

Rapid Response Mechanism: Central African Republic

Annual factsheet

01 January - 31 December 2023

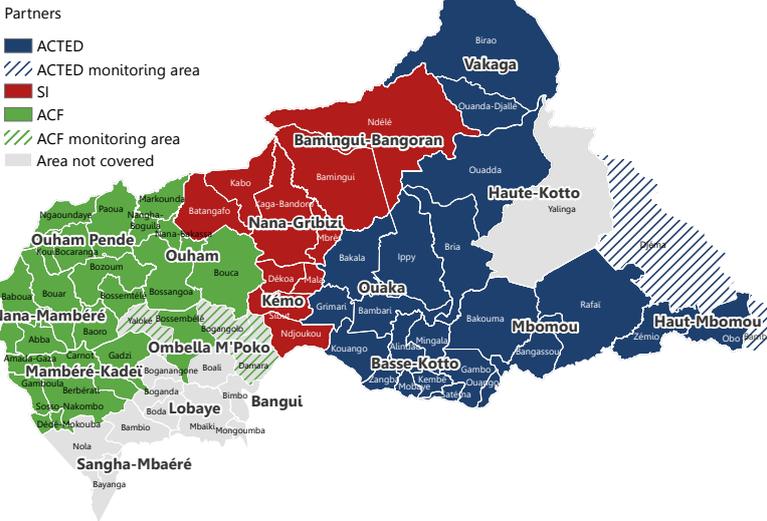


The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) has three inter-linked pillars to 1) ensure humanitarian monitoring and alerts system, 2) multi-sectoral assessments, and 3) interventions in emergency WASH and NFI, as well as cash transfers (CT). The interventions packages are adapted to the needs of the affected people, as determined by the assessments. Currently, the RRM is funded by USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG-ECHO), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). All RRM products are available on the [portal](#).

2023 Coverage

The RRM was established in 2013 and it is implemented by five partners with complementary roles, functions, geographic coverage and capacities: UNICEF, Action Against Hunger (ACF), ACTED, Solidarités International (SI) and Impact Initiative/REACH. In 2023, the RRM covered fourteen of the sixteen prefectures of Central African Republic and performed a continuous monitoring in the so-called "RRM-uncovered areas", which nevertheless remain humanitarian monitoring areas with the use of the key informant's approach. Thus, the RRM manages to keep a country-wide overview on shocks, with an efficient and adaptable capacity to potentially intervene in all regions of CAR, for the alerts falling under its mandate. The RRM weekly coordination meetings are attended by relevant Cluster and emergency partners, which helps timely decisions making and information sharing on alters and interventions. It is also well-integrated into the Humanitarian Architecture in CAR, which is increasingly strengthening synergies on humanitarian monitoring and complementary on emergency interventions.

In 2023, the RRM recorded 125 alerts¹, which affected 58,532 households (287,413 individuals), of which 250,099 benefitted from the RRM. 81 of these alerts were caused by violence, 26 by natural disasters, 15 by population movements/returnees, and 3 by other causes. These shocks affected 13 of the country's 16 prefectures: the prefectures of Ouham (31%), Ouaka (18%), Bamingui-Bangoran (10%) and Ouham-Pendé (8%) recorded the most shocks over this period.



Mandate

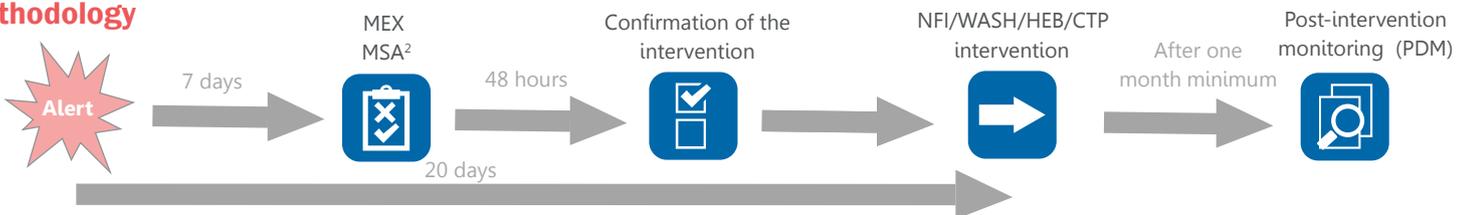
The RRM is designed to provide rapid humanitarian assistance following both conflict-related shocks and natural hazards which resulted in population displacement, as well as following shocks after the return of formerly displaced people.

The RRM remains very relevant and necessary to a population suffering from multiple shocks, in a country at high risk of humanitarian crisis and with insufficient institutional capacity. The RRM intervenes in coordination with the humanitarian community and provides NFI, WASH, and/or CTP assistance prioritising vulnerable populations and areas with limited response capacity. The RRM aims to start the intervention within 20 days following the confirmation of the alert. Three key pillars are defined in its mandate:

- Maintain and strengthen the humanitarian alerts system and needs assessments ;
- Provide first line response through essential household items and access to basic water, sanitation and hygiene services ;
- Coordinate and advocate to enhance synergies and complementarities with sectors not covered by the RRM.

In 2023, complementary interventions in sectors not covered by the RRM represented 76% cumulatively, of which 58% in Food Security, 21% in WASH, 14% in protection, 11% in Health, 6% in CCCM, shelter, NFI, 5% in logistics, 2% in child protection and 3% in education.

Methodology



The RRM intervenes to support in case of a shock:

- Displaced populations (at least 100 households) whose movement occurred within the last 3 months and/or who have only been reachable by humanitarian actors for less than three months.
- Returnees³ or spontaneously repatriated⁴ populations (at least 100 households) whose return occurred within the last 3 months and/or who have only been reachable by humanitarian actors for less than three months.
- Host communities⁵ (at least 100 households).

¹An alert is a document that informs the humanitarian community on a shock caused either by violence or a natural disaster for example, leading to a displacement of population. ²MEX and MSA are both pre-intervention evaluations of the needs after an alert is shared with the humanitarian community. A MEX is an exploratory mission, while an MSA is a complete needs assessment. ³The term 'returnees' refers to people who have come back to their pre-crisis location following a period of internal displacement. ⁴The term 'repatriated' refers to former refugees who have returned from neighbouring countries. ⁵The term 'host community' refers to individuals that have not been displaced as the result of a humanitarian-related event.

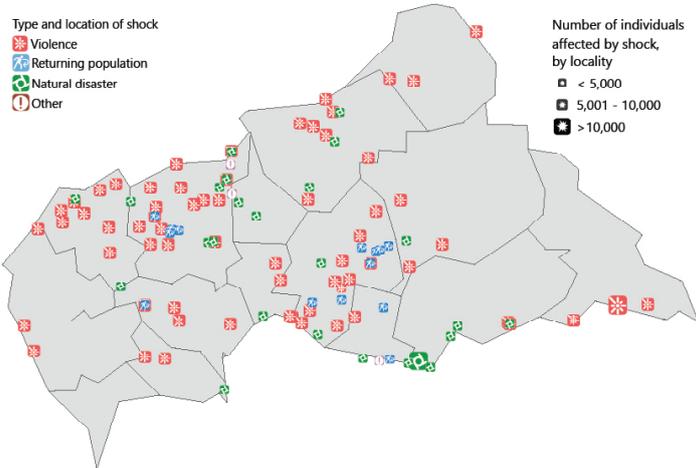


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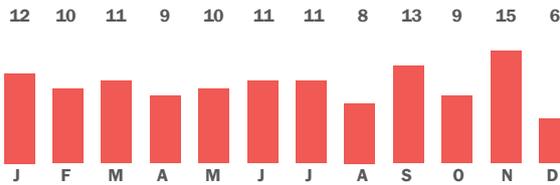


Alerts received or sent by the RRM in 2023

Alert distribution in 2023:



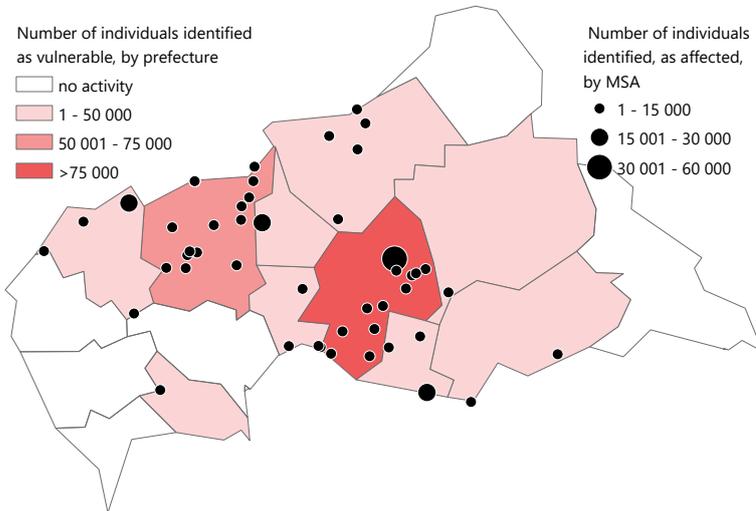
Alerts received or sent monthly in 2023:



125
alerts in 2023

Results of MSAs in 2023

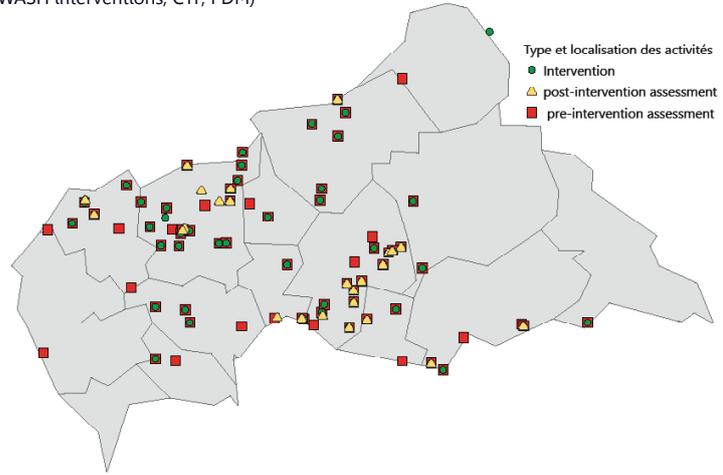
Affected individuals identified in 2023:



Overview of RRM activities in 2023

Activity distribution in 2023:

(MEX, MSAs, SMART⁶, NFI and HEB distributions, WASH interventions, CTP, PDM)



MEX:



MSA:



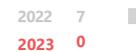
NFI distributions:



WASH interventions:



HEB distributions:



CTP interventions:



Affected individuals identified in 2023, by status:

287 413⁷
affected individuals

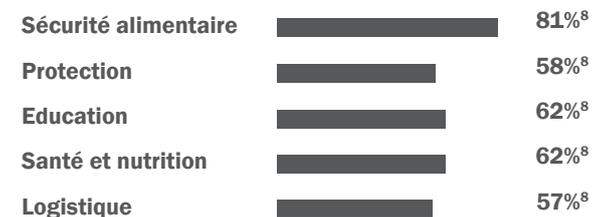
(58 532 ménages)

Displaced persons	45%
Host community	37%
Returns	15%
Rapatriates	3%



Recommended interventions, by sector:

Following MSAs, recommendations for each sector are provided by the RRM based on the key indicators collected. In 2023, the RRM provided assistance in 86% of the cases in which a MSA recommended a NFI intervention and 71% of the cases in which a MSA recommended a WASH intervention.



⁶Nutrition Screening ⁷This number is different from the number of individuals affected mentioned on page 1 and refers to the number of people initially impacted, when the alert was published. ⁸Percentage of MSA advising for an intervention in the sector covered, out of a total of 53 MSA in 2023 and 47 in 2022. ⁹Percentage of interventions conducted by the RRM in relation to the number of MSAs advising for an intervention in the sector covered.

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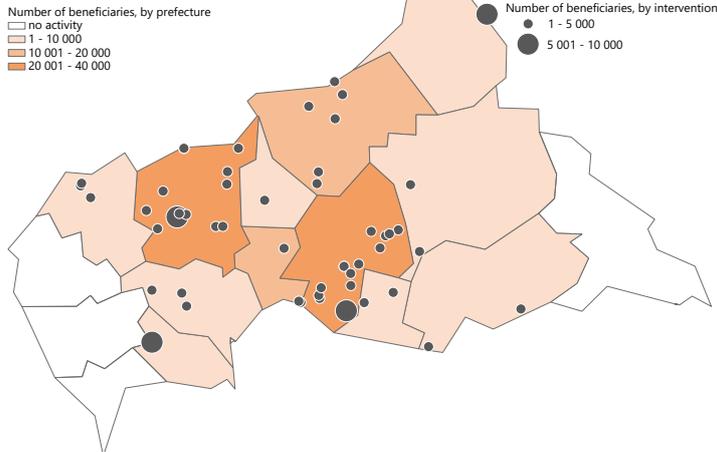
Distribution of beneficiaries in 2023

