



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 45

20 – 26 December 2014

KEY FIGURES

437,395

IDPs including

58,662

In Bangui in 34 sites

425,282

Total number of CAR refugees in neighbouring countries

189,121

New CAR refugees in neighbouring countries since Dec. 2013

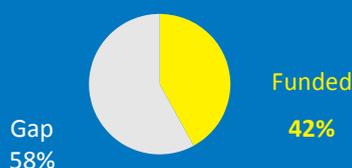
7,966

Refugees and asylum seekers in CAR

FUNDING

USD 255 million

requested for the situation



PRIORITIES

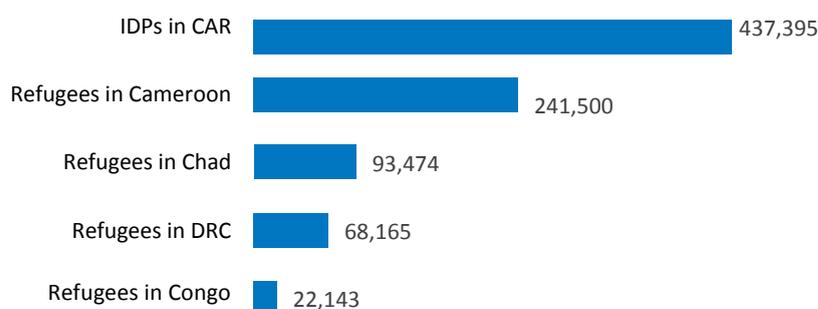
- Cameroon: acceleration of assistance to refugees living offsite in villages.
- Chad: profiling and verification exercise in returnee sites.
- DRC: relocation of refugees to existing sites. Verification of refugees out of camps.
- Congo: family tracing for unaccompanied or separated children

HIGHLIGHTS

- In the CAR, confrontations between anti-balaka and ex-Seleka fighters have caused the death of more than 50 people during the reporting period in Mbrès, Nola, Bambari and Berberati. Violence in Mbrès triggered the displacement of 232 persons who fled to Kaga-Bandoro.
- The Security Council held a meeting on the CAR situation in which it reiterated its call for ex-Seleka and anti-balaka fighters to disarm and engage in political dialogue and urged MINUSCA to accelerate its deployments and intensify the implementation of its mandate.
- The ICG (International Crisis Group) has published a report on transhumance issues that have arisen out of the CAR crisis. Violence in rural areas has been catalysed by conflict over use of land and ownership of cattle as belligerents exercise power through the exploitation of rural populations and pastoralists. Recommendations include integrating fighting against cattle theft and trafficking into MINUSCA's mandate, identifying temporary settlements in grazing areas in the CAR, Chad and Cameroon and creating an information network that identifies areas at risk of violent confrontation.

Population of concern (as of 26 December 2014)

A total of **862,677** people of concern



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

* Updates from Chad and the RoC for all sectors will be provided in next week's report.

Achievements



Protection

Central African Republic

- According to the Commission Mouvement de la Population (CMP) there are an estimated 437,395 IDPs in the Central African Republic (CAR), including 58,662 in Bangui in 34 sites, showing no evolution since the previous reporting period. New figures are not available as of yet.
- Findings from the mission to Yaloke showed that 42 IDPs have died since arriving on site, that living conditions are appalling and that many suffer from malnutrition. UNHCR collected the relocation intentions of the Peulh community and 92% expressed intentions of going to Cameroon and Chad.

Achievements and Impact

- In Bangui, the UNHCR protection cluster in collaboration with PU-AMI organized the 3 first "go-and-see" visits to the PK5 enclave and 3rd district for IDPs living at the M'Poko airport site. A total of 40 IDPs were able to visit their neighbourhoods on 17, 22, and 23 December. In light of these, and of the needs expressed by IDPs, the Protection Cluster will recommend specific actions to support durable solutions for the internally displaced. Guidelines on the proper organisation of "go-and-see" visits in Bangui will be produced so that basic protection standards are respected in the process.
- UNHCR partner NDA facilitated the reunion of 28 demobilised children with their families in the towns of Ippy, Maloum, Tagbara, and Mbrouchou (Ouaka Prefecture). The NGO organised an awareness-raising session for 866 children and 810 household heads on the prevention of child soldier recruitment by armed groups. NDA also provided a training session for 38 anti-balaka commanders on children's rights and prohibition of the enrolment of children into armed forces.
- UNICEF, CARITAS and UNHCR registered and issued documentation to 65 non accompanied minor girls and separated children in Bossangoa (Borro neighbourhood).

Cameroon

- An estimated 135,093 Central African refugees have entered Cameroon since December 2013 with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions.

Achievements and Impact

- The UNHCR organised training on international protection for administrative, security and law enforcement authorities is ongoing. During the reporting period, 26 administrative and law enforcement authorities participated in a workshop on international protection in Garoua Boulai. Key notions of international protection such as rights, duties and documentation of refugees, as well as fighting SGBV and refugee child protection were touched upon through discussions and presentations. A total of 167 administrative and law enforcement authorities have been familiarised with these topics in the last two weeks.
- A supervising mission to Lolo, Mbilé, and Timangolo sites was organised by the Regional Delegation for the Promotion of Women and Family in the East region (MINPROFF-Est) with the support of UN Women and in collaboration with UNHCR. In the context of the first trimester of social cohesion and pacific cohabitation efforts, 600 refugees had benefited from a selection of proposed trainings and apprenticeships. The purpose of the mission was to evaluate the impact of these efforts and to elaborate corrective measures, further train women and mobile psychosocial support teams having received economic support in order to carry out economic profiling so as to better deliver on common interest activities for refugees and host communities.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is a lack of child protection partners.
- There is inadequate assistance for persons with special needs.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

- An estimated 22,214 Central African refugees have entered the Democratic Republic of the Congo since December 2013 (as at 31 October) and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province. The registration and verification operation is still ongoing to determine the number of refugees in and out of sites. New statistics will be published once the entire operation is finalized.

Achievements and Impact

- In Inke site, 35 protection incidents were identified. The majority of these affected refugees and the host community. Incidents were predominantly characterised by property violation and sexual violence. In order to combat the occurrence of SGBV, UNHCR and partner ADES (Aide au Développement Economique et Social) organised a community sensitization campaign.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Zongo, just over 1,500 Muslim refugees living with host families are currently registered in UNHCR's refugee registration platform. Added to this population is a group of 117 asylum seekers and 10 family members of former FACA (CAR armed forces) in the database.
- In Libenge, the lack of fuel has caused the amount of protection monitoring missions to decrease. The office expressed the need for a projector (for sensitisation screenings) and suggested a cartoon campaign be launched to fight drug abuse within the camp.

Education

Cameroon

Achievements and Impact

- The capacity of 15 volunteer teachers was reinforced through a pedagogical training session carried out from 17 to 21 December in Batouri.
- UNHCR partner IFRC provided uniforms to 100 refugee and host children in Gbiti primary school. IFRC funded school and examination participation fees for 49 primary and secondary school students.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is low intake capacity in public schools surrounding refugee reception areas and a lack of qualified teachers.
- There is a lack of implementing partners and of information on children living out of sites.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Achievements and Impact

- In Boyabu site, 15 teachers were trained on active and participative methodology by UNICEF during the reporting period.
- In Inke site, teachers were taught to manage classes effectively and how best to make use of the educational programme for children aged 12-17 years. A total of 32 teachers received certificates upon completion. Furthermore, refugee students on site have sat the first trimestral exams and have been assessed both orally and in written form.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Boyabu site has a total of 988 children attending primary school, thus making it hard for teachers to effectively evaluate individual progress since the ratio stands at approximately 100:1.



Health

Central African Republic

Achievements and Impact

- Following new WHO guidelines, a meeting was organised by UNHCR with the participation of Direction Générale de Lutte Contre le SIDA (DGLS), WHO, and MSF Holland to quantify a resulting increase in patient numbers.

Cameroon

Achievements and Impact

- UNICEF and WHO carried out vaccinations campaigns at the entry points of Kenzou, Garoua Boulai, Tocktoyo and Gbiti against measles and poliomyelitis thus enabling 5 children under the age of 5 to receive the OPV (Oral Polio Vaccine) medicine and 23 children aged 6 months to 15 years to receive the measles vaccine.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There are insufficient health and nutrition related activities undertaken outside of camps.
- There is a lack of health staff in health centres and certain medicine stocks have run out in Gado health centre and Djohong district hospital.
- There are insufficient amounts of mosquito nets on sites.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Achievements and Impact

- In Inke site, a total of 433 individuals (including 13 patients from the host community) visited the health clinic during the reporting period. Some 1,5000 male contraceptives were distributed as well as 57 impregnated mosquito nets that distributed to 29 pregnant women. Another 28 nets were distributed to malnourished children. A sensitisation session was given on HIV/AIDS to 100 schoolchildren.
- In Boyabu, 2,500 refugees were sensitized (912 M; 1582 W) on HIV/AIDS. The importance of knowing one's HIV status was stressed. Over 9,000 male contraceptives were distributed to 753 refugees.



Food Security and Nutrition

Cameroon

Achievements and Impact

- During the reporting period, analysis of the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) undertaken by WFP throughout November revealed that coverage for children was of 108% and 68% for pregnant and lactating women. A total of 111,601 metric tonnes of nutritional supplies were distributed to over 34,000 women and children in Meiganga, Djohong, Ketté, Ndélélé, Batouri, Yokaduma and Garoua Boulai.
- In the context of efforts to support pregnant and lactating women, UNHCR partner ACF (Action Contre la Faim) organised 16 group discussions for 185 participants on themes such as infant and young child feeding as well as hygiene practices. Some 120 home visits were undertaken for 81 families and these ensured support during breastfeeding, mother-child relations, plumpy nut/sub use, prenatal consultations, monitoring of malnourished children and sensitisation on the practice of harmful medicine and care. Furthermore, ACF continues to carry out its pilot project started on 10 December to encourage an increase in lactation for women in Timangolo. During the reporting period, 11 women were under nutritional supplement (BP-5) aimed at stimulating lactation.

- The tenth round of General Food Distribution (GFD) undertaken by WFP was concluded on 21 December. Preliminary statistics indicate coverage of 92% against set goals. In the Adamaoua region, sensitisation efforts by WFP and UNHCR (in charge of GFD) enabled coverage of 101.5%. During this round, beneficiaries received cereals, oil, salt and fortified foods.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Achievements and Impact

- In Boyabu site, 589 packages of plumpy nut have been distributed to 33 children with severe malnutrition but 147 children with moderate malnutrition could not be assisted due to lack of stock. It was suggested to ADES that they consult with colleagues in Inke site as stocks there should be sufficient until year-end.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There remains a serious lack of nutritional supplements as Boyabu and Mole currently have no plumpy sub.
- Newly arriving refugees are confronted with WFP food shortages in Mole camp, as the latter are not added to the cash grant distribution list during their first month. WFP and UNHCR have held a meeting in Mbandaka to resolve the problem adequately.



Water and Sanitation

Cameroon

Achievements and Impact

- A total of 78 wells have been constructed on sites out of the 131 planned, including 61 by UNHCR and partners, 14 by UNICEF and partners and 3 by Plan Cameroon.
- In order to prevent cholera, UNICEF has provided supplies to its partners and UNHCR partners for the chlorination of 614 m³ of water in sites. In Garisingo site, UNICEF partner Asol has sensitised 126 people on latrines disinfection, the importance of chlorination, hand wash and environmental hygiene.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Achievements and Impact

- Progress has been made with MIDRILCO in Inke as the company has placed four new pumps in the camp with four more in progress.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Water production levels on most sites need improving in order to meet the minimum standard of 15 litres of water per person, per day.



