

Far North Cameroon Emergency

Reporting period: 18 February to 18 March 2022

In **Chad**, relocations have resumed after a three-week break. Out-of-camp assistance has been strengthened.

In **Far North Cameroon**, the humanitarian response is being strengthened through protection focus groups, construction of shelters and distribution of core relief items.

The appeal for the **Far North Cameroon emergency** is only **9% funded**. Food insecurity remains a key issue in both **Far North Cameroon** and **Chad**.

SITUATION MAP



FUNDING (AS OF 18 MARCH 2022)

USD 59.6 million

requested for the Far North Cameroon emergency

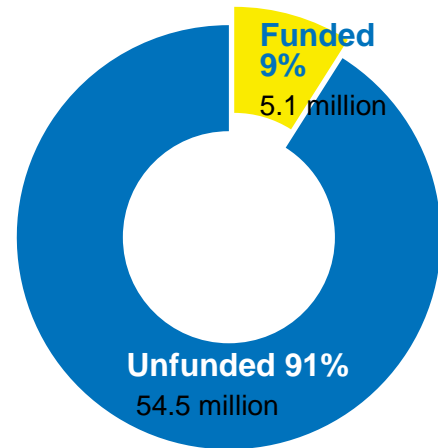


Image on the right | **Far North region, Cameroon.** Persons with specific needs provided with support by UNHCR and authorities during International Women's Day celebrations. 8 March 2022. UNHCR

/ © Justin Notang



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 occurred in August 2021 and displaced some 23,000 people across Cameroon and Chad. 8,500 Cameroonian refugees remained in Chad when the new clashes broke out.

Operational Context

Security situation and population movements

- Violent incidents took place in the locality of Zina, Logone and Chari division, on 3 March 2022. The gendarmerie was deployed to stabilise the situation. Though relative calm has since returned, tensions between communities remain perceptible.
- The security situation in Chad has been calm and stable since the start of the emergency.
- Returns of internally displaced persons to their places of origin continue to be reported in Logone and Chari division in Far North Cameroon. It is too early to assess whether those returns can be deemed sustainable.

UNHCR Emergency Response

Far North Cameroon

- **Protection** | In Kousseri, the protection team met with two Prefects and the Regional Delegate for Basic Education to define the modalities of the proposed Government response to ensure spontaneous returnees' individual documentation can be replaced. At Domayo site, IDP participants in a focus group discussion conveyed that they did not intend to return to their localities of origin, and they raised issues pertaining to heat, overcrowding of the site, and the need to improve sanitary facilities. Protection teams also visited 16 villages to assess the protection needs of IDPs (civil documentation, social cohesion, education, identification of persons with specific needs, intention to return). They worked with communities and Government actors to prepare a week-long programme to celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March, where 140 people with specific needs (107 women and 33 men identified through protection assessments) benefited from assistance in the form of core relief items (CRIs) and food. Gender-based violence prevention and response continued, with follow-up awareness-raising activities by partner ALDEPA at the Bogo site.
- **Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)** | In Diamaré division on Adjaniré site, the construction of shelters is underway, with 278 shelters built of 300 planned. The UNHCR Maroua CCCM team, with the community participation of IDPs (Self-Management Committees), started the relocation process for IDPs from their spontaneous shelters in Ardjaniré (Bogo) to UNHCR shelters, with 426 individuals representing 84 households relocated to 106 shelters. A meeting was also held with the prefectural authorities in Logone-Birni to discuss the implementation of CCCM activities in villages with spontaneous returns. Situational analysis of existing community structures was carried out in 16 villages, with a view to implementing peace committees. CCCM formally joined the coordination platform in Kousseri.
- **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs)** | In the Logone-Birni district, a field visit was carried out to follow up on the distribution of CRIs carried out in six villages the previous week. Following the distribution of CRIs in returnee villages, the shelter team carried out sensitization in IDP communities in preparation for the distribution of shelter kits. NGO Partner Public Concern distributed CRI kits and community tool kits to returnees in nine villages. A total of 1,644 people received 446 CRI kits, with 9 community tool kits distributed in the nine localities. Shelter teams monitored rehabilitation activities in Sabla Masga (17 shelters rehabilitated with several others underway).

