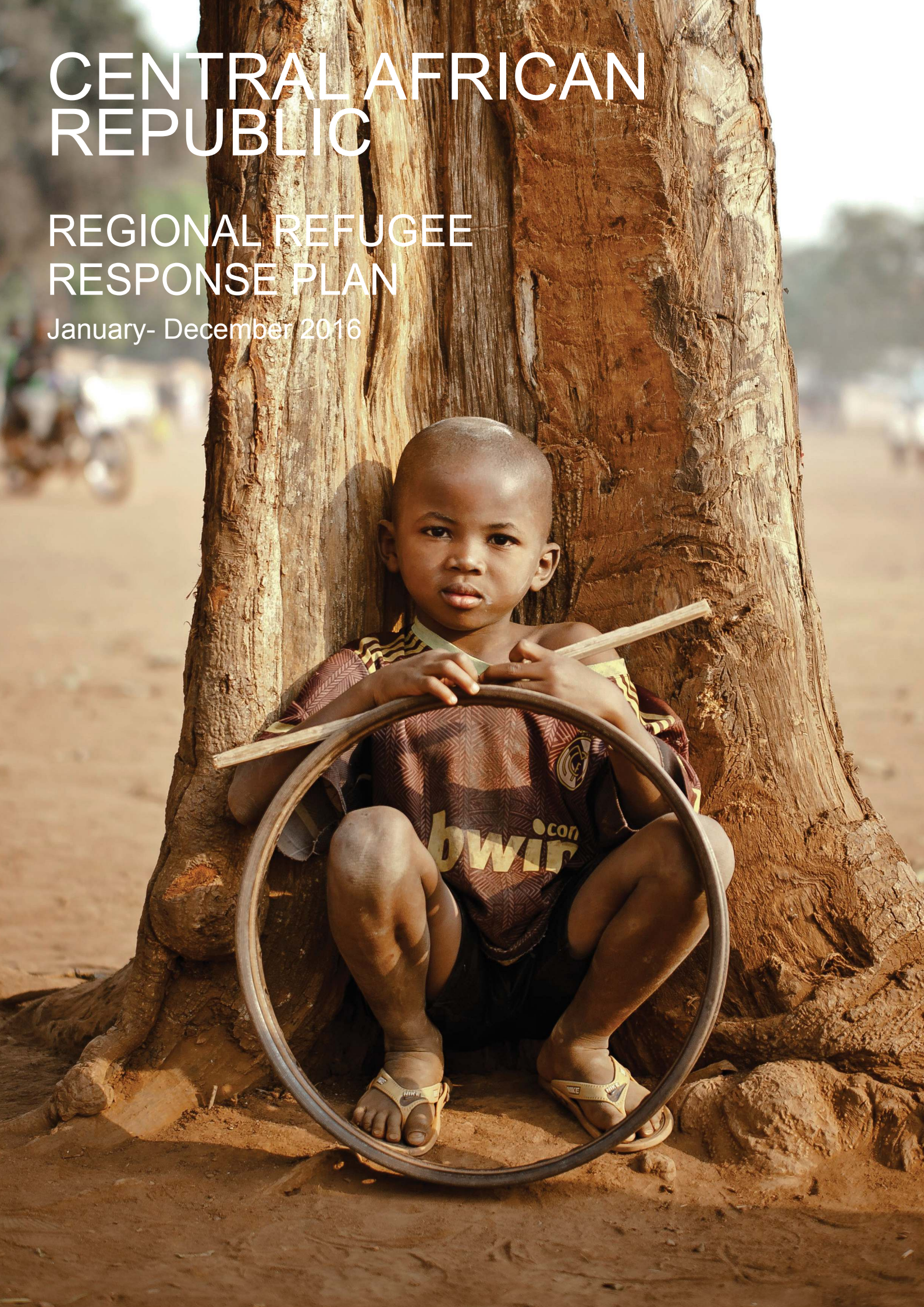


CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

January- December 2016



Credits

UNHCR wishes to acknowledge the contributions of partners and all staff in the field and at Headquarters who have participated in the preparation of the narrative, financial and graphic components of this document.

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All statistics are provisional and subject to change.

For more information on the Central African Republic crisis go to: [Central African Republic Information Sharing Portal](#)

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FOREWORD BY

THE REGIONAL REFUGEE COORDINATOR



The Central African Republic (CAR) crisis is one of the most forgotten humanitarian crisis in the world. For the past decade, tens of thousands of CAR refugees hosted in Chad, Cameroon, the Republic of the Congo and in the DRC have not received the required attention. While funds reached other, more prominent refugee crisis in the region, CAR refugees and citizens witnessed continuous civil war, religious and ethnic cleansing especially in December 2013, when the most abhorrent violence unfolded in the country. To date, there are over 447,000 CAR nationals internally displaced within their own country, including over 58,000 in the capital Bangui. Meanwhile, Cameroon, Chad, the Congo and the DRC host 456,866 CAR refugees, putting a heavy burden on the villages and host communities that generously share their meager resources with them. Presidential Elections in CAR were postponed three times in 2015, leaving little hope for a quick return of peace and stability in the CAR that would enable displaced populations to return home and join their compatriots to rebuild their lives. The humanitarian community stands

ready to provide protection and life-saving assistance to CAR refugees also in 2016.

In 2015, thanks to the support by donors, even though only 25 per cent of funds were received, 18 RRRP partners were able to assist over 440,000 CAR refugees and host communities in the four countries of asylum. The total request for 2015 was US\$ 331,193,888, of which US\$ 83,657,477 were received.

The CAR 2016 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) advocates for the needs of over 476,000 Central African refugees and over 289,000 persons in host communities, in Cameroon, Chad, the Congo and the DRC.

While there were certainly achievements made in 2015, which are all listed in this RRRP, refugees and IDPs could have received much more, had we received the necessary funding. Nevertheless RRRP partners and host governments gave their utmost to prioritize the needs and cope with a continuous influx of CAR refugees in 2015. I am pleased to see that next year we will have more humanitarian actors joining us in the refugee response and I look forward to generous contributions from donors.

The CAR 2016 RRRP outlines prioritized needs, the planned response strategies of all sectors and the funding needs of 25 participating partners.

We urge you to enable us to continue providing protection and life-saving assistance for all the affected people.

Thank you!

