

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

DECEMBER 19, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

2.6 million

Estimated Number of People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance

U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – December 2013

1.3 million

Estimated Food-Insecure Population in CAR

U.N. World Food Program (WFP) – December 2013

639,000

Total Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR

OCHA – December 2013

213,760

IDPs in Bangui Displaced since December 5, 2013

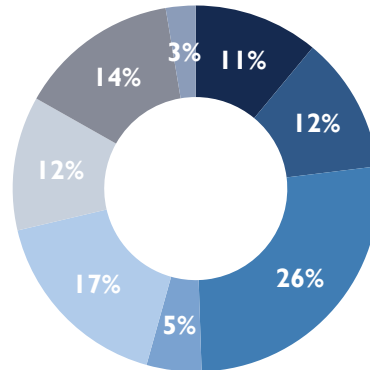
OCHA – December 2013

71,200

CAR Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries since January 2013

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – December 2013

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2013 & FY 2014



- Agriculture & Food Security (11%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (12%)
- Health (26%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (5%)
- Logistics & Relief Commodities (17%)
- Nutrition (12%)
- Protection (14%)
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (3%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Intense fighting erupted on December 5, prompting a spike in population displacement and related needs
- Volatile conditions persist, constraining humanitarian access across the country
- United States provides \$15 million in additional humanitarian aid to CAR

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO CAR IN FY 2013 AND FY 2014

USAID/OFDA	\$8,403,497
USAID/FFP ²	\$18,831,500
State/PRM ³	\$12,402,000

\$39,636,997
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO CAR

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On December 5, violence erupted in the CAR capital of Bangui and in Bossangoa town, Ouham Prefecture, between fighters formerly associated with the Séléka coalition and armed groups that oppose the ex-Séléka forces. The intense fighting reflected deterioration in CAR's already unstable and insecure environment and resulted in mass casualties, property destruction, and widespread population displacement.
- On December 12, the U.N. designated the situation in CAR a Level 3 emergency and began to scale up the overall humanitarian response. However, ongoing insecurity and logistical challenges continue to impede the efforts of both U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to assist conflict-affected populations.
- On December 19, the U.S. Government (USG) announced an additional contribution of \$15 million in humanitarian aid to CAR. The assistance—primarily for displaced and other conflict-affected households—includes an estimated \$10 million in food commodities from USAID/FFP, as well as \$5 million in State/PRM funding to support protection and the provision of multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance. In total, the USG has contributed more than \$39 million since the beginning of FY 2013 to address emergency needs in CAR.

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)

DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- On December 19, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch published separate reports detailing the scope of human rights abuses that armed groups have committed against civilians in recent months. According to Amnesty International, cyclical attacks and counterattacks between ex-Séléka fighters and anti-Balaka armed groups since December 5 have resulted in approximately 1,000 deaths countrywide.
- Persistent instability continues to cause population displacement. On December 17, OCHA reported approximately 639,000 IDPs countrywide in CAR—more than three times the estimate of 206,000 IDPs in June 2013. In Bangui alone, nearly 214,000 IDPs are sheltering in more than 50 sites or with host families. Humanitarian personnel note that additional pockets of IDPs throughout the country likely remain undiscovered, due to the inability of humanitarian staff to access insecure areas and IDPs' fear of armed elements.
- CAR refugees continue to flee into neighboring countries, including Cameroon, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and the Republic of the Congo. UNHCR estimates that more than 71,000 refugees have left CAR since January 2013, with approximately two-thirds relocating to DRC. Despite the official closure of the border between DRC and CAR, nearly 3,600 refugees had traveled from CAR into DRC between December 5 and 17.
- State/PRM is providing an additional \$5 million to UNHCR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for protection and other humanitarian activities to assist conflict-affected and displaced populations in CAR, including refugees from DRC and Sudan. This new funding brings State/PRM's total FY 2013 and FY 2014 contributions to the CAR emergency response to more than \$12 million.
- Insecurity and poor infrastructure continue to constrain humanitarian efforts in CAR. To improve humanitarian access, both USAID/OFDA and State/PRM are supporting the U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), which offers domestic flights to more than 65 NGOs operating in the country. To date, USAID/OFDA and State/PRM have provided more than \$1.5 million for this service.

PROTECTION

- U.S. Permanent Representative to the U.N. Samantha Power traveled to Bangui on December 19 to observe the humanitarian situation and advocate civilian protection and humanitarian access in CAR. Ambassador Power met with senior officials from the CAR transitional government and representatives from the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA), as well as civil society leaders, humanitarian personnel, and conflict-affected individuals.
 - Between December 17 and 21, a delegation including Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict Leila Zerrougui and U.N. Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide Adama Dieng is traveling in CAR to assess the effects of the ongoing conflict on civilians, particularly women and children. The delegation is conducting field visits and consultations with officials from CAR's transitional government, national civil society organizations, and humanitarian staff to ascertain outstanding protection needs and response capacities.
 - USAID/OFDA partner the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) and State/PRM partner UNHCR are working to address the widespread protection risks to violence-affected households. During the week of December 9, UNHCR and UNICEF began offering psychosocial and other humanitarian protection support to children, women, and other vulnerable populations residing at IDP sites in Bangui.
 - In addition, USAID/OFDA partners UNICEF and the International Medical Corps (IMC) are training 75 social workers and community volunteers in prevention of family separation, as well as on methods for identifying and serving unaccompanied children. The trainees will work through four Bangui IDP sites: the Don Bosco Center, Frères Castors Church, St. Paul/Archevêché Church, and the Boy Rabe Monastery.
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FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- New IDPs arriving at displacement sites in Bangui have reported food as one of their priority needs, according to relief agency staff working on the ground. Although markets near surveyed sites appear fully stocked with food commodities, prices nearly doubled in the days following the December 5 violence, and many IDPs lack the financial resources to purchase food.
 - With USAID/FFP support, WFP is continuing to provide emergency food assistance to conflict-affected people in CAR. While relief operations and staff movements were limited during the height of the violence between December 5 and 8, WFP has since resumed normal activities countrywide and scaled up food distributions—comprising maize meal or rice, beans, vegetable oil, and salt—at Bangui IDP sites. Since December 5, WFP has delivered 472 metric tons (MT) of food to nearly 110,000 people in Bangui.
 - In Nana Mambéré Prefecture’s Bouar town, western CAR, WFP conducted emergency school feedings throughout the week of December 9 and restarted food distributions for more than 9,000 IDPs at two Bouar displacement sites on December 16. Additionally, on December 16 and 17, WFP provided nearly 22,000 people in Bossangoa with food rations.
 - USAID/FFP is providing an additional 5,660 MT of Title II commodities—valued at approximately \$10 million—to WFP’s Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation in CAR. This contribution will support general food distributions, supplementary feeding programs, and food-for-asset activities for IDPs and other conflict-affected households.
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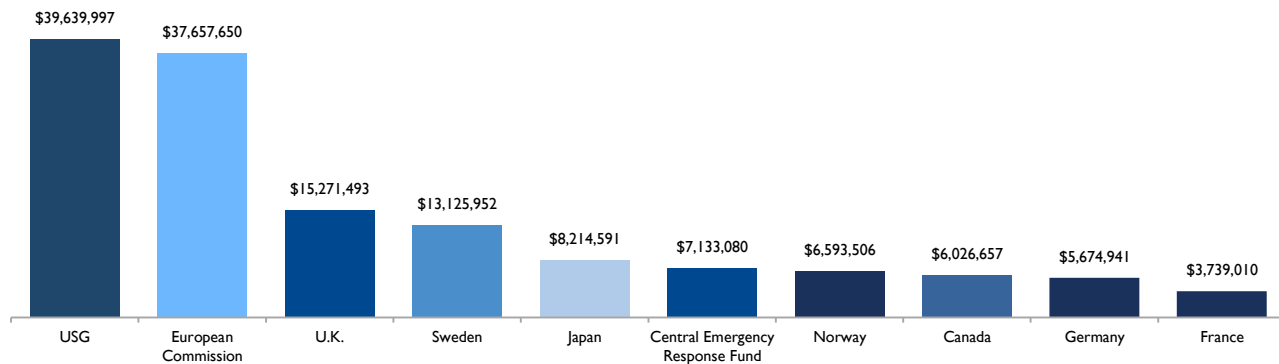
HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND WASH

- Violent conflict over the past year has exacerbated the weak health infrastructure and deteriorating health conditions, particularly among children, across CAR. Insecurity has forced the departure of qualified health staff, limiting the capacity to provide an adequate health care response. The violence in early December resulted in large-scale, trauma-related injuries, raising fear and preventing people from leaving their homes to access health care services.
 - On December 17, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reported that the state of health care in CAR is placing populations at enormous risk of disease and malnutrition. The widespread population displacement has generated numerous health needs, with increased malarial infections reported by health professionals. WHO estimates that 80 percent of vaccination centers are non-functional, while functioning clinics and pharmacies contend with a continual shortage of essential medicines, particularly for the treatment of malaria, diarrhea, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). WHO also estimates that half of CAR’s medical clinics are inoperative, largely due to looting and conflict-related damages.
 - A crisis cell established by WHO and the national Ministry of Health is working to coordinate health activities and assess the capacity of medical services in CAR. In recent days, the cell developed a map of ongoing health interventions and a list of recently stocked medicines to better analyze needs against current response capacity.
 - In FY 2013 and FY 2014 to date, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$2.2 million—approximately 26 percent of USAID/OFDA’s total contribution—to partners providing health assistance in CAR. With this support, IMC, Save the Children, and UNICEF are responding to the health needs of at least 275,000 conflict-affected civilians.
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OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- As of December 19, international donors had committed more than \$164 million to address the humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in CAR. The total represents approximately 66 percent of the \$247 million requested by the 2014 U.N. Strategic Response Plan for CAR released on December 14.

2013 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of December 19, 2013. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments from FY 2013 and FY 2014, which began on October 1, 2012, and October 1, 2013, respectively.

CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed opposition alliance—comprising the Wa Kodro Salute Patriotic Convention, the Convention of Patriots for Justice and Peace, and the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity—began to advance across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered CAR's capital city, Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence.
- Security conditions in CAR further deteriorated on December 5, 2013, when clashes erupted between militants associated with the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups, composed of armed fighters that oppose the ex-Séléka forces. While relief agencies continue efforts to assist conflict-affected populations, ongoing insecurity and logistical constraints impede humanitarian operations outside of Bangui.
- In response to the ongoing humanitarian emergency, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Linda Thomas-Greenfield reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2014 on November 12, 2013.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CAR PROVIDED IN FY 2013 AND FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, Ouham, and Vakaga Prefectures	\$750,000
IMC	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Haute-Kotto and Vakaga Prefectures	\$1,200,000
Mercy Corps	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Protection	Mbomou and Ouaka Prefectures	\$1,636,392
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$400,000
Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US)	Health, Nutrition	Haut-Mbomou and Mbomou Prefectures	\$989,160
UNICEF	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection	Countrywide	\$2,427,945
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$8,403,497

USAID/FFP ³			
WFP	10,090 MT of Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for General Food Distributions, Supplementary Feeding, and Food-for-Assets Activities	Countrywide	\$18,831,500
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$18,831,500

STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$5,200,000
IMC	Health	Ouaka Prefecture	\$377,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Countrywide	\$6,300,000
WFP	Humanitarian Air Service	Countrywide	\$525,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$12,402,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CAR IN FY 2013 AND FY 2014			\$39,636,997

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

²USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of December 19, 2013.

³Estimated value of food assistance.

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:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>