



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES

CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cameroon CAR Crisis Response

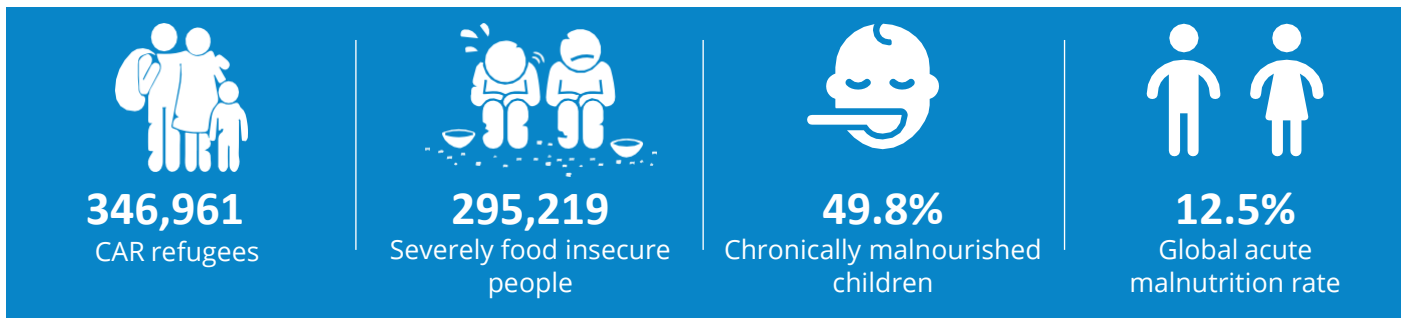
Operational Context

Cameroon has been experiencing influxes of refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR) fleeing political instability and violence from non-state armed groups. The refugees, mainly from western parts of CAR arrive in the East, Adamawa and North regions of the country, with nearly 325,000 arriving by December 2021. The presence of the refugees in these three regions exerts pressure on natural resources and social services, worsening the pre-existing vulnerabilities of the host communities and stretching the Government's capacity to respond.

The effects of conflicts and COVID-19 have led to an increase in the projected food insecurity situation from 2021 to 2022. Over 295,000 people are severely food insecure between June and August 2022 (Cadre Harmonisé, March 2022), compared to 250,000 people during the same period in 2021. With the recent price increases as a result of the Ukraine-Russia conflict, the number of people needing food assistance is expected to increase.

July 2022

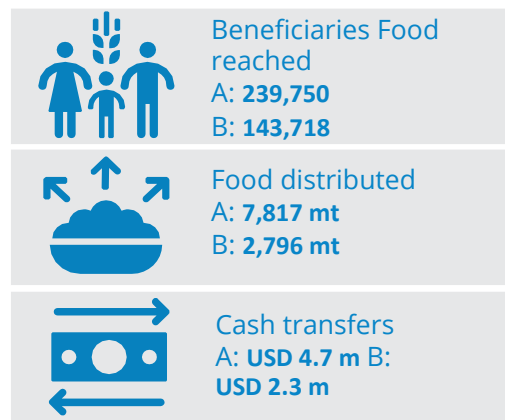
Humanitarian situation at a glance



WFP RESPONSE:

WFP has been responding to the food and nutrition needs of the CAR refugees and vulnerable local populations in the East, Adamawa and North regions since 2009. WFP response enables the assisted people to meet their needs, recover from the crisis and strengthen their resilience to withstand shocks, while building social cohesion. WFP also responds to the nutritional needs of children suffering from malnutrition, young and lactating women and people living with HIV/AIDS. WFP implements its interventions while guaranteeing respect, dignity and protection of the assisted people. Beneficiaries are targeted with support from the Joint WFP-UNHCR Programme of Excellence and Targeting Hub.

WFP RESPONSE:



Unconditional food assistance

WFP assists vulnerable CAR refugees and host communities through food and cash assistance. The unconditional assistance enables the target populations to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs, preventing further deterioration of their food insecurity. To raise awareness on good nutrition practices and promote good sanitation, hygiene and gender equality, WFP implements social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) activities across the targeted regions.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the livelihoods of rural and urban vulnerable communities in the target regions, exacerbating their pre-existing vulnerabilities including food and nutrition insecurity. Hence, WFP also provides unrestricted cash-based transfers (CBT) to people impacted by COVID-19. The CBT enables assisted people to meet their food and other needs, in addition to stimulating the local economy. In 2021, WFP distributed USD 4.7 million through cash and value voucher transfers and over 7,800 mt of food to CAR refugees and host populations.

