



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cameroon Country Brief August 2021



Operational Context

An estimated 40 percent of Cameroon's 27.2 million people live below the poverty line and human development index remains low (0.563 compared to a global average of 0.737 (UNDP, 2020). The country has been significantly affected by three complex crises: armed conflict between non-state armed groups and state forces is escalating in the North West and South West regions; non-State armed groups (NSAGs) insurgency in the Lake Chad Basin resulting in an influx of refugees from Nigeria as well as internal displacements in the Far North Region and the influx of Central African Republic (CAR) refugees in the East, Adamawa and North regions. These resulted in over 1 million internally displaced people and more than 449,000 refugees.

The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP March 2021) revealed that 4.4 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in Cameroon, with more than 2.6 million being food insecure.

The vulnerabilities have been aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Centre for Disease Control, CDC, as of July 31 (figures for August available?), 2021 there were 82,194 confirmed cases and 1,334 COVID-related deaths reported since the pandemic began.

WFP carries out emergency food assistance and nutrition support in all the three crises, while building the resilience and livelihoods of host populations. WFP has been present in Cameroon since 1978.



Population: **27.2 million**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2019 Human Development Index: **153 out of 189**

Severe acute malnutrition: **1.6% of children under 5 years**

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Photo: Refugees and host populations working together to build their resilience at the Mamma farm site in Timangolo, East region Cameroon. (WFP/Mayramou_Madaki, June 2021)

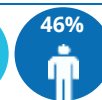
In Numbers

3,367 mt of food distributed

USD 651,766 cash transfer value distributed

USD 46 million (September 2021 to February 2022) net funding requirements

418,186 people assisted
In July 2021



Operational Updates

North-West/South-West L2 response

- In the North-West and South-West regions, WFP reached 131,833 beneficiaries with 1,050 mt of food as unconditional resource transfer (URT)
- To prevent acute malnutrition, WFP provided 29 mt of specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) to 5,229 children aged 6-59 months and to 3,140 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs).

Lake Chad response

- In the Far North Region, WFP reached 104,893 beneficiaries with 990 mt of food and USD 238,854 cash transfers as URT.
- WFP also provided 96 mt of SNFs to 24,555 children aged 6-59 months.
- In addition, under the resilience activities, WFP provided 196 mt of food to 11,212 beneficiaries for food assistance for asset creation.

CAR response

- In the East, Adamawa and North regions, WFP distributed 582 mt of food and USD 412,912 cash transfers to 87,613 beneficiaries as URT.
- To reduce acute malnutrition, WFP distributed a total of 132 mt of SNFs to 35,650 children (1,586 for treatment and 34,064 for prevention).
- Under the umbrella of resilience programme activities, WFP provided 292 mt of food to 14,061 beneficiaries for assets creation activities.

UNHAS

- UNHAS transported 441 passengers on two routes in July: Bamenda and Maroua/N'Djamena, which is above the monthly average of 348 so far. Overall, 1.64 mt of cargo was also transported in July.
- Negotiations with the Government of Cameroon were on-going for the resumption of flights to the Tiko airport, that would serve the South-West region.

Supply Chain – Mutengene Warehouse

- WFP launched a new warehouse facility in Mutengene, South-West Region. This facility will enable pre-positioning of food items for the South-West, thus reducing the storage time in Douala and freeing up space for more food items.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Available Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
143.3 m	79 m	46 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, East, North West and South West 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 hunger gaps.
- Provide food assistance to support early recovery and community resilience, environmental protection and adaptation in target communities.

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 East regions have sustainably increased incomes to enhance their self-reliance and livelihoods and improve their productivity.

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 technical expertise to Government and partners to plan and coordinate work for zero hunger, including early warning, preparedness and food security and nutrition response, national nutrition-sensitive, shock-responsive and gender-responsive safety net systems, and provide common management of information technology, warehouses and delivery corridors.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership

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

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.

Monitoring

Post distribution monitoring (PDM) for the second quarter was carried out in June and July. Compared to the results of PDM for the first quarter, the following trends were observed:

- There was an increase of 8 percent in the limited household consumption category from first to second quarter, as opposed to a decline of 5 percent in the acceptable food consumption category. This could be explained by the reduction in ration, as well as shortages in certain commodities like rice in the North-West and South-West response. At the same time, there was a 4 percent reduction in stress level in the absence of food, signifying that households are more resilient. Similarly, there was a 4 percent reduction in household economic vulnerability. WFP Cameroon reached up to 75 percent of children eligible for malnutrition prevention interventions (moderate acute malnutrition, micronutrient deficiency and stunting)
- The perception of beneficiaries on WFP's gender, protection and accountability to affected persons indicators was outstanding. More than 97 percent of beneficiaries reported that they received assistance without any safety challenges in both reporting quarters. Additionally, 3 percent more beneficiaries felt that they were treated in more dignified manner than in the first quarter. Finally, an average of 97 percent of beneficiaries reported that they have unhindered access to WFP services.

Funding Update

- Cameroon is experiencing influxes of refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR) since 2004. According to UNHCR (August 2021), the East, Adamawa and North regions are hosts to 311,085 refugees from CAR. As of March 2021, more than 221,000 persons were estimated to be food insecure in these regions. WFP is developing and implementing resilience activities, and with a critical lack of resources in the current funding landscape, these efforts will be greatly undermined.
- As of August 2021, WFP urgently needs additional USD 4.1 million to assist some 59,000 in-camp refugees through cash-based transfers.

Donors

Donors to WFP Cameroon in 2021 include Canada, China, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States. Additional support was provided by UN CERF, and private donors.