



# CAMEROON

## Joint Steering Committee Progress Review

As of 05 May 2019

This summary is part of a progress review of seven priority countries carried out by the Joint Steering Committee to advance Humanitarian and Development Collaboration.

### Situational Analysis

Cameroon ranks 153 out of 182 on the Human Development Index and faces persisting levels of poverty (37.5%), underemployment (79%) and food insecurity (34%). With drivers of instability that include tensions in the (anglophone) North-West and South-West regions, the presence of Boko Haram, narrowing democratic space and an underfunded yet major humanitarian crisis, the risk of a deterioration of the situation cannot be understated.

Four regions (Far-North, North, Adamaoua, and East) manifest the lowest development scores due to long-standing marginalization, lower access to basic services and higher vulnerability to food insecurity and epidemics than the rest of country. 2018 saw the escalation of another humanitarian crisis in the anglophone regions of Cameroon, which has led to nearly 600,000 IDPs and over 32,000 refugees and resulted in a sharp rise of the humanitarian needs.

Cameroon also hosts 236,000 refugees from the Central African Republic in its eastern provinces, mainly fleeing agro-pastoralist clashes exacerbated by the activities of the rival ex-Séléka and anti-Balaka armed groups on the CAR side of the border.

Despite the growing complexity of these crises, Cameroon remains overlooked. The International Crisis Group (ICG) included the crises in the North-West and South-West regions on its list of 10 conflicts to watch in 2019, describing it as “on the verge of escalating into civil war”.

The low visibility of regional engagement, including by the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the African Union (AU), is a major challenge to mobilize international support for the solution of the crises in the North-West and South-West regions, although the US, UK, EU and Chad have all recently spoken out publicly to denounce violence and encourage dialogue. The UN continues to pursue a dual-track engagement strategy emphasising technical support for dialogue bodies (including through the PBF following official request for eligibility in February 2019).

approval of \$130 million from the World Bank’s IDA refugee window, in support of 4 projects. Cameroon was the first country to draw on the IDA refugee window.

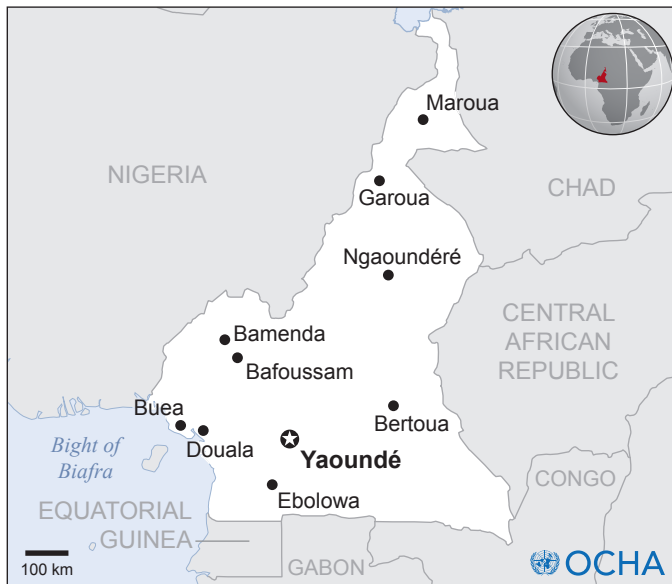
### Gaps -

- The Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment assessed priorities for preventing conflict spillover in northern and eastern regions. The RPBA was approved by government. Conflict in Cameroon’s western region has since increased and is not covered by the RPBA.
- Although progress has been made in ensuring coherence between different analyses and plans, collective outcomes are not yet formulated. Investment programs and macro-economic trends should be explored and linked to such collective outcomes.
- Implementing collective outcomes will require strengthened leadership by the Government.
- Lack of development financing for Cameroon limits joint planning and programming on a larger scale. Mobilizing additional financing towards collective outcomes will be crucial.

### Progress & Gap Overview

#### Progress +

- + The RC/HC has provided strong leadership to ensure coherence between humanitarian, development and peace actors in their support to the Government.
- + Several joint analyses initiated in 2017 have informed the assessment of needs, vulnerability and risk, and the existing capacities to address them. The results of the joint WB-EU-UN-Government Recovery and Peace-Building Assessment (RPBA) were extensively used in the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), the Common Country Analysis (CCA), the World Bank data, market trends and human rights reports.
- + There is alignment of time-frames, as well as geographic and thematic focus of the different planning frameworks, including the multi-year Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP, 2017-2020), the UNDAF (2018-2020) and Recovery and Peace Consolidation Strategy for Northern and East Cameroon (RPCS) (2018-2020).
- + Coordinated planning between WB and UNHCR led to the



Not done    In progress    Done

Has joint analysis been conducted?



Have collective outcomes been articulated?



Have the collective outcomes been operationalized?



Have resources been harmonized around collective outcomes?





# CAMEROON

## New Way of Working – Joint Steering Committee Progress Review

As of 05 May 2019

### Summary of Review Findings and Recommendations

#### 1. Leadership and Capacity

The RC/HC has provided strong leadership to strengthen coherence between humanitarian, development and Government planning frameworks as early as 2016, but dedicated capacity is needed in the RCO to support a coordinated process around collective outcomes led by the Government.

#### 2. Information and Analysis

Joint analyses, including the RPBA, have created a shared understanding of needs, vulnerability and risk. Cameroon's official request for PBF eligibility (February 2019) will include a conflict analysis that will identify priority programmatic entry points to address the root causes of the crisis.

#### 3. Articulation of Collective Outcomes:

The RPBA includes shared outcomes developed with the Government, humanitarian and development actors. The HRP and the UNDAF already share thematic priorities, including education, health, resilience and food security. The RC/HC needs support with the development of collective outcomes, linked to these frameworks, which will also be informed by peace actors and the ongoing work on SDG Accelerators. A pilot joint risk monitoring system could be developed and supported by the HDPP Initiative. The UN has initiated a dialogue with the Government and partners around vulnerability analysis on better defining and targeting the most vulnerable populations and identify joint priorities.

#### 4. Harmonizing Resources and Financing

Cameroon does not receive the support it requires from humanitarian and development donors (at just 40 per cent funding, the 2018 HRP was the least funded in sub-Saharan Africa). An IASC financing mission conducted in February 2019 identified gaps and opportunities to finance collective outcomes. The PBF will support catalytic peacebuilding interventions in 2019 that will have to be scaled-up by partners, including EU and WB.

#### 5. Accountability and Monitoring

A high-level coordination structure, including the Government, should be set up to provide leadership, create accountability and help monitor progress achieved towards more integrated action.

### Recommendations

**Joined-up Information and Analysis:** Provide capacity to the RCO to develop a joint vulnerability analysis, through the recently established Working Group chaired by the RC/HC, and to conduct a mapping exercise of country level programming that can be used to identify current gaps in humanitarian, development and peace programming across the Lake Chad Region, building on the recently completed Lake Chad Mapping Exercise on existing capacities.

► **Action:** JSC members to identify specific capacities and staff that can be deployed in support of the above-mentioned analysis.

**Accountability and monitoring:** Provide the tools (e.g. software) and capacities required for RC/HCs and UNCTs to pull data together to effectively measure progress against collective outcomes, the SDGs and the Government's Development Plan.

► **Action:** DSG to request ECA to provide support and analytical tools required for RC/HCs to effectively support implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including collection of data, the establishment of baselines and monitoring mechanisms.