

## **Panel Executive Brief: Perspectives from the Frontlines: Lake Chad Basin**

Over 300 million additional people are projected to enter the Lake Chad Basin region in the next 30 years – it is a major migration corridor and that is not going to change any time soon. Future stabilization efforts must include measurable commitments to implementing long-term strategic plans.

### **Speakers**

Amb. Dan Mozena - *Senior Coordinator on Boko Haram, (DOS)*

Elizabeth Winger Shevock - *Team Leader, West Africa, (USAID/OTI)*

Shareef Khatib - *Former Chief of Party, Creative Associates International, NRTI/NERI Project*

Jeremy “Jez” Haslam - *Senior Principal Global Practice Leader, Center for Secure and Stable States, DAI*

*Moderator: Stacia George - Director, West and Central Africa and Haiti, Chemonics*

### **Key Issues/Problems discussed:**

- There are issues with providing material goods to designated terrorist organizations (DTO) as well as DTO affiliates – this includes indentured servants, forced wives, children born in captivity, and the Civilian Joint Task Force.
- The Nigerian government is at least seen as being complacent – at most complicit – with the ongoing Boko Haram insurgency.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Creation of a formal framework for demobilization, deradicalization, reintegration, and reconciliation is necessary.
- Future stabilization efforts need to include measurable commitments to implementing long-term strategic plans.
- Develop assumptions based on research, act first, assess if the assumptions are right, and then adapt accordingly.
- Currently, there are secure regions that we should be entering in order to help with their stabilization and rebuilding efforts.
- Theory of change and evaluation at the activity level can feed into future long-term programs
- The main priority is maintaining a partnership with the USG.

### **Significance of SAR:**

The USG and other actors in the international community can create change in the Lake Chad region if the SAR is implemented effectively. On its own, the military cannot stabilize the region. Civilian presence throughout the process is absolutely vital in order to secure the environment.