

## Fråga–svar

Kamerun. Säkerhetssituationen i regionerna Northwest och Southwest m. m.



### Frågor<sup>1</sup>

- Hur ser den allmänna utsattheten ut för humanitära aktörer i Kameruns engelskspråkiga regioner Northwest och Southwest?
- Hur ser utsattheten ut för regionala respektive lokala humanitära aktörer? (aid workers/humanitarians/biståndsarbetare)
- Är utsattheten större för engelsktalande humanitära aktörer? (aid workers/humanitarians/biståndsarbetare)
- Hur ser den allmänna situationen ut för återvändande anglofoner till NW/SW utan individuella skäl?
- Finns det mer ingående information om vilka som anglofona väpnade separatister riktar sitt intresse mot, t. ex. yrkeskategorier eller samhällstrukturerade grupper, eller annan ställning i samhället?

### Svar

Inledningsvis hänvisar vi till dåvarande Lifos rapport [Kamerun – den anglofona krisen. Stridigheter och andra motsättningar mellan statsmakten](#) som rymmer information om krisens komponenter och hur civila drabbats, samtidigt får det beaktas att den publicerades i slutet av maj 2019. Migrationsverkets belgiska kollegor, CEDOCA, har skrivit en säkerhetsrapport som är mer aktuell (oktober 2020). Rapporten finns endast tillgänglig på franska:

Belgien, Commissariat général aux réfugiés et aux apatrides, Centre de documentation et de recherches (CEDOCA), *CAMEROUN. Situation sécuritaire liée au conflit Anglophone*, 2020-10-16, [url](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Detta svar är framtaget av Migrationsverket i enlighet med [EU:s allmänna riktlinjer för framtagande av landinformation](#) (2008). Svaret innehåller landinformation avsedd för handläggning av migrationsärenden. Svaret bygger på noggrant utvalda informationskällor. Alla källor refereras med undantag för beskrivning av allmänt kända förhållanden. Informationen i svaret återspeglar inte Migrationsverkets ståndpunkt i en viss fråga och Migrationsverket har inte för avsikt att genom svaret göra politiska eller rättsliga ställningstaganden. 2021-03-05. Utgivet av Nationella operativa avdelningen, Migrationsanalys – Migrationsverkets funktion för land- och omvärldsanalys. © Migrationsverket (Swedish Migration Agency), 2021. Publikationen kan laddas ner från <http://lifos.migrationsverket.se>

Därtill kan särskilt noteras att FN/OCHA har löpande rapportering om förhållandena i de engelskspråkiga regionerna som publiceras på följande webbsidor: [url-1](#) och [url-2](#) och så även FN/UNHCR: [url](#)

## Situationen för humanitära aktörer

I följande information om humanitära aktörers situation i de anglofona regionerna Northwest och Southwest finns vissa uppgifter om påverkansfaktorer. Inom föreliggande tidsramar har vi dock inte funnit uppgifter om huruvida lokal/språklig förankring är av relevans för hur humanitära aktörer behandlas, men det ska framhållas att landinformationsläget är besvärligt vad gäller den här krisen. Det är också något som belysts i avsnitt 5.1 i ovan nämnda Lifosrapport:

Säkerhetssituationen som betecknas som flyktig och oförutsägbar med sina stridigheter försvårar förflyttningar och därmed även biståndsinsatser, människors flykt samt NGO:ers och andra aktörers insyn – inte minst i avlägsna delar och skogsområden. Även dåliga vägförhållanden har negativ inverkan på tillgängligheten. Lifos finner att dessa omständigheter försvårar möjligheterna att få korrekt information om händelseutvecklingen. De borgar för mörkertal både vad avser våldets gestaltning och omfattning. (s. 29)

Utöver informationen nedan är det enligt Migrationsanalys mening tänkbart att aktioner som separatistgrupper utför mot humanitära aktörer även kan höra samman med det uttalade syftet att omöjliggöra regeringens styre i de engelskspråkiga områdena.

ACAPS, *Cameroon. The education crisis in the Northwest and Southwest regions, 2021-02-19*, [url](#)

Humanitarian access is limited in the NWSW regions because of violence and insecurity. Areas controlled by armed separatist groups are more isolated and harder to reach, further constraining the access of populations to basic services. (s. 8)

Road checkpoints mounted by both separatist armed groups and government security forces have resulted in kidnapping attempts and demands for payments, leading to insecurity and delays in humanitarian operations and activities. 'Lockdown' days promoted by some separatist groups have resulted in movement restrictions for both humanitarian organisations and people living in affected areas (OCHA 07/12/2020; OCHA 06/2020; ACAPS 12/2020). (s. 8)

Médécins sans Frontières (MSF), *Doctors Without Borders ambulance fired on in South-West Cameroon, 2021-02-04*, [url](#)

In the early hours of 4 February, a Doctors Without Borders (MSF) ambulance was fired on by armed men while responding to a call in Muyuka, South-West Cameroon. The ambulance was hit and the accompanying nurse was injured. We condemn this attack on our colleague and on a clearly marked ambulance. Healthcare facilities, including ambulances, are not targets.

FN, OCHA, *Cameroon: North-West and South-West - Situation Report No. 26 (As of 31 December 2020)*, 2021-01-26, [url](#)

Humanitarian actors continued to operate under numerous constraints. On 1 December, during a food distribution in Ikata town in Fako division in the

South-West (SW) a commander of a non-State armed group (NSAG) attempted to behead a staff member of an international humanitarian organization involved in the distribution. Fortunately, she escaped unharmed. On 8 December, the Governor of the North-West (NW) region suspended the activities of the International NGO Doctors Without Borders in the region, causing potential serious impact on the provision of life saving humanitarian assistance in the region. (s. 2)

Belgien, Commissariat général aux réfugiés et aux apatrides, Centre de documentation et de recherches (CEDOCA), *CAMEROUN. Situation sécuritaire liée au conflit Anglophone*, 2020-10-16, [url](#)

#### 5.2.2. Travailleurs humanitaires

Le 5 juin 2020, la Coordinatrice humanitaire des Nations unies au Cameroun, Allegra Baiocchi, a dénoncé « l'intensification du harcèlement, des attaques, des enlèvements et extorsions dont sont victimes les travailleurs humanitaires dans les régions du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest du Cameroun ». 134 Selon le communiqué de l'ONU, les enlèvements et incidents dont sont victimes les travailleurs humanitaires ont une finalité financière puisqu'ils aboutissent dans la plupart des cas à un vol ou une demande de rançon. 135 L'ONU a constaté que les barrages routiers illégaux imposés par les groupes armés se sont multipliés sur les axes d'approvisionnement. Cette hausse de l'insécurité visant le secteur humanitaire a réduit l'acheminement de l'aide sur le terrain. 136

Un responsable de l'ONG Authentique Memorial Empowerment Foundation (AMEF) a expliqué à RFI les difficultés des travailleurs humanitaires et leurs craintes d'être perçus comme des espions de l'autre camp: « We are afraid that the [government] administration thinks that we are bringing assistance to non-state actors [separatists] instead of the community. At the same time, the non-state actors feel we are taking assistance from the administration and bringing it to 'their' community ». 137

Ainsi par exemple, AI a rapporté l'arrestation d'un travailleur humanitaire par des éléments du BIR. L'homme, amené au poste de police, a été retrouvé mort sur une route le 2 janvier 2020. 138 Le cas de Felix Mba, agent de santé communautaire travaillant pour Médecins sans frontières (MSF) dans la ville de Kumba (Sud-Ouest), tué début juillet 2020 par des sécessionnistes armés parce qu'ils le soupçonnaient de collaborer avec l'armée, a été rapporté par différents médias. 139 De même, Christopher Tandjo, employé de l'ONG Community Initiative for Sustainable Development (COMINSUD) a été enlevé à Batibo (Nord-Ouest) puis tué par des combattants séparatistes. 140

Voice of America, *Rights Groups Condemn Attack on Aid Workers in Cameroon*, 2020-06-06, [url](#)

YAOUNDE, CAMEROON - Rights groups in Cameroon have condemned increased attacks on aid workers and hospital staff in the country's troubled western regions. The groups blame both government troops and anglophone rebels fighting to create an English-speaking state in majority French-speaking Cameroon.

Ernestine Maika, a 33-year-old nurse, has just arrived in the French-speaking town of Bafoussam. She says she was rescued by Cameroon military in the

English-speaking northwestern town of Ndop after separatist fighters seized a vehicle in which she was transporting medical supplies. Maika says it was the third time she has been attacked in three weeks.

The government said attacks on health workers and humanitarian staff members have intensified since April, Human Rights Watch Thursday reported renewed attacks on aid workers.

Iliaria Allegrozzi, senior central Africa researcher for the organization, says aid workers have been victims of kidnapping, killing, kidnapping, extortion and various forms of abuse. She says food and nonfood aid items have been looted or destroyed.

"These attacks do not only impact the lives and well-being of those working at the front line in very challenging conditions but also disrupt the provision of life-saving assistance and services to 2 million people depending on humanitarian assistance and over 600,000 internally displaced," said Allegrozzi. Allegrozzi did not immediately confirm the number of health workers attacked but blamed both separatist fighters and the military for the atrocities.

Cameroon government spokesperson Rene Emmanuel Sadi speaking on state media CRTV blamed separatists for the atrocities and said the military has remained professional. Sadi says the crimes against aid workers are committed by separatist fighters who are determined to destroy government efforts aimed at returning peace to the restive English-speaking regions. He says the country can only count on the military to restore harmony and consolidate the achievements made so far in the peace process.

Separatists have blamed the military for the abuses on social media, but have warned humanitarian or aid workers against offering assistance in Cameroon's English-speaking regions without obtaining what the separatists call an express authorization from their government.

The United Nations has expressed what it calls grave concern over the interruption of aid delivery to hundreds of thousands of people in need, following the escalating attacks against aid workers in Cameroon's English-speaking regions.

Human Rights Watch, *Renewed Attacks on Aid Workers in Cameroon, Ensure Protection of People in English-Speaking Regions*, 2020-06-04, [url](#)

Armed separatists kidnapped Paul (not his real name), a humanitarian worker, in Cameroon's English-speaking North-West region on Saturday. They accused him of being a spy, tied him up to a tree, and savagely beat him before releasing him on Sunday. That same day, separatists also abducted seven staff of the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services, a faith-based nonprofit in Bambui, North-West region. They were released two days later.

These two recent attacks are just the latest in a long line of incidents in which aid workers have been attacked by English-speaking separatists fighting Cameroon's military.

But separatists are not the only ones responsible for the attacks against aid workers and humanitarian operations that have been commonplace since the crisis began in late 2016. Government forces also bear responsibility. Aid workers have been victims of unlawful killings, abductions, harassment, extortion, and other abuses as supplies and property have been looted and destroyed. Humanitarian access has been severely hindered by the violence, as well as by deliberate actions carried out by the separatists and government forces and authorities.

The latest attacks occurred just 5 days before the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator in Cameroon, Allegra Baiocchi, expressed grave concern over the interruption of aid delivery to hundreds of thousands of people in need, following the escalating trend of attacks against humanitarians. Attacks against aid workers disrupt the provision of life-saving assistance and services to people in need.

Insecurity Insight, *Aid in Danger. Bi-Weekly News Brief*, [url](#)

Se Insecurity Insights *Aid in Danger. Bi-Weekly News Brief* som regelbundet tar upp rapporter om attacker mot humanitära aktörer och även deras *Our data on HDX*. Insecurity Insights rapporter publiceras även på FN/OCHA:s [Reliefweb](#).

## Säkerhetssituationen i regionerna Northwest och Southwest

Säkerhetssituationen per den 9 september 2020

Migrationsanalys gjorde en granskning av säkerhetssituationen i Northwest och Southwest i början av oktober 2020.<sup>2</sup> Granskningen baserades på data från konfliktdatabasen Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) i kombination med andra källor.

Sammanfattningsvis fann Migrationsanalys att underlaget talade för en försämrad säkerhetssituation i det engelskspråkiga området – särskilt i regionen Northwest – jämfört med läget som behandlades i [Lifos rapport](#) från 2019. Migrationsanalys noterade även att det förekommit att relaterade våldsincidenter inträffat utanför Northwest/Southwest, dock inte av liknande omfattning.

En övergripande sammanställning av ACLED:s registrerade våldsincidenter under perioden januari 2020 t.o.m. den 9 september 2020 gav resultatet i Tabell 1 nedan. Antalet uppmärksammade dödsfall är inkluderade, liksom antalet stridigheter (*battles*), vilket är en av databasens olika incidentkategorier. Uppgifter om antalet personer som skadats (men inte omkommit) saknas eftersom ACLED inte registrerar dessa systematiskt. Det får vidare noteras att en våldsincident i ACLED:s rapportering kan variera stort i karaktär och omfattning: från en större väpnad sammandrabbning med många dödsfall till en mindre händelse med enstaka personer inblandade och utan kroppsskador.

Försiktighet avseende statistiken får även iaktas med tanke på det besvärliga landinformationsläget i Kameruns anglofona regioner. Mörkertal är sannolika. Mer information om ACLED-statistik finns i avsnitt 5.2 i [landrapporten](#) från 2019.

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<sup>2</sup> Opublicerad

Tabell 1. Kamerun. Våldsincedenter i Northwest och Southwest: Januari 2020 t.o.m. den 9 september 2020 (ACLED)<sup>3</sup>

Anglofona Kamerun	Våldsincedenter	Dödsoffer	Stridigheter	Våldsincedenter per månad	Dödsoffer per månad
Northwest	265	444	95	32	53
Southwest	122	201	45	15	24
TOTALT	387	645	140	47	77

Statistiken indikerade att regionen Southwest låg kvar på ungefär samma våldsnivå som perioden december 2018–mars 2019, som studerades i Lifosrapporten från 2019. I Northwest såg dock nivån ut att ha ökat kraftigt: från 16,5 incidenter per månad till 32 samt från 29 döda per månad till 53.

Vid granskningen i oktober 2020 beaktades, vid sidan om ACLED:s statistik, bland annat följande information:

FN, UNSC, *The situation in Central Africa and the activities of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa. Report of the Secretary-General, 2020-05-29*, [url](#)

9. The security situation in the North-West and South-West Regions of Cameroon continued to deteriorate, with reports of attacks against civilians, including extrajudicial killings, torture, arbitrary arrests, property destruction, retaliatory attacks, abductions, rape and other forms of sexual violence, disproportionately affecting women and children.

Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Africa (CHRDA),<sup>4</sup> *Human rights violation committed by the military between May and August 2020 in the North-West (NWR) and Southwest (SWR) regions of Cameroon, 2020-08-31*, [url](#)

The State Defence and Security Forces continue to engage in gross human rights violations in the NWR and SWR of Cameroon.

Between May and August 2020, CHRDA has documented gross human rights violations committed by the Defence and Security Forces. In such violations, civilians are the primary victims. There have been extra-judicial executions, arbitrary arrests, unlawful detention, looting and extortion, poor prison conditions, and inhumane and degrading treatment of detainees. Inhabitants have also seen their homes and villages burned down by the military in the two English-speaking regions, forcing civilians to flee from their homes and seek refuge in other towns as IDPs or simply flee to the bushes.

<sup>3</sup> Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), *Data, Curated data files, Africa (Data through [...] 2019)*, nedladdningsbar Excel-fil, odaterad, [url](#) (hämtad 2019-03-26)

<sup>4</sup> CHRDA är en av UNHCR:s partner-organisationer, se FN, UNHCR, *Cameroon MCO. Fact sheet December 2020*, [url](#)

The harassment and extortion of civilians is a daily reality in the NWR and SWR. On several occasions, civilians have been arbitrarily and unlawfully detained, and have paid a bribe to regain their freedom. Some die in the process, killed by the military. The military continues to fight in civilian-inhabited areas, and stray bullets have killed several civilians.

International Crisis Group (ICG), *CrisisWatch, Cameroon*, september 2020, [url-1](#), [url-2](#)

Cameroon AUGUST 2020

Violence continued unabated in Anglophone South West and North West regions. Amid persistent conflict between separatists and military in North West, unidentified assailants 7 Aug killed local aid worker in Batibo town.

Separatists same day beheaded woman they accused of collaborating with military in regional capital Bamenda and 10 Aug killed member of vigilante group in Bamunka village. Security forces 13 Aug killed suspected separatist and unidentified individual in Kumbo area. In South West, suspected Anglophone separatists 11 Aug beheaded woman they accused of collaborating with military in Muyuka locality; amid wide circulation of beheading video on social media, NGO Human Rights Watch 14 Aug called on UN Security Council to impose targeted sanctions on separatists. In following days, soldiers reportedly retaliated by killing about seven individuals and arresting about 200 in Muyuka area. Unidentified gunmen 27 Aug reportedly abducted 15 in Ekok town. Authorities mid-Aug acknowledged about 130 former separatist combatants recently escaped from Disarmament, Demobilisation and Rehabilitation centres in Bamenda and South West capital Buea due to poor living conditions and unmet promises. Anglophone detainee in pre-trial detention since 2017 died 5 Aug in capital Yaoundé, sparking outcry from human rights activists and separatist leaders, with NGO Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Africa same day calling on govt "not to subject inmates to any form of inhumane and degrading treatment".

ICG, *CrisisWatch, Cameroon*, augusti 2020, [url-1](#) [url-2](#)

Cameroon JULY 2020

Violence persisted in Anglophone North West and South West regions despite talks between government and separatist. Incarcerated Anglophone separatist leader Sisiku Julius Ayuk Tabe and nine other separatists 2 July met with govt officials in capital Yaoundé to discuss conditions for cessation of hostilities; in statement 6 July, however, govt said reports of talks "were not consistent with reality", exposing rifts within govt over strategy in Anglophone conflict.

Meanwhile, violence continued unabated in Anglophone regions, particularly North West. In South West separatists continued to target humanitarian workers and other civilians. NGO HRW 27 July said at least 285 civilians killed in North West and South West regions since Jan 2020. In Yaoundé, unidentified individuals 2 July detonated handmade bomb leaving at least 20 wounded; security officials accused Anglophone separatists, while govt increased security presence in capital, in particular in Anglophone neighbourhoods.

Human Rights Watch, *Cameroon: Civilians Killed in Anglophone Regions Attacks as Peace Talks Take Place*, 2020-07-27, [url](#)

Based on information reported by the media and nongovernmental organizations, Human Rights Watch estimates that at least 285 civilians have been killed in about 190 incidents since January 2020 in the North-West and South-West regions, where violence has been acute since late 2016, as separatists seek independence for the country's minority Anglophone regions. Violence has also displaced tens of thousands of people in the past two months, adding to the hundreds of thousands who have fled their homes since the conflict began in late 2016.

Security forces and armed separatists have both attacked hospitals and medical staff on multiple occasions. On July 6, separatists killed a Doctors Without Borders community health worker working for in the South-West region, after accusing him of collaborating with the military. Security forces damaged a health facility in the North-West region on June 30 and arbitrarily arrested seven health workers in the South-West region on July 6.

Separatists killed at least six civilians since mid-May, including a 58-year-old teacher working at the University of Bameda in the North-West region on May 17.

Separatists have disrupted normal life in the areas they control by enforcing prolonged lockdowns, calling strikes, and building roadblocks that are affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that separatists' roadblocks are hindering the transport of medical supplies to the Banso Baptist Hospital in Kumbo, a key facility for tens of thousands of people in one of the areas most affected by violence in the North-West region.

In July, Human Rights Watch contacted representatives of three separatist groups, the IG, led by Sisiku Julius Ayuk Tabe, its splinter faction, led by Samuel Ikome Sako, and the 'Ambazonia Governing Council.' All denied that their fighters had committed any of these abuses.

In March 2020, the Southern Cameroons Defence Forces (SOCADEF), a separatist group, called for a ceasefire as the Covid-19 pandemic was declared – a move welcomed by the UN secretary-general's spokesperson. On June 16, government officials held peace talks in the capital, Yaoundé with the leaders of the IG, a major separatist group, led by Sisiku Julius Ayuk Tabe, currently jailed in a high security prison in Yaoundé. Neither the call for a ceasefire nor the peace talks have led to an end to violence against civilians

#### Separatist Killings of Civilians

On May 16, armed separatists killed a 48-year-old businessman in front of his shop in the Azire neighborhood of Bamenda, accusing him of collaborating with government security forces. Human Rights Watch spoke to two witnesses and two family members of the victim. "Two young separatists arrived on a motorbike," one witness said. "They stopped in front of his shop and called him. As he walked out, one of them shot him in the stomach three times." The victim's wife said that the separatists had warned her husband several times not to provide information to the security forces, including hours before his death.

On May 30, separatists kidnapped and tortured a humanitarian worker in Bali, North-West region, also accusing him of collaborating with the security forces. They released him the following day, and he spent several days in a Bameda hospital being treated for his injuries during the episode:

They blindfolded me and took me to their camp on a motorbike. They asked me questions about my work and threatened to kill me. Late in the evening, they took me to another place, in the bush. They tied me on a tree with a rope and started to beat me savagely. They slapped me several times, kicked me and poured water on me. It was dark, I was scared. I was in pain. I feared for my life.

On June 18, separatists killed a 44-year-old man at Ntarinkon market in Bamenda, North-West region, after he refused their demands for money. Human Rights Watch spoke to three family members and three witnesses to the killing.

On June 12, separatist fighters attacked gendarmes and policemen at a checkpoint in Bamenda, North-West region, killing two civilian men. Human Rights Watch spoke to two witnesses to the attack and three of the victims' family members.

A 26-year-old witness said that about 10 armed separatists attacked the security forces on foot as they were checking identity cards at a checkpoint in Alakuma junction between 10 and 11 a.m. "I was standing about 50 meters away from the scene," she said. "They caught the gendarmes and policemen by surprise, started firing and killed two men whose documents were being checked by the security forces. The gendarmes and policemen shot back, and people ran away."

#### Attack on St. Elizabeth Catholic General Hospital

On June 30, soldiers forcibly entered the premises of the St. Elizabeth Catholic Hospital in Shisong, Kumbo, North-West region, looking for wounded separatists.

This is the second time the military has forcibly entered the hospital in search of wounded separatists. On February 17, 2019, soldiers broke into the hospital, fired several shots into the air, and threatened to kill a man in front of hospital staff.

#### Arbitrary Arrests of Health Workers in Mamfe

On July 6, security forces, including gendarmes, policemen, and military, carried out a security operation in Mamfe, South-West region. They searched homes and other premises and detained over 60 people. Five residents told Human Rights Watch the operation was conducted after pamphlets were seen in town claiming to represent the 'Red Dragons,' an armed separatist group, asking people to contribute 15,000 XAF (\$26) to buy weapons and ammunition.

