



## KEY FIGURES

**430,000**

Internally Displaced Persons in CAR of which

**61,244**

In 36 sites in Bangui

**7,966**

Refugees in CAR mostly from DRC, Chad and Sudan

**951**

CCCM stakeholders participated in 42 training sessions of which 3 were inter-agency training seminars from the global CCCM cluster

**8**

out of the 10 conflict affected prefectures in CAR covered by UNHCR protection monitoring and response activities through 4 INGOs

## FUNDING

**USD 72.9 million**

Requested for the operation



## PRIORITIES

- Effective Protection monitoring and response in 8 prefectures
- Close monitoring of the situation of communities at risk in Boda and Yaloke
- Contribute in building safe conditions for return in affected areas in CAR
- Continuous search for durable solutions for refugees in CAR

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

## UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

16-30 November 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

- UNHCR Representative in CAR was invited by the Representative of the CAR Mediator on 20 November to participate in a meeting in Bangui with the monitoring committee of the Brazzaville Agreement aiming at discussing upcoming CAR elections and the inclusion of CAR refugees in the process. UNHCR Representative in CAR welcomed CAR authorities' willingness to hold inclusive elections and reiterate UNHCR's readiness to take part in the discussions between CAR authorities and countries of asylum on practical modalities as the organization already has an extensive experience in the matter, the last one being the Mali elections. Participants recommended the Mediator to formally send a letter to the President of the ANE (National Authority for Elections) to start consultations with embassies representing countries of asylum and UNHCR prior to the set-up of a committee which will then carry out technical/political missions in countries of asylum. The issue of refugees' destroyed/occupied properties was raised by some donor countries which UNHCR Representative emphasized as a matter of concern to the organization.
- UNHCR Representative participated in a mission composed of some of the CAR HCT members to Zemio in Haut Mbomou province on 22 November. The mission aimed to assess the humanitarian situation in Zemio following the outbreak of inter-communal violence. The mission called upon all parties involved to end violence and ensure the restoration of social cohesion in the region.

### Population of concern

A total of **437,966** people of concern



## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Operational Context

The Haut-Mbomou prefecture has slightly been affected by the former Seleka coalition and anti-balaka movements because of the presence of the Ugandan Army (UPDF) who secures the prefecture and border areas with Uganda against the Lord Resistance Army (LRA). However, mistrust has recently been perceptible between Muslim and non-Muslim communities in Zemio where an upsurge of violent attacks was reported by UNHCR office starting from 17 November.

The crisis started after the killing of a Muslim man in a village located around 45 kms from Zemio. A Muslim group from Zemio went to the funerals and was ambushed 35km from Zemio on their way back. Acts of retaliation then started with involvement of both Muslim and Non-Muslim communities in Bahr, Bogou, Bangassou-Issa and finally Zemio town. Inter-communal violence continued through 18 November in Zemio despite mediation efforts made by the Prefect. At least ten people have been injured, two severely including the imam, according to local authorities. The situation in Zemio remains highly tense with 80 per cent of the total population estimated at 16,000 internally displaced. The presence of numerous armed men with guns, machetes, knives, bows and arrows was reported by humanitarian actors on ground.

The security situation in Ouham remains unpredictable with several attacks on humanitarian staff and lootings of humanitarian convoys. WFP truck was looted on 13 November by armed elements at only 5 kms away from Bossangoa on the Bossangoa-Nana Bakassa axis, humanitarian staff including UNHCR's were attacked inside UNOCHA compound in Batangafo on 16 November. According to UNHCR Field Safety Officer, humanitarian actors are likely to be more and more targeted if there is no consistent measure to further secure the region with additional stations of International Forces or regular patrols on the axis.

### Achievements

#### Protection for internally displaced people

##### Protection Cluster

- The Protection Cluster is led by UNHCR and co-led by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
- The *Commission Mouvement de Populations* (CMP) in CAR is under the Protection Cluster and is in charge of collecting, clearing, analyzing and disseminating population movement's data. The CMP met on 19 November to endorse new figures in Bangui 61,244 IDPs in 36 sites in Bangui.
- A joint team composed of the Protection Cluster and DRC's emergency unit went on a field mission to the Lobaye province aiming to monitor protection response being provided by the Protection cluster's partners in the region and to monitor the situation of communities-at-risk. The mission visited IDPs in Boda, Mbaiki, and the villages of Boboua, Bodjoula, Boguera, Boganagone, Zalingo, Becagomie, Ndolo and Ngotto. The mission made the following key recommendations: advocacy for the redeployment of local administration; the deployment of security forces to Boganangone and Boganda; advocacy for regular patrols by MINUSCA forces based in Mbaiki to the Boganangone and Boboua areas; additional social cohesion projects and economic recovery in Boda, Boganangone and Boboua; construction of community shelters or support for the reconstruction of shelters; rehabilitation of the main market in Boda; cash for work initiatives for youths and psychosocial support to communities.

- On 15 November, the Protection Cluster held the first round of its sensitization campaign on protection issues and protection mainstreaming in emergency situations. The initiative consists of a series of trainings targeting hundreds of national NGOs and national staff from UN agencies and International NGOs in order to build their Protection capacity. This first session focused on the following topics: what is protection in an emergency situation; who are the main protection actors in CAR and key protection issues in CAR. At the end of the first session, 10 key protection-related themes were identified for the next training sessions.
- The Protection Cluster has finalized its Protection incident matrix. The matrix aims to strengthen humanitarian coordination and the Protection Cluster's advocacy on interactions with international forces. The matrix classifies regions of intervention according to the level of risk and by priority areas. A first phase has now been launched in Bangui and surrounding areas for a month before the endorsement of the final version of the matrix by the CAR humanitarian country team. The Protection cluster's matrix feeds into the MINUSCA flash point matrix which provides weekly updates on protection hotspots and recommended actions.

### Achievements and Impact by UNHCR and partners

- **Profiling:** The joint IDP profiling in Batangafo by UNHCR/DRC/UNFPA is now finalized with a total of 25,770/4449 IDP households found in 7 sites.
- **Capacity Building mission:** Since the first week of November, UNHCR's Information Management section has been on mission in Bouar and Bossangoa in order to install the protection monitoring and population tracking database in these field locations for partners' use in order to harmonize data collection, analysis and dissemination. The mission aimed also to train partners' on the use of GPS. A total of 36 staff participated in the 2 training sessions (17 Danish Refugee Council staff, 13 Mercy Corps staff and 6 UNHCR staff members).
- **Return of CAR refugees:** UNHCR's HoSo in Bossangoa carried out a 2-day mission in 3 sub-prefects of Ouham Pende (Bocaranga, Kouï, and Ngaoundaye) in order to follow up on the return movements reported by UNHCR's partner IEDA Relief and assess the reportedly positive social cohesion in these areas between the Muslim and non-Muslim communities. The mission finds out 3,300 spontaneous returnees/551 households registered by the gendarmerie of Kouï. Many of these have their documents delivered by UNHCR Cameroon.



### Shelter and NFIs for internally displaced people

#### Shelter and NFIs Cluster

- The Shelter/NFI cluster is led by UNHCR and co-led by ACTED
- In Boda, through an intervention of PU-AMI, 26 collective emergency shelters were constructed outside the enclave in 3 IDP sites in order to provide emergency shelter to 890 IDPs. 12 collective emergency shelters were constructed for the Muslim community in the enclave, providing shelter for some 480 most vulnerable persons. PU-AMI, IOM and the Committee of Elderly of Boda jointly established the beneficiary lists.
- In Bossangoa, so far, CRS has distributed 14,463 NFI kits to families in need. 4,747 and 7,716 kits were provided by OFDA and UNHCR respectively.

### Achievements and Impact by UNHCR and partners

- In March 2014, UNHCR signed an agreement with the Catholic Relief Service to implement a return project targeting returning IDPs and a Camp Coordination Camp Management project targeting IDPs in the 2 sites Ecole Liberte and Eveche. By the time of the agreement, the last 524 IDPs of Muslim faith were evacuated by the humanitarian

community under UNHCR's lead to Chad. On the other hand, some of the 30,000 non-Muslim IDPs hosted at the Bishopric (Eveche) were returning to their homes and some remained in the site.

Following assessments carried out by CRS in villages located in axis from Bossangoa to Bangui, Bouca, Lere, Benzambe and Ouham- BAC, CRS identified needs for returning IDPs in terms of NFIs as most of them were looted before and during flight and in terms of support to reconstruction as the rainy season was about to kick in and lack of shelter would jeopardize therefore food security.

- Within that project, 7716 returning IDPs of above mentioned axis were assisted in NFIs kits consisting of 2 blankets, 2 plastic sheeting, 2 mats, 1 kitchen set, 2 buckets and 2 mosquito nets per household.
- Within the support of reconstruction project, 80% of the 2000 families were supported in terms of shelter kits composed of (i) tool kits to be shared by 5 households with hammers, shovels, hoes and screwdrivers for the structure (ii) security kits composed of plastic sheets, wooden doors, windows and padlocks. Prior to this distribution, technical committees for construction are trained and put in place in villages in order to assist beneficiaries accordingly. CRS is completing the shelter project with the last two axis from Bossangoa to Benzambe and Ouham Bac.



