

IOM Regional Response to the CAR Crisis

SITUATION REPORT

25 March - 7 April 2014



Chadian migrants who had fled the conflict in CAR with all their belonging waiting to depart from Moundou to their preferred community of return in Chad. **Moundou © IOM 2014 (Photo: Vincent Matteau)**

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Central African Republic (CAR): The escalation of violence over the past two weeks in several neighbourhoods bordering Bangui's airport led to an increase in IDP returns to displacement sites, as well as the repopulation of some empty sites. There are currently 203,000 displaced people in Bangui living in 43 identified sites; 628,500 IDPs in CAR. (Source: OCHA SitRep)

Cameroon: As the violence continues in CAR, Cameroon is expecting to receive more migrants and refugees in the coming months as the border between CAR and Chad is closed. Since January 2014, **15,680** TCNs and returnees, and **67,139** CAR nationals seeking refuge in Cameroon have been registered by IOM and other agencies.

HIGHLIGHTS

Central African Republic (CAR): Results from IOM's third return intervention survey have been published.

Chad: Two support-group meetings focusing on the theme 'Dealing with Violence', were held in N'Djamena.

Cameroon: IOM organized the last **two** road convoys that evacuated **1,219** Chadian migrants from Kentzou and Garoua-Boulai to Moundou in Chad.

Sudan: IOM registered and transported **64** newly-arrived Sudanese migrants to their final destinations in Sudan.



Over **500** displaced persons in **28** sites in Bangui were interviewed by IOM site facilitators for the third return intention survey.

Bangui © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM CAR)

Following the UN joint mission to Boda from 12 to 14 March, IOM established its first sub-office in Boda, where no other agencies are present on 29 March. 30,000 people are in need of humanitarian support after the destructions caused by Ex-Seleka and Anti-Balaka. In Boda, IOM has rolled out its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) and is providing medical assistance in five IDP sites. In addition to the medical assistance in the five IDP sites, IOM is also providing medical assistance at the Boda District Hospital and at the health post for the Muslim community. Additionally, 145 third country nationals (TCNs) from Mali (110) and Niger (35), mainly female-headed households from neighbouring sub-prefectures have been registered.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM): IOM published its results from the third return intention survey that took place from 13 to 18 March. **598** individuals in **28** sites in Bangui were interviewed. The survey highlighted:

- 88 per cent of those interviewed left their place of origin in December 2013;
- **15** per cent of interviewees have stayed at several spontaneous displacement sites;

- Reasons cited by those interviewed for not returning home include stolen belongings, feeling insecure in their neighbourhood, and lack of security forces in their neighbourhood;
- The interviewees' primary needs are security, housing, and NFIs.

Additional findings from the survey can be found here: http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/IDP-Return-Intention-Survey-in-Bangui-March-2014-Final.pdf

During the reporting period, IOM registered **1,320** individuals currently living in PK-12. The registration at the Central Mosque site has been completed and IOM continues to coordinate the humanitarian response for food distribution, health services, pre/post-delivery assistance for vulnerable women, and shelter assistance.

Health Assistance: From 25 March to 7 April, IOM's mobile medical clinic conducted over **500** consultations in seven IDP sites in Bangui. Majority of cases received by the mobile clinic include malaria, parasites, respiratory diseases (flu, common cold), dermatitis, and typhoid (these cases are referred to MSF or the Emergency International Hospital).

IOM CAR OPERATIONS cont.

Early Recovery and Community Stabilization in Bangui: IOM is providing Cash-for-Work assistance to community members through labour-intensive income generating activities. Since 3 March, **50** youth from different ethnic and religious backgrounds, are participating in a street cleaning project in the 3rd Arrondissement. The project is the first step in recovery and stabilization initiatives designed to foster community improvements and encourage social cohesion and support the local economy. In the future, the project will be expanded to cover the 5th Arrondissement.



