

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #14, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

APRIL 27, 2015

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**2.7 million**

Estimated Number of People in the Central African Republic (CAR) Requiring Humanitarian Assistance  
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – April 2015

**1.5 million**

Estimated Number of People in CAR Requiring Emergency Food Assistance  
UN World Food Program (WFP) – January 2015

**436,119**

Approximate Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR  
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – April 2015

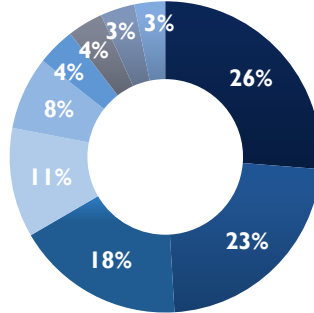
**43,500**

Approximate Number of IDPs in CAR's Capital City of Bangui  
OCHA – April 2015

**461,410**

Approximate Number of Central African Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries  
UNHCR – April 2015

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2015



- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (26%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (23%)
- Health (18%)
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (11%)
- Shelter & Settlements (8%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (4%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (4%)
- Protection (3%)
- Nutrition (3%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2015



- Local and Regional Procurement
- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid
- Food Vouchers

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of attacks limiting humanitarian access increases from 76 to 112 between February and March in CAR
- The UN recently secures the release of more than 20 people held by an armed group in western CAR
- USAID/OFDA partner the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) reaches 42,000 people with emergency relief commodities between January and mid-April

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO THE CRISIS IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA	\$14,582,259
USAID/FFP	\$32,554,287
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$5,750,000
<b>\$52,886,546</b>	
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The UN reported 112 security incidents that restricted humanitarian access across CAR during March—an increase from the 76 incidents reported during February. The most prevalent types of incidents involved thefts of humanitarian assets and facilities; however, some recent attacks included assaults and threats to humanitarian staff. The highest geographic concentration of violent incidents—nearly 40—occurred in the capital city of Bangui and surrounding areas. With 20 reported events, areas of northern Ouham Prefecture had the second-highest proportion of access-restricting incidents.
- On April 14, UN Special Representative of the Secretary General and Head of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) Babacar Gaye appealed to members of the UN Security Council to increase support for humanitarian and reconstruction efforts in CAR. As of April 23, donors had contributed \$85.4 million—14 percent—toward the \$613 million requested in the 2015 CAR Strategic Response Plan.

<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 Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

## **INSECURITY AND DISPLACEMENT**

- Armed demonstrators clashed twice with MINUSCA forces at a UN base in Nana-Grébizi Prefecture's Kaga-Bandoro town during the week of April 6, according to the UN. While unconfirmed, international media reported that demonstrators were expressing anger at MINUSCA for not intervening to prevent inter-communal violence in the area. On April 10, approximately 300 to 400 demonstrators attempted to set fire to the UN camp. Armed individuals threw objects at MINUSCA forces and injured several UN staff. UN troops responded with warning shots, and the ensuing clashes resulted in one death and at least 12 injuries among the armed demonstrators. MINUSCA released a public statement on April 10 expressing condolence to the family of the individual who died and reported that the UN is investigating the event.
  - Humanitarian actors continue to develop strategies ahead of the proposed May closure of the IDP site at M'Poko International Airport. Approximately 18,300 IDPs remain at the airport, with more than 75 percent of those displaced persons originating from Bangui's third district, according to the UN. At least 42 percent of IDPs surveyed by the Danish Refugee Committee earlier in 2015 expressed a desire to return to Bangui's third district; however, security within the neighborhood remains tenuous. The Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)/Shelter/Non-Food Items Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian shelter, camp management, and relief commodity activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—is working with the IDPs to facilitate returns and relocations. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) plans to oversee the IDP return process.
  - Recent clashes near Nana-Grébizi's Mbres town between ex-Séléka and anti-Balaka elements have prompted MINUSCA to establish a temporary base in Mbres, according to the UN. MINUSCA's increased presence comes in response to calls from protection actors to mitigate security threats and prevent additional displacement. The security situation in Mbres deteriorated in December when armed groups killed 28 people, injured dozens more, burned houses, and forced many residents to flee toward nearby Kaga-Bandoro.
  - OCHA staff conducted an assessment of the humanitarian situation among returnees in Ouham's Markounda town between April 9 and 11, finding that more than 3,300 returnees lacked access to health care services and safe drinking water. Additionally, armed actors continue to operate in the area, resulting in a tenuous security situation. Despite the insecurity, the UNICEF has provided assistance to rehabilitate damaged water infrastructure, and humanitarian actors are preparing a response plan to address other needs in the area.
  - IDPs sheltering in Ombella-M'poko Prefecture's Yaloke town recently began voluntarily departing from the area, with assistance from UNHCR and MINUSCA, the UN reports. A UN compound in Yaloke had sheltered hundreds of Muslim IDPs for more than a year due to threats from armed groups. At least 130 of the IDPs had departed for Cameroon between March 21 and April 4. Staff from UNHCR and MINUSCA are helping reunite the departing IDPs with family members in Cameroon. As of April 17, at least 330 IDPs remained in Yaloke.
- 
- 

## **FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION**

- Between April 1 and 12, USAID/FFP partner WFP distributed nearly 340 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance to more than 62,000 conflict-affected people in CAR.
- Crop sowing began during March in southern parts of CAR, and farmers will continue to sow cereal seeds until June in other areas of the country. Despite favorable weather conditions, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) anticipates that the size of planted areas in CAR will further diminish as a result of the continuing insecurity. Overall crop production in 2013 and 2014 was significantly below the pre-crisis average.
- The Government of CAR, FAO, WFP, and NGO partners are providing agricultural assistance to vulnerable households across the country. FAO is aiming to assist 150,000 households by distributing seeds and farm equipment for this planting season. As of early April, FAO had received funding for 86,400 households of the approximately 151,000 targeted for assistance.

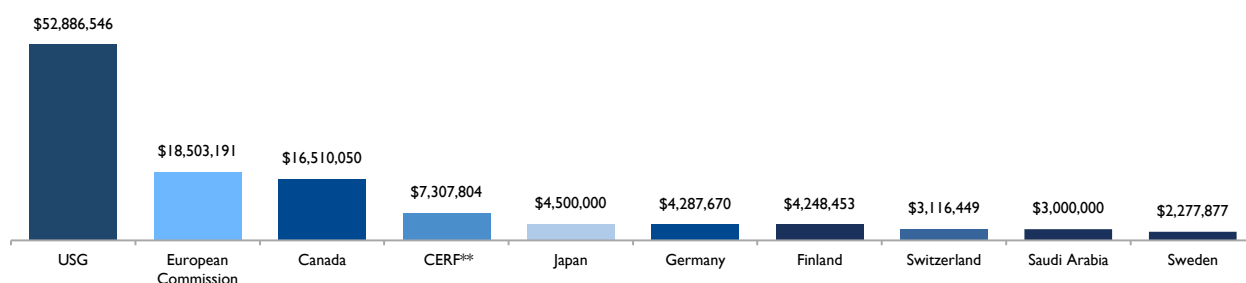
## PROTECTION

- In mid-April, MINUSCA forces secured the release of nearly 20 Muslims held captive by an armed group in the west of CAR, according to international media. The liberated group included 13 children and six women; the armed actors who released the 20 Muslims reportedly continues to hold at least 100 people. The local armed group originally abducted the group from Yaloke in early 2014. According to the UN, three of the women reported that their captives raped them and also recounted acts of torture and forced labor. The liberated group has since relocated to Yaloke, where the UN has a protection force, and has received medical treatment and psychosocial support.
  - In coordination with national Red Cross Societies in CAR and neighboring countries, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has registered more than 500 unaccompanied children among Central African refugees and supported family reunification for more than 50 children. On April 10 and 11, ICRC supported the reunification of approximately 10 children, who had been sheltering in Chad for more than one year, with their families in CAR.
- 
- 

## HEALTH AND WASH

- In recent weeks, armed assailants have attacked Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) vehicles en route to health facilities near Ouham's Kabo town and looted the MSF office in the town. On April 1, armed individuals entered the MSF compound and stole equipment and personal effects from MSF staff. The armed actors allegedly threatened staff members but did not cause physical harm. In response to the attacks on vehicles and the break in, MSF announced the partial suspension of medical services at the organization's hospital in Kabo on April 9. MSF relocated international staff to Bangui and reduced medical services at the Kabo hospital. The hospital is currently offering only pediatric and emergency care services. Approximately 50,000 people reside near Kabo and lack access to another health care service provider, according to MSF.
- Less than half of children in CAR have received basic immunizations against infectious diseases, with as few as 30 percent inoculated against measles due to the negative impact of the crisis on the health care system, according to MSF. Health authorities had issued an epidemiological alert in Mbomou Prefecture's Nzako town during February—MSF reported more than 680 cases in Nzako since mid-February, including six resultant deaths. In response, MSF launched a mass measles campaign in Nzako during early April. MSF is aiming to vaccinate 7,000 children between six months and 15 years of age in Nzako and an additional 5,000 children in nearby Bakouma town to combat the spread of measles.
- Several thousand IDPs continue to shelter in Ouaka Prefecture's Koungano town due to continuing insecurity and criminality in central areas of CAR. Several humanitarian actors, including the UN World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, are offering health care services for the IDPs and supporting water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities. Additionally, MSF has deployed staff to Kouango to support mobile health clinics and the Kouango health center. Humanitarian organizations are prioritizing primary health care services, screening for cases of malnutrition, and providing medical emergency support.
- UNICEF provided more than 8,500 households—nearly 42,000 people—in CAR with emergency response commodities between January and mid-April through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). The commodity kits include essential household items for conflict-affected households. Through the RRM, UNICEF also reached more than 8,000 people during the same period with WASH assistance including hygiene promotion sessions, latrine construction, and water point rehabilitation. In addition to providing needed household commodities and WASH interventions, the RRM also carries out humanitarian assessments and evaluations. To date in 2015, the RRM has conducted 55 assessment missions and evaluations across CAR, including nine during the first two weeks of April. USAID/OFDA is providing \$2 million in FY 2015 to support UNICEF's RRM in CAR.

## 2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of April 27, 2015. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2015 calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments in FY 2015, which began on October 1, 2014. USG funding addresses needs both within CAR and among CAR refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

\*\* Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support underfunded emergencies.

### CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance began to advance 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 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 ex-Séléka forces. As of March 2015, the security situation throughout CAR remained volatile, with continuing attacks against civilians. While relief agencies are working to assist conflict-affected populations, ongoing insecurity and logistics constraints impede humanitarian operations in Bangui and in more remote areas of CAR.
- In response to the ongoing humanitarian emergency, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires David E. Brown reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2015 on October 1, 2014.

### USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CAR CRISIS PROVIDED IN FY 2015<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Lobaye and Ombella-M'Poko Prefectures	\$1,504,768
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Ouham	\$1,700,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,453,786
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection	Ouham-Pendé	\$1,500,000
Mentor Initiative	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,400,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
	Program Support		\$23,705
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$14,582,259</b>

USAID/FFP <sup>3</sup>			
WFP	Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for General Food Distributions, Supplementary Feeding Programs, Food for Assets, and Emergency School Feeding using 5,150 MT of U.S. and 2,958 MT of locally and regionally procured commodities	Countrywide	\$15,000,000
	7,430 MT of Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for distribution to CAR refugees	Cameroon	\$12,000,000
	International Disaster Assistance-funded Cash Transfers for CAR refugees	DRC	\$5,554,287
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$32,554,287</b>
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>			
ICRC	Protection and Assistance for Refugees and Other Vulnerable Populations	Countrywide	\$5,750,000
<b>TOTAL State/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$5,750,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CAR CRISIS IN FY 2015</b>			<b>\$52,886,546</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. USG humanitarian funding responds to urgent needs among populations inside CAR and refugees and returnees who fled violence in CAR for neighboring countries.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of April 27, 2015.

<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>