## Camp Coordination and Camp Management

### Camp Coordination Camp Management Cluster

- The CCCM cluster in Central Africa Republic is led by UNHCR and co-led by IOM
- Bangui: A task force on *M'Poko* site was established to support the departure of IDPs from the site before mid-February 2015 and the access of IDPs to durable or alternative solutions. The security aspect of the possible alternative site AVICOM, which was identified by the Government, was assessed by MINUSCA prior to a visit with national authorities to determine the available area for the set-up of the alternative site. This task force led by the CCCM cluster and UNOCHA is composed of site management organization PU-AMI, the UNOCHA Coordinator of the Durable Solutions task force, the Government and the Protection and Shelter clusters.

### Achievements and Impact by UNHCR and partners

- **Identification of IDPs in Batangafo and surroundings:** The counting exercise in 26 sites on the Batangafo-Bouca axis has been finalized with a total of 44.382 IDPs. The exercise was carried out by a joint team composed of the site management organization Danish Refugee Council, UNHCR and UNFPA and remains on hold for 2 remaining sites *Boya* and *Bozacou* for security reasons.
- **Bambari:** Under the supervision of UNHCR Site planner and jointly with local partners, the alternative site has been cleaned up and is being parceled. COOPI will build the fence and implement the tarpaulin distribution and allocation of slots to households. COOPI will also support the transfer of IDPs who will be in charge of building their own shelters except vulnerable households who will receive assistance from COOPI. Sensitization meetings were held with IDPs from sites "S" and "M"<sup>1</sup> to be transferred to the new site, in order to clarify the transfer process and respond to their concerns, which were mostly linked with security.

<sup>1</sup> Site "S" is close to the Sangaris base and "M" is close to the MISCA base which has become MINUSCA since the handing over of AU mission to the UN peacekeeping mission



## Multi Sectoral assistance to Refugees

### Pladama Ouaka Sudanese Refugee camp in Bambari:

- WFP distributed food items to 1750 refugees/437 households in Pladama Ouaka camp during the reporting period.
- International Medical Corps, UNHCR partner for health activities in the camp has set up a committee for the organization of the World AIDS day on 3 December.
- COOPI has finalized the assessment process of the associations to be reinforced with income generating activities.

### Urban refugees in Bangui:

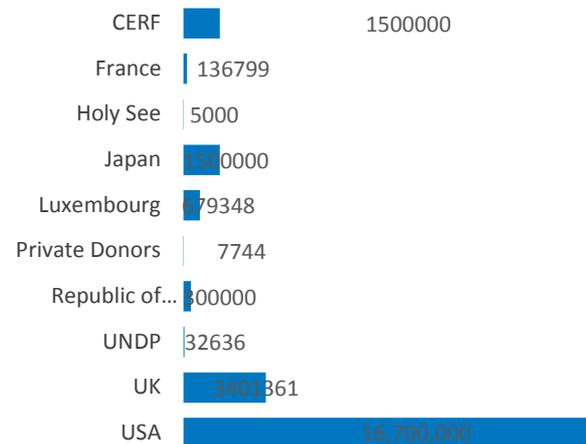
- Within the framework of emergency assistance to urban refugees, the Danish Refugee Council distributed food items to 610 vulnerable refugee households in Bangui (rice, oil, biscuits and cereals). In the same spirit, 76 people with specific needs received 25,000 francs to buy food complements.
- 60 Sudanese and Congolese refugee households living in the PK5 enclave have received 30,000 francs CFA/household equivalent to 60 dollars. In order to assess their security and humanitarian situation, UNHCR held discussion sessions with refugees in the enclave during which refugees said how critical their food insecurity has become as there is discrimination towards them in the enclave during food distributions from different sources.
- In a bid to efficiently target income generating activities according to refugee's profiles in the two camps in CAR namely Zemio and Bambari, UNHCR's partner for multisectoral assistance to refugees in rural area COOPI (Cooperazione Internazionale) was requested to carry out assessments based on surveys and interviews in the two camps and propose projects during the first semester of 2014. The exercise was concluded and COOPI sub agreement was reviewed according to the newly identified Income Generating Activities.
- As a result of these assessments, 60 associations will be created/reinforced, 700 agricultural kits will be distributed, and 60 Income Generating Projects will be put in place in the two camps. In the framework of its durable solutions strategy for refugees in the PK5 enclave, 20 Sudanese households were interviewed during the reporting period for possible referrals for resettlement.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 24,262,888 million**

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

### Funding received (in million USD)



## ANNEXES

### UNHCR offices in CAR

**07** offices located in:

Bangui, Bossangoa, Zemio, Bambari, Bouar, Paoua and Kaga Bandoro

### UNHCR staff in CAR

**92** national staff

**25** international staff

**2** IUNV

**1** Consultant

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