

# Cameroon

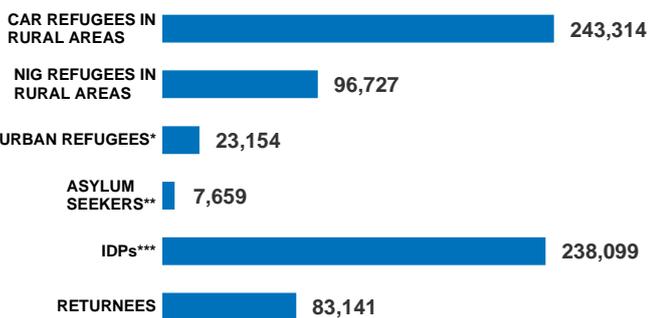
July 2018

Cameroon currently has **692,094** people of concern, including **261,245 Central African** and **98,640 Nigerian** refugees.

**Results of the return intention surveys** carried out in June 2018 in the East, Adamaoua and North regions are released.

**UNHCR shocked to learn of the tragic death of 6 Nigerian asylum-seekers killed in a blast** in the Far North region.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN (692,094 AS OF 31 JULY)



\*Incl. 17,931 Central Africans and 1,913 Nigerian refugees living in urban areas.

\*\*Incl. 6,271 Central Africans and 18 Nigerian asylum seekers living in urban areas.

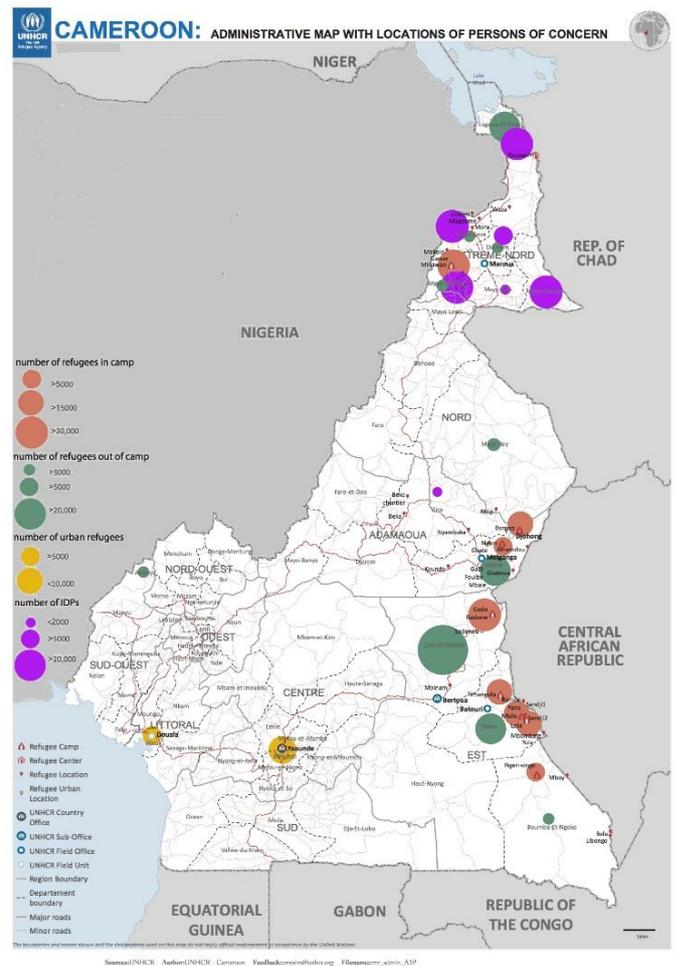
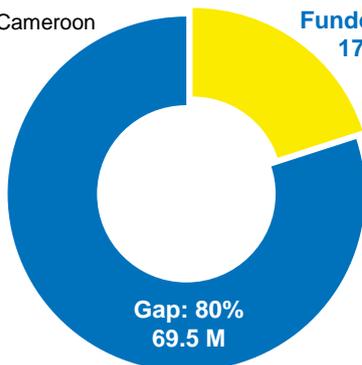
\*\*\*In addition, the Emergency Response Plan, launched by humanitarian partners in May 2018, estimates 160,000 IDPs are displaced in the North-West and South-West regions.

