

CAMEROON MCO

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

Cameroon hosts **1,946,751 persons of concern to UNHCR**: 440,461 refugees, 7,591 asylum seekers, 1,032,942 internally displaced persons (IDPs), (321,886 in the Far North and 711,056 in the North West and South West regions), and 465,757 returnees (former IDPs). Gabon hosts **472 refugees and 84 asylum seekers**.

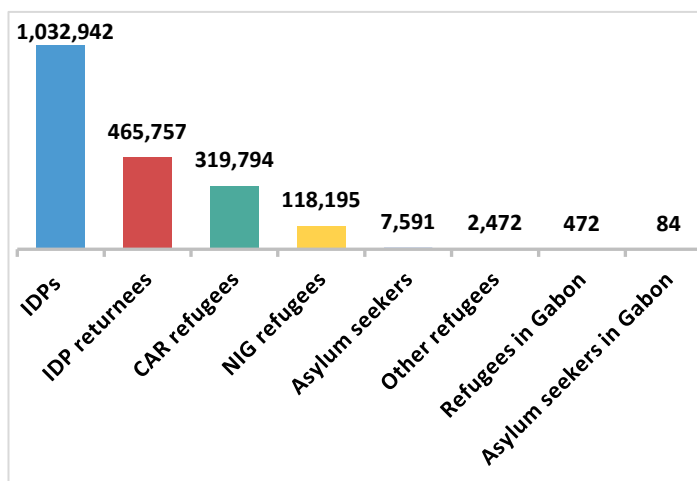
During the reporting period, a total of **4,982 Nigerian refugees living in the Far North region confirmed their intentions to return home**. The tripartite commission on voluntary repatriation, consisting of UNHCR, Nigeria and Cameroon, met to define the conditions of their return expected to start in March.

Frequent clashes between state and non-state armed groups continued in the North West and South West regions. Incidents of abductions and killings were reported, while confrontations between pastoralist and farming communities in Nwa in the North West **led to the displacement of about 4000 people**.

Statistics Figures Sources & Dates

- Cameroon refugee & asylum seeker figures, UNHCR Cameroon, 28 February 2021
- Gabon refugees & asylum seeker figures, UNHCR, 28 February 2021
- IDP & returnee figures, IOM & OCHA, 28 February 2021

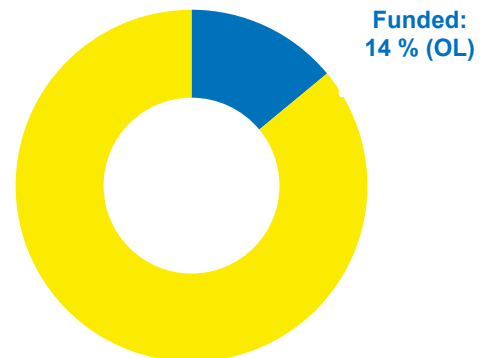
POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS OF 28 FEBRUARY 2021)



FUNDING (AS OF 28 FEBRUARY 2021)

USD 100 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2021



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 222 National Staff
- 63 International Staff

Offices:

- 01 MCO in Yaoundé
- 03 Sub Offices in Bertoua, Maroua, Bamenda
- 04 Field Offices in Batouri, Buea, Douala, Meiganga,
- 03 Field Units in Djohong, Kousseri, Touboro
- 01 Liaison Office in Libreville, Gabon



UNHCR representative meets internally displaced women in Zamay ©UNHCR/Moise Amedje

Working with Partners

- From 3 to 5 February, UNHCR organized the first field visit of the Resident Coordinator and the heads of other UN agencies to the East region of Cameroon. The goal of the mission was to reinforce the coordination between agencies and strengthen the collaboration with local authorities in response to the recent influx of Central African refugees.
- In collaboration with the South-West Delegation of Arts and Culture and the local non-profit organization "Eyasu-Culture" led by world-class artist Max Lyonga, UNHCR and Intersos provided psychosocial support to 108 internally displaced children in Buea who attended workshops on painting and poetry. The workshops are a pilot for a small-scale project to provide psychosocial support for both children and their parents through art.
- The Centre for International Forestry Research, CIFOR, the International Research Centre in Agroforestry (ICRAF) and UNHCR organized a webinar on the challenges and opportunities for displaced people in Central Africa's multifunctional landscapes. The participating organizations highlighted the importance of working in partnership to ensure the centrality of sustainable management of natural resources in the humanitarian response for refugees, IDPs and host communities, including access to land.
- UNHCR took part in an OCHA-led multisectoral assessment in Mokolo, in the Far North, to assess the needs of 100 households displaced due to attacks by armed groups along the border with Nigeria. The identified needs include emergency food assistance, NFIs, psychosocial support for women, and temporary care for unaccompanied and separated children.
- UNHCR met with ILO to explore avenues for collaboration on the inclusion of refugees and migrants in the ILO's project, aiming to establish a platform for social dialogue in Gabon, including the private and public sectors and representatives from the informal economy.

