

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #6, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

2.4 million

People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance
UN – September 2017

592,254

IDPs in CAR
UN – August 2017

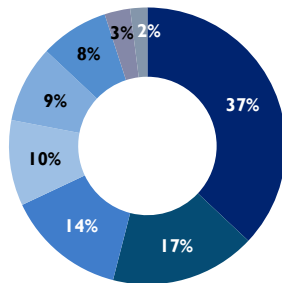
56,488

IDPs in Bangui
UN – July 2017

481,577

Central African Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UN – July 2017

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2017



- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (37%)
- Shelter & Settlements (17%)
- Health (14%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (10%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (9%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (8%)
- Protection (3%)
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (2%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2017



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (47%)
- Local & Regional Food Procurement (39%)
- Cash Transfers & Food Vouchers (14%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Persistent insecurity across much of CAR threatens humanitarian access and leaves tens of thousands of people in need of emergency assistance
- Clashes among various armed groups displace more than 191,000 people from February to August
- USAID/FFP contributes \$7.8 million to respond to growing and urgent food insecurity in the region

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017

USAID/OFDA	\$32,891,486
USAID/FFP	\$46,902,316
State/PRM ³	\$45,196,665
Total	\$124,990,467

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Violence in northwestern and southeastern Central African Republic (CAR) has increased the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) by more than 191,000 people since February, bringing the total number of IDPs in CAR to more than 592,000 as of August.
- Insecurity continues to hinder humanitarian access and relief operations across CAR. A targeted attack against humanitarian workers in Ouham Prefecture's Batangafo town on September 7 led nearly all non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating in the area to evacuate staff and suspend relief activities, leaving 28,000 people in critical need of emergency assistance.
- The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) anticipates that Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity will persist until at least January 2018 for vulnerable populations across CAR.⁴

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

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

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

⁴ 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.

INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

Countrywide

- The displaced population in CAR increased by more than 191,000 people between February and late August, when the UN reported more than 592,000 IDPs countrywide. Approximately 68 percent of IDPs in CAR are residing with host families, while nearly 25 percent of IDPs are sheltering in 84 displacement sites across the country. Relief actors report that insecurity in Basse-Kotto, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, and Ouham-Pendé prefectures continues to displace populations. Relief organizations attribute the recent slight decline in countrywide displacement—from approximately 600,000 IDPs in July—to cross-border population movement, including nearly 5,000 people relocating from Haut-Mbomou's Zemio town in southeastern CAR to areas in neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Northwest and West

- Since late July, clashes between ex-Séléka elements and other armed actors in Batangafo have resulted in civilian deaths, displaced tens of thousands of people, and hampered humanitarian operations in and around the town, according to the UN. In some instances, the violence included looting of emergency relief commodities.
- The security situation in Batangafo deteriorated significantly on September 7, when an estimated 100 armed assailants attacked and looted the compound of the Danish Refugee Council (DRC)—a USAID/OFDA partner. Prior to the incident, the compound hosted approximately 2,500 IDPs and staff from other relief organizations operating in Batangafo. The violent nature of the attack, including use of rocket-propelled grenades, prompted humanitarian organizations to suspend operations in the town and evacuate personnel to Bangui, leaving approximately 28,000 people without access to humanitarian assistance, according to relief actors.
- Relief actors condemned the September 7 attack on NGO workers in Batangafo in a press release on September 11. The statement calls on all parties to the conflict to recognize the impartiality of humanitarian assistance and to allow relief workers access to populations in need. In a joint statement released on August 11—nearly one month before the attack—more than 30 NGOs denounced the deterioration of security conditions in CAR, including violence targeting relief workers, and called for increased protection of civilians and humanitarian access.
- Increased violence since June among armed groups in western CAR has led the Government of Cameroon to close its border with CAR, according to international media. On September 28, armed individuals from CAR released three kidnapped Cameroonian traders after two days of cross-border fighting with the Cameroonian military. The closing of the Cameroon–CAR border has raised concerns that food security could further deteriorate in CAR, as most consumer goods and food imports destined for CAR transit through Cameroon.
- On September 26, the UN reported that deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Nana-Mambéré Prefecture's Niem town and Ouham-Pendé's Bocaranga town had prompted populations to flee to rural areas inaccessible to relief actors. An estimated 8,000 people from Niem and nearly 15,000 people from Bocaranga were displaced in September, according to UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) for CAR Najat Rochdi. The RC/HC emphasized that persistent insecurity is hindering humanitarian operations across much of CAR, including northwestern areas of the country. USAID/OFDA continues to support UN and NGO partners operating in Nana-Mambéré and Ouham-Pendé to provide relief assistance—including health care services, shelter support, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions—for conflict-affected populations.

East and Southeast

- Insecurity and recurrent violence through southeastern CAR continues to displace populations within the region and to neighboring prefectures and countries. Humanitarian organizations report targeted violence towards relief personnel and resources, citing looting and property destruction where relief actors operate. Security has deteriorated in southeastern CAR since August, resulting in increased emergency assistance needs, including food, protection, shelter, and WASH interventions, according to relief organizations.
- A resurgence of violence in Zemio since September 25 has displaced at least 15,500 people, according to the UN. As of late September, approximately 11,000 people from Zemio—representing 44 percent of the town's 25,000 residents—

had fled across the border to DRC, while more than 4,500 people had fled to Haut-Mbomou's Dembia town and an unknown number of IDPs had fled to Obo and Rafia towns. The UN reports that IDPs in Haut-Mbomou are in need of emergency relief supplies; however, many displaced people have fled to inaccessible rural areas. Residents remaining in Zemio also require critical humanitarian assistance, particularly protection interventions, as violence continues in and around the town. The recent violence in Zemio follows mid-August clashes between armed groups in the town, which resulted in at least 14 deaths and displaced approximately 5,000 people. During the August fighting, armed actors looted relief supplies from an NGO compound and a Médecins Sans Frontières-supported hospital in Zemio, according to the UN and international media.

- Clashes between armed groups near Basse-Kotto's Alindao town in late August displaced approximately 25,000 people to four IDP sites throughout the town, according to the UN. Armed actors also killed two IDPs en route to agricultural fields outside of Alindao on August 30, the UN reports.
- Relief actors have provided more than 75,000 people with access to safe drinking water and health infrastructure in IDP sites in Alindao, as well as Ouaka Prefecture's Bambari town and Nana-Grébizi Prefecture's Kaga-Bandoro town. Additionally, the UN reports that more than 100,000 people countrywide received emergency relief commodities, and more than 40,000 people received WASH assistance between January and mid-September.
- In early September, the UN reported that an estimated 6,800 people were sheltering near a UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) base in Basse-Kotto's Kongbo town. The revised UN estimate represented an increase from initial reports of 1,000–1,500 new IDPs in the area, following clashes in August between armed elements in Kongbo.
- Ex-Séléka elements clashed with other armed actors in Mbomou's Gambo town on August 3, resulting in at least 30 civilian deaths, international media report. The civilian deaths included six Central African Red Cross Society (CARC) volunteers, who reportedly died after armed individuals attacked a health care facility in Gambo. The incident marks the third attack in 2017 that resulted in the death of CARC personnel.

FOOD SECURITY

- Vulnerable IDPs, returnees, and host communities in CAR will likely continue to experience Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity through January 2018, according to FEWS NET. Households in the most food-insecure areas of Basse-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Haute-Kotto, Mbomou, Nana-Mambéré, and Ouham-Pendé require sustained humanitarian assistance to meet basic needs, FEWS NET reports.
- Despite average to above-average seasonal rains and a timely start to the harvest, FEWS NET projects that ongoing population displacement and limited access to agricultural fields will result in below-average agricultural production for the fourth consecutive year. Insecurity in CAR is hindering the ability of humanitarian organizations to distribute emergency food assistance, further undermining food security in the country.
- Due to increased insecurity and limited humanitarian access, the UN World Food Program (WFP) is exploring the use of the overland CAR–South Sudan–Uganda corridor to deliver emergency food assistance to vulnerable populations in CAR. However, in some towns of southeastern CAR, such as Bangassou, Obo, and Zemio, WFP airlifts may become the only viable option for delivering food commodities due to persistent conflict and clashes between armed actors. The WFP-led Logistics Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—facilitated relief cargo airlifts to Bangassou and Zemio in August.

HEALTH AND SHELTER

- USAID/OFDA partners Action Contre La Faim (ACF) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) are supporting health facilities in Kémo Prefecture's Fere and Sibut towns by conducting capacity building and mentoring activities for health personnel, rehabilitating health facility infrastructure, providing medical supplies, and delivering nutrition and psychosocial services. In FY 2017, USAID/OFDA provided ACF with \$500,000 to support training curriculum for administrative and health care staff, as well as new mothers, in a community-built training facility.

- With \$2.5 million in FY 2017 USAID/OFDA funding, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) is rehabilitating approximately 1,700 houses to support returns to areas of origin in the capital city of Bangui and in Basse-Kotto, Haute-Kotto, and Mbomou. Under the USAID/OFDA-funded program, ACTED provides affected populations with vouchers for the purchase of shelter materials and supports labor costs for the most vulnerable community members.
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USG ASSISTANCE

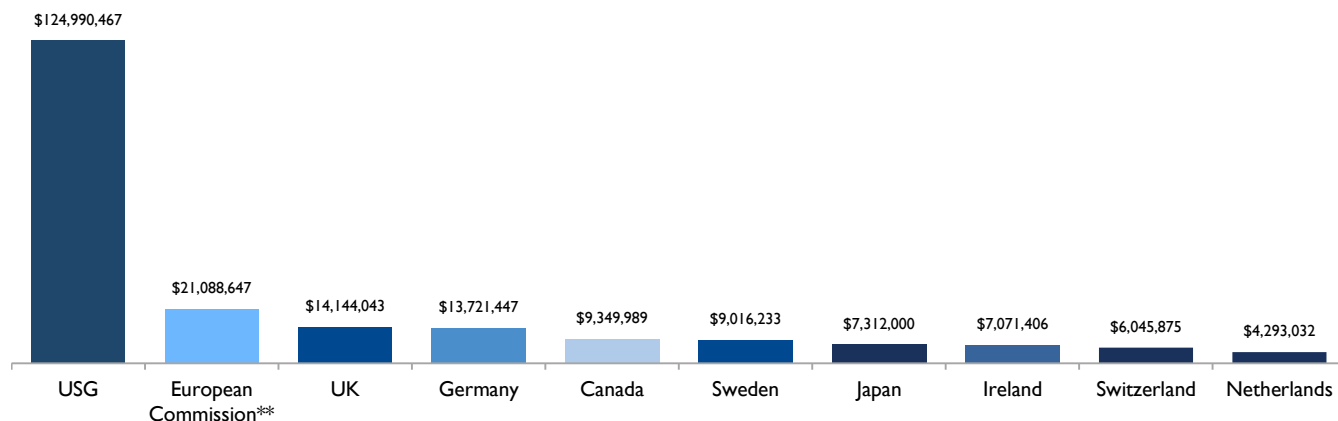
- In response to worsening conflict and deteriorating food security conditions in CAR since May 2017, USAID/FFP contributed an additional \$7.8 million to WFP to bolster its regional emergency response. With this support, USAID/FFP is enabling WFP to provide more than 5,500 metric tons (MT) of locally and regionally procured food to approximately 500,000 food-insecure and conflict-affected people in CAR and Central African refugees in Cameroon. WFP also plans to distribute food vouchers to Central African refugees in Cameroon.
 - In FY 2017, USAID/FFP provided WFP with nearly \$47 million to respond to the CAR crisis, including approximately \$27 million for use within CAR and \$19.5 million to assist Central African refugees sheltering in Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, and DRC. With support from USAID/FFP, WFP distributed Title-II U.S. in-kind food assistance, locally and regionally procured food, cash transfers, and food vouchers to vulnerable and conflict-affected populations. This flexible approach, which accounts for local market and economic conditions, allows USAID/FFP to use the most efficient and appropriate tools to maximize program impact and reduce costs.
 - USAID/OFDA partner Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) reported in September that security conditions in Mambéré-Kadéï Prefecture's Berberati town were relatively stable compared to other areas of CAR. Recent population returns to the town, however, have increased intercommunal tensions as returnees frequently encounter other community members occupying their houses and other property. Despite intercommunal tensions in Berberati, the stable security in September allowed humanitarian organizations access to provide emergency relief services to returnees and host communities in the town. With USAID/OFDA funding, PUI delivered agricultural assistance and livelihoods support to more than 71,400 conflict-affected people in southwestern CAR, including 64,100 people in Berberati.
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OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On August 17, the UN launched the revised 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan for CAR, requesting nearly \$500 million in assistance to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of conflict-affected populations in the country. An estimated 2.4 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance countrywide as of mid-August, compared to approximately 2.2 million people in need of assistance as of January 2017. International donors had provided more than \$148 million—nearly 30 percent of the requested total—toward the revised appeal as of September 29.
- From August 22–25, U.S. Representative David N. Cicilline visited CAR to assess MINUSCA operations and observe current security and humanitarian conditions. During the visit, Representative Cicilline lauded MINUSCA for recent actions to prevent an escalation in armed conflict and called for increased humanitarian aid for vulnerable populations in CAR, international media report.

2017 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*

PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of September 30, 2017. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments from FY 2017, which began on October 1, 2016. USG funding addresses needs both within CAR and among Central African refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

**Includes contributions from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance advanced across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence. Security conditions deteriorated further in December 2013, when clashes erupted between the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups composed of armed fighters that opposed ex-Séléka forces.
- Following a nearly three-year transitional period, CAR held presidential elections in December 2015 and February 2016, resulting in the election of President Faustin-Archange Touadéra. President Touadéra assumed the office of the presidency on March 30, 2016.
- Conflict between armed groups has persisted across much of CAR in 2017; however, armed groups have fragmented and reformed among various alliances, complicating the ongoing crisis.
- On October 12, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Jeffrey J. Hawkins reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2017 due to the scale of ongoing humanitarian needs in the country.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
ACF	Health	Kémo, Ouaka	\$500,000
ACTED	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements	Bangui, Basse-Kotto, Haute-Kotto, Mbomou	\$2,500,000
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	Ouaka	\$1,293,372
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Shelter and Settlements	Basse-Kotto, Mbomou	\$1,500,000
DRC	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,750,000
Handicap International	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000

International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Haute-Kotto	\$1,089,816
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$121,210
International NGO Security Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$900,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	ERMS, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui, Nana-Grébizi, Ouaka, Ouham	\$2,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection	Kémo, Nana-Grébizi, Ouham-Pendé	\$2,300,000
MENTOR Initiative	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,200,000
Mercy Corps	ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Ouaka	\$1,100,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kémo, Nana-Grébizi, Ombella M'Poko, Ouaka	\$1,000,000
Oxfam	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,500,000
Plan International	ERMS, Protection	Lobaye, Nana-Grébizi, Ouham	\$774,724
PUI	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Bangui	\$1,300,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Ouham	\$500,000
	Program Support		\$62,364
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$32,891,486
USAID/FFP³			
UNICEF	Complimentary Services	Countrywide	\$81,227
	7,020 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$10,465,168
	11,666MT of Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$16,800,000
WFP	7,840 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Cameroon	\$10,679,969
	Food Vouchers and 1,491 MT of Local and Regional Food Procurement	Cameroon	\$2,000,000
	Cash Transfers for Food and Food Vouchers	DRC	\$6,000,000
	540 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Republic of the Congo	\$875,952
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$46,902,316
State/PRM			
CRS	Livelihoods and Protection	Cameroon	\$975,000

CARE	Livelihoods and Protection	Chad	\$974,998
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$16,300,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Protection	Cameroon	\$349,266
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Livelihoods and Protection	Cameroon	\$1,034,367
	Livelihoods and Protection	Chad	\$942,000
PUI	Gender-based Violence Response, Peacebuilding, Livelihoods	DRC	\$1,500,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Cameroon	\$11,500,000
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Refugees	Countrywide	\$6,500,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Republic of the Congo	\$2,700,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$425,000
	Logistics Support	DRC	\$975,000
World Vision	Gender-Based Violence Response, Livelihoods, WASH	DRC	\$1,021,034
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$45,196,665
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017			\$124,990,467

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2017.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement, subject to change.

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.
- 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:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>