

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #11, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

MAY 9, 2014

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**2.5 million**

Estimated Number of People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance

U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – May 2014

**1.6 million**

Estimated Number of Food-Insecure People in CAR

U.N. World Food Program (WFP) – May 2014

**567,600**

Total Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR

OCHA – May 2014

**177,900**

Total IDPs in Bangui

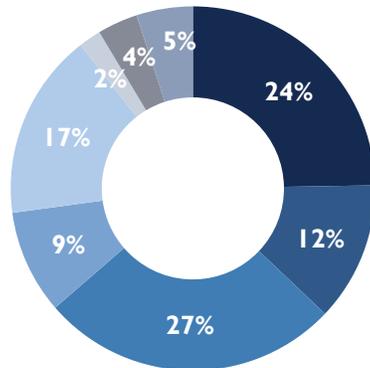
OCHA – May 2014

**356,000**

Total Central African Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – May 2014

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014



- Health (24%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (12%)
- Logistics & Relief Commodities (27%)
- Protection (9%)
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (17%)
- Nutrition (2%)
- Shelter and Settlements (4%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (5%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- International forces escort 1,300 threatened Muslims from Bangui
- Armed actors continue to attack humanitarian staff in the Central African Republic (CAR)
- E.U. peacekeepers arrive and are operational in CAR

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO CAR IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA	\$16,853,349
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$28,500,000
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$21,600,000
<b>\$66,953,349</b>	
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO CAR	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Armed actors continue to target humanitarian staff in CAR, hampering humanitarian assistance efforts. On May 1, assailants abducted and killed a UNHCR staff member in the CAR capital city of Bangui. On May 5, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) announced a reduction in health programs in CAR and neighboring countries following the deaths of three staff members during an April 26 attack on a health care facility in northern CAR.
- Security forces in CAR helped evacuate as many as 1,300 Muslim IDPs from Bangui on April 27. Armed elements had surrounded and attacked Muslim IDPs in Bangui since December, prompting their evacuation from Bangui to the north of CAR for relative safety. During the journey, armed actors attacked the convoy, killing two IDPs. By April 30, the IDPs had reached their destinations in northern CAR.
- On April 30, E.U. Opération militaire de l'Union européenne en République centrafricaine (EUFOR RCA) peacekeepers arrived in Bangui. The EUFOR RCA mission has a mandate to provide security and facilitate humanitarian assistance in Bangui. EUFOR RCA plans to remain in CAR until the U.N. Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) is fully operational—anticipated in September.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## CURRENT SITUATION

- Chronic insecurity continues to impede humanitarian assistance efforts. On April 26, ex-Séléka elements attacked a medical facility in Boguila town, Ouham Prefecture. The ambush resulted in the deaths of 23 people, including three MSF staff members. In response, MSF withdrew key staff from Boguila. On May 5, MSF announced a temporary reduction of health services, except for emergency medical care, in CAR and neighboring countries. MSF expects to resume services during the week of May 11, according to media. In addition, MSF is analyzing its operations in other volatile areas to determine if activities are viable.
- On May 1, unknown assailants abducted and killed a UNHCR staff member in Bangui's *Pointe Kilométrique* (PK) 16 neighborhood. In a statement, UNHCR called on all parties of the conflict to respect the neutrality and independence of UNHCR staff working in CAR.
- On April 30, the first EUFOR RCA peacekeepers arrived at M'Poko International Airport in Bangui with a mandate to improve security and facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance, according to international media. In addition to being a major transportation hub, M'Poko is also the largest IDP site in Bangui, where 70,000 displaced people had sought refuge as of April 7. The initial EUFOR RCA contingent comprises 150 troops with plans to increase the contingent to approximately 800 troops by June. EUFOR RCA forces aim to provide security at M'Poko airport.
- On May 1, Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (USYG-DPKO) Hervé Ladsous arrived in Bangui to meet with interim CAR President Catherine Samba-Panza and MINUSCA representatives. While in Bangui, USYG-DPKO Ladsous called upon the Government of CAR, the Economic Community of Central Africa States, the African Union, and other regional actors to work with MINUSCA to control insecurity across CAR in the interim.

