Operational Context

An estimated forty percent of Cameroon’s 26.5 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.

WFP carries out food assistance activities in the Far North, North, Adamawa and East regions, and in the North West and South West regions since December 2018.

The first COVID-19 case in Cameroon was detected on 6 March and as of 30 September, a total of 20,838 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.

According to the March 2020 Cadre Harmonisé, 2.1 million people are food insecure including 254,371 severely. WFP has been present in Cameroon since 1978.

In Numbers

- **4,912 mt** of food assistance distributed
- **USD 0.16 m** cash-based transfers made
- **USD 33.5 m** six months (October 2020-March 2021) net funding requirements
- **537,816 people assisted** in September 2020

Operational Updates

Food assistance to crisis-affected people

- WFP provided in-kind food assistance to 365,826 affected people in the Far North, North, Adamawa, North West, South West and East regions. WFP food basket consists of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and salt.
- A total of 68,494 people received food assistance through cash-based transfers (CBT) in North West, South West, Adamawa, East and Far North regions.
- In the Far North region, 28,238 persons benefited from seasonal in-kind food assistance in Logone et Chari, Mayo Tsanaga and Mayo Danay districts.

Nutrition activities

- In September, a total 62,597 children were assisted through malnutrition treatment and prevention programmes in the Far North, North, East and Adamawa regions, of which 4,138 were treated for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Through the BSFP platform, 4,384 children were vaccinated, and 2,563 received vitamin A supplements, 2,729 were dewormed and 47,682 caretakers were sensitized on appropriate feeding practices and COVID-19 precautionary measures.
- In the North West and South West regions, 11,040 children aged 6-23 months and 6,450 pregnant and lactating women received nutritious food.
- In the East region, food by prescription distributions benefited to 364 antiretroviral therapy clients.

Food assistance for assets (FFA)

- In the Far North, 15,330 beneficiaries received a total of 420 mt of food items for their participation to 40 days of community work such as development of agricultural fields and rehabilitation of fishponds.
- In the Far North, North and Adamawa regions, 34 cooperatives, representing around 5,000 smallholder farmers, received agricultural inputs.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>108.1 m</td>
<td>77.1 m</td>
<td>33.5 m</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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 Result 2: End malnutrition

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 hunger gaps.
- Provide food assistance to support early recovery and community resilience, environmental protection and adaptation in target communities.

Strategic Result 3: Improve small holders’ productivity

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 4: 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 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.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Outcome 6: The humanitarian community and development partners in Cameroon have access to common services until appropriate and sustainable alternatives are available and reliable all year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:
- Provide safe and reliable air services for the humanitarian community until alternatives are available.
- Provide supply chain services to humanitarian and development partners, including transport, storage of food and non-food items.

School Feeding

- In collaboration with the Government of Cameroon, WFP identified pilot schools in the Far North region to initiate the Home-Grown School Feeding Program (HGSFP) and support small-scale farmers.

Gender and Protection

- WFP continues to strengthen the capacities of its cooperating partner’s staff to ensure mainstreaming of gender and protection into the implementation of the activities.
- WFP continues to broadcast messages through SMS to sensitize on the COVID-19 pandemic as well as on good nutrition practices.

UNHAS

- UNHAS transported 299 passengers, 1 mt of light cargo, totalling 18 sorties and 324 flown hours. One User group meeting and one Safety meeting were respectively held on 18 and 25 September 2020.

Challenges

- The spread of COVID-19 forced WFP to adapt to a new context. WFP and its partners managed to install safety measures and set up handwashing stations at distribution sites. WFP is increasing 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, roadblocks, checkpoints and the volatile security situation. In September, prolonged lockdown highly impeded movements of food and implementation of activities, notably in the North West region.

Donors

Donors to WFP Cameroon in 2020 include the Cameroon Ministry of Public Health, Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Private Donors, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and USA. Additional support has been provided by UN CERF and UNAIDS.