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| ***SITUATION*** |
| On 27th of December 2017, the region of Paoua in the Central African Republic (CAR) was affected by fighting between armed groups, which signalled the start of a prolonged slow-onset crisis in this particular region. At least 78,000 People from the villages of Bah-Bessar, Mia-Pendé, Nana-Barya and Banhin Ouham Pende were forced to flee their homes in search of refuge and protection mostly fleeing to the city of Paoua. Due to hosting IDPs over an extended period, the residents of Paoua city (the host population of around 40,000 people) have increasingly exhausted family resources are also now in need of support.    In June 2018, as fighting continued to decrease, IDPs from the city Paoua (68,670), started returning to their villages, only to find burnt down homes, schools and destroyed livelihoods. Because of this desperation, many prefer to return to the city of Paoua to seek humanitarian assistance or other means of support and continue to live as IDPs in the city of Paoua.  There is necessity to save lives and alleviate suffering of people including children and women affected by the conflict in Paoua city and the villages in Ouham Pendé prefecture.  The ACT CAR Forum, which was officially established in 2018, is issuing this Call for Action to raise support and respond to the plight of IDPs, returnees and host communities in Ouham Pende; more specifically IDPs in Paoua city who would wish to resettle back to their villages. This initiative by the CAR Forum is seen as a crucial initial undertaking to strengthen how ACT Forum members work collaborate in responding to what has become a complex emergency. |
| ***NEEDS*** |
| The conflict and influx of IDPs and returnees has put the whole area in a state of crisis. The people affected by the conflict find themselves in a desperate situation, with multiple unmet humanitarian needs like food, water and shelter. Food security situation is dire, as the people had to flee just before harvest time, leaving their crops behind and most of them returned where houses, schools had been burnt, properties and livelihoods had been lost. In addition, access to vital services like education has been critically disrupted for both IDPs and host communities, as schools were used as temporary shelters, teachers have also fled or been killed, and children in host communities compete with IDP children for remaining places in the few remaining, hardly functioning schools.  The dire situation is further compounded by the continuously volatile security situation and lack of government structures to provide protection and basic needs for affected people with vulnerabilities. More specifically for women and girls who are especially hard-hit by the situation. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first. |
| ***STAKEHOLDERS*** |
| The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | UN Agencies | UNOCHA, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM | |  | INGOs | DRC, Oxfam, Solidarites, IEDA Relief, War Child, MSF? Mentor Initiative | |  | Red Cross Red Crescent Movement | ICRC | |  | Military presence | MINUSCA | |  | National NGOs | JUPEDEC, AFBRD |   The emergency response is currently being coordinated by UNOCHA and thematic sub-clusters and working groups. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (on working group, sub-cluster and OCHA UN level) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback. |
| ***ACT Alliance CAR Forum*** |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | ACT Alliance CAR Forum has been working in CAR since 2013 (LWF and FCA since 2013, and DCA since 2015, now helping/planning to help people affected by the armed conflict in the country | |  | ACT Alliance CAR Forum works in areas affected by the armed conflict, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities | |  | ACT Alliance CAR Forum is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a needs assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities. | |  | ACT Alliance CAR Forum is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment. | |  | In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT CAR forum has identified a gap in Food Security and Livelihoods, Education, Psychosocial support, WASH, Shelter and NFI and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap. | |  | The ACT forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide an integrated multi-sectoral response including WASH and Food Security (seeds and tools for gardening), emergency education (remedial education), shelter and NFIs, unconditional cash and cash for work; income generating activities and vocational training, Community psycho social support and social cohesion to ensure that the conflict affected persons’ basic needs are met. | |  | ACT CAR Forum is ready to respond, providing basic needs to affected persons /affected households in the coming months. | |  | Furthermore, ACT CAR Forum will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the conflict are amplified. | |

**Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration,**

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