

kidnapping of an NGO staff member in Bangui following an operation by international forces in Boye Rabe, which is the main base for anti-Balaka elements in Bangui. The forces searched for ammunitions including guns and grenades, leading to clashes with armed elements.

About 20,000 displaced people are seeking refuge in the bush following the arrival of armed groups in Boguila, Kouki and Nana Bakassa in Ouham Province on 25 October. Humanitarian partners in the region have restricted their movements because of insecurity. Consequently, no relief has reached the population. The humanitarian community is seriously concerned about the continued and increasing needs created by the conflict. The spike in attacks targeting humanitarian aid workers affects the capacity to provide support to people in need.

The CFSAM carried out in August and September by FAO and WFP revealed the following: Crop production in 2014, estimated at 762,690 tonnes, is 58 per cent lower than the pre-crisis average, but 11 per cent up on 2013 due to increased cassava production. In contrast, cereal production decreased by 54 per cent in 2014 compared with 2013. FAO's support to crop production mitigated the negative impact of the crisis on food production. About 111,750 households received agricultural input seeds and tools, while 100 seed-multiplication groups received maize, rice and groundnut seeds.

WFP supported the operation by providing seed-protection rations. Livestock numbers are estimated to have declined by up to 77 per cent compared with pre-crisis levels due to looting and slaughtering. Fish supplies declined by about 40 per cent from pre-crisis levels due to insecurity in fishing areas and loss of fishing equipment.

The breakdown in market and trade activities has resulted in a severe scarcity of commodities, including essential food items. This has caused price surges in Bangui, where inflation increased from 3.5 per cent in January 2014 to 12 per cent in August, thus constraining access to food for many people. IDPs and isolated people face an emergency food security situation, with about 50 per cent of these households having critically low levels of food consumption and a high malnutrition risk. Support to boost food production (through distributing seeds and tools, promoting vegetable production, fish farming and small livestock rearing) is urgently required.

Despite the increasingly challenging operational circumstances, particularly access constraints, UNICEF is strengthening its efforts to reach children affected by violence. It has secured the water supply of 55,000 people in the north-western region after delivering enough fuel and chlorine to run the water-treatment centres in Bossangoa and Bouar for the next two months. Amid fears that the situation could deteriorate, UNICEF has pre-positioned more emergency supplies for children, including tarpaulins, jerry cans and blankets in its five field offices. On 29 October, a special Norwegian Air flight landed in Bangui packed with critical items, including drugs to treat HIV, materials to build emergency latrines and nutrition supplies for severely malnourished children. UNICEF is setting up 78 new temporary learning spaces for approximately 15,600 children who were forced to flee their homes, including in the hotspots of Kaga Bandoro, Batangafo and Dekoa.

Since July 2014, MSF has offered assistance and support to rape victims in two clinics in Bangui. Between July and September, 247 victims of sexual violence received help. Most were women, but girls as young as 8 years old and several men have sought assistance and support. They visited the clinic even though being a rape victim is taboo in Central African society. Local radio stations have promoted this new offer and increased its popularity, despite the risk of being stigmatized or rejected by one's spouse. The clinics offer support ranging from psychological consultations to tests for pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV.

Funding

The CAR Strategic Response Plan is 61 per cent funded. Early recovery, education and emergency shelter are the least funded sectors.

A Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) advisory board meeting was held on 31 October. Discussions focused on a risk management framework, the CHF project revision criteria and the advisory board's terms of reference.

Three projects, two of which were submitted by national NGOs and an international NGO, have been approved under the third 2014 CHF special allocation. The Association des Femmes Evangéliques de Bossangoa will implement a child-protection project in the Nana Bakassa sub-province of Ouham Province. Association Centrafricaine Pour le Développement Economique et Social will provide psychosocial and medical support to victims of trauma, stress and gender-based violence in Bambari. ACF will provide nutritional services in the Kemo Province over the next four months.

Clusters have identified priorities for Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocations. . The projects will be reviewed before submission to the CERF secretariat.

