



Central African Republic Update #7 25 to 31 January 2014

Operational Highlights

- **Reinforcement of SO Bossongoa:** UNHCR continues to reinforce its presence, particularly in the town of Bossongoa in the Northwest, where **nine** staff have been deployed to underpin UNHCR's office protection and response capacity.
- **Mission to Bambari:** UNHCR held a series of meeting with refugees, MISCA and local authorities to ensure that there were no immediate threats to the Sudanese refugee population living in Bambari Refugee camp. UNHCR plans to re-open this office in the coming weeks; security conditions have been the main deterrent.
- **Inter-Agency Mission:** UNHCR participated in an inter-agency mission to Bozoum and Bouar on 29 January. The mission saw first-hand the life-saving value of the deployment of international forces, however; serious concerns remain about a number of locations in the northwest where international forces are not deployed and Muslim populations remain in a very precarious security situation namely Bossemptele, Bocaranga, Bossembele, and Carnot.
- **Emergency Voluntary Repatriations:** So far, 428 urban Congolese refugees have registered for voluntary repatriation. A UNHCR mission to the Camp of Batalimo was organized in order to prepare for the upcoming repatriation of over 5,900 refugees back to DRC.
- **Safe Haven:** Youth are being employed to build the first safe haven in the 5th Arrondissement by ACTED.
- **New Partnerships:** During the reporting period, UNHCR signed sub-agreements with COOPI, the Central African Red Cross and Premiere Urgences-AMI. Partnership with the International Medical Corps was formalized last week.



IDPs in the Central African Republic	825,000
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IDPs in Bangui	400,341
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Ouham

Prefectures affected by displacement	Ouham Pende
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covered by UNHCR protection monitoring	Ombella Mpoko
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Lobaye

IDP households assisted with a standard NFI kit in 2014 ¹	9,411
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Number of refugees repatriated in 2014	204
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2014 funding level for the operation	0%
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¹ A standard NFI kit includes a sleeping mat, a blanket, a jerrycan or bucket, mosquito domes and 400g. of soap; this differs from the global standard. In December 2013, 4,600 IDP households were provided with NFIs and shelter in IDP sites in Bangui and in Bossongoa.

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[2] Overview of the Operation

People of Concern to UNHCR

Internally Displaced in CAR

825,000

IDPs in Central African Republic (estimated), with

496,731

located in Bangui (Sites + Host Families + Transit Centers)
this means

> 50%
62

Of Bangui's population displaced
in:
Sites

Refugees in CAR

Refugee/Asylum-Seeker Countries of Origin in CAR

Country of Origin	Population
DRC	12,546
Sudan	2,683*
Chad	1,862*
OTHERS	552
TOTAL	17,865

*Numbers are reducing due to recent repatriations.

Budget

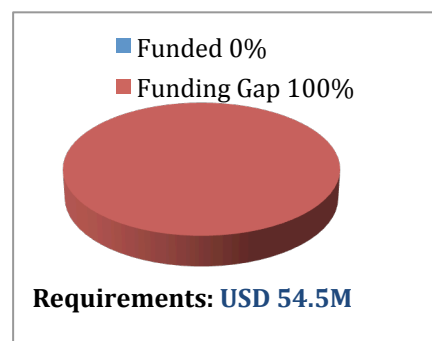
Budget and Projections

Total budget USD 54,501,573

Recorded contributions USD 0

Funding level 0%
(including firm proj.)

2014 Funding for the Operation



Donors

List of Donors 2014 | External Relations

Donor	Amount (USD)	Earmarking
CERF*	871,935	Shelter
CERF*	450,032	Protection Monitoring

* These two CERF contributions were provided for 2013, but are being implemented in 2014.

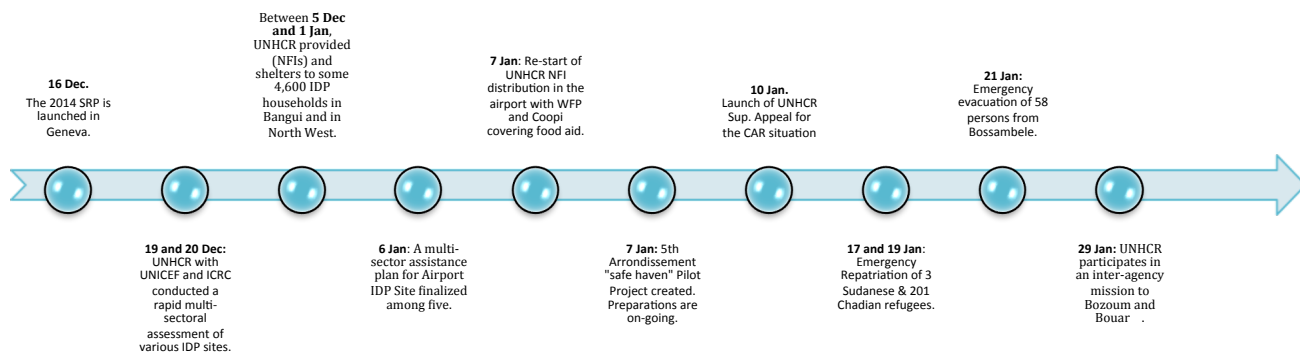
- UNHCR received the Swiss Cooperation on the 30 January in Bangui.

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[3] Major Developments

Timeline of major UNHCR actions in CAR between 2013 and 2014



[4] Update per sector



Protection



Repatriation of Congolese Refugees:

Nationality	N# of Individuals Registered to repatriate	N# of Individuals Repatriated	Destination
Chad		201	Chad
DRC	428		DRC*
DRC (Camp)	6,000**		DRC
Sudan	4	3	Sudan
South Sudan	1		South Sudan
ROC	4		Congo
Cote d'Ivoire	1		Côte d'Ivoire

* Destinations include: Bunia, Bandudu, Dongo, Kindu, Kinshasa, Kisangani, Kasai oriental, L'shi, Matadi, Mbandaka.

** Close to 99% of the refugees in Batalimo camp, have opted for repatriation.

➤ **Urban Refugees:** BO Bangui Protection Team has registered 428 refugees (90 families) who have chosen to voluntary repatriate to eleven different localities in DRC, including Kinshasa.

➤ **Mission to Batalimo for Congolese Repatriation:** On the 24 January, UNHCR undertook a mission to Batalimo camp as part of the preparations for emergency voluntary repatriation of almost 99% of the 6,000 Congolese Refugees in the camp. It is foreseen for the refugees to travel by boat. All efforts are being made for the repatriation to occur in the immediate near future.



- **Mission to Bambari:** From 24 to 27 January 2014, UNHCR undertook a mission to Bambari to raise awareness of refugees and host community leaders on the importance of peaceful coexistence and making a rapid security and protection assessment. The mission met with refugees, local authorities, Sangaris and MISCA. In terms of UNHCR's care and maintenance programme: 19 students are attending primary and secondary school in Bambari; the health post in the camp is operating normally with the presence of service providers and three qualified personnel; six water spots provide water at international standards. A return mission to open the office is being planned for the first week of February.

Protection Cluster

Bangui

- **Income Generating Activities for idle youth:** Income generating activities for youth are contributing to creating conditions for return. In this direction ACTED has employed up to 200 youths to assist in the construction of the first pilot "safe haven". This haven will have the capacity to host around 3,000 persons at night in case of incidents of insecurity therein providing people an alternative safe place other than the IDP sites. Additionally, the Danish Refugee Council, through its partnership with UNHCR, continues to conduct social cohesion and community reconciliation activities in the 3rd and 4th arrondissement.



Youth employed by ACTED to prepare the first safe haven in the 5th Arrondissement. H. Reichenberger/UNHCR

- **Reconciliation Efforts:** Meetings between communities, humanitarian organisations, international forces and municipal authorities continue with participation of OCHA, Protection Cluster, MISCA, and Sangaris. It is important to note that the newly elected Transitional President initiated these efforts in several arrondissements in her previous position as Mayor of Bangui. As a result of these meetings and consultations, a task force involving main agencies and NGOs involved has also been set up to initiate humanitarian activities to reinforce conditions for return. In this direction ACTED has employed the 200 youths mentioned above.
- **Population at imminent risk:** The Protection Cluster is monitoring locations where populations are at imminent risk. The Cluster uses this information to advocate for immediate physical protection needs through security provided by the international forces and mediation through political and civil society. As part of this advocacy, the Protection Coordinator briefed the SRSG on 27 January.

Bossangoa

- Security and Protection/Humanitarian assessments mission are currently underway on all 4 axes (North, South, West and East) underway in coordination with existing partners.
- **Upcoming projects in Bossongoa include:**
 - **Sub-National Protection Cluster:** is preparing the Protection Strategy and a programme of field missions to promote protection via presence.
 - **Focal Group Discussions:** UNHCR is organizing focal group discussions with refugee leaders in the camps.
 - **Protection Database:** the Cluster is currently setting up database to facilitate follow-up on protection cases in the Northwest.

M'Baiki

- **Inter-Community Dialogue:** In the southeast, UNHCR has undertaken a mission with the Danish Refugee Council to Mbaiki to participate in a round of community dialogue.

Boccaranga

- **The Protection team mission:** Together with UNDSS and MISCA, UNHCR visited Bocaranga to verify reports about new displacement caused by clashes between the Anti-Balaka and Séléka. The team learned that clashes happened on the 17, 18 and 21 January displacing the majority of the local residents estimated at around 16,000 of which 2,000 residents sought refuge in the Church and the others are believed to have fled into the bush. The team noted the destruction of the hospital, the market and the absence of education for children. UNHCR provided NFI assistance.



