

CAMEROON MCO

(Multi-country Operation for Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome & Principe)

Cameroon hosts **1,945,491 persons of concern to UNHCR**: 446,792 refugees and asylum seekers, 1,032,942 internally displaced persons (IDPs), (321,886 in the Far North and 711,056 in the North West and South West regions), and 465,757 returnees (former IDPs). **Gabon** hosts **472 refugees and 62 asylum seekers**.

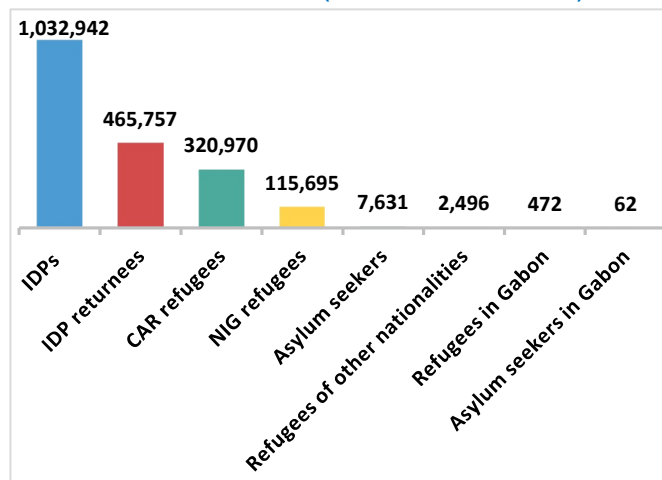
The voluntary repatriation of Nigerian refugees in the Far North region began, with **2,436 individuals leaving the Minawao camp** in four convoys, for **Banki and Bama in Borno State, Nigeria** during the reporting period. The returns happened according to terms agreed on by the tripartite commission on voluntary repatriation, consisting of UNHCR, Governments of Nigeria and Cameroon.

Frequent clashes between state and non-state armed groups (NSAGs) continued in the North West and South West regions. These, combined with incidents involving the use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), abductions, and killings, **led to the displacement of hundreds of civilians** in both regions.

Statistics Figures Sources & Dates

- Cameroon refugee & asylum seeker figures, UNHCR Cameroon, 31 March 2021
- Gabon refugees & asylum seeker figures, UNHCR, 31 March 2021
- IDP & returnee figures, IOM & OCHA, 31 March 2021

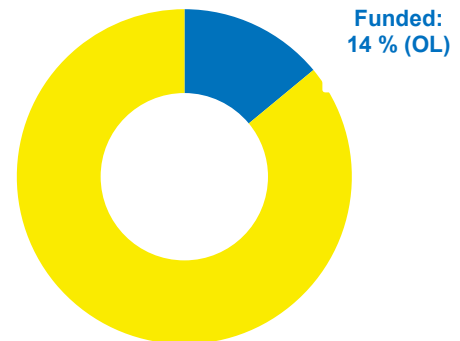
POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS OF 31 MARCH 2021)



FUNDING (AS OF 31 MARCH 2021)

USD 100 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2021



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 217 National Staff
- 76 International Staff

Offices:

- 01 MCO in Yaoundé
- 03 Sub Offices in Bertoua, Maroua, Bamenda
- 04 Field Offices in Batouri, Buea, Douala, Meiganga,
- 03 Field Units in Djohong, Kousseri, Touboro
- 01 Liaison Office in Libreville, Gabon



Nigerian refugees received information sessions on conditions in return areas ©UNHCR/Moise Amedje

Working with Partners

- UNHCR, in collaboration with the NGO Reset The Mind, conducted a rapid assessment of the needs of IDPs in the Littoral region from 10 to 14 March. Teams visited IDP households and met with representatives of IDP associations as well as administrative and traditional authorities. The assessment confirmed the presence of an estimated 80,000 IDPs in all four divisions of the Littoral. Identified needs include shelter, education, healthcare, civil documentation, NFIs and livelihoods. UNHCR is working with partners to identify an appropriate response.
- On 30 and 31 March, a USAID delegation visited Gbiti and Gado in the East region, to evaluate USAID funded programs implemented through WFP and UNHCR. During the mission, the team held discussions with refugees, visited Cash-Based Transfer (CBT) shops, newly arrived refugees at the Gado settlement, an IMC textile center in Gado as well as an off-site vegetable garden managed by both refugees and hosts under the supervision of UNHCR partner LWF.
- From 17 to 20 March, UNHCR, OCHA, UNFPA and FAO undertook a joint mission to in the South West Region, to conduct a rapid needs assessment in Eyumojock and Mamfe for refugee returnees from Nigeria. Identified needs include basic core relief items, civil documentation, healthcare, and livelihoods. UNHCR is working with partners to provide support.
- In Gabon, UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) undertook a sensitization mission to towns in Woleu Ntem (Bitam) and Moyen-Ogooué (Oyem and Ndjole) provinces, which share borders with Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea. The mission provided capacity building on international protection, including the non-criminalization of illegal entry of asylum seekers, for defense and security forces, immigration workers at border posts as well as magistrates on.

