

*Press release***The 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan requires US\$ 407.3 million to support 2.7 million most vulnerable people in Cameroon**

Yaoundé, 11 May 2023 – The Government of Cameroon and the humanitarian community in Cameroon jointly launched the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) to address the immediate and urgent needs of 2.7 million of the most vulnerable people in Cameroon. The 2023 HRP requires US\$407.3 million to provide protection services and life-saving assistance to people suffering from the effects of violence, natural disasters, climate shocks, and disease outbreaks.

Cameroon continues to be impacted by conflict in the Lake Chad basin, violence in the North-West and South-West regions, and the impact of the Central African Republic (CAR) crisis in the eastern regions (East, Adamawa, and North). As a result of these crises and of disasters, as well as the deterioration of the global economy, 4.7 million people need humanitarian assistance across the country. This figure represents one out of six people living in Cameroon.

Women and children constitute 77 per cent of people in need of humanitarian assistance, a clear sign of the heavy price they pay as a result of the crises. Moreover, an estimated 3 million people are facing acute food insecurity in 2023 and more than 2 million people are on the move as internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees persons or refugees, many lacking essential services.

Against this background, the humanitarian community will contribute to provide enhanced access to protection, urgent health, food, nutrition, education, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene services with a focus on women and children with the most severe needs. Specific needs of men and boys should not be forgotten as well, in particular protection needs.

“Saving lives and providing assistance to the most vulnerable people remain the immediate and most urgent priority”, said Mr. Matthias Z. Naab, the Humanitarian Coordinator for Cameroon. “I urge the international community to provide early, flexible and sufficient funding,” he added.

The plan aims at reducing the mortality of people affected by crisis, improve the respect for their fundamental rights, reduce their vulnerabilities and strengthen their resilience. Throughout the response, the humanitarian actors are committed to ensure that affected communities are meaningfully and continuously engaged with. Moreover, to reduce vulnerabilities on a large scale and find sustainable solutions, humanitarian and development partners, together with the Government, will further develop synergies of actions.

In 2023, through the Humanitarian Response Plan, humanitarian partners will target 2.7 million people, working in support and complement to the Government efforts to save lives, protect the most vulnerable and enable affected people to live safely and with dignity.

For more information, please contact:

Karen Perrin, Head of Office, OCHA Cameroon, perrink@un.org
Bibiane Mouangue, Public Information Officer, OCHA Cameroon, bibiane.mouangue@un.org
Press releases from OCHA are available at www.unocha.org/rowca and www.reliefweb.int