



September 2014

Central African Republic

Humanitarian Situation Report

unicef 

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- On 15 September MINUSCA officially took over from MISCA;
- On 22 September, five Muslims were killed by anti-Balaka in the Sibut area while accompanying a truck of cattle to Bangui;
- CAR government's decision to prevent the entry to people from Ebola affected countries (Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Nigeria) remains effective;
- On 22 September, the UN Secretary-General met with the Head of State of the CAR Transition, Mrs. Catherine Samba-Panza. The Secretary-General highlighted the critical importance of an inclusive political process.
- The International Criminal Court's prosecutor announced the opening of a new investigation into atrocities including murder, rape and persecution during ruthless fighting since 2012.
- On 23 September, four senior generals quit the ex-Seleka rebel group over disagreement with secessionist plans for its northern enclave.
- Current funds utilisation rate stands at 82%. Without additional resources, UNICEF will not be in a position to meet its annual targets and provide the needed assistance to affected children and women.

3 October 2014

2.3 million

CHILDREN AFFECTED
(OCHA 13 May 2014)

4.6 million

PEOPLE AFFECTED
(OCHA 20 August 2014)

2.5 million

PEOPLE WHO NEED
ASSISTANCE (OCHA 20 August 2014)

488,000

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS
(OCHA 30 September 2014)

183,000

REFUGEES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES (CHAD, CAMEROON, DRC, CONGO) SINCE DECEMBER 2013
(UNHCR 23 September 2014)

UNICEF Appeal 2014

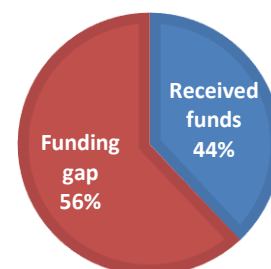
US\$ 81 million

Funds received as of 30 September 2014

US\$ 35 million

UNICEF's Key Results with partners

	UNICEF		Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)
Number of children with SAM admitted for treatment	28,000	18,638	28,000	18,638
Number of affected people who have access to improved sources of water	700,000	349,815	900,000	NA
Number of children under 5 vaccinated against measles	268,231	234,956	268,231	234,956
Number of children released from armed groups	3,000	2,040	3,000	2,040
Number of children participating in temporary learning spaces	300,000	91,927	580,000	106,204



UNICEF remains gravely concerned about the acute humanitarian crisis in Central African Republic (CAR). About 488,000 people are internally displaced, with 63,000 IDPs located in 43 sites in Bangui (Commission on Population Movement, 30 September). An estimated 425,000 people remain internally displaced outside of Bangui in the interior. According to the UNHCR Regional update on 23 September, the total number of refugees in the neighbouring countries (Cameroon, Chad, Congo and DRC) since December 2013 is currently estimated at 183,368 people. However, the total number of CAR refugees in these countries is 419,352 people.

On 15 September, the transfer of authority from the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) took place. As of this date, MINUSCA's presence stands at some 6,500 troops, 1,000 police and a complement of civilian staff that are progressively deploying throughout the country. The Mission will prioritise the protection of civilians, as well as support to the political process and state-building efforts.

The security situation in **Bangui** has been mostly stable; the tension that erupted between international forces and armed Muslims in PK5 in August calmed down, and EUFOR resumed patrols. However, since the recent killing of five Muslims who were accompanying a truck of cattle that broke down on its way to Bangui, tension is rising again. This tension resulted in clashes between Muslim group and International forces on 26 September. Number of possible casualties within Muslim group are still unknown.

The heavy fighting that erupted beginning of August in **Batangafo** between anti-Balaka and ex-Seleka militias, and subsequently between Sangaris and ex-Seleka, resulted in massive displacements (17,000 IDPs in Batangafo and 16,000 IDPS in surrounding areas) and a shift in control over the city. However, on 13 September, an agreement was reached between anti-Balaka and ex-Seleka and calm returned to the city. Food and NFI distributions were carried out, and UNICEF has provided important responses in terms of WASH, health and nutrition supplies, construction of latrines, showers, measles and polio vaccination support, and provision of NFI kits through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) programme, for some 33,000 IDPs currently living in Batangafo and surroundings (Bouca, Lady, Kabo and Moyen Sido). The hospital area of Batangafo is still hosting numerous IDPs and although movement towards a new IDP site has now begun, this, and the recent violence, are seriously hampering the delivery of services, and have resulted in the partial withdrawal of MSF-E from the hospital. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) to resume health services in the concerned wards by providing drugs and medical equipment's as well as supporting staff cost. Discussions are ongoing with international forces with regard to an insurance of humanitarian space in general, and on this issue in particular.

The earlier mentioned killing of five Muslims in Ngondongo village in the **Sibut** area on 22 September has also increased tensions in **Kaga Bando** between the ex-Seleka and the international forces, who are blamed for their lack of intervention. Currently, presence of ex-Seleka elements in the city has significantly increased, resulting in the return movement of IDPs slowing down significantly, for fear of renewed violence.

Violence between fighting factions also flared up in **Bambari** toward the end of August. In the same period, Anti-Balaka kidnapped a Sudanese refugee and released him after ransom was paid. With regard to the humanitarian response in the area, main activities were increasing access to safe drinking water in the different IDP sites of the city, provision of health supplies, and identification of 121 children associated with armed groups in **Bambari** and **Grimari** together. Uncontrolled elements from anti-Balaka and ex-Seleka camps resulted in renewed clashes in **Ngakobo**, a town where a fragile peace was reigning since April. The violence created important movements of populations. A first response has been provided in terms of health and nutrition supplies to the approximately 5,000 IDPs, and additional activities such as NFI distributions are being prepared.

Following clashes between Muslim and Christian armed groups in August in **Boda**, most UN staff and NGOs evacuated the area. Around mid-September, most humanitarian actors were back and humanitarian response resumed. Access to firewood for the enclaved Muslim population remains a problem. This caused people to leave the enclave at their own risk. In the past month, anti-Balaka have attacked and killed at least three people in this type of situation. A delivery of firewood is being organized by the humanitarian community. In the meantime, a large portion of the

(Christian) population of the city is still hiding in the bush for fear of rogue anti-Balaka elements, thereby being exposed to numerous health risks and becoming more and more vulnerable.

UNICEF continues its support to enclaved Peuhl populations in **Yaloké**, through numerous missions focusing to improve nutritional and health care, the promotion of hygiene and sanitation and the distribution of NFIs. A UNICEF partner is also on site for education and protection responses, but the IDPs currently refuse this assistance, arguing that they have expressed their wish to relocate to Cameroon, and that this assistance will not contribute to them finding a safe haven. On 25 September, the Humanitarian Coordinator, with two Ministers, visited the enclave to take stock of the situation. UNICEF was represented in this delegation.

UNICEF has participated in interagency evaluations that have taken place over the past month in **Ngakobo, Niem-Yelewa, Abba, and Carnot-Berberati**. The main recommendations from these evaluations to be followed up are: In-depth assessment of child protection issues (children working in mines, children associated with armed groups and children heads of households); return intention survey for the Peuhl pastoralist in Gaoui refugee camp (Cameroon); capacity building for health personnel on treatment of severe and acute malnutrition cases; and provision of WASH and Shelter assistance.

Ebola preparedness

In view of the outbreak of Ebola in West Africa since March 2014 with more than 3,000 deaths as well as the 69 confirmed cases with 42 deaths among them since 23 August in the Equateur province, in the Democratic Republic of Congo neighboring CAR, as well as a local risk due to the presence of the virus among some wild animals in the country, an Ebola preparedness and a response plan have been developed by the Ministry of Health and its key partners. UNICEF also contributed to develop posters and leaflets which are widely distributed. In addition, UNICEF provided 210 tarpaulins to support the establishment of 30 control shelters along the border with the DRC. The country faces a high risk given its very weak epidemiologic surveillance system also a very poor response capacity.

Cholera preparedness

Cholera preparedness activities are ongoing at both national and zonal levels with updating and prepositioning of supplies and cholera kits, training of health workers, updating of contingency plans and coordination with WASH and Health clusters.

Protection on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

On 8 September, a mandatory all-staff session to sensitise on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse was organised by human resources and senior management. The session was facilitated by the Child Protection GBV Specialists on prevention against sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian contexts. UNICEF senior management emphasized the importance of coordinating with other UN agencies in the country on preventing such violations.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The humanitarian response in CAR is led by the Senior Humanitarian Coordinator and the Humanitarian Country Team that includes UN agencies, NGO and Red Cross movement representatives.

UNICEF, acting as lead organization for “Access to basic Social Services” (Pillar 3) in view of support to durable solutions to encourage the returns of IDPs in Bangui, Bimbo, Begoua, has presented an action plan comprising WASH, Health and Education interventions. Meetings with donors have taken place and ECHO has indicated it considers financing of WASH and health interventions in this respect.

The system-wide emergency Level3 status of Central African Republic, which expired on 12 September, has now been renewed for another three months. While the renewal has been approved, it has also been emphasized that a clear exit-strategy will have to be developed.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response



Nutrition

UNICEF continues to support the nutrition response by improving access to quality integrated management of severe acute malnutrition provided especially in most affected population through the country.

As of reporting period, up to 18,638 children have been admitted into therapeutic programmes: 14,730 (79%) into outpatient treatment programmes, and 3,908 into inpatient therapeutic care 3,908 (20.9%) since January. This represents 67% of the revised annual target of an estimated 28,000 children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). The coverage rate remains very low in Nana Mambere (39%), Vakaga (48%), Ouham Pende (22%), Haut Mbomou (1%) and Nana Gribizi (22%) where implementation has been affected by insecurity, whereas in Bangui, Ombella M'poko, Ouham and Lobaye the coverage of implementation and reaching the beneficiaries has increased above 80%. The increased coverage improved with the opening of new inpatient therapeutic units (31 out of 21 planned until December 2014). However, this represents a geographic coverage of less than 30%. This effort must continue and be strengthened to ensure that the available resources reaches the most vulnerable children and effective coverage of services are targeted in most affected areas.

Overall performance indicators of case management remain within global standards with an average recovery rate of 82% ($\geq 75\%$) and death rate of 3% ($< 5\%$). However, the default rate is slightly high at 15% ($< 15\%$).

With regard to the SMART survey, the data collection has been completed in 11 prefectures (Bangui, Lobaye, Sangha Mbaere, Mambere Kadei, Nana Mambere, Ouham Pende, Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangouran, Ombella M'poko and Haute Kotto). The data collection is still ongoing in 3 prefectures while in 2 others, the process of enumerators training is underway. The remaining prefecture (Ouaka) is still affected by insecurity and UNICEF has made an official request to MINUSCA in order to have the presence of the international forces on the ground to secure the data collection. Preliminary results are expected in Mid-October 2014.

In addition, UNICEF continues to maintain its support in scaling up inpatient and outpatient care for severe acute malnourished children by ensuring availability and access to nutrition supplies. Since our last reporting period UNICEF has distributed up to 5,830 cartons of RUTF, 1,025 cartons of BP5, 333 cartons of therapeutic milk F-75 and 211 cartons of F-75. The process of updating the national protocol on integrated management of acute malnutrition by following the new WHO policy for SAM is advanced with implementing partners and Ministry of Health.



Health

Responding to the polio outbreak following the two wild polio virus detected among Central African children refugees in Cameroun at the end of July, and in order to contribute to the regional goal of stopping the wild polio transmission by the end of 2014, two rounds of polio campaigns were conducted in the health regions 2 and 3 and 201,620 children under five were reached (96%). A third round is ongoing and covers the health regions 1, 2, 3 and Bangui where 1,200,000 children under 14 years old are expected to be reached.

UNICEF and partners supported the implementation of strategies developed in the cholera contingency plan including procurement and pre-positioning of cholera kits in areas with high risk for appropriate management of cases (Bangui, Bossangoa, Kaga-Bandoro, Bouar, Obo and Zemio); capacity building of health managers and clinical providers (Bangui, Bocaranga, Ngaounday, Bangassou, Zemio and Obo); strengthening of epidemiological surveillance for early identification, confirmation of suspected cases to the declaration of the epidemic in close collaboration with Institut Pasteur in Bangui; community mobilization through community involvement and participation; and identification of sites for the establishment of two CTCs (in Bangui and Bimbo) and nine CTUs in the hubs selected by WHO.

Integrated free health care and nutrition assistance continues to be provided to displaced and returned persons in Bangui, Bimbo, Boda, Bossangoa, Bambari, Bouar, Yaloke and Kaga Bandoro. Since January 2014, in Bangui and Bimbo for instance, 508,502 people were received and treated at health facilities among them 217,905 children under five,



38,438 pregnant women who received antenatal care and 7,584 women who were assisted during delivery including 169 cases of caesarean (source: Epidemiological Bulletin, Health Cluster, week 36). The leading cause of consultation remains malaria (49%). UNICEF continues to provide integrated health and nutrition care to vulnerable populations, mainly Peuhls and Muslims IDPs in the enclaves of Boda in Lobaye prefecture and Yaloke in Ombella Poko prefecture as well as in Bambari and Kaga-Bandoro.

The Health unit is annually reporting on four key Humanitarian indicators and the proportions of achieved targets show the following as of 30 September:

- 100% of Long Lasting insecticide treated nets allocated to Bangui were distributed and the activity has been completed;
- 88% of children under five are vaccinated against measles. The initial annual target was recently revised from 249,725 to 268,231 children;
- 69% of people have access to basic health services and medicines in the affected areas;
- 31% of children 1-5 years received de-worming medication;
- 25 % of children under-five provided with Vitamin A.

For the last two indicators above, the low achievements reported are only from the first phase of campaign. The second phase is planned in November/December.

HIV/AIDS

In September, UNICEF, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, led four joint missions in prefectures of Haut Mboumou, Lobaye, Nana-Mambere and Ouham to assess the PMTCT/Paediatric care needs and support the Health districts develop plans in order to the re-establish and open new PMTCT sites in the most affected zones, launch HIV prevention activities and carry out HIV testing and counselling.

As a result 330 people were tested in Bangassou, 328 people tested in Obo, 1,022 people tested in Bouar among them children and pregnant women with their partners, and 75 health workers were refreshed on PMTCT interventions. Some 42 children born to HIV positive mothers were tested and samples were sent to Institut Pasteur for screening.

On IDP sites in Bangui and surrounding communities, 880 women of reproductive age and 4,567 girls have been reached with the HIV messages and among them 1,163 were tested, 32 infants born to HIV positive mothers were also tested, and 238 women and 36 children were put on ARV prophylaxis treatment.

Regarding the needs to scale up PMTCT interventions, 38 health centres and hospitals have been assessed in order to launch the implementation of PMTCT in coming days and 17 of them were provided with HIV supplies in Obo, Bangassou and Bouar.

Overall response progress for the four key humanitarian indicators stands as follows: 58% of pregnant women receiving HIV/AIDS counselling; 40% of children previously on ARV prophylaxis continue to receive ARV treatment; 34% of HIV positive pregnant women benefiting from PMCTC/ARV prophylaxis; and 19% of children born from HIV positive women are benefiting from ARV prophylaxis. Three main reasons explain this low performance (below 50%):

- Given the current crisis, all health services are not functioning. Efforts to re-establish all health service are ongoing but not yet able to allow access to all affected children and women;
- Difficult access to health services in the affected zones;
- Pediatric care services still face scale up challenges due funds constraints and weak capacity building at district level.

WASH

As part of its support to the Societe de Distribution des Eaux en Centrafrique (SODECA), UNICEF has provided the following chemical products in **Bangui**:

- 70 tons of Aluminium sulphate;
- 4 tons of chlorine;
- 13 tons of lime.

In Bangui 1400 m³ are produced per hour and approximatively 410,000 people have access to safe drinking water supply.

Similarly, fuel and chlorine were dispatched in the secondary centres of SODECA as follows:

- 4,000 liters of fuel for Bouar for 10,000 people;
- 600 liters for Carnot and using gravity fed system, for an estimated 65,000 people;
- 4,000 liters and 40 Kg of Chlorine for Bossangoa for 35,000 people.

In the districts of **Bossangoa**, the production and distribution of safe drinking water is estimated at 560 m³ per day for 35,000 people. Production of water on the site of Petit Séminaire (ex-Evêché) is estimated at 20 m³.

Through the partnership with the Rural Water Authority (ANEA) the following activities were carried out in the town of Bossangoa:

- Rehabilitation of 13 pumps for an estimated 5,800 people;
- Rehabilitation of 26 blocks of 76 doors latrines for 6,000 students in nine schools;
- 15 mobilisers, 10 Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Caritas staff as well as IDPs committee members were trained on the promotion of hygiene, maintenance of latrines and waste management on the Petit Séminaire (ex-Evêché) site in Bossangoa.

Regarding the WASH response in **Batangabo**, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) has received materials from UNICEF and rehabilitated 6 boreholes for 2,500 IDPs. In **Yaloke**, 600 bars of soaps and other cleaning tools were provided to Caritas to assist 400 IDPs

With support from UNICEF, Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) carried out the following activities in **Bambari**:

- Installation of a water treatment centre with a daily capacity of 80 m³ - 120 m³ safe drinking water. The installed system has increased the amount of safe drinking water available to each IDP's per day from 2.10 liters to 8.40 liters;
- Chlorination of 19 water points around different sites for 7,830 IDPs;
- On Sangaris site, 160 latrines and 100 showers were built for a population estimated at 8,000 IDPs, resulting in a ratio of 50 persons per latrine and 80 persons per shower. Two new waste pits were built in addition to the existing 8 waste pits, thus a total of 10 waste pits on the Sangaris site;
- On the MINUSCA site, a technical assessment was conducted to determine whether the water of the river Ouaka could be used for consumption in the IDPs households. Installation and distribution of safe drinking water with 2 ramps and 2 bladders of 10 and 20 m³ respectively, and this yields 9 liters per person per day;
- A daily distribution of safe drinking water with 2 ramps and 1 bladders of 20 m³ on the Notre Dame de la Victoire (NDV) site, thus a total of 30 m³ of safe drinking water and this equals to 6.7 liters per day per person;
- Production and distribution of 12 m³ of safe drinking water per day for the IDPs in the parish. Maintenance of 117 latrines and the promotion of good hygiene practices on the Grimari site for 3,500 IDPs

In partnership with la Croix Rouge Française (CRF) the following activities were carried out at the sites indicated below:

MINUSCA site (2,200 IDPs):

- Two new latrine blocks were built, leading to 7 the number of blocks of 5 latrines available thus a total of 35 latrines and a ratio of 63 persons per latrine;
- Weeding and cleaning around the health facilities (latrines, showers, septic waste);
- Collection and transport of approximately 10 m³ of waste to the waste pits;

- Construction of 5 blocks of 5 showers to achieve the availability of 40 showers, thus a ratio of 55 persons per shower.

Notre Dame de Victoire site (4,500 IDPs) :

- Three new blocks of 5 latrines were built leading to 13 the number of blocks of 5 latrines available, thus a total of 65 latrines and a ratio of 69 persons per latrines;
- Nine hand washing devices with soap are operational;
- Maintenance and cleaning of latrines by hygienists teams;
- Construction of 5 shower blocks of 5 cabins, leading to an availability of 14 blocks of 5 showers, hence a total of 70 showers thus a ratio of 64 people per shower.
- Six new septic waste were rehabilitated.

Regarding Cholera preparedness plan, chlorine and aquatabs were dispatched in 3 of the 9 hubs identified in the response plan. The total needs of 4 tons of chlorine for the response plan is already in the country and dispatching is ongoing.

As of 30 September, the proportions of UNICEF achievement against its three annual targets are as follows in WASH:

- 54% of affected people and targeted for assistance have access to improved sources of water;
- 67% of affected people and targeted for assistance have access to basic sanitation services. The initial annual target was recently revised from 225,000 people to 300,000 people;
- 79% of affected people and targeted for assistance who received wash items (jerrycan and soap) and knowledge to put in place hand washing practices. The initial annual target was recently revised from 225,000 people to 350,000 people.



Child Protection

Monitoring Response Mechanism (MRM)

In September, the MRM Team carried out the following activities:

- Four field missions during these, cases were documented and training sessions for capacity building of partner organisations' staff were conducted;
- One joint mission with the government and MINUSCA Child Protection unit in Boali and Yaloke where 502 children (155 girls and 347 boys) associated with anti-Balaka Groups were certified (the youngest child certified was eight years old)
- Identification of 183 children (including 17 girls and 166 boys) in Bambari, - 133 of the boys were certified as associated with the anti-Balaka and 33 boys with the ex-Seleka.
- 685 children (172 girls and 513 boys) have been identified and also certified by the MRM team for future release and psychosocial supports by child protection actors.

Other grave violations reported during this period:

- 1st September in Bangui (Boye Rabe) : an unknown number of children were injured as a result of cross-fire between two anti-Balaka factions fighting near the Ndres 1 school;
- 8th September in Ngakobo (60 km from Bambari), two boys of 14 years and 15 years old were killed besides seven other children who were injured during the attack carried out by ex-Seleka elements.
- 1st week of September: attacks on two schools in Bangui by anti-Balaka group. In Bambari two ex-Seleka fighters attacked the regional hospital and broke equipment, stole drugs and mobile phone. On 19 September, the MRM team reported the attack on the health centre of Guitangola (Bimbo in the South of Bangui) where one boy was killed and one pregnant woman injured. On 5 September, the MRM team organised a training session for 20 Danish Refugee council (DRC) Staff on the grave violations of children rights.

Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)

UNICEF, in collaboration with partners (Caritas, COOPI, ESF and NDA), facilitated the release of 529 children (among them 157 girls) particularly from the ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka in Bambari, Boali and Yaloke. In Bambari 27 boys have been released from the ex-Seleka and are to receive psychosocial support and are placed in foster families while awaiting for their family tracing and reunification. The 529 Children released in Bambari, Boali and Yaloke participated in recreational activities in Community Transit Centre during one day and these children are to receive support for reunification with their respective families and the community reintegration. A total of 2,040 children (including 578 girls) have been released from armed groups since January.

Psychosocial Activities

In Kaga-Bandoro, UNICEF set up two new Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) in two IDP sites and more than 500 children will be the beneficiaries. On 17 September in Begoua, COOPI mobilized all the authorities and started new activities in a community recreation hub for the children. This recreation area has an average capacity of 600 to 700 children. In Bambari and Grimari, recreational activities are ongoing with Save the Children and NDA at the four CFS and communities, which benefit to 1,116 children (646 boys and 470 girls). In order to improve the community sensitisation, 44 members of community child protection networks (RECOPE) were trained on Psychological First Aid. Some 23 unaccompanied children have been placed in host families while waiting for their reintegration in their respective families. In Bangui, 4,110 children (2,096 boys and 2,014) girls attended the CFS run by IRC and supported by UNICEF. A total of 5,937 (3,160 girls and 2,777 boys) children participated in recreational and psychosocial support activities.

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

In September, UNICEF continued strengthening GBV response programming to support survivors in accessing medical, legal and other life-saving services. During this period, UNICEF partners registered 51 GBV cases (76% were rapes, including six cases of children) at five GBV listening centres in Bangui and Bocaranga. All of these survivors received basic psychological first aid and referrals to more comprehensive care. In addition, a group of 54 women and 56 adolescent girls GBV survivors were trained on referral systems at the GBV Listening Centres in Bangui. A further 67 women in Bangui and 86 women in Kouï were sensitised on basic GBV issues. Community sensitisation on GBV services also reached at least 1,013 people (36% women, 33% girls, 17% men, 14% boys) in seven intervention sites. UNICEF trained 13 legal aides and 20 psychosocial workers (30 women and 3 men) employed in the ten UNICEF-supported Listening Centres for GBV survivors located in areas of the country most acutely affected by the conflict (i.e. Bimbo, Bangui, Bossembele, Grimari, Yaloke, Boda, Baoro, Carnot, Sibut and Berberati). The two-day workshop reinforced guiding principles of confidentiality, security, respect, and non-discrimination as cornerstones of quality services being offered at the Listening Centres. To date, UNICEF provided support, through its partners, to 24 listening centres.

The Child Protection section is annually reporting on four key Humanitarian indicators and the proportions of achieved UNICEF targets show the following as of 30 September:

- 62% of children benefiting from recreational activities and psychosocial support (children centre and counselling areas). The initial annual target was recently revised from 95,000 people to 100,000 people
- 68% of children released from armed forces and groups. The initial annual target was recently revised from 2,000 to 3,000 children;
- 45% of separated children in emergencies reunified with families. The achievement below 50% is mainly due to the security conditions;
- 53% of GBV survivors who receive holistic assistance. The initial annual target was recently revised from 2,000 to 3,500 GBV survivors.

Education

With the finalisation of the Education Sector Transition Plan, planning for a holistic Back to School Campaign and acceleration of Education in Emergencies programming, September has been a dynamic month for UNICEF Education in the Central African Republic (CAR).

The Ministry of National Education (MEN) organised a workshop to validate the Education Sectoral Transition Plan 2015-2017 on 5 September. In the presence of the Minister, Ministry officials, UNICEF and NGO partners in education, the Transition Plan was validated and officially adopted to guide CAR's education strategy and programmes from 2015 to 2017. The Transition Plan was elaborated in close collaboration between UNICEF, Permanent Technical Secretariat of the MEN and the members of the Local Education Group (LEG): the French Embassy, the French Agency for Development, the European Union, World Food Programme and the World Bank. The Transition Plan aims to organise a progressive return to normalcy of educational activities in CAR. In particular, it places an emphasis on promoting primary education and the regular functioning of the national education management system, and to eventually promote the re-entry to the development phase from the current emergency context. With the adoption of the Transition Plan, it is expected that by 2017 CAR recovers the quantitative and qualitative level of the education system which was in place prior to the current crisis. As the Lead agency of the LEG, UNICEF will continue to provide support to the MEN for the effective implementation of education programmes envisioned under the Transition Plan.

Since the official announcement by the MEN declaring 3 November as the official beginning of a new school year, the UNICEF Education team is actively supporting the MEN with planning of a nationwide Back to School (BTS) campaign. The campaign includes a comprehensive package of strategies and activities that encourage the return to school of both students and teachers. The development of key messages for a mass sensitisation campaign is underway. This campaign will commence in mid-October and continue until December 2014.

The campaign strategy emphasises approaching those (such as community leaders, parents, school authorities, teachers and students) who can help to lift the identified barriers to sending children to schools. UNICEF will disseminate campaign messages to specific target audiences across the country through some of the major radio stations. Along with sensitisation activities, pre-positioning of teaching and learning materials and school furniture is planned and will commence in the coming weeks.

The Global Partnership for Education's (GPE) accelerated funding programme supports the return to school of 115,000 children targeted in Bangui and seven prefectures (Mbomou, Nana Gribizi, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham Pendé, Ombella M'poko and Kémo). This target (115,000) represents approximatively 30% of primary age school children (estimated at 383,000 in the area, based on figures from the 2011 -12 Education Statistical Yearbook). This Progress continues in the implementation of this programme. Some of the ongoing activities are as follows:

- Consolidation of GPE targeted school data, collected from NGO partners' field visits, which enabled a comprehensive overview of the situation in each school regarding teachers and students presence and rehabilitation needs;
- School furniture is being locally produced and is scheduled to be delivered to the targeted schools before the commencement of the new academic year;
- Catch-up classes planned under the GPE Project started, following the arrival of the first batch catch-up class materials. With the view of facilitating the organisation of catch-up classes, the MEN issued a circular note and a memorandum calling for special mobilisation of education authorities and teachers during the official vacation period;
- Light rehabilitation of schools damaged as a result of the crisis;
- Monitoring visits with MEN officials and NGO partners to oversee rehabilitation and collect information of number of students and teachers present in functioning schools.

As part of Education in Emergency programming, UNICEF continues to support the establishment of temporary learning spaces in displacement sites where insecurity prevents parents from sending their children to school. In September, an increasing number of schools resumed school activities but there remain some volatile areas such as Grimari (Ouaka) and Yaloké and Gaga (Ombella M'poko) which continue to require safe temporary learning spaces.

UNICEF Education section is reporting its education in emergencies response on two main indicators. Achievements against the annual targets are as follows:

- 31% of children targeted aged 3 to 18 years benefited from education supplies;
- 36% of children targeted are participating in temporary learning spaces activities.

The perceived low level of achievement towards the HRP education targets is due in large part to prevailing conditions (45% to 65% of schools closed at some point in the past school year and continuing areas of insecurity) did not allow the distribution of the planned education supplies and full participation of children in temporary learning spaces activities.



Communication for Development

From 8 to 10 September, UNICEF, along with the Ministry of National Reconciliation, Political Dialogue, and Promotion of Civic Culture, in partnership with the Association of Community Radio Broadcasters, set up listening centres to improve access to information, strengthen the voices and thus, the empowerment, of rural populations, particularly women and youth. Listening centres encourage the mobilization of communities through dialogue, experience sharing, collaboration, and above all, community action promoting local development.

Furthermore, a training session was held for journalists and supervisors of the listening committees (a group of people assessing different shows on reconciliation, peace, health, education). Forty-six participants attended the session, including 20 journalists and 26 representatives of youth associations and religious platforms.

At the opening ceremony, the UNICEF Representative reminded the participants on the role of radio in development and social change. He also took the opportunity to outline UNICEF's support in emergencies, through the protection of children and women, ensuring strict application of international standards, and providing assistance. Indeed, in the country's current context where children, women, and vulnerable persons are threatened, it is more important than ever to ensure that people have the right to information, protection, health, education and to active participation in public affairs. It is in this context that UNICEF provided 5,000 solar radios to equip 2,284 listening committees in Bangui, Bossangoa, Boda, and Bouar. This initiative reached nearly one million people.

As part of polio campaign UNICEF raised awareness among the displaced population in support to the district health teams of health regions of Bangui, Ombella-Mpoko, Sangha-Mbaere and Ouham. In consultation with these district teams, the missions sensitised parents about the Polio prevention, polio vaccine effects, emphasising on its non-hazardous nature.

Overall, the technical and financial support provided by UNICEF allowed to strengthen the polio campaign through hiring of four UNICEF C4D consultants (3 national and 1 international), 35 supervisors within the Ministry of Public Health, 955 mobilisers and 500 community public speakers.

As of 30 September, progress towards the annual targets (mostly in Bangui and Bossangoa) are as follows:

- 65% of targeted households in Bangui were exposed to messages related to vaccination campaign;
- 78% of targeted young people sensitised on violence, HIV, peace, hygiene and sanitation;
- 99% of targeted people affected (children, young, women, men) have been exposed to the health, peace, hygiene and sanitation messages.

The United Nations Peacekeeping mission in CAR has just set up a radio station (Radio 93.3 FM) that will in long run cover the whole country. UNICEF expects to take maximum advantage of this opportunity to broadcast on regular basis the key messages on social mobilisation.

Rapid Response Mechanism

Discussions are ongoing with other UN agencies, at their request, in order to assess their interest and capacity to join the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). UNHCR for NFI, WFP for emergency food and nutrition supplies and FAO for seeds participated in the Strategic Steering Committee (SSC) early September. During this SSC, RRM coordination, partners, donors and UN agencies representatives had a comprehensive discussion on the current context and needs in CAR and the strategic orientations of the RRM for the next phase in 2015.

RRM coordination continued to participate in Inter Cluster Coordination (ICC) and other coordination meetings in order to inform the humanitarian community on the findings of the RRM multi sectorial assessments, to advocate on the most urgent needs in the field and to present the activities implemented by the partners (ACF, ACTED, DRC, PU-AMI and Solidarités International).

Multisectoral assessments were conducted in below areas, where needs in NFI, WASH, Food Security, Education and Health were identified:

- PU-AMI/RRM: Berberati and Sosso;
- ACTED/RRM: Ngakobo, Digui and Obo;
- IRC/RRM: Kaga Bandoro;
- DRC/RRM: Lady-Batangafo axis.

RRM and its partners also provided WASH and NFIs assistance to the affected populations in different areas:

- DRC/RRM: WASH and NFI intervention for 3,400 households in Batangafo, WASH intervention in Lady for 2,800 households, WASH intervention in Bombere Kota for 100 households, and NFI and WASH intervention in Ngaoundaye for 600 households.
- ACF/RRM: NFI intervention in Lady and Gbakaya for 2,800 households, and WASH and NFI intervention in Boya 1 and Bozakon for 1,040 households;
- ACTED/RRM: WASH and NFI interventions in Pombolo for 320 households, and WASH intervention in Mala for 300 households.

The achievements against the annual UNICEF targets are as follows as of 30 September:

- 91% of households that received NFI items;
- 75% of Multi-Sectoral Assessments (MSA) conducted;
- 39% of boreholes rehabilitated/built. Low level of achievement mainly due to the presence of WASH actors in the field and therefore no need to implement this kind of activities by our partners as RRM is last resort mechanism.

Supply and Logistics

From January to 24 September 2014, a total value of US\$ 8,180,716 of supplies, composed of essential medical supplies, health kits, nutrition products, NFI, WASH items, and education kits were distributed to UNICEF implementing partners.

Most UNICEF CAR procurement is offshore, due to the complete disruption of the local market; hence so far 90 % of Purchase Orders are placed outside of CAR via Supply Division. UNICEF CAR Supply Plan is executed at 77 %, a level below the minimum required (85%) in L3 emergencies; and this is mainly due to lack of funding for the CAR crisis.

During the reporting period UNICEF CAR received 7 containers with WASH products procured in Cameroon for SODECA as per hereunder data.

Total Commande	Colis	Qtte Tot
Sulfate D' Alumine 17-18%	3,456	86,400
Hypochlorite de Calcium 70%	733	30,885
Chaux Eteinte	546	13,650

External Communications

In September, External Communication focused on bringing visibility to results for children in education, protection, health and child survival and continued advocacy, donor visibility and outreach.

InfoCom organized one major visit in September: A Norwegian documentary crew accompanied by the Norwegian Natcom visited CAR from 2-9 September. A documentary they are preparing featuring CAR (story of Child soldiers)

among other countries will be in a telethon in November facilitated by Norwegian Natcom. Al Jazeera conducted extensive interviews on child soldiers and Back To School Campaign that will be aired very soon.

Due to UN re-hatting of MISCA troops on 15 September, InfoCom took maximum advantage of International media presence in CAR.

The media highlights included UN activities in CAR mentions with specific stories on UNICEF expected in the Norwegian newspaper. Aftenposten, Toronto Star and Al Jazeera were in CAR from 9-16 September and Radio France Internationale visited CAR on 26 September. Also a number of freelancer journalists visited CAR in September.

Press releases, stories and blogs published in September include:

The communications team created a Back To School package for the Panorama website, with stories, photos and funding information to be used by national committees worldwide.

<https://intranet.unicef.org/GENEVA/panorama.nsf/Main%20Form/365CA34A375607B9C1257D47003DDF7A?OpenDocument>

The work of the communications team on social media has also been recognised, with the work of UNICEF CAR featured in a global webinar about the use of new media during L3 emergencies. Our communications team presented during this webinar. UNICEF CAR now has 7000 fans on facebook and nearly 3000 followers on Twitter.

Four blogs from CAR were published on the global site UNICEF Connect in September.

Life trickles back to burnt town in CAR on 23 September

<http://blogs.unicef.org/2014/09/23/life-trickles-back-to-burnt-town-in-car/>

On a wire and a prayer – restoring water supply in CAR on 18 September

<http://blogs.unicef.org/2014/09/18/on-a-wire-and-a-prayer-restoring-water-supply-in-car/>

Central African Republic is a world away. Why should I care? On 11 September

<http://blogs.unicef.org/2014/09/11/central-african-republic-is-a-world-away-why-should-i-care/>

In this Central African Republic hospital, everybody gets treated on 3 September

<http://blogs.unicef.org/2014/09/03/in-this-central-african-republic-hospital-everybody-gets-treated/>

Media highlights can be found in below links:

Outlet	Headline/Topic	Link
All Africa	UNICEF Distributes Half a Million Mosquito Nets Amid Heavy Rains and Violence in CAR	http://allafrica.com/stories/201408281293.html
Relief Web	UNICEF mounts largest emergency supply operation in a single month	http://reliefweb.int/report/central-african-republic/unicef-deploys-its-largest-emergency-supply-operation-ever-single
Shanghai Daily	UNICEF mounts largest emergency supply operation in a single month	http://www.shanghaidaily.com/article/article_xinhua.aspx?id=237580

UN News	UNICEF mounts largest emergency supply operation in a single month	http://www.unmultimedia.org/radio/english/2014/08/unicef-mounts-largest-emergency-supply-operation-in-a-single-month/#.VAQygcVdXTo
Humanitarian News	L'UNICEF déploie sa plus grosse opération d'approvisionnement d'urgence jamais menée en un seul mois	http://www.humanitariannews.org/20140826/central-african-republic-lunicef-deploie-sa-plus-grosse-operation-dapprovisionnement-durgen

Security

During the reporting period (September), the situation seems to be calm throughout the country, except few isolated incidents reported in Bangui, Bossangoa town, Bambari area, Ngakobo, Ngondongo and Maboussou villages.

On 5 September in Bossangoa, assault against Sangaris patrol led to the death of an anti-Balaka element. In retaliation, anti-Balaka fighters attacked and burned down the Mayor and Deputy Mayor homes.

On 8 September in Ngakobo village (60 km from Bambari town), clashes between anti-Balaka and Peulhs helped by ex-Seleka, led to six deaths and one injured among Christian population. Also, 6 fighters are reportedly injured: 4 Muslims and 2 anti-Balaka.

On 15 September, LRA elements attacked Maboussou village (45 km from Mboki town on Mboki – Zemio axis) and abducted 5 people (2 women and 3 men) but later on, four (two women and two men) of them were freed. Also, an important amount of food was looted by LRA fighters.

On 22 September, five Muslims were killed by anti-Balaka elements in Ngondongo village (in the Sibut area) while accompanying a truck of cattle that broke down on its way to Bangui. On 26 September, a Muslim armed group closed down all shops in PK5 in observance of mourning for the five killed ones, and this tension resulted in clashes between the Muslim group and the MINUSCA forces. Number of possible casualties within Muslim group are still unknown.

On 22 September, the UN Secretary-General met with the Head of State of the CAR Transition, Mrs. Catherine Samba-Panza. The Secretary-General highlighted the critical importance of an inclusive political process, led by the Central Africans themselves. He also noted that a broad-based political agreement was needed to undertake essential governance reforms, including with respect to the security sector and the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants. The Secretary-General assured the Head of State of the Transition of the United Nations' steadfast support to help address the current crisis, notably through the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSCA).

On 23 September, four senior generals quit the Seleka rebel group controlling northern CAR, saying they disagreed with secessionist plans for its northern enclave.

The Batobadja village, 40 km from Bambari (Ouaka province) on the Alindao axe was attacked by armed men on the night of 21 to 22 September. The health centre's pharmacy was attacked and the assailants looted drugs including anti-malarial medications for adults. One person was reportedly killed during this attack.

On 27 September in Bangui, in retaliation to an assault against a Muslim businessman at Jackson bridge by anti-Balaka elements, armed men from PK5 carried out an attack in a Christian neighborhood of Fatima (6th Arrondissement). Two people were reportedly killed, scores injured, a bar ransacked, several houses looted and burnt down, and one public transportation bus torched.

On 28 September, eight hunters were abducted in bush (40 km from Obo town) by LRA elements.

On 30 September, anti-Balaka elements torched a private car on Bambari–Ndassima road, after killing the four Muslims aboard.

Meanwhile, the International Criminal Court's prosecutor announced the opening of a new investigation into atrocities including murder, rape and persecution during ruthless sectarian fighting since 2012 in CAR. It is the court's second investigation in CAR.

Cluster Coordination

UNICEF is leading the WASH, Education and Nutrition clusters and the Child Protection sub-cluster for the CAR emergency response. WASH, education and Nutrition clusters and the Child Protection sub-cluster have a dedicated cluster coordinator. All clusters meet on a weekly basis and come together under the inter-cluster platform facilitated by OCHA also meeting on a weekly basis.

Funding

As of 30 September, UNICEF has received \$35 million against the \$81 million in the 2014 HAC requirements and details are provided in below sectoral table. The current utilisation rate stands at 82%. Without additional resources, UNICEF will not be in a position to meet its annual targets and provided the needed assistance to affected children and women.

