

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #10, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

APRIL 25, 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

**603,000**

Total Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR

OCHA – March 2014

**178,900**

Total IDPs in Bangui

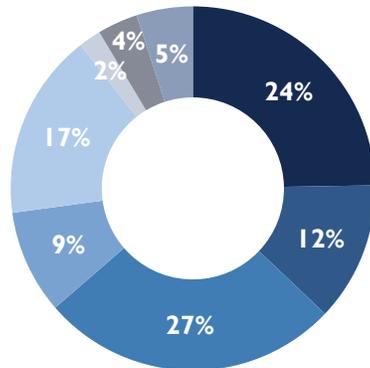
OCHA – April 2014

**321,300**

Total Central African Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries

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

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> 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

- The U.N. Security Council unanimously approved the deployment of a U.N. peacekeeping operation
- USG appoints Special Representative to the Central African Republic (CAR)
- Humanitarian community remains concerned for Muslim populations in besieged areas

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO CAR IN FY 2014

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

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On April 10, the U.N. Security Council voted unanimously in favor of a peacekeeping operation in CAR, media report. The resolution outlines the deployment of up to 12,000 peacekeeping troops, known as the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA), to the country upon adoption and lasting until at least April 30, 2015. Once operational, MINUSCA will comprise up to 10,000 military actors, nearly 1,800 police, and an estimated 20 corrections officers.
- Violence continues to beset interior prefectures of CAR, resulting in humanitarian needs that exceed the capacity of relief agencies to respond. In recent days, media sources and the humanitarian community have reported that armed groups have launched multiple attacks in remote areas.
- The U.S. Department of State Bureau of African Affairs announced the selection of Ambassador W. Stuart Symington as Special Representative for CAR on April 23. In this role, Ambassador Symington will help direct and coordinate the U.S. strategy for halting violence, responding to humanitarian needs, and strengthening governance capacity.

<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

- Violence and lawlessness in CAR's interior continues to result in death and displacement. According to media, clashes between anti-Balaka and ex-Séléka fighters in Kemo Prefecture's Dekoa town on April 9 killed at least 30 people. Violence in Mambéré-Kadeï Prefecture's Berberati town and in Ouham Prefecture's Batangafo town resulted in at least five deaths and significantly escalated tensions, particularly between anti-Balaka and the African Union-led International Support Mission to CAR (MISCA), the U.N. reports.
- The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies reports that Lobaye Prefecture's Boda town has been significantly affected by unchecked violence. In recent weeks, insecurity has resulted in the deaths of at least 115 people, injured more than 430 people, and damaged basic infrastructure. At least 24,000 people are sheltering in eight sites throughout the town. In addition, Boda hospital, the central market, and most Muslim-owned shops are completely destroyed. International media report that an estimated 14,000 Muslim IDPs in two sites are surrounded by anti-Balaka fighters.
- Between April 13 and 14, ex-Séléka fighters attacked civilians in Grimari town, Ouaka Prefecture, according to media. The fighting resulted in several deaths and forced local residents to flee Grimari. Displaced persons in nearby forests reported witnessing ex-Séléka killing civilians and burning homes. French troops recently deployed to Ouaka to help secure violence-affected towns, but currently have no presence in Grimari.
- In mid-April, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) released the findings of an education survey for CAR, in which the agency remotely surveyed 355 primary schools to assess the consequences of the crisis on child education. The assessment captured at least 111 cases of armed elements attacking schools in recent months, the majority of instances occurring in Bangui. On average, insecurity in recent months had closed nearly 65 percent of surveyed schools—235 facilities—as of mid-February; a 16 percent increase from the nearly 200 schools closed at the end of the 2012/2013 October-to-June school year. All schools assessed by UNICEF in Kémo, Ouham, and Sangha-Mbaéré prefectures—67 schools—are closed. IDPs in Bangui use eight schools as shelter; in more remote areas, displaced populations shelter in at least 24 schools.
- Between March 16 and 19, USAID/OFDA partner Agency for Cooperation and Technical Development (ACTED) assessed humanitarian needs among more than 3,800 people along the Damara–Bogangolo transit route in Ombella M'Poko Prefecture. The families originally fled violence in October/November 2013, gradually returning to areas of origin between November 2013 and February 2014. Armed elements had looted, burned, and destroyed returnees' homes and agricultural inputs; none of the four villages ACTED surveyed possess operational health facilities or schools. To support the returnees, ACTED identified construction of water points and mobile and stationary medical care as the most critical needs, followed by seed distributions, support for housing reconstruction, latrine installment, and provision of relief commodities.

