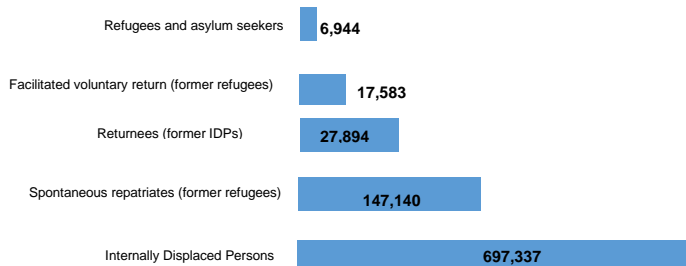


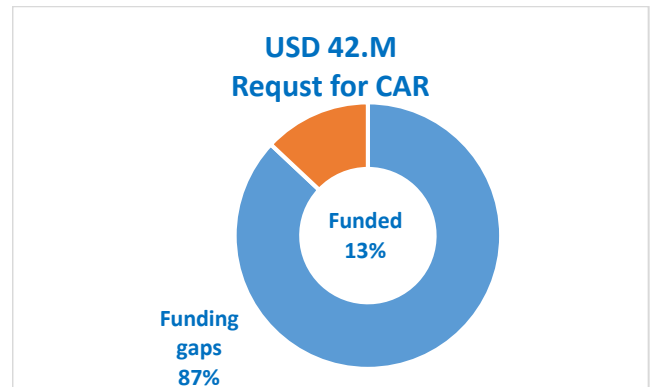
JUIN 2020

## TARGET POPULATION

**TOTAL: 896 898 persons**



## FUNDING SITUATION (APRIL 2020)



## UNHCR PRESENCE

**Staff: 148**

National Staff: 110

National UNV: 4

International Staff: 26

International UNV: 08

**Offices: 9**

1 Branch Office in Bangui

1 Sub Office in Bouar

6 Field Offices in Bambari, Kaga-Bandoro, Mongoumba, Obo Paoua and Berberati

1 field unit in Bria



Photo taken by UNHCR during the distribution of soap in Obo to refugees.

## Partners

- 4 Ministries: (i) Internal Affairs and Public Security, (ii) Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation, (iii) Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Cooperation, (iv) Development and Town Planning.
- 2 Government Partners: **La CNR** (National Commission for Refugees): Protection and search for durable solutions for refugees in the Central African Republic of Bimbo (Bangui) and Obo.
- **PARET** (Return and Reintegration Support Project in the Central African Republic): For capacité building of local administrative authorities, peace education, social cohesion and land, housing and property restrictions in Bouar and Berberati, Lobaye, Bimbo (Bangui), Bambari, Kaga-Bandoro.

06 NGO Partners: ASA (Africa Relief and Assistance): For Protection monitoring, prevention and response to protection incidents including GBV and community mobilization, in Bouar, Berberati, Lobay, Bimbo (Bangui), Alindao, Bangassou;

**AIRD** (African Initiative of Relief and Development): Logistical support for the operation, maintenance and repair of UNHCR equipment, warehouse management, in Bouar, Berberati, Lobaye, Bimbo (Bangui), Obo, Kag-Bandoro, Paoua.

**INTERSOS**: Protection monitoring, prevention and response to protection incidents including GBV and CCCM, community mobilization. It intervenes in the following areas: Bambari, Bria, Ndele, Kaga-Bandoro, Sibut, Ouham, Paoua;

**NRC** (Norwegian Refugee Council): Land and Property Housing Project, Community Reconciliation in Bouar Capacity building of local administrative authorities, peace education, social cohesion and restriction of housing, land and property. It operates in the locality of: Berberati and Bambari.

**FLM** (Fédération Luthérienne Mondiale), Support for the self-construction of shelters for returnees and displaced returnees, social cohesion and community reconciliation in Bouar and Berberati.

