
OCHA Central African Republic (CAR) wishes to acknowledge the contributions made in the preparation of this document, particularly by United Nations agencies, International Organisation for Migration, cluster coordinators and co-coordinators, non-governmental organisations and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund office.

For further information:
www.unocha.org/car
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References: The expressions of any opinion whatsoever concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Feedback: ochavisual@un.org     www.unocha.org     www.reliefweb.int

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2014 has been an intense year for the Central African Republic. Marked by a renewed humanitarian crisis, it has witnessed important movement of population inside and outside of the country and has called for humanitarian actors to rapidly scale up their activities, in some cases to return to the country to resume their activities to assist 2.5 million people in need of assistance. Due to the scale of the crisis and the need for an urgent humanitarian response, the IASC decided in late December 2013 to declare the Central African Republic a L3 emergency. This decision supported the mobilization of resources and the strengthening of the humanitarian leadership and coordination mechanisms to cope with the magnitude and the scale of the needs in a complex environment.

The donors, through the CHF have responded to the need to scale up assistance. Their contribution through the CHF in 2014 is four times higher than the previous year and the CHF is the fourth largest source of funding of the Strategic Response Plan in 2014. With a total allocation of $27.1 million during the year, the CHF has demonstrated its ability and flexibility to scale up its operations rapidly to support the efforts of the humanitarian partners using as needed its two distinct allocation mechanisms. In such a context, the emergency reserve mechanism has proven to be an indispensable tool for the Senior Humanitarian Coordinator to react quickly to assist people in need.

It’s role as a pool funding mechanism has allowed donors with a limited presence in country to combine their financial resources to contribute to the humanitarian emergency and relief operations and allocate the bulk of the funding to NGOs to implement projects as validated by the clusters and the partners who have strongly engaged with and contributed to the work of the CHF.

Through various field visits, I have been able to witness what it means to receive CHF funding, to respond to the crucial needs identified by the partners on the ground. The protection and assistance humanitarian actors, clusters, NGOs and UN agencies, are providing is tremendous, is not only crucial for the population that it reaches, but above all, it is a signal of hopes and solidarity all along the chain.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Increased needs
The context in the Central African Republic has shifted dramatically at the end of 2013 and throughout 2014 leading to a renewed humanitarian crisis characterized by a sharp increase in people in need further to multiple waves of displacement. At the beginning of year, 22,2 people were in need of humanitarian aid. People were affected throughout the country both in urban and rural areas. Such sharp increase in humanitarian needs has called for a rapid scale-up of the humanitarian operations in the country by partners with the support of donors.

Increased funding
With a total contribution of $407 million to the SRP, donors have demonstrated their strong commitment to support the response to the crisis that unfolded in CAR. With a total allocation of $27.1 million, in 2014 the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) has been the fourth largest source of funding to the humanitarian operations as devised in the Strategic Response Plan in 2014. In this context, with the support of eight donors (Denmark, Ireland, Luxemburg, the Netherlands Norway Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom), the CHF has played a key role as a pool funding mechanism from an aid effectiveness perspective in a context furthermore characterized by very few donors based in country and an average contribution around four million dollars per donors.

Scaling up allocations
In 2014, as an existing mechanism on the ground, the CHF has demonstrated its capacity to quickly absorb more funding and scale-up its activities under a short timeframe to respond to the shift in the operational environment. It has been able to disburse $27.2 million to 33 partners across 11 clusters within nine months. All in all, at the time of writing this report and noting that some projects are still ongoing, the CHF has been able to reach with some form of assistance 1,212,304 people.

Increased partnerships
The CHF has also been able to work with a larger number of new partners in the country and further increase its support to national NGOs, with an increase in funding from 0.9 in 2013 to over two million in 2014. Often times, the CHF remains the sole source of funding of these partners who are the only actors who can access remote areas and provide the necessary support. Noting the need to support the capacity of these partners and that more needs to be done, the CHF has endeavoured to increase in capacity-building activities in both programmatic and financial aspects with the organisation of regular training sessions or on a one-to-one basis. The CHF has also improved its alignment with coordination mechanisms, notably the clusters, and has further aimed at strengthening the role of the Humanitarian Coordinator.

Upgrading internal systems
2014 has also been a year of initiating the reforming and upgrading of the CHF internal mechanism and practices. The introduction of the mini-call for proposal as a new modality together with the ‘rolling basis’ under the reserve, the further strengthening of its monitoring practices and activities, the development of a risk management framework and the roll-out of an online Grant Management System (GMS) are among the key milestones achieved in 2014 to strengthen the fund’s performance. The CHF CAR has taken on a process to improve its ways of working to increase its effectiveness which will continue in 2015.

In a nutshell
In 2014 the CHF in CAR has demonstrated its capacity to stand ready in support of the humanitarian response. It further initiated a process of reforming itself by initiating the roll out of the CBPF guidelines. The first steps to renovate the management of the CHF have been laid out throughout the year, notably with the adoption of a risk management framework. 2015 will call to further this process, notably in aligning donors’ contributions and allocations, strengthening the risk and performance management of the fund, strengthening the capacity of local partners and linking with resilience and development programming.

Further information on the CHF is available on the following websites:
http://www.unocha.org/car
http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/car

Credit: Gemma Cortés
The humanitarian crisis in CAR that erupted in December 2013 and continued in 2014 has affected the whole country leaving thousands civilians killed, more than 446,000 refugees in neighbouring countries, and internal displaced people (IDPs) that culminated at 930,000 people at the peak of the crisis and are currently estimated around 408,000 at the end of 2014. This dire humanitarian situation has led the OCHA Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) to declare CAR as a level three (L3) emergency to support the scale-up of the humanitarian response to provide assistance to 43 per cent of the total CAR population. This emergency level status has been extended throughout the year and was still effective at the end of 2014. While violence and killings exacerbated during the first half of 2014, it reduced in the second half of the year with the signature of Brazzaville agreement but continued in significant proportions however.

The widespread killing of civilians, burning and looting of homes, and other serious crimes complicated and amplified an already preexisting crisis that has been ongoing for almost three decades. The December 2013 crisis that started in the capital city of Bangui quickly spread overall the country shifting from west to east. Numerous clashes between the ex-seleka and anti-balaka groups in the west of the country have been compounded by clashes between armed herders and other armed groups in the centre of the country. All of these security incidents continue to affect the humanitarian situation overall the country with new displacements or refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

With a total funding amounting $407 million, 3,011,656 people were reached with humanitarian assistance.

By the end of 2014, the humanitarian situation remains complex due to the political, security and the limited capacity of administration and judiciary system and destruction of social and physical infrastructures. As a result, despite significant results achieved by the humanitarian community in 2014, needs remain high in 2015 with a total population in needs that is estimated to 2 million people.

A new SRP 2015 was launched in December 2014, for $513 million to deliver humanitarian assistance to an estimated 2 million people, out of 2.7 million people in need in CAR. The 2015 SRP prioritizes delivery of services to newly displaced people, protection of civilians, access to basic essential services and resilience for IDPs. However, serious problems remain, particularly due to logistical (i.e. absence of road infrastructure) and security constraints that limit humanitarian access and delivery of assistance and protection.

### Overview of contributions

In 2014, donors have stand ready to support the humanitarian response to the crisis in CAR. In 2014, contributions to the CAR CHF reached an all-time high with a total contributed amount at $38.4 million. Since the fund’s inception (2008-2014), a cumulative amount of $95.2 million has been contributed by eight donors: 2014 received 40% of the total contributions received to date. Contributions to the fund more than quadrupled from $9,986,000 in 2013 to $38,434,598 in 2014. Combined with a carry-over of $2.3 million from 2013, and earned interests of $23,080, the total amount of funds available came up to $40.7 million.