Security forces held the people at the police station in Mamfe, releasing all but 10 that evening. Among those not released were seven staff members from the Baptist Health Center. They were charged with "failure to report separatist activities" before the High Court in Mamfe on July 8. They pleaded not guilty and were granted bail, with another hearing scheduled for July 29.

Human Rights Watch spoke to a senior representative of the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services (CBCHS), a nonprofit healthcare organization that has over 80 health facilities across Cameroon, including the one in Mamfe, and to the legal representative of the seven arrested staff.

"Some of our staff were arrested while wearing their medical uniform," the Baptist senior representative said. "It is unacceptable that health workers are being treated this way. They have nothing to do with the Amba boys [separatists] and are on the ground to assist the most vulnerable, especially in these challenging times where the Covid-19 pandemic poses a serious threat to our country."

Deutsche Welle, *Cameroon's escalating Anglophone crisis shows little sign of abating*, 2020-06-24, [url](#)

Cameroon's Anglophone region remains in the grip of a seemingly never-ending crisis, even in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. Clashes between the Cameroon military and separatist fighters have led to over 3,000 deaths and many displaced persons.

Lockdowns force people inside. One of the oldest forms of civil disobedience — adopted at the start of the Anglophone crisis — has remained. Ghost town operations and lockdowns force locals in the two regions to close their shops and remain indoors for days and even weeks at a time. This usually happens every time a government organized event takes place. On Sunday June 21, all diaspora groups leading the separatist fighters on the ground called for a lockdown to disrupt a mobilization tour of the Northwest by Paul Tasong, the head of the government-created commission to reconstruct the two Anglophone regions. Therese Ntum says she was taken by surprise and now has no food.

The escalating conflict has brought untold misery to the population, according to Professor Tih Pius Muffi, director of the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services (CBCHS). "Essential drugs have not been able to reach hospitals," he told DW. "Doctors' clinics have gone without routine support services and patients can't access health centers and hospitals. Some of these patients have died in their homes and some have reached the hospital too late."

In an effort to sabotage the economy of the two regions, separatists have also started to burn down power transmitters and cut down pylons, leaving the lone power supply company ENEO to ration electricity, further crippling businesses and startups.

President Biya has called on separatist fighters to drop their guns and come out of the bush. But tensions remain high. He has addressed the nation several times during the crisis, however separatists maintain that he must first call off the war and initiate meaningful dialogue with all sides.

But, despite a call from the UN secretary general at the dawn of the COVID-19 crisis for a ceasefire, nothing has changed in the two Anglophone regions, where gun battles continue unabated.

FN, UNHCR, *Fact Sheet. Cameroon MCO*, juli 2000, [url](#)

**MAIN HIGHLIGHTS.** Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) attacks in the North West and South West regions, continue to cause insecurity and movements of civilian populations in several locations. Multiple shooting incidents, torture, rape, abductions, demand for ransom, extrajudicial killings and road-blocks setup in multiple locations including areas in and around Buea and Bamenda cities were reported during the month. UN and other humanitarian agencies were also threatened by the NSAGs. (s. 2)

*Protection Monitoring.* The Monitoring of protection activities continue to be carried out in the English-speaking regions by INTERSOS, UNHCR's implementing partner. 133 protection incidents have been reported (representing 58.6% females (that is 78) and 41.4% were males (55) within the reporting period (July to October). Majority of reported incidents are threat to life and personal security (37.6%), destruction of shelters (33.8%), and SGBV (6.8%). There were also cases of partial destruction of habitat (5.3%), Extortion of property (4.5%), and Property destruction (3.8%). Other incidents accounted for 8.3%. The increase of daily protection incidents is due to the continuous military operations on the camps of non-state armed groups. NSAG fighters are seemingly fleeing towards townships and perpetrating attacks on security and defence forces and areas that had been earlier considered safe. (s. 2)

FN, OCHA, *Cameroon: North-West and South-West - Situation Report No. 21, As of 31 July 2020*, 2020-09-03, [url](#)

*SITUATION OVERVIEW.* Attacks on healthcare continue to result in closure of facilities and decreased access to life-saving services for affected communities. Confrontations between the belligerents continue to lead to waves of displacements in both the NWSW. An estimated 2,131 persons from 356 households (91 percent in the North West) were displaced to neighbouring communities and bushes as a result of active conflict in their communities of origin. [Totalt 679 000 internflyktingar] (s. 2)

Civilians continue to be caught in crossfire and others are targeted for allegedly aligning with one side or the other. An increase in mass arrest of civilians in Buea and Muyuka subdivisions in the South West was observed, with some people released allegedly only after payment of money. (s. 2)

COVID-19 continues to spread in communities with more cases being diagnosed in hard to reach areas. A major challenge is the difficulty convincing some communities that COVID-19 exists. (s. 2)

*Protection.* The security environment continues to degrade with a steady increase in the intensity of clashes between armed elements putting the lives of civilians at risk in the NWSW. This is reflected by an increase in human rights violations including killings, arbitrary arrests, threats and internal displacement. Also, the presence of humanitarian organizations was threatened in the NWSW as a reaction by NSAGs to UNDP's role in the Presidential Programme for Reconstruction & Development (PPRD). (s. 5)

In July, UNHCR and INTERSOS registered 90 flash alerts (66 in the NW and 24 in the SW). A total of 568 protection incidents were collected including 272 threats to life and security, 220 house destructions, 60 SGBV cases and 16 violations against freedom from arbitrary arrest and access to justice. This figure represents an increase from three hundred and eighty-six (386) incident reports collected in June and is due to engagement in new communities. Among the victims, 73.8 percent were female, 26.2 percent male while 37 were children, 50 elderly persons and 481 adults. 82 percent of the victims are IDPs (467), 12.3 percent host communities' members and 5.5 percent returnees (including 2 voluntarily repatriated). (s. 5)

Meme (173) and Mezam (146) recorded the highest number of incidents in July. 50.2 percent of incidents (285) were from the SW while 49.8 percent of incidents (283) were recorded from the NW. (s. 5)

*GBV Area of Responsibility.* Despite access constraints and insufficient GBV services, 573 GBV cases were reported in July in the NWSW regions representing an increase of 79 percent compared to June. This can be explained by not only an increase on the number of interventions, but also by an increase in the number of partners sharing their data (15 compared to 6 in June) and therefore an increase on the reported incidents. Survivors of GBV incidents are mostly women (88 percent) and children represent 23 percent while 4 percent of survivors are people living with a disability. Among the survivors, 82 percent are IDPs. (s. 6)

FN, OCHA, *Cameroon: North-West and South-West - Situation Report No. 20, As of 30 June 2020*, [url](#)

*JUNE 2020 HIGHLIGHTS.* Over 15,780 individuals from 2,625 households were reportedly displaced in the North West (NW) and South West (SW) regions in June due to ongoing violence. (s. 1) [se även karta, s. 2]

62% of respondents in a GBV assessment acknowledged an increasing trend in GBV incidents and recognized high risks of domestic violence, denial of resources, unwanted pregnancies, child sexual abuse and sex for survival in the current COVID-19 context in the NWSW regions. (s. 1)

*SITUATION OVERVIEW.* Population in the NorthWest and SouthWest continue to suffer the severe humanitarian consequences of the socio-political crisis in both regions ongoing since 2016. Parties to the conflict have failed to heed to repeated global calls for a ceasefire as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19. Lives continue to be impacted by the effects of continuous displacement, confrontations between the military and non-state armed groups (NSAGs) as well as the threats posed by the COVID-19 outbreak. Increased tension and confrontations were observed in June as NSAGs enforced lockdowns in response to a government mission to the NWSW to sensitize communities on the Presidential Plan for Reconstruction and Development (PPRD). NSAGs declared and enforced lockdowns from the 22 to 24 June and from 29 June to 2 July in the NW and SW respectively as a result of the PPRD mission. Additional lockdowns were also declared in some divisions and subdivisions such as Ngoketunjia in the NW and Mamfe Central in the SW as part of ongoing tensions in these localities. (s. 2)

Protection continues to be a major humanitarian concern in the NWSW. Civilians continue to be caught in crossfire while summary execution of civilians by both the military and NSAGs is on the rise. Temporary displacements continue to be recorded as civilians flee for safety. Over 15,780 individuals from 2,625 households were reportedly displaced in the NWSW due to ongoing violence during the month of June. Over 60% of the displacements were recorded in the NW. The advancing COVID-19 is also at the centre of humanitarian operations in the NWSW. The risk of the virus further spreading in the two regions remains high. (s. 2)

Radio France Internationale (RFI), *Cameroon: qui sont les civils armés impliqués dans le conflit en zone anglophone?* 2020-04-30, [url](#)

A plusieurs reprises l'an dernier des responsables locaux des zones anglophones ont encouragé la population à se constituer en comité de vigilance

face aux séparatistes. Plusieurs cérémonies de distribution de motos, téléphones, ou sifflets ont même été relayées par la presse locale. C'est en revanche la première fois que leur présence aux côtés de l'armée au cours d'une opération est mentionnée dans un communiqué officiel.

Human Rights Watch, qui a enquêté sur ce massacre, évoque de son côté « un groupe d'environ 30 hommes d'ethnie peule », armés « de machettes, bâtons et fusils de chasse ». Des membres d'une communauté d'éleveurs appelés Mbororo, très présente aux environs de Ngarbuh.

« Les Mbororo ne sont pas les seuls à s'être constitués en comité de vigilance depuis le début de la crise anglophone. D'autres comités incluent diverses communautés et d'ex-combattants repentis, explique Arrey Elvis Ntui, chercheur à l'ICG, International Crisis Group. Mais l'idée est largement répandue qu'ils sont les mieux armés et plus violents que les autres. » Et si depuis longtemps, des conflits existent entre ces peuls et des agriculteurs locaux, pour l'accès aux terres de pâturage, ils sont « exacerbés » depuis le début de cette crise, note Human Rights Watch. « Les séparatistes armés ont pris pour cible les Peuls pour s'emparer de leur bétail et les ont accusés de se joindre à des groupes d'auto-défense proches du gouvernement. Des groupes armés peuls ont aussi attaqué des communautés où des séparatistes armés sont réputés opérer », peut-on lire dans le premier communiqué publié le 25 février dernier par l'organisation.

Dans son rapport de février, OCHA, le Bureau de coordination des affaires humanitaires, mentionnait par ailleurs, une augmentation des affrontements entre « des Mbororo » « venus du Nigeria » voisin, et les populations locales. Cette dynamique est jugée « inquiétante » par de nombreux observateurs, qui craignent qu'en s'appuyant sur ces comités à caractère ethnique, et dans un contexte de rivalité latente, les autorités camerounaises ne sèment les graines de conflits futurs qui risquent de perdurer au-delà de la crise anglophone.

FN, OCHA, *Cameroon: North-West and South-West. Situation Report No. 15. As of 31 January 2020*, 2020-03-02, [url](#)

*SITUATION OVERVIEW.* Violence against civilians continues to be recorded in significant numbers with burning of houses and villages a hallmark of the crisis. Violence between the Fulani (Mbororo), local communities and NSAGs continued in the NWSW and particularly in Boyo, Menchum and Donga-Mantung divisions. It is reported that many of the Mbororo fighters are coming from Nigeria bringing an international dimension to the crisis. (s. 2)

## Den aktuella säkerhetssituationen i regionerna Northwest och Southwest

En uppföljande genomgång av ACLED:s statistik, utförd i samband med de aktuella frågorna, ger följande bild:

Tabell 2. Kamerun. Våldsincidenter i Northwest och Southwest, Kamerun: 1 september 2020 t.o.m. den 15 februari 2021 (ACLED)<sup>5</sup>

Anglofona Kamerun	Våldsincidenter	Dödsoffer	Stridigheter	Våldsincidenter per månad	Dödsoffer per månad
Northwest	169	129	41	31	23
Southwest	114	118	24	21	21
TOTALT	283	247	65	52	44

Statistiken indikerar att antalet våldsincidenter per månad i de två regionerna sammantaget förblir på ungefär samma nivå som för perioden januari 2020 t.o.m. den 9 september 2020. Antalet uppmärksammade dödsfall har dock minskat från 80 till 44 personer per månad.

Vid sidan om ACLED:s statistik i Tabell 2, se informationen nedan om det aktuella säkerhetsläget.

Vad gäller personkategorier som varit utsatta under rådande omständigheter noterar Migrationsanalys att man i rapporteringen inte minst kan urskilja kvinnor (bland annat sexuellt/könsrelaterat våld, barn (sexuellt/könsrelaterat våld, rekrytering, skolrelaterade attacker m. m.), lärare/elever, sjukvårdspersonal, traditionella ledare, humanitära aktörer (se tidigare avsnitt), personer med samröre eller misstänkt samröre med motståndarsidan samt internflyktingar. Det är dock inte en uttömmande uppräkningslista. Vidare vad gäller utsatta grupper, se även avsnitt 6 i [Lifosrapporten](#) respektive avsnitt 5 i [Belgiens rapport](#).

FN, OCHA, *Cameroon: North-West and South-West - Situation Report No. 26 (As of 31 December 2020)*, 2021-01-26, [url](#)

FN/OCHA rapporterade i slutet av januari 2021 att antalet internflyktingar till följd av situationen i de anglofona regionerna uppgick till cirka 700 000, dvs. internflyktingar som vistas i och utanför Northwest/Southwest. (s. 1 f.)

CHRNA, *CHRNA Human rights Report Covering Acts of Violence Committed by the Cameroon Military and Non-State Armed Groups Against Civilians in the North-West and South-West Regions of Cameroon in the Period August and September 2020*, 2020-10-06, [url](#)

<sup>5</sup> Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), *Data, Curated data files, Africa (Data through [...] 2019)*, nedladdningsbar Excel-fil, odaterad, [url](#) (hämtad 2019-03-26)

Se ovan rapport.

ICG, *CrisisWatch, Cameroon*, [url-1](#), [url-2](#)

Januari 2021

Violence between govt forces and Anglophone separatists intensified in west leaving high civilian toll. In North West region, armed forces 1 Jan killed two suspected separatists in Wum town, in apparent revenge killing for previous day attack which wounded soldier in same area. Separatists 6 and 8 Jan killed eight security forces and three civilians near North West's Njikwa town and on Matazem checkpoint between North West and francophone West region; in response, armed forces 9-11 Jan launched raid on Bachua village in West region, reportedly detaining dozens of civilians suspected of supporting separatists. Armed forces 8 Jan killed separatist militia leader Captain Small Pikin in Ndop town. In regional capital Bamenda, unidentified gunmen 13 and 17 Jan killed two civilians, and soldiers 23 Jan killed four teenagers. In South West region, armed forces 10 Jan raided Mautu village and killed nine civilians in what residents described as "execution-style killings"; UN and France in following days condemned killings and called for investigation. Suspected separatists 14-15 Jan reportedly killed at least five soldiers in Muyuka town and Likomba locality. In attempt to disrupt Africa Cup of Nations football championship taking place 16 Jan-7 Feb in several Cameroonian cities including South West's Limbe, separatists 14 Jan also set construction equipment ablaze outside training stadium in Limbe and imposed regional lockdown. Prior to tournament, soldiers 12-16 Jan conducted mass arrest of civilians in Limbe, regional capital Buea, and Muyuka and Tiko towns. U.S. 1 Jan passed bipartisan resolution calling for ceasefire in Anglophone regions, sanctions on those responsible for atrocities, and for Washington to raise Anglophone conflict at UN.