**NOURRIR**: Rehabilitation of school, health and community infrastructure in areas of return in Bimbo (Bangui).

- 3 clusters dirigés par le HCR en RCA : Protection, Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM), and Non-Food Items/Shelter.
- Partnership with UNDP and the Government in the search for durable solutions for displaced persons and returnees in CAR with the involvement of humanitarian partners and early recovery/development actors as well as MINUSCA.
- In harmonizing its activities with the National Plan for the Recovery and Consolidation of Peace (RCPCA), UNHCR supports the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation in its work on peaceful coexistence and conflict resolution as well as social cohesion.

## Principales activités :

### Protection



CAR hosts 6,945 refugees and asylum seekers on its soil. The latter come from 16 different nationalities and live in both urban (2,186) and rural areas (5,271). The UNHCR works in collaboration with the National Refugee Commission (CNR) to produce their biometric identification document, as well as for their protection.

- In 2019, 142 cases of GBV (131 women and 11 men) were identified and documented in Obo and Zemio. In view of the increase in GBV cases in the community, UNHCR has set up and reactivated referral channels in Obo and Zemio. This circuit makes it possible to take care of the different cases referred by partners and members of the GBV Working Group.
- Capacity-building sessions for members are conducted by UNHCR and its partners. For example, 50 GBV survivors were assisted by UNHCR and its partner ASA in Obo. These survivors benefited from IGA support for their social reintegration.
- However, in the CAR, since 14 March 2020, the first case of Covid19 has been confirmed. Until the end of June 2020, the number of confirmed cases was 2963, including 30 deaths and 495 cured. These cases are both local contaminations and imported from Bangui into the interior of the country. To date, no cases of POC contamination have been reported.
- To this end, UNHCR and its partners have made arrangements to continue to have access to the persons concerned (refugees, returnees and IDPs). Although measures have been taken to prevent the spread of the

virus among PoCs by establishing and strengthening a prevention mechanism (hand washing, pandemic awareness and barrier measures on social and physical distancing).

- UNHCR and its partners are working to strengthen effective prevention and response measures, particularly in IDP sites as well as in the refugee camp. In case of confinement or teleworking, UNHCR staff and partners will manage POCs remotely in close collaboration with the NRC. Thus, to facilitate social and physical distance, UNHCR is working to establish an open green line to facilitate direct communication with refugees. It should be noted that the response strategy for COVID-19 in relation to refugees consists of integrating them into the government response plan. UNHCR and the CNR will ensure that refugees are not discriminated against in the awareness and prevention activities and in the response activities to Covid-19 put in place by the Central African Government

In response to the pandemic, the Government of the Central African Republic has taken a number of measures aimed at reducing the spread of the epidemic, preventing cases and dealing with cases already reported. These measures include a ban on mass gatherings, closure of certain public areas, closure of schools, prohibition of religious gatherings, containment of passengers from countries with local transmission, quarantine of reported cases and suspension of flights from certain countries. Refugees and other persons of concern to UNHCR are also subject to all these general measures. In view of the rapid rise of positive cases of coronavirus, the President of the Republic decrees the compulsory wearing of masks in public places. To this end, the Central African government passed a resolution on 3 June 2020 to produce 10 million handmade masks that will be distributed to the population.

In response to the Covid-19 crisis, UNHCR/RCA is working in coordination with humanitarian agencies, the Ministry of Health and the various crisis committees within the country.

- For persons of concern, UNHCR disbursed US\$ 909,441 for the purchase of hygiene equipment, which is distributed to POCs, at strategic points, health districts and local authorities. These distributions are crowned with awareness raising on barrier measures against Covid-19.
- In order to facilitate social and physical removal, UNHCR is working to establish a green line to facilitate direct communication with refugees - pending final agreement with national authorities.

In view of the rapid evolution of the pandemic, the HCT agreed to intensify the response across the country, it was decided to establish six (6) isolation centers and six (6) treatment centers respectively across the main road from Bangui to Beloko with the support of UNHCR which will provide a number of rapid accommodation units and expertise for the design and site planning of these centers in cooperation with WHO and OCHA.

To support the government's efforts in the fight against the Covid19 pandemic, the humanitarian coordinator, Denise Brown, allocated on Wednesday 6 May 2020 in Bangui, 12 million US dollars, i.e. more than six billion CFA francs from the humanitarian fund to support the emergency multisectoral response with the priorities of the 2020 humanitarian response plan.

Humanitarian actors will intervene in a collaborative manner within the framework of the clusters under the lead of the health cluster with WHO as the lead agency.

- Despite all the measures taken against covid-19 in the CAR, the government is easing certain restrictions, in particular the gradual opening of places of worship and the airport, while at the same time obliging compliance with the measures enacted, in particular the compulsory wearing of masks, respect for physical distance for places of worship.

### **Food security**

Since January 2020, UNHCR, through its financial service provider Ecobank, has been distributing cash as compensation for three months' worth of food to more than 2,080 refugees living in Obo. These are Southern Sudanese Congolese refugees, including people with special needs (PBS). Due to logistical and security constraints, WFP was unable to provide food to the refugees. UNHCR made up for this shortfall by distributing cash to supplement the partial rations provided by WFP. An amount of 9,000 F CFA is granted to each refugee

through the financial service provider as well as a nutritional supplement of 6,000 F CFA at 428 to each PBS. A total of CFAF 50 million (\$85,000) has been distributed.

To better prepare refugees to cope with the VIDOC pandemic,<sup>19</sup> UNHCR provided multiple cash assistance to urban and rural refugees. The 2,211 urban refugees in Bangui received a cash transfer worth 15,000 CFA francs, or US\$25 for households of 1 to 3 persons, and 20,000 CFA francs, or US\$33 for households of more than 3 persons, for the purchase of handwashing kits. This makes a total of 13,560,000 CFA francs, or US\$22,413.29.

## **Health**

- UNHCR, in accordance with its policy, encourages the inclusion of refugees in the national system and facilitates the care of refugees at Obo Hospital. UNHCR supports the hospital through the provision of medicines. For example, in 2019, UNHCR supplied Obo hospital with 400 kg of medicines. To increase the capacity to take in refugees, UNHCR has built a hospital building in Obo district. It consists of a pavilion with two surgical wards, two intensive care units and two doctors' offices. From 2019, UNHCR has covered the costs of consultations and medicines for refugees who are treated at the Obo hospital. A total of 3,208 consultations and treatment were covered by UNHCR; 248 refugees living with HIV/AIDS also receive ARVs and nutritional supplements.

UNHCR is seeking funding to address refugee health issues. In 2019, it received UBRAF (Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework) funding of USD 35,000 for the implementation of HIV activities for refugees in Obo, Bambari, Bangui, Begoua, and Bimbo during 2020. Prior to the crisis, UNHCR, UNAIDS and IOM were to carry out joint missions to launch the project and monitor activities, which in the long term may contribute to strengthening the quality of treatment and care for PVVIH refugees. UNHCR advocated with WHO and health NGOs for the health care of IDPs with special needs.

- In the Covid-19 context, UNHCR actively participates in advocacy and decision-making activities, together with the crisis committees set up by the Government of the Central African Republic. To support the response to Covid-19, UNHCR, with technical assistance from WHO for the design of the isolation centers, dispatched 27 RHUs, including tarpaulins, hand-washing kits and soap, in Bambari, Berberati, Bouar, Obo, Kaga-Bandero, Bangui, in the Lobaye, Birao, Paoua and Bria. A vehicle was also handed over to the health district of Obo to serve as an ambulance.
- Thus, to support the government in the fight against Covid-19, UNHCR has temporarily made available its two transit centers in Beloko (Bouar) and Berberati as an isolation and treatment center for COVID-19 patients. With a total capacity of 800 beds. The UNHCR, through its partner PARET, is providing these centers with food, drinking water, electricity, hygiene kits, security of the center, etc. The center has a total capacity of 800 beds.

