

CAMEROON



Consolidated Emergency Report 2016

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ALDEPA	Action Local pour Le Développement Participatif et Autogéré
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
CAR	Central African Republic
CLTS	Community Led total Sanitation
CMAM	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
CPiE	Child Protection in Emergencies
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
EiE	Education in Emergency
ICE	Institution Camerounaise pour l'enfance
IDPs	Internal Displaced People
IOM	International Organization of Migration
IMC	International Medical Corps
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
HAC	Humanitarian Action for Children
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ODF	Open Defecation Free
PSS	Psychosocial Support
MNPs	Multiple-Micronutrient Powders
NGO	Non-governmental organizations
RUTF	Ready to Use Therapeutic Food
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
TLPS	Temporary Learning and Protective Spaces
UAC	Unaccompanied Children
UASC	Unaccompanied and Separated children
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Executive Summary

In 2016, the impact of the Lake Chad crisis continued to be felt in the Far North Region, meriting the extension of the L2 designation throughout the year. The presence of Central African Republic refugees in the East and Adamawa Regions became a silent crisis, as international attention shifted away.

Following an inter-agency assessment to Logone and Chari in June 2016, UNICEF began implementing humanitarian response programs in Child Protection, Education and WASH, as well as scaling up its other interventions in the area through its partnership with the line ministries for health and nutrition. One innovative approach was the “Children of Peace” funded by ECHO helped to increase access to education to refugees, IDPs and host community school age children. Due to access issues and the late shift from refugees to IDPs and host communities; only child protection was able to achieve more than 80% of the annual target followed by education (66%), nutrition (59%) and WASH (43%).

In the East and Adamawa, UNICEF Cameroon continued to push forward its mandate, despite extremely limited funding, to address the needs of the CAR refugees and their host communities. It worked with the Government of Cameroon to bring attention back to these forgotten regions, with particular focus on the child protection and education challenges. Presently, there are 259,132 refugees (54% females) in the East, Adamawa and the North Regions; of these, 151,429 came after Dec. 2013 and are located in the East and Adamawa, mostly residing within the local community (75%). Moreover, UNHCR has registered an increase in the number of refugees, with 6,901 coming over the course of 2016. More than 80% of the annual targets were achieved for nutrition and WASH, followed by education (61%) and child protection (53%) due to the fact that CAR crisis has become a silent crisis; therefore, underfunded.

The chronic underfunding of humanitarian programming in Cameroon meant that by October 2016, UNICEF had only received US\$ 10,962,441 of its funding requirements of US\$ 31,400,000, the majority of which came in the latter half of the year. In order to mitigate this challenge, UNICEF prioritised its interventions to those areas with the highest levels of needs, as well as sought to build synergies between interventions to maximise impact.

The shift in displaced populations from camps to villages already facing structural strain has necessitated a new approach to UNICEF’s humanitarian strategy – one that focuses on bridging the humanitarian-development divide by bolstering the resilience of communities. The two field offices (East and North) have been boosted with additional HR and new mechanisms to increase their autonomy and accountability in delivering high quality response. As it moves into 2017, UNICEF will continue supporting populations to address their basic needs, while putting in place systems to cope with shocks.

Humanitarian Context of 2016

The past year saw the continued displacement of populations from Nigeria, Central African Republic and within Cameroon to the Far North, Adamawa and East regions of Cameroon. In the Far North, while the population of Minawao camp increased to 59,794 refugees, UNICEF’s focus at the end of the year shifted to those outside the camp – the 26,743 refugees not registered and living within host communities, as well as the 199,889 IDPs – 67% of whom are children (DTM 5, IOM, October 2016). Regarding the CAR crisis, a total of 259,145 CAR refugees have been identified in the East, Adamawa

and North regions, with 75,815 in refugee camps and the vast majority of 183,330 residing in host communities.

The historic underdevelopment of these regions, combined with the stresses brought on by the IDP and refugee populations, has put pressure on host communities that were already facing challenges accessing adequate health care, education, water supply and sanitation – in addition to chronic malnutrition.

In the East and Adamawa, this comes at a time when humanitarian actors face a decrease in funding to respond effectively to the crisis to the point that some humanitarian actors are considering targeting their limited resources to the most vulnerable refugees.

In addition to challenges accessing basic services, the populations in the regions affected by crises in Cameroon are exposed to a plethora of additional protection challenges, in particular children under administrative custody. Unaccompanied girls placed in host families are exposed to greater risks of sexual violence and abuse.

