



Fact sheet 30 April 2014

UNHCR operation in:

Central African Republic

Operational Highlights

In CAR, the UN Refugee Agency provides protection and multi-sectorial assistance to refugees. As part of the Humanitarian Country Team, UNHCR leads three Clusters - Protection / Shelter and NFI / Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) - coordinating live-saving protection and assistance activities for internally displaced persons (IDPs). This is part of the response to the recent escalation of the civil conflict in CAR that has displaced an estimated 935,000 persons at the peak of the violence in December and generated a continuous refugee outflow into neighboring countries in Cameroon, Chad, Congo and DRC of close to 100,000 persons bringing the total CAR refugee population up to 356,000.

- UNHCR has maintained an emergency team of 24 international staff. UNHCR has reinforced its presence in CAR, particularly in the northwestern of CAR to underpin UNHCR's office protection and response capacity. UNHCR is also present in Zémio and Paoua, and is reopening its offices in Bambari and in Kaga-Bandoro. Roving teams are extending protection via presence and covering the northwest and southwest.
- **Bangui Sites Contingency Planning:** The CCCM Cluster is working closely with state and city officials to seek alternatives for IDPs living in sites at risk of flooding during the rainy season. Through extensive meetings with local authorities, international security forces and a meeting convened by the prime minister, ten potential relocation sites were identified. Technical multi-sectorial assessments are currently being finalized in collaboration with the Shelter / NFI, WASH and Protection clusters evaluating the potential sites.
- **Protection strategy for the Community at risk:** The Protection Cluster has identified 11 sites hosting some 21,000 people where the lives of minority confessional group are at serious risk, and/or imminent threat. Several joint protection monitoring missions were carry out including inter-agency protection mission to several axis in the South-Western of the Central Africa Republic in order to assess and monitor the protection and humanitarian needs of communities at risk. A response strategy and specific responses have been developed, including information and monitoring, protection and humanitarian response, actions to decrease communal tensions and advocacy, and as a measure of last resort facilitates onward movement of people to safe locations. The Protection Cluster finalized the Standard operating procedures (SOPs) on the relocation movements which were adopted by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) on 24 April.
- **Launch of the voluntary repatriation of Congolese refugees:** On 10 April, UNHCR together with CAR government and local authorities launched the voluntary repatriation programme of the Congolese refugees settled in Batalimo camp. Nearly 6,000 individuals were repatriated to Businga, Libenge, Mbandaka and Zongo in DRC, where they welcomed by UNHCR team and the Congolese local authorities. The operation will continue end on 10 May with the support of the National Commission for Refugees in Central Africa (CNR).

Populations of concern

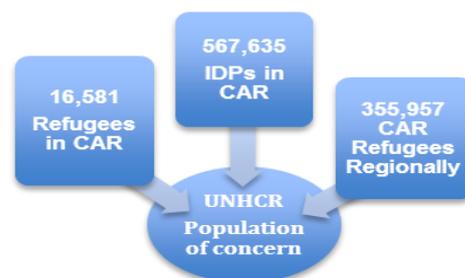
567,635 *

IDPs in Central African Republic (estimated)

142,635 * in 42 Sites

Located in Bangui

*



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

| Partner | Area of Intervention |
|--|--|
| Partners working with Refugees (Bangui and Camps of Bambari, Batalimo and Zémio) | |
| CNR | Government refugee counterpart |
| COOPI | Food Security Assistance; Income Generating Activity |
| DRC | Healthcare, HIV/AIDS prevention, SGBV prevention and identification, food security, education and community services |
| International Medical Corps | Healthcare, HIV, SGBV, WASH |
| Partners working with IDPs | |
| Central African Red Cross | NFI distribution (Agreement ended) |
| Danish Refugee Council | Protection monitoring and SGBV and camp management |
| Première Urgence-AMI | Camp management |
| ACTED | Shelter assistance |
| Catholic relief services (CRS) | NFI distribution, social cohesion |
| Agreement in process for IDPs | |
| Norway Refugee Council (NRC) | Land housing property (HLP) |
| COOPI | Protection monitoring, SGBV (South West) |
| Proposal under discussion for IDPs | |
| Mercy Corps | Social cohesion |
| INTERSOS | Protection Monitoring (Kaga Bandoro, Ouaka) |

Funding update – Central Africa Republic operation

| Donors | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| CERF | 1,500,000 |
| Holy See | 5,000 |
| Japan | 1,500,000 |
| Luxembourg | 339,674 |
| Private donors | 11,004 |
| Netherlands | |
| Private donors United Kingdom | 116 |
| Republic of Korea | 300,000 |
| UNAIDS | 30,000 |
| United States of America | 11,300,000 |
| Total Funded | 14,985,794 |
| Gap | 57,868,845 |
| Financial requirements | 72,854,639 |
| Funding level | 21 % |

CAR UNHCR's total financial requirements stand at USD 72.8 million for 2014. UNHCR is grateful for the financial support provided by donors. UNHCR received a total of USD 14.9 million, representing 21 percent of the budget to respond to the crisis.

UNHCR is grateful to donors who have thus far committed pledges amounting to USD 14.9 USD million, to respond to the needs.





Protection Cluster (Co-Facilitator: DRC)

Strategy: As leading agency of the Protection Cluster, UNHCR coordinates life-saving protection and assistance activities for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in close collaboration with other humanitarian actors. Protection Cluster is functional at national level in Bangui as well as at sub-national level in Bossangoa. In other areas of high displacement such as Paoua in the Ouham Pende, Kaga Bandoro, Bambari and in Zemio, protection forums are functional.

Key achievements:

- ⇒ The Protection Cluster finalized the Standard operating procedures (SOPs) on the relocation movements which were adopted by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) on 24 April. In April, several joint protection monitoring missions were carry out including inter-agency protection mission to several axis in the South-Western of the Central Africa Republic in order to assess and monitor the protection and humanitarian needs of communities at risk.
- ⇒ **Relocation of about 1,400 persons entrapped in PK12 neighbourhood of Bangui:** at the request of the people, a first group of 93 individuals were relocated from PK12 to Bambari on 20 April, escorted by Sangaris. The relocates expressed great satisfaction upon arrival and they were warmly welcomed by the local authorities in Bambari. UNHCR with UNICEF, UNFPA and OCHA is closing monitoring the integration process in Bambari, giving attention to social cohesion. On 27 April, a second group of 1,259 individuals residing in the PK 12 departed for Kabo and Moven Sido, in northern CAR, escorted by MISCA troops. On 28 April, the convoy was attacked in Dissikou, some 50km from Kaga Bandoro, killing two people and injuring six. The humanitarian community urged all armed groups to put an immediate end to the bloodshed. This relocation was a joint Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) operation, under the leadership of the Senior Humanitarian Coordinator (SHC) in coordination with CAR authorities. That was decided as a measure of last resort to save lives, upon the request of the people and on a strictly voluntary basis.
- ⇒ **Population Management System:** On a weekly basis, the Commission de Mouvement de Population compiles qualitative statistical displacement data on IDPs. The Cluster serves as the secretariat.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (Co-Facilitator: IOM)

Strategy: Ensure that solid coordination mechanisms are established and assure equitable access to services and protection for displaced persons living in displacement and transit sites. Ensure that populations unable to return to their place of origin before the rainy season live in secure and dignified conditions in their current sites, or in alternative sites as a last resort. Develop and strengthen the capacities of stakeholders working in and around displacement sites in the Central African Republic. Facilitate returns through information dissemination through population groups living in displacement sites. Support in the identification of locations inside CAR where communities at risk would be willing to relocate and where security, safety and dignity can be guaranteed.

Key achievements:

- ⇒ In response to an increase in the number of reported protection incidents at the M'Poko airport site, CCCM actors are coordinating with the Bangui Gendarmerie and Police forces to ensure the coordination between police and humanitarian actors for unarmed patrols within the site
- ⇒ On May 1st, a data verification exercise was launched in the displacement sites in Bangui in to verify and validate data included in the monthly site profiles. The exercise will improve the quality of information on IDPs, including numbers disaggregated by sex and age, location and living conditions and their basic needs - for better targeting of interventions. CCCM actors are also working on the possibility to extend the exercise in sites outside Bangui.
- ⇒ Since January 2014, some **440 persons** (75 actors during April alone), including local authorities, site managers and facilitators, and service providers, were trained by the Cluster on CCCM principles, responsibilities in site management, security, protection, life-cycle of a camp and community participation. As a result of these trainings and regular consultations, the Cluster has been able to increasing its coordination and support with the Ministry of Health and Humanitarian Affairs. On 16 April, the CCCM Cluster Coordinator was invited to provide an update on the IDPs sites, strategy, and current situation in meeting presided by the interim President Ms Samba-Panza to open a dialogue with IDPs.
- ⇒ In close coordination with local radios, CCCM actors are working to improve information access and disseminate messages to IDPs to inform them about humanitarian activities and security conditions in their neighborhoods of origin.



Shelter and Non-Food Item Cluster

Strategy: The Shelter/NFI cluster is revising the intervention strategy and its related action plan, adapting the priorities and needs identified in January 2014. A sub-national Shelter/NFI Cluster is active in Bossangoa. The Shelter / NFI Cluster in collaboration with the WASH cluster at the request of the CCCM cluster are assessing alternative sites for those IDPs who cannot return to their homes before the raining season.

Key achievements:

- ⇒ The Shelter / NFI cluster revised the shelter package assistance in urban and rural areas redefining the composition of the kit, type of equipment and guiding principles.
- ⇒ **Cluster actors undertook house damaged need assessments in Bangui districts as well as in Ouham (ACTED, CRS, DRC), Ouham Pende (ACTED, DRC, LWF) Lobaye (CRS) Kemo, Nana Mandere and Nana Kadei and prefectures.** Some Bangui neighborhoods – in the 3rd district – remains inaccessible for shelter assessments due to the insecurity and violence perpetrated by hostile criminal groups. NRC undertook complementary assessment on housing, land and property rights (HLP) in the 8th district. In the periphery of Bangui, out of the 44 initial targeted “quarters” in Begua, 27 are being assessed. First preliminary results outlined the destruction of 800 houses, including more than 300 belonging to non-minority confessional group.
- ⇒ In Bangui, Solidarités and Première Urgence-AMI NGOs **completed the construction of community shelters for some 1,560 households settled in the sites in Bimbo and 3rd and 8th districts in Bangui.** In Ouham prefecture (Benzambe, Bossangoa and Tolle) and in Mambere- Kadei (Berberati), over than **2,127 internally displaced families were supported with NFI package including plastic sheeting as part of UNHCR, UNICEF, CRS, CARITAS operation and RRM response.**
- ⇒ The Cluster actively contributed to the development of an action plan related to the relocation of about 1,300 people from PK12 enclave to Kabo and Moven Sido (Ouham). including the pre-positioning of material for the construction of transit centres and community shelters.



Multi-sector assistance to Refugees in Central Africa Republic

Strategy: UNHCR and implementing partners supported some 16,500 refugees mostly from DRC and Sudan through protection and multi-sectoral assistance, care and maintenance activities in Bangui, and as well as in the camps in Bambari and Batalimo. In response to the CAR crisis, UNHCR is also assisting refugees to return in their homes through its voluntary emergency repatriation programme.