### Broadened donors base

In 2014, eight donors have generously contributed to the CHF in comparison with 2013 the number of donors increased from three to eight. While Ireland and Sweden have renewed their continued support, the fund has seen the arrival of three new additional donors namely Denmark, Luxembourg and Switzerland. Donors such as DFID, Netherlands and Norway made a new contribution after not having contributed for a few years.

### Increased Resource mobilization

With the eruption of the crisis in December 2013 and the ensuing large scale humanitarian crisis, the United Nations declared the humanitarian crisis in Central African Republic an L3 emergency on 11 December 2013. Parallel to this declaration, two major donor events were organized in the course of the year. On January 20th a high level international meeting was held on humanitarian action in CAR in Brussels. The objective of this meeting was to report on and take stock of the humanitarian situation and the emergency response occurring in the country and in the region. Summit speakers stressed the unprecedented level of the humanitarian crisis in CAR, the scale of the emergency response to date, and the importance of having adequate funding for humanitarian actions. This event was also a pledging conference and as a result, more than $200 million was pledged in humanitarian aid alongside over $260 million in development aid. More than 90% of the humanitarian aid pledges were turned into contributions before year-end, partly through the CHF. Between 23rd and 26th June, the CAR crisis featured on the country based pooled fund booth of ECCOOC trade fair held in New York and opened by ASG’s deputy SRG Ms Kyung-wha Kang.

### Timing of contributions

43 per cent of the annual contributions to the CHF ($15,943,982) were received during the first semester and 59 per cent ($22,490,616) during the second semester. 94 percent was received in the last two months of the year and representing 43 per cent of the total annual contributions. This distribution pattern allowed organizing three allocations using 66 per cent of the total contributed amount in 2014.

### Allocations and donor deposits (5 million)

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Allocations</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Source

- CHF TS, UNDP MPTF, April 2015
- UNDP MPTF, April 2015
Overview of allocations

Three standard allocations, also called ‘special allocations’ and one reserve allocation were organised in 2014. 33 partners through 60 projects received funding for a total amount of $271.1 million making the CHF the fourth largest contributor to the SRP in 2014. In addition, the allocation for the first allocation of 2015 was initiated at the end of the year. Timely organisation of the allocations was of great importance due to the evolution of the humanitarian context throughout the year. In a context where many donors are capital based, the CHF as an in-country funding mechanism constitutes a major advantage for donors not present in the country. An overview of the main needs and response strategies and results for each allocation are shown in the table at the end of this section.

In 2014, the majority of the funding—92 per cent was allocated through the standard allocation modality. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) received 87 per cent of the total allocated amount out of which nine per cent were allocated to national NGOs (NGNOs). It is one point less than in 2013 but in monetary value the amount allocation increased from less than a million to over 2.3 million allocated to NGNOs.

The allocations were spread across the different clusters active in the country. 67 per cent of the funding received was allocated to 11 clusters. Comparing to available funding received during the allocation period (January to October 2014), 98 per cent of the funding was allocated. The funding allocated late in the year was used to initiate at the end of the year the first allocation for 2015. Five clusters (WASH, Protection, Health, Shelter and NFI and Food Security) received 82 per cent of the total funding allocated. The funding was spread across 11 provinces with the bulk of the funding targeted at high affected provinces such as Mambéré-Kadéï, Ouham, Lobaye, Mam Responsive, Ouham Pendé and Kemo which received over a million US dollars in assistance.

Strategy of allocations

For the standard allocation modality, the main focus of all 2014 standard allocations was on the first two strategic objectives of the SRP:

1. Provide life-saving humanitarian multi-sectoral package to IDPs and host communities, migrants, and returning persons.
2. Provide protection assistance to conflict-affected people, specifically vulnerable groups (e.g. unaccompanied minors, women, single-headed households and the elderly).

The allocation strategy for the first standard allocation was aligned with the results of the Multi-sectorial Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) as prescribed further to an L3 declaration. This exercise was validated by the Humanitarian Country Team on 10 January 2014 and formed the basis of the revised 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP). The definition of strategic priorities for the second and third allocations was based on the SRP and consultations of intercluster coordination followed by consultations of the CHF Advisory Board and finalized with the endorsement by the Senator Humanitarian Coordinator. In 2014, the CAR CHF Advisory Board consisted of two UN agencies (WHO, WFP), two international NGOs (CCO, DRC), one national NGO (Vitalité Plus), one donor as of mid-2014 (Switzerland) and ECHO as observer.

For the Reserve modality, at the beginning of 2014, an innovation was introduced in the allocation strategy with the creation of ‘mini-appeals’ which was added to the existing allocation model based on a ‘rolling basis’ system. Under this new system, all stakeholders could notify the Senior Humanitarian Coordinator of a humanitarian crisis or a critical response gap. After consultation with the Advisory Board, the Humanitarian Coordinator approved the launch of a mini-appeal which consists of a short description of the type of project(s) needed for a particular crisis or gap. Cluster coordinators then forwarded the mini-appeal to their partners so that they could apply. A rapid technical review of the projects submitted ensued to select the most appropriate and efficient project in response to the needs identified. The mini-appeals under the 2014 Reserve allocation are listed in the table below.

Allocation Overview

Overview of CHF Allocation Strategy and Planned Results in 2014

CHF allocations by agency type

CHF allocations type

Total allocation

$27m

$27m

$21.3m

Source CHF TS, April 2015

Special Allocation 1 (January 2014)

Humanitarian focus: Further deterioration of the humanitarian situation especially in localities in the south and the south-east, which had not or little been affected by the violence in 2013. This allocation focused on reinforcing the return of humanitarian projects to people in need inside the country. The projects were aimed to target the rural communities in and outside towns in the countries. In Bangui more than 200,000 people remained displaced, as well as 400,000 in the rest of the country.

Priority sectors: Health, nutrition, water and sanitation, protection, shelter and non-food items and agriculture.

Geographical priorities: Outside of Bangui, all provinces except Mbomou and Haut-Mbomou.

Special Allocation 2 (April 2014)

Priority on multi-sector projects, covering large areas and axes outside towns.

Partnerships with national NGOs receive priority.

Focus on new projects as opposed to the extension of existing ones.

Maximum duration of projects of 12 months, no maximum amount per project.

Allocation result: 14 projects worth $5.8 million. All projects selected target areas outside Bangui, almost 70% cover axes outside towns and 30% cover more than one prefecture. 30% were multi-sectoral projects, 90% of projects were new and almost 70% of projects established a partnership between a national NGO and a UN agency or international NGO.

One project focused on the communities relocated from PK12 in Bangui to Moyen-Sido. Several projects focused on people blocked in enclaves (Boda, Borganagone, Carnot).

Humanitarian focus: A humanitarian and security situation that is extremely worrying notably in the south-central, south-east, north and north-east of the country. More than 355,000 remain displaced in the country of which more than 11,000 in Bangui.

Priority sectors: Protection, water and sanitation, shelter and non-food items, health, nutrition, education, CCAs, food security.

Geographical priorities: Focus on the center of the country (Ouaka, Ouham, Kemo, Bamingui-Bangoran, Ombella M’Poko), hotspots (enclaves) in different provinces and Bangui regarding durable solutions.

Other criteria/priorities:

- Priorisation on multi-sector projects, covering axes outside towns.

- Partnerships with national NGOs receive priority.

- Focus on new projects.

- Maximum 9 months and a maximal budget of $900,000 per project.

- Allocation result: 24 projects worth $10.2 million. Almost all projects selected target areas outside Bangui, almost 70% cover axes outside towns and almost 30% cover more than one prefecture. 30% were multi-sectoral projects, 90% of projects were new and almost 70% of projects established a partnership between a national NGO and a UN agency or international NGO.

- One project focused on the communities relocated from PK12 in Bangui to Moyen-Sido. Several projects focused on people blocked in enclaves (Boda, Borganagone, Carnot).

CHF allocations by sector

Overview of CHF Allocation Strategy and Planned Results in 2014

CHF allocations by geographic areas

Source CHF Technical Secretariat, April 2015

Source CHF Technical Secretariat, April 2015

CHF Central African Republic Annual Report 2014

Allocation Overview

CHF Central African Republic Annual Report 2014
At the end of 2014, in preparation for the 2015 first allocation, two changes were introduced into the consultation process to define the allocation strategy. First, in order to decentralise the analysis of priorities closer, OCHA field offices were asked to organise a reflection with their partners at the field level and report on the priorities per sector and sub-priorities in their zone of operation and in comparison with the most recent Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO). Second, taking into account the information from the field offices, cluster coordinators at the national level were asked to detail the prioritised needs and desired response per cluster sector objective as outlined in the CAR Strategic Response Plan. The result of these consultations further informed the development of the allocation strategy paper.

Complementarity with CERF funding

In 2014, the CERF has supported the humanitarian response in CAR through three allocations under the rapid response window amounting a total amount of $33.9 million. Two allocations were made at the beginning of the crisis in December 2013 and February totaling $18.4 million, in line with the L3 process timeframe. A third allocation was approved also under the rapid response window in October 2014 for $14.3 million. The CERF funding provided support to most cluster and 40 per cent of the CERF approved funding supported the food security, health, protection, shelter and NFI and WASH clusters. Both the CERF and CHF geared the bulk of their funding in 2014 towards the most critical needs. In some instances like for the protection and the wash cluster, the funding allocated was almost equal. Complementarity was ensured first and foremost through the funding recipients: 83 per cent of the total funding allocated was almost equal. Complementarity was ensured first and foremost through the funding recipients: 83 per cent of the total funding allocated was almost equal. Complementarity was ensured first and foremost through the funding recipients: 83 per cent of the total funding allocated was almost equal.

In addition, the fund has increased its funding towards multi-cluster projects as a way to support the intersectoral response to the needs of affected people. In total, nine projects totalling a little over $7 million (10% of the funds allocated) were funded under as multi sector projects. Lastly, new terms of reference have been developed for the Advisory Board and at the end of 2014, while a few more strategic documents need to be revised to align with the operational guidelines, overall the CHF CAR has managed to undertake key steps in this change management process and is increasingly in line with other CHFs around the world.

Introduction of the Grant Management System (GMS)

At the end of 2014, the Grant Management System (GMS) was launched in CAR after having been postponed in October for security reasons. The Grant Management System is an online system that encompasses the whole project and allocation cycle, from the submission to the reporting stage. All stakeholders directly intervene in the system which tracks all steps of the process. The Humanitarian Financing Team, partner organisations and cluster coordinators and co-facilitators were trained to use the system. Quarterly workshops have been organized for partner organisations but also for non-designated stakeholders including national NGOs. The GMS training was held in December when the fund management team, partner organisations and cluster coordinators were formed with technical support from OCHA Geneva. Sixty participants from forty organisations including OCHA and UNDP involved in the management of the fund.
Its introduction aims to reinforce implication of the clusters during allocation process and the monitoring of projects and its further roll-out will continue in 2015.

Project revisions
A total of 45 revision requests were submitted in 2014. 29 revisions (64 per cent) were no-cost-extensions and 16 requests (36 per cent) included both a no-cost-extension and a project revision. The reasons of these requests were articulated mainly around the question of security and access (74 per cent combined) due to the conflicts between different armed groups and the banditry on the road axes, and as well rapid change in the humanitarian context during the project’s implementation. During the year, based on an analysis of the project revision, specific criteria were developed and shared with partners to organize the submission and review of projects’ revisions.

Capacity building
In the CAR context, strengthening the capacity of partners consists first and foremost in the training or partners, either on a bilateral basis or through the organisation of dedicated training sessions. Taking into account the context in CAR which is characterized by a very high level of staff turnover in partners organization both on the financial and programmatic side, information-sharing and capacity building activities on CHF related issues is an indispensable mechanism to maintain a regular communication. Additional cluster-specific activities have been carried out upon clusters’ request. Training sessions have been organized throughout the year and were aligned with the allocation schedule. Topics covered ranged from training on how to apply to the CHF dedicated to all eligible applicants, to the financial and technical rules and requirements of a CHF grantee. In addition, with the roll out of the Grant Management System, dedicated training sessions were organized for partners and clusters on the use of the system during an allocation process.

Management and administrative costs
In 2014, a total of $2.4 million from donors’ contribution was used for management and administrative costs for the operations of the CHF CAR. This includes the costs of the Administrative Agent, the Technical Secretariat (TS), the Managing Agent and the bank charges.

CHF Technical Secretariat
In 2014, the strengthening of the joint unit composed of staff from OCHA and UNDP, set-up in 2013 continued. The sheer increase in activity over the year due important activity increase to answer the needs emanating from the renewed crisis was supported by additional ‘surge’ staff that came on a temporary basis to absorb the increased workload. At the end of 2015, a recruitment process has been launched to increase the number of staffing in the unit.

This section presents an overview of the results achieved by the projects funded by the CHF and was prepared in collaboration with the CHF 2014-funded partners, the clusters coordinators and co-coordinators.

The results presented in this section captures the achievements of the projects funded and ongoing in 2014. These results have been collected at the project level and further aggregated using standard output indicators.

Results have been collected until March 2015 based on both the interim and final narrative reports submitted by partners. A total of 44 reports have been used to develop this section and as such, presents a realistic overview of the results achieved over this period. At the time of writing, 29 projects are still ongoing, the majority of which will be completed by mid-2015.
Activated in January 2014, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster focused its activities on the following objectives for the year:

1. The humanitarian assistance of affected populations seeking a safe haven in displacement sites and transit centers is well-managed and coordinated, responding to life-saving needs and aiming towards international standards.
2. Representative and functioning communication and leadership structures are in place and supported in displacement sites and transit centers, all affected, especially vulnerable populations are involved.
3. Facilitating returns through effective information dissemination and in close collaboration with other humanitarian actors to ensure that peace and reconciliation, livelihood, shelter and other required social infrastructure measures are in place, in addition to ensuring measures are in place for site closure.

Within this framework, the CHF funded under the third Special Allocation one project implemented by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in support of the cluster activities. The project focused on the Ouham province targeting 32 sites (30 initially planned) in the Batangafo, Kabo and Bouca areas, targeting a total population of 57,614 people.

The aim of the project was to strengthen CCCM mechanisms in the targeted areas, improve the assistance provided to IDPs to meet their basic needs, improve the protection and safety of the IDPs and facilitate voluntary and durable return through information-sharing and set-up of accompanying measures for the return. The modus operandi of the project was to set-up four site management mobile teams to cover the different sites targeted.

