

nexus



humanitarian - development - peace

Humanitarian-Development-Peace

Joint Analysis

in Nexus convergence areas

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METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

July 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- LIST OF ACRONYMS..... 3**
- 1. RATIONALE 4**
- 2. METHODOLOGY 5**
 - 2.1 KEY RESEARCH QUESTIONS 5**
 - 2.1.1 Understanding the drivers of the crisis 6
 - 2.1.2 Understanding the impact of the crisis 8
 - 2.1.3 Understanding the existing capacities and the current response in the municipality 9
 - 2.2 METHODOLOGICAL PROCESS 10**
 - 2.2.1 Identification of context specificities with local experts group 10
 - 2.2.2 Mapping of actors, interventions and existing analyses 11
 - 2.2.3 Analysis of existing data in the deep platform 12
 - 2.2.4 Identification of gaps with joint analysis group 15
 - 2.2.5 Collection of missing data 16
 - 2.2.6 Writing of report and discussion of findings with joint analysis group 16
 - 2.2.7 Validation workshop in the municipality 17
 - 2.2.8 Final report 18
- 3. BIBLIOGRAPHY 19**
- 4. ANNEXES 20**
 - Annex 1: Structure of the joint analysis report 20
 - Annex 2: Conflict analysis 21
 - Annex 3: Questions regarding displaced persons that should be answered in the analysis 23
 - Annex 4: Example of Logone-Birni. List of documents that were analyzed 25
 - Annex 5: Where to find data and who to approach for data? 27
 - Annex 6: RPBA Matrix 28

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CCA	Common Country Assessment
CEA	Community Engagement and Accountability
GRAF	Global Risk Assessment Framework
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HDP	Humanitarian, Development, Peace
HNO/HRP	Humanitarian Needs Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MSNAs	Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessments
OCHA	UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OECD-DAC	OECD Development Assistance Committee
RC/HC	UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator
RPC	Recovery and Peace Consolidation Strategy for Northern and East Cameroon 2018–2022
RPBA	Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment
RRA	Risk Resilience Assessment
RSA	Resilience System Analysis
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TF	Task Force
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNSDCF	UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

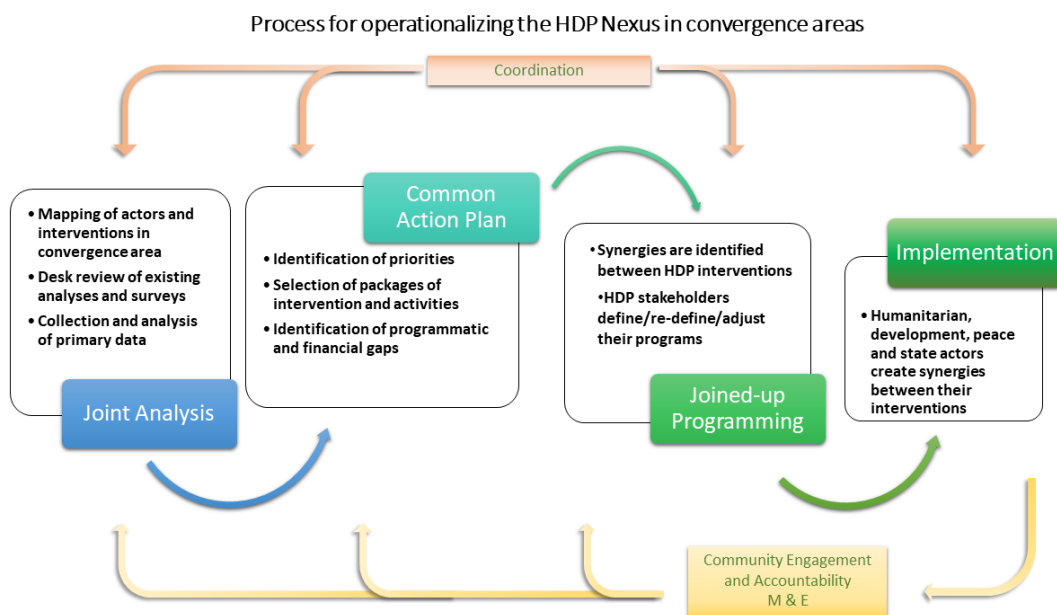
1. RATIONALE

Humanitarian, Development and Peacebuilding (HDP) actors usually conduct their assessment studies/research from their own spectrum of understanding. Indeed, actors need different types of information according to their mandate. They conduct their analysis with the purpose of informing and planning their own programming¹. The different analyses are hence conducted in silos and do not inform and complement one another. When organizations conduct a broader context analysis to inform a conflict sensitivity review of their operations, the findings are not often shared outside of the organization. As a result, there is often an enormous amount of analyses with the same geographical focus but there is no overarching understanding that connects these distinct sets of data in a way that would promote a comprehensive response to the risks, needs and vulnerabilities faced by the local communities. Moreover, these analyses do not systematically integrate local knowledge.

A key challenge that the HDP Nexus aims to address is to reduce the need for and length of humanitarian assistance by promoting sustainable solutions. To tackle this challenge, HDP Nexus actors first need to develop a common understanding of the situation at hand, through a joint analysis in each area of convergence² that has been selected and prioritized by the HDP Nexus regional Task Forces.

The aim of the analysis is to provide a common understanding of the drivers of conflict and its impact on the communities, as well as the knowledge, capacities, resources, and assets at the local level to address those needs and vulnerabilities.

The joint analysis is the first step in the Nexus operationalization process at the local level. It will give key recommendations, which will allow to identify gaps and priorities in the area of convergence. These priorities will then be reflected in the common action plan.



¹ Typically, assessments for humanitarian projects generally focus solely on humanitarian needs whilst peacebuilding actors will analyse the aspects related to the drivers of conflict etc.

² As of 2022, [12 areas of convergence have been identified in the Far-North, the East, the Adamaoua and the North regions.](#)

2. METHODOLOGY

This section outlines key research questions of the joint analysis and guidance regarding the analysis process.

The methodology for the joint analysis is inspired from a set of already existing analytical frameworks including the [Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment \(RPBA\)](#) [World Bank, EU, UN], the [Conflict and Development Analysis](#) [UN], the [Common Country Analysis \(CCA\)](#) [UN], the [Global Risk Assessment Framework \(GRAF\)](#) [UNDRR], the [Resilience System Analysis \(RSA\)](#) [OECD], the [Framework for durable solutions for internally displaced persons](#) [IASC], the [Human Security Handbook](#) [UN Trust Fund for Human Security], [the Vulnerability and risks assessment methodology](#) [Oxfam].

Furthermore, this methodology was written in parallel with the first joint analysis in Cameroon, conducted for Logone-Birni between February and June 2022. Hence, experiences and lessons learned from that first pilot have enriched this document.

This document is only meant as a guidance. The process of the joint HDP analysis can vary according to the location and the context as well as the availability of human and financial resources.

Joint analyses should be guided by the following overarching and interlinked principles:

- **Conflict sensitivity**: introducing a conflict sensitivity approach into the conflicts' analysis is a fundamental prerequisite to sketch an objective and unbiased, as far as possible, overview of the context and stakeholders, and to achieve among actors a common understanding of the conflicts. The conflict-sensitive approach, therefore, involves gaining a sound understanding of the two-way interaction between activities, stakeholders and context and to intervene to minimise negative impacts and maximise positive impacts of an intervention on conflict dynamics. As such, a conflict sensitivity risks' lens to the analysis increases the likelihood of sustaining peace by limiting harm that may be inadvertently caused by proposed activities and identifying areas where activities can contribute to peace. In addition, it reduces the risk that contexts that have experienced violent conflict will relapse³. In primary data collection, it entails maximizing community consultations, ensuring that opposing communities and a broad diversity of voices participate in the process.
- **Sustainability and resilience**: the Nexus approach should be sustainable and seek to strengthen the resilience of affected communities and relevant institutions. To do so, the joint analysis should be informed by a risk analysis and an assessment of existing capacities and resources. This information will help identify and prioritize levers to build local capacities.
- **Community engagement and accountability (CEA)**: CEA is a way of working that recognizes and values community members as equal partners. It makes sure their opinions are heard and used to design and guide our work. The concept of accountability to local communities is reaffirmed in all humanitarian, development and peacebuilding frameworks. The joint analysis process will ensure the participation of local communities at all phases, building upon critical feedback loop to assess if and how local knowledge, priorities and concerns are reflected in the analysis.

2.1 KEY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

A common and comprehensive understanding of the situation - encompassing political, security, economic, social and environmental risks, vulnerabilities and needs, as well as the current level of capacities to mitigate the risks and meet the needs, especially of the most vulnerable ones - is paramount to ensure synergies among humanitarian, development and peace interventions.

³ UN SDG, 2022, Good Practice Note, Conflict Sensitivity, Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace.

This section of the methodology provides a set of key guiding questions to shape the sought common understanding. The answers to these questions can be available whether through existing data or through the collection of new primary data (see section on collection of missing data).

The questions are grouped according to the drivers of the crisis, the impact of the crisis and the existing capacities and response in the municipality. Moreover, the joint analysis should identify key dividers and connectors in the context, thereby enabling Nexus actors, collectively and individually, to analyse all aspects of their operations to minimize negative impacts and, if possible, maximize positive ones.⁴

The analysis shall further identify the degree of complexity and ties among the various factors, as far as possible, the weight of key dividers and connectors not only in a retrospective manner, but also in terms of possible forecasts, particularly in terms of risks that might degenerate in new peaks of violence if not addressed immediately.

2.1.1 UNDERSTANDING THE DRIVERS OF THE CRISIS

What are the underlying factors driving the crisis?

- What kind of crisis are we looking at?

This should be the starting point of any analysis. The Nexus convergence area provides the starting point for the analysis. As these areas have been selected based on, among other, the existence of a prolonged and complex crisis and an area where return or local integration of displaced persons take place, the overall situation might look very different from one area to another. Starting by identifying whether the area experiences latent or violent conflict; direct, structural or cultural violence; recurrent natural disasters; etc. will help identifying entry points for the inquiry onto the underlying factors.

- What are the underlying structural and proximate factors of the crisis?

Here we are looking at policies, formal and informal structures and institutions (including social and cultural norms and behaviours), as well as the factors contributing to a climate conducive to violent conflict or its further escalation, sometimes apparently symptomatic of a deeper problem.

It is useful to probe the following political/governance-, security-related, social, economic and environmental dimensions to identify factors that may lead to conflict, violence and/or undermining the capacities of societies to respond/address/adapt to the crisis in a non-violent and inclusive manner.

- Governance

- To what extent is the State (at national, regional and local level; through its executive, legislative, judiciary branches and security and defence forces) able to meet the needs of its population, especially the vulnerable groups? What are the reasons that explain the efficiency of the State (or lack thereof) in meeting the needs? What is the perception among the different groups of the population? Are there groups that harbour grievances against the governance system?

- Security

- Is there direct violence in the area? If yes, what kind and of what degree? Who are the perpetrators, who are the victims? Are there specific protection concerns for specific groups?
- What and how effective are the national capacities to contain different types of violence (the security and defence forces local defence groups, etc.)?
- How secure feel the different groups in the population? Are there groups that feel that they are not or not adequately protected?

⁴ This objective of the joint analysis refers to the imperative of conflict sensitivity. To recall, conflict sensitivity is the capacity of an organization to understand the context in which it operates and to act upon this understanding to minimize negative impacts and maximize positive ones. See note on Peace in the Nexus in Cameroon (2020).

- Are their uncontrolled flow of small arms and light weapons? Are there existing smuggling networks?
- **Economic**
 - What are the main sources of livelihoods for the different groups in the area? Are livelihood strategies linked to any identity traits? Are there groups that feel that they are excluded from some livelihood opportunities or that other have better access?
 - Is there a high un- or under-employment and how does it play out for the different groups?
- **Social and cultural**
 - How is the access to basic social services in the area? Are there any groups that have more difficulties in accessing existing services in the area? Are there any groups that feel that they have less access than other and harbour grievances because of it?
 - How are inter-groups relations (horizontal social cohesion)?
 - What are the relationships between younger and older people in the society? What situation face young men and women (15-34) in the area (access to opportunities)? How do young men and women perceive their situation?
 - How gender equal is the society in the area? How equal is the participation of men and women in the political, economic and social sphere? What distinctive role do male and female play with regards to the crisis and its response and/or resolution?
 - Are civil society actors facing any types of difficulties or restrictions in their operations? Specifically, what role does civil society play in responding to the crisis and its impact, or addressing the underlying factors of the crisis?
 - What are the relationships between displaced persons in the area and host community members?
 - Is there a culture of peace or violence?
- **Environmental**
 - Does the area experiences distinctive changes to its environment and resources? How does it impact inclusivity in access to livelihood opportunities?
 - Are there protected areas in the zone and what is the attitude of the local populations towards the existence of the protected area?
 - Are there any conflict linked to the use of land?
- Within the above dimensions, are there any international, external or cross-border dimensions that need to be considered?

The links between the different factors is also a key element here.

If the area is experiencing or has experienced episodes of violence before:

- What triggered these episodes of violence?

Who are the stakeholders who contribute to shape the crisis (positively or negatively) or are affected by it?

- What are their stated positions?
- What are their interests?
- What resources do they have? Who supports them or tries to counter them? What links do they have with other stakeholders?

What are the key driving factors of the crisis? What are the key resilience factors in the society?

Only for interventions that aim to actually address the crisis, best practices have shown that one of the elements to ensure the effectiveness is to address the key factors, i.e. those that if removed or changed would drastically alter the outlook of the crisis.

- What are the key driving factors of the crisis? What are the key resilience factors in the society?
- How do factors interact to lead to the crisis?

What are the dividers and connectors in the area?

- What are the factors that create division or tension among people or groups?
- What are the factors that bring people and groups together?

The answers to these questions would typically be found in a conflict analysis (see annex 2).

2.1.2 UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF THE CRISIS

- What is the impact of the crisis on the communities in the area incl. how and why different communities and population groups within the area are differently affected? The understanding of the impact has to be differentiated according to displaced population vs. host community, gender, age, disabilities, socio-professional groups, location in the area, ethnic group and religion (categories can be added/changed according to the context).
- What are the needs (both short term and longer-term) voiced by the different members of the community? (host communities/displaced, gender, age, socio-professional groups, ethnic groups etc.) Categorized by health, education, livelihoods, water and sanitation, shelter etc.
- Do community members have adequate and sustainable access to basic services (health, education, shelter, energy, clean water and sanitation)? (host communities/displaced, gender, age, socio-professional groups, ethnic groups etc.)
- What are the imminent or more long-term risks faced by the communities?
- Are the different groups subject to specific risks?

A specific gender, age and diversity analysis could help answer those questions. A gender analysis would typically take into account the different needs, roles, benefits, impacts, risks and access to/control over resources of women and men, girls and boys. However, the gender aspect is not the only disaggregation that is important. The joint analysis should equally include considerations of categories of identity such as social status, ethnicity, etc. Analysing how and why different communities and population groups within an area are differently affected by a crisis (e.g. access to basic services) is a key aspect of the joint analysis.

A Vulnerability and Risk Assessment (VRA) workshop⁵ would provide a thorough understanding of the risks and vulnerabilities faced by the different groups. Rather than simply listing the physical hazards and risks existing in a particular area, the VRA identifies specific social groups and livelihoods, and examines the biophysical, political, economic and social risks and hazards that impact them and make them vulnerable, as well as the capacities of those groups to respond and adapt to hazards. Not only does the VRA clarify how members of a community are vulnerable, but it also seeks to understand why. It provides a holistic, multi-hazard and gendered understanding of vulnerability and its structural origins.

The information around the needs should be found in Multi-sectoral Needs Assessments (MSNAs) and other humanitarian analyses as well as in the communal development plan.

When it comes to the displaced populations, we need to understand their movements, their priorities and return/stay intentions, identify issues of tensions between displaced and host communities, develop a socio-economic profile of the displaced populations and assess their access to basic social services, livelihood and economic opportunities as well as local governance. The following questions stem from the IASC Framework for durable solutions for internally displaced persons:

⁵ [VRA methodology, Oxfam](#)

- What is known about the attitudes of the host communities towards the displaced persons in the area of displacement?
- In which setting(s) are the displaced persons living? - Rural, urban, camp, informal settlement, non-camp, or non-settlement setting (e.g. living with host families or on their own)
- What are the main protection concerns and risks of the displaced persons and host communities (divided by gender, age, socio-professional groups, location, religion, ethnic group)?
- What are the main sources of income of the displaced persons and the host communities?
- How does the socio-economic situation of the displaced persons compare to that of the host communities in the area of displacement?

A specific study on population movement and their current situation (when it comes to access to basic services, livelihood and opportunities economic as well as local governance) should be part of the joint analysis. The full questionnaire to assess the impact of the crisis on displaced persons can be found in Annex 3.

The elements related to the impact of the crises will be divided according to the three Nexus pillars (see section 2.2.3).

2.1.3 UNDERSTANDING THE EXISTING CAPACITIES AND THE CURRENT RESPONSE IN THE MUNICIPALITY

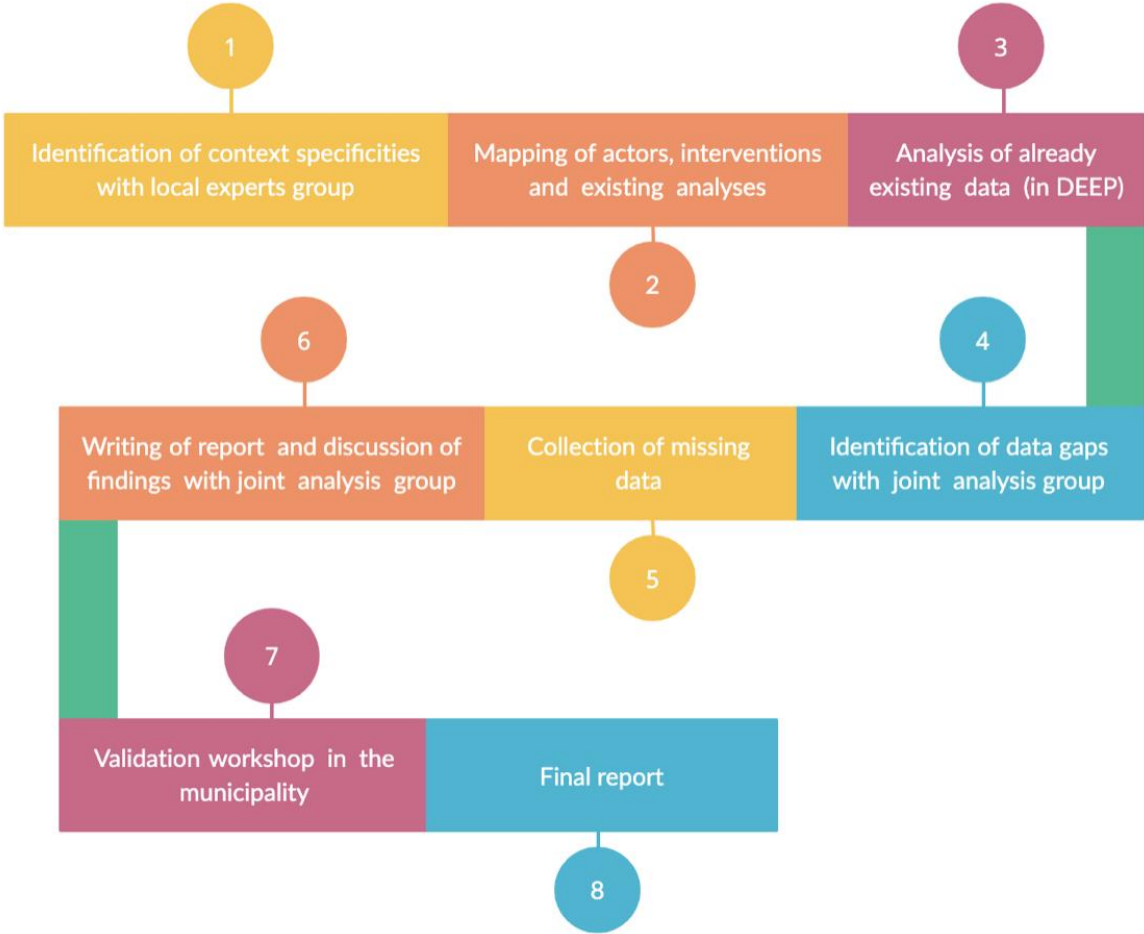
- What are the current capacities of the municipality?
- Which actors are currently present in the municipality (civil society including women's associations, local cooperatives etc.)?
- What does the civil society look like in the area? What kind of associations and organizations exist? How dynamic are they?
- What interventions are currently conducted by the international and local organizations (humanitarian actors, development actors, peacebuilding actors)?
- What is the presence of the private sector?
- What role does social media play?
- What are the opportunities to strengthen the already existing capacities and interventions?

Answering those questions would require a specific analysis around the mapping of interventions and actors present in the area.

The current response and existing capacities in the municipality will be divided according to the three Nexus pillars (see section 2.2.3).

2.2 METHODOLOGICAL PROCESS

To conduct the HDP joint analysis, eight steps have been identified:



2.2.1 IDENTIFICATION OF CONTEXT SPECIFICITIES WITH LOCAL EXPERTS GROUP

The Nexus approach acknowledges that joint assessments do not occur in a vacuum. Therefore, the sustainability of any intervention rests to a great extent on the level of local ownership, which should be built starting with the assessment phase. Once the decision of conducting a joint analysis in an area of convergence has been taken by the national and regional Nexus Task Forces, a group of knowledgeable people/local experts should be gathered to discuss the context of the municipality. This group should be created at the regional level by the Nexus expert and the regional MEAL Specialist⁶. This group of local experts should encompass members from the local authorities, traditional and religious leaders, representatives from communities, representatives from civil society organizations, youth and women associations, influential personalities, community medias, actors from the private sector and academics. It is recommended to keep the group size to 15 people.

This first step serves a threefold purpose:

- A. Informing key relevant actors in the municipalities about the process and the aim of the joint analysis;
- B. Building community ownership of the joint analysis process and establishing a platform for critical feedback on key elements of the analysis;

⁶ The aim is to have one MEAL Specialist for the Far-North and one covering the Eastern Front in addition to the MEAL Specialist that exists at the national level.

- C. Gathering basic information about the municipality from a local perspective, including:
- key challenges affecting the populations in the municipality;
 - the identification of key informants on ongoing response and challenges;
 - the identification of prior known assessments and other relevant available data.

The MEAL Specialist will explain the concept and methodology of the joint analysis and the group will together review the key research questions and identify which are the key elements to take into account for the joint analysis in view of the context. The discussions will also allow to identify all the different groups (in terms of status (IDPs/returnees/refugees etc.), ethnicity, gender, socio-professional groups etc.) present in the municipality. From there, the secondary tagging (see section 2.2.3) can be adapted and the different actors who should be interviewed during the phase of primary data collection identified (see section 2.2.5).

The group will together reflect on where existing data can be found to answer the research questions identified Annex 5 gives recommendations as to where to find the data and who to approach for it. It will be the responsibility of the group to review this list and adapt it to the context of the municipality. A key message to pass to the group is that results from household surveys, key informant interviews and focus group discussions are a priority for the joint analysis. The joint analysis should reflect the views and opinions of the different groups in the area.

2.2.2 MAPPING OF ACTORS, INTERVENTIONS AND EXISTING ANALYSES

The next step for the joint analysis is to conduct a mapping of all the actors, interventions and existing analyses in the area of convergence. OCHA regularly conducts mapping of the humanitarian actors (3W) but this needs to be extended to all the interventions and capacities in the area including those of the development actors, the peacebuilding actors, the civil society (including the women's associations and the local cooperatives), the private sector (including micro-credit banks etc.) and the capacities of the local authorities. For this purpose, a tool has been developed by the HDP Nexus MEAL Specialist (Excel document mapping all the actors, interventions and existing studies/research/analyses). The Nexus focal points in the areas of convergence have been designated to conduct this mapping with the support of the lead and co-lead of the regional Task Forces. Once a Nexus Expert is deployed in the area of convergence, this task will fall under his/her responsibilities. The primary source of information for this mapping will be the local authorities as they should have an overview of all the existing interventions and capacities in the municipality.

Once a draft mapping of interventions and capacities is completed, it should be shared with the group of relevant actors/knowledgeable people gathered in step 1, the Nexus Task Forces (national + regional TFs) as well as the intersector for their review.

This step also includes a mapping of all the existing analysis and surveys in the area (specific column for this in the Excel document). The discussions with the group gathered in step 1 should have allowed to identify a key number of data and analyses which could be used for the joint analysis exercise. Based on these discussions, the Excel document as well as a search on [HumanitarianResponse](#), the Nexus Expert and the MEAL advisor should be able to make a list of all the already existing data available for that municipality. It should include the communal development plan, academic papers, MSNAs and humanitarian reports, as well as all the studies (baseline surveys/endlines/evaluations) conducted by the organisations in the area. As an example, annex 4 reflects all the documents that were collected and analysed for Logone-Birni.

Once the list of existing analyses/surveys/studies has been completed, it should also be shared with the local experts group gathered in step 1, the regional and national Nexus TFs and the intersector to make sure that all the available data has been captured.

2.2.3 ANALYSIS OF EXISTING DATA IN THE DEEP PLATFORM

Once all the existing surveys/analysis already conducted in the area have been gathered, the documents shall be entered by the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) Specialist in the [DEEP platform](#). The DEEP platform is a collaborative analysis platform which allows to structure data according to a defined analytical framework. The HDP Nexus team in Cameroon has defined the analytical framework which shall be used for joint analysis in the country (refer to p.14). All gathered documents can be tagged according to this framework, reflecting different categories. All tagged entries can then be exported to form a preliminary report, from which it is possible to draw trends and recommendations around missing data.

The analytical framework for the Nexus is built around the HDP collective outcome and the 3 sub-pillars identified for the context of Cameroon (see box below and this document "[the road to humanitarian, development, peace collective outcomes in Cameroon](#)" for more info). The Nexus analytical framework has been entered in the DEEP platform and all the data that is entered in the platform has to be coded according to this framework.

The Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) collective outcomes were formulated as followed for Cameroon:

By the end of 2026, the most vulnerable populations living in areas of convergence in the Far North, North, Adamawa, East, Northwest and Southwest priority regions, or in other regions affected by the crises recover indiscriminately their fundamental rights and improve their physical well-being and social welfare.

The collective outcome was divided into three pillars and collective sub-outcomes:

Pillar 1: *Basic social services*

By the end of 2026, the most vulnerable people living in convergence areas and/or affected by conflict access sustainable basic social services.

Pillar 2: *Sustainable livelihoods and economic opportunities*

By the end of 2026, the most vulnerable people living in convergence areas access sustainable livelihoods and economic opportunities.

Pillar 3: *Protection, social cohesion and local governance*

By the end of 2026, good local governance and the consolidation of peace protect the fundamental rights of the most vulnerable people living in convergence areas.

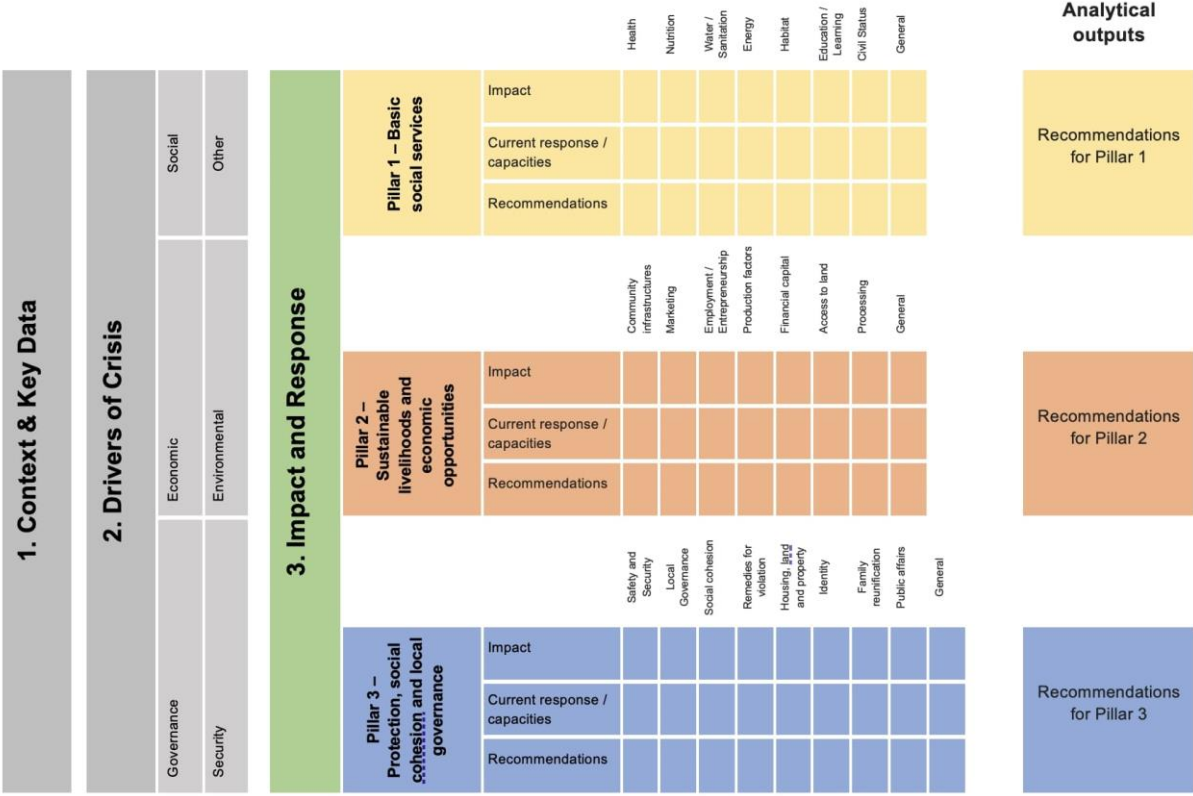
The HDP Nexus TF also identified packages of intervention associated with each of these pillars. Those have also been integrated in the framework entered in the DEEP platform.



For the parts around the drivers of conflict, the main elements of the [Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment \(RPBA\)](#) conducted in Cameroon in 2019 are at the basis of the structural codification in the platform DEEP – see annex 6. The elements of the impact of crisis and factors of structural vulnerability related in the RPBA matrix

should be used for the joint analysis conducted in the Far-North, North, Adamaoua and East regions as those are the ones covered by the RPBA. These findings are then adapted/refined for the specific area of convergence targeted by the joint analysed. This will mainly be done with the help of the conflict analysis.

Analytical framework for the joint analysis:



The DEEP platform also allows for secondary tagging. This means that all the data can be coded and disaggregated into the following categories:

SECONDARY TAGGING	
Affected groups	Displaced: IDPs, refugees, returnees Host communities
Socio-professional groups	Farmers Fishermen Pastoralists Other (according to context)
Demographics	Female (<18) Male (<18) Adolescent Female (12-17) Adolescent Male (12-17) Children Female (>12) Children Male (>12)
Ethnic groups and cultural affiliations	According to context. For ex for Logone-Birni: Arab Choa Mousgoum Kotoko Massa
Urban/Rural	Urban Rural

Location	Option to write the specific location and/or to tag it on a map
Religion	Muslim Christian Animist Other (according to context)
Groups with specific needs	People living with disabilities LGBTI+ Other (according to context)

After entering all the data and coding it according to the Nexus Framework, the MEAL Specialist will be able to identify which data is missing according to the key research questions divided into the three pillars and the packages of intervention. The secondary tagging allows to see if there is disaggregated data for gender, age, disabilities, ethnic groups etc. or if this information is lacking in the existing documents.

Indeed, the aim is to have accurate information about the current situation and response according to the three pillars as well as have this data disaggregated by gender, age, ethnicity and all the other categories mentioned above in the secondary tagging.

2.2.4 IDENTIFICATION OF GAPS WITH JOINT ANALYSIS GROUP

Entering all the existing documents into the DEEP platform and coding it according to the developed Nexus framework allows to have an overview of the information divided into the three pillars and per gender, age, ethnic group, socio-professional groups etc.

From there, the Nexus MEAL Specialist can identify where the gaps of information are and share the findings with the group working on the joint analysis.

The joint analysis group is formed by actors intervening in the area of convergence who volunteered to be part of the joint analysis process. The lead and co-lead of the regional TF should also be part of the group as well as the designated Nexus focal points and the trained gender focal points⁷. Based on the key research questions identified above and the preliminary analysis done by the Nexus MEAL Specialist the group together will decide the need for further data collection in the field.

General questions to be answered by the joint analysis group in the review process of the existing data:

- Is enough data available to answer the key research questions identified in section 2.1?
- Is the data up to date?
- Is the data reliable?
- Does the data enable a comparative analysis of the situation of host communities vs. displaced population (IDPs, refugees, returnees)?
- Does the data enable to understand the impact of the crisis according to gender, age, disabilities, socio-professional groups, ethnic groups, location etc. (see secondary tagging)?

After identifying which key research questions have not been answered, the group will decide together which additional analyses to conduct. If no conflict analysis has been conducted for example, the identified gaps will inform the collection of new primary data that needs to be collected. Once a decision has been reached on which analyses to conduct, the group will together look at available funding for the collection of primary data collection in the field and explore possible funding opportunities if needed.

⁷ The Nexus gender focal points have been identified for the Far-North.

For Logone-Birni for example, the following types of analysis were conducted by the group to complete the data already available: conflict analysis, seasonal analysis for food security, analysis of population movements in the area and a geospatial analysis.

Who to approach for the collection of new primary data (who to interview) also needs to be discussed within the joint analysis group. This identification should be based on the recommendations from the local experts' group (see step 1). This is key for the composition of the focus groups etc. during the data collection phase. Also, if the analysis of existing data shows that the voices of a specific community group have not been heard, it is essential to get their perspective (whether it is through key informant interviews, focus group discussions etc.) during the phase of primary data collection.

The Nexus expert and the MEAL Specialist will liaise with the local experts' group to inform them on the data gaps and receive their feedback on the identified analyses/surveys that should be conducted to complete the joint analysis.

2.2.5 COLLECTION OF MISSING DATA

The joint analysis group can split into sub-groups focusing on different areas of the analysis. Each sub-group will have to discuss resources (funds, capacity) and the formulation of data collection methodologies. They will have to liaise with the local experts' group when doing so.

Additional collection of data can take the form of an assessment or survey on specific issues, but can also be conducted through a profiling exercise, if a wider range of data is required. The new primary data should be collected with the populations in the area and disaggregated by gender, age, profile of affected population, socio-economic groups, religion, ethnic groups and location. To do so, it is key to do separate focus group discussions with those different groups of population. The MEAL Specialist will ensure that the methodology used for the collection of new primary data is adapted and respects the principles of community engagement and accountability (CEA). At the stage of collection of new primary data, it is key that all affected groups are given the opportunity to express their opinions. People interviewed should understand why they are being interviewed and also receive a dissemination of the results of the surveys/assessments.

Depending on the missing data, it can be decided for example to conduct a specific gender analysis to inform how conflict and other shocks and stresses affect women, girls, boys and men differently if that specific information is lacking. This can for example be done through some of the [Rapid Gender Analysis assessment tools developed by Care](#). A 2-day [Vulnerability and Risk Assessment \(VRA\) workshop](#) could also be conducted (see section 2.1) to provide a thorough understanding of the risks and vulnerabilities faced by the different groups.

The local experts' group will be reconvened for their feedback on the suggested process for new primary data collection.

The joint analysis group needs to agree on a deadline for the submission of the new analyses and handover all the data to the Nexus MEAL specialist who will enter the newly collected data in the [DEEP platform](#).

The MEAL Specialist will complete the analysis with the new primary data collected and produce a first draft of the report.

2.2.6 WRITING OF REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS WITH JOINT ANALYSIS GROUP

The draft report should be shared with the joint analysis group. The suggested structure of the joint analysis report can be found in annex 1. The joint analysis group will review the report and the findings during a half day workshop. All the members of the group will be able to access the DEEP platform, view all the documents and see how the data has been coded. This is one of the reasons why DEEP was chosen as a tool. Anyone who makes

a request to access the analysis in DEEP can see the documents and the coding process which allows for greater transparency.

The findings will then be shared with the local actors through a validation workshop.

2.2.7 VALIDATION WORKSHOP IN THE MUNICIPALITY

After the joint analysis document has been written by the Nexus MEAL Specialist and reviewed by the joint analysis working group, it needs to be presented to the local authorities and key actors in the area of convergence for their inputs and review.

The structure and content of the validation workshop is inspired from the [guidelines for Resilience System Analysis by the OECD](#) as well as [the vulnerability and risks assessment methodology developed by Oxfam](#).

The aim of the workshop is to share information and receive feedback on whether the analysis is accurate or if some aspects are missing. The workshop has to be a multi-stakeholder process.

Who to include?

Local authorities⁸, representatives from communities⁹, local and international NGOs working in the municipality, traditional and religious leaders, representatives from civil society organizations, youth and women associations, influential personalities, community medias, actors from the private sector. The members of the local experts group gathered in step 1 should take part of the workshop. When it comes to representatives from the communities, it needs to include all the stakeholders in the municipality – this should be identified through the joint analysis. **NB:** Be sure to include participants from groups that have been identified as marginalized in the analysis.

The workshop should be conducted in one day. Limiting the total participants to about 40 people is helpful, to ensure genuine participation and productive debate.

The planning and facilitating team should include the facilitator (regional Nexus MEAL Specialist), a note-taker (Nexus Expert), a translator if needed¹⁰ and one person fully dedicated to logistics (venue, travel, accommodation etc.). Members of the joint analysis group are also encouraged to assist with the facilitation of the workshop. The aim of the workshop is to explain the HDP Nexus and the methodology used for the joint analysis, present the findings of the joint analysis and enquire if there are any inputs/comments/rectifications to be made regarding the findings. Hence, it is key to include participants from all the identified groups and the different civil society actors to make sure that the comments are valid and not dominated by one specific group. At the beginning of the meeting the facilitator needs to strongly repeat the need for all voices to be heard. Throughout the process, jargon and acronyms should not be used and the facilitator should maintain a non-threatening environment for women and potentially marginalized groups to express their views.

⁸ Only include representatives/actors/authorities from the municipality (not from the region).

⁹ Also from marginalized groups including people with disabilities and ethnic minorities.

¹⁰ Ideally there is one language confidently spoken by all members and by all the Planning and Facilitation Team. In this case, the language selection is obvious. The main facilitator should speak the selected language fluently. If one or some of the members don't speak the more common language, then translation should be provided.

2.2.8 FINAL REPORT

The MEAL Specialist will produce a last version of the joint analysis (should be written in French for French speaking areas of Cameroon) and share it widely with all stakeholders and partners in the area (identified through the Excel sheet) as well as the Nexus TFs. Participants of the workshop will also be tasked to share the findings of the joint analysis with the rest of their community members.

Just after the validation workshop has been conducted and the joint analysis finalized, a second workshop should be organized with the same participants to start the design of the Nexus action plan for the municipality (see specific methodological note for this).

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4. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: STRUCTURE OF THE JOINT ANALYSIS REPORT

1. Introduction and context

Key data

2. Current situation

2.1 - Drivers of crisis

Conflict analysis

2.2 - Impact

Impact of the crisis divided into the 3 Nexus pillars and the packages of intervention

2.3 - Current response/capacities

Current response/capacities according to 3 pillars and the packages of intervention

3. Recommendations

According to the 3 Nexus pillars and the packages of intervention

ANNEX 2: CONFLICT ANALYSIS

The HDP Nexus approach as piloted in Cameroon aims to create synergies between humanitarian and development interventions and those contributing to the prevention of violent conflicts and the consolidation of peace in the municipalities identified as convergence zones. The approach recognizes the need for a common analysis – transcending the three pillars of the Nexus, in order to anchor the development of action plans for the implementation of the Nexus approach at the level of each of the convergence zones. The “Peace in the Nexus” note specifies that interventions should be context-specific and that a conflict analysis should be conducted at regular intervals to inform Nexus interventions (across all pillars).

What is a conflict analysis?

A conflict analysis is a structured process of analysis to understand the factors contributing to the occurrence and continuation of violent conflict (or latent conflict with a high potential for violence) and those which, on the contrary, promote peace and the peaceful transformation of conflicts. It is therefore not an enumeration of specific conflicts or disputes with the aim of establishing a list or a typology.

What is the use of conflict analysis in the context of a nexus approach?

Conflict analysis is an essential preliminary step to ensure the conflict sensitivity of proposed or ongoing HDP Nexus interventions.

Conflict analysis also allows the identification of the main drivers of violent conflict, as well as the existing engines of peace, on which a peacebuilding action will have to act in order to have an impact on peacebuilding. It also identifies the structural factors contributing to violent conflict on which so-called development actions may also have an impact.

Finally, a conflict analysis can be a peacebuilding intervention as such if it allows different groups associated with violent conflict to develop a more nuanced understanding of the conflict, to realize that there are different points of view on the conflict, and ideally to develop some empathy for "the other".

Who should use the findings of the analysis?

All HDP Nexus actors are concerned by the conclusions of the conflict analysis, whether they are active in the field of peace or not, since they must ensure the conflict sensitivity of their interventions.

Actors seeking to contribute to a peaceful transformation of the conditions contributing to conflict and violence will have additional interest in this analysis which should enable them to identify entry points for intervention.

What questions should a conflict analysis be able to answer?

The conflict analysis must be able to answer the following questions concerning a zone of convergence:

- What factors contribute to the emergence or perpetuation of violent conflict (or latent conflict with a high potential for violence)? Of these, what are the structural, proximate and triggering factors?
- What factors promote peace and the peaceful transformation of conflicts? Of these, what are the structural, proximate and triggering factors?
- Who are the stakeholders in conflict and peace? What are their positions, interests and needs? What links do they have with each other?
- What are the links between the different factors? How do they interact to create violence or, on the contrary, to mitigate the risk of violence?

The integration of gender and age considerations are essential to a conflict analysis.

The analysis of the answers to these questions should at least make it possible to identify the factors which divide societies in areas of convergence and those which bring individuals and groups together (sensitivity to conflict).

For an intervention aimed at a peaceful transformation of the conditions contributing to conflict and violence will have to go further in their analysis and identify: (1) the interactions between the factors and the resulting dynamics within a conflict system with particular emphasis on key engines; (2) entry points for system transformation.

What is the methodology to follow?

There is no one way to conduct a conflict analysis, but a range of options depending on the resources available. The important thing is to carry out a “good enough” analysis and to come back to it regularly in order to refine the hypotheses and check their validity.

Data collection begins with an understanding of the information that already exists on the conflict. This is a literature review that includes identifying existing literature on the conflict and analyzing it to identify any gaps. This step is essential because it makes it possible to determine whether additional research is necessary and avoids duplication and excessive demands on the target populations. If more time and resources are not available, or if the existing information is sufficiently complete, it is possible to stop there.

