

Annual Results Report

2024

Cameroon MCO

Acknowledgements

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Note:

The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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- 4.1 - Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2024, the UNHCR Multi-Country Office (MCO) for Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and São Tomé and Príncipe operated amid relative political stability. Gabon held a national dialogue leading to a new constitution, but tensions regarding judicial independence and power distribution between the President and other structures remained unaddressed. As São Tomé and Príncipe graduates from the Least Developed Country status, political tensions between the presidential and executive branches are on the rise, potentially affecting governance and the country's stability. Equatorial Guinea experienced political and economic changes with the Prime Minister's resignation amid economic challenges. UNHCR identified four refugees and adapted its resettlement processes as Equatorial Guinea strengthened partnerships due to depleted national reserves.

Cameroon's security situation remained concerning with attacks by non-state armed groups (NSAGs), inter-community conflicts, and natural disasters resulting in a humanitarian crisis, widespread displacement, and human rights violations in the Far North. Insecurity in the Northwest and Southwest (NWSW) regions persists, albeit with reduced intensity. While the Far North registered higher security incidents, the use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) against the Defense and Security Forces (DSFs) increased in the NWSW regions. High inflation compounded by reduced humanitarian funding continues to impact the population.

As of 31 December 2024, Cameroon had over 2.1 million forcibly displaced people, including 426,000 refugees and asylum-seekers (CAR 73%, Nigeria 26%, and 1% from 40 countries), and 1.7 million internally displaced people (IDPs) and returnees according to IOM/OCHA. The 12% decrease in refugee numbers from 2023 was due to continuous verification exercises, voluntary repatriation, spontaneous and assisted returns, and case deactivations. The Northwest and Southwest regions witnessed a 5% decrease in IDPs and a 4% increase in returnees.

UNHCR continues to make significant strides towards the inclusion of refugees into national social services. In line with the National Development Strategy (SND) 2030 and the Global Refugee Forum commitments for inclusion (GRF), refugee children are attending school and paying the same fees as nationals. Over 22% of refugees enrolled in Universal Health Care receive subsidized health care for common and chronic diseases, and 5,000 refugees out of the 18,000 enrolled received their biometric refugee cards and can move freely within the country.

UNHCR also facilitated a platform for durable solutions for Central African refugees and coordinated with the private sector, financial institutions, and development partners to enhance refugee inclusion. 7,000 Central African refugees returned to their country of origin in safety and dignity in 2024. Progress was made in strengthening Cameroon's asylum system after adopting revisions to the 2016 Transfer Protocol and amendments to the Data Sharing Protocol.

The country adopted a significant number of laws in December 2024, including Law N°2024/016, which reforms the civil registration system, and Law N°2024/015 on civil protection, establishing a National Civil Protection Agency. These reforms extend the time allowed for birth declarations and simplify the conditions for registering births, making it easier for refugees to obtain civil documentation. Furthermore, UNHCR and MINDDEVEL secured legal backing for budgeting refugee needs in local and regional plans through a Joint Circular Letter aligning with the President's budgetary policy.

Finally, Cameroon participated in the Interregional Forum on internal displacement in Africa and committed to domesticating the Convention and developing a national strategy for sustainable solutions.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

By 2026 forcibly displaced and stateless persons are registered, documented, and benefit from a favorable protection environment.

Indicator			
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)
1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	94.90%	69.48%
Gabon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	56.00%
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	80.00%	80.00%
Gabon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	84.96%

In 2024, the general environment remained conducive to the protection of forcibly displaced and stateless people due to effective advocacy and support from multiple stakeholders to the governments of countries covered by MCO Cameroon. Significant progress was achieved in strengthening Cameroon's asylum system through an evaluation workshop, which recommended revisions to the 2016 Transfer Protocol and proposed amendments to the Data Sharing Protocol. Through intensive advocacy at different levels, the country adopted significant laws in December 2024, including Law N°2024/016 reforming the civil registration system and Law N°2024/015 on civil protection, establishing a National Civil Protection Agency.

Furthermore, Ministry of Decentralization and Local Development (MINDDEVEL) secured a Joint Circular Letter officially integrating the needs of refugees into local and regional plans in alignment with the President's budgetary policy.

Based on the backlog of 2,300 asylum-seekers at the end of 2023, the operation foresaw 5,000 individuals as a planned figure for 2024. Unpredictably, 7,969 asylum-seekers were registered in 2024, representing an increase of 69% over the initial forecast. The increase in the number of asylum-seekers significantly impacted Refugee Status Determination (RSD), causing access to asylum procedures to decline from 80% in 2023 to 69% in 2024. This decline was mainly due to high travel costs from Douala to Yaoundé and limited processing capacity.

RSD remains crucial for UNHCR as it ensures that refugees are protected from persecution and have their basic human rights upheld. The streamlining of the asylum processes compelled UNHCR and the Government to transfer responsibilities to national entities and relocate services from Douala to the Secrétariat Technique des Organes de Gestion du Statut de Réfugiés au Cameroun (ST) in Yaoundé. This transfer improved resource allocation, reduced duplication of efforts, and ultimately benefited both UNHCR and asylum-seekers.

Freedom of movement is strongly enshrined in the 2005 Refugee National Law. Unfortunately, in practice, refugees face numerous challenges to move freely, knowing that a movement pass "A qui de droit" is required to move within the country. To address this, UNHCR and the Government, represented by the General Delegation for National Security, have embarked on issuing biometric refugee identity cards. By the end of 2024, 18,050 refugees were enrolled, and 5,000 received biometric cards, improving their mobility, financial access, and socio-economic integration. This figure represents 11% of the target to produce 200,000 cards by 2026.

In 2024, there were no instances of refoulement, and the transfer of responsibilities regarding Refugee Status Determination (RSD) is progressing. A strategic workshop recommended legislative overhaul, resource reinforcement, and the creation of a dedicated national structure. The government is increasingly taking the lead in this perspective with the progressive implementation of these recommendations.

UNHCR continued advocating for stronger asylum systems in Equatorial Guinea and São Tomé and Príncipe. In Gabon, capacity-building led to the effective transfer of Refugee Status Determination (RSD)

and registration responsibilities in 2023. In 2024, UNHCR's actions aimed at ensuring the effectiveness of the protection of refugee and asylum-seeker rights and inclusion into the national systems, resulting in all asylum-seekers in Gabon, including Nigeriens and Sudanese, accessing asylum procedures, freedom of movement, protection from refoulement, and basic services including employment, documentation, public health care, and jobs.

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

By 2026, forcibly displaced and stateless persons access quality basic social services in an equitable and sustainable manner to realize their full human potential and enhance their social and economic well-being.

Indicator			
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	46.08%	79.55%
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	34.03%	41.92%
Gabon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	34.03%	65.79%

The proportion of forcibly displaced people residing in safe facilities with access to basic social services (shelter, water, hygiene, sanitation, health, etc.) increased from 75% in 2023 to 80% in 2024. This 5% improvement was made possible by the efforts of UNHCR and partners to transform emergency shelters into transitional and durable shelters and improve access to potable water and sanitation. Various collaborations, funding sources, and partners contributed to achieving these results.

Improved living conditions and well-being of forcibly displaced populations have been observed in sites in the Eastern façade, in Far North and in Littoral regions, including in the Minawao camp and host villages, particularly in Logone Chari, heavily affected by climatic events, especially floods. UNHCR and partners' interventions in water and sanitation targeting 3,000 households (18,000 individuals), including 1,028 vulnerable households assisted (300 with shelters and 728 with latrines) have been instrumental in the betterment of the living conditions of crises' affected populations. The actions taken have contributed to the reduction of GBV, improvement of Health and nutritional status for children, reduced diarrhoea and water-borne diseases, and increased Education as children spent less time fetching water, giving them more time to attend school.

Significant progress was also made in housing, with the proportion of forcibly displaced people living in habitable and affordable housing increasing from 65% in 2023 to 70%. This achievement was made possible through the provision of quality housing for vulnerable refugee and IDP households through various mechanisms, including 34,350 refugees and IDPs benefiting from cash-based interventions (CBI) for shelter and rental assistance, 15,000 refugees and IDPs benefiting from the construction of emergency and transitional shelters, and 4,400 households (22,000 individuals) benefiting from material kits to improve their shelter.

These efforts have significantly improved the living conditions of people of concern by reducing the risks of gender-based violence (GBV) - Child Marriage went from 8% in 2022 to 5% in 2023 and 3% in 2024 - and providing a better living environment and access to basic services in alignment with international humanitarian standards and national building codes. The collaboration between UNHCR, CERF, Shelter Box, and other stakeholders has been instrumental in achieving these results.

Significant improvements in health outcomes have been observed in both refugee and host communities, thanks to enhanced access to primary healthcare in refugee camp and site health centers. This progress stems from 163,914 consultations for refugees, 92.4% measles vaccination coverage that protected against outbreaks despite challenges in surrounding health districts, and comprehensive awareness campaigns on cholera and monkeypox prevention, followed by soap distribution. Additionally, a 40% reduction in malaria cases was achieved through the administration of the new malaria vaccine to over 3,500 refugee children,

combined with other preventive measures. Furthermore, 47,091 refugees (93,003 since 2022) were enrolled in Universal Health Coverage, ensuring free or subsidized access to treatment for malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis. Notably, there was a 97.2% assisted delivery rate, and all refugees living with HIV received antiretroviral (ARV) treatment. These health achievements were made possible through effective collaboration with key healthcare partners, including the Ministry of Public Health, UNICEF, WFP, the Mary Dinah Foundation (for nutritional health), UNFPA (for reproductive health), and strong coordination with local health centers.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

By 2026, gaps in key socio-economic indicators are reduced and forcibly displaced persons and stateless, including women, girls and youth benefit from greater gender equality and empowerment.

