

**United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security**

Central African Republic

United Nations Pilot Project for Social Cohesion, Conflict Prevention, Violence Reduction and Human Security in Support to Youth of the Central Africa Republic

Background information

Plagued by decades of instability and fighting, the Central African Republic (CAR) witnessed a resumption of violence in December 2012 when the mainly Muslim Séléka rebel coalition launched a series of attacks. In March 2013, they seized the capital, Bangui, forcing President François Bozizé to flee. A transitional government was established and entrusted with restoring peace. The conflict however took on increasingly sectarian overtones by December as the mainly Christian anti-Balaka movement took up arms and inter-communal clashes erupted again in and around Bangui. Months of violence disrupted state institutions, leaving millions on the brink of starvation, and threatening the stability of the wider region.

Goals and objectives

The programme goal is to contribute to the consolidation of peace and social stability, provide sustainable livelihoods to particularly vulnerable populations and enhance the overall level of human security in selected communities of CAR. Working in five communities, the programme aims to enhance (i) employment and livelihood creation; (ii) community empowerment and the promotion of peaceful coexistence; (iii) awareness-raising and capacity building to prevent SGBV; (iv) access to basic social services such as water and sanitation, and health and social support systems.



DURATION

March 2017 – February 2019



UN IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

UNDP, IOM, FAO, UN WOMEN, UNFPA, UNICEF



OTHER KEY PARTNERS

OXFAM, LEVIER PLUS, ECHELLEk, Plan International, Orange Money, SOFIA CREDIT, local and national NGOs, Ministry of Promotion of Woman, Family and Protection of Children, Coalition of Women for Peace and Reconstruction in the Central African Republic, and the Central African Agency for Agricultural Development



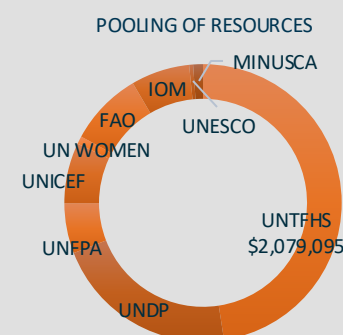
BENEFICIARIES

4,250 men and women directly and over 30,000 indirectly



TOTAL BUDGET

US\$ 4,312,896



Beneficiaries

The programme directly benefits 4,250 men and women through enhanced livelihood opportunities and income-generating activities and indirectly benefits more than 30,000 people through awareness-raising activities and the improvements in basic social service delivery in the regions of Bambari, Bossangoa, Kaga Bandoro, and Bangui.

Applying the Human Security approach

Recovering from conflict required addressing both the immediate needs of communities and the underlying drivers of conflict to ensure a sustainable development trajectory. The programme brought together a coordinated set of initiatives that responded to the short-term needs of different communities within the CAR while creating a foundation for reconciliation and the resumption of economic and social life. For instance, the programme took a comprehensive approach to consolidating peace and social stability, integrating activities to increase access to food and sustainable livelihoods, social services, the redeployment of security forces, intergroup dialogue, and more inclusive local planning processes.

Recognizing the need to heal the societal rifts caused by conflict, the programme focused on highly participatory processes that created multiple opportunities for diverse stakeholders to engage. The communities themselves played a central role in promoting local ownership and responsibility. Local development committees supported the engagement and empowerment of local leaders and community members, particularly those in vulnerable situations. This social infrastructure helped address issues such as sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and youth disenfranchisement.

To ensure a lasting impact, local authorities, especially police forces, were included in the programme to encourage greater interaction with communities and to build their capacity to address the safety and security needs of the population, particularly women and girls. This approach laid the groundwork for the jobs and skills programmes proposed by the government as part of the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan.

Achievements

- The programme made a significant impact by providing vulnerable communities with essential support for income generation and livelihood enhancement. It offered business management and small accounting training to 4,360 individuals, empowering them with critical skills. Additionally, 1,000 households received agricultural kits, resulting in the production of 300 tons of vegetables and substantial income. The programme also facilitated the cultivation of 500 tons of food crops, benefiting another 1,000 households.
- The programme further strengthened community engagement and capacity-building in peacebuilding and conflict resolution. Over 10,000 community members, including youth, women, and religious and traditional leaders, were trained in conflict resolution and addressing sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), enhancing their ability to promote peace and lead within their communities. Two Local Peace and Reconciliation Committees were revitalized and provided with conflict mediation training.
- To combat SGBV, the programme provided medical and psychosocial support to 1,822 victims and distributed dignity kits to 12,329 people, including women affected by conflict, supporting their physical and emotional well-being. In addition, the programme contributed to the development of a National Strategy and Action Plan to combat SGBV, creating a robust framework for a comprehensive response at both local and national levels.
- The programme also improved community infrastructure and access to basic services by rehabilitating water points, constructing latrines at health centers, and upgrading sanitation facilities in schools, benefiting over 16,000 community members. It supported HIV/AIDS prevention by providing testing and treatment services to 4,000 individuals and trained peer educators to promote sexual and reproductive health. Additionally, the programme worked to combat maternal mortality by deploying emergency health kits and reducing neonatal deaths.



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