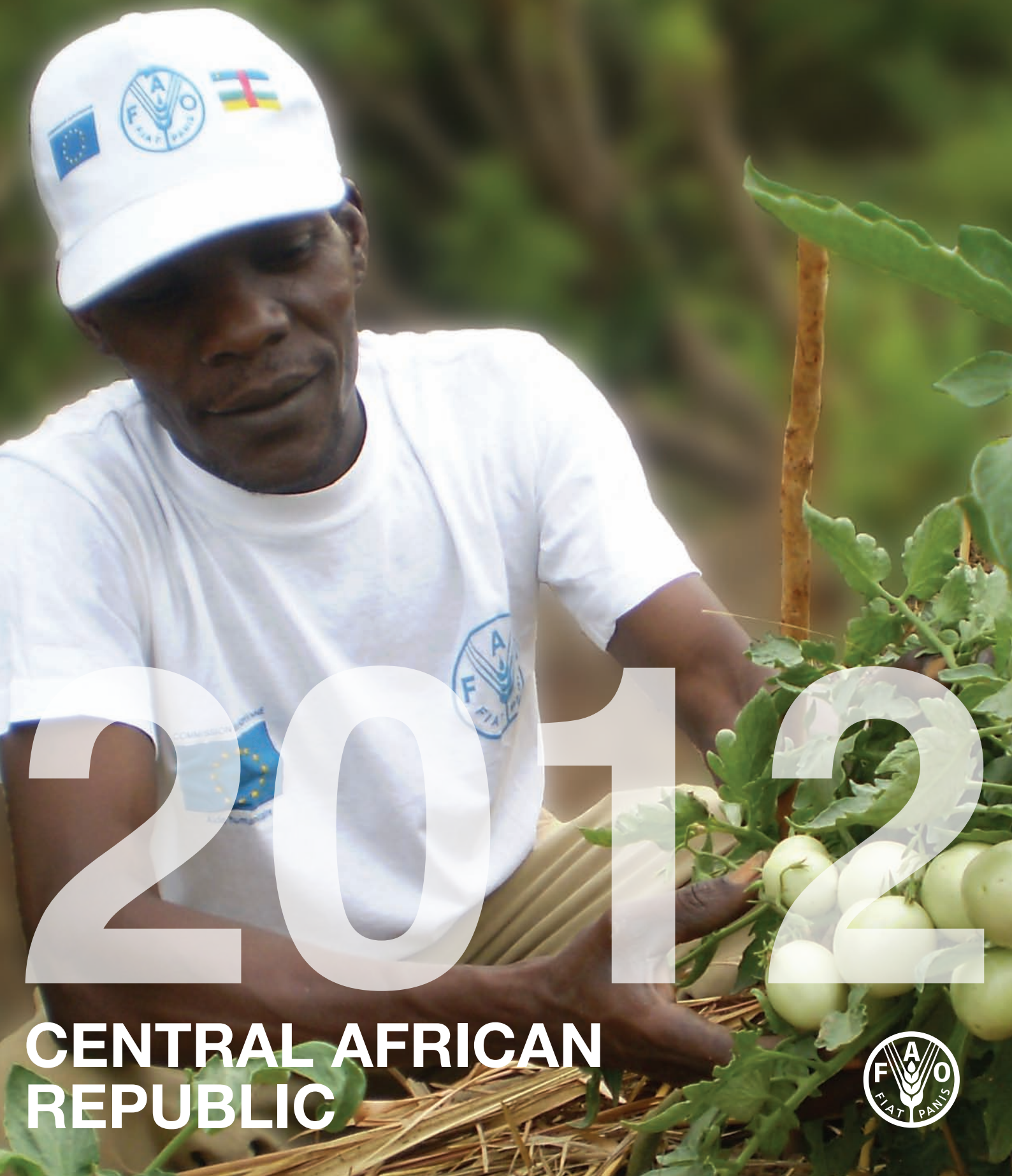


THE FAO COMPONENT OF THE CONSOLIDATED APPEALS



2012

CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC





The Appeal for the Central African Republic was launched globally on the 14th December 2011 as part of the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP).

For a complete overview of FAO's component of the 2012 CAP, please go to www.fao.org/emergencies.

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Information for this brochure mostly originates from OCHA's '2012 Humanitarian Appeals' documentation.

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FOREWORD

Every year, the plight and needs of many of the world's most vulnerable people are described in the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP). This year's CAP spans 18 countries¹ and outlines needs across key sectors.

The 2012 CAP clearly highlights that food insecurity continues to be compounded by protracted crisis situations, more frequent natural disasters, conflict, volatile food prices, harsh economic conditions and climate change.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) works with partners to reduce food insecurity through improved preparedness for and effective response to food and agricultural threats and emergencies.

Stepping up to the challenge

To rise to this challenge and improve effectiveness in a climate of reduced funding and increased need, FAO's emergency response focuses on protecting both lives and livelihoods. Rebuilding livelihoods and decreasing dependency on external aid ensures a quicker return to normalcy for affected people, restoring their self-sufficiency and sense of dignity.

Beyond immediate support to ensure food security in protracted or sudden-onset crisis situations, FAO implements programmes that build the resilience of households in the face of future shocks. Families that have been affected by crises, and often divested of their assets, are even more vulnerable to the potential impacts of future shocks – restoring livelihoods and strengthening resilience can mitigate the effects and reduce risk.

FAO's components of the CAP fit within broader planning and programming strategies at country and subregional levels, which look into longer-term measures to address the root causes of vulnerability and increase resilience through disaster risk management. These include FAO Plans of Action, which have been developed together with national counterparts in Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, the Niger, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, the West Bank and Gaza Strip and Zimbabwe, among other countries.

Another way that FAO has stepped up to the ever increasing challenges of today's world is in our closer collaboration with international and local partners and counterparts. In 2011, the global Food Security Cluster was established to improve the coordination of food security responses in humanitarian crises, under the co-leadership of FAO and the World Food Programme. At country level, Food Security Clusters are increasingly reflected in CAP documents. FAO's work in development provides an important link with national authorities and community-based organizations that can often be built upon in times of crisis.

Adapting programming to best fit needs

Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts, and achieving food security in emergencies requires a specific understanding and analysis of livelihoods.

FAO programming places people at the centre of its actions, identifying the most effective and efficient ways to assist those most vulnerable. Emergency response programmes are adapted to the needs of

¹ The present brochure only features the 16 countries that will be included in the global launch of the CAP on 14 December 2011. The CAP for Liberia and Sri Lanka will be launched at a later date.

women, men and their families, whether they are fishers, pastoralists, farmers or foresters. Diversifying livelihoods and intensifying agricultural production are some of FAO's key strategies. To be effective, analysis of household, community and national systems is needed. The individual CAP strategies reflect this livelihood analysis. In many contexts, addressing needs at the household level must be done hand in hand with strengthening community and social support systems.

In Somalia, in addition to providing immediate life-saving assistance, the strategic priorities for humanitarian assistance include stabilizing and preventing the deterioration of people's way of life through the protection and restoration of livelihood assets and through early recovery, resilience building, emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction and social/productive networks.

This is a twin-track approach that combines immediate assistance to improve access to food with addressing the root causes of the problems and building longer-term coping capacity in the face of protracted crises and new shocks. FAO is supplying inputs like drought-tolerant seeds while improving pastoral techniques, water harvesting, irrigation and soil conservation. In situations of high unemployment or where access to food is constrained, cash and seed voucher schemes in exchange for labour are being established.

In the Horn of Africa, FAO has set up irrigation schemes so that some communities have been able to keep producing food despite the drought. FAO is also distributing seeds that can tolerate drought, and assisting farmers to produce more quality seeds and sell them to other farmers. These efforts are ensuring that more and more people can cope with drought in the future.

Building on local institutions

We have much to learn from our partners. In the past, the international community spoke of "capacity building", often as a "top-down" system of knowledge transfer, but experience has shown that most of the learning and best approaches to strengthen resilience are found at the local and national levels, within communities and institutions.

Building on and supporting local institutions can provide a sustainable basis for addressing the drivers of a crisis, for rebuilding livelihoods after a crisis and for strengthening resilience and coping mechanisms.

In South Sudan, FAO has and will continue in 2012 to work with the nascent government to establish a sound institutional framework for food security, which is resulting in increased levels of public investment in agriculture and food security.

Thinking about outcomes

Humanitarian response is life-saving, but it also aims to protect and restore the lives and livelihoods of people that have been hit by crisis. Dignity, food and nutrition security, self-sufficiency and resilience are cornerstones of what FAO aims to achieve in emergency response; there are also further positive outcomes across a variety of sectors that can be achieved through food- and agriculture-based approaches. For example, collaboration with the Department of Education in school gardening projects in the Philippines will enhance the nutritional value and variety of meals prepared in schools, and ensure that children attend school.

