SITUATION OVERVIEW

Central African Republic (CAR): The first steps toward peace dialogue in CAR will take place at the upcoming CAR National Reconciliation Forum in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, from 21 to 23 July. The initiative will bring Anti-Balaka and Seleka representatives to the table for talks in an effort to cease hostilities and prepare for national reconciliation discussions to be held in CAR. The Economic Community of Central Africa States, the UN and the African Union will mediate the forum.

Security in CAR remains unpredictable, especially in northern CAR toward the Chad border, on the Sibut-Kagabandoro-Moyen-Sido Axe and in Bambari. Several recent incidents underscore the need for continued vigilance in humanitarian operations.

The population of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) in Bangui, despite fluctuations, continues to gradually decrease. There are currently 105,300 IDPs at some 43 sites in the city (Source: CMP Dashboard, 8 July). In June, the IDP figure was just over 117,300. Overall IDP figures countrywide are now estimated at 535,000.

IOM’s sixth return intention survey of IDPs in Bangui, Central African Republic indicates a continuing gradual decrease in the number of people intending to return home and a continuing struggle to meet daily needs.

CAR Operations

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

IOM published the results from its sixth Return Intention Survey that was carried out from 17 to 19 June. 601 individuals in 31 sites in Bangui were interviewed. Findings from the survey can be found here: http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/IDP-Return-Intention-Survey-in-Bangui-June-2014.pdf.

From 2 to 8 July, IOM carried out a hand washing sensitization campaign at the Central Mosque. 735 people were sensitized and 273 bars of soap were distributed.

IOM site facilitators continue to visit all 12 IDP sites in Boda. During the reporting period, the site facilitators noticed a reduction in the number of IDPs residing in the sites. IDP leaders are now updating the lists of registered IDPs. Many IDPs have left the sites to stay with host families or are renting houses because of the poor conditions in IDP sites. Other IDPs are sleeping in their farms as the farming season is underway and they do not want to commute daily between the sites and the farms for security reasons.

Between 1 and 14 July, IOM site facilitators in Boda identified and registered 17 cases of separated and unaccompanied children for family tracing and referred them to UNICEF. One case of gender-based violence was referred to ALIMA for medical care.

Additionally, IOM in cooperation with the Danish Refugee Council organized a three-day capacity building training to promote social cohesion in the community. Seven field staff and eight IDP leaders participated in the training.
HEALTH

From 30 June to 11 July, IOM’s mobile health clinic in Bangui conducted 814 consultations in eight IDP sites; 234 of the consultations were for malaria cases. In Boda, IOM’s medical team carried out 1,022 consultations in nine locations. Malaria and diarrhoea were the main pathologies identified in the patients. Prenatal consultations were also conducted. In Boda, IOM’s mobile health team is now conducting activities in villages surrounding Boda where IDPs are being hosted. These populations have limited access to health facilities and their health needs are being covered by other humanitarian organizations within Boda.

COMMUNITY STABILISATION

To date, 2,050 individuals have participated in IOM’s Cash-for-Work street cleaning activity in the 3rd and 5th arrondissements. During the reporting period, participants dug and constructed a new drain behind the Central Mosque to prevent flooding, and have been digging out canals along major thoroughfares in the 3rd and 5th arrondissements so runoff water can drain in the rainy season.

Rehabilitation of the mayor’s office in the 3rd arrondissement, one of the community’s identified priority infrastructure projects, is on-going. The building was painted, and a new roof and windows are being installed. Additionally, the conference room will be equipped with chairs, tables, notice boards, white boards and lamps.

Additionally, over 700 Muslim and Christian residents from Bangui’s 3rd arrondissement attended a voluntary clean up day on 4 July. Youths from the local community organization “Collectif Tournons la Page” (We Turn the Page Collective) organized the initiative. IOM provided logistical support through the loan of trucks, wheelbarrows, shovels, and cleaning materials.

CHAD Operations

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

IOM and other humanitarian agencies began site preparations (site cleaning, procurement of materials and construction of rub-halls and shelters) in the newly identified temporary site in Djako (Moundou) in anticipation of the 5,000 Chadian migrants who will arrive from Cameroon (Kentzou and Garoua Boulai) in the coming weeks.

Between 1 and 14 July, IOM registered 350 returnees and 197 CAR-claiming nationals in Chad who fled the violence in CAR. As of 14 July, IOM together with partners have registered a total of 106,342 returnees, CAR-claiming nationals and TCNs, of which 59,998 are residing in transit sites and temporary sites in Sido (18,594), Doyaba (14,325), Danamadja (11,193), Doba (6,175), Gaoui (4,252), Mbitoye (4,065) and Maigama (1,394).

