initiatives.

By year-end, safeguarding minimum standards implementation reached 67%, reflecting solid progress while highlighting areas for continued improvement. IRC Nigeria remains committed to fostering a safe, trusted, and survivor-centered humanitarian environment.



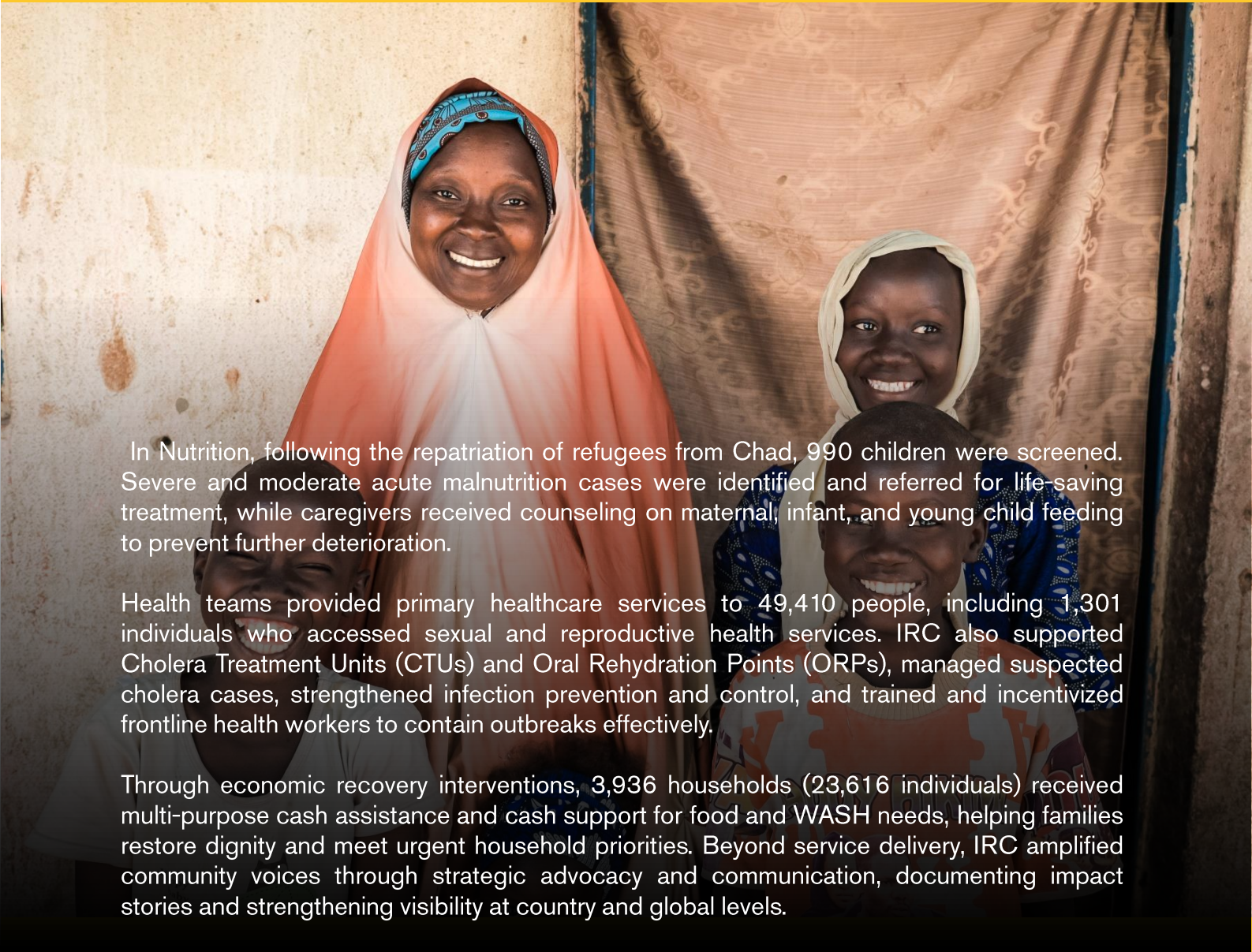
SECTORAL IMPACT

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Strengthening Trust, Accountability, and Protection

In 2025, the IRC responded to multiple emergencies across Zamfara, Katsina, Borno, and Adamawa States, addressing disease outbreaks, food insecurity, fire incidents, and displacement affecting vulnerable communities.

