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Emergency Plan of Action operation update

Central African Republic: Civil Unrest



EA n° MDRCF017	GLIDE n° ° OT-2013-000152-CAF
EPOA update n° 5; 30 November 2015	Timeframe covered by this update: 18 September – 24 November 2015
Operation start date: 25 February 2015	Operation timeframe: 27 months (New end date: 31 May 2016)
Overall operation budget: 10,556,774	Total estimated Red Cross and Red Crescent response to date: CHF 10,556,774
N° of people being assisted: 150,000 (30,000 families)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: Central African Republic Red Cross Society (69 branches, eight local district committees in Bangui, and 117 community-based committees), French Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent, Qatari Red Crescent Society, Sudanese Red Crescent Society.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Federal & State Ministries of Health, DG ECHO, United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organisation.	

Request to extend timeframe by six months (New end date: 31 May 2016); to ensure the CARC to respond to the continuing needs of the population that continue to be affected by the crisis, while a new EA operation is being planned.

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Since December 2013 when armed clashes erupted in the capital of Bangui in the Central African Republic (CAR) pitting predominantly Muslim Seleka and predominantly Christian Anti-Balaka militia groups; periodic violence has continued to affect the population. In late September 2015, following the death of a taxi driver, there was renewed violence in Bangui, which led to deaths, injuries and destruction of property and looting. In Bangui and in several other parts of the country, there has continued to be sporadic violence reported, which has caused some humanitarian organizations to suspend activities, and evacuate their staff.

As of 27 November 2015, the situation remains volatile; civilians in Bangui and across the country continue to live in desperate conditions experiencing increasing challenges in meeting their most basic needs. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) there are nearly 400,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) in CAR, of which at least 44,000 living in camps in Bangui; while approximately 454,000 people have fled to neighbouring countries. In CAR, the "hot areas" of the country continue to shift from time to time. However currently they include: Bangui, Bambari, Dekoa and Sibut in the central part of the country, Bossangoa and Kaga-Bandoro in the north, Boali in the south and Alindao in the east. In December 2015, a constitutional referendum is scheduled (13 December 2015), which will be followed by the first round of elections (on 27 December 2015), and then possible second round elections (in January 2015). It is a fear that if the results of the elections are disputed, it will lead to more violence.

On 23 December 2013, a CHF 245,476 DREF operation was launched for three months to assist 25,000 beneficiaries in Bangui. On 25 February 2014, an Emergency Appeal (EA) for CHF 1,136,640 was launched to support the CAR Red Cross (CARC) to assist 50,000 people (10,000 families) for a period of 12 months. In response to the evolving situation, on 2 September 2014, Revised Emergency Appeal n°1 was issued for CHF 10,556,774 to assist 150,000

people (30,000 families). Over the intervening months, IFRC in collaboration with the CARC and other partners have responded to the needs of the affected population, with interventions in the areas of emergency health, psychosocial support, water, hygiene and sanitation and advocacy for peace, among others. On 18 September 2015, an Operations Update was issued, which provides information on the progress made against the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA). The Operations Update extended the timeframe of the EA by three months to enable the responsible closure of the operation, and the joint planning of a new operation with other partners. On 19 October 2015, another Operations Update was issued which drew attention to the evolution of the situation and illustrated the immediate needs following the resurgence of violence in Bangui.

This Operations Update requests an extension timeframe of six months (New end date: 31 May 2016) to ensure the CARC to respond to the continuing needs of the population being affected by the crisis. This will enable joint planning of a new EA operation by all components of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in CAR, which had been anticipated between September and November 2015, but has been delayed due to the deterioration of the security situation and revised priorities that it raised. The IFRC CAR country representation will work in close collaboration with in-country Movement partners, namely the French Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross, and Qatari Red Crescent Society. It will also collaborate with colleagues in the IFRC Central Africa and Africa Offices to develop the new EA to ensure an appropriate, strategic and coordinated Movement response.

The EA has been supported by contributions from the Canadian Red Cross/Canadian Government, Chilean Government, Danish Red Cross/Danish Government, Finnish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Iranian Red Crescent, Netherlands Red Cross, Red Cross of Monaco, Singapore Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and United States Government (USAID). IFRC, on behalf of the Central Africa Red Cross would like to extend its thanks to all partners for their generous contributions to this EA.

Summary of response

Overview of Host National Society

The CARC personnel and volunteers, with support from the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) and International Federation of Red Cross Societies (IFRC) and other partners have continued to support the affected populations as the security situation has allowed. The CARC with support from IFRC has carried out the following activities (since the issue of Operations Update no.3):

- Following the violence in September 2015, the CARC mobilized volunteers to assist the wounded, and administer first aid before taking them for treatment at the Henry Dunant health facility (for those in Bangui's 3rd district of Bangui), as well as carry out safe and dignified burial activities.
- Distribution of small ruminants (goats) to 137 female headed households in Boda, in the west part of the country. Boda was selected because it is an area that has been amongst the most affected by the CAR crisis, and has the largest number of widows, compared to the other three cities.
- Registration of beneficiaries of the receipt of non-food items (NFIs) in four IDP camps in Bangui.
- Dissemination of the role of the RCRC in collaboration with other Movement partners.
- Preparation of contingency plans for the forthcoming elections in the CAR.

Due to the insecurity, the CARC has not been able to work from its national headquarters offices (in the PK5 area); however the IFRC has secured an office for the CARC to work from, including a room for meetings. Please refer to [Operations Update no.3](#) for more information on progress made against the EPoA, above what is described above.

Movement coordination

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination meetings have been convened to discuss the evolution of the security situation in CAR, and response to the emerging needs following the escalation of violence that occurred in September 2015. It was decided to set up a communication strategy within the Movement in order to communicate even when mobile networks are saturated. An ICRC / IFRC mission to support the country delegations with the preparation of joint plans is under discussion pending the security situation. In addition, the IFRC has carried out Operational Strategy Calls with representatives from IFRC CAR country delegation, Africa regional office and Geneva level disaster and crisis management unit to agree the strategy for preparing the new operation. The IFRC has also supported the CARC with a pickup vehicle, more than 200 litres of fuel, and 200 body bags in response to the violence in September 2015.

Contact Information

For more detailed information concerning this operation, kindly contact:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.