Over the course of 2016, UNICEF worked to strengthen its operational capacities for improved assessments of the situation and to ensure an appropriate response on the ground. UNICEF has deployed new staff to the Bertoua Field Office to strengthen its basic services program. In the Maroua Field Office, UNICEF is reinforcing its education and child protection programs, recognizing that children need safe environments in which to learn and feel protected from the effects of conflict on their wellbeing.

Humanitarian Results

Narrative reporting

Over the course of 2016, UNICEF continued to strengthen government and community response capacity by implementing an integrated emergency response package for people suffering from chronic vulnerabilities, including refugees, IDPs and host communities. To this end, the flexible funding mechanism for emergencies played a critical role in ensuring the continuity of the emergency response. Thanks to this flexibility, potential gaps in the programme implementation could be quickly closed.

UNICEF helped to strengthen coordination of the emergency response by co-leading, in partnership with the government, stakeholder groups in WASH, nutrition, education and child protection. UNICEF enhanced its readiness to provide adequate life-saving interventions by building strong partnerships and coordination mechanisms through sector leadership roles.

Nutrition

In 2016, UNICEF supported the roll-out of CMAM services in the four vulnerable regions of Cameroon (Far North, North, Adamawa, and East). In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF scaled up the process of community mobilization through which children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) are actively screened, detected and referred in a timely manner to the treatment centers. To ensure that the treatment is at scale, UNICEF also reinforced the capacity of a network of 700 health facilities for the management of SAM. UNICEF also provided all the supplies and equipment needed for the treatment of SAM in the four regions. UNICEF procured 52,000 boxes of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), 500 boxes of F75 and 600 boxes of F100 and essential drugs for the treatment of SAM. As a result, 62,150 children under five with SAM were treated in the UNICEF-supported centers in

2016, with performance outcomes well superior to the SPHERE standards. More than half of these children were in the Far North region and about 5% of them (2,868) were refugee children from CAR and Nigeria.

HPM INDICATORS	Sector Response			UNICEF		
	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved
NUTRITION CRISIS						
Number of Cameroonian children <5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care	59,300	49,618	84%	59,300	49,618	84%
Performance of integrated program for severe acute malnutrition treatment in far North : cured rate	≥75%	82%	NA	≥75%	82%	NA
Number of affected children (SAM) who received wash kits with key hygiene messages	45,000	12,342	27%	40,000	12,342	31%
CAR CRISIS						
Number of children <5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care	3,900	5,721	147%	3,900	5,721	147%
LCB CRISIS						
Number of refugee children <5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic care in Minawao camp	1,000	692	69%	1,000	692	69%

Education

The emergency education programme focused primarily on increasing access to education for both refugee / displaced and host community children affected by both the Central African Republic crisis in the East and Adamawa region, and the Lake Chad Basin crisis in the Far North region. In parallel with access to education, the interventions were gradually expanded with a view of improving the quality of teaching in emergencies, capacity building for education personnel and increasing in community involvement.

Following advocacy done by UNICEF, the Government has started to expand access to education to areas directly affected by the humanitarian crises. This is evidenced by the construction of classrooms, the opening of two pre-primary schools in Minawao camp, the distribution of education kits, and the deployment of additional teachers to schools.

Despite challenges, a total of 139,886 refugees, IDPs and host community children in the Adamawa, East and Far North regions of Cameroon, including 42% of which were girls, accessed formal education activities. Furthermore, UNICEF supported young children who could not enroll in formal schools through the construction of 15 temporary learning and protective spaces (TLPS) in Minawao refugee camp, benefiting 2,425 children (51% girls) aged 3-5 years.

Flexible emergency funding proved especially important for securing goods and services in a timely manner, for filling the gap towards meeting the education needs of the refugees, IDPs and host community children. The mechanism helped the education programme meet the urgent needs from the field through prompt purchase and prepositioning of education materials, as well technical

support. Conflict affected children benefited from over 2,188 education kits (school in a box (SIB), ECD and recreational equipment. This support contributed to the improvement in academic retention rate, as the school environment was made attractive to parents, teachers and children. Retention rates increased from 36% in 2014/15 to 48% in 2015/16.

