

UNHCR & WFP Joint Assessment Mission (JAM)

Central African refugees (CAR) and host population living in the East, Adamawa, North Regions of Cameroon

- Primary data collected from 21 to 31 January 2019 -



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ACRONYMS

ANJE	-	Feeding the Infant and Young Child
BIMS	-	Biometric Information Management System
CAR	-	Central African Republic
CBT	-	Cash Based Transfers
CIR	-	Refugee Identification Card
DFID	-	UK Department for International Development
ECHO	-	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
EFSA	-	Emergency Food Security Assessment
FAO	-	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FSP	-	Financial Service Providers
GDT	-	Global Distribution Tool
GFD	-	General Food Distribution
IFRC	-	The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IYCF	-	Infant and Young Child Feeding
JAM		Joint Assessment Mission
LWF	-	The Lutheran World Federation
TDG	-	General Food Distribution
MAG	-	Global Acute Malnutrition
MAM	-	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MAS	-	Severe Acute Malnutrition
MEB	-	Minimum Expenditure Basket
MINREX	-	Ministry of External Relations
MS-EXCEL	-	Microsoft-EXCEL
MUAC	-	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
ODK	-	Open Data Kit
PCIMA-		Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition
PCIME-		Integrated Management of Childhood Diseases
PDM	-	Post Distribution Monitoring
PNDP	-	National Participatory Development Program
RECO	-	Community Relays
SENS	-	Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey
SMART	-	Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transition
SPSS	-	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UNHCR	-	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USAID/FFP	-	The United States Agency for International Development/Food for Peace
VAM	-	Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
WASH		Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	-	World Food Programme
WHO	-	World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cameroon is facing a multifaceted increasingly complex humanitarian crisis. In addition to preexisting chronic food insecurity and malnutrition challenges resulting from recurrent climatic shocks and food production deficits, spill over conflict from both Nigeria and Central African Republic (CAR) have resulted in large scale displacements across borders as well as within the country. Cameroon has experienced large inflows of CAR refugees since 2004, making it the largest recipient of new arrivals since 2016. The arrival of CAR refugees is driven by very high levels of food insecurity in and continued violence in their country of origin. As of the end of April 2019, more than 279,000 CAR citizens have been seeking refuge in Cameroon and are dispersed around more than 100 sites and villages in the East (180,000 individuals), Adamawa (71,500 individuals), North (7,200 individuals) as well as urban areas of Yaoundé and Douala (with 9,500 and 7,600 individuals respectively). Of the total, 30 percent are settled across 7 refugee sites (Borgop, Ngam, Ngarissingo, Lolo, Mbile, Timangolo and Gado) and 70 percent among host and local communities.

The three regions hosting refugees are also characterized by infrastructural weaknesses with little investment in basic socio-economic infrastructure. The presence of refugees constitutes a strong pressure on the limited resources available and a risk of weakening peaceful coexistence between refugees and the local population. Nevertheless, Cameroon offers a favorable legal environment for protection through the ratification of international legal instruments relating to the status of refugees and the domestication of these conventions in Law No. 2005/006 of 27 July 2005¹. CAR refugees therefore enjoy *prima facie* status, although the law is not entirely applied. For example, refugees do not yet hold a national identity card for state refugees. The right to free movement is also not guaranteed and there are certain limitations that expose refugees to detention risks. Other rights are guaranteed but refugees cannot fully benefit for financial reasons such as the right to education and health. Women and children also face specific protection risks, including early marriage, exploitation, abuse and physical violence. (JAM Secondary Data Analysis Report, December 2018)

Most refugees face insufficient access to basic services, including food, shelter, water, sanitation, health and education. Simultaneously, the basic services in host communities are not capable of accommodating the large number of refugees.

A previous Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) was conducted in 2016, which identified some opportunities to improve humanitarian assistance to refugees (Refer to Annex 6). Since then, several of the recommendations have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented. Meanwhile, both UNHCR and WFP have developed multi-year country strategies and plans involving new or expanded approaches, and several operational adjustments have been required. Based on our Global Memorandum of Understanding, UNHCR and WFP develop joint action plans to guide their operational collaboration. Given the changes and developments, it was agreed to review the situation and provide recommendations for joint programming over the next 18-24 months.

Some of the main operational changes since 2016 are:

- WFP has increased its cash-based interventions for food assistance through value vouchers;
- WFP commenced Food Assistance for Assets projects for vulnerable host communities and refugees;
- Due to resource constraints, rations were reduced since end of 2016, currently at around 70 percent of the initial ration. Further resource constraints required a prioritization of assistance, and therefore a joint targeting strategy was developed and implemented in 2018

¹ <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/44eb242e4.pdf>

(UNHCR/WFP), reducing the numbers of refugees receiving WFP food assistance to some 125'000 refugees in 2018 and 2019 (This includes GFD and Livelihood activities)

- To ensure more refugees were provided with assistance to help meet their basic needs, UNHCR developed, in line with the national social safety net, an unrestricted cash transfer Programme using mobile money for 10,000 refugees in 2018.
- UNHCR's livelihoods strategy and increased support to livelihoods and resilience programming by both agencies;
- UNHCR providing on-going protection (registration, case management, community-based protection/monitoring, resettlement) assistance in terms of support to the provision of basic services and support to the government on the inclusion of refugees in national systems including health and education.

Additionally, at the global level, UNHCR and WFP have recently committed to a joint targeting, enhanced cash collaboration, joint support to improve refugee self-reliance in food security and nutrition and greater sharing of data and inter-operability of systems. The 2019 JAM was implemented in several stages, including: a review of secondary data, primary data collection, and a thorough review of the results in a 3-day workshop in Yaoundé in March 2019.

The 2019 JAM is the second such exercise for the CAR refugees in East, North and Adamawa and was initiated jointly by UNHCR and WFP. The goal of the JAM was to: 1) establish a comprehensive understanding of the needs, risks, capacities, and vulnerabilities of refugees with regard to food security and nutrition; 2) examine the ongoing humanitarian response; and 3) make recommendations to improve the provision of assistance. The findings and recommendations of the 2019JAM will form the basis of the Joint Action Plan, designed to improve assistance to refugees for the next one year and half.

The JAM was conducted by UNHCR, WFP and cooperating partners from November 2018 to May 2019. The assessment included an extensive literature review and secondary data analysis and primary data collection from 7 refugee camps in East, North and Adamawa. Primary data was collected through focus group discussions, key informant interviews, household interviews and general observations. Important secondary data sources included recently completed assessments and surveys in the areas of nutrition, food security, livelihood, logistics and markets.

The findings of the food security assessment conducted by WFP in January 2019 revealed that 81 percent of refugees are highly vulnerable. Economic vulnerability is driving the overall vulnerability of refugees. New refugees' in-camp (84 percent) are worse off followed by new refugees off-camp (81 percent) and old refugees (74 percent). Also, 58.9 percent of refugees are in need for immediate food assistance, out of which 38.9 percent are eligible for livelihood Programme.

The demographical composition of the refugees has very likely contributed to their vulnerability as there is an average of 44 percent of female headed households with an average number of four children below 18 for an average household size of six. From beneficiary feedback, many women-headed households are very likely experiencing the double-burden of caring for their family members while also having to generate income. Economic shocks have mainly affected households, on average 41 percent of the refugees reported being impacted by high cost of living resulting in very limited economic access to non-food needs such as health and education. Most refugees and host communities consume acceptable diets (on average 63 percent), and do not implement high-risk coping mechanism; however, they are highly economically vulnerable, which indicates that poverty is the main driver of overall vulnerability.

The JAM highlighted that thirty-three percent of the refugees relied entirely on food assistance, especially General Food Distribution (in-kind). An average of 55 percent of household receiving in-kind food assistance and cash assistance have good access to and rely on markets for food. Therefore, opportunities

should be explored to refine household-level targeting and cash-based transfers assessments to identify refugees that could benefit from unrestricted cash, for both conditional and unconditional assistance aimed at enhancing self-reliance. Whilst it is important for relief agencies to continue supporting the poor and vulnerable, efforts should also be directed towards generally enhancing the livelihoods of the refugee population.

Despite efforts to provide all range of primary healthcare services in the camps, the prioritization of the children under 5 and persons above 60 was highlighted as an issue, the health structures, in general, were insufficient or distant or did not provide enough medication for patients.

The 2018 SMART survey revealed improvement and stabilization in global acute malnutrition in the Adamawa, East and North regions with prevalence rates of 4.1 percent, 2.5 percent, and 5.9 percent respectively. However, the stunting situation remains of great concern with rates at 35.4 percent, 28.7 percent and 30.6 percent respectively in the East, Adamawa and North regions. The main causes of undernutrition in the East and Adamawa regions include: low use of health services due mainly to geographical (distance) and financial barriers, low births spacing and unwanted pregnancies, non-optimal IYCF practices, principally due to limited access to food (both quantitatively and qualitatively), low household access to diversified sources of income and agricultural production, low access or use of portable water, poor hygiene and sanitation practices and poor culinary hygiene, women's high workload and low women empowerment/ relatively low decision-making power of women.

The quality and quantity of water are reportedly below standards, with long travel distances and waiting times, in addition to payment of fees. Some camps have also reported insufficient latrines. However, the presence of open defecation in the surroundings of the camps is an indication that the number of latrines constructed might not be adequate to meet the needs.

The main barrier to education reported were linked to school fees (registration, books, uniform) that cannot be provided by the families in addition to distance and insufficient structures.

In this report, the JAM team has consolidated all findings gathered from secondary data sources and primary data collected from the field in order to present the key findings for main institutions and authorities, including UNHCR and WFP, cooperating partners, and representatives from donors including the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), UK Department for International Development (DFID), and the United States Agency for International Development/Food for Peace (USAID/FFP).

The following main strategic directions and commitments were agreed to guide collaboration moving forward:

- Assistance plan: Strategic design of assistance (modality, eligibility criteria, timeframes, geographic coverage) to ensure food and basic needs are met in a coherent manner aligning, complementing and building on national systems and fostering greater resilience and socio-economic inclusion;
- Cash collaboration: Work towards a common cash system in line with global commitments (including joint/coordinated procurement of financial service provider and common transfer mechanisms for the same population);
- Targeting/prioritization: Joint analysis and agreement on vulnerability concept and definition, eligibility criteria and target groups for assistance in consultation with communities. Joint monitoring of outcomes of assisted and non-assisted;
- Advocacy and technical collaboration: Joint advocacy with government, donors, and development actors for 1) increased funding for unrestricted cash assistance (a shift from e-vouchers and in-kind to unrestricted cash) to meet the needs of the extremely vulnerable CAR

refugees and 2) promote a rights-based approach to the inclusion of refugees in national systems and socio-economic inclusion;

- Accountability to refugees: Building on existing initiatives, establish a joint complaints and feedback mechanism. Jointly address and monitor risks of abuse of power identified in joint financial service provider project;
- Data sharing: Share necessary data and information in line with guidance and process outlined in Data Sharing Addendum and explore opportunities for inter-operability of tools (options such as the Global Distribution Tool _- GDT);
- Coordination: Commit to regular monthly communication between agencies at technical level in Yaoundé and field-offices to increase the understanding of pipeline and programme plans, protection situation and self-reliance/integration opportunities with others. Hold a 2020 planning meeting to discuss assistance and operational collaboration. Support increased discussion in technical areas (food security, nutrition, livelihoods, and cash) through active engagement in existing working groups, platforms and fora.

[Annex 6](#) of the joint action plan provides further details on our operational collaboration and next steps. A full report will complement with additional details on the results of the assessment and analysis.



1. Introduction

Cameroon has a longstanding tradition of hospitality towards refugees and asylum-seekers, with over 525,000 refugees and asylum-seekers from Central African Republic, Nigeria and Chad currently hosted in the East, North, Adamawa and Far North regions of the country (UNHCR January 2019). Until a political solution is found in the Central African Republic (CAR) and Nigeria, the number of refugees seeking protection in Cameroon is expected to grow. The presence of refugees has placed pressure on available local resources, and it is important also to ensure support for host communities. With a decrease in humanitarian funds available to UNHCR and WFP, one of the key challenges is to improve standards for refugees and provide support in food security and nutrition and other unmet basic needs.

According to UNHCR (April 2019), 279,155 CAR refugees from different arrival waves (2003, 2008 and 2013) are settled in the East, Adamawa, and Northern Cameroon, mainly in the rural areas. Thirty percent of these CAR refugees live in seven refugee sites (Borgop, Ngam, Ngarissingo, Lolo, Mbile, Timangolo and Gado) while the remaining 70 percent live in more than 100 localities spread across 23 communes in these three regions.

Since the arrival of the CAR refugees, the Government of Cameroon, UN agencies and international and national NGOs have been providing international protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees and hosts communities. In collaboration with UNHCR and a mutually agreed partner, WFP provides general food assistance (in-kind and CBT) as well as livelihood assistance to CAR refugees who are unable to meet their food needs in addition to nutrition assistance. The food consumption seems to have worsened amongst the CAR refugees from 18 percent of poor food consumption (JAM 2016) to 37 percent (JAM 2019). Furthermore, the food consumption among the host community is slightly higher than that of refugees.

Due to insufficient funding since 2016, WFP has not been able to maintain 100 percent of the food basket, and instead provided rations ranging from 50 percent to 80 percent of the recommended 2100 Kilocalorie/day food ration for each refugee beneficiary. Therefore, it was crucial to move from a global assistance approach to a more targeted approach taking into account the level of vulnerability of beneficiaries according to set vulnerability criteria (household composition, age of their members, etc.). In 2017, UNHCR and WFP, in collaboration with partner NGOs and the American University of Beirut (AUB), developed a multi-sectoral approach based on refugee vulnerability, following an assessment that revealed that 87.4 percent of the refugees were vulnerable. Currently, about 100,000 Central African refugees receive in kind food assistance (52,000 people) and cash-based transfers (48,000 people) in the regions of the East, Adamawa and North with 70 percent of the ration.

However, many host communities face many challenges because of the large influx of refugees, particularly in terms of land management, access to social services (mainly, health and education) and natural resources, such as wood, food and water. These pressures on resources contribute to further impacting the livelihoods of populations in the Northern, East and Adamawa regions. Although progress has been made in the areas of protection and humanitarian assistance, refugees have not yet achieved a satisfactory level of empowerment because of the persistent instability in CAR and the insecurity that is causing new refugee movements. To reduce some of these pressures, WFP assists an additional 25,000 refugees and host population with agricultural livelihood programmes that include a six-month food assistance component.

1.1 Background to the Joint Assessment Mission

A recent UNHCR survey (June 2018) of 4,000 people in all sites and some host villages in the eastern regions and Adamawa indicates that 74 percent of CAR refugees (70 percent in 2016) prefer local integration in Cameroon as a durable solution than to return to their home country, mainly due to insecurity in several regions of origin.

Major changes have taken place in the general situation of CAR refugees since the joint assessment of 2016, including:

- The increase in the number of refugees;
- Transition to vulnerability-based food assistance followed by prioritization of beneficiaries most affected by food insecurity and adjustment of rations based on available resources;
- The introduction of the monetary assistance modality (in the form of electronic coupon and multi-purpose transfers).

1.2 Objective of the Joint Assessment Mission

The 2019 JAM's objective is to reassess the overall humanitarian situation of CAR refugees and host communities, identify their needs, risks, capabilities and vulnerabilities in relation to food insecurity and malnutrition, and make appropriate recommendations for the next 12-24 months. This JAM also seeks to analyze the capacity of refugees to access food, their ability to meet their food needs in relation to their livelihoods and type of assistance they receive.

The specific objectives of this JAM are as follow:

- *Objective 1:* To assess food insecurity among CAR refugees living inside and outside refugee's camps in relation to current food assistance (in kind and in cash);
- *Objective 2:* Evaluate protection systems: protection issues related to food and nutrition security, including shelter, gender issues, access to services for people with special needs, registration and documentation; and negative coping strategies resulting from food insecurity;
- *Objective 3:* Evaluate the health system, access to water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH) and the nutritional status of refugees;
- *Objective 4:* Assess refugees' livelihoods and determine the best interventions that could help them meet their food and nutrition needs;
- *Objective 5:* Evaluate the existing coordination mechanism among actors and explore changes in policies and synergies with the host community;
- *Objective 6:* Propose likely scenarios for the next 12-24 months, strategies to guide the prioritization exercise in the event of limited resources;
- *Objective 7:* Gather useful information for the development of a UNHCR-WFP Joint Action Plan (JAP).

1.3 Overall picture of the refugee situation: origin, population size and demography, sites, surrounding community relations

The insecurity caused by the armed socio-political crisis in the Central African Republic (CAR) since March 2013, has forced hundreds of thousands of Central Africans to seek refuge in neighbouring countries like Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, as well as Cameroon.

Cameroon has been the main destination of this population because of the 800 km of border it shares with CAR and, of the Cross-border ethnic affinities between the two countries. Central African refugees in Cameroon, are more concentrated in the Eastern, Adamawa and Northern regions. These regions alone, are home of nearly 259,145 individuals, whereby 30 percent live in seven developed sites (Ngarisingo, Lolo, Mbile, Timangolo, Gado, Borgop and Ngam), and 70 percent in host communities. This refugee population is largely made up of children, young people and women, whose ethnic groups are Mbororo, Gbaya, Haoussa and Kolé. and Gbaya, Kako, Foulbé, Mbimo, Mvon-Mvon and Yanguéré for host populations

The presence of refugees in the three regions - East, Adamawa and the North – has greatly increased the pressure on natural resources and basic social infrastructure that were already precarious. The municipality of Meiganga (Adamawa Region) is the most affected. Competition over scarce resources/structures and the

consequent tensions between refugees and host communities, farmers and herders has led to an increase in food needs, as well as a deterioration in the provision of basic social services and severe environmental degradation.

Despite the achievements on the ground, the multifaceted assistance provided by the Government of Cameroon and humanitarians is still far from optimal to ensure sustainable food security and basic needs for this population. This is due to several factors, including the persistence of insecurity in CAR (resulting into continuous arrivals of new refugees) and the worldwide multiple crises (which have shifted donors' interest from the situation in CAR). This has led to a drastic decline of resources for CAR refugees in Cameroon.

During the JAM exercise, 255,282 refugees were registered by region as follows:

- Eastern Region: 173,720 refugees;
- Adamawa Region: 59,984 refugees;
- Northern Region: 21,578 refugees.

[Annex 2](#) provides detailed statistics on the CAR refugee situation, including their sites of habitation and year of arrival.

1.4 Verification process and coordination

Biometric enrolment is conducted using the Biometrics Information Management System (BIMS). BIMS enrolment involves capturing the 10 fingerprints and the 2 irises. BIMS data is synchronized globally and stored on a single server at UNHCR headquarters. This allows for the identification of cases of double registration following which only one registration is retained for the person of concern while the other registrations are thereby closed. All biometrically enrolled refugees receive individual documents, family composition attestations valid for 2 years are issued to all households as well as refugee identification cards valid for 5 years for those aged 16 years and above as earlier mentioned.

Nevertheless, in 2018, some 21,054 refugee cards issued to refugees aged 16 and over whose validity is five (05) years and this was done principally through individual interviews to profile and register refugees. This shows that CAR refugees continue arriving in Cameroon and the registration activity remains vital in the operation. Apart from the new arrivals, there are newborn babies who also need to be registered.

Data obtained from the biometric registration serves as a reference database for various protection and assistance activities for refugees such as developing lists for relief assistance by the World Food Programme (WFP), beneficiary targeting for essential services including healthcare, shelter, livelihoods, educational support, water and sanitation and proposal development for fundraising to support various refugees assistance and protection activities. It also served as source data for developing the Country Operations Plans (COP) and subsequent annual Project Partnership Agreements (PPA) with our implementing partners.

The data is used to guide age and gender appropriate relief assistance and services and provide identity cards to enhance refugees' free movement, as well as to undertake protection advocacy with government institutions and local authorities in relation to security, socio-economic integration and peaceful co-existence of refugees. Moreover, it is being used to advocate for access to land for the construction of additional shelters to accommodate newly arriving refugees and for agricultural and other livelihoods activities.

It is important to note that verification process is exclusively carried by UNHCR with a dedicated and trained team/staff for the purpose. During the verification process, UNHCR might require the services of a specific partner in which case the latter is associated but under the coordination of UNHCR. However, this process requires regular updates to register new arrivals, births, departures, deaths, etc.

Surrounding community relations

The level of acceptance of refugees by the host communities remains high. There is a strong interaction between refugees and host community through various sectoral committees such as water management, health, education, and the livelihoods in which the two communities work together. They also work together for the prevention and community conflict management, as well as peaceful coexistence. Village and community leaders provide land to refugees under conditions that vary from region to region. Peaceful co-existence is cross-cutting and integrated in all sectors as refugees and host communities use the same social services (schools, health centres, water points, markets, etc.). Mechanisms for conflict prevention and, the promotion of constructive dialogue were put in place at the arrival of refugees and are constantly strengthened through activities that targets both refugees and host communities. Issues related to basic human rights, individual and collective responsibilities have been incorporated in various committee meetings with the aim of sensitizing refugees and host communities on their rights and responsibilities.

1.5. Context: political, humanitarian, social, economic, as relevant to the refugee situation analysis, including likely changes in the short-mid-term and how they are likely to affect the refugees

The JAM exercise under report has taken place in a Cameroon context characterized by the following factors:

- Internal Displaced Persons Dynamics (IDPs) in the Southwest and Northwest regions - increase in the number of existing refugees (CAR and Nigerians);
- Limited prospects for the voluntary return of Central African refugees;
- Agreement between UNHCR and WFP to switch from a status-based to a needs-based targeting focused on vulnerability to food insecurity;
- Decrease of resources to the benefit of Central African refugees,
- Introduction of the monetary assistance and CbT (UNHCR, SSN and WFP e-vouchers);
- Beginning of food assistance activities for assets in 2017 (WFP), and a new subsistence strategy (UNHCR), as a step towards greater self-sufficiency;
- Government's Openness to Economic Inclusion of Refugees – Development and approval of World Bank Commitment and Proposals to support the development of refugee hosting areas for a period of five years, through four major national programmes: National Participatory Development Program (PNDP),, education, health and social safety nets;
- Global commitments to increase collaboration (treasury, targeting, data, autonomy).

2. Description of current Assistance to refugees

2.1 Current Assistance provided by UNHCR (Protection, NFI, WASH, Safety Net, Livelihood)

2.1.1 Protection

Legal protection: As concerned legal protection, the following assistance are being recorded in favor of the CAR refugees:

- o 12,104 refugees were registered and biometrically enrolled in the East, Adamawa and the North in 2018. Refugees of 16 years and older were issued conventional refugee identity cards, and families were issued with family composition.
- o 9,657 Central African refugees were granted access to asylum and registered.
- o No cases of *refoulement* have been reported,
- o 2,731 birth certificates were issued to the benefit to refugee children which contributes to their protection from statelessness.
- o 1,427 birth certificates were obtained through the regular procedure while 1,304 others were issued under the late procedure through supplementary judgments and mobile court hearings.
- o 05 workshops were organized in the East, Adamaoua and North, with the aim of strengthening the access to civil documents. Civil registrars and secretaries, delegates from MINAS, magistrates

and representatives of BUNEC participated in meetings to identify bottlenecks of civil registration and to facilitate access to birth certificates.

- As concerned access to justice for refugees, law cabinet has been hired and is present in the 03 regions (East, Adamawa and North) hosting Central African refugees. This cabinet legally assisted 530 refugees, including 80 refugees released after serving their sentences and 29 refugees who won their trials.

2.1.2 Education

The strategy for integrating refugees' children into the national education system of Cameroon is in place. Access to Cameroon's Primary and secondary Schools has no hindrances from local authorities. The Cameroonian government's desire has been further reflected in the inclusion of refugees in the national education strategy drafted this year, for the integration of refugee-related indicators into the Information and Management System Education (SIGE) set up with the support of UNESCO. This is as well included in the decisions enabling the continuity of children's schooling in public primary schools after the closure of the Temporary Learning and protecting children's education areas through the creation of schools and the assignment of teachers.

33,129 students (14,799 boys and 14,330 girls) out of a total of 66,927 primary school children aged 6-13, were enrolled in the local public primary schools in the 2017-2018 school year. This represents an enrolment rate of 49.5 percent. 1,785 refugee children (503 girls and 1,282 boys) were as well enrolled in local colleges and high schools. 1,120 (299 girls and 821 boys) of them were from the Eastern Region, 665 (204 girls and 461 boys) from East and Adamawa regions out of 21,302 children 14-17 age group (10,608 girls and 10,694 boys) or a rate of 8.38 percent. The contribution of UNHCR and secondary school partners is part of the payment of the school fees (registration and Parent Teachers Association fee (PTA) with specific needs and women in the seven refugees' sites and some selected villages where we have vulnerable refugees. NFIs are also distributed into some schools and prisons. The distributed items are: household soap, mats, mosquito nets and blankets. Currently 123,659 refugees are receiving non-food items (NFIs) consisting of mats, mosquito nets, kitchen kits, blankets, salt, jerry cans, household soaps, tarpaulins. This represents 49.5 percent of NFIs coverage. A total of 30,352 women out of 47,000 planned of the seven sites were assisted in 2018 with hygienic kits in three distributions (instead of the 24 distributions required), representing 75 percent coverage. On the other hand, if we consider the total number of women of reproductive age between the ages of 13 and 49, which is 72,659, the coverage rate is 42 percent.

It should be noted that the inadequacy of CRIs items due to budgetary constraints did not affect all targeted beneficiaries. The frequency with which hygiene kits were distributed to childbearing women of age was irregular due to the inadequacy of the kits to be distributed.

In addition, the socio-economic resilience of majority of refugees remains of concern for the simple reason that some of these people do not have the means to renew their worn-out household items, or even to satisfy their basic need.

Standards are far from being reached as a segment of the refugee population is excluded from assistance in CRIs. In addition, the selected or targeted group (people with special needs, women of childbearing age) was not able to receive regular support.

2.1.3 WASH

Following the recommendations of the 2016 JAM report and despite drastic and continuous funding shortfalls, UNHCR and other humanitarian actors are assisting refugees and host communities for the improvement of their access to basic sanitation facilities (latrines, showers, garbage pits, washing areas) and the promotion of good hygiene practices. Access to water and sanitation including promotion through sensitizations are currently strengthened in the refugee's sites and some host villages of refugees. The points below outline the different achievements up to 2018.

Water: 13 new boreholes were built in refugee and host community villages (Touborro district), in the Gado Badzere site. A mini-supply of drinking water of 12 terminals fountains powered by a spring fall source with water pumping station was established to strengthen the existing device. Drilling and water maintenance

interventions are the major actions of UNHCR and its partners to ensure the functionality of the water system. Training and recycling sessions have been organized to build and reinforce the capacity of craftsmen repairing motor pumps. In addition, water point management committees (new and old) were set-up and revitalized. The daily water supply ratio in refugee sites as of 1 January 2019 is 17.4 litres per person per day with an average of 375 individuals per water point. However, the situation in the host community villages remains poorly controlled. Therefore, this situation is less good than that observed in the refugee sites, and varies from village to village.

Sanitation: Between 2017 and 2019, there has been an increase of access to basic sanitation for refugees in all the seven refugee sites as well as outside the sites in the host community. Major interventions have focused on the construction and rehabilitation of latrines, shower blocks and the construction of garbage pits in the 7 sites. The average ratio of access to latrines in these sites is 18 people per latrine cabin instead of 10 according to UNHCR Cameroon's standards. This ratio is not balanced in all sites as it ranges between 36 people per latrine in Gado to 10 people per latrine in Timangolo. The other major challenge is the rehabilitation of latrine blocks due to the unsustainable quality of the materials used. These rehabilitations are expensive. Garbage pits available are insufficient due to their filling and lack of regular replacement. There is an average of 800 refugees per garbage pit instead of the 500 people per pit standard. Washing areas are also insufficient. In villages hosting refugees, self-built latrines are advocated and supported by ATPC (Community-controlled Total Sanitation) campaigns. Although the situation does not seem alarming, the phenomenon of open defecation in some communities is still a common practice.

Hygiene promotion: Efforts are strongly supported by UNHCR with the collaboration of Regional Delegations and Regional WASH Committees. UNHCR is funding promotional campaigns around the International Thematic Days (World Water Day, Handwashing, Toilets, Hygiene menstrual syndrome). In the refugee sites, a community of hygiene promotion system is set up and functional. Outreach, community mobilization and demonstration activities are carried out on a weekly basis under the supervision of WASH partners.

UNHCR's efforts remain insufficient to meet the hygiene needs and especially in the refugee site. Substantial support from development partners is crucial, especially in refugee-hosting communities. The withdrawal of other humanitarian partners (UNICEF, international NGOs) from some areas due to the decline in funding for the Central African crisis is detrimental for the improvement of the conditions of refugees and host populations.

2.1.4 Livelihoods

UNHCR developed a livelihoods strategy 2017 – 2020 in order to improve the living conditions in Cameroon through income-generating activities. The strategy was developed with the contribution of humanitarian actors and the Government authorities in Cameroon. The strategy defines the framework within which refugees can be assisted with clear indicators that can be used in measuring success and failures.

The humanitarian actors are working with Cameroonian authorities and local community leaders to facilitate access to lands and other natural resources. As of 2019, 26 percent of refugees' households have access to arable land or other natural resources. Moreover, 1,305 selected refugees' households of 6,525 individuals are receiving kits and inputs for agriculture/livestock/fisheries activities based on 3 agricultural value chains (Maize, Peanut, Market garden). As concerned capacity building, 800 individuals (both refugees and host community members) on 70 percent refugees and 30 percent host community benefitted from training on sustainable agricultural practices. The training was also supported technically by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) and Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry (MINEPIA). Another 100 heads of households were trained in the Farmer-to-Farmer extension approach².

As concerned coordination in the livelihoods sectors, 5 meetings/contract negotiations out of 10, linking farmers, traders, processors and retailers. A total of 15 Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) for

² Defined as the provision of training by farmers to farmers

a total of 375 members (both refugees and host community members on 70 percent refugees and 30 percent host community) were supported in strengthening their governance and management.

In the domain of social economy, 53 Common Initiative Groups (CIG) were linked with CREDIT DE SAHEL, a local financial institution that awards credits to households and small business activities to facilitate loans to refugees with law interests' rates. UNHCR also has a convention with this local financial institution in which its Livelihoods partners uses to fund refugees

In terms of Vocational training, 90 individuals were provided with inclusive vocational training and employment skills programs. Furthermore, 20 percent of refugees households are currently provided with solar energy equipment. In a bite to reduce pressure on the environment, efforts have been made so much so that as of 2018, 1 percent of refugees households are using alternative and/or renewable energy (briquet) for cooking.

Finally, 2,911 of hectares of land were restored through tree planting with 86 percent of Survival rate after planting. Four nursing sites with 5000 plants each is under way in the East and Adamaoua regions. Environmental clubs were created in some selected schools and are carrying out environmental related activities and facilitating activities during World Environment Days.

2.2 Current assistance provided by the WFP

2.2.1 General Food Distributions

WFP has been providing food assistance to CAR refugees in the East, Adamawa and North, to help sustain their food and nutrition security. Following a new influx of refugees in 2016 reaching 525,570 individuals (UNHCR January 2019), WFP was forced to reduce its ration from 100 percent to a range of 80-50 percent due to funding constraints and to accommodate a higher number of refugees and new arrivals.

Based on the implementation and monitoring of the 2108 joint targeting results in 2018, WFP has planned to assist 100,000 CAR refugees with the provision of General Food Assistance (51,200 in kind and 48,800 Cash-Based Transfer) in the current year. Beneficiaries targeted for the in-kind assistance receive a basket of 540 grams per person per day composed of cereals (350g/person/day), pulses (100g/person/day), vegetable oil (35g/person/day), super cereal (50g/person/day) and salt (5g/person/day) making up 2,100 kilocalories per person per day in line with Sphere standards.

Based on the funding situation in 2019, WFP was not able to provide 100 percent of the planned in-kind and CBT assistance for refugees, and provided instead an in-kind food ration of 70 percent or 1,470kcal per person, which is far from the recommended 2,100 kcal. The basket consists of cereals (245g/person/day), pulses (70g/person/day), vegetable oil (25g/person/day), super cereal (35g/person/day) and salt (4g/person/day).

Due to funding shortfalls, CBT beneficiaries are currently receiving 80 percent of the recommended ration (i.e., XFA 6,160 per person for the CAR refugees in the East and Adamawa). For Food for Asset (FFA), WFP plan in 2019 to assist 47.500 CAR refugees (33.000) and host (14.500) through in kind and CBT (32'000 in kind and 15,500 CBT) by early recovery and resilience activity.

Table 1 : General Food Assistance In-Kind

Geographical area	Department	Planned Number of Beneficiary	Actuals Number of Beneficiary	%	Basket reached so far (mean)	Comments
North	Mayo-Rey	12,000	7,574	63%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
Adamawa	Mbere	16,100	14,347	89%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
East	Lom-et-Djerem	11,250	11,346	101%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
	Kadey	10,214	10,214	100%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
	Boumba-et-Ngoko	1,636	1,636	100%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
Total		51,200	45,117	88%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.

Table 2 : General Food Assistance CBT

Geographical area	Department	Planned Number of Beneficiary	Actuals Number of Beneficiary	%	Basket reached so far	Comments
Adamawa	Vina	300	289	96%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
	Mbere	13,300	10,486	79%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
East	Lom-et-Djerem	19,300	18,743	97%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
	Kadey	15,300	15,305	100%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
	Boumba-et-Ngoko	600	582	97%	74%	75% from January to March, 80% from April to May.
Total		48,800	45,405	93%	74%	

2.2.2 Blanket supplementary feeding 6-23 months

WFP is implementing a nutrition response framework with stronger focus towards prevention of malnutrition. The programme focuses on preventing malnutrition amongst the most vulnerable populations through strengthening supplementary feeding (BSFP) with focus on the first 1000 days of life. The programme targets all children aged 6-23 months including those suffering from moderate acute malnutrition-(MAM). It also targets children aged between 24-59 months suffering from MAM and located in the most food insecure departments hosting CAR refugees – where there is also the highest prevalence of wasting. The programme also targeted people with HIV/AIDS who receive antiretroviral treatment (ART) in the East and Adamawa. BSFP targets Bertoua, Batouri, Betare-oya, Garoua Boulai, Kette, Ndelele and Youkadouma health districts of the East region, Meiganga, Djohong, Tibati and Ngaoundal health districts of the Adamawa regions and Touborou health district of the North region. Due to resource constraints, the BSFP assistance within the first quarter of 2019 was only provided to the health districts of Meiganga, Djohong, Tibati, Ngaoundal and Toubourou health districts. The programme will be scaled-up as of June to cover all planned districts for 2019.

2.2.3 Asset creation for early recovery, community resilience, environmental protection and adaption

Moderately food-insecure households that are not included in the WFP general food assistance, are included in livelihood programmes that focusses on early recovery and the socio-economic integration of refugees through the creation of productive assets. The programmes also integrate up to 10 percent of host communities to strengthen their resilience against potential shocks through community-based asset creation activities aimed at community development.

In 2018, 24,500 beneficiaries were reached through livelihood activities in East by food distribution in kind. Asset creation activities include community farms (crop farms, bee farms, market gardening and fish farming), rehabilitation and construction of water bodies (bays, wells, artificial ponds, and irrigation canals) and construction of market shed, rural tracks and nurseries etc. to build resilience to shock.

These activities help to improve the living conditions of communities by reducing dependency on food assistance and increasing household income. The programme also aims to increase social cohesion between the Cameroonian population and refugees, by employing young men and women; by bringing in innovative practices and by increasing access to markets.

The projects will be implemented from June to December 2019 and aim to reach 31,970 beneficiaries (32,000 planned), as shown in table below:

Table 3 : 2019 livelihood activities in East and Adamawa/North

Geographical area	Department	N° of Refugees and host	Reached	In kind assistance value planned (MT) 6 months of feeding	Project title
East	Lom & Djerem, Kadey	6,295	6,295	370	Project of construction of drying areas, water collection tanks and development of agroforestry areas of mama, gbiti, ndokayo and Zembe Borongo
	Kadey	2,540	2,540	150	Integrated small-scale market gardening, and diversified grain crops production to enhance food security of both refugees and local population in Lolo and Mbile, East region, Cameroon
	Lom & Djerem	2,000	2,000	118	Support to the empowerment of refugees and host populations through the creation of 4 community fields of cassava, maize, beans, soybeans and pigeon peas in Lom and Djerem
	Lom & Djerem	4,000	4,000	235	Increase in agropastoral production in the villages of Moinam, Boulembe and Daiguene
	Lom & Djerem, Kadey	4,135	4,135	243	Agricultural project for vulnerable populations in the localities of Adinkol, Tongo Gandima, Moinam and Nandoungue
North and Adamawa	Mbére	2500	2500	147	Beekeeping project for increasing the income of refugees and host populations in Meigangaga, Djohong and Ngaoui communes, Phase 2
	Mayo-Rey, Mbéré	6,500	6,500	382.2	Food and Nutrition Security Support Project in the Municipality of Touboro-Nord Region (PASANT)
	Mbére, Vina	4,000	4,000	235.2	Project to support the production of millet associated with white beans for the improvement of financial income among the displaced populations of the far north and host populations in Mbé commune
Total	6	31,970	31,970	1,880.4	8 Projects

A total of 15,000 beneficiaries (11,000 refugees and 4,500 host population) are planned for FFA in the early recovery and Resilience activities through CBT. Two projects are ongoing and will cover 11,000 CAR refugees by December 2019.

Table 4 : CAR refugees caseloads planned for livelihood activities by December 2019

Geographical area	Division	No Refugees and host	Reached	CBT value planned	Project title
North and Adamawa	Mbere, Vina, Mayo-Rey	4500	0	NA	NA
East	Lom-et-Djerem, Kadey and Boumba and Ngoko	11000	0	NA	NA

3. Methodology

This assessment has combined qualitative and quantitative approaches. Information come from available reports, meetings with local authorities, site managers, NGOs, discussions with refugees' representatives, refugees and host population, visits to their sites and evaluation of infrastructure.

The teams deployed three methodologies of data collection:

- Literature review and analysis of studies and reports on Central African refugees in East, North and Adamawa.
- Interviews with refugee households, focus group discussions with refugees, community leaders, and health officials.
- Key informant interviews with relevant national, regional and local authorities, NGOs and other organisations working with the refugees.

Prior to primary data collection, a secondary analysis of the data was carried out by the team to provide information on food and non-food assistance to CAR refugees and establish missing information to be completed during the primary data collection phase. This review includes amongst other things, the number of Central African refugees, their recent movements, their traditional livelihoods, their skills and abilities, the efficiency of current food assistance and related services, the current situation and factors affecting health and nutrition, the potential for natural resources, the protection and gender-related concerns.

3.1 Preparations

A three-day preparatory JAM training workshop for all team members was held on 18 January 2019 in Bertoua, prior to the field missions. The training focused on the objectives of the JAM, the revision of the data collection tools. The workshop was attended by 50 participants from UNHCR, WFP, NGOs, the government as well as the enumerators and team leaders. tools During the last day of the training, a field-test was conducted in the village of Boulembe. The primary data collection was conducted straight after the end of the training, from 21 to 31 January 2019 in two different zones (Adamawa-Nord; East).

3.2 Fieldwork

The JAM teams visited the 7 in-sites, namely Borgop, Ngam, Ngarissingo, Lolo, Mbile, Timangolo and Gado. Enumerators were split into two sub-teams to cover all the 27 villages. Data was collected through interviews, focus group discussions, direct observations, and infrastructure visits. Focus group discussions were conducted with men, women, youth (boys and girls), leaders, camp managers, and the host community. Technical members of the teams also conducted interviews with key informants, including medical personnel, school teachers and traders.

An enumerator of each was in charge of a market assessment, whilst the rest of the enumerators focused on the household survey. To facilitate communication, enumerators were chosen on the basis of their knowledge of local languages; however, translators were sometimes used to assist enumerators. Each team composed included of six supervisors: two from WFP, two from UNHCR and two from the Government, who were also the facilitators of the focus group discussions. Daily debriefs were held in the field to share information collected and validate the information collected. At the end of the data collection, a debrief was held with field staff (including Heads of Field Offices) to share the initial findings. Later, debriefings were also done at the Country Office and to the Humanitarian Country Team.

3.3 Data processing and analysis

All the data (household, community, markets and traders) was collected using mobile phones with the ODK (Open Data Kit) application, and directly uploaded to a server.

Data analysis was conducted by WFP VAM unit using the SPSS and MS-EXCEL software. A thorough review of the results was carried out with UNHCR during a 3-day workshop in Yaoundé in March 2019. This report is drafted by WFP and UNHCR, at field, country, and regional and headquarter levels.

3.4 Study limitation

Some of the results of this assessment may be influenced by the data collection period (January 2019) which corresponds to the low availability period in the East region (people face low availability of food during planting or farm preparation period). They present therefore, the situation at that time of the year.

The administration of the questionnaires sometimes requires the use of translators identified in the sites. It is therefore possible that local language translation errors have been committed during data collection.

The thresholds for the MEB used for this exercise were the same used by the AUB analysis conducted in 2018 and UNHCR and WFP are in the process of revising the MEB via the East CWG.

4. Findings

4.1 Analysis of Basic Social Services, including Protection, Education, Wash, Health, Nutrition, Situation/co-existence with Host communities

4.1.1 Protection

The JAM exercise has focused on protection by integrating issues related to access, availability and use of basic food and social services; and other issues such as coping mechanisms.

Once on Cameroonian soil, Central African refugees are registered by UNHCR, and are issued identity card that allows them to have access to available food and social services.

One of the main protection challenges faced by refugees is the non-recognition of the refugee identity card by the Cameroonian police and administrative authorities. This situation makes it difficult for them to move freely. Instead, they must have an additional document entitled "To Whom It May Concern", which is issued by the heads of UNHCR offices. This document is seen by the security officials as the permission by UNHCR for a refugee to move from one pint to another. Considering the fact that UNHCR offices are not located in all the refugees host areas, the later must travel of to obtain the document and this is making their movements very difficult.

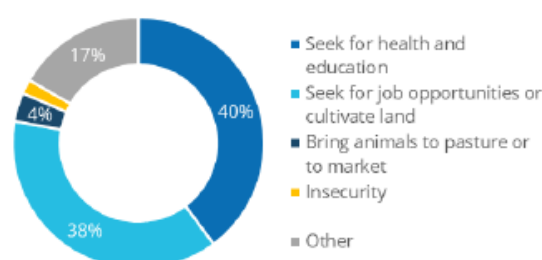
Some off-camp refugees and newcomers have not been registered for a variety of reasons:

- Absence during registration operations;
- Some did not come forward knowingly;
- Others arrived after the registration teams (newcomers) passed;
- For many of them who are breeders, their excessive mobility has not favoured their registration.

Arrival information and displacement

Household status	Average number of years the household settled in this site	Household has changed site/village at least once	Some household members have changed location for more than 3 months
Old refugees (before 2014)	5.4	7.4%	13.3%
New refugees in-camp	4.3	7.7%	9.6%
New refugees off-camp	3.6	9.4%	5.2%

Reason for changing site/village



4.1.2 Education

The strategy of integrating refugee children into the national education system is working efficiently. The access of refugee children to public and sometimes private primary schools, colleges and high schools in Cameroon is unhindered by the authorities. The challenge is the absorption capacity. Gradually classrooms are built and advocacy for the assignment of trained teachers continues.

Between August 2016 and December 2018, 1,500 refugee children were enrolled in primary school. These children were supported with school materials such as books, school fees, examination fees and school uniforms. This number has increased the total number of CAR refugee children enrolment to 33,129, which represents 49.5 percent enrolment rate. However, about 50.5 percent refugee children of school age are still out of school due to lack of funding and other related reasons.

In 2018, a total of 15 classrooms were constructed/rehabilitated throughout the three regions of East, Adamaoua and the North. Apart from constructions, these classrooms were equipped with benches, chairs for teachers and didactic materials at the beginning of each school year. These school infrastructures helped to guarantee quality education to refugees and host communities by reducing over-crowdedness in school classrooms.

All refugee children who are in school are enrolled into the national public/government schools. There is no parallel system for refugees and there is no discrimination for the inclusion of refugee children into the Cameroonian education system. The political will of the Government of Cameroon to respect the right to education for refugee children is not disputed, despite the structural problems the education system is facing.

This commitment was further reflected in the inclusion of refugees into the national education strategy drafted in 2018 and the integration of refugee-related indicators into the Education Information and Management System (EMIS) set up with the support of UNESCO.

Between August 2016 and December 2018, efforts were made to maintain a high level of coordination including joint assessments and supervision with the government, including the regional and departmental delegations and the district inspectorates of the Ministries of Basic Education and Secondary Education. Through the Emergency Education Working Group, made up of all actors in the education sector such as UNICEF, Ministry of Basic Education, UNHCR, Catholic Relief Services, coordination meetings were organized to monitor the issue of schooling of refugee children.

4.1.3 WASH

The situation of Water and sanitation hygiene (WASH) appears to be quite different for refugees hosted in the seven camps from those who are settled in host communities. For example, the standard of 20 litres/person/day recommended by UNHCR, is about 18 litres/person/day in the seven refugees' sites. However, the situation is significantly lower in the villages hosting refugees whereby we have 9.5 litres/person/day as of end of 2019. The Public (government) water provision system that was set up several years back, is no longer working. Most out of camp refugees fetch water from streams or from the few functioning boreholes, often from a long distance. Exposure to waterborne diseases is higher for this refugee category. Latrines and other hygiene facilities, including health centres, are inadequate or out of service. The ratio of toilets per users at refugee sites is quite good (13 people/latrines), and community health workers encourage good hygiene practices. There is, however, a lack of hand-washing corner facilities in schools. The sources of all these figures is in the 2018 Year End Report.

4.1.4 Health & Nutrition

Most refugees hosted in camps and in host communities, are satisfied with the provision of health care services. However, they complained about the poor reception from some health workers. The lack of adequate evening, night and weekends services caused by funding decrease, affect provision of health care to the poorest and most vulnerable. This concern is currently addressed through a prioritization strategy that has been put in place to take into account the most vulnerable and the categories with priority needs (children under 5 years of age, old people, pregnant and lactating women, people with chronic diseases, emergencies or life-threatening situations, etc.). Inadequate infrastructure, a weak technical platform and a lack of qualified health personnel appear to be the main challenges. There has also been a reduction in referrals of cases requiring specialized medical care in Yaoundé or in appropriate regional hospitals.

Respiratory infections, malaria, diarrhea, intestinal worms and gastritis are the leading causes of morbidity in refugees and their hosts' communities, as well as pneumonia and a few other non-communicable diseases. The unavailability of certain drugs in health centres, the lack of special drugs as essential medicines, and prescriptions of unavailable drugs to patients, were reported as factors aggravating the risk of morbidity and mortality.

Malnutrition is present in refugee camps and host communities. According to refugees, malnutrition is the result of the implementation of food targeting. However, other factors such as malaria, diarrhoea, chronic diseases, and poor eating habits, too contribute malnutrition, regardless of access to food.

4.2 Market survey

In January 2019, WFP conducted a market and trader survey to understand market capacity in terms of infrastructure, availability of food products, the functioning of the food distribution chain and affordability of the commodities. Moreover, the assessment aimed at understanding the extent to which the functioning of markets can allow the implementation of local food purchases or cash transfers.

4.2.1 Characteristics of the Respondents

The below table summarizes the key characteristics of the surveyed traders such as the type of trade, gender, average age, marital status, education level, number of employees in their shops, ownership of a bank account, average number of customers per day and their gender.

Table 5: Key characteristics of the surveyed traders

Characteristics of surveyed traders	
Type of trade	62.6 percent retailers; 26 percent wholesalers; 11 percent collectors
Gender	57 percent men and 43 percent women. Gender distribution is more balanced in the region of East (50 percent male traders vs. 49.2 percent female traders) and less balanced in Adamawa and North
Age	On average, 40 years old; however, the age of the respondents ranges between 19 to 73 years
Marital status	Overall, married (59 percent monogamous, 15 percent polygamous)
Education level	Overall, low level of education: only 32.5 percent of traders completed primary school or have a higher level of education. This might potentially influence the formalization of traders' activities such as administrative registration, inventory and bookkeeping.
Employees in the shops	15.4 percent of traders reported to have employees in their shops, mainly male employees
Number of daily customers	On average, 30 per day; however, this number varies depending on the level of distribution, type of commodities sold, and importance of the market. In the region of North, the minimum number of customers per day reported is 15; however, some traders reported to receive up to 80 customers. In the region of East, shopkeepers reported to receive 150 customers per day
Gender of customers	According to 45 percent of traders interviewed, customers are mainly women; however, the regions of North and Adamawa recorded larger proportions of male customers (respectively 44 percent and 33.3 percent) compared to the East (9.2 percent)
Ownership of bank account	Only less than 1 percent traders reported to have a bank account

4.2.2 Market Structure and Constraints

4.2.2.1 Actors and supply chain

The main actors in the markets visited are retailers (62.2 percent) – who buy food items from wholesalers, collectors and local producers to sell them to households – wholesalers (26 percent) – who buy products locally or in other regions or neighbouring countries to resale them to retailers and households – and collectors (11.4 percent) – who buy commodities from producers to sell them to wholesalers and retailers.

The overall supply level of markets was found to be good; however, it varies according to the size of the markets and the number of actors involved.

Markets are supplied with local produce, transfers of surplus between regions and imports from abroad, including neighbouring countries. Local production was found to be good enough to be the main supply

channel for products such as maize, at both regional and departmental level. Other commodities such as cassava, yam, millet and groundnuts are imported from neighbouring countries (Nigeria, C.A.R. and Chad).

Despite the differences in their size, the visited markets are globally well functioning; markets in the North seem to be more active than others, which indicates that the local populations are more dependent on market purchase. Moreover, markets in this region were found to have a greater diversification of commodities. The table below shows more details on the supply chain of key staple commodities in the markets surveyed in the regions of East, North and Adamawa.

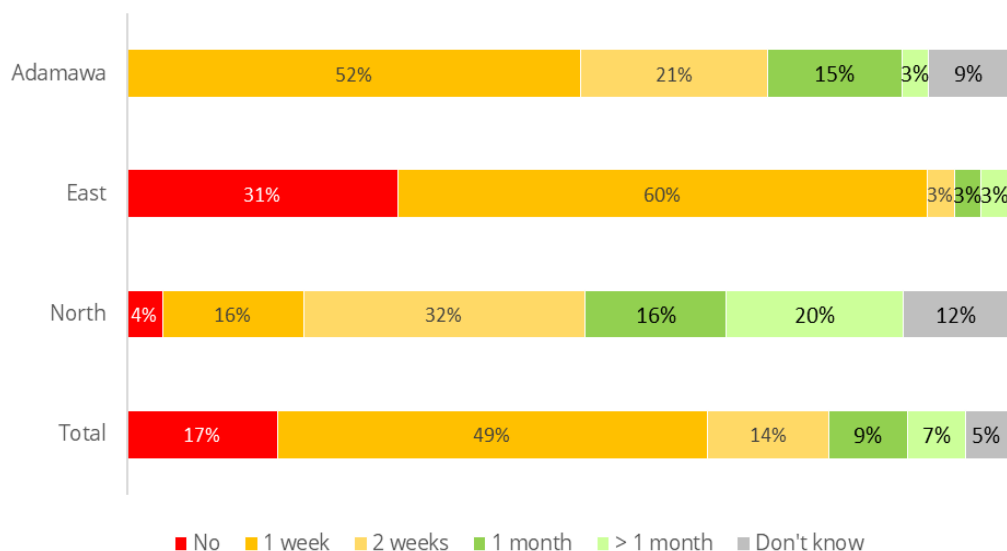


Table 6 : Supply chain of key staple commodities - East, North and Adamawa

Commodity	Availability	Source	Quantities (in tons)
Beans (niébé)	All markets	North	North: important (10 - 50) Adamawa and East: small (1 - 5)
Cassava stalks	All markets	East and C.A.R.	Large markets: important (50 - 60) Small markets: small (<5)
Groundnuts	Most markets (11/12)	North, Chad	Important (25 - 30)
Imported rice	All markets	Douala (port)	Important (150)
Local rice	Few markets in the East and North (2/12)	Locally produced	Small (1 - 2)
Macabo	Most markets (11/12)	Locally produced	Small (1 - 4)
Maize	All markets	Locally produced	Important (up to 150)
Millet	Few markets in the North (3/12)	Locally produced, C.A.R.	North: important (25 - 75) Adamawa: small (1 - 2)
Potato	Some markets (9/12)	North and West	Small (1 - 3)
Sorghum	Few markets in the North (5/12)	Locally produced	Small (1 - 2)
Soya	Some markets (7/12)	North	Important (10 - 50)
Sweet potato	Most markets (11/12)	Locally produced	Medium (up to 10)
Vegetable oil	All markets	Locally produced	Small (1 - 3)
Yam	Some markets (7/12)	East and Nigeria	Small (1 - 3)

Capacity to respond to changes in demand seem to be higher in Adamawa (73 percent of traders can double their supply within 2 weeks); conversely 30 percent of traders in the East cannot respond to a doubling of the demand.

Figure 1 : Response capacity in case the demand doubles by region



There is no accurate data to demonstrate market integration, particularly for local commodities. However, ongoing programmes seem not to disturb markets functioning. The crises in the West and the North of the country has not affected the supply of market as there is no region with exclusive production of any commodity.

4.2.2.2 Demand side

Households are the main actors for demand. Urban households depend almost exclusively on markets for food; rural households and refugees buy food products that they do not produce. Institutions such as WFP are also among the actors for demand as they buy locally at small scale.

The demand is stable compared to last year; however, traders perceive the overall demand lower due to a decline in purchasing power of populations. Indeed, 24 percent of traders reported a decrease in the volume of their sales and approximately 50 percent of traders reported to have sold commodities on credit during the month of January.

4.2.2.3 Storage capacity and breaks in the pipeline

Markets surveyed in the North region are larger and have higher storage capacity than those visited in the Adamawa and East regions. Storage capacity in the North can reach up to 1,000 tons of commodities, which are then sold in the subsequent three months; conversely, traders in the region of East can store between 5 and 150 tons of commodities.

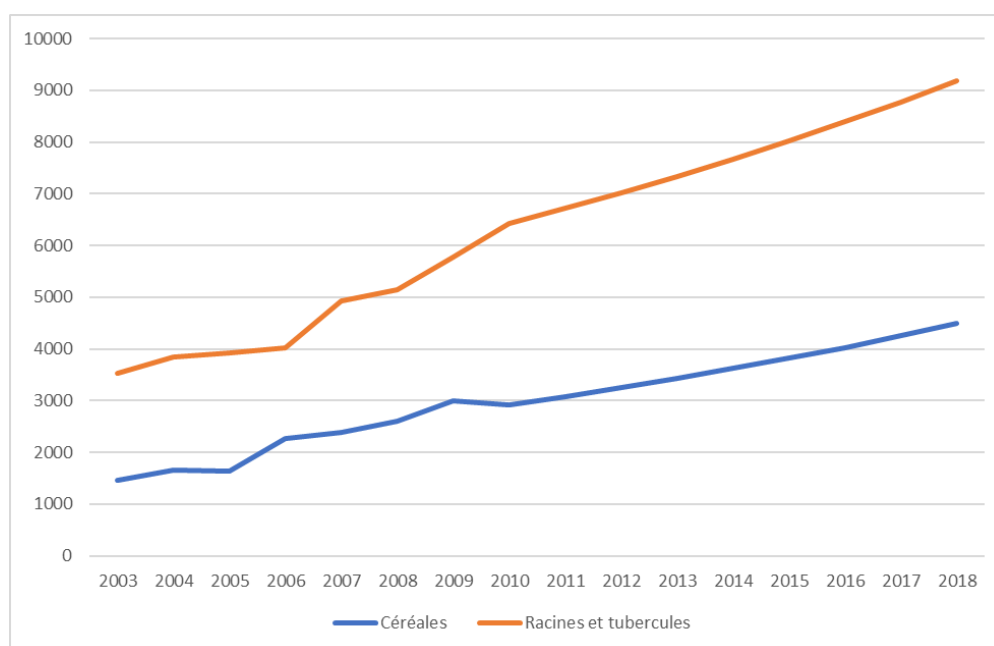
Overall, stock-outs happen during the rainy season (which is also the lean season). To prepare for this situation, 37.4 percent of traders reported to implement strategies to deal with food price increases, such as drawing commodities from their reserves (29 percent) or changing their sources of supply (27.5 percent).

Other constraints such as poor road conditions and high transport costs (28 percent), low purchasing power of customers (34.7 percent) and lack of capital (31.4 percent) can delay the response capacity of traders in remote areas and during the rainy/lean season.

4.2.2.4 Availability and prices of commodities

According to FAO, crop production at national level has been increasing since 2003, making basic commodities available in all markets.

Figure 2: Trends in crop production - 2003-2018



Source : <http://countrystat.org/home.aspx?c=CMR>

Compared to last year, prices in January were stable or lower. The reasons are the recent harvests in the north (October/November) and in the south of the country (December / January) after the long rain season.

Prices are determined by a relatively large number of actors (wholesaler and retailers), at times influenced by Government actors; however, this does not seem to have had an impact on the market structure as prices appear to be in line with competition rules. The table below shows how prices of different commodities have been established in 2017 and 2018.

Table 7 : How prices of different commodities have been established (2017 vs. 2018)

Commodities	2017	2018
Millet	Each trader determines his own price	Traders work together to set a minimum price or a price range
Sorghum	Each trader determines his own price	Each trader determines his own price Traders work together to set a minimum price or a price range
Maize	Prices are set by several wholesalers in the markets	Prices are set by several wholesalers in the markets
Imported rice	Prices are set by a state agent Prices are set by several wholesalers in the markets	Prices are set by a state agent Prices are set by several wholesalers in the markets
Local rice	Prices are set by several wholesalers in the markets	Prices are set by several wholesalers in the markets
Livestock	Prices are set by a state agent Prices are set by several wholesalers in the markets	Prices are set by a state agent Prices are set by several wholesalers in the markets

4.3 Key findings - Food security

The findings of the JAM which assessed the food security status of CAR refugees is based on a representative sample of 999 households interviewed in Adamawa, East and North regions. The sample was divided into four strata: old refugees (before 2014), new refugees off-camp, new refugees in-camp, and local Cameroonian communities.

4.3.1 Demographics

On average, refugee households are composed of six members, regardless of the strata. The average size of host communities is seven. An average household has four children under the age of eighteen. Females are heading 30 to 40 percent of refugee households against only 22 percent of host communities' households. This finding is an indication that refugee households are fragmented. Some members, notably men, did not move with the rest of the household.

Table 8 : Demographic characteristics of refugees and host communities

Demographic variable	Old refugees (before 2014)	New refugees in-camp	New refugees off-camp	Host communities
Average household size	6	6	6	7
Female headed households (%)	39.5%	44.1%	46.1%	22.5%
Average number of children 0-18 per household	4	4	4	4
Household with pregnant women (%)	9.6%	8.8%	9.4%	15.9%

4.3.2 Arrival Information and Displacement

Refugee influx in Cameroon started in December 2013, following the outbreak of CAR conflict. The duration of settlement varies between 5.4 years (old refugees) and 3.6 years (new refugees off-camp). Refugees are staying in different types of settlements and are a relatively stable population: they do not often change site or village. Rarely do household members temporally migrate to seek health and education (39.8 percent) and job opportunity or to cultivate land (38 percent).

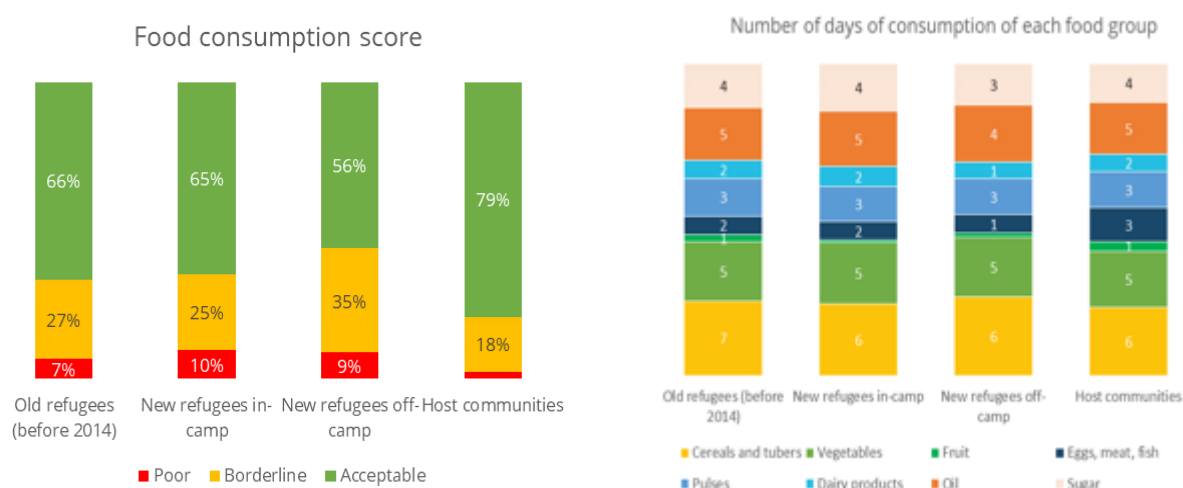
4.3.3 Food Consumption

Overall food consumption is acceptable among refugees (63 percent) and host communities (79 percent): however, host communities are better-off. 56 to 65 percent of refugee households have diversified food consumption. The food intake is made of only four food groups, notably cereals, oil/fats, sugar and vegetables. Consumption of dairy products, meat, fish and eggs is very sporadic.

Food consumption patterns seems to be distributed across regions. Adamawa is the worst-off region (35.7 percent of households consume inadequate diets) followed by North (33.8 percent) and East (31.2 percent).

Overall, refugee households rely on unstable food sources, mainly food assistance, humanitarian cash transfers and gifts. Consumption from own production is low; conversely, dependence on markets is high for both refugees and host communities, which raises questions on the purchasing power of these households and their capacity to access to food.

Figure 3 : Food consumption score and food groups consumed in a week (refugees and host communities)



4.3.4 Shocks

Households reported to have suffered mainly from economic shocks, which puts a stress on their economic vulnerability and difficulties in securing enough resources to meet their essential needs. The high costs of living represent the shock that households suffered the most, regardless of strata. However, new refugees off-camp are the households most affected by this shock as it was reported by 52.8 percent of households, followed by old refugees (40.5 percent) and host communities (34.7 percent). The second most reported shock across all strata is loss of employment of a household member or the lack of employment. New off-camp refugees suffered from this shock the most (reported by 22.2 percent of households).

Table 9 : Shocks reported by refugee and host community households

Shocks	Old refugees (before 2014)	New refugees in-camp	New refugees off-camp	Host communities
Increase in prices	8.2%	8.8%	9.7%	14.4%
Reduced access to credit	2.3%	4.4%	1.4%	2.8%
Decrease in prices of agriculture/livestock products	5.9%	2.9%	6.3%	9.7%
High costs of living	40.5%	33.2%	52.8%	34.7%
Agropastoral conflicts/reduction of livestock	5.5%	1.0%	2.1%	9.3%
Death of household members	9.1%	18.0%	16.0%	19.4%
Difficulties in settling	10.0%	4.9%	9.0%	5.1%
Insecurity/conflicts with local communities	4.5%	8.3%	10.4%	3.2%
High school fees	3.6%	3.9%	2.1%	9.7%
Climatic shocks	7.7%	2.0%	2.8%	5.6%
Crop/livestock diseases	12.3%	7.8%	7.6%	12.0%
Household member lost his job/has no employment	20.5%	15.1%	22.2%	14.4%
Cattle/livestock theft	5.9%	3.9%	2.8%	7.4%
Career change	12.3%	8.3%	7.6%	1.4%
Disease of household members	9.1%	11.2%	9.7%	9.7%

4.3.5 Coping Strategies

4.3.5.1 Food consumption-related coping mechanisms

To manage food gaps, refugees and host communities apply coping strategies. In times when they do not have enough food or money to buy food, refugees rely on less preferred or less expensive food and or reduced proportion size of meals. These two coping strategies are used by all refugees, regardless their settlement and duration of displacement. The Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) was used to measure the severity of applied coping strategies. This indicator ranges between 0 and 56; the higher the average coping strategy index, the harder households struggle to access to food. The rCSI median are 8 and 7 respectively for new refugees that are off-camp and new refugees in-camp. An average old refugee household has a median rCSI of 7 against a median rCSI of 2 of the host communities.

Overall, the rCSI is low, which indicates that refugees have relatively good access to food; however refugee and host community households are relying on some coping strategies such as the consumption of less preferred or less expensive food, by borrowing food from friends or relatives this also explains why particularly for refugees they are forced to reduce portion sizes at mealtimes.

Table 10 : rCSI and prevalence of implementation of food consumption-related coping strategies

Household status	rCSI	Relied on less preferred, less expensive food	Borrowed food or relied on help from friends or relatives	Reduced portion size of meals	Reduction in the quantities consumed by adults/mothers for young children	Reduced the number of meals eaten per day	Reduction of consumption of girls/female household members	No food consumption for the whole day
Old refugees (before 2014)	7	75.3%	41.0%	51.3%	34.7%	35.8%	6.3%	10.0%
New refugees in-camp	7	81.2%	46.4%	64.0%	35.6%	47.5%	4.2%	11.1%
New refugees off-camp	8	83.2%	44.0%	53.4%	39.3%	46.6%	4.7%	13.6%
Host communities	2	55.1%	12.7%	32.2%	19.9%	26.8%	1.8%	6.9%

4.3.5.2 Livelihood-based coping mechanisms

In times when they do not have enough money to access food or have not produced food, households apply coping strategies that affect their livelihood and their ability to recover from new shocks. Spending savings, sending household members to eat elsewhere and reducing expenditure on health and education are common coping strategies applied by all refugee groups. Reduction on education expenditure augments school dropouts; decreases in health expenditure increases morbidity and poses food utilization problems; spending savings accelerates assets depletion and fragilize these households' capacity to cope with new shocks.

Table 11 : Prevalence of implementation of livelihood-based coping strategies

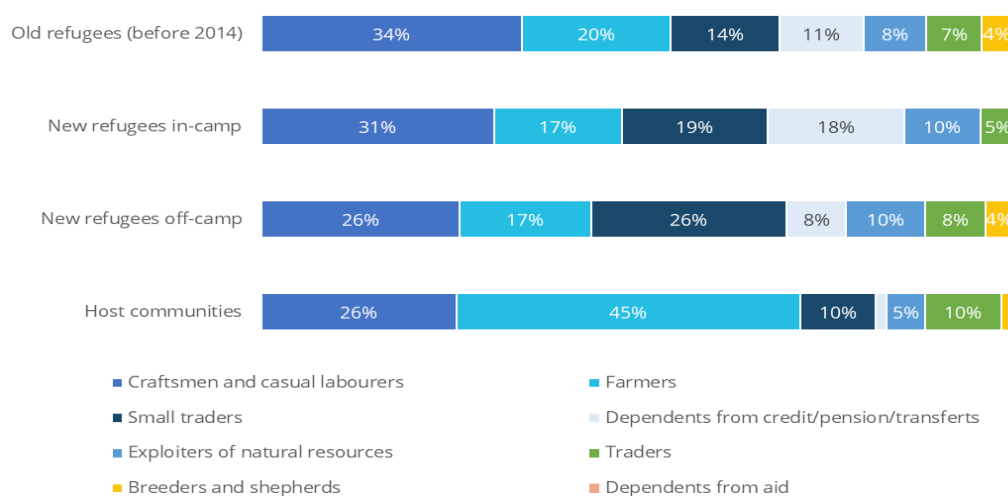
Strategies		Old refugees (before 2014)	New refugees in-camp	New refugees off-camp	Host communities
Stress	Spent savings	33.6%	23.4%	27.7%	21.0%
	Sent household members to eat elsewhere	20.7%	18.8%	20.9%	6.9%
	Sold non-productive assets	3.3%	4.6%	4.7%	4.7%
	Sold more firewood or non-productive animals	8.1%	11.5%	14.1%	6.5%
Crisis	Sold productive assets or means of transport	2.6%	0.8%	0.5%	2.2%
	Withdrew children from school	2.2%	1.5%	2.1%	2.2%
	Reduced expenses on health (including drugs) and education	17.7%	11.5%	15.7%	11.2%
	Harvested immature crops	7.0%	5.4%	4.2%	3.6%
Emergency	Sold house or land	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	1.8%
	Begged or engaged in illegal income activities	3.0%	1.9%	1.0%	0.0%
	Sold last female animal	1.5%	0.8%	1.6%	0.0%
	Entire household migrated	1.8%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%

Livelihood coping strategies are grouped into three categories – stress, crisis and emergency strategies. Interviewed households mainly apply stress coping strategies (20.3 percent) and rarely crisis related strategies (13.4 percent). The proportion of households using emergency strategies is very low across the four strata (8.2 percent).

4.3.6 Livelihoods

Interviewed households can be categorized into six livelihood groups. Host communities are mostly farmers; however, they rely also on mining and handicrafts for income. Most refugees are casual labourers and small traders. In general, refugees manage to diversify their income sources because these sources are unreliable. Expectedly, refugees are more dependent on food aid.

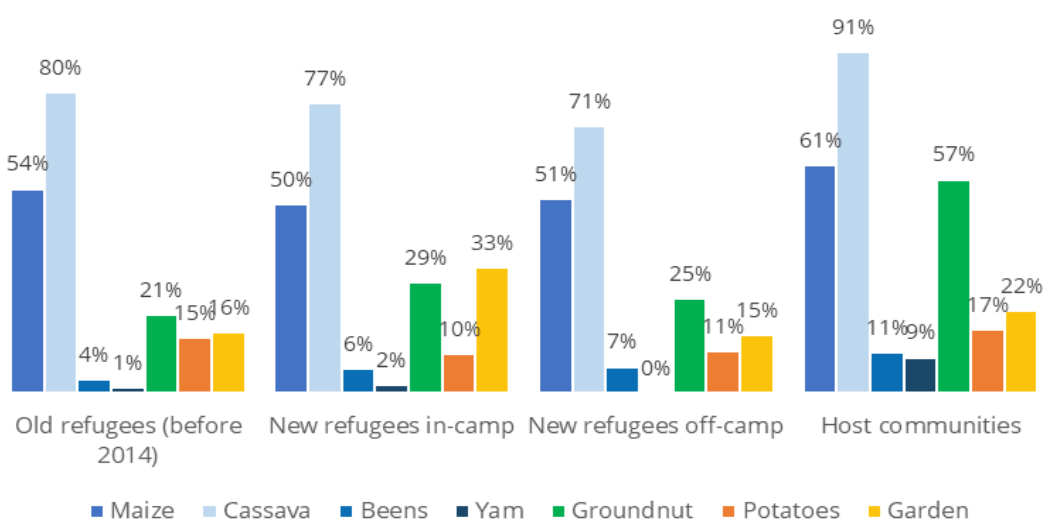
Figure 4 : Livelihood groups by refugees and host communities



The overall 2018 harvest in Cameroon was good. 65 percent of interviewed host communities have cultivated land against 53 percent of old refugees. New refugee groups have still limited access to agricultural lands. Only one third of them have cultivated this year. Borrowing and rent are their usual ways to access to land. In some cases, households who clean first the land can also use it.

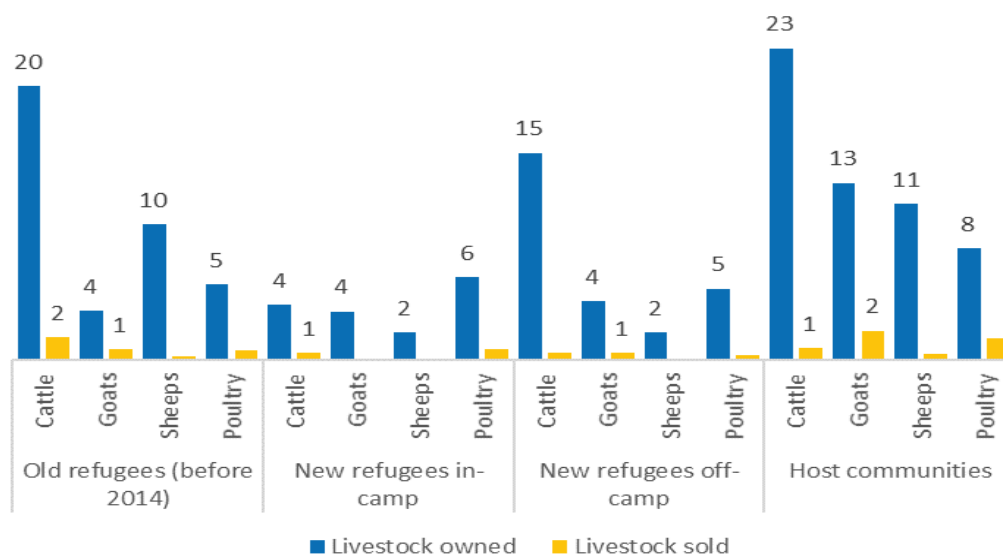
Interviewed households cultivate various crops for their own consumption or to sell them to the market. Cassava and maize are the most common cultivated crops; however, refugees – notably new ones – invest more in cash crops such as vegetables and pulses (groundnuts and beans). Investment in annually harvested crops also reveal land access challenges for new refugees.

Figure 5 : Types of crops cultivated by refugees and host communities



Possession of livestock is unequally distributed across interviewed strata. Old refugees and host communities own more livestock than new refugee groups. New refugees off-camp breed more livestock than new refugees in-camps. On average, host communities own twenty-three heads of cattle against twenty for old refugees. New refugee off-camp have fifteen heads of cattle against ten of the refugees in-camp. Available data suggest that some refugees came into Cameroon with their livestock and the rest has been able to rebuild progressively its livestock capital.

Figure 6 : Livestock owned and sold by refugees and host communities

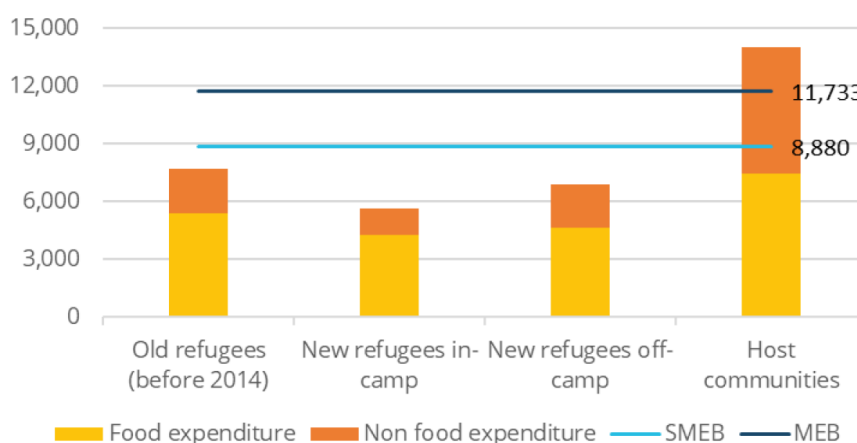


4.3.7 Expenditure and indebtedness

Households expenses indicate their ability to access food and basic services. Per capita monthly expenditure is a good indicator to measure access to food and non-food items. Refugee households' per capita monthly expenditure varies between 6,000 and 8,000 FCFA. Food expenditure share is high – above 75 percent. The high level of food expenditure share reveals an extreme poverty among interviewed refugees.

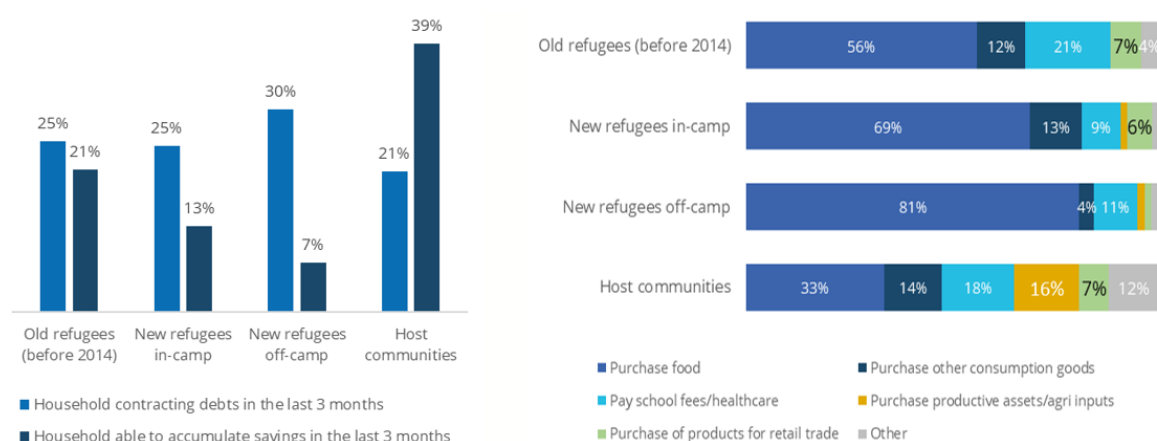
The Minimum expenditure basket (MEB) is set at 11,733 FCFA; the survival MEB is 8,880 FCFA. Host communities' per capita monthly expenditure is estimated at 13,995 FCFA and is above the MEB. However, refugees are below the MEB regardless their settlement and duration of displacement.

Figure 7 : Per capita monthly expenditure against SMEB and MEB by refugees and host communities



Households reporting to have contracted debts in the last three months range between 30 percent of refugees off-camp and 21 percent of host communities. Refugee households have less economic power than host communities: in the same time frame only, a small proportion of them reported to have been able to accumulate savings; conversely almost 40 percent of host community households reported to have saved money – exceeding the number of host community households reporting to have contracted debts. The need to purchase food and to pay for school fees or health services are the reasons why most households across all strata are indebted. More than 70 percent of households reported to rely on informal sources of credit such as family or friends, followed by local lenders. Only a small proportion of households (less than 2 percent) reported to obtain credit from formal sources such as banks.

Figure 8 : Percentage of households (refugees and host communities) reporting to have contracted debt or saved money in and main use of credit



4.4 Key findings other sectorial indicators

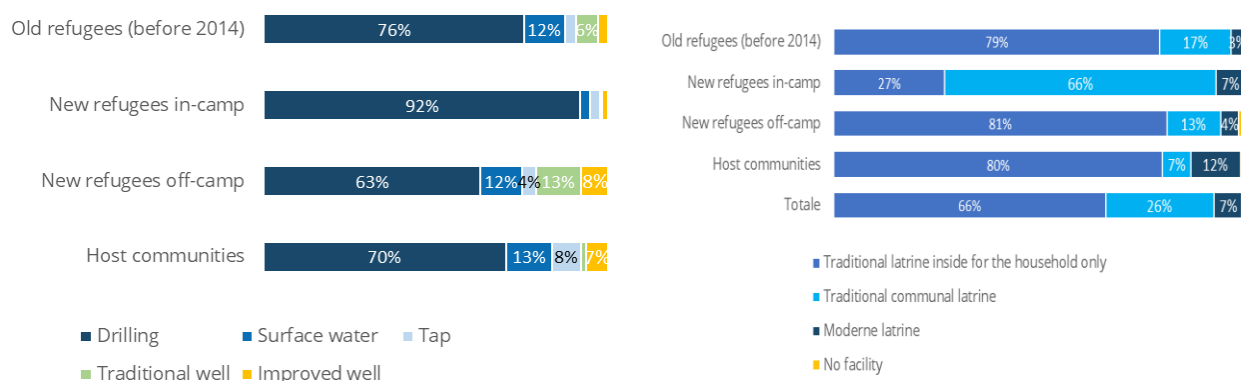
4.4.1 WASH

As of now, the access to water by refugees stands at 9.5 litres/person/day in the host communities/villages and 11.3 litres/person/day in the refugees' sites. These figures are far beyond the set standard which is 20 litres/person/day. This issue needs to be addressed and the figures stepped up to meet the minimum standard.

More than 6 out of 10 households reported to drill wells to have access to drinking water, regardless the strata. Moreover, more than 40 percent of households reported to need between 15 to 30 minutes on foot to reach the closest water point – except for refugees in-camp (75.1 percent of households reported that the closest water point is located at maximum 15 minutes walking distance).

Traditional latrines shared by household members are the most commonly used type of sanitation facility for approximately 80 percent of households, except for refugee households living in camps (66.1 percent of them reported to use traditional communal latrines). Among the seven (07) sites hosting refugees, only Gado site still has family latrines. Other sites have a model of semi-family latrines (02 or 03 households/latrine cabine).

Figure 9 : Main source of water and sanitation facilities by refugee and host communities



4.4.2 Health status of children less than 5 and pregnant women

The health status of children less than five years does not seem to be worrying. Only 22.4 percent of refugee households and 26.4 percent of host communities' households reported to have at least one child ill in the month before the survey. The conditions that mainly affects children are prolonged fever (reported by 52.1 percent of households), diarrhoea (27.5 percent of households), persistent cough (17.2 percent) and malaria (11.6 percent). Almost 90 percent of households out of those who reported to have at least an ill child, reported

to have treated them, mainly in public hospitals. This might be explained by the fact that free medical treatment is granted to ill children aged under five years. Across all strata, almost 8 households out of 10 declared not to have treated some of their ill children because of lack of resources.

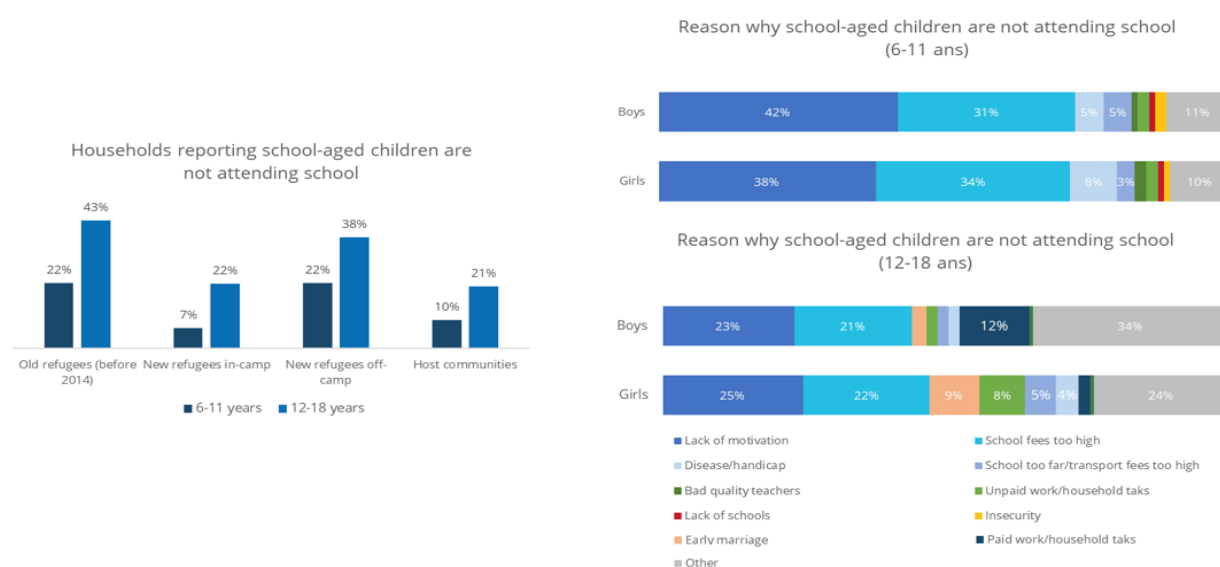
Only a small proportion of households reported to include at least one pregnant woman among their members (ranging between 8.8 percent of refugee households living in-camps and 15.9 percent of host community households). Pregnant women are also granted free medical assistance during their pregnancy; therefore, most households reported that pregnant women have received medical consultations during pregnancy. Again, lack of resources (57.7 percent of households) or lack of means of transport and distance between the health centre and the location where they are settled (11.5 percent) are the main reasons why 23.4 percent of women reported not have received any consultations during their pregnancy.

4.4.3 Education level of children less than 18 years old

Most households reported to send their children to school; however, there are still households who reported to have school-aged children who are not attending school. For household including children between 6-11 years old, the proportion ranges between 22 percent of old refugees and new refugees off-camp and 9.6 percent of host communities. The proportion is higher when considering children aged between 12 and 18 years – it ranges between 43.3 percent of old refugees and 21 percent of host communities.

The main reasons why children are not sent to school are lack of motivation and the cost of school fees, regardless the gender of child and age group. Early marriage is reported as the one of the main reasons why girls aged between 12 and 18 years are not attending school by 8.7 percent of households; moreover, another 8.1 percent of households reported that girls of the same age group do not go to school to do the housework.

Figure 10 : Households reporting not to send children to school and reasons why school-aged children are not attending school by refugees and host communities



5. Vulnerability to food insecurity

Three sets of indicators are used to classify vulnerability to food insecurity: (i) food consumption score (poor, borderline and acceptable), high-risk coping (reduce essential non-food, expenditure such as education and health, begging or engage in illegal) and economic vulnerability (below food MEB= extreme poor, between food MEB and MEB =poor, above MEB=poor).

Figure 11 : Set of indicators chosen for the vulnerability classification



The³ current methodology is slightly different from the previous one proposed by AUB as livelihood strategies were integrated to overall vulnerability classification. Livelihood coping strategies are used as indicators of asset depletion of the household, and their ability to meet their needs (e.g. selling household assets, reducing health expenses). The rationale behind including the livelihood coping dimension in this analysis is (i) the potential long-term consequences of the use of high risk coping strategies and the likely effect on households' vulnerability (ii) protection concerns raised by the use of particular strategies, which can put the most vulnerable members of the household at risk.

Highly vulnerability classification is assigned to:

- Households having poor food consumption (regardless of the coping and economic dimensions)
- Households resorting to high risk coping strategies (regardless of the food consumption and economic vulnerability dimensions)
- Households economically vulnerable (regardless of the food consumption and coping dimension).

Table 12 : Vulnerability classification

Food consumption	High risk coping	Economic vulnerability	Frequency	Percent	Vulnerability classification
Acceptable	Low	Low	155	15.6	Less vulnerable
	Low	Medium	96	9.6	Moderately vulnerable
	Low	High	327	32.9	Highly vulnerable
	High	Low	20	2.0	Highly vulnerable
	High	Medium	10	1.0	Highly vulnerable
	High	High	62	6.2	Highly vulnerable
Borderline	Low	Low	14	1.4	Moderately vulnerable
	Low	Medium	10	1.0	Moderately vulnerable
	Low	High	188	18.9	Highly vulnerable
	High	Low	6	0.6	Highly vulnerable
	High	Medium	11	1.1	Highly vulnerable
	High	High	28	2.8	Highly vulnerable
Poor	Low	Low	2	0.2	Highly vulnerable
	Low	Medium	1	0.1	Highly vulnerable
	Low	High	48	4.8	Highly vulnerable
	High	Low	0	0.0	Highly vulnerable
	High	Medium	3	0.3	Highly vulnerable
	High	High	14	1.4	Highly vulnerable

³ UNHCR and WFP will make a new analysis of the vulnerability to food insecurity as soon as new MEBs are available. MEB's for east will be collected in 2019 allowing the analysis.

The bulk of highly vulnerable households (32.9 percent) have acceptable FC, do not implement high-risk coping mechanism but are highly economically vulnerable → indication that poverty is driving overall vulnerability.

Both the AUB and this study confirm that poverty (e.g. lack of income opportunity, reduced access to productive assets) makes households vulnerable.

The findings of the JAM indicate that 81 percent of refugees are highly vulnerable. Economic vulnerability incidence is high for both refugees and host community.

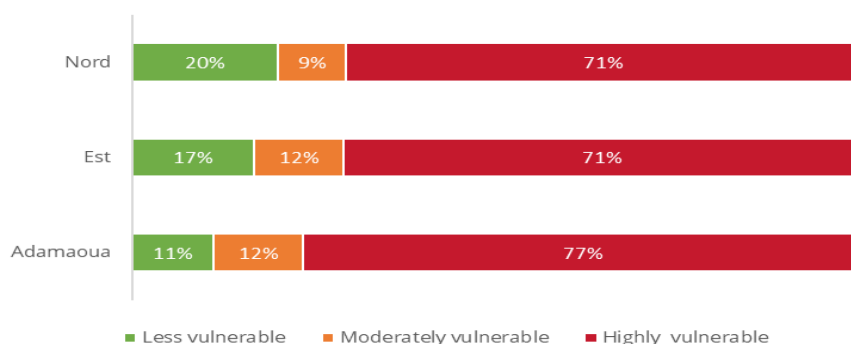
Figure 12 : Vulnerability status of refugees and distribution of vulnerability across different strata



New refugees in-camp (84 percent) are worse-off followed by new refugees off-camp (81 percent) and old refugees (74 percent). It is important to observe that 51 percent of host community are highly vulnerable.

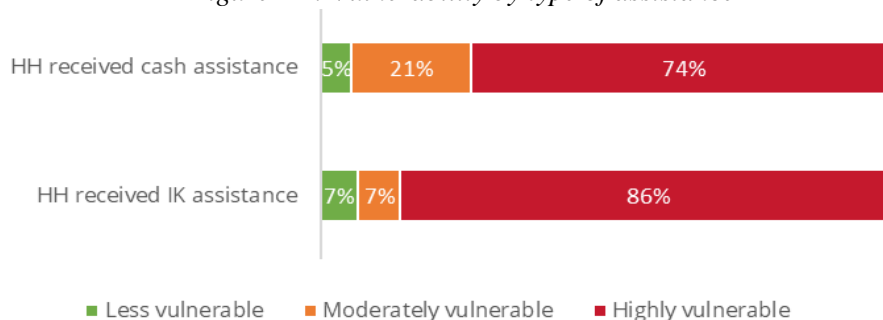
5.1 Vulnerability classification by region

Figure 13 : Vulnerability by region



5.2 Vulnerability classification by type of assistance received

Figure 14 : Vulnerability by type of assistance



5.3 Approach used: categorical targeting

The categorical targeting is suitable in this context of CAR refugees to enable selection of individuals belonging to a certain category of people using observable characteristics that do not require the collection of a large amount of data. The observable variables are demographic variables. The demographic variables also allow for the use of ProGress Database - the registration process includes the collection of demographic variables.

This analysis aims to identify targeting criteria which maximize the correct inclusion of vulnerable households into the assistance programme and minimizes the exclusion error:

- Inclusion error → Proportion of programme beneficiaries who do not need assistance but still receive benefits (criteria for identifying vulnerable households is not specific enough to exclude those who are less in need)
- Exclusion error → Proportion of the population who are in need of assistance but do not receive benefits (criteria selected for identifying those in need are not sensitive enough to capture individuals who should receive benefits)

Tentatively, the following demographic variables which correlated with vulnerability classification above were selected to identify targeting criteria:

- Household with at least 1 child < 5 years
- Household with at least 1 child < 11 years
- Household with at least 1 child < 18 years
- Household with at least 1 elder (60+)
- Household with at least 1 child < 11 years and 1 elder (60+)
- Household with at least 1 child < 18 years and 1 elder (60+)
- Dependency ratio
- Household size
- Female headed household
- Household with at least 1 pregnant woman
- Household with at least 1 pregnant woman and at least 1 child < 2
- Household with at least 1 pregnant woman and at least 1 child < 5 years
- Household with at least 1 pregnant woman and at least 3 children < 2 years
- Household with at least 1 pregnant woman and at least 3 children < 5 years
- Household with at least 1 pregnant woman and at least 1 child < 18 years
- Household with at least 1 pregnant woman and at least 3 children < 18 years
- Household made by a single female
- Household made of single parent with at least 1 child

In January 2019, the total number of refugees is 256,100 (UNHCR). The table below indicates that if one selects household of size greater than 5 as criterion, 185,703 vulnerable individuals will be covered, with an inclusion error of 11.8 percent and an exclusion error of 27.5 percent.

Table 13 : Beneficiaries identification criteria - refugees

Targeting criteria	Cumulative coverage	Cumulative # of vulnerable Individuals meeting the criteria	Cumulative inclusion error	Cumulative exclusion error
Household size > 5	72.5%	185,703	11.8%	27.5%
Female headed household	77.8%	199,357	13.2%	22.2%
Household with at least 1 child less than 5	83.5%	213,922	14.3%	16.5%
Household with at least 2 children less than 18	83.9%	214,833	16.8%	16.1%
Refugee before 2015	85.0%	217,564	16.9%	15.0%
Households meeting the above criteria	85.0%	217,564	16.9%	15.0%

If other criteria are added, more households will be covered, with a slight increase of the inclusion error and a significant decrease of the exclusion error. Applying all the criteria listed in the table will lead to cover 217,564 Households.

The analysis shows the high level of needs among the refugee population, yet the operationalization of the recommended criteria was further discussed and revised considering funding availability and longer-term sustainability.

5.3.1 Revision of targeting exercise

To understand which households are in need for immediate emergency humanitarian assistance, households were categorized into:

- **Highly vulnerable** → **P1** (red dot on table 12)
- **Vulnerable** → **P2** (yellow dot on table 12).



















Highly vulnerable households (P1) are characterized by:

- Poor food consumption
- Borderline food consumption and high-risk coping
- Borderline food consumption and high economic vulnerability
- Acceptable food consumption and high-risk coping

Rather, vulnerable households (P2) present the following characteristics:

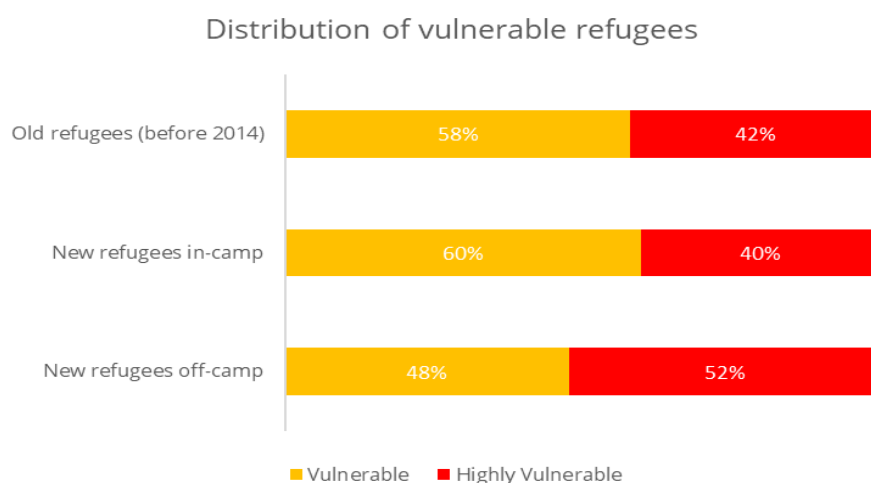
- Borderline food consumption and either low or medium economic vulnerability
- Acceptable food and low risk coping

Table 14 : Revision of targeting exercise

Vulnerability classification						Prioritization	
Food consumption	High risk coping	Economic vulnerability	Frequency	Percent	Vulnerability classification	P1	P2
Acceptable	Low	Low	155	15.6	Less vulnerable		
	Low	Medium	96	9.6	Moderately vulnerable		
	Low	High	327	32.9	Highly vulnerable		
	High	Low	20	2.0	Highly vulnerable		
	High	Medium	10	1.0	Highly vulnerable		
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Poor	Low	Low	2	0.2	Highly vulnerable		
	Low	Medium	1	0.1	Highly vulnerable		
	Low	High	48	4.8	Highly vulnerable		
	High	Low	0	0.0	Highly vulnerable		
	High	Medium	3	0.3	Highly vulnerable		
	High	High	14	1.4	Highly vulnerable		

5.3.2 Refugees in need for immediate food assistance

Figure 15 : Distribution of vulnerable refugees



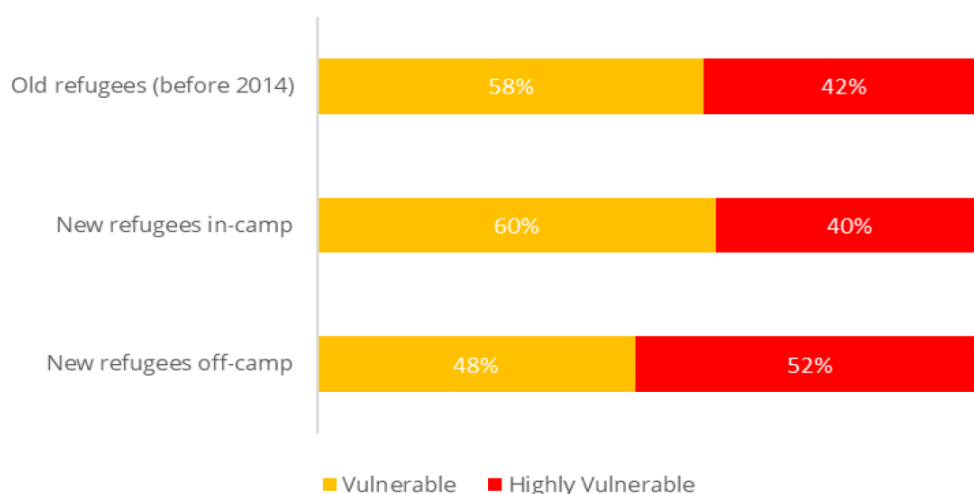
By repeating the same targeting exercise to understand if some demographic variables correlate well with the vulnerability classification (prioritization 1), 150,930 Households are eligible for immediate food assistance, considering all the criteria.

Table 15 : Refugees in need for immediate food assistance

Prioritization criteria	Cumulative coverage	Cumulative # of vulnerable individuals meeting the criteria
Female headed household	51.1%	130,860
Household with separated/divorced head	53.3%	136,480
Single-parent household with children < 18	53.6%	137,282
Household with pregnant women and at least 1 child < 18	58.9%	150,930
Households meeting the above criteria		150,930

In the same way, by repeating the same targeting exercise to understand if some demographic variables correlate well with the vulnerability classification (prioritization 2), a total of 99,709 households are eligible for livelihood programme, if ALL the criteria are selected.

Figure 16 : Distribution of vulnerable refugees (prioritization 2)



Note: One cannot sum up P1 and P2 to obtain the initial caseload as the criteria are different between the first attempt (total of 217,564 Households) and the sum of P1 and P2.

Table 16 : Prioritization criteria (prioritization 2)

Prioritization criteria	Cumulative coverage	Cumulative # of vulnerable individuals meeting the criteria
High dependency ratio	14.8%	37,966
Household with at least 1 elder (age 60+)	38.9%	99,709
Households meeting the above criteria	38.9%	99,709

Additional suggested criteria:

- Household with at least 1 child <18 years and 1 elder (60+)
- Household with at least 1 child <11 years and 1 elder (60+)

5.4 Main Conclusions and Way forward on vulnerably & targeting

Refugees are worse off than host communities. Economic vulnerability is main driver. Economic shocks have mainly affected households. Households reported difficulties in meeting nonfood needs such as health and education. High level of needs among refugees. However, need for recalibration to operationalize assistance considering funding availability and longer-term sustainability.

WFP and UNHCR have agreed to work together in developing a joint Minimum expenditure basket (MEB) using existing MEB and household's data from the emergency food security assessment. Furthermore, the prioritization exercise needs to be refined and the targeting criteria validated at community level.

6. Conclusion and recommendation

6.1 Action points

6.1.1 Recommendation on Food Security Assistance

Key concerns	Recommendations
<p>From the above narratives: Although the Refugees have now spent several years in Cameroon and although they must, to a certain extent, enjoy the freedom of movement, they remain having limited and fragile livelihoods and are still dependent on food assistance.</p> <p>An average household has four children under the age of eighteen. Females are heading 30 to 40 percent of refugee households. This finding is an indication that refugee households are fragmented.</p> <p>Overall food consumption is good among refugees and host communities and 56 to 65 percent of refugee households have acceptable food consumption. The food intake is made of only four food groups, notably cereals, oil/fats, sugar and vegetables.</p>	The JAM recommends WFP and its partners to continue the food assistance to the most vulnerable and food insecure refugees.
	WFP to provide a food basket that is accepted by the population and avoid distribution of Sorghum which was reported as not preferred and incurs additional milling cost.
	WFP will also explore increased use of unrestricted cash to meet food and basic needs and to strengthen the market monitoring
	UNHCR and WFP to consider the possibility of providing cooking fuel or energy safe stoves to reduce the risks of protection reported by women while collecting firewood
	A full-fledged CBT assessment for food assistance to be done at a later stage for exploring possibilities unrestricted cash interventions with an intention for WFP to explore increased use of unrestricted cash to meet food and basic needs.
	Conduct a study on the effectiveness of CBT vs. in-kind assistance to guide the modality selection via the East CWG update the MEB
	Additional analysis to be conducted to identify criteria associated with extreme vulnerability to inform the refined

<p>Consumption of dairy products, meat, fish and eggs is very sporadic.</p> <p>Most refugees are casual labourers and small traders. In general, refugees manage to diversify their income sources because these sources are unreliable. Expectedly, refugees are more dependent on food aid.</p> <p>Beneficiaries did not always understand selection criteria and targeting and how they were added into programmes</p>	<p>targeting: WFP and UNHCR to refine the level of household-level targeting exercise of food assistance to distinguish between households who require full rations, half rations and to distinguish between conditional and unconditional assistance. Once the criteria are identified that you be applied to develop revised lists for targeted assistance to those in need of food assistance, if resources are not available to assist all, analyse data to understand options on transfer value and how many can be covered and reach food security objectives. Discuss and agree together how to maximize resources to meet greatest food needs. Integrate WFP and UNHCR complaints and feedback mechanism into a unique one.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinforce the discussion and sensitization around the eligibility criteria with communities and develop a joint communications plan to support roll-out or revised targeting/prioritization - Compare current beneficiaries' lists with revised lists to understand overlap and plan communications strategy. - Harmonize joint monitoring including post-distribution monitoring exercises.
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6.1.2 Recommendation on Livelihoods and Self-reliance

Key Issues	Recommendations
<p>The dependency on assistance for food, shelter, water, etc. is not sustainable and may at some point be difficult to address if appropriate measures are not implemented to promote the livelihoods and self-reliance of the refugees and the host communities.</p> <p>Households reported to have suffered mainly from economic shocks, which puts a stress on their economic vulnerability and difficulties in securing enough resources to meet their essential needs</p> <p>Although most refugees are skilled farmers but they do not have access to land or tools to put their farming skills to good use, refugees who arrived before 2014 have more access to land. Therefore, most of them use marginal and unsustainable income generating activities, such as casual laborer's and small traders. Expectedly, refugees are more dependent on food aid and their income generating activities are not sustainable</p>	<p>Coordinate livelihoods interventions, map interventions: UNHCR and WFP to jointly design and map out a plan for comprehensive, collaborative assistance that includes the host communities (food and other basic assistance - modality, target groups)</p> <p>UNHCR and WFP to coordinate and collaborate on planning livelihoods and resilience support to refugee and refugee- hosting communities. Support increased discussion in technical areas (nutrition, livelihoods, cash) through active engagement in existing working groups. Ensure a shift to unrestricted cash for food assistance is supported with necessary nutrition support for nutritionally vulnerable groups.</p> <p>UNHCR and partners to establish livelihoods working group or committee in the camps to coordinate the livelihoods activities with the host community and main assistance providers</p> <p>UNHCR with livelihood partners to consider that a dedicated livelihood assessment is required to inform better livelihood programmes.</p> <p>Strengthen livelihood and beneficiary economic empowerment activities through resilience projects, Income Generating Activities (AGR), vocational training in support for small-scale agricultural producers, etc;</p> <p>Strengthening advocacy to facilitate refugees' access to land (especially in the east) and develop agriculture for Central African refugees in the North where the problem of access to land does not seem to arise acutely;</p>

6.1.3 Recommendation for Nutrition

Key Issues	Recommendations
Absence of an up to date information on nutrition situation of refugees hindering proper programme design. The last nutrition survey on refugees in Cameroon was conducted in 2016.	UNHCR in collaboration with UNICEF and WFP to conduct a comprehensive nutrition situation analysis for refugees. The situation analysis should include estimating prevalence of all forms of undernutrition, analysis of determinants of the different forms of undernutrition (Wasting, stunting, low birth weight etc.) to inform proper nutrition specific and sensitive programme design.
Absence of a nutrition specific programme for pregnant and lactating women (PLW). In 2016, WFP stopped assisting PLW through BSFP and MAM treatment. The GFD food basket includes super cereal with key objective to addressing undernutrition in PLW. However, the progressive shift from in-kind food assistance to cash based transfer will potentially expose the PLW to undernutrition. Information from field monitoring visits reveal high levels of low birth weight among refugees' populations notably in the Kadey division of the East region.	Strengthen reproductive health care in operational area to allow for increase access of refugees to prenatal and post-natal services notably iron and folic acid supplementation. Strengthen the CBT food basket particularly taking into consideration the specific nutrient needs of PLW. Advocate and support for local production and consumption of fortified nutritious food.
Scale down of nutrition prevention activities for children under two in operational areas. In 2019, WFP nutrition programme was suspended from January 2019-June 2019 due to lack of funding. The Programme was relaunched in July, this time with reduced caseload compared to 2018.	WFP and UNHCR to coordinate and advocate for increase funding for nutrition response in the operational areas particularly for refugee population .

6.1.4 Recommendation Wash

Key Issues	Recommendations
The access to water by refugees stands at 9.5 litres/person/day in the host communities/villages and 11.3 litres/person/day in the refugees' sites. These figures are far beyond the set standard which is 20 litres/person/day.	To advocate for increased drinking water coverage in areas affected by the massive refugee presence and to increase awareness of good hygiene practices.
More than 6 out of 10 households drill wells to have access to drinking water, regardless the strata. Moreover, more than 40 percent of households need between 15 to 30 minutes on foot to reach the closest water point – except for refugees in-camps.	Recruit qualified and competent staff from <i>communes</i> to promote WASH programmes.
Exposure to waterborne diseases is higher for this refugee category.	Strengthen advocacy for greater involvement of development actors in the implementation of modern WASH infrastructure projects (drinking water supply, production station, water treatment) especially in localities in high population density. Strengthen the management and <i>communal</i> maintenance of the water park by training community

<p>Traditional latrines shared by household members are the most commonly used type of sanitation facility for approximately 80 percent of households, except for refugee households living in camps.</p> <p>Among the seven (07) sites hosting refugees, only Gado site still has family latrines. Other sites have a model of semi-family latrines (02 or 03 households/latrine cabine).</p> <p>There is a lack of hand-washing corner facilities in schools.</p>	workers (hosts and refugees) and developing a value chain around this activity.
	To provide better leadership by the municipalities and regional delegations of the ministry of education, in coordinating the WASH interventions of the various actors.
	To carry out regular monitoring of sanitation systems at the family level under the impetus of the Commune and its partners to promote the self-construction of latrines of adapted and hygienic models in households.

6.1.5 Recommendation for health

Key Issues	Recommendations
<p>Inadequate infrastructure, a weak technical platform and a lack of qualified health personnel appear to be the main challenges.</p> <p>Respiratory infections, malaria, diarrhea, intestinal worms and gastritis are the leading causes of morbidity in refugees and their hosts' communities, as well as pneumonia and a few other non-communicable diseases.</p> <p>The conditions that mainly affects children are prolonged fever, diarrhoea, persistent cough and malaria.</p> <p>The unavailability of certain drugs in health centres, the lack of special drugs as essential medicines, and prescriptions of unavailable drugs to patients, are reported as factors aggravating the risk of morbidity and mortality.</p> <p>There has also been a reduction in referrals of cases requiring specialized medical care in Yaoundé or in appropriate regional hospitals.</p> <p>Lack of resources or lack of means of transport and distance between the health centre and the settlement location are an issue for pregnant women.</p>	Improve the technical platform in equipment and human resources in health structures in the operational area.
	Make a plea at the central level (Ministry of Public Health) for the assignment of qualified health personnel in health structures.
	Increase health coverage in the operational area to allow free access to health care for refugees.
	Advocate with the national malaria programme for the availability of inputs for free malaria management of children under 5 as defined by national policy.
	Strengthen the vaccines supply system in health facilities.
	Strengthen and improve the drug supply system in health facilities.

6.1.6 Recommendation for education

Key Issues	Recommendations
<p>The absorption capacity of the national education system in areas hosting refugees is an issue.</p> <p>Also, about 50.5 percent refugee children of school age are still out of school due to lack of motivation, the cost of school fees, early marriage, housework and related reasons.</p> <p>collaboration and implementation of partnership agreements</p>	Lead advocacy with Ministry of education (MINEDUB) for the deployment of more teachers in areas with high concentration of refugees.
	Strengthen collaboration with town halls to prioritize education needs and support where possible the recruitment of parent teachers.
	Advocate at the central level for the creation and construction of secondary schools in the communities that house the developed sites, as there is increasingly a shift in the needs of the primary education offer to high school.
	Re-energize the ancillary bodies of schools (student parent associations – APEE and school board) so that they can play their full role in the education of children and mobilize resources to develop and support attractive resilience projects around the school through these related organs.
	Establish school canteens in public schools near household sites to support parents and keep children in school if possible.
	<p>Increase awareness of parental responsibility, including the consequences of early marriage, the importance of the girl's schooling and the role of parents in the schooling of their children</p> <p>Increase awareness of the importance of civil documentation and conduct pleas to the office for the issuance and delivery of birth certificates (BUNEC) and the courts to facilitate the obtaining of birth certificates through supplementary judgments</p>

6.1.7 Recommendation for Markets and Supply chain

Key Issues	Recommendations
<p>Local markets have been described as highly functional with steady supply of commodities. Monitoring reports and assessments have also indicated that current humanitarian interventions have not had a negative impact on the local markets especially price distortions, which is an indication of the strength of the markets system. Furthermore, there is a vibrant retailer's network and strong linkages to whole sellers which ensures considerable supply of</p>	<p>Given the strength of local markets particularly in the urban areas and a high dependence on markets by urban based refugees, conduct joint WFP / UNHCR CBT feasibility assessments (with a focus on markets closer to beneficiaries receiving in-kind distributions⁴) to inform on the suitability of use of cash based interventions as tools of humanitarian assistance, for both food and NFIs.</p>
	<p>Based on the recommendations and findings above, consider use of unrestricted cash models for urban based beneficiaries given the more established markets, better infrastructures and more diversity of commodities. Cash further increases purchasing power, stimulates markets and retailers and ensures beneficiaries access what they need.</p>

⁴ Assessments already conducted in markets with CBT beneficiaries

<p>commodities. However, there are systematic and operational challenges that need to be addressed to ensure that the humanitarian assistance provided using market based interventions is effective, efficient and sustainable majorly the low commodity diversification in the East compared to the North; retailers capacities to immediately respond / double their supply in the face of increased demand (lower in the East as well compared to Adamaoua); lack of regular and accurate market information; low purchasing power which further encourages sales on credit and leads to debt cycles; poor infrastructures including roads and storage facilities.</p>	<p>Provide joint WFP / UNHCR regular capacity building and training to local retailers in the fields of food handling and storage, among others, especially since most of them are beneficiaries themselves with considerably low literacy and capacity levels.</p>
	<p>Work with local relevant authorities / departments to set up and/or strengthen the market monitoring systems needs that will provide regular, reliable and accurate data to inform programming and decision making. Where applicable, partner, facilitate and/or build the capacity of local authorities to provide accurate markets information. This ensures transfer of technical capacity from WFP / UNHCR to Government, thus sustainability.</p>
	<p>WFP / UNHCR should consider programmes and activities that create and strengthen linkages between retailers and whole sellers. These linkages ensure that retailers have access to storage facilities, credit, transportation, among others</p>
	<p>For markets in rural areas affected by poor roads particularly in rainy seasons, WFP / UNHCR and the Government should consider seasonal conditional asset creation assistance targeting refugees to repair market access roads.</p>

6.1.8 Coordination and joint communication:

Key Issues	Recommendations
<p>Collaboration, better communication and implementation of partnership agreements.</p>	<p>Management - Regular communication between the two agencies at the technical level in Yaoundé and in sub-offices, to improve collaboration and implementation of partnership agreements. By the end of 2019, hold a planning meeting for Fiscal 2020 focused on assistance and operational collaboration.</p>
	<p>Technical/operational - Coordinating and collaborating in the context of livelihoods and support for the resilience of refugees and host communities.</p>
	<p>Support the intensification of discussions in technical areas (nutrition, livelihoods, and cash transfers) through active engagement in existing working groups.</p>
	<p>Ensure that an unrestricted change to cash transfer for food aid is supported by a nutritional programme for nutritionally vulnerable groups.</p>

6.2 JAM Strategic recommendation

1. **Assistance plan.** Strategic design of assistance (modality, eligibility criteria, timeframes, geographic coverage) to ensure food and basic needs are met in a coherent manner aligning, complementing and building on national systems and fostering greater resilience and socio-economic inclusion.
2. **Cash collaboration.** Work towards a common cash system in line with global commitments (including joint/ coordinated procurement of financial service provider and common transfer mechanisms for the same population).
3. **Targeting/prioritization.** Joint analysis and agreement on eligibility criteria and target groups for assistance in consultation with communities. Joint monitoring of outcomes of assisted and non-assisted. Joint livelihood vulnerability assessment in specific areas of intervention (village level).

4. **Advocacy and technical collaboration.** Joint advocacy with government, donors, and development actors for 1) increased funding for unrestricted cash assistance (a shift from e-vouchers and in-kind) to meet the needs of the extremely vulnerable CAR refugees and 2) promote a rights-based approach to the inclusion of refugees in national systems and socio-economic inclusion.
5. **Accountability to refugees.** Building on existing initiatives, establish a joint complaints and feedback mechanism. Jointly address risks of abuse of power identified in joint financial service provider project.
6. **Data sharing.** Share necessary data and information in line with guidance and process outlined in Data Sharing Addendum and explore opportunities for inter-operability of tools (options such as GDT).
 - Inviting Central African officials and authorities (including the CAR ambassador to Cameroon) for more field visits to exchange with refugees, restore a framework of trust and jointly identify bridges and niches Activities
 - Continuing to advocate with the Cameroonian authorities for the documentation and free movement of refugees;
 - Making joint advocacy by the Cameroonian government and humanitarian agencies to the international community to seek more support for improving the situation of Central African refugees;
 - Putting municipalities at the centre of social cohesion and socio-economic inclusion initiatives between refugees and host communities.

6.3 Risks and impacts if these activities are not put in place

Despite progress in various areas, refugees have not yet achieved a satisfactory level of empowerment. The current situation of the many Central African refugees remains precarious and they face enormous daily difficulties in meeting their basic needs related to food, water, shelter, non-food items, education and training. the health. Highly vulnerable people are entirely dependent on assistance from UNHCR, WFP and implementing partners to meet their basic needs. For lack of income, many refugees sell the ration to diversify their diet or buy essential household items. With no land, no seeds, no tools they cannot grow vegetables to diversify their diet. They have little opportunity to work and sometimes engage in illegal activities that put them at even greater risk.

Several villages hosting CAR refugees face many challenges, including land management, access to rudimentary social services (health, schools, social services) and natural resources such as wood, food and water. These pressures on resources will further weaken the populations (host and refugees) living in the northern, eastern and Adamawa regions. The opportunities for many refugees to engage in income-generating and subsistence activities remain limited as their survival (or even their lives) is threatened in the long run if appropriate actions are not taken, especially since they mostly local integration in Cameroon than to return to CAR, mainly due to insecurity in several regions of origin.

7. List of Annexes

- Annex 1: JAM ToR;
- Annex 2 Detailed statistics on refugee and nutrition situation;
- Annex 3 Maps;
- Annex 4 Team composition (including names of individuals);
- Annex 5 Tools (Survey questionnaires etc.)
- Annex 6 JPA from the last JAM: Status update of the 2016 JAM Recommendations
- Annex 7 List of references and source of secondary data
- Annex 8 Statistics on CAR Refugees 2019/07/31
- Annex 9 - Aide Memoire with Strategic Recommendations
- Annex 10 - Joint Plan of Action UNHCR- WFP 2019-2020

