



**Central African Republic Multi-Partner Trust Fund
(EZINGO Fund)
2016 Consolidated Annual Narrative Report
May 2017**



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I- Introduction

The long-running crisis in the Central African Republic (CAR) has been driven by several complex and interrelated root causes. These root causes include poor governance and persistent state failure, particularly in the areas of security, law and order, and justice; extremely low socioeconomic development; social fragmentation and division. It has led to further deterioration in economic and development indicators, a humanitarian crisis affecting nearly half of the population, and a political situation that remains tenuous.

However, in 2016, almost three years after the military-political crisis that affected CAR in December 2013, the country is resolutely engaged in a process of recovery and reconstruction.

In a spirit of great democratic maturity, the people of the Central African Republic went to the polls in February 2016 to choose the president who will help this country achieve its full potential to resolutely turn the page of conflicts and to embark on the path of recovery and peacebuilding.

In May 2016, the Government of the CAR decided to identify the priorities and needs for rehabilitation and peace consolidation, with the support of the European Union, the United Nations and the World Bank.

For several months, the Central African authorities worked hard to carry out the analysis and prioritization work. This work gave birth to the National Plan for Recovery and Peacebuilding for the Central African Republic (RCPCA), a clear, structured and coherent document that articulate the intervention of the Government and its partners for the next five years. The RCPCA provides for three priority themes: (i) Peace, security and reconciliation; (ii) Social Contract between the State and the population; (iii) Economic and productive sectors recovery.

The Brussels Conference, also called the Round Table of Partners of the Central African Republic, which took place in November 2016, made it possible to unveil the progress made by the country since the last elections. The international community has thus seen the determination of a whole people to turn a final page to the conflicts which have undermined its economic and social development for several years. The RCPCA was presented to the international community at the Conference which raised 2.28 billion dollars in pledge for a plan estimated at 3.1 billion.

Regarding the financing of the new plan, the Government has planned to establish a common funding platform, which will facilitate not only the coordination and monitoring of aid but also, above all, allow resources to be closely aligned with identified needs. The grants received will then be consolidated into several existing or planned multi-donor trust funds, depending on the purpose and programmatic scope of each fund. As such, the Ezingo Fund is one of the main financial instruments of the RCPCA. Following the conference, several partners had already expressed the wish to make a symbolic or initial contribution before the end of 2016.

This report focuses on the functioning of Ezingo Fund and the activities of the projects financed and implemented in 2016. It covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016. This consolidated report is based on the reports received from various Participating United Nations Organizations whose projects



have been implemented wholly or in part during the period covered by the report and in line with the reporting requirements set out in the fund transfer Agreement.

II- Current status of the Fund portfolio

N°	Early Recovery	PUNO	Approved budget	Status
94042	Implementation in Bangui of the reference Unit and sub-reference unit for the holistic care of rape victims	UNFPA	160 500	closed 31 August 2016
94042	Implementation in Bangui of the reference Unit and sub-reference unit for the holistic care of rape victims	UNICEF	53 500	Closed 31 August 2016
94042	Implementation in Bangui of the reference Unit and sub-reference unit for the holistic care of rape victims	OMS	354 598	Closed 31 August 2016
98383	Support for the rehabilitation of health structures in areas affected by socio-political conflicts in the Central African Republic	OMS	1 080 165	Ongoing
98382	Support for reducing the vulnerability of adolescents and young people	UNFPA	1 069 572	Ongoing
98382	Support for reducing the vulnerability of adolescents and young people	UNICEF	503 970	Ongoing
	Total Relèvement Précoce	USD 3		
	222 305			
State Authority and Duties				
90524	Payment to Police and Gendarme	Gvt of CAR	4 500 000	Closed 30 March 2016
91988	Support for the rehabilitation of barracks	UNDP	1 114 323	Closed 31 March 2015
94467	Fight against the violations of the Human Rights - AWP 1	UNDP	2 842 918	Ongoing
94467	Fight against the violations of the Human Rights - AWP 2	UNDP	7 048 937	Ongoing



103410	Emergency project to support Special Criminal Court	UNDP	1 600 550	Ongoing
Total Relèvement Précoce		USD 17 106 728		

Title of the Project: Implementation in Bangui of the reference Unit and sub-reference unit for the holistic care of rape victims

Participating UN Organization(s): OMS, UNFPA, UNICEF

Budget: USD 568 598

This project closed at the end of August 2016. The aim of this project was to integrate holistic care of victims of rape in the health system in the Central African Republic and to facilitate access to care for victims of rape of any period of aggression. The project improved the lives of victims of sexual violence (GBV) through a correct management at medical, legal and psycho-social levels with the partnership of the WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA. The following results were achieved during the year 2016:

- It enabled the setting up of a protocol of victims of violence currently used in more than 117 structures and health facilities and to take care of nearly 1,200 victims.
- The effective integration of the care of victims of sexual violence in the national health system.
- The project has harmonized reference tools for the care of rape victims.

Title of the Project: Support for the rehabilitation of health structures in areas affected by socio-political conflicts in the Central African Republic

Participating UN Organization(s): OMS

Budget: USD 1,080,165

Faced with the deterioration of sanitary infrastructure combined with operational difficulties, access to health care has been very limited in the prefectures of Ouaka and Basse Kotto. This project planned to rehabilitate a total of 14 sanitary structures in the prefectures of Ouaka and Basse Kotto and a health facility in Bangui, namely the National Center for the Management of Cases of Sickle Cell Disease. The project has two specific outcomes:

- **To ensure the effective and rapid treatment of common diseases, rape, acute malnutrition and blood transfusion in targeted areas by the end of the project;**
 - a. Main results achieved in 2016 include:
 - i. Rehabilitation of 15 health facilities including the center for the management of sickle-cell anemia through the rehabilitation of buildings and equipment in furniture and medical devices;
 - ii. Support to the provision of planned activity packages including case management, referral system in health facilities and blood transfusion;
- **A system of early warning and control of epidemics in these areas exists and is operational by the end of the project**



- a. Main results achieved in 2016 include:
- i. Training / Recycling focal points for epidemiological surveillance;
 - ii. Operationalization of the early warning system in health facilities and sites of displaced persons in 2 prefectures;
 - iii. Provision of emergency contingency stocks and for current epidemics.

The health system in the prefectures of Ouaka and Basse Kotto has been very weakened by the various crises, this project has contributed significantly to maintain the targeted health facilities. However, the rehabilitation and control aspects of the materials and equipment were underestimated in particular in relation to the state of the too advanced degradation of most sanitary structures where the repair of the buildings most often requires the construction rather than rehabilitation.

Title of the Project: Support for reducing the vulnerability of adolescents and young people in Boda, Yaloke, Sibut, Mbres, Grimari, Kouango and Bambari

Participating UN Organization(s): UNFPA, UNICEF

Budget: USD 1,573,542

The project aims to contribute to the transformation of Central African youth (girls and boys) who are destabilized both as a leverage for local development and as a vehicle for social cohesion and peacebuilding.

The Project effectively started on 2 February 2016 responded to a real expectation of the Central African Youth due to the crises that the country has experienced. To date, the rate of financial execution is 80% despite the difficulties that the country is going through. The project contributes to the promotion of the rights of adolescents and young people in sexual and reproductive health, education, peace, social cohesion and sustainable development.

Among its achievements in 2016:

- Implementation of the "National Participatory Analysis of the Needs and Aspirations of Adolescents and Young People aged 10 to 35 in the fields of Health, Education, Peace, Employment and Vocational Training, Connectivity, Sports and Leisure ". The national analysis of needs and aspirations has been completed. The results of the analysis were validated by the National Scientific Committee.
- Adolescent and Youth Talents for peace and health initiative: the implementation of this activity made it possible to achieve the following results:
 - 157,000 adolescents and young people, including 62,202 adolescent girls, had accurate information on SR, HIV, peace and social cohesion
 - 13587 have done their test of which 7 563 young of whom 4436 girls are recovered their result. Young people screened positive were referred to care structures 987 adolescents and young artists, draughtsmen, painters, slammers, theatre actors produced works on peace and health
 - 48 works on peace, reproductive health and HIV (12 in modern music, 12 in traditional music, 8 sketches, 8 drawings, 8 poems) were produced by the 987-young people. The musical and theatrical works are broadcast on radio stations.
- Services on Sexual Health and Reproduction were offered in 17 health facilities.



Title of the Project: **Payment to Police and Gendarmerie (Closed August 2016)**

Participating UN Organization(s): **UNDP**

Budget: **USD 4 500 000**

The project aimed to provide urgent assistance to the Government of the Central African Republic for the restoration of the essential functions of the police and gendarmerie in parallel with payments by the World Bank for the salaries of civil servants of the State.