## **NFI& Shelter/ Camp Coordination and management**

- In Birao, UNHCR was on the ground from the very beginning of the crisis and was able to conduct several needs assessments on CCCM/Shelter/NFI and Protection. A total of 9,824 persons in 2158 households are registered at the two UNMISCA and Airfield sites. Requirements for site management, shelter availability and basic necessities are noted. 2,325 kits consisting of mosquito nets and tarpaulins have been distributed by RRM actors.
- UNHCR has begun site coordination and management activities. Thus, site management mechanisms with 01 Steering Committee and 06 Sectoral Committees have been set up in each site. This makes a total of 82 Executive Office members.
- Given the current conflicts in the town of Ndele, it is impossible to transport food and NFIs by road. All humanitarian aid is flown in through the Logistics Cluster. Due to logistical problems, the risk of flooding and the security situation, the authorities have proposed the relocation of IDPs from the UNMISCA site, which is being developed by UNHCR with the support of the MINUSCA.

- UNHCR has stockpiled NFI kits which are gradually being distributed to 2,384 displaced households at the UNMISCA and Airfield sites. It also plans to pre-position 2,000 emergency shelter kits in Birao to respond to a possible influx of IDPs and/or refugees. More than 10 community shelters will be built to accommodate spontaneous arrivals.
- It should also be noted that IDPs in some sites, notably in the communes of Bambari and Kaga-Bandoro, have expressed the wish to return to their localities of origin. Under the leadership of the Sustainable Solutions Working Group and the CCCM in close collaboration with the authorities, discussions are underway to examine ways and means of supporting this return.
- Under the CCCM, about 48 of the 119 IDP sites do not have specialized camp managers. Due to the lack of capacity of other actors, UNHCR will position itself to cover these sites in order to carry out activities related to COVID 19 and to limit the risks of spread of the virus. Discussions are ongoing with implementing partners and OCHA in this regard. In addition, in addition to setting up hand-washing mechanisms in the covered sites, UNHCR has distributed additional plastic sheeting and kits to decongest IDPs and increase opportunities for social and physical distancing within IDP sites. Families of more than seven people, families with disabled and/or elderly people over 60 years of age and polygamous families are prioritized to receive this assistance.
- To limit the spread of Covid-19, UNHCR continues to increase awareness-raising campaigns at sites and in the refugee camp on barrier measures, through posters, screenings, spots broadcast in national languages, on UNHCR-funded community radio stations and the establishment of hand-washing facilities at strategic points in IDP sites and in the refugee camp.
- In Covid-19 prevention, UNHCR received funding of US\$693,000 to address a number of shelter/NFI MCCC needs. With this funding, it is planned to purchase 36 tons of soap and 300,000 masks to be made available to its POCs and host populations in CAR in the prevention of Covid-19 in CAR. However, in the areas of Carnot, Berberati, Wapo, Babaza and Nassole, UNHCR is undertaking the construction of 150 shelters by its LWF partner as well as the construction of 6 isolation and treatment sheds in Gamboula and Berberati.

#### **WASH :**

In Birao, on the Munisca site, the daily supply of drinking water to the IDPs is done via 2 walkways connected by distribution ramps. The operationalization of a total of 16 toilet blocks are the households of the IDPs are sensitized for the use of the sanitation and hygiene structures put at their disposal. In the other field offices, UNHCR has placed hand-washing kits in strategic locations to minimize the risk of contamination of covid-19.

#### **Education**

- To improve refugees' access to school, UNHCR has begun construction of two new schools in Obo by partner agency AIRD in 2019. The first one was financed with own funds. It is a building of six (06) classrooms, one (01) administrative block and two (02) latrine blocks. This school is fully equipped. All that remains is the technical reception so that it can be officially handed over to the authorities and the pupils can integrate it. The second school was financed by ECW (Education Cannot Wait). It is a school of five (05) classrooms, one (01) administrative block and two (02) latrine blocks. The school is still under construction. It is expected to be completed in the year 2020. Once completed, the two schools are expected to relieve primary level classrooms by reducing the number of pupils per class to a reasonable level. This will have a positive impact on teachers' individual monitoring of pupils and thus improve their academic performance.
- In the Lobaye prefectures, UNHCR has built 08 schools to facilitate the reintegration of returnees, notably in the Lobaye prefecture, and a school of 03 classrooms is being built in Berberati by UNHCR's partner NOURRIR.

