

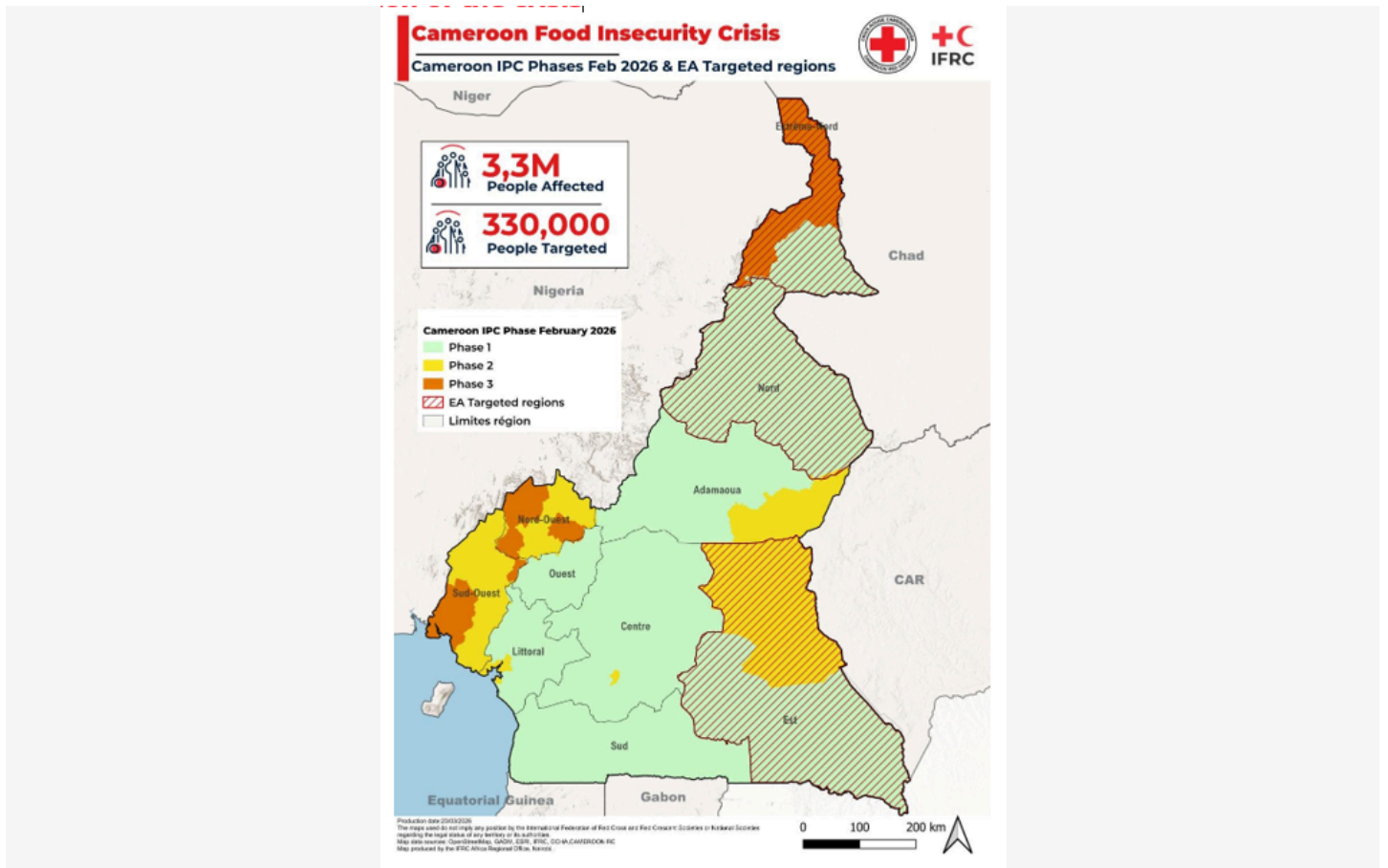


*Beneficiary displays cash assistance received through the IFRC and Cameroon Red Cross humanitarian response intervention in the Far North Region of Cameroon.*

A beneficiary of Cash distribution

Appeal: <b>MDRCM042</b>	Total DREF Allocation: <b>CHF 999,855</b>	Crisis Category: <b>Orange</b>	Hazard: <b>Food Insecurity</b>
Glide Number: -	People Affected: <b>3,300,000 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>12,600 people</b>	
Event Onset: <b>Slow</b>	Operation Start Date: <b>08-12-2025</b>	New Operational End Date: <b>30-09-2026</b>	Total Operating Timeframe: <b>9 months</b>
Reporting Timeframe Start Date: <b>08-12-2025</b>		Reporting Timeframe End Date: <b>29-05-2026</b>	
Additional Allocation Requested: -		Targeted Regions: <b>Est, Extrême-Nord, Nord</b>	

# Description of the Event



Map of targeted areas

## Date when the trigger was met

24-02-2026

## What happened, where and when?

The food security situation in Cameroon continued to worsen throughout 2025 as a result of a combination of climatic shocks, economic pressures, insecurity, population movements, and public health concerns. To better understand the scale and severity of the crisis and address existing information gaps, the Cameroon Red Cross (CRC) carried out a comprehensive assessment between January and February 2026 in the Far North, North, and East Regions. The assessment reached 5,972 households across 16 municipalities and used a mix of household interviews, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and market assessments.

The findings revealed deep and widespread food insecurity across the assessed areas. About 84 per cent of households had poor or borderline Food Consumption Scores, 78 per cent experienced moderate or severe hunger, and 68 per cent reported having no food stocks at the time of the assessment. More than 70 per cent of households had experienced at least one major shock during the previous 12 months, including drought, flooding, insecurity, crop pests, and disease outbreaks. The assessment also highlighted important nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene concerns, which increased the risk of illness and further weakened household resilience.

These findings were consistent with assessments and alerts produced by other food security actors during 2025. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), and Food Security Cluster partners conducted several assessments and analyses throughout the year to monitor the evolving crisis. Their findings pointed to a steady deterioration in food security conditions, declining agricultural production, reduced household purchasing power, and increasing reliance on negative coping mechanisms. Between June and August 2025, projections estimated that approximately 2.6 million people, representing around 9 per cent of the population, would face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse levels of food insecurity.



By the end of 2025, the Food Security Cluster estimated that 2.5 million people required humanitarian assistance, while WFP reported that 3.3 million people were affected nationwide. In October 2025, a FAO assessment in the Far North highlighted severe constraints to food access and a growing use of harmful coping strategies. On 8 November 2025, the African Union issued an alert on worsening drought conditions across northern Cameroon, and cholera cases were subsequently reported in the Doumo Health Area of the North Region. On 25 November 2025, WFP announced reductions in food assistance because of funding shortages, further increasing the vulnerability of affected households. FEWS NET projections covering the period from October 2025 to May 2026 indicated that large areas Cameroon would remain in IPC Phase 3 through mid-2026. While these national and regional analyses highlighted a worsening food security situation, the CRC assessment provided detailed evidence from the most affected communities, confirming the severity of needs in the North and East Regions, where households rely heavily on markets and where coping capacities have been significantly depleted.

The assessment results were shared with government authorities, humanitarian partners, and Movement stakeholders from 16 February 2026 onwards. Based on the evidence generated and subsequent consultations with key stakeholders, the IFRC approved the Emergency Appeal on 24 February 2026, and the appeal was officially launched on 26 February 2026 to support the rapid scale up of humanitarian assistance.



Figure 1: Community engagement with CRC volunteer on cash (Photo CRC)



Beneficiary displays cash assistance received through the IFRC and Cameroon Red Cross humanitarian response intervention in the Far North Region of Cameroon.

Figure 2: Beneficiary received cash (Photo CRC)



Figure 3: Cash distribution with FSP, CRC and IFRC (Photo CRC)

## Scope and Scale

The food security situation in Cameroon has reached a critical level, with recent assessments confirming widespread and severe humanitarian needs across the Far North, North, and East Regions. Between January and February 2026, the Cameroon Red Cross conducted a multisectoral assessment covering 5,972 households in 16 municipalities to better understand the extent of the crisis and inform the response.

The findings paint a concerning picture. 84% of surveyed households had poor or borderline food consumption, 78% reported moderate to severe hunger, and 68% had exhausted their food stocks. The assessment also revealed that household resilience is rapidly declining, with many families struggling to meet their basic food needs. As existing food reserves continue to diminish, conditions are expected to deteriorate further during the lean season, which may begin earlier than usual due to the early depletion of food stocks from the previous harvest.

These findings reflect a broader national crisis. According to the Food Security Cluster, an estimated 2.5 million people currently require humanitarian assistance, while WFP estimates that 3.3 million people are affected by food insecurity across the country. The Far North remains the most affected region, with more than 1.2 million people experiencing acute food insecurity. Recurrent flooding, prolonged dry spells, insecurity, population displacement, and rising food prices have significantly reduced agricultural production and weakened household purchasing power.

The East Region and Adamaoua, although less affected by insecurity, continue to host large numbers of displaced people and are facing irregular rainfall patterns and poor vegetation conditions that are limiting food availability. Across the affected regions, households are increasingly relying on negative coping mechanisms such as skipping meals, reducing the variety of foods consumed, withdrawing children from school, and selling productive assets in order to survive.

