

## Monthly Humanitarian Situation Report CAMEROON

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2013

### Highlights

- The Health and Nutrition week (SASNIM) was organized in the 10 regions from 26 to 30 April; 1,152,045 children aged 6-59 months received vitamin A and 1,349,937 children aged 12-59 months were dewormed in the Far North and North region. 1,727,391 (101%) children under 5 received Polio drops (OPV), and 38,790 pregnant women received Intermittent Preventive treatment (IPT).
- A mass screening of acute malnutrition in the North and Far North region was carried out during [the Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Action Week (SASNIM), reaching 90% of children. Out of 1,420,145 children 6-59 months estimated to be covered, 1,288,475 children were enrolled in the mass screening with MUAC, 425,892 in the North region and 862,583 in the Far North. 50,583 MAM cases and 9,269 SAM cases were found and referred to outpatient centres. 10 health districts out of 43 require urgent action.
- A 10 member delegation led by the UN Foundation team consisting of US Congressional aides and Rotary International visited Garoua - North Region to look at Child Survival and HIV initiatives from April 27 – May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013.
- Following the declaration of state of emergency on May 14 in Nigeria, the actions carried out by Nigerian Government towards the Boko Haram rebels in Maiduguru State (neighbor of Cameroon) may lead to displacement of population from Nigeria to Cameroun. Some Cameroonians living near Nigeria Borno State are moving into Far North region of Cameroon.
- 91 suspected cases of measles have been reported in the North and Far North, but no epidemic has been declared.
- UNICEF has started distribution of 396 mobile phones to extend the initial telephone fleet established by WHO at health centres in the Far North and North regions. The telephones will be used to provide prompt information in the epidemiological surveillance weekly system that has included key indicators on nutrition (admissions and deaths of SAM in outpatient's and inpatient facilities).
- From April 25 to May 14, a cross-sectoral mission completed its work visiting 60 flood-affected school sites spanning the Extreme North and North to assess the condition of schools, WASH



Community volunteer during a sensitization meeting on sanitation © UNICEF  
Cameroon/2013/Ekah Ekwele

## **Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs**

- **Narrative description of Current Situation**

The North and Far North regions were affected by the Sahel crisis in 2012. About 5.9 million people live in those regions; up to 1.18 million are children under five years old. The percentage of the population suffering from food insecurity is above 15% in the two regions<sup>1</sup>. The nutrition situation for 2013 seems to be similar as that in 2012 as there is a structural vulnerability of populations in the northern regions that increases with each crisis. As per the survey of July 2011,<sup>2</sup> 14.6% (North) and 17.9% (Extreme North) of households do not have sufficient food availability during the lean season and 30.3% of the rural population is vulnerable to food insecurity. Coping strategies of the poorest households is to reduce consumption of food. The results of the crops and food security assessment mission led by MINADER, WFP and FAO will be available in one week.

A post-harvest nutrition survey with SMART methods, conducted by Ministry of Public Health with UNICEF in December 2012, shows that 1.1% of 6-59 months old children in the Far North region and 0.7% in the North region suffer from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). Some aggravating factors are still present, such as low access to sanitation and clean water, as well as the incidence of diarrhea and other childhood diseases.

Following the State of Emergency declared in three states of Nigeria (Borno State, Adamawa State and Yobe State) on May 14th, the actions carried out by Nigerian Government towards the Boko Haram rebels may lead to displacement of population from North-eastern Nigeria to Cameroun. While some Cameroonians living in Nigeria Borno State are moving back to Cameroon Far North Region (hosted by relatives), so far, Nigerian citizens face significant challenges legally entering Cameroon. A joint UNHCR, PAM, UNICEF mission is currently assessing the situation at the border.

As for the post crisis / rehabilitation phase of the August - September 2012 flood crisis, families displaced are now settled in new villages in the North Region. IFRC is supporting the construction of family latrines in all new villages. In Far North Region, an estimated 1 500 displaced families have been resettled in April in Blangoua, Logone and Chari Subdivision. In heavily affected Mayo Danay Subdivision, final resettlement is still not effective; at this stage final sites have been identified and administrative process is still underway with Central, Regional and local authorities. While expected soon, it is still unclear if the final relocation of families currently living in temporary IDPs sites will be effective before the rainy season.

