

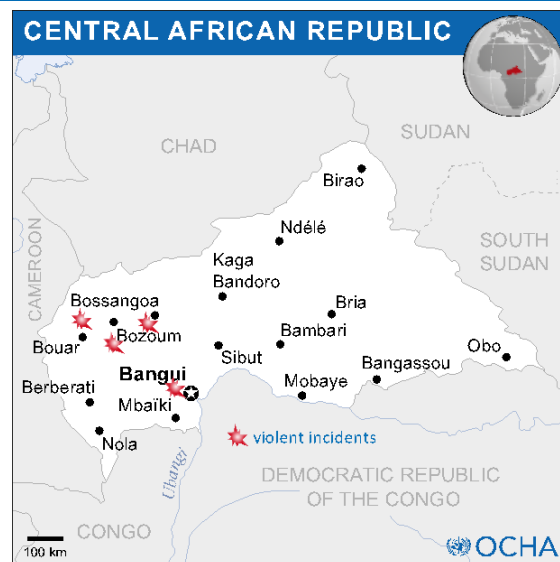
Central African Republic (CAR): Complex Emergency Situation Report No.5 (as of 3 January 2014)



This report is produced by OCHA-CAR in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 31 December 2013 to 3 January 2014. The next report will be issued on or around 7 January 2014.

Highlights

- Persistent violence in CAR has forced one-fifth of the population to flee their homes. According to the most recent estimates, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Bangui alone has risen to some 513,000 people since 5 December. This brings the total IDP population in CAR to 935,000.
- The security situation remains tense, with serious risk of deterioration in and outside Bangui and serious consequences for humanitarian assessments and response. Armed groups continue to launch targeted attacks, including against international security forces.
- Medecins sans Frontieres (MSF) has drastically reduced its health programmes at the airport following shootings close to its clinic. The NGO had been carrying out an average of 500 consultations and seven deliveries daily.
- Following confirmation of five cases of measles in two IDP sites, Health Cluster partners launched an emergency vaccination campaign on 3 January. The campaign targets 60,000 children aged between 6 months and 15 years.



Map Sources: ESRI, Europa Technologies, UNCS. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined. Map created in Oct 2011.

935,000

IDPs in CAR

513,000

IDPs in Bangui, 40% increase from 24 to 31 December

752

More than people killed in Bangui since early December

\$152 million

Needed to provide life-saving assistance from 24 December 2013 to 2 April 2014

2.2 m

People in need of assistance in CAR

4.6 m

Total population of CAR

Sources: OCHA, CAR Red Cross, Protection Cluster and FTS

Situation Overview

Persistent insecurity in CAR, especially in Bangui, continues to force people to flee their homes. From 24 to 31 December 2013, partners registered 142,162 new IDPs at different sites in Bangui. At the airport site alone, the number of IDPs doubled from 50,000 up to 100,000. The Frère Castor and Monastère Boy-Rabe sites registered 37,000 and 37,763 new IDPs respectively following violence during the past two weeks. Current estimates project that one out of five people in CAR – and one out of two people in Bangui – is displaced, increasing the pressure on an already stretched humanitarian response.

The security situation remains tense with serious risks of escalation. Targeted attacks by anti-Balaka and ex-Seleka armed groups continue, including against international security forces. In Bangui, the situation has been relatively calmer since 31 December, except in the northern suburbs where daily clashes continue to be reported. Hundreds of IDPs blocked the airport runway on 31 December, disrupting air traffic – including humanitarian, including humanitarian flights. Outside Bangui, inter-communal tensions are rising, especially in the Bossangoa region where reports have emerged of houses being looted and burned. In Paoua region, local sources have reported new rebel groups that could exacerbate the already complex security and humanitarian situation.

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Coordination Saves Lives

Insecurity continues to hamper humanitarian assistance to 100,000 IDPs living at the airport site in Bangui. Two food distributions in the past week were postponed due to the risk of looting by a group of people inside the IDP site. On 2 January, Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) announced that it would reduce its health activities at the site following two days of shooting near its clinic. The shooting wounded 40 people and killed two children. Humanitarian partners in CAR have established close coordination mechanisms and dialogue with airport-based IDPs and other stakeholders to ensure the safe delivery of life-saving aid. The first combined NFI and food distributions could take place in the site in few days.

Funding

As of 3 January, 2014, the 2013 CAP for CAR was one of the least funded globally at only 54%. The Strategic Response Plan for the CAR, developed prior to the recent deterioration of the situation, is seeking \$247 million and is only 4.3% funded to date. Based on recent developments, humanitarian actors have re-defined immediate priorities in a 100-day response plan that requires \$152.2 million.

On 20 January, OCHA and the EU will co-chair a High Level meeting in Brussels to discuss the humanitarian situation in CAR, its implications and financial requirements to respond.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

Humanitarian Response



Food Security

Needs:

- The number of people in need of food assistance in and around Bangui continues to increase due to persistent insecurity.
- Affected farming women and men need additional support to resume food production. Programmes such as seed distributions, restoration of storage facilities and cash-for-work are needed.

\$ 61 million

Urgently required for response from 24 Dec. to 2 April 2014

Response:

- In December, WFP provided 1,725 metric tons of food to nearly 240,000 people in CAR, including 174,400 people in Bangui. General food distributions occurred at 33 sites.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Additional partners with rapid response capacity are needed to keep pace with rapidly expanding needs.
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Protection

Needs:

- As the number of IDP sites rises in Bangui, there is a greater need for psycho-social and child protection programmes.

Response:

- Plans are being finalized to visit the 14 military cantonment sites in order to identify and obtain the release of children associated with ex-Seleka forces.
- Partners have set up mobile protection teams at the airport IDP site, where protection screening and prevention messaging are under way.
- In Ouham Prefecture and Bangui, protection monitoring activities continue. These activities will allow Protection Cluster partners to develop tailored protection programmes. In Bossangoa, protection monitoring also continues, with individual cases referred to the Protection Cluster.
- The Protection Cluster is refining IDP data collection and analysis methods. Displacement figures collected by the Protection Cluster will be presented to the Population Movement Commission before publication. Updated IDP figures and site profiles will be done weekly.

\$ 17 million

Urgently required for response from 24 Dec. to 2 April 2014 (including CCCM activities)

Gaps & Constraints:

- To date, 22 per cent of major IDP sites have child protection activities and efforts are under way to scale up these programmes.

- Scaling up the monitoring and reporting mechanism (MRM) and the prevention of and response to gender-based violence (GBV) in IDP sites remains a priority.
- Limited access to remote areas is one of the main challenges for IDP data collection.

**Needs:**

- The risk of epidemics, such as diarrhoeal diseases, malaria, measles, meningitis and respiratory infections has significantly increased.

Response:

- Following confirmation of five cases of measles in two IDP sites, health partners launched an emergency vaccination campaign on 3 January. The campaign targets 60,000 children aged between 6 months and 15 years. Partners are planning to complement this campaign with a catch-up in the expanded programme of immunization (EPI), polio vaccines, Vitamin A supplementation and deworming.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Partners have only limited access to tens of thousands of people who fled to the bush in Bouar, Bozoum, Bossangoa, Bambari and Kaga-Bandoro.
- Vaccinations could be delayed for 40,000 children at the airport site where MSF has reduced its activities due to insecurity. More broadly, insecurity in Bangui could hamper provision of health care to IDPs.

\$ 17 million

Urgently required for response from 24 Dec. to 2 April 2014

**Needs:**

- Screening has identified 36 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) at the airport site (incidence of roughly 3.6 per cent). These cases have been admitted for treatment.

Response:

- Six outpatient malnutrition treatment units (OPTs) out of the twelve run by ACF have reopened.
- Partners have launched mobile acute malnutrition management activities at six IDP sites (St Paul Archeveché, St Bernard, Airport, Boy Rabe Monastery, Don Bosco, St Marc, Joseph Mukassa, St Jean de Gabalaja).
- 691 children (72 per cent) who dropped out of SAM treatment programmes with the closure of OPTs on 5 December have been readmitted.
- 85 young peer educators have been trained on infant and young child feeding practices in preparation for outreach campaigns at IDP sites.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Six OPTs closed as a result of the crisis remain to be reopened.
- Estimates of moderate acute malnutrition are likely lower than actual cases, as healthcare structures are not routinely screening for malnutrition.

\$ 12 million

Urgently required for assistance from 24 Dec. to 2 April 2014

**Emergency Shelter, Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and NFIs****Needs:**

- The need for sanitation services and NFIs at IDP sites in Bangui and Bossangoa is rising.
- IDPs in densely populated sites urgently require hygiene promotion activities.

Response:

- Blankets, plastic mats and impregnated bed nets have been provided for 14,500 displaced people living with host families in the PK5 neighbourhood. A second distribution for the other half of IDPs in this area will take place next week.
- Partners have provided or are in the process of providing soap to around 40,000 IDPs in Bangui.
- Over 1,100 IDP households received kitchen sets, blankets, plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, mosquito nets and buckets . buckets.
- In Bossangoa, 322 families received sleeping mats, covers, sanitary napkins, plastic sheeting and buckets at the Ecole Liberté and Archbishop sites.
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\$ 18.5 million

Urgently required for assistance from 24 Dec. to 2 April 2014 (\$9 million for WASH)

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Gaps & Constraints:

- In Bangui, a lack of soap, blankets, mosquito nets and plastic sheeting persists.

**Logistics****Needs:**

- Over 65 organizations depend on the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) for flights to over 27 destinations in CAR.

Response:

- On 30 December, the UNHAS fleet acquired a Dash 8/100, in addition to the two Let-410 planes. The new plane expands capacity by 28 seats and 1.5 metric tons of cargo.
- Three UNHAS return flights from Bangui to Douala are planned per week (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays).
- A cargo flight (Antonov12) from Brindisi arrived early on 2 January in Bangui with 15 mt of cargo for WFP.
- Trucks, computers, scanners, printers and tents from UNHCR warehouses have arrived in Bangui.

\$ 7.3 millionUrgently required for
response from 24 Dec. to 2
April 2014**Gaps & Constraints:**

- UNHAS cancelled two flights on 31 December due to the closure of the airport (IDPs on the main runway). Regular UNHAS flights have since resumed.

**Emergency Telecommunications****Needs:**

- Outside of Bangui, communications centres (COMCENS) do not comply with minimum UN security requirements (MOSS-compliant), as they do not operate 24/7 in all common operational areas.
- Additional radio operators are needed to ensure operational COMCENS 24/7 in all common operational areas.

\$ 0.9 millionUrgently required for
response from 24 Dec. to 2
April 2014**Response:**

- Six tons of ETC equipment was received on 27 December and delivered the next morning. The inventory of all items has been completed.
- ETC and UNDSS are working to improve security communications systems in Bangui.
- ETC staff are now on stand-by to support deployment of critical ICT services in seven common operational areas: Bambari, Kaga Bandoro, Bossangoa, Zemio, Ndele, Paoua, and Bouar.
- All ETC information is available at: <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictopr/emergencies2013/central-african-republic>

Gaps & Constraints:

- Insecurity and the lack of secure compounds in some common operational locations remain key challenges.
- The ETC is only 35 per cent funded – enough to provide services to only four locations.

General Coordination

The Multi-Sector Rapid Initial Assessment is being finalized. Between 23 and 30 December, eight teams with staff from 18 organizations covered 15 main routes and 12 cities affected by the crisis. Primary data collection has been completed; more than 300 completed questionnaires have been returned, in addition to interviews with key members of affected communities. Clusters are doing a secondary data review to complete the first phase. Results analysis will take place on 4 January before being presented to the HCT. The final MIRA report is expected next week.