

C.A.R. Situation Update

In Bangui, conflict broke out following the a grenade attack on a Church in PK-5 district; persons were killed and reports of abductions. The incident sparked anger in neighbouring districts, and remains tense. An inter-cluster assessment estimates some 7,000 people have been displaced, many from previous sites of displacement. The incident demonstrates the high tension and volatility to any spark.

The security situation in Bambari has deteriorated considerably since 22 May. Fighting broke out between the French troops and elements of the ex-Seleka and skirmishes continued during the week-end of 24 May. A rapid inter-agency assessment visited main displacement sites during a window of calm, and estimated that more than 8,000 persons are displaced in churches, schools, and the MISCA site. Priorities include water, health, and sanitation. As many as 20,000 people (40% of the population) require assistance.

Elsewhere in the capital and regions violence and clashes continue to be reported. According to UN-HCR, security incidents in the past weeks have caused additional displacement. MISCA and Sangaris reported that 85 percent of the houses in Bemal and Betoko had been burned and most of the population has fled (including 2,445 persons who fled from Bernal to Paoua). Incidents in Kaga Bando in the north during the course of the month have displaced more than 23,000 people.

Impact on WFP

Some 65 UN and NGO staff were stranded in the WFP compound in Bambari for days following clashes. On 27 May, WFP dispatched five trucks carrying food and one truck with different support equipment from an NGO humanitarian staff.

In PK-5 area of Bangui, WFP's NGO partner has had to relocate due to the violence, and a new partner must be identified.

In May, WFP and partners experienced repeated disturbances at distribution sites by armed groups. In two separate incidents elements interfered with food distributions in Bouar and Bangui. No staff or beneficiaries were injured.

UNHAS and Cluster Updates

Clusters work to assess warehouse capacity to provide increased support to populations affected by recent clashes in Bambari.

UNHAS: UNHAS flights are essential to ensure the safety of humanitarian staff movements. The one-month disruption in jet fuel created a void of critical humanitarian air services. WFP successfully arranged an airlift of 50,000 litres on 7 May however this was only sufficient for two weeks of operations.

WFP requires some 4,000 litres of jet fuel per day to maintain UNHAS services. Road transport by the supplier has resumed, and delivery by boat is anticipated to begin June.

Nutrition Cluster: WFP is actively working through the nutrition cluster to increase the current number of partners and coverage to address moderate acute malnutrition countrywide and is strongly advocating for coordination of malnutrition prevention among nutrition stakeholders.

Spotlight

Education in C.A.R.:

- A recent UNICEF-led survey reveals that nearly two thirds of the schools in the country remain closed more than half way through the school year.
- The education system has experienced a drastic downturn with the crisis: infrastructure has been damaged or destroyed; school materials are lacking; and teacher salaries unpaid. In addition, families remain reluctant to send their children to school for fear of attacks and insecurity in the surrounding areas. As a result, on average schools have been open for four weeks since October 2013.
- One third of the 355 surveyed schools have been attacked in recent months: struck by bullets, set on fire, looted or occupied by militia groups.
- Enrolment figures also saw a significant drop, as one in three children enrolled last year did not return to school.
- **Impact:** Now two school years have been disrupted since the end of 2012. Children within C.A.R. and those who have fled to neighbouring countries have missed education opportunities.



Global Acute Malnutrition: Bangui

- Based on MUAC screenings, the number of children with global acute malnutrition (GAM) has significantly decreased in IDP locations in Bangui in March and April.
- Reduced incidence of GAM in camps in Bangui can be attributed to scale-up of efficient treatment by numerous nutrition actors, and the provision of multi-sectorial interventions to prevent malnutrition.

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