

## Overview of the Acute Food Insecurity situation

During an IPC Acute Food Insecurity (AFI) analysis of Central African Republic conducted in September 2021, 67 of the country's 71 sub-prefectures were analysed as well as the city of Bangui. For the period of September 2021 to March 2022, nine sub-prefectures were classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and 59 in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). Of the 4.9 million people living in the sub-prefectures analysed, 2.1 million (43%) will experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) through March 2022, including around 620,000 people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

For the projection period (April to August 2022), 20 sub-prefectures have been classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and 40 in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Of the 4.9 million people living in the sub-prefectures analysed, nearly 2.36 million people (48%) will likely experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) through August 2022, including around 689,000 people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). The populations that are facing high levels of acute food insecurity in this period are mainly in the sub-prefectures of Ngaoundaye, Bozoum and Kouï (with 75% of the population analysed in these conditions), Bocaranga (70%), Obo (65%), Mala, Ndjoukou and Bakouma (60%), Alindao, Satéma, Zémio, Dekoa, Sibut, Bakala and Ippy (55%), Ndélé, Mingala and Zangba (50%), and Kouango (40%).

## Overview of the Acute Malnutrition situation

An IPC Acute Malnutrition (AMN) analysis of 68 sub-prefectures and Bangui, conducted at the same time as the AFI one, revealed that between September 2021 and August 2022, nearly 214,000 children under the age of five and more than 98,000 pregnant or lactating women will likely suffer from acute malnutrition. Among these, nearly 67,000 children are likely severely malnourished and require urgent care. Through February 2022, 31 sub-prefectures and Bangui are classified as being in a Serious nutritional situation (IPC Phase 3), with the remaining sub-prefectures being in an Alert nutritional situation (IPC Phase 2). Between March and August 2022, six sub-prefectures will likely move from being in a Serious to a Critical nutritional situation (IPC Phase 4), while 21 sub-prefectures will likely move from an Alert to a Serious situation. 25 sub-prefectures and Bangui will remain in a Serious situation.

Important to note is that all the areas classified in Emergency (IPC AFI Phase 4) also have Serious levels of acute malnutrition (IPC AMN Phase 3).

## Recommended Actions

- Provide humanitarian assistance and protection programmes**  
Provide immediate humanitarian food assistance to support populations in IPC Phase 3 or above, including displaced people, returnees and host families, and people with special needs. Programs will have to take into account the essential needs of children and pregnant or lactating women.
- Provide livelihood support**  
Implement urgent actions to facilitate access to food and protect or strengthen household livelihoods through the distribution of agricultural and livestock inputs and the creation of community assets.
- Increase access to safe water and adequate sanitation**  
Improve food utilisation and its impact on nutrition by facilitating people's access to safe water sources through the rehabilitation and development of boreholes in areas where access to safe water remains low, while intensifying hygiene and sanitation awareness and services, especially among households in hard-to-reach areas.
- Improve acute malnutrition services**  
Strengthen the coverage and quality of management of acute malnutrition and revitalise the health and nutrition system to improve the quality and coverage of primary care services.



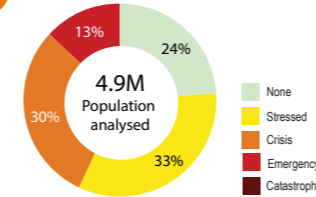
## Current Acute Food Insecurity | September 2021 - March 2022