- **Highlight specific humanitarian needs**

The **targeted caseload for 2013 for the two regions is 57,616 cases of SAM<sup>i</sup>** and 93,456 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition. (MAM) UNICEF is planning to conduct a SMART survey in June/July 2013 during the lean season.

To ensure an appropriate response some constraints will be taken into consideration: (i) weak capacities of government in the management of acute malnutrition, (ii) lack of infrastructure (roads, for example), (iii) unreachable population during rainy season and (iv) weak capacities of resilience amongst population.

In order to highlight the possible and emerging needs for incoming refugee population from Nigeria a joint UNHCR / UNICEF / PAM mission is undertaking an assessment near the border between Far North Region (Cameroon) and Borno State (Nigeria). A contingency plan will be developed basis the assessment findings. UNICEF will be part of the contingency plan and should prepare for possible intervention in the coming weeks. Finally, as some Cameroonians are back in their relatives' villages, additional health needs may arise in the Health Districts needing strengthening of health and nutrition surveillance.

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<sup>1</sup> Analyse globale de la sécurité alimentaire et de la vulnérabilité de mai 2011.

<sup>2</sup> SMART nutrition survey July 2011 carried out in North and Extreme North regions

<b>Estimated Affected Population</b> (Estimates calculated based on initial figures from UNICEF Humanitarian Action Update February 2012, Cameroon General Census 2013)	
	<b>Total</b>
<b>Total Affected Population</b>	5,891,785
<b>Children Affected (Under 18)</b>	-
<b>Children Under Five</b>	1,178,357
<b>Children 6 to 23 months</b>	350,089
<b>Pregnant women</b>	368,186
<b>Children Under Five with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)</b>	57,616
<b>Children Under Five with SAM and medical complications</b>	5,761
<b>Total affected Population (Due to floods)</b>	90,203
<b>Children (Under five) affected</b>	18,040

Data sources: Cameroon General Census 2010, Cameroon PEV 2012, Ministry of Health March 2012. SMART nutrition survey July 2011 carried out in North and Extreme North regions, BUCREP 2013.

## **Funding Update**

<b>Funding Requirements</b>				
Appeal Sector	Requirements as per HAC January 2013	Funds received	Funding gap	
			\$	%
<b>Nutrition</b>	6,900,000	9,697,147.00	-2,797,147.00	-41%
<b>Health</b>	600,000	0	600,000	100%
<b>WASH</b>	2,800,000	2,000,000	665,067	24%
<b>Education</b>	500,000	2,134,933.00	-1,634,933.00	-327%
<b>Child Protection</b>	200,000	0	200,000	100%
<b>Other (tb specified) (HIV)</b>	100,000	0	100,000	100%
<b>Cluster coordination</b>				
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,100,000</b>	<b>13,832,080.00*</b>	<b>-2,867,013</b>	<b>-25.83%</b>

\*The total does not include a maximum recovery rate of 7%. (Funding is USD 14.8 million inclusive of the recovery rate). The actual recovery rate on contributions is calculated in accordance with UNICEF Executive Board Decision 2006/7 dated 9 June 2006.

## **Inter-Agency Collaboration and Partnerships**

- UNICEF is collaborating with WHO for the extension of the fleet of cell phones established earlier in both the northern regions.
- UNICEF and WFP are planning training for trainers in the East and Adamawa regions (27th May to 8th June in the integrated management of acute malnutrition as per revised national protocol.
- Ongoing agreement with Plan International in the Health Districts of Poli (North region) and Yagoua (Far North) has contributed to treatment of up to 431 cases of SAM in CNA and CNTI (From January to April) in those districts and training of 375 community workers in the IMCI.
- In collaboration with WHO, HKI and Ministry of Health, Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Actions Week were conducted in all the ten regions along with polio vaccination in the three northern regions and active mass screening of acute malnutrition in two regions.
- Following the signing of PCA between UNICEF and SNV for the implementation of the WASH in School project component, the first coordination meeting was held on 06th May 2013 at Yaounde between UNICEF and SNV. This was followed by the first steering committee on 15th May 2013 in Maroua (Far North) Chaired by the Governor of the Far-North region. Participants were from

Ministry of Basic education, Ministry of Water and Energy, councils, schools authorities and communities.

