



# CAMEROON SITUATION

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF IDPs AND CAMEROONIAN REFUGEES IN NIGERIA

**Supplementary Appeal**

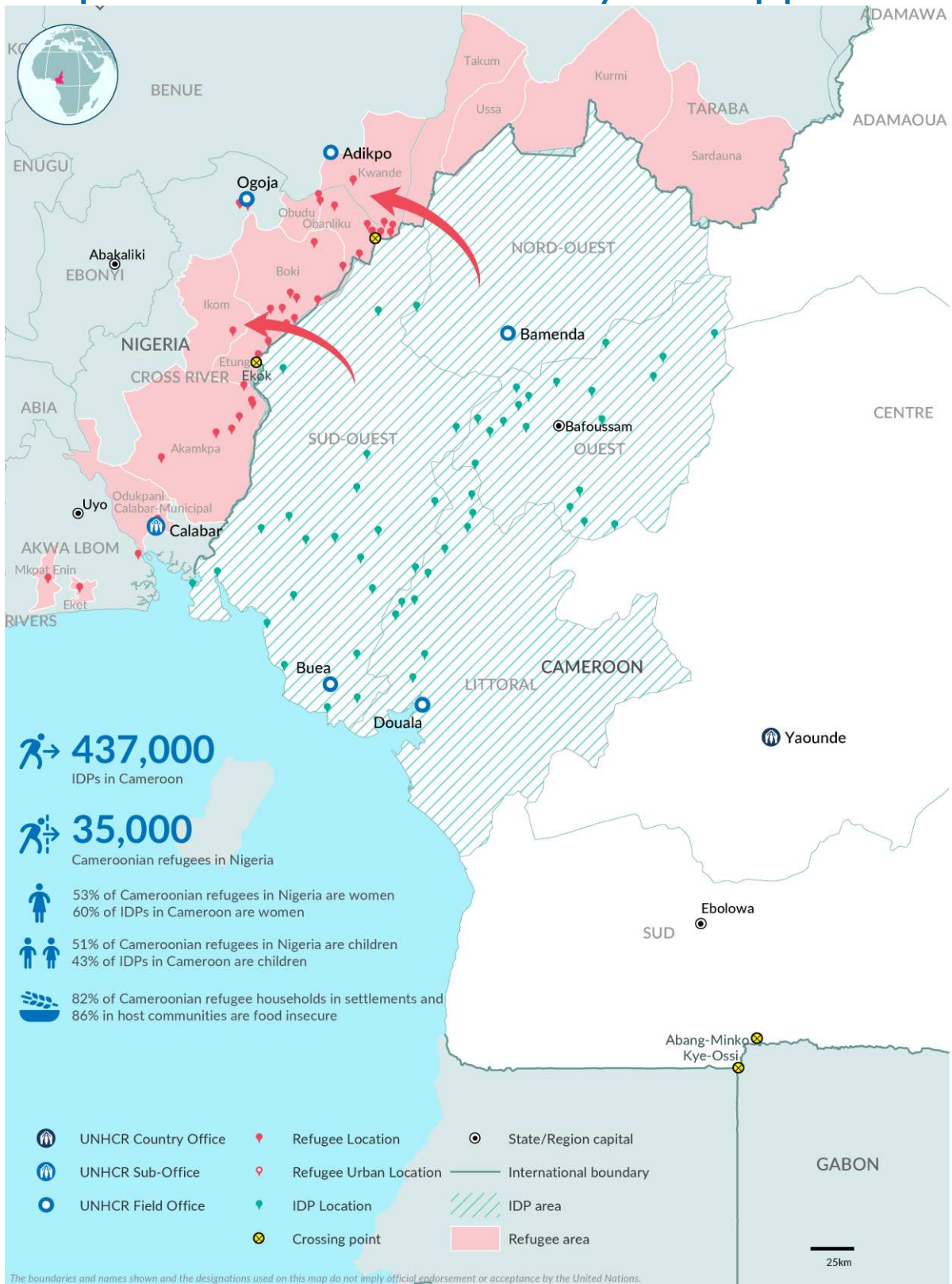
January - December 2019



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# Map of the area covered by this appeal





## Overview



Internally displaced people in Cameroon (October 2018)



Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria (February 2019)



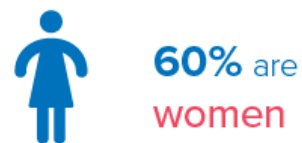
UNHCR operations covered by this appeal

Over the past 13 months, violent clashes in Cameroon between the military and armed separatists have driven **thousands of Cameroonians into internal displacement and over the border into Nigeria**. The displaced, most of whom are women and children, face a grave humanitarian situation in both countries. Having fled with very little, their presence in impoverished host communities is straining food resources and already limited health, education and WASH facilities in these areas.

As of October 2018, OCHA estimated there were **437,000 internally displaced people (IDPs)** in Cameroon, 246,000 of them in the Southwest Region, 105,000 in the Northwest Region, and 86,000 in the Littoral and West Regions. In addition to triggering internal displacement in the Northwest and Southwest Regions of Cameroon, the ongoing conflict has also forced over **35,000 Cameroonians to seek asylum in Nigeria**. As the conflict persists in Cameroon, UNHCR anticipates that the influx into Southeast Nigeria will continue, with 20,000 refugees projected to flee in the coming months. This would result in an increase in the overall number of **Cameroonian refugees to more than 50,000 by the end of 2019**.

This Supplementary Appeal contains UNHCR's financial requirements for its response to the Cameroon situation, as well as an overview of related activities for advocacy and resource mobilization. In 2019, the UNHCR emergency refugee response for Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria and the IDP protection and shelter/NFIs cluster response in Cameroon urgently requires **\$35.4 million in sustained funding to support the lives and protection of more than half-a-million Cameroonians**.

### IDPs in Cameroon



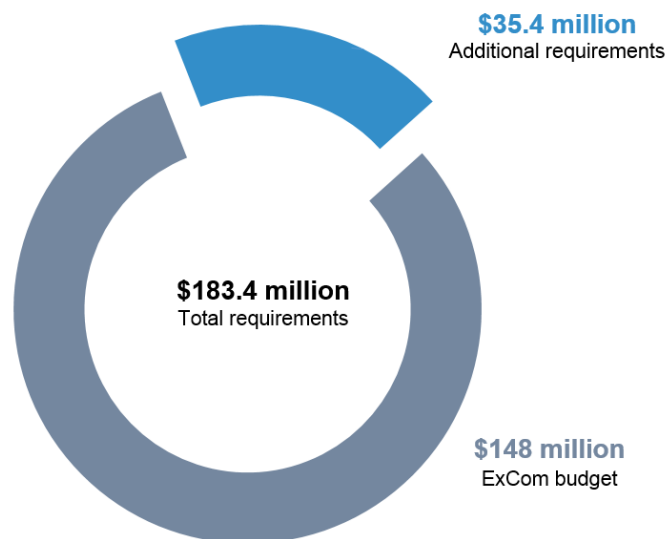
### Refugees in Nigeria



# Summary of financial requirements

UNHCR has established a supplementary budget to strengthen protection capacity and response to IDPs in Cameroon and refugees in Nigeria respectively. For the response inside Cameroon, the UNHCR financial requirements and activities are those that have already been presented in the Cameroon HRP, and are thus not duplicative. The requirements in Nigeria represent activities that have not previously been included in any appeal. **The total financial requirements presented in this appeal amount to \$183.4 million, including \$35.4 million in urgent additional requirements from January to December 2019.** UNHCR is taking this situational approach due to the complexity of population movements in the region as well as the common factors driving the refugee movement and internal displacement

## Summary of financial requirements



## Budget for the Cameroon situation (US\$)

CAMEROON SITUATION					
OPERATION	ExCom budget not related to the Cameroon situation	ExCom budget and subsequent adjustments related to the Cameroon situation	Additional requirements	Total	Total revised requirements
Cameroon	73,091,583	9,200,000	8,000,000	17,200,000	90,291,583
Nigeria	65,672,500	-	27,392,736	27,392,736	93,065,236
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>138,764,083</b>	<b>9,200,000</b>	<b>35,392,736</b>	<b>44,592,736</b>	<b>183,356,819</b>

See detailed financial requirements on page 19

# The importance of flexible funding for UNHCR's situations

Crises are pushing people of concern to UNHCR into multiple locations, over greater and greater distances. In cases when an emergency has repercussions that go beyond the borders of the country in which it originated, **UNHCR uses the term “situation” for its advocacy, planning, budgeting and fundraising.** Situations are interlinked, one crisis generating impacts in another, or with the impacts felt far away. Crossing borders and sometimes continents, situations reflect the operational complexity of today's displacement crises, and the concomitant difficulties UNHCR and its partners have in planning and responding.

**Affecting two countries, the situation in Cameroon is emblematic of this complexity and, given this complexity, UNHCR's response must be responsive and reflective.** For it to be effective, funding to these situations needs to be as **broadly earmarked as possible** as situational management reflects the complexity of today's environment of sustained and mass displacement. **Financial support needs to be flexible,** allowing UNHCR to place it anywhere within a given situation, in line with the Office's priorities, from where people in need are forced to flee, to where they find refuge. It needs to come as early as possible in order for UNHCR to plan in the most efficient manner possible, allocating to priorities first. Based on this, the preferences for income would be as follows:

- **Unearmarked funding** is the priority for resource mobilization. Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR the critical flexibility to best reach refugees and other populations of concern in the greatest need and at the greatest risk.
- Secondly, funding which is **softly earmarked at the situational or regional level**, meaning funding that can be used across the range of countries and activities in a given region or situation in accordance with the priorities and activities identified by UNHCR.
- Thirdly, funding which is **earmarked at the country or operational level**. Funding of this type allows UNHCR to allocate funding to its planned activities within a country in a context-specific manner.
- Fourthly, funding which is **tightly earmarked to the sectoral or thematic level**. This is the most restrictive level of funding.
- Ideally, all funds raised should be **flexible in their implementation period**; meaning, UNHCR should be able to carry funds to the following year. This will enable the smooth continuation of activities, make operations more predictable, and avoid situations of UNHCR receiving funds it may not be able to spend within the calendar year.

## Response to date

To ensure the timely mobilisation and deployment of human resources to areas most in need, as well as to establish coordination arrangements which are necessary to support the two operations in delivering an effective response, **UNHCR activated a Level 2 emergency declaration on 4 December 2018 for the Cameroon situation**. The scale of internal displacement in Cameroon and the increase of Cameroonian refugee arrivals into Nigeria has caused worrying protection and humanitarian concerns.