Provision of Evacuation Assistance: On 29 March and 2 April, the two final IOM convoys from Cameroon arrived in Moundou with a total of 1,219 Chadian returnees on board. The returnees had fled the conflict in CAR and were stranded for several weeks at the CAR-Cameroon border, where they had been surviving with little or no assistance. Of the total 9,145 returnees registered in Moundou transit site since the beginning of the influx, IOM has organized onward transportation for 6,966 Chadian returnees and TCNs to their preferred communities of return and countries of origin.

Additionally, on 28 March, IOM in coordination with UNHCR and Action Social evacuated **64** Chadians from Bangui by air to N'Djamena. Upon arrival at N'Djamena airport, IOM registered the returnees, transported them to Klemat transit centre and provided them with onward transportation assistance to their final destinations.

Since December 2013, IOM has registered **94,618** Chadian returnees, CAR-claimed nationals and TCNs from CAR in Chad: **16,852** migrants in N'Djamena and **77,766** migrants in the South (Gore, Sido, Doyoba, Doba, Mbitoye and Moundou). As of 7 April, there are **61,864** individuals hosted in the transit centres in N'Djamena **(4,249)** and in the South of Chad **(57,615)**. Since the start of the crisis, IOM has provided **27,062** Chadian returnees with onward transportation assistance to their preferred communities of return, and **624** TCNs to return to their countries of origin.

Primary Health Care Assistance to Returnees, CAR-claimed Nationals and TCNs in Transit Sites: IOM continues to provide primary health care to returnees, CAR-claimed nationals and TCNs in Gaoui transit centre, and predeparture and post-arrival medical screening in transit sites in N'Djamena, Moundou and Sido. From 30 March to 5 April, 413 consultations and nine referrals where conducted in Gaoui transit centre. Additionally, 362 migrants with severe medical conditions were assisted,

IOM CHAD OPERATIONS cont.

231 specialised medical cases were referred, and 17 cases were deferred for travel due to being unfit to travel.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: IOM continues to provide psychosocial support and follow up to migrants in transit sites. During the reporting period, two support group meetings focusing on the theme 'Dealing with Violence', were held in N'Djamena (Gaoui and Chagoua transit sites) and 79 individuals received psychosocial support (recreational activities, psychological first aid, family visits and referrals). In Gore, 192 individuals received psychosocial support, and 244 individuals in Sido participated in recreational activities which included football, drawing and board games and received psychosocial support through three support groups.



Garoua-Boulai © IOM 2014 (Photo: IOM Cameroon)

Evacuation Assistance to Returnees and Third Country Nationals (TCNs): To date, IOM Cameroon has provided over 4,900 migrants from Chad, Mali and Sudan with evacuation assistance, and 217 Nigerien migrants with airport assistance to return to their countries of origin.

Between 28 March and 1 April, IOM assisted 1,219 Chadian migrants (489 women, 363 men and 367 children) to depart Kentzou (748 migrants) and Garoua-Boulai (471 migrants) for Moundou, Chad via two road convoys. IOM registered and provided the migrants with pre-departure medical screening, and food and water en route to their destination. These were the last movements as operations have been suspended until further funding is available. There are around 4,000 Chadian migrants in Kentzou and 3,350 Chadians in Mboy, Biti, Ngaoui and other cities, as well as around 3,300 returnees in need of assistance.

During the reporting period, IOM registered 319 Nigerian, 123 Senegalese and 60 Malian migrants in Kentzou. Since January 2014, 15,680 TCNs and Cameroonian migrants who have fled the violence in CAR have been registered in Cameroon by IOM, UNHCR, and Embassies.



Onward Transportation Assistance: On 29 March, IOM registered and transported 64 newly-arrived Sudanese migrants (27 females, 37 males of which 33 were children) from CAR through Chad to their final destinations in Sudan. Additionally, IOM received a request from local authorities in West Darfur to provide transportation for x number Sudanese migrants who had just arrived in Geneina after traveling for three months to flee the conflict in CAR. IOM has registered this group of returnees and is also providing them medical assistance.

Since the beginning of the conflict, **444** individuals in total have fled CAR and returned to Sudan of which **194** have been assisted by IOM through registration, medical support and onward transportation assistance.

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

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