CAMEROON

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

JANUARY - JUNE 2023

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. Based in Yaounde since 1992, the ICRC’s regional delegation for Central Africa covers Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe and Cameroon.

In Cameroon, the ICRC deploys protection and assistance programs for people and communities affected by the consequences of armed conflict and violence in the Far North, North-West and South-West regions, often in collaboration with the Cameroon Red Cross (CRC), its privileged operational partner.
**PROTECTION**

**Protection of Family Links**
- Families of 328 missing persons were recontacted for the follow up of their cases.
- 65 Red Cross messages have been collected and 25 were distributed to members of separated families.
- 11 messages have been collected from persons deprived of liberty visited outside Cameroon and transmitted to their families in Cameroon.

**Detention Visit**
- Donation of a kit made up of football equipment to Kondengui’s principal and central prisons.

**WATER AND SANITATION**

- 35,857 people benefited from improved access to drinking water in urban and rural areas in the Far North and South-West Regions.
- 1,500 people benefited from the construction of 1 pastoral borehole and 1 vaccination park in the Far North Region.
- 54 people, members of water committees, received training in the management, upkeep and maintenance of built or rehabilitated structures and infrastructure.
- 552 displaced people benefited from emergency assistance in terms of access to better sanitation (emergency latrines) in the Far North Region.
- 3 health centers in the South-West and North-West have benefited from the rehabilitation of their infrastructure to improve patient care.

**RESPECT OF LAW AND FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES**

- In conformity with its mandate, the ICRC continued to seek and consolidate bilateral and confidential dialogue with weapon bearers. 582 members of the security and defense forces were trained in international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL). One senior officer took part in the advanced IHL course in San Remo, Italy. About 50 officers and non-commissioned officers were trained as instructors in international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL).

- 285 academic managers and members of the coalition of international NGOs have been sensitized on international humanitarian law, its implementation at the national level and the importance of integrating it into teaching modules.

- 1,044 community leaders, civil and religious authorities, members of civil society, women and youth associations as well as members of communities affected by armed violence have been sensitized on the ICRC’s mandate in the Far North, South-West and North-West Regions.

**HEALTH CARE**

- 81,376 patients, including 33,394 children under 5, received health care in 12 ICRC-supported health centers.
- 17,722 pregnant women benefited from prenatal consultations.
- 26,298 children suffering from malnutrition were screened and treated in the 12 health centers supported by the ICRC.
- 16,443 children under five were vaccinated.
- 987 patients from ICRC-supported health centers were referred to hospitals for secondary care.
- 593 patients, including 74 with gunshot wounds, received care in 12 hospitals supported by the ICRC.
- 2,470 women gave birth in health centers supported by the ICRC.

Cover picture:
In Bamenda, North-West Cameroon, the ICRC is helping people displaced by armed clashes in the big Babanki area towards the city of Bamenda with donations of essential household items and food products.
- 20 patients from the Physical Rehabilitation Program (PRP) received orthopaedic devices, 18 at the Associated Rehabilitation Center of Handicapped (ARCH) in Buea and 2 at the Centre National de Réhabilitation des Personnes Handicapées (CNRPH) in Yaoundé.
- 916 people, including 306 family members of missing persons, have benefited from the ICRC’s Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPS) program services.
- 10,694 people have been sensitized on the MHPS program in health facilities supported by the ICRC.
- 390 victims of violence, including 22 of sexual violence received treatment in ICRC-supported health centers.
- 55 victims of sexual violence received emergency financial aid.
- 136 medical staff were sensitized in the protection of the medical mission.

**ECONOMIC SECURITY**

- 340,045 - 340,045 tons of food consisting of rice, oil, salt and beans have been distributed to 2,510 households making 15,714 people, as part of food ration assistance in Malmam, Kolofata, Blangoua and Koyapé (Far North).
- 2 training and awareness-raising workshops were organized for 25 people, including volunteers from the Cameroon Red Cross (CRC) and health workers, on the national protocol for the management of severe acute malnutrition coupled with the strategy for promoting Infant and Young Child Feeding.
- 1,141,388 tons of food products consisting of oil, salt, beans, rice and super cereals (CSB) were distributed to 2,368 households with children suffering from acute malnutrition to improve their nutritional status in the health facilities of Oussal, Mozo and Tokomari in the region of Far North.
- 700 items of essential household goods were distributed to 25 families in the Far North region.
- 1 training course on economic security (project planning and monitoring) was organized for 17 Cameroon Red Cross volunteers.
- 297 tons of staple crop seeds consisting of rice, maize, beans, okra and sorghum were distributed to 13,000 vulnerable households in the Far North, North-West and South-West regions. Of these, 10,808 also received a cash transfer.
- 182 vulnerable households received a cash transfer to launch income-generating activities, in the Far North and Centre regions.
- 148 households received financial support to meet their basic needs in the North-West region.
- 20 groups of cereal producers in the departments of Mayo Sava and Mayo Tsanaga in the Far North of Cameroon received a rice thresher to reduce post-harvest losses and thus improve their cereal production.

- 5 all-terrain motorcycles were donated to MINIPA vaccination teams to improve their mobility and improve access to quality veterinary services and proximity.
- 36 office equipment and materials were donated to MINADER and IRAD to support varietal maintenance and basic seed production processes in the Far North region of Cameroon.

**COOPERATION WITH CAMEROONIAN RED CROSS (CRC)**

- The ICRC contracted insurance to cover 1,000 CRC volunteers in the event of an accident while carrying out their CRC activities.
- 25 managers of CRC committees in the South-West Region strengthened their ability to analyze their context, identify and manage risks, for safer access to beneficiaries.
- 22 CRC branch representatives from the Mayo Danay Division were trained in setting up community projects in Yagoua.
- 02 cross-border meetings involving 18 officials from the Comité départemental du Logone-et-Chari (CRC) and the Chad Red Cross (CRT) were organized in Kousseri and N'djaména as part of emergency preparedness and response activities.
- 03 Far North departmental committees (Mayo Sava, Mayo Tsanaga and Diamaré) carried out supervision missions in their respective district committees to support them in their emergency response operations.