By 2026, more people, forcibly displaced and stateless persons benefit equitably from increased opportunities in a green, diversified, transformative, resilient and inclusive economy that creates decent jobs in productive sectors.

Indicator			
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.01%	40.59%
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	30.39%	51.68%
Gabon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	30.39%	31.25%
3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5.57%	5.33%
Gabon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20.00%	65.79%

In 2024, more refugees and asylum-seekers continued to benefit from increased opportunities in a diversified, transformative, resilient, and inclusive economy that creates decent jobs in productive sectors. This progress is underpinned by Article 09 of Law No. 2005/006 of 27 July 2005, which recognizes several rights, including the right to work, education, and movement for any refugee duly acknowledged under Chapters 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Geneva Convention and the African Union. Over 47% (202,000) refugees out of the 411,000 in Cameroon have right to decent work. UNHCR have been working with partner to improved refugee's well-being and access to decent work through access to education, vocational trainings and economic opportunities.

Economic opportunities in refugee-hosting areas have boosted the right to right to decent work. Supported by the existing legal framework for employing foreign nationals, Circular Letter N°000005/LC/MINEFOP/SG/DRMO/SDIA (November 2024), value chain development in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries have increased export potential and income generation for refugees. 1,630 farmers access to 988 hectares of land, tools, seeds, and support for livestock and fish farming in the Far North and Eastern regions led to improved quality and quantity of food rations. Furthermore, vocational training provided by UNHCR and Toyota Tsusho Corporation in mechanics enhanced the employability of refugees, as well as Refugee-run cooperatives supported by the Ministry of Employment. Finally, in Gabon, the National employment Center secured a 3-month work placement job for tree refugees (all male) as a computer technician, security guard and drivers.

Partnerships with ILO, WFP, FAO, and GIZ contributed to refugee empowerment and inclusion. Finally, advocacy efforts during World Refugee Day led private companies to offer 13 professional training opportunities.

In Gabon, UNHCR facilitated the socio-economic integration of refugees by offering various support measures. Ten refugees were registered with the National Employment Center, and assistance was provided for essential administrative procedures needed for income-generating activities and professional

license renewals. A key achievement was the recognition of a Cameroonian refugee with the FILIGA Prize for his successful printing business. Additionally, 24 refugees and 2 asylum-seekers in Libreville and Port-Gentil benefited from professional training programs, and partnerships with reputable incubators were established to further enhance employment opportunities.

The 2005 Refugee Law grants refugees equal access to education as nationals. This framework was further strengthened by the adoption of the 2023-2030 National Education and Training Sector Strategy (SSEF), which prioritizes access and equity, quality and relevance of training, and system strengthening. The strategy clearly emphasizes the inclusion and integration of refugee and displaced children within educational structures. This achievement supports Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, which seeks to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all." It also aligns with Cameroon's commitment to integrating refugees into the national education system. Improved school access and retention rates increased from 49% in 2023 to 53% in 2024, driven by intensified parental awareness of the importance of education. However, the higher attendance of refugees has led to overcrowding in classrooms, particularly in Minawao camp and the East and Adamaoua regions. The integrated approach fostered by the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) project led by the Government and the support of World Food Programme (WFP) through the school feeding project have positively contributed to a 4.14% rise in primary school enrollment.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

By 2026, conducive conditions in countries of origin will foster return in safety and dignity.

Expand access to third country solutions (GCR Objective 3)

Indicator			
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,049	7,230
Gabon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,049	0
4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	923	1,080
Gabon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	878	0
4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways			
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	6	1

Out of the 25,000 refugees planned for voluntary repatriation in 2024, only 7,230 people benefited from voluntary and facilitated repatriation from Cameroon to their countries of origin. Based on the availability of financial resources, the operation targeted 5,000 Central African refugees for voluntary repatriation to the Central African Republic (CAR). Fortunately, with additional resources received from the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration during the second semester of 2024, MCO Cameroon managed to achieve the facilitated repatriation of 6,671 Central African refugees, representing an increase of over 6,000 refugees compared to the achievement of 1,613 refugees in 2023.

UNHCR MCO Cameroon did not witness any return of repatriated people to Cameroon, indicating successful coordination between the country of asylum and the country of origin, as facilitated by the CAR Platform. The platform's efforts focus on improving conditions in the countries of origin to enable refugees to return in safety and dignity, aligning with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) Objective 4. Resettlement continues to be a key durable solution for refugees in Cameroon, alongside repatriation. In 2024, UNHCR Cameroon received a resettlement quota of 980 people. However, a total of 1,057 refugees were submitted for resettlement consideration to countries such as Canada, France, and the

United States of America (USA). The majority of those submitted were survivors of violence and/or torture (649 people) and women and girls at risk (230 people), highlighting the focus on the most vulnerable populations. By 2024, a total of 1,080 refugees (including 550 females and 530 males) departed Cameroon to countries like Canada, France, and the USA, compared to 923 departures in 2023.

Resettlement provided refugees with the opportunity to rebuild their lives with safety and dignity. Of the resettled individuals, 81% were survivors of violence or torture (650 people) or women and girls at risk (225 people), while 19% had other resettlement needs. These refugees gained access to crucial life-saving healthcare, improved housing, education, and job training. Ultimately, resettlement enables them to achieve greater autonomy, allowing them to meet their own needs, in contrast to their previous reliance as refugees.

Complementary pathways are increasingly providing new opportunities for refugees to access labor mobility, education facilities, and family reunification. Over the last two years, 18 refugees benefited from complementary pathways in Cameroon. In 2024, one refugee student was accepted for a master's degree in France.

In terms of naturalization in Cameroon, according to Law No. 2005/006 and Decree 2011/389, refugees can enjoy the same rights as nationals. Seven families totaling 26 individuals, mostly Rwandans, have initiated their naturalization application and are currently at the MINJUSTICE level. In Gabon, three refugees from the Republic of the Congo (Brazzaville) applied for residence permits.

In Gabon, refugees and asylum-seekers have access to public health care, but they do not yet have mandatory health insurance. In an emergency, the CNAMGS registers several cases, including one (1H) and seven others (7H) on behalf of the private fund, thanks to the employers. The Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR) collaborated with the Pôle National de Promotion de l'Emploi (National Employment Promotion Pole) to secure a three-month work placement as a computer technician for one refugee, a job as a security guard for another, but one could not be hired because his driver's license had not been converted.

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

Prolonged waiting times for asylum application registration: This hinders asylum-seekers' integration, exposing them to precarious living conditions, exploitation, abuse, and psychological stress. Doubling the number of registration staff agents is necessary to optimize the process, reduce waiting times, and achieve the target of 80% access to asylum procedures.

Resettlement: The closure of some offices and reduction of protection staff have delayed continuous registration and reduced the identification and referral of vulnerable cases for resettlement. Activities such as sensitization, resettlement counseling, anti-fraud messaging, and outreach were limited in remote locations like Kousséri due to staff shortages and funding constraints. The lack of biometric readable travel documents (CTDs) and their limited availability restricted refugee students from accessing education opportunities, leading to negative perceptions about obtaining these documents.

Local integration and education: The government's priority on social and economic inclusion of refugees in national programs faces challenges. The 2023-2030 national strategy for education and training includes refugees, but translating strategic guidelines into the national budget remains a challenge. The rapid increase in refugee children of school age demands more school infrastructure and equipment. The naturalization process is lengthy.

Voluntary repatriation: Repatriation activities to CAR were disrupted by unilateral decisions from CAR authorities, causing delays. A tripartite agreement involving UNHCR, Cameroon, and CAR is needed to streamline the process. In the Far North, the security situation and availability of basic social services in return areas in Nigeria are crucial factors determining the feasibility of voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity.

Health: Low health service utilization rate in urban areas is due to financial constraints.

WASH: Insufficient access to potable water primarily affects women, girls, and boys who must travel long distances to fetch water, exposing them to protection risks. These populations are also the most vulnerable to epidemic risks such as cholera and other waterborne diseases like diarrheal diseases.

Education: Despite the existing legal framework, the circular letter creates ambiguity regarding work visa authorization for refugees, requiring urgent clarification.

Limited access to jobs, education, and financial services: This continues to impede self-reliance, particularly for women and girls.

IDPs: They face discrimination in urban areas, while language barriers in French-speaking regions hinder service access for English-speaking refugees and IDPs. Security concerns remain high, with many displaced people feeling unsafe due to ongoing conflict, targeted violence, and instability.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

In 2024, several key partnerships and collaborations with international, national, and local stakeholders significantly contributed to progress for refugees and IDPs. These partnerships align with UNHCR's strategic objectives, the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring complementarity and holistic response to forced displacement.

Key Partnerships with Humanitarian Actors: Following the United Nations Country Team pledge by 23 members for refugee inclusion in their programs per the Global Refugee Forum, UNHCR reinforced its collaboration to ensure effective inclusion in planning processes and support the government in implementing GRF pledges from 2019 and 2023. In 2024, joint projects included UNHCR with:

WFP: Joint targeting program to optimize food security assistance and support refugee resilience, as well as complaints and feedback mechanisms, livelihoods support, and data sharing.