Through rapid response interventions, IRC distributed WASH and dignity kits to 3,098 households (18,838 individuals) and provided 499 cholera kits in high-risk locations. Hygiene promotion and community sensitization reached 149,904 people, while household and waste-site disinfection efforts protected an additional 152,762 individuals. To strengthen local response capacity, 299 frontline responders were trained to manage disease outbreaks and protection concerns. During critical water shortages, IRC trucked over 800,500 liters of safe water, reaching 53,366 people in line with Sphere emergency standards.



In Nutrition, following the repatriation of refugees from Chad, 990 children were screened. Severe and moderate acute malnutrition cases were identified and referred for life-saving treatment, while caregivers received counseling on maternal, infant, and young child feeding to prevent further deterioration.

Health teams provided primary healthcare services to 49,410 people, including 1,301 individuals who accessed sexual and reproductive health services. IRC also supported Cholera Treatment Units (CTUs) and Oral Rehydration Points (ORPs), managed suspected cholera cases, strengthened infection prevention and control, and trained and incentivized frontline health workers to contain outbreaks effectively.

Through economic recovery interventions, 3,936 households (23,616 individuals) received multi-purpose cash assistance and cash support for food and WASH needs, helping families restore dignity and meet urgent household priorities. Beyond service delivery, IRC amplified community voices through strategic advocacy and communication, documenting impact stories and strengthening visibility at country and global levels.

SECTORAL IMPACT

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS, SAFETY AND SECURITY

Humanitarian Access, Safety & Security Performance – 2025

In 2025, the Humanitarian Access, Safety and Security team enabled safe, continuous, and principled program delivery across IRC Nigeria's high-risk operational areas. Through strengthened risk management, community acceptance, and civil-military coordination, the team ensured uninterrupted humanitarian access to vulnerable communities.

Continuous security monitoring including daily tracking, weekly analysis, and timely incident reporting supported informed decision-making and reduced staff exposure to threats. Proactive advisories on IEDs, ambush risks, and armed clashes contributed to a measurable decline in security incidents, improving operational continuity and safer field movement.

Evidence-based risk management remained central to operations. Multiple security and infrastructure assessments were conducted, including for expansion sites in Girei, Demsa, and Mubi South. Route risk assessments along key corridors such as Maiduguri–Monguno strengthened movement planning. Updated Security SOPs, improved emergency preparedness, and country-wide inductions enhanced compliance and readiness across teams and consortium partners.

Investments in security infrastructure including CCTV, fire safety systems, remote surveillance, and emergency simulations strengthened physical protection and early warning capacity. Enhanced guard supervision and compliance measures resulted in zero recorded theft or burglary incidents during the year. Emergency response systems were validated through the successful evacuation and relocation of a staff member following a security incident.



Community acceptance improved through sustained engagement with traditional leaders, youth groups, and women's associations, with 78% of community-raised concerns resolved. In Monguno, access engagement enabled cost-free relocation to a government facility and safe expansion to four additional health sites.

Regular coordination with the Nigerian Military, Police, Civil Defense, DSS, vigilante groups, OCHA, ECOWAS, UNDP, and donor platforms strengthened civil military relations, clarified movement procedures, and reduced operational interference.

Overall, the Humanitarian Access, Safety and Security function remained a critical enabler of IRC Nigeria's 2025 operations protecting staff, strengthening community trust, and ensuring safe, responsible programme delivery at scale.

SECTORAL IMPACT

OPERATIONS & FIELD MANAGEMENT

Delivering Value, Efficiency, and Sustainability in 2025

Over the period, despite navigating a challenging funding environment, the IRC Operations arm demonstrated exceptional operational leadership, enabling efficient and adaptive program implementation. Our continued commitment to robust governance, strategic prioritization, and close program collaboration ensured the continuity of services, drove cost optimization, and upheld high standards of accountability and sustainability.

