



IOM – National Red Cross joint food distribution targeting IDPS in Kabo (Photo: IOM CAR)

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

**Central African Republic (CAR):** The security situation in Central African Republic is calm but unpredictable. The week of 22 to 28 March has seen a decrease of incidents by anti-Balaka in Bangui. Reasons for this decrease could be attributed to a strengthening in the presence of international security forces in close collaboration with local authorities. A request from the Secretary General to the UN Security Council authorizing the increase of MINUSCA (*Mission multidimensionnelle intégrée des Nations unies pour la stabilisation en Centrafrique*) personnel to strengthen the joint task force in Bangui.

Currently, there are **436,256 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** in CAR, including **49,113 people** in Bangui (Source: Commission for Population Movement ).

### CAR Operations

In the coming weeks, IOM will start implementing a 12 month project in CAR which aims to provide immediate support and promote durable solutions for IDPs and returnees through three targeted components: a) provision of an adapted and individualized return support package for families wishing to return; b) rehabilitation and stabilization of the communities affected by IDP returns; and c) continued mapping and tracking of humanitarian gaps and identification of socio-economic dynamics through the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). The latter element will underpin IOM’s position as co-lead of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster in CAR.

### HIGHLIGHTS



**CAR:** On 25 March, IOM distributed NFIs kits to **153 households** in Kabo.

**CHAD:** Between 17 and 30 March, IOM conducted **seven direct counselling sessions** for returnees in Damanadja and Kobitoye transit sites.

**CAMEROON:** On 18 and 19 March, WFP, in close coordination with IOM, distributed food to **274 households** in Kentzou and Garoua Boulai.

### NON-FOOD ITEM (NFI) ASSISTANCE

On 25 March, IOM distributed NFIs kits to **153 households** (765 individuals) in the Peace Village in Kabo. The kits consisted of items such as mats, blankets, stoves, kitchen sets, and soap detergents and the distribution targeted IDPs who live in houses built with IOM’s assistance.

## SOCIAL COHESION AND LIVELIHOODS RECOVERY

During the reporting period, IOM supported the celebration the International Women's Day festivities which were held on 22 March in Moyenne Sido though with a delay. At this occasion, which featured more than **500 people**, the following activities were held: speeches promoting peace in CAR, a women's parade, singing and dancing groups, and football matches. The event was organized to promote social cohesion among the IDP and host communities within the city of Moyenne Sido.

In addition, the Cash-for-Work programme in Ngoumélé is ongoing as well as in Ndélé. In total, there have been 36 completed rotations out of a planned 39 rotations in nine locations.

## CHAD Operations

### RETURNEE VERIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

From 20 to 26 March, IOM conducted a monitoring assessment with Secours Catholique et Développement (SECADEV) in Danamadja and Kobitoye and identified **115 households** (413 returnees) in need of emergency shelter. In addition, from 23 to 24 March, IOM conducted a verification exercise in the Maigama temporary site and visited **300 tents** belonging to returnees. From the exercise, three fraudulent cases were identified and one shelter was found vandalized. The verification exercise will help to ensure that IOM's registration list is accurate and up to date when sharing with its partners.

During the reporting period, IOM shared its registration list of returnees with World Vision. Currently, IOM has **15 partners** including UN agencies and international and national NGOs who have access to IOM's registration lists.

### MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

IOM aims to address the needs of vulnerable returnees in the areas of mental health and psychosocial well-being. Between 17 and 30 March, **seven direct counseling sessions** were provided for returnees in Damanadja and Kobitoye transit sites. Among them, **five**



IOM's psychosocial awareness campaign included door-to-door visits in Kobiyote (Photo: IOM Chad)

**individuals** were referred to a medical clinic managed by IRC for further medical attention.

From 16 to 20 March, IOM organized an awareness campaign in the Maigama temporary site and the Sido transit site on psychosocial

services that were available. The campaign included door-to-door visits to returnees to raise awareness.

### FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

On 24 March, IOM, WFP, and the International Health Data Linkage Network (IHDL) had a meeting in Maigama to find a solution for returnees in the Maigama temporary site who reported that they have not received any food assistance since 20 January 2015. Following the meeting, IOM provided technical support to IHDL in identifying returnees who were in need of distributions. Following the meeting, food distributions resumed in Maigama, with IOM assisting IHDL through verifying ID cards for returnees and collecting information from those claiming lost ID cards.

### HEALTH ASSISTANCE

IOM is the sole agency providing health services for returnees at the Gaoui site. During the reporting period, IOM's medical clinic provided consultations to **385 patients** in the site. Among the consultations, malaria and respiratory infections were the most common diseases found. Five patients were referred to hospitals in N'Djamena for further treatments involving HIV, Spinal Bifida, and Hernia.

## CAMEROON Operations

### REGISTRATION

Between 17 and 30 March, **30 Third Country Nationals** (TCNs) (9 women, 6 men, 15 children) originating from Nigeria and Chad were registered by IOM seeking protection in IOM's transit sites in Kentzou and Garoua Boulai.

As of 30 March, **495 TCNs** wish to return to their countries of origin. To date, IOM has registered a total of **17,590 TCNs** in Kentzou and Garoua Boulai. Currently, 184 TCNs are hosted in IOM's transit sites in Garoua Boulai (120) and Kentzou (64), and 1,884 TCNs are living with host communities.

### HEALTH ASSISTANCE

During the reporting period, IOM's medical team in Kentzou conducted 51 medical consultations. In addition to pregnancies, the majority of consultations identified cases of malaria and sexually transmitted infections. Since June 2014, IOM has conducted medical consultations for 1,314 cases of which 45 cases were referred to local hospitals. During the reporting period, IOM's medical team organized a health promotion session where migrants were sensitized on personal hygiene.

Furthermore, in Garoua Boulai, IOM's medical team conducted 52 consultations for malaria, diarrhoea, intestinal parasites and sexually transmitted infections. Since May 2014, IOM has provided medical consultations for 1,283 cases of which 110 have been referred to MSF for follow up.

### CAMP MANAGEMENT

As part of IOM's ongoing maintenance of its transit site in Kentzou, IOM rehabilitated several shelters that were damaged due to severe weather in Kentzou.

## TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

Since operations began in February 2014, IOM has provided assistance to **6,988 individuals** from Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Mali, Niger, the Republic of Congo, Senegal, and Sudan to return to their countries of origin. IOM is working with consular services to identify the most vulnerable cases in need of immediate evacuation assistance.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

On 18 March, WFP, in close partnership with IOM, distributed food to **59 households** (361 individuals) in Garoua Boulai consisting of rice, beans, oil, flour and salt. Furthermore on 19 March, **215 households** (1,148 individuals) in Kentzou received maize, beans, oil, salt, and flour. In both distributions, IOM provided the list of beneficiaries to WFP and coordinated the distributions for the households.



Food distribution taking place in IOM's transit site in Kentzou (Photo: IOM Cameroon)

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