Main Activities



Protection

- One hundred and six (106) Central African refugees relocated from Garoua-Boulai to the Gado refugee settlement in the East region. The refugees also received mosquito nets, jerry cans, kitchen items, solar lamps and other basic items from UNHCR and UNICEF and food items from WFP. A total of 1,227 refugees (404 households) have been transferred to Gado since January.
- UNHCR and partners recorded 931 protection incidents during the reporting month: 525 protection incidents in the Far North, including murder, threats to life, liberty and security of persons and property, and SGBV, including four cases of rape and one early marriage; 23 protection incidents affecting refugees in Douala; 338 protection incidents in the North West and South West regions, including murder, threats to life, liberty and security of persons, destruction of habitat, and SGBV. 45 cases of SGBV were identified and referred to partners for case management in the East region. Following the displacement of over 4,000 people due to confrontations between the pastoral and farming communities in Nwa, UNHCR coordinated a rapid response plan while the local NGO BIHFOPH was to ensure a response to 17 cases of SGBV.
- During its regular detention monitoring activities, UNHCR identified over 150 internally displaced persons currently detained in the Bamenda Central Prison. Lack of civil documentation was among the main reasons for their arrest and detention. UNHCR is following up with the National Bureau of Civil Registration, BUNEC, to ensure access to civil documentation for the detainees. Two refugees were detained in Tchollire prison in the North, bringing the total number of detained Central African refugees to 29. UNHCR provided legal

assistance to two refugees detained in Meiganga. In Douala, five refugee detainees received legal assistance.



Durable Solutions

- During the reporting month, 1,239 Nigerian refugees in the Far North confirmed their intentions to return to their country of origin. In total, 4,982 individuals (751 households) have signed up for the first phase of voluntary repatriation. Those who expressed the desire to return received information sessions on the conditions in the areas of return in Nigeria.
- UNHCR facilitated the legal integration of 24 long-term Chadian refugees in Gabon by helping them to obtain residence permits.



Health

- Seven new Central African refugees who tested positive for Covid-19 in Ngam and Lolo in the East Region are receiving treatment. In Gado, eight Central African refugees who were under treatment for Covid-19 and 105 contact cases in quarantine moved to their assigned shelters after testing negative.
- Sixty-four (64) refugees in Douala received medical consultations using care vouchers obtained from UNHCR's partner Fairmed. In Minawao camp, 9,343 people received medical consultations and treatment for ailments that included respiratory illnesses and malaria.



Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR's partner ADES supported the construction of 300 emergency shelters and the rehabilitation of 96 transitional shelters for Central African refugees at the Gado settlement. In the South West, 78 IDPs (13 households) received 13 out of 16 transitional shelters constructed in Wotutu.
- Plan International distributed 229 core relief items (CRIs) to 1,145 IDPs and host community members in Tiben, in the North West. In the North, refugee inmates in Tchollire prison received non-food items consisting of soap, kitchen sets, buckets, jerry cans, blankets and mosquito nets.



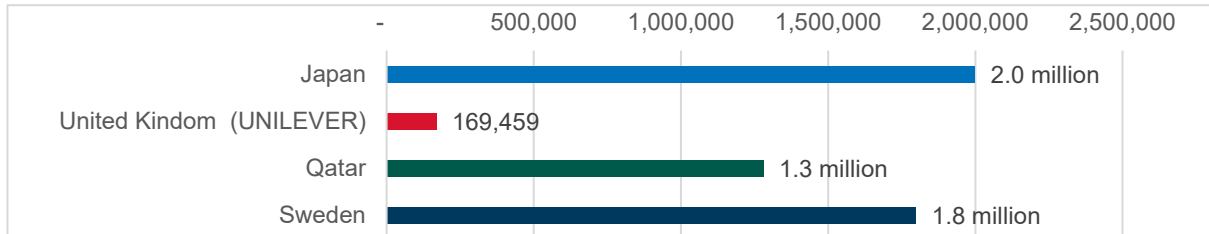
Community Empowerment and Self-reliance

- On 24 February, the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, UNHCR, and ILO signed a partnership agreement to facilitate fair working conditions for refugees in Cameroon. The partnership aims to create a platform to include refugees in national employment and vocational training programmes, build self-employment skills, provide job market information, and incentivize companies to take refugees on pre-employment placements.
- Twenty-five (25) refugees in Douala completed a course in agricultural entrepreneurship and e-commerce organized in partnership with the NGO Africa HOPE Refugees and the Littoral Delegation of Agriculture. The course, which began in 2019, aims to create a Common Initiative Group (CIG) for cocoa seedlings and plantains in traditional peri-urban plantations, using off-ground techniques to counterweight the shortage of farmland in urban areas.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD 5.2 million for MCO Cameroon as of 28 February 2021



Other Softly Earmarked Contributions | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of earmarked and regional funds

Japan 2.5 million | Sweden | Private donors

Unearmarked Contributions | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Norway 80 million | Sweden 66.9 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | Germany 22.1 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Private donors Spain 13.3 million | Ireland 12.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds

Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | South Africa | 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 | **Insta:** hrcameroun