

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

AUGUST 3, 2017

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

2.4 million

People in CAR Requiring Humanitarian Assistance
UN – June 2017

534,000

IDPs in CAR
UN – June 2017

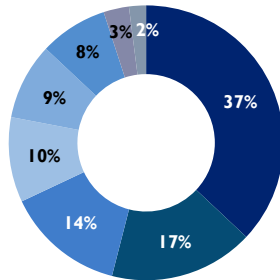
56,200

IDPs in Bangui
UN – June 2017

484,800

Central African Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UN – June 2017

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2017



- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (37%)
- Shelter and Settlements (17%)
- Health (14%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (10%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (9%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (8%)
- Protection (3%)
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (2%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2017



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (58%)
- Local & Regional Food Procurement (27%)
- Cash Transfers & Food Vouchers (15%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ongoing conflict in CAR displaces 534,000 people
- Nearly 60,000 people flee to DRC
- Aid agencies temporarily suspend operations in parts of CAR
- UN warns of disrupted services and violence against children

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017

USAID/OFDA	\$32,851,486
USAID/FFP	\$40,041,216
State/PRM ³	\$23,549,226
\$96,441,928	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Due to increased violence in northwestern and southeastern Central African Republic (CAR), the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) countrywide has reached approximately 534,000 people, the highest since July 2014. In addition, local authorities in Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) reported that approximately 60,000 individuals fled from CAR to DRC in May and June.
- Violent attacks on humanitarian personnel and assets in recent months have led relief actors to suspend operations in parts of central and southeastern CAR, reducing access to food and health care services for tens of thousands of people, the UN reports.
- The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) anticipates that Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity will persist until at least January 2018 for vulnerable populations across CAR.⁴

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- UN Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Stephen O'Brien traveled to CAR in mid-July to observe humanitarian response efforts and assess the impact of the recent surge in violence. ERC O'Brien emphasized the increased insecurity faced by aid workers in CAR and called on the international community to sustain support to people affected by conflict in the country. The ERC also appealed to all parties to the conflict to respect international law, which requires protection of civilians.
- Clashes between armed groups in Haute-Kotto Prefecture's Bria town have displaced more than 41,000 of the town's 47,500 residents and resulted in up to 100 deaths since mid-May, according to international media and the UN. IDPs are sheltering in six displacement sites under poor living conditions with urgent food, health, safe drinking water, and shelter needs. In early June, humanitarian organizations distributed emergency food assistance sufficient for 10 days; however, renewed clashes limited further distributions of emergency supplies. Protection, particularly for women and girls, remains a concern due to the presence of armed elements within the IDP sites, where aid workers had registered more than 160 unaccompanied children as of mid-July, the UN reports.
- Conflict and insecurity in Basse-Kotto Prefecture have displaced the majority of Mobaye town's approximately 24,500 inhabitants. Nearly 2,700 people are residing in five IDP sites near the town, at least 300 Mobaye IDPs are sheltering with host families in the capital city of Bangui, and an estimated 21,000 people have fled to rural areas outside the town or to neighboring DRC, the UN reports.
- Intercommunal violence in Haut-Mbomou Prefecture's Zemio town between June 28 and July 7 resulted in at least 22 deaths and displaced nearly 22,700 people, approximately 80 percent of the town's total population, according to the UN. The majority of newly displaced persons who fled Zemio are sheltering in informal displacement sites, including a church and a hospital. The UN has identified urgent food, protection, and shelter needs among the affected population. On July 12, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) temporarily suspended operations in Zemio after two armed assailants entered a hospital sheltering approximately 7,000 IDPs. The ensuing confrontation resulted in the death of an infant. MSF reports that the attack highlights the indiscriminate nature and escalation of violence in parts of CAR, leading the organization to relocate staff from Zemio to Bangui. As of mid-July MSF had not indicated when operations might resume in Zemio. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) also temporarily closed its Zemio field office due to recent violence.
- In Ouham Prefecture's Batangafo town, relief actors have suspended or reduced operations following fighting between armed groups on July 29, which internally displaced approximately 15,000 people and prompted at least 4,700 people to flee to Cameroon's Touboro Locality, according to UN and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners. UNHCR is providing assistance to the refugees in Touboro, including emergency food and health services.
- In addition to disrupted relief operations in Zemio and Batangafo, recent incidents of violence against humanitarian workers have led to the suspension of relief operations in Mbomou Prefecture's Bangassou and Nana-Grebizi Prefecture's Kaga-Bandoro towns, which will reduce access to food and health care services for tens of thousands of people in the affected areas, the UN reports. In Kaga-Bandoro, armed individuals attacked International Rescue Committee (IRC) and UNHCR compounds on July 1, resulting in the temporary relocation of staff to Bangui and to the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) base in Kaga-Bandoro, respectively. In Bangassou, suspected anti-Balaka elements attacked MINUSCA convoys on July 23 and July 25, resulting in three deaths and three injured persons, bringing the total number of MINUSCA personnel deaths in 2017 to 13—including nine deaths in and around Bangassou, according to the UN. Also in Bangassou, unidentified attackers killed a Central African Red Cross Society volunteer at the agency's compound on June 26. Since the crisis in CAR began in 2013, attacks against relief agencies have resulted in the deaths of at least 24 aid workers, according to the UN.
- Local authorities in DRC estimate that 60,000 people from southeastern CAR fled to DRC in May–June, including individuals from Bangassou town and Mobaye, according to UNHCR. Many Central African refugees are residing in remote areas of northern DRC, straining resources of the host communities near the CAR–DRC border. Approximately 37,000 of the Central African refugees were sheltering in DRC's Bas-Uele Province's Ndu town as of June 30, sleeping in the open, in churches, or in school buildings, with an urgent need for food, health services, and shelter. The remaining 23,000 refugees have reportedly fled to DRC's Nord-Ubangi Province. UNHCR plans to