- A new contract has been signed with a private company named 2SW for the construction of 02 boreholes and the rehabilitation of 3 others in the Far North regions.
- The implementation of the SSFA signed between UNICEF and Codas Caritas Yagoua for the construction of 2 boreholes and the rehabilitation of 3 other boreholes in some school affected by flood is on-going. The work is complete at 30%.
- Regional WASH sector meeting (WASH cluster meeting) was held in the North on 2nd May 2013.

### Programme response

#### SAHEL NUTRITION CRISIS AND FLOODS 2013

Sector	Estimated # / % coverage	UNICEF & operational partners		
		UNICEF Target	Cumulative results ( #)	% of Target Achieved
Nutrition	# of children <5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition admitted to Therapeutic care	57,616	15,389	26%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: MoH. Plan Cameroon , OFSAD			
WASH	# of malnutrition (MAM+SAM) affected children who receive hygiene kits with key hygiene messages	53,580	13,586	25%
	# of nutritional centres delivering the WASH minimum package	470	334	71%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: MoH, Ministry of Water resources and Energy, Plan Cameroon			
Health	# of children under one immunized against measles in the emergency affected Regions (Month target) February 2013**	40,261	32,203	80%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: OMS, International Medical Corps			
Protection	# of children with SAM who received psychosocial care through Child Friendly Spaces	3,000	300	10%
UNICEF Operational Partners: MINAS				

\* Number of MAM and SAM under 5 children admitted between January and May 2013 (Dynamic target)

\*\* Results based on every 2-months data.

