



# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

## UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE 53

21 March-3 April 2015

### KEY FIGURES

**436,256**

IDPs including

**49,113**

in Bangui in 35 sites

**456,531**

Central African refugees in Cameroon, Chad, DRC and Congo including

**216,597**

New arrivals since Dec. 2013

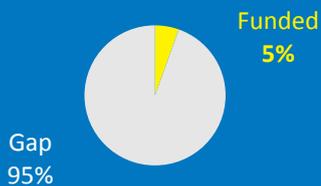
**8,103**

Refugees and asylum seekers in the Central African Republic

### FUNDING

**USD 241 million**

requested for the situation



### PRIORITIES

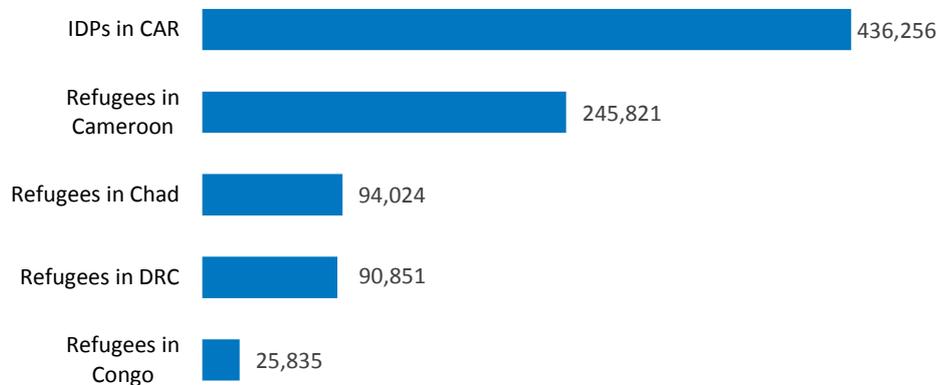
- Cameroon: acceleration of assistance to refugees living offsite in villages.
- Chad: profiling and verification exercise in returnee sites.
- DRC: relocation of refugees to existing sites. Verification of refugees out of camps.
- Congo: ensure registration and documentation of all CAR refugees.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- On 3 April, UNHCR assisted in the relocation of 13 IDPs from Yaloke enclave in the Central African Republic under the family reunification process. Through this process, UNHCR has assisted 20 IDPs from Yaloke to relocate to Cameroon since 4 March. Several other IDPs in the Yaloke have departed on their own accord on board of commercial trucks escorted by MINUSCA along the Bangui-Garoua Boulai supply route to Cameroon. UNHCR, with the support of MINUSCA, will continue with the family reunification process.
- The Central African transitional government announced the closure of Mpoko airport site by the end of June 2015. Mpoko is hosting nearly 19,000 IDPs, of which 77% are from Bangui's 3<sup>rd</sup> district. The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster will lead the operation with the support of the Inter Cluster Coordination Group and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). The intentions of return/relocation of IDPs to areas of their choice were established through a survey led by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). The results of this survey are a critical planning tool for the camp closure operation. Particular attention will be given to the reintegration of IDPs in the neighborhoods of return. Also of concern is the security situation in certain neighborhoods which remains a major challenge, especially for 42% of the IDPs who want to return to the 3<sup>rd</sup> district.

### Population of concern

A total of **892,787** people of concern



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

### Operational Context

- On 1 April, it was decided that the Bangui Forum is to take place from 27 April to 4 May. The Forum will discuss issues related to peace and security, justice and reconciliation, governance, and development. One of the objectives of the Forum is to reach a political agreement between the two main factions, however, the participation of former Presidents Bozize and Djotodja has yet to be confirmed.

### Protection

#### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

- According to the *Commission Mouvement de la Population* (CMP) there are an estimated 436,256 IDPs in the Central African Republic (CAR), including 49,113 in Bangui in 35 sites.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- UNHCR carried out a protection monitoring mission in Benzambe, a commune located north east of Bossangoa in order to assess a reported reconciliation process between Peuhl herders and the local population. Exchanges of goods have started between Benzambe women traders and the Peuhl herders. A mediation committee put in place by the Chief of Benzambe locality is planning to meet with the Peuhl at their request. MINUSCA and UNHCR were requested by the Chief to support this initiative. The mission also reported the setting up of spontaneous sites with newly arrived IDPs from Yorouba area located 27 km away from Benzambe were reportedly attacked by armed Peuhl herders who burnt down their villages.



*UNHCR assisting a woman from Yaloke enclave board a vehicle to join her family in Cameroon. UNHCR/M. Azonnankpo*

- UNHCR participated in an interagency mission to Kouango from 26-28 March in order to inquire in more detail about the situation in the sub-prefecture after the helicopter mission carried out by Bangui-based humanitarian actors in Kouango town. The mission revealed the presence of 6,000 IDPs, a total of 58 villages burnt down on the Pende, Lioto, Bianga axes. Malnutrition, WASH, NFIs, access to health and food were noted as the most critical needs of both IDPs and spontaneous returnees. The local population has requested a permanent presence of MINUSCA in the area.

#### CAMEROON

- An estimated 137,862 Central African refugees have entered Cameroon since December 2013 with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions.

## Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR registered 227 individuals (58 households) in the area of Gbiti during the period of 23-29 March. None of the households volunteered to be transferred to a refugee site, preferring to stay closer to the border entry point of Gbiti.
- Within the framework of family reunification, 139 individuals were reunited with their relatives in the site of Borgop, having previously been in the refugee site of Gado and at the border entry points of Alhamdou, Damissa and Diel.

## CHAD

- A total 17,078 Central African refugees have entered Chad since December 2013 and are predominantly in the southern part of the country.
- As of 31 March 2015, the total figure of Central African refugees in Chad stood at 94,024 (23,065 families): 84,027 live in the sites of Amboko, Belom, Dosseye, Doholo, Gondje and Moyo and 6,689 live in host village communities. No new arrivals have been reported since January 2015.

## Refugees

### Achievements and Impact

- From 30 March to 2 April, UNHCR's implementing partner, the *Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad* (APLFT) conducted the second round of public hearings to deliver birth certificates to refugee children born in Chad but not yet registered in three camps of Gore (Amboko, Gondje and Dosseye). Out of 302 children previously identified by the circuit court hearing, only 50 attended the circuit hearing and were issued birth certificates. Increased sensitization is necessary to encourage parents of newborns to register their births accordingly.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- From 1-3 April, UNHCR carried out a monitoring mission to the refugee hosting villages of Koldaga, Bekourou, Dilingala and Doubadene to assess the situation of some 2,978 CAR refugees living in those villages. Of the issues identified, the most pressing issue raised was the need for shelters for people with specific needs.
- On 1 April, a joint mission was conducted by the EU, UNHCR and local authorities to the new refugee site of Dembo currently hosting 2,298 refugees. Needs expressed by refugees included; shelters, water and sanitation. UNHCR is working with partners to provide assistance in WASH, and shelter. So far, 70 out of 114 planned latrines have been constructed by CARE International. The construction of 4 wells is ongoing to supplement the two functional wells in the host community.

## Returnees

- According to IOM, as of 27 March, the total number of Chadian returnees living in returnee sites in the south stood at 51,485: Danamadja hosts 11,773 returnees, Kobiteye 6,482, Maingama 16,361 and Sido 16,869.

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- An estimated 46,147 Central African refugees have entered the Democratic Republic of the Congo since December 2013 and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province. The registration and verification operation is still ongoing to determine the number of refugees in and out of camps.

### Achievements and Impact

- On 12 March, UNHCR and local authorities opened Bili camp and received the first transfer of refugees relocated. As of 5 April, 2,046 refugees were living in the camp where 600 shelters have been built. The new camp was required in light of the recent influx into the Bosobolo area of Equateur province. This week 885 individuals (237 households) were relocated to the camp.

- UNHCR registered 683 new refugees in Boyabu camp (pop. 17,482) and registered 367 individuals in the transit centre of Batanga. UNHCR assisted in the relocation of 583 individuals (138 households) to Boyabu camp from Batanga.
- In the week of 23-29 March, 832 individuals were registered and relocated to Inke camp from Pangoma transit centre.



