

IOM Regional Response to the CAR Crisis

SITUATION REPORT

11 - 24 March 2014



IOM staff assisting a family to board a bus that will transport them from the Mauritanian Consulate to the Bangui International airport. © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM CAR)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

CAR: There are currently 625,000 displaced people in CAR, 200,000 of whom live in 42 identified sites in Bangui. (Source: OCHA SitRep)

In Bangui, the situation remains tense with recurrent attacks, assassinations and significant arms detonations. Heavy weapons exchanges have been taking place since 15 March, highlighting the fragility and volatility of the security situation in the capital and the rest of the country.

Intensified clashes between Ex-Seleka and Anti-Balaka around the country and increasing number of assaults, threats, hijacking of vehicles and the proliferation of check -points from armed groups on the main roads make access and work outside Bangui extremely challenging.

HIGHLIGHTS

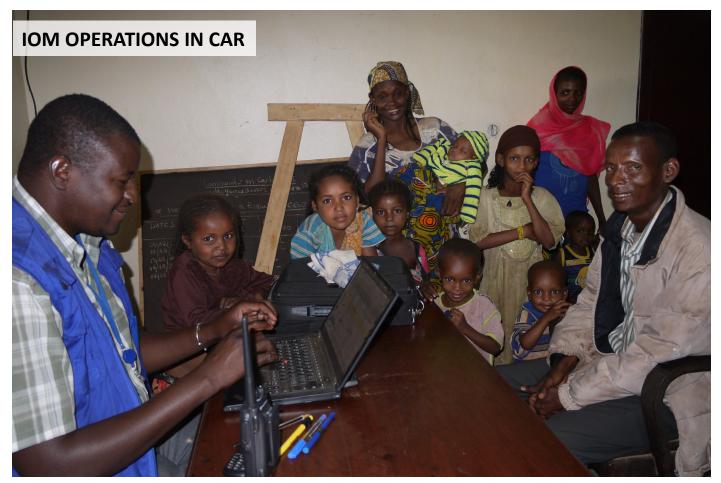
IOM CAR Crisis Revised Appeal - March 2014

IOM is appealing for USD **\$56,500,000** for life-saving humanitarian assistance, as well as transition and recovery elements which form an integral part to IOM's strategy to provide stranded migrants, returnees and IDPs with sustainable assistance. The appeal covers CAR, Chad and Cameroon which are the countries most directly affected by Third Country National (TCN) population and returnee outflows, and where IOM has so far launched related operations.

Central African Republic (CAR): IOM's third return intention survey was conducted from 13 to 14 March in over 28 sites in Bangui.

Chad: IOM is assisting Sudanese migrants who fled the violence in CAR into Chad, to return to Sudan. On 17 and 21 March, 74 Sudanese migrants arrived in Moundou, Chad from Kenzou, Cameroon.

Cameroon: On 15, 18 and 22 March, IOM assisted 2,140 Chadian and Sudanese migrants with transportation assistance from Kenzou to Moundou, Chad.



IOM staff registers a family at the Central Mosque in Bangui. More than **1,100** individuals were registered during the reporting period. **Bangui** © **IOM 2014** (**Photo: IOM CAR**)

From 12 to 14 March, IOM, OCHA, UNHCR and UNICEF participated in a UN joint mission to Boda to evaluate the conditions of around **14,000** people in the Muslim enclave area, as well as the Christian population (around **15,000** people) currently hosted in **five** IDP sites in the city. Humanitarian conditions are increasingly difficult and require immediate action to improve medical assistance to the population and ensure a food distribution.

Additionally, IOM is participating in an inter-agency mission to Moyen Sido from 19 to 25 March. The mission's objectives include evaluating the needs and humanitarian responses, including identifying gaps, and to gain a better understanding of the possibility of relocating **2,400** Muslims stranded at PK12 to Moyen Sido to facilitate access to humanitarian assistance.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM): The third return intention survey was conducted from 13 to 14 March; 598 interviews over 28 sites in Bangui were carried out. Results are expected to be released in the upcoming week.

On 15 March, upon request from the representatives of the migrants hosted at the Bangui Military Airport transit site, IOM facilitated the transportation of **143** migrants from Chad (**123**) and Cameroon (**20**), and **54** displaced persons to a bus station terminal with the escort of *Mission internationale de soutien à la Centrafrique sous conduite africaine* (MISCA) forces. The migrants and IDPs boarded trucks heading to the Cameroonian border. In addition, IOM distributed water and bread, and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) donated biscuits to the travellers.

