

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

## UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 33

20-26 September 2014

### KEY FIGURES

**487,580**

IDPs including

**62,580**

in Bangui

**418,448**

Total number of CAR refugees in neighbouring countries

**180,078**

New CAR refugees in neighbouring countries since Dec. 2013

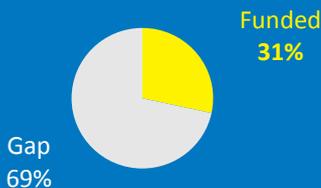
**8,012**

Refugees and asylum seekers in CAR

### FUNDING

**USD 255 million**

requested for the situation



### PRIORITIES

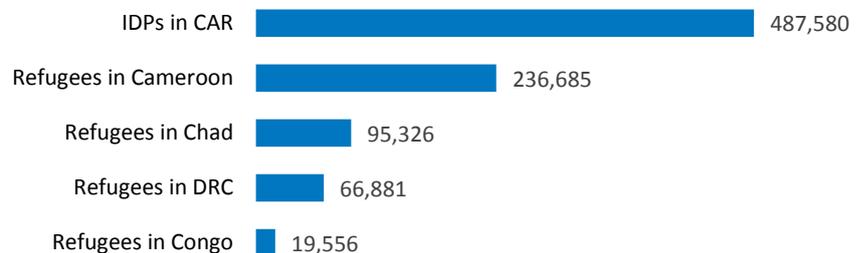
- Cameroon: identification and registration of refugees in host villages.
- Chad: profiling exercise in returnee sites.
- DRC: relocation of refugees to existing sites.
- Congo: family tracing for unaccompanied or separated children

### HIGHLIGHT

- On 26 September, UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, called on the international community to assist the Central African Republic in charting a path to “reconstruction, reconciliation, and the rule of law.” At the high-level meeting on the Central African Republic, held within the confines of the annual General Assembly debate in New York, he urged the international community to help the country lift itself back up from the devastation of conflict and stated that they had an “obligation to act”. Mr. Ban added that “we must mobilize to support economic recovery and stabilization to meet the urgent security and humanitarian needs” in the Central African Republic.
- On 24 September, the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Fatou Bensouda, announced the decision to open an investigation in the Central African Republic with respect to crimes allegedly committed since August 2012. Based on information gathered during a preliminary examination in February 2014, Ms. Bensouda concluded that an investigation was warranted as information provides a “reasonable basis” to believe that both sides in the conflict appear to have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity.

### Population of concern (as at 26 September)

A total of **906,028** people of concern



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

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### Operational Context

- The Brazzaville agreement signed at the end of July 2014 is yet to be implemented by signatory parties and monitoring mechanisms for the actual implementation of the agreement at national and provincial levels have not yet been put in place. Due to continued insecurity, the restoration of state authority is not currently evident in many areas of Ouham and Ouham Pende prefectures (north-west CAR). For local authorities to be able to perform their duties, they will need to be assisted by public security forces who remain either absent or very few in number (for instance, Bossangoa has 8 gendarmes) resulting in local authorities lacking any real control.

### Protection

#### Central African Republic

- According to the *Commission Mouvement de la Population* (CMP) there are an estimated 487,580 IDPs in CAR, including 62,580 in Bangui in 37 sites.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- On 14-15 September, UNHCR, OCHA and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) carried out a joint protection mission to assess the situation in Boda and where a meeting was held with humanitarian actors in the town (UNHCR, OCHA, IOM, WFP, *Cooperazione* (COOPI), Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS)), the then-MISCA and Sangaris, the National Gendarmerie, representatives of and members of non-Muslim communities (elderly, youth, religious leaders and community leaders) and anti-Balaka elements. Discussions led to certain concerns being raised such as food distribution in terms of quality, quantity and frequency between different groups, that communication between humanitarian actors and beneficiaries needs to be improved and that NGO staff should be recruited locally.
- The IDP census exercise carried out under the supervision of UNHCR Bambari has been finalized with a total of 14,129 IDPs (3,124 households) in 3 sites.
- UNHCR funded social cohesion activities are currently underway in Bossangoa implemented by Search for Common Ground (SFCG) who have recruited 71 peer educators. SFCG social cohesion activities would put an emphasis on peace education in order to prepare the ground for mutual acceptance so as to lead to durable reconciliation in Bossangoa and surrounding areas.

