



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

## Situation Report #37

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

31 August 2017

## Highlights

- The humanitarian community including WFP and its partners expressed concern about the deteriorating security situation in C.A.R. and the dramatic increase of attacks against the humanitarian actors and civilians. ACAPS reports that the ongoing displacements as well as limited access to fields in C.A.R. are likely to result in below-average harvest from July 2017 to January 2018, which will further limit food availability for households. WFP is scaling up its emergency interventions, airlifting food in hard-to-reach areas in the far southeastern part of the country, despite considerable logistical challenges.
- Waves of IDPs and refugees continue to flood in hard-to-reach areas in C.A.R. and its neighbouring countries and needs are dramatically increasing. WFP urgently needs USD 23.6 million to alleviate the suffering of the affected populations.

## In Numbers

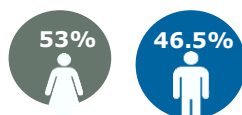
**2.1 million** food-insecure people in C.A.R. — 48% of the population of the country (WFP)

**592,254** displaced persons (CMP)

**481,577** C.A.R. refugees (UNHCR)

**515,023** People assisted  
**People assisted**  
August 2017

GENDER MARKER **2A** EMOP 200799



**Global Humanitarian Funding**

**Overall:**  
**USD 497 million**  
**WFP response plan**  
**USD 157 million**

WFP response includes the regional EMOP 200799 and three special operations (201045; 200997 and 200934).

**WFP 4-month Net Funding Requirements**  
(September–December 2017)

**EMOP 200799** **USD 23.6 million**

**Log SO 200997** **USD 1.5 million**

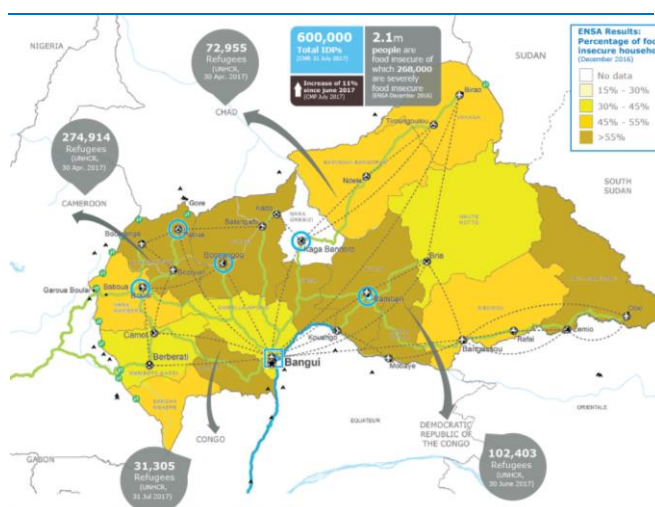


Photo: A woman cooking food in a IDPs camp in Bangassou, C.A.R.  
WFP/Elizabeth Bryant

<sup>1</sup>Overall more than 4,000 people fled into southern Chad the past few months.

***“We must make every effort to protect the lives and dignity of civilians caught in conflict. For the millions of people struggling to find food, water, and safe shelter; who have been driven from their homes with little hope of return [...] we cannot afford to fail.”***

UN SG António Guterres. New York, [18 August 2017](#).

## Situation Update

- The World Humanitarian Day was celebrated on 19 August in C.A.R., with the theme “Civilians are not a target” and [Najat Rochdi](#), the C.A.R. Humanitarian Coordinator highlighted that forced displacement still deprives 13 percent of the C.A.R. population of its most basic rights. In Dakar, Abdou Dieng, the UN World Food Programme Regional Director for West and Central Africa stated that WFP and its partners “need to send a strong, united message that our vital workers and civilians are not a target.”
- The humanitarian consequences of the protracted C.A.R. conflict are serious and as a result of recurrent attacks, the C.A.R. population continue to suffer from deprivation, hunger, deterioration of basic services and displacements. In Cameroon, 6,885 new refugees were recently identified. WFP is concerned about the decline of the food consumption of the C.A.R. refugees and resources are stretched to meet the growing needs. In Chad, two waves of refugees crossed the border in August; 193 C.A.R. refugees, mostly women and children from Ouham, were transferred to the Belom refugee camp in Moyen Chari. On 10 August, WFP provided them with a one-off voucher distribution at full ration level. On 15 August, 268 newly arrived C.A.R. refugees moved to the Diba site in Logone Oriental and benefited from a similar voucher distribution a week later. These new arrivals bring the number of C.A.R. refugees arrived in Chad since April 2017 to more than 2,000 persons.<sup>1</sup> In DRC, rations to refugees were already reduced to about half as a result of funding constraint and WFP can no longer provide food to primary schoolchildren. Furthermore, vital nutrition activities will come to a halt by October and cash assistance will start running low in the same month. In RoC, refugees are in urgent need of food assistance and malnutrition treatment. An interruption of the nutrition programme would very likely mean a sharp increase in the deterioration of the nutrition status of refugees.
- In C.A.R., clashes between armed groups in several parts

