



WFP/Daouda Guirou



World Food Programme

Central African Republic



C.A.R. Funding Shortfalls



Emergency Operation USD 23.0 million
Through December 2014



Food Security Cluster USD 1.5 million
Through December 2014



ETC & Logistics Cluster USD 5.0 million
Through December 2014



UNHAS USD 1.3 million
Through December 2014



Augmentation of staff & security USD 6.1million
Through December 2014

Highlights

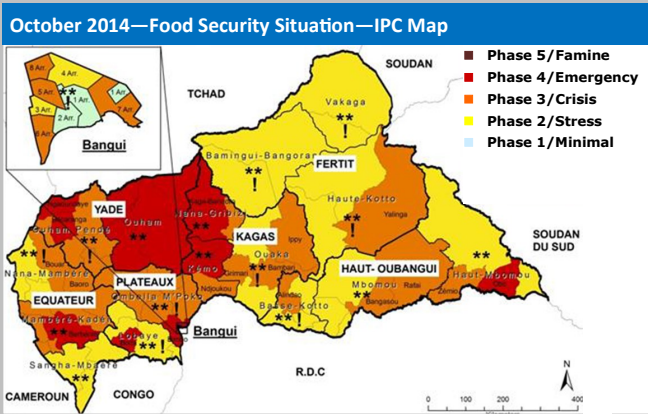
More than 1.5 million people remain food insecure, and require immediate emergency food assistance across the country. Recent assessments have shown that the continued violence has taken a heavy toll on crops, livestock and fishing, eroding the capacity of people to secure sufficient food.

In October, violence erupted in Bangui, the capital, with militia groups directly targeting MINUSCA forces and UN humanitarian agencies. This resulted in a lockdown of all UN and NGO personnel for a few days.

This violence hampers WFP's ability to bring food commodities to people in need, in a country where road conditions are already very poor. Despite the insecurity, WFP resumed its life-saving food assistance in Bangui.

Overall, WFP has reached over 332,000 people through general food distributions including Blanket Supplementary Feeding, nutrition and HIV/AIDS programs.

WFP plans to reach 622,566 people in November and December through General Food Distributions, School Meals, Nutrition and HIV/AIDS programs due to the closing of its warehouses on 18 December for end-of-year inventory.



C.A.R. Emergency Response

October

Despite the suspension of operations in Bangui due to hostilities by armed groups, WFP reached 330,676 beneficiaries with some 4,000 mt, covering 78 percent of the planned distributions across the country. Of these, 20,126 were children under 5 reached through Blanket Supplementary Feeding.

November

A joint November/December Distribution Plan has been developed and came into effect on 10 November 2014. However, active hostilities delayed the start of distributions in Bangui this month.

On 12 November, armed ex-Seleka rebels cantoned at Camp Beal in Bangui rioted against their poor living conditions, and against a government plan to relocate them out of the capital, amid rumours that they might also be forcibly disarmed. They threatened to detonate a stock of explosives and ammunition at camp Beal with an estimated blast radius extending to the WFP office, forcing staff to work from alternative locations. A 72-hour ultimatum

was given to the Government to address their demands. The situation has since calmed down, however there are still tensions in the area.

The distribution in Ndim, Ngaoundaye region of Ouham Pendé, was also disrupted by looting and stealing of WFP food stocked at the storage facilities of WFP partner Caritas Bouar. However, a new partnership is underway with IEDA Relief in Paoua and its northern counterpart, which will allow the WFP response to be boosted in the north-east region of Ouham Pendé.

The EFSA 2014 debriefing was held at WFP, reporting that 28 percent of the population is experiencing minimal food insecurity, 25 percent moderate and 3 percent severe food insecurity. There is a slight increase in food insecurity prevalence from last year's overall rate of 26 percent. A prefecture level analysis shows an alarming drop in the food security in Mambéré Kadei, Ouham Pendé and Nana Gribizi.

The November 2014 IPC analysis confirmed the EFSA results, indicating that 1,522,000 persons are suffering from moderate and severe food insecurity.

The preliminary results of the 2014 nutrition SMART survey suggest there is varying global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate from 3.3 to 8.4 percent amongst children under 5. The chronic malnutrition prevalence ranges from 17 to 54 percent. Seven prefectures – Kémo, Mambéré Kadei, Nana Mambéré, Ombella M’Poko, Ouham, Ouham Pendé and Sangha Mbaéré – exceed a 40 percent chronic rate.

Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) varies from 2.8 to 6.6 percent, whereas severe acute malnutrition (SAM) is estimated between 0.3 to 1.7 percent. The SMART survey does not currently point to a drastic increase in child malnutrition since the last study in 2012; however, it suggests an alarming level of mortality for children under 5, requiring further analysis of causes and effects.

C.A.R. Situation Update

The security situation in Bangui and outside continues to affect the completion of activities. Attacks on trucks loaded with the WFP food are increasingly frequent, particularly when trucks break down, which can occur frequently during the rainy season. It is also becoming increasingly alarming that humanitarian workers are now being targeted for ransom.

IEDA Relief has begun distribution in Paoua and its northern counterpart, which has boosted the WFP response in the northeast region of Ouham Pendé.

CERF proposals were sent to OCHA: USD 1.1 million for food security and USD 750,000 for nutrition. In addition, the Logistics Cluster and UNHAS sent appeals for funding, USD 600,000 and USD 1 million, respectively.

Cluster updates

Food Security Cluster: The results of the IPC report have been shared with the Government. Approximately 1.5 million people are food insecure – some 1.3 million people in the rural areas and 210,000 in the city of Bangui. Multi-sectorial monitoring has resumed at WFP sub-offices.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster: This month, ETC and UNDSS conducted a joint mission to Bossangoa to carry out maintenance of the radio room and to solve VHF network problems.

Logistics Cluster: The Logistics Cluster continues to ensure that there is strong coordination and information sharing on logistics issues with all Cluster partners.

The Logistics cluster has received USD 600,000 CERF funding to finance a road rehabilitation mobile unit.

The Logistics Cluster is currently partnering with ACT-ED to address urgent request for road or bridges repairs countrywide.

Spotlight:

Farming & families hit by insecurity

The Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) report (FAO/WFP), released in October, found that agriculture, the backbone of the economy, has contracted by 46 percent, compared to pre-crisis levels.

Livestock numbers are estimated to be down by as much as 77 percent, while the fish supply declined by about 40 percent.

Food reserves in rural areas are now around 40-50 percent lower than average levels, following recurring raids.

Families who have lost most of their productive assets and income due to the crisis are now forced to find other ways to acquire sufficient food for their families, including pulling their children out of schools (5 percent in 2013 against 11 percent in 2014).

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report of November 2014 found that over 1.5 million people are food insecure (32 percent of the population).

The lean season, when food from the last harvest begins to run out, is expected to begin as early as January 2015.

The C.A.R. situation cannot wait and requires continued food assistance to prevent hunger.



Ata Madeleine, a 48 year-old widow living in Bangui, in a camp for conflict-affected displaced persons "All I want is peace so that I can restart my farming activities and send back my children to school."

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