

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 31

30 August-5 September 2014

KEY FIGURES

490,568

IDPs including

65,568

in Bangui

416,437

Total number of CAR refugees in neighbouring countries

179,915

New CAR refugees in neighbouring countries since Dec. 2013

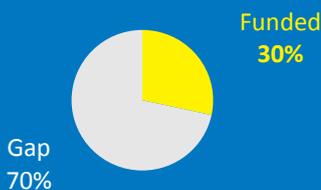
8,012

Refugees and asylum seekers in CAR

FUNDING

USD 255 million

requested for the situation



PRIORITIES

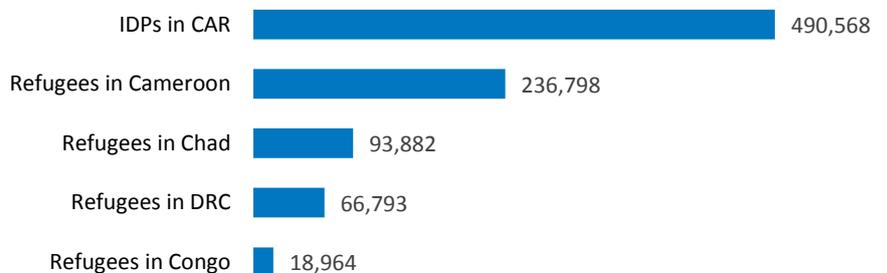
- Cameroon: identification and registration of refugees in host villages.
- Chad: profiling exercise in returnee sites.
- DRC: relocation of refugees to existing sites.
- Congo: family tracing for unaccompanied or separated children

HIGHLIGHT

- On 29 August, UNHCR participated in a mission organized by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) in the Central African Republic (CAR), Mr. Babacar Gaye, to Bambari. The aim of the mission was to assess the security situation in the town, meet with various concerned parties such as local authorities, international forces and the UN agencies operating in the area.
- The Senior Humanitarian Coordinator (SHC) for the Central African Republic, Ms. Claire Bourgeois, carried out a mission to Ouham prefecture with the aim of meeting with most stakeholders including IDPs, religious and community leaders and international forces. The mission recommendations included the transfer of IDPs living next to military areas to a new site, the reinforcement of health and education infrastructures, a deployment of national forces to reduce impunity and the strengthening of social cohesion activities.
- Elections set for February 2015 in the Central African Republic will probably be delayed because of persisting insecurity, said the deputy head of the interim parliament, Ms. Lea Koyassoum Doumta, on 2 September. She added that the National Election Authority "could not put the organs necessary for a decentralized election in place in the provinces, which is what we need".

Population of concern (as of 5 September)

A total of **907,005** people of concern



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Operational Context

- The general situation in some parts of CAR remains volatile, with a limited presence of state authorities. Ouham prefecture remains an area of instability. On 2 September, an estimated 100 ex-Seleka members reportedly attacked the town of Nana-Bakassa causing the flight of the population into the bush. Some local authorities including the sous-prefet of the town fled to Bossangoa town. UNHCR reported a vacuum where it concerned state authority in the area and has been advocating since June 2014 for a permanent presence of international forces north of the Nana-Bakassa - Markounda axis where armed groups and bandits are known to be present.



Protection

Central African Republic

- According to the *Commission Mouvement de la Population* (CMP) there are an estimated 490,568 IDPs in CAR, including 65,568 in Bangui in 37 sites.

