



## WFP Cameroon Country Brief

## Highlights

- On 20 July, WFP delivered a first convoy of food supplies to displaced people in Banki (NE Nigeria) in a UN led cross-border operation from Cameroon.
- In July, emergency food assistance was provided to 285,000 people in Cameroon with 4,000 mt of food and USD 600,000 in cash.
- From September onwards, WFP plans to scale up support to an additional 20,000 IDPs in the Logone and Chari departments, while in Mora 8,000 additional IDPs will shift from in-kind to cash based food assistance.

### WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
<b>Emergency Food Assistance to refugees, IDPs, and Host Populations in the Far North</b>			
Regional EMOP 200777 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2016)	83.2 m	54.6 m	15.4 m (67%)
<b>Emergency Food Assistance to refugees from C.A.R</b>			
Regional EMOP 200799 (Jan 2015– Dec 2016)	85.6 m	54.4 m	19.4 m (100%)
<b>Country Programme – Providing food security and stability in Cameroon</b>			
CP 200330 (Jan 2013 –Dec 2017)	21.5 m	6.1 m (28%)	2.2m (100%)
<b>UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)</b>			
SO 200895 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2016)	7.1 m	4.2 m (59%)	1.3m (29%)

\*August 2016 – January 2017

Conflicts in both Nigeria and Central African Republic (C.A.R.) have displaced thousands of people into Cameroon, and the spill over from Boko Haram's attacks in Nigeria has provoked a humanitarian crisis in the Far North region. WFP responds to these simultaneous crisis in Cameroon through a mix of relief, recovery and development activities: In addition to its ongoing emergency responses assisting refugees from C.A.R. and Nigeria, IDPs and targeted local populations, WFP is supporting the Government in the implementation of its development and recovery priorities in the structurally poor northern part of the country.

**EMOP 200777:** The Emergency Operation addresses critical food and nutrition needs of households affected by the Lake Chad Basin Crisis, including Nigerian refugees, IDPs and targeted vulnerable local populations in areas of the Far North region impacted by the Boko Haram crisis. In collaboration with the Government and partner agencies, WFP is transitioning a portion of assistance towards cash and recovery activities to support investment in livelihood assets and resilience building efforts.

**Main Photo** Credit: WFP/Sofia Engdahl  
Caption: IDP woman receiving mobile phone and SIM card for electronic cash transfers. WFP distribution site in Mora, Far North region.

A budget revision of EMOP 200777 is underway to augment the IDP beneficiary caseload following increased needs on the ground. Food assistance will be extended to an additional 20,000 IDPs, bringing the total IDP population target to 113,000 people.

**EMOP 200799:** WFP supports refugee populations located along border regions of C.A.R. (East, Adamawa and North regions) through in-kind/cash based food assistance. Children and pregnant and nursing women amongst refugees and host populations receive nutrition support aimed at preventing and treating moderate acute malnutrition. Additionally, nutrition assistance is provided to malnourished individuals living with HIV through the Food by Prescription Programme.

**CP 200330:** The Country Programme, implemented in the northern regions, aims to support the government's efforts in addressing food and nutrition challenges; mitigates the effects of climate shocks, supporting social protection safety nets and sustainable management of community grain stocks, and promotes primary education, especially for girls. The Government supports the Country Programme through an annual in-kind contribution of maize.

**UNHAS 200895:** WFP's Humanitarian air service operation ensures access, and safe and reliable air transport services for over 30 humanitarian agencies in Cameroon. The flights link Maroua, Ngaoundere and Garoua from its base in Yaoundé, as well as N'Djamena with support from UNHAS Chad.

### In Numbers

2.7 m people affected

2.3 m food insecure

339,000 Refugees

190,000 IDPs

285,000  
People Assisted  
July 2016

51%



49%



July 2016

## Operational Updates

**Far North Region (Lake Chad Crisis):** The needs in the Far North region are continuously growing with new rounds of attacks. From September onwards, WFP plans to scale up support to an additional 20,000 IDPs in the Logone and Chari department, while in Mora 8,000 additional IDPs will shift from in-kind to cash based food assistance. WFP is working in close collaboration with ICRC to ensure reaching all the displaced people in need.

As the lean season peaks and food becomes scarce, WFP closely monitors food security trends and market developments to ensure adequate response. The targeting strategy has been reassessed to ensure food assistance reach those most in need. Highly vulnerable groups such as households led by women are primary recipients of assistance, comprising 70 percent of households targeted for cash activities.

Food and nutrition supplement distributions in July were slightly delayed and will continue into the month of August. With the rainy season underway, a two months food ration is being prepositioned in Logone & Chari during August distribution cycle to ensure food assistance reach the most remote communities as roads becomes impassable.

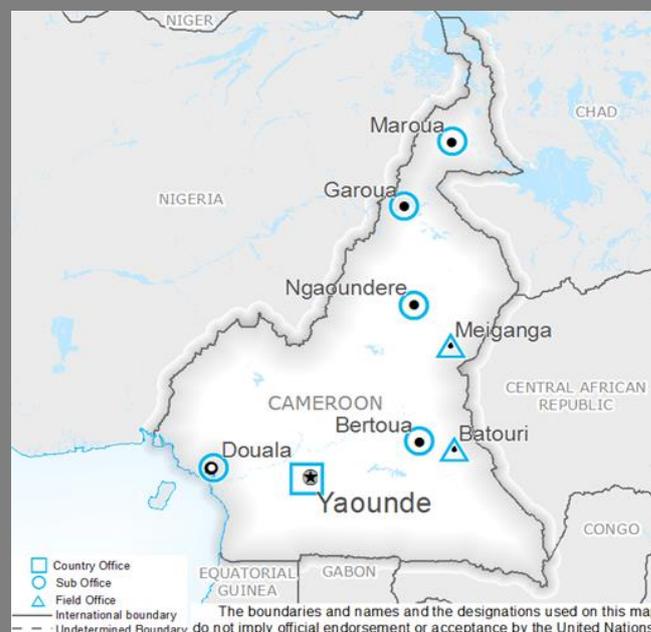
**Eastern Cameroon (C.A.R refugee crisis):** In eastern Cameroon, WFP and UNHCR started preparations for the Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) to gauge the food security and nutrition situation of C.A.R refugees. Recommendations from the mission will inform the future food assistance response to the refugees and potentials for greater self-reliance.

WFP in collaboration with partners has introduced a reinforced feedback and complaint mechanism to manage accountability towards the people assisted and inform programme adjustment. As of July 2016, a telephone hotline is operational in the east and the Far North region, for people to express their complaints and feedback anonymously.

## Challenges

- Insecurity and poor road conditions remain the main challenges for delivery of assistance.
- Urgent new resources are needed from October onwards to continue assistance to vulnerable Central African and Nigerian refugees, IDPs and targeted local populations. The number of IDPs in need has significantly surpassed WFP planning figures, further impacting the already strained funding situation.
- Food stocks under the Country Programme are exhausted and activities remain temporarily suspended. New resources are needed urgently for WFP to continue support the government's priorities in food security, nutrition and primary education.

## Country Background & Strategy



Nearly 40 percent of Cameroon's population lives below the poverty line and human development indicators remain low. Poverty has a strong regional dimension concentrated in North, Far North, Adamawa and East regions.

Cameroon's northern regions located in the Sahel area are the most deprived, in which communities have suffered years of continued natural disasters and below average harvests, with little means to resist the continuous cycle of shocks. In 2015, food insecurity reached alarming levels: 2.3 million people are food insecure in the four poorest regions— over 60 percent of whom are located in the Far North, where 1 in 3 people are moderately or severely food insecure. In border areas of Nigeria where Boko Haram insurgents operate, the number of people facing food insecurity more than doubled between June and September last year.

Similarly, the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey conducted by UNICEF in 2015 indicates an increase in malnutrition rates in the Far North, from 7 percent in 2014 to 11.7 percent in 2015. Furthermore, stunting is a major public health issue in northern Cameroon, well above the WHO critical threshold.

Through the implementation of a coherent country portfolio of relief, recovery and development assistance activities in Cameroon, WFP aims to reduce the impact of humanitarian crisis and support the government's efforts in achieving zero hunger.

WFP has been present in Cameroon since 1978.

Population: **22 million**

2015 Human Development Index:  
**153 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **35.8% of children between 6-59 months**

## Donors

USA, UK, EU, Japan, UN CERF, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Canada, France, Switzerland, Finland, Luxembourg, Cameroon.