

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

UNHCR EXTERNAL REGIONAL UPDATE 20

13-20 June 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

542,400

IDPs including

117,400

in Bangui

378,277

Total number of **CAR refugees** in neighbouring countries

139,393

New **CAR refugees** in neighbouring countries since Dec. 2013

US\$239

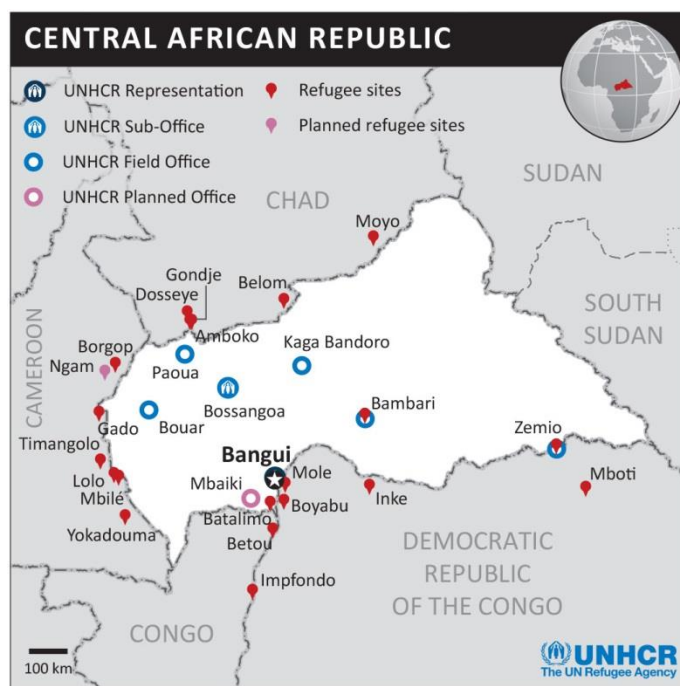
million

UNHCR requested for the Regional Situation

10,667

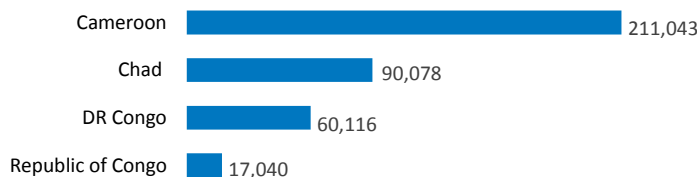
Refugees and asylum seekers in CAR¹

- The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. António Guterres was requested by the UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ms. Valerie Amos, and the EU Commissioner for international cooperation, humanitarian aid and crisis response, Ms. Kristalina Georgieva, to address a High Level Meeting on "Humanitarian Action in the Central African Republic and Neighbouring Countries" of the Humanitarian Affairs Segment of ECOSOC, in New York on 23 June, 2014. The meeting will be devoted to humanitarian and funding issues in CAR and surrounding countries.
- UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, Ms. Janet Lim, recently returned from a 4 day mission to Cameroon accompanied by Ms. Liz Ahua, the Regional Refugee Coordinator for the CAR Situation and Mr. Steven Corliss, Director of the Department of Programme Support Management. They went to the border entry point of Gbiti and the refugee sites of Mbilé and Timangolo where they met with Central African refugees and humanitarian actors working in the area. The situation in Cameroon remains critical and requires more financial assistance in order to implement urgent life-saving activities.



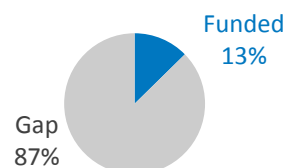
Population of concern

A total of **378,277** people of concern



Funding against the CAR situation

US\$239 million requested



¹ Current estimation – pending verification exercise of urban refugees.

Operational Context

- The UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations (AHC), Ms. Janet Lim, convened a second meeting in Geneva with partners regarding the situation of Central African refugees in **Cameroon**; this in follow-up to the meeting held on 28 May (see update #18) and also following her return from Cameroon. The AHC provided the participants with her impressions and recommendations, again encouraging partners to scale up their presence and activities. Partners provided the current status of their response and scale-up in Cameroon since the last meeting with the AHC. Funding remains a critical issue.
- UNHCR was informed that an unconfirmed number of individuals who wanted to enter **Chad** from the Central African Republic were turned back on 3 June at Sido border entry point. Those reportedly refused entry were either Chadians without documents and Central African nationals, all seeking safety in Chad. UNHCR is in touch with authorities in Ndjamena as, well as local authorities in the south, in order to better ascertain what happened, including the whereabouts of these individuals, but also to remind authorities about their international obligations towards refugees. Authorities were advised that while a country might close its border for security related reasons, such measures should not lead to the denial of asylum space. Central African refugees have been entering through other border entry points and UNHCR received assurances from the Chadian authorities that CAR refugees will continue to enjoy asylum in Chad.
- The Commission Mouvement de Population (CMP), under the Protection Cluster, launched an operation to collect secondary data, from various sources, on IDPs outside of Bangui in order to update current IDP statistics in the **Central African Republic**. Several areas of internal displacement have been identified and mapped by the CMP. The operation targets both IDP sites as well as IDPs living with host families.

