



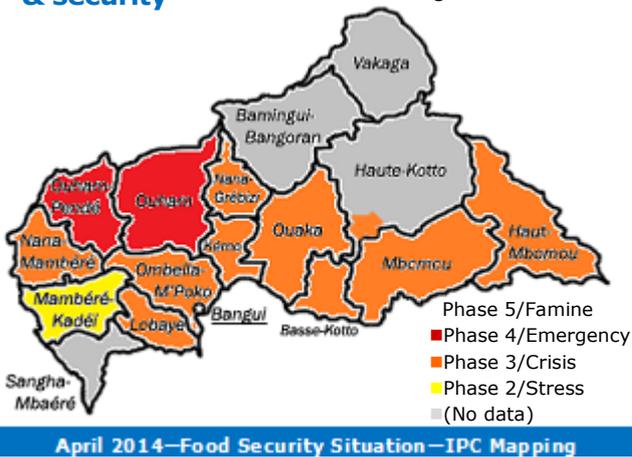
WFP / Ingela Christiansson



World Food Programme

Central African Republic

-  **C.A.R. Funding Shortfalls (19 Sept)**
-  **Emergency Operation** **USD 27.5 million** through October 2014
-  **Food Security Cluster** **USD 1.3 million** through October 2014
-  **ETC & Logistics Cluster** **USD 2.7 million** through December 2014
-  **UNHAS** **USD 3.9 million** through December 2014
-  **Augmentation of staff & security** **USD 6.1 million** through December 2014



Highlights

In August, WFP reached 400,000 people countrywide with 4,800 mt of food. In total, WFP has assisted over 930,000 people at least once in over 55 key locations during the first eight months of the operation.

A budget revision to extend the current operation in time has been approved to cover September and October until the start of the new regional operation. WFP is in the process of finalizing new field level agreements with partners.

Data collection for the Emergency Food Security Assessment and the nutrition SMART survey is currently ongoing. For the Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission, the data collection phase has been finalized.

UNHAS is experiencing challenges with the supply of jet fuel. Available stocks can cover one month of operations.

A river barge carrying 1,800 mt of food arrived recently from Kinshasa to Bangui, which is an additional supply route utilized during the rainy season.



C.A.R. Emergency Response

August

WFP distributed 4,800 mt for approximately 400,000 people, corresponding to 95 percent of planned distributions for the month.

September

WFP's first priority for assistance in September is internally displaced people, particularly the newly displaced as well as enclaves across the country.

Due to the halt in the academic school year, school feeding temporarily paused in the beginning of September in all areas except Bangui. The schools will re-open in October/November.

General Food Distributions for moderately vulnerable populations receiving seed inputs from FAO have been scaled down as the harvest period has commenced. Selected locations receiving the phase two seed assistance from FAO in September will continue to receive WFP seed protection rations.

Data collection for the Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) is ongoing, with participation of the

Government, FAO and NGO partners. Data collection for the Crop and Food Security Assessment (CFSAM) has been finalized. The CFSAM will provide an update on food production, availability, market conditions and food access, while the EFSA will evaluate household level food insecurity. A final report on the results of the CFSAM are expected in the coming weeks.

For the nutrition SMART survey, data collection so far has covered Bangui and five provinces. Preliminary results for Bangui show about a 3 percent reduction in global acute malnutrition (from 8 percent in 2012 to around 5 percent currently). This is likely due to the concentration of activities in Bangui by the humanitarian community.

The CFSAM, EFSA and SMART survey results will constitute the base for defining the needs and programme interventions for C.A.R. in the coming regional operation.

C.A.R. Situation Update

Significant security-related events have occurred in the central parts of the country recently, particularly within the Bambari-Sibut-Dekoa area. There have been substantial movements of armed elements to and from Bambari and rumours of strategic attacks from one militia group, triggering counter attacks from other elements in these areas. Insecurity also remains in Batangafo and Boda. Heightened insecurity in these areas has resulted in some postponed or halted distributions by WFP and other organizations due to the volatility of the situation.

The Ministry of Public Health and Population has informed that response strategies for ebola have been set up as a preparedness and precautionary measure. Epidemiological monitoring has been activated in close collaboration with WHO, the Pasteur Institute of Bangui and other partners and a contingency plan has been developed.

The transition of leadership from the African Union-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) was finalized on 15 September, with MINUSCA assuming full authority.

✈ UNHAS

UNHAS is experiencing problems with the supply of jet fuel. The contingency stock of fuel is only sufficient to cover one month of air operations. Solutions are being discussed with various actors.

Cluster updates

Food cluster: The cluster has conducted 37 focus groups in 13 neighbourhoods of the PK5 enclave in Bangui, together with the protection cluster, to assess the consequences on the food security situation caused by protracted isolation of the area. Results will be available shortly.

The cluster has provided maps for the EFSA and CFSAM missions and supported the selection of villages by using a spatial analysis methodology that considers geographic information and road safety.

The cluster is finalizing a new strategy for food security monitoring. This revised mechanism will be embedded in the cluster and will aim at monitoring numerous aspects of food security: including food access, availability and utilization, livelihoods, nutrition, prices and markets, agro-climatic conditions and follow-up on the agricultural campaign and pastoral situation.

Emergency telecommunications cluster: With the instalment of a WFP VSAT infrastructure in Bambari, the ETC is now providing more reliable internet access to the humanitarian community.

Due to repair of the airstrip in Ndélé in the north, the pre-positioning of ETC equipment to this location was interrupted, but it is expected to resume shortly.

Logistics Cluster: The cluster supported the NGO DRC for the erection of a mobile storage unit for inter-agency use in Batangafo and has provided GIS tools for partners. The Relief Item Tracking Application, which is used to track cargo that has been transported and stored, has been set up and provided by WFP and the Logistics Cluster.

Spotlight: Oubangui River - WFP's new supply corridor

As a result of widespread insecurity in the country, 2014 has been a challenging year for the movement of goods.

After months of limited truck convoys with armed escorts, two transport blockades at the border of Cameroon and prolonged congestion at the port of Douala, the supply chain of vital humanitarian goods has been severely affected.

WFP has been working on diversifying entry points into the country by exploring options and finding solutions to ensure a consistent flow of incoming food supplies. The idea is to optimize the use of existing corridors and an alternative to overland transportation was identified.

During the high water of the rainy season, WFP will be using a barge to transport goods from Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, to Bangui.



The first barge arrived at the end of August, bringing 1,800 mt of rice securely to the capital.

Currently, regional purchases of over 2,700 mt are ongoing from Kinshasa.



Contacts

Denise Brown, Emergency Coordinator
WFP Regional Bureau, Dakar, Senegal

For media inquiries:

Donaig.Ledu@wfp.org