#### Cameroon

- An estimated 130,200 Central African refugees have entered Cameroon since December 2013 with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions.

#### Achievements and Impact

- A total of 59,475 refugees are settled in refugee sites including 10,747 in Lolo, 17,885 in Gado, 9,704 in Mbilé, 5,907 in Timangolo and 766 in Ngari-Singo (Yokadouma), all in the East region. There are also 11,379 refugees in Borgop and 3,117 in Ngam, in the Adamawa region. An additional 62,859 refugees are living in host villages.
- The rate of new arrivals has steadily decreased; this week UNHCR registered 213 refugees in Garoua Boulai coming from Bangui, Bocaranga, Bouar, Bozoum, Bossemptélé, Makoundji-wali, Niem, Baroro, Yaloké and Carnot. A total of 313 individuals were transferred from Garoua Boulai to the site of Gado.
- Over the course of the week, UNHCR issued a total of 1,457 identification documents to refugee families in Garoua Boulai and Gbiti and also in the sites of Gado, Mbilé, Borgop and Ngam. To date, a total of 31,650 identification documents have been issued by UNHCR to refugees of at least 18 years of age.
- In the refugee sites of Borgop, Gado and Lolo, the *Association Enfants, Jeunes et Avenir* (ASSEJA), with the support of UNICEF, continued to conduct child protection interventions. This week, 5,927 children (including

new participants) took part in psychosocial and recreational activities. Also 798 children took part in activities organized by Plan Cameroon in Mbilé and Timangolo within the child friendly spaces.

- This week, 2,512 people participated in information sessions organized by Plan Cameroon regarding the importance of education for their children and child protection in the site of Timangolo.
- UNHCR and CARE International organized a training for their staff and other actors on gender related issues and assistance in emergency situations, key notions of SGBV and the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that have been put in place, with a particular focus on coordination, documentation, information sharing and referral mechanisms.

## Chad

- An estimated 18,000 Central African refugees have entered Chad since December 2013 and are predominantly in the southern part of the country.

### Achievements and Impact

#### *Returnee response:*

- The joint verification exercise currently underway in Danamadja of the physical presence of returnees in shelters continued this week by UNHCR and *Secours Catholique et Développement* (SECADEV). So far, 509 households consisting of 2,445 people were accounted for in 457 shelters.
- A total of 758 returnees in Danamadja received 20,000 FCFA through the cash transfer programme of the *Bureau d'Etudes et de Liaison des Actions Caritatives et de Développement* (BELACD) on 15-17 September. The individuals in the programme are considered vulnerable and include, amongst others, widows, women head of households, orphans, and the elderly.

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

- An estimated 22,214 Central African refugees have entered the Democratic Republic of the Congo since December 2013 and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province but also Oriental Province.

### Achievements and Impact

- In Libenge, the registration exercise outside of Boyabu camp (level II) was finalized on 19 September, covering the north, south and central Libenge. As a result, 661 refugees (262 households) were registered, of which 171 expressed their willingness to be relocated to Boyabu camp.

## Republic of Congo

- An estimated 9,664 Central African refugees have entered the Republic of Congo since December 2013, including 304 new arrivals registered this week.

### Achievements and Impact

- This week, 304 new Central African refugees coming from Bangui and Lobaye prefecture were registered.
- UNHCR and the National Committee for Assistance of Refugees (CNAR) conducted a joint screening and registration mission in the district of Igne (located some 50 km from Brazzaville). The *sous-Prefet* of the locality had informed UNHCR of the presence of individuals that had recently arrived from the Central African Republic; 148 refugees were registered during this mission.
- An SGBV platform meeting took place in Betou this week. The aim of the meeting was ensure the implementation of a data sharing mechanism and the organization of joint information sessions with other agencies and NGOs. Among the initiatives discussed were the possibilities of using new forms of information campaigns through radios or other sources of the media. Campaigns will focus on sexual violence and early/forced marriage which are the incidents more commonly reported to UNHCR.

