

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

MARCH 21, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

4.6 million

Estimated Population of CAR
UN – December 2018

2.9 million

Estimated People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance
UN – December 2018

1.9 million

Estimated People in CAR Facing Severe Levels of Acute Food Insecurity
UN – December 2018

640,969

IDPs in CAR
UN – December 2018

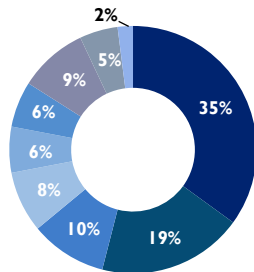
85,431

IDPs in Bangui
UN – August 2018

590,610

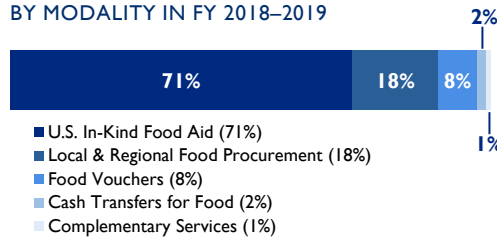
Central African Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UN – January 2019

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2018–2019



- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (35%)
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (19%)
- Shelter & Settlements (10%)
- Health (8%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (6%)
- Protection (6%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (9%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (5%)
- Nutrition (2%)

USAID/FFP⁵ FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2018–2019



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The Government of Central African Republic (CARG) and 14 armed groups initiated a peace accord in the country's capital city of Bangui on February 6. The agreement could potentially alter the humanitarian context in the Central African Republic (CAR), where ongoing and significant humanitarian needs persist due to protracted conflict.
- On January 7, the CARG and the UN launched the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for CAR, requesting nearly \$431 million to provide humanitarian assistance to 1.7 million people countrywide in 2019. The UN estimates that 2.9 million people will require emergency aid in CAR, representing a 16 percent increase from 2018.
- Vulnerable populations in CAR will likely continue to face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity through September 2019, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports.⁴ In response, USAID/FFP partners are providing emergency food assistance, including in-kind food aid and food vouchers, to food-insecure populations throughout CAR.

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 acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ongoing violence results in population displacement, civilian deaths
- Insecurity continues to endanger aid workers in CAR
- USAID/OFDA-funded RRM provides emergency assistance to newly displaced populations

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA	\$56,779,005
USAID/FFP	\$66,161,735
State/PRM ³	\$50,828,311
Total	\$173,769,051

CURRENT EVENTS

- The CARG and the UN launched the 2019 HRP for CAR in the capital city of Bangui on January 7, requesting nearly \$431 million to provide humanitarian assistance to 1.7 million vulnerable people in 2019. The UN estimates that 2.9 million people will require humanitarian assistance during the year, representing a 16 percent increase from the 2.5 million people requiring assistance in 2018. Outgoing UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) Najat Rochdi highlighted that the deteriorating security situation, including increased attacks against civilians and aid workers, continues to hinder humanitarian response activities throughout the country.
 - On January 18, the CARG Minister of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation and RC/HC Rochdi co-chaired a meeting in Yaoundé, Cameroon to present the 2019 HRP to additional donors. Cameroon hosts the largest population of Central African refugees, with approximately 275,700 refugees sheltering in the country as of December 2018, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
 - The CARG and 14 armed groups signed a peace accord in Bangui on February 6 following negotiations between the groups that began in neighboring Sudan in late January. While the agreement could significantly alter the humanitarian context in CAR, seven prior peace agreements have failed since the conflict began in 2012, raising concerns regarding the viability of the agreement. At a February 21 UN Security Council meeting, outgoing UN Special Representative for CAR Parfait Onanga-Nyanga emphasized that continued support of the international community will remain critical to the successful implementation of the peace agreement. Relief actors note that improved security conditions in the country stemming from the peace accord may result in increased assistance needs as returning internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees would require support in areas of origin, as would previously inaccessible populations.
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INSECURITY AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- USAID partners and other relief organizations continue to face significant safety and security risks in providing humanitarian assistance in CAR. On January 4, unknown actors broke into a non-governmental organization (NGO) compound in Ouham Prefecture's Batangafo town and killed a staff member, the UN reports. Another humanitarian worker was killed on January 18 during an attempted burglary of his residence in Ouaka Prefecture's Bambari town, according to the European Commission's Department for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO). The UN recorded nearly 340 security incidents involving humanitarian workers in CAR from January–October 2018, resulting in six aid worker deaths and 21 injuries.
- Armed violence in eastern CAR continues to generate population displacement and result in civilian deaths. In January, armed attacks in Mambéré-Kadéï Prefecture's Zaoro-Soungou village resulted in at least 17 deaths and prompted an estimated 1,300 individuals to flee to the prefecture's Carnot town, relief actors report. Violence between armed groups in Nana-Gribizi Prefecture's Bamatara village also displaced approximately 3,000 people during January. Relief actors report food, health care, livelihoods, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support as urgent humanitarian needs among IDPs from Zaoro-Soungou and Bamatara.
- In Ouham's Bouca sub-prefecture, early January clashes triggered by tensions between seasonal herders displaced nearly 1,100 households to surrounding areas. As of mid-January, IDPs represented more than 50 percent of Bouca's total population of approximately 2,700 households, straining already limited food, health, shelter, and WASH resources, according to USAID/OFDA Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners. In early February, RRM partners reached nearly 2,200 IDP and host community households in Bouca with relief commodities and WASH support, including hygiene awareness campaigns and construction of sanitation and waste facilities.
- An estimated 17,000 people also fled Mbomou Prefecture's Bakouma town following a December 31, 2018, armed attack, the UN reports. Following the attack, UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR peacekeepers and CARG armed forces deployed to Bakouma to protect civilians; RRM partners have since registered IDPs in surrounding areas and distributed relief commodities to more than 1,700 displaced households.
- Conflict-affected populations in Haut-Mbomou Prefecture's Zemio town remain in need of food, health, nutrition, protection and WASH support, according to an early March assessment by the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group. However, persistent security concerns have resulted in only limited assistance reaching the town in recent months.

Meanwhile, conflict-related disruptions to livelihoods and trade have resulted in increased food prices and reduced food consumption among surveyed populations. The assessment also reported multiple child protection concerns—including recruitment by armed groups—and sexual and gender-based violence incidents. According to the UN, an estimated 80,000 people from CAR require humanitarian assistance in Zemio, Haut-Mbomou’s Djema town, and surrounding areas, including Zapaï town in neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo.

- In 2018, the USAID/OFDA-funded RRM, managed by UNICEF, reached nearly 181,000 recently displaced people with WASH assistance and nearly 232,000 individuals with relief commodities across the country. From January–February 2019, the RRM reached nearly 42,500 people with relief commodities, approximately 21,400 people with WASH assistance, and nearly 4,000 people with high-energy biscuits in Basse-Kotto, Mambéré-Kadéï, Mbomou, Nana-Gribizi, Nana-Mambéré, Ouaka, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé prefectures. USAID/OFDA, the largest donor to the RRM, provided \$5.3 million to the mechanism in FY 2018.

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Vulnerable populations in conflict-affected areas across CAR will likely continue to face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity through September 2019 due to displacement and inconsistent humanitarian assistance, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).⁴ Additionally, FEWS NET anticipates that households in relatively secure parts of the country will face Stressed—IPC 2—levels of acute food insecurity; households are anticipated to deplete food stocks by March and depend on wild foods and food purchased from markets until June. Humanitarian interventions likely prevented a deterioration of food security conditions among households in Ouham, Mbomou, and Nana-Gribizi prefectures in January and February.
- A January survey identified 10 CAR prefectures with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) levels in excess of the UN World Health Organization (WHO) emergency threshold of 2 percent. Additionally, USAID partner the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) anticipates that more than 38,000 children ages five years and younger in CAR will experience SAM in 2019. As such, UNICEF is working with community-level health workers, the CARG Ministry of Health, and implementing partners to improve nutrition information management systems, rapid response mechanisms, and response coordination structures. USAID/FFP is also supporting UNICEF SAM treatment activities by supplying 260 metric tons of U.S.-procured specialized nutrition products through \$2.9 million in FY 2018 funding. Since January, members of the UNICEF-led Nutrition Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian nutrition activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—have treated nearly 2,300 children experiencing SAM across CAR.
- In December 2018, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided emergency food assistance to more than 628,000 food-insecure people in CAR. USAID/FFP recently contributed \$30 million to WFP to support general food distributions of U.S. in-kind food assistance to approximately 300,000 IDPs, host community members, refugees, and returnees, as well as emergency school meals for 185,000 IDP and host community children.

