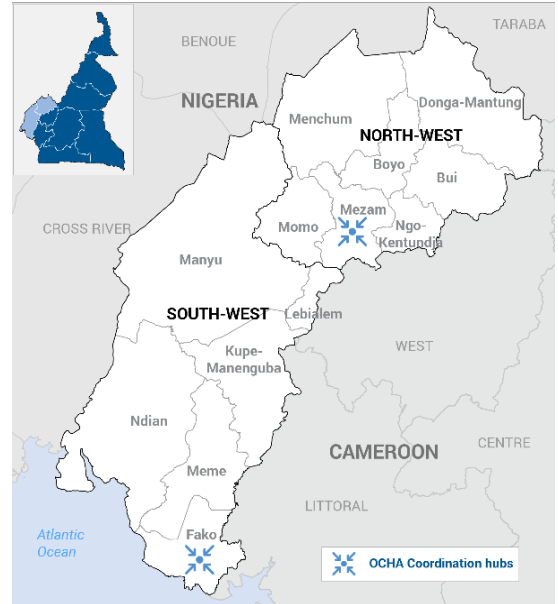


This report is produced by OCHA Cameroon in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 1 to 30 September 2021. The next report will be issued in November 2021.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- UN agencies and humanitarian partners had to fully suspend humanitarian activities as non-State armed groups (NSAGs) declared lockdown from 15 September to 2 October.
- Schools resumed in the North-West and South-West (NWSW) regions with recurrent NSAGs attacks on children and teachers .
- NSAGs chopped off a 12-year-old girl's finger for going to school and killed a school principal.
- Insecurity displaced over 4,724 people in the NWSW, and to the West and Littoral regions.
- An estimated 200,000 persons did not receive food assistance due to the ban of humanitarian activities during the lockdown.



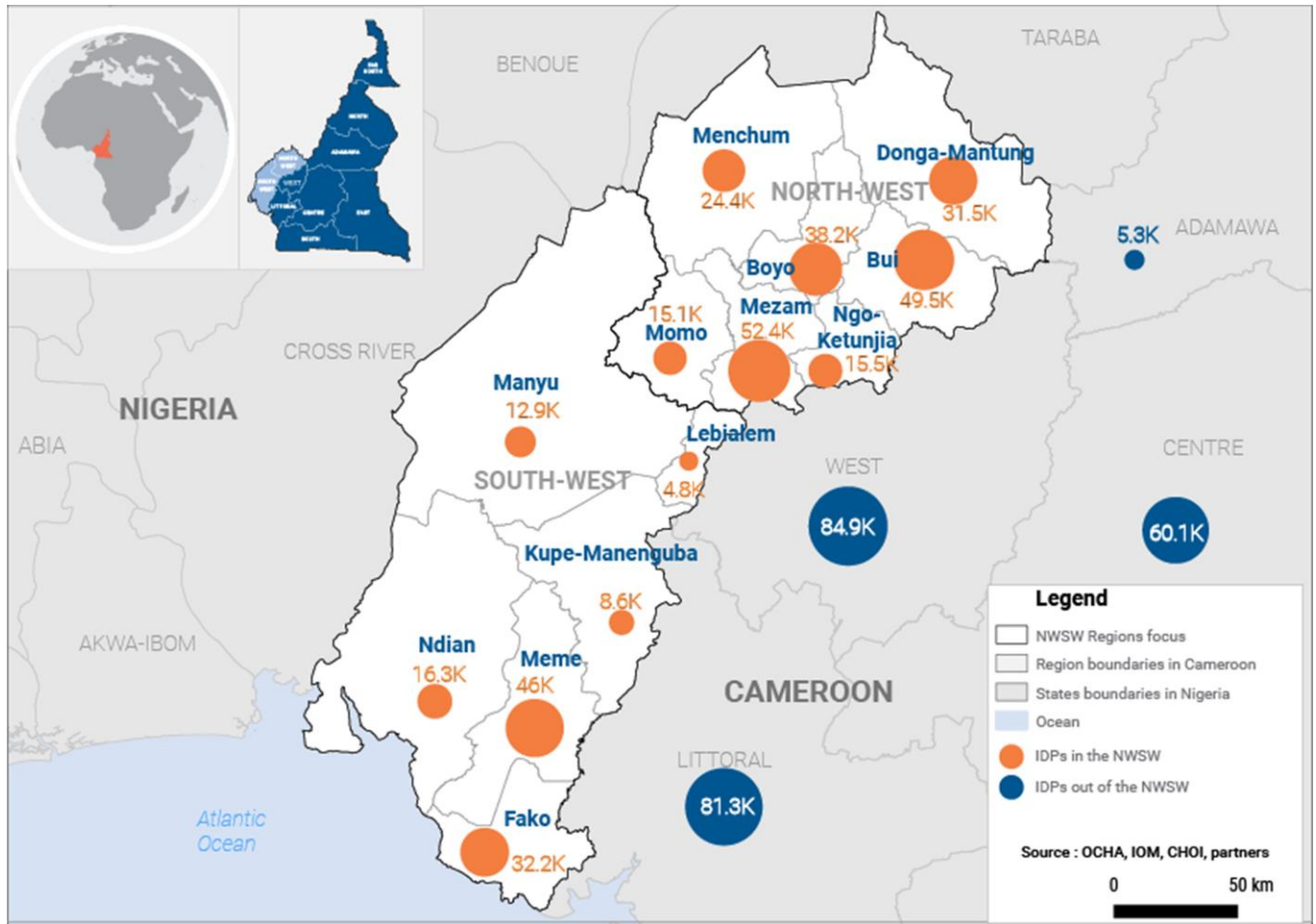
Source: OCHA  
The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on This map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

