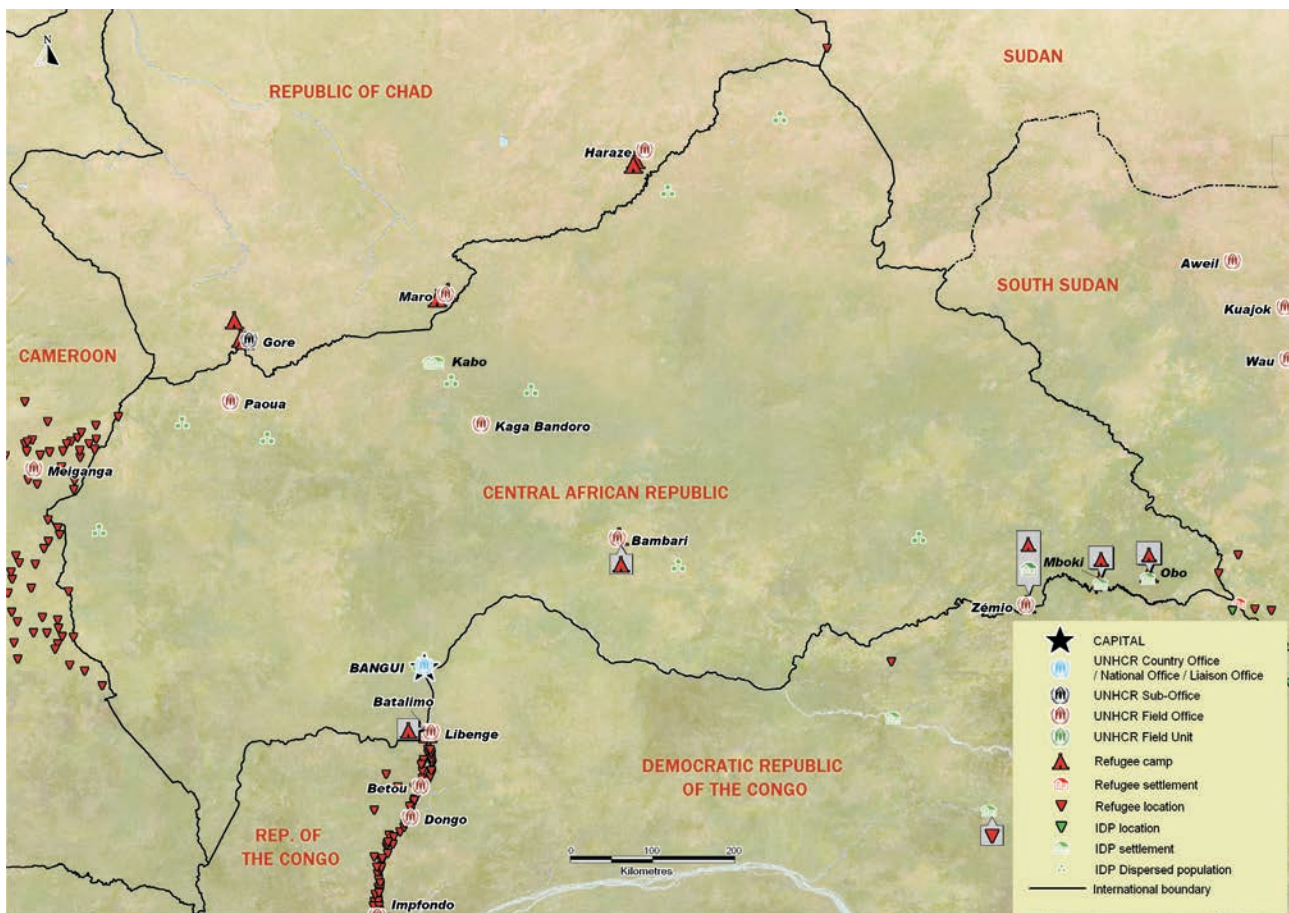


# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC



## Operational highlights

- Some 9,000 spontaneous returnees from Chad and Cameroon were registered.
- A technical working group was established for the elaboration of tripartite agreements on voluntary repatriation of Central African Republic (CAR) refugees who are living in Cameroon and Chad.
- The Government pledged to offer refugees who have decided to settle in the CAR the means to enhance their self-reliance and enjoy their rights. UNHCR planned to help refugees obtain long term-residence permits and naturalization, as well as access to land for housing in areas surrounding Bangui.