Between January and June 2022, WFP has distributed USD 1.6 million in cash and about 2,800 mt of food to 143,700 beneficiaries, 98 percent of whom are refugees.

Malnutrition prevention and treatment

The three regions have one of the highest levels of malnutrition in Cameroon, with over 37 percent of children under the age of 5 chronically malnourished. Among the refugees in the camp-like settings, 49.8 percent of the children are stunted.

According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (March 2022), 86,000 children, including 10,000 refugees would need treatment for acute malnutrition in 2022, among whom 29,600 (3,600 refugees) will suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). WFP working with the Government and other nutrition partners implements malnutrition prevention and treatment programmes targeting children, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs) as well as people living with HIV (PLHIV). Through nutrition education activities and cooking demonstrations, WFP sensitizes community members to produce and consume locally available nutritious foods, while strengthening the capacities of Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) groups and economically empowering PLHIV.

Early recovery and resilience

As part of support towards early recovery among the affected communities and strengthening their resilience to future shocks, WFP implements food assistance for asset creation activities in the targeted regions using community-based approaches. The focus is on supporting smallholder farmers to make agriculture more nutrition-sensitive and income-orientated, access to sustainable markets as well as promoting the use of fortified seeds. Communities participate in the rehabilitation of roads, cultivation of community farms, fish farming, as well as food processing and preservation in exchange for WFP food and cash assistance. In 2021, WFP supported over 26,000 people with asset creation initiatives

Including community farms, fishponds, rehabilitated farm to market roads, etc. In 2022, WFP has already

assisted about 8,700 beneficiaries with 43 mt of food and USD 51,100 worth of value vouchers.

As part of exploring sustainable ways of supporting crisis-affected populations, WFP Cameroon, in collaboration with other stakeholders has developed a resilience strengthening strategy that is embedded in the Country Strategic Plan (March 2022 to December 2026).

Support to the Government

WFP in collaboration with other UN agencies is providing technical support to the Government. WFP is strengthening the capacities of the Government to manage food and nutrition programmes and social protection systems. WFP is also strengthening national institutions and partners on emergency preparedness response, disaster management and supply chain services.

Beneficiary and distribution figures

Indicator	2021	Jan-June 2022
People who received in-kind food assistance	158,875	85,970
Refugees who received in-kind food assistance	127,081	61,203
Residents who received in-kind food assistance	31,794	24,767
People who received cash assistance	80,875	57,748
Refugees who received cash assistance	40,738	55,765
Residents who received cash assistance	40,137	1,983
People reached with malnutrition prevention and treatment support	45,530	41,564
People reached through food assistance for asset creation	26,159	8,780
Total food distributed (metric tonnage)	7,817	2,796
Total cash amounts distributed (USD)	4.7 million	2.3 million

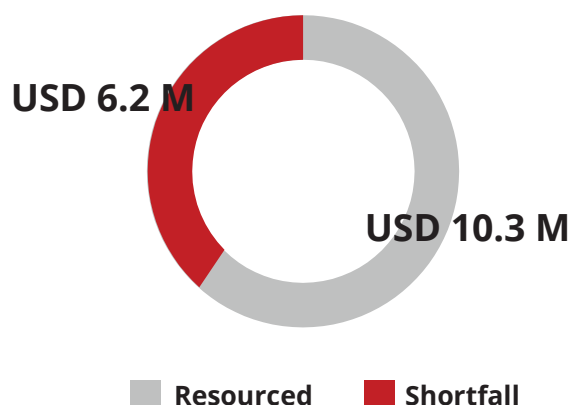
Unconditional food assistance

WFP has been able to implement its interventions thanks to the support of and collaboration with partners including the Government of Cameroon, donors, other UN agencies and cooperating partners.



Funding needs

As it continues to implement the operations in support of affected populations in the three regions, WFP urgently needs USD 6.2 million to cover the needs for August 2022 to January 2023.





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