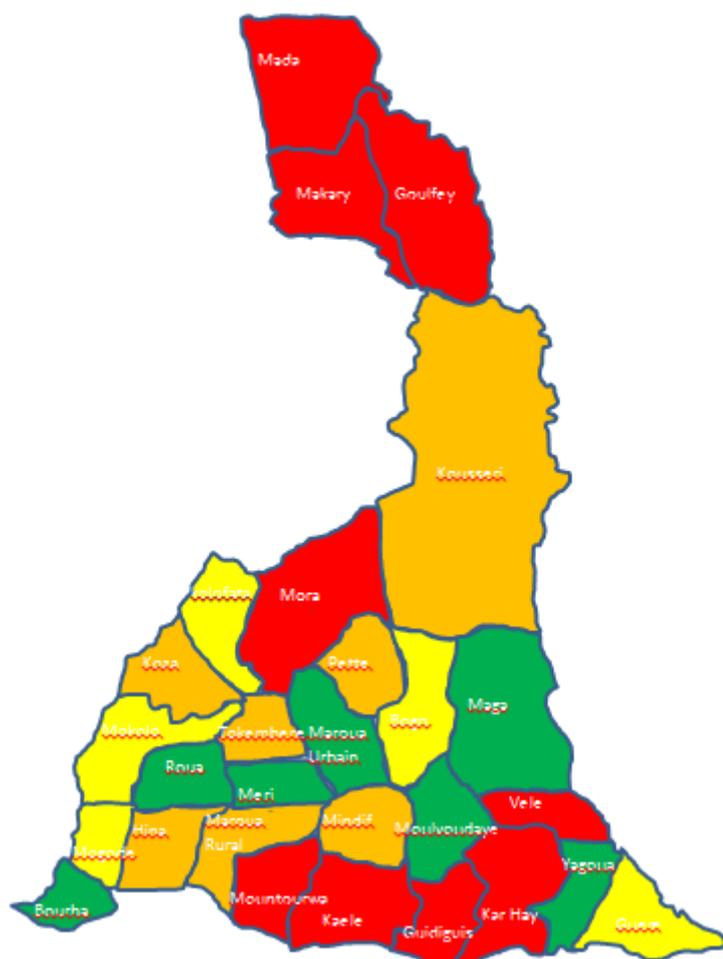
## UNICEF and partners' programming

### Key results

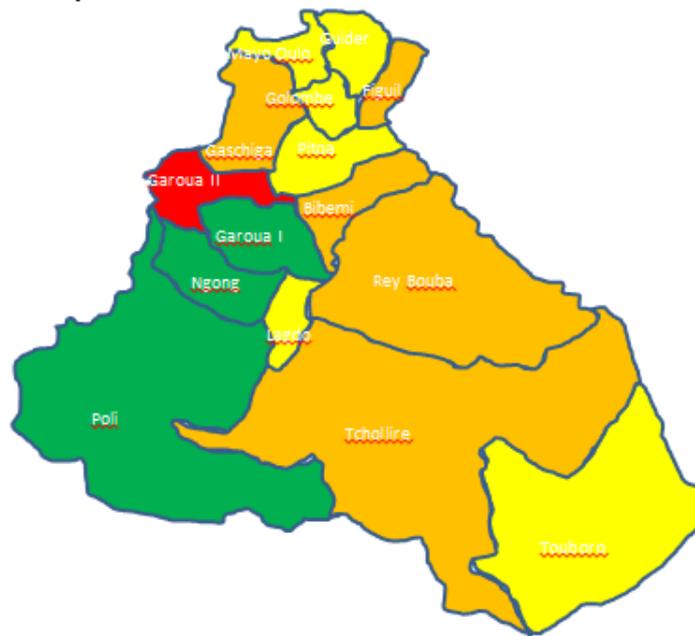
#### Nutrition

- Joint supervision and technical support visits were carried out in the outpatient centres of Guidiguis health district in the Far North and in Guider and Mayo Oulo in the North region. The visits were organised in collaboration with the Regional Nutrition Focal Points.
- The monthly nutrition working group meetings were held in Maroua (Far North) on 22nd May. Key issues discussed were: (i) management of acute malnutrition training planning for 4 regions, (ii) the validation of the national guidelines for nutrition management of people living with HIV, (iii) SMART survey planning. National meeting at Yaounde is planned for 30th May
- The validation of the National Protocol in Management of Acute Malnutrition and tools was celebrated on the 24th May by national experts.
- UNICEF has started distribution of 396 mobile phones to extend the initial telephone fleet established by WHO, at health centres in the Far North and North regions to extend the network in view of strengthening disease surveillance and Health Information System. The phones will be used to provide prompt information in the epidemiological surveillance weekly system that has included key indicators on nutrition (ex. admissions and deaths of SAM in outpatient facilities).
- The Health and Nutrition week was organized in the 10 regions from 26 to 30 April. In the Far North and North regions 1 524 045 children age 6-59 month received vitamin A and 1 349 937 children age 12-59 month were dewormed.
- For this Health and Nutrition Week campaign, a mass screening of acute malnutrition in the North and Far North region was carried out. Out of 1,420,145 children 6-59 months estimated to be covered, 1,288,475 children were enrolled in the mass screening with MUAC, 425,892 in the North region and 862,583 in the Far North. The intervention coverage was considered acceptable as it reached 90% of children. 50,583 MAM cases and 9,269 SAM cases were found and referred to outpatient centres.

**Map: Percentage of cases of MAS in the Extreme North and North districts found in the active mass screening**



Red : > 1%  
Orange : between 0.8 and 1%  
Yellow : between 0.5 and 0.7%  
Green : < 0.5%



