



SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Northwest-Southwest Crisis Response

Operational Context

The Northwest and Southwest (NWSW) regions of Cameroon have been caught up in armed conflict between State Security Forces and Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) since 2017. The conflict has triggered a serious humanitarian crisis, with over 583,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs).

The deteriorating security situation caused by escalating hostilities between the two sides has continued to affect households' food security, especially the displaced populations and farming households, who are already extremely vulnerable due to the disruption of their livelihood activities. Furthermore, due to increasing insecurity and

consequent movement restrictions, humanitarian access remains a major challenge.

According to the March 2025 Cadre Harmonisé results, 613,250 people in the Northwest and Southwest regions are expected to be severely food-insecure between June and August 2025. This represents 12.4 percent of the population. Although there is a drop of six percent compared to the same period in 2024, the situation remains seriously concerning, especially in the Northwest, which accounts for two-thirds of the affected people. Additionally, the number of people (43,280) in IPC level 4 (extreme) increased in 2025 compared to 2,190 people in 2024.

June 2025

WFP Response

In response to the needs of the affected populations in the Northwest and Southwest regions, WFP has been collaborating with the Government to provide assistance since 2018. WFP implements an integrated package of life-saving emergency food assistance through food and cash-based transfers, enabling the assisted people to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs. WFP activities are implemented within the framework of the WFP Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026).

The beneficiaries comprise IDPs, returnees, people living with special needs, including people living with HIV (PLHIV), vulnerable local communities, children aged 6 to 23 months, and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G) in the Northwest and Southwest.

Respect, dignity, protection, and accountability to affected people (AAP) are key elements of WFP's interventions. The organisation operates a call centre that is accessible through a toll-free number and is available 24 hours a day to receive feedback from beneficiaries.

	583,100	Internally displaced persons (IDPs)
	613,250	Acutely Food-Insecure People Jun-Aug 2025
	300,856	WFP CSP Plan
	44,756	People Reached January-April 2025
	\$ 18.6 million	85% Net Funding Requirement for July-December 2025

BENEFICIARY AND DISTRIBUTION FIGURES – NWSW RESPONSE

Indicator	2022	2023	2024
People who received in-kind food assistance	232,998	237,074	105,452
Returnees and Residents who received in-kind food assistance	166,563	166,851	72,430
IDPS who received in-kind food assistance	66,435	70,223	33,022
People who received cash assistance	61,158	77,961	71,424
Residents and returnees who receive cash assistance	30,610	43,869	42,609
IDPs who receive cash assistance	30,548	34,092	28,815
People reached with malnutrition prevention and treatment support	17,703	19,357	26,345
Total food distributed (metric tonnage)	11,719	13,964	3,090
Total cash amounts distributed (USD)	3.7 million	4.7 million	3.9 million

UNCONDITIONAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

WFP provides unconditional and integrated food assistance to crisis-affected people, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, and host communities in the Northwest and Southwest regions. Assistance enables the beneficiaries to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs, preventing further deterioration of their food and nutrition insecurity. Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) accompanies food assistance to promote food and nutrition security awareness, encourage families to purchase and eat diverse diets, and promote good sanitation, hygiene, and

gender equality. As part of the emergency nutrition support to reduce the incidence of malnutrition in children aged 6-23 months, WFP partners conduct door-to-door community screening in targeted communities for early detection and referral of children.

According to the June 2024 WFP post-distribution monitoring (PDM) results, 38 percent of respondents achieved an acceptable food consumption score compared to 41 percent in February 2024, with households receiving assistance in cash having a higher score (41 percent) than those in kind (35 percent).



EARLY RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE STRENGTHENING

As part of its support towards early recovery among the affected communities and strengthening their resilience to future shocks, WFP implements food assistance for asset creation activities through community-based approaches. Smallholder farmers organised in cooperatives participate in the cultivation of community farms, poultry farming,

fish farming, and the construction of storage facilities. In the Southwest alone, cooperatives raised and sold 3,584 chicks for approximately CFA 13 million within a few months, reinvesting the income in additional batches of birds. Furthermore, WFP organised practical training sessions with small producers to build their capacities and facilitate their access to sustainable markets.

NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT SUPPORT

WFP contributes to building the resilience of vulnerable populations and supporting malnutrition prevention in children under five years old, pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G), and people living with HIV (PLHIV). Beneficiaries receive specialised nutritious foods to complement their dietary intake and participate in integrated complementary activities, counselling and gender-sensitive SBCC interventions that address the underlying causes of malnutrition.

WFP applies a multi-sectoral and multi-actor integrated package approach, working with local producers and partners to support the local production of nutritious foods and increase their

accessibility. WFP integrated cash-based transfers to PBW/G to enable them to seek better health services and afford more nutritious food.

To improve knowledge and practices in healthy nutrition, WFP supports the creation and maintenance of Action and Support groups PLHIV and PBW/G. These groups conduct cooking demonstrations, educational sessions, counselling and hygiene sessions.

The June 2024 PDM results showed that 17 percent of children aged 6-23 months achieved a minimum acceptable diet, a significant increase from approximately 11 percent in February 2024.

HOME-GROWN SCHOOL FEEDING (HGSF)

In 2024, WFP began implementing home-grown school feeding (HGSF) in primary schools in the Northwest and Southwest regions to complement the Government's efforts towards reaching one million children by 2025.

This initiative provides cooked, nutritious meals to school children, often the only meal the children eat during the school day. It incentivises parents to enrol their children in school and enhances attendance and retention. It has a multiplier effect of minimising adverse risks, such as early or forced

marriages and forced recruitment by criminal gangs (radicalisation).

The meals are prepared from locally sourced food items, which increases the scale and profit margin of local producers. To further develop the food systems in these communities, WFP and partners worked with the local population to create school gardens and demonstration plots, where participants were trained in improved farming techniques and post-harvest management. WFP also facilitated the registration of farmer groups into cooperatives and the creation of village savings and loan groups to enhance their financial independence.

JANUARY-APRIL 2025 REACH

ACTIVITIES	People Reached	% Female	Food (MT)/Cash (USD)
General food assistance	21,550	52%	62 MT/\$ 883
Nutrition assistance	11,645	54%	46 MT
HGSF	10,470	56%	\$174,800
Early Recovery assistance	1,090	60%	\$13,730

Photo page 1: WFP/Marvis Asah

Photo page 2: WFP/SHUMAS staff (Cooperating Partner)

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