Since 2019, with the implementation of cash, UNHCR continues to finance school fees and school kits for refugee primary and secondary school students residing in Obo in cash, through the financial service provider (ECOBANK). A total of 469 (435 primary and 34 secondary) refugee students benefited from a



cash distribution to support their education in 2019 and 300 students in 2020. This support has relieved the pressure on parents and refugee students to have the materials required for easier learning by children.

- Thus, 36 young refugees (including 07 girls) from southern Sudan were trained in the use of computer tools in Obo. At the end of the training, certificates were awarded to the trainees. This will enable them to have access to computer tools for their intellectual development.
- With the arrival of Covid,19 one of the Government's restrictions to limit the transmission of the virus was the suspension of classes throughout the country. For the time being, UNICEF and the Government of CAR are in talks to launch radio programmes to broadcast lessons for the basic and secondary levels. UNHCR will ensure that refugee children are included in this programme, both in Bangui and Obo. Course broadcasting equipment (radios, batteries, solar panels) will also benefit the refugee population.

### **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance**

In Obo, with a view to empowering and integrating these refugees into the host community, UNHCR has opted to support them through the implementation of income-generating activities. Sixty-five groups (65) of southern Sudanese refugees alone have been set up and trained in income-generating activity management techniques. It should also be noted that the local authorities have made a cultivable area available to the refugees. However, work could not be carried out on this space due to a lack of inputs.

In Berberati, UNHCR, through its partner PARET, continues to monitor and build the capacity of beneficiary groups in IGA. During the month of May, five groups were presented with their activities, namely the following groups: Berkane, Islamic Women's Association, Horoudjafoun Commune Association, United Hearts Association and Junior Enterprise Association.

### **Le rapatriement volontaire**

- Due to the Covid-19 crisis, UNHCR suspended the voluntary repatriation of Central African refugees to countries of asylum. Prior to the suspension of repatriation, UNHCR had facilitated the return of 1,099 Central African refugees since the beginning of 2020 to the Bangui regions and the prefectures of Lobaye, Ombella-M'poko, Kémo, Nana-Mambéré, Mambéré Kadéi and Sangha-Mbaéré, where security has improved over the past two years. UNHCR continues to register an increasing number of refugees in countries of asylum who express their intention to return to the CAR.
- In view of the still fragile security situation in the areas of Bamingui-Bangoran, Ouham, Ouham-Pende, Nangribizi and Lower Kotto, candidates from these prefectures are not included in the return convoys. A period of security assessment observation in these areas will be agreed prior to their repatriation being organized by UNHCR.
- In 2019, UNHCR, in order to facilitate the voluntary return in safety and dignity of Central African refugees, signed 03 tripartite agreements with the Governments of CAR, Cameroon (29 June), the Democratic Republic of Congo (5 July) and the Republic of Congo (6 August).
- According to plans for 2020, UNHCR plans to facilitate the return of 25,000 Central African refugees in exile to neighbouring countries: (Cameroon 10,000, DRC 10,000, Republic of Congo 3000 and Chad 2000). As of 28 February 2020, UNHCR-CAR had facilitated the voluntary return of a total of 17,583 people.
- Despite the suspension of voluntary repatriation, linked to Covid-19, reintegration activities continue on the ground (construction of basic social infrastructure by implementing partners) in areas of return. Similarly, protection monitoring continues in the areas of return in order to monitor the reintegration conditions of returnees and document protection incidents against them (analysis of the protection situation in the areas of return). On the other hand, the inability to organize large-scale meetings, awareness-raising or training activities with local authorities and communities in the areas of return significantly hampers social cohesion and national reconciliation activities, as well as anti-trafficking activities.

