

# Central African Republic Fact Sheet

NORWEGIAN  
REFUGEE COUNCIL



## FACT SHEET

### ▼ Basic Info

Country:	Central African Republic (CAR)	Established:	February 2014
Latest Update:	10.05.2016	Country Director:	Maureen Magee
Country Office:	Bangui	Phone	+236 72 03 17 40 /+236 75 36 67 89
Field offices:	Sibut, Dekoa, Carnot, Ndélé	E-mail:	<a href="mailto:maureen.magee@nrc.no">maureen.magee@nrc.no</a>
		International staff:	18
Budget 2014:	USD 4.6 million	National staff:	197
Budget 2015:	USD 11 million		
Budget 2016:	USD 11 million		

### ▼ Donors:

Main Donors	NMFA, EU, UNICEF, UNHCR, ECHO, OFDA
Other Donors	CHF, SDC, GAC, Sida, NRC

### ▼ Humanitarian and political context

After decades of strife, instability and stalled development, CAR plunged into an unprecedented political, security and humanitarian crisis in early 2013. The Seleka, a coalition of armed groups of mainly Muslims, overthrow then-President Bozizé and installed their leader Djotodia as the new president of CAR. During Djotodia's ten months in power, the Seleka were responsible for massacres, summary executions, sexual violence, torture, and the widespread looting and destruction of public and private properties. In response, long-standing village militias and self-defence groups known as Anti-Balaka, comprised predominantly of Christians and animists, reorganised in late 2013 to challenge the Seleka. When the Anti-Balaka began carrying out armed operations in September 2013, the targets of their attacks were mostly Muslim civilians and Seleka. The Anti-Balaka was similarly responsible for massacres, summary executions, sexual violence, torture, and the widespread looting and destruction of public and private properties. The crisis quickly escalated until fighting between the Seleka and Anti-Balaka in December 2013 left more than 1,000 people dead in Bangui. On 11 December 2013, CAR was declared a level 3 emergency (deactivated on 13 May 2015). Violent confrontations have since continued on a regular basis. A cease-fire agreement was reached on 23 July 2014. After numerous postponements, a national reconciliation forum was held in May 2015. From December 2015 to April 2016, the presidential and parliamentary elections were held and concluded by the election of a new president, new parliament and the end of the transition period without significant violence.

The overall political and security situation has improved since December 2015, but continued insecurity due to banditry, presence of armed groups, impunity, clashes linked to transhumance and access to resources, and sporadic inter-community violence (despite the deployment of MINUSCA forces in the provinces) continue to pose challenges to humanitarian action and protection, as well as the redeployment of authorities and state-provided basic services. The 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) states that 2.3 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance (50% of the total population of the country). As of April 2016, 467,000 refugees from CAR are hosted by neighbouring countries and approximately 420,000 internal displaced populations live in difficult conditions in the bush, in camps, in enclaves, or with host families.

#### ▼ NRC in Central African Republic

The NRC programme in CAR was re-established in February 2014 (after being present in the country from 2007 to 2009) and focuses on Shelter, Food Security, WASH, Education and ICLA programmes, supported by Protection and Advocacy activities, in three prefectures (Kémo, Mambéré Kadéi and Bamingui Bangoran) and the capital city Bangui (and its surrounding areas). The NRC programme in CAR also maintains a rapid, integrated emergency response capacity focused on life-saving and life-sustaining assistance to persons affected by new displacements as well as spontaneous return. NRC supports the education system at national, local and community level in three prefectures to provide quality education to children through school construction and rehabilitation, enrolment and retention in schools, and teacher training. NRC improves the living conditions of conflict-affected communities by rehabilitating and treating water sources, wells and water pumps, and constructing or repairing latrines, strengthened by hygiene awareness and behaviour change activities. NRC is addressing one of the major obstacles to durable solutions by repairing houses damaged during the crisis, ensuring that tenants are indeed the rightful, legal owners and preventing further conflict over housing, land and property. NRC supports communities to restore their livelihoods through the distribution of agricultural tools and seeds, the provision of trainings, and the establishment of youth education programmes (YEP). NRC is active at local, national and international levels to advocate for the rights of vulnerable populations affected by conflict in CAR.

#### ▼ NRC priorities for 2016 and beyond

NRC plans to assist 110,000 beneficiaries in 2016 in CAR. NRC aims to increase access and acceptance in conflict affected communities to enable the provision of principled humanitarian action and promote protection. In 2016 and 2017, NRC will expand its portfolio in CAR by addressing both the most urgent needs of conflict-affected populations and the chronic challenges linked to early recovery and development. For example, NRC will continue to address with community and government stakeholders the occupation of homes and properties, in order to enable returns, recovery and rehabilitation. Immediate support in terms of community dialogue and Conflict Dispute Resolution are needed, while structural changes including the expansion of the state cadastre system are critical in the medium to long term. Through advocacy and programming, NRC will also contribute to improving the chronically poor state of the education system and the high level of illiteracy that have been worsened by the crisis. NRC will look to donors for funding beyond emergency response and will reinforce both education and livelihoods/food security sectors.