



WFP Central African Republic Sep-Dec 2025

Operational Context

The Central African Republic (CAR) has one of the highest levels of food insecurity per capita in the world. It is both one of the most fragile states and one of the greatest missed opportunities. With the right sequencing of humanitarian and development investments, CAR could shift from perpetual crisis to long-term stability.

According to the October 2025 IPC analysis, 1.9 million people (29 percent of the population) were facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or higher), including 270,000 in IPC 4 (Emergency). Projections for April to August 2026 indicate a further deterioration, with an estimated 2.3 million people expected to face IPC Phase 3 or higher, of whom 400,000 may fall into emergency (IPC Phase 4).

Furthermore, the IPC analysis of acute malnutrition from April 2025 indicates that more than 228,500 children aged 6 to 59 months could suffer from acute malnutrition at the national level between March 2025 and February 2026, an increase of 30 percent compared to the estimates of the last analysis for the same period in 2023.

Armed conflict and insecurity in the south and north continue to affect households' livelihoods, while more than 442,320 people have been displaced throughout the country. Despite some improvement, agricultural production remains low. The country relies heavily on imports, and populations who are dependent on agriculture face limited access to food. Prices for imported food products remain high, and fuel prices are the highest in the region.



In Numbers



263,000 people assisted

1,310 mt food distributed

US\$ 37.6 million six-month net funding requirements (Jan-Jun 2026)

Operational Updates

Emergency Response: From September to December, 103,317 individuals, including 37,000 Sudanese and Chadian refugees, received in-kind food distributions (747.7 MT) and cash-based transfers totalling USD\$2.3 million. Due to resource constraints, WFP prioritized full assistance to refugees, while applying a 25 percent ration cut for IDPs, and residents facing emergency (IPC Phase 4). In December, WFP launched an emergency response for 12,000 conflict affected people in Am Dafock distributing High-Energy Biscuits and CSB++. WFP explores to sustain a three-month response despite major operational constraints, with 747 MT of food assistance planned.

Nutrition: During the last trimester 2025, 6,125 children and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PLWG) received treatment for moderate acute malnutrition, while 14,810 children aged 6–23 months and PLWG benefited from malnutrition prevention activities. In response to the alarming levels of food and nutrition insecurity in Birao, WFP and its partners strengthened operational support missions, trained 133 mothers, and launched community based malnutrition screening. The construction of five FARNs (Nutrition Learning and Rehabilitation Centres) was completed as part of an integrated package of activities aimed at reinforcing community resilience in Birao.

School Feeding: WFP supported 156,094 children in 336 schools, through meals sourced from smallholder farmers. The PARSAKNO project, along with other contributions, ensured the continuity of the integrated school feeding approach during this period, linking school meals to community agricultural initiatives, promoting local food procurement, and supporting Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) activities. The School Connect system, a digital platform to better monitor and manage school feeding programme, is now operational in 45 schools. Communities have also initiated school gardens and farms.

Resilience: WFP, in partnership with APADE, Oxfam, and WVI, accelerated implementation of the World Bank's Emergency Food Crisis Response (PRUCAC) through the Government, achieving notable progress in smallholder farmers' resilience and market access. WFP delivered agricultural equipment for distribution to 875 farmer groups representing 25,000 smallholder farmers. Construction began on 36 warehouses and 36 drying platforms to improve post harvest handling and agro processing. Through FFA, WFP and partners supported 66,210 participants (54 percent women) in rehabilitating agricultural and community assets.

UNHAS maintained operations despite funding constraints, continuing to serve 127 organizations and providing access to a network of 19 regular and 7 ad hoc destinations. During this period, the service transported 3,861 passengers and 40.4 MT of lifesaving cargo through 688 flight rotations, while ensuring medevac capacity, light cargo delivery, and access to hard-to-reach areas. UNHAS remains the sole air service available to humanitarian actors. Its continued presence is essential to sustaining humanitarian operations, enabling safe and reliable access to remote and insecure regions where commercial flights are not available.