IOM, UNDP, and FAO / PBF Funds: Stability support in ten communities of the Far North severely impacted by inter-communal conflicts.

UNICEF, UNESCO, WFP, NRC, and Plan International: Education Cannot Wait initiative.

IOM/UNICEF/UNFPA/UNWOMEN-CERF: Life-saving protection and multisectoral response for refugees and IDPs in the Far North and NWSW Cameroon.

National and Local Authorities: Following Inter-Agency Standing Committee standards, UNHCR coordinates the Protection and Shelter/NFIs sectors. In line with the Refugee Coordination Model, UNHCR holds meetings with over 100 humanitarian agencies involved in the refugee response. Enhanced partnerships include:

Ministry of Public Health: Enrolled 93,000 refugees in Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Ministry of Decentralization and Development (MINDDEVEL): Issued a Joint Circular Letter mandating the budgeting of refugee needs in local and regional plans. **Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS):** Inclusion of older and disabled refugees and IDPs in social protection programs. **Ministry of Basic Education:** Facilitated refugee school attendance at the same fees as nationals. **General Delegation of National Security:** Issued biometric refugee identification cards with government stamps.

CAR Solutions Support Platform (CAR-SSP): This platform gathers six countries to find durable solutions for the refugee situation. Based on the Yaoundé declaration, UNHCR works in complementarity with different agencies to implement programs enhancing resilience, self-reliance, and support durable solutions, including the ILO ((International Labour Organization)) -KOICA project, GIZ-ProCAR project (Support program for host communities and refugees), and Durable Solutions for Refugees and Host Communities (SOLID). For instance, UNHCR is supporting the ILO -KOICA Project geared to empower 2,000 women for resilient economies and peaceful communities in the East and Adamaoua regions of Cameroon, as well as the SOLID Programme promoting durable solutions for 3,000 displaced individuals in Cameroon and the Central African Republic, led by a consortium DRC (Danish Refugee Council), ACF(Action Against Hunger), CARE (Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere), NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council), EU/INTPA (European Union / Directorate-General for International Partnerships with the financial support (2023-2026).

Development Actors: UNHCR reinforced transactional and non-transactional collaborations to enhance refugee inclusion:

Transactional: Joint EU/INTPA for an alternative to Minawao camp and durable solutions for CAR refugees in the East, and African Development Bank (AfDB) to strengthen protection and resilience of forcibly displaced populations in the Far North region.

Non-Transactional: Inclusion of refugees in ongoing projects such as those by the World Bank and European Union.

Private Sector: UNHCR continued its collaboration with Toyota Tusho Corporation (TTC) to enhance refugee capacities in car repair and maintenance, and with IHS Tower to establish a digital kiosk providing refugees with easy access to browsing and technology. Additionally, UNHCR leveraged its Memorandum of Understanding with CIFOR (Center for International Forestry Research), ICRAF (International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (also known as World Agroforestry) on environment conservation and livelihood improvement for sustainable management of forest resources in displacement settings.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

Forcibly displaced persons have access to asylum, registration and an identity document issued by the Government.

Registration and profiling - Civil registration)

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	86.74%	100.00%	97.04%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	77.00%	90.00%	24.50%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	73.07%	90.00%	87.15%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The favorable protection environment observed in the four countries covered by UNHCR MCO Cameroon (Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, and São Tomé and Príncipe) allowed several forcibly displaced people to benefit from international protection in 2024. UNHCR efforts resulted in 97% (426,537) of refugees and asylum-seekers being registered on an individual basis.

During the period under review, MCO UNHCR continued with verification exercises that led to the deactivation of 67,035 refugees absent during the exercise, bringing the total to 255,899 CAR refugees. In addition, UNHCR identified and registered 15,999 people, including 5,004 newborns and 10,995 new arrivals from CAR, Niger, Nigeria, and Sudan. From this figure, 7,969 are from urban settings. By the end of 2024, Cameroon hosted 410,400 refugees and 16,137 asylum-seekers. 67% were from CAR and mainly settled in the Eastern region and the urban areas of Yaoundé and Douala, 30% Nigerian refugees were living in the Far North, and around 3% individuals of various nationalities were living in urban areas (Douala, Yaoundé, and Gabon).

As part of the partnership with the government authority responsible for determining refugee status, the Technical Secretariat of MINREX (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), in view of the transfer of responsibility to the State, UNHCR and the Government of Cameroon, along with other partners, organized registration exercises in urban centers and various regions. The verification exercise was completed in the Eastern façade. A major achievement was the issuance of 8,092 birth certificates to refugee children, 53% of whom were girls. This crucial documentation safeguards them from statelessness while securing their rights to education, healthcare, and future civic participation. By granting legal recognition, these birth certificates provide a foundation for long-term protection and integration within their host communities.

For documentation, 18,050 refugees (57% female and 43% male) received refugee identity cards from the government in Touboro, Djohong, and Yaoundé. Currently, only 11% of refugees in Cameroon have biometric refugee cards. Advocacy continues for more refugees to be issued these biometric identity cards by 2026. These government refugee cards significantly increased protection, facilitated local integration,

improved mobility, and provided access to banking, telecommunications, healthcare, and other essential services, thus moving refugees from the margins of society to the mainstream. Additionally, 34,256 refugees and asylum-seekers obtained valid UNHCR identification documents pending government refugee identity cards.

In Gabon, the government issued 10 biometric passports to refugees. These refugee cards significantly increased protection, primarily freedom of movement, access to basic services, banking facilities, telecommunication, employment, and the job market. As a result, the refugee population is more empowered and less marginalized since the cards are recognized by officials and police.

UNHCR has made progress in ensuring that refugees are issued valid documents, reaching 87% in 2024, up from 72% in 2023. Ongoing advocacy with authorities has positioned forcibly displaced people for inclusion in the nationwide campaign 'My Name' birth certificate program led by MINDDEVEL. This initiative promises to further expand documentation coverage for refugee children born on Cameroonian soil, cementing their right to identity and opening pathways to full social participation and protection.

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

Forcibly displaced persons have access to a procedure that meets international standards

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	366.00	240.00	1.86
2.3 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	16.87%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The asylum system in Cameroon has made notable progress despite some residual challenges. The average processing time for asylum applications was reduced to 446 days, a 30-day improvement compared to the first semester of 2024. This positive move is still beyond the initial target of 240 days. This situation is explained by the prioritization of long-standing asylum claims. However, for applications filed and processed in 2024, the processing time was only 121 days, demonstrating the effectiveness of new measures.

The backlog has increased significantly by 57%, from 10,310 pending cases (01 January 2024) to 16,137 (31 December 2024). Efforts have been made throughout the year to reduce the waiting period. UNHCR and the Technical Secretariat of Refugee Status Management Bodies in Cameroon made efforts to continue RSD processing at the urban level with the following results:

Interviews: 2,300 cases involving 3,543 people, a 10% increase compared to 2023, representing 60% of all those who had an interview appointment.

Decisions: 2,933 cases involving 4,822 people, among whom 2,360 individuals obtained refugee status, representing 50%.

No Shows (missed interviews): 1,597 cases involving 2,156 people, 40% of all those who had an interview appointment (3,897 cases for 5,699 people).

Regarding the appeal mechanism, all applicants have the right to appeal. However, only 373 out of 2,211 rejected people (17%) exercised this right, far from the 100% target. This situation risks depriving some asylum-seekers of potentially necessary protection.

In other MCO countries, particularly in Equatorial Guinea and São Tomé and Príncipe, processing times meet required standards, demonstrating effective management in these areas. Four people were registered, among whom two were recognized and two rejected. UNHCR continues to support these

countries in establishing their own asylum systems.

In Gabon, the processing time is 90 days and never exceeds 180 days. Fourteen people were registered, among whom eight were recognized as refugees, about a 60% recognition rate.

In total, 10,011 individuals were recognized as refugees in 2024 across the MCO Cameroon, with 8,011 prima facie refugees in the Far North and Eastern border of Cameroon, contributing to achieving SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by ensuring new refugees access international protection, essential services, and durable solutions.

Close collaboration with national authorities was essential in improving asylum procedures, particularly in reducing processing times. The authorities' commitment to capacity building helped to improve the asylum system despite challenges encountered.

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

Forcibly displaced and stateless to UNHCR benefit from protection offered by international, regional and national legal instruments and frameworks adopted and promulgated by the government

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In line with SDG 16 on peace, justice, and strong institutions, and SND30 6.2 on rule of law and security of persons, countries under the coverage of MCO Cameroon have continued to demonstrate their commitments to the principles of the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol by maintaining favorable protection environments for people seeking asylum. This includes safeguarding the rights of refugees and asylum-seekers, access to documentation, and initiatives to improve living conditions and promote durable solutions.

The Government of São Tomé and Príncipe ratified the following instruments:

1969 OAU Convention

The two Conventions related to Statelessness (1954 and 1961 Conventions)

The Kampala Convention (2009)

These efforts facilitated the protection of refugees and persons at risk of statelessness while strengthening access to fundamental rights such as education, employment, movement, and association. To reaffirm its adherence to the Global Compact on Refugees, Cameroon made commitments at the 2019 and 2023 Global Refugee Forums to improve the management of refugees living on its territory in the areas of education, health, documentation, environment, and socioeconomic inclusion.

