



Children at the Grande Seminaire site in Bimbo. © UNICEFCAR/2015/Rich

Central African Republic Humanitarian Situation Report



February 2015

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- The inception of U-Report, an innovative SMS system to engage young people throughout CAR, was held in February. This platform is key to involving the youth in the peace-building process in the lead-up to the Bangui Forum.
- Preparations have been finalized for a National Children’s Forum, to be held in Bangui from March 12-13.
- The reunification of 22 unaccompanied and separated children from the Yaloke enclave was a priority for UNICEF and partners this month, with the reunification of two boys in Boda. Family tracing is ongoing for the remaining children.
- Kouango has being a hot spot over February following a surge of violence that forced thousands to flee their homes.
- Security remained volatile this month with attacks on humanitarian convoys as well as clashes between armed groups and international forces. The EUFOR mission in CAR ended on 28 February.
- In Bangui, anti-Balaka elements have threatened to kidnap up to 50 internationals to force the release of their “General” Andjilo, arrested at Bouca on 14 January.
- Ms Kyung-Wha Kang, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, visited CAR mid-February. She reinforced the importance that IDP sites remain exclusively for civilians, and are not infiltrated by armed groups.

11 March 2015

2.4 million

CHILDREN AFFECTED
(2015 Strategic Response Plan)

4.8 million

PEOPLE AFFECTED
(2015 Strategic Response Plan)

2.7 million

PEOPLE WHO NEED ASSISTANCE (OCHA 18 February 2015)

443,000

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS
(OCHA 18 February 2015)

449,000

REFUGEES IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES (CHAD, CAMEROON, DRC, CONGO), UNHCR 1 March 2015

UNICEF Appeal 2014

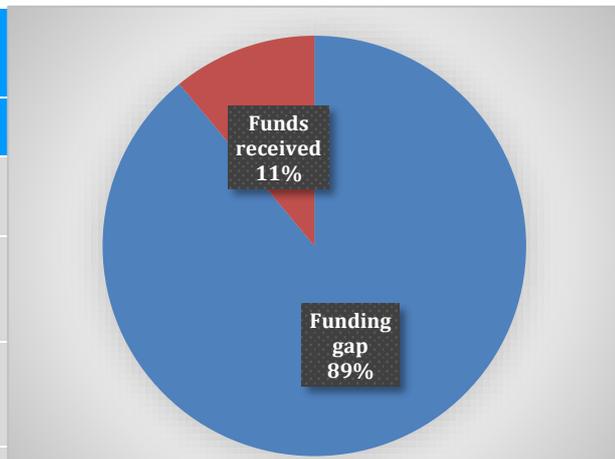
US\$ 73.9 million

Funds received as of 28 February 2015

US\$ 8 million

UNICEF’s Key Results with Partners

	UNICEF		Cluster	
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)
Number of children with SAM admitted for treatment	22,700	1,377	22,700	1,377
Number of internally displaced persons and returnees who have access to improved sanitation	170,000	77,550	388,000	NA
Number of people that access basic health services and medicines in the affected areas	1,171,400	728,755	1,472,000	728,755
Number of children who received learning and playing materials	300,000	107,647	350,000	132,798
Number of children participating in temporary learning spaces	60,000	27,319	60,000	27,319



Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

UNICEF remains gravely concerned about the continuing acute humanitarian crisis in the Central African Republic (CAR). An estimated 443,000 people are still internally displaced, including 50,000 people in Bangui (OCHA, 18 February). According to the UNHCR Regional update on 1 March, the total number of refugees in the neighbouring countries (Cameroon, Chad, Republic of Congo and DRC) is estimated at 449,000 people with nearly 200,000 refugees having arrived since December 2013.

The overall security situation worsened this month in Haute Kotto and Ouaka, due to an intervention of the International Forces in Bria, to establish national authority in the area. This caused armed elements to flee the area, thereby causing population movements to flee the violence. A similar phenomenon was observed in Nana Grebezi and the eastern part of Ouham. In the western part of the country, an increase of attacks has been reported, some committed by armed herders who are looking for space for their cattle. The coffee harvest in South Ouaka has triggered fighting between the two main armed groups over the control of plantations. Also an increase of violence associated with the historical conflict between pastoralists and farmers has been noted.

The suspension of movements (for both staff and supplies) without MINUSCA escort is still effective in more than half of the country (in particular the central and eastern regions). Some escorted convoys have been attacked on the axis Bangui-Damara-Sibut. On 25 February, a convoy was attacked several times on the way to Sibut and several injuries were reported. It is important to mention that the suspension of movements without military escort is having a large impact on the ability of humanitarian actors to provide timely assistance to populations in need.

A joint military operation by Sangaris and MINUSCA was carried out in Bria (Haute Kotto) to restore the state authority and allow grassroots consultations to take place in the lead-up to the Bangui Forum. Meanwhile in Bambari, International Forces negotiated with armed groups (ex-Seleka) for a peaceful restoration of the state, and local consultations took place on 25 February. The population in Bambari organised demonstrations against the departure of the ex-Seleka elements, as they fear it could lead to attacks by anti-Balaka wanting to fill the void.

On 24 February, 900 new IDPs arrived on Notre Dame de la Victoire site in Bambari, coming from the axes Bambari-Lihoto, and Grimari-Lihoto due to violent combat between anti-Balaka and ex-Seleka in and around the village of Lihoto.

On 27 February, an interagency mission was conducted in Kouango using MINUSCA helicopter due to security and logistical constraints. According to UNHCR, more than 19,000 people from Kouango had fled into DRC since December 2014. During this mission, some 3,500 IDPs were observed in the town only. Unfortunately, it has not been possible for this mission to go outside of the town. Main problems noticed are: The isolation (no access by road) of the area and the insecurity. As a result, there are: protection issues, unaccompanied children, children not attending school, lack of medication and qualified personnel in the health centre as well as lack of access to safe drinking water.

In Batangafo, the number of IDPs has further increased reaching on 25 February a total of 34,800 IDPs according to the Danish Refugee Council. UNICEF brought in additional humanitarian assistance during this month in the form of additional WASH supplies, provision of nutrition supplies and child protection activities (CFS, Identification of unaccompanied and separated children, etc.).

Concerns are rising about the presence of armed men on IDP sites, putting civilians in danger and complicating the humanitarian response. On 7 February, an armed group launched an attack on the IDP site of Ngakobo (Ouaka), with the aim of killing members of another armed group. Several civilians (IDPs) were reportedly injured during the attack. Blurred lines between armed groups and civilians in displacement sites were raised as a key issue by the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Kyung-Wha Kang during her visit to CAR in mid-February. She called on preserving the civilian nature of IDP camps and sites to provide effective assistance and protection to civilians. She also stressed the importance of maintaining the capacity of aid groups to operate independently and reinforce the perception of their independence and neutrality – especially at a time when international forces are stepping up operations against armed groups inside the country. OCHA has asked for guidance from other countries on how to manage IDP sites infiltrated by armed groups.

The situation in the Muslim enclaves remains unsustainable. Although humanitarian assistance has been scaled up to respond better to the basic needs of the displaced Peuhl community in Yaloke, the protection crisis continues. The Yaloke situation is representative of all the enclaves in the country. UNICEF is playing a strong advocacy role with the Government and within the humanitarian community for the freedom of movement of the IDPs trapped in those enclaves.

UNICEF Representative visited Berberati, where the situation remains unchanged for the Peuhl families sheltering in the Bishop's residence. There is need for an increased focus on social cohesion and mediation together with humanitarian actors.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF is playing a key role in humanitarian coordination, being the cluster lead of three clusters (Nutrition, WASH and Education) and one sub-cluster (Child Protection).

Coordination between the UNICEF-managed Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) and the rest of the humanitarian community was strengthened in February. A presentation about the RRM was made to the Humanitarian Country Team, and feedback received is being implemented. Several meetings were held with the Shelter Coordinator and the NFIs cluster in order to have a common approach on key issues. The presence of the Inter-Cluster Coordination (ICC) coordinator in the Steering Committee and the inclusion of RRM as a standing point in each ICC agenda has further strengthened coordination.

UNICEF is actively participating in the implementation and follow up of intersectoral action plans for the enclave in Yaloke and the closure of the IDP site at Mpoko International Airport and the transfer of services to the alternative Avicom site. UNICEF is also an active member of the coordination group on Protection of Civilians, which closely monitors the security situation and then calls for action to protect the most vulnerable.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response



Nutrition

Two new In-patient Therapeutic Units and 14 new Out-patient Therapeutic Units have been opened to treat severe cases of malnutrition this year. The target for 2015, are 48 in-patient and 280 out-patient units throughout the country, with the current total now standing at 36 in-patient and 224 out-patient facilities.

From January to February 2015, a total of 1,377 children were admitted for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) treatment, including children from IDP sites and enclaves. This represents 6% of the annual target of reaching 22,700 children suffering from SAM. This annual target represent 70% of the expected burden SAM cases of 32,348 children. It is important to underscore the fact that these figures will be reviewed in coming months in line with the 2014 SMART survey final results showing a SAM prevalence of 1.9% instead of 1.6%.

The overall performance indicators of case management meet the global standards with a cured rate of 84.4% ($\geq 75\%$), death rate of 3.2% ($<5\%$) and default rate of 12.3% ($<15\%$).

It is important to highlight the fact that the coverage of Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) is increasing. However, the integration of the CMAM in the minimum health package remains challenging in the majority of prefectures, especially those affected by insecurity and widespread displacement of the population.

In addition to CMAM interventions, UNICEF continued to support the effective leadership and strategic coordination of nutrition interventions through cluster coordination, nutritional rapid assessments and surveillance at community levels. The monthly bulletin and nutrition dashboard providing the update on nutrition situation in CAR are produced on regular basis.

Yaloke, Batangafo, Boda and Bambari IDP sites continued to be priority areas of the nutrition response. Nutrition supplies have been provided to partners and to UNICEF sub-offices in Bambari, Kaga Bandoro and Bossangoa to ensure the smooth management of severe acute malnutrition without a shortage of supplies.

A training of 35 health workers has been completed in Mbaiki Health District on the management of severe acute malnutrition, thanks to UNICEF support to the Caritas Mbaiki Nutrition Project which manages 14 out-patient and three in-patient nutrition therapeutic units.

With UNICEF financial and technical support, a training of 19 health workers on management of severe acute malnutrition is ongoing in the Yaloke Health Centre.



Health

In February, distribution of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) to IDPs outside Bangui continued, with 23,500 LLINs distributed to 11,744 IDP households (about 46,936 people) in the Ouaka prefecture. In the Nana-Gribizi prefecture, 1,050 households (approximately 5,250 people) received 2,100 LLINs.

In the context of the continued fight against malaria in the three targeted prefectures (Ouaka, Nana-Gribizi and Ouham), 222 health workers were trained on the management of malaria case according to national guidelines. This training will support the proper management of about 250,000 malaria cases in the three prefectures. About 22,000 LLINs will also be distributed to pregnant women and children under-one during antenatal care and routine vaccination in these prefectures. Since January, 728,755 peoples accessed the free health care in the country, while the integrated campaign against measles & Vitamin A is yet to start.

The EPI team contributed to the training of district micro-planning facilitators for upcoming polio immunisation campaigns scheduled in the health regions 4, 5 and 6. The deployment of the trained facilitators is underway.

HIV/AIDS

During February 2015, UNICEF continued its support to the Ministry of Health to improve HIV interventions among women and children. So far this year, a total of 2,570 pregnant women received HIV/AIDS counselling during antenatal care services, of which 83% (2,121 women) were tested.

About 108 pregnant HIV+ women are benefiting from comprehensive PMTCT-ARV prophylaxis; and a total of 57 children born to HIV positive mothers are benefiting from ARV prophylaxis. The Ministry of Health has received new supplies to respond to HIV.

During February, data collection tools were revised in order to improve the data management quality at national level.



WASH

In **Bangui**, UNICEF provided 400 litres of diesel to pump water in four IDP sites (Carmel, Padre Pio, Camboni and Grand Séminaire). This support allowed the supply of 376,000 litres of safe drinking water to 10,333 people which represents 9.09 litres/person/day.

Support provided to SODECA in terms of chemicals and fuel has allowed production of 1 million m³ of water for an estimated population of 442,000 people in Bangui. UNICEF in February supported SODECA to repair a broken pump, after pump failure had reduced by 30% its production capacity. The spare parts provided by UNICEF have allowed SODECA to restore full production capacity.

UNICEF through its government partner Agence Nationale de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement (ANEA) contributed to improving access to sanitation for 41,542 people in 21 sites in Bangui. Actions included cleaning and rehabilitation of 1,567 latrines spread over the above mentioned three sites. ANEA also conducted awareness campaigns for 13,250 people on basic hygiene rules in the three sites in Bangui. In partnership with ACTED, UNICEF contributed to improving hygiene conditions on the Bangui displacement sites through the collection and evacuation of 412 m³ of waste.

In **Boda**, UNICEF contributed to improve access to sanitation for displaced populations by distributing cleaning products for latrines via its partner ANEA. This action targeted six sites in Boda for approximately 9,000 internal displaced persons.

In Bouar prefecture, reactivation of the ANEA antenna has almost been achieved and diagnosis of water points is still ongoing in the villages. In the meantime four water points were repaired on Zotoua axis (two), Bozoum axis (one) and Niem-Yéléwa axis (one).

In **Kaga-Bandoro** in collaboration with ICRC and Caritas, emergency response activities on Evêché site were carried out with provision of 50,000 litres of water/day to 12,500 IDPs.

Regarding access to WASH services, a total of 33 hand pumps have been rehabilitated with partners (ANEA and IRC) benefiting approximately 11,500 people in targeted areas. The breakdown is as follows:

- Kaga Bandoro: four pumps
- Axis Bangui: 16 pumps
- Axis Ouandago: five pumps
- Axis Mbres: eight pumps

Data collection and hand pump mapping in the target areas is still ongoing. UNICEF has provided maintenance equipment to ANEA (hand pumps kit, tools kit, spare parts kit, etc.), and has also provided office and warehouse space to support implementation of ANEA activities.

In **Bossangoa**, through a generator and 4,000 litres of fuel provided by UNICEF, SODECA was able to provide 3,930m³ of water per week to the population of about 35,000 people, as well as 20 m³ of water to the 480 IDPs at the Petit Séminaire site.

In **Batangrafo** our partner DRC began production and distribution of 40 m³ of water per day for the 33,000 IDPs through water trucking. UNICEF Kaga Bandoro Zonal Office, had also supported emergency response in Batangrafo, by supplying NFIs (soap, jerry cans, plastic sheeting and aquatabs) for 28,630 IDPs.

ANEA with the support of UNICEF conducted nine awareness sessions of hygiene promotion on the importance of the use of WASH items, use of latrines and chlorination of water on four sites (two sites in Ouandago and two sites in Batangrafo) with 1,532 affected people including 784 women. About 13,920 pieces of soaps, 1,450 mosquito nets and 1,460 jerrycans (10 litres) were distributed to 1,428 households on the eight sites.

Household water treatment was conducted through distribution of Aquatabs to 106 households at the Airport site to treat 10,259 litres of water.

In **Bambari**, Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGH) with UNICEF funding continues to produce 150,000 litres of drinking water per day and chlorination of water from 45 wells in the town of Bambari including 16 around IDP sites (nine at Notre Dame de la Victoire, three at MUNISCA and four at Sangaris). The following water production has been carried out in these different sites:

- Sangaris site (10,345 IDPs): water trucking 65,000 litres/day and chlorination points 15,430 litres/day resulting in a ratio of 7.78 litres/day/person.
- MUNISCA site (3,085 IDPs): Water trucking 18,000 litres/day and chlorination points 5,145 litres/day resulting in a ratio of 7.50 litres/day/person.
- Notre Dame Victoire site (7,500 IDPs): Water trucking 18,000 litres/day and chlorination points 10,860 litres/day and drilling 3,750 litres/day resulting in a ratio of 4.35 litres/day/person.
- Muslim neighbourhoods (Hadji and Bornu) that host around 12,000 people (guests and IDPs): water trucking 24,000 litres/day, with a ratio of five litres/person/day. There are three boreholes, wells that supplement the chlorine water needs.

In **Grimari**, the same partnership allows distribution of a daily 30,000 litres of drinking water by water trucking in addition to the functional boreholes and other alternative sources (river, traditional wells) for the water needs of 7,000 people (IDPs and returned). TGH and ANEA planned to repair the nine boreholes in the city of Grimari and exit water trucking at the end of February.

With regard to sanitation, the UNICEF-TGH partnership ensured the following activities on the various sites:

1. Sangaris site (10,345 IDPs)

- In total there are 150 gender separated, functional and regularly maintained latrines for adults, 150 showers for adults and 90 functional latrines for children resulting in the ratios of 43 people per latrine and 69 people per shower.
- For the management of household waste, 18 waste pits are available.
- Establishment of garbage collection campaign through the sanitation committee (three times/week).

2. MINUSCA site (3,085 IDPs)

- In total there are 80 gender separated, functional and regularly maintained latrines by a team of hygienists with a ratio of 39 people per latrine;
- 50 gender separated showers are installed on the site with a ratio of 62 people per shower
- 5 waste pits are available on site.

3. Notre Dame de la Victoire site (7500 IDPs)

- In total there are 90 gender separated, functional and regularly maintained latrines available for adults and 54 others for children, resulting in the ratio of 52 people per latrine. There are also 90 showers gender separated for adults with a ratio of 83 people/shower.
- Establishment of garbage collection campaign (three times/week).

4. Site Ngakobo (7,000 IDPs)

The UNICEF-TGH partnership ensures sanitation and hygiene in the site. The water supply is provided by SUCAF.

- Maintenance on a regular basis of 70 latrines for adults, 42 latrines for children and 70 showers (with a ratio of 63 people per latrine and 100 people per shower);
- In total on the site there are four functional waste pits.

5. Site Aerodrome (5,000 IDPs +Hosts)

The partnership UNICEF-Vitalite Plus and ANEA ensured the following activities were carried out on the site:

- Two water points are under construction to improve drinking water access for IDPs and hosts. These water points will complete the two boreholes and three springs currently used by the population on the side.
- In total there are 80 gender separated latrines available for IDPs and host communities, built by Vitalite Plus (50 latrines) and ANEA (30 latrines).
- To improve their hygiene practices, UNICEF with TGH, Vitalite Plus and ANEA distributed jerrycans and soap to 1,158 households (IDPs and hosts).



Child Protection

Gender-Based Violence

From January 29 to February 6, a pilot training of trainers was conducted for doctors, health workers and nurses in Bangassou and Rafai (South East Region) on the Community-Based Management of Survivors of Sexual Violence. The training aimed to ensure that health workers are able to provide post-rape care in communities where health services are not available or not accessible. Twenty-two participants (4 women and 18 men) attended the training session, which will be replicated elsewhere throughout 2015.

In February, community volunteers supported by UNICEF partners Mercy Corps and IRC organised 10 information sessions in Bocaranga, Bangui, Bangassou and Rafai on the consequences of sexual violence and the need for access to services through the reference system. A total of 7,086 participants, including 2,874 women, 1,348 men, 1,712 girls and 1,152 boys attended the sessions. Local chiefs and authorities were among those who benefited from the information during these sessions.

In addition, 160 Gender-Based Survivors (96 women, 48 girls and 16 men) had access to psychological and medical services at the community listening centre of Letelle (Bocaranga), with the support of women groups and the International Rescue Committee (IRC). There were 38 rape cases, which represents 24% of the total GBV cases received during the period.

Child participation in the political process in CAR

Children from various parts of CAR completed child-friendly consultations on the impact of armed conflict on their lives in February. Boys and girls aged 10 to 17 years from 19 locations in eight districts (Bangui, Haute Mbomou, Mambere Kadei, Nana Mambere, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham Mpende, and Ombella Mpoko) spoke out about what they said, felt and heard during the armed conflict in their respective homes, and on their recommendations for a reconciled CAR. Other locations yet to be covered by local children's consultations include Birao (Vakkaga), Kaga Bandoro (Nana Gribizi) and Ndele (Bamingui-Bangoran). A national children's forum is planned for 12 to 13 March in Bangui where children's delegates will finalize their consultations, and hand over the final report to national institutions involved in the Bangui Forum.

On 2 February, the UNICEF Representative met the President of the Preparatory Committee to advocate for children's participation to the process leading to the Bangui Forum. The Transitional Government welcomed the call and requested that UNICEF provide inputs on child-related issues to various commissions of the Bangui Forum. UNICEF worked with MINUSCA on the submission regarding the situation of children affected by armed conflict in CAR. A national preparatory committee has been established by political leaders to discuss various themes ahead of the forum. The thematic areas include Peace and Security, Justice and Reconciliation; Governance and Development.

Family tracing and reunification

UNICEF and partners identified and registered 22 unaccompanied and separated children among the internally displaced persons (IDP) of Yaloke. Two brothers, aged 11 and 12 years were only (due to logistic issues and lack of information on whereabouts of parents) successfully reunited with their parents in Boda on 20 February following family tracing and reunification. Their father had believed that they had died during the conflict. The search for families continues within and outside CAR for the rest of the children from the Peuhl ethnic group, who were subjected to attacks dating back to April 2014 in villages around Boda, Lobaye district.

Education

UNICEF continues to provide children in areas affected by the ongoing crisis access to much-needed education opportunities. In February, UNICEF continued to support 120 temporary learning spaces (ETAPES) in 19 sites in areas where violence persists and schools are not able to open: Bangui, Kaga Bandoro, Batangafo, Bambari, Grimari, Yaloke, Dekoa, Bégoua, and Ngakobo. In these areas, there is a great demand for education as evidenced in the increase (32%) in student participation in the ETAPES (from 20,767 in January to 27,319 in February) which can be primarily attributed in continuing insecurity and an increase in the number of displaced person, particularly in Bantangafo. Additionally, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education (MoE) in the training of 36 more ETAPES teachers (99 teachers were trained up to January). The training, which focused on education in emergencies programming, child protection, positive discipline and pedagogic skills improves upon teachers' skills to promote a quality the learning environment in the temporary learning spaces.

Activities supporting the return to school of students and teachers continue under the accelerated funding provided by the Global Partnership for Education (GPE). In February, activities were focused on the light rehabilitation of schools damaged during the conflict as well as the construction of temporary structures to replace classrooms constructed using local materials such as mud and straw and which were either destroyed or heavily degraded. Additionally, delivery of classroom furniture and school materials continued to the GPE supported schools in provinces. In total, 4,700 student desks and 448 blackboards have been delivered. UNICEF supported the delivery and distribution of school backpacks to 53, 223 students in the interior (targeting eventually 150,000 students). In Bangui, over 400 school-in-a-box kits were delivered to the 30 GPE schools as part of a wider distribution for over 80,000 students.

As further support to get children back in the classroom and improve the school environment, UNICEF continued the distribution of recreational kits in 36 schools in Bangui and Ombella M'poko for 27,242 students.

Preparation for the national Education Survey is well underway with the selection of 338 schools, training of 45 enumerators and finalisation of the data collection tool (questionnaire). Pre-testing of the questionnaire in Bangui has also been completed. The field work will commence on 2 March with results expected by the end of March 2015. Information such as whether schools are open and functioning, student enrolment and attendance, teacher presence and attendance, condition of infrastructure, etc., will be collected and analysed as part of the survey.

UNICEF continues to work in close collaboration with the MoE to define activities and geographic zones for the second tranche of the GPE programme. Supply and distribution plans in line with key overall objectives have been drafted. Important analysis of the impact of conflict on the education system and status of teachers is in the development stages with implementation in early 2015.

With the arrival of a UNICEF innovation expert from Nairobi, the education section has initiated discussions with MoE on the implementation of a system called EduTrac (using the RapidPRO system). With the view of creating a direct and rapid communication channel between frontline workers in the field, notably school principals and the MoE, the system focuses on collecting key education data such as presence of students and teachers, number of functioning schools and cases of attacks against schools. UNICEF organised several meetings with the MoE to advocate for innovative approaches in education even in times of crisis which resulted in subsequent working sessions to define concrete modalities of its implementation. Based on these discussions, the initiative will be implemented in earnest in the coming months.



Communication for Development

February heralded the inception of U-Report, a free SMS-based system to engage young people in reconciliation, national dialogue and the political process – particularly in the lead-up to the Bangui Forum. A partnership between UNICEF, the Minister of National Reconciliation, and mobile phone companies will make U-Report available to young people to speak out about what's happening in communities across the country and work together with other community leaders for positive change. Any young person with a mobile phone can become a U-Reporter, and the team aims to have 85,000 U-Reporters registered within the year.

In order to improve Supplementary Immunization Activities against polio in 2015, the Minister of Health (MoH) is carrying out micro-planning activities in every health region. During the briefing workshop for micro-planning facilitators held in Bangui from 10-12 February, the C4D section provided technical support by designing the micro-planning tools for communication and links with the communities. On 25 February, the four sub-offices (Bambari, Kaga Bandoro, and Ndele Zemio) provided support to the Ministry of Health for the development of micro-planning in health regions 4, 5 and 6.

In Boda (prefecture of Lobaye) in Health Region 1, the C4D section was involved in a two-day training of listening committee members. About 66 people attended this workshop and were from both Muslim and Christian communities. At the end of the training 300 solar radios were distributed.

The C4D section supported the MoH during a workshop organised on the 22 February in Bangui. The topic was Prevention of Ebola, and training was provided to 80 journalists and media professionals. Activities related to HPM indicators have not yet carried out.

Rapid Response Mechanism

Since the start of the third phase of Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) in January 2015, the current five implementing partners (ACF, ACTED, DRC, PU-AMI and Solidarités International) have undertaken numerous actions to assist vulnerable populations affected by displacement or return. Nine exploratory missions were undertaken, six of which were done by ACF in Boyongo, Kouki, Sabewa, Bombere-Kota, Bogbatoyo and in the commune of Ben-Zambe; while ACTED carried out two exploratory missions in Dimbi and Ouazou. PU-AMI also carried out an exploratory mission in Gamboula-Dilapoko.

Multi-sectoral Assessments were conducted by partners assessing people's vulnerability and needs with regard to shelter, NFI, food security, health, nutrition, education and water and sanitation in the following locations:

- ACF: Bondiba, Sabewa, Gbabirol and Commune de Ben-Zambe.
- ACTED: Ngakobo and Mobaye.
- PU-AMI: Gamboula-Nassole.
- Solidarités International (SI): Kabo and surroundings.

RRM also provided WASH and NFI assistance to affected populations in the following areas:

- ACF/RRM in Bondiba provided 388 households (1,940 people) with Non-Food Items and thanks to the rehabilitation of a borehole, in combination of the redynamisation of the water source management committee and hygiene awareness raising activities, 1,695 people now have access to improved water sources.
- SI/RRM in Kaga Bandoro proceeded in January with the distribution of NFI kits to 525 households (2,625 people).



Supply and Logistics & Construction

- Process of completion of 2015 Supply Plan to define CAR procurement strategies for the coming months is in progress.
- In February (24 Jan-25 Feb), \$1,306,489.54 of supplies, composed of essential medical supplies, health kits, nutrition products, NFI, WASH items, and education kits were distributed to UNICEF implementing partners.

- The stock balance position as of 25 February stands at US\$5,230,237 and acceleration of distribution is being undertaken.
- Information: Trucks continued to move under regular MINUSCA escorted convoys from the border to the Bangui haulier terminal. Theoretical schedule of the convoy movements to Bangui are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and from Bangui on Thursdays and Sundays.
- Extensive follow up of the construction works for the Paediatric Hospital in Bangui has been done and works are progressing satisfactorily.
- Orientations/guidance session organized on basic supply and logistics requirements.
- New Strategies on Supply and Logistics Services cost reduction has been finalised, with the implementation phase initiated. Discussions with potential service providers are still in progress to enable reduction of current number of warehouses, actions are initiated to bring in new service providers for customs clearance services, TORs finalised to initiate the recruitment process for a consultant to conduct the Market Survey, etc.

External Communications and Fundraising

In February, the communications team supported preparations for the launch of U-Report in CAR with mobilization of young people and launching of digital platforms to support the social engagement tool. The team also supported the visit of acclaimed war photographer Sebastien Rich who took powerful pictures of CAR's local heroes who champion the rights of children. His photos will be seen in Al Jazeera and other key outlets, as well as on his twitter feed @hopefocus.

The communications team also engaged with key donor media markets to raise awareness of the humanitarian response in CAR, as well as UNICEF's support for the early recovery phase. The CAR team supported engagement around the Humanitarian Action for Children launch, in particular in Spain and Canada. The team also provided compelling content for a major Back to School fundraising campaign for UNICEF Australia. Blogs and stories about the latest nutrition figures, the work of the rapid response team and the challenges to rebuilding HIV treatment services were key to documenting results achieved by UNICEF on the ground.

The team also marked the International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers with a mention in a global press release on the day, social media updates with new figures and engagement with key media, notably Voice of America.

Press releases, videos, and blogs:

- [Five things we learnt about malnutrition in CAR.](#)
- [Rebuilding HIV services in CAR, published in Spanish in El Pais.](#)
- [Off the map: Reaching the hardest to reach in CAR.](#)
- [Back to school in Central African Republic.](#)
- [Learning in emergencies.](#)

Media hits:

Full name of interviewee	Outlet	Topic	Link, if available
Ye Ra Kim (Education officer)	Yonhap News (Korea's equivalent of AP)	A Korean who helps children in CAR similar to the postwar Korea	http://www.yonhapnews.co.kr/bulletin/2015/02/08/0200000000AKR20150208058500004.HTML
Cecile Ndoli (HIV Specialist)	El Pais	HIV services disrupted by the crisis in CAR	http://blogs.elpais.com/3500-millones/2015/02/el-conflicto-en-republica-centroafricana-un-retroceso-en-la-lucha-contra-el-sida.html
Celestin Traore	Bloomberg News	HIV treatment affected by crisis in CAR	Expected publication in March

Pablo de Pascual	La Vanguardia	HAC launch	http://www.lavanguardia.com/vida/20150129/54425241570/unicef-llama-a-no-bajar-los-brazos-frente-al-ebola-en-africa.html
Pablo de Pascual	TV5	HAC launch	http://www.telecinco.es/informativos/internacional/UNICEF-reclama-millones-dolares-paises_0_1932000313.html
Pablo de Pascual	Europa Press	HAC launch	http://www.europapress.es/internacional/noticia-unicef-reclama-3100-millones-dolares-ayudar-62-millones-ninos-71-paises-20150129140552.html
Pablo de Pascual	Servi Media	HAC launch	http://www.servimedia.es/Noticias/DetalleNoticia.aspx?seccion=23&id=425153
Charlotte Helletzgruber	Wochenzeitung (Swiss newspaper)	Children recruited into armed groups	PDF available
Charlotte Helletzgruber	SRF	Children Associated with armed Groups	http://www.srf.ch/news/international/kindersoldaten-haben-eine-chance-auf-ein-normales-leben

Security

Although the two ex-presidents Michel Djotodia and François Bozizé have called upon the “troops” loyal to them to lay down their arms, the general situation in the provinces is still being characterised by increasing criminality and attacks on humanitarian convoys and trucks as well as clashes between armed groups and international forces.

In Bangui, the general situation is characterised by an increase of armed hold-ups and growing tension between IDPs and Humanitarian Aid workers at the Mpoko IDP site. Also, anti-Balaka elements have threatened to kidnap up to 50 internationals in order to enforce their demand for the liberation of their “General” Andjilo arrested at Bouca on 14 January and since then detained at the central prison of Ngaragba.

Cluster Coordination

UNICEF is leading the WASH, Education and Nutrition clusters and the Child Protection sub-cluster for the CAR emergency response. WASH, Education and Nutrition clusters and the Child Protection sub-cluster have a dedicated cluster coordinator. All clusters meet on a weekly basis and, under the inter-cluster platform facilitated by OCHA also meet on a weekly basis.

Funding

As of 28 February, UNICEF had received \$8.4 million against the \$73.9 million in the 2015 HAC requirements and details are provided in below sectoral table.

Sector	Initial HAC 2015 requirements	Income through UNICEF and donors*	Funding Gap	
			\$	%
Nutrition	11,500,000	1,845,533.37	9,654,466.63	84%
Health and HIV/AIDS	19,000,000	1,664,637.28	17,335,362.72	91%
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	11,400,000	1,718,000.47	9,681,999.53	85%
Child Protection	10,000,000	1,316,086.15	8,683,913.85	87%

Education	7,000,000	912,910.51	6,087,089.49	87%
Non Food Items (NFI)	15,000,000	960,406.59	14,039,593.41	94%
Total	73,900,000	8,417,574.37	65,482,425.63	89%

UNICEF wishes to express gratitude to all public and private sector donors for the contributions and pledges received, which have made the current response possible. UNICEF would especially like to thank National Committees and donors who have contributed 'non-earmarked' funding. "Non-earmarked" funding gives UNICEF essential flexibility to direct resources and ensure the delivery of life-saving supplies and interventions to where they are needed most – especially in the form of longer-term and predictable funding and in strengthening preparedness and resilience. Continued donor support is critical to continue scaling up the response.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS – as of 28 February 2015

Sector	Indicator	2015					
		UNICEF & operational partners			Sector / Cluster		
		UNICEF Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved	Cluster Target	Cumulative results (#)	% of Target Achieved
Health	Number and % of children Under-five vaccinated against measles	732,000	0	0%	732,000	0	0%
	Number and % of children Under-five provided with Vitamin A	565,000	0	0%	565,000	0	0%
	Number and % of people that access basic health services and medicines in the affected areas	1,171,400	728,755	62%	1,472,000	728,755	50%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: ACF, SAVE THE CHILDREN, FRENCH RED CROSS, COLLABORATION WITH MSF, CARITAS						
Nutrition	Number and % of children 6-59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for therapeutic care and benefitting from promotion of nutrition practices	22,700	1,377	6%	22,700	1,377	6%
	Number and % of women sensitised on infant and young child feeding practices	21,000	0	0%	21,000	0	0%
	Recovery Rate	>=75%	84%	NA	>=75%	84%	NA
	Death Rate	<5%	3%	NA	<5%	3%	NA
	Default Rate	<15%	12%	NA	<15%	12%	NA
	UNICEF Operational Partners: ACF, COHEB, IMC, MSF-F, MSF-E, MSFH, CARITAS, MERLIN, SAVE THE CHILDREN. Data as of 31 January 2015.						
WASH	Number and % of affected people that have access to improved sources of water and sufficient quantity	450,000	34,500	8%	1,400,000	NA	NA
	Number and % of internally displaced persons and returnees who have access to improved sanitation	170,000	77,550	46%	388,000	NA	NA
	Number and % of people in affected areas who benefited from WASH NFI distribution	220,000	40,000	18%	388,000	NA	NA
	UNICEF Operational Partners: IRC, ACF, ANEA, LIFA, EEA, Caritas-Bambari, ICDI, IMC, OXFAM, SODECA, ICDI, LEAGUE ISLAMIQUE AFRICAINE Standard sphere not yet reached for Bangui sites. Bossangoa Standard Sphere almost reached with the provision of 12 liters of water per person per day. (**) Latrines/defecation fields with hand washing dispositive in the IDPs sites. Bossangoa Sphere standard reached while for Bangui sites the average is 154 per latrines at the airport site and UNICEF supported interventions 1 latrine per 100 persons. (***) Partial data related to the people reached with hygiene communication activities. Please note that target will be revised shortly.						
Child Protection	Number and % of displaced and vulnerable children participate in psychosocial activities	100,000	0	0%	150,000	0	0%

	Number and % of children released from armed forces and groups	3,500	0	0%	3,500	0	0%
	Number and % of women and children identified as survivors of sexual violence have access to holistic support	3,000	160	5%	3,000	160	5%
UNICEF Operational Partners: CORDAID, VITALITE PLUS, ECAC, JUPEDEC, COHEB, ECAC, IDEALE, JRS, JUPEDEC, ESF, BSF, COHEB, AIDE, REMOD, IDEALE RCA, CARITAS, Save the Children, IRC, Mercy Corps , NDA, COOPI, OCDH, AFJC, Triangle, Village SOS.....							
HIV/AIDS	Number and % of pregnant women receiving HIV/AIDS counselling	46,095	2,570	6%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of youth and adolescents who received HIV/AIDS counselling and are tested and referred where necessary	25,000	0	0%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of children born to mothers living with HIV receiving appropriate treatment	3,569	57	2%	Not Applicable		
	UNICEF Operational Partners: MoH. 2014 indicators and targets revised, progress made has been adjusted accordingly.						
Education	Number and % of children who received learning and playing materials	300,000	107,647	36%	350,000	132,798	38%
	Number and % of displaced children 3 to 17 years that access relevant education opportunities (*)	60,000	27,319	46%	60,000	27,319	46%
	UNICEF Operational Partners: BSF, ESF, IDEAL, CARITAS, REMOD, ACCM, ECAC, Yamacuir, FCA, NRC, CORDAID, SCI (*) 120 ETAPes functional in Bangui, Kaga Bandoro, Batangafo, Bambari, Grimari, Yaloke, Dekoa, Bégoua, and Ngakobo.						
C4D	Number and % of parents/tutors of children who are informed about the date before the campaigns	886,109	0	0%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of people exposed to messages related to health, peace, hygiene and sanitation via U-report.	16,000	0	0%	Not Applicable		
	Number and % of public servants and community associations trained in participative communication related to key family practices and culture of peace.	150	0	0%	Not Applicable		
RRM	Number and % of highly vulnerable households assisted with WASH interventions/non-food items	40,000	913	2%	Not Applicable		

Twitter handle: @UNICEF_CAR, #CARcrisis

Facebook: www.facebook.com/UNICEFCAR

UNICEF CAR Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/car.html>

The next CAR Country Office Humanitarian Situation Report will be released on or around 31 March 2015.

Who to contact for further information:

Mohamed Malick Fall
 Representative
 Central African Republic
mmfall@unicef.org

Judith Léveillé
 Deputy Representative
 Central African Republic
jleveillee@unicef.org

Etienne Rusamira
 PM&E Specialist
 Central African Republic
erusamira@unicef.org