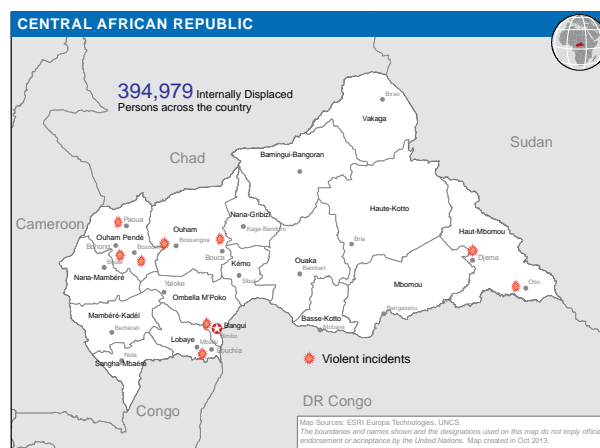




This report is produced by OCHA CAR in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 04 to 25 October. The next report will be issued on or around 8 November.

Highlights

- Seven out of ten primary school students have not returned to school.
- Health cluster warned of a cholera outbreak in 15 out of the 22 health districts.
- A national measles vaccination campaign targets 550,000 children aged between 6 and 59 months.
- 600 boys and girls aged between 2 and 10 years benefit from Child friendly spaces in Bossangoa.
- The Consolidated Appeal Process remains underfunded with 40 per cent of funds received.



394,979

Internally displaced people in the CAR (as of 30 September)

64,717

New refugees from CAR in neighboring countries, including 42,600 in the DRC

40%

CAP Funded (current requirement of \$195 million)

4.6 m

Population of CAR

1 m

People food insecure

1.6 m

People in need of assistance

Situation Overview

The security situation in Bangui remains relatively calm. The national committee in charge of voluntary disarmament has collected and submitted weapons and military equipment to government authorities. Meanwhile, the situation remains volatile, unpredictable and of great concern in the interior due to a persistent risk of violence between former Seleka rebels, unidentified armed groups and local self-defense groups (locally known as Anti-Balaka groups) particularly in Bossangoa (Ouham province). From July to October 2013, most violent incidents have been recorded in five provinces: Ouham, Ouham Pende, Ombella Mpoko, Lobaye and Haut Mbomou.

The deterioration in the security situation in the provinces of Ouham, Lobaye and Ombella M'Poko continues to render the humanitarian situation even more precarious. Tension between self-defense groups and former Seleka rebels persists in the north-western regions of Bouca and Bossangoa where population movement is being reported. The local population continues to live in fear. In the Ombella M'poko province, several villages around the city of Yaloké have been emptied of their inhabitants because of persistent tension and abuses by armed groups.

In the Lobaye province, armed attacks in the village of Bangui-Bouchia caused casualties among Muslim citizens, leading to the retaliation of former Seleka rebels on Christian community groups. This resulted in population movement toward other neighborhoods including the capital city. Hundreds of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the Lobaye have been identified in the John XXIII centre in Bangui.

The activities of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in the south-east have been reported, including clashes between young Christians and former Seleka rebels.

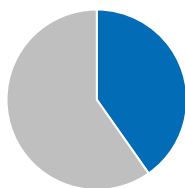
Funding

As of 25 October, FTS has registered 40 per cent of contributions for the 2013 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP), for a total requirement of US\$195 million. US\$ 78 million has been allocated to the various clusters. The balance of US\$ 117 is urgently required for life-saving assistance. US\$36 million has been provided to non-CAP participating organisations.

CAP 2013: Funding status

Amount requested \$ 195,1
Funded: \$ 78,5
Gap: \$ 116,6

40%



Funding by cluster

		(million of \$US)			
		% Funded	Requested	Funded	Unmet fund
FOOD SECURITY		67%	43,08	28,66	14,42
PROTECTION		19%	22,94	4,31	18,63
EDUCATION		34%	22,54	7,60	14,94
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE		18%	22,33	4,03	18,30
HEALTH		25%	21,28	5,37	15,91
MULTI-SECTOR ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES		45%	20,50	9,19	11,31
LOGISTICS		50%	12,98	6,48	6,50
NUTRITION		42%	12,09	5,03	7,06
EARLY RECOVERY		0%	6,90	-	6,90
EMERGENCY SHELTER		8%	4,20	0,32	3,89
COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES		65%	4,16	2,69	1,48
EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS		35%	2,12	0,74	1,39
CLUSTER NOT YET SPECIFIED		0%	-	4,12	-

Source: FTS

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

Since early September 2013, clashes between former Séléka rebels, self-defense groups and unidentified armed groups led to massive population displacement in the Ouham province. The people affected by violence fled their villages and sought refuge in the forest and the city of Bossangoa. The humanitarian community is providing multi-sectoral assistance to thousands of IDPs in Bossangoa. Most IDPs are seeking refuge in the Bossangoa diocese or the compound of the local Imam. More than 170,000 people, half of them children, have fled from their homes in the Ouham province because of violence.