In Afghanistan, steps have already been taken to link food assistance, cash-based and agriculture support activities with a nutrition response to ensure that adequate household dietary intake and food consumption levels are met. Food security and agricultural interventions are closely aligned with programmes to increase water access for herders, whose livelihoods are impacted by natural disasters and conflict.

Short-term funding leads to short-term results

Humanitarian donors are at work to support the needs of the most vulnerable; however, despite generous short-term aid, which has been successful in addressing immediate needs, vulnerability persists in many countries facing humanitarian crises. If lasting solutions are not found, after each shock families are less able to cope, take longer to rebuild their lives and livelihoods, and remain dependent on external aid for longer periods of time.

In some parts of the Sudan, for example, vulnerability remains acute as underlying conditions are left unaddressed. As a result, large segments of internally displaced persons residing in camps have to various degrees become dependent on external aid. The comparative lack of parallel support for durable solutions within a humanitarian framework in the Sudan is one of the key contributors to persistent vulnerability in the country.

FAO's component of the 2012 CAP reflects how we in FAO are taking on new challenges. We appeal to our donors and partners to help us take on the challenge and work together to address not only the life-saving needs of vulnerable communities today, but to restore lives and livelihoods for tomorrow.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laurent Thomas', with a horizontal line underneath.

Laurent Thomas
Assistant Director-General
Technical Cooperation Department

2011 IN REVIEW

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) received USD 200 million in contributions for emergency programming in response to the 2011 Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) and other humanitarian appeals launched in 2011. Although this represented a USD 50 million decline in appeal-related funding as compared with 2010, the coverage of requirements has remained steady at just over 50 percent.

The international community responded generously to agricultural needs in Afghanistan (94 percent met), Somalia (90 percent met) and Sri Lanka (77 percent met). These countries accounted for more than one-third of FAO's programming needs under the 2011 appeals.

2011 also included the continuation of appeals launched in 2010, such as the Pakistan Floods Relief and Early Recovery Response Plan, which remained active until July 2011. With almost USD 107 million in requirements and over USD 97 million in funding, it was FAO's largest appeal ever, and one of its most successful. The current appeal for Pakistan, launched in response to the devastating monsoon floods of 2011, will last until March 2012 and has received almost 56 percent of required funding. Over the past two years, FAO has implemented over USD 126 million in emergency agricultural programming in Pakistan.

The situation across the Horn of Africa deteriorated significantly in 2011. The region faced one of its driest years since 1950/51. Conditions were particularly dire in Somalia, where the food crisis escalated into famine in parts of the country. Although the Somalia 2011 CAP is well funded, funding for the rest of the region has been low. So far, out of total needs of more than USD 161 million for the whole region, almost USD 80 million, or 49 percent, has been contributed. FAO has a significant presence in the region, with active programming in every country affected by the crisis.

As of 30 November, total funding for FAO's Emergency and Rehabilitation Programme in 2011 amounted to over USD 333 million.

FAO Emergency and Rehabilitation Programme

1 January to 30 November 2011

FUNDING BY COUNTRY/REGION	(USD)
Somalia	78 801 904
Sudan	45 786 639
Pakistan	18 537 881
Afghanistan	15 308 239
Kenya	13 486 406
Regional Africa	11 708 090
Sri Lanka	10 787 258
DR Congo	10 532 563
West Bank and Gaza Strip	10 292 629
Uganda	10 247 365
Indonesia	9 660 056
Ethiopia	6 402 099
Zambia	5 219 997
Niger	5 013 939
Chad	4 622 600
Côte d'Ivoire	4 520 742
Regional Latin America	3 815 808
Guatemala	3 681 897
Zimbabwe	3 639 010
Liberia	3 595 190

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS	(USD)
European Union	57 396 448
United States of America	56 291 682
Canada	36 241 276
OCHA/CERF	35 497 782
Sweden	16 380 547
Belgium	13 847 977
Australia	12 266 908
Japan	11 197 420
Spain	10 428 230
World Bank	8 770 000
UN Trust Fund - Sudan	7 020 257
United Kingdom	7 008 322
UN Trust Fund - DR Congo	5 966 903
Switzerland	4 557 886
France	4 431 766
UN Trust Fund - Somalia	4 401 244
Italy	3 800 941
Unilateral Trust Fund	2 938 565
United Kingdom	2 019 902
Netherlands	1 875 000