To strengthen the skills of teachers in the conflict affected targeted areas to mitigate the devastating long-term impact of conflict and violence on children, and to raise awareness in the community about protective learning environments, UNICEF provided teachers with training on child-centred pedagogy and on psycho-social support services, as well as supported close pedagogic supervision throughout the year. A total of 85 inspectors, school directors, local radio representatives and Child Protection partners from both East/Adamawa and Far North region went through a five days Psychosocial Support (PSS) training of trainers programme. To roll out the programme to lower grade levels, 18 of the master trainers further trained 400 teachers (170 in Minawao camp and 250 from Mayo Tsanaga, Logone and Chari and Mayo Sava localities). Sixty-seven teachers were trained in the East region in response to the CAR refugee crisis. During this same period, a total of 38 national and regional level officials and NGO representatives were also trained on the Education in Emergencies module. This aimed at deepening their knowledge in emergency preparedness and response planning.

Most of these results were achieved through a close collaboration with the Ministry of Basic Education from planning to monitoring and evaluation. As a result of continuous advocacy and sensitization of the key partners, the education sector coordination monthly meetings were revived with the full participation of the Ministry of Basic Education, key NGOs and UN partners. Within the Education Cluster, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education continuous to play their role as respectively lead and co-lead for Education in Emergency (EiE) response in the country.

Many challenges still remain however. Weak capacity to effectively plan, implement and coordinate activities still remain a challenge. Data and information management is another challenge facing the sector. Inadequate and dwindling financing for EiE activities, especially for the CAR refugees, is posing a serious threat to the capacity of partners to provide quality basic education services to the refugees, IDPs and host community children. The continuous insecurity and inaccessibility, influx and displacement of children in the Logone and Chari district in the Far North makes it difficult to access and provide education services to the affected population.

HPM INDICATORS	Sector Response			UNICEF		
	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved
CAR CRISIS						
Number of refugee children with access to education	56,000	35,535	63%	39,000	23,790	61%
Number of children benefitting from teaching and learning supplies	73,300	63,847	87%	73,300	63,847	87%
LCB CRISIS						
Number of refugee and IDP children with access to education	59,000	36,609	62%	48,600	31,951	66%
Number of children (refugees and IDP) benefitting from teaching and learning supplies	107,000	48,860	45%	99,900	41,698	42%

Child Protection

In 2016, UNICEF supported 88,655 children affected by the Central African Republic and Lake Chad Basin crises through psychosocial activities in child friendly spaces, the prevention and response to family separation, the identification and registration of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), the tracing and family reunification of unaccompanied children (UAC). UNICEF assisted 1,762 unaccompanied and separated children, among them 527 unaccompanied and separate children identified in the East and Adamawa regions (CAR crisis) and 1,235 identified in the Far North region (Nigeria + crisis).

In the eastern regions, UNICEF has been confronted by the withdrawal of child protection donors, and as a consequence, is deeply underfunded and understaffed. Flexible emergency funding, along with Japan government funding, enabled UNICEF to maintain a minimum package of child protection interventions in the Eastern Region: 18% of the targeted children for 2016 benefited from UNICEF psychosocial support in Temporary learning and Protection Spaces in refugees sites (15,799 children: 6,808 girls and 8,991 boys), 527 unaccompanied and separated children (234 girls and 293 boys) were identified and provided with care and support (52 % of the annual target).

In the Far North Region, 93% of the targeted population of affected children (internal displaced children, children from host communities and refugees) benefited from UNICEF's psychosocial support activities. Community-based child friendly spaces and community structures have been established across the region and in Minawao Camp, providing psychosocial support to 60,324 children, including 29,704 girls and 30,620 boys. Additionally UNICEF and its implementing partner provided care and support to 1,235 identified unaccompanied and separated children (562 girls and 673 boys - 34% of its annual target).

Boko Haram continues to carry out so-called 'suicide' attacks. The use of children, especially girls, as so-called 'suicide bombers' has now become one of the defining, and most alarming, features of the conflict. As a consequence, children were arrested under suspicion of being associated with Boko Haram, in disregard of the fact that any children associated to armed groups are victims of unlawful recruitment under international human rights law. As of 1st February 2017, there were a reported 33 children detained in Maroua prison under suspicion of being associated with Boko Haram. UNICEF worked closely with the government (Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Justice) to take them into care in the "Institution Camerounaise pour l'Enfance (ICE)" of Maroua where psychosocial support, family tracing and reunification are provided.

UNICEF sees reinforcing the child protection system as a priority. UNICEF will continue to support the government to strengthen the capacity of decentralized services (social workers, social Centre, transit Centre, police, and law enforcement authorities) and build on the empowering of authorities, families and communities.

In order to build authorities' capacity on the international legal frameworks regarding Children Associated with Armed Groups (Boko Haram), UNICEF provided capacities building to social workers of 'Institution Camerounaise pour l'enfance' of Maroua (ICE) and Child Protection actors (IMC, PLAN, ALDEPA) on Community Based Psychosocial Support interventions and the ICE procedures. In addition, the regional Delegation of Social Affairs of Far North Region, in close collaboration with Ministry of Justice and with UNICEF support, held a one day workshop on Standards Procedures and care arrangements including psychosocial support, age verification/determination, ethnics and deontology

of child Protection in Emergency, notably for children suspected of association with Boko Haram in the Far North Region.

UNICEF in collaboration with partners implemented a mine risk education programme in Minawao refugee camp with 104 participants (64 head of blocs, 14 members of child protection committee, 16 animators, 6 community health workers, 2 representatives of the delegation and 2 representatives of UNICEF) and another session in Mokolo with 53 participants (5 Community leaders, 10 members of vigilante group, 10 members of child protection committees, 25 animators, 2 representatives of the delegation and 2 representatives of UNICEF).

To respond to the child protection issues both for the Central African Refugee (CAR) crisis in the Eastern regions and Nigeria crisis in the Far North Region, UNICEF has strengthened the Child Protection in Emergencies (CPIE) at the field level to implement a quality child protection response in both the East and Far North regions, enabling it to further advocate with the government on sensitive child protection issues, namely children allegedly associated with armed groups, as well as build the capacity of local partners.

HPM INDICATORS	Sector Response			UNICEF		
	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved
CAR CRISIS						
Number of children accessing psychosocial support through ETAPEs	120,000	26,004	22%	90,000	15,801	18%
Number of unaccompanied and separated children receiving interim care and follow-up	NA			1,000	527	53%
LAKE CHAD CRISIS						
Number of children accessing psychosocial support through child friendly spaces (IDP, refugees and host community)	116,000	90,799	78%	65,000	60,889	94%
Number of unaccompanied and separated children (IDP and refugees) receiving interim care and follow-up	4,683	3,498	75%	3,650	1,235	34%

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In 2016, UNICEF provided a package of WASH interventions to 38,941 people. Using emergency funds, 69 boreholes, 112 emergency latrines and 44 institutional latrines (8 in schools and 36 in health centres) were built and water management committees were set up for each of them. 90,000 people were provided with access to information on water treatment and good hygiene practices through sensitization activities with focus group discussions or door-to-door discussions with community agents.

Sanitation conditions at household level were improved through the adoption of the CLTS (Community Led Total Sanitation) approach in order to promote the end of open air defecation in host communities' sites. In partnership with local NGOs, this approach were conducted in 408 communities, reaching about 106,000 inhabitants in vulnerable areas. 270 communities have been

declared open defecation free. To scale up the CLTS approach, 87 partners including NGOs social workers were trained on the implementation of National CLTS strategy and methodological guideline. In addition, 110,000 community members were sensitized on open defecation free (ODF) impacts.

To respond to epidemics and natural disasters, UNICEF prepositioned and distributed 334,235 WASH kits with key hygiene message. The WASH in nutrition and health component, which aims to address one of the biggest causes of malnutrition and water-related diseases – poor hygiene practices - reached 12,342 SAM children.

HPM INDICATORS	Sector Response			UNICEF		
	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved
NUTRITION CRISIS						
Number of affected children (SAM) who received wash kits with key hygiene messages	45,000	12,342	27%	40,000	12,342	31%
CAR CRISIS						
Number of people who have access to safe drinking water	123,000	58,120	47%	25,000	32,020	128%
NIGERIA + CRISIS						
Number of households receiving hygiene kits with key hygiene messages	30,000	6,465	22%	15,000	6,465	43%

Health

UNICEF supported the purchase of measles and rubella vaccines for emergencies, as well as a stock of 10,000 insecticide-treated mosquito nets distributed to refugees in the East, Adamawa and Far North regions.

HPM INDICATORS	Sector Response			UNICEF		
	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved
Number of children aged 6 months – 15 years vaccinated for measles				TBD	2,446	n/a

HIV/AIDS

UNICEF has continued to support the integration of HIV in the emergency preparedness and response. During 2016 and thanks to the Japan and global humanitarian funds, UNICEF results included:

- 550 peer educators had their capacities strengthened on adolescent reproductive health, HIV/STI prevention, behaviour analysis, risk/vulnerability mapping and life skills. 3,000 adolescents and young people both in refugee camps and host communities attended sensitization sessions conducted by these trained peer educators.
- 106 HIV-positive pregnant women requiring continuation of ART were put on treatment (Out of 655)
- 18 HIV-positive children requiring ART were put on treatment (Out of 91).