However, it is interesting to go through a phase of primary data collection, if only to ensure a degree of participation of the target populations in the planning exercise. The methods most often used are Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focus Group Discussions (FDG), but other methodologies can be used, for example, holding an analysis workshop bringing together “experts” in the context, conducting a survey – often a perception survey, or an exercise in active listening to randomly selected people. All of these methods have advantages and disadvantages that need to be weighed. While bearing in mind the information already available, it is important to be inclusive in data collection and to include representatives of affected communities, civil society, national, local and traditional authorities, religious leaders, the media, representatives of the private sector, etc., trying to speak to boys/men and girls/women of different ages (but probably not below the age of 15).

Finally, the data must be analyzed and the results of the analysis presented, often in the form of a report.

It is important to remember that the conflict analysis is also in itself an intervention that could have harmful consequences on the conflict situation studied. It is therefore important not to force the discussions, in particular on sensitive topics for the context, and to minimize possible negative effects on the people who will participate in the analysis.

ANNEX 3: QUESTIONS REGARDING DISPLACED PERSONS THAT SHOULD BE ANSWERED IN THE ANALYSIS

The following questions stem from the IASC Framework for durable solutions for internally displaced persons and have been rearranged according to the three Nexus pillars¹¹.

General questions about displaced populations:

- What figures do we have of displacement affected persons?
- Population statistics and profile of the IDPs, returnees and their host communities
- What do we know about the location/area of displacement?
- Who are the displacement affected persons?
- How long have they been displaced? How many times have they been displaced?
- Where did the displaced persons come from? – Place of origin or of habitual residence before displacement
- Why did they get displaced?
- The main reasons that led to displacement. In the case of multiple displacements: the main reasons for the consecutive displacements

Pillar 1 – Basic Social Services (health, nutrition, water/sanitation, energy, habitat, education/learning, civil status)

- Lack of access to basic services that require proof of identity or other forms of documentation, e.g. lack of access to education, health and social services, justice, employment, or access to assistance
- In which setting(s) are the displaced persons living? - Rural, urban, camp, informal settlement, non-camp, or non-settlement setting (e.g. living with host families or on their own)

Pillar 2 – Sustainable livelihoods and economic opportunities (community infrastructures, marketing, employment/entrepreneurship, production factors, financial capital, access to land, processing)

- What are the main sources of income of the displaced persons and the host communities?
- How does the socio-economic situation of the displaced persons compare to that of the host communities in the area of displacement?
- Capacities, resources and assets of the displaced
- Are IDPs and returnees able to enjoy the freedom of movement that is required for accessing actual or potential livelihoods and employment?
- Do displaced persons reside near markets where there is trade in goods and services, or can they afford to access such markets?
- Do displaced persons possess or have access to financial or material resources that facilitate livelihood activities?
- Do displaced or returnees fear violence, theft or harassment in accessing work or trade opportunities; and/or suffer from backlash from their own community for engaging in available livelihood opportunities or employment?

Pillar 3 – Protection, social cohesion and local governance (safety and security, local governance, social cohesion, remedies for violation, housing land and property, identity, family reunification, public affairs)

- What is known about the attitudes of the host communities towards the displaced persons in the area of displacement?

¹¹ Refer to p.13 of this document, as well as [the road to humanitarian, development, peace collective outcomes in Cameroon](#) for more info.

- What are the main protection concerns and risks of the displaced persons and host communities (divided by gender, age, socio-professional groups, location, religion, ethnic group)?
- What are the obstacles for the displacement affected population in accessing the specific documents they require? - Are civil registration services available and efficient? Are they accessible? Are there ongoing projects addressing the obstacles in accessing civil registration and obtaining personal documents?
- National laws, policies, plans or programmes concerning IDPs; including national and local plans for the area/ province and budget allocated for the area/province
- Is the participation of IDPs and returnees in elections a political sensitive issue?
- Are displaced persons informed about their right to vote and to be elected; about the electoral processes and related administrative requirements?
- Are there ethnic or social dynamics, or tensions that form an obstacle to the participation of displaced persons in decision-making processes, or to participation in associations or professional organizations?
- Can displaced persons be registered on the electoral lists of their location of displacement, return or relocation and vote or be elected without discrimination? If not, what are the existing barriers (political, legal, security, administrative, technical, practical barriers, etc.)?
- What do displaced persons consider to be effective remedies and justice to the harms that they suffered?
- Are there traditional or culturally specific remedies or ways to obtaining justice that have been identified by displaced persons and their host communities?
- Have law enforcement mechanisms or justice systems already been put into place? If so, have displaced persons been informed about their existence, or are they aware of them? Do displaced persons have non-discriminatory access to these mechanisms and systems, in the case they are aware of them?
- Are there dedicated or specific mechanisms in place to deal with HLP disputes, claims for loss or destruction of property? Do displaced persons have non-discriminatory access to these mechanisms?
- Do survivors of sexual and gender-based violence have access to justice and reparation for suffered abuses?
- Have the IDPs and returnees been consulted about their preferred solutions to displacement? If so: When and how did the consultations take place (i.e. is the data reliable and still actual)? What are the preferred options per population group?
- What are the obstacles towards the preferred options, if any?

ANNEX 4: EXAMPLE OF LOGONE-BIRNI. LIST OF DOCUMENTS THAT WERE ANALYZED

The 5 analysis groups have produced the following documents:

- Seasonal analysis of severe acute malnutrition, Far North Region, Cameroon, WFP (June 2022)
- Population Movement Analysis, OIM & PUI (May 2022)
- Analyse des acteurs humanitaires, de développement et de consolidation de la paix intervenant dans le Logone-Birni – Extrême-Nord, OCHA et Plan International (Mai 2022)
- Analyse géospatiale, ONU Habitat (June 2022)
- Analyse de conflit de la zone de convergence du Logone Birni, BCR (version anglaise : Intercommunal Dynamics in the Far North Region, RCO) (May 2022)
- Analyse préliminaire des conflits au Logone Birni, UNESCO (Juin 2022)

Other Logone-Birni documents:

- Plan communal de développement de Logone-Birni, Commune de Logone-Birni (2014)
- Point sur la rencontre entre le Chef de Sous-bureau d'OCHA EN et les acteurs humanitaires de Kousseri, OCHA (20 avril 2022)
- Matrice de suivi des déplacements – République du Cameroun – Région de l'Extrême-Nord – Round 24 (Annexe: Aperçu des déplacements internes liés à la crise intercommunautaire du Logone Birni), OIM (février 2022)
- Évaluation Multisectorielle des retournés de 43 localités de l'arrondissement du Logone Birni, Première Urgence Internationale (février 2022)
- Évaluation Multisectorielle des déplacés de Kousseri et du Logone Birni, Première Urgence Internationale (décembre 2021)
- Far North Cameroon Emergency Update, UNHCR (April 2022)
- Note de plaidoyer pour la réponse humanitaire – Extrême-Nord : Logone Birni, OCHA (mars 2022)
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- Cameroun : Extrême-Nord – Impact humanitaire du conflit intercommunautaire dans l'arrondissement du Logone-Birni, OCHA (21 janvier 2022)
- Cameroun : Extrême-Nord – Aperçu de la réponse à la crise intercommunautaire dans l'arrondissement du Logone-Birni, OCHA (21 janvier 2022)

Logone-et-Chari documents:

- Évaluation de protection des personnes déplacées, UNHCR et al. (18 janvier 2022)
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- Exposé à la réunion de concertation sur l'accompagnement du PNUD pour la prévention durable des conflits dans le Logone et Chari, UNDP (janvier 2021)
- Facilité régionale de stabilisation du Bassin du Lac-Tchad « Fenêtre du Cameroun », UNDP (7 janvier 2022)
- Évaluation des besoins pour le Département du Logone et Chari, Secteur Protection (7 février 2022)
- Les chefs traditionnels arabes-choa écrivent au chef de l'État, Le Jour (17 janvier 2022)
- Lutter contre les conflits fonciers récurrents dans le département du Logone et Chari de la région de l'Extrême-Nord du Cameroun, RELUFA (2 novembre 2021)
- Assessment of needs for the consolidation of peace in Logone and Chari (Far North Cameroon), UNDP
- Rapport de Mission Inter-secteur dans le Logone et Chari, OCHA (24-28 janvier 2022)
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) – Cameroon: Internal Population Movement from Logone-et-Chari, IFRC (22 December 2021)

Far-North / Lake Chad documents:

- Cameroon, Northern Region – Territorial Action Plan of the Regional Stabilization Strategy – Strategic Summary, Commission du Bassin du Lac Tchad, Union Africaine (May 2021)
- Stratégie pour le relèvement et la consolidation de la paix dans les régions du Septentrion et de l'Est du Cameroun 2018-2022 (RPBA), UE – Banque Mondiale – ONU (2017)
- Inter-Agency Mission to Far North, Mission report, OCHA (January 2022)
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- Lake Chad Basin – Socio-economic resilience in the shadow of Boko-Haram, Institute for Security Studies (March 2022)
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- Document de projet du PBF, Fonds du Secrétaire Général pour la consolidation de la paix (2022)
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- Conflits et mécanismes de résolution des crises à l'Extrême-Nord du Cameroun, UNDP (2015)
- Étude socio anthropologique dans la région de l'Extrême-Nord, UNESCO
- Far-North Cameroon Emergency Fact Sheet, UNHCR (31 mai 2022)
- Renforcer les considérations de genre dans la réponse à la crise au Lac Tchad, PASAS (28 janvier 2021)
- Matrice de suivi des déplacements (DTM) – Cameroun – Région de l'Extrême-Nord, OIM (9-17 février 2022)
- Operation Update Report no. 1 – Cameroon: Population Movement in the Far North, ICRC (25 February 2022)
- Rapport d'analyse de protection pour la région de l'Extrême-Nord, Secteur protection (Février 2022)
- Regional Strategy for the stabilization, resilience and resilience of areas of the Lake Chad Basin affected by the Boko Haram crisis, Commission du Bassin du Lac Tchad, Union Africaine (May 2021)
- Dwindling rains in northern Cameroon spark conflict and displacement, UNHCR (10 November 2021)
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General documents on Cameroon:

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- Cameroon Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022, OCHA (April 2022)
- Cameroon 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan, OCHA (April 2022)
- Décret fixant les modalités de règlement des litiges agro-pastoraux, Gouvernement camerounais (3 septembre 1978)
- Sécuriser davantage les pâturages au Cameroun, International Land Coalition (février 2017)
- Conflit intercommunautaire à l'échelle locale (CIEL), Irénées
- Sommet 2021 sur les systèmes alimentaires, République du Cameroun, Compte rendu officiel des concertations
- Child Risk and Impact Analysis Cameroon: Executive summary, UNICEF (2022)
- Cameroon – Humanitarian Bulletin – Issue N°28, OCHA (December 2021)

ANNEX 5: WHERE TO FIND DATA AND WHO TO APPROACH FOR DATA?

This list stems from the IASC Durable Solutions Framework:

- Registration databases, verification exercises or counting exercises: UNHCR, IOM, national authorities, NGOs, protection clusters;
- IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM);
- Joint needs assessment or surveys: OCHA, UNHCR, NGO Consortia, protection clusters;
- OCHA should be able to provide information about existing cluster or inter-cluster/sector assessments;
- Results from existing participatory assessments: UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, UNFPA, NGOs, CSOs, protection clusters;
- National poverty assessments, national statistics or surveys on displacement affected communities, national census data: bureaus of statistics, other national institutions such as ministries of (urban) development and planning, disaster risk management authorities, etc.;
- Living Standards Measurement Surveys conducted by national governments and the World Bank;
- UNDP and World Bank statistics including displacement as a parameter;
- Common Country Assessments (CCA) informing the UNSDCF;
- Data from UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN-Habitat;
- Data from NGOs and CSOs operational in the area of displacement and possible areas of return and relocation.

Other sources of data:

- Data from existing humanitarian, development or peacebuilding programmes concerning the displacement location, possible areas of return and relocation, if already identified;
- Conducted profiling exercises;
- Intention surveys and other assessments or surveys related to durable solutions;
- Market analyses, surveys on livelihoods, sources of income, income generating activities;
- Surveys on skills, competencies, coping strategies and assets;
- Survey or information on the impact of displacement on the labour market in the region;
- Surveys on housing, land and property (HLP) issues; cadastral maps produced by the government; rural or municipal plans for the development of the area;
- Surveys conducted by Mine Action actors in the area;
- Surveys by UNESCO on any cultural/heritage sites and UNEP on any environmentally protected/catchment areas in the area (to avoid placing IDPs in such protected areas);
- Surveys by UN Habitat/UNEP/IMMAP regarding disasters/earthquakes and other hazards in the area to avoid placing the IDPs in these locations;
- Development plans, including urban development plans, for the area or region (e.g. provincial development plans) and accompanying funding budgets, if allocated;
- Surveys on the impact of displacement on the private sector in the area/region (e.g. has the displacement population influenced growth or decrease?);
- Surveys on the impact of displacement on social cohesion in the area/region.

ANNEX 6: RPBA MATRIX

TABLE 2.1: OVERVIEW OF IMPACT OF CRISES AND FACTORS OF STRUCTURAL VULNERABILITY

Factor	Impact of crises	Factors of structural vulnerability
Governance	Departure of civil servants; pressure on administrative services and essential social services, with the closing of some structures	Marginalization of the four regions; incomplete decentralization process with insufficient public investments; delays in budget transfers to the regions and low implementation capacity (communes); lack of inclusion; lack of involvement in decision making; lack of accountability and transparency; weak judiciary system, essential social services, and birth registration services
Economic	Growing unemployment; restricted cross-border trade (due to curfews and partly closed markets); less tourism; fluctuating prices of food staples	Extreme and chronic poverty; isolation, lack of infrastructure and limited connectivity; adverse business climate (predominantly informal economy, weak private sector); low productivity; underemployment and lack of economic perspectives; land insecurity
Social	Forced displacement, with an increase in humanitarian needs; cases of radicalization	Rapid population growth; highly hierarchical society; youth exclusion and generational gap; food and nutritional insecurity; ethnic and religious tensions
Security	Attacks, suicide bombings, and serious crimes (kidnapping, murder); failure to protect the displaced in a context of growing insecurity; youth recruitment by Boko Haram and the growing role played by vigilante groups	Limited presence of law enforcement; porous borders; illicit trafficking
Environmental	Pressures on local resources (water, firewood, fishing, and so on)	Population movements linked to climate change (desertification, drought, and flooding); practices that damage the environment with soil degradation, deforestation, and other negative effects; and inappropriate land allocation mechanism