

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #9, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

APRIL 10, 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) – March 2014

1.3 million

Estimated Number of Food-Insecure People in CAR

U.N. World Food Program (WFP) – December 2013

632,700

Total Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR

OCHA – March 2014

207,700

Total IDPs in Bangui

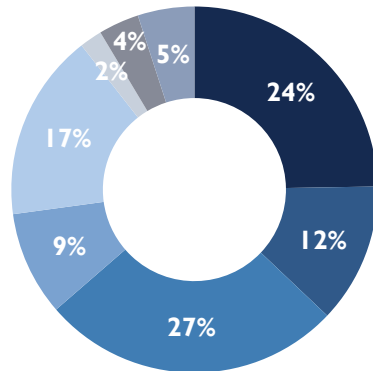
OCHA – April 2014

321,300

Total Central African Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries

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

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014



- Health (24%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (12%)
- Logistics & Relief Commodities (27%)
- Protection (9%)
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (17%)
- Nutrition (2%)
- Shelter and Settlements (4%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (5%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- U.S. Government (USG) announces more than \$21 million in additional humanitarian funding
- Violence resurges in Bangui, reversing minor IDP returns to areas of origin
- Humanitarian actors are exploring plans to relocate IDPs under direct threat of violence

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO CAR IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA	\$16,853,349
USAID/FFP ²	\$28,500,000
State/PRM ³	\$21,600,000
\$66,953,349	
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO CAR	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The USG remains strongly engaged in the humanitarian response to the situation in the Central African Republic (CAR), addressing needs inside CAR and among refugees in neighboring countries. During the week of April 7, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Samantha Power and Assistant Secretary (A/S) of State/PRM Anne Richard conducted separate visits to CAR's capital city of Bangui to meet with humanitarian stakeholders, government officials, and affected populations. A/S Richard also traveled to Chad to visit populations who fled CAR, as well as political and humanitarian representatives.
- On April 9, Ambassador Samantha Power announced that the USG has provided an additional \$22 million in FY 2014 funding to the humanitarian response in CAR. New funding includes more than \$8.8 million from USAID/OFDA, approximately \$8.5 million from USAID/FFP, and a further \$4.6 million from State/PRM. The new funding raises FY 2014 commitments to nearly \$67 million. USG-supported humanitarian interventions include food assistance; health; protection; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities; information management; the provision of relief commodities; and multi-sector assistance for new Central African refugees.

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)

CURRENT SITUATION

- A series of violent incidents in late March underscores continuing instability in CAR's capital city of Bangui. Coordinated attacks by anti-Balaka and ex-Séléka fighters, coupled with efforts by international forces to extinguish hostilities, rendered the civilian population highly vulnerable. In particular, Bangui's *Pointe Kilométrique 5* (PK5) neighborhood experienced significant fighting.
- On March 29, Chadian troops in Bangui opened fire on civilians in PK12 neighborhood following a grenade attack by unspecified assailants. The situation resulted in an estimated 30 deaths and injured more than 100 people, according to the U.N. Following the event, the Government of Chad announced plans to withdraw the Chadian contingent of the African Union-led International Support Mission to CAR (MISCA) in protest of criticism against their troops, according to media.
- The U.N. reports that as a result of increased violence in Bangui, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) temporarily suspended humanitarian activities in the PK12 area on March 30, including the provision of safe drinking water to 2,600 IDPs. UNICEF, in collaboration with CAR's national water supplier, resumed activities on April 3.
- The Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED) reported that armed groups perpetrated 171 violent incidents against civilians in January and February 2014—a high figure compared to the 212 events reported for all of 2013. Although the majority of the ACLED-documented incidents occurred in southwest CAR, security remains tenuous countrywide.
- The humanitarian community in Bangui reports that towns in southwestern areas of CAR remain highly vulnerable to severe violence. According to the U.N., unspecified relief agencies have recorded particularly worrisome instances of inter-communal violence in recent weeks in Lobaye Prefecture's Boda town and Mambéré-Kadéï Prefecture's Berberati and Carnot towns. The U.N. posits that Boda requires increased presence of international forces to protect at-risk populations.

DISPLACEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- According to the U.N., the uptick in violence has increased the number of IDPs in CAR for the first time in several weeks. As of April 8, the U.N. had recorded nearly 633,000 IDPs countrywide, a slight increase from the 601,000 total IDP figure of mid-March. During the same period, the IDP population in Bangui increased almost 18 percent, from approximately 177,000 people to nearly 208,000 people sheltering in more than 40 sites. Prior to the resumption of hostilities, IDPs in Bangui had been gradually returning to areas of origin on their own accord.
- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that 30,000 residents of Boda town were displaced when clashes between ex-Séléka and anti-Balaka forces leveled most of the village in early March. Approximately 24,000 people have taken shelter in a Boda church and IOM surmises that an additional 10,000 people remain in hiding in the forest. IOM is currently working to establish a sub-office in Boda to provide emergency assistance, as no U.N. agencies or Government of CAR (CARG) authorities have a presence in the area.
- The humanitarian community in CAR is exploring the feasibility of supporting the voluntary relocation of up to 19,000 Muslims at risk of violence to comparatively safer locations, media report. According to the U.N., Muslim populations in Bangui's PK12 neighborhood, along with southwestern CAR's Boda, Berberati, and Carnot towns, are at the highest risk of attack.
- UNHCR is currently assessing the capacity of Kabo and Moyon Sido towns, which lie along the CAR–Chad border, to host IDPs from Boda and Carnot. UNHCR also deployed a team to northern CAR's Bemal town during the week of March 31 to evaluate Bemal's potential to absorb relocated persons. In addition, media sources report that humanitarian actors are developing a plan to relocate almost 1,000 Muslim IDPs in Ouham Prefecture's Bossangoa town to Paoua town, Ouham-Pendé Prefecture, given the latter's relative lack of inter-communal violence.
- On March 19, WFP resumed vehicle food transport, accompanied by MISCA escort, via the Bangui–Cameroon road. WFP plans to continue using overland transport as security permits. Although the road is the main conduit for supplies

to enter CAR, insecurity has often prevented humanitarian agencies from delivering relief commodities through Cameroon. MISCA and the French military's Operation *Sangaris* forces have recently engaged anti-Balaka elements along the Bangui–Cameroon road, clearing anti-Balaka checkpoints. In response, anti-Balaka fighters have increased attacks against international forces along the road.

- USAID/OFDA partner IOM released results from a mid-March IDP return intention survey, in which IOM interviewed nearly 600 IDPs in 28 different Bangui-based displacement sites. Approximately 58 percent of surveyed IDPs reported intent to return to areas of origin, compared with 74 percent of respondents who indicated the same in IOM's January returns intention survey. Almost 39 percent of respondents identified improved security as a pre-condition to return, followed by shelter assistance and provision of relief supplies.
- With more than \$300,000 in FY 2014 USAID/OFDA support, the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix is mapping IDP movements in Bangui to help relief agencies monitor displacement, return trends, and associated humanitarian needs. USAID/OFDA also provided IOM with \$700,000 to transport and distribute emergency shelter items and relief commodities to IDPs in CAR.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- On March 21, the U.N. announced an \$8 million inter-agency agreement—comprising CARG, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), WFP, and the World Bank—to support emergency food aid and agricultural production in CAR. Among other interventions, implementing partner WFP plans to provide agricultural inputs—including seeds for 9,000 families and tools—for the April-to-July planting season. In addition, the joint agreement aims to support 370 women-farmer associations with projects focused on improving cultivation practices and financial initiatives, such as savings and loan opportunities.
- On March 19, USAID/OFDA partner FAO began distributing agricultural inputs to beneficiaries in Bossangoa, the first distribution to occur outside Bangui since the crisis started in December. Approximately 500 families received maize, peanut, rice, and vegetable seeds, along with basic agricultural tools.
- Between March 3 and 11, WFP and FAO assessed the economic consequences of food insecurity and poor agricultural conditions in Bangui and Bossangoa. The assessment confirms that the events of 2013/2014 stymied the planting season and positioned CAR for a long-term, costly emergency for at least 18 additional months. The assessment found regional differences in how the crisis has affected agricultural households. Farmers in northern CAR typically lost all their assets to arson and looting, and were unable to plant crops due to acute insecurity. In southern and central areas, nearly 88,000 displaced families—14 percent of the total 625,000 people displaced as of late March—reported maintaining small crop plots in forests.
- Through nearly \$1.4 million in FY 2014 funding, USAID/OFDA partner the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) is implementing multi-sector assistance, including economic recovery programming. USAID/OFDA support helps ACTED offer short-term employment to conflict-affected populations in Bangui and Ouham-Pendé, thereby providing vulnerable families with much-needed income while also supporting CAR's economy.
- USAID/FFP's most recent contribution to the humanitarian response in CAR—more than \$8.5 million in FY 2014 funding—supports diverse interventions serving populations inside CAR and displaced to neighboring countries. Approximately \$5 million of the new funding will support regional food procurements for distribution as part of WFP's emergency operation in CAR, along with supplementary feeding activities. Additionally, USAID/FFP is supporting WFP with \$1 million to implement cash-based food voucher programs benefitting refugees from CAR in southeastern Chad. USAID/FFP also provided partner UNICEF with \$2.5 million, enabling UNICEF to treat approximately 11,000 malnourished children in CAR and to distribute 200 metric tons (MT) of ready-to-use therapeutic food.

PROTECTION

- Advocacy group War Child reported that the crisis in CAR has affected all of CAR's 2.3 million children, approximately 500,000 of whom are displaced. Between December 2013 and mid-February, violence killed at least 130 children.

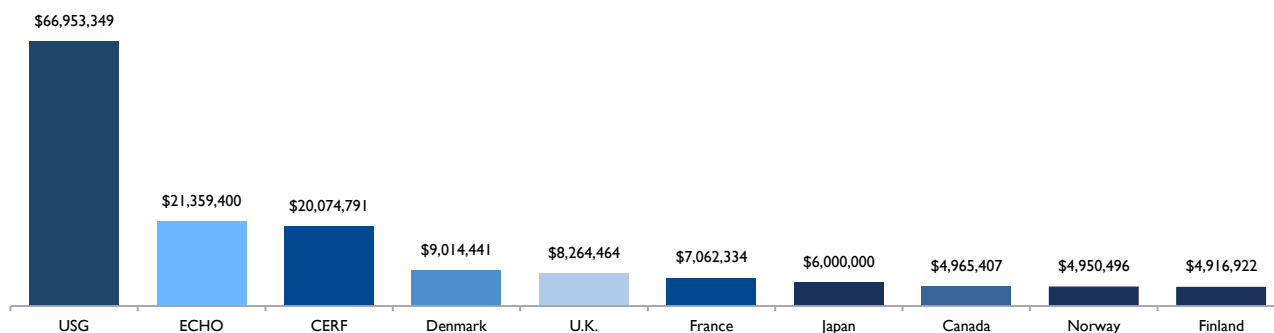
Many children in CAR remain separated from families. According to the U.N., at least 28,000 children will experience severe acute malnutrition in 2014 without significant improvements in the security situation, displacement, and humanitarian access.

