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## **PLAN HEALTH ADVOCACY AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION**

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### **PRESS RELEASE ON WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY 2024**

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**Ibadan, Nigeria. Monday, August 19, 2024 3:00 (WAT)**

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As we observe World Humanitarian Day on August 19, PLAN Health Advocacy and Development Foundation (PLAN Foundation) proudly joins global efforts to raise awareness and inspire action under this year's theme, "Act for Humanity." This theme emphasizes the urgent need for collective action to address some of the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. It also highlights the responsibility and potential that each individual and organization holds to effect meaningful change in a world that is increasingly burdened by crises. From ongoing conflicts in various regions to the devastating impacts of climate change, global solidarity and prompt action are more critical than ever.

On this special day, PLAN Foundation seizes the opportunity to draw attention to the urgent humanitarian needs in Nigeria, particularly in the North East (especially in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States) and other critically affected States such as Benue, Katsina, Plateau and Kaduna States. The severe hardships faced by millions of individuals displaced within Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps due to persistent conflicts, natural disasters, and other crises demand immediate action.

In the North East, ongoing insurgency and conflict have caused widespread displacement, severely disrupting communities and placing immense pressure on already limited resources. The humanitarian conditions in Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa remain dire, with families enduring precarious living conditions, lacking access to essential services, and struggling for basic necessities.

Elsewhere, regions such as Benue, Katsina, Plateau, and Kaduna face heightened challenges which include farmer-herder crises, banditry, violence, and climate-induced disasters which result in untold suffering of displaced and vulnerable populations. These areas are often confronted with acute shortages of food, water, sanitation, shelter, menstrual hygiene and medical care, underscoring the urgent need for sustained humanitarian support. The interconnected nature of these crises further highlights the impact of conflicts, natural disasters, and climate change.

Ongoing wars, driven by conflicts, and the severe effects of climate change contribute significantly to rising humanitarian needs. Banditry and terrorism further exacerbate the situation thereby creating instability that intensifies the crisis. Towards addressing these complex issues, concerted global effort are needed to proactively resolve conflicts before they

escalate into full-scale wars. Enhanced security measures and conflict prevention strategies are essential to mitigate the threats posed by banditry and terrorism.

Moreover, investing in climate change adaptation and mitigation is vital. The adverse effects of climate change significantly increase the humanitarian burden worldwide. By tackling environmental challenges and supporting sustainable development, we can reduce the risk of future crises and build resilience in vulnerable communities.

On this World Humanitarian Day, PLAN Foundation calls for renewed global commitment towards alleviating suffering, fostering peace, and protecting our environment. It is not too late to make a difference. Together, we can strive for a more stable and equitable world where humanitarian needs are met, and the impacts of conflict and climate change are effectively managed.

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For more details on PLAN Foundation's activities, kindly visit our website <https://planfoundation.org.ng/> and engage us on our social media accounts on @NG\_PLAN on X (formerly Twitter), @PLANFoundationNGO on Instagram and @PLAN Foundationng on Facebook

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PLAN Foundation is a member of the **International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC)** <https://www.iapac.org/about/>, the **World Patients Alliance (WPA)** <https://www.worldpatientsalliance.org/>, International AIDS Society (IAS), Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) <https://gnpplus.net>, International AIDS Society (IAS) <https://iasociety.org>, the Stop TB Partnership <https://stoptb.org>, International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO) <https://www.iapo.org.uk>, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases (IUATLD) <https://theunion.org>, Global Health Council (GHC) <https://globalhealth.org> as well as various other relevant regional and global networks, movements and professional associations aligned with its vision of a Nigeria where the individual, family, and community are adequately empowered to protect themselves against poverty, underdevelopment, and the spread of diseases.

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