Shelter and NFIs

Central African Republic

- The direction in which the CAR is evolving, with particular emphasis given to durable solutions for 2015 has prompted the integration of the CCCM Cluster into the Shelter and NFIs cluster.
- As part of the SC's preparedness plan for 2015, standard operating procedures (SOPs) have been developed to address the issue of UNHCR's decentralised stocks. Amongst other things, these SOPs provide guidance on quantity management. UNHCR's decentralised stocks of NFIs are an essential component of the SC's plan for the coming year.

Achievements and Impact

- In Bossangoa, ACTED has finalised its owner driven reconstruction programme that benefited 1,344 households.

Cameroon

Achievements and Impact

- In Lolo, division and assignment of land parcels has commenced and 36 family shelters have been built. A total of 242 family shelters have been built during the reporting period in Timangolo, Mbile, Lolo and Gado sites bringing the total number of shelters constructed to 7,280 out of 12,162 planned across sites.
- In Mbile, UNHCR partner IFRC has completed its general distribution of soap and blankets (7,120 pieces of soap and 344 blankets) to 7,120 individuals. Additionally 1,866 sanitary pads have been distributed to 1,866 women.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Achievements and Impact

- All requested NFIs have been delivered to Zongo, thus allowing UNHCR to continue its distribution to the refugees in Equateur, which had been on hiatus for several weeks due to the border closure between Cameroon and Chad.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Central African Republic

Achievements and Impact

- During the reporting period, WHO conducted a mission to assess the sanitary conditions of IDP sites in Ngakobo (60km south of Bambari). Findings revealed high levels of malnutrition and mortality rates as well as a shortage of medical supplies. It was recommended that a health post be opened to benefit all the Ngakobo population, including IDPs.
- In Bouca, the Central African Ref Cross Society (CRCA) was deployed to the IDP sites of Boya 1, Bozakon, and Bouca. They have initiated activities to facilitate access to water, maintain latrines and promote hygiene.



Community Empowerment and Self-Management

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Achievements and Impact

- In Mole site, farmers continue to work the peanut fields. A total of 665 refugees receive tools and hardware.
- In Inke site, a cobbler, welding and repair workshop as well as a hairdresser's are currently being constructed.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

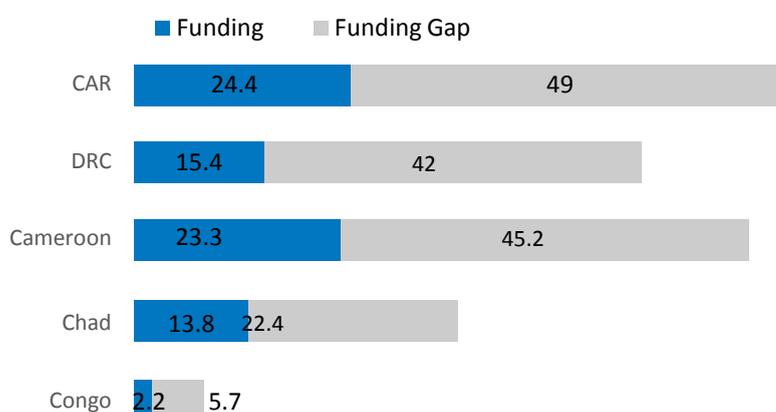
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation. Below are UNHCR's financial needs for providing protection and assistance to Central African refugees in the neighbouring countries, as well as discharging its responsibilities in the inter-agency framework to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs in the Central African Republic. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the CAR Regional Situation currently amounts to USD 255 million, including USD 104.5 million of revised additional needs in asylum countries from January to December 2014, as presented in the Revised Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 22 July. **The overall needs are currently funded at 42%.**

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Funding:

A total of **USD 102,675,529 million** has been funded



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Links:

CAR regional webportal: <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>

UNHCR Tracks: <http://tracks.unhcr.org>

