

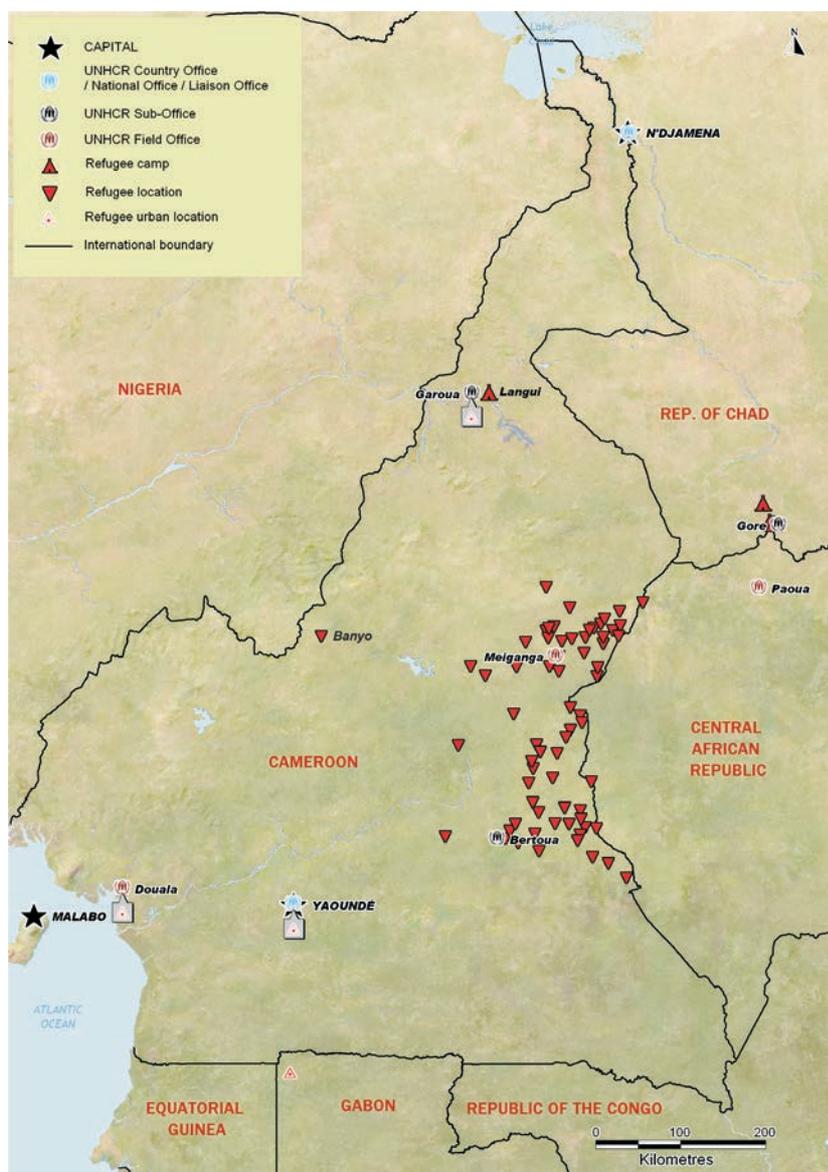
# CAMEROON

## Operational highlights

- Following five years of advocacy by UNHCR, the Government of Cameroon signed a decree ordering the application of the 2005 Refugee Law, and established an eligibility committee.
- A joint mission by UNHCR and the Government evaluated the level of integration of Nigerian refugees living around Banyo. The results of the mission will determine recommendations on a possible alternative status for these refugees.
- The Government and traditional leaders allocated approximately 2,120 hectares of arable land to refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR).
- A video documentary on the risks of statelessness in the Bakassi peninsula created an opportunity for discussions with Government counterparts.

## Working environment

Cameroon and its neighbours have experienced decades of social, political and economic unrest that has frequently culminated in armed conflict. Since 2009, most of Cameroon's neighbours have been engaged in electoral processes, leading in some cases to an increased risk of political instability in the subregion, although 2011 proved to be relatively stable in this respect. In Cameroon, presidential elections were held in October in a calm atmosphere, with only isolated incidents of violence. Overall, the country continued to extend a generous welcome to asylum-seekers, and the decree applying the 2005 Refugee Law has improved the protection environment.



## Persons of concern

Type of Population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
<b>Refugees</b>	Central African Rep.	90,200	90,200	53	59
	Chad	5,300	5,300	48	48
	Nigeria	3,200	3,200	53	49
	Rwanda	900	900	47	44
	Various	900	900	39	32
<b>Asylum-seekers</b>	Central African Rep.	1,500	1,500	47	40
	Chad	500	500	43	41
	Guinea	460	460	2	2
	DRC	210	210	28	26
	Côte d'Ivoire	200	200	7	5
	Senegal	160	160	1	1
	Rwanda	100	100	54	49
	Various	190	190	12	11
<b>Total</b>		<b>103,820</b>	<b>103,820</b>		

## | Achievement and impact |

### ● Main objectives and targets

In 2011, UNHCR's operational strategy in Cameroon focused on strengthening the Government's capacity to conduct refugee status determination (RSD). Other priorities were to promote the voluntary repatriation of Chadian refugees, implement income-generation and self-reliance activities for refugees from the CAR, and encourage the Cameroonian authorities to offer more local integration opportunities to refugees.

### Favourable protection environment

- Cameroon is signatory to the main international instruments relating to the protection of refugees and in 2005, introduced a generous national Refugee Law. The decree of application signed in November 2011 devolved the RSD process from UNHCR to the authorities, notably by establishing a national eligibility committee. UNHCR continued to help build the RSD capacity of the Government.

### Fair protection processes

- In 2011, UNHCR registered nearly 2,900 asylum-seekers, more than 70 per cent of whom were registered at the first instance. Relevant documentation was produced and distributed during the year, including 375 birth certificates, 270 birth attestations, 280 refugee identity cards and 1,150 attestations of family composition. By the end of the year, 80 per cent of refugees and 95 per cent of refugee family heads possessed valid protection documents. UNHCR provided implementing partners with training in the collection and management of relevant data.

### Security from violence and exploitation

- Counselling, including psychosocial support, was provided to 70 refugee women living in urban areas who had survived sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). In the context of SGBV prevention, 19 facilitators were trained, 29 education sessions held and 75 sensitization campaigns organized in which 308 men participated. Some 250 brochures and 100 flyers on SGBV were produced and distributed.
- More than 220 SGBV cases were registered in the East and Adamawa regions. Awareness campaigns were designed to prevent violence and reduce discrimination against the survivors, as well as to provide information about legal remedies.

### Basic needs and services

- UNHCR assumed the task of directly providing health care to urban refugees. A health coordinator was hired in July 2011 to supervise the sector in Yaoundé and Douala.
- Health services were provided to refugees from the CAR in 51 integrated health centres, eight district hospitals and seven therapeutic feeding centres. Three new integrated health centres were built and equipped by UNHCR. Forty-seven health units were rehabilitated and provided with essential generic drugs, 2,000 impregnated mosquito nets distributed and 15 medical-waste incinerators constructed. Some 60 per cent of CAR refugees had access to primary health care and 25 per cent of live births were attended by skilled personnel. All refugees in Langui camp had access to basic primary, secondary and tertiary health care.
- UNHCR provided educational support at primary level to approximately 92 per cent of refugee children. Four hundred secondary school pupils at the lower secondary academic level were assisted, and 85 refugees received university scholarships.

In Gbity, on the border with the Central African Republic, Mbororo refugees are able to cultivate land for food thanks to training, tools and seeds provided by UNHCR.



- More than 53 per cent of CAR refugee children of school-going age were enrolled in primary schools with UNHCR's assistance, and 81 per cent of these children passed the primary school examinations.
- A nutritional survey in August 2011 found a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 15.8 per cent among refugees. General malnutrition among the refugee population deteriorated in 2011 after general food distribution stopped and only targeted food distribution to the most vulnerable could be provided. Nutritional centres provided care and advice to refugees. More than 360 cooking classes were conducted during nutrition education sessions. Some 680 breast-feeding mothers and 420 pregnant women participated in sensitization campaigns designed to reduce moderate malnutrition at the community level.
- In Langui camp, 38 cases of moderate malnutrition were detected during three screening sessions, and those affected were enrolled in the weekly supplementary feeding programme. All pregnant women and nursing mothers in the camp received nutritional supplements, bringing the GAM rate to less than 1.1 per cent by the end of the year.
- Business management training was given to 18 youths who were provided with start-up kits, while seven small business projects received seed money.
- More than 180 administrative and traditional authorities were lobbied to facilitate access to land for agriculture. The more than 2,100 hectares of land thus provided allowed some 67 per cent of refugee households to engage in farming. Some 170 refugee women received farming grants and 2,300 persons received agricultural tools. Some 700 refugee women were trained in poultry farming and provided with chicks and poultry feed.
- All refugees who wished to engage in agricultural activities had access to farm land, while 121 persons benefited from microcredits and 33 women received training in business skills.
- Some 50 local water technicians were given training and hand-pump repair tool kits, and 13 water points and 19 boreholes were rehabilitated. More than 100 water management committees were reactivated and trained and 17 new ones created, while 1,500 committee members were made aware of water and sanitation issues. The construction of water points has increased the availability of potable water for CAR refugees from 10 to 14 litres per person per day in targeted areas. Refugees living in Langui camp have more than 20 litres of water per person per day.

