



WFP Cameroon Country Brief

Highlights

- WFP is expanding the use of cash-based transfers from 1 to 3 sites in the East region resulting in an additional 15,972 new people for cash assistance in February.
- WFP continues to face critical funding gaps impacting the level of food and nutrition assistance provided to all targeted groups (refugees, displaced people and vulnerable host communities) in the Far North and eastern regions.

WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Emergency Food Assistance to refugees, IDPs, and Host Populations in the Far North region			
Regional EMOP 200777 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2017)	140 m	87 m	15.1 m (50%)
Emergency Food Assistance to refugees from C.A.R			
Regional EMOP 200799 (Jan 2015– Dec 2017)	121 m	77 m	7.1 m (39%)
Country Programme – Providing food security and stability in Cameroon			
CP 200330 (Jan 2013 – Dec 2017)	21.5 m	6.6 m	1.9 m (100%)
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)			
SO 200895, (Jan 2015 – Dec 2016)	11.5 m	6.5 m	N/A

*March - August 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 crises in Cameroon through a mix of relief, recovery and development activities. In addition to its ongoing emergency responses for refugees from C.A.R. and Nigeria, to internally displaced people (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.

Children and pregnant and nursing women amongst refugees and host populations receive nutrition support aimed at preventing and treating all forms of malnutrition. Additionally, nutrition assistance is provided to malnourished individuals living with HIV via the Food by Prescription Programme. In convergence with the Government and partner agencies, WFP plans to gradually shift assistance

towards early recovery activities for vulnerable local populations and IDPs in protracted displacement situations.

EMOP 200777: This Emergency Operation addresses critical food and nutrition needs of crisis-affected households in areas of the Far North region impacted by the Lake Chad Basin crisis, including Nigerian refugees, IDPs and targeted vulnerable local populations.

EMOP 200799: Supports refugee populations located along the border regions of Cameroon with C.A.R. (East, Adamawa and North regions) through food and cash transfers.

CP 200330: Implemented in the northern regions the Country Programme aims to support the Government's efforts in addressing food security and nutrition challenges and mitigates the effects of climate shocks, supporting social safety nets and sustainable management of community grain stocks and promoting primary education, especially for girls. Regrettably, activities remain temporarily suspended under the Country Programme due to lack of funding.

UNHAS 200895: The UN Humanitarian air service operation ensures access and safe and reliable air transport services for 41 humanitarian agencies in Cameroon. The flights link Maroua, Ngaoundere and Garoua from its base in Yaoundé, as well as N'Djamena in Chad.

In Numbers

2.6 m people food insecure (including refugees)

360,000 refugees and **223,642** IDPs

477,000
People Assisted
February 2017



Operational Updates

- In February 2017, WFP and partners provided cash assistance to an additional 28,786 people in Cameroon as the programme was expanded to two more refugee sites in the East region (Lolo and Timangolo), and 12,768 people were shifted from in-kind food assistance to the cash transfer modality in the Far North region in areas around Mora, Mokolo and Kousseri. WFP continues to use cash-based transfers to assist food insecure households in meeting their basic food and non-food needs with increased flexibility while promoting livelihood opportunities.
- Donations through WFP's mobile app "SharetheMeal" have since December reached USD 210,000 to provide school meals to 80,000 vulnerable children of refugees and IDPs in the Logone and Chari area in the Far North of Cameroon. The donations to Cameroon have been put on hold for one month to raise funds for emergency school meals in South Sudan. Meanwhile, preparations are ongoing to begin the school meals programme in the coming months.
- Due to limited funding, blanket supplementary feeding to prevent malnutrition was provided to 110,250 children through EMOP 20077 (75 percent of the planned target) compared to 50 percent of the target for EMOP 200799. Newly received funding will enable WFP to resume the distribution of full rations in March 2017.

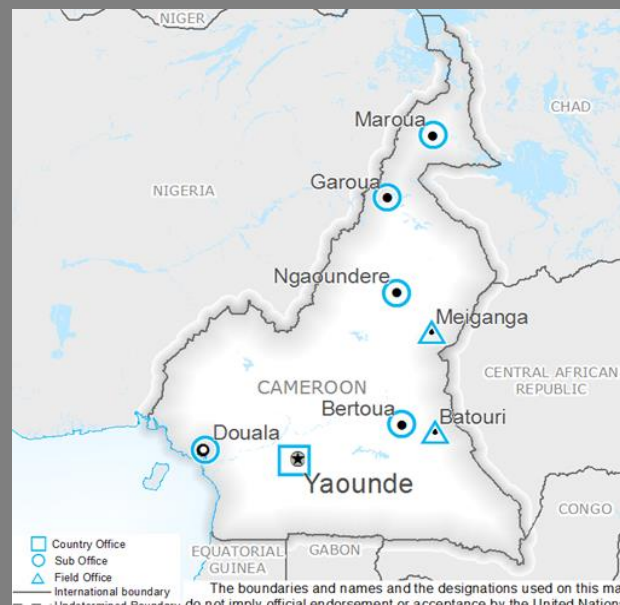
Challenges

- WFP continues to face critical funding gaps impacting the level of food and nutrition assistance provided to all targeted groups (refugees, displaced people and vulnerable host communities) in the Far North and eastern regions. In the Far North region, WFP continues since January to provide reduced food baskets and cash transfers (75 percent of the planned value for both) while in eastern Cameroon, the ration has been reduced by half since October last year. The reduction of food assistance will affect the food security and nutrition situation of the refugees, especially women and children, with risk of exacerbating conflicts in fragile localities where refugees and host communities share limited resources and services.
- The continued suspension of UN missions due to heightened insecurity along the national road no.1 between Mora-Kousseri (Far North region), is hampering access to some project sites, impacting WFP monitoring activities.

Partnerships

- In February WFP signed a partnership agreement with *Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)* to coordinate resources and operational activities in health and nutrition assistance programmes.
- WFP provided partners including International Medical Corps, Plan International, CARITAS and IEDA with 114 packets of 50 mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) bracelets to be used during screening. WFP has been working on an action plan with WHO to couple food distributions with vaccination activities.

Country Background & Strategy



Forty (40) percent of Cameroon's 23.7 million people live below the poverty line and human development indicators remain low. Poverty has a strong regional dimension concentrated in North, Far North, Adamaoua and east regions.

Cameroon's northern regions located in the Sahelian band in which communities have suffered years of successive natural disasters and below average harvests with little means to resist the continuous cycle of shocks and stresses are the most deprived. According to the latest Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA), 1.5 million people in Cameroon's Far North region are facing food insecurity, this is slightly higher than the 1.4 million food insecure people in 2015. In the four regions of Adamaoua, East, North and Far North that were surveyed, 2.5 million people are facing "crisis" or "emergency" levels of food insecurity. Adamaoua, North and Far North are the most affected.

Similarly, the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (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 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: **23.7 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
153 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31 of children between 6-59 months**

Major Donors

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

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

Country Director: Abdoulaye Baldé

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries