

CAR CRISIS **IOM REGIONAL RESPONSE**

SITUATION REPORT | 12 - 25 August 2014

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Central African Republic (CAR): Mahamat Kamoun was sworn in as CAR's new Prime Minister on 14 August. He stated his firm intention to continue with efforts to restore "peace and security, national reconciliation, humanitarian assistance, economic recovery and a return to constitutional legitimacy."

The security situation in Bangui is tense. On 14 August, there was shooting around the RDOT camp in PK11, with four injuries reported. IOM activities at the camp have continued. From 20 to 21 August, clashes between French EUFOR forces and armed groups in the third arrondissement left several dead and dozens injured. There were several peaceful marches in Bangui during the reporting period.

There are 83,757 displaced people in Bangui at 38 sites (CMP dashboard, 20 August).

CAR Operations

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

During the reporting period, around 2,000 new IDPs were registered by IOM in Kabo and Moyen Sido as a result of displacement from clashes in Batangafo and surrounding areas. In Kabo, around 127 IDPs are at IDP sites and 1,700 in host families. In Moyen Sido, around 100 were reported in sites and in host families respectively.

From 12 to 15 August, IOM visited Kabo and Moyen Sido to evaluate the situation of IDPs in the areas, and to identify the need for CCCM trainings. The evaluation confirmed that in both Kabo and Moyen Sido (which host populations of 998 and 1,912 IDPs respectively), the most pressing needs are Non-Food Items (NFIs) and food. Additionally, 45 agencies were identified as potential CCCM training partners.

Furthermore, from 18 to 22 August, site facilitators conducted an assessment of all the schools at IDP sites in Bangui. The assessment gathered information on whether schools could open at the start of the school year, and whether the presence of an IDP site would impact the operational capabilities of schools. The results revealed that more than 25% of the schools are affected by the presence of IDPs and an action plan is being discussed for each site with humanitarian agencies.

COMMUNITY STABILIZATION AND EARLY RECOVERY FOR AT-RISK **COMMUNITIES**

In order to support the recovery of conflict affected communities in Bangui, IOM runs Cash-for-Work programme in the 1^{st} , 3^{rd} and 5^{th} arrondissements. The programme aims to provide cash in exchange for short term employment to encourage the population's return and peaceful cohabitation and to support the rehabilitation of local markets. Activities include cleaning roads and public spaces, rehabilitating markets, schools, health centres, canals, bridges, and drainage systems, and collecting garbage at IDP sites. Since March 2014, 5,050 people (of which 49% are women) in Bangui have participated in Cash-for-Work activities.

HIGHLIGHTS



CAR: 2,000 new IDPs were registered by IOM in Kabo and Moyen Sido as a result of displacement from clashes in Batangafo and surrounding areas.

CHAD: On 21 August, IOM relocated 301 returnees and 160 CAR-claiming nationals from Sido transit site to Maigama temporary site.

CAMEROON: On 18 August, IOM provided evacuation assistance to 319 Chadian migrants from Kentzou and Garoua Boulai to return to Chad.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO: During the reporting period, IOM provided evacuation assistance to 130 Third Country Nationals (TCNs) in Bétou to return to Chad.

Fire ceremony on 16 August to mark the end of Ramadan and promote peace, Bangui. (Photo: IOM CAR) Since 1 March, IOM has been implementing sociocultural and sports activities in mixed communities to demonstrate the advantages of "living together". The promotion of social cohesion is sustained through dialogue, as well as support to local associations.

On 13 August, 250 people from the 5th arrondissement participated in social outreach activities organized by the Association Nationale de Comedien, with support from IOM. A football match was held between the 5th arrondissement team and the comedians. There was a traditional dance and theatre performance encouraging reconciliation among Central Africans. A video of the theatre performance can be found here.

IOM in coordination with the Association of Displaced Muslim Women from the Central Mosque and the Association of Young Muslims organized a celebration for Eid on 16 August. More than 1,000 people attended the gathering at Koudoukou School in the 3rd arrondissement, which included a football match, reconciliation fire ceremony, a theatre performance, and traditional music and dance.

The Advisor to the Mayor of the 3rd arrondissement said, "This is the first time that Koudoukou School, which serves as a base for MISCA-Burundi, has been used since the violence arose in Bangui last year. Many of the people attending today were or still are displaced; they are thrilled to see their community returning to normalcy. People thought that bringing the communities together like this was impossible. There is clearly a will to work together. IOM has been consistently present since beginning their work and is bringing tangible results".

Land Distribution: On 13 August, IOM began the distribution of **460 household plots** in Moyen Sido to relocated PK12 IDPs. The distribution is on-going.

Furthermore, IOM has begun a shelter building project in Kabo and Moyen Sido that will hire IDP and local youths to build shelters for PK12 IDPs. The project intends to provide economic activities for the IDPs and the host community and help the IDPs transition into living and settling in the area. 714 youths were registered in Kabo during the week of 12 August, including 35 master craftsmen and carpenters who will train the youths. IOM is currently undertaking registration of IDP and local youths for the project in Moyen Sido.



HEALTH

IOM's mobile health clinic continues to conducts medical consultations at the RDOT military camp in Bangui. During the reporting period, the clinic conducted **586 consultations**, including 219 related to malaria. On 23 August, a female exSeleka gave birth at a local hospital where she was transferred by IOM during the night. Additionally, IOM referred one case of depression to the local hospital.

STORIES FROM BANGUI

ZINEB, Vice President of the Association des Femmes Musulmans de la Mosquee Centrale.