provide emergency relief commodities to nearly 20,000 CAR refugees in the two DRC provinces, but impassable roads had delayed distributions as of mid-July. In addition, USAID/FFP supports the UN World Food Program (WFP) for the distribution of cash transfers and food vouchers, as appropriate, to Central African refugees in DRC.

- The UN expressed concern about several incidents of violence against children, including abduction, murder, rape, and recruitment into armed groups amid renewed fighting in recent months. In Bria, armed groups reportedly raped 14 girls ages 9–16 years during the May–June violence. In May, five children ages 2–16 years were killed near Bangassou while crossing a river to seek refuge in DRC, and eight boys ages 13–17 years were abducted—one of whom has since been killed—in a village near Mambéré-Kadéï Prefecture’s Berberati town. In addition, health center closures continue to prevent children from receiving routine immunizations and basic health care services.

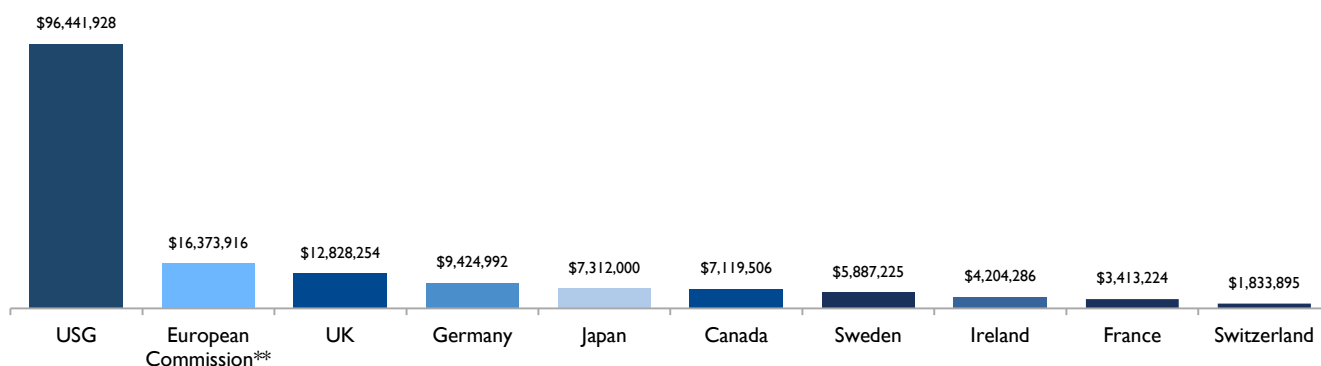
FOOD SECURITY, SHELTER, AND WASH

- Adequate rainfall and an improved 2016 harvest have improved food security conditions overall in CAR, according to the UN Food and Agricultural Organization. However, FEWS NET reports that ongoing population displacement and limited access to fields may result in below-average agricultural production in CAR’s main harvesting season from July 2017 to January 2018. In addition, FEWS NET anticipates that Crisis levels of food insecurity will persist until at least January 2018 for vulnerable populations, including low-income, displaced, returnee, and host community, and that these people will require urgent humanitarian assistance to meet basic needs.
- USAID/FFP recently contributed an additional \$11 million to WFP for the provision of more than 7,600 metric tons (MT) of locally and regionally procured emergency food assistance to nearly 549,000 food-insecure people in CAR. To date in FY 2017, USAID/FFP has provided WFP with nearly \$40 million to respond to the CAR crisis, including approximately \$23 million within CAR and \$17 million for Central African refugees in neighboring countries.
- In June, with the support of USAID/FFP and other donors, WFP provided emergency food and nutrition assistance to approximately 700,000 vulnerable people in CAR, including refugees from DRC and South Sudan and newly displaced individuals in Bangassou, Bria, Mobaye, and Basse-Kotto’s Alindao towns.
- From January to June, the USAID/OFDA-supported, UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)-managed Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) distributed critical relief items to nearly 100,000 people and provided water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services to approximately 31,500 people across CAR. The majority of RRM beneficiaries are conflict-affected IDPs or returnees in Basse-Kotto, Kémo, Mbomou, Ouaka, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé prefectures. Since January, the RRM has conducted rapid, multisector assessments in newly affected areas; rehabilitated 23 water sources; conducted 50 hygiene promotion sessions; and completed 21 relief item distributions countrywide, UNICEF reports.
- On July 19, USAID/OFDA staff members traveled to Ouaka’s Bambari town to assess the humanitarian situation and observe ongoing relief operations. The USAID/OFDA personnel also met with displaced populations, local authorities, and UN agencies in the town. In Bambari, USAID/OFDA partners the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) and Mercy Corps are supporting IDP returns to areas of origin through emergency shelter and livelihoods assistance. Mercy Corps assisted with the rehabilitation of approximately 200 houses in and around Bambari in 2016, and the NGO aims to rehabilitate up to 500 homes during 2017. As of June 31, nearly 97,000 IDPs were sheltering in Ouaka, primarily in Bambari, according to the UN.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan for CAR, released in January, requested \$497 million for emergency response activities in the country. As of August 3, donors had provided approximately \$119 million—24 percent of the total appeal. The U.S. Government (USG) is among the top donors, along with European Commission and the Government of the United Kingdom (UK).

2017 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of August 3, 2017. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments from FY 2017, which began on October 1, 2016. USG funding addresses needs both within CAR and among Central African refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