Here are some of the significant achievements/highlights over the period:

Firstly, IRC Nigeria Country Programs' successful 'Go Green' campaign made a remarkable impact. By reducing our reliance on diesel-powered generators and harnessing solar energy, we managed to cut energy costs and lower our carbon footprint. This initiative not only trimmed our overhead costs but also ensured that several of our stabilization centers now have a 24x7 power supply, significantly reducing service interruptions.

Secondly, every cloud comes with a silver lining, the Stop Work Order (SWOs) that hit the entire humanitarian sector in 2025, though devastating, but compelled us to work smarter and think outside the box. Notably, our infrastructure and premises optimization efforts paid off. The IRC consolidated and shrunk multiple offices and guesthouses into more efficient facilities, reducing the number of facilities per geographical location. This strategy not only created scalable cost efficiencies but also allowed us to repurpose the savings to scale up our programing impact in the communities we serve and to reach more clients/beneficiaries.

Lastly, we made significant strides in our localization agenda. By intentionally building and growing the capacity of the local community, The IRC patronizes qualified local vendors and recruits indigenous individuals from the communities we serve. This approach has not only enhanced local capacity but also ensures the sustainability of services even after IRC's exit in such locations.

Overall, the efforts invested illustrate a resilient, accountable, and strategically aligned and adaptive Operations. The IRC has strengthened program delivery, maximized value for money, and advanced sustainability across IRC Nigeria and locations/communities we serve.



IMPACTS

Advancing Health and Humanitarian Impact in Adamawa State

In 2025, IRC marked a defining year in Adamawa State through high-level engagements, strengthened partnerships, and targeted investments supporting health systems, nutrition outcomes, and community resilience. A series of coordinated activities in July highlighted IRC's commitment to sustainable, locally led solutions.

The visit of IRC's Regional Vice President for West Africa, **Modou Dior**, served as a major milestone, deepening collaboration with government authorities, traditional leaders, and frontline teams. Discussions focused on aligning humanitarian response with long-term development priorities and strengthening resilient public systems.

IRC teams convened a reflection and strategy session during the visit, fostering dialogue on programme quality, innovation, sustainability, and adaptive programming, while incorporating field insights and community feedback.

In collaboration with the Adamawa State Ministry of Health and Human Services, IRC implemented simplified treatment protocols for acute malnutrition. With support from Edesia, including a donation of 4,500 cartons of RUTF, alongside an additional 5,300 cartons provided through private donor contributions, the initiative reinforced government-led efforts to combat acute malnutrition.

Collaboration with local leadership was further reinforced when the **Ribadu Emirate Council** conferred a traditional title on the Regional Vice President, recognizing IRC's contributions to humanitarian development and community resilience.

Building on these engagements, IRC convened a **Health Sector Summit in Yola** with government and partners to advance dialogue on health system strengthening. IRC highlighted progress in expanding clinical and reproductive health services, rehabilitating facilities, training community health workers, and supporting vulnerable households' enrollment into the state health insurance scheme.

These engagements collectively reinforced IRC's commitment to government partnership, system strengthening, and community-centered approaches, demonstrating the impact of coordinated action with local institutions.



IMPACTS

Sustaining Essential Health Services in Monguno, Borno State

Monguno Local Government Area (LGA) in Borno State remains one of the most critical humanitarian hubs in northeastern Nigeria, hosting large numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs) fleeing conflict from Marte, Kukawa, Nganzai, and Guzamala LGAs. Years of protracted insurgency have severely weakened health infrastructure, leaving many facilities damaged, overstretched, or operating below minimum service standards. As displacement continues, pressure on already limited health, nutrition, and WASH services has intensified, with women and children most affected by gaps in access to timely and quality care.

For nearly a decade, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), in collaboration with government authorities and community leaders, has supported the restoration and delivery of essential services in Monguno. These partnerships proved especially critical in 2025 when the IDP camp located at Government Senior Science Secondary School (GSSSS), which hosted IRC's Comprehensive Women's Center, was closed to allow for school rehabilitation. In response, the Monguno Local Government Authority facilitated the relocation of IRC's life-saving services to the newly constructed Gana'ali Primary Health Care (PHC) facility, ensuring continuity of care for vulnerable populations.

Building on this collaboration, the LGA further requested IRC to extend support to Zulum Care PHC, located within the government-built 1,000-housing-unit estate established to resettle IDPs previously living in the GSSSS camp. This transition reinforced IRC's role as a trusted partner in supporting government-led solutions while maintaining access to essential health and nutrition services for resettled communities. Following the issuance of the United States Government Stop Work Order (SWO) in Monguno, IRC rapidly mobilized internal Emergency Operations and UR Appeal funds to prevent service disruptions. Between June and September 2025, the organization implemented targeted interventions across Gana'ali PHC and Zulum Care PHC, alongside critical WASH infrastructure support, including latrine construction and borehole rehabilitation. These efforts enabled the restoration of essential health and nutrition services, replenishment of medical supplies, and the resumption of priority interventions such as family planning and clinical management of rape—ensuring continued access to protection-sensitive, life-saving care during a period of heightened uncertainty.



In July 2025, IRC's Regional Vice President for West Africa visited Monguno to engage directly with staff, partners, and community stakeholders. During meetings held at the UN Hub, local authorities and partners expressed strong appreciation for IRC's sustained presence and reaffirmed their commitment to continued collaboration. The visit included tours of IRC-supported facilities, including Gana'ali PHC, Zulum Care PHC, and Fulatari, reinforcing IRC's partnership with local institutions and its commitment to strengthening community-based health systems.

Together, these engagements and interventions underscore IRC's ability to adapt in complex operating environments, sustain essential services amid funding disruptions, and work alongside government and communities to deliver lasting impact for conflict-affected populations in Monguno.

IMPACTS

Sustaining Integrated Humanitarian Services in Gwoza, Borno State



Gwoza LGA, along Nigeria's northeastern border, remains a highly complex humanitarian setting marked by conflict, displacement, and limited access to basic services. In 2025, IRC sustained integrated Health, Nutrition, WASH, Protection, and Education in Emergencies (EiE) programming in partnership with CHAD Organization, community structures, and local authorities. In January 2025, a BHA Stop Work Order disrupted planned activities and staffing. IRC's Gwoza team rapidly adapted operations, prioritizing life-saving and protective services while optimizing limited resources. Essential health and nutrition services for women and children continued, WASH interventions safeguarded access to safe water and hygiene, protection teams maintained referral pathways, and EiE programmes preserved safe learning spaces.

Sustainability and local ownership guided the response. Engagement with community leaders and LGA authorities was strengthened to reinforce shared responsibilities, while Ministry of Health personnel received mentoring, supportive supervision, incentives, and capacity support to sustain service delivery. Community volunteers and incentive workers played a vital role in early case identification, hygiene promotion, protection awareness, and education outreach.

IRC also integrated climate-conscious practices, including tree planting at supported facilities to reduce heat stress and improve the environment for staff and service users.

Programme credibility and accountability were reinforced through visits by ECHO representatives and IRC's Regional Vice President, providing direct insight into field realities, partnerships, and operational priorities.

Despite significant constraints, IRC continued delivering coordinated, multi-sector services treating children with acute malnutrition, supporting survivors of violence, maintaining WASH access, and ensuring conflict-affected children could learn in protective environments. Gwoza's experience underscores the value of integrated programming, strong local partnerships, adaptive management, and climate-aware operations in complex emergencies.

2025 EVENTS

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT (RVP) VISIT TO NIGERIA

The Nigerian country program welcomed its Regional Vice President, Modou Diaw, and Country Director, Tunde Ojei, during a field visit across Maiduguri, Gwoza, Monguno, Yola, and Fufere. The visit provided an opportunity to engage directly with field teams, community leaders, and program participants, offering firsthand insight into the realities, resilience, and impact of humanitarian action in crisis-affected communities.

