

HIGHLIGHTS

554,800

IDPs including

129,800

in Bangui

359,834

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

120,994

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

US\$228

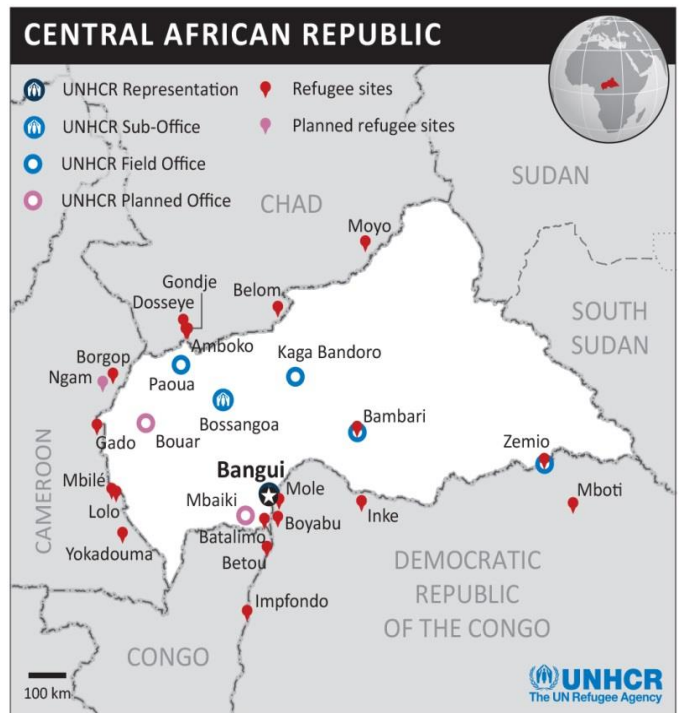
million

UNHCR requested for the Regional Situation

10,667

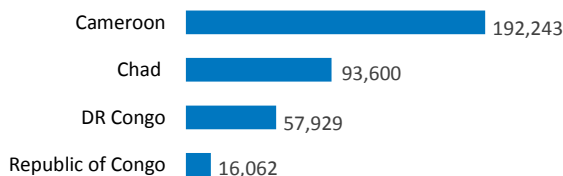
Refugees and asylum seekers in CAR¹

- On 23 May, UNHCR issued a renewed plea for funds to assist the growing number of Central African refugees in Cameroon arriving malnourished and ill after walking and hiding in the bush for weeks before reaching the border. Nearly 40% of refugee children crossing into Cameroon already suffer from severe malnutrition. UNHCR has been working with UNICEF, WFP and five medical aid agencies to curb malnutrition and death among the refugees; this includes ongoing food distribution, therapeutic feeding, vaccination campaigns, provision of clean water and sanitation as well as shelter.
- On 22 May, the situation in Bambari, Central African Republic, escalated with heavy clashes reported for several hours between the French Sangaris forces and ex-Seleka. A reported 1,500 people have sought refuge in the Evêché site.
- On 20 May 2014, the Protection Cluster in the Central African Republic reported that 21,021 individuals are trapped in 11 locations.



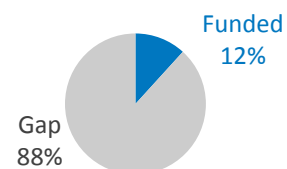
Population of concern

A total of **359,834** people of concern



Funding against the CAR situation

US\$228 million requested



¹ 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:** Security incidents impacted humanitarian access to the vulnerable population in the prefectures of Nana-Mambéré, Ouham Pendé, Ouham and Nana-Gribizi.
- Security incidents in Nana-Bakassa, Bode, Boway and Markounda, have led to the displacement of hundreds of people in Bossangoa (Ouham prefecture). As of 20 May, UNHCR had verified a total of 745 displaced persons (representing 347 households) originating from Nana-Bakassa, Bode, Boway and Markounda and assessed their needs. UNHCR will pursue the verification in other villages during the next week.
- **Cameroon:** The security situation remains unstable in the East region where the majority of refugees are located. Infiltrations of the anti-Balaka into Cameroon were reported, and local authorities have asked UNHCR to expedite the transfer of refugees from the border entry points of Kentzou and Gbiti in order to allow them undertake search operations in the area. Transfer of refugees from Kentzou to Lolo site, and from Gbiti to Mbilé continued. Arrival rates have decreased since the anti-Balaka blocked the main route leading to Cameroon. Refugees that have managed to cross reported that many of their family members are trapped in the bush of the Central African Republic. In Gbiti and Kentzou there are more than 33,000 refugees to be transferred.

Recent Developments



Protection

Central African Republic:

- There are currently an estimated 554,800 Central Africans displaced within their country – including 129,800 in Bangui in 43 sites. The figures in the Central African Republic have been showing a decreasing trend reflecting the continued changing and volatile situation.
- The Protection Cluster finalized the overall Protection strategy draft for the Central African Republic, containing prevention and response activities to human rights violations and protection problems and trends. The strategy will emphasize response to communities at risk, support to return movements, response to gender-based violence, child protection, community-based protection and capacity building.
- On 15 May, an inter-agency mission composed of UNHCR, OCHA, UNFPA, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), and CARITAS assessed the needs in Bouca following clashes between ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka occurred at the end of April. The destruction of 1,000 houses in Bouca and surroundings was reported. Some 1,041 households are in need of relief items. *Action Contre la Faim* (ACF) is planning NFIs distribution of plastic sheeting to 1,000 households by end of this week.
- The Protection Cluster reported that over 20,000 individuals are trapped in 11 eleven locations, five of which are assessed as being at a very high risk; these include Boda, Yaloke, Berberati, Bozoum and the PK5 neighbourhood of Bangui.
- A tool kit for the rapid protection evaluation and methodology, to be used to determine communities at risk, is being finalized by the Protection Cluster. The Protection Cluster has scheduled missions to Yaloke from 21-24 May; to Boda from 27 May to 1 June; and to Berberati from 3-8 June to monitor the situation of the communities at risks and evaluate protection needs.

Cameroon:

- A total of 84,982 Central African refugees have entered Cameroon since December 2013, with the majority located in the East and Adamawa regions.
- The relocation process of the new arrivals from the border to refugee sites granted by local authorities is ongoing: overall, a total of 25,501 refugees have been relocated. This includes 5,768 to Borgop site in the Adamawa region and 19,733 to the sites of Gado, Lolo, Mbilé and Yokadouma in the East region.
- The preparation of a new site, Timangolo in the East region is ongoing, and UNHCR plans to start relocation from the entry point of Gbiti to this site on 26 May.

- Given the critical security situation at the entry points of Kentzou and Gbiti, UNHCR is increasing efforts to relocate all refugees from those entry points to refugee sites and host villages. The relocation plan of all refugees from Gbiti and Kentzou has been revised. The plan includes transfer of 14,200 refugees to the sites of Mbile, Lolo and eventually, Timangolo, whilst giving priority to refugees with specific needs or those with critical medical conditions. The remaining 15,800 individuals will be transferred to villages that already host Central African refugees.
- The previous plan had envisaged the relocation of some 1,700 people per week, but following the request of local authorities, and after discussions during a coordination meeting with partners, it has been agreed that UNHCR will transfer 2,500 people per week.
- UNHCR is working on an identification document for refugees to avoid any harassment from security forces and guarantee their freedom of movement. In the meantime, registered refugees are given ration cards.
- In order to prevent SGBV incidents within the refugee community, information campaigns and focus group discussions involving over 450 young girls were organized in Borgop site to inform them on the existing response mechanisms and encourage them to report SGBV cases.
- In Gado, 2,389 children participated in educational and recreational activities in the child friendly spaces developed by UNICEF.
- The first meeting of young refugees took place in Borgop site, and focused on the civilian and humanitarian character of the site, the rights and duties of refugees, SGBV, education, and non-discrimination on the access to services. Young refugees of Borgop site have established a Youth Committee to participate in the management of the site. As a result, 1,201 refugees (450 girls and 751 boys) committed themselves to participate in the construction of recreational infrastructure within the site.

Chad:


- The total number of Central African refugees in Chad as of 18 May stood at an estimated 93,600 individuals (19,928 families). The decrease in figures from last week is due to a verification mission of newly-arrived refugees in the area of Began in the south.
- While the border in the south is still officially closed, refugees continue to arrive without hindrance and no cases of *refoulement* have, to date, been reported.
- Local authorities informed UNHCR of the new arrival of some 2,700 refugees in Betel, near Yamodo, east of Gore. A joint mission is currently in Betal to identify and verify newly-arrived refugees (as reported by local authorities, following the announcement of border closure).
- On 13 May, a joint mission composed of UNHCR, the *Commission Nationale d'Accueil, de Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés* (CNARR) and African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) transferred 55 newly arrived Central African refugees (10 families) to Dosseye camp.
- A joint mission UNHCR – CNARR mission was conducted to Dembo to identify newly-arrived Central African refugees reported by local authorities. The mission verified a total of 2,269 individuals (497 families). After consultations with local authorities, the village of Dembo was accorded status as a refugee hosting village.
- Activities regarding the site of Maigama to accommodate Chadian evacuees/returnees currently in Sido, Doyaba and other sites in Moyen Chari continued with 116 hectares of land cleared and 50 temporary shelters constructed. The Food Security Cluster has been re-activated to coordinate the inclusion of Chadian evacuees/returnees in Doyaba and Sido in food distribution.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- A total of 13,332 Central African refugees have been registered since December 2013 and are predominantly in the northern Equateur Province but also Oriental Province.
- UNHCR continued with the relocation of newly-arrived Central African refugees. During the reporting period, some 815 new arrivals were transferred to the existing camps of Mole, Inke and Boyabu in Equateur Province. As of 17 May 2014, refugee populations in the three camps stood at 51,033 individuals and an additional 6,575 individuals in Mboti camp in Oriental Province.
- An estimated 80% of refugees in Inke camp are originally from Ngouala, sub-prefecture of Mbobaye, prefecture of Basse-Kotto and are mainly pastoralists. In Boyabu, they are also a majority of pastoralists, originally from the prefecture of Lobaye, while in Mole camp the majority is from Bangui.

Republic of Congo:

- During the reporting period, the *Agence d'Assistance au Rapatriés et Réfugiés au Congo* (AARREC) conducted additional information sessions with the SGBV platform (composed of UNHCR, its implementing and operational partners, and the Central African refugee committee). The themes covered included violence, peaceful coexistence, tolerance and inter-communal dialogue.

 Education
Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- Some 192 Central African refugees of 12 to 17 years living in Mole camp are following secondary education at four Congolese schools outside the camp. Fifty students from Boyabu camp are also attending secondary education in schools outside the camp. According to the students and their teachers, they have managed to adapt to the Congolese curriculum. UNHCR is considering how these institutions can be assisted with additional school materials, school benches and tables, as they are poorly equipped.
- Teacher trainings have been planned for the three camps in Equateur province to be undertaken by UNICEF. So far, the training has been carried out in Inke camp, jointly organized by UNICEF and Congolese authorities. UNICEF will carry out similar trainings in the two other camps.
- Schools in Libenge reportedly have the capacity to set up Accelerated Learning Programmes (primary education), which would take place during school holidays. These programmes would target drop-out students, children who are not going to school and children that are no longer eligible to go to school because they have passed a certain age.
- UNHCR Zongo (DRC) and UNHCR Bangui attended a meeting in Bangui with the General Director of Education together with two Central African academic inspectors on 19 May. The aim of the meeting was to see how to organize a trans-border mission to assess the level of the camp schools in Boyabu, Mole and Inke (Equateur Province) ahead of the scheduled exam on 18 July. There are over 3,000 Central African children attending primary school in the camps that follow the Central African primary school curriculum.



Health

Cameroon:

- On 13 May, MSF started a measles vaccination campaign targeting refugee children from 6 months to 15 years in Gbiti and Kette, and in the refugee site of Mbilé.
- UNHCR organized training sessions in Batouri and Garoua Boulai targeting medical teams from public hospitals, as well as humanitarian partners to provide them with necessary skills to better manage psychosocial issues identified within the refugee community.

Republic of Congo:

- In all the refugee hosting sites, malaria remained the predominant illness affecting 43% of refugees. This was followed by acute respiratory infections affecting 17% of the refugee population, and diarrhea at 12%.



Food Security and Nutrition

Cameroon:

- WFP has pre-positioned food close to refugee sites and entry points to begin food distribution on 23 May.
- Due to a shortfall in salt and yellow peas, the food basket will only include rice and oil; except in Gado where yellow peas will also be distributed.
- The malnutrition situation remains preoccupying, especially in the East where the number of severely malnourished children with complications has seriously increased. In the past two weeks, despite receiving intensive medical care, 19 children have died due to malnutrition – many continue to arrive severely malnourished after having spent months walking and hiding in the bush to reach safety in Cameroon.

- WFP will also start a six month blanket feeding programme targeting all children from 6 to 59 months, as well as pregnant and breast-feeding women in refugee sites and at the entry points in order to stem the rate of malnutrition.
- Hand-over between Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) and MSF is underway in order to allow the latter to manage the Nutritional Therapeutic Center of Batouri where severely acute malnutrition cases are referred from Gbiti, Lolo and Mbilé.