of the country have a negative impact on humanitarian space and WFP is working on diversifying entry points by exploring options and solutions for an uninterrupted provision of assistance. The objective is to consider airlift while optimizing the use of the Uganda-South Sudan-C.A.R. corridor and complement overland transport.

- Despite insecurity, funding and access challenges, WFP and its partners are tirelessly working to respond to cumulative needs though hard-earned gains are at risk of being lost following the spread of violence in multiple locations that challenges the operational capacity of the humanitarian community and undermines the mechanisms for the protection of civilians.

## WFP Response



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- In **C.A.R.**, WFP is scaling up its emergency interventions to reach some 700,000 highly vulnerable people including the newly displaced by the upsurge of violence. Although access by road – less costly – is preferred in hard-to-reach areas like Zemio, Bangassou and Obo, airlifting food may become the only option in delivering life-saving assistance to affected populations. WFP is targeting some 30,000 people with food airlifts until the end of the year.
- In August, WFP implemented emergency and early recovery interventions to allow rehabilitation of value chains and contribute to reduce food insecurity. Also, early recovery is key to generate socio-economic development, build resilience and stabilize peace. Monthly food assistance through in-kind or CBT were distributed to internally displaced and host communities, reaching 191,865 people. Activities to prevent malnutrition were also conducted, reaching over 4,000 children aged 6-23 months.
- In collaboration with the Government and food security actors WFP is planning the 2017 ENSA (*Enquête Nationale de sécurité Alimentaire*) with the objective of collecting data to evaluate new developments since October 2016 and assessing the impact of the crisis on the food security situation. Data collection will take place during the last three months of the year.
- In **Cameroon**, WFP reached 186,874 C.A.R. refugees through in-kind and CBT,<sup>2</sup> albeit with reduced rations (75 percent) due to lack of sufficient resources. Food distributions are coupled with malnutrition prevention programmes, reaching 40,675 children aged 6-23 months. The needs in eastern Cameroon are on a steady increase as the hunger season peaks and with new refugees on the move – putting additional strain on the WFP pipeline. UNHCR identified 7,000 new C.A.R. refugees, mainly in East and Adamawa regions (Garoua-Boulai, Betare Oya, Ngaoui and Kette), who fled recent outbreaks of violence in C.A.R. WFP is concerned about the decline of the food consumption of the C.A.R. refugees as resources are stretched to meet the growing needs.<sup>3</sup> A rapid assessment carried out by WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF and the Government between 13 and 18 August revealed that food is the main priority need of the refugees, followed by non-food items, health and shelter; 60 percent of the surveyed refugee households recorded poor food consumption due to inappropriate diets and very limited access to food. WFP will incorporate these new refugee populations into food assistance activities as of September 2017, increasing the overall target to 197,000 refugees. WFP continues also livelihood support for C.A.R. refugees and host populations under the Food Assistance for Assets activities as well as seasonal support to vulnerable local populations during the lean season.
- In August, WFP hosted a Country Portfolio Evaluation to assess the appropriateness of WFP strategic positioning and the performance of WFP's country portfolio over the 2012-mid 2017 period and provide lessons for the

implementation of the Country Strategic Plan. The evaluation will also present a Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of the ongoing CBT programmes as well as lessons on WFP's shift from MAM treatment to malnutrition prevention in Cameroon. The first draft of the evaluation report is expected in the beginning of September.

