



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Cameroon Country Brief May 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 assesment ([Cadre Harmonisé](#) November 2021 figures).

The vulnerabilities have been aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Centre for Disease Control, CDC, as 7 June 2022 there were 119,947 confirmed cases and 1,930 COVID-related deaths reported since the pandemic began. About 8.1 percent have received at least one dose of the vaccine, with only 6.3 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**



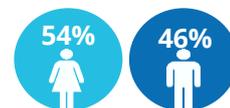
## In Numbers

**3,025 mt** of food distributed

**USD 608,421** cash transfer value distributed

**USD 48.0 million** (63 percent, June 2022 to November 2022) net funding requirements

**421,909 people (226,691 women) assisted** in April 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 1,500 mt of food to 185,852 beneficiaries (53 percent women) as unconditional resource transfer (URT).
- As part of its malnutrition prevention programme, WFP provided 39 mt of specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) to 8,266 children aged 6-59 months (53 percent female) and to 4,748 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs).

### Lake Chad response

- In the Far North Region, WFP supported 124,943 beneficiaries (54 percent women) with USD 224,009 as cash transfers and 1,149 mt of food as URT.
- WFP distributed 8 mt of food to 5,460 children aged 6-59 months (51 percent female) under its malnutrition prevention programme

### Central African Republic (CAR) refugees' response

- Under the CAR crisis response, WFP provided assistance to 92,640 beneficiaries (53 percent women) with USD 384,412 and 329 mt of food as URT.

### Food Security in the context of the Russia-Ukraine crisis

- Cameroon purchases 43 percent of it's annual fertilizer imports from Russia. With the current crisis in Russia and Ukraine, there is a disruption in the value chain for these products, resulting to prices increases. Between February and May 2022, the price of urea fertilizer has increased by 80 percent and NPK by 70-80 percent (Fews Net sitrep, 31 May 2022). If this situation persists, it will lead to a reduction in yields and further price increases consequently.
- Rice prices have remained stable since March 2022 (30 percent increase from pre-pandemic levels), while wheat flour increased by 7 percent in April alone, bringing the total to 16-30 percent since February 2022.
- Generally, the prices of food commodities have increased by 9.8 percent while the consumer price index (CPI) is 124 points higher than at same time ([Trading Economics](#), May 2022). Accordingly, the cost of humanitarian response will increase.
- WFP Cameroon is monitoring these fluctuations and collaborating with the UN in Cameroon on a response plan if the situation persists. Meanwhile WFP is scaling up the home-grown school feeding programme which will promote local production, innovative transformation as cassava flour is already used to make bread for school feeding, and also purchasing from smallholder farmers.

**Contact info:** Precious Talla ([precious.talla@wfp.org](mailto:precious.talla@wfp.org))  
**Country Director:** Wanja Kaaria ([wanja.kaaria@wfp.org](mailto:wanja.kaaria@wfp.org))  
Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/cameroon](http://www.wfp.org/countries/cameroon)

**Photo:** Woman is happy child's health has improved following WFP's community based nutrition intervention programme in Meme, Far North region.  
**Credit:** WFP/Glen Amungwa (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 275 passengers in May 2022, bringing the total number of passengers in 2022 to 872. 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.

## Monitoring

- WFP's hotline 8099 is accessible to partners and beneficiaries for complaints and feedback. In the first quarter of 2022, over 2,972 complaints were received with an average solving time of 3.4 days and average resolution rate of 96 percent.
- In May 2022, 629 cases received, of which 333 were referred (7 sensitive) to field offices and country office units.
- Overall solving rate of 84%, average solving rate is 5.2 days as opposed to 3.1 days April 2022.
- Most complaints were on ration reclaim probably because of delays on distribution in NWSW due to lockdowns that delayed food movements from the port to the warehouse and rains and other forms of insecurities that delayed transportation of food commodities to distribution points. Cases referred were as follows:
  - Entitlement reclaim (157 cases)
  - Information request (69 cases)
  - Data Amendment (27 cases)
  - Cash Transaction (25 cases)
  - Missing/Losses (21 cases)

## Challenges

- Non-state armed groups in the NWSW imposed lockdowns in the weeks before May 1<sup>st</sup> (International Labour Day) and May 20<sup>th</sup> (National Day) to deter any plans for the usual manifestations and parades to commemorate these days. This delayed movement of food to distribution sites and food/cash distributions.
- May distributions in the NW were further pushed back by a delay in obtaining government's authorization for distributions.
- There were glitches in the system for cash transfers that hindered beneficiaries in the NWSW from accessing their multipurpose cash entitlements on time. WFP, working with the financial services provided alternative solutions while the service provider worked on fixing the system.
- Incidents against humanitarians are increasing. 20 incidents were recorded in the first 20 weeks of 2022, as opposed to 8 in the same period in 2021. These included killing and injuries, abductions, food diversions, arrest and detention, and seizure of NGO vehicles. WFP constantly reminds staff and cooperating partners to adhere to safety

## 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.