

CAMEROON: North West and South West

Situation Report No. 20

As of 30 June 2020

This report is produced by OCHA Cameroon in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers 1 – 30 June 2020. The next report will be issued in August 2020.

JUNE 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 15,780 individuals from 2,625 households were reportedly displaced in the North West (NW) and South West (SW) regions in June due to ongoing violence.
- Only 6% of the 2020 targeted 355,000 children affected by crisis have had access to quality formal or non-formal basic education.
- 62% of respondents in a GBV assessment acknowledged an increasing trend in GBV incidents and recognized high risks of domestic violence, denial of resources, unwanted pregnancies, child sexual abuse and sex for survival in the current COVID-19 context in the NWSW regions.
- 99% of GBV partners do not have enough resources to mitigate COVID-19 risks in their intervention; 55% of assessed health facilities do not have post rape kits.



Source: OCHA

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

3M

Affected people

Sources:

Revised Humanitarian Need Overview 2020¹

1.4M

People targeted for assistance

Sources:

Humanitarian Response Plan 2020

679K

Internally displaced (IDP)

Sources:

MSNA in North West and South West Region in August 2019, OCHA

MIRA in Mayo-Banyo (Adamaoua) in July 2019, OCHA, MINAT and partners

MIRA in West and Littoral regions in October 2019, OCHA, MINAT and partners

MIRA in Mfoundi and Mefou-et-Afamba Division (Centre) in October 2019, OCHA, CHOI and MINAT

204K

Returnees (former IDP)

Sources:

MSNA in North West and South West Region in August 2019, OCHA

59K

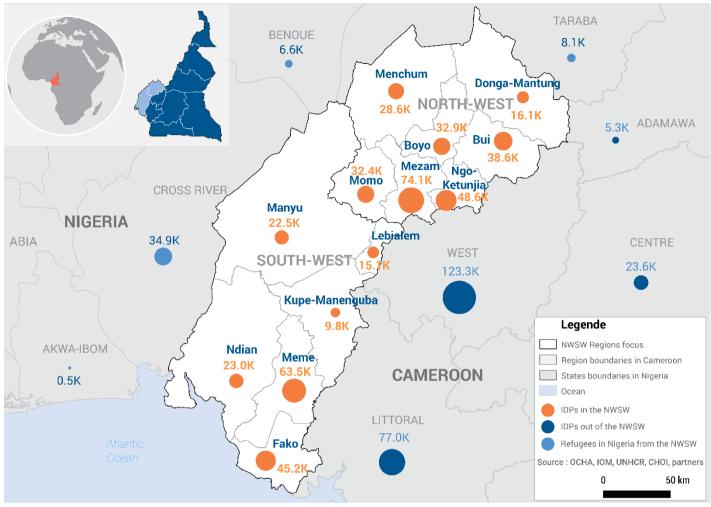
Cameroonian Refugees in Nigeria

Sources:

Nigeria: Registration of Cameroonian Refugees as of 30 June 2020, UNHCR

¹ The Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2020 were revised to take into account the impact of COVID-19. The revised HNO and HRP were officially launched on 24 June 2020.





Source: OCHA, UNHCR, IOM

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SITUATION OVERVIEW

Population in the North West and South West continue to suffer the severe humanitarian consequences of the socio-political crisis in both regions ongoing since 2016. Parties to the conflict have failed to heed to repeated global calls for a ceasefire as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19. Lives continue to be impacted by the effects of continuous displacement, confrontations between the military and non-state armed groups (NSAGs) as well as the threats posed by the COVID-19 outbreak. Increased tension and confrontations were observed in June as NSAGs enforced lockdowns in response to a government mission to the NWSW to sensitize communities on the Presidential Plan for Reconstruction and Development (PPRD). NSAGs declared and enforced lockdowns from the 22 to 24 June and from 29 June to 2 July in the NW and SW respectively as a result of the PPRD mission. Additional lockdowns were also declared in some divisions and subdivisions such as Ngoketunjia in the NW and Mamfe Central in the SW as part of ongoing tensions in these localities.

Protection continues to be a major humanitarian concern in the NWSW. Civilians continue to be caught in crossfire while summary execution of civilians by both the military and NSAGs is on the rise. Temporary displacements continue to be recorded as civilians flee for safety. Over 15,780 individuals from 2,625 households were reportedly displaced in the NWSW due to ongoing violence during the month of June. Over 60% of the displacements were recorded in the NW. The advancing COVID-19 is also at the centre of humanitarian operations in the NWSW. The risk of the virus further spreading in the two regions remains high.

Humanitarian Coordination

In June OCHA coordination hubs in the NWSW extended coordination activities in the West and Littoral regions of Cameroon with Humanitarian Coordination Forum (HCF) meetings held in both regions. HCFs will be held monthly in these regions. The Littoral and West regions are host to over 200,000 IDPs from the NWSW according to findings of the multi inter-sector rapid assessment (MIRA) carried out in these regions in October 2019.

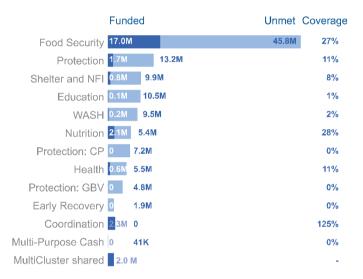
OCHA continues to provide leadership in the response in the NWSW through regular inter-cluster coordination meetings, HCF meetings, Access Working Group meetings and Information Management Working Group meetings.

FUNDING

Cameroon 2020 NW-SW Crisis US\$ 138 million requested (HRP non COVID-19)

Funding by sector (in million US\$) As of 21 July, 2020





All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - http://fts.unocha.org) of cash and inkind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

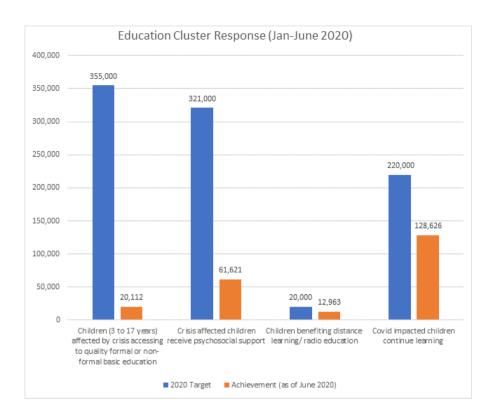


Education

Although schools in the NWSW are closed there are ongoing activities to prepare children who are sitting for general exams in advance of the school year which will commence in October. The exams scheduled for secondary level students in June registered only 82 candidates in the NW, according to the statistics received from the Regional Education Delegate. The rest of the exams will take place during July-September 2020 before the full reopening of schools scheduled for 5 October 2020.

COVID-19 affected learners have been assisted.

During this month, cluster partners provided access to education to 4,832 (2,678 girls and 2,154 boys) COVID-19 affected new learners in the NWSW. Since the closure of schools in mid-March 2020, a total of 128,626 (66,886 girls and 61,740 boys) COVID impacted formal and non-formal learners have been assisted in both regions by cluster partners. According to the mid-year review report, 65% (12,963 against the annual target of 20,000) of targeted children have been supported through radio education/distance learning, 19% (61,621 against the annual target of 321,000) conflict affected learners received psychosocial support and 6% (20,112 against the annual target of 355,000) of children affected by crisis have had access to quality formal or non-formal basic education.



Food Security

The unprecedented health pandemic continues to have a lasting impact on the global food security situation and the NWSW is no exception. In the month of June 29 Cluster partners reported implementing food assistance, livelihoods and agricultural activities. The number of people assisted with food security activities is 200,172. Of this number 175,077 were reached with food assistance and 25,092 with agriculture/livelihoods. This achievement translates to 39% of the Cluster target. The shortfall is mostly due to lack of adequate funding. The June figure is an estimated 14% increase in total achievement as compared to the previous month (May) mainly due to slightly improved humanitarian access to some hard to reach areas. To ensure dietary diversity, partners have continued to assist the affected population in setting up micro-gardening within their home compounds to produce fresh vegetables for consumption and



selling to generate some income to the families. So far, approximately 6,000 people have benefited from this activity.

CRS has resumed its food assistance programme through the e-voucher modality in the NW, where about 28,000 people were assisted while NRC is giving cash for food assistance to about 2,000 people in Bamenda 2 sub-division of Mezam. FAO assisted 300 households (HH) in the SW during the month. Seeds, watering cans/knapsacks, hoes and 7.5 tons of fertilizer were distributed to 300 HH in strict respect of COVID-19 prevention barrier measures.



