

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #19, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

AUGUST 29, 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

**508,757**

Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR

OCHA – August 2014

**83,757**

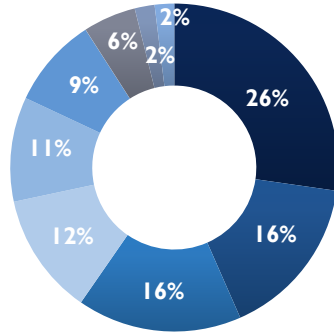
Number of IDPs in Bangui  
OCHA – August 2014

**415,200**

Number of Central African Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries

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

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



- Logistics & Relief Commodities (26%)
- Health (16%)
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (16%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (12%)
- Protection (11%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (9%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (6%)
- Shelter & Settlements (2%)
- Nutrition (2%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2014



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

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Insecurity throughout the Central African Republic (CAR) results in more than 50 deaths since August 17
- Violence kills a humanitarian worker in the capital city of Bangui

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO THE CRISIS IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA	\$25,039,753
USAID/FFP	\$41,000,000
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$51,630,000

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

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Clashes between armed groups and European Union troops in Bangui on August 19–20 caused thousands of people to flee their homes, injured dozens, and resulted in the death of a CAR Red Cross Society (CRCS) volunteer. Depicted by the U.N. as the worst fighting in Bangui since April, the violence underscores the difficulties experienced by humanitarian workers and security forces alike. Since November 2013, violence has killed at least 14 relief workers.
- The International Organization for Migration (IOM)—a USAID/OFDA partner—reports that approximately 80 percent of IDPs surveyed in Bangui in July intend to return to their areas of origin in the coming weeks. The results of IOM's previous monthly IDP return intention survey in June reflected that only 56 percent of IDPs endeavored to return home.

<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

- An unknown element killed a CRCS volunteer who was evacuating wounded persons during August 19–20 clashes between armed groups and international troops in Bangui’s *Pointe Kilométrique 5* (PK5) neighborhood, according to media and the U.N. The violence also displaced thousands of residents and injured at least 30 people; Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) treated the wounded in Bangui’s main hospital. The U.N. commented that the fighting is the worst Bangui has experienced since April.
- Approximately 7,600 soldiers and police will be in CAR under the command of the U.N. Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) by September 15, the U.N. reports. The U.N. Security Council authorized the deployment of a 12,000-personnel peacekeeping operation in April; the mid-September tally of troops represents 65 percent of MINUSCA’s planned forces.
- Small towns throughout CAR remain vulnerable to sporadic, acute violence. Ex-Séléka fighters and reported armed members of the Fulani ethnic group attacked Nana-Gribizi Prefecture’s Mbrès town on August 17, according to international media. The violence resulted in 34 deaths, with hundreds of people fleeing Mbrès for nearby Kaga-Bandoro town following the attack. In addition, militias’ occupation of mines is endangering workers while financing armed groups, the media reports. On August 22, an ex-Séléka-controlled gold mine located north of Ouaka Prefecture’s Bambari town collapsed due to unsafe conditions, killing at least 25 people.
- Infighting between ex-Séléka elements in Bambari on August 25 and 26 resulted in the deaths of 17 people, international media report. The clashes allegedly started between factions competing for control over areas of key transit routes. Throughout the crisis, manned roadblocks have extorted money from drivers, particularly those carrying humanitarian cargo.

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## DISPLACEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- According to the July IDP return intention survey—conducted monthly in Bangui by USAID/OFDA partner IOM—approximately 80 percent of the more than 600 queried IDPs plan to leave their displacement sites and return to their areas of origin by the end of August. In June, only 56 percent of surveyed IDPs reported immediate plans to return to areas of origin. Nearly 80 IDPs intend to leave their displacement sites and relocate to new areas. IDPs without plans to relocate cited loss of possessions, insufficient financial resources, and lack of authorities and/or security in their home areas as justification for remaining in displacement sites.
- The U.N. reports that displacement resulting from violence in Mbrès caused more than 420 households to shelter with host families in Kaga-Bandoro. UNHCR and the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) are screening and registering new IDPs; an unknown number of families are reportedly sheltering in forests. Solidarités International plans to conduct a multi-sector needs assessment among displaced households along transit routes between Mbrès, Kaga-Bandoro, and Dekoa towns in the coming days.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- An armed group attacked vehicles carrying U.N. Food and Agriculture (FAO) commodities traveling to Nana-Gribizi’s Kaga-Bandoro and N’délé towns on August 17, the U.N. reports. The assailants stole approximately 30 metric tons (MT) of seeds, which FAO intended to distribute to 1,200 families. Meanwhile, unspecified assailants looted FAO’s Bambari-based warehouse for the third time in recent months. Insecurity and poor road conditions have greatly increased logistics costs for humanitarian organizations.
- USAID/FFP partner the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) distributed more than 460 MT of food between August 1 and 8, the U.N. reports. WFP-delivered commodities fed more than 43,500 people, of whom nearly 56 percent were located in Ouham and Ouham-Pendé prefectures, areas experiencing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> 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.

WFP also provided seed protection rations—food distributions provided in conjunction with agricultural assistance to prevent food-insecure beneficiaries from eating their seeds—to more than 13,600 farmers in Ouham and Ouham-Pendé.