- During Special Representative of the U.N. Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict Zainab Hawa Bangura's March 17–20 visit to CAR, interim President Catherine Samba-Panza announced plans to deploy a U.N.-backed rapid response unit from CAR's gendarmerie to respond to incidents of sexual violence in Bangui. President Samba-Panza also echoed CAR's stance against sexual violence by reaffirming support for a 2012 communiqué between the CARG and the U.N. outlining efforts to combat sexual violence. The U.N. confirmed 1,186 cases of sexual violence in January alone—a figure likely much lower than the actual caseload due to barriers to reporting.
- In mid-March, the U.N. Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) assessed refugee sites in eastern Cameroon's Garoua-Boulai, Kentzou, and Mbourguene towns to determine the nature and prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) among Central African refugees. Approximately 250 surveyed women identified physical assault, psychological trauma, and sexual violence as their most prominent threats. Surveyed camps lack services to support the few GBV survivors who do seek help, UNIFEM reports. GBV is a particular concern given that refugees are sheltering in community tents to protect themselves from wind and rain. Among several actions, UNIFEM recommends that relief agencies establish mobile in-take capacity to screen incoming refugees for GBV and sensitize security forces with direct contact to refugees on GBV and gender concerns.
- With \$1 million in FY 2014 funding, USAID/OFDA is supporting UNICEF's efforts to trace unaccompanied children and reunite families, create child-friendly spaces in IDP camps, and mobilize communities to prevent violence against children. UNICEF is also providing specialized health care and psychological support for victims of sexual violence.
- Through more than \$405,000 in FY 2014 funding, USAID/OFDA partner the International Rescue Committee (IRC) is responding to acute protection needs and working to prevent future violations in Ouham Pendé. IRC provides medical care to survivors of GBV through a network of clinics and psychosocial support through community support mechanisms, such as listening centers. In addition, IRC works to minimize the occurrence of GBV through outreach to local communities.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

- On March 31, U.N. Secretary-General (SYG) Ban Ki-moon issued a public statement against actors directly or indirectly supporting armed groups in CAR, according to media. SYG Ki-moon also recommended that human rights advocates compile information on perpetrators of violence and instability for eventual sanction by the U.N. The appeal coincided with the U.N. Security Council's negotiations on a resolution to create a U.N. peacekeeping force in CAR, which began the same day.
- The International Contact Group on CAR (ICG-CAR)—comprising African and non-African states, as well as international stakeholders—met on March 21 in the Republic of Congo to discuss the status of the CAR crisis. ICG-CAR urged donors to meet funding commitments and stressed the need to assist the CARG in consolidating security gains through security sector reform, demobilization and reintegration programs, and national reconciliation.
- European Union and African Union representatives met in Brussels, Belgium, for a high-level meeting on the crisis in CAR on April 2. During the meeting, SYG Ban Ki-moon urged increased international support for peacekeeping efforts in CAR, as well as additional assistance to the CAR transitional government. In March, SYG Ki-moon recommended the deployment of a U.N. peacekeeping operation to CAR, comprising 12,000 troops and incorporating most or all of the 8,000 international forces currently in the country.

2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of April 9, 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.

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 CAR's capital city, 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-March, the situation throughout CAR remained volatile, with continuing attacks against civilians. While relief agencies are working to assist conflict-affected populations, ongoing insecurity and logistical 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 CAR PROVIDED IN FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Action Contre la Faim	WASH	Ouham	\$1,000,000
ACTED	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	Ouham-Pendé, Bangui	\$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 prefectures	\$2,253,504
FAO	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$280,623
International Medical Corps	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Ouham	\$1,184,810
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
U.N. Department of Safety and Security	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$2,727,945
WFP	Humanitarian Air Service	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
U.N. World Health Organization	Health	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$16,853,349
USAID/FFP³			
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	5,485 MT of Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for General Food Distributions and Supplementary Feeding Programs	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WFP	Distribution of Cash-Based Food Vouchers to Chadian returnees fleeing CAR for southeastern areas of Chad	Chad	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$28,500,000
STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$5,900,000
IOM	Evacuation and Basic Return Assistance for Vulnerable Migrants	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$1,500,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance for Refugees and IDPs	Countrywide and Neighboring Countries	\$13,700,000
WFP	Humanitarian Air Service	Countrywide	\$500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$21,600,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CAR IN FY 2014			\$66,953,349

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

²USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of April 9, 2014.

³Estimated 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>