Highlights

- The Anti-Balaka faction led by the recently arrested leader Andilo, continues to undermine security in Bangui with a spate of kidnappings. Following Andilo’s arrest by MINUSCA on 17 January, his Anti-Balaka faction kidnapped three aid workers, two from NGOs and one from the UN. The UN staff was released the same day, while the two NGO staff were freed on 23 January, thanks to negotiations undertaken by the Archbishop of Bangui. On 25 January, the Minister of Youth and Sports was kidnapped by the elements loyal to Andilo while attempts were made on two other senior officials. (He was released in mid-February)

- Some 120 survivors from the LRA arrived in Obo during the week of 26 January. Their release was connected to the arrest of Dominic Ogwen.

- A peace agreement between the major armed groups reached in Nairobi was rejected by the Transitional Government, who were not involved in the talks.

- The transhumance period has started, which is predicted to have a big impact on the humanitarian and security situation, mainly in the western and central regions of the country.

- Fighting between the Ex-Seleka, Anti-Balaka and armed Peulhs are still provoking displacements. More than 15,000 displaced people arrived in Batangafo during the month, bringing the total to 33,000 IDPs by the end of January. At the same time, ongoing insecurity has drastically reduced the humanitarian space across the country.

- Grassroots consultations were launched in the lead-up to the Bangui Forum. By the end of January, 62 per cent of grassroots consultations had been held in the interior. However, delegations sent to parts of the country dominated by the Ex-Seleka were rejected and could not be carried out.

- Consultations with children are being held in Bangui and in the interior, with a Children’s Forum to be held at the end of February to ensure the voices of children are heard at the Bangui Forum. The Bangui Forum has been postponed until March with the date to be confirmed.
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

UNICEF remains gravely concerned about the continuing acute humanitarian crisis in Central African Republic (CAR). An estimated 440,000 people are still internally displaced, including 51,000 people in Bangui. There are a total of seven enclaves in the country. According to the UNHCR Regional update on 11 January, the total number of refugees in the neighbouring countries (Cameroon, Chad, Republic of Congo and DRC) is 424,707 people.

The international community is on red alert in CAR, since the arrest of Ant-Balaka chief Andilo on January 17. There is a heightened threat of kidnapping and probability of fighting between the international forces and some factions of Ex-Seleka. Responding to this threat, UNDSS forbade any movement by road unless escorted by MINUSCA.

The three Ex-Seleka factions sent a clear message against the national consultations (and the Bangui Forum), however other armed groups in the country have not released official statements.

In Kaga Bandoro, the delegation of government officials that arrived on 25 January was stopped before entering in the city, and a Minister and the 12 delegates were retained. In Bria, the arrival of the delegation was followed by half an hour of shootings, and the delegation was not allowed to begin its work. In Ndele, the delegation was also stopped before entering the city. On January 29, four pick-ups from the Ex-Seleka faction led by General Kanton which were posing an immediate threat to the Consultation Team of Minister Assane Abdalla Kadre, were destroyed by Sangaris.

The breach between the three Ex-Seleka groups is becoming more pronounced, and the FPRC is scaling up its presence in the North, and is taking little by little more power in Bria (which is currently under control of the RPRC). Demonstrations against the international forces took place in Bria, after the killing of one man during shooting between Sangaris and armed men on 9 January. Most of the NGOs stopped their activities as a preventative measure for two weeks. Only critical medical activities were retained.

In Ndele, in the prefecture of Bamingui-Bangoran, the security situation deteriorated drastically during the month, with the arrival of armed men (some coming from Sudan). The UNICEF compound in Ndele was visited on 17 January, and the compound of an NGO was looted on 29 January. Humanitarian access has been very limited in the different axis around Ndele. Faced with this situation, UNICEF made the decision to withdraw temporarily from Ndele, with the chief of field office sent to manage operations in Bouar.

Fighting between Ex-Seleka and Anti-Balaka groups caused new displacements in January in Mbres (Nana Gribizi prefecuture). There were a constant stream of IDPs arriving in Kaga Bandoro, with other people fleeing into the bush. Access by UNICEF to Mbres and the surrounding bush around is still not possible due to insecurity. However the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) managed by UNICEF was able to respond to the immediate needs of 600 households.

