CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR):

Situation Report No. 30 (as of 8 November 2013)























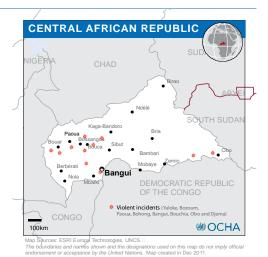




This report is produced by OCHA CAR in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 25 October to 8 November. The next report will be issued on or around 22 November.

Highlights

- About 500,000 children have been vaccinated against measles,
 68 per cent of the targeted number.
- 30 per cent of the population outside of Bangui is estimated to be moderately or severely food insecure, (nation-wide Emergency Food Security Assessment -EFSA).
- 11,684 severely malnourished children are receiving treatment.
- The Consolidated Appeal Process remains under funded, with only 42 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 42%

CAP Funded (current requirement of \$195 million) 4.6 m

Population of CAR

2.3 m People in need of assistance 1.1m

People food insecure

Situation Overview

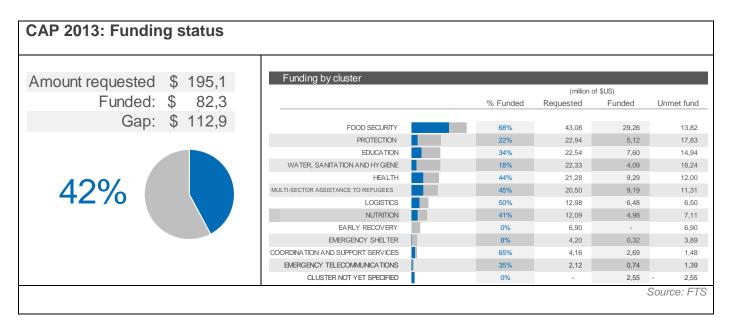
The security situation remains unpredictable in the interior of the country where insecurity and conflicts between ex-Seleka elements and self-defense groups (locally known as Anti-Balaka) continues to aggravate the humanitarian situation. Sporadic violent incidents are being recorded in five provinces: Nana Mambere, Ouham, Ouham Pende, Ombella Mpoko, Lobaye and Haut Mbomou.

Following violence between ex-Seleka elements and self-defense groups (locally known as Anti-Balaka) in Bouar (Nana Mambere province) on 26 October, thousands of residents fled their homes and sought refuge at the local Catholic Church. As a result of this incident, some humanitarian organizations including UN agencies and INGOs relocated their staff from Bouar to Bangui. With the technical support of UNICEF, Cordaid and Mercy Corps carried out a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) assessment from 31 October to 1 November 2013 in Bouar. According to the findings, thousands of IDPs occupied three main sites: the Bouar cathedral, the St Laurent and Yole seminaries. Assistance consisting of: healthcare, food, non-food items, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene was provided by local authorities and religious leaders. Some of these items were provided by the Prime Minister of CAR. Subsequently, a joint UN inter-agency mission went to Bouar from 03 to 05 November to assess the security situation, humanitarian needs and the response required. The delegation met with local authorities and the affected communities. The most significant finding was that 24 hours after the RRM assessment, almost all the IDPs in the three sites had returned either to their homes or to host families. WHO, UNFPA, and Merlin provided medical kits to the hospital and health facilities in Bouar. A multi-sectoral assessment is being planned to assess the needs and vulnerability of host families and IDPs from Bohong.

In the capital Bangui, there is an increase in attacks and theft of 4x4 vehicles belonging to humanitarian organizations by armed men. This affects the operability of humanitarian agencies and the logistic capacity of the affected organizations.

Funding

As of 8 November October, FTS has registered 42 per cent of contributions for the 2013 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP), for a total requirement of US\$195 million. US\$ 81 million has been allocated to the various clusters. The balance of US\$ 113 is urgently required for life-saving assistance. US\$43 million has been provided to non-CAP participating organisations.



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

During the third quarter of 2013, the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) advisory board recommended nine projects which were all approved by the Humanitarian Coordinator. Those nine projects value more than US\$3 million. The fund currently disposes of US\$1 080 000. The two main donors are Sweden and Ireland. NGOs have been funded at 87 per cent against UN agencies at 13 per cent. Since January 2013, US\$5 million has been allocated with about half covering humanitarian needs in the Ombella M'poko and Kemo provinces. The funding update is available in French and English here.

Humanitarian response

At the end of a three-day visit to the CAR by the Emergency Directors of several UN agencies and International NGOs, from 17 to 19 October 2013, OCHA's Director of Operations, John Ging, said that he was extremely concerned about the situation in the CAR, which he described as "a tinderbox." "Half the population of the Central African Republic is in need of humanitarian aid," said Mr. Ging. "There has been a complete breakdown of law and order and the first priority is protection and the restoration of security and stability. The atrocities against civilians are indescribable." The main objective of this joint mission was to take stock of the humanitarian crisis and response. The delegates met with government officials in Bangui, and during a field visit to Bossangoa and Kaga Bandoro, they met with local authorities, leaders of Christian and Muslim religious groups, former Seleka rebels and the local population including IDPs.

The humanitarian community continues to provide multi-sectoral assistance to thousands of IDPs in Bossangoa (Ouham province) following clashes between former Séléka rebels, self-defense groups and unidentified armed groups in September. The people affected by violence fled their villages and sought refuge in the forest and the city of 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 minors, have fled from their homes in the Ouham province because of violence.

MSF-Holland is providing healthcare to the people affected. There is however a shortage of medication in Bossangoa. The CHF has approved an emergency project submitted by ACF to respond to the water and sanitation needs of IDPs in Bossangoa. With regards to protection assistance, the identification of families is in progress. Education continues to be hindered due to the occupation of schools by IDPs and armed men. Child friendly spaces have however been opened on the IDP sites.



Needs:

 Results of the Education Cluster 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 available in the report.

70% Students have not resumed

- The Education Cluster estimates that 450,000 students are currently out of school because of the crisis (seven out of ten students had still not come back to school at the end of the 2012-2013 school year, this was before new violence erupted in Ouham, Ouham-Pendé, Mbomou and other provinces).
- The interruption of education will have long term consequences for the stability and development of CAR: an entire generation is at risk of growing up illiterate and unable to reach their future potential, this will not only affect individual children, but families, communities and the country as a whole. The education crisis risks reinforcing poverty, undermining economic growth, and fueling new conflicts in the region.
- 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 enrolment rates.

Response:

- About 68,730 children benefited from interventions aimed at making them restart their education: rehabilitation of school buildings, distribution of furniture, provision of school supplies, catch-up classes, educational sessions on civic issues and conflict prevention, capacity building of education personnel through performance based financing.
- In Bangui, the return to school of 10,080 students has been supported through school feeding enabled by JRS. An additional 100,000 students in the most affected prefectures will be benefiting from emergency school feedings in the coming weeks provided by WFP.
- 1,350 teachers have been transported back to their schools with the support of the Ministry of Education, UNICEF and Cordaid.
- UNICEF plans to support an additional 105,000 children by the end of 2013 through catch-up classes, distribution of schools in a box, psychosocial support, teacher training and recreational activities.
- IRC is at 60 per cent completion on four schools being built as part of the Kekereke project in Gazao, Bayiri, Massengue, and Doukouma in the Nana Gribizi and Kemo provinces.

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.
- 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 Ouham, Ouham-Pendé, Mbomou and North of Nana-Mambéré will make the reopening of schools in these prefectures more difficult. Some schools have been occupied by armed groups, others by civilians.
- 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:

The number of IDPs has increased to 40,000 in Bossangoa (UNHCR) as the town has emptied due to fear of more violence. UNICEF and partners are continuing to provide life-saving interventions to displaced people in Bossangoa through the provision of safe water and sanitation to IDP sites.

1.1 million

Response:

- A UNICEF truck arrived Bossangoa on 2 November from Bangui filled with emergency supplies, spray
 pumps to dispense insecticide and EU/ECHO supported RRM supplies, including water bladders and other
 equipment for the provision of safe water.
- In Bossangoa, MSF-Holland and UNICEF are providing 140 M3 and 82 M3 of water per day respectively.
- With the support of UNICEF, the national water agency (SODECA) plans to assess and rehabilitate its water treatment station. When this rehabilitation has been completed, an additional 500 m3 of water per day will be available to the 40,000 IDPs in Bossangoa.
- On the Bossangoa IDP sites, over 165 latrines are currently being used. UNICEF will soon complete the construction of 270 latrines and 270 showers. Meanwhile, MSF will build 300 latrines and 300 showers bringing the total to 735 latrines and 570 showers.
- The ACF project funded by the CHF will soon begin and will respond to the sanitation needs of 25,000 IDPs
- IRC has rehabilitated 17 water points in the Nana Gribizi province.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Despite a short supply of plastic sheeting and wood, construction of toilets has begun
- The WASH cluster has only received 18 per cent of the amount required. Emergency funding is crucial.



Needs:

The recent nation-wide Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) found that 30 per cent of the population outside of Bangui (around 1.1 million people) is estimated to be moderately or severely food insecure. IDPs have been most affected and half of them suffer from severe or moderate food insecurity.

Response:

- Despite the persistent security constraints, WFP has reached 250,000 people so far this year and aims to reach half a million people by the end of 2013.
- WFP continued to provide emergency food assistance to IDPs as many are still unable to return to their villages. As the IDP population increases day by day with new armed conflicts, WFP plans to further scale up response to meet the additional needs in the country.
- Emergency school feeding programmes are expected to start in early November in Bambari, Kaga-Bandoro, Bria and Sibut and plan to reach 10,000 schoolchildren in the coming weeks. Sensitization of communities and schools on how to run school feeding and prepare meals has taken place. Once the opening of schools is confirmed, WFP will dispatch commodities to these areas.

Gaps & Constraints:

 A Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey is expected in the coming months to assess the nutritional situation of the population.



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. The Health cluster warned there is a measles outbreak in 15 out of the 22 health districts.

500,000 Children have been vaccinated against measles

- 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.

Response:

Preliminary data indicate that, in October, almost 300,000 children were vaccinated during the first phase
of this integrated campaign in four health regions, including Bangui. In total, UNICEF and its partners,
including the Ministry of Health and WHO, have already vaccinated over 500,000 children between 6 and

- 59 months, 68 per cent of the targeted number (740,000), against measles, polio, and have been received deworming medication and Vitamin A supplementation over the past six months.
- A UNICEF supported dispensary in Bossangoa continues to provide emergency health service to address the health needs of people at the l'Évêché site in Bossangoa which is treating over 170 patients per day. The dispensary includes a maternity area where 15 infants have already been born since it opened.
- IRC has begun rehabilitation of eight health posts in the Nana Gribizi province.

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 Health Cluster has only received 44 per cent of the amount required. Emergency funding is needed to improve access to health services in the country.



Needs:

 Update the nutritional vulnerability analysis and identification of priority needs to ensure an effective emergency response. Severely malnourished children receive treatment

- Improved access to screening and referral of severe acute malnutrition cases for integrated assistance for IDPs.
- Continuous advocacy for the systematization of the Community based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) approach, also integrating cases of acute moderate malnutrition.
- Maintain the quality of care and response capacity. Support integration of the management of malnutrition into the healthcare minimum package in affected areas.
- Strengthen and reopen facilities for malnutrition cases in the affected areas.
- Ensure the availability of data, collection and sharing. Data management of cases and needs analysis based on vulnerability indicators.

Response:

- Results of a rapid nutritional assessment in the most recently affected regions of: Bossangoa, Bouar and Bozoum, reveal a less alarming situation that however requires immediate response.
- UNICEF provided support for the opening and strengthening of two operational Therapeutic Nutritional
 Units (UNT) and eight Outpatient Therapeutic Nutritional Units (UNTA) in the Lobaye province by training
 of 24 health workers in all eight health facilities which provide nutritional care. A support group was set up
 for the promotion of feeding practices for infants and young children (e-IYCF) during an emergency phase.
 Since the reopening of these eight structures, 664 children have benefited from nutritional services. Only
 the UNT in Boda and Bagadou are functional and the opening of a UNT in Mbaiki is underway.
- 19 MT of Plumpynut and therapeutic milk was supplied to health regions in Ouham, Ouham Pende, Ouaka, Lobaye Sangha Mbaere, Kemo Ombella Mpoko and Bangui
- To date, a total of 11,684 severely malnourished children were admitted and treated in the 21 UNT and 102 functional UNTA.

Gaps & Constraints:

The Nutrition Cluster has only received 41 per cent of the amount required.



Logistics/emergency telecommunications

Needs:

 The demand for UNHAS is increasing and flights are usually fully booked. More than 65 organizations depend on UNHAS. 8,000
Passengers transported

Response:

• UNHAS has transported 8,000 passengers so far this year.

- From 1 to 21 October, UNHAS transported 1,670 passengers and 10 MT of cargo. Frequently flown destinations include Bangassou, Kaga-Bandoro and Zemio. Airstrip maintenance is planned at ten destinations.
- The necessary telecommunications equipment has been procured and prepositioned overseas. This equipment will be shipped to the country following customs clearance.

Gaps & Constraints:

 UNHAS is fully funded until December 2013 and is in need of US\$9 million to maintain critical air services through 2014.



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 continue to benefit from two Child friendly spaces
 established by UNICEF 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. UNICEF is planning to set up
 a third centre.
- UNICEF conducted a three-day workshop for the Multinational Force of Central Africa (FOMAC) on the protection of children, in relation to children associated with armed groups.

Gaps & Constraints:

- In order to expedite the reintegration of children formerly associated with armed forces and groups, greater access to cantonment sites is necessary.
- The Protection cluster has only received 22 per cent of the amount required. Emergency funding is crucial.

For further information, please contact:

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