

CAMEROON

Working environment

The context

Cameroon hosts a relatively large number of refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly from the Central African Republic and Chad. The global financial crisis has resulted in higher prices for basic commodities and services in Cameroon. While measures have been taken by the Government to reduce prices, their impact is not yet visible. Meanwhile the political climate has shown signs of tension, with some sporadic violence.

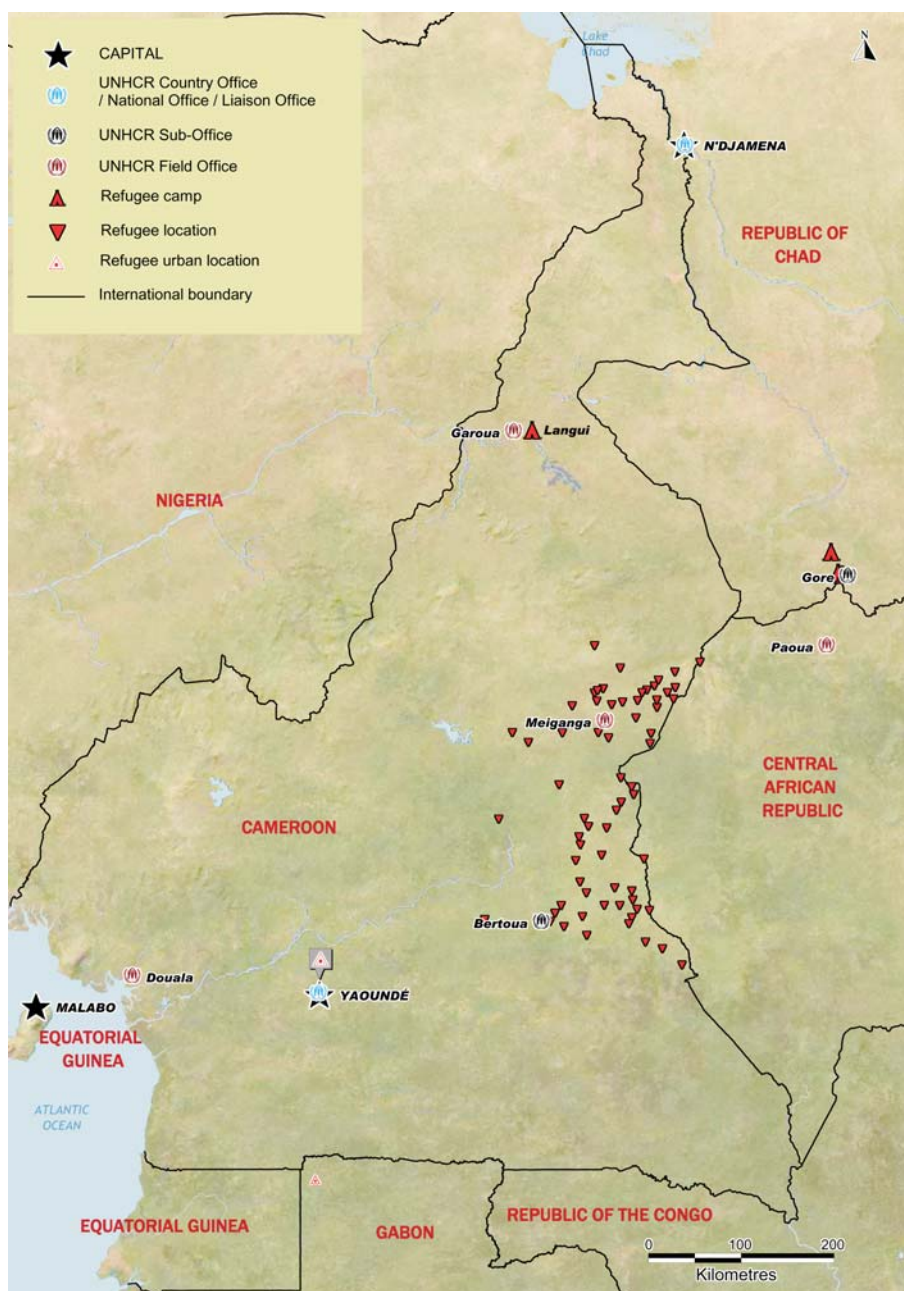
Cameroon is a signatory to all major international and regional instruments on refugees, including the Refugee Convention of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol as well as the 1969 OAU Convention. Generally, the country has a generous protection policy, although the legal framework still lacks a Commission for eligibility and appeals, impeding implementation of the 2005 Refugee Law.

The needs

The non-implementation of the 2005 Refugee Act compels UNHCR to assume responsibility for all registration, refugee status determination (RSD) and documentation activities in the urban context. Access to legal remedies remains limited for various reasons for all refugees. There are few avenues open to most urban refugees, especially the most vulnerable, to break out of poverty.

A residual group of Nigerian refugees, who settled in the Adamaoua and north-west regions, do not wish to return home. Their integration is an issue that needs to be addressed.

