

Since October 2016, violent clashes and inter-communal tensions fueled by armed groups have continuously increased in the Central African Republic (CAR). In the absence of an effective judicial system and basic services by the public administration, armed groups have continued to perpetrate violent and destabilizing acts, of which the civilian population is the main victim. The targeting of minorities, including women and children, has resurfaced, with killings and attacks against communities multiplying.

Conflict and forced displacement is increasingly widespread and impacting previously unaffected parts of the country. Today, the CAR is one of the few countries in the world where almost one person out of two depends on aid to survive.

The number of people displaced has reached an ever-recorded high of 1.1 million people. As the crisis further expands towards the East and North West of the country, there are new massive displacements and there is a significant risk that the condition of people previously displaced that remain in camps will deteriorate. Nearly one family out of four has already been forced to flee. In July 2017, the number of IDPs exceeded 600,000, which represents an increase of almost 50 per cent since January.

RETURNS

The resurgence of armed conflicts seriously undermines hopes for the return of IDPs and refugees, given the continuing deterioration of the situation in CAR and that the majority of refugees belong to communities that are minorities in their areas of origin and would face extreme levels of threats to their lives.

HRP SEVERELY UNDERFUNDED

To respond to humanitarian needs, prevent their further increase, and avoid that the CAR slips back into a severe crisis affecting the stability of region, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) has revised its Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2017, which now request \$ 497.3 million which represent a 30 percent increase compared to the initial request.

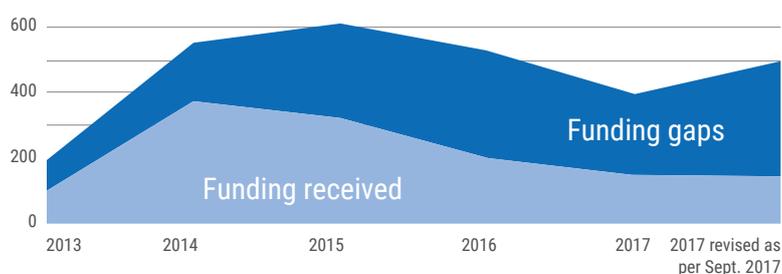
50% 
of population depend on
aid to survive

1.1M 
uprooted by
the conflict

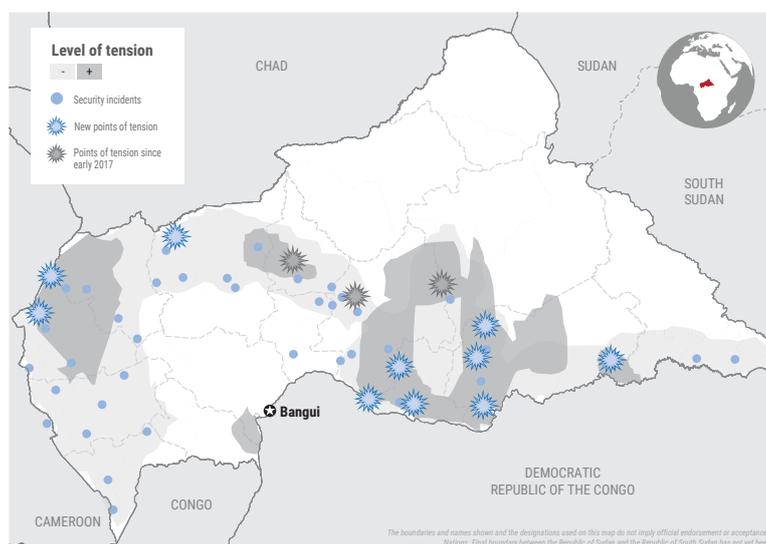
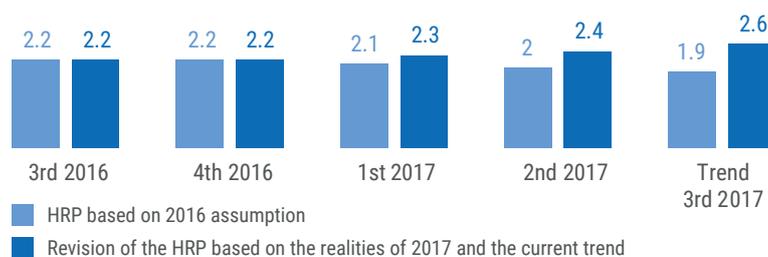
600k 
internally displaced
people (IDP)

500k 
refugees staying in
neighboring countries

Funding received and gaps (in US\$ millions)

