



In numbers



2.29 million people in high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+, April–August 2021)



75% of Central Africans rely on agriculture for their food and income



738 280 internally displaced people (IDPs), the majority of whom live with host families



USD 31.5 million required by FAO under the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan



USD 71.8 million required by FAO under its five-year resilience strategy to strengthen agropastoralists' livelihoods

Key points

- According to results of the updated Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projection analysis (May 2021), 2.29 million people – about half of the total population – are in high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+), of whom over 630 000 facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4). This is slightly lower than the projection issued in October 2020 as it takes into account the provision of humanitarian assistance that has helped to prevent the further deterioration of the situation.
- The main drivers behind high levels of food insecurity in the country are:
 - natural disasters (excessive rainfall and floods);
 - the impact of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on agricultural supply chains and food trade, food price spikes (80 percent higher for imported products and 50 percent for locally produced food);
 - limited agricultural and livestock production linked to plant pests and animal diseases, and poor access to quality inputs and productive assets;
 - poverty, with 71 percent of the population (pre-COVID-19 estimate) living on less than USD 1.90 a day; and
 - insufficient food consumption, with 42 percent of children under five years suffering from chronic malnutrition.

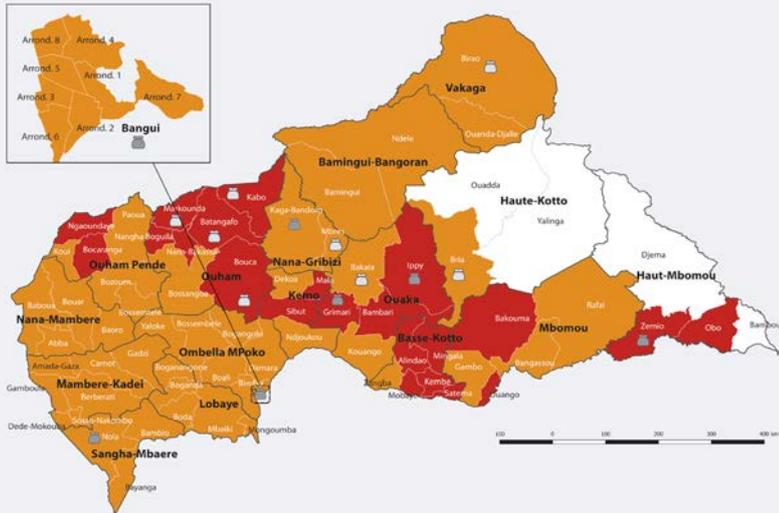


Challenges facing food security and agriculture

Almost two years after the signing of the Political Accord for Peace and Reconciliation, the Central African Republic is still facing unstable and unpredictable security conditions. Persistent conflict in several areas of the country, violence related to the elections, structural weaknesses, and massive population displacements combined with the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the devastating effects of natural disasters, such as floods, have exacerbated households' vulnerabilities. Severe humanitarian needs in the country are the highest recorded in the last five years, with half of the population requiring assistance and protection. Many displaced people are small-scale farmers who have lost their productive assets when their villages were looted or burnt down and are now in need of critical lifesaving assistance. As families have been unable to engage in agricultural activities, this led to the depletion of food stocks, rising prices, the adoption of negative coping mechanisms by nearly half of the population and increased dependency on food aid.

Failure to immediately address the rising needs will result in the additional loss of lives, increased vulnerabilities and higher levels of the food insecurity, as well as risks of weakening the long-standing ability of the humanitarian actors to stay in the country and deliver in an extremely complex and dangerous environment. With nearly half of the population unable to meet their daily minimum food needs, it is crucial to continue to provide livelihoods assistance in order to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable populations.

Updated projected acute food insecurity situation (April–August 2021)



IPC phase classification

- 1 – Minimal
- 2 – Stressed
- 3 – Crisis
- 4 – Emergency
- 5 – Famine
- Not included

- At least 25% of households meet 25–50% of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance
- At least 25% of households meet over 50% of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance

Source: IPC. 2021. *Central African Republic: projection update, April–August 2021*. [online]. Bangui, Central African Republic. [Cited 20 May 2021]. http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_CAR_AcuteFoodInsec_2021AprilAug_ProjectionUpdate_Englishtsummary.pdf

Planned response

- 194 066 households (970 330 people) targeted.
- 84 000 households to receive essential inputs for the main crop campaign through direct distribution and input trade fairs; and 30 000 households to benefit from market-gardening support.
- 50 000 pastoral households to benefit from small livestock production support (20 000 households) and vaccination campaigns (30 000 households).
- 30 000 households to benefit from cash-based transfers in five locations to resume income-generating activities.

Response to date

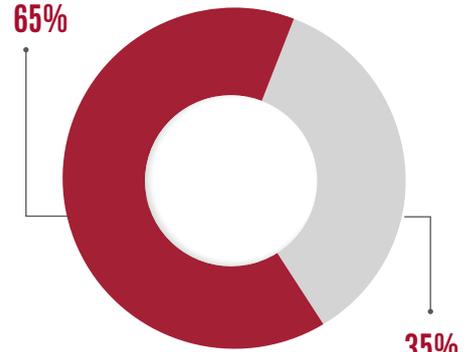
- 46 050 households benefiting from crop production support through direct seed and tool distributions (15 650 households), as well as input trade fairs (30 400 households); and 12 848 households received market-gardening kits.
- 4 800 households benefited from cash-based transfers.

Funding

FUNDING GAP

USD 20.4 million

65%



FUNDING TO-DATE

USD 11.1 million



FAO requires

USD 31.5 million



to assist

970 330 people

Resource partners

The Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, the Central Emergency Response Fund, the European Union, the Humanitarian Fund, the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency through the FAO Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities' Anticipatory Action window

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Contact

FAO Representation in the
Central African Republic
FAO-CF@fao.org
Bangui, Central African Republic

FAO Office of Emergencies and Resilience
OER-Director@fao.org
fao.org/emergencies | @FAOemergencies
Rome, Italy

Food and Agriculture Organization
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