

Annual Results Report 2024 Central African Republic

Acknowledgements

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Note:

The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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4.1 - Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2024, UNHCR enhanced its response to Chad and Sudan emergencies while continuing its regular activities for refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and returnees. As of 31 December 2024, UNHCR provided emergency assistance to 16,857 Sudanese refugees in Korsi and 3,442 Chadian refugees in Betoko. This included life-saving support such as hot meals, health care, water and sanitation, emergency shelter, and essential household items. UNHCR constructed 858 emergency shelters, a health center, 231 latrines, 144 emergency showers, and two boreholes, providing 13 liters of drinking water per person daily. Additionally, two child-friendly spaces were created in Korsi, benefiting 569 girls and 582 boys.

In Betoko, Chadian refugees received health care, food, shelter, and essential items. UNHCR built 1,050 emergency shelters, distributed 1,539 non-food item (NFI) kits, 1,000 loincloths, 150 bundles of second-hand clothing, and 43,000 soaps. Three wells were constructed, providing 30,000 liters of drinking water daily. The health response was strengthened, with 5,441 medical consultations, including 2,286 for children under five. Two child-friendly spaces benefited 773 children, including 360 girls, and 4,500 menstrual hygiene kits were distributed to vulnerable women. WFP conducted 12 rounds of food distributions, reaching 3,551 refugees.

UNHCR continued to support urban and rural refugees across the country, providing life-saving assistance to those with special needs, education through cash assistance, and food support. UNHCR distributed basic relief items, along with 1,055 UNHCR shelter kits, to households.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

By 2027, Forcibly Displaced Persons and Persons at risk of Statelessness including host communities enjoy their rights in line with national, regional and international legal instruments

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)	
1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	87.00%	93.03%	
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	84.00%	80.21%	

In 2024, UNHCR continued its advocacy for improved access to asylum for those seeking international protection in CAR. While the asylum procedures generally align with international standards, serious challenges remain. CAR has traditionally maintained an open-door policy, accepting refugees mainly from Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and Sudan. CAR follows an out-of-camp policy, with refugees living in sites embedded within local communities. Services in these sites are available to both refugees and host communities.

In 2024, CAR admitted 8,235 asylum-seekers and granted refugee status to 11,553 people, including carryovers from the previous year. Refugee status is generally determined on an individual basis after an eligibility interview. However, for large arrivals, such as Chad and the Sudan, CAR uses a prima facie approach, granting refugee status without individual assessments and after biometric registration and issuance of identity cards by the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) with the support of UNHCR. This approach was applied to Sudanese refugees in 2003 and to Chadian refugees in 2024. In 2024, the prima facie approach was also extended to locations out of Korsi-Birao. In Bangui, where individual asylum procedures are in place, 760 asylum applications were lodged, and 234 were examined, with a low recognition rate of just 12% for urban refugees.

UNHCR supported capacity building by training two CNR RSD staff and two members of the Eligibility Sub-Commission on International Refugee Law at the René Cassin Institute in Strasbourg, France. Three local authority training sessions on international protection were also held in Birao, Bria, and Paoua.

While the asylum law guarantees freedom of movement for refugees, in practice, movement is often restricted by security checkpoints, where refugees are detained or fined. The refugee documentation issued by UNHCR and CNR is frequently ignored by security forces, further limiting refugees' freedom of movement.

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

By 2027, Forcibly Displaced Persons, Persons at risk of Statelessness and Host Communities safely realize their basic rights, they live in dignity and improve their wellbeing

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)	
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	17.00%	50.00%	
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	53.00%	73.00%	

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UNHCR continued to support urban and rural refugees across the country, providing life-saving assistance to those with special needs, education through cash-based interventions (CBI), and food security support. Basic relief items were distributed to households, along with 1,055 UNHCR shelter kits.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

By 2027, Forcibly Displaced and Stateless persons are empowered they live in safe environments free from violence and exploitation and achieve their full potential

Indicator				
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)		
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%		
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	36.00%	37.00%		
3.2b Proportion of children and young people	3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	21.00%	11.00%		
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark				
IDPs	63.00%	100.00%		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	70.00%	30.00%		
Returnees	76.00%	96.84%		

The Refugee Law in CAR grants refugees equal access to the labor market as nationals. Foreign residents are required to have a valid residence permit to work, but a refugee ID card is considered equivalent.

While some refugees enter the labor market, many, especially women, are limited to the informal sector due to employers favoring nationals or not recognizing refugee IDs. Refugees, particularly women, face additional barriers, such as limited vocational skills and low education levels. To address these, UNHCR organizes advocacy and awareness activities, especially for women. In Bangui, some refugees have registered self-employment activities with the CNR's support. UNHCR has advocated with the World Bank for refugee inclusion in social protection cash-for-work projects.

As of 31 December 2024, there were 42,141 biometrically registered refugees, with 22,315 being women and girls. Among them, women and girls who survived violence accessed comprehensive services, including psychosocial support, medical and legal aid, dignity kits, and NFIs.

UNHCR also promoted community empowerment and gender equality through its education approach. Working with education authorities and Parent-Teacher Associations in local schools, close to 100 awareness raising sessions were organized, which included messages on the importance of girls' education. UNHCR supported the training of 61 teachers on the risk mitigation of violence against women and girls, GBV referral mechanisms in schools, and constructed18 gender-segregated latrines in three schools. At the primary level, of the 4,454 refugees enrolled in school, 48% were girls, while at the secondary level, of 857 refugees enrolled, 46% were young women. From 2023 to 2024, girls' enrolment in primary school increased by more than 200%, reaching 2,119 in 2024 compared to just 637 in 2023, and at the secondary level young women's enrolment increased 43%, reaching 398 in 2024 compared to 278 in 2023

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

By 2027, Forcibly Displaced, Persons at risk of Statelessness and Host Communities achieve durable solutions, and become self-reliant in an environment free from the risk of statelessness

Indicator				
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)		
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	4,012	2		
4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0		
4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0		
4.3a Number of stateless people for whom nationality is granted or confirmed				
Stateless Persons	0	0		
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0		

After the launch of the CAR SSP in October 2023, significant efforts were made in member countries (Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Congo, DRC, South Sudan, Sudan) to foster political ownership and to establish its structures including national technical, and regional management committees. These committees are all functioning except in Sudan. UNHCR Representations regularly engage host countries on their commitments, and on the necessity to mobilize resources for the implementation of solutions prescribed in their national action plans. The second Steering committee meeting provided an opportunity for States to reassess progress made, appreciate challenges and opportunities, and recommit to the objectives of the Yaoundé Declaration.

In 2024, 19,751 Central African returnees (16,265 facilitated and 3,486 spontaneous) voluntarily returned to CAR. By end 2024, 676,177 Central Africans were still seeking refuge in neighbouring countries. UNHCR is conducting a study on the risks of statelessness in CAR and results will be available by mid-2025. UNHCR and the humanitarian community, continue advocating for greater development resources to support durable solutions. Development aid is essential to break the cycle of dependency on humanitarian assistance and build on the progress made through humanitarian efforts.

A project funded by the Internal Displacement Solutions Fund (IDSF), titled 'Supporting National Leadership on Durable Solutions,' is being implemented by UNDP, IOM, UNHCR, and UNICEF. It aims to strengthen national leadership through evidence, analysis, and tools, and to support the rollout of the national durable solutions strategy. The project also focuses on improving social cohesion through local peace and reconciliation committees and will target Bria, the site of the largest displaced population in CAR. The first Steering Committee meeting, held on 16 December 2024, presented the progress made by the agencies UNDP, UNHCR, IOM, and UNICEF. The project is set to run until February 2026.

The Peacebuilding Fund has financed two projects contributing to durable solutions in CAR, including the project to support the operationalization of the durable solutions strategy in CAR (USD 3 million), implemented by UNDP and UNICEF, and another project worth almost USD 3 million which aims to prevent violence and strengthen social cohesion between returnees and host communities by tackling the causes of tension. The project entitled 'Reducing tensions and strengthening social cohesion between returnees and host communities through access to identity documents, livelihoods and the transitional justice process' is being implemented by IOM and UNHCR.

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments
By 2027, forcibly displaced people and people at risk of statelessness including host communities enjoy their rights in line with national, regional and international legal instruments

Gaps exist in the implementation of the 2007 Asylum Law and its 2009 decree. Despite efforts, the national eligibility commission's capacity needs strengthening to determine refugee status effectively. Limited financial resources hinder the sustainability of the asylum institution, which relies heavily on UNHCR support. Access to asylum procedures for complex profiles like LGBTIQ+ applicants is inconsistent, and asylum procedures are not included in the national budget.

While Article 23 of the 2007 Asylum Law grants refugees freedom of movement, security checkpoints often restrict movement, leading to abuses and arbitrary arrests.

Article 29 stipulates that recognized refugees receive an identity card from the Ministery of Interior, which also serves as a residence and establishment permit. Refugee identity cards are valid for five years. In practice, CNR, with UNHCR support, issues identity cards, and asylum-seekers receive a certificate valid for three months. However, law enforcement often fails to recognize these documents, limiting refugees' rights, particularly freedom of movement.

Article 26 guarantees refugees' civil documents under the same conditions as nationals. However, the Child Protection Code's provisions on free and extended birth registration face resistance due to costs, and centralized document issuance in Bangui complicates civil registration.

The lack of recognition of refugee identity documents restricts access to land, housing, and education. UNHCR protection monitoring shows that 94% of arrests involve adult males without documents, often suspected of being armed group members. Some progress has been made in securing birth certificates for refugee children.

Article 30 grants refugees a travel document, but CAR-issued documents are not machine-readable and are not recognized at most borders. Integrating refugees' biometric data into CAR's identity system could improve the travel document's effectiveness.

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

By 2027, Forcibly Displaced Persons, Persons at risk of Statelessness and Host Communities safely realize their basic rights, they live in dignity and improve their wellbeing

The structures and services for providing adequate and dignified social protection are either very weak or nearly nonexistent. The absence of a national legal and policy framework on social protection, combined with the high cost of living in urban areas, has worsened social economic situations. Job opportunities are scarce, forcing refugees into the informal sector, which is unstable and offers no long-term job or income security. Living conditions in camps and host villages are substandard and need significant improvement across all areas. The prolonged stay of refugees has not only undermined their well-being but also strained the host populations, who share the same difficult environment.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

By 2027, Forcibly Displaced and Stateless persons are empowered they live in safe environments free from violence and exploitation and achieve their full potential

According to the Refugee Law, refugees have access to medical care, education, and employment on par with nationals. However, refugees face barriers in accessing these rights, particularly in Bangui, where they often need a letter from the CNR confirming their status, and at times must be accompanied by CNR staff to access services, such as tertiary education or employment, to avoid exploitation. Though some refugees manage to enter the labor market, many, especially women, are confined to the informal sector, despite having the necessary qualifications. Employers often prefer nationals or do not recognize refugee identification.

CAR's rich natural resources contrast with severe environmental degradation due to harmful practices like incineration and dumping, which cause biodiversity loss and land degradation. Extreme weather events, irregular rains, floods, and disease outbreaks, such as malaria and cholera, exacerbate tensions in rural communities that rely on agriculture and livestock for survival.

Despite the law, refugees face difficulties accessing housing, land, and property due to limited financial means. In rural areas, refugees are settled on authorized land or with host communities, while in urban settings, they may face discrimination in housing, such as price hikes or refusals based on their refugee status. Refugees are theoretically entitled to free health care under the national system, but health indicators remain concerning, with high morbidity, mortality, and malnutrition rates. Access to financial services is limited as refugees cannot open bank accounts or mobile money accounts without national identity documents, which most refugees do not possess.

The education sector is strained by the rapid increase in refugee numbers, overwhelming local schools and resources. The 280% surge in refugees led to overcrowded classrooms and insufficient materials. Girls face additional barriers due to cultural norms, early marriage, and family responsibilities.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

In 2024, 16,265 refugees returned to CAR with UNHCR's assistance, primarily from the DRC (9,203) and Cameroon (6,979). Since repatriation began in 2017, 52,937 returnees have returned, mainly from DRC, Cameroon, and the Republic of Congo (ROC).

CAR's social protection structures for people with specific needs are almost non-existent. Assistance is largely handled by families, which can overwhelm vulnerable households. The lack of a national policy on social protection, coupled with the high cost of living, has worsened social indicators. Job opportunities are scarce, and refugees are often forced into the informal sector, which lacks stability. The living conditions in settlements and host villages are inadequate and need significant improvement. Refugees and host populations face deteriorating conditions due to limited resources.

The return of local administrations to many areas shows the government's intent to re-establish its presence, though local administrations lack capacity. The conflict in CAR has led to human rights violations, including looting, home destruction, and illegal land occupation. Attempts to restore housing, land, and property rights face challenges from an outdated legal framework, and many lack documentation proving land ownership. Women suffer discriminatory inheritance practices, often leading to eviction after the death of a partner.

Ensuring access to abandoned housing or compensation for lost property is vital for reconciliation. While

peace processes prioritize political and civil rights, addressing social and economic rights is equally essential for lasting peace. Securing long-term solutions for displaced persons and returnees requires coordinated efforts from the government, international organizations, and local communities. A holistic approach addressing security, livelihoods, legal identity, and social integration is key for sustainable reintegration and stability in CAR. Policy advocacy, funding mobilization, and multi-sectoral coordination are critical.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

As part of its strategic partnerships, UNHCR continued to collaborate closely with other UN agencies in 2024. The World Food Programme (WFP) provided food assistance to refugees; the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) supported education for refugees, returnees, and internally displaced people (IDPs); the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) distributed dignity kits; and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) implemented Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in return and refugee-hosting areas.

UNHCR's operation in the Central African Republic (CAR) also maintained project partnerships with nine organizations, including two government entities:

The National Commission for Refugees (Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés – CNR), under the Ministry of Interior and National Security, responsible for the protection and assistance of refugees and returnees, and

The Support Project for the Return and Reintegration of Returnees (Projet d'Appui au Retour et à la Réintégration – PARET/RCA), under the Ministry of Humanitarian Action.

The other seven project partners included six international NGOs—INTERSOS, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), Finn Church Aid (FCA), African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD), the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), and Volunteers for the Care of Women (VCW)—as well as one national NGO, ONG-NOURRIR.

INTERSOS focused on protection monitoring, coordination in IDP sites, and community-based protection for refugees.

COOPI supported protection, site management, and coordination in IDP settings.

FCA contributed to protection monitoring, multi-sectoral response, and social cohesion in return areas. NRC addressed HLP tenure issues and strengthened local capacities in the Nana-Mambéré and Mambéré-Kadéi prefectures.

VCW provided primary health care services, and

AIRD offered logistical support for UNHCR operations.

ONG-NOURRIR, the sole national partner, implemented multi-sectoral protection and assistance activities, including the construction of shelters and health centres for refugees and asylum-seekers.

In the second half of 2024, the project partnership framework was restructured to align with the operational strategy for 2024–2027. For 2025, the number of implementing partners was reduced from nine to eight to enhance efficiency and improve responses to forced displacement. The partners for 2025 include CNR, PARET, CIAUD, FCA, Centre de Support en Santé Internationale (CSSI), DEDI, Humanitarian Alert, and ONG-NOURRIR.

UNHCR continued to collaborate with development actors, including the European Union's INTPA, the World Bank, the African Development Bank (AfDB), and other UN agencies. Together with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNHCR implemented a joint project funded by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF): "Reducing tensions and strengthening social cohesion between returnees and host communities through access to identity documentation, livelihoods, and transitional justice." UNHCR also continued discussions with the World Bank and AfDB on project proposals, including the "Projet de Convention – Projet CD13" with AfDB. Furthermore, throughout 2024, discussions continued with the DRC for the preparation of a cross-border project to support the return of Central Africans with funding from INTPA. Discussions are still ongoing to make this funding possible in 2025.

A notable milestone in 2024 was CAR's leadership role in the CAR-SSP platform, marking a key achievement in fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships for durable solutions.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

By 2026, forcibly displaced and host communities will have access to a more favorable protection environment

Core Outcome Indicators

	Indicator		
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	38.00%	100.00%	80.21%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	85.00%	100.00%	21.10%
Returnees	100.00%	100.00%	34.49%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	38.00%	100.00%	80.21%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
01.1.1 Number of people registered on an individual basis		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	42,826	
01.2.1 Number of people supported to obtain civil status, identity or legal status documentation		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	42,826	
Returnees	16,265	

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The Central African government has traditionally maintained an open-door policy toward refugees and asylum seekers, the vast majority of whom come from neighboring countries. No cases of refoulement were reported in 2024.

UNHCR continued its protection interventions, which included facilitating access to Central African territory through border monitoring, training and advocacy with authorities, registration, and the issuance of civil status documents to refugees. Protection monitoring, which documents protection-related incidents, was carried out in localities hosting forcibly displaced people through community-based networks and structures. Through protection monitoring alerts, over 8,000 new arrivals were supported either through assisted relocation or directed relocation to the refugee settlements of Korsi and Betoko.

Activities promoting peaceful coexistence were organized, involving local authorities, host communities, and refugees, alongside awareness sessions on maintaining the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum

and refugee settings.

Registration is conducted jointly by the Central African Republic Government through the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), supported by a UNHCR-CNR Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2014. Registration activities, including pre-registration, biometric registration, and continuous registration (births, deaths, separations, and reunifications), were carried out in all refugee-hosting localities in 2024. A total of 11,553 new refugees were registered and issued documentation in 2024. In total, registration and documentation activities reached 53,394 refugees and asylum seekers in 2024, of whom 22,315 women. 2,132 refugee children were issued birth certificates.

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

By 2026, forcibly displaced and host communities will have access to a more favorable protection environment

The risk of statelessness reduces in the CAR

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in	line with the 1951 Cor	nvention and/or its 19	967 Protocol
None	Broadly aligned	Broadly aligned	Progressing toward alignment
3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness			
None	Broadly aligned	Broadly aligned	Progressing toward alignment

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
03.1.1 UNHCR has engaged in legislative and judicial processes to strengthen laws and policies for the protection of refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless people and/or the reduction and prevention of statelessness		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	No	

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

CAR acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention in September 1962 and its 1967 Protocol in August. 1967. It also joined the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention on 23 July 1970 and ratified the Kampala Convention in 2010, though its standards have yet to be incorporated into national law. CAR is not party to the 1954 and 1961 Statelessness Conventions but pledged in 2019 to accede to both. The country also acceded to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, though socio-economic discrimination persists, including in employment, as also set in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which CAR is a State Party.

CAR signed several key human rights instruments, including the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 1981 African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the 2018 UN Global Compact on Refugees, the 2010 Yaoundé Declaration on the Implementation of the Social Protection Floor, the 2019 Political Declaration of the UNGA High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage, and the UN Declaration on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in 2011, advocating for LGBTIQ+ rights. While social

stigma persists, there is no legal prosecution based on gender identity or sexual orientation. Notably, in 2023, the national eligibility commission registered and processed asylum claims based on sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions and sex characteristics (SOGIESC).

CAR's 2007 Refugee Law (n° 07.019) guarantees refugees' rights to work, education, healthcare, justice, civil registration, identity documentation, and free movement. The law also created the National Commission of Refugees (CNR) under the Interior Ministry, with UNHCR funding its budget. In 2024, CAR suspeded granting prima facie refugee status to Chadian asylum-seekers. While protection delivery is a work in progress, CAR's legal framework remains adequate for refugee protection.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

By 2026, forcibly displaced people and their host communities will effectively address genderbased violence and other types of exploitation

Core Outcome Indicators

	Indicator		
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
4.1 Proportion of people who know when	e to access available	GBV services	
IDPs	50.00%	50.00%	70.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	75.00%	80.00%	80.00%
Returnees	100.00%	100.00%	90.00%
4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women			
IDPs	85.00%	100.00%	90.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	90.00%	100.00%	90.00%
Returnees	90.00%	100.00%	90.00%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services			
IDPs	35.00%	100.00%	80.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	40.00%	100.00%	80.00%
Returnees	35.00%	100.00%	65.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
04.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from specialized GBV programmes		
IDPs	3,000	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,500	
Returnees	500	

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Violence against women and girls is widespread in CAR due to entrenched societal norms, ongoing conflict, and instability. Security audits by UNHCR reveal that forcibly displaced women and girls face the highest risk from intimate partners, family, or community members. In Korsi and Betoko refugee settlements,

insecurity, lack of gender-separated latrines, and poor lighting were key concerns. In 2024, the most reported forms of violence against women and girls were physical assault (38%), psychological violence (23%), rape (19%), denial of resources (11%), sexual assault (6%), and forced marriage (3%). Since the Sudanese and Chadian crises, UNHCR has prioritized combating violence against women and girls in emergencies.

Prevention efforts covered all 14 prefectures and Bangui, with 2,127 awareness sessions reaching 347,218 displaced persons and hosts, plus 95 training sessions for 8,385 people. The Engaging Men through Accountable Practice (EMAP) initiative launched in Birao trained 16 facilitators (8 refugees, 8 hosts) and engaged authorities, community members, and women's groups in Korsi and host areas. Four women-led organizations, including one run by refugee women, received UNHCR funding for the prevention of and response to violence against women and girls.

Support services were provided through 31 Ma Mbi Si safe spaces and the helpline 4006. In 2024, all referred women and girls who survived violence received psychosocial support. 88% of women and girls documented by UNCHR partners to have survived rape, sexual assault, and physical assault were referred for medical care. UNHCR provided 2,121 survivors with financial aid for transport, medical costs, or food; 43% received NFI kits, and 2,954 dignity kits were distributed.

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

By 2026, forcibly displaced and host community children will have access to effective protection services

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5.00%	100.00%	0.00%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	100.00%	48.49%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	100.00%	54.29%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
05.1.1 Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services		
IDPs	903	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,000	

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, forcibly displaced children faced a wide range of child protection risks, including various forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. These acts of violence, abuse and exploitation occurred within the family and in communities and were physical, emotional or sexual in nature. Children faced family separation, neglect, child labour and sexual violence against girls. Analyses of UNHCR's registration

database shows that 57 % of refugees and asylum-seekers are children, with 782 separated and unaccompanied children and 283 children at risk requiring special attention. As of 31 December 2024, 1,061 children, including 849 child survivors of GBV, had received child protection services. All these children received psychosocial care, including counselling, psychological support and access to appropriate services including through child-friendly spaces.

Additionally, 212 children identified to be at risk were supported through social welfare programs in Birao. Through the child-friendly space of Korsi, 1,151 minors, including 569 girls and 582 boys, benefited from recreational activities with psychosocial support. In Betoko settlement, 773 children, including 360 girls and 413 boys, benefited from child friendly spaces.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

By 2026, forcibly displaced and host communities will respond to their own protection and assistance problems

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
7.1 Extent participation of displaced and stateless people across programme phases is supported.			
IDPs	Extensive	Moderate	Moderate
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Extensive	Moderate	Moderate
Returnees	Extensive	Moderate	Moderate
7.2 Proportion of people who have access	ss to safe feedback an	d response mechani	sms
IDPs	21.00%	100.00%	25.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	53.00%	100.00%	40.00%
Returnees	100.00%	100.00%	80.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures			
IDPs	16.00%	25.00%	15.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	21.00%	30.00%	10.00%
Returnees	25.01%	30.00%	15.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments		
IDPs	225	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	225	
Returnees	300	
07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback & response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback		
IDPs	680	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	4,900	
Returnees	300	
07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services		

~	
IDPs	469,342
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	53,894
Returnees	16,342

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR ensured that the perspectives of women, girls, boys and men were considered in its interventions. Regular exchanges with the populations took place. Several group discussions and individual interviews were organized. Similarly, community structures, protection committees and self-management structures were created or revitalized in IDP sites or refugee villages. 879 community relays and members of protection committees, including 307 women, were trained in 2024. In terms of communication and transparency, information and awareness-raising sessions with critical messages on existing services were organized with communities on the ground, including eligibility and selection criteria for the programs implemented. In terms of feedback and response, complaint management mechanisms have been put in place in field offices and in Bangui, including physical complaint boxes, an electronic box in Bangui, as well as referral and complaint management offices. An Information and Feedback Center (IFC) has been set up at the Korsi site for Sudanese refugees. Through the IFC feedback mechanism, refugees and asylum seekers in Korsi submitted 5,391 letters in 2024. Of these, 5,349 were referred to relevant services, which responded to 4,508 requests.

To enhance understanding and promote the use of this mechanism, 127 awareness sessions were held with the refugee community. Through inter-agency complaints and feedback mechanisms, 37,050 complaints were collected—49% from women—with 23,582 resolved, achieving a 64% resolution rate.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

By 2026, forcibly displaced and the stateless will have access to social and basic services

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items			
IDPs	32.00%	60.00%	72.20%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	35.00%	53.00%	90.78%
Returnees	30.00%	100.00%	72.55%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%
Returnees	24.99%	35.00%	65.06%

Core Output Indicators

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Indicator		
Population Type	Actual (2024)	
08.1.1 Number of people who received cash assistance		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers 5,870		
Returnees	19,528	

08.2.1 Number of people who received non-food items		
IDPs	174,200	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	21,010	
Returnees	0	
08.3.1 Number of people supported with improved cooking options		
Host Community 0		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	
Returnees	0	

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, the cash assistance unit of the program section conducted 97 cash distribution sessions for 25,962 people, with an annual amount of 1.78 billion XAF in Bangui and other regions of the country. The interventions focused on two main areas: voluntary repatriation (Volrep) and protection (education, urban refugees, refugees outside settlements, and returnees, with cash assistance for shelters).

Under Volrep, 5,594 households, including 5,134 households of facilitated voluntary returnees and 460 households of spontaneous returnees (18,117 people in total), received assistance amounting to 1.53 billion XAF. The main cities where distributions took place were Bangui, Bouar, Berberati, Bria, and Rafai. In education, 89 school-age refugees received 3.4 million XAF in assistance in Bangui. Additionally, 1,467 households (4,655 refugees) received 121 million XAF in assistance in Sam-Ouandja, Bria, Rafai, and Mboki.

For returnees in Kaga-Bandoro and Bria, 2,562 households received 99 million XAF to build shelters. A special distribution was also organized for people with specific needs, as well as those who had experienced a death or birth in their family. In this context, in 2024, 338 urban refugees benefited from PSN (Persons with Specific Needs) and one-off assistance, totaling 20 million XAF.

9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

By 2026, Forcibly displaced people have access to adequate shelter, and appropriate living spaces

Forcibly displaced people have access to adequate shelter, and appropriate living spaces

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing			
IDPs	16.00%	15.00%	72.20%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	11.00%	25.00%	90.00%
Returnees	40.00%	80.00%	80.00%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	25.00%	5.97%
Returnees	25.00%	25.00%	15.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type Actual (2024)			
09.1.1 Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance			
IDPs	2,527		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20,385		
Returnees	18,138		

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR addressed the housing needs of Central African returnees, IDPs, Sudanese and Chadian refugees by providing shelter and infrastructure solutions. Housing needs became particularly acute in the Korsi district, developed to accommodate Sudanese refugees in the Central African Republic. Both emergency and semi-durable shelters were built, with 220 semi-durable shelters completed in Korsi. Across the country, UNHCR assisted 5,271 internally displaced persons, 5,600 refugees, and 690 returnees and repatriates with shelter and housing support.

UNHCR also provided housing solutions in the Betoko extension for Chadian refugees and in Korsi, Birao. In Bria, 35 returnee households received cash assistance to build their homes. Additionally, 103 sustainable 24m² homes were constructed for returnees from Cameroon in Baoro, complete with the possibility of extension and family latrines/showers. In Baoro, 300m² plots of land were developed and allocated to beneficiaries selected for the housing project. These efforts reflect UNHCR's ongoing commitment to improving living conditions for displaced pepole in CAR.

