

## April - June 2025 Central African Republic (CAR)



In collaboration with the National Refugee Commission (NRC) and the humanitarian community, UNHCR is protecting and providing multi-sectoral assistance covering protection, shelter, health, education, water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH) to 26,728 Sudanese refugees in Korsi, a government-identified neighbourhood in the town of Birao (Vakaga), 65 km from the border with Sudan.

### STATISTICS / MAPS



**1,136,196**

Forcibly displaced population



**447,089**

Internally displaced persons



**62,720**

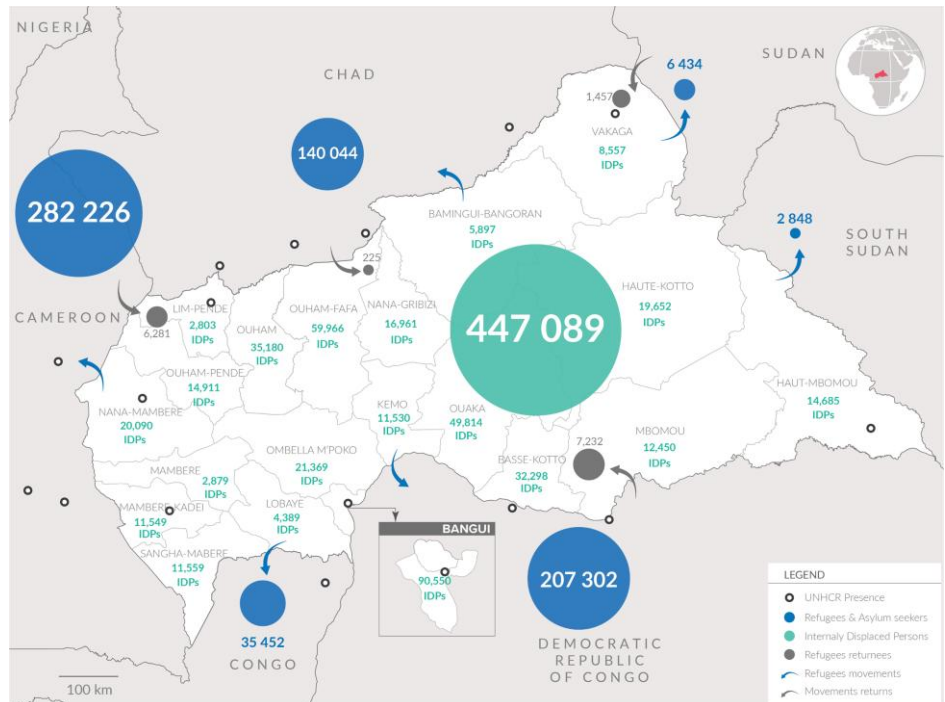
Central African refugees and asylum seekers



**20,515**

Persons repatriated from neighbouring countries since January 2024

The government, UNHCR, and partners are protecting and assisting internally displaced persons (IDPs), as well as Chadian, Sudanese, and South Sudanese refugees, while supporting the return of Central African refugees in their search for durable solutions.



**1,189** refugees

Sudanese have been registered



**9,669** peoples

received cash assistance



**1,975** peoples affected by

the floods were assisted with non-food item kits



**991** households of

Internally displaced people who have returned have received shelter kits.



**1,392** households

returnees received hygiene kits



**4,250** Central Africans have

voluntarily repatriated from Cameroon and DRC to CAR since January 2025



*Refugees have many talents and an invaluable cultural richness to share. On World Refugee Day, June 20, an exhibition space at the Omnisport complex in Bangui offered refugees the opportunity to showcase their artistic, artisanal, and culinary creations. This initiative aims to highlight their creativity, resilience and positive contribution to Central African society, their host country. ©UNHCR/Stella Fatime*

## Operating context

Since April 2023, the Central African Republic (CAR) has been hosting nearly 45,000 Sudanese refugees and Central African returnees fleeing the conflict, primarily through the Am Dafock border, as well as over 31,000 Chadian refugees, of whom more than 20,000 returned spontaneously to Chad in 2024. This situation is putting increasing pressure on UNHCR's limited resources. In collaboration with the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), UNHCR ensures the reception, registration, and monitoring of border protection for refugees. With the support of the humanitarian community, UNHCR is providing them with protection and essential services, including food assistance, shelter, healthcare, water, sanitation, hygiene, and education, in Korsi, Vakaga Prefecture.

