

MAY 2026

NIGERIA **Humanitarian** **Information** **Landscape**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

Nigeria's humanitarian information landscape in 2026 is uneven, fragmented, and under increasing pressure. While important gains have been made in expanding assessment coverage in parts of the northwest (NW) since 2022, major structural gaps persist across sectors, regions, and information systems. At the same time, worsening funding constraints are reducing the humanitarian system's capacity to generate, manage, and sustain critical operational data. This report examines the humanitarian information ecosystem in Nigeria: the assessments, monitoring systems, analytical products, and information management (IM) structures that support humanitarian decision-making.

The analysis draws on three complementary sources:

01

397 entries (230 primary assessments and 167 secondary analytical products) covering late 2022 to May 2026

02

standardised humanitarian databases including HDX/HAPI and publicly available sources

03

findings from the 3iS Information Management Capacity and Funding Shrinkage Survey conducted among 73 humanitarian actors across northeast and northwest Nigeria in April–May 2026

The report finds that assessment coverage remains heavily concentrated in the northeast, particularly in the Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) states, which account for more than half of all documented assessment activity. The northwest has experienced meaningful expansion in assessment coverage since 2022, including three confirmed cross-sectoral assessments, expanded Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) coverage, the Transhumance Tracking Tool (TTT), and large-scale cash feasibility assessments. However, this expansion remains shallow and geographically uneven, with only three of seven northwest states receiving periodic cross-sectoral coverage. North-central Nigeria remains significantly under-assessed relative to known humanitarian needs, while southern states are reached primarily through reactive flood assessments rather than standing assessment infrastructure.

Intended audiences: Programme managers designing assessments; cluster coordinators managing information systems; donors making funding and prioritisation decisions; government counterparts whose data systems interact with the humanitarian information architecture.

KEY FINDINGS

1

The assessment base is uneven and under pressure

- Nigeria's 397-entry database confirms 230 published assessments across late 2022 to May 2026. The Northeast (BAY states) accounts for approximately 56.4% of all entries. The northwest has grown from near-zero to 12.8% since 2022. The north-central accounts for only 3.5%, and the south for 3.8% (with a further 0.3% tagged southeast), almost entirely reactive flood assessments, while multi-regional entries account for 23.2%.
- There is no country-wide cross-sectoral assessment. The northeast last had a full cross-sectoral assessment series in 2021. The northwest has three periodic cross-sectoral assessments (2022, 2023, 2024) covering only 3 of 7 states. North-central and the south have no equivalent.
- Market price monitoring was absent for the entirety of 2024, the year in which Cadre Harmonisé projections reached a critical point in food insecurity levels. The JMMI ran monthly in 2023 and resumed

2

Nigeria's HDX score of 70% overstates information quality

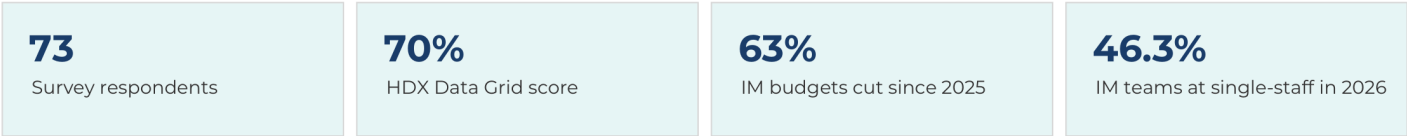
- Nigeria scores 70% on the HDX Data Grid for data that is available and up to date, slightly above the 2026 global average of 68%, which declined from 74% the previous year.
- The score is driven partly by strong global datasets on conflict events, funding, roads, health facilities and education facilities, rather than Nigeria-specific assessment capacity.
- Market monitoring, sector-level People in Need data and multiple DTM products remain partially absent or underrepresented. Partners anticipate fewer surveys, smaller samples and unmonitored geographies in 2026.

3

IM capacity is eroding faster than the response

- 86% of survey respondents report funding reduction since 2025. 63% saw IM budgets specifically cut (37% significantly).
- IM staffing has shifted from 2–3 person teams (47.8% in 2025) to single-person coverage (46.3% in 2026). 9% now have zero dedicated IM staff, up from 4.5%.
- Reduced training is the single most pervasive effect (23% of responses), degrading the skills pipeline for future recovery.
- 79.4% of respondents consider their current IM tools insufficient or outdated.
- 11% of respondents have stopped primary data collection in some locations entirely. 7% now rely solely on partner-reported data.

AT A GLANCE



KEY FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

4

Coordination responses are diverging

- 63% report reduced data collection; 11% have stopped primary data collection in some locations, and 7% now rely solely on partner-reported data.
- Reduced training is cited by 23%; reduced coordination and technical support by 13% each. Some actors are using joint assessments and shared IM resources.

5

Cluster functionality is highly uneven

- Food security and nutrition, anchored by IPC, FEWS NET and the SMART survey cycle, produce the most consistent and analytically robust products.
- Early recovery has the largest evidence gap. IMWG functionality is also inconsistent beyond Maiduguri, with national and northwest coordination needing stronger common standards and joint assessment planning.

Stakeholders validated the findings and identified urgent IM priorities

6

- Workshop participants broadly validated the findings, highlighting declining IM capacity, uneven geographic coverage, reduced primary data collection and insufficient data sharing.
- Priorities include stronger coordination, improved interoperability, expanded assessment coverage and sustained investment in information management.

Nigeria's institutional transition raises new coordination priorities

7

- Government agencies are strengthening their own data systems, but substantial government-held data is not consistently shared with or integrated into the humanitarian information architecture.
- Strengthening the government-humanitarian data interface and alignment across humanitarian, government, development and disaster risk reduction systems is an emerging priority.

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF ASSESSMENTS

Northeast (BAY States) BEST COVERED	DTM regular rounds; SMART surveys; annual NFSS; JENA 2025; IPC AMN; HNO. Hard-to-reach LGAs remain blind spots. No cross-sectoral assessment since 2021. No standalone WASH assessment.
Northeast (Bauchi/Gombe/Taraba) PARTIAL	DTM Master List level only (counts, no needs monitoring). No sector-specific assessments.
Northwest (Katsina/Sokoto/Zamfara) PARTIAL / IMPROVING	Three cross-sectoral assessments (2022, 2023, 2024). Monthly TTT dashboards. FACT cash feasibility 138 LGAs. JMMI 2025. No annual nutrition surveillance. No standalone health or education assessment.
Northwest (Kaduna/Kano/Jigawa/Kebbi) WEAK	DTM partial inclusion. CH/IPC. Post-flood reports 2024. No sector-specific assessments.
North-Central (Benue/Plateau/Nasarawa) WEAK	DTM only. Significantly underrepresented relative to known farmer-herder conflict displacement.
South (12 states) FLOOD-ONLY	12 states reached by 2024 post-flood exercise. Entirely reactive. No standing assessment infrastructure.

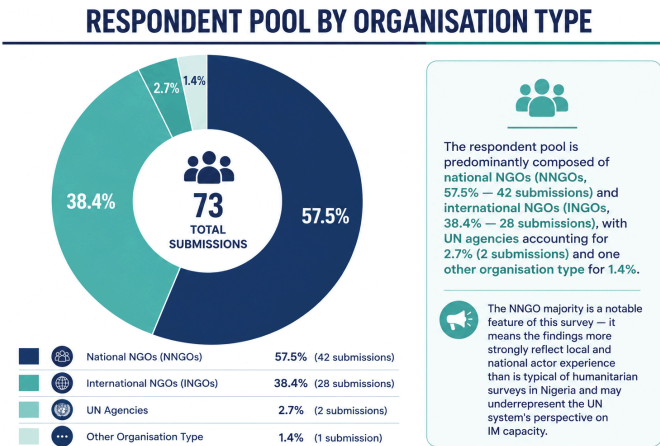


SECTOR SNAPSHOT

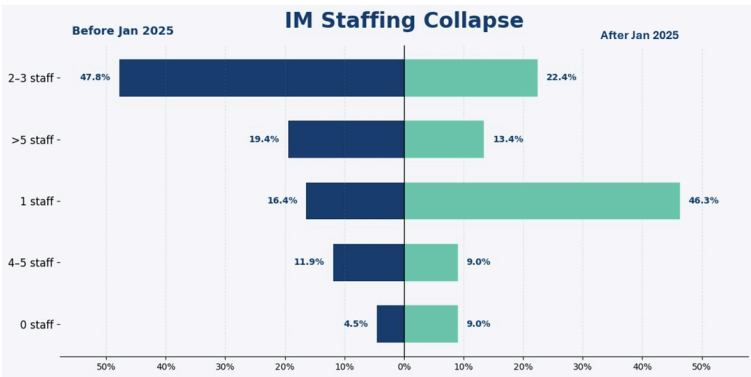
Displacement / CCCM	Most entries in the database (130+), driven by regular DTM products, intention surveys and mobility tracking. Coverage is strongest in the Northeast, with lower analytical depth in North-Central and the Northwest.
Food Security	Best documented sector, with regular Cadre Harmonise analysis and FEWS NET products. Analytical cadence is comparatively strong, although market-price monitoring was absent in 2024.
Shelter / NFI	Assessment volume is relatively high (55 entries), largely through DTM displacement reporting, post-flood assessments and Northwest multi-sector assessments. Dedicated shelter analysis remains limited; no standalone shelter assessment was identified.
Livelihoods / Markets	JMMI ran monthly in 2023, was absent in 2024 and resumed May-Dec 2025. FEWS NET and multi-sector assessments provide additional evidence, but recurring market monitoring remains uneven.
Protection / GBV	Protection monitoring is strongest in BAY states through PUI and UNHCR products, with additional Northwest qualitative and multi-sector assessments. Recurring monitoring outside BAY remains limited.
Nutrition	Strongest in the Northeast through NFSS, SMART/SMART+ surveys and IPC AMN. Northwest coverage has improved, but recurring surveillance remains weak outside the Northeast and absent in much of North-Central.
WASH	WASH evidence is largely embedded in multi-sector assessments and joint products. No recurring standalone WASH assessment was identified in the reviewed dataset, and coverage remains uneven outside crisis-affected areas.
Education	JENA 2023 and 2025 provide strong BAY coverage, complemented by school-safety and multi-sector assessments. Northwest coverage is mostly embedded in broader assessments, with no equivalent recurring JENA cycle.
Health	National systems, including NCDC surveillance and DHS 2023-24, provide an important evidence base, complemented by Health Sector and UNICEF reporting. Opportunities remain to strengthen dedicated humanitarian health needs assessments and subnational analysis.
Early Recovery	Evidence remains significantly under-assessed, with no dedicated recurring assessment framework identified. This limits evidence to track recovery outcomes, inform durable solutions, and support transition from humanitarian response to longer-term development programming.
Conflict / Security	ACLED provides the strongest continuous national event series, complemented by access and security products. Coverage is useful nationally but does not replace granular, real-time humanitarian access monitoring at LGA level.

IM CAPACITY: SURVEY EVIDENCE

The 3iS IM Capacity and Funding Shrinkage Survey (73 submissions, April–May 2026) provides primary evidence from implementing partners on the effects of funding cuts on information management. Respondents are predominantly NGOs (57.5%) and INGOs (38.4%), with UN agencies at 2.7%. Findings are indicative, not statistically representative of the full humanitarian actor population.



Overall funding	86% report some funding reduction. 47.95% reduced below 60% of budget. 11% reduced above 60%. 9.6% stable; 4.1% increased.
IM budget specifically	63% saw IM budget cut (37% significantly, 26% moderately). 20.6% had no dedicated IM budget before cuts.



IM staff status	46.6% still have dedicated IM staff. 39.7% have merged IM with M&E. 2.7% lost all IM staff due to cuts.
Data collection impact	63% report some reduction. 10.96% have stopped in some locations. 6.85% rely on partner-reporting only.
Data quality impact	31.5% no change. 30.1% moderate decline. 19.2% slight decline. 16.4% severe decline. 2.7% very severe.
IM tools	20.6% fully adequate. 39.7% partly adequate. 30.1% not adequate. 9.6% have tools but outdated (79.4% combined insufficient or obsolete).
Top effect of funding cuts	Reduced training (23.3%). Equal: reduced coordination, tech support, storage constraints (13.3% each).

Methodological limitations and interpretation

The survey used non-probability purposive sampling, with respondents reached through 3iS's existing IM networks, partner organisations, and the Nigeria INGO Forum. Findings are indicative of practitioner experience rather than statistically representative of secondary database may understate activity because it includes only publicly available and verifiable products.

CRITICAL GAPS: RANKED

The following gaps are confirmed by convergent evidence from the secondary data review and the primary survey. They are presented in order of analytical and operational consequence.

- 1 Market price monitoring absent throughout 2024, the year of peak food insecurity.
- 2 No annual nutrition surveillance in northwest or north-central Nigeria.
- 3 No standalone humanitarian health assessment; DHS fills national baseline but not conflict-affected population disaggregation.
- 4 No confirmed standalone humanitarian WASH household assessment identified in the reviewed dataset; all WASH data embedded in multi-sectoral needs assessments.
- 5 No country-wide cross-sectoral multi-sectoral needs assessment.
- 6 LGA-level health facility functionality not systematically tracked.
- 7 Early recovery has no dedicated recurring assessment framework anywhere in Nigeria; without it, the transition from humanitarian to development programming cannot be evidence-led.
- 8 No recurring GBV monitoring outside BAY states; only 3 dedicated GBV/SRH entries in the reviewed database, reflecting service access rather than prevalence.
- 9 DTM rounds underrepresented in HAPI; data exists but is not accessible in standardised form.
- 10 MHPSS caseloads absent from all standardised systems.
- 11 Disaggregation by sex, age, and disability inconsistent across all sectors.
- 12 The IMWG operates inconsistently beyond Maiduguri; national and northwest IM coordination lacks the density needed to maintain common data standards and joint assessment planning.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations respond directly to the gaps and dynamics documented throughout this report, drawing on the secondary data review, the 3iS survey, and stakeholder validation workshop discussions.

1. Support completion and use of the ongoing nationwide MSNA, and establish a sustainable recurring cross-sectoral assessment mechanism for major crisis-affected regions in Nigeria.
2. Restore and sustain continuous market price monitoring, particularly JMMI tracking, to prevent a repeat of the 2024 data gap during a period of peak food insecurity.
3. Protect Information Management (IM) staffing and budgets as core humanitarian functions, given that 63% of surveyed organisations report IM-specific budget cuts.
4. Expand assessment coverage to underserved regions, especially north-central and southern Nigeria, where assessment activity remains reactive rather than standing.
5. Strengthen annual nutrition surveillance in the northwest and north-central regions, where no equivalent to the northeast's confirmed NFSS series currently exists.
6. Strengthen standalone humanitarian WASH assessments across crisis-affected areas, since WASH data remains embedded within cross-sectoral assessments rather than independently collected.
7. Develop systematic LGA-level health facility functionality monitoring to complement the national DHS baseline.
8. Improve interoperability and accessibility of humanitarian datasets across platforms, addressing the HAPI ingestion gaps identified throughout this report.
9. Standardise sex, age, and disability disaggregation across all sectors and assessments.
10. Strengthen the government-humanitarian data interface, including systematic mechanisms for sharing existing government-held data with the humanitarian information architecture.
11. Create dedicated funding windows for IM and assessment activities, protecting them from the broader funding contraction affecting programme delivery.
12. Invest in continuous IM training, mentoring, and workforce development to rebuild the skills pipeline eroded by recent staffing cuts.
13. Promote joint assessments and shared IM resources among humanitarian actors as a practical response to funding pressure.
14. Improve real-time humanitarian access and hard-to-reach area monitoring.
15. Strengthen evidence generation for early recovery and durable solutions programming, including more systematic monitoring of recovery outcomes and the transition from humanitarian assistance to longer-term development programming.
16. Expand periodic education and learning outcome assessments beyond the BAY states.
17. Develop sustainable national and state-level assessment coordination mechanisms to reduce duplication and improve evidence-based decision-making.
18. Establish recurring GBV monitoring beyond BAY states, addressing both the coverage gap and the tendency of existing data to reflect service access rather than prevalence.
19. Strengthen IMWG functionality at national level and in the northwest, building the coordination density needed to maintain common data standards and joint assessment planning.

CONCLUSION

Nigeria's humanitarian information landscape has expanded in recent years, but significant structural gaps remain. Assessment coverage continues to be concentrated in the northeast, while north-central and southern Nigeria remain comparatively under-assessed. Important sectors including health, WASH, education, protection, livelihoods, and especially early recovery still lack regular, comprehensive evidence to support decision-making.

The report also demonstrates that information gaps are increasingly driven not only by limited data availability, but by declining capacity to produce and manage information. Funding reductions have constrained information management functions, reduced staffing and primary data collection, and increased reliance on minimum compliance reporting rather than evidence generation.

These findings were broadly validated at the national Stakeholder Validation Workshop in Abuja, which also highlighted Nigeria's own institutional transition and the need to strengthen the government-humanitarian data interface, given that substantial government-held data is not yet consistently shared with, or integrated into, the humanitarian information architecture.

Addressing these challenges will require sustained investment in information management capacity, stronger coordination and data sharing, greater use of joint assessments and common standards, and a stronger government-humanitarian data interface to ensure that existing government-held data is systematically integrated into the humanitarian information architecture rather than treated as a separate system.