

CAR CRISIS IOM REGIONAL RESPONSE

SITUATION REPORT 9 - 22 September 2014

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Central African Republic (CAR): The political situation in CAR remains relatively calm. Several acts of violence mainly against businessman have taken place, and rumours of retaliations from the armed groups in Ippy, Ouaka, sous prefecture have caused the movement of populations in at least eight villages.

On 15 September, the official transfer of authority from the African Union-led Mission Internationale de Soutien à la Centrafrique sous conduite Africaine (MISCA) to the UN Mission multidimensionnelle intégrée des Nations Unies pour la stabilisation en République centrafricaine (MINUSCA) took place.

To date, there are 62,579 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in 36 sites in Bangui (Source: CMP dashboard).

CAR Operations

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

On 17 September, IOM released the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) report which provides information to the humanitarian community and the Government of CAR on IDP sites, IDP living conditions, and IDP intentions to return home. IOM conducted household interviews between 18 and 22 August, interviewing 570 **IDPs** at **32 sites** in Bangui. Key results of the report include:

- Since December 2013, the number of IDPs at sites in Bangui has decreased by 78%;
- 91% of IDPs surveyed intend to leave the displacement sites in the next month, with 77% planning to return home and 13% to relocate to other areas in CAR;
- The main challenges for IDPs are living conditions, food security and economic vulnerability.

During the reporting period, IOM returned to Boda and relaunched DTM activities after an absence of three weeks due to insecurity. The Boda team is also registering separated children for

HIGHLIGHTS



CAR: IOM releases the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) report on 17 September. The report can be found here.

CHAD: On 18 September, IOM began conducting verification exercises of the returnees currently residing in Kobiteye transit site.

CAMEROON: IOM in coordination with the Red Cross, distributed food to 143 newly arrived households and NFI kits to 15 households in Kentzou.

referral to other agencies. In this period, IOM registered six separated children and referred them to the IOM office in Cameroon for family tracing.

IOM continues to rehabilitate communal shelters and canals, as well as sensitize the IDPs in Kabo and Moyen Sido on hygiene norms to improve their living conditions. Additionally, on 19 September, five additional emergency latrines were constructed by IOM in Kabo to respond to the needs of the increased number of IDPs in the area.

MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

Since the MHPSS programme started six months ago in Bangui, IOM has reached around 13,591 beneficiaries through individual, group, and community support, and 12,500 individuals through sensitization campaigns conducted within the community.

Furthermore, 270 focal points within the community have been trained to detect and support psychosocial needs, and 2,640 GBV cases have been addressed.



COMMUNITY STABILIZATION AND EARLY RECOVERY FOR AT-RISK COMMUNITIES

From 8 to 11 September, IOM registered **1,315 local youths and relocated PK12 IDPs** in Kabo (750) and Moyen Sido (565) that were interested in building shelters as a temporary form of employment. Additionally, 30 master masons and carpenters have been registered in Kabo, and registration is on-going in Moyen Sido. On 15 September, IOM launched preliminary works, including construction of primary and secondary roads in the Peace village in Kabo. The same works started on 22 September in Moyen Sido and are still on-going. The reconstruction/ rehabilitation of basic infrastructure is a key first step in recovery, producing quick, visible and tangible impact, providing a source of immediate income to crisis-affected populations, facilitating resumption of service delivery, while also generating peace dividends and contributing to stability and durable solutions.

On 13 September, IOM in coordination with the Maison des Jeunes du Premier Arrondissement and the Ministère de la Jeunesse et du Sport organized a sociocultural event at the Bonga Bonga Stadium in Bangui that contributed to improving and reinforcing social cohesion through increased understanding/awareness of pertinent issues, dialogue and interaction between community members and local authorities. The event included: a football match, traditional dance, poetry recitations, plays on themes of peace and social cohesion, awareness-raising on drug abuse, and children's games. Around 800 people attended, representing both Muslim and Christian communities, IDPs and the local population. The Minister of Social Affairs, Culture and Sports, as well as four chefs de quartiers and a representative from the European Union also attended this event, which was very well received.

Furthermore, IOM is working with the association *Tournons la Page* to provide tailored NFI packages to facilitate the initial return process for displaced households to return to their homes in Yambassa, Ramadyi and Fondo in the 3rd arrondissement of Bangui. The packages were designed based on assessment findings about key returnee needs.

Between 8 and 20 September, 500 beneficiaries from both the Muslim and Christian communities took part in the Cash-for-Work activities including unblocking drains and city gutters, clearing brush, collecting rubbish and digging drainage canals in the 1st, 3rd and 5th arrondissements of Bangui. To date, **5,050** individuals have participated in IOM's Cash-for-Work programme. By engaging individuals from both the Muslim and Christian communities and using a community-based approach, the Cash-for-Work programme has contributed to not only retaining and reinforcing social cohesion in mixed communities by promoting interaction, rehabilitating key socio-economic infrastructure, and providing short-term access to income, but also by improving living conditions over the longer term, including capacities to support returnees, ultimately contributing to peace building efforts as an important initial step in the recovery process.