Achievements and Impact

- Following the escalation of violence in Boda (Lobaye prefecture) and Batangafo (Ouham prefecture) that adversely affected humanitarian access, the protection cluster conducted several bilateral meetings with international military forces and the CMCOORD to advocate for the protection of the civilian population and the respect of their rights as per international and national laws. The protection cluster urged all parties involved in recent clashes to ensure unhindered humanitarian access to the areas affected for the immediate delivery of humanitarian assistance. Moreover, the protection cluster urged international forces in CAR to ensure the protection of civilians especially in identified hotspots including Boda, Batangafo, Bambari, Markounda and Amada-Gaza.
- From 23-26 August, UNHCR conducted a verification of IDPs living with host families in Paoua (Ouham Pende prefecture). This exercise targeted 41 neighborhoods of Paoua and a total of 1,198 IDP households were registered. Most are from neighbouring villages of Paoua and were displaced following attacks or rumors of attacks on their villages by armed groups.
- From 29-31 August, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), in partnership with UNHCR, organized a workshop on protection monitoring and delivery of protection response in emergency situation to newly recruited monitors and other staff under the UNHCR/DRC protection monitoring project. The training targeted a total of 20 participants who are all working on protection monitoring project in Nana-Bakassa, Bouca and Bossangoa (Ouham prefecture). The participants were also trained on the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM – UN Resolution 1612) concepts and tools.

Cameroon

- A total of 129,537 Central African refugees have entered Cameroon and have been registered since December 2013, with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions. Refugees continue to arrive in Cameroon, although the influx has steadily decreased in recent weeks.

Achievements and Impact

Refugee and Third country National (TCN) response

- This week, 1,600 refugees settled in the villages of Kette and Gbiti in the East region were registered. This is an ongoing activity and so far, 13,243 refugees have been registered living outside of sites in the East and Adamawa regions.

- The extensive relocation exercise that took place during the major influx earlier this year has steadily decreased and new arrivals are now immediately transferred to the sites. A total of 58,754 refugees have been transferred to sites: 45,001 in the East region, including 10,747 in Lolo, 17,423 in Gado, 9,535 in Mbilé, 6,278 in Timangolo and 742 in Ngari-Singo; and 14,029 in the Adamawa region including 11,308 in Borgop and 2,721 in Ngam.
- UNHCR issued 1,133 identification documents to refugee families in Borgop and in the areas of Kette and Gbiti where refugees were registered. This brings the total number of family certificates issued to 23,633 in the East and Adamawa regions.
- As several families were separated as they fled the CAR, and arrived at different entry points, UNHCR continued to register requests for family reunification in several sites. In Mbilé, 2 cases of family reunification with family members in Lolo were registered this week. In Timangolo, 87 households also informed UNHCR of their wish to be reunified with family members present on other sites.
- UNHCR's implementing partner, International Medical Corps (IMC), organized 12 communication and information sessions on issues regarding SGBV which saw the participation of 1,503 refugees.
- IOM organized the third convoy of 319 Chadian national from Kentzou and Garoua Boulai to the recently established site for returnees of Djako in southern Chad.

Chad

- A total of 19,471 Central African refugees have been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the southern part of the country.

Achievements and Impact

Refugee response:

- Following information received from local authorities, on 27 August, UNHCR conducted a mission to the border entry point of Bekoninga to verify the presence of refugees. UNHCR identified 181 newly-arrived CAR refugees (75 families), largely composed of women and facilitated their relocation to Dosseye camp on 30 August.
- During the reporting period, a joint mission composed of UNHCR, WFP, the *Commission Nationale d'Accueil, de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés* (CNARR), the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) was conducted to Dembo (near Maro) to distribute food, NFIs (including plastic sheeting, soap, hygiene kits) and to deliver refugee certificates to 2,238 newly-arrived and registered CAR refugees (602 families) settled within communities in the area.
- Following negotiations with local authorities, the site of Doholo has been identified to accommodate some refugees previously settled in Dosseye as well as newly-arriving CAR refugees.

Returnee response:

- Findings and analysis of the Danamadja profiling exercise (see update #31) were shared with the Chadian authorities, and members of the humanitarian community. UNHCR, in support of the Government of Chad, continued the profiling of returnees in Maigama. To date 6,293 people (1,877 families) have been profiled. Final results will be shared upon completion of the exercise.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

- A total of 21,986 Central African refugees have been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province but also Oriental Province.

Achievements and Impact

- This week, 52 people were relocated from the transit center of Batanga to the camp of Boyabu and 20 people were transferred from the transit center of Pangoma to Inke camp. Also, a total of 513 refugees have been relocated to Mole camp from the transit center in Zongo.
- After the observance of an increase of domestic violence incidences in Boyabu camp, a total of 3,795 people (1,557 men and 2,238 women) benefitted from an awareness raising session on marital rape, physical abuse,

denial of opportunity and services (for example the denial of inheritance for widows and the refusal of female SGBV-victims to enrol in school).

Republic of Congo

- A total of 8,531 Central African refugees have entered the Republic of Congo since December 2013, including 201 new arrivals registered this week.

Achievements and Impact

Refugee response:

- UNHCR, in collaboration with the *Comité National d'Assistance aux Réfugiés* (CNAR) and the Ministry of Interior, conducted training in Brazzaville on international protection for police authorities and staff of the General Directorate of Security of the Territory (DGST). In the context of the police operation 'Mbata Ya Bakolo', such a training was the opportunity to again clarify the specific situation of our population of concern and show them documents held by refugees and asylum seekers.

Education

Chad

Achievements and Impact

- In Danamadja, on 3 August, UNICEF partner ATURAD, began catch-up classes for primary school students. As of 29 August, 1,406 students were enrolled in these classes (770 boys and 636 girls) with 6 teachers and 1 supervisor. Classes will end on 30 September prior to the official start of the academic year. A total of 378 children are enrolled (189 girls and 189 boys) at the kindergarten level (3 teachers).

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Mole camp, school inspectors have started the training of school teachers, in order to improve the level of education in the camps. In addition, the newly inaugurated cyber café is already being used for educational programs.
- In Gbadolite, the number of primary school-aged children registered stands at 2,355 (1,151 girls and 1,204 boys) and 1,364 students (539 girls and 835 boys) have been registered for secondary school. Since the beginning of the year 699 new primary school-aged children have been registered at the entry points near Boyabu, of which 355 girls and 344 boys. In Boyabu, from the 1,508 students that started school last year, only 683 students have completed the school year. Explanations for this significant drop in school attendance are, amongst others: parents' neglect and the lack of a school feeding program.
- Mole accounts for 2,230 primary school-aged children. A total of 925 children are actually going to school (446 girls and 479 boys). Another 1,305 school-aged children for secondary school have no opportunity to continue their education in the camp.

Health

Cameroon

Achievements and Impact

Refugee response:

- A new *Centre de Santé Intégré* (CSI) in Borgop, built by UNHCR, was opened this week. The new health center is managed by a state certified nurse deployed by the Cameroonian government, and has a team of 2 nurses and 2 care-givers from IMC. This new structure will provide additional reinforcement in the response to the health needs of refugees and the host community.

- Within the framework of the vaccination campaign against polio conducted by WHO and the *Délégations Régionale de Santé* in the Adamawa region, more than 12,000 people were vaccinated on the sites of Borgop and Ngam with the support of UNHCR's partner, IMC.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- This week, 2,228 medical consultations were registered across all health centres in all refugee sites (except for Gado). The main illnesses remain malaria (43%), respiratory infections (18%) and intestinal parasitic infections (11%). It should be noted that 22,000 insecticide treated mosquito nets were distributed during the month of May and the monitoring of their use is currently underway. A rapid assessment conducted by UNICEF of the 125 nets distributed in Gado demonstrated a usage of 90%.
- In Timangolo, UNHCR held a meeting with community leaders to solicit their active participation in informing the refugee population on the medical services offered at the health centre, including vaccinations. This follows certain resistance by some refugees against the polio vaccination campaign – out of a total of 6,278 individuals on the site only 3,200 individuals have been vaccinated. The socio-cultural practices of refugees are one of the main reasons they do not use some of the facilities at the health centre.
- There remains a need for additional medical equipment and a need to reinforce the medical and sanitary response at reception areas and outside of sites.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Inke, the most predominant illnesses reported this week were: malaria (with 172 cases), intestinal parasitic infections (110 cases) and respiratory infections (97 cases). In Mole, malaria (166 cases), respiratory infections (102 cases), and intestinal parasitic infections (70 cases).