RRM interventions (NFI; WASH; HEB et CPT) in 2023

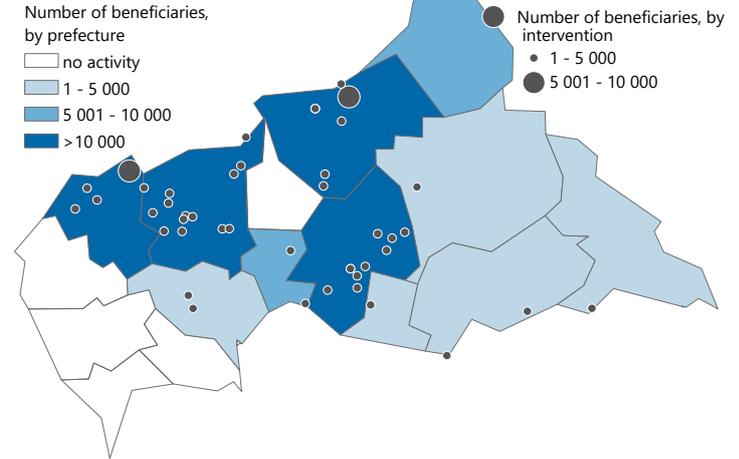
250 099 beneficiaries

87,02% individuals affected by shocks

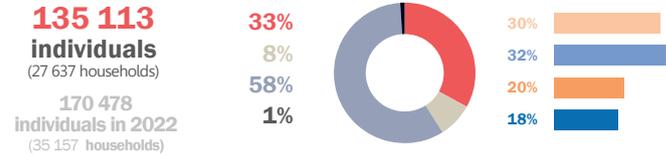
NFI distributions :



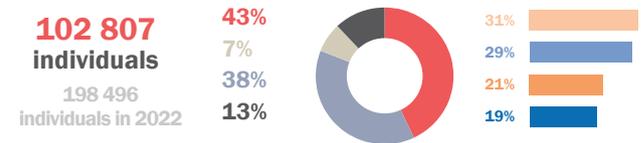
WASH interventions :



NFI beneficiaries, by status and demography :



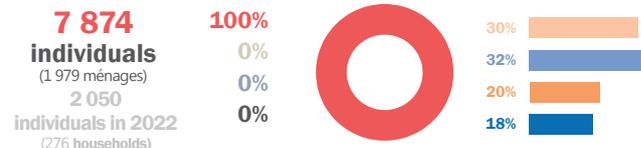
WASH beneficiaries, by status and demography:



HEB beneficiaries, by status and demography :



CTP beneficiaries, by status and demography:



Legend:

- Displaced persons
- Host community
- Returnees
- Rapatriates
- Girls
- Boys
- Women
- Men

Efficiency and effectiveness

The RRM remains the first-line response programme with a response timeframe of around 20 days after confirmation of a shock. However, the volatility of the security situation and lack of access in some areas may worsen access to affected people and affect the strategies for delivering aid, such as reducing intervention window, exposure to risks while organizing/attending a distribution. Likewise, the logistical constraints due to poor road conditions and impassable roads, especially during the rainy season, hamper the deployment of RRM teams. The action plan and reflections have been reinforced through the COPIL¹⁰ (RRM steering committee) in order to minimize at least the internal factors resulting in delays in the response, by proposing – among others – the following strategies: pre-positioning of kits; WASH interventions directly following the evaluation; joining MSA and targeting (depending on the nature of the shock and the security situation); Improving coordination both in the capital and on the field; applying more flexible approaches.

Median number of days between the publication of an alert and the beginning of a MSA in 2023:



Median number of days between the publication of an alert and the beginning of an intervention in 2023:



PDM in 2023



Proportion of beneficiaries reporting to be satisfied with the quality and quantity of the NFI kits:



92% of beneficiaries considered they received NFI distributions on time

95,5% of beneficiaries considered all the components of the NFI kits were of high usefulness



The activities implemented during WASH interventions were adapted considering the highest priority needs of every community. In 2023, amongst the activities implemented were 216 hygiene sensibilisation sessions, construction of 190 emergency latrines, rehabilitation of 140 water sites and establishment or revitalization of 167 water sites or latrine committees.

¹⁰Strategic steering committee gathering every Wednesday to provide guidance and validate RRM activities.



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