

Emergency Operation Central African Republic 200650

| Saving Lives and Protecting Livelihoods in the Central African Republic | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Number of beneficiaries | 1,250,000 |
| Duration of project | 01 January – 31 August 2014 |
| WFP food tonnage | 73,565 |
| Cost (United States dollars) | |
| Food and Related Costs | 91,724,026 |
| Cash and Vouchers and Related Costs | - |
| Capacity Development & Augmentation | - |
| DSC | 8,223,115 |
| ISC | 6,996,300 |
| Total cost to WFP | 106,943,441 |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 05 December 2013, a new wave of violence broke out in the Central African Republic. The fighting pitted the predominantly Muslim, ex-Seleka forces against the Christian, anti-Balaka militias. As the violence intensified and killings increased, large numbers of civilians fled to safer areas. Additional French troops were rapidly deployed to support African Union peacekeeping forces in an effort to stabilize the situation. On 11 December, the Emergency Relief Coordinator in consultation with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Principals declared the evolving crisis a system-wide Level 3 emergency.

The violence represented an intensification of sectarian clashes that over the past year have led to the loss of livestock and disrupted trade, livelihoods, and staple and cash crop production. The conflict has also triggered significant movements of internally displaced persons, straining already limited household food supplies. In the medium term, a further decrease in crop production and increased reliance on crisis coping mechanisms is expected to compound the effects of the traditional lean season, characterized by high food prices from April through to the harvest season.

There are now two broad groups of concern: internally displaced and severely food insecure people who require food and nutrition support in the immediate term, and moderately food insecure at-risk of falling into severe food insecurity as food stocks and purchasing power are further exhausted over the coming months. Especially vulnerable sub-groups include those with special nutritional needs, such as young children, pregnant and lactating women, and people living with HIV/AIDS.

With the overall aim of saving lives and protecting livelihoods, WFP has adopted a phased approach to its response. In the first phase from January to April 2014, WFP will focus primarily on providing assistance to those in immediate need, by scaling up an integrated food distribution and blanket supplementary feeding package for the most vulnerable, and ensuring targeted nutrition support and school meals to support as basic services are gradually re-opened. In the second phase, from May to August 2014, an integrated food and nutrition safety net will be introduced for moderately food insecure populations in need, and support to basic health and education services will be expanded. WFP is closely and continuously monitoring the situation with humanitarian partners on the ground and will maintain flexibility to adapt beneficiary figures, targeting, and duration of assistance as necessary. As the situation evolves, opportunities to more directly support the recovery of assets through seasonal livelihood activities in stabilized areas will be considered.

Given the current instability and violence in the country, the operation will take special care to ensure that it implements conflict-sensitive programmes that do not exacerbate tensions, that the assistance is provided in a principled manner, that the protection of beneficiaries is carefully considered, and that the special needs of different groups (broken down by gender, age, faith, ethnicity, and disability) are adequately understood and addressed. Close consultations with affected populations and community leaders will be critical for the success of the operation and to ensure staff safety in the complex operational environment.

WFP will carry out this emergency operation in partnership with other UN agencies and non-governmental organizations. The operation is aligned with the WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017) and directly supports Strategic Objective 1: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies and Millennium Development Goal 1.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

Context

1. Rebellions, coups d'états, inter-communal fighting, and sectarian violence over the past three decades have contributed to widespread social and political instability in Central African Republic. Looting of public and private property and banditry is extensive. The latest round of instability began in late 2012 when Seleka rebel forces swept through major parts of the northwest and centre of the country, leading to population displacements and disrupting livelihoods and production. They captured the capital city of Bangui and seized power in March 2013. Community-based self-defence militias called 'anti-Balaka' (predominantly Christian) have been established, leading to renewed sectarian clashes.
2. On 5 December 2013, a new wave of violence began, when clashes broke out in the capital Bangui killing more than 536 persons (Red Cross). Following a Security Council Resolution, additional French troops were sent to support the African Union's *Mission Internationale de Sécurisation de la Centrafrique* (MISCA) to stabilize the situation, and the Emergency Relief Coordinator declared the evolving crisis a system-wide Level 3 emergency.
3. Fighting over the past year has led to significant populations movements. These movements are highly dynamic and varied: displaced populations have fled to the bush or within their villages to scattered sites or with host households. In some cases displacement is of a prolonged nature, and in other cases temporary. As of September 2013 (before the latest wave of violence), 40 percent of households in the centre of the

country and one-third of households in the south reported having been displaced at least once. In the north-west, displacements are more pendulous; as the situation deteriorates, displacements in this region may be more prolonged, and reach further into the bush or to urban centers (such as to Bossangoa).¹ The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimates that there could be some 640,000 people internally displaced as of December 2013, mainly in the northwest of the country; movement of populations within Bangui remains highly dynamic. There has not yet been any IDP profiling exercise, and the situation remains highly dynamic. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) will be leading a profiling exercise, starting with Bangui; implementation of the exercise will depend on the evolving security situation. In addition, 65,000 Central Africans have sought refuge in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Chad and Cameroon since December 2012.

4. The fighting has also disrupted basic services and damaged infrastructure. An Education Cluster assessment showed that half of schools remained closed as of September 2013 and attendance at schools that were open was only 55 per cent, linked to insecurity, absence of teachers and lack of learning materials. Almost 40 per cent of school teachers were absent and over 60 per cent of schools surveyed have been looted.² Many health centres and hospitals have been partially looted and remain closed. Although some staff have resumed work, the centres remain in need of support. Medicine is unavailable as stocks were looted and new supply depends on external support.
5. The tense and dynamic situation presents serious challenges related to humanitarian access and protection. Violence and banditry have made it difficult for humanitarian agencies to have regular, unimpeded access to affected populations; poor infrastructure (made worse following heavy rains) further complicates access. The deployment of MISCA forces up-country and the increased presence of French forces in Bangui and Bossangoa is anticipated to support improved access to populations. In the meantime, human rights violations persist on a massive scale. Affected populations risk being targeted because of ethnicity, religion, political affiliation and gender.
6. The situation in the country is further complicated by the presence of the Lord's Resistance Army who has taken refuge in eastern Central African Republic, carrying out raids on villages and posing a challenge for safe humanitarian access. Seasonal raids carried out by armed nomads crossing from Chad also impact communities in the North.
7. Insecurity in neighboring countries poses an additional burden. Central African Republic hosts twelve thousand Congolese and Sudanese refugees living in camps in Bambari, Batalimo and Zemio; refugees from Sudan who arrived in Vakaga in 2012 have since returned to Sudan.

The Food Security and Nutrition Situation

8. In this context, the food security and nutrition situation has deteriorated dramatically. According to the 2013 Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA), the fighting has led to significant forced displacement, the pilferage of crops, the theft of livestock, and impediments to crop production as farmers were unable to sow fields because they lacked the necessary inputs or were hindered by insecurity. Of those who did plant, 60 per cent projected decreased agricultural production compared to last year. For a large number of moderately food insecure farmers, the decreased household production and

¹ WFP with UNICEF/OCHA/FAO/ACF/and the CAR Institute of Statistics and Social and Economic Sciences (ICASEES). Emergency food security assessment. December 2013. [hereafter: EFSA]

² Education Cluster. *Impact de la crise sur l'éducation en République centrafricaine depuis décembre 2012*.

heavy loss of livestock suggest a difficult lean season up ahead.³ Food stocks will be insufficient to cover needs, and cash crop production and access to daily labour will have decreased.

9. As a result of these shocks, the EFSA found that nearly one third of the population – or 1.3 million people⁴ – was moderately (24 percent) to severely (4 percent) food insecure; the remaining 72 percent of the population was considered to be mildly food insecure. No portion of the surveyed population was found to be in complete food security. The high vulnerability of households is particularly worrying, given that the results reflect conditions in the harvest period when food security is often at its best. Among the displaced populations, the prevalence of food insecurity was higher, at 50 percent classified as moderate or severely food insecure; this group also reported the highest prevalence of severe food insecurity, at 15 percent. Among those who were displaced at some point yet have since returned, food insecurity is lower, at 22 percent.
10. Areas of Ouham, Ouham-Pende, Lobaye, Ouaka, Nana-Mambere, and Ombella M'Poko have the highest absolute numbers of food insecure people; the two regions – Ouaham and Ouaham-Pende are the areas most affected by conflict over the past months. Fifty percent of the population in Ouaham is affected by moderate or severe food insecurity (17 percent severe food insecurity) – this region also reports a high number of persons in repeated displacement.
11. In these circumstances, many households already report heavy reliance on negative coping strategies that undermine their longer-term livelihoods. In addition to reducing consumption, reducing expenditures on health, and taking children out of school, 30 per cent of households reported taking debts, 20 per cent reported the sale of productive assets, and 8 per cent reported the sale of property. As insecurity persists, the food security situation will further deteriorate and households are expected to rely increasingly on damaging coping strategies – with impacts beyond the period of the current crisis.⁵
12. A November 2011 WFP study highlights that though markets are weakly integrated, Nana-Gribizi, Ouaka, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé prefectures have sufficient production to supply the capital and other parts of the country with maize, cassava and rice.⁶ However, markets are not functioning properly since the crisis; reduced harvest production will only be able to assure a certain level of supply for the short term; there are constraints on supply chains and movements of people and goods; and inter-communal tensions have reduced the number of actors on the local markets. As violence continues, purchasing power will further decrease, and economic and market activities could be expected to slow.⁷
13. According to Action contre la Faim (ACF), children now suffer recurrent relapses and increased nutritional risks.⁸ A Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) nutrition survey is anticipated in early 2014, and there is great concern for the nutrition situation of women and children given the crisis, the lack of proper access to health services, safe drinking water and sanitation, and the rising rates of malaria.

³ ACF. October 2013. *Bulletin surveillance multisectorielle*.

⁴ Bangui was not surveyed at the time, as ACH was planning for a household economy analysis for the capital. The EFSA found 1.1 million persons to be severe or moderately food insecure outside of the capital. The figure of 1.3 million is an estimation including Bangui.

⁵ EFSA.

⁶ WFP. September 2011. *Analyse du fonctionnement des marchés en relation avec la sécurité alimentaire des ménages*.

⁷ EFSA.

⁸ ACF. October 2013. *Bulletin surveillance multisectorielle*.

POLICIES, CAPACITIES AND ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS

Policies, Capacities and Actions of the Government

14. Since taking power in March 2013, the ex-Seleka leadership have formed a transitional government. However, the political situation remains unstable, and recent tension within the government has triggered the dismissal of several key ministers. In this context, the government has limited capacity to formulate or implement humanitarian-related policies. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Education has expressed interest in working with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WFP to support the re-opening of schools where security and stability allow. Agencies are also working with health staff to support the re-opening and re-stocking of health and nutrition centers.