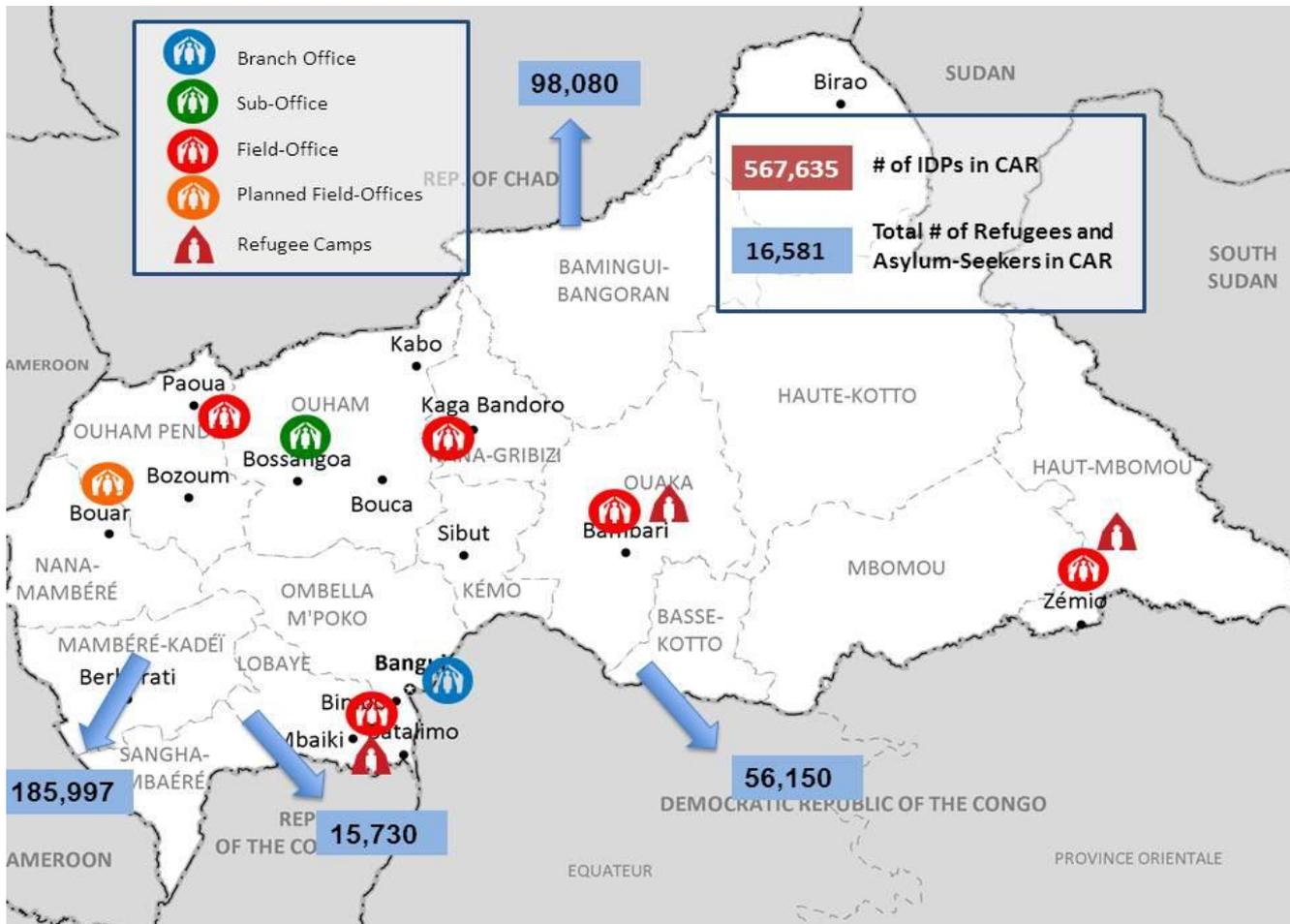
Key achievements:

- ➔ **Continuing voluntary emergency repatriations:** On 5th April, UNHCR has facilitated the voluntary repatriation of 64 Congolese refugees (representing 20 households) from Bangui to DRC. Since January 2014, some 688 refugees were supported to return to their places of origin, in Chad, DRC and Sudan.
- ➔ **Non-food items distribution to urban refugees in Bangui:** UNHCR supported some 51 urban refugees located in Bangui and originating from Sudan with a distribution of non-food items (including mats, jerry cans, mosquito nets, blankets, buckets and soap).
- ➔ **Care and Maintenance in camps:** UNHCR, together with its implementing partners, support nearly 16,500 urban and rural refugees in Central African Republic, mainly from the Congo (DRC) and Sudanese, through a multi-sectoral assistance and durable solutions. In Zémio refugee camp, UNHCR supported 690 households (2,228 individuals) with the distribution of non-relief items kit between in April.



Non-food items will be distributed to all Sudanese refugees living in Bangui, CAR. UNHCR/ A. Kitidi

OPERATION MAP OF UNHCR- CAR



UNHCR Presence in CAR: a total of 99 UNHCR staff in CAR, including 62 national and 37 international staff, and the deployment of 24 emergency mission staff since December 2013.

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More detailed operational information, please visit the UNHCR public website: <http://www.unhcr.org>, and the UNHCR Data web portal for the CAR situation <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>

