



# WFP Central African Republic Country Brief

March 2022

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## Operational Context

The Central African Republic (CAR) is a landlocked country with a population of 4.9 million people. Though the Government is working on a long recovery process since the major security crisis in 2013, a resurgence of the country's longstanding conflicts was seen after recent elections that led to further displacements and increased humanitarian needs. In 2021, there were over 1.4 million displaced people within CAR and in neighbouring countries, including 632,240 internally displaced persons.

According to the [Humanitarian Needs Overview for 2022](#) (OCHA), humanitarian needs in CAR are at their highest level since 2015, with 3.1 million people (63 percent of the population) in need of humanitarian assistance. Of these, 2.2 million have severe needs that require an emergency response.

Situated on a fertile plateau and abundant in water resources, CAR has considerable agricultural potential. It also has a wealth of mineral resources. However, due to the multifaceted challenges, relevant socio-economic development indicators in CAR show a bad standing with 71 percent of the population living under the international poverty line (USD 1.90 per day).

As of 6 April 2022, 14,339 COVID-19 cases were recorded, including 113 deaths. 21 percent of the population have been vaccinated.

WFP operations are focused on life-saving interventions to improve food and nutrition security for the most vulnerable crisis-affected people while simultaneously contributing to Government capacity strengthening and supporting recovery programmes in relatively secure areas. WFP provides support to smallholder farmers in restoring and enhancing their productive assets, as well as building resilience to future crises. WFP is using satellite imagery data for remote sensing on hard-to-reach area and mobile vulnerability analysis mapping data to monitor Food Security trend and food prices on the market. WFP has been present in CAR since 1969.



Population: <b>4.9 million</b>
Income Level: <b>Low income</b>
Human Development Index 2021: <b>188 out of 189</b>
Chronic malnutrition: <b>38% of children aged 6-59 months</b>

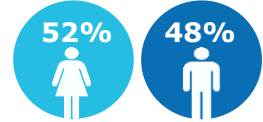
## In Numbers

**1,731.8 Mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 1.04 million** cash-based transfers made

**USD 80.6 million** six-month (April - September 2022) net funding requirements

**463,550 people** assisted in March 2022



## Operational Updates

- In March 2022, WFP delivered food and nutrition assistance to **463,550 people**, (52 percent of women and 48 percent of men) through its general food assistance (GFA), school feeding, nutrition, resilience-building activities in the Central African Republic. 91 percent of the beneficiaries reached received in-kind assistance, while 82 percent received cash transfers.
- Among the beneficiaries reached in March 2022 through food and cash modalities, 69 percent were residents, while 17 percent were internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 14 percent returnees.
- 3,982 children aged 6-23 months received nutritional moderately acute malnutrition's (MAM) treatment in health facilities in March 2022, while 9,901 children with MAM aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women and antiretroviral therapy (ART) patients received nutrition treatment assistance, through 44.9 Mt of nutritious food. No cash was transferred as part of these activities.
- School meals distributions were conducted as planned, reaching 97 percent of the prioritized school children in crisis-affected areas through emergency school meals (29,359). 90,381 school children (92 percent of prioritized) also received nutritious school meals as part of the Activity 6.
- 62,025 people in eight prefectures were assisted under the food and cash-based transfer (CBT) modalities through the food assistance for assets activities in March 2022. To improve small producers' access to market, 558 Mt of beans were purchased from eight smallholder farmers' umbrella organizations.
- CBT interventions reached 153,313 people in March 2022, including 50.2 percent of women, through a total of USD 1.04 million. Three additional areas (Bouca, Bangassou and Alindao) implemented for the first time CBT interventions for FFA and general food distribution (GFD) activities.
- WFP pursued the digitization of registration of beneficiaries in Bria, Kaga and Bambari for CBT activities, and 5,400 households were added into SCOPE in March 2022.
- A RBD Environmental Management System (EMS) assessment mission was conducted to focus on improvements in energy efficiency, water use, sustainable procurement, and staff awareness.