Sector	Initial HAC 2014 requirements	Income through UNICEF and donors*	Funding gap	
			\$	%
Nutrition	11,000,000	4,420,958	6,579,042	60%
Health and HIV/AIDS	20,600,000	12,223,112	8,376,888	41%
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	17,400,000	6,832,073	10,567,927	61%
Child Protection	12,000,000	4,595,416	7,404,584	62%
Education	10,000,000	1,810,472	8,189,528	82%
Non Food Items (NFI)	10,000,000	5,441,207	4,558,793	46%
Total	81,000,000	35,323,238	45,676,762	56%

UNICEF wishes to express gratitude to all public and private sector donors for the contributions and pledges received, which have made the current response possible. UNICEF would especially like to thank National Committees and donors who have contributed 'non-earmarked' funding. "Non-earmarked" funding gives UNICEF essential flexibility to direct resources and ensure the delivery of life-saving supplies and interventions to where they are needed most – especially in the form of longer-term and predictable funding and in strengthening preparedness and resilience. Continued donor support is critical to continue scaling up the response.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS – as of 30 September 2014

Sector	Indicator	2014 (Full year)					
		UNICEF & operational partners			Sector / Cluster		
		UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved
Health	Number and % of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) distributed (*)	550,000	550,000	100%	2,770,000	550,000	20%
	Number and % of children U5 vaccinated against measles (**)	268,231	234,956	88%	268,231	234,956	88%
	Number and % of children Under-five provided with Vitamin A	740,000	186,760	25%	740,000	186,760	25%
	Number and % of children 1-5 years who received de-worming medication	657,000	202,780	31%	657,000	202,780	31%
	Number and % of people that access basic health services and medicines in the affected areas (***)	2,000,000	1,382,788	69%	2,000,000	1,382,788	69%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: ACF, SAVE THE CHILDREN, FRENCH RED CROSS, COLLABORATION WITH MSF, CARITAS						
	(*) 1 Bednet for two people across the country in line with the Universal coverage programme. The figures reported are only for Bangui and activity has been completed in August.						
	(**) Revised target						
Nutrition	(***) Progress based on estimation of population benefiting from health medicines and equipment regularly distributed by UNICEF. This includes drugs, medical supplies, and basic medical equipment, basic steam sterilization equipment to ensure sterilization of facilities in all types of environment. This includes 158 facilities outside Bangui receiving support.						
	Number and % of children 6-59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for therapeutic care and benefitting from promotion of nutrition practices (*)	28,000	18,638	67%	28,000	18,638	67%
	Recovery Rate	>=75%	82%	NA	>=75%	82%	NA
	Death Rate	<5%	3%	NA	<5%	3%	NA
	Default Rate	<15%	15%	NA	<15%	15%	NA
	UNICEF Operational Partners: ACF, COHEB, IMC, MSF-F, MSF-E, MSFH, CARITAS, MERLIN, SAVE THE CHILDREN. Data as of 30 August 2014.						
	(*)Revised targets						
	WASH	Number and % of affected people that have access to improved sources of water (*)	700,000	380,476	54%	900,000	NA
Number and % of affected people with access to a basic sanitation services (**)		300,000	199,931	67%	975,000	NA	NA
Number and % of affected people who received wash items (jerrycan and soap) and knowledge to put in place hand washing practices (***)		350,000	276,280	79%	1,025,000	NA	NA
UNICEF Operational Partners: IRC, ACF, ANEA, LIFA, EEA, Caritas-Bambari, ICDI, IMC, OXFAM, SODECA, ICDI, LEAGUE ISLAMIQUE AFRICAINE							
(*) Standard sphere not yet reached for Bangui sites. Bossangoa Standard Sphere almost reached with the provision of 12 liters of water per person per day.							
Child Protection	(**) Latrines/defecation fields with hand washing dispositive in the IDPs sites. Bossangoa Sphere standard reached while for Bangui sites the average is 154 per latrines at the airport site and UNICEF supported interventions 1 latrine per 100 persons. Please note that the target was revised.						
	(***) Partial data related to the people reached with hygiene communication activities. Please note that the target was revised.						
	Number and % of children benefiting from recreational activities and psychosocial support (children centre and counselling areas) (*)	100,000	62,385	62%	100,000	62,385	62%

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	Number and % of children released from armed forces and groups (*)	3,000	2,040	68%	3,000	2,040	68%
	Number and % of separated children in emergencies reunified with families	1,200	539	45%	1,200	539	45%
	Number and % of GBV survivors who receive holistic assistance (*)	3,500	1,839	53%	6,500	1,839	28%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: CORDAID, VITALITE PLUS, ECAC, JUPEDEC, COHEB, ECAC, IDEALE, JRS, JUPEDEC, ESF, BSF, COHEB, AIDE, REMOD, IDEALE RCA, CARITAS, Save the Children, IRC, Mercy Corps, NDA, COOPI, OCDH, AFJC, Triangle, Village SOS..... (*) Revised target.						
HIV/AIDS	Number and % of pregnant women receiving HIV/AIDS counselling	56,732	32,938	58%	56,732	32,938	58%
	Number and % of pregnant women benefiting from PMCTC- ARV prophylaxis	4,392	1,473	34%	4,392	1,473	34%
	Number and % of children born from HIV positive women benefiting from ARV prophylaxis	4,392	855	19%	4,392	855	19%
	Number and % of children previously on ARV prophylaxis who continue to receive ARV treatment	1,705	677	40%	1,705	677	40%
UNICEF Operational Partners: MoH. 2014 indicators and targets revised, progress made has been adjusted accordingly.							
Education	Number and % of children between 3 to 18 years who benefited from education supplies	300,000	91,927	31%	580,000	106,204	18%
	Number and % of children participating in ETAPE activities (temporary learning spaces) (*)	100,000	36,498	36%	180,000	42,355	24%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: CORDAID, VITALITE PLUS, ECAC, JUPEDEC, COHEB, ECAC, IDEALE, JRS, JUPEDEC, ESF, BSF, COHEB, AIDE, REMOD, IDEALE RCA, CARITAS (*) 100 ETAPes functional in Bangui, 18 in Bossangoa and 10 in Boda						
C4D	Number and % of households exposed to messages related to vaccination campaign	960,000	624,000	65%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of people affected (children, young, women, men) who have been exposed to the health, peace, hygiene and sanitation messages	2,500,000	1,960,000	78%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of young people sensitised on violence, HIV, peace, hygiene and sanitation	518,000	510,800	99%	Not Applicable		
RRM	Number and % of households that received NFIs items	17,267	15,700	91%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of Multi-Sectoral Assessments (MSA) conducted	51	38	75%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of boreholes rehabilitated/built	109	43	39%	Not Applicable		

Twitter handle: @UNICEF_CAR, #CARcrisis

UNICEF CAR Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/car.html>

The next CAR Country Office Humanitarian Situation Report will be released on or around 31 October 2014.

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