In 2016, the project was extended without costs, essentially relating to the component on *risks associated with compliance with the Secretary General's human rights due diligence policy* (HRDDP). Through this component, the project was able to achieve the following results:

- The assessment of the security sector's record on the violation of human rights,
- The strengthening of civil society monitoring capacities on respect for human rights and the reconstitution of police and gendarmerie databases, with reinforcement of the control over the presence of personnel in their units.

Title of the Project: **Joint project to support the fight against the violations of the Human Rights and for the revival of the Judicial System in CAR**

Participating UN Organization(s): **PNUD, MINUSCA, UN Women**

Budget: **USD 9,891,856**

The main objective of the Joint Project is to contribute to the restoration of the rule of law and social cohesion and to support the process of national reconciliation with a view to building lasting peace in the Central African Republic.

- **In the field of Justice**, important results have been achieved in the fight against impunity with the organization of the second Assises session since the outbreak of the 2013 crisis, the production of a first draft of Mapping of serious violations of human rights and the finalization of the Special Criminal Court project document. In terms of access to justice, 2016 saw the organization of the first forensic audiences since 2013 and the launch of the first legal aid offices. Finally, the capacity of the justice sector has been developed: the restoration of several judicial and penitentiary infrastructures was carried out, while the training of officials of the Justice sector was strengthened. As a result, the mechanisms and tools to enhance the quality and effectiveness of judicial and legal proceedings have been produced. Finally, the tools to measure the justice services offered to the population have been implemented, notably with the launch of the judicial database and perception studies.
- **In the area of capacity building**, various actions were carried out by the Project Team and its partners. Judicial and penitentiary infrastructures have received sustained attention: the site prepared for the rehabilitation of the Bossembele Prison has been officially handed over to the construction companies selected for more or less complete works. As for the rehabilitation site at the Bria court, after the site was handed over on 17 and 18 November, the security situation deteriorated and a crisis erupted on 21 November, leading to the non-start-up of the works. The jurisdictions of Bangui and the regions of Bria, Boda, Bouar and Bossangoa were equipped with office furniture and computer equipment.



- **In the field of security**, the project has provided important support both for their internal organization and for the service they provide to the population. In terms of internal capacity building, identification operations in Bangui and all functional units throughout the country have resulted in the identification of 1,976 police officers and 1471 police officers, including 823 in the provinces. These operations included inspections which brought back more than 150 elements to join their units voluntarily and more than 20 after sanctions against them. A work to record and reconstruct the files of the identified personnel is under way and will ultimately improve the police and gendarmerie's workforce so that they can be organized and redeployed efficiently throughout the country. This redeployment is accompanied by the purchase of new uniforms whose project has prepared the acquisition procedures as well as the legal basis for new colors that make it possible to identify the policemen and gendarmes of the FACA and the armed groups. Several buildings have also been rehabilitated and equipped to improve working conditions and provide the necessary means for the return of internal security forces to their respective units.

The project provided significant support at the strategic level for security sector reform. To this end, training in the strategic and operational planning of 30 senior officials from the Ministry of the Interior, Security and Territorial Administration, the Police and the Gendarmerie enabled them to acquire the necessary capacities to analyze, Evaluate and plan activities and implement action plans. These managers then participated in the development and validation of the police and gendarmerie development plan, which allows them to have a global vision of the next steps to develop their institutional capacities and prepare SSR.

With regard to the care, accompaniment and access to justice of the victims and survivors of SGBV, progress has been made.

The implementation of the "Joint Unit for Rapid Intervention and Repression of Gender-Based Violence" (UNMIR) was initiated and continued during the year. The administrative and legal bases and the operationalization were put in place. The project's advocacy and technical support activities with the various partners resulted in the following achievements: (i) A room to house the Unit is obtained (see Memorandum from the Directorate of the National Gendarmerie); (ii) The rehabilitation of the affected area is underway and is expected is operational by the end of December 2016; (iii) The building will be secured, the serenity of the investigations assured and the risk of stigmatization reduced.

A mechanism for coordination of support and consultation for the operationalization of the Unit is set up, with missions and responsibilities disseminated to the various stakeholders. In terms of rules and procedures, emphasis has been placed on the development of two management manuals to guide and ensure coherence in the conduct of police investigations of sex and gender-based offenses.