Following commitments made during the first and second World Forum on Refugees and High-Level Segment on Statelessness, Cameroon took significant steps to align its national legal framework with international standards. The Head of State signed Decree No. 2024/333 on 24 July 2024, marking Cameroon's accession to the United Nations Conventions relating to the status of stateless persons and the reduction of cases of statelessness. This decree strengthens coordination efforts, including the Multi-Actor Dialogue led by the Ministry of External Relations, responsible for refugee management and durable solutions. UNHCR also participated in various consultation platforms relating to civil status events. UNHCR's international reporting includes the Agency's contribution to Cameroon's Single Report under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other relevant protocols, ensuring that aspects related to refugees and stateless people are considered. Additionally, UNHCR was involved in meetings with the Office of the Human Rights Council (HRC), facilitating joint support for the implementation of UPR (Universal Periodic Review) recommendations adopted on 26 March 2024 in Geneva

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

Protection monitoring is established and effective in relevant locations

Response and prevention of VBG

Women and young girls and boys are protected from all forms of violence and discrimination against them in all areas of public life. (UNSDCF)

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services				
Cameroon	IDPs	100.00%	100.00%	59.50%
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	25.24%
4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women				
Cameroon	IDPs	81.20%	70.00%	70.00%
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	47.00%	70.00%	27.78%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services				
Cameroon	IDPs	27.00%	30.00%	18.52%
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	27.00%	30.00%	18.52%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Significant progress has been made in the protection of women and girls from all forms of violence and discrimination in Cameroon, as highlighted by key indicators.

According to the Forced Displacement Survey conducted by UNHCR and the Institut National des Statistiques (INS) in 2024, 25% of refugees and asylum-seekers, and 36% of IDPs know where to access available services to respond to violence against women and girls. Although this represents a decline from the baseline of 37%, certain actions have helped mitigate a further drop. UNHCR and partners conducted awareness and communication for behavior change with communities to increase case reporting and disseminate available services in localities hosting forcibly displaced people. The dissemination of strategies and SOPs also allowed for improved knowledge of services for better care in case of an incident. 28,502 forcibly displaced people (14,443 refugees and 14,059 IDPs) benefited from specialized services related to violence against women and girls (prevention and response activities), which helped them start building their resilience. In addition to case management, emphasis was placed on targeted awareness activities for greater involvement of community leaders in the fight against violence against women and girls, and child protection within the community.

The surveyed populations also stated that 70% of refugees, asylum-seekers, and IDPs do not accept violence against women, indicating a stable acceptance rate compared to the baseline of 81%. UNHCR played a crucial role in achieving these outcomes through various initiatives:

Cash Assistance: Provided support to vulnerable people, enabling access to essential services and reducing reliance on negative coping mechanisms.

Engage Men in Accountable Practices (EMAP): Trained 200 men and boys in positive masculinity, leading to improved communication within families and greater acceptance of women in decision-making spheres.

Girls Shine Program: Strengthened the capacities of adolescent girls and young women to seek and obtain support for violence against women and girls, resulting in several out-of-school girls returning to school and opposing child marriage.

This result was achieved with the contribution of other stakeholders such as MINAS (Ministry of Social Affairs) and the increased involvement of community leaders in awareness activities and child protection within the community.

Finally, 19% of refugees were satisfied with the service received, a substantial increase from the baseline of 10%. While the health, psychosocial, and safety/security components offered an acceptable response to violence against women and girls, the legal/judicial component remains critical. The most frequent incidents were denial of resources, opportunities, and services (38%), physical assault (29%), psychological and emotional violence (18%), rape (8%), sexual assault (4%), and forced marriage (3%). The number of child marriages is significantly decreasing within the refugee community, to 3% in 2024 from 5% in 2023 and 8% in 2022.

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Protection of Children

The capacities of the social protection system are built to adequately address the needs of children, teenagers, youth, women and people left behind, with a view to reducing inequalities (UNSDCF)

The capacities of the social protection system are built to adequately address the needs of children, teenagers, youth, women and people left behind, with a view to reducing inequalities (UNSDCF)

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	4.48%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes				
Cameroon	IDPs	31.43%	80.00%	11.63%
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	31.00%	80.00%	28.53%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	18.99%	30.00%	7.26%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

As part of its child protection policy and efforts to integrate refugees into national systems, UNHCR signed a memorandum of understanding with MINAS to collaborate on including refugee and internally displaced children in social protection programs. The implementation and monitoring of the action plan will enhance the capacity of social workers and reception centers, improving access to services. This initiative ensures that refugees and internally displaced people can benefit from national services closer to their communities. Significant efforts were made to build the capacities of the social protection system to address the needs of children, teenagers, youth, women, and marginalized people, aiming to reduce inequalities. As highlighted by key indicators, UNHCR did not reach the target in terms of the proportion of refugee and asylum-seeker children at heightened risk supported by a Best Interests Procedure (BIP), participation in community-based child protection programs, and unaccompanied and separated children (UAC/SC) in appropriate alternative care arrangements. Despite the challenges faced, UNHCR and stakeholders played a crucial role in contributing to the outcomes through various initiatives by reaching 14,265 forcibly displaced children with child protection services according to the policy, including:

Best Interests Procedure: Monitored 22% of at-risk children, conducting 1,612 best interest assessments to provide appropriate responses. This included UAC/SC (448), children without birth certificates (648), children with disabilities (66), child heads of households (72), children victims of neglect (485), girls who are survivors of violence (15), and child marriages (12), constituting the most at-risk children in 2024.

Best Interest Determination Process: 76 UAC/SC underwent this process with the participation of MINAS, the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family (MINPROFF), UNICEF, and UNHCR partners.

Support for Children with Disabilities: Provided support for 286 children with disabilities with equipment to improve mobility, vision, and subsistence needs, helping them and their families alleviate vulnerability.

Community-Based Child Protection Programs: Supported the participation of children and adolescents in programs such as adolescent clubs, champions of change, Girl Shine, and the Children's Parliament, promoting positive parenting and communication on topics like sexual and reproductive health and education.

Alternative Care Arrangements: Supported the provision of alternative care arrangements to 7% of unaccompanied and separated children. These children were placed in institutions and foster families, providing adequate support.

Children's Parliament: Eight junior deputies from refugee-hosting localities participated in the Children's Parliament, communicating their concerns and solutions to government members and senior deputies.

Adolescent Champions of Change Clubs: Established in the seven districts of Yaoundé to promote positive parenting and communication on current topics such as sexual and reproductive health, education, etc. These clubs allow adolescents to express themselves and contribute to finding protection solutions concerning them.

These efforts collectively contributed to addressing the needs of vulnerable populations, promoting their social and economic well-being, and enabling them to realize their full potential.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

Access to justice

Forcibly displaced and stateless to UNHCR have fair and equitable access to justice

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

A significant number of forcibly displaced people and those at risk of statelessness benefited from fair and equitable access to justice. Notably, there were no instances of refugees being detained due to immigration control or legal status. Protection monitoring activities uncovered 19,973 individual and community incidents, of which 7,174 were referred to various protection services, and legal assistance was provided to 1,058 forcibly displaced people - 310 in Douala, 185 in Maroua, 396 in Bertoua, and 217 in Yaoundé. These cases primarily involved conflicts with the law and addressed a range of issues such as civil and political rights, property-related matters, violence, theft, threats to physical integrity, arbitrary arrest, illegal custody, economic and social rights, non-payment of salaries, and wrongful dismissal.

Interventions by UNHCR and partners included advocacy efforts, capacity-building by humanitarian actors in collaboration with administrative and judicial authorities, field visits, legal counseling, awareness-raising on refugee rights, and legal representation. These efforts significantly improved access to fair justice for forcibly displaced people. This was achieved through the involvement of refugee communities, prison and border monitoring, advocacy for freedom of movement, raising awareness on the rights and duties of refugees, and highlighting the civil and humanitarian nature of asylum. This improvement has been particularly evident in civil and military courts, as stipulated in Article 2, paragraph 3 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the preamble to Law No. 96/06 of 18 January 1996, revising the Constitution of Cameroon.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Cameroon Human Rights Commission (CHRC) and UNHCR, signed in September 2023, has been instrumental in enhancing the respect for refugee rights and ensuring the effective implementation of protection instruments. The MoU has also facilitated legal assistance for forcibly displaced people and those at risk of statelessness. Around 20 individual cases were referred to the CHRC for follow-up, leading to the release of detained refugees who were under threat of expulsion/refoulement.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Communities are mobilized to ensure gender equality and progress in the empowerment of young people, women, girls, and other vulnerable groups

Community based approach is strengthened and effective in relevant locations

Peaceful co-existence

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms				
Cameroon	IDPs	53.00%	70.00%	73.63%
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	70.00%	75.00%	79.08%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	53.06%	50.00%	46.94%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Country	Population Type	Actual (2024)
07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments		
Cameroon	IDPs	874
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,223
07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback & response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback		
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	7,247
07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services		
Cameroon	IDPs	47,445
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	110,705

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Tremendous efforts were made to mobilize communities towards the empowerment of young people, women, girls, and other vulnerable groups. Although the target for refugee, asylum-seeker, and IDP participation in effective feedback and response mechanisms and female participation in leadership structures was not fully reached due to operational challenges, several interventions were conducted towards achieving the target.

Community Engagement:

Participatory Assessments: 3,097 people (54.24% women and girls) of all ages shared their priorities during participatory assessments based on age, gender, and diversity across localities hosting forcibly displaced people. Key priority areas identified included health, education, subsistence, and durable solutions. These elements are considered during planning to ensure community participation in the response to forced displacement.

