

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

## UNHCR EXTERNAL REGIONAL UPDATE 11

10-16 April 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

**643,740**

IDPs including

**218,740**

in Bangui

**346,011**

Total number of  
**CAR refugees** in  
neighbouring  
countries

**100,000**

**CAR refugees** in  
neighbouring  
countries since Dec.  
2013.

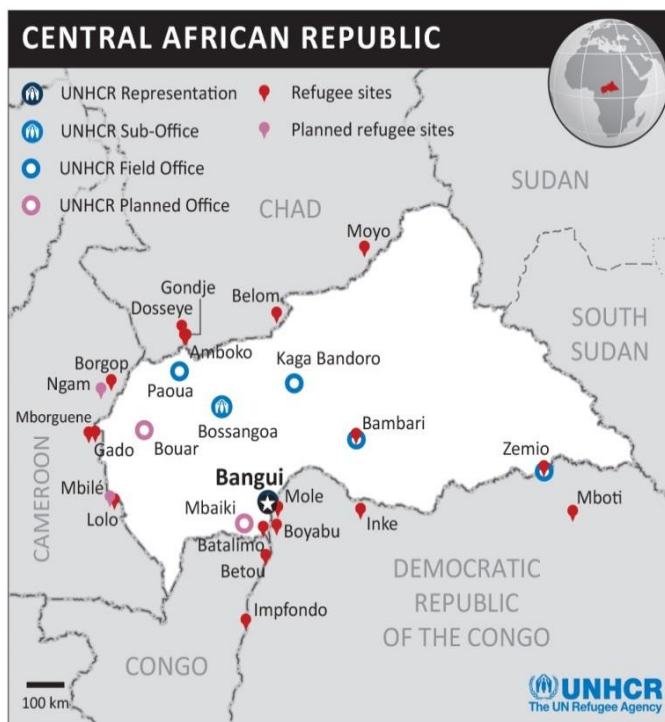
**US\$100  
million**

UNHCR requested  
in the Regional  
Response Plan

**15,616**

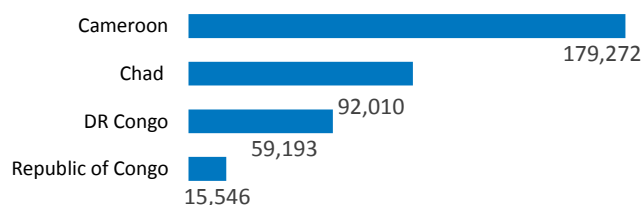
Refugees and  
asylum seekers in  
the CAR

- On 16 April, UNHCR launched the Central African Republic (CAR) Regional Response Plan. UNHCR and 14 other agencies are seeking \$274 million to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, Third Country Nationals and returnees that have fled the CAR since December 2013 to the neighbouring countries of Cameroon, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Congo. The Regional Response Plan is to cover the period of January – December 2014 for a planned population figure of 362,200 people that would have fled since December 2013.
- The UN Independent Expert on the situation of Human Rights in the Central African Republic, Marie-Thérèse Keita Bocoum, began her second visit to the country on 10 April and will remain until 18 April. A report is to be presented to the Human Rights Council in June 2014.
- Following the departure of Chadian troops from various positions in the CAR, a small contingent of Gabonese MISCA troops have arrived in Kaga-Bandoro and Cameroonian troops in Bossangoa. Efforts are being made to deploy replacement MISCA troops to Bouca, Kabo, Ndélé and positions formerly held by Chadian troops.



### Population of concern for the CAR situation

A total of **346,011** people of concern (including old caseload)



## UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

### Operational Context

- As of 15 April, there were an estimated 643,740 Central Africans displaced within their country – including 218,740 in Bangui in 43 sites.
- On 11 April, UNHCR, local authorities and the Chadian Red Cross received, at the Bekoninga border point, a convoy of 14 vehicles with Chadian evacuees from Bossangoa, accompanied by UNHCR Bossangoa, UNICEF and a UNFPA ambulance. The convoy was reportedly attacked by anti-Balaka elements en route to Chad, but MISCA troops, escorting the convoy, managed to restore security. Once in Chad, the convoy was accompanied from the border to Danamadja site. UNHCR registered and verified some 500 individuals (153 families). This population from Bossangoa is largely composed of women and children, and all are Muslims by faith and belonging to the Peulh, Arab, Bronon and Haoussa ethnic groups. A private donation of food and non-food items was provided to this group upon their arrival.
- On 10 April, UNHCR, together with government and local authorities of the Central African Republic launched the voluntary repatriation programme of some 6,000 Congolese refugees settled in Batalimo camp since 2010. To date, a total of 965 individuals have been repatriated to Libenge in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**. The operation should take up to three weeks.
- There are now a reported 30 entry points in **Cameroon**. Gbiti remained the entry point with the most significant number of arrivals. On 12 and 13 April, two convoys escorted by MISCA arrived at the entry point of Garoua Boulai carrying some 300 people coming from Bangui and Bouar, including 200 Central African nationals.
- There were reported attacks along the border with Cameroon by the anti-Balaka, at border villages close to Kentzou and Bombe Bakary in the East region. The Government of Cameroon has reinforced security along its border with the Central African Republic. UNHCR is taking necessary measures to immediately transfer refugees at border villages to the new site of Mbilé after reporting the arrival of refugees into Cameroon with machete and gunshot wounds due to militias attacking those trying to flee the country. Many also continue to arrive severely malnourished, having hidden and walked for months to reach safety.

### Achievements



#### Protection

#### Needs Assessment

- **Central African Republic:** The strategy of the specific response plan for communities at risk in PK 12, PK 5 in Bangui, Boda, and Carnot is being revised and finalized. During the reporting period, joint protection monitoring missions were carried out including an inter-agency protection mission led by UNHCR from 10-17 April to several routes in the southwestern region of the Central Africa Republic in order to assess the protection and humanitarian needs of communities at risk. The findings of these missions will be shared.
- Preparations are underway for the relocation of the community at risk in the PK 12 neighbourhood of Bangui to Bambari, Kabo and Moyen Sido. It will involve the relocation of more than 1,300 individuals from PK 12, and security is to be provided by international troops along the route, as well as temporary support upon arrival at their destinations (including water, shelter, food).
- **Republic of Congo (RoC):** The Joint Assessment Mission was launched in Betou and Ikpengbele. A sample of 300 households, 10% of the total Central African refugee population of Betou, was selected to be interviewed by joint teams of UNHCR and partners *Comité National d'Assistance aux Réfugiés* (CNAR), *Medecins d'Afrique* (MDA) and the *Agence d'Assistance aux Rapatriés et Réfugiés au Congo* (AARREC). The mission is expected to

provide more detailed information on the living conditions of refugees in the Betou area, and in particular on work opportunities, housing, and health.

## Achievements

- **Cameroon:** As of 15 April, 72,011 Central African refugees have been registered since December 2013, with the majority in the East and Adamawa regions.
- The relocation process of the new arrivals from the border to the hosting sites granted by local authorities is on-going. Overall, a total of 20,139 refugees have been relocated since mid-February: 4,545 to Borgop site (Adamawa region) and 15,594 to Mborguene, Gado and Lolo sites. (East region).
- The new site of Mbilé is being prepared for the relocation of some 12,000 refugees who are currently at the border entry points of Gbiti, Kentzou and Bombe Bakary as the site of Lolo has almost reached full capacity.
- Due to logistical reasons, refugees at the Mborguene site (2,111) are now being transferred to Gado. As of 13 April, 1,124 refugees were already transferred from Mborguene to Gado site. UNHCR expects to close the Mborguene site before the end of this month.
- During the reporting period, UNICEF visited Gado site in order to develop and establish child protection activities including child friendly spaces, sports activities, psycho-social support and mass awareness campaigns.
- Protection monitoring continued to enable family reunification in the hosting sites. To date 30 family reunifications have taken place in Lolo and Borgop sites.
  
- **Chad:** The total number of Central African refugees in Chad stands at some 92,010 individuals.
- On 8 and 9 April, UNHCR facilitated the voluntary relocation of 728 Chadian evacuees from the Central African Republic to the site of Danamadja, near Maro, where they are provided with shelter and further assistance.
- On 9 and 14 April, UNHCR facilitated the voluntary relocation of a total of 701 Central African refugees in two convoys of 332 refugees (127 families) and 369 refugees (171 families) to Dosseye camp near Gore. This group of refugees arrived among Chadian evacuees from Bangui to Ndjamena by air transport provided by the Government of Chad, and were temporarily accommodated in the Transit Centers in the capital. The convoys were accompanied by UNHCR and partners. The group spent the night in Moundou where they were provided with food and shelter, before reaching Gore the following day.
  
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** During the reporting period, 12,398 Central African refugees had been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province but also Oriental Province.
  
- **Republic of Congo:** As of 15 April, 8,234 Central African refugees had been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the Betou area. Most of the new arrivals registered in Betou came from Bangui and the commune of Mbata, in the Prefecture of Lobaye, bordering with the Republic of Congo.
- The joint mission by UNHCR, CNAR and immigration authorities, which aimed to identify and register Chadian citizens in the area of Betou and register their intention of return, ended during the reporting period. A total of 680 Chadians were identified during this mission of which 500 expressed their intention to repatriate to Chad. The others expressed their will to apply for local integration.
- A joint mission by UNHCR and CNAR was conducted in Dongou, in the Likouala region of northeastern RoC, and led to the registration of some 41 individuals. Another pre-identification mission will be organized with the support of the chiefs of the district and police authorities.
- Sensitizations on SGBV and peaceful cohabitation are ongoing with the support of AARREC, which organized several activities in Betou and Ikpengbele - 165 people participated in these activities during the week.



## Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM)

### Achievements

- The CCCM cluster provided management and communication support to authorities in sites to address the needs of site residents and refer them to the relevant clusters and/or security forces, with a focus on securing the sites before the rainy season.
- During the reporting period, 30 participants (including 11 site managers, 8 site facilitators, 7 staff members from the Central African Red Cross and authorities from the Mayor's office, one site coordinator and three service providers and partners) attended a two-day CCCM inter-agency training as part of the CCCM capacity building strategy. Training focused on roles and responsibilities in site management, security, protection, the life-cycle of a camp and community participation.
- Since the beginning of the year, a total of 426 participants have been trained by the CCCM Cluster.



## Education

### Needs assessment

- **Cameroon:** In view of the integration of refugee children in public schools in the next academic year, UNHCR has started an assessment of the capacities of public schools in the refugee hosting areas.

### Achievements

- **Republic of Congo:** During the reporting period, some 1,700 Central African refugee children, aged 6 to 12, resumed primary school classes. Approximately 90% of school-aged refugee children attend classes.
- After school classes for Central African primary school children are also offered in Betou and Ikpengbele.



## Health

### Needs Assessment

- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** The lack of mosquito-nets and hygiene kits for women in Mole camp has yet to be addressed. Malaria was the predominant illness in the refugee camps in Equateur Province followed by water-borne diseases and respiratory tract-infections.
- **Republic of Congo:** The main illnesses reported in the refugee population were malaria at 39%, acute respiratory infections at 18%, intestinal parasitosis at 16% and diarrhea at 6%.



## Food Security and Nutrition

### Needs Assessment

- **Cameroon:** In addition to mobile clinics established by UNHCR and its health partners at the entry points providing emergency health care to refugees arriving in Cameroon in very poor health conditions, a mobile therapeutic center is organized periodically in the refugee sites to follow-up on malnourished children. In this regard, medical screening performed in the Borgop site revealed 13 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) children from 0-59 months. Those cases were referred to the Djohong district hospital in the Adamawa region.
- In Gado, 10 new cases of SAM and 7 new cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) cases were identified and are receiving treatment.
- In Lolo, 9 cases of MAM, and 7 cases of SAM were identified out of 61 children screened in this site. Last week, 91 malnourished children with complications were receiving treatment at nutritional therapeutic center in the town Batouri.

- At the entry point of Kentzou, screening performed on 203 children revealed 19 cases of MAM, and 8 cases of acute malnutrition with complications. Furthermore, 25 women with MAM, including 16 pregnant women and 9 breast-feeding women have been identified, and are receiving treatment.
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** In Boyabu camp, 4 children, 14 pregnant women and 35 lactating mothers are going through nutritional programmes given by the *Agence de Développement Economique et Social* (ADES). To date, 18 children with SAM, 84 children suffering from MAM and 128 others at risk of acute malnutrition have been identified in the camp.
- In Mole camp, out of 136 malnourished refugees placed under nutritional programmes of ADES, 58 are pregnant women and lactating mothers, 62 are children with MAM and 16 others with SAM. The overall malnutrition rate during the reporting period stands at 3.8% of which 0.8% suffer from SAM.
- Also in Mole camp, 357 plumpy-nut packages were distributed to 17 people suffering from SAM and 490 bags of plump-sup were also distributed to 71 refugees suffering from MAM. In addition to that, 107 kilograms of Corn Soya Blend (CSB) were provided by WFP to 61 other MAM cases as a nutritional supplement.
- **Republic of Congo:** Medical and nutritional screenings and vaccinations were performed by MDA on all new Central African refugees accommodated in the *departure centre* – six new cases of severe acute malnutrition were recorded during the reporting period. According to latest reports, 7% of children suffer from severe acute malnutrition, with a global acute malnutrition rate of 14%.

### Achievements

- **Cameroon:** Food distribution by WFP continued at the border entry points.
- WFP has pre-positioned food close to Gado and Lolo sites in order to start general food distribution for 16,653 refugees in both refugee sites of Lolo (10,000 beneficiaries) and Gado (6,653 beneficiaries).



## Water and Sanitation

### Achievements

- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** During the reporting period, in Mole camp, 980,000l of water was supplied per day by ADES, providing an average of 13.1l per person per day. There are 9 water distribution points connected to 54 water taps. There are currently 310 functioning latrines.
- In Boyabu camp water is obtained from 3 boreholes and 3 wells equipped with a manual water pump. The daily water supply stood at 121.000l equivalent to 12,6l per person per day. The camp has 490 functional latrines.
- In Inke camp, 90,000l of water was supplied in the camp, providing an average of 10l per person and per day. Currently, the camp has 619 operational latrines.
- **Republic of Congo:** During the reporting period, AARREC proceeded with the treatment of 21 wells in the Betou area.
- At the 15 Avril site, 325 Central African refugees participated in sensitization sessions related to hygiene and treatment of water.



## Shelter and NFIs

### Achievements

- **Central African Republic:** The Shelter/ NFI Cluster is finalizing a revised shelter intervention strategy as well as the shelter assistance package in urban areas. The Cluster actively participated in discussions related to the relocation of displaced persons from PK 12 to Kabo and Moyen Sido, including bilateral consultations with the WASH Cluster to enable a rapid and effective response.

- In Bangui, Solidarites and Premiere Urgence-AMI finalized the construction of community shelters for 1,560 people in Saint Joseph Mukassa, Carmel Mission, St Jean de Galabadja, Central Mosque and Saint Anthony of Padua sites.
- During the reporting period, a joint mission conducted by UNHCR, UNICEF, Catholic Relief Services and Caritas was undertaken to seven villages in Bossangoa where a total of 693 families were assisted with plastic sheeting.
- **Cameroon:** In Borgop, 4,234 refugees out of 4,545 are living in 521 family shelters. In order to improve their shelter, refugees themselves have built 119 traditional shelters with raw materials and plastic sheeting provided by UNHCR. However, 309 refugees are still living in the community shelters within the Borgop site.
- In Lolo, 686 family shelters have been built and host refugees.
- In Gado, 383 family shelters were built and host refugees, while some families are still living in the community shelters waiting to be given their shelter.
- In Mbilé, ten community shelters and one borehole are complete, as well as 3 blocks of latrines and 3 blocks of shower facilities.
- At the entry point of Gbiti, from 9-12 April, 1,200 households received NFIs including mosquito nets, jerry cans and plastic sheeting, bringing to 3,341 the total number of refugee families who have received NFIs at that entry point as they await their transfer to the new site of Mbilé.
- **Republic of Congo:** AARREC continued with the construction of traditional shelters on the site 15 Avril site - 97 shelters have been constructed out of the 130 planned.
- During the reporting period, UNHCR and AARREC organized a NFI general distribution in Betou Centre for 1,787 Central African refugees. This included 1,150 refugees who had not yet benefited from previous distributions received all items available, and another 637 refugees who had previously received partial distribution were delivered the items missing during the first distribution. Overall, 1,253 mats, 782 blankets, 893 mosquito nets, 12,819 pieces of soap, 487 buckets and 904 jerry cans were delivered.
- To date, 11,150 refugees have been assisted with NFIs in Betou and Impfondo since the beginning of the Central African emergency.



## Community Empowerment and Self-Management

- **Cameroon:** In order to develop community participation in the sites, self-governance refugee committees were created in Lolo site including a Central Refugee Committee as well as committees for women, youth, health, security and the elderly.
- **Republic of Congo:** In the Betou area, AARREC organized a technical training seminar for the beneficiaries of agro-pastoral activities. 76 individuals, including 25 Central African refugees participated in the training.

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### Links:

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



