



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

EMERGENCY UPDATE 1

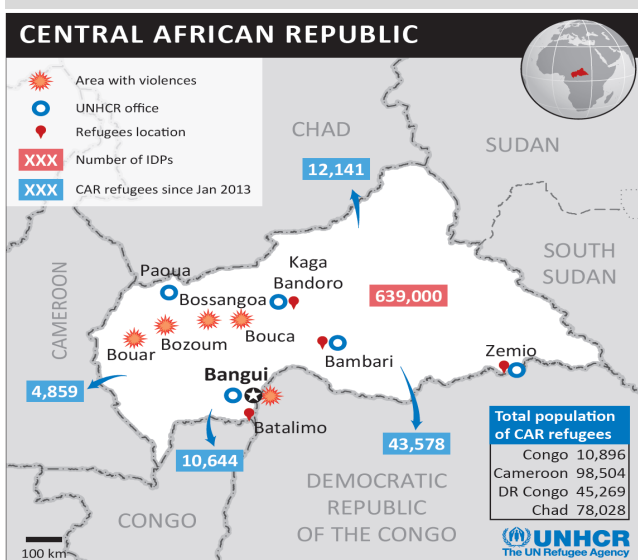
18 December 2013



Highlights

- The **security situation in the country remains of great concern**. Clashes (notably between Seleka and anti-Balaka), looting, arson and sectarian violence have caused **the death of over 600 people** and displaced some **210,000** people in Bangui to over **40 sites**, bringing the total number of IDPs in CAR to **639,000**. With infiltration of armed groups in IDP sites, humanitarian assistance remains challenging.
- The UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, in consultation with the IASC Principals, has, on 11 December 2013, designated the CAR situation a system-wide **L3 emergency**.
- As part of that response, UNHCR is **scaling up its presence** on the ground. There are ongoing discussions on the establishment of a separate CCCM Cluster. 15 emergency staff have been deployed to CAR, particularly to provide cluster leadership. More are on their way, including for institutional delivery.
- UNHCR is coordinating the Protection Cluster, undertaking monitoring in Bossangoa and Bangui, and making relevant interventions.
- UNHCR also co-leads the Shelter/NFI Cluster (with ACTED). Last week, **NFIs were distributed to a total of 3,000 IDP families in Bossangoa**. With the violence in Bangui, 11,300 sleeping mats, 4,300 blankets, 6,000 mosquito nets, 4,400 plastic sheetings and 80 community tents were distributed.
- In CAR, UNHCR is responsible for **20,000 refugees** (DRC and Sudanese) who are receiving assistance through UNHCR's implementing partners. UNHCR is also providing protection and assistance to **232,000 CAR refugees** in neighbouring countries, including **70,500** who fled CAR in 2013.

Population displacement overview



UNHCR's presence in CAR

- UNHCR present in Bangui, Bambari, Bossangoa, Paoua and Zemio.
- 10 International and 43 national staff.
- 15 emergency staff deployed/on their way to CAR. 5 more deployments pending and 4 staff on stand-by.

Partners

Government agencies, 22 NGOs, FAO, BINUCA, OCHA, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP and WHO.

Operational update



Protection

- Since 9 December, the [CAR Protection Cluster Crisis Working Group](#) has started to meet on a daily basis. Cluster members have identified key priority activities to be carried out in various IDP sites. UNHCR and its partners will start advocating for IDP communities to organize themselves to enable the delivery of humanitarian assistance. In addition, the Cluster will undertake the identification of individual cases of victims of physical violence and other forms of abuse, as well as unaccompanied/separated children at various IDP sites.
- UNHCR has started [protection monitoring interventions](#) in Bangui (at the Archbishop/Saint Paul, the airport and Saint Bernard sites) and Bossangoa.
- An estimated 3,500 [children](#) have been recruited into armed forces since the coup.
- [Training](#) on registration and identification of unaccompanied and separated children has been carried out by the child protection sub-cluster.



Shelter/ NFI

- [In Bossangoa](#): Sleeping mats, plastic sheeting, jerry cans and sanitary kits were distributed at the Catholic mission; at the Archbishop site (benefiting more than 2,500 people) and at *Ecole Liberté* (for more than 500 people).
- [In Bangui](#): Distribution at the Archbishop/Saint Paul compound (sleeping mats; covers, tents, kitchen sets, hygiene kits and mosquito nets), Saint Jean (sleeping mats and covers), Don Bosco, Saint Bernard (sleeping mats, covers and jerry cans), Boy Rabe, Saint Joseph Mukassa (community tents, plastic sheeting) church and the airport (319 plastics sheeting, 319 sleeping mats, 319 blankets and 10 community tents to be used as medical facilities).
- [In Ouango](#): 20 tents were distributed at St Paul IDP site.



Assessment and monitoring

- UNHCR carried out a [multi-sectorial rapid assessment](#) at the St Joseph Mukassa IDP site in Bangui. Shortages with regard to food, healthcare, sanitation and shelter have been identified.
- On 12 December UNHCR conducted a [needs assessment](#) in Saint Bernard site in Bangui, which revealed a lack of medicines, latrines and access to water. In Bangui at the Archbishop/Saint Paul site, UNHCR observed a lack of latrines and showers, sleeping mats, tents and access to healthcare.
- On 11 December, UNHCR carried out a [multi-sectorial rapid assessment](#) at the Lutheran Church IDP site in Bangui. The lack of food and healthcare is of great concern in this site.
- In Bossangoa, UNHCR and CARITAS verified the IDP lists in [preparation for WFP's food distribution](#).

Funding

UNHCR's total financial requirements for the response to the humanitarian situation in CAR are being finalized and will be submitted shortly.

For further information

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