

23-29 May 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS

**557,000**

IDPs including

**132,000**

in Bangui

**358,327**

Total number of **CAR refugees** in neighbouring countries

**123,100**

New **CAR refugees** in neighbouring countries since Dec. 2013

**US\$239**

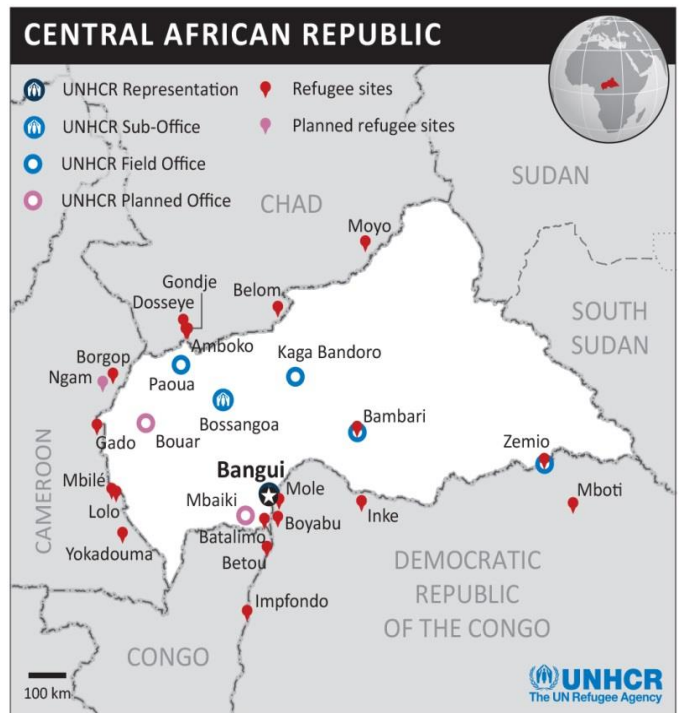
**million**

UNHCR requested for the Regional Situation

**10,667**

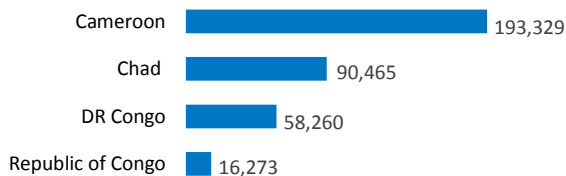
Refugees and asylum seekers in CAR<sup>1</sup>

- Since the killing of three Muslims from the PK5 neighbourhood of Bangui, on 25 May, violence has escalated in the capital city of the Central African Republic. An attack on the *Notre Dame de Fatima* church, which hosts almost 9,000 IDPs, was perpetrated by armed elements on 27 May. Following the attack, large groups of youth are reported to have erected barricades and set tires on fire in the streets. By 29 May, several barricades and check-points had been established around the capital and 25 people are said to have been killed with the same number kidnapped. The 9,000 refugees that fled *Notre Dame de Fatima* and found refuge in 5 sites where they have received first aid assistance from priests.
- On 26 May, UNHCR with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the National Commission for Refugees in Central Africa (CNR) launched a verification operation to document the situation of 1,937 urban refugees and 2,064 asylum seekers in Bangui. This verification exercise will enable the collection of data that should contribute towards the implementation of long term solutions and assistance, both of which are needed by refugees in the capital.



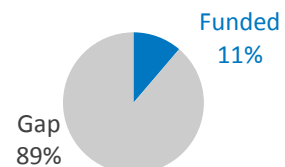
#### Population of concern

A total of **358,327** people of concern



#### Funding against the CAR situation

**US\$239 million** requested



<sup>1</sup> Current estimation following the end of the voluntary repatriation programme of Congolese refugees from Batalimo (CAR) to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

