

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

FEBRUARY 5, 2018

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**2.5 million**

People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – January 2018

**688,000**

IDPs in CAR  
UN – January 2018

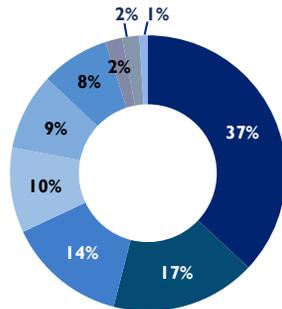
**85,400**

IDPs in Bangui  
UN – October 2017

**546,000**

Central African Refugees in Neighboring Countries  
UN – January 2018

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2017–2018



- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (37%)
- Shelter & Settlements (17%)
- Health (14%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (10%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (9%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (8%)
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (2%)
- Protection (2%)
- Nutrition (1%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2017–2018



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (60%)
- Local & Regional Food Procurement (29%)
- Cash Transfers & Food Vouchers (11%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Number of IDPs in CAR increases by 70 percent since early 2017
- Relief activities suspended following NGO attacks in Kabo, up to 100,000 people affected
- 2018 HRP for CAR targets 1.9 million people—nearly half the country’s population

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| USAID/OFDA             | \$39,935,665         |
| USAID/FFP              | \$62,046,507         |
| State/PRM <sup>3</sup> | \$45,196,665         |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$147,178,837</b> |

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Population displacement in the Central African Republic (CAR) continues to increase due to ongoing violence, with the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) increasing by more than 70 percent since early 2017, the UN reports. As of mid-January, approximately 688,000 people remained internally displaced while 546,000 Central African refugees were sheltering in neighboring countries.
- Clashes between armed groups in mid-to-late December had displaced approximately 78,000 people from Ouham-Pendé Prefecture’s Paoua town as of mid-January, according to the UN. Despite ongoing insecurity, relief organizations—including USAID partners—are coordinating to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to affected populations.
- USAID/FFP continues to support the UN World Food Program (WFP) to distribute emergency food assistance to vulnerable populations in CAR, providing the UN agency with an estimated \$14.9 million to date in FY 2018.

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## CURRENT EVENTS

- On January 24, the Government of the Central African Republic (CARG) and Humanitarian Country Team officially launched the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for CAR, appealing for approximately \$515.6 million to assist 1.9 million of the most vulnerable people. Approximately 2.5 million Central Africans—more than half of the population—are projected to require humanitarian assistance during the year. The CARG aims to reach the estimated 600,000 additional people in need not targeted through the HRP via the CARG National Plan for Recovery and Peace Consolidation, which intends to allow humanitarian, recovery, rehabilitation, and development responses to occur simultaneously as appropriate.

## INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

### Countrywide

- Escalated violence in recent months has contributed to an increase in the number of IDPs in CAR by more than 70 percent since early 2017. Of an estimated total population of 4 million, approximately 688,000 Central Africans remained internally displaced as of mid-January, while an estimated 546,000 were sheltering as refugees in neighboring countries.

### Northwest and West

- Insecurity—including violence against civilians and humanitarian staff—continues to inhibit relief activities and prompt large-scale displacement in northwestern and western CAR, including parts of Nana-Grébizi, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé prefectures. During the week of December 17, the UN recorded five attacks against humanitarian workers in Nana-Grébizi's Kaga-Bandoro town, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In response, the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) reinforced patrols in residential areas in the town. However, relief operations and movements remained restricted as a result of the insecurity as of late December, the UN reports. Additionally, in Nana-Grébizi's Mbrès town, mid-December clashes between armed groups prompted an unknown number of people to flee to nearby rural areas and forced at least one humanitarian organization to temporarily suspend activities pending improvements in security conditions, the UN reports.
- In early December, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in Ouham's Kabo town temporarily suspended activities and relocated staff following two security incidents affecting relief agencies, the UN reports. On December 7, unknown assailants killed a staff member from the NGO Intersos during an attack on his Kabo home, according to international media. Armed assailants also attacked the staff quarters of NGO Solidarités International in Kabo on December 8, although no one was injured during the attack. The two incidents followed a week of clashes between rival armed groups in the town that resulted in at least ten civilian deaths. According to the UN, the suspension of humanitarian activities in Kabo will adversely affect up to 100,000 people, including local community members and IDPs sheltering in the town.
- Late December clashes between armed group members and ongoing insecurity in Ouham-Pendé had displaced approximately 78,000 people as of mid-January, the UN reports. Of those displaced, approximately 65,000 people fled to Paoua town, while an estimated 13,000 additional people fled to neighboring Chad, the UN reports. The insecurity also prompted relief agencies to temporarily reduce movements and operations on the main roads around Paoua. As of late January, security conditions remained tense in and around the town, with relief actors reporting that security concerns were inhibiting response activities to conflict-related humanitarian needs in outlying areas. MINUSCA representatives and authorities in Ouham-Pendé are exploring options to dispatch additional security forces to Paoua to increase stability in the area.
- In late December, Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM) partners completed the planned relocation of approximately 6,000 IDPs from near the MINUSCA airstrip in Kaga-Bandoro town. As part of the relocation process, which commenced in October 2017, CCCM partners provided the IDPs with relief commodities and financial assistance to support their transition to new, safer sites in the vicinity or to areas of origin. With

USAID/OFDA support, an additional CCCM partner assisted IDP returns to neighborhoods within Kaga-Bandoro, rebuilding homes that enabled at least 10 IDP households to leave the airstrip site, according to the UN.

- Following the IDP relocations, UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)—managed by WFP—resumed flights to the Kaga-Bandoro airstrip on December 20, following the completion of the relocation of IDPs from the adjacent areas, the UN reports. UNHAS had suspended services to Kaga-Bandoro in September 2017 due to safety concerns related to the presence of IDPs near the airstrip. The resumption of UNHAS services will likely contribute to the reduction of attacks against humanitarian convoy and the risk of road traffic accidents, and will ease the evacuations to the capital city of Bangui, according to the UN.

## **East and Southeast**

- The total number of IDPs sheltering at the *Pointe Kilometrique 3* IDP site in Haute-Kotto Prefecture’s Bria town increased by more than 37 percent between September and mid-December, from nearly 26,800 IDPs at the end of September to more than 36,700 in mid-December, the UN reports. The UN attributes the continued increase of IDPs in Bria to instability around the town in recent weeks, including along the road between Bria and Ouaka Prefecture’s Ippy town, where the security situation has deteriorated in recent months.
- In Ippy, fighting between armed groups in early December displaced at least 15,000 people to three sites around the town, including a MINUSCA base, the UN reports. Relief actors cancelled a planned assessment to Ippy on December 13 due to security concerns, citing plans to reschedule the mission as soon as security conditions allow. Preliminary information indicates that priority needs among IDPs in the town include shelter and protection support, the UN reports. The UN comments that the recent insecurity in Ippy—which had previously experienced violence and population displacement in 2016 and early 2017—comes after several months of stability following the signing of a peace agreement between armed groups in the area in October.
- As of December 21, relief agencies recorded nearly 17,900 newly displaced individuals in three IDP sites and residing with host families in Ouaka’s Bambari town, according to the UN. The new IDPs arrived from Ouaka’s Atongo-Bakary, Djoubissi, Gambo, Ippy, Mobaye, and Ndassima villages in recent weeks, following renewed conflict and instability. In mid-December, clashes between armed groups in Bambari sub-prefecture prompted approximately 2,000 people residing in the vicinity of Djoubissi and Ndassima to flee to Bambari town, and an additional unknown number of people to flee to nearby IDP sites and into Bakala sub-prefecture, the UN reports. Relief agencies are distributing relief commodities to the new Bambari IDPs and have deployed mobile health clinics to the IDP sites.
- Relief actors report that worsening insecurity in Mbomou Prefecture’s Gambo sub-prefecture continues to hinder humanitarian access to areas along on the road between Mbomou’s Gambo and Pombolo’s towns, west of Bangassou town, the UN reports. For example, armed elements reportedly prevented a team of relief workers en route to implement health activities in Pombolo from reaching the town in December. In August, violence in Gambo resulted in approximately 30 civilian deaths, including at least six volunteers with the Central African Red Cross.

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## **WASH**

- Existing water infrastructure in Batangafo town has fallen into disrepair since the withdrawal of humanitarian actors from the town in September, with several water points no longer functioning, the UN reports. In mid-December, a humanitarian organization rehabilitated four non-functional boreholes to increase water access in the town, with work on an additional 12 boreholes ongoing as of mid-January, according to the UN. Complementary hygiene promotion activities are also ongoing in the town.
- In recent weeks, an international NGO established water access points near Kaga-Bandoro to increase access to water for approximately 320 households—1,600 people—that returned to their villages of origin along the outskirts of the city from January 1–18. The households originally fled following April 2017 clashes in the area. In the process of providing water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support, the organization observed outstanding humanitarian needs in the villages due to extensive damage to public and private infrastructure and looting sustained during the April 2017

conflict. In response, relief organizations are working to assess and respond to humanitarian needs among the returnees.