At the same time, humanitarian resources are becoming increasingly constrained. WFP has indicated that funding shortages may result in reductions in food assistance for refugees, internally displaced persons, and vulnerable host communities. Nutrition and health concerns are also increasing. Limited access to food, coupled with inadequate water and sanitation conditions, is heightening the risk of disease outbreaks and worsening nutritional outcomes, particularly among children under five years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women. The confirmation of two cholera cases in the Doumo Health Area of the North Region on 10 November 2025 further underscored the growing pressure on water, sanitation, and hygiene services.



The combined effects of food insecurity, malnutrition, displacement, public health risks, and declining humanitarian resources point to a rapidly worsening situation that requires urgent and sustained action to prevent further deterioration and protect vulnerable households from irreversible losses. In response, the IFRC and the Cameroon Red Cross launched an Emergency Appeal seeking CHF 9.6 million to support 330,000 people, representing approximately 10 per cent of the estimated 3.3 million people affected nationwide. The operation focuses on the most severely affected divisions in the Far North, North, and East Regions, where food insecurity, nutrition concerns, and water, sanitation, and hygiene challenges are most acute. The Operations Update also includes the DREF allocation that supported the initial phase of the response.

The assessment findings were shared with government authorities, humanitarian partners, and Movement stakeholders from 16 February 2026 onwards. Following consultations and a review of the assessment results, the IFRC approved the Emergency Appeal on 24 February 2026, and it was officially launched on 26 February 2026 to enable a rapid expansion of humanitarian assistance.

As of this reporting period, the Emergency Appeal is 17%. Additional financial support remains essential to allow the Cameroon Red Cross, with the support of the IFRC and Movement partners, to continue preparedness efforts and deliver critical humanitarian assistance and protection to the most vulnerable populations affected by the crisis.

## Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. Full assessment Report	<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yLI_M2XzY5U7pKoxJRmzoGHvMUj0mfvE">https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yLI_M2XzY5U7pKoxJRmzoGHvMUj0mfvE</a>
2. Disaster Brief Updated	<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yLI_M2XzY5U7pKoxJRmzoGHvMUj0mfvE">https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yLI_M2XzY5U7pKoxJRmzoGHvMUj0mfvE</a>

## Summary of Changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	No
Are you changing the operational strategy	No
Are you changing the target population of the operation	No
Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	No
Are you requesting an additional allocation?	No



### Please explain the summary of changes and justification:

#### Purpose and Justification of the Operational Update

This Operational Update provides an overview of progress achieved under the DREF intervention and reflects the current humanitarian context. It highlights key results to date, including the rollout of cash assistance, WASH activities, and community engagement, as well as the establishment of operational systems such as targeting, market monitoring, and accountability mechanisms.

The update also outlines remaining gaps and priorities, ensuring transparency to partners and donors while guiding implementation for the remaining period in a context of sustained and widespread food insecurity.

#### Summary of achievements:

- Approximately 75% of the DREF allocation has been utilized.
- Multipurpose cash assistance has been delivered to 2,091 households (18,509 individuals) in the Far North region.
- Distributions have been completed in Mokolo and Mora, with the final distribution targeting 900 households in Yagoua currently underway and expected to conclude by 30 May 2026.
- A Community Trust Index survey has been launched, and coordination and planning for the next phase are ongoing.

## IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

### Secretariat

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, through the Yaoundé Country Cluster Delegation and in coordination with the Regional Office for Africa, continues to provide comprehensive technical and operational support to the Cameroon Red Cross in the scale-up from DREF to Emergency Appeal.

During the initial phase, the IFRC supported the design, methodology, and quality assurance of the multisectoral community food security assessment conducted across the Far North, North, and East Regions. The Secretariat also provided technical guidance for the development of the Cash and Voucher Assistance strategy, including market analysis, transfer value calculations, PGI mainstreaming, and Financial Service Provider engagement.

Under the Emergency Appeal framework, IFRC support has expanded to include:

- Strategic planning and operational scale-up aligned with the CHF 9.6 million Appeal
- Technical assistance across Food Security, Livelihoods, CVA, Health, Nutrition, WASH, and PGI sectors
- Risk management, financial oversight, and compliance support
- Procurement and logistics coordination
- Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning support
- Strengthened reporting and donor communication
- Deployment of surge and technical profiles as required

The IFRC Cluster Delegation actively participates alongside the CRC in national and regional coordination platforms, including meetings with the Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Agriculture, OCHA, WFP, FAO, UNICEF, and Food Security Cluster partners, ensuring alignment with Government priorities and humanitarian coordination mechanisms.

Through its Federation-wide coordination mandate, IFRC ensures coherence among Movement partners supporting the operation and facilitates resource mobilization efforts to meet the funding requirements of the Appeal. The Secretariat will continue to reinforce CRC's operational capacity to deliver integrated assistance at scale, while maintaining accountability, quality standards, and visibility of the Red Cross response.



<p><b>Participating National Societies</b></p>	<p>The French Red Cross is present in Cameroon and actively contributed to the multisectoral food security assessment conducted in the Far North Region alongside the Cameroon Red Cross and the IFRC. Leveraging its long-standing operational presence in the region, the French Red Cross provided technical input and contextual expertise, strengthening the quality and relevance of the assessment findings.</p> <p>The French Red Cross has been working in the Far North for several years, supporting the Cameroon Red Cross in areas including health, WASH, and resilience programming. Its sustained presence and established partnerships at community level contribute to continuity of action and reinforce the National Society's operational capacity in conflict- and climate-affected localities.</p> <p>Under the Emergency Appeal framework, coordination between the Cameroon Red Cross, IFRC, and the French Red Cross continues to ensure complementarity of interventions, avoid duplication, and maximize collective Movement impact in the most affected regions.</p>
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## ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

<p>International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) maintains a permanent presence in Cameroon, including in the Far North, North-West, and South-West Regions, where it implements protection and assistance activities in areas affected by armed conflict and insecurity.</p> <p>In the context of the current food security emergency, the Cameroon Red Cross will engage in consultations with the ICRC to explore potential areas of support and complementarity in regions where the ICRC operates. These discussions will aim to ensure coherent Movement action, particularly in conflict-affected localities where access constraints, protection risks, and livelihood disruptions intersect.</p> <p>Coordination will be conducted in line with the Movement Cooperation Agreement and established Movement coordination mechanisms, ensuring clarity of roles, operational complementarity, and adherence to security and access protocols. This approach will strengthen collective impact while safeguarding humanitarian space and operational efficiency in sensitive areas.</p>
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## Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

<p><b>Government has requested international assistance</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>National authorities</b></p>	<p>The Government of Cameroon continues to lead national efforts to address the food security crisis. On 22 August 2024, the Government launched the Emergency Project to Combat the Food Crisis (PULCCA) in Bamenda, North-West Region. The project, financed by the World Bank, has a two-year implementation period and a budget of 35 billion CFA francs.</p> <p>PULCCA aims to provide emergency food and health assistance while strengthening the resilience of vulnerable populations through livelihood support, improved access to essential services, and risk mitigation measures. The initiative targets priority regions affected by food insecurity, climatic shocks, and conflict-related disruptions.</p>
<p><b>UN or other actors</b></p>	<p>Food security remains a top priority for agencies such as WFP, which has delivered lifesaving food support to more than half a million vulnerable people, including</p>



displaced families, refugees, and host communities. However, WFP has warned that cuts to food assistance are already affecting refugees and other highly vulnerable households in Cameroon due to serious funding shortages.

The FAO conducted a multisectoral assessment in the Far North region. UNICEF is also responding in health and WASH, supporting access to nutritious food for children, and strengthening water, sanitation, and hygiene services to reduce disease risks in crisis-affected areas.

OCHA coordinates operational presence in hard-to-reach communities, especially in conflict-affected North-West and South-West regions where movement restrictions severely limit access to markets and services.

Despite these efforts, access constraints and underfunding continue to leave significant populations unreached. The UN stresses that assistance remains far below requirements, leaving households at risk of further deterioration if support is not scaled up.

#### Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

There is a food security cluster, and the Red Cross is part of it. As for cholera, the Incident Management System (IMS) has been activated at the regional level under the coordination of the Regional Public Health Delegation (DRSP Nord).

## Needs (Gaps) Identified



### Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Cameroon Red Cross community assessment, conducted among 5,972 households across 16 municipalities in the Far North, North, and East Regions, confirms that livelihood erosion is widespread and directly driving the current food insecurity crisis.

The findings show that 84% of households fall into poor or borderline Food Consumption Score categories, meaning only 16% maintain acceptable food consumption. In addition, 78% of households experience moderate to severe hunger, and 68% report having no food stocks at the time of the survey, demonstrating extreme depletion of household reserves and minimal buffer capacity ahead of the lean season. Furthermore, 71% of households consume four or fewer food groups, reflecting low dietary diversity and reduced food quality. These indicators collectively reflect crisis-level food access across multiple divisions.

Coping mechanisms further confirm the severity of livelihood stress. The assessment indicates that 55% of households fall under high Reduced Coping Strategy Index categories, reflecting frequent meal reduction, meal skipping, food borrowing, and reliance on less preferred foods. In addition, 38% of households have adopted stress or crisis livelihood coping strategies, including selling productive assets, consuming seed stocks, or reducing expenditures on health and education. These behaviors are sustained and structural rather than temporary seasonal adjustments.

