

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 48

24 January – 6 February 2015

KEY FIGURES

442,495

IDPs including

50,281

in Bangui in 34 sites

429,882

Total number of CAR refugees in
neighbouring countries

190,217

New CAR refugees in neighbouring
countries since Dec. 2013

8,103

Refugees and asylum seekers in
CAR

PRIORITIES

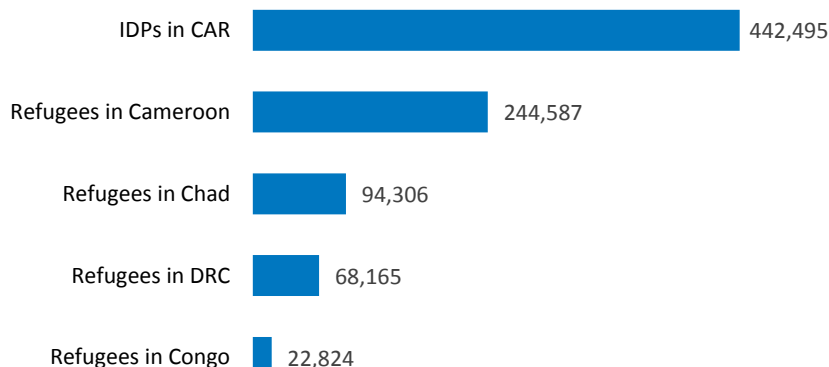
- Cameroon: acceleration of assistance to refugees living offsite in villages.
- Chad: profiling and verification exercise in returnee sites.
- DRC: relocation of refugees to existing sites. Verification of refugees out of camps.
- Congo: family tracing for unaccompanied or separated children

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 5 February, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon asked the UN Security Council for 1,030 more peacekeepers for the Central African Republic (CAR). The current peacekeeping mission in CAR is reportedly overstretched. Mr. Ban would like an additional 750 troops and 280 police which would bring the total number of mandated uniformed personnel in the country to 13,000. The UN Security is due to renew the mandate of the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) in April of this year. According to Mr. Ban, MINUSCA is expected to be at 90% full capacity by April, and if authorized, additional peacekeepers could be on the ground by July 2015.
- On 28 January it was announced that a cease-fire agreement was signed in Nairobi by representatives of the ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka and called for, amongst other things, the need to replace the current transitional government and the obligation of the transitional government to explore possibilities of a general amnesty for all parties to the current conflict. On 29 January, President Catherine Samba-Panza, whose transitional government did not participate in the talks, denounced the agreements and dissociated herself from it.

Population of concern

A total of **872,377** people of concern



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS



Protection

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

- According to the *Commission Mouvement de la Population* (CMP) there are an estimated 442,495 IDPs in the Central African Republic (CAR), including 50,281 in Bangui in 34 sites.
- UNHCR and OCHA carried out a monitoring mission to the “*Federation des Deplacés*” site located in the PK5 enclave. The families expressed that they need assistance in terms of education for their children and that they hope to receive assistance for livelihood activities which they submitted to UNHCR.

CAMEROON

- An estimated 137,731 Central African refugees have entered Cameroon since December 2013 with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions.

Achievements and Impact

- During the week, UNHCR registered 119 individuals (20 households) from the village of Banga-Boumbe in CAR, who are currently settled among host families. They claim to have fled attacks against their village by ex-Seleka elements on 29 January.
- UNHCR continues to verify and update registration information for spontaneous movements and family reunifications between sites and villages. During the week, 617 refugees were verified and registered in villages in the East region including Bandongoue, Kambele, Toktoyo, Garoua Boulai and on the site of Ngarisingo (Yokadouma). UNHCR issued 121 identification documents to refugee families in Meiganga and the villages of Bandongoue and Kambele.
- UNHCR convened the first meeting of the Child Protection sub-working group for 2015 in Batouri with the participation of the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Family, and partners intervening in the North, Adamawa and East regions. Discussions focused on validating standard operating procedures for child protection and harmonizing working tools.

CHAD

- An estimated 17,078 Central African refugees have entered Chad since December 2013 and are predominantly in the southern part of the country.