### Community participation and self-management

- Urban refugees are organized within their respective national communities, each with elected or co-opted representatives. For CAR refugees, 150 committees were set up consisting of 915 men (62 per cent) and 564 women (38 per cent). Ten refugee leaders (eight women and two men) were trained in leadership and given material assistance.

- A refugee committee has been set up in the Langui camp, composed of 45 members of the Chadian community, including 15 women.

### Durable solutions

- More than 3,000 CAR refugees and asylum-seekers have reportedly returned spontaneously to their country. UNHCR assisted 145 refugees to return home, mainly to Chad and the CAR. In addition, the Office helped 25 vulnerable people from Langui camp to repatriate. A go-and-see visit was organized for Rwandan refugees in order to prepare them for the implementation of the cessation clauses. Twenty-one Rwandan refugees were assisted to repatriate.
- Some 240 refugees were identified as potential resettlement cases, the majority of them women and girls at risk. Seventy-one cases were submitted to resettlement countries and seventy-five people (25 cases) departed for resettlement from Cameroon in 2011.

### Logistics and operational support

- All vehicles procured and delivered were compliant with minimum operational security standards. Repairs were carried out at the field offices in Meiganga, Garoua and Bertoua.

### | Constraints |

The provision of health care to urban refugees proved to be challenging due to the limited number of implementing partners with the relevant expertise. The inability to cover all areas where CAR refugees are located also hindered health services. In addition, there was not enough capacity to manage the large number of asylum requests, resulting in a recognition rate of just over 10 per cent. In the educational sector, a shortage of infrastructure, materials and teachers impeded planned programmes.

### | Financial information |

Financial requirements for UNHCR's operations in Cameroon amounted to USD 23.6 million. Although contributions earmarked for Cameroon amounted to only USD 63,000, UNHCR was able to implement priority projects thanks to unearmarked contributions. The overall level of funding allowed expenditure of some USD 13.2 million in Cameroon, leaving a shortfall of USD 10.4 million. This left a considerable number of gaps in the fields of shelter, income-generating activities, secondary and vocational education for adolescents. Moreover, UNHCR was not able to meet all resettlement and RSD needs, due to inadequate staffing.

### | Organization and implementation |

UNHCR's programme in Cameroon was managed by the Country Office in Yaounde and four field offices in Bertoua, Meiganga, Garoua and Douala.

## | UNHCR's presence in 2011 |

□ Number of offices	<b>5</b>
□ Total staff	<b>75</b>
International	7
National	40
UNVs	26
Others	2

## | Working with others |

UNHCR worked with 15 implementing partners and in collaboration with the Government of Cameroon. A national survey on food security and risk of malnutrition for persons

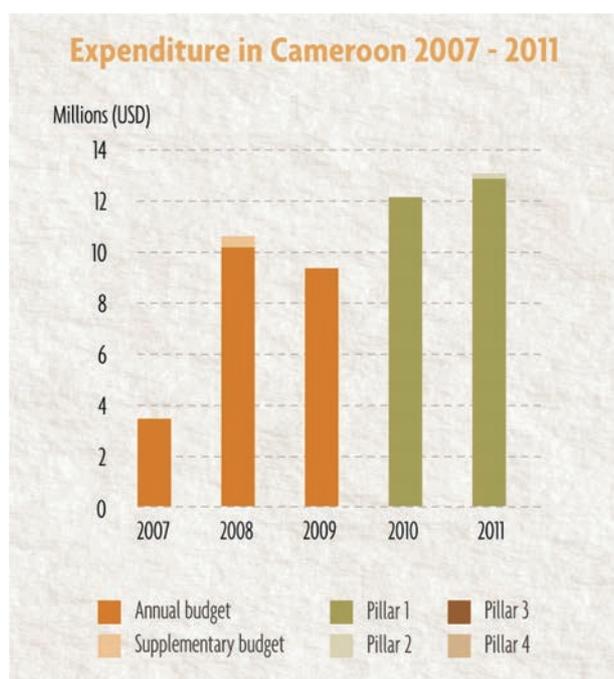
living with HIV and AIDS was conducted in cooperation with the Government and UN agencies.