<p><b>2.2M</b></p> <p>Affected people<sup>1</sup></p> <p><b>Sources:</b> <i>Humanitarian Needs Overview - 2021</i></p>	<p><b>1.6M</b></p> <p>Targeted for assistance<sup>1</sup></p> <p><b>Sources:</b> <i>Humanitarian Response Plan - 2021</i></p>	<p><b>573.9K</b></p> <p>Internally Displaced People (IDP)</p> <p><b>Sources:</b> <i>Multi-sector needs assessment (MSNA) NWSW, OCHA - August 2021</i> <i>MSNA in West and Littoral regions, OCHA - August 2021</i> <i>MIRA in Centre region, CHOI and OCHA - September 2021</i></p>	<p><b>383.6K</b></p> <p>Returnees (former IDPs and refugees)<sup>2</sup></p> <p><b>Sources:</b> <i>MSNA in NWSW region, OCHA - August 2021</i></p>	<p><b>68.6K</b></p> <p>Cameroonian refugees in Nigeria</p> <p><b>Sources:</b> <i>Nigeria: Registration of Cameroonian refugees, UNHCR - 30 September 2021</i></p>
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<sup>1</sup> Figures include North-West, South-West, Littoral, West, Adamawa and Centre regions (rounded up to the first decimal place).

<sup>2</sup> Figure includes North-West and South-West regions.

### Map of IDPs from the North-West and South-West regions of Cameroon



Source: OCHA, IOM

The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 6 September, school doors for the 2021-2022 academic year opened in Cameroon, including in the North-West and South-West (NWSW) regions. However, two out of three schools remained closed, keeping over 700,000 children and adolescents out of school. According to statistics from SW education authorities, collected after the first week of schooling, 53 per cent of secondary schools in the region were not functional. At the basic education level, 49 per cent of primary schools and 47 per cent of Nursery schools still have their doors closed. In the NW region, the situation is worse as only 23 per cent of secondary schools were functional as of 15 September.

Non-State state armed groups (NSAGs) continue to intimidate parents, children, and teachers with attacks on education. By 17 September, NSAGs carried out several attacks in the North-West region: they kidnapped eight students in Bamenda town in the NW, harassed and humiliated them before releasing them after their families paid ransoms. They attacked a girl and chopped her fingers for going to school during the imposed lockdown in Donga-Mantung division. They kidnapped five public school principals in Ngo-Ketunjia division, and killed one of them six days later.

