

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

CAR: OVER 1.8 MILLION PEOPLE SEVERELY FOOD INSECURE

IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY ANALYSIS
May - October 2019

Issued in June 2019

CURRENT MAY - AUGUST 2019		PROJECTED SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2019		
 <p>1.81M 41% of the population</p> <p>People facing severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+)</p> <p>IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION</p>	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
	Phase 4	465 773 People in Emergency	Phase 4	273 906 People in Emergency
	Phase 3	1 343 336 People in Crisis	Phase 3	1 073 042 People in Crisis
	Phase 2	1 786 004 People in Stress	Phase 2	2 179 592 People in Stress
	Phase 1	796 756 People minimally food insecure	Phase 1	1 158 015 People minimally food insecure

Overview

Over 1.8 million people in Central African Republic are in severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phases 3+), including more than 465,000 people in emergency conditions during the lean season, latest data shows. Between May and August 2019, 5 areas with a high concentration of displaced persons (Bria, Kaga-Bandoro, Obo, Rafai and Zémio) and the prefectures of Mbomou, Haute Kotto and Haut Mbomou are experiencing emergency conditions of food insecurity (IPC Phase 4), and 13 prefectures and three areas with a high concentration of displaced persons (Alindao, Bambari and Batangafo) are experiencing crisis conditions of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3).

Nearly 1.35 million people (almost 30% of the population analysed), will be in severe acute food insecurity including nearly 274,000 people in emergency during the harvest period between September and October 2019. It is estimated that three areas with a high concentration of displaced persons (Kaga-Bandoro, Obo and Zémio) and three prefectures (Mbomou, Haute Kotto and Haut Mbomou) will remain in emergency while eight prefectures and five areas with a high concentration of displaced persons will be in crisis. In total, there over 620,000 people displaced in these areas.

Despite the signing of the Khartoum Peace Agreement, the security situation remains precarious throughout the country, mainly in the Haut-Kotto, Haut Mbomou and Basse-Kotto prefectures where non-signatory armed groups continue incursions on major supply routes and around major cities.

Key Drivers



Conflict and Insecurity

The situation in CAR remains volatile and insecure, with regular attacks on civilians, humanitarian actors, deepening the humanitarian crisis.



Population Displacement

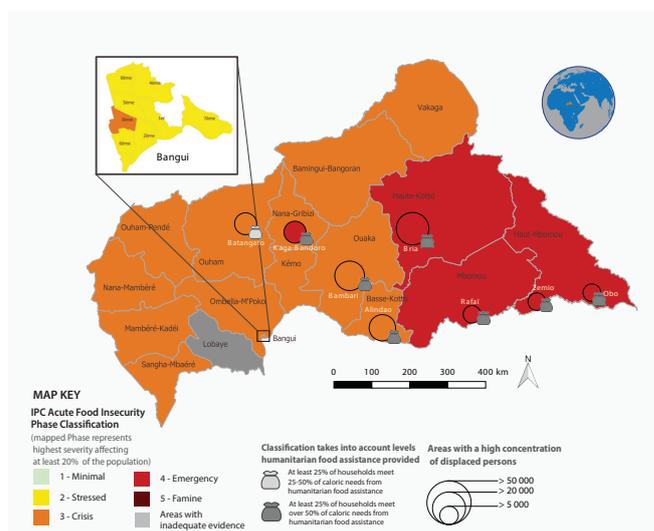
CAR's conflict has displaced over 620,000 people, greatly disrupting livelihood activities and curtailing productivity.



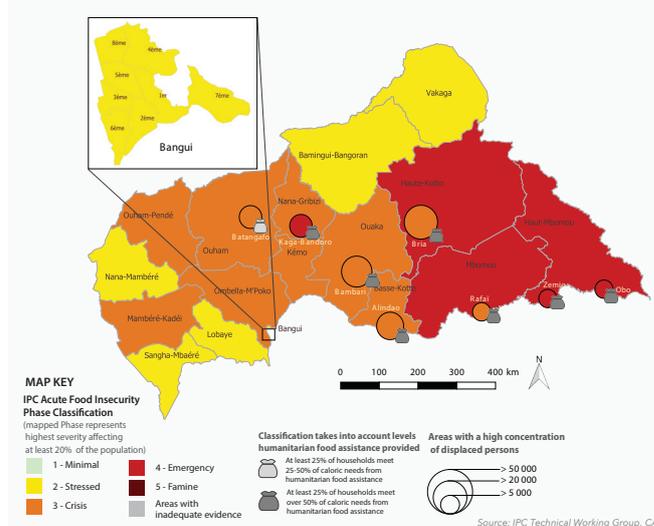
High Food Prices

Insecurity along major trade routes in CAR continue to result in the shortage of certain foods in the markets and food prices, depriving many households.

Current Acute Food Insecurity (May - Aug 2019)



Projected Acute Food Insecurity (Sept - Oct 2019)





PROFILE OF AREAS WITH A HIGH CONCENTRATION OF THE DISPLACED

The areas with a high concentration of displaced persons analysed correspond to the areas of aggregation of long-term displaced persons and more recently arrived displaced persons who have gathered mainly in the largest towns of the prefectures. Living conditions in these areas are often precarious and dependence on food assistance is high. The areas with a high concentration of displaced persons include a very high number of people living in sites (over 5,000), as well as off-site or in informal sites and host families. Displaced persons often come from rural areas of the same prefecture or from the same cities from which they left neighborhoods because of insecurity. The displaced and host families represent almost the entire population for some of the sub-prefectures. The classifications of the severity of food insecurity and the estimate of the populations of the prefectures analysed refer to the entire population of the prefecture, which includes the areas with a high concentration of displaced persons analysed, because the data used is representative of the whole of the prefecture.

In areas with a high concentration of displaced persons such as Alindao, Bria, Kaga-Bandoro, Obo and Zémio, out-of-town movements are prohibited and access to the fields is limited or impossible. Households thus face limitations in accessing their crops, hunting and gathering, or continuing the preparatory activities of the agricultural season, thus impacting the income of day laborers (in the current period) and jeopardizing harvests (in the projected period). The security situation along the trade routes also appears precarious, which limits the supply of markets and causes prices to rise or even a shortage of certain foodstuffs.

As a result, the displaced are entirely dependent on food assistance. However, this assistance may be irregular at certain times because of logistical, security and financial challenges. Thus, in the first quarter of 2019, a majority of displaced persons received only half of the assistance. Moreover, in areas with a high concentration of displaced persons, access to drinking water, sanitation and basic social services remains limited, which, in some places, leads to alarming malnutrition rates. Kabo, (14,939 persons, including 4,616 in host families and 10,323 on-site), as well as areas with a high concentration of displaced persons with fewer than 5,000 displaced persons, could not be analysed because of a lack of representative evidence and adherence to IPC protocols. In these areas, the situation could be as precarious as in other areas with a high concentration of displaced persons analysed. As a result, it would be necessary to be able to collect data as soon as security allows access to the area.

According to the IPC analysis of May 2019, out of 570,994 inhabitants in areas with a high concentration of displaced persons and their surroundings, almost 325,867 people were in need of assistance - IPC Phase 3 and more severe - or 56% of the population of the zones analysed. It is estimated that during the post-harvest period this figure will decrease slightly to around 274,789 - 49% of the population.

The proportion of population in emergency (IPC Phase 4) represents 14% of people in need of assistance for the projected period, which means a very high severity of food insecurity and the need for immediate humanitarian action.

What is the IPC and IPC Acute Food Insecurity?

The IPC is a set of tools and procedures to classify the severity and characteristics of acute food and nutrition crises as well as chronic food insecurity based on international standards. The IPC consists of four mutually reinforcing functions, each with a set of specific protocols (tools and procedures). The core IPC parameters include consensus building, convergence of evidence, accountability, transparency and comparability. The IPC analysis aims at informing emergency response as well as medium and long-term food security policy and programming.

For the IPC, Acute Food Insecurity is defined as any manifestation of food insecurity found in a specified area at a specific point in time of a severity that threatens lives or livelihoods, or both, regardless of the causes, context or duration. It is highly susceptible to change and can occur and manifest in a population within a short amount of time, as a result of sudden changes or shocks that negatively impact on the determinants of food insecurity.

Contact for further Information

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