



World Food Programme

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WFP Cameroon Country Brief DECEMBER 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 and the South-West regions; 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 on commodity markets and global supply chain challenges contribute to increases in the cost of living, which prevent vulnerable populations from meeting their basic needs. Consequently, results from the *Cadre Harmonisé* (November 2022) indicated that more than 3.6 million people are food-insecure between October and December 2022, as compared to 2.4 million in the same period in 2021 (50 percent increase).

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.

Population: **27.2 million**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

Severe acute malnutrition: **1.6 percent of children aged 24 – 59 months**



In Numbers

6,638 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 1.8 million cash-based transfers made

USD 29.5 million six months (February - July 2023) net funding requirements (40 percent of total requirements)

523,766 people assisted

in November and December 2022

55%



45%



Operational Updates

North-West/South-West (NWSW) response

- WFP assisted 252,000 vulnerable people including internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and residents with USD 484,000 (13 percent of planned beneficiaries), and 3,600 mt of food commodities in November and December 2022 as unconditional resource transfer (URT) under Strategic Outcome 1.
- From March to December 2022, WFP reached 69 percent of the planned beneficiaries due to funding shortfall. Resilience strengthening and school feeding activities were not implemented.

Central African Republic (CAR) refugees' response

- In November and December 2022, WFP assisted 100,500 CAR refugees and residents with USD 714,000 (53 percent of planned beneficiaries) and 747 mt of food under Strategic Outcomes 1 and 3.
- Under Strategic Outcome 1, WFP reached 93,000 beneficiaries through cash transfers (57 percent of beneficiaries) and food distributions.
- Under Strategic Outcome 3, WFP provided food assistance to 7,500 people as resilience support.
- Under this CSP, WFP assisted about 47 percent of the plan due to funding shortfall that resulted in a reduced number of beneficiaries for resilience, school feeding and nutrition support.

Lake Chad response

- In November and December 2022, WFP supported more than 170,000 refugees, IDPs and residents with USD 615,000 (21 percent of the beneficiaries) and 2,300 mt of food under Strategic Outcomes 1 and 3. This includes almost 18,000 victims of floods that destroyed livelihoods and property and forced more than 70,000 people from their homes.
- From March-December, WFP reached only 50 percent of the planned beneficiaries. This is due to funding shortfall that resulted in a reduction of number of beneficiaries and nutrition interventions under Strategic Outcome 2 were not implemented at all.

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Photo: Children enjoying their meal under the school feeding initiative in Zamaï, Far North Region, Cameroon
Credit: Emily Pinna/WFP Cameroon

Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
74.3 m	44.8 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:

- Provide an integrated food and nutritional assistance to crisis-affected populations to support their self-reliance and recovery needs.
- 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*

Activities:

- Provide an integrated nutrition package to beneficiaries including access to nutritious food, quality care, SBCC, and capacity strengthening to prevent malnutrition.

Strategic Result 3: 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*

Activities:

- Provide livelihood support to targeted groups including through productive asset creation and regeneration, and value chain development

Strategic Result 4: 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*

Activities:

- 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 5: 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:

- Provide UNHAS to the Government and humanitarian partners
- Provide on-demand supply chain, ICT and coordination services to the Government, humanitarian, and development partners through WFP service provision

UNHAS

- Following successful negotiations with the government and the Cameroon Civil Aviation Authorities, UNHAS resumed flights on 21 December 2022.
- UNHAS successfully performed two flights in December 2022 and two more flights in January with the perspective to fully resume operations by the end of January 2023 if funds are secured beyond the current sustainability date (14 January 2023).

Monitoring

- The effect of the Ukraine crisis still affects the general population, particularly those already made vulnerable by the humanitarian crises. According to the November 2022 *Cadre Harmonisé*, there is a 50 percent increase in the number of severely food insecure people, from 2.4 million in October to December 2021 to 3.6 million in the same period in 2022 (with more than 240,000 being extremely food insecure as opposed to none in 2021). The regions already suffering from protracted crises are more vulnerable to new crises (Northwest, Southwest and Far North).
- WFP's post-distribution monitoring (PDM) conducted in October and November 2022 showed that 62 percent of beneficiaries have an acceptable food consumption score, an increase of 9 percent from September 2021. Households' coping strategies remained stable, while 57 percent of households spent 65 percent or more of their income on food, compared to 40 percent in 2021. This is an indication of increased hardship faced by beneficiaries.

Challenges

- The main challenge faced by WFP is acquiring timely funding needed for UNHAS to sustain and continue operations beyond January 2023. UNHAS requires additional USD 2.7 million (81 percent shortfall).
- Anglophone separatist non-state armed groups in North-West and South-West continue imposing movement restrictions, ad hoc lockdowns, thus hampering humanitarian operations and access. Frequent armed clashes with Cameroonian troops, indiscriminate and targeted violence against civilians and humanitarian actors alike, as well as rampant criminality further contribute to a highly volatile environment.

Donors

Canada, the European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Private donors, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States.