## Education

### Cameroon

#### Achievements and Impact

- So far, a total of 4,428 children participate in educational activities implemented in the Temporary Learning and Child Protection Spaces (ETAPes) of Gado, Timangolo, Mbile, Lolo and Borgop. A total of 509 refugee children (that had previously attended school in CAR) have now joined the public school system after having gone through the ETAPes.
- All refugee children that attend the ETAPes received learning material such as pens, crayons, chalk and notebooks, provided by UNICEF. Another distribution of such items is planned for next week.
- UNHCR held a meeting with several youth on the site of Borgop in order to encourage them to enrol at the *Lycée de Djohong*. Students however expressed the difficulty in finding lodging and how some parents are reluctant to let their girls attend secondary school. Following the exchange with the potential students, a mass information campaign was organized in the site for both parents on the possibilities for their children to go secondary school and to encourage all children to attend classes.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- To facilitate the integration of refugee children into local schools, UNHCR carried out follow-up missions to secondary public schools in Garoua Boulai to provide the lists of refugee students who are likely to be present for enrolment.
- UNHCR continues to inform parents on the importance of sending their children to school. In Timangolo, 1,313 refugees were sensitized, including 714 men and 559 women.

### Democratic Republic of the Congo

#### Achievements and Impact

- Since the opening of the cyber café in Mole camp, instructors are being trained to teach refugees how to study using computers; 22 IT students are currently enrolled.
- In Inke camp educational inspectors from the Central African Republic have arrived. The training they will give will be concluded by recruiting the best 18 teachers, after finalizing a test.
- Registration of new students for the school year 2014-2015 continues in the camps in Equateur and Orientale Province. In Mbote, school kits, uniforms and shoes were provided to primary school students.
- After following a training session, 15 out of 29 candidates were recruited to teach at the Boyabu primary schools and received certificates. The 15 newly-recruited teachers proposed that such trainings and assessments should be done each quarter.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Inke camp, new schools are being constructed to accommodate refugee students in durable structures (current schools are made from plastic sheeting). The old classrooms will be used, while the construction of the new schools is underway and UNHCR partner, African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) expect the construction works to be completed end October 2014.



## Health

### Cameroon

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Gado this week, 582 insecticide-treated mosquito nets were distributed by UNICEF and the *Délégation Régionale de la Santé Publique* (DRSP) and the monitoring of their use continued (began on 23 August). A total of 1,323 insecticide-treated mosquito nets have been distributed by UNICEF to 784 households, including 963 children below the age of 5 and 156 pregnant women.

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The official launch of the vaccination campaign against polio in Gbadolite, Inke, Zongo and Mole took place this week. A total of 828 children under the age of 5 were vaccinated against polio during the first day of the national campaign in Mole.
- In Mole camp, 541 new medical patients were treated in the local health clinic and where the predominant illnesses were malaria (22%), acute respiratory infections (20%) and intestinal parasites (8%).
- Inke camp treated a total of 448 refugees at the local health centre in the camp as well as 25 people from the local community. The most common illnesses were malaria (26%), intestinal parasites (16%), acute respiratory infections (15%), and diarrhea (15%). The rate of malaria has stabilized in recent weeks, and the percentage of refugees with intestinal parasites decreased from 22% to 15%.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### Cameroon

#### Achievements and Impact

- The 7th round of general food distributions began on 9 September in the East region. As of 21 September, 50,024 refugees (11,952 households) had received their rations. WFP plans to distribute the 15-day rations to 84,890 refugees. Since the beginning of the emergency, food distribution assistance from WFP for Central African refugees in the East and Adamawa regions has been organized in 7 monthly rounds to over 80,000 refugees (4,455 tons of food).

