



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



WFP Cameroon Country Brief February 2024

Operational Context

According to the [Cameroon Humanitarian Response Plan 2023](#), 4.7 million people required humanitarian assistance in 2023 – a 21 percent increase from 2022.

Cameroon has been significantly affected by three complex crises: armed conflicts between non-state armed groups (NSAGs) and state security forces in the Northwest and the Southwest Regions; the insurgency of NSAGs, as well as climate-related disasters in the Far North Region; and an influx of Central African Republic refugees in the Adamawa, East and North Regions. Such crises led to over 1.1 million internally displaced persons and 479,000 refugees ([UNHCR, Feb 2024](#)).

Furthermore, the inflationary effects of the Ukraine crisis on commodity markets and global supply chain disruptions contributed to increased living costs, which prevented vulnerable populations from meeting their basic needs. The November 2023 *Cadre Harmonisé* analysis revealed that 2.9 million people were severely food-insecure between October–December 2023 (similar data to 2022).

WFP operations in Cameroon focused on crisis response, resilience building and mitigating the root causes of food insecurity. WFP also supported national institutions to strengthen capacities to manage food and nutrition programmes, and to further develop the social protection system. WFP has been present in Cameroon since 1978.



Population: **28 million**

2024 Human Development Index:
Ranked 151st out of 193 countries

Income Level: **Lower-middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **28.9 percent of children aged 6 to 59 months**

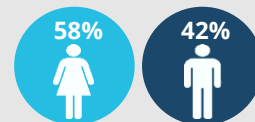
In Numbers

94,212 people assisted

166 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 145,631 in cash-based transfers made

US\$ 45.5 million six-month net funding requirements (March–August 2024)



Operational Updates

- Food assistance during emergencies:** WFP assisted 88,300 refugees in the East and Far North Regions, distributing 164 mt of food (including 70,000 Nigerian refugees in the Minawao camp whose food ration was reduced from 70 percent to 50 percent in October 2023 due to funding shortfalls). WFP provided incomplete food baskets lacking pulses, vegetable oil or salt.
- Food assistance for assets (FFA) programme:** WFP assisted 2,245 people via cash-based transfers (CBTs) in the Adamawa Region. Families that participated in community works cultivated six hectares of vegetable gardens and dug five compost pits.
- Malnutrition prevention:** WFP continued nutrition screenings for children aged 6 to 59 months, while US\$ 66,500 was distributed via cash transfers to 3,096 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls to enable them to improve their feeding practices and uptake of mother and child health care services, e.g. prenatal and postnatal consultations, growth monitoring and immunisation. In addition, 540 children aged 6 to 23 months were screened, with those suffering from moderate acute malnutrition receiving specialised nutritious foods to manage it.
- School feeding:** School meal activities during emergencies continued in the Far North, while home-grown school feeding activities commenced, alongside the Adamawa and East Regions. WFP provided 70,000 schoolchildren with nutritious porridge and locally produced and processed meals during school recess.
- Emergency project to combat the food crisis (PULCCA, in French):** WFP continued to roll out field activities with the Government of Cameroon. Home-grown school feeding activities were launched in seven schools (3,620 pupils) and nutrition activities began in two health districts in the Far North Region.
- The **United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)** operated flights to Maroua and N'Djamena (Chad) from Yaounde. This included 13 return flights for 217 passengers from 33 partner organisations.

Contact info: Precious Talla (precious.talla@wfp.org)
Country Director: Wanja Kaaria
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/cameroon

Photo Caption: Pupils enjoying their hot meal of rice and beans with banana in a primary school in Mbile village (East Region, Cameroon)
Credit: WFP/E Mayramou Madaki

WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (2022–2026)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
729.6 million	170.5 million
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$) (March–August 2024)
149.9 million	45.5 million

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 aged 6-23 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and breastfeeding women and other nutritionally vulnerable people in prioritised 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

Monitoring

- In February, 384 cases were received through community feedback mechanisms, in line with January 2024. A 76.6 percent resolution rate was achieved, with an average closure time of 1.5 days. Overall, 55 percent of complaints regarded assistance requests from non-assisted persons, entitlement reclaims and reports of missing Money Transfer Control Number (MTCN) codes for cash-based transfers.
- According to WFP's seasonal monitoring bulletin for February, the Southern Regions of Cameroon received more than double the rainfall recorded in February 2023. Conversely, thermal conditions within the riverbed of the Logone and Chari rivers (Far North) suggest low humidity conditions, unfavourable to the presence of open water at the surface. However, it appears that the region has not been affected by drought this month, despite the lack of rainfall.

Challenges

- **Limited humanitarian access** remained one of WFP's biggest operational challenges, especially in the Far North, Northwest, and Southwest Regions, primarily due to security issues/concerns. In February, a 12 percent increase in security incidents by suspected non-State armed groups was seen in the Far North Region, with 10 abductions. Northwest, and Southwest Regions experienced several lockdowns, slowing operations.
- **Severe resource shortfalls** existed across all programme areas of WFP's Cameroon operation. The most critical concerned assistance to Nigerian and Central African Republic refugees. Ongoing funding challenges will prevent WFP from delivering much-needed food and nutrition assistance to 222,000 refugees targeted in four regions (Adamawa, East, North and Far North regions).

Donors

Donors to WFP Cameroon's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2022–2026 include Cameroon, Canada, the European Commission, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland, various United Nations agencies, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the United States of America, the World Bank and additional private donors.