Livelihood fragility is compounded by weak production performance. While agriculture remains the primary livelihood source, only 62% of households cultivated during the last season, and among those, 76.8% reported moderate or poor harvests, significantly limiting both self-consumption and income generation. Repeated exposure to drought, floods, crop pests, and insecurity continues to erode productive capacity.

Households reported distress sales of livestock, agricultural tools, and other productive assets, signaling declining resilience ahead of the next agricultural season. High market dependence is evident, with 68% of households relying primarily on market purchases for food, despite declining purchasing power and rising prices. At the same time, more than 70% of households reported experiencing at least one shock in the past 12 months, further constraining recovery potential.

Displaced households, representing 11.5% of the surveyed population, exhibit consistently worse outcomes across food consumption, hunger severity, and coping indicators. Female-headed households also demonstrate higher vulnerability, reporting lower food consumption and greater coping stress compared to male-headed households. Very poor host communities show similarly fragile livelihood profiles.



The CRC findings clearly demonstrate that food insecurity is not confined to the Far North. Divisions in Kadey, Lom-et-Djerem, Bénoué, and Mayo-Louti show comparable patterns of poor consumption, high hunger prevalence, limited food stocks, and elevated coping stress, confirming the multi-regional and systemic nature of the crisis.

Given that 68% of households have no food reserves, 78% face moderate to severe hunger, 55% are under high coping stress, and over one-third have already adopted crisis livelihood strategies, livelihoods protection and multipurpose cash assistance are urgently required to prevent irreversible asset depletion. Without immediate economic stabilization, households will continue liquidating productive assets, accumulating debt, and undermining long-term income potential.

An integrated livelihoods and basic needs response under the Emergency Appeal is therefore critical to protect immediate consumption, stabilize purchasing power, prevent further distress sales, support seasonally aligned agricultural recovery, and reduce harmful coping strategies before the lean season intensifies the crisis further.

## Health

The Cameroon Red Cross community assessment confirms that food insecurity in the Far North, North, and East Regions is deeply intertwined with structural health and nutrition vulnerabilities affecting 5,972 surveyed households across 16 municipalities.

Although 56% of households report the presence of a health facility in their area, access remains largely constrained by affordability. Financial barriers to consultation, medication, and transport significantly limit effective utilization of services. This economic constraint is reflected in coping behaviors, where illness often leads to borrowing, asset depletion, and further food consumption reduction.

Access to nutrition-specific services is particularly limited. Only 29% of households report access to maternal and child nutrition services, including growth monitoring, antenatal nutrition counselling, and Infant and Young Child Feeding support

. Divisions with the weakest access, including Logone-et-Chari, Mayo-Sava, Mayo-Tsanaga, and Kadey, overlap with poor dietary outcomes, confirming the link between service gaps and inadequate nutritional intake.

Dietary indicators further demonstrate structural vulnerability. Assessment findings show that:

84% of households fall into poor or borderline Food Consumption Score categories

78% report moderate to severe hunger

68% report having no food stocks at the time of the survey

55% of households fall under High rCSI, indicating frequent meal reduction, skipping meals, and reliance on borrowing or cheaper foods

These coping patterns reflect sustained food access stress rather than temporary seasonal shocks.

The nutritional vulnerability of women and children is further evidenced by low Minimum Dietary Diversity indicators in high-risk divisions, particularly where access to nutrition services is weakest. Reduced dietary diversity among women and children, combined with limited health outreach, increases risks of micronutrient deficiencies, impaired child growth, and adverse maternal outcomes.

The assessment demonstrates that malnutrition is becoming structural rather than seasonal. Illness reduces labor capacity and income, which further reduces food consumption and increases borrowing, reinforcing a cyclical vulnerability pattern identified during community consultations

Without integrated interventions combining food assistance, targeted nutrition screening for children under five and pregnant and lactating women, strengthened referral pathways, and affordability-sensitive health support, acute malnutrition risks are likely to increase during the upcoming lean season. Addressing food access alone will not sufficiently improve nutrition outcomes. An integrated health and nutrition response is therefore essential to prevent deterioration, reduce mortality risk, and protect long-term human capital in affected communities.



## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Cameroon Red Cross assessment of 5,972 households across 16 municipalities confirms that WASH deficits are widespread and directly linked to food insecurity severity and poor nutritional outcomes.

Access to safe drinking water remains inconsistent. While boreholes constitute the primary source of water for many households, only 62% of households report access to improved water sources, meaning that 38% rely on unimproved sources such as open wells, surface water, and seasonal streams, particularly in Logone-et-Chari, Mayo-Danay, and parts of Kadey. Seasonal variability further worsens access, with drying of water points during peak dry periods forcing households to use unsafe alternatives. Communities reported frequent breakdowns of boreholes and limited local maintenance capacity, reducing reliability of access.

Sanitation coverage remains inadequate across surveyed divisions. Only 44% of households use improved sanitation facilities, leaving 56% dependent on unimproved latrines or unsafe sanitation practices, including open defecation in rural and displacement-affected areas. In addition, only 47% of households report regular handwashing with soap, meaning that more than half lack consistent hygiene practices at household level. These sanitation and hygiene gaps geographically overlap with divisions reporting the highest levels of hunger and coping stress.

Water handling and treatment practices are also limited. With 38% of households relying on unimproved water sources, safe storage and routine water treatment remain insufficient. Many households store water in open or uncovered containers, and systematic treatment prior to consumption is not widespread. In areas with high displacement and seasonal flooding, contamination risks increase significantly, particularly for children under five.

The health–nutrition linkage is clear. The assessment shows that 84% of households fall into poor or borderline food consumption categories, 78% experience moderate to severe hunger, and 55% are classified under high coping stress, meaning frequent meal reduction and food borrowing. In such contexts, even minor illness episodes linked to unsafe water significantly reduce labor productivity, increase health expenditures, and deepen food insecurity.

With only 29% of households reporting access to maternal and child nutrition services, preventive health and hygiene messaging coverage remains limited. This increases vulnerability to diarrheal diseases and reduces children’s nutrient absorption, compounding already poor dietary diversity outcomes.

Cholera remains a persistent risk in the North and Far North Regions, particularly in areas affected by displacement, flooding, and degraded infrastructure. Given that 68% of households report having no food stocks, illness episodes can rapidly push families into severe crisis.

The assessment confirms that WASH is not a secondary concern but a structural driver of food insecurity. With 38% lacking improved water access, 56% lacking improved sanitation, 53% without regular handwashing with soap, and 71% consuming four or fewer food groups, improvements in food access alone will not translate into improved food utilization or reduced malnutrition risk. Addressing water safety, sanitation access, hygiene behaviors, outbreak prevention, and integrated nutrition–WASH programming is therefore essential to breaking the reinforcing cycle between disease and hunger in the affected regions.

### Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

In 2022, the Cameroon Red Cross launched an Emergency Appeal to address food insecurity, with integrated interventions planned across health and nutrition, WASH, and livelihoods sectors. However, due to a low funding rate, implementation was significantly constrained. Only a limited number of households were reached through Cash and Voucher Assistance, while the majority of planned sectoral activities could not be carried out. As a result, structural vulnerabilities in food utilization, livelihood recovery, and WASH infrastructure remained largely unaddressed.

Subsequent regional analyses, including reports from the African Union, confirm that the drivers of food insecurity identified in 2022 persist. Climatic stress, market volatility, displacement pressures, and weak service coverage continue to erode household resilience. The limited scale of prior interventions created implementation gaps in livelihood protection, nutrition-sensitive programming, and preventive WASH measures, which are now reflected in the current deterioration.

While the recent CRC community assessment has provided robust household-level data across the Far North, North, and East Regions, certain limitations remain. These include:

- Rapidly evolving market conditions and price fluctuations that may shift during the lean season.



- Access constraints in insecure or hard-to-reach areas that may limit full representativeness.
- Seasonal variations in illness and food availability that require continued monitoring
- Limited longitudinal data to track household recovery trajectories over time.

The assessment nonetheless provides strong evidence of widespread crisis-level food insecurity and structural service gaps. However, continued monitoring, post-distribution analysis, and updated market assessments will be necessary to refine targeting and adapt transfer values during implementation.

The current Emergency Appeal addresses the gaps left by underfunded previous interventions and seeks to ensure a sufficiently scaled, integrated, and sustained response. Further evidence generation and operational monitoring will strengthen visibility on remaining gaps and guide adaptive programming throughout the operation period.

# Operational Strategy

## Overall objective of the operation

This Operation aims to provide immediate, life-saving assistance to approximately 12,600 people in the Far North Region. Support was planned through cash grants to 2,100 households (12,600 people), complemented by integrated WASH, health, and nutrition interventions, as well as Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) activities targeting 80,000 people.

## Operation strategy rationale

The DREF was developed based on findings from the Cameroon Red Cross Society community assessment, which confirmed widespread and structurally entrenched food insecurity affecting approximately 3.3 million people nationwide. Under the operation, 12,600 people were targeted for assistance. The assessment highlighted that food insecurity was driven not only by insufficient food availability but also by declining household purchasing power, depletion of productive assets, limited access to health and nutrition services, poor WASH conditions, and sustained reliance on negative coping mechanisms.

In response to the scale and complexity of needs across the Far North, North, and East Regions, the operation expanded beyond the initial assessment-focused DREF to a comprehensive multi-sectoral response designed to provide immediate life-saving assistance while laying the foundation for early recovery and resilience building.

The operational strategy was designed around a phased, shock-responsive approach. At the time of reporting, implementation remained focused on Phase 1 (0–6 months), which prioritizes the protection of food consumption and prevention of further deterioration among households facing crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity. Activities during this phase included the preparation and implementation of multipurpose cash assistance for the most vulnerable households, community-based malnutrition screening and referral, WASH interventions in cholera-prone areas, and protection-sensitive targeting aimed at reducing negative coping strategies.

Phase 2 (3–18 months), which is planned for later stages of the operation, will focus on livelihood protection, restoration of productive assets, income diversification, and strengthening households' capacities to anticipate and absorb future shocks. Cash assistance is expected to be progressively linked to livelihood recovery interventions to support sustainable recovery and reduce dependency on emergency assistance.

### Cash and Livelihoods

Market assessments conducted during the operation confirmed that markets remained largely functional in targeted areas, although households continued to face severe constraints in purchasing power. Based on these findings, Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) was identified as an appropriate and cost-efficient response modality. The operation planned to provide multipurpose cash assistance to 2,100 prioritized households in the Far North and East Regions to help meet essential food and basic needs during the emergency phase. Transfer values were aligned with market monitoring findings and Food Security Cluster guidance. Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) and continued market assessments were incorporated into the response to ensure accountability, appropriateness, and protection-sensitive implementation.

Livelihood recovery interventions were also incorporated into the operational strategy to complement cash assistance. These interventions include measures to protect productive assets, facilitate access to agricultural inputs where seasonally appropriate, and support climate-sensitive and diversified income-generating activities, thereby reducing the risk of irreversible asset depletion and facilitating a transition from emergency assistance to recovery.



## Health, Nutrition and WASH

Assessment findings indicated that food assistance alone would be insufficient to improve nutritional outcomes. Consequently, the operation adopted an integrated approach combining food security, health, nutrition, and WASH interventions. Planned activities included community-based malnutrition screening and strengthened referral pathways, promotion of Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and maternal nutrition practices, support to severe acute malnutrition management, household water treatment and hygiene kit distribution, cholera prevention measures, rehabilitation and strengthening of community water points, and integrated hygiene promotion linked to nutrition and cash programming. This integrated approach was designed to address the interrelated drivers of food insecurity and malnutrition while reducing the risk of disease outbreaks and nutrition-related health complications.

## Assessment and Adaptive Programming

Although the assessment provided a strong evidence base for the response, the operational context remained dynamic due to the early onset of the lean season, market price volatility, and insecurity-related challenges. Continuous market monitoring, Post-Distribution Monitoring, and regular operational reviews were therefore incorporated into the response framework to facilitate adaptive management and ensure that interventions remained relevant to evolving needs. A stakeholder conference was planned for the third month of implementation to review progress, reassess emerging needs, and mobilize additional support for resilience-building interventions.

## Community Engagement, Protection and Inclusion

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) remained central components of the operation. Targeting criteria prioritized internally displaced households, female-headed households, households with high dependency ratios, children under five years of age, pregnant and lactating women, persons with disabilities, and older persons. Communication and accountability measures included community consultations, feedback and complaints mechanisms, safeguarding protocols, and coordinated Movement approaches aimed at minimizing duplication and ensuring equitable, dignified, and inclusive assistance delivery.

# Targeting Strategy

## Who will be targeted through this operation?

The operation is targeting 12,600 of the most affected people across the Far North, Region, prioritizing divisions where poor food consumption, depleted food stocks, high dependence on markets, displacement, and recurrent climatic and conflict-related shocks have converged to create severe humanitarian needs.

Within the overall target population:

- 2,100 highly vulnerable households (approximately 12,600 people) in prioritized divisions of the Far North and East Regions have been identified for multipurpose cash assistance and complementary livelihood support. Beneficiary registration and verification processes have largely been completed, and implementation is underway to protect food consumption and prevent further depletion of household assets.
- The remaining approximately 80,000 people are being reached through integrated health, WASH, and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) interventions aimed at reducing malnutrition, mitigating disease risks, and limiting the adoption of negative coping strategies. Community-based awareness activities, hygiene promotion, and engagement sessions have already commenced in several targeted communities, with additional interventions continuing to be rolled out.

Targeting has focused on households experiencing crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity, particularly those exhibiting poor or borderline Food Consumption Scores (FCS), moderate to severe hunger levels, high Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) scores, depleted food stocks, and reliance on erosive livelihood coping mechanisms.

The operation has prioritized the following vulnerable groups:

- Displaced households, including internally displaced persons and refugees, with limited income opportunities and restricted access to cultivable land.
- Very poor host households with limited or no regular sources of income and high expenditure on food.
- Female-headed households facing high dependency burdens and limited livelihood assets.
- Children under five years of age living in households with poor dietary diversity and elevated malnutrition risks.
- Pregnant and lactating women with inadequate dietary diversity and limited access to nutrition services.
- Households including persons with disabilities or older persons whose mobility limitations restrict access to markets, assistance, and essential services.

Beneficiary selection has been guided by a combination of food security indicators, socio-economic vulnerability criteria, displacement status, exposure to recent climatic and conflict-related shocks, and identified protection risks. Targeting and validation processes have



been conducted through community consultations and participatory approaches, while close coordination among Movement partners has helped reduce duplication and promote equitable, transparent, and dignified assistance delivery. These processes continue to be refined as implementation progresses and operational data become available.

## Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Household selection has been guided by the severity of needs, vulnerability profiles, and exposure to food insecurity, livelihood disruption, and health risks. Geographic prioritization was informed by assessment findings and operational feasibility considerations.

The Far North Region is prioritized for multipurpose cash assistance and livelihood support due to the convergence of severe food insecurity, depletion of household assets, functioning markets, and significant displacement pressures. Assessments confirmed that markets remained operational in most targeted areas, supporting the appropriateness of cash assistance as a modality to restore purchasing power, meet immediate food needs, and reduce reliance on negative coping mechanisms. Beneficiary identification, registration, and validation processes have largely been completed, with cash assistance implementation underway.

The North Region, alongside selected areas in the Far North and East Regions, was prioritized for integrated WASH and health interventions due to cholera alerts, inadequate sanitation conditions, and evidence highlighting the close relationship between disease burden and food insecurity. In response, hygiene promotion activities, community sensitization, and other health and WASH interventions have commenced and continue to be implemented to reduce disease risks and prevent further deterioration in nutritional status in the Far North region.

Within the prioritized divisions, the Cameroon Red Cross has applied transparent and community-validated targeting criteria combining:

- Severity of food insecurity, including poor or borderline Food Consumption Scores, moderate to severe hunger levels, depleted food stocks, and high Reduced Coping Strategy Index scores.
- Livelihood vulnerability, including loss of productive assets, high dependence on food purchases, and limited or unstable income sources.
- Health and nutrition risks, particularly among households with children under five years of age, pregnant and lactating women, and households with identified malnutrition cases.
- Protection-related vulnerabilities, including female-headed households, persons with disabilities, older persons living alone, and households exposed to protection risks.
- Displacement status, including internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees, and highly vulnerable host households.

Targeting and beneficiary verification have been conducted through community engagement processes involving local leaders, women's groups, health facilities, community representatives, and local authorities to ensure transparency, fairness, and community ownership. Beneficiary lists have been validated through participatory approaches and cross-checked to minimize duplication and inclusion errors.

In parallel, Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) mechanisms have been strengthened throughout implementation. Communities have been informed about the targeting criteria and assistance modalities through consultations and awareness sessions, while feedback and complaint mechanisms have been established and remain operational to enable affected populations to raise concerns, seek clarification, and provide feedback in a safe and confidential manner. These mechanisms continue to support accountability and adaptive management as the operation progresses.

## Total Targeted Population

Women	6,426	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	-
Men	6,174	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	-		
<b>Total targeted population</b>	<b>12,600</b>		



# Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	No
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	No
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	No
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	No
Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	Yes

**Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.**

Risk	Mitigation action
Due to the rampant food insecurity situation in targeted localities, beneficiaries may suffer sexual exploitation, abuse, or harassment due to IFRC funding or operations.	IFRC staff, Cameroon Red Cross staff and volunteers and any partner working with us within the framework of this operation will be briefed on IFRC policy on Safeguarding (Prevention of Sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment).
Contamination from cholera or other water-related diseases of volunteers and staff in the field: it is not uncommon for humanitarian workers to become infected in the course of their work, whether through accident or negligence. Given that volunteers will be brought into contact with suspected cases of cholera, they may be exposed to this disease.	To limit these risks, volunteers will all be briefed on the dangers associated with their activities and how to limit the risks. They will also be given masks and hand sanitizer for their protection.
The North, Far North, and East regions of Cameroon are affected by sporadic armed conflict, banditry, and communal violence, which pose significant risks to humanitarian personnel and communities. Armed groups and criminal elements are known to operate along major transit routes and in remote areas, increasing the likelihood of attacks, kidnappings, or theft. These risks are compounded by the presence of displaced populations, competition over scarce resources, and limited security presence in rural areas. Field staff may also face indirect risks from community tensions linked to aid distribution, particularly in cash or WASH interventions.	Mitigation measures include careful route planning, coordination with local authorities and community leaders, limiting the visibility of cash activities, using local volunteers familiar with the security context, and adhering to strict operational safety protocols.



**Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:**

Part of the operation has been implemented in areas affected by localized insecurity and conflict-related risks in Cameroon. To mitigate these risks, all staff and volunteers deployed to the field have received security briefings and continue to be reminded of applicable safety procedures, including adherence to established movement restrictions and safety hours.

Throughout the implementation period, the ICRC has been regularly informed of field movements and operational activities in areas with heightened security concerns. Established security protocols, including routine communication and radio room check-ins during field missions, have been maintained to enhance staff and volunteer safety and facilitate timely incident reporting where required.

The operation has continued to rely on Cameroon Red Cross volunteers who are well known and trusted within their communities, contributing to safe access and community acceptance. Their local presence and familiarity with the operating environment have facilitated implementation while reducing operational risks.

Furthermore, intervention activities have been concentrated in accessible and relatively stable areas within the targeted regions and have not directly targeted conflict hotspots. Risk monitoring and security assessments remain ongoing to ensure that activities can continue safely while maintaining access to vulnerable populations.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

No

## Planned Intervention



### Livelihoods And Basic Needs

**Budget:** CHF 35,000

**Targeted Persons:** 12,600

**Targeted Male:** 6,426

**Targeted Female:** 6,174

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of assessment reports produced and shared with relevant stakeholders	4	1
# of People receiving Livelihood assistance	12,600	0
# of people meeting their essential food and other basic needs (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability)	12,600	0
% of people protecting key livelihood inputs and assets prior to and early into a disaster/crisis (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability)	75	0
% of households employing no negative food-related and livelihood-based coping strategies (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability)	70	0



## Progress Towards Outcome

One comprehensive multisector Food Security Assessment has been successfully conducted, finalized, and disseminated to relevant stakeholders. The assessment provided robust, evidence-based analysis of household vulnerability, food consumption patterns, coping strategies, livelihood disruption, and market dynamics across the Far North, North, and East Regions.

The findings have directly informed geographic prioritization, targeting criteria, transfer value calculations, and the strategic design of DREF. The assessment has also strengthened coordination with local authorities, UN agencies, and humanitarian partners by enabling data-driven decision-making, transparent information sharing, and alignment of response strategies.

The operation has successfully transitioned from the initial DREF phase, which focused on rapid assessments and immediate life-saving interventions, to a scaled-up response under the CHF 9.6 million Emergency Appeal. This transition has enabled the expansion of activities and resources to address evolving humanitarian needs, with livelihoods and basic needs assistance serving as a key component of efforts to support vulnerable households, strengthen resilience, and prevent further deterioration of their socio-economic conditions.



## Multi Purpose Cash

**Budget:** CHF 717,402

**Targeted Persons:** 12,600

**Targeted Male:** 6,426

**Targeted Female:** 6,174

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with Multipurpose Cash distribution	12,600	18,509
Percentage of surveyed people whose households received cash transfers / vouchers are satisfied with the amount received	80	0
% of households reporting that cash assistance met their priority food and basic needs	90	0
% of households reporting timely, safe, and dignified access to cash assistance	90	0
% of households reporting appropriate (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability) use of cash assistance without increased protection risks	90	0

## Progress Towards Outcome

The first round of distributions was completed in Mokolo on 21 and 22 May, where 1,193 of the 1,200 targeted households received assistance, representing 11,668 individuals. Only seven registered households were absent during the distribution process. Cash distributions were subsequently completed in Mora on 25 and 26 May, reaching 898 of the 900 targeted households across four distribution sites and benefiting 6,841 individuals. Each household received XAF 57,000 in accordance with the operational response plan. Distribution activities in both locations were successfully implemented, with all scheduled beneficiaries for the first day served as planned.

Cumulatively, 2,091 households out of the planned 2,100 households in the first two distribution areas have been reached, representing 18,509 individuals. This corresponds to the successful completion of two out of the three planned distribution cycles in the targeted areas. Preparations for the next distribution phase in Yagoua have also been finalized. Following community consultations and



sensitization activities, adjustments were made to the beneficiary allocation after concerns were raised regarding household selection in one village. In consultation with local authorities and community representatives, the affected caseload was reallocated across neighboring communities to ensure acceptance, transparency, and equitable access to assistance.

Community feedback mechanisms remain active throughout the distribution process. To date, feedback has been collected from 593 beneficiaries in Mokolo and will be analyzed to inform programme improvements, strengthen accountability, and support learning for subsequent distribution cycles.

Beyond cash delivery, efforts to strengthen the sustainability and resource base of the response, continue. A resource mobilization workplan developed following the March 2026 workshop has been finalized and shared with relevant stakeholders. The workplan outlines strategic objectives, milestones, and indicators to support resource mobilization efforts through 2030 and strengthen the long-term capacity of the Cameroon Red Cross to respond to humanitarian needs.

The operational environment in the Far North Region has remained conducive to implementation. Security conditions in Maroua and surrounding operational areas remained stable during the reporting period, allowing distribution activities and field monitoring to proceed without interruption. The operation will continue to scale up cash assistance in targeted communities while maintaining strong accountability, protection, and monitoring measures to ensure that vulnerable households receive timely and effective support.



## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

**Budget:** CHF 27,607

**Targeted Persons:** 80,000

**Targeted Male:** 32,000

**Targeted Female:** 48,000

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of handwashing facilities available	20	0
Percentage of houses and places where cases of cholera were detected that were disinfected	100	0
# of people reached with WASH awareness-raising	80,000	7,230
# of people (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability) reached with relevant WASH messages	80,000	7,230
% of targeted households (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability) with access to safe drinking water meeting minimum standards	75	0
% of people (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability) with access to essential hygiene items	75	0

### Progress Towards Outcome

WASH activities initiated under the DREF operation continue to progress, with a strong focus on cholera prevention and response in the North Region. Working closely with district health authorities, the Cameroon Red Cross has supported efforts to strengthen community preparedness and reduce the risk of disease transmission in areas identified as highly vulnerable.

During the reporting period, cholera risk mapping was completed in the Doumo and Mayo Oulo health areas, enabling the identification and prioritization of high-risk communities for targeted interventions. Community water points were assessed and classified according to



risk levels, and disinfection of high-risk water sources was carried out in accordance with established WASH standards. To ensure consistency and quality in response activities, Standard Operating Procedures were finalized and aligned with national infection prevention and control guidelines.

Operational readiness was further strengthened through the procurement of chlorine and personal protective equipment, which are being used to support ongoing household disinfection activities for suspected and confirmed cholera cases in affected communities. In addition, three Oral Rehydration Points were identified and validated through participatory consultations involving local leaders, women, youth representatives, community members, and health authorities, helping to improve access to timely treatment and referral services.

Community engagement and hygiene promotion activities have also gained momentum. A total of 34 volunteers and two supervisors were mobilized for a two-week campaign in the Doumo and Mayo Oulo health areas. Through door-to-door outreach, focus group discussions, and community awareness sessions, the teams reached 7,230 people, including 3,397 men and 3,833 women, with key messages on cholera prevention, safe hygiene practices, water treatment, and early care seeking. This represents approximately 9 per cent of the 80,000 people targeted under the DREF for WASH awareness activities.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion considerations continue to be integrated across all WASH interventions. Volunteers applied inclusive community engagement approaches that considered age, gender, and disability during outreach activities. Hygiene promotion sessions incorporated key protection messages related to gender-based violence prevention, child protection, and available referral pathways for individuals requiring additional support. Efforts were also made to ensure the accessibility of activities for persons with disabilities and to promote dignity, participation, and community feedback in line with Community Engagement and Accountability principles.

Building on these achievements, the operation is continuing to expand WASH interventions under the Emergency Appeal. Preparatory work is ongoing for the distribution of household WASH kits, installation of handwashing facilities, and the scale up of hygiene promotion activities in targeted communities across the Far North, North, and East Regions. These activities will be progressively rolled out as operational capacity and available resources continue to increase.



## Protection, Gender And Inclusion

**Budget:** CHF 4,289

**Targeted Persons:** 80,000

**Targeted Male:** -

**Targeted Female:** -

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
% of volunteers trained on PGI and PSEA	100	100
Number of women led VSLA supported	40	35
# of awareness sessions on rights, inclusion and protection	30	30
% of communication materials adapted for inclusiveness	100	50
% of communication materials adapted for inclusiveness	100	50
# of people (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability) reached by protection, gender, and inclusion programming	80,000	0



## Progress Towards Outcome

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) remain a key cross cutting component of the operation and continues to be integrated across all sectors to ensure that assistance is delivered safely, equitably, and with dignity. During the reporting period, significant progress was made in strengthening safeguarding systems, building staff and volunteer capacity, promoting inclusion, and increasing awareness of protection risks among targeted communities.

