

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

DECEMBER 17, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

4.9 million

Estimated Population of CAR
UN – October 2019

2.6 million

Estimated People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance
UN – October 2019

1.6 million

Estimated People in CAR Facing Severe Levels of Acute Food Insecurity
IPC – June 2019

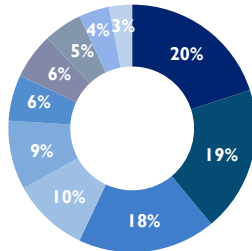
600,136

IDPs in CAR
UN – September 2019

593,733

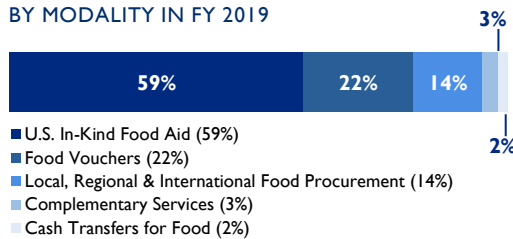
Central African Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UN – November 2019

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2019



- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (20%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (19%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (18%)
- Health (10%)
- Shelter & Settlements (9%)
- Protection (6%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (6%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (5%)
- Nutrition (4%)
- Multipurpose Cash Assistance (3%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2019



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (59%)
- Food Vouchers (22%)
- Local, Regional & International Food Procurement (14%)
- Complementary Services (3%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (2%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2020 HNO identifies 2.6 million people requiring humanitarian assistance
- Number of aid worker injured in 2019 due to insecurity nearly doubles from 2018
- More than 1.6 million people facing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2019

USAID/OFDA	\$48,618,731
USAID/FFP	\$50,787,077
State/PRM ³	\$44,883,653
Total	\$144,289,461

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The UN and humanitarian partners have identified 2.6 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in Central African Republic (CAR), representing a slight decrease from the 2.9 million people estimated to be in need as of early March. To respond to the emergency needs of 1.6 million of the most vulnerable people throughout 2020, relief actors have appealed for \$387.8 million from international donors.
- Widespread flooding in October and November due to above-average seasonal rains impacted an estimated 100,000 people across eight of CAR's 16 prefectures and the capital city of Bangui. In response to increased humanitarian needs due to the flooding, U.S. Ambassador Lucy Tamlyn declared a disaster on November 11 and relief actors, including USAID partners, continue to provide emergency assistance—including food, nutrition, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support—to flood-affected populations.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

CURRENT EVENTS

- The 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for CAR, released in October, reports that an estimated 2.6 million people in CAR, or more than one-half of the country's population, are in need of humanitarian assistance. Although the population in need has decreased from the 2.9 million people identified in March, the number of Central Africans facing acute needs remains unchanged. Despite the February signing of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation by the Government of CAR (CARG) and 14 armed groups, persistent insecurity and limited access to basic services and infrastructure continue to drive humanitarian needs in the country.
 - The 2020 Global Humanitarian Overview, released in early December, outlines \$387.8 million in 2020 humanitarian requirements to assist 1.6 million vulnerable Central Africans across the country. The 2020 appeal represents an approximately 10 percent reduction from the nearly \$430.7 million requested in the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan for CAR, which had received nearly \$290 million—or 67 percent of the total request—as of December 17. Priority interventions identified include food security, health care, protection, and WASH. In particular, more than 1.3 million Central Africans will likely require humanitarian assistance to prevent and treat acute malnutrition in 2020, compared with approximately 1 million people in 2019, according to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). Moreover, nearly 50,000 children ages five years and younger will likely require treatment for severe acute malnutrition during the year.
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INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION

- As of September 30, insecurity had contributed to an estimated 600,100 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in CAR, of whom more than 222,100 were sheltering in IDP sites and nearly 378,000 others were residing with host families, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)-managed Population Movement Commission. The September figure represents an increase from 583,000 IDPs identified at the end of August, due in large part to September intercommunal violence in Vakaga Prefecture's Birao town that displaced at least 20,000 people, the UN reports. Despite the recent increase in displacement, the current total of IDPs remains lower than the estimated 610,000–656,000 IDPs reported between January and May and reflects spontaneous IDP returns in recent months amid some localized improvements in security conditions.
- Notwithstanding ongoing insecurity in many areas, some IDPs across CAR note an inability to return to their areas of origin due to damaged or destroyed housing and household property, according to focus group discussions conducted by USAID/OFDA partner the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED). In response, ACTED—with \$2.5 million in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding—is providing 7,000 vulnerable, conflict-affected IDPs with voucher or in-kind shelter and relief commodity assistance across Bangui, Haut-Mbomou Prefecture's Zemio town, and Ouaka Prefecture's Ngakobo town.
- In response to population movements or other rapid-onset disasters, the UNICEF-managed Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) continues to assist IDPs, returnees, and other vulnerable people with relief supplies and WASH assistance. Overall, USAID/OFDA contributed \$6 million to the RRM in FY 2019, enabling RRM partners to reach nearly 172,000 people with relief commodities—such as kitchen equipment, mosquito nets, plastic sheeting, and hygiene items—from January to September. Moreover, with USAID/OFDA support, Oxfam Intermón is working to restore livelihoods and improve access to WASH services for host communities, IDPs, and returnees in and around Ouham Prefecture's Batangafo town and Haute-Kotto Prefecture's Bria town. Since June, Oxfam Intermón has distributed seeds and provided technical support to farmers, rehabilitated and expanded local water systems, and launched campaigns to raise awareness of improved hygiene practices. The non-governmental organization (NGO) also conducted awareness-raising campaigns focused on violence against women and girls and other protection concerns in Batangafo.
- Armed attacks and other protection violations continue to pose a significant risk to civilians in CAR. Between January and October, the UN recorded a monthly average of approximately 600 protection incidents in monitored parts of the country. Additionally, the UN recorded more than 9,200 gender-based violence (GBV) cases during the ten-month period, marking a more than 24 percent increase from the approximately 7,400 GBV cases recorded from January to

October 2018. The UN notes that both figures likely underrepresent the situation given challenges with monitoring and reporting in some areas.

- CAR continues to be one of the most dangerous countries in the world for humanitarian workers, the UN reports. Between January and November, the UN recorded 272 security incidents directly affecting humanitarian personnel or goods, including three aid workers killed and 40 injured. The number of people injured to date in 2019 is more than 70 percent greater than the number injured during the same period in 2018, indicating the increased severity of security incidents affecting humanitarian operations. Moreover, four NGOs suspended activities in October and November due to insecurity, further highlighting the ongoing operational challenges relief organizations face in CAR.
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REFUGEE RETURNS

- Following a tripartite agreement signed by UNHCR and the governments of CAR and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in July, the UN agency launched a voluntary repatriation operation on November 21 for Central African refugees residing in the DRC. Between November 21 and December 3, UNHCR facilitated the return of approximately 1,400 Central Africans from the DRC to Bangui. Upon their arrival in Bangui, the returnees received an assistance package containing basic household items, cash, and three-month food rations. Overall, UNHCR plans to assist with the returns of 25,000 Central African refugees by late 2020 through the voluntary repatriation program; most of the returnees plan to settle in Bangui, as well as Kémo, Lobaye, Mambéré-Kadéï, Nana-Mambéré, Ombella M'poko, and Sangha-Mbaéré prefectures. Returnees note that improved security conditions in their areas of origin and the February peace agreement were the primary reasons for their decision to return to CAR. In addition to the ongoing repatriation operation from the DRC, UNHCR has supported the voluntary return of 13,500 Central African refugees from neighboring countries since 2017, while an estimated 127,000 Central Africans have also spontaneously returned to CAR since 2016.
 - UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi visited CAR from December 3 to 5 to welcome returning Central Africans upon their arrival to the port of Bangui. In his remarks at the port, High Commissioner Grandi underscored the responsibility of humanitarian and development actors, as well as the CARG, to ensure the stability of and foster self-sufficiency in areas of return through ongoing support for basic services, livelihoods, and security. High Commissioner Grandi also met with President of CAR Faustin-Archange Touadéra during his visit to discuss measures to safeguard the conditions enabling the recent returns of Central African refugees, as well as those displaced internally.
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FLOODING

