

## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

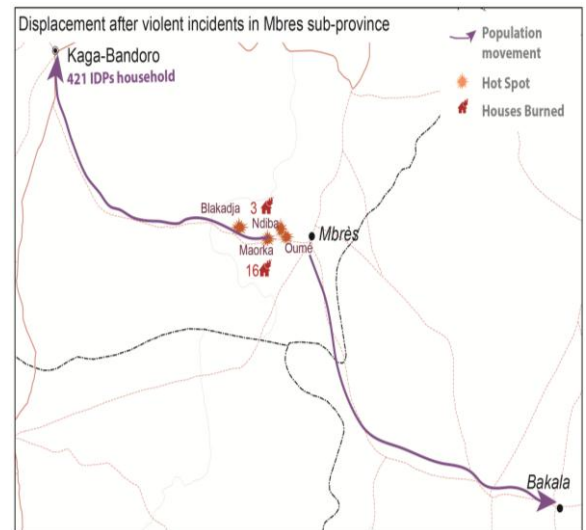
### Situation Report No. 39 (as of 20 August 2014)



This report is produced by OCHA CAR in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period between 14 and 20 August 2014. The next report will be issued on or around 3 September 2014.

## Highlights

- More than 1,000 people have been displaced due to intercommunity violence in Mbres.
- At least 31 people were injured in explosions in Bangui on 19 and 20 August, according to MSF.
- The Ministry of Health, with support from WHO, has strengthened Ebola screening at Bangui's international airport.
- Robberies targeting humanitarian aid continue to be reported, particularly against food and seed deliveries.



### 84,000

IDPs in Bangui, almost unchanged on last week's figures.

### 44%

Funding available (about US\$248 million) against the revised SRP requirements of \$565 million

Received outside SRP \$118 million

### 4.6 million

Population of CAR

### 2.5 million

People in need of assistance

Sources: OCHA, CMP, Protection Cluster and FTS

## Situation Overview

Violence in and around Mbres (Nana-Gribizi Province) last week and reported exactions against civilians created new displacements in the region. Families were forced to flee along the Mbres to Kaga-Bandoro road and the Mbres-Bakala road. The OCHA sub-office in Kaga-Bandoro reports 421 newly arrived households in the town living with host families from Mbambi; Mardomba 1 and 2; Oume; Ngangue; Ndiba 1 and 2; Mohorka; Nguimale and Mboutou. A number of houses have been destroyed.

UNHCR and UNFPA plan to work with the displacement committee to help profile the new arrivals. Many of those displaced have reportedly fled to the bush. Solidarites International is planning a multi-sector assessment on the main roads from Kaga-Bandoro to Mbres and Kaga-Bandoro to Dekoa.

The Ministry of Health, with support from WHO, has strengthened medical checks for travellers arriving at the main airport in Bangui in response to the Ebola outbreak. The Health Cluster is working to update and finalize an Ebola outbreak response road map for CAR and to implement the pre-outbreak initial phase.

At least 31 injured people were treated by MSF at Bangui's main general hospital after fighting between international forces and armed groups in Bangui on 19 and 20 August. The clashes around PK5 represent some of the most serious incidents in the capital since April. A Central African Red Cross volunteer was killed on 20 August when he was shot while evacuating the injured. Thousands of people are reported displaced after fears of attacks on IDP sites.

Insecurity and bad road access (particularly since the rainy season began) disrupt market links and represent serious constraints for humanitarian operations, increasing logistics costs. On 17 August, an FAO truck that contained 30 tons of seeds was looted by an armed group. This prevented the distribution of seeds to 1,200 vulnerable families in Kaga-Bandoro and Ndele. The FAO warehouse in Bambari was robbed for the third time in recent months. Two WFP trucks were looted in two separate incidents.

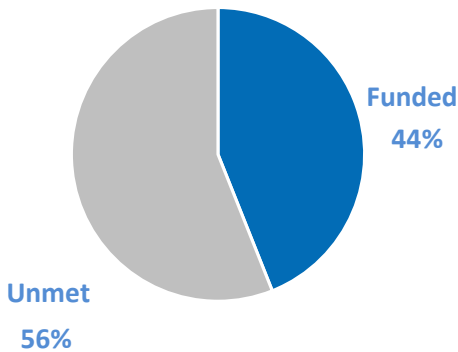
World Humanitarian Day was celebrated in CAR on 19 August with a ceremony in the main chamber of the ex-National Assembly, presided over by the Minister of State representing the President, and the Minister of Public Health, Social Affairs and Humanitarian Action. The Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and ministry officials visited a school opening in Bangui that was refurbished by Finn Church Aid. Events were also held outside Bangui in Ndele and Paoua. More events will be held later this month in Bouar.

## Funding

The CAR Strategic Response Plan (SRP) is 44 per cent funded. Early recovery, education, nutrition and emergency shelter are the least-funded sectors.

CAR - FUNDING: STRATEGIC RESPONSE PLAN 2014

**\$565.2 Million**



Funding by Sectors (in million \$US)

	% Funded	Requirements	Funded	Unmet
Food Security	48%	180,00	86,14	93,86
Protection	8%	74,00	6,26	67,74
Health	36%	64,32	23,17	41,15
Early Recovery	3%	60,00	1,65	58,35
Emergency Shelter	15%	33,54	4,88	28,66
Education	9%	33,00	3,03	29,97
WASH	37%	27,50	10,12	17,38
MS Refugees	2%	22,68	0,51	22,18
Nutrition	34%	22,55	7,62	14,93
CCCM	0%	20,00	-	20,00
Coordination	30%	15,50	4,66	10,84
Logistics	79%	10,20	8,07	2,14
Emergency Telecommunications	19%	1,91	0,36	1,55
Cluster Not Yet Specified	0%	-	92,02	-

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org)

A second advisory board meeting took place to finalize the HC's recommendations for the third special allocation of 2014. The HC pre-selected 23 projects to continue the revision process. The total budget is close to US\$9 million and includes projects from six national NGOs. Two additional projects remain in the selection process for possible financing upon availability of funds.

## Humanitarian Response



### Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

#### Needs:

- Seek alternative solutions for IDPs living in the most at-risk sites and unable to return home before the rainy season.
- Maintain updated information on IDP sites, coordinate provision of assistance and protection, identify uncovered needs and support site authorities in Bangui.
- Facilitate voluntary return of IDPs leaving sites.
- Assess sites, support CCCM activities and build the capacities of CCCM actors and partners outside Bangui.

**501,980**

People targeted in 2014.

#### Response:

- Monitoring of assistance and protection in sites in Bangui continues. The cluster is mobilized to assess the situation, refer gaps in assistance and protection to the respective clusters, and help site authorities to address priority needs and liaise with national and local authorities. On 14 August, a coordination meeting gathered site

authorities from 29 sites in Bangui at the Mairie. OCHA presented the durable solutions strategy, while representatives of the Ministries of Health and Security presented their humanitarian action and security activities.

- DRC has been conducting a “clean site” operation in Saint Charles Luanga and Eglise des Frères Castor sites to raise awareness about sanitation.
- IOM issued its seventh return-intention survey covering July. It shows that the number of IDPs has decreased significantly and IDPs’ return intentions are increasing. Housing (39 per cent), security (33 per cent) and NFI (15 per cent) are the main prerequisites to end displacement. IOM collected the IDP return-intentions data for the August DTM report between 11 and 15 August.
- Batangafo: The CCCM Cluster is mobilized through local partners to assess the situation of IDP sites and population movement after recent incidents. DRC is establishing community participation structures in sites.
- Boda: Site facilitators continue to monitor the assistance in Boda’s eight sites (five sites visited this week).
- Kabo: A CCCM assessment was conducted in Kabo and Moyenne Sido respectively on 13 and 14 August to evaluate IDPs’ situation and the CCCM training needs of actors on the ground. The Mayor of Moyenne Sido donated 460 parcels of land to IDPs for shelter and agriculture during an official ceremony on 13 August. IOM teams collected information on Site C (Cite de la Paix) and on the IDP site in Moyenne Sido, which is hosting IDPs from Bangui’s PK12.
- Bambari: The possible setting up of an alternative site is being discussed locally among the humanitarian community in coordination with security forces and authorities.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- More funding is required to better address site-management needs countrywide and improve communication with IDPs.
- The rainy season worsens the already precarious living conditions of IDPs in sites, especially with regards to shelter and WASH. The limited resources available make the response inadequate to cover the needs.
- Lack of access and security impair the coverage of the cluster outside Bangui.

