



## Fact Sheet | 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014 | UNHCR Operation in:

## Central Africa Republic

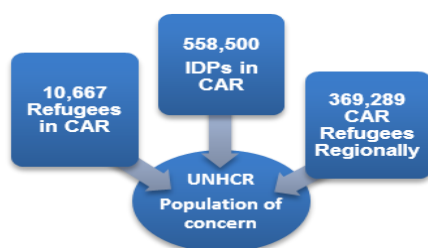
In the Central African Republic (CAR), the UN Refugee Agency provides **international protection and multi-sectorial assistance to refugees**. As part of the Humanitarian Country Team, UNHCR leads three Clusters - Protection / Shelter and NFI / Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) - **coordinating live-saving protection and assistance activities for internally displaced persons (IDPs)**. This part of the response to the escalation of the civil conflict in CAR that has displaced an estimated 935,000 persons at the peak of the violence in December and generated a continuous refugee outflow in neighbouring countries in Cameroon, Chad, Congo and DRC of close to 133,731 persons bringing the total CAR refugee population up to 369,289.

### Operational Highlights

- UNHCR continues to reinforce its presence in CAR, particularly in the northwestern of CAR to underpin UNHCR's office protection and response capacity. UNHCR is also present in Bambari, Kaga Bandoro, Paoua and Zémio, and is opening a field office in Bouar. Roving teams are extending protection via presence and covering the northwest and southwest.
- Insecurity in Bangui has increased drastically end of May.** Following the killing of three people in the PK 5 neighbourhood on 25 May, the Church of Notre Dame de Fatima was attacked on 28 May, and resulted to the deaths of at least 20 people and 27 civilians reportedly abducted by assailants. The Fatima site was hosting some 9,000 IDPs who have fled in neighbouring sites, mostly located in Bimbo town sector. On 1<sup>st</sup> June, an inter-cluster mission (CCCM, Protection, Shelter/ NFI, WASH, Food security, Education, Nutrition) was carried out in four displacement sites, mostly located in Bimbo in the capital. Key findings of the initial assessment outline the following needs: increasing the presence of international forces in the IDP sites, increasing presence of protection actors in the sites, and the development of recreational activities for the benefice of children. Distribution of NFIs is also required.
- Over 6,200 Congolese refugees voluntarily repatriated to DRC:** From 10 April to 10 May, a total of 6,283 Congolese refugees (representing 1,502 families) hosted in the Batalimo refugee camp (South of CAR, Prefecture of Lobaye) since 2010, voluntary returned to their homes in dignity and safety in DRC with the support of UNHCR, Congolese and CAR authorities. Prior to the repatriation exercise, UNHCR team undertook a verification exercise. The repatriation operation means the emptying of the Batalimo camp, nonetheless the health center located within the camp will remain operational and will be accessible to the local population until the end of 2014, with UNHCR's support. Infrastructures in the camp will be managed by the local authorities as well as 12 water taps will continue functioning managed by local committees. UNHCR has also donated education material to ten educational institutions in the district.

### Population of concern

Refugee and Asylum seeker	Total #*
Locations (Nationalities)	
Bambari Camp (Sudanese Refugees)	1,967
Obo and Mboki (DRC Outside Camps)	590
Zémio Camp (DRC Refugees)	3,423
Bangui (Refugees)	1,937
Bangui (Asylum-Seekers)	2,604
Others*	146
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,667</b>



**558,500\***

IDPs in Central African Republic (estimated)

**133,500\*** in **44** Sites

Located in Bangui

\* Figures provided by the Commission Mouvement de Population and published weekly (every Tuesday).

### Funding update – Central Africa Republic operation

Donors	
Contribution recorded	
CERF	1,500,000
Holy See	5,000
Japan	1,500,000
Luxembourg	339,674
Private donors from	6,175
Australia	
Private donors Netherlands	11,004
Private donors United Kingdom	116
Republic of Korea	300,000
UNAIDS	30,000
United States of America	11,300,000
<b>Total Funded</b>	<b>14,991,969</b>
<b>Funding gap</b>	<b>61,257,636</b>
<b>Financial requirements</b>	<b>76,249,605</b>
<b>Funding level</b>	<b>20%</b>

UNHCR revised the Supplementary Appeal for the Emergency Response for the Central African Republic Situation in May requesting a total of USD 239 million.

Central African Republic UNHCR's total revised financial requirements stand at **USD 76.2 million** for 2014.

UNHCR is grateful for the financial support provided by donors. At the end of May, UNHCR received a total of USD **14.9 million**, representing **20 percent** of the budget to respond to the crisis.

### WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Partner	Area of Intervention
Partners working with Refugees (Bangui and Camps of Bambari and Zémio)	
CNR	Government refugee counterpart
COOPI	(Rural Areas) Food Security Assistance; Income Generating Activity; Primary & Secondary Education
DRC	(Urban Refugees) Healthcare, HIV/AIDS prevention, SGBV prevention and identification, food security, education and community services
International Medical Corps	(Rural Areas) Healthcare, HIV, SGBV, WASH
Partners working with IDPs	
Central African Red Cross	NFI distribution (Agreement ended)
Danish Refugee Council	Protection monitoring, SGBV and camp management
Premiere Urgence-AMI	Camp management
ACTED	Shelter assistance to IDP returnees
Catholic relief services (CRS)	NFI distribution, Camp Management, social cohesion
Norway Refugee Council ( NRC)	Housing, Land and Property (HLP)
COOPI	Protection monitoring, SGBV