Key Results

Output indicator | Planned | Reached | %
---|---|---|---
# of drainage, sector-level site considerations, and/or contingency measures, are put in place in anticipation of the rainy season | 27 | 16 | 59%
# of sites for which a communication strategy is prepared and implemented | 60 | 82 | 133%
Return communities (contre de la vie) are in place and supported | 70 | 93 | 129%

In 2014, the CHF has allocated approximately $500,000 in support of the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), a UNICEF-led mechanism in collaboration with OCHA, the clusters and its implementation partners (Solidarités Internationales, PU-AMI, ACF, ACTED, IRC). The aim of the RRM is to reach affected populations in the country, especially in place where due to security and access constraints there is virtually no humanitarian presence. The RRM acts as a ‘fast resort’ mechanism to provide life-saving assistance as fast as possible and help lay the ground for more sustainable and longer term assistance provided by other partners.

The CHF funding has contributed to strengthen monitoring and early warning activities around humanitarian needs and provide short-term and critical assistance to populations in need. More specifically, through its implementing partners, the RRM has achieved the following results throughout 2014: 12 exploratory missions to assess humanitarian needs and 49 Multisectoral evaluations which in turn led to 34 WASH and NFI interventions. In total over 122,000 people were reached with WASH and NFI assistance, from which 51% were women, 17% were children from 0 to 59 months and 10% elderly over 50. Missions took place in the following prefectures: Ouham, Ouham Pendé, Nana Mambere, Mbomou, Ouaka, M’Poko and Béni.

Furthermore, in 2014, the RRM has been fully integrated in the humanitarian coordination mechanisms, being a permanent member of the InterCluster and through regular information-sharing with the humanitarian community of the data and findings collected, in different fora at central and decentralized levels. An estimated number of 50 humanitarian partners benefit on a regular basis of the information produced by the RRM that informs their programming. This process has enabled to launch responses in areas assessed by the RRM in clusters not covered by the RRM. Connections with other clusters also have been strengthened and the mainstreaming of protection and humanitarian access were improved. With the support from OCHA, Clusters were integrated in its strengthened Steering committee (Comité de Pilotage), and the RRM could enhance its advocacy towards international forces through better linkages with the Civil military coordination (CIMCOORD). Indicators as well as questionnaires used by RRM teams for MSA have been reviewed by all Clusters in order to ensure relevance of information being collected. By the end of the year tablets were distributed to the implementing partners in order to facilitate the data collection, and to reduce the time of reporting. The target in terms of timeliness of the response has been 10 to 15 days. Nevertheless, this has been possible only when there were no constraints in terms of logistics and security access. In 2015, RRM has planned to develop a tool (Activity Info), which will allow analyzing the timeliness of the response.

Key Results

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Output indicator</th>
<th>Planned</th>
<th>Reached</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total beneficiaries NFI</td>
<td>60,249</td>
<td>58,183</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total beneficiaries WASH</td>
<td>26,086</td>
<td>36,982</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td># of mission exploratoires diffusés auprès de la communauté</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td># of mission exploratoires diffusés auprès de la communauté</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>123%</td>
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The Education cluster focused its strategy on the four following objectives:

- Contribute to the survival of IDPs, host communities, returning persons and refugees through training of children, youth and adults in good practices on safety, hygiene and basic principles of health.
- Contribute to the protection of children and youth affected by the conflict through psychosocial support, prevention of SGBV, training on human rights, and education activities in schools and temporary learning spaces.
- Support access to education activities for children in return and affected communities.
- Support the restoration of the education system in a way that promotes reconciliation and peacebuilding.

The crisis led to more than 362,000 displaced children, aged 3-18, without access to education and protection that safe learning environments can offer in emergencies. Furthermore, many schools remained closed or with extremely reduced attendance rates. Damaged schools needed to be rehabilitated and provided with school furniture and teaching and learning materials. Recognizing the importance of education activities in humanitarian settings to uphold education as a basic human right, the CHF has allocated over 1.3 million to seven education projects across crisis affected areas. The cluster strategy using CHF funding included working with two national NGOs partners with 29% of the total funded allocated. The support focused on Education in Emergency (EiE) activities ranging from temporary learning spaces, school rehabilitation, return of teachers to their duty stations, distribution of school kits, training of community teachers to addressing trauma faced by children.

### Key Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Output indicator</th>
<th>Planned</th>
<th>Reached</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of incidents registered</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>4,514</td>
<td>141%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of persons raped registered</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of persons assisted legally</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,115</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of armed children demobilized</td>
<td>895</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of friendly spaces functional</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of youth club operational</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of persons trained on protection</td>
<td>6,196</td>
<td>2,214</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of children accessing PSS activities and services</td>
<td>10,500</td>
<td>47,998</td>
<td>246%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people directly reached by the community based initiatives</td>
<td>57,300</td>
<td>86,670</td>
<td>151%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1,382,340 CHF allocated funding

**CHF Partners**

ACCM, INTERSOS(4), UNICEF, Vitalité+

7 CHF funded projects

55,896 Affected people reached with assistance

male: 5,143
female: 4,065
Boys: 24,422
Girls: 22,266

75% INGO, 14% UN agencies

Locations:

Bangui, Haute kotto, Kémo, Lobaye, Nana-Grébizi, Ombélla Mboyo, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham-Pendé

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As part of the emergency response to the crisis, the CHF has allocated funding under the emergency reserve at the beginning of 2014 to support the critical activities of the Emergency and Telecommunication cluster which has been reactivated in December 2013. Funding was allocated to one project implemented by the World Food Programme (WFP). The aim of the programme was to provide the humanitarian community with emergency telecommunication and data services to allow humanitarian organizations to better coordinate, respond and provide life-saving assistance to people affected by the crisis. The project supported the development of such services in Bossangoa, Bouar and Paoua, including the re-establishment of the damaged communication centers in these three locations. The project was implemented in partnership with OCHA, UNDSS, UNHCR and UNICEF.

### Key Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Output indicator</th>
<th>Planned</th>
<th>Reached</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of deployment in collaboration with UNDSS of critical VHF/HF equipment in order to re-establish the COMCENs that were looted in those locations</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of data connectivity (VSAT/IP) services re-established in all three identified locations with VSAT and Wi-Fi equipment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$219,264 CHF allocated funding

**CHF Partner**

WFP

1 CHF funded project

35 Humanitarian partners provided with Emergency Telecommunication services

100% Reporting rate (0 project ongoing)

90% INGO, 90% NGOs, 100% UN agencies

Locations:

Ouham, Ouham Mpéndé, Nana-Mambéré
FOOD SECURITY

Analysis of the consequence of the crisis in the Central African Republic show that the food security situation in the country has seriously deteriorated since the end of 2013, in one of the poorest country in the world. Both rural and urban areas were affected. An estimated 1.6 million people were identified as in need of assistance in 2014, requiring as a priority intervention to cover out immediate life-saving food assistance and distribution of seeds and tools to help rebuild livelihoods.

In 2014, the objectives of the cluster in the strategic response plan were the following:

- Provide life-saving assistance to IDPs and other severely food insecure people by ensuring access to food
- Enhance social safety nets and ensure access to productive assets for returnees and other food-insecure people affected by the conflict
- Assist affected communities in rebuilding their livelihoods and reinforce their resilience to further shocks by strengthening their social and economic infrastructure and their agro-ecological capital. Support activities fostering social cohesion and local governance with the ultimate aim of contributing to building peace.

In 2014, the CHF allocated almost 1.8 million dollars to the projects supporting the strategy of the food security activities. The majority of the funding was allocated in the second and third allocation.