- **Coordination and Partnerships** | Partnerships continue to be key to all aspects of the response in the Far North region. In Diamaré division, partner Al Rayhan association built 3 boreholes at the Adjaniré site, while ICRC finalized their assessment of shelter needs in Logone-Birni, with an implementation plan for 40 villages. The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) started the assessment phase of planned livelihood activities for IDPs at the Domayo, Bogo and Pette sites. FAO shared plans for support to farmers, fishermen and herders in the Logone Birni.
- In addition to regular sector coordination meetings in Maroua and Kousseri, a protection coordination meeting was convened by the Joint Protection Committee in Kousseri to update their action plan. UNHCR held a bilateral meeting with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) to exchange information on plans for the issuance of civil documentation in Logone Birni as well as emergency activities in Logone Birni district. A bilateral meeting was also held with OCHA to discuss plans for a joint assessment mission to the Maga district to villages of provenance of the displaced in the Domayo and Bogo sites, as well as issues pertaining to CCCM, WASH and humanitarian access.

Chad

- **Relocation** | Relocation exercises resumed on 28 February after being halted for three weeks to allow for essential construction and food distributions to take place, and are ongoing. As of 15 March 2022, a total of **10,679 individuals have been relocated to the two camps** (2,736 to Guilmeiy and 7,943 to Kalambari). UNHCR is supporting the Government to identify a new site for a third camp to accommodate more refugees, including beyond the Mandelia region. In Chad, there is a total of **43,498 pre-registered refugees** (16,395 households) scattered across 40 informal sites.
 - In an effort to enhance **out-of-camp** solutions, UNHCR is conducting evaluation missions to villages hosting refugees, and possibilities to extend individual registration and assistance to villages are being explored by the Protection team. WASH/Shelter Sector mappings were conducted from 28 February to 5 March. In parallel, UNHCR and its partners are providing core relief items to refugees in out-of-camps locations, while UNICEF is distributing dignity kits.
- **Registration** | As of 16 March, **8,747 people (2,602 households) have been individually registered at Guilmeiy and Kalambari camps** (3,270 at Guilmeiy and 5,477 at Kalambari). A report received by MSF revealed the presence of unregistered refugees in Ambargue. A joint UNHCR-CNARR mission visited the site to interview the families and concluded that refugees should be relocated so that their status could be assessed more thoroughly. Following reports of Chadian nationals attempting to register as refugees, fraud prevention procedures in both camps referred suspected cases for in-depth interviews to evaluate their status and check for possible protection concerns. At the conclusion of this process, 135 households were referred to more appropriate assistance providers.
- **Protection**
 - **Community-based protection (CBP)** | In close collaboration with CNARR, UNHCR community-based protection team is establishing community structures in both camps. The structures are now in place at Guilmeiy, where elections took place from 9 until 12 March. There are 7 community committees, comprising 87 refugee representatives, including 40 women. To best ensure representative of all refugees hosted in Kalambari, the establishment of community structures will start once the relocation process is complete.
 - **Gender-based violence** | On behalf of the GBV sectoral working group, UNHCR held a technical training from 9 to 11 March on the 'Interagency Gender-Based Violence Case Management Guidelines in Humanitarian Settings' in order to strengthen GBV case management and information and help build capacities in the area of psychosocial support to GBV survivors. 24 individuals from 10 member organizations of the GBV sectoral working group participated in the training.
 - **Child Protection** | On 28 February and 1 March, UNHCR conducted a training on Best Interest Procedures for 31 actors from partners involved in child protection-related activities, including JRS, INTERSOS, CRT, CNARR, ICRC, ADES, the Ministry of Women, Family and Child Protection. The training aimed at capacity building of Best Interest Determination (BID) panel members, and ensuring comprehensive case management from start to finish (identification, best interests assessment, action planning, implementation, follow-up and case closure). UNHCR partner INTERSOS conducted door-to-door sensitization sessions on 'the rights of the child' for 59 people at Kalambari camp, and on 'child protection and peaceful cohabitation' for 575 children (including 319 girls) Guilmeiy camp. The INTERSOS initiative in mobile spaces at both camps welcomed hundreds of children for social and recreational activities such as reading, arithmetic, singing and

dancing activities. Some 83 children (45 girls and 38 boys) participated in Kalambari camp, and 740 children (391 girls and 349 boys) in Guilmeiy camp.