## Working environment

The first phase of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) process, which started with the *Armée populaire pour la restauration de la république et la démocratie* (APRD), a rebel group in the north-western part of the country, led to a significant improvement of the security situation. This allowed for the return of approximately 75,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 9,000 Central African refugees from Chad and Cameroon.

The Government lifted restrictions on access to the northern Bamingui Bangoran Prefecture and outlying areas, allowing for UNHCR and its partners to begin profiling people who had been forcibly displaced in this area since 2008.

Clashes between the two rebel groups, the *Union des forces démocratiques pour le rassemblement* (UFDR) and the *Convention des patriotes pour la justice et la paix* (CPJP), caused ethnic tension and resulted in the displacement of 9,000 people in September 2011 in the Haute Kotto Prefecture. Meanwhile, Chadian rebels continued to operate in the Nana Gribizi area.

In the south-eastern part of the country, the presence of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) continued to pose a threat to the civilian population, including refugees and IDPs, although new displacements of population were not observed in 2011.

## Achievements and impact

### • Main objectives and targets

UNHCR's main objectives in the CAR were to provide 50,000 IDPs with civil status documentation, improve prevention and response measures to combat sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and improve the shelter infrastructure for displaced people. It also aimed to improve refugees' self-reliance and ensure their access to drinking water, education and primary health care.

## Fair protection processes

- The Office extended its pilot documentation project to the prefectures of Nana Mambere, Ouham and Ouham Pende and a total of 30,600 birth certificates and 15,600 identity cards were processed and issued, out of which 5,600 were distributed, thereby reducing the risk of statelessness for a significant number of IDPs. Additionally, some 5,800 court decisions related to documentation for IDPs were taken in the Haut Mbomou Prefecture.
- In cooperation with the Danish Refugee Council, UNHCR conducted a profiling exercise of 200 IDP families and 100 households in host communities in Bamingui Bangoran. The results showed that both groups have similar living conditions and share the same protection risks.
- Registration exercises were conducted jointly with the Government in Zemio, Obo and Mboki refugee camps, where births were formally registered and birth certificates delivered.
- Standard operating procedures were developed with the *Commission nationale pour les réfugiés* (CNR), the governmental body responsible for refugee issues, to address some of the gaps identified in the asylum registration and status determination processes.

## Security from violence and exploitation

- In response to the persistence of harmful traditional practices, including female genital mutilation and early marriages, exploitation and domestic violence, the Office and its partners organized sensitization sessions and established mechanisms to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence. This contributed to an increase in the number of reported cases and people assisted, from four in 2010 to 165 in 2011. At the same time, 800 victims of domestic violence received guidance and support from legal clinics.

## Basic needs and services

- UNHCR continued its efforts to improve basic support to people of concern in the areas of shelter, water, sanitation, the distribution of non-food items (NFIs), and health.

- The Office supported the construction of 242 shelters through the distribution of construction kits to refugees in Zemio (Haut Mbomou Prefecture), covering 40 per cent of the shelter needs in the area. Ten additional water points in the camps of Batalimo and Zemio improved refugees' access to drinking water. A total of 14,400 refugees benefited from the distribution of NFIs and all female refugees of reproductive age received sanitary kits.
- The overall health and nutritional indicators in the camps were in line with internationally accepted standards. Almost 55,000 consultations and treatments were provided to refugees in the camps.
- Nearly 2,900 camp-based refugee children (43 per cent girls) were enrolled in primary education and 808 refugee children (27 per cent girls) in secondary education. In cooperation with the authorities, UNHCR facilitated the organization of the State primary and secondary school final examinations for refugee children in Batalimo and Zemio camps. In the capital, Bangui, UNHCR supported the enrolment of 330 refugee children (42 per cent girls) in primary school and 270 in secondary school (47 per cent girls).

## Community participation and self-management

- Participatory assessments were organized in all refugee camps and IDP sites to identify the needs of people of concern. Refugee committees were set up in four out of five camps, with 50 per cent women representatives. To improve livelihood opportunities, 55 refugee farmer groups received seeds and agricultural tools, while 25 refugees in Bangui benefited from microcredits, 14 were trained in different trades and 30 others received computer training.