A total of 34 staff and volunteers deployed under the operation successfully completed a two-day training on PGI minimum standards and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), achieving 100% of the planned target for this phase of the operation. The training package was adapted to the operational context and incorporated into volunteer capacity building activities to support gender sensitive and protection compliant implementation. Participants strengthened their understanding of protection risk identification, safe programming approaches, PSEA principles, survivor centred assistance, and referral mechanisms for gender-based violence, child protection concerns, and other protection related issues. As part of the safeguarding commitment, all participants signed the PGI and PSEA Code of Conduct and policy commitments, reinforcing adherence to humanitarian principles and a zero-tolerance approach to sexual exploitation and abuse.

To further strengthen accountability and safeguarding, volunteer rosters were finalized and safeguarding focal points were identified at branch level. Confidential complaints and reporting mechanisms were established, alongside referral pathways aligned with Cameroon Red Cross and IFRC standards. These measures have enhanced the operation's capacity to prevent, identify, and appropriately respond to protection concerns while ensuring safe access to services for affected populations.

Community level engagement on protection and inclusion has also progressed. A total of 30 awareness sessions on rights, inclusion, and protection were conducted, achieving 100% of the planned target. These sessions covered topics including gender equality, equitable access to assistance, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, prevention and mitigation of gender-based violence risks, child protection, safe participation in humanitarian activities, and available referral services. The sessions have contributed to improved awareness of rights and protection concerns among community members and strengthened understanding of available support mechanisms.

Particular attention has been given to women led Village Savings and Loan Associations as an important platform for promoting protection and inclusion. To date, 35 women led VSLA groups have been reached and supported, representing 88 per cent of the overall target of 40 groups. Initial mapping of women led VSLA groups was completed and eligibility and support criteria were developed to align livelihood recovery interventions with gender equality objectives. Through dedicated sensitization activities, women participating in these groups have strengthened their understanding of protection risks, their rights, available complaint mechanisms, and referral services. The groups are increasingly serving as community multipliers, helping to disseminate PGI messages and promote safe and inclusive practices within their communities.

Progress has also been made in making communication and awareness materials more accessible and inclusive. To date, 50% of planned communication materials have been reviewed and adapted to meet inclusiveness requirements. This includes posters, awareness guides, key message leaflets, and information materials used during community engagement activities. Adaptations have included the use of simplified language, translation into local languages, culturally appropriate messaging, visual illustrations for audiences with low literacy levels, non-stigmatizing language, and the integration of safeguarding and feedback information. Materials have also been reviewed to improve accessibility for persons with disabilities, older persons, and other marginalized groups. The adapted materials are already being used during community sensitization and VSLA engagement activities, contributing to improved understanding and participation among vulnerable populations.

PGI considerations continue to be mainstreamed across all operational sectors, with particular attention given to displaced populations, women headed households, persons with disabilities, older persons, and other groups facing heightened vulnerability. Protection risk analysis is ongoing and is informing targeting approaches, cash assistance delivery mechanisms, and community engagement strategies. Coordination with relevant protection actors and technical working groups is also supporting the mapping and strengthening of referral pathways for protection related cases.

As implementation expands, further work will focus on completing the adaptation of communication materials, strengthening referral systems, finalizing additional protection assessments, and ensuring that all programme activities continue to uphold the principles of safety, inclusion, accountability, and dignity for affected communities. No protection violation cases requiring referral have been reported through the operation to date; however, referral mechanisms remain operational and available should the need arise.



## Community Engagement And Accountability

**Budget:** CHF 8,406

**Targeted Persons:** 80,000

**Targeted Male:** 32,000



## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# posters produced, distributed and pasted	600	0
# of persons reached through awareness raising activities	80,000	27,230
# of beneficiary selection committee trained and have a beneficiary selection criterion validated	4	4
Percentage of feedback acted upon	60	0
# of operational decisions made based on community feedback received	-	0
# of community consultations (context analyses, needs assessments) held	8	8

## Progress Towards Outcome

Community Engagement and Accountability activities continue to be integrated across the operation, supporting transparent communication, community participation, and informed decision making throughout the response. During the reporting period, significant progress was made in strengthening community engagement structures and ensuring that affected populations are actively involved in the planning and implementation of activities.

All four beneficiary selection committees have been trained and have validated the targeting criteria used for the operation, helping to promote transparency, accountability, and community ownership of the beneficiary selection process. In addition, eight community consultation sessions were conducted across targeted areas, achieving the planned target and contributing to needs verification, contextual analysis, and community level planning.

To date, a total of 27,230 people has been reached through awareness raising, sensitization, and community engagement activities, representing 34 per cent of the overall target of 80,000 people. This includes 20,000 people reached during consultations and sensitization activities conducted as part of the food insecurity assessment process, as well as 7,230 people reached through hygiene promotion and cholera prevention activities in Doumo and Mayo Oulo.

Community engagement efforts in the North Region were further strengthened through the deployment of 34 Cameroon Red Cross volunteers and two supervisors who conducted outreach activities over a two-week period. Through door-to-door visits, focus group discussions, community meetings, and mass awareness sessions, volunteers engaged 3,397 men and 3,833 women on key health and hygiene messages. Participatory hygiene promotion sessions focused on four priority prevention themes, including handwashing at critical times, household water treatment, safe water storage, and cholera prevention practices. Interactive demonstrations were used to encourage understanding and adoption of recommended behaviours.

Community participation was also central to the identification and validation of Oral Rehydration Point locations. Over three days, structured consultation meetings brought together women, youth representatives, traditional leaders, health authorities, and other community members to discuss and agree on suitable sites. This participatory approach strengthened inclusion, community ownership, and acceptance of the intervention.

Efforts to strengthen accountability mechanisms are ongoing. The development and rollout of information, education, and communication materials are underway, with attention being given to local language adaptation and accessibility requirements to ensure that information reaches all segments of the population. At the same time, feedback and complaints mechanisms are being established across targeted communities to enable affected populations to raise concerns, provide suggestions, and influence programme implementation. While no formal feedback has yet been received or recorded during this reporting period, the establishment of accessible, confidential, and responsive feedback channels remains a priority for the next phase of implementation.



As the operation continues to expand geographically, community engagement activities will be further scaled up to ensure that communities remain informed about targeting criteria, assistance modalities, implementation timelines, and available support services, while maintaining a strong focus on participation, accountability, and community ownership throughout the response.



## Secretariat Services

**Budget:** CHF 118,731

**Targeted Persons:** 0

**Targeted Male:** -

**Targeted Female:** -

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of surge staff deployed	4	4
Number of DREF presentation workshops organized	1	2
Number of regional and global staffs deployed	4	4
Strengthened Coordination and Resource Mobilisation: % of required financial and technical resources mobilised through strengthened partnerships and donor engagement	95	17
Enhanced Risk, Logistics, and Operational Management Capacity. Extent to which risk management, logistics, and financial systems meet IFRC standards, as measured through periodic compliance and performance assessments	95	0
Improved Information, Data, and Decision-Making Systems: % of operational decisions informed by real-time data, consolidated analysis, and PMER/IM systems	95	20

### Progress Towards Outcome

Coordination, resource mobilization, monitoring, and technical support functions continue to play a critical role in the implementation of the DREF. Throughout the reporting period, the Cameroon Red Cross (CRC), with support from the IFRC, strengthened engagement with donors, Movement partners, government authorities, and humanitarian actors to support operational delivery and mobilize additional resources for the response.

A high-level diplomatic roundtable was organized by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, bringing together ambassadors, heads of United Nations agencies, development partners, and key donors. During the event, findings from the CRC food security assessment were presented, highlighting the scale of humanitarian needs, priority response gaps, and the rationale for scaling up the response under the DREF. The engagement strengthened stakeholder awareness of the crisis, promoted transparency, and facilitated strategic dialogue on resource mobilization and coordinated humanitarian action.

Resource mobilization efforts have continued at both national and international levels. A two-day resource mobilization workshop was organized in Yaoundé, bringing together representatives from CRC headquarters, branch structures, the ICRC, the French Red Cross, and IFRC teams. The workshop supported the development of the Cameroon Red Cross Resource Mobilization Strategy and helped define strategic priorities, objectives, implementation actions, and an initial roadmap. It also provided an opportunity to present the DREF



resource mobilization plan and identify opportunities to strengthen local fundraising initiatives and partnership development.

Technical surge support has been significantly strengthened during the reporting period. 4 surge personnel have been deployed in support of the operation, achieving 100% of the planned target. These deployments include specialized support in Cash and Voucher Assistance, Information Management, Resource Mobilization and Partnerships, and field coordination. In parallel, four regional and global staff have been deployed to provide additional technical assistance and operational oversight across key sectors of the response. These deployments have strengthened programme quality, implementation capacity, operational coordination, monitoring, accountability, and reporting.

The operation has also benefited from specialized technical support from the IFRC network. Technical experts have contributed to assessment design, data analysis, operational planning, beneficiary targeting, information management, cash assistance implementation, communications, and resource mobilization efforts. Discussions and coordination with Participating National Societies and other Movement partners continue to support the mobilization of additional technical expertise as operational needs evolve.

Progress has also been recorded in strengthening coordination and resource mobilization systems. To date, 17% progress has been achieved against the targeted coordination and resource mobilization indicator. Continued engagement with donors, partners, and Movement stakeholders is expected to further strengthen funding prospects and partnership opportunities during the coming reporting periods.

