



WFP Central African Republic Country Brief

Highlights

- Intra-communal fighting has forced nearly 600,000 people from their homes within Central African Republic (C.A.R.) and another half million outside of its border. Despite these rising needs, insecurity continues to hinder humanitarian access and relief operations across C.A.R.
- WFP continues to airlift food to Bangassou and Zemio with a direct consequence on the cost of the operation. The newly opened corridor from Uganda through Democratic Republic of Congo began to be used to reach conflict-affected populations in Zemio.

WFP Assistance

| | Total Requirements (in USD) | Total Received (in USD)* | 6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)** |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Critical support to populations affected by the ongoing crisis in the Central African Republic and its regional impact | | | |
| Regional EMOP 200799 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2017) | 89.3 m | 51 m (XX%) | 35.4 m (XX%) |
| Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in the Central African Republic | | | |
| SO 201045 (Jan 2017 – Dec 2017) | 15.1 m | 14.5 m | 7.6 |
| Logistics & Emergency Telecommunications Cluster Augmentation in Central African Republic | | | |
| SO 200997 (Aug 2016 – Mar 2017) | 5.7 m | 5.4 m | 0 |

*For 2017 only **Jan 2018-

EMOP 200799: WFP assists internally displaced persons (IDP), host communities and affected local populations through general food distributions, food assistance for the creation of productive assets and Purchase for Progress (P4P) that links local production to school meals, complementing in-kind assistance with cash-based transfers.

Following the uptick of violence since the beginning of the year, WFP has been providing emergency food assistance in areas previously considered as relatively stable and where food security was not a real concern compared to other localities.

WFP conducts activities for prevention and treatment of malnutrition targeting children aged 6-23 months through blanket supplementary feeding and children aged 6-59 months through treatment services.

In 2017, WFP plans to assist nearly 700,000 people in Central African Republic (C.A.R.) with in-kind distributions and/or cash-based transfers.

SO 201045: The WFP-managed Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) provides reliable and safe transport to 31 destinations in the country for the humanitarian community. More than 138

humanitarian organizations depend on UNHAS services to facilitate humanitarian access.

SO 200997: A Special Operation for the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) continues to provide Logistics and emergency telecommunications support to the entire humanitarian community in C.A.R. The clusters provide logistics coordination and information management; facilitate the provision of common warehousing and transport services; and provide reliable emergency telecommunications and data connectivity networks and services. For additional information on the logistics cluster visit: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/caf13a>. On the ETC visit: <https://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/central-african-republic-conflict>

SO 200934: A regional Special Operation addresses, through enhanced coordination, logistics gaps and bottle-necks in the main access route from the port of Douala in Cameroon to the capital Bangui which originate from the unstable security in C.A.R.

In Numbers

2.1 m people are food insecure

633,300 people displaced (CMP, Nov 2017)

267,790 people are severely food insecure

247,037
People Assisted
November 2017



Operational Updates

- Civilians in C.A.R. faced a devastating year of violence, with fighting between rival militias forcing thousands of civilians to flee their homes, exposing them to serious protection issues. To ensure that UN peacekeepers can deploy rapidly and back up efforts to protect civilians from egregious violence, the UN Security Council approved on 15 November the decision to add a further 900 peacekeepers to the UN mission in the C.A.R. This decision is expected to support efforts to promote peace and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid.
- Increased violence against relief workers despite rising needs is a source of concern. Attacks directly targeting humanitarian workers forced some NGOs to stop operations in certain areas, which in turn is affecting the delivery of effective humanitarian response to the displaced. So far this year, 14 humanitarian aid workers were killed in C.A.R., making it the most dangerous country in the world for humanitarian workers after Syria.
- WFP is currently providing emergency food assistance in most of the 11 hotspots that were reported since June 2017. This includes Alindao, Kongbo, Bria, Bangassou, Bocaranga, Batangafo, Zemio and Obo.
- To reach a one-month food pre-position in Bria, WFP C.A.R. increased the storage capacity from 350 mt to 700 mt using mobile storage facilities.
- WFP continues to use airlifts to bring food to Bangassou and Zemio from Bangui with a direct consequence on the cost of the emergency operations. Airlift in the two locations remains the only option to supply food to the IDPs hosted there.
- Due to security and logistics constraints, WFP has opened a new corridor from Uganda through Democratic Republic of Congo to reach refugees and IDP population in the far east location of Obo. The logistical arrangements to move to Zemio part of the second shipment received in Obo from Uganda were concluded; four trucks loaded with 41 mt are expected to reach Zemio on 1 December 2017.
- The 2017 national food security survey (ENSA 2017) is currently ongoing, and data collection was concluded in November. Results should be available by year-end. Given the rising level of insecurity and displacement and the concomitant effects on access, levels of food insecurity are expected to increase further.

Challenges

Among the main challenges WFP faces while implementing its operations are:

- Clashes between armed groups and increasing attacks against humanitarian organizations which have the potential of disrupting activities;
- Limited capacity of local transporters and poor road network, which often cause additional delay in the delivery of food assistance; and
- Funding constraints: WFP requires nearly USD 43 million to provide food and nutrition assistance for the next six months.

Country Background & Strategy



The Central African Republic (C.A.R.) is a land-locked, least developed country of nearly five million people. After decades of poor governance and repeated political and military crisis over the decades, C.A.R. has been slowly recovering from the crisis that erupted at the end of 2012 and plunged the country into chaos. However, the uptick of violence since the beginning of the year has brought the country on the brink of a large-scale humanitarian crisis.

Eighty four (84) percent of the population lives on USD 2 a day, with half the population facing extreme multidimensional poverty. Nearly 1,000,000 people continue to be displaced in C.A.R. and in the neighbouring countries and one in two households face food insecurity. C.A.R. has some of the highest chronic malnutrition rates in the world with 40 percent of children aged 6-59 months suffering from stunting. Maternal and early childhood mortality rates are also among the highest in the world.

WFP provides critical life-saving and livelihood assistance to address the urgent needs of the most vulnerable conflict-affected populations and people affected by food insecurity and acute undernutrition.

WFP interventions in C.A.R. are aligned with the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan and support the Government five-year strategic plan, the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan (RCPA) 2017-2021.

WFP has been present in C.A.R. since 1969.

Population: **5.1 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
188 out of 188

Income Level: **Least Developed**

Chronic malnutrition: **40% of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

Belgium, Canada, CERF, China, ECHO, France, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Multilateral, United States of America, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Common

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