

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

## Situation Report No. 51 (as of 1 April 2015)

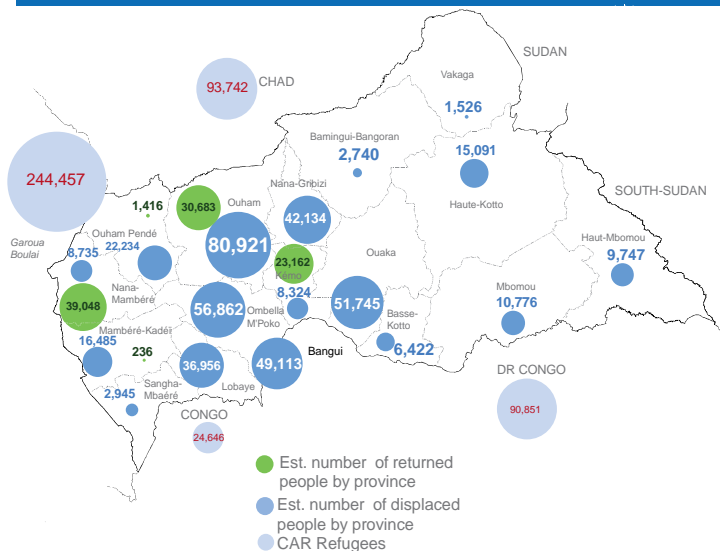


This report is produced by OCHA CAR in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period between 18 March and 1 April 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 15 April 2015.

## Highlights

- Delivery of humanitarian aid is expected to significantly decline as funding remains seriously low: only 11 per cent of the US\$613 million required for 2015 has been funded.
- The humanitarian community strongly condemned the killing of a medical worker at a health centre in Gbokolobo village, Ouaka Province.
- A joint mission to Kouango, Ouaka Province, assessed humanitarian access in the region and reopened much-needed humanitarian space to reach affected people.
- Protection actors have identified 439 children associated with anti-Balaka elements in Ouaka and Ouham provinces.
- More than 540 people living with HIV in Bangui now have access to antiretroviral therapy through a joint project managed by UNAIDS and the Korea International Cooperation Agency.

CAR: Displacement refugees, IDPs and returned people (as of 1st April 2015) OCHA



Sources: OCHA, CCCM and UNHCR

436,300 IDPs in CAR, including 49,113 in 35 sites Bangui (as of 4 March)	11% Funding available US\$68.2 million against the SRP 2015 requirements of \$613 million)	4.6 million Population of CAR 2.7 million People who need assistance
--	---	--

## Situation Overview

The situation remained volatile and unpredictable countrywide. Intercommunity conflicts, kidnapping of civilians and criminal activities persisted in regions including the Nana-Gribizi, Ouaka, Ouham and Ombella M'poko provinces.

Tension remained high at the Yaloké IDP site -where some 500 Fulanis are enclaved- following the looting of non-food items and food assistance on 21 March by a crowd from the village. At a meeting held on 26 March between the Mayor, community leaders, IDP representatives, MINUSCA and humanitarian partners to identify concerns and identify possible solutions, IDPs highlighted the crucial need to strengthen security around the site. MINUSCA committed to learn lessons from the recent incident and, on 23 March, it deployed 30 additional .

On 25 March, the humanitarian community issued a statement strongly condemning the killing of Mr. Benoit Kette Ouabolo—a medical worker at a health centre in Gbokolobo village (Ouaka Province): “Humanitarian actors and the World Health Organization urge all armed forces to respect health facilities strictly, especially the inviolability of treatment areas, and to ensure the protection of health workers and their unhindered access to the population. Access to health services and the free movement of ambulances must be ensured for everyone indiscriminately.” Mr. Kette Ouabolo, a qualified nurse and Head of the health centre in Gbokolobo, had fled violence from his region

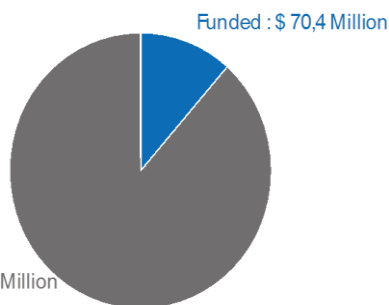
of origin and was seeking refuge at an IDP site in Gbokolobo village, where he continued to provide assistance as a medical worker.

On 21 March near Zemio (close to the border with DRC), at least 20 Congolese refugees, including several women and children, were abducted, apparently by Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) elements. About half of these people were released three days later. They presented wounds of different degrees and reported cases of rape and torture. International Medical Corps (IMC) provided psychosocial assistance and PEP kits to the victims. Since the beginning of 2015, over 20 security incidents have been attributed to LRA.

More than 540 people living with HIV in Bangui now have access to antiretroviral therapy through a joint project managed by UNAIDS and the Korea International Cooperation Agency. UNAIDS aims to extend the project to other provinces to enable people to resume access to life-saving medication. The recent instability in the country has forced many people away from their homes to places where health services are limited. A total of 120,000 people were living with HIV in CAR in 2013, with about 16,500 on antiretroviral therapy. According to UNAIDS, the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in CAR is 4.9 per cent. About 9,500 HIV-related death cases are registered annually, while about 7,700 new infections are also recorded. An estimated 110,000 AIDS orphans were registered. The Haut Mbomou Province has the highest HIV prevalence rate of 11.9 per cent, followed by the Haute Kotto Province, at 8.5 per cent. Nana Mambéré Province and Bangui both have a 7.7 per cent prevalence rate.

## Funding

CAR- FUNDING: STRATEGIC RESPONSE PLAN 2015  
Total : \$ 612,9 Million



As of 1 April, the CAR Strategic Response Plan (SRP) is 11 per cent funded at the end of the first quarter, but needs have not decreased during that period. So far, international donors have committed \$70.4 million, or 11 per cent of the \$613 million required to meet critical humanitarian needs across 12 clusters. Lack of SRP funding is expected to significantly affect the overall operations of some critical clusters and potentially decrease the flow of life-saving assistance.

Timely reporting of contributions to FTS is vital, either by e-mail to [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org) or through the online contribution report form at [fts.unocha.org](http://fts.unocha.org).

The Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) has allocated \$10 million since the beginning of the year, including a \$1 million allocation to strengthen the capacity-building of national NGOs. The CHF unit organized a training course for all the 2015 first-allocation grantees on the CHF financial and programmatic implementation modalities.

## Humanitarian Response



**Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)**



**Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)**

### Needs:

- NFI distribution is required for 153 households identified in Bouca (Ouham Province).

### Response:

- DRC surveyed 4,319 households (HH) living in the Bangui M'poko IDP site to understand their views on the Government's plan to close that site. Only 2 per cent of respondents (70 HH, or about 350 people) agreed to move to the alternative AVICOM site proposed by the Government. The cluster suggested not investing in this alternative site, but rather finding personalized solutions for these HH.
- In support of the other HH, the cluster is continuing its efforts to find durable solutions. PU-Ami has conducted 24 go-and-see visits since the beginning of the year, enabling 416 IDPs to visit their neighbourhoods and make informed decisions.
- UNHCR distributed mats and kitchen sets to 145 IDPs at the Notre Dame IDP site in Grimari (Ouaka Province).
- After the cluster's consistent advocacy, CARITAS received \$200,000 from the CHF to provide CCCM services in the Notre Dame de la Victoire IDP site in Bambari, and the Catholic Mission site in Kaga-Bandoro.

**600,000**

Vulnerable people targeted in 2015 with emergency shelter and NFIs.

- In response to displacement following violence in 15 villages in Botto (Nana Gribizi Province), 1,157 displaced HH received NFIs from Solidarité Internationale through the Rapid Response Mechanism. These HH have found refuge at the Catholic Mission and Nativité sites, and with host families in Kaga-Bandoro.
- An estimated 202 displaced HH from Botto received assistance from UNHCR's partner INTERSOS at the Bissingale and Oubi sites.
- An estimated 516 displaced HH (2,246 people) who fled violence from Bossoukpa, Boguida, Bogone, Gbadore, Bozakon, Boutiguene and Bogosse villages (Ouham Province) received NFI assistance from ACF/RRM. These HH have found refuge in Benzambe village.
- CRS mobilized \$701,275 from Latter-Day Saints to support 1,000 households in the Lobaye Province through an owner-driven housing-reconstruction programme.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- Lack of an emergency shelter actor.

## Education

#### Needs:

- Temporary safe learning spaces (ETAPes) with age-sensitive educational and recreational activities are needed for 60,000 children.
- Ensure that 568,500 students have returned to school by the end of the 2014-2015 school year. About 660,000 students countrywide were enrolled in schools before the crisis.
- Vocational training is required for 2,000 youths by the end of 2015.
- School-feeding activities, particularly in provinces with a low return rate of students, are required for 250,000 people.

**551,000**

Vulnerable people targeted in 2015 with emergency education.

#### Response:

- Since the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year, 33,644 children have benefited from learning and protection activities in 154 ETAPes in the capital, Bangui, Batangafo, Bouca (Ouham Province), Bimbo, Yaloké (Ombella Mpoko Province), Dékoa (Kemo Province), Kaga-Bandoro (Nana Gribizi Province), Bambari and Grimari (Ouaka Province). These include eight and seven additional ETAPes in Bambari and Batangafo respectively to reinforce the ongoing emergency education activities, as well as 15 new ETAPes in displacement sites in Bouca.
- So far, 135 ETAPes teachers and supervisors have participated in the revised Education in Emergencies training facilitated by members of the Ministry of Education.
- School-feeding programmes are ongoing for 83,070 children in Bangui, and in the Kémo, Nana-Gribizi and Ouham-Pendé provinces.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- Constant population movements and the volatile security situation in central and eastern provinces are hindering the provision of structured education, child-protection activities and the timely delivery and distribution of school supplies.
- Teachers fled their posts following the recent security incidents in PK5 (5<sup>th</sup> district in Bangui). There is a risk that reopened schools in the neighbourhood will close again.



## Emergency Telecommunications

#### Response:

- UN and NGO staff will be trained in radio operations on 2 and 3 April in Bangui.
- An assessment mission to Zemio is planned from 6 to 13 April for radio room deployment.
- ETC continues to provide radio programming and IT support for the humanitarian community in CAR.
- All ETC information is available at: <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictcpt/emergencies2013/central-african-republic>

#### Gaps and constraints:

- 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.



## Food Security

### Needs:

- According to the November 2014 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), an estimated 1.5 million people are in humanitarian phase 3 (crisis and emergency phases), of whom 1.3 million are in rural areas and 210,000 in Bangui.
- Due to widespread insecurity, looting and slaughtering, crop production in 2014 was 58 per cent lower than the pre-crisis average, livestock numbers have declined by up to 77 per cent and the fish supply by about 40 per cent. Food reserves in rural areas are 40 to 50 per cent lower than average, and 264,000 crisis-affected households (farmers, returnees and host families) require immediate assistance.
- Life-saving assistance to severely food insecure people will be key in the coming months to support households prior to the lean season that, instead of August, is expected to start four months in advance.
- Support to boost agriculture and emergency food production (gardening, small-livestock rearing and fish farming) will be critical to save livelihoods and reduce vulnerable families' dependency on humanitarian aid.

**1.2 million**

Vulnerable people targeted in 2015

### Response:

- Between 1 and 22 March, WFP distributed 2,704 mt of food to 300,490 people.
- WFP began distributing the first food vouchers in Yaloke on 18 March. The vouchers, valued at \$10 each, will complement WFP distributions of rice, pulses and oil. In the next six months, the food voucher programme will be rolled out in Bangui and other areas of CAR. WFP will ensure that beneficiaries have access to a wider selection of food items to make choices based on preference. The programme will stimulate the local market and increase the benefits for women, as women-headed households will be prioritized, giving them more control over the household resources and decision-making process.

### Gaps and constraints:

- Insecurity along the roads and at distribution sites continues to represent the main constraints. The looting of trucks along certain key routes continues to impede humanitarian access to people in need.



## Health

### Needs:

- Medical assistance required in response to a measles outbreak in the Nana Gribizi and Ouham provinces and a rubella outbreak in nine health districts, comprising the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> districts, Bangui, Bimbo, Mbaiki, and Boda districts.
- Preventive measures required due to the increased risk of rabies.
- Mental health assistance needs to be strengthened.

