



In the Central African Republic, **over half of the population is expected to be acutely food insecure** during the lean season (May–August) – a 27-percent increase compared with last year’s projection. This is mainly due to armed conflict, flooding, population displacement, and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and of the war in Ukraine. **The majority of food-insecure families live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their food and income.** Restoring agricultural livelihoods is crucial to reduce hunger in the country.



TO ASSIST
1.08 million people



FAO REQUIRES
USD 45 million

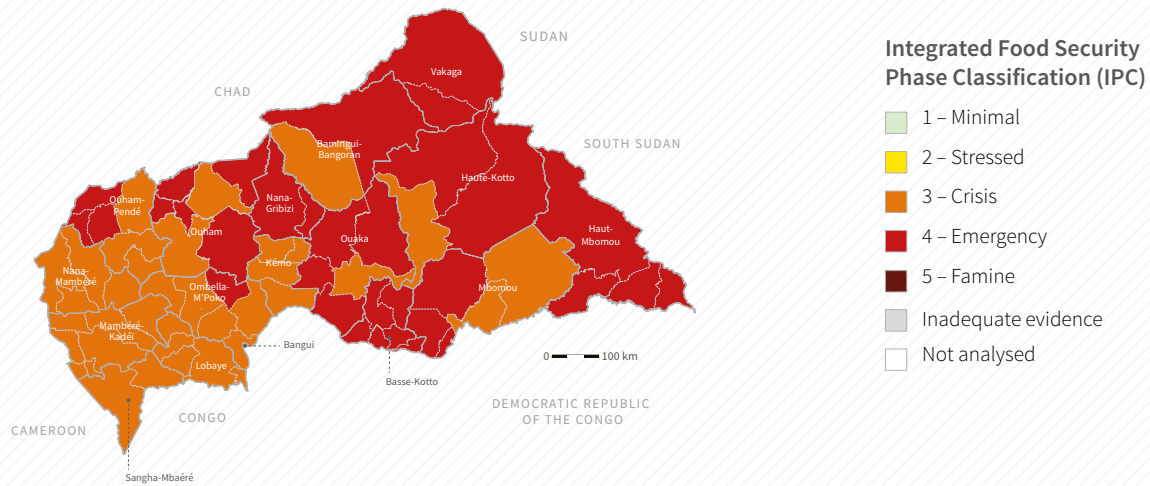


JANUARY–DECEMBER
2023

What investments in agriculture can achieve

- USD 150** = With the seeds provided, each household can cultivate 0.7 ha of land and produce an estimated 780 kg of food crops (bean, cereal, groundnut and squash), worth USD 210 on the local market. =  **Support a family of 5 with staple food for at least 4 months**
- USD 100** = With a market-gardening package, each household can produce 7 types of vegetables ready for consumption in 3-16 weeks, worth around USD 1 150 on the local market. =  **Allow quick access to nutritious food as well as income to purchase seeds and tools to grow other types of food crops**
- USD 10** = Vaccinating one goat protects a vital asset for food and income that would cost USD 80 to replace if the animal died. =  **Keep a productive animal alive and feeding families**

Projected acute food insecurity situation (April–August 2023)



Source: IPC. 2022. Central African Republic: Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Snapshot, September 2022 – August 2023. Bangui, Central African Republic. https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_CAR_Acute_Food_Insecurity_2022Sept_2023Aug_snapshot_English.pdf

Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

The humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic continues to deteriorate. Years of conflict and a lack of investment in socio-economic infrastructure and basic services have created an extremely fragile context for the country's population, with half a million people still displaced. Ranked among the poorest countries in the world, the Central African Republic currently does not have the structural and institutional fabric to cope with shocks. In 2022, the impact of the war in Ukraine on food and fuel prices coupled with continued armed violence and widespread flooding, exacerbated people's vulnerabilities. The livelihoods of millions of people are eroding, and their access to food and basic services, such as healthcare and water supply, is drastically limited. As agriculture is the main source of income in most prefectures, households that are unable to farm are forced to adopt negative coping mechanisms. In the prefectures of Kémo and Basse-Kotto, for instance, households have reduced the number of meals per day for an average of 4.5 consecutive days. During the upcoming lean season, 3 million people are expected to face high acute food insecurity countrywide.

Providing vulnerable people with essential agricultural inputs enables them to quickly produce their own food and generate income thereby increasing their self-reliance and resilience against future shocks.

Coordination

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

Drivers of food insecurity

- Extreme climate events
- Armed conflict
- Rising food and commodity prices
- Crop diseases
- Population displacement

Key facts

Country population: **5.05 million**



3 million people projected to be in high acute food insecurity, of whom nearly **2.8 million** in rural areas



438 600 people acutely malnourished



+482 800 internally displaced people, of whom **71%** living with host families



Due to severe flooding since June 2022: **103 000** people affected in 12 of the country's 16 prefectures; **+5 000** houses and **19 500** ha of cropland destroyed



USD 11.50 out of 100 in humanitarian assistance to food sectors went to support agriculture and livelihoods (2016-2021)

In 2022, FAO reached 95 400 households (667 800 people) through support for improved crop, vegetable and small livestock production. More specifically, vulnerable farming households were provided with a total of 2 022 tonnes of crop and vegetable seeds and 317 560 tools (hoes, watering cans, shovels, rakes, sprayers, etc.). As a result, beneficiaries were able to produce about 120 000 tonnes of nutritious food. In addition, 289 544 cattle were vaccinated and 119 community leaders, from agropastoral groups, were trained on conflict prevention and management to mitigate tensions between farmers and herders linked to transhumance. Overall, the support provided has enabled communities that had lost most of their productive assets to resume their livelihoods activities.



FAO priorities

Priority	Type of assistance to be provided/ content of assistance package	Cost per beneficiary household (USD)	Number of beneficiary households	Total cost (USD)	Funds needed by	Planned implementation period
Improve food production	Crop production kit: 37 kg of cereal, bean, groundnut and squash seeds, and four hoes vegetable production kit: 70 g of amaranth, cabbage, okra, spinach and tomato seeds; and two hoes, one shovel, one rake and one watering can cash+: cash transfers (USD 50/household) plus inputs to set up income-generating activities (goat, fishing, pork or poultry production)	225	92 000	20 700 000	Crop production: March	Food crops: April–December
					Vegetable production: June	Cassava: June–September
	Distribution of vouchers (USD 94/household) through input trade fairs for beneficiaries to access agricultural inputs (37 kg of seeds and four tools) and small livestock kits (3-5 animals and feed)	240	50 000	12 000 000	March	April–December
Protect households' livestock	Livestock restocking (four goats or sheep per household)	300	30 000	9 000 000	June	September– December
	Vaccination kit against contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, <i>peste des petits ruminants</i> and Newcastle disease	75	44 000	3 300 000		

REQUIRED CITATION

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Contact

FAO Representation in the Central African Republic
FAO-CF@fao.org
Bangui, Central African Republic

Office of Emergencies and Resilience
OER-Director@fao.org | fao.org/emergencies
Rome, Italy

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations