WFP News Video
Violence in Central African Republic Creates Regional Crisis
Location: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
TRT 01:36

SHOTLIST

00:00-00:18
Mole camp, Zongo, Equateur province DRC
Shot 04 March 2014
Mole refugee camp is home to 10,000 refugees from CAR
Wide of Mole refugee camp, people preparing meals

00:18-00:39
Boyabu refugee camp, Equateur Province DRC
Shot 3 March 2014
Boyabu refugees camp is home to 9,000 refugees from CAR
Children playing football, new arrivals getting off the truck, people waiting for WFP food ration (maiz meals, pulses vegetable oil and salt).

00:39-01:01
Boyabu refugee camp, Equateur Province DRC
Shot 3 March 2014
SOT Djaounsede Pardon, WFP spokesperson
“This camp is currently home to more than 60,000 refugees from Central African Republic, most of the refugees have been here for more than 6 months now, in response to their food needsthe World Food Programme and its partners distribute monthly food rations composed of maiz meals, pulses vegetable oil and salt”

01:01-01:27
Boyabu refugee camp, Equateur Province DRC
Shot 04 March 2014
During the first three days following their transfer to the camp, CAR refugees are provided with cooked meals pending their settlement in the camp.

WFP food distribution, people eating hot meals

01:27-01:36
Zongo, Equateur province DRC
Shot 05 March 2014
Newly arrived refugees from CAR are waiting to be transferred to the camp

ENDS
WFP News Release

25 February 2014

WFP WARNS OF REGIONAL CRISIS DUE TO MASS EXODUS FROM VIOLENT CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

ROME – As thousands of people continue to flee violence across the Central African Republic (CAR), the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is warning that neighbouring countries are struggling with more than 150,000 new arrivals in urgent need of assistance.

"We are facing a regional crisis, that goes well beyond the borders of the Central African Republic. These people – most of them women and children – have seen their homes burned and witnessed unspeakable violence and had no choice but to leave," said Denise Brown, WFP’s West Africa Regional Director

“They desperately need food and nutritional assistance and other support both inside CAR and in neighbouring countries. They need it now and they should not have to wait," she said.

More than 70,000 people have fled CAR to Chad since the intensification of violence in December; there are 62,000 refugees in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); 28,000 have arrived in recent weeks in Cameroon and 12,000 have sought refuge in the Republic of the Congo.

Since December 2013, the exodus from CAR into fragile and food-insecure areas has intensified, creating new strains on local people. Among those uprooted in CAR are Chadian nationals, most of whom have never set foot in their home country or have been gone so long they no longer have any support network.

WFP is concerned it cannot meet the needs of these extremely vulnerable people because of insufficient funding. Many of the surrounding countries are already hosting large numbers of refugees from various countries and resources are stretched. WFP stocks of cereals
 earmarked for CAR refugees in DRC are running dangerously low and new contributions are needed.

Resourcing the response:

In Chad, 39,000 people in the south of the country have already received food assistance. WFP is preparing to assist 150,000 people over six months: 50,000 with food and 100,000 with voucher transfers for a total cost of US$16.3 million.

In Cameroon, WFP is providing food assistance to 27,000 recent refugees from CAR and expects numbers to rise to 43,000. The emergency response requires US$ 1.5 million for an initial three-month period.

In DRC, WFP already assists refugees from CAR as well as large numbers of internally displaced people. Critical funding shortfalls have forced WFP to prioritise only the most vulnerable cases. To support the newly arrived refugees WFP needs US$6 million to feed 47,000 people over six months.

In Republic of Congo, US$ 1.7 million is required to provide assistance to some 12,000 refugees over six months.

To download photos click here https://www.yousendit.com/download/elNKOU1aQk5WRDhpR01UQw

For interviews with WFP Country Directors, please contact Frances.Kennedy@wfp.org or Fabienne.Pompey@wfp.org

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WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. On average, WFP reaches more than 90 million people with food assistance in 80 countries each year.

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