

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

FEBRUARY 7, 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

838,000

Total Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR

OCHA – February 2014

413,094

Total IDPs in Bangui

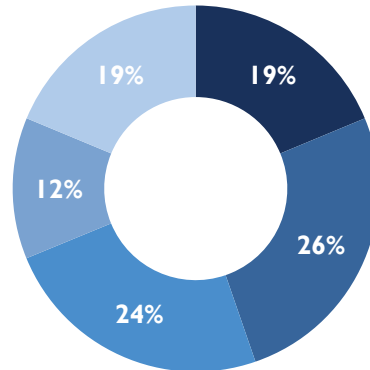
OCHA – February 2014

88,300

CAR Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries since December 2012

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

USAID/OFDA¹ 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

- The situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) remains volatile, and attacks against civilians have escalated.
- Insecurity continues to hinder humanitarian efforts across the country.
- The U.S. Government (USG) is providing \$45 million in humanitarian assistance to CAR in FY 2014 to date.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO CAR IN FY 2014

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

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Despite the establishment of a new interim government and the continued presence of international troops, the situation across CAR remains tense and volatile, with violence escalating since late January. As ex-Séléka forces withdraw from the capital and western CAR and relocate to other parts of the country, clashes have erupted in various areas. Furthermore, increasing retaliatory violence against Muslims by anti-Balaka elements and others has prompted many Muslim civilians to leave homes in search of safer locations.
- Humanitarian access and aid deliveries in Bangui and other areas of CAR remain subject to fluctuations in security conditions. The international community has called for an increased presence of security forces, including police officers and gendarmes, throughout CAR to prevent escalating attacks against civilians and to improve humanitarian access.
- In FY 2014 to date, the USG is providing more than \$45 million to the international humanitarian response in CAR. USG assistance includes emergency food aid, essential health care, relief supply distribution, humanitarian protection activities, and support for humanitarian logistical and coordination services within the country, as well as multi-sectoral interventions for CAR refugees and other individuals in the region affected by the ongoing crisis.

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 SITUATION

- The situation throughout CAR remains extremely volatile. In Bangui, attacks and criminal acts against civilians have persisted since late January, and sporadic gunfire continues on a daily basis in the city as of early February, according to the U.N. On February 5, international media reported that uniformed Central African soldiers attacked and killed an individual suspected of affiliation with ex-Séléka forces immediately following a military ceremony in the capital. Members of the international community, including Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary General to CAR Babacar Gaye, have denounced the violence and have called on CAR's government to bring the perpetrators to justice.
- Outside of Bangui, clashes continue throughout western CAR. Fighting occurred in the towns of Bossangoa, Bossembélé, Bozoum, Mbaiki, Nana-Bakassa, Sibut, and Yaloke between January 30 and February 5, according to OCHA. The U.N. reports that the insecurity is limiting movements for civilians in various communities, confining some to homes or displacement sites. However, at the same time, many are fleeing homes to avoid nearby active fighting or in fear of advancing attacks.
- On January 28, CAR's interim President Catherine Samba-Panza and her appointed prime minister, Andre Nzapayeke, formerly an official from the Development Bank of Central African States (BDEAC), announced the names of the ministers selected for CAR's new interim government. Of the 20 ministers, seven are women, and six had served in previous governments.
- On February 1, during its annual summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the African Union hosted a donors' conference to mobilize resources for the African-led International Support Mission to CAR (MISCA). In response, international donors pledged \$314 million in additional support, including \$100 million from the Economic Community of Central African States and \$34 million from the E.U. With up to \$101 million in ongoing funding, the USG has conducted airlifts of MISCA soldiers to CAR from African troop-contributing countries and is providing equipment and technical assistance to support MISCA efforts to restore security in CAR.

DISPLACEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- As of February 4, approximately 838,000 individuals remained displaced within CAR, according to OCHA. The new figure represents a 7-percent decrease from the estimate of 902,000 IDPs reported on January 21. Approximately half of all IDPs in CAR—more than 413,000 people—are residing at displacement sites or with host families in Bangui. The fluid security situation and constrained humanitarian access in CAR remain significant challenges to verifying displacement figures, and estimates are likely to vary as the situation evolves.
- With the recent upsurge in violence, increasing numbers of civilians are fleeing from CAR into neighboring countries, primarily Cameroon, Chad, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). UNHCR reports that nearly 9,000 people have crossed from CAR into eastern Cameroon since January 28 and that more than 1,500 individuals have arrived in DRC from CAR since February 1.
- Between late December and early February, an estimated 45,000 people—comprising Chadians, CAR refugees, and third-country nationals (TCNs)—fled from CAR to Chad, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The Government of Chad (GoC) and humanitarian partners are providing basic assistance and onward transportation to Chadian returnees while referring CAR refugees and TCNs to UNHCR and other entities for help. In late January, the State/PRM Regional Refugee Coordinator and a Washington, D.C.-based State/PRM Program Officer visited Sarh city and Sido town in southeastern Chad to assess the situation and ongoing humanitarian response for individuals arriving from CAR.
- According to UNHCR, more than 88,000 Central Africans have become refugees within the region since December 2012, when the Séléka coalition commenced attacks in CAR. As countries strive to cope with new arrivals, the need for additional emergency assistance within the region will likely rise.
- In response to recent emergency appeals from IOM and UNHCR, State/PRM announced \$11.5 million in additional funding in January. The new contributions include \$1.5 million to IOM for transportation and other assistance to individuals departing CAR for countries of origin and \$10 million to UNHCR for multi-sectoral assistance to CAR refugees and other individuals in the region affected by the CAR crisis.

- The insecure operating environment in CAR continues to hamper humanitarian efforts throughout the country. Between January 28 and February 5, humanitarian personnel in CAR experienced at least four incidents of violence, including carjacking, looting, and other attacks, according to the U.N.
- Growing numbers of humanitarian organizations, as well as U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay and Senior Humanitarian Coordinator in CAR Abdou Dieng, are calling for an increased presence of security forces, including police and gendarmes, throughout CAR to prevent escalating attacks against civilians and to improve humanitarian access.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- According to a February 2014 report from WFP and partners, the ongoing crisis has disrupted transportation and markets in CAR, leading to substantial food price increases across the country. In December, prices for oil, sugar, and milk rose by approximately 35 to 40 percent while prices for cassava and maize increased by an estimated 15 to 25 percent. In addition, prospects for the 2014 planting season—due to begin in March—remain uncertain, as nearly all communities report having insufficient quantities of seeds for planting. At present, approximately 1.3 million Central Africans are facing acute levels of food insecurity. WFP and partners anticipate that CAR’s food-insecure population may increase in the coming months, with most expected to rely on humanitarian assistance or market purchases until at least the harvest in mid-2014.
- In early January, truck drivers began refusing to travel on the main overland route between the Cameroon–CAR border and Bangui due to concerns of insecurity, causing a bottleneck of hundreds of trucks at the border and disrupting both humanitarian and commercial activities in CAR. On January 27, after a weeks-long delay, a convoy including 10 trucks carrying WFP food commodities arrived in the capital with an escort of WFP security officers and MISCA troops. On February 4, WFP reported that a second escort was accompanying another 43 WFP trucks from the Cameroon–CAR border to Bangui. Nonetheless, this logistical obstacle has significantly affected WFP operations in CAR. As of January 30, WFP had depleted all but 120 metric tons (MT) of its cereal stocks in Bangui.
- As the border blockage continues, WFP plans to commence transport of food commodities by air from Douala city in western Cameroon to Bangui in the coming days to ensure continued food distribution to conflict-affected populations. During February, WFP anticipates conveying approximately 2,000 MT of food items from Cameroon to CAR for onward distribution to beneficiaries.
- With USAID/FFP support, WFP reached more than 280,000 Central Africans with approximately 1,750 MT of emergency food rations in January. The assistance included some 1,360 MT of food commodities distributed to nearly 229,000 people in Bangui, as well as approximately 320 MT of food rations for 44,000 people in Bouar town in Nana-Mambéré Prefecture and 70 MT of food items for nearly 7,800 people in Bossangoa town in Ouham Prefecture.
- In FY 2014 to date, USAID/FFP is providing \$20 million to WFP to support general food distributions, supplementary feeding programs, and other activities benefiting IDPs and other conflict-affected Central Africans.

HEALTH AND WASH

- As of February 5, health actors, including Médecins Sans Frontières, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), had vaccinated approximately 140,000 children—out of some 150,400 children targeted—at 70 IDP sites throughout Bangui. The immunization campaign, which began on January 3 after health authorities confirmed at least eight measles cases in three IDP camps, had also provided oral polio vaccines to nearly 31,000 out of approximately 67,000 children targeted.
- On January 23, the U.N. reported that the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian WASH activities, comprising U.N. agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders—had assigned a WASH Coordinator to M’Poko International Airport IDP site to ensure the efficient use of available resources and prevent duplication in activities among eight partners working at the location. The site hosts

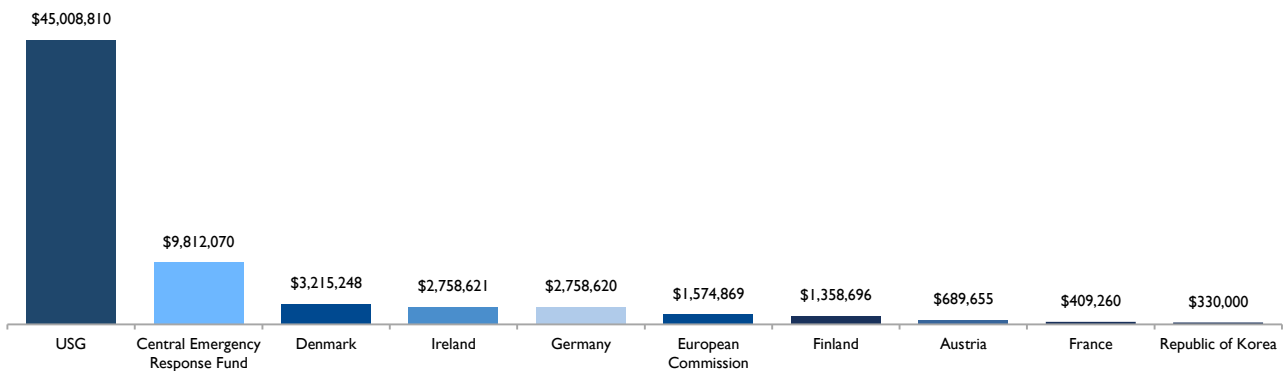
approximately 100,000 IDPs, and the camp’s shortage of WASH infrastructure has been a major concern among the humanitarian community.

- In FY 2014 to date, USAID/OFDA is providing more than \$4 million to partners to improve access to primary health care and to reduce malaria prevalence among conflict-affected populations in northwestern CAR, as well as to strengthen rapid response mechanisms and support humanitarian protection activities countrywide.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On January 23, the World Bank announced plans to contribute \$100 million during 2014 to help re-establish key government services in CAR, as well as to provide food, health care, and crucial relief supplies to conflict-affected Central Africans.

2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of February 7, 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 primarily Muslim 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 primarily Christian armed fighters that oppose the ex-Séléka forces. As of late January, the situation throughout CAR remained volatile, with attacks against civilian populations escalating. While relief agencies are working to assist conflict-affected populations, ongoing insecurity and logistical constraints impede humanitarian operations in Bangui and 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 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (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
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (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
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$8,008,810
USAID/FFP³			
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
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$20,000,000
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$2,400,000
IOM	Assistance for Individuals Being Evacuated from CAR	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$1,500,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Refugees and IDPs	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$12,600,000
WFP	Humanitarian Air Service	Countrywide	\$500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$17,000,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CAR IN FY 2014			\$45,008,810

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

²USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of February 7, 2014.

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>