

IOM REGIONAL RESPONSE TO THE CAR CRISIS

SITUATION REPORT

22 APRIL - 05 MAY 2014

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Central African Republic (CAR): IOM continues to provide registration, coordination of humanitarian activities, health services and community stabilization efforts in Bangui and Boda and is beginning camp management in Kabo and Moyen-Sido. The security situation remains tense and is deteriorating outside Bangui. This has affected IOM's operations during the reporting period, most notably the relocation of civilians from Bangui's PK12 neighbourhood. The convoy transporting 1,259 civilians came under attack.

CAR Operations

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

An 18-truck convoy, carrying **1,259** civilians (**611** females, **648** males, of which **632** children) from Bangui's PK12 neighbourhood to the northern CAR left Bangui at noon on 27 April. The UN decision to urgently relocate people trapped in PK12 – an area of less than 1 km2 in northern Bangui, where over 20 people died in attacks since January – was carried out to save the lives of Muslims and ethnic minorities, unable to leave the area without being attacked and killed. On 28 April, the convoy suffered a mortar and grenade attack. The convoy arrived in Kabo on 29 April and reached Moyen-Sido on 30 April.

IOM provided logistical and operational support for the relocation at the request of the UN. This included registration and signature collection for waivers, pre-departure health checks for fitness to travel, medical check of vulnerable cases and visits to hospitalized PK12 residents. Cash grants were distributed to support people's trip preparation and travel expenses and settling in at site. Tarpaulins were provided to protect passengers from the elements during the journey. IOM coordinated the military escort with UN-MISCA and provided medical staff who together with MISCA medics provided assistance to the wounded following the attack on the convoy, and attended to four births. IOM identified and referred unaccompanied minors and separated children to UNICEF.

The PK12 community was received in both Kabo and Moyen-Sido, complete with a community meal. In Moyen-Sido community members cheered as the convoy arrived. The Mayor of Kabo convened a community meeting and said those from PK12 should consider Kabo their home.

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HIGHLIGHTS



CAR: 1,259 civilians were transported from PK12 in Bangui to Kabo and Moyen Sido in northern CAR.

CAR: The **4th IDP Return Intention Survey in Bangui** was published.

CHAD: Chagoua transit site in N'Djamena closed on 23 April.





CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

In Bangui, Site facilitators visited **22** sites interviewing **588** IDPs from 21 to 24 April to collect data for the fourth round of the Return Intention Survey. Key findings include:

- 31.5% of IDPs now consider housing needs as top priority of primary needs to consider their return followed by security at 26.5%
- 97.4% cited insecurity in their place of origin or damage to their home as the reason for displacement
- 13% have stayed at more than one displacement site
- 57% expressed the intention to return to their place of origin, and 9% consider relocation in another region of CAR (up from 4.6% in the previous survey)

In Boda, a total of **1,009** TCNs have registered with IOM. The TCNs are from Cameroon (**689**), Mali (**120**), Niger (**34**), DR Congo (**73**), Sudan (**87**) and Nigeria (**6**). Most are living in the Muslim enclave in Boda. Registration of the entire IDP community is ongoing. IOM has been selected to lead coordination of humanitarian activities in Boda. Weekly coordination meeting are held with AHA, COOPI, CRS, Tear Fund, and InterSOS. SANGARIS and MISCA provide security briefings at these meetings. IOM provided two truckloads of firewood to the Muslim community in Boda, to be mainly used as fuel for cooking. The Muslim community cannot venture out to collect firewood because of security concerns. IOM also provided tarpaulins for use as protective covers for the health posts.

In Kabo and Moyen-Sido IOM built two transit centres for IDP registration and assessment and responding to new arrivals from PK 12.

HEALTH

Further to the pre-departure health checks conducted prior to the relocation from PK12 and the medical staff accompanying the convoy, IOM continues to provide health services at IDP sites and at the hospital in Boda. Over 80 consultations are made per day. IOM is running mobile health clinics in Boda. From 21 April to 3 May IOM's mobile health clinic provided 589 consultancies, including minor surgeries at 11 IDP sites and the Boda Hospital. The main pathologies are related to malaria, diarrhea, respiratory and genital infections, and severe acute malnutrition is common in children under five years of age.

EARLY RECOVERY AND COMMUNITY STABILISATION

The Cash for Work/Street Cleaning program has expanded to the 5th Arrondissement, an area known for heavy Anti-Balaka presence. **50** youths have begun to participate in the 5th Arrondisement on 28 April, 50 youths and more than **300** youths signed up on the waiting list. There are **100** youths currently participating in a one-month session in the 3rd Arrondissement, where there are also over 300 youth on the waiting list. The program did not run on April 30 due to security concerns after incidents in both neighbourhoods the previous night.



STORIES FROM PK12

The population that occupied PK12 since December 2013 were not original residents. Many had fled from Boali, Damara, Yaloké, Bossembélé, Bogorua and PK13.

Their presence in PK12 was not sustainable; adequate protection could not be provided there. Many were going to Bambari, Kabo and Moyen-Sido to be reunited with family

AHMAT, a father of two "I was born in Boali and grew up in Bangui. We used to live normally but the situation is now very difficult. One day I stepped outside of PK12 to buy cigarettes and the Anti-Balaka tried to kill me. Now I prefer to go to Kabo because there we can walk around and the kids can play. In Kabo we will be able to go to the market and back. If the tension diminishes I will return to Bangui."

ASSAN "My wife and six year old son are in Bambari. I worked as a shepherd and guided a heard of 200 cattle from Bambari to Bangui. We sold the cattle, but then the problems started I wasn't able to return home. I've been here in PK12 ever since. I live in the home of someone who already fled insecurity and do odd jobs to earn money. Now I want to return to Bambari to join my family."

CHAD Operations

REGISTRATION

Since late December, **97,436** migrants from the Central African Republic (CAR) have been registered by IOM in Chad, of whom **1,186** were registered during the reporting period. Of those registered, **35,403** have left for their final destinations. Overall, **29,745** have been provided with transportation assistance from IOM, of whom **971** were transported during the reporting period.

61,968 evacuees are still in transit sites and require humanitarian assistance including WASH, NFI, Shelter, Health, Psychosocial care and Protection. **3,553** evacuees are in N'Djamena and **58,415** in the South. Over the reporting period, numbers of displaced in transit sites decreased slightly in N'Djamena, but increased in the South, with an overall increase of **911**.

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

To date, IOM has transported **29,016** returnees to their final destinations, of whom **242** were transported during the reporting period. From the beginning of the crisis IOM facilitated the return of **803** TCNs to their countries of origin with **270** remaining in transit centres. The return process includes liaison with the embassies for the identification and issuance of laisser-passers, as well as provision of road or air transport assistance to their home countries.

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Following the deployment of an IOM Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) specialist, who provided training on the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) and other CCCM information management tools for staff in the transit sites in Moundou, Doba, Sarh, Sido and Mbitoye. IOM is now in the process of creating site profiles and is currently organizing a registration verification mission to Mbitoye.

Chagoua transit center in N'Djamena closed on 23 April and residents were either transported to final destinations or moved to the longer term displacement site located in the South. All operations have ceased in Moundou transit site, to be reactivated should there be new arrivals from Cameroon.

EARLY RECOVERY AND COMMUNITY STABILISATION

On 03 May, a football game was organized for the male youth in Gaoui transit center. In the Sido transit site, **194** persons were involved in the diffusion of key messages on promotion of peace and peaceful coexistence. Prevention on gender based violence messages were also disseminated, targeting **435** persons.

Click here to access the IOM Appeal
Click here to access the 4th IDP Return Intention Survey in Bangui
For more information on the CAR Response, please visit carresponse.iom.int

CONTACTS

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HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

An IOM nurse continues to work in Sido. However, the temporary health clinic in Goaui transit site has been temporarily suspended due to lack of funding.

IOM has continued to provide psychosocial support to evacuees in transit sites and hospitals. Other activities include support to highly vulnerable cases, tracing and reunification of family members, referrals, family visits, support groups, and recreational activities. 156 persons benefited from such support services in N'Djamena, 182 in the Sido transit site, 584 in the Doba transit site, 299 in Gore transit site, and 357 in Doyaba transit site.

CAMEROON Operations

IOM received funding from CERF and PRM to continue with assistance operations for TCNs. IOM is able to set up of two transit camps, which are currently under construction in Kentzou and Garoua Boulai, with a capacity to host **500** people each.

Discussions are ongoing with Nigerian and Senegalese Embassies to scope how IOM can support transportations to return migrants by land and air.

