



SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# CAR Crisis Response

## Operational Context

Cameroon has been experiencing influxes of refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR) fleeing political instability and violence from non-state armed groups. By March 2025, there were approximately 284,000 CAR refugees, mainly in the East, Adamawa and North regions. From the start of the voluntary repatriation drive until March, approximately 16,000 refugees have returned to CAR.

The protracted presence of refugees in these three regions exerts pressure on natural resources and social services, worsening pre-existing vulnerabilities of the host communities and stretching the Government's capacity to respond. The prolonged effects of conflicts, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the

price increases resulting from the global economic crisis have exacerbated the food insecurity situation in these regions.

According to the results of the March 2025 *Cadre Harmonisé* analysis, approximately 452,700 people are projected to be severely food insecure during the projected period from June to August 2025.


Furthermore, the East, Adamawa and North regions have persistently high rates of malnutrition. According to the SMART survey (2022), the rate of chronic malnutrition in children under five in these regions is 36.1 percent. Additionally, according to the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS, 2018), over 38 percent of children under the age of five are stunted.

June 2025

# WFP Response

WFP has been responding to the food and nutrition needs of the Central African Republic (CAR) refugees and vulnerable local populations in the East, Adamawa and North regions since 2008. WFP enables vulnerable people to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs, recover from the effects of crisis, strengthen their resilience to withstand shocks, and build social cohesion. WFP also responds to the nutritional needs of children suffering from malnutrition, pregnant and breastfeeding women/girls (PBW/G) and people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV), as part of an integrated complementary package that includes behaviour change interventions.

Respect, dignity, protection, and accountability to affected people (AAP) are key elements of WFP's interventions. WFP runs a 24-hour toll-free hotline to receive feedback from beneficiaries.

	283,500	Central African Republic (CAR) refugees
	452,700	Acutely Food-Insecure People Jun-Aug 2025
	228,400	WFP CSP Plan
	124,115	People Reached January-April 2025
	\$ 14.2 million	75% Net Funding Requirement for July-December 2025

## BENEFICIARY AND DISTRIBUTION FIGURES – CAR RESPONSE

Indicator	2022	2023	2024
<b>People who received in-kind food assistance</b>	<b>69,698</b>	<b>122,230</b>	<b>62,753</b>
Refugees who received in-kind food assistance	60,201	88,678	43,305
IDPS and Residents who received in-kind food assistance	9,497	33,552	19,448
<b>People who received cash assistance</b>	<b>6,116</b>	<b>65,896</b>	<b>115,682</b>
People reached with malnutrition prevention and treatment support	3,634	38,418	16,311
People reached through food assistance for asset creation	11,006	27,679	43,123
<b>Total food distributed (metric tonnage)</b>	<b>3,471</b>	<b>4,891</b>	<b>1,418</b>
<b>Total cash amounts distributed (USD)</b>	<b>3.9 million</b>	<b>5.0 million</b>	<b>2.96 million</b>





## UNCONDITIONAL EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

WFP's unconditional assistance enables CAR refugees and the vulnerable host population to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs, preventing their food security situation from worsening. This emergency assistance comprises lifesaving support, enhanced malnutrition prevention interventions, resilience-building for early recovery, and social and behaviour change communication measures across all activities.

In 2024, WFP assisted about 96,000 CAR refugees and residents with food and cash as emergency assistance. Forty-five percent of beneficiaries received cash assistance, which enabled them to diversify their food choices and stimulate the local economy. Refugees made up 75 percent of the beneficiaries.

According to WFP's June 2024 post-distribution monitoring (PDM) results, 31 percent of surveyed respondents achieved an acceptable food consumption score compared to 42 percent in February 2024. Notably households receiving assistance in kind have a higher score (33 percent) than those assisted through cash transfers (31 percent).

## HOME-GROWN SCHOOL FEEDING (HGSF) INITIATIVE

WFP continues to complement the Government's efforts in implementing the school feeding programme in primary schools in the East and Adamawa regions. This initiative provides daily, cooked, and nutritious meals to schoolchildren, often the only meal they eat during the school day.

This initiative 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), while providing opportunities for communities to benefit from the advantages of improved educational levels.

WFP provided nutritious meals to more than 45,200 children under the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) initiative in 2024 compared to 8,300 in 2023. The meals are prepared from locally sourced food items, including yoghurt, bread made from cassava or potato flour, eggs, porridge from locally produced cereals, vegetables, and pulses. Consequently, the scale and profit margin of local farmers and producers increased.

## MALNUTRITION PREVENTION

WFP supports the resilience-building of vulnerable people through malnutrition prevention interventions in children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G), and people living with HIV (PLHIV). Beneficiaries receive specialized nutritious foods (SNFs) to complement their dietary intake and participate in integrated complementary nutrition activities, counselling, and gender-sensitive behaviour change interventions that address the underlying causes of malnutrition.

In 2024, WFP assisted 16,300 people, including 105 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G) through cash transfers, enabling them to access better health services and afford more nutritious foods.

WFP applies a multi-sectoral and multi-actor integrated approach, working with local producers to produce nutritious foods. WFP and its partners are implementing community-based nutrition-sensitive preventive activities, such as supporting the creation and maintenance of Action and Support groups for PBW/G and PLHIV. They also establish systems for malnutrition prevention, screening, referrals, and treatment using locally available nutritious food.

The June 2024 PDM results showed that 19 percent of children aged 6-23 months achieved a minimum acceptable diet, a significant increase from 13 percent in February 2024.

## EARLY RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE STRENGTHENING

As part of 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.

## CAMEROON COUNTRY OFFICE

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The aim is to support smallholder farmers in nutrition-sensitive and income-oriented agriculture, increase access to sustainable markets and encourage the use of fortified seeds. Communities participate in the rehabilitation of roads, cultivation of community farms, fish farming, and food processing and preservation in exchange for WFP food and cash assistance. In 2024, WFP supported more than 43,100 people with asset creation initiatives.

## JANUARY-APRIL 2025 REACH

ACTIVITIES	People Reached	% Female	Food (MT)/Cash (USD)
General food assistance	32,855	54%	31 MT/\$ 570,400
Nutrition assistance	20,010	53%	94 MT/\$ 2,400
HGSF	20,325	48%	\$287,600
Early Recovery assistance	50,925	54%	300 MT/\$ 327,000

Photo page 1: WFP/APROSPEN (Cooperating Partner) staff  
Photo page 2: WFP/Emily Pinna