Health

COVID-19 continues to spread in the NWSW and the number of affected health personnel in both regions is alarming. The case fatality rate of COVID-19 in the NW (10%) and that of the SW (6%) exceeds by far the national figure elsewhere (2%). WHO has supported the training of trainers from both regions on case management of COVID-19 and Infection Prevention and Control. A cascade training of health personnel from key health facilities and the health districts is planned for the coming weeks.

132

Surgeries by trauma surgeons and mobile clinic teams.

The early warning, alert, and response system (EWARS) deployed by the Health Cluster in the NW (Ndop) and SW (Akwaya) regions was updated to capture suspected cases of COVID-

19. Through this system, two health districts generated alerts for suspected cases of COVID-19 which were investigated and confirmed. A total of 90 events were reported through this system in the month of June.

In June, despite the security challenges and lockdowns in the NWSW, Health Cluster partners continued to provide lifesaving essential health services in Fako, Meme, Ndian, Kupe-Manenguba, Manyu, Mezam, Boyo, Ngoketunjia, Bui, and Momo divisions. WHO through its implementing partners Reach Out, CARITAS and DEMTOU humanitarian through mobile clinics consulted 8,505 persons in the NWSW. 4% of the patients reached were persons living with disabilities. The mobile clinics placed 29 IDPs on ARVs and assisted in conducting 30 deliveries. These mobile clinics are only funded by a CERF 2020 Rapid Response grant until September 2020 and require more funding to continue life-saving services.

A total of 132 surgical procedures were performed by the trauma surgeons deployed by WHO and the mobile clinic teams. The clinical psychologists provided psychosocial support to 145 beneficiaries. They also conducted 9 psychoeducational sessions for 79 participants and 1 training session for 33 health personnel on mental health first aid.

UNICEF supported the Regional Delegation of Public Health in the SW to carry out the third round of periodic intensification of routine immunization. Through this activity, 3,981 children received the Measles and Rubella vaccine, 2,422 children were vaccinated against polio, 2,051 children received the Penta vaccine and 2,018 children received the Pneumo vaccine. Additionally, 503 children received the BCG vaccine, 833 children received the yellow fever vaccine and 1,066 children received the vaccine against Rotavirus. A total of 182 pregnant women received Tetanus and Diphtheria vaccines and 169 pregnant women received intermittent treatment for malaria in pregnancy in 5 health districts. UNICEF in the NW through the Cameroon Baptist Convention continued to provide life-saving services to beneficiaries in the Bui division despite the security challenges.



Nutrition

In June, Nutrition partners screened 22,857 children under 5 years for acute malnutrition, 150 (0.01 %) children were identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and referred for treatment, and 838 (0.04%) children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Note that more than 80% of these SAM cases are from the NW region. Also, 5,441 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were also screened among whom 14 cases with MUAC between 180mm and 210 mm. A

22.8K

Children under 5 screened for acute malnutrition

6.6K

PLW provided nutritional assistance

total of 16,446 persons were sensitized on key messages on IYCF (infant and young child feeding) practices and these messages integrated COVID-19 preventative messages. In additional, 1,752 children were supplemented with Vitamin A, and 2,693 children aged between 12-59 months received deworming treatment.

In the NWSW, the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program (BSFP) assistance reached 16,229 beneficiaries (7,686 in SW, and 8,543 in NW) among whom were 9,569 children age between 6 to 23 months and 6,660 PLW. The assistance was carried out through cooperating partners Caritas Kumba and INTERSOS in 22 communities in Meme, Fako and Manyu in the SW and CARITAS Bamenda, SHUMAS, and COMINSUD in 4 divisions (Momo, Bui, Donga Mantung and Menchum) in the NW. 39 localities in these divisions were served with rations (100g/pers/day*30days).

As part of measures to curb the spread of COVID-19, 10,800 pieces of cloth masks for health workers involved in nutrition activities in the community was delivered to the Regional Delegation of Public Health for NW (8,200 pcs) and SW (2,600 pcs). The items will be handed to organizations for further distribution to health workers. Hand washing facilities were made available at all distribution points and beneficiaries/field staff wore facemasks and practiced physical distancing. The Production of IYCF-E guidance material on COVID-19 preventative messages is ongoing.



Protection

The last half of June was marked by an increase in security concerns with lockdowns, roadblocks and fierce confrontations between NSAGs and State forces leading to serious protection incidents in some localities in both regions. Parts of Meme, Mezam, Momo and Boyo divisions experienced an increase in conflict and protection incidents.

