

Cameroon Crisis Response Plan 2024



Construction of emergency shelters at the Grédé IDP site, Mokolo (Mayo Tsanaga). © IOM 2023

January - December 2024

Published February 8, 2024

IOM VISION

IOM Cameroon’s strategic crisis response approach rests on two key pillars: emergency response to crisis and peacebuilding, and transition and recovery, while mainstreaming the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. To this end, IOM Cameroon provides critical information on displacement and needs to the broader humanitarian and development community, and tailored lifesaving assistance and protection, with a community-based approach. Through this approach, IOM aims to address the underlying causes and drivers of crisis, opening avenues for durable solutions to displacement, and provide support to conflict management and reduction while building community resilience so that communities progressively transition away from urgent needs through sustainable development.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PRIMARY TARGET GROUPS

- 1. Former combatant / fighter
- 2. Internal migrant
- 3. Internally displaced person
- 4. Local population / community
- 5. Refugee
- 6. International migrant

FUNDING REQUIRED: \$18,760,000





\$3.8M
CONFIRMED



\$14.9M
GAP



88,000
PEOPLE TARGETED



140
ENTITIES TARGETED

IOM PROPOSED RESPONSE

Saving lives and protecting people on the move

\$8,400,000
FUNDING REQUIRED

\$870,085
FUNDING CONFIRMED

85,000
PEOPLE TARGETED

Driving solutions to displacement

\$10,360,000
FUNDING REQUIRED

\$2,948,395
FUNDING CONFIRMED

59,000
PEOPLE TARGETED

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD) 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITY AREAS	2024
Saving lives and protecting people on the move	
Shelter and settlements	\$3,000,000
Mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian response	\$300,000
Provision of water, sanitation and hygiene in emergencies	\$1,600,000
Displacement tracking	\$3,000,000
Emergency preparedness	\$500,000
Driving solutions to displacement	
Community stabilization	\$4,000,000
Health system strengthening	\$1,500,000
Peacebuilding and peace preservation	\$2,500,000
Mental health and psychosocial support in transition and recovery	\$700,000
Land and property	\$60,000
Provision of water, sanitation and hygiene in transitional and post-crisis situations	\$600,000
Adaptation and disaster risk reduction	\$1,000,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIRED	\$18,760,000

CONTEXT ANALYSIS

Humanitarian needs in Cameroon remain high, with 4.3 million people or one out of six people in need of humanitarian assistance ([GHO, 2024](#)). Funding for humanitarian assistance on the other hand remains very low to meet the much needed assistance.

In the North West – South West (NW-SW) Anglophone regions, the protracted armed conflict between the Government Defense Forces (GDF) and non-state armed groups (NSAGs) is worsening, with no signs of abating in the short to medium term, while community members are increasingly resorting to negative economic coping mechanisms to survive. The conflict is notably marked by continuous attacks and by an increasingly complicated landscape of NSAGs, military operations and lockdowns, resulting in a difficult operational environment for humanitarian actors with severe access constraints. Internal displacements and related needs have expanded to the neighbouring regions of West and Littoral, as well as in communes of Yaoundé.

In the Far-North region, ongoing hostilities and violence continue, with continued violent incidents directed towards civilians by NSAGs, triggering additional displacements, especially in regions bordering Nigeria. Breakouts of large-scale inter-communal violence due to tensions between farmers and herders, as seen in the Logone Birni subdivision in August and December 2021, are also a persistent threat, worsened by the impacts of climate change and pressures on shared access to local resources such as water points. This current scenario could trigger further forced displacement. From August 2022 to August 2023, there has been an increase of around 68,289 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Cameroon, bringing the total to 453,661 IDPs in the Extreme-North ([DTM Mobility Tracking August 2023](#)), while the number of returnees has also increased, reaching 198,940 individuals in August 2023.

Substantial progress is yet to be made towards durable solutions for Central African refugee populations hosted in the North, Adamaoua, and East regions, who numbered over 354,000 people as of October 2023 ([UNHCR](#)). This is due to strained response capacities of host communities as resources for relief efforts and to limited availability of government-led social services amid growing needs in other areas of Cameroon.

These continued crises are characterized by human rights violations and high exposure of women and girls to gender-based violence (GBV). GBV is a major challenge for women and girls in these crisis-affected areas and has a deep impact on the well-being of families and communities. The protracted nature of the crisis due to conflicts and natural disasters continues to expose women and girls to increased risks of GBV. According to the [GBV AoR Annual Report Cameroon](#), 11,551 GBV incidents were reported to the service provision points throughout the year 2022 in North-West, South-West and Far-North regions. The most reported GBV forms include intimate partner violence (IPV) (65%). Sexual violence was reported at 20 per cent, including rape and sexual assault. Other types of GBV reported include emotional and psychological violence at 28 per cent, denial of resources/opportunities at 25 per cent, physical abuse at 21 per cent, sexual assaults at 10 per cent, rape at 9 per cent and forced marriage at 7 per cent. In terms of service provision, 73 per cent of GBV survivors received psychosocial services, 5.6 per cent received health/medical services, 5 per cent child protection services, 4.2 per cent emergency basic needs support and 1 per cent legal services. According to the [same report](#), only 22.1 per cent of all GBV survivors benefited from referral services. This includes 36 per cent of cases referred for psychosocial support services, 7 per cent for health/medical assistance, 2 per cent for legal services and 2 per cent for economic empowerment/livelihood services. Other services as part of the referrals include emergency basic needs support, security/police services and safe space and/or shelter. Despite all these efforts carried out by various GBV actors, GBV response remains insufficient as it remains one of the underfunded sectors, which negatively affects the availability and quality of services.

The impacts of climate change have caused seasonal rain patterns to become less predictable, which has led to transhumant communities moving at chaotic and unplanned times, causing small-scale conflicts over the usage of shared resources between herder communities and farmers. Currently,



Assistance en abris d'urgence et kits NFLs aux victimes d'inondations de Biamo, dans l'arrondissement de Makary, département du Logone et Chari, décembre 2022

INFORM Risk Index (August 2023)	High (19/191)
Human Development Index (2023/4)	Medium
Fragility Index (2022)	Fragile
IDPs (IDMC, Dec 2022)	1,000,000

two million people live in drought-affected areas. Tropical forests cover almost 40 per cent of the country and provide an estimated eight million rural people with traditional staples including food, medicines, fuel and construction materials ([World Bank 2022](#)). Changes in temperature, rain and droughts put these people at greater risk of increased poverty. Furthermore, populations living in certain regions are more vulnerable to climate hazards, especially in the Far North where debilitating droughts have contributed to alarming rates of food insecurity and loss of livelihoods. Extreme temperatures and an intensification of hazards (droughts and floods) are more likely. The Extreme North, North and Adamaoua regions have harsh climates with low rainfall and high temperatures. The population in these regions relies on agriculture and livestock-related work (with the risk of heat stress) and has less financial capacity to adapt quickly.

Meanwhile, the country faces the enormous challenge of ensuring food security in the face of the fastest increases in commodity prices for food since 2008. Therefore, the varied nature of the ongoing crises in Cameroon, from the Lake Chad Basin's Far-North region, the NW-SW Anglophone regions, the East region's refugee crisis, and high numbers of displaced populations in large urban centres requires IOM to adapt response strategies to each specific context, strengthening resilience and ensuring no one is left behind.

COORDINATION

IOM actively participates in government co-led sectoral working groups and coordination fora, including in the role as co-lead of the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Working Group (WG) for the Far-North (under the Health Cluster) while having established an MHPSS Working Group at the national level in Yaoundé in cooperation with the government and the Health Cluster. IOM is also an active member of the Shelter/Non-food Items (NFI) Cluster both at the national and regional levels; the Protection Cluster at the national level; the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sector in the Far North; and other thematic working groups (including the Information Management WG; Accountability to Affected Populations WG; Housing, Land and Property WG; and Cash Based Intervention WG). IOM will continue to coordinate its activities with the humanitarian and development community, not only through its active participation in the above-mentioned clusters and working groups but also in the Humanitarian Country Team, the Inter-Sector Working Group, and with agencies and organizations in the NW-SW and Far-North regions to ensure that humanitarian efforts are synergized, avoid duplication and strengthen accountability. IOM will also continue coordinating within the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) in the Far-North through the regular distribution of Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) alerts to continue providing timely and accurate data on displacement figures and trends to all partners and provide an emergency response according to the cluster. At the same time, IOM will look to establish and support the coordination of an RRM in the NW-SW, in close coordination with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Partnerships, in particular with UN agencies, are a key pillar of IOM Cameroon's strategy. A low availability of funds in Cameroon also means that resources must be pooled together through joint response mechanisms and initiatives wherever possible, to ensure the maximum number of beneficiaries are reached with overall lower resources. IOM Cameroon's approach to creating partnerships ensures that they also serve to provide more comprehensive and effective responses, and at the same time serve to develop local capacities. Examples include joint programming initiatives such as with the World Health Organization (WHO) using health as an entry point for community stabilization, as well as with UN Women for engaging with networks of women's organizations for reconciliation-related activities. Taking a community-based approach, IOM carries out its activities with close collaboration with local NGOs and associations with special attention to including various types of groups especially youth and women-led associations in the communities through taking Community Based Planning (CBP) approach to better reflect different needs in the activities as well as to strengthening the capacities of local NGOs and associations. In addition, through regular consultation with community leaders and mobilizers such as community relays, IOM assures the inclusion of people with specific needs in the activities implemented. With a view of the community's appropriation and continuity of the activities even after the projects, each activity including DTM, MHPSS, Shelter/NFI or community-based early warning mechanism starts with sensitization and trainings to the relevant actors/associations in the communities. Through active participation in humanitarian-development-peace nexus (HDPN) mechanisms such as the national and regional HDPN Taskforces led by the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), IOM continues to have a key role in driving the HDPN approach implementation uniting key stakeholders and governmental counterparts that are working on the development and implementation of durable solutions for displacement affected-populations, while continuing to contribute to context-based analysis for the identification and prioritization of areas of convergence conducive to transition and recovery within HDPN-approach interventions. This includes the use of Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) tools such as the Stability Index, which collects indicators on the stability and resilience of displacement-affected localities for geographic targeting and informs programs and Return Intention Survey through further consultations with HDPN Task Force members to take into account their needs for informed targeting and planning. Finally, throughout 2024, IOM will continue to be the principal agency coordinator for evaluating the capacity of the national disaster risk reduction system by facilitating work in Cameroon for the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI), in coordination with the United Nations Country Team and governmental counterparts.

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 activities on public policy, direct humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable mobile populations and resilience-building interventions for communities. IOM's current work to address and respond to crises is comprised of separate but interrelated programmes, focusing on:

1. The supply of timely and reliable data on needs (Multi Sectoral Needs Assessments), displacement figures and trends (Mobility Tracking and

Emergency Tracking, Transhumance Tracking Tool), intentions (Future Intention Surveys) and stability levels of displacement affected areas (Stability Index) to enable partners to programme relief assistance and to strengthen humanitarian and development coordination, through the use of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM).

2. Life-saving assistance including shelter and NFI assistance including cash assistance, community-based MHPSS addressed to all the crisis-affected populations, with special attention to women and children, WASH services, including water and sanitation local community infrastructure and hygiene promotion, and housing, land and property (HLP) support.
3. Peacebuilding and community stabilization including community engagement for collective diagnostic and planning processes, establishment and support to peace and conflict management committees, community reconciliation and resilience, equitable access to basic services, socioeconomic opportunities for youth at risk of exploitation and recruitment, and innovative approaches to conflict reduction surrounding issues of management of transhumance patterns and the usage of scarce resources such as water points, lands, etc.

IOM Cameroon has the capacity to expand its activities in volume and geographical scope, provided that funding is made available despite the current scarcity of resources. 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 staff employed across six different offices – in Yaoundé, Douala, Buea, Bertoua, Maroua and Kousséri – IOM has a breadth of programmatic experience combined with an operational presence and field-oriented culture. As a result, IOM is often the first to arrive on-site to provide assistance in some of the hardest-to-reach areas and is trusted with strong working relationships with local partners, communities and civil society. Through its DTM methodology, IOM is the main supplier of regular and reliable information on displacement trends and immediate needs of displaced populations in Cameroon, with a network of over 200 enumerators that gives IOM a unique level of access to some of the hardest-to-reach areas in Cameroon and to be able to provide immediate assistance.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND EMPOWERMENT






IOM Cameroon implements the global IOM Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP framework). This defines IOM's mandatory approach to implementing and mainstreaming AAP principles, commitments, and objectives throughout its work in crisis contexts. Under the participation pillar, beneficiaries are regularly consulted at key stages of the response mechanism to identify the real priority need as well as the best assistance approach to put in place. To better reflect the beneficiaries' needs in the activities and provide solutions adapted to their contexts for better accountability, IOM takes different tools and approaches starting from multi-sectoral needs assessments (MSNA), as well as baseline studies and post-service monitoring (PSM), post distribution monitoring assessments (PDM) for relevant interventions such as WASH and Shelter/NFI, Community-Based-Planning (CBP) approach for community stabilization activities also aiming at reinforcing the capacities of affected people. Regarding the complaint feedback mechanisms (CFM) pillar, IOM Cameroon has a mechanism in most of its targeted communities, helping to improve the quality of interventions for beneficiaries and trigger internal accountability mechanisms. This is the result of consultation with the affected communities to better understand and identify the best mechanisms for collecting and managing complaints and feedback as well as the best channels that would optimize AAP implementation. Community discussion groups (CDG) have been set up and a toll-free number is being acquired in the mission to strengthen beneficiaries' contributions. With the establishment of these mechanisms, IOM aims to optimize the quality of its response by listening to and taking into account the concerns of the people it serves. This is part of IOM's commitment to mainstreaming protection principles - do no harm, ensuring meaningful access to services, participation and empowerment of beneficiaries, and accountability, throughout our work. With regards to the protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and in line with IOM's commitments to protecting affected populations from sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) based on the PSEA global framework, the mission continues to strengthen its PSEA-related activities in Cameroon in line with its forthcoming PSEA strategy. In addition to the current activities around sensitization of local partners including implementing partners, local authorities and community leaders, it will further contribute to the prevention and mitigation of risks related to SEA, with the PSEA focal point currently playing one of the key roles in the CFM through capacity building of frontline workers. All the partners will have additional trainings in line with the mission's forthcoming PSEA strategy to further combat sexual exploitation and abuse enabling the mission to provide quality assistance and support services, and in a timely manner. The PSEA focal point also supports the PSEA inter-institutional initiatives at the national and regional levels through active participation in the coordination discussion.

ENGAGING WITH THE GOVERNMENT







As the main supplier of displacement-related information through DTM, IOM is supporting the Government with timely and reliable data to inform their urgent protection-related actions. In addition, especially at the community level, IOM supports setting up and reinforcing early warning and early response (EWER) mechanisms led by the local authorities together with community leaders to be able to better prepare and respond to different shocks, particularly conflicts and disasters. In terms of capacity strengthening, IOM is conducting various trainings, especially in the fields of DTM, MHPSS and CBP, targeting government officials from the central level to regional and local level authorities, as well as traditional and religious leaders. For peacebuilding and disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) engagement addressing the longer-term impacts of crises, IOM is playing a coordinating role among the government, represented by the National DDR Committee (NDDRC), and other partners in developing key documents including a handover protocol on ex-associate children and a procedural manual on ex-associates through training and material support.

IOM RESPONSE

CROSS CUTTING PRIORITIES

-  Data and evidence
-  Protection mainstreaming
-  Gender equality
-  Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse
-  Disaster risk and climate change

KEY OPERATING MODALITIES

-  Participation and empowerment
-  Conflict sensitivity
-  Integrated programming
-  Collaboration and partnership
-  Localization
-  Cash-based interventions

SAVING LIVES AND PROTECTING PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Funding Required
\$8,400,000

People Targeted
85,000

People Targeted Description

- IDPs, vulnerable host communities, and communities hosting conflict-related displaced populations.
- IDP returnees, people with disabilities, people with special needs, children and youth, etc. with key vulnerabilities including low access to protection, life-saving assistance and basic services.
- Survivors of human rights violations, gender-based violence (GBV), victims of exploitation including trafficking, and people at risk of drug consumption and addiction.
- Community and religious leaders, including traditional healers.
- Humanitarian partners and recovery organizations, including all RRM actors in NW-SW and Far-North regions, that will benefit from the continued production and dissemination of reliable data on needs assessments, displacement figures, trends and intentions for more informed and appropriate crisis response planning, coordination and implementation that does no harm.
- Stabilization and recovery actors in the Far-North, North, Adamaoua and East including the HDPN Task Force, local authorities and communities, agropastoralist communities and farmers.
- All displaced populations in the NW-SW and Far-North that will benefit indirectly from a more efficient humanitarian response overall.
- Communities at risk of flooding in the Far-North and NW-SW regions and at risk of further displacements in crisis-affected areas, that will benefit directly from greater preparedness activities.



SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

IOM plans to provide tailored shelter/NFI assistance to the most vulnerable IDPs, refugees outside camps, returnees, and vulnerable host communities identified through vulnerability assessments (based on national cluster guidelines and including persons with specific needs, single female-headed households, elderly, families at risk of imminent eviction etc.) in the Far-North throughout 2024, and Rapid Response kits (RRM kits) in the NW-SW to address urgent needs and alleviate suffering. Interventions will be in line with the Shelter/NFI and WASH Clusters guidelines and the Cash Working Group guidelines with different modalities (e.g. in-kind support with emergency shelter kits, transitional shelters, and RRM kits and cash-based interventions (CBIs) such as for NFIs, housing rehabilitation, or rental support, among others) depending on the needs,

