

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

FEBRUARY 1, 2017

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**2.2 million**

People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance  
2017 Humanitarian Needs Overview

**434,000**

IDPs in CAR  
UN - November 2016

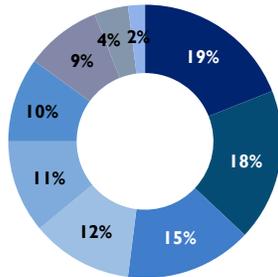
**45,400**

IDPs in Bangui Displacement Sites  
UN - October 2016

**461,700**

Central African Refugees in Neighboring Countries  
UN - December 2016

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2016



- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (19%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (18%)
- Health (15%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (12%)
- Shelter and Settlements (11%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (10%)
- Economic Recovery and Market Systems (9%)
- Protection (4%)
- Nutrition (2%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2016–2017



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (80%)
- Food Vouchers (20%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Tensions escalate in several prefectures, including Haute-Kotto
- Relief agencies mobilize assistance for conflict-affected people countrywide
- UN launches 2017–2019 HRP for CAR, requesting nearly \$400 million to reach 1.6 million vulnerable people

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017

USAID/OFDA	\$27,993,157
USAID/FFP	\$78,904,461
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$35,598,181
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$142,495,799</b>

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In recent weeks, fighting between armed actors has displaced populations and generated additional humanitarian needs among communities in areas of Central African Republic (CAR), such as Haute-Kotto and Ouaka prefectures. Despite continued insecurity and tensions in the affected areas, USAID-supported organizations and other response actors are conducting needs assessments and providing basic relief items, food supplies, health care services, protection support, shelter materials, and other emergency assistance.
- Violence among armed actors and against civilians and humanitarian workers remains an issue in CAR. Since late December 2016, relief agencies have recorded attacks against internally displaced persons (IDPs), aid workers, and UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) peacekeepers in areas countrywide.
- To date in FY 2017, USAID/FFP has provided the UN World Food Program (WFP) nearly \$29 million to address the emergency food needs of conflict-affected Central Africans within CAR and displaced to neighboring countries.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## **INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS**

- The situation in Haute-Kotto's Bria town calmed following late-November 2016 clashes between armed actors—reportedly different factions of the ex-Séléka group. The violence resulted in at least 85 civilian deaths, injured more than 75 people, and displaced more than 12,800 people to nearby areas, the UN reports. While economic activity resumed and MINUSCA troops were present in Bria as of mid-December, humanitarian access to some areas of the town remained constrained. Several high-level UN officials, including the UN Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide, released statements condemning the attacks and expressing concern regarding the violence in Bria, particularly given reports of ethnic or religious targeting and barriers to humanitarian access. Since September 2016, conflict in Bria has displaced more than 18,000 people, according to the UN.
- Armed violence in Nana-Grébizi Prefecture's Mbrés town is exacerbating humanitarian needs in the area, the UN reports. Late-December clashes displaced an unverified number of people in Mbrés and surrounding villages; an interagency team subsequently assessed humanitarian conditions to determine the number of new IDPs and priority needs. Preliminary findings indicated education-related challenges, including the occupation of school buildings by armed actors, preventing rehabilitation of the buildings and resumption of classes.
- An unidentified group of armed actors ambushed a MINUSCA convoy in a remote area of Haut-Mbomou Prefecture on January 3, resulting in the deaths of two peacekeepers and injuries to two others, according to the UN. International media reported an additional attack on MINUSCA peacekeepers in Ouham-Pendé Prefecture on January 5, which resulted in at least one death. The UN Security Council subsequently condemned the violence, underscoring the UN mission's role in protecting civilian populations.
- On January 5, clashes between two armed groups in Ouham-Pendé Prefecture's Santoine town, near the prefecture's Bocaranga town, resulted in at least 35 deaths, according to the UN. In addition, one of the groups briefly took approximately 200 people hostage in Ouham-Pendé's Kouï town. While the situation has calmed, relief actors report an increase in the presence of armed elements in Kouï and along the main roads near both Bocaranga and Kouï. Humanitarian access to Bocaranga remained possible as of mid-January; however, the UN notes that the uncertain security situation is likely to slow ongoing IDP returns in these areas.
- On January 25, UN Acting Humanitarian Coordinator (A/HC) for CAR Michel Yao publicly appealed for calm amid rising tensions in and around Bambari town, Ouaka Prefecture. Armed elements have reportedly continued to gather in the town in recent weeks, prompting fears of renewed violence. The town has a population of approximately 42,000 people and hosts more than 26,000 IDPs, including at least 300 new IDPs who recently arrived from villages along the road between Bambari, Bria, and Ouaka's Ippy town. A/HC Yao called on armed groups to avoid clashes that could adversely affect civilians and to allow humanitarian assistance to reach people in need.
- Assailants killed at least five humanitarian workers in CAR from January–December 2016, with a total of 24 aid workers killed in the country since 2013, the UN reports. In total, there were 365 attacks against humanitarians in CAR during 2016, the majority of which were looting and burglaries. In late December, the UN publicly expressed concern over the targeting of humanitarian actors and assets in CAR. The targeting, along with limited funding for emergency response activities, has hampered access to conflict-affected and other vulnerable populations in the country.

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## **FOOD SECURITY**

- In recent weeks, relief organizations have reported concerns of increased food insecurity among Central African refugees residing in Cameroon. Through its regional emergency operation for the CAR crisis, WFP reached more than 180,600 Central African refugees in Cameroon with food assistance during November, and reports plans to further scale up nutrition interventions while continuing to provide general food distributions and cash-based transfers. Emergency food needs also remain a concern among IDPs and other conflict-affected people within CAR, where funding shortfalls and limited supplies have prompted WFP to reduce food ration sizes and to consider additional scaling back of in-country operations. The UN agency recently called upon international humanitarian donors to increase assistance for the CAR response.

- USAID/FFP has provided WFP a total of \$29 million in FY 2017 funding to address the emergency food needs of conflict-affected people within CAR and displaced to neighboring countries. With nearly \$12 million in USAID/FFP funding, WFP plans to distribute approximately 7,020 metric tons (MT) of in-kind food assistance to food-insecure individuals in CAR. The UN agency also plans to provide approximately 7,840 MT of in-kind food supplies—valued at nearly \$10 million—to Central African refugees in Cameroon and an additional 540 MT of in-kind food—an estimated value of \$975,800—to Central African refugees in the Republic of the Congo. USAID/FFP contributed an additional \$6 million to WFP to support 55,000 Central African refugees across three camps in Democratic Republic of the Congo with cash transfers and food vouchers, including through cash-for-assets activities to help rebuild livelihoods.

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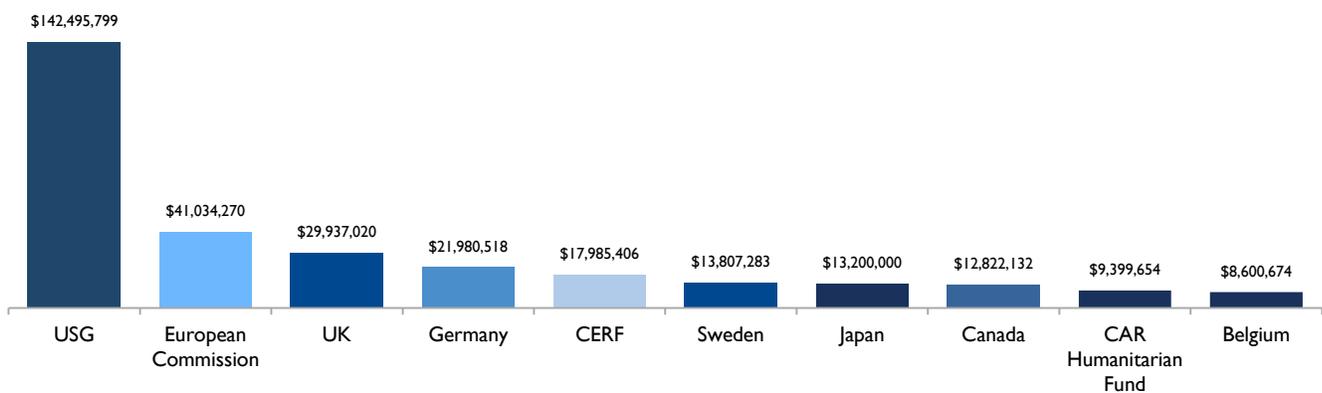
## SHELTER & SETTLEMENTS AND RELIEF ASSISTANCE