By the end of January, some 19,000 refugees had reached the north of DRC fleeing fighting between Ex-Seleka and Anti-Balaka and the forced recruitment of men by armed groups in the Kouango sub-prefecture (Ouaka). Reports from DRC show a dramatic situation, with an estimated 5% caseload of SAM and 10% of MAM for children under 5, and nearly no vaccination coverage for measles and polio. Access to Kouango is not possible by road. In early February, OCHA led an assessment mission to Kouango by helicopter, joined by UNICEF.

The presence of Peulhs on their “transhumance corridor” is having a big impact on the humanitarian and security situation. The change of routes, and the inability to move for some of them has big consequences in the humanitarian context. Tens of thousands of cattle are gathered in limited space, where farmers should cultivate, thus increasing the tension between the two communities.

Since the end of December, more than 15,000 new IDPs arrived in Batangafo, fleeing attacks from pastoralist Peulhs supported by the Ex-Seleka, and fighting between those groups and the Anti-Balaka. Displaced people have mostly arrived from the western zones of Batangafo (Kamba Kota, Ouogo and Sabo) where there is no MINUSCA presence, as well as from the axis Bouca-Batangafo.

In the western part of the country the situation remained volatile with fighting between different armed groups, and between pastoralists and farmers. The sub-prefectures of Abba, Baboua (Nana Mambéré), and Amada Gaza (Mambere Kadei) were inaccessible to the humanitarian community. Despite the security situation, the RRM could make an assessment mission on 27 January to the village of Bondiba. This village was attacked by Peulhs, and more than 30 houses were burnt. The RRM registered 300 households in need of NFIs, and a response is being prepared.
On 29 January, the Chief of the village Bahr (35km west of Zemio-Mbomou) was killed. A business man who was with him has also disappeared. Since then, tension has risen in Zemio between the different communities. MINUSCA is securing the Muslim area.

Some 120 survivors from the LRA arrived in Obo during the week of 26 January. Their release was connected to the arrest of Domin Ogwen. UNICEF Zemio is actively seeking for more information as well as preparing support for this arrival.

A total of 12,114 people are living in enclaves across the country, in addition to 24,000 people living in the enclave of PK5 in Bangui. People in enclaves who wish to be relocated are still not authorised to do so by Government authorities. There is a big concern in terms of reunification for children who have been separated from their parents within CAR or whose families have fled to another country. High level discussions are taking place to organise safe convoys following International human rights laws and national laws safeguarding freedom of movement.

UNICEF organised several missions with WASH, nutrition, child protection and education team members to address emergency actions for the Peuhl families living in the enclave in Yaloke. The Child Protection team identified 28 children who have been separated from their parents in Cameroun, Chad or in other parts of CAR, and is working on family tracing. UNICEF is preparing an exercise of Lessons Learnt for the response in Yaloke.

There is an estimate 40,000 people hiding in the bush in CAR, according to the latest CMP figures from the end of January. These people are not being reached with humanitarian aid because of insecurity and inadequate logistics.

Few returns took place in January. About 1,000 households that were displaced in Kabo returned to their village in the axis Kabo-Moyen Sido as they did not feel secure anymore in Kabo after MINUSCA left and humanitarian assistance was reduced drastically in the past months. Their homes have been destroyed, and they are very vulnerable. RRM is organising a response. The returnees have highlighted a series of concerns that are being addressed by the Humanitarian community: Legal aspects related with land and housing, as well as the kind of response needed to support the returns.

Between 5 and 11 January, about 300 households of Central African refugees in Cameroon returned to Bocaranga (Ouham Pende Province) according Bocaranga’s Sub-Prefect. Those whose homes are destroyed are being hosted by others whose homes remained intact. The Sub Prefect specifies that these returns pose no social problem. Nevertheless, assistance in reconstruction of destroyed shelters is needed (Source: OCHA). Returns have also been reported in Bebingui village (Ouham Pende Province), and about 200 households returned from the Kabo IDP camp to their villages in the axis Kabo-Moyen Sido (source Solidarites Internationale, RRM partner).

