

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

October 2017

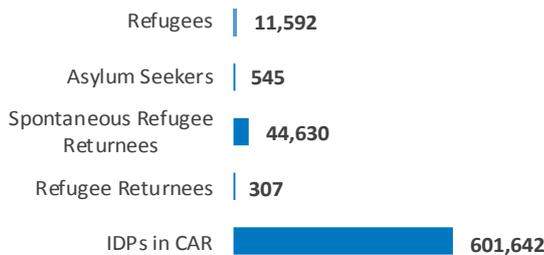
Violence in Mbomou, Basse Kotto, and Ouaka prefectures has brought with it spiraling protection needs and limited humanitarian access

UNHCR is supporting the concerned governments in facilitating the voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees from Bambari to Dafaq, Darfur

Whilst much of the country is still afflicted by insecurity, UNHCR is working to create conditions conducive to **return and repatriation**

POPULATION OF CONCERN

658,716

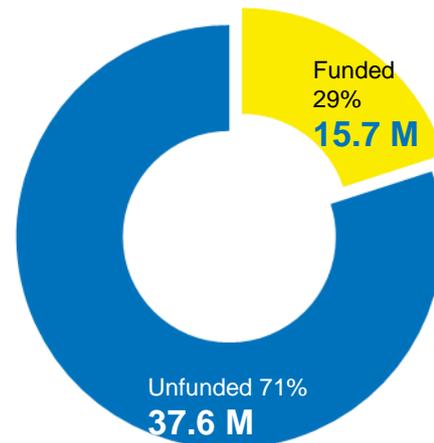


Figures as of 31 October 2017

FUNDING (AS OF OCTOBER)

USD 53.3 M

requested for CAR



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 124 National Staff
- 30 International Staff
- 10 Affiliate Staff

Offices:

- 1 Branch Office in Bangui
- 1 Sub Office in Bouar
- 5 Field Offices in Bambari, Kaga-Bandoro, Obo, Paoua, and Zemio
- 1 Field Unit in Berberati



Some of the 600 school benches provided by UNHCR to six public schools in support of education in CAR Photo: Djerassem Mbaioem / UNHCR

Working with Partners

- 4 Ministries: (i) Interior and Public Security, line ministry (ii) Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation, (iii) Minister of Economy, Plan and Cooperation (iv) Urban development and Housing;
- 2 governmental partners: the National Refugee Commission (CNR) and Projet d'Appui au Retour et à la Réintégration en République Centrafricaine (PARET)
- 11 international NGO partners : Afrique Secours et Assistance; AIRD; Association Grenier d'Afrique; CARITAS; Cooperazione Internazionale; Danish Refugee Committee (DRC); INTERSOS; Mercy Corps; Norwegian Refugee Council; NOURRIR; Vision to Change the World;
- 6 national NGO partners: Bangui Sans Frontière; Idéal; Yamacuir; JUPEDEC; Arbre de vie; ATEDEC;
- 3 clusters led by UNHCR in CAR: Protection, Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM), and Non Food Items/Shelter.
- Partnership with UNDP and the government in the search for durable solutions for IDPs and returnees in CAR with the involvement of humanitarian partners and early recovery/development actors as well as MINUSCA.
- Aligning its activities with the National Plan for Recovery and Peace Consolidation (RCPCA), UNHCR supports the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation on its work on peaceful coexistence and conflict resolution as well as social cohesion.

Main Activities

Protection

- Faced with widespread insecurity and a displaced population that has grown ever larger in recent months, UNHCR has to remain agile to respond to rapidly evolving protection needs. UNHCR staff based in Bambari, Kaga-Bandoro, and Paoua undertake regular protection monitoring missions to sites as well as along major axes with displaced and host populations. The agency has also maintained a foothold in Bria, where it oversees Protection and camp management responses for 62,623 IDPs, 34,143 of whom are living in displacement sites.
- The spread of conflict along the southern border has led to back and forth cross-border movements between CAR and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). UNHCR is monitoring the movement of an estimated 20,000 people between internal displacement in the town of Zemio, and seeking refuge across the river in DRC.
- Assistance to persons of concern includes SGBV prevention and response delivered through both fixed and mobile counselling centres. Medical referral pathways are defined to ensure an appropriate response within the shortest possible timeframe.

Shelter and NFIs

- In 2017, UNHCR has provided emergency shelter to 12,563 IDP and refugee households (58,387 individuals) and NFI assistance to 45,142 individuals.
- The agency also seeks permanent shelter solutions for returnee families in high-return areas. In Bangui, UNHCR is implementing a project to construct some 600 houses for refugee/IDP returnee families and hosting communities. Meanwhile, in Lobaye prefecture, UNHCR is supporting the reconstruction of 60 houses for returnee families.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- CCCM assistance involves regular liaison with the landowners of sites to ensure that they remain open for as long as they are required. Across the country, UNHCR works with displaced communities to better organise themselves into sectorial committees, providing referral mechanisms through which key problems can be addressed. A CCCM-light approach is followed in some of the less accessible areas. In all cases, this community organisation is bolstered by regular consultations and sensitisation trainings on common protection risks.

Durable Solutions

- Focusing initially on Bangui and its surrounding areas, UNHCR has successfully supported the government in creating conditions conducive for sustainable reintegration, with 17,489 IDPs in Bangui returning to their homes since the start of the year. This includes the revival and reinforcement of traditional leadership structures to support social cohesion and the amicable resolution of local disputes.

Returns and Repatriation

- After a decade spent in CAR, approximately 1,500 Sudanese refugees are preparing to voluntarily repatriate from Pladama Ouaka Camp back to their home in Dafaq, Darfur. UNHCR is working with the authorities in Sudan and CAR to put in place arrangements for their safe return. A tentative date of 10 December 2017 has been set for the first return flights.
- As of the end of October, 44,630 Central Africans had returned to the country in 2017. UNHCR tracks these movements both through its network of partners, regular missions to high-return areas, and through the sharing of trends and information between its sister operations in neighbouring countries.
- UNHCR's decision to establish a field unit in Berberati will facilitate more accurate data collection over the coming months, complementing the agency's presence in Bouar and Paoua to cover the prefectures with the highest number of anticipated returns.

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

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LINKS

<https://m.facebook.com/RefugeesCAR>

Central African Republic

UNHCR Presence

As of August 31, 2017

