



World Food Programme

Central African Republic

-  **C.A.R. Funding Shortfalls**
-  **Emergency Operation** USD 22.5 million
Through December 2014
-  **Food Security Cluster** USD 1.5 million
Through December 2014
-  **ETC & Logistics Cluster** USD 4.6 million
Through December 2014
-  **UNHAS** USD 1.6 million
Through December 2014
-  **Augmentation of staff & security** USD 6.1 million
Through December 2014

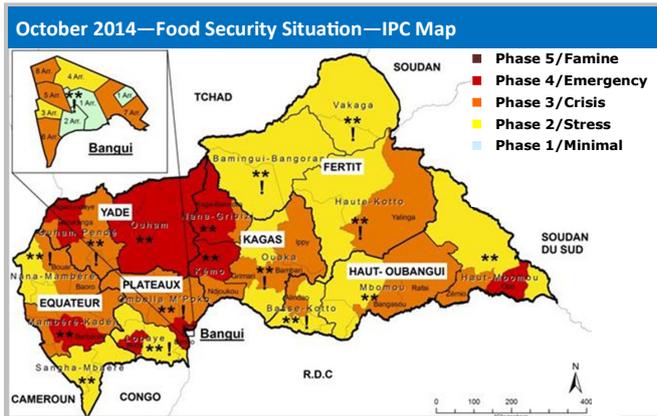
Highlights

In C.A.R., more than 1.5 million people remain food insecure, and require immediate emergency food assistance across the country. Recent assessments have shown that the continued violence has taken a heavy toll on livestock and agricultural production, eroding the capacity of people to secure sufficient food.

After several delays due to insecurity, schools were officially open as of 20 November. WFP's school feeding activities target over 250,000 children for the academic year.

Since the start of its response in C.A.R., WFP has assisted over 1.1 million people at least once in over 60 key locations. From mid-November amidst increased insecurity for humanitarian workers, WFP distributed in several new locations in the Mambere-Kadei prefecture with partner IDEA Relief.

The new WFP Regional Emergency Operation (EMOP) for the C.A.R. crisis will begin on the 1 January 2015. A budget revision to extend the current operation to 31 December 2014 is underway. WFP warehouses close on 18 December for end-of-year inventory; however, distributions will continue until 31 December as commodities have been prepositioned in partner warehouses.



C.A.R. Emergency Response

November

The November IPC analysis confirmed the EFSA results indicating that 1,522,000 persons are suffering from moderate and severe food insecurity.

A November and December distribution plan came into effect on 10 November, as active hostilities delayed the start of distributions. WFP reached 170,000 beneficiaries, with 2,000 mt. Of these, some 11,000 were children under 5 reached through Blanket Supplementary Feeding (BSF).

WFP distributed over 40 mt of food through the Rapid Response Mechanism framework, to 1,000 households, comprising some 5,000 beneficiaries. Distributions were done in partnership with NGO ACTED in and around Bambari.

An upsurge in violence in mid-November left over 3,000 displaced in Haute-Mbomou prefecture. WFP currently assists Congolese refugees in the town of Zémio through general food distributions. However, poor roads and lack of infrastructure make access to

the region very challenging and the prepositioning of food limited. WFP is monitoring the situation with key partners on the ground and will determine if there will be a need for a food security assessment.

December

The new regional EMOP is due to start as of 1 January 2015, until then WFP will continue to support those most vulnerable through general food distributions, Blanket and Targeted Supplementary Feeding and Emergency School Feeding activities as per the current EMOP. WFP is targeting 622,566 beneficiaries in November and December combined.

Negotiations between the government and the ex-Seleka rebels have been ongoing since mid-November when armed ex-Seleka rebels cantoned at Camp Beal in Bangui threatened to detonate a stock of explosives on-site as a protest against their poor living conditions and a government plan to relocate them out of the capital. The situation has since been contained; however, the explosives are still on-site and tensions in the area have

resulted in the relocation of UN staff from the estimated blast radius.

Tensions are also rising in Yaloké, where communities cannot move freely due to fear of attacks. WFP continues to support the internally displaced persons (IDPs) through general food distributions and blanket supplementary feeding.

C.A.R. Situation Update

The security situation in C.A.R. continues to affect the completion of activities, particularly outside the capital in Bambari, in the north of Kaga-Bandoro and at the Cameroon-C.A.R. border.

The attacks on trucks loaded with WFP food, even when escorted, are also increasing. This is an increasing concern, particularly when trucks break down, leaving commodities vulnerable to looting. The poor road conditions, exacerbated by the rainy season, continue to make access to certain areas challenging. It is also becoming increasingly alarming that humanitarian workers are being targeted for ransom.

IEDA Relief has begun distributions in the Mambere-Kadei prefecture, which has boosted the WFP response in south-western C.A.R.

A funding proposal for USD 15 million has been sent to USAID, to support the new EMOP.

Cluster updates

 **Food Security Cluster:** Approximately 1.5 million people are food insecure, of these 32 percent are in rural areas and 25 percent are in the city of Bangui.

 **Emergency Telecommunications Cluster:** ETC conducted missions to Kaga-Bandoro and Bambari in November to resolve VSAT and connectivity issues for humanitarians in the area. ETC is working with UNDSS in Bangui to enhance the VHF radio based emergency communications system. An ETC NGO Coordinator was recruited in mid-November to enhance and lead the coordination of solutions for NGOs

 **Logistics Cluster:** The Logistics Cluster continues to ensure that there is strong coordination and information sharing on logistics issues with all Cluster partners. The Logistics Cluster screened a video in Copenhagen for donors and partners to see the realities of the logistics response on the ground in C.A.R., highlighting challenges faced.

The Logistics Cluster is currently partnering with ACTED to address urgent requests for road or bridge repairs countrywide.

Spotlight:

Back to School for C.A.R.

After several delays due to insecurity, schools were officially opened in C.A.R. as of 20 November. National Minister of Education, Gisele Bedan, launched the academic year with visits to schools in Bangui, including those supported by WFP school meals.

WFP's school feeding programme has been integrated into the national "Back to School" campaign. This has cemented a partnership with the Ministry of Education and UNICEF, who address integral aspects of primary education in conflict-affected zones.

This academic year, over 250,000 children will benefit from a hot meal in 500 schools across the country.



Christelle (on the far right) lives with her parents, who have been displaced by the conflict, in Castor camp. In her school, 375 children out of the 800 students (47 percent) are displaced, living either in camps or with host families. WFP's school meals programme provide an incentive for many families to send their children to school.

Contacts

Lauren Landis, Emergency Coordinator
WFP Regional Bureau, Dakar, Senegal

For media inquiries:
daouda.guirou@wfp.org