THE FAO COMPONENT 2012
OF THE CONSOLIDATED APPEALS

**CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC**

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Decades of conflict and insecurity in the Central African Republic and neighbouring countries have led to large-scale displacement and undermined the economy. 2011 was marked by signs of progress – elections were held, a new Government was formed and a ceasefire was agreed between the Government and one of the last remaining rebel groups. Resettlement and reintegration – particularly of ex-combatants – are major challenges. Today, over 170 000 people remain displaced in the Central African Republic, and almost as many are refugees in neighbouring countries. Central Africans are among the world's poorest, with nearly two out of three people living on less than USD 1.25 per day.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Much of the conflict has played out in rural areas, forcing farmers off their land, destroying productive assets and bringing livelihoods to a halt. Food insecurity is rife – 30 percent of people are unable to meet their basic food needs. Most of them are, or were, farmers.

Lack of access to land, inputs and extension support have significantly affected crop production and livestock rearing. In spite of peace agreements with almost all opposition movements, the Lord's Resistance Army continues to pose a threat in the southeast of the country, preventing farmers from resuming productive activities. Soaring food prices have further placed staple foods beyond the reach of most families. In just one month, the price of cassava nearly tripled (from XAF 1 000 to XAF 2 800 for 15 kg). As a result, farming families have had great difficulty in accessing sufficient and diverse foods.

The ability of the Government and the private sector to support effective and efficient agricultural production remains low. Systems for organized harvest, food processing, conservation, commercialization and animal protection are either inadequate or non-existent.

The Central African Republic has tremendous agricultural potential, with one of the highest levels of rainfall in the world. One-quarter of the country's land area is arable (15 million hectares – almost four times the size of Switzerland), of which only 4 percent is under cultivation. To re-establish the agriculture sector, farmers must regain safe access to agropastoral lands. This must go hand in hand with improving local capacity to collect reliable data, conduct analysis and communicate the results to ensure that the most appropriate assistance reaches populations most in need.

FAO response

In 2011, FAO's response in the Central African Republic centres on a sustainable return to agriculture for IDPs and ex-combatants. Recent political progress presents a unique opportunity to capitalize on the country's immense agricultural potential and to build momentum in agricultural recovery.

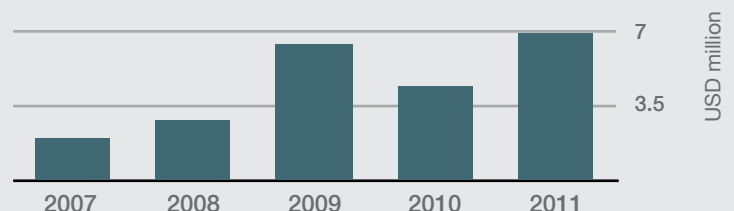
KEY FACTS

- Population: 4 401 051
- Human Development Index Rank: 179/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 63%
- Recent emergencies: conflict, floods, cholera outbreak, severe local storms.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

FAO EMERGENCY PROGRAMME

As of November 2011, based on project expenditures



FAO aims to provide livelihood support to 22 500 households. Helping farmers access vital agricultural inputs, through direct distribution and agricultural fairs, will help restore food production. Training on cottage industries and food preservation will increase income opportunities. Livestock support will include the provision of healthy and productive animals, a systematic vaccination campaign and training on improved animal reproduction and rearing practices. FAO will also support the Government's disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process to match ex-combatants with appropriate livelihood opportunities, by providing agricultural inputs and training to help successfully reintegrate them into civil society.

As co-lead of the Food Security Cluster, FAO will work with partners to regularly assess the food security situation, promote gender equality and provide up-to-date information for timely and effective response.