### Cameroon

Many of the IDPs in the Southwest and Northwest Regions are living in overcrowded conditions, without dignified shelter, and with basic hygiene and domestic times. Only about **8% of the affected population has been reached by UNHCR**. Protection incidents continue to be reported mostly by women in the 18-59 years-of-age bracket but also by unaccompanied and separated minors, people with disabilities, and lactating and pregnant women. The most frequently **reported security incidents** include destruction of homes and other domestic properties, extortion, torture and inhumane treatment including rape, sexual assault and sexual exploitation. As a result of the overall deterioration of the humanitarian situation, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) **activated the cluster system in October 2018**. UNHCR has assumed leadership of the protection, and shelter/NFIs clusters.



**1,756 protection incidents were identified through protection monitoring activities initiated in mid-November 2018**, in collaboration with INTERSOS, in the Fako, Lebialem, Manyu and Meme Divisions of the Southwest Region and Mezam Division in the Northwest Region.



**Community-based protection structures and mechanisms were strengthened** through targeted protection training of partners, including child protection and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention and response.



**34,986 IDPs have received NFI assistance** in the subdivisions of Konye and Mbonge in Meme Division as well as in Mamfe subdivision of Manyu since mid-November 2018. As of December 2018, UNHCR has distributed 6,000 NFI kits reaching some 30,000 IDPs in remote locations in the Southwest Region.



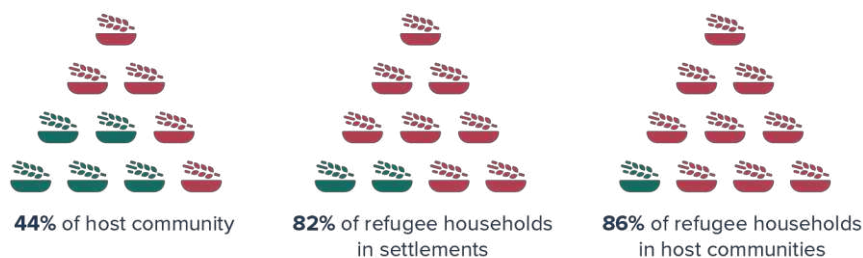
**Protection and shelter/NFI strategies** have been developed and implementation started in January 2019.




## Nigeria


Refugees are currently being hosted in two settlements and more than 47 villages along the border, placing a strain on hosting communities. There is significant pressure on existing social services, health, and education, and **UNHCR has prioritised its resources to ensure initial in-kind food assistance**. Refugees in settlements are largely dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs, with 82% of refugee households in settlements and 86% in host communities being severely or moderately food insecure, according to a WFP Emergency Food Security Assessment. By comparison, 44% of host communities were severely or moderately food insecure.


Level of food insecurity among refugees and host community





The assessment further established that up to **82% of refugees may be adopting negative coping strategies** to address their food and other basic needs. Current protection monitoring reports include widespread labour exploitation, child labour, SGBV, and survival sex. Underlying the protection challenges is the lack of access to livelihoods.

 **35,000 Cameroonian refugees** have been registered with Level 1 and Level 2 registration in Akwa Ibom, Benue, Cross River and Taraba States and over **27,000** have been verified and enrolled into UNHCR's Biometric Identity Management System.

 **2,235 refugees** in Anyake settlement in Benue State have been registered into the National Health Insurance Scheme to improve their access to health care services.

 **A joint WFP-UNHCR strategic assessment** was conducted in October 2018, informing the development of a Joint Food Security Response Strategy implemented through a cash-based intervention for food and livelihoods. The latter has already benefitted **8,000 refugees** hosted in settlements.

 Through the ongoing public health programme, **a borehole was drilled** in Adagom settlement in Cross River State by UNHCR and Norwegian Church Aid, benefitting both refugees and host community members. UNHCR also conducted **targeted distribution of hygiene kits**, while the **construction of latrines** in the new refugee settlement of Akpakpanga in Cross River State is ongoing.

 **200 refugee households** have benefited from the construction of permanent shelters in Anyake settlement, while construction of permanent shelters for **600 households** in Adagom is near completion.

## Refugee voices

### Cameroonian refugees flee clashes and find safety in Nigeria



*Myriam, 22, fled Cameroon last year and spent months living in Ajassor, close to the border.  
© UNHCR/Roqan Ojomo*

Violent clashes between military and armed separatists drove thousands of Cameroonians over the border, where funding is still needed to provide assistance. When armed men swept into her village in North-West Cameroon, Loveline, a 39-year-old mother of four, only had time to gather up her children and run.

**“I could not take any clothes. There was shooting – they killed my uncle and shot my cousin,”** said Loveline. As she fled into the bush, gunmen shot dead her husband. Out of the corner of her eye, she saw the armed men douse their house in petrol and set it alight.

In another village, Myriam, 22, looked on as gun toting men stormed into her community and opened fire.

**“You could see the bullets passing in front of you,”** said Myriam, who escaped into the bush with her family. **“Staying in the bush with the kids is not easy. There are mosquitos, there is hunger”**. Returning to the house to try and retrieve their belongings, they were met with gunfire.

Loveline and Myriam are among more than 30,000 civilians who have fled the Southwest and Northwest Regions of Cameroon to seek safety in Nigeria’s South-Eastern Akwa Ibom, Benue, Cross River, and Taraba states. Women and children account for four-fifths of the population.

