

Cameroon Crisis Response Plan 2021 - 2022



IOM Staff Speak to Community Members During Post Monitoring Visit, Far-North Region, Cameroon. @IOM Cameroon, 2021

IOM VISION

IOM Cameroon embraces the humanitarian-development-peace nexus vision in its strategic approach for two key pillars of the mission's interventions: emergency response to crisis and peacebuilding and recovery. To this end, IOM Cameroon provides tailored lifesaving assistance and protection, complemented by efforts to build community-based approaches for the attainment of durable solutions, seeking to prevent forced displacement and favour reintegration by addressing the drivers of crises, supporting mechanisms of conflict management and reduction, and building resilience in communities. IOM Cameroon applies integrated approaches that respect humanitarian principles and support transition and recovery efforts and sustainable development. The varied nature of the ongoing crises in Cameroon, from the Lake Chad Basin's Far-North region, to the North-West, South-West (NW-SW) Anglophone regions, to the East region's refugee crisis, requires IOM to adapt response strategies to these specific contexts, strengthening resilience and ensuring no one is left behind.

UPDATED: 14 DEC 2021

\$8,675,000 Funding Required



60,000

People Targeted

215

Entities Targeted

CONTACT INFORMATION

iomcameroon@iom.int

IOM PROPOSED RESPONSE

OBJECTIVE	FUNDING REQUIRED	FUNDING CONFIRMED
Save lives and respond to needs through humanitarian assistance and protection	1,500,000	0
Address the drivers and longer term impacts of crises and displacement through investments in recovery and crisis prevention	4,550,000	1,923,288
Strengthen preparedness and reduce disaster risk	1,025,000	0
Contribute to an Evidence Based and Efficient Crisis Response System	1,600,000	958,043

PRIMARY TARGET GROUPS

- 1. Internally displaced person
- 2. Local population / community

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD) 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITY AREAS	2021	
Save lives and respond to needs through humanitarian assistance and protection		
Shelter, Settlements and Non-Food Items	1,000,000	
Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Humanitarian Response	500,000	
Address the drivers and longer term impacts of crises and displacement through investments in recovery and crisis prevention		
Durable Solutions	250,000	
Community stabilization	500,000	
Health System Strengthening	300,000	
Address the Socio-economic Impacts of Health Crises	1,000,000	
Peacebuilding and peace preservation	2,500,000	
Strengthen preparedness and reduce disaster risk		
Emergency Preparedness	175,000	
Disaster Prevention	500,000	
Points of Entry	250,000	
System Strengthening for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	100,000	
Contribute to an Evidence Based and Efficient Crisis Response System		
Displacement Tracking	1,600,000	
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIRED	8,675,000	

2021 - Cameroon Crisis Response Plan 2021 - 2022

CONTEXT ANALYSIS

Humanitarian needs in Cameroon remain high. In 2021, an estimated 4.0 million people (or one in six) will be in need of humanitarian assistance as the country has three ongoing humanitarian crises, in addition to a global health crisis, according to the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview.

In the North-West, South-West Anglophone regions, what started in 2017 as peaceful protests against a perceived encroachment of the regions' cultural practices and autonomy turned into an armed conflict between government defence forces and non-state armed groups (NSAGs), triggering significant internal displacements and related humanitarian needs, with a spike in military operations since December 2019 forcing more individuals to flee their homes.

In the Far-North region, ongoing hostilities and violence continue, where lower magnitude displacements are still triggered by small-scale sporadic attacks by NSAGs and violent extremist organizations, and a recent downturn in returnees due to worsening clashes. Since the beginning of 2020, the region has witnessed continuous hostilities that have uprooted more than 321,886 internally displaced persons (IDPs), 48,769 out-of-camp refugees from Nigeria and 123,489 returnees (DTM Mobility Tracking Round 21). Insecurity in both these regions exacerbates the already limited access of displaced populations to essential social services such as education and health.