## Durable solutions

- The technical working group for the elaboration of tripartite agreements on voluntary repatriation of CAR refugees living in Cameroon and Chad was established. In 2011, some 9,000 CAR refugees returned spontaneously from these two countries to the prefectures of Ouham and Ouham Pende.

## Persons of concern

| Type of Population                      | Origin               | Total          | Of whom assisted by UNHCR | Per cent female | Per cent under 18 |
|---|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Refugees</b>                         | DRC                  | 13,400         | 13,400                    | 52              | 55                |
|   | Sudan                | 2,100          | 2,100                     | 52              | 66                |
|   | Chad                 | 900            | 900                       | 46              | 47                |
|   | Various              | 320            | 320                       | 46              | 53                |
| <b>Asylum-seekers</b>                   | DRC                  | 1,300          | 320                       | 47              | 57                |
|   | Chad                 | 700            | 40                        | 39              | 47                |
|   | Sudan                | 450            | 60                        | 40              | 40                |
|   | Various              | 40             | -                         | 56              | 66                |
| <b>IDPs</b>                             | Central African Rep. | 105,200        | 71,200                    | 50              | 51                |
| <b>Returnees (IDPs)</b>                 | Central African Rep. | 66,500         | 46,700                    | 48              | 47                |
| <b>Returnees (refugees)<sup>1</sup></b> | Chad                 | 6,500          | 6,500                     | 52              | 60                |
|   | Cameroon             | 2,500          | 2,500                     | 52              | 60                |
|   | Various              | 10             | 10                        | 52              | 60                |
| <b>Total</b>                            |                      | <b>199,920</b> | <b>144,050</b>            |                 |                   |

<sup>1</sup> The demographic breakdown of returnees refers to the total 9,010 CAR returning refugees.



**| Constraints |**

The lack of security in the north, east, and south-east of the country continued to pose serious threats to humanitarian actors working in the areas. This situation prevented UNHCR from effectively delivering assistance to people of concern, particularly in Haute Kotto and Nana Gribizi.

The timely transportation and delivery of assistance remained a major challenge due to poor infrastructure and lack of logistical capacity. The limited capacity of partners also constrained operations.

**| Financial information |**

Financial requirements for UNHCR's operation in the Central African Republic amounted to USD 24.4 million in 2011. Some USD 10.2 million were made available to the operation of which 46 per cent were contributions earmarked at the country level. The overall financial requirements in 2011 were higher than in 2010, due to the construction, consolidation and improvement of infrastructures within the camps for Sudanese refugees in Bambari, and for refugees from DRC in Batalimo, Zemio and Mboki.

**| Organization and implementation |**

UNHCR's operation in the CAR was managed by 71 staff through the Country Office in Bangui and field offices in Batalimo, Bambari, Zemio, Kaga Bandoro and Paoua. An inspection mission conducted in September 2011 highlighted the need to establish a closer link between protection activities and the global strategic priorities, and to strengthen programme monitoring through regular field missions.

**| UNHCR's presence in 2011 |**

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| □ Number of offices | <b>6</b>  |
| □ Total staff       | <b>71</b> |
| International       | 12        |
| National            | 49        |
| JPOs                | 1         |
| UNVs                | 9         |

**| Working with others |**

In addition to leading the IDP protection cluster, UNHCR engaged administrative and judicial authorities in the fields of human rights and good governance; continued its relationship with key ministries (Security, Interior, Defence, Foreign Affairs, Education and Social Affairs); signed sub-agreements with national and international NGOs as well as with the Government counterpart CNR on refugee issues; and maintained regular contacts with the diplomatic community.



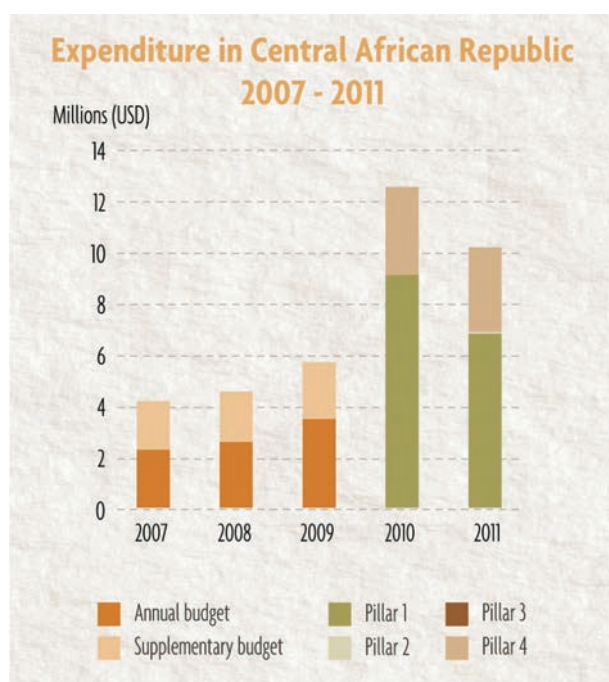
A UNHCR officer listens to displaced villagers describing their difficult living conditions in an isolated area near Kabo, north of Bangui.



## Overall assessment

Overall, UNHCR met its objectives in the Central African Republic in 2011. Key achievements included: advocacy efforts with the Government that resulted in commitments to facilitate the search for durable solutions for long-staying refugees living in Bangui; the registration of spontaneous returnees from Chad and Cameroon; the establishment of a technical working group for the elaboration of tripartite agreements between the CAR and the DRC, Cameroon and Chad; as well as the documentation of people at risk of statelessness.

With regard to IDPs, UNHCR managed to further consolidate its contribution on protection within the cluster approach. Field offices participated in joint assessment missions with other organizations.



## Unmet needs

- Seventy shelters with latrines for persons with specific needs were not constructed in camps for refugees from the DRC in Zemio.
- Some 200 latrines were not constructed in the Pladama Ouaka Camp that hosts Sudanese refugees and minimum standards of sanitation were not met.
- Some 40 per cent of refugee women did not receive sanitary materials.
- Income-generating activities planned for Sudanese refugees were not fully realized, prolonging the dependence of some of them on food aid.
- Some 28,000 IDPs eligible for identity cards did not receive this documentation and were unable to enjoy full freedom of movement.

| Partners  |
|---|
| <b>Implementing partners</b>  |
| <b>Government agencies:</b> <i>Comité national permanent pour la protection des personnes déplacées internes, Commission nationale pour les réfugiés</i>  |
| <b>NGOs:</b> <i>ACTED, Association AZOUNDANGA, Association des femmes juristes, Centre de support en santé internationale, Cooperazione Internazionale, Danish Refugee Council, Échelle, International Medical Corps, Medical Emergency Relief International, Triangle génération humanitaire</i> |
| <b>Operational partners</b>   |
| <b>Government agencies:</b> Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Territorial Administration   |
| <b>Others:</b> BINUCA, FAO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO  |

## Budget, income and expenditure in Central African Republic | USD

|                              | PILLAR 1<br>Refugee programme | PILLAR 2<br>Stateless programme | PILLAR 4<br>IDP projects | Total      |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <b>FINAL BUDGET</b>          | 12,828,989                    | 910,012                         | 10,685,653               | 24,424,654 |
| Income from contributions    | 2,845,088                     | 80,000                          | 1,728,020                | 4,653,108  |
| Other funds available        | 3,986,213                     | 0                               | 1,581,620                | 5,567,833  |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b> | 6,831,301                     | 80,000                          | 3,309,640                | 10,220,941 |

| EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN                    |                |          |                  |                  |
|--|----------------|----------|------------------|------------------|
| <i>Favourable protection environment</i> |                |          |                  |                  |
| National administrative framework        | 142,287        | 0        | 49,976           | 192,263          |
| Policies towards forced displacement     | 0              | 0        | 95,764           | 95,764           |
| Prevention of displacement               | 0              | 0        | 910,137          | 910,137          |
| Prevention of statelessness              | 0              | 0        | 58,482           | 58,482           |
| Cooperation with partners                | 246,031        | 0        | 140,738          | 386,769          |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                          | <b>388,318</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>1,255,097</b> | <b>1,643,415</b> |