As of June 30, 2025, the Central African Republic hosted 62,720 refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Chad, South Sudan, and Rwanda.

Of these, 58% live in rural areas, particularly in the prefectures of Vakaga, Ouaka, Haute-Kotto, Bamingui-Bangoran, Mbomou, Lim Pende and Haut-Mbomou.

The number of new Sudanese arrivals in Birao decreased in June compared to April and May. Fewer than 50 people were recorded in June, compared to nearly 300 in May, likely due to the rainy season, which deteriorates road conditions and makes some areas inaccessible.

As of 30 June 2025, the UNHCR and the National Refugee Commission (NRC) had registered 26,698 Sudanese refugees (10,648 families) in Korsi, comprising 56 per cent women and girls, and 44 per cent men and boys.

In Korsi, the child-friendly space welcomed 580 children (315 boys and 265 girls) through recreational, creative and cultural activities (dance, games, singing), contributing to their psychosocial well-being in a safe and inclusive environment.

Since 2013, crises in CAR have displaced 679,566 Central Africans to neighbouring countries. As of 30 June 2025, CAR has 447,089 internally displaced persons (IDPs), of whom 68,795 (15%) reside in sites and 378,294 (85%) are hosted by host families. In the meantime, some areas have been deemed suitable for voluntary return, and UNHCR supports this durable solution. To this end, a national strategy on durable solutions has been developed and adopted by the government in collaboration with the humanitarian community and development actors to promote the return of internally displaced persons and Central African refugees.

Since the start of voluntary repatriations in 2017, UNHCR has supported the government in hosting 57,206 people repatriated from Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Congo to CAR, including 16,265 in 2024. Additionally, 5,412 spontaneous returns were recorded under adverse conditions from Sudan and Chad and received cash to June 18, 2025.

Between April and June 2025, 4,250 Central Africans were voluntarily repatriated to Bangui, as well as to the prefectures of Nana Membéré and Membéré Kadéï in CAR, for a total of 4,250 returns since the beginning of the year. These activities related to voluntary repatriation are

continuing with a planning target of 40,000 people to be repatriated in 2025. The main return areas include Bangui, Baboua, Baoro, Berbérati, Bouar, Bossemptélé, Carnot, Mbaïki and Mongoumba.

In addition, more than 6,500 Central Africans who have taken refuge in Darfur have had to return to the CAR in precarious conditions.

## Key achievements

### Situation of Sudanese refugees in the prefectures of Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, Ouaka, Mbomou and Haut-Mbomou.

The current financial situation in the Central African Republic continues to exacerbate the challenges of prioritizing urgent needs. Access to essential services remains extremely limited, with public services virtually non-existent in several regions. As a result, forcibly displaced populations and host communities are highly dependent on humanitarian assistance.

#### Registration and Documentation

The humanitarian response remains vulnerable to funding gaps. UNHCR, in coordination with the CNR, is hosting, registering and monitoring the protection of refugees, despite limited resources.

Currently, 12,140 Sudanese refugees live in hard-to-reach areas outside the Vakaga and need protection and assistance.

A joint UNHCR and CNR mission was conducted in various areas between May and June 2025 for biometric registration in Bria, Ouandja Kotto, and Ippy, in northeastern CAR. A total of 677 refugees and asylum seekers, residing in 261 households, were registered. Two hundred sixty-one family composition tickets were issued to facilitate the free movement of families in the area, and 517 refugee cards were distributed.

In the prefecture of Bamingui-Bangoran, specifically in the localities of Ndélé, Zobossinda, Koundi, and Akoursoulback, 484 Sudanese refugees, grouped in 152 households, were registered with biometrics, and 201 family composition tickets were issued to Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers.

In terms of response, 40 dignity kits were distributed to survivors (Sudanese refugees and members of the host community) of violence

against women and girls, as well as to 22 people with special needs.

In addition, non-food item assistance, including 87 tarpaulins, 30 jerry cans, 15 blankets and 14 mats, was distributed to Sudanese refugees and flood victims in Akoursoulbak, Koundi and Zobossinda.



Registration of Sudanese refugees in Ndélé, Bamingui-Bangoran, CAR. Photo UNHCR

Support from the humanitarian community is enabling these refugees to access essential services, including protection, food assistance, shelter, health care and education, particularly in Korsi, Vakaga region.

