

# Cameroon MCO

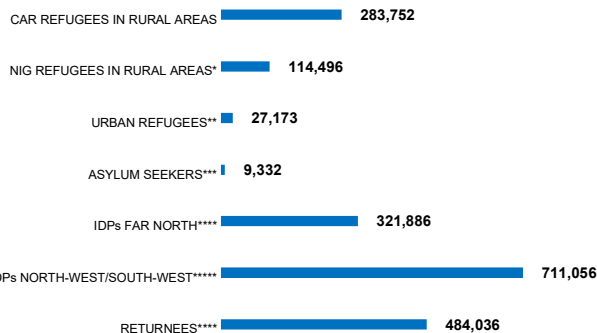
(Multi Country Operation - Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, and Sao Tome &amp; Principe)

SEPTEMBER 2020

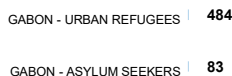
- On 24 September 2020, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) endorsed the final version of the Protection Sector Roadmap for 2020-21. The roadmap outlines objectives and expected results to strengthen the protection coordination both at sector and HCT levels.
- After a five-month suspension, registration activities for urban refugees and asylum seekers in urban areas have resumed thanks to the COVID19 protective measures set in place at the offices of the *Secrétariat Technique des Organes de Gestion du Statut des réfugiés*, the government body in charge of registering asylum applications and preparing the dossiers for the Eligibility commission.
- UNHCR and WFP published the evaluation study on the socio-economic impact of COVID19 on the food security of central African refugees in the Eastern region. The main objective of the survey is to assess the socio-economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on the livelihoods of refugees and to propose an emergency and medium-term response plan.
- The security situation in the Far North region and in the North West and South West regions continue to remain precarious. Attacks perpetrated by non-state armed groups (NSAGs) and continuous military confrontations with government armed forces caused casualties and displacement among the civilian population. Additionally, heavy flooding thwart the capacity of civilians to secure food supplies and pose great limitations in the access of humanitarian partners to the affected population. In the city of Douala, the heavy rains and flooding impacted 231 refugee households (934 individuals). Among them, 147 are single female-headed households.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2020)

### Cameroon



### Gabon



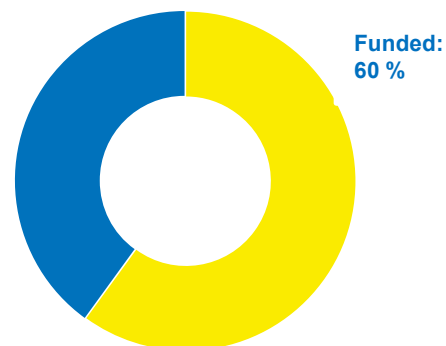
#### Statistics Figures Sources & Dates

- Cameroon Refugees & Asylum seekers figures, UNHCR Cameroon, 31 August 2020
- Gabon Refugees & Asylum seekers figures, UNHCR, 31 August 2020
- IDPs & returnees' figures, IOM & OCHA, 31 August 2020

## FUNDING (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2020)

USD 100.1 million

Requested for Cameroon MCO in 2020



## UNHCR FOOTPRINT

- 222 National Staff
- 63 International Staff
- 01 Branch Office in Yaoundé
- 03 Sub Offices: Bertoua, Maroua, Bamenda;
- 04 Field Offices: Batouri, Meiganga, Douala and Buea;
- 03 Field Units – Kousseri, Djohong, Touborro;
- 01 Field Office in Libreville, Gabon



## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Protection

- Regarding voluntary repatriation, UNHCR Dakar, Bangui and Yaoundé agreed to support the repatriation 1500 refugees from Central African Republic (CAR) between November and December 2020 (100 CAR refugees currently living in urban areas will benefit of the support for voluntary repatriation by plane).
- Thanks to the partial opening of the Cameroonian borders, two (02) refugees from Central African Republic (CAR) resettled to the USA. Resettlement files for 17 other refugees have been submitted to the same country whilst a case of four (04) refugees was submitted to Canada.
- 52 officers of the immigration service received a three (03) day training on international protection principles. The training focused on State's responsibility for refugee protection and promoted a better collaboration with UNHCR.
- The local authorities have identified a relocation site for the newly arrived refugees from the CAR. This site is located in Bogoda, Dir municipality, in the Adamawa region. A joint assessment mission was conducted by the local authorities, UNHCR, WFP and other partners to evaluate the designated location. The site has an absorption capacity of about 1000 persons, provided the capacity of its existing infrastructures is strengthened. 250 hectares of land have been allocated for housing and agricultural activities. So far, 2,973 new arrivals from CAR have been registered as of September 2020
- 145 migrants were intercepted at sea by the Gabonese authorities and held in the administrative detention centre under the DGD (Direction Generale la Documentation et pour l'Immigration, reporting to the Ministry of Internal Affairs). The group of migrants consists of 24 minors (20 unaccompanied); 45 women and 46 adult males. The migrants were all undocumented and claimed to come from Benin, Togo, Cameroun, Niger, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali. While the authorities have requested material support from the UN to meet the basic needs, no registration, profiling and identification of persons with specific needs (including potential asylum seekers and victims of trafficking) was conducted by the authorities and the migrants were returned to Benin and Togo.