- Within the framework of the UNHCR-facilitated reintegration of returnees in CAR, returnees are assisted on a community and individual basis. At the community level, in the prefectures of the Lobaye, where more than 8740 facilitated returnees have been registered, UNHCR has built various infrastructures, including 08 schools, a sports centre for young people. The market and the vocational training centre are under construction and the hospital is being refurbished.
- In Nana-Mambere, Mambere-Kadei, Bouar, Baboua, Berberati and Carnot, local peace and reconciliation committees and listening centres are being built.
  - UNHCR, through its partners, has grouped the returnees in the form of agricultural cooperatives in the Lobaye by granting them 40 hectares of cultivable land and seeds. On an individual basis, the returnees receive cash grants and assistance with materials (cement and sheet metal) for the construction of their houses. The most vulnerable are assisted by the shelter committee.
- In 2019 UNHCR subsidized 407 returnees in cash for self-construction. In January 2020, 265 people in Mongoumba, Batalimo, Mbata, Bouchia, Bale-Loko and Mbaiki localities benefited from the construction materials (cement and sheet metal), as well as the second cash instalment, which enabled them to build their homes.
- UNHCR is also working with national judicial authorities to facilitate the recovery of land, housing and other property left behind by refugees fleeing their homes. It is also strengthening protection monitoring in areas of return to ensure the effective enjoyment of returnees' rights. It addresses in a holistic manner possible cases of gender-based sexual violence and other protection cases.

### Statelessness

- As a reminder, in November 2019 the CAR Government, with the support of UNHCR, validated the National Plan of Action for the Eradication of Statelessness in the Central African Republic. This plan is based on five main axes: accession to the two United Nations International Conventions on statelessness of 1954 and 1961, the integration of international standards into national law on nationality, the identification of the causes and persons at risk of statelessness, the strengthening of the institutional and administrative framework to ensure access to legal identity documents, and finally, the establishment of the mechanism for implementing and monitoring the Plan of Action.
- Following the validation of the National Plan of Action for the Eradication of Statelessness in the Central African Republic in January 2020, UNHCR, in collaboration with the CNR, initiated an activity for the issuance of birth certificates for repatriated children in the Lobaye prefecture, particularly in the locality of Mbaïki and neighbouring villages. A total of 861 substitute judgements have been handed down in favour of 861 repatriated children and 61 birth certificates have been issued for an initial phase. These judgements were intended to make it possible to issue 861 birth certificates to the said children. However, UNHCR -RCA continues to work on this large-scale project which should cover the whole of Lobaye, Bangui and later the prefectures of Nana-Mambéré and Mambere-Kadei.
- Despite the impact of Covid,19 UNHCR, with the support of its partners, continues to operate with strict adherence to barrier measures. In Mbaïki, its partner CNR, 540 birth certificates were issued to returnee children living in this locality.

### Logistics

UNHCR, despite its logistical deficit, lends vehicles to its implementing partners to access POCs in order to provide them with the necessary assistance at the right time.

For example, to facilitate the movement of its staff, UNHCR works with the United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS), which serves the reception areas of IDP sites and the refugee camp.

During the reference period, supply remains difficult because the country is a landlocked country. This has led to delays in the delivery of equipment, particularly in this period when the rainy season has already started.

### **Main challenges :**

- Lack of basic essential services in most return communities.
- The underfunding of programmes, namely: Income Generating Activities (IGA), Housing, Land and Property (LTB), Education, Water.
- The reduced presence of humanitarian and development actors in some localities.
- Lack of logistical means for the Volrep.
- Advocacy for the acceleration of the DDDR process throughout the country ;
- Advocacy with leaders of armed groups for the respect of human rights;
- Advocacy for the reinforcement of UNMISCA patrols on the Kaga-Bandoro axes and around IDP sites.
- Intensify awareness-raising sessions on human rights.

### **Ressources Gap**

The UNHCR is seeking additional funds has only been able to mobilize 1.6 million US dollars out of the provisional budget of 8.7 million US dollars or about 50 billion CFA francs to assist those who fall under its mandate, namely refugees and internally displaced persons. This fund is intended to fight against covid-19, assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons and other multifaceted support for the benefit of people whose protection mandate is the responsibility of the UNHCR.

