



World Food Programme

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LIVES



## WFP Cameroon Country Brief October 2023

### Operational Context

According to the [Cameroon Humanitarian Response Plan 2023](#), 4.7 million people in the country need humanitarian assistance in 2023, an increase of 21 percent from 2022.

Cameroon has been significantly affected by three complex crises: armed conflict between non-state armed groups (NSAGs) and state security forces in the Northwest and the Southwest Regions; NSAGs insurgency and climate-related disasters in the Far North Region; and an influx of Central African Republic refugees in the East, Adamawa, and North Regions. These crises have resulted in over one million internally displaced persons and 477,000 refugees ([UNHCR, Sep 2023](#)).

Furthermore, the inflationary effect of the Ukraine crisis on commodity markets and global supply chain disruptions contributed to increased living costs, preventing vulnerable populations from meeting their basic needs. Consequently, preliminary results of the October 2023 Cadre Harmonisé reveal that about 2.9 million people are severely food-insecure between October and December 2023, about the same number compared to the same period in 2022.

WFP operations in Cameroon focus on crisis response, resilience building, and mitigation measures to address the root causes of food insecurity while strengthening the capacities of national institutions to manage food/nutrition programmes and develop the social protection system. WFP has been present in Cameroon since 1978.



Population: **28 million**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **28.9 percent of children between 6-59 months**

### In Numbers

413,839 people assisted



2,415 mt of food distributed

US\$ 905,089 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 53.5 million six-month (November 2023-April 2024) net funding requirements

### Operational Updates

- **Emergency food assistance:** WFP assisted 372,100 people including refugees, internally displaced persons, and crisis-affected host communities through both in-kind and cash-based transfer distributions (US\$ 897,500 and 2,252 mt distributed in the Adamawa, East, Far North, North and Northwest and Southwest Regions). This included lean season assistance to more than 59,300 recently displaced people and support through **rapid response mechanism** to 7,700 people.
- **Early Recovery and Resilience Building:** WFP supported the creation of productive assets for 4,970 smallholder farmers and community members in the North region with a total of 41 mt of food.
- **Malnutrition Prevention:** More than 30,615 children aged 6-23 months, 2,230 people living with HIV and 2,730 pregnant and lactating women in the Adamawa, East, Far North, Northwest and Southwest regions received a total of 122 mt of specialized nutritious foods (SNF) to increase their nutrient intake and prevent malnutrition. WFP's nutrition assessment, counselling and support (NACS) activities were carried out in care centres where WFP partners encouraged adherence to anti-retroviral treatment and carried out educational talks on viral load monitoring, increasing access to diverse food sources through the creation of home gardens and rearing of small ruminants.
- **School feeding activities** continued in five schools in the Adamawa Region. WFP provided some 1,160 schoolchildren with locally produced and processed meals, consisting of eggs, bread made from fortified cassava flour and yoghurt. The total value of these food items was about US\$ 905,000, which WFP paid to the local organisations and producers who supply the schools.

### Service Provision

- WFP-operated **United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)** continues to operate flights to Maroua and N'Djamena (Chad) from its base in Yaounde. In October, 13 return flights were operated with a total of 223 passengers from 26 humanitarian organisations.

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**Photo Caption:** WFP partner training women to make pastry during an income-generating activities workshop in Bamenda (Northwest Region).  
Credit: WFP/Nicole Mbiatem (Oct 2023)

## Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
<b>729.6 million</b>	<b>122.4 million</b>
2023 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Nov 2023 – Apr 2024)
<b>148.4 million</b>	<b>53.5 million</b>

**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 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 breastfeeding 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 their capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 5:** National institutions and partners have strengthened their 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

- WFP is supporting the Government in storing and distributing long-lasting mosquito nets (LLMNs) under **the Ministry of Health's MILDA\* project**. The project, now in its third phase includes the distribution of 2.7 million LLMNs to health facilities in the Northwest and Southwest regions. Till date, 68 percent of the allocated mosquito nets had been received in the assigned health districts in the Northwest and 83 percent in the Southwest. Dispatch has been delayed by the poor state of roads and frequent lockdowns in these regions.

*\*MILDA is French for LLMNs*

## Monitoring

- WFP is carrying out targeting for the *PULCCA* Project following the Cameroon Government's multi-year contribution of US\$ 45 million to WFP through the World Bank. Targeting will be concluded in November.
- \*\*PULCCA is French for the Government's Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis in Cameroon sponsored.*

## Challenges

- **Access constraints:** The road conditions continue to deteriorate as heavy rains have made roads impassable and broken bridges, delaying food delivery to several localities in the Northwest Region. Furthermore, transport costs have increased, exacerbating the heightened insecurity in the Northwest, Southwest and Far North regions.
- **Funding shortfalls:** Critical underfunding persists for all activities: emergency food assistance (83 percent), livelihood support (74 percent), Nutrition and school feeding assistance (72 percent). If the situation persists, there will be dire consequences for refugees and displaced persons. Only 70 percent of planned beneficiaries will be assisted in December and from January 2024, WFP will be forced to further reduce the number of assisted people, and ratio sizes which are currently at 70 percent for refugees and 50 percent for all other beneficiaries, or worse completely stop lifesaving assistance across all the three crises.

## Donors

Donors to WFP Cameroon (CSP 2022-2026) in 2023 include Cameroon, Canada, the European Commission, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Private donors, Sweden, Switzerland, UN (other than CERF), UN CERF, the United States of America and the World Bank