Communication with Communities: 158,150 people (53% women and girls) engaged with UNHCR on various issues related to registration, RSD, violence against women and girls, child protection, voluntary repatriation, resettlement, education, psychosocial support, health, community mobilization, and complaints. These exchanges encouraged them to voice their concerns, including complaints, and receive support and guidance to appropriate services.

Community Groups and Associations: 449 groups carried out activities within their respective localities.

Leadership Participation:

Within these groups, 2,488 women (47% of community leaders) participated in activities, contributing to community management and response improvement.

Successful Interventions:

UNHCR interventions were made with the contribution of stakeholders such as the refugee Committees

(CRCC), which actively contributed to protection, support, and communication activities, and the local protection committees. Local protection committees (especially in rural areas) carried out social cohesion activities, community incident management, and referral of protection cases. These committees included youth associations, women's associations, mixed groups, associations of persons with disabilities, older people, and other thematic groups.

Through the efforts of UNHCR and stakeholders, increased engagement in community activities and decision-making processes was achieved, enhancing the resilience and self-reliance of refugees and other forcibly displaced people through capacity building and support.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

People with special needs benefit from assistance appropriate to their situation allowing them to access basic social services of quality in an equitable and sustainable manner in order to realize their full human potential and increase their social and economic well-being.

Population in need benefit from assistance appropriate to their situation allowing them to access basic social services of quality in an equitable and sustainable manner

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items				
Cameroon	IDPs	38.20%	45.00%	13.05%
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	52.12%	75.00%	83.42%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20.67%	60.00%	49.05%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR positively impacted the lives of refugees and asylum-seekers by providing quality social services through cash transfers and in-kind assistance, addressing protection vulnerabilities.

Cash Assistance:

A total of 107,375 individuals received cash assistance, achieving 82% of the target of 128,716 beneficiaries, a remarkable 116% increase compared to 2023. The allocation included:

NFIs: 42,227 people (39%)

Shelters: 34,350 people (32%)

Reintegration: 20,858 people (19%)

Education: 4,977 students (5%)

Basic Needs: 4,743 people (4%)

Income-Generating Activities: 239 people

Latrine Construction: 150 people

This assistance, offered as multi-purpose cash, targeted vulnerable refugees, IDPs, and members of the host community, including survivors of violence and at-risk women and girls. It aimed to build resilience, ensure access to basic services, and address immediate protection needs, while reducing negative coping mechanisms and restoring dignity.

Persons with Specific Needs:

A total of 47,996 people with specific needs were identified, with 59% being women, and were assisted based on their specific protection needs. They received home visits, counseling, psychosocial support, assessments, equipment support, and referrals to essential services. This support enhanced resilience and improved daily lives. Students with vision and hearing challenges continued their studies more easily, while adults accessing mobility aids could engage more fully in their communities. An MOU with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS) created a collaboration framework to include older and disabled refugees and IDPs

in social protection programs, enhancing the capacity of social workers and ensuring service access near residences.

Food Assistance:

2024 will be a year of transition from blanket and in-kind food distribution to targeted food security assistance using cash-based modalities. While driven by a logic for pushing self-reliance and responding to requests for livelihood opportunities, it is also spearheaded by reduced funding of WFP, resulting in a reduction of food since October 2023. In 2024, three distributions covering four months were completed for 54,000 refugees in Minawao camp, providing 60% of the food basket.

NFIs Assistance:

In 2024, 54,897 people received NFI kits to improve their shelter conditions, focusing on families with special needs. 30% of kits went to larger families, 25% to women-headed households, and 40% to households headed by older people, with 5% to people with disabilities. Kits were upgraded to include mattresses and solar lamps for enhanced comfort and safety.

Efforts to improve access to clean cooking energy and innovative technologies led to an increase in households utilizing these resources, rising from 21% to 49%, attributed to the production of eco-friendly briquettes, biofertilizer, and improved stoves.

9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

Institutional and community actors are equipped to design and implement inclusive, integrated and innovative actions to improve the state of the environment and biodiversity and contribute to the fight against climate change.(UNSDCF)

Population have access to housing appropriate to their displacement situation, within a framework that meets national standards including land use planning

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing				
Cameroon	IDPs	75.38%	76.00%	5.63%
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	82.20%	83.00%	79.55%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	35.00%	85.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Notable progress was made, with the proportion of persons living in habitable and affordable housing increasing to 70% from 65% in 2023. This achievement was made possible through:

Quality Housing Assistance: Provided to 34,350 of the most vulnerable refugees and IDPs in sites and communities through cash assistance for shelter and rental assistance. 1% were vulnerable women-headed households and people with disabilities, while 21% of the assistance was directed towards families with vulnerable girls and girls with disabilities. Additionally, 180 material kits were provided to 180 households to rehabilitate their shelters for refugees in the Far North. Finally, emergency and transitional shelters were built for 2,000 households with the capacity to house 10,000 newly arrived refugees.

Transitional Shelters: 15,000 refugees benefited from emergency (10,000 newly arrived refugees) and transitional shelters constructed by UNHCR and partners in Eastern and Far North Cameroon. This contributed to access to quality housing and community protection.

Partnerships: UNHCR's national partner, Public Concern, supported by Shelter Box, contributed to the construction of 250 family shelters for new refugees and provided roofing kits for 4,000 households (22,000 individuals), ensuring more durable shelters resistant to natural disasters.

Electrification of Sites and Minawao Camp: The proportion of people with access to energy, particularly

through solar lamps and streetlights, increased to 35% in 2024 from 25% in 2023, representing a 10% improvement. Lanterns, being a familiar and easily accessible means of lighting, have contributed significantly to ensuring greater safety for people within and around residential areas and public spaces. The positive impacts are clear; electrification has led to fewer night-time assaults, fewer snake bites, and improved academic performance among students who can now study at night. Women in small businesses have also increased their incomes by extending their trading hours into the evening. These efforts have significantly improved the living conditions of displaced people, aligning with international humanitarian standards and national building codes. The collaboration between UNHCR, CERF, Public Concern/Shelter Box, and other stakeholders has been instrumental in achieving these results.

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

Children under five, pregnant and lactating women, teenagers, the elderly and vulnerable communities have increased and equitable access to safe, nutritious, adequate, diversified and secure food and malnutrition prevention services.(UNSDCF)

Increased equitable and sustainable access of children under five, pregnant and lactating women, teenagers, the elderly and vulnerable communities to safe, nutritious, adequate, and malnutrition prevention services

Increased equitable and sustainable access of newborns, children, teenagers, women and men to quality health services for prevention and treatment (UNSDCF)

The capacities of the national health system are strengthened to provide essential, high-quality services to all, and respond effectively to emergencies and epidemics. (UNSDCF)

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	98.40%	98.50%	92.40%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	96.40%	97.00%	97.21%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Country	Population Type	Actual (2024)
10.1.1 Number of individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care services		
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	163,914
10.2.1 Number of consultations in UNHCR supported mental health and psychosocial support services		
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,399

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

For over five years, UNHCR has actively advocated for the inclusion of refugees in the Cameroon national system, making significant progress in their integration into the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) program. In 2024, a total of 47,091 refugees enrolled, bringing the total number of refugees enrolled to 93,003. In Gabon, eight asylum-seekers were included in health insurance, including one in CNAMGS (National

Health Insurance and Social Guarantee Fund) and seven by employers. UHC provided refugees with free treatment for malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis, thereby reducing mortality.

Improved health was experienced as more children under five, pregnant and lactating women, teenagers, older people, and vulnerable communities gained equitable and sustainable access to quality health services and safe, nutritious, adequate, diversified, and secure food and malnutrition prevention services. This was evidenced by improved measles vaccination coverage for children aged nine months to five years and a higher proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel.

Primary Care Access:

In 2024, UNHCR and partner health services consulted 163,914 refugees and asylum-seekers, including 114,861 Nigerian refugees, 45,904 Central African refugees, and 3,149 urban refugees. The utilization rate of 0.40 (Standard: 1-4) indicates accessibility issues, especially in the East and urban areas due to financial constraints. The main pathologies were respiratory infections (38%), chronic diseases (15%), and malaria (13%). Regarding mortalities, 336 deaths were recorded in 2024, down from 357 in 2023, with a crude mortality rate of 0.09 deaths per 1,000 inhabitants (Standard <0.75).

Vaccination and Disease Prevention:

Despite not reaching the 95% target, measles vaccination and disease prevention stood at 92.4%, up from 90.8% in 2023, which helped protect the refugee camps and sites from measles outbreaks, despite several health districts in the country being affected. Additionally, Minawao camp benefited from two sensitization campaigns, increased potable water availability, and latrine emptying, preventing cholera despite an outbreak in Maroua. Furthermore, 12 sensitization campaigns and soap distribution sessions protected refugees from the monkeypox outbreak, which recorded nine cases and two deaths in 2024. Finally, 3,528 refugee children received the new malaria vaccine, and combined with malaria chemoprevention, Intermittent Preventive Treatment for pregnant women, and the use of insecticide-treated nets, contributed to a 30% reduction in malaria cases (20,176 in 2024 vs. 28,643 in 2023).

Nutrition:

1,489 new cases of severe acute malnutrition were recorded in 2024, up from 1,132 in 2023, with a notable increase in Minawao camp due to the suspension of food distribution.

