

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

UNHCR EXTERNAL REGIONAL UPDATE 10

3-10 April 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

628,500

IDPs including

203,500

in Bangui

335,664

CAR refugees in
neighbouring
countries

96,000

CAR refugees in
neighbouring
countries since Dec.
2013.

US\$112

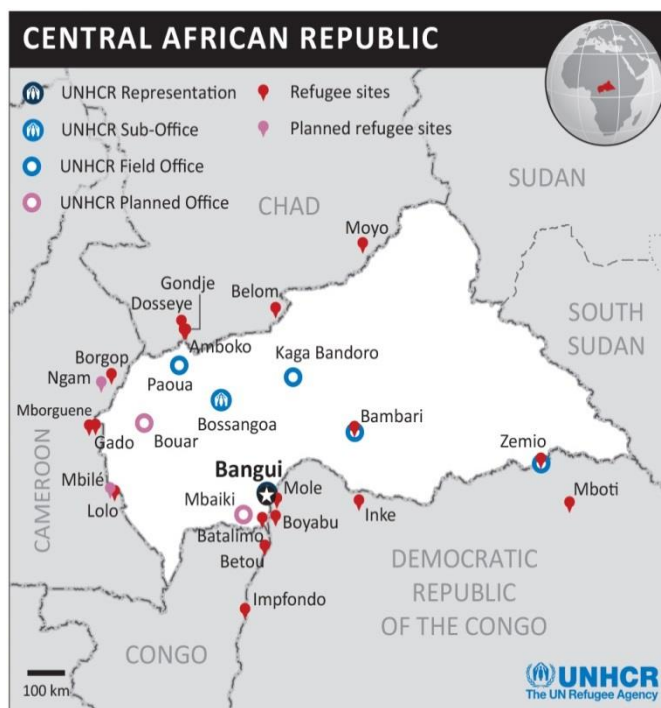
million

requested for the
situation*

16,581

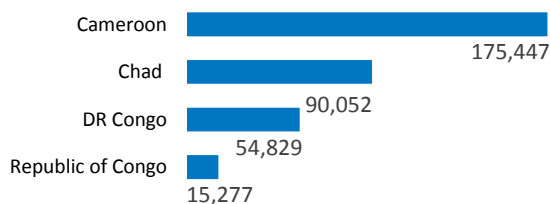
Refugees and
asylum seekers in
the CAR

- UNHCR is leading the launch of a Regional Response Plan for the CAR Refugee Emergency, to cover the four neighbouring countries—Cameroon, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Republic of Congo. The launch is set for 16 April and will highlight the needs of seven UN agencies, IOM and six NGOs providing assistance in the region.
- On 5 April, the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon arrived in Bangui and called for the immediate deployment of more troops and police and repeated the need for the transformation of MISCA into a UN peacekeeping operation.
- On April 8 2014, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Ms. Navi Pillay, briefed Security Council members on the situation in the Central African Republic saying the violence had reached a “terrifying level”.
- US Ambassador to the UN, Ms. Samantha Power, was in Bangui on 9 April and voiced her support for a UN peacekeeping force as well as a need to “redouble efforts” in the Central African Republic.
- The first EUFOR troops arrived on 9 April in Bangui. The aim of the 1,000 strong force will be to maintain security and to train local police officers.
- On 10 April, the UN Security Council unanimously approved the creation of a UN peacekeeping force in the Central African Republic. The force will be known as MINUSCA and will be made up of 10,000 troops, 1,800 police and 20 corrections officers.



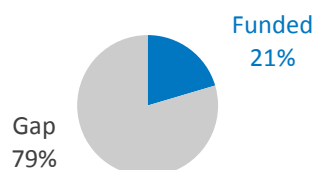
Population of concern for the CAR situation

A total of **335,664** people of concern



Funding against the CAR situation*

US\$112 million requested for the situation



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

- As of 8 April, there were 628,500 Central Africans displaced within their country – including 203,500 in Bangui.
- On 10 April UNHCR launched the voluntary repatriation operation of more than 6,000 Congolese refugees settled in Batalimo camp in the Central African Republic. A first group of 300 refugees left by bus from Batalimo to Libenge, Equateur Province, **Democratic Republic of the Congo** where a UNHCR team was on the ground to receive them. The entire operation should take up to three weeks.
- There are now a reported 27 entry points in **Cameroon**. The reported number of new arrivals fluctuates from one week to the next and from one entry point to another. At the beginning of the crisis, significant arrivals observed at the entry points of Garoua Boulai, Kentzou and Ngaoui have considerably decreased. However, important influxes are now reported mainly at the entry point of Gbiti in the East region of Cameroon.

