

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

JANUARY 21, 2014

## 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 Number of Food-Insecure People in CAR

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

**902,000**

Total Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR  
OCHA – January 2014

**478,383**

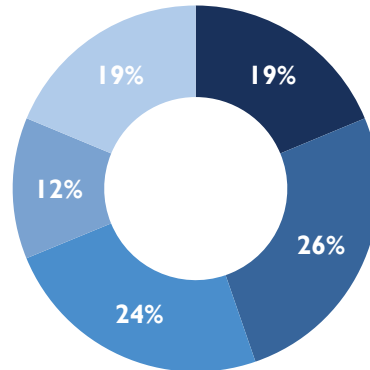
Total IDPs in Bangui  
OCHA – January 2014

**86,400**

CAR Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries since December 2012

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – January 2014

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014



- Health (19%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (26%)
- Logistics & Relief Commodities (24%)
- Protection (12%)
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (19%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Conditions in the Central African Republic (CAR) remain unstable, and insecurity continues to constrain humanitarian efforts across the country.
- The U.S. Government (USG) provides an additional \$30 million in humanitarian assistance to CAR, augmenting the \$15 million contributed in mid-December.

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO CAR IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA	\$8,008,810
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$20,000,000
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$17,000,000
<b>\$45,008,810</b>	
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO CAR	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Since early December, the situation in CAR has remained volatile, following a pattern of rapidly alternating periods of calm and spikes in violence. The fluctuations in security conditions continue to impede humanitarian access and aid deliveries throughout the country, particularly in the national capital of Bangui, as well as in northwestern CAR.
- Thousands of nationals from neighboring African countries have been departing CAR since late December, increasing the need for emergency assistance within the region as countries strive to cope with returning migrants.
- Between January 17 and 19, Assistant Administrator for USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (AA/DCHA) Nancy Lindborg visited Bangui, as well as Bossangoa town in northwestern CAR, to meet with civil society and religious leaders and representatives from local and international humanitarian partners.
- On January 20, AA/DCHA Lindborg joined senior representatives from donor countries and international humanitarian organizations in Brussels, Belgium, at a High-Level Meeting on Humanitarian Action in CAR, where she announced an additional USG contribution of \$30 million to assist conflict-affected Central Africans. In FY 2014 to date, the USG is providing more than \$45 million to the international humanitarian response in CAR.

<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 SITUATION

- While generally calm, the situation in Bangui remains unpredictable. Although reports indicate that most residents have resumed normal daily routines since the week of January 13, sporadic attacks and counter-attacks persist between ex-Séléka and anti-Balaka fighters. On January 19, inter-communal violence left at least two people dead and 25 others seriously injured, according to international media.
- OCHA reports that inter-communal tensions remain extremely high in parts of northwestern CAR, including Boali, Bokaranga, Bossangoa, Bouar, Bozoum, and Sibut towns. Throughout the northwest, acts of intimidation and fear of violence have prompted at least 5,000 people to flee homes and seek shelter at public buildings, such as churches and mosques, since January 17, according to OCHA.
- On January 20, CAR's National Transitional Council (CNT) elected Catherine Samba-Panza, mayor of Bangui, as interim president to succeed former interim President Michel Djotodia, who, along with Prime Minister Nicolas Tiangaye, resigned on January 10 during a summit of the Economic Community of Central African States convened in the Chadian capital of N'Djamena to discuss the crisis in CAR. The interim president will serve until the country can organize general elections to elect a new president.
- Also on January 20, the CAR Humanitarian Country Team—a strategic decision-making forum comprising the representatives of humanitarian cluster lead agencies and other operational partners in the country—released a revised 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for CAR, modifying the funding request from \$247 million to \$551 million, an increase of \$304 million or approximately 123 percent. In line with the findings of a multi-sector initial rapid assessment (MIRA) of conflict-affected areas in CAR conducted in late December, the altered SRP focuses on scaling up health, humanitarian protection, food security, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities. At the High-Level Meeting on Humanitarian Action in CAR in Brussels, international donors pledged nearly \$500 million for immediate humanitarian assistance, as well as stabilization and recovery interventions, to aid conflict-affected populations in CAR.