Food Security and Nutrition

Cameroon

Achievements and Impact

Refugee response:

- This week, Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), in partnership with WFP, continued with its 3rd round of distribution of nutritional supplements in Boubara, Belitac, Kette, Oundjiki, Timangolo and Mbilé in the East region. In total, 11,433 tons of Plumpy-Sup, Super Cereal and oil were distributed to 5,653 children below the age of 5 and 886 pregnant and lactating women.
- The International Medical Corps, IMC, in partnership with WFP, continued with its 4th round of distribution in Ngam, Borgop, Nabemo, Mbarang and Nanginda in the Adamawa region. A total of 474 children and 101 pregnant and lactating women received 1,055 tons of nutritional supplements. The total number of children below the age of 5 and pregnant and lactating women that have received nutritional supplements during this 4th round of distribution, is 4,683 and 710 respectively.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- This week 5,836 children under the age of 5 were screened by AHA for malnutrition and the proxy moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) rate was found to be 1.7% whilst the proxy severe acute malnutrition rate (SAM) rate was 1.5%.
- Screening performed during the 4th round of distribution conducted by IMC demonstrated that out of 4,801 children under the age of 5, the proxy MAM rate was 3.49% whilst the proxy SAM rate was 0.83%. Amongst the 765 women screened, the proxy MAM rate was found to be 7.45% whilst no cases of SAM were detected.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Achievements and Impact

- In Boyabu camp, cash grants were distributed this week to a total of 6,318 persons from 3,264 households.
- In Inke camp, a total of 940 people received 12,831 tons of food from WFP (cereals, vegetables, oil and salt).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Gbadolite tensions were high this week as refugees do not agree with the current system of food distribution. They would like WFP to introduce cash vouchers, as is the case in the camps of Boyabu and Mole. Several meetings were held to find appropriate solutions. Furthermore, a joint security meeting at the district level was held, attended by the District Commissioner, Department of Migration, Civil Society, the police, the *Association de Développement Economique et Social (ADES)*, *Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR)*, WFP, UNHCR and 25 refugee representatives regarding this matter.

Republic of Congo

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The monthly general food distribution continued this week in the areas of Betou (refugee population of 12,777) and Impfondo (refugee population of 734).
- This week, 8 cases of malnutrition, including six cases of SAM were identified and were provided with the required treatment. Overall, the nutritional condition of newly-arrived Central African refugee children is steadily improving since the beginning of the emergency with a decrease in the proxy MAM rate from 14% to 11.3% and a decrease in the proxy SAM rate from 7% to 4%.
- An estimated 56% of the refugee households from CAR are food insecure. A large majority of them (74.4%) have already experienced extreme loss of livelihood assets and there is therefore a high dependency on food assistance among the population.
- According to its current stock, WFP will be able to continue with food distribution until the end of the year but with important difficulties related, among others, to the isolation of Betou area which is an important obstacle for the transportation of food.



Water and Sanitation

Cameroon

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

Refugee response:

- This week, UNHCR evaluated the WASH needs of refugees in Ngam and Ngari-Songo and found that out of 137 boreholes planned, 93 have been constructed, including 64 by UNHCR, 22 by UNICEF and 7 by Plan Cameroon – 45 more need to be constructed. Out of 4,000 latrines planned, 1,612 have been constructed, including 896 by UNHCR, 700 by UNICEF and 16 by Plan Cameroon – a gap of 2,388 latrines remains. Also, out of 3,380 showers planned, 1,263 have been completed, including 673 by UNHCR, 570 by UNICEF and 20 by Plan Cameroon – leaving a gap of 1,701 showers.
- Additional resources are necessary for the construction of 45 boreholes, 2,388 latrines and 1,701 showers to cover the needs in all sites.
- On average, refugees are receiving 12,9l of water per person per day, below the minimum standard of 15l in an emergency situation. More specifically, in Borgop refugees receive 7.6l, in Ngam 13.3l, in Gado 12l, in Lolo 18l, in Mbilé 14.5l and in Timangolo 13.3l.

Republic of Congo

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's partner AARREC conducted information sessions for 725 refugees on the refugee sites of Ikpengbele and *15 Avril* on the promotion of hygiene. AARREC also conducted the chlorination of 13 wells and the disinfection of 52 latrines on the *15 Avril* site.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Construction and rehabilitation of some 85 water points, construction of 650 latrines and 250 semi-durable latrines in school and health centre is required.



Shelter and NFIs

Central African Republic

Achievements and Impact

- The Shelter/NFIs Cluster is supporting inter-agency response in the area affected by the latest events in Batangafo. UNHCR and UNICEF/RRM are providing NFIs stocks to their partners and distributions to the affected IDP population are underway in the area. So far, 6,310 IDPs have been assisted with NFI kits (278 households in Kabo and Moyen Sido by *Solidarités Internationales*; 290 households in Bouca and 694 in Boya and Bozakon by *Action Contre la Faim* (ACF)).
- To date UNHCR's partner, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), has assisted 925 IDP households with materials and tools to support the reconstruction of damaged houses in Bossangoa and across the Bossangoa-Bouca route.
- In Bangui, over the past two weeks PU-AMI constructed 1 community shelter in the *St. Sauveur* site, dismantled 2 community shelters in *St. Charles de Luanga* and rehabilitated 53 community shelters in several sites.
- Between 18-27 August, ACTED distributed 608 NFI kits to vulnerable residents of the 4th, 5th and 6th districts of Bangui. In the same neighborhoods, 244 NFI kits were distributed "house by house" by ACTED, to assist vulnerable people who were unable to reach distribution sites.

Cameroon

Achievements and Impact

Refugee response:

- In Gado this week, 177 family shelters were constructed by UNHCR and attributed to families (this in addition to 965 family shelters already constructed). So far, 1,142 family shelters and 19 community shelters are complete and 745 tents have been mounted. In addition, a health post has been constructed on the site and five others are in the process of being completed. The creation of these health posts aims to facilitate identification of those needing medical care and to refer them to the nearest health post on the site.
- In Ngari-Songo, all 742 refugees settled there received an NFI kit distributed by UNHCR which consisted of mats, blankets, buckets, jerry-cans cooking utensils, mosquito nets and clothes.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- In Lolo, UNHCR met with the chief of the village and various refugee representatives for a site visit in order to identify additional land space for the extension of the site. Lolo has reached its maximum capacity of over 10,700 individuals and more than 2,000 people are currently living in community shelters as they wait for the construction of family shelters.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- Severe lack of NFIs is still reported in the camps and therefore new arrivals do not always receive necessary NFI assistance.

- Boyabu camp currently has 1,204 shelters and the plan is to add another 250.

Republic of Congo

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's partner AARREC constructed 10 new shelters on the *15 Avril* site and is continuing with the construction work of 35 other shelters in Ikpengbele site. NFIs (mats, blankets and mosquito nets) were distributed to 125 individuals at *15 avril*.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- Since the beginning of the CAR emergency, 12,054 refugees have been assisted with NFIs in Betou and Impfondo.
- Despite the construction of nearly 500 new shelters the two refugee camps, hundreds of refugees remain without immediate housing solutions – additional funds for the construction and rehabilitation of shelters is urgently required.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Central African Republic

