

A MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND FOR CAR (CAR MPTF) - EZINGO

EZINGO FUND SNAPSHOT as of October 2014

- **Total Contributions:** \$17.8 million
- **Donors:** USA- Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), Norway and the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)
- **Two funding windows:** UN Window and National Window-Direct Budget Support
- **Fast Track Modality** in order to meet urgent and unforeseen priorities
- **Areas of Support** over three overlapping phases:
 - Phase I: Immediate Impact Projects
 - Phase II: Transitional strategic priorities
 - Phase III: Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals
- **Governance arrangements:** The Ezingo Fund is governed by a Steering Committee which is co-chaired by the Government and the UN Deputy Special Representative to the Secretary General / Resident Coordinator (DSRSG/RC), supported by a Technical Secretariat and administered by the MPTF Office
- **Current portfolio:**
 - *Payment of salaries to police and gendarmerie*
 - *Support to the Central African Security Sector*
 - *Joint Programme to support the fight against human rights violations and the revival of justice in CAR*
 - *Implementation in Bangui of a reference unit and a reference sub-unit providing holistic support to victims of rape*

UNFUNDED PRIORITIES

In line with the National *Feuille de Route*, the following are a selection of the key identified unfunded priorities:

- Improving the economic recovery for returnee women and youths in Bangui: **\$ 453,848**
- Relocation and reinsertion of ex-combatants in their communities of origin in CAR: **\$ 2,513,000**
- Supporting capacity building of women FOYERS for social cohesion and peacebuilding in CAR: **\$ 3,520,835**
- Promoting behaviour and social change for peacebuilding, child protection and survival: **\$4,000,000**
- Ensuring protection for children from family separation, violence, abuse, neglect, separation and recruitment by armed forces and groups: **\$ 12,000,000**
- Education for children affected by conflict in CAR: **\$ 7,000,000**
- Strengthening health interventions for children and parents affected by crisis in CAR: **\$10,000,000**
- HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support to conflict-affected populations: **\$4,000,000**
- Social cohesion and community based mediation for durable peace in CAR: **\$500,000**
- Facilitating resilience for conflict affected communities through cash transfers for a back to school campaign: **\$2,000,000**

BACKGROUND

The **recent relapse into violence in the Central African Republic (CAR)** has left more than 2.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. The conflict and violence will affect the country's development for years to come and could seriously undermine stability in the region. To address the crisis, in February 2014 the UN Secretary-General presented a **Six-Point Proposal**, which aimed to restore security, support critical statebuilding, political and reconciliation priorities, and promote recovery. The SG's Proposal called on the international community for an **immediate, integrated and comprehensive response**. The government has developed a strategic roadmap, the *Feuille de Route de la Transition*, to guide the transitional period.