December 2020

Separatists disrupted regional elections in Anglophone regions, [...]. President Biya's Cameroon People's Democratic Movement (CPDM) won nine of ten regional councils in 6 Dec elections [...]. Ahead of vote, Anglophone separatists 4 Dec imposed three-day ghost town in North West and South West regions. On voting day, suspected separatists 6 Dec killed municipal councillor in Alabukam village and wounded two men near Akum village, both North West. Also in North West, suspected separatists 12 Dec kidnapped Kedjom Ketinguh village chief, released him three days later after ransom payment; armed forces 13 Dec reportedly killed community leader in Mukuru village, Wum commune, and 26 Dec reportedly killed two patients in Tubah District Hospital. In South West region, soldiers 12 Dec reportedly killed two civilians in Eyumojock subdivision, and 21 Dec raided two villages in Mbonge commune, killing six. Suspected separatists 13 Dec kidnapped three village chiefs in regional capital Buea, later killed one and released two. Army and separatists 22 Dec exchanged fire in Tombel town, leaving civilian dead. UN Special Envoy for Central Africa Louceny Fall 9 Dec briefed UN Security Council on Anglophone conflict; U.S. called Cameroon greatest concern in region with 6.2mn in need of humanitarian assistance, 2.3mn more than in early 2020.

November 2020

Anglophone separatists continued to target schools in North West and South West regions [...]. In North West, Anglophone separatists kidnapped dozens, including six teachers and ten students in Bui division's capital Kumbo 3 Nov, and six students in Boyo division's capital Fundong next day; most victims were quickly released. Separatists 5 Nov kidnapped prominent Cardinal Tumi and traditional chief of Nso people, alongside 11 others in Bui division, next day released Tumi and 10 Nov released Nso chief. Soldiers 8 Nov killed two civilians in Akum locality near regional capital Bamenda, and two others in Ndu town, Donga-Mantung division. In continued clashes with army, suspected separatists 11 and 18 Nov reportedly killed four soldiers in Bamenda and Mbiame town, Bui division. In South West, suspected separatists 4 Nov assaulted students and teachers in Limbe city, Fako division, later burnt school classroom, and 8 Nov killed traditional chief in regional capital Buea. Separatists 14 Nov killed two soldiers near Mamfe city, Manyu division, and 26 Nov killed three others in Ekondo-Titi commune, Ndiabou division. Soldiers 25 Nov reportedly killed at least two civilians in Akwaya commune, Manyu division.

FN, UNHCR, *Cameroon MCO, FACT SHEET DECEMBER 2020*, [url](#)

A total of 74 flash alerts were recorded in the North West and South West, including abductions and the detonation of IEDs, showing evidence of significant security concerns and protection violations. The UNHCR/INTERSOS toll-free hotline (8564) recorded 48 calls that reported SGBV and other protection incidents. (s. 2)

UNHCR and partners conducted eight protection assessments in the North West and South West. 8,701 IDPs and 1,173 returnees were found to be in pressing need of core relief items, services for women and children and livelihood for household heads. 31 survivors of rape, sexual and physical assault were identified in the North West and South West. Psychosocial services and follow up were provided for 26 of them and case management is ongoing. Cash assistance was given to 18 persons and material assistance to 320 people during activities marking the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence in Bamenda. In the East, 09 cases of SGBV were identified and provided with psychosocial support. (s. 2)

FN, OCHA, *Cameroon: North-West and South-West - Situation Report No. 26 (As of 31 December 2020)*, 2021-01-26, [url](#)

[In December,] 245 Gender Based Violence (GBV) incidents were reported in the two regions (s. 1, 6)

SITUATION OVERVIEW. The situation in the NWSW regions deteriorated compared to the month before with an upsurge in violence and targeted attacks with potential relation to the regional elections that took place on 6 December. The deteriorating security situation has resulted in multiple population displacements across the NWSW regions with over 4,116 people forced to flee their homes to seek shelter and safety in nearby bushes and villages. These movements are often temporary and displaced persons usually return to their homes once the security situation allows. (s. 2)

Humanitarian actors continued to operate under numerous constraints. On 1 December, during a food distribution in Ikata town in Fako division in the South-West (SW) a commander of a non-State armed group (NSAG) attempted to behead a staff member of an international humanitarian organization involved in the distribution. Fortunately, she escaped unharmed. On 8 December, the Governor of the North-West (NW) region suspended the

activities of the International NGO Doctors Without Borders in the region, causing potential serious impact on the provision of life saving humanitarian assistance in the region. (s. 2)

A lockdown was announced by NSAGs from 4 to 7 December 2020, due to the regional elections. NSAG fighters carried out several attacks to enforce the lockdown as well as to target anyone participating in the election. On 5 December, NSAG fighters burnt down a truck in Santa subdivision in NW and abducted the driver and his assistant. On 6 December, NSAG reportedly shot a priest and a seminarian in Akum town in Santa subdivision. Later, on the same day, NSAGs burnt a taxi in Buea subdivision in SW. In December, NSAG attacks on traditional authorities were numerous. On 6 December, NSAG fighters reportedly abducted the Fon of Mbessa, in Belo subdivision in the NW as he returned from the voting station. On 10 December, NSAG abducted three chiefs at Mile 14 Dibanda, the chief of Mile 14 Dibanda, the chief of Mile 15 Lower Bokova, and the chief of Mile 16 Bolifamba I in Buea subdivision in SW. The chief of Mile 14 Dibanda reportedly died during the incident, while the other two chiefs were released after spending a night in captivity. On 12 December, the Fon of Kedjom Ketinguh, Small Babanki, in the Tubah subdivision in NW, was kidnapped by unidentified gunmen suspected to be NSAG fighters. He was released on 18 December. (s. 2)

Attacks against school children and staff continued during December. On 8 December, NSAG fighters shot a secondary school student in Ngashie in Oku subdivision in NW, as he was on his way to school. (s. 2)

In December, there was also an increase in the use of improvised explosive devices (IED). On 5 December, an IED detonated on the Santa on Pinyin road in Santa subdivision wounding three persons. On 9 December, an IED detonated in Mbengwi in Momo in NW killing an eight year- old boy. On 17 December, an IED detonated at the Ntahnko market junction in Widikum subdivision in NW. On 19 December, a convoy of State Security Forces was attacked in Eyumojock subdivision in SW with a remote controlled IED. On 20 December, an IED exploded in Mile 10 Bambili in Tubah subdivision in NW causing the loss of a welder's hand after he had mistaken the object for an iron rod. (s. 2 f.)

