

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE – CAR SITUATION

17-23 AUGUST 2015

KEY FIGURES

109

Unaccompanied minors assisted by UNHCR

18,747

NFIs distributed since the beginning of the CAR emergency

88

SGBV survivors who have received support from UNHCR

FUNDING

USD 10,865,000
requested for
the operation

USD 2,110,000
received

PRIORITIES

- Operational priority 1 in the coming weeks: ensure registration and documentation of all CAR refugees
- Operational priority 2 in the coming weeks: lifesaving activities for CAR refugees living in northern Congo
- Operational priority 3 in the coming weeks: reduce exposition to SGBV, especially in camps
- Operational priority 4 in the coming weeks: reinforce assistance for education, including secondary education and vocational activities.



CAR WOMAN WHO BENEFITED FROM UNHCR'S MEDICAL CARE AND ASSISTANCE. SHE LEFT IMPFONDO TWO WEEKS AGO AS SHE WAS EVACUATED TO BRAZZAVILLE AND NOW MOVED BACK TO IMPFONDO/MULTIFONCTIONNAL TEAM AROUND HER. AUGUST 12, 2015

STATISTICS

137 CAR refugees were registered in Bétou areas and Brazzaville this week. The number of new arrivals, except for the regularization, is currently lower.

Up to **23 August 2015**, **29,884** CAR refugees were registered in the Republic of Congo, including **19,473** who arrived after 5 December 2013.

Statistics of the refugee population- 23 AUGUST 2015

Locality	31/12/2013	16/08/2015	Arrivals	23/08/2015
Betou	8,002	19,709	75	19,784
Impfondo	435	1,535	0	1,535
Brazzaville	1,547	7,159	62	7,221
Ouesso/Pokola	0	445	0	445
Pointe Noire	100	899	0	899
Total	10,084	29,747	137	29,884

In addition, 912 refugees were pre-registered by the immigration services of Betou but not yet registered in ProGres. This number has however to be re-assessed as it is expected that many of these individuals have then relocated to Brazzaville and were registered there while others may have returned to CAR.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

The biometric registration began on **August 17** in Brazzaville and will last on **September 1st** in the capital. Agents for the biometric registration operation are currently being trained by ICT officers in Bétou and Impfondo.

Statistics on Wednesday August 26

On a total number of 6,640 refugees who have been crosschecked, 1,491 are from CAR.

On a total number of 5,979 registered in Brazzaville, 1308 are from CAR.

The calendar for CAR refugees living in Brazzaville is from August 25 to September 1st 2015. Launch this week by UNHCR Betou of a mass awareness campaign through radio and press releases. The biometric operation is scheduled from **11 September to 19 October 2015** in Bétou areas.

UNCHR Brazzaville is also leading in parallel with the biometric registration, a data profiling operation of the Rwandan refugees. The purpose is to facilitate access to durable solutions, especially activities promoting their integration. We are expecting that this data profiling will allow us to plan better our activities for this population. The process includes selecting leaders or family members randomly and filling with them questionnaires which will then be studied for a better understanding and programming of activities. This complementary activity took place over three days in the capital: 21, 22 and 24 August.

Visit in Betou, Bouaniela, Epena and Liranga of the prefect of Likouala in the context of the national dialogue's conclusions. The authority will also visit all achievements of UNHCR in Betou areas.



The biometric registration operation started on Monday 17 August in Brazzaville. It mobilizes both UNHCR and CNAR protection staff but also other partners. Pictures: CAR families on Tuesday 25 August 2015

 Protection

Achievements and Impact

- Immigration services and CNAR Bétou proceeded to the regularization of 75 CAR refugees who arrived in July 2015. These 22 families were not able to be identified by the local authorities and UNHCR because they were staying incognito in the villages of Kpakaya and Bougoumba. Those CAR refugees came from the localities of Mbata and Mbaiki in Central African Republic.
- Near the borders with the Central African Republic, movements of CAR populations by small groups have been reported in the district of Enyelle. At Mougoungui, in the sub-prefecture of Enyelle, 31 persons of 13 families have been pre-registered by local authorities last week with the Committee of the village's assistance and the CNAR/Betou's watch. These families who arrived in last April 2015, come from Mbaiki and Bangandou, CAR localities and they informed they were living in fear for their safety. Today, the regularization of 71 persons from 23 families is under process in the next few days.
- SBVG case was reported at Mokabi, a case of sodomy on an adult CAR refugee. A military beat and sexually abused him. The survivor is currently admitted to health center for care. Another SGBV case was reported at Mouale: a CAR woman refugee has been sexually abused by a soldier. Affected by social stigma, the survivor left Mouale and UNHCR is following those situations. During the WFP distributions of food, awareness sessions on SGBV were held in St. Paul's Cathedral of Impfondo. On the 375 refugees who attended 83 are from CAR.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- At Thanry, Mouale and Mokabi, around 200 CAR children born in this town still do not have birth certificates. No significant progress: the situation in sub-prefecture of Betou, of CAR children who were born since 2013 to this day, still remains difficult too. CAR parents have problems to declare the births of their children. UNHCR should conduct more advocacy activities address to the authorities in order to reduce the risks of statelessness that these children are exposed.

 Health and nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's health partner TSF and UNFPA Bétou organized from 17 to 22 August 2015 a training session about reproductive health for their both staff. Many themes were developed including several components of reproductive health like family planning, sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS.



- After Impfondo last week, UNHCR Office Betou received from August 18 to August 25, UNHCR Public Health coordinator based in Brazzaville. Our colleague worked on making contact with the managers of health structures, CAR community leaders and local authorities. He also visited localities of Mouale/ Thanry/ Mokabi and acquaint himself with the difficult medical situation of CAR refugees over there.



CAR children suffering from malnutrition, severe cases of marasmus and kwashiorkor, Urni, Bétou.

- As part of the vaccination campaign against poliomyelitis in the District of Betou, health authorities in the locality have requested from the Betou's UNHCR office, logistical support to carry out this activity, which cares all children aged from 0 to 59 months, meaning less than five years. So, through health partner Terre Sans Frontières, UNHCR provided them with logistical support to cover the localities located on river and road routes including Ikpengbé.



CAR child suffering from severe malnutrition, Kwashiorkor disease, Moualé, August 2015, Pictures taken by Public Health Coordinator.



Focus group sessions with CAR refugees in order to collect informations on their health issues conducted by health teams in the field, Ikpengbele, August 12

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The mission from August 10 to August 25 of the UNHCR's Public Health Coordinator at Doungou's health station, Bétou areas and Impfondo's hospital highlighted the lack of human resources and medical equipment. Sick CAR refugees are facing health care issues especially on nights or weekends.
- During this week and the previous one, health activities have particularly decreased and had effect on awareness. Screening tests are not available in the whole country. Screening tests are currently conducting through UNFPA and unfortunately won't be available at Impfondo for example.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- The partner AARREC proceeded to the water chlorination for a total of 36 wells in the district of Betou Centre and the north since the arrival of the CAR refugees including thirteen (13) at the site of 15 Avril and five (05) at Ikpembelé. All wells are functional.
- At Ikpembele, the partner helped election of two (02) management committees of wells, twelve (12) members have been designated including 06 women.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- However with the extension of the site of 15 Avril and considering the arrival of new families, the number of wells is going to become insufficient and does not answer anymore the need for the concerned populations. 123 shelters where CAR refugees are living are under destruction.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- WFP and its partners launched the monthly food distribution for CAR refugee's communities in Bétou, Impfondo, Botéta, Bobonzo, Bokona, Gangania-rivière and Gangania-brousse. They distributed rice, peas, oil, and salt. WFP is also currently working on the nutritional aspect in refugee areas. Number of beneficiaries in the areas of Impfondo: 931 individuals of 351 CAR families. Here is the program distribution for CAR refugees : Rice (350g / day / 30 days) , peas (120g / day / 30 days) , oil (35 g / day / 30 days) ; salt (10g / day / 30 days) .
- At Ikpengbele, the current situation of many shelters in this site of refugee's resettlement remains worrying condition. Indeed, considering the arrival of new families, the number of wells is going to become insufficient and does not answer anymore the need for the concerned populations. 123 shelters where CAR refugees are living are under destruction.
- The construction works related to extension of the site 15 avril are still ongoing. Construction of six kitchens is also ongoing.
- Half of the streetlights are not functional at Ikpengbele and 15 Avril
- On the site 15 Avril, the partner AIRD constructed 171 shelters on the 254 initially planned. 200 shelters are covered with straw and 195shelters with doors / windows.
- We can also note recovery of NFIs distribution at Impfondo since last week after more than six months interruption. From 11 august au 16, 134 CAR families of 398 persons received in the north area, soap, mosquito nets, blankets...
- he site of 15 April , construction of 254 shelters it like this: However, it should be noted that the finalization of the construction of shelters depends on the result gave the development work of the new road , this requirement Authorities takes into account the portion of land to receive the remaining 54 shelters.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- With the arrival of new families and extension of the site 15 Avril, additional latrines units to cover the needs are requested in this area and also at Ikpengbele.
- Refugees would like to receive jerry cans with larger capacity for storing drinking water and other household needs.