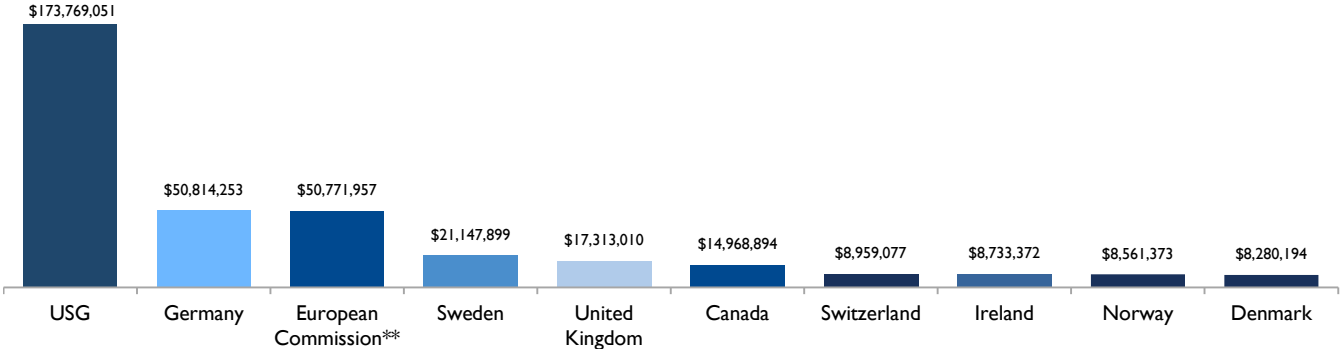
HEALTH AND WASH

- Health actors had not identified any new cases of hepatitis E—a virus affecting the liver that is primarily spread through fecal–oral transmission, including from contaminated drinking water—in Ouham-Pendé Prefecture as of late January, according to the Health Cluster. The outbreak began in Ouham-Pendé’s Bocaranga sub-prefecture in October 2018 before spreading to neighboring areas in Kouï and Ngaoundaye sub-prefectures, resulting in more than 160 confirmed or suspected cases and one death, according to the UN. Relief actors continue to conduct WASH interventions in affected areas—including drilling ten boreholes in Bocaranga and Kouï—to improve communities’ access to safe drinking water.
- Between late January and late February, health actors recorded more than 50 cases of dysentery—an intestinal infection that is often spread through contaminated food or water—in Nana-Gribizi’s Kaga Bandoro sub-prefecture. Relief organizations report lack of access to safe drinking water in affected areas, with most residents utilizing untreated river

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

water to meet water needs. WHO and other health partners are providing essential medicines to local health facilities and supporting district health teams to conduct community-level surveillance and awareness activities. Additionally, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is supporting Nana-Gribizi’s Dissikou health center, which provides free health care services.

2018–2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*
PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of March 21, 2019. All international figures are according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the calendar years of 2018 and 2019, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments from FY 2018, which began on October 1, 2017, and FY 2019, which began on October 1, 2018. USG funding addresses needs both within CAR and among Central African refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

**Includes contributions from ECHO.

CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance advanced across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered CAR’s capital city of Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence. Security conditions deteriorated further in December 2013, when clashes erupted between the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups composed of armed fighters that opposed ex-Séléka forces.
- Following a nearly three-year transitional period, CAR held presidential elections in December 2015 and February 2016, resulting in the election of President Faustin-Archange Touadéra, who assumed the office of the presidency on March 30, 2016.
- Conflict between armed groups has persisted across much of CAR; however, armed groups have fragmented and reformed among various alliances, complicating the ongoing crisis. An estimated 2.9 million people in CAR require humanitarian assistance, while more than 590,600 people have fled the violence in CAR to neighboring countries. The security situation throughout CAR remains volatile, with continuing attacks against civilians, humanitarian workers, and UN peacekeeping forces.
- On October 10, 2018, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., David Brownstein reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2019 due to the scale of ongoing humanitarian needs in the country.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Action Against Hunger (AAH)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Basse-Kotto	\$1,300,000
ACTED	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Shelter and Settlements	HauteKotto, Ouaka	\$2,522,000
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Shelter and Settlements	Ouaka	\$1,902,000
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$2,400,000
Humanity and Inclusion (HI)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,150,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Haute-Kotto, Ouaka	\$3,465,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,325,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	ERMS, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection, WASH	Nana-Grébezi, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,900,000
MENTOR Initiative	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,399,731
Mercy Corps	ERMS, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Basse-Kotto, Ouaka	\$1,235,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Nana-Grébezi, Ouaka	\$1,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
Oxfam	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Haute-Kotto, Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$3,508,447
Plan International USA	ERMS, Nutrition, Protection	Haute-Kotto, Nana-Grébezi	\$1,935,000
Première Urgence Internationale (PUI)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$850,000
Solidarités International	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements	Ouham-Pendé	\$900,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$11,750,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection	Countrywide	\$12,050,000
World Vision USA	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Ouham-Pendé	\$619,431
	Program Support		\$567,396
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$56,779,005
USAID/FFP³			
ACTED	Cash Transfers	Haut-Mbomou, Mbomou	\$1,324,515
UNICEF	260 MT of U.S. In-Kind Emergency Food Aid, Other	Countrywide	\$2,903,984
WFP	23,870 MT of U.S. In-Kind Emergency Food Aid	Countrywide	\$45,083,236
	8,213 MT of Local and Regional Food Procurement; Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$16,850,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$66,161,735
State/PRM			
CARE	Protection, WASH, Food Security	Chad	\$1,850,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Livelihoods, Protection	Cameroon	\$925,000

ICRC	Assistance to Conflict-Affected Populations	Countrywide	\$3,300,000
IMC	Health, Protection, GBV	Cameroon	\$1,900,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Livelihoods and Protection	Cameroon	\$1,450,000
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Livelihoods and Social Cohesion	Cameroon	\$1,500,000
PUI	Livelihoods and Food Production	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$1,700,000
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Refugees	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Cameroon	\$25,600,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Republic of the Congo	\$1,250,000
World Vision	Livelihoods, WASH, Protection, GBV	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$2,353,311
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$50,828,311
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019			173,769,051

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

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
 - 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>