Liz Kpam Ahua

Regional Refugee Coordinator and Regional Representative
UNHCR

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STRATEGIC OVERVIEW



TARGET POPULATION

476,346

Refugees

289,051

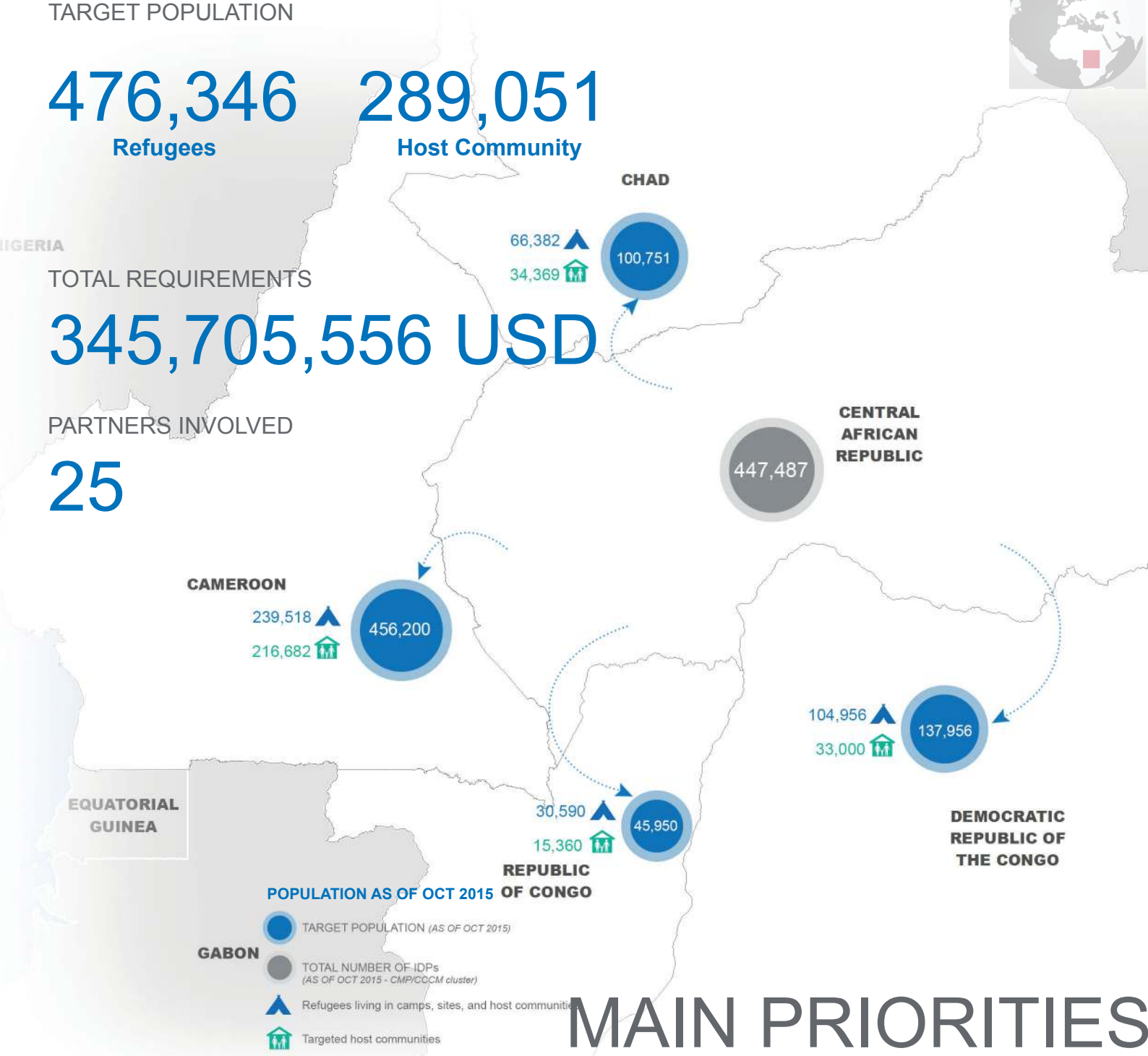
Host Community

TOTAL REQUIREMENTS

345,705,556 USD

PARTNERS INVOLVED

25



POPULATION AS OF OCT 2015

TARGET POPULATION (AS OF OCT 2015)

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPs (AS OF OCT 2015 - CMP/CCCM cluster)

Refugees living in camps, sites, and host communities

Targeted host communities

MAIN PRIORITIES

1

Ensure access to asylum in particular access to the territories and asylum procedures of the concerned countries, to prevent refoulement of refugees. Ensure provision of protection.

2

Provide humanitarian assistance and promote transition to long-term solutions, including by increasing access to basic services (education, food assistance health and nutrition, shelter, WASH).

3

Encourage self-reliance, resilience and environment protection as a core element of the refugee response to gradually move refugees away from dependency on humanitarian aid.

REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Introduction

06

Insecurity, violence and widespread human rights violations by armed elements against the population in the Central African Republic (CAR), including torture, sexual violence, extrajudicial executions and enforced disappearance, generated new refugee influx into Chad, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Republic of the Congo in 2015. CAR refugees were already being hosted by all countries prior to the restart of internal conflict in the CAR in December 2013. As of October 2015, some 441,446 refugees from the CAR are hosted in Cameroon, Chad, the Congo and the DRC. Many refugees settled in host towns and villages, while others were relocated to refugee camps.

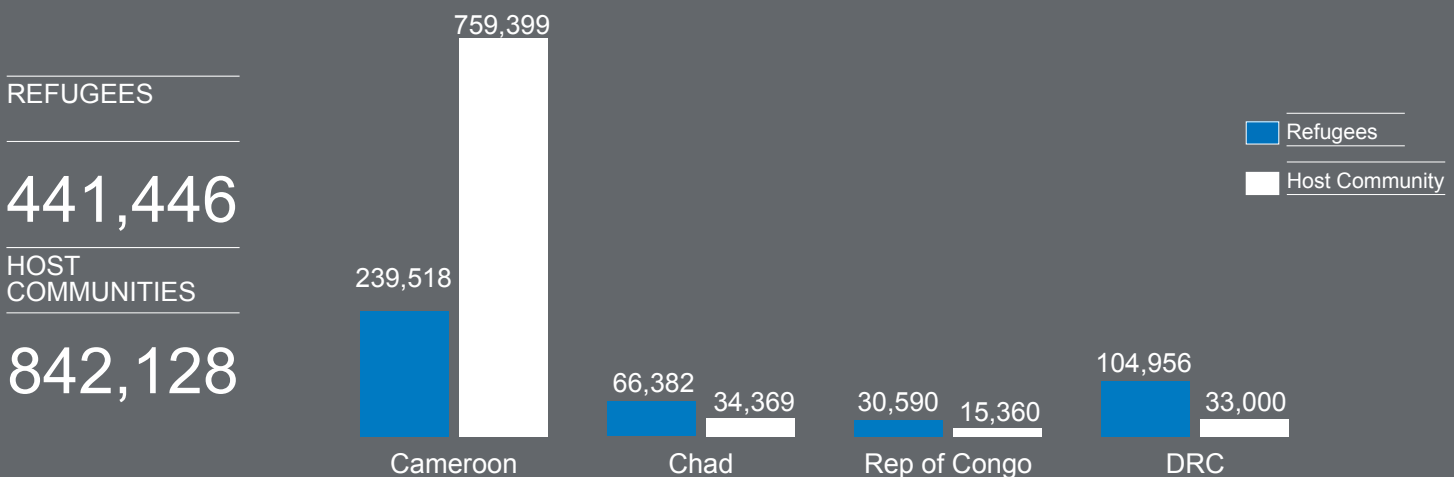
Until today, the security in the CAR has not been fully restored after the latest violent clashes that erupted in September 2015, when the killing of a Muslim man led to tensions and the injury and death of several civilians. These latest events resulted in the third postponement of the planned national referendum and presidential and legislative elections to December 2015. This indicates that it will take some time for the situation in the CAR to stabilize and to become conducive for the return of refugees. Given the critical importance of the participation of refugees in the upcoming elections, which are key for the reconciliation process and a

peaceful transition in the CAR, the enrollment of eligible voters for the next CAR elections has been facilitated in Chad, in Cameroon and in the Congo.

The 2016 CAR Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) aims to outline the strategy for providing protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees and impacted host communities. It also seeks to promote the transition from emergency assistance to more durable solutions by providing a common ground to advocate for support of national development plans and the stronger involvement of development actors in the region. The RRRP is envisioned as a regional partnership strategy and coordinated refugee response plan of UN agencies and NGO partners, and serves as a joint platform for advocacy and fundraising for all actors involved.

The CAR 2016 RRRP contains country chapters for Cameroon, Chad, the Congo and the DRC with detailed information on achievements made and challenges faced in 2015. It presents harmonised planning figures on refugees and members of impacted host communities in all four countries and outlines their needs. Moreover, the country chapters include coordinated and jointly developed detailed sector plans and respective financial requirements of each partner for the inter-agency response. They further explain the coordination structures in each country based on UNHCR's Refugee Coordination Model (RCM).

POPULATION IN NEED as of 31 October 2015



2015 Achievements

The collective regional achievements for the inter-agency CAR refugee response until October 2015 include:

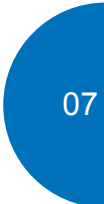
Supported Protection - Access to asylum and the respect of the non-refoulement principle has been improved. Border monitoring, training and awareness raising campaigns on international protection for border officials and security forces as well as the establishment of cross border coordination mechanism, for example between the CAR and Chad, contributed to such improvement. The civilian character of asylum and refugee camps has been preserved in all refugee camps, due to inter alia the deployment and training of police officers and community mobilization.

One of the main protection achievements in all affected countries in 2015 was the relocation of refugees from border areas to camps and their continuous registration and documentation, which ensured updated individual data on refugees. Biometric registration was either introduced or will be introduced in 2016, together with the implementation of the biometric identity management system. Registration as well as protection monitoring contributed to the identification of people with specific needs (PWSN). In Cameroon, for example, some 35,000 PWSN have been identified. These PWSN, which include children-at-risk and sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) survivors, as well as persons who were subjected to human rights violations, were referred to medical care, psycho-social services and legal aid to ensure a multi-sectoral assistance. SGBV prevention included awareness-raising campaigns and training for community groups, including on SGBV and women leadership. As for child protection, children-at-risk such as unaccompanied and

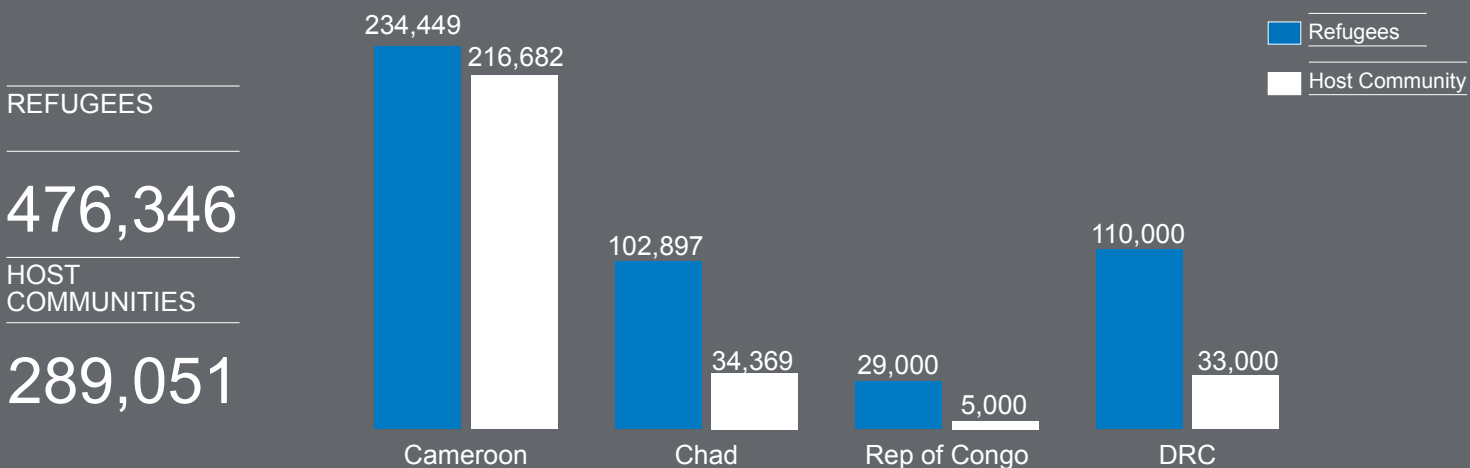
separated children were identified and registered, best interest determinations (BIDs) were conducted, and tracing services were launched, while some children were placed under the care of host families. For example in the Congo, 80 BIDs have been conducted, while in Cameroon about 3,456 children-at-risk have been identified and 987 children were referred to appropriate services. Moreover, children benefitted from three child-friendly spaces with the support of 36 community volunteers.

Regarding durable solutions, partners supported local integration of refugees, including with livelihood projects, assisted spontaneous returns and resettled refugees to third countries, if necessary. It is interesting to note that a physical verification exercise for refugees in four refugee camps in Chad confirmed that more than 10,000 refugees returned spontaneously to the CAR. Tripartite agreements were signed between UNHCR and the Governments of the CAR and Chad, as well as between UNHCR and the Governments of the CAR and Cameroon, on facilitating the participation of refugees in the forthcoming elections, after which UNHCR facilitated the enrolment of CAR refugees in voting lists. It is hoped that fair elections in the CAR will encourage refugees to voluntarily repatriate. Resettlement has been strengthened in Chad by roving teams, interviewing and submitting up to 140 refugees from different camps for resettlement.

Provided Humanitarian Assistance – Partners continued to provide humanitarian assistance to CAR refugees in all affected countries, which included distributions of food and non-food items (NFIs) and shelters. The targeted approach to food distribution has been adapted in Chad, whereby refugees receive food baskets based on their vulnerability. Based on a Wealth Ranking Assessment, four main socio-economic categories have



TARGETED POPULATION



been determined, which define such vulnerability. In some countries, cash-based initiatives (CBIs) such as cash grants or cash voucher distributions have been introduced. According to findings of post distribution monitoring in the DRC, the implementation of CBIs for up to 40,000 refugees in certain areas of the DRC reduced the percentage of refugees with poor food consumption from an estimated 22 per cent to 2 per cent within six months. Upon arrival refugees received emergency shelters before semi-permanent shelters were constructed, especially for PWSN. Moreover, shelter construction toolkits have been distributed to refugee communities, for example in Chad. Partners also constructed or rehabilitated community hangars and road infrastructure around refugee sites.

Increased access to basic services – Health and nutrition services, water and sanitation infrastructures and education for refugees and impacted communities have been improved in 2015. This improvement has been achieved by the construction of hospitals and health centres and their equipment with material, furniture, medicines, disinfectant and water and sanitation material. For instance, partners constructed or rehabilitated, and equipped three hospitals in the DRC and 20 health centres in Cameroon. Pregnant women benefited from antenatal care services, while up to 90 per cent of births were attended by

qualified personnel. Access to HIV/AIDS services and antiretroviral treatment (ARV) has been sustained. Immunization was carried out to prevent diseases. Nutrition programmes to prevent and address global and severe acute malnutrition were established or maintained and humanitarian health staff was trained on nutrition. This intervention resulted, for example, in a decrease of malnutrition in Cameroon from just beyond 30 per cent to between four and 15 per cent. Moreover, mortality rates among refugees decreased. For example, the gross mortality rate in Chad is now at 0.3/1000 and the under-five mortality rate is 1.1/1000.

Partners constructed and rehabilitated water and sanitation infrastructures, supported solid waste management and conducted hygiene awareness-raising sessions for refugees and impacted communities. As a result, the average amount of drinkable water available water in refugee camps in the affected countries increased to 19,5 litres per person per day in Cameroon, which is close to the standard of 20. The water infrastructures have been well maintained by trained members of water point management committees.

Support for education ensured the enrollment of children in primary and secondary education and the enrollment of a few refugees in universities as well as the participation in adult literacy education.



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