

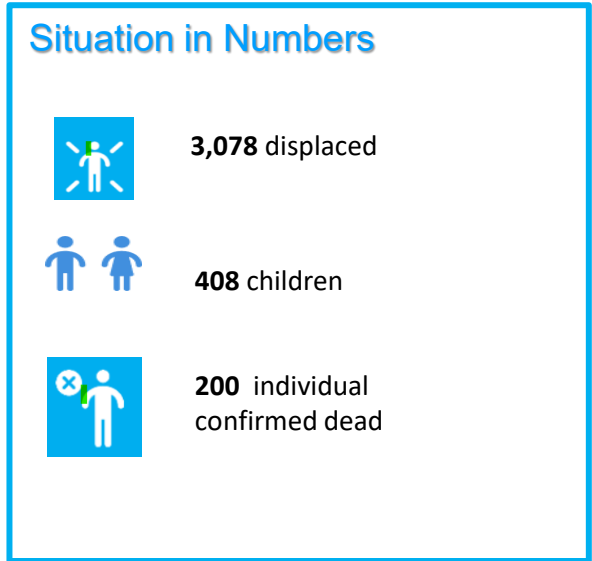
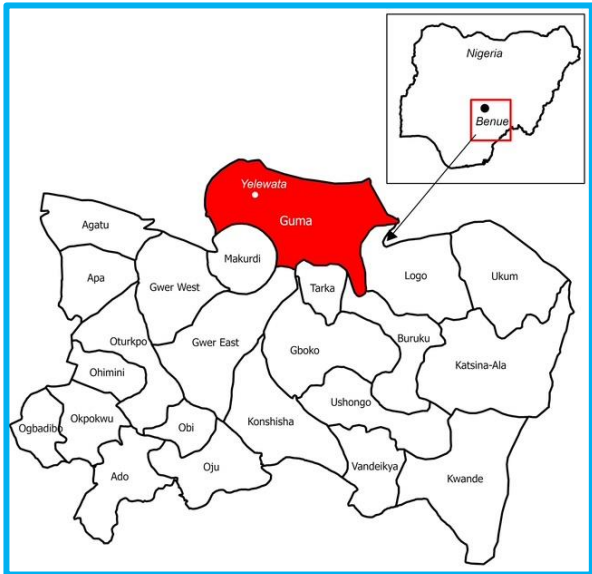


FARMERS – HERDERS CONFLICT

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Yelewata community in Guma LGA is 40km North of Makurdi. Over 3,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were relocated to the newly established Ultra International Modern Market IDP Camp, Makurdi, Benue State following deadly herdsmen attacks in Yelwata, Daudu, and Udei communities in Guma LGA, where over 200 people were killed. The attack on Yelewata community, reported to have occurred during the night of June 13th into the early hours of June 14th, 2025, caused widespread panic and led to the displacement of the community. The killings resulted in restiveness among the youths with a road protest march to Makurdi. The attack had also created panic in nearby communities, a growing feeling of insecurity among the IDPs, particularly in Dauda IDP camp with IDPs migrating to Modern Market IDP Camps. Within 24 hours of establishing the camp, a 10-year-old girl, was sexually assaulted by a community member, signaling severe child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) risks in the camp.

UNICEF Child Protection CSO partner’s rapid assessment indicates that children and women are at high risk of SGBV, psychological trauma, and neglect, due to the absence of protective systems, safe spaces, and mental health services. 70% of IDPs, including children, report symptoms of psychosocial distress, linked to the traumatic events that led to their displacement. The camp currently lacks Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS), psychosocial services, and clear referral mechanisms for GBV and other child protection violations.





## Coordination

The Benue state emergency management agency (BSEMA) is coordinating the response in close collaboration with the National emergency management agency (NEMA). There are physical presence and operation of the Red Cross, providing emergency health services; UNHCR providing NFIs items and setting up protection desk for the affected population. IOM are conducting beneficiary registration. UNICEF has deployed WASH items (cholera kits -300 HHs, water treatment chemicals) and medical supplies.

## Government's Response

On the night of the attack, the government, through SEMA, evacuated the affected families to the international market using 25 hired buses and deployed two water tanks. Through NEMA, the government has delivered 400 bags of rice, spaghetti, and maize. 300 mattresses, 300 mosquito nets, and 300 blankets. The Benue State Ministry of Health affirmed that they have deployed 2 medical doctors to support the medical clinic set up in the Modern Market IDP Camp in Makurdi.

There is an indication that the government would accommodate the displaced population at the international market for between 7 and 30 days. After which, the population will be resettled back to Guma LGA.

## UNICEF Response

UNICEF has activated its rapid response mechanism to deliver immediate needs to the displaced people at the temporary camp. The response will also contribute to the long-term development / support to the services that were destroyed at the Yelwata village by ensuring that complementarity of government efforts in service provision to the affected population.

### Health

- Facilitate further engagements and collaborations with government and development partners for a multisectoral assessment of the situation.
- Strengthen the health response in the Ultra International Modern Market IDP Camp

### WASH

- Support hygiene promotion messages and raise awareness on the importance of safe water use, handwashing, and disease prevention.
- Provide household water treatment chemical and hygiene supplies, mitigating the risk of a cholera outbreak.
- Promote safe latrine usage and excreta disposal to enhance sanitation practices and prevent diseases related to excreta.
- Support rehabilitation of water facilities available in the camp to enable access to safe water.

### Nutrition

- Support screening for severe acute malnutrition, support counselling for maternal and young child nutrition

### Child protection

- Provision of psychosocial support for affected children
- Family reunification for the separated and unaccompanied children

### Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Activate cholera risk community awareness through the community volunteers
- Establish complaints and feedback mechanisms
- Initiate radio programme on the need for peaceful co-existence among the affected communities

## Resource mobilization

In 2025, under its Nigeria Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal, UNICEF budgeted US\$7.4 million—out of the total US\$255 million appeal—to support Rapid Response, Emergency Preparedness, Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), and related critical interventions. To date, only US\$ 0.7 million has been received, resulting in a significant funding gap of 91%. This shortfall limits UNICEF's ability to scale up preparedness actions, pre-position emergency supplies, and respond rapidly to emerging crises.

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