

Cameroon – Chad emergency

Reporting period: 23 January to 4 February

In **Chad**, **7,694** refugees have now been relocated and **5,651** have been **individually registered**. Relocations to the two camps continue, with construction nearly complete.

The joint **protection needs assessment** mission in Logone et Chari division in **Far North Cameroon** was completed on 2 February. The analysis will highlight key protection needs of internally displaced people (IDPs).

A joint UNHCR and Government as well as an inter-agency mission also took place in **Far North Cameroon**, and gathered additional information on the living conditions and needs of IDPs to inform the response.

KEY INDICATORS

100,000 people in need of assistance, incl. host populations

43,498 refugees are pre-registered in 40 sites in Chad (planning figure: 60,000 refugees and host communities), while RRM estimates 36,271 people are internally displaced in Far North Cameroon (planning figure: 40,000 IDPs and host communities).

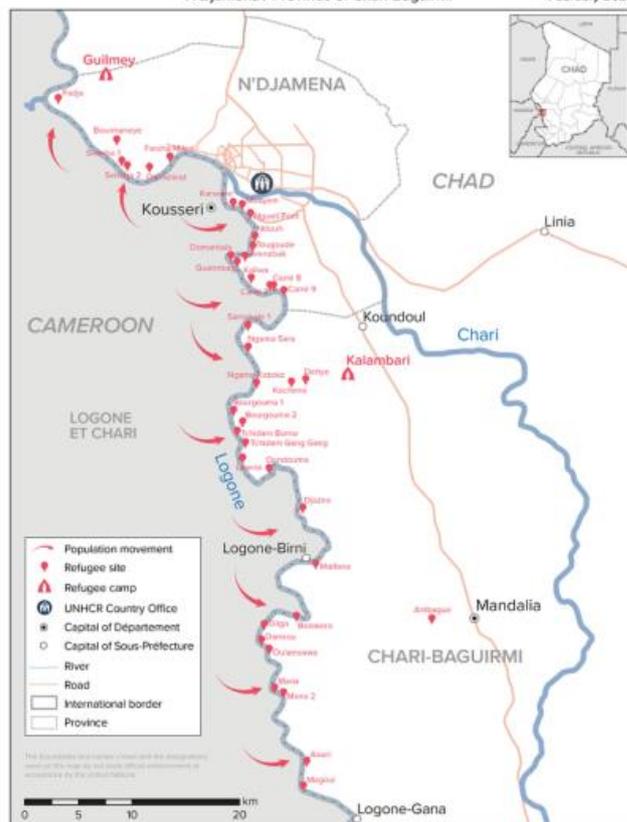
60% of children among the displaced in both countries

According to pre-registration of refugees in Chad and the protection needs assessment mission in Cameroon.



Far North Cameroon. 12/01/2021 – Internally displaced women at the informal site where they settled after fleeing inter-communal clashes with their families.
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UNHCR CHAD: Influx of refugees from Cameroon
N'Djamena / Province of Chari-Baguirmi February 2022



Data sources: CNMRR, UNHCR CO N'Djamena Author: Filip Hilgert, nilgert@unhcr.org Production date: 07 February 2022

THE CONTEXT

Clashes between communities of herders, farmers and fishermen broke out on 5 December 2021 in the village of Ouloumsa, Far North Cameroon. Violence quickly spread to neighbouring villages before reaching Kousseri, the administrative centre and main commercial hub of Logone and Chari division, on 8 December 2021.

Previous inter-communal clashes had occurred in August 2021 and displaced some 23,000 people across Cameroon and Chad. The repatriation of the 8,500 refugees who had remained in Chad was at an advanced stage of discussion between the two countries when the new clashes broke out.

Operational Context

Security situation

- Following the lifting of security restrictions in Kousseri, the security situation in the Far North region of Cameroon has remained calm and stable since 20 January.
- The security situation in Chad has been calm and stable since the start of the emergency.
- The **UNHCR emergency team** reached Kousseri on 24 January, four days after security restrictions were lifted.

UNHCR Emergency Response

Far North Cameroon

- **Needs assessments** | The joint **protection needs assessment mission** led by the Government (MINAT, MINAS, MINPROFF and MINDCAF) with the support of the Protection Sector in Diamare and Logone et Chari divisions was completed on 2 February. The data and information collected by the mission is currently being analyzed.
- A **joint Government and UNHCR mission** aiming to evaluate the situation on the ground and meet with people who were forced to flee began in Far North Cameroon on 24 January before proceeding to Chad. The mission's objective was also to reinforce coordination among humanitarian response sectors, as well as between humanitarian and development partners. The mission observed that it is imperative to facilitate a development response in Logone and Chari to avoid another crisis in the area and a possible spill over to the entire region. Under the leadership of the RC, such a response should be articulated around two priorities: (1) Access to water and land reform; (2) Facilitating the shelter rehabilitation and food security for the coming months to support the return and reintegration of forcibly displaced people.
- In parallel, an **inter-agency mission** seeking to evaluate the living conditions of IDPs and the impact of the inter-communal clashes took place and will provide the necessary data to inform the coordinated multi-partner response, in line with the IASC cluster approach.
- **Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)** | In addition to Domayo site which falls under UNHCR's responsibility as co-lead for the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) sector, the authorities have identified another site in Bogo (Diamare division) during the reporting period, which is being prepared for IDP relocation.
- **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)** | Since the beginning of the crisis, UNHCR has built 35 emergency shelters in Domayo, while IOM constructed 178 family shelters. Construction of 300 planned family shelters began on 4 February in Bogo, and should cover 75% of the shelter needs in this locality. Further construction

by IOM will help meet all shelter needs in Bogo. To enhance security at the existing formal and informal sites, UNHCR has also ordered 1,613 portable solar lamps for internally displaced households.

- **Coordination and Partnerships** | In line with the IASC Cluster approach, UNHCR is leading the Shelter/Core Relief Items (CRI), Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) and Protection sectors. The inter-agency mission and the joint Government and UNHCR mission which took place in January will also serve as the basis for a strengthened coordination among sector partners. The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), which was already active before the emergency, has continuously supported the response, under the coordination of OCHA.

Chad

- **Relocation** | The planned relocation of 12,000 refugees into two camps started on 5 January. As of 1 February, 7,694 refugees have been relocated to Guilmei (2,718 individuals) and Kalambari (4,976 individuals) camps. Construction is almost finished, with an estimated 95% of the camp infrastructure completed in Guilmei and 90% in Kalambari. Out-of-camp strategies for providing assistance at informal sites to host communities and refugees not planning to relocate to the camps are currently being explored in collaboration with the Government.
- **Registration and pre-registration** | Individual basic registration began on 10 January in Guilmei, and on 18 January in Kalambari. As of 2 February, **5,651 individuals had been registered** (2,975 people making up 894 households in Kalambari, and 2,676 people making up 781 households in Guilmei). 839 individuals with specific needs have been identified. In parallel, **pre-registration** of refugees settled in spontaneous sites resumed on 20 January and has now been completed. One additional informal site was identified and surveyed in the reporting period, bringing the number of **pre-registered refugees to 43,498** (16,395 households) scattered across 40 informal sites.
- **Protection** | With children and women making up 89% the registered refugees in Chad (including 65% of children), both child protection and gender-based violence prevention and response are central aspects of UNHCR's protection response.
 - **Legal protection** | Government partner ANATS in charge of civil documentation will provide birth certificates to any Cameroonian refugee child born on the Chadian territory during the crisis. In addition, the Chadian National Commission for Reinsertion of Refugees (CNARR) declared that they would recognize the new refugees *prima facie*, which will bolster the legal protection the new refugees can avail themselves of.
 - **Child Protection** | UNHCR has strengthened the coordination and launching of best interests of the child assessment (BIA) and best interests of the child determination (BID) activities, along with monitoring activities for the prevention of abuse and exploitation. Together with UNICEF and NGO partner INTERSOS, a tracing and family reunification mechanism has been set up at the relocation sites to help separated and unaccompanied minors find their parents lost during the flight. In Guilmei, the National Sub-Coordination for Peace of the 1st arrondissement, a body composed of 16 qualified teachers including five women, has engaged with communities (including children) in sensitization and awareness-raising activities on peace and peaceful coexistence.
 - **Education** | "Under-the-tree" classes have now started at Guilmei camp. Similar classes are planned for the coming days at Kalambari camp, also to be organised with the support of a local NGO. In partnership with the Jesuit Refugee Service, temporary learning spaces are being built in both camps, while teacher recruitment and training is ongoing.
 - **Gender-based violence** | 21 cases of gender-based violence were identified at the different sites during the reporting period and referred to the competent services for legal and psychosocial assistance.
- **Shelter / Core relief items (CRIs)** | At both camps, an additional 223 shelters were built during the reporting period. In sum 1,757 shelters have been completed out of the planned 2,400 (1,327 shelters in Kalambari and 430 shelters in Guilmei). After the completion of all planned boreholes in both sites, and of all required latrines and showers in Guilmei, the construction team are now focusing their efforts on completing the construction of showers and latrines in Kalambari camp. Hygiene promotion sessions have started at both sites and include Covid-19 prevention messaging. Distribution of core relief items has accelerated during the reporting period. Since the first distributions took place on 7 January, 10,680 individuals (4,182 households) have been assisted by UNHCR, partners and private donors in urban sites, and 6,000 individuals (2,450

households) received assistance in rural sites. UNHCR distributed 8,923 blankets, 6,266 mats and 848 mosquito nets - the items which were in highest demand at the start of the crisis.

- **Coordination and Partnerships** | In Chad, UNHCR leads and coordinates the refugee response in line with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM). As part of the emergency response, UNHCR works with 49 partners, including the Government, 11 UN sister agencies, 20 international and 8 local NGOs. The inter-agency coordination system is currently being strengthened and an inter-agency refugee country response plan is being prepared. Weekly coordination meetings are taking place, and currently focusing on the preparation of Refugee Response Plan (RRP) to structure and coordinate the response.

Funding situation

In order to meet the unforeseen humanitarian needs caused by this latest wave of violence, UNHCR launched a [supplementary appeal](#) on 21 January, seeking \$59.6 million to provide emergency support and protection to 100,000 refugees, internally displaced persons and host communities in Chad and Cameroon.

We are particularly grateful to donors providing unearmarked and softly earmarked funding, which gives us the flexibility we need to quickly reach those most in need in emergency situations like this.



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