Residents of Cameroon’s Southwest and Northwest Regions hold grievances against the largely Francophone central government. They say the country’s French-dominated legal and educational systems have left them on the margins.

This crisis erupted last year after protests turned violent, with some calling for secession. So far this year, some 400 civilians have been killed in escalating attacks between separatists groups and government forces, according to rights groups. Pointedly, the crisis has also had a particularly negative impact on children and youth, with the suspension of education activities for over two academic cycles.

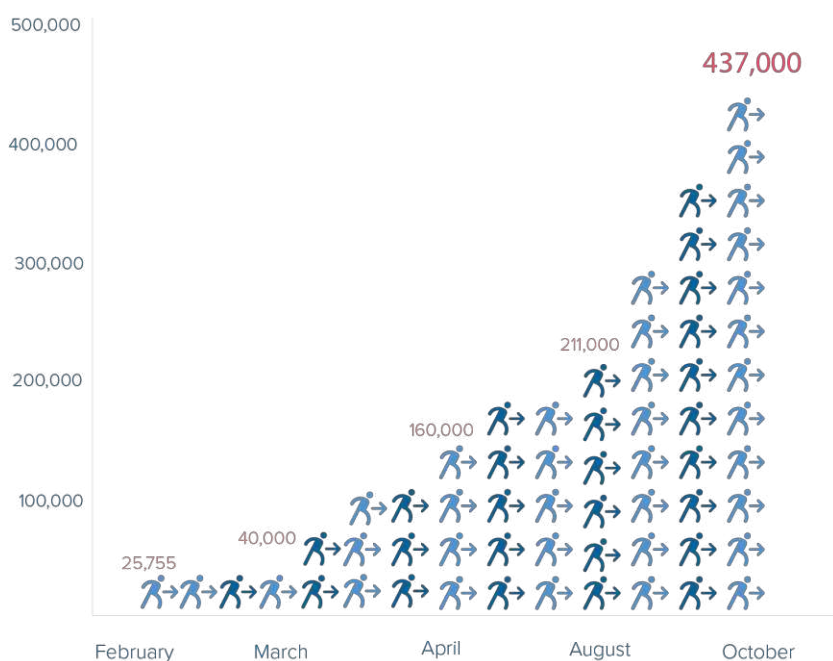
# Strategic overview

## Cameroon

At the core of the current displacement is the conflict between the central government and armed groups fighting for separation of the predominantly English-speaking Southwest and Northwest Regions from the Francophone part of Cameroon. Beginning in October 2016, lawyers and then teachers in the Southwest and Northwest Regions of Cameroon initiated strikes, protesting against perceived marginalisation of the two Regions. On 1 October 2017—a symbolic date that marks the reunification of Cameroon in 1961—radical separatist groups made a token declaration of independence and called for protests in the Southwest and Northwest Regions.

Since November 2017, the number of displaced people in the Southwest and Northwest Regions has risen exponentially due to the continuing violence. In February 2018, based on estimates communicated by faith-based organisations, the first responders to the emergency, there were 25,775 IDPs in the Manyu and Meme Divisions in the Southwest Region. At the end of March 2018, as violence spread including to villages in the Mamfe and Monge/Kumba subdivisions of the Southwest Region, a UN-OCHA inter-agency assessment mission reported that the number of people internally displaced by the crisis had reached 40,000. By April 2018, the number of people had increased to around 160,000, of which 150,000 were in the Southwest and 10,000 in the Northwest Region. In August 2018, OCHA estimated that the number of IDPs in the Southwest and Northwest Region reached 211,000 and as of 9 October 2018, the number of IDPs in the Southwest and Northwest Regions of Cameroon was estimated to be 437,000 with the conflict having spread to both Littoral and West Regions.

Timeline of internal displacement in Cameroon in 2018



Violations of human rights have caused disruption and suffering for the affected populations. Armed groups have attacked schools and government institutions. In this context, IDPs face serious protection risks, compounded by the lack of access to critical basic commodities and social services including shelter, NFIs, health, education, clean water and sanitation facilities. While UNHCR established a presence in the Southwest Region at the beginning of October 2018, NGOs operating in the area have been documenting protection incidents since June 2018.



More than **1,700** protection incidents reported since September 2018

In November and December 2018 alone, UNHCR identified 934 protection incidents (269 in the Northwest Region and 665 in the Southwest Region) of which 341 incidents are related to violations of physical integrity. This brought the total number of protection incidents documented since September 2018 to 1,700. These protection incidents include, for example, child abuse, denial of rights to property, SGBV, and violations relating to freedom of movement.

Recent reports and inter-agency field monitoring visits confirm that most schools have either been closed or destroyed, and entire villages burnt. Similarly, most health centres have been damaged and many have closed. Prevailing insecurity means humanitarian access to the affected population is restricted. However, with the collaboration of UNHCR's local partners, protection and assistance interventions have started.

As part of its protection response, UNHCR's main interventions include protection by presence (UNHCR has established a presence in the Southwest Region and deployed more than 178 partner staff to reach the farthest IDPs), protection monitoring (collecting, analysing, documenting and sharing information on protection incidents) and, where possible, response by addressing the specific protection risks of the most vulnerable IDPs, including ensuring access to civil documentation.

