

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



CAR is one of the world's poorest countries. Since 2017, forced displacement and humanitarian needs have increased due to violence between armed groups. Food, health, shelter, water, and sanitation are especially critical needs.

Country Context

In 2013, violence in CAR intensified after rebel groups seized power, compounding existing poverty and a lack of social services—leading to a large-scale humanitarian crisis. 1.8 million people in the country are food insecure. CAR is one of the worst places in the world to be a woman, with high rates of sexual violence, maternal mortality, teenage births, and other development indicators.

With international and regional support, the government of CAR and 14 armed groups initiated a peace accord in February 2019. Should the peace accord lead to reductions in violent conflict, humanitarian and development actors believe they will have an improved ability to respond to urgent humanitarian needs and begin sustainable, longer-term development programs. However, progress toward peace remains fragile and conflict persists, as demonstrated by seven prior failed peace agreements.

Key Figures



2.6 million

in need of humanitarian assistance



Nearly 600,000

refugees from CAR reside in surrounding host countries



67%

of the population depends on foreign aid to survive



Over 70%

of the population has no access to safe drinking water



\$387.8 million

in funding requested for humanitarian response in 2019

How is the U.S. Involved?

The United States is the largest single donor supporting humanitarian response within CAR and responding to the needs of refugees in surrounding host countries.

On-the-Ground Perspective

- CAR is one of the most dangerous countries for humanitarian operations. Looting and violence against aid workers are frequent in several parts of the country, with three workers killed in 2019.

Responses and Actions

- With USAID/Food for Peace (FFP) support, UNICEF treated more than 13,000 children ages five years and younger experiencing severe acute malnutrition from January to July 2019. In FY 2019, FFP contributed \$33.6 million to the World Food Program to provide emergency food assistance to crisis-affected Central Africans.

References available at [interaction.org/2020globalsituationreport](https://www.interaction.org/2020globalsituationreport).

