

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Situation Report No. 47 (as of 04 February 2015)



This report is produced by OCHA CAR in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period between 22 January and 04 February 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 18 February 2015.

Highlight

- A rapid monitoring mission from 29 January to 2 February revealed that about 1,500 new IDPs from Rafai (Mbomou Province) had fled LRA attacks and sought refuge in Nagbolongo Island and along the Mbomou river.
- Over 10,000 IDPs and Central African refugees have returned to Ouham Pendé Province from July 2014 to 31 January.
- The humanitarian community in CAR appeals for the deployment of local authorities to Batangafo (Ouham Province) to restore State authority and fight against impunity.

440,000

IDPs in CAR, including

50,281

in 34 sites Bangui (as of 3 February)

68%

Funding available (about US\$337 million) against the revised SRP 2014 requirements of \$555 million

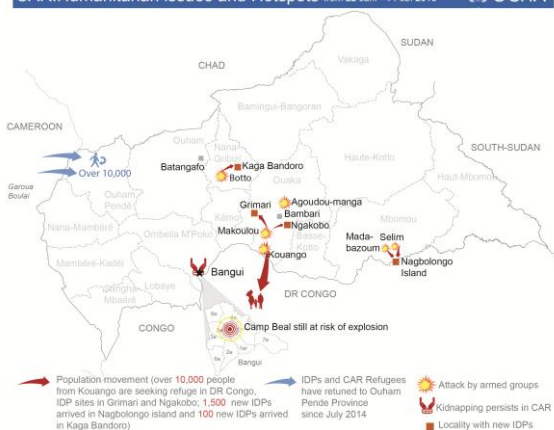
4.6 million

Population of CAR

2.7 million

People who need assistance

CAR: Humanitarian issues and Hotspots from 22 Jan. - 4 Feb. 2015 OCHA



Sources: UNDSS, OCHA, CCCM, UNHCR and MSF

Situation Overview

The kidnapping of aid and government staff has become a regular feature in a country that continues to be in the grip of violence and insecurity. Following several other abductions, the CAR Minister of Youth and Sports, Mr Armel Sayo was kidnapped on 25 January.

MINUSCA has condemned Mr Sayo's kidnapping and called for his immediate unconditional release. MINUSCA has also called for an end to such criminal practices which hinder efforts towards the restoration of rule of law, national reconciliation and peace.

On 28 January, eight people were killed and one wounded in an attack by armed groups in Ouaka Province. The attack took place in Agoudou-manga village, 50km from Bambari, the capital of Ouaka.

Residents have fled villages on the outskirts of the towns of Bambari, Ngakobo, Kouango following attacks. Armed groups killed four people in Mbrobaga village in the Bambari sub-province. In Makoulou village, also in the Bambari sub-province, a man was killed and a woman wounded causing residents to flee. Consequently, over 10,000 people have fled from Kouango and have sought refuge in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and IDP sites in Grimari and Ngakobo in Ouaka Province. The protection of civilians working group has recommended a military reconnaissance flight to the region.

On 27 January, nine people were killed in attacks by armed groups in Botto village (Nana Grebizi Province). Residents of Doukoumbe, (Nana Grebizi Province) and Botto villages have fled their homes in search of refuge. About 100 IDPs arrived in Kaga Bandoro, the capital of Nana Grebizi Province and sought refuge in a Catholic mission, in some abandoned houses and with host families. According to President of the IDPs at the Catholic mission, there are about 30 households at the mission site. During an initial assessment at the Catholic mission, it was reported that some people had started returning to their homes on 29 January.

Funding

CAR's 2015 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) has appealed for nearly US\$613 million to deliver humanitarian assistance to an estimated two million people of the 2.7 million in need in the country. Another \$298 million is also needed to assist nearly 461,200 CAR refugees in Chad, Cameroon, the DRC and the Republic of the Congo through the CAR Regional Refugee Response Plan 2015. The number of people who need humanitarian assistance has increased from 2.5 million to 2.7 million over the past year.

