



PRESS RELEASE



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**Japan decided to extend Grant Aid of USD 8,290,000 for Supporting Internally Displaced Persons in the North East, Counter Terrorism and Preparedness to Ebola in Nigeria**

On 3 February 2015, the Government of Japan, upon requests by UN organisations and the Government of Nigeria, decided to extend grant aid of 8,290,000 US dollars (approximately 804 million Japanese yen) to IFRC/NRCS UNICEF, UNFPA, UNODC, WHO and other organisations.

This grant aid is expected to contribute to providing support for three sectors in Nigeria:

1. Support to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the North East States in Nigeria
2. Support for capacity building for counter terrorism in Nigeria
3. Support for improvement of preparedness for Ebola in Nigeria

For details, please see below:

<b>Total Amount to Be Extended</b>	USD 8,290,000 (equivalent of JPY 804 million) * Exchange Rate: USD 1 = JPY 97
<b>Project names and Implementing Partners</b>	<p><b>[Support to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● “Assistance to Vulnerable Women, Girls, Children and Frail Elderly People Affected by Civil Unrest in Nigeria” (implemented by IFRC/NRCS)</li> <li>● “Strengthening Sexual and Reproductive Health Services to Conflict Affected Communities in North-East Nigeria” (implemented by UNFPA)</li> <li>● “Integrated Provision of Life -Saving Emergency Interventions for Vulnerable Populations in the NE of Nigeria” (implemented by UNICEF)</li> </ul> <p><b>[Support for capacity building for counter terrorism]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● “Strengthening National Response to Security Threats through Enhanced Border Control in Nigeria” (implemented by UNODC)</li> </ul> <p><b>[Support for improvement of preparedness for Ebola in Nigeria]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● “Preparedness and Response to Ebola in High-risk States in Nigeria” (implemented by WHO)</li> </ul>

In response to the terrorism incident regarding the hostage case of Japanese nationals in Syria, on 1 February 2015, the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Shinzo ABE, stated that “Japan will never give in to terrorism” and “Japan will steadfastly fulfil its responsibility in the international community combating terrorism”.

In Nigeria, the activities of Boko Haram have been characterised by attacks on innocent civilian populations. It is currently estimated that more than 15 million Nigerians have been affected in one way or the other by the insecurity. Thousands of people have been killed, and the lives of the whole people in the North East and its vicinity have been badly affected. The Government of Japan is seriously concerned about the tremendous damages caused by terrorist activities especially and about the fact that their negative impact has started to expand into the neighboring countries. Therefore, on 3 February 2015, the Government of Japan decided to extend humanitarian support to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and “non-military” assistance for capacity building for counter terrorism through the aforementioned international organisations.

Also, on 3 February 2015, the Government of Japan decided to extend the package of USD 100 million with a view to rebuilding the health system of the affected countries and stabilising the societies of those countries being ravaged by the Ebola disease, in addition to treating infected patients and stopping the current outbreak. Although Nigeria was declared Ebola-free on 20 October 2014, Nigeria is still at risk of re-introduction of the virus through its vast land, air and sea borders. Therefore, the Government of Japan has decided to support the WHO project to ensure that Nigeria is free from inter-country transmission of Ebola by intensifying surveillance and enhancing preparedness for Ebola.

The Government of Japan renews its determination to continue to cooperate with the people and Government of Nigeria and the international community to eliminate acts of terrorism through “non-military” assistance, to support Nigerian people affected by insurgency, and to support Nigerian efforts to keep the country free from Ebola.

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