

# Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM): Central African Republic

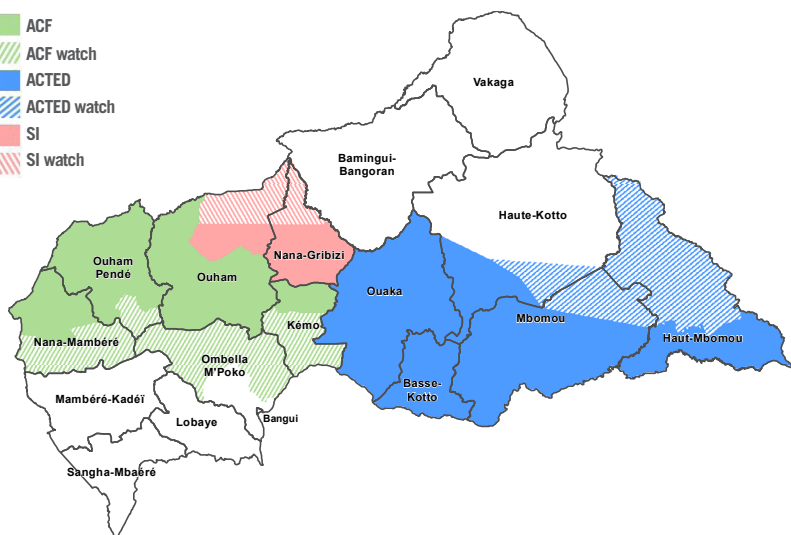
Annual factsheet

01 January - 31 December 2018



The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) is a tool at the disposal of the humanitarian community to monitor humanitarian action, conduct multisector assessments, essential household items distributions (NFI), shelter and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions when there is no capacity on site. Currently, RRM is made possible through the generous support of the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). All RRM products are available on the [Humanitarian Response](#) portal.

## 2018 Coverage



In 2018, the RRM has provided a coverage of 12 out of 16 prefectures, with 3 operational partners and 6 bases : ACF (Bouar, Bossangoa), Solidarités International (Kaga-Bandoro) and ACTED (Bambari, Bangassou, Zemio). The prefectures of Bamingui-Bangoran, Lobaye, Sangha-Mbaéré, Mambéré-Kadéï and Vakaga were not included. Coverage in Nana-Mambéré, Ombella-M'Poko, Kémo, Haute-Kotto, Mbomou and Haut-Mbomou was only partial.

In 2018, the RRM intervened in the prefecture of Mambéré-Kadéï (Gbambia, Amada-Gaza), which was not covered by its monitoring and intervention system. This area characterised by access constraints has experienced several attacks by armed groups resulting in an increased number of displaced people. After the reporting of important needs by the humanitarian coordination, the RRM decided to create an alert and to intervene.

The extent of the geographical coverage enabled the setting up of an early warning system which, during 2018, sent (or received) a total of 81 humanitarian alerts.

## Mandate

The RRM is designed to provide rapid humanitarian assistance following conflict-related shocks and natural disasters resulting in population displacement, as well as with shocks ignited by return movements and in response to epidemics. The RRM intervenes in coordination with the humanitarian community and provides Shelter/NFI or WASH assistance prioritising vulnerable populations and areas with limited response capacity. Three key pillars are defined in its mandate :



Keep a humanitarian watch by means of rapid sectoral and multi-sectoral needs assessments in areas of displacement and return, and share results with the humanitarian community at large.

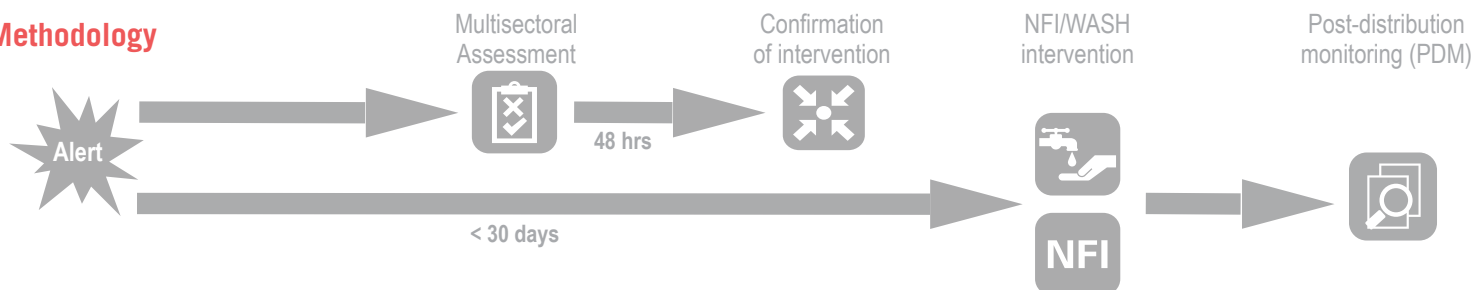


Provide essential Shelter/NFI assistance to vulnerable populations, accessible since less than 3 months and when no other actor has the capacity to intervene rapidly.



Provide access to drinking water and sanitation facilities (latrines, hand-wash tanks etc.) to vulnerable populations accessible since less than 3 months and when no other actor has the capacity to intervene rapidly.

## Methodology



## The RRM intervenes to support:



Displaced populations (at least 100 households) whose movement occurred within the last 3 months and / or who can be reached since less than 3 months.



Returnees<sup>1</sup> or spontaneously repatriated<sup>2</sup> populations (at least 100 households) whose return occurred within the last 3 months and / or who can be reached since less than 3 months.



Host communities<sup>3</sup> and particularly vulnerable groups of residents living in areas of displacement or return, where the RRM intervenes.

<sup>1</sup>The term 'returnees' refers to people who have come back to their pre-crisis location following a period of internal displacement. <sup>2</sup>The term 'repatriated' refers to former refugees who have returned from neighbouring countries. <sup>3</sup>The term 'host community' refers to individuals that have not been displaced as the result of a humanitarian-related event and are not hosting anyone in their home.



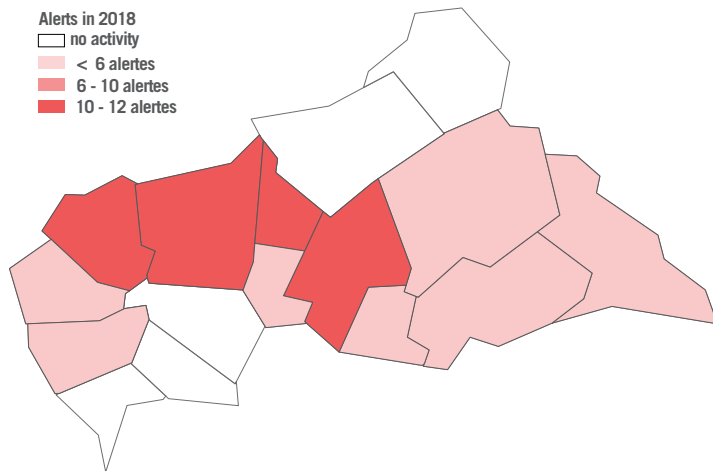
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## Alerts received or sent by the RRM in 2018

Alert distribution in 2018:



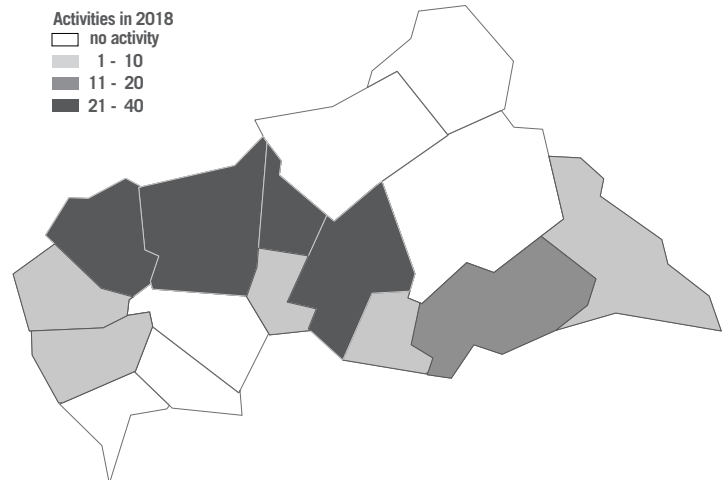
Alerts received or sent monthly in 2018:



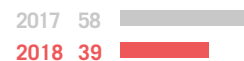
## Overview of RRM activities in 2018

Activity distribution in 2018:

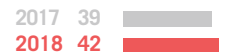
(MEX, MSA, NFI distributions and WASH interventions)



Multi-sectoral assessment (MSA):



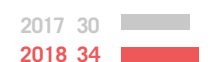
NFI distributions:



Exploratory mission (MEX):



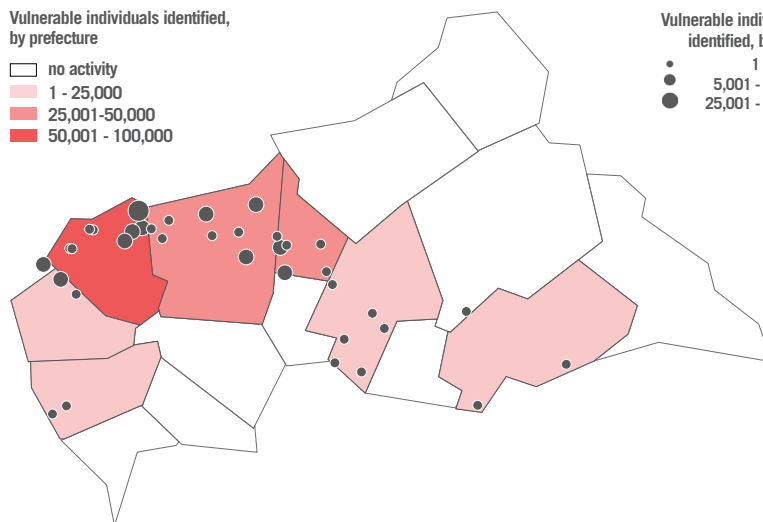
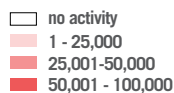
WASH interventions:



## Results of multi-sectoral assessments (MSA) in 2018

Vulnerable individuals identified in 2018 :

Vulnerable individuals identified, by prefecture



Vulnerable individuals identified, by MSA



Vulnerable individuals identified in 2018, by status :

**200 092** vulnerable individuals

(40 400 households)

Displaced  
Host community<sup>2</sup>  
Returnees<sup>3</sup>  
Repatriated<sup>4</sup>

35%  
12%  
45%  
8%



The total number of vulnerable persons (200,092) identified in multi-sectoral evaluations is less than the total number of NFI beneficiaries (231,562) and WASH beneficiaries (180,658), because some interventions are triggered without an MSA, and others are conducted on the basis of other partners' evaluations.

## Recommended interventions, by sector :

Following multi-sectoral assessments, recommendations for each sector are provided by the RRM based on the key indicators collected. In 2018, the RRM provided a response to more than the two-thirds of the crises for which an intervention had been recommended in its sectors of intervention (Shelter/NFI and WASH), while in the other instances assistance was provided by humanitarian actors who had a presence on the ground and a capacity to intervene rapidly.



\*Percentage of MSA recommending an intervention in the sector concerned. \*\*Percentage of interventions carried out by the RRM out of the number of MSA recommending an intervention in the sector concerned. Ongoing activities are not taken into account.

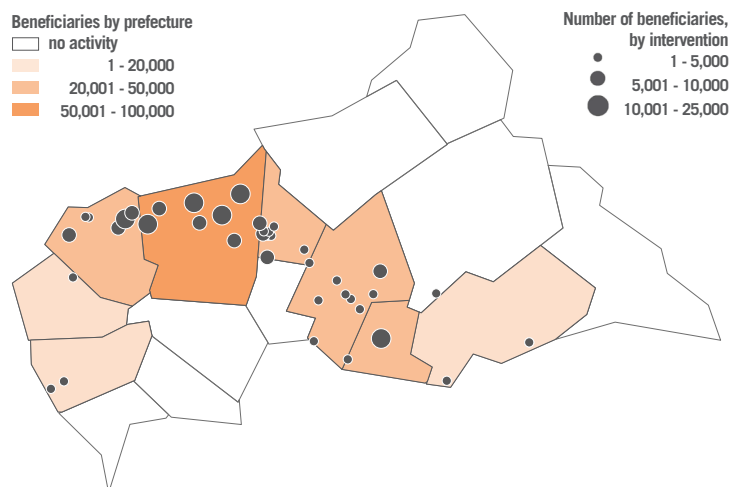
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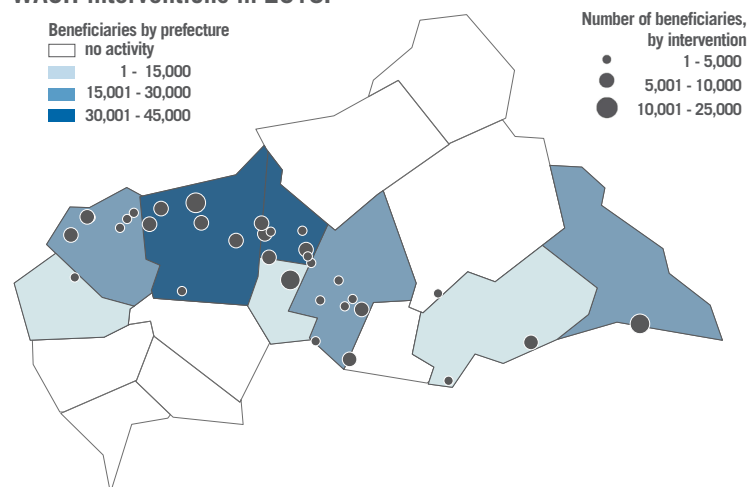
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## Distribution of beneficiaries in 2018

