

# EMERGENCY APPEAL

Cameroon, Africa | Floods



*A volunteer from the Cameroon Red Cross collecting information in a flood-affected area. (CRC photo)*

**Appeal No:** MDRCM039

IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: **CHF 4.5 million**  
Federation-wide Funding requirements: **CHF 7.0 million<sup>1</sup>**

**Glide No:**

**People affected:**  
367,230 people

**People to be assisted:**  
99,100 people

**DREF allocation:**  
CHF 700,000

**Appeal launched:**  
14/10/2024

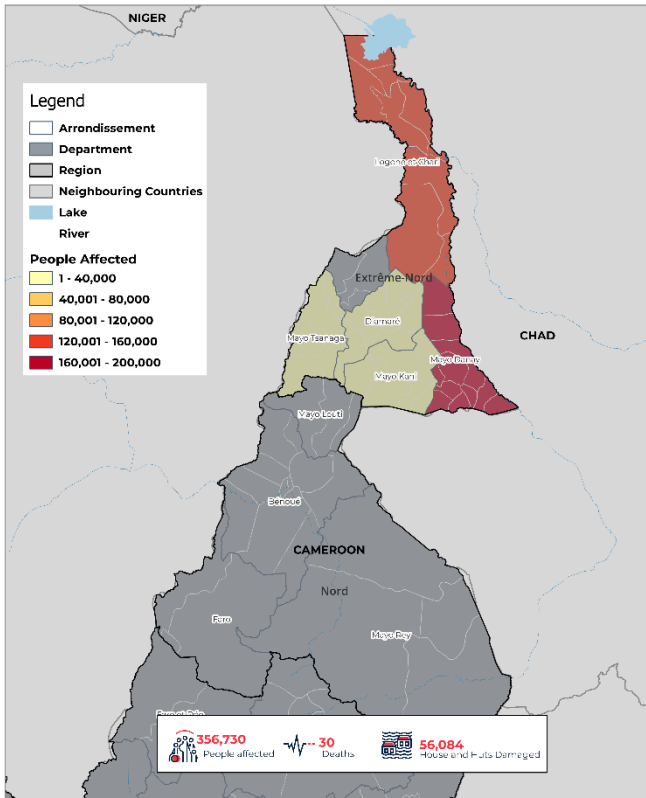
**Appeal ends:**  
30/09/2025

<sup>1</sup> The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Cameroon Red Cross Society in response to the emergency. It includes the Cameroon Red Cross Society's domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 2.5 million), as well as the funding requirements of the IFRC Secretariat (CHF 4.5 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

# SITUATION OVERVIEW

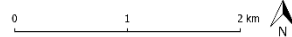
## CAMEROON : FLOODS

15 October 2024



This map does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: GADM/UNOCHA, Cameroon RC, IFRC. Map produced by: IFRC Africa Region Office, Nairobi.



Severe flooding in Cameroon has caused people to lose their livelihoods, land, cattle, and even their lives. People already suffering in extremely challenging living conditions are now homeless, destitute, and vulnerable to further threats, including disease. In 2024, the country experienced the most devastating floods in recent years due to a combination of factors, including the worsening effects of climate change and above-average rainfall.

Since early August, torrential rains have severely affected four regions of Cameroon and the most affected regions include the Far North and the West resulting in multiple deaths, loss of livelihoods, homes, infrastructure, educational facilities, agricultural and environmental damage, and livestock losses. The Northwest, and Southwest regions remain at risk.

The Department of National Meteorology reported that rainfall was higher than the historical average in previous years. The intensity and recurrence of the rainfall from 10 August 2024 onwards led to a gradual increase of river basins, reaching a critical threshold in the departments of

Logone and et Chari and Mayo Danay. The peak of the flooding was recorded on 28 August with the bursting of water retention dikes in Mayo Danay, which caused the complete inundation of the town of Yagoua and other villages. The most affected districts are Blangoua, Makary, Zina in the division of Logone et Chari, and Maga, Yagoua in the division of Mayo Danay.

In the Far North region, more than 356,730 people (more than 67,545 households) have been affected, with 30 deaths, 56,084 houses destroyed, 5,278 head of cattle lost, 82,509 hectares of land destroyed, and some 262 educational buildings destroyed by the floods, preventing access to educational services for some 103,906 students and 1,514 teachers.

The deterioration of the dike at the Maga reservoir and the ongoing flooding of the Logone river continue to spread across additional districts in the Logone-et-Chari and Mayo-Danay divisions with high risk factors that could further exacerbate the impact on the population. Despite the actions already taken by the Government of Cameroon and other humanitarian actors, the situation remains critical. The floods have affected 29 out of 47 sub-divisions of Logone et Chari, Mayo-Danay, Diamaré, Mayo-Tsanaga, and Mayo-Kani.

Similarly, the West Region has recently experienced climatic events, particularly torrential rains that have caused floodings in several localities, resulting in both material losses and human lives.

According to the incident report (October 2024) prepared by the Menoua Departmental Committee, around 500 families, representing around 1,971 people (968 women, 521 men, and 480 children), were affected and are taking refuge in non-flooded areas. This sudden event led to an increase in the number of deaths in the affected communities. Two children went missing, and many others have been injured. The material damage was enormous, with roads and farmland flooded and hectares of crops (bananas, cocoa, oil palms) destroyed. Schools and marketplaces were also destroyed, severely impacting community services.

The situation in the village of Bandoum is alarming. Located in the middle of the mountains, the village is already exposed to frequent landslides, increasing the risk of further disasters. The destruction of the civil registry and the loss of essential documents, such as birth certificates and diplomas, make the situation even worse.

Currently, tens of thousands of people affected by the disaster are living outdoors in the Far North and West regions, exposed to inclement weather and health risks. Some families have taken refuge in temporary facilities, such as community centres and schools, while others are being hosted by local communities. The situation is complicated by the lack of adequate shelter, as well as persistent rain and overflowing rivers.

According to the various weather forecasts, the rainy season is likely to continue beyond October with an increase in river flows making the population of this part of the country increasingly vulnerable. Cameroon is affected by multifaceted disasters and crises such as floods, food insecurity, climate shocks, disease outbreaks, persistent population movements (internal and external), and communal violence and conflicts. Even before the recent floods, over 3.4 million people were highly vulnerable and in need of humanitarian assistance. The floods in August have aggravated the situation and pushed people to the brink, undermining their resilience and forcing some of those affected, especially women, girls, and children, who are compelled to adapt through negative coping mechanisms.

Affecting an already vulnerable population living in minimal conditions, the risks associated with the current situation are diverse. The threat of an epidemic of malaria has come with the proliferation of mosquitoes during this period. The threat of a possible cholera epidemic is a risk, given the unsanitary conditions and the flooding of the latrines. Any delay in assistance could contribute to the deterioration of the living conditions and health status of the people affected.

Local authorities and humanitarian organisations, including the Cameroon Red Cross (CRC), are working to address the increasing needs of the affected population. In response to the crisis in the Far-North region on 4 September 2025, the IFRC launched a DREF of CHF 421,471 in support of the CRC to mobilise volunteers to assist with evacuations, provide first aid, and distribute relief items. Through its own resources, the ICRC provided support to the CRC in the Logone Chari, enabling the volunteers of the National Society to provide an immediate response to the most affected populations.

A joint team comprising the leadership of the CRC, IFRC, and French Red Cross, visited the flood affected areas of the Far North Region of the country from 7-10 October and have been working together in assessments, planning and implementation. Priority needs for an

adequate humanitarian response include:

- **Food Insecurity:** Many families have lost their crops and livestock, leading to food insecurity.
- **Shelter/Household Items:** Thousands of homes have been destroyed, leaving families without shelter.
- **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH):** Contaminated water sources and damaged sanitation facilities, as well as a lack of adequate hygiene at displacement sites pose considerable health risks.
- **Health:** There is an urgent need for medical assistance, especially for pregnant women and children.





*A discussion between a CRC volunteer and a female flood affected person, in which she shares the coping measures she has adopted in response to the flood events that have completely changed her life. (CRC photo).*

## TARGETING

This operation will target 99,100 vulnerable people (16,517 households) in the flood affected areas to receive direct assistance. More people will benefit from the response through sensitisation and awareness raising.