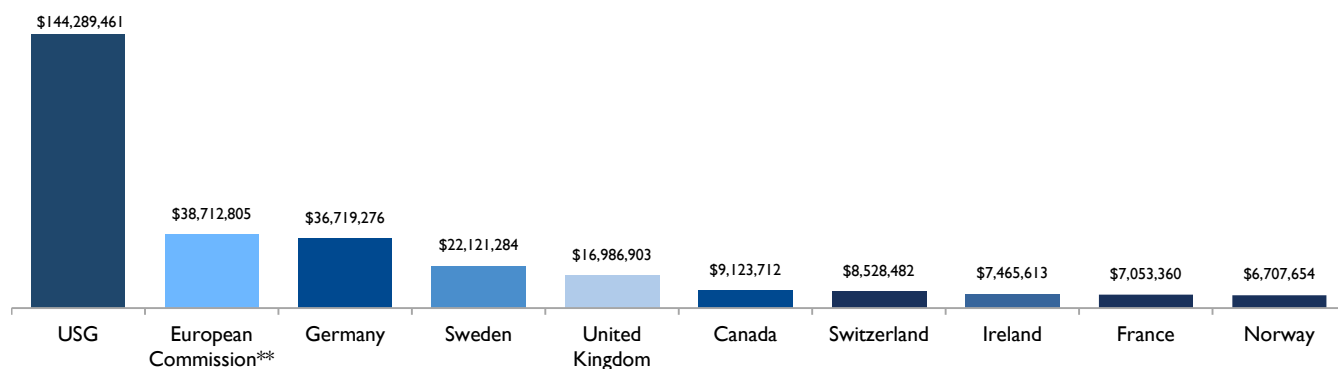
- Heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding that began in October had adversely impacted an estimated 100,000 people across one-half of CAR's 16 prefectures and Bangui, with 33,000 people affected in Bangui and the nearby town of Bimbo alone, as of late November. The flooding also resulted in widespread damage to cropland, critical water and sanitation infrastructure, and houses. On October 25, Prime Minister of CAR Firmin Ngrébada declared a national disaster and appealed for international assistance, repeating the appeal for support on October 31.
- In response to increased humanitarian needs due to flooding, Ambassador Tamlyn declared a disaster in CAR on November 11, and USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 in initial relief assistance to UNICEF to support emergency WASH activities. Additionally, the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided emergency food assistance—including USAID/WFP-contributed High Energy Biscuits (HEBs)—to approximately 43,000 flood-affected people in CAR by early December. Furthermore, the USAID/OFDA-supported RRM mobilized an emergency flood response, focusing on affected populations outside the capital. In southwestern Lobaye, where flooding displaced nearly 6,000 people and adversely affected an additional 6,000 people, RRM partners had provided 16 metric tons (MT) of HEBs and 12,000 emergency relief supply kits, as well as WASH support, to affected households by mid-November.
- While flooding and related infrastructure damage had rendered many areas, particularly outside of Bangui, inaccessible to relief actors, the USAID/OFDA-supported UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) procured the services of a helicopter—with capacity for 18 passengers or 2.5 MT of cargo—starting in mid-November to facilitate access to these

hard-to-reach areas. In addition to flood-affected areas, the helicopter is also serving insecure and isolated areas where overland humanitarian movements are severely restricted.

FOOD SECURITY

- More than 1.6 million people in CAR are currently facing Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity and are in need of urgent food assistance, according to a November Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis.⁴ Due to a combination of persistent insecurity, seasonal depletion of food stocks, and recent flooding, the number of people facing Crisis or worse outcomes may increase to 2.1 million during the May–August lean season, the period when food is most scarce. During the lean season, more than 675,000 people may face Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity, particularly in northwestern and southeastern CAR and areas that host large IDP populations, such as Mambéré-Kadéï and Sangha-Mbaéré.
- Countrywide 2019 agricultural production will likely be above the five-year average due to favorable rainfall and growing conditions in much of CAR, according to the most recent Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) update. However, conflict-affected populations—including IDPs—will likely continue to experience Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity through May as a result of disrupted livelihoods, inhibited population movement, and hindered aid delivery due to insecurity. Additionally, the destruction of crops and food stocks due to flooding in October and November, particularly along the Oubangi and Ouaka rivers, will likely result in a further decline in household food security conditions in flood-affected areas, FEWS NET reports.
- In September, WFP reached more than 283,000 people in CAR with U.S. in-kind food assistance through general food distributions and school feeding programs, despite significant logistical and operational challenges.

2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of December 17, 2019. All international figures are according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2019 calendar year, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments from FY 2019, which began on October 1, 2018 and ended on September 30, 2019. USG funding addresses needs both within CAR and among Central African refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

**Includes contributions from the European Commission's Department for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and the EU Békou Trust Fund for CAR.

⁴The IPC is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance advanced across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered CAR's capital city of Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence. Security conditions deteriorated further in December 2013, when clashes erupted between the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups composed of armed fighters that opposed ex-Séléka forces.
- Following a nearly three-year transitional period, CAR held presidential elections in December 2015 and February 2016, resulting in the election of President Faustin-Archange Touadéra, who assumed the office of the presidency on March 30, 2016.
- After more than six years of conflict, the Government of CAR and 14 armed groups signed the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Bangui on February 6. While the peace agreement has led to fewer direct clashes between armed groups, insecurity and attacks against civilians, humanitarian workers, and UN peacekeeping forces continue across much of the country. An estimated 2.6 million people in CAR require humanitarian assistance, while nearly 594,000 people have fled the violence in CAR to neighboring countries.
- On October 23, 2019, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Pamela Hack reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2020 due to the scale of ongoing humanitarian needs in the country.
- Heavy rains and resultant flooding in October and November adversely affected an estimated 100,000 people in one-half of CAR's 16 prefectures and Bangui, exacerbating humanitarian conditions in already vulnerable areas. On November 11, 2019, Ambassador Tamlyn declared a disaster due to the humanitarian impact of flooding in CAR.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Basse-Kotto	\$2,000,000
ACTED	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, WASH, Shelter and Settlements	Bangui, Haute-Kotto, Ouaka	\$2,522,000
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$2,500,000
Humanity and Inclusion (HI)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Haute-Kotto, Ouaka	\$3,700,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$3,207,277
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	ERMS, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Shelter and Settlements	Mboumou	\$3,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection	Nana-Gribizi	\$1,547,211
MENTOR Initiative	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,643,019
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bamingui-Bangoran, Basse-Kotto, Kémo, Mambéré-Kadéï, Nana-Gribizi, Ouaka	\$2,500,000

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
Oxfam Intermón	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Haute-Kotto, Ouham	\$2,400,000
Première Urgence Internationale (PUI)	ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,950,000
Solidarités International	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements	Ouham-Pendé	\$500,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
UNICEF	Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,900,087
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, Multipurpose Cash Assistance	Ouaka, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,592,296
	Program Support		\$656,841
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$48,618,731
USAID/FFP³			
ACTED	Cash Transfers; Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Complementary Services	Haut-Mbomou, Mbomou	\$1,375,486
Concern Worldwide	Cash Transfers, Food Vouchers, Complementary Services	Ouaka	\$3,820,000
Mercy Corps	Food Vouchers, Complementary Services	Ouaka	\$5,000,000
Oxfam Intermón	Food Vouchers, Complementary Services	Haute-Kotto, Ouham	\$2,100,000
UNICEF	500 MT of Local, Regional, and International Procurement	Countrywide	\$4,918,688
WFP	16,380 MT of U.S. In-Kind Emergency Food Aid	Countrywide	\$29,993,571
	Food Vouchers, 1,120 MT of Local, Regional, and International Procurement	Countrywide	\$3,579,332
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$50,787,077
State/PRM			
CARE	Protection, WASH, Food Security	Chad	\$1,931,868
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Assistance to Conflict-Affected Populations	Countrywide	\$5,500,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Livelihoods and Protection	Cameroon	\$1,405,527
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Livelihoods and Social Cohesion	Cameroon	\$1,680,148
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Refugees	Countrywide	\$10,241,725
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Cameroon	\$17,800,000

	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Chad	\$2,800,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Republic of the Congo	\$1,500,000
World Vision	Livelihoods, WASH, Protection, GBV	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$2,024,385
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$44,883,653
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$144,289,461

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts. USAID/OFDA funding does not reflect a \$100,000 FY 2020 contribution to UNICEF for emergency flood response.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.