### NFI distributions in 2018:



### WASH interventions in 2018:



### NFI beneficiaries, by status:

**231 562**  
individuals

(50 653 households)  
145 413  
individuals in 2017  
(28 006 households)

Displaced 46%  
Host community<sup>2</sup> 14%  
Returnees<sup>3</sup> 38%  
Repatriated<sup>4</sup> 2%



### Cash beneficiaries, by status:

**12 466**  
individuals

Displaced 4%  
Host community<sup>2</sup> 96%



### WASH beneficiaries, by status:

**180 658**  
individuals

82 732  
individuals in 2017

Displaced 25%  
Host community<sup>2</sup> 39%  
Returnees<sup>3</sup> 33%  
Repatriated<sup>4</sup> 3%



In November 2017, at the strategic steering committee, the RRM decided to study the possibility of improving the response to vulnerable populations affected by the conflict through a pilot cash transfer project. Only one intervention has been carried out in Kabo in 2018 for households affected by floods. Indeed, this experience has not been developed due to security conditions and low market capacities. In connection with the HRP and in coordination with the Cash Working Group, the RRM plans in 2019 to continue the development of cash transfers as a complement or alternative to in-kind distributions.

## Delays

The RRM aims to provide emergency assistance to affected populations in the shortest possible delays after a shock. However, the security context in the Central African Republic, as well as the types of displacement and protection issues characterising the ongoing crisis, pose significant constraints and challenges to the programme's reactivity. Logistical constraints due to deteriorated roads during the rainy season complicate the work of the RRM team. A coherent methodology to monitor the delays of intervention was put in place by the RRM, which enables the identification of common hold-ups and informs the programme's strategy to increase its effectiveness.

### Time between an alert and the beginning of an MSA in 2018 :

**10 days**

Median between an alert and an MSA

The delays between an alert and an MSA have stabilized in 2018. In 2016, only 19% of MSAs had started within 7 days of an alert, compared to 38% in 2017 and 40% in 2018. In 2018, half of the MSAs were completed less than 10 days after an alert, and the other half were realized after 10 days. The main causes of delay reported by the partners were the lack of access due to logistical or security constraints and the lack of resources.

### Time between an alert and the beginning of an intervention in 2018 :

**29 days**

Median between an alert and an intervention

In 2018, half of the interventions took place 29 days following the alert. 62% of NFI interventions and 55% of WASH interventions were conducted within 30 days or less after an alert. The main causes of delay reported are linked to the coordination, logistics and security constraints, the lack of resources and the unavailability of teams.

## Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) in 2018

**22** PDM  
conducted in 2018.



Tarpaulins and kitchen kits were perceived as the most useful items of the NFI distributions.



Blankets were the items with which beneficiaries were most satisfied for quality, and tarpaulins for quantity.

### Level of satisfaction<sup>5</sup>:

85% Quality  
67% Quantity

**81%** of  
beneficiaries reported  
NFI were distributed  
on time.

Activities carried out during WASH interventions vary according to the priority needs identified at each location. In 2018 WASH activities included, among others, the delivery of 220 hygiene sessions, the construction of 56 emergency latrines and the rehabilitation 145 of water points.

<sup>1</sup>The term 'host community' refers to individuals that have not been displaced as the result of a humanitarian-related event and are not hosting anyone in their home. <sup>2</sup>The term 'returnees' refers to people who have come back to their pre-crisis location following a period of internal displacement. <sup>3</sup>The term 'repatriated' refers to former refugees who have returned from neighbouring countries. <sup>4</sup>Level of overall beneficiary satisfaction with NFI kits.