

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #12, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

MAY 23, 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) – May 2014

**1.6 million**

Estimated Number of Food-Insecure People in CAR

U.N. World Food Program (WFP) – May 2014

**560,050**

Total Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in CAR

OCHA – May 2014

**135,050**

Total IDPs in Bangui

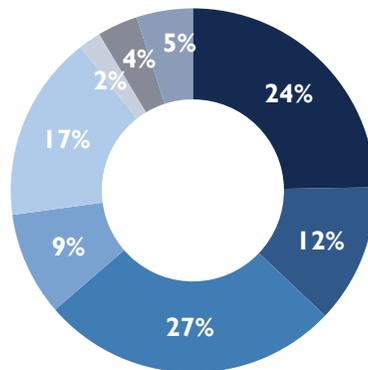
OCHA – May 2014

**366,900**

Total Central African Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – May 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 (WASH) (17%)
- Nutrition (2%)
- Shelter and Settlements (4%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (5%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- USAID/OFDA airlifts relief items into the Central African Republic (CAR)
- Ex-Séléka fighters regroup in northern CAR
- The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) has negotiated the release of 1,000 children from armed groups in 2014

## 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 May 15, USAID/OFDA airlifted relief items into CAR's capital city of Bangui for consignment to partner Catholic Relief Services (CRS). USAID/OFDA-provided commodities included blankets, water containers, and kitchen sets. In the coming weeks, CRS plans to distribute the relief items to approximately 30,000 IDPs in Ouham Prefecture's Bossangoa town.
- On May 14, U.S. President Barack Obama issued an Executive Order declaring a national emergency to address the threat in CAR. The order authorizes sanctions against former CAR President Francois Bozizé and four ex-government officials and armed group members linked to violence and atrocities in the country.
- In mid-May, at least 500 ex-Séléka fighters met in Bamingui-Bangoran Prefecture's Ndele town to discuss force unity and appoint a new commander. The humanitarian community is closely monitoring the actions of ex-Séléka and other armed groups to determine potential emergent needs or impact on assistance efforts.

<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

- During a May 6 address to the National Transition Council, interim President of CAR Catherine Samba-Panza condemned the April 26 attack on Ouham-Pendé Prefecture's Boguila town, during which armed elements killed 16 civilians, including three Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) staff. Prior to the speech, MSF suspended most activities in CAR in protest of the lack of condemnation from the Government of CAR (CARG) regarding the Boguila attack. Interim President Samba-Panza also pledged to improve and reorganize the CARG to better represent all CAR citizens.
- In mid-May, at least 500 ex-Séléka members convened in Ndele to appoint a new commander and discuss the coalition's future, according to international media. The armed group appointed General Joseph Zindeko as army chief. While meeting in Ndele, the ex-Séléka members also devised a strategy for unifying disjointed elements into a structured force. The humanitarian and security communities in CAR are closely monitoring these events to determine their significance for relief agencies' ability to provide assistance.

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## DISPLACEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Intensified fighting among armed groups in CAR's interior has resulted in additional displacement in Nana-Gribizi Prefecture, according to the U.N. As of May 2, fighting had displaced more than 23,000 people in Nana-Gribizi—nearly double the number of displaced individuals assessed in April. UNHCR is providing relief items—including blankets and kitchen sets—and access to safe drinking water to IDPs in Kaga Bandoro town. Beyond immediate relief items, priority humanitarian needs for the displaced include food, protection, and WASH assistance.
- On May 13, French soldiers found the body of a French journalist, along with the bodies of four local villagers, in a vehicle driven by anti-Balaka elements near Nana-Mambéré Prefecture's Bouar town. The U.N. condemned the killing and has called on the CARG to investigate the incident and bring the perpetrators to justice.
- According to the U.N., unidentified assailants attacked and killed three Première Urgence–Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI) drivers on April 30. The drivers were transporting eight metric tons (MT) of seeds and ready-to-use therapeutic food from Bangui to Ndele, and PU-AMI had clearly labeled the trucks as containing humanitarian commodities.
- On May 12, Chadian President Idriss Déby Itno formally announced the closure of Chad's border with CAR, according to international media. President Déby stated that the border would remain closed to all except Chadian nationals returning to Chad until the crisis in CAR is resolved. However, the U.N. reports that refugees continue to cross into Chad on foot. As of early May, approximately 18,000 Central African refugees and more than 97,000 third-country nationals had fled to Chad since December, according to the U.N.
- Following almost two weeks of a complete lack of jet fuel in CAR, the U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) successfully airlifted approximately 50,000 liters of jet fuel from Nairobi, Kenya, to Bangui on May 7. UNHAS, a USAID/OFDA and State/PRM partner, estimates that the shipment will support nearly three weeks of UNHAS flights, and resumed its regular flight schedule on May 9. If Total S.A.—the fuel supplier for CAR—is unable to supply jet fuel to CAR by late May, UNHAS plans to explore a second fuel airlift into Bangui.
- UNHCR, with support from State/PRM, concluded a voluntary repatriation program for Congolese refugees residing in Lobaye Prefecture's Batalimo camp on May 10, the U.N. reports. Since April 10, UNHCR, in conjunction with the CARG, has assisted more than 6,280 refugees—1,500 families—to return to the Democratic Republic of the Congo from CAR. UNHCR and the CARG are providing integration assistance to Congolese citizens who choose to remain in CAR.
- In early May, relief agencies began assisting Muslim IDPs and host communities in Ouham's Kabo and Moyen Sido towns, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The IDPs include 1,300 Muslims previously besieged in Bangui's *Pointe Kilométrique* (PK) 12 neighborhood who had requested an armed, escorted evacuation from Bangui to Kabo and Moyen Sido in April. State/PRM and USAID/OFDA partner IOM, along with USAID/FFP partner the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), have provided IDPs with approximately 13.7 metric tons MT of food—equaling a one-month supply of beans, oil, rice, salt, and Super Cereal Plus for each displaced person. The U.N. Humanitarian Country Team plans to coordinate longer-term assistance to the host and IDP communities residing in Kabo and Moyen Sido.

## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- In recent days the USAID/OFDA-supported Food Security Cluster—the coordinating body for food security activities in CAR—released updated IPC figures following a multi-agency classification process in April, the first since November 2013.<sup>4</sup> According to WFP, the protracted crisis in CAR has resulted in Emergency—IPC 4—conditions in Ouham and Ouham-Pendé. Populations in nine other prefectures across CAR exhibit Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity, and Mambéré-Kadéï Prefecture is Stressed—IPC 2. Crisis and Emergency conditions signify the immediate need for humanitarian assistance to prevent mortality and protect livelihoods. Due to lack of data, IPC analysts were unable to classify Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, Sangha-Mbaéré, and Vakaga prefectures.
- Between January and mid-May, the Food Security Cluster had pre-positioned 1,600 MT of seeds throughout 14 prefectures, according to the Cluster. The seeds represent nearly 90 percent of the 1,800 MT planned for distribution. WFP procures more than 35 percent of seeds—approximately 560 MT—from CAR farmers, thereby supporting local economies while also strengthening the agricultural sector. In conjunction with 16 national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the Cluster has also provided critical agricultural inputs to more than 14 percent of the 80,000 targeted households.
- To date in May, USAID/WFP partner WFP has distributed nearly 930 MT of food to more than 73,000 people in the capital city of Bangui, Ouham’s Bossangoa town, Nana-Mambéré’s Bouar town, Ouham-Pendé’s Paoua town, Nana-Gribizi’s Kaga Bandoro town, and Ouaka Prefecture’s Bambari town.

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## HEALTH

- On May 4, the Health Cluster—the coordinating body for health activities comprised of U.N. agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—reported 138 cases of measles in Carnot town and 13 confirmed cases in Berbérati town, Mambéré-Kadéï. Between April 7–20, the Health Cluster reported 76 cases in Carnot alone—a marked increase from the Carnot 15 cases reported in January and February.
- In May, USAID/OFDA partner the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) and other health actors launched a vaccination campaign to inoculate more than 44,000 children between six months and 14 years of age at IDP sites in Berbérati and Carnot. To date, USAID/OFDA has supported WHO with \$1.5 million in FY 2014 funding to provide vital health care services in CAR.
- The U.N. issued a warning that a protracted emergency could further exacerbate the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in CAR. Even prior to the crisis, CAR had the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the Central Africa sub-region, with a nearly 5 percent infection rate among the 15 to 49 year-old age group. Haut-Mbomou, Haute-Kotto, Nana Mambéré, and Ombella M’Poko prefectures exhibit the highest in-country prevalence. The U.N. is concerned that conflict, lack of humanitarian access, and scarce resources could impede Central Africans’ access to HIV/AIDS treatment.
- In total, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$4.8 million in FY 2014 funding for emergency health interventions in CAR. USAID/OFDA assistance targets immediate medical concerns for conflict-affected populations. USAID/OFDA partners are implementing community health care in Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Mbomou, Nana-Mambéré, Ouham, Ouham-Pendé, and Vakaga prefectures. In addition, USAID/OFDA is supporting WHO with \$1.5 million in FY 2014 funding to provide additional emergency health staff, oversee emergency medical procedures, and procure essential medicines and medical supplies across CAR.

## PROTECTION

- Since August 2013, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) has operated a 24-hour hotline for reporting abuses and security incidents in CAR. On average, the DRC hotline receives 2,000 calls per month, which includes 400 incident reports and numerous requests for protection-related services. Disaggregated data enables protection actors to track the type, frequency, and general location of abuses, but also connects survivors with essential resources.

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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.

- UNICEF reports that to date in 2014, the U.N. agency and its partners have negotiated the release of more than 1,000 children from armed groups in CAR—more than five times the number of children recovered in all of 2013. Of those children released, approximately one in five is female. However, UNICEF warned that armed groups continue to hold several thousand children. Since December 2013, the number of children forced or coerced into conflict in CAR increased from an estimated 3,500 to approximately 6,000.
- UNICEF—a USAID/OFDA partner—provides newly released children with health care services, psychosocial support, and family reunification assistance. UNICEF also provides older children with accelerated education and vocational training to help improve their livelihood prospects and avoid recidivism into armed activity.
- To date, USAID/OFDA has provided humanitarian partners with nearly \$1.9 million in FY 2014 funding to provide essential protection services for vulnerable populations in CAR.

## OTHER ASSISTANCE

- With USAID/OFDA support, the WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is enhancing technological capacities in CAR to improve communication among humanitarian actors countrywide. The ETC recently operationalized communication centers in Bossangoa, Bouar, and Paoua—areas particularly volatile for relief workers. Each center contains essential radio equipment, an independent power supply, and trained staff.

## 2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of May 23, 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>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Action Contre le Faim	WASH	Ouham	\$1,000,000
Agency for Cooperation and Technical Development	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Bangui, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,375,000
CRS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Ouham	\$650,638
DRC	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bamingui-Bangoran, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé	\$2,253,504
The 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
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$2,727,945
U.N. Department of Safety and Security	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
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 May 23, 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>