

Humanitarian Snapshot

USAID/BHA in Central Africa

Fiscal Year (FY) 2021

Regional Profile
Countries in Central Africa continue to face conflict, persistent food insecurity, population displacement, protection concerns, climatic shocks and natural disasters, and disease outbreaks. USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provided more than $646.5 million to respond to crises in seven countries in the region in FY 2021. USAID/BHA-funded programming supported the distribution of food assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and host communities; facilitated access to basic health care and protection services for conflict-affected populations; and provided relief commodities and other assistance, such as latrines, safe drinking water, and shelters to communities recovering from flooding and other climatic shocks in the region. USAID/BHA also supported partners with more than $46 million for standalone early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) programs that helped increase household incomes and sustainably improve food security in the DRC and Uganda.

Humanitarian Situation in FY 2021
Complex emergencies, population displacement, food insecurity, protection concerns, and flooding comprised Central Africa’s principal humanitarian concerns during FY 2021. In CAR, a surge of election-related violence spurred a widespread deterioration of humanitarian conditions throughout much of the year; in DRC, ongoing violence continued to drive displacement and constrain aid worker access. In Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda, humanitarian needs persisted among refugees sheltering from conflict in neighboring countries. Climatic shocks also worsened humanitarian conditions in the region. In RoC, flooding affected 81,000 people living near the Ubangi River in November 2020, while in Burundi, erratic rainfall and subsequent poor harvests worsened food security in the country.

USDAID/BHA Priorities for FY 2022
USAID/BHA plans to both maintain and expand its support to the region with a needs-driven multi-sector approach during FY 2022. USAID/BHA funding will continue to prioritize support to partners active in hard-to-reach areas and assistance to vulnerable populations, such as IDPs, refugees and conflict-affected communities. Funding will enable the tracking of refugee movements and support voluntary repatriation into their country of origin, when possible, as well as provide those still displaced with assistance.

USAID/BHA will continue to invest in Resilience Food Security Activities (RFSAs) in the region throughout FY 2022. These multi-year, multi-sector programs will prioritize increasing income for households vulnerable to shocks, improving nutritional outcomes of children ages two years and younger and pregnant and lactating women, and establishing more stable and inclusive operating environments for future development. Rapid response mechanisms in several countries will remain critical to USAID/BHA’s work in FY 2022, enabling the provision of critical shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance to populations affected by climatic shocks and complex emergencies.

Additional information on USAID/BHA’s activities can be found at: usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work

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