On 11 September, a NSAG announced a general lockdown in the two regions from 15 September to 2 October 2021. The decision banned all movement, work, and social activities. The announcement did not exempt humanitarian activities but gave the exception for ambulances for medical emergencies only. Access to basic services including health, education, and livelihoods was severely affected, and protection activities were severely impacted.

During the lockdown, all schools and community learning spaces were closed, except for some schools in few urban areas which operated at less than 60 per cent of their capacity, compared to the first week of the 2021-2022 academic year. About 200,000 people missed food rations due to the interruption of humanitarian activities and food distributions. Health Cluster partners operating in hard-to-reach and conflict-affected areas could not provide mobile clinic services or critical assistance.

On the eve of the lockdown, about 700 people fled their villages to West and Littoral regions, and about 1,800 persons moved to urban centers or safer localities within the NWSW.

Additionally, the security situation worsened in certain areas, with frequent use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) against military, and increased armed confrontations between State security forces and NSAGs. Partners reported kidnappings and attacks against people defying the lockdown including bike riders, students and teachers. This caused the displacement of over 2,224 additional people before the lockdown.

Since 15 September, UN agencies and humanitarian partners have been obliged to fully suspend humanitarian activities and put on hold the delivery of life-saving humanitarian assistance to people in need in both regions. Lockdowns negatively impact the humanitarian response which is drastically underfunded. As of 30 September, only 15.8 per cent of the NWSW 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan had been funded.

## FUNDING

### Cameroon 2021 NW-SW Crisis

US\$ 153.2 million requested  
US\$ 24.2 million funded



### Funding by sector (in million US\$)

As of 30 September 2021

	Funded	Unmet	Coverage
Food Security	4.8 M	57.7 M	5.3%
Protection	5.3 M	32.5 M	14.5%
Multiclustes	5.9 M	14.4 M	40.8%
WASH	11.9 M		5.8%
Education	9.2 M	10.8 M	1.8%
Nutrition	6.8 M		7.4%
Health	2.5 M	6.8 M	38.6%
Shelter and NFI	4.6 M		25.6%
Refugee Response	2.9 M		0%
Coordination and Support Services	3.0 M		109%
Early Recovery	2.1 M		2.4%

These figures reflect the contributions reported by humanitarian partners on the OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>). All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform FTS of any cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org)

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

### Education

Education authorities indicated that, in the NW, out of 76,478 children enrolled in primary schools at the time of the lockdown only 23,428 representing 31 per cent had access to education during the lockdown period. At the level of secondary education, out of 41,626 children enrolled before lockdown, only 11,649 had access to education, representing 28 per cent. In the SW, only 15,104 out of 60,408 children enrolled in primary schools had access to education during the lockdown, representing 25 per cent. Furthermore, 22,254 out of 39,074 enrolled in secondary schools had access to the classroom, representing 57 per cent.

**31% and 25%**

Children expected in primary schools in the NW and SW respectively were present during lockdown

During the lockdown, some partners continued to provide non-formal learning in safe spaces. 1,484 informal education students, including 866 girls continued to benefit from the radio education programme. Cluster partners collectively provided distance learning services to 5,825 children, including 3,558 girls.

### Food Security

24 partners collectively supported 149,725 people with emergency food, agriculture, and livelihoods assistance. This represents a 48 per cent decrease compared to 284,535 people assisted in August 2021. 17 per cent of the beneficiaries received agriculture and livelihoods support while 30,000 people received assistance in cash and voucher modalities.

The lockdown left about 170,000 monthly beneficiaries, mainly in the NW region, without any form of assistance as roads, markets and other commercial activities were closed. In the SW, WFP had assisted 55,000 people of its 80,000 beneficiary caseload through double rations in August. Though some partners could make quick rounds of distribution during days, NSAGs uplifted the lockdown for civilians to replenish their supplies. This had little impact as supplies coming from main urban centers like Douala, and semi-urban and rural areas could not reach major cities like Bamenda and Buea.

# 149.7K

People reached with food/agriculture/livelihood assistance

In collaboration with the Regional Delegation of Agriculture in the South-West, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) received 15 tons of fertilizer, 150 sprayers, 450 bags of manure, and 7,500g improved seeds. FAO and partners will distribute these items in October, instead of September, because of the lockdown.

