

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #16, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

JUNE 12, 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) – May 2015

1.5 million

Estimated Number of People in CAR Requiring Emergency Food Assistance
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) – May 2015

426,240

Approximate Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR
OCHA – May 2015

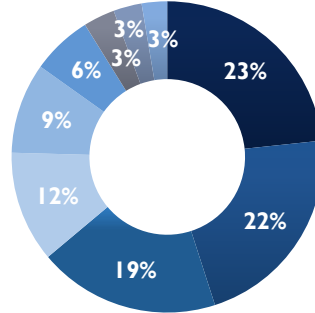
43,600

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

467,100

Approximate Number of Central African Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – June 2015

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2015



- Health (23%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (22%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (19%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (12%)
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (9%)
- Shelter and Settlements (6%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (3%)
- Protection (3%)
- Nutrition (3%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2015



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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Despite a peace accord between armed groups and the Government of CAR (CARG), violence in May displaced an estimated 5,400 people in Nana-Grébizi and Ouham prefectures.
- The anti-Balaka and ex-Séléka armed groups released nearly 360 children in May.
- Insecurity has forced humanitarian organizations to suspend operations in parts of Nana-Mambéré Prefecture.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO THE CRISIS IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA	\$15,932,259
USAID/FFP	\$47,316,187
State/PRM ³	\$29,250,000
\$92,498,446	
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On May 10, representatives from 10 armed groups in the Central African Republic (CAR) and the CARG agreed to a peace accord, international media report. The accord requires armed groups to renounce political violence and begin a process of disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, and repatriation (DDRR). Despite the accord, violent clashes continued during May and early June.
- On May 13, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)—the primary mechanism for the interagency coordination of humanitarian assistance—deactivated the Level 3 (L3) response in CAR, initially declared in December 2013 for a three-month period and subsequently extended three times. The UN notes that while the L3 designation allowed a response surge, it is not intended to address the underlying causes of CAR's complex emergency; the L3's deactivation does not connote a decrease in humanitarian needs in the country.

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 Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

INSECURITY

- At a national reconciliation forum in CAR's capital city of Bangui from May 4–11, representatives from 10 armed groups—including anti-Balaka and ex-Séléka elements—and the CARG agreed to a peace accord; UN negotiators facilitated the process, according to international media. The agreement requires armed groups to formally disarm, renounce political violence, and begin a DDRR process. On May 11, UN Secretary-General (SYG) Ban Ki-moon expressed support for the peace accord, commending the signatories and encouraging them to implement the agreement without delay.
 - The process envisions the CAR army absorbing some members of the armed groups, supported by the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA). Participants at the forum, including international stakeholders and religious and civil society leaders, also urged the creation of a special criminal court to address crimes committed during the conflict.
 - Continued insecurity and armed attacks along two of Nana-Mambéré's key routes had resulted in several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) temporarily suspending operations in the area as of June 8, according to the UN. Much of the prefecture risks becoming inaccessible to humanitarian assistance, the UN reports, with a polio vaccination targeting more than 16,000 children in two sub-prefectures currently stalled due to insecurity.
 - With nearly \$1.5 million in FY 2015 assistance, USAID/OFDA is supporting the International NGO Safety Organization (INSO) to provide essential security coordination and information services, helping humanitarian organizations in CAR to operate safely.
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DISPLACEMENT

- Despite the peace accord, clashes continue. Approximately 4,400 people fled from Nana-Grébizi's villages of Bissingalé, Ndémayo, and Site-Nana following armed attacks by unknown gunmen on May 15, according to the UN. The displaced population—including an estimated 2,500 residents of the three villages and 1,900 IDPs residing in the area—reportedly fled to Nana-Grébizi's nearby Kaga-Bandoro town. The UN also reports that the attacks resulted in ten deaths.
 - Attacks by armed members of the Fulani ethnic group on May 30 displaced approximately 1,000 people—or 200 households—in Ouham Prefecture's Manda village, near Markounda town, according to the UN. The Fulani reportedly arrived in Manda from neighboring Chad and attacked the village in retaliation for the killing of several heads of cattle in the area in recent weeks. The UN has reported attacks by suspected Chadian assailants in the area of Markounda since at least March.
 - In late April, heavy rainfall caused flooding in Mambéré-Kadéï Prefecture's Berbérati town. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) conducted a rapid assessment and reported that floods had resulted in at least one death, injured seven individuals, and displaced more than 200 households, or approximately 1,100 people. The IFRC assessment also found that floods had destroyed nearly 200 houses in the town. In response, IFRC provided relief commodities, including shelter material, buckets, and hygiene kits, to flood-affected populations.
 - Humanitarian actors continue to support the return and reintegration of IDPs residing at the IDP site near Bangui's M'Poko International Airport. As of May 29, aid organizations had registered nearly 1,600 IDP households—approximately 37 percent of the 4,300 households residing at the site, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Each household receives assistance, including cash, mosquito nets, plastic sheeting, and food items, to support their return; more than 500 households had received the complete return package as of May 29.
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FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- The Food Security and Nutrition Working Group reported below-average rainfall in most areas of CAR between early March and May, which may result in decreased agricultural production. The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning

Systems Network (FEWS NET) estimated that nearly 1.3 million people remained at Crisis or Emergency—IPC 3 and IPC 4—levels of food insecurity as of May 30.⁴

- Insecurity along key roads and at food distribution sites continues to impede food assistance, according to the UN. Despite this, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) distributed more than 2,600 metric tons (MT) of food assistance—reaching nearly 402,000 people—between May 1 and 24.
- The UN estimates that approximately 32,000 Central African children will suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2015. Relief actors are targeting 22,700 children for treatment. As of May 27, more than 7,000 children—31 percent of the target population—had received treatment for SAM, according to the UN.

PROTECTION

- During the early May reconciliation forum, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) facilitated an agreement among armed groups to release all children associated with their groups and halt child recruitment. On May 15, the anti-Balaka and ex-Séléka groups released nearly 360 children, many younger than 12 years of age—the highest number of children released by armed groups at one time since violence in CAR began in 2012, according to the UN. UNICEF and other humanitarian organizations are providing psychosocial support and family tracing and reunification efforts to the recently released children. During the current crisis in CAR, armed actors have recruited between 6,000 and 10,000 children, according to UNICEF estimates.
- The UN reported that more than 36,000 people remained trapped in seven enclaves throughout CAR, including approximately 24,000 people in the *Pointe Kilométrique 5* neighborhood of Bangui, as of May 15. Most of the individuals in the enclaves—which have limited access to basic services—belong to religious and ethnic minorities, according to the UN.
- SYG Ban announced on June 3 that he would establish an external independent review to examine the UN’s response to allegations of sexual abuse by foreign peacekeepers in CAR. International media reported the allegations—which state that peacekeepers not under UN authority may have sexually abused children at the M’Poko IDP site between December 2013 and June 2014—in late April.
- On June 4, MINUSCA announced an official investigation into separate allegations that a UN peacekeeper had sexually abused a child in eastern CAR.

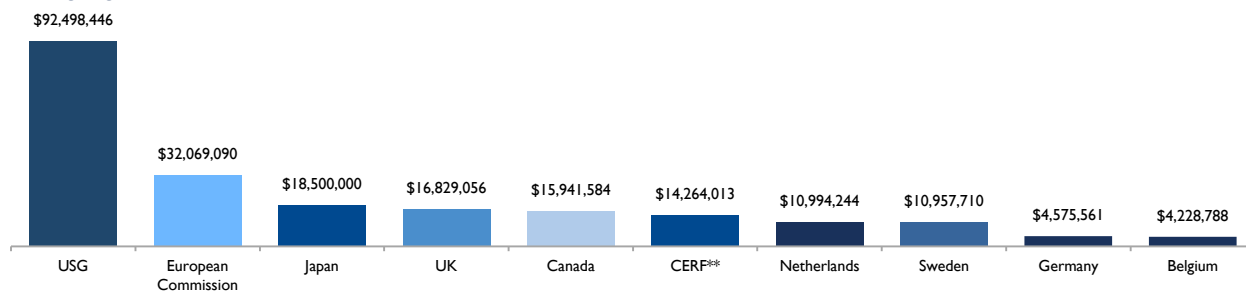
INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

- On May 13, the IASC deactivated the L3 response in CAR. The L3 designation enables humanitarian actors to surge capacities, scaling up the delivery of relief items and protection activities, according to the UN. The IASC initially declared the L3 for CAR in December 2013 for a three-month period; the decision was subsequently extended three times, and the surge capacity initiated under the L3 led to a doubled humanitarian presence in the country, the UN reports. The UN notes that while the L3 designation allowed a response surge, it is not intended to address the underlying causes of CAR’s complex emergency and the L3’s deactivation does not connote a decrease in humanitarian needs in the country.
- At an international conference on the situation in CAR in Brussels, Belgium, on May 26, the European Union (E.U.) pledged approximately \$10.9 million in humanitarian aid to the continued response. The new funding includes \$8.7 million to support vulnerable populations inside the country and \$2.2 million for Central African refugees residing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)—where the UN estimates that more than 46,000 Central African refugees have fled since December 2013.
- On May 27, UN Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos appointed Aurelien Agbénonci the new Humanitarian Coordinator for CAR.

⁴ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*

PER DONOR



* Funding figures are as of June 12, 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 May 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 AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CAR CRISIS PROVIDED IN FY 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
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
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
Première Urgence	Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Mambéré-Kadéï and Sangha-Mbaéré Prefectures	\$1,350,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$2,000,000

WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
	Program Support		\$23,705
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$15,932,259
USAID/FFP³			
UNICEF	374 MT Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) for children experiencing SAM, other nutrition activities	Countrywide	\$3,500,000
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	\$27,500,000
	7,430 MT of Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for distribution to CAR refugees	Cameroon	\$10,761,900
	International Disaster Assistance-funded Cash Transfers for CAR refugees	DRC	\$5,554,287
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$47,316,187
State/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$5,750,000
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Refugees	Countrywide	\$11,800,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Cameroon	\$11,700,000
TOTAL State/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$29,250,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CAR CRISIS IN FY 2015			\$92,498,446

¹ 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.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of June 12, 2015.

³ 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.
- 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>