

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #18, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

AUGUST 15, 2014

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

2.5 million

Estimated Number of People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance

U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – August 2014

1.7 million

Estimated Number of Acutely Food-Insecure People in CAR

U.N. – May 2014

512,700

Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR

OCHA – August 2014

87,700

Number of IDPs in Bangui

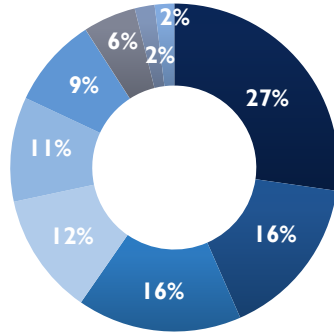
OCHA – August 2014

404,800

Number of Central African Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries

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

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014



- Logistics & Relief Commodities (27%)
- Health (16%)
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (16%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (12%)
- Protection (10%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (9%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (5%)
- Shelter & Settlements (2%)
- Nutrition (2%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2014



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (49%)
- Food Vouchers (2%)
- Local and Regional Procurement (49%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fighting in Batangafo town, Ouham Prefecture, displaces 20,000 people
- IPC 3 conditions could persist through December
- Humanitarian community takes stock of efforts to scale-up assistance following December 2013 Level 3 emergency declaration

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO THE CRISIS IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA	\$29,806,564
USAID/FFP	\$41,000,000
State/PRM ³	\$51,630,000

\$117,669,753
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On July 30 and 31, violent clashes in Batangafo town resulted in an unknown number of deaths and displaced an estimated 20,000 people, according to OCHA. Continued insecurity has hindered humanitarian access to affected populations; however, OCHA reports that an interagency assessment team continues to plan to visit Batangafo, pending security improvements.
- The USAID-Funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports that prefectures in the Central African Republic (CAR) currently experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity may not see improvements between July and December, as previously predicted.⁴ Pervasive violence and associated access constraints, coupled with insufficient rainfall in areas acutely affected by violence, continue to impede agricultural and market activities, thereby limiting household access to food.

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)

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.

CURRENT SITUATION

- Relief agency expansion into areas outside of CAR's capital city of Bangui in recent months has resulted in a significantly larger operational footprint when compared to the beginning of the current crisis. The U.N. reports that clusters—coordinating bodies for sector-specific activities, comprising relief agencies, U.N. actors, and other stakeholders—have increased membership significantly, particularly in the protection, health, and nutrition sectors. Before the December 2013 Level 3 emergency designation for CAR, the entire country hosted 47 relief and development organizations; as of mid-August, there are approximately 100 agencies. As of August 11, Ouham hosted 23 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and/or U.N. actors; Ouham-Pendé Prefecture counted 13 permanent actors; and Nana-Mambéré had 11 agencies with permanent field presence. Nana-Gribizi and Ouaka—prefectures with high levels of violence in recent months—hosted 11 and 16 NGO and/or U.N. field offices, respectively. However, CAR's northeast continues to lack sufficient humanitarian presence; both Haute-Kotto and Vakaga prefectures each host only three NGOs, including USAID/OFDA partner International Medical Corps (IMC).
- Insecurity remains a significant limitation on relief agencies' capacity to deliver life-saving assistance. Between January and July, the U.N. recorded more than 980 violent incidents that negatively affected aid; 72 percent of these events entailed attacks against humanitarian personnel and/or assets. Bangui, Ouaka, and Ouham-Pendé collectively experienced 65 of the 119 reported incidents in July. The U.N. Humanitarian Country Team and other stakeholders continue to engage with armed groups to raise awareness of the consequences of violence on humanitarian work; advocate for improved access to violence-affected communities; educate international security forces on the importance of secure, humanitarian space; and work with CAR authorities to improve civilian protection.

DISPLACEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Violence in Batangafo on July 30 and 31 displaced an estimated 20,000 people within the town and to areas along major roads in the region, according to OCHA. An interagency assessment team positioned in Kaga Bandoro town, Nana-Gribizi, continues planning to visit Bantangafo, pending security improvements. On August 8, Senior Humanitarian Coordinator Claire Bourgeois issued a public appeal for armed groups to refrain from impeding humanitarian access to areas of Ouham hosting IDPs generated by fighting in Batangafo.
- As of August 6, Bangui hosted an estimated 87,700 displaced people, down from the 102,000 IDPs previously reported, according to the U.N. The decrease is mainly due to the use of an improved counting system at M'Poko International Airport, which currently hosts 21,650 people.
- According to OCHA, IDPs remain displaced among 40 sites in Bangui. The Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster reports that the rainy season is exacerbating the already poor living conditions of IDPs in sites. The limited resources—especially shelter supplies and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services—are insufficient to meet IDPs' needs. The CCCM Cluster has identified a need to increase assistance in sites while facilitating voluntary IDP returns, as security and physical access allows.
- Early July violence in Ouaka's Bambari town caused significant displacement and humanitarian need. As of August 7, approximately 19,500 of Bambari's total population of 53,200 people remained displaced among three IDP sites in the town, the U.N. reports. IDP populations require protection, shelter, and WASH assistance. Nearly 14,000 people fled the town for forested areas; to date, displaced populations have not indicated intentions to return home. Persistent insecurity has constrained humanitarian access to affected populations; however, relief agencies are gradually scaling up multi-sector response interventions. Between July 30 and August 4, State/PRM partner the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the CAR Red Cross Society (CRCS) distributed relief commodities—including soap, sleeping mats, blankets, clothing, and mosquito nets—to IDPs. ICRC and CRCS also provided rice, cooking oil, beans, and salt to approximately 400 IDPs between Bambari and Ippy towns.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Insecurity-related constraints on the April-to-July planting season, including lack of access to fields and agricultural inputs, may prolong Crisis—IPC 3—levels food insecurity in nine of CAR's 16 prefectures through December, FEWS NET warns. The conflict has resulted in a long-term lack of available food stocks and income, a dynamic particularly evident in CAR's volatile central-north. In addition, the U.N. reports that cumulative April-to-June rainfall was below normal in central-western CAR, including in Ouham and Ouham-Pendé prefectures, which currently experience IPC 4—Emergency—levels. Food security actors expect the dryer-than-normal rainy season to result in continued food needs during the July-to-January harvest period. However, above-normal rainfall in much of CAR's interior and the east may result in favorable crop production, if agricultural communities successfully planted and can access fields during the coming harvest.
 - On August 12, the East and Central Africa Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSN WG) issued a statement warning the international community that food insecurity in the region has significantly deteriorated in recent months, highlighting CAR as a particularly worrisome case, in addition to northern Kenya, Somalia, and South Sudan. The FSN WG posits that without significant increases in multi-sectoral assistance, food insecurity and malnutrition will deteriorate further.
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PROTECTION

- Humanitarian actors in Cameroon continue to report that refugees fleeing CAR exhibit severe injuries and signs of malnutrition. According to UNHCR, although the average number of refugees crossing into Cameroon from CAR is in decline, the decrease is not attributable to security improvements inside CAR. Anecdotal reports from refugees, in addition to UNHCR's observations, indicate that some IDPs attempting to enter Cameroon are dying while traveling. Many families are attacked by armed groups—often repeatedly—or spend months in dense forests without sufficient food. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) underscores that the mental health status of new refugees in Cameroon is particularly worrisome given the trauma they have survived.
 - UNHCR—a State/PRM partner—is increasing displacement monitoring capacity at CAR's borders with Cameroon and Chad to identify urgent humanitarian needs among mobile households. UNHCR aims to channel border monitoring data into a displacement early warning mechanism.
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HEALTH

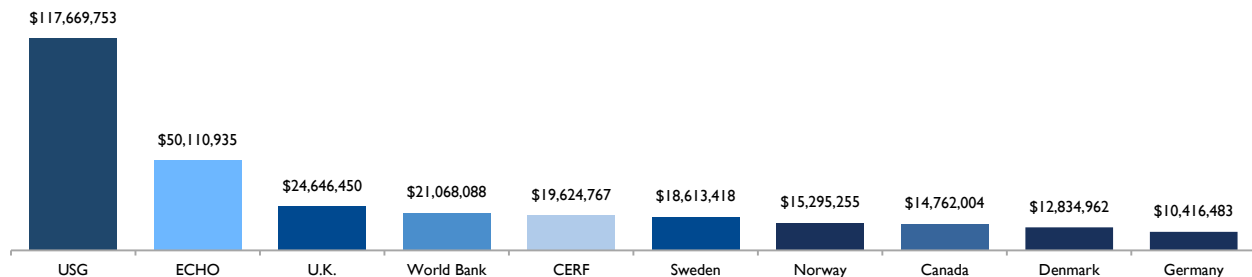
- Health actors are mobilizing in response to increased health needs among violence-affected communities, including IDPs, in Bambari. USAID/OFDA partners the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) are coordinating with the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) and MSF to provide medical services to IDPs in three sites. As of July 21, SC/US had conducted medical consultations for approximately 860 people, of which nearly 350 were children under the age of five years. Health actors are also organizing measles vaccination campaigns for all three sites. However, the U.N. reports that violence is hampering efforts to restock health supplies in Bambari and transport severe cases to Bangui.
- On August 13, IMC released results of a rapid analysis of mental health care in CAR, which IMC conducted in March. IMC teams surveyed mental health issues and the health sector's capacity to respond to urgent mental health needs in Bambari, Ouham's Bossangoa and Bouca towns, and Haute-Kotto's Bria town—areas where IMC already has operational presence. IMC reports that, despite the increase in health programming in response to the crisis, medical actors are not adequately integrating mental health components into their interventions, primarily due to a lack of in-country capacity and resources to appropriately address mental health needs. When queried by IMC, some NGOs reported having to reduce or halt mental health care programs to respond to other needs. At least 12 international actors and the Government of CAR Ministry of Health are currently providing mental health care in CAR. Three USAID/OFDA partners—IMC, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), and SC/US—incorporate psychosocial

assistance into protection activities. For example, IMC is working to increase the availability of psychosocial and medical services serving gender-based violence survivors in Haute-Kotto and Vakaga, while IRC delivers psychosocial care to women and children in Ouham-Pendé. In addition, SC/US is using a community-based model to refer vulnerable children to appropriate psychosocial and health services in Nana-Mambéré.

OTHER ASSISTANCE

- The USAID/OFDA-supported Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) continues to expand coverage across CAR while planning for future operations. The ETC is supporting internet access and radio networks; conducting radio training; coordinating communications efforts among relief agencies; and/or leading radio programs and information technology helpdesks in seven locations throughout CAR. Ongoing operations are positioned in Bangui, Bambari, Bossangoa, Bouar, Kaga-Bandoro, Paoua, and Zemio towns. The ETC has planned additional activities in each of these locations, and also endeavors to launch multiple programs in N’Dele town, Bamingui-Bangoran Prefecture. Improved communication across CAR helps relief agencies exchange information on progress and challenges, which informs the overall response. In addition, better connectivity enables field-based staff to communicate insecurity and seek assistance, if needed.

2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of August 15, 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. USG funding addresses needs both within CAR and among CAR refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

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 mid-July, the security situation throughout CAR remains 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. 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 THE CAR CRISIS PROVIDED IN FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Action Contre la Faim	WASH	Ouham	\$1,000,000
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Bangui, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,375,000
Catholic Relief Services	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Ouham	\$650,638
Danish Refugee Council	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bamingui-Bangoran, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé	\$2,163,745
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$3,280,623
IMC	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Ouham	\$1,334,810
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
IRC	Health, Protection	Ouham-Pendé	\$880,587
Mentor	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,500,242
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
SC/US	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Nana-Mambéré	\$1,063,258
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$4,200,000
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
U.N. World Food Program (WFP)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
USAID/OFDA-airlifted Relief Commodities	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Bangui	\$2,090,850
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$25,039,753
USAID/FFP³			
UNICEF	200 metric tons (MT) of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food, Nutrition Activities	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
WFP	9,876 MT in Local and Regional Procurement of Food Commodities for General Food Distributions, Supplementary Feeding, and Food-for-Assets Activities	Countrywide	\$15,000,000
WFP	Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for General Food Distributions and Supplementary Feeding Programs	Countrywide	\$17,500,000
WFP	Distribution of Cash-Based Food Vouchers to Chadian Returnees Fleeing CAR for Southeastern Areas of Chad	Chad	\$1,000,000

WFP	Distribution of Locally Purchased Commodities to CAR Refugees	Cameroon	\$5,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$41,000,000
STATE/PRM			
CARE	Protection, Health	Chad	\$600,000
ICRC	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$5,900,000
IMC	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Cameroon	\$760,000
IOM	Evacuation and Basic Return Assistance for Vulnerable Migrants	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$1,950,000
IRC	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Chad	\$820,000
UNICEF	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Cameroon	\$3,400,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Refugees and IDPs	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$36,300,000
U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA)	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Chad	\$300,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000
WHO	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Cameroon	\$1,100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$51,630,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CAR CRISIS IN FY 2014			\$117,669,753

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 refugee and returnees who fled violence in CAR for neighboring countries.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of August 15, 2014.

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>