As the current NWSW context remains dynamic and characterized by continued displacement of families, the World Food Programme (WFP) regularly reviews targeting criteria to ensure that the most vulnerable families are supported. A targeting exercise conducted between March and July 2021 has resulted in the validation of new beneficiary lists and new geographic locations. To allow for a transparent integration of new beneficiaries, WFP has developed several communication materials and strategies to sensitize communities as part of its commitment to accountability to the affected populations.

## Health

The NWSW regions are currently experiencing a third wave of COVID-19 infections. A higher positivity rate marks this wave: 31 per cent in the NW compared to 11.5 per cent in August and 15 per cent in the SW compared to three per cent in August. COVID-19 related deaths also increased. The NW reported 2,941 positive cases and 81 deaths in September, with a case fatality rate of 2.8 per cent. The SW reported 917 positive cases and 44 deaths in September, with a case fatality rate of 4.8 per cent. Also, the number of deaths in September alone is equivalent to the total number of deaths during the first and second waves of COVID-19 infections in the two regions.

# 15.9K

People received the two doses of COVID-19 vaccine

This increase in the number of cases and deaths resulted in the increase of the COVID-19 vaccination. In the NW, 29,009 persons have taken the first dose and 11,639 have completed both, representing 3.1 per cent and 1.2 per cent of the targeted population respectively. In the SW, 11,359 persons have received the first dose and 4,228 have completed both, representing 1.2 per cent and 0.4 per cent of the targeted population respectively.

WHO handed over the renovated intensive care unit of Limbe Regional Hospital and 25 oxygen concentrators to the Regional Delegation of Public Health in the NW to support the response to COVID-19.

Health cluster partners continued to support Nwa health district to carry out a reactive campaign in response to the measles outbreak. They reported no cases in the past three weeks. UNICEF supported the regional delegations of public health in the NWSW to carry out vaccination for children and pregnant women in 12 Health Districts. Action Against Hunger (AAH) provided primary health care to 764 beneficiaries, among whom are 87 pregnant and lactating women and 262 children.

## Nutrition

Nutrition partners screened 37,066 children, including 19,733 girls for acute malnutrition. They identified 141 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and referred them for appropriate management. 281 children were identified with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Cumulatively from January till September, 710 children were identified with SAM and referred for treatment. This represents only 18 per cent of the 8,000 estimated SAM target, for 2021. Partners reached 27,519 caregivers, including 10,412 men and 17,107 women, with key messages on optimal infant and young child feeding practices integrating COVID-19 specific messages mainly at distribution sites.

# 37K

Children under five screened for acute malnutrition

WFP and partners implemented a Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme to prevent acute malnutrition targeting 6,070 beneficiaries, among whom 3,245 were children aged between 6 to 23 months and 2,825 were pregnant and lactating women and girls. 18 communities in Manyu and Meme divisions benefitted from these activities.

## Protection

The protection environment continues to be affected by movement restrictions due to check points, roadblocks and lockdowns imposed by different non-state armed groups (NSAGs) as well as armed confrontations between NSAGs and State Security forces (SSFs). Insecurity forced about 1,778 persons to move to other locations. Protection partners reported 461

# 461

Protection incidents reported

incidents in the NWSW. These include theft, destruction of personal property, abductions, forced evictions and killings.

Protection monitors recorded the return of 8,578 Cameroonian refugees from Nigeria to the NWSW regions, mostly adult females. Returnees lack civil documentation, have limited access to economic opportunities and limited access to land and adequate housing. UNHCR is monitoring the situation of refugee returnees and intensifying its cross-border activities with Nigeria.

Partners counselled and/or provided legal assistance to 106 persons on housing, land and property (HLP) related issues. 80 per cent of counselled IDPs are at risk of being evicted by their landlords while 20 per cent presented issues relating to inadequate housing or inability to secure decent and affordable housing. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) in collaboration with the HLP Working Group trained 23 humanitarian actors in the NW on housing, land and property (HLP) rights.