Assisted Births:

13,550 births were assisted, with 4,122 assisted deliveries achieving an impressive assisted delivery rate of 97.2%. 100% of people living with HIV accessed antiretroviral (ARV) treatment, reflecting tangible improvements in health outcomes.

11. Outcome Area: Education

Increased access of children, teenagers, youth, especially girls, and vulnerable groups to inclusive quality education, including literacy training. (UNSDCF)

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	6.02%	7.00%	0.17%
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	30.23%	45.00%	31.66%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Country	Population Type	Actual (2024)
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming		
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	36,202

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

As of 31 December 2024, the primary and secondary school enrolment rate was estimated at 32%, representing just over 56,000 refugee children. This rate increased from 30% over the last two school years. This improvement is due to direct interventions by UNHCR and its education partners, which include paying school and examination fees, building or rehabilitating infrastructure, and training and supporting teachers in refugee-hosting localities.

Other education stakeholders in both development and humanitarian sectors also contributed significantly. For example, the Education Cannot Wait multi-year resilience programme, the Education Reform Support Programme in Cameroon, and the Refugee Education and Development project in the Far North have collectively aimed to enroll over 52,000 refugee children, further improving the current level of schooling. Contributions from various ministries responsible for education have also been pivotal. The facilities provided to refugees in the education sector have greatly facilitated their access to quality education in safe environments.

At the tertiary level, the enrolment rate remained very low, at around 1%. This low rate is primarily due to the difficulty in obtaining data on refugee students enrolled in Cameroonian universities. Currently, the only available information pertains to young refugees enrolled in the DAFI scholarship programme and those admitted to university programmes with or without mobility, such as the UNIV'R (Virtual University of the Francophone Network), UNICORE (University Cooperation for Refugees), DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service), and FOAD-IFIC (Open and Distance Learning - Inter-university Training and Certification Institute) programmes.

12. Outcome Area: Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Forcibly displaced, stateless and the host populations in the host areas or villages, have sufficient access to adequate hygiene and sanitation services, and to quality drinking water in quantity

People we work for and with, as well as the host populations, have access to adequate hygiene, sanitation services, drinking water in quality and quantity

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
12.1 Proportion of people using at least basic drinking water services				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	99.30%	100.00%	87.00%
12.2 Proportion of people with access to a safe household toilet				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	42.06%	45.00%	45.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The number of refugees accessing adequate hygiene, sanitation services, and quality drinking water has increased through UNHCR's provision of basic drinking water services and safe household toilets, supported by Camwater, the Ministry of Water and Energy, and LWF (Lutheran World Federation). In 2024, providing basic drinking water services to 33% of refugee households, totaling 142,885 people, significantly improved health status, livelihoods, and security. For instance, in 2024, the total number of watery diarrhea cases decreased by 23% compared to 2023. From June to December 2024, there were 1,650 cases, while in the same period in 2023, there were 2,034 cases.

An average of 16-17 liters per person per day (l/p/d) was provided, up from 14 liters in 2023. This increase was due to the construction of three boreholes with solar pumping systems, the rehabilitation of three boreholes with Human Motor Pumping (PMH), and the development of jetting wells. Real-time monitoring with its accountability, remote monitoring, and data production and analysis also contributed effectively to the results recorded in 2024. Additionally, with improved access to water, 36,086 forest, fruit, and nutritional trees were planted and maintained over more than 65 hectares, with an effective survival rate of 98%, thereby enhancing vegetative cover restoration.

Thirty percent of refugee households gained improved access to family latrines thanks to the construction of community latrines by refugee school committees. Through latrine emptying and composting, 360 bags of 50 kg of biofertilizer were produced, improving the agricultural yields of refugees. Irrigation and orchard maintenance kits were distributed to promote agroforestry, and close collaboration with decentralized services ensured effective joint monitoring of activities, strengthening coordination and contributing effectively to UNSDCF result 4. However, the target of 40% was not achieved due to the increased number of newly arrived refugees and the inability to replace filled latrines. In 2024, the average number of persons per latrine in Cameroon was 24 persons.

Efforts to avoid cholera risks in Minawao included strengthening the drinking water supply based on evidence-based actions. Internal WASH expertise supported the Education Cannot Wait project, and UNHCR's leadership in sectoral coordination mechanisms was strengthened to include refugees. The transfer of responsibilities to municipalities and communities continues to ensure better sustainability and appropriation of WASH infrastructures.

UNHCR's water and sanitation assistance program works in synergy and coordination with the Ministries of Water and Energy (MINEE), UNICEF, Camwater, and other partner organizations in Cameroon, as well as with Decentralized Territorial Communities (CTD).

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

Increased equitable and sustainable access of youth aged 15-35 to vocational training and learning opportunities, relevant to the productive sector.(UNSDCF)

Livelihoods and Self-reliance is strengthened

Market information mechanisms are strengthened

Refugee and host community self-reliance is strengthened (GCR Outcome 2.2) through Promising value chains (plant, forest, animal and fishery) with high export potential are developed and promoted (UNSDCF)

Refugees are able to actively participate in the social and economic life of host countries (GCR Outcome 2.1)

Very small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperative societies and start-ups, led primarily by youth, women and vulnerable groups, have better access to inclusive financing mechanisms (UNSDCF)

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	59.04%	13.60%	32.35%
13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	66.58%	3.30%	69.82%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Country	Population Type	Actual (2024)
13.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions		
Cameroon	Host Community	208
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,652

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The development and promotion of promising value chains in the plant, forest, animal, and fishery sectors have contributed to strengthening self-reliance among refugees and host communities. While significant progress has been made in enhancing self-reliance, improving financial inclusion, and boosting economic participation, challenges remain. The decrease in financial account ownership highlights the need for targeted interventions to improve financial inclusion.

Strengthening Self-Reliance through Value Chains:

A total of 3,307 people benefited from livelihood interventions, up from 3,000 in 2023. The focus was on strengthening partnerships with the private sector, sectoral ministries, and UN agencies, as well as advocacy, coordination with livelihood actors, and access to productive assets in agriculture, livestock, fishing, self-employment, entrepreneurship, and vocational training. 70% or 2,315 people reported positive changes in their lives, up from 59% in 2023, indicating a 23% increase. This improvement is attributed to: Facilitating access to 994 hectares of land for 1,759 farmers (including 1,012 women), along with agricultural inputs and tools, improving their yields. The 994 hectares of land includes 483 hectares in the Eastern façade and 511 hectares in the far North, including 151 hectares of land assigned by the Government (57% women).

Supporting livestock farmers, artisans, and entrepreneurs.

Enhancing professional skills and providing starter kits.

Promoting access to financial services through savings and mobile money transactions, although the proportion of refugees with financial accounts decreased from 45% to 32% due to continued activities with the same people.

UNHCR played a crucial role in facilitating access to land, providing agricultural inputs, and supporting vocational training and entrepreneurship. Partnerships with the private sector, sectoral ministries, and UN agencies were instrumental in achieving these results.

Access to Inclusive Financing Mechanisms:

Efforts to improve access to inclusive financing mechanisms for small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperative societies, and start-ups led by youth, women, and vulnerable groups showed mixed results. The decrease in the proportion of refugees with financial accounts suggests challenges in financial inclusion. However, the positive change in income levels indicates that those who do have access to financing are benefiting from it. UNHCR facilitated access to microfinance and other financial services, helping refugees and vulnerable groups start and grow their businesses.

Active Participation in Social and Economic Life:

Refugees' ability to actively participate in the social and economic life of host countries has improved, as evidenced by the slight decrease in the unemployment rate from 41% to 40%. The reduction in unemployment among working-age refugees indicates progress in integrating refugees into the labor market. However, the overall unemployment rate remains high, highlighting the need for continued efforts. UNHCR supported vocational training, job placement services, and entrepreneurship programs to enhance refugees' employability and economic participation.

14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

IDPs are able to return and reintegrate socially and economically (GCR Outcome 4.2)

Refugees and IDPs are able to return and reintegrate socially and economically (GCR Outcome 4.2)

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Country	Population Type	Actual (2024)
14.1.1 Number of people who received counselling and/or information on voluntary repatriation		
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	19,600

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR, in close collaboration with the Government of Cameroon, has supported the voluntary repatriation of 7,230 returnees with legally recognized identity documents or credentials. A total of 20,293 refugees benefited from counseling and support, receiving information about their country of origin throughout the operation.

As part of the voluntary repatriation, UNHCR facilitated the return of 242 individuals to Nigeria, 6,671 to the Central African Republic (CAR), 12 to Chad, and 5 to Burundi. The strengthening of community protection mechanisms in the return localities has enabled the gradual reintegration of the returnees.

UNHCR and its partners took a leading role in collaborating with authorities in Cameroon and the receiving countries (CAR and Nigeria) to ensure the success of the voluntary repatriation process. The intervention of UNHCR partners, including NRC, DRC, and the relevant civil status centers, ensured civil documentation for the children involved in the repatriation operation. Best Interest Determination assessments were carried out with the support of the Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS) for children at risk where necessary. State schools issued school certificates to children attending school, enabling them to continue their education and successfully reintegrate into their country of origin. The collaboration of all actors, including UNHCR, its partners, and the authorities, ensured the success of the activities in 2024.