The first standard 2015 Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) allocation was launched on 14 January, for a total of \$10 million. The eligible priority thematic areas and the geographic zones per cluster are defined in the CHF [allocation strategy document](#). The allocation also includes a window for projects that invest in capacity building of national NGOs. Some 55 projects have been submitted for a total value of \$39 million. The projects are being reviewed in collaboration with the clusters.

Humanitarian Response



Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)



Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs:

- Over 30,000 IDPs in Batangafo city (Ouham Province) require immediate shelter and NFI. The latest influx of IDPs is a 15 per cent increase in numbers last registered in Batangafo in December 2014, representing 10 percent of the total IDP number in CAR.
- Advocacy for the deployment of MINUSCA forces to secure Batangafo and surrounding areas.

600,000

Vulnerable people targeted in 2015 with emergency shelter and NFIs.

Response:

- DRC distributed NFI kits to 651 newly arrived IDPs in Batangafo.
- CRS assisted 293 households in owner-driven reconstruction of houses in the Koudoum, Gbabili and Pari-Congo neighbourhoods of Boda (Lobaye Province).
- NFIs were distributed to 195 households in Boda's Boganangone, Zalingo and Bojoula neighbourhoods.
- UNHCR, UNFPA and UNICEF distributed NFI kits to 201 households in Bambari.

Gaps and constraints:

- Humanitarian actors face the threat of kidnappings while threats by armed groups also impede emergency responses.



Emergency Telecommunications

Response:

- The ETC supports humanitarian organizations operating in Bangui with issues such as, radio programming, technical advice and information sharing.
- The deployment of ETC VSAT to Ndele, the capital town of Bamingui-Bangoran Provinces being scheduled in coordination with hosting partners.
- All ETC information is available at: <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictopr/emergencies2013/central-african-republic>

Gaps and constraints:

- Radio rooms, set up by ETC, in the common UN compounds in the towns of Ndele, Bambari and Bouar need to be staffed to enable daily tracking of UN/NGO staff.
- Additional funding is required to maintain operations at their current level. The ETC and Logistics Cluster is preparing a budget revision to address these gaps.



Food Security

Needs:

- According to the November 2014 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), an estimated 1.5 million people require food assistance, of whom 209,978 are in Bangui. About 19 per cent of the rural population are in IPC phase 3 (crisis) and 12 per cent in phase 4 (emergency).
- Due to widespread insecurity, looting and slaughtering, crop production in 2014 is 58 per cent lower than the pre-crisis average.
- Food reserves in rural areas are 40 to 50 per cent lower than average and the lean season is expected to start as early as March. Life-saving assistance to severely food insecure people will be key in the coming months to support households towards the lean season.
- Support to boost food production will also be critical to save livelihoods and reduce vulnerable farming families' dependence on humanitarian aid. Promotion of vegetable production, small-livestock rearing and fish farming are priorities. Funds will be released soon to begin the distribution of seeds and tools in time for the first planting season in March.

1.2 million

Vulnerable people targeted in 2015

Response:

- In January, WFP reached nearly 330,000 beneficiaries with 2,800 mt of food.
- FAO is organizing a seeds availability assessment to inform its procurement plan for the crop season that will start in March.
- As part of Farmer Field School schemes, 5,310 household members of Parents' Associations are supported through 13 schools in Bria, the capital of Haute-Kotto Province and Boda.
- In partnership with NGOs, four schools in Bangui will be supported through "School gardens" programme.

Gaps and constraints:

- Insecurity along the roads, at distribution sites and theft of relief items and agricultural inputs in warehouses continue to represent the main constraint, hindering assistance to affected populations.
- Funds are urgently needed to initiate food security programmes such as seeds distribution to in time for the planting season.



Logistics

Response:

- WFP is in search of an additional storage capacity in Bangui.
- In January, UNHAS transported 2,222 passengers, 26 mt cargo and conducted one medical evacuation, two security relocations of eight people, organized two ad hoc flights for 15 people and seven cargo flights of 9.15mt.
- Since 1 February, UNHAS only accepts paid bookings.
- Updated information was shared on the Logistics Cluster website regarding UNHAS flights and Logistics Cluster information: <http://logcluster.org/ops/caf13a>

Gaps and constraints:

- Poor infrastructure and insecurity along the main roads remain a logistical challenge, hampering the humanitarian logistics chain.
- Access to national service providers remains an issue both in Bangui and the provinces.



Nutrition

Needs:

- Some 32,348 children will suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2015, and 78,335 children will suffer from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). These numbers could rise, given ongoing aggravating factors (displacement, poor food security, deteriorated access to clean water and sanitation, increased morbidity and lack of health-care services).
- About 22,700 children suffering from SAM and 47,000 children suffering from MAM are targeted for treatment in 2015.

119,000

Vulnerable people targeted with nutrition services in 2015

Response

- The NGO AHA screened 110 children aged between 6 and 59 months in Yaloke in (Ombella M'poko province). Findings revealed 43 MAM cases and 29 SAM cases. In addition, 250 children aged between 6 and 59 months were also screened by MSF-Spain in Batangafo. Some 40 SAM cases and 30 MAM cases were detected. The identified cases received treatment through on-site mobile out-patient therapeutic programmes. Some were also referred for treatment to existing health structures with in-patient therapeutic programmes and supplementary feeding programme components.
- In response to identified needs in Batangafo and Kabo, UNICEF provided supplies to MSF-Spain that included: 12 cartons of F-75 therapeutic diet, 6 cartons of F-100 therapeutic diet, 80 cartons of emergency food ration, 240 cartons of therapeutic spread, two nutrition kits, in-patient and out-patient module supplies.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Coverage of community-based management of acute malnutrition services outside of Bangui remains low due to security constraints and destroyed health facilities.
- The integration of acute nutrition management into the national health system needs to be strengthened weak.
- There is a gap in the provision of activities to support appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF).



Water, Sanitation, Hygiene

Needs:

- The following sites require WASH assistance: Bambari site S (10,345 IDPs), M (3,805 IDPs), NDV (8,335 IDPs), Bambari airport (7,000 IDPs and 1,600 host communities), Ngakobo (5,000 IDPs), Bambari's neighbourhoods of Hadji and Bornou (12,000 IDPs and host communities), Grimari (135 IDPs and 7,000 returnees), Bossangoa (35,000 returnees require water), Petit Seminaire (480 IDPs), site C in Kabo (1,269 IDPs and host communities), Kaga Bando site Eveche (12,500 IDPs), Pariosse Nativite (245 IDPs), in Kaga Bando (2,850 IDPs in host families), Bissingale (212 IDPs), Moyon Sido (2,159 IDPs), Bangui (50,281 IDPs in 34 sites), Carnot (587 IDPs) and Yaloke (562 IDPs).

1,400,000

People targeted in 2015

Response:

- In Bambari, the **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** and Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGH) are delivering 150 m3 of potable water per day by water trucking. The organizations are also ensuring that 45 wells in sites and host communities are chlorinated. TGH is maintaining sanitation facilities, ensuring each latrine is accessible by 39 to 75 people and 60 to 120 people have access to each shower -
- Community-hygiene promoters provide hygiene-promotion services. New hygiene committees were set up to manage new IDPs from Kouango. One borehole out of three planned was completed by ANEA, the national agency for water supply and sanitation with UNICEF's support. ICRC distributed daily 5 m3 of potable water to the Bambari hospital.
- On the Bambari – Ippy road, CRF drilled two boreholes and rehabilitated two more. The French Red Cross also reactivated 15 water management committees.
- In Ngakobo, water is supplied by the sugar factory, SUCAF UNICEF and MSF are monitoring water production and seeking alternative solutions as supply of water is affected during the dry season. TGH is maintaining sanitation facilities, ensuring every 50 people have access to a latrine and 72 people per shower. Community hygienists have been trained on the site and within the community at risk.
- In Grimari, TGH is supplying 30 m3 of potable water per day and maintaining the sanitation facilities in the IDP site, ensuring fewer than 20 people for each facility.
- In Bossangoa, SODECA (financed by UNICEF) is supplying 564 m3 of potable water per day (with a ratio of 15 litres per person per day) in the Petit Seminaire IDP site.
- In Kaga Bando, 50 m3 of water is delivered daily to 12,500 IDPs (4 litres per person per day). ICRC continues to ensure maintenance and operation of the Eveche site's WASH facilities.
- In Kaga Bando RRM/ Solidarités have distributed NFIs including soap and water containers to 2,605 IDPs from Mbres living in host communities.
- In Dekoa, IRC distributed sanitation kits including a drilling tool, shovel, pickaxe and rakes to the newly trained hygiene committees of two villages, Badia and Dissikou for 60 members, 23 women and 37 men.
- In Kabo, IOM provided 20 rubbish containers to the town council and organized a sensitization campaign on waste collection and the use of rubbish containers.
- In Carnot city in Mambéré-Kadéï province, potable water is supplied by the national water agency (SODECA) network. MSF is in charge of sanitation (35 people per latrine and 42 per shower).

Gaps and constraints:

- The lack of funding for all IDP sites in Bangui and Ouaka Province after funding contracts ended on 31 December.
- Operational response coordination needs to be strengthened in key areas hosting communities at risk in respect of the 'Do no Harm' approach.
- Semi-permanent WASH infrastructures are required in most IDP sites hosting people for an extensive period.
- More funding and implementing partners are required for the maintenance of WASH infrastructures in IDPs sites hosting people for long periods of time.

**Protection****Needs:**

- Grave violations against children continue unabated. Access to education is hindered by the occupation of a school in Batangafo (Ouham Province) by an armed group.
- Five unaccompanied and 18 separated children have been identified on an IDP site in Batangafo. Children on IDP sites in the area lack access to recreational opportunities and psychosocial support.

2 million

Vulnerable people targeted in 2014

Response:

- A joint UNHCR-National Commission for Refugees mission was undertaken from 16 to 21 January to Berberati, the capital of Mambéré-Kadéï, Carnot and Gamboula to assess the protection situation in two of the seven enclaves namely Berberati and Carnot. Recommendations include the reinforcement of security measures in Berberati, Carnot and along the surrounding localities; request MINUSCA's assistance for the relocation of 100 Fulani herders (aka "Pheul") in Gadzi and surrounding villages who would like to reach the enclave in Carnot for their safety; advocate for IDPs who wish to be relocated to Cameroon or elsewhere in CAR; encourage humanitarian actors to mainstream youth programmes in social cohesion and reconciliation efforts.
- From 15 to 22 January, UNHCR and its partner International Emergency and Development Aid (IEDA) registered 419 returned IDPs and refugees in the Ouham Pende province. Some 1,812 households comprising of 10,000 returned IDPs and refugees in the province have been registered since the beginning of the border monitoring activities from July 2014 to 31 January 2015.
- INTERSOS, UNHCR's partner for protection monitoring, reported critical protection issues after visiting 54 villages representing 90 per cent of the overall number of villages in CAR, including Sibut, Dekoa and Kaga Bandoro. As part of an UNHCR/INTEROS response to the identified protection issues, 27 cases were referred to health centres in Kaga Bandoro, Dekoa and Sibut for adequate care. About 10 unaccompanied minors were referred to ICRC and registered for family tracing, 47 returnee children were referred to health structures while 144 displaced women (heads of households) at risk of engaging in survival sex; 90 in Sibut and 54 in Dekoa were financially assisted.
- A child-friendly space was set-up in Yaloke's enclave (Ombella M'poko Province) with another one planned. Since January 2014, 70,000 children have accessed psychosocial support or recreational opportunities.
- In Bimbo, awareness has been raised on the issue of birth registration and its importance for child protection. A total of 50 community leaders were sensitized.
- A child-protection network was established in Bozoum while an awareness-raising campaign on child-protection is ongoing in the region.
- In Kémo (Ouham Pende Province) since the beginning of 2015, 412 people have been sensitized to prevent the recruitment of children into armed groups.
- In January, 1,540 men and women were sensitized on child-protection issues including physical violence

Gaps & Constraints:

- Assessments and response activities are hindered by access constraints including attacks by armed elements.
- Insufficient funding.

**Multi-sector assistance to refugees****Needs:**

- Durable solutions are required for refugees in CAR and the facilitation of the repatriation process in Zemio.
- Strengthen income generating capacities in the camps in order to enhance refugees' self-reliance.
- The facilitation of food distribution in the Bambari camp is required.
- Ensure the enrolment of refugee children in primary schools and facilitate their

1,100

People targeted for trainings on incoming generating activities.

enrolment into secondary schools.

