



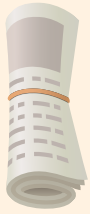
Central African Republic

# NEWSLETTER

2nd Quarter | April-June 2024







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## MESSAGE FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE A.I OF UNFPA CAR DR. AGNES KAYITANKORE

*Welcome to the UNFPA Central African Republic Newsletter – Q2 2024*

**Dear Partners,  
Dear Readers,**

On behalf of UNFPA in the Central African Republic, I am delighted to welcome you to our quarterly newsletter for the period April to June, filled with news, important updates and accomplishments.

During this quarter, we had the honour of participating in a joint monitoring field visit with DG ECHO, which presented a valuable opportunity to assess our collective impact. We also celebrated the International Day of the Midwife, recognizing the essential role these health professionals play in the delivery of quality maternal healthcare.

This newsletter highlights our ongoing efforts to empower women in CAR, particularly in the fight against sexual violence and support for widows. We also share the Central African Republic's significant progress in developing a national strategy to end child marriage.

The newsletter also zeroes in on UNFPA's continuous support for the production and dissemination of socio-demographic data through the organization of the round table of donors for the mobilization of resources for the conduct of the 4th General Population and Housing census of the Central African Republic.

Finally, our 2023 Annual Report provides a comprehensive overview of our achievements and commitment to reproductive health and rights in CAR.

*Wishing you a pleasurable read.*

*Agnes*

**Dr. Agnes KAYITANKORE**, Representative a.i, UNFPA CAR



## On the Ground

# Joint Field Monitoring Visit with DG ECHO



Last April, UNFPA CAR joined the delegation of the Directorate-General for European Civil and Humanitarian Operations (DG ECHO) for an on-site monitoring visit to examine the progress of the ECHO-funded project titled: "Integrated Multi-sectoral Interventions in Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV)" at the Mboko Landja site.

The UNFPA delegation was led by the Representative a.i, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore, ECHO Project Manager Alberto Zerboni, and the communications team. UNFPA's implementing partners, INTERSOS and ALIMA, also participated in this visit to present the progress made and the collaborative efforts undertaken to address integrated sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence issues within the community.





The progress of the project was highly appreciated by DG ECHO, who considered it as an exemplary pilot project for a new initiative aimed at providing integrated SRH/GBV services in CAR. This visit also marked the costed extension of the project's funding for an additional 10 months.

The collaboration between UNFPA and its partners has shown promising results, strengthening local capacities and improving access to integrated sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence services. This project represents a significant step towards sustainable and integrated interventions in these crucial areas.



[Watch the Video Summary by clicking the icon below](#)



[Download the video](#)



*The field monitoring team made up of local Government officials, UNFPA, DG ECHO, INTERSOS, ALIMA and community leaders at Mboko Landja.*



# CAR Adopts a National Strategy to End Child Marriage



In response to the alarming prevalence of child marriage in CAR (61%), the Government, through the Ministry of Gender Promotion and Protection of Women, Family, and Children, with the support of UNFPA and UNICEF, has developed a national strategy to combat child marriage (2024-2027). This strategy was validated by His Excellency Prime Minister and Head of Government Mr. Felix Moloua, in the presence of the First Lady of CAR, Mrs. Brigitte Touadera.

In a country where 61% of children (approximately 771,000 individuals) are married or in union before the age of 18, and where 26% of Central African girls are married before the age of 15, this endorsement underscores a major commitment to protecting children from violence, abuse, and exploitation, and promoting their rights, particularly to education, health, identity, and full development.

The strategy is based on 7 strategic pillars, including: prevention, holistic support for victims, strengthening legal and institutional frameworks, enhancing service capacities, engaging youth, parents, religious leaders, and communities, as well as, the operationalizing of the strategy through state actors and their partners.





The First Lady of CAR, Her Excellency. Mrs. Brigitte Touadera, under whose high patronage the event took place, called for providing families with the means for information and education so that they can safeguard their children's well-being and prevent them from becoming victims of early marriages.

Addressing the participants, Prime Minister and Head of Government Mr. Félix Moloua, who validated the National Strategy, stated that the document is crucial for institutionalizing national efforts to eliminate child marriages in the Central African Republic. "I hope that the development of this strategy will forever elevate advocacy for better living conditions for the children of Central Africa, as well as for resource mobilization," he noted.

"Child marriage, as well as early pregnancies, are not only situations that violate the rights of girls, but are also major causes of the low school enrolment rate for girls and the high maternal mortality rate in CAR," emphasized Dr. Agnes Kayitankore, Representative a.i of UNFPA CAR. She added: "That notwithstanding, I am pleased to acknowledge the political will and significant progress made by the Central African government at the institutional and legal levels with the signing and ratification of laws, conventions, treaties, international, regional, and national agreements aimed at protecting and promoting gender equality, the rights of women and girls, and children as a whole. The implementation and monitoring of this strategy remain important steps to be taken," continued the UNFPA Representative.

"I commend the vigilance and insight of government authorities and technical experts who have taken into account in this strategy the fact that child marriage or union before the age of 18 also occurs during crises and conflicts, further increasing the desolation and vulnerability of these children," said Dr. Meritxell Relaño Arana, UNICEF Representative in CAR.

"We cannot remain inactive and let this continue. The time for action has come, and the political validation of the strategy on Friday, May 10, 2024, is the first step."



*Dr. Agnes Kayitankore, Country Representative a.i of UNFPA Central African Republic*





*Group photo: First Lady of the CAR, Her Excellency Mrs. Brigitte TOUADERA (middle), the Prime Minister of the CAR, His Excellency Mr. Felix MOLOUA (4th from right), the Minister of Gender, Dr. Marthe Augustine KIRIMAT (3rd from right) and the Country Representative a.i of UNFPA CAR, Dr. Agnes KAYITANKORE (3rd from left), as well as other officials of Government, UNFPA & UNICEF.*

This political commitment aims to protect all children, girls and boys, under the age of 18 in CAR from all forms of harmful practices such as early marriage and union by 2030.

**TOGETHER, LET US  
END CHILD  
MARRIAGE**

## UNFPA and USAID organise a training workshop for Implementing Partners on Humanitarian Indicators Reporting



UNFPA, with funding from the USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), organised a training workshop for implementing partners on humanitarian indicators reporting from April 24 to 25, 2024.

To achieve the three transformative results, namely: zero unmet need for family planning, zero preventable maternal deaths, and zero gender-based violence and harmful practices, especially in a humanitarian context; like that of the Central African Republic, it is important to strengthen the capacities of partners to ensure that the expected results are achieved and reported.

In her remarks at the official opening of the training, the Representative a.i of UNFPA CAR, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore, stated, "Humanitarian interventions are life-saving for the vulnerable populations we serve, and UNFPA and donors expect tangible results and the impact that the funding has had on the population served."





As the Country Representative a.i highlighted, “This requirement obliges us to produce periodic reports at intervals ranging from one week to one month, and, when necessary, to provide updates to the donor so they can know in real-time the beneficiaries of the funded interventions.

In this context, you, our partner NGOs are crucial links for gathering and producing valuable data necessary for better decision-making, since you are closer to the population and share their moments of trial, encouraging them to have confidence in themselves, their future, and the assistance institutions.”

The 2-day workshop in Bangui brought together UNFPA’s implementing partners, both governmental and non-governmental organizations.



# The Central African Republic Celebrates International Midwives Day



*Midwives celebrate International Midwives Day under the high patronage of the First Lady of the Central African Republic, Her Excellency Brigitte Touadera.*

The Central African Republic joined the global community in celebrating International Midwives Day (IMD) on Monday, May 6, 2024, in the CEMAC hall in Bangui. The event, organized under the high patronage of the First Lady of the Central African Republic, Her Excellency Brigitte Touadera, highlighted the crucial role midwives play in ensuring the health of mothers and newborns.

This year's national theme, "Midwives: A Vital Solution for Maternal and Child Health," resonated deeply in the Central African Republic, a country facing constant challenges in its healthcare system. Midwives provide essential care throughout pregnancy, childbirth, and the post-partum period, significantly contributing to the reduction of maternal and neonatal mortality rates.