Many refugees from CAR cross into the DRC in small wooden boats seeking safety, but remain close to the river, hoping to return soon.  
UNHCR/C. Fohlen

## REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- An estimated 15,510 Central African refugees have entered the Republic of Congo since December 2013, and are predominantly in the Betou area. During the reporting period, 650 new arrivals were registered in Betou, Impfondo and Brazzaville by UNHCR and the *Commission Nationale d'Assistance pour les Réfugiés* (CNAR).
- UNHCR and the CNAR conducted a screening and registration mission in Longa, located in the district of Enyelle: 166 individuals (61 families) were identified and registered during the mission.

## Education

### CAMEROON

#### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR, in collaboration with UNICEF, continued to support the Ministry of Education to ensure continued access to education for all refugee children. To date, 112 Temporary Learning and Child Protection Spaces (ETAPEs) programme have been constructed and 92 teachers have been recruited and trained.
- UNHCR provided 500 table/benches to 21 primary schools in the area of Garoua Boulai and are planning to distribute 1,000 to five other primary schools in five districts in the Adamawa and North regions.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- There is a continued need to expand capacity—in terms of infrastructure, equipment, materials and staffing—of local public schools to integrate refugee children into the national curriculum.

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO****Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Exam results of the second semester in Mboti refugee camp were released and noted the success of 81% of students that had undertaken exams. However, the success rate was not as high in Inke camp at 47%.

**Health****CAMEROON****Achievements and Impact**

- UNICEF and partners vaccinated 79 children between the ages of 0-5 years against polio and 236 children between the ages of 6 months and 15 years against measles, at the border entry points of Kentzou, Garoua Boulai, Tocktoyo and Gbiti – all new arrivals.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- There is an urgent need to strengthen healthcare and nutrition activities in host communities.
- There remains a lack of qualified medical personnel (i.e. doctors, paramedics, nurses) and need for additional technical equipment and facilities in health centres in host communities.
- Increased monitoring is needed for the possible epidemiological outbreak within refugee sites and amongst host communities.

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO****Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- The mobile clinics of the *Association de Développement Economique et Social* (ADES) continue to monitor the spontaneous refugee sites along the Oubangi river in order to provide medical assistance. Many new cases of malaria have been determined amongst new arrivals in the Bosobolo area. During the reporting period, malaria was recorded as the predominant illness amongst refugees in the camps of Bili (29%) and in Inke (22%).

**Food Security and Nutrition****DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO****Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- A five day ration food distribution was conducted in Bili camp for 1,710 new arrivals (511 households). A monthly food ration provided by WFP is to follow pending the resolution of logistical constraints.

**Water and Sanitation****CAMEROON****Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- The average supply of water in the East and Adamawa regions remains within recommended standards at 20 litres per person per day (l/p/d) in two out of the seven refugee sites (Lolo and Ngarisingo).

- UNHCR and its implementing partners have constructed 79 boreholes (out of a total 97 already completed), as well as 2,366 latrines (out of 3,244) and 1,645 showers (out of 2,238) in all sites.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- A total 54 boreholes, 865 latrines and 1,123 showers are necessary in order to cover the needs of refugees in all sites. An additional 389 boreholes and 828 latrines in host villages also need to be constructed.

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

#### Achievements and Impact

- Refugees in the new camp of Bili now have access to 27 litres of water per person per day (l/p/d).



Three children carry water to their shelter in Bili refugee camp, DRC. UNHCR/C. Fohlen.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Boyabu, the total amount of water production this week was 307,000l and provided 18 l/p/d. The water is provided by 20 water points, 3 wells with manual pumps and one emergency well.
- In Inke and Mole camps, the level of water production provided an average 10.5 l/p/d, severely below UNHCR standards.
- In Mboti refugee camp, the daily production of water was 9,489m<sup>3</sup> and provided 16l/p/d.

### REPUBLIC OF CONGO

#### Achievements and Impact

- As part of the CERF project, UNHCR's implementing partner, *Agence d'Assistance au Rapatriés et Réfugiés au Congo* (AARREC) is currently building 4 additional water points in Betou and Ikpengbele. In Betou, AARREC also assisted in the chlorination of 29 wells and sensitized 147 refugees and the local population on hygiene practices.

## Shelter/ NFIs and CCCM

### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

#### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR signed an agreement with partner *Cooperazione* (COOPI) in Bambari for the setting up of the alternative site. The fencing of the site has been completed and COOPI has started the construction of shelters for people with specific needs. MINUSCA carried out an assessment to identify their future positions to secure the site. One of the conditions MINUSCA had pushed forward to secure the site was the construction of a fence, which was delayed because of procurement challenges.

### CAMEROON

#### Achievements and Impact

- *Premiere Urgence – Aide Médicale Internationale* (PU-AMI), UNHCR's implementing partner, finalized the construction of 130 semi-permanent shelters in Timangolo (39) and Lolo (91). Another 25 semi-permanent shelters are under construction in Mbilé.

#### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Over 2,568 family shelters remain to be constructed for 4,510 families living in community shelters and another 875 families staying in family tents. Another 9,500 semi-permanent family shelters need to be constructed in all refugee sites.

### CHAD

#### Achievements and Impact

- During the period under review, UNHCR implementing partners, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and ADES built 78 shelters in Dosseye camp; 68 by LWF and 10 by ADES for people with specific needs.

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

#### Achievements and Impact

- The development of Bili camp is ongoing; 929 individuals (269 households) received 317 tarpaulins, 317 kitchen sets, 414 jerrycans, 539 mosquito nets, 269 buckets, 539 mats, 539 blankets and 920 pieces of soap.
- More than 600 shelters have been constructed so far on Bili camp and more are under construction.
- The construction of semi-durable shelters in Boyabu camp is ongoing – 74 of such shelters have been completed and 25 are under construction. Mole camp is also planning to construct 100 semi-durable shelters, 50 of which are completed.

### REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

#### Achievements and Impact

- Local authorities have given their agreement for the extension of the *15 avril* site in Betou. UNHCR's partner, African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) completed the construction of the planned 400 shelters.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

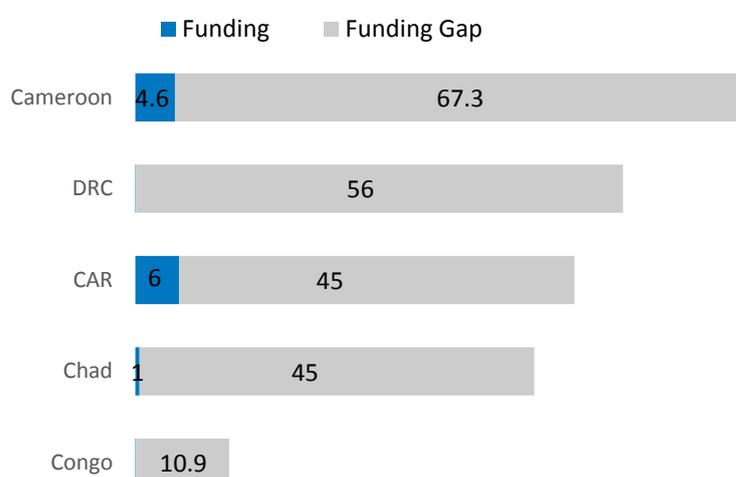
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation in 2014. Below are UNHCR's 2015 financial needs for providing protection and assistance to Central African refugees in the neighbouring countries, as well as discharging its responsibilities in the inter-agency framework to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs in the Central African Republic. UNHCR's total financial requirements for the CAR Situation currently amounts to **USD 241 million**, including USD 186 million for the response in asylum countries from January to December 2015, as presented in the Regional Refugee Response Plan launched on 23 January 2015. **The overall needs are currently funded at 5%.**

### Donors:

DRC Pooled Fund  
European Union  
France  
Holy See  
Japan  
Private donors Australia  
Private donors Canada  
Private donors Italy  
Private donors Japan  
Private donors Kuwait  
Private donors Switzerland  
Private donors USA  
Spain  
Switzerland  
UN Development Programme  
UN Population Fund  
UN Programme on HIV/AIDS

### Funding:

A total of **USD 13 million** has been funded



### Contacts:

Ms. Kabami Kalumiya, Associate Reporting Officer, [kalumiya@unhcr.org](mailto:kalumiya@unhcr.org) Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8252

Ms. Wendy Rappeport, Senior External Relations Officer, [rappepor@unhcr.org](mailto:rappepor@unhcr.org) Tel: +41 (0) 22 739 8993

### Links:

CAR regional webportal: <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>

UNHCR Tracks: <http://tracks.unhcr.org>

UNHCR Kora: <http://kora.unhcr.org>

