**Highlight — Launch of the Regional EMOP 200799**

WFP’s new Regional Emergency Operation (EMOP) 200799 began on 1 January 2015 in response to another wave of insecurity in C.A.R. and further displacement of populations. The EMOP spans five countries and consolidates earlier country-specific responses to this prolonged crisis. The operation increases coherence in objectives and programmes, while adapting to the particular context and needs of beneficiary groups. Thus, a child who has fled C.A.R. to a neighbouring country should expect to receive the same kind of assistance as a child in C.A.R. WFP aims to support 1.5 million beneficiaries across the five countries over the 12-month period of the EMOP.

**WFP Response**

The operation focuses on ensuring life-saving needs of vulnerable populations in conflict-affected communities, sites of displacement and refuge, and refugee/returnee receiving areas. **Primary target groups identified and agreed by partners include:**

- Displaced persons and refugees with limited livelihood prospects or alternative means of support;
- Local and host food-insecure households whose coping capacity has been reduced as a result of the crisis;
- Young children and pregnant and nursing women (PNW) whose nutrition situation is already in crisis or at-risk; and
- Vulnerable groups whose access to basic education and health services is interrupted.

**C.A.R.**

WFP’s single-country EMOP in C.A.R. ran from January to December 2014. Preliminary data indicates that 1.3 million people were reached in all 16 provinces of the country.

In 2015, WFP in C.A.R. will target a total of 1.2 million people and continue focusing on improving food consumption, as well as restoring and increasing access to basic services to reduce household reliance on negative coping strategies, including selling productive assets and removing children from school. WFP will work to foster social cohesion, invest in human capital and support agricultural production.

In November and December, WFP reached 504,000 beneficiaries. Of the total beneficiaries, 36,000 were children receiving fortified nutritional products through the blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP), 50,000 were school children, 400,000 were assisted under general food distributions, and 52,000 under the targeted supplementary feeding programme (TSFP).

**Cameroon**

The single-country EMOPs in response to the C.A.R. refugee crisis in Cameroon ran from March to December 2014, reaching approximately 88,000 refugees. Food distributions have been provided on a monthly basis to refugees in and around seven existing UNHCR sites, entry-points and in host villages. In December, WFP distributed general food rations to some 88,000 beneficiaries. All rations were complemented with fortified and blended foods to improve nutritional intake.

In December, WFP also provided supplementary rations to 15,000 children and pregnant and nursing women (PNW) under the BSFP. December screenings indicate a general improvement in the nutritional status of the population targeted by the programme. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) is on average below 2 percent among children and below 3 percent among PNW in refugee camps and host villages. At the onset of the refugee crisis, GAM rates rose to 17.1 percent in some sites. The TSFP covered 9,325 children and 4,792 PNW through December. This includes both refugees and host populations.

**In Numbers**

- **242,000** refugees have arrived in Cameroon
- **93,000** refugees have arrived in Chad
- In DRC there are some **68,000** refugees from C.A.R.
- In RoC there are **22,000** refugees from C.A.R.

Source: UNHCR 4 January 2015. The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
In 2015, WFP is prepared to assist 183,000 people in Cameroon under the Regional EMOP.

**Chad**

WFP will continue to support nutrition returnee assistance in nutrition supplementary units in camps for C.A.R. refugees and the three sites for Chadian returnees (Kobitey, Djako and Danmadja).

A Global Response Plan for the medium and long-term socio-economic reintegration of C.A.R. returnees is currently being discussed under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation.

In December, 2,200 children were assisted under the BSFP in three sites. WFP continued moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) support activities in the six sights in the South.

In 2015, WFP is prepared to assist 50,000 people in Chad under the Regional EMOP.

**DRC**

WFP has been providing food assistance to C.A.R refugees living in camps in northern DRC since early 2013. The total refugee population living in camps now stands at 40,000.

A Joint Assessment Mission found that the food security situation remains precarious throughout the area where the refugees are settled. In July 2014, it was estimated that 42 percent of all households are food insecure, with about 56 percent having an inadequate food consumption score.

Agriculture is the main livelihood and source of income for 70 percent of host families and most refugees used to practice this activity as their main livelihood before displacement. However, agriculture and petty commerce are difficult to practice in and around the refugee camps, mainly due to poverty which limits the ability of households to access productive assets.

In 2015, WFP is prepared to assist 50,000 people in DRC under the Regional EMOP.

**RoC**

Refugees in Likoula department (Betou and Impfondo) are the primary beneficiary group of WFP's interventions to support C.A.R. refugees in RoC. The response ensures the nutrition needs of refugees are met by including Super Cereal in the basket.

WFP collaborates with UN and NGO partners to ensure parallel interventions (including education and nutrition) to support refugees and host communities.

Support to the host population is provided through parallel WFP (school feeding) and partner programmes.

**Spotlight:**
**Impact of insecurity on household food security in C.A.R.**

An Emergency Food Security Assessment was carried out in September 2014. A total of 2,166 households participated in the survey in all 16 provinces of the country and Bangui.

Results revealed that more than one in two households reported experiencing at least one impact during the last six months.

Almost two-thirds of households had adopted coping strategies to access food. More than 50 percent have used crisis and emergency strategies such as the withdrawal of children from school or the practice of risky activity. The use of these strategies is increasing compared to 2013 and indicates that these households have exhausted the use of their habitual coping strategies such as the sale of domestic assets, savings or borrowings.

The main constraints cited by households to generate income are: the lack of capital investment (61 percent), lack of job opportunities (31 percent) and lack of land/production equipment (27 percent).

Economic recovery of the country will take time. The ongoing crisis could lead to lasting impact on the nutritional status of the populations, especially on the stunted children. It will also impact access to income-generating opportunities.

**Contacts**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WFP Operations</th>
<th>Project Duration</th>
<th>Planned number of people</th>
<th>Total requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total received (in USD)</th>
<th>Shortfall (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional EMOP200799</td>
<td>01.01.2015–31.12.2015</td>
<td>1,565,400</td>
<td>196,335,000</td>
<td>36,454,744</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
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