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Country card

Central African Republic 2021





HI's team and where we work

HI's programme team in CAR has 131 staff members.

Central African Republic





General country data

a. General data

Country	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	Cameroon	France
Population	4,829,764	26,545,864	67,391,582
IHDI	0.40	0.56	0.90
Gender development index	0.801	0.864	0.987
Maternal mortality	829	529	8
GINI index	56.2	46.6	31.6
Population within the UNHCR mandate	6,655	380,329	368,352
INFORM index	7.8	6.6	2.2
Fragile States Index	107.49	97.86	30.48
Public Social Protection	2.6	2.3	31.7
Official development assistance received	672.1	1613.6	

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
1951 Geneva Convention	4 September 1962
1967 Protocol	20 August 1967
1949 Geneva Conventions	Ratification/Accession: 01/08/1966
Final Act of the Geneva Diplomatic Conference, 1974-1977	Signature: 10/06/1977
Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions, 1977	Ratification/Accession: 17/07/1984
Additional Protocol II to the Geneva Conventions, 1977	Ratification/Accession: 17/07/1984
Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989	Ratification/Accession: 23/04/1992
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, 2000	Ratification/Accession: 21/09/2017
	Reservation/Declaration: 21/09/2017
	Ratification/Accession: 31/07/1970



Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, 1925	Ratification/Accession: 25/09/2018
Biological Weapons Convention, 1972	Ratification/Accession: 20/09/2006
Biological Weapons Convention, 1993	Ratification/Accession: 8/11/2002
Mine Ban Convention, 1997	Signature: 03/12/2008
Convention on Cluster Munitions, 2008	Signature: 20/09/2017
Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, 2017	Ratification/Accession: 03/10/2001
Statute of the International Criminal Court, 1998	Ratification/Accession: 11/10/2016
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, 2006	Ratification/Accession: 07/10/2015
Arms Trade Treaty, 2013	

c. Geopolitical analysis

The Central African Republic suffers from structural underdevelopment and is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking second-to-last on the UN Development Programme's 2018 Human Development Index.

The country has suffered chronic instability since gaining independence in 1958, and the Third Central African Civil War, which began in 2013, caused an unprecedented humanitarian, political and security crisis. After a brief lull, there has been an upsurge in violence since the holding of presidential and legislative elections in December 2020, leading to a deterioration in the humanitarian situation. Since then, clashes between armed groups have had a further negative impact and limited humanitarian access to people in need.

Economic situation

The crisis that began in 2013 led to a 37% decline in Gross Domestic Product (GDP). By 2014, GDP had declined to its 1990 level. Insecurity and resulting repeated population displacement have had a serious impact on agricultural production, raising food prices. Before the 2013-2014 crisis, at least 75% of the population lived from agriculture, leading to a high dependency on food aid.

COVID-19 and the worsening security situation since December 2020 have seriously impacted the CAR economy over the last two years. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita in 2021 is set to be similar to 2019, equivalent to two years of lost per capita income growth due to the pandemic and the electoral crisis. The country's economic fortunes have fluctuated with each new conflict and regime change since the coup d'état in 2003. By 2025, the GDP per capita is set to be very similar to 2033,



marking 22 years of lost growth¹. The national current account deficit doubled between 2019 and 2020, from 4% to 8.7% of GDP, despite continued limited public investment in essential public services. This insolvency is explained by the under-exploitation of internal resources and export earnings and expenditure on elections and the response to the epidemic.

The deterioration in the macroeconomic situation has had a serious impact on families in the CAR. A drop in imports and production has generated serious inflationary pressures which have coincided with a fall in household purchasing power. Prices on CAR markets are structurally variable and irregular, however price increases observed since December 2020 have been exceptional both in their scale and duration. Despite the return of commercial traffic on the road leading to Cameroon, the price of basic necessities remains higher than their level previous to the December crisis. The median cost of the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) increased 20% between January and June 2021. Strong fluctuations and an increase in the price of petrol have also been noted.²

Summary of HI's work in the country

HI worked in the Central African Republic from 1994 to 2004 and implemented various development programmes. It also helped open the Bangui (ANRAC) orthopaedic-fitting centre, which continues to function and has been assisted by the CICR since 2013. HI has also worked to implement a two-year university training course for physiotherapy assistants - the only training of its kind available in the CAR. This programme has so far benefited two sets of graduates. Thirty-two physiotherapy assistants have been trained in CAR.

In 2016, HI returned to CAR through its logistics platform projects, which support and facilitate the delivery of aid by humanitarian organisations throughout the country.