Policies, Capacities and Actions of Other Major Actors

15. Given the difficult security situation, there is not a large presence of international humanitarian partners on the ground. The United Nations agencies active in CAR include the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO), and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). There are approximately 43 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international organizations working in the country. The UN agencies and NGOs are currently undertaking activities in a number of sectors, including health, emergency shelter, water, hygiene and sanitation, and protection.

Coordination

16. At the country level, the principal coordination mechanisms for the humanitarian response are the Humanitarian Country Team and the UN Country Team. Clusters are active, and there are regular Humanitarian Country Team and cluster meetings at the Bangui level. WFP and FAO co-lead the food security cluster, and WFP leads the emergency telecommunications cluster and logistics cluster, and participates in the nutrition and education clusters. A multi-cluster initial rapid assessment (MIRA) is planned for the first weeks of January; WFP will take the lead for the exercise.

OBJECTIVES OF WFP ASSISTANCE

17. Given the difficult context, the operation will focus on supporting WFP's Strategic Objective One: Save Lives and Protect Livelihoods in Emergencies. The specific goals are:
- To reduce undernutrition among children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women
 - To improve the food consumption over assistance period for beneficiaries in the conflict-affected areas
 - To increase access to basic services
18. Through an integrated food and nutrition response targeted to the most vulnerable, improve food consumption and prevent a peak in acute malnutrition as a result of the crisis. At the same time, by improving food consumption and increasing access to basic services, including education, the EMOP will aims to reduce household reliance on negative coping strategies, including selling productive assets and removing children from school. In this way, it will help to protect assets, livelihoods and human capital development in the longer term.

19. There are two broad groups of concern: people in immediate need of assistance and people who will require assistance in the lean season. People in immediate need are displaced and severely food insecure persons and highly vulnerable sub-groups, including those with specific nutritional needs, such as young children, pregnant and lactating women, and people living with HIV/AIDS.
20. The operation will last for eight months from January to August 2014 to support populations before and during the peak of the lean season. Over the course of the operation, WFP will reassess the context and the most appropriate objectives for its assistance. The current CP will be suspended while this operation is implemented.

BENEFICIARIES AND TARGETING

21. The EMOP will take a two-phased approach. The first phase, from January to April 2014, will focus on providing an integrated food security and nutrition response for the most severely food insecure and vulnerable groups, by scaling up a combination of general food distributions, blanket supplementary feeding, and targeted support for vulnerable groups (including targeted supplementary feeding, food by prescription, and emergency school feeding). The activities will overlap geographically and temporally to the extent possible, and be concentrated in the most affected areas. The second phase, from May to August 2014, will expand this package of assistance to people who need support ahead of and during the peak of the lean season. (See Table 1.)
22. *General food distributions (GFD)*: In the first phase of distributions, focus will be on reaching those in greatest need, namely internally displaced populations and severely food insecure households. The dynamic and sometimes pendulous nature of displacement indicates that these are not separate population groups, but rather populations may float between these categories. According to the EFSA, as of October 135,000 people were in severe food insecurity (including IDPs, returnees, static populations, and refugees from neighbouring). Given the increasing incidence of displacement following the latest outbreak of violence which has escalated to Bangui, and in order to account for those IDPs in moderate food insecurity yet whose situation is precarious, WFP will extend support to an additional monthly planning figure of 180,000 displaced persons.⁹ The second phase will expand this assistance with a half ration for 785,000 moderately food insecure people whose food stocks and purchasing power will be exhausted ahead of the lean season. Throughout the EMOP period, WFP will maintain support to 12,000 refugees from neighbouring countries settled in Central African Republic.
23. Geographic targeting will consider those areas identified with high number of food insecure as per the EFSA and areas hosting a high number of IDPs; these areas are also those most affected by the violence. Internally displaced persons in need of support will be targeted, with first priority to those settled in sites with no assets. Targeting of additional populations in need will be done at the community level and will be based on the communities' socio-economic profile (with special consideration given to the proportion of female-headed households), coping strategies, food stock availability, food consumption patterns, and households hosting displaced persons.
24. *Blanket supplementary feeding (BSF)*: This activity aims to prevent a spike in malnutrition in young children during this crisis period. It will be provided alongside the general distributions and will aim to support all children between the ages of 6 to 59 months. In the first phase, it will reach 63,000 children and by the second phase the

⁹ The food needs of an additional caseload of IDPs will be covered by partners. As of November, partners were covering some 120,000 vulnerable persons. Over the EMOP period, WFP will advocate partners to scale up to 200,000 persons to cover the needs of the full 1.3 million persons identified through the EFSA by phase two.

numbers will rise to 157,000 as the activity expands to communities originally deemed moderately food insecure but at risk of falling into severe food insecurity during the lean season. WFP will work with partners to implement nutrition screening (and referral) using mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) during distributions when security conditions permit.

