Central African Republic
Humanitarian SitRep

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 MARCH – 31 MARCH 2016

Highlights

- Newly elected Central African President Faustin Archange Touadera was officially sworn into office on March 30, and named his former campaign director as his Prime Minister. The second round of legislative elections was conducted peacefully on March 31 with only a few minor incidents reported across the country.

- The Population Movement Commission (CMP) set the total number of IDPs at 421,283 at the end of February 2016 as compared to 435,165 the previous month, or a decrease of 13,882 people (3%).

- There has been an increase in security incidents against humanitarian actors in CAR, with a total of 11 incidents reported throughout the country in March.

- More than 80 cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) involving international forces and peacekeepers were reported in Dekoa in Kemo prefecture. UNICEF sent staff to conduct pre-verification of the allegations on 13-22 March and participated in inter-agency missions deployed to the area to assess available services, further substantiate the allegations and start providing response to victims.

- Nearly 74,000 children received teaching and learning materials and over 500 school directors were registered in the EduTrac real-time data collection system.

- In Bangui, water distribution and the drilling of boreholes allowed UNICEF to improve the access to water for 15,646 displaced persons.

1.2 million
CHILDREN AFFECTED
(2016 HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OVERVIEW)

2.35 million
PEOPLE AFFECTED
(2016 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN)

421,000
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS
(CMP FEBRUARY 2015)

466,000
REFUGEES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES
(CHAD, CAMEROON, DRC, CONGO)
(OCHA MARCH 2016)

UNICEF APPEAL 2016
US$ 55.7 million

Funds received
US$ 22.6 million

Funding Gap
59%

Funds Received
41%
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Newly elected Central African President Faustin Archange Touadera was officially sworn into office on March 30 and named his former campaign director as his prime minister. While he is working to form a new government, the overall electoral process is still ongoing: the second round of legislative elections was conducted on 31 March. Elections were conducted peacefully with only a few minor incidents reported across the country. Final results are expected to be released shortly.

During the reporting period, a sharp increase in incidents targeting public spaces (a grenade thrown in a small restaurant injuring 12 people including four UN agency staff) and IDP sites (three people injured in an armed attack against an IDP site with only the intervention of international forces preventing major damage) has been observed in Bambari. The latest violence has had a direct negative impact on the return dynamics that were observed in the area since the beginning of the year.

There has also been an increase in security incidents against humanitarian actors (NGOs): a total of 11 incidents were reported throughout the country in March.

Since December 2015, the slightly decreasing trend in the overall number of IDPs in the country has persisted. The Population Movement Commission (CMP) set the total number of IDPs at 421,283 as of end of February 2016 as compared to 435,165 the previous month, or a decrease of 13,882 people (3%). This reduction is mainly due to return movements observed in specific IDP sites located in the interior (Batangafo, Bouca, Kaga Bandoro), which is greater than the current displacement taking place in the northwestern and eastern part of the country.

In the northwest, in Ouham-Pendé, mounting tensions between communities in Paoua region were reported. Fighting linked with transhumance among armed elements continue in the west and northwest, forcing the displacement of local communities westwards towards Kouï and Bocaranga.

UNHCR led an inter-agency mission to Bambouti in southeastern CAR (in Haut Mbomou prefecture, with a population of 950 people) to assess the situation of an estimated 8,000 South Sudanese refugees fleeing fighting in Western Equatoria. The influx, which began in November 2015, is currently ongoing. From a humanitarian perspective, elements of concerns are: i) high number of refugees versus a small local population; ii) remote location with severe access constraints; iii) the absence of basic social services; and iv) the upcoming rainy season, which will further limit access to this remote area.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

A mission from URD (Urgence, Rehabilitation, Developpement) was in CAR in March to support the country team to outline analytical elements to establish a transition strategy from emergency to recovery and development.

The 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was released by OCHA on 31 March 2016. Total HRP requirements are US$ 531.5 million, of which the UNICEF pledge stands at US$ 55.7 million as per the 2016 HAC.
Considering the importance of ensuring UNICEF’s continued delivery on its accountabilities as cluster lead agency (CLA) in the CAR context, the country office decided to undertake a light review of the internal cluster setting. A management note, along with supporting documents was developed, discussed and endorsed by the Country Management Team (CMT), and provided a justification of why UNICEF should maintain coordination posts/profiles beyond March 2016, the cut-off date agreed upon in July 2015 following the Global Cluster Unit (GCU) mission.
Summary Analysis of Programme response

Nutrition
Since January, a total of 4,259 children (2,476 in January and 1,783 in February) have been admitted for treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), including children from host populations, IDP sites and enclaves. Cases of SAM with complications represent a proportion of 17% (726) of patients in in-patient therapeutic programmes and 82.9% (3,533) in out-patient therapeutic programmes. The performance indicators of SAM treatment are within approved standards, with a 90% cured rate, a 1.5% death rate and 8.5% default rate.

UNICEF provided the Ministry of Health with Vitamin A and de-worming medication to assist 697,206 children aged 12-59 months and 88,414 children aged 6-11 months during the upcoming May measles campaign. UNICEF prepositioned nutrition supplies in sub-offices in Bossangoa and Kaga Bandoro to avoid stock outs during the upcoming rainy season. In addition, a total of 844 cartons of ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF) and four cartons of therapeutic milk were provided to NGO partners PU-AMI, ALIMA AHA and CARITAS to treat 300 children. A total of 135 health workers were trained on the updated national protocol for the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM).

Education
In early March, under CHF funding, 331 teachers took part in a five day training on Education in Emergencies (EiE), basic pedagogy and psychosocial support. This training, which is carried out by UNICEF and Ministry of Education staff, is an ongoing standardized activity that reinforces teacher capacity to ensure quality teaching and learning in the temporary learning spaces, or ETAPES (Espace Temporaire Apprentissage et Protection pour les Enfants). In order to meet expressed needs to reinforce teacher competency in addressing psychosocial issues, UNICEF conducted two trainings for 40 participants (trainers) focusing on providing teachers with critical psychosocial skills. Topics were presented in a participatory approach and focused on the provision of activities that offered healing opportunities for affected children and ways to adapt these methodologies to a variety of academic subjects. A five day training for 200 teachers from government schools and the EiE programme was carried out to allow the trainers to demonstrate and practice skills gained.

Under the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) programme, an estimated 73,921 children received teaching and learning materials. The materials distributed address an important gap in the learning process by providing children with basic materials such as pens, notebooks, rulers, and teachers with chalk, visual aids, registrars, and pens. Additionally, 274 recreation kits were provided, allowing children to actively engage in play, recreation and sports activities.

UNICEF and Ministry of Education staff completed several missions in order to mobilise teachers and register school directors in the EduTrac real-time data collection system. During the missions that covered 11 prefectures, over 500 school directors were registered, bringing the total number to 847 nationwide (84% of target for 2016). Once registered, teachers and school directors will be able to respond to rapid survey questions sent by the MoE on immediate concerns such as a WASH in schools, exam results, and incidents in schools.

Health
On 14 March, the CAR Ministry of Health declared a meningitis outbreak in the two districts of Batangafo and Kabo in the northern Ouham prefecture. Since the beginning of the outbreak and based on further analysis of data during a joint assessment mission including the Ministry, WHO and UNICEF from 18 to 26 March, a total number of 131 cases have been reported with ten deaths. Bouca, with 15 cases and no deaths, has not yet reached the epidemic threshold. The current response focuses on disease surveillance, appropriate case management and communication for development activities.
With UNICEF and WHO support, the country submitted a request for 228,000 doses of the meningitis vaccine to the International Coordination Group (ICG) in order to implement a response campaign scheduled for the end April. The African Development Bank has agreed to release $US 1 million to purchase the vaccines. From March 4 to 7, with UNICEF support, the country implemented a nationwide polio immunisation campaign targeting 874,034 children aged 0 to 59 months. Interim results show that 722,387 children were vaccinated, representing a coverage rate of 83%. It should be noted that given the security situation, the campaign was delayed in the districts of Batangafo and Kabo. However, according to the results of an independent monitoring system, 93% of children assessed within the household and 90% of children out of household have received the polio vaccine. UNICEF is supporting the government to prepare for a Nationwide measles campaign from 4-8 May and 25-29 May. Out of 30 planned district based micro-planning exercises, 28 were completed and two are in progress.

The four CERF emergency projects launched in February to respond to the impact of the September 2015 crisis were ongoing during the reporting period. These projects are managed by NGOs and are aimed at providing curative and preventive care to populations in the affected areas, namely through the distribution of mosquito nets, provision of free curative care, provision of free integrated curative care. UNICEF also continued monitoring the monkey pox outbreak in Bangassou district. To date, 17 cases have been reported with three deaths. The results of the last three suspected cases of monkey pox reported in Bakouma in March were negative. The current response include disease surveillance, case management including containment and contact tracing, and communication for development focusing on behaviour change activities.

**HIV AND AIDS**

During the reporting period, with UNICEF support, a total of 30 health workers were trained on HIV/AIDS interventions. In addition, supervisions were organised by UNICEF in Kemo prefecture to evaluate ongoing activities implemented by NGO partners IRC and MDA in three health facilities (Massengue, Tilo and Katakpa). Partners were encouraged to include prevention of parent to child transmission in their activities for the reduction of HIV/AIDS infection.

**WASH**

In Bangui, water distribution and the drilling of boreholes allowed UNICEF to improve access to water for 15,646 IDPs. In addition, 1,750 displaced persons gained improved access to sanitation at the Central Mosque site through the maintenance activities of UNICEF partner ANEA (national agency for water and sanitation).

In Bria, with UNICEF support, Oxfam distributed 2,500 boxes of Aquatabs, improving access to safe water for 500 households or almost 2,500 people. In Bambari, with UNICEF support, ANEA rehabilitated seven water drilling points at the Pladam Ouaka IDP site, contributing to improve access to drinking water for almost 2,616 displaced persons. With UNICEF support, NGO Triangle constructed 42 latrines and 18 showers at the PK-8 IDP site, bringing improved sanitation to 2,100 displaced persons. In addition, 41,000 IDPs at the NDV, Alternative, Aviation, MISCA, Bornou district and hospital IDP sites gained improved water access.

In Bossangoa, SODECA provided 1,140 m³ of water to almost 35,000 people. In addition, access to water for 2,500 people was improved through the rehabilitation of four pumps in villages in Bouca. With UNICEF support, ANEA carried out a water chlorination campaign reaching nearly 400 households (2,000 people) with safe drinking water. In Bouar, the rehabilitation of the pump station by UNICEF helped to improve access to water for nearly 32,000 people. The ANEA sub-office rehabilitated five boreholes, improving access to water for 5,000 people. In Kaga Bandoro, ANEA constructed a new borehole, improving access to water for 500 people. The rehabilitation of nine pumps in Botto has helped to improve access to water for 4,500 people. The construction of eight blocks of three latrines in four schools has helped 1,400 school children to gain access to improved sanitation.
Child Protection
During the reporting period, a total of 1,526 children including 424 girls were released from Anti-Balaka groups in Kouango, Gouisiema, Gbakomalekpa, Ouabe (Ouaka prefecture) and Baoro (Nana Mambere). A total of 6,606 children including 2,096 girls in host communities and IDP sites were reached with psychosocial support in Dekoa, Sibut (Kemo prefecture) and Bangui with psychosocial support. 12 unaccompanied and separated children were reunified with their families in Bangui and Bimbo.

In March, 55 cases of GBV involving 23 girls aged between 16 and 17 were documented in Bangui (13), Carnot (11), Boali (8), Baoro (5) and other in localities such as Boda, Bossembele and Mbaiki. During the reporting period, more than 80 cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) involving international forces and peacekeepers were reported in Dekoa. UNICEF sent staff to conduct pre-verification of the allegations on 13-22 March and participated in inter-agency missions led by MINUSCA senior management deployed to the area to assess available services, further substantiate the allegations and start providing response to victims.

Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)
During the reporting period, the four implementing RRM partners (ACF, ACTED, PU-AMI, Solidarités International) undertook three exploratory missions in one different prefectures (Ouham and Nana-Gribizi) and four Multi-Sectorial Assessments (MSAs) in Ouham, Nana Gribizi, Ouaka and Ombella Mpoko. Four NFI interventions took place in Ouham Pendé, Nana-Gribizi and Mambere-Kadei, reaching a total of 26,164 persons (5,117 households) with plastic sheeting, blankets, soap, buckets, plastic mats and mosquito nets. One WASH intervention took place in Ouham Pendé, reaching 5,936 highly vulnerable persons. Some areas remain difficult to access, and as such, advocacy efforts are being deployed to secure targeted zones (borders with Cameroon and Chad) and rehabilitate road infrastructure.

Globally, since 1 January, a total of 43,059 people (8,302 households) have received NFI items, and 12,171 individuals have gained access to water and sanitation facilities thanks to RRM emergency interventions. This is a total of 55,230 beneficiaries, of which 9,389 (17%) have been children under five.

External Communication and Fundraising
During the reporting period, the communications team published a press release to mark the launch of a $15 million multi-agency project funded by the Japanese government in support of the CAR population and organised interviews for the Country Representative around the efforts of UNICEF and partner UN agencies in response to allegations of SEA. The team also worked to support celebrations around World Water Day on 22 March involving the Ministry of Water and Hydraulics, the Direction General de l’Hydraulique (DGH) and the Ministry of Communication. The Facebook and Twitter pages were updated on a regular basis, attracting a growing number of interest and interactions.

Supply and Logistics
Conditions in the Douala-Bangui corridor continued to improve. The flow of containers coming into Bangui remained fluid, however congestion was noted in the Bangui container terminal, with more than 60 containers of supplies. While the volume of goods-in-transit has increased, there has been a negative impact on the timely and effective distribution of supplies as there is only one operator managing the terminal. The Supply Plan is under consolidation and construction activities are ongoing, with contracts for new construction projects being finalised.

Security
During the reporting period, in Bangui, tensions grew between the CAR armed forces (FACA) and self-defence groups in PK-5. Heavy shooting took place during the prison break of Abdoulaye Hisssein on 15 March by party members of the CPJP (Convention Patriotique pour la Justice et la Paix). In the west, confrontations took place between armed Peuhl and local farmers. In the area Bour–Paoua area on the border with Cameroon, there are now six active armed groups engaged in illegal economic activities. In the centre, elements of the FPRC continued to provoke the MINUSCA PakBat contingent. The Ouandago-Batangafo and Ouandago-Kabo axes are inaccessible for humanitarian aid workers, and in Bambari, there were confrontations between the Gailtan and Falli factions of Anti-Balaka. In the east, there were tensions between the
FPRC and Sudanese merchants in NDélé due to the killing of an Ex-Seleka commander by Sudanese car thieves. There is continued insecurity in the Obo–Bria–Rafai area due to the activities of the LRA and other unidentified armed groups.

**Funding**
UNICEF wishes to express its deep gratitude to all public and private sector donors for the contributions and pledges received, which have made the current response possible. Continued donor support is critical to continue scaling up the response in emergency and early recovery response. As of 29 February, UNICEF has received over $22 million against the $55.6 million in the 2016 HAC requirements. Details are provided in the below sectoral table.

### Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Action for Children appeal, 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>7,200,000</td>
<td>6,349,340</td>
<td>850,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>9,250,000</td>
<td>1,762,893</td>
<td>7,487,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>7,227,000</td>
<td>2,871,446</td>
<td>4,355,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>12,900,000</td>
<td>5,109,856</td>
<td>7,790,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>6,118,000</td>
<td>781,771</td>
<td>5,336,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid Response Mechanism</td>
<td>13,000,000</td>
<td>5,707,592</td>
<td>7,292,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>55,695,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,582,898</strong></td>
<td><strong>33,112,102</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Next SitRep: 1 May 2016

UNICEF CAR on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/UNICEF_CAR](https://twitter.com/UNICEF_CAR)
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**ANNEX Summary of programme results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HUMANITARIAN PERFORMANCE MONITORING INDICATORS</th>
<th>UNICEF and Operational partners</th>
<th>Cluster/Sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2016 Target</td>
<td>Total Results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HEALTH</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number and % of children under 5 immunized against measles in IDP sites and epidemic districts</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number and % of children U5, including those in IDP sites and enclaves with access to essential health services and medicines</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>39,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NUTRITION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number and % of children aged 6-59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for therapeutic care</td>
<td>29,250</td>
<td>4,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovery rate</td>
<td>≥75%</td>
<td>90.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death rate</td>
<td>&lt;5%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death rate</td>
<td>&lt;15%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNICEF Operational Partners: AFEB, AFJC, DRC, IRC, Mercy Corps, NDA, Save the Children and War Child.

### WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE

| Number and % of affected people provided with access to improved sources of water as per agreed standards | 400,000 | 195,588 | 49% | 700,000 | 205,088 | 29% |
| Number and % of affected people provided with sanitation facilities as per agreed standards | 250,000 | 50,557 | 20% | 700,000 | 69,957 | 10% |
| Number and % of internally displaced households provided with WASH NFI kits | 10,000 | 4,476 | 45% | 50,000 | 6,139 | 12% |

UNICEF Operational Partners: IRC, ACF, ANEA, LIFA, EEA, Caritas-Bambari, ICDI, IMC, OXFAM, SODECA, ICDI, LEAGUE ISLAMIQUE AFRICAINE

### CHILD PROTECTION

| Number and % of unaccompanied and separated children reunited with their families | 500 | 62 | 12% | 500 | 63 | 13% |
| Number and % of children released from armed forces and groups | 3,000 | 1,526 | 51% | 5,660 | 1,547 | 27% |
| Number and % of women and children identified as survivors of sexual violence have access to holistic support | 3,500 | 439 | 13% | 7,000 | 439 | 6% |

UNICEF Operational Partners: AFEB, AFJC, DRC, IRC, Mercy Corps, NDA, Save the Children and War Child

### HIV/AIDS

| Number and % of children born to mothers who are HIV positive who have access to appropriate treatment | 4,060 | 74 | 2% | Not applicable |
| Number and % of pregnant women living with HIV who received ARVs for PMTCT | 4,906 | 347 | 7% | Not applicable |

UNICEF Operational Partners: MoH. 2014 indicators and targets revised, progress made has been adjusted accordingly.

### EDUCATION

| Number and % of children who received learning materials | 300,000 | 43,598 | 15% | 350,000 | 43,598 | 12% |
| Number and % of displaced children aged 3 to 17 years with access to education in temporary learning spaces with teachers trained in psychosocial support | 60,000 | 27,894 | 46% | 70,000 | 28,094 | 40% |

UNICEF Operational Partners: BSF, ESF, IDEAL, CARITAS, REMOD, ACCM, ECAC, Yamacuir, FCA, NRC, CORDAID, SCI

190 Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS or ETAPes in French) functional in Bangui, Kaga Bandoro, Batangaf, Bambari, Grimari, Yalo, Dekoa, Bégoa, and Ngakobo.

### RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM

| Number and % of acutely vulnerable households following a shock that received rapid assistance with NFIs | 40,000 | 12,171 | 30% | Not applicable |
| Number and % of acute acutely vulnerable people following a shock that received rapid and appropriate assistance in WASH | 80,000 | 8,302 | 10% | Not applicable |