

Cameroon MCO

(Multi Country Operation - Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, and Sao Tome & Principe)

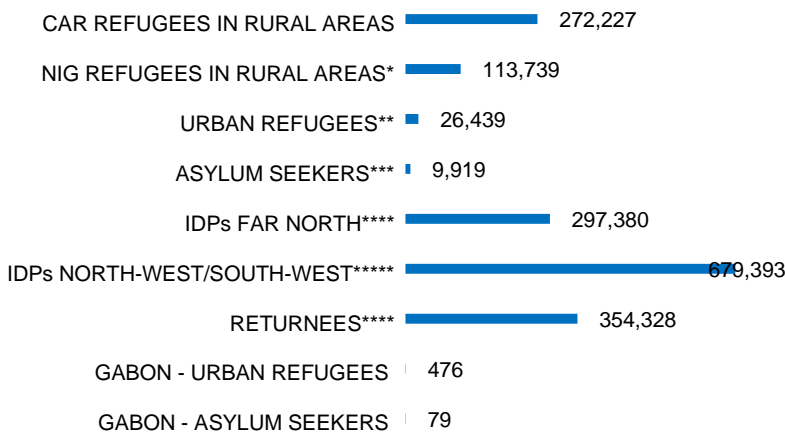
May 2020

Cameroon MCO currently has 1,753,425 people of concern, including 272,227 Central African Republic refugees, 113,739 Nigerian refugees, 36,368 urban refugees and asylum seekers of various nationalities, 976,773 IDPs (297,380 in Far North and 679,393 in North West and South West regions) and 354,328 returnees (former IDPs) in the Far North, North West and South West regions, in addition to 476 refugees and 79 asylum seekers in Gabon.

On 22 May, UNHCR has donated 250 sets of 20 liters handwashing devices and 2,600 cartons of 250g soap to local authorities as contribution to the efforts for the prevention COVID-19 to the benefit of IDPs and host communities. This donation comes in addition to two (02) medical ambulances (01 to the Regional Hospital of Maroua and the other for the annex of Kousseri) to support the government efforts to respond to COVID-19.

An influx of people was reported in Akwaya Town (South-West Region). The displacement was caused by the heavy presence of NSAG and their harassment on civilian population for illegal tax payment. About 364 IDPs (61 households) have returned from Littoral and West regions. Spontaneous returns of refugees from Nigeria were reported in Furu-Awa, Mechum Division and Misaje, Donga Division. UNHCR met the returnees' representatives on 23 May to follow-up the trend of the return.

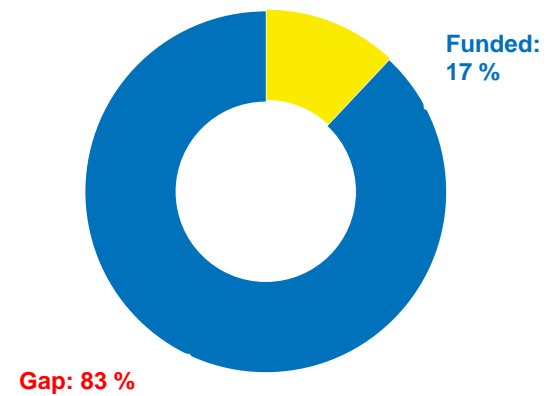
POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS OF 31 MAY 2020)



FUNDING (AS OF 31 MAY 2020)

USD 89.7 million

Requested for Cameroon MCO in 2020



UNHCR PRESENCE

MCO Cameroon Staff:

218 National Staff
 63 International Staff
 05 Gabon staff

Offices:

01 Branch Office in Yaounde

03 Sub Offices: Bertoua, Maroua, Buea

06 Field Offices: Batouri, Meiganga, Djohong, Touborro, Douala and Bamenda

01 Field Unit – Kousseri

01 Gabon operation



Head of UNHCR – Sub Office Maroua, handing over UNHCR's donation to the Governor of the Far North Region

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR coordinates protection and assistance for persons of concern in collaboration with:

- **Governmental Partners:** Ministries of External Relations, Territorial Administration, Economy, Planning and Regional Development, Public Health, Women's Empowerment and the Family, Social Affairs, Justice, Basic Education, Water and Energy, Youth and Civic Education, the National Employment Fund, the *Secrétariat Technique des Organes de Gestion du Statut des réfugiés* and others.
- **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* and includes local authorities who are engaged in the management of the refugee operation. In the North West and South West regions, UNHCR ensures the leadership of the Protection and Shelter/NFI Clusters for the delivery of protection and assistance to IDPs. In the Far North, given the mixed situation (IDP, returnees and refugees), the Coordination is under the lead of the regional authorities with UNHCR as co-lead.

As from early 2020, the operational responsibility of UNHCR Cameroon has been extended to cover UNHCR mandate activities in Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome and Principe. 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 as well as the Humanitarian Country Team and the United Nations Country Team.

MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

- **In North-West and South-West regions of Cameroon, several incidents of military clashes, abductions, killings, arson attacks, lockdowns and barricades along main commercial highways were reported** throughout the month of May. On 25 May, the Fako Divisional Delegation of Agriculture was set ablaze by men believed to be members of NSAGs (South west region). Another incident occurred on 27 May, in A wing – Santa Subdivision (North west region) during a military operation against NSAGs. Civilians were injured when NSAGs used Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). **In Akwaya Town (South-West Region), an influx of people was reported due to heavy presence of NSAGs and their harassment on civilian population for illegal tax payment.** Those who refused to pay the levies, were forcefully evicted and their property destroyed. **About 364 IDP returnees (61 households) from Littoral and West regions, and spontaneous refugee returnees from Nigeria** were reported in Furu-Awa, Mechum Division and Misaje, Donga Division. On 23 May, UNHCR met their representatives for an update on the trend of refugee return from Nigeria to the region.
- The Chadian Army operation “Colère de Bohoma” in the Lake Chad region and the Nigeria large counterterrorism operation in North Eastern Yobe State, have caused dispersion of the alleged Boko Haram in Lake Chad Basin. **These movements have resulted in a multiplication of various attacks by small groups in communities alongside borders with Nigeria and growing urban criminality in Maroua and Kousseri.** Despite pedestrian and motorized patrols and closure of borders, insecurity is still challenging in those areas. On 11 May, **a group of ten (10) women were allegedly arrested by law enforcement agents in Kolofata.** They were bartering salt and fabrics for fish in Kolofata market and **were alleged to be Nigerians and wives of armed group members during the investigation by the security.**

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- **UNHCR and partner INTERSOS have introduced a hotline for Protection Monitoring in the North West and South West.** This action has resulted in reports on increased reported cases of SGBV, property destruction, threat to life and personal security. Affected Individuals were referred to social workers for interventions. For the efficiency of reporting system, INTERSOS has jointly conducted with a local partner - CUAPWD three (03) training sessions on the hotline management. In the North-West, **psychosocial support was provided to survivors of SGBV, house destruction and others with serious medical conditions.** Two (02) of the victims were referred to Doctors without Borders and Caritas for medical assistance and mental health support. UNHCR and partner are following-up on those cases.

Health

- On 19 May 2020, UNHCR - Bertoua organized a Covid-19 crisis management cell to evaluate COVID-19 prevention activities to the benefit of refugees, host population and humanitarian workers. A pooling of resources and distribution of assistance for more effective protection and prevention of COVID-19 was recommended to support the preventive measures put in place.
- In the Far North, **UNHCR is about to finalize the prospection of the regional hospital of Mokolo for the construction of two (02) isolation buildings for the treatment of Covid-19 cases within the structure with a capacity of 40 beds that will be entirely funded by UNHCR.**
- UNHCR continues to organize and assist with production and distribution of masks to the people in need. **A total of 266,586 masks have been produced and distributed** since the beginning of the pandemic to the people of concern (48,225 to Nigeria refugees, 218,361 to CAR refugees and the remaining to host communities) as of 21 May 2020.

WASH

- As part of the prevention of COVID-19 in Minawao refugee camp, **water quantity has been increased from 10 liters per day per person to 15 liters including water trucking for an average of 980 m3 per day representing 75% of the required standard quantity of 20 liters per day per person.**

- In CAR refugee locations, sensitization and distribution of items for the prevention of COVID-19 continued. Hygienic kits are mostly made of handwashing equipment, soap and hand sanitizers.

Shelter /NFI Assistance

- In the North-West and South West regions, **a total of 10,488 pieces of soap, 1,925 sleeping mats and 3,500 jerrycans were received at the AIRD Warehouse in addition to 4,802 shelter kits.** Implementation of activities continue to be challenging in those areas due to the rainy season and activities of NSAGs in the targeted locations. **UNHCR's partner, Plan International is actively preparing for the distribution of these items to the benefit of IDPs in the affected regions.**

Food security

- **49,525 Nigerian refugees' have received a two-month food ration for the months of May and June.** This distribution was coupled with that of masks in consideration of COVID-19 preventive measures including social distancing.
- Mercy Association and Union Darassalam carried out on 16 May 2020 **a targeted distribution of pack of food kits to the benefit of 750 households (1,503 individuals) in CAR refugee site of Ngam.** This was in support of households in prelude to the end of the Ramadan on one hand, and as part of the fight against COVID 19 on the other,

Livelihoods

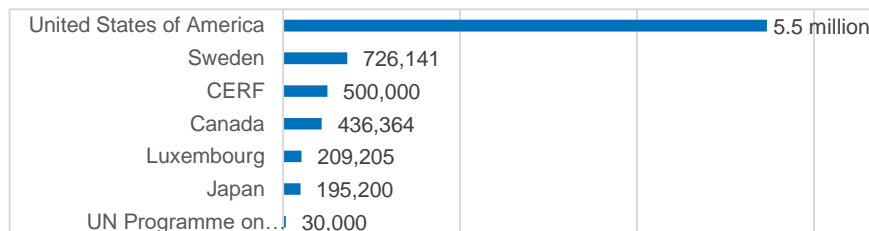
In preparation of agriculture activities in the Far North, **UNHCR and partners have supported beneficiaries in the negotiation of 140 hectares out 150 needed for the 2020 agricultural campaign:** 73.25 hectares in Gawar, 10.25 hectares Gadala and 34.5 hectares in Zamai. **280 beneficiaries out of 300 have been identified including 230 members of the refugee community** (140 women) and 50 members of the host community (12 women). A total of 110 hectares are allocated to 220 farmers, all refugees.

Gabon: As of 31 May 2020, **2,655 COVID-19 positive cases have been reported in the country including 722 recoveries and 07 deaths.** No Person of concern was affected. **Assistance continued to be provided to refugees: medical and social, issuance of residence permit and livelihoods for their self-sufficiency.** There is on-going revision of the project partnership agreement with the partner for the integration of Covid-19 related activities.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR is grateful for the enormous support provided by donors who have contributed to its operation in MCO Cameroon as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD 7.6 MILLION



OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of earmarked and regional funds to Cameroon in 2020

| Germany 38 million | United Kingdom 24.8 million | United States of America 21.9 million | Denmark 14.6 million | Private donors USA 12.6 million | Canada 10.7 million | private donors Japan 3.5 million | Private donors Australia 3.4 million | Ireland 3.3 million | Sweden 3 million |

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds to Cameroon in 2020

Sweden 76.4 | Norway 41.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Private donors Spain 26.6 million | Germany 25.9 million | Switzerland 16.4 | Private donors Republic of Korea 13.9 million |

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Algeria | Argentina | Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan | Belgium | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Islamic Republic of Pakistan | Kuwait | Latvia | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors.



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LINKS: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/cmr> – Twitter: @RefugeesCmr – Facebook: UNHCR Cameroun – Instagram: Cameroon