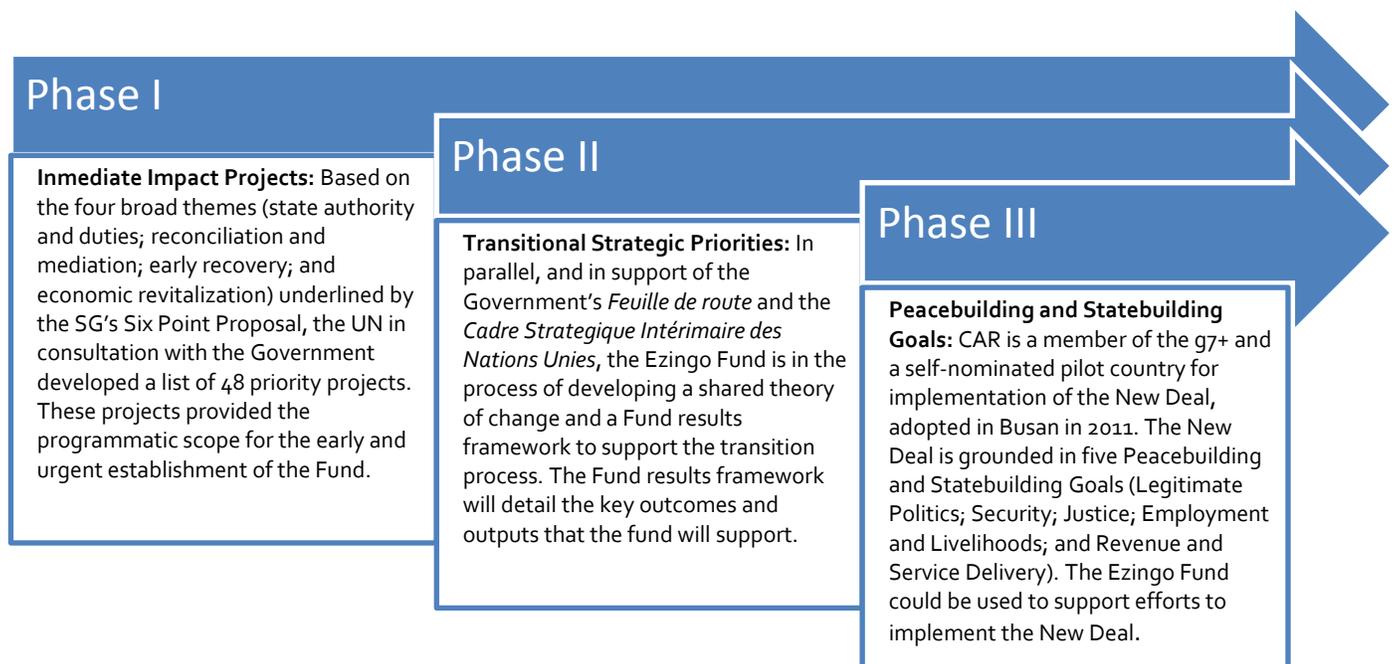
Experience and lessons learned from support to fragile and conflict-affected countries have shown that the transition from crisis to sustainable development is complex, non-linear, with overlapping phases that are often difficult to define. A **coordinated, coherent and integrated approach** that builds on humanitarian action with development finance from the very outset can support CAR find sustainable solutions to the current crisis. Such an approach also allows for international support to simultaneously address short, medium and long term priorities.

ABOUT THE EZINGO FUND

In March 2014 the **United Nations established a Multi-Partner Trust Fund for CAR (CAR MPTF)**, renamed **Ezingo**, which means “Renaissance” in Sango (local language), to finance a coordinated response to stabilization, peace consolidation and recovery efforts over a period of 10 years. The Ezingo Fund:

- Provides an **accountable, transparent, results-oriented and cost-effective** financial instrument to catalyse and channel development assistance from a range of international partners to the **UN, NGOs and Government** to meet immediate, medium and longer-term priorities.
- Creates a platform between national and international partners for development of a **shared vision and robust theory of change** that addresses the underlying drivers of conflict and structural causes of vulnerability, which are essential for building resilience and reducing the risk of relapse into conflict.
- Promotes **aid effectiveness** by coordinating international assistance, reducing aid fragmentation, and decreasing gaps in, or duplication of efforts. The Ezingo Fund is an important part of the overall aid coordination structure.
- Provides a platform for **donor coordination**, particularly with the European Union (EU) and the trust fund that it has been established for CAR.
- Ensures **national ownership and alignment** with national priorities.
- Complements humanitarian efforts by **promoting synergies** with the CAR Common Humanitarian Fund.
- Could help facilitate a collective, shared and dynamic approach towards the assessment, mitigation and management of contextual, programmatic and institutional risks.

AREAS OF SUPPORT – A PHASED APPROACH



FUNDING WINDOWS

To balance the need for rapid response and reduce risks with the need to ensure government ownership and capacity development, the Ezingo Fund has 2 operational windows to channel assistance:

UN Window: Participating UN Organizations (UN Agencies and MINUSCA) and the IOM are eligible to receive funding from the Ezingo Fund and channel funds to national and sub-national institutions and international NGOs. A **Fast Track Modality**, where funds are transferred to UN agencies based on a simplified project document and fast-track approval process, is available in order to meet urgent or unforeseen priorities.

National Window - Direct Budget Support: Funding is channeled directly to government entities. In line with the New Deal this window uses and strengthens country systems. It is thus ‘on plan, on budget, on treasury and on report’. In partnership with the World Bank, the Ezingo Fund has already channeled funding through this window for the payment of police and gendarmerie (see below for project details).

FUND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AND AID COORDINATION

The Ezingo Fund is governed by a **Steering Committee** which is co-chaired by the Government and the UN Deputy Special Representative to the Secretary General / Resident Coordinator (DSRSG/RC) and includes representatives from the UN, Government, donors (including the EU and the USA-INL) and civil society. The key role of the Steering Committee is to:

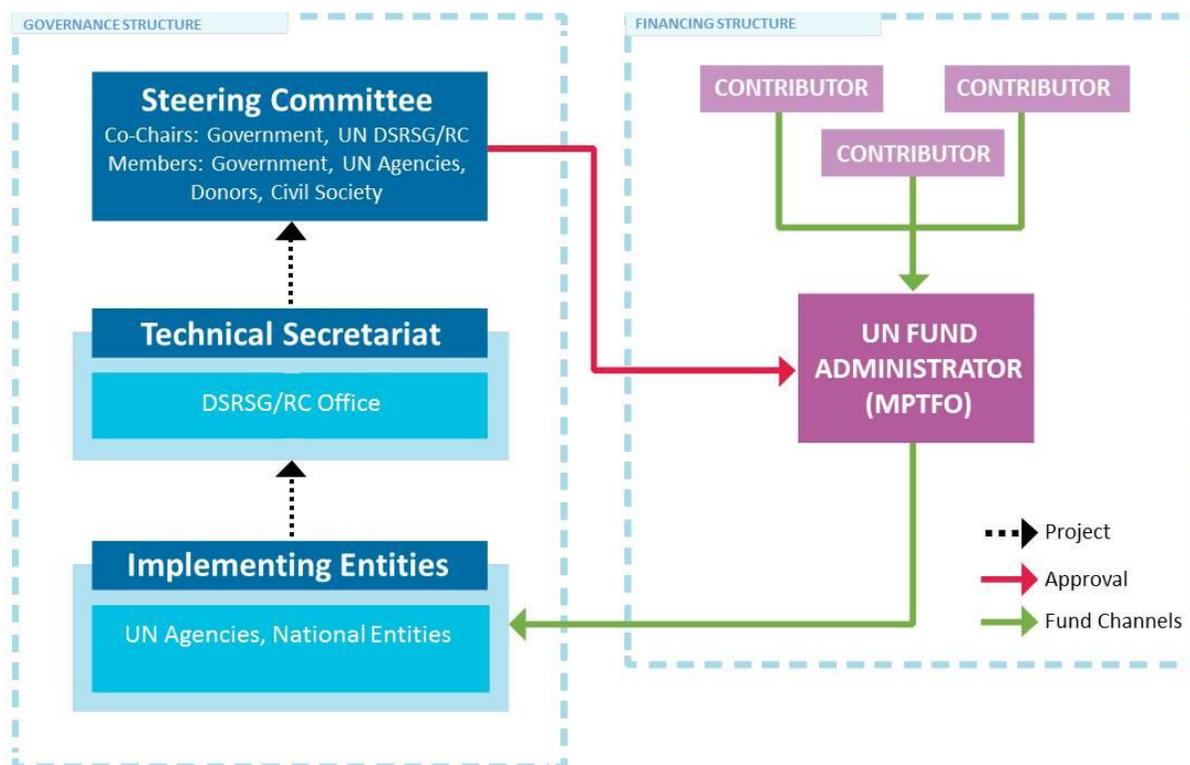
- Provide strategic direction and prioritize funding needs.
- Make Fund allocation decisions.
- Oversee overall Fund implementation and impact.

The Steering Committee is supported by a **Technical Secretariat** within the DSRSG/RC's Office. The Technical Secretariat is responsible for reviewing allocation submissions, monitoring progress, and reporting on results.

The Ezingo Fund Steering Committee and the Technical Secretariat are already operational in Bangui. To date, several Steering Committee meetings have been held. These meetings have been co-chaired by Government representatives from the President's Office, and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation in charge of development poles and the UN DSRSG/RC. Since its establishment, the Steering Committee has adopted the Ezingo Fund Terms of Reference, which defines the overall design features of the Fund. It has also discussed and subsequently approved three projects reviewed by the Technical Secretariat.

The Ezingo Fund provides a valuable platform to promote aid coordination and greater coherence among various partners. The Government is in the process of setting up an aid coordination mechanism comprising of a National Strategic Committee at the highest level and Thematic Committees. Building on experiences from other New Deal countries including Somalia, such a framework will ensure coordination with other funding mechanisms, including the EU Trust Fund 'Bekou', and enabling the international community to respond to the diverse range of needs and challenges in CAR in a coherent, coordinated and harmonized way.

The Ezingo Fund is **administered by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office**. The governance and financing structures are illustrated below:



EZINGO FUND STATUS as of October 2014

- The Ezingo Fund has received **\$ 17.8 million** from **three contributors**: USA- Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL): \$11.2; Norway: \$ 2 million; and the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF): \$ 4.6 million.

PROJECT PORTFOLIO

Completed

Payment of salaries to police and gendarmerie (May-September 2014) **\$ 4.5 million**: The project provided emergency assistance to the Central African Government for the restoration of essential police and gendarmerie functions. The salaries of 3,811 police/gendarmerie staff were paid from June to August 2014 with funding from the PBF, in parallel with the World Bank's payment to civil servants. This ensured that gendarmes and police returned to work with the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic and French troops, in order to help enforce law and order. In parallel, the PBF also supported UNDP to set up mechanisms to ensure support to the security sector is compliant with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy. UNDP and the Ministry of Interior notably established a joint committee verifying that police and gendarmerie staff report to work and do not commit grave human rights violations. UNDP is also conducting an assessment of possible involvement of police and gendarmerie personnel in grave human rights violations that will be shared with the Ministry of Interior.

On-going Projects

Support to the Central African security sector (September-December 2014) **\$ 1.1 million**: In order to reduce the general level of violence and the human rights violations in the Central African Republic, this project aims to support the security sector by (i) creating a security sector registration system, and (ii) rehabilitating two large barracks in Bangui. The creation of a reliable, complete and transparent database as a basis to carry out future accreditation verifications, will facilitate the conversion, restructuring and reform of the Central African security sector. The regrouping of security sector members in the rehabilitated barracks will help ensure discipline and reduce the levels of violence and human rights violations.

Joint Programme to support the fight against human rights violations and revival of justice in CAR (October 2014-September 2017) **\$ 11.1 million**: This Joint UNDP, UN WOMEN and MINUSCA Programme will support the fight against impunity and protection of civilians through four outcomes: (1) Strategic and operational framework with mechanisms to fight against impunity is in place; (2) Protection of individuals and vulnerable groups and their access to justice is strengthened; (3) Police and Gendarmerie provide progressively protection services in sensitive areas and; (4) Conflicts and insecurity in sensitive areas are progressively managed through alternative dispute resolution and other community-based mechanisms. The project is financed by the USA Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).

Projects recently approved for funding

Implementation in Bangui of a reference unit and a reference sub-unit providing holistic support to victims of rape (12 months) **\$ 910,998**: This Joint Programme between WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA will ensure: (i) access to holistic quality care including medical care, psychosocial support and legal counseling within the same clinic; (ii) an opportunity for rape victims living with HIV/AIDS and /or tuberculosis to be systematically referred to the appropriate cohort of treatment; and (iii) biological tests are provided at the national reference center for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), to enhance the quality of care for rape victims.

SUPPORT THE EZINGO FUND

Unfunded Priorities – Projects in Pipeline

- **Improving the economic recovery for returnee women and youths in Bangui.** This project will improve the economic opportunities of vulnerable women and youths returning to their home & neighborhoods of Kokoro 5 and Fatima/ Kokoro 2 (Third Arrondissement, Bangui). Direct beneficiaries: 1109 families (5545 people, based on the average household in CAR - five members). **Cost: \$ 453,848.** Duration: 12 months.
- **Relocation and reinsertion of ex-combatants in their communities of origin.** Using a two-tier approach, this project will provide strategic assistance to a smooth and holistic transition process for the 2,500 ex-Seleka currently protected by MINUSCA in three casernes in Bangui. This comprises of (i) facilitating the registration and profiling of all ex-Seleka currently in the three casernes in Bangui in order to prepare their voluntary transfer to a transit site, and (ii) preparing families and communities for the return of the disengaged ex-Seleka combatants. **Cost: \$ 2,513,000.** Duration: 6 months.
- **Supporting capacity building of women centers for social cohesion and peacebuilding in CAR.** This project will establish women centers as frameworks to integrate various interventions that promote not only resilience and development, but also social cohesion and peace in CAR. Interventions will include social, economic and technical support. **Cost: \$ 3,520,835.** Duration: 12 months.
- **Promoting behavior and social change for peacebuilding, child protection and survival.** This project will utilize peer educators to spread messages and communicate improved behaviors. Qualified peer educators and strengthened community networks will be effectively mobilized for child survival in IDP sites. Famous personalities and icons will be identified and brought together to promote peace through arts and sports and young people will be actively engaged in peace efforts. **Cost: \$4,000,000.** Duration: 12 months.
- **Ensuring protection for children from family separation, violence, abuse, neglect, separation and recruitment by armed forces and groups.** This project will work with partners to target one million vulnerable children and their parents through a combination of nationwide child protection interventions. Specifically, 5,000 separated and unaccompanied children will be reunited with their families. A total of 3,000 children will be released from armed groups and reintegrated into civilian life. Support will be given to 1,000 survivors of GBV to recover medically and psychologically. **Cost: \$ 12,000,000.** Duration: 12 months
- **Education for children affected by conflict in CAR.** This project will benefit children, teachers, community educators and education staff in conflict-affected areas of CAR. Specifically, 75,000 displaced and conflict-affected children will have access to Temporary Safe Learning Spaces (TSLS). A total of 250 primary schools will be reopened. School equipment and supplies will be provided to 125,000 primary school students. At least 4,900 primary school teachers will return to their posts and 70,867 Grade 6 primary school children will complete their school year. **Cost: \$ 7,000,000.** Duration: 12 months.
- **Strengthening health interventions for children and parents affected by crisis in CAR.** This project will provide a cost-effective and high-impact package of health services to the most vulnerable regions through a comprehensive set of activities that include an integrated measles immunization campaign and recovery vaccination campaign in IDP sites, emergency obstetrical and neonatal care, and malaria control through case management and distribution of long-lasting impregnated nets **Cost: \$10,000,000.** Duration: 12 months.
- **HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support to conflict-affected populations.** Through supporting health districts and providing country-wide direct interventions, this project will ultimately reach 8,000 HIV positive pregnant women and 6,800 newborns to ensure that they are receiving Antiretroviral (ARV) prophylaxis and treatment. Additionally, 15,000 women and 7,000 children will continue to access quality HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment services, including access to ARVs. **Cost: \$4,000,000.** Duration: 12 months.
- **Social cohesion and community based mediation for durable peace in CAR.** Building on previous interventions as an entry point, this project will: i) establish and/or scale up local mediation committees in Bangui, ii) support and scale up local level religious efforts towards mediation and reconciliation in Bangui and the prefectures, iii) support training and capacity building of youth and women leaders to extend mediation capacities beyond existing structures. **Cost: \$500,000.** Duration: 6 months.
- **Facilitating resilience for conflict affected communities through cash transfers for a back to school campaign.** This project will implement a comprehensive cash transfer programme through a voucher system and through local telecom operators (e.g. Telecel). The participant households and beneficiaries will be identified in each of the zones of intervention. The return of teachers to their posts will be supported by covering the cost of transportation. **Cost: \$2,000,000.** Duration: 12 months.

How to contribute to the Ezingo Fund: Contributions to the Ezingo Fund are accepted from governments, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations, and private- sector organizations upon signature of the **Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) with the MPTF Office.** The SAA is a pre-negotiated agreement, which the MPTF Office has entered into with more than 90 development partners, allowing for rapid operationalization and disbursement of funds. Following signature of the SAA, contributions may be made into the following account:

Name of Account:	UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (USD) Account		
Account Number:	790440309	SWIFT Code:	CHASUS33
Name of Bank:	JPMorgan Chase Bank	ABA:	021000021
	International Agencies Banking		
Address of Bank:	270 Park Avenue, 43rd Floor	Reference:	CAR MPTF
	Account		
	New York, New York 10017		

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/>) is a web-based service portal, which provides **real-time** financial data generated directly from UNDP's accounting system. It is a first of its kind in the UN to provide real-time financial information to the public. This information is supplemented by relevant reports, documents, tools and tables displaying financial and programme data.

Partners are now able to track information on contributions, transfers and expenditures related to the Ezingo Fund and have access to key programme related documents. Specific/direct information of the Ezingo Fund can be found in the Ezingo Fund website of the GATEWAY: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/4Cfoo>.

The MPTF Office GATEWAY also supports a **Results Based Management** system. The Fund architecture design is set up to mirror the result areas. The RBM system captures performance data at the outcome and output level. It links programmatic and financial performance indicators, allowing an assessment of both the Fund's efficiency and effectiveness. This data can in turn inform a better **performance based allocation** of funding and serve as a tool to complement M&E efforts.

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