Beyond program oversight, the visit underscored the value of people-centered leadership rooted in humility, presence, and active listening. Through meaningful interactions with staff and communities, the leadership team reinforced a shared sense of purpose, motivation, and commitment, reminding teams that lasting humanitarian impact is driven not only by strategy and urgency, but by empathy, connection, and leading with integrity.



WORLD DIABETES DAY

The International Rescue Committee on 14 November, marked World Diabetes Day across its field locations and Abuja, drawing attention to diabetes as a growing public health concern, particularly in crisis-affected communities with limited access to healthcare. The commemoration highlighted the importance of early detection, awareness, and long-term management in preventing complications and saving lives.

Across Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, Zamfara, and Katsina States, IRC teams conducted blood sugar screenings, provided health education and counselling, raised awareness on prevention and early signs, and referred clients to appropriate health facilities. These activities reaffirmed IRC's commitment to strengthening community health systems, expanding access to essential services, and building healthier, more resilient communities.



2025 EVENTS

IRC Supports Zamfara State in Domestication of IDP Policy to Strengthen Protection and Resilience



In 2025, the IRC, through its BHA-funded consortium, partnered with the Zamfara State Government to advance the protection and welfare of internally displaced persons (IDPs) by supporting the domestication of the National IDP Policy. With displacement driven by insecurity, banditry, and recurrent crises, Zamfara has experienced one of the highest increases in IDP numbers in the Northwest region. By adapting the national policy to the state's cultural, socio-economic, and religious context, the initiative provides a structured framework to strengthen IDP rights, improve living conditions, and expand access to essential services.

The IDP Policy Domestication Workshop, convened with technical and coordination support from the IRC, brought together government officials, traditional leaders, humanitarian partners, civil society actors, and media representatives. Participants collectively shaped a roadmap for implementing the policy, focusing on inclusive and effective systems across education, healthcare, shelter, social protection, and livelihoods for displaced populations. This collaborative effort aims to strengthen coordination between government institutions, humanitarian actors, and host communities while enhancing institutional capacity for crisis management.

The domesticated policy also promotes durable solutions, including voluntary return, local integration, or relocation, and fosters peacebuilding to reduce tensions between IDPs and host communities. In addition, it creates opportunities to mobilize resources from government, private sector, and development partners to support long-term recovery. By localizing the National Policy on IDPs, Zamfara State is transforming displacement from a cycle of vulnerability into a pathway for resilience, dignity, and sustainable development. The commitment demonstrated through this landmark process sets a strong precedent for other states seeking to domesticate the policy and strengthen protection for displaced populations across the region.

2025 EVENTS

IRC COUNTRY DIRECTOR STRENGTHENS COLLABORATION WITH KATSINA STATE GOVERNMENT

In 2025, the IRC Country Director, Mr. Babatunde Ojei, paid a high-level courtesy visit to the Deputy Governor of Katsina State, Malam Faruk Lawal Jobe, reaffirming the organization's commitment to supporting the state and strengthening collaboration following a recent stop-work order. The visit provided an opportunity to update the Deputy Governor on the progress of IRC programs across Katsina and to demonstrate the organization's readiness to continue delivering lifesaving interventions in health, nutrition, protection, and economic recovery, fully aligned with the state's priorities.

Accompanied by key members of the IRC leadership team, including the Northwest Field Coordinator, Elijah Olusegun Olagoke, and the Senior Safety and Security Coordinator, Shahid Sadiq, the Country Director emphasized IRC's dedication to program continuity, operational transparency, and strengthened government engagement. Their presence underscored the organization's commitment to maintaining strong partnerships that support vulnerable communities and ensure the smooth delivery of critical services.

