



World Food Programme

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## WFP C.A.R. CRISIS REGIONAL UPDATE\*

### Situation Report #31

\*EMOP 200799 focus on affected C.A.R. population in C.A.R. and neighbouring countries (Cameroon, Chad, DRC and RoC)

28 February 2017

## In Numbers\*

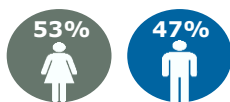
**2.2 million** people food insecure in C.A.R.— 48% of the population of the country

\*The number includes vulnerable local population and IDPs in C.A.R. and refugees in neighbouring countries.

**391,000 People assisted\***

February 2017

\*Includes provisional figures for DRC and RoC.



**WFP urgently needs USD 27 million for lifesaving assistance in C.A.R. crisis countries.**

## Situation Update

- While peaks of extreme violence have decreased in **C.A.R.**, inter-communal tensions and clashes between armed groups or ethnic-based attacks on the civilian population persist and continue to deteriorate the precarious humanitarian situation. Insecurity continues to hamper humanitarian aid access and cause displacement of vulnerable population. February was largely marked by continued activities of armed groups in Bocaranga, Ouaka and Haute Kotto with repercussion in other prefectures.
- In **C.A.R.**, the report of the [2016 National Food security survey](#) (ENSA) was published in February. It indicates that food insecurity affects a very large number of households in Ouham Pendé (308,000 people), Ouham (304,000), Ouaka (225,000) and Mambéré Kadéi (209,000). The highest numbers of people in severe food insecurity are located in the prefectures of Ouaka, Ouham Pendé, Lower Kotto, Lobaye and Bangui.

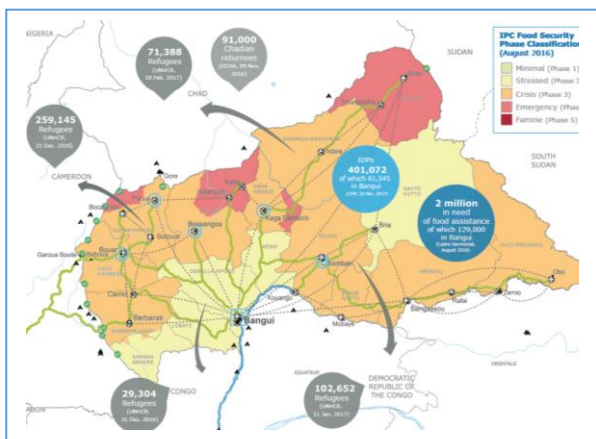


Photo: Bangui IDPs site-food distribution, WFP/Bruno Djoyo

## Highlights

- Insufficient funding continues to have a serious impact on the C.A.R. crisis affected countries. Without additional funding, Cameroon and C.A.R. will distribute only half rations of food to the vulnerable populations from March to June; and in Chad, WFP will prioritize life-saving assistance for vulnerable people during the lean season (from June to September).

- Since the beginning of 2017, due to lack of funding, WFP is unable to provide food assistance to 62,000 C.A.R. returnees (under the PRRO) in **Chad** (regions of Logone Oriental, Logone Occidental, Moyen Chari and Mandoul). WFP will prioritize those most in need of assistance during the lean season. In **C.A.R.**, WFP is forced to distribute a food basket without SuperCereal.

- In **Cameroon**, transport operations experienced serious challenges in February, causing delays in delivering food commodities. Security measures on the Kette-Tocktoyo axis were strengthened due to insecurity. Prior to any movement of food trucks, local authorities are informed to secure the zone.
- In **DRC**, the C.A.R. refugees are located in the northern Ubangi, southern Ubangi and Bas-Uele provinces. The ongoing violence in C.A.R. complicates prospects for finding durable solutions, and the forced displacement of these refugees is increasingly protracted, while humanitarian support in the hosting areas is decreasing.

## WFP Response

- WFP and UNHCR conducted a joint survey for the vulnerability-based targeting of Central African refugees in the east and Adamaoua regions of **Cameroon**. More than 90 percent of the planned households were covered. Data collection was completed on 15 February 2017 and data processing and analysis are currently ongoing in collaboration with UNHCR.
- In **DRC**, further to recommendations of various surveys including market assessments, WFP will move from in-kind to value voucher distribution model in the Bili refugee camp (starting from April).



