



WFP Cameroon Country Brief July 2022

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

An estimated 40 percent of Cameroon's 27.2 million people live below the poverty line, of which 52 percent are women. According to the [Cameroon Humanitarian Response Plan 2022](#), 3.9 million people need humanitarian assistance in 2022.

Cameroon has been significantly affected by three complex crises: armed conflict between non-state armed groups (NSAGs) and state forces in the North-West and South-West regions; NSAGs insurgency in the Lake Chad Basin affecting the Far North Region, and the influx of Central African Republic (CAR) refugees in the East, Adamawa, and North regions. These resulted in over 955,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) and 485,000 refugees ([unhcr, July 2022](#)).

Furthermore, the protracted socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the inflationary effect of the Ukrainian crisis contribute to increases in the cost of living, which prevent vulnerable populations from meeting their basic needs. Consequently, more than 2.4 million people are projected to reach severe or emergency levels of food insecurity between June and August 2022, as compared to 1.9 million in the same period in 2021. The prices of imported processed food have risen to 25-60 percent above pre-pandemic levels. The cost of food increased by 12 percent in June 2022 compared to June 2021 ([trading economics, July 2022](#)).

Consequently, WFP operations in Cameroon focus on crisis response, resilience building and root causes to prevent further deterioration of the food and nutrition situation while building the capacities of national institutions to manage food/nutrition programmes and develop social protection systems.

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**



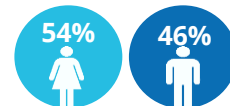
In Numbers

2,805 mt of food distributed

USD 699,075 cash transfer value distributed

USD 29.5 m (39 percent, August 2022 to January 2023) net funding requirements

407,104 people (222,541 women) assisted in June 2022



Operational Updates

North-West/South-West response

- Under its crisis response operations in the North-West and South-West (NWSW) regions, WFP distributed 1,668 mt of food and USD 329,793 to 236,599 beneficiaries (53 percent women) as unconditional resource transfer (URT).
- As part of its malnutrition prevention programme, WFP provided 38 mt of specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) to 4,992 children aged 6-59 months (50 percent female) and to 2,180 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs).

Lake Chad response

- In the Far North Region, WFP supported 67,110 refugees (54 percent females) with 755 mt of food as URT.
- WFP distributed 1.5 mt of food to 625 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 93,041 beneficiaries (53 percent females) with USD 369,282 as cash and value voucher transfers and 324 mt of food as URT.
- WFP also distributed 18.6 mt of SNFs to 312 children aged 6-59 months (53 percent female) and to 2,245 PLWGs.

UNHAS

- UNHAS has still not resumed normal operations since mid June when the Cameroon Civil Aviation Authority (CCAA) introduced another layer of approvals for UNHAS flights. Discussions are on-going between the Government, CCAA and WFP, with the support of the Resident Coordinator's Office.

MILDA Project

- WFP is working with the Ministry of Health under the MILDA* project. In the first phase WFP will transport 16.8 million long-lasting mosquito nets (LLMN) from the port in Douala to temporal warehouses and then to 1,413 health areas in eight regions of Cameroon.
- The first phase of the MILDA project ("*MILDA Campagne*") ran from April to July. It comprised distributions of over six million LLMN to the three northern regions: Far North, North and Adamawa. As of the 24th of July 2022, WFP had distributed 90 percent (5.3 million LLMN) of the planned total for this phase.

*MILDA (fr) Moustiquaires Imprégnées à Longue Durée d'Action (Please add the english translation as well)

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Photo: Women in Meme village, Far North Region learning to make nutritious meals for their children.
Credit: WFP/Richard Atem (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	79.4 m	29.5 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations including refugees, IDPs, returnees and the 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, and 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 imports 43 percent of its fertilizer and 46 percent of its wheat from Russia annually. Ukraine 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 their prices by up to 54 percent since February 2022. There is a high chance of reducing agricultural production in subsequent planting seasons.
- In addition to the increase in the prices of imported food and non-food items, the country is experiencing price surges in staple foods produced locally. From WFP's market monitoring of 30 markets in the six regions affected by the crises:
 - The price of cereals increased by nine percent compared to the price in June 2021 and by nearly 25 percent compared to the average of the last five years
 - The prices of groundnuts have increased by 39 percent
 - Vegetable oils, in general, have experienced an increase of 27 percent compared to June 2021.
- The Cameroon government has increased subsidies on fuel, thus ensuring fuel prices remain stable. However, there was a widespread fuel shortage in the urban centres for two weeks in June 2022 but the situation was controlled to avert an escalation. Nonetheless, the potential of protracted shortage, or pump price increase, is imminent, with risks of a disruption in supply chains.
- If the situation persists, food consumption will likely deteriorate, and the stock for humanitarian response will decline faster due to the rising costs of the operation and an 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 based on the price inflation.

Challenges

- The suspension of UNHAS flights since June because of an additional layer of clearance imposed by the CCAA is affecting the humanitarian community, which now relies solely on the state airline; if the negotiations between the stakeholders persist longer, there is the potential of delays in implementing humanitarian activities especially in the Far North, North-West and South-West regions, as well as to Chad.
- Incidents against humanitarians increased by 122 percent in the NWSW and 50 percent in the FN between January and June 2022 compared to the same period in 2021. Abductions affecting humanitarians alone in the NWSW increased by 41 percent in 2022 compared to 2021.
- WFP sends weekly updates to all staff and regular advisory to partners. Contracts with transportation companies now include specific guidelines and instructions to transporters to help mitigate security incidents against them and diversion or seizure of WFP commodities.

Donors

Donors in 2022 included Canada, the European Commission, Germany, Japan, Private donors, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States.