## Operational Context

- **Central African Republic:** During the reporting period, an estimated 21,300 people are newly displaced across 5 new sites in Bangui, according to Caritas. Action plans are under preparation, however, all humanitarian staff are under restricted movement.
- In Bambari, the security situation remains volatile. From 22 to 24 May, violence escalated with heavy clashes reported between Sangaris forces, ex-Seleka elements and local populations. UNHCR on location has reported that some 1,500 displaced people have found refuge in the Evêché site.
- Armed clashes between anti-Balaka and MISCA forces were reported on 23 May in Carnot leaving a reported 3 civilians and 1 anti-Balaka dead, as well as 4 MISCA soldiers injured.
- **Cameroon:** Security at the border remains precarious; anti-Balaka militia continue to prevent Central Africans from fleeing to Cameroon.
- **Republic of Congo:** Since the beginning of the “Mbata Ya Bakolo” police operation, originally intended to dismantle criminal groups, refugees and asylum seekers have been the victims of dozens of arbitrary arrests and abuses and UNHCR has intervened in over 50 of these to avoid *refoulement* of DRC asylum seekers amongst other cases.
- Since the beginning of the emergency, security and protection incidents are regularly reported in the *15 Avril* site and the Ikpengbele site. A recent meeting between UNHCR and refugees relocated from Mouale, currently living in the departure centre, revealed that some refugees are not willing to settle in the *15 Avril* site as planned due to the stigmatisation of Muslims that occurs there. Whilst solutions are being sought for this group, peaceful cohabitation continues to be encouraged by UNHCR and its partners.

## Recent Developments



### Protection

#### Central African Republic:

- There are currently an estimated 557,000 Central Africans displaced within their country – including 132,000 in Bangui spread over 43 sites.
- Security incidents have been reported in Nana-Bakassa, Bode, Boway and Markounda and have led to the displacement of hundreds of people in Bossangoa. As of 27 May, the UNHCR team in Bossangoa verified and assessed the needs of some 921 displaced people including a total of 197 IDPs (114 families) in three villages (Boguila, Kaboro, and Kourakouri).
- From 21 to 24 May, a joint UNHCR-UNFPA mission monitored the protection situation of communities at risk hosted in Yaloke (Ombella M’Poko Province). The total population has decreased from 633 to 516 people. The main protection issues identified by the mission are the lack of freedom of movement, the lack of access to resources and primary health care, and frequent threats from the Yaloke host community. The following recommendations were made: advocacy towards local authorities and military for freedom of movement, initiate inter-communal dialogue amongst the communities, ensure protection monitoring, reinforce nutritional care activities, distribution of NFIs and food.
- In Bambari, an estimated 8,000 IDPs have sought shelter in churches, schools and military bases, following recent armed clashes between ex-Seleka elements and Sangari forces. The security situation remains calm and a joint UNHCR-OCHA-UNFPA-WHO-WFP-UNICEF mission was undertaken on 26 May to assess and monitor the situation of IDPs. A convoy of aid trucks including provisions from WFP and Mercy Corps reached Bambari on 28 May.

#### Cameroon:

- A total of 86,068 Central African refugees have entered Cameroon since December 2013, with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions.
- The relocation process of new arrivals from the border to the hosting refugee sites granted by local authorities is ongoing, and a total of 28,891 refugees have been relocated thus far. Relocations in the

Adamawa region amount to 5,990 towards Borgop site and 22,901 in the East region towards Gabo, Mbilé, Yokadouma, Timangolo and Lolo sites.

- Taking into account the protection and security issues at the border, from 27-30 May, UNHCR plans to transfer some 1,200 refugees still living in the transit centre of Garoua Boulai to Gado site pending their relocation to a new site under preparation. In the meantime, the transfer of refugees from Kentzou entry point to Lolo site and from Gbiti entry point to the new sites of Mbilé and Timangolo is underway.
- Protection monitoring at Ngaoui and Diel entry points in the Adamawa region revealed that refugees continue to arrive from Ouham Pende and Nana Mambere prefectures. Newly arrived refugees have informed UNHCR that the main route leading to Cameroon is still blocked by the anti-Balaka, and the latter are said to have kidnapped refugees' children against ransom and have imposed circulation taxes.
- Similar reports have come from Garoua Boulai where new arrivals explained that most of their family members left their villages to seek safety in the bush where they have had to stay for periods of several months in order to escape anti-Balaka attacks.

#### Chad:

- The total number of Central African refugees in Chad as of 27 May stood at an estimated 90,465 individuals. This reduction in figures from last week's reported 93,600 is due to the verification of the estimated population of refugees in the Salamat region and subsequent reconciliation of data.
- While the border in the south is still officially closed, refugees continue to arrive without hindrance and no cases of *refoulement* have been reported to date.
- UNHCR has verified a total of 2,146 newly arrived refugees (640 families) in Bethel (Yamodo) area near the Central African border. Newly arrived refugees come from 15 villages located in the Sous-Préfecture of Markounda. While some arrivals reported attacks on their villages by unidentified unarmed men, others reported attacks by the ex-Seleka. UNHCR has sensitised the population to the fact that assistance will not be provided in this unsafe area, one devoid of acceptable living conditions with no access to basic services. Whilst some may wish to stay in Bethel, in view of returning swiftly to home to CAR when the situation permits, UNHCR will facilitate the relocation of those who opt to transfer to Dosseye camp.
- During the reporting period, a total of 201 Central African refugees were transferred from Bekoninga to Dosseye camp.
- The Head of Yamodo Canton has provided UNHCR with a list of families in 11 villages, who have volunteered to host refugees in a total of 569 huts/shelters and 19 warehouses. UNHCR is exploring the possibility of adding Yamodo to the list of villages that accommodate newly-arriving refugees to avoid, where possible, the establishment of new refugee sites and/or prevent overcrowding in existing ones.
- UNHCR has cleared 70 of the 90 hectares of land allocated to Danamadja site near Gore where Chadian evacuees/returnees are accommodated. A total of 685 family shelters have been built with 30 more underway. UNICEF and MSF are providing water and sanitation.
- Chadian authorities have agreed to the extension of Danamadja site in order to accommodate between 15,000-20,000 Chadian evacuees from CAR. To date, UNHCR has facilitated the transfer of 2,387 Chadian evacuees (544 families) from transit centres near Gore to Danamadja.
- In Maigama, UNHCR has cleared 154 hectares of land and is in the process of finalising the construction of 200 temporary shelters which will be completed shortly.

#### Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- A total of 14,141 Central African refugees have been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province but also Oriental Province.
- UNHCR continues to register and facilitate the relocation of newly-arrived CAR refugees to existing refugee camps. In Zongo, 145 new arrivals (incl. 47 Muslims/13 families) have been registered by local authorities. In Libenge, 53 new arrivals have been relocated to Boyabu camp, bringing the total amount of refugees relocated to the camp to 9,989 since the beginning of the relocation process. In Gbadolite, 611 new arrivals have been transferred and registered.

- UNHCR, through its partner ADSSE (*Association pour le Développement Social et la Sauvegarde de l'Environnement*), provides protection to 41 unaccompanied children in Inke, 54 in Mole (in host families) and 376 in Boyabu.
- Since February 2014, in order to provide recreational opportunities to children, UNICEF and implementing partner Aiglons, have established Child Friendly spaces in Boyabu, Inke, and Mole camps.

### Republic of Congo:

- In order to ensure the security of refugees throughout the 'Mbata Ya Bakolo' police action, efforts are being made by UNHCR to ensure immediate documentation of all refugees who have not yet received cards (in Brazzaville) or attestations (in refugee sites). UNHCR is preparing a mission to register and deliver refugee cards to the 350 CAR refugees that have been pre-identified in Pointe Noire.
- ICRC has conducted a mission to Betou in order to support the process of family tracing in favour of the 47 unaccompanied minors (UAMs) in the area and 19 family tracings have been launched as a result. Several CAR families also took this as an opportunity to locate family members through the Red Cross.
- At the *Centre Féminin d'Ecoute* of Betou and Ikpengbele, 121 refugees (mainly girls and women) participated in sensitisation exercises and debates regarding violence and the schooling of girls – activities are ongoing.



## Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM)

### Central African Republic:

- The CCCM Cluster is monitoring the situation in the displacement sites in Bangui. It is estimated that a total of seven sites, located mainly in neighbouring Bimbo, are now each hosting more than 2,000 newly displaced people. The inter-Cluster mission tentatively scheduled on 30 May had to be postponed due to the security situation.
- After reviewing the results from multi-sectoral assessments (WASH, CCCM, Shelter and Protection), two of the four suggested alternative sites for IDPs living in M'Poko and other high risk sites during the rainy season have been approved by the Minister of Health and Humanitarian Action. Construction on the site, Boganda 2, is expected to start shortly.
- In coordination with the City of Bangui, authorities and proprietors of 40 out of 43 displacement sites in Bangui met with CCCM Coordinators to discuss preparations and needs in view of the rainy season, and to ensure that effective and transparent communication between local authorities and humanitarian actors is maintained. A request to meet with national and international security forces was expressed and will be prepared.
- As part of the CCCM capacity building strategy, a total of 24 members of the Ministry of Health in charge of Humanitarian Action including the *Cellule d'Appui Technique*, were trained on the humanitarian action and principles of the CCCM Cluster, with the participation of OCHA. This workshop enabled reinforcing the capacities of the authorities on the CCCM strategy in CAR and roles and responsibilities among the cluster. A second training for the Ministry of Planning is being prepared. Since January 2014, some 464 participants were trained by the CCCM Cluster.
- The CCCM cluster is highly involved in the Bangui working group supporting voluntary return of IDPs and is contributing the development of a comprehensive return strategy.