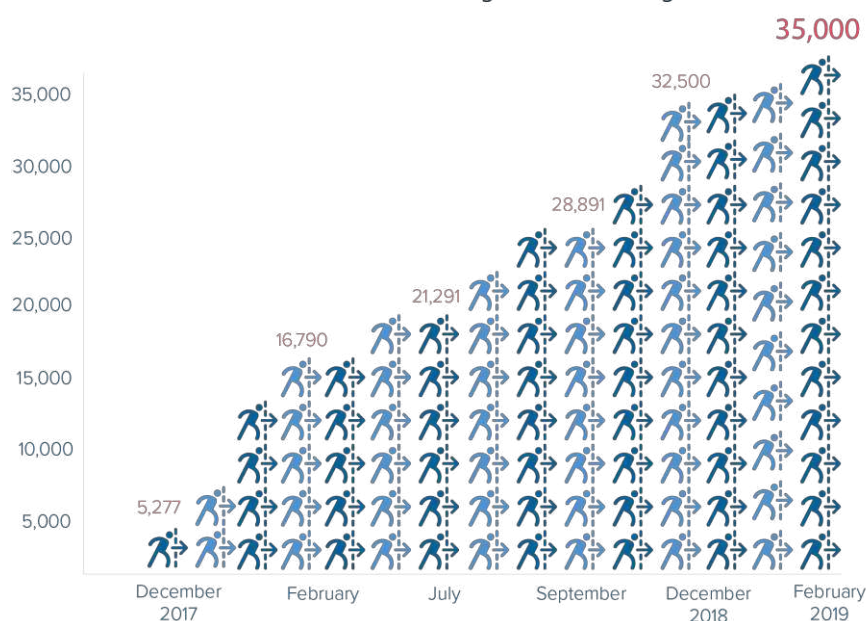
In addition, UNHCR protection monitoring partners have established a monitoring database where data on protection incidents is entered, analysed, and from which analytical reports can be generated in real-time. This system has been instrumental in providing relevant actors, including the protection cluster, with critical information necessary for defining strategies and response interventions. Similarly, the inter-agency emergency response plan for the Southwest and Northwest Regions launched in May 2018 identified shelter and core relief items as priority needs. While numerous humanitarian actors have undertaken interventions in this regard, coordination and harmonisation has remained a challenge.

## Nigeria

Refugees from Cameroon started arriving in Benue, Cross River, and Taraba States along the border region with Cameroon, in southeast Nigeria, in October 2017. The protection environment is fragile, with numerous reports that Cameroonian security agents had pursued refugees inside Nigeria.

By December 2017, there were 5,277 registered refugees in Nigeria. The number increased to 20,291 in March 2018, and by October 2018 had reached 27,891. As of end of December 2018, there were 32,500 registered Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria in need of urgent protection and assistance. This figure had risen to 35,000 by the end of February 2019 and is projected to increase in the coming months.

Timeline of Cameroonian refugee outflow to Nigeria



Given the precarious protection situation of refugees settled along the border, the Government of Nigeria and UNHCR, while recognising the advantages of letting refugees settle outside camp environments, decided that refugees who so wish, should be hosted in designated areas (open settlements), where programmes would be delivered at a reasonable distance from the border. There are currently two settlements in Anyake (Benue State) and Adagom (Cross River State) and the Government has designated the two additional settlements of Okende and Akpakpanga in Ogoja, Cross River State, to accommodate new arrivals. The movement to the settlements remains voluntary, and refugees outside the settlements continue to be recognized as such.



The presence of refugees has strained the capacity of public facilities and services, most of which were already facing challenges even to cater for the host population.

UNHCR's assessment of challenges and opportunities in the education sector for Cameroonian refugees in Benue and Cross River States conducted in October 2018 found that there has been a 400% increase in the total enrolment in most public schools but without a corresponding increase in the number of teachers or classrooms. This is particularly the case for schools around the established refugee settlements where the majority of new students are refugees. These schools need immediate support in order to accommodate the new students to avoid tensions and conflict with the host community.



**80%** of schools in Cross River state lack water and sanitation facilities

The current situation calls for urgent action to give refugee children access to education, as many of them have already had their studies interrupted in Cameroon for more than two academic cycles due to the conflict. Supporting education will ultimately contribute to foster peacebuilding in Cameroon and support future prospects for return and reintegration.

Likewise, access to primary health care has become a critical challenge for refugees and host communities. This is mainly due to a weak health infrastructure, inadequate staffing and shortage of essential drugs in Cross River and Taraba States, where Cameroonian refugees are being hosted.

In this context, supporting health care facilities which benefit both refugees and host communities is a mid-term strategy aimed at providing immediate health care needs of refugees and as an expression of solidarity with the local host communities. In the long-term, such investments will promote the inclusion of refugees in national development programmes in the spirit of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF).

Further informing this approach are findings of a joint WFP/UNHCR assessment conducted in October 2018, which found that refugees in both camp and out-of-camp settlements are largely dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs. In addition, the WFP Emergency Food Security Assessment found that refugee households in settlements and host communities are severely or moderately food insecure, resulting in refugees adopting negative coping strategies. To address immediate food needs and support longer-term food security and the protection of refugees, UNHCR and WFP designed a joint cash assistance programme.

