



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 59

26 June-24 July 2015

KEY FIGURES

368,859

IDPs including

30,186

in Bangui in 32 sites

468,386

Central African refugees in
Cameroon, Chad, DRC and Congo

8,255

Refugees and asylum seekers in the
Central African Republic

FUNDING

USD 241 million

requested for the situation



PRIORITIES

- Cameroon: acceleration of assistance to refugees living offsite in villages.
- Chad: profiling and verification exercise in returnee sites.
- DRC: relocation of refugees to existing sites. Verification of refugees out of camps.
- Congo: ensure registration and documentation of all CAR refugees.

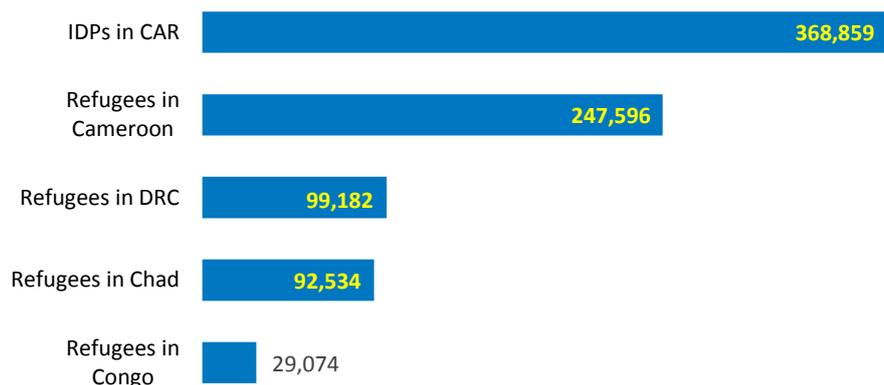
HIGHLIGHTS

On 20 July, the Central African constitution court overturned a decision made by the transitional Parliament on 30 June that would have prevented Central African refugees from voting in October's presidential elections. UNHCR met twice with the vice president and some members of Parliament following which a note was sent to the transitional Parliament to explain the importance of refugee participation in elections and UNHCR's role as a facilitator. Central African authorities are reportedly reluctant to having refugees participate for fear of electoral fraud.

On 22 July, the acting Humanitarian Coordinator¹ condemned the recurring deadly attacks on humanitarian and civilian convoys on the Baboua-Garoua Boulai axis which is the main supply route to Cameroon, by presumed *Front démocratique du peuple centrafricain* (FDPC) elements. One attack on a WFP convoy carrying food for IDPs in Baboua and escorted by MINUSCA peacekeepers resulted in the death of a truck driver while several passengers were injured. This situation will greatly impact on supplies of goods in CAR and Bangui in particular.

Population of concern

A total of **837,245** people of concern



¹ UNFPA Representative is currently acting HC.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Operational Context

The spokesperson of the Central African National Elections Authority (ANE) announced on 18 July that voter registration, which was supposed to end by 20 July in Bangui, would be extended to 27 July. According to the ANE, 278,428 people (159,766 men and 118,662 women) have been registered in the capital city out of the 300,000 expected. Women participation has reportedly improved compared to the first days of registration. Up-country, the situation is less encouraging. In Kemo prefecture, for example, 1,471 voters in Sibut and Dekoa have been registered since 19 July and in Bocaranga in Ouham Pende, registration only started on 20 July. The electoral process continues to face huge logistical, financial and security challenges.

Protection

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: According to the Commission Mouvement de la Population (CMP) there are an estimated 368,859 IDPs in the Central African Republic (CAR), including 30,186 in Bangui in 32 sites.

- UNHCR and International Emergency and Development Aid (IEDA) facilitated the transfer of 23 Central African Peuhls from Yaloke waiting in Cantonnier at the border with Cameroon. After several weeks of advocacy by UNHCR, they crossed the border into Garoua Boulai on 14 July and were transferred to Gado camp. The 23 Peuhls had been hosted at the Cantonnier police station since 5 June waiting for clearance by the Cameroonian authorities. Further efforts are ongoing by UNHCR and Cameroonian authorities to facilitate the departure of IDPs in Yaloke who wish to relocate to Cameroon.
- The IDP population has decreased in Bangui due to the closure of various sites and spontaneous returns. IDP populations have, however, increased in two sites located in the 2nd and 4th districts where newly arrived IDPs have been registered from Ouaka and Kemo prefectures. At M'poko airport site, a total of 6,658 IDPs have left since the start of the return process. There are currently 13,515 IDPs in M'poko site.
- There are 111,266 IDPs in 72 sites outside of Bangui with almost 10% decrease as compared to May figures. This decrease can be explained by the return movements from Batangafo sites to either Batangafo neighborhoods secured by MINUSCA peacekeepers or to villages located on the Batangafo-Kambakota-Ouogo axes in Ouham prefectures.
- IEDA has noted that return movements have increased since 10 July to Cantonnier, Beloko and Sabewa border areas with Cameroon with a total 240 returnees identified since 10 July. The reasons for return remain the impression of improvement in the security situation in CAR, the farming season and the reportedly difficult living conditions in Cameroon. Voter registration can also be one reason for return.

CAMEROON: A total of 247,596 Central African refugees are in Cameroon with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions.

- **Achievements and Impact:** UNHCR continued to verify and register refugees who have not yet been pre-registered in villages. A total of 400 Central Africans, recently settled in Mandjou, are in the process of being registered. In addition, the verification exercise continues and so far 130,483 people have been registered since December 2013 (when violence intensified in the CAR).
- UNICEF continued to conduct child protection interventions in the sites of Lolo, Gado and Borgop with its partners, International Medical Corps and the Cameroonian NGO, *Association Enfants Jeunes et Avenir* (ASSEJA). A total of 3,622 children regularly participate in the Temporary Learning and Child Protection Spaces (ETAPes) in Borgop and 11,487 in Lolo and Gado.
- Within the framework of prevention to cases of SGBV, UN Women and its partner *l'Association Femmes pour la Promotion du Leadership Morale* (FEPEM), sensitized 711 people (227 refugees and 267 Cameroonians) in the site of Gado and surrounding areas on assistance that can be provided for prevention as well as to survivors of SGBV.

CHAD: A total of 92,534 Central African refugees are in Chad with the majority located in the southern part of the country.

- **Achievements and Impact:** In order to facilitate the issuance of birth certificates to refugee children registered after the legal time limit, the *Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad* (APLFT), UNHCR's implementing partner, is conducting a census of all concerned children in the four camps in Gore prior to the organization of mobile courts next September. In Amboko camp, 200 children have already been registered.
- The APLFT also continued with the registration of children born from Chadian returnee families. The purpose is to facilitate the issuance of their birth certificates by granting "*jugements supplétifs*" (supplementary judgments concerning a birth record). From 13-19 July, APLFT registered 138 children including 60 in Sido, 63 in Maingama and 15 others in Danamadja and Kobiteye. In addition, 36 already authorized birth certificates were issued to the parents of Chadian returnee children including 19 in Danamadja and Kobiteye in Gore and 17 in Maingama, in Maro.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO:

A total of 99,182 Central African refugees are in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, predominantly in the northern Equateur Province.

- **Achievements and Impact:** As of 19 July, 6,903 refugees (2,227 households) were registered in Bili camp. The number of people requesting to be relocated to Bili camp continues to increase and some 505 people remain to be registered.
- In Boyabu, the *Association de Développement Economique et Social* (ADES) organized two SGBV sensitizations for 350 people (230 women and 120 men). Since the beginning of the emergency, 57 sessions have been organized for 8,211 people.



Central African refugees at the spontaneous site of Gbangara (Dula), along the Oubangi river, DRC. UNHCR/A.G. Nentobo.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO: A total of 29,074 Central African refugees are in the Republic of Congo, mainly in the Betou area. A total of 905 refugees, already present in the country for some time, were registered in the reporting period.

- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** Due to lack of capacity and equipment, the civil authorities in the area of Betou are still unable to register and deliver birth certificates. The situation is of particular concern in Mouale, Mokabi and Thanry where the closest registry office is located some 200 kilometres away. This gap concerns both the local and refugee population. Birth certificates are therefore not being delivered on time.

Education

CAMEROON

- **Achievements and Impact:** UNICEF continued to support the *Ministère de l'Éducation de Base* to ensure access to education for refugee and host community children in the East and Adamawa regions. A total of 4,856 children are attending preparatory classes in the ETAPes ahead of the new school year beginning September 2015.

CHAD

- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** The partial results of the *Baccalauréat* exam announced in Gore showed that only 2 out of 29 refugee students passed the first round whereas in Maro, only 7 out of 50 refugee candidates were successful, providing a provisional pass rate of 11%. The second session is scheduled for the week of 20 through 24 July. The low successful rate also affects Chadian students and is explained in part by the lack of

qualified teachers, the poor incentive fees given to community teachers and the lack of school material and infrastructure.

