

## CONTEXT

- Conflict, non-state armed group (NSAG) activity, recurrent climatic shocks, and resulting displacement continue to generate humanitarian needs in Cameroon. As a result, an estimated 3.4 million people countrywide will require humanitarian assistance in 2024, the UN reports. Moreover, conflict and insecurity continue to disrupt livelihood activities, markets, and trade across Cameroon’s Far North, Northwest, and Southwest regions, resulting in reduced access to food and income and heightened staple food prices, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). Nearly 2.5 million people in Cameroon are likely to face Crisis—Phase 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity during the June-to-August period, a March Cadre Harmonisé (CH) projection reports.<sup>1</sup>
- An estimated 583,000 Cameroonians remained internally displaced in Northwest and Southwest as of April amid persistent conflict between NSAGs and government security forces, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The conflict—which began in 2016—has resulted in the destruction of property, the disruption of livelihood activities, and violence against civilian populations. Conflict and fighting have also hindered the delivery of humanitarian assistance, with the UN reporting abductions of relief actors and repeated NSAG-imposed lockdowns that restrict relief actors from reaching vulnerable populations. An additional 454,000 people remained displaced in Far North as of April, where NSAG attacks against the Cameroonian military and civilians continue to drive displacement and limit humanitarian access in the region’s Logone-et-Chari, Mayo-Sava, and Mayo-Tsanaga departments.
- Additionally, nearly 477,000 refugees—primarily from neighboring Central African Republic (CAR) and Nigeria—are sheltering in the Adamaoua, East, and North regions of Cameroon as of April due to persistent armed conflict, intercommunal violence, the effects of climate change, and political instability, according to UNHCR. In particular, the influx of refugees from CAR since 2013 has also strained the Government of Cameroon’s capacity to respond to the humanitarian needs of both host community members and refugees in the region, given that resources for government-led social services and relief efforts remain limited amid increasing needs in other areas of Cameroon.



## ASSISTANCE

- With more than \$15 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 funding, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) supports the UN World Food Program (WFP) to provide life-saving emergency food and nutrition assistance to host, internally displaced person (IDP), and refugee populations in Adamaoua, East, Far, North, Northwest, and Southwest. In addition, WFP utilizes USAID/BHA funds to support UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flights, which facilitate relief actors’ access and enable humanitarian aid programming to be implemented

<sup>1</sup>CH is a standardized framework used across West Africa and the Sahel that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The CH scale is comparable across countries in West Africa and ranges from Minimal—Phase 1—to Famine—Phase 5.

in hard-to-reach areas of the country. Through the USAID/BHA award, UNHAS provides essential air services to ensure a link between Cameroon's capital city of Yaoundé and the country's northern regions in order to continue the provision of humanitarian assistance.

- USAID/BHA also supports international nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) providing critical health and nutrition activities for vulnerable communities in Far North, Northwest, and Southwest. With USAID/BHA support, International Medical Corps provides institutional support to health facilities; supports disease detection and prevention activities; provides health care, including first aid and treatment for injury; and trains staff at new health sites in Northwest. Furthermore, USAID/BHA has provided \$3.6 million since FY 2023 to Alliance for International Medical Action to deliver health and nutrition services, including primary and secondary health care and specialized treatment for children experiencing severe acute malnutrition, to host communities and IDPs in Far North and Southwest.
- In addition, USAID/BHA supports INGOs providing multi-sector assistance in Far North, Northwest, and Southwest. With USAID/BHA support, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) provides economic recovery and market systems, food, and shelter assistance to conflict-affected individuals in Northwest and Southwest. Under the USAID/BHA-funded award, CRS assists vulnerable displaced and host community households to meet basic food needs and reestablish or expand income-generating activities. USAID/BHA also funds Première Urgence Internationale to deliver critical food, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to more than 25,000 of the most conflict-affected people in Far North. Furthermore, USAID/BHA provided \$1.6 million to the Norwegian Refugee Council to provide agriculture, multipurpose cash, protection, shelter, and WASH assistance to vulnerable individuals, particularly host community members, IDPs, and returnees, in Northwest and Southwest during FY 2023.

USAID/BHA Funding in the Cameroon <sup>2</sup>			
	Emergency <sup>3</sup>	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2022	\$65,333,343	–	\$65,333,343
FY 2023	\$43,886,632	–	\$43,886,632
FY 2024	\$26,058,318	–	\$26,058,318

<sup>2</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of May 29, 2024. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>3</sup> Includes funding for programs that integrate early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) activities with emergency response.