Meanwhile, in the East region, there is substantial progress yet to be made toward durable solutions for Central African refugee populations that number over 280,000 (UNHCR), and the country continues to face the enormous challenge of effectively controlling the COVID-19 pandemic whilst ensuring that mobility corridors remain open and negative socioeconomic impacts are minimized, with border communities particularly vulnerable. A recent study conducted by IOM to assess the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 in Cameroon identified a sharp contraction in planned remittances compared to previous years, with significant consequences on those who are reliant on this support. The presence of hazard risks including natural disasters such as flooding means that there is also a greater need for further disaster risk reduction planning in collaboration with government counterparts. However, opportunities are also present to bring meaningful change to Cameroon through coordinated approaches to alleviate immediate suffering while aiding in the transition to integrated recovery solutions and passage to sustainable development.

COORDINATION

IOM will continue to coordinate its humanitarian operations with the Government of Cameroon and the Humanitarian Country Team. IOM will also continue to coordinate its activities with humanitarian agencies and organizations in both the North-West, South-West regions and Far-North regions to address humanitarian needs while ensuring that humanitarian efforts are synergized, avoid duplication and that accountability is strengthened. IOM further participates in the Task Force working on the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. IOM actively participates in the government coled sectoral working groups, including as co-lead of the Working Group on Points of Entry across Cameroon, and as an active member of the Shelter/NFI cluster for the Far-North. A number of UN partnerships are of particular strategic importance to IOM, including the collaboration with OCHA on advocacy and coordination of the ongoing humanitarian responses, further collaboration and programmatic development with WFP, and joint programming initiatives most notably with UNFPA and FAO in the field of community stabilization, and with WHO for migration and public health. IOM also works closely with national NGOs, including as implementing partners, in both the Far-North and North-West, South-West regions, Through its active participation in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Task Force, IOM will continue contributing to context-based analysis for the identification of areas conducive to transition and recovery interventions, developing and implementing the country-wide durable solutions strategy for populations affected by displacements, including through the planned development of a human security index with other UN agencies and the continued roll-out of the IOM Stability Index. IOM will also continue its support to coordination on the early Rapid Response Mechanism under development in the North-West, South-West. Finally, in 2021, in coordination with relevant stakeholders, including the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI), the United Nations Country Team and governmental counterparts, IOM will be actively engaged in evaluating disaster risk reduction (DRR) capacities in-country and integrating the various climatic changes in development planning.IOM will continue to engage with local actors and will continue to work closely with all key stakeholders in order to ensure sustainable and unhindered access to displaced populations in need across the country.

IOM CAPACITY

Since 2017, IOM has grown in terms of funding, staff, offices and programmatic areas to become the key voice for migration, mobility and displacement-related issues in Cameroon, providing a range of government capacity strengthening on public policy, direct humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable mobile populations, and resilience-building interventions for communities. IOM's main work to address and respond to crises is composed of separate but interrelating programmes, focusing on:

- 1. Peacebuilding and community stabilization including on innovative approaches to conflict reduction surrounding issues of transhumance, equitable access to basic services.
- 2. Life-saving assistance including, shelter and non-food items (NFI) support, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), as well as the implementation of Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) operations.
- 3. Migration health including pre-travel health examinations and public health capacity strengthening in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

IOM in Cameroon is supported by its Regional Office based in Dakar, as well as with additional technical support from IOM headquarters in Geneva. With 84 staff employed across six different offices, in Yaoundé, Douala, Buea, Bertoua, Maroua, and Kousseri, a breadth of programmatic experience combined with an operational presence and field-oriented culture often means IOM is the first to arrive on-site to provide assistance in some of the hardest to reach areas. Through its DTM methodology, IOM is the main supplier of regular and reliable information on displacement trends and immediate needs in Cameroon, on behalf of OCHA and crisis response mechanisms, with a network of over 100 enumerators that gives IOM a unique level of access to some of the hardest to reach areas in Cameroon.