#### Water, hygiene and sanitation

In Korsi, a neighbourhood hosting Sudanese refugees living in Birao (Vakaga), water and sanitation conditions did not improve in June. The amount of water available remained, on average, around 10 litres per person per day, well below the standard of 15 litres.

No new latrine has been built since February. With only 393 latrines (built by UNHCR partner NOURIR and UNICEF partner TGH) and the continued arrival of new forcibly displaced people, the latrine-to-person ratio has reached 67, far exceeding the emergency threshold of 50 people per latrine. More than 12,100 people still lack access to adequate sanitation, underscoring the urgency of building at least 722 additional latrines. Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) and UN Women, in partnership with All for Peace and Dignity (APADE), are continuing to build additional water and sanitation facilities.

#### Food security and livelihoods

In June, as part of UNHCR's livelihood support project, implemented by partner CIUAD and funded in part by the UN peacekeeping mission, MINUSCA, through quick-impact projects, enabled 100 refugee families and Birao's host communities to benefit from plots of land and agricultural tools to allow them to start farming activities and market gardening.



*Monitoring of the implementation of the livelihood project by humanitarian actors and the authorities of Birao in the Vakaga in CAR. UNHCR Photo*

Additionally, awareness-raising efforts continued within the communities to promote the identification and registration of new beneficiaries for market gardening projects. The market gardening project implemented by FAO in Birao has also continued and is benefiting Sudanese refugees and host communities.

Finally, 631 Sudanese refugee children aged 6 to 23 months in Korsi benefited from nutritional supplements distributed by WFP.

## Education

In the field of education, in June, UNHCR and its partners, the Centre de Support en Santé Internationale (CSSI) and Olivier l'Homme de Galilée pour le Développement Social (OHG DS), in collaboration with the Vakaga Academic Inspectorate, continued their support for the education of refugees and host communities in Birao.

The exams of the primary and secondary classes were held during the month. Preparation classes taught by qualified teachers benefited 225 children in three local schools (prefectural and Nguerendomo schools, as well as a school attended by refugees).

The national exams for the Certificate of Fundamental Studies 1 (CERF1), marking the end of primary school, have been made available to Sudanese refugees for the first time since their arrival in 2023.

Out of more than a hundred applicants, 35 refugees participated, with an overall success rate of 60% and 100% for refugee girls. The refugee students ranked among the best, demonstrating their strong academic potential.

This exam was made possible thanks to funding from Education Cannot Wait for the response to the Sudanese crisis in CAR.

On World Refugee Day, the top five students from each school were recognized, with three of them being refugees.

French courses for Sudanese refugees have continued, reaching 524 enrolments at the end of June, 46% of whom are women (compared to 34% at the beginning of the year). A French conversation club has also been launched in Korsi to enhance language skills and promote cultural integration, with weekly meetings on various topics.

These activities were made possible thanks to the generous support of the MasterCard Foundation, as part of its multi-country support to the countries affected by the crisis in Sudan.

In addition, on June 20, 2025, the city of Ouandja-Kotto celebrated World Refugee Day under the presidency of the Governor of Region 5 of Fertit. The event, organized by UNHCR's Bria office in collaboration with CNR Ouandja-Kotto, brought together local authorities, humanitarian partners, and communities to share messages of solidarity and gratitude towards refugees. In addition, an awareness-raising session for Sudanese asylum seekers in Bria (those who do not yet have refugee status) took place on 19 June 2025 on the theme "Solidarity with refugees".

## Protection activities in Obo for South Sudanese and Congolese refugees

During the reporting period, UNHCR and CNR continued to carry out follow-up protection visits to the site hosting refugees and internally displaced persons in Obo. Over this period, 67% of documented protection incidents were related to gender-based violence (GBV). These cases involved 94% of women and girls, and 6% of men and boys. The localities with the highest number of documented cases of GBV

are: Ndélé, Paoua, Mongoumba, Bambari and Mbaïki.

In addition, during the period under review, three awareness-raising sessions were organized by the partner CIAUD in collaboration with UNICEF in Bangassou and Rafai, focusing on gender-based violence and child exploitation, as part of the International Day of the African Child, celebrated on June 16. A total of 377 people were affected by these activities.

### Situation of Chadian refugees

In April 2023, communal conflicts in Chad forced more than 38,000 people to flee to the Central African Republic (CAR), including 31,779 Chadian refugees and 6,235 spontaneous Central African returnees. In 2024, more than 20,000 of them returned spontaneously to Chad.

As of June 30, 2025, more than 3,458 Chadian refugees are registered and enrolled with biometrics in Betoko, comprising 1,584 men and 1,874 women, divided into 870 households. Of these, 424 people have specific needs, including:

- unaccompanied children,
- pregnant or breastfeeding women,
- sick seniors,
- people living with disabilities,
- and people in worrying medical situations.

During the reporting period, UNHCR and its partner NOURRIR distributed 50 bales of clothing and 17,000 pieces of soap to 824 Chadian refugee households in Betoko. Additionally, 100 semi-sustainable latrines are being constructed on the Betoko site by our partner, Alerte Humanitaire.

In June, in Betoko, UNHCR and its partners, CNR, CIAUD, and NOURRIR, distributed essential non-food kits to 909 Chadian refugee families.

Cash assistance of 30,000 CFA francs (primary level) and 35,000 CFA francs (secondary level) was provided to Chadian refugee students in Betoko, Lim Pendé. A total of 752 students benefited from this cash assistance, totaling 22 million CFA francs.

During the same period, UNHCR in CAR and Chad initiated discussions with a view to the upcoming start of the voluntary repatriation of Central African refugees to Chad.

On June 18, 2025, as part of the support for returns, the spontaneous Central African returnees from Markounda received a viaticum allowance of 90,000 CFA francs for adults and 45,000 CFA francs for minors, in addition to a lump sum of 50,000 CFA francs per household for the purchase of basic necessities. Women and girls of childbearing age each received 10,000 CFA francs for a dignity kit, and an additional 10,000 CFA francs was granted for transport. The total amount of this return assistance amounts to 59,430,000 CFA francs.

Between April and June, a total of approximately 1,800 curative consultations were conducted, with the majority, 56.76 per cent, for Chadian refugees, and 64 for the host community, or 43.24 per cent.

The three leading causes of morbidity in the locality are malaria, with about 42 % of cases, followed by digestive infections and respiratory infections.

### Responses to Internally Displaced People (IDPs)

As part of the support for the return of internally displaced persons in Bria, in May 2025, the Cambodian contingent of MINUSCA officially handed over a donation consisting of cassava flour (80 kg), rice (200 kg) and clothing to 236 spontaneous returnees (35 households), relocated to the village integrated into PK4.

Heavy rains fell in the town of Bria, resulting in the destruction of several shelters at the PK3 site. A total of 86 households, comprising 461 people, were affected by the floods. A rapid needs assessment was conducted, identifying pressing needs for protection, non-food items, shelter, and food.

On 22 May, UNHCR in Bria, in response to a rapid assessment, provided non-food kits to 366 people (68 households) affected by the torrential rains at the PK3 site, whose shelters had been destroyed. The kit distributed is

composed of tarpaulin, blankets, mats, mosquito nets, a kitchen set, a solar lamp, a thrift store item, jerry cans, and buckets.

UNHCR supported WFP in providing a two-month food ration to spontaneous returnees from Gobolo and internally displaced persons from PK3 from May 19 to 21. Four hundred six spontaneous returnees (111 households) and 9,287 displaced persons from 1,794 families were assisted. The foodstuffs consist of rice, oil, salt, and beans.

The arrivals of spontaneous returnees from Sudan to Bria continue. Between April and June 2025, UNHCR, in collaboration with the authorities, biometrically registered 126 households comprising 495 people, bringing the total number of people spontaneously returned since April 2023 to 2,296 (495 households).

From 19 to 21 June 2025, the National Commission for Refugees, UNHCR, and partners conducted a mission to Zemio in Haut Mbomou to assess the humanitarian situation in this area, which is plagued by violence. At the end of the mission, several protection incidents were noted but remain unanswered due to the lack of humanitarian actors present in the area.

There was also a constant movement of people from the sub-prefecture of Zemio to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Fearing reprisals, about 1,165 displaced people from Zemio have gathered at the temporary sites of the Catholic church and the hospital, waiting for humanitarian assistance.

As part of the support for the return of IDPs to Bria, UNHCR supported the construction of 35 semi-durable houses and the distribution of non-food kits including mats, blankets, buckets, kitchen sets and solar lamps. This assistance has benefited 35 households of 236 internally displaced persons. These efforts aim to reduce the vulnerability of Internally Displaced Persons living in the sites since 2016, while preserving their dignity and respect.

