

Cameroon

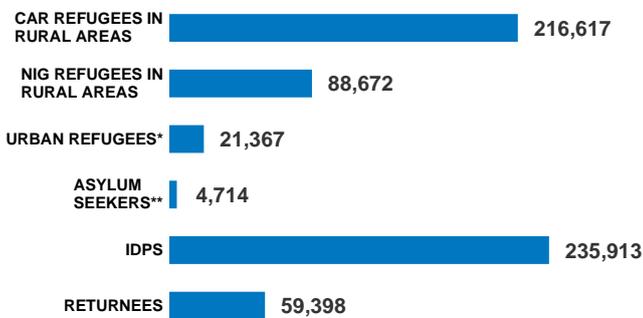
August 2017

Cameroon currently has **626,681** people of concern, including **232,917** Central African refugees and **90,581** Nigerian refugees.

On 10 August, the first meeting of the Tripartite Commission for the voluntary repatriation of Nigerian refugees living in Cameroon was held in Abuja.

Conflict between the anti-Balaka and the 3R rebel group in the Central African Republic led to the arrival of **258** asylum seekers.

POPULATION OF CONCERN (626,681 AS OF 31 AUGUST)

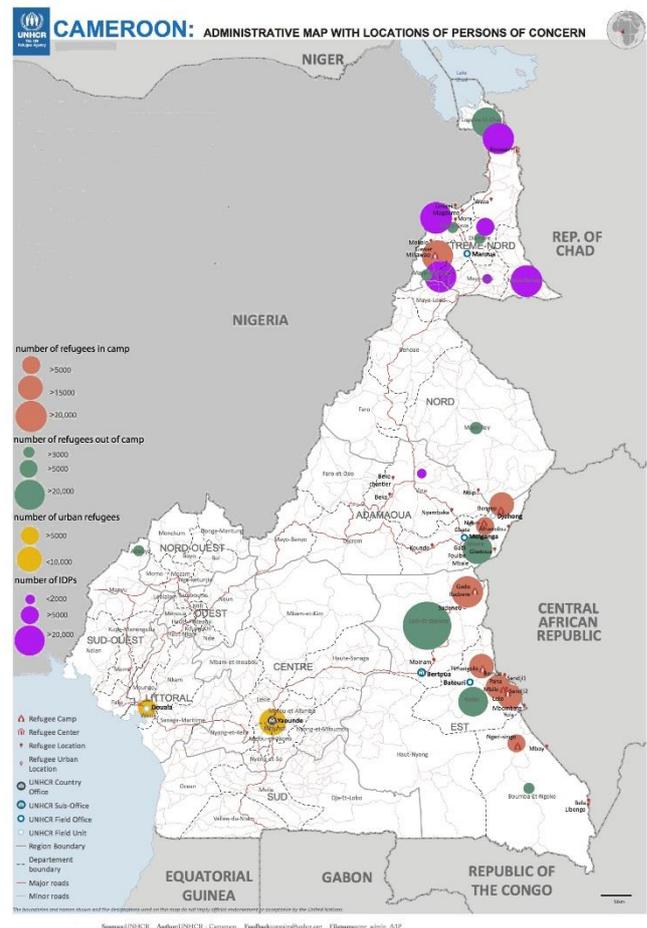
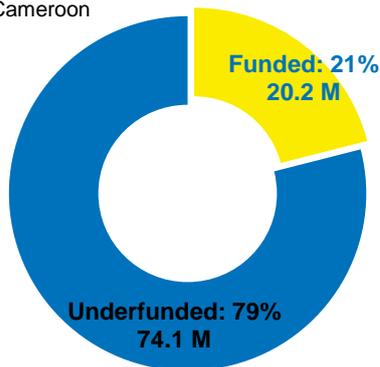


*Incl. 16,300 Central Africans and 1,909 Nigerian refugees living in urban areas.
**Incl. 3,815 Central Africans and 10 Nigerians living in urban areas.

FUNDING (AS OF 31 AUGUST)

USD 94.2 M

requested for Cameroon



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff: 230

133 National Staff

53 International Staff

44 UN Volunteers (9 International and 35 National)

7 OFFICES:

Branch Office – Yaounde

Sub Offices – Batouri, Meiganga and Maroua

Field Offices – Djohong

Field Unit – Douala

Liaison Office - Bertoua

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR coordinates protection and assistance for refugees in collaboration with:

- **Government Partners:** Ministries of External Relations, Territorial Administration and Decentralization, Economy, Planning and Regional Development, Public Health, Women Empowerment and Family, Social Affairs, Justice, Basic Education, Water and Energy, Youth and Civic Education, the National Employment Fund and others, Secrétariat Technique des Organes de Gestion du Statut des réfugiés.
- **Implementing Partners:**, Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (*AIRD*), *Agence pour le Développement Economique et Social (ADES)*, CAMWATER, 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 and Red Deporte, IEDA Relief, *Action Contre la Faim* (ACF) and CARE International.
- **UN Agencies:** WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UN Women, FAO, UNESCO, IOM, UNDP and UNOCHA.
- **Operational coordination:** In accordance with the “*Joint OCHA-UNHCR Note on Mixed Situations – Coordination in Practice*” the responsibility to coordinate the overall humanitarian response in the Far North has been delegated to UNHCR. UNHCR sectors are utilized to deliver assistance to IDPs and other affected groups. All sectors are operational holding regular meetings. Each sector is led by a Government entity and co-led by UN agencies. There is also a bi-monthly UNHCR-chaired Multi-Sector Operations Team meeting in Maroua, bringing together more than 40 humanitarian partners intervening in the region. The response for Central African refugees is managed in line with the *Refugee Coordination Model*. Sectorial groups have been established by UNHCR, covering the whole operational area. Local authorities have been very engaged in the management of the refugee operation. UN agencies and international NGOs have been instrumental in implementing activities for Central African refugees and host populations. 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 and the Humanitarian Country Team.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