|  | PILLAR 1<br>Refugee<br>programme | PILLAR 2<br>Stateless<br>programme | PILLAR 4<br>IDP<br>projects | Total             |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Fair protection processes and documentation</i> |                                  |                                    |                             |                   |
| Registration and profiling                         | 185,657                          | 16,464                             | 356,295                     | 558,416           |
| Refugee and stateless definitions                  | 18,091                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 18,091            |
| Fair and efficient status determination            | 36,512                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 36,512            |
| Individual documentation                           | 20,665                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 20,665            |
| Civil status documentation                         | 133,861                          | 61,744                             | 410,027                     | 605,632           |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                    | <b>394,786</b>                   | <b>78,208</b>                      | <b>766,322</b>              | <b>1,239,316</b>  |
| <i>Security from violence and exploitation</i>     |                                  |                                    |                             |                   |
| Impact on host communities                         | 42,821                           | 0                                  | 1,976                       | 44,797            |
| Effects of armed conflict                          | 42,821                           | 0                                  | 51,169                      | 93,990            |
| Law enforcement                                    | 13,156                           | 0                                  | 52,252                      | 65,408            |
| Community security management                      | 42,821                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 42,821            |
| Gender-based violence                              | 134,860                          | 0                                  | 110,115                     | 244,975           |
| Protection of children                             | 42,821                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 42,821            |
| Freedom of movement                                | 29,245                           | 0                                  | 64,577                      | 93,822            |
| Non-arbitrary detention                            | 214,639                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 214,639           |
| Access to legal remedies                           | 0                                | 0                                  | 74,030                      | 74,030            |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                    | <b>563,184</b>                   | <b>0</b>                           | <b>354,119</b>              | <b>917,303</b>    |
| <i>Basic needs and essential services</i>          |                                  |                                    |                             |                   |
| Food security                                      | 31,174                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 31,174            |
| Nutrition  | 177,985                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 177,985           |
| Water  | 204,200                          | 0                                  | 102                         | 204,302           |
| Shelter and other infrastructure                   | 267,670                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 267,670           |
| Basic domestic and hygiene items                   | 71,654                           | 0                                  | 66,976                      | 138,630           |
| Primary health care                                | 789,475                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 789,475           |
| HIV and AIDS                                       | 138,905                          | 0                                  | 66,976                      | 205,881           |
| Education  | 284,672                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 284,672           |
| Sanitation services                                | 103,813                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 103,813           |
| Services for groups with specific needs            | 219,615                          | 0                                  | 77,760                      | 297,375           |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                    | <b>2,289,163</b>                 | <b>0</b>                           | <b>211,814</b>              | <b>2,500,977</b>  |
| <i>Community participation and self-management</i> |                                  |                                    |                             |                   |
| Participatory assessment                           | 140,778                          | 0                                  | 213,813                     | 354,591           |
| Community self-management                          | 135,177                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 135,177           |
| Camp management and coordination                   | 90,660                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 90,660            |
| Self-reliance and livelihoods                      | 348,743                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 348,743           |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                    | <b>715,358</b>                   | <b>0</b>                           | <b>213,813</b>              | <b>929,171</b>    |
| <i>Durable solutions</i>                           |                                  |                                    |                             |                   |
| Durable solutions strategy                         | 170,333                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 170,333           |
| Voluntary return                                   | 166,171                          | 0                                  | 0                           | 166,171           |
| Resettlement                                       | 23,247                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 23,247            |
| Local integration                                  | 23,247                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 23,247            |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                    | <b>382,998</b>                   | <b>0</b>                           | <b>0</b>                    | <b>382,998</b>    |
| <i>Logistics and operations support</i>            |                                  |                                    |                             |                   |
| Supply chain and logistics                         | 456,246                          | 0                                  | 255,127                     | 711,373           |
| Programme management and coordination              | 510,519                          | 0                                  | 160,354                     | 670,873           |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                    | <b>966,765</b>                   | <b>0</b>                           | <b>415,481</b>              | <b>1,382,246</b>  |
| Other objectives                                   | 10,760                           | 0                                  | 0                           | 10,760            |
| Balance of instalments with implementing partners  | 1,119,973                        | 0                                  | 92,995                      | 1,212,968         |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>6,831,305</b>                 | <b>78,208</b>                      | <b>3,309,641</b>            | <b>10,219,154</b> |