In September 2018, HI implemented integrated rehabilitation care (physical and functional with MHPSS activities) activities at Bambari General Hospital in Ouaka prefecture. This programme provides support to the surgery department of the general hospital in order to build the capacities and enhance the care-management of the many people injured by violence in and around the city, in partnership with MSF-Holland.

An Inclusive Technical Action Unit (CTAI) was set up in 2019 in Bangui with national coverage. The work done by the CTAI enables humanitarian actors to adapt their

¹ Draft HNO 2022

² Draft HNO 2022



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response to people with special needs and ensures they are able to access humanitarian aid.



Current projects

Sectors where HI implements projects, focusing on beneficiaries and partners

Main sectors	Project goals in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries at the end of the project	Partners	Location	Project start and end date and funding bodies
Logistics platforms	Strengthen logistics access for the humanitarian community to improve overall humanitarian response in the worst-affected areas of the Central African Republic	Aerial logistics platform: Cargo reception, checking and storage	90 humanitarian actors	90 humanitarian actors and indirectly their beneficiaries	UNHAS, Cluster Logistique	Bangui airport	Jan 2021 - Nov 2021 Funded by: UNHAS and Logistics Cluster



<p>Logistics platforms</p>	<p>Improve logistics access for the humanitarian community to the worst-affected areas of the CAR</p>	<p>Rehabilitation of six airstrips</p>	<p>Humanitarian actors using UNHAS, CICR and MSF flights</p>	<p>Humanitarian actors and indirectly their beneficiaries</p>	<p>UNHAS</p>	<p>Countrywide, depending on airstrips in need of repair: Bozoum, Zémio, Carnot, Obo, Batangafo, Ndélé / Bocaranga</p>	<p>July 2020 - February 2022) Funded by: UNHAS</p>
<p>Logistics platforms/ Shared transport and storage</p>	<p>Improve the logistics operations of the humanitarian community across the Central African Republic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road platform • Transport and storage for humanitarian actors 	<p>38 (target) humanitarian actors benefiting from road platform services</p>	<p>Humanitarian actors and indirectly their beneficiaries</p>	<p>PUI (consortium lead) Over a 12-month period, 30 organisations use our services on average</p>	<p>Logistics coordination in Bangui, storage platforms in Bambari and Bangassou Transport to all areas of the country from Bangui, Bambari and Bangassou</p>	<p>2015, then Sep 2021- Aug 2022 Funded by: BHA/USAID</p>



<p>Rehabilitation services</p>	<p>Help reduce the impact of the crisis in CAR on vulnerable people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physiotherapy care • Supply of mobility aids • Prosthesis and orthosis orthopaedic-fitting • Training of health staff • Psychosocial support • Social mediation activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients in MSF's surgery department • Outpatients • Caregivers <p>Target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,080 beneficiaries of training • 15 patients orthopaedically fitted 	<p>People with specific needs and their carers</p>	<p>MSF-Holland</p>	<p>Bambari General Hospital</p>	<p>2018-DEC 2021</p> <p>Funded by: CDCS GFFO</p>
<p>Social & Inclusion/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help reduce the impact of the crisis in CAR on vulnerable people • Inform, raise awareness and train humanitarian actors on the needs of people with disabilities • Make humanitarian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability and inclusion awareness-raising for humanitarian actors and the population • Training and coaching of humanitarian actors to adapt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanitarian actors • Disabled people's organisations • People with disabilities 	<p>People with specific needs and at risk of exclusion</p>	<p>IRC, DRC, IMC</p>	<p>The CTAI is located in Bangui but has national reach</p>	<p>Since May 2019</p> <p>Funded by: GFFO FH CDCS EU IMC DRC</p>



	response more inclusive	humanitarian response <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for disabled people's organisations• Advocacy for people at risk of exclusion• Capacity building of two DPOs• Study obstacles to humanitarian aid					
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Donors

<p>FH</p> <p>CAR Humanitarian Fund</p>  <p>Fonds Humanitaire RCA</p>	<p>UNHAS</p> 
<p>German Federal Foreign Office</p>  <p>german humanitarian assistance</p> <p>DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE</p>	<p>USAID/OFDA</p>  <p>USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE</p>
<p>CDCS</p> <p>Avec la participation de</p>  <p>MINISTÈRE DE L'EUROPE ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES</p> <p><i>Liberté Égalité Fraternité</i></p>	<p>EU (European Union)</p> 