



World Food Programme



ONE FUTURE
#ZEROHUNGER



WFP C.A.R. CRISIS REGIONAL UPDATE*

Situation Report #32

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

31 March 2017

In Numbers*

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

401,000 people displaced

462,000 C.A.R. refugees in the neighbouring countries

*EFSA 2016, IPC and CMP February 2017. The number includes vulnerable local and IDPs in C.A.R. and refugees in neighbouring countries.

Highlights

- WFP continues to face critical lack of funding in C.A.R. crisis countries. In C.A.R., humanitarian needs are still increasing. In Cameroon, WFP continues to distribute half-rations to all targeted C.A.R. refugees in eastern Cameroon. In Chad, WFP suspended food assistance to 66,800 returnees from January to March, to prioritize the use of limited resources during the lean season.

One in every five Central African is either internally displaced or a refugee in neighbouring countries

GENDER MARKER **2A** EMOP 200799

Global Humanitarian Funding

Overall:
USD 399.5 million
WFP's share:
USD 98.3 million

WFP 6-month Net Funding Requirements (March–August 2017)

Emergency operation EMOP 200799 **USD 27 million**

UNHAS 201045 **USD 5.6 million**

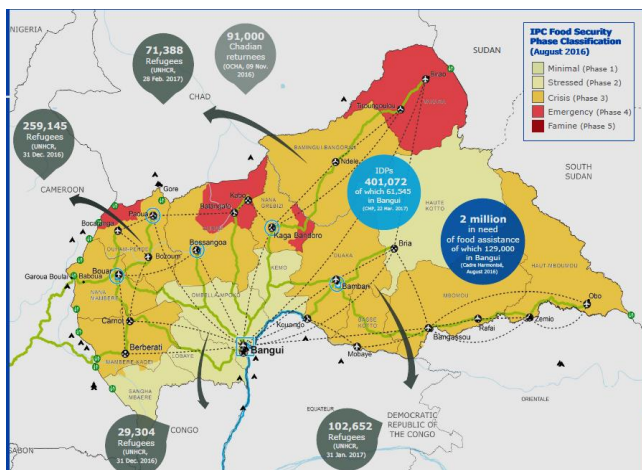


Photo: C.A.R.-School Meals. WFP/Sayaka Sato

Situation Update

- In 2017, the funding situation is critical for C.A.R. crisis countries, with increasing needs versus lack or declining resources. To continue providing lifesaving assistance in the region, WFP refined its resource strategy and is increasing the efficiency of its operations to deliver more with fewer resources. The WFP strategy includes engaging in inter-agency emergency preparedness while prioritizing lifesaving measures and alignment to the C.A.R. crisis government priorities to strengthen host governments' investments.
- On 15 March, during a [briefing session](#) held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, for donors on the humanitarian situation in C.A.R., the Minister of Humanitarian, Social Affairs and National Reconciliation, and the Acting Humanitarian Coordinator for C.A.R. underscored that half of the C.A.R. population is in dire need of humanitarian assistance. They stressed that the upsurge in violence and the spread of hot spots since September 2016 up to the first quarter of 2017 triggered mass forced displacements and created new and urgent needs. During the meeting, the Humanitarian Coordinator raised concern about the protection of civilians and the systematic targeting of vulnerable communities.
- In **C.A.R.**, the February 2017 IPC shows that people living in eight prefectures out of 16 (Ouham, Ouham-Pendé, Bamingui-Bangoran, Vakaga, Haut-Mbomou, Basse-Kotto, Haute-Kotto and Ouaka) are food insecure and need urgent assistance. Over 1.1 million¹ are food insecure including over 794,000 in phase 3 and 316,000 severely food insecure (phase 4). Ouham is in phase 3 and 4 for more than three consecutive years while in the extreme north (Vakaga Prefecture) – a difficult-to-access area affected by the crisis from the beginning – the food situation has become critical with limited humanitarian assistance. The critical food insecurity has already affected the nutritional status of populations in the food-insecure areas and the

¹ Bangui and Nana Gribzi not included.

deterioration is likely to continue in the coming months.

- In **Chad**, WFP is one of the few partners that has maintained a presence in southern Chad but assistance has been drastically reduced since 2016 due to funding gaps. WFP, jointly with FAO and UNHCR, is advocating for additional funding to promote durable self-reliance of refugees and returnees and reduce their dependence on assistance.

WFP Response

- In 2017, WFP will implement or support programmes to promote resilience and livelihood for vulnerable and food-insecure families in C.A.R. crisis countries. WFP is also working to boost cash-based transfers in all C.A.R. crisis regions. To do so, WFP is jointly exploring multi-sectoral or multi-purpose cash with its partners, including UNICEF, FAO and UNHCR, while maintaining a realistic approach taking into consideration limited funding and access constraints.
- The conflict-affected areas in **C.A.R.** face low transaction volumes and high food prices with continued difficulty for most vulnerable and IDP households to access usual income sources. In addition to the decline in food stocks, early hunger season is expected in conflict-affected zones and prefectures with reduced production.
- In **Cameroon**, WFP and UNHCR finalized data collection for the vulnerability targeting exercise for the C.A.R. refugees in eastern Cameroon. The exercise will facilitate transition from a status-based to vulnerability-based assistance approach, which will feed into WFP future programming.
- In southern **Chad**, the latest IPC analysis (*Cadre Harmonisé*, March 2017) shows that the livelihood of 583,000 people will be under pressure (phase 2) during the upcoming lean season, while refugees and returnees have limited means to ensure their food security during this period. It is particularly important to maintain a minimum level of assistance to refugees and returnees during the lean season since they have limited means to ensure their food security. WFP is preparing to launch a small-scale assessment of the food security and nutrition situation in southern Chad to collect recent data on the specific situation of returnees following a three-month suspension of assistance. *This break was deliberately observed in the post-harvest period to ensure limited resources could be used for support during the lean season.*



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP reached 391,000 people in February and plans to provide food and nutrition assistance to over 655,000 people in C.A.R., Cameroon, Chad, DRC and RoC.
- In **C.A.R.**, WFP is prioritizing support to the recovery and peace consolidation plan by enabling access to basic services and providing specialised nutritious foods to the most vulnerable and food-insecure persons. In March, WFP provided food assistance to some 420,000 people through general food distributions (GFD), treatment and prevention of malnutrition, food by prescription and school meals through in-kind distributions and cash-based transfers (CBT). On 29 March, 231 newly displaced people in need of urgent assistance arrived in Mbari, Mbomou prefecture. WFP will be supported by UNHAS to airlift some 998 kg of mixed food commodities from Bangui to Mbari for an emergency food distribution to 250 people in critical

need. Distributions are expected to start on 3 April and the people will receive a two-week-family ration. *Mbari is not an area where WFP usually operates and the NGO international Chinko project will conduct the emergency distribution on-site to reach all newly displaced people.*

- In **Cameroon**, WFP provided food assistance to some 155,000 C.A.R. refugees located along the border regions (East, Adamawa and north regions) through in-kind and CBT. In the context of the CBT, WFP engaged in collaboration with women's cooperatives to promote marketing of locally produced Cassava flour to boost local production while also facilitate women's participation. In March, WFP introduced seasonal food support to 15,000 vulnerable local populations in the Adamawa region, following reports of a significant deterioration of the food security situation in these areas. Also, some 40,000 children aged 6-23 months received specialised nutritious foods coupled with health service packages, including vaccinations, deworming and vitamin A supplementation.
- In **Chad**, WFP provided cash-based assistance to 43,000 refugees and food distribution to 7,000 refugees. Only the poor and very poor refugees benefited from this assistance which is being provided at half-ration for the past seven months (under the PRRO). In the Salamat region, 13,400 returnees continue receiving monthly cash-based assistance under the regional EMOP. Also, assistance to 66,800 returnees suspended from January to March due to funding constraints will resume in April under the PRRO.
- In **RoC**, only 3,049 people received in-kind assistance due to funding gap. WFP is carrying out activities in anticipation to the CBT distribution.
- In **DRC**, a memorandum of understanding was signed jointly by WFP, UNHCR and *Agence de Développement Economique et Social* (ADES) to provide assistance and nutritional support to the vulnerable people, including those living with HIV and AIDS in the four refugee camps. In March, WFP provided food assistance to some 8,980 people in Bili camp. In Inke, Boyabu and Mole camps, over 47,000 received cash-based assistance. From 15 March to 7 April, WFP provided nutrition support to over 1,780 people (refugees and host population) in Libenge, Zongo (in and out camp) and Moyabi and Bili camps.

Clusters and Common Services



Logistics Cluster

- In **C.A.R.**, Handicap International finalized the installation of a logistics hub in Bambari, Ouaka prefecture to provide logistics services to the humanitarian community in order to respond to the crisis in Bria and Bambari. The cluster facilitated the rehabilitation of three bridges in Ouham Pende (Bocaranga – Ngaoundaye) to increase access to people in need of assistance.



UN Humanitarian Air Service

- UNHAS in **C.A.R.** transported 1,759 passengers and 41 mt of cargo to 31 locations in country. UNHAS also conducted six medical evacuations.
- In **DRC**, UNHAS operated six flights to and from Bangui and transported 11 passengers.

WFP Operations

	2017 Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements (March –August 2017) (in USD)	People reached (February 2017)
Regional EMOP 200799 (until Dec 2017)	139 million	36.8 million	27 million	391,000 people

The number of people reached in March will be provided through the April regional sitrep.

Contacts

Margot van der Velden

Deputy Regional Director, WFP Regional Bureau, Dakar, Senegal

Hae-Won Park – Head of Regional OIM and Reporting unit, RBD

Maimouna Ndiaye, Regional OIM and Reporting officer, RBD

Elizabeth Bryant

For PI/media inquiries

elizabeth.bryant@wfp.org