Addressing the participants at the ceremony, the First Lady of the Central African Republic, Her Excellency Mrs. Brigitte Touadera, President of the 'Cri de Coeur d'une mère' Foundation and Patron of the Association of Midwives and Obstetric Nurses of Central Africa, called for increased investment in the training of midwives to provide high-quality care to mothers and their newborns. "Let us remain united in this fight against maternal, neonatal, and infant mortality," she added.





*The First Lady of Central Africa, Her Excellency Brigitte Touadera, delivering her speech during the celebration of the Day of the Midwife in CAR.*

For her part, the Representative a.i of UNFPA, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore, noted that: "The world needs midwives now more than ever. Investing in midwives can help reduce a significant number of preventable maternal and neonatal deaths that occur each year due to the lack of well-trained health workers and adequate facilities."



*Dr. Agnes Kayitankore, the Representative a.i of UNFPA, delivering her speech.*

The celebration of International Midwives Day in the Central African Republic highlights the essential role midwives play in building a healthier future for mothers and children. With continued support and investment, midwives can play a powerful role in improving maternal health outcomes in the country.



*Group photo with the First Lady of CAR, Her Excellency Brigitte Touadera, during the celebration of International Midwives Day.*



## The Safe Spaces in Boukaya helping women bounce back from Gender-Based Violence (GBV)



Women from the safe space in Boukaya (Northwest CAR) selling their food products.  
Photo Credit: UNFPA CAR

In the locality of Boukaya, in the northwest of the Central African Republic, the challenges faced by women and girls are exacerbated by the persistence of armed conflicts and chronic insecurity. Gender-based violence is a daily reality for many, and access to safe and viable economic resources is often out of reach.

However, thanks to the intervention of UNFPA and its project funded by the European Union, substantial change is taking place. This project aims to provide integrated sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) services to women & girls in the Central African Republic who have been affected by years of armed conflict.

Marlène Zari, a 25-year-old farmer and mother of five, attests to the transformational impact of this initiative. Before the intervention of UNFPA and its implementing partner, INTERSOS, Marlène was primarily concerned with daily survival and the constant threat of assault if she ventured into the fields get farm produce to support her livelihood or to fetch water for domestic use.



In the heart of Boukaya, the safe space established by UNFPA and managed by the NGO INTERSOS serves as a refuge from violence and a place of learning and empowerment for the women and girls of the community. For Marlène, the training in bakery offered at the safe space has opened up new opportunities for her to meet her family's needs without risking her safety. "The establishment of the safe space in Boukaya has been very beneficial to us. It allowed me to gain a lot of knowledge about GBV and to learn baking," Marlène shares. She adds, "I am afraid to go to the fields because of the armed men who do not hesitate to sexually assault us. [For now] I will focus on this activity to support my family."



*ZARI Marlène, a beneficiary of the project in Bocaranga (Northwest CAR) / Photo Credit: JKS INTERSOS*

The critical situation of women and girls in the region is demonstrated by the alarming statistics that exist. In the Central African Republic, 850,000 women are impacted by the crisis and urgently require health and protection services. Existing health and protection structures have been weakened and are unable to provide the necessary health and protection services.

Currently, CAR faces a shortage of healthcare workers, infrastructure, and medical equipment, coupled with physical access difficulties. And strikingly, only 27% of GBV survivors have access to medical services within 72 hours of the incident.

UNFPA's intervention in the safe space of Boukaya, with financial support from the European Union, goes beyond training in income-generating activities (IGAs). It also includes educational sessions on women's rights and awareness on the varied forms of GBV and how to stay protected from them. These sessions help equip women with the necessary knowledge to defend themselves and seek help when needed.

So far, the impact of the safe space and interventions in Boukaya is being felt throughout the community, with calls for the extension of the project to other areas of Bocaranga. The beneficiaries, satisfied with the notable changes, have observed a significant improvement in their quality of life and express a strong likelihood of recommending these services to others.

To intensify this impact, the project deploys an integrated service offering, carried out in collaboration with the NGO, Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA), to ensure comprehensive medical care. This multidisciplinary strategy aims to achieve UNFPA's 3 Transformative Results: zero preventable maternal deaths, zero unmet needs for family planning, and zero gender-based violence and harmful practices. It also includes the prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV, as well as the prevention of early and unwanted pregnancies often resulting from sexual assault. By integrating SRH services with GBV prevention and response, this program ensures holistic care that respects and enhances the dignity and resilience of the women and girls of Boukaya.