In close coordination with all involved implementing partners, IOM decommissioned the Bangui Military Airport Transit Site on March 15, after facilitating the transportation of the **197** migrants and IDPs.

From March 16, IOM reinforced its daily presence at the Central Mosque site in Bangui, to facilitate the coordination and management of humanitarian responses. Upon request by migrant community leaders, IOM is currently updating the migrant database at the Central Mosque. More than **1,100** individuals were registered during the re-

porting period and IOM identified and referred **seven** protection cases to UNHCR. To date, IOM has registered **3,605** individuals at the Central Mosque site of which **3,222** are Third Country Nationals (TCNs).

Health Assistance: During the reporting period, IOM's mobile medical clinic conducted **526** consultations in IDP sites around Bangui. Malaria, parasites, respiratory diseases (flu, common cold), dermatitis, and typhoid constitute the majority of cases received by the mobile clinic. These cases are referred to MSF or the Emergency International Hospital for further follow up.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO RETURNEES, REFUGEES AND THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS

Central African Republic (CAR): Central African Republic: On 12 and 14 March, IOM supported the evacuation of 176 Mauritanian, 27 Malian and six Senegalese migrants to Mauritania with registration, fit-to-travel screening, transportation assistance from the Mauritanian Consulate to the Bangui International Airport and through the provision of food and water prior to embarkation.

The migrants later departed for Mali and Mauritania on a flight sponsored by the Government of Mauritania.

Since 5 December 2013, **107,938** migrants have been evacuated from CAR by government and IOM organized land and air movements.

Chad: On 17 and 21 March, the second and third IOM convoys from Cameroon arrived in Moundou with a total of 1,866 Chadian and 74 Sudanese migrants on the second and This group of migrants had fled the violence in CAR.

board. This group of migrants had fled the violence in CAR and was stranded at the CAR-Cameroon border, where they had been surviving for several weeks with little or no assistance. IOM in Chad organized onward transportation for **1,068** of the newly arrived Chadian returnees to their preferred communities of return, and is facilitating the issuance of travel documents for the **74** Sudanese migrants in coordination with the Sudanese Embassy in Chad and will provide the migrants with transportation assistance to return back to Sudan.

Additionally, On 12 March, **41** Chadian returnees arrived in N'Djamena on a flight from Bangui. IOM provided the migrants with post-arrival assistance including medical screening and transportation to their final destinations in the country.



Arrival of the second and third convoys from Cameroon to Moundou, Chad. © IOM 2014 (Photo: Vincent Matteau)

Since December 2013, IOM has registered **90,185** migrants from CAR in Chad; **16,787** migrants in N'Djamena and **73,398** migrants arrived in the South (Gore, Sido Sarh, Doba, Mbitoye and Moundou). As of 22 March, there are **60,717** individuals hosted in the transit centres in N'Djamena (**4,307**) and in the South of Chad (**56,410**). Since the start of the crisis IOM has provided **24,467** migrants with onward transportation assistance to their final destinations.

IOM trained **19** professionals from IOM (**18**) and the Ministry of Social Action (**1**) working in Gore, Moundou, Doba, Sido and Sarh on psychosocial first aid. During the reporting period, Chadian returnees, CAR claimed nationals and TCNs received psychosocial support and participated in community recreational activities. In addition, women in Moundou and Doba participated in focus group sessions aimed at identifying protection concerns within the transit sites.

Cameroon: IOM continues to evacuate Chadian migrants who fled the violence in CAR and stranded in Cameroon via road convoys. On 15, 18 and 22 March, IOM assisted a total of 2,073

Chadian migrants (1,015 women, 1,058 men, including 1,096 children) and 67 Sudanese migrants (29 women, 38 men, including 30 children) to depart Kenzou for Moundou, Chad. IOM registered and provided the migrants and pre-departure medical screening and food and water en route to their destination.

To date, IOM Cameroon has provided 3,704 migrants from Chad, Mali and Sudan with evacuation assistance and 217 Nigerien migrants with airport assistance to return to their countries of origin.



Kenzou © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Cameroon)

Click here to access the IOM Appeal Please visit http://carresponse.iom.int/ for more information on the CAR Response

CONTACTS: IOM Regional Office for West and Central Africa | RoDakar@iom.int IOM Preparedness and Response Division | PRD@iom.int