Information management and decision-making systems have also been strengthened. Progress currently stands at 20% against the planned target for this area. Significant investments have been made in digital beneficiary registration systems, data management processes, monitoring tools, reporting mechanisms, and information analysis. The deployment of Information Management surge support has further enhanced data quality, operational tracking, and evidence-based decision making across the operation.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (PMER) systems continue to be strengthened as implementation progresses. Monitoring frameworks, reporting structures, centralized data management systems, and post distribution monitoring tools have been developed and are being operationalized to support ongoing programme monitoring and performance tracking. With cash distributions now underway, post distribution monitoring activities are being prepared and will be conducted following each distribution cycle to assess beneficiary satisfaction, utilization of assistance, programme outcomes, protection considerations, and accountability measures. While substantial progress has been made in coordination, resource mobilization, surge deployment, and information management, activities related to strengthening risk management, logistics systems, and broader operational management structures remain in the early stages of implementation. Further progress in these areas is expected as the operation expands, and additional activities are rolled out in subsequent reporting periods.

Several communications products have been published across social media platforms and the IFRC website to raise visibility of the food insecurity crisis and the Appeal. A coordinated communications plan has been developed to support humanitarian diplomacy, donor engagement, and amplification of community and volunteer perspectives throughout the operation.

- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2031300706196664837?s=20>
- Food insecurity Cameroon 2026: Standing with Families Facing Food Insecurity
- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2029182367806427387?s=20>
- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2028760836613783939?s=20>
- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2028425721715015907?s=20>
- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2027346048952209870?s=20>
- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2026722220072927567?s=20>
- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2026229759357698207?s=20>
- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2025491381053993202?s=20>
- <https://x.com/AdeshTripathee/status/2023798117918011557?s=20>
- <https://x.com/CroixRougeCam/status/2025337162015641840?s=20>
- <https://x.com/CroixRougeCam/status/2023800368954831109?s=20>
- <https://x.com/CroixRougeCam/status/2014277358929260795?s=20>
- Cameroon's "silent food insecurity crisis" deepens as millions struggle to find food | IFRC
- <https://x.com/ifrcfrica/status/2033888136581832888?s=46&t=D36KdbxETFvdjdKHQ7koIA>
- [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ifrc\\_cameroon-activity-7440048408314400768-UdZg?utm\\_medium=ios\\_app&rcm=ACoAABVYXBoBN8pJf159qssK6vGqiG9pPLaXRdk&utm\\_source=social\\_share\\_send&utm\\_campaign=copy\\_link](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ifrc_cameroon-activity-7440048408314400768-UdZg?utm_medium=ios_app&rcm=ACoAABVYXBoBN8pJf159qssK6vGqiG9pPLaXRdk&utm_source=social_share_send&utm_campaign=copy_link)
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1FJMIXDYdV/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Overall, the combination of strengthened coordination mechanisms, targeted surge deployments, resource mobilization initiatives, and enhanced information management systems continues to support the effective implementation of the DREF and improve the CRC's capacity to deliver timely, accountable, and evidence based humanitarian assistance to affected populations.





**Budget:** CHF 88,420

**Targeted Persons:** 0

**Targeted Male:** -

**Targeted Female:** -

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of PDM conducted	1	0
Percentage of targeted branches and volunteers demonstrating improved readiness and operational performance across sectors (DM, WASH, cash, nutrition, PGI, CEA), as measured through capacity assessments and operational evaluations	95	0

## Progress Towards Outcome

National Society Strengthening activities are progressing alongside the implementation of the DREF, with a focus on enhancing operational capacity, coordination, accountability, and institutional readiness to deliver an effective response.

During the reporting period, a two-day resource mobilization workshop was organized in Yaoundé to support the development of the Cameroon Red Cross operational strategy and resource mobilization plan for the DREF. The workshop contributed to strengthening strategic leadership, planning, and resource mobilization capacities at headquarters level while helping to position the National Society for sustained implementation of the operation.

Operational capacity at field level has continued to expand through the deployment of staff and volunteers to targeted areas in the Far North Region. Field teams have supported household identification, registration, verification, and other preparatory and implementation activities associated with the response. To ensure the safety and effectiveness of frontline personnel, responders received briefings on operational and security risks, while protective equipment and visibility materials were distributed to support field operations.

Capacity strengthening efforts also focused on safeguarding and accountability. A total of 34 volunteers completed training on Protection, Gender and Inclusion and Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, enhancing their ability to deliver safe, inclusive, and accountable humanitarian assistance while strengthening community trust and safeguarding standards throughout the operation.

In line with the operational strategy's commitment to digital transformation, digital data collection tools continue to be deployed and utilized for beneficiary registration, targeting, monitoring, and reporting processes. These systems are improving data quality, timeliness, and operational oversight while supporting evidence-based decision making across the response.

Strong coordination and oversight mechanisms remain in place throughout the operation. Regular operational meetings between the Cameroon Red Cross headquarters, branches, and the IFRC Cluster Delegation continue to facilitate strategic alignment, information sharing, and timely decision making. In addition, routine field supervision missions are being conducted by the National Society, with technical support from the IFRC, to monitor implementation progress, ensure compliance with established standards and procedures, and maintain the quality of reporting and accountability throughout the operation.



# About Support Services

## How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

The operation continues to be implemented through a strong network of trained staff and volunteers at both national and branch levels. As part of the response, 150 volunteers and five supervisors have been mobilized to support activities across the targeted regions. Prior to deployment, volunteers received training in relevant technical areas, including Cash and Voucher Assistance, Protection, Gender and Inclusion, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, community engagement, health, hygiene promotion, data collection, and accountability, equipping them with the skills required to effectively deliver activities in the field.

These volunteers are actively supporting a range of interventions, including beneficiary identification and registration, cash distribution, health and WASH activities, community sensitization, feedback collection, monitoring, and protection mainstreaming. Supervisory staff continue to provide field level oversight to ensure compliance with operational standards, quality implementation, and timely reporting.

Overall coordination of the operation is being led by a dedicated Cameroon Red Cross focal point, supported by experienced technical staff from the National Society, including specialists in health, monitoring and evaluation, logistics, finance, and programme management. This structure has enabled effective coordination of activities, timely decision making, and close monitoring of implementation progress across all sectors.

The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation in Yaoundé continues to provide technical, operational, and strategic support to the Cameroon Red Cross throughout the implementation of the Emergency Appeal. This support includes programme oversight, Cash and Voucher Assistance, Community Engagement and Accountability, Protection, Gender and Inclusion, communications, information management, logistics, finance, resource mobilization, and monitoring support to ensure the quality and effectiveness of the response.

As the operation expands under the Emergency Appeal, additional human resources have been mobilized to match the increased geographical coverage and scale of activities. Additional volunteers, team leaders, supervisors, and technical personnel have been deployed through branch structures to support the growing demands of cash assistance, health and WASH interventions, community engagement activities, protection programming, and monitoring functions. This strengthened operational capacity is enabling the Cameroon Red Cross to effectively scale up assistance while maintaining accountability, quality standards, and community centred approaches throughout the response.

## Does your volunteer team reflect the gender, age, and cultural diversity of the people you're helping? What gaps exist in your volunteer team's gender, age, or cultural diversity, and how are you addressing them to ensure inclusive and appropriate support?

Yes. The volunteer workforce deployed under the operation broadly reflects the diversity of the communities being assisted. Volunteers have been mobilized from the targeted regions and include women, men, youth, and individuals familiar with the local languages, cultural practices, and social dynamics of the affected communities. This local representation has facilitated community acceptance, effective communication, and culturally appropriate engagement, particularly during beneficiary registration, hygiene promotion, community consultations, and cash distribution activities.

The operation has also prioritized inclusive programming through the training of volunteers on Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). These trainings have strengthened volunteers' capacity to engage safely and respectfully with women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, displaced populations, and other vulnerable groups.

While progress has been made, some gaps remain. Female representation among volunteers and supervisory positions could be further strengthened in certain operational areas, particularly in locations where cultural norms may limit women's participation in humanitarian activities. There is also a need to increase the participation of persons with disabilities and older volunteers to further enhance diversity and representation within the response teams.

To address these gaps, the Cameroon Red Cross continues to promote inclusive volunteer recruitment at branch level, encourage the participation of women in leadership and supervisory roles, and ensure that volunteer selection processes are guided by PGI principles.



Communication materials and community engagement approaches are being adapted to local languages and accessibility needs, while safeguarding focal points and referral mechanisms have been established to support safe and inclusive participation. These measures are helping to ensure that the volunteer workforce remains representative of the communities served and capable of delivering assistance that is appropriate, accessible, and responsive to diverse needs.

## **Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.**

To ensure effective implementation of the Emergency Appeal and maintain the quality of interventions at scale, the Cameroon Red Cross continues to receive technical and operational support from the IFRC Secretariat through the deployment of specialized surge personnel and technical staff. These deployments are strengthening operational coordination, programme quality, accountability, and field level implementation across the Far North, North Region.

Building on the support provided during the initial DREF phase, a dedicated Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Surge Delegate has been deployed and is actively supporting the implementation of the multipurpose cash programme. The surge delegate is providing technical guidance on beneficiary targeting, cash delivery mechanisms, risk management, compliance, accountability, and post distribution monitoring to ensure that assistance reaches vulnerable households efficiently and in accordance with IFRC standards.

