CONCERN IN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – 2024

CONCERN

Factsheet compiled in 2025

"The communities we work with have been hit hard and continue to suffer from the harassment of armed groups. They need initial support to help them take that first step."

- Maud Biton, Concern CAR Country Director

Humanitarian Overview

For more than a decade, the Central African Republic (CAR) has faced bouts of violence that have displaced approximately one in four civilians, and placed roughly one-third of Central Africans in an ongoing hunger crisis. This hunger crisis is one of the most tragic impact of those tensions, with 40 per cent of children under five with stunted growth.¹

In 2025, the UN estimates 2.4 million people will be in need of humanitarian assistance, nearly half the national population.²

Violence against civilians and frequent disasters, like flooding, continue to drive new displacements. These displacements not only have an impact on food security but also lead to an increased vulnerability to exploitation and gender-based violence (GBV). Between January and August 2024, 15,000 GBV cases were registered.

Environmentally, flooding emerged as a recurring challenge due to extended rainy seasons over the past two years. Finally, CAR continues to bear the weight of volatile regional dynamics (Sudan, Chad and DRC).

These dynamics highlight the fragility of CAR's progress and the continued need for coordinated humanitarian and development efforts to address both immediate needs and long-term resilience.

Concern Operations

Concern has been working in CAR since 2014 and in 2024, Concern CAR maintained its commitment to addressing intersectional inequality, and integrated gender-transformative approaches into 50 per cent of its projects. Concern's programmes in CAR implement activities in both development and emergency contexts, the team addressed critical nutrition needs in vulnerable rural and conflict affected communities across CAR, worked on improving access to clean water and hygiene



Merchants selling their products at a new market as part of a socio-economic recovery programme in south-easter CAR. Photo: Concern Worldwide.

practices in Zangba and Mobaye, targeted agricultural recovery and emergency food aid, and responded to every major emergency in CAR.

In 2025, Concern will continue to work towards its commitment to alleviate extreme poverty and reach the furthest behind in CAR.



- 1. Central African Republic Global Hunger Index
- 2. OCHA 2025 Global Humanitarian Overview Report

OUR WORK IN 2024



Health

In 2024, Concern Worldwide implemented integrated health interventions across both development and emergency contexts in the Bossembele and Yaloke health districts. These interventions improved healthcare access, reduced maternal and child mortality rates, and promoted sustainable behaviour change. Community awareness of hygiene and healthcare practices increased significantly, the projects enhanced health system capacity through training, material support, and improved coordination with district health authorities. These efforts led to better service delivery and data quality, aligning with national health objectives.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024

- 8 health facilities provided free healthcare services thanks to Concern, significantly increasing the utilisation of health services and reducing maternal and child mortality rates.
- 7,000 children were treated for common illnesses.
 - parents were trained on facilitating health education sessions, including identifying critical health cases.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

In 2024, Concern's interventions targeted areas with limited WASH access. Interventions reduced waterborne illnesses, improved hygiene practices, and alleviated the burden of water collection for women and children. Public institutions like schools and health centres benefited from improved WASH infrastructure, enhancing learning and care environments. Our programmes contributed to national resilience goals by aligning with humanitarian cluster objectives and addressing the needs of crisis-affected populations. A total of 15,801 benefitted from Concern's WASH activities.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024

- 6,000 people benefitted from the rehabilitation/construction of boreholes and the development of natural water sources in Mobaye and Zangba.
- 1,077 people benefitted from hygiene promotion campaigns focusing on handwashing, menstrual hygiene, and water safety in Mobaye.
 - 108 latrines were built in Mobaye.



Emergency Programme

Concern responded to four emergencies in 2024, reaching a total of 39,543 people. Three of those emergencies were due to conflict and one was in the aftermath of flash-floods. The multisectoral response offered by Concern aimed to address urgent needs for food, water, and shelter. Protection considerations, including adherence to the "Do No Harm" principle, were integrated throughout activities. Activities included support to agricultural recovery through the distribution of certified seeds, distributions of essential household items, hygiene supplies, and menstrual hygiene products, in-kind distributions during the lean season, or the training of health workers and procurement of essential medicines.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024

- 1,307 households impacted by floods received kits with sleeping mats, torches, whistles.
 - people displaced due to conflict in Gazi-Beya received kits with items such as jerry cans, soap, or sleeping mats.
- 5,000 people benefitted from food distributions to meet at least 50% of their caloric needs.



In 2024, Concern Worldwide implemented six integrated Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) programmes in response to the complex challenges faced by vulnerable populations, including conflict, climate shocks, and economic insecurity. The programmes combined humanitarian assistance with development activities to provide a comprehensive response covering the prefectures of Ouaka, Basse-Kotto, and Ombella M'Poko. **Programmes improved dietary diversity and reduced food insecurity among targeted households**, collaboration with local authorities strengthened institutional capacity, and Concern contributed to national food security and resilience policies, aligning interventions with government priorities.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024

- **5,122** households received 240kg of vegetable seeds and 43,194kg of staple crop seeds.
 