Funding Required
\$3,000,000

Funding Confirmed
\$450,187



vulnerability criteria and local context, and throughout interventions will ensure separate spaces for men, women and families to mitigate GBV risks. In the context of overall low donor funding, IOM will aim at providing a more holistic Rapid Response assistance in line with the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) and strengthen the Area RRM in both crisis areas. Initiatives in shelter, settlements, and NFIs will include:



- Pre-positioning and/or distribution of shelter materials;
- Pre-positioning and/or distribution of Household Items;
- Design, set-up/construction, upgrades of transitional/core shelters and housing;
- Settlement level interventions: Site and Settlement planning, upgrading of settlement infrastructure, participatory enumeration, address systems, etc., including activities to reduce risk related to settlement conditions;
- Market-based interventions, including cash to access NFI/shelter/housing (may include cash or voucher assistance for rental, repairs, reconstruction, shelter NFI and household Items), and for supporting community infrastructure at the settlement level;
- Provision of material, technical and/or financial assistance for self-recovery, including Information Education and Communication (IEC), training or support to Build Back Better;
- Coordination of cluster and cluster-like mechanisms and technical working groups.



MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT IN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Following the IASC Guidelines on MHPSS in Emergency Settings and IOM's Manual on Community-Based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergencies and Displacement, IOM will develop and implement dedicated activities specifically addressing the needs and capacities of those at highest risk of GBV to conflict-affected populations in the NW-SW and Far-North regions of Cameroon, including vulnerable women and girls, and children (especially if unaccompanied or separated), victims of trafficking (VoT) and other vulnerable populations with particular attention given to effective participation and empowerment of the community in line with IOM's AAP Framework. Initiatives will include:

Funding Required
\$300,000



- MHPSS capacity-building and training of pertinent actors including government, UN Agencies, NGOs and civil society, e.g., in basic MHPSS, psychological first aid (PFA) and communication skills;
- Provision of MHPSS emergency kits, which includes a range of items such as soap, children's toys, whistles, torches, and cloth for clothesmaking.
- Direct provision of a comprehensive set of community-based MHPSS services (such as socio-relational activities, psychoeducation, counselling and referral services) through the deployment of community-based and multidisciplinary Psychosocial Mobile Teams (PMTs);
- Construction of community safe spaces, child-friendly spaces and safe spaces for women in coordination with the communities and IOM's protection team as well as the protection cluster for linking and further use of the referral system;
- Organization of community-based socio-relational activities (e.g., creative and art-based activities, sports and play, socio-cultural activities) addressing the needs and capacities of those at highest risk of GBV, and strengthen community networks, particularly those of women and girls, VoTs and other vulnerable groups;
- Capacity-building of traditional doctors/healers on the identification of mental disorders and the referral of people in need to relevant MHPSS services and health centres for ongoing management, if needed;
- Integration of MHPSS into other humanitarian sectors including the further mainstreaming of MHPSS considerations into Shelter/NFI response and protection activities.



PROVISION OF WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE IN EMERGENCIES

Over the course of 2024, IOM plans to continue the:

Funding Required
\$1,600,000

- Construction and repair of local community infrastructure (water points) based on community diagnostic and planning processes, for improving communities' access to safe, clean and sustainable sources of drinking water as well as to appropriate water sources such as raw water for livestock or greywater for agriculture that will be sourced to support livelihoods and transhumance practices;



- Promotion/support to the creation of water committees if no prior water infrastructure governance exists, and building capacities for the proper management of the community infrastructures;
- Building household and community sanitation infrastructures and promoting their proper use as well as other hygiene good practices to avoid the spread of cholera and other WASH-related and communicable disease outbreaks;
- Distribution of hygiene items including water collection items and menstrual hygiene management items.

At all times, WASH interventions will be aimed at alleviating existing community tensions and underlying factors to small conflicts while paying special attention to mitigating any existing GBV risks through situation and needs analysis to be reflected in the project design, for improving access to shared water resources where they are needed most. Interventions will make use of local labour wherever possible using cash-for-work and will be supervised by IOM's technical staff to ensure the highest quality installations.



DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

IOM aims to continue providing data for action and insight to ensure a better understanding of population displacement numbers, trends and the evolving profiles and needs of conflict and disaster-affected populations in the Far-North, North-West, South-West, West and Littoral regions of Cameroon, and include the Center region. It will do so through the regular collection, processing and dissemination of data to support the humanitarian community to assess and analyze the needs of vulnerable populations and provide an immediate response to the most vulnerable people.