**Includes contributions from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance began to advance across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence. Security conditions in CAR further deteriorated on December 5, 2013, when clashes erupted between militants associated with the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups, composed of armed fighters that opposed ex-Séléka forces.
- Following a transitional government period, CAR held presidential elections in December 2015 and February 2016—electing Faustin-Archange Touadéra as president. President Touadéra assumed the office of the presidency on March 30, 2016.
- As of mid-2017, the security situation throughout CAR remained volatile, with continuing attacks against civilians, humanitarian workers, and peacekeeping forces. While relief agencies are working to assist conflict-affected populations, ongoing insecurity and logistics constraints impede humanitarian operations, particularly in more remote areas of CAR.
- On October 12, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Jeffrey J. Hawkins reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2017 due to the scale of current and projected humanitarian needs in the country.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Action Against Hunger (ACF)	Health	Kémo, Ouaka	\$500,000
ACTED	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements	Bangui, Basse-Kotto, Haute-Kotto, Mbomou	\$2,500,000
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	Ouaka	\$1,293,372
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Shelter and Settlements	Basse-Kotto, Mbomou	\$1,500,000

Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,750,000
Handicap International	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000
International Medical Corps	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Haute-Kotto	\$1,089,816
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$121,210
International NGO Security Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$900,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	ERMS, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui, Nana-Grébizi, Ouaka, Ouham	\$2,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health	Kemo, Nana-Grébizi, Ouham-Pendé	\$500,000
	Health	Nana-Grébizi	\$1,800,000
MENTOR Initiative	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,200,000
Mercy Corps	ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Ouaka	\$1,100,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kémo, Nana-Grébizi, Ombella M'Poko, Ouaka	\$1,000,000
Oxfam	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Ouham-Pendé	\$1,500,000
Plan International	ERMS, Protection	Lobaye, Nana-Grébizi, Ouham	\$774,724
Premiere Urgence	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Bangui	\$1,300,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Ouham	\$500,000
	Program Support		\$22,364
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$32,851,486
USAID/FFP³			
UNICEF	Nutrition Assistance	Countrywide	\$81,227
WFP	7,020 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for General Food Distribution	Countrywide	\$11,994,298
	7,631 MT of locally and regionally procured food	Countrywide	\$11,000,000
	7,840 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for Distribution to Central African Refugees	Cameroon	\$9,989,864

	Cash and Voucher Assistance for Central African Refugees	DRC	\$6,000,000
	540 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid for Distribution to Central African Refugees	Republic of the Congo	\$975,827
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$40,041,216
State/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Victims of Conflict	Countrywide	\$5,200,000
Jesuit Refugee Service	Protection	Cameroon	\$349,226
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Cameroon	\$9,100,000
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Refugees	Countrywide	\$4,800,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Republic of the Congo	\$2,700,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$425,000
	Logistics Support	DRC	\$975,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$23,549,226
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2017			\$96,441,928

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 2, 2017.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement, subject to change.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>