Women from the Boukaya safe space (Northwest CAR) playing kissoro. Photo credit: UNFPA CAR



## Round Table: Mobilizing Partners for the conduct of the 4th General Population and Housing Census in CAR



*From L-R: Resident Representative of the World Bank in the CAR, Mr. Guido Rurangwa, the Minister of Planning, Economy and Cooperation, Professor Richard Filakota, the Prime Minister of the CAR, His Excellency Mr. Felix Moloua, the Rep a.i of UNFPA, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore and the 1st Vice-President of the Special Delegation of the City of Bangui, Léontine Yangba Weyebonna-Bona at the round table for the 4th GPHC in CAR.*

The CAR has taken a crucial step in preparing for its Fourth General Population and Housing Census with the holding of a Round Table for donors and key stakeholders at the Ledger Plaza Hotel. This major event, supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), aimed to mobilize the necessary resources to ensure the complete and effective implementation of the 4th GPHC, an essential tool for planning national development actions. It must be noted that the last census in CAR was conducted in 2023.

More specifically, this will involve: (i) Mobilizing partners to commit to the implementation of the 4th GPHC, (ii) Obtaining official announcements of financial contributions to fill the financing gap, (iii) Ensuring the financial security necessary for carrying out the different phases of the census over the period 2024-2025.

The 4th GPHC has several phases, ranging from preliminary activities such as the development of the preparatory census project document to digital mapping, the pilot census, the actual enumeration, processing & analysis of the data, dissemination of the results and storage of the information to be generated.

The 4th GPHC will be the very first digital census in CAR, which will be carried out using portable equipment, computer-assisted personal interviews and geographic information system technologies.

The total cost of the project is estimated at US\$ 24.1 million. To date, US\$ 18.6 million has already been mobilized, with significant contributions from the CAR Government, the World Bank, as well as, UNFPA and UNICEF. However, additional funding of around USD 5.5 million, or 23% of the total budget, is still needed to complete the budget to avoid delays in the implementation of other phases.

In her speech, the UNFPA Representative a.i, Dr Agnes Kayitankore, welcomed the convening of the round table for finding joint avenues and strategies; with a view to contributing to the budget of the 4th GPHC, the importance of which no longer needs to be demonstrated. She continued by stating that together the exchanges and contributions of everyone will make it possible to raise the necessary resources for the complete completion of the 4th GPHC for the Central African Republic, the results of which are eagerly anticipated. She warmly thanked the stakeholders for putting aside their multiple engagements in order to be able to



participate in the Round Table, organized by the Central African Government through the initiative of the Ministry of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation in the search for the well-being of the Central African population.

Furthermore, she stressed that for the CAR, being currently in full reconstruction, credible and up-to-date official statistical information on the demographic, social, economic and environmental situation is fundamental in the development, planning and effective monitoring of policies for economic growth.

They are also relevant in terms of poverty reduction and the achievement of national development objectives in the NDP 2024-2028 and the Sustainable





Development Goals (SDGs), of the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD+30), the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development, and the AU's Agenda 2063, etc.

Presently, the relevance of the General Population and Housing Census no longer needs re-emphasizing in CAR to such an extent that, the Government seeks to carrying out its 4th census after those of 1975, 1988 and 2003, from which history will record that the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) had actively contributed both technically and financially. The UNFPA Rep a.i. echoed that the population census is one of the largest and most complex operations implemented by States in peace, and it therefore requires careful planning and dedicated resources.

In his speech, the Prime Minister, Head of Government, reminded partners that, the meeting had a single goal of mobilizing from all the Technical and Financial Partners (PTF) of the CAR, the necessary resources in order to carry out the enumeration of the 4th GPHC over the period, from November 15 to December 15, 2024 and the other phases including the Post Census Survey, data exploration, analysis, publication, dissemination of results and the physical archiving and storage of electronic data.

To this end, he urged all Technical and Financial Partners to get involved in the mobilization of resources to fill the gap necessary for providing technical support to the CAR for carrying out the enumeration exercise as part of the 4th GPHC.



