

CONTEXT

- Conflict, non-state armed group (NSAG) activity, recurrent climatic shocks, and resultant 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. Insecurity has resulted in below-average harvests and limited livelihood activities across Cameroon’s Far North, Northwest, and Southwest regions, reducing access to food and income, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity are likely to persist in Northwest and Southwest through January 2025, FEWS NET reports.¹
- Heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding in Far North since mid-July coincided with the peak of the country’s June-to-September lean season—the period when food is most scarce—and compounded existing humanitarian needs. As of October 18, floods had affected an estimated 459,000 people, resulting in the deaths of 38 individuals, damage to nearly 56,100 houses and 210,700 acres of cropland, and the loss of approximately 5,500 livestock, according to the UN. While area-level food security conditions are expected to improve from Crisis to Stressed—IPC 2—outcomes in Far North in October, some conflict- and flood-affected households will continue to face Crisis conditions, with a small proportion of households facing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity, FEWS NET reports.
- More than 583,000 people remained internally displaced in Northwest and Southwest as of September 30 amid persistent conflict between government security forces and NSAGs, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Conflict has also hindered the delivery of humanitarian assistance, as abductions of relief actors and repeated NSAG-imposed lockdowns prevent relief actors from reaching vulnerable populations. An additional 545,000 people remained displaced in Far North as of September 30 due to NSAG attacks in the region’s Logone-et-Chari, Mayo-Sava, and Mayo-Tsanaga departments.
- Additionally, the effects of climate change, intercommunal violence, persistent armed conflict, and political instability have led more than 408,000 refugees—primarily from the Central African Republic (CAR) and Nigeria—to shelter in Cameroon’s Adamaoua, East, and North regions as of September, according to UNHCR. The influx of refugees from CAR since 2013 has strained the Government of Cameroon’s capacity to meet the needs of both host community members and refugees in the region amid increasing needs in other areas of the country.



ASSISTANCE

- With nearly \$25 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

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 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 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 distribution 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 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 assistance to more than 25,000 of the most conflict-affected people in Far North.

USAID/BHA Funding in Cameroon ²			
	Emergency ³	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2022	\$65,333,343	–	\$65,333,343
FY 2023	\$43,886,632	–	\$43,886,632
FY 2024	\$55,029,962	\$1,000,000	\$56,029,962

² Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2024. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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