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

By 2026, Forcibly displaced people have access to quality health, mental health, reproductive health/HIV and nutrition services

Forcibly displaced people have access to quality health, mental health, reproductive health/HIV and nutrition services

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	85.00%	100.00%	73.00%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	65.00%	100.00%	72.94%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
10.1.1 Number of individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	12,032

10.2.1 Number of consultations in UNHCR supported mental health and psychosocial s	support services
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	12,032

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, the use of reproductive health services among refugees improved significantly. The proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel increased to 73%, up from 68%, while measles vaccination coverage also rose to 73%.

Approximately 65% of refugees and asylum-seekers in CAR reside in areas with access to essential health services. In refugee-hosting areas, such as Korsi (Sudanese refugees), Betoko (Chadian refugees), and Obo, the coverage rates for measles vaccination and skilled birth attendance exceeded 90%, and in some cases, reached 100%, in facilities supported by UNHCR and partners.

These improvements were driven by:

Vaccination campaigns conducted with Medecins Sans Frontière Spain (MSF), International Medical Corps (IMC), UNICEF, WHO (World Health Organization), and local health authorities;

Implementation of the Ministry of Health's SENI PLUS project, which provides free, targeted healthcare for pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five in crisis-affected areas.

The SENI PLUS minimum package also enhanced refugee access to secondary and tertiary healthcare facilities equally with host communities. A referral system, governed by standard operating procedures (SOPs), ensured equitable access through clear referral criteria, cost-control measures, and alignment with national health guidelines. In many supported health facilities, refugees account for 55% of patients, with 58% beingwomen. Community-based health activities further strengthened reproductive health

11. Outcome Area: Education

By 2026, Forcibly displaced people have access to existing educational systems that is strengthened to provide quality and sustainable education assistance

Existing educational systems are strengthened to provide quality and sustainable education assistance

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	16.00%	18.00%	2.70%
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	36.00%	100.00%	27.00%
Returnees	100.00%	100.00%	59.99%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator				
Population Type Actual (2024)				
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5,471			
Returnees	16,265			

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR collaborated with the Ministry of Education to reinforce refugee inclusion in the national education system. A total of 5,311 refugee students were enrolled:

4,454 at the primary level

857 at the secondary level

2,516 were girls, representing 47% of enrolments

This marked an 181% increase in refugee enrolment compared to 2023. However, due to the significant rise in the refugee population—a 280% increase overall and 319% among school-aged children—the enrolment rate declined to 27% in 2024, from 41% in 2023.

Key contributing activities included:

Cash-based assistance for 2,086 children (a 10% increase from 2023)

Distribution of 1,079 school kits

Training of 61 teachers and 33 youth community focal points on GBV prevention and MHPSS in schools The youth community focal points also facilitated nearly 100 awareness sessions. UNHCR further supported three schools with WASH infrastructure and administrative materials.

At the tertiary level, 117 refugee students (46% women) were enrolled in higher education—a 60% increase from 2023, when 73 students were enrolled. Despite this growth, the overall enrolment rate decreased to 2.3% in 2024, compared to 7% in 2023, due to the dramatic increase in the number of youth eligible for higher education (a 300% increase year-on-year).

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

By 2026, forcibly displaced people and host communities will achieve self-reliance through strengthened livelihood support and economic inclusion

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator						
Population Type	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)				
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider						
Refugees and Asylum-seekers 7.00% 100.00%						
13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year						
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%			

Core Output Indicators

Indicator				
Population Type Actual (2024)				
13.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers 188				
Returnees	0			

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Poverty in CAR exhibits a stark urban-rural divide, with Bangui having a poverty rate of 40.1%, much lower than the national average of 73% in other regions. A similar disparity exists in food poverty. Outside Bangui,

several communes face highly concentrated poverty, raising questions about the geographical inequality and decentralization policies. Displacement exacerbates poverty: displaced Central Africans living in camps face a poverty rate 76%, higher than the 69% for non-displaced households and 68% for households hosting displaced persons. This reflects the increased shocks faced by thos living in camp, who adopt negative coping strategies and have fewer livelihood opportunities and lower human capital.

A December 2024 World Bank report stressed the need for CAR to strengthen resilience to climate change and combat poverty, which could rise by 3% in urban areas and 6% in rural areas by 2050. Vulnerability to poverty is widespread, with 89% of Central Africans at risk of falling below the poverty line in the next two years. Furthermore, 77% are vulnerable to food poverty. Displaced persons in camps face high vulnerability to both general and food poverty. The lack of a social protection system means that many adopt negative coping strategies, such as reducing food consumption, which undermines their long-term well-being.

In the three years preceding 2021, nearly 90% of households experienced a negative shock, with security shocks affecting 60% and climate-related shocks like floods and droughts impacting 30%. The coverage of social protection is minimal: only 1% of households received government cash transfers, and 14% received food aid. With limited social protection, many Central Africans resort to strategies that may weaken investments in physical and human capital.

14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

By 2026, returnees and IDPs will enjoy a voluntary, safe and dignified return and reintegration into their communities of origin

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator						
Population Type Baseline Target (2024) Actual (2024)						
14.1 Proportion of returnees with legally recognized identity documents or credentials						
Returnees	5.00%	100.00%	100.00%			

Core Output Indicators

Indicator				
Population Type Actual (2024)				
14.1.1 Number of people who received counselling and/or information on voluntary repatriation				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3			

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The Tripartite Agreement on Voluntary Repatriation between UNHCR, CAR, and Chad was signed on 21 October 2024. Since the start of voluntary repatriation in 2017, 52,937 Central African refugees have returned at a steady pace with UNHCR's assistance, including 19,751 registered in 2024. UNHCR continued promoting durable solutions with other UN agencies in 2024. Priority continued on access to durable housing and safe settlements, respecting local practices and environmental factors. The Government approved the National Strategy on Durable Solutions for IDPs and Returnees in 2024. Following the Yaoundé Conference, UNHCR coordinated the implementation of the Support Platform's action plan. By December 2024, 16,265 returnees benefited from facilitated repatriation, and 3,486 spontaneous returnees in adverse circumstances received assistance, marking a 404% increase from 2023. UNHCR also initiated a development hub in Baoro to support the 2024-2028 voluntary repatriation

plan for 300,000 returnees.

In Bria, 25,000 displaced people are being relocated from CAR's largest IDP site to their original neighborhoods with 4,368 households (22,546 individuals) targeted for the second phase. In Bambari, 336 households (1,456 people) were relocated from Bambari to Pladama Ouaka. A total of 833 displaced households were relocated to Pladama Ouaka, with UNHCR providing protection monitoring and rehabilitating classrooms and health facilities built for former Sudanese refugees. In Kaga Bandoro, UNHCR and IOM are providing roofing kits to support relocation projects.

Certificates of Loss of Identity Documents are issued to returnees but are not legally valid beyond three months. UNHCR offers reintegration packages including multi-purpose cash, medical screening, legal assistance, and education. Despite local authorities' return, CAR struggles with rebuilding administrations, especially on land ownership and eviction, with women vulnerable due to discriminatory inheritance practices.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

By 2026, refugees will have optimal access to third country and complementary solutions

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator							
Population Type Baseline Target (2024) Actual (2024)							
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement							
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	30	0				

Core Output Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Actual (2024)		
15.1.1 Country issues machine-readable travel documents			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes		

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, no resettlement file was submitted. Nevertheless, UNHCR was in discussions with the American NGO Refugee Point to start a resettlement programme. Following these discussions, a local partner had been identified and arrangements were being made to this end. Information on resettlement was disseminated to community leaders of refugees in Bangui.

16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

By 2026, refugees will achieve successful integration into CAR communities

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator						
Population Type Baseline		Target (2024)	Actual (2024)			
16.1 Proportion of people with secure tenure rights to housing and/or land						
Returnees 100.00% 100.00% 0.00%						
16.2 Proportion of people covered by national social protection systems						
IDPs 100.00% 100.00% 100.00%						
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	35.00%	100.00%	100.00%			
Returnees	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%			

Core Output Indicators

Indicator				
Population Type	Actual (2024)			
16.1.1.Government Social protection system is inclusive of forcibly displaced and stateless people				
IDPs Fully				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Fully			
Returnees	Fully			
16.2.1 Number of people supported by UNHCR to acquire nationality, permanent residency status or to access naturalization procedures				
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0			

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR's protection and solutions strategy prioritizes durable solutions, focusing on repatriation and improving refugees' self-reliance through access to livelihood opportunities, though additional funding is needed to enhance activities. Voluntary repatriation is facilitated on a group basis to areas deemed safe for return, based on refugees' voluntary intentions.

Access to social services and protection remains a challenge for refugees, who face discrimination in accessing services of poor quality, with staff lacking an understanding of refugees' specific issues. Their primary frustration stems from their dire socio-economic situation. In urban areas, job opportunities are limited, and refugees often endure abuse in the neighborhoods they live, such as higher rent prices or sudden evictions. Protection risks are heightened by local beliefs, including witchcraft, suspicion toward foreigners, and hostility toward Muslims.

Returnees in CAR are entitled to legal residence, primary healthcare, basic education, and work. However, in practice, they face protection risks in accessing these rights. Gaps also exist in accessing specialized medical services and employment opportunities. Secondary and tertiary education, as well as professional training, remain limited, and there is a high rate of school dropouts due to early pregnancy and child marriages. Refugee women face protection risks related to survival sex and competition for resources such as water, fuel, and land, while refugee children are exposed to child labor, early and forced marriages, teen pregnancies, and GBV.

While refugees have access to civil status documentation, obtaining accurate documents within a reasonable timeframe remains a challenge. UNHCR developed a livelihoods and economic inclusion strategy, but due to a lack of funding and staffing, it could not be implemented. UNHCR will continue to support community-based projects benefiting host populations, refugees, and returnees.

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

The operation takes age, gender, and diversity (AGD) considerations into account in its programming. Progress was made in 2024, particularly in the collection of disaggregated data by age, sex, and special needs, such as disability. The needs and priorities of forcibly displaced persons were considered throughout the planning cycle.

Five participatory assessments were conducted in Bangui, Bria, Obo, Paoua, and Kaga-Bandoro, identifying key protection risks and priorities for displaced people, which were integrated into the planning process. Additionally, UNHCR maintained continuous communication with forcibly displaced people through periodic meetings, social platforms, and messaging applications.

Complaints and feedback mechanisms are in place, including complaint boxes, an email account, and face-to-face interviews, while dedicated complaint offices, notably in Birao, have been established. Furthermore, the operation has undertaken initiatives to promote gender equality by encouraging women's participation in community structures, ensuring the individual registration and documentation of refugee

women, and establishing prevention and response services supporting women and girls.

However, due to limited resources and staffing gaps, challenges remain in addressing the six areas of engagement under the age, gender, and diversity policy—particularly in women's and girls' participation and empowerment, communication, feedback, response mechanisms, and the inclusion of forcibly displaced people in decision making.

Section 3: Resources

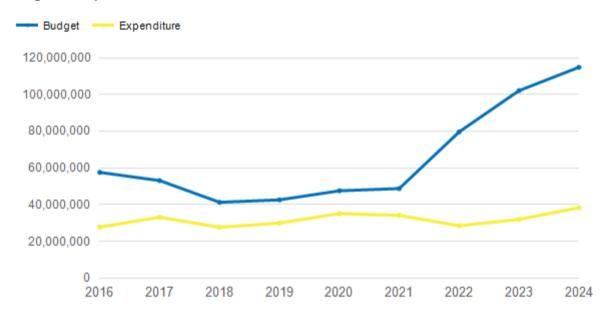
3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

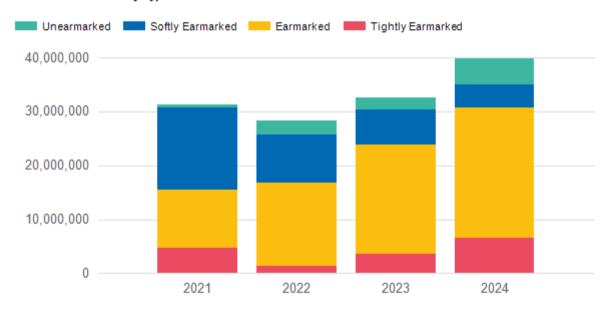
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	10,603,872	4,351,286	41.03%	4,351,286	100.00%
IA2: Assist	51,625,151	16,989,920	32.91%	16,798,267	98.87%
IA3: Empower	35,878,870	8,274,380	23.06%	8,274,380	100.00%
IA4: Solve	16,699,017	9,365,238	56.08%	8,915,238	95.19%
All Impact Areas		1,201,631			
Total	114,806,910	40,182,454	35.00%	38,339,170	95.41%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	9,770,176	4,181,595	42.80%	4,181,595	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	1,256,946	394,155	31.36%	394,155	100.00%
OA4: GBV	6,204,840	1,561,951	25.17%	1,561,951	100.00%
OA5: Children	833,696	169,691	20.35%	169,691	100.00%
OA7: Community	22,028,486	5,464,787	24.81%	5,464,787	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	39,061,905	12,271,741	31.42%	12,271,741	100.00%
OA9: Housing	1,683,312	283,576	16.85%	283,576	100.00%
OA10: Health	1,743,993	293,799	16.85%	293,799	100.00%
OA11: Education	2,890,806	486,995	16.85%	486,995	100.00%
OA13: Livelihood	7,645,544	1,247,641	16.32%	1,247,641	100.00%
OA14: Return	13,795,954	8,752,388	63.44%	8,302,388	94.86%
OA15: Resettle	1,452,344	192,951	13.29%	192,951	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	193,773	25,744	13.29%	25,744	100.00%
EA18: Support	6,245,135	3,653,810	58.51%	3,462,157	94.75%
All Outcome Areas		1,201,631			
Total	114,806,910	40,182,454	35.00%	38,339,170	95.41%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

In line with UNHCR's resource allocation policy, the operation in CAR achieved the recommended 40:60 ratio between operational (OPS) and administrative (ABOD and STAFF) budgets, optimizing the use of available resources. This was made possible through the successful mobilization of resources throughout 2024.

However, while the 40:60 ratio reflects a balanced budget structure, it did not resolve critical challenges related to recruitment and workforce management. The operation continued to face significant difficulties in attracting and retaining qualified personnel, particularly given the high staffing costs in CAR, which remain

among the highest in the region.

As a result, the operation underwent a significant restructuring of its field presence. This included the nationalization of all international posts, except for strategic locations in Bouar and Kaga-Bandoro. National staff positions were also significantly reduced to remain within the allocated staffing budget ceiling.

Supervision of field operations was subsequently centralized under international staff based in Bangui. This restructuring led to a substantial increase in support missions to the field, resulting in a sharp rise in travel-related expenditures, particularly within the Travel component of the ABOD budget.

To accommodate these additional costs, budgetary trade-offs were required, which constrained the operation's ability to invest in other priority areas, including staff welfare. For example, initiatives such as the construction of guesthouses—which would have significantly improved the living and working conditions of staff deployed to remote field locations—had to be postponed due to funding limitations.

In 2024, the CAR operation primarily received earmarked funding, which limited flexibility in resource allocation—particularly in response to the Sudan emergency. Despite these constraints, the operation was able to mobilize additional support beyond traditional funding sources, including locally raised contributions and funding from the private sector. This support proved instrumental in addressing the most critical needs of people forced to flee. However, only 30 percent of the budgeted needs for the CAR operation had been met, leaving significant unmet needs among forced displaced populations.

Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

The Central African Republic (CAR) remains a complex humanitarian context marked by overlapping challenges. While the protection framework in CAR is considered adequate, the implementation of protection and solutions continues to evolve. Humanitarian efforts have saved lives and provided essential assistance; however, sustainable impact requires holistic responses that combine security, governance, and development with humanitarian action.

Looking ahead, future interventions must prioritize local empowerment, resilience-building, and conflict resolution to ensure lasting solutions. Key lessons learned include:

Long-term engagement is essential. Short-term aid must be complemented by sustained investments in peacebuilding, governance reform, and development to address the root causes of displacement and conflict.

Physical access remains a significant challenge. Many areas become inaccessible during the rainy season, limiting humanitarian reach. Advocacy with the Government for the rehabilitation and construction of road infrastructure is crucial to ensure continuity of aid delivery.

Flexibility and adaptability are vital in the face of a fluid humanitarian situation, enabling actors to respond effectively to shifting needs.

Community engagement and local capacity-building are critical for programme sustainability and fostering self-reliance.

Security and stability are preconditions for effective aid delivery. Ongoing conflict severely undermines operational reach and impact.

Addressing structural drivers, such as poverty and governance gaps, is key to achieving a durable peace. Without a political solution to CAR's long-standing internal conflicts, the impact of humanitarian and development assistance will remain limited.

The protection of civilians from violence must remain a core priority, while investment in education and infrastructure can reduce the risk of future crises.

Gender equality and inclusion improve programme outcomes by empowering marginalized and at-risk groups.



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