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)



Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations are able to meet their food and nutrition needs both during and in the aftermath of crises.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide life-saving assistance to crisis-affected populations to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and support their early recovery.
- Provide an integrated assistance package for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition to children 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW-G). Provide nutrition assessment, counselling and support for people living with HIV and tuberculosis clients receiving anti-retroviral therapy and observed treatment in crisis-affected areas.



Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Nutritionally vulnerable and shock-affected populations (including indigenous peoples), with or without disabilities in targeted areas have improved nutrition, health and education and enhanced access to safe and nutritious diets and school feeding in line with national standards by 2027.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Provide a comprehensive health and nutrition package to targeted children aged 6-23 months, PLW-G for the prevention of malnutrition.
- Provide nutritious school meals to schoolboys and schoolgirls in targeted areas in a way that promotes local production, school retention and reduces gender and ethnic discrimination.



Strategic Result 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

Strategic Outcome 3: Food-insecure and shock-affected populations in targeted areas have improved livelihoods and more resilient and sustainable food systems by 2027.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity: Provide livelihood support and resilience building to targeted populations, including indigenous peoples and communities, through productive asset creation and value chain development.



Strategic Result 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened.

Strategic Outcome 4: National institutions and partners have strengthened capacities to manage food and nutrition programmes and strengthen the social protection system by 2027.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity: Provide technical assistance and policy support to national institutions and partners on gender-transformative food and nutrition security, social protection, emergency preparedness and response, disaster risk management.



Strategic Result 5: Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective.

Strategic Outcome 5: The Government and humanitarian and development partners in CAR can reach populations in vulnerable situations and respond to emergencies throughout the year.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide United Nations Humanitarian Air Service services (passengers and light cargo) to the Government and humanitarian partners.
- Provide on-demand data and telecommunication services to the Government, humanitarian and partners and the assisted population.
- Provide information management, coordination services and facilitate access to extra logistics service capacity for the humanitarian community and partners through the Logistics Cluster.
- Provide bilateral logistics services to partners to support in-country supply chains for health programmes (malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and COVID-19) and other needed commodities and services.



Key Events and Partnerships

School Meals Coalition Summit: In September 2025, the Minister of Education, accompanied by WFP, participated to the summit, reaffirming school feeding as a national priority. The delegation highlighted progress, including the integrated model that links school meals to local agricultural production, nutrition education, and Social and Behavior Change initiatives. CAR showcased its achievements despite the fragile context, engaged partners for sustained financing, and advocated for scaling up school feeding as a key driver of improved child nutrition and community resilience.

WFP Strategic Partnerships. In November 2025, WFP signed an MoU with the Ministry of Economy, Plan and International Cooperation, formalizing a strategic partnership framework. The agreement strengthens joint advocacy, resource mobilization, and capacity building across three priorities: (a) human development and social systems, with a focus on school feeding; (b) productive development towards long term food security, agricultural production, and job creation; (c) climate resilience. The Minister expressed strong commitment and readiness to mobilize resources to advance these objectives.

Capacity Strengthening and Social Protection: In November 2025, executives from key CAR institutions—including the Prime Minister's Office—WFP, World Bank and UNICEF, participated in the TRANSFORM training on establishing social protection floors. Funded by WFP, the training strengthened the capacities of government decision makers and social protection actors, supported the operationalization of the National Policy (PNPS 2024-2035), and improved the design & implementation of social protection programs and safety nets.

Impact of limited funding

Due to severe funding constraints, WFP CAR completed a strict prioritization exercise followed by a Budget Revision, limiting emergency assistance to only 100,000 people in IPC 4 and locations affected by conflict and displacement. As a result, nearly one million people remain without assistance, and a pipeline break is expected from March 2026. To sustain its operations over the next six months, WFP CAR urgently requires US\$ 37.5 million.



Funding requirements January - June 2026: US\$ 37.6 million



Crisis Response: US\$ 21.5 million



Resilience: US\$ 10.9 million



Root causes: US\$ 5.2 million

Donors

Top five Donors in 2025 to WFP Central African Republic CSP (2023-2027) include European Union, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United States and private donors.

Photo Caption: Food distribution in Birao, Refugee Beneficiary portrait
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