## Education

#### Needs:

- Temporary safe learning spaces (ETAPes) with age-sensitive educational and recreational activities and child-protection services for 362,000 people are needed.
- Emergency recreational, teaching and learning materials for ETAPes and schools are required for 362,000 people.
- A total of 5,000 teachers need psychosocial training.
- School-feeding activities, particularly in provinces with a low rate of student returns, are required for 400,000 people in need.

### 362,000

People require ETAPes with age-sensitive educational and recreational activities and child-protection services.

#### Response:

- Since January, 34,555 children benefitted from learning and protection activities in 144 ETAPes in Bangui, Bossangoa and Boda. Children aged between 3 and 18 have received access to basic education in displacement sites.
- Including those teaching in the ETAPes, 482 teachers and instructors were trained in psychosocial support to children who experienced violence during the conflict.
- School-feeding programmes are ongoing countrywide encouraging students and teachers to return to schools. So far, 206,410 students have benefitted from these programmes in 11 provinces and Bangui.
- Emergency rehabilitation and construction activities have been completed in 42 schools providing solid learning and recreational spaces to 13,112 students who attend the schools.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- To date, the cluster is only 9.2 per cent funded, one of the lowest rates compared with the funding requirement. More funding is urgently needed as part of mid-term and long-term response for the country by expanding learning opportunities to children affected by the crisis and who are without access to proper education.
- Volatile security situations due to ongoing fighting in some provinces and constant population movements are challenging the provision of structured education and child-protection activities.
- More efforts should be made to organize psychosocial trainings for teachers to ensure that children have access to adequate trauma care.

## Food Security

#### Needs:

- According to the April multi-agency Integrated Phase Classification (IPC), the food security situation remains precarious throughout the country. Approximately 45 per

### 1.7 million

People are food insecure.

cent of the rural population (1.7 million people) are food insecure. Increased food assistance, nutrition support and agricultural inputs are needed throughout the country to assist food insecure vulnerable people, and to support the agricultural season to avert a large-scale food crisis in the coming months.

- The rainfall data during the first months of the rainy season indicated that the weather was drier than average. There are significant rainfall deficits in the north-west, particularly in the main agricultural areas of Ouham and Ouham Pendé and areas north of Bangui. Food needs in these areas are expected to continue throughout the agricultural season.

#### Response:

- WFP assisted an estimated 66,000 people between 1 and 15 August.
- In August, WFP has so far distributed seed protection rations to 21,000 people, of whom 78 per cent were located in the IPC 4 areas, which also contain the main agricultural areas.
- The Food Security Cluster has conducted the periodic monitoring of the Strategic Response Plan (SRP). The cluster is still supporting the Government, FAO, WFP and the cluster partners for the coordination and preparation phases of the Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission and the Emergency Food Security Assessment, to be undertaken at the end of August and beginning of September, respectively.
- The preparation of the vulnerability and food security evaluation in the enclave in PK5 (Bangui) has been finalized by the Food Security and Protection Clusters and their partners (including WFP and several NGOs). Data collection (through focus groups) will start on 20 August for two days. The next steps for this evaluation will be the food security assessment and counting of people in the enclave.
- FAO reached its initial objective of distributing 2,000 mt of maize, groundnut and rice to 80,000 farming families for the current planting season. This was part of the countrywide distribution projects targeting the most food insecure rural families in time.
- FAO has established strategic partnerships with 20 national and international NGOs to implement the distribution plan to farming families countrywide. Each family will receive 25 kg of crop seeds and two hoes to plant in time and produce at least 500 kg of food that will contribute to feed them for approximately four months.
- The main planting season ended at the end of June, but FAO continues to support an additional 33,750 families with seeds (sorghum, beans, peas, sesame, millet and maize) and tools for the short-cycle agricultural season. This is expected to last through August, depending on the geographical areas. As of today, 11,000 families received seeds (32 per cent of the target) in the Ouham, Ouham-Pende, Ouaka, Kemo, Nana-Gribizi, Nana-Manbere and Ombella-Mpoko prefectures.
- FAO secured extra support from donors to reinforce the resilience of an additional 50,000 families, most of whom are enrolled in women's associations, to help them strengthen their financial capacities, agriculture techniques and social protection towards improving food and nutrition security. A total of 250 graduated youths are being trained on the "caisses de resilience" approach that will be implemented by national and international partners and specifically on saving and loans schemes and farmers fields schools techniques.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- Despite the increase in deliveries and people served, the rainy season, road conditions and insecurity along the roads and at distribution sites continue to represent the main constraints.
- WFP requires \$1 million to strengthen the Food Cluster's support for six months in collaboration with FAO.
- The 2013 November IPC indicated that 1.2 million people were food insecure. The April IPC concluded that the number of food insecure people is 1.7 million, meaning that there has been an increase of 500,000 people who need food security assistance countrywide in the past eight months.
- Under the SRP, FAO requested \$45 million to support 150,000 farming families. To date, only \$30.5 million has been received. Funds received to date have enabled FAO to assist 120,000 farming families for the current agricultural season in 14 of the 16 provinces. However, an additional \$14.5 million is still required to achieve the SRP objectives.
- The peace process started in Brazzaville, which led to the signature of the cease-fire agreement, recorded limited presence of representatives of farmers and cattle keepers. The transhumance will resume in September/October and could induce increased tensions in the country.



#### Health

#### Needs:

- Update and finalize the Ebola outbreak response road map for CAR and to implement the pre-outbreak initial phase.
- Complete the immunization-in-emergency strategy following African Vaccination Week. The vaccination campaign planned will cover measles for 2 to 15 year olds in IDPs camps in the north-west.

**878,000**

People targeted in 2014.

- Initiate additional immunization campaign against Polio for children under age 1 in five provinces in western CAR, as two new cases of polio have been recorded in Cameroon.
- Complete the Health Resources Availability Mapping System (HeRAMS) analysis recommendations in the peripheries of the country.

#### Response:

- Update of the CAR Ebola outbreak response strategy with the participation of all Health Cluster members.
- Interagency rapid assessment on health needs was conducted in Batangafo, Kabo and Sido combined with provision of IEHK and reproductive health kits for about 7,000 IDPs in those areas.
- An ambulance was provided to the Bambari regional hosp through an early access to secondary health care for patients in the area.
- Signature and endorsement of the road map for free health-care services for vulnerable groups for the upcoming year.
- Substantial provision of medical supplies to health partners to cover the needs of more than 30,000 people for three months in Ouham Pendé and Ombella Mpoko Provinces and Bangui.
- IOM's mobile health clinic in Bangui provided 266 consultations to ex-Seleka cantoned at the RDOT military camp. There were 118 malaria cases.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- Supplementary funding is required to implement CAR's Ebola outbreak response road map.
- Additional funding is required to implement the new mental-health response strategy.
- Countrywide shortage of immunoglobulin and vaccines to deal with the increased snake-bite cases (out of Bangui) and rabies cases in Bangui due to dog bites.
- Additional logistical support is required to complete the decentralization of blood banks to ensure easier access to safe transfusions outside of Bangui.
- Lack of financial resources to support returnees in Bangui from IDPs sites.



## Logistics

#### Response:

- The cluster continues to collect, compile and share information regarding the road transport plan of partners from Bangui to various field locations.
- The cluster shared information with partners re the current status of entry points and road access/constraints, contact details of customs offices and suppliers.
- WFP/Logistics Cluster are receiving support from a UNHRD technician to help with MSU erection for inter-agency use in Kabo and Batangafo.
- UNHAS transported 374 passengers and 3.57 mt cargo and organized one medical evacuation between 12 and 16 August.
- Updated information was shared on the Logistics Cluster website regarding UNHAS flights and Logistics Cluster information: <http://logcluster.org/ops/caf13a>

#### Gaps and constraints:

- Poor infrastructure and insecurity along the main roads remain a logistical challenge, hampering the humanitarian logistics chain.
- The rainy season makes operations more difficult as the road conditions will worsen and subsequently prolong transportation time.
- Access to national service providers remains an issue in Bangui and the provinces.
- There is no fuel network outside of Bangui. Consequently, pre-positioned stocks are necessary in the provinces.
- Lack of funding.



## Multi-sector assistance to refugees

#### Needs:

- A verification/registration exercise is required to find suitable durable solutions for refugees.
- Provide multisectoral assistance to urban refugees and refugees living in camps, including primary and secondary health care, education, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, etc.

#### Response:

**501,980**

Vulnerable people targeted in 2014.