The Deputy Governor expressed appreciation for IRC's longstanding support to communities in Katsina and reaffirmed the state government's commitment to a constructive partnership that prioritizes the safety, dignity, and well-being of the people. This visit represents a significant step in rebuilding momentum for IRC activities in the state and sets the stage for deeper collaboration in the months ahead, ensuring that vulnerable populations continue to benefit from coordinated, high-impact programs.



2025 EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY

On 20 November, International Children's Day was commemorated across Nigeria by teams from the International Rescue Committee through simple but meaningful activities with children and communities. In Adamawa State, staff marked the day by wearing school uniforms, a symbolic gesture highlighting the importance of education and reminding us that many children are still denied the opportunity to learn and thrive.

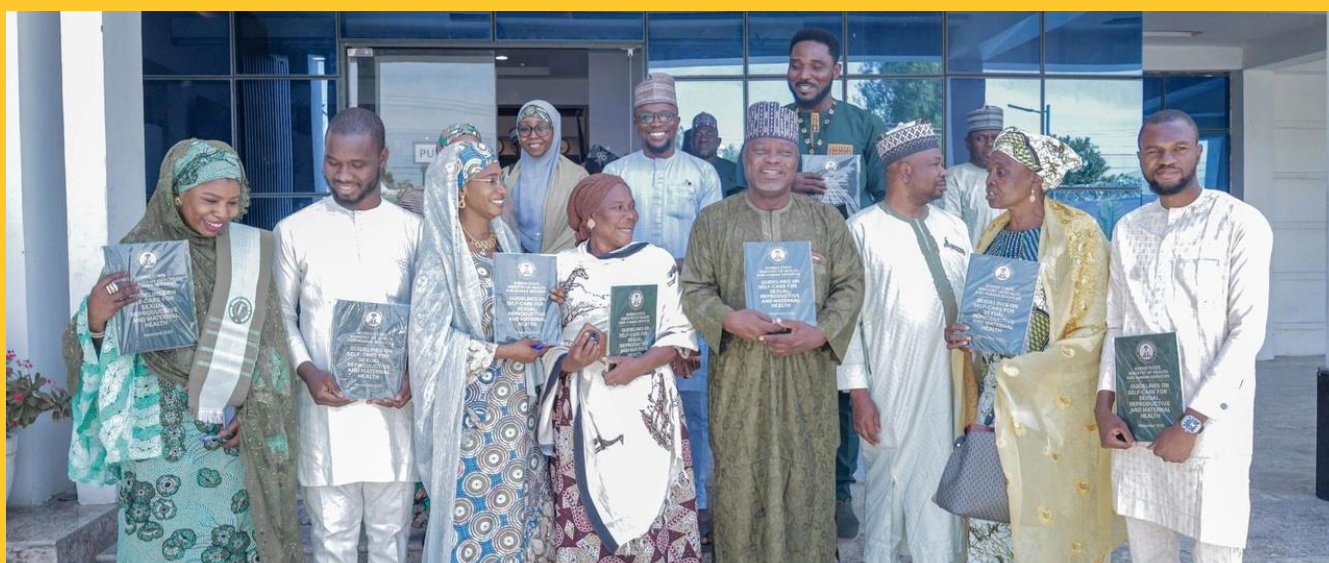
The day reinforced IRC's continued commitment to protecting children affected by conflict, displacement, hunger, and barriers to education. Through engagement, listening, and celebration, teams reaffirmed that investing in children is essential to building a more hopeful and inclusive future, and that no child should be left behind.



SEXUAL, REPRODUCTIVE AND MATERNAL HEALTH (SRMH).

The International Rescue Committee supported the Borno State Ministry of Health during the flag-off and dissemination of the Borno State Self-Care Guideline for Sexual, Reproductive and Maternal Health (SRMH). The initiative marks an important step toward expanding access to quality, people-centered health services for women and girls, particularly in contexts affected by insecurity and displacement.

Through a three-day engagement with government actors, civil society, UN agencies, and health professionals, key milestones were achieved, including the establishment of a State Technical Working Group on Self-Care, commitments to train primary healthcare workers, strengthened advocacy, and the development of a short-term implementation roadmap for 2026–2028. These outcomes reinforce a shared commitment to health resilience, community ownership, and improved access to SRMH services across Borno State.



