



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cameroon Country Brief June 2022



Operational Context

An estimated 40 percent of Cameroon's 27.2 million people live below the poverty line (52 percent for women). The human development index remains low (0.563 compared to a global average of 0.737 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 (NSAGs) and state forces escalating in the North West and South West regions; 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 (IDPs) and about 449,000 refugees.

The Humanitarian Response Plan (March 2022) indicate that 3.9 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, with more than 2.4 million estimated to be severely food insecure between June and August 2022.

Between 2020 and 2021, the vulnerabilities were aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, there has been a steady decline in the number of new COVID-19 cases. In June 2022, there were 100 new cases, down from 290 in May. However, only 8.1 percent of the population have received two doses of the vaccine.

The war in Ukraine is exerting additional pressure on the cost of living and humanitarian assistance. The prices of imported processed food have risen to 25-60 percent above pre-pandemic levels. According to Trading Economics (May 2022), consumer price index (CPI) reached an all time high of 124 points in March 2022. The cost of food increased by 9.8 percent in March 2022 compared to March 2021.

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**



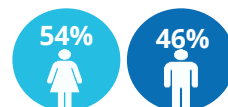
In Numbers

1,934 mt of food distributed

USD 573,030 cash transfer value distributed

USD 51.1 m (68 percent, July 2022 to December 2022) net funding requirements

323,955 people (164,702 women) assisted in May 2022



Operational Updates

North-West/South-West response

- Under its crisis response operations in the North-West and South-West (NWSW) regions, WFP distributed 273 mt of food to 33,726 beneficiaries (51 percent women) as unconditional resource transfer (URT).
- As part of its malnutrition prevention programme, WFP provided 18 mt of specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) to 3,969 children aged 6-59 months (50 percent female) and to 1,970 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs).

Lake Chad response

- In the Far North Region, WFP supported 119,635 IDPs and refugees (54 percent females) with USD 210,953 as cash transfers and 1,097 mt of food as URT.
- WFP distributed 222 mt of food to 71,457 school children (42 percent girls) under its school feeding programme.

Central African Republic (CAR) refugees' response

- Under the CAR crisis response, WFP provided assistance to 93,198 beneficiaries (53 percent females) with USD 362,077 as cash and value vouchers transfers and 324 mt of food as URT.

Positive Deviance interventions in the Far North

- As part of malnutrition prevention, WFP will continue to implement the 'Positive Deviance' programme, a nutritional rehabilitation programme based on use of local foods to produce nutritious meals for children aged 6-59 months suffering from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). During the sessions, the mothers of these children are taught good practices for infant and young child feeding (IYCF). For more on this, please visit [WFP Cameroon on Twitter](#)
- In 2022, WFP plans to reach 132,470 children and pregnant and lactating women with nutrition support. WFP needs additional USD 8.8 million (87 percent shortfall) for nutrition activities between July and December 2022.

UNHAS

- UNHAS continued normal operations until mid June when the Cameroon Civil Aviation Authority (CCAA) introduced another layer of approvals for UNHAS flights that led to a brief disruption in flights. Discussions are on-going between the stakeholders to resolve the differences. In June, UNHAS transported 66 passengers, bringing the 2022 total to 1,549.
- UNHAS flights to Bamenda (North-West) are still not possible as the CCAA is yet to grant clearances for flights to resume.

Photo: Women in Meme village, Far North Region learning to make nutritious meals for their children.

Credit: WFP/Richard Atem (February 2022)

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Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

2022 Total Requirement (in USD)	2022 Available Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
147 m	79.4 m	43.8 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

Food and Nutrition Security in the context of the Russia-Ukraine crisis

- Cameroon purchases 43 percent of its fertilizer imports and 46 percent of its wheat imports from Russia annually. Ukraine on the other hand supplies 35 percent of iron and steel products to Cameroon annually. The crisis in Ukraine has resulted in a disruption in the value chain for these products, thus pushing up prices. The prices of urea and composite NPK fertilizers have doubled the 2021 level and tripled the average pre-pandemic rate ([Fews.net](https://www.fews.net), June 2022). If this situation persists, it will lead to a reduction in yields in subsequent planting seasons and consequently, increase the prices of locally produced foodstuff further.
- The prices of imported processed food have risen to 25-60 percent above pre-pandemic levels. According to [Trading Economics](https://tradingeconomics.com) (May 2022), the consumer price index (CPI) is 124 points higher than at the same time in 2021. If the situation persists, food consumption is likely to deteriorate and the stock for humanitarian response will decline faster due to the rising costs of the operation and increase in the number of people in need.
- WFP in Cameroon is monitoring market prices, and is currently developing a response plan which includes revising the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) for food and non-food commodities.

Monitoring

- WFP's hotline 8099 is accessible to partners and beneficiaries for complaints and feedback.
- In June 2022, 1,392 cases were received, of which 660 were referred to field offices and country office units. The increase from 629 cases in April 2022 was mostly from a sharp increase in information requests (90.6 percent increase) and entitlement reclaim (61 percent increase). The resolution rate was 80 percent in an average of 4.2 days.

Challenges

- Incidents against humanitarians in the NWSW increased by 122 percent between January and June 2022 as compared to the same period in 2021. 43 incidents in total (03 from the Far North; 40 from the NWSW) were recorded against humanitarian actors including killing and injuries, abductions, food diversions, arrests/detentions, and seizure of NGO vehicles. WFP constantly reminds staff and cooperating partners to adhere to government and UN safety and security measures.

Donors

Donors in 2022 included Cameroon, 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.