- In **Chad**, WFP is progressing with SCOPE registrations targeting C.A.R. returnees. The exercise has already verified 26,707 people out of 73,000 returnees (six out of eight sites and several host community villages). The team on the ground is currently working with host communities in the departments of Barh Sara and Nya Pende. The remaining returnee sites (Sido and Maingama) will undergo registrations as of the first week of September.
- In August, emergency food assistance through CBT reached some 44,000 C.A.R. refugees in Chad, located in camps along the southern border. Based on the 2015 socio-economic profiling exercise,<sup>4</sup> WFP continues to assist only the very poor and poor categories of refugees. In addition, general food distributions (GFD) through vouchers to some 62,800 returnees from C.A.R. remained coupled with complementary feeding for nearly 9,000 children aged 6-23 months. Due to funding shortfalls, both refugee and returnee populations receiving GFD are assisted at half ration levels since late 2016.<sup>5</sup> WFP stretched resources to immediately extend its CBT assistance to new arrivals but the lack of funding undermines its capacity to provide assistance if further people cross the border.
- In **DRC**,<sup>6</sup> WFP distributed food through voucher modality and nutrition assistance to over 63,140 people in August. Some 29 mt of food were distributed to supplementary nutritional centres in Libenge and Zongo health zones in South Ubangi province. However, a pipeline break starting from September is foreseen. A memorandum of understanding was signed by WFP, UNHCR and ADSSE for WFP CBT to C.A.R. refugees in Bili, Boyabu, Inke and Mole camps (July-December 2017).<sup>7</sup>
- In **RoC**, WFP is prioritizing assistance to refugees from Mouhalé (remote area) who had not received assistance before October 2016. Since 2015, the nutrition programme improved the situation for children and pregnant and nursing women. The global acute malnutrition rate among children decreased by half, from 10 percent to 5.4 percent. However, WFP is facing critical resource constraints since 2016, which resulted in the prioritisation of vulnerable people. Over 10,250 vulnerable people received food assistance in August.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Logistics Cluster

- With heightened insecurity, poor road infrastructure and large number of people requiring life-saving assistance due to continued violence, air transport is becoming the sole means of delivering humanitarian supplies to affected populations in hard-to-reach areas in a timely, reliable and efficient way.
- To enable the humanitarian community in **C.A.R** to implement emergency relief activities in areas inaccessible by surface travel, the Logistics Cluster is leveraging its coordination function in C.A.R. to provide coordinated cargo airlifts on a free-to-user basis and ensure resources are used efficiently and effectively. An aircraft with a maximum payload of 5.5 mt was chartered by WFP to support the humanitarian response in areas identified as priority for humanitarian intervention. This service is directly contributing to life-saving activities within areas hard-to-reach by humanitarian actors.

<sup>2</sup>Including new refugee arrivals in August. The overall target will be increased in September to account for all newly registered refugee arrivals.

<sup>3</sup>UNHCR reported that between 20 and 24 August 2017, another 258 new refugees arrived in Mbéré, Adamaoua region.

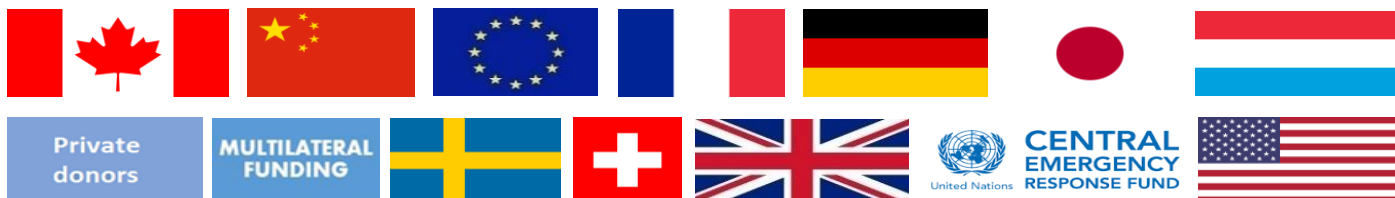
<sup>4</sup>Currently in the process of being updated.

<sup>5</sup>Since 1 July 2017, all C.A.R. affected beneficiaries in Chad are assisted under the PRRO 200713.

<sup>6</sup>Provisional data for DRC and RoC.

<sup>7</sup>While the Trust Merchant Bank (TMB) was selected as a financial service provider to implement the CBT distribution to refugees, ADSSE will sensitize the refugees on the assistance provided, monitor and follow up on the distribution.

WFP Operations						
	2017 Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	4 Months Net Funding Requirements (Sep-Dec 2017) (in USD)	People reached (August 2017)	Female	Male
<b>Regional EMOP 200799 (until Dec 2017)</b>	139 million	54 million	23.6 million	515,023 people	275,182	239,841
<b>Regional SO (until Dec 2017)</b>	1.7 million	1.2 million	1.5 million			



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