

# Cameroon

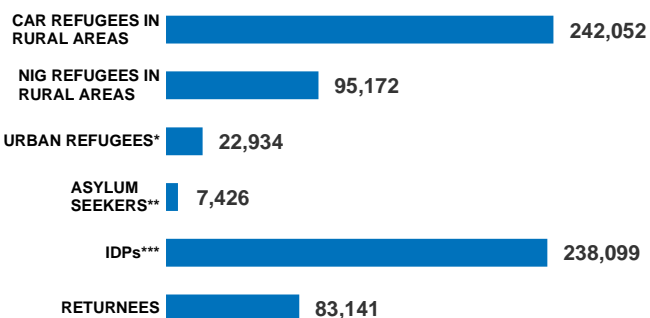
June 2018

Cameroon currently has **688,824 people of concern**, including **259,775 Central African refugees** and **97,085 Nigerian refugees**.

**Visit of the Assistant High Commissioner for Operations (AHC-O)**, George Okoth-Obbo, to Cameroon from 17-23 June.

**The 18th edition of World Refugee Day was held on 20 June** under the theme **Together #WithRefugees**.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN (688,824 AS OF 30 JUNE)



\*Incl. 17,723 Central Africans and 1,913 Nigerian refugees living in urban areas.

\*\*Incl. 6,095 Central Africans and 15 Nigerian asylum seekers living in urban areas.

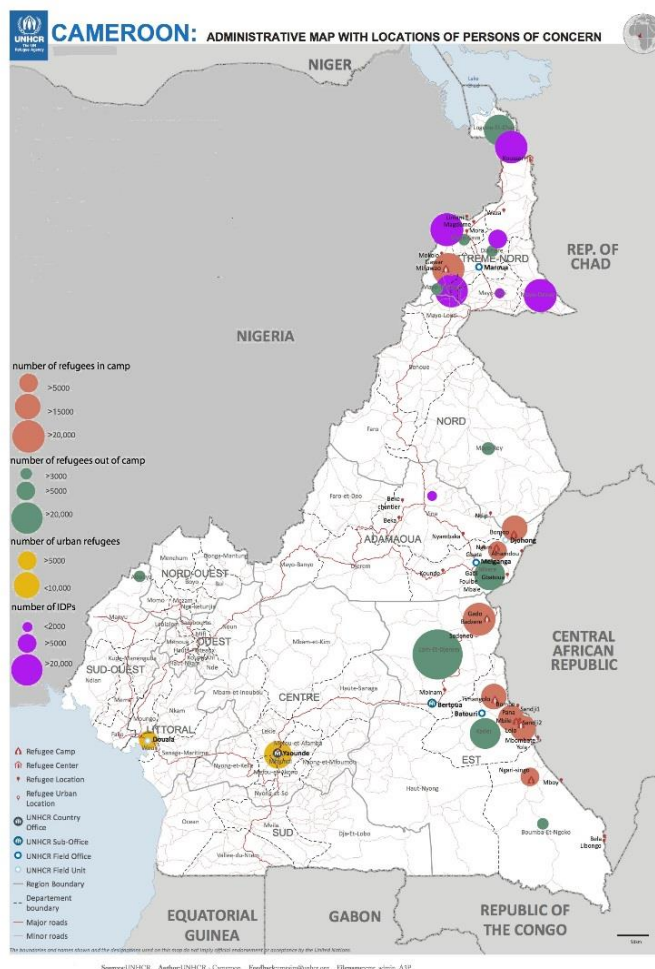
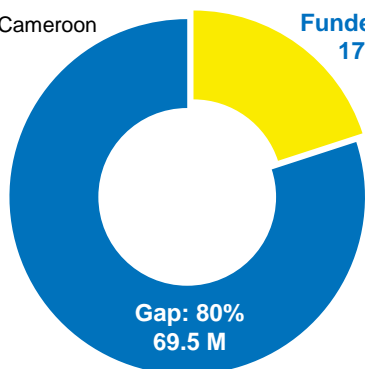
\*\*\*In addition, the Emergency Response Plan, launched by humanitarian partners in May 2018, estimates 160,000 IDPs are displaced in the North-West and South-West regions.

## FUNDING (AS OF 30 JUNE)

**USD 86.7 M**

Requested for Cameroon

**Funded: 20%  
17.2 M**



## UNHCR PRESENCE

**Staff: 242**

145 National Staff

49 International Staff

48 Affiliate workforce (9 International and 39 National)

## 9 OFFICES:

Representation – Yaounde

Sub Offices – Bertoua, Meiganga and Maroua

Field Offices – Batouri, Djohong, Touboro and Douala

Field Unit – Kousseri

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR coordinates protection and assistance for refugees 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 International* and CARE International.
- **UN Agencies:** WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UN Women, FAO, UNESCO, IOM, UNDP and UNOCHA.
- **Operational coordination:** In accordance with the “Joint OCHA-UNHCR Note on Mixed Situations – Coordination in Practice” the responsibility to coordinate the overall humanitarian response in the Far North has been delegated to UNHCR. UNHCR sectors are utilized to deliver assistance to IDPs and other affected groups. All sectors are operational holding regular meetings. Each sector is led by a Government entity and co-led by UN agencies. There is also a bi-monthly UNHCR-chaired Multi-Sector Operations Team meeting in Maroua, bringing together more than 40 humanitarian partners intervening in the region. 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 DEVELOPMENTS

- The 18<sup>th</sup> edition of World Refugee Day was held on 20 June under the theme *Together #WithRefugees*. The celebration took place in collaboration with Government and partners in Yaounde, as well as in the presence of local authorities in the regions of the Littoral, the Far North, East and Adamaoua.
- A delegation from the Ministry of External Relations (MINREX) undertook a familiarization mission to the East region and to hear directly from Central African refugees. The delegation visited Gado refugee site where they delivered the Government's message of support and the implementation of certain government measures that will aim at assisting UNHCR and partners to provide meaningful assistance. Refugees in turn expressed additional support was needed to ensure an adequate level of self-reliance and education.
- From 17-23 June, the Assistant High Commissioner for Operations (AHC-O), George Okoth-Obbo, accompanied by the Deputy Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa, Millicent Mutuli, undertook a mission to Cameroon to oversee operations in the East and Far North regions. The AHC-O held a series of meetings in Yaounde with the Ministers of External Relations, Territorial Administration and Economy, Planning and Regional Development. He also met with the Country Director of the World Bank, the Humanitarian Country Team, donors and partners to learn about the progress and challenges of the operation. The AHC-O also had the opportunity to meet with the Governors of the East and Far North regions during the field visits to Bertoua and Maroua respectively.
- The second session of the Technical Working Group on the voluntary repatriation of Nigerian refugees living in Cameroon, took place in Maroua from 27-29 June. These consultations followed those that had taken place in Yola, Nigeria, in late 2017. The following actions on the way forward were reached: that Nigeria will fast track decisions on the mode of transportation for repatriation; that Cameroon will facilitate the establishment of registration points for out-of-camp refugees; that the Nigerian delegation propose a date for the start of the repatriation to allow all parties to plan; that Nigeria share information on the level of security and access to basic services in the return areas; that UNHCR launch information campaigns and registrations from the first week of July in Minawao camp for those willing to return and that it proceed with the biometric registration of out-of-camp refugees in the Far North region of Cameroon to facilitate future returns.
- On 28 June, the Head of the EU Delegation in Cameroon, Hans-Peter Schadek, undertook a familiarization mission to Gado refugee site in the East region. A visit to some of Gado's major structures (WASH and solar energy activities, etc.), provided an overview of efforts being carried out by UNHCR and its partners to protect and assist the refugee community. Exchanges with the refugee community mentioned the need for additional international support from

humanitarian and development partners to improve their living conditions, especially regarding health, self-reliance activities, and education.

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Far North Region

- The cross-border incursions and attacks perpetrated along the Cameroon/Nigeria borders and within Cameroonian territory led to further movements of populations seeking safety. A total of 419 new arrivals were registered at Gourounguel transit centre and thereafter transferred to Minwao camp.
- During the reporting period, a training took place on the assembly of Refugee Housing Units (RHUs). A total of 34 participants, including partners, were trained over the course of 3 days in Minawao camp after which four RHUs were installed for vulnerable households and six as community shelters. A total of 70 RHUs were constructed in Minawao camp in June for vulnerable households.
- Reforestation and alternative energy promotion activities continued in June with the creation of green spaces for the planting of seedlings and cocoons in Minawao camp and in host communities. Since the beginning of the year, 6,000 plants and 24,954 cocoons have been planted. The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) also collected 2,300 kg of biomass this month, contributing to the production of ecological briquettes estimated at 2,899 kg since the beginning of 2018, helping to reduce the pressure on the need for firewood. In addition, LWF, in collaboration with GIZ, trained 150 women in the villages of Gawar, Gadala and Minawao camp on the manufacture of traditional improved stoves so as to reduce their reliance on firewood.

### East, Adamaoua and North Regions

- The upsurge of violence in the Central African Republic is driving hundreds of people across the border to seek asylum in Cameroon. They are fleeing clashes between government forces and armed groups following the disarmament programme of armed groups in the localities of the prefecture of Mambéré Kadei. In the East region, a total 2,931 Central African asylum seekers have arrived in the past two months alone. During these border crossings, no reports or observations surfaced regarding access of asylum on Cameroonian territory. The registration of these new arrivals is ongoing. New arrivals are primarily women and children from several localities in the prefecture of Mambéré Kadei. The pace of the arrivals combined with a very limited presence of humanitarian and law enforcement in these areas underscores the urgency of increasing our response to meet their needs.
- During the month of June, return intention surveys were carried out in all sites in the East and Adamaoua regions as well as certain host villages. A total of 4,000 individuals were targeted in both regions. The analysis of the results are in progress and will be shared once ready. The last of such surveys were conducted in 2016 where some 70% of the Central Africans surveyed expressed their wish to remain in Cameroon.
- In order to ensure continued school enrolment and attendance, UNHCR and its partners in the East and Adamaoua regions organized sensitization and self-awareness sessions on themes related to: back to school, parental monitoring and school support, the functioning of the parent association, school attendance, the education of the girl. A total 2,075 refugees and hosts participated in these sessions.

### 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

Algeria | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Canada | China | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Serbia | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | UN Peacebuilding Fund | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private Donors

### CONTACTS

**Xavier Bourgois**, Public Information Officer  
[bourgois@unhcr.org](mailto:bourgois@unhcr.org), Tel: +237 222 202 954, Cell +237 690 049 996

**Kabami Kalumiya**, Associate External Relations Officer  
[kalumiya@unhcr.org](mailto:kalumiya@unhcr.org), Tel: +237 222 202 954, Cell +237 691 141 226

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