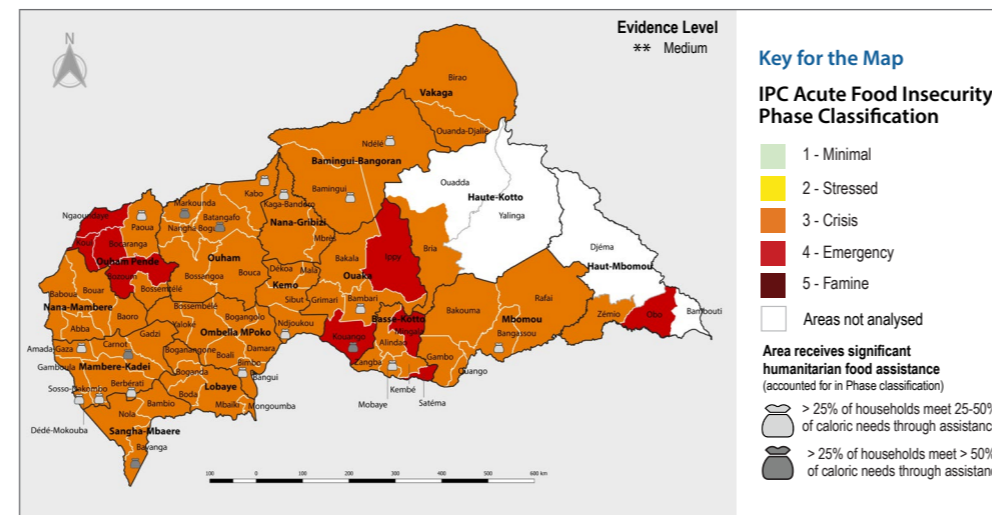
Nearly 2.1 million people in Central African Republic will experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between September 2021 and March 2022.



43% of the analysed population of 4.9 million is experiencing high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above).



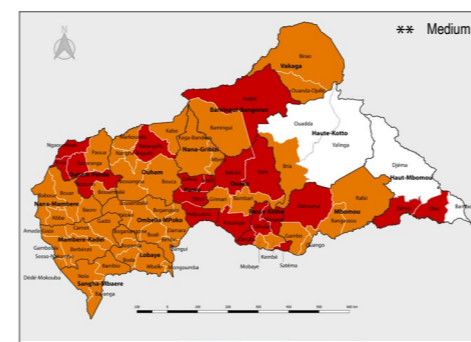
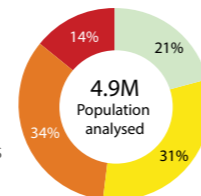
## Current Acute Food Insecurity Situation | September 2021 - March 2022



## Projected Acute Food Insecurity Situation | April - August 2022



In absence of humanitarian food assistance, nearly 2.36 million people (48% of the analysed population) in Central African Republic are likely to experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between April and August 2022.



## Key Drivers of Acute Food Insecurity

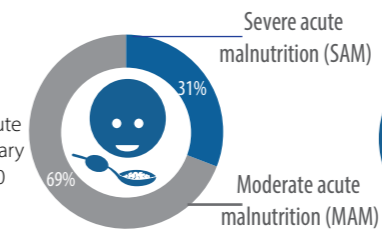
- Conflict and insecurity**  
Between January and September 2021, the security situation stabilised slightly, but will remain highly volatile, with a significant impact on the food insecurity and livelihoods of rural populations and those on the most affected areas. As of 31 August 2021, the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in CAR is estimated to be 713,000.
- Low agricultural production**  
Agricultural production in CAR continues to suffer from the volatile security situation, recurrent population displacements, difficulties in accessing agricultural inputs and tools, poor support to the sector, as well as irregularities or lack of rainfall during the sensitive growing season and crop diseases.
- High food prices**  
Conflict and insecurity, such as the electoral crisis in late 2020, the very gradual reopening of the MSR-1, and conflicts at the CAR-Chad border, led to low agricultural production and the closure of some local markets, affecting the availability and prices of food / non-food items, with a 20% increase in the median price of the minimum survival basket.



## Acute Malnutrition | September 2021 - August 2022

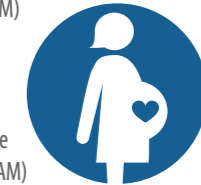
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Nearly 214,000 children under five in Central African Republic will suffer from acute malnutrition through February 2022, of which nearly 67,000 children will be severely malnourished.

