

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

## HUMANITARIAN FUND

IN BRIEF



OCHA

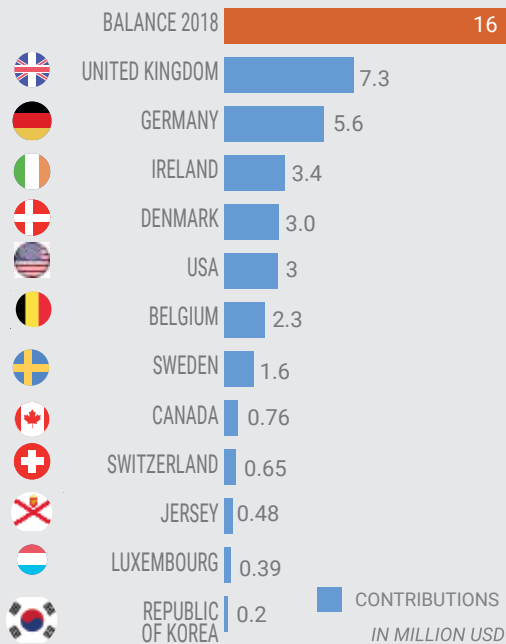
MARCH 2020



Kaga-Bandoro  
@OCHACAR / R. Maloundou

# KEY FIGURES 2019

## Donors Contribution



**44.6M**  
AVAILABLE FUNDS  
INCLUDING 2018  
BALANCE 16M  
*IN MILLION USD*

**39M**  
ALLOCATED FUNDS  
13% of 2019 HRP  
*IN MILLION USD*

**53** PARTNERS  
FUNDED

|    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 31 | INGO               |
| 14 | NNGO               |
| 7  | UN AGENCY          |
| 1  | RED CROSS MOVEMENT |

**117** PROJECTS  
FUNDED

|    |               |
|----|---------------|
| 88 | SECTORAL      |
| 29 | MULTISECTORAL |

## Background to the CAR Humanitarian Fund

Established in 2008, the Central African Republic Humanitarian Fund (CAR HF) is a multi-donor country-based pooled fund (CBPF) managed by OCHA CAR under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC). Since its inception to March 2020, the CAR HF received around US\$230 million. These contributions have enabled the scale up of the humanitarian response in a country with growing humanitarian needs. CAR ranks second to last on the Human Development Index worldwide and despite the hopes raised by the signing of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation (APPR) in February 2019, violence continued in many parts of the country, including previously not affected areas, throughout the year.

In 2019, The Central African Republic Humanitarian Fund (CAR HF) has continued to play a critical role in strengthening coordinated, timely and effective humanitarian response, by supporting priority response activities as identified under the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. The Fund has allocated \$39 million in support of 117 emergency humanitarian projects.

\$ 35.4 million (91%) allocated through the standard allocation modality enabled front-line response to the most acute and severe needs as prioritized at sector and multisector levels and the overall scale up of the humanitarian response in remote locations. Additionally, they also aimed at strengthening the complementarity use of the CAR HF funding with other funding mechanisms as well as the quality and the effectiveness of the humanitarian response at national and sub-national levels. On the other hand, \$3.6 million (9%) allocated through the Reserve Allocation modality allowed to respond to onset needs resulting from unforeseen emergencies.

While the United Kingdom, Germany, and Ireland were the three largest donors to the CAR HF in 2019, the Fund was able to successfully secure the first-ever contribution from the USA for a total amount of \$3 million.

## Objectives of the CAR Humanitarian Fund

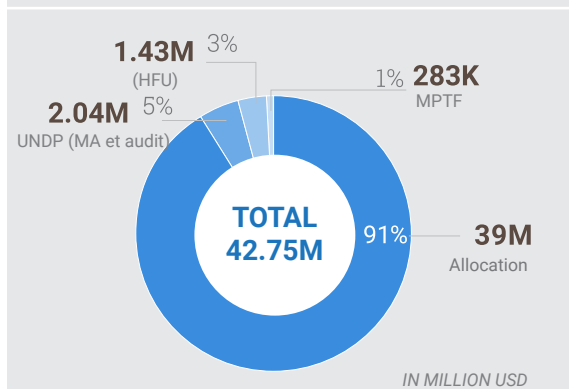
The CAR HF is a humanitarian financing instrument that enables a transparent, efficient, inclusive, flexible and timely delivery of humanitarian response in CAR. Therefore, the CAR HF focuses on two objectives: (1) support the humanitarian reform to ensure predictable and flexible humanitarian funding to meet the needs of vulnerable communities, and (2) strengthen the leadership of the HC and reinforce the humanitarian coordination system.

