

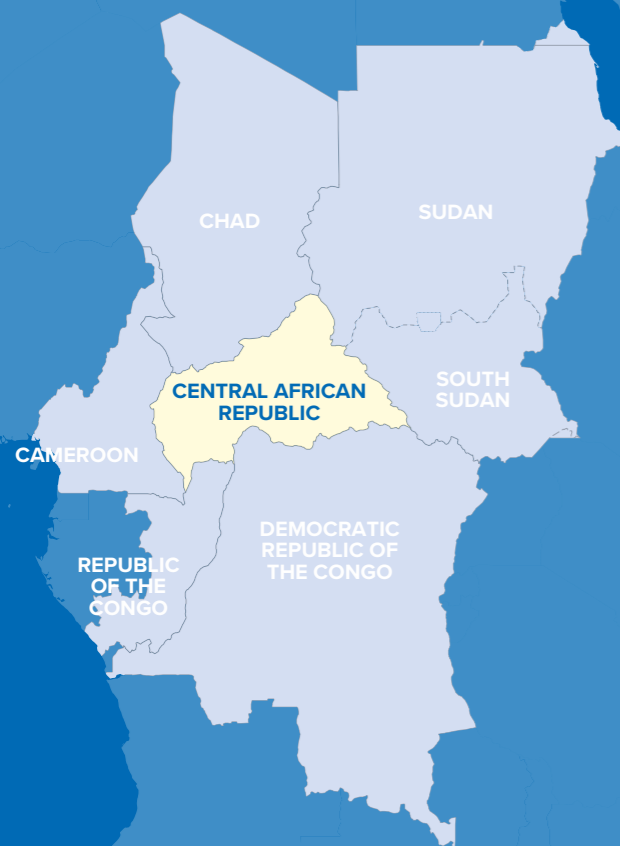


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A refugee from the Central African Republic waits outside a UNHCR-supported health clinic with her baby in the Inke refugee camp, DRC.

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

## AFFECTED COUNTRIES



## KEY POPULATION DATA (AS OF 30 JUNE 2020)

**611,909**  
Central African refugees and asylum-seekers

**658,998**  
IDPs

**74,378**  
IDP returnees in 2020

**17,583**  
refugee returnees since 2017 (1,099 in 2020)

**1,541**  
others of concern

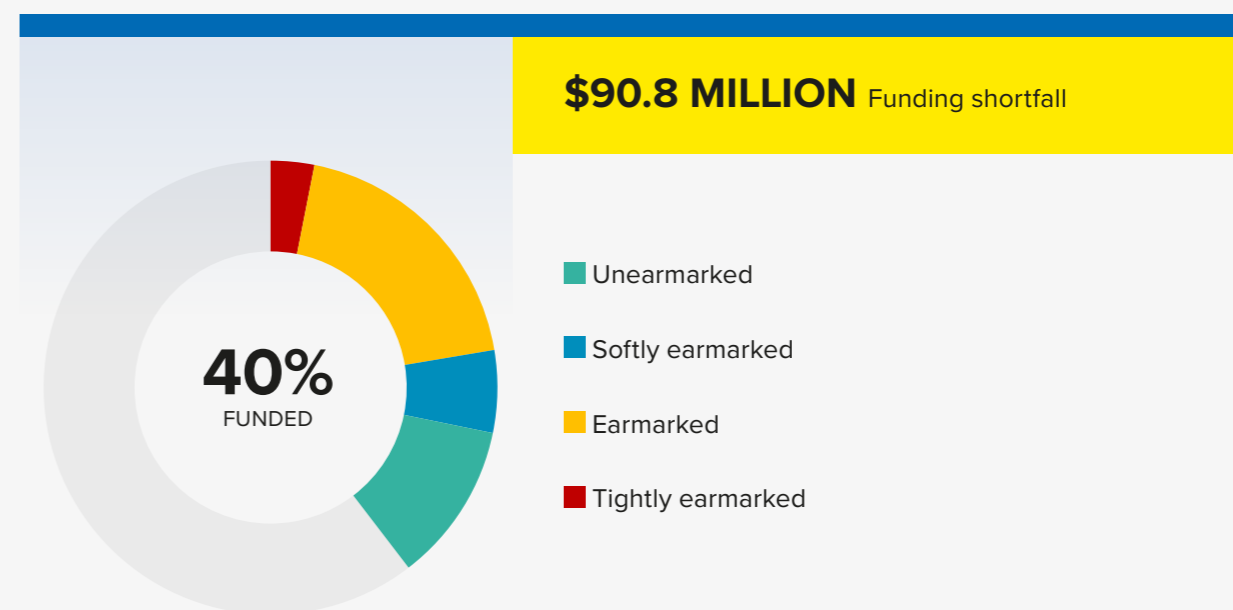
## Insecurity continues in the Central African Republic (CAR), despite progress including relative calm in some parts of the country.

The signing of tripartite agreements in 2019 allowed UNHCR to facilitate the voluntary return of over 12,400 Central African refugees from Cameroon, the Republic of the Congo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. UNHCR has continued to provide protection for over 600,000 Central African refugees in neighbouring countries and pursued solutions in collaboration with development actors and host governments. Activities in support of some 658,998 IDPs in the CAR include protection monitoring, SGBV prevention and response, provision of emergency shelter and non-food items, and support to return to areas of origin where feasible.

UNHCR's overall requirements for the CAR situation in 2020 stand at \$150.4 million. As of 25 August 2020, \$2.7 million have been received specifically for the CAR situation (2% of the overall needs). Flexible and country-level funds received by UNHCR have allowed the organization to additionally allocate \$56.9 million to the CAR situation to raise the current funding level to 40%. These low funding levels have led to large cuts to programmes in various sectors by UNHCR's operations in the CAR and in countries of asylum in the first half of 2020, including camp coordination and camp management, shelter and core relief items for IDPs, and livelihood support and essential health-care services for refugees, with further cuts expected in the coming months.

## \$150.4 MILLION

UNHCR's financial requirements 2020, as of 25 August 2020



# Activities that have already been reduced or cut as a consequence of underfunding

## CCCM, shelter and core relief items for IDPs in the Central African Republic



Since January 2020, UNHCR has had to limit its camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) activities as well as shelter and core relief item (CRI) distribution for IDPs due to funding shortfalls. As the cluster lead for CCCM, shelter and CRIs, UNHCR covers only 68 of the 132 IDP sites across the country (52%). Over 113,000 IDPs are exposed to weather conditions and various risks, including in terms of health and sexual and gender-based violence, which are further aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
113,400 IDPs

**Funding needed:**  
\$4 million

JANUARY

## Latrines, shelter and cash assistance for refugees in Chad and the Republic of the Congo



In January 2020, latrine construction, shelter rehabilitation and cash assistance for Central African refugees in southern Chad and the north-east of the Republic of the Congo were suspended due to lack of funding and further due to re-prioritization linked to the COVID-19 crisis. This leaves the ratio of people per latrine at 32, well above the standard 20, in the Republic of the Congo; while women and girls in Chad no longer benefit from cash assistance for menstrual hygiene dignity kits. A planned cash assistance project in Chad to improve access by victims of SGBV to essential services, livelihoods and social safety nets could not be established, while families in the Republic of the Congo remain in sub-standard shelters in need of repair.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
100,000 refugees

**Funding needed:**  
\$2.3 million

JANUARY

## Health care in the Democratic Republic of the Congo



Due to a shortfall in funding, the provision of specialized equipment and the construction of health-care centres in camps in the Democratic Republic of the Congo hosting Central African refugees were suspended in January 2020. Capacity-building activities for medical staff and other stakeholders in nutrition (infant and young child feeding practices) and reproductive health (clinical management of rape survivors) were also canceled. Refugees and host community members will lack adequate access to health services which will increase health risks such as malaria, malnutrition, measles or diarrhea.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
35,000 individuals

**Funding needed:**  
\$465,000 (primary health care only, without COVID-19 response); \$750,000 to cover COVID-19 response gaps

## Livelihoods and health care for refugees in Cameroon



Since January 2020, the number of Central African refugees benefitting from livelihood support and essential health care services in the East, Adamaoua and North regions of Cameroon has been reduced due to funding shortfalls. UNHCR has only maintained health services for children, pregnant and lactating women and the elderly; and 150,000 refugees are facing hunger, malnutrition and disease and are at risk of resorting to negative coping mechanisms in the absence of opportunities to produce their own food and undertake other economic activities.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
150,000 refugees

**Funding needed:**  
\$800,000

## Voluntary repatriation programme for Central African refugees



Based on return intention surveys, UNHCR planned to assist a minimum of 25,000 Central African refugees to repatriate voluntarily from countries of asylum in 2020. Available funds have only supported the return of 5,000 refugees by mid-2020. This may result in uncoordinated spontaneous returns to zones that are still unstable, increasing the risk of multiple displacements and possible loss of life. Reintegration activities, including support for livelihoods and rehabilitation of community infrastructure, are not available, fragilizing social cohesion between returnees and local communities.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
20,000 refugees with the intention to return to the CAR

**Funding needed:**  
\$10.2 million

## Activities that could be reduced or cut from August 2020

### Protection programme for Central African refugees in Cameroon



From October 2020, UNHCR will be unable to maintain education support for Central African refugees in the East, Adamaoua and North regions of Cameroon, potentially increasing school dropout rates and exposing children to multiple protection risks including child labour and SGBV. From September 2020, UNHCR will have to significantly reduce registration of newly arriving refugees, along with continuous registration activities and biometric enrollment, resulting in a high number of unregistered asylum-seekers, whose lack of documentation and status exposes them to greater protection risks.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
20,000 children (education support) and 300,000 refugees (registration and protection services)

**Funding needed:**  
\$2 million

### Health care and logistics for Central African refugees in Chad



Due to underfunding, referrals to secondary and tertiary health services for refugees in southern Chad will be cut in August 2020, and as of September UNHCR will be unable to cover logistics costs such as fuel and spare parts. The health situation of 89,000 refugees with treatable medical conditions will worsen and may eventually become life-threatening. Lack of funds for logistics, in a zone that is characterized by long distances and difficult road conditions to access refugee settlements, will reduce UNHCR's field presence significantly.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
89,000 Central African refugees

**Funding needed:**  
\$1.2 million

### IDP return assistance programme in the Central African Republic



By September 2020, UNHCR will be unable to maintain assistance packages for IDPs returning to their areas of origin in accordance with government guidelines. The absence of support for IDPs that voluntarily wish to return to their areas of origin will increase protection risks and could result in up to 40,000 IDPs remaining dependent on aid in IDP sites.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
40,000 returning IDPs

**Funding needed:**  
\$2.5 million

### Community-based protection for Central African refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)



A community-based protection initiative to empower communities and promote social cohesion in North Ubangi, South Ubangi and Bas-Uele Provinces in the DRC will not be implemented if further funding is not received in the second half of 2020. Human rights violations and protection risks encountered by refugees from the Central African Republic are not being identified, analyzed and prevented. Local resources and capacity will not be strengthened.

**Number of impacted beneficiaries:**  
171,483 individuals

**Funding needed:**  
\$450,000