Through five projects, CHF funding has helped contributed to these three objectives by providing assistance to over 86,000 people in need. Assistance ranged from providing food assistance to severely food insecure populations, improving access to essential agricultural inputs to increasing purchasing power of vulnerable households. The projects also played a role in fostering social cohesion in communities of intervention.

In addition, the Food Security cluster has been at the forefront of supporting national NGOs with 20 per cent of the funding allocated to local organisations.

Key Results

- CHF allocated funding: $1,786,844
- CHF Partners: ACF, NRC, JUPEDEC, COHEB, FAO
- CHF funded projects: 5
- Affected people reached with assistance: 75% INGO
- Reporting rate (1 project ongoing): 60%
- 20% NNGOs
- 20% UN agencies
- Basse kotto, Kémo, Ouham, Multi-prefecture.

HEALTH

The strategic objectives for the Health cluster within the SRP 2014 were as follow:

1. Provide emergency health services (preventive and curative), including support for chronic diseases, reproductive health, trauma care, infant newborns, child health and nutrition services to affected community
2. Increase the functioning capacity of primary and secondary health facilities affected by conflicts through rehabilitation and setting up of the package of minimum of activities

Through the funded allocated, six International NGOs, 2 national NGO and 2 UN agencies operating in the health sector contributed to the achievement of the first and the second objectives.

Key activities included:

- Providing primary health care services to people in enclave (Boda), two IDPs sites in Bangui (Mission Carmel and Pierre Combier), and 16 very severely affected sub-prefectures (4th, 5th and 6th health districts in Bangui, Bozoum, Bossemptélé, Berberati, Nola, Bakouma, Bafang, Niévou, Ndouka, Mala, Ndjikou, Bimbo and Bongola, Kaga, Bandoro).
- Providing secondary health care services to children under 15 in need of surgery at the Pediatric complex of Bangui.

In each instance CHF was the main if not the sole funding contributor to ensure service delivery to affected people. The areas targeted for CHF project funding were identified by the health cluster partners within the sector priorities prior to the launch of CHF allocation.

By helping to fill the gaps in the health sector response, CHF played a key role in achieving the Health cluster outcomes and objectives.

Key Results

- CHF allocated funding: $3,502,813
- CHF Partners: ACFDES, ALIMA(2), EMERGENCY, MDM, PU-AMI, UNICEF
- CHF funded projects: 7
- Affected people reached with assistance: 100%
- Reporting rate (0 projects ongoing): 100% 64% INGO
- Locations: Bandoro, Rafaï, Bogangolo, Ndékoa, Mala, Ndjoukou, Bimbo and Bégoua, Kaga, Bandoro.

Output indicator | Planned | Reached | %
--- | --- | --- | ---
# of children vaccinated against measles | 4 851 | 6 520 | 134
# of people covered by basic health services | 3 52 304 | 160 977 | 46
# of people covered by secondary specialized health services | 21 502 | 35 454 | 165
# of prenatal consultations | 19 132 | 8 175 | 43
# of medically assisted deliveries | 300 | 743 | 248
# of malnourished children screened | 4 527 | 4 658 | 102
# of persons who received refresher training | 275 | 73 | 27
# of persons who received IEC messages | 357 945 | 149 812 | 42
In 2014, the funding allocated through the CHF helped support the following elements of the cluster’s strategy:

- Strengthening the quality of nutrition care of children (boys/girls) and women. This includes: conduct active screening at community levels and in the enclaves, support the management of severe/moderate acute malnutrition (SAM/MAM), supplement SAM children and pregnant and lactating women; train and equip health workers
- Scaling-up the community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) approach in priority areas selected by the nutrition cluster for intervention. These include: Bangui, Ouham, Ombella MPoko, Ouham Pende, Ouaka, Basie-Kotto, Vakaga, Nana Mambere, Sangha Mbaere and Kemo.
- Procurement and supply of nutrition partners with material and therapeutetic food for SAM management.

Overall, the funding allocated by the CHF in helped to cover gaps and saved lives of malnourished children and women in the targeted areas including enclaves. It further helped to minimize the risk of stock out and reinforce the contingency stock. In addition, CHF funding helped the community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) approach to be scaled-up in selected priority areas. Notably, the CHF funding has boosted the nutrition supply contingency plan and has contributed to the scaling up of CMAM in new areas such as Vakaga and other areas most affected by insecurity including Yaloke, Batangafo, Boguila and the Ombella Mpoko peri-urban area.

Looking forward, there is a continuous need to increase efforts to continue ensuring that available resources reach the most vulnerable children and women in affected areas, and that effective coverage of nutrition services is achieved.

CHF funding also helped to admit, treat and monitor SAM and MAM patients (boys and girls) and re-opened SAM and WAM management sites and trained health workers on WAM. Access to quality integrated management of severe acute malnutrition in the targeted areas will need to be further strengthened in 2015 in support of increasing the effectiveness of the nutrition response.

Key Results

In 2014, a total of four projects were funded under the protection cluster as well as three projects funded in 2013 which were mostly implemented in 2014. In addition, a number of multisectoral projects integrated protection activities. As a result, in addition to the 3.6 million allocated to protection projects, another 1.6 million has been allocated to fund protection mainstreaming activities in projects funded under other clusters.

As a result, and recognizing the centrality of protection in humanitarian action in general and in the CAR context in particular, the protection cluster received approximately 20 per cent of the total funding allocated and as such was the second largest the largest amount of CHF funding. Specific projects were funded to address child protection and gender-based violence issues. All the projects aimed at supporting the attainment of the following key objectives of the protection cluster in the 2014 as part of the strategic response plan:

1. Ensure life-saving protection response
2. Prevent and respond to protection risks linked to insecurity, violence and displacement in areas of origin and displacement and mainstream protection principles into humanitarian response
3. Strengthen response to victims of violence and human rights violations and improve their access to services Enhance resilience of communities in particular women, children and isolated elderly to cope with and respond to protection risks and violations

In 2014, the share of projects implemented by National NGOs increased significantly with three partners receiving funding to implement protection activities.

Key Results
In 2014, the cluster’s objectives were the following:

- Emergency shelter support and NFIs are provided within three months and before the rainy seasons to meet the needs of displaced persons living both in urban and rural areas in spontaneous and organized sites.
- Collective shelters are constructed in various transit locations. Public buildings such as non-functional schools, churches, hospitals vacated by IDPs returning to their place of origin are repaired and rehabilitated.
- Stocks of shelter materials as well as domestic household items are available in adequate quantities for distribution in case of extreme weather conditions or contingency measure.
- Shelter repair kits are distributed to families returning to their area of origin.
- Basic domestic household items are provided in a timely manner to meet the needs of displaced families living with host families.

To meet these objectives in 2014, the CHF allocated a total of USD 2.5 million to support six projects in six geographic areas. In total, approximately 31,000 displaced persons received some assistance. Based on the reports received, these projects served approximately 23,650 people with emergency non-food (including emergency shelter) items.

In addition, six owner-driven housing reconstruction projects were funded through CHF through the intervention of ACTED, CRS, DRC, IOM, and PU-AMI. These projects trained 1,818 persons in building techniques, 4,844 households were supported during the reconstruction of their house.

