

# Cameroonian refugee situation, Nigeria

1 – 28 February 2019

**9,059 refugees** received cash for **food assistance**, while **953** individuals received **food items** in Adagom, Okende and Anyake settlements (Cross River and Benue states).

**786 refugees** received **medical care** in the various health care facilities in Adagom and Anyake settlements (Cross River and Benue states).

**63 refugee children were registered** by the National Population Commission and issued with **birth certificates**, in Adagom, Obanliku and Boki (Cross River state).

## KEY INDICATORS

# 32,601

Cameroonian refugees registered with Level 1 and Level 2 registration [As of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019]

# 1,763

Cameroonian refugees registered in Anyake settlement, Benue State [as of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019]

# 7,236

Cameroonian refugees registered in Adagom settlement, Cross River State [as of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019]

# 1,260

Cameroonian refugees registered in Okende settlement, Cross River State [as of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019]



*The UNHCR High Level Delegation Team from Geneva during inspection at the Local Government Area Primary School where refugees and host pupils receive classes on the floor (Kwande Local Government Area, Benue state) / © UNHCR / L. Agiende*

## Operational Context

- Cameroonian refugees continued to arrive in Nigeria from the southwest and northwest regions of Cameroon through unofficial entry points, as official borders remain closed. UNHCR and its partners Foundation for Justice Development and Peace (FJDP) and Caritas identified and assessed some 731 new arrivals in dire need of food and non-food items, many of them women and children, in the border areas of Obanliku, Boki, Bakassi, Akamkpa and Kwande Local Government Areas (Cross River and Benue states).
- A UNHCR High Level delegation from Geneva was on mission to Nigeria, to evaluate the emergency response of the Cameroonian refugee situation in Cross River and Benue states. Meetings were held with the Governor of Benue state, host communities and refugees. During meetings and focus group discussions with refugees in both sites, concerns on access to livelihood opportunities, cooking fuel, education, shelter, health care, food and non-food items,

inadequate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities and security challenges in Anyake settlement (Benue state) were highlighted. The mission was impressed by the level of progress by the operation, given the short period of implementation and challenging environment.

## Update on Emergency Response

- **Protection** – The UNHCR protection desk in Adagom settlement (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state) received and profiled 68 refugees with various concerns regarding shelter, food, non-food items, healthcare and education. The protection desk was established to enhance effective communication between UNHCR and refugees, in order to identify and respond to their specific needs. The individuals received counselling and were referred to the appropriate service providers for necessary assistance.
- In Anyake settlement (Kwande Local Government Area, Benue state), a women's group meeting was established to create a platform for both refugee women and girls, to meet regularly and engage in various social and peace building activities. This is part of UNHCR's strategy to foster peaceful coexistence and development among women. A total of 160 women and girls including those with specific needs participated in the meeting.
- On 1 February, UNHCR partner Caritas carried out sensitization sessions in Adagom settlement, to create awareness on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and child protection among refugees. A total of 266 refugees (191 women and 75 men) were sensitized on prevention, reporting and referral pathway for SGBV and Child Protection.
- A border monitoring visit was carried out by UNHCR to Ikang border locality (Bakassi Local Government Area, Cross River state) on 19 February, to assess refugee's needs and the presence of new arrivals. Four focused group discussions were conducted with 47 refugees in four separate groups of Men, Women, Boys and Girls. Findings indicated that refugees were in dire need of support for food, livelihood, non-food items, medical care, registration and education for school aged children. About 50 new arrivals were recorded in the month of February 2019, by the community volunteers.
- On 21 February, a one-day training on International refugee law was conducted by UNHCR in Calabar (Cross River state), for 12 newly elected community outreach volunteers from Calabar, Akamkpa, and Boki Local Government Areas (Cross River state). The aim of the training was to build their capacity on UNHCR's Code of Conduct, Child Protection, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and confidentiality. The community volunteers facilitate identification and referral of cases including Child Protection and SGBV, as well as carry out community mobilization and sensitization sessions in their communities.
- **Child Protection** – The child protection committee in Anyake settlement conducted monitoring and follow-up visits to nineteen separated children in alternative care, in order to assess their coping mechanisms and living environment. All nineteen children were assessed to be coping well with their caregivers. A total of 196 unaccompanied and separated children were profiled/registered so far in the settlement and have been placed in foster care.
- Some 63 refugee children were registered by the National Population Commission and issued with birth certificates in Adagom settlement, Obanliku and Boki (Cross River state).

- 62 unaccompanied and separated children were identified by UNHCR and its partner Foundation for Justice Development and Peace (FJDP) during screening of spontaneous arrivals in Anyake settlement. The children were successfully placed in foster care and continuous follow-up will be conducted to assess their adaptation with the care givers.
- **Relocation** – On 20 February, 484 individuals (118 households) were relocated from a transit facility in Adagom settlement to Okende settlement (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state), with support from UNHCR and its partners.
- A total of 429 spontaneous arrivals in 122 households were recorded in Anyake settlement (Benue state), from Manfe, Yive, Balli and Bamenda in the Southwest and Northwest regions of Cameroon, most of them women and children. The refugees reportedly fled their towns and villages due to recent attacks on civilians by the military, in an effort to drive away combatants.
- **Registration** – As of 28 February 2019, UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (NCFRMI) biometrically registered/verified some **28,311** refugees in the states of Cross River, Benue, Akwa Ibom and Taraba.
- 5,000 refugees have received their ID cards thus far.
- **New settlement** – A new site has been allocated by the Adagom community (Ogoja Local Government Area, Cross River state), for the establishment of a refugee settlement. On 8 February, a joint assessment was carried out by UNHCR, state Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and Adagom community representatives to the site which is 3.4km from the existing Adagom settlement. Findings revealed that the land was suitable for the establishment of a refugee settlement and can accommodate a maximum of 3,000 individuals. However, there was no functional water supply facility within acceptable distance and access road to the site, thus there is need to rehabilitate the access road and install appropriate WASH facilities.
- **Settlement management** – The construction of a second foot path bridge was completed by UNHCR in Adagom settlement, in order to facilitate refugee's access to the community health post and settlement across the swamp. The two foot bridges constructed so far, provides safe and easy access to the community based facilities, especially for refugee pupils of St. Peter's Primary School Adagom.
- **Food and non-food items** – Some 9,059 individuals (2,450 households) received cash for food assistance equivalent to \$20 per individual, to enable them purchase the food of their choice in Adagom, Okende and Anyake settlements. Moreover, 953 spontaneous arrivals in the three sites awaiting verification received food items, while 385 individuals in Anyake settlement received non-food items (including mats, jerry cans, buckets, solar lanterns, blankets, soap and sanitary pads for women and girls).
- **Healthcare** – 786 refugees in Adagom and Anyake settlements received medical care in the primary, secondary and tertiary health care facilities. Malaria was the most recurrent disease recorded in both sites, while in Adagom settlement 28 cases of diarrhoea were reported, of which 26 were children. Investigations are ongoing by UNHCR and other partners to determine the possible causes of diarrhoea in the settlement, in order to provide adequate treatment.
- **Livelihood** – A total of 140 members of the women's group meeting newly established in Anyake settlement, were trained on the production of liquid soap with support from UNHCR, as part of its initiatives to help create additional means of economic empowerment among women.

- **Shelter** – Construction of permanent shelters by Cameroonian refugees continued in the new refugee settlement of Okende. As of 28 February, 65 permanent shelters were completed in the site, bringing the total number of permanent shelters completed in the three settlements of Adagom, Okende and Anyake up to 873, of which 800 were funded by EU Humanitarian Aid and others with UNHCR reserved funds.
- **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)** – Some 4,805 refugees including children (2,853 females and 1,952 males), participated in hygiene awareness sessions in Adagom and Okende settlements, as part of UNHCR's effort to promote good hygiene and sanitation practices among refugees. The hygiene awareness sessions included: personal and environmental hygiene, prevention of water and sanitation related diseases and menstrual hygiene management. Moreover, cleaning materials (including brooms, buckets, soaps and disinfectants), were distributed by UNHCR to 17 refugee communities in Anyake settlement, to facilitate cleaning of the surroundings, toilets and bathing showers.
- In order to increase refugee's access to water and sanitation facilities in Adagom and Okende settlements, UNHCR completed five blocks of bathing showers and two additional water points, while three emergency latrines were decommissioned and replaced with new ones.

## Critical needs and priorities

- **Food and non-food items** – Despite response to the refugee influx in the four states of Cross River, Benue, Taraba and Akwa Ibom, gaps in assistance remains significant. A joint Emergency Food Security and Market Assessment conducted by the World Food Programme (WFP) in 2018 among Cameroonian refugees revealed that, refugees were more food insecure compared to host community members (26% of refugees in settlements and 38% of out-of-camp refugees are severely food insecure compared to 9% of host community members). Female-headed households are particularly affected. In 2019, the situation is deteriorating especially for refugees in the host communities. In both settlements and host communities, needs identified included: food and non-food items mainly cooking stove and fuel, sanitary pad for women and girls, mattresses, kitchen sets and children's clothes.
- **Livelihood** – Access to livelihood remains a serious challenge for Cameroonian refugees in the four states. Out of the over 28,000 biometrically registered refugees, less than 700 have been trained and supported so far, to start a livelihood activity. Refugees particularly individuals with specific needs, women and child heads of households are in dire need of assistance, in order to prevent exploitation and promote self-reliance.

## Working in partnership

- Together with the Nigerian Government, UNHCR ensures international protection and delivery of multi-sectoral assistance to the Cameroonian refugees and has established a monthly coordination meeting in Ogoja (Cross River state), to foster closer collaboration with other UN agencies and humanitarian actors. The following partners implement specific sector activities in this situation: Save the Children International, CUSO International, Binta Medical Outreach

Africa, Catholic Caritas Foundation Nigeria (CCFN); Catholic Diocese of Makurdi – Foundation for Justice Development and Peace (FJDP); MEDATRIX Development Foundation and Rhema Care Integrated Development Centre. Other partners also deliver services to the Cameroonian refugees with their own resources such as ICRC, MSF, UNFPA and WHO.

#### CONTACTS

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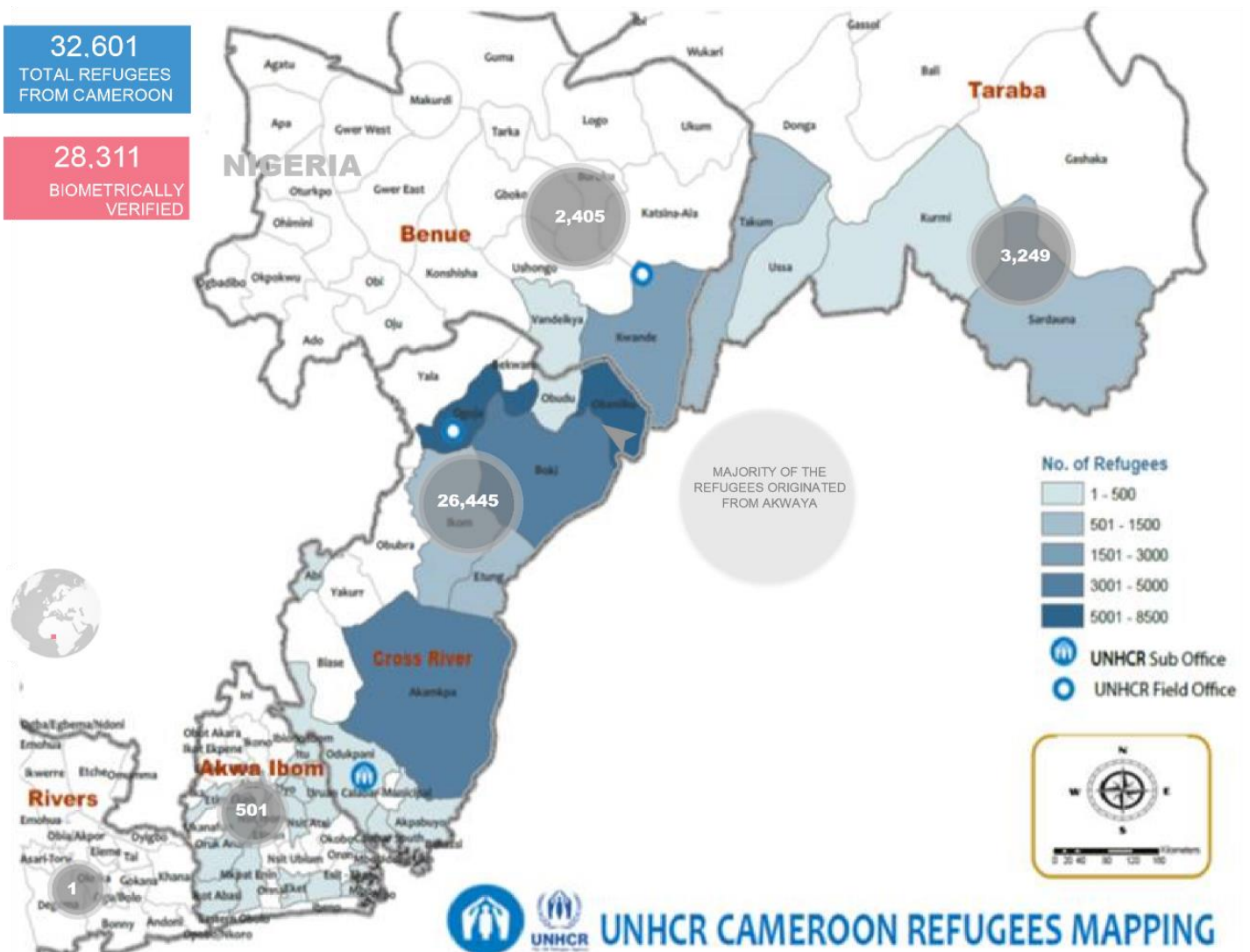
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#### LINKS

[UNHCR Operational Portal : Nigeria Country Page](#) - [UNHCR Nigeria website](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria on Global Focus](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria Facebook page](#) – [UNHCR Nigeria Twitter account](#) – [Web Story: Cameroonian refugees flee clashes and find safety in Nigeria](#).



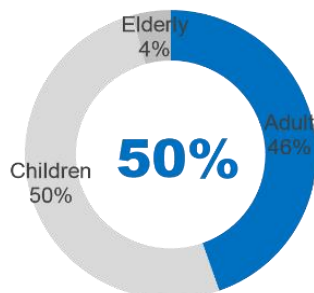


#### BIOMETRICALLY VERIFIED



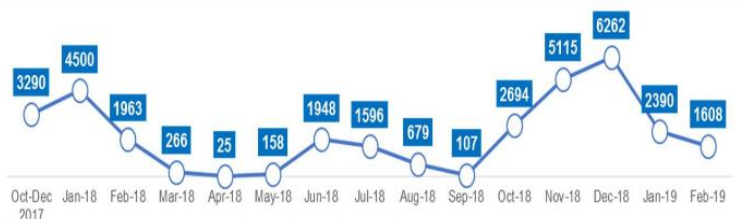
87% (28,311 individuals) of the total refugees counted at household level has been registered/verified through biometric capture of iris, fingerprints (10) and photo. Refugee information were also validated through amendment of their existing information, litigation and support of national documentations. Provision of Refugee ID cards will ensure that credible information will effectively and efficiently provide protection to refugees.

#### REGISTERED REFUGEES PER AGE CATEGORY

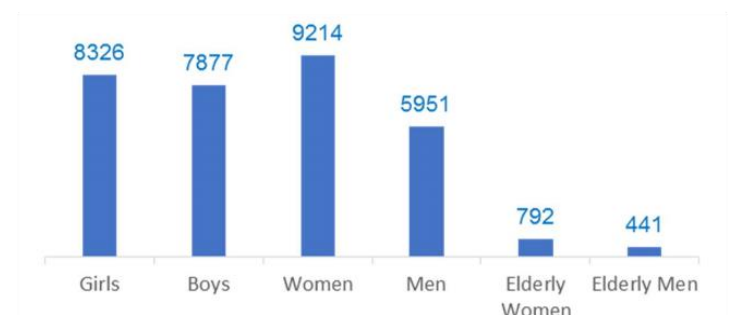


50% of registered Cameroonian refugees are under the age of 18

#### REGISTERED REFUGEES PER MONTH



#### REGISTERED REFUGEES PER DEMOGRAPHICS



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## NIGERIA: Registration of Cameroonian Refugees

