

### 1. Summary<sup>i</sup>

<b>18</b>	<b>3.3 million</b>	<b>63 MSEK</b>	<b>0 MSEK</b>	<b>0 MSEK</b>	<b>63 MSEK</b>
Humanitarian crisis ranking (Sida's initial allocation analysis) <sup>ii</sup>	Number of people with humanitarian needs (Sida's initial allocation analysis) <sup>iii</sup>	Initial allocation for 2026	Additional allocation in 2026	Flexible funding in 2026	Total Sida funding in 2026

Cameroon faces a protracted, multi-layered humanitarian crisis driven by overlapping armed conflicts, chronic displacement and climate shocks. Violence by non-state armed groups in the Far North (FN) and North West South West (NWSW) regions continues to cause killings, abductions, extortion and repeated displacement, while long-term refugee inflows from the Central African Republic strain basic services in the East. Rising criminality, fragmented armed actors and recurrent floods and droughts further erode resilience. NRC's *Most Neglected Displacement Crises* report places Cameroon at the top of the list of the world's most neglected crises, citing extremely low media attention, limited political engagement and chronic underfunding despite worsening humanitarian conditions.<sup>1</sup> An ongoing shift toward nationally anchored, area-based coordination aims to strengthen localisation, yet limited government engagement, outdated NGO legislation and capacity gaps risk leaving critical needs unmet.

Around 2.9 million people require humanitarian assistance, including hundreds of thousands of refugees and over half a million internally displaced persons. Sida will allocate SEK 63 million at the start of 2026 to support life-saving assistance and protection in FN, NWSW and refugee-hosting areas, while prioritising the preservation of humanitarian space and maintaining access to essential basic services for the most affected populations.

### 2. Humanitarian needs & affected population

Humanitarian needs in Cameroon remain extensive and are driven by the combined effects of protracted violence, repeated displacement, climatic shocks, and structural limitations in access to essential services. The crisis continues to affect communities in the FN and the NWSW most severely, with refugee-hosting areas in the East and Adamawa also facing sustained pressure on

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<sup>1</sup> NRC, *The World's Most Neglected Displacement Crises – 2024*: "Cameroon tops the list of the world's most neglected crises," due to limited media attention, political neglect and severe underfunding.

already fragile systems. Despite variations in severity across regions, the underlying drivers of vulnerability remain largely unchanged: insecurity, constrained mobility, recurrent flooding, and limited livelihood opportunities.<sup>2</sup>

Priority needs across crisis-affected regions include food security, protection, health, WASH, shelter, education and livelihoods support. Households in the FN face disrupted agricultural cycles, limited market access and reduced purchasing power, particularly in flood-affected zones where crops, assets and water systems have been damaged.<sup>3</sup> In the NWSW, communities experience persistent barriers to health care, psychosocial services and safe education, with repeated interruptions due to insecurity.<sup>4</sup> Refugees and host communities in the East and Adamawa continue to face overstretched basic services, limited livelihood opportunities, and challenges related to documentation and shelter.<sup>5</sup> Displaced households, women and girls, unaccompanied children, people with disabilities, and undocumented individuals face the most severe needs.

Protection risks remain a defining feature of the crisis. Civilians in the NWSW face threats including abductions, arbitrary arrests, extortion, intimidation of teachers and religious actors, and attacks on education facilities.<sup>6</sup> Movement restrictions, checkpoints, and periodic shutdowns limit both access to services and the ability of humanitarian actors to operate safely. In the FN, recurrent kidnappings, use of improvised explosive devices along key road corridors, incursions into villages, destruction of homes, and intercommunal clashes continue to endanger civilians.<sup>7</sup>

Needs are especially high in the FN, which has consistently recorded the highest concentration of people in need due to conflict, recurrent flooding, large-scale displacement and structural service gaps. In the NWSW, needs are most acute in rural divisions where violence continues to disrupt civilian life, constrain economic activity and degrade access to services.

### 3. The humanitarian response

In 2026, the Cameroon Humanitarian Response Plan estimates 2.9 million people in need, of whom 1.9 million are targeted for assistance. In line with the Global Humanitarian Overview's reduced global appeal, around 1 million people are prioritised, with financial requirements of USD 319 million and a prioritised envelope of USD 171 million. The geographical focus remains on the NWSW, FN and East. While durable solutions, particularly for refugees, are increasingly emphasised, persistent

<b>1.9 million</b>	<b>\$319 million</b>	<b>19.4%</b>
People targeted in the response plan (HNRP 2026)	Required to reach the target (HNRP 2026)	Of the funding secured (HNRP 2026)

<sup>2</sup> *Cameroon Humanitarian SitRep – Q3 2025* (flood impacts on shelters, crops, WASH systems). UNICEF Cameroon

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>4</sup> INSO Cameroon Monthly Report (Nov 2025) – protection threats, IEDs, abductions, movement restrictions, attacks on education and religious institutions, vigilante group behaviour.

<sup>5</sup> UNHCR Cameroon Response Update (refugee caseload and service gaps in East/Adamawa).

<sup>6</sup> UNICEF Cameroon Humanitarian Situation Report No. 3, Q3 2025 pp2-3

<sup>7</sup> INSO Nov 2025

service gaps and unresolved conflict in the NWSW and FN mean that humanitarian actors will continue to provide essential lifesaving assistance.

The response in 2026 remains centred on high severity areas, with priority given to protection, health and nutrition, water and sanitation, emergency shelter and essential services. In the East and Adamawa, partners will maintain essential services for refugees and host communities while supporting gradual steps toward durable solutions where feasible. The humanitarian reset promotes a narrower operational footprint and stronger linkages to national systems. However, evidence from 2025 indicates that several complementary services, notably community based health and nutrition, have already been reduced due to funding constraints and are unlikely to be restored at scale in 2026.<sup>8</sup>

Response capacity will remain severely constrained by underfunding, insecurity, logistical barriers and administrative impediments. Violent incidents, roadblocks, lockdowns and recurrent flooding continue to limit access, particularly in the FN and NWSW. While national authorities remain essential counterparts, they are not positioned to meet acute needs independently in high severity areas, especially in the NWSW. As a result, remote rural communities, flood affected households and long term displaced and refugee populations outside main centres are likely to remain underserved.<sup>9</sup>

Humanitarian access in the NWSW is shaped not only by insecurity but also by administrative and political constraints, including restrictions related to movement, authorisations and field presence. These constraints have limited the ability of UN agencies and international actors to maintain a sustained operational presence in parts of the NWSW, increasing reliance on remote management and national partners. Lengthy approval processes delay assessments, monitoring and response scale up, with operational consequences such as reduced protection by presence, weaker real time analysis and slower responses to new displacement or protection incidents.

The humanitarian reset is reshaping coordination arrangements, with a transition toward area based coordination and stronger emphasis on local leadership. While this may improve efficiency and localisation over time, short term risks include reduced technical support and weaker protection analysis if transitional arrangements are not adequately resourced. Ensuring that access constraints, funding reductions and administrative impediments do not further undermine service continuity is a key priority. At the same time, maintaining protection monitoring and accountability to affected populations remains critical for an effective response.<sup>10</sup>

## 4. Sida's humanitarian allocation

Sida's allocation for 2026 focuses on addressing the most urgent needs in Cameroon's protracted and highly constrained crisis environment. Sida will prioritise life-saving interventions in protection and multisectoral programming. The allocation aims to sustain essential services for populations affected by conflict, violence, displacement and recurrent climate shocks, while enabling partners to

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<sup>8</sup> UNICEF. *Cameroon Humanitarian Situation Report No. 3 (Q3 2025)*.

<sup>9</sup> OCHA. *The Cost of Inaction in Cameroon*. 2025

<sup>10</sup> CHINGO. *Impact of Funding Reductions on the Humanitarian and Development Response in Cameroon*. June 2025.

operate in inaccessible areas and adapt to rapidly shifting conditions. Flexible funding is expected to strengthen continuity of critical services and, where feasible, facilitate linkages with emerging nexus approaches or system-strengthening efforts.

Sida prioritises organisations with proven ability to reach people in the most severe need, including those in hard-to-access locations where insecurity, roadblocks, lockdowns and flooding routinely restrict movement. Partners are expected to use a range of delivery modalities such as in-kind assistance, essential services, sector-specific cash and vouchers, and multipurpose cash. And to adjust these based on access constraints and market dynamics. Organisations with robust protection systems, strong analysis, and the capacity to monitor population movements, incidents and protection risks despite limited physical access are particularly essential.

Sida's allocation also supports partners with the capacity to respond rapidly to new displacement and sudden shocks. This includes maintaining rapid-response mechanisms, displacement tracking and protection monitoring, especially in areas of the FN and NWSW where regular field presence is limited. Flexible funding enables partners to reallocate resources between areas and sectors as needs and access conditions evolve, ensuring that the response remains adaptive and targeted to the most at-risk populations. Where possible, Sida encourages partners to integrate anticipatory and early-action triggers into their planning to limit the humanitarian impact of predictable hazards and reduce the scale of emergency response needs.

In an increasingly constrained operational environment, Sida's allocation also aims at preserving humanitarian space and sustaining core analytical and monitoring capacities. Administrative barriers, reduced field access and underfunding have already weakened protection monitoring, community-level services and the visibility of evolving needs. Predictable and flexible funding enables partners to maintain essential services in community health, nutrition, WASH and education, even as national systems struggle to absorb continued pressure. As the humanitarian reset advances and cluster functions are phased out, partners with strong internal systems and cross-sector expertise will be essential for mitigating transitional gaps in technical guidance and coordination. Given Cameroon's position among the world's most underfunded and neglected crises, Sida's support provides vital stability, allowing organisations to retain presence in hard-to-reach locations, uphold principled assistance and ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable populations remain visible despite shrinking operational footprints.

PARTNER	INITIAL ALLOCATION
CHINGO (hosted by NRC)	2,000,000
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	20,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	15,000,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	15,000,000
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	11,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63,000,000</b>

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<sup>i</sup> The 2026 initial allocation of humanitarian funding is based on Sida's humanitarian allocation analysis methodology. The analysis reflects the current humanitarian situation across crises and is being updated continuously with the latest available data. The information in the HCA is based on reports, data, and information from partner organisations and other entities, as well as observations from field visits and dialogue with partners.

<sup>ii</sup> Sida's initial allocation analysis consists of three dimensions that are assessed for each crisis-affected country: 1) magnitude and severity of humanitarian needs 2) capacity of the humanitarian system to respond to needs and 3) capacity of the crisis-affected country to respond to needs. The qualitative and quantitative analysis produces an index scoring for each country, where the highest ranked country is found to have the greatest proportion of unmet severe humanitarian needs globally, based on available data. Sida's initial allocation for 2026 includes a total of 25 countries with the highest scores. For more information please see Initial Allocation Methodology.

<sup>iii</sup> Sida uses the most inclusive estimate of humanitarian needs which is available from recent sources and supported by triangulation. For Cameroon, the selected sources are HNRP 2025 (as changes seen in GHO 2026 are being triangulated), and UNHCR 2025 for people with humanitarian need outside HNRP scope.