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Central African Republic Humanitarian Situation



Reporting Period: 1st to 31 November 2019

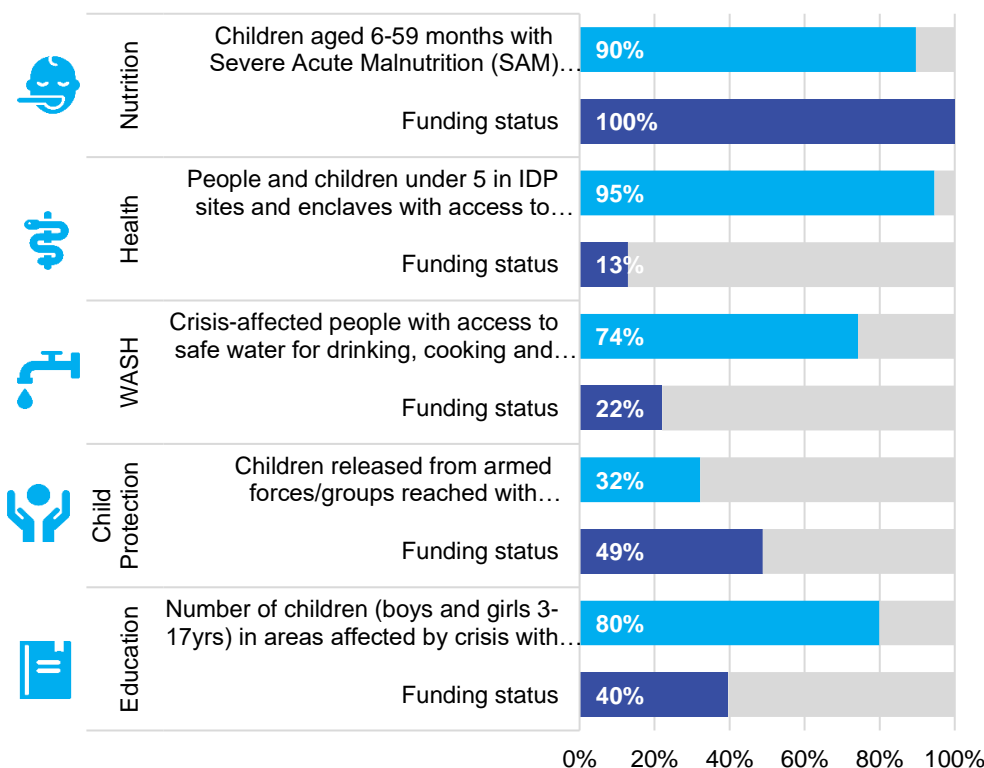
Highlights

- The Central African Republic is one of the most dangerous contexts in the world for humanitarian workers: 40 humanitarian workers have been injured by criminals or armed groups in the past 11 months, compared to 23 in the same period in 2018.
- Thanks to the helicopter made available from November 20th to January 15th by UNHAS/WFP, UNICEF was able to participate in several OCHA led assessments and rapid response missions in very remote areas in the South-East, including Djemah and Mingala.
- As part of the response to the floods, the UNICEF-led Working Group on Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) has developed advocacy and prevention messages for the population. In parallel, decontamination and cleaning activities of houses and water points in the 7th district of Bangui have started.

Situation in Numbers

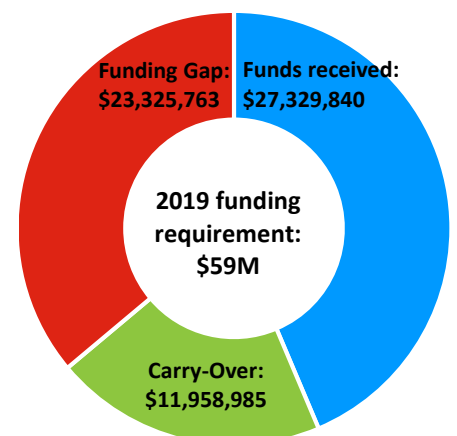
- 1,200,000** children in need of humanitarian assistance
- 2,600,000** people in need (OCHA November 2019)
- 693,445** Internally displaced people (IDPs)
- 593,895** # of pending and registered refugees (UNHCR, November 2019)

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2019 US\$ 59 million

Funding status* (\$US)



*Available funds include those received for the current year of appeal as well as the carry-forward