For children and parents without civil documents but born in their country of origin, UNHCR continued to advocate with the authorities in the receiving countries to ensure departing refugees received support in acquiring civil documents as part of the tripartite agreement and obligation of the receiving state, particularly in the Central African Republic. UNHCR also ensured that refugees without government-issued documents had UNHCR registration certificates to facilitate their registration in their country of origin upon return.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Refugees have access to Resettlement and complementary pathways for admission to third countries (GCR Outcome 3.2)

Refugees in need have access to resettlement opportunities in an increasing number of countries (GCR Outcome 3.1)

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,017	1,017	1,057

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR advocated with various resettlement countries to increase the resettlement quota and complementary pathway opportunities for refugees in Cameroon, mostly from CAR and Nigeria. This resulted in the allocation of a quota of 980 refugees to Cameroon in 2024. The operation exceeded the assigned quota by submitting 1,057 refugees (518 females and 539 males).

UNHCR continued to advocate with resettlement countries for the speedy resolution of submitted cases, yielding positive results. As a result of continued advocacy, the waiting time has gradually improved in recent years. For example, in 2024, a total of 1,176 refugees received positive decisions (595 females and 581 males). The majority of refugees submitted in 2024 departed within six months following acceptance decisions. The acceptance rate for refugees submitted from the operation averaged 95% of all submitted resettlement cases.

UNHCR, in collaboration with IOM, supported the departure of 1,080 refugees (550 females and 530 males) primarily to Australia, Canada, France, and the USA. The resettled refugees enjoy their rights on an equal footing with the citizens of the countries that received them. They receive free education, health insurance, social security, vocational training, and better job opportunities. Consequently, information on the positive changes in the lives of resettled people has increased the level of hope for a better future among remaining refugees in similar situations.

To promote the effective implementation of resettlement activities and improve refugees' perception of the procedure, awareness-raising and anti-fraud campaigns were organized for community and religious leaders, and representatives of women, men, boys, and girls across the operation.

Through a partnership with the French Embassy and the University for Refugees Corridor program in France, one refugee student received a scholarship to study in France. This opportunity will increase his chances of securing employment globally, his likelihood of becoming autonomous, and his ability to support his family. Furthermore, UNHCR Cameroon established collaboration with the Italian Government that will see 15 refugees selected to move to Italy to work as truck drivers. The list is currently with the Italian government for review.

16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

Refugees are able to locally integrate socially and economically

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator				
Country	Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
16.1 Proportion of people with secure tenure rights to housing and/or land				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	Unknown	7.00%
16.2 Proportion of people covered by national social protection systems				
Cameroon	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	Unknown	22.21%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

While the authorities in Cameroon acknowledge the presence of refugees, they do not consider local integration a durable solution. However, mixed marriages are celebrated, and significant strides have been made towards integrating refugees into national social services, reinforcing the country's commitment to sustainable development under the SND 2030. For instance, the 2024 budgetary inclusion of the Ministers of Decentralization and Finance (P. 26 in the Joint Circular Letter) mandates the inclusion of refugee needs in municipal and regional budgets. Policies shaped by UNHCR advocacy and the Government's holistic approach enhance refugees' rights and social protection.

Although Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) ownership rights have not been granted to refugees, advocacy efforts have enabled the government and local authorities to provide land to enhance the livelihoods and self-sufficiency of refugees and IDPs as food security assistance declines. In March 2024, authorities in the Far North allocated 150 hectares of land for use by refugees and the local community (in a 2:1 ratio). Together with local authorities, relevant sectoral experts, FAO, and JRS, UNHCR took steps to ensure the agricultural season was not missed, identifying some 200 refugee families to cultivate the land. Additionally, in 2024, advocacy by UNHCR and partners facilitated access to 994 hectares of land for 1,759 farmers, along with agricultural inputs and tools, improving their yields in Eastern and Far North Cameroon. Several policies and programs have been enhanced in 2024 to reduce poverty and vulnerability, aiming to promote efficient labor markets, diminish people's exposure to risks, and enhance refugees' capacity to manage economic and social risks. The following achievements were made in 2024:

Higher Education and Labor Market: UNHCR and programs such as the DAFI scholarship, UNIV'R, UNICORE, DAAD, and FOAD-IFIC, as well as the Toyota Tsusho Corporation program and refugee-run cooperatives supported by the Ministry of Employment, have enhanced the employability of refugees. With employment opportunities, refugees have improved access to banking services.

Social Insurance: Programs like health insurance and cash transfers for basic needs assistance support refugees. In 2024, 47,091 refugees enrolled in Universal Health Coverage, bringing the total to 93,003 in Cameroon. In Gabon, eight asylum-seekers were provided with health insurance (one by the government and seven by employers). Refugees receive free or subsidized treatment for malaria, HIV, tuberculosis, renal insufficiency, and maternal healthcare, thereby reducing mortality.

Social Assistance: In 2024, 107,375 refugees benefitted from cash assistance/cash transfers for housing subsidies, food and non-food items, livelihoods, integration, protection needs, and improved sanitation and hygiene conditions. This cash assistance empowers refugees to live in dignity while supporting the local economy.

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

UNHCR made significant strides in implementing the Age, Gender, and Diversity (AGD) Policy, focusing on inclusive programming, accountability to affected populations (AAP), and gender equality.

AGD Inclusive Programming

UNHCR adopted an inclusive approach by involving forcibly displaced and vulnerable communities in the design and implementation of projects. This approach considered the diverse capacities and priorities of women, men, girls, boys, and people with disabilities. As a result, 158,150 people, including 53% women and girls, engaged with UNHCR on various issues such as registration, violence against women and girls, child protection, and education.

To better understand and address the needs of these communities, UNHCR conducted joint participatory assessments with refugees and partners. These assessments involved 3,097 forcibly displaced people, of whom 54% were women and girls, and 12% were people with disabilities. UNHCR also prioritized people with disabilities, particularly women and girls, in its protection and response activities. They received special treatment during shelter and NFI distributions, ensuring secure and accessible services.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

UNHCR established complaints offices in transit centers and camps to ensure that refugees could confidentially and easily report their concerns. These offices, managed by the Camp Administrator and Camp Manager, provided a secure environment for handling complaints and forwarding them to the relevant units for response. Additionally, UNHCR implemented safe feedback and response mechanisms, reaching

4,234 individuals, including school-aged children and women and girls who survived violence. These mechanisms, guided by SOPs, included help desks, complaint/suggestion boxes, and helplines, ensuring that displaced populations could voice their concerns and receive appropriate support.

Gender Equality and Commitment to Women and Girls

Community-based Protection Committees (CBPC): 449 associations and other community groups carried out activities within their respective localities. The only legalized association, the Refugee Committees in the Municipalities of Cameroon (CRCC), officially implemented protection, support, and communication activities. Local protection committees (especially in rural areas) include forcibly displaced people, host populations, leaders, and authorities. They carried out social cohesion activities, including recreational activities, community incident management, and identification and referral of protection cases. Youth associations (including the Dynamic Refugee Youth Association of Cameroon in the process of legalization), women's associations, mixed groups, associations of people with disabilities, older people, and other thematic groups also carry out activities for the inclusion and participation of all in community issues.

UNHCR's commitment to gender equality was evident in the active participation of women in CBPC activities. In 2024, 2,488 women, representing 47% of community leaders, took part in these activities, maintaining the same level of participation as in 2023. This demonstrates the recognition of the role of women and girls in community management, despite ongoing socio-cultural constraints.

Section 3: Resources

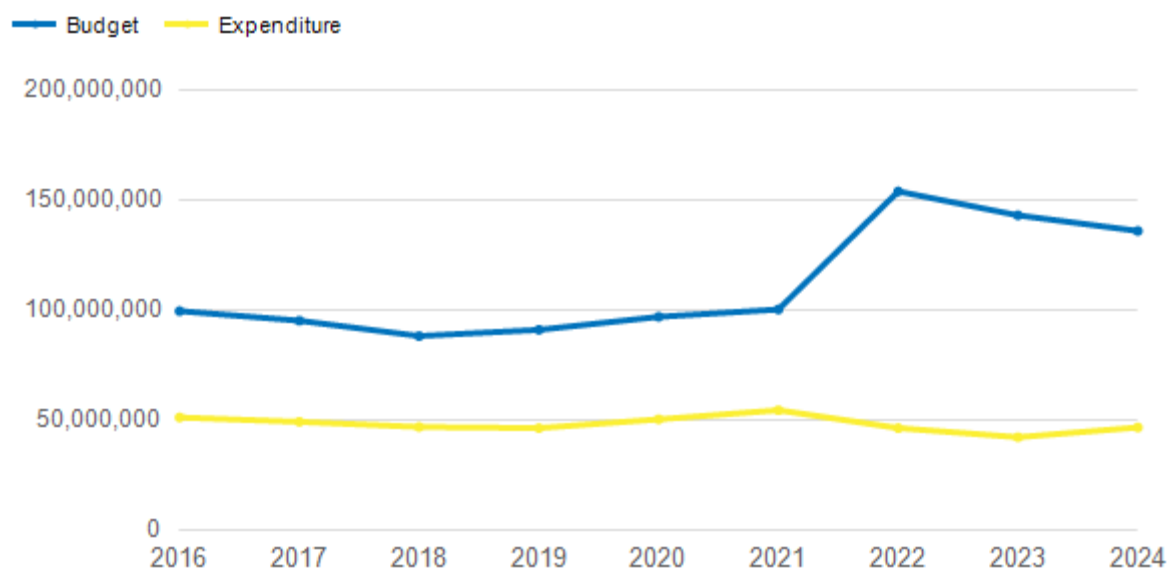
3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