REGISTRATION AND RELOCATION OF EX-FIGHTERS

During this reporting period, IOM carried out a profiling exercise of the group of mostly ex-Seleka on the RDOT site, in Bangui on 19 and 20 September. IOM has been registering and facilitating relocation of ex-fighters since June as part of a broader process aiming to reduce conflict and promote peaceful solutions to all conflict affected groups. Disarmament

of all beneficiaries was carried out by MINUSCA before they accessed the registration and pre-departure site. In order to ensure that the process was carried out in accordance with national and international standards, as well as consideration for the social context, IOM's Protection Officer carried out a short training for the five MINUSCA soldiers (3 male and 2 female) undertaking the disarmament.

A small medical team continues to support IOM's registration and relocation of ex-Seleka activities by conducting fit-for-travel checks, providing medical assistance during the convoys, and through on-going health surveys/assistance at the transit site. During the profiling exercise for this reporting period, the team also provided medical consultations as part of the initial fitness to travel screening for ex-Seleka. Main ailments treated include malaria, upper respiratory infections and Sexually Transmitted Illnesses (STIs). Each beneficiary had access to the IOM doctor in a private space for the fitness-to-travel screening.

CHAD Operations

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Training sessions on CCCM are on-going for site managers and partners, including government institutions, local and international non-governmental organizations, and UN agencies working in transit and temporary sites. The first two sessions took place in Gore and Maro from 10 to 19 September, and the third training session will take place from 22 to 23 September in N'Djamena. A total of **75 participants** will have attended the three training sessions. The main objective of the trainings is to improve the knowledge and skills of the trainees in identifying and addressing needs and gaps in the sites, both in terms of management and provision of services.



Based on the key findings from the IOM OCHA joint-rapid needs assessment mission in Am-Timan, Salamat region, the recommendation was made for humanitarian partners to provide shelter and non-food items (NFI) such as tarpaulins, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, and ropes, as many individuals are currently living in makeshift shelters and remain exposed to the rain. Additionally, food, water, sanitation and hygiene services, as well as health services are urgently needed.

At the request of the Shelter/CCCM Cluster, IOM sent a registration team to Kobiteye on 18 September to conduct a verification exercise of the returnees currently residing in the Kobiteye transit site. These returnees were relocated by the Government of Chad from Doba transit site in August 2014. IOM will provide returnees with registration cards, profile and conduct a return intention survey.



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Following an initial verification exercise, IOM has identified 886 households (3,556 individuals) in the Kobiteve site. In light of the size of the population in Kobiteye, 711 temporary shelters are needed. IOM, in coordination with humanitarian partners, will construct 171 shelters and other humanitarian agencies including UNHCR and Secours Islamique Français (SIF) will construct the rest.

Since the crisis began in December 2013, IOM together with partners have registered a total of 113,0861 returnees, CARclaiming nationals and TCNs who fled the violence in the CAR; 60,220 are still residing in temporary and transit sites in Danamadja, Djako, Doyaba, Gaoui, Kobiteye, Maigama, Mbitoye, and Sido, as well as in host villages in the South.

¹The decrease between the total numbers registered (compared to the previous Situation Report) is attributed to the fact that some people have left the sites on their own.

HEALTH ASSISTANCE

From 11 to 28 September, IOM's medical team in Gaoui transit site conducted 528 medical consultations and referred five medical cases to the hospital in N'Djamena. The main pathologies treated were malaria, diarrhoea, dental problems, hypertension, diabetes, ear infections, gastroenteritis and respiratory infections.

CAMEROON Operations

REGISTRATION

Between 9 and 21 September, IOM registered 115 TCNs (47 women, 21 men and 47 children) from Chad, Mali and Nigeria in Garoua Boulai (68 individuals) and Kentzou (47 individuals). During registration. IOM identified two unaccompanied minors who wish to re-unify with their mother who is presently in the Republic of Congo. Additionally, during this period, 102 Chadians left the Garoua Boulai transit site on their own.

As of 21 September, IOM has registered a cumulative total of 1,231 TCNs in Garoua Boulai and 883 TCNs in Kentzou. Of the total individuals registered, 123 are hosted in IOM's transit site in Garoua Boulai and 106 TCNs are in the transit site in Kenztou. In both sites, all TCNs have expressed the desire to be evacuated back to their countries of origin.

Furthermore, on 18 September, IOM in coordination with the Red Cross, distributed food to 143 newly arrived households and NFI kits containing bed sheets and mosquito nets to 15 households (45 individuals) in Kentzou.

HEALTH ASSISTANCE

During the reporting period, IOM conducted 22 medical consultations in Garoua Boulai and 71 consultations in Kentzou and referred two pregnant women to MSF. The majority of cases received by the medical team concerned malaria, diarrhoea, respiratory infections, and intestinal parasites.

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