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World Food Programme

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Central African Republic

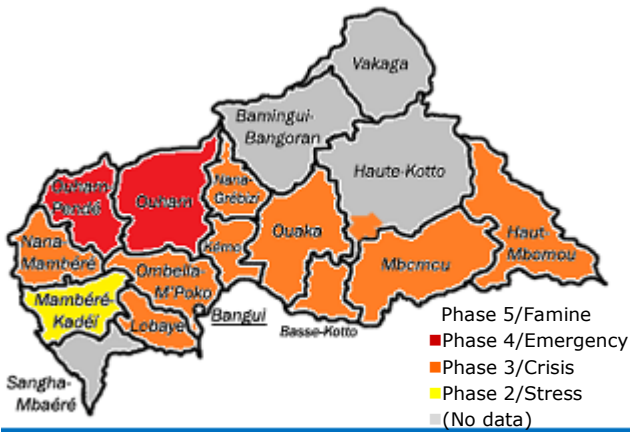
-  **C.A.R. Funding Shortfalls** (25 June)
-  **Emergency Operation** USD 31.7 million
-  **Food Security Cluster** USD 1 million
-  **ETC & Logistics Cluster** USD 6 million
-  **UNHAS** Budget revision ongoing
-  **Augmentation of staff & security** USD 5.3 million

Highlights

The Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET) reconfirms the results of the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) analysis conducted by the food security cluster. Access to fields for cultivation remains a challenge for farmers in areas affected by continued insecurity. FEWSNET anticipates crop production for the 2014/15 cycle is expected to be below average. In addition, rainfall tendencies April-June have been drier than normal; the main agricultural areas of Ouham and Ouham Pendé and areas north of Bangui have seen rainfall deficits.

WFP continues to reinforce targeted activities to protect human capital and household assets: a) 167,865 have benefitted from seed protection rations alongside FAO distribution of seeds and tools; b) 63,800 children are receiving daily school meals in four regions of the country; and c) new partners are being identified to expand targeted nutrition support. Meanwhile, WFP continues to address the acute food and micronutrient needs of vulnerable populations areas most affected by conflict and food insecurity.

The security situation in Bambari remains highly volatile.



April 2014—Food Security Situation—IPC Mapping



C.A.R. Emergency Response

Despite challenges linked to security, rains, and the blockage of the primary supply corridor from Cameroon, between 1-24 June WFP distributed 2,939 mt of food to 261,132 beneficiaries. Among beneficiaries 40,218 children under 5 years of age and at-risk of acute malnutrition received blanket feeding.

Supporting the Agricultural Campaign:

WFP and FAO are coordinating distribution of food and agricultural seeds and tools in coordinated geographic areas to protect assets during the planting season.

To date, 167,865 beneficiaries (over 33,500 households) have received 3,159 mt of food since the start of the seed protection programme in April. Almost 60 per cent of the beneficiaries are located in north-western areas identified as the most food insecure by the Integrated Phase Classification.

Targeted support:

WFP supports the Ministry of Education's Back to School Campaign through the emergency school feeding programme. As of 24 June, more than 63,800 school children have received food support in Bangui, Bouar, Bossangoa and Paoua.

WFP is also expanding nutrition support to malnourished women and children 6-59 months and people living with HIV/AIDS across C.A.R.. An additional three partners have been identified in Boda and Berberati in the south-west for the expansion.

June 2014 (as of 24 June)		
Operational areas	Beneficiaries	mt
Bangui	51 575	242
Boda	21 164	305
Bossangoa	36 448	438
Bouar	35 036	499
Paoua	27 398	406
Kaga Bandoro	26 269	377
Bambari	49 014	411
Birao	14 228	260
Total	261 132	2 939

C.A.R. Situation Update

The situation in Bambari is highly volatile. On 23 June, renewed flare-up in inter-community attacks resulted in new casualties and displaced several thousand persons. The tense and volatile operating context present important risks to humanitarians.