- A return-intention survey was carried out in Zemio camp based on a sampling of 535 people: 120 heads of households (representing 455 people) and 80 representatives of the camp's social, gender and customary groups. As a result, 89 per cent of people expressed unwillingness to return against 9 per cent who would like to return. A total of 75.5 per cent of the total said they are well informed of the situation in their areas of return. Congolese refugees said that they would return to DRC pending an improvement of the security situation and rehabilitation of basic services.
- Care and maintenance activities, including the provision of health and nutrition services, continue in Zemio and Bambari camps, and for urban refugees in Bangui. In collaboration with the Danish Refugee Council (UNHCR's partner for multisectoral assistance to urban refugees and asylum seekers), 78 people with specific needs were identified as the people most in need of targeted assistance in Bangui.
- COOPI, UNHCR's partner in Zemio camp, has constructed 24 shelters for households with specific needs.
- IMC and CNR staff members in Bambari have resumed medical services at the Pladama Ouaka camp in Bambari.

### Gaps and constraints:

- Absence of a permanent international force to secure the Pladama Ouaka refugee camp in Bambari (Ouaka Province).



## 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 start of the rainy season/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 the rainy season.

**28,000**

Children will suffer from severe acute malnutrition in 2014.

### Response:

- Since 1 January, 14,705 children have been admitted for SAM treatment across the country, of whom 6,956 have recovered. This represents 88 per cent of the SRP target of 16,800 children suffering from SAM. Overall performance indicators of case management remain within global standards with an average recovery rate of 81 per cent ( $\geq 75$  per cent) and death rate of 3 per cent ( $< 5$  per cent). However, the default rate remains slightly high 16 per cent (standard  $< 15$  per cent), especially for areas still affected by insecurity and population displacements.
- Since the beginning of the year, 32,431 children were treated from MAM with the following performance rates: recovery rate: 89 per cent ( $> 75$  per cent); death: 0.03 per cent ( $< 3$  per cent); default: 5 per cent ( $< 15$  per cent). This represents 43 per cent of the SRP target of 75,000 children suffering from MAM. Nutrition supplements were also provided to 9,654 malnourished pregnant and lactating women. A total of 5,400 people living with HIV/AIDS and on ART enrolled in the food-by-prescription activity. WFP provided food rations to more than 4,500 caretakers of children with SAM.
- Partners continue efforts to screen children for malnutrition. Since 1 January, 117,321 children have been screened. This represents 31 per cent of the SRP target of 360,000 children.

### Gaps and constraints:

- Coverage of community-based management of acute malnutrition services outside of Bangui remains low due to security constraints.
- There is a gap in the provision of activities to support appropriate infant and young child feeding.
- Lack of partners to treat MAM in CAR.



## Protection

### Needs

- Violence in the Batangafo area affects the child-protection situation on the ground. Child-protection actors report the need for psychosocial support and measures to prevent and respond to family separation. However, the results of a child-protection assessment are not yet available.

**2 million**

Vulnerable people targeted in 2014

- Ensure quality case management for child-protection cases, particularly outside the capital where the capacities of services and humanitarian actors remain limited.
- Additional efforts to ensure quality psychosocial support to children affected by the conflict and violence.
- A recent multisectoral assessment mission to Sibut revealed numerous protection concerns. In particular, a number of extremely vulnerable groups have been identified among the assessed people. They include female-headed households, victims of violence, including GBV, and child victims of grave violations. These groups need assistance. Out of 12 villages assessed, 11 had received an influx of people from Mala area, e.g. Mala, Mbres, Mouroubanda.

## Response

- Regarding psychosocial support, there are currently 54 child-friendly spaces (CFS) in the country, including in Bangui, Bossangoa, Kaga Bandoro, Bambari, Bouar, Bria, Yaloke, Boali and Sibut. Forty-five listening centres provide individualized support to girls and boys in need. To strengthen response regarding this key issue of child protection response, the Child Protection subcluster organized a two-day training workshop for 29 staff (11 female) who currently provide psychosocial support in 14 CFS, as well as NGOs across Bangui. Four social workers from Bangui also participated.
- A child-protection awareness-raising campaign was launched on 14 August, titled “*Je Suis un Enfant* (I am a child)”. The launch was attended by about 500 people, including high representatives of the Government, civil society, the humanitarian community and children. The campaign is implemented by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Public Health and Gender, with the support of key child-protection actors. It aims to raise awareness of child protection and facilitate victims’ access to response. The campaign will run across various media, including billboards, TV, radio and print as well as also grassroots elements with child participation, such as drawing competitions. It targets Bangui and the neighbouring areas in Ombella Mpoko Province.
- Progress has been made regarding child DDR. An additional 10 boys, including one Cameroonian and two Chadians from the ex-Seleka armed group have been released in Bambari (Ouaka). Reintegration measures have been initiated by child-protection actors in Bria. Family tracing measures have been undertaken. A total of 103 children (90 boys, 13 girls) have been extracted from the anti-Balaka in Bangui’s PK11 district. Where family reunifications are not immediately possible or appropriate, these children are temporarily accommodated with host families, a process organized by the Ministry of Social Affairs (Department of Social Reinsertion).
- Fifty child-protection actors from Batangafo, Bossangoa and Bouca sub-provinces were trained on Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on grave violations against children (MRM: the six grave violations, incidents recording and reporting, child-sensitive interview techniques as well as response to child protection violations).
- In Bria, 726 community members, including 371 children, have been sensitized on child-protection issues, including domestic violence, through initiatives such as discussion groups. In Bangui, 549 community members were sensitized with life-saving messages on the protection of girls and boys from physical violence, including sensitization through community networks. Eighty-five people were sensitized on child recruitment and related grave violations. Awareness-raising efforts regarding unexploded ordnance and risks emanating from ammunitions have ceased due to lack of funding.

## Gaps and constraints:

- Tense security situation in many areas regularly affects child-protection activities. Due to the difficult security situation, the functioning of CFS is being interrupted and/or the structures are being relocated.



## Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

### Needs:

- Due to displacements in the Batangafo area, partners are undertaking assessments to ensure adequate assistance is provided in terms of emergency shelters and NFIs.
- Shelter Cluster partners are continuing needs assessments of damaged and destroyed houses. Evaluations are under way in Bangui (3rd and 8th arrondissement), Bimbo and Begua through Yamacuir, Bangui Sans Frontières/NRC and ACTED.

### Response:

- The Shelter/NFI Cluster is supporting inter-agency response in the area affected by the latest events in Batangafo. Up to 7,000 NFI kits will be available for distribution in Batangafo, Kaga-Bandoro, Kabo and Bossangoa through UNHCR and UNICEF/RRM stocks. Distributions to affected people are under way through ACF, Solidarité International and DRC.
- In Bangui, over the last week PU-AMI has rehabilitated 21 community shelters in three sites (Grand Séminaire, Mosquée Centrale and Carmel) and constructed four community shelters in two sites (Carmel and Centre de Santé Guintangola).
- Through the CRCA, and under the supervision of the Ministry of Health, UNICEF has distributed 530,000 mosquito nets to all residents and IDPs in Bangui’s eight neighbourhoods.

**703,975**

Vulnerable people targeted in 2014 with emergency shelter and NFIs.

- In Kabo and Moyenne Sido, IOM is carrying out a self-constructed housing project to build shelters for relocated PK12 IDPs. A total of 679 young people registered this week to participate in the project as labourers, and 35 as master craftsmen or carpenters.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- All partners of the Shelter/NFI Cluster, including donors and implementing agencies, are strongly encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service of contributions to their shelter/NFI projects ([fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org)).



### Emergency Telecommunications

#### Response:

- ETC is continuing to support radio programming for humanitarian organizations operating in Bangui.
- A mission was deployed to Bambari on 18 August to setup the Communication Centre and install a permanent VSAT solution for Internet access.
- Pre-positioning started in N'Délé on 19 August with a batch of 200 kg of IT equipment.
- All ETC information is available at: <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictopr/emergencies2013/central-african-republic>

#### Gaps and constraints:

- The lack of secure compounds and/or adequate office space in some common operational locations prevents the installation of ETC equipment and deployment of services.
- Outside of Bangui, the lack of radio operators and the security situation are hampering the fulfilment of the C-MOSS requirements for COMCENs. Planned recruitments have been delayed due to funding constraints.
- The funding situation remains critical; the joint ETC/Logistics Cluster operation is only 46 per cent funded.
- Additional funding is required to maintain operations at their current level.