The Round Table, which brought together representatives of various bilateral and multilateral partners, private investors, sovereign funds, foundations and civil society actors, gave rise to announcements and commitments from the following partners:

- UNFPA
- World Bank
- The UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)
- The African Development Bank (ADB)
- The Development Bank of the Central African States (BDEAC)
- The Angolan Embassy
- The Moroccan Embassy
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF)



## Hope is renewed for victims of Obstetric Fistula in Bouar, Central African Republic



*The beneficiaries scheduled to undergo obstetric fistula repair surgeries holding their dignity kits.*

A campaign for obstetric fistula repair has been launched in Bouar, marking a significant step in the fight against Obstetric Fistula (OF); the devastating medical condition which robs victims of the health, wellbeing and dignity in society. The event, presided over by the Prefect of Nana Mambéré, brought together government representatives, local authorities, healthcare professionals, and development partners in support and solidarity for the health campaign aimed at restoring dignity to OF victims.

In the opening speech, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore, Representative a.i of UNFPA, read by Dr. Alexis Naïssem at the launch of the obstetric fistula repair campaign, emphasized the devastating impact of obstetric fistula on women's lives, as well as its threat to social cohesion and women's dignity. She reiterated the Central African government's commitment to eliminating this preventable and treatable medical condition, in line with the President's vision of making health a priority pillar of development.

The Bouar campaign, the ninth of its kind since 2009, aims to operate on at least 50 women suffering from obstetric fistula yearly. It is part of UNFPA's ongoing efforts to support the Central African healthcare system and improve maternal health in the country.

Dr. Agnes Kayitankore praised the leadership of local authorities and the commitment of local partners in the preparation and execution of this campaign. She reaffirmed UNFPA's commitment to supporting the Ministry of Health in its fight against maternal morbidity, disability, and mortality in the Central African Republic.

For the launch of the obstetric fistula repair campaign, UNFPA was supported by the President of the Special Delegation of the city of Bouar; the honorable deputies of Bouar; representatives from WHO, UNHCR, WFP, esteemed professors of surgery, the chief medical officer of the Bouar-Baoro health district, and the medical director of the Bouar district hospital, along with other distinguished guests.

Women with confirmed cases of obstetric fistula who are to undergo surgical interventions as part of the campaign, attended the brief ceremony, where they received dignity kits to help maintain personal hygiene for their health and well-being. These dignity kits contain items such as soap, towels, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand sanitizers, and underwear, among other essentials.



*With the support of UNFPA, these women hope to live normal lives after undergoing their obstetric fistula surgeries.*

The International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, celebrated on May 23, was an occasion to emphasize the urgency of acting to prevent this condition and ensure all women have access to quality healthcare. This year's theme, "Breaking the Cycle: Preventing Fistula Worldwide!" highlights the importance of prevention and calls for urgent action to address gaps and inequalities in healthcare.

The Bouar campaign highlights the role of collective commitment for eliminating obstetric fistula in the Central African Republic and for improving the health and well-being of women and girls.



## Diplomatic Visit: The Ambassador of Canada to CAR at the UNFPA CAR Office



*The Ambassador of Canada to CAR, Her Excellency Ms. Lorraine Anderson, shaking hands with the Representative a.i of UNFPA CAR, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore.*

UNFPA CAR had the honor of welcoming the Canadian Ambassador to CAR, Ms. Lorraine Anderson, and Mr. Marcus Davies, Political Advisor for the High Commission of Canada to Cameroon.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the Representative a.i of UNFPA CAR, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore, to present UNFPA's mandate areas in the Central African Republic, with a focus on our work to improve access to sexual and reproductive health services and support for the fight against gender-based violence. She underscored the importance of Canada as a key partner among the top donors of UNFPA globally. We extend heartfelt gratitude to Canada for their commitment and continuous support of UNFPA.

## Diplomatic Visit: The Ambassador of Italy to CAR at the UNFPA CAR Office



*The Italian Ambassador, His Excellency Filippo Scammacca Del Murgo, with the Rep a.i of UNFPA CAR, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore.*

The Italian Ambassador, His Excellency Filippo Scammacca Del Murgo, visited the UNFPA country office in CAR, where he met with the Representative a.i, Dr. Agnes Kayitankore. UNFPA CAR is implementing a project aimed at improving the quality of newborn and maternal healthcare services in CAR, funded by the Italian government at a cost of €5 million.

The funding will also support the rehabilitation of the only referral hospital in CAR for neonatal and pediatric care, the Complexe Hospitalier Universitaire Pédiatrique de Bangui.

## Women Empowerment in CAR: Focus on the elimination of Sexual Violence and Support for Widows



*The First Lady of the Central African Republic, Her Excellency Mrs. Brigitte Touadera, handing out dignity kits to widows.*

In June, the Central African Republic marked two important international days for women's empowerment: the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict (June 19) and the International Widows' Day (June 23). Against this background, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) organized an awareness session on the family cohesion and other topics related to these two days.

To kick off the celebration of International Widows' Day in CAR, UNFPA supported the First Lady of CAR, Her Excellency Mrs. Brigitte Touadera, who officially launched the day with a symbolic handing out of dignity kits to members of the Zarephath Widows Association and the Organization of Orphans and Widows of Central Africa (OVEUCA) on Sunday, June 23, at the Evangelical Church of the Martyrs' City.





*Some members of the Zarephath Widows Association with their dignity kits.*

Following the launch, H.E. Mrs. Brigitte Touadera welcomed women and girls who are members of women's organizations, widows, and the Movement of GBV Survivors of Central Africa (MOSUCA), as well as Muslim women, working women, and women living with disabilities, for a ceremony designed to provide a platform for discussing actions to eliminate domestic violence and sexual violence related to conflicts. The event, held at the secretariat of the 'Cri de coeur d'une mère' Foundation, also served as an occasion to distribute dignity kits to the women and girls in attendance.

In her speech, the First Lady, H.E. Mrs. Brigitte Touadera, appreciated the support of UNFPA and other international and local partners. She also called for increased efforts from stakeholders to combat conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence and to protect the interests of widows and orphans, who are often marginalized in the country.

In her remarks at the ceremony, Mrs. Chada Mohamed, the Officer-In Charge of the UNFPA CAR CO, revealed that: "Sexual violence disproportionately affects widows and orphans, increasing their vulnerability. In 2022, 23,644 incidents of gender-based violence were recorded in CAR. This figure increased by 8% in 2023, reaching 25,554 cases. In the first quarter of 2024, 681 cases of gender-based violence were recorded in the city of Bangui and 538 cases in Bimbo."



The ceremony, held under the high patronage of Mrs. Brigitte Touadera, the First Lady of the Republic, underscores the country's commitment to supporting survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and widows, promoting their rights and dignity, while protecting them against gender-based violence.



*Mrs. Chada Mohamed, the officer-in-charge of the UNFPA CAR CO, handing out dignity kits to women.*



*The First Lady of the CAR, H.E. Mrs. Brigitte Touadera, with women living with disabilities.*

The First Lady, known for her commitment to women's issues, emphasized the importance of these days for raising public awareness about the specific challenges these women face and for strengthening efforts aimed at their empowerment.

The dual celebration highlights the need to continue efforts to ensure gender equality, combat violence against women, and provide adequate support to widows, who are often marginalized and vulnerable. Present at the ceremony were the Minister of Gender Promotion, Women's Protection, Family and Child, Dr. Marthe Augustine Kirimat, government officials, NGO representatives, and UNFPA staff.



*Group photo of the First Lady of CAR with the distinguished guests at the ceremony.*



## Update on the progress of USAID BHA Project activities



*The Director of Operations, Ms. Chada Mohamed explaining a point to Ms. Olivia Kaho, USAID BHA Project Management Specialist.*

UNFPA received Ms. Olivia Kaho, Project Management Specialist from USAID BHA in the Central African Republic to inform her of the status of implementation of the project financed by BHA.

During the implementation period of this project, 10,500 dignity kits were provided to vulnerable women and girls, including GBV survivors and 4,777 cases of sexual violence treated.

The project was a great success thanks to reinforced field monitoring, capacity building of local actors, improved coordination with partners, clear guidelines established, and the satisfaction expressed by the majority of partners.





**USAID**  
DU PEUPLE AMERICAIN

## At Birao and Am-dafok



More than 350 refugee women and girls settled at the Korsi site received training in baking, saponification and knitting thanks to USAID funding, and 150 others took functional courses in literacy (adult education).

