

### CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

This document highlights **key findings** from the Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) carried out in the Central African Republic (CAR) in 2019. The MSNA was elaborated in order to provide quantified information on the vulnerability and needs of crisis-affected populations. It was conducted within the framework of the **Assessment and Information Management Working Group (AIMWG)**, co-led by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and REACH, under the supervision of the **Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG)**, to provide a nationwide, impartial, and evidence-based overview and understanding of the needs of conflict-affected populations, to further strategic planning within the **2020 Humanitarian Planning Cycle (HPC)**.

Findings presented in this brief are based on an analytical approach proposed by REACH for the 2019 MSNA, which incorporates elements of the draft Joint Inter-Analysis Framework (JIAF), and on a **Multisectoral Needs Index (MSNI)** developed to classify a household's severity of needs in each sector. The index is based on the inability to meet immediate sectoral needs (Living Standards Gaps), the use of negative coping strategies (Capacity Gap), and household-level impact of the crisis, thus giving a **crisis-specific indication**

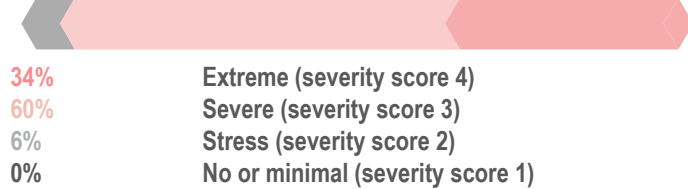
**of the severity of needs**<sup>1</sup>. Within the framework of the AIMWG, the MSNA methodology, tools and indicators were developed following consultations with the relevant 10 clusters and sub-clusters active in CAR. In parallel, the scope of the MSNA was decided following discussions with OCHA. Preliminary findings were then shared bilaterally with each cluster and with **OCHA coordination**.

In CAR, this **first round of MSNA** was implemented through a nationwide **statistically representative household survey** for which data was collected between the 1st of July and the 21st of August 2019. A total of **8,147 households** across CAR were surveyed. REACH, together with the logistic support of 11 partners, provided support to the AIMWG by contributing to the data collection process, which **covered all accessible districts** with a set threshold of target populations. Sampling was designed in order to obtain representative results with a **95% level of confidence and 10% margin of error** at subprefecture level (66 in total) as well as at the prefecture level for the following population groups: 1) non-displaced households, 2) out-of-camp Internally Displaced Person (IDP) households, 3) in-camp IDP households and 4) repatriated or returnee households. 124 Key Informat (KI) interviews give indicative results for four inaccessible subprefectures.

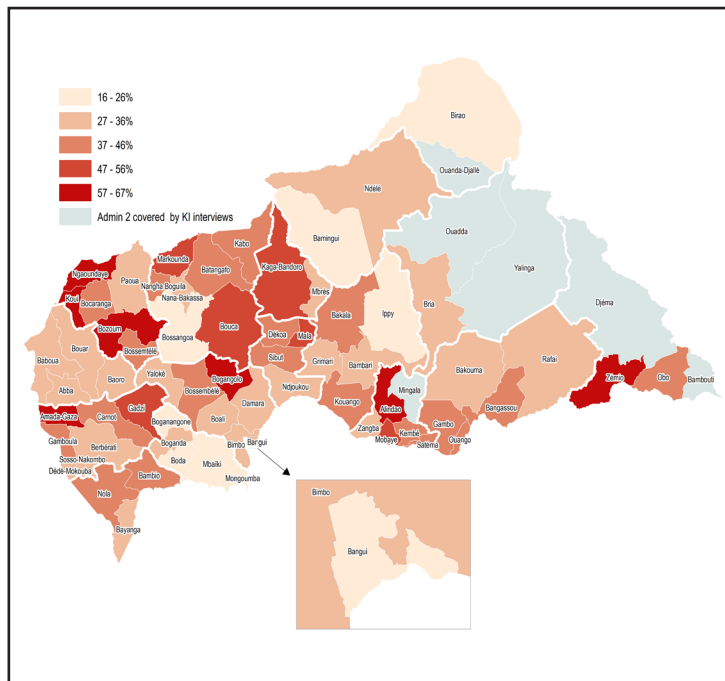
### MULTISECTORAL NEEDS INDEX (MSNI)

**4.6 million people** (94% of households) were found to have severe or extreme severity of needs.<sup>3</sup>


% of households per severity of needs:





% of households with extreme severity of needs<sup>2</sup>, per sub-prefecture:




Primary drivers<sup>4</sup>:

For **41%** of households with extreme severity of needs in CAR, the primary drivers of needs were sectoral needs in **water, sanitation and hygiene**<sup>5</sup>, and/or **food security**. 

For **47%** of households with extreme severity of needs, the primary driver of needs was the use of **negative coping strategies** to cover basic needs. 

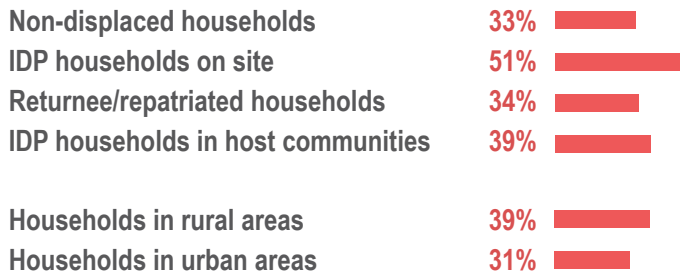
For **12%** of households with extreme severity of needs, the primary drivers of needs were sectoral needs in **health and protection, and/or health and shelter, and/or protection and shelter**. 

For **0%** of households with extreme severity of needs, the primary drivers of needs were sectoral needs in **health or shelter or protection and the direct impact of displacement**. 

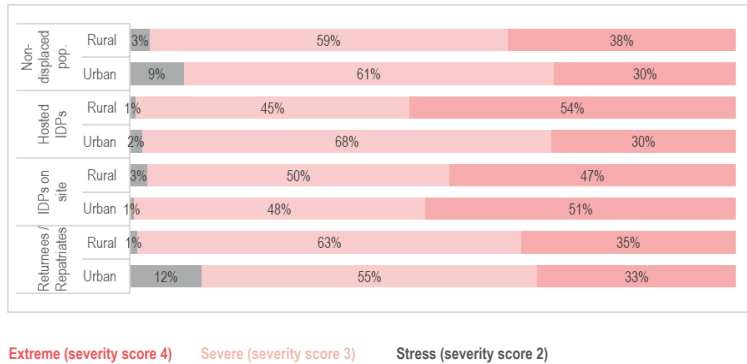
<sup>1</sup> The MSNI and LSGs were contextualised to each crisis context which has to be considered when comparing crises. <sup>2</sup> MSNI severity score of 4. Since 94% of households were found to have severe or extreme severity of needs, this brief will focus on the 34% of households with extreme severity of needs. <sup>3</sup> The estimated number of people with severe or extreme severity of needs (MSNI severity score of at least 3) is based on the total population number from the [2020 CAR Humanitarian Needs Overview \(HNO\)](#). <sup>4</sup> The primary drivers for the 94% of households found to have severe or extreme severity of needs are the following: 1) sectoral needs in water, sanitation and hygiene and/or food security for 77% of households with severe or extreme severity of needs 2) use of negative coping strategies to cover basic needs for 19% of households 3) sectoral needs in health and protection, and/or health and shelter, and/or protection and shelter for 3% of households 4) sectoral needs in health or shelter or protection and the direct impact of displacement for 1% of households. <sup>5</sup> The WASH sectoral composite score has been defined based on a different approach than the other composite scores, as based on a weighted scoring approach vs. decision tree approach. It is therefore rarer for a household to reach the severity score of 4, even though the proportion of households having extreme scores for their sectoral indicators are similar than in other sectors. For more details, please see the note in the report.

## POPULATION GROUPS

% of households with extreme severity of needs, per population group and area of residence:



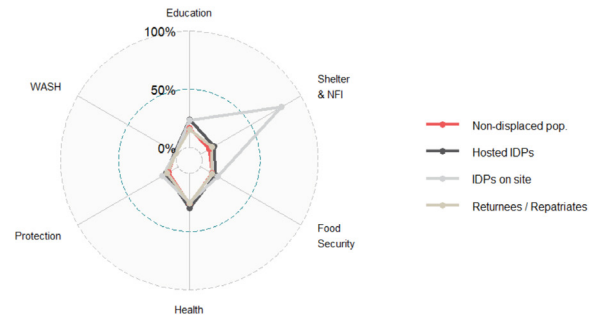
% of households, by severity of needs per population group and area of residence:



## SECTORAL NEEDS

**56%** of households were found to have extreme sectoral needs in one or more sectors.<sup>6</sup>

% of households with extreme sectoral needs, per population group and area of residence:



While in urban area, returnee or repatriated households tend to face similar level of needs than the non-displaced households across sectors, higher proportions of households face **extreme needs in shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)**, in **food security** or in **protection in rural areas**.

A high proportion of **IDPs on site** have extreme needs in **shelter and NFI** and IDPs in rural areas face extreme protection needs. In comparison with urban areas, a large proportion of **IDP households on site in rural areas** have extreme needs in **health** or in **education**.

<sup>6</sup>LSG severity score of 4.

## MSNA TIMELINE



## IMPACT OF MSNA FINDINGS

*“Improving data for humanitarian response - The 2020 HPC is underpinned by the largest humanitarian data collection exercise in CAR since 2016, notably thanks to a multisector needs assessment that covered about 9,000 households in more than 500 localities across all sub-prefectures.”*  
 - Global Humanitarian Overview 2020

*“Humanitarian partners refined estimates of the number of people in need of assistance to better reflect intersector needs and their severity using a stronger framework to bring large amounts of data together”.*  
 - Global Humanitarian Overview 2020

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