WFP Cameroon
SUPPLY CHAIN
Enabling WFP to be at the forefront of the fight against hunger

September 2021
SUPPLY CHAIN forms the core of WFP’s emergency operations in Cameroon, enabling the organization to procure and deliver life-saving assistance to about one million people annually. WFP’s supply chain activities are conducted through a complex and coordinated mechanism that has several functions; these include planning, procurement of services, food and other commodities, food safety and quality assurance, logistics, in-house shipping, markets, and air services. WFP also provides on-demand supply chain support to partners and the wider humanitarian community, to enable them achieve their humanitarian objectives.

The Douala Corridor

WFP established the Douala Field Office in 2004 to facilitate supply chain activities at the Port of Douala, which is an entry point for food and other humanitarian commodities from both WFP’s Global Commodity Management Facilities (GCMF) and individual donors. Through the field office, WFP manages port operations, customs formalities and on-forwarding to Cameroon and other countries using both road and rail transport modes.

WFP’s Douala Corridor is therefore a transit corridor for commodities bound for regional countries, primarily Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, northern Nigeria and the Republic of Congo. It is among the four handover points for West Africa GCMF stocks, with recent purchases shipped to Burkina Faso, the Gambia, Sierra Leone, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

Commodity procurement and storage

WFP purchases food from local and international suppliers. Between 2018 and 2021, WFP locally purchased 77,036 mt of food valued at over USD 37.8 million (about XAF 21 billion), providing a market for the local food producers including smallholder farmers and contributing to the local economy. In addition, 415,448 mt of commodities were purchased through international procurement in the last three years and received through the Douala Corridor.

At the port, WFP is also responsible for storage, quality control, as well as the safe transportation of goods and commodities to prepositioning hubs and warehouses. The GCMF commodities received at the port are stored in two warehouses, which can hold a total of 38,000 mt of commodities and are currently at 55 percent capacity. A contracted logistics company manages the warehouses through an agreement with WFP.
In-country deliveries

Locally, WFP transports food commodities to all the five crisis-affected regions using road transport. Commodities are transported using trucks belonging to local transport companies. Due to increasing insecurities particularly in the Far-North, Northwest and Southwest, WFP coordinates with national authorities to facilitate smooth access and to guarantee safety of the WFP and cooperating partners’ staff and commodities.

Regional deliveries

WFP in Cameroon serves WFP and other humanitarian organizations in five other countries including Chad, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo and northern Nigeria, facilitating the transportation of commodities received through the Douala and Kribi ports. This enables the humanitarian community to implement emergency operations in those five countries, reaching the crisis-affected and vulnerable populations with the much needed assistance. Costs for handling, storage and transportation are shared on a pro rata tonnage basis among the recipient countries through memoranda of understanding.

Support to the humanitarian community

Taking advantage of its extensive experience and expertise, coupled with its global capacity and reach, WFP supports the wider humanitarian community in Cameroon and neighbouring countries through the provision of a range of common services. The services include the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) and the Logistics Cluster, which offer speed, agility and heightened operational efficiency, thereby enhancing emergency response capacity for international, local and government organizations.

In response to the COVID-19 impacts, WFP trained personnel at the Ministry of Public Health to strengthen their capacities in medical logistics in the COVID-19 context. This was in addition to supporting the Government of Cameroon with 36 tents and three mobile storage facilities (of up to 1,630 m² surface) for the storage of medical items and the isolation of Covid-19 patients.

In support of effort to combat malaria, WFP transported 58,312 bales of mosquito nets weighing 2,192 mt. WFP worked closely with the Ministry of Public Health at both regional and national levels to increase storage capacity in health districts and ensure delivery of the mosquito nets to the remotest health centres.

Commodities purchased (2018 - 2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MT of locally procured commodities</td>
<td>35,571</td>
<td>29,736</td>
<td>4,724</td>
<td>7,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT of commodities received for Cameroon operations</td>
<td>52,303</td>
<td>11,025</td>
<td>26,616</td>
<td>44,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT of commodities shipped to other regional countries</td>
<td>11,227</td>
<td>51,542</td>
<td>20,099</td>
<td>36,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT of commodities received as GCMF</td>
<td>46,759</td>
<td>36,062</td>
<td>53,032</td>
<td>25,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total MT of commodities received</td>
<td>145,860</td>
<td>128,366</td>
<td>104,471</td>
<td>113,789</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Partnerships

WFP’s supply chain operations are made possible through the support of the Government, donors, cooperating partners, and private sector members including transporters and logistics companies.