Technical support for food security and livelihoods programming continues to be provided through specialized expertise focused on needs analysis, targeting, outcome monitoring, and the integration of food security interventions with nutrition, health, and WASH activities. This support is helping to ensure that interventions remain evidence based, responsive to evolving needs, and aligned with seasonal and contextual realities in the targeted areas.

Additional surge capacities have also been mobilized to strengthen implementation. An Information Management Surge Delegate has been deployed to support data management systems, beneficiary registration processes, information analysis, monitoring frameworks, and data quality assurance. A Communications Coordinator and Communications Surge personnel are supporting operational visibility, documentation of results, production of human-interest stories, community information activities, donor communications, and public engagement. A Field Coordinator has also been deployed to strengthen operational oversight, field level coordination, implementation monitoring, and liaison with branch teams and local authorities.

Alongside these surge deployments, staff from the IFRC delegation are actively supporting field operations, particularly during cash distribution activities. Technical teams covering Community Engagement and Accountability, Communications, Programme Management, and Monitoring functions have been deployed to provide hands on support, strengthen accountability mechanisms, document lessons learned, and ensure adherence to operational standards throughout implementation.

In addition, support for Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization continues to contribute to donor engagement, funding coordination, resource mobilization efforts, and reporting quality, while PMER technical support is reinforcing monitoring systems, performance tracking, data quality management, learning, and adaptive management processes across the operation.

These surge personnel and technical staff are working closely with Cameroon Red Cross headquarters, branch teams, volunteers, and supervisors to strengthen operational capacity and ensure the timely, accountable, and effective delivery of assistance throughout the 18-month Emergency Appeal. Their support has been particularly instrumental in the successful rollout of the ongoing cash distribution activities in the Far North Region and will continue to support the expansion of the response in the coming months.

## **If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?**

Procurement and financial management activities under the DREF are progressing in accordance with the agreed shared implementation arrangement between the Cameroon Red Cross Society (CRC) and the IFRC Secretariat. All procurement processes continue to follow IFRC procurement policies, financial procedures, and compliance requirements to ensure transparency, accountability, and value for money throughout the operation.

A significant milestone during the reporting period was the activation of cash transfer mechanisms through the existing framework agreements established between the CRC and selected Financial Service Providers (FSPs). In line with the operational scale up, the IFRC has been managing direct payments to the contracted FSPs for multipurpose cash assistance transfers. This arrangement has strengthened financial oversight, enhanced traceability of funds, and reduced operational and fiduciary risks while supporting the timely delivery of assistance to targeted households. Following the transfer of funds to the FSP, cash distributions have commenced successfully in the Far North Region and are continuing according to the operational plan.

Procurement activities for goods and services required to support the response are ongoing through a combination of CRC and IFRC procurement mechanisms. Lower value procurements continue to be managed by the National Society in accordance with approved IFRC



procurement procedures and oversight requirements, allowing for timely acquisition of operational supplies and services at field level. For higher value procurements, the IFRC has taken the lead in processing and managing procurement actions directly, ensuring strengthened financial controls, competitive sourcing, transparency, and full compliance with global procurement standards.

Throughout the implementation period, the IFRC Logistics and Procurement team continues to provide technical support and oversight to both the IFRC and CRC teams. This includes guidance on procurement planning, supplier management, quality assurance, compliance monitoring, and risk management. Regular reviews of procurement and financial processes are being conducted to ensure operational efficiency, accountability, and the effective use of resources as the Emergency Appeal continues to scale up across the targeted regions.

These arrangements are enabling the operation to maintain strong governance and financial management standards while ensuring that essential goods, services, and cash assistance reach affected communities in a timely and efficient manner.

## How will this operation be monitored?

Monitoring and oversight activities continue to be implemented jointly by the Cameroon Red Cross (CRC) and the IFRC PMER teams to ensure that the operation remains on track, achieves its intended results, and adapts effectively to evolving needs and operational realities. The monitoring framework combines routine field supervision, performance tracking, community feedback, financial oversight, and technical support to ensure both programme quality and accountability.

At field level, CRC volunteers, supervisors, and branch staff are conducting regular monitoring of ongoing activities using standardized data collection and reporting tools. These systems are being used to track progress across all operational sectors, including multipurpose cash assistance, livelihoods, health, nutrition, WASH, Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA). Supervisors continue to consolidate field reports and implementation updates, which are shared regularly with CRC headquarters and the IFRC to support timely decision making and adaptive management.

The IFRC delegation and deployed surge personnel are providing continuous technical monitoring and operational support through regular coordination meetings, data reviews, field visits, and implementation follow up. Joint monitoring missions involving CRC and IFRC teams have been conducted during key operational activities, including beneficiary registration, community engagement activities, and ongoing cash distributions in the Far North Region. These missions have supported progress verification, quality assurance, identification of implementation challenges, and the formulation of corrective actions where required.

Monitoring of the cash assistance component is ongoing through distribution tracking systems and Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) mechanisms. PDM tools have been finalized and will continue to be applied following each distribution cycle to assess beneficiary satisfaction, expenditure patterns, food consumption outcomes, coping strategies, market effects, and any emerging protection concerns. Initial beneficiary feedback has already been collected during the first rounds of cash distributions and will contribute to programme learning and future adjustments.

Monitoring of health and WASH activities is being conducted through a combination of field observations, activity reports, community-based surveillance information, service delivery statistics, and beneficiary feedback. These monitoring efforts are helping to assess the reach and effectiveness of awareness campaigns, hygiene promotion activities, referral services, and cholera prevention measures while tracking behavioural changes within targeted communities.

Financial monitoring and reconciliation processes are also continuing throughout the operation. Regular financial reviews are being conducted by the CRC and IFRC to ensure compliance with established procedures, monitor expenditure trends, verify supporting documentation, and maintain strong accountability and transparency in the management of operational resources.

Community feedback and accountability mechanisms are progressively being strengthened and serve as an important source of monitoring information. As feedback and complaints channels become fully operational across targeted communities, affected populations will be able to raise concerns, provide suggestions, seek clarification on assistance processes, and report potential issues related to targeting or service delivery. Information generated through these mechanisms will be systematically reviewed and used to inform operational decision making and programme improvements.

Findings from monitoring activities continue to be consolidated through regular operational reporting and shared with relevant stakeholders, including CRC leadership, IFRC technical teams, and Movement partners. Looking ahead, additional joint monitoring and technical support missions will be conducted during subsequent phases of implementation to verify results, document lessons learned, strengthen accountability, and ensure that the response continues to meet the needs of affected populations effectively and efficiently. A final evaluation of achievements, challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations will be conducted at the end of the operation to inform future programming and strategic planning.



## Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

Communications and visibility activities continue to be implemented jointly by the Cameroon Red Cross Society (CRC) and the IFRC in support of the Emergency Appeal. The communications approach is focused on raising awareness of the food insecurity crisis, highlighting the humanitarian needs of affected communities, supporting resource mobilization efforts, strengthening accountability, and maintaining engagement with donors, partners, authorities, and the general public throughout the operation.

During the reporting period, communications efforts supported the launch and early implementation of the Emergency Appeal through coordinated messaging and dissemination of evidence generated by the CRC multisectoral assessment. Assessment findings were widely shared with humanitarian partners, government authorities, donors, and Movement stakeholders, helping to reinforce the credibility of the response and support evidence-based advocacy and resource mobilization efforts.

A Communications Surge Delegate and IFRC communications staff have been deployed and are actively supporting the operation, particularly during the ongoing cash distribution activities in the Far North Region. Field missions have enabled the collection of photos, videos, beneficiary testimonies, and operational updates that showcase the impact of the response and amplify the voices of affected communities. These materials are being used across CRC and IFRC communication channels to increase visibility of the operation and strengthen public awareness of the evolving food security situation.

Several communication products have been developed and disseminated, including situation updates, social media content, photographs, beneficiary stories, key messages, and visual materials highlighting operational achievements and humanitarian needs. Communication materials used within communities have also been adapted to local contexts and languages to support inclusion, accessibility, and accountability.

Throughout implementation, communications activities have emphasized transparency and accountability to affected populations. Information on assistance processes, targeting criteria, distribution schedules, and available feedback mechanisms continues to be shared with communities through community engagement activities, sensitization sessions, and field level outreach. These efforts are helping to ensure that affected populations remain informed and able to participate meaningfully in the response.

The operation has also maintained regular communication with donors, partners, and Movement stakeholders through coordination meetings, operational updates, situation reports, and resource mobilization engagements. Visibility activities during cash distributions and other field interventions continue to highlight operational progress while demonstrating the impact of donor contributions and partner support.

As implementation progresses, communications efforts will continue to document results, capture lessons learned, promote community voices, support advocacy on food insecurity and resilience, and provide timely information on the achievements and challenges of the operation. Particular emphasis will remain on showcasing the human impact of the response, strengthening donor confidence, and ensuring consistent and accurate messaging across all communication platforms.



# Budget Overview



## DREF OPERATION

Code - Cameroon Red Cross  
Food Insecurity

### Operating Budget

<b>Planned Operations</b>	<b>792,704</b>
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	39,288
Multi-purpose Cash	717,402
Health	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	27,607
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	8,406
Environmental Sustainability	0
<b>Enabling Approaches</b>	<b>207,151</b>
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	118,731
National Society Strengthening	88,420
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>999,855</b>

*all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)*



# Contact Information

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[Click here for the reference](#)