## | Overall assessment |

The official signing of the decree of application of the 2005 Refugee Law paved the way for the Government to set up its own RSD structures. Self-reliance opportunities were also created through the provision of more than 2,120 hectares of land for refugee farming activities. However, outstanding needs remained to be addressed, particularly malnutrition among CAR refugees.

## | Unmet needs |

- Sustainable livelihood and self-reliance programmes could not be ensured for the majority of the over 90,000 CAR refugees.
- Only 53 per cent of 25,200 children of school-going age were enrolled in primary schools.
- Only three out of the seven integrated therapeutic nutrition centres were rehabilitated.
- Only 60 per cent of the refugee population had access to primary health facilities



### Partners

#### Implementing partners

**NGOs:** Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Africa Humanitarian Action, *Association de Lutte contre les Violences faites aux Femmes*, *Collectif InterAfricain des Habitants*, FAIRMED, International Medical Corps, International Relief and Development, Plan International Cameroon, *Première Urgence*, Public Concern, Youth Business

**Others:** Cameroon Red Cross Society

#### Operational partners

**Government agencies:** Ministry of External Relations, Ministry of Territorial Administration, Ministries of Public Health, Basic Education, and Women's Empowerment and the Family, Justice and Social Affairs

**Others:** FAO, IFRC, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO

## Budget, income and expenditure in Cameroon | USD

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	Total
<b>FINAL BUDGET</b>	<b>22,513,527</b>	<b>1,063,000</b>	<b>23,576,527</b>
Income from contributions	63,380	0	63,380
Other funds available	12,870,398	224,555	13,094,953
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>12,933,778</b>	<b>224,555</b>	<b>13,158,333</b>

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

<i>Favourable protection environment</i>			
International and regional instruments	0	13,928	13,928
National legal framework	37,364	0	37,364
National administrative framework	117,333	0	117,333
Prevention of statelessness	0	47,372	47,372
Cooperation with partners	1,110,050	0	1,110,050
Environmental protection	160,117	0	160,117
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,424,864</b>	<b>61,300</b>	<b>1,486,164</b>

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	Total
<i>Fair protection processes and documentation</i>			
Registration and profiling	302,646	0	302,646
Fair and efficient status determination	180,241	0	180,241
Family reunification	33,888	0	33,888
Individual documentation	44,402	0	44,402
Civil status documentation	228,747	39,696	268,443
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>789,924</b>	<b>39,696</b>	<b>829,620</b>
<i>Security from violence and exploitation</i>			
Impact on host communities	17,507	0	17,507
Community security management	34,634	0	34,634
Gender-based violence	268,109	0	268,109
Protection of children	40,750	0	40,750
Non-arbitrary detention	169,039	0	169,039
Access to legal remedies	43,606	0	43,606
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>573,645</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>573,645</b>
<i>Basic needs and essential services</i>			
Food security	108,906	0	108,906
Nutrition	208,780	0	208,780
Water	451,001	0	451,001
Shelter and other infrastructure	86,425	0	86,425
Basic domestic and hygiene items	477,248	0	477,248
Primary health care	1,082,987	0	1,082,987
HIV and AIDS	108,872	0	108,872
Education	307,492	0	307,492
Sanitation services	255,390	0	255,390
Services for groups with specific needs	190,365	0	190,365
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,277,466</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,277,466</b>
<i>Community participation and self-management</i>			
Participatory assessment	145,265	0	145,265
Community self-management	236,680	0	236,680
Camp management and coordination	47,702	0	47,702
Self-reliance and livelihoods	854,189	0	854,189
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,283,836</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,283,836</b>
<i>Durable solutions</i>			
Voluntary return	162,900	0	162,900
Resettlement	222,963	0	222,963
Local integration	120,008	0	120,008
Reduction of statelessness	0	27,225	27,225
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>505,871</b>	<b>27,225</b>	<b>533,096</b>
<i>External relations</i>			
Public information	268,235	67,137	335,372
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>268,235</b>	<b>67,137</b>	<b>335,372</b>
<i>Logistics and operations support</i>			
Supply chain and logistics	569,890	0	569,890
Programme management and coordination	665,446	15,087	680,533
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,235,336</b>	<b>15,087</b>	<b>1,250,423</b>
Balance of instalments with implementing partners	3,574,600	14,111	3,588,711
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,933,777</b>	<b>224,556</b>	<b>13,158,333</b>