In Bangui, Ex-Seleka soldiers stuck in the military site Camp Beal continue to threaten security. There are an estimated 188 children under-6 living with their parents who are soldiers and are confined to the military camp with no freedom of movement. A recent assessment found that these children and some pregnant and breastfeeding women were in a critical situation. The humanitarian community is divided regarding humanitarian aid. Bringing food into the camp could put vulnerable people at risk of attack and could also appear as an implicit call for separation.

In January, the transitional Government continued to push to close displacement site at the MPoko Airport in Bangui before 15 February. The 20,000 displaced people still living on the site have been offered three options 1) return to their neighborhoods, 2) return to the interior, or 3) relocate to a new site called Avicom. UNICEF has mobilised the WASH, Education, Nutrition and Child Protection sections to help prepare the Avicom site, following the recommendation of the HCT to support the Government to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs relocated there. UNICEF is also advocating to avoid any use of force in the relocation and return.

Positioning of MINUSCA battalions is ongoing. By 23 January, 75% of MINUSCA blue helmets had been deployed across the country (Source: CIMCOORD Humanitarian Forum). MINUSCA stated that it would continue to protect the national dialogue as stipulated in its mandate; in order to ensure that the voices of the population are heard and their views taken into consideration within the framework of the upcoming Bangui Forum.

On 17 January, MINUSCA forces from Cameroun entered by force NGO compound in Bouca, and shot several times. No injury was reported, but this represents a serious breach in the Protection Mandate for the Peace Keeping Force and the need to respect humanitarian principles and space. An investigation is ongoing.
EUFOR forces will leave CAR on 15 March, while Sangaris have left Grimari but are still deployed in Ndélé, Bria, Bambari, Sibut, Dekoa and Bangui.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The humanitarian response in CAR is led by the Senior Humanitarian Coordinator and the Humanitarian Country Team that includes UN agencies, NGO and Red Cross movement representatives. Over the past months, the risk of spread of violence against populations at risk and in enclaves across the country has increased. A coordination group on Protection of Civilians has been created in which both humanitarians and peacekeeping forces are taking part, in order to monitor the situation more closely and provide an appropriate response.

The Civil-Military Coordination Guidelines working group, has finalized the first draft of the Guidelines for Civil Military Coordination between the Humanitarian Community, MINUSCA, Sangaris and EUFOR. This draft will be sent to the HCT after a last review. A SOP on IDPs sites close or inside military compounds is being drafted.

The platform on returnees for Bangui’s IDPs led by OCHA is still going on. Following the decision to close the M’Poko IDP site, three sub-working groups have been established: 1) Registration of IDPs in M’Poko, 2) Return to neighborhoods 3) relocation of IDPs to the new Avicom site. UNICEF has an active role in the three platforms.

The ICC led by UNICEF clusters organised a mission to Yaloke. Coordinated emergency actions are being held for the Peuhl people living in the enclave. In January, UNICEF Representative Mohamed Fall joined high-level delegations to Yaloke and Batangafo, two towns with critical humanitarian situations requiring a coordinated response and political dialogue.

A preparedness plan (prevention/action) for Camp Beal is being done by clusters, led by OCHA. UNICEF is participating actively to this plan. The Education Cluster has finalized the Education Preparedness Plan.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

The 2014 SMART survey’s results show that 6.6% of children under five years suffer from global acute malnutrition (GAM) with 1.9% of severe acute form (SAM). The proportion of stunted children (with chronic malnutrition) is estimated at 40.8% and this has dramatic effects on child and human/country development. Underweight is observed in 20.8% of children. The findings show disparities between prefectures which will help the nutrition section to target interventions to the most vulnerable children.

This nutritional survey shows a worrying situation of nutrition status among CAR population, especially children under 5 years. Almost all concerned indicators remain below desirable levels, according to WHO/UNICEF recommendations. The situation remains critical for stunting, acute malnutrition, mortality and many other data on Infant and young children feeding practices. The report for this SMART Survey is being finalized and will be published after its validation by the Steering committee. Another survey is scheduled in IDP sites and in enclaves in March-April this year. This will give more information on the nutritional situation in these vulnerable populations.

Although the security conditions are still impeding on the nutrition interventions in some prefectures, including Ouaka, Nana Gribizi, Sangha Mbaere, Ouham Pende, UNICEF and its partners continued to provide services.

UNICEF provided nutrition supplies to beneficiaries and finalised the pre-positioning of therapeutic commodities in 4 main sub offices including Bossangoa, Kaga Bandoro, Bouar and Bambari. At least 4,490 cartons of RUFT in addition to therapeutic milks (F-100, F-75) that have been dispatched for a period of three months in these offices in addition to products provided immediately to implementing partners working in remote area. In January, special attention was given to nutrition interventions in IDPs sites, enclave (Boda, Yaloke and Carnot) and areas still affected by violence and insecurity (Bouca, Batangafo, Ouaka).
Health

The third Periodic Intensified Routine Immunization activities (PIRI) which started on the 28 December 2014, continued during the first half of January 2015, to cover all health districts (even the remote Vakaga district, after several unsuccessful attempts due to prevailing insecurity in that area). This PIRI was fully supported by the MINUSCA forces which provided military escorts to the immunization kits and teams (supervisors and vaccinators).

Preliminary results show that 73,492 children under one year and 45,414 children aged 1-2 years were reached with routine immunization vaccines during the catch-up campaign. These results improved the routine immunization coverage rate by 10% for DPT3-containing vaccine.

During this PIRI, 22,439 pregnant women were immunized against tetanus and 12,010 of them received their second dose and more. At the same time, 264,000 children aged 6-59 months were supplemented with vitamin A and 229,746 children aged 1-5 years were dewormed with albendazol tablets.

Ebola disease preparedness and response plan is being implemented through four subcommittees set up by the Health cluster, in which UNICEF is strongly represented. The Ebola disease preparedness plan was finalised in January with technical support from the UNICEF. With support from UNICEF for construction supplies, beds and trainings, five Ebola disease surveillance sites were erected on the CAR-DRC border, in the Basse Kotto, Mbomou and Haute Mbomou health prefectures.

HIV/AIDS

In January, the HIV Unit carried out the following activities: A joined team UNICEF and the Ministry of Health (Fight against Sexually Transmitted Infections, AIDS and Tuberculosis Directorate (DLISTST)), undertook a capacity building mission for 38 health workers on prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) and pediatric care from 13 to 20 January in four sub-prefectures (Bouar Baboua, Baoro and Abba).

In addition to this training, a three-day screening campaign was organised as part of "Sport for Hope" strategy's activities. As a result, 1,045 women of childbearing age (15 – 49 years), children and young adults (from 10 to 24 years) and partners of pregnant women were tested for HIV. Also, 139 pregnant women and three children born to HIV positive mothers were tested for HIV.

WASH

In January, UNICEF supported reactivation of four antennas of Agence Nationale de l’Eau et de l’Assainissement (ANEa) in Bambari, Bossangoa, Kaga Bandoro and Bouar in order to reach 240,000 persons (60,000 persons /antenna) through rehabilitation of water points, water committees’ organization and Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS). Each antenna is composed of six wash animators, six repairer artisans, one hygiene promoter and one head of antenna.

In Bangui, UNICEF provided 800 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 liters of safe drinking water to 10,333 people, which represents 9 litres per person per day.

In January, UNICEF provided to Urban Water Network (SODECA), 4,800 kg of aluminum Sulphate for a production and supply of 1 million m³ of safe drinking water for an estimated population of 442,000 people in Bangui.

UNICEF, through its government partner ANEa, contributed to improving access to sanitation for 18,850 IDPs on M’poko airport, Mosquée centrale and Fédération des déplacés sites. The cleaning and rehabilitation of 374 latrines on these three sites were carried out. Also, ANEa conducted awareness campaign for 1,867 people on basic hygiene rules on these three sites.

In Kaga-Bandoro, UNICEF, ICRC and Caritas provide 50 m³ of safe drinking water/day to 12,500 IDPs on Evêché site.
ANECA continues with the diagnosis of water points in the villages of Mbiti, Somboké and Dissikou on Dekoa axis. Repair plan is underway of elaboration. The same activity is also carried out in Bouar with reactivation of the antenna ANEA.

In Bossangoa, 18 water points were repaired as part of the Batangafo-Bouca emergency project and they now cover the safe drinking water needs of 7,200 people.

With the generator offered by UNICEF and the provision of 3,200 liters of fuel, SODECA is providing 3,930 m³ of safe drinking water per week to the population of the town of Bossangoa (about 35,000 people) and 20 m³ of safe drinking water to 480 IDPs on Petit Séminaire site.

In Bambari, Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGH) with UNICEF funding continues producing 140,000 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 productions have been carried out in these different sites:

- Sangaris site (10,345 IDPs): water trucking 65,000 litres / day and points of chlorination 15,430 liters / day resulting in a ratio of 7.78 litres / day / person
- MINUSCA site (3085 IDPs): Water trucking 18,000 liters / day and points of chlorination 5,145 liters / day resulting in a ratio of 7.50 litres / day / person
- NDV site (8335 IDPs): Water trucking 18,000 liters / day and points of chlorination 10,860 liters / day and drilling 3,750 litres / day resulting in a ratio of 3.47 liters / day / person.
- Two Muslim neighborhoods (Hadji and Bornu) that accommodate about 12,000 people (host families and IDPs): water trucking for 24,000 liters / day, with a ratio of 5 litres/ person / day. There are three boreholes, wells that supplement the chlorine water needs.

At Grimari, the same partnership allows distribution of the daily 30,000 litres of safe drinking water by water trucking in addition to the two functional boreholes and other alternative sources (river, traditional wells) for the water needs of 7,000 people (IDPs and returned ). As exit strategy for the water trucking, TGH and ANEA have signed a contract to rehabilitate the 9 holes in Grimari town.

With regard to sanitation, the following activities were carried out on the various sites:

1. Sangaris site (10,345 IDPs)
   - Construction of two new blocks of five latrines for adults, two new blocks of three latrines for children, two new blocks of five showers and one waste pit.
   - Construction of 10 latrines for adults, six for children, 10 showers and one waste pit. Estimated ratio are 47 persons per latrine and 50 persons per shower.
   - In total there are 140 separated gender functional latrines for adults, 140 showers for adults and 82 functional latrines for children resulting in the ratios of 50 persons per latrine and 74 persons per shower.
   - For the management of household waste, 18 waste pits are available.
   - Establishment of garbage collection campaign through the committee of sanitation (3 days/week).

2. MINUSCA site (3,085 IDPs)
   - Construction of 50 separated latrines adult men and women, 30 latrines for children, 50 showers and five waste pits;
   - In total there are 80 functional latrines and maintained regularly by a team of hygienists, a ratio of 39 persons per latrine;
   - 50 gender separated showers are installed on the site with a ratio of 62 persons per shower
   - Five waste pits are available on site.

3. Notre Dame de la Victoire site (8,335 IDPs)
   - Construction of 70 separated latrines adult men -women, 42 latrines for children, 70 showers available and 10 pits functional waste. The total number of functional latrines is 112 (With a ratio of 75 persons per latrine);
• Garbage collection (3 times/week).

4. Ngakobo site (5,000 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 90 latrines for adults, 51 latrines for children and 70 showers (With a ratio of 50 persons per latrine and 138 persons per shower);
• In total on the site there are four functional waste pits.

With respect to hygiene promotion, these activities were carried out:
• 14 hand washing facilities were installed and made functional before the new construction areas of latrines on Sangaris site;
• Five functional hand washing facilities have been installed in the new construction areas of latrines on MUNISCA site;
• In all sites, latrines cleaning is done once or twice a week;
• WASH kits distribution (jerry can, soap, buckets, cups and aquatab) to 224 households IDPs on Notre Dame de Victoire site.

Child Protection

In January, UNICEF provided technical support to the Ministries of Reconciliation and Social Affairs to ensure that children’s issues are at the heart of the national political dialogue (the Bangui Forum). A coalition of partners including Interos, Association of Women of Bossangoa (AFEB), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Mercy Corps, United Nations Stabilization Mission for Central African Republic (MINUSCA), and the Youth Parliament joined UNICEF and to develop a consultation plan for children, which led to children’s consultations launched at the local level on 30 January.

During these local consultations, children in each prefecture will discuss the impacts of armed conflict on their lives. They will also make specific recommendations to be shared during the adults’ forum. This large mobilisation is meant for children to send a clear message to armed groups leaders and politicians that their education and childhood have been stolen by atrocities during this armed conflict; that it is time children, who were subjected to atrocities be at the heart of the Bangui forum, which is a political-led process. A National Children’s Forum will be held on March 13-14 where delegates from across the country will gather and consolidate a declaration. This will be shared with the committee organising the Bangui Forum as well as delegates to this event – ensuring that children’s voices will be central to the agenda.

Education

Throughout the month of January, UNICEF made continuous progress on its many education activities across the country. This includes supporting 120 temporary learning spaces (ETAPES) in 19 sites in the crisis affected areas, the distribution of recreation materials in Bangui and peripheries, and ongoing development of implementation strategy and plans with the Ministry of Education (MoE) for the upcoming $US 15.5 million Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and the €21 million European Union (EU) funded programme.

After the end-of-year recess, schools have resumed classes and UNICEF is working closely with MoE in supporting the return of students to schools where security permits. In order to promote psychosocial support in schools through sport and recreation, UNICEF distributed recreational kits to 70 schools in Bangui and 46 schools in the province of Ombella M’poko for an estimated number of 89,000 students.

In parallel with the distribution of recreational kits, 150,000 children in school are receiving backpacks in provinces where the GPE accelerated funding programme is being implemented (Nana Gribizi, Ombella M’poko, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham Pendé, Mbomou, Kemo).

UNICEF’s effort in ensuring quality education opportunities to children in areas affected by ongoing violence continues. As of 31 January, 20,767 students (48% girls) are attending the third phase of ETAPES in areas affected by the ongoing crisis, namely Bangui, Kaga Bandoro, Batangafo, Bambari, Grimari, Yaloke, Dekoa, Bégoua, and Ngakobo. Critical
training was provided for 99 teachers and supervisors in the revised Education in Emergencies (EiE) curriculum facilitated by members of MoE. The training continues in areas outside of Bangui for additional 110 ETAPES teachers in order to enhance the quality of ETAPES programs by improving participants’ knowledge and practice on the pedagogical skills, psychosocial support for children, positive discipline and Ebola awareness and prevention. About 24,000 children will benefit from this training.

In preparation for the major education programmes under the three-year (2015-2017) EU and GPE funding, UNICEF started the development of implementation strategy and plans with MoE. The programmes encompass both the current emergency and the next development phase in the MoE’s transition plan while ensuring strong complementarity among different education activities.

As the 2014-2015 school year is progressively rolled out, UNICEF supported the official beginning of the school year on 5 January 2015 in Ouham. UNICEF increased its field activities accordingly to verify the number of students and teachers who returned to schools and monitor the progress made on the distribution of school supplies. In Ouaka where schools were initially reopened on 26 November 2014 but had to close due to insecurity, the school year was re-launched on January 12. UNICEF participated in the official launch with the administrative, education and military authorities to support the effective reopening of schools in the region.

Under the Japanese funded Kekereke Project, construction and community handover of 17 schools have been completed. Additionally, light school rehabilitation continues in prefectures targeting by the Global Partnership for Education Programme. To date, rehabilitation has been completed in 78 schools (31%) of the 247 targets schools with completion of all school set for May 2015. Ongoing rehabilitation and construction activities continue, although insecurity continues to present challenges which result in a delay of programming for both the rehabilitation and construction activities.

Preparations are under way for the development and implementation of a national education survey. The Education Cluster in close collaboration with the MENET, will carry out a comprehensive study to gather information on the status of pre-primary, primary and secondary education including number of schools open, student enrolment, teacher presence, and attacks against schools.

Communication for Development

The C4D section provided support to Ministry of Health during the third Periodic Intensified Routine Immunization activities (PIRI) which started on the 28 December 2014 and ended in mid-January 2015 in Bangui, Bossangoa and Bouar. The monitoring tools of communication activities as well as communication tools and key messages were produced and disseminated. The communication actors were trained (106 local supervisors, 273 mobilisers and 125 community public speakers). The trained mobilizers visited to households and vaccination sites in these three areas covered by the PIRI. As a result, 123,428 households in Bangui, 9,287 households in Bossangoa and 10,281 households in Bouar were reached.

Supply and Logistics

• Trucks continued to move under regular MINUSCA escorted convoys from the border (Cameroon-CAR) 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.
• From 1-23 January 2015, a total value of US$ 893,364.00 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 23 January stands at US$ 4,813,407.07.
• Programme Sections are preparing their demands to be submitted to Supply Section as the consolidation of the Supply Plan 2015 will have to be finalized next month.
External Communications

In January, InfoCom continued to engage with key international media. The Daily Beast featured a UNICEF produced video on a 13 year old girl living in CAR and declared CAR the world’s most forgotten emergency.

UNICEF supported the visit of Emmanuelle Bastide, host of the popular "7 milliards de voisins" on Radio France Internationale (RFI). UNICEF Representative Mohamed Fall participated in the live panel recording of 'Sept Milliards de Voisins' at the Alliance Française in Bangui which was aired on 20 January 2015. UNICEF also highlighted their partnership with the Global partnership for Education (GPE), working together to support the Government to get children in CAR back in school.

Press releases, videos, and blogs:
Blog: Back to school in Central African Republic
http://blogs.unicef.org/2015/01/02/back-to-school-in-central-african-republic/
Blog: Attacks against schools threaten the return of thousands of students in CAR
Video: Central African Republic school used as rebel base starts over
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGkboI9RJkY
Press release: Global Partnership for Education and UNICEF: working together to rebuild education in Central African Republic after a year of violence
http://www.unicef.org/wcaro/english/media_8846.html

Interview table for Communication Highlights

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<td><a href="http://ici.radio-canada.ca/emissions/pas_de_midi_sans_info/2014-">http://ici.radio-canada.ca/emissions/pas_de_midi_sans_info/2014-</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Significant stories not reflected above

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outlet</th>
<th>Headline/Topic</th>
<th>Link, if available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Norway TV</td>
<td>Film about children associated with armed groups in CAR broadcast during UNICEF telethon</td>
<td><a href="https://www.unicef.no/ylvis/unicef-spesial">https://www.unicef.no/ylvis/unicef-spesial</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akahata (Japanese newspaper)</td>
<td>Conflict in CAR still continues</td>
<td>PDF available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Security

In general there is a growing anti-Sangaris sentiment among the people in the areas under control of the ex-Seleka, it is due to their disinformation in relation to the efforts of the government to re-install Governmental Authority and to conduct the popular consultations as prelude to the Bangui-Forum.

In the areas under control of Anti-Balaka there is an enhanced threat of kidnapping of UN and NGO staff due to the arrest of an anti-Balaka leader named “General” Agjilo at Bouca on 14 January. Following this arrest, this anti-Balaka faction kidnapped three aid workers, two from NGOs and one from UN. The UN staff was released by the end of the day, while the two NGO staff were freed on 23 January, thanks to negotiations undertaken by the Bangui Archbishop. However, on 25 January, the Minister of Youth and Sports was kidnapped by the same anti-Balaka group while attempts were made on two other senior officials. Also, threats for continued kidnapping were made.

On 29 January, Sangaris troops engaged ex-Seleka elements from Front Populaire pour la Renaissance de la Centrafricaine (FPRC) on Ndele–Bamingui axis. This armed group was threatening one team of participants to the popular consultations held in south of N’Dele (30 km from Ndele and towards Bamingui). The outcome in of this clash terms of causalities and/or fatalities still unknown on ex-Seleka side.

Funding

As of 31 January, UNICEF had received $7 million against the $73.9 million in the 2015 HAC requirements and details are provided in below sectoral table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Initial HAC 2015 requirements</th>
<th>Income through UNICEF and donors*</th>
<th>Funding Gap $</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>11,500,000</td>
<td>1,101,907.37</td>
<td>10,398,092.63</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>19,000,000</td>
<td>921,011.28</td>
<td>18,078,988.72</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, Sanitation &amp; Hygiene</td>
<td>11,400,000</td>
<td>1,671,850.47</td>
<td>9,728,149.53</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>1,269,936.15</td>
<td>8,730,063.85</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>7,000,000</td>
<td>866,760.51</td>
<td>6,133,239.49</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Food Items (NFI)</td>
<td>15,000,000</td>
<td>914,256.59</td>
<td>14,085,743.41</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>73,900,000</td>
<td>6,745,722.37</td>
<td>67,154,277.63</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
Twitter handle: @UNICEF_CAR, #CARcrisis

The next CAR Country Office Humanitarian Situation Report will be released on or around 28 February 2015.

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