SAVE LIVES AND RESPOND TO NEEDS THROUGH HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION

Funding Required \$1,500,000

People Targeted **25,000**

People Targeted Description

IDPs, vulnerable host communities and IDP returnees in North-West, South-West and Far North regions, with key vulnerabilities including low access to protection, life-saving assistance and basic services.



SHELTER, SETTLEMENTS AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

IOM plans to provide tailored shelter/NFI assistance to the most vulnerable IDPs identified through vulnerability assessments (based on national cluster guidelines and including persons with special needs, single female-headed households, elderly, etc.) in the North-West, South-West and Far-North throughout 2021-2022, to increase the overall capacity of the cluster to address urgent needs and alleviate suffering. Interventions will be in line with the Shelter/NFI cluster guidelines, with intervention modalities (e.g. in-kind distributions, cash-based interventions, among others), populations targeted (e.g. IDPs in sites, collective centres, in host communities) depending on the local context and vulnerability criteria. Initiatives will include:

Funding Required \$1,000,000



- Distribution of NFI and emergency shelter kits;
- Provision of transitional shelter solutions;
- Host community support through cash interventions.

MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT IN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Following IOM's Manual on Community-Based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergencies and Displacement, the Organization will target conflict-affected populations in the North-West, South-West as well as the Far-North region of Cameroon with a range of needs, including victims of gender-based violence (GBV). Initiatives will include:

- MHPSS assessment to identify the available approaches, resources and key stakeholders;
- Implementation of MHPSS activities in target communities with interdisciplinary teams (e.g. art-based, sports and play, socio-cultural) to address psychosocial needs and strengthen community networks, as well as to aid victims of GBV;

Funding Required \$500,000



• Additional support will also be given to strengthen local capacities to carry out community-based MHPSS activities, ensuring sustainability for the future.



ADDRESS THE DRIVERS AND LONGER TERM IMPACTS OF CRISES AND DISPLACEMENT THROUGH INVESTMENTS IN RECOVERY AND CRISIS PREVENTION

Funding Required \$4,550,000

People Targeted 56,500

People Targeted Description

IDPs, vulnerable host communities and IDP returnees in both North-West, South-West and Far North regions, with key vulnerabilities including low access to protection, livelihoods and basic services including education and healthcare. All stakeholders of the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Task Force for additional contextual knowledge for targeted high-quality programming.

Funding Confirmed

58% Funding Gap



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

IOM will continue its active participation in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Task Force, set-up in Cameroon in August 2019, to unite key stakeholders including UN agencies and governmental counterparts that are working on the development and implementation of durable solutions for displacement affected populations. Once the Task Force finalizes its durable solutions strategy, IOM plans to:

- Apply principles from its Framework on the Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations to build community resilience to address the factors causing displacement, by working to improve access to basic social services, to durable livelihoods and greater economic opportunities, protection and inclusive governance;
- Develop a human security dashboard based on IOM's Stability Index to guide coordination in the Far-North with other HDPN Task Force agencies, both for the identification and engagement of municipalities on areas of convergence for improved nexus programming in Cameroon.

Funding Required \$250,000



COMMUNITY STABILIZATION

IOM's community stabilization initiatives are dedicated to addressing the root causes of conflict and instability, always from a community based approach that guarantees local

Funding Required \$500,000

buy-in and ownership. Activities planned include:

 Organization of social cohesion activities along at-risk zones, as defined by the Transhumance Tracking Tool, to work with local governance structures in communities where transhumant movements may trigger tensions between herders and farmers, to define conflict mitigation and resolutions methods to ensure peaceful transhumant campaigns;



 Where additional community infrastructure may be needed in order to cater for the passage of transhumant movements, IOM will similarly support the participatory local decision-making processes to define priority infrastructure that would contribute to conflict mitigation or resolution, and support relevant line ministries to respond to this collective prioritisation in direct response to communities who may otherwise be aggrieved.



HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

Continuing from its technical support to the government in the framework of the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM plans in 2021-2022 to continue using its specialised health capacity to strengthen public health preparedness in preparation for future health crises in Cameroon, in partnership with WHO. Initiatives will include:

- Further developing the national preparedness plan for public health crises in Cameroon;
- Coordination and establishment of early response mechanisms, including lists of prioritised sites for public health interventions based on participatory mobility mapping, and cross-border communication mechanisms and channels for quick response to the spread of communicable diseases;
- General strengthening of disease surveillance mechanisms and capacities.





द्रस

ADDRESS THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF HEALTH CRISES

IOM will continue to participate in the Task Force working on the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, continuing with work towards alleviating the health crisis with synergies and partnerships with other agencies. With a sharp contraction in planned remittances a a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM seeks to respond to the negative gender and socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on remittance flows through short-term and long-term interventions for sustainable development, including engagement with the government and service providers to reduce remittances transaction costs, in line with SDG 10.c.1. Interventions will include:

•IOM

Funding Required

\$1,000,000

- Money management workshops on the usage of small-scale financial instruments and financial literacy;
- Sensitisation on the options available for remittance transfer, and the launching
 of a remittance task force in Cameroon bringing together a variety of
 stakeholders to advocate for overall lower remittance transfer costs;
- Cash or voucher transfers to safeguard food security and access to basic services for individuals not covered by existing social protection schemes.

_

PEACEBUILDING AND PEACE PRESERVATION

Building on its engagement in the Far North region of Cameroon, IOM:

Continues its support to the Government of Cameroon to collaborate with
national and local partners to support the peacebuilding and social cohesion
efforts in conflict-affected communities where displacement and returns may
impact the fragile social fabric and increase the risk of inter-communal conflict.

Funding Required \$2,500,000

Funding Confirmed \$1,923,288

76% 24%



STRENGTHEN PREPAREDNESS AND REDUCE DISASTER RISK

Funding Required \$1,025,000

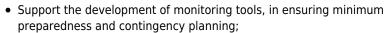
People Targeted Description

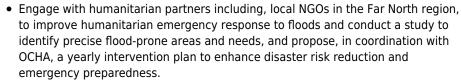
Multiple stakeholders across the multi-disciplinary spectrum in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, including the Government of Cameroon, UN Country Team, Resident Coordinator's Office, international and local NGOs, who would benefit from additional information and coordination on risk information systems, enhanced preparedness plans that will also present a greater value for money in case of eventual response. Actors involved in COVID-19 response at Points of Entry will also be targeted.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

IOM will continue its efforts to reinforce capacities at all coordination levels for disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness, acknowledging that preparedness activities save time and costs in potential humanitarian responses. IOM will engage government counterparts, UN Country Team members including UNDP, NGO partners and multi-disciplinary experts in the coordination of preparedness measures, to work together to prepare for the potential impacts of natural hazards. In particular, IOM will:





Funding Required \$175,000





DISASTER PREVENTION

In line with the Sendai Framework priorities and in collaboration with the Capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction Partnership (CADRI), IOM Cameroon works with multiple stakeholders, including governmental counterparts, the Resident Coordinator and multidisciplinary experts in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation to strengthen the country's risk information systems, prioritise risk reduction in national and local plans and enhance preparedness systems. Activities and measures will be designed to mitigate existing and prevent new disaster risks. In collaboration with CADRI, the following initiatives will be prioritized in Cameroon this year:

- Mapping and analysis of existing stakeholders, measures, capacities in-country as well as gaps in terms of disaster prevention, preparedness and response;
- Development of a DRR action plan/national strategy in collaboration with pertinent governmental counterparts (including the Civil Protection Division);
- · Capacity-building of relevant stakeholders on DRR;
- Setting-up coordination forums/platforms engaging different specialized stakeholders, including governmental counterparts, UN agencies, NGOs and the private sector on the subject of DRR.

Funding Required \$500,000





POINTS OF ENTRY

(PoEs) working group for COVID-19 preparedness and response in Cameroon, and leveraging existing partnerships over previous PoE work with local authorities, WHO, and the National Observatory for Public Health, IOM plans to continue:

- Providing operational and technical assistance through the strengthening of both technical and material capacities at priority PoEs in Cameroon, including the rehabilitation of infrastructures at PoEs when necessary, provision of new stocks of personal protective equipment (PPE) and provision of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) capacities;
- Promoting cross-border coordination and collaboration for standardised bilateral and regional public health frameworks;
- Technical and coordination support for preparedness measures taken at PoEs for future public health crises in Cameroon, including improved health screening to support early detection of infectious diseases and border coordination to ensure contact tracing across borders.

\$250,000





SYSTEM STRENGTHENING FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

IOM plans to strengthen systems for MHPSS in crisis contexts, ensuring that systems are well prepared for sudden shocks. Initiatives will include:

Funding Required \$100,000



- Integrating community-based MHPSS responses to address the most common types of victimisation in the different regions of intervention;
- Strengthening or establishing safe spaces, local structures and committees;
- Building community capacity to promote supportive environments;
- Reinforcing protection and safety in referral pathways to ensure that no one is left behind.

CONTRIBUTE TO AN EVIDENCE BASED AND EFFICIENT CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM

Funding Required

\$1,600,000

People Targeted Description

50 partner humanitarian and recovery organisations that would benefit greatly from the continued production and dissemination of reliable data on displacement figures and trends for a more informed and appropriate crisis response. All displaced populations in the North-West, South-West and Far-North who will benefit indirectly from a more efficient humanitarian response overall. Data collection on migration trends since the COVID-19 outbreak will enable adapted programming towards vulnerable displaced populations and will also benefit border workers at Cameroon's PoEs that are at higher risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Funding Confirmed 59%

41% Funding Gap



DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

As in previous years, IOM aims to continue providing a better understanding of population movements and the evolving needs of conflict-affected populations in the Far-North, South-West and North-West regions of Cameroon through the regular collection, processing and dissemination of data on displacement events and trends. IOM will further engage with governmental counterparts to ensure capacity transfer and appropriation on specific data collection activities conducted for several years in the Far North region. A range of information products will be distributed throughout 2021-2022 depending on partners' needs:

- The Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) to help coordinate partners' emergency response to sudden displacements;
- Larger-scale Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessments (MSNA) that will fit into wider Humanitarian Country Team planning;

Funding Required \$1,600,000

Funding Confirmed \$958,043

59% 41%



- The continued roll-out of the Stability Index to identify the 'pockets of stability' where humanitarian-development-peace nexus programming can converge;
- Thematic data collection and analysis such as the return intention survey;
- Data collection on transhumance and agro-pastoral tensions through IOM's
 Transhumance Tracking Tool (TTT) in order to reduce tensions linked to
 resources management and conflict surrounding transhumance campaigns in
 the East, Adamawa and North regions.

All of these activities will contribute to a general improvement in the quality of partners' programming and targeting with more informed and appropriate crisis response based on accurate and up to date information made available. They will also strengthen efforts for an IOM sub-regional strategy of harmonization of methodologies, calendars and products across the Lack Chad Basin countries. These activities will support the creation of a sub-regional DTM able to provide better cross-country analyses information to national and sub-regional authorities (LCBC). IOM will also engage with information management (IM) stakeholders to ensure DTM primary and secondary data is properly shared and used. In the wake of the GIMAC-DEEP initiative, IOM will provide the expert panel with relevant information and advocate for common data sharing between UN agencies and with partners working on information management and statistics in Cameroon (Information Management Working Group, National Institute for Statistics, etc.).