## FUNDING (AS OF 31 JULY)

**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 Internationales* 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 DEVELOPMENTS

- UNHCR expressed its shock following the tragic death of six Nigerian asylum-seekers who were killed in a blast in the Far North region. On 29 July, 12 asylum-seekers, being forcibly returned to Banki, Nigeria, in a Multinational Joint Task Force truck, drove over an improvised explosive device (IED). Six Cameroonian soldiers and six other asylum-seekers were also injured in the incident, which took place in Homaka, Mayo Sava department. UNHCR called on the Government of Cameroon to refrain from carrying out more forced returns and reminded the Government of its obligations under international law and the commitments it made by signing the Tripartite Agreement in March 2017. UNHCR also reiterated its appeal to authorities to provide Nigerian asylum seekers with unhindered access to asylum and stands ready to support Cameroon to ensure all individuals seeking safety have access to efficient screening, registration and documentation procedures.
- On 18 June, the Prince and Grand Master of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, accompanied by high-level authorities from Yaounde and UNHCR Cameroon's Representative, undertook a field visit to the refugee site of Gado which hosts some 25,000 Central African refugees. A visit to some of Gado's health centre provided an overview of efforts being carried out by UNHCR and its partners to ensure an adequate health and nutritional response to refugees and populations in surrounding villages. 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.
- The "Center for International Forestry Research" (CIFOR) undertook a mission to assess the energy needs of refugees in the sites of Mbile and Lolo. CIFOR plans to carry out projects in the context of the use of firewood as a domestic energy source. The mission was therefore intended to improve their knowledge of the management of firewood as it is currently being used, to define the options that could make it possible to improve and to eventually find durable solutions with potential new partners.

## 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. A total of 927 new arrivals were registered at Gourounguel transit centre and thereafter transferred to Minwao camp. The number of new arrivals increased considerably this reporting period compared to the month of June where UNHCR registered 419 new arrivals.
- Reforestation and alternative energy promotion activities continued in July with the creation of green spaces for the planting of seedlings and cocoons in Minwao camp and in host communities. The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) also collected 2,500kg of biomass this month, contributing to the production of ecological briquettes

estimated at 3,349 kg since the beginning of 2018, helping to reduce the pressure on the need for firewood. In addition, LWF, continued the construction of a second production centre for the fabrication of ecological briquettes.

- During the month of June, return intention surveys were carried out with Central African refugees 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. During the reporting period, results indicated that 24% of those surveyed expressed their wish to return home against 74% that would prefer local integration as a durable solution. Insecurity in several areas of origin was cited as the main reason for wishing to remain in Cameroon. The last of such surveys were conducted in 2016 where a similar percentage of Central Africans (70%) expressed their wish to remain in Cameroon.
- In the East, Adamoua and North regions, joint UNHCR, WFP, IFRC, LWF and CRS teams, set up as part of the start of targeting activities, met with various authorities to inform them about the effective implementation of food assistance based on a vulnerability criteria (targeting) as of 18 July in all Central African refugee sites. The teams were also deployed in the different refugee sites and host villages of said regions in accordance with the pre-established plan to raise awareness among refugees, to share the lists of the new beneficiaries of food assistance and to distribute new ration cards.
- In order to continue to sensitize refugees on their rights and duties in Cameroon, an information session was carried in Bertoua for 201 Central African refugees. They were reminded of the importance of respecting the laws of Cameroon and their ability to enjoy their rights whilst respecting those of their compatriots and the local population. Emphasis was placed on respecting their parental responsibilities such as to register the births of their children born in Cameroon as well as school enrolment. They were also reminded of the need to always carry valid identity and travel documents.

## EXTERNAL / DONOR RELATIONS

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

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### Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

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## 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: hcrcameroun