



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cameroon Country Brief June 2020



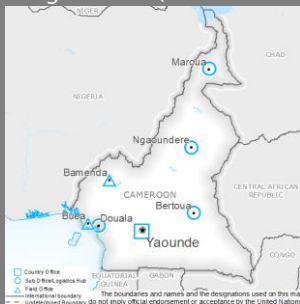
Operational Context

An estimated forty percent of Cameroon's 25.3 million people live below the poverty line and human development indicators remain low. Poverty has a strong regional dimension concentrated in the Far North, North, Adamawa and East regions.

The country has been significantly affected by recent crises and instabilities including presence of non-State armed groups (NSAGs) on both side of the Nigerian border causing Nigerian refugees' influx and displacement of the local population, CAR refugees' influx in the eastern part of Cameroon, and the recent crisis in the North West and South West regions. These combined factors left 409,409 refugees and 976,773 IDPs, in addition to vulnerable local host communities, affected by crises requiring food assistance for long-term livelihood recovery.

The first COVID-19 case in Cameroon was detected on 6 March and as of 30 June, a total of 12,592 cases was reported. Most of WFP activities successfully resumed in April and measures were taken to ensure safe provision of food assistance to beneficiaries. Sensitization messages on COVID-19 contamination modes were shared with beneficiaries, WFP staff and partners, including measures of raising awareness to prevent the spread of the disease.

The number of people facing food insecurity in Cameroon is projected at 2.1 million, including 254,371 severely food insecure, for the period of June to August 2020 (Cadre Harmonisé, March 2020).



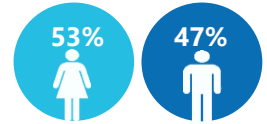
In Numbers

3,386 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 0.55 m cash based transfers made

USD 52.8 m six months (July-December 2020) net funding requirements

565,683 people assisted
in June 2020



Operational Updates

Unrestricted Resources Transfers (URTs)

- WFP provided in-kind food assistance to a total of 349,791 affected people in the Far North, North, Adamawa, North West, South West and East regions. WFP food basket consists of cereals, specialized nutritious food, pulses, vegetable oil and salt.
- A total of 67,307 received food assistance through cash-based transfer (CBT) in East, North West, Far North and Adamawa regions.
- Due to lack of funding, rations distributed to Central African Republic's refugees were reduced to 50 percent of the food basket until further notice. WFP shared key messages to inform beneficiaries on this reduction in order to mitigate possible protection risk through reinforcing trust with affected communities and promoting accountability to affected persons through appropriate means.

School Feeding

- In the Far North region, a total of 57,789 pupils (31,709 boys and 21,080 girls) received hot meals at primary schools in April to cover their daily rations for 63 days until the end of the school year.
- In June, no distributions took place in the North West and South West regions, as in May, a total of 6,632 beneficiaries received high energy biscuits (HEBs) and 1,895 received two-month take-home rations covering the period from May to June.

Food assistance for assets (FFA)

- In the Far North, WFP and its partner Lutheran World Federation (LWF) distributed food items to 750 beneficiaries for their participation in activities earlier this year.
- In June no activities took place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Activities were suspended in May and June until further mitigation measures be developed to ensure safety of the 97,500 beneficiaries that are targeted by these activities.

Population: **25.3 million** (UNFPA 2019)

2019 Human Development Index: **150 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31% of children between 6-59 months**

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Main photo. Caption: In-kind food distribution in the Far North
Credit: WFP/Glory Ndaka

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
89.9 m	56.1 m	52.8 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Populations affected by disasters, including refugees, IDPs and host populations in the Far North, North, Adamawa and Eastern regions have safe access to adequate and nutritious food during and after crises.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide unconditional food assistance with accompanying social and behavioral change communication for vulnerable households affected by disaster.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable households in protracted displacement and communities at risk in chronically food-insecure areas have safe year-round access to adequate and nutritious food and increase their resilience to shocks.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide school feeding and a home-grown school feeding pilot for primary schoolchildren in target regions.
- Provide targeted seasonal food assistance to food-insecure host populations during lean seasons to address short-term gaps.
- Provide food assistance for assets creation in target communities to support early recovery.
- Provide food assistance to create productive assets and community market infrastructure and support environmental protection and adaptation.

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Children aged 6-59 months and vulnerable women and men in food-insecure prioritized districts have reduced malnutrition rates in line with national standards by 2020.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Implement malnutrition prevention activities including BSF for children aged 6-59 months, treatment of MAM for children aged 24-59 months and food by prescription for malnourished ART patients.
- Train community health workers in malnutrition prevention through multi-sectoral coordination systems and partnerships.
- Enhance capacities in health districts to implement the joint action plan and support SUN.

Strategic Result 3: Improve small holders' productivity

Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure smallholders, especially women, in prioritized districts of the Far North, North, Adamawa and Eastern Regions have sustainably increased incomes to enhance their self-reliance and livelihoods and improve their productivity by 2020.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance for small-scale farmers and cooperatives – prioritizing women's representation and leadership – in post-harvest management and value-chain opportunities, in collaboration with IFAD and FAO.

Strategic Result 5: Capacity strengthening

Strategic Outcome 5: The Government's work to achieve Zero Hunger is supported by effective partnerships by 2030.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide the Government with technical expertise to coordinate work for zero hunger and enhance early warning, preparedness and response planning.
- Provide technical expertise to partners and stakeholders in support of a national nutrition-sensitive, shock-responsive and gender-responsive safety net system, in collaboration with the World Bank, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Ministry of Territorial Administration, Decentralization and Social Development, and provide common management of information technology, warehouses and delivery corridors.

Nutrition activities

- A total of 27,185 children in the East region and 109,414 children in the far North were screened for acute malnutrition.
- In June, a total 86,879 children aged 6-59 months were assisted through malnutrition treatment and prevention programme in the Far North, North, East, Adamawa, North West and South West regions and a total of 207 mothers received assistance in the Far North.
- In the North West and South West, a total of 6,677 pregnant and lactating women and girls received food assistance.
- In the East region, food by prescription distributions resumed and 4,669 antiretroviral therapy clients benefited from the distribution of vegetable oil. Hygiene kits consisting of hand sanitizers, soap and disposal towels were also distributed to some participants.

Gender and Protection

- Sensitization messages, on-site as well as through SMS, on COVID-19 contamination modes continued to be shared with partners and beneficiaries as well as WFP staff as measures of raising awareness to prevent the spread of the disease. Hand washing stations are made available at distribution sites. WFP also sensitized some beneficiaries on the rational use of food rations.

UNHAS

- UNHAS transported 122 passengers, 1.6 mt of light cargo, totalling 19 sorties and 29 flown hours. One safety meeting was held on 26 June 2020.

Challenges

- The spread of the COVID-19 forces WFP to adapt a new context. WFP and its partners managed to install safety measures and set up handwashing stations at distribution sites. WFP is reviewing its logistics capacities to procure enough food items to be able to provide two-month food assistance.
- Difficulty in organizing and coordinating movements of trucks and staff in the North West and South West regions due to regular "ghost-town" days, road blocks, checkpoints and the volatile security situation.

Donors

European Commission, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, UN CERF, UK, USA