

Central African Republic – Complex Emergency

SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<p>4.9 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Population of CAR</p> <p><i>OCHA – September 2022</i></p>	<p>3.1 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance</p> <p><i>OCHA – August 2022</i></p>	<p>2.2 MILLION</p> <p>Number of People Requiring Emergency Food Assistance Through August</p> <p><i>IPC – April 2022</i></p>	<p>474,000</p> <p>Number of IDPs in CAR</p> <p><i>IOM – September 2022</i></p>	<p>743,941</p> <p>Number of Refugees From CAR in Neighboring Countries</p> <p><i>UNHCR – September 2022</i></p>
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- Seasonal flooding in 12 of CAR’s 17 prefectures affected more than 85,000 people from July to September.
- Elevated staple food prices, limited food stocks, and insecurity exacerbated food security needs between April and September.
- The UN recorded more than 120 security incidents that negatively affected humanitarian activities between January and August.
- Following a months-long fuel shortage in CAR, which hindered humanitarian operations, the arrival of fuel between July and September enabled the resumption of many humanitarian activities.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the CAR Response in FY 2022	USAID/BHA ¹	\$167,331,487
	STATE/PRM ²	\$65,933,797
Total		\$233,265,284

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)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Flooding Displaces More Than 22,000 People, Increases Humanitarian Needs

Heavy rainfall and flooding in Central African Republic (CAR) adversely affected approximately 85,300 people across 12 of the country's 17 prefectures—primarily in Ouham and Vakaga prefectures, as well as the capital city of Bangui—from June to September, the UN reports. The flooding caused at least 11 deaths, displaced more than 22,000 people, and destroyed over 2,500 houses and 45,700 acres of crops as of September 30. Moreover, approximately 43,000 people remain in need of humanitarian assistance due to flooding, particularly in hard-to-reach areas of northern CAR such as Vakaga, where an estimated 24,000 people in need of emergency assistance had not received any support as of mid-September. Flooding continued to impact road conditions and hinder humanitarian access to vulnerable households in September, according to relief actors.

Heavy rainfall also resulted in a ruptured dam and significant flooding near the CAR–Sudan border in Vakaga's Birao sub-prefecture in late August, according to the USAID/BHA-funded Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). Preliminary assessments indicated that flooding affected more than 11,000 people in Birao and limited access to the majority of water points in the sub-prefecture, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases due to contamination and making it difficult to obtain safe drinking water. The poor weather conditions also overwhelmed water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in other parts of CAR, including Bangui and Lobaye, Nana-Gribizi, and Ouham-Pende prefectures, where flooding damaged thousands of latrines and wells between July and August.

In response to rainfall and related flooding, the Government of CAR (CARG) has led emergency relief efforts since July in coordination with UN agency and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners, including the Central African Red Cross Society and the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA). Complementing the CARG's efforts, humanitarian organizations, including USAID/BHA partners, provided multi-sector emergency assistance to more than 43,000 flood-affected individuals, according to the UN. At least 11,000 households had received shelter kits to rebuild their houses and 10,000 families had received essential household items—such as blankets, buckets and sleeping mats—as of September 15.

Rising Food Prices, Market Disruptions Heighten Food Insecurity

During the April-to-September lean season, the period of time when food is most scarce, prices for food and other essential items rose across CAR due to inflation following the Government of the Russian Federation invasion of Ukraine in February and export restrictions imposed by neighboring Cameroon, a major source of food imports in CAR, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). The price for many staple food commodities reached their highest point since 2020 during the period, with the cost of corn, groundnuts, rice, and sugar increasing by an average of 10, 11, 13, and 20 percent, respectively, during the period. Moreover, FEWS NET reports that security challenges and poor road conditions from April to September—including damaged and dilapidated infrastructure caused by recurring conflict and flooding, the presence of explosive devices, and the risk of abuse or harassment by armed groups or security forces while in transit—further limited households' ability to sell their crops in local markets.

As of August, more than 2.2 million people across CAR were likely experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food security since April, and required emergency food assistance to meet basic

needs, according to an IPC analysis.³ Low-income households and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in central, northern, and southeastern CAR are expected to experience Crisis levels of acute food insecurity through at least January 2023 due to the depletion of food stocks from prior harvests, high and rising inflation that prevents households from purchasing sufficient food, and persistent insecurity that frequently displaces civilians and restricts their access to agricultural lands and markets, FEWS NET reports.

In response to rising food insecurity during the first half of 2022, humanitarian actors provided food and nutrition assistance, including agricultural tools, in-kind food rations, livestock, nutritional supplements, seeds and tools to more than 1.1 million people. Specifically, U.S. Government (USG) partner the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) allocated \$15 million in July from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support sudden-onset and underfunded emergencies—for emergency food assistance programs in CAR.

Insecurity Generates Displacement, Affects Aid Workers, and Causes Civilian Casualties

Insecurity in CAR continues to drive internal displacement, generate humanitarian need, and disrupt humanitarian response activities. Across CAR, armed clashes and natural disasters have driven increased displacement since June, particularly in Haute-Kotto and Ouham prefectures. At least 474,000 people were internally displaced in CAR as of September, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Meanwhile, more than 120 security incidents affected humanitarian organizations in CAR between January and August, the UN reports. The security incidents—including assaults and robberies—resulted in the death of one aid worker and injury to 18 others during the reporting period, and primarily occurred in Bangui, Ouaka, and Ouham prefectures. In addition, the threat of landmines and other explosive devices had limited humanitarian access to at least 30,000 people in western CAR as of mid-September, according to the UN. Civilians are the main victims of explosive devices in CAR, comprising 81 percent of those killed and 76 percent of those injured since 2021. Incidents involving explosive devices between January and August 2022 resulted in eight civilian deaths and injury to 40 civilians.

Arrival of Fuel Enables Humanitarian Operations to Resume

CAR's prolonged fuel shortage began in March and was compounded by seasonal river transportation disruptions—due to particularly heavy rainfall and flooding from June to September—that affected the transport of fuel into the country. As a result, humanitarian organizations, including USAID/BHA partners, drastically reduced operations across the country in mid-2022, particularly between May and June, according to humanitarian actors. Moreover, the fuel crisis had limited the frequency of UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flights, which distribute critical humanitarian assistance and provide transportation for goods and services to remote areas of the country. However, between July and September, the arrival of increased fuel supplies into CAR—including the delivery of approximately 449,100 gallons of fuel to the port of Kolongo from the Democratic Republic of the Congo on August 1—has improved transportation conditions and humanitarian access in the country, according to local media reports and humanitarian actors. Notably, as of August 8, UNHAS had access to sufficient fuel to resume normal operations in CAR, the UN reports.

³ 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.

KEY FIGURES



\$94 Million

In dedicated USG support for emergency food assistance in FY 2022



\$19.2 Million

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



\$8.4 Million

In FY 2022 support for critical logistics operations



\$9.7 Million

In FY 2022 support for critical protection assistance

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

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, 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.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

To prevent and treat malnutrition, USAID/BHA supports NGOs to conduct 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 to provide 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.

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 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 Bangui to enable RRM to quickly respond to sudden changes in humanitarian needs.

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 providing agricultural inputs and training to bolster economic stability and food security.



\$9.9 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 agency 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 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 pre-positioning contingency, emergency shelter kits throughout the country.



\$5.9 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), Central African Armed Forces, MINUSCA, 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 redeclared 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 2022^{1,2}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
FUNDING IN CAR FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY			
USAID/BHA			
Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA)	Health, Nutrition	Haut-Mbomou	\$1,500,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Food Assistance, Logistics	Ouham-Pende	\$3,000,000
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pende	\$2,000,000
Humanity & Inclusion (HI)	Logistics	Basse-Kotto, Mbomou	\$929,978
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Haute-Kotto, Ouaka, Vakaga	\$7,900,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management and Assessments (HCIMA)	Countrywide	\$1,500,000

IOM	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), HCIMA, Shelter and Settlements	Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui Commune, Basse-Kotto, Countrywide, Haut-Mbomou, Mambere-Kadei, Mbomou, Nana-Grebizi, Nana-Mambere, Ombella-M'Poko, Ouaka, Ouham-Pende	\$11,400,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	ERMS, Food Assistance, Health, Protection	Bamingui-Bangoran, Countrywide, 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 Intermon	Agriculture, ERMS, WASH	Haute-Kotto, Mbomou, Ouaka, Ouham	\$1,993,476
Première Urgence Internationale (PUI)	Logistics	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
Solidarités International	Food Assistance, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Bamingui-Bangoran, Basse-Kotto, Kemo, Nana-Grebizi, Ouham	\$6,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
	Food Assistance—300 metric tons of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$3,234,199
UNICEF	HCIMA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bamingui-Bangoran, Basse-Kotto, Countrywide, Haut-Mbomou, Kemo, Mbomou, Ombella-M'poko, Ouaka, Ouham	\$10,500,000
	Food Assistance—14,280 metric tons of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide, Ouham, Ouham-Pende	\$33,329,493
WFP	Food Assistance, Logistics	Basse-Kotto, Countrywide, Ouaka, Ouham-Pende	\$54,000,000
Welthungerhilfe (WHH)	Agriculture, ERMS, Multipurpose Cash Assistance	Kemo, Ouham, Ouham-Pende, Vakaga	\$2,100,000
World Vision	Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Ouaka, Ouham	\$4,000,000
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$44,341
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$167,331,487
STATE/PRM			
CARE	Multi-Sector Assistance	Chad	\$1,733,797
DRC	Livelihoods	Cameroon	\$2,000,000
Implementing Partners	Multi-Sector Assistance	CAR	\$13,400,000
Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS)	Livelihoods, Protection	Cameroon	\$1,500,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Multi-Sector Assistance	CAR	\$16,100,000
	Multi-Sector Assistance	Cameroon	\$26,100,000
	Multi-Sector Assistance	DRC	\$2,000,000
UNHAS	Logistics	DRC	\$600,000
World Vision	Health, Protection, WASH	DRC	\$2,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$65,933,797
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$233,265,284

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, 2022.

² Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.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)