During the year, the implementation of the Project went through various constraints, the most important of which were the security situation in the capital Bangui and the Regions, as already mentioned in the context. The courage and perseverance of the Project teams allowed us to take advantage of the calm moments to carry out certain activities such as the Boda and Bria public hearings, the rehabilitation of the headquarters of the Bria High Court and the activities Sensitization on the SGBV in Bangui, Bimbo, Mbaïki and Boali.



Title of the Project: **Emergency project to support Special criminal court (SCC)**

Participating UN Organization(s): **UNDP**

Budget: **USD 1 600 550**

This project was approved in November 2016. Its general objective is to contribute to the restoration of Rule of Law and social cohesion and support the national reconciliation process towards a durable peace.

The project specific objectives include:

- The investigation of grave human rights violations by ensuring the organization of fair trials;
- The operation of the SCC and the management of its staff are efficient and rigorous;
- The SCC actively interacts with the population, ensures the effective participation of victims and witnesses in the judicial process and contributes to building trust in state institutions, SPC develops national capacity for the rule of law, Transitional justice process, o peacebuilding and democratic transition.

III- Support to RCPCA

The role of the fund in the new context of the RCPCA opens doors to more opportunities for resource mobilization.

The financing architecture of the RCPCA provides that the Ezingo Fund is part of a set of financial instruments all under the authority of a Steering Committee co-chaired by the Government and an international partner.

Administered by the United Nations Multi-Partner Fund Office, the Ezingo Fund is under the responsibility of a Steering committee co-chaired by the Minister of Economy, Planning and Cooperation and the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations. Flexible, the fund plans to adapt to the national context by defining two program phases: an "emergency-transition" phase and a "post-electoral" phase. It proposes two operational windows (a UN window that channels funds to UN agencies that are signatories to the MOU and a national window for direct budget support with direct transfer to the Treasury) to channel assistance for the new recovery peace consolidation plan in the CAR.

The programmatic scope of the Ezingo Fund covers the three pillars of the national plan, including peace and security; Basic social services and economic recovery, while guaranteeing aid effectiveness, national ownership and transparency.

The Joint Steering Committee of the RCPCA is responsible for all funds in the RCPCA funding architecture. Within the framework of this responsibility, it makes informed decisions to direct resources towards the most appropriate financing instrument. This committee is responsible, inter alia, for ensuring the coherence of the interventions financed through the various mechanisms and ensuring their complementarity in the implementation of the RCPCA.



IV- The technical committee for coordinating and monitoring project implementation

This committee was set up and started operating in 2016. Its first meeting was held on 31 August 2016 and the second on 20 December 2016. It is one of the elements of the Fund's monitoring system.

It is chaired by the Head of the Integrated Office and includes among its members the Fund Manager and all funded project managers. The secretariat of the meeting is provided by the Fund's Technical Secretariat.

The committee meets twice a year to discuss the progress of the projects funded, the constraints encountered and the different reporting formats and reporting requirements.

V- Main constraints

Overall, the main constraint remains the political and security context that have had a negative impact on the projects. Some of the projects under implementation required extension to finalize all their activities. The changed political environment – with the election of February 2016 – and the development of the RCPCA have led to the readjustment of some of the projects as well in order to align with national priorities.

VI- Governance structure

Steering Committee: In 2016, the Steering Committee met twice (May and December). Following the adoption of the GoCAR national Plan (RCPCA), Ezingo emerged as one of the main fiduciary instrument for its implementation. This consideration called for the review and amendment of the Zingo Terms of References to ensure the Fund is aligned with the RCPCA. The review process started in December 2016 and will be finalised in 2017.

From initial trend of discussions, Ezingo fundinf partners would prefer the Fund to maintain its Steering Committee separate from the RCPCA. The Steering Committee will continue to review its programs, ensuring alignment, coordination and complementarity with the CAR government priorities and other international donors. Representatives of the other funds (European Union, World Bank, AfDB, Humanitarian Fund, etc.) will be members of the Ezingo Steering Committee as Observers.

Technical Secretariat: Scheduled to have 3 members, the Technical Secretariat of the Fund has operated till December 2016 with the sole Fund Manager who has ended her term in December 2016. This under staffing had a significant impact on the activities of the Secretariat. The Head of RCO and the PBF Coordinator are providing back stopping support to keep the Fund functional and delivering its goods. However, this arrangement is not sustainable and would a longer term solution needs to be adopted in 2017.