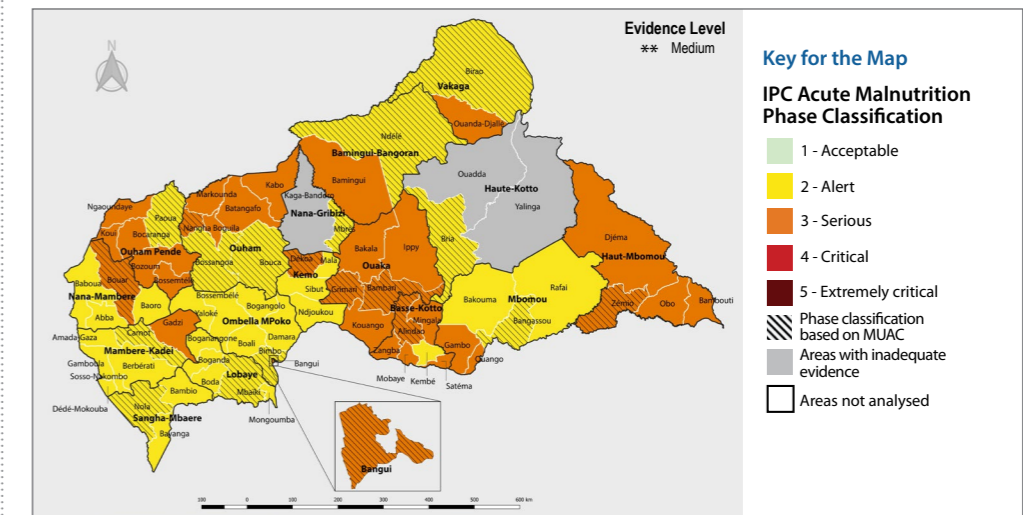


98K

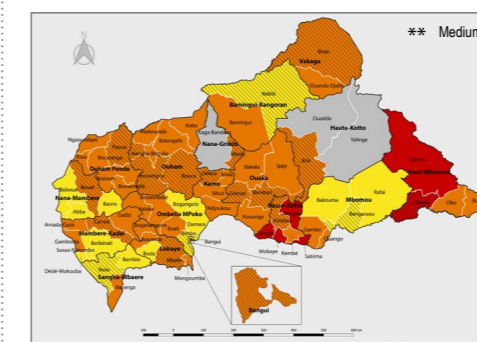
Over 98,000 pregnant or lactating women in Central African Republic will suffer from acute malnutrition through February 2022.



## Current Acute Malnutrition Situation | September 2021 - February 2022



## Projected Acute Malnutrition Situation | March - August 2022



## Contributing Factors to Acute Malnutrition

- Inadequate dietary intake**  
A high and recurrent level of acute food insecurity as well as inadequate quality of food intake prevents children from getting the minimum adequate food needed for physical growth. More than 40% of the population analysed are food insecure and less than 10% of the children have an acceptable minimum diet.
- Conflict and insecurity**  
Inter-community conflict and residual insecurity in some sub-prefectures lead to population movements, negatively impacting basic social services, accentuates inadequate functioning of many decentralised health structures, reducing coverage of nutritional interventions, and makes providing assistance to needy populations difficult.
- High prevalence of infectious diseases**  
Inadequate access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation contribute to the high prevalence of childhood diseases (notably diarrhoea, malaria and ARI) with a resurgence of measles in certain sub-prefectures.



## CAR Crisis Background and Time Series 2018-2021

Central African Republic (CAR) is one of the poorest countries in the world, hostage to a prolonged humanitarian crisis. Nearly half of the people experience high acute food insecurity, with thousands of children and women severely malnourished, due to several factors, such as the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. CAR also suffers recurrent natural disasters, including drought and floods.

### Violence and Instability

Since gaining independence in 1960, CAR has suffered decades of violence and instability. Insurgencies of armed groups over the years has caused significant displacements, damaged infrastructures and heightened ethnic tensions. The cycles of violence are deeply rooted in factors that drive fragility.

### Natural Disasters

In the last three years, CAR has been hit by the worst flooding in two decades, with thousands of homes destroyed and hundreds of thousands of people displaced. Weighty torrential rains cause the Oubangui river, a major tributary of the River Congo that forms the border between CAR and the Democratic Republic of Congo, to overflow on about 372 miles of riverbanks.

### Economic Decline

Sparsely populated with 5.4 million inhabitants, it is one of the poorest countries in the world, despite its abundant natural resources. According to the World Bank, CAR's poverty remains high, and projections suggest that roughly 71% of the population was living below the poverty line (\$1.90 per day) in 2020. However, CAR's agricultural-based economy, potential, and vast mineral resources and forests have yet to benefit the population. The economy has also suffered a slowdown, primarily due to COVID-19 and the related restriction measures that affected trade

between the Central African Republic and neighbouring countries and disrupted input and food supply chains.

