



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cameroon Country Brief August - September 2021



In Numbers

4,720 mt of food distributed

USD 672,398 cash transfer value distributed

USD 42 million (September 2021 to February 2022) net funding requirements

531,535 people (295,484 women) assisted in August 2021



Operational Updates

North-West/South-West L2 response

- Under its crisis response operations, in the North-West and South-West regions, WFP distributed 1,608 mt of food to 199,091 beneficiaries as unconditional resource transfer (URT).
- As part of its malnutrition prevention programme WFP also provided 48 mt of specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) to 8,074 children aged 6-59 months and to 5,498 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs).

Lake Chad response

- Similarly, in the Far North Region, WFP supported 138,022 beneficiaries with 1,929 mt of food and USD 236,500 cash transfers as URT. WFP also provided 192 mt of SNFs to 24,779 children aged 6-59 months.
- To promote resilience, WFP provided 106 mt of food to 9,683 beneficiaries. Some food for assets activities include 3,500 metres of irrigation canals; 10 water points for animals, barns, 8000 trees planted, 170 hectares of community farms, etc.

Central African Republic refugees' response

- In the East, Adamawa and North regions, WFP distributed 423 mt of food and transferred USD 408,268 cash to 90,025 beneficiaries as URT. WFP further distributed a total of 132 mt of SNFs to 34,185 of children aged 6-59 months for malnutrition prevention and 1,586 for treatment.
- To enable refugees build their resilience through assets creation, WFP provided 282 mt of food and distributed USD 27,630 cash transfers to 20,592 beneficiaries.

Economic Empowerment of Refugees and PLHIV

- WFP developed a package of income generating activities to ensure sustainability of its nutrition treatment programme in favour of malnourished people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) in the East Region. These activities are woven around village savings and loan associations (VSLA) to initiate and scale up various income generating activities. Currently, 37 of these groups mainly comprise of women are functional and are in the process of being legalized as cooperatives to facilitate access to financial services and increase their bargaining power for the sale of their products. WFP provided food processing equipment to enable them to transform their crops, like cassava, into consumable forms with longer shelf-life, thus increasing their market value.

Seasonal assistance

- Long periods of dryness followed by flooding usually affect crop production in the Far North Region. WFP provided support to vulnerable populations during the lean season to enable them to maintain their nutritional in-take and avoid resorting to negative coping strategies. In August 2021, food distribution as lean season support to 29,994 beneficiaries was launched in the Mayo Sava, Mayo Tsanaga and Logone et Chari Divisions of the Far North Region.

Operational Context

An estimated 40 percent of Cameroon's 27.2 million people live below the poverty line and human development index remains low (0.563 compared to a global average of 0.737 (UNDP, 2020). The country has been significantly affected by three complex crises: armed conflict between non-state armed groups and state forces is escalating in the North West and South West regions; non-State armed groups (NSAGs) insurgency in the Lake Chad Basin resulting in an influx of refugees from Nigeria as well as internal displacements in the Far North Region and the influx of Central African Republic (CAR) refugees in the East, Adamawa, and North regions. These resulted in over 1 million internally displaced people and more than 449,000 refugees.

The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP March 2021) revealed that 4.4 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in Cameroon, with more than 1.9 million being food insecure between June and August 2021.

The vulnerabilities have been aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Centre for Disease Control, CDC, as of 19 October 2021 there were 98,402 confirmed cases and 1,550 COVID-related deaths reported since the pandemic began.

WFP carries out emergency food assistance and nutrition support in all the three crises, while building the resilience and livelihoods of host populations. WFP has been present in Cameroon since 1978.



Population: 27.2 million

Income Level: Lower middle

2019 Human Development Index: 153 out of 189

Severe acute malnutrition: 1.6% of children under 5 years

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Photo: Fish harvesting from one of WFP supported community ponds in the Far North region

Credit: WFP/Glory Ndaka (August 2021)

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

2021 Total Requirement (in USD)	2021 Available Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
143.3 m	83 m	42 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Populations affected by disasters, including refugees, IDPs and host populations in the Far North, North, Adamawa, East, North West and South West regions have safe access to adequate and nutritious food during and after crises.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide unconditional food assistance with accompanying social and behavioral change communication for vulnerable households affected by disaster.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable households in protracted displacement and communities at risk in chronically food-insecure areas have safe year-round access to adequate and nutritious food and increase their resilience to shocks.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide school feeding and a home-grown school feeding pilot for primary schoolchildren in target regions.
- Provide targeted seasonal food assistance to food-insecure host populations during lean seasons to address short-term hunger gaps.
- Provide food assistance to support early recovery and community resilience, environmental protection and adaptation in target communities.

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Children aged 6-59 months and vulnerable women and men in food-insecure prioritized districts have reduced malnutrition rates in line with national standards by 2020.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Implement malnutrition prevention activities including BSF for children aged 6-59 months, treatment of MAM for children aged 24-59 months and food by prescription for malnourished ART patients.
- Train community health workers in malnutrition prevention through multi-sectoral coordination systems and partnerships.
- Enhance capacities in health districts to implement the joint action plan and support SUN.

Strategic Result 3: Improve small holders' productivity

Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure smallholders, especially women, in prioritized districts of the Far North, North, Adamawa and East regions have sustainably increased incomes to enhance their self-reliance and livelihoods and improve their productivity.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance for small-scale farmers and cooperatives – prioritizing women's representation and leadership – in post-harvest management and value-chain opportunities, in collaboration with IFAD and FAO.

Strategic Result 5: Capacity strengthening

Strategic Outcome 5: The Government's work to achieve Zero Hunger is supported by effective partnerships by 2030.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide technical expertise to Government and partners to plan and coordinate work for zero hunger, including early warning, preparedness and food security and nutrition response, national nutrition-sensitive, shock-responsive and gender-responsive safety net systems, and provide common management of information technology, warehouses and delivery corridors.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership

Strategic Outcome 6: The humanitarian community and development partners in Cameroon have access to common services until appropriate and sustainable alternatives are available and reliable all year

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide safe and reliable air services for the humanitarian community until alternatives are available.
- Provide supply chain services to humanitarian and development partners, including transport, storage of food and non-food items.

UNHAS

- UNHAS transported 464 passengers on two routes in August: Bamenda and Maroua/N'Djamena, bringing the total number of passengers transported in 2021 to 3,316. Overall, 0.85 mt of cargo was also transported in September.
- Negotiations with the Government are ongoing for the resumption of flights to the Tiko airport.

Security situation in the Lake Chad

- In August, there was a bloody conflict resulting from a dispute over a water source between two tribes in the Logone Birni Division of the Far North Region. One of the tribes is predominantly comprised of grazers and another of farmers and fishermen. This resulted in the displacement of about 11,891 people to Chad and many others internally. The internally displaced people (IDPs) returned to their villages of origin, where the situation is stabilizing, and humanitarian activities resumed. WFP will provide a one-off food assistance to about 12,600 IDPs affected by this conflict.

Targeting

- Vulnerability targeting is at the verification/validation stage with about 80,000 households profiled in the NWSW. Approximately 500,000 people classified as vulnerable of whom 250,000 are being assisted due to limited resources. Profiling of 6,000 households for COVID-19 response has also started.
- In the Far North, 7,304 households were profiled for seasonal assistance, and another 9,517 households are scheduled to be profiled for the other activities.

Funding Update

- As of October 2021, WFP urgently needs additional USD 4.4 million to assist some 59,000 in-camp refugees in the CAR crisis through cash-based transfers.

Donors

Donors to WFP Cameroon in 2021 include Canada, China, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States. Additional support was provided by UN CERF, and private donors