### BREAKDOWN BY LOCATION, GENDER AND AGE COHORT

STATE	LGAs	0-4		0-4 Total	5-11		5-11 Total	12-17		12-17 Total	18-59		18-59 Total	60 and above		60 and above Total	Grand Total
		F	M		F	M		F	M		F	M		F	M		
Akwa Ibom	Eket				1		1				4	2	6				7
	Esit Eket	5	5	10	7	5	12	5	5	10	19	6	25				57
	Etim Ekpo		2	2	2	1	3				2		2				7
	Ibesikpo Asutan										1	1	2				2
	Ikot Abasi		1	1	1		1		1	1	4	1	5	1		1	9
	Itu	1		1	1	1	2				1	2	3				6
	Mbo	1	2	3	4	1	5	1	3	4	4	2	6				18
	Mkpat Enin	2	4	6	3	3	6		1	1	20	7	27	5	1	6	46
	Oron	17	20	37	13	27	40	22	15	37	72	35	107	3		3	224
	Oruk Anam											1	1				1
Benue	Uruan		1	1				4	4	8	3	5	8				13
	Uyo	10	10	20	4	9	13	5	5	10	36	30	66		2	2	111
	Kwande	242	253	495	344	350	694	170	107	277	552	303	855	49	33	82	2403
Cross River	Vandikya										1	1	2				2
	Abi		1	1						1							2
	Akamkpa	291	317	608	327	348	675	226	256	482	1805	1252	3057	175	115	290	5112
	Akpabuyo	2	2	4	5	4	9	1	3	4	14	9	23	1		1	41
	Bakassi	25	15	40	24	27	51	14	20	34	196	126	322	8	4	12	459
	Boki	250	238	488	286	253	539	176	183	359	923	727	1650	96	55	151	3187
	Calabar South	8	13	21	18	14	32	10	10	20	60	45	105	5	2	7	185
	Calabar-mu	47	57	104	61	76	137	76	50	126	300	234	534	10	9	19	920
	Etung	98	102	200	139	148	287	88	74	162	337	227	564	23	24	47	1260
	Ikom	93	63	156	97	80	177	66	59	125	323	326	649	19	5	24	1131
Rivers	Obanliku	422	409	831	927	711	1538	452	322	774	1532	637	2169	178	58	236	5548
	Obudu	1	1	2	1		1		1	1	5	5	10				14
	Ogoja	838	827	1665	1082	1047	2129	607	536	1143	2101	1288	3389	162	98	260	8586
Taraba	Port-harcourt											1	1				1
	Jalingo				1	2	3	2		2	1	2	3				8
	Kurmi	21	20	41	23	24	47	25	19	44	65	56	121	4	7	11	264
	Sardauna	122	127	249	149	158	307	80	68	148	457	307	764	25	15	40	1508
	Takum	102	109	211	121	120	241	108	91	199	312	284	596	13	8	21	1268
Grand Total	Ussa	21	14	35	19	19	38	12	3	15	64	29	93	15	5	20	201
		2619	2613	5232	3560	3428	6988	2147	1836	3983	9214	5951	15165	792	441	1233	32601

### BREAKDOWN BY OCCUPATION

Student	10304
No occupation	7564
Farmers (crop and vegetable)	7003
Unknown	2045
Farm-hands & labourers	1168
Business services agents and...	717
Others	551
Tailors, dressmakers and hatters	511
Sales...	505
Hairdressers, barbers...	335
Housekeepers (including...	238
Primary education teachers	126
Carpenters and joiners	125
Nurses and midwifery...	108
General managers (own or...	103
Mixed-crop growers	103
Religious professionals	96
Business professionals	91
Dairy and livestock producers	88
Motor-cycle drivers	79
Mechanical engineers	72
Builders (traditional materials)	71
Tree and shrub crop growers	66
Street food vendors	65
Salespersons	59
Secondary education teachers	55
Car, taxi and van drivers	48
Motor vehicle drivers	44
Electrical engineers	43
Pre-primary education teachers	40
Drivers of animal-drawn...	33
Motor vehicle mechanics and...	31
Traditional leaders and village...	30
Bricklayers and stonemasons	29
Welders and flamecutters	28
Cooks	27

### BREAKDOWN BY EDUCATION

No education	8665
7 years (or Grade 7)	2120
Unknown	2091
12 years (or Grade 12)	1950
6 years (or Grade 6)	1932
1 year (or Grade 1)	1755
14 years (or Grade 14)	1603
Kindergarten	1317
5 years (or Grade 5)	1223
3 years (or Grade 3)	1194
4 years (or Grade 4)	1172
9 years (or Grade 9)	1114
10 years (or Grade 10)	1032
11 years (or Grade 11)	994
8 years (or Grade 8)	982
2 years (or Grade 2)	928
13 years (or Grade 13)	891
University level	711
Technical or vocational	592
Informal education	254
Post university level	81