- The results of the “*Brevet d’Etudes Fondamentales*” (BEF) showed that 84 out of 161 refugee students from the camp schools in Maro successfully passed the exam. UNHCR and its implementing partners are working with school authorities to assist the 48% of students who failed the exam.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- **Achievements and Impact:** In Inke, 247 students (78 girls and 169 boys) are taking part in preparatory classes in order for them to be prepared for the upcoming school year in September 2015.
- In Boyabu, 116 children (52 girls and 64 boys) are enrolled in extra-classes and the literacy centre currently has 351 refugees enrolled in the programme (198 women and 153 men).



Health

CAMEROON

- **Achievements and Impact:** WHO facilitated the vaccinations of 50 refugees against polio and of 31 refugee children between the ages of 6 months and 15 years against measles at the entry points of Garoua Boulai and Tocktoyo. A total of 369,741 out of 531,324 children (70%) between the ages of 0-5 years were provided with the oral polio vaccine.
- Between 22 June and 13 July, medication provided by WHO to the French Red Cross was used to treat 1,843 patients from both the refugee (1,750) and host population (93) in Gado and the transit centre of Garoua Boulai.
- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** With the support of WHO, the *Délégations Régionales de la Santé de l’Adamaoua et de l’Est* published the epidemiological monthly report for June which indicated that malaria remains the predominant illness in both regions followed by acute respiratory infections.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** In the camps in Equateur and Orientale Provinces, malaria remains the predominant illness. In Mboti, for example, 44.17% were treated for malaria in the past week. This is in large part due to the rupture in stock of anti-malarial medication and antibiotics in the health centre. Patients requiring medical assistance are transferred to Ango general hospital.



Food Security and Nutrition

CAMEROON

- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** UNICEF and partners continued to support the *Délégations Régionales de la Santé de l’Adamaoua et de l’Est* in assistance to persons suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in nutritional therapeutic centres and mobile nutritional clinics. New admissions include a total of 2,640 people since 1 January 2015 representing 30.92% of patients expected this year.
- Distribution of nutritional supplements within the framework of WFP’s Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme is ongoing. As of 13 July, distributions had been conducted in the districts of Djohong, Meiganga and Gado for 20,375 people (16,663 children and 3,694 women). This cycle is targeting 58,900 people.
- The general monthly food distribution began on 7 July and is targeting 143,880 people. For now, WFP will only be able to continue with monthly food distributions until November 2015 due to a lack in funding.

CHAD

- **Achievements and Impact:** Targeted monthly food distribution began in Dosseye on 16 July. The operation will continue until 21 July to cover the entire refugee population of 5,521 households of 21,662 individuals.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** The Global Malnutrition rate (GAM) for children below the age of 5 in Bili camp is 8.2% including 6.2% with MAM and 2% with SAM. A total of 323 packets of plumpy nut were distributed to children with SAM and 594 packets to children with MAM.
- The GAM rate in Inke is 1.99% and the SAM rate is at 0.63%. A total 159 people are enrolled in the nutritional programme including 82 adults and 77 children below the age of 5.
- In Boyabu the GAM rate is 2.7% including 0.3% with SAM and 2.4% with MAM. A total of 277 packets of plumpy nut were distributed to 14 children with SAM.



Water and Sanitation

CAMEROON

- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** The average water supply in the East and Adamawa regions stood at 18 litres per person per day (l/p/d). There is 1 shower for every 20 people and 1 latrine for every 20 people.
- So far, UNHCR, UNICEF and Plan Cameroon have constructed 97 boreholes, 3,448 latrines and 2,535 showers in all sites. However, an additional 18 boreholes, 1,474 latrines and 2,192 showers are necessary to cover the needs of refugees in all camps. In host villages, 389 boreholes and 828 latrines need to be built.

CHAD

- **Achievements and Impact:** Water supply in the camps hosting Central African refugees meets the required standards of 20 l/p/d. Indeed, an average of 31.4 l/p/d is provided in the camps (Amboko 28; Belom 29; Doholo 39; Dosseye 31; Gondje 33 and Moyo 39). In host villages, the average is 21.4 l/p/d: (Koldaga 31; Bekourou 19; Dilingala 16; Doubadene 24.5 and Dembo 17).

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** This week, the average water supply in all refugee camps hosting Central African refugees was below the recommended amount of 20l/p/d: in Bili 13 l/p/d was available; 12.7 in Inke; 17 in Mboti, 18.8 in Boyabu; and 17.4 in Mole.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- **Achievements and Impact:** UNHCR's implementing partner, the *Agence d'assistance pour les Rapatriés et les Réfugiés au Congo* (AARREC), conducted water chlorination of the 13 wells in Betou. AARREC also organized an awareness campaign in Betou concerning basic rules of hygiene, sanitation and safety in food.
- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** With the extension of the *15 avril* site and continued new arrivals, the numbers of wells (13) are becoming insufficient and will not cater to the need of the concerned population.



Shelter/ NFIs and CCCM

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

- **Needs and Remaining Gaps:** A total of 93% (4,012) of the 4,319 IDP households registered in M'poko have requested de-activation and the willingness to return to their neighborhoods. The humanitarian community involved in accompanying the return process faces several logistical and assistance challenges.

CHAD

- **Achievements and Impact:** UNHCR started the construction of 102 family emergency shelters at Doholo camp, which are supposed to accommodate spontaneous refugees who have temporarily settled in the Amboko and Gondje camps. UNHCR has already registered these spontaneous refugees. Doholo camp was established in December 2014 and is home to a population of 2,294 people who arrived in 2014 and 2015 currently living in 492 in plastic sheeting shelters, 29 tents and 98 brick shelters for persons with specific needs (PSN). The camp still has the capacity to host another 2,400 individuals.

- On 25 June, CARE started the distribution of solar lamps offered by the Chad Relief Foundation to old persons with dependent children living in the four camps in Gore. The distribution began with Gondje and Amboko camps where 144 people received their lamps. A second round will be organized during the week. This distribution will also take place in Dosseye and Doholo. The solar lamps will help PSN to illuminate their houses, as they lack resources to buy fuel for lamps. They are also expected to be used by students who would be able to do their homework at night.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- **Achievements and Impact:** The monthly distribution of soap was organized in Bili for 5,394 people and 63 people received tarpaulins.
- The general distribution of 20l buckets within the framework of hygiene promotion in the camp of Inke is underway and so far 15,766 people received this item.
- In Mole, the 190 emergency shelters for 2015 have been constructed.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- **Achievements and Impact:** The construction work on the extension of the *15 avril* site is ongoing. African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) has constructed 115 shelters of the 254 initially planned.



Community Empowerment and Self-Management

CHAD

- **Achievements and Impact:** The Lutheran World Federation (LWF), UNHCR's implementing partner, allocated 40 hectares of arable land to 63 heads of households on the Doholo new site. The beneficiaries also received agricultural tools including 63 hoes and 63 axes. LWF also distributed 9.5 tons of seeds to 1,805 producers in Amboko, Gondje and Dosseye camps, as well as 37 cattle carts to host community producer groups in Maro including Dangoulou (15 units), Karbobo (02) and Yaroungou (20).



Women from Chad and the Central African Republic sell food and homemade goods in the marketplace of Dilingala, Chad. UNHCR/O.Laban-Mattei

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

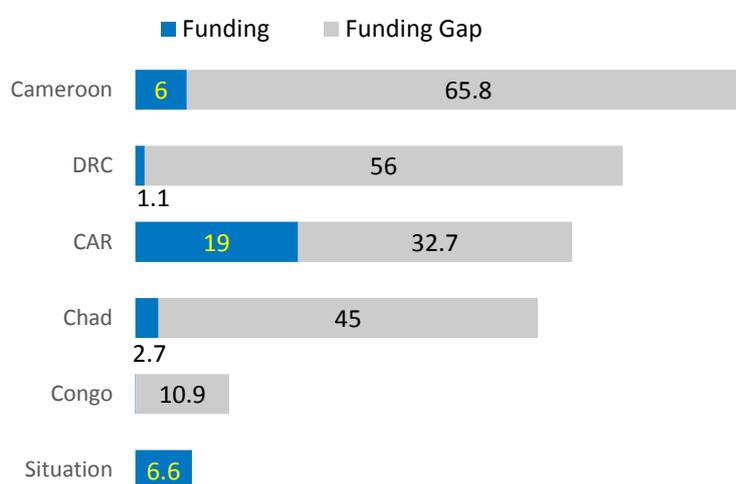
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation in 2014. Below are UNHCR's 2015 financial needs for providing protection and assistance to Central African refugees in the neighbouring countries, as well as discharging its responsibilities in the inter-agency framework to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs in the Central African Republic. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the CAR Situation currently amounts to **USD 241 million**, including USD 186 million for the response in asylum countries from January to December 2015, as presented in the Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 23 January 2015. **The overall needs are currently funded at 15%.**

Donors:

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UN Development Programme
UN Population Fund
UN Programme on HIV/AIDS

Funding:

A total of **USD 36 million** has been funded



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Links:

CAR regional webportal: <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>

UNHCR Tracks: <http://tracks.unhcr.org>

UNHCR Kora: <http://kora.unhcr.org>