Main Activities



Protection

- In the Far North, North West and South West regions, UNHCR's protection monitoring recorded the displacement of 5,116 individuals. Due to armed confrontations between state and non-state armed groups, 550 people were displaced in Bole-Bakundu, Kendem, Mamfe and Ayukaba localities in the South West, and in Bafut, Batibo, and Bali in the North West. In the Far North, frequent attacks perpetrated by non-state armed groups led to the displacement of 4,566 individuals.
- UNHCR and partners documented 1,163 protection incidents against the civilian population during the reporting period. In the North West and South West regions, 517 incidents including murder, violations of right to life, liberty and personal security, destruction of homes and SGBV. In the Far North, 617 incidents including looting, extortion, violations of the right to life and liberty, and SGBV. In the East, 29 new cases of SGBV were recorded, including rape, sexual assault, denial of resources, and psychological violence. Nine survivors received dignity kits while the cost of medical care for eight survivors was covered by UNHCR and partners. 20 cases of GBV were identified in the Far North. Survivors received counselling, psychosocial support, medical care. UNHCR provided support to 28 SGBV survivors in Eyumojock in the South West.
- In the North West and South West regions, 670 vulnerable children were identified, including children associated with NSAGs, cases of child labour, as well as unaccompanied and separated children. 95 per cent lacked birth certificates and access to education. UNHCR is preparing a response. In the East Region, 507 children with special needs (unaccompanied, separated, and SGBV survivors) received psychosocial support through home visits.



- Upon UNHCR's request, the civil status centres in Timangolo and Kentzou in the East region issued 111 birth certificates, which will be distributed to refugees in April. Assessments in the South West region identified at least 640 IDP and host community children in need of birth certificates and 442 adults in need of civil documentation.
- During its regular detention monitoring activities, UNHCR identified 38 refugees in detention in Batouri in the East region, six of whom were arrested during the period under review. UNHCR also ensured legal follow up in 107 cases involving refugees in the East. At the Bamenda Central Prison, UNHCR donated food items, 6,230 bars of Unilever soap and four (04) thermometers to 604 IDPs and other vulnerable detainees, including 26 minors and 11 women.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR supported the government of Cameroon and Nigeria during the voluntary repatriation of 2,436 out of 5,000 Nigerian refugees who had confirmed their intentions to return. The government of Cameroon ensured the vaccination of small ruminants, poultry, the transport of refugee luggage and the security of the convoys to Banki and Bama. The government of Nigeria provided transport buses, an ambulance, and a fuel truck. UNHCR organised information sessions on the voluntary repatriation process and confirmed return intentions, organised the repatriation convoys, assured medical screening, including Covid-19 tests, the issuance of school attendance certificates, provided clothing for vulnerable children, and meals before departure.



Health

- UNHCR continues supporting the Covid-19 response in Cameroon and donated three (03) ambulances, four (04) respirators, 181 oxygen concentrators, and 220 pulse oximeters to the Ministry of Public Health. The equipment was distributed to health facilities serving both refugees and host communities in the East, Adamawa, North and Far North regions.
- Following the outbreak of cholera in the city of Douala, UNHCR coordinated with the Epidemiological Surveillance and Immunization Program (ESIP) and facilitated the deployment of a mobile team of the national cholera vaccination campaign to the biometric verification registration site in Douala. As a result, 1,571 refugees in Douala received the cholera vaccine. UNHCR partner FAIRMED sensitized refugees on the importance of handwashing, food hygiene and vaccinations.



Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR partner IEDA Relief installed 106 UN tents for 417 individuals residing in community shelters in the Minawao camp. 137 Non-food item (NFI) kits were distributed to 142 households (535 individuals).



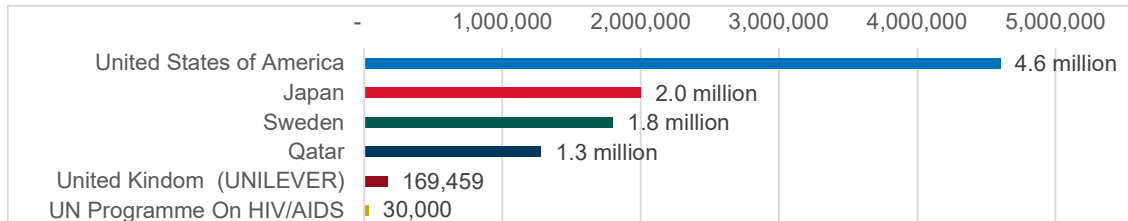
Community Empowerment and Self-reliance

- In Gado, 65 refugee households (258 individuals) recently arrived from Central African Republic received concession to cultivate 30 hectares of farmland donated by the Chief of Gado-Badzéré village. The purchase of seeds and agricultural tools is underway. 200 individuals sorted into 20 groups of 10 individuals each, will receive support to establish small scale income-generating activities. 16 young people were selected to receive training in hairdressing, carpentry, bakery, catering, screen printing, driving, sewing, cold and air conditioning, knitting, IT and nursing aide.

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 5.2 million for MCO Cameroon as of 31 March 2021



Other Softly Earmarked Contributions | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of earmarked and regional funds

United States of America 12.2 million

Germany | Private donors Japan 2.5 million | Sweden | Private donors

Unearmarked Contributions | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Norway 80 million | Sweden 66.9 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | Germany 22.1 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Private donors Spain 13.3 million | Ireland 12.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Algeria | Armenia | Australia | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Portugal | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | South Africa | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors



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LINKS: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/cmr> | **Twitter:** @RefugeesCmr | **Facebook:** UNHCR Cameroun | **Insta:** hrcameroun