Recent Developments



Protection

Central African Republic:

IDP Response

- There are currently an estimated 552,400 Central Africans displaced within their country – including 117,400 in Bangui spread over 43 sites. IDP returns from 13 sites was observed resulting in the closure of two sites. The seven most populated sites (over 5,000 people each) accommodate some 68% of the IDP community, with the largest site at M'Poko airport, hosting an estimated 38,400 IDPs.
- Following security incidents in Bambari, some 630 newly displaced persons reportedly settled at the Evêché site on 14 June. The total number of IDPs hosted at the Evêché site is 1,032 persons. Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) provided relief items through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) and WFP distributed a food ration on 17 June.
- In Bossangoa, UNHCR identified and registered a total of 147 households (representing 202 persons) from two villages in the northern region, namely: Bowara and Gbago. Since the beginning of the identification and registration exercise of new IDPs in Bossangoa at the beginning of May, UNHCR has registered a total of 1,139 persons. The families received full NFI kits from UNHCR. The Protection sub-cluster is finalizing its action plan for the Bossangoa region.

Cameroon:

- A total of 103,782 Central African refugees have entered Cameroon since December 2013, with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions.
- The relocation process of new arrivals from the border to refugee sites granted by local authorities is ongoing, and a total of 39,695 refugees have been relocated thus far to six established refugee sites: Gado, Lolo, Mbilé, Timangolo, Yokadouma in the East region and Borgop in the Adamawa region.
- Close to 60,000 still remain at the border in transit sites and in host families. Some are reluctant to be transferred to the sites.

- During the reporting period, UNHCR continued protection monitoring missions and the identification and registration of refugees that continue to arrive at border entry points: 2,051 refugees were registered at Garoua Boulai, Kentzou, Gbiti, and Diel in the East and Adamawa regions.
- Refugees report having fled fearing anti-Balaka attacks and that many people are hiding in the bush looking for safe routes to the Cameroonian and Chadian borders.
- With the support of UNICEF, the *Association Enfants, Jeunes et Avenir* (ASSEJA), are assuring child protection activities in the sites of Gado and Lolo; 12 unaccompanied minors (UAMs) were identified and 31 families were provided with psychosocial support. Also, seven information campaigns on violence against children targeted 218 refugees
- In view of preventing and providing adequate responses to questions on SGBV, UN Women launched, during the reporting period, a project entitled «*cohésion sociale et réhabilitation des femmes réfugiées survivants de violences basées sur le genre et viols, victimes du conflit en RCA dans la région de l'Est*». A workshop was organized for some 20 participants from the *Ministère de la Promotion de la Femme et de la Famille* (MINPROFF), the *Association Camerounaise des Femmes Juristes* (ACAFEJ), the *Institute pour la Formation et la Recherche Démographique* (IFORD), UNHCR and UN Women, in order to explain and harmonize psychosocial tools when assisting survivors of SGBV.

Chad:

Refugee response

- Some 14,000 Central African refugees have entered Chad since December 2013.
- Central African refugees in Chad mainly originate from the prefectures of Ouham (50%), Ouham Pende (30%), Bamingui-Bangoran (12%) and 3% from the capital Bangui.
- Since the beginning of the year, UNHCR has voluntarily relocated a total of 4,648 Central African refugees (1,464 families) to Dosseye camp in the south.
- UNHCR will continue to work closely with Chadian authorities and to monitor the border to ensure all refugees are able to seek protection by crossing into Chad.

