



Displaced girls outside their tents—there are 6,436 displaced people remaining in various sites in the PK5 enclave in Bangui © UNICEFCAR/2014/Bindra.

Central African Republic Humanitarian Situation Report



December 2014

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- Two out of five children in Central African Republic (CAR) do not receive the needed humanitarian aid due to a critical lack of funding and insecurity and 2.4 million of them have no access to basic services and rely on humanitarian aid.
- Violence flared up in Bambari, Batangafo, Berberati, Carnot, Combo Bombo village, Mbres, Nola and Lopo village while New Year’s Eve was marked by sporadic gunfire in most of the eight districts of Bangui.
- UNICEF Regional Director, Manuel Fontaine, visited CAR from 9 to 14 December and met with the President of Transition Mrs Catherine Samba-Panza, the Prime Minister and several cabinet members. The office held a Strategic Moment of Reflection to take stock of results achieved and articulate a vision for 2015. One recommendation was to undertake a change management process to make necessary adjustments to our office structure and footprint within the current financial situation.
- Current funds utilisation rates stand 98.5% for Regular Resources and at 97.7% for Other Resources. Without additional resources, UNICEF will not be in a position to provide the needed assistance to affected children and women in CAR.

8 January 2015

2.4 million

CHILDREN AFFECTED
(OCHA 18 November 2014)

4.8 million

PEOPLE AFFECTED
(OCHA 20 November 2014)

2.5 million

PEOPLE WHO NEED ASSISTANCE (OCHA 26 November 2014)

437,000

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS
(OCHA 12 December 2014)

425,000

REFUGEES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES (CHAD, CAMEROON, DRC, CONGO), UNHCR 21 December 2014

UNICEF Appeal 2014

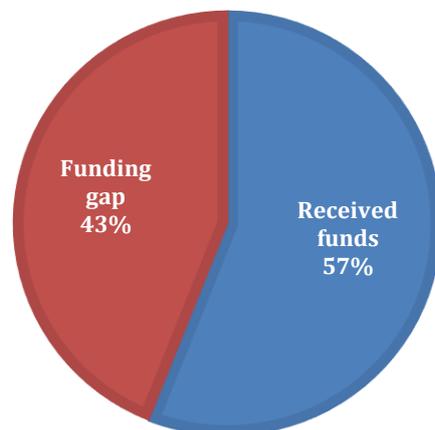
US\$ 81 million

Funds received as of 31 December 2014

US\$ 46 million

UNICEF’s Key Results with partners

	UNICEF		Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)
Number of children with SAM admitted for treatment	28,000	24,657	28,000	24,657
Number of affected people who have access to improved sources of water	700,000	418,967	900,000	770,000
Number of children under 5 vaccinated against measles	268,231	234,956	268,231	234,956
Number of children released from armed groups	3,000	2,806	3,000	2,806
Number of children participating in temporary learning spaces	100,000	60,167	180,000	66,024



Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

UNICEF remains gravely concerned about the continuing acute humanitarian crisis in Central African Republic (CAR). An estimated 437,000 people are still internally displaced, with 59,000 people in Bangui. According to the UNHCR Regional update on 21 December, the total number of refugees in the neighboring countries (Cameroon, Chad, Republic of Congo and DRC) is 424,693 people with more than 187,000 refugees arrived since December 2013.

The security situation in the countryside as well as in Bangui remained volatile, with several clashes reported in December.

The military camp BEAL in Bangui continued to be with the ex-Seleka elements threatening to detonate the ammunition of the camp if these demands were not met by the Government of Transition. Negotiations at the political level have not yet resolved the impasse. The humanitarian community has prepared a contingency plan in the event of detonation, and has set up a task force to support the Directorate for Civil Protection.

With regard to the relocation of the 21,000 IDPs at the M'poko Airport site, efforts are being accelerated to find durable solutions. Most funding for emergency activities in IDP sites in CAR expired at the end of the 2014 – a factor which will have a significant impact on these populations. It is important to note that while voluntary returns are being supported, humanitarian assistance will still be required in 2015 on certain IDP sites.

In the south-west of the country, MINUSCA intervened in clashes between different armed groups on the axis Baboua-Abba, and in Nola, Carnot and Berberati. In Nola several hundred women and children fled into the bush, while 600 Muslims sought refuge in areas close to the MINUSCA base. In Berberati, attacks were carried out against Congolese citizens (both from DRC and Congo-Brazzaville), and 81 Congolese sought refuge in the Catholic Bishop's residence, the Evêché, where they received Non-Food Items and food assistance. Further assessment of the situation will be conducted as soon as the security situation allows.

On 19 December, the village Combo Bombo, close to Amadagaza town, was attacked by a group of armed Peuhls in retaliation for the theft of their cattle by anti-Balaka elements, resulting in 7 deaths, several houses burned and an unknown number of people fleeing in the bush.

In the Centre, fighting was reported in Batobadja near Bambari on 22 December between anti-Balaka and the ex-Séléka branch of "General' Ali Darass", resulting in seven people killed and at least 14 houses burned.

From 16-18 December, heavy fighting took place in Mbres between anti-Balaka and ex-Seleka with 11 people reportedly killed but only four deaths were so far confirmed and the burning of five houses. The population of Mbres have fled to Kaga Bandoro and Ndomete. In Kaga, 232 new IDPs have been registered and are staying with host families or on the Evêché IDP site. Registration of IDPs is still ongoing in Ndomete, as people who had at first fled into the bush start to arrive. Needs for NFIs, food and medical care have been observed.

In Batangafo, the situation remains tense with approximately 25,000 IDPs in town and many different armed groups in the area. Skirmishes continue to be reported and the situation requires close monitoring.