Due to the lockdowns announced in June, there was a significant drop in the number of incidents recorded by protection teams. 386 incidents were recorded through the UNHCR / INTERSOS protection monitoring project, far less than the 1,093 incidents reported in the month 103.2K

Individuals benefited from various protection responses

of May. This is because field activities were reduced considerably and by restrictions on freedom of movement including for humanitarian activities imposed by NSAGs.

DRC, IRC and INTERSOS have reinforced networks of protection focal points and community-based protection committees who extend protection activities in the field, provide information and help protection actors to identify persons in need of assistance. Out of the 386 incidents recorded, a majority were female victims, (308 i.e 79.8%) while 20.2% were male victims. Most (82.9%) of the victims were IDPs, 9.6% returnees and 7.5% represented the host community. 33% (127) of the victims were vulnerable, among them 21 children. Men are not willing to share information for fear of being targeted. Most of them have ran away from their communities to stay in safe locations. Most of the violations occurred at the residence of the victims.

103,207 individuals benefited from various protection responses including protection monitoring conducted by DRC. INTERSOS, IRC, ECOCAM, SUDAHSER Foundation, Libra Law Office Association and UNHCR, Among them, 52,743 were women and girls, while 26,189 were children and 29,334 were 60 years old and above. Protection assistance was offered to the vulnerable during the period including 395 cases who were provided with legal assistance (detention, documentation, GBV survivors), 37 persons with specific needs were supported by restoring and sustaining their dignity and 96 survivors benefited from psychosocial support while 6 persons were assisted with advocacy support. Following protection analyses, 44 cases were addressed by case workers while 53 others were referred to other humanitarian actors for responses suitable to their specific needs. About 60 humanitarian workers benefited from various capacity building activities on protection thematic areas and mainstreaming of protection in COVID-19 response implementation while 3,737 persons were reached through sensitization and awareness raising on themes including legal issues, GBV key concepts, protection and humanitarian principles, COVID-19 prevention. Also, 33 community leaders benefited from awareness campaigns around social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. Protection actors intensified awareness strategy through mass media with radio stations in the NWSW. The media awareness campaign focused on protection issues and COVID-19. with emphasis on feedback through the Hotline number "8564".

Child Protection

The number of children and caregivers reached by Child Protection (CP) actors continue to increase as parents feel safer to send their children to Child Friendly and other Safe Spaces due to the risk mitigation measures implemented by Child Protection actors, and the rise in community awareness on COVID-19. Some Child Protection actors have started implementing remote psychosocial support services, particularly for communities that are hard to reach due to security and/or high risk of infection with COVID-19. Compared to last month, an almost 40% increase in the number of children and caregivers provided with psychosocial support services in Child Friendly and other Safe Spaces as well as remotely was recorded. CP Area of

Children and caregivers received psychosocial support.

Responsibility (AoR) members reported reaching more than 7,700 children and caregivers with psychosocial support during the reporting period, despite the lockdown imposed by the NSAGs this month.

As COVID-19 continues to spread in the NWSW, CP AoR members continue to raise community awareness on ways it spreads, possible prevention measures and related child protection risks and concerns. Using different community-based approaches. Child Protection actors were able to sensitize more than 20,000 children and caregivers on COVID-19 and/or child protection risks, including GBV issues.



GBV Area of Responsibility

Thousands of IDP women and girls at heightened risk of sexual violence and exploitation need increased access to lifesaving services amid ongoing conflict and COVID-19 in the NWSW regions of Cameroon. Global research and social service data have confirmed that COVID-19 confinement measures are leading to an increased risk of GBV, especially domestic violence. These risks can be higher in areas already affected by armed conflicts.

21.6K

People assisted with GBV interventions

The GBV trend is increasing compared to February (pre COVID-19 measures in Cameroon).

An analysis of GBV incident data reported by the GBV AoR members showed an increase in GBV incidents reported. In April there was a noted 18% increase in GBV cases reported (from February). Despite the easing of COVID-19 measures 320 GBV cases were reported in June representing an increase of 16% compared to February. Protection monitoring data indicated 3,991 protection incidents from January to June 2020 (including threat to life and personal security, destruction of habitat and properties, torture, SGBV, killing, injuries, forced eviction, abduction etc) of which 61% of the victims are female.