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### SHELTER AND NON FOOD ITEMS

**31,388**

Affected people reached with assistance

- Male: 16,238
- Female: 10,902
- Boys: 5,352
- Girls: 4,896

**100%  Reporting rate (02 projects ongoing)**

**92% INGO**

Locations:

- Bamingui Bangoran
- Lobaye
- Ombéla
- Mpoko
- Ouham Pende

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### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

The strategic objective for the WASH cluster within the SRP 2014 was the following:

1. Provide access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene for people in emergency need
2. Provide reliable and sustained access to sufficient safe water through the establishment of sustainable management structures for the most heavily used water sources, and the development of sustained household water treatment strategies
3. Provide reliable and sustainable access to environmental sanitation - all sanitation programs must be coupled with sustained hygiene promotion for the target population

Through 11 projects allocated to eight partners, all of them NGOs, the CHF participated in achieving objectives 1, 3 and 4 by:

- Providing WASH services to people in enclave (Yaloke, Boda) and relocated from PK12 neighborhood to Moyen Sido and Kabo.
- Providing or ensuring the continuation of WASH services to IDPs in Boda, Carnot and in Banga by restoring solid waste disposal capacity and secondary collection services to IDPs sites.
- Reopening access to water and hygiene promotion awareness to returnees and IDPs in host communities in Bangui, Yaloke, Boda, Carnot, Ouham, Ouham Pendé and Nana Gribizi.

In each instance CHF was the main and sometime the sole funding contributor to ensure affected communities received WASH support. This targeting was the result of WASH partners’ consultation to identify sector priority prior to the launch of CHF allocation and the access to CHF reserve for priority needs not covered by other donors (Boda enclave and relocation of PK12 families to Moyen Sido and Kabo).

By covering gap in the response CHF played a key role in achieving WASH results.

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### Key Results

**Output indicator** | **Planned** | **Reached** | **%**
--- | --- | --- | ---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Planned</th>
<th>Reached</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of persons trained on building techniques</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,818</td>
<td>181.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of persons assisted in communities</td>
<td>22,584</td>
<td>26,980</td>
<td>118.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of households who benefited from shelter items</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>6,204</td>
<td>155.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of persons who benefited from NFI items</td>
<td>23,024</td>
<td>23,650</td>
<td>102.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of shelters built</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>4,644</td>
<td>103.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of water points built/rehabilitated</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>108%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of water point committees created, trained and supported</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>124%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of training of handymen for water pumps</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>173%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of new or rehabilitated latrines</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of showers constructed</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of handwashing facilities installed</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>167%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of hygiene kits distributed</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>3,069</td>
<td>114%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of waste disposal areas</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people sensitized</td>
<td>545,30</td>
<td>499,08</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Key results

**Output indicator** | **Planned** | **Reached** | **%**
--- | --- | --- | ---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accountability and Risk Management

**Accountability and Risk Management**

**Monitoring & Reporting**

Building up on the efforts deployed in 2013, the CHF continued to strengthen its M&R activities following its two key strategic goals during 2014:

1. Increase accountability of the delivery of humanitarian aid by demonstrating results, in accordance with the third pillar of the AsC Transformative Agenda.
2. Facilitate information and lessons learned sharing especially to the HC, the Advisory Board and the clusters to inform decision-making.

Monitoring visits have been carried out on a regular basis throughout the year and as security allowed. The monitoring portfolio included all ongoing allocations 2014, thus including projects funded both in 2013 and 2014. In total almost 40 percent of all ongoing projects were visited. Monitoring of projects funded in 2014 will continue in 2015 as a large number of projects were still ongoing at the end of 2014.

The number of monitoring visits has significantly increased between 2013 and 2014 reflecting the CHF’s commitment to the M&R activities of the CHF in CAR. Most monitoring visits were performed by the CHF technical secretariat together with a technical specialist from the cluster concerned by the project monitored. Given the CHF technical secretariat staffing constraints combined with logistical and security issues, the CHF relied on the expertise of experienced OCHA Humanitarian Officers to perform some monitoring visits. Monitoring visits performed by cluster coordinators also supported the overall monitoring strategy.

In 2014, the CHF initiated efforts towards a more risk based approach, where the CHF has decided to fully carry out all the M&R activities of the CHF in CAR. Most monitoring visits were performed by the CHF technical secretariat together with a technical specialist from the cluster concerned by the project monitored. Given the CHF technical secretariat staffing constraints combined with logistical and security issues, the CHF relied on the expertise of experienced OCHA Humanitarian Officers to perform some monitoring visits. Monitoring visits performed by cluster coordinators also supported the overall monitoring strategy.

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**Project operational closure**

In 2014, the CHF has carried out the programmatic closure of a total of 223 projects (73 projects in 2006, 70 projects in 2009, 53 projects in 2010 and 27 projects in 2011). This process was carried out in close collaboration with the fund’s Administrative Agent, the UNDP Multi Partners Trust Fund Office. This process will continue as a regular exercise in 2015 with the closure of 2012 projects.

**Financial monitoring and reporting**

In 2014, 3.6 million were allocated to NGOs across 53 projects. UNDP as the Managing Agent of the CHF, liaised with the 66 partner organisations, to ensure that all project partners were aware of their financial responsibilities as per the audited financial statements. The CHF Advisory Board is informed on a regular basis of the financial status of the fund.

**Audits**

The premise of Non-Governmental Organization– (NGO) implementation is that UNDP is entrusting a government institution or a non-governmental organization with the management of UNDP resources. The overarching objective of the audit exercise, therefore, is to provide UNDP with assurance as to the proper use of resources. By extension, the audit serves as an element of the project monitoring tools used by UNDP. Audit is an integral part of sound financial and administrative management, and part of the UNDP accountability system. UNDP financial statements are audited annually by the United Nations Board of Auditors (UNBOA) and the findings are reported to the UNDP Executive Board and the General Assembly annually. In expressing its opinion on UNDP financial statements, the Board of Auditors refers to the outcome of the audits of NGO implemented projects. Consequently, delays in the completion of audits of projects or qualified opinions expressed by the auditors have a direct impact on the opinion expressed by the Board of Auditors on UNDP financial statements.

For CHF funding the NGO audit starts at the first quarter of the year following the after validation of combined delivery report (CDR) which shows all expenses incurred during project implementation activities. This exercise is carried out by an independent audit company selected through an international tendering process. During the 2013 audit exercise, nine organisations were audited on the implementation of 32 contracts for a total amount of $3,505,945. It has to be noted that the CHF’s strategy is to ensure that funds are used only for activities that have been challenging in carrying out this process. No case of fraud has been reported during the 2013 audit. As result of the deteriorating of insecurity situation in the CAR, some equipment loss has been reported to CHF unit in 2013. As a result of NGOs’ problems, the Advisory Board has decided that UNDP has followed up the audit reports on the organization of field visits, providing training to NGOs on programme and financial assets (audit reporting, budgeting, advances and reporting) to all concerned organizations. As results of audit follow up, 37% 2013 NGOs’ audit recommendations have been implemented, 52% in progress, 11% withdrawn. The audit of 2014 projects will take place in the first quarter of 2015 and will cover 9 CHF projects, 22 NGOs/Implementing Partners (IP) and 41 contracts signed between UNDP and NGOs.

**Capacity assessments**

To answer the humanitarian needs emerging from the crisis, humanitarian partners on the ground have had to scale-up their activities or for partners to establish their presence in CAR, leading to a surge in the number of new partner. Taking this operational aspect into account and the need for partners to access and increase their presence in certain zones of the country, on request of the Humanitarian Coordinator, CHF standard allocations have been open to all participating humanitarian organisations on the condition that a capacity assessment of the partner was carried out by UNDP. In 2014, 18 new partners have been cleared for CHF funding to participate in humanitarian response in CAR. This temporary measure has been instated due to the emergency of the crisis will be further strengthened in 2015 through a further refinement of the eligibility criteria of CHF funding.

