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Flash Update

Floods in Cameroon's Far North Place Lives at Risk

Country:	Cameroon
Emergency type:	Climate Disaster - Flooding
Start Date of Crisis:	July 2024
Date Issued:	2 September, 2024
Covering Period:	11 August 2024 – 30 August 2024
Contact Persons:	Dr. Justin Koffi, Resident Representative, jukoffi@unfpa.org Noemi Dalmonte, Deputy Resident Representative, dalmonte@unfpa.org Aymar Narodar Somé, Humanitarian Coordinator, asome@unfpa.org Liliane Munezero, GBV AoR Coordinator, lmunezero@unfoa.org Samuel Sawalda, Humanitarian Communications Focal Point, sawalda@unfpa.org

Key Figures



158,620
people affected



38,069
Women of
reproductive age



4,133
Estimated pregnant
women



105,229
People targeted by
UNFPA with SRH
services



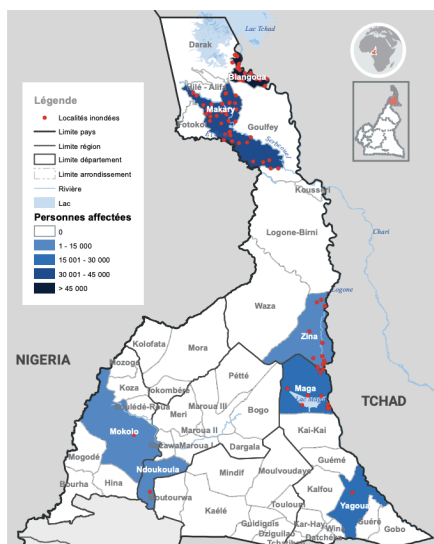
23,920
People targeted by
UNFPA with GBV
programmes

Highlights

- Severe flooding in Cameroon's Far North region in July and August has affected over **158,620 people**, as of August 28, 2024. This includes an estimated **38,069 women of reproductive age** among whom around **4,133 are currently pregnant**.
- The hardest hit areas are Mayo-Tsanaga, particularly the Mokolo subdivision, where there are limited sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) services, in addition to the Mayo-Danay and Logone-and-Chari divisions.
- Flood-related damage to infrastructure and farmland has led to displacement and disrupted access to various SRH and GBV services, including facilities supported by UNFPA. Two maternal deaths have already been reported in Mada and Fotokol.
- The risks of GBV have increased for women and girls due to the disruption of services, the breakdown in community support networks, and the lack of hygiene and menstrual supplies.
- A multi-sectoral humanitarian response coordinated by OCHA and national authorities is underway; UNFPA is responding to SRH and GBV needs.
- Top priorities identified across the response include food security, shelter, non-food items (NFIs), health (including SRH), and water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH).
- Ongoing heavy rains and the risk of disease outbreaks, including cholera, are posing additional challenges and could further exacerbate the situation.

Situation Overview

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Source: OCHA, August 2024

- According to OCHA, as of August 30, four divisions in the Far North have experienced heavy rain and floods, affecting 18,970 households. The floods have destroyed 8,690 houses, 2,998 hectares of crops, and 1,178 cattle. The most affected division is the Logone-and-Chari.
- Around 82,482 women and girls are estimated to be in need of GBV prevention and response services, 66,040 women and girls in the Logone-and-Chari alone.
- According to Commission Communale de Préparation et de Réponse aux Urgences (CCPR) in Longone-and-Chari, the floods have destroyed 3,698 houses and 1,810 hectares of crops, killed 320 animals, and caused one fatality in Blangoua and Makary councils. In Makary and Blangoua councils 11,404 households have been affected and 117,802 individuals displaced. In Blangoua town, 4,095 houses have been destroyed, affecting 74,996 people, while in Makary town, 7,309 houses have been destroyed, affecting 42,806 people.

¹ The designations employed and the presentation of material on the map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNFPA concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

- Displaced populations in Logone-and-Chari are relocating to nearby host communities or joining families in non-flooded areas.
- Deteriorating road conditions are hindering access to affected populations and causing delays in the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

UNFPA Response

- UNFPA has deployed midwives and social workers to affected localities where UNFPA already has programmes. UNFPA partners working in affected areas have undertaken a rapid assessment to determine needs and UNFPA is coordinating with partners to track displacement to inform the response.
- UNFPA-supported health facilities continue to be operational in some areas, including parts of Makary Health District and Mada Health District. Health staff and social workers continue to provide essential SRH and GBV services to those in need despite the precarious conditions.
- In Makary and Blangoua, health facilities have been damaged by the flooding and various services have been disrupted. UNFPA is undertaking an assessment of the functionality of health facilities and the availability of SRH and GBV services to better inform the response and ensure coordination.
- UNFPA's implementing partner, Association de Lutte contre les Violences faites aux Femmes (ALVF-EN), will undertake a safety audit of the locations where displaced people have sought refuge.

Funding Requirements

- UNFPA is urgently appealing for **USD 1,174,045** to scale up SRH and GBV interventions in flood-affected areas to meet the needs of **129,149 people** – the large majority of whom are women and girls.