**1.4 million**

People targeted in 2015

### Response

- Health Cluster coordination efforts are ongoing in response to the measles and rubella outbreaks.
- Due to the increased risk of rabies in Bangui, the Health Cluster developed a response plan against rabies for the capital and regional areas. As an emergency preparedness measure, the Institute Pasteur has stocked 700 doses of vaccines.
- To strengthen mental health, IMC trained 21 caregivers in psychological support. Twenty-five volunteers were trained in psychological first aid.
- MSF Spain organized a vaccination campaign against measles and polio at the Batangafo IDP site, reaching more than 18,000 children under age 15.
- COHEB undertook an assessment-and-response mission to the sub-district of Kouango. WHO and UNFPA provided medical supplies, including emergency health kits for malaria cases, infections and other illnesses, which were delivered to the Kouango, Goussema and Bangao health facilities. A medical team comprising a doctor, a laboratory technician, nurses and a midwife were deployed to assist in these health structures.



## Logistics

### Response:

- The cluster met on 1 April to discuss problems and solutions to cargo escorts, fuel routing, common storage, various rehabilitations and information sharing.

- Several market research projects are ongoing in public-works companies in the country and river transportation enterprises. This will enable potential field assessments, and it will provide information necessary to update the in-country logistics capacity and update spare parts for fleet management.
- A joint rehabilitation project with ACTED is under way, and bridges are being rehabilitated. An engineer is on mission in CAR to finalize the projects.
- 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 are hampering the humanitarian logistics chain.
- Access to national service providers remains an issue in Bangui and the provinces.



#### Protection

#### Needs:

- Grave violations against children by armed groups continue unabated. Between 8,000 and 10,000 children are estimated to be associated with armed groups in CAR.
- Violence against children, including sexual violence, continues to constitute a major scourge of the crisis.
- Psychosocial support and recreational activities are required for children affected by the crisis. New unaccompanied and separated children continue to be identified, following violence and displacements.
- Care, family tracing and reunification activities are required, even in remote areas.

**2 million**

Vulnerable people targeted in 2014

#### Response:

- Some 439 children associated with anti-Balaka elements were identified by UNICEF's partners in Ngakobo (Ouaka Province), and Bouca, Boguila, Bossangoa Nana-Bakassa (Ouham Province). Verification missions are planned this month to ensure the release and reintegration of children in these areas.
- Recreational activities and psychosocial support are ongoing in the provinces. Since January 2014, 75,940 children have benefited from psychosocial and recreational support countrywide.
- Work on unaccompanied and separated children continues countrywide and in the enclaves. About 35 children in Bangui, Bimbo, Berberati, Yaloké, Boda and Bouar have been reunified with their families since the beginning of the year.
- Since the year began, 2,781 people have been sensitized on grave violations against children. This includes 136 field commanders of Unity for Peace (UPC – ex-Seleka) who benefited from sensitization sessions on grave violations against children in Alindao, Mobaye and Zangba in Basse-Kotto district.
- Over the past two weeks, 50 vulnerable children and adolescents benefitted from support for socioeconomic reintegration in Bangui's 3rd district.
- Since the conflict began, an estimated 1,550 people have been sensitized in child protection, including physical violence and harmful practices.
- From 13 to 20 March, 17 people, comprising 11 women and 6 men aged between 19 and 59, visited UNHCR/INTERSOS listening centres for psychosocial support. Of the 10 physically abused people, four men were abused by either ex-Seleka or anti-Balaka elements. Six women were victims of torture perpetrated by unidentified armed men. Anti-Balaka elements sexually abused three women between 4 and 7 March in villages surrounding Mbrès.
- The Protection Cluster continued to advocate for the protection of civilians, particularly in areas identified as hotspots for action by the peacekeeping forces based on early warning systems and various reports. The following areas are the highest priorities in terms of protection of civilians during the past two weeks: Batangafo-Bouca axis, Mbrès, Kabo, Moyen-Sido, Ngaoundaye, Markounda, Bambari, Kouango and Bangui (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> districts). The Protection Cluster Coordinator met with MINUSCA to discuss the strengthening of community engagement, warning systems and rapid response processes in coordination with humanitarian actors and the civilian components of MINUSCA. This is in order to ensure effective responses and the protection of civilians in hotspots.
- From 9 to 13 March, Catholic Relief Services conducted a training for trainers session on social cohesion and the importance of dialogue in conflict resolution in Bangui. The training targeted 30 participants from different social-cohesion structures countrywide, including CAR Protection Cluster members. The participants are expected to educate and guide communities on common grounds and social cohesion in order to build peace.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Security conditions, access constraints and poor road infrastructures are hampering assessments and response activities.