Response:

- In Zemio (Haut Mbomou Province), UNHCR and partners are preparing for the repatriation of almost 500 beneficiaries to return to the Democratic Republic of Congo's Orientale Province.
- Over 70 duplicates of birth certificates of refugee children have been issued by the Tribunal of Obo to enable them in their return.
- UNHCR is organizing training sessions within its framework to support income generating activities in two refugee camps in Zemio and Bambari (Ouaka Province). The training targets 79 cooperatives consisting of 1,100 people. The project aims to strengthen the material resources, management skills, technical and financial capacities of these cooperatives and associations.
- In the Bambari camp, 15 gardening cooperatives out of 20 consisting of 264 members were trained on gardening techniques. Refugees living in the Pladama Ouaka camp were the biggest crop producers in Bambari before the current crisis.
- From 19 to 24 January, UNHCR and the National Refugee Committee facilitated the distribution of 35 tons of food provided by WFP to the 1,801 refugees at the Pladama Ouaka camp.
- Out of 659 refugee children enrolled in Pladama Ouaka primary school, only 634 attend school so far. Visits carried out to the families of 25 children not attending school revealed that they were mostly boys and parents prefer to make them work in the fields. UNHCR sensitized the parents on the importance of education for children.
- COOPI, UNHCR's partner for education found foster families for 38 refugee teenagers enrolled in Bambari high school, who cannot commute from the camp to town every day due to prevailing insecurity.
- UNHCR provided an in-kind contribution composed of 20 mats, 20 kitchen sets, 20 blankets, 20 jerry cans, 20 buckets and 50 towels to the nuns of the Charity Mission in Bangui because they are hosting urban refugees and people seeking protection on a temporary basis.

Gaps and constraints:

- Absence of a permanent international force to secure the Pladama Ouaka refugee camp in Bambari.
- A relocation country for the Sudanese refugees in Bambari has yet to be found.

General Coordination

On 23 January, the Senior Humanitarian Coordinator (SHC), Claire Bourgeois led a joint mission to Batangafo (Ouham Province) to discuss the needs and challenges impeding the return of IDPs to their regions of origin. The most urgent needs include: improvement of security in Batangafo city and in the areas of returns, protection of civilians, and assistance to newly arrived IDPs. After visiting an overcrowded displacement site, hosting over 30,000 people; the delegation urged all parties in the conflict to respect civilians and humanitarian workers in CAR. The delegation committed to provide assistance to the newly arrived IDPs. The SHC advocated for the government to deploy local government authorities to Batangafo to restore State authority and fight against impunity. The SHC also requested the deployment of MINUSCA forces to secure the surrounding areas of Batangafo.

OCHA carried out a rapid monitoring mission from 29 January to 2 February to assess the humanitarian situation in the localities of Madabazouma and Selim, situated 50 km from Rafai (Mbomou Province). The mission was informed of the departure of about 1,500 IDPs who fled recurrent attacks by LRA elements and armed Fulanis (aka "Pheul") to seek refuge near the Mbomou river and Nagbolongo island where they require urgent humanitarian assistance. Considering the proximity of this region to the DRC and the frequent cross-border attacks, the mission recommended a joint humanitarian mission between CAR and DRC to identify multi-sectorial needs and enable the return of CAR refugees in dignity to their regions of origin.

With the main aim of improving the living conditions of Peulh IDPs in Yaloké (Ombella M'poko Province), OCHA established a presence in Yaloké a month ago to facilitate humanitarian response. A mission was organized on 30 January to assess the food security, nutrition, coordination, WASH and education situation. A slight improvement was noted with regards to food assistance and education following the creation of child-friendly spaces. However, the nutrition and health situation of these IDPs remains of great concern to the humanitarian community in CAR.

For further information, please contact:

Francois Goemans, Head of Office, goemans@un.org, Tel: +236 70 73 87 30

Laura Fultang, Public Information/Reports Officer, fultangl@un.org, Tel: +236 70 18 80 64

For more information, please visit www.unocha.org/car or reliefweb.int