FAMILY TRACING

IOM has identified 11 unaccompanied children (UAC) among the 5,000 Chadian migrants in who will be voluntarily returned from Cameroon. IOM shared information of the UACs with UNICEF, ICRC, UNHCR and the Ministry of Social Action. UNICEF has subcontracted a national agency to take care of the children once they arrive at Djako. Once their relatives are identified, IOM will provide them with onward transportation to their locations of origin in the country.

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEM (NFI) ASSISTANCE

During the reporting period, IOM completed the distribution of emergency shelter kits to vulnerable households in Doba and Sido transit sites. 250 households in Doba and 1,110 households in Sido received emergency shelter kits containing (mosquito nets, plastic sheeting, mats, and cords). Households with more than seven individuals received additional kits.

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

On 15 July, 345 returnees, 466 CAR-claiming nationals and 11 Cameroonians were transported from Doyaba to the temporary site in Maigama.

To date, IOM has transported 1,867 Chadians, CAR-claiming nationals and TCNs from Doyaba and Sido transit sites to Maigama temporary site.

HEALTH ASSISTANCE

In early July, IOM resumed activities in the temporary clinic in
Gaoui temporary site, N'Djamena. The clinic offers primary medical care services including referrals to hospitals for cases that require secondary medical care. During the reporting period, IOM conducted consultations for 201 individuals. The majority of the cases treated included malaria, diarrhoea, intestinal parasites, trauma and conjunctivitis. Seven cases requiring secondary medical care including laboratory analysis and surgery were referred to hospitals in N'Djamena.

There is a need of an ambulance to transfer patients who require secondary medical care from the temporary site to different hospitals in N'Djamena.

On 9 July, IOM received medical supplies from WHO for the temporary clinic in Gaoui temporary site.

CAMEROON Operations

PROTECTION

TCNs continue to come to IOM transit sites in Garoua Boulai and Kentzou, where IOM registers and provides them with basic medical screening, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities and NFIs. During the reporting period, 147 TCNs (40 women, 37 men and 70 children) were registered by IOM in Kentzou. To date, 3,367 migrants (2,003 TCNs and 1,364 returnees) are in Garoua Boulai, of which 700 - 800 are hosted in transit sites and 3,987 migrants (1,037 TCNs and 2,950 returnees), of which 300 are in transit sites in Kentzou. Additionally, around 2,150 TCNs are located in Yokadouma, Mboy, Biti and Libongo.

CAMP MANAGEMENT

IOM is reconstructing and re-modifying the camps set up in Garoua Boulai and Kentzou as both camps were set up very quickly during the emergency. The size, design, positioning of latrines, and showers now require improvements. Shelters for medical screening, for the kitchen and the sitting area as well as recreational areas are being added. In Garoua Boulai, IOM is collaborating with UNICEF and other partners to improve WASH facilities. Currently, IOM has two wells in each transit site and is coordinating with other partners to find a solution to improve water quality.

SHELTER AND NFI ASSISTANCE

On 10 July, IOM distributed blankets, mats, buckets and mosquito nets to 13 households living in the transit site in Kentzou.

HEALTH ASSISTANCE

During the reporting period, IOM conducted medical consultations for 251 individuals in Garoua Boulai, and referred 10 cases to MSF and local hospitals. In Kentzou, IOM conducted consultations for 36 cases. The majority of cases received by the medical team are due to malaria.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO Operations

REGISTRATION

IOM continues with the registration of TCNs in Bétou who fled the violence in CAR. Since 15 June 2014, IOM has registered 297 households (991 individuals) from Chad (913 individuals), Nigeria (41), Cameroon (27), Mali (6), Gabon (2), Sudan (1) and Senegal (1) living in host communities. The purpose of the registration is to assess the TCNs’ needs, their intentions to return to their countries of origin, as well as to identify undocumented migrants in order to facilitate their documentation with local embassies.

In addition to registering the TCNs, IOM medical staff are treating health cases and referring critical cases to local hospitals. Between 30 June and 13 July, 290 cases were identified and treated by IOM's medical staff. Majority of ailments that were treated were malaria, respiratory infections, sexually transmitted infections and gastroenteritis.

IOM is procuring NFIs and shelter kits that will be distributed to TCN households in Bétou. The NFI kits will contain buckets, solar lamps, blankets, plastic storage bags, mats, mosquito nets, hygiene kits and kitchen kits (coal, oven and match sticks). Drills, nails, rope, tarpaulins, and scissors will be included in the shelter kits. IOM is coordinating the NFI assistance with UNHCR in order to target gaps in the response and avoid duplication of activities.