Site Coordination and Site Management

Lead: UNHCR | Co-Facilitator: IOM

- **UNHCR deploys Senior CCCM Coordinator:** The Cluster Coordinator for the CCCM Cluster, Mr. José Samaniego, has arrived.
- **New Partnership officially launched:** As UNHCR's IP, *Premiere-Urgence-AMI* has officially started as the site management agency at the M'Poko airport site. They will be coordinating humanitarian resources, prevent duplication of activities, and improve communication with those residing in the site.
- **UNHCR Capacity Building of Site Facilitators:** UNHCR's CCCM Cluster Capacity Building staff organized a workshop for 46 IOM Site Facilitators. Their training started on the 28 January and will cover: CCCM Basics, roles and responsibilities in site management, security, communication, community-participation and the life-cycle of a camp.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster

- 63 CCCM site profiles have been shared for displacement sites in Bangui by the 42 site facilitators who regularly monitor and report on needs collect information.



Shelter and Non-Food Items

Lead: UNHCR | Co-Facilitator: ACTED

- **Distribution of full NFI kits:** Between 7 and 29 January, UNHCR distributed NFIs (covers, mosquito domes, sleeping mats, jerry cans, soap and buckets) to 11,475 households, representing over 57,000 individuals that are currently residing in Bangui M'poko airport.

Summary of UNHCR NFI and Shelter Assistance for IDPs since 5 December to 29 January				
Assistance per Item		Assistance per Site		
Item	Number of items distributed	Site ²		Number of households assisted
Plastic sheeting	7,843	BANGUI	Archbishop/Saint Paul	4,000
Blankets	18,165		Mont Carmel	500
Sleeping mats	26,394		Airport	11,475
Mosquito domes	20,455		FOMAC/Lazaristes	600
Tents	125		Saint Jean de Gabaladja and Saint CharlesLwanga	4,000
Flannel rolls	4		Saint Bernard	3,000
Towels	1,000		Saint Joseph de Mukasa	12
Underwear	309		Boy Rabe Monastery	NA (community tents)
Jerrycans	14,111		Cameroun, DRC and Senegal Embassies	NA (community tents)
Buckets	11,824		Saint Sauveur	3,467
Sanitary Napkins	3,750	BOSSANGO	École Liberté and Archbishop	3,750
Soap	21,222			
Kitchen Sets	533			
		Other	Lando	200

Shelter and Non-Food Items Cluster

- **Assistance in the Northwest:** 200 households have been assisted with NFI in Lando village (Bossangoa-Bouca axis). Assessments are on-going on other axis before assistance.
- **Community Shelter in Bangui:** Thanks to ECHO funding to PU-AMI, ACTED and Solidarités International, 9,170m2 community shelter have been built since the 1st January. This project's objective is to assist 75,000 individual IDPs in Bangui.
- **Evaluation for Shelter Needs:** the arrival of a mission deployed in coordination with REACH has allowed for the deployment of necessary tools to undertake evaluations in all sites of Bangui on the situation of shelter and WASH. UNHCR, through a partnership signed with the Central-African Red Cross, is facilitating this action through the recruitment of 12 volunteers who are going to start collecting the information on the ground starting on the 29 of January. This action is part of evaluating the shelter needs of the population.
- **Increase in distribution of soap in Bangui M'Poko Airport:** In coordination with the WASH cluster, a decision was taken to upgrade the number of soap distributed to four (4) per family in Bangui and (6) per family for rural area. Previously this number was two (2) per family in Bangui.

² Please note that only in the Airport Site did IDPs receive a complete NFI kit.



Special Visits

President of the Transition, Ms. Catherine Samba-Panza visits IPD Sites



New president greets UNHCR Staff in Boy Rabe Monastery.
Reichenberger H./UNHCR

On 1 February 2014, the newly elected President of the Transition, Ms. Catherine Samba-Panza visited three IDP sites together with the humanitarian community (IOM, OCHA, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, and WFP). The sites visited included the Boy Rabe Monastery in the 4th arrondissement of Bangui, the site of the Archdiocese of St. Paul in the 7th arrondissement and the Central Mosque located in the 3rd arrondissement. This visit enabled the President of the Transition to meet with the displaced and understand the challenges on the ground. During her speech, the president also invited the IDPs to return to their homes and thanked the various humanitarian agencies working to alleviate suffering, including UNHCR. During the visit of the Central Mosque, the President addressed the IDPs in Arabic and spoke of reconciliation and hope. UNHCR was present throughout the visit of the President. UNHCR had met with the President on the 31 January to discuss the visit.



New Partnerships

NGO	COOPI	Croix Rouge Centrafricaine	PU-AMI	International Medical Corps
Activity	Food distribution, Assistance to vulnerable, Income Generating Activity.	• Food distribution	• CCCM Activities	• Health care
Area	Three Refugee Camps	IDP Sites in Bangui	IDP Sites in Bangui	Three Refugee Camps

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[5] UNHCR Capacity in CAR

UNHCR Staff in CAR

Location	National Staff	International Staff		Total
		Staff International	EM	
Bangui	24	8	17	49
Bambari	3			
Bossangoa	4		8	12
Kaga Bandoro				
Paoua	4	1		5
Zémio	5	1		6
Total	40	10	25*	75
* the 25 staff on mission include staff that are active within the Clusters.				