In Yaloke, the living conditions are alarming for over 500 Muslims who have been staying in an enclave for more than eight months, despite the fact that UNICEF partners have been providing basic support. All people present on the site except for one family, have expressed their wish to leave to neighboring Cameroon, Chad or elsewhere, to rebuild their cattle stock and eke out a living. In view of their situation, the HCT has decided to intensify the humanitarian assistance and increase advocacy to facilitate the relocation process. Basic support primarily in WASH, Health and Nutrition sectors continues. Eight cases of Tuberculosis, including five cases in second phase and three in first phase of treatment, are hospitalised in Yaloké.

In view of Ebola preparedness, the country has received the support of an international multi-agency mission led by WHO to ensure that the country is operationally ready to detect, investigate and report potential Ebola virus cases and to mount an effective response. The mission identified necessary steps to strengthen preparedness, and a budgeted plan is in preparation. UNICEF is actively and financially participating in preparedness activities.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF, acting as lead organization for “Access to basic Social Services” (Pillar 3) in view of support to durable solutions to encourage the returns of IDPs in Bangui, Bimbo and Begoua, has presented an action plan comprising WASH, Health, Nutrition and Education interventions. The first joint activities will focus on the third District, Bimbo 3 and Begoua. An ECHO funded project will allow ACTED/DRC to rehabilitate 700 houses and accompany returns, while Oxfam has launched a water kiosk rehabilitation project to support SODECA.

It is important to note that one year after the activation of the Level 3 system-wide emergency, children in the Central African Republic are still missing out on essential services while at the same time, the crisis has spread beyond the Central African Republic and is affecting several neighboring countries. A critical lack of funding and insecurity have left many children without access to essential health services, water, education and protection.

UNICEF’s Child Protection Section and Emergency Unit participate in a technical working group on Protection of Civilians consisting of humanitarian actors and international forces, to monitor the protection situation more closely and provide responses and propose solutions to protection issues. This improves effectiveness of advocacy efforts and creates a better understanding between the different actors. The Representative actively participates in its senior working group which discusses strategic activities needed to strengthen the protection of the most vulnerable people.

A Civil-Military Coordination Guidelines’ Working Group has also been formed, to produce Civil-Military Coordination Guidelines that provide succinct operational guidance on relations between Humanitarian Actors and the UN Mission and International Forces (EUFOR and Sangaris), with the aim to strengthen the coordination of activities, avoid duplication of tasks among actors including Quick Impact Projects, ensuring preservation of humanitarian access and space.

The CAR Education Cluster has established a reporting mechanism in order to document the attacks on schools and leverage advocacy efforts across the different human rights and coordination platforms (UNICEF MRM, Civil-Mil Coordination, Security Council Committee established pursuant to UN Security Council Resolution 2127, and humanitarian coordination).

On 5 December, the UN Secretary-General met with the President of the Transition of CAR, Catherine Samba-Panza, noting that the security situation in the country remained fragile, and agreeing on the need for urgent progress to establish an inclusive political process. Mr. Ban expressed appreciation for the announcement, with the support of the international community, to convene the Bangui Forum as early as possible next year and to complete the election process before August 2015. He urged Mrs Samba-Panza to continue showing leadership to ensure a successful, inclusive, transparent transition was completed in a timely manner.

Meanwhile, the UN Senior Humanitarian Coordinator in CAR, Claire Bourgeois, recalled that one year ago, a cycle of violence reached Bangui triggering the displacement of half a million people, accompanied by the massacre of innocent civilians, leaving deep wounds in communities that still have difficulties in living side by side today. “More attention needs to be given to CAR in order to find appropriate and immediate solutions to the complexity of the current humanitarian crisis which stemmed from a persisting political, developmental and humanitarian crisis spanning over many years,” she said, underscoring that despite the progress achieved so far, she strongly condemned the upsurge in violence that occurred yesterday, causing more bereavement to the population in Bambari.

In addition, UNHCR warned that CAR faced one of the world’s largest humanitarian crises, with more than 187,000 refugees having fled to neighboring countries over the last year, bringing the total number of CAR refugees and internally displaced people to over 850,000, about a fifth of the country’s entire population. “Some 430,000 people remain displaced, half a million less than at the end of December 2013,” UNHCR spokesperson William Spindler, briefing reporters in Geneva. He stressed that the improvement did not mean an end to the crisis.

“The one-year anniversary of the conflict marks one year that children have been out of school, a year of learning lost, and a year of their lives scarred and shattered,” said UNICEF spokesperson, Sarah Crowe. “Nearly two years of violence in CAR has affected more than two million children and plunged the country’s formal education system into a state of crisis. Many school buildings had been damaged, looted or taken over for other purposes.”

Summary Analysis of Programme Response



Nutrition

In December UNICEF CAR and partners continued to scale up their nutrition response throughout the country. From December 2013, the number of nutrition units increased from 21 to 31 for In- Patient Therapeutic units and from 102 to 189 Out- patient therapeutic units in December. Although the coverage of Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) target increased significantly above 75%, the integration of CMAM in the minimum health package activities remains very challenging in the majority of prefectures, especially those affected by insecurity and displacement of population.

Since January 2014, some 24,657 children have been admitted for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) treatment in in-patient therapeutic and out-patient therapeutic facilities across the country including the children admitted from IDPs sites and enclaves. The overall performance indicators of case management have been improved and remain within global standards with a cured rate of 83% ($\geq 75\%$), death rate of 3% ($<5\%$) and default rate of 14.7% ($<15\%$).

UNICEF CAR completed the national survey with SMART methodology. The preliminary and partial results show a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of 6.5% and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rate of 1.8% in areas covered by the survey. The data collection was delayed for about 46 days in prefectures of Ouaka and Vakaga due to security concerns. Final nationwide results are expected to be available in January 2015 and will provide an update on anthropometric nutrition data, mortality rate as well as information on Infant and Young Children feeding practices information, Vitamin A supplementation and measles immunization coverage.

In addition to CMAM interventions, UNICEF continued to support the effective leadership and strategic coordination of nutrition interventions through cluster coordination, nutritional rapid assessment and surveillance at community levels. In December, IDPs sites in Bambari, Kaga Bandoro, Batangafo and enclaves in Yaloke, Boda and Carnot have continued to be the focus of nutrition response. A two-month supply of 3,830 cartons of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) has been distributed to the health regions covering the above-mentioned IDPs sites and enclaves for treatment of severe acute malnutrition.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health/Nutrition service to organise the validation workshop of the new revised CAR national protocol integrating new guidance from WHO and UNICEF on treatment of acute malnutrition. The protocol will improve the integration of nutrition in the health minimum package, strengthen the capacity of health care providers on integrated CMAM and improve the quality of treatment, and therefore increase the level of the performance indicators.



Health

On 10 December, two field missions were conducted: A delegation led by UNICEF Regional Director visited Bambari Field Office and IDP sites while the Regional Advisers visited the Bangui-Sibut axis, especially Sibut hospital where UNICEF supports health and nutrition interventions.

A joint inter-agency mission (UNICEF and WHO) was conducted in Yaloké for monitoring the health interventions in this Peuhl enclave. The main recommendation from this joint mission is that UNICEF and WHO should provide the medical kits and essential drugs to the NGO on site. It was also recommended the organisation of mobile clinics in the enclave in order to timely detect and treat common infections on time and treat them or refer patients to the health centre.

UNICEF distributed 50,000 litres of fuel to Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI) cold chain and this supply will cover the needs for three months. Meanwhile, an integrated campaign for immunization, Vitamin A supplementation and deworming was launched on 28 December and will cover the three Health regions 4, 5 and 6. In addition, 15,934 bed nets were distributed to 7,964 IDPs households in Ouham Prefecture.

The Health unit is annually reporting on four key Humanitarian indicators and the proportions of achieved UNICEF targets show the following as of 31 December:

- 88% of children under five were vaccinated against measles. The initial annual target was recently revised from 249,725 to 268,231 children;
- 69% of people accessed to basic health services and medicines in the affected areas;
- 31% of children aged 1-5 years received de-worming medication;
- 25% of children under-five were provided with Vitamin A.

For the last two indicators above, the low achievements reported are only from the first phase of campaign. The second phase started on 28 December and results will be reported early January 2015.

HIV/AIDS

In December, UNICEF supported a team from the Ministry of Health to carry out a field mission in Haut Mbomou and Mbaiki prefectures to assess the PMTCT/Paediatric care needs, help the Health district to organise a training session for health workers and community-based staff organisations. This in order to strengthen the PMTCT services and support awareness raising, testing and referral for pregnant women and their partners, children exposed to HIV and young people.

HIV sensitisation sessions organised in close collaboration with health districts, were conducted in Obo (east) and Mbaiki (west) towns. Some 1,802 people were reached with HIV prevention information, and among them 1,279 people volunteered for counselling and testing. In addition, a training session was organised for 34 health workers and 54 community based organization staff in order to support the PMTCT and Paediatric Care implementation in Obo and Mbaiki.

Overall response progress for the four key humanitarian indicators stands as follows on 31 December: 79% of pregnant women in targeted districts received HIV/AIDS counselling; 48% of children previously on ARV prophylaxis received ARV treatment; 42% of HIV positive pregnant women benefited from PMCTC/ARV prophylaxis; and 24% of children born from HIV positive women benefited from ARV prophylaxis.

Despite efforts made, insecurity and non-functional health services continue to limit access to affected women and children. The persistent insecurity is also preventing the health workers from monitoring the implementation of services and data collection.



In **Bangui**, UNICEF provided 1,600 litres of diesel to pump water in four IDP sites (Carmel, Padre Pio, Camboni and Grand Séminaire). This support allowed the supply of 376,000 litres of safe drinking water to 16,528 people which represents 5.68 litres per person per day.

As part of an exit strategy for water trucking, UNICEF installed 5 boreholes on Kapusin, Saint-Antoine de Padou, Saint-Joseph de Mukasa, Carmel and Grand Séminaire IDP sites. Meanwhile, Votongbo 2 and Eglise Apostolique sites were connected to SODECA (urban water network) by Agence Nationale de l'Eau et de l' Assainissement (ANEA) with support from UNICEF.

ANEA has also taken over the hygiene and sanitation activities on the M'poko airport site from Mercy Corps.

With UNICEF support, IRC has built 83 showers and 17 for latrines on the Carmel, Camboni, Padre Pio and Grand Séminaire sites. These activities have improved sanitation coverage in these sites.

In December, IRC and ANEA conducted 92 awareness sessions on basic hygiene for 10,621 people (2,860 women, 3,600 girls, 1,436 boys and 2,725 men) with funding from UNICEF.

In **Kaga Bandoro**, UNICEF is using a 12 KVA generator to produce 36 m³ of safe drinking water per day on the Evêché site while IRC covers the remaining need by water trucking. A total of 63 m³ of safe drinking water is produced per day for 7,000 people resulting in a ratio of 8.5 litres per person per day. UNICEF provided spare parts to IRC to rehabilitate the well and pump for 600 IDPs and is supporting IRC to rehabilitate latrines which were vandalized.

As part of emergency preparedness activities, UNICEF supported ANEA capacity building at sub-national level in logistics planning and maintenance.

In **Carnot**, SODECA continues to supply 400 m³ of safe drinking water per day to an estimated population of 55,000 people with a ratio of 7.2 litres per person per day.

In **Bossangoa**, UNICEF supplied fuel, lubricants and chemicals that enabled SODECA to produce and distribute 3,220 m³ of safe drinking water per week to the population in **Bossangoa** town and 112 m³ of safe drinking water to 480 IDPs on the Petit Séminaire site. In addition, the repair of three boreholes by ANEA is underway on the **Bossembélé** axis. They will supply safe drinking water to 1,500 people once repair is completed.

