



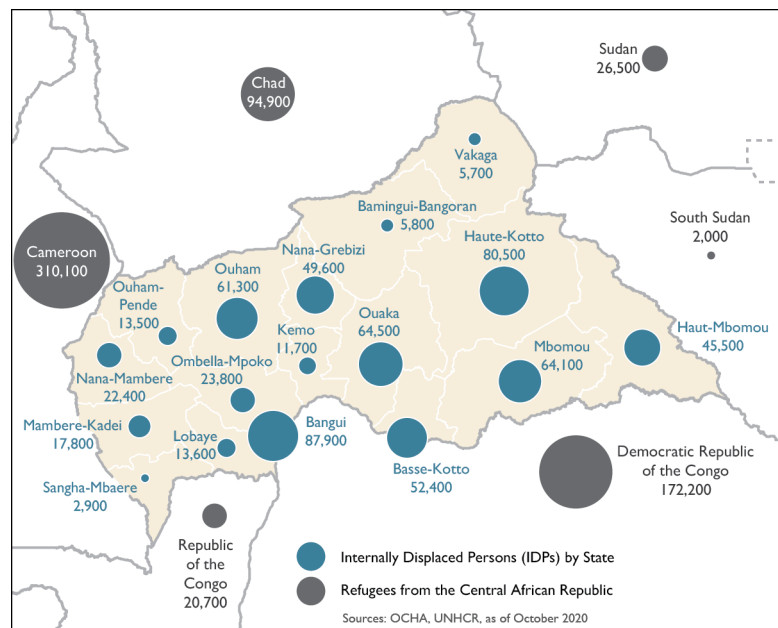
Central African Republic – Complex Emergency

December 15, 2020

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Clashes between armed groups and intercommunal tensions continue to displace civilians and restrict humanitarian access
- Approximately 1.9 million people are projected to experience acute food insecurity through April 2021, a 20 percent increase from last year, with potential to increase to 2.3 million people in need during the lean season
- Heavy flooding in October and November adversely affected more than 28,000 people, concentrated in CAR’s Bamingui-Bangoran, Mbomou, and Ouham prefectures



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the CAR Response in FY 2020	USAID/BHA ^{1,2}	\$112,857,893
	State/PRM ³	\$64,184,616
Total		\$177,042,509

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

¹ USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)
² Total USAID/BHA funding includes non-food humanitarian assistance from the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance and emergency food assistance from the former Office of Food for Peace.
³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)
⁴ This total includes approximately \$17,255,000 in supplemental funding through USAID/BHA and State/PRM for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

IPC Status Sept. 2020-April 2021	
Phase 5	0 people in Catastrophe
Phase 4	407,877 people in Emergency
Phase 3	1,520,735 people in Crisis
Phase 2	1,756,785 people in Stress
Phase 1	1,058,615 people Minimally Food Insecure

COVID-19, Floods Exacerbate Acute Food Insecurity

Ongoing conflict, floods, the spread of crop disease, and the effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and related containment measures are exacerbating acute food insecurity in the Central African Republic (CAR), according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). Armed conflict and intercommunal tensions continue to drive displacement, disrupt livelihoods, and limit farmers' access to their fields, reducing agricultural production in conflict-affected areas. In addition, flooding from September onward has inundated fields and destroyed crops, while crop disease has further reduced the production of staple crops during 2020. COVID-19-related movement restrictions have also reduced livelihood opportunities and contributed to rising staple food prices, according to WFP. Approximately 1.9 million people are projected to experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity through April 2021, a more than 20 percent increase from the 1.6 million people who experienced acute food insecurity between September 2019 and April 2020, according to a September Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis.⁵ This figure includes nearly 408,000 people in IPC 4 and 1.52 million people in IPC 3. Further, during the May-to-August lean season, the number of people in

IPC 3 and 4 conditions could increase to 2.3 million people. As of October, approximately 2.8 million people in CAR—or nearly 60 percent of the country's population—required humanitarian assistance, including 1.9 million people requiring emergency food assistance through April 2021, the UN reports.

Continued Insecurity in CAR Constrains Humanitarian Access

Armed group activities and underdeveloped transportation infrastructure continue to limit humanitarian access in some parts of northern and northeastern CAR, according to the UN. In October, unidentified armed assailants robbed humanitarian NGO staff in Kemo, Nana-Gribizi, and Ouham prefectures and imposed unauthorized roadblocks and collected illegal tolls from NGOs in Bamingui-Bangoran, Basse-Kotto, Mbomou, and Ouaka prefectures. Additionally, armed elements temporarily abducted a staff member of an NGO in Nana-Gribizi's Kaga-Bandoro sub-prefecture and arrested two NGO staff in Ouham's Kabo sub-prefecture during the month. Moreover, insecurity in Ouham's Batangafo town prompted humanitarian NGOs to evacuate 22 staff by air in late October, the UN reports.

Localized insecurity also continues to threaten civilian populations in and around Ouham's Batangafo town. Armed clashes in late October resulted in the secondary displacement of thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the suspension of humanitarian programming throughout the area, according to WFP. Approximately 2,700 people were displaced on October 27 as a result of the clashes, according to a Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations report. The clashes prompted the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) to deploy peacekeeping troops to Batangafo and a number of USAID/BHA partners to suspend activities for several days. Overall, relief actors have reported 22 humanitarian access incidents in Batangafo from January to September, the UN reports. The UN also recently renewed MINUSCA's mandate, which now lasts until November 15, 2021.

⁵ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

Decreased Displacement from October

The Population Movement Commission (CMP), a subsidiary of the Protection Cluster, reported that conflict, flooding, and intercommunal tensions had displaced approximately 623,000 people countrywide as of October, a 3 percent decrease from approximately 640,000 reported in September. CMP reports that more than 20,000 IDPs returned during the month of October, attributing this dynamic to improved security conditions in the return areas, as well as activities carried out by humanitarian actors and multisectoral interventions. CMP reported returns in the prefectures of Haute-Kotto, Basse Kotto, Haut Mbomou, Mbomou, and Vakaga. Despite these returns, CMP also reported new IDPs in the Bamingui-Bangoran and Ouaka prefectures. In Ombella-M'Poko and Bangui, CMP also reported the arrival of 2,630 IDPs in October as a result of flooding.

In the previous reporting period of July and August, the CMP reported returns in Bamingui-Bangoran Prefecture, where nearly 12,400 IDPs returned to areas of origin over this period, as well as in Ombella-M'Poko, Ouham, and Vakaga prefectures and CAR's capital city of Bangui. However, the CMP also noted that conflict and armed group activities resulted in additional displacement between July and August, particularly in Haut-Mbomou Prefecture. Overall, the CMP reported a net increase of nearly 9,900 IDPs in Haut Mbomou, Nana-Mambere, Ouaka, and Ouham-Pende prefectures during the month. The USAID/BHA-funded and UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)-managed Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) also recorded 39 violence-related displacement alerts—out of 55 population movement alerts in total—between January and August, compared with 44 violence-related displacement alerts in 2019, suggesting a substantial increase in conflict-driven displacement during 2020.

Flooding Exacerbates Humanitarian Needs

Heavy rainfall and resultant flooding continued to displace populations and exacerbate humanitarian conditions in CAR in October and November, relief actors report. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimated that flooding had adversely affected more than 28,000 people countrywide as of November 9. In particular, torrential rains and flooding since early October have inundated areas along the Ubangui River in southern CAR's Mbomou Prefecture, as well as in Ouham's Kabo town and along the Aouk River in northern CAR's Bamingui-Bangoran Prefecture.

Flooding has resulted in widespread agricultural, property, and water infrastructure damage, with many flood-affected households sheltering with host families or in public buildings, according to humanitarian actors. In October and November, OCHA reported that torrential rains and flooding adversely affected 22,400 people across Bamingui Bangoran, Bangui, Haut Mbomou, Lobaya, Mbomou, Ouaka, Ouham, and Vakaga prefectures, resulting in significant needs for food, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance. USAID/BHA partners—including UNICEF-managed RRM, Solidarites International, the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) operations, and OCHA—have provided multi-sector support as well as coordination and logistics assistance.

KEY FIGURES



14,340 MT

U.S.-In-Kind Emergency
Food Aid in CAR



\$17.3 Million

In dedicated USG
support for health,
protection, WASH, and
food needs exacerbated
by the COVID-19
pandemic



92,000

People receiving WASH
assistance through
RRM from January to
September

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY, AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports WFP to provide emergency food assistance—including U.S.-sourced peas, rice, and vegetable oil, as well as vouchers redeemable for food in local markets, cash transfers, and locally and regionally procured food—to food-insecure populations in CAR, including IDPs, refugees, and host communities. To prevent and treat malnutrition, WFP also conducts a supplementary feeding program for children and pregnant and lactating women, while the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) provides emergency nutrition assistance to approximately 28,800 children and 148,500 mothers and caregivers. USAID/BHA also supports eight international NGO (INGO) partners to provide agricultural inputs and training to bolster the food security and livelihoods of CAR’s most vulnerable families. Moreover, USAID/BHA partners with ACTED, Samaritan’s Purse, and WFP to distribute emergency food assistance to Central African refugees sheltering in Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and the Republic of the Congo (RoC).

HEALTH AND COVID-19 RESPONSE

USAID/BHA addresses urgent health needs in CAR through support for four INGO partners that provide life-saving services in static health facilities, and through mobile clinics at IDP sites and in hard-to-reach conflict-affected areas. USAID/BHA health partners provide medicines, medical supplies, and basic equipment, as well as training to community health workers, who support the provision of community-based maternal and child health care services, among other activities. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak in CAR, USAID/BHA is supporting UNICEF to bolster emergency water supply systems, install handwashing stations in public areas, and reach approximately 950,000 people with messaging on disease prevention. USAID/BHA partner ACTED is disseminating key COVID-19 health messaging in urban areas, coupled with WASH assistance and activities to safeguard children, women, and girls. USAID/BHA also supports International Medical Corps (IMC) as the leader of a consortium of NGO partners to train frontline health care workers and strengthen infection prevention and control protocols to limit the spread of COVID-19. In addition, State/PRM partners have scaled up services to protect the health of vulnerable individuals in CAR, as well as Central African refugees sheltering in Cameroon and the RoC. In FY 2020, USAID/BHA and State/PRM provided nearly \$17.3 million in funding for CAR COVID-19 prevention and response activities.

WASH

USAID/BHA supports nine INGO partners to provide critical WASH assistance to vulnerable populations in CAR, including displaced individuals sheltering in camps and returnee communities. USAID/BHA also supports the UNICEF-managed RRM, which informs the CAR humanitarian

community about new emergency situations resulting in displacement, rapidly deploys a non-food item and WASH response, and coordinates with other actors to provide complementary assistance. As of September, the RRM had responded to the WASH needs of nearly 92,000 people through pre-positioning WASH items, supplying safe drinking water through rehabilitated water points or conducting emergency water trucking, constructing emergency WASH infrastructure—including latrines, showers, and waste management facilities—and leading hygiene promotion.



\$17.7 Million

In FY 2020 support for critical logistics operations and shelter needs in CAR

LOGISTICS AND SHELTER SUPPORT

With \$17.7 million in FY 2020 funding, USAID/BHA partners provide critical logistics services and shelter support for the humanitarian response in CAR. USAID/BHA supports the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) to provide humanitarian transport for personnel and cargo—including urgently needed medical supplies during CAR’s COVID-19 outbreak—across the country, particularly in hard-to-reach areas affected by flooding, while USAID/BHA partners Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) and Humanity & Inclusion provide common storage and logistics management for response organizations. In addition, through partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and five INGO partners, USAID/BHA supports shelter and settlement interventions, including distributing emergency temporary shelter materials. With USAID/BHA support, the RRM also reached nearly 130,000 people across CAR with household and shelter commodities—including clothing, mats, plastic sheeting, soap, and other items—during the first nine months of 2020.



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Number of USG implementing partners supporting protection activities in CAR and for Central African refugees in the region