This appeal provides a framework for a joint UNHCR/WFP resource mobilization strategy to ensure the food and other basic needs of Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria are met in accordance with the recommendations of the October 2018 joint strategic mission.

## WFP and UNHCR cash assistance to meet the food and other basic needs of Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria



*Cameroonian refugee children eat their first hot meal upon arrival at Adagom settlement in Ogoja, Nigeria.  
©UNHCR/C. Cavalcanti*

An innovative strategy for this emergency response has been developed jointly by UNHCR and WFP. It operationalizes greater collaboration, including the use of one cash platform to deliver assistance.

The response supports the development of refugee self-reliance from the outset with a plan for responsible disengagement, and the gradual inclusion of refugees into national programmes.

This joint plan, although ambitious, presents a phased approach whilst leveraging as many opportunities as possible, including complementing existing social safety net programmes, to ensure refugees' self-reliance. Ultimately, the approach will contribute to an exit strategy for the emergency response.

In the spirit of the CRRF, UNHCR will deliver services on an area-based approach rather than exclusively for refugees, and will explore options for longer-term development support to refugee-affected areas.

This approach will also apply to services such as education and health, avoiding the creation of separate services in the settlements.

## Planning assumptions

The conflict is likely to escalate in the absence of high-level political dialogue. The proposed 'General Conference', which was scheduled for 21-22 November 2018, has been postponed twice. Ongoing conflict will result in greater population displacement within Northwest and Southwest Cameroon and across the border into Nigeria.

### Cameroon

In Cameroon, UNHCR anticipates there will be no improvement of the security environment in the Southwest and Northwest Regions during 2019 without constructive dialogue. **The UN Country Team has thus established the 2019 planning figure of 437,000 IDPs which is based on OCHA estimates.**

 **437,000**

Internally displaced people  
in Cameroon in 2019

With continued fighting and a heavy military presence in the Southwest and Northwest Regions, significant returns of IDPs during 2019 are unlikely, but local humanitarian partners will be able to access IDP populations. UNHCR has opened an office in Buea, in the Southwest Region, and plans to establish a presence in Bamenda, in the Northwest Region, where some 40 staff will be required to effectively carry-out the IDP response.

### Nigeria

 **35,000 > 50,000**

Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria by end-2019

With prospects for ending the conflict in Cameroon limited, **the number of Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria is expected to reach 50,000 by the end of 2019.**

As refugees continue to seek international protection in Nigeria, UNHCR expects that the Government will maintain its open door policy and abide by its international legal obligations, including permitting territorial asylum and respecting the fundamental principle of *non-refoulement*. Given the protracted nature of the conflict inside Cameroon, UNHCR and partners in Nigeria anticipate a continued influx of new refugees with serious protection needs.

It is expected that no major return movements of refugees back into Cameroon will occur until the conflict has been resolved. Such a protracted refugee situation calls for a strategy which aims to reduce dependence on humanitarian assistance. Hence the creation, in Nigeria, of the joint cash assistance programme with WFP to meet food and basic needs of both refugees and host communities. For this specific programme, UNHCR will need an additional 40 staff to effectively support the envisaged protection programmes.

# Key intervention areas

## Cameroon



### Protection

As the protection cluster lead, UNHCR's response strategy is to secure access to protection for all IDPs in the Northwest and Southwest Regions of Cameroon. UNHCR will focus on:

- Leading the protection cluster and coordinating protection interventions.
- Increasing access to protection for IDPs and affected communities.
- Working with partners to enhance civil-military coordination and to maintain the civilian character of IDP-affected areas.
- Addressing the specific protection risks of the most vulnerable IDPs through preventive measures, remedial actions and solutions.
- Establishing protection mechanisms to identify, trace, refer and provide services to children at risk including survivors of human rights violations.
- Strengthening SGBV prevention and response mechanisms.
- Addressing the documentation needs of IDPs to prevent statelessness and ensure that their nationality rights are safeguarded.
- Developing partnerships and strengthening capacities of local partners.
- Providing information management services to the protection cluster and ensuring population movements are closely monitored.



### Shelter/NFIs

As the Global Shelter Cluster lead, UNHCR will ensure coordination and harmonized, efficient and effective shelter support, as well as direct provision of domestic items. UNHCR will focus on:

- Leading the shelter/NFI cluster in the Southwest and Northwest Regions of Cameroon.
- Ensuring the distribution of shelter materials and core relief items in cash when feasible.



### Basic needs and essential services

UNHCR's strategy will focus on:

- Evaluating the feasibility of establishing a common cash platform, open to all agencies to support coordinated distribution of assistance.
- Supporting WFP in taking the lead in coordinating logistics, supply and distribution of any in-kind food assistance to affected communities in the Northwest and Southwest Regions of Cameroon.



### Leadership, coordination and partnerships

UNHCR's strategy will focus on:

- Collaborating in particular with the Government of Cameroon, which will lead the overall coordination at national level through the Minister of Administration of Territory and Governors at the local level (Northwest/Southwest Regions).
- Working in partnership with UN entities, international and local NGOs and other actors, including the Government, to ensure protection and humanitarian assistance are provided to affected populations in a coordinated manner while working to ensure a common cash facility is available for all actors.
- Working on health and nutrition with WHO, which is coordinating the health cluster response, to help build and maintain access to health services in the Southwest and Northwest Regions of Cameroon.
- Working with UNICEF to ensure refugee children access education and potable water.