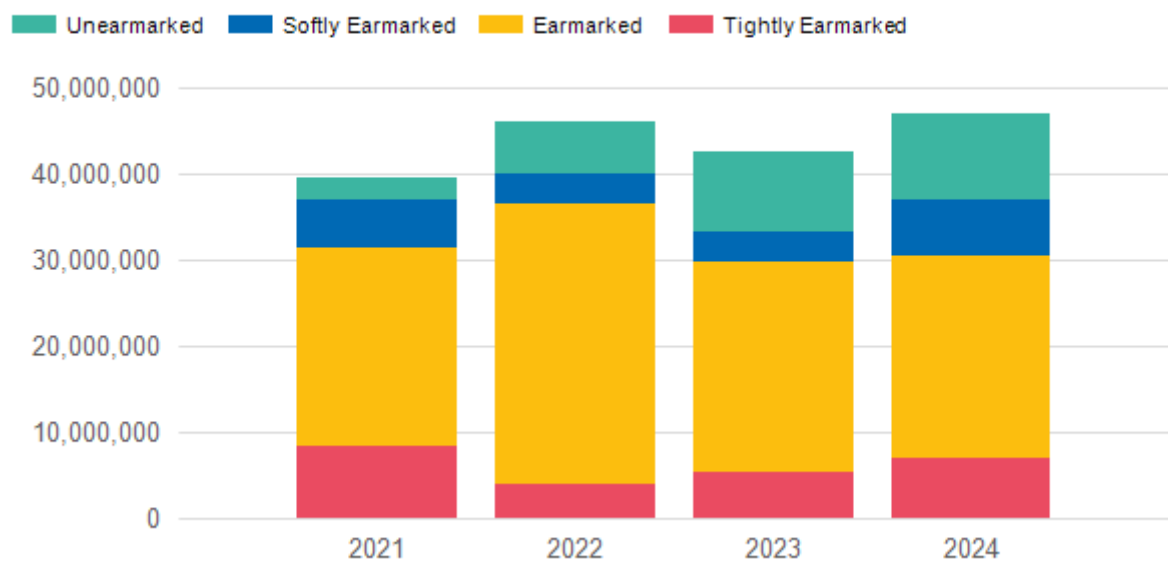
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	56,088,421	16,446,371	29.32%	16,345,511	99.39%
IA2: Assist	25,153,502	15,160,473	60.27%	14,959,587	98.67%
IA3: Empower	24,309,734	10,608,498	43.64%	10,608,498	100.00%
IA4: Solve	30,150,275	4,555,999	15.11%	4,555,999	100.00%
All Impact Areas		958,250			
Total	135,701,932	47,729,592	35.17%	46,469,595	97.36%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	11,473,734	3,386,591	29.52%	3,386,591	100.00%
OA2: Status	4,020,275	1,454,839	36.19%	1,454,839	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	9,044,230	597,042	6.60%	597,042	100.00%
OA4: GBV	9,882,996	3,807,639	38.53%	3,738,313	98.18%
OA5: Children	7,099,260	2,407,670	33.91%	2,407,670	100.00%
OA6: Justice	5,936,931	2,264,013	38.13%	2,232,480	98.61%
OA7: Community	5,193,428	2,335,428	44.97%	2,335,428	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	6,790,611	3,110,564	45.81%	3,080,675	99.04%
OA9: Housing	3,810,543	1,195,036	31.36%	1,195,036	100.00%
OA10: Health	5,810,470	3,950,819	67.99%	3,950,819	100.00%
OA11: Education	5,193,079	3,448,397	66.40%	3,448,397	100.00%
OA12: WASH	2,456,893	1,721,887	70.08%	1,612,164	93.63%
OA13: Livelihood	11,619,120	3,940,664	33.92%	3,879,389	98.45%
OA14: Return	12,869,525	2,851,075	22.15%	2,851,075	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	10,436,798	1,551,053	14.86%	1,551,053	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	6,843,952	153,870	2.25%	153,870	100.00%
EA17: Systems	7,497,187	3,195,145	42.62%	3,195,145	100.00%
EA18: Support	6,284,986	4,845,848	77.10%	4,845,848	100.00%
EA20: External	3,437,917	553,762	16.11%	553,762	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		958,250			
Total	135,701,932	47,729,592	35.17%	46,469,595	97.36%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

The implementation of the MCO Cameroon 2022-2026 Strategic Plan in 2024 was aligned with the prioritization and level of funding, which, over the past three years, has not kept pace with the increasing needs of forcibly displaced people. UNHCR’s 2024 requirements to provide essential protection and respond to the basic needs of forcibly displaced people and those at risk of statelessness totaled \$135.7 million. This represents a five percent decrease from the 2023 budget of \$142.8 million. However, donor contributions slightly increased to 36% in 2024 from 30% in 2023, thanks to the generosity of donors providing regional and country resources, including government, inter-government, private sectors, and UN pooled fund sources. Government donors—Canada, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway,

Sweden, and the United States—directly contributed 75 percent of the funding, followed by UN funding at 15 percent (CERF, ECW, Joint UNAIDS, UN PBF). The top donors in 2024 were the United States, Germany, and CERF.

Thanks to donor support, the operation was able to prioritize the following activities to further protection and solutions outcomes:

Documentation: Registered 18,000 refugees and delivered 5,000 biometric refugee ID cards issued by the Government.

Voluntary Repatriation: Facilitated for 7,230 CAR and Nigerian refugees.

Resettlement: Resettled 1,080 refugees (550 females and 530 males) to various resettlement countries.

Verification: Verified more than 335,000 CAR refugees, leading to the deactivation of 67,035, leaving the number of registered CAR refugees at 255,900.

Support: Supported the capacity of the Secretariat Technique, the government counterpart, for the registration and Refugee Status Determination (RSD) responsibilities.

In terms of impact and outcome areas, the allocation in 2024 better reflected UNHCR's core priorities compared to 2023. The allocation for 2024 was as follows:

Protect: 35% (up from 13% in 2023)

Assist: 30% (down from 45% in 2023)

Empower: 25% (down from 31% in 2023)

Solve: 10% (up from 9% in 2023)

These allocations underscore UNHCR's commitment to protecting and empowering forcibly displaced people while addressing their immediate needs and working towards sustainable solutions.

Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Following discussions from the last quarter of 2024, the operation held an internal online workshop during the detailed planning for 2025. This workshop brought together all stakeholders, who actively contributed ideas on how UNHCR could leverage government-led projects during the prioritization process. As a result, UNHCR strengthened the implementation of sustainable responses to address gaps and facilitate the transfer of competencies through long-term partnerships, including:

Ministry of Public Health: Enabled the enrollment of 93,000 refugees in Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Ministry of Decentralization and Development (MINDDEVEL): Issued a Joint Circular Letter mandating the inclusion of refugee needs in local and regional plans.

Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS): Included older and disabled refugees and IDPs in social protection programs.

Ministry of Basic Education: Facilitated refugee school attendance at the same fees as nationals.

General Delegation of National Security: Issued biometric refugee identification cards with government stamps.

Additionally, in light of the financial outlook, participants put forward the following recommendations:

Innovative Resource Optimization: Develop and implement innovative mechanisms to optimize and rationalize resources, ensuring more efficient use of available assets.

Expanding Partnerships: Strengthen and extend partnerships across various sectors to effectively deliver UNHCR's mandate, leveraging the diverse strengths and shared resources of all partners involved.

Fostering Strong Alliances: Prioritize building stronger alliances and collaborations, enabling the joint mobilization of resources and the creation of innovative solutions that would be difficult to achieve independently.

Shift to Sustainable Solutions: Transition from short-term assistance to durable solutions grounded in a community-based approach, placing the needs, strengths, and aspirations of the communities at the center of UNHCR's strategies.

Empowerment and Self-Reliance: Empower communities to foster self-reliance, moving beyond immediate relief efforts to support displaced persons in rebuilding their lives with dignity and security, thereby reducing long-term dependency on humanitarian aid.

Collaborative Efforts: Work closely with a diverse range of stakeholders, including governments, development agencies, NGOs, and the refugee communities themselves, to identify and implement sustainable, long-term solutions that go beyond traditional approaches like repatriation, resettlement, and local integration.

Avoiding Duplication and Filling Gaps: Ensure that efforts are complementary, avoiding duplication, filling gaps, and making meaningful contributions to shared objectives through collaboration.

Strategic Resource Mobilization: Actively engage in strategic discussions in 2025 to prioritize efforts, mobilize resources effectively, and maximize the impact of collective actions.

Coordination and Multi-Partner Dialogue: Emphasize the importance of coordination and multi-partner dialogue, recognizing that UNHCR operates within a broader ecosystem where other agencies and partners also play crucial roles in refugee protection and support.

Refugees as Contributors to Development: Empower refugees to become active contributors to development, reducing the financial burden on governments and partners by expanding durable solutions beyond traditional methods to include innovative and sustainable approaches.

Supporting the Paradigm Shift: Encourage critical thinking and active participation in supporting the paradigm shift toward independence and resilience within displaced communities, fostering robust discussions and innovative ideas that will shape future strategies.

Quality Data: Ensure the availability of high-quality, disaggregated data to support evidence-based interventions and enhance the effective mobilization of resources. Reliable data allows for informed decision-making, better targeting of resources, and more accurate monitoring and evaluation of interventions. High-quality data also strengthens advocacy efforts and supports the case for increased funding and resources.



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