GENERAL SITUATION

- According to the Population Movement Commission, under the Protection Cluster, the number of displaced people in Bangui has decreased to 461,000 people in 65 IDP sites as of 8 January, as opposed to 512,000 in 67 sites reported on 31 December. The commission reports that there are 885,000 IDPs in CAR overall.

- The coordination on the airport response launched on 28 December with UNICEF, WFP, MSF, ICRC and the Protection Cluster has led to the creation of an M'Poko Airport Taskforce under the CCCM Cluster, also integrating other major actors. The Taskforce coordinates humanitarian response mainly focused on WASH, NFI, Food Security and Health emergency activities for the estimated 100,000 IDPs in the Airport site. The Protection Cluster, through Civil-Military Coordination, has successfully advocated increasing security at the Airport by French Sangaris and MISCA patrolling of the perimeter, in addition to securing the distribution area.

- The last week has been generally calmer in CAR, with isolated incidents reported in Bangui and the Northwest. The situation is uncertain since the resignation of President Djotodia and Prime Minister Tiangaye pending political developments in Ndjamea. Security incidents on the road out of Bangui blocked the departure of the two UNICEF mobile teams to Bouar and Bambari yesterday. The teams will establish and sustain UNICEF emergency outreach for Nana Mambere, Ouham Pende, Ouaka and Basse Kotto prefectures. This is part of a wider outreach scale up plan that includes coordinated activities through the Bossangoa and Kaga Bandaro offices. Departure dates are now scheduled for Monday 13 January.

UNICEF RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

WASH

- In Bossangoa, UNICEF has donated a 60 kVA generator to the national water distribution company, SODECA, and supported the repair of the pumping station to re-establish water pumping and distribution to the town. SODECA contributed 180,000 liters to water requirements for 37,000 IDPs at the Eveché site. Work is continuing to connect the 7,500 IDPs at the Ecole Liberte site, and other residents in town. Once the rehabilitations are completed the system will provide 500,000 liters of safe water in Bossangoa, a significant contribution to total water requirements of 880,000 liters/day. The remaining quantity is currently being provided by two emergency pumping systems run by UNICEF/Direction General de l'Hydraulique and MSF Holland, while MSF and ACF continue conducting sanitation and hygiene activities.

- The Bangui SODECA water system, which provides water for 80 per cent of IDPs, is old and underperforming (1,150 m3/h instead of 1,500 m3/h). Due to frequent power outages during the dry season (February-April), further deterioration in current plant performance will likely lead to important water shortages, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases. UNICEF conducted a diagnosis of the Bangui water treatment plant on 8 January and recommended to the WASH Cluster to install a new pump and repair old parts in the distribution system in order to improve the plant’s performance and prevent possible breakdowns.

- UNICEF is coordinating the WASH activities in the airport through the WASH Cluster for identification and response to gaps. In zone 1 (80,000 IDPs) Mercy Corps is supported by UNICEF to strengthen hygiene promotion with an increase from 20 to 60 hygiene promoters. In order to prepare zone 2 for
relocation of 20,000 IDPs at the Airport site, UNICEF has provided fuel for the machinery that has started to dig sanitation trenches on which ACTED is constructing an initial 70 latrines. Waste disposal management in zones 1 and 2 is also provided by ACTED. UNICEF is looking for another partner to manage provision of safe water and hygiene promotion in zone 2. Construction work was interrupted yesterday as security incidents prevented laborers from reaching the site.

**Child Protection**
- On 7 January, UNICEF Representative, Souleymane Diabaté, and the Minister of DDR accompanied by representatives from BINUCA and MISCA visited five of the 14 military cantonments in Bangui, and launched the process of identifying, screening and releasing of boys and girls associated with armed forces and groups. Registration of 26 children (3 girls, 23 boys) aged 9 to 17 years old started on 9 January in three military barracks. UNICEF has also received 5 children released to Sangaris forces the last 24 hours.

- Implementing partners are preparing a Transit and Orientation Center (CTO) where released children will benefit from interim care and psychosocial support before returning to their families. Due to the prevailing situation in Bangui, UNICEF is preparing to transfer some of the children in the CTO up-country for their security.

**Education**
- On 8 January UNICEF visited the Airport site in Bangui with partners to identify the space for establishment of Temporary Safe Learning Spaces (ETAPE). The ETAPE will integrate ECD, WASH, Education and Child Protection activities. 295 teachers displaced in the site have been identified for this project. The first ETAPE will be launched in partnership with NGO REMOD for 1,727 children 3-18 years old identified in zone 1.

**Health and Nutrition**
- UNICEF and NGO partners are supporting implementation of a Health Cluster-led measles vaccination campaign in 39 IDP sites in Bangui. In the first three days of vaccination that started at St-Sauveur and Jean 23 IDP sites, ICRC already achieved that a total of 11,558 children 6 months to 15 years old were vaccinated for measles out of a targeted 8,769 and 4,975 children under five for polio out of 3,656 children targeted. As results show, children from the surrounding neighborhood came into the sites for vaccination.

- In Bangui, screening and treatment of HIV-positive women and children were launched by UNICEF and NGO ANJFAS at Airport and Monastere de Boy Rabe sites, with four more sites to be covered. In its first week, the project enabled 32 HIV-positive pregnant women previously under treatment to resume the PMTCT program, 10 children born of HIV-positive mothers to be placed in pediatric care, and 133 people living with HIV to be identified and referred to ARV-providing facilities.

- ACF, IMC and MSF-B are among partners conducting mobile nutrition activities in Bangui IDP’ sites with UNICEF support, including screening, treatment and referral of severe cases with complications.

- The Nutrition Cluster is improving coverage in Bangui and key priority prefectures in the current displacement context through increased malnutrition screening in IDP sites, availability of mobile out-patient treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in IDP sites, stronger in-patient capacity treatment for cases of SAM with medical complications, preventive blanket feeding for children in priority locations and implementation of emergency - infant and young child feeding activities in selected sites.
RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM (RRM)
- RRM partner ACF completed distribution of NFIs (blankets, mats, bed nets) to 17,000 people displaced in host families in the PK5 area. Prior to this, limited support from humanitarian actors had been provided to people displaced in host families in Bangui.
- The RRM distributed 8,000 pieces of soap from UNICEF and NFIs provided by UNHCR in St-Sauveur.

INFOCOM
Press Release: Vaccination campaign for 210,000 children displaced by violence in Bangui. 
http://www.unicef.org/media/media_71726.html
Press coverage:
BBC http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-25657812
Financial Times: http://on.ft.com/1l3WJu5
In French: http://www.franceinter.fr/player/ecouter?player=808324&date=1388664000

SUPPLY AND LOGISTICS
- UNICEF delivered USD 234,000 in supplies to partners in the first 10 days of the month, particularly therapeutic foods, nutrition supplies and essential medicines, soap and hygiene kits, and medical supplies including syringes for the vaccination campaign.
- Transport of supplies by road from Douala has been disrupted by frequent border closures and by transporters who are often reluctant to cover the Douala-Bangui route.

FUNDING
- The 2013 UNICEF CAR appeal was 53% funded.
- UNICEF’s appeal of $62 million for 2014 reflects a continued deterioration in the situation of children in CAR and overwhelming humanitarian needs.
- UNICEF has been allocated $3,275,000 in CERF funds for immediate response in WASH, Health and Child Protection.

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