NRC also organized a football match to promote social cohesion in Tiko in collaboration with the Tiko Social Cohesion Committee. This committee is a community dispute resolution structure set up to ensure collaborative dispute resolution of HLP disputes. The activity brought together IDPs and host community members.

### Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR)

The long lockdown had negative effects manifesting in the low number of reached beneficiaries, 29,266 compared to 69,208 in August. There was a remarkable increase in incidents reported against education. The most serious incident involved a 12-year-old girl who witnessed her right-hand fingers chopped off for daring to go to school. Teachers, school principals, and school sponsors were abducted for reopening schools. The use of IEDs continued, although at a reduced rate, with 10 IED incidents reported compared to 14 incidents in August. Bui Division of the NW reported the highest number of IED incidents. There are no reports of casualties among children, however, the CP AoR is to continue advocacy on Mine Risk Education, especially focusing on IEDs.

## 29.2K

Children and caregivers reached through child protection interventions

Child Protection actors continued to provide child protection services to affected communities, reaching 29,266 beneficiaries including 15,776 females, with different child protection interventions. 19,202 children and 831 caregivers received mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) in psychosocial support units, child-friendly, and other safe spaces. Awareness-raising on CP, gender-based violence risks, COVID-19 preventive measures, and the importance of birth registration reached 7,840 beneficiaries including 4,024 females. Partners referred 108 vulnerable children for support through community-based child protection mechanisms. Another 432 children including of 237 girls received legal assistance.

### Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR)

GBV partners reported 1,996 cases to specialized service providers. This represents a 60 per cent increase from 1,205 cases reported in August. Eighty-five per cent of GBV survivors are female. 30 per cent of the total incidents reported are cases related to children. In relation to the type of reported incidents, 37 per cent are denial of resources or opportunities, 10 per cent are cases of physical assault, 34 per cent are emotional abuse and 14 per cent are incidents of sexual violence. There are increasing reports of GBV cases during lockdown periods, including reports of femicide.

## 1.9K

GBV cases reported to specialized service providers

1,996 survivors received various services. 55 per cent received psychosocial support, 40 per cent health services, and 25 per cent received livelihood support. Some survivors received more than one type of service.

30,574 people benefited from different GBV interventions, including 26,162 in the NW and 4,412 in the SW. The main activities include mental health and psychosocial support, risk mitigation, GBV awareness-raising, women empowerment, livelihood activities to women and girls survivors of sexual exploitation, conduct safety audits, and risks and vulnerability mapping.

A capacity assessment conducted in September indicated the necessity to build the capacity of partners on psychosocial support services, monitoring, reporting, GBV prevention, and risk mitigation.

### Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI)

Shelter and NFI partners assisted 3,100 individuals from 572 households with shelter/NFI kits. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) distributed 250 core relief items including COVID-19 prevention kits to 1,713 individuals in Ekondo-Titi village in the SW. Plan International distributed bars of soap to 164 households in the NW and 105 households in the SW as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Finders Group Initiative (FGI) conducted a post-distribution monitoring activity and reached 125 households in Menchum Valley and Bamenda 2 subdivisions in the NW and 106 households in the SW that had received emergency shelter kits and bars of soap.

The lockdown negatively impacted Shelter/NFI interventions as over 4,500 recently displaced persons could not receive any form of assistance. Partners suspended most of their activities.

# 3.1K

Households reached through shelter/NFI interventions

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

WASH partners reached 86,478 individuals through various interventions including COVID-19 prevention activities. This represents a 52 per cent decrease compared to 178,343 individuals reached in August. The decrease is due to the long lockdown which hindered the implementation of activities.

WASH partners key interventions include hygiene promotion and COVID-19 prevention activities reaching 69,233 individuals, water supply benefitting 1,366 individuals, WASH and dignity kits distribution to 7,878 persons and latrine construction and maintenance benefitting 8,001 persons.

# 86.4K

People reached through WASH services

## Humanitarian coordination

OCHA continued the coordination of the humanitarian response through advocacy for humanitarian access and for effective and principled humanitarian action through regular meetings with relevant stakeholders. OCHA and humanitarian partners continue to advocate with all parties to facilitate humanitarian access to provide life-saving assistance to the most affected people.

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