Republic of Congo:

- Malnutrition remains in focus with 15% of Central African children affected by moderate acute malnutrition and 5% with severe acute malnutrition. Treatment is being provided at health centres.



Water and Sanitation

Cameroon:

- Overall, 365 latrines and 27 boreholes have been constructed in all sites.
- In Lolo, the construction of 12 boreholes out of 18 planned is completed. In addition, 13 blocks of 4 latrines and 4 shower spaces are being constructed.
- In Mbilé, UNICEF and its partner have started WASH activities - they have constructed 1 borehole out of 3 planned, as well as 24 latrines.
- In Gado, WASH activities have been handed over from MSF to International Relief and Development (IRD). IRD will provide water in Gado site through 5 boreholes completed (another five are planned) and a water trucking system from Gado village.
- In Borgop, the supply of water has slightly improved with the construction of two boreholes by UNHCR. As a result, the ratio of water increased from 6l to 9l per person. Eight additional boreholes are being finalized by UNHCR and UNICEF and will help provide sufficient quantity of water.
- In view of the relocation of refugees from Gbiti and Kentzou to local villages, the WASH team was part of a multi-sectoral mission for the assessment of five identified villages in the Batouri area.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- In Boyabu camp, potable water is currently provided by 3 boreholes, 3 manual pumps and 1 emergency well. The water provision stands at 132,200l, providing an average of 13,2l each day for 9,903 refugees.
- In Mole camp, around 910,000l of water is produced daily, which comes down to an average of 11,1l per person and per day, for a total population of 11,577 individuals.
- In Inke camp, there are currently 568 communal latrines and 70 available hygiene facilities that have been constructed.
- In Mboti camp safe drinking water is supplied from 4 wells, producing a total of 53,4l per day for 478 refugees.

Republic of Congo:

- During the reporting period, AARREC organized information sessions related to hygiene, water conservation, the use of sanitary infrastructure and treatment of water at the *15 Avril* and Ikpengbélé sites. AARREC also treated 24 water wells in Betou Centre and 13 in the *15 Avril* site.
- In addition, AARREC disinfected 8 blocks of latrines and communal showers.



Shelter and NFIs

Central African Republic:

- In Kaga Bandoro, a total of 23,300 individuals have been displaced since the end of April, and have found refuge in three sites namely Nativité, Evêché and Bissingale villages. IDPs are in need of emergency shelter and NFI assistance identified through a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) assessment.

- A total of 975 individuals from Nana Bakassa, Bolio and Bode currently displaced in Bossangoa were provided with plastic sheeting.
- In Bouca (Ouham prefecture), *Action Contre la Faim* (ACF) provided the newly arrived IDPs in the town with NFI and emergency shelter.
- On 16 May, the Shelter/NFI cluster participated in a joint assessment with the WASH and CCCM clusters in Yaloke in order to evaluate the new IDP site proposed by the local authorities to accommodate over 600 displaced people. The assessment approved the technical feasibility of the site selected by the local authorities and recommended that 10 community shelters need to be constructed on the site for the displaced families.
- More than 9,600 IDPs located in Grimari (Ouaka prefecture) have been identified as living in inadequate shelters and are in need of NFI and emergency shelter solutions.

Cameroon:

- UNHCR and its partners continue the construction of shelters in the refugee sites. So far, 1,549 tents have been installed and 529 family shelters completed in the refugee sites of Borgop, Lolo, Mbilé and Gado.
- Construction teams have been reinforced in Mbilé and Timangolo to increase construction of shelters.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

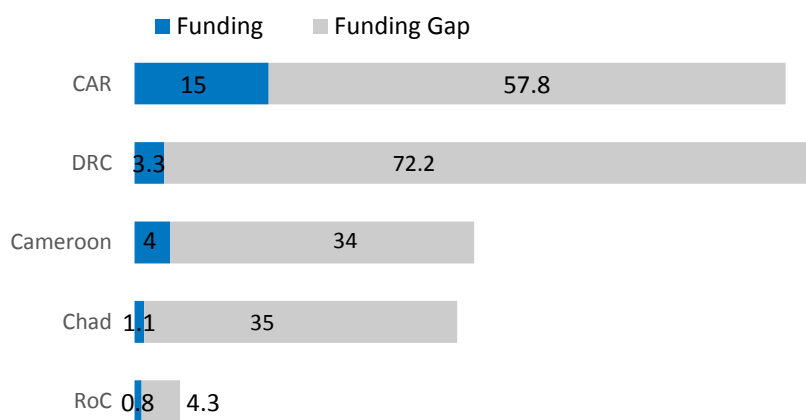
UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors particularly those who have contributed to UNHCR activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed to the CAR situation. Below are UNHCR’s financial needs for providing protection and assistance 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 214 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 12%.