- WFP continues to provide food assistance to refugees and returnees who fled violence in CAR for neighboring countries, reaching nearly 73,000 refugees through general food distributions between July 24 and August 18. In recent weeks, WFP distributed food vouchers to an estimated 29,000 returnees in southern Chad; WFP is preparing to extend its Emergency Operation for an additional two months in Chad. During the same period, WFP also airlifted 117 MT of Plumpy'Sup—a fortified nutrition commodity—into Cameroon to bolster blanket supplementary feeding for more than 18,000 children under the age of five and 4,000 pregnant and lactating women. WFP operations in the Republic of Congo (RoC) were augmented by a \$2.7 million donation from the Government of Japan; additional cereal stocks have enabled WFP to increase rations for refugees in RoC from 350 grams per day to 400 grams. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), WFP provided cash assistance to approximately 30,000 refugees in July; however, the U.N. agency warns that without additional funding, aid for camp-based CAR refugees in DRC—almost 35,000 people—will cease in September. WFP, in coordination with other U.N. agencies, is developing a \$5 million Central Emergency Response Fund appeal to address this funding shortfall in the refugee response.

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## PROTECTION

- The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) negotiated the release of 103 children, including 13 girls, from armed groups in the past week, the U.N. reports. While UNICEF has already reunited a majority of the newly released children with their families, 11 remained separated from relatives as of mid-August. UNICEF, a USAID/OFDA partner, is supporting the unaccompanied children in a Bangui-based center, which offers psychosocial support and family tracing services. Children already successfully reunited with their families in Bangui can access a neighborhood drop-in center, which offers meals, psychosocial care, and recreational activities.
- Since January, UNICEF and partners have helped release nearly 1,400 children—including 285 girls—associated with armed groups in CAR. The figure represents a four-fold increase from the number of children UNICEF released from conflict in all of 2013.

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## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

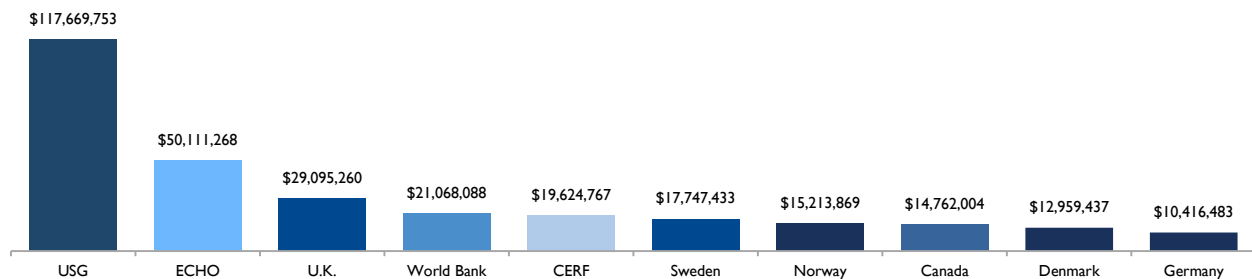
- In early August, USAID/OFDA partner International Medical Corps (IMC) assessed nutritional status among more than 3,000 children less than five years of age in Vakaga Prefecture by measuring mid-upper-arm circumference (MUAC). IMC's findings revealed more than 7.4 percent of assessed children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM), far exceeding the 2 percent emergency threshold established by the U.N.
- Through nearly \$684,000 in USAID/OFDA funding, IMC identifies and treats populations experiencing moderate acute malnutrition and SAM by establishing care centers and training health care providers in Haute-Kotto, Ouham, and Vakaga prefectures. IMC also works to more sustainably identify and treat cases of acute malnutrition in children through community-based management of acute malnutrition programs and initiatives that promote positive infant and young child feeding practices.
- The Government of CAR (CARG) Ministry of Health (MoH), with support from the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), recently implemented more rigorous health checks for incoming travelers at M'Poko International Airport due to the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in West Africa, the U.N. reports. In addition, the Health Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian health activities, comprising U.N. agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—is developing an EVD response strategy for CAR. As of August 27, health authorities in CAR had not received any reports of EVD cases in the country.
- UNICEF distributed more than 530,000 mosquito nets in Bangui in August, the U.N. reports. In coordination with the CRCS and the CARG MoH, UNICEF deployed more than 7,000 volunteers to distribute the nets—vital for preventing

malarial infection—to each household in the city. In the coming months, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies plans to distribute mosquito nets countrywide.

## OTHER ASSISTANCE

- In recent weeks, Senior Humanitarian Coordinator for CAR Claire Bourgeois recommended that the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) launch a third special allocation for CAR in 2014, according to the U.N. The January and March CHF allocations—valued at approximately \$5 million and \$10 million, respectively—helped finance under-funded, priority humanitarian interventions, such as assistance for survivors of gender-based violence. An advisory board continues to finalize the third allocation; at present, the budget is an estimated \$9 million and encompasses projects proposed by six national non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
- Qatar Charity recently provided sufficient food and relief commodities to support approximately 1,000 refugee and returnee families in southern Chad, the NGO reports. Qatar Charity-provided supplies—valued at approximately \$130,000—included rice, sugar, oil, milk, water containers, sleeping mats, and plastic sheeting. The assistance supplements Qatar Charity’s eight months of relief operations in southern Chad, during which the NGO provided shelter, food, water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance collectively valued at nearly \$3.6 million and supporting up to 20,000 people.

## 2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of August 29, 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-August, 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 2014<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
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
FAO	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$3,280,623
IMC	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Ouham	\$1,334,810
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
International Rescue Committee (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
Save the Children/U.S.	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
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
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$25,039,753</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
UNICEF	200 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
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$41,000,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
CARE	Protection, Health	Chad	\$600,000
International Committee of the Red Cross	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
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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$51,630,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CAR CRISIS IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$117,669,753</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 refugee and returnees who fled violence in CAR for neighboring countries.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of August 29, 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>