## Key achievements

### Multi-sectorial assistance to refugees

- ⇒ UNHCR and implementing partners provided assistance to nearly 10,600 refugees mostly from DRC and Sudan through international protection and multi-sectorial assistance, care and maintenance activities in Bangui, Bambari and Zemio camps. In Zemio camp, some 385 people were sensitized on risk of early and forced marriage by UNHCR and IMC implementing partner. Some 900 women and girls received hygiene kits.
- ⇒ On 10 May 2014, UNHCR **completed the voluntary repatriation** of 6,283 Congolese refugees were hosted in the Batalimo camp to DRC. Since January 2014 UNHCR facilitated the voluntary repatriation of 688 urban refugees to their places of origin, in Chad, DRC and Sudan through the voluntary emergency programme.
- ⇒ On 26 May, UNHCR launched in Bangui a **verification operation** in order to document the situation of about 4,500 urban refugees and asylum seekers originating from 23 countries. This exercise will enable UNHCR to profile the urban refugee caseload, identify durable solutions for them and better target assistance, particularly taking into consideration of the CAR crisis on the refugee. The last verification operation took place in 2011. This exercise is being carried out with the support of the National Commission for Refugees in Central Africa (CNR) and Danish refugee council (DRC) partner. Due to the escalation of violence in Bangui on 29 May, the verification activities have to be postponed and resumed on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. The exercise is expected to end in June.



Congolese refugee family waiting for the boat to cross the Loubangui river and repatriated to their home of origin, Libengue in DRC. UNHCR CAR

### Assistance to Internally Displaced persons (IDPs):

- ⇒ **Protection:** To fulfil Protection Cluster commitments and provide adequate population data, UNHCR is developing a methodology to assess the internally displacement movement through a population tracking system, expanding its capacity to carry out protection and border monitoring activities in the North and western part of CAR. UNHCR has signed a partnership agreement with COOPI NGO for the protection monitoring activities in the South of CAR.
- ⇒ There are currently an estimated 558,500 Central Africans displaced within the country, including 133,500 in Bangui hosted in 44 sites. In the capital, the six most populated sites accommodate about 70 per cent of the IDP community. The largest site is located near to the M'Poko international airport site hosts some 44,500 IDPs, where the security situation has been worsening with reportedly theft, violence and abductions by armed groups. UNHCR is working with partners including the government to strengthen protection people at M'Poko. Under the CCCM Cluster coordination, two of the four suggested alternative sites for IDPs living in M'Poko and other high risk sites during the rainy season, identified have been approved by the Minister of Health and Humanitarian Action. Construction on the site Boganda II is expected to start shortly.
- ⇒ **Communities at risk:** The Protection Cluster reported that some 21,225 individuals are trapped in 12 locations, six of which are assessed as being at a very high risk (in Boda, PK5 in Bangui, Yaloke, Boganangone Berberati, and Bohong), two at high risk (Baoro and Bouar ) and four with risk. Two inter-agency missions were carried out to monitor the situation of the communities at risk in Yaloke from 21st to 24 May (UNHCR and UNFPA) and in Boda from 27 to 31st May (UNHCR, UNFPA and Intersos). In Yaloke, the mission stressed the need to continue advocacy with the local authorities and military forces for the freedom of movement of the IDPs, the reinforcement of the nutritional care activities, distribution of food and relief-items. In Boda, the entire of IDP population is still unable to move freely and is at risk of targeted killings or physical violence. The mission recommended to pursue advocacy with local authorities and military forces including MISCA, for the freedom of movement of IDPs and the reinforcement of the humanitarian interventions through the implementation of the Boda action plan and support social cohesion activities.
- ⇒ In Bambari, violence escalated with clashes reported between Sangaris forces, ex-Seleka elements and local populations on 22 May. An estimated 8,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were hosted in churches, school, and military bases. Joint assessment was undertaken by OCHA, UNFPA, WHO, WFP, UNICEF and UNHCR on 26 May to assess the situation of IDPs and provide assistance.
- ⇒ **Capacity building:** On 29 May 2014, UNHCR's field office in Paoua trained 40 people, including local authorities, officers of Misca (Cameroon), as well as civil society representatives, of all religious denominations. The workshop aimed to strengthen the skills of participants on the guiding principles of international protection, on international legal instruments and on UNHCR's mandate in CAR. After the training of trainers, the CAR local authorities will train other officials at the municipality level.
- ⇒ **Shelter and NFI:** At the end of May, UNHCR supported some 266,396 people in needs of relief items and emergency shelter since the beginning of the crisis in December 2013 in CAR. UNHCR has signed a partnership agreement with Norway Refugee Council (NRC) for the implementation of housing, land and property (HLP) advocacy and training activities in Bangui, Begoua and Bimbo.
- ⇒ In Bouca (Ouham Prefecture) an inter-agency mission composed of OCHA, UNFPA, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and UNHCR was carried out on 15 May following clashes between ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka. Some 1,000 damaged and destroyed houses were identified in Bouca and 1,041 households in need of relief items. Action Contre la Faim (ACF) is providing NFIs plastic sheeting to 1,000 households identified.



The head of UNHCR's Office in Paoua, trained local authorities and MISCA elements. UNHCR/CAR/ A. Ngarambe

**UNHCR Presence in CAR:** A total of 98 UNHCR staff in CAR, including 62 national and 36 international staffs, and the deployment of 24 emergency mission staff since the beginning of the crisis in December 2013.

UNHCR in Central African Republic, for further information, please contact: [CARBAPI@unhcr.org](mailto:CARBAPI@unhcr.org)  
Tél. (+236) 21613280 / 72225610 / 72 67 50 33

More detailed operational information, please visit the UNHCR public website <http://www.unhcr.org>,  
CAR Regional portal-UNHCR operation page <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>,  
UNHCR's World Refugee Day campaign website <http://stories.unhcr.org>