These two activities aim to strengthen the resilience of beneficiaries. Functional literacy courses will allow them to better communicate with local populations and to know how to discuss the prices of items on the market.

In collaboration with MINUSCA, two missions were carried out in Am-dafok and enabled the health facility (FOSA) to be equipped with a Reproductive Health (RH) kit and to raise awareness on GBV and RH services.



# Update on the progress of the CERF project in the fight against GBV in CAR



## Community engagement

Women's community-based associations played a crucial role in the implementation of the project. Sixteen (16) of them strengthened their knowledge on fighting GBV, sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), and knowledge about sexual and reproductive health. They also benefited from strengthening their female leadership capacities.

## Improved medical care

The training of 43 healthcare providers in the clinical management of rape and intimate partner violence helped build a pool of competent trainers. In addition, 25 national and international NGO actors were trained in GBV case management.



*Raising community awareness and generating community dialogues on the dangers of GBV against women and girls and the role of communities in risk mitigation and support for survivors.*

## Encouraging figures

The figures for the first half of the year demonstrate the impact of the actions taken:



**Ngaoundaye** : 181 cases of GBV notified, including 13 rapes treated medically within 72 hours.



**Ndélé** : 88 prenatal consultations, 76 postnatal consultations, 33 safe deliveries and 10 medical treatments for rape.



**Rafai** : 115 GBV survivors received medical care.



**Zangba** : 10 GBV survivors benefited from psychosocial support.



### Distribution of dignity kits

2,100 dignity kits were distributed to women and girls, contributing to their well-being and recovery.

These encouraging results demonstrate the effectiveness of the actions carried out. They strengthen the determination to continue the fight against GBV in the Central African Republic in partnership with UN CERF.



# Update on the project financed by the Government of Canada



UNFPA, with funding from Global Affairs Canada, and in partnership with Olivier Homme de Galilée pour le Développement Social (ONG OHG DS), made significant progress in its project to support women and girls victims of gender-based violence in Bimbo.

## **Literacy and economic empowerment**

At the 'Cité de la Paix' safe space, 60 women and girls take literacy classes focused on reading, writing and arithmetic. These courses aim to strengthen their autonomy and give them access to information. At the same time, 70 women and girls participate in training in saponification and cake making, thus promoting their financial independence.

## **Support for widowed women**

A day dedicated to widowed women was organized in Bimbo, bringing together 80 participants. This event made it possible to discuss their experiences and provide them with material and psychological support.

## **Boeing Maternity has recorded encouraging results in Quarter 2:**

- 141 safe deliveries
- 155 prenatal consultations
- 44 postnatal consultations
- 509 people benefited from family planning services
- 59 medical care for rape survivors
- 111 people provided with psychosocial support at the Boeing crisis centre.

## **Activities in Bria**

In Bria, the provision of SRH services at the hospital made it possible to carry out 22 deliveries and 42 prenatal consultations. The 2nd quarter was marked by a significant increase in the rate of attendance and use of services offered by the NGO OHG DS. These results demonstrate the positive impact of the project on the lives of women and girls in Bimbo and Bria.

# Update on Progress of the project funded by Italy

**PROJECT:** Response to maternal and neonatal health needs in CAR



Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
e della Cooperazione Internazionale



ITALIAN AGENCY  
FOR DEVELOPMENT  
COOPERATION

## Progress Report:

- Development and signing of UNFPA-CUAMM and UNFPA-UNOPS partnership agreements.
- Development and joint signing of the Annual Work Plan with UNFPA-CUAMM and UNFPA-UNOPS.
- Establishment of the steering committee under the general coordination of the Ministry of Health.
- Steering committee in place and functional,
- Three meetings of the steering committee were held during the 2nd quarter
- The implementation of activities continues, with 375 newborns having benefited from healthcare at the Complexe Hospitalier Universitaire Pediatrique de Bangui (CHUPB).
- Development of the basic documents and rehabilitation plan produced.

## Steering Committee Meeting



A working session of the steering committee held at the conference room of the Ministry of Health in Bangui.

Government representatives, representatives of UNFPA and UNOPS and representatives of CUAMM were present.



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