Achievements



Protection

Needs Assessment

- **Central African Republic:** From 2-8 April, UNHCR led an inter-agency (UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, OCHA) protection mission to several routes in the northwestern region of the Central African Republic. The purpose of the mission was to analyze the security dynamics on the different axes and to assess the protection and humanitarian needs of enclave populations as well as to monitor and document grave violations against children. The mission visited the following routes: Bangui-Boali-Bossebele-Yaloke and Yaloke-Baoro-Carnot-Gadzi. The mission met with affected communities, international military forces (Sangaris and MISCA), religious leaders, community-based organisations, local authorities as well as humanitarian actors.
- Along the axes visited, the mission found empty villages, IDPs living in churches, and generally, a lack of resources and equipment for local administration. There was a clear absence of national forces, police and gendarmerie.
- On April 6 a joint mission of UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA to Gadzi (along the Carnot-Gadzi axis in Mambéré Kadéï prefecture) took place to evaluate the situation of 650 remaining IDPs and community at risk. Most of the IDPs expressed their willingness to move to Cameroon. Some 409 people had already left with MISCA to Cameroon on 5 April.
- The mission recommended the following actions to be taken: to provide multi-sector assistance (distribution of food, relief items, medical assistance to IDPs and communities at risk); provide logistical support to populations at risk who have expressed their willingness to move to safer areas in other parts of the country or neighbouring countries; advocate for the strengthening of the logistical capacity of MISCA forces in Baoro.
- UNHCR is planning to carry out a similar mission along the M'Baiki- Boboua- Boda axis from 10 to 17 April.
- From 4 to 7 April, UNHCR carried out an assessment mission to Bambari to evaluate the possibilities for this locality as a relocation site.
- **Cameroon:** A needs assessment is being carried out at the entry point of Garoua Boulai by UNHCR and the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) of refugees living in host families. These are refugees who have so far preferred not to be relocated to a site.

Achievements

- **Cameroon:** As of 8 April, 68,186 Central African refugees had been registered since December 2013, and a large majority are in the East region and Adamawa regions. During the reporting period, UNHCR registered 2,801 refugees in the the North region, previously unaffected by the crisis.

- On 5 April, a new convoy carrying civilians fleeing violence in Gadzi arrived in Garoua Boulai (East region, Cameroon) escorted by MISCA troops. Registration is underway to determine the status of persons who arrived.
- Overall, a total of 19,981 refugees have been relocated from the border to the hosting sites since mid-February: 4,387 in the Adamawa region (Borgop site) and 15,594 in the East region (Mbarguene, Gado and Lolo sites). The identification of another site is underway in the North region following the arrival of Central African refugees to that region.
- Transfers to the existing sites continued during the reporting period but were mainly delayed over the last three weeks because of a vaccination campaign, food distribution at the border and construction of additional shelters in the sites.
- Some refugees have expressed their reluctance to be transferred to sites because of their will to remain close to the border; they have been granted land by local chiefs; whilst others prefer not to be relocated due to their cattle. Many women have preferred to wait for the arrival of their husbands still in the CAR.
- A protection assessment, done by UNHCR at some entry points in the East region, revealed the possible risk of assuring peaceful cohabitation between the refugee community and host population due to an increase of food prices and high demand for water and electricity. Furthermore, agri-pastoralist conflicts have also been reported due to refugee cattle grazing in some fields belonging to locals during flight to Cameroon.
- **Chad:** On 6 April, 205 newly arrived Central African refugees were identified in Amboko camp near Gore in southern Chad. They were largely composed of women and children and came from villages in Paoua, in the northwest of the CAR. They said they had been attacked by unidentified armed elements on the 3 and 4 April and fled on foot to Amboko with some 40 heads of livestock to join members of their family already in Chad since 2003. The total number of Central African refugees in Chad stands at some 90,000 individuals.
- UNHCR is supporting the Government of Chad in the relocation of Chadian evacuees who are currently living under precarious conditions in transit centers, to the newly-established site of Damanadji near Gore. On 8 April, UNHCR, together with its partners, facilitated the relocation of 332 individuals (127 families) to Damanadji where 166 shelters have been erected and where they are provided access to potable water, through construction of a water point, as well as hygiene and sanitation facilities through construction of 12 latrines and 12 showers.
- UNHCR continued to advocate with the Government to ensure that the border remains open to newly arriving refugees.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** As of 7 April, 12,178 Central African refugees had been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province but also Oriental Province.
- During the reporting period, 25 newborn babies in Boyabu camp were provided with birth certificates.
- Out of an estimated caseload of 18,541 in Mole camp about 8,148 live within host communities outside of the camp.
- **Republic of Congo (RoC):** As of 6 April, 8,024 Central African refugees had been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the Betou area. Refugees arrived at an average daily rate of 16 people during the reporting period.
- In Brazzaville, the printing of refugee ID cards for new Central African refugees is ongoing. However, the *Comité National d'Assistance aux Réfugiés* (CNAR) recently requested that their delivery be in the physical presence of the landlords of the refugees. This strict requirement prevented several refugees from obtaining their cards during the reporting period. CNAR explained that this condition was due to public order considerations. UNHCR is discussing possible alternative options with the CNAR which will ensure a balance between the need to verify the physical addresses of refugees and the necessity to guarantee the documentation of registered refugees.
- UNICEF's Representative to the RoC conducted a mission to the Betou area during the week. The mission was aimed to assess the needs in the fields of education (preschool; primary and secondary education), health (maternal and infantile, nutrition; vaccination), WASH and child protection with a special consideration for the

situation of unaccompanied minors (UAM) and separated children (SC). The mission met with UNHCR and its partners for health and education and visited the health center at the *15 avril site* and public schools in Betou.

- UNHCR, CNAR, and immigration authorities of Betou conducted an identification mission aimed to register all Chadian citizens in the area of Betou and verify their intention of return: 383 Chadian citizens were identified and all of expressed their intention to return to Chad.
- In Betou, a meeting of the SGBV platform was held during the week and reunited all humanitarian actors of the area as well as leaders and focal points of the CAR and DRC refugee communities. Several practical actions were decided during the meeting and 150 dignity kits were provided to the different services in charge of SGBV prevention and intervention.
- There are 47 registered UAM/SC in Betou and Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) have been conducted for all of them. The tracing is ongoing with the support of the Cameroonian Red Cross.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM)

Achievements

- The CCCM Cluster in Bangui is working with State and city officials to seek solutions to the large number of people living in the M'Poko airport site. In early April, in a meeting called by the Prime Minister, the mayors of Bangui's arrondissements and humanitarian actors met in order to identify relocation options for the populations living at M'poko airport site. Several sites have been proposed and will be assessed by a cross-sectorial team. These sites will be used to accommodate people currently settled at non-viable sites and who cannot return home before the rainy season. In addition, CCCM actors are coordinating with the Bangui Police force to ensure the coordination between police and humanitarian actors for patrols within M'Poko to address growing protection risks inside the camps.
- As part of the CCCM capacity building strategy, some 103 actors were trained in March, including local authorities, sites managers and facilitators, service providers on CCCM basic roles and responsibilities in site management, security, protection, life-cycle of a camp and community participation. The high number of sites in Bangui and outside makes it challenging to ensure an adequate level of CCCM support to all of the site owners and managers.



Education

Achievements

- **Cameroon:** In Borgop site, 3 temporary classrooms helped increase informal courses provided by IFCR for 528 children of school age- 326 boys and 202 girls.
- In preparation for the integration of children into public schools, registration of 1,038 children (out of 1,891) of primary school age took place in Gado and Mborguene sites in order to evaluate their level; 301 of them had been attending school in the Central African Republic.



Health

Achievements

- **Cameroon:** Three cases of measles were identified last week in Gado (1) and Mborguene (2), and were referred to the district hospital of Garoua Boulai for treatment.
- MSF has started providing psychosocial support to refugees twice a week in both the Gado and Mborguene sites as new arrivals continue to arrive in a desperate and traumatized state.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** The main diseases in all camps remained malaria, intestinal parasites, diarrhea and respiratory infections.