"Our association worked with IOM to prepare this reconciliation ceremony for the community stabilization event. I participated because my brother and sister lost their house during the crisis. Muslims and Christians participated in this ceremony. We drew flowers and families on the reconciliation papers that we burned in the fire ceremony. This is the ceremony that is traditionally performed at the end of Ramadan.

We are doing this for reconciliation between Muslims and Christians. What's past is past. We sing for peace. We wrote a letter to the president saying that we want peace, to come together as a family, and to reject war."

CHAD Operations

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

On 25 August, IOM together with OCHA sent an assessment team to Am-Timan, in the Salamat region, following heavy rains that have caused floods. The floods have made 1,000 people homeless and displaced 7,000 people according to local authorities and the Chadian Red Cross. The objective of the joint mission was to conduct a rapid assessment of the affected population in the city of Am-Timan which is one of the main destinations of Chadians Returnees from CAR.

On 13 and 14 August, IOM participated in an Inter-agency humanitarian mission led by the Humanitarian Coordinator, the Head of OCHA and the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) to Kobiteye, a site where returnees from the Doba transit site had been relocated by the Government of Chad (GoC) on 8 and 9 August. The main gaps identified during the mission were site-design and emergency shelters. On 23 August, IOM deployed a site planner to Kobiteye to assist with the design of the site following the recommendations from the Shelter/CCCM cluster.

During the reporting period, IOM built an **additional 57 emergency shelters** in Djako to accommodate the caseloads of Chadian returnees from the Republic of Congo. In total, IOM has constructed **317 shelters** at the site.

During the reporting period, **517 Chadians, 352 CAR claimed nationals, and 12 TCNs** (430 female, 451 male including 455 children) were registered by IOM. IOM together with partners

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT cont.

have registered a cumulative total of **109,352 returnees, CAR-claiming nationals and TCNs** who fled the violence in the CAR; 60,671 are still residing in temporary and transit sites in Sido (17,316), Doyaba (12,754), Danamadja (11,292), Doba (6,175), Maigama (5,784), Gaoui (4,252), Mbitoye (4,065), Kobiteye (3,791) and Djako (1,417), as of 11 August.

EVACUATION ASSISTANCE

The first and the second IOM charter flights transporting a total of **86 vulnerable Chadian returnees** who fled the Central African Republic (CAR) Crisis and who were stranded in the Republic of Congo arrived at the N'Djamena International Airport on 24 and 25 August respectively. IOM registered the returnees and provided them with food and water. The Government of Chad's epidemiological surveillance team was deployed at the airport to screen the returnees for potential communicable diseases such as fever in light of the Ebola outbreak in the sub-region.

The third IOM road convoy transporting Chadians who were stranded in Garoua Boulai and Kentzou in Cameroon arrived at Djako Temporary site in Moundou on 21 August. Upon arrival, IOM registered the returnees and assigned them shelters, and referred 14 unaccompanied and/or separated children to UNICEF's protection team present in the site.

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

On 21 August, IOM relocated **301 returnees and 160 CAR- claiming nationals** from Sido transit site to Maigama temporary site. To date, **5,784 Chadians, CAR-claiming nationals and TCNs** have been provided transportation assistance from Doyaba and Sido transit sites to Maigama temporary site.

Additionally, as requested by the GoC, IOM organized onward transportation for 86 returnees to Djako the same day that they arrived in N'Djamena.

CAMEROON Operations

EVACUATION ASSISTANCE

On 18 August, IOM provided evacuation assistance to **319** Chadian migrants (167 females and 152 males including 172 children) from Kentzou (189) and Garoua Boulai (130) to Djako, Chad. Since the onset of the crisis in CAR, IOM has provided **6,304 migrants** from Chad, Mali and Sudan with evacuation assistance and **217 Nigerien migrants** with airport assistance to return to their countries of origin.

PROTECTION

As of 25 August, **2,950 returnees and 2,536 TCNs** who had fled the conflict in CAR are seeking refuge in Garoua Boulai and Kentzou. This includes 190 TCNs hosted in IOM transit sites in Kentzou (160) and Garoua Boulai (30).

HEALTH

During the reporting period, IOM conducted **20 medical consultations** in Garoua Boulai (10) and Kentzou (10), and referred one case in Garoua Boulai to MSF. The majority of cases received by the medical teams concern malaria, malnutrition, and respiratory diseases.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO Operations

EVACUATION ASSISTANCE

During the reporting period, IOM provided evacuation assistance to **130 TCNs** (63 females and 67 males) in Bétou to return to Chad. The Chadians travelled by boat from Bétou to Impfondo where they were hosted in a transit site in Dongou (a village between Bétou and Impfondo. From 24 to 26 August, a daily charter from Impfondo transported the 130 Chadians to N'Djamena.

PROTECTION

During the reporting period, IOM registered **55 TCNs** from Chad (44), Cameroon (7), Burkina Faso (2) and Nigeria (2) in Bétou who had fled the violence in CAR.

Between 12 and 25 August, IOM conducted a survey among TCNs to confirm their intention to return to their countries of origins. Of the **1,184 TCNs** from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Sudan registered by IOM, only 567 intend to return to Chad. Those who expressed no intention to return or were unsure if they would return mentioned that although they affirm to be originally from a different country, most of them were born and raised in CAR, and others feel comfortable in Bétou where they have started to settle.

HEALTH

Between 11 and 23 August, **165 IDPs/patients** were seen and treated by IOM health staff. The majority of serious health conditions observed include malaria, gastroenteritis, respiratory infections and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

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