Awareness sessions on basic hygiene and environmental sanitation were conducted by ANEA on **Bouca** axis for 395 people including 240 women.

In **Bambari**, safe drinking water production by Triangle has increased from 120 to 140 m³ per day, and 15 wells have been rehabilitated. Safe drinking water is distributed by Triangle and ICRC to 21,765 IDPs on the Sangaris, MINUSCA and Notre Dame de la Victoire (NDV) sites, and to 2,700 people in the Muslim neighbourhoods of **Bambari** with a ratio of 7.29 litres per person per day. Forty hygiene promoters continue awareness-raising activities in the Muslim neighbourhoods of **Hadji** and **Borno** in **Bambari**

In **Grimari**, a daily production and distribution of 30,000 litres of safe water is carried out by the partnership between UNICEF and Triangle. In addition, two operational boreholes are supplying safe drinking water to 7,000 people (both returnee and IDPs).

With regard to sanitation, the following activities were carried out on the various sites:

1. Sangaris site (10,345 IDPs)
 - Maintenance of 120 latrines for adults, 66 latrines for children and 120 showers (an average of 56 persons per latrine and 86 persons per shower);
 - Construction of two new blocks of three latrines for children, leading to a total of 192 latrines available (with a ratio of 54 persons per latrine);
 - Promotion of hygiene and training of 20 community mobilisers;
 - Establishment of garbage collection campaign through the committee of sanitation (3 days/week)
2. MINUSCA site (3,085 IDPs)
 - Regular maintenance of 55 latrines and 15 showers for adults;
 - Construction of a new block of 5 latrines for adults, leading to a total of 60 latrines available (with a ratio of 52 persons per latrine and 60 person per shower);
3. Notre Dame de la Victoire site (about 8,335 IDPs)
 - Regular maintenance of 60 latrines for adults (ratio of 63 people per latrines and 80 people per shower)
 - Construction of three new blocks of five latrines leading to a total of 75 latrines available with a ratio of 111 persons per latrine;
4. Ngakobo site (6,195 IDPs)
 - Maintenance on a regular basis of 90 latrines for adults, 51 latrines for children and 70 showers (ratio of 44 person per latrines and 89 persons per shower)
 - Recruitment and training of 40 hygiene promoters on the maintenance of evacuation channels of used and the runoff water.

As of 31 December, the proportions of UNICEF achievement against its three annual targets are as follows:

- 60% of affected people accessed improved sources of water;
- 77% of affected people accessed basic sanitation services. The initial annual target was recently revised from 225,000 people to 300,000 people;
- 93% of affected people received WASH items (jerrycan and soap) and were sensitised on hand washing practices. The initial annual target was recently revised from 225,000 people to 350,000 people.

Child Protection

In December, the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) continued to document cases of grave violations against children. The team verified the wounding of six children (boys aged 8 to 12 years): three by gunshot (in Bangui and Bambari) and three by grenade (two in Bangui and one in Paoua); six children (three boys and three girls aged 6 to 14 years) were killed in a grenade blast when they were playing in Bedakara (30 km from Paoua). In addition, a total of 34 children aged 6 to 17 years were identified in ex-Seleka armed groups in Bambari and 25 of them were eventually released. Of these 23 children including four girls and 19 boys aged 6 to 17 years are being taken care of by the local NGO NDA, while two other children aged 15 and 16 have been placed in two host families in Bambari. Nine other children were identified among the ex-Seleka elements in Kaga Bandoro and will be released very soon.

A total of 2,806 children (aged 8-17 years) have been identified or released from armed forces and groups since January, including 646 girls:

- 434 of them (including 97 girls) are in host families;
- 82 boys are in the transit site in Grimari;
- 1,373 children (49%) of which 256 girls were reunited with their families (29% in December). This includes 110 children who were in Bria transit centre, which was closed on 31 December due to financial constraints;
- 917 children (33%), including 287 girls, identified among anti-Balaka armed groups in the Municipality of Boali and Lobaye but are waiting to be released.

In Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) area, an anthropological study is being conducted on the dynamics of child recruitment by armed groups in CAR. The steering committee for this study has been put in place by the Ministry of Social Affairs with support provided by UNICEF. The findings are expected to be released in February.

The Child Protection section is annually reporting on four key Humanitarian indicators and the proportions of achieved UNICEF targets show the following as of 31 December:

- 65% of children benefited from recreational activities and psychosocial support (children centre and counselling areas). The initial annual target was recently revised from 95,000 people to 100,000 people;
- 94% of children were released from armed forces and groups. The initial annual target was recently revised from 2,000 to 3,000 children;
- 49% of separated children in emergencies were reunified with their families. The achievement below 50% is mainly due to the security conditions;
- 65% of GBV survivors receive holistic assistance. The initial annual target was recently revised from 2,000 to 3,500 GBV survivors.

Education

In December 2014, UNICEF strengthened its support to the Ministry of Education (MoE) in the Back to School campaign aimed at getting 662,000 children back into school in 2014-2015. Since the official school year started on 20 November 2014, UNICEF has scaled up its support for students, teachers and the Ministry of Education (MoE) with the provision of important teaching and learning materials, supply of school furniture and ensuring the successful completion of critical catch-up classes.

The MoE with support from UNICEF is promoting a progressive school opening in areas where security conditions permit. In areas which are still insecure, UNICEF is supporting the implementing partners to provide educational opportunities in Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS). There are approximately 23,669 children participating in 120 TLS as

part of the third phase of programme in the areas affected by ongoing violence: Bangui, Kaga Bandoro, Batangafo, Bambari, Grimari, Yaloke, Dekoa, Bégoua and Ngakobo.

One of the principal components of UNICEF's Back-to-School (BTS) campaign consists of providing school supplies in order to improve the quality of teaching and learning. During the week of December 15, UNICEF distributed 70 School-in-a-Box (SiBs) materials in eight schools in Bangui and Ouaka for an estimated 4,635 students.

Additionally, UNICEF supported the MoE in the BTS initiatives by starting the delivery of 6,615 school benches and 732 blackboards supplied under the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) accelerated funding. The delivery has begun in Ombella M'poko and Bangui for 66 (27%) of the GPE targeted schools. The delivery will resume in January in the rest of the targeted provinces as schools reopen after the holiday recess.

The three-month catch-up classes which started in September and October were completed with final tests given in December. In total, 1,340 teachers and 104,469 students participated in these classes. UNICEF further supported the classes by providing additional school supplies to these students.

In order to ensure quality educational opportunities to children affected by the crisis, 42 (20%) of 214 teachers and supervisors in TLS participated in the first round of Education in Emergencies (EiE) teacher trainings. Training consisted of the development and practice of important pedagogical skills, psychosocial support for traumatized children, positive discipline and Ebola awareness and prevention. The training will continue after the holiday period for the remaining teachers supporting the EiE program.

UNICEF also worked closely with the MoE to support the reopening of schools in enclaves. One important step was made when Gbaya Doumbia School in PK5 was administratively opened on 19 December. The Director of Cabinet officially welcomed the teachers and encouraged all children living in the area to return to classes. UNICEF will continue to work with the MoE in 2015 to ensure all children in CAR, including those living in precarious conditions have their right to education safeguarded.

UNICEF strongly supported Early Childhood Development (ECD) programming as a means to ensure and improve the overall quality of education. In December, UNICEF provided 7,256 children and 211 teachers with important learning materials in 49 ECD centres in Bangui and the peripheries. These learning materials are critical for the development of psychosocial and motor skills in young children aged 3 – 5 years.

UNICEF was officially awarded the second tranche of the Global Partnership for Education funding of US\$15.5 million on 17 December 2014. This funding, which will be forthcoming in early 2015, will support the MoE in the restoration of basic education services including teacher training, rehabilitation of schools, and institutional strengthening of the MoE as outlined in the three year Education Sector Transition Plan.

UNICEF Education section is reporting its education in emergencies response on two main indicators. Achievements against the annual targets are as follows:

- 40% of children targeted aged 3 to 18 years benefited from education supplies;
- 60% of children targeted participated in temporary learning spaces activities.



Communication for Development

In December, more than 2,000 young people attended the final Basketball match at Palais des Sports. This event was also jointly organised with communications activities for peace promotion and the trophies award for some leaders and organizations that contributed to peacebuilding in Central African Republic. These activities were carried by the CAR Federation of Basketball with the financial and technical support from UNICEF.

The President of the Transition, Mrs Catherine SAMBA PANZA, presided over this ceremony attended by several Ambassadors and UN agencies Representatives including UNICEF Representative Mohamed Malick Fall. In her remarks,

Mrs SAMBA PANZA, congratulated the organisers of this event and took opportunity to encourage the youth in general and girls in particular to become CAR peace ambassadors. The winner of the peace trophy was a young girl.

As of 31 December, progress towards the annual targets (mostly in Bangui and Bossangoa) are as follows:

- 65% of targeted households in Bangui were exposed to messages related to vaccination campaign;
- 78% of targeted young people were sensitised on violence, HIV, peace, hygiene and sanitation;
- 99% of targeted people affected (children, young, women, men) were exposed to the health, peace, hygiene and sanitation messages.

Rapid Response Mechanism

In December, three exploratory missions were conducted by PU-AMI/RRM in Bondiba, IRC/RRM in Ngaoui axis and ACF/RRM in Samba Boulougou; while five multi-sectoral assessments were conducted by PU-AMI/RRM in Gamboula-Dilapoko, IRC/RRM in Sandre-Gaigo, ACTED/RRM in Zemio-Rafai axis, ACF/RRM in Bogbatoyo and ACTED/RRM in Bema (flooding).

RRM and its partners also provided WASH and NFI assistance to affected populations in the following areas:

- ACTED/RRM: NFI kits distribution in Bambari to 1,026 households on the « Aerodrome site », 195 households on the Notre Dame de la Victoire (NDV) site, and 405 households on the Sangaris site as well as 319 households on the Bambari-Grimari axis;
- ACF/RRM: NFI distribution to 200 households and repair of a water point at Bogbatoyo;
- IRC/RRM: Hygiene promotion and distribution of soap bars in Sangre 3 and Gaigo;
- PU-AMI: NFI distribution to 422 households in Gamboula.

The achievements against the annual UNICEF targets were as follows as of 31 December:

- 126% of households received NFI items;
- 100% of Multi-Sectoral Assessments (MSA) were conducted;
- 39% of boreholes were rehabilitated/built. The low level of achievement was mainly due to the presence of WASH actors in the field, which made it unnecessary for RRM to implement as a provider of last resort.

Supply and Logistics & Construction

- As of 31 December, the Supply plan was implemented at 100% and the 91% of the total value of Sales Orders raised were committed;
- Most of UNICEF CAR procurement was offshore due to an unstable local market. Offshore supplies (through Supply Division, Direct Orders, and Regional Procurement) represented 87% of the total Country Office procurement value;
- As of 31 December, a total value of US\$ 9,778,856.71 of supplies, composed of essential medical supplies, health kits, nutrition products, NFI, WASH items, and education kits were distributed to UNICEF implementing partners;
- Year-end stock counts took place with a satisfactory result compared to the mid-year operations. Activity reports were finalized and uploaded on the year-end closure activity share point;
- The issue of the congestion at Douala Port has not been resolved, but UNICEF cargos have not been heavily affected in December;
- Upon customs clearance from, the delivery of containers by the Clearing Agent was delayed this month;
- Lease agreements for at least three warehouses in Bangui, including the main one, were renewed at the end of December;
- Six construction contracts for the Kekereke project related to 12 schools have been renewed with private companies. Activities which had stopped for a year, will finally restart by early next year with tentative completion dates of end of May 2015;
- The construction of another 36 schools under the Kekereke project, handled by NGOs, is still in-progress but not without challenges (completion dates, amendments of scope of works, etc.);
- The rehabilitation of the Bangui Paediatric Hospital is still ongoing. The construction of a shed for a new hospital generator has been finalised (with installation to be performed in early January 2015).