*Protection.* The protection environment in the NWSW deteriorated due to the regional elections. There were regular confrontations between State Security Forces and NSAGs, restrictions of movement and lockdowns, an increase in the use of IEDs by NSAGs, targeted attacks and killings, threats against people as well as raids and indiscriminate arrests by State Security Forces hindering the delivery of humanitarian assistance. (s. 5)

UNHCR and Intersos carried out protection assessments and focus group discussions (FGDs) in the localities of Diche 1 in Widikum subdivision in the NW, in Mussang and Nsangwa in Bamenda 2 subdivision in the NW, in Malende and Ekona in Muyuka subdivision in the SW, in Tole in Buea subdivision in the SW, in Kesham in Mamfe subdivision in the SW, and in Mbalangi in Mbonge subdivision in the SW. Protection partners recorded 8,700 IDPs and 1,170 returnees. (s. 5)

In December, protection partners collected 465 incident reports including the destruction of habitat, threat to life and personal security cases, murders and killings, and SGBV cases, which were referred to relevant GBV Area of Responsibility (AoR) partners. (s. 5)

*Child Protection Area of Responsibility (AoR).* Community members reported several cases of child rights violations. Attacks on schools, targeting children and staff members, have been reported in Boyo, Mezam and Manyu divisions in the NW and SW regions, respectively. (s. 5)

*Gender- Based Violence Area of Responsibility (AoR).* Sexual violence represents 40 per cent of reported GBV cases. Survivors of GBV incidents are mostly women (86 per cent), with 6 per cent people with disabilities. 37 per cent of survivors are children. 36 per cent of survivors received psychosocial support (36 per cent), health (28 per cent), and livelihood services (45 per cent). There is a critical need to scale up lifesaving GBV services and advocate for access to affected communities in hard-to-reach areas. (s. 6)

FN, OCHA, *CAMEROON Situation Report, Last updated: 30 Dec 2020, [url](#)*

During November, 798 Gender Based Violence (GBV) incidents were reported in the two regions. (s. 1, 6)

*Situation Overview.* The humanitarian situation in the North-West and South-West (NWSW) regions remained dire during the month of November, marked by continued violent attacks on schools and children and overall insecurity linked to the approaching first ever regional elections announced for 6 December. Incidents reported within the month include killing, torture, abduction of students and teachers, as well as arson against education facilities. On 3 November at least 11 students were abducted by suspected NSAGs from a Presbyterian school in Kumbo (NW region). They were released some days later. On 4 November suspected NSAGs stormed Kulu Memorial College in mile 4 Limbe, assaulting several students and staff, forcing them out of their classrooms and setting fire to school property. The Humanitarian Coordinator in Cameroon released a statement on 5 November condemning the continuous attacks against education. (s. 2)

An increase in the targeting of traditional and religious leaders was also observed in November. On 5 November Emeritus Archbishop of the Douala Archdiocese, Christian Cardinal Tumi, alongside the Fon of Nso (Bui division), Sehm Mbinglo, were abducted by NSAGs while on their way to Kumbo. The Cardinal was released the following day while the Fon spent several days in captivity before being released on 10 November. On 6 November, Chief Molinga Francis Nangoh of Liwola Malale village of the SW region was murdered and his palace burnt down by unidentified gunmen suspected to belong to a NSAG. The second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to make the delivery of live-saving assistance challenging due to the importance of respecting distancing guidelines. The restrictions on public gatherings in particular, made it difficult for partners to reach their targets, especially those carrying out distributions and sensitization activities. (s. 3)

*Humanitarian Response: Education.* October 2020 was noteworthy for the high level of atrocities committed against children and education personnel in the NWSW regions. The education cluster, in collaboration with OCHA and with the support from partners, is engaging in advocacy with actors on the ground to refrain from attacks on education and the use of education as a political tool. (s. 4)

*Humanitarian Response: Protection.* The protection environment in the NWSW remained very concerning in November due to ongoing insecurity with attacks on education, indiscriminate arrests by Government security forces, targeted killings, kidnappings and threats against the affected population as well as frequent clashes between Government security forces and

NSAGs which led to displacements. During protection monitoring activities in November population movements were reported in many localities in the two regions, especially Menchum, Mezam, Boyo and Bui divisions of the NW region where close to 3,000 persons were forced to flee their homes. 585 protection incident reports were collected during November by protection partners. The main types of protection incidents reported include destruction of houses and properties, threats to life and personal security, killing/murder, looting, extortion, torture, SGBV, arrest and detention, arson. The most affected populations are IDPs followed by returnees. (s. 5)

Rapid assessments were carried out in 11 new communities where key informants reported humanitarian needs. Communities, where a high level of protection needs were identified, include Anyajua (Belo subdivision), Nsongwa (Bafut subdivision), Mfuni (Eyumodjock subdivision), Illeh (Konye subdivision), Small Ekange (Tiko subdivision) and Mile 16 Buea (Buea subdivision). IDPs in these communities face different risks ranging from serious threats to life, destruction of habitat, lack of access to services for women and children, lack of health facilities and poor water sanitation and hygiene conditions. 130 key informants were interviewed in the different communities. In Barombi (Meme) and Ogomoko (Manyu), key informants highlighted the lack of civil status documentation as a major restriction to freedom of movement and a limiting factor to their access to basic services. (s. 6)

*Humanitarian Response: Child Protection Area of Responsibility (AoR).* Children continue to be the main population group affected by the crisis in the NWSW regions of Cameroon, with reports of increased cases of Gender-Based Violence against children and adolescents in the regions. Several cases of early pregnancies, forced/early marriages and child labour were reported. (s. 6)

FN, OCHA, *Cameroon: North-West and South-West - Situation Report No. 24 (As of 31 October 2020)*, 2020-12-07, [url](#)

The month of October experienced the deadliest and most violent attacks on education since the beginning of the crisis in 2017, with at least eight school children killed and 12 injured in an attack in Kumba on 24 October. (s. 1)

[In October,] 669 Gender Based Violence (GBV) incidents were reported in the two regions. (s. 1, 6)

*SITUATION OVERVIEW.* In the past two months (September and October 2020), and especially following school resumption on 5 October 2020, there has been an increase in the number of attacks on education. The month of October saw the most violent and bloody attacks on education experienced since the beginning of the crisis in 2017. Incidents reported this month include cases of killing, torture and abduction of students and teachers, as well as arson of education facilities. Major incidents were recorded in Bui and Mezam divisions in the North-West region (NW), Meme, Fako and Boyo divisions in the South-West (SW), with the Kumba massacre on 24 October being the deadliest and most violent attack. At least eight children were killed, and more than a dozen were wounded after unidentified gunmen stormed the Mother Francisca International Bilingual Academy in Kumba, Meme division on that day. On 23 October, the day before, 15 students of the Progressive Comprehensive College of Bamenda were reportedly abducted by non-state armed group (NSAG) fighters while returning from school. They were taken to an unknown destination and tortured. Six of them were released on the same day and the others on a later date. Both

NSAGs and Government security forces accused each other of the massacre in Kumba as well as of other attacks against education. Between 27 and 30 October women and children marched on the streets of many towns in the NWSW demanding an end to the crisis. The Humanitarian Coordinator in Cameroon released a statement on 24 October condemning the killing of students in Kumba. (s. 2)

Separatist have remained divided on their position with regards to education. While some separatists called openly on social media for a resumption of schooling, pupils, students and teachers continue to be physically attacked and to receive threats from other separatists through audio messages. No NSAG group has issued any public statement to reflect that orders have been given to the fighters under their influence to avoid any threats or other targeting of schools as well as children, teachers and parents. (s. 2 f.)