## WASH

- 13 586 WASH kits have been distributed to families with malnourished children in Nutritional centres from North (4 225) and Far North (9 361) in 2013;
- 71 274 packs of water purification products (aquatabs) were distributed to mother with children aged between 6 to 59 months during MCHNAW carried out from 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013. This will enable those families located in area with high risk of cholera to provide potable water to their children.
- A total of 122 person were trained as facilitator of PHAST (Participatory Hygiene And Sanitation Transformation) by staffs of Ministry of Health and Ministry of Water Resources and Energy from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May 2013 in Lamoudam (10) health area and from 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013 in the following health area Bakona (14), Mayo Bocki (18), Boulai Ibib (35), Langui (11), Badjouma centre (34). After training they will start the sensitization of 93 communities on water, hygiene and sanitation issues.
- Work progress as per agreements signed with partners :
  - Since the beginning of this year, 34 out of 49 boreholes planned to be constructed /rehabilitated in flooded areas and vulnerable schools and communities have been realized. Furthermore, 124 out of 140 latrines planned to be constructed for IDPs are realized.
  - The construction / rehabilitation of 5 boreholes by CODAS CARITAS Yagoua is complete at 30%.
  - IMC has constructed 14 additional publics latrines in IDP camps of Tekele with 07 hand washing facilities and trained 20 community volunteers (14 men and 6 women) who sensitized 416 families (1222 IDP) on good hygiene and sanitation practices. As result IDP constructed 37 familial latrines out of public latrines existing.
  - The construction and rehabilitation of boreholes by Foundation Bethlehem in Wina, Gobo, Guere, Tekele and Pouss is complete at 100% and results of the water quality control are expected to come in soon.
- Field visit was conducted from 7 to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2013 in the North and Far North region to present WASH in schools project, review WASH in Nutrition tools and training modules and mobilize implementing partners.

## Health

- By the end of March 2013 34,429 (85.5%) of children under one from the crisis affected regions were immunized against DPT-HepB Hib3 and 35,161 (69.8%) of pregnant women received TT2+. There is information lag of 2 months as the data needs 2 months to be confirmed and reported.
- Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Actions Week (MCHNAW) and Polio Local Immunization Days were organised in Far North and North regions from 24th April to 3th May 2013,
- Four health interventions were provided: (i) Polio vaccination (ii) Vitamin A supplementation (iii) Deworming (iv) Intermittent Preventive Treatment (IPT) for malaria prevention in pregnant women and catch up for routine immunization. All the 43 health districts and 409 health areas were involved targeting 1,526,009 children aged 0 to 59 months, pregnant women and women in immediate post-partum.
- Health related results are as follows:
  - 1727391 (101%) children under 5 received OPV
  - 38790 pregnant women received IPT
- Ten members from the UN Foundation / Shot@life - U.S, Rotary International and US Congress visited the north region to witness the Health and Nutrition Week activities in Garoua Urban, Gashiga, Ngong and Lagdo Health districts.

## Education

- From April 25 to May 14, a cross-sectoral mission went out in 60 flood-affected school sites spanning the Extreme North and North. Headed by the Ministry of Basic Education (MINEDUB), the mission comprised of engineers, demographers, and UNICEF-MINEDUB technical experts. Its objective was to assess the condition of schools, WASH infrastructure, and identify sites for building additional classroom blocks while also collecting GIS references and school data. Findings from the trip allowed for the finalization of schools positioned to benefit from classroom construction and WASH facilities and to map these schools with basic data. Data gathered will be compared with earlier data captures and used to assess trends in enrollment and attendance since the onset of the floods.
- The Minister of Basic Education officially designated the Director of Planning and Cooperation to represent the Minister in the coordination platform (Government-UNICEF) set up to coordinate and follow up UNICEF's emergency response in flood-affected North and Extreme North.
- Following the signature of a PCA with SNV to implement the WASH package of wells, hand washing stations, latrines and hygiene education in 60 flood affected schools, a regional coordination meeting led by SNV was held in Maroua (Extreme North) on May 15th and served as the informal field-launch of the SNV-UNICEF partnership.
- The design and construction plan for 60 classrooms has been finalized and pending validation from the Ministry of Basic Education with construction due to start at the end of the month.
- 4 innovative temporary learning spaces were constructed following a partnership with Public Concern (a local NGO) in 2 flood-affected schools in the Extreme North and were officially handed over to the Ministry of Basic Education on May 07. These structures are being used to host overflow students from the school; currently 438 (including 185 girls) students are benefitting from these temporary learning spaces. Based on preliminary feedback from engineers and MINEDUB officials, this has been hailed as a successful emergency response model. UNICEF will evaluate the sustainability of this new model and work with capacity development of local NGOs to replicate such a model the flood-prone nature of this area.