## Education

### Cameroon:

- Plan Cameroon have shared an action plan entailing the construction of 18 classrooms, the recruitment and training of teachers, sensitization campaigns, distributions of kits and the organization of refresher classes, in view of implementing educational activities in Borgop site.
- In Gado site, identification of school-age children is ongoing. Some 3,932 children (1,757 boys and 1,635 girls) have been identified including 460 children who had been attending school in CAR.

**Republic of the Congo:**

- As the end of the school year approaches, classes continue to have a significant attendance rate and positive impacts on children's school results.
- AARREC has organised sport activities for young girls living in 15 Avril and Ikpengbele sites. Some 30 girls aged 13-20 participated in these activities.
- A project for the implementation of the 'Ideas Box' (a mobile mediatheque) by *Bibliothèques Sans Frontières* is currently being developed in order to reduce tension caused by the lack of cultural and leisure activities available on sites.

**Health****Cameroon:**

- In order to improve the health response in Borgop, discussions are underway with IMC to revise their budget so as to increase health services in order to adequately respond to emergency needs. This modification would enable refurbishing the ambulatory therapeutic nutritional centre, ensuring supervision of the identification of malnutrition cases within the site, and hasten the provision of medicine and materials to the Djohong District Hospital, as well to the health post at the Borgop site.

**Chad:**

- A joint mission composed of UNHCR, the *Commission Nationale d'Accueil, de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés* (CNARR), and the *Centre de Support en Santé Internationale* (CSSI) to the villages of Kolgada, Békourou, and Dilingala has been conducted to provide medication to the health clinics serving these communities.

**Republic of Congo:**

- The overall malnutrition rate has decreased and is now in conformity with the basic emergency standards (less than 10%). However, the severe acute malnutrition rate remains above the standard (3% instead of <2%).

**Food Security and Nutrition****Cameroon:**

- WFP started a one month food distribution on 22 May targeting all refugees living in Gado. A total of 7,247 refugees have received their food ration to date and distribution is ongoing.
- Pending a distribution planned for 27 May, IFRC organised, in collaboration with the refugee community, the distribution of a food donation by an Islamic association named NABO at the Borgop site.

**Chad:**

- UNHCR is working closely with local authorities to ensure the speedy allocation of agricultural land for new arrivals in Dossey camp.

**Democratic Republic of the Congo:**

- WFP with UNHCR, CNAR and ADSSE have conducted sensitisation campaigns with refugees regarding the cash for food exercise which is to be launched shortly in Boyabu and Mole.

**Water and Sanitation****Cameroon:**

- In Borgop site, joint UNHCR and UNICEF efforts have enabled the improvement of WASH services: 5 boreholes have been built by UNHCR and 3 are being completed by UNICEF. The construction of 3 other boreholes by PU-AMI is ongoing. The provision of water has significantly improved and refugees receive 15l per day.



- In Timangolo site, geophysical research towards the construction of boreholes has been initiated.
- In Mbilé site, AIDER/UNICEF have completed the construction of 40 latrines and 8 shower spaces. Moreover AIDER and Plan Cameroon have built and are building an additional borehole each.
- In Gado site, International Relief and Development (IRD) has been advised to increase equipment capacities so as to properly implement activities previously handled by MSF. In addition, IRD met refugee leaders to discuss their involvement in the management and implementation of WASH activities in the site.

#### Republic of Congo:

- The number of latrines constructed (160) remains insufficient for Betou and Ikpengbele as the ratio is currently at 36 people per latrine, whilst the standard indicator is at 20.
- In Betou, water provided per person per day now stands at 18l.

## Shelter and NFIs

#### Central African Republic:

- The Shelter/NFI Cluster has identified a need to support the reconstruction of 18,562 houses, out of them only 15,828 houses are currently financed by humanitarian programs.
- In Bangui, ACTED had launched its housing reconstruction program in the 5<sup>th</sup> District, supporting an initial group of 60 households wishing to return to their homes.
- In Bouca, *Action Contre la Faim* (ACF) is launching a response to the newly arrived IDPs including NFI assistance and emergency shelter support.
- In Bossangoa Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is pursuing the distribution of NFI kits to displaced families.

#### Cameroon:

- In Gado site, 16 community shelters have been constructed to accommodate newly transferred refugees from Garoua Boulai. From now on, newly arrived refugees from Garoua Boulai will be allocated land plots and construction kits to enable them to build their own shelters, the exception being people with specific needs for whom shelters will be built.
- A total of 288 hygienic kits have been distributed to women aged 12 to 59 for a period of 4 months at Borgop site. The kit is composed of 2 bars of soap, 4 pieces underwear and 2 sanitary towels.
- A Distribution Committee composed of 5 men and 5 women has been established in Gado site so as to involve refugees in site activities more effectively.

#### Chad:

- On 23 May, the Shelter/CCCM cluster was officially re-activated in Chad for a duration of 6 months. The cluster is led by UNHCR and co-led by IOM and will coordinate the assistance response on sites accommodating Chadian evacuees/returnees from CAR. UNHCR has deployed a Shelter/CCCM Cluster Coordinator and a supporting team.
- A joint UNHCR-IOM mission was conducted to visit the 5 southern sites (Doyaba, Sido, Maigama, Doba and Danamadja) accommodating Chadian evacuees/returnees. Recommendations following this mission are: the creation of two sub-clusters to consolidate existing coordination structures; the management of information at the site manager level; the coordination of NFI distribution; the prioritisation of activities in Danamadja and Maigama to where Chadian evacuees/returnees will be transferred; the provision of assistance to Chadian returnees/evacuees and to mobile communities; the creation of committees to ensure evacuees take on responsibilities related to management of infrastructure in each location and the Cluster to consider environmental constraints. The first Shelter/CCCM Cluster meeting was held on 27 May.

#### Republic of Congo:

- During the reporting period, mats, blankets, mosquito nets, jerry cans, buckets and soap were distributed to 46 CAR refugees (24 families) in Betou.
- So far, 11,612 refugees have been assisted with NFIs since the beginning of the CAR emergency in Betou and Impfondo.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

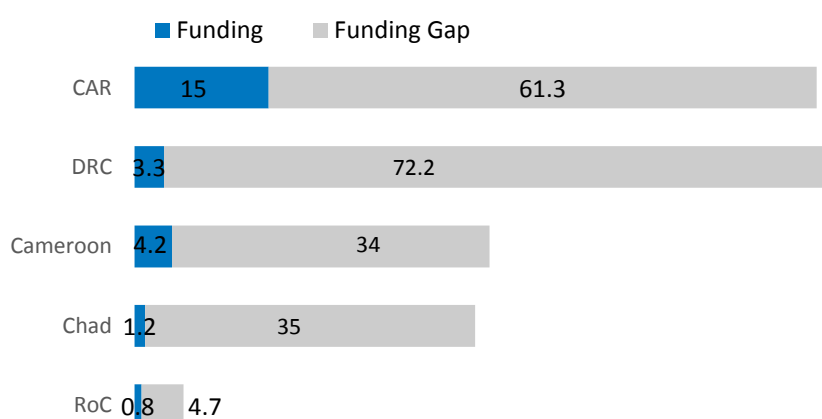
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation. Below are UNHCR's financial needs for providing protection and assistance to Central African refugees in the neighbouring countries, as well as discharging its responsibilities in the inter-agency framework to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs in the Central African Republic. Following the release on 16 April 2014 of the CAR Regional Response Plan, UNHCR's total financial requirements for the CAR Situation amount to USD 239 million, including USD 99.8 million of revised additional needs in asylum countries from January to December 2014 as presented in the Inter-Agency Appeal. It is currently funded at 11%.