- **Education** | All refugee students continue to have access to education in both camps. Training for Cameroonian teachers was concluded on 26 February, with a total of 62 teachers trained at Guilmeiy and Kalambari. Local education authorities have completed the recruitment of teachers (nationals and refugees) for primary education in both camps, and classes officially started in both public schools on 7 March. Identification of secondary education teachers is ongoing. UNHCR has met with the National Office for Examinations (ONECS) to request that Cameroonian refugees will have access to lower and upper secondary level national exams plans for June 2022, which was positively received. School infrastructure construction has been completed, with 11 Temporary Learning Spaces built at Guilmeiy school, and 33 at Kalambari school and the camp annex (prior to this, each school had only three durable classrooms). Each space can accommodate up to 60 children, and a rotation system has been organised to hold primary level classes in the morning and secondary level classes in the afternoon. Existing classroom renovations began the week of 7 March. Current projections show that up to 4,000 refugee children will be able to attend the two schools.
- **Shelter / Core relief items (CRIs) and WASH** | At Kalambari, rehabilitation was completed on 13 communal shelters in transit centres and 537 family shelters. At Guilmeiy, a joint visit with CNARR was conducted on 2 March to explore possibilities of extension of the camp, which would provide shelter space for 423 individuals currently residing in the Farcha and Milezi neighbourhoods of N'Djamena, and another 936 individuals in the transit centre at Guilmeiy Camp. Discussions continue with UNHCR partner the Chadian Red Cross to explore options in line with the strategy to upgrade existing emergency shelters in both camps.
- **WASH** | During the reporting period, hygiene promotion activities have focused on handwashing, use and cleaning of sanitation facilities and solid waste management. In Block 1 at Kalambari camp, 125 households have been visited and sensitized. At Guilmeiy camp, the monitoring of the WASH facilities and hygiene promotion activities are still ongoing. UNHCR, the Government, and several WASH partners also conducted needs assessment in spontaneous sites in host villages (Liberia, Bougourma 2, Ngama Sara, Ngama Kotoko, Samake 1). The collected data is being analysed and will be shared shortly. Partners continue to be key actors of the WASH response. At Kalambari camp, Oxfam has completed two blocks of three latrines, while four blocks of latrines and showers are under construction by IRC. In Ndjamen, MSF Hollande has completed 16 latrines and showers in the Mbayam site and 12 latrines and showers in Ngueli Pont. 12 latrines and 12 showers are still under construction by AYTA in Guelmbag.
- **Coordination and Partnerships** | The **Refugee Response Plan (RRP)** was launched on 15 March, bringing together 35 NGOs and 6 UN agencies. Prior to this, international NGOs' participation in the RRP and in the overall coordination structure had been enhanced, with linkages established with the national INGO forum and discussion on the rotational representation of INGOs at the Inter-sectoral level.
 - Working groups continue to carry out essential coordination work for all sectors. The **WASH working group**, in conjunction with the **Shelter working group**, is conducting a joint mapping exercise in host villages to identify the status of WASH /Shelter services and needs. This will inform the out of camp strategy under the new hybrid solutions approach. To help mainstream the **gender-based violence (GBV)** protection response, UNHCR continued to provide short introductory sessions on 'GBV Risk Mitigation Mainstreaming' during the coordination meetings of working and sub-working groups established for the emergency response coordination. A GBV Service Mapping and Referral Pathways Task Force was established on 28 February. A task force was also created to prepare for International Women's Day, the celebration of which has been postponed until 18 March.

Funding update

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CAMEROON AND CHAD SUPPLEMENTARY APPEAL | USD
CERF 2.9 million

OTHER OR UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Sweden 83.5 million | **Norway** 72.5 million | **Netherlands** 37.2 million | **Denmark** 35.6 million | **Germany** 27.6 million | **Switzerland** 18.4 million | **Private donors Spain** 12.3 million | **Belgium** 11.9 million | **Ireland** 11.8 million

CONTACTS | Regional Bureau for West & Central Africa