

Cameroon

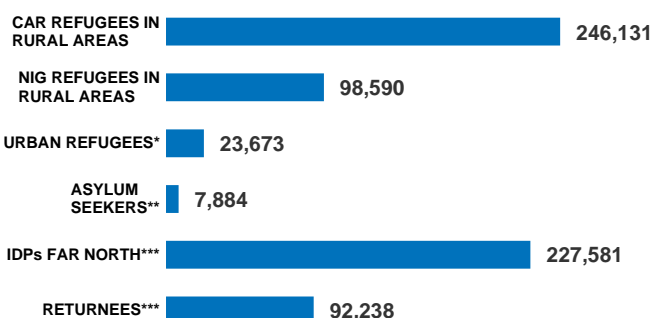
September 2018

Cameroon currently has **696,097 people of concern**, including **263,206 Central African** and **100,504 Nigerian refugees**.

UNHCR's Central African Republic Representative visits Cameroon and meets with authorities and Central African refugees.

UNHCR opens a Field Office in Buea, South West region, as it responds to growing internal displacement in the region.

POPULATION OF CONCERN (696,097 AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER)



*Incl. 18,447 Central Africans and 1,914 Nigerian refugees living in urban areas.

**Incl. 6,399 Central Africans and 27 Nigerian asylum seekers living in urban areas.

*** Source: IOM DTM #14.

According to OCHA and local organizations, an estimated 350,000 people are displaced in the North West and South West regions and are in need of humanitarian assistance.

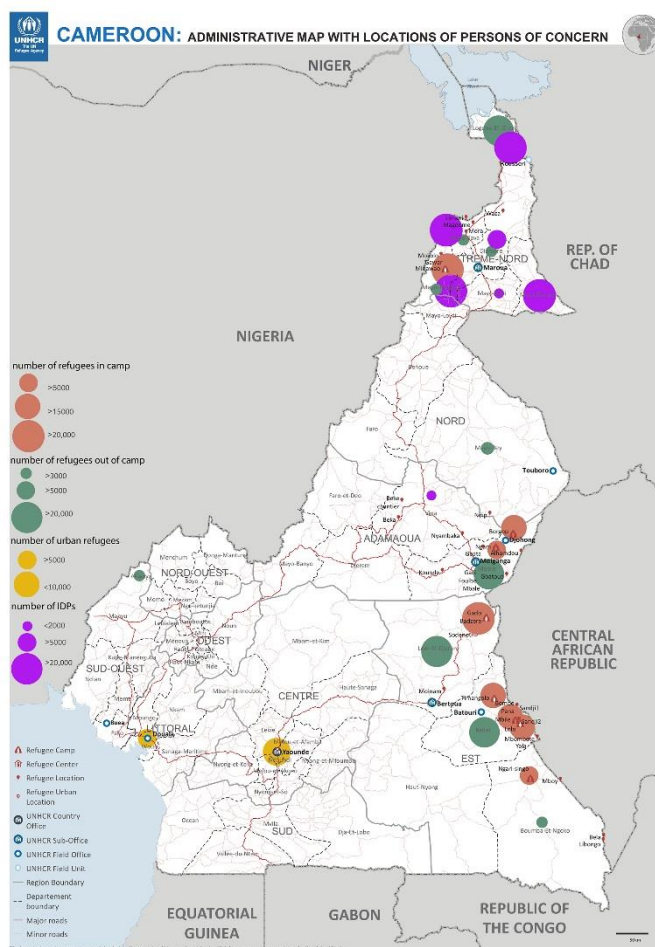
FUNDING (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER)

USD 86.7 M

Requested for Cameroon

Funded: 21%
18.2 M

Gap: 79%
68.6 M



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff: 233

142 National Staff

46 International Staff

45 Affiliate workforce (9 International and 36 National)

10 OFFICES:

Representation – Yaounde

Sub Offices – Bertoua, Meiganga and Maroua

Field Offices – Batouri, Djohong, Touboro, Douala and Buea

Field Unit – Kousseri

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR coordinates protection and assistance for persons of concern in collaboration with:

- **Government Partners:** Ministries of External Relations, Territorial Administration, Economy, Planning and Regional Development, Public Health, Women Empowerment and Family, Social Affairs, Justice, Basic Education, Water and Energy, Youth and Civic Education, the National Employment Fund and others, Secrétariat Technique des Organes de Gestion du Statut des réfugiés.
- **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 Internationale* and CARE International.
- **UN Agencies:** WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UN Women, FAO, UNESCO, IOM, UNDP and UNOCHA.
- **Operational coordination:** The response for Central African refugees is managed in line with the *Refugee Coordination Model*. Sectorial groups have been established by UNHCR, covering the whole operational area. Local authorities have been very engaged in the management of the refugee operation. At the capital-level, UNHCR leads the Multi-Sector Operations Team for the Refugee Response and the national Protection Working Group, and actively participates in other relevant humanitarian coordination mechanisms and the Humanitarian Country Team.

MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

- UNHCR's Central African Republic Representative, Mr. Buti Kale, headed a delegation to Cameroon to, amongst others, obtain a better understanding of the situation of Central African refugees in Cameroon; to meet with Central African refugees and to hear first hand about possible durable solutions of their choice and to initiate cross-border meetings between CAR and Cameroon field offices. It shall be recalled that following return intention surveys carried out in June 2018 with Central African refugees in all sites in the East and Adamaoua regions as well as certain host villages, it was reported that 24% of those surveyed expressed their wish to return home. In light of this expression of interest to return home, field visits to Lolo and Gado refugee sites (East region) and Garoua Boulai were undertaken where, in focus group discussions it emerged that for the majority not willing to return, it is due to the current insecurity situation in CAR which does not encourage immediate return; lack of access to basic socio-economic infrastructure; the loss of property and land; the non-disarmament of different rebel groups; and government incapacity to stabilize the entire territory.
- Staff from ECHO and UNHCR HQs visited Cameroon from 18-24 September to monitor the UNHCR-WFP joint targeting approach for food and non-food (cash) assistance to Central African refugees in the East, Adamawa and North regions, including a field visit to discuss the issue with refugees. Targeting is the process whereby households or individuals are selected to receive some form of assistance. At global level, UNHCR is changing its approach from delivering assistance based purely on refugee status, to an approach which prioritizes the most vulnerable people and delivers assistance accordingly. ECHO has been supporting UNHCR to enhance its capacity in targeting approaches and it was within the framework of this ECHO grant that Cameroon was chosen as a case study for this monitoring mission. The mission observed that while much progress had been made in moving to a targeted approach (operational since July 2018), a number of challenges remain. Notably, the mission encouraged the increased participation of refugees in the process of improving the lists of those eligible for assistance.
- As part of the 2019 response planning for Nigerian refugees, UNHCR organized in Maroua - on 20 and 25 September - a consultation and validation workshop on the Regional Response Plan for Nigerian Refugees (RRRP 2019) living in the Far North Region. The workshop assembled over 150 participants (administrative, judicial and traditional authorities, members of the Joint Protection Committees, representatives of UN agencies, national and international NGOs and civil society actors). The objectives of the workshop were to determine and validate planning parameters and strategic objectives, as well as to review and validate sectoral response plans with contributions from all key actors.
- UNHCR Cameroon, opened a new Field Office in Buea (South West region) in order to respond to the growing internal displacement situation in the region due to ongoing insecurity and violence. The total number of IDPs in the South West region is estimated to be 246,000. Displacement has been noted in both rural and urban areas.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- The cross-border incursions and attacks perpetrated along the Cameroon/Nigeria borders and within Cameroonian territory have led to a significant rise in movements of populations seeking safety. The number of new arrivals registered by authorities and UNHCR during the reporting period was 352 individuals, a considerable reduction from the month of August (617 new arrivals).
- Since May 2018, UNHCR has observed the steady return of Nigerians that had left Minawao camp spontaneously during the course of 2017. As of end September, UNHCR had registered and reactivated the refugee status of some 760 individuals that have returned to Cameroon. They are primarily women, children, young men and elderly who say that they have returned due to continued insecurity in Banki.
- In September, Central African refugees in the East region received their first monthly cash assistance payments, as beneficiaries of UNHCR's new Transitional Safety Net project. This innovative project is designed to provide continuous support to selected CAR refugees over a 2-year period, contributing to meeting their basic needs, as well as supporting them to start income-generating activities and reduce their dependence on aid. Assistance is in the form of regular monthly cash payments, via mobile money, as well as training for livelihoods activities. The first round of payments in Kette commune (East region) reached 500 households and the project will rapidly scale-up to other areas, with the aim of reaching approximately 6000 CAR refugee households in 2019. In addition, UNHCR's Transitional Safety Net project is implemented in close coordination with the Cameroon Government's national Social Safety Net project, which will also target vulnerable CAR refugees in 2019 (with support from the World Bank IDA 18 Refugee Sub-Window).
- In view of strengthening the collaboration between the refugee community in the sites of Ngam and Gado (Adamaoua region) and partners working in these sites, a training workshop was conducted on 4-5 September for the members of the self-management committees (*comités d'autogestion*). The aim of the workshop was to equip participants with necessary management skills and knowledge to enable them to better engage in the running of activities carried out in the sites. During these two days of training, the 240 members of the committee (120 in each site) were trained on the rights and duties of refugees, the code of conduct of committee members, the internal rules of the site, roles and responsibilities of committees, techniques and mechanisms of communication between committees and the community as well as community empowerment. Trainers included UNHCR, *Première Urgence Internationale*, Lutheran World Federation and Catholic Relief Services. The workshops also saw the participation of partners, representatives of village chiefs and the Borgop site administrator.

EXTERNAL / DONOR RELATIONS

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds to Cameroon in 2018

African Development Bank | Canada | CERF | European Union | France | Japan | Republic of Korea | United Kingdom | United States of America | Dutch Postcode Lottery (NPL) | Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation | Private donors Spain | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Sweden (98 M) | Norway (43 M) | Netherlands (39 M) | United Kingdom (32 M) | Denmark (25 M) | Australia (19 M) | Switzerland (15 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

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