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UN Programme on HIV/AIDS  
United States of America

### Funding:

A total of **US\$26.8 million** has been funded



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### Links:

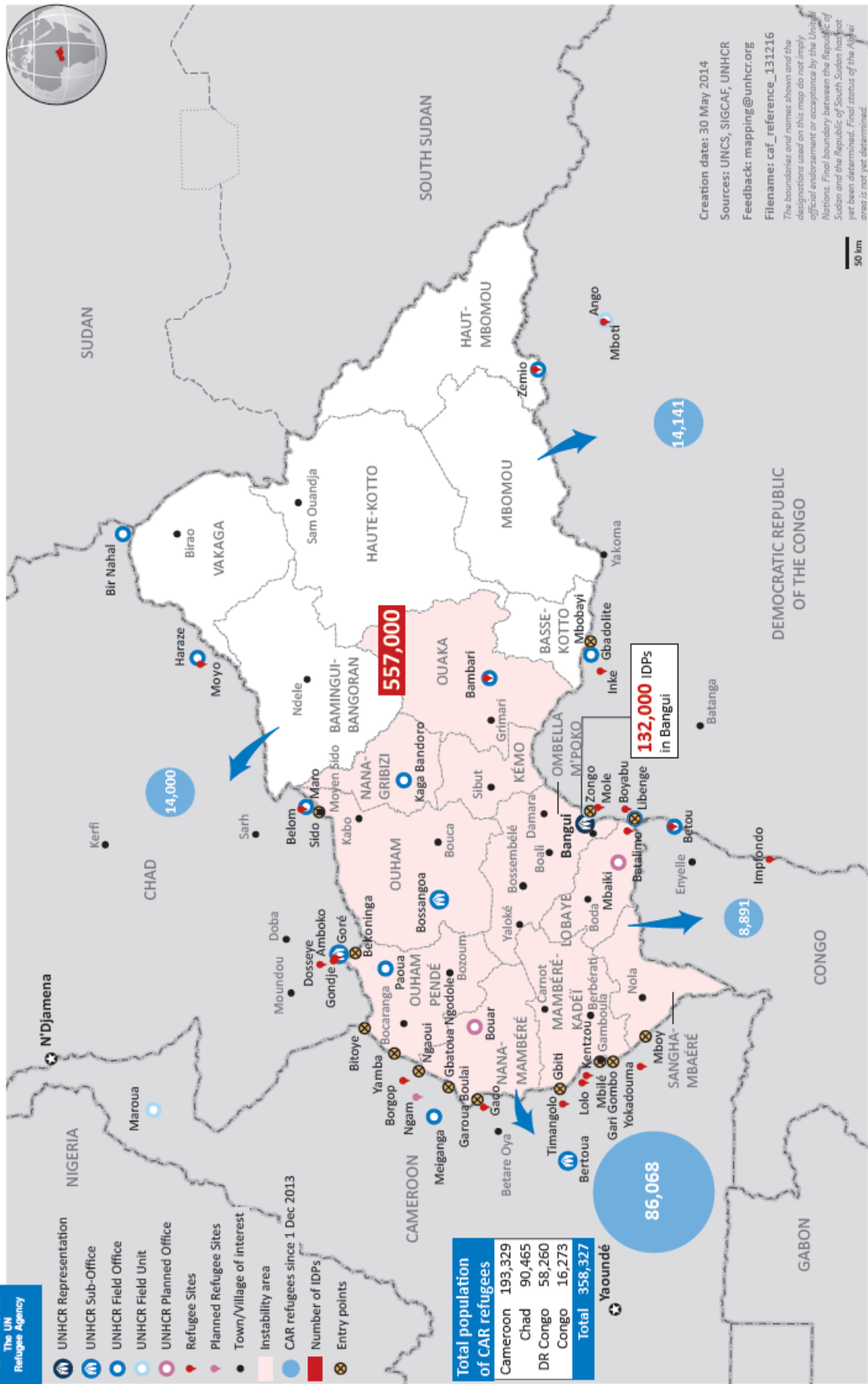
Regional webportal: <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>

# Central African Republic Emergency Situation

as of 30 May 2014



- UNHCR Representation
- UNHCR Sub-Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- UNHCR Field Unit
- UNHCR Planned Office
- Refugee Sites
- Planned Refugee Sites
- Town/Village of interest
- Instability area
- CAR refugees since 1 Dec 2013
- Number of IDPs
- Entry points



Creation date: 30 May 2014  
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 Feedback: [mapping@unhcr.org](mailto:mapping@unhcr.org)  
 Filename: [caf\\_reference\\_131216](#)  
 The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Afilak area is not yet determined.