A fire incident at the Government Senior Science Secondary School (GSSSS) Camp, Monguno, on 5th November 2019, at around 11 AM, has left 342 individuals (119 households) without shelters and belongings. It was estimated that 191 makeshift and emergency shelters were burnt, and further 51 shelters were pulled down in the process of putting off the fire.

The affected population include 124 children, 90 men, 106 women and 22 elderly and have been relocated to the INTERSOS reception center of Water Board Camp by the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) unit of IOM.

They are in immediate need of shelters, food items and Non-Food Items (NFIs) such as cooking utensils, mattresses, blankets, jerry cans, buckets and sanitary kits. The incident left some of them traumatized and there will be need for psychosocial support.

To mitigate such incidents as we approach the harmattan season where dry gusty winds will act as combustion for exposed/unguarded fires, it is imperative that fire sensitization campaigns are carried out and IDPs are advised to make use of safe kitchen spaces constructed in camps.
Following the incident, an emergency meeting with various partners (International Organization for Migration [IOM], Norwegian Refugee Council [NRC], International Rescue Committee [IRC], INTERSOS, Solidarities International [SI], Action Against Hunger [AAH], ACTED and Alliance for International Medical Action [ALIMA]) in attendance was convened on 6th November 2019. This was to evaluate the situation, coordinate and mobilize support for the affected population.

So far, IOM has responded with the provision of Non-Food Items (NFIs) such as blankets, synthetic mats, jerry cans, laundry and bathing soaps, treated mosquito nets, reusable sanitary pads, rechargeable solar lamps and cooking utensils etc.

WFP/ACTED as the existing food partners in the camp, provided 10-day emergency food rations to the affected 119 households on 9th November 2019. This is to cover the families’ emergency food needs before the monthly food voucher assistance commences in mid-November.

The affected victims also received hygiene kits from AAH and IRC, with NRC planning to assist the 119 households with already positioned Emergency Shelter kits in Monguno.