25. *Targeted supplementary feeding (TSF)*: This activity provides treatment to pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and children aged 6 to 59 months that suffer from moderate acute malnutrition. The support will be provided in 14 of the country's 16 prefectures¹⁰, including the locations of the GFD and BSF. Caretakers accompanying severely acute malnourished children will receive a 21-day individual ration to reduce early drop-out from therapeutic feeding. The monthly planning caseload for TSF activities is 8,333 moderately acute malnourished children 6-59 months, 7,500 malnourished PLW, and 583 caregivers.
26. Reaching the target for TSF activities will depend entirely on the re-opening of health facilities. As local authorities have redeployed in areas affected by earlier clashes, health staff have returned and facilities have reopened, becoming operational with the support from UNICEF. WFP will partner with non-governmental organisations that are already intervening in targeted prefectures, and collaborate with the Nutrition Cluster to strengthen the capacity of health staff. Mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) measuring tapes, measuring boards, weighing scales and other non-food items will be provided to re-equip looted centres.
27. *Food by prescription (FbP) and family rations*: This activity supports people living with HIV/AIDS in five prefectures where antiretroviral therapy (ART) is now available. In the first phase, 2,500 people will receive the assistance. In the second phase, the programme will expand beyond Bangui and the number of ART patients will increase to 10,000 persons; family rations will be introduced in Ouham-Pendé prefecture where over 30 per cent of HIV-affected households are food insecure.¹¹ The family rations aims to support households and reduce the treatment default rate of ART clients.
28. *Emergency school feeding (ESF)*: This activity, carried out in support of the Ministry of Education and UNICEF's campaign to gradually re-open schools, will allow WFP to provide additional food support to children, enable them to continue their education, and help to foster a sense of normalcy in this troubled period. Schools were targeted based on the following criteria: (i) high levels of children out of school in September 2013; (ii) school feeding identified as the most efficient way to encourage children to return to school;¹² and (iii) net enrolment rates at prefecture level below the 67 per cent national average. In the first phase, WFP aims to reach 108,500 children, and by the second phase in May, the support will expand to a total of 197,000 children, or approximately half of the schoolchildren in rural areas of the targeted prefectures previously covered under the PRRO and CP. The phased scale-up will allow time for the gradual re-opening of schools.

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| TABLE 1: BENEFICIARIES BY ACTIVITY¹ |
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¹⁰ Bamingui-Bangouan, Basse-Kotto, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Kémo, Lobaye, Mambéré-Kadéi, Mbomou, Nana-Mambéré, Ombella-Mpoko, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham-Pendé and Vakaga.

¹¹ WFP and UNICEF. November 2012. *Etude du profil de vulnérabilité à l'insécurité alimentaire des PVVIH*.

¹² Education Cluster. September 2013. *Impact de la crise sur l'éducation en République centrafricaine depuis décembre 2012*.

| Activity | Category of beneficiaries | Phase 1 January- April | Phase 2 May- August | Total (accounting for duplication) |
|--|--|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| GFD | Severely food-insecure (includes IDPs) | 135,000 | 135,000 | 135,000 |
| | Vulnerable IDPs requiring assistance | 180,000 | 180,000 | 180,000² |
| | Moderately food-insecure (returnees, static) | 0 | 785,000 | 785,000 |
| | <i>Sub-total</i> | <i>315,000</i> | <i>1,100,000</i> | <i>1,100,000</i> |
| | Refugees | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| BSF | Children aged 6–59 months | 63,000 | 157,000 | 157,000 |
| TSF | Children aged 6–59 months | 11,000 | 11,000 | 33,500 |
| | PLW | 7,500 | 7,500 | 10,000 |
| | Caregivers' ration | 2,500 | 2,500 | 5,000 |
| FbP | ART clients | 2,500 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| | Family rations | 0 | 5,500 | 5,500 |
| ESF | Schoolchildren | 108,500 | 197,000 | 197,000 |
| Total (accounting for duplication) ³ | | 397,000 | 1,239,000 | 1,250,000 |

¹Figures rounded to the nearest 500.

²This reflects the monthly planning figure.

³The total accounting for duplication considers that: half of those benefitting from TSF and ESF will also be supported through GFD; there is no overlap between the FbP family ration and GFD activities; and that all children receiving BSF are also covered through GFD activities.

29. The number of displaced persons targeted is lower than the total mentioned in the context analysis (some 640,000 in December 2013), in large part due to the fluidity of population movements as well as the differing needs of displaced groups. In areas affected by escalating violence over the last months, displacement of populations can be more protracted, lasting three to six months; these populations will require targeted assistance over the entire period and are considered from Phase one. A portion of IDPs are staying with host families or are displaced within their own villages; these households will be covered (and counted as beneficiaries) through WFP's parallel support to severely or moderately food insecure populations, as appropriate. It is also anticipated that some of the displacement resulting from the December wave of violence is of a temporary nature, and some of these groups could soon return home; as per the EFSA findings, only a portion will require full food support upon return.

30. WFP is continuously and closely monitoring the situation with humanitarian partners on the ground and will maintain flexibility to adapt beneficiary figures, targeting, and duration of assistance as necessary.

NUTRITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND RATIONS / VALUE OF CASH / VOUCHER TRANSFERS

31. The table below provides details on the food rations for each activity.

TABLE 2: DAILY FOOD RATION BY ACTIVITY
(g/person/day)

| | GFD - full ¹ | GFD - half | BSF | TSF (6–59 months) | TSF (PLW) | Caregiver | FbP | FbP (family rations) | ESF |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|------------|
| Cereals | 400 | 200 | | | | 400 | | 400 | 120 |
| Pulses | 60 | 30 | | | | 60 | | 60 | 30 |
| Vegetable oil | 20 | 10 | | | 25 | 25 | 25 | 20 | 15 |
| Iodized salt | 5 | 2.5 | | | | 5 | | 5 | 3 |
| Supercereal (CSB+) with sugar | 60 | 30 | | | 220 | | 250 | | |
| Plumpy'Sup | | | 46 | 92 | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 591 | 242.5 | 47 | 92 | 245 | 490 | 275 | 485 | 168 |
| Total kcal/day | 2,047 | 1,024 | 256 | 500 | 1,073 | 1,889 | 1,189 | 1,818 | 682 |
| % kcal from protein | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 13 | 10 | 13 | 11 | 10 |
| % kcal from fat | 12 | 12 | 55 | 55 | 35 | 20 | 33 | 17 | 27 |
| Number of feeding days per beneficiary on average (during EMOP period) | 240 | 120 | 240 Or 120 | 60 | 180 | 30 | 240 | 120 | 140 |

¹Severely food insecure, IDPs, and refugees. Supercereal not part of refugee ration.