## Allocation modalities

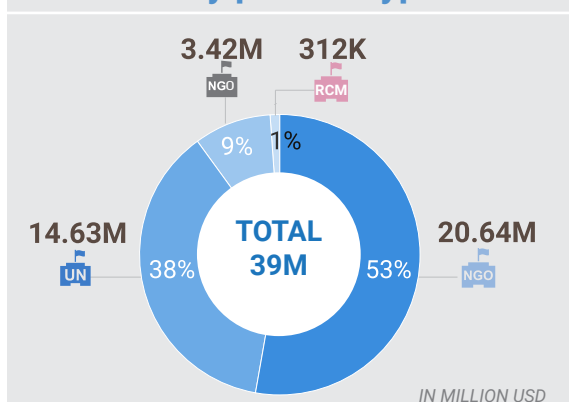
Funds are allocated using two allocation modalities: the standard allocation and the reserve allocation.

- Standard Allocation – which represents most funds – is launched twice a year by the HC. It is meant to ensure that the HRP priority needs are identified, prioritized and funded through a consultative and participative process involving key humanitarian partners, within the boundaries of available funding.
- Reserve Allocation – used for rapid and flexible allocations of funds to respond to emerging humanitarian needs resulting from sudden-onset emergencies or to address identified urgent gaps.

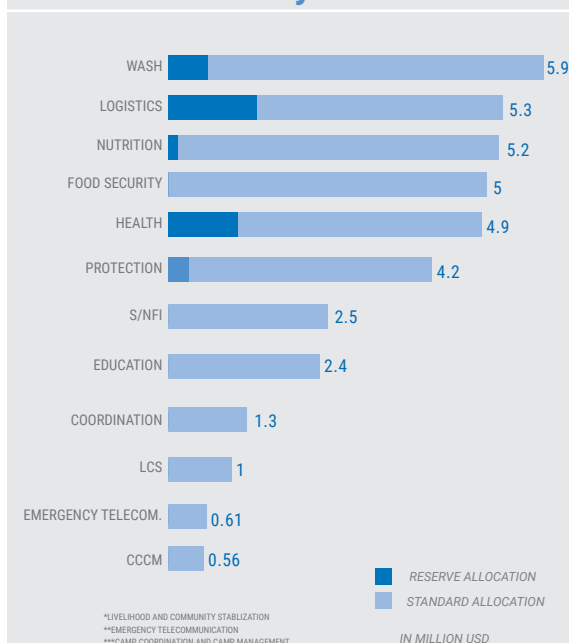
## Funds utilization



## Allocation by partner type



## Fund allocation by cluster



## Leadership and Governance

The CAR HF is managed by OCHA under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC). The day-to-day management of the CAR HF is ensured by a Joint Humanitarian Financing Unit (JHFU) under overall supervision by the OCHA Head of Office. On January 1, OCHA CAR took over the Managing Agent role from UNDP. The JHFU executes HC's decisions and organizes the process of allocations of funds in line with the Global Guidelines for CBPFs based on the Operational Manual, which explains how the Fund works and provides details about its accountability framework and performance system.

The HC is supported by an Advisory Board (AB) which has a consultative role of advising the HC on strategic decisions, risk management, review of operational modalities and transparency. Its composition ensures an equitable representation of the Funds' stakeholders (donors, UN agencies, national and international NGOs and OCHA).

## Eligibility process

The eligibility process of the CAR HF is rooted in four key steps: (1) cluster's recommendations, (2) due diligence, (3) capacity assessment, and (4) performance index. Any organization that wishes to join the CAR HF as a partner will have to be first recommended by at least one of the cluster. Secondly, the proposed organization will have to successfully pass the due diligence process, before being considered for the capacity assessment. The capacity assessment gives the opportunity to gauge the organization's financial capacities to manage the funding and programmatic abilities to implement humanitarian programming. Once completed, the organization will be either assigned a risk level (low, medium, or high) or deemed ineligible to access CAR HF funding. If an organization manages to successfully pass the three first steps and secure its first grant, the CAR HF will continue to monitor its performance using the Performance Index (PI).

## Type of partners and risk-based approach

The CAR HF channels funding only to eligible national and international organizations, including NGOs and United Nations. Priority is given to partners that are in best-position to deliver humanitarian response to the affected population. The risk level (high, medium, or low) assigned to the end of step three as referenced above will determine the Operational Modalities (such as the budget ceiling to allocate, the regime and frequency of narrative reports, the timing and the frequency of the programmatic monitoring, the number and frequency of financial verification required, and the audit) applicable for that specific partner. Any organization that has not successfully passed the three first steps is deemed ineligible to access the CAR HF funding.

To facilitate the implementation of its risk-based approach as outlined in the Fund's Accountability Framework, the CAR HF uses the Performance Index (PI) embedded into the Grant Management System (GMS), the online database specifically designed and developed to support the management of all CBPF. The PI helps at measuring each partner's performances in relation to six key areas of management that include (1) project submission and process, (2) programmatic reporting and process, (3) monitoring and process, (4) project revision and process, (5) financial reporting and verifications, and (6) audit.

## CONTACTS

### CAR Humanitarian Fund

#### Olivier Nkidiaka, Fund Manager

Email: [nkidiaka@un.org](mailto:nkidiaka@un.org)

Mobile: + 236 70 55 01 37

#### Donor relations Section

##### Geneva

For contractual agreements and contributions to the Fund:

#### Vera Goldschmidt, Head of Desk,

##### Donor Relations Section

Email: [goldschmidt@un.org](mailto:goldschmidt@un.org)

Direct line: +41 22 917 8851

Mobile: +41 76 691 08 75

### UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office New York

#### Bavo Christiaens, Fund Portfolio Manager

Email: [bavo.christiaens@undp.org](mailto:bavo.christiaens@undp.org)

Direct line: +1 212 906 5533

#### OCHA CBPF Section, New York

#### Fernando Hesse, Chief of CBPF Section

email: [hessfef@un.org](mailto:hessfef@un.org)

Direct line: +1 212 963-0295

Mobile: +1 917 208-3698

#### Useful links:

OCHA CAR HF website:

<https://www.unocha.org/central-african-republic-car/about-car-hf>

CBPF Business intelligence:

<https://pfbf.unocha.org/>

CBPF Section website:

<https://www.unocha.org/our-work/humanitarian-financing/country-based-pooled-funds-cbpf>

## Fund performance

As for other CBPFs, the CAR HF uses the Common Performance Framework (CPF) to measure its performances. The CPF is a management tool that provides a set of twenty (20) indicators to assess how well a Fund performs in relation to the policy objectives and operational standards set out in the CBPF Global Guidelines. Embodying the fundamental humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence, the CBPFs function according to five specific principles: (1) inclusivity, (2) flexibility, (3) timeliness, (4) efficiency, and (5) accountability and risk management.

Compared to 2018, the overall performance of the CAR HF has improved, reporting 70 per cent of “very high score”, 20 per cent of “high score”, and 10 per cent of “medium score” in relation to the analysis of the results achieved vis-à-vis of the targets set for each indicator. In 2018, the CCP indicated a performance corresponding to 65 per cent of “very high score”, 15 per cent of “high score”, and 20 per cent of “medium score”.

## Current Humanitarian Situation

The humanitarian crisis in Central African Republic remains complex. According to the 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) released in October 2019, 2.6 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection. Of those, 1.7 million need acute and immediate assistance. Although the overall number of people in need has slightly decreased from 2.9 to 2.6 million, the number of people in acute need has increased from 1.5 to 1.7 million. The number of sub-prefectures ranking at high severity has increased from 39 to 55. This variation is the result of improved access to some previously unreached areas, greater availability of quality data and armed violence in areas previously spared by conflict.

One in four Central African live away from home – either within CAR or in neighbouring countries. The crisis has affected almost the entire country. Only three sub-prefectures out of 79 did not receive displaced persons or returnees. The unavailability of basic services has contributed significantly to the resurgence of epidemics (such as polio, Hepatitis E, monkey pox and meningitis) that had been eradicated. One of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in children under five years of age is acute malnutrition. 35% of the population are acutely food insecure, of whom 375,000 have immediate survival needs and require emergency food assistance.

The current situation in CAR makes it a very high-risk country. With a score of 8.6, CAR ranks second in the world in terms of risk level according to the INFORM 2020 index, with very high risks of conflict, socio-economic vulnerabilities and lack of human capital. There is a significant risk of deterioration in the security situation in the run-up to the presidential, legislative, regional and municipal elections scheduled for 2020 and 2021, but also due to the resurgence of localized conflicts, including those of a community nature. The most vulnerable population groups will continue to require sustained humanitarian assistance, based on humanitarian principles.