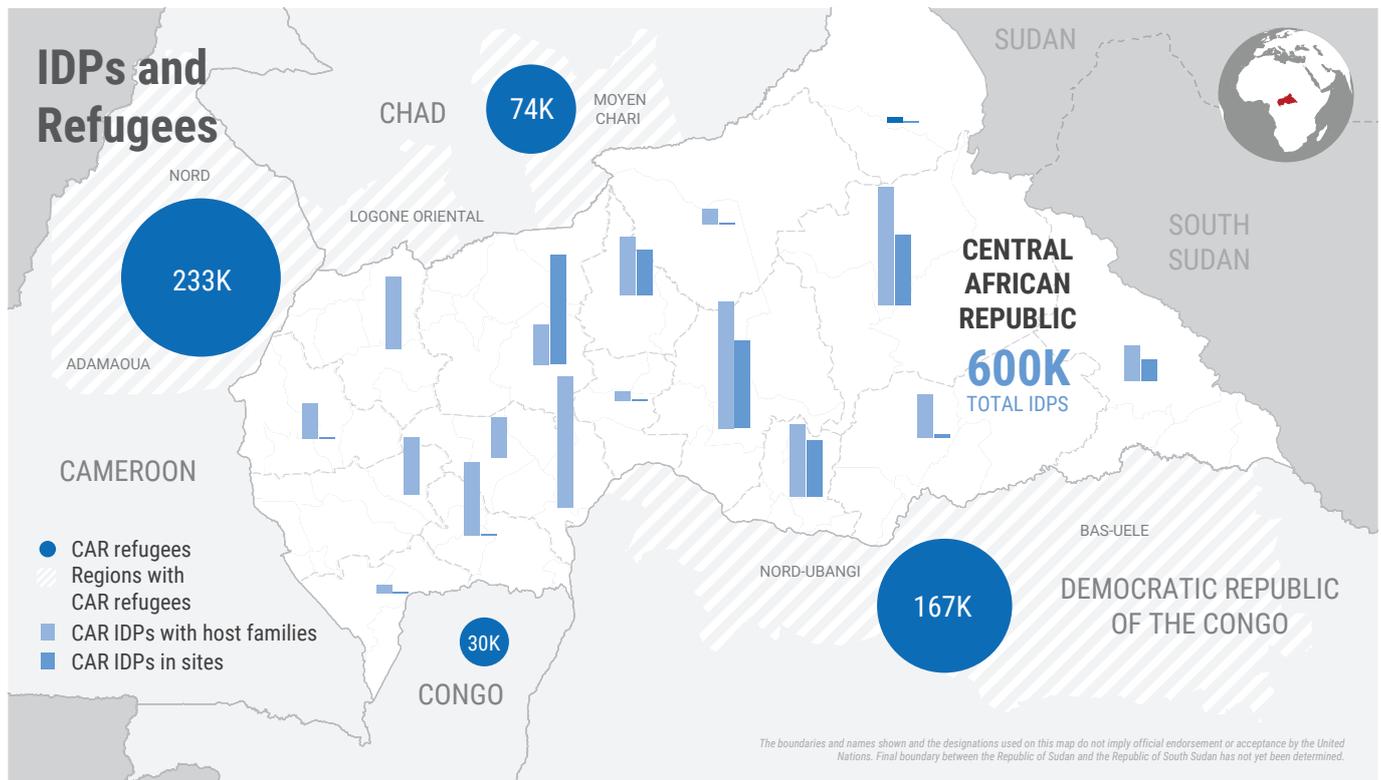


People in need (in millions)



REGIONAL DIMENSION

The upsurge in violence in the CAR may also have a significant impact on the region: as violence flares up, **populations are likely to increasingly cross borders of DRC, Chad, and Cameroon, adding to the close to 500,000 refugees** already hosted by these countries and putting further pressure on the limited resources of the host countries.



DRC

From mid-May to the end of August, **over 85,000 people have crossed the CAR-DRC border** to reach the Nord-Ubangi and the Bas-Uele, **which areas that are difficult to be accessed**. DRC authorities granted *prima facie* refugee status to all asylum seekers who arrived from CAR in DRC within a period of one year from now. **103,000** had arrived in DRC prior the latest outbreak of violence.

Newly arrived refugees lack shelter, WASH, food, sanitation, healthcare. The areas of arrival are under severe strain, as some villages have grown up to 10 times their size with a considerable impact on local communities already affected by seed shortage, swine fever and avian flu.

Access is very difficult for security reasons (LRA and other armed groups are operating in the Bas-Uele province) and for logistical constraints, as most of the bridges are destroyed or missing. Some of these areas are accessible only by helicopter and some of the refugees are staying on islands. **UNHCR is planning to relocate these refugees to more accessible areas.**

The few humanitarian partners operating in the areas hosting CAR refugees are overwhelmed. Basic household items assistance to some 5,000 new refugees was provided for the first time on 17 September, and humanitarian partners indicate that needs are far from being covered in access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation, shelter and camp management.

In early October, CERF approved the disbursement of some US \$3 million to assist the new CAR refugees.

CHAD

Since April, close to 2,000 people (1,865) crossed the border: some 1,700 were transferred to Diba/Vom (Logone Oriental), another 185 are in the Maro area (Moyen Chari). Most are staying with host communities in border villages in the Logone Oriental region.

In total, Chad hosts 72,000 Chadian returnees and 74,000 refugees that have fled the conflict in CAR. The humanitarian community in Chad has limited capacities to assist refugees and returnees because of limited funding for emergency assistance as well as durable solutions, leading to progressive withdrawal of operational actors since late

2015. These successive waves of displacement to Southern Chad had a considerable impact on local communities very already vulnerable. Refugees, returnees and host communities in Chad lack shelter, access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation, food and livelihood opportunities, and access to health and education as essential services are not functioning.

CAMEROON

In July, around 7,000 new refugees arrived from CAR, bringing the total number to 233,000. The new arrivals are staying mainly in Touboro, in the Northern region, an area that has already received about 12,000 refugees since 2014 with limited resources in water, food, health and basic social services. Some of the new refugees are in in Ngaoui and Alhamdou, in the Adamaoua region.

The UNHCR is currently undertaking biometric registration and has already distributed non-food items while WFP has distributed food rations. Important needs remain in terms of adequate and sufficient food rations, access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation, basic household items/Shelter and health care.