Humanitarian Actions

Overview
Cameroon is faced with socio-political crisis, this current crisis heated up in 2016 when activists in Cameroon’s South and North western regions protested the predominant use of the French language in institutions within the Anglophone regions. This is an expression of deeper, long-held grievances around good governance and equitable political and social representation, what started as a struggle for equality and justice by citizens of these regions has spiraled into a full-blown crisis. Armed groups seeking an end to what they consider domination of the Anglophone south by the francophone north have risen against the government’s security forces that has led to the killing of hundreds of thousands of people and the displacement of others from their homes.

Factories have been shuttered, roads have become impassable, warehouses have been destroyed, and truck drivers and other persons are routinely kidnapped for ransom. “Fighting has intensified in the so-called Anglophone regions between security forces and armed groups. These regions have been affected, in the last few years, by crises which have caused great insecurity on many fronts, challenging vulnerable communities such as women, children, and the poor – many of whom live in bushes and marginal lands with their livelihood sources threatens, this has led to increased hunger and food deficiency related diseases (malnutrition). In this atmosphere of insecurity (physical, food, hygiene, and health), sexual and gender based violence is prevalent and social cohesion between various groups is threatened.

The issues
Key problems to address include lost and threatened livelihood assets that have led to serious malnutrition, low income, etc. and sound waste disposal practices among families and groups.

What we’re doing
Building the capacities of groups/communities especially women, youth, the elderly and the disabled groups in rebooting their income generating activities,
Restoration of rural agricultural infrastructures e.g. cocoa ovens, installation of processing units etc.
Supporting community initiatives for immediate income generating,
Building of local people capacity on improved farming practices and make provision for the supply of farm inputs.
Building trust through creating space for intercommunity dialogue to ensure peace in their communities.
Building the capacities of women, youths and physically challenge individuals and groups to source ways to restore their livelihoods and improve social cohesions and dialogue between and amongst themselves within the crisis striking areas.

In partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), AJESH implements some humanitarian projects amongst which are: life-saving emergency assistance to displaced populations in the southwest and northwest regions of Cameroon funded by: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA), Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). The following action are carried out:

**WASH**

For the hygiene promotion, some of the key activities include:

- Assessment of the population that use safe water for drinking through a structured questionnaire;
- Monitoring whether the environment is free of fecal matter and;
- Establishing the proportion of the population having knowledge on the critical hand washing times through a structured questionnaire;
- Uploading the data into Kobo system which will be provided to NRC to enable analysis;
- Conducting hygiene promotion sessions to benefit 5,000 displaced persons under project a using structured IEC materials and partner trained on their usage;
- Sensitization on alternative methods to soap to the populations to enable them continue with good hygiene practices even in case of absence of soap.

**Non Food Items (NFI), shelter kits and hygiene kits distribution activities**

The key activities that will be undertaken include:

- Assessment of the population in need through a structured questionnaire;
- Selection and registration of beneficiary stakeholders.
- Enter data into NRC format and submission of the data in soft copy for verification;
- Distribution of the NFI’s to the beneficiaries with the verified list;
- Monitoring the NFI distribution process to track progress and delivery of the shelters kits;
- Establishing the level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries through a post distribution monitoring exercise, with the NFI distribution and monitoring the use of the NFI kits provided;
- Profiling of women and girls of childbearing age (15-49 years);

- Distribution of Menstrual Hygiene Kits (packs of sanitary towels).

**Food Security and Livelihood**

There are possibility of some Food Security and Livelihood assessments for potential intervention.