- Child protection and other humanitarian actors are sometimes targeted by armed elements.
- Tensions between host communities and beneficiary communities can affect the response.
- Insufficient funding.



## Water, Sanitation, Hygiene

### Needs:

- The following sites require WASH assistance: Bambari site S (10,345 IDPs), M (3,805 IDPs), NDV (8,335 IDPs), Bambari airport (5,000 IDPs and 1,600 host communities), Ngakobo (5,000 IDPs), Bambari neighbourhoods of Hadji and Bornou (12,000 IDPs and host communities), Grimari (135 IDPs and 7,000 returnees), Bossangoa (35,000 returnees require water), Petit Seminaire (480 IDPs), site C in Kabo (1,269 IDPs and host communities), Kaga Bando site Eveche (12,500 IDPs), Paroisse Nativite (245 IDPs), Kaga Bando (2,850 IDPs in host families), Bissingale (212 IDPs), Moyen Sido (2,159 IDPs), Batangafo (27,379 IDPs in 4 sites) and its axes (23,260 IDPs in 23 sites), Bangui (44,168 IDPs in 37 sites), Carnot (587 IDPs), Yaloke (562 IDPs) and Boda (10,341 IDPs).

**1,400,000**

People targeted in 2015

### Response:

- In Bambari, ICRC and TGH are delivering 150 m<sup>3</sup> of potable water per day by water trucking and bucket chlorination to 45 wells in sites and host communities. TGH is maintaining sanitation facilities, ensuring access for 39 to 75 people per latrine and 60 to 120 people per shower. Community-hygiene promoters provide hygiene-promotion services. CRF has drilled two new boreholes for returned families.
- In Bambari airport, TGH and national NGO Vitalite Plus are providing hygiene-promotion awareness sessions. They trained 30 community hygiene promoters to take over the activity.
- In Ngakobo, water is supplied by the SUCAF water system. UNICEF and MSF are monitoring water production and looking for alternatives as the water resource decreases with the dry season. TGH is maintaining sanitation facilities and four solid-waste collection pits, ensuring access for 66 people per latrine and 114 people per shower. Community hygienists have been trained on the site and within the community at risk.
- In Grimari, TGH is supplying 30 m<sup>3</sup> of potable water per day and maintaining the sanitation facilities in the IDP site, ensuring fewer than 20 people for each facility.
- In Bossangoa, the national society for distributing water, SODECA, with UNICEF funding, is supplying 564 m<sup>3</sup> of potable water per day (with a ratio of 15 litres per person, per day) to IDPs at the Petit Seminaire site.
- In Kaga Bando, ICRC and CARITAS are providing 190 m<sup>3</sup> of water to 12,500 IDPs per day (15.2 litres per person per day). ICRC continues to ensure maintenance, awareness campaigns on hygiene promotion for 9,000 people and operation of the Eveche site's WASH facilities. On the Gravai-Kaga Bando axis, construction of four traditional wells is ongoing. ANEA distributed WASH items provided by UNICEF (including soap, jerry cans, 20-litre buckets with taps and aquatabs) to 275 IDPs in Kaba village site. ANEA rehabilitated nine hand pumps, benefitting 4,500 people in Kaga Bando (Kpakaya, Damayo and Kodibon). This ensured a cumulative figure of 42 hand pumps rehabilitated by ICRC and ANEA, benefitting 21,000 people. A hand pump mapping exercise in Nana Gribizi Province revealed 169 water points with hand pumps, 27 of which require repairs. The remaining 84 per cent are functional.
- In Batangafo, DRC distributed 50 m<sup>3</sup> of water through trucking to complement the town's 18 hand pumps, and it maintained and built 360 latrines and 184 showers. Some 120 full latrines and 10 showers were closed while 868 m<sup>3</sup> of solid waste was collected and disposed outside the sites. About 100 hygienists were trained and equipped with sanitation kits to maintain sanitation facilities. Some 2,434 IDPs were sensitized in hand washing, personal hygiene, use of latrines and good water management (maintenance of water points and containers of pumping and storage).
- ANEA, with UNICEF support, conducted a hygiene-promotion campaign for 1,532 people in four IDP sites (two around Batangafo town and two on the Ouandago axis). It also distributed soap, jerry cans and mosquito nets to 7,140 IDPs in eight sites on the Ouandago axis.
- IOM is maintaining sanitation structures in Moyen Sido.
- In Carnot, potable water is supplied by SODECA. MSF is in charge of sanitation and ensuring access for 35 people per latrine and 42 per shower.
- In Bangui, ANEA, ACTED and Oxfam, with UNICEF support, maintained access to sanitation for 39,045 people in Bangui. ACTED improved sanitation in Bangui sites through the removal of 658 m<sup>3</sup> of waste. Awareness campaigns were conducted for 7,230 people on basic hygiene practices. Oxfam, with UNICEF support, provided 400 litres of diesel to pump water in four IDP sites: Carmel, Padre Pio, Camboni and Grand Séminaire. This support enabled the supply of 376,000 litres of safe drinking water to 10,333 people (9.09 litres per person per day). Support provided to SODECA ensured the availability of chemicals and fuel for the production of 1 million m<sup>3</sup> of water for an estimated 442,000 people in Bangui.

- In Boda, ANEA, with UNICEF support, distributed latrine-cleaning products to help 9,000 IDPs maintain their latrines.
- In Bouar, UNICEF procured a new electric pump for SODECA to resume its water network operation, supplying 400 m<sup>3</sup> of water per day to 52,000 people. WASH items were distributed to IDPs in host communities. Six hand pumps were repaired in six surrounding villages.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Lack of funding to maintain WASH services in IDP sites in Bangui.
- Funding and equipment for drilling new water point to replace water trucking in Bangui, Bambari and Batangafo. Only five drilling machines are available in CAR, which is insufficient to cover needs.
- More funding and implementing partners are required to maintain WASH infrastructures in IDP sites hosting people for long periods.
- Lack of funding to continue water trucking in Bangui sites.

## General Coordination

A UN civil-military coordination (UN-CMCoord) assessment mission in Bambari (Ouaka Province) on 25 March provided support and advice on issues including strengthening UN-CMCoord meetings and supporting military and humanitarian actors locally. This included discussions with UN agencies, international NGOs and MINUSCA, especially regarding de-conflicting humanitarian space and reinforcing humanitarian principles.

An OCHA-led joint mission, which included UNDSS and UNHCR and did not require armed escort, travelled to Kouango (Ouaka Province) from 26 to 28 March to assess humanitarian access in the region and to reopen much-needed humanitarian space to reach affected people. The mission found that poor road conditions and damaged bridges are a major hindrance to humanitarian access. Ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka elements burned 58 villages in this region and there are considerable tensions between the groups. Some 6,200 IDPs are seeking refuge in Kouango from the surrounding areas. An estimated 1,000 displaced Fulani people also require assistance. The mission noted a peaceful coexistence between communities and the progressive increase of trade.

For further information, please contact:

**Francois Goemans**, Head of Office, [goemans@un.org](mailto:goemans@un.org), Tel: +236 70 73 87 30

**Gemma Cortes**, Public Information Officer, [cortesg@un.org](mailto:cortesg@un.org), Tel: +236 70 08 75 65

**Laura Fultang**, Public Information/Reports Officer, [fultangl@un.org](mailto:fultangl@un.org), Tel: +236 70 18 80 64

For more information, please visit [www.unocha.org/car](http://www.unocha.org/car) or [reliefweb.int](http://reliefweb.int)