The process to move towards the Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) system were initiated in 2012 by the United Nations agencies in CAR. As part of this process, a capacity assessment of the financial performance of implementing partners was carried out in 2012 by an external and independent consulting firm based in Douala, Cameroon. This exercise was to determine the risk level associated with the financial management of each partner which in turn will determine the funding modality (direct payment or direct cash transfer modality) allowed for the partner. The process was carried out on a regular basis throughout the year and as security allowed. No case of fraud has been reported under this process. The CHF technical secretariat is classified in four risk categories: high, important, moderate and low.

This assessment forms the baseline of the CHF in determining the risks related to financial management of partners applying for CHF funding. As the crisis disrupted the introduction of the HACT in CAR, as an interim measure UNDP in its MA function has carried out an assessment of the financial performance of implementing partners was carried out in 2012. This exercise takes the form of a documentary review and tends to verify the legal existence of the organisation, the existence of internal control mechanisms and that staff dedicated to the project implementation of activities is available and that the organisation has a proven expertise in the recipient country and region.

Due diligence

A formal due diligence process of NGO partners was triggered at the end of 2014 with the launch of the GMS and the required registration of partners to access the system. Due diligence is a critical step to ensure conformity within the framework of the process of capacity assessment of the partners via GMS. It is an administrative tool to make sure that the partners are authorized to implement in the CAR humanitarian activity. This conformity procedure includes the signature of 5 declarations by each organization on the working principles as follows: i) Declaration of Previous or Pending Legal Processes; ii) Declaration of conflict of interest; iii) Declaration of non-support for a UN designated entity; iv) Declaration of recognition of UN conflict activity; v) Declaration of accurate information. The initial round of due diligence involved in total 33 partners. This exercise initially carried on a regular basis for any new partner registering in the GMS as a potential applicant.

**Losses and fraud**

With regards to theft and loss, partner is required to report them to the CHF. In this regard, for all 2014 projects, UNDP has reached out to all partners funded during the year, to remind them of this obligation and collect all cases not reported. This exercise is ongoing and UNDP continues its efforts to receive the feedback from all the partners. To date, three partners are reported and the cases are being currently handled by UNDP Country Office in accordance with its corporate policy. In addition, this aspect will be further looked at as part of the yearly audit of CHF funded projects which will be finalized in April 2015.

**Looking forward**

Looking forward, a specific standard operating procedure on the handling of fraud and corruption and management of losses is being developed by UNDP’s current initiative across all UNDP field offices where it serves as the CHF managing agent, to develop global harmonized CHF guidelines. These guidelines will be primarily specifically develop a section on fraud and corruption and will lead to a better formalization and strengthening of current practices. In addition, these efforts are supported by the recent finalization of the CAR in its risk management framework which also looks at ways to strengthen the current handling of fraud as part of the CHF management.

**Risk Management Framework**

As part of the key accountability and risk management activities, the CHF technical secretariat, in collaboration with other fund stakeholders has embarked on the development of a risk management framework. Using the methodology developed as part of the OCHA global operational guidelines, the process was initiated in July and finalised in November. This process was slightly delayed due to the security incidents that took place in October 2014.

The Risk Management Framework is an important management tool as it identifies key external and external risks for the operations of the fund in the following areas: strategic and programmatic, governance and management and operational. An important risk mitigation measures as well as a six-month planning for the implementation of these measures and identifies the responsible entity. As such it can be updated every 6 months and be reviewed yearly under the responsibility of the Humanitarian Coordinator. The framework is available on the website of the CHF CAR and will be regularly updated to take into account all relevant risks and the progress against the mitigation strategies developed as part of the plan.
Gender

In 2014, efforts have been made to improve the gender programming aspect of the CHF across the project's life-cycle. Three key actions in this regard were defined in January 2014 namely; introducing the use of the IASC Gender Marker into the CHF for CAR; training of CHF partners on gender equality programming and the gender marker; and the review of CHF tools to include gender dimensions. The CHF unit, with the support of the GenCap hosted by OCHA, introduced the gender marker to partners during the first allocation. Partners received a power-point presentation, web-links to additional resources as well as project review support. A total of 26 staff from CHF partners were trained on gender equality programming and the IASC Gender Marker in February 2014. The staff represented 13 different national and international NGOs which had applied for CHF funding in the first allocation of 2014. The trained staff acquired skills on relevant gender analysis, inclusion of gender aspects in different parts of a proposal and the IASC Gender Marker. Three key tools namely; the CHF project review documents, monitoring template and the bulletin were reviewed to include information relating to the gender marker. The inclusion of key gender marker aspects in the CHF tools allow for structured collection, analysis and reporting of progress in gender related outcomes.

Feedback was shared horizontally with CHF global unit on the need to improve the templates for CHF proposal and reports to capture sex disaggregated data and gender sensitive indicators. As a result of the support on gender mainstreaming in 2014, CHF partners were able to clarify the exact interventions from a gender equality perspective in Shelter, Protection, Food Security and Education sectors. For example, for shelter projects, the gender equality measures clarified and financed included measures aimed at addressing access to shelter by female headed households who lost their shelter as a result of the crisis in CAR and training both women and men on shelter construction and rehabilitation in a context where the allocation of family shelter and the accompanying skills of shelter construction and rehabilitation is a male preserve. The CHF will continue its efforts in 2015 to further engender its activities.

Title and source

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

CHF Central African Republic Annual Report 2014 | 30
CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

In the context of a heightened humanitarian crisis, the CHF has demonstrated that is has a role to play as a key in-country humanitarian funding mechanism. It has further demonstrated its capacity to adapt to the changing environment and despite challenging security and access issues has been able to maintain a reasonable level of projects’ monitoring related activities.

The need for humanitarian assistance is and remains widespread across the country. In this context the CHF will further benefit from strong coordination mechanism and analysis to support its prioritization process. In the existing volatile and dynamic environment, the humanitarian community is increasingly called upon to expand its geographical scope to increase its reach of vulnerable populations in need and in increasingly remote areas. In addition to existing affected areas that developed as a result of the December 2013 crisis and focused on some key towns and surroundings of the country, new hotspots regularly appear as a result of continuous violence perpetrated by armed groups in different parts of the country leading to new displacements.

As a pool-fund mechanism in a context where most donors are not present in country, strengthening donors’ coordination and information sharing is critical. As stressed by ASG Khang in her recent visit to CAR in February 2015, the ‘humanitarian situation remains dire’ and the neglect of international community is the ‘biggest threat’ to CAR. An estimated 2.7 million of the country’s 4.6 million people are in need of assistance, this represents over fifty percent of CAR’s total population. There are currently 436,300 IDPs in CAR, with 43,592 living in the capital, Bangui, alone. The 2015 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) identifies a total of 2 million vulnerable people who will be in need of humanitarian assistance in the course of 2015. Donors will need to improve the timing of their contributions in line with the allocation cycle to further improve the timeliness and predictability of the fund’s allocation process.

Consolidating the approach to performance and risk management of the CHF are key elements for strengthening the fund’s practice and effectiveness. The finalization of a risk management framework has helped in taking stock of the existing practices. It has further laid out a plan of activities and actions that need to be introduced to strengthen existing practice to ensure the risk analysis and mitigation are consistent throughout the whole project cycle such as the introduction of a performance management system for projects and partners. Ongoing efforts to redefine and clarify the role of the Managing Agent especially with regards to its contribution to risk management will be determinant. The performance of the fund will need to be further improved, notably through the improvement in the timing of the disbursement. The introduction of the HACT mechanism in CAR, which has been delayed due to the crisis, will also benefit the improvement of the risk management and the performance of the CHF as a funding mechanism.

To improve the efficiency of the fund and the quality of its programming, the CHF technical secretariat will need to enhance and revamp its training strategy. For several years, the CHF has been implement training activities as a regular activity throughout the year. The humanitarian community in CAR is characterized by a high staff turnover in partners’ organizations and more capacity building of national NGOs is recommended to continue increasing access of national partners to the CHF. As a result, there is a need to better cater for the capacity-building needs among partners which may vary and to cover the whole programme cycle with an increased regularity in its set up. The CHF will also continue teaming with clusters’ capacity building activities for increased efficiency.

To continue being a central mechanism in support of the humanitarian response, the CHF needs to regularly review its ways of working to remain a funding mechanism where pooled resources can be allocated in a flexible manner and in support of the most strategic priority needs. The complex environment in CAR evolves constantly and calls for a regular review and reassessment of priorities and response modality. The introduction of the mini-appeal or the funding of multisectoral projects are examples of how the CHF renewed itself in 2014 in support of the humanitarian response. The CHF global evaluation carried out at the end of 2014 will further provide a review as to how the CHF can further its contribution to the work of the humanitarian coordination structure under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator and in line with the agenda set-out in the Transformative Agenda.

ANNEXES
ANNEX 1

LIST OF ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS IN 2014

Chair: Humanitarian Coordinator
Donors Representatives: one representative depending on presence in the country
NGO Representatives: one representative from the International NGO forum, one representative from an International NGO (DRC) and one representative from a local NGO (Echelle puis Vitalité Plus)
UN Representatives: WFP and WHO
Observer: One representative from ECHO

ANNEX 2

CHF TEAM CONTACT LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anne-Sophie LE BEUX</td>
<td>Chef de l’unité financements humanitaires</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lebeux@un.org">lebeux@un.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Khameba</td>
<td>HAO-Spécialiste Suivi, Rapportage et Evaluation</td>
<td><a href="mailto:khaembaf@un.org">khaembaf@un.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Séverin YANGOU</td>
<td>National CHF Manager, OCHA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:yangou@un.org">yangou@un.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Régis MALOUNDOU</td>
<td>Assistant CHF M&amp;R, OCHA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maloundou@un.org">maloundou@un.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNDP Central African Republic Team:
Bernardo Jorge              | Team Leader CHF                    | bernardo.jorge@undp.org |
Tatiana NANA-GUILA         | Associée aux finances/PNUD         | tatiana.nana@undp.org   |
Zeinou Tahiri              | Associée aux finances              | zeinou.tahiri@undp.org  |
Corado- Craxi Mongondelet | Associée aux finances              | corado-craxi.mongondelet@undp.org |

UNDP/MPTF New York Team:
Eva Sáenz de Juiberia      | Fund Portfolio Manager             | eva.saenz@undp.org     |
Sean Chen                  | Portfolio Associate                | sean.chen@undp.org     |
Louise Moretta            | Chief of Finance                   | louise.moretta@undp.org |
Anita Bansì               | Operation Associate (Finance)      | anita.bansi@undp.org   |

ANNEX 3

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT MPTF

The UNDP MPTF Office is the Administrative Agent of the CAR CHF. In this capacity, the MPTF Office is responsible for the following financial functions:

(i) Conclude an MOU with Participating UN Organizations and Standard Administrative Arrangements with contributors.
(ii) Receive, administer and manage contributions from contributors, and disburse these funds to the Participating UN Organizations in accordance with the decisions of the Humanitarian Coordinator.
(iii) Provide periodic (annual and final) financial reports on the South Sudan CHF Account to the Humanitarian Coordinator, contributing donors, the South Sudan CHF Advisory Board and PUNOs.
(iv) Provide the Humanitarian Coordinator, the CHF Advisory Board and Participating UN Organizations with the statements of donor commitments, deposits and transfers to Participating UN Organizations and other financial information related to the CAR CHF, available directly from the publicly accessible MPTF Office GATEWAY (http://mptf.undp.org).

The 2014 report can be downloaded on the MPTF website:
- CAR-CHF 2014 Certified Financial Statement

ANNEX 4

LIST OF FUNDED PROJECTS IN 2014

The list of CHF funded projects in 2014 can be downloaded on the OCHA CAR website.
**ANNEX 5**

**GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Administrative Agent</td>
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<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>Advisory Board</td>
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<td>ACF</td>
<td>Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger)</td>
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<td>ACTED</td>
<td>Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development</td>
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<td>ADEM</td>
<td>Association pour le Développement de Mbrès (Association for the Development of Mbrès)</td>
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<td>CAP</td>
<td>Consolidated Appeal Process</td>
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<td>CAR</td>
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<td>CBPF</td>
<td>Country-based Pooled Funds</td>
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<td>Central Emergency Response Fund</td>
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<td>CFS</td>
<td>Child Friendly Spaces</td>
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<td>CHF</td>
<td>Common Humanitarian Fund</td>
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<td>COHEB</td>
<td>Community Humanitarian Emergency Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>COOPI</td>
<td>Cooperazione Internazionale (International Cooperation)</td>
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<td>DRC</td>
<td>Danish Refugee Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECHO</td>
<td>European Commission Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>ER</td>
<td>Early recovery</td>
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<td>ERC</td>
<td>Emergency Relief Coordinator</td>
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<td>Emergency Response Fund</td>
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<td>Gender Based Violence</td>
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<td>Grant Management System</td>
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<td>ha</td>
<td>Hectare</td>
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<tr>
<td>HACT</td>
<td>Harmonized Approach for Cash Transfers</td>
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<td>Humanitarian Coordinator</td>
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<td>Humanitarian Financing Unit</td>
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<td>Internally Displaced Person</td>
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<td>IGA</td>
<td>Income Generating Activities</td>
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<td>IMAM</td>
<td>National Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition</td>
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<td>IMC</td>
<td>International Medical Corps</td>
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<td>IMCI</td>
<td>Integrated Management of Childhood Illness</td>
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<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organization for Migration</td>
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<td>ITP</td>
<td>Inpatient Therapeutic unit</td>
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<td>JUPEEDC</td>
<td>United Youth for the Protection of the Environment and Community Development</td>
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<td>KAP</td>
<td>Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices</td>
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<td>Km</td>
<td>Kilometre</td>
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<td>L3</td>
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<td>Lord's Resistance Army</td>
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<td>Managing Agent</td>
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<td>MIRA</td>
<td>Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Assessment</td>
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<td>MISP</td>
<td>Minimum Initial Service Package for Reproductive Health</td>
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<td>MPTF</td>
<td>Multi-Partner Trust Fund office</td>
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<td>MSF</td>
<td>Médecins Sans Frontières</td>
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<td>MT</td>
<td>Metric ton</td>
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<td>M&amp;R</td>
<td>Monitoring &amp; Reporting</td>
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<td>NFI</td>
<td>Non-food Item</td>
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<td>Non-governmental organization</td>
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<td>NCE</td>
<td>No-Cost Extension</td>
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<td>OCHA</td>
<td>Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs</td>
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<td>OTP</td>
<td>Outpatient Therapeutic unit</td>
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<td>PU-AMI</td>
<td>Première Urgence-Aide Médicale Internationale (International Medical Aid)</td>
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<td>RRM</td>
<td>Rapid Response Mechanism</td>
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<td>Strategic Response PlanU5 (under five)</td>
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<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>United Nations Children Education Fund</td>
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<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
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<td>World Food Programme</td>
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<td>World Health Organization</td>
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