## Protection

- UNICEF is still providing technical support to DRAS North and Far North as well as ALDEPA in the drafting of new project proposals
- The seventh meeting of the Far- North CPWG was held on April 29, under the leadership of UNFPA. During this meeting, UNDP briefly introduced and presented the national contingency plan to CPWG members. The Far North Region was selected to serve as a focal point in the development of strategies for the rapid rehabilitation of people and areas affected by the floods.
- The seventh meeting of the National CPWG was held on May 15. On this occasion members have updated the situation of DRC refugees children in the East, identified the main axes of the 2013 Action Plan namely advocacy and coordination of activities on birth registration and the

development and reinforcement of capacity of key actors on protection rapid assessment in emergencies.

- In the North, under the leadership of PLAN Cameroun, UNICEF and DRAS, the members of CPWG organized a 2 day training (on May 21 and 22) on financial management of local organizations and villages savings for the CPWG members.
- MINAS and UNICEF are currently organizing the commemoration of the 23rd day of the African Child. The selected theme for this year is "Eliminating Harmful Social and Cultural Practices affecting Children: Our Responsibility". The opening ceremony will take place in Maroua (Far North) on June 2. This event should be the source of positive communication for and from children, parents, the NGO community and other stakeholders about important social issues related to Harmful Social and Cultural Practices affecting Children in Cameroun.

### Significant trends and analysis

#### **Nutrition**

During the mass active screening of acute malnutrition during SASNIM, a total of 1,288,475 children 6-59 months were detected in two regions out of 1,420,145 estimated, -90% coverage. The children with moderate acute malnutrition were 50,583 and 9,269 children were detected to be severe acute malnutrition. The malnourished children were referred to CNA<sup>3</sup>. 10 health districts out of 43 require urgent action.

For the **northern region**, 4 health districts need to be monitored (Bibemi, Figuil, Garoua 2 and Gashiga). Each health district has health areas also that need to be monitored as follows:

- Bibemi: 3 health areas of Adoumri, Bibemi and Mayo Lope
- Figuil: Karewa health area- data must be verified.
- Garoua 2: Three health areas are to be monitored, Takasko, Roudé Pamela and Lainde
- Gashiga : Two health areas Demsa (data must be verified) and Djatouri.

For the **Far North region**, 6 health districts need to be monitored - Guidiguis, Mada, Makary, Mora, Tokombere and Vele.

#### **Conclusions:**

Data screening vs. monthly statistics 2013: In each of the two regions, we can highlight some health districts with problems (abnormally high admissions compared to the expected to number the year) in the analysis of the compiled monthly statistics of the centers for the first quarter of 2013.

Taking into account data from screening in the **North**: Gashiga, Mayo Oulo and Tcholliré; and in the **Far North**: Goulfey, Makary and Kousseri

- Makary (FN), Gashiga (N) and Tcholliré (N), screening data tend to confirm that the nutritional situation deteriorated more in these areas and could partly explain the trends for admissions.
- Goulfey (FN) and Kousseri (FN), although data from screening for these districts are not the most alarming in the region, these data could explain in part extraordinary admissions in these areas.
- Mayo Oulo (N), admission data remain inconsistent with the nutritional situation as reflected in the screening.
- They are conclusions of cross-checking data from screening and monthly admissions. As it was a mass active screening data needs to be confirmed with routine information. More exploration and deep analyse is needed in the districts.

#### **WASH**

- The actions carried out by Nigerian Government towards the Boko Haram rebels in Maiduguru State (neighbor of Cameroon) may lead to displacement of population from Nigeria to Cameroun and increase the WASH needs. The ongoing initial assessment will provide more details about the situation.