UNHCR and its partners, CNR, PARET, CIAUD, and FCA, have distributed kits of clothing and

flashlights to 4,810 internally displaced people (962 households) in Baoro, Nana Mambéré.

In the prefecture of Nana Gribizi, MINUSCA's Quick Impact Projects (QIPs), with the coordination of UNHCR, mobilized 100 households comprising displaced people and the host community for practical training on a 50-hectare plot of land granted by the local authorities. A training provided by the Central African Agency for Agricultural Development (ACDA) for the 2025-2026 campaign.

### **Sustainable Solutions**

Voluntary repatriation operations for Central African refugees from Cameroon, the Republic of Congo, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo are continuing to the localities of Bangui, Berberati, Bouar, Baoro, and Mongoumba.

The voluntary repatriation programme is implemented in collaboration with the government through the Return and Reintegration Support Project (PARET), under the supervision of the Ministry of Humanitarian Action, and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), under the supervision of the Ministry of Planning and Security.

As of June 30, 2025, the Return and Reintegration Support Project (PARET), under the supervision of the Ministry of Humanitarian Action, Solidarity, and National Reconciliation, in collaboration with UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), had facilitated the voluntary return of 4,250 people under this program.

The implementation of MINUSCA's Quick Impact Project (QUIPS), in collaboration with UNHCR, has provided support for literacy and income-generating activities, benefiting 1,000 women and young people in Nana Mambéré. Twenty agricultural and livestock groups have benefited from the distribution of plastic gloves in the localities of Gallo, Baboua and Baoro. These gloves will ensure the protection of the beneficiaries who benefit from the practical training in saponification.

## Working in partnership

In the Central African Republic, UNHCR coordinates the Protection Cluster and co-coordinates the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) clusters, the Sustainable Solutions Working Group and Shelter/NFI. The organization continues to work with the EHP to ensure the centrality of protection in the humanitarian response and the implementation of durable solutions, including the Humanitarian Peace and Development Nexus.

UNHCR in the Central African Republic (CAR) is strengthening its engagement with strategic partners to pool efforts for forcibly displaced people and their host communities. This includes, among other things, the signing of an MoU with UN Women, the Ministry of Agriculture, as well as close coordination with some ministerial departments and local authorities.

In response to the influx of Sudanese and Chadian refugees, the refugee coordination model has been activated, with the UNHCR leading the response in collaboration with the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), which represents the government.

### Operational efficiency measures in the CAR

In response to the reduction in funding and broader financial constraints, UNHCR is actively involved in a process of pooling resources among UN agencies in CAR, aiming to amplify the collective impact despite limited resources, including security, remote site management, information technology, and administrative services. The aim is to reduce costs, improve coordination and strengthen operational presence in hard-to-reach areas.

Internally, UNHCR in CAR has undertaken a complete reprioritization of its operations. This has a direct impact on the reduction of its geographical coverage in the country and the continuity of its services.

UNHCR has undertaken a series of reforms and budgetary adjustments at all levels to optimize the use of available resources, while preserving

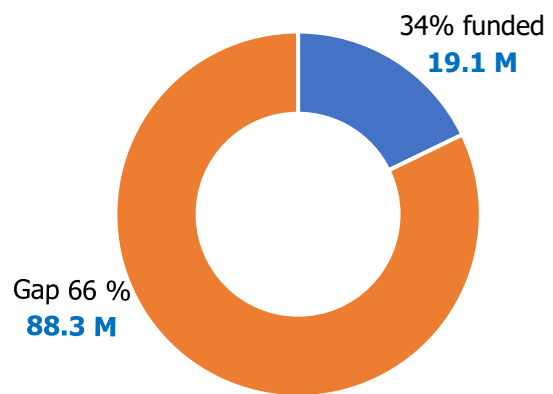
the efficiency and quality of services for forcibly displaced populations.

In the long term, this initiative will enable substantial economies of scale while, as far as possible, promoting greater coherence between humanitarian and development actions on the ground.

These measures demonstrate a clear commitment to adapting UNHCR's operations to current budgetary realities, leveraging efficiency and innovation while maintaining the essential capacity to protect and assist populations forced to flee in a complex operational environment.

### FUNDING AS OF JUNE 30, 2025

**\$107.5 million** requested by UNHCR in CAR in 2025



### We thank the donors who contributed to UNHCR's operation in CAR in 2025



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