With regards to education, UNICEF calls on government authorities to take concrete measures to support the permanent and safe return of all teachers and students to schools. Seven out of ten primary school students in CAR have not returned to school since the country was devastated by conflict in December 2012, according to a recent UNICEF-led survey.

On 22 October 2013, OCHA organized a Strategic Response Plan (SRP) workshop attended by humanitarian partners in CAR to identify and discuss the 2014 strategic objectives. Participants highlighted the priority needs of people affected by persisting crisis especially IDPs. The mainstreaming of resilience activities within life-saving assistance will limit aid dependency.

Education

Needs:

- The results of an assessment on the impact of the crisis on the education sector have been released. The report is available in French and English [here](#). All findings and recommendations made by the Education Cluster are also available in the report.
- At the time of the survey, 70 per cent of students had still not resumed schools.
- The “fear of violence”, the “lack of teachers” and the “lack of school supplies” are mentioned as the three main reasons why students have not resumed classes.

70%

Students have not resumed school

- In total, about 65 per cent of the 176 schools visited have either been looted, occupied or damaged by bullets and shells during the crisis.
- There is an urgent need to support the resumption of educational activities through the rehabilitation of schools and canteens that were damaged or destroyed during the crisis, the replacement of furniture in schools that were looted, the provision of teaching and learning materials to the most vulnerable communities and schools with low enrollment rates.

Response:

- UNICEF has distributed about 500 school kits to an estimated 20,000 students in the provinces of Ombella-Mpoko, Ouaka and Nana Gribizi.
- With assistance from the national NGO, JUPEDDEC, about 13,800 students are expected to resume school in 40 schools in Begoua, Damara, Sibut Possel and Djoukou. The project is funded through the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) and UNICEF. Activities include rehabilitation, psychosocial support, training for parent-teachers and the distribution of educational materials.
- JRS is supporting the return to school of 10,080 students from 26 schools in the districts of Plateau 1 and 2 Boy-Rabe, Saint Paul and Bangui through financial incentives for teachers, and the distribution of educational materials and supplies.
- About 24,850 children are being supported by Cordaid's back to school programme, covering 25 schools in the provinces of Ombella-Mpoko and Lobaye. This programme includes remedial courses, rehabilitation of buildings, distribution of school kits, recreational activities and educational sessions on civic issues and conflict prevention. Support for these schools also includes training for administrators and parents' associations, while school inspectors are trained on the educational monitoring.
- 40,000 additional students from 91 schools will also receive assistance through a partnership between UNICEF and five NGOs (three national and two international NGOs) in the Basse-Kotto, Kemo and Ombella-Mpoko provinces.
- Caritas is planning to support local students and IDPs in the Bozoum region (approximately 5,000 beneficiaries).

Gaps & Constraints:

- As a result of the unstable security situation, many schools which had re-opened over the past few months have once more been closed, particularly in the Ouham, Ouham-Pendé and Ouaka provinces.
- The vast majority of contractual teachers are still waiting to be integrated into public service. This further delays return to their duty stations.
- While on average, six months of the 2012 to 2013 academic year has been lost, the deterioration of the security situation could lead to the further loss of another academic year.
- Violence and displacement in the Ouham and Ouham-Pende provinces hinder any hope of reopening public schools in these regions. Education Cluster members present in the region report that schools have been occupied by armed groups and civilians, while some school furniture has been burnt. An estimated 40 per cent of the IDPs are children of school age.
- Population displacements in the western region, particularly in Bouca, (Ouham-Pende province) is starting to have an impact on other provinces (renewed school closures on the Damara-Bogangolo road in the Ombella-Mpoko province).
- While bank branches remain closed in the provincial capital cities, teachers and civil servants will be obliged to travel to Bangui in order to receive their salaries. About 20 per cent of their salaries would be spent on travel expenses and they could be absent for about a week.



Emergency shelter, water sanitation hygiene (WASH) and NFI

Needs:

- UNICEF teams are providing emergency assistance to about 5,500 families newly displaced by recent violence in the north-west of CAR. The majority of the IDPs are women and children now living in deplorable conditions with no access to safe water or shelter from the elements.

8%

Funding received by the
Shelter cluster

Response:

- UNICEF teams are providing basic but critical supplies – safe water, tarpaulins, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, jerry cans, and soap. UNICEF has also provided emergency supplies in collaboration with partners working in the health and nutrition sectors. Two trucks with emergency supplies are being sent to Bossangoa.

- UNICEF has donated 25 tons of aluminum sulphate and 5 tons of chlorine to the national water agency (SODECA) for water treatment. This covers the needs of the city of Bangui for a period of one month.
- UNICEF and its partners MSF Holland and ACF have installed a pump for water supply at the Bossangoa diocese. This assistance covers only 30 per cent of requirements. Other initiatives are underway to cover the gap.
- UNICEF is building 140 latrines in Bossangoa out of a targeted 200. MSF has already built 60 latrines.
- The CHF has approved an emergency project submitted by ACF to respond to the water and sanitation needs of IDPs in Bossangoa.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The WASH cluster has only received 18 per cent of the amount required. Emergency funding is crucial.



Food Security

Needs:

- Ensure food distribution to people who are in a situation of severe food insecurity, including IDPs, host families and elderly old persons.
- Seed protection food rations need to be distributed concomitantly with the seeds in order to prevent consumption of the latter.

1 million

People food insecure

Response:

- During the first half of October, WFP assisted 46,442 people with 504 MT of mixed commodities. WFP completed emergency food distributions in Bossangoa, assisting 36,000 people, of whom two-thirds were women.
- An estimated 3,000 refugees were assisted in Zemio (south-east).
- This week, WFP is delivering commodities to Bozoum where 9,000 IDPs will be assisted through emergency food distribution.
- WFP partners with IRC for the Food for Assets seed protection rations activity in the Nana-Gribizi province.
- WFP in coordination with the Education Cluster and Ministries is carrying out sensitization for the country-wide emergency school feeding programme, expected to start in November 2013. The school feeding programmes will start in Kaga-Bandoro and Bambari. WFP plans to reach 100,000 children of school age by the end of the year.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Difficulties in gaining access to producers since most of them are still in the forest.
- Risk of people consuming seeds if distributions are not coupled with seed protection rations
- Insufficient seeds and tools.



Health

Needs:

- The past nine months of lawlessness and insecurity have been disastrous for children in CAR. Measles outbreaks are reported almost everywhere in the country, with at least 600 confirmed measles cases. According to the Health cluster, there is a cholera outbreak in 15 out of the 22 health districts.
- Over 60 per cent of health facilities and offices of health districts have been vandalized, looted or destroyed.
- Over 80 percent of medical doctors have been displaced and moved from provinces to the capital, Bangui.

550,000

Children targeted for the measles vaccination campaign

Response:

- The measles vaccination campaign started on 4 October 2013 and is divided into two phases. The first phase covers four health regions including Bangui targeting 70 per cent of the affected population. The second phase will start within one month in the remaining three health regions.
- The campaign was preceded by a 'sensitisation' period, where communities are informed about the campaign. The target group is 550,000 children aged between 6 and 59 months (740,000 is the national target, but 190,000 have already been reached in Bangui and other areas). Targeted vaccination has also started in Bossangoa where mobile vaccination teams are visiting IDP sites to vaccinate children.

- UNFPA provided delivery and dignity kits for pregnant women.
- WHO provided 10 trauma kits for hospitals.
- UNFPA and UNICEF provided PEP kits for rape victims.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Shortage of anti-malaria drugs in all 22 health regions.
- Shortage of anti-retroviral and anti-tuberculosis drugs for patients undergoing treatment.
- Lack of qualified medical staff in the interior.
- The Cluster has only received 25 per cent of the amount required. Emergency funding is needed to improve access to health services in the country.



Logistics/emergency telecommunications

Needs:

- The Logistics Cluster meets every two weeks to discuss the augmentation of logistical capacity in CAR.
- Access by road from Bangui to Paoua (Ouham Pende province) is currently blocked as the critical bridge to Paoua has been damaged. There is an urgent need to repair the bridge.

7,900

Passengers transported

Response:

- UNHAS has transported 7,900 passengers so far this year. The demands for the service has increased, and it is estimated that UNHAS will transport 2,000 passengers by the end of October.

Gaps & Constraints:

- UNHAS is fully funded until December 2013 and is in need of contributions to support its operation in 2014.



Protection

Needs:

- UNICEF estimates that there are now some 3,500 children associated with armed groups, up from around 2,000 prior to the conflict.

3,500

Children associated with armed groups

Response:

- At least 600 boys and girls aged from 2 to 10 years benefit from two Child friendly spaces established between 10 and 11 October 2013 by the UNICEF child protection programme in two IDP sites in Bossangoa. At the centre, children draw, play, and sing. Community workers trained by UNICEF are on site to support these centres.
- Another recreational space has been established by volunteers guided by UNICEF, Caritas in Bossangoa and local representatives of the Ministry of Social Affairs. It is used by children ten years of age or older for various sports activities. Sports and recreational activities serve as an entry point to support resilience and aid in the recovery of children who have experienced violence and trauma.
- The Minister of National Defence, Reconstruction of the Army, Former combatants and victims of war, General Bertrand Mamour committed to end the recruitment and use of children in armed forces in CAR. He made this commitment during a meeting with UNICEF CAR Representative Souleymane Diabate. The Minister promised to appoint focal points among senior army officers in order to work with UNICEF in identifying children associated with ex-Seleka forces, and help to release and reintegrate them into the community.

Gaps & Constraints:

- In order to expedite the reintegration of children formerly associated with armed forces and groups, greater access to cantonment sites is necessary.

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