



CAMEROON CRISIS RELIEF FUND

*Department of Cooperating Missions of
The Cameroon Baptist Convention*

Three Year Report

November 2018 – December 2021

Report to:

North American Baptist Conference

World Team

Converge

Cameroon Baptist Convention

Submitted by:

Calvin J. Hohn

CBC Director of Cooperating Missions

North American Baptists Field Director

January 30, 2022

CAMEROON CRISIS RELIEF FUND

CBC Department of Cooperating Mission

Three Year Report: November 2018 – December 2021

“When did we see you sick
or in prison and go to visit
you? The King will reply,
Truly I tell you, whatever
you did for one of the
least of these brothers
and sisters of mine, you
did for me”

Jesus – Matthew 25:40

Overview:

The socio-political crisis that began in November 2016, and its resultant warring conflict, is now in its sixth year. It continues to inflict a heavy physical, emotional and economic toll on the population of the two Anglophone regions of Cameroon. It has also affected neighbouring regions and the entire country. The conflict has resulted in over 3000 deaths, close to 70,000 refugees in neighbouring countries, close to one million internally displaced persons, and over 700,000 children and adolescents prevented from attending school for four years. Hundreds of villages have been destroyed.¹

The Cameroon Crisis Relief Fund established by the North American Baptist Conference (NAB) in November 2018 has continued to be a significant source of funding for the Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) to meet the ongoing needs of people being adversely affected by the conflict. World Team and Converge missions, also members of the CBC Department of Cooperating Missions, have also continued to contribute funding. Other sources of funding for the CBC’s relief efforts are her churches, Christians and institutions, and partnerships with international organizations, namely the Norwegian Refugee Council, Mission21 (Basel Protestant Mission), and the World Food Program and UNHCR. This report will only cover funding sourced through the CBC Department of Cooperating Missions Crisis Relief Fund.

The report provides a global overview of all relief funding that has come to the CBC through the Department of Cooperating Missions over the thirty-eight-month period of November 2018 to December 2021. The report shows how the fund has been used, its beneficiaries and how it has been accounted for. Due to confidentiality and security issues, details of individuals are not included in this report. All financial amounts are reported in local Cameroon currency, the Central African Franc (XAF). Only one third of a percent of the funds was spent on miscellaneous administrative costs such as volunteer identification vests, receipt books, volunteer transportation and stipend, video projector, etc.

Income Sources November 2018 – December 2021:

<i>Source</i>	<i>Amount (XAF)</i>	<i>USD @ 38 month average exchange of 579</i>
North American Baptist	101,685,228	\$175,622.00
World Team	11,947,420	\$20,635.00
Converge	32,898,778	\$56,820.00
Other (individual missionaries/volunteers)	550,000	\$950.00
<i>Total</i>	147,081,426	\$254,027.00

Oversight of Distribution and Accounting:

The oversight of, distribution, and accounting of the Cameroon Crisis Relief Fund is coordinated through the CBC Directorate of Cooperating Missions and the CBC Department of Finance. Calvin Hohn, CBC Director of Cooperating Missions is a member of the CBC Crisis Relief Committee. The committee met regularly to deliberate over the most urgent needs and the best uses of funds. World Team and Converge field leadership were consulted when funding from these missions was to be used.

¹ Source: [Escalation of the Anglophone crisis](#), ReliefWeb, Jan 21, 2020; [OCHA Situation Report](#), ReliefWeb, Nov 5, 2021; [OCHA Situation Report](#), ReliefWeb, Jan 14, 2022

The CBC Finance department assisted with ensuring accurate distribution of funding to designated institutions, ministries, or individuals. Recipients of funding in turn submitted expense reports, including distribution receipts where appropriate. Reconciliation between funding received from abroad, funding distribution and receipt reporting from recipients, was conducted on an on-going weekly basis.

Funding Activities:

Since the CBC's other sources of funding are designated to meet particular relief needs, the Cameroon Crisis Relief Fund (CCRF) of the Department of Cooperating Missions focused on meeting needs not met by other sources. The following are the primary needs met by the CCRF in this thirty-eight-month period:

1. Hospital bills of patients directly affected by the conflict/crisis.

The CBC's three major hospitals in the conflict zone are Baptist Hospital Mutengene, Mbingo Baptist Hospital, and Bango Baptist Hospital. Funding was provided to cover bill payment of individuals who became patients directly because of the conflict and had challenges completing payment. Many of these were civilian gunshot victims whose cases required costly surgery. Others were patients whose illness was exacerbated by not being able to access medical care in a timely manner due to the conflict. The hospital administrations submitted lists to the CCRF of needy cases as they came up. Baptist Hospital Mutengene has received less conflict related patients and therefore did not submit fund request during the last 15 months of this reporting period. By the end of 2021 the fund had assisted a total of 334 patients with a combined total of 87,784,549 FCFA.

Hospital Bills Assistance - November 2018 – December 2021

<i>Hospital</i>	<i>No. Female Patients Assisted</i>	<i>No. Male Patients Assisted</i>	<i>Total Patients Assisted</i>	<i>Total Amount Given (XAF)</i>
Mutengene	14	27	41	8,470,350
Mbingo	45	75	120	37,096,564
Bango	34	139	173	42,217,635
<i>Totals</i>			334	87,784,549

2. School fees of internally displaced children.

During the early years of the conflict, many families fled their villages and ended up in the urban centers (specifically Bamenda and Buea/Soppo). These urban centers were more stable where the children had the opportunity to go to school again. Most families left everything behind and did not have basic living essentials, let alone the means to pay for school. In 2019 and 2020, in collaboration with the CBC Education Department and the CBC Soppo Field, lists of internally displaced primary and secondary school students in need were identified and assisted with full or partial fee payment. By 2021 most displaced families were settled in new locations with means to pay school fees. Only a few very needy students were assisted in 2021. By the end of 2021 the fund had assisted a total of 2,764 students with a combined total of 37,185,020 FCFA.

School Fees Assistance – November 2018 – December 2021

<i>No. Schools</i>	<i>Primary School Students</i>	<i>Secondary Students Assisted</i>	<i>Total Students Assisted</i>	<i>Total Amount Given (XAF)</i>
103	2311	453	2764	37,185,020

3. Tuition fees of seminary students adversely affected by the conflict/crisis.

Several seminary students at both CBC seminaries, Ndu and Kumba, faced challenges completing tuition payments early in the conflict due to displacement and/or loss of livelihood. In 2019 a total of 3,081,700 FCFA was given to assist 36 seminary students.

4. Prisoner's support.

The conflict and crisis of the past five years has resulted in many arrests. Small prisons in rural areas have been attacked and destroyed and prisoners relocated to larger urban prisons resulting in overcrowding. Prison authorities have been unable to care for the needs of the inmates. CBC churches and individuals in these urban areas continue to engage in ministry to prison inmates. Funds have been given through those involved in prison ministry to help meet food, clothing and medical needs of prisoners and young children of prisoners. By the end of 2021 the fund had assisted a total of 11,876 prisoners with a combined total of 5,694,500 FCFA.

Prisoner Needs Assistance – November 2018 – December 2021

<i>Prison</i>	<i>No. Prisoners Assisted (approx.)</i>	<i>Amount of Assistance Given (XAF)</i>
Bamenda Central Prison	8,380	3,600,000
Buea Central Prison	3,481	2,094,500
<i>Totals</i>	11,861	5,694,500

5. Needs of individual internally displaced persons (IDPs).

When members of the CBC Crisis Relief Committee are made aware of an internally displaced person or family whose needs are not being met by any church or NGO, the individual is interviewed, and their situation is evaluated before drawing up a plan for assistance and follow-up. These cases are not many as most IDPs are being assisted through churches and other NGO programs. By the end of 2021 the fund had assisted a total of 38 prisoners/families with a combined total of 3,299,950 FCFA.

Individual IDP Assistance – November 2018 – December 2021

<i>Number of Individuals</i>	<i>Type of Assistance Provided</i>	<i>Amount of Assistance Provided (XAF)</i>
38	Primarily capital for small food business. Some minor medical/dental assistance	3,299,150
16	Small business management training	98,800
	<i>Total</i>	3,397,950