### Water, Sanitation, Hygiene

#### Needs:

- Following the recent unrest in Batangafo (Ouham Province), over 30,000 people fled their homes and moved within Batangafo town, and along the various axes out of the city towards Kabo and Kaga Bandoro. Urgent WASH needs are reported in the village of Kombakota across the Ouham river, which is out of reach because of insecurity.
- Kaga-Bandoro (Nana-Gribizi): Over 13,000 IDPs still need access to basic WASH services.
- Dekoa (Kemo) and Mbres (Nana-Gribizi) security incident: On the axes Mbrès to Kaga-Bandoro, Mbrès to Ndélé and Mbrès to Bambari, 30 people were killed in recent confrontations between Selaka and military forces. Over 1,000 IDPs were forced to move to Kaga-Bandoro.
- In Bangui, 84,000 IDPs still need WASH support.
- Forty-five per cent the assessed SODECA kiosks (water fountains) in Bangui need to be rehabilitated. Only one organization has funding to conduct this activity. More partners are urgently needed, as the kiosks are a key part of the IDP return strategy.
- Bossangoa (Ouham): 350 IDPs require WASH support in the Petit Seminaire site (formerly Eveche), where 18 latrines are nearly full and new ones need to be constructed. In and around Bossangoa town, 35,000 returnees and IDPs in host communities need WASH assistance, particularly access to potable water.
- In Grimari (Ouaka), 8,117 IDPs in the Paroisse site need WASH support.
- In Bambari (Ouaka), about 15,000 IDPs in three sites require WASH support.

**35,000**

Returnees and IDPs in host communities require WASH assistance in Bossangoa

#### Response:

- Batangafo crisis (Ouham): A UN inter-agency (OCHA, WFP, OPS/WHO, UNHCR and UNICEF) mission was conducted to the axes Batangafo to Ouandago and Batangafo to Kabo from 11 to 15 August.
- In Boya, 12 latrines were built (out of the 26 needed) for 2,600 IDPs. The rehabilitation of one borehole failed and the plan is now to chlorinate shallow water wells or distribute aqua tabs to households. In Bozakon, 21 latrines were built (out of the 26 needed) and one borehole rehabilitated for 2,600 IDPs. Hygiene promotion activities were conducted in Bozakon and Lady.
- In Kabo, IDPs coming from Batangafo are in host families whose WASH needs are covered by Solidarites Internationale.



- In Batangafo, DRC and MSF are providing sanitation service to 10,640 IDPs through solid-waste collection, the construction of latrines and showers (12 new ones). There are now 18 latrines available across all sites, and eight new showers. A water service is provided through the rehabilitation of boreholes.
- In Farazala 3 and 4 (Axe Kabo-Ouandango), RRM Solidarites is rehabilitating two boreholes and building 60 latrines, 120 showers and three waste pits for an estimated 500 HH in need.
- Boganangon (Lobaye): based on last week's assessment, two latrines, one shower and one laundry slab were built for 89 people at risk in the enclave.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- WASH partner presence in correlation to the Shelter Cluster members is being assessed to identify gaps.
- There are no WASH partners in critical areas to ensure immediate WASH response.
- No WASH and WASH and Health contingency plans exist for the regions outside Bangui.
- The lack of coordinated operational response in key areas with people at risk hampers the synergy between humanitarian actors and the application of the "Do No Harm" approach.
- A clear integrated strategy for humanitarian assistance to returnees in Bangui is lacking.
- Solid-waste and sludge-disposal facilities are inadequate around Bangui; they need to be rehabilitated.
- Following the phasing out of WASH actors and a lack of funds, the following activities have been identified as gaps of the WASH intervention in Bangui IDP sites:
  - Solid-waste collection services as secondary collection ended on 15 July. No organizations have been identified to take over this activity.
  - Rehabilitation and replacement of full latrines at risk of collapse
  - In sites occupying school spaces, the position of shelter and some WASH infrastructures need to be changed to liberate space for the school activities.
  - Rehabilitation of school latrines before schools reopen.

## General Coordination

From 11 to 15 August, OCHA's Kaga Bandoro sub-office coordinated an inter-agency mission (UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, OCHA) to Batangafo and the surrounding area, Kabo and Moyenne Sido. This was part of the humanitarian response to the violent clashes of 30 and 31 July and 4 August. The violence displaced an estimated 16,698 IDPs in Batangafo town and 2,246 in the Kabo and Moyenne Sido zone (sheltering with host families).

The mission found that access to WASH services and adequate food supplies is limited. More than half of the health centres in the Batangafo sub-province are not functioning, and there are increased health risks in the IDP sites due to hygiene conditions, overcrowding and the insufficient number of latrines and water points.

OCHA recently opened a sub-office in Batangafo to improve the coordination of the humanitarian response.