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Over the course of the week, a total of 162 new admissions were registered in mobile nutrition clinics (CNAs) and 7 in nutrition centres (CNTI), representing an overall decreasing trend. A total of 4,927 admissions have been recorded since the beginning of the crisis.
- Out of 196 released cases from mobile nutrition clinics this week, 88 children fully recovered. Currently, 1,409 patients are being treated in mobile nutrition clinics and 201 patients are being treated in nutrition centres.
- Additional ready-to-use nutritional supplements were provided to the mobile nutrition clinics of Lolo, Mbilé and Kentzou.
- WFP continued to procure and supply nutritional supplements in the health centres of the East and Adamawa regions for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). During the month of August, 4,109 girls, 3,729 boys and 4,715 pregnant and lactating women in the East region were treated in the malnutrition programme with a total of 35,074 tons of nutritional supplements distributed, including 158 tons of plumpy sup, 19,650 tons of Corn-Soy Blend (CSB), 1,806 tons of oil and 0,460 tons of sugar.

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- After the refugees in Inke accepted the 'monthly market fair' (*foire*) as a method of food distribution, an emergency meeting was held on 18 September between UNHCR, WFP and the *Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés* (CNR) to assess the process for its implementation. Four topics featured on the agenda: (i) the availability and delivery of food by merchants, (ii) tentative start date of the distribution, (iii) food security during the fair and (iv) the development of stands for the fair. WFP was urged to organize new agreements with food retailers as soon as possible, so a new food distribution could be held. On 23 September a meeting was held to communicate the current developments to the refugees.
- In Mbote camp, 3,758 kg of palm oil and 313,2 kg of salt was been distributed to 522 persons.

- In Mole camp, 227 refugees are currently following the nutritional programme, which includes 61 pregnant and breast-feeding women. There are 138 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 28 with severely acute malnutrition (SAM). The proxy global acute malnutrition rate this week was 5.3%; the proxy MAM rate at 4.4% and the proxy SAM rate at 0.9%. This week, a total of 580 packets of plumpy nut were distributed. Mole camp is now facing a shortage of plumpy nut packets and CSB for the nutritional programmes.
- In Inke camp, 354 people received nutritional support during this reporting period. These included 12 new cases of refugees with MAM, 134 follow up cases (of which 117 refugees) and 17 Congolese. A total of 987 packets of plumpy sup and 1,113 sacks of plumpy nut were distributed in Inke camp. In addition, 64 refugees were provided with Vitamin A.
- In Boyabu camp, 572 packets of plumpy nut and 644 packets of plumpy sup were distributed.



## Water and Sanitation

### Cameroon

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The completion of 7 boreholes this week has allowed for the increase of water supply to refugees in Lolo (21.6l), Mbilé (15.7l) and Ngari-Singo (26.1l) – all within and above the recommended emergency standard of 15l of water per person per day.
- CARE continued its information campaigns on personal hygiene, the conservation of food, washing of hands, the hygiene maintenance of latrines and water points on the site of Timangolo for 504 people including 170 women, 69 men and 267 children.
- On the sites of Borgop, Ngam, Gado and Timangolo, the quantity of water supplied on a daily basis remains below the recommended emergency standard of 15l per person per day.
- Overall, the ratio of people to the number of latrines is 34, contrary to the recommended standard of 1 latrine for every 20 people.
- Additional funding is necessary for the construction of 45 boreholes, 3,332 latrines and 2,357 showers in order to meet the overall needs of refugees in all sites.

### Democratic Republic of the Congo

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Inke camp, 11 wells provide water to the refugees, which produce a total of 695,540l per day, which is approximately 8.8l of water per person per day, below the minimum emergency standard of 15l of water per person per day. Some 3,200l were distributed at the transit centre of Inke and an additional 2,150l at the transit center of Gbadolite/Pangoma.
- Mole camp produces a total of 1,234,800l of water which provides 11.8l per person per day.
- Out of 863 family latrines that are planned in Inke camp, 614 have been constructed so far.
- In Mole camp 52 family latrines have been constructed, which makes the current total of family latrines 415.
- The daily water production in Boyabu has significantly improved and currently stands at 187,111l and provides 15l per person per day.
- Boyabu camp has a total of 244 latrines and 190 communal showers that are operational.

### Republic of Congo

#### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's partner the *Agence d'assistance pour les Rapatriés et les Réfugiés au Congo* (AARREC) conducted information sessions for over 500 refugees on the refugee sites of Ikpengbele and 15 Avril on the promotion of hygiene. Overall, some 540 individuals have been sensitized.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The construction and rehabilitation of some 85 water points, construction of 650 latrines and 250 semi-durable latrines in school and health centre continued this week.

## Shelter and NFIs

### Central African Republic

#### Achievements and Impact

- According to a recent report issued by the Shelter/NFI cluster, UNHCR is the main contributor to the overall NFI response in the country since December 2013 covering 40.2% of needs; a total of 317,809 NFIs/31,781 NFI kits have been distributed.
- The distribution of shelter kits by CRS in Bouca and its surroundings was completed with a total of 1,487 kits distributed through a UNHCR funded project.

### Democratic Republic of the Congo

#### Achievements and Impact

- In Mbote camp, NFI distribution took place, which included 522 sleeping mats, 446 jerry cans, 2,088 soap bars, 522 covers and 446 plastic buckets.
- In Boyabu camp, 11 new family latrines were constructed this reporting period, bringing to a total of 604 operational family latrines. Furthermore, 250 people received NFIs, which comprised of 137 sleeping mats, 137 blankets, 136 mosquito nets and 168 jerry cans. In addition, 4,214 refugees (1,140 households) received soap bars. Boyabu camp currently has 1,204 shelters and plans are to add another 250.

#### Identified needs and remaining gaps

- Severe lack of NFIs is still reported in the camps, and therefore new arrivals do not always receive necessary NFI assistance. In Mole, only mats and blankets are distributed.

### Republic of Congo

#### Identified needs and remaining gaps

- A total of 47 permanent shelters are complete out of 200 initially planned at the *15 avril* site in Betou.
- Since the beginning of the CAR emergency, 12,170 refugees have been assisted with NFIs in Betou and Impfondo.

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### Central African Republic

#### Achievements and Impact

- In Bossangoa, the *Petit Séminaire St Jean de Bossangoa* site is now hosting 390 IDPs (113 households). The site is coordinated and managed by CRS.

### Chad

- From 17-19 September a CCCM training was conducted in Maro in order to reinforce the capacities of partners in camp coordination in the site of Maigama. The training involved 30 participants including administrative authorities, staff from UN agencies and NGOs providing assistance in Maigama.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

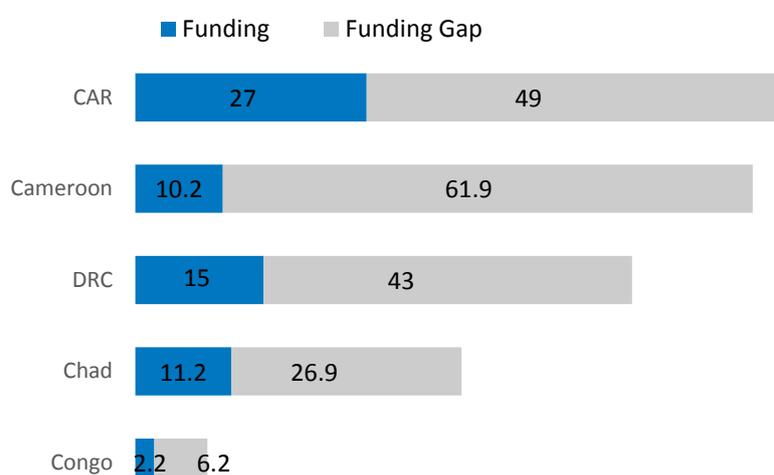
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation. Below are UNHCR's financial needs for providing protection and assistance 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. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the CAR Regional Situation currently amounts to USD 255 million, including USD 104.5 million of revised additional needs in asylum countries from January to December 2014, as presented in the Revised Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 22 July. **The overall needs are currently funded at 31%.**

### Donors:

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### Funding:

A total of **USD 80 million** has been funded



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### Links:

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

# Central African Republic Emergency Situation

as of 26 September 2014

