

Protection mainstreaming in Minawao refugee camp/Cameroon

February 2015

Geographic Information of camp	
GPS	E:13° 51'25.83" N:10° 33'38.44"
Surface	200 hectares occupied
Région	Far North
Département	Mayo Tsanaga
# of Refugees	32,621
Distance from border	70 km

The following list provides an overview to which extent UNHCR and its partners have mainstreamed protection in all sectors of assistance in Minawao refugee camp in the Far North of Cameroon.

Communicating with communities and refugees <sup>1</sup>		
Status	Action required	Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure information pertaining to services is effectively conveyed, taking into consideration mobility of persons, literacy, language, access to communication means	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information is available in local languages</li> <li>- Information on services and infrastructure of camp provided upon arrival</li> <li>- 30 Community networks are in place providing continuously information to refugees in the camp; another 30 are foreseen for the extension</li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Beneficiaries are informed timely and in an appropriate manner about quantity and type of assistance (food and non-food) to be distributed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Refugees participate in organization of distribution</li> <li>- Community networks carry out outreach activities to keep refugees in camp informed; another 30 are foreseen for the extension</li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Display clear information that no services (including payment) or favors are to be provided in exchange for assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This information is given upon arrival and during registration; flyers and posters are currently being prepared in the local language Hausa</li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Understand composition of refugee community (clans, tribes, religions) who would prefer to live together which will affect the site layout, communication means, assistance activities etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Detailed registration data is available; the camp manager IEDA Relief, Public Concern responsible for shelter and UNHCR work closely together to ensure that family and</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> For more information on how UNHCR ensures accountability to affected population, please see separate factsheet.

		community ties in the newly established family shelters are maintained
Site Planning		
Status	Action required	Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Choice of site location: communication with host communities and authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Governor provided 350 hectares land free of charge for the camp in Minawao</li> <li>- Host communities and <i>Chef de village</i> were sensitized and included in discussion; several activities benefit host communities alike</li> <li>- Host communities have increased the local market days from weekly to daily given the high demand from refugees</li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Areas located away from potential and actual threats such as risk for SGBV, flooding, land mines, military attacks etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Geological assessment was done with Government to ensure the camp is not in a flood prone area</li> <li>- There is currently a problem with access to safe energy (e.g. firewood) in the camp as it's an arid climate; improved fuel stoves are being distributed to women; sensitization is carried out on environmental protection</li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mechanism for site surveillance (police, community watch) in place; control movements of non-camp residents in/out the camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "<i>comite de vigilance</i>" organized by refugees are in place; Government is ensuring security in camp through the presence of <i>Gendarmes</i></li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lighting available at latrines, showers, water points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preliminary works to install lighting all around the camp are done; <i>Societe d'energie</i> is in the process of installing electrical wires</li> <li>- Solar lighting is available at water points</li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure available space for activities such as child-friendly spaces, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only 4 child-friendly spaces are available, another 12 are planned</li> </ul>
Shelter		
Status	Action required	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shelters are build bearing in mind accessibility of persons with disabilities or older persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Family shelters will adhere to these standards; currently, families live in tents and transitional shelters</li> </ul>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Minimum space standards between and within individual shelters	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Partition and door-locks in individual shelters when feasible	- Currently there is a lack of building materials for the family shelters, thus most refugees are living in communal shelter which do not have door-locks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Where feasible, and environmentally friendly, adopt local construction practice	- Due to an arid climate local construction material is scarce; an environmental friendly brick machine (“hydraform”) was purchased and refugees and host communities are being trained to use it

## WASH

Status	Action required	Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Separate showers and toilets for men and women, in well-lit areas, adapted locks for all categories of the population	- All showers build by UNHCR and its partners are separated between men and women and have locks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Design of pit-latrines takes into consideration specific needs of children and older persons	- The design of pit-latrines catering for children and older persons are finalized, but not yet implemented
<input type="checkbox"/>	Women showers are to be constructed large enough as they have to cater for children or someone who needs assistance	- Currently showers for men and women have the same size
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sanitation areas are accessible to persons with disabilities and older persons	- The newly constructed family showers will follow a specific design for disabled or older persons for those cases where the Protection Section has identified a specific need

## Safe and non-discriminatory access to services

Status	Action required	Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Women registered on their own	- Women single heads of household and women of polygamy couples are registered on their own
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaccompanied children are registered on their own	- Unaccompanied are registered separately
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Appropriateness of assistance provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ As per standards</li> <li>✓ Culture/traditions</li> <li>✓ Are items distributed afterwards sold? If so, why?</li> </ul>	- Assistance in WASH does not yet satisfy SPHERE standards; solutions for a more sustainable water management are currently sought with the Government - Health services are insufficient; UNHCR is currently working with IMC and MSF to increase capacity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Post-distribution monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Items stolen or confiscated?</li> <li>✓ Extortion of fees, tax by camp leadership/criminals/others?</li> </ul>	- Theft of food rations and NFI has been reported sporadically; incidents of extortion have not yet been reported

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure safe access to environmental energy, e.g. provision of cooking fuel that mitigates impact on environment, improved fuel stoves etc.	- 1000 improved fuel stoves are distributed; training on how to use them was provided to refugees and host communities; 500 women are currently be trained to produce the stoves with local materials
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Distribution points are located in safe areas	- Protection staff works closely with camp manager, the refugee committees and security personnel to ensure safety
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specific provisions are in place to cater for the needs of older persons and those with disabilities during distribution or for the access to services (e.g. medical)	- Discussions are underway how to organize a mobile health service to do home visits and provide transport for the such persons to the hospital Home delivery is provided for disabled persons and priority lines are put in place for persons with specific needs to avoid that they queue during the distribution
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Systems are in place to assist those who cannot carry their food/non-food items, including from water points, avoiding potential exploitation and abuse by those who assist them	- UNHCR's partner responsible for community-based protection and the refugee committee in charge of persons with specific needs organize and assist those to receive food and NFI; home delivery is provided for disabled persons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Safe spaces for women and other persons with specific needs are in place at distribution points/separate times for distribution for women and men as required	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Female staff is present to oversee offloading, registration, distribution and post-distribution	- Refugee women oversee the distribution
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Personal data (e.g. distribution lists with names, case management datat) is handled in accordance with UNHCR's data protection standards (access, handling, storage, dissemination)	- Electronic files are password protected and access rights are defined - Paper files are used with separate referral slips and personal data is captured in a register which is kept in the office of a partner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Measures to prevent, monitor and respond to intimidation, coercion, extortion, violence and sexual exploitation associated with distribution, including from within the community itself are in place	- Refugees are sensitized where to seek assistance in case of any incidents; community outreach networks provide a report to the UNHCR Protection team
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Establish and implement monitoring mechanism with the community	- Monitoring is ongoing; community networks assist with collecting feedback from communities