Achievements and Impact

- The CCCM cluster is working towards the search and set-up of alternatives sites to transfer IDPs living next to military bases, inside basis services' infrastructures including hospitals and in schools, in view of the upcoming school year. Bangui, Bambari and Batangafo are the primary targeted areas.
- In Bangui, there is an observed trend towards spontaneous returns from the displacement sites to the neighborhoods of origin. According to the latest report of the *Commission Mouvement de Population*, there are 65,568 IDPs living in 37 sites as of 2 September, in comparison to 67,514 the previous week.
- UNHCR's partners DRC and PU-Ami for CCCM activities in Bangui are conducting return intention surveys in 4 sites including M'Poko airport site. UNHCR's partners for CCCM are responsible for 3 out of the 10 most populated IDP sites in Bangui namely, M'Poko, *Don Bosco* and *Eglise des Frères Castors*. In total, these sites host 31,573 people, representing 48% of the IDP population in the capital. The reasons for return include an improvement of the security situation due to the presence of international forces in certain hotspots including the 3rd and 5th districts.
- In Batangafo, local partners are assessing the situation of IDP sites and population movement after recent incidents. In addition, DRC is establishing community participation structures in sites, monitoring the situation of IDPs and coordinating the provision of assistance in sites, before starting an integrated mobile site management project subject to the securing of funding.
- IOM facilitated the visit of the SHC and a delegation from the Ministry of Health, UNHCR, RRM, and UNICEF to Kabo and Moyen Sido to monitor the living conditions of the IDPs who were relocated from PK12 in Bangui. The visit took place from the 27-29 August and the delegation met with local authorities, representatives of the local community and humanitarian organizations: INTERSOS, IOM, MSF-E, and *Solidarites*. The outcome revealed that the IDP and non-IDP communities are living peacefully, even though needs persist including: food security, livelihood and access to basic social services. The security situation has greatly improved for the former PK12 residents and local authorities have taken the initiative to donate land in order to facilitate their integration into the communities. Two CCCM trainings were held for 60 CCCM stakeholders and partners, among them IDP representatives, IOM site facilitators, local authorities and service providers.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

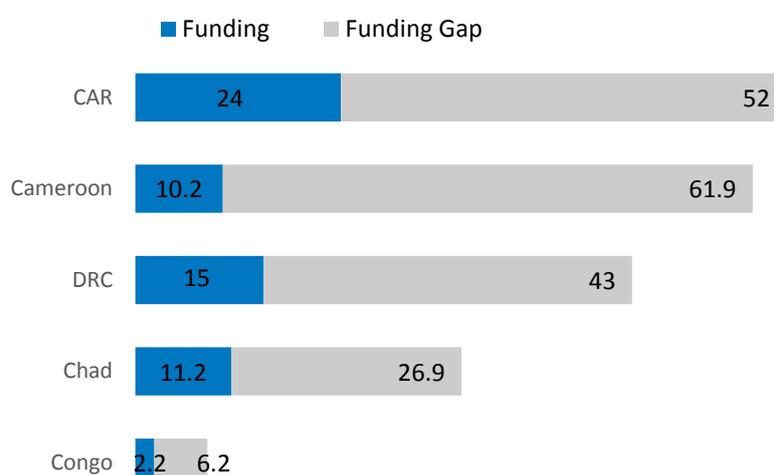
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation. Below are UNHCR's financial needs for providing protection and assistance to Central African refugees in the neighbouring countries, as well as discharging its responsibilities in the inter-agency framework to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs in the Central African Republic. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the CAR Regional Situation currently amounts to USD 255 million, including USD 104.5 million of revised additional needs in asylum countries from January to December 2014, as presented in the Revised Regional Refugee Response Plan launched in Geneva on 22 July. The overall needs are currently funded at 30%.

Donors:

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Funding:

A total of **USD 76.7 million** has been funded



Contacts:

Ms. Kabami Kalumiya, Reporting Officer, kalumiya@unhcr.org Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8252

Ms. Wendy Rappeport, Senior External Relations Officer, rappepor@unhcr.org Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8993

Links:

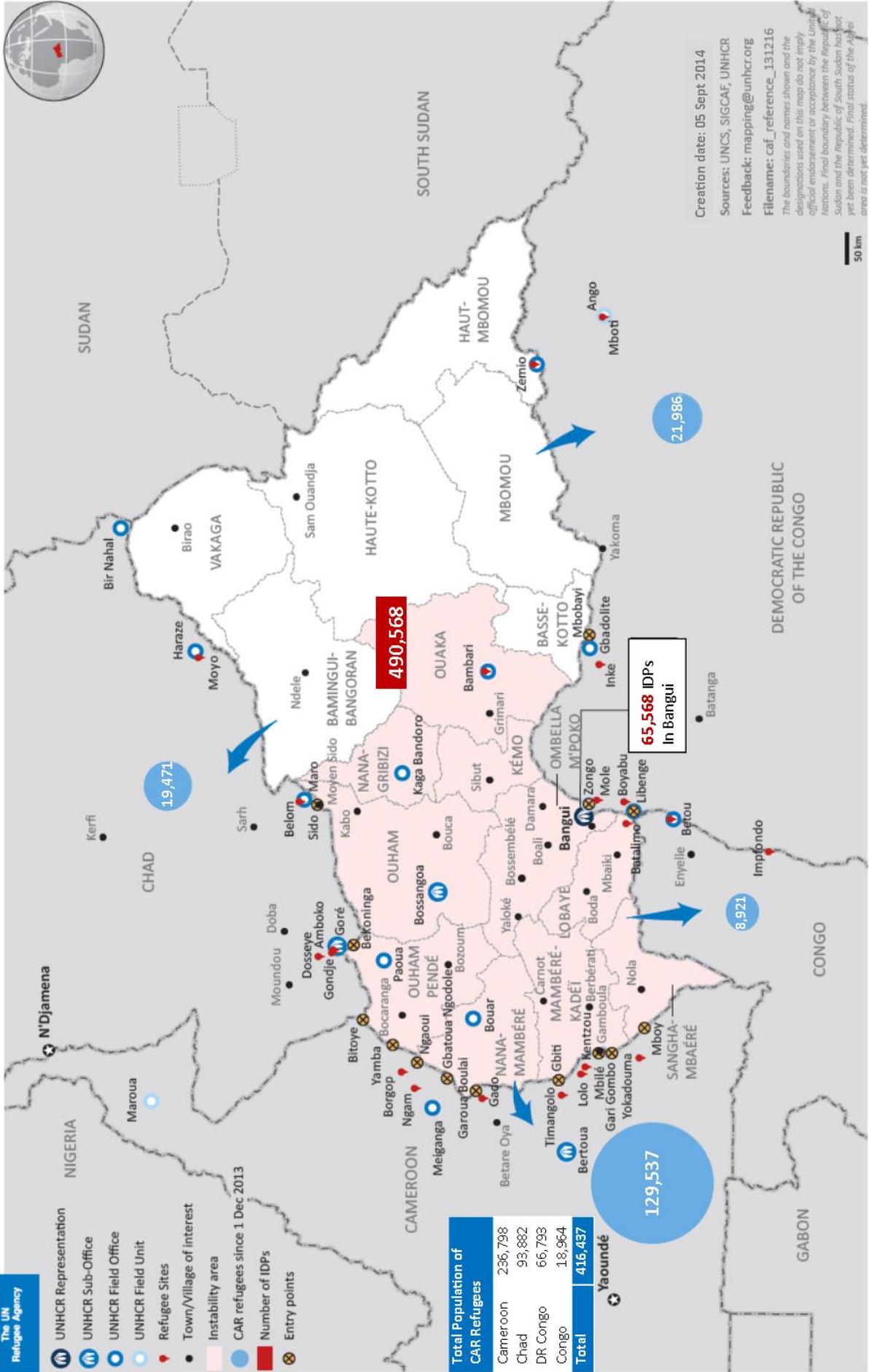
Regional webportal: <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>

Central African Republic Emergency Situation

As of 5 September 2014



- UNHCR Representation
- UNHCR Sub-Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- UNHCR Field Unit
- Refugee Sites
- Town/Village of interest
- Instability area
- CAR refugees since 1 Dec 2013
- Number of IDPs
- Entry points



Total Population of CAR Refugees	
Cameroon	236,798
Chad	93,882
DR Congo	66,798
Congo	18,964
Total	416,437

Creation date: 05 Sept 2014
 Sources: UNCS, SIGCAF, UNHCR
 Feedback: mapping@unhcr.org
 Filename: caf_reference_131216
 The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.