PROTECTION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

USAID/BHA support enables seven INGO and UN agency partners to implement protection programs for CAR’s most vulnerable populations, particularly displaced individuals. USAID/BHA-funded protection activities include bolstering child protection services, delivering emergency case management and referral services for gender based violence (GBV) survivors, providing individual psychosocial support services, and conducting community awareness-raising sessions on protection risks and related issues. USAID/BHA partners also utilize child-friendly spaces and listening and counseling centers for women and girls to meet protection needs and distribute dignity kits. State/PRM supports the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to provide multi-sector assistance for conflict-affected populations in CAR. State/PRM also supports IOM, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and six INGO partners to provide protection assistance to Central African refugees in Cameroon, Chad, Sudan, the RoC, and the DRC. State/PRM supports UNHCR to facilitate safe, voluntary returns to CAR, which recommenced—with increased health measures—following temporary suspension due to COVID-19. UNHCR has facilitated the return of 17,703 Central African returnees.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance advanced across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence. Security conditions deteriorated further in December 2013, when clashes erupted between the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups composed of armed fighters that opposed ex-Séléka forces.
- Following a nearly three-year transitional period, CAR held presidential elections in December 2015 and February 2016, resulting in the election of President Faustin-Archange Touadéra, who assumed the office of the presidency on March 30, 2016.
- After more than six years of conflict, the CARG and 14 armed groups signed the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation on February 6, 2019. Despite initial progress on the dialogue and scheduling of national elections for December 2020, direct clashes between armed groups, insecurity and attacks against civilians and UN peacekeeping forces, and security incidents affecting humanitarian workers continue in multiple regions of the country.
- Heavy rains and resultant flooding in October and November 2019 adversely affected an estimated 100,000 people in eight of CAR's 16 prefectures and Bangui, exacerbating humanitarian conditions in already vulnerable areas.
- On October 27, 2020, U.S. Ambassador Lucy Tamlyn redeclared a disaster for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2021 due to the scale and severity of ongoing humanitarian needs in the country.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2020¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
FUNDING IN CAR FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY RESPONSE			
USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Basse-Kotto	\$2,000,000
ACTED	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Basse-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Mbomou	\$2,990,369
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$2,000,000
IMC	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Haute-Kotto, Ouaka, Vakaga	\$5,000,000
IOM	HCIM, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$1,400,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection	Nana-Grébizi	\$1,300,000
MENTOR Initiative	Health	Ouham	\$600,000
Mercy Corps	ERMS, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Mbomou, Ouaka	\$2,500,000

Oxfam Intermón	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Haute-Kotto, Ouham, Mbomou	\$2,000,000
PUI	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$2,700,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
Solidarités International	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,750,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$6,350,000
UNICEF	HCIM, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
	WASH for Flood Response	Countrywide	\$100,000
	Program Support		\$1,265
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$41,691,634
Food Assistance			
ACF	Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP); Complementary Services	Basse-Kotto	\$3,500,000
ACTED	LRIP; Food Vouchers; Cash Transfers for Food; Complementary Services	Basse-Kotto, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Mbomou	\$2,999,000
Solidarités International	LRIP; Cash Transfers for Food; Food Vouchers	Bamingui Bangoran, Kémo, Nana-Gribizi, Ouham	\$2,000,000
UNICEF	400 MT of U.S. In-Kind Aid	Countrywide	\$4,016,000
World Vision	Cash Transfers for Food; Complementary Services	Ouaka	\$2,999,755
WFP	14,340 MT of U.S. In-Kind Emergency Food Aid	Countrywide	\$31,356,104
	Food Vouchers; 3,040 MT of LRIP	Countrywide	\$15,295,400
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$62,166,259
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$103,857,893
STATE/PRM			
CARE	Protection, Nutrition, WASH	Chad	\$1,999,997
ICRC	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,550,000
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Sudan	\$978,533
Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)	Livelihoods	Cameroon	\$1,442,811
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Livelihoods	Cameroon	\$2,000,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$13,558,275
	Multi-Sector Assistance	Cameroon	\$19,400,000
	Multi-Sector Assistance	RoC	\$6,000,000
	Multi-Sector Assistance	Sudan	\$4,000,000
World Vision	Livelihoods, Protection, WASH	DRC	\$2,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$55,929,616
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN CAR IN FY 2020			\$159,787,509

FUNDING IN CAR FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE ²			
USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
ACTED	Health, Protection, WASH	Mbomou, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Ouaka, Vakaga	\$2,000,000
IMC	Health, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	HCIM, Health, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$6,500,000
Food Assistance			
WFP	Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING			\$2,500,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$9,000,000
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	COVID-19	Countrywide	\$2,325,000
	COVID-19	Countrywide	\$2,300,000
UNHCR	COVID-19	Cameroon	\$1,870,000
	COVID-19	RoC	\$600,000
UNICEF	COVID-19	Cameroon	\$1,160,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$8,255,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE IN CAR IN FY 2020			\$17,255,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$112,857,893
TOTAL State/PRM FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$64,184,616
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$177,042,509

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2020.

² Figures represent supplemental International Disaster Assistance (IDA) and Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) funding committed for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities as of September 30, 2020.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:

- USAID Center for International Disaster Information: cidi.org
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int.

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)