- Following the escalation of violence in Bria, relief agencies scaled up response efforts to address emerging humanitarian needs in the town and nearby areas. A late-November rapid needs assessment identified health and protection assistance as priority concerns among recently displaced people. International Medical Corps (IMC) and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) coordinated to provide emergency medical and nutrition assistance at Bria’s main hospital and through mobile clinics in various areas of the town. USAID/OFDA partner the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) conducted a rapid distribution of emergency relief commodity kits to 4,900 conflict-affected individuals in Bria.
- MINUSCA, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and other response actors addressed critical shelter needs by improving available infrastructure and establishing collective tents for IDPs. As of mid-December, some IDPs were sheltering in UN-provided tents, while others had established their own shelters with materials provided by the relief actors. UN agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including USAID partners, provided shelter materials and other support to establish a new displacement site. Relief actors were also providing food; health; nutrition; protection; and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance at the new IDP site. Oxfam installed water infrastructure, conducted water chlorination, and facilitated hygiene promotion at the site and in other areas of Bria. IMC, MSF, and Oxfam conducted advocacy and case management activities in response to gender-based violence at the site, and a local NGO was providing family reunification and other protection services for IDP children. Relief actors distributed 21 MT of WFP-provided emergency food supplies sufficient for five days at the site.
- As of January 15, approximately 17,150 IDPs had vacated a displacement site at Ombella-M’poko Prefecture’s M’Poko International Airport since the Government of CAR (CARG) began the process of closing the site in December 2016, the UN reports. With cash assistance from the CARG, the majority of IDPs have returned to areas of origins or other nearby locations in CAR’s capital city of Bangui and its suburbs. Although the CARG had intended to complete closure of the M’Poko site by late January, the UN estimates that approximately 14,000 IDPs were still residing at the site as of January 23. According to a humanitarian agency monitoring the situation in areas of return, many IDPs returning to Bangui’s *Pointe Kilométrique 5* neighborhood found their houses damaged, destroyed, or occupied during their absence, prompting an unknown number to seek shelter elsewhere in and around Bangui. The UN also reports that criminal activities by a newly formed armed group in Bangui’s 3rd District are hampering returns to that area.
- With USAID/OFDA assistance, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) is supporting shelter rehabilitation for some M’poko IDPs returning to Bangui neighborhoods. In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1 million to ACTED to support shelter, agriculture, and food security interventions in CAR.
- In recent weeks, more than 4,080 IDPs in Nana-Grébizi’s Kaga-Bandoro town have voluntarily departed an ad hoc IDP site at a MINUSCA base for areas of origin, and an additional 100 IDPs have voluntarily moved to a newly established IDP site outside the town, the UN reports. Relief agencies—including USAID/OFDA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM)—are supporting returns to neighborhoods of origin within Kaga-Bandoro through cash-for-work rehabilitation of houses. October 2016 violence in the town destroyed approximately 25 percent of all houses and partially damaged approximately 50 percent of houses. In late November, the UN reported that insecurity and violence in Kaga-Bandoro, as well as flooding in surrounding areas, had prompted approximately 19,000 new IDPs to arrive in the town during preceding weeks. The UN reports that further improvements in the security situation in Kaga-Bandoro and neighboring areas could encourage additional returns.

## OTHER ASSISTANCE

- Following an international donor pledging conference to address emergency and longer-term recover needs in CAR, the UN launched the 2017–2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for the country in mid-November 2016. The multi-year plan appeals for nearly \$400 million to address critical food, shelter, WASH, and other humanitarian needs of approximately 1.6 million people countrywide. The 2016 HRP had received approximately \$197 million, or 43 percent of the original request as of January 31, according to the UN.
- On January 31, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support sudden-onset and underfunded emergencies—allocated approximately \$6 million to support 36,800 food-insecure people in Bambari, Bria, and Kaga-Bandoro. With CERF funding, WFP plans to provide life-saving food assistance to populations, primarily newly displaced people, in the three towns over a four-month period.

### 2016–2017 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of February 1, 2017. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year. However, U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments from FY 2016 and FY 2017, which respectively began on October 1, 2015 and October 1, 2016. USG funding addresses needs both within CAR and among Central African refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

## CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance began to advance across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence. Security conditions in CAR further deteriorated on December 5, 2013, when clashes erupted between militants associated with the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups, composed of armed fighters that opposed ex-Séléka forces.
- Following a transitional government period, CAR held presidential elections in December 2015 and February 2016—electing Faustin-Archange Touadéra as president. President Touadéra assumed the office of the presidency on March 30, 2016.
- As of September, the security situation throughout CAR remained volatile, with continuing attacks against civilians, humanitarian workers, and peacekeeping forces. While relief agencies are working to assist conflict-affected populations, ongoing insecurity and logistics constraints impede humanitarian operations, particularly in more remote areas of CAR.
- On October 12, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Jeffrey J. Hawkins reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2017 due to the scale of current and projected humanitarian needs in the country.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017<sup>1</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	7,020 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for General Food Distribution	Countrywide	\$11,994,298
	7,840 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for Distribution to Central African Refugees	Cameroon	\$9,989,864
	Cash and Voucher Assistance for Central African Refugees	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$6,000,000
	540 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for Distribution to Central African Refugees	Republic of the Congo	\$975,827
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$28,959,989</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>			<b>\$28,959,989</b>

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2016**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Action Contre La Faim (ACF)	Health	Kémo	\$515,000
ACTED	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements	Bangui, Ouaka	\$1,050,000
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), WASH	Ouaka	\$1,655,771
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Shelter and Settlements	Ouaka	\$850,352
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,750,000
Handicap International	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$366,500
IMC	Health, Nutrition	Ouham, Vakaga	\$1,900,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
IOM	ERMS, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Bamingui-Bangoran, Lobaye, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$2,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Health, Protection	Kémo, Nana-Grébizi, Ouham-Pendé	\$2,000,000
Mentor Initiative	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$800,000
Mercy Corps	ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Ouaka	\$1,000,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bangui, Kémo, Mambéré-Kadéi	\$1,000,000

OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Oxfam	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Ouham-Pendé	\$600,000
Plan International	ERMS	Lobaye	\$342,555
Première Urgence	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Kémo, Mambéré-Kadéi, Sangha-Mbaéré	\$1,300,000
Tearfund	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Lobaye	\$884,858
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$1,970,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
World Vision	WASH	Lobaye, Ombella-M'Poko	\$900,000
	Program Support		\$108,121
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$27,993,157</b>
<b>USAID/FFP</b>			
UNICEF	Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food	Countrywide	\$1,807,000
	12,690 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for General Food Distribution	Countrywide	\$24,134,663
	9,750 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for Distribution to Central African Refugees	Cameroon	\$11,636,771
	Cash and Voucher Assistance for Central African Refugees	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$5,500,000
WFP	Cash and Voucher Assistance for Central African Refugees	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$4,500,000
	610 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for Distribution to Central African Refugees	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$1,448,554
	510 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for Distribution to Central African Refugees	Republic of the Congo	\$917,484
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$49,944,472</b>
<b>State/PRM</b>			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance for Conflict Victims, IDPs, and Refugees	CAR	\$10,100,000
CRS, IMC, Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Cameroon	\$3,437,326
LWF	Livelihoods	Chad	\$990,855
ACTED, Première Urgence, Search for Common Ground (SFCG)	Livelihoods, Protection, WASH	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$3,510,000
	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	CAR	\$500,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$600,000
	Refugee Participation in CAR Elections	Cameroon, Chad, Republic of the Congo	\$460,000
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Refugees	CAR	\$9,900,000

	Multi-Sectoral Assistance	Republic of the Congo	\$6,100,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$35,598,181</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>			<b>\$113,535,810</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017</b>			<b>\$142,495,799</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of February 1, 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement, subject to change.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>