Unconditional multi-purpose cash transfers will target the most vulnerable households, with the primary criteria being houses that have been completely or partially destroyed. Other vulnerability criteria include:

- Households headed by women or children.
- Households with vulnerable individuals and people with specific needs.
- The most economically vulnerable households.
- Households that have lost their productive assets.
- Households with children under the age of five.
- Internally Displaced Person (IDP) households in temporary shelters or with host families.






The targeting approach and criteria will be reviewed and refined in close consultation with disaster-affected communities, community leaders, the CRC's local branches, authorities, and all relevant stakeholders. Duplication of effort will be avoided and greater synergies will be created in close collaboration with the broader humanitarian communities.

## PLANNED OPERATIONS

Through this Emergency Appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and its members aim to support the CRC in the response to the floods. The strategy of the CRC response is to meet the urgent needs of 99,100 people. However, particular attention and priority will be given to the Far North and West regions due to the severe impact of the floods and multifaceted disasters. The Northwest and Southwest regions will be closely monitored close coordination with the ICRC with preparedness and response activities planned in case of an escalation of the floods in these areas.




The response strategy is primarily focused on saving lives and alleviating suffering by providing integrated assistance.

In line with the IFRC's Disaster Risk Management policy, the continuum approach of response, recovery, and resilience will also be activated. Key cross-cutting issues will be integrated, and synergies created with ongoing programmes, such as ECHO PP and Anticipatory Action. Localisation of humanitarian response and strengthening of the CRC in emergency response settings to better handle disasters and crises (NSD in Emergency) will be integrated at all levels.

 	<p><b>Integrated Assistance</b>  (Shelter, Livelihoods, and Multi-purpose Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA))</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The intervention aims to provide immediate and direct assistance to 99,100 of the most vulnerable persons affected by the floods.</li> <li>• Considering the current emergency and to provide adequate and sustainable assistance to the communities, two types of cash and voucher assistance will be implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Unconditional cash for multiple uses to address urgent needs.</li> <li>○ Cash for livelihoods, promoting relief and a resilience approach towards income generating activities (IGAs).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Furthermore, a cash and voucher assistance modality has been implemented in the past in some of the localities of Yagoua, Kaikai, Vele, Gobo, and Guere by building on past interventions. A feasibility study and multisectoral assessment will be carried out to adapt the response strategy as per the evolving context of the recent floods. Cash will be distributed according to household size and over three rounds. The value and minimum number of distributions are aligned with the practices of the Far North region and the minimum disaster cash basket which also aligns with the requirements of the cash working group.</li> <li>• A post-distribution monitoring and lessons learned exercise will be conducted after the distributions to assess the satisfaction level of the targeted population with respect to the entire cash distribution process.</li> </ul>
 	<p><b>Health and Care including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)</b>  <i>(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the health sector, activities aim to prevent and control waterborne diseases, potential epidemics, and vector-borne diseases. A community-based surveillance system will be established to detect diarrheal and waterborne diseases.</li> <li>• Distribution of mosquito nets, with volunteers eliminating potential mosquito breeding sites by spraying insecticide in areas with stagnant water, such as puddles and ditches, following the rains.</li> <li>• Mobile clinics will be set up at displacement sites and remote villages, ensuring the reimbursement of primary health care costs for beneficiaries.</li> <li>• Promote behavioural change in personal and community health and hygiene, including improved, community-led sanitation solutions and awareness.</li> <li>• Cholera kits will be provided to health facilities to enhance detection and management. Mitigation work will be carried out by CRC volunteers and communities, with technical support from sectoral services, including cleaning out gutters, stabilising water run-off banks using sacks, and building embankments.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Protection and Prevention</b>  <i>(Protection, Gender, and Inclusion, Community Engagement and Accountability, and Disaster Reduction)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure quality and accountability, as well as promote the do no harm approach, key cross-cutting issues such as Protection, Gender, Inclusion, and Community Engagement and Accountability will be integrated in all interventions throughout the response cycle.</li> </ul>

## Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

	<p><b>Coordination and partnerships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In order to achieve a collective impact, create synergies, and avoid potential duplications, the CRC, supported by the IFRC and ICRC, will promote Movement and external coordination and collaboration. The IFRC will actively participate and contribute to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), while both the CRC and the French Red Cross will actively engage in various humanitarian fora and local coordination hubs/task forces. Regular updates on the situation and relevant information will be shared consistently.</li> <li>The CRC will actively engage with government authorities (Civil Protection Division) leading in the response. The CRC is an active participant in National Disaster Committee meetings and a partner of choice. It is also a member of the flood working group, set up and coordinated by OCHA.</li> <li>Humanitarian diplomacy, communication, and strategic engagements with the government, donor communities, diplomatic missions, and key stakeholders will be scaled-up and supported by all Movement partners.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Secretariat services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two rapid response personnel (Ops Surge) have already been deployed to Cameroon. A response team (comprising the CRC, IFRC Yaounde delegation, and French Red Cross Country Delegation) has also been deployed to the affected areas.</li> <li>The IFRC Yaoundé Cluster Delegation has been providing technical support to the CRC in various technical and thematic areas, such as CASH, WASH, Health, PMER, logistics, finance, CEA, PGI, security, and communications.</li> <li>The IFRC will provide services and ensure effective coordination among its members (National Societies) as per its 'the Way of Working (WoW)' modality.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>National Society Strengthening (NSS)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure volunteer insurance support. Promote branch and local response team strengthening with a focus on branches that have been affected by the floods.</li> <li>Reinforce the Logistics and Supply Chain capacity of the National Society, including procurement processes and transportation.</li> <li>Reinforce the financial management and reporting of funding, including the flow between headquarters and operational branches.</li> <li>Strengthen the financial management, risk management, field monitoring, and accountability measures.</li> <li>Localisation of humanitarian response and the strengthening of the CRC in emergency response settings to deal with present and future disasters (NSD in Emergency) will be integrated at all levels.</li> </ul>

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released in the upcoming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-wide approach, which includes the response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

After 30 September 2025, response activities to this disaster will continue under the [IFRC Network Cameroon Country Plan](#) for 2025. The IFRC Network Country Plans show an integrated view of the ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming tailored to the needs in the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country's actions. This aims to streamline activities under one plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in an accountable and transparent way. Information will be shared in due course, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned timeframe.

# RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

## Cameroon Red Cross Society

### Core areas of operation



Number of staff:	<b>148</b>
Number of volunteers:	<b>75,000</b>
Number of provincial branches:	<b>58</b>
Number of local units:	<b>340</b>

## IFRC Membership and Movement coordination

The IFRC will continue to exercise its role and mandate as coordinator of the membership and ensure strategic and operational coordination among its members at various levels. The regular operations update and situation reports will be shared among the membership and operational calls and coordination meetings will be organised. The IFRC will provide services and ensure effective coordination among its members (National Societies) in accordance with 'the Way of Working (WoW)' modality, providing coordinated support through assistance in needs assessments, planning, monitoring, evaluation, and learning.

Under a Federation-wide approach, the IFRC secretariat will coordinate the support (both financial and technical), from other membership partners present in Cameroon, particularly the French Red Cross, which has a long-term presence in the country and has provided consistent support to the National Society in the past as well as for this flood response operation.

The IFRC Yaoundé Cluster delegation will provide direct technical support to the Cameroon Red Cross in coordinating and reporting on the emergency response. This support is reinforced by the Regional Office team for Africa in Nairobi. The IFRC will increase its presence in Cameroon, ensuring that key positions are in place to support the National Society. This approach will include, among other elements, leveraging all available resources in the region, with a focus on mobilising additional technical resources from French Red Cross operating both in the country and the region. All IFRC members in Cameroon are working to pool their efforts, resources, and expertise to make a significant contribution to this emergency response and to ensure effective coordination with all Movement partners. The Movement Cooperation Agreement (MCA) signed in May 2024 will be used as key reference for achieving collective impacts.