### Education

- Two missions were organized to monitor educational activities of DAFI scholarship beneficiaries respectively in Bertoua (student from the pilot language center) and in Meiganga (students from The University of Ngaoundéré). The objective of the exercise was to meet with education partners and students and to discuss about on-going activities and perspectives, also challenges faced by scholarship beneficiaries.

### Humanitarian-Nexus-Development

- The integrated approach of the World Bank IDA 18 refugees sub-window was launched in the East and in the North regions on 1st and 3rd September 2020 respectively. The funding is articulated on four projects, namely the Education Reform Support Project (PAREC), Health System Performance Reinforcement Project (PRPSS), Social Safety Net Project (PFS) and Community Development Program Support Project (PNDP). The projects rely on the centrality of Municipalities as main catalyst for linking operational coordination with the municipal development plans and ensuring the inclusion of forcibly displaced in the overall development of the area.
- In Gabon, the National Commission for Refugees (*Commission Nationale pour les réfugiés*) is conducting a monitoring on financed activities to assess the impact on the social-economic integration of refugees. According to preliminary findings, activities set in place by refugees seem to be extremely precarious and unable to resist to sudden shocks (such as the imposed restrictions for COVID19), mostly due to inability to generate revenue to reinvest in the strengthening of the business and/or in contingency business savings. Moreover, a large number of business activities remain in the informal economy, due to unwillingness and/or inability of refugees to pay taxes to register their business.

### Shelter /Core Relief Items (CRIs)

- On 11 September, in the Far North region, UNHCR responded to the needs of IDPs from Nguetchewe who were forcefully displaced due to Boko Haram attacks. Core relief items including mats, soap, masks, mosquito nets and kitchen sets were distributed to 1,950 beneficiaries (1110 IDPs). CRIs include also COVID19 protective equipment.
- 681 out of 740 transitional shelter were completed for CAR refugees with the support and participation of the community. The implementation rate for shelter is at 92% as of 04 September 2020. Among the completed transitional shelters, 151 were dedicated to people with specific needs.

### Coordination

- On 30 September 2020, the office of UNHCR - Kousséri participated in the joint UNDP / UNHCR descent in Tilde. The objective of this descent was to locate a site for the construction of a borehole for the internally displaced persons living in Tilde to improve the water supply for the displaced populations and host communities living in the village.
- In Gabon, discussions with UN agencies took place for the finalization of the Common Country Assessment (CCA) including post-Covid socio-economic recovery plan, with the aim to set-up basis of the new Cooperation Framework with Gabon (new generation UNDAF) in 2021. UNHCR and IOM are tasked to produce the note related to protection of foreign population in the country.

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## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

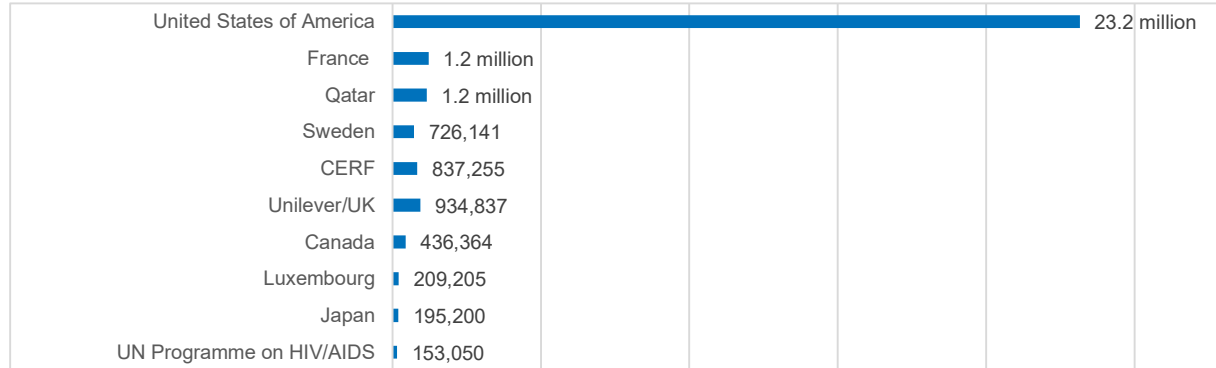
MCO Cameroon is implementing its Protection and Solutions Strategy in close collaboration with:

- **Governmental Partners:** Ministries of External Relations, Territorial Administration, Economy, Planning and Regional Development, Public Health, Women's Empowerment and the Family, Social Affairs, Justice, Basic Education, Water and Energy, Youth and Civic Education, the National Employment Fund, the *Secrétariat Technique des Organes de Gestion du Statut des réfugiés* and others.
- **Implementing Partners:** Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), *Agence pour le Développement Economique et Social* (ADES), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), FAIRMED, International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), Intersos, International Medical Corps (IMC), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Plan International, *Première Urgence - Internationale* (PUI) and Public Concern.
- **Operational Partners:** ICRC, Adventist Relief Agency (ADRA), ASOL, Red Deporte, IEDA Relief, Action Contre la Faim (ACF), *Solidarités Internationales* and CARE International. The enhancement of the partnership with operational partners is key for the operation.
- **Development Partners:** World Bank, African Development Bank, DEVCO, *Alliance Française de Développement* and *Coopération Suisse*. UNHCR MCO Cameroon is working with these partners for the implementation of the humanitarian development nexus approach to foster durable solutions for persons of concern and host communities.
- **UN Agencies:** WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UN Women, FAO, UNESCO, IOM, UNDP and UNOCHA.
- **Operational coordination:** Response to the Central African refugee situation is managed in line with the Refugee Coordination Model which foresees the engagement of local authorities in managing refugee situations. At the capital-level, UNHCR leads the Multi-Sector Operations Team for Refugee Response and the national Protection Working Group, and actively participates in other relevant humanitarian coordination mechanisms as well as the Humanitarian Country Team and the United Nations Country Team. In the North West and South West regions, UNHCR is part of the humanitarian response ensuring the leadership in the Protection and Shelter/NFI Clusters for the delivery of protection solutions to IDPs. In the Far North, given the mixed situation (IDP, returnees and refugees), the Coordination is under the lead of the regional authorities with UNHCR as co-lead.
- **MCO Cameroon:** From January 2020, UNHCR Cameroon area of operational responsibility has extended to mandate activities in Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome & Principe. In the three countries, UNHCR is part of the United Nations Country teams. In Gabon UNHCR works in partnership with the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) and coordinates with General Directorate for Documentation and Immigration (Ministry of Internal Affairs); National Technical Committee for Statelessness (Ministry of Justice).

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR MCO Cameroon is grateful for the enormous support provided by donors who have contributed to its operation in Cameroon and Gabon as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

### EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD 29,03 million for MCO Cameroon



### Other Softly Earmarked Contributions | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of earmarked and regional funds

Germany 62.7 million | United States of America 46.8 million | United Kingdom 24.8 million | Denmark 14.6 million | Canada 10.2 million | Private donors Australia 8.4 million | Private donors USA 7.7 million | Private donors Germany 4.5 million | Private donors Japan 4.4 million | Spain 3.4 million | Ireland 3.3 million | Sweden 3 million | France 2.8 million | Private donors United Kingdom 2.3 million Holy

### Unearmarked Contributions | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Sweden 76.4 million | Private donors Spain 52.9 million | Norway 41.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 27.2 million | Germany 25.9 million | Private donors Japan 21 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | France 14 million | Private donors Italy 12.4 million | Italy 10.6 million | Private donors Sweden 10.5 million

### Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Algeria | Argentina | Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan | Belgium | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Islamic Republic of Pakistan | Kuwait | Latvia | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors.



### CONTACTS

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**LINKS:** <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/cmr> – Twitter: @RefugeesCmr – Facebook: UNHCR Cameroun – Instagram: Cameroon