Humanitarian Response



Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

Needs:

- Coordinate the provision of assistance and protection in IDP sites in Bangui.
- Identify uncovered needs and support site authorities.
- Facilitate the voluntary return of IDPs leaving sites.
- Assess sites, carry out CCCM activities and strengthen the capacity of CCCM actors and partners outside Bangui.
- According to IOM, insufficient communal shelters have been identified in Boda, Kabo and Moyen Sido.

501,980

People targeted in 2014.

Response:

- The cluster monitored population movements and humanitarian needs on a daily basis in the 36 IDP sites in Bangui. It referred gaps to the relevant clusters, especially in sites that host newly displaced people following the last security incidents in Bangui, to ensure life-saving basic assistance to IDPs. The CFEASM (Ecole des sourds-muets de Benzvi) site in the 5th district has been closed. IDPs sought refuge during the crisis at this site.
- After exploring different options for IDPs living in classrooms in Saint Jacques de Kpetene site, and given that there was no space to build additional shelters on the site, 105 IDPs were transferred from that site to the Benzvi site in safe and dignified conditions. The operation was carried out jointly by the Protection and CCCM clusters
- A joint CCCM/Protection mission, coordinated by UNHCR Kaga-Bandoro, is under way to help the DRC site manager profile IDPs in the seven sites of Batangafo.
- In Bambari, under the supervision of the UNHCR Site Planner and with local partners, the alternative site has been cleaned up and is being parcelled. UNHCR and local partners are carrying out sensitization with IDPs from sites S and M who will move to the new site.
- In Boda, IOM is monitoring IDP movements and assistance in the eight sites and identifying separated children in communal settlements.
- In the Bouca region, a joint CCCM/Protection mission was held to monitor IDP movements and assistance in five sites near Bouca (Lady A and B, Gbakaya, Bozakon and Boya). UNHCR Bossangoa and DRC carried out the mission. Gaps were referred to the respective clusters.
- In Bossangoa, Catholic Relief Services—the site manager of the Petit Séminaire—withdraw from CCCM activities. IDPs now self-manage the site, as they had been prepared to do.
- IOM is managing and coordinating IDP transit sites in Kabo and Moyen Sido, which host 1,033 and 2,004 IDPs respectively. IOM is also supporting IDPs through a self-help housing project for durable solutions while creating job opportunities for youths from host and IDP communities.

Gaps and constraints:

- More funding is required to better address site-management needs countrywide and improve communication with IDPs.
- The rainy season requires most CCCM actors and partners to quickly find solutions for IDPs living in the most at-risk sites.
- Lack of access and insecurity impedes CCCM coverage outside Bangui.



Food Security

Needs:

- According to the 2014 Emergency Food Security Assessment, the food security situation remains precarious throughout the country. Some 28 per cent of the population (1.4 million people) is food insecure. This reveals a slight deterioration of the food security situation compared with last year. The most vulnerable groups include displaced people in IDP sites, IDPs in host families, refugees and returnees.
- More food assistance and nutrition support are needed following the findings of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, which revealed the precarious food security situation in 2014. In April, about 45 per cent of the rural population, or 1.7 million people, were in a humanitarian phase. In October, about 1.5 million people

1.25 million

Vulnerable people targeted in 2014

were in phase 3 and 4 (crisis and emergency) which is a slight deterioration compared with the same period last year.

Response:

- In October, some 230,000 people received life-saving general food assistance from WFP. Food distribution has resumed in Boda following weeks of suspension due to the eruption of violence. Distributions in Bangui's IDP sites also began after a few weeks of stalemate due to heightened tension. General assistance continued in the Moyenne Sido and Kabo regions.
- Food assistance along the Sibut and Grimari axis has been rolled out. WFP is supporting conflict-affected food-insecure households with vegetable production.
- Since January, FAO has provided crop-production support to 111,750 farming families. With funds received, FAO can also assist 27,000 households through resilience activities, as well as 30,000 farming families with off-season agricultural activities that do not depend on the rainy season, e.g., vegetable production, fishery and livestock.

Gaps and constraints:

- Insecurity leading to threats and theft of relief items and food commodities on roads and in warehouses.
- More implementing partners are required in Nana Mambere and Mambere Kadei Provinces.



Nutrition

Needs:

- Some 28,000 children will suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2014, and 75,500 children will suffer from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). These numbers could rise, given ongoing aggravating factors (displacement, poor food security, deteriorated access to clean water and sanitation, increased morbidity and lack of health-care services) and the ongoing rainy season and hunger gap.
- About 16,800 children suffering from SAM are targeted for treatment in 2014.
- An estimated 159,000 children under age 5 need highly nutritious foods. A consistent and adequately funded pipeline is needed to prevent a deterioration of nutritional status during this year.
- IOM has identified the need for regular food distributions in Kabo and Moyenne Sido. In October, MSF detected 35 cases of severe malnutrition in Moyenne Sido.

361,011

Vulnerable people targeted with nutrition services in 2014.

Response:

- Since 1 January, 19,945 children have been admitted for SAM treatment across the country, of whom 10,645 have recovered. This represents 71 per cent of the 28,000 children suffering from SAM. The case management performance indicators are as follows: recovery: 82 per cent (≥ 75 per cent); death: rate of 3 per cent (< 10 per cent). The default rate remains slightly high at 15 per cent (standard < 15 per cent), especially for areas still affected by insecurity and displacements.
- Since 1 January, 37,122 new beneficiaries have been admitted to WFP's nutrition programme. They include 17,913 children aged between 6 and 59 months; 12,314 PLW; 4,778 malnourished people living with HIV under ARV treatment; and 6,895 caregivers of people with SAM in health facilities. Some 5,827 malnourished people living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy have received food assistance since January 2014 in 25 sites including Bangui, and Ombella M'poko, Ouham Pendé, Nana Mambéré and Mambéré Kadei Provinces. The pilot phase for the distribution of protection rations to malnourished people with HIV/AIDS on ART, which started in August 2014 in the Ouham Pendé Province, has reached 580 beneficiaries.
- To prevent spikes in malnutrition, WFP provided large-scale integrated general food distribution and blanket feeding assistance. It distributed nutritious Plumpy'Sup to one child under age 5 per household and reached a monthly average of 24,211 children.
- Some 5,875 vulnerable IDPs living in an at-risk community in Boda received food assistance provided by COOPI, in collaboration with WFP and local authorities.
- INTERSOS distributed dry-food rations to 3,037 IDPs and other vulnerable people in collaboration with WFP in Kabo (1,033) and Moyenne Sido (2,004).

Gaps and constraints:

- Coverage of community-based management of acute malnutrition services outside of Bangui remains low due to security constraints and destroyed health facilities.

- There is a gap in the provision of activities to support appropriate infant and young-child feeding.
- Insufficient number of partners to treat MAM.

Protection

Needs:

- Grave violations against children have been observed, as armed groups continue to show limited respect for schools as a sanctuary for peace, safety and children's right to education. Armed groups made two attempts to use a school for non-civilian purposes in Gribingui, in Kaga Bandoro.
- Assessments of new child-protection needs triggered by the recent wave of violence in Bangui revealed an increased need for psychosocial support for the children affected.
- Considering that children continue to be recruited or used by armed groups, child-protection actors need to strengthen their efforts to extract these children.

2 million

Vulnerable people targeted in 2014

Response:

- Psychosocial support and recreational opportunities for children are ongoing through child-friendly spaces (CFS) and listening centres. However, participation rates by children remain affected due to continuing insecurity and tensions in and around Bangui. New CFS are being set up in Beberati town. This area has a limited number of child-protection actors.
- Family tracing and special support to vulnerable children, such as child-headed households, are ensured within a community at risk in Bangui's PK5 neighbourhood. A CFS with a listening centre is being prepared for children in this community.
- Recreational activities have been initiated through four CFS in Boda. Since the crisis began, 66,500 children have accessed recreational and psychosocial support countrywide.
- Child-protection actors continue to provide support to unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). New cases have been identified and registered in Bozoum, Bambari, Gribingui in Kaga Bandoro and Bangui. About 226 UASC have been registered. Family tracing and reunification efforts are ongoing with ICRC's support. Some 1,057 children have been reunited since the crisis began.
- During a recent relocation of ex-Seleka elements and their families from Bangui to Bria and Bambari, bracelets were distributed to 15 boys and girls under age 5 to prevent family separation.
- In addition to the national-level Child Protection Sub-cluster and the regional sub-cluster hub in Bossangoa, a new Child Protection Working Group is being setup in Kaga Bandoro.
- In Boda, IOM site facilitators identified 178 separated children and 24 unaccompanied minors in an at-risk community. They referred them to the Protection Cluster for assistance.

Gaps and constraints

- Violence, insecurity and banditry continue to impede humanitarian access and child-protection activities. Some child-protection actors were victims of looting and attacks, or had their activities obstructed, gravely affecting child-protection responses.
- Heavy rains hinder children's access to recreational activities and lead to the temporary closure of some structures.
- Difficult and deteriorating infrastructure conditions pose problems to child-protection actors in reaching out to communities where protection activities are required.

Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs:

- The need to rehabilitate the communal emergency shelter (E-shelter) has been identified in the Notre Dame de Chartres IDP site in Bangui.
- The Shelter Cluster is analysing the needs of 1,430 displaced households in Bouar.
- According to IOM, NFIs, including kitchen sets, mats, mosquito nets, blankets, soap and clothes, are needed in Kabo and Moyen Sido.

703,975

Vulnerable people targeted in 2014 with emergency shelter and NFIs.

Response:

- In Bambari, UNHCR is constructing individual shelters for 10,000 displaced people who will soon move from the M and S sites to a new site.
- In Bangui, UNHCR has pledged financial support to reconstruct an additional 26 houses that were burned following the recent resurgence of violence in Ouango in the 7th district. ACTED will implement the project.
- PU-AMI continues to ensure the rehabilitation of communal E-shelters in the following sites: Saint Sauveur, Centre Jean 23, FATEB, Capucin, Père Combonien, Saint Antoine de Padoue, Padre Pio, Saint Joseph de Mukassa and Mission Carmel.
- In Bossangoa, Bozoum and Benzambé, CRS distributed 1,666 return kits including frames, windows, doors, locks and tarpaulins within the framework of its housing-reconstruction project funded by OFDA and UNHCR.
- In Kaga Bandoro, Solidarités/RRM distributed 466 NFI kits to IDPs living with host families. UNHCR provided the kits.
- IOM has rehabilitated 18 emergency shelters (6 in Kabo and 12 in Moyen Sido).

Gaps and constraints:

- In Bangui, PU-AMI halted communal E-shelter-dismantling activities due to persistent insecurity and attacks on its teams.

**Water, Sanitation, Hygiene****Needs****900,000**

People targeted in 2014

- In Bangui, four latrines at the PK5 mosque site need to be rehabilitated. The latrines used by children also need to be closed due to the lack of waste collection.
- Only 22 per cent of the 700 IDPs in the Ngandio, Senguele, Sosso-Nakombo and Dede-Makouba sites in Dede-Mokoumba have access to a water point less than 500 m away.
- In Grimari, UNICEF and TGH are conducting assessments in response to the increase in the number of IDPs.
- In Bangui, about 45 per cent of the assessed SODECA kiosks (water fountains) need to be rehabilitated. Only one organization has funding to conduct this activity. The cluster is seeking more partners, as the kiosks are crucial in supporting the return of IDPs to their homes.
- In Berberati, the SODECA water network has not functioned since 2012. A WASH assessment is planned.

Response

- In Bossangoa, 35,000 people received 500 m³ of potable water through the SODECA water network. SODECA distributed 20 m³ of potable water to 560 IDPs at the Petit Seminaire in Bossangoa. The KODIS health centre was connected to the SODECA water network.
- In Batangafo, the construction of 90 latrines, 50 showers and 3 garbage pits is ongoing in the new alternative site. Some 29 WASH committees have also been set up.
- In Bambari, latrines and garbage pits were closed while two new garbage pits were constructed. Some 16 hygienists were trained, and 234 m³ water per day was distributed to the 18,000 IDPs in the Notre Dame de la Nativite, S and M sites.
- In Ngakobo, 800 new households comprising 4,000 IDPs arrived. Jerry cans and soap were distributed to 9,339 IDPs on the site and to 450 people within communities at risk.
- In Kaga-Bandoro, 103 m³ of water was distributed and 25 new latrines constructed. This brings the total number of latrines to 185, reaching 11,185 IDPs at the Eveche site. Water trucking was stopped at the Nativity site because a new water point was built serving 260 IDPs.

Gaps and constraints

- Some critical areas are without WASH partners.
- No WASH contingency plan exists for the regions outside Bangui.

General Coordination

An ACTED/Rapid Response Mechanism multi-sectoral assessment was carried out in Bambari (Ouaka Province) from 23 to 24 October, where most of the displaced arrived from Ndassima and Grimari. An estimated 800 households are in the Bambari aerodrome area. The main preliminary findings of the assessment include:

Shelter/NFIs: Most displaced people require NFI assistance including blankets, mosquito nets and jerry cans. The majority of IDPs live with host families, while over 20 households are seeking refuge in a school. The mission recommended the distribution of complete NFI kits to all IDPs. Initially, tarpaulins should be distributed to IDPs and further assistance provided to returnees to reconstruct houses that were burned in their villages.

WASH: None of the villages visited have functional water points. The wells in Mandayebea and Poumeyo need to be rehabilitated. An estimated 36 per cent of the population has access to hygienic latrines, while 42 displaced households in the Aviation school site have no access to latrines. The mission recommends the distribution of soap to IDPs, hygiene sensitization and the construction of two emergency latrines at the Aviation site.

Food Security: 100 per cent of households visited do not have food stock, but Caritas and WFP distributed food rations to IDP families in mid-October. The mission recommended another distribution targeting all IDPs.

Education: Three schools were functional until the crisis began in Bambari in June 2013. They remain temporarily closed. The mission recommends the construction of three to six classrooms in Ngoukala and Ndougondo villages where four teachers are already present.

Health: A health centre in supported by Save the Children provides free health-care services to people in the vicinity, covering 19 villages consisting of an estimated 5,314 people. The centre also has a mobile therapeutic feeding unit that has treated 15 cases of SAM in the past month. About 31 per cent of patients have been admitted for malaria treatment. MSF Holland ensures free health-care services to IDPs in the Aviation site, but the mission recommends extended mobile services to other villages far from the site. IDPs should also be sensitized on the availability of free access to health services at the health centre (RRM).

An ACTED/RRM multi-sectoral assessment was carried out in the Notre Dame de Victoire (NDV) IDP site in Bambari (Ouaka Province) from 27 to 28 October. The site is home to 194 IDPs who arrived from Batobadja and Matchika on the Bambari/Alindao road. The main preliminary findings include:

Shelter/NFIs: The majority of IDPs require mosquito nets, blankets and jerry cans. Most are seeking refuge in the henhouse at the NDV site in buildings approximately 80 m² each. Six houses were burned in Batobadja during violent attacks. The mission recommended distribution of complete NFI kits and tarpaulins to newly arrived IDPs.

WASH: In Batobadja village, only one well out of the identified three is functional. At the IDP site, residents have access to an unconstructed well. People based around the Caritas office have access to water-trucking services set up by Triangle. The mission recommended the inclusion of zones hosting newly arrived IDPs for the water-trucking services and the set up of chlorination points for wells used by IDPs. Sanitation conditions are concerning because one latrine and one washroom are used by over 1,000 people.

Food Security: WFP had distributed food assistance to IDPs arriving from Batobadja and Machika two days before the assessment mission.

Health: There is a health centre in Batobadja, but IDPs report that it has no latrine or water point. It does not have a refrigerator for vaccine storage, and there are no community workers in the region to ensure nutritional screenings.

The NDV site has an MSF Holland-run health centre that provides free vaccines to children aged 0 to 5 years. However, residents have to pay for health-care services. As a result, the mission recommended additional support to the NDV health centre so that IDPs could afford health care.

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