- On 10 August, the first meeting of the Tripartite Commission for the voluntary repatriation of Nigerian refugees living in Cameroon was held in Abuja, Nigeria. The meeting was attended by the Honorable Minister of the Interior of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, General Abdulrahman Bello, Cameroonian Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralization H.E Mr. René Emmanuel Sadi, UNHCR Representatives in Nigeria and Cameroon, Antonio Canhandula and Kouassi Lazare Etien, as well as the other members of the Commission. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the practical arrangements for the voluntary repatriation of Nigerian refugees under the Tripartite Agreement signed on 2 March, 2017 between Cameroon, Nigeria and UNHCR. The Committee noted the need to strengthen cooperation in the management of the voluntary repatriation process and to ensure the protection of the human rights of returnees, compliance with all international conventions on asylum and durable solutions. The Technical Working Group also met on the same occasion and adopted Standard Operational Procedures supplementing the Agreement, as well as a work plan and timeline for the repatriation process.
- On 18 August, the humanitarian community in Cameroon commemorated World Humanitarian Day. The ceremony saw the participation of representatives of UN agencies, national and international NGOs and all humanitarian actors in Cameroon, including academics and youth. The commemoration this year focused on advocacy for the protection of civilians and humanitarian workers, referring to the calls for action and conclusions of the UN Secretary-General's report on the protection of civilians, with the theme #NOTATARGET.
- From 20-24 August, clashes between elements of the anti-Balaka and members of the *Retour, Réclamation et Réhabilitation* (3R) rebel group in the Dankobira locality of Ouham Pende prefecture in CAR led to the arrival of 258 Central African asylum seekers in the localities of Ngaoui and Alhamdou in the department of Mbéré in the Adamaoua region. The new arrivals came from the localities of Kella, Sahfou, Gaigo I and II, Sabewa, Ladouane, Yelewa in the

sub-prefecture of Bouar in CAR. The majority are women and children being hosted by former refugees and the host community. UNHCR carried out screening and pre-registration activities whilst also continuing to carry out border monitoring in and around Ngaoui and at other frequently used entry points to ensure access to asylum. The new arrivals are in need of registration and documentation, food assistance, livelihood / income-generating activities, education and non-food kits (NFIs). Immediate actions to be undertaken are the start of biometric registration, the distribution of NFIs, the construction / rehabilitation of water points and the reinforcement of the capacity of primary public schools (buildings and educational infrastructures).

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- During a UNHCR mission to the district of Bourrha (department of Mayo-Tsanaga) from 24-25 August, an agreement was reached with local authorities for the opening of four transit centres in the Far North region. They would be located in the border town of Boukoula (Mayo Tsanaga), in Mora (Mayo Sava department), and in Waza and Maltam (Logone et Chari department). These new transit centers will serve as reception centres for Nigerian refugees who are willing to voluntarily return home but also as centres for the implementation of various protection activities.
- On 24 August, UNHCR and the administrative authorities of the department of Mayo-Tsanaga launched the reforestation project of Minawao refugee camp and its surroundings. The initiative, "*Make Minawao Green Again*", is an extension of the project "*Sahel Vert*" initiated by the Government of Cameroon. Its overall objective is to promote the management of natural resources and the protection of the environment in and around Minawao camp, through the production of seedlings for planting. It also aims to raise awareness among refugee and host communities about the importance of preserving the environment. The project aims to plant 90,000 plants in 2017 and close to 100,000 plants in 2018.
- From 14-17 August, the Government of Cameroon, UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) undertook a joint mission to the commune of Touboro to assess the needs of the Central African refugees who arrived in July. The team visited the villages of Mbaiboum, Wakassao, Helbao, Mbodo and Touboro, where they carried out surveys of new refugee households, focus groups discussions, met with partners working in and with state structures (schools, health facilities, agro-pastoral structures, water, shelter, etc.), humanitarian workers in the area and local authorities. At the end of this assessment, their needs were prioritized as follows: food (43%), household equipment (13%), health (12%), housing (9%), income generating activities (IGAs) / means of subsistence (8%), WASH / sanitation (8%), education (7%). Each concerned organization will seek to implement urgent actions to better protect and improve the living conditions of the new arrivals.

EXTERNAL / DONORS RELATIONS

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds to Cameroon in 2017

Canada | CERF | France | Italy | Japan | Netherlands (Private) | Republic of Korea | Spain (private) | United States of America | United Kingdom | UN Prog on HIV/AIDS

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Private Donors Spain (35 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (15 M) | France (14 M) | Private Donors USA (13 M) | Germany (12 M) | Italy (10 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Chile | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Morocco | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Serbia | Singapore | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Zambia | Private Donors

CONTACTS

Xavier Bourgois, Public Information Officer, Cameroon
bourgois@unhcr.org, Tel: +237 222 202 954, Cell +237 690 049 996

Kabami Kalumiya, Associate External Relations Officer, Cameroon
kalumiya@unhcr.org, Tel: +237 222 202 954, Cell +237 691 141 226

Raïssa Touraire Ngou, Reporting Assistant, Cameroon
ngou@unhcr.org, Tel: +237 222 202 954, Cell +237 693 017 380

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