



World Food Programme

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Central African Republic

- C.A.R. Funding Shortfalls** (24 Oct.)
- Emergency Operation** USD 26.7 million
Through October 2014
- Food Security Cluster** USD 1.6 million
Through December 2014
- ETC & Logistics Cluster** USD 2.7 million
Through December 2014
- UNHAS** USD 3.6 million
Through December 2014
- Augmentation of staff & security** USD 6.1 million
Through December 2014

Highlights

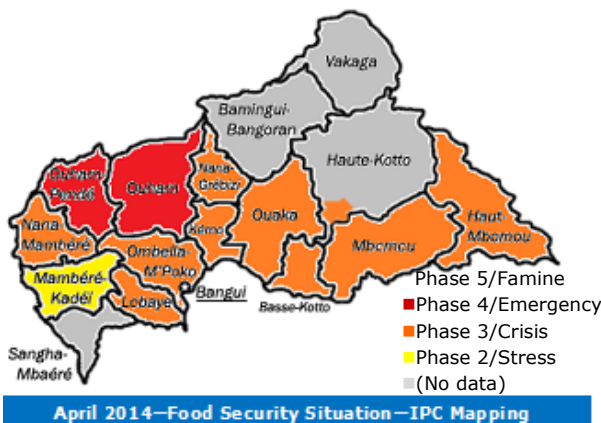
WFP continues to reach remote and hard-to-reach areas of the country. Since the beginning of the Level 3 emergency response in December 2013, WFP has expanded from reaching four main urban areas to 60 key locations countrywide covering 930,000 people.

Active hostilities and violence in Bangui and the provinces have created a difficult working environment for the humanitarian community, resulting in reduced operational capacity.

WFP has been making efforts to work through these challenges, and by the third week of October, up to 52 percent of the planned distributions for the month had been carried out in the central, north and north-west of the country through the sub-offices in Bambari, Bossangoa, Bouar and Kaga Bandoro.

WFP is working with the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) assessments in C.A.R. to enable fast and flexible priority distributions in response to sudden displacements.

The Crop and Food Security Assessment and Emergency Food Security Assessment have been concluded. The final reports will be available shortly.



C.A.R. Emergency Response

Heightened insecurity and incidents in some areas have resulted in postponed or cancelled distributions. The security environment remains precarious; however, WFP continues to reach the most vulnerable populations.

September

As a result of insecurity hampering distributions in Boda, Batangafo, Bambari and PK5, with several movement restrictions, the closing of schools for the academic school year and the post-harvest phase-out of the seed protection programme, the September distributions reached 256,000 people, which represents about 60 percent of the distributions carried out during the month of August.

October

WFP operations have been temporarily suspended in Bangui since 8 September, following hostilities by armed groups in the capital, as a continuation of planned distributions would pose a risk to staff and beneficiaries. Once

the situation stabilizes, the activities will resume.

WFP operations in the provinces are also continuously hampered by localized insecurity and limited movements of staff and assets from the capital.

Despite these critical challenges, WFP has been working on reaching food insecure people in the provinces. By the third week of October, up to 52 percent of the planned distributions for the month had been undertaken in Bambari, Bossangoa, Bouar and Kaga Bandoro.

The Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission, and the Emergency Food Security Assessment have been finalized. The findings have been used to define the needs and programme interventions for C.A.R. in the coming regional operation.


Data collection for the nutrition SMART survey has been completed in Bangui city and in the 16 prefectures of C.A.R. Data analysis is ongoing. Preliminary results for Bangui show a reduction of the global acute malnutrition rates from 8 percent to 5 percent compared to 2012, despite the increase in violence and displacement.


C.A.R. Situation Update

The security situation in Bangui deteriorated on 7 October when the detonation of a grenade triggered a series of events that escalated into outbursts of violence in the capital, which left over 160 people injured during the week, including UN personnel. As violence continues in the capital, the environment for WFP and other humanitarian organizations remains complicated, particularly in terms of operational capacity and humanitarian access.

Even before the intensification of hostilities in Bangui in October, challenges related to humanitarian access had been noticed - including a 38 percent increase in incidents between May and August. The majority of the incidents were related to active hostilities, violence against civilians or humanitarian workers and assets, as well as interference in the implementation of humanitarian activities. Direct incidents against humanitarian personnel and assets have increased which includes serious threats, attacks against workers, robberies, looting and ambushes. In conclusion, the security environment is becoming progressively more precarious, which creates critical obstacles in the implementation of activities, complicates staff safety and decreases the humanitarian space.


Cluster updates

 **Food Security Cluster:** The FSC has been conducting an evaluation exercise to evaluate coordination performance at national level.

 **Emergency Telecommunications Cluster:** The ETC is continuing to support Humanitarian Organizations operating in Bangui with issues related to troubleshooting, radio programming, technical advising and information sharing.

ETC missions to Bambari to install a better network architecture to improve management of internet access and other data network resources were completed. A mission to Bossangoa to carry out maintenance activities of the communication centre and on the telecommunications infrastructure was also carried out.

The ETC worked closely with UNICEF on the relocation of staff in Kaga Bandoro to ensure that secure telecommunications services and internet services were established.

 **Logistics Cluster:** WFP/Logistics Cluster is ensuring that Cluster partners are included in the planned WFP logistics training.

The Logistics Cluster is working on a rehabilitation project with partner ACTED, to be carried out in Ouham/Ouham Pende provinces.

Two Cluster partners are managing the mobile storage units for inter-agency use in Kabo and Batangafo respectively. Meetings have been undertaken with both partners on the tracking and monitoring of goods.

Spotlight:

Reaching the most vulnerable

The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) assessments in C.A.R. are carried out by NGOs who are part of the response teams for each province. The teams respond to alerts by assessing the situation and sharing their reports on key findings with all agencies and clusters, calling for a multi-sectorial response.

WFP is working with the RRM to increase its capacity to carry out priority food distributions throughout the country, when required. This enables WFP to deliver flexible rapid food assistance.

Meanwhile, WFP is making progress in prioritizing the most acutely food insecure populations – the percentage of IDPs as part of overall ben-



Twenty-one Kamaz trucks received from Afghanistan are used to send deliveries to the provinces. They recently traveled on the primary road from Bangui during the rainy season to deliver much needed food and support emergency distributions to people displaced by violence outside Bambari.

eficiaries has increased since August and is expected to continue to grow, as more and more partners are re-orienting their interventions towards IDPs.

The response in Batangafo in September was the first in which WFP worked with the RRM. WFP reached 15,000 people in this location with vital emergency food assistance.

Most recently in October, WFP responded to new displacement outside Bambari and successfully reached 7,350 displaced people in Digui and Ngakobo in the central parts of the country.

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