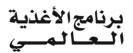


Programme Alimentaire Mondial

Programa Mundial de Alimentos



WFP News Video

WFP PROVIDES VITAL FOOD ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE DIPLACED BY VIOLENCE IN CAR

WFP News Video Central African Republic (CAR) Shot 21 December TRT 2'23"

shotlist

00:00-00:16 Bangui Airport

Various of people displaced gathered in a makeshift camp French soldiers guarding IDP camp

00:16-01:00 Bangui Airport

WFP food distribution, people waiting to receive food rations Various of people receiving WFP food, pulses, rice, maize and vegetable oil

01:00-01:20

SOT Housainou Taal, WFP CAR Country Director (English)

"We need to assist people who are in desperate need. At the moment in Bangui there are over a hundred thousand people who WFP and partners have assisted. Countrywide, we have assisted over 600,000 people since March. The situation is very serious. We need to help these people who are in very, very desperate need."

01:20-01:47 Eglise Castors, Bangui

Displaced people living in compound cooking WFP food Children eating

01:47-02:00 Eglise Castors, Bangui SOT Danwily Thierry (Sango)

"Here there is no job that I can do, but thanks to God, today they brought us these split peas, rice and supplies that I will give to my wife to cook for the children"

02:00-02:23 Eglise Castors, Bangui

Danwily Thierry receives WFP food and leaves on his wheelchair

END



Storyline

- Conflict in the Central African Republic (CAR) has driven hundreds of thousands of people from their homes, increasing humanitarian needs. WFP is providing food to people displaced in the recent upsurge of violence in the capital Bangui, as well as in Bossangoa in the northwest of the country and other locations.
- WFP provides assistance based on needs and according to UN principles of impartiality. We are talking to religious leaders and community heads to help gain access to those who need assistance and the conditions needed for safe, orderly food distributions.
- WFP is scaling up to reach more than 1 million people in 2014 and
 is counting on donors to support efforts to assist people in this
 crisis. Livelihoods and seasonal harvesting have been severely
 disrupted by conflict.
- This operation is hugely challenging. Security in Bangui has deteriorated in recent days. We are reaching out to the most vulnerable wherever we find them. We have distributed food to individual groups of people as small as 50 in places. We are distributing wherever we can – hospitals, orphanages, churches and mosques.

BANGUI

- A WFP-chartered Boeing 747 jumbo jet landed on Thursday, 19 December, at Bangui airport with 45 metric tons of WFP logistics equipment, 17.3 tons of especially nutritious food for WFP to combat malnutrition in children under five years and 2.6 tons of emergency health kits from the World Health Organization.
- The flight came from the UN Humanitarian Response Depot in Brindisi, Italy. A first shipment of IT equipment has also arrived in CAR.



• WFP is responding to those in need following an outbreak of violence in Bangui and Bossangoa in the northwest on 5 December. WFRP has provided nearly 1,285 metric tons of food to nearly 200,000 people in CAR since then.

WFP OPERATIONS SNAPSHOT

• WFP is revising its existing programme and will scale up its emergency response to provide more than 1 million people over the next six months with life-saving food support. People displaced and affected by conflict are the main focus of the operation in line with findings of an Emergency Food Security Assessment in October 2013.

FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

- Humanitarian needs are rising as renewed fighting has exacerbated the already precarious security situation. WFP is revising its programme.
- We have food supplies in country or in transit to help meet the growing needs but as we scale up further to serve just over 1 million people, we need donors to continue supporting our efforts.
- Even before the recent renewed violence, preliminary findings from the Emergency Food Security Assessment indicate that 30 percent of households, representing 1.3 million people, are food insecure.
- The assessment also predicted a further deterioration if violence persists, which it has. Farmers have been forced to leave their farms, depriving them of access to tools and agricultural inputs. As a result, harvests are poor and markets disrupted.
- The assessment estimates about 1.29 million people in rural areas are in need of urgent assistance to prevent the food security situation worsening. Farmers have been selling fool and livestock so they can feed their families, leaving them without a means of making an income.
- Food prices are high and volatile due to severe disruption of markets. Maize prices in Bangui rose 31 percent over the course of the year.

WHAT WFP IS DOING IN CAR

• WFP has provided food assistance to more than 500,000 people in 2013 and will introduce a blanket supplementary feeding programme for 66,000 children aged between 6-35 months to prevent moderate acute malnutrition.



- WFP activities include assistance for refugees and IDPs, nutrition activities for women, children and people affected by HIV, school meals programmes and livelihood projects as well as providing safety nets to protect the most vulnerable.
- WFP is conducting an emergency school feeding programme to provide food to up to 10,000 children. Emergency school feeding was carried out in the Western city of Bouar and close to 4,000 children were assisted with 9.6mt of food.
- The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), managed by WFP, is the sole means of transport for the humanitarian community to reach most parts of CAR, which are inaccessible because of weak infrastructure and poor roads. UNHAS flies to 27 locations and has carried some 8,000 passengers so far this year.
- WFP is expanding its emergency telecommunications and logistics capacity to support the humanitarian community.
- The crisis sent people fleeing to neighboring countries: UNHCR has registered 64,717 refugees from CAR in Cameroon, Congo, Chad and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), of which 42, 600 are in DRC. WFP's assistance is being provided through existing projects in Cameroon, Congo and Chad. In DRC, an immediate response was launched to address the influx.
- 2013 donors to CAR: multilateral funds, Canada, European Commission, Germany, Luxembourg, Switzerland, UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), UN Common Funds and Agencies, United Kingdom, Sweden, USA.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. Last year, WFP reached more than 97 million people in 80 countries with food assistance.

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