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<sup>3</sup> *Quality of information: proportions between MAM and SAM are consistent, which is a signal in favor of an acceptable quality of data. However the proportion of edema in the number of total cases MAS seems high, 5% of cases, for the North and 7.7% for the far North reflecting probably an overestimation of this population.*

## Health

- The surveillance of measles in the North and Far North regions shows that 91 suspected cases have been identified but no epidemic has been declared, because the epidemic threshold not yet reached ( 3 confirmed cases through lab test in a health district within a continuous period of 4 weeks).

## Protection

- The situation monitoring mission that UNICEF conducted with HCR and Social Affairs Department (DRAS) in the Nandoungué camp observed:
  - a) The major concern remains the weapons in circulation. While some displaced and refugee people and children from DRC are hosted by families in Garoua-Boulai, the rest (490 people) are placed in the Nandoungue camp.
  - b) There is no inventory or monitoring their host families – however it is believed that those who are most in need and thus vulnerable are the ones in the camp. In addition, the partners noted that the number of children living on the streets in Garoua Boulai increased because of the influx of children from RCA.
  - c) So far, they have found 7 separated children of which solutions have been found already for 3 of them. The social center is limited capacity to deal with the situation since it has two personnel to cover the whole district of Garoua-Boulai (at least 120 km long) who are without means of transportation.
  - d) The team also noted several protection needs namely: psychosocial support for children and families in the camp, including the setting up of child friendly spaces, and the improvement of the child rights monitoring system.
- Child protection cases (child neglect, child abuse, child exploitation, harmful practices) continue to be reported in the Far North and North to the DRAS and NGOs.

## Critical supplies in pipeline or distributed

### Nutrition

- A distribution (328 CAR F75, 235 CAR F100, 13,074 cartons of RUTF, 1,911 bottles of antibiotics and equipment for CNTI/CNA (will begin at the end of May in North, Far North, Adamawa and East regions). This supplies will contribute in the treatment of 14,000 cases of severe acute malnutrition for next two months.

### WASH

- 20 000 WASH kits have been ordered and purchased is on-going. The challenge is to preposition all those kits before the rain season reach its peak.

### Education

#### Critical supplies in pipeline or distributed

- Based on preliminary visits to sites benefitting from UNICEF-supplied tents, further evaluation of tent schools and their appropriate use will be undertaken this month. The evaluation mission noted high numbers (100+) students in tents, which went far over the holding capacity. This was seen in cases where they were used to host children in the first cycle of primary education. Tents used for higher grades had fewer students and provided far more learning space. Of the two models of tents provided by UNICEF, it was made clear that the model that included ground cover is preferred and training on using and positioning the tent to optimize wind and reduce heat is essential.
- The bulk of the 60 schools visited were located in rural remote areas with hardly any visibility or visits from outside communities. UNICEF was constantly praised by the community and local authorities for its support, engagement and the speedy provision of supplies following the emergency. However, this month's end use monitoring of supplies highlighted the necessity to strengthen the capacity for effective management and utilization of teaching and learning

material. For example, while student supplies seemed to be largely distributed to the end recipient (the student), textbooks on the other hand were sometimes kept locked up in anticipation of the next school year, and in other schools, student bags were being kept to award students at the end of the year ceremonies.

## **SUPPLY & LOGISTICS**

- 1,313,942 US\$ of supplies intended for emergency response ordered this month (WASH, HIV-AIDS, medicines & transport items)
- Out of the amount of 3,283,170 US\$ of supplies intended for emergency response that were ordered in March (Nutrition, Education, It & support items), 611,013 US\$ were received and distributed in the North, Extreme-North and Adamaoua regions up to beneficiaries.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

- 1 TA nutrition specialist has been recruited for providing assistance in the programme of management of acute malnutrition in the Far North region.
- 2 WASH Consultants have been recruited and posted in the North and Far North Region for providing assistance in WASH Emergency Programme.

### Total # of staff under recruitment (temporary and fixed; surge) and total staffing needs unfunded

- 1 nutrition consultant is to be recruited to provide assistance to north region.

## **Next SitRep 24 June 2013**

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