

## **UN IN ACTION**

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### RESTORING PEACE IN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

<u>VIDEO</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

**MUSIC** 

SHOT OF EX-COMBATANTS
CONSTRUCTING A ROAD

#### NARRATION:

In Bouar, a town in war-torn western Central African Republic, hundreds of ex-combatants are helping to rebuild their country. (11)

These former fighters are part of an approach to advance peace and stability supported by United Nations peacekeepers. (8)

FOOTAGE OF DISARMAMENT PROCESS

After voluntarily handing over their weapons, they are paid to denounce violence and work side-by-side on urgently needed community projects, such as cleanups or in this case, road building. (13)

This project, focusing on disarmament,
demobilization and reintegration, is managed by
the UN peacekeeping operation called
MINUSCA, Multidimensional Integrated
Stabilized Mission in the Central African

Republic. (15)

Established in 2014, it currently deploys 12,000 military and police across the country. (7)

MILAINE ON-CAMERA EX-COMBATANT

MILAINE NAKIKO: (In Sango) F

"I am an ex-combatant from Bouar. I have returned my arms and MINUSCA hired me. We construct a road together for our country." (11)

### NARRATION:

ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE OF CAR

For decades, the Central African Republic has been plagued by instability and fighting. (6)

In 2013, the country plunged into turmoil when a conflict erupted between the mainly Muslim Séléka rebels and the predominantly Christian anti-Balaka movement. (11)

Months of violence left thousands dead, a country on the brink of genocide, and 2.7 million- more than half the entire population- in need of humanitarian aid. (12)

Close to 450,000 people became internally displaced and some 400,000 people fled to neighbouring countries. (8)

FOOTAGE OF FORMER CHILD SOLDIERS

Encouraging sustainable disarmament and reintegration, particularly of children, is one of the important roles of the mission. It is estimated that between 6,000 and 10,000 children were part of armed militias. They played various roles including fighting. (17)

ANATOL ON-CAMERA
CHIEF OF DDR, MINUSCA

ANATOL CLEMENT BANNEM: (In French) M "The goal is to have young combatants to give up their arms. Not only to give them up but also to adopt a civilian attitude. An attitude that will allow them to make a living differently than by using arms." (16)

#### **NARRATION**:

FOOTAGE OF EX-COMBATANTS IN TRAINING AT THE YOUTH CENTRE

The Central African Government, in partnership with MINUSCA and the United Nations
Population Fund, has initiated vocational training in this National Youth Pioneer Centre in Bouar, for ex-combatants. (12)

The training is given for three months in 5 different areas – mechanics, masonry, carpentry, motorbike mechanics, and agriculture. (9)

JOSIAS ON-CAMERA EX-COMBATANT JOSIAS HENRY NAMFEI: (In French) M
"I acquired a lot of skills in this training. I
learned to build a bed, a sofa, and a couch."
(14)

# SHOTS OF AWARENESS-RAISING DISCUSSION

#### <u>NARRATION</u>

Raising awareness about renouncing violence and co-existing peacefully is also an important part of this programme. (7)

As he does every Saturday, this ex-combatant is spreading the word to beneficiaries about the need to live in harmony and work in unity for a common goal. (9)

## SHOTS OF PEOPLE RECEIVING CASH

Saturday is also the day when the beneficiaries are paid for their week's work on community projects. (5)

They receive 2,500 CFA franc per day — about 4 US Dollars. This cash helps them feed their families as well as create businesses in the community and invigorate the local economy. (13)

## SHOTS OF PEOPLE ON THE STREETS IN CAR

The impact of the effort is promising. It restores trust between ex-combatants and community members and improves security. It will help bring peace and hope back to the country, wounded by a conflict that has lasted so many years. (18)

#### **UN LOGO**

This report was produced by MINUSCA and Hisae Kawamori for the United Nations.

#### **Music**

Council of Elders by John Keltonic from Franklin-Douglas, Inc (ASCAP)  $\,$ 

00:13-01:13(00:59) 04:03-04:25(00:21)

Master Caution by Marco Martini from Artlist 01:24 - 02:14 (00:50)