Returnees

- On 14 June 2014, UNHCR commenced the transfer of CAR returnees living in the transit center of Doyaba (Sarh), to the temporary site of Maingama (Maro). A total of 478 individuals (139 families) were transferred on 14 and 15 June.
- The current population of Danamadja (Gore) stands at 11,193 individuals from CAR. UNHCR and the *Commission Nationale d'Accueil, de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés* CNARR facilitated the relocation of this population with the exception of 833 Peuhl individuals (133 families) who arrived spontaneously.
- The profiling of Chadians without links is planned to begin in Danamadja from 23-27 June and in Maingama from 30 June. This exercise will be conducted with the *Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad* (APLFT) and will serve to ascertain the bio-data of the evacuee/returnee population to identify suitable durable solutions.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- Some 14,810 Central African refugees have been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province but also Oriental Province.
- During the reporting period, 48 individuals (18 households) from CAR arrived at Batanga transit centre and after a medical screening, were relocated to Boyabu (Libenge).
- Two educational sessions with participatory theater on peaceful coexistence between communities were held from 8-9 June in Boyabu camp.
- In Inke camp, during the reporting period, 92 individuals were newly registered. During border monitoring activities at the border of Mbobayi, UNHCR met with 18 individuals having reportedly fled attacks by the ex-Seleka.

Republic of Congo:

- Some 6,801 Central African refugees have entered the Republic of Congo since December 2013.

- As of 15 June, 73% of Central African refugees were registered and settled in the district of Betou and 20% in Brazzaville. They have also settled in Impfondo and Pointe Noire.
- Some 290 Central African refugees coming from the south-eastern part of the country were registered in the Republic of Congo this week.
- In Betou, UNHCR organized a coordination meeting with UNFPA and IOM for the implementation of the CERF project. The meeting served to ensure the harmonization of the interventions of each agency.
- UNHCR and its partners are preparing a mission to Mouale, in the Likouala province in the north, for the registration of over 500 CAR refugees who have refused to relocate to Betou. The mission was to take place from 16-20 June.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM)

Central African Republic:

- The CCCM Cluster continues to work closely with state and city officials to find alternative solutions for IDPs living in sites at risk of flooding. After reviewing the results from multi-sectoral assessments (WASH, CCCM, Shelter and Protection), security around the alternative sites has been assessed and a partner to clean-up the sites before camp set up by WASH and shelter partners starts has been identified.
- An IOM site manager is now working full time at the IDP site at the Central Mosque to coordinate the efforts of humanitarian partners.
- The IDP sites outside of Bangui are being mapped and at the same time CCCM operations in Bossangoa, Kaga Bando, Kabo, Moyen Sido and Boda are being supported. In addition, the Cluster is in the process of extending its scope around the country in order to better serve the IDPs in terms of community mobilization and coordination of assistance and protection in sites.
- IOM is co-facilitating CCCM activities at IDP sites in Kabo and Moyen-Sido. IOM and INTERSOS are working to update local population figures and IDPs in Moyen-Sido for the purpose of an eventual seed distribution. IOM has also undertaken a registration of 3,496 self-relocated IDPs in Moyen-Sido. IOM is facilitating the allocation of land designated by local authorities in Kabo and Moyen-Sido for relocated IDPs from Bangui's PK12 neighborhood. Each household will receive a 25m² plot for housing; those who are interested will also receive a 50m² plot for farming. In Moyen-Sido a total of 460 plots have been delimited at the permanent village site and are ready for distribution. In Kabo all 193 plots for housing were delimited and will soon be assigned in an official handover ceremony. For farming in Kabo, 124 plots have been delimited and distributed. Recipients are awaiting farming kits to begin farming the land.



Education

Cameroon:

- In accordance with the education strategy adopted to ensure continued access to education for all refugee children and children in host communities, a partnership agreement was signed between UNICEF and Plan Cameroon for the establishment of 87 temporary spaces in five refugee sites (Gado, Lolo, Mbile, Borgop, Timangolo), awareness raising campaigns, community mobilization, distribution of school materials and teacher training for temporary volunteers. These interventions also target schools in host communities near the five sites: distribution of school materials, advocacy and mobilization, strengthening the capacity of teachers, inspectors and management committees.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- Primary school examinations ended on 11 June in Boyabu; 713 participated out of 833 children of primary school age (85.59%)
- In Inke, a general revision of school material took place in order to prepare for the exams that start next week. The number of children in primary school and that will take part in the end of year exams is 1,123 (476 girls and 647 boys).

- A mission of two educational inspectors from CAR, accompanied by UNHCR Bangui, took place this week in order to assess the level of education and the methodology used. The level of teaching was considered to be low due to lack of manuals and a shortage of school materials.

Republic of the Congo:

- Primary school examinations started during the reported period; 130 refugee children participated in the Betou district.
- After school classes have been suspended due to the upcoming holiday season. In view of their important input, it is planned that UNHCR and the *Agence d'Assistance aux Rapatriés et Réfugiés au Congo* (AARREC) will be able to continue and even reinforce this activity during the next school year.