32. In designing the package of interventions, particular attention has been given to ensuring that children have their nutritional requirements met, especially during the critical first 1,000 days of life. The blanket supplementary feeding, using Plumpy'Sup, covers children from 6 months to 5 years of age. The inclusion of Super Cereal in the general food distribution will ensure that pregnant and lactating women receive the nutrients they need to support the earlier stages of a child's life. The Super Cereal has the additional benefit of addressing micronutrient deficiencies, which place vulnerable individuals at risk of mortality in nutritional crises.

33. WFP is already using Plumpy'Sup and Super Cereal in targeted supplementary feeding programmes in the country. Yet for households that have not participated in these programmes, the special nutritional products may be unfamiliar. Currently, insecurity necessitates rapid distributions, limiting the time available for proper sensitisation at the community level. The operation will therefore explore alternatives such as leaflets and radio messaging to ensure beneficiaries are aware of the benefits and proper use of these products.

34. At the current time, in-kind food is the most appropriate transfer modality given the disruption that the crisis has caused to markets. However, the situation will be monitored to see if the crisis stabilizes and there are new opportunities to complement in-kind nutritional products with cash or voucher transfers for the purchase of other commodities.

TABLE 3: FOOD REQUIREMENTS BY ACTIVITY (mt)

| | GFD | BSF | TSF (6–59) | TSF | Caregiver | FbP | FbP (family) | ESF | Total |
|--|-----|-----|------------|-----|-----------|-----|--------------|-----|-------|
|--|-----|-----|------------|-----|-----------|-----|--------------|-----|-------|

| | | | months) | (PLW) | | | rations) | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Cereals | 50,232.00 | | | | 55.97 | | 262.66 | 2,460.00 | 53,010.62 |
| Pulses | 7,534.80 | | | | 8.40 | | 39.40 | 615.00 | 8,197.59 |
| Vegetable oil | 2,511.60 | | | 45 | 3.50 | 37.50 | 13.13 | 307.50 | 2,918.23 |
| Iodized salt | 627.90 | | | | 0.70 | - | 3.28 | 61.50 | 693.38 |
| Supercereal (CSB+) with sugar | 6,228.00 | | | 396 | | 375.00 | | - | 6,999.00 |
| Plumpy'Sup | 1,562.16 | 1,562.16 | 183.99 | | | | | - | 1,746.15 |
| TOTAL | 68,696.46 | 1,562.16 | 183.99 | 441 | 68.56 | 412.50 | 318.47 | 3,444.00 | 73,564.98 |

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

35. The operation will be conducted in a dangerous and dynamic environment with limited capacity and infrastructure in place. As a result, special consideration will have to be given to the implementation arrangements.
36. Given the volatile situation, it will be critical at all stages of the operational response to avoid taking actions that inadvertently exacerbate tensions and possibly create additional security risks for WFP staff and beneficiaries. In assisting displaced communities, for instance, particular attention will be paid to religious divisions given the tendency of these populations to gather in same-faith groups. A 'do no harm' analysis will be conducted that examines not only targeting but also distribution modalities and the selection of staff, partners, suppliers, and transporters.
37. Because of the security risks facing humanitarian organizations, the distributions will be undertaken by mobile teams, who move quickly from site to site and have the ability to adjust their plans. The security situation may also force the country office to consider the use of armed escorts. In making decisions on the use of escorts, WFP will weigh the impact of different arrangements on perceptions of its neutrality and impartiality and factor in programme criticality. A humanitarian coordinator is being identified to manage coordination with the different actors on the ground.
38. The insecurity also puts WFP's beneficiaries at risk. In order to ensure that they are not exposed to more harm as a result of our interventions, a careful protection analysis will be conducted that will inform decisions on the location, timing and mode of the distributions; appropriate expertise is being sent in for the exercise. For instance, in some locations, WFP will consider introducing wet feeding, if it will help reduce the risk of theft and violence experienced by beneficiaries (especially women) when they receive dry rations.
39. In this environment, regular consultations with affected populations will be key to successfully implementing the project and ensuring the safety of staff and beneficiaries. The country office has already begun to reach out to local religious leaders to inform their communities about distributions. In line with its commitments on accountability to affected populations, it will also solicit the concerns, ideas and priorities of affected populations, especially women and vulnerable groups, to help ensure that the programme is as effective as possible in reaching those most in need in the difficult circumstances.
40. Currently, local partners and capacities are limited, but will be used wherever possible. The EMOP will be implemented in collaboration with the Ministries of Education,

Health, Rural Development and Planning and their decentralized services, where this capacity exists and is functional, as well as with United Nations agencies and NGOs. Nutrition interventions will be implemented jointly with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and NGOs, and coordinated with UNICEF through a joint nutrition strategy. The food security and nutrition clusters are active, and working to identify new sites and new partners for the mobile distributions. Where partners do not exist, WFP will handle the distributions.

