



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cameroon Country Brief March 2022



Operational Context

An estimated 40 percent of Cameroon's 27.2 million people live below the poverty line, rising up to 52 percent for women. The human development index remains low (0.563 compared to a global average of 0.737 (UNDP, 2020) and Cameroon ranks 141 out of 189 countries in the Gender Inequality Index (UNDP, 2020) with a global gender gap index of 0.69. The country has been significantly affected by three complex crises: armed conflict between non-state armed groups and state forces 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 2.4 million estimated to be food insecure between October and December 2021 according to the November Food and Nutrition Security assessment ([Cadre Harmonisé](#) November 2021 figures).

The vulnerabilities have been aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Centre for Disease Control, CDC, as 29 March 2022 there were 119,544 confirmed cases and 1,927 COVID-related deaths reported since the pandemic began. About 7.0 percent have received at least one dose of the vaccine, with only 5.4 percent having received two doses.

WFP, in collaboration with the government, provides emergency food assistance for crisis response and resilience-building while integrating the transition to early recovery and self-reliance. WFP also provides opportunities for capacity-strengthening to the government and partners.

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

Population: **27.2 million**

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



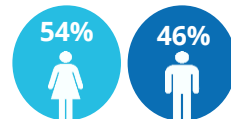
In Numbers

3,681 mt of food distributed

USD 826,695 cash transfer value distributed

USD 51.9 million (April 2022 to September 2022) net funding requirements

527,130 people (283,361 women) assisted in February 2022



Operational Updates

North-West/South-West L2 response

- Under its crisis response operations in the North-West and South-West (NWSW) regions, WFP distributed 1,801 mt of food and USD 196,305 to 240,869 beneficiaries (54 percent women) as unconditional resource transfer (URT).
- As part of its malnutrition prevention programme, WFP provided 53 mt of specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) to 10,934 children aged 6-59 months (51 percent female) and to 5,838 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs).

Lake Chad response

- In the Far North Region, WFP supported 104,912 beneficiaries (54 percent women) with 975 mt of food and USD 223,687 cash transfers as URT.
- WFP distributed 123 mt of food to 23,195 school children (45 percent women) under its school feeding programme.

Central African Republic (CAR) refugees' response

- Under the CAR crisis response, WFP provided assistance to 93,374 beneficiaries (53 percent women) with USD 390,537 and 576 mt of food as URT.
- WFP further assisted 39,731 children aged 6-59 months with 131 mt of SNFs for malnutrition prevention and 1,833 children for malnutrition treatment. Overall, 52 percent of nutrition intervention beneficiaries were female.
- Under the umbrella of resilience building through assets creation, WFP provided 21 mt of food and value vouchers worth USD 16,167 to 6,444 beneficiaries, 66 percent of whom were women.

Home-grown school feeding programme HGSF in the Adamawa Region

- WFP in partnership with the Government of Cameroon launched the pilot of the Home Grown School Feeding project, which started in January in three schools in the Adamawa Region. This launch was intentionally done on March 1 to commemorate the African Day of School Feeding.
- The project aims to provide bread made locally from cassava flour, locally produced eggs and yogurt, to approximately 900 pupils in these primary schools on a daily basis.
- Eating nutritious foods is crucial for the development of young children. In the Adamawa region, 34.6 percent of children between the ages of 6-59 months suffer from chronic malnutrition ([SMART-SENS Nutritional Survey 2021](#)).

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Photo: Woman working in a WFP supported Food assistance for asset creation farm in Boulembé, East region. Credit: Minseong Lee: (February 2022)

Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

2022 Total Requirement (in USD)	2022 Available Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
147 m	52.9 m	51.9 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations including refugees, IDPs, returnees and host population in Cameroon have safe access to adequate and nutritious food during and in the aftermath of crises.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

1. Provide an integrated food and nutritional assistance to crisis-affected populations to support their self-reliance and recovery needs.
2. Provide capacity strengthening on emergency preparedness and response to local authorities and humanitarian partners working in crisis-affected areas

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Children 6-23 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and other nutritionally vulnerable people in prioritized regions have improved nutrition status and resilience in line with national standards by 2026

Focus area: Resilience building

Activity:

3. Provide an integrated nutrition package to beneficiaries including access to nutritious food, quality care, SBCC, and capacity strengthening to prevent malnutrition.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 3: Food-insecure and climate-affected populations and smallholder farmers have enhanced livelihoods and resilience to shocks by 2026.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activity:

4. Provide livelihood support to targeted groups including through productive asset creation and regeneration, and value chain development

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: National institutions and partners have strengthened capacities to manage food and nutrition programmes and social protection systems by 2030.

Focus area: Root causes

Activity:

5. Provide capacity strengthening to national institutions and partners on the management of food and nutrition programmes, social protection, emergency preparedness and response, disaster management and supply chain services.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 5: The government, humanitarian and development partners in Cameroon can reach vulnerable populations and respond to emergencies throughout the year

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

6. Provide UNHAS to the Government, humanitarian partners.
7. Provide on demand supply chain, ICT and coordination services to the Government, humanitarian and development partners

UNHAS

- UNHAS continued its operations and transported a total of 306 passengers in March 2022, bringing the total number of passengers in 2022 to 597. UNHAS flights to Bamenda (North-West) are still not possible as the Cameroon Civil Aviation Authority is yet to grant clearances for flights to resume.

Country Strategic Plan, 2022-2026

- WFP Executive Board endorsed Cameroon's 2nd generation Country Strategic Plan (CSP) in February 2022. The plan will run from March 2022 to December 2026.
- It is rooted in operationalising the humanitarian, development and peace nexus approach, empowering communities, including the most marginalized, to be at the centre of decision-making.
- The activities are designed to incorporate cross-cutting themes including gender transformation, climate-friendly interventions and resilience-building.
- The CSP will focus on a phased approach to provide the most appropriate assistance to refugees, IDPs and host communities based on their levels of vulnerability.
- In the face of a shock or a sudden onset of emergencies such as displacements, WFP will provide life-saving assistance, integrating the transition to early recovery and resilience building, culminating in self-reliance to graduate from assistance.
- An essential foundation will be the collaboration with the Government of Cameroon to develop an adaptive and shock-responsive social protection system.

Challenges

- **Access and insecurity:** The security situation in the NWSW remained volatile with regular clashes between armed groups and the use of more sophisticated weapons. From January to March 2022, a total of 46 armed conflicts were recorded in the North-West and the South-West regions. WFP has provided additional directives to partners about transportation of WFP commodities following instances of food diversion in December 2021.
- Meanwhile, Salafi-jihadist (Jama'at Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad/JAS-Boko Haram) and/or Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) elements continue to conduct trans-border attacks in the Far North Region, targeting government defense forces units. Between January and March 2022, there were 28 violent attacks from the insurgents in the Far North Region.
- On the other hand, the security situation in the East Region was relatively calm but unpredictable, especially along the border with CAR. There were no incidents recorded in the refugee communities served.

Donors

Donors in 2022 included Canada, China, Denmark, European Commission, Iceland, Ireland, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States. Additional support was given by UN CERF.