### Food Insecurity

Conflict and insecurity, flooding, low production and high food prices are key drivers of food insecurity in the landlocked central African country. Since 2018, nearly half of the country's population experienced high levels of food insecurity. In recent months, the situation has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic that has kept food prices high. People's movements and trade were also limited, and families were pushed to the brink as they struggled to keep their jobs, incomes and limited access to food. According to UNOCHA, the response efforts to CAR's acute food insecurity have been hampered by significant limitations of humanitarian access. Despite the difference in the magnitude of food insecurity between the 2021 lean season (2.3 million) and the 2021-2022 post-harvest season (2.1 million), the last analysis shows some of the highest figures of acute food insecurity for CAR in the post-harvest season. The estimated number of people in IPC

Phase 3 or above expected in the 2021-2022 post-harvest period is 2.1 million compared to 1.9 million from the previous post-harvest period. In the 2022 lean season, in the absence of food assistance, some 2.36 million are estimated in Phase 3 or above compared to 2.3 million from the previous lean season in 2021.

### Malnutrition

According to UNICEF, 40% of children under five in CAR are already suffering from chronic malnutrition, a rate above the emergency threshold of 30%. Conflict, poor access to health services, displacement, and disease outbreaks such as malaria and cholera, among others, have contributed to CAR's high levels of malnutrition. An IPC Acute Malnutrition analysis conducted this year has found that nearly 214,000 children under five in CAR will suffer from acute malnutrition through February 2022. Nearly 67,000 of these will be severely malnourished. Over 98,000 pregnant or lactating women in will suffer from acute malnutrition through February 2022.

## 2018 CURRENT Acute Food Insecurity

August 2018



1.9M

Nearly 1.9 million people (42% of the analysed population) in CAR were classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in August 2018.

## 2019 CURRENT Acute Food Insecurity

May - August 2019



1.8M

Over 1.8 million people (42% of the analysed population) in CAR were classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) between May and August 2019.

## 2019 CURRENT Acute Food Insecurity

September 2019 - April 2020



1.6M

Over 1.6 million people (35% of the analysed population) in CAR were classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) between September 2019 and April 2020.

