WFP News Video
Bambari, Central African Republic
TRT 02:32

00:00 – 00:14
Bambari
Shot 22 January 2015
GV of Streets/market in Christian neighbourhood of Bambari

00:14 – 00:19
Ouaka river, Bambari
Shot 22 January 2015
Shot of the bridge over river ‘Ouaka’ which splits the town into two parts: Christian and Muslim.

00:19 – 00:49
Ouaka river, Bambari
Shot 23 January 2015
SOT Daouda Guirou, WFP spokesperson
“This river marks the division of the town into two parts, Muslim, Christian, and all around Bambari there is fighting going on. Attacks, looting, killing, bringing more and more people to be displaced and concentrating here in Bambari. These people have lost everything and don’t have access to their land for farming and they depend only on WFP food for living.”

00:49 – 01:05
Fire in muslim camp for displaced people, Bambari
Shot 21 January 2015
Displaced persons generally live in straw shelters that sometimes burn down from cooking fires. There is very little water to put the fires out resulting in injuries and loss of what few items people have.

01:05 – 01:41
Bambari hospital
Shot 22 January 2015
Severely malnourished children. WFP is supporting the hospital and community health centre with special nutritious foods.

01:41-02:12 Camp for displaced people, Bambari
Shot 22 January 2015
GV of WFP Food distribution of highly nutritious food for children.
Child eating WFP food.
WFP in C.A.R.:
The conflict in Central African Republic (C.A.R), has taken a heavy toll on the livelihoods of the population. More than 1.5 million people – one third of the population – are suffering from food insecurity and food reserves in rural areas are now up to 50 percent lower than average levels, following recurring raids and continuous displacement of farming communities. The lean season, when food from the last harvest runs out, is imminent. This follows a significant drop in agricultural production due to the conflict.

One year after the spike in violence in C.A.R, recurring attacks, reprisals, looting and killing are still ongoing in many localities like Bambari. About 80 km around Bambari, many villages, have been deserted because of widespread attacks and reprisals.

The conflict in C.A.R. has raised religious tension in Bambari and torn apart communities who used to live in harmony for decades. The river ‘Ouaka’ crosses the town, which also marks the division of the town into two parts: a Christian quarter and a Muslim one. About 80 percent of the population has been displaced and WFP is providing lifesaving assistance to over 40,000 people in Bambari. WFP is also providing highly nutritious food to prevent malnutrition among children and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

WFP and partners have been working hard to reach Central African communities affected by unrest inside the country. WFP is concerned about the continued and increasing needs created by the conflict.

In 2015, WFP plans to provide life-saving assistance to more than 1 million people. The security situation in CAR remains volatile and unpredictable. Humanitarian operations are being hindered by poor roads, banditry, looting and random violence by militias. Since January 2014, 18 humanitarian workers have been killed and more than 142 security incidents involving humanitarian workers have been documented.
WFP staff continue to risk their lives on a daily basis to bring urgently-needed food to people facing hunger.

One year since the start of extreme violence (December 2013) that ravaged the country, there are still close to 900,000 people who are unable to return home - both families internally displaced and those who have fled across borders into neighbouring countries.

WFP food assistance in CAR includes general food distributions, nutrition programmes and blanket supplementary feeding for children at risk of malnutrition. The January distribution is ongoing and WFP is seeking to reach 600,000 people.

WFP began a new regional emergency operation on 1 January 2015 which covers CAR and neighbouring countries - Cameroon Chad DRC and Republic of Congo. WFP need funding of US$ 196 million for the full year - the operation is only 19 percent funded leaving a shortfall of $160 million.

As part of UN supported attempts at national reconciliation, political actors are meeting in Bangui in February to lay the grounds for elections to be held later in the year.