External Communications

December marked the one year anniversary of the peak of the violence in Bangui, and the establishment of the Level 3 emergency in CAR. In order to renew donor and media interest which had waned due to competing emergencies, a one year report, press release, and accompanying communication package was produced – featuring the voices and stories of Central Africans making a difference in their country.

The communication package included a global press release, a blog, an opinion piece written by the Representative, social media factographs, two videos, two photo essays, and a 38-page report. See links below:

Report: Off the map: Reaching children of the Central African Republic (available in English, French, Spanish, German, Korean and Japanese) <http://issuu.com/unicefcar/docs/unicef-car-report-a4-en-highres>

Press Release: Central African Republic: Two out of five children without vital aid – UNICEF (available in English, French and Spanish)

http://www.unicef.org/media/media_78130.html

Blog: Central African Republic: they closed their hearts, open yours

<http://blogs.unicef.org/2014/12/17/central-african-republic-they-closed-their-hearts-open-yours/>

Video: Message from the Desmond Tutu Foundation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccVTn4kaE8c>

Video: “We left everything behind”: A young girl in Chad recalls the night she fled

http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/chad_78145.html

Photo essay: In Focus, A year of Conflict

http://www.unicef.org/photography/photo_infocus.php#UNI165556

Photo essay: The Humanitarian Frontlines of Central African Republic

<http://blogs.unicef.org/2014/12/19/the-humanitarian-frontlines-of-central-african-republic/>

Factographs: Posted on UNICEF CAR’s social media accounts

@UNICEF_CAR; facebook.com/UNICEFCAR

Substantial media pick-up was achieved, with Representative Mohamed Fall interviewed by BBC radio and television journalists, as well as by RFI and Channel Africa. The New York Times, Reuters, AP and other major media in Japan, Switzerland and the UK picked up the story (reflected in the table below).

Another press release about the Back to School campaign for more than 660,000 children was published on December 5: http://www.unicef.org/media/media_78044.html

Major media interviews about the state of education in CAR were conducted by the Country Representative with BBC Focus on Africa and RFI, and Sarah Crowe briefed on the campaign at the Palais in Geneva.

Additional media coverage in December included a short film aired on Norwegian national television, a media visit by Japan’s fourth largest newspaper The Asahi Shimbun and a major feature in Norway’s largest newspaper, the Aftenposten.

Interview table for Communication Highlights

Full name of interviewee	Outlet	Topic	Link, if available
Mohamed Fall	BBC Focus on Africa	Back to School in CAR	
Christophe Bouerlirac	AFP	Critical funding shortage in CAR	http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/afp/article-2881254/UN-funding-shortage-leaves-C-Africa-children-need.html
Mohamed Fall	BBC World Service	Child protection in CAR	

Mohamed Fall	BBC Africa (French)	Critical funding shortage in CAR	
Mohamed Fall	RFI	Lack of funding in CAR	http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20141221-appel-aide-unicef-enfants-centrafrique-humanitaire-malnutrition/
Mohamed Fall	Channel Africa	One year anniversary of CAR crisis	
Mohamed Fall	RFI	Back to School in CAR	http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20141208-centrafrique-le-chemin-vers-paix-passe-celui-ecole-samba-panza-unicef-ong/
Mohamed Fall	Asahi Newspaper	Situation in CAR – one year on	http://www.asahi.com/articles/ASGDS6CZCGDSUHB101D.html
Jean Lokenga, chief of child protection	Australian Broadcasting Commission	Children recruited into armed groups in CAR	
Daniel Timme	Radio MHK	One year anniversary of CAR crisis	
Sarah Crowe	UN News Centre	Back to School in CAR	http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=49523#.VIV9R9LF-So
Judith Leveillee	Voice of America	Children associated with Armed Groups	http://www.voanews.com/content/car-losing-the-next-generation/2524194.html
Judith Leveillee	Eldiario.es	One year anniversary of CAR crisis	
Rahel Vetsch	Werdenberger & Obertoggenburger (Swiss newspaper)	Situation for children in CAR	http://avenue.argus.ch/avenue20144/Q4/1094371/56155113.pdf http://avenue.argus.ch/avenue20144/Q4/1094371/56155080.pdf
Emergencies specialist Esther van der Woerd	nu.nl	10.000 kindsoldaten in Centraal Afrikaanse Republiek	http://bit.ly/1zzrlel

Significant stories not reflected above

[Mentioning UNICEF’s work in your country, even if no interviews were done by UNICEF officials]

Outlet	Headline/Topic	Link, if available
New York Times	UNICEF needs more cash for Central African kids	http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2014/12/17/world/africa/ap-af-unicef-central-african-republic.html?_r=0
Reuters	Armed groups recruit 10,000 child soldiers in Central African Republic – NGO	http://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFL6N0U14ZF20141218?pageNumber=2&virtualBrandChannel=0
BBC	More support needed for UNICEF	World Service, broadcast December 18, 4.30am

ABC News	UNICEF needs more cash for Central African kids	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/unicef-cash-central-african-kids-27672284
Daily Mail	UNICEF needs cash for Central African kids	http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-2878124/Unicef-needs-cash-Central-African-kids.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490
AP	UNICEF needs more cash to Central Africa kids	
Fox News	Violence, lack of cash prevent UNICEF from providing critical services to Central African kids	http://www.foxnews.com/world/2014/12/17/violence-lack-cash-prevent-unicef-from-providing-critical-services-to-central/
Times Live	Funding shortage leaves Central African Republic children in need	http://www.timeslive.co.za/africa/2014/12/20/un-funding-shortage-leaves-central-african-republic-children-in-need
NHK (Japanese national broadcaster)	Civil war continues in Central Africa	http://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/html/20141220/k10014150051000.html http://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/english/news/20141220_18.html
BBC	Child soldiers numbers 'doubled' in Central African Republic	http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-30540544
UN News Centre	Central African Republic: UNICEF warns two out of five children without vital aid	http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=49636#.VJfG7sAKA
Europa Press	UNICEF dice que dos de cada cinco niños de RCA que necesitan ayuda humanitaria no tienen acceso a ella	Europa Press.com
RFI	UNICEF helps schools re-open in Central African Republic	https://soundcloud.com/nancy_fleming/unicef-help-schools-re-open-in-central-african-republic
BBC Africa	Back to School campaign	Footage from UNICEF provided for television package
Daily Maverick	Photo essay: CAR's humanitarian frontliners	http://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2014-12-08-photo-essay-cars-humanitarian-frontliners/

Security

In December, the security situation remained tense and unpredictable throughout the country. Outside the capital, several areas were attacked by armed groups and scores were reportedly killed or injured, as detailed below.

On 31 December, two victims have been reported during gunfire and explosions heard in the night of New Year's Eve in Bangui. A thirteen year old girl seriously injured by a lost bullet and a child of three months wounded. The child of three months died at the hospital.

On 30 December, clashes between armed groups at PK20 of Bambari, led to three dead and two injured on armed groups' side. Several civilians were reported killed, wounded and missing during the fight. To date, there is no figure on affected civilians.

On 29 December, 88 houses were burned in Bouguia, Bodea, Boumia and Tounda villages by breeders during clashes with village residents on the Batangafo-Bouca axis (about 15 km from Batangafo). One person wounded by gunshot was admitted to the MSF Hospital. The families affected took refuge in the bush and others fled to Lady village.

On 24 December in Lopo village (10 km from Nola town), gunfire exchange took place between a MINUSCA patrol and anti-Balaka elements, causing the death of two anti-Balaka fighters; and one small arm seized by MINUSCA troops.

According to local sources, the town of Carnot was immersed in fear following the exchanges of gunfire on 23 December, resulting in two deaths and five people injured. The home of a nurse was attacked and his wife and two of his children were kidnapped.

In Berberati, around 80 Congolese people sought refuge at the Evêché IDP site after fleeing last attacks against them on 22 December. The NFI needs for these new IDPs will be assessed once the security conditions have improved.

On 22 December in Bambari (Batobadja village), at least seven people were reportedly killed, including three civilians, and six seriously injured in the latest clashes between anti-Balaka and ex-Seleka armed groups. Fourteen houses were also burnt down.

Also, on 22 December, assailants from LRA attacked Agoumar village closed to the site of the IDPs on Rafai-Bangassou axis. About 15 people were kidnapped and many houses and attics looted. This attack led to population movement in Rafai town where MINUSCA troops are based. However, three out of 15 people who were kidnapped managed to escape on 23 December.

On 19 December, the village of Combo Bombo (37 km from the city of Amadagaza) was attacked by a group of armed Peuhls in retaliation to the theft of their cattle by anti-Balaka. Seven people were killed and several houses burned during the attack that has also caused a displacement of people into the bush.

On 2 December in Nola (near the border with Cameroon) four people were reportedly killed and fifteen others took refuge at MINUSCA base.

Cluster Coordination

UNICEF is leading the WASH, Education and Nutrition clusters and the Child Protection sub-cluster for the CAR emergency response. WASH, Education and Nutrition clusters and the Child Protection sub-cluster have a dedicated cluster coordinator. All clusters meet on a weekly basis and, under the inter-cluster platform facilitated by OCHA also meeting on a weekly.

Funding

As of 31 December, UNICEF had received \$46 million against the \$81 million in the 2014 HAC requirements and details are provided in below sectoral table. Current funds utilisation rates stand 98.53 per cent for Regular Resources and at 97.74 per cent for Other Resources (ORR + ORE). Without additional resources, UNICEF will not be in a position to provide the needed assistance to affected children and women.

Sector	Initial HAC 2014 requirements	Income through UNICEF and donors*	Funding Gap	
			\$	%
Nutrition	11,000,000	5,331,829.47	5,668,170.53	52%

Health and HIV/AIDS	20,600,000	13,437,337.49	7,162,662.52	35%
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	17,400,000	9,559,140.47	7,840,859.54	45%
Child Protection	12,000,000	6,638,384.52	5,361,615.48	45%
Education	10,000,000	2,741,699.19	7,258,300.81	73%
Non Food Items (NFI)	10,000,000	8,228,849.00	1,771,151.00	18%
Total	81,000,000	45,937,240.13	35,062,759.87	43%

UNICEF wishes to express gratitude to all public and private sector donors for the contributions and pledges received, which have made the current response possible. UNICEF would especially like to thank National Committees and donors who have contributed 'non-earmarked' funding. "Non-earmarked" funding gives UNICEF essential flexibility to direct resources and ensure the delivery of life-saving supplies and interventions to where they are needed most – especially in the form of longer-term and predictable funding and in strengthening preparedness and resilience. Continued donor support is critical to continue scaling up the response.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS – as of 31 December 2014

		2014 (Full year)					
Sector	Indicator	UNICEF & operational partners			Sector / Cluster		
		UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved
HEALTH	Number and % of children U5 vaccinated against measles	268,231	234,956	88%	268,231	234,956	88%
	Number and % of children Under-five provided with Vitamin A	740,000	186,760	25%	740,000	186,760	25%
	Number and % of children 1-5 years who received de-worming medication	657,000	202,780	31%	657,000	202,780	31%
	Number and % of people that access basic health services and medicines in the affected areas (**)	2,000,000	1,382,788	69%	2,000,000	1,382,788	69%
UNICEF Operational Partners: ACF, SAVE THE CHILDREN, FRENCH RED CROSS, COLLABORATION WITH MSF, CARITAS							
(*) 1 Bednet for two people across the country in line with the Universal coverage programme. The figures reported are only for Bangui.							
(**) Progress based on estimation of population benefiting from health medicines and equipment regularly distributed by UNICEF. This includes drugs, medical supplies, and basic medical equipment, basic steam sterilization equipment to ensure sterilization of facilities in all types of environment. This includes 158 facilities outside Bangui receiving support.							
Nutrition	Number and % of children 6-59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for therapeutic care and benefitting from promotion of nutrition practices	28,000	24,657	88%	28,000	24,657	88%
	Recovery Rate	>=75%	83%	NA	>=75%	83%	NA
	Death Rate	<5%	3%	NA	<5%	3%	NA
	Default Rate	<15%	14%	NA	<15%	14%	NA
UNICEF Operational Partners: ACF, COHEB, IMC, MSF-F, MSF-E, MSFH, CARITAS, MERLIN, SAVE THE CHILDREN. Data as of 30 November 2014.							

WASH	Number and % of affected people that have access to improved sources of water (*)	700,000	418,967	60%	900,000	770,000	86%
	Number and % of affected people with access to a basic sanitation services (**)	300,000	231,485	77%	900,000	424,000	47%
	Number and % of affected people who received wash items (jerrycan and soap) and knowledge to put in place hand washing practices (***)	350,000	321,203	92%	900,000	585,000	65%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: IRC, ACF, ANEA, LIFA, EEA, Caritas-Bambari, ICDI, IMC, OXFAM, SODECA, ICDI, LEAGUE ISLAMIQUE AFRICAINE (*) Standard sphere not yet reached for Bangui sites. Bossangoa Standard Sphere almost reached with the provision of 12 liters of water per person per day. (**) Latrines/defecation fields with hand washing dispositive in the IDPs sites. Bossangoa Sphere standard reached while for Bangui sites the average is 154 per latrines at the airport site and UNICEF supported interventions 1 latrine per 100 persons. (***) Partial data related to the people reached with hygiene communication activities. Please note that target will be revised shortly.						
Child Protection	Number and % of children benefiting from recreational activities and psychosocial support (children centre and counselling areas)*	100,000	64,949	65%	100,000	64,949	65%
	Number and % of children released from armed forces and groups*	3,000	2,806	94%	3,000	2,790	93%
	Number and % of separated children in emergencies reunified with families	1,200	588	49%	1,200	588	49%
	Number and % of GBV survivors who receive holistic assistance*	3,500	2,287	65%	6,500	2,287	35%
UNICEF Operational Partners: CORDAID, VITALITE PLUS, ECAC, JUPEDEC, COHEB, ECAC, IDEALE, JRS, JUPEDEC, ESF, BSF, COHEB, AIDE, REMOD, IDEALE RCA, CARITAS, Save the Children, IRC, Mercy Corps, NDA, COOPI, OCDH, AFJC, Triangle, Village SOS.....and *: Revised targets							
HIV/AIDS	Number and % of pregnant women receiving HIV/AIDS counselling	56,732	45,043	79%	56,732	45,043	79%
	Number and % of pregnant women benefiting from PMCT- ARV prophylaxis	4,392	1,838	42%	4,392	1,838	42%
	Number and % of children born from HIV positive women benefiting from ARV prophylaxis	4,392	1076	24%	4,392	1067	24%
	Number and % of children previously on ARV prophylaxis who continue to receive ARV treatment	1,705	811	48%	1,705	811	48%
UNICEF Operational Partners: MoH. 2014 indicators and targets revised, progress made has been adjusted accordingly.							
Education	Number and % of children between 3 to 18 years who benefited from education supplies	300,000	120,231	40%	580,000	134,508	23%
	Number and % of children participating in ETAPE activities (temporary learning spaces) (*)	100,000	60,167	60%	180,000	66,024	37%
UNICEF Operational Partners: CORDAID, VITALITE PLUS, ECAC, JUPEDEC, COHEB, ECAC, IDEALE, JRS, JUPEDEC, ESF, BSF, COHEB, AIDE, REMOD, IDEALE RCA, CARITAS (*) Since January 2014, ETAPes have been established in Bangui, Bambari, Batangafo, Begoua, Bimbo, Bossangoa, Dekoa, Grimari, Kaga Bandoro, Ngakobo, Yaloke and Gaga							
C4D	Number and % of households exposed to messages related to vaccination campaign	960,000	748,800	78%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of people affected (children, young, women, men) who have been exposed to the health, peace, hygiene and sanitation messages	2,500,000	2,050,000	82%	Not Applicable		

	Number and % of young people sensitised on violence, HIV, peace, hygiene and sanitation	518,000	515,200	99%	Not Applicable
RRM	Number and % of households that received NFIs items	17,267	21,726	126%	Not Applicable
	Number and % of Multi-Sectoral Assessments (MSA) conducted	51	51	100%	Not Applicable
	Number and % of boreholes rehabilitated/built	109	43	39%	Not Applicable

Twitter handle: @UNICEF_CAR, #CARcrisis

UNICEF CAR Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/car.html>

The next CAR Country Office Humanitarian Situation Report will be released on or around 30 December 2014.

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