



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cameroon Country Brief OCTOBER 2022



Operational Context

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

Cameroon has been significantly affected by three complex crises: armed conflict between non-state armed groups and state forces in the North-West region and the South-West region; non-state armed groups' 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 975,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 494,000 refugees ([UNHCR, October 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 15.7 percent in September 2022 compared to September 2021 ([Trading Economics, October 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 percent of children under five years**

Population: **27.2 million**

2021 Human Development Index: **151 out of 191**



In Numbers

2,329 mt of food distributed

USD 916,507 cash transfer value distributed

USD 39.8 million (December 2022 - May 2023) net funding requirements (53 percent of the requirements)

353,139 people assisted

in September 2022

55%



45%



Operational Updates

North-West/South-West response

- Despite lockdowns that delayed distributions and a landslide that hampered food delivery in Menchum Division (North-West Region), WFP distributed 1,335 mt of food and USD 374,786 through cash transfers to 162,953 beneficiaries as unconditional resource transfer (URT) under its crisis response operations in the North-West and South-West (NW/SW) regions.
- In the SW Region, WFP supported 4,719 people targeted as part of the nutrition-sensitive programming including 1,059 people living with HIV (PLHIV) with cash transfers.

Lake Chad response

- Under the URT in the Far North Region, WFP supported 61,538 in-camp refugees and 49,806 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and residents with 774 mt of food and USD 201,237 as cash transfers.
- WFP implemented the first lean season support for 2022 in the Far North Region, reaching 12,257 beneficiaries (54 percent women) with 102 mt of food.

Central African Republic (CAR) refugees' response

- Under the CAR crisis response, WFP provided assistance to 76,316 beneficiaries with USD 340,483 as cash and value voucher transfers and 201 mt of food under URT.
- WFP also distributed 18.5 mt of specialized nutritious foods (SNFs) to 287 children aged 6-59 months and to 2,239 pregnant and lactating women and girls and people living with HIV.
- WFP implemented Nutrition Assessment Counseling and Support (NACS) interventions in the East and Adamawa regions. The activities comprised food assistance, educational talks, home visits and cooking demos using SNFs and other locally sourced nutritious foods. More than 3,200 people were reached with at least one of these interventions in September.

Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

2022 Total Requirement (in USD)	2022 Available Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
147 m	74.6 m	39.8 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 through WFP Service provision.

Monitoring and Assessments

- Cameroon continued to experience price surges in food and non-food items. Even though September is characterised by availability of food in most of the Southern regions following harvests in July to September, the food inflation rate was at 15.7 percent in September 2022 as compared to September 2021.
- WFP's monthly market monitoring analysis for September 2022 indicated that the prices of cereals remained stable in several regions, but was still very high compared to previous years. The prices of tubers dropped by about 30 percent from August to September 2022 due to increase supply in the local markets. On the other hand, prices of sorghum, groundnuts and vegetable oil increased by about 30 percent as compared to the same period last year.
- The prices of wheat and fertilizer which were mostly imported from Ukraine and Russia remained stable in September. However, Cameroon experienced a country-wide scarcity in cooking gas from September 2022 but the official prices of petroleum products have remained the same thanks to government's subsidies.

Challenges

- UNHAS flights are still suspended since June 2022. WFP, with the support of the entire humanitarian community in Cameroon, is advocating for the Government to review the approvals required to operate flights, which are currently causing the deadlock. Although a thorough assessment of the impact has not been conducted yet, the consequences are felt as humanitarian missions are sometimes delayed because of commercial flight schedules or time spent traveling by road.
- Heavy rains in the NW Region caused a landslide in Menchum Division and prevented food movement to food distribution sites in that area. As a result, 25,000 beneficiaries did not receive their entitlement for September 2022. Likewise, more than 5,000 beneficiaries in the Far North Region did not receive their entitlement in September due to inaccessibility caused by over-flooded rivers.
- WFP has scheduled prepositioning of commodities to cover a double distribution for November and December to avert delays caused by heavy rains.

Donors

Donors to WFP Cameroon in 2022 include Canada, the European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Private donors, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States.