Achievements and Impact

Returnees:

- The transfer of returnees from Sido to the site of Maingama continues. As of 26 January, IOM had transferred 15,028 individuals out of a total 32,000 who wish to be relocated. Relocation of this population resumed on 20 January and will continue until May 2015.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- An estimated 22,214 Central African refugees have entered the Democratic Republic of the Congo since December 2013 (as at 31 October) and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province. This number is supplemented by a recent influx of Central African refugees that entered the Bosobolo territory in Equateur Province. A Level 1 UNHCR and *Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés* (CNR) registration mission concluded that there are 19,289 refugees that crossed into the DRC.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNHCR relocated 405 people from 104 households to Boyabu camp from Batanga transit centre. There are another 448 pre-registered refugees also waiting to be relocated to Boyabu refugee camp.
- In Mole camp, the first birth certificates of 2015 were distributed to parents of new born babies in the camp, as well as those had not received their certificates in 2014 (309 babies).

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- An estimated 13,194 Central African refugees have entered the Republic of Congo since December 2013, and are predominantly in the Betou area. During the reporting period, 496 new arrivals were registered in Betou, Impfondo and Brazzaville. Since November 2014, the trend of new arrivals has increased from 100 refugees per week to 200 or more.

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR conducted a border monitoring mission to the locality of Kpakaya where 42 refugees were identified, registered and relocated to Betou.

Education

CAMEROON

Achievements and Impact

- This week, UNHCR attended the first meeting of the regional coordination group (East and Adamawa) for the Education Sector, which took place in Batouri. The meeting was convened and chaired by the Ministry of Primary Education (MINEDUB), with the participation of MINEDUB regional delegates, school administrators, local authorities and partners (Plan Cameroon and UNICEF). Discussions focused on activities within the Temporary Learning and Child Protection Spaces (ETAPes) and the terms of reference for the education workshop to be held in Yaoundé next week.
- To date, 10,392 refugee children are participating in educational activities provided within the ETAPes in 6 sites (5 in the East region and 1 in the Adamawa region), including 4,172 girls (40%) and 6,220 boys (60%). A total of 556 children, upon completion of the ETAPes classes, have been assisted to integrate local schools within the host communities.
- IEDA Relief, UNHCR's implementing partner, distributed 140 school benches in several local schools in Yokadouma. School material was also provided by Plan Cameroon and UNICEF in the ETAPes and local schools. So far, 7,713 children and 74 teachers in sites, and 2,636 children and 6 teachers in local schools have received learning and teaching materials.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The reinforcement of community sensitizations on school attendance is necessary.
- There remains a lack of school supplies, uniforms and classroom equipment in some refugee hosting areas.
- There is a need to expand capacity—in terms of infrastructure, equipment, materials and staffing— of local public schools to integrate refugee children into the national curriculum.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Solar lamps have been distributed to the 30 teachers in Inke camp. In addition, 75 refugee students going to secondary school in Gbadolite received notebooks.
- The literacy structures put in place to teach people to read are operational in Inke camp. There are currently 318 refugees learning how to read (212 women and 106 men).

- Boyabu camp has a total of 872 children going to primary school in the camp. It is challenging for teachers to evaluate the progress made by the individual students, since each teacher has at least 100 students in its class. In addition, only 72% of those who registered in the beginning of the year (1,210) are going to school.
- There are not enough tables in classrooms in Boyabu camp. For instance, in one classroom there are 91 students with only 20 tables, forcing students to sit on the ground if they want to attend school.
- Newly arrived refugees in Equateur have no access to education, which is one of the reasons why they are being advised to relocate to the camps as soon as possible.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Achievements and Impact

- In Betou, the construction work of new classrooms is ongoing; 14 classrooms are currently being constructed by UNHCR's implementing partner, African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) in the four public schools of Betou and Ikpengbele. AIRD is also constructing latrines in these four schools and a vocational training centre in Ikpengbele.



Health

CAMEROON

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Timangolo, UNHCR is working with partner Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) to identify locations to construct health posts throughout the site to better monitor the health situation of refugees.
- With the support of UNHCR, partners FAIRMED and AHA are assisting polio vaccination campaigns in Kette and Batouri in the East region. In addition, UNHCR provided logistical support for the polio vaccination campaign in Garoua Boulai.

CHAD

Achievements and Impact

Refugees:

- In line with the national campaign to eradicate maternal and neo-natal tetanus, a vaccination campaign was launched in Doholo on 23 January for seven days. It will target girls and women till the age of 49.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- An emergency mission is currently assessing the health situation in the Bosobolo territory for refugees that have recently arrived in the DRC, together with partners such as WHO and MSF. According to MSF the health situation is critical and there is a risk of a measles outbreak.
- Most needs and gaps are related to the influx in the Bosobolo area in Equateur. The following recommendations were made by the emergency mission: to reinforce the capacities of health centres/structures in the areas hosting refugees; to provide mobile clinics in areas where refugees cannot access health centres due to the distance; to ensure mass vaccination campaigns against measles for fear of an outbreak; to provide blanket supplementary feeding in health centres.



Food Security and Nutrition

CAMEROON

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- This week, UNHCR held consultations with WFP to discuss various projects submitted by partners for activities targeting moderate acute malnutrition and blanket feeding programmes. Nearly all implementing partners are requesting additional funding in addition to those received from UNHCR. UNHCR and WFP are also

planning to conduct a joint food security assessment mission in September 2015, which will also include donors and authorities.

- International Medical Corps (IMC), UNHCR's implementing partner, continued the ninth round of the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) in the Adamawa region. To date, 8,224 children have received nutritional assistance out of a targeted 14,443. In addition, 1,160 pregnant and lactating women (out of 2,395 planned) have also been assisted. Preliminary results confirmed 66 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 15 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Around 15 tonnes of nutritional supplements have been distributed for their treatment.
- During the reporting period, a total of 134 new admissions were registered in mobile nutrition clinics and 47 in nutrition centres. Currently, 1,045 beneficiaries are being treated in mobile nutrition clinics (907) and nutrition centres (138).

CHAD

Refugees:

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNHCR and partners conducted a mission to refugee hosting villages in the Moissala area to carry out food distribution for the months of January and February; 5,143 refugees (1,286 families) have been targeted.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- A total 997 children were screened for malnutrition in Dula (Bosobolo territory) out of which 377 were found to be with MAM and were included in the nutritional support programme. High energy biscuits were distributed by the *Association de Développement Economique et Social* (ADES).
- WFP delivered 4,406 tonnes of food assistance to 4 health centres in the Bosobolo area to be distributed to vulnerable refugees.
- A total of 336 refugees are admitted to the nutritional programme in Mole camp, out of which there are 91 pregnant and lactating women and 212 children suffering from MAM and 33 children with SAM. ADES distributed 693 packets of plumpy nut to refugees with SAM and 1,484 packets to refugees with MAM, as well as 159.25 kg of Corn Soy Blend (CSB) to pregnant and lactating women.
- In Inke camp, there are 197 malnourished refugees, out of which 182 are admitted to the nutritional programme (including 96 children below the age of 5). In addition, 311 refugee children under the age of 5 were screened during this reporting period after which 2 cases of MAM and 3 with SAM were reported.
- In Boyabu camp, 175 children are receiving nutritional support out of which 26 have SAM and 149 MAM. There are also 147 adults in the nutritional support programme. ADES distributed 651 packets of plumpy nut to children suffering from SAM and 150 packets of plumpy sup to 21 out of the 149 children with MAM. Eight packages of CSB and 4 bottles of oil were distributed to pregnant and lactating women.



Water and Sanitation

CAMEROON

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The average water supply in Gado, Mbilé, Timangolo, Borgop and Ngam remains below UNHCR standards of 20 litres of water per person per day (l/p/d). This is mainly due to technical difficulties of some boreholes at these sites. Repair work is currently underway to resolve this.
- Additional resources are necessary for the construction of 54 boreholes, 865 latrines and 1,123 showers to cover the needs in all refugee sites. In host villages, an additional 389 boreholes need to be constructed, 247 repaired and 828 latrines built.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In host villages in the Bosobolo area where refugees (about 2,256) are living with host families, refugees and local communities use without distinctions the water from the Oubangi river, non-furnished natural springs and traditional wells. Access to water is low: 5-6 l/p/d in Dula and 7-10 l/p/d in Sidi. In large villages hosting refugees (Dula, Sidi, Gbangi, Boduna), only a limited number of local families use traditional family latrines: 20-30% is the estimated proportion of families with latrines in Dula and 40% is the proportion of families with latrines in Sidi.
- This week, Mole camp produced a total of 1,211,000l of water, which provided 11l/p/d.
- In Boyabu, the total amount of water production this week was 302,275l and provided 21 l/p/d. The water continues to be provided by 20 water points, 3 wells with manual pumps and one emergency well.
- In Inke camp, the level of water production stood at 1,541,100l and which provided 18.8 l/p/d.
- In Mboti refugee camp, the daily production of water was 8,450m³ and provided 15l/p/d.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's implementing partner, the *Agence d'Assistance pour les Rapatriés et les Réfugiés au Congo* (AARREC) progressed with the construction of a well on the 15 avril site and one in the public garden of Betou. AARREC also conducted the chlorination of 44 water points in the area of Betou and sensitization sessions on hygiene.

Identified Needs and Gaps

- At least 6 additional boreholes are required in Ikpengbele and Impfondo to cover the needs of the CAR refugee population.



Shelter and NFIs

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

- The IDP registration methodology for M'Poko camp in Bangui has been finalized with the support of UNHCR. The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) has been identified for its implementation. The Senior Humanitarian Coordinator has agreed to fund the activity through the Common Humanitarian Fund. Registration will determine the choice of IDPs who wish to be transferred to the alternative site of AVICOM; to relocate elsewhere; or to return to their neighbourhoods of origin. A return/relocation package has been developed aimed to find durable solutions for IDPs in M'Poko.
- In Bambari, UNHCR, UNFPA and UNICEF distributed NFI kits to 201 households who were victims of fire in the NDV and M sites. UNHCR, UNFPA and UNICEF are coordinating an additional distribution of 1,263 NFI kits to newly arrived IDPs in Bambari. During the reporting period UNHCR started pre-positioning 2,000 NFI kits.

CAMEROON

Achievements and Impact

- The International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), UNHCR's implementing partner, distributed 327 bundles of clothing to 12,342 refugees (4,511 families) in the sites of Borgop (9,973) and Ngam (2,369).

Identified Needs and Gaps

- An additional 2,750 family shelters need to be constructed for 500 families currently living in community shelters and 875 families that continue to share family tents.
- A total 9,500 semi-permanent family shelters need to be constructed in all sites.
- Distribution of NFIs needs to be extended to refugee hosting villages.

CHAD

Achievements and Impact

Returnees:

- The total number of shelters in Maingama stands at 3,538.
- IOM, co-lead of the Shelter/CCCM Cluster, has completed a physical verification of returnees in Sido: 18,503 individuals were verified. Among these, it is estimated that 6,488 individuals (1,629 families) may volunteer to relocate to the site of Maingama as the remaining individuals, some 12,000, are well integrated within the local population.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Identified Needs and Gaps

- UNHCR has identified two camp sites in the Bosobolo territory near Bili (some 40 km from the CAR border) and is currently in discussion with the government for the allocation of a site that could host at least 15,000 people.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Achievements and Impact

- AARREC distributed NFIs to 330 refugees (149 families) in Betou.
- The lighting of the 15 avril site and Ikepengbele is ongoing – 22 additional lamp posts were installed on both sites.



Community Empowerment and Self-Management

CAMEROON

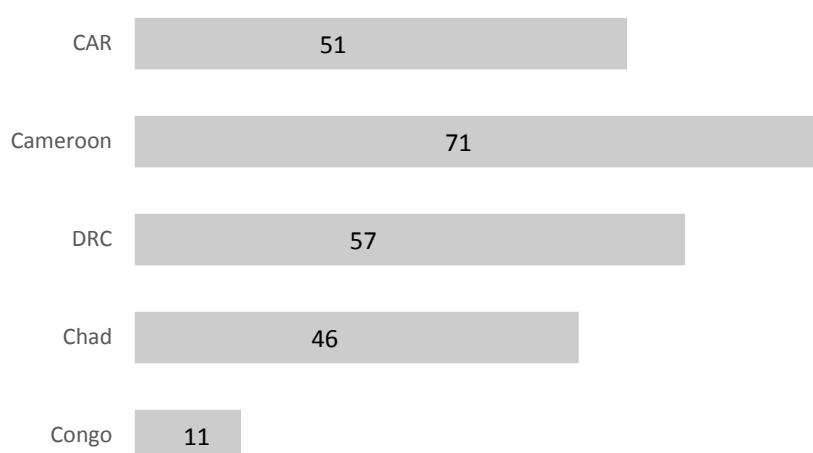
Achievements and Impact

- In Mbilé, Lolo and Timangolo, International Relief and Development (IRD), partner of UNHCR, launched the second phase of training for 900 refugee women in the production of fuel-efficient cookstoves. So far, 1,150 cookstoves have been made by refugee women during this second round of training. These cookstoves will help to reduce tensions between refugees and host communities by reducing reliance on firewood and will also help to promote environmental conservation.
- In Timangolo, IRD continues to support a growing number of beneficiaries in gardening and agricultural activities to produce various crops and food products. Given the high demand, products are sold directly to the local market. IRD is also working with local authorities to allocate more space for these activities both in the village and in the site of Timangolo.

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 in 2014. Below are UNHCR's 2015 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 Situation currently amounts to **USD 241 million**, including USD 186 million for the response in asylum countries from January to December 2015, as presented in the Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 23 January 2015.

Funding requirements (USD million)



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Links:

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

UNHCR Tracks: <http://tracks.unhcr.org>

Central African Republic Emergency Situation

as of 6 February 2015