Communication for Development (C4D)

UNICEF carried out Communication for Development activities in support of programme priorities. UNICEF strengthened the community participation and mobilization, with the implementation of new C4D pools to carry out proximity communication activities in the Minawao refugee site; activities to promote child protection, Essential Family Practices to prevent endemic diseases such as cholera and malaria, as well as malnutrition. C4D pools' members were also trained as peacebuilding, pacific cohabitation and social cohesion actors in their respective blocks. 73 community leaders have been sensitized through educational talks and home visits.

Results Table

HPM INDICATORS	Sector Response			UNICEF		
	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved	2016 Target	Total Results	% Achieved
NUTRITION CRISIS						
Number of Cameroonian children <5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care	59,300	49,618	84%	59,300	49,618	84%
Performance of integrated program for severe acute malnutrition treatment in far North : cured rate	≥75%	82%	NA	≥75%	82%	NA
Number of affected children (SAM) who received wash kits with key hygiene messages	45,000	12,342	27%	40,000	12,342	31%
CAR CRISIS						
Number of children <5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to therapeutic care	3,900	5,721	147%	3,900	5,721	147%
Number of refugee children with access to education	56,000	35,535	63%	39,000	23,790	61%
Number of children benefitting from teaching and learning supplies	73,300	63,847	87%	73,300	63,847	87%
Number of children accessing psychosocial support through ETAPes	120,000	26,004	22%	90,000	15,801	18%
Number of unaccompanied and separated children receiving interim care and follow-up	NA			1,000	527	53%
Number of people who have access to safe drinking water	123,000	58,120	47%	25,000	32,020	128%
NIGERIA + CRISIS						
Number of refugee children <5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic care in Minawao camp	1,000	692	69%	1,000	692	69%
Number of refugee and IDP children with access to education	59,000	45,840	78%	48,600	31,951	66%
Number of children (refugees and IDP) benefitting from teaching and learning supplies	107,000	51,728	48.3%	99,900	41,698	42%
Number of children accessing psychosocial support through child friendly spaces (IDP, refugees and host community)	116,000	90,799	78%	65,000	60,889	94%

Number of unaccompanied and separated children (IDP and refugees) receiving interim care and follow-up	4,683	3,498	75%	3,650	1,235	34%
Number of households receiving hygiene kits with key hygiene messages	30,000	6,465	22%	15,000	6,465	43%
Number of children aged 6 months – 15 years vaccinated for measles		TBD			2,446	n/a

Financial Analysis

While in 2015, UNICEF mobilized 30 per cent of its requirements for Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC), in 2016 \$11.9 million of the \$31.4 million needed was mobilized (38 per cent of the HAC). Of the funds received in 2016, 60 per cent was for the Lake Chad Basin crisis, 5 per cent for the Sahel nutritional crisis, and 35 per cent for the Central African crisis. Health, Education and WASH were the least funded sectors with a gap of 88 per cent, 73 per cent and 69 per cent respectively. The CAR crisis faced a decrease in funding to respond effectively to the need of the refugees and host communities' children. The CAR crisis has become a silent and forgotten crisis. Cameroon's 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan of \$282 million was 49 per cent funded.

Table 1: Funding status against the appeal by sector

Sector	Initial HAC 2016 requirements	Nigeria + requirements	Funds Available*	Funding Gap	
				\$	%
WASH	7,250,000	2,885,000	2,757,756	4,492,244	69%
Education	8,850,000	5,647,000	2,359,016	6,490,984	73%
Health & HIV/AIDS	2,950,000	1,566,000	502,737	2,447,263	88%
Nutrition	7,200,000	510,000	3,773,578	3,426,422	61%
Child Protection	4,900,000	2,831,000	2,284,449	2,615,551	58%
Sector Coordination	250,000	125,000	217,613	32,387	11%
Total 2016	31,400,000	13,564,000	11,895,149	19,504,851	62%

Table 2: Funding received and available by donor and funding type

Table 2 - Funding Received and Available by 31 December 2016 by Donor and Funding type (in USD)

Donor Name/Type of funding	Programme Budget Allotment reference	Overall Amount*
I. Humanitarian funds received in 2016		
a) Thematic Humanitarian Funds (Paste Programmable Amount from Table 3)		
See details in Table 3	SM/14/9910	1,959,887
b) Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds (List individually all non-thematic emergency funding received in 2016 per donor in descending order)		
Japan	SM/16/0075	2,314,815
Spanish Committee for UNICEF	SM/16/0037	62,529
ECHO	SM/16/0399	522,111
	SM/16/0421	396,030
FRANCE	SM/16/0540	560,538
SIDA	SM/16/0558	1,086,838
Total Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds/		4,813,435
c) Pooled Funding		
(i) CERF Grants (Put one figure representing total CERF contributions received in 2016 through OCHA and list the grants below)		
(ii) Other Pooled funds - including Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF), Humanitarian Response Funds, Emergency Response Funds, UN Trust Fund for Human Security etc. (Put the figure representing total contributions received in 2016 through these various pooled funding mechanisms.		
CERF	SM/16/0433	561,150
	SM/16/0452	468,610
d) Other types of humanitarian funds		
USAID/Food for Peace	KM/16/0023	349,920
	KM/16/0025	54,000
Total humanitarian funds received in 2016 (a+b+c+d)		
III. Other sources (Regular Resources set -aside, diversion of RR - if applicable)		
Regular Resources Set-Aside Funds/Global Thematic Funds for LCB crisis	GS/16/0048	2,000,000
Total other resources		400,000

Table 3: Thematic humanitarian contributions received in 2016 (in US\$)

Donor	Grant number	Programmable Amount	Total Contribution Amount
Global Thematic Humanitarian Resp	SM149910	1,624,691	2,183,198
French Committee for UNICEF	SM1499101135	335,196	335,196

* Global thematic humanitarian funds are allocated at the programmable level.

Future Work Plan

Three years into a protracted crisis, with more people displaced between villages, it becomes paramount to build the resilience of Cameroonian communities, while addressing both the humanitarian and development needs of the affected regions. By working with all strata of society, in

partnership with communities as well as local government, UNICEF will implement programs that address prevailing needs, while being responsive to any changes in context. UNICEF will build strategic partnerships with local NGOs who are able to reach populations the might otherwise be unreachable. This approach – the nexus between humanitarian and development programming – includes early warning indicators. An underlying criteria is an integrated approach, which will ensure that communities, particularly IDPs and unregistered refugees, receive a package that addresses all their basic needs. Children will have their educational needs met, receive psychosocial support to cope with their traumas and displacement, and have their primary health needs met. UNICEF is making 2017 a transition year, moving towards this comprehensive shift in program approach. As such, UNICEF will move towards reaching more communities in isolated areas. It will shift towards building the skills of national and sub-national partners, both government and civil society. Finally, 2017 will be when UNICEF explores innovative approaches to increase community involvement in programs, reach and accountability.

Tangibly, this means that over the course of 2017:

- 55,000 affected people will gain a sustainable access to drinking water, to address their vulnerabilities
- Through CLTS, 100,000 affected people will access adequate sanitation to meet their vulnerabilities
- 30,000 children admitted for SAM treatment will receive a WASH minimum package of activities
- 221,500 children aged 3-17 years will access quality formal or non-formal basic education
- 190,000 children aged 3-17 years will benefit from learning materials
- 117,500 primary and secondary school-aged children will be supported by a teacher trained in PSS
- 58,640 children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM will be admitted for treatment
- Through Child Friendly Spaces, 105,800 children will be reached with psychosocial support
- 2,800 Number of unaccompanied and separated children will be placed in alternative care and/or benefit from individual follow-up
- 1,250 Number of unaccompanied children will be reunified with their families
- 35 Number of children associated with armed groups will be supported in their reintegration

Expression of Thanks

UNICEF Cameroon would like to thank the governments that contributed to the Global Thematic Fund, as well as those who provided much needed unallocated resources, giving UNICEF the flexibility to respond to the most urgent needs and ensure that the most critical gaps in funding were filled. In particular, we would like to thank the Governments of France, Japan and Sweden. As well, the Government of the United States of America, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the European Union contributed through direct funding of particular targets.

Annexes

Annex 1 : Financial analysis

See attachment

Annex 2 : Two-pagers

See attachment

Escaping Boko Haram, and healing her community,

By Alexandre Brecher, UNICEF Cameroon



Young girls playing outside their school in the Far North.
Photo: UNICEF/A.BRECHER

When Tabita fled her village during a night of terror, she didn't know that along the way, she would learn how to protect other girls and become an important young leader in the refugee community of Minawao.

Tabita Baana was only 15 when Boko Haram attacked her village in Nigeria for the first time. "For as long as I can remember, I always wanted to spend my whole life in my village, Tchikele," she says.

"The only landscape I had ever

known was the hills surrounding our mud huts. It was a quiet, peaceful place. I was happily living there with my grandmother. I didn't want to go anywhere else, I'm not much of a traveller. But sometimes life doesn't give you a choice." It happened at night. Gunshots. Explosions. Tabita didn't realize immediately what was happening but her grandmother did. The armed group that many other village elders kept talking about had finally reached them. "They came to our house," Tabita recalls. "We thought they would just kill us. But they had other plans."

They asked the grandmother to follow her outside and started negotiating with her. Their goal was clear and terrible: they wanted to marry Tabita — the only girl in the household.

"They told my grandmother that if she must pay them if she didn't hand her over for marriage. Otherwise, they would just abduct me, and kill her."

Unexpectedly, having made their offer, the fighters left the house. "They said they would come back. My grandmother gave me some food for the way and told me to run."



Tabita in Minawao. Photo: UNICEF/A.BRECHER

It took a few days for Tabita to reach Tchinéné, the village where her father was living and working as a farmer. She hid in corn fields in the mountains. "Those were the worst moments in my life," she remembers. "But then I found my father, I hadn't seen him in months. I was so happy. Almost happy enough to forget about what had happened."

Amazingly after a few days, Tabita's grandmother also reached the village. She had escaped the same night, but had to hide for a longer period of time. Boko Haram was still around and looking for her. "We thought that everything would be fine. I had my father and my grandmother with me. I had some stability. I made new friends, I was happy." But Tabita's ordeal was not over. "Peace lasted for a few months. And then everything collapsed. Again."

One night, Boko Haram attacked Tchiné. They burnt the houses and killed all the men. As soon as Tabita's parents heard the first gunshots, they left the village. By the time they had found a hiding spot their village had gone up in flames. The family eventually found their way to the Cameroonian border where they were piled into trucks and sent to Minawao Refugee Camp. "It was so difficult for us to settle in a new place after having been chased from our home, twice. But at least, in Minawao, we knew we were out of danger."

It took a very long time for Tabita to find herself comfortable in the camp, to meet new friends, and to go back to school. But in Minawao, she was supported in her recovery by UNICEF's partner for child protection, ALDEPA. The organisation works to rehabilitate children who have fled violence. Her care included games and life skills training. Tabita happily learnt to make dresses and accessories.

"These activities helped me meet lots of girls my own age. They became my friends, my new family. In the conversations I had with them, I heard about some cases of domestic violence, and early marriage. I reported them to one of ALDEPA's social workers, who told encouraged me to join the girls club." These clubs, run by the social workers, help generate conversation about issues related to the life of young girls in the camp, the opportunities they have, and the risks they face. "My role is to monitor, identify cases of violence, and to encourage the victims to talk to the social workers. Then they can take action to protect the girls."

Recovering from her ordeal has been a miracle for Tabita. She thought she would never be able to enjoy life again but, as she says that now she feels less worried. "I wouldn't say I'm happy — But I can forget about what happened and think about my future." Looking to the future Tabita would like to become a teacher. She has learnt in this conflict the importance of education. "That's how we will defeat Boko Haram, for good." When we asked her where she would like to teach, Tabita smiled and said: "In my village of Tchikene. I miss it so much. One day peace will be back in Northern Nigeria. That's when my journey will end."

The silent crisis of Eastern Cameroon,

By Alexandre Brecher, UNICEF Cameroon

Following the civil war, 260,000 Central African refugees found shelter in neighboring Cameroon including 62% of children, living in very precarious conditions in refugee camps or with host communities. More than 88,000 children are still not in school. Due to a severe shortage of funds, UNICEF and its partners are currently unable to operate a response that would ensure none of them are left behind.

'I am not happy at home. I didn't want to get married, I didn't want to have a child. I wanted to go to school. 13 years old is much too young to become an adult.'

Kulsumi tries to smile, but her eyes are filled with the kind of sadness that no child should ever feel. We are in Tongo Gandima, a small village from the East Region of Cameroon, a hundred kilometers from the border with the Central African Republic (CAR). That's the country she fled in 2014 when violence erupted in her village. 'Both of my parents were killed in front of me', she said. 'My elder brother as well. I left alone. I followed the herdsmen. When they were sleeping, I was sleeping,



Kulsumi and her young boy. Photo: UNICEF/A.Brecher

in the morning we would leave. I never turned back.' After a few weeks on the road, she reached Cameroon. First, she lived in the refugee camp of Gado, and then moved to the village of Tongo Gandima, when she found a foster family. 'That's when it went wrong. My foster family didn't have money to send me to school. They gave me for marriage to an older boy. I didn't want to, but I had no choice. I am now the mother of a 4 months old baby. I love my son, but sometimes I feel I got my childhood stolen.'

Kulsumi is one of thousands of girls with heartbreakingly similar stories. Early marriage is the fate for more than half of the young girls living in the two regions (East and Adamawa) affected by the crisis. The parents prefer not to send their children to school, but rather keeping their boys with them for the work in the fields — and give out their young girls for marriage.

'Here, the price for a girl is a pack of beer and a fowl'

'When a girl reaches the age of puberty, she is taken away from school', explained Sylvie Ndoume, a school director from the village of Gado. 'Since I started working here 10 years ago, I only saw one girl reaching the 9th grade. Here, the price for a girl is a pack of beer and a fowl, given to the father. And it's over.'

From the very beginning of the crisis, the Ministry of Education, UNICEF and their partners have been conducting massive public campaigns to convince the parents to send their children to school. But out of the 250 villages that were targeted, only 59 have been reached so far because of a lack of funding that seriously hampers the effort to bring children back to school. This year, UNICEF's education section only received 20% of the required funds for the East and Adamawa crisis.



Children in front of 'Temporary Learning Spaces' built by UNICEF and its partners in refugee camps in the East and Adamawa regions of Cameroon. Photo: UNICEF/A.Brecher

‘Today we have 88,000 children who are not in school; what kind of future will they have?’ Asked Felicite Tchibindat, UNICEF’s representative in Cameroon. ‘Only 12% of the children were going to school back in CAR. Through our interventions, we managed to increase this figure to 30%, but it is still insufficient. When children are not in school, it’s their ability to realize their full potential that vanishes.’

‘A perfect storm’

In 2016, UNICEF managed to offer through its partner NGOs psychosocial support to 15,000 children, but an estimated 75,000 other children need this kind of support to recover from their horrible experience of conflict.

This status quo could lead to a ‘perfect storm’, that would jeopardize the future of thousands of children. The absence of protection services means that children can’t recover properly from their ordeal. When they arrive in school they face very harsh conditions because of the lack of teachers and infrastructure—it is not unusual to see 250 pupils for a single teacher in Eastern Cameroon. When children reach an age when they can work with their parents, or get married, they’re taken away.



More than 200 pupils in a single classroom is not an unusual image in Eastern Cameroon. Photo: UNICEF/A.Brecher

‘The situation is extremely difficult, but not irreversible’, said Felicite Tchibindat. We can turn it into an opportunity for the parents to offer their children a better life. I call on the International Community to not forget these children. This crisis must not become a silent crisis. It’s still time to act, but if we don’t do it now, we’ll have to deal with much more serious consequences in the future’.

Annex 4 : Donor Report Feedback Form

County: Cameroon
Project Title: Thematic Humanitarian contributions 2014-2016 (Cost recovery EXBD 2013/5)
Grant Number: SM149910
Duration: From January 1st to December 31st 2016

UNICEF is working to improve the quality of our reports and would highly appreciate your feedback.
Kindly answer the questions below for the above-mentioned report and return to UNICEF by email to:

Name and Title: Felicite Tchibindat, UNICEF Cameroon Representative

Email: ftchibindat@UNICEF.org

**SCORING: 5 indicates "highest level of satisfaction"
while 0 indicates "complete dissatisfaction"**

1. To what extent did the narrative content of the report conform to your reporting expectations? (For example, the overall analysis and identification of challenges and solutions)

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what did we miss or what could we do better next time?

2. To what extent did the fund utilization part of the report meet your reporting expectations?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what did we miss or what could we do better next time?

3. To what extent does the report meet your expectations in regard to the analysis provided, including identification of difficulties and shortcomings as well as remedies to these?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what could we do better next time?

4. To what extent does the report meet your expectations with regard to reporting on results?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what did we miss or what could we do better next time?

5. Please provide us with your suggestions on how this report could be improved to meet your expectations.

6. Are there any other comments that you would like to share with us?