Donors:

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- Private donors Netherlands
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- Private donors Switzerland
- Private donors United Kingdom
- Republic of Korea
- 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:

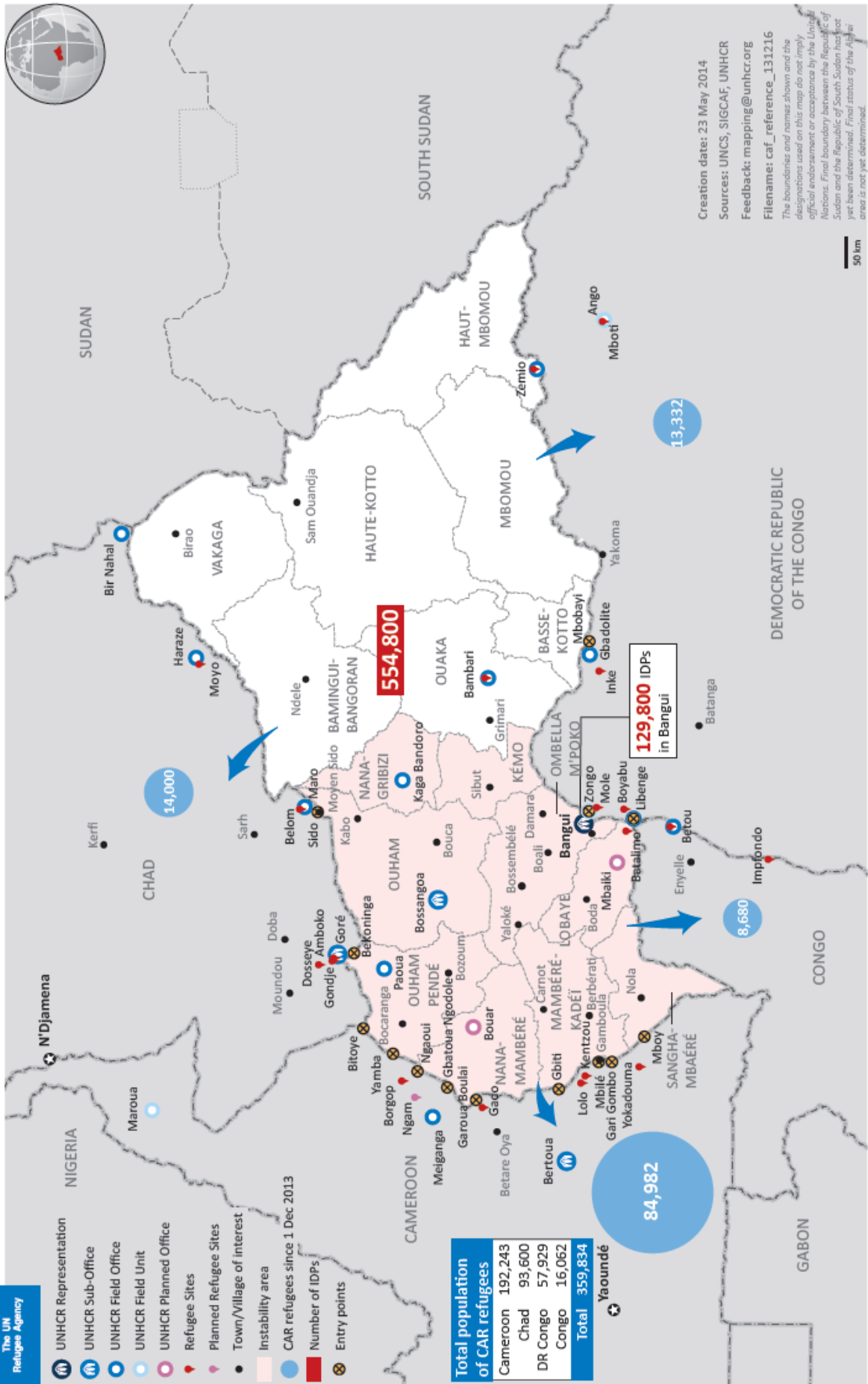
Regional webportal: <http://data.unhcr.org/car/regional.php>

Central African Republic Emergency Situation

as of 23 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: 23 May 2014
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 Feedback: mapping@unhcr.org
 Filename: caf_reference_131216
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50 km