## Nigeria



### Protection

UNHCR's strategy will focus on:

- Ensuring access to territory is improved and risk of *refoulement* is reduced.
- Strengthening services for people with specific needs.
- Maintaining and strengthening partnership with the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) and State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMA) to ensure the provision of protection including through continuous registration, and the implementation of measures aimed at ensuring the physical and legal security of refugees.
- Reinforcing other partnerships for protection monitoring to ensure the implementation of SGBV prevention and response programmes.



### Basic needs and essential services

UNHCR's strategy will focus on:

- Ensuring that the basic needs of refugees are met.
- Preparing refugee settlements to host new arrivals and refugees dispersed in villages.
- Improving basic services in the settlements (health, water/sanitation, education and shelter), taking into account the need to integrate local and host communities.
- Providing cash to meet basic needs where feasible.
- Implementing a comprehensive livelihood and economic empowerment strategy aimed at building refugee self-reliance while ensuring basic needs are met in the short-term.
- Providing tools and cash for the self-construction of dignified shelters to refugees.
- Jointly coordinating education programming with Caritas and ensuring refugee and host community children are enrolled in public schools capacitated to provide quality services.
- Promoting the inclusion of refugees in existing national education and health services, and supporting/reinforcing these to cope with additional demands.
- Supporting government capacities to implement quality primary health care service delivery with WHO and the NGO, FHI360.
- Supporting Save the Children in leading all WASH-related activities including, but not limited to, construction and rehabilitation of water points, environmental sanitation and hygiene promotion, and construction and maintenance of sanitary facilities, together with Rhema Care Integrated Development Centre.



### Community empowerment and self-reliance

UNHCR's strategy will focus on:

- Providing cash grants to meet basic needs and facilitate refugee access to financial services to promote livelihoods and economic inclusion.
- Mobilising, strengthening and expanding community self-management structures and processes. Negotiating, with FAO and WFP, for land to support refugee agricultural and livelihoods activities.



### Leadership, coordination and partnerships

UNHCR's strategy will focus on:

- Enhancing the role of community leaders with optimal representation of women in leadership and camp management structures.
- Working in partnership with UN and other partners on food, health, shelter, WASH, and education. In particular, seeking complementarities and inclusion of refugees in programmes that other UN sister agencies already have in the affected States.
- Working with SEMA to ensure security of settlements.
- Coordinating protection policies, including the maintenance of registration, with NCFRMI.



# Coordination and partnerships

## Cameroon

The HCT activated six clusters in October 2018 including protection and shelter/NFIs (led by UNHCR), health and nutrition (WHO), WASH (UNICEF), food security (WFP), and education (UNICEF).

As cluster lead for protection and shelter/NFIs, UNHCR is engaging NGO partners, UN agencies and local actors to leverage their expertise, experience and capacities in



**6 clusters were activated in October 2018 by the HCT**

developing and implementing effective protection and assistance strategies. In the context of the ongoing IDP response, UNHCR protection and assistance-related activities are undertaken with African Initiative for Relief Development, Authentique Memorial Empowerment Foundation, and INTERSOS in close collaboration and coordination with other relevant partners. The HCT engages with the Minister of Administration of Territory at national level, while local level interventions are conducted in close cooperation with the Governors of Departments.

UNHCR will also work to coordinate interventions of UN partner agencies to meet other needs of IDPs notably with respect to food security, health and nutrition, education, water and sanitation. WFP is already operational in the region providing food assistance in-kind to displaced populations. The response also emphasises the participation of local actors and stakeholders including IDPs themselves, host communities, local NGOs, and authorities.

The response is aligned with the Cameroon Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), which includes the needs of IDPs in the Far North, Northwest and Southwest Regions. In addition, as a result of the UNHCR/World Bank partnership, Cameroon has been among the first countries selected to receive funds allocated through the World Bank's IDA 18 sub-window for refugees and host communities, which aims to strengthen development initiatives in refugee-hosting areas. Programming of these funds is still underway and part of a long-term process.

## Nigeria

Unlike in Cameroon, the Nigeria HRP does not include refugees, nor activities related to the Cameroon situation. Due to the focus of the HRP on the Lake Chad Region by all partners and the Government, the protracted nature of that conflict, the geographical separation, and the differentiated protection issues and magnitude of this crisis, combining it with the Cameroon refugee influx would have meant a lack of sufficient focus on both situations.

UNHCR Nigeria will support the central and State governments, through the SEMA in each State and at the national level through the NCFRMI, to ensure international protection and delivery of multi-sectoral assistance to Cameroonian refugees. Currently, UNHCR is working with Catholic Caritas Foundation Nigeria, Catholic Diocese of Makurdi through the Foundation for Justice Development and Peace, MEDATRIX Development Foundation, Norwegian Church Aid, and Rhema Care Integrated

Development Centre in the implementation of specific sector activities related to the Cameroon situation.

Most of these partners operate at State level, where a monthly coordination forum has been instituted in Calabar to foster closer inter-agency collaboration. UNHCR will maintain and strengthen existing partnerships with international and national NGOs such as Caritas, FHI 360 and Save the Children in addition to working in close collaboration with FAO, UNFPA, WFP and WHO. In an innovative and context-driven solution to address emergency food needs, UNHCR is working closely with WFP to jointly implement the emergency food security response (see above).