During a rapid assessment 62% of the respondents stated that they are seeing an increasing trend in GBV incidents and recognized high risks of domestic violence, denial of resources, unwanted pregnancies, child sexual abuse and sex for survival in the current COVID-19 context in the NWSW regions. In addition, 99% of GBV partners stated they don't have enough resources to mitigate COVID-19 risks in their intervention while 55% of assessed health facilities (55) don't have post rape kits.

In June, 21,670 people were reached with GBV activities including: GBV awareness raising; dignity kits distribution, capacity building, psychosocial support and life skill development. Humanitarian frontline workers from five clusters (Protection, Health, Child Protection, Nutrition and Food Security) received an orientation on GBV referral pathways and how to provide first line support to GBV survivors. It is important to highlight that the number of people reached in June represent only 1% of the people in need of GBV lifesaving interventions and 2% of the target set by the GBV AoR in the HRP. If the GBV response is not supported with meaningful funding, thousands of IDP women and girls will be left without any assistance to recover from GBV and rebuild their lives. It is crucial to reinforce the existing GBV interventions by prioritizing GBV risk mitigation; prepositioning of post rape kits, expansion of GBV case management services and capacity building for frontline workers.



Shelter

In the NW region, NRC distributed NFIs to 400 households in Bamenda II and Bamenda III Sub-Divisions (150 kits in Bamenda II and 250 kits in Bamenda III). The beneficiaries were sensitized on COVID-19 prevention and provided with kits aimed at disease prevention. SHUMAS in the month of June assisted a total of 66 persons with rental subsidies (41 in Bamenda and 25 in Bui division). 39 persons were also assisted with shelter materials by IVSPD to rebuild their houses destroyed as a result of the crisis. IOM in its

16.6K

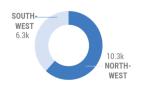
People reached by shelter and NFI assistance

Households that benefited from shelter and NFI assistance

response to vulnerable IDP households in self settled situations assisted 743 individuals with both shelter and NFIs in Momo Division. In Bui Division 575 individuals received NFIs while 254 were assisted with emergency shelter. In Bali central and Niinka (Mezam Division) 5.343 individuals received emergency shelter provided by UNHCR through its partner Plan International.

In the SW, UNHCR partner Plan International provided emergency shelter to 4,936 persons in Buea and Tiko subdivisions. NRC reached 71 individuals with the distribution of household NFIs (tarpaulins, sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets, jerrycans for collecting and storing water) specifically in Buea subdivision. IOM in its response in the SW assisted 821 persons in Kupe-Muanenguba (542 with core relief items and 279 with shelter). Also, 495 persons were assisted in Meme Division (353 with core relief items and 142 with shelter items).

KEY INDICATORS	TARGETS	REACHED	NORTH- WEST	SOUTH- WEST
# of vulnerable IDP households in self settled receive Shelter kits including prevention of COVID-19	-	11,787	6,343	5,444
Vulnerable IDP households assisted with core relief items including prevention of COVID-19	-	4,736	3,841	895
# of HHs assisted with shelter rental subsidies including prevention of COVID-19*	-	66	66	-
# of HHs living in damaged shelters assisted including prevention of COVID-19*	-	39	39	-



Reporting of individuals instead of Households (HH)

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Over 65,500 individuals were reached through WASH services including COVID-19 prevention activities, implemented by 11 WASH partners (AFRINET, ASWEDO, CAMGEW, CHAMEG, CUAPWD, GCR, H4BF, IRC, NRC, REACHOUT and SUDAHSER) in the NWSW regions. During the reporting period, various activities were carried out, reaching individuals as follows: hygiene promotion (8,800); water supply (13,100); WASH NFI kits (23,200), dignity kits and sanitation (1,100) and sensitization on COVID-19 (16,500).

65.5K

People benefitted from WASH services.

WASH partners (CUAPWD, IRC, NRC, STREETCHILD) provided complete WASH kits to 667 people while over 22,550 people were provided with minimum WASH kits comprising of assorted WASH items. AFRINET, IRC and REACHOUT facilitated access to clean water to over 14,400 individuals through provision of household aquatabs in the SW region. During the reporting period, AFRINET and ASWEDO conducted trainings for 760 girls and women on the use of dignity hygiene kits while Global Community Rescue conducted hygiene promotion training for 420 health workers, hygiene promoters and volunteers in the NWSW regions.

The rainy season has started in the NWSW regions and soon some roads to remote/hard to reach areas will become impassable. Therefore, partners are being advised to pre-positions essential WASH supplies before roads conditions worsen.

For further information, please contact:

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