SUCCESS STORIES

CLEAN WATER, HEALTHY FAMILY: HAUWA'S STORY FROM TSUKUMU, MICHIKA LGA

In Tsukumu community of Michika LGA, Hauwa Abubakar, a mother of two, faced repeated health challenges as her family lacked safe water storage and basic hygiene supplies. Contaminated drinking water and the absence of soap and sanitary materials led to frequent illness, high medical costs, and loss of dignity, particularly for menstrual hygiene. These challenges strained the family's wellbeing and limited resources, with preventable illnesses taking a heavy toll.

“Before, I used to feel ashamed during my period because I had nothing to use,” she said. “Now, I feel confident and respected again.”



Hauwa Abubakar receives hygiene and water-handling kits through the International Rescue Committee WaSH programme. (Photo: Sarah Yohanna, 8 Feb 2024).

Through an intervention by the International Rescue Committee WaSH team at Tsukumu Health Centre, Hauwa received hygiene and water storage kits alongside hygiene promotion sessions. With improved access to clean water, hygiene supplies, and knowledge, her family now experiences better health, reduced medical expenses, and restored dignity. Hauwa's story highlights how simple WaSH interventions can significantly improve health, resilience, and quality of life for vulnerable families.

FATIMA ALI'S JOURNEY AFTER STRUGGLING WITH NEGLECT, ABUSE AND EMOTIONAL TRAUMA.



Fatima Ali struggled before but with the help of the IRC she now has a safe space and new friends she talks to and also learn from with the help of the IRC . 21, January 2025. Photo credit: IRC.W.mahuel for IRC

“I lost my parents, but I did not lose my future. With the right support, I found my strength, my voice, and the courage to dream again.”

Fatima Ali Bulama, a 15-year-old orphan from Mandarari community in Konduga LGA, Borno State, lost both parents at a very young age and was left without care or protection. In the years that followed, she experienced neglect, abuse, and deep emotional trauma, with no access to education or psychosocial support. Her situation reflected the harsh realities faced by many vulnerable adolescent girls in conflict-affected communities, where the absence of family and support systems places them at heightened risk.

Her life began to change when a concerned neighbour linked her to the International Rescue Committee. Through the IRC's Girl Shine programme, Fatima received structured psychosocial support to help her heal from trauma, life skills training to build confidence and resilience, and access to education to support her long-term development. Today, Fatima is emotionally stronger, engaged in learning, and hopeful about the future. Her story highlights the transformative impact of holistic programming that empowers adolescent girls to overcome adversity, regain dignity, and pursue their aspirations.

SUCCESS STORIES

FROM ABANDONMENT TO HOPE: HOW INTEGRATED SUPPORT IS HELPING HUSSAINA AND HER TRIPLETS REBUILD THEIR LIVES IN KATSINA

4 August 2025 – Abbattor Janbango, Katsina, Nigeria. Hussaina Basiru, 42, and her triplets, 2, at the IRC's Safe Space in Abbattor Janbango, Katsina State, Northwest Nigeria.

After being abandoned by her husband, Hussaina struggled to care for her triplets. Fortunately, support arrived through referrals to ALIMA Clinic Batagarawa for the babies' medical and nutritional needs. Additionally, Hussaina received cash assistance from the Economic Recovery Development sector and baby hygiene kits from the WASH sector, empowering her to provide proper care. Ongoing monitoring and follow-up ensured the family's safety and well-being.

The IRC leads a consortium with ALIMA, LHI, COOPI & GISCO, delivering a multi-sectoral response to the crisis in Northwest Nigeria. Through strategic partnerships and referrals, we provide comprehensive support to vulnerable populations, addressing their complex needs.

The ongoing insurgency in Katsina and Northwest Nigeria has led to widespread displacement, putting countless families and children at risk of losing access to education and falling prey to exploitation and violence.



Hussaina Basiru received cash assistance from the Economic Recovery Development sector and baby hygiene kits from the WASH sector, empowering her to provide proper care. (Photo: Shitnaa Gurumnaan, 8 Feb 2024).

SANUSI'S JOURNEY FROM LOSS TO LIVELIHOOD

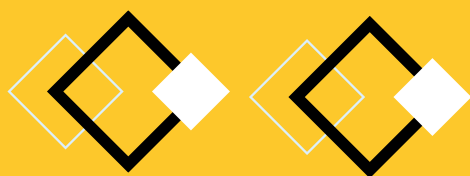


30/10/2025 In Batsari community, Katsina State, 29-year-old Sanusi feeds his goat, a livelihood he sustains through IRC's cash assistance. Photo: Rinkat Oswald

"I arrived with nothing but fear, but with this support I rebuilt my life. Today, my goats feed my family, my child goes to school, and hope has returned."

Sanusi Adamu, a 29-year-old displaced man from Labu community in Katsina State, was forced to flee his home due to violence and banditry, arriving in Bastari community with nothing and no support system. Struggling with trauma, loss, and the daily challenge of providing for his family, his future felt uncertain as he tried to rebuild his life from scratch.

His situation changed when he received ₦206,500 through the Multipurpose Cash Assistance programme supported by the International Rescue Committee. Sanusi invested the support in rearing goats, creating a sustainable source of income that now helps him feed his family and send his first child to school. His story reflects how timely cash assistance can restore dignity, rebuild livelihoods, and turn displacement into an opportunity for recovery and hope.



ACKNOWLEDGMENT FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS



Esther Agoriat

As the Deputy Director of Programs, it is both an honor and a privilege to recognize the remarkable efforts of our teams, partners, and donors who have made IRC Nigeria's 2025 achievements possible. This year presented extraordinary challenges, from the stop-work orders to critical funding constraints, yet our staff and collaborators demonstrated unwavering commitment, ingenuity, and resilience to ensure that life-saving assistance reached those who needed it most.

Through collective dedication, IRC Nigeria was able to deliver integrated interventions across Health, Nutrition, Education, Child Protection, Protection & Rule of Law, WASH, and Economic Recovery, positively impacting over 980,000 individuals across our areas of operation. These accomplishments reflect not only the professionalism and passion of our teams but also the power of partnership, community engagement, and locally-led solutions in navigating complex humanitarian contexts.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our staff, community structures, government counterparts, and humanitarian partners whose collaboration, insight, and hard work were instrumental in achieving these results. I also extend heartfelt appreciation to our donors whose trust and support enable IRC to maintain its mission and respond effectively to evolving needs.

The experiences of 2025 have strengthened our resolve to continue building resilient systems, empowering communities, and scaling sustainable, people-centered solutions. It is my hope that this report not only highlights our achievements but also underscores our continued commitment to protecting, supporting, and empowering vulnerable populations across Northeast and Northwest Nigeria.

PHOTO GALLERY



APPRECIATION

The year 2025 was a testament to the resilience, adaptability, and unwavering commitment of International Rescue Committee Nigeria amid significant operational challenges. Guided by our mission to serve the most vulnerable, the organization continued to deliver life-saving and life-sustaining programs across conflict-affected and fragile communities, even as the humanitarian operating environment became increasingly constrained.

A defining challenge of the year was the reduction in funding and the issuance of a stop-work order from the United States Government, which disrupted ongoing activities and required rapid programmatic and operational adjustments. In response, IRC Nigeria demonstrated strong leadership by prioritizing critical services, safeguarding staff and clients, engaging donors and partners transparently, and adapting implementation strategies to maximize available resources. Through decisive action and collaboration with stakeholders, the organization sustained essential support to vulnerable populations while navigating one of the most difficult funding environments in recent years.

We also recognize the invaluable contributions of our community members, partners, and stakeholders, whose dedication, expertise, and active engagement strengthen our programs and ensure their relevance and success.

Together, your support, partnership, and shared vision empower us to continue our mission and drive meaningful change. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey.

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2025

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