

Annual Results Report

2022

Central African Republic

Acknowledgements

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Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2022, the humanitarian situation continued to deteriorate because of the cumulative impact of conflict, displacement, rising commodity prices and limited access to basic services. An estimated 3.4 million Central Africans, or 56 per cent of the total population, are projected to need humanitarian assistance, while three out of five do not have access to safe drinking water and sanitation. Violence continued to trigger displacement: one out of five Central Africans is either internally displaced or a refugee. As of 31 December, a total of 516,000 Central Africans were internally displaced (IDPs) and 740,800 had taken refuge in neighboring countries. The crisis has had a devastating human toll, with 23,644 cases of gender-based violence (GBV) recorded in 2022, which constitutes more than a 100 per cent increase compared with 2021. At the same time, CAR is host of more than 11,700 refugees and asylum seeker and 1.1 million persons are estimated to be at risk of statelessness.

The combined impact of global supply chain disruptions and rising oil and fuel prices placed further pressure on the already fragile CAR economy, leading to fuel shortages and inflation. As a result, the Government significantly increased fuel prices in the country, which exacerbated the already difficult living conditions of the population. Meanwhile, international financial support for the CAR continued to decline, putting pressure on the country's public finances and forcing the Government, by August, to issue a Finance Amendment Act decreasing the national budget by 14 per cent.

At the same time, the Government's efforts supported by international actors resulted into the restoration of relative peace in major cities and villages. This led to the return of prefects and other members of the local administration to many localities outside Bangui. In total, an estimated 302,242 IDPs returned to their communities of origin and 5,612 CAR refugees arrived in 2022 through voluntary repatriation.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

By 2022, Refugees, IDPs and Returnees enjoy their rights in line with national, regional and international legal instruments

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
1.1 Proportion of individuals seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	85.00%	91.97%
1.2 Proportion of PoC who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence. [GCR 2.1.2]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	80.00%	82.00%

The legal frameworks for protection of refugees in CAR are favorable, however, challenges in the daily access to rights, in terms of discrimination and limited access to opportunities, persist. CAR is a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol as well as the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa. The Country has a specific law governing the protection and assistance to Refugees and has a Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR). However, Refugee rights, such as freedom of movement and settlement, are still hampered because the police and other law enforcement actors do not know refugees' identity documents; the same is the case with financial institutions including banks.

During 2022, there were no reports of refoulement in CAR. Individuals seeking international protection were provided access to asylum procedures at the tune of 92 per cent (an increase of 7 per cent compared to 2021). Refugees do have access to justice in areas where judicial services are available, but they often rely on traditional conflict resolution mechanisms, which in most cases disadvantage women and children. Notwithstanding the legal provision relating to freedom of movement, refugees cannot travel freely using their refugee documentation. Whereas the National Refugee Law states that refugees and asylum-seekers have equal access to judicial, administrative and social services, this is not yet fully operationalized and thus the majority of refugees heavily rely on the assistance from UNHCR and other humanitarian actors.

CAR enacted a refugee law on 28 December 2007 and issued an implementation decree on 6 January 2009. As per its mandate, CNR – national entity in charge of reception and registration of refugees, plays a pivotal role in assuring protection for refugees and asylum seekers. It is capacitated to identify and register refugees and asylum seekers, undertake status determination and issue documentation.

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

By 2022, Refugees, IDPs and Returnee communities are empowered, live in safe environments with reduced risk of GBV, and have access to basic services and CCCM

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
2.2 Proportion of PoCs residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities	IDPs	60.00%	58.00%
2.2 Proportion of PoCs residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	60.00%	67.78%
2.3 Proportion of PoC with access to health services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	57.59%	59.00%

2.3 Proportion of PoC with access to health services	Returnees	55.00%	63.00%
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Despite many efforts of the international community, in 2022 the wellbeing and livelihoods of the population overall did not improve. Poverty increased for all, including for refugees and asylum seekers, returnees and IDPs. On the security front, although the government authorities have been gradually taking control of a larger parts of the territory, the protection risks for the populations remain high with different dynamics in each prefecture and sub-prefecture. A total of 14,454 protection incidents have been documented by UNHCR protection monitoring project.

Refugees in CAR are recognized the right to legal residence, primary health care, basic education, and are allowed to work, however, many obstacles exist. Specialized medical facilities are few and expensive, while access to employment is extremely limited. Opportunities for secondary and tertiary education are also very limited, as UNHCR (and other partners) do not have scholarship programs. There is a high rate of school dropouts owing to early pregnancy and child marriages.

The protection of refugees in remote areas improved in 2022, through the registration of refugees in Toko-Kota, a remote and inaccessible areas of the East along the border with the DRC.

Communities displaced internally, and especially the ones living along main roads – as opposed to larger towns and villages - however, saw their security deteriorate.

The quality of health care is extremely low, and facilities are poor in remote rural areas, where qualified medical personnel is absent. Health indicators remain a cause of concern, particularly the rates of morbidity and mortality, births assisted by qualified personnel, vaccination coverage and malnutrition.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

By 2022, Central African refugees are able to voluntarily repatriate and join their home communities in safety and dignity

By 2022, Refugees, IDPs and Returnees achieve durable solutions and improve their access to self-reliance and social protection.

By 2022, the risk of statelessness reduces

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin. [RF/GCR 4.2.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	4,609	5,612
4.2a Number of PoC who departed on resettlement. [GCR 3.1.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	3
4.2b Number of PoC who departed through complementary pathways	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0
4.3a Number of stateless persons for whom nationality is granted or confirmed.	Stateless Persons	0	0
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0

UNHCR continued to promote durable solutions for forcibly displaced together with other UN agencies and partners.

The return of refugees to CAR continued with 5,612 returnees from 11 African countries being assisted by

UNHCR. The majority came from the DRC (3,354 – 60 per cent) and Cameroon (1,998 – 35 per cent). In total, since the start of repatriation in 2017, 32,660 returnees have returned to CAR with the support of UNHCR. In 2022, 3 refugees, facing heightened protection risks were fast tracked for resettlement (RST) to Sweden.

In early 2022, 490 IDP families moved to Pladama Ouaka with the support of humanitarian and development agencies and local authorities. They had fled violence in different parts of the country and had lived in a site in Bambari for years until this burnt down in May 2021 and IDPs were forced to leave. Once again displaced, they settled in a mosque, from which they were again evicted, and later in different areas of the town of Bambari, where they lived in very difficult conditions, with high protection risks and risks of epidemics.

Also important in 2022, on 27 April 2022, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Chad, the Republic of Congo, Sudan and South Sudan signed the Yaoundé Declaration, marking the first step towards the establishment of a regional coordination mechanism for advancing solutions to one of Africa's largest displacement crises.

Other Core Impact Indicators

Country	Indicator	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
Central African Republic	3.1 Proportion of PoC who have the right to decent work [GCR, 2.1.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%
Central African Republic	3.2a Proportion of PoC enrolled in primary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	58.70%	55.72%
Central African Republic	3.2b Proportion of PoC enrolled in secondary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	41.59%	45.97%
Central African Republic	3.3 Proportion of PoC feeling safe walking alone in their neighborhood (related SDG 16.1.4).	IDPs	63.00%	76.01%
Central African Republic	3.3 Proportion of PoC feeling safe walking alone in their neighborhood (related SDG 16.1.4).	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	75.00%	40.99%
Central African Republic	3.3 Proportion of PoC feeling safe walking alone in their neighborhood (related SDG 16.1.4).	Returnees	77.00%	89.00%

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

Access to social services and protection: refugees suffer discrimination in accessing services, that are of very poor quality and where staff have little understanding for the specific problems that refugees have. However, their main cause of frustration is their dire socio-economic situation. In urban areas, opportunities for jobs remain a challenge. Refugees are more likely to suffer abuses in the neighborhoods they live in, for example with higher rent prices or sudden evictions. Witchcraft, traditional beliefs, suspicion toward foreigners and Muslims, heighten protection risks.

Prevention of Statelessness: obtaining civil status and identity documents remains a great challenge for all in CAR. And more so for specific groups like returnees and nomadic pastoralist people. Civil registration services are dysfunctional, the issuance of identity documents is not decentralized, fees are not affordable and processes cumbersome. Birth registration has been neglected for years. There is also little awareness of the importance of documents, and little motivation to obtain them, as it is so difficult to do so, and so many people live without them (over one million people). Nonetheless, not

having ID creates serious risks of abuse by law enforcement.

Local integration prospects: Refugees in CAR have the right to legal residence, primary health care, basic education, and work; however, opportunities are very limited, and the quality of services is extremely low. Secondary and tertiary education, as well as professional training opportunities are available to very few who can afford them. Nonetheless, a few dozen refugees have applied for naturalization and are waiting for the authorities to bring forward this rather long process.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

UNHCR continued to be one of the major actors in the humanitarian team in CAR in 2022. UNHCR supports coordination with a senior Cluster Coordinator, a senior Camp Management/Shelter/Non-Food Items cluster coordinator, two assistants and an Information Management unit.

In 2022, UNHCR actively supported the UNCT, the HCT and the SMT participating in all meetings and contributing to humanitarian initiatives by the Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator. UNHCR also was a member of many working groups including the Durable Solutions Working Group, Commission Mouvement de Populations, the Localization Task Force, the Access Working Group and the GBV AOR. Beyond Bangui and the main humanitarian hubs where the Protection and Camp Coordination and Camp Management/shelter/NFI clusters are led. The Protection Cluster provided coordination in the hotspots of insecurity through NGO Focal Points. The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and National Reconciliation is responsible for managing emergency situations, in particular the situation of IDPs as well as returnees. UNHCR collaborates with this ministry through PARET (Projet d'Appui au Retour et à la Réintégration en RCA). The Ministry of the Interior in charge of security is the institution responsible for asylum seekers and refugees, through the National Commission for Refugees.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Returnees are registered with disaggregated individual data

The legal framework within CAR is more protection sensitive and is better aligned with international legal standards

Administrative institutions are supported aiming to strengthen PoC protection (REF)

Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Returnees enjoy freedom of movement through individual and civil-status documentation

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	90.00%	100.00%	100.00%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority. [SDG 16.9.1 - Tier 1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
1.3 Proportion of PoC with legally recognized identity documents or credentials [GCR 4.2.2].	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The Government of CAR has traditionally maintained an open-door policy towards refugees and asylum seekers, the vast majority of whom come from the neighboring countries. Protection monitoring is an ongoing exercise conducted by UNHCR and its partners because of the frequent cross border movements and the protection incidents that repeatedly occur. The fundamentals of international protection in CAR remain strong and the Government ensures refugees have access to territory, asylum procedures and assistance. The refugee community is composed of various nationalities. They are Congolese DR (6,365 or 5 per cent), South Sudanese (2,665 or 23 per cent), Chadians (1,314 or 13 per cent), Sudanese (478 or 4 per cent), Rwandans (229 or 2 per cent) and other nationalities (175 or 1 per cent). Most of the refugees (66 per cent) live in rural areas, notably in the Obo camp (1,963), in the Tokokota site (3,770), in the village of Obo (922), in the villages of the Bamingui Bangoran prefecture in Ndele (879), in the localities of Mboki (1,127), and Bambari (256). The rest of the refugee population lives in urban areas in Bangui and Ombella Mpoko (2,317). Out of the general refugee population, 48 per cent are men and 52 per cent are women. Most of this population remains very young (55.1 per cent aged 0 to 17 years), while those aged 18 to 59 years represent 41.4 per cent and those aged over 60 years represent only 3.5 per cent.

CAR refugees in various countries of asylum increased from 735,740 at the beginning of 2022 to 740,833 on 31 December 2022, an increase of 5,093 people (0.7 per cent). They found refuge in neighboring countries, including: 346,689 in Cameroon, 213,296 in the Democratic Republic of Congo, 124,529 in Chad, 29,644 in Congo, 24,369 in Sudan and 2,302 in South Sudan.

Registration is jointly conducted by the Government of CAR through CNR and underpinned by a UNHCR-CNR Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2014. While UNHCR is currently managing proGres, the database and identity management system, the organisation is also working on progressively strengthening the government's capacity according to UNHCR's Data Protection Policy and in line with the Memorandum of Understanding in place. A Biometric Information Management System (BIMS) was introduced in 2016 and 2027 to enhance the overall integrity of CAR's registration system for refugees and asylum seekers

UNHCR CAR continued to support the government of CAR in registering displaced population, including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Registration exercises are carried out as part of a continuous process to provide protection to the persons of concern. According to the latest official figures, CAR counts 515.665 internally displaced persons, of whom 145.845 are on sites and 369.820 are living in their host families. The Population Movement Commission (PMC) is the inter-organizational mechanism whose objective is to provide information on population movement figures and trends in CAR. The data collection of IDPs is carried out by the CMP to facilitate humanitarian assistance in 87 sites.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

In general, no major impediments to access asylum have been observed and no refoulement practices have been detected at the country's borders. While access to the asylum procedure does not present major obstacles for those who wish to seek international protection in CAR, there are issues with geographical accessibility to Obo by refugees fleeing the Tambura area of South Sudan.

Asylum procedures and legal frameworks) applied in the government-led Refugee Status Determination (RSD) institutions are in line with international standards, however the quality of the analysis of applications is uneven. Through a combination of capacity building and close oversight, UNHCR will continue to support to the Government to ensure that LGBTI persons, amongst other asylum seekers at heightened risk, have access to fair and efficient RSD systems in line with international and regional standards.

Alternative legal status including naturalization and access to formal work opportunities is needed for urban refugees who have been in CAR for decades and those whose refugee status is being ceased.

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

Registered asylum seekers have their status determined, in line with national and international standards

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision (disaggregated by individual and group procedures).	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	180.00	90.00	180.00
2.2 Proportion of individuals undergoing asylum procedures who have access to legal advice or representation.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
2.3 Proportion of individuals undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Two working meetings on Refugee Status Determination were organized during the period under review. Officials of the National Refugee Commission (CNR) NR and members of the Appeals Commission and the Eligibility Sub-Commission participated. This meeting allowed the Bureau to evaluate the need for RSD training by all involved.

The second meeting, held in April, with aimed at discussing with Minister of the Interior in charge of Public Security the prima facie status to the 699 asylum seekers in Haut-Mbomou. Thanks to this advocacy and to a mission to Obo to assess the protection needs of these asylum seekers, the status was granted.

UNHCR CAR also organized trainings with the Appeals Commission and the Eligibility Sub-Commission, with a focus on LGBTI issues.

The main bodies in charge of the RSD in CAR, namely the Eligibility Sub-Commission and the Appeals Commission, were called upon to examine 411 asylum application files for the year 2022. The examination of these files resulted in the following decisions:

- Agreement on refugee status: 61. These 61 agreements led to the recognition of 127 persons as refugees.
- Rejection decision: 74
- Referral on various grounds: 104
- Final closure: 9

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

While the national legal framework relating to asylum (reception, registration, and RSD) are in line with international protection standards, some of the processes need stronger capacity.: the quality of RSD still needs improvement in terms of decisions, drafting by case workers, leadership in managing the national asylum system.

Practices of the RSD bodies make it difficult to review and improve applications, hence assessment, interview skills, ability to research information, interpretation, need improvement. The CNR also remains skeptical to review asylum requests by LGBTIQ+ individuals.

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

Asylum Seekers and Refugees enjoy legal freedom

National plan on eradication of statelessness is implemented

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Not adequate	Favorable	Not Adequate

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

CAR ratified the AU Kampala Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in 2010. Despite progress made, the Convention is not yet domesticated. In the meantime, the national legislation in CAR allows for ratified Conventions to have a direct domestic effect even in the absence of a domestication procedure.

CAR is party to the Geneva Convention, and to the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention. The national asylum law of 2007 (n° 07.019) entails the broad (OAU) refugee definition, cornerstones of protection such as a non-refoulement provision and stipulates the RSD procedure. The law offers various rights to refugees under the same conditions as nationals, particularly in accessing work, education, justice, free documentation, as well as the right to naturalization, the possibility of using their refugee identity card as a residence permit and freedom of movement

CAR has made several commitments in the framework of the following: 1. Declaration of the Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) on the Eradication of

Statelessness in the Great Lakes Region; 2. Eight commitments during the October 2019 High Level Segment on the Eradication of Statelessness; 3. Commitments during the Global Forum on Refugees which reflect those made at the High-Level Segment. Among the major achievements are the adoption of the National Action Plan to eradicate statelessness, concrete steps towards the accession to the two UN Statelessness Conventions of 1954 and 1961 (the draft Bill is expected to be presented to the Council of Ministers in April 2022), the appointment of a government statelessness focal point, the creation of the National Committee to Combat Statelessness, and joint missions between UNHCR and that Committee to improve access to birth registration procedures in localities of return.

The Mbororo (a Peul ethnic group) face heightened risks of statelessness. They are a minority ethnic group in CAR who are traditionally transhumant, and hence are often referred to as “foreigners”. In 2010, CAR ratified as first African State the ILO Convention on the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. Despite the existence of this legal framework, indigenous peoples continue to face significant obstacles to the enjoyment of the rights set out in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

CAR has committed to accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. Throughout 2022, UNHCR carried out numerous actions to remind the Central African government of its commitment. Thus, as advocacy activities, UNHCR organized two high-level meetings between the UNHCR/CAR Representative and the Minister of Justice on 7 April and 19 September 2022 respectively.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Arbitrary detention and access to justice: Notwithstanding progress by the Central Government in stabilizing the security situation in many areas, especially towns and urban centres, human rights abuses are recorded in the country, where the Non-State Armed Groups are active. Arbitrary arrests and detention take place legal assistance is not available the majority of persons arrested. The judicial system has been severely undermined by the many years of conflict, and the public functions struggles to keep judges in remote areas. Sometimes the role of judge is fulfilled by local authorities, without legal competence. The use of traditional and customary mechanisms to resolve disputes predominates and is in many cases discriminatory (GBV cases). This makes GBV responses a challenge and not always survivor-centred. Survivors might be exposed to public scrutiny in the community, confronted by (male) authorities and families often attempt mediation rather than seeking legal redress.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

The risk of SGBV is reduced and response improves

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
4.1 Proportion of PoC who know where to access available GBV services	IDPs	45.00%	60.00%	47.00%
4.1 Proportion of PoC who know where to access available GBV services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	70.00%	85.00%	67.78%
4.2 Proportion of POCs who do not accept violence against women.	IDPs	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
4.2 Proportion of POCs who do not accept violence against women.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
4.2 Proportion of POCs who do not accept violence against women.	Returnees	100.00%	100.00%	109.19%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with SGBV case management services.	IDPs	30.00%	50.00%	29.22%

4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with SGBV case management services.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	30.00%	50.00%	32.49%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with SGBV case management services.	Returnees	30.00%	50.00%	31.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, UNHCR provided 27 listening centres in 12 prefectures. During 2022, UNHCR worked with partners to strengthen the protection environment for communities and promote behavioral change on GBV related matters in the areas of coverage. Thus, 4159 cases of GBV were documented through the GBVIMS (23 per cent girls under the age of 18 and 5 per cent were cases of conflict-related sexual violence; including 122 women living with a disability).

As part of the Ma Mbi si hotline service, during 2022, UNHCR received 1735 calls (65% of which requested information and assistance for GBV cases) noting an increase in violations affecting vulnerable women and women with special needs, particularly women living with a disability, but also men. During 2022, 42 per cent of documented survivors received at least three services, which are medical response to the 925 rape cases within 72 hours (56 per cent); psychosocial support (100 per cent) and assistance with dignity kits (68 per cent).

In terms of response, out of the 925 documented cases of rape, 56 per cent were treated within 72 hours. In Bangui, GBV cases are referred to health facilities according to the referral circuit (MSF and other services). 32 per cent of the GBV cases were referred to child protection services in accordance with the standard operating procedures (SOP) on GBV case management. A total of 7 per cent were referred for livelihood support (IGA, vocational trainings, etc.). Of the total number of documented GBV cases, 68% received dignity kits, 12 per cent received cash for transportation to health centres to receive preventive kits within 72 hours and 20 per cent received support in Non Food Items kits and/or hygiene kits.

The Ma Mbi Si service allows survivors to benefit from comprehensive care including (i) Psychosocial support and case management of GBV directly by Ma Mbi Si teams, (ii) Medical referrals that can be accompanied by financial support for transportation and medical expenses, (iii) Referrals to existing legal and protection services, (iv) The possibility of referrals to other specialized actors such as child protection actors, (v) Possible support in dignity kits and Non Food Items kits; (vi) Survivors' access to community support and group activities led by local women's groups. Overall, the prevention and response activities to GBV cases were carried out as planned: 1,736 individuals (1117 men and 619 women) participated in capacity building sessions on GBV and prevention from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). Also, in support of - all survivors – project in the framework of violence against men and boys, UNHCR facilitated and supported the implementation of a two-day training with IOM on how to interact with LGBTQI community respectfully and effectively.

Furthermore, as part of its capacity building activities on GBV, UNHCR organized several trainings and outreach activities benefiting to different audiences (16 AGD multi-functional teams on GBV risk assessment - Training on minimum standards for GBV - Training of 40 Magistrates and OPJs on the holistic management of GBV - Two briefing/refreshers sessions on the Ma Mbi Si for three partner staffs and UNHCR protection staff)

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

In both rural and urban areas, GBV remains a widespread problem. GBV is largely rooted in the customs of the populations and exacerbated by a deep culture of silence and denial that is fueled by stigma. Mechanisms to identify, report and monitor persons at risk of GBV or incidents need improvement. GBV incidents continue to be under-reported. Prevention of violence against women and girls is also difficult due to the impunity of perpetrators of such crimes. In most rural areas, violence resulting from witchcraft and traditional beliefs leads to popular condemnation and serious threats to the physical integrity.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

Refugees and Asylum Seekers benefit from Legal assistance and Legal remedies

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, no specific access to justice interventions were conducted. However, refugees in Bangui and in rural areas were provided with judicial support, notably in the framework of Status Determination.

It is important to note that the Central African Republic is a party to the main international and regional legal instruments relating to human rights as well as those relating to the protection of refugees (the 1951 Geneva Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees as well as the 1969 OAU Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa). In terms of human rights, CAR has ratified the following main human rights instruments (i) The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of December 16, 1966, ratified on May 8, 1981; (ii) The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of December 16, 1966, ratified on May 8, 1981; (iii) The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights of June 1981; (iv) The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of December 10, 1984; (v) The Convention on the Rights of the Child of November 20, 1989; (vi) The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child adopted in July 1989, signed by CAR on February 4, 2003.

In addition to the international sources of law governing the reception and stay of asylum seekers and refugees in CAR, some internal texts have been enacted by the country's authorities, including (i) Decree No. 68/279 of October 9, 1968, setting the conditions for issuing identity cards and travel documents to refugees in the Central African Republic; (ii) Ordinance No. 83/042 of June 14, 1983, creating a National Commission for Refugees in the Central African Republic; (iii) Decree No. 83/278 of June 30, 1983, organizing and operating the National Commission for Refugees in the Central African Republic (iv) Order No. 16/MIAT/CAB/SG/CNR of August 22, 1987, creating the Eligibility Sub-Committee of the National Commission for Refugees in the Central African Republic; (v) Order No. 008/MSPAT/SE/CAB/SG/SP of August 22, 1996, modifying and supplementing the Internal Rules of Procedure of the National Commission for Refugees in the Central African Republic.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Refugees do have limited access to justice in areas where judicial services are available, but they often rely on traditional conflict resolution mechanisms that disadvantage women and children. Notwithstanding the legal provision related to freedom of movements, refugees cannot travel freely using their refugee documentation, as it is often not recognized by the police and other state authorities. UNHCR is closely working with the Government to raise awareness on international protection and refugees' rights.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Protection advocacy and programming becomes more evidence-based

Community mobilization is strengthened and expanded

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
7.1 Proportion of PoC who participate meaningfully across all phases of the OMC.	IDPs	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
7.1 Proportion of PoC who participate meaningfully across all phases of the OMC.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
7.1 Proportion of PoC who participate meaningfully across all phases of the OMC.	Returnees	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
7.2 Proportion of PoC who have access to effective feedback and response mechanisms.	IDPs	40.00%	70.00%	28.28%
7.2 Proportion of PoC who have access to effective feedback and response mechanisms.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	40.00%	70.00%	50.62%
7.2 Proportion of PoC who have access to effective feedback and response mechanisms.	Returnees	40.00%	70.00%	52.00%
7.3 Proportion (and number) of active female participants on leadership/management structures.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20.00%	50.00%	19.79%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR carried out participatory assessment (PA) exercises and applied the Age, Gender and Diversity approach in September 2022 order to identify different protection problems and assistance needs faced by all persons served by UNHCR. The PA enabled UNHCR to analyze root causes, assess existing capacity of the refugee communities to solve problems identifies, and to find and propose appropriate solutions.

In total, 3,397 people were interviewed in 36 sub-prefectures, 54 per cent of whom were men and 46 per cent women, including refugees, returnees, IDPs and the host population. In terms of methodology, in addition to focus group discussions, data from the Protection Monitoring Perception Analysis was used for a comparative analysis. The main issues identified are related to security, legal protection/documentation, gender-based violence, child protection, access to education, access to health care and reproductive health, access to shelter, water, hygiene and sanitation, livelihoods, peaceful cohabitation, support for return and reintegration and other complementary avenues for refugees.

In 2022, UNHCR paid great attention to ensure women's participation throughout the need's assessment process and the implementation of different programmes. About 35 per cent of the members of multifunctional team in UNHCR are female staff, and further female staff are represented by 45 per cent among all the colleagues of UNHCR staff and implementing partners combined. A total of 50 per cent of the refugee participants in the AGD exercise were women, including survivors of gender-based violence and female-heads of households.

During 2022, protection data collection and the number of missions carried out by implementing partners not only increased significantly compared to 2021, but also qualitatively exceeded planned indicators. UNHCR has strengthened advocacy and evidence-based protection programming through its IDP, returnee and returnee protection monitoring project. During 2022, protection monitoring partners documented a total of 14,454 individual protection incidents, an increase of 134 per cent compared to 2021. In 2022, a total of 822 surveys were conducted among community-based relays and 5,893 among households. UNHCR protection monitoring missions conducted in 2022 identified some coordination issues with community structures. A total of 12,356 protection visits were conducted and recorded in the project's coverage areas.

As planned, the UNHCR protection monitoring project covered different population groups in the project areas using the area-based approach. These groups include IDPs, returnees, refugees and asylum seekers and host populations. The protection monitoring project was guided by the orientations and priorities identified by the Protection Cluster at the national and regional level. This determined the collection of data as well as the conduct of protection assessment missions in priority areas for humanitarian actors to provide a baseline analysis for programming interventions.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Lack of funding has not allowed UNHCR staff to increase the number of follow-up missions on the implementation of the protection monitoring project. It is recommended that in 2023 monitoring be strengthened, particularly in areas where UNHCR will close its field offices. There is also a need to define a specific methodology and strategy for the identification of protection risks by conducting perception surveys among the population and key informants within the project. The implementation of the project, including the launch of missions and data collection, was generally affected by logistical problems (such as lack of fuel) or security issues. In general, there were no significant changes from the populations initially identified. However, in the western prefectures where UNHCR is facilitating the return of returnees mainly from the DRC, Cameroon and the Republic of Congo, protection monitoring activities have been adapted to better capture protection needs in the post-return phase.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

Targetted refugees improve access to food security

Basic & domestic needs are met

People with Specific needs are provided with targeted assistance

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
8.1 Proportion of PoC in need that receive cash transfers or in-kind assistance.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	60.00%	80.00%	50.63%
8.2 Proportion of PoC with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology [SDG 7.1.2 Tier 1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In the reporting period, UNHCR contributed significantly to the wellbeing of People Forced to Flee in the CAR. Some 6,715 IDP households (about 34,000 IDPs) received emergency shelter kits comprising 2 plastic tarpaulins and 1 roll of ropes to support the construction and/or repair of their shelter. Some 5,049 households (about 25,000 individuals) received UNHCR non-food kits, each comprising 2 blankets, 2 mats, 1 kitchen set, 1 jerry can, 1 bucket, 2 mosquito nets and 6 soaps. Beneficiaries were Internally Displaced, Refugees, and Host communities. In the same period, UNHCR distributed Non Food Items and Core Relief Items to a total of 19,571 Returnees (in 4,571 households) and provided tarpaulins, blankets, mats, kitchen sets, buckets, jerry cans and solar lamps.

Some 1,963 People with Specific Needs among Refugees received support from UNHCR, out of which some 1,085 were provided with regular cash-based assistance. The results of the home visits and social surveys, carried out once a quarter, have enabled us to review the list of the most vulnerable people, such as the chronically ill, the elderly without support, and people living with a disability. Among these, UNHCR assisted 194 refugees living with HIV among Refugees in Bangui and Obo, including a 14-year-old minor. Persons with specific vulnerabilities received 15,000 CFA francs per month per person to meet their basic needs. UNHCR also provided targeted assistance to the most vulnerable among Refugees. Following the torrential rains that hit the CAR in July, causing flooding and enormous damage to homes, UNHCR provided core relief items (CRI) support to 110 households of the most affected urban refugees. In December 2022, UNHCR also provided CRI kits to 5 refugee households victims of fires. This was in addition to assistance provided to 10 refugee households and asylum seekers newly arrived in the CAR in total deprivation of basic domestic items.

UNHCR's cash-based interventions in 2022 provided life-saving assistance to some 12,155 individuals comprising 5,597 returnees arriving in Voluntary Repatriation, 1,085 people with specific needs (340 in Bangui and 745 in Obo), 5,473 refugees in Obo in terms of food assistance, and to 1,940 refugee children for education (of which 954 in Bangui and 986 in Obo). In total, UNHCR distributed 658,684,800 XAF (about 1,105,000 USD).

The assistance strategy developed in April 2022 aimed, among other things, to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable people. The related SOPs reinforced this idea by putting people under UNHCR's mandate at the centre of activities. To improve the living conditions of refugees, several activities were carried out in Bangui, Obo and Bambari in accordance with UNHCR procedures. The various offices hosting refugees and asylum seekers have updated the list of vulnerable people with specific needs and have ensured that they are provided with at least some cash assistance so that they can meet their basic needs.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

In CAR, the structures and services able to provide adequate social protection to people with specific vulnerabilities are almost non-existent. Very often the management and assistance for this category of persons is an additional charge on already poor families. The lack of a national policy on social protection and the high cost of living in urban settings has contributed to deteriorating social indicators. Job opportunities are very limited, and refugees have no choice but to turn to the informal sector which is volatile and offers no warranties of long-term job/income security. The quality of life in the camps and in the host villages is inadequate. It requires and deserves much improvement toward development in all areas. Indeed, their prolonged stay in such conditions has weakened refugees and the host populations with whom they share a very poor environment with very low economic opportunities.

9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

Shelter and infrastructure established, improved and/or maintained

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
9.1 Proportion of PoCs living in habitable and affordable housing.	IDPs	15.00%	50.00%	12.91%
9.1 Proportion of PoCs living in habitable and affordable housing.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20.00%	60.00%	22.08%
9.2 Proportion of PoC that have energy to ensure lighting (close to Sphere).	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20.00%	50.00%	22.08%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) has targeted a population of 526,000 people for shelter and essential items assistance. This number is broken down as follows 193,000 IDPs in sites; 287,000 IDPs in host families; 13,000 returnees; and 53,000 people in non-displaced host families. The indicators considered are the numbers of people (disaggregated by sex and age) living in sites, assembly sites, and host families who received emergency and/or transitional shelter and who received basic non-food items.

Achievements to the end of FY 2022 indicate that 6,715 households (33,575 people) have benefited from shelter, while 5,049 households (25,246 people) have received basic household items. These results reflect or are in line with the funding received of approximately 15 per cent of the HRP's forecast.

As part of the facilitation of the Coordination, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management/Shelter/Non Food Items cluster has carried out: (i) a mapping of the presence and capacities of partners in Shelter/Non

Food Items; (ii) distribution of fire and flood fighting tools; updated of the "Shelter Technical Guide" with composition of kits (emergency shelters, transitional shelters and semi-durable shelters) by area (urban and rural); (iii) Monitoring of cluster indicators for the year 2022: Quarterly production and update of the Dashboard of cluster partners' achievements in Camp Coordination and Camp Management, including shelter and CRI. UNHCR contributed and actively participated in the preparation of the Humanitarian Needs Assessment (HNO).

Refugees in Obo camp reside in semi-durable shelters and emergency huts made of traditional materials. The majority of shelters for refugees living with special needs are defective. The UNHCR conducted a shelters assessment in Obo camp and found the need for shelters' rehabilitated.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Due to budgetary constraints, UNHCR intervention only reached 6,715 IDP households, out of the estimated 45,000 households that need assistance in emergency shelter. The achievement represents only 15 per cent of the needs that were expressed. This also means that 85 per cent of needs remain uncovered. Similarly, of the 1,200 refugee households in need of shelter, the 2022 budget did not afford space for assisting 5,904 refugees in need of shelter in Obo, Bambari and Toko-kota. Finally, due to budget constraints not all returnees' households, 8,000, were provided shelters.

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

Health of Refugees improves

Nutritional well-being of Refugees is achieved

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel. [SDG 3.1.2 Tier 1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	60.00%	100.00%	49.58%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Health interventions focused primarily on improving the quality of primary health care. Refugees have access to health services under the same conditions as the host community. Despite major constraints related to limited resources and geographical accessibility in the areas where the refugees live, UNHCR and its partner, the international NGO ALIMA, provided sustained health assistance to refugees living in the Obo camp. UNHCR has also set up a medical care mechanism for urban refugees in Bangui through outpatient medical consultations and the management of medical emergencies.

In total, 162 urban refugees received a medical consultation from the CNR doctor. These were mainly outpatients and follow-up of the chronically ill with referral of cases for specialist advice and/or hospitalization. The UNHCR ensures that refugees are considered in the various vertical programmes for the prevention and treatment of diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and in all prevention and response activities against diseases with epidemic potential.

In total, 5,612 people were repatriated, of whom approximately 40% were vaccinated against Covid-19 with a dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine at their arrival in the CAR. As part of the prevention and response to Covid-19, rapid tests were carried out systematically for people aged \geq 05 years. The three most frequent pathologies encountered during medical screening in the various transit centers during repatriation movements are Malaria, representing 26.4 per cent of people who were treated, followed by gastrointestinal diseases (diarrhea/parasitosis), representing 24 per cent of cases, and finally cases of motion sickness (22.2 per cent).

Refugees and/or asylum seekers have access to reproductive health and HIV services through the national health system in the various health facilities for both rural refugees and those living in the city of Bangui. The government has declared free health care in areas that have been affected by armed conflict, including the Haut-Mbomou district where the Obo refugee camp is located. It is through the Obo district hospital, supported by ALIMA, an operational partner, that the refugees benefit from a minimum package of activities in terms of reproductive health and HIV. These include delivery care, prenatal and post-natal consultations, family planning, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) and antiretroviral treatment (ARV). These activities help to reduce the risk of morbidity and mortality related to HIV/AIDS. To contribute to the reinforcement of the capacity of the reproductive health services and to the improvement of the health of the mother and the newborn, the operational partner ALIMA, has made available to the Obo hospital, a medical team for the management of medical and surgical emergencies composed of an anesthetist and a surgeon but also of two midwives.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Out of the 11,699 refugees and asylum seekers in the Central African Republic as of December 2022, UNHCR and Partners were able to provide healthcare services to only 4,546 refugees, representing only 38.8% of the needs. This means more than 61% of healthcare needs of refugees were not covered. The challenges included: difficult geographical accessibility, need to resort to air transport for the supply of inputs; weakness of the cold chain (transport and storage of vaccines); non-implementation of the advanced community strategy due to lack of logistical means (motorbikes for vaccinators); unfavorable security context.

Additionally, the health capacity at district level is low: the poor medical infrastructure, limited drugs and medical consumables, as well as limited human resources are not enough to respond to existing health needs in the Toko-kotta area.

11. Outcome Area: Education

Refugee access to Education improves

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
11.1 Proportion of PoC enrolled in tertiary and higher education.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	16.00%	45.00%	13.97%
11.2 Proportion of PoC enrolled in the national education system. [GCR 2.2.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR's education strategy in the CAR focuses on the integration of refugees and asylum seekers into the national education system. In doing so, UNHCR's support is limited to the payment of school kits to students, due to the resources available. During 2021 - 2022 school year, educational assistance was granted to all education levels, including primary, secondary, and tertiary. The cash granted represents the payment of school fees, school clothes and school supplies. This cash is granted to all refugee and asylum-seeking children recognized and active in the proGres database in CAR in accordance with the current SOPs updated in 2022.

In September 2022, UNHCR provided cash assistance to all refugee and asylum-seeking children with active status in CAR progress database. With this assistance counting for the 2022-2023 school year, out of 1984 children planned, UNHCR supported 1940 refugee and asylum-seeking children.

UNHCR supported pupils and students at the following levels:

- At the primary level, 1,331 refugee and asylum-seeking children, including 900 in Obo and 431 in Bangui, received cash assistance to cover the need for school kits.
- At the secondary level, 536 children were supported by UNHCR in terms of cash assistance, including 450 in Bangui and 86 in Obo.
- At the tertiary level, 73 students received cash assistance, including 37 girls and 36 boys.

This cash assistance provided amounted to 65,990,000 FCFA.

With the support of the CNR, UNHCR organized a capacity building session for school officials in the city of Bangui and Bimbo on the legal framework relating to access to education for refugee children in the same way as national children. This session enabled the school managers to ensure that refugee and asylum-seeking children are effectively included in the education system of the host country.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Access to education is one of UNHCR's priorities in the Central African Republic, however this is particularly challenging in in Toko-Kota and Ndele due to:

- Lack of school facilities on the ground;
- Lack of tertiary level facilities in the field offices;
- Lack of scholarships for refugees;
- Lack of funding to cover educational need in Ndele and Toko Kota;
- A large number of students have not continued their studies on to tertiary level due to high costs. Only the public university in Bangui has a relatively lower cost.;
- Lack of funding for refugees who have opted for vocational courses;
- Lack of dedicated education staff within the organization and in the field offices.

12. Outcome Area: Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Conditions of hygiene and sanitation improve

Access to potable water improves

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
12.1 Proportion of PoC using at least basic drinking water services [linked to SDG 6.1.1].	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	68.30%	40.00%	68.30%
12.2 Proportion of PoC with access to a safe household toilet [linked to SDG 6.2.1].	IDPs	50.00%	80.00%	50.00%
12.2 Proportion of PoC with access to a safe household toilet [linked to SDG 6.2.1].	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	37.00%	60.00%	37.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, no specific WASH activities have been implemented, due to budgetary constraints. The 2022 Strategy had planned to provide a total of 15 boreholes to refugees in Obo, Zemio, Mboki and Toko-Kota. However, this activity was not prioritized for budgetary reasons. At the end of this planning period, only 2,583 refugees have access to water according to standards, out of the 11,699 in the country, which represents 22 per cent of needs that are covered, and a gap of 77 per cent.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

The gap stands at 77 per cent in the sector of WASH for refugees and asylum seekers. More than 9116 refugees and asylum seekers in the CAR do not have access to water according to standards. WASH needs remain intricately linked to conflict and displacement with breakdown of drinking water facilities due to lack of maintenance or to vandalism, the loss of water containers to collect water, restrictions to access functional water points due to insecurity and contaminated wells due to poor or dysfunctional infrastructures.

CAR has a rich and diversified natural environment; however, this environmental potential contrasts with the daily reality regarding the exploitation of these resources and rural practices such as incineration or dumping in the natural environment which are leading to an increasing loss of biodiversity, land degradation and increase of natural disasters like fires and flooding.

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

Refugees and Returnees have improved access to self-reliance and livelihoods

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
13.1. Proportion of PoC with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider [SDG 8.10.2 Tier 1].	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%
13.2. Proportion of PoC who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	30.00%	0.00%
13.3 Proportion of PoC (working age) who are unemployed.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	95.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, UNHCR did not implement Livelihoods interventions. UNHCR in CAR elaborated its livelihoods and economic inclusion strategy. It is currently being updated and will be presented to UNHCR official partners and implementing partners including authorities, so we can highlight what UNHCR intends to do in terms of livelihoods to ensure a smooth integration of returnees and refugees in CAR. UNHCR will continue to support Community-Based projects that benefit the host population, refugees, and returnees.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

In 2022, the Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Strategy for CAR was still being developed. Due to budgetary difficulties, no livelihoods activities were implemented in 2022. Hence, the 1,300 households UNHCR planned to assist in 2022 for Livelihoods were not provided with assistance.

14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

Repatriation of CAR Refugees from asylum countries takes place in safety and dignity

IDPs benefit from Government-led, area-based durable solutions, including through sustainable return and reintegration in their communities of origin

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
14.2 Proportion of PoC who wants to receive the CoO information actually receives it.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	80.00%	16.27%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, UNHCR facilitated the return, in safety and dignity, of 5,612 Central African Refugees, bringing the total repatriated since 2017 to 32,660 individuals. Out of the 5,612 CAR refugees who arrived in Voluntary Repatriation, the majority (3,354, 60%) came from the Democratic of Congo, followed by Cameroun which provided 36% of Voluntary Repatriation candidates in 2022 (1,998 persons). The Republic of Congo (Brazaville) contributed 184 Voluntary Repatriation candidates in 2022. Out of the 5,612 Voluntary Repatriation candidates (1,693 households), we noted the presence of 585 people with specific needs. In terms of age/sex disaggregation, we received 1,265 adult women, 982 adult men, 1,621 girls, 1,629 boys and 115 elderly people.

UNHCR organized a total of 13 fluvial convoys, 30 aerial convoys and 12 road convoys. Three Transit Centres (established in Mongoumba, Berberati et Beloko), and three Way Stations (Port-amont, Bouar et Carnot) received the Voluntary Repatriation Candidates, including the airport in Bangui, where all candidates arriving by air were received. The majority of the 5,612 candidates went to Mougoumba – 42%, followed by Baoro – 13%, Bangui – 13% and Berberati 9%. The Voluntary Repatriation figure in 2022 brings to 32,660 the total number of people repatriated to the CAR since 2017. This total figure comprises 6,907 women, 6,234 men, 9,297 girls, 9,468 boys and 754 older people. According to available statistics, the majority of Voluntary Repatriation candidates established themselves in Mongoumba (11,933), followed by Bangui (8,365), Mbaiki (3,731) and Berberati (3,231).

UNHCR contributed to the reintegration of CAR returnees through a four-fold programme. First, UNHCR conducted Protection monitoring in return areas, and at border areas. A total of 6,388 protection visits were conducted in 18 S/prefectures covering the 4 return prefectures. These visits enabled UNHCR Protection Monitors to collect and document a total of 5,656 incidents. UNHCR community-based protection monitoring recruited 102 protection actors among targeted communities, who directly provided information to Protection Monitors as incidents occurred. This project also comprised monitoring at border areas where UNHCR conducted a total of 856 visits, in addition to registering some 8,050 spontaneous returnees. About 1,153 people received targeted protection assistance, of which 751 were people with specific needs. The second reintegration intervention was related to Gender-based violence, whereby UNHCR established 4 Listening Centres, which was visited by some 906 survivors of gender-based violence who received

psychosocial counseling, and reference to medical centres, as the situation required. Thirdly, in order to facilitate durable solutions for Returnees, UNHCR conducted a HLP intervention in Berberati, which assisted 218 returnees to repossess their belongings (house, land or property) in their return areas. Finally, UNHCR constructed 2 schools, 4 hospitals (including 2 surgery units) in addition to rehabilitating transit centres and waystations.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

A total of 5,612 refugees living in neighboring countries and in countries in the region returned to Central Africa. While initial planned figures were much higher. It became apparent during the year that UNHCR operations in countries of asylum were not able to fund the return of more refugees.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Potential for resettlement as a solution is realized

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	20	3
15.2 Average processing time from resettlement submission to departure under normal priority.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,000.00	400.00	1,000.00
15.3 Number of PoC admitted through complementary pathways from the host country.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	50	0

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022 three refugees with heightened protection risks due to their diverse gender identity and sexual orientation (SOGI) were resettled to Sweden.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

In 2022 three refugees with heightened protection risks due to their diverse gender identity and sexual orientation (SOGI) were resettled to Sweden.

16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

Institutions are able to support Local Integration of Refugees who wish to integrate in the CAR society

Community-based reintegration and protection activities implemented in the targeted areas of origin

Refugees are included in national social safety net and social protection programs

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
16.2. Proportion of PoC covered by social protection floors/systems [SDG 1.3.1].	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	35.00%	0.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Returnees in CAR have the right to legal residence, primary health care, basic education, and work. However, in practice, they face protection risks in accessing these rights. There are also gaps in accessing specialized medical and diagnostic facilities and access to employment is limited. Access to the secondary and tertiary education and professional training is limited. There is high rate of school dropouts owing to early pregnancy and child marriages. Furthermore, refugee women face protection risks associated with survival sex and competition for scarce resources such as water, wood fuel and cultivatable land (in the rural context), and refugee children face protection risks including child labour, early and forced marriages, teen pregnancy, and gender-based violence (GBV). Refugees have access to civil status documentation. However, obtaining accurate civil documentation within a reasonable time-frame has remained a challenge for the refugee population.

In 2022, UNHCR elaborated its livelihoods and economic inclusion strategy, which is currently being updated and will be presented to UNHCR official partners and implementing partners and authorities, UNHCR will continue to support Community-Based projects that benefit the host population, refugees, and returnees.

UNHCR's protection and solutions strategy prioritizes the search for durable solutions with a focus on repatriation and enhancing the self-reliance of refugees through access to livelihood opportunities; though additional funding would be required to enhance activities. repatriation is facilitated on a group basis to areas considered safe for return, based on voluntary intention.

UNHCR reintegration programs in 2020 also included protection monitoring in return areas. A total of 6,388 protection visits were conducted in 18 S/prefectures covering the 4 prefectures of Nana Mambéré, Mambéré Kadei, Lobaye and Ombella Mpoko. These visits enabled UNHCR Protection Monitors to collect and document a total of 5,656 incidents, in a database which helped protection actors correctly target protection interventions in targeted return areas. This project also comprising monitoring of border areas where UNHCR conducted a total of 856 visits, in addition to registering some 8,050 spontaneous returnees. About 1,153 people received targeted protection assistance, of which 751 were people with specific needs. In the same period, 906 survivors of gender-based violence received psychosocial counseling.

Finally, UNHCR assisted 218 returnees in terms of HLP (Housing Land and Property). These Returnees repossessed their belongings, further to a judicial process that UNHCR supported.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Since 2020, 42 refugees expressed their need to integrate locally in CAR. The time for processing requests is very long. UNHCR is still advocating for those 42 refugees to receive a decision.

CAR's structures and services for social protection for people with specific needs are almost non-existent.

Management of and assistance to people with specific needs is thus taken on by families, which can be overwhelming for those who are already vulnerable and poor. The lack of a national policy on social protection and the high cost of living in urban settings has contributed to deteriorating social indicators. Job opportunities are very limited, and refugees have no choice but to turn to the informal sector, which is volatile and offers no guarantees for long-term job/income security. The quality of life in the camps and in the host villages is inadequate. It requires and deserves much improvement in all areas. Indeed, the prolonged stay of refugees has weakened them at the same time as the host populations with whom they share limited natural resource. Due to the limited budgets, UNHCR is only able to provide limited self-reliance support to refugees across the country.

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

AGD considerations were reflected through the participatory assessment which involved all partners and sister agencies. UNHCR carried out participatory assessment exercises through the application of the AGD approach to identify different protection problems and assistance needs faced by the refugees and other persons of concern, to analyze their root causes, to assess the existing capacity of the refugee communities to solve some of those problems, and to find and propose appropriate solutions. UNHCR CAR organized the assessment exercises through focus group discussions or semi-structured individual interviews. Throughout the exercises, 862 focus groups were formed for discussions, with 3,397 participants in total (including 1,192 women, 1,016 men and 1,189 children).

Gender Equality: The AGDM exercise in 2022 revealed that the refugee women and other persons of concern continue to face different protection risks. Especially the female headed households among the refugees expressed their difficulties in having access to livelihood for making ends meet to feed their children sufficiently and living in an appropriate housing, and as result, some of them have been forced to engage themselves in risky activities such as prostitution, exposing them to heightened risks of violence.

Accountability to affected People: Refugees and other persons of concern were involved in decision-making on issues that concern them, especially during assessment missions or during participatory assessments. Participatory methodologies were applied to enable persons of concern to take part in the identification of priorities and the planning and implementation of appropriate protection, assistance, and solutions programmes. A Complaint Mechanism is already in place and forcibly displaced and stateless persons have the possibility to voice their complaints through different channels. Complaint boxes were also set up to confidentially report fraud, corruption or protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

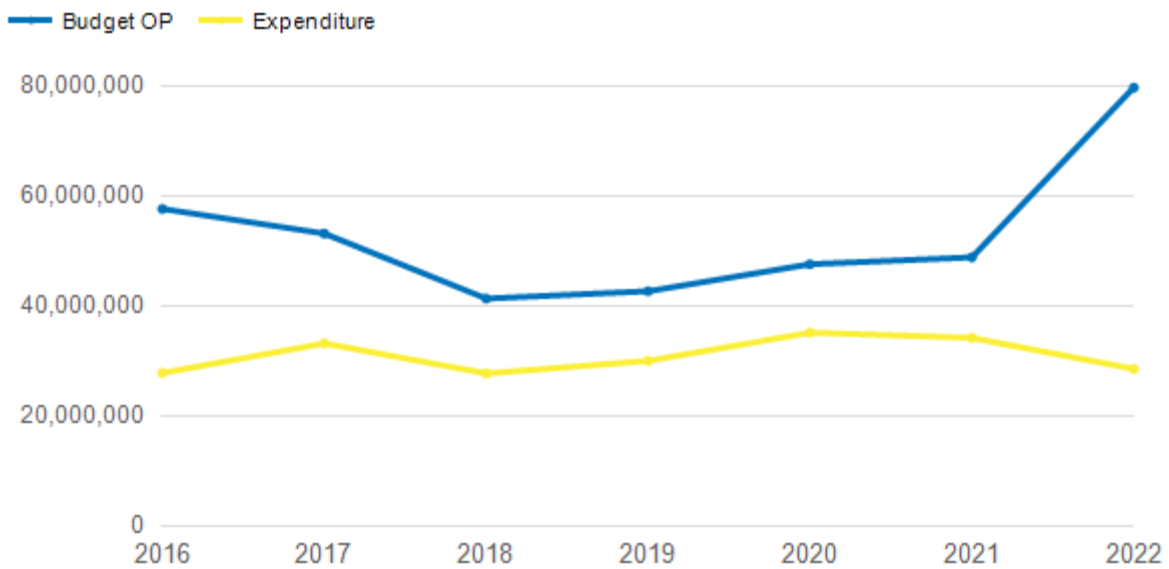
Section 3: Resources

3.1 Financial Data

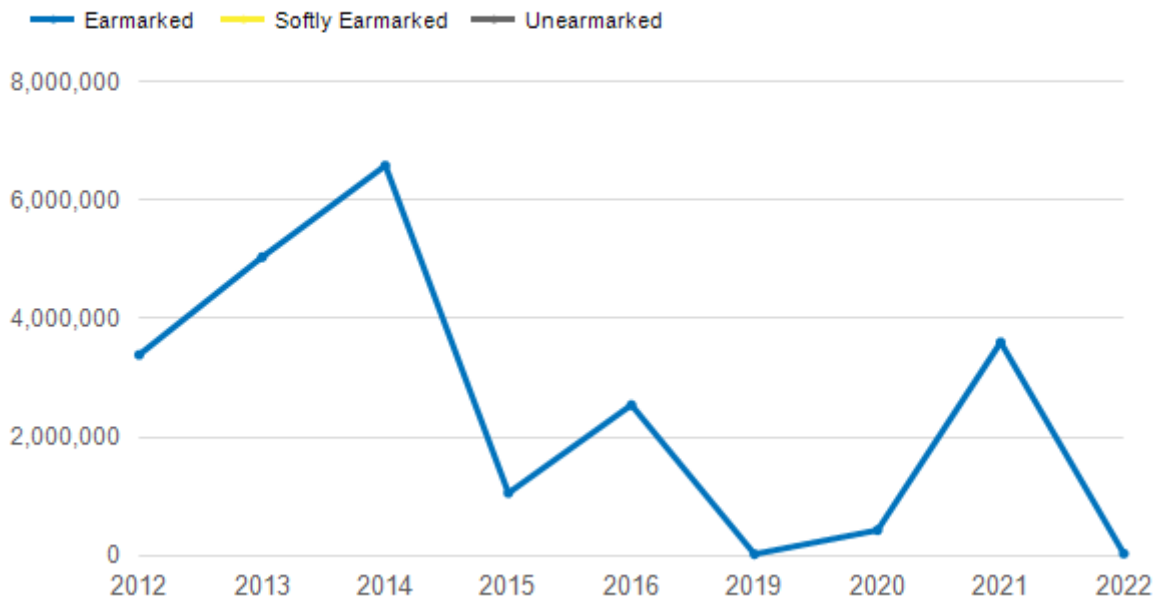
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	12,227,290	5,876,149	48.06%	6,013,649	102.34%
IA2: Respond	26,869,192	10,182,933	37.90%	10,182,933	100.00%
IA3: Empower		2,411	0.00%	2,411	100.00%
IA4: Solve	40,503,517	12,289,173	30.34%	12,289,173	100.00%
All Impact Areas		153,030	0.00%		0.00%
Total	79,599,999	28,503,695	35.81%	28,488,165	99.95%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	2,842,840	542,079	19.07%	542,078	100.00%
OA2: Status	726,390	182,264	25.09%	182,264	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	1,974,832	183,806	9.31%	183,806	100.00%
OA4: GBV	4,291,740	2,147,739	50.04%	2,147,739	100.00%
OA6: Justice	221,556	47,368	21.38%	47,368	100.00%
OA7: Community	8,811,461	5,740,547	65.15%	5,878,047	102.40%
OA8: Well-being	12,562,238	3,078,925	24.51%	3,078,925	100.00%
OA9: Housing	2,660,036	575,959	21.65%	575,959	100.00%
OA10: Health	1,163,895	422,752	36.32%	422,752	100.00%
OA11: Education	1,676,445	551,209	32.88%	551,209	100.00%
OA12: WASH	784,288	131,567	16.78%	131,567	100.00%
OA13 Livelihood	6,289,412	641,808	10.20%	641,808	100.00%
OA14: Return	15,111,984	7,954,635	52.64%	7,954,634	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	224,029	4,315	1.93%	4,315	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	17,359,526	3,648,734	21.02%	3,648,734	100.00%
EA18: Support	2,899,327	2,481,204	85.58%	2,481,204	100.00%
EA20: External		15,756	0.00%	15,756	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		153,030	0.00%		0.00%
Total	79,599,999	28,503,695	35.81%	28,488,165	99.95%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

The year 2022 has seen a significant reduction of resources compared to previous years. Considering the increased needs throughout the country and in the sectors under UNHCR's responsibility, it was decided to maintain UNHCR's presence in the 9 field offices in addition to the representation in Bangui. Thus, the distribution of the initial budget was slightly skewed towards the staffing component as follows: Operations were conducted by a force of 140 staff members recruited from the staffing budget and 10 affiliated staff members. We also used SIBA officials to reinforce our staffing at no additional cost to the CAR operation.



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