

CONTEXT

- Protracted conflict and related displacement as well as recurrent climatic shocks continue to generate humanitarian needs among affected populations in Cameroon's Adamaoua, East, Far North, North, Northwest, and Southwest regions. During 2022, an estimated 3.9 million people in Cameroon will require humanitarian assistance, the UN reports. Moreover, due to conflict, limited livelihoods, climatic shocks, and rising global food prices, 2.4 million people were projected to face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity from June to August, representing a nearly 26 percent projected increase from those who faced Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity from June to August 2021; approximately 900,000 of those people reside in Far North, according to a March Cadre Harmonisé (CH) analysis.¹
- Intercommunal clashes over limited resources—including conflicts over water access in Logone Birni town in August and December 2021—displaced more than 100,000 people from Cameroon's Far North region, including an estimated 85,000 individuals into neighboring Chad, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Ongoing organized armed group activity in the Lake Chad Basin region also continues to displace populations and generate humanitarian needs in Far North. The region hosts nearly 378,000 internally displaced Cameroonians and more than 135,000 Nigerian refugees as of mid-August. In addition, flooding and landslides in 2021, among other climatic shocks, decreased crop yields in late 2021 and early 2022; resultant food shortages have exacerbated chronic food insecurity and disrupted livelihoods for already vulnerable households. Subsequently, poor households in Far North's Mayo Tsanaga, Mayo Sava, and Logone-et-Chari divisions reported using negative coping strategies, such as reducing the frequency of meals, to deal with food insecurity, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).
- Nearly 598,000 Cameroonians are internally displaced due to persistent violent conflict between non-state armed groups and government security forces that has occurred since 2016 in the Northwest and Southwest regions, according to UNHCR. The conflict has resulted in human rights violations against civilian populations; the destruction of property; the disruption of livelihood activities; and the hinderance of humanitarian aid deliveries, including through abductions of humanitarian actors, repeated lockdowns, and the suspension of UN Humanitarian Air Service flights, the UN reports.
- An estimated 347,000 refugees reside in the Adamaoua, East, and North regions, displaced by armed conflict and political instability in neighboring Central African Republic (CAR), according to UNHCR. Many of these refugees are unable to return due to fears of ongoing violence in CAR and live in poorly protected and crowded conditions, without adequate livelihood opportunities or access to basic services. The influx of CAR refugees also strains host communities' response capacity, as resources for relief efforts and social services are limited as needs grow in other areas of Cameroon.



¹ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

ASSISTANCE

- USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provides complex emergency assistance across Cameroon. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, USAID/BHA partnered with UN agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to provide more than \$2 million towards economic recovery, access to health services, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) commodities, among other sectors.

- With nearly \$50 million in FY 2022 funding, USAID/BHA supports the UN World Food Program and several NGO implementing partners to provide life-saving emergency food assistance to an estimated 1.4 million people in the Far North, Northwest, Southwest, Adamaoua, East, and North regions.

- In the Far North, USAID/BHA awarded the International Rescue Committee with more than \$1.1 million to conduct protection, WASH, and climate-adapted livelihood activities in FY 2022, supporting vulnerable households—particularly those with heightened protection risks due to conflict—in the Logone et Chari, Mayo Sava, and Mayo Tsanaga departments.

- With \$2.4 million in FY21 and FY22 funding from USAID/BHA, Première Urgence Internationale supported rapid responses to emerging humanitarian needs in the Far North, including providing food assistance to an estimated 2,500 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host community members affected by the intercommunal violence in Logone Birni.

- USAID/BHA provided nearly \$4 million in FY 2022 to Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA) to deliver health and nutrition services to conflict-affected people, IDPs, and refugees in Cameroon’s Far North and Southwest regions. In FY 2022, ALIMA reached an estimated 63,400 people with critical health services, including out of mobile clinics that provide advice and treatment to pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and children ages five years and younger in the Far North. In the Southwest, ALIMA’s program is training community healthcare workers in the early detection of malnutrition and prevention practices, who then train mothers on how to detect early signs of malnutrition and ways to prevent malnutrition within their households.



A USAID/BHA funded mobile clinic brings doctors and community health workers into villages to provide nutrition consultations to PLW, mothers, and children five years and younger.

Photo credit: ALIMA

USAID/BHA Funding in Cameroon ²			
	Emergency ³	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2021	\$45,858,339	-	\$45,858,339
FY 2022	\$65,333,343	-	\$65,333,343

² Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of December 21, 2022. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

³ Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.