### **Financial Information**

Le HCR est reconnaissant pour le soutien essentiel apporté par les donateurs qui ont contribué au financement de ses activités.

### **Special thanks to broadly earmarked contributions | USD**

**United States of America** 13.9 million | **Canada** 2.3 million  
Morocco | Slovakia | Private donors

### **Thanks to unearmarked contributions | USD**

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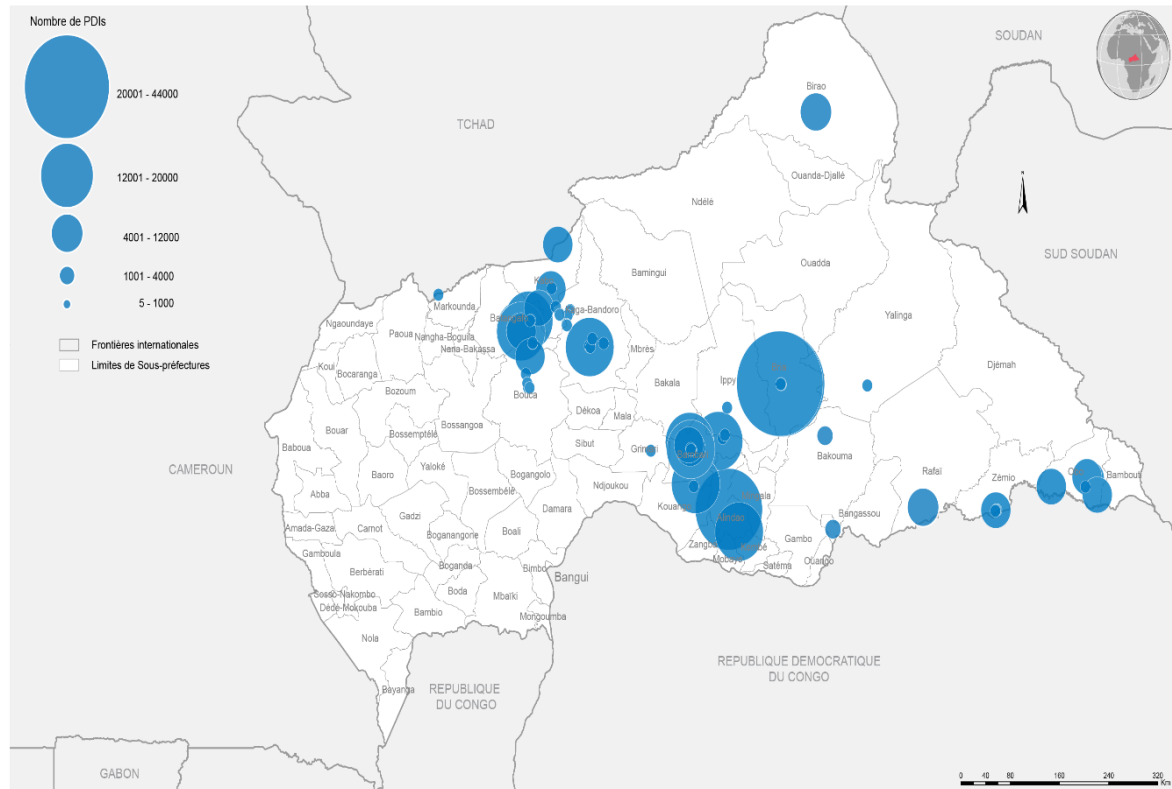


# REPUBLIQUE CENTRAFRICAINE

## Sites des Personnes Déplacées Internes



Au 15 août 2019



Les frontières et les noms indiqués et les désignations employés sur cette carte n'impliquent pas reconnaissance ou acceptation officielle par l'Organisation des Nations Unies.  
Date de création: 30 septembre 2019 | Source: CMP, SIGCAF

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