Food Security and Nutrition

Achievements

- **Cameroon:** Food distribution by WFP is ongoing at the 27 border entry points. During the reporting period, 1,055 refugees in Mboy and Yokadouma received food rations.
- In Gado and Borgop sites, enriched porridge is distributed by IFRC to all children from 6 months to 10 years as a preventative measure of malnutrition. From 31 March to 2 April, 4,168 refugees received food rations from WFP, while distribution of food provided by MSF took place from 5 to 7 April for 1,550 refugees.
- Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) referred two severely acute malnourished cases to the Yokadouma health center in the East region – this after a medical screening was performed on 375 refugee children both in Bela and Libongo villages.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** During the reporting period, 99 children with severe acute malnutrition, 88 cases of acute moderate malnutrition and some 130 other children at risk of acute moderate malnutrition received plump-nut supplement.
- **Republic of Congo:** Medical and nutritional screenings and vaccinations were performed on all new Central African refugees accommodated in the *departure centre* – six cases of severe acute malnutrition were recorded during the reporting period. According to latest reports, 7% of children suffer from severe acute malnutrition, with a global acute malnutrition rate of 14%.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements

- **Cameroon:** During the reporting period, awareness-raising activities were organized in the site of Borgop for the use of water purifier tablets provided by UNICEF and sensitization activities to promote hygiene and sanitation were organized by UNHCR. Additionally, 74 latrines and 74 shower spaces were built.
- A UNICEF assessment team visited Gado site with their implementing partner in view of implementing WASH activities. So far, five boreholes have been drilled and three water pumps installed by UNHCR in Gado site.
- In Lolo site, five boreholes are functioning. While awaiting the finalization of three additional boreholes, International Relief Development (IRD) has increased water trucking to the camp. The site now has 100 functioning latrines and 100 shower spaces.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** In Mole camp, 910,000l of water is supplied per day providing an average of 12,4l per person per day. There are 9 water distribution points connected to 54 water taps.
- In Boyabu camp water is obtained from 3 boreholes and 3 wells equipped with a manual water pump. The daily water supply stands at 122,800l equivalent to 12,7l per person per day.
- In Inke camp, 90,000l of water is supplied in the camp, providing an average of 10l per person and per day. Currently the camp has 619 operational latrines.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements

- **Cameroon:** In Borgop, 3,533 refugees are living in 417 family shelters. Another 100 family tents are being built for 755 refugees still at the transit center. In addition, 467 families received kitchen sets, blankets and soap. In Gado, 233 family shelters were built for families still gathered in community shelters waiting to be granted their private shelter. In addition, 484 refugees recently transferred to this site received NFIs comprising 200 blankets and 100 mats. During the reporting period, 3,008 families received NFIs comprising of blankets, mats, and kitchen sets at the entry point of Gbiti.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

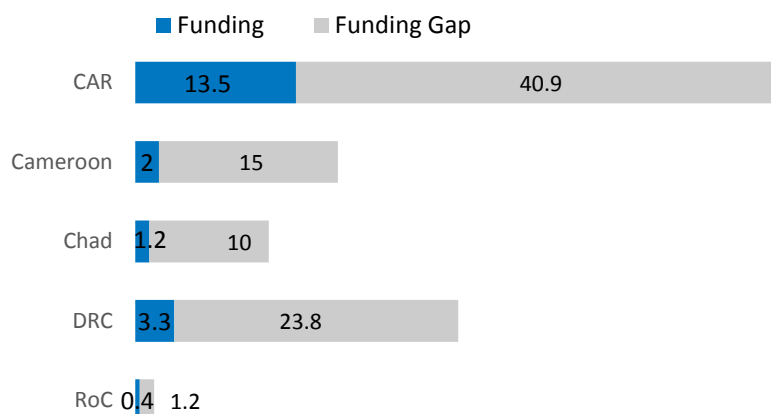
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation. Below are UNHCR's financial needs for providing protection and assistance to Central African refugees in the neighbouring countries, as well as discharging its responsibilities in the inter-agency framework to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs in the Central African Republic. Total requirements amount to USD 112 million for a period of three months.*

Donors:

- CERF
- Denmark
- Estonia
- France
- Japan
- Luxembourg
- Private donors Germany
- Private donors Spain
- Private donors Switzerland
- UN Programme on HIV/AIDS
- United States of America

Funding:

A total of **US\$22.8 million** has been funded



*A Regional Inter-Agency Refugee Appeal is to be released on 16 April 2014.

Note: In 2014 the following donors have given unrestricted funds to UNHCR: Algeria | Australia | Costa Rica | Denmark | Estonia | Finland | Germany | Indonesia | Israel | Kuwait | Latvia | Luxembourg | Mexico | Monaco | Morocco | Mozambique | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovak Republic | Sweden |

Contacts:

Kabami Kalumiya, Reporting Officer, kalumiya@unhcr.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8252

Wendy Rappeport, Senior External Relations Officer, rappepor@unhcr.org, Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8993

Ulysses Grant, Intern, grantu@unhcr.org

Links:

Regional portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>

Central African Republic Emergency Situation

as of 10 April 2014

