

Central African Republic

ETC Situation Report #11

Reporting period 24/06/14 to 24/07/14

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Highlights

- Additional ETC staff have joined the ETC Coordinator in Bangui. They will be supporting the deployment of shared communications services in the remaining common operational locations pending security authorization.
- Data connectivity services have been successfully deployed in Bambari. In addition, radio communications are being setup.

Cluster Responsibilities

- WFP is leading the ETC in C.A.R. The ETC is responsible for providing emergency telecommunications support to humanitarian organizations on the ground.

Achievements

- The ETC has composed a deployment team with the arrival of two new staff.
- In Bambari, the ETC deployed data connectivity services at the UN premises for the use of all humanitarian organizations there.
- In Kaga Bando, ETC is engaging the final discussion with Orange to be able to use their premises in order to install a repeater.
- An application for country Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) was submitted in order to support the employment of 15 Radio Operators to operate the COMCENs in Poua, Bouar and Bossangoa.
- The ETC is looking at using a local Internet Service Provider to provide connectivity at a reasonable price and to be shared by the organizations in some common operational locations. The company and the ETC will be doing some test in the coming weeks.

Challenges and Gaps

- Additional staff are required, particularly with telecommunications expertise and VSAT certification.



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- The volatile security situation prevents deployment to certain locations.
 - The ETC project is only 31% funded.
 - Flights within the country are severely restricted due to a lack of fuel. This makes it hard to deploy and preposition equipment.

Planned Activities

- The ETC is deploying radio communications services in Bambari.
- Deployment of common ICT services is also planned in Kaga-Bandoro, Bossangoa, N'Délé and Bouar.
- The ETC is drafting a cost sharing proposal for the sustainability of the services in the longer term. This will be presented to the Humanitarian Country Team for endorsement.

Meetings

Global ETC teleconference

The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on 31 July 2014 at 13:00 Bangui time.

Local ETC meeting

The next Local ETC meeting will be held on 8 August 2014 at 10:00 Bangui time in the WFP conference room.

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ICT Emergency website:

<http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictopr/countries-car>

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: CAR.ETC@wfp.org



Services Available

CITY	LEAD AGENCY	ETC SERVICES
Bangui	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination & Information Management • VHF Radio communications, programming and basic training • Internet connectivity (individual organizations)
Paoua	OCHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • VHF radio communications • ICT Helpdesk • <i>Planned: VHF radio programming and training</i>
Bouar	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • VHF radio communications • <i>Planned: Basic ICT helpdesk, VHF radio programming and training</i>
Zemio	UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • VHF radio communications • <i>Planned: VHF radio programming and training and ICT helpdesk</i>
Bossangoa	UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • VHF radio communications • ICT Helpdesk • <i>Planned: VHF radio programming and training</i>
Bambari	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • <i>Planned: ICT Helpdesk</i> • <i>Planned: VHF radio communications, programming and training</i>
Kaga-Bandoro	UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet connectivity • ICT Helpdesk • <i>Planned: VHF radio communications, programming and training</i>
N'Délé	OCHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Planned: Internet connectivity</i> • <i>Planned: ICT Helpdesk</i> • <i>Planned: VHF radio communications, programming and training</i>



ETC CAR Focal Points

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Acronyms

C.A.R.	Central African Republic
CHF	Common Humanitarian Fund
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
FITTEST	Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VHF	Very High Frequency
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme