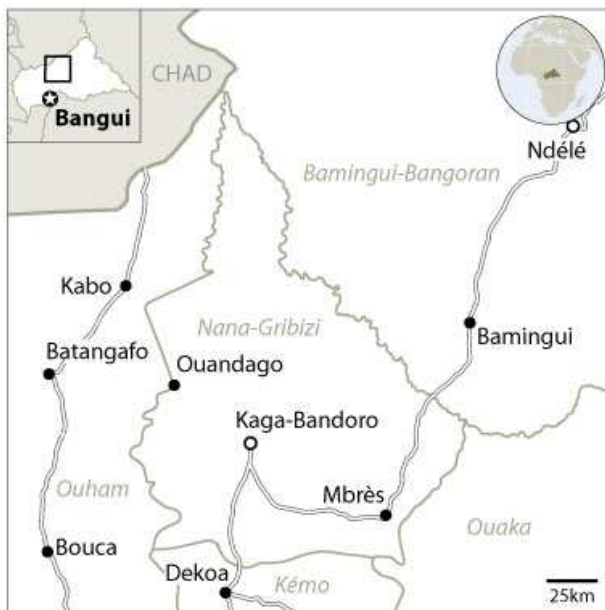


## HIGHLIGHTS

- FDPC and FPR fighting between Kobo and Batangafo
- 115 new Congolese refugees in Obo (south-east)
- BINUCA mandate extended through 2012

## Background and security

### FDPC and FPR fighting between Kobo and Batangafo



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Fighting between the Front Populaire pour le Redressement (FPR) and the Front Démocratique du Peuple Centrafricain (FDPC) took place on the 26 December on the Kobo-Batangafo (north-central) road, near Vafio village. Two FPR were killed and two injured.

Due to possible retaliation from the two rebel groups, the United Nations Office of the Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) in the CAR maintains its recommendation to suspend all UN movement on the road until further notice. Heightened tensions in the region started in mid-December when 10 members of the FDPC set up road blocks in the area, stealing belongings and beating travellers.

## Humanitarian / Development activities

### 115 new Congolese refugees in Obo (south-east)

On 21 December, nearly 80 people from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) fled post-election violence to seek refuge in Obo, south-eastern CAR.

On 29 December, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) announced that the number of

the refugees in Obo has reached 115. UNHCR and the National Committee for Refugees (CNR) based in Zemio are working in collaboration with the local authorities, the Support Centre for International Health (CSSI) and Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) to assist the refugees.

This assistance is provided on the former refugee site of Obo. UNHCR has installed 30 family tents for the newcomers and has built latrines and traditional wells. UNHCR has also distributed kits for construction to enable refugees to improve shelters and non-food items such as clothing articles. CSSI provides the medical screening on these new refugees, while the CNR and local authorities are endeavoring to registration. Food distribution is provided by COOPI.

Contact Djerassem Mbaïorem: [mbaïorem@unhcr.org](mailto:mbaïorem@unhcr.org) for more information.

### BINUCA mandate extended through 2012

On 21 December, the United Nations Security Council extended the mandate (resolution 2031 (2011)) of the United Nations Integrated Office for Peace building in the CAR (BINUCA) until 31 January 2013.

Under this resolution, the Security Council urges the Government of CAR to continue its consultations with opposition groups in a consensual and inclusive way, including electoral reform. In addition, the Government of CAR is requested to ensure respect for freedom of expression and assembly, including for opposition groups, and rule of law, which are essential to democracy. In order to achieve this, the Security Council urged the opposition groups and the Government to open a constructive dialogue, creating an environment with equal opportunities before the next election cycle. The Council noted its concern over the deteriorating security situation in many regions of the CAR, and requests that the Government and all armed groups continue to support national reconciliation in agreement with the Inclusive Political Dialogue recommendations of 2008.

Finally, the Council urges the Government of CAR, the Peace Building Commission and its national and international partners to honor their commitments under the Peace Building Commission Strategic Framework.

The resolution is available on the following link: [http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc\\_resolutions11.htm](http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions11.htm)

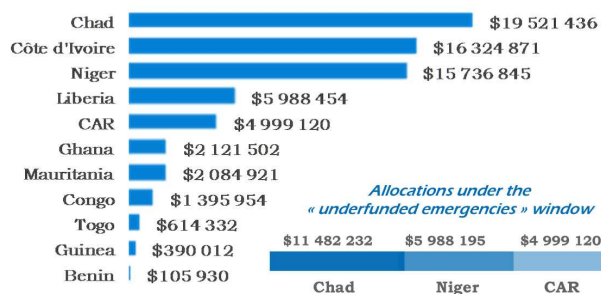
### The CERF allocates US\$ 6 million to the CAR

The Central African Republic has been selected to receive up to US\$6 million from the underfunded emergencies window of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

The country was selected due to the poor level of funding received for humanitarian needs outlined in the 2011 Consolidated Appeal (CAP), only 45% funded at the end

of the year. The funding will support the highest priority life-saving projects within the 2012 CAP.

CERF funding to countries in central and West Africa (as of Dec 2011)



See full document on OCHA ROWCA website (<http://ochaonline.un.org/westafrica>).

Contact Abdoulaye Sawadogo: [sawadogo@un.org](mailto:sawadogo@un.org) or Severin Yangou: [yangou@un.org](mailto:yangou@un.org) for more information on CERF financing to the CAR and the CERF website (<http://cerf.un.org/>) for more general information on the CERF.

## Coordination

### Departure of the Humanitarian Coordinator

After two years in the CAR, as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative, Bo Schack, has completed his mission in the CAR to pursue his career at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.



United Nations Day, Bo Schack on the left. Photo: G.W-Maïdou

Native of Denmark, Bo Schack said that he has been inspired over the past two years by the will of ordinary people, workers in the field of agriculture and other areas, who face daily challenges for themselves to feed their families, without ever losing the smile nor the will to get out of struggle. In an interview in Bangui in

December 2011 he voiced concerns over CAR's funding situation.

*"I am concerned that the funds allocated to development and humanitarian assistance is significantly down. It is unfortunate that the CAR is seen as an orphan who badly suffers from lack of attention ... Humanitarian programs implemented in the CAR are rarely extreme emergency programs, they often respond to chronicles situations. However, humanitarian NGOs involved in the field are working with a very short term financing. This causes enormous problems because there is no development organization that could take over their work."*

### New UN Joint-communication strategy

The United Nations Communication Group (COMSNU) in the CAR, with the support of an international consultant has finalized its joint-communication strategy.

This strategy aims to increase the level of knowledge and awareness of the commitment of the United Nations system in the CAR developed around the action plan of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2012-2016, support advocacy around the priority themes of the UNDAF and better reflect the results collectively and jointly.

These objectives of this joint-communication strategy are to:

- strengthen institutional coordination mechanisms supporting information sharing and the implementation of a joint UN System in the CAR;
- reaffirm and share the position of the UN System as a united and diverse team working alongside the CAR in achieving national development priorities;
- and promote the activities of the UN System and the results achieved in the UNDAF+ framework through strengthening membership, ownership and participation of partners and beneficiaries.

Communication strategies specific to various components of the COMSNU Action Plan will be developed, particularly for social communication of behaviour awareness.

Contact Frank Bitemo: [franck.bitemo@undp.org](mailto:franck.bitemo@undp.org) for more information. The UNDAF+ is available on <http://hdptcar.net>

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