Health

Cameroon:

- During the reporting period, WHO and the Cameroonian Paediatric Society, with the support of the Israeli Embassy, organized a vaccination campaign and paediatric consultations in Gado. On this occasion, 5,301 children were vaccinated against poliomyelitis and 4,917 against measles. This campaign was also undertaken at various border entry points: 927 refugee children were vaccinated against measles in Garoua Boulai, Gbiti and Toktoyo; and 132 against poliomyelitis in Garoua Boulai. In line with this campaign, WHO has pre-positioned five cholera kits in the East region.
- MSF has begun its mobile clinic assistance along the border of the East region.
- Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), with the financial support of UNHCR, finalized the construction of two buildings to reinforce the capacity of the *Centre Nutritionnels Thérapeutiques Intégrés* (CNTI) in Batouri; one building with 3 halls, and equipped with 38 beds will serve as the hospitalisation area and the second building will serve as the reception area as well as a space to provide information sessions on health education.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- In Inke camp, a total of 424 medical visits were recorded this week with the main illnesses reported being malaria, intestinal parasites, acute respiratory infections, and acute diarrhea.



Food Security and Nutrition

Cameroon:

- Following the joint UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP evaluation on the nutritional situation and the emergency operation in the transit centres for Central African refugees in the East and Adamawa region, a series of recommendations were formulated in order to adapt the current response to the extreme nutritional vulnerability of women and children amongst the refugee population and host communities. The main measures recommended and already implemented include: increasing micronutrient intake in the general food distribution (50 g of Corn Soy Blend (CSB) per person per day), extend the coverage of the food programme of 15 packets of plumpy sup per person per month to all children under the age of five and to pregnant and lactating women from host communities. Also recommended was the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) among children over 5 years - with 30 sachets of plumpy sup each month- and strengthening the community component of the management and treatment of malnutrition.
- During the reporting period, 1,176 individuals received monthly food rations from the WFP; bringing the total number of refugees that have received food rations from 22 May to 12 June to 63,953 individuals.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- The distribution of food vouchers for the month of June in Boyabu camp (equivalent to \$15 per refugee) was carried out on 16 June. Refugees were informed of the distribution before it took place by UNHCR and its partners the *Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés* (CNR) and the *Association pour le Développement Social et la Sauvegarde de l'Environnement* (ADSSE).

- A multisectoral team of WFP, UNICEF and UNHCR from Kinshasa continued their nutrition activities in the camp and surrounding areas of Boyabu.
- During the reporting period, seven children were admitted to the programme of nutritional support in Boyabu whilst 6 children left the programme. A total of 136 children are still supported with nutritional supplements due to malnutrition: 758 bags of plumpy nut were distributed. Four bags of 25 kg of CSB were given to 51 malnourished pregnant and lactating women.
- In Inke camp, WFP distributed 614 tonnes of food, consisting of rice, peas, vegetables, oil and salt to 65 persons. Refugees at Inke camp were again informed of the introduction of cash for food vouchers will start from August 2014 (replacing monthly food rations).



Water and Sanitation

Cameroon:

- In Borgop, during the course of the week, two boreholes were drilled and manual water pumps installed bringing to 10 the total number of boreholes completed out of 18 planned.
- In Gado, water continued to be provided by water-trucks and manual water pumps. Also, three boreholes, 40 latrines and 20 showers were completed by International Relief and Development (IRD).
- In Mbilé, during the reporting period, two boreholes, 12 latrines and 6 showers were completed by UNICEF.
- In Timangolo, CARE International is providing water through water-trucking (while they complete the drilling of boreholes) providing 12l of water per person per day.
- In Lolo, two boreholes were drilled and manual pumps installed during the week, bringing to 12 the number of operational boreholes.
- Première Urgence (PU-AMI) and UNICEF repaired the borehole at the CNTI of Djohong allowing for the patients and medical personnel easy access to clean water.
- The ratio of water distribution per person varied between the different sites during the reporting period: refugees in Borgop received 15,4l, in Gado 11,6l, in Lolo 14,3l, in Mbilé 19l and in Timangolo 6l. The construction of additional boreholes already planned will help increase the quantity of water per person and to reach the standards of 15l in an emergency situation.
- In summary: 706 latrines out of 2,240 planned have been completed; 44 boreholes out of 144 planned have been drilled; 525 showers out of 1,870 have been completed.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- In Boyabu, according to the latest data, the camp has 10,081 refugees (4,390 households). Water is supplied by three boreholes, three wells with manual pumps and 1 emergency well. The latter stores the water in 5 tanks 1m³ each. Additional drilling work that was planned for this year continues: 3 wells are under construction. The average daily production of the week is 133,000 liters or 13l per person per day. A total 449 communal latrines and 405 showers are operational. Also, 112 latrines have been completed (out of 750 planned). A total of 7,672 people were sensitized on hygiene and the importance of a clean environment; 889 shelters and 82 municipalities were visited.
- In Inke camp there are currently 568 functioning latrines. Potable water is supplied by 11 boreholes, providing a consumption of 10l per person per day.



Shelter and NFIs

Central African Republic:

- Fighting between armed groups has prevented humanitarian organizations from working in the Ngaounday Sub-Prefecture of the prefecture of Ouham-Pende, preventing the delivery of assistance to populations in that region.
- Solidarités had to suspend its distribution of NFI items in Kaga-Bandoro due to disagreements over the beneficiary lists being used. The organization has agreed to a process of dialogue and joint review of the lists in order to be able to re-start distribution

- In the Bossangoa region, a total of 3,503 individuals (824 households) received full NFI kits from UNHCR and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). In addition, a total of 18 shelter committees are now functional with the support of ACTED.

Cameroon

- During the reporting period, UNHCR distributed relief items, consisting of blankets, mats, kitchen utensils and soap, to 1,261 families in Gado. In addition, the distribution of such relief items began in Mbilé targeting 6,000 refugees. In Timangolo, plastic sheeting was distributed to 107 families who had completed the construction of the frame of their shelters. UNHCR also distributed 32 bundles of second hand clothes to refugees in Timangolo and the host population.

Chad

Returnees

- The Shelter/CCCM Cluster provided capacity building in the form of information management and data collection and updating support to partners in the south. The Cluster Coordinator conducted an evaluation of CCCM training needs for site managers, held meetings with local authorities, including the CNARR and put in place a mechanism for the evaluation of the coordination system. Briefings were provided at the general coordination meeting on Shelter/CCCM Cluster activities and information management (IM) tools. The Cluster coordination meeting was also briefed on IM tools used and provided a profile of Danamadja camp and a 3W matrix of Maingama and Gaoui sites that were validated by Cluster members. Recommendations have been made to establish a working group on construction the sites of Danamadja and Maingama to follow the evolution of the infrastructure in these locations.
- In Gaoui, on a temporary site located some 15 km from Ndjamen, UNHCR has constructed 210 shelters where Chadian evacuees/returnees with no links to their country are currently settled. Due to the heavy rains, UNHCR has provided kits to the population to construct drainage channels around their shelter.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- In Boyabu, 49 new arrivals received an NFI distribution (mats and blankets) on 11 June 2014.
- In Inke, 20 people received NFIs (mats, blankets and jerrycans). They are to receive mosquito nets next week. Fire wood could not be distributed due to logistical restraints.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

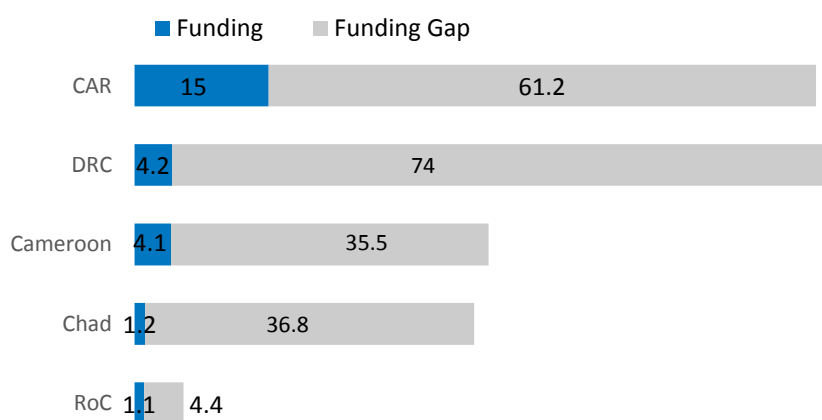
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation. Below are UNHCR's financial needs for providing protection and assistance 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. Following the release on 16 April 2014 of the CAR Regional Response Plan, UNHCR's total financial requirements for the CAR Situation amount to USD 239 million, including USD 99.8 million of revised additional needs in asylum countries from January to December 2014 as presented in the Inter-Agency Appeal. It is currently funded at 13%.

Donors:

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UN Development Programme
UN Programme on HIV/AIDS
United States of America

Funding:

A total of **US\$30.2 million** has been funded



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Links:

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

as of 19 June 2014

