

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

OPERATION OVERVIEW



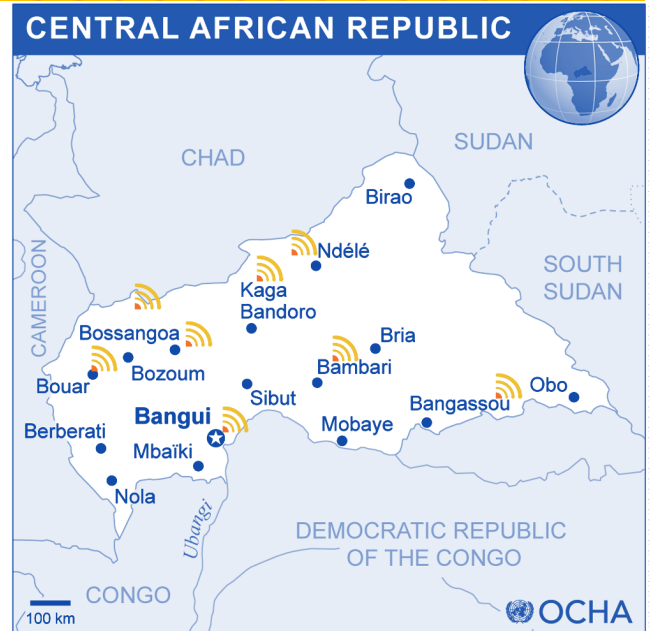
TYPE OF EMERGENCY:

CONFLICT

ETC ACTIVE SINCE:

2013

SITUATION OVERVIEW:



A protection crisis erupted in the Central African Republic (C.A.R.) at the end of 2013 resulting in severe violence and widespread displacement. The collapse of state, law and order and public services further exacerbated the situation. Since then, the country has remained extremely volatile. Almost three years after the beginning of the conflict, the humanitarian situation remains critical leaving 2.3 million people, over half the population, in urgent need of assistance. The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) was re-activated in C.A.R. in December 2013 in response to the escalating crisis, with the World Food Programme (WFP) as lead agency.

KEY DATA



NUMBER OF SITES

8



FUNDING STATUS

- The ETC is 54% funded, out of US\$0.89 million required).



SERVICES PROVIDED

- Internet connectivity
- Security telecommunications
- Coordination
- Technical training for local staff
- Radio programming
- Liaison with Telecommunications Regulatory Agency



PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- Deploy Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) network in Bangui and two field sites.
- Transition services.
- Provide services in 2x new sites



TRAININGS CONDUCTED

- Radio training



CHALLENGES

- Limited international attention
- Limited funding: the ETC requires US\$400,765 to cover all activities until the end of 2017.



NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS SERVED

55

RESPONSE

- The ETC is providing shared internet connectivity services and security telecommunications to the response community in 8x sites across the country: Kaga-Bandoro and Bossangoa, managed by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); Zemio, managed by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); N'Dele, managed by International Organisation of Migration (IOM); and Bambari, Bangui, Bouar and Paoua, managed by WFP.
- Security telecommunications services in Bossangoa have already been handed over to UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS).
- The ETC has carried out an assessment to Zemio to identify where the ETC can install a satellite kit and repeaters for use by NGOs
- Over 400 humanitarian personnel have received radio user training since the beginning of the operation, supporting their safety while carrying out their lifesaving work in this complex and insecure environment.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- The ETC will deploy services for humanitarians in two new hotspot locations, Bria and Bangassou, once the situation allows.
- The ETC still plans to deploy a DMR network in the capital, Bangui and two field sites for UN agencies once funding has been secured.
- The ETC is working on developing a transition plan to ensure provision of longer-term shared ICT services as the current project runs until the end of December 2017.

CHALLENGES:

- Given the escalating situation in the southwest of the country, requirements for continuing provision of shared ICT services is high. However, the funding situation remains a challenge.
- The volatile situation in the southwest is impacting ETC plans for assessments and deployments of vital services.
- Lack of staff on the ground is impacting ETC plans.
- Limited international attention on the operation in CAR impacts ETC activities in the country.

THE GLOBAL ETC IS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF KEY PARTNERS, INCLUDING:



THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG
Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

Directorate for Development Cooperation
and Humanitarian Affairs



UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF