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## DISPLACEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- MISCA escorted the remaining 540 Muslim IDPs sheltering at L'École Liberté displacement site in Ouham's Bossangoa town to southern Chad on April 11, according to the U.N. The humanitarian community, in coordination with MISCA, ensured safe transport for this population, which had previously requested relocation out of Bossangoa due to fear for their lives. UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) registered and assisted Muslim refugees upon arrival in Chad.
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) reports that once the 20-vehicle convoy reached Ouham's Boguila town, local armed groups engaged MISCA in gunfire, prompting at least 7,000 residents to flee into forested areas. MSF also sheltered up to 40 women and children in its Boguila facility. The clashes wounded several; however, persistent insecurity has prevented MSF from fully assessing the area.
- According to UNHCR, an increasing number of refugees from CAR are crossing into Cameroon with traumatic injuries. For the past two weeks, anti-Balaka fighters along roadways have attacked refugees; many new arrivals exhibit gunshot and machete wounds. These arrivals informed UNHCR that anti-Balaka have blocked main roads to Cameroon and the Garoua-Boulai and Kenzou border points, forcing refugees to travel through forested areas to cross

the border via informal, remote points. A majority of new arrivals are women, children, and the elderly—all are Muslim. According to the refugees, most males remained in CAR to form self-defense groups to fight and protect livestock against anti-Balaka.

- UNHCR reports that an average of 10,000 people from CAR cross into Cameroon each week, most of whom originate from western CAR's Boda and Bozoum towns. In response to growing needs, UNHCR has increased support to mobile clinics along the CAR–Cameroon border and helped relocate approximately 20,000 refugees at Garoua-Boulai and Kenzou to Cameroon's East and Adamawa regions. State/PRM supports the UNHCR/Cameroon operation through its Africa-wide contribution to UNHCR.
- On April 10, UNHCR began voluntary repatriation for more than 6,000 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) residing in southwestern CAR's Batalimo refugee camp to Libenge town in northern DRC's Equateur Province. A UNHCR team registers and provides multi-sector assistance to incoming refugees upon arrival in Libenge. UNHCR anticipates completing the operation within three weeks.
- Humanitarian organizations in Bangui identified two additional IDP sites in mid-April, according to the U.N. Between them, the two sites host approximately 10,000 people. The discovery highlights the continued difficulty relief agencies face in gathering information and accessing vulnerable populations in the capital, where the response is the strongest.
- IOM is serving at-risk populations in Lobaye Prefecture's Boda town despite challenges posed by Boda's isolation and presence of anti-Balaka fighters. During the week of April 14, IOM distributed relief commodities to approximately 1,400 households, working with Muslim and Christian IDP site leaders to identify priority beneficiaries, such as pregnant women, the elderly, and infirmed persons. IOM provisions included water containers, mosquito nets, buckets, mats, and soap; furnishing a quarter of Boda's IDP households with essential supplies. In addition to the distributions, IOM continues to operate a mobile medical clinic in Boda. To ensure that assistance does not fuel communal tensions, the clinic alternately assists Muslim and Christian sites. In FY 2014, USAID/OFDA provided IOM with approximately \$700,000 to procure and distribute emergency shelter and relief commodities to vulnerable populations throughout CAR.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Sustained shocks to CAR's economy, exacerbated by the flight of primarily Muslim traders and reduced imports, have greatly increased the cost of staple foods in Bangui. According to media, one liter of cooking oil has increased from almost \$1.90 in late 2013 to more than \$29 as of mid-April. The price of soap has increased from approximately 30 cents to 50 cents as of mid-April when compared to prices of early 2013; onions have risen from almost 50 cents to more than \$1.00. Protein sources, such as eggs and meat, are increasingly scarce. Butchers travel long distances to purchase cattle at high cost; a single cow that cost approximately \$527 in early 2013 now sells for more than \$1,400. In addition, anti-Balaka often impose a nearly \$100 tax for each cow purchased.
- WFP reports that approximately 159,000 children below the age of five years require highly nutritious food assistance countrywide. Since January 1, the USAID/FFP partner has reached approximately 78,500 conflict-affected children in Ouham and Ouham-Pendé prefectures and in Bangui, providing highly nutritious food through WFP's general food distribution. USAID/FFP has provided WFP with more than \$25 million in FY 2014 funding to distribute nearly 15,500 metric tons of food commodities to vulnerable communities in CAR. USAID/FFP funding also enables WFP to implement supplementary feeding programs and food-for-asset activities.
- With \$1 million in USAID/FFP FY 2014 assistance, WFP is providing food vouchers for refugees and Chadian returnees in Chad, assisting vulnerable populations to procure food while supporting local markets. WFP plans to reach an estimated 53,000 people with food vouchers in Chad, including families vulnerable to food insecurity during the June-to-October agricultural lean season.

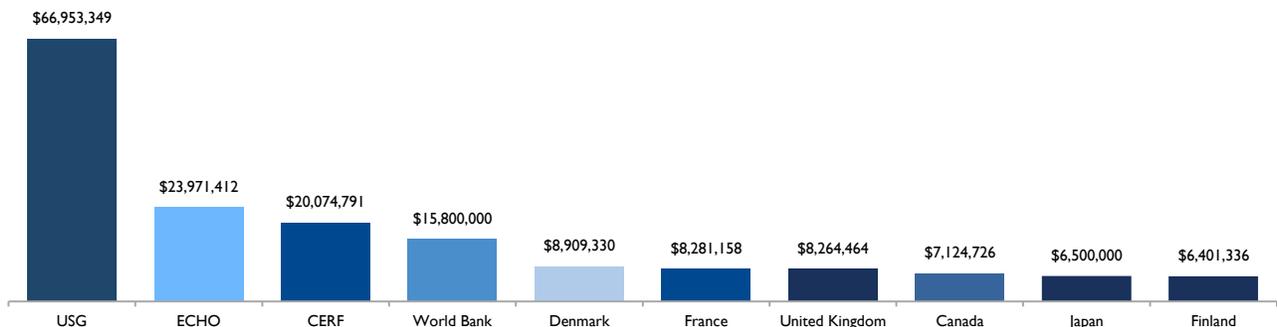
## HEALTH

- Action Contre la Faim (ACF) reports that the families of children receiving nutrition treatment at Bangui pediatric hospital show signs of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) due to prolonged exposure to extreme violence. An ACF psychologist recently interviewed 156 parents of children receiving treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM), approximately 60 percent of whom—94 people—exhibited symptoms of PTSD. Based on families’ recounted experiences, ACF posits that traumatic events and persistent fear of violence have prevented parents from adequately caring for their children, aggravating the conditions—such as poverty and insufficient access to food—that lead to SAM.
- ACF recently analyzed October 2013–March 2014 patient caseload data for Bangui pediatric hospital. Out of more than 1,000 cases, nearly 690 children refused to eat due to medical complications or psychological stress; more than 740 patients’ parents had been exposed to violence.
- Serving as lead for the Health Cluster—the coordinating body for health activities in CAR, comprising U.N. agencies, relief agencies, and other stakeholders—the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reports that 61 Cluster partners conducted more than 202,600 medical consultations between December 5 and April 4. During the same period, the Cluster vaccinated nearly 157,700 children against measles, almost 46 percent of the approximate 342,800 children the Cluster aims to vaccinate.
- Through more than \$1.5 million in FY 2014 funding, USAID/OFDA partner WHO is working to strengthen health care in CAR by distributing critical medical supplies, coordinating health actors, and managing essential medical activities. USAID/OFDA support to WHO will finance efforts to counter disease threats—educational materials on cholera, malaria, and tuberculosis, along with a vaccination campaign—and bolster in-country medical stocks.

## OTHER ASSISTANCE

- On April 23, the U.S. Department of State Bureau of African Affairs announced the selection of Ambassador W. Stuart Symington as Special Representative for CAR. In this role, Ambassador Symington will help direct and coordinate the U.S. strategy for halting violence, responding to humanitarian needs, and strengthening governance capacity in CAR. Previously, he served as U.S. Ambassador to Djibouti and Rwanda and as Deputy Chief of Mission in Niger.
- On April 16, UNHCR and 14 humanitarian partners released the 2014 CAR Regional Response Plan (RRP), which appeals for \$274 million. The CAR RRP calls for support to provide multi-sector humanitarian aid, including food, health care, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance, for people who have fled CAR for Cameroon, Chad, DRC, and the Republic of Congo (RoC). Beneficiaries include refugees, returnees, and third-country nationals. Previous appeals for the crisis in CAR, while calling for funds to assist regional refugees, did not account for the post-December 2013 influx of refugees generated by ongoing insecurity. By December 2014, UNHCR anticipates the number of people who have fled to Cameroon, Chad, DRC, and RoC to increase to nearly 362,000 people.

### 2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of April 25, 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 2014<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
ACF	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
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization	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
International Rescue Committee	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
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$16,853,349</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	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
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$28,500,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$21,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CAR IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$66,953,349</b>

<sup>1</sup>Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual amounts as of April 9, 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>