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- In February, WFP provided food assistance to 190,000 people in **C.A.R.**, through a combination of general food distributions (GFD), treatment and prevention of malnutrition interventions, food by prescription and school meals. WFP also assisted an additional 2,500 people whose shelters were destroyed or damaged by the fire. The first GFD using cash-based transfer (CBT) was launched in February, in Kaga-Bandoro, reaching 7,000 internally displaced people.

- In **Cameroon**, 133,000 people received food assistance, including 32,000 children aged 6-23 months who received specialised nutritious foods to prevent acute malnutrition. The results of the mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening of 30,719 children in Adamaoua revealed a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 4.4 percent among children aged 6-23 months. This trend continues to show that children aged 6-23 months are still more vulnerable than those aged 24-59 months (1.6 percent). Also, the Food by Prescription program for people living with HIV (PLHIV) suffered from a break in SuperCereal stock, with fewer than 250 people were reached out of the planned 1,000. The partners are strengthening nutritional education sessions using local food as well as psychosocial supervision to minimize the impact of this break. CBT was introduced in February in the Timangolo and Lolo sites where 16,000 people out of 5,000 households received SIM cards, mobile phones and cash transfers. The introduction of these new sites brings the number of vulnerable people assisted with CBT in the east region from 22,000 to 38,000.

- In **Chad**, the lack of funding allowed WFP to reach only 13,000 vulnerable people through vouchers under the regional EMOP and WFP was not able to assist 62,000 C.A.R. returnees (under the PRRO). Since 2016, assistance has been prioritized to returnees living in sites as they have fewer opportunities than those living in villages. Assistance to 50,300 refugees from C.A.R. was provided in February and 12,800 received food in-kind while 37,500 received cash-based assistance. Half rations are being provided due to limited funding.

- In **DRC**, WFP launched nutritional rehabilitation and assistance to pregnant and nursing women along with malnourished women and children in and out of camps in Bili, Bosobolo, Gbadolite, Libenge, Mobayi Mbongo and Zongo health zones in partnership with *Association pour le Développement Economique et Social (ADES)* in camps and *Action pour la protection et l'encadrement des enfants (APEE)* out of camps. In February, 58,000 people received food and nutrition assistance.

- In **RoC**, WFP will target the most vulnerable people with CBT, using the UNHCR database. WFP distributed food and nutrition assistance to 5,000 refugees. WFP is also prioritizing assistance to refugees in the remote area of Mouhalé who had not received assistance before October 2016.

- In **C.A.R.**, the FSC participated in the inter-cluster needs assessment mission to Batangafo, Ouham prefecture. Multiple discussions were organized with IDPs, returnees and local authorities. Visits were also organized on Gbazara and Bouca axes to have a good understanding of the humanitarian situation in Batangafo area where approximately 14,605 people are living. IDPs and returnees mentioned access to food as their priority need. The inter-cluster mission recommended four months of food assistance to returnees.

- Also, the 12<sup>th</sup> cycle of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis was organized with the participation of food security partners and the technical support from the IPC-Global support Unit, IPC Nairobi Regional Office. The FSC facilitated the training of 40 staff from national NGOs through the *Champ-Ecole Paysan* programme implemented by FAO and the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED).



### Logistics Cluster

- In **C.A.R.**, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the response to the Bambari-Bria crisis through supporting free cargo transport from Bambari to secondary roads in Ouaka and Haute Kotto. In addition, 14 bridges and a ferry will be rehabilitated in Ouaka and Haute Kotto prefectures to increase access to beneficiaries. The service will be managed by ACTED. In February, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the dispatch of a total of 94 mt of cargo by road and air from Bangui to the provinces. Thirty-eight organizations benefited from the service provided by Handicap International.



### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

- In February, ETC in **C.A.R.** met with the telecoms regulatory authority (ART) to explore opportunities that ease the allocation process. The Cluster also agreed with UNDSS to deploy the Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) network in Bangui and remote radio rooms in two additional locations. An assessment will be carried out to determine requirements and implementation strategy.



### UN Humanitarian Air Service

- In **C.A.R.**, UNHAS transported over 1,500 passengers and 28 mt cargo to 31 locations in country. UNHAS also conducted three medical evacuations and the security relocation of 18 humanitarian workers from Bambari to Bangui.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Food Security Cluster (FSC)

## WFP Operations

|                                       | 2017 Requirements (in USD) | Total Received in 2017 (in USD) | 6 Months Net Funding Requirements (March–August 2017) (in USD) | People reached (February 2017) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Regional EMOP 200799 (until Dec 2017) | 139 million                | 30 million<br>21.5%             | 27 million   | 391,000                        |

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