WFP is providing technical support to the response managed by UNHCR. At the central government level, the Government of Nigeria, in line with the CRRF and the refugee coordination model, will take the lead in coordinating the response at regional level in each State through SEMA, and at the national level through the NCFRMI co-led by UNHCR as the UN-mandated agency.

# Financial requirements

To address the increasing protection and lifesaving needs of people who have been displaced in the course of 2018, UNHCR has established a supplementary budget to strengthen protection capacity and response in Cameroon and Nigeria. Additional requirements for 2019 presented in this appeal amount to **\$35.4 million** of which **\$8 million is for Cameroon, while \$27.4 million is for Nigeria**.

## Detailed budget for the Cameroon situation (US\$)

	CAMEROON SITUATION			
	ExCom budget and subsequent adjustments related to the Cameroon situation	Cameroon (additional requirements)	Nigeria (additional requirements)	Total
<b>Basic needs and essential services</b>				
<i>Health and nutrition</i>	-	-	560,306	560,306
<i>Food security</i>	-	-	14,941,492	14,941,492
<i>Shelter</i>	3,600,000	3,765,000	3,080,550	10,445,550
<i>WASH</i>	-	-	858,107	858,107
<i>Basic and domestic items</i>	900,000	1,100,000	1,867,687	3,867,687
<i>Education</i>	-	-	539,761	539,761
<b>Sub-total Basic needs and essential services</b>				<b>31,212,903</b>
<b>Community empowerment and self-reliance</b>				
<i>Self-reliance, livelihoods and peaceful coexistence</i>	-	-	1,134,602	1,134,602
<b>Sub-total Community empowerment and self-reliance</b>				<b>1,134,602</b>
<b>Favourable protection environment</b>	1,335,000	1,400,000	1,699,595	4,434,595
<b>Security from violence and exploitation</b>				
<i>Protection from effects of armed conflict</i>	700,000	500,000	-	1,200,000
<i>Prevention of and response to SGBV</i>	975,000	-	373,537	1,348,537
<b>Sub-total Security from violence and exploitation</b>				<b>2,548,537</b>
<b>Leaderships, coordination and partnerships</b>	490,000	385,000	1,552,670	2,427,670
<b>Logistics and operations support</b>	1,200,000	850,000	784,428	2,834,428
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,200,000</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>	<b>27,392,735</b>	<b>44,592,735</b>

## Consequences of underfunding

In 2018, IDP operations in the Southwest and Northwest Regions of Cameroon as well as the refugee response in Nigeria, depended largely on internal emergency reserve funds, with both operations underfunded as a result. The operation in **Cameroon was 61% funded** against financial requirements of \$86.9 million in 2018. **In Nigeria, the operation was 44% funded** against requirements of \$80.4 million. In both operations, the funding that was received was mostly either earmarked at the country level, or tightly earmarked to the sectoral level. **To date in 2019, the Cameroon situation is only 2% funded, including allocations of unearmarked funding.** Timely, sustained, and flexible funding is therefore critically and urgently needed to address the basic needs of people of concern in both operations and to ensure their protection.



A Cameroonian child receives food and water after arriving at Adagom settlement in Ogoja, Cross River State. ©UNHCR/R. Ojomo.

**In Cameroon,** lack of funding to enable protection interventions and provision of shelter support and core relief items will put more women and children at risk of exploitation and abuse, increasing the likelihood of negative coping mechanisms. Examples of such include the risk of youth being lured into fighting, and for women and girls to engage in survival sex to meet their basic needs. Other protection-related activities that risk being rolled back in the absence of funding include the identification of people with specific protection vulnerabilities, and the evidence-based advocacy needed on their behalf. Furthermore, UNHCR will not be able to establish a presence in Bamenda (Northwest Region) and to maintain its presence in Buea (Southwest Region).

**In Nigeria,** if funding is not mobilized, UNHCR will not be able to support the construction of water and basic sanitation facilities, rendering schools unsafe for children and preventing the effective integration of refugees in national programs. This will be particularly problematic in Cross River State, where 80% of schools lack water and sanitation facilities.

In addition, nearly 7,000 refugee children will be unable to attend school because of their parents' inability to pay school fees and provide education material. Cameroonian refugee children of school-going age have already had their studies interrupted in Cameroon for more than two academic cycles; not being able to access education while in exile will exacerbate their situation.



**7,000** children will be unable to attend school due to inability to afford materials and fees

With 50% of refugee households headed by women and 51% of registered refugees under the age of 18 years, lack of assistance will force them to adopt emergency and crisis livelihood strategies including begging, survival sex and exploitative labour. Most critically, lack of funding will mean no food assistance provided to the affected refugee population, risking food insecurity for over 80% of refugee households in settlements and in host communities which are currently severely or moderately food insecure. Currently, limited funding for the response has compelled UNHCR to redirect resources for protection, health, education, shelter and livelihoods to support in-kind food assistance.

Lastly, lack of funding will mean UNHCR will have great difficulty in maintaining the three offices currently operating in Adikpo (Benue State) and in Calabar and Ogoja (Cross River State).





# CAMEROON SITUATION

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF IDPs AND CAMEROONIAN REFUGEES IN NIGERIA

## Supplementary Appeal

January - December 2019



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Cover photo:

*A Cameroonian boy collects drinking water at Adagom settlement in Ogoja, Cross River State, southeast Nigeria.*

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