PROPOSALS - FAO Emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 5 020 819

Improving the food security and income-generation capacity of affected people through the promotion of livestock production in the prefectures of Bamingui, Bangoran and Haute-Kotto in the Central African Republic

Objectives:	To ensure that crisis-affected populations have access to safe and nutritious food; and to support community resilience to food security shocks through improved agricultural production and diversification.
Activities:	Use participatory rural appraisal to involve all people and define the role of women in the project; identify local technical capacity for livestock production; procure essential livestock supplies; provide refresher training to veterinary actors; identify beneficiaries according to gender equality principles; vaccinate small ruminants and poultry; provide healthy animals to beneficiaries and tools to build shelters; train veterinarians and animal health workers on production and rearing techniques (e.g. hygiene, housing, reproduction, feeding and diagnosis); sensitize pastoralists about pasture rehabilitation; manage migratory routes with respect to environmental protection; provide supplementary feed and veterinary care and establish a local drug store on a revolving basis; support veterinarians through initial and refresher training and distribution of materials (e.g. vaccines, drugs and related materials); train beneficiaries on good practices and herd management; reactivate livestock markets and facilitate trade; organize actors within the livestock sector value chain (pastoralists, agropastoralists, butchers, traders and consumers) into viable associations; and conduct monitoring missions.
Beneficiaries:	10 000 IDPs/returnees and the affected local host communities (including 6 000 women and 2 000 affected host-community members whose assets have been stolen).
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in a limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 830 369

Supporting the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants in the Central African Republic

Objectives:	To ensure the food security and safety of demobilized ex-combatants.
Activities:	Support the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants through agriculture; promote sustainable livelihoods for peace building; identify ex-combatants and reinsertion locations; sensitize local leaders about the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process; establish local committees representing all stakeholders; provide counselling (such as on technical support, gender equality and geographical location for reintegration), based on the ex-combatants' areas of interest and their capacities to conduct the activity; sensitize ex-combatants about the chosen activity; procure the necessary agricultural inputs, involving local committees and based on beneficiaries' preferences, and local agro-ecological conditions; improve access to essential and quality agricultural inputs through direct distribution, vouchers and fairs; restock animals, particularly small ruminants and poultry; promote agroprocessing and conservation for income generation; and provide training and technical support.
Beneficiaries:	2 500 identified and selected ex-combatants (including 300 women).
Gender marker:	0 - No signs that gender issues were considered in project design.
Funds requested:	USD 2 585 000

Supporting food security and livelihood diversification in the prefectures of Bamingui Bangoran, Vakaga and Haute-Kotto

Objectives:	To ensure that all crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food; and to support community resilience to achieve food security through agricultural production and diversification.
Activities:	Use participatory rural appraisal to involve all concerned people and clearly define the role of women in the project; in coordination with food distribution actors (e.g. WFP), ensure food aid is provided in support of food security and for seed protection; support access to essential and locally adapted agricultural inputs through vouchers or direct distribution; select crop varieties based on farmers' preference and adapted to local agro-ecological conditions and following government recommendations; train beneficiaries in conservation techniques and use of processing equipment (e.g. grinding mills, oil extractors and dryers), focusing on women's groups; ensure regular and timely information sharing by facilitating Cluster meetings, distributing bulletins and other communication tools; increase market access; organize periodic agricultural fairs; organize refresher training on good agricultural practices and provide essential materials to selected actors to improve their operational capacity; collect and analyse food security and livelihood data; and regularly disseminate information on food security and livelihoods to stakeholders and decision-makers (through reports and maps).
Beneficiaries:	10 000 IDPs/returnees and affected vulnerable host populations (including 5 100 women).
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 971 850

Support to the Food Security Cluster Coordination of the United Nations (UN) and partners in the Central African Republic

Objectives:	To enhance the coordination capacity and expand the geographical coverage of the Food Security Cluster in order to ensure predictability and accountability of information on food security, as well as improved, more timely and efficient humanitarian assistance and targeting of beneficiaries.
Activities:	Facilitate meetings on the food security situation and share updates on interventions and activities; develop the Cluster's Terms of Reference based on the situation in the country; conduct regular needs assessments with Cluster partners, taking into account gender; implement the Integrated Food Security and Humanitarian Phase Classification; produce food security maps and reports based on comprehensive food security data analysis; collect information from Cluster partners to produce information sheets and other materials for improved understanding of food insecurity in the country (including stakeholders, their roles and responsibilities); conduct gap analysis and recommend appropriate actions; facilitate effective partnership among Cluster partners and division of labour according to their capacity and comparative advantage; undertake contingency and early recovery planning for the Cluster to strengthen humanitarian response; identify training needs and organize training for partners and beneficiaries; organize and facilitate subgroups within the Cluster on specific technical areas; collect, analyse and disseminate updates on the food security situation; and ensure that Cluster-specific information is included in intercluster reports.
Beneficiaries:	25 000 beneficiaries (including 10 000 women), as well as implementing partners, government counterparts and donors.
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 633 600

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