Contact info: [vigno.houankanli@wfp.org](mailto:vigno.houankanli@wfp.org) ; [camille.pointg@wfp.org](mailto:camille.pointg@wfp.org)

Country Director: Peter SCHALLER

Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/central-african-republic](http://www.wfp.org/countries/central-african-republic)

Photo caption: Women using their SCOPE cards at a retailer, Bangui

Main photo credit: WFP/Gabrielle Menezes

## Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Available Contributions (in USD)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>217 m</b>	<b>109.2 m*</b>	<b>80.6 m</b>

\* Representing 50 percent of the total requirement

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected households and communities in targeted areas can meet their basic food and nutrition needs both during and in the aftermath of crises.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, children, pregnant, lactating women, and malnourished ART patients living in target regions, have an improved nutritional status in line with national targets by 2020.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

#### Activities:

- Implement BSFP for the prevention of MAM among children aged 6 to 59 months.
- Provide a comprehensive package for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition to children with MAM aged 6 to 59 months, PLW, girls and provide food by prescription to ART patients.
- Provide capacity strengthening to health district authorities, health centre staff and community health workers (CHW).
- Provide nutritious school meals to school children.

### Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Food-insecure women and men living in targeted areas of CAR have enhanced livelihoods to support the food security and nutrition needs of their households and communities by 2020.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

#### Activities:

- Provide smallholder farmers with transfers to support asset creation and technical assistance to increase their access to markets, including purchases from WFP supported school meals.

### Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 4:** National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacities to establish an adequate social protection system and manage food security and nutrition policies and programmes by 2020.

**Focus area:** *Root causes*

#### Activities:

- Provide capacity strengthening in zero hunger policies, strategic planning, and delivery of programmes to public officials.
- Provide capacity strengthening to the government to establish a national social safety net platform.

### Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise, and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 5:** Humanitarian community (partners and donors) have enhanced capacity to reach and operate in areas of humanitarian crisis all year-round.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

#### Activities:

- Provide common logistics and ICT services to the humanitarian community and the government
- Provide UNHAS services to all partners
- provide bilateral logistics services to partners for in-country supply chain for three health programmes (malaria, TB, and HIV/AIDS)

## Common Humanitarian Services

- The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), managed by WFP, facilitated the transport of 2,394 passengers from 250 organizations, and moved 26.9 Mt of light cargo. 2 MEDEVAC and 9 SECEVAC were operated. Operational constraints, mostly due to the lack of fuel, led to the cancellation of eight flights, automatically reprogrammed at the earliest possible.

## Logistics

- A total of 3,162 Mt of commodities was delivered in March to cooperating partners and advance delivery points. 1,869 Mt of commodities were received through the Douala corridor, while 215 Mt of commodities were purchased locally in Bangui and Kaga-Bandoro. Stock levels remain very low and pre-positioning for Obo and Zemio is on hold.

## Challenges

- The limited resources available forced WFP in CAR to prioritize 524,068 most vulnerable people (out of 802,900 people in need), 88 percent of which received WFP's assistance in March 2022.
- The security situation is severely hindering humanitarian access, mainly in the west of the country. WFP activities are challenged by the restriction of movement in areas under control of the Central African Armed Forces (FACA)/allied and armed groups, resulting in temporary suspension of certain operations, and delayed in food delivery in the Northwest.
- WFP has concerns about the impact of the Ukraine crisis and is expected a disruption in the supply chain and upstream-downstream pipeline. The Government of Cameroon considers the active implementation of its actual ban on export for rice, wheat, and cooking oil, and may also include fuel. The latter will further impact the transport cost along the corridor and sky-rocketing prices in CAR. The generalized inflation is inevitable and may lead to an increase in the number of people in need. Finally, violence, rising price and scarcity of commodities can rapidly lead to protests and political instability. WFP is updating the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) by considering impact from the Ukraine crisis.

## Funding

- Despite generous donor support, insufficient funding levels strongly affect WFP's efforts to support the population's access to food. WFP requires **USD 80.6 million** in the next six months (April – September 2022) to continue providing lifesaving food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable people in CAR.

## Donors

**Top five donors for WFP CAR ICSP 2018 – 2022:** USA, Germany, Canada, Japan, and European Commission.

**Additional support has been provided by** UN CERF, UN Country-Based Pooled Funds and OCHA.