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## DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- As of January 19, approximately 900,000 individuals remained displaced within CAR, according to OCHA. The new figure represents a three-percent decrease from the estimate of 935,000 IDPs reported on January 3. More than half of all IDPs in CAR—nearly 480,000 people—are residing at displacement sites or with host families in Bangui. The fluid security situation and constrained humanitarian access remain significant challenges to verifying displacement figures, and estimates are likely to vary as the situation evolves.
- On January 21, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) released the results of a returns intention survey of IDPs in the capital. Nearly all individuals interviewed cited insecurity as the underlying cause of their displacement, and 85 percent reported that their return depends upon the presence of security forces in their neighborhoods of origin.
- USAID/OFDA is providing \$1 million to support the efforts of IOM to assist IDPs in CAR. With USAID/OFDA funding, IOM is establishing a tracking and monitoring mechanism for IDPs throughout CAR, including those in difficult-to-access areas, and procuring and distributing emergency relief commodities, such as shelter materials and cooking kits, to IDPs.
- Since the upsurge in violence in late December, many African countries have accelerated evacuation of their citizens from CAR. As of January 19, more than 24,000 Chadians had departed CAR on flights or land convoys, according to IOM. In early January, the Government of Nigeria repatriated more than 1,600 citizens who sought refuge at its embassy in Bangui, and the Government of Mali chartered two flights to evacuate approximately 500 citizens.
- As of January 3, IOM had received requests from the governments of Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Sudan to help evacuate a total of more than 50,000 foreign nationals. To address this need, State/PRM is providing \$1.5 million to IOM to evacuate stranded nationals from CAR and to provide basic assistance for these individuals upon their arrival in countries of origin.
- Between December 2013 and January 2014, UNHCR registered an additional 12,700 CAR refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while the number of CAR refugees rose by 2,400 people in Chad. More than 86,000 refugees

have fled the conflict in CAR since December 2012, when the Séléka coalition commenced attacks in the country, according to UNHCR.

- State/PRM is contributing an additional \$10 million to UNHCR for its multi-sectoral assistance and protection activities for CAR refugees in neighboring countries, as well as for its emergency response activities in CAR. In FY 2014 to date, State/PRM has provided \$12.6 million to UNHCR and \$2.4 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for multi-sectoral interventions to assist CAR refugees and other individuals affected by the conflict.
- To improve humanitarian access to remote, insecure areas, USAID/OFDA and State/PRM recently provided a combined \$1.5 million for the U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) in CAR. Since December, UNHAS has been providing domestic air transportation of humanitarian personnel and cargo to more than 65 relief organizations working in the country. UNHAS has also established international routes to and from CAR during the suspension of commercial flights to support continued humanitarian efforts.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- According to the results of the late-December MIRA, most Central African households have depleted food reserves, and more than 90 percent of respondents reported shortages of seeds for planting during the next agricultural season. In response, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) plans to scale up activities to assist an anticipated 150,000 vulnerable households, many of whom depend on small-scale agricultural activities for food and income. The Food Security Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian food security activities, comprising U.N. agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders—has noted the urgent need for seed distributions prior to the maize-planting season, which commences in early March in central and southern regions of CAR, and the sorghum- and millet-planting seasons, which begin in May in northern areas.
- USAID/OFDA is contributing nearly \$300,000 to FAO, a lead for the Food Security Cluster, to enhance the cluster’s capacity to coordinate emergency food security programming and to strengthen evidence-based food security assessment and response in CAR.
- Insecurity has delayed the movement of trucks transporting WFP food commodities for distribution from the Cameroon–CAR border, as well as inhibited the replenishment of food items in local markets, according to Food Security Cluster reports. The restrictions could result in significant food shortages in Bangui and other areas of CAR in the coming weeks, and WFP plans to reduce rations or suspend food distributions if the problem persists.
- With USAID/FFP support, WFP provided nearly 560 metric tons (MT) of food rations to more than 75,000 IDPs and other vulnerable individuals in Bangui, as well as in Bouar town in northwestern CAR’s Nana-Mambéré Prefecture, between January 1 and 20. The assistance included rations of cereals, pulses, and cooking oil for nearly 38,000 IDPs residing at the M’Poko International Airport. In total, WFP has distributed approximately 2,280 MT of food commodities to more than 200,000 conflict-affected people since early December.
- USAID/FFP recently committed \$10 million to WFP for the local and regional procurement of approximately 5,500 MT of food commodities to address emergency food needs in CAR. The items will include rice, pulses, and nutritional supplements to help feed 1.25 million food-insecure people through August 2014. In FY 2014 to date, USAID/FFP has also contributed more than 5,600 MT of Title II food commodities—valued at approximately \$10 million—to WFP for general food distributions, supplementary feeding programs, and other activities benefiting IDPs and other conflict-affected Central Africans.

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## HEALTH AND WASH

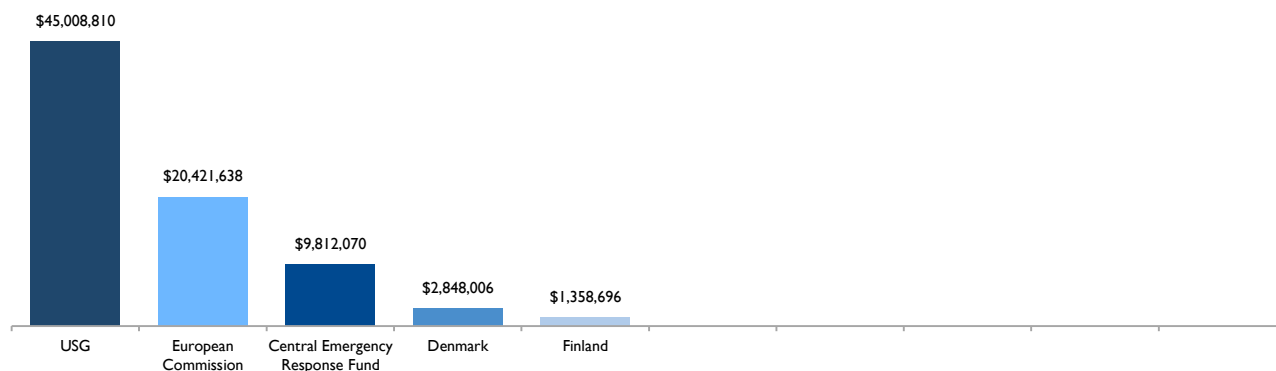
- In coordination with CAR’s Ministry of Health, humanitarian health actors, including ICRC, Médecins Sans Frontières, the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), had vaccinated more than 72,000 children at 17 IDP sites throughout Bangui as of January 15. The campaign—which commenced on January 3 after health authorities confirmed at least eight measles cases in three IDP camps—is targeting more than 114,000 children at 70 sites.

- According to MIRA results, health and WASH interventions are priority needs throughout conflict-affected areas of CAR. Communities in an estimated two-thirds of Bangui and two-thirds of rural areas in the northwest report no access to basic health care, with the lack of medical supplies cited as a critical issue. Inadequate WASH infrastructure in most areas, particularly at IDP sites, could also contribute to an increased incidence of waterborne disease. In addition, nearly 70 percent of interviewed communities noted facing a significant reduction in water consumption since the onset of the crisis in December.
  - Through more than \$1.5 million in funding to partner Mentor, USAID/OFDA is supporting a project to improve access to essential health care and reduce malaria prevalence in conflict-affected Ouham and Ouham-Pendé prefectures in northwestern CAR for more than 230,000 Central Africans. Mentor plans to recruit and train community health workers (CHWs) in the identification and treatment of common diseases and health issues and in the promotion of positive health and hygiene behaviors. The CHWs will also provide trainings to local medical personnel to improve the quality of health care.
  - In addition, USAID/OFDA is contributing \$2.5 million to UNICEF to strengthen rapid response mechanisms and to support humanitarian protection activities. The rapid response mechanisms aim to improve emergency response activities by identifying priority response areas where WASH activities and emergency relief items would benefit IDPs. Supported humanitarian protection programs will include child protection activities; medical care and psychological support for survivors of gender-based violence; and monitoring and reporting of grave protection violations.
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## **OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

- USAID/OFDA is providing \$1 million to OCHA and \$500,000 to the U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) to support U.N. humanitarian coordination and security operations that facilitate the work of the international humanitarian community in CAR, thereby contributing to the broader relief effort.

## 2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of January 21, 2014. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2014 calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments from FY 2014, which began on October 1, 2013.

### CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed opposition alliance 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. Ongoing attacks and counterattacks between armed groups continue to destabilize many areas, particularly predominantly Muslim-populated areas of Bangui. While relief agencies are working to assist conflict-affected populations, ongoing insecurity and logistical constraints impede humanitarian operations in Bangui, as well as in more remote areas of CAR.
- 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 2014<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$280,623
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Mentor	Health	Ouham and Ouham-Pendé Prefectures	\$1,500,242
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNDSS	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$2,727,945
WFP	Humanitarian Air Service	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$8,008,810</b>

USAID/FFP <sup>3</sup>			
WFP	5,660 MT of Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for General Food Distributions, Supplementary Feeding, and Food-for-Assets Activities	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WFP	Local and Regional Procurement of 5,485 MT of Food Commodities for General Food Distributions and Supplementary Feeding Programs	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$20,000,000</b>

STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$2,400,000
IOM	Assistance for Individuals Stranded in CAR	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$1,500,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$12,600,000
WFP	Humanitarian Air Service	Countrywide	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$17,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CAR IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$45,008,810</b>

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

<sup>2</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of January 21, 2014.

<sup>3</sup>Estimated 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](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:
  - The 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>