



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Central African Republic Country Brief

April 2022



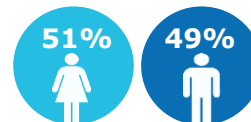
In Numbers

1,972 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 1.02 million cash-based transfers made

USD 69.2 million six-month (May – October 2022) net funding requirements

537,562 people assisted in April 2022



Operational Updates

- In April 2022, WFP delivered food and nutrition assistance to **537,562 people**, (51 percent of women and 49 percent of men) through its general food assistance (GFA), school feeding, nutrition, resilience-building activities in the Central African Republic. In-kind assistance was provided to 71 percent of the beneficiaries reached, while 77 percent of the total beneficiaries received cash transfers as part of the GFA and food assistance for asset (FFA).
- 47 percent of the overall beneficiaries reached in April 2022 were residents, while 31 percent were internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 20 percent returnees.
- Nutrition activities have largely recovered compared to the previous month: on the prevention of moderately acute malnutrition (MAM), 68,899 children aged 6-23 months benefited from blanket supplementary feeding in health facilities. 15,237 children with MAM aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women, and antiretroviral therapy (ART) clients received food assistance through 66.6 mt of nutritious food and USD 5,444 transferred. The provision of rice allowed to increase the number of malnourished ART clients receiving nutritional support.
- 14,825 school children in crisis-affected areas received emergency school meals (44 percent of planned), while 75,430 school children (69 percent of prioritized) also received nutritious school meals.
- Under the resilience and livelihoods programme, 103,089 people received food assistance for asset creation through USD 325,794 transferred and 126,665 mt of food in April 2022.
- WFP continues to use its logistical expertise for the Global Fund project against AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria by storing and delivering medications and health supplies across the country. In April 2022, WFP delivered 53 mt of medicines for the Global Fund Project against AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria to 64 health facilities in the country. As part of the mass distribution campaign for mosquito nets, the project supported the CAR Ministry of Health by dispatching 13,366 bundles of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLIN) in Bangui.

Operational Context

The Central African Republic (CAR) is a landlocked country with a population of 5.4 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. There are over 1.9 million displaced people within CAR and in neighbouring countries, including 649,794 internally displaced persons.

The updated **Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) in CAR for April – August 2022** confirmed a total of 2.2 million people facing high acute food insecurity, including 638,000 people in Emergency (Phase 4). These figures remain among the highest CAR has ever seen. In the country, 45 sub-prefectures and 3 arrondissements of Bangui are classified as Phase 3 (Crisis), of which 22 are on the verge of falling into Phase 4 (Emergency), in addition to the 22 sub-prefectures already classified in Phase 4.

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).

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: **5.4 million**

Income Level: **Low income**

Human Development Index 2021: **188 out of 189**

Chronic malnutrition: **38% of children aged 6-59 months**

Contact info: vigno.houkanli@wfp.org ; camille.pointg@wfp.org

Country Director: Peter SCHALLER

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/central-african-republic

Photo caption: Beneficiaries of WFP – DMI food assistance for resilience building, livelihood reconstruction and education support, Bangui

Main photo credit: WFP/Gabrielle Menezes

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement 2022 (in USD)	Available Contributions 2022 (in USD)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
217 m	63 m*	69.2 m

* Representing 29 percent of the total requirement for 2022

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 2,259 passengers from 112 organizations and moved 41 mt of light cargo. 1 MEDEVAC (medical evacuation) was operated. Operational constraints, mostly due to the lack of fuel in the country, led to the cancellation of 16 flights, reprogrammed at the earliest possible. The sustained fuel shortage in the country may impact operational capacity and reduce air rotations from May onwards.

Logistics

- A total of 4,252 mt of commodities was delivered in April to cooperating partners and advance delivery points. 894 mt of commodities were received through the Douala corridor, while 648 mt were purchased locally in Bangui and Paoua. Stock levels remain very low and pre-positioning for Obo and Zemio is on hold. At the end of April, there were 3,800 mt physical stocks in WFP shops, corresponding to only 15 days of monthly rations. At Douala level, loads of 4,600 mt are on hold due to fuel supply difficulties. Pre-positioning of food supplies to Birao continues despite some delays, as the section to Birao will be impassable from mid-June to December 2022 due to the rainy season.

Challenges

- Overall, the limited resources available forced WFP in CAR to prioritize 743,717 most vulnerable people (out of 852,900 people in need), 72 percent of which received WFP's assistance in April 2022. Unless adequate resources are received, WFP in CAR will continue to prioritize selected life-saving interventions, resilience building and early recovery activities using the resource-based programming approach for 2022.
- The security situation is severely hindering humanitarian access, mainly in the northwest of the country. WFP activities are challenged by the restriction of movement in areas under the control of the Central African Armed Forces (FACA)/allied and armed groups, and threats of explosive devices resulting in temporary suspensions of certain operations and delays in food delivery in the Northwest. MINUSCA escorts remain essential.
- With the crisis in Ukraine and the sanctions imposed on Russia, in addition to the inflation already ongoing in the country, the CAR is likely to experience significant fuel shortages, which will impact the supply chain, transport costs, and prices of essential commodities and foodstuffs, including wheat and vegetable oil imports. This is likely to increase the vulnerability of households (especially those headed by women) and lead to an early hunger gap.

Funding

- Despite generous donor support, insufficient funding levels strongly affect WFP's efforts to support the population's access to food. WFP requires **USD 69.2 million** in the next six months (May – October 2022) to continue providing life-saving 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, Switzerland, Sweden, OCHA.