41. Normal procurement procedures will be followed. While specialized nutritional products will be sourced overseas, wherever possible staple commodities such as rice and pulses will be purchased in neighbouring countries to limit procurement-associated delays. The nearest receiving port for overseas products is Doula in Cameroon. Commodities are transported overland to Bangui and then to six extended delivery points within the country. A dedicated Supply Chain Working Group for Central African Republic has been established. Maintaining flexibility of commodities in the food basket (for example: rice or maize meal as potential cereal options), will encourage more timely response. The Forward Purchase Facility is being reinforced.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

42. The previously designed monitoring and evaluation (M&E) matrix that had completed pre-testing and staff training phases could not be implemented because of insecurity. The roll-out can now resume as WFP sub-offices in Bouar and Paoua have been rehabilitated and the Bamabari and Kaga-Bandoro sub-offices are being re-constructed and re-opened.
43. Refining monitoring tools and expanding the existing database for nutrition activities, school feeding, and GFD interventions will be a top priority. M&E focal points at country and sub-office level will be trained, and partner NGOs, UN agencies, and Government technical ministries will be involved in the development of M&E tools to ensure integration and coherence. WFP also plans to use NGOs for third-party monitoring in areas that remain inaccessible to staff.
44. Food security, market and nutrition indicators will be monitored jointly with partner NGOs through an ACF-led multi-sectoral surveillance system and monthly surveillance bulletins issued.

HAND-OVER STRATEGY

45. Given the unstable political context and the deep concerns about the food security and nutrition situation, it is unlikely that assistance will be phased out by the end of this operation. However, if fighting subsides and security is restored, there may be opportunities to support recovery and longer-term resilience in some areas. If WFP pursued a follow-on EMOP, it might explore (if conditions permit) using cash transfers to help stimulate markets or introducing for-assets projects to support resilience-building. If there is a significant improvement in the security situation, WFP might transition back to a protracted relief and recovery operation and restart the country programme, which has a longer-term focus.

RISK MANAGEMENT

46. *Programmatic risks:* Given the proposed rapid scale-up of activities in a highly insecure environment, WFP faces a serious risk that it will not have the ability to meet its programmatic targets. In order to mitigate this risk, WFP is taking several steps. First, it is working with the food security and nutrition clusters to map partner capacity

and to promote capacity-building for local NGOs. Second, it is enhancing its own capacity by bringing in additional human resources and re-opening or establishing new sub-offices (through a parallel special operation). Third, it is adapting distribution models to the exigencies of an insecure environment. Finally, the phased scale-up of the operation will allow WFP to build capacity over time.

47. *Contextual risks:* A fundamental risk is that continued fighting will impede humanitarian access and prevent WFP from reaching its beneficiaries. To mitigate this risk, United Nations, INGOs, and international organizations will continue to advocate for protection of human rights, stability and security. Parties in the transitional Government have agreed to facilitate humanitarian access. Under a parallel Special Operation, WFP has deployed communications and security equipment to enhance staff safety; humanitarian air services support the safe and efficient movement of WFP and partner staff across the country.

48. *Institutional risks:* The complex nature of the crisis and high media attention also raises concerns of reputational risk if WFP's response is slow or communication insufficient. In order to maintain WFP's ability to respond quickly to emerging needs, it will be important to secure a high level of funding early in the operation.

Security Risk Management

49. Under a specific SO to support the scale-up of the humanitarian response and staff security, WFP is preparing for the immediate deployment of communications and security equipment, to ensure Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS) compliance. An emergency preparedness and business continuity plan has been integrated into the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) operational response plan. UNHAS is managed by WFP and reaches 27 locations across the Central African Republic, and an additional cross-border Bangui-Doula (Cameroon) is being developed to ensure safe and regular access to the nearest and better-served international airport and medical facilities.

RECOMMENDATION

50. The Executive Director and Director-General of FAO are requested to approve the proposed Emergency Operation Central African Republic 200650.

APPROVAL

.....
 Ertharin Cousin
 Executive Director
 Date:

.....
 José Graziano da Silva
 Director-General of FAO
 Date:.....

ANNEX I-A

| PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | Quantity (mt) | Value (US\$) | Value (US\$) |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|---|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Food Transfers</i> | | | |
| Cereals | 53,011 | 27,032,748 | |
| Pulses | 8,198 | 6,033,560 | |
| Oil and fats | 2,918 | 3,101,612 | |
| Mixed and blended food | 8,745 | 9,459,429 | |
| Others | 693 | 59,471 | |
| Total Food Transfers | 73,565 | 45,686,820 | |
| External Transport | | 7,797,771 | |
| LTSH | | 33,773,970 | |
| ODOC Food | | 4,465,465 | |
| Food and Related Costs¹ | | 91,724,026 | |
| C&V Transfers | | - | |
| C&V Related costs | | - | |
| Cash and Vouchers and Related Costs | | - | |
| Capacity Development & Augmentation | | - | |
| <i>Direct Operational Costs</i> | | | 91,724,026 |
| Direct support costs (see Annex I-B) | | | 8,223,115 |
| Total Direct Project Costs | | | 99,947,141 |
| Indirect support costs (7.0 percent) ² | | | 6,996,300 |
| TOTAL WFP COSTS | | | 106,943,441 |

¹ This is a notional food basket for budgeting and approval. The contents may vary.

² The indirect support cost rate may be amended by the Board during the project.

