WFP News Video

Hunger in C.A.R. Has Doubled-Half the Country Affected

Location Bangui, Central African Republic
Shot: 18-19 Jan 2016
TRT 02:28

Shotlist

:00-:05
Bangui
Shot 18 January 2016
UN peacekeepers checkpoint

:05-:19
Bangui
Shot 18 January 2016
War damaged houses, shops, remains of Lakouanga Mosque, destroyed by armed
groups in September 2015

:19-:26
pediatric nutrition Center
Center of la mère et de l'enfant, Bangui
Shot 19 January 2016
Mothers with their children waiting to be checked for malnutrition

:26-:41
Bangui Pediatric Centre
Shot 19 January 2016
In order to tackle malnutrition, WFP is providing highly nutritious food (fortified
blended cereals and & fortified oil) to all children under five, pregnant women and
breastfeeding mothers in severely food-insecure households outside Bangui and in
camps for displaced people.

Shows malnourished children being screened

:41-01:09
Bangui
Shot 18 January 2016
SOT(English): Margot Vandervelden, WFP Regional Emergency
Coordinator

“WFP is extremely concerned about the food security situation that’s worsening in
Central African Republic, one out of two people in Central African Republic don’t
have enough food to eat and don’t know where the next meal is coming from, the
people most affected are the returnees and hundreds of thousands of people that
remain internally displaced inside Central African Republic, WFP is doing everything it can to respond to this alarming situation but it needs support.”

01:09-01:25
Saint Sauveur camp, Bangui
Shot 18 January 2016
WFP provides food to over 3000 displaced people at Saint Sauveur. They receive cereals, pulses, oil and highly nutritious food for children.

GV’s people living in the camp

01:25-01:44
Saint Sauveur camp, Bangui
Shot 18 January 2016
SOT (French) Belime Lucienne, mother of 7, her husband disappeared. “We were chased away from there and we came here to Saint Sauveur. Since the 26th (September) we have been here for the past four months. We have a lot of problems. We have a lot of worries. As I have a lot of children and no one to help me. My husband disappeared. I don’t know what to do feed my ...... (children)”

01:44-01:57
Castors Camp, Bangui
Shot 18 January 2016
About 2000 displaced people receive food assistance from WFP. They receive cereals, pulses, oil and highly nutritious food for children.

Women cooking

01:57-02:11
Castors Camp, Bangui
Shot 18 January 2016
SOT (French) Ata Wali, displaced since December 2013 “I suffer when it comes to food. Do you see how I am doing? I suffer. I have just gone to the hospital but since I have no money, I came back. I go to bed hungry.”

02:11-02:28
Castors Camp, Bangui
Shot 18 January 2016
Woman cooking, children eating

ENDS
HALF THE POPULATION OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FACES HUNGER, WFP WARNS

BANGUI – An Emergency Food Security Assessment by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and its partners reveals that half the population of the Central African Republic (C.A.R.) – nearly 2.5 million people – faces hunger. This marks a doubling in the number of hungry people in a one-year period, as conflict and insecurity have led to limited access to and availability of food.

“Three years of crisis have taken a huge toll on the people of the C.A.R. Families have been forced so often to sell what they own, pull their kids out of school, even resort to begging, that they have reached the end of their rope. This is not the usual run-of-the-mill emergency. People are left with nothing,” said Guy Adoua, WFP Deputy Country Director in the C.A.R.

According to the assessment, one in six women, men and children struggles with severe or extreme food insecurity – not knowing where their next meal is coming from – while more than one in three are moderately food insecure.

“WFP is extremely concerned by this alarming level of hunger. People not only lack enough food but are also forced to consume low-cost, low-nutrient food that does not meet their nutritional needs,” added Adoua.

The report shows that the 2014-2015 harvest was poor and that food prices remain high as farmers have not tended their fields due to insecurity, and hundreds of thousands have been forced to flee their homes and abandon their land and livelihoods.
Further clashes erupted in late September as much of the food security data for the assessment was being collected. That violence fuelled more displacement as people were slowly returning home. Nearly 1 million people are still displaced inside the C.A.R. or seeking refuge in neighbouring countries.

The report recommends continued emergency food assistance to displaced families and returnees; food and technical assistance to farmers to recover; creating safety nets through programmes such as the school meals programme; and providing support to rehabilitate the infrastructure through food-for-assets activities.

WFP is providing emergency food and nutritional support to those most vulnerable and plays a crucial role in supporting recovery efforts. WFP’s programmes focused on cash-based transfers and local food purchases going into school meals for thousands of children boost the local economy and people’s livelihoods.

“We must help the most vulnerable, who need emergency food assistance to survive, yet we also need to focus on people across the C.A.R. so they can recover and rebuild,” said Adoua.

In December 2015, WFP provided food for nearly 400,000 people through general food distributions, cash-based transfers, nutrition support and school meals, and food-for-assets activities.

WFP needs urgent support to continue to provide food and nutritional assistance to displaced and vulnerable communities as well as to support recovery efforts. US$41 million is needed so that WFP can respond to urgent needs through to the end of June in the C.A.R. and the neighbouring countries hosting C.A.R. refugees. To date, WFP’s operation is only 45 percent funded.

WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in around 80 countries.

Follow us on Twitter @wfp_media, @WFP_WAfrica
For more information please contact (email address: firstname.lastname@wfp.org):
Adel Sarkozi, WFP/Dakar, Mobile + 221 77 637 5964
Jane Howard, WFP/Rome, Tel. +39 06 65132321, Mob. +39 346 7600521
Bettina Luescher, WFP/Geneva, Tel. +41 22 917 8564, Mob. + 41-79-842-8057
Gregory Barrow, WFP/London, Tel. +44 20 72409001, Mob. +44 7968 008474
Gerald Bourke, WFP/New York, Tel. +1-646-5566909, Mob. +1-646 525 9982

To view the EFSA report, visit: http://www.wfp.org/content/republique-centrafricaine-evaluation-securite-alimentaire-situation-urgence-decembre-2015 (available in French).
Video available: streaming link here (link) . For broadcast quality please contact Marco.Frattini@wfp.org