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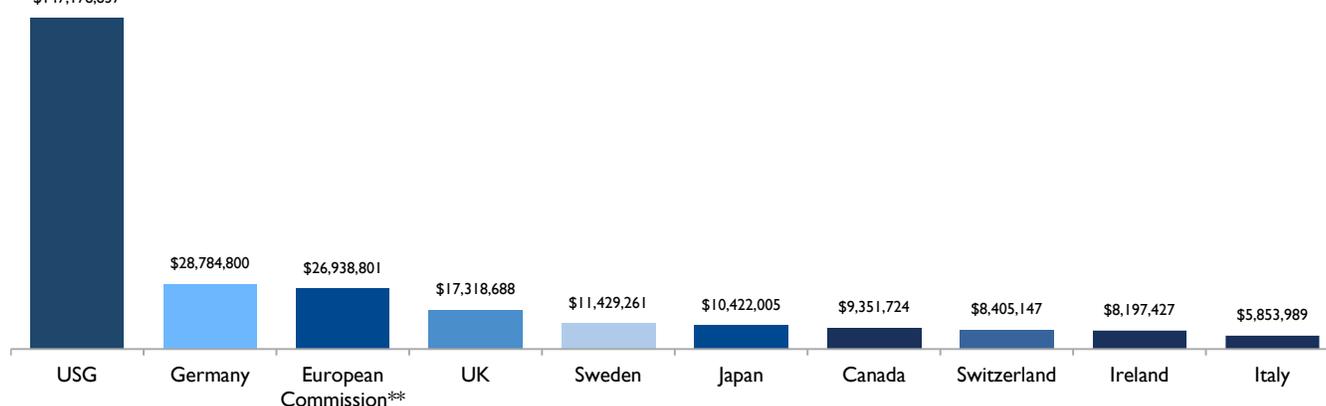
## **USG ASSISTANCE**

- In response to outstanding needs in Paoua, humanitarian organizations—including USAID partners—are working to provide emergency food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, WASH, and other assistance to displaced populations in Paoua town. On January 22, USAID/FFP partner WFP distributed 15-day food rations to vulnerable populations—including the estimated 65,000 IDPs and host community members—in Paoua. Despite ongoing insecurity-related access challenges, USAID/OFDA partner MENTOR Initiative is supporting three mobile health clinics in the town to provide critical health care services to IDPs. Health care staff at one of the mobile clinics has observed a five-fold increase in the number of patients seeking services at the site in recent weeks, the organization reports.
- With USAID/OFDA support, NGO the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is also working to provide assistance to IDPs in Paoua by constructing emergency shelters, distributing relief commodities, and rehabilitating water access points. The organization is also conducting hygiene awareness sessions to promote safe hygiene practices and mitigate the risk of disease outbreaks. In addition, UNHAS was operating regular flights to the town, which remains difficult to reach via road, as of January 23 to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian staff and supplies to Paoua.
- In 2017, three Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners conducted a wide range of response activities in 12 of CAR's 16 prefectures, including nearly 60 multi-sector humanitarian assessments, 40 exploratory assessment missions, 40 NFI distributions, and 30 WASH interventions. The USAID/OFDA-supported mechanism—managed by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)—enables the monitoring of humanitarian needs, implementation of multi-sector assessments, and provision of emergency NFI and WASH support where gaps exist and no other response capacity is available.
- With support from USAID/OFDA, RRM partners also established an early warning system that sent or received nearly 130 humanitarian alerts throughout the year, identifying areas for potential relief interventions. As a result, the average length of time between receipt of an alert and commencement of multi-sectoral assessments was significantly improved as compared to 2016. For example, 38 percent of RRM multi-sector assessments were initiated within seven days or less in 2017, as compared to 19 percent in 2016. The most commonly reported causes for exceeding the target delay in 2017 were access challenges related to security and logistical constraints.
- In December, WFP reached approximately 205,000 people—including displaced and other vulnerable populations—with emergency food assistance, marking a decrease from the estimated 247,000 people reached in November. The UN agency attributes the decrease to heightened insecurity and persistent logistical challenges. To date in FY 2018, USAID/FFP has provided \$14.9 million to WFP to support emergency food assistance activities in CAR.

## 2017–2018 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\*

PER DONOR

\$147,178,837



\*Funding figures are as of February 5, 2018. All international figures are according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the calendar years of 2017 and 2018, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments from FY 2017, which began on October 1, 2016, and FY 2018, which began on October 1, 2017. 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 Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

## 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 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. President Touadéra assumed the office of the presidency on March 30, 2016.
- Conflict between armed groups has persisted across much of CAR in 2017; however, armed groups have fragmented and reformed among various alliances, complicating the ongoing crisis. An estimated 2.5 million people in CAR require humanitarian assistance, while more than 538,000 people have fled the violence in CAR to neighboring countries.
- The security situation throughout CAR remains volatile, with continuing attacks against civilians, humanitarian workers, and peacekeeping forces.
- On October 12, 2017, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires David Brownstein reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2018 due to the scale of ongoing humanitarian needs in the country.

## USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018<sup>1</sup>

| IMPLEMENTING PARTNER           | ACTIVITY   | LOCATION                                 | AMOUNT      |
|--------------------------------|--|--|-------------|
| <b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>  |  |  |             |
| Action Against Hunger (AAH)    | Health   | Kémo, Ouaka                              | \$500,000   |
| ACTED                          | Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements                     | Bangui, Basse-Kotto, Haute-Kotto, Mbomou | \$2,500,000 |
| Concern                        | Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS) | Ouaka                                    | \$1,293,372 |
| Catholic Relief Services (CRS) | Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Shelter and Settlements               | Basse-Kotto, Mbomou                      | \$1,500,000 |
| DRC                            | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH    | Ouham, Ouham-Pendé                       | \$1,750,000 |

|  |   |   |                     |
|--|---|---|---------------------|
| Handicap International                         | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities  | Countrywide   | \$500,000           |
| International Medical Corps (IMC)              | Health, Nutrition, Protection   | Haute-Kotto   | \$1,089,816         |
| iMMAP  | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management  | Countrywide   | \$121,210           |
| International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)   | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management  | Countrywide   | \$900,000           |
| International Organization for Migration (IOM) | ERMS, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements | Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui, Nana-Grébizi, Ouaka, Ouham | \$2,000,000         |
| International Rescue Committee (IRC)           | Health, Protection  | Kémo, Nana-Grébizi, Ouham-Pendé                       | \$2,300,000         |
| MENTOR Initiative                              | Health  | Ouham, Ouham-Pendé                                    | \$1,200,000         |
| Mercy Corps                                    | ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements   | Ouaka   | \$1,100,000         |
| Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)                | Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH                        | Kémo, Nana-Grébizi, Ombella M'Poko, Ouaka             | \$1,000,000         |
| Oxfam  | Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS   | Ouham, Ouham-Pendé                                    | \$1,500,000         |
| Plan International                             | ERMS, Protection  | Lobaye, Nana-Grébizi, Ouham                           | \$774,724           |
| Premiere Urgence Internationale (PUI)          | Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements                        | Bangui  | \$1,300,000         |
| UNICEF   | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH  | Countrywide   | \$8,000,000         |
| OCHA   | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management  | Countrywide   | \$2,000,000         |
| UNHAS  | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities  | Countrywide   | \$8,000,000         |
| World Vision                                   | Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS   | Ouham   | \$500,000           |
|  | Program Support   |   | \$106,543           |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>                |   |   | <b>\$39,935,665</b> |
| <b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>                   |   |   |                     |
| UNICEF   | Complementary Services  | Countrywide   | \$81,227            |
|  | 7,230 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid   | Countrywide   | \$14,928,698        |
|  | 7,026 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid   | Countrywide   | \$10,680,661        |
|  | 11,666MT of Local and Regional Food Procurement   | Countrywide   | \$16,800,000        |
|  | 7,840 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid   | Cameroon  | \$10,679,969        |
| WFP  | Food Vouchers and 1,490 MT of Local and Regional Food Procurement   | Cameroon  | \$2,000,000         |
|  | Cash Transfers for Food and Food Vouchers   | DRC   | \$6,000,000         |
|  | 540 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid   | Republic of the Congo                                 | \$875,952           |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>                 |   |   | <b>\$62,046,507</b> |

| State/PRM  |  |                       |                      |
|--|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| CRS  | Livelihoods and Protection                                 | Cameroon              | \$975,000            |
| CARE   | Livelihoods and Protection                                 | Chad                  | \$974,998            |
| International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)                            | Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Victims of Conflict | Countrywide           | \$16,300,000         |
| Jesuit Refugee Service   | Protection   | Cameroon              | \$349,266            |
| Lutheran World Federation (LWF)  | Livelihoods and Protection                                 | Cameroon              | \$1,034,367          |
|  | Livelihoods and Protection                                 | Chad                  | \$942,000            |
| PUI  | Gender-based Violence Response, Peacebuilding, Livelihoods | DRC                   | \$1,500,000          |
| UNHCR  | Protection and Assistance for Refugees                     | Cameroon              | \$11,500,000         |
|  | Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Refugees            | Countrywide           | \$6,500,000          |
|  | Protection and Assistance for Refugees                     | Republic of the Congo | \$2,700,000          |
| UNHAS  | Logistics Support  | Countrywide           | \$425,000            |
|  | Logistics Support  | DRC                   | \$975,000            |
| World Vision   | Gender-Based Violence Response, Livelihoods, WASH          | DRC                   | \$1,021,034          |
| <b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>   |  |                       | <b>\$45,196,665</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017-2018</b> |  |                       | <b>\$147,178,837</b> |

<sup>1</sup>Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup>Values for FY 2017 funding adjusted based on reconciliation of data.

## 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](http://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](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>