Incidents perpetrated by Government security forces were also reported in October. This includes security forces forcibly transporting children to Government schools in military vans, the occupation of non-operational school facilities, and the closing down of informal or community schools in favour of Government schools. Such incidents were reported in NgoKetunjia, Bui and Donga Mantung divisions, all in the NW region. The month of October also saw cases of harassment of humanitarians, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), lockdown days and roadblocks, obstructing humanitarian access of aid agencies to people in need. (s. 3)

*Protection.* The protection environment in the NW/SW continued to deteriorate in October due to increasing insecurity with attacks on education, indiscriminate arrests by Government security forces, targeted killings and threats against the population and military raids. Frequent clashes between Government security forces and NSAGs continued to lead to population displacement. (s. 5)

During protection monitoring activities in October 2020, population movements were reported in many localities in the two regions. In Fiango, Kumba 2 subdivision (SW), about 300 persons were forced to leave their homes. About 1,000 people moved from the Kumbo subdivision (NW) to the bushes and neighbouring villages due to indiscriminate arrests by Government security forces. Many people moved from Awing to Santa (NW) and about 150 children and their parents fled from lower Ndungated in Lebialem (SW) to Fongo Tongo and Dschang in the West region to give opportunity for their children to go to school safely. In Besongabang, Mamfe central subdivision (SW), about 50 persons fled to the bushes after a gun battle broke out between Government security forces and NSAGs. Many families in the localities of Yang, Iso, and Tchinfoinmbi, in Njinikom subdivision (NW), fled into the bushes following a military raid in the area that was characterised by arbitrary arrests, killing, looting, and burning down of houses. Similar incidents were reported in Aboh, Anyajua, Agin, Elemingho, Tumuku, Ntualatua in Belo subdivision (NW) on 6 October resulting in the displacement of about 9,000 individuals into bushes and nearby villages like Mbingo. (s. 5)

After the massacre of children in Kumba, an interagency United Nations assessment mission was conducted, and protection cluster members continue to monitor and assist to the affected population. The protection and education clusters released advocacy notes calling on all stakeholders to engage in the protection of civilians, especially women and children. (s. 5)

Protection monitoring activities were conducted in 13 divisions including some activities conducted remotely in Boyo, Ngoketunjia, Manyu, Lebialem

and Ndian due to security reasons. In total, 903 protection incident reports were collected in October. (s. 5)

Protection assessments were carried out in 14 communities of nine subdivisions of the NWSW. Other protection interventions carried out during the month include: community awareness campaigns on social cohesion and peaceful coexistence by INTERSOS/UNHCR, IRC, DRC, CBC and community leaders; trainings on SGBV and livelihood activities by IRC, CBC, and INTERSOS/UNHCR; legal assistance to IDPs in detention, IDPs in need of documentation, and genderbased violence (GBV) survivors; awareness sessions on the rights of IDPs and available services; and the provision of material assistance and psychosocial support to the most vulnerable persons including IDPs and returnees. (s. 5)

*Child Protection Area of Responsibility (AoR).* The ongoing conflict in the NWSW regions worsened in October 2020, with schools becoming contested spaces and targets of attacks. The attacks in Kumba and Bamenda against school children were significant and have destroyed the gains made by education actors over previous years with many children and parents afraid to return to school. (s. 6)

Despite these setbacks, child protection actors reached 37,709 beneficiaries with a variety of interventions. The interventions included the provision of psychosocial support services to children and caregivers, reaching 13,703 beneficiaries (11,583 children and 2,120 adults); case management for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and other vulnerable children reaching 893 children (519 girls and 374 boys); and support to community-based child protection committees reaching 525 beneficiaries. Lastly, child protection actors continued with awareness raising sessions to sensitize communities on child protection risks and concerns, genderbased violence (GBV) and COVID-19 preventive measures and symptoms reaching 18,905 beneficiaries (11,589 children and 7,316 adults). (s. 6)

*GBV Area of Responsibility (AoR).* The number of reported GBV cases remains very high with 669 cases reported in October. (s. 6)

*ACAPS, Cameroon. The education crisis in the Northwest and Southwest regions, 2021-02-19, [url](#)*

Children affected by the Anglophone crisis face an increased risk of child recruitment, gender-based violence (GBV), child abuse, and child labour. Some parents rely on child labour to help support their families, including sending their children to work as domestic workers, to work on farms, harvest bitter leaf, beg, and – for adolescent girls – engage in survival sex work (Protection Cluster 04/2019; DRC 11/2020; OCHA 06/2020). (s. 1)

Without the 'safe space' that schools would normally provide, children are more likely to spend time on the streets, where they are at risk of being abducted and trafficked. The abduction of children has increased since 2016 (Protection Cluster 04/2019; Cameroon Education Cluster 04/09/2020; OCHA 06/2020). Children who are not in school face arbitrary arrests and detainment – they are assumed to be members of separatist armed groups by the security forces. This is a concern that is faced by children in the NW region in particular (key informant interview 03/02/2021). (s. 7)

The violence has forced children and their families to flee their homes and become displaced. In October 2020 alone, more than 150 children and their families fled from lower Ndungated in Lebialem department in the SW region to Fongo Tongo and Dschang in the West region, in search of opportunities for the children to go to school safely (OCHA 31/10/2020). (s. 7)

Thousands of Anglophone families have resorted to sending their children to bilingual schools in Francophone areas (ICG 19/10/2017). In October 2019, 30,000 children were estimated to have integrated into primary schools in Littoral and West regions, overloading already stretched regional educational capacities (OCHA 06/2020). According to Street Child, over 100,000 Anglophone children are believed to live in the neighbouring Francophone regions. The majority do not speak French and lack civil documents. They are often unaccompanied and separated from their parents. Many rely on sex work to survive (Street Child 10/02/2020). (s. 7)

The New Humanitarian, ***In Cameroon's separatist war, children are the biggest losers***, 2021-02-16, [url](#)

Much of the killing and violence in this conflict has been by the government security forces – their abuses well documented by rights groups. The counter-insurgency campaign fuels the cycle of violence, and the alleged impersonation of separatist fighters adds confusion to the tragedy.

But lately, trust in the separatist fighters has also begun to fade.

They have enforced an unpopular school boycott since 2016 to protest what they see as the dismantling of the region's separate education system, and its assimilation within French-speaking Cameroon.

The turning point for public sympathy came in October 2020, when armed men stormed a school in Kumba in the Southwest region and killed seven children and wounded 13 others. Nobody has claimed responsibility for the attack, although the government blamed the separatists.

The Kumba killing became just one in a series. In November, gunmen attacked Kulu Memorial College in the Southwest, and to punish the teachers and students for attending school, stripped them naked and beat them.

Barely 24 hours later, 11 teachers were kidnapped by armed men from a mission school in Kumbo, in the Northwest region. They were released after two days, following pressure from civil society groups and the Presbyterian church.

Intimidated, the local population sits on the fence for fear of being tagged as sympathisers by either side. Others are packing up and leaving the conflict zones.

Women and girls have been hardest hit by the school closures and lockdowns imposed by the separatists – with a spike in teenage pregnancy, rape, and transactional sex.

Yaoundé and major cities like Douala and Bafoussam have seen a huge influx of displaced people. The streets are full of young anglophone children hawking goods. In private homes, young girls are employed as domestic workers, earning as little as \$35 a month.

And then came COVID-19 last year. It shut down the world but not the war, and has made the struggles of already poor and vulnerable households so much worse.

FN, UNHCR, *Cameroon MCO (Multi Country Operation Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, and Sao Tome & Principe) - Factsheet - November 2020*, 2020-12-18, [url](#)

A total of 466 protection incidents were recorded in the North-West and South-West regions. UNHCR and partners conducted 11 protection assessments, one inter-agency assessment and 61 Focus Groups Discussions (FDGs) to capture the needs of affected populations and structure the response. Access to health, education, civil documentation and adequate shelter emerged as the most pressing needs. (s. 2)

## MIGRATIONSVERKETS FUNKTION FÖR LAND- OCH OMVÄRLDSANALYS

Den 1 maj 2019 inrättade Migrationsverket en ny funktion för land- och omvärldsanalys. Funktionen benämns Migrationsanalys och finns inom Migrationsverkets Nationella operativa avdelning. Migrationsverkets system för landinformation, Lifos, fortsätter att vara den plats där rapporter publiceras.