The food security situation in the Central African Republic remains alarming with over 43 percent of the population currently in acute food insecurity. Of these, the majority live in rural areas and mainly rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. Every USD 1 invested in crop production can yield approximately USD 12 in food.

What humanitarian investment in agriculture can achieve

USD 80 = With a poultry-raising package (1 rooster, 5 hens, feed, veterinary supply), a household can produce around 25 eggs per week, worth USD 2.50 on the local market. = Enable a family to regularly consume protein and sell eggs throughout the year

USD 100 = With a market-gardening package, each household can produce 5 types of vegetables ready for consumption in 3 to 16 weeks, worth around USD 150 on the local market. = Allow quick access to nutritious food as well as income to purchase seeds and tools to grow other types of food crops

USD 150 = With the crop packages provided (37 kg of seeds and 4 hoes), each household can cultivate 0.6 ha of land and produce an estimated 0.6 tonnes of food (cereal, beans, groundnut and squash), worth USD 210 on the local market. = Provide a family of 7 with staple food for at least 8 months
Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

In 2021, the Central African Republic experienced a series of shocks – increased armed conflict, excessive rainfall and flooding, massive population displacements, and the effects of the pandemic – that led to the deterioration of the humanitarian situation. The levels of acute food insecurity are projected to increase by 12 percent during the upcoming lean season mainly due to difficulties linked to humanitarian access, and the disruption of households’ livelihood activities and of markets.

Providing vulnerable people with essential inputs during this year’s main agricultural campaign, through input trade fairs, direct distributions and cash-based transfers, will allow them to quickly produce their own food and generate income, thus increasing their self-reliance.

Drivers of food insecurity

- Low agricultural production
- Natural disasters
- Conflict
- Population displacement
- COVID-19
- Structural poverty
- High food prices

Key facts

Country population: **4.9 million**

**2.36 million** people projected to be in high acute food insecurity (April–August 2022)

**312 000** people acutely malnourished (September 2021–August 2022)

**+669 790** internally displaced people, the majority of whom live with host families

USD **23 out of 100** in food security assistance went to support rural livelihoods (2016–2020)
### Coordination

As co-leads of the Food Security Cluster in the Central African Republic, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme work closely with 68 local and international partners, in collaboration with institutional counterparts, to ensure a needs-based, coordinated and effective response.

### FAO priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priorities</th>
<th>Type of assistance provided/contents of assistance package</th>
<th>Cost per beneficiary (USD)*</th>
<th>Number of beneficiaries (people)</th>
<th>Total cost (USD)</th>
<th>Calendar of funding deadlines and implementation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve food production</td>
<td>Crop production kits (37 kg of cereal, bean, groundnut and squash seeds, and four hoes)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>550 556</td>
<td>22 677 800</td>
<td>Jan $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vegetable production kits (50 g of amaranth, cabbage, okra, spinach and tomato seeds; and two hoes, one shovel, one rake and one watering can)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>343 182</td>
<td>17 159 120</td>
<td>Mar $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unconditional cash transfers (USD 50/household) and inputs to set up income-generating activities (goat, fishing, pork or poultry production)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>135 345</td>
<td>6 767 250</td>
<td>May $</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The cost per beneficiary for each priority is an average, including a range of activities.


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