ANNEX I-B

| DIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (US\$) | |
|--|------------------|
| WFP Staff and Staff-Related | |
| Professional staff * | 4,956,874 |
| General service staff ** | 891,134 |
| Danger pay and local allowances | 1,008,167 |
| Subtotal | 6,856,175 |
| Recurring and Other | 311,243 |
| Capital Equipment | 594,418 |
| Security | 137,673 |
| Travel and transportation | 295,829 |
| Assessments, Evaluations and Monitoring¹ | 27,778 |
| TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS | 8,223,115 |

* Costs to be included in this line are under the following cost elements: International Professional Staff (P1 to D2), Local Staff - National Officer, International Consultants, Local Consultants, UNV

** Costs to be included in this line are under the following cost elements: International GS Staff, Local Staff-General Service, Local Staff - Temporary Assist. (SC, SSA, Other), Overtime

¹ Reflects estimated costs when these activities are performed by third parties. If WFP Country Office staff perform these activities, the costs are included in Staff and Staff Related and Travel and Transportation.

ANNEX II: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

| Cross-Cutting Results and Indicators | |
|--|--|
| Results | Indicators |
| I. Gender equality and empowerment improved | <p>I.1 Proportion of assisted women, men or both women and men who make decisions over the use of cash, vouchers or food within the household (Target: Project Specific)</p> <p>I.2 Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees (Target: > 50%)</p> <p>I.3 Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash or voucher distribution (Target: > 60%)</p> |
| II. WFP assistance delivered and utilized in safe, accountable and dignified conditions | <p>II.1 Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP Programme sites (Targets: 80% for emergency)</p> <p>II.2 Proportion of assisted people informed about the Programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain) (Targets: 70%)</p> |
| III. Food assistance interventions coordinated and partnerships developed and maintained | <p>III.1 Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners (Target: Project-specific)</p> <p>III.2 Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks) (Target: Project-specific)</p> <p>III.3 Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services (Target: Project-specific)</p> |

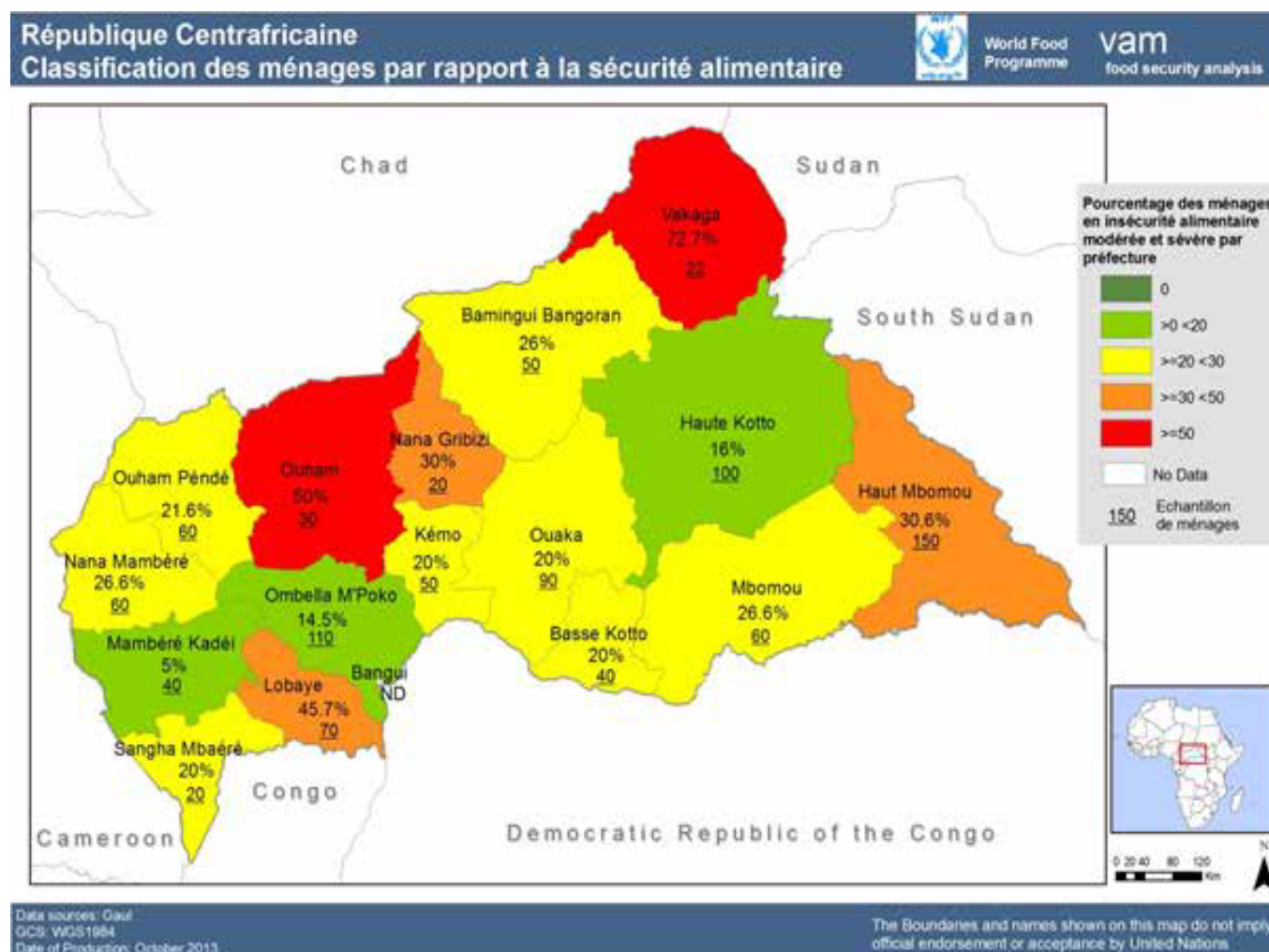
| Strategic Objective 1: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies | | |
|--|--|---|
| Results | Performance Indicators | Risks and assumptions |
| OUTCOME 1.1 Reduced undernutrition among children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment performance: recovery, mortality, default and non-response rates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ mortality rate < 3% ○ recovery rate > 75% ○ non-response rate < 15% ○ default rate < 15% Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Target: > 66% Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Target: MAM treatment coverage > 50% in rural areas | <p>There is no security incident hampering distributions</p> <p>There is no escalation of conflict, lack of state authority and impeded deployment of security forces (MISCA and United Nations) that could prevent implementation of activities in a large of part of the project area</p> <p>Complementary WASH and nutrition activities are provided by partners/Government</p> <p>There is no major epidemics/diseases outbreak</p> <p>There is adequate funding to avoid pipeline breaks</p> |
| OUTPUT 1.1.1 Food, nutritional products and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality and in a timely manner to targeted beneficiaries | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Number of women, boys and girls receiving food assistance, disaggregated by activity, beneficiary category, sex, food as % of planned Quantity of food assistance distributed, disaggregated by type, as % of planned | |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Quantity of non-food items distributed, disaggregated by type, as % of planned Number of institutional sites assisted (health centres), as % of planned | |
| OUTPUT 1.1.2 Messaging and counselling on specialized nutritious foods and infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices implemented effectively | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of women/men beneficiaries exposed to nutrition messaging supported by WFP, against proportion planned Proportion of women receiving nutrition counselling supported by WFP, against proportion planned Proportion of targeted caregivers receiving 3 key messages delivered through WFP-supported messaging and counselling | |
| OUTCOME 1.2 Restored access to basic services | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Retention rate of boys and girls ➤ Target: 70% Enrolment rate of girls and boys ➤ Target: Annual increase of 6% Default rate of clients from anti-retroviral therapy of HIV programmes ➤ Target: < 15% | <p>There is no security incident hampering distributions</p> <p>There is no escalation of conflict, lack of state authority and impeded deployment of security forces (MISCA and United Nations) that could prevent implementation of activities in a large of part of the project area</p> <p>Government and partners assume their complementary activities</p> <p>Complementary activities are provided by partners</p> <p>There is adequate funding to avoid</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | pipeline breaks |
| OUTPUT 1.2.1 Food and nutritional products distributed in sufficient quantity and quality and in a timely manner to targeted beneficiaries | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of women, men, boys and girls receiving food assistance, disaggregated by activity, beneficiary category, sex, food, non-food items, as % of planned 2. Quantity of food assistance distributed, disaggregated by type, as % of planned 3. Quantity of non-food items distributed, disaggregated by types, as % of planned 4. Number of institutional sites assisted (schools, health centres), as % of planned | |
| OUTCOME 1.3 Improved food consumption over assistance period for beneficiaries of GFD in the conflict affected areas | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food consumption score, disaggregated by sex of household head <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Target: Reduced prevalence of poor food consumption of targeted households/individuals by 80% 2. Diet diversity score, disaggregated by sex of household head <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Target: Increased diet diversity score of targeted households 3. Coping strategy index, disaggregated by sex of household head <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Target: CSI of 80% of targeted households is reduced or stabilized | <p>There is no security incident hampering distributions</p> <p>There is no escalation of conflict, lack of state authority and impeded deployment of security forces (MISCA and United Nations) that could prevent implementation of activities in a large of part of the project area</p> <p>Government and partners assume their complementary activities</p> <p>Complementary activities are provided by partners</p> |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | | There is adequate funding to avoid pipeline breaks |
| OUTPUT 1.3.1 Food and non-food items distributed in sufficient quantity and quality and in a timely manner to targeted beneficiaries | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of women, men, boys and girls receiving food assistance, disaggregated by activity, beneficiary category, sex, food, non-food items, as % of planned 2. Quantity of food assistance distributed, disaggregated by type, as % of planned 3. Quantity of non-food items distributed, disaggregated by type, as % of planned | |

MAP



ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

| | |
|--------|--|
| ACF | Action Contre La Faim |
| ART | Anti-retroviral therapy |
| BSF | Blanket supplementary feeding |
| CP | Country programme |
| EFSA | Emergency Food Security Assessment |
| EMOP | Emergency Operation |
| ESF | Emergency School Feeding |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FbP | Food by prescription |
| GFD | General food distribution |
| IDP | Internally displaced person |
| IOM | International Organization for Migration |
| LTSH | Landside transport, storage and handling |
| M&E | Monitoring and evaluation |
| MAM | Moderate acute malnutrition |
| MISCA | Mission Internationale de Sécurisation de la Centrafrique |
| MIRA | Multi-cluster initial rapid assesment |
| NGO | Non-governmental organization |
| OCHA | Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs |
| ODOC | Other direct operational cost |
| PLW | Pregnant and lactating women |
| PRRO | Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation |
| SMART | Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions |
| SO | Special Operation |
| TSF | Targeted supplementary feeding |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| UNHAS | United Nations Humanitarian Air Service |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |

ANNEX IV – LTSH-matrix

ANNEX V – Project Budget Plan

ANNEX VI – Project Statistics

ANNEX VII – Project Budget Estimate