6. Trauma Healing & Resilience Training Seminars.

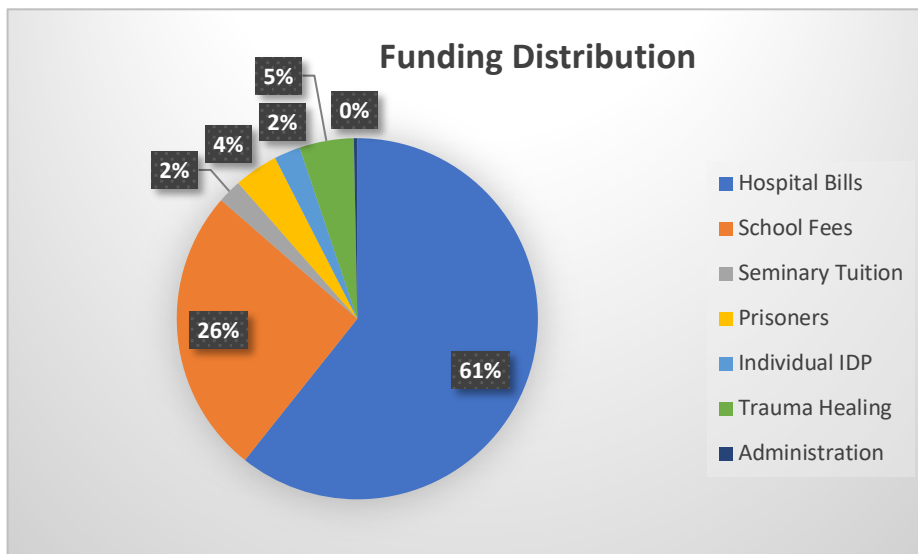
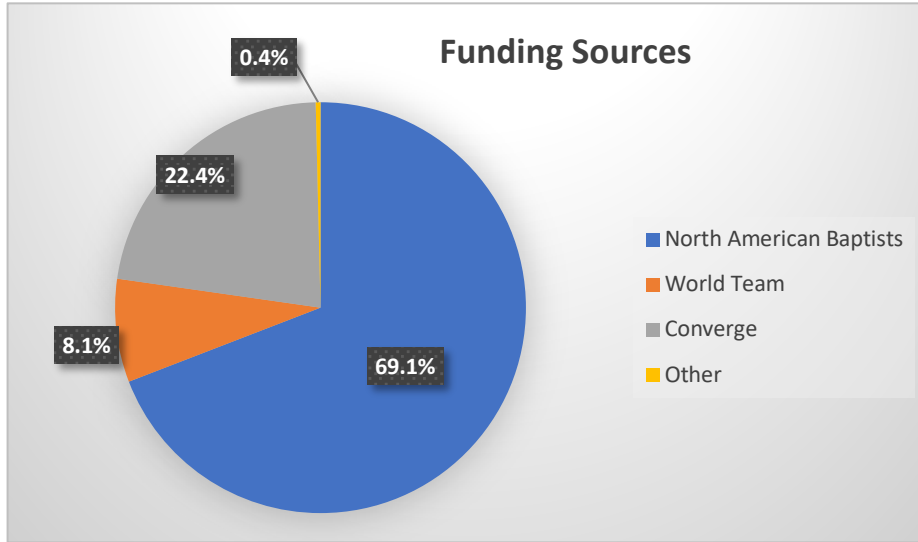
Trauma Healing and Resilience workshops became a primary focus of the Crisis Relief Committee and fund in 2021. The church has an opportunity to play a significant role in bringing healing to communities and the nation. These workshops not only help individuals find healing from their personal trauma, but also become healers and peacemakers in their communities. This will be a long-term need that will continue even once the conflict ends. People of all ages and sectors of society have been traumatized for life and need coping skills.

Trauma Healing and Resilience Training Workshops – November 2018 – December 2021

<i>Workshop Description</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>No. Participants</i>	<i>Funding Assistance for Workshop (XAF)</i>
Mbouda (Children)	June 24-July 5, 2019	15	1,000,000
Bamenda (Children)	January 14-17, 2020	22	329,000
Bamenda	January 20-23, 2020	30	1,605,800
Bafoussam	April 14-16, 2021	20	755,350
Kumba	July 28-31, 2020	20	1,033,750
Bamenda	April 21-23, 2021	21	695,500
Buea	April 28-29, 2021	20	645,450
Mbingo	October 13-15, 2021	21	442,250
Ndop	December 15-17, 2021	22	536,300
	<i>Totals</i>	171	7,043,400

CAMEROON CRISIS RELIEF FUND

CBC Department of Cooperating Mission
Eighteen Month Report: November 2018 – December 2021



Future Activity Envisioned:

- Continue with hospital bill assistance
- Continue with prisoner assistance – Bamenda and Buea Central Prisons
- Increase the number of Trauma Healing and Resilience workshops offered and begin to add the component of conflict transformation and peace building