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## DISPLACEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Since late April, clashes between armed groups forced thousands of civilians to flee from towns in Kémo, Nana-Gribizi, and Ouaka prefectures. The total number of IDPs continues to fluctuate in CAR given changes in the security situation. As of May 2, the U.N. reported more than 567,600 IDPs in CAR.
- Armed elements have been threatening the security of Muslims in several areas of western CAR for weeks, prompting these populations to request accompanied evacuation out of besieged areas. International peacekeepers assisted in the evacuation of as many as 1,300 Muslim IDPs from the PK 12 neighborhood of Bangui on April 27, according to media. The IDPs departed for relative safety in northern areas of CAR. On April 27, armed actors attacked the convoy as it traveled north through Dissikou town, Nana-Gribizi Prefecture, resulting in the deaths of two IDPs and injuries to seven others. According to the U.N., the convoy had reached the IDPs' destinations of Kabo and Moyen-Sido towns near the Chadian border by April 30.
- On April 25, the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs and the U.N. Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues released a statement that all IDP evacuations must occur in close consultation with populations under threat of violence, in strict conformity to international norms, and as a last resort. The U.N. stressed that despite the severity of the emergency, potential evacuees must provide informed consent reflecting an understanding of the short-, medium-, and long-term implications of relocation. In addition, the U.N. underscored that stakeholders to relocation efforts must allow individuals who wish to remain in place to do so and must offer evacuees dignified and safe returns to areas of origin when appropriate.
- On May 6, State/PRM and USAID/OFDA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) released findings from a late-April return intention survey in Bangui. IOM interviewed nearly 600 IDPs at 22 sites in Bangui. Nearly 57 percent of IDPs surveyed intended to return to areas of origin within four weeks—a slight decrease from the 58 percent of respondents in IOM's previous survey from mid-March. The late-April results also revealed that 9 percent of respondents planned to relocate to other regions outside of Bangui in CAR—a nearly 5 percent increase from a mid-March survey.
- USAID/OFDA is providing the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) with \$2.2 million in FY 14 funding to provide relief commodities, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to conflict-affected populations in Bamingui-Bangora, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé prefectures—where the U.N. estimates that 225,000 IDPs were

sheltering as of late April. With USAID/OFDA support, DRC provides safe shelter and clean drinking water for populations displaced by the conflict. DRC is also constructing sanitation facilities—critical for preventing waterborne diseases and other health risks to conflict-affected populations.

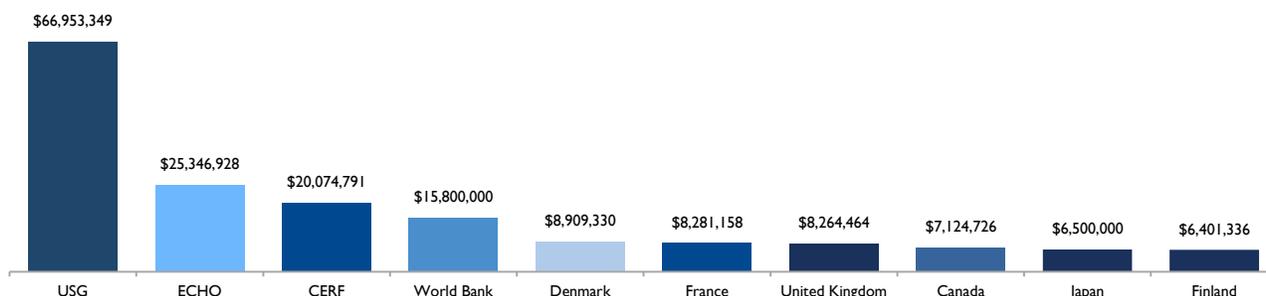
## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- According to an April 30 assessment report, the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) predicted that conflict-affected populations and IDPs in north and central areas of western CAR, as well as in Bangui, are likely to experience Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity until the July-to-October harvest.<sup>4</sup> FEWS NET expects that increased availability of food from the harvest will temporarily decrease food insecurity among vulnerable populations. However, violence and displacement continue to disrupt the April-to-July planting season; a below-average harvest may render vulnerable populations food insecure again in 2015, according to the FEWS NET assessment.
- A late-April U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)–WFP assessment found that CAR’s agricultural production declined by 38 percent in 2013 despite normal rainfall, highlighting the adverse effects of the conflict on food production.
- The U.N. reports that USAID/WFP partner WFP distributed nearly 2,500 metric tons (MT) of food to more than 210,000 people across CAR in April. The WFP distribution represents a 77 percent increase in the tonnage of food commodities distributed compared to March and the largest monthly food distribution to date in 2014.

## OTHER ASSISTANCE

- On April 26, the Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) announced it had recently sent a team to CAR to assess humanitarian needs and determine potential response options. QRCS is the first Arab organization to access remote areas of CAR. QRCS noted that surveyed areas—which QRCS did not identify—exhibit disease risks; a lack of trained health staff; a dearth of storage facilities, particularly in southern areas of CAR; and weather-related constraints on efforts to scale up the response.
- While in CAR, QRCS also met with representatives from the CAR Red Cross Society (CARRCS), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Oxfam, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to discuss potential partnerships. QRCS drafted a cooperation agreement with CARRCS—pending IFRC endorsement—to implement QRCS programs in CAR.

## 2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of May 9, 2014. All international figures are according to OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2014 calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments from FY 2014, which began on October 1, 2013.

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

## CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance began to advance across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered CAR's capital city, Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence.
- Security conditions in CAR further deteriorated on December 5, 2013, when clashes erupted between militants associated with the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups, composed of armed fighters that oppose ex-Séléka forces. As of mid-March, the situation throughout CAR remained volatile, with continuing attacks against civilians. While relief agencies are working to assist conflict-affected populations, ongoing insecurity and logistical constraints impede humanitarian operations in Bangui and in more remote areas of CAR.
- In response to the ongoing humanitarian emergency, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Linda Thomas-Greenfield reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2014 on November 12, 2013.

### USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CAR PROVIDED IN FY 2014<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Action Contre le Faim	WASH	Ouham	\$1,000,000
Agency for Cooperation and Technical Development	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Bangui, Ouham-Pendé,	\$1,375,000
Catholic Relief Services	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Ouham	\$650,638
DRC	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bamingui-Bangoran, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé	\$2,253,504
FAO	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$280,623
International Medical Corps	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Ouham	\$1,184,810
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
International Rescue Committee	Health, Protection	Ouham-Pendé	\$880,587
Mentor	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,500,242
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$2,727,945
U.N. Department of Safety and Security	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Humanitarian Air Service	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
U.N. World Health Organization	Health	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$16,853,349</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
UNICEF	200 MT of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food, Nutrition Activities	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
WFP	9,876 MT in Local and Regional Procurement of Food Commodities for General Food Distributions, Supplementary Feeding, and Food-for-Assets Activities	Countrywide	\$15,000,000

WFP	5,485 MT of Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for General Food Distributions and Supplementary Feeding Programs	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WFP	Distribution of Cash-Based Food Vouchers to Chadian returnees fleeing CAR for southeastern areas of Chad	Chad	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$28,500,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
ICRC	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$5,900,000
IOM	Evacuation and Basic Return Assistance for Vulnerable Migrants	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$1,500,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Refugees and IDPs	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$13,700,000
WFP	Humanitarian Air Service	Countrywide	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$21,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CAR IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$66,953,349</b>

<sup>1</sup>Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of May 9, 2014.

<sup>3</sup>Estimated value of food assistance.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>