Pockets of tension are reported in Bouar and Bozoum.

Moving food into and within C.A.R.

The transport strike and ensuing blockade at Garoua-Boulai border point in Cameroon (the main corridor into C.A.R.) caused 250 trucks to be stuck for almost 10 days. Several meetings have taken place over the past week with authorities, union representatives, local governors, MISCA Commanders, and drivers, to resolve the challenges and reach a common ground. Following discussions, cross-border traffic was allowed to resume on 17 June. But the situation remains unpredictable. In the meantime, WFP continues to explore alternative supply routes (land, river).

As predicted, the rains are hampering timely efficient movement of goods. Deliveries which used to require a few days' turnaround now require 8 to 10 days. The doubling of WFP's fleet of trucks in early June has allowed to support continuous movement of goods.

Food Security Updates

According to WFP and FEWSNET the ongoing conflict is affecting agricultural activities as households' access to fields remains a challenge. This has prompted households to reduce the area under cultivation. With reduced acreage and limited seeds and tools, crop production for the 2014/15 cycle is expected to fall below average.

In conflict zones, poor households and IDPs also have low incomes and access to markets. They maintain livelihoods by carrying out temporary work, agricultural labour and petty trade. But, the sources of income have weakened and resources are not enough to meet household needs. In this context, the food security crisis is expected to remain in the majority of the country until the harvest in July in the south and October in the north.

Seasonal rainfall: April and May data indicate that the weather has been drier than average and the trend has continued in June, with significant rainfall deficits in the north-west, particularly in the main agricultural areas of Ouham and Ouham Pendé and areas north of Bangui. Favourable rainfall has taken place in areas in the south-east and south-west.

Markets: Fluctuation in prices for some food stuffs is observed across the country, linked to: (i) the prevailing insecurity in the northern part of the country (disruption of supply on the Damara-Sibut-Kaga-Bandoro axis); (ii) the beginning of the rainy season (early field work, deterioration on of roads); and (iii) the bankruptcy of some traders.

In the north, FEWSNET and WFP also report the closure of the border in Chad has affected the flow of goods between the countries.

Spotlight: Common services

✈ UNHAS

A budget revision for the UNHAS Special Operation 200522 is underway to absorb additional requirements of USD 6 million; with the revision, the project is 90 percent funded.

- Air services ensure safe access to the field, security and medical relocations, and transport of vital humanitarian cargo.
- During the first quarter of 2014 an average of **1,765 passengers** were transported per month, a **200 percent increase** from an average 547 passengers/month in the same period in 2013.
- UNHAS C.A.R. serves **28 destinations**, including one international route to Douala, Cameroon.
- Since April, UNHAS has faced significant jet fuel shortages due to the disruption of supply, hampering planned air services. **Three airlifts totaling 410 drums of fuel** were organised between May- June to maintain operations; an additional airlift is planned for the end of June. Despite these challenges, UNHAS has successfully transported an average of **1,300 passengers and 18 mt of cargo per month in April and May.**

WFP Special Operation 200605

The joint ETC/Logistics Cluster Special Operation 200605 is only 34 percent funded and requires an additional USD 6 million to sustain current activities.


📶 Emergency Telecommunications

- ETC provides secure and reliable data as well as radio and telecommunication network services for the humanitarian community.
- Assets and staff have been deployed for **three common operating hubs out of seven planned**. Bouar, Paoua and Bossangoa are now fully equipped communication centres.
- Lack of funds is hampering deployment plans to the remaining four locations (Kaga Bandoro, Bambari, Ndélé and Zemio).
- Current funding levels can only cover the three equipped sites until September.

🚚 Logistics Cluster

- The cluster provides information on transport movement plans and customs requirements, inventory on warehousing and fuel storage capacities, and identifies logistics gaps and constraints.
- The supports **24 partners** and has organised transport movements of multi-agency cargo to **18 cities** countrywide and financed the rehabilitation of Talley bridge, 45 km north of Bozoum.

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