Funding Overview and Partnerships

In November, generous funding was received from the the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) to support the Rapid Response Mechanism, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support WASH assistance to flood-affected persons, from the USAID's Office of Food For Peace (FFP) to support the treatment of children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition Central African Republic Humanitarian and, from the Central African Humanitarian Fund (CAR HF) to support WASH and Nutrition assistance in the most crisis-affected areas. UNICEF wishes to express its deep gratitude to donors for the contributions and pledges received to assist vulnerable children and families in the country's most troubled areas. With the resurgence of conflicts leading to displaced children and families, continued donor support is critical. Child protection, health and WASH needs are increasing while significant funding gaps are still hampering effective response.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

A resurgence of direct confrontations between armed groups, but also between the Central African Armed Forces and armed groups, was observed in November, particularly in Bria, Bambari and Kaga Bandoro. This, combined with continued insecurity in several cities and areas of the country, led to suspensions of movements of humanitarian actors, impacting the humanitarian response. The Central African Republic is one of the most dangerous contexts in the world for humanitarian workers. 272 incidents directly affecting humanitarian personnel or goods were recorded between January and November 2019. Their consequences are serious and are depriving entire populations of assistance: four organizations temporarily suspended their humanitarian activities in October and November and 40 humanitarian workers have been injured in the past 11 months, compared to 23 in the same period in 2018¹.

On Saturday, November 30, a mission composed by UNICEF and OCHA flew to Mingala with the UNHAS helicopter to deliver nearly two tons of humanitarian aid, mainly WASH items, but also dignity kits for women and educational kits for children. This aid is intended for host families and displaced persons who arrived after the recent spiral of violence that began in September 2019 following clashes in the mining areas of North Kollo.

From 23 to 26 November, UNICEF, through its partners Vision to Change the World (VCW) and Vision and Development (VD), also participated in a joint mission to Djemah, a very remote area. Thanks to the UNHAS helicopter, the team was drop-off on the spot and conducted a rapid needs assessment. Medicines and aquatab tablets were distributed, and VCW has installed water pumps in the village.

With the beginning of the dry season, water levels dropped and some flood victims in Bangui and Bimbo began to return home. In response to poor sanitation conditions in areas of return, the UNICEF-led Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) working group has developed awareness messages. UNICEF supported communities in the 7th district to decontaminate and clean up houses and water points. UNICEF's WASH partner, IDC, carried out similar activities in Damara sub-prefecture in Ombella M'poko, while sensitizing residents to hygiene rules.

At the same time, thanks to the helicopter provided to the humanitarian community by UNHAS, humanitarian workers could fly over the Oubangui River to gain a better understanding of the extent of the impact of flooding in hard-to-reach areas. The extent of the damage was lower than initially expected, particularly in terms of the number of flooded houses. At the end of November, some 98,000 people were affected by the recent floods, including more than 33,000 in Bangui.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

Since January, 27,407 children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) were admitted in 520 Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP) service points and in 47 Stabilization Centers. This amounts to 89.6 per cent of the HAC target and 64 per cent of the estimated national SAM caseload for 2019. The SAM cure rate is 92.4 percent, the death rate 1.5 percent, the defaulter rate 4.4 percent and the non-response rate 1.7%, all of which is above the SPHERE minimum standards. In addition, 74,645 pregnant and lactating women were counselled on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) by UNICEF and nutrition cluster partners.

In November, 10 health districts (Boda, Mobaye, Mbaiki, Carnot-Gadzi, Gamboula, Kouango_Grimari, Bouca, Haute-Kotto, Ngaoundaye et Paoua) were identified with alert of nutrition crisis through the Nutrition surveillance and Early warning system. The analysed results of National survey confirmed that situation. A total of 308,961 children aged 6 to 59 months were given vitamin A supplementation and 266,220 received deworming treatment.

¹ OCHA, Bulletin humanitaire. Novembre 2019

Health

In November 2019, 4,679 people, including 1,401 children under five, benefited from curative care with UNICEF support in flood-affected areas (Bangui, Bimbo, Kemo). The most common diseases treated were malaria (35.5 percent), acute respiratory infections (16 percent) and diarrhea (8 percent). In addition, 832 children under five received curative care with UNICEF support through Kembe-Satema and Ouango district hospitals and through mobile clinics.

WASH

In response to the floods, UNICEF supported hygiene awareness campaigns, distribution of WASH and dignity kits and houses disinfection in villages along the Ubangui river between Bangui and Moundoumba reaching 1,075 households (5,617 people). In Bangui, a borehole was constructed to provide drinking water to about 500 people, two blocks of three latrines benefitting 300 people on the Delacour IDP site. In addition, three bladders were installed, and a manual drilling was built, benefitting 500 additional people on Delacour and Socada sites. In Kaga Bandoro, 346 people affected by floods were sensitized on good hygiene practices. NGO CORDAID provided water purification sachets (PURs) for 2,793 households (15,361 people) affected by floods in 39 villages in Ouango sub-prefecture.

With the repair of 39 water points by the Agence Nationale d'Eau et Assainissement (ANEA) in Paoua and on the axes and, in Kaga Bandoro, nearly 19,603 people (including 1,752 students from two schools) have access to drinking water again and 17 Water Point Management Committees have been revitalized.

At cluster level, in November, 81,140 people benefited from drinking water through the rehabilitation and realization of 108 water points. On the sanitation component, 4,936 people were assisted in sanitation through the construction of 93 emergency latrines and showers following the floods. 5 sectoral meetings were organized at the central level to meet the needs of populations, among others.

Education

In November, a total of 95,953 children gained access to education with UNICEF support throughout the country. A total of 19,654 students, including 8,645 girls, received school kits in the prefectures of Ouham, Ouham Pende and Nana Gribizi. In addition, the teaching capacity of 230 parents' teachers, including 30 women, was improved on basic pedagogy and psychosocial support benefitting 17,250 students, including 8,341 girls in these prefectures. UNICEF, with the support of the WCA Regional office, organized a workshop to train 18 community relays, six administrators and three test markers on children's radio learning programme in Bambari. A listening pre-test on lessons broadcasted on local radio stations was conducted with 107 children, including 54, aged from 12 to 16 years. The listening pre-test will be followed by two other quarterly tests during the radio broadcast of the learning programmes.

A total of 24 schools have been affected by the floods in Bangui and other provinces along the Oubangui River. A decontamination plan for these schools is being developed by the Education and WASH Clusters. To date, 124,376 children, including 63,432 girls have gained access to school in areas affected by crisis. In addition, 335,021 children, including 154,691 girls, received learning materials

Child Protection

There were no new cases of children separated from armed groups during the reporting period. In total, 800 children, (including 196 girls) who were released in previous months continued to participate in UNICEF supported socio-economic reintegration activities. Furthermore, 226 children (including 27 girls) associated with armed groups were identified in Kouli in Ouham Pendé and in Ndélé in Bamingui Bangoran. The verification of these children is ongoing in collaboration with MINUSCA and child protection NGO partners. Once completed, children who will be verified as being associated will be enrolled in socio-economic reintegration activities.

76,882 conflict-affected children (including 33,778 girls) participated in UNICEF supported psychosocial activities through Child Friendly Spaces in the Ombella Mpoko, Basse-Kotto, Ouaka, Haute-Kotto, Vakaga, Haut Mbomou, Bamingui Bangoran and Mbomou prefectures. In total, since January, 182,844 conflicted affected-children (including 76,960 girls) have accessed protection and integrated psychosocial services with UNICEF support.

As part of the efforts to respond to the separation of children from their families during conflict, 145 new cases of separated and unaccompanied children (including 56 girls) were registered and supported with family tracing services,

including the placement in foster families. Eight of these children (including 3 girls) were reunified with their families and relatives. Family tracing for the remaining cases is ongoing.

Furthermore, 165 new cases of gender-based violence (GBV) against children (including 92 girls) were registered in November. This included 20 cases of rape, 86 other forms of sexual assault and abuse (such as rape attempt or harassment), eight female genital mutilation (FGM), 21 cases of child marriage and 30 other cases of GBV. All the concerned children received assistance, including social follow-up.

23 staff (including five women) from NGO partners were trained on child protection in emergencies and equipped with the technical skills that will enable them to respond appropriately to the protection needs of vulnerable children affected by the recent floods in Bangui. The training focused on prevention of family separation and gender-based violence, including sexual violence in the context of displacement and psychosocial assistance, including the implementation of Child Friendly Spaces.

Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)

The RRM issued five alerts in November, two related to the floods outside Bangui and three to return movements of population. The RRM partners conducted two multi-sector assessments (MSA) following the floods, one by ACF in Ndoumbou (Bouca sub-prefecture) and one by ACTED in Bema (Ouango sub-prefecture). Following the floods, Solidarites International (SI) conducted one Non-Food Items (NFI)/WASH intervention in Zinga (Mougoumba sub-prefecture) benefitting to 6,634 people (including 1,573 children under five). The World Food Programme (WFP) completed this intervention with a food distribution. The sub-prefecture of Kabo was also impacted by the floods and SI conducted one NFI/WASH intervention benefitting to 1,563 people (including 298 children under five). In addition, SI conducted one NFI fair in Moyenne Sido (Ouham prefecture) to assist 3,792 people recently returned from Chad (including the host community). They also benefited from WASH assistance. Moreover, ACF conducted one NFI distribution in Nana Mambere prefecture to assist both returnees and repatriates in the locality of Alim for the benefit of 1,062 people (including 231 children under five). Finally, the RRM held its bi-annual strategic workshop on November 20th with the presence of USAID/OFDA and ECHO as well as with major emergency actors including ICRC. The results of the RRM in 2019 as well as the 2020 strategy were presented and discussed.

The RRM's November dashboard can be accessed [here](#)

HIV/AIDS

In November 2019, 31 new HIV-positive pregnant women and 35 children born from HIV-positive mothers were put under Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) in emergency zones (Health Regions 3, 4, 5 and 6);

From January to November, out of the 1,887 the targeted HIV-positive pregnant women, 663 (37percent) had access to antiretroviral treatment (ART) in Health Regions 3, 4, 5 and 6. In addition, 101 health workers (14 physicians, 74 paramedics and 13 community workers) were trained on task shifting with UNICEF support

Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement & Accountability

The response to the circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) case in Berberati was validated by the Consultative Group (GPEI – Global Polio Eradication Initiative) on 31 October 2019 with a scope of five districts in Health Region 2 for round 0 (163,332 children aged 0-59 months targeted) and 12 districts (397,922 children aged 0-59 months targeted) for rounds 1 and 2, covering Health regions 2 and 3.

1,103,070 doses of monovalent Oral polio vaccine type 2 (mOPV2) arrived in the country on the 22 November 2019 for rounds 0, 1 and 2. Round 0 was conducted from 28 to 30 November 2019. Training of 13 central level supervisors was conducted on 15th November 2019 before their deployment on 24 November 2019. 10 UNICEF staff (7 C4D – communication for development and 3 VM – Vaccine management) were deployed since 16 November.

Completeness of district reports to date (6 December 2019) is 57% with a vaccination coverage estimated to be 79%. In terms of social mobilization, training of 30 media actors as well as broadcasting of 61 spots in the three radios and projection of six films followed by debates were done, two prefectural meetings, 21 municipal meetings and three cross-border meetings were held. A total of 53,386 households have been visited, 96,998 children counted, and 141,065 people sensitized. In terms of vaccine management, 81 vials have been lost following a car accident.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF is a member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), UN Country Team (UNCT), Security Management Team (SMT). UNICEF also participates in the MINUSCA coordination mechanisms such as the Senior Management Group for Protection (SMGP) and the Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse Task Force (PSEA TF) to strengthen the delivery of humanitarian assistance. UNICEF leads WASH, Nutrition, Education Clusters and Child Protection Sub-Cluster. The Government is an active member of the WASH, Nutrition, and Education Clusters and Child Protection Sub-Cluster. The national Child Protection Sub-Cluster covers all prefectures directly or indirectly. Nutrition is paired with health and works through three Sub-Clusters at the regional level. The Education and WASH Clusters are also functional at the regional level. At the Cluster level, UNICEF is an active member of the Health Cluster and, via the RRM coordinator, of the Shelter/NFI/Camp Management Cluster. Moreover, UNICEF hosts and coordinates the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). The RRM Coordinator is a member of the Inter-Cluster Coordination team (ICC) which enables efficient coordination between the RRM program and the humanitarian community.

Working with partners based in the country's most troubled areas, and using prepositioned essential supplies, UNICEF prioritizes child centered life-saving interventions and risk reduction for crisis-affected, displaced and returning people in CAR. The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) led by UNICEF carries out multi-sector assessments on new crises, provides non-food items and water, sanitation and hygiene support to vulnerable people newly affected by shocks, and coordinates internally as well as with external actors to ensure complementary responses in other essential sectors. The mechanism also provides UNICEF and partners with quick and reliable information on the affected populations needs. This allows UNICEF to mobilize partners to address preventable childhood illnesses, malaria, HIV and malnutrition. UNICEF focuses on the protection needs of children, including their release from armed groups and reunification with their families when separated or unaccompanied, and provides the appropriate psychosocial support to children affected by the conflict. UNICEF contributes to providing out of school children with access to safe learning spaces and quality education. UNICEF works with line ministries to reinforce the Government's capacity in humanitarian coordination, leadership and response. In coordination with UNICEF development programs, the emergency response contributes day to day to increase people's access to basic services in line with the commitment to strengthen the humanitarian-development continuum.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

In the reporting period, the external communication team promoted UNICEF's emergency response to the floods via social media. Content include profiles of [community members](#) in affected areas, as well as [testimonies of UNICEF staff members](#) involved in the response. The team also gave visibility to [donors supporting our emergency efforts](#), e.g. through the [RRM](#).

Next SitRep: 1st December 2019

UNICEF CAR: www.unicef.org/infobycountry/CAR.html

UNICEF CAR Facebook: www.facebook.com/UNICEFCAR

UNICEF CAR Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNICEF_CAR

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

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Annex A Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall needs	UNICEF and IPs Response			Cluster/Sector Response		
		2019 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2019 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲ ▼
Nutrition							
Children aged 6-59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for therapeutic care	43,055	30,570	27,407	2,746	30,570	24,661	2,746
Recovery rate (%)	>75%	>75%	92.40%	0.2	≥75%	92.40%	0.2
Caregivers of children reached with infant and young child feeding counselling	380,269	57,580	70,749	1,459	71,975	74,104	1,459
Health							
Children under 5 vaccinated against measles	700,000	700,000	30,953	0			
Children under 5 vaccinated against polio	827,111	827,111	826,149	45,442			
People and children under 5 in IDP sites and enclaves with access to essential health services and medicines.	82,068	82,068	77,611	4,679			
Children under 5 vaccinated against measles	700,000	700,000	30,953	0			
WASH							
Crisis-affected people with access to safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	964,606	400,000	296,843	41,927	771,224	699,437	81,140
Crisis-affected people accessing appropriate sanitation facilities	428,900	150,000	13,460	300	428,900	212,389	4,936
Crisis-affected girls/women accessing menstrual hygiene management services	210,000	45,000	1,629	1,075	210,000	3,869	1,075
Child Protection							
Children reached with psychosocial support through child friendly spaces	145,000	110,000	182,844	76,882	145,000	320,980	94,603
Children released from armed forces/groups reached with reintegration support	5,550	3,000	965	0	5,550	1,041	0
Registered unaccompanied/ separated children supported with reunification services	4,352	1,500	1,523	145	4,352	1,913	147
Women and children reached with gender-based violence prevention and response interventions	NA	1,500	1,506	165	NA	NA	NA
Education							
Number of Children (boys and girls 3-17 years) in areas affected by crisis out of school accessing education	350,000	120,000	95,953	2350	160,000	124,376	1,046
Children received learning materials	1,282,000	442,500	72,236	19654	590,000	335,021	7,939
Children (boys and girls 3-17 years) attending school in a class led by a teacher trained in psychosocial support	1,282,000	442,500	70,373	17250	600,000	71,695	4405

# of boys and girls affected by crisis attending education in a school that have emergency preparedness and response plan	1,282,000	442,500	53,123	0	600,000	54,455	0
RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM							
Acutely vulnerable people rapidly provided with non-food items after a shock	250,000	250,000	205,317	13,593			
Affected people receiving appropriate WASH interventions after a shock	150,000	150,000	92,979	8,739			

* Table footnotes.

Annex B

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Received Current Year	Carry-Over	\$	%
Nutrition	10,200,000	7,132,694	4,352,130		0%
Health	3,800,000	178,444	309,815	3,311,741	87%
WASH	8,400,000	1,968,444	455,544	5,976,012	71%
Child Protection	8,700,000	2,501,157	1,746,541	4,452,302	51%
Education	11,000,000	633,444	714,233	9,652,323	88%
RRM	15,400,000	14,875,108	4,102,944		0%
Cluster Coordination	1,500,000	1,388,837	277,778		0%
Total	59,000,000	28,678,128	11,958,985	23,392,378	40%

* Funds available includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year.

** Funding received includes contribution dedicated to the Accountability to Affected Population Project (Inter-Agency Collective Service for Community Engagement and Accountability)