



## WFP Cameroon Country Brief

### WFP Assistance

Conflicts in both Nigeria and the Central African Republic (C.A.R.) have displaced thousands of people into Cameroon. 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.

Emergency Food Assistance to refugees, IDPs, and Host Populations in the Far North region	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Regional EMOP 200777 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2016)	79.7 m	53.6 m (67%)	9.3 m (42%)

\*June-November 2016

The Emergency Operation addresses critical food and nutrition needs of crisis-affected households in areas of the Far North region. People assisted include those impacted by the Boko Haram crisis, Nigerian refugees, IDPs and targeted vulnerable local populations. In collaboration with the Government and partner agencies, WFP is transitioning a portion of assistance towards cash and recovery activities in 2016 to support livelihood assets creation and resilience efforts.

Emergency Food Assistance to refugees from C.A.R	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Regional EMOP 200799 (Jan 2015– Dec 2016)	87.6 m	54.4 m (62%)	15.7 m (85%)

\*June-November 2016

Supports refugee populations located along border regions of C.A.R. (East, Adamawa and North regions) with food distribution through food and cash transfer modalities. Children and pregnant and nursing women amongst refugees and host populations alike 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.

## Highlights

- In partnership with two NGOs, Cudas-Caritas and SAHELI, WFP introduced livelihood asset-creation programmes for Boko Haram affected communities in the Far North.
- Building on the successful roll-out of cash based assistance programmes in eastern Cameroon under EMOP 200799, WFP introduced cash transfers in the Far North region in mid-May. WFP targeted 24,100 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the selected areas of Mokolo, Mora and Kousseri.
- The UNHAS operation is facing a critical funding shortfall. Urgent new resources are needed to keep the flight services operational from July onwards.

In line with WFP's new nutrition strategy, nutrition interventions in Cameroon will take a stronger focus towards preventive programmes and nutrition-sensitive food assistance, while phasing out moderate acute malnutrition treatment programmes.

Providing food security and stability in Cameroon	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP 200330 (Jan 2013 – Dec 2017)	21.4 m	6 m (28%)	2.2 m (100%)

\*June-November 2016

The Country Programme, implemented in the northern regions, aims to support the government's efforts in addressing food and nutrition challenges as well as mitigating the effects of climate shocks. It also supports 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.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
SO 200895 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2016)	7.1 m	3 m (43%)	-

\*June-November 2016

WFP's Humanitarian air service operation ensures access, and safe and reliable air transport services to the humanitarian community. 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 million people affected

2.3 million food insecure

332,000 Refugees and 190,000 IDPs

367,000  
People Assisted  
May 2016



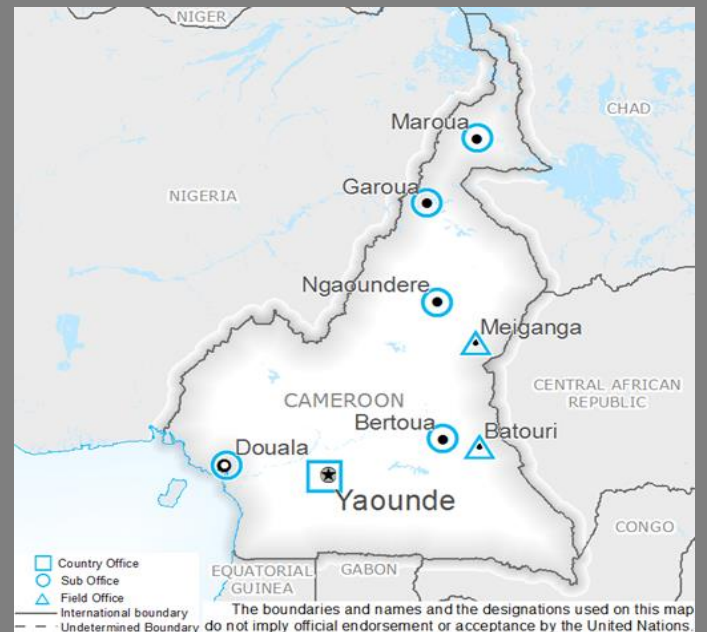
## Operational Updates

- WFP and its partners continue to respond to the emergency food and nutrition needs of 327,000 C.A.R and Nigerian refugees, IDPs and targeted local populations in Cameroon. Food assistance activities will be scaled up in the Far North region to meet the needs of the growing IDP population, which according to IOM's displacement tracking matrix exceeded 190,000 people in April.
- In May, WFP began implementing a Cash Based Transfer (CBT) programme in Cameroon. The programme targets 47,000 people, including vulnerable C.A.R refugees in eastern Cameroon and IDPs in the Far North region.
- In partnership with two NGOs, Codas-Caritas and SAHELI, WFP introduced asset-creation projects to support livelihood rehabilitation of communities in the Far North region. The targeted populations are facing the compounding effects of the Boko Haram crisis, recurrent climatic shocks and related food production deficits. The projects engage communities in small scale fish farming techniques and the rehabilitation of rural water supply infrastructures to increase food production and mitigate flooding risks, while providing food support during the lean season.
- WFP provided technical assistance and support to establish the first food security monitoring system (FSMS) which will feed into the government's future early warning system. Through quarterly surveys, the FSMS will provide regular information flow on household's responses to food security shocks and assistance required in the most remote areas of the Far North.
- In an effort to secure road access to the Minawao refugee camp at the height of the rainy season, WFP has engaged in a road rehabilitation project funded through DFID's Emergency Preparedness Programme. The project consists of the construction of five bridges which will significantly improve the condition of Zamai-Minawao road.
- **Country Programme (CP 200330):** In the first half of 2016, WFP provided school meals to 3,200 children in 16 primary schools across northern Cameroon. As of May, however, WFP will be unable to continue implementing the activity due to lack of resources. Without new funding, thousands of children will continue to miss out on school meals.

## Challenges

- The imminent rainy season challenges access to project sites across Cameroon's east and northern regions.
- Funding remains limited for WFP to adequately respond to the continuously growing needs in the Far North region.
- **UNHAS critical funding shortfalls:** At current funding levels, UNHAS will only be able to operate up to July. Immediate new funding is needed to continue ensure flight services for the humanitarian community.

## Country Background



Cameroon's economic growth over the last decade has been too slow to lead to sustainable development and poverty reduction – nearly 40 percent of its population are still living below the poverty line.

Cameroon's northern regions located in the Sahelian band are the most deprived. Communities in these regions have suffered years of successive natural disasters and below average harvests, with little means to resist the continuous cycle of shocks and stresses. In 2015, food insecurity reached alarming levels: an estimated 2.3 million people are food insecure in the four poorest regions. Over 60 percent are located in the Far North region, 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 has more than doubled between June and September 2015.

Similarly, the SMART survey conducted by UNICEF in 2015 indicates an increase in malnutrition rates, especially in the Far North, compared to results from 2013 and 2014. 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, 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, Belgium, Cameroon.

**Contact info:** Sofia Engdahl (sofia.engdahl@wfp.org)

**Country Director:** Felix BF Gomez

Further information:

<http://www.wfp.org/countries/cameroon>