Some 3,000 Chadian refugees living in Langui Camp have no opportunity for voluntary



Planning figures for Cameroon

TYPE OF POPULATION	ORIGIN	JAN 2012		DEC 2012 - JAN 2013		DEC 2013	
		TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR	TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR	TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR
Refugees	Central African Rep.	91,560	91,560	94,910	94,910	98,460	98,460
	Chad	4,780	4,780	5,130	5,130	5,510	5,510
	Nigeria	3,050	3,050	3,140	3,140	3,230	3,230
	Various	1,830	1,830	2,100	2,100	2,420	2,420
Asylum-seekers	Central African Rep.	600	600	450	450	200	200
	Chad	250	250	150	150	100	100
	Guinea	200	200	100	100	50	50
	Various	450	450	150	150	150	150
Total		102,720	102,720	106,130	106,130	110,120	110,120

repatriation, due to the absence of a tripartite agreement. This population is still largely dependent on humanitarian assistance.

In the Adamaoua and eastern regions, Central African refugees are slowly finding work in agriculture and farming as alternative sources of livelihood, but still remain dependent on support for basic needs and essential services. With the recent discontinuation of general food distribution, their food security is a matter of concern.

| Strategy and activities |

UNHCR will continue to provide international protection and conduct RSD for refugees in urban areas. It will also focus on building the capacity of government partners to take on RSD responsibilities in a gradual manner, while encouraging the authorities to grant residence permits to refugees in protracted situations in urban areas.

Prior to the implementation of the cessation clause for the Rwandese refugees in 2012, UNHCR will promote their repatriation through go-and-see visits to Rwanda and facilitate the voluntary return of all those willing to do so. Efforts will also continue to facilitate voluntary repatriation to other countries of origin, while seeking resettlement opportunities for cases with protection or special needs.

The assistance programme for the refugees from the Central African Republic is at a critical stage following the discontinuation of general food distribution by WFP. As part of its plans for 2012, UNHCR is putting in place income-generating activities and community projects that will seek to bring food security to the refugees, while supporting the transition from emergency relief to self-reliance.

UNHCR will also prioritize education and access to primary health care. Special attention will be paid to the prevention of HIV and AIDS and sexual and gender-based violence, as well as to providing assistance to people with special needs. To address the situation of a large population of undocumented refugee children born in Cameroon, UNHCR will help the authorities to issue birth certificates and facilitate procedures for judicial rulings. Continuous registration procedures will benefit new arrivals from the north-west of the Central African Republic.

The residual caseload of Chadian refugees in Langui Camp will continue to enjoy international protection and to receive humanitarian assistance. The focus will be on local integration and a reinforcement of basic social services. Repatriation will continue in 2012 for about 1,500 Chadian refugees.

UNHCR will continue to promote the local integration of the Nigerian refugees in the north-west and Adamaoua regions through the pursuit for an alternative status, in the absence of naturalization. Measures to facilitate the smooth integration of these refugees in their area of residence will include rehabilitation of social infrastructure and help in acquiring residence permits.

UNHCR will combat statelessness by ensuring that stateless populations and people at risk of statelessness are identified, and assisting the national authorities to provide civil status documentation for this population.

● Constraints

Logistical problems make access to refugees difficult for UNHCR personnel and implementing partners. International humanitarian organizations with the necessary experience to work with UNHCR in Cameroon are few in number and it is therefore difficult to engage additional partners.

Main objectives and targets for 2012

Fair protection processes and documentation

- The standard of registration and profiling is maintained for refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas.
 - ☞ Registration data for refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas is updated on a continuous basis.
 - ☞ Status determination conducted for some 1,800 asylum-seekers by UNHCR.
- Civil-status documentation is strengthened for stateless persons.
 - ☞ The authorities are assisted to issue civil documentation for some 3,000 stateless people.

Durable solutions

- The potential for voluntary return is realized for Chadian Refugees in the North.
 - ☞ A tripartite agreement is concluded between UNHCR and the governments of Cameroon and Chad.
 - ☞ Safe and dignified return transport is provided for some 1,500 Chadian refugees.

- The potential for the local integration of Nigerian refugees in the north-west and Adamaoua regions is realized.
 - ☞ Measures to facilitate the social integration of some 3,000 Nigerian refugees in the north-west and Adamaoua regions are implemented.

Community participation and self-management

- The level of self-reliance and quality of livelihoods among Central African Refugees in the east and Adamaoua regions are improved.
 - ☞ Support for animal husbandry is provided to some 2,000 households of Central African refugees.
 - ☞ Microcredit support is provided to about 500 Central African refugee women and men.
 - ☞ Targeted training is offered to some 1,200 Central African refugees
 - ☞ Support for crop production helps about 4,000 households of Central African refugees.

UNHCR's presence in 2012

□ Number of offices	5
□ Total staff	74
International staff	7
National staff	39
UNVs	27
Others	1



A crowded classroom in Group 1 and 3 of Ngaoui school, in Cameroon. Classrooms are overcrowded, reaching easily more than 70 children refugees and from the host communities.

Organization and implementation

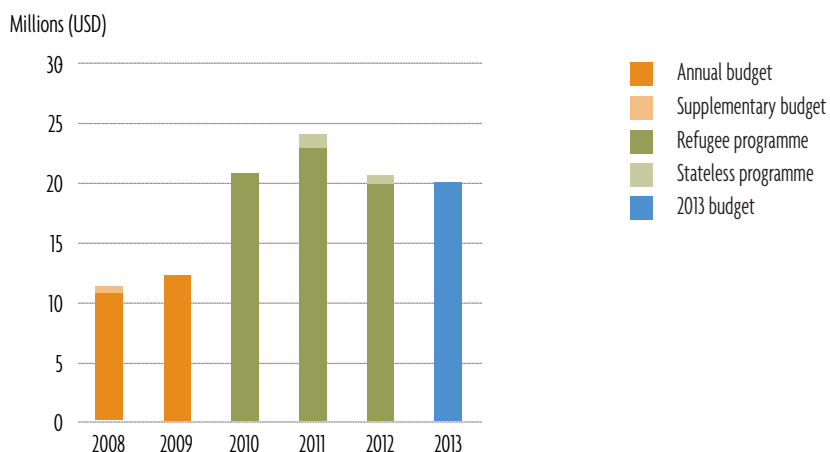
○ Coordination

UNHCR is working closely with government departments and international and national NGOs. It also benefits from the support of other UN agencies (UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and WFP) as well as local communities.

Financial information

UNHCR's budget in Cameroon has been increasing over the past four years and peaked in 2010 due to influxes from the Central African Republic and Chad. For 2012, the Office's financial requirements in Cameroon will amount to USD 20.6 million, mainly to respond to the refugees' basic needs.

UNHCR's budget in Cameroon 2008 – 2013



2012 UNHCR Budget in Cameroon (USD)

BUDGET BREAKDOWN	REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1	STATELESS PROGRAMME PILLAR 2	TOTAL
Favourable protection environment			
Law and policy	62,296	0	62,296
National administrative framework	122,324	0	122,324
Access to legal assistance	116,373	0	116,373
Public attitude towards people of concern	22,277	0	22,277
Subtotal	323,270	0	323,270

BUDGET BREAKDOWN	REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1	STATELESS PROGRAMME PILLAR 2	TOTAL
Fair protection processes and documentation			
Identification of statelessness	0	82,526	82,526
Registration and profiling	361,034	0	361,034
Refugee status determination	194,545	0	194,545
Individual documentation	166,370	0	166,370
Civil registration and civil status documentation	352,013	56,968	408,982
Subtotal	1,073,962	139,494	1,213,456
Security from violence and exploitation			
Protection from crime	30,697	0	30,697
Prevention of and response to SGBV	611,388	0	611,388
Non-arbitrary detention	155,697	0	155,697
Protection of children	159,189	0	159,189
Subtotal	956,971	0	956,971
Basic needs and essential services			
Health	3,216,370	0	3,216,370
Reproductive health and HIV services	360,322	0	360,322
Nutrition	273,283	0	273,283
Food security	91,340	0	91,340
Water	1,047,341	0	1,047,341
Sanitation and hygiene	713,937	0	713,937
Shelter and infrastructure	316,429	0	316,429
Access to energy	86,190	0	86,190
Basic domestic and hygiene items	244,213	0	244,213
Services for people with specific needs	433,872	0	433,872
Education	2,492,030	0	2,492,030
Subtotal	9,275,326	0	9,275,326
Community empowerment and self-reliance			
Community mobilization	279,281	0	279,281
Co-existence with local communities	108,825	0	108,825
Natural resources and shared environment	280,139	0	280,139
Self-reliance and livelihoods	3,163,178	0	3,163,178
Subtotal	3,831,423	0	3,831,423
Durable solutions			
Comprehensive solutions strategy	76,681	63,679	140,360
Voluntary return	789,688	0	789,688
Integration	888,538	0	888,538
Resettlement	112,718	0	112,718
Greater reduction of statelessness	0	187,230	187,230
Subtotal	1,867,625	250,909	2,118,534
Leadership, coordination and partnerships			
Coordination and partnerships	215,469	180,947	396,416
Camp management and coordination	43,618	0	43,618
Subtotal	259,088	180,947	440,035
Logistics and operations support			
Logistics and supply	1,040,839	109,684	1,150,523
Operations management, coordination and support	1,157,842	145,269	1,303,110
Subtotal	2,198,680	254,953	2,453,633
Total	19,786,345	826,303	20,612,649
2011 Revised budget	22,884,527	1,063,000	23,947,527

PARTNERS

Implementing partners

NGOs

Adventist Development and Relief Agency
 Africa Humanitarian Action
Association de lutte contre les violences faites aux femmes
Collectif inter africain des habitants
 FAIRMED
 International Medical Corps
 International Relief and Development
 Plan International Cameroon
Première Urgence
 Public Concern
 Youth Business

Others

International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
 Cameroon Red Cross Society

Operational partners

Government agencies

Ministries of External Relations
 Territorial Administration
 Public Health
 Basic Education
 Women's Empowerment and the Family
 Ministry for Foreign Affairs
 Ministry of Territorial Administration
 Ministry of Public Health
 Ministry of Basic Education
 Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family

Others

UNDP
 UNFPA
 UNICEF
 WFP