

Central African Republic – Complex Emergency

June 14, 2022

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<p>4.9 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Population of CAR</p> <p><i>OCHA – February 2022</i></p>	<p>3.1 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance</p> <p><i>OCHA – February 2022</i></p>	<p>2.2 MILLION</p> <p>Number of People Requiring Emergency Food Aid Through August</p> <p><i>IPC – April 2022</i></p>	<p>658,036</p> <p>Number of IDPs in CAR</p> <p><i>CMP – April 2022</i></p>	<p>740,000</p> <p>Number of Refugees from CAR in Neighboring Countries</p> <p><i>UNHCR – January 2022</i></p>
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- More than 2.2 million people across CAR will likely require emergency food assistance through at least August primarily due to widespread insecurity and elevated food prices.
- The UN recorded nearly 70 security incidents impacting humanitarian organizations between January and May, resulting in one death and 16 injuries.
- More than 30 attacks and accidents involving mines and other explosives led to eight civilian deaths and 29 injuries during the first five months of 2022, resulting in heightened protection concerns and limited humanitarian access.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the CAR Response in FY 2022	USAID/BHA ¹	\$101,820,681
	STATE/PRM ²	\$15,600,000
Total³		\$117,420,681

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

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)
² U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)
³ Funding includes all publicly announced figures from FY 2022 as of June 14, 2022

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

2.2 Million People Across CAR Require Emergency Food Assistance

More than 2.2 million people across the Central African Republic (CAR) will likely experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food security through at least August and require emergency food assistance to meet basic needs, according to an April IPC analysis.⁴ This figure is roughly equivalent to the number of people facing the same conditions during the same period in 2021. Haut-Mbomou, Ouham Pendé, and Mbomou prefectures were the areas of the country with the highest estimated prevalence of acute food insecurity, with more than 65 percent of households facing Crisis or worse conditions. The analysis attributes the persistence of heightened food insecurity across the country, in part, to continued insecurity and resultant displacement and limited access to agricultural land. In particular, conflict has reduced the area cultivated across much of the country, including in parts of eastern and northern CAR where relief actors have reported a significant reduction in cassava and maize production in 2022, undermining household food security and livelihoods. Additionally, widespread fuel shortages across Central Africa in early 2022 have driven price increases for food and other essential commodities, reducing the purchasing power of households across CAR. Disruption to markets linked to the Government of the Russian Federation invasion of Ukraine has further exacerbated these price increases in recent weeks.

UN Records More than 50 Security Incidents Impacting Aid Workers

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) recorded nearly 70 security incidents affecting humanitarian organizations in CAR during the first five months of 2022; the results of these incidents included the death of one aid worker and injuries to 16 others. Theft, looting, threats, and assaults accounted for more than 70 percent of all instances of violence during the period, with restrictions on movement and other forms of disruption to humanitarian activities making up the remainder. The UN recorded 14 instances of violence targeting aid workers in April alone, including a series of armed group attacks in Basse-Kotto prefecture between April 6 and 10 that resulted in injuries to 14 humanitarian personnel. During one such incident on April 10, armed group elements attacked and robbed humanitarian workers in Basse-Kotto's Alindao sub-prefecture, injuring two non-governmental organization (NGO) staff members. Separately, on April 13, armed group elements ambushed four health workers in Ouham-Pendé Prefecture's Kouï sub-prefecture and looted cash, cell phones, medicines, and motorcycles. As of June 1, two NGOs providing health, protection, and camp coordination assistance had suspended operations in northwestern CAR, disrupting critical humanitarian assistance to approximately 46,000 internally displaced persons.

Explosive Devices in Western CAR Disrupt Livelihoods, Limit Access

Between January and May, more than 30 attacks and accidents involving the use of explosive devices in CAR—predominantly in Western portions of the country—resulted in eight civilian deaths and injuries to 29 people, according to the UN. Notably, the number of security incidents involving explosive devices during the first five months of 2022 amounted to 70 percent of all incidents recorded in 2021. Moreover, anti-personnel mines—prohibited under international law—were discovered in CAR for the first time in early April; the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) and the UN Mine Action Service destroyed the devices before they could harm any individuals.

⁴ 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.

Heavy explosive contamination in western CAR continues to prevent many households from participating in agricultural activities and accessing other income-generating opportunities, leading to heightened levels of humanitarian need. The presence of explosives has also severely limited humanitarian access to vulnerable populations. As of March, humanitarian actors had classified several routes in Nana-Mambéré, Mambéré-Kadéï, and Ouham-Pendé prefectures as high-risk due to the suspected presence of explosive devices. Mine-related humanitarian access constraints in these three prefectures had left at least 30,000 people without access to vital assistance, increasing populations' vulnerability to water-borne diseases due to unmet water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs.

Insecurity in Basse-Kotto Displaces 5,000 People, Leads to Civilian Deaths

On May 9, Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC) and Union for Peace (UPC) armed elements carried out an attack on an Armed Forces of CAR (FACA) post in Basse-Kotto Prefecture's Bokolobo city that resulted in the deaths of at least 10 civilians, according to international media. The initial attack triggered a series of intercommunal clashes in Bokolobo, with relief actors recording at least seven additional civilian deaths and the displacement of approximately 5,000 people to Basse-Kotto's neighboring Digui and Poudijo towns as of May 14. On May 12, MINUSCA confirmed that it had deployed peacekeepers to the city to protect civilian populations from additional attacks. MINUSCA peacekeepers and FACA elements also conducted a joint operation in Basse-Kotto's Mingala locality on May 10 to counter threats of armed group attacks reported by local populations. Head of MINUSCA Valentine Rugwabiza stated on May 12 that the joint mission signaled a shift towards a system of operations that would preemptively counter protection threats to civilians across CAR. Following a period of instability that impeded humanitarian access, relief actors conducted a joint assessment of humanitarian needs among populations displaced by the violence in Bokolobo in early June.

KEY FIGURES



\$55 Million

In dedicated USG support for emergency food assistance in FY 2022

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

With \$33.5 million in FY 2022 funding to date, USAID/BHA supports the UN World Food Program (WFP) to provide emergency food assistance—including cash transfers; locally and regionally procured food; U.S.-sourced rice, split peas, and vegetable oil; and vouchers redeemable for food in local markets—to food-insecure populations throughout CAR, including host communities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and returnees. Meanwhile, USAID/BHA is also supporting NGO partners to provide emergency food assistance to vulnerable populations across the country. USAID/BHA partners also provide agricultural inputs and training to bolster food security and facilitate livelihood rehabilitation for CAR's most vulnerable households.



\$11.3 Million

In dedicated USG support for health and nutrition assistance in FY 2022

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

To prevent and treat malnutrition, USAID/BHA supports NGOs in conducting supplementary feeding programs for children ages five years and younger and pregnant and lactating women. In partnership with these NGOs, USAID/BHA creates community referral pathways to identify children suffering from malnutrition. Through the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), USAID/BHA also provides emergency nutrition assistance to

children, mothers, and caregivers. Additionally, USAID/BHA supports NGOs in providing health assistance, including the operation of mobile clinics, diagnostic treatment, and referral services for disease and injury. USAID/BHA NGO partners also provide essential medical commodities and training to community responders and clinics.



\$6.4 Million

In FY 2022 support for critical logistics operations

LOGISTICS SUPPORT

USAID/BHA partners provide critical logistics services for the humanitarian response in CAR. Due to insufficient road access across CAR, USAID/BHA supports the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) to provide humanitarian transport for personnel and cargo across the country, and to provide air service to NGO partners. In addition, USAID/BHA NGO partners provide common storage and logistics management for response organizations. USAID/BHA has also funded efforts to improve logistics platforms in CAR's capital city of Bangui to enable Rapid Response Mechanisms (RRMs) to quickly respond to sudden changes in humanitarian needs.



\$8.3 Million

In FY 2022 support for critical protection assistance

PROTECTION

USAID/BHA NGO and UN partners continue to implement protection programs for CAR's most vulnerable populations, particularly displaced individuals. USAID/BHA and State/PRM-funded protection activities include bolstering child protection services, conducting community awareness-raising sessions on protection risks and related issues, delivering emergency case management and referral services for survivors of gender-based violence, and providing individual psychosocial support services. USG partners provide multi-sector assistance for conflict-affected populations in CAR, as well as support for livelihood activities, including the provision of agricultural inputs and training to bolster economic stability and food security.



\$3 Million

In dedicated USG support for shelter and settlements in FY 2022

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

USAID/BHA supports NGOs and UN agencies in providing individualized shelter assistance to vulnerable households among IDPs, returnees, and conflict-affected host communities in CAR. USAID/BHA NGO and UN partners have also distributed emergency shelter kits as part of rapid response programs and reinforced camp coordination and camp management in FY 2022. Moreover, USAID/BHA supported the International Organization for Migration (IOM)—the co-lead of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster in CAR, the coordinating body for humanitarian camp coordination and management activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—in prepositioning contingency, emergency shelter kits throughout the country.



\$4.5 Million

In dedicated USG support for WASH assistance in FY 2022

WASH

USAID/BHA partners provide critical WASH assistance to vulnerable populations in CAR, including displaced individuals sheltering in camps and returnees. USAID/BHA also supports the UNICEF-managed RRM, which informs how the CAR humanitarian community deploys assistance, including relief items and WASH support, and coordinates with other humanitarian actors to provide complementary assistance in response to new emergency situations that result in displacement and humanitarian needs. With support from USAID/BHA and other donors, RRM partners deliver WASH assistance through the construction of latrines, distribution of hygiene kits, organization of hygiene awareness sessions, and rehabilitation of water points throughout CAR. State/PRM-supported activities rehabilitate clean water sources and support water distribution systems within vulnerable communities.

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.
- On January 18, the Constitutional Court validated the results of the December 27, 2020 election, resulting in President Touadéra assuming a second term in office. Leading up to and during the election, armed groups aligned with former President Bozizé, whom the Constitutional Court had determined ineligible for candidacy, made a concerted effort to disrupt voting and seize major urban areas.
- An outbreak of election-related violence began in December 2020 between armed groups from the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC), FACA, MINUSCA (United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic), and bilateral security forces supporting the CARG. Conflict exacerbated the widespread deterioration of humanitarian conditions throughout the following year, including numerous human rights violations attributed to the presence of armed groups.
- On October 15, 2021, President Faustin-Archange Touadéra declared a unilateral ceasefire, which was agreed to by all but two of the groups included in the CPC.
- On October 21, 2021, U.S. Ambassador Lucy Tamlyn re-declared a disaster for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2022 due to the scale and severity of ongoing humanitarian needs in the country.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2022⁴

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Food Assistance, Logistics	Ouham-Pende	\$3,000,000
Handicap International	Logistics	Basse-Kotto, Mbomou	\$929,978
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Haute-Kotto, Ouaka, Vakaga	\$7,100,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management and Assessments (HCIMA)	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
IOM	HCIMA, Shelter and Settlements	Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui Commune, Basse-Kotto, Countryside, Mambere-Kadei, Mbomou, Nana-Grebizi, Ombella-M'Poko, Ouaka, Ouham-Pende	\$2,400,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Economic Recover and Market Systems (ERMS), Food Assistance, Health Protection	Bamingui-Bangoran, Nana-Grebizi	\$7,500,000
MENTOR	Health	Ouham	\$400,000
Mercy Corps	Agriculture, Food Assistance, WASH	Mbomou, Ouaka	\$6,500,000
OCHA	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
Oxfam International	Agriculture, ERMS, WASH	Haute-Kotto, Mbomou, Ouaka, Ouham	\$1,993,476
Première Urgence Internationale (PUI)	Logistics	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection	Bamingui-Bangoran, Basse-Kotto, Countrywide, Haut-Mbomou, Haute-Kotto, Kemo, Mbomou, Nana-Grebizi, Ombella, M'Poko, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham-Pende, Vakaga	\$9,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance	Bamingui-Bangoran, Basse-Kotto, Countrywide, Haut-Mbomou, Haute-Kotto, Kemo, Lobaye, Mambere-Kadei, Mbomou, Nana-Mambere, Ombella-Mpoko, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham-Pende, Nana-Grebizi, Sangha-Mbaere, Vakaga	\$49,973,377
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$101,820,681
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Multi-Sector Assistance	CAR	\$ 3,300,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	CAR	\$4,000,000
	Multi-Sector Assistance	Cameroon	\$7,700,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics	DRC	\$600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$15,600,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$117,420,681

⁴Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 14, 2022.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations 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