The response to date by the CRC and Movement partners (IFRC, French Red Cross, ICRC) includes:

- On the 4 September 2024, the IFRC launched a DREF of CHF 421,471 in support of the CRC to mobilise volunteers to assist with evacuations, provide first aid, and distribute relief items.
- Distributed 1,500 jerry cans, 9,000 aquatabs, and conducted awareness-raising campaigns on hygiene practices.
- Provided cash assistance to 1,000 households and on-going additional cash assistance to 1,500 households in the Far North region
- The French Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) supported the delivery of emergency relief, improving access to health care and drinking water, and supporting livestock breeders and farmers. The CRC has mobilised empty bags (30,000) and backfill for the parts of dikes at risk, especially in Kousseri and in the districts of Logone et Chari and Mayo Danay. Additionally, the CRC received from the ICRC a donation of construction/reinforcement equipment for bunds (40'000 empty bags, 100 loads of 12 m3 of sand, 216 shovels, 72 picks, 300 gloves, 48 wheelbarrows, motor pumps and accessories, including suction hose and flexible discharge hose).
- There are ongoing operations to help improve the living conditions of the populations affected by the floods in



the Mayo Danay division through emergency humanitarian assistance to 600 households (4,800 people) through multi-purpose unconditional cash assistance.

## **External coordination**

To achieve collective impacts, create synergies, and avoid potential duplication, the CRC, supported by the IFRC, will promote internal and external coordination and collaboration. The IFRC will actively participate and contribute to the HCT, while the CRC and French Red Cross will actively engage in various humanitarian fora and local coordination hubs/task forces. Regular updates on the situation and relevant information will be shared consistently. The CRC is also a member of the flood working group set up and coordinated by OCHA.

Through its auxiliary role, the CRC is actively engaged with the government authorities (Civil Protection Division) leading the response. The CRC is an active participant in National Disaster Committee meetings and a partner of choice.

Some international NGOs and United Nations agencies (WFP, UNICEF, OIM, UNFPA) operating in Cameroon, including the IFRC/CRC, have joined together to support the national authorities. All activities are coordinated and approved by the relevant departments of the Government of Cameroon, represented locally by the Governor's Office (Ministry of Territorial Administration) and all of the regional delegations of other ministries, such as Health, and Water and Energy, among others). From its responsibilities, this technical working group has the mission of ensuring that urgent needs are addressed regardless of geographic location. As an active member of the technical working group set up by the government, the CRC is actively working to improve coordination and ensure the effectiveness of the response.



## Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation, please contact:

### At the National Society:

- **Secretary General:** ZOA Jean Urbain; email: [jeanurbain.zoa@croixrouge.cm](mailto:jeanurbain.zoa@croixrouge.cm), phone: +237697 27 61 18

### At the IFRC:

- **IFRC Head of Delegation (Country Cluster Delegation, Yaounde):** Adesh Tripathee; email: [adesh.tripathee@ifrc.org](mailto:adesh.tripathee@ifrc.org), phone: +237 650 65 99 91
- **IFRC Country Operations Manager** Josuane Flore Tene Tchokodeu; email: [\\_josuaneflore.tene@ifrc.org](mailto:_josuaneflore.tene@ifrc.org), phone: +237 677 098 790

### At the IFRC Regional Disaster, Climate, and Crisis Unit:

- **Strategic Lead, Preparedness & Response; Health and Disaster, Climate, and Crisis Unit:** Rui Oliveira; email: [rui.oliveira@ifrc.org](mailto:rui.oliveira@ifrc.org), phone: +254 780 422 276

### For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support:

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### For In-Kind donations and Mobilisation table support:

- **IFRC Regional Logistics Unit:** Allan Kilaka Masavah, Head of Africa Regional Logistics Unit; email: [allan.masavah@ifrc.org](mailto:allan.masavah@ifrc.org), phone: +254 20 2835000

### For Performance and Accountability support:

- **Regional Head, PMER and Quality Assurance:** Beatrice Okeyo; email: [beatrice.okeyo@ifrc.org](mailto:beatrice.okeyo@ifrc.org), phone: +254 732 404022

#### Reference



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