



Global Report 2024 - Situation overview

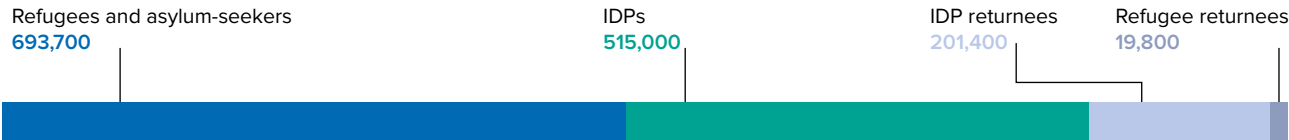
Haouaou Halidou works as a tailor in Berbérati in her native Central African Republic. She was previously a refugee in Cameroon but chose to return as peace returned to her country. But she found herself starting over from scratch. She bought a plot of land and, with help from a UNHCR project, she built a house. She is now investing in housebuilding to secure her and her children's financial future. © UNHCR/Insa Wawa Diatta

The Central African Republic situation

Country operations: Cameroon Multi-Country Office, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Republic of Congo.

2024 year-end population figures

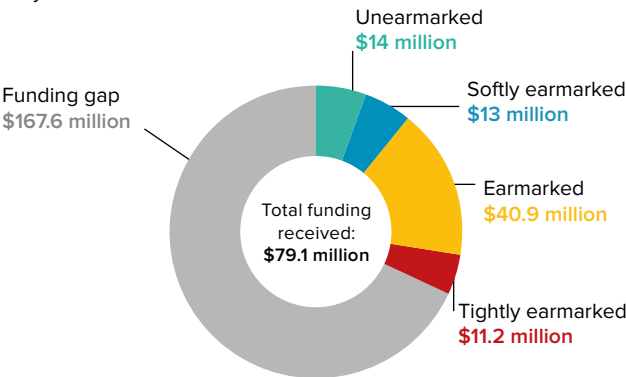
79% of the forcibly displaced population are women and children.



2024 financial overview

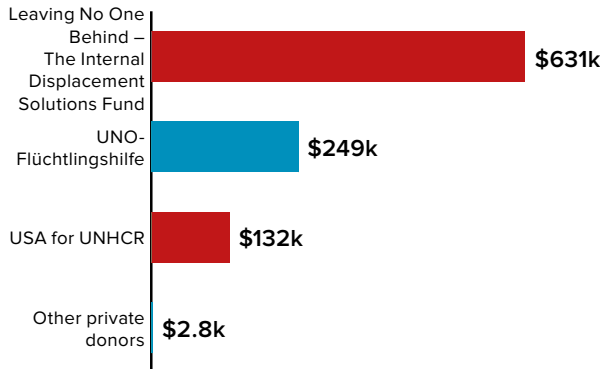
Funding received (USD)

In 2024, UNHCR required a total of **\$246.7 million** to address the emergency situation in the Central African Republic and received only **32%** of the needed amount.



Top Contributions (USD)

Legend: Unearmarked (green), Softly earmarked (blue), Earmarked (yellow), Tightly earmarked (red)



The percentage funded (32%) and total funding amount (\$79,130,267) are indicative. This leaves an indicative funding gap of \$167,562,844 representing 68% of the financial requirements.

By the end of 2024, over 1.1 million citizens of the Central African Republic (CAR) remained forcibly displaced, nearly 150,000 fewer than the year before, marking a slight shift after years of protracted displacement. **469,300 were displaced within the country**, while **693,700 had sought safety and protection in neighbouring countries**, with 297,600 in **Cameroon**, 206,300 in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**, 141,800 in **Chad**, 35,200 in the **Republic of Congo**, 10,600 in **Sudan** and 2,700 in **South Sudan**.

In 2024, the number of **voluntary returns of Central African refugees** reached the highest level in seven years despite significant challenges related to insecurity and dilapidated infrastructure in some return areas. 19,750 people returned home, with **16,265 returns facilitated by UNHCR**, including 9,200 from the DRC and nearly 7,000 from **Cameroon**. This increase followed the launch of the **CAR Solutions Support Platform** in November 2023. As part of the Platform's commitments, a plan was developed to support the voluntary repatriation of 300,000 refugees, with a **dedicated development hub in Baoro**. There, 103 sustainable 24m² homes were built for returnees from Cameroon, and 300m² plots of land were prepared and allocated.

The signing of the **Tripartite Agreement on Voluntary Repatriation of CAR refugees in Chad** on 21 October 2024 further eased returns in safety and dignity. Since the voluntary repatriation programme began in 2017, around 52,900 refugees have returned to CAR.

3,486 Central Africans also spontaneously returned from Chad and Sudan in 2024 under difficult conditions related to the ongoing conflict.

In 2024, UNHCR provided **cash assistance to 18,100 returnees** upon their arrival in Bangui, Bouar, Berberati, Bria, and Rafai.

This support helped meet urgent needs to build shelters, enrol children in school, and to cover essential items for people with specific needs. In Kaga-Bandoro and Bria, a further 2,560 households received cash assistance for shelter construction. 3,486 Central Africans spontaneously returning from Sudan in adverse conditions also received cash assistance to cover their essential needs.

With some refugees and IDPs returning in less-than-ideal circumstances to fragile areas and others living in protracted situations, UNHCR and the humanitarian community continued advocating for greater resources from development actors to support humanitarian, development and peace initiatives for people wishing to return to their areas of origin. UNHCR initiated a new partnership with the African Development Bank aimed at supporting the CAR Platform through the Yaoundé Declaration Countries Capacity Building Project starting in 2025. The Government also approved a "**National strategy on durable solutions for IDPs and returnees**" for 2024-2028, developed with UNHCR's support.

Regarding internal displacement, only 151,800 IDPs returned to their places of origin in 2024, a significant decline from 325,900 in 2023, largely due to IDPs settling with host families and establishing their own coping mechanisms. Many are reluctant to return home to areas where basic services like health, education, land, work, and shelter remain scarce.

In addition, further internal displacements in 2023 resulted from seasonal floods, the response by UNHCR, other organizations and the Government of CAR was swift, allowing over 260,000 affected people to quickly return home.

UNHCR played a leading role in the response to internal displacement via the [Protection Cluster](#) and the joint Camp Coordination and Camp Management and Shelter Cluster. In Bria, 25,000 displaced people were relocated from CAR's largest IDP site to their original neighbourhoods. In Bambari, 1,450 people were relocated to Pladama Ouaka, where UNHCR rehabilitated classrooms and health facilities built for former Sudanese refugees.

UNHCR provided reintegration packages for IDP returnees, including multipurpose cash, medical screening, legal assistance, and education. About 2,560 IDP returnee households received cash assistance to construct new homes, and in Kaga Bandoro, UNHCR and IOM provided roofing kits.

UNHCR also prioritized other solutions such **resettlement submissions, facilitating the departures of 1,793 CAR refugees** comprising 49% women and girls from neighbouring host countries, mainly to Canada, France and the United States in 2024.

Protection services were strengthened, with **violence against women and girls** being a prominent concern during [protection monitoring](#) by UNHCR and its partners. As part of its response, UNHCR supported activities at [31 safe spaces](#), and a free helpline in Bangui, through the Ma Mbi Si Project. Among the women and girls contacting these centres, which were managed by UNHCR's partners, 38% had survived physical assault, 23% psychological violence, 19% rape, 11% denial of resources, 6% sexual assault, and 3% forced marriage. All survivors received psychosocial support. Some received financial aid for transport, medical costs, food and 43% received essential item kits. Close to 3,000 dignity kits were distributed.

UNHCR ensured that forcibly displaced people's perspectives were incorporated at all stages of its programming, in adherence with its commitment to accountability to affected populations. Five **participatory assessments** were conducted in Bangui, Bria, Obo, Paoua, and Kaga-Bandoro, identifying key protection risks and priorities for displaced people. 879 community relays and members of protection committees, including 307 women, were trained.

Despite significant funding challenges across the six neighbouring countries hosting CAR refugees, UNHCR reprioritized its activities ensuring that displaced people had access to basic social services and were included in national social systems. In **Cameroon**, 45,904 Central African refugees received health consultations from UNHCR partners. In **Chad**, UNHCR supported the implementation of the Government-endorsed UNHCR 2030 education strategy, which promotes the inclusion of refugee children in the national system. Over 16,322 CAR refugee children were enrolled in school, including 13,349 in settlements in the south. UNHCR and partners further supported the training of 279 teachers in southern Chad. Close to 3,500 CAR refugees received cash assistance to build houses, latrines and showers. In addition, 8,650 refugees received over 800 new and 350 rehabilitated emergency homes. In the **DRC**, UNHCR worked with UNDP and UNCDF to promote financial inclusion for 4,600 individuals comprising 926 CAR refugee households in North Ubangi.