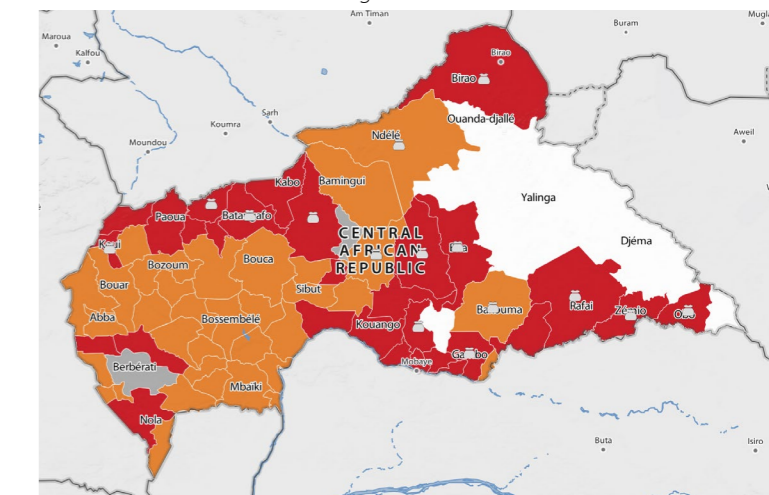
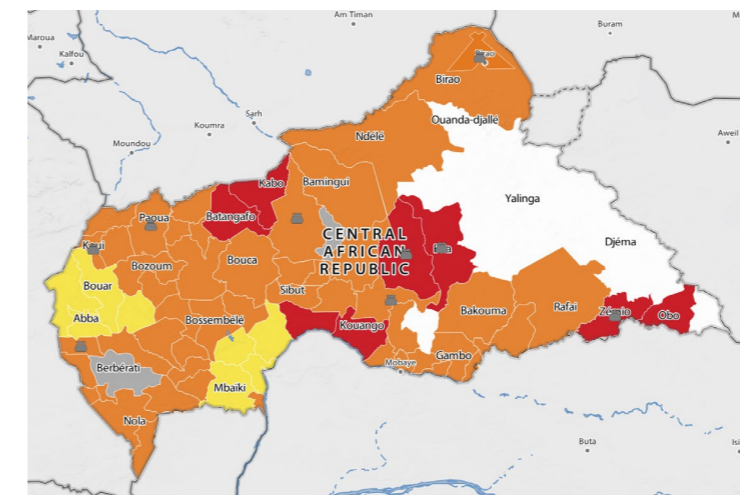
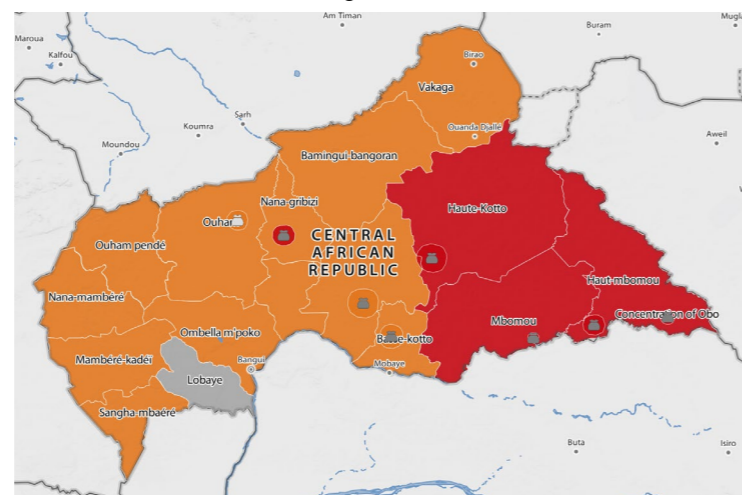
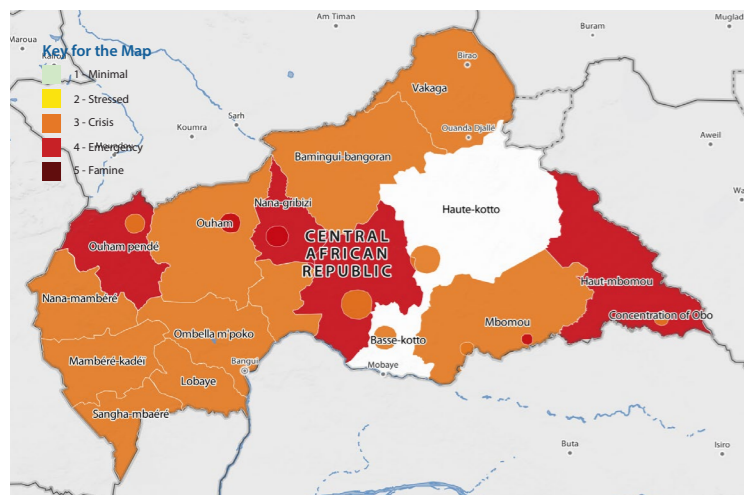
## 2020 PROJECTED Acute Food Insecurity

May - August 2020



2.36M

Over 2.36 million people (51% of the analysed population) in CAR were projected to be in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) between May and August 2020.



## 2020 CURRENT Acute Food Insecurity

September 2020 - April 2021



1.9M

Over 1.9 million people (41% of the analysed population) in CAR were classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in between September 2020 and April 2021.

## 2021 PROJECTED Acute Food Insecurity

April - August 2021



2.3M

Nearly 2.3 million people (47% of the analysed population) in CAR were projected to be in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) between April and August 2021.

## 2021 CURRENT Acute Food Insecurity

September 2021 - March 2022



2.1M

Nearly 2.1 million people (43% of the analysed population) in CAR are classified in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) between September 2021 and March 2022.

## 2022 PROJECTED Acute Food Insecurity

April - August 2022



2.36M

Nearly 2.36 million people (48% of the analysed population) in CAR are projected to be in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) between November 2021 and March 2022.