IOM will also engage with information management (IM) stakeholders to ensure that both DTM and secondary data are properly shared and used. In the wake of the Global Information Management, Assessment and Analysis Cell (GIMAC) – Data Entry and Exploratory Platform (DEEP) initiative, IOM will provide the expert panel with relevant information and advocate for common data sharing among UN agencies and with partners working on information management and statistics in Cameroon (Information Management Working Group, National Institute for Statistics, etc.). Based on partners' needs, IOM will focus on:

- Conducting and distributing the Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT) to help coordinate partners' emergency response to sudden displacements, caused by both conflict and disaster in the North-West, South-West and Far North regions;
- Conducting Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessments (MSNA) that will fit into wider Humanitarian Country Team planning and be developed jointly with active clusters in the North-West, South-West, Littoral, West, Far-North and Centre regions;
- Ensuring the expansion and continued roll-out of the Stability Index to identify pockets of stability where the environment is conducive for humanitarian-development-peace nexus programming to converge;
- Thematic data collection and analysis such as the Future Intention Survey and Mobility Tracking, aiming to inform humanitarian and transition and recovery actors on the number of IDPs and returnees and their unique living conditions, intentions and multisectoral needs;
- Data collection on transhumance flows and agro-pastoral tensions through IOM's Transhumance Tracking Tool (TTT) in order to reduce tensions linked to unexpected movements of cattle, resource management and the subsequent small conflicts surrounding transhumance in the East, Adamaoua and North regions taking also climate change induced movement into consideration through relevant DTM tools such as Climate Vulnerability Assessment.

Additionally, activities covering the Far-North will support an IOM sub-regional strategy of harmonization of data collection tools, methodologies, calendars and products across the Lake Chad Basin countries (Chad, Niger, Nigeria) and the creation of a sub-regional DTM able to provide better cross-country analyses to national and sub-regional authorities (such as the Lake Chad Basin Commission, or LCBC).

Funding Required

\$3,000,000

Funding Confirmed

\$419,897

13%

87%



■ HRP



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

IOM will continue its efforts to reinforce capacities at all coordination levels for disaster risk management and emergency preparedness, acknowledging that preparedness activities save time and costs in potential

Funding Required

\$500,000

humanitarian responses. IOM will engage government counterparts, UN Country Team members including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NGO partners and multi-disciplinary experts in the coordination of preparedness measures, to work together to prepare for the potential impacts of disaster. In particular, IOM will focus on:



- Support to relevant governmental entities to strengthen risk monitoring tools, minimum preparedness actions and contingency planning activities through capacity-building activities led by both IOM and via coordination mechanisms;
- Development of procurement and pre-positioning plans for shelter/NFI tools and materials, WASH hygiene kits, cholera kits and WASH equipment (spare parts/pumps, water quality testing materials, etc.) for faster response with a prioritization for local procurement whenever possible to support local markets;
- Engagement with humanitarian partners, including local NGOs in the Far-North region, to improve emergency preparedness and response capacity, in particular to floods. This approach includes conducting a study to identify precise flood-prone areas and needs, and propose, in coordination with OCHA, a yearly intervention plan to enhance disaster risk management and emergency preparedness. It also includes the reinforcement of the preparation levels of some communities (including through small scale mitigation activities, risk mapping, reinforcement or creation of early warning systems at the community level, simulation exercises, reinforcement of village committees and other local actors to be able to better organize the first response activities).



Sensitization on the signs and symptoms of mental illness and the referral circuit, Mora (Mayo Sava). © IOM 2023

DRIVING SOLUTIONS TO DISPLACEMENT

Funding Required

\$10,360,000

People Targeted

59,000

People Targeted Description

- IDPs, community members, and IDP and refugee returnees, particularly youth, in the Far-North region who are at particular risk of inter-community tensions, exploitation and recruitment into armed groups.
- IDPs, host communities and IDP returnees in the North-West, South-West, West, and Littoral regions, with key vulnerabilities including low access to protection, livelihoods and basic services (including shelter, WASH, education and healthcare).
- Populations affected by agro-pastoral conflicts, including herders and farmers, refugees, women and youth in the Far-North, East, North and Adamaoua regions of Cameroon. All stakeholders involved in conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms in these regions (consultative commissions and local conflict management committees).
- Civil society groups across all crisis areas who seek greater technical and financial support to be more involved in community engagement and reconciliation activities.
- All stakeholders of the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Task Force through strategic direction and coordination as well as additional contextual knowledge for targeted high-quality programming.
- Humanitarian, development and stabilization actors across the multi-disciplinary spectrum in disaster risk reduction and climate

change adaptation, including the Government of Cameroon and local authorities, UN Country Team, Resident Coordinator's Office, and international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), who will benefit from critical information for enhanced coordination of the response to sudden needs related to displacements due to specific risks such as large scale flooding in the Far-North and other climate-related shocks such as poor harvest seasons and their impacts on transhumance patterns.



COMMUNITY STABILIZATION

IOM's community stabilization initiatives are dedicated to engaging local communities and stakeholders in bottom-up diagnostic and planning processes to address the root causes and drivers of conflict and instability and identify jointly tangible actions to address them. This process ultimately supports transitions away from crisis towards a resumption of functioning social, economic, and political life. Initiatives follow IOM's global community-based planning manual, which has already been adapted to the context in the Far-North and in the NW-SW regions, including the development of specific standard operating procedures. Planned activities include:

Funding Required
\$4,000,000



- Organization of community-based planning processes through the training and accompaniment of local leaders and specific local officials for collective community diagnostic and planning processes, resulting in the validation of Community Action Plans (CAPs).
 - Implementation of local rehabilitation and construction of community infrastructures based on validated CAPs;
 - Facilitation of advocacy sessions between community groups and higher-level government officials for the presentation of CAPs for additional locally mobilized resources;
 - Creation of vocational training and livelihood opportunities for youth following specific community planning exercises such as seasonal analysis and local market analysis;
 - Organization of community dialogues and consultation processes in the Far-North region through inclusive dialogue on community grievances to identify the factors leading to frustration and a sense of being left behind that trigger the exploitation and recruitment of youth by NSAGs;
 - Development and implementation of community violence reduction interventions, including through the development of quick-impact projects and local grant mechanisms;
 - Reinforcement of the relationship between communities and local governance structures and the provision of basic social services and shared resources;
 - Support to existing or establishment of new inclusive community peace committees where the community can work to identify and resolve local safety and security issues in partnership with law enforcement;
 - Strengthening of law enforcement actors' (such as the police or judiciary) ability to engage with the community to address local governance or security issues and build greater trust and accountability in local government institutions while ensuring Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD), risk analysis and management;
- Use of conflict mitigation and resolution methods to ensure peaceful transhumant campaigns, including through;
 - Reinforcement of institutional and communal conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms as well as promotion of dialogue on the sharing of natural resources including water; based on the informed analysis done through the Transhumance Tracking Tool;
 - Support of community members to address tensions between herders and farmers caused by climate change and unmonitored transhumance practices using existing mechanisms of conflict mitigation.



HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

In continuation of a partnership with WHO since early 2021, IOM aims to upscale its 'Peace through Health'

Funding Required

initiative for the Far-North region, which aims to reinforce the capacities of health authorities to respond to the needs of communities, through:

\$1,500,000

- Support to local community health committees or COSA (comité de santé) at the subdistrict level to organize community health consultations to collect information on community health needs.
- Provision of the necessary materials and equipment to COSAs to respond to community health needs identified through dialogue processes.
- Organization of cash-for-work activities to construct or rehabilitate small health infrastructure where needs are identified.



PEACEBUILDING AND PEACE PRESERVATION

In addition to the community stabilization activities, which hold an ultimate goal of building social cohesion and peace, and building on its engagement in the Far-North and North-West, South-West regions of Cameroon, IOM will ensure:

Funding Required
\$2,500,000

- Continuation of 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;
- Support to the development of relevant national frameworks and strategies, including specific procedural manuals for community violence reduction, and gender mainstreaming and age-sensitive measures within peacebuilding programming;
- Support to the government for the establishment of long-term coordination mechanisms for working jointly with civil society networks and women's organizations in particular;
- Provision of transitional justice mechanism support through conducting research on the existing mechanisms and providing technical and material assistance.

Funding Confirmed
\$2,948,395

100% 0%



MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT IN TRANSITION AND RECOVERY

During 2024, IOM aims to promote reconciliation among community members, including individuals who may previously have been associated with armed groups. This will be done following a holistic approach that will include MHPSS-specific services (including sensitization, counselling, referrals, and peer support groups) paired with community engagement and capacity-building on activities that can be used to promote reconciliation, specifically the holding of arts-based events. Specific activities will include:

Funding Required
\$700,000

- Capacity-building of local civil society organizations (women's associations, youth associations, and organizations supporting vulnerable groups) in the Far-North on arts-based MHPSS approaches for community reconciliation.
- Conduct of workshops with local representatives, to identify the key cultural arts-based practices to ground activities such as poetry, dance, painting, and sport.
- Organization of arts-based activities by IOM's Psychosocial Mobile Team.



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

- Integration of community-based MHPSS to address the psychosocial needs of people following experiences of conflict and displacement with a survivor-centred approach in the different regions of intervention;
- Strengthening or establishment of local community structures and committees within communities and IDP settlements, such as women and youth groups and conflict management committees, in order to strengthen referral processes, facilitate community-based MHPSS activities (including psychological first aid (PFA));
- Capacity strengthening of medical personnel in health centres and traditional doctors/healers on the identification of mental disorders (including post-traumatic stress disorder) and referral mechanisms to specialized mental health services;
- Training of health personnel on PFA, care practices and communication skills, as well as referral

systems, and on handling disclosures of survivors of violence, including GBV;

- Engagement with health centres in the Far-North to further train and support them on the management, storage and dispersal of psychotropic drugs to persons in need of medical treatment, such as cases of severe depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and others, including on the specific stock management of drugs and on financial sustainability to ensure sufficient stocks;
- Provision of psychoeducation sessions to communities to reduce stigmatization of persons with mental health (MH) needs and to strengthen community capacity to promote supportive environments for persons in need of MHPSS services;
- Reinforcement of protection and safety in referral pathways to ensure that no one is left behind and that international quality standards and human rights aspects are respected when referring people to clinical MH services (especially psychiatric institutions);
- Reinforcement of coordination mechanism within the technical partners and with the government especially in the Far North, through playing the key role as co-chair of the MHPSS technical working group.



LAND AND PROPERTY

During 2024, IOM aims to continue supporting community-based land and property activities, especially through awareness-raising and legal assistance with a focus on the NW-SV. Specific activities will include:

Funding Required
\$60,000

- Consultative meetings with key stakeholders to have a common understanding of an overview of the housing, land and property (HLP) situation, identify HLP needs, and look forward to how to tackle the problem and barriers through an approach based on gender sensitivity, age group, status and cross-section, which includes persons living with a disability;
- Awareness-raising campaigns on issues around HLP rights, security of tenure in land and property transactions, land registration procedures and the importance of female land ownership in the communities affected by conflict and displacement to improve their knowledge and understanding of how to claim and react to their HLP rights, how to secure their transaction to be formal, and the phases for land registration;
- Individual counselling sessions to tailor legal advice on HLP issues and regular beneficiary follow-up, either by phone or face-to-face directly by IOM staff and/or via community relays contracted with IOM;
- Coordination with the HLP WG and the Protection Cluster at the regional level to ensure coordination of response.



PROVISION OF WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE IN TRANSITIONAL AND POST-CRISIS SITUATIONS

In addition to the WASH infrastructure support and capacity building in maintaining the facilities constructed and/or repaired under humanitarian and protection contexts, IOM intends to support WASH through the lens of durable solutions. Specific activities will include:

Funding Required
\$600,000

- Programming WASH interventions through the community-based approach (CBP) for enhancing social cohesion through resource management with the training of core facilitation teams that are representative of the wider community (local leaders, host communities, IDPs, ex-associates);
- Further support on capacity building and setting structures for managing WASH facilities in the longer term;
- Enhancing dialogue around WASH issues including effective use of water resources as an entry point of discussion between the communities with ethno-professional tension such as the Far North region.



ADAPTATION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

In line with the Sendai Framework priorities and in the framework of the CADRI engagement, IOM

Funding Required

Cameroon works with multiple stakeholders, including governmental counterparts, the Resident Coordinator and multi-disciplinary experts in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation to strengthen the country's risk information systems, prioritize 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. IOM will support the following initiatives:

\$1,000,000




- Development of a DRR action plan/the update of the National DRR strategy under the leadership of the Civil Protection Direction, through capacity-building of relevant stakeholders on DRR as identified by the CADRI's recommendations once activities around CADRI are reactivated;
- Coordination forums/platforms engaging different specialized stakeholders, including governmental counterparts, UN agencies, NGOs and the private sector, on the subject of DRR;
- Strengthening of community-based disaster risk management capacities, including support to develop local early warning systems and community-led initiatives that reduce risk while building resilience to disasters/hazards, which would also support conflict resolution/mediation efforts (in areas where climate hazards interact with intercommunal conflicts, for instance, between transhumance and farming communities);
- Implement mitigation measures in the fields of health, nutrition and WASH to reduce risks in disaster-prone communities;
- In flood-prone areas, work in camps and/or shelter sites and host communities to reduce the impact of flooding through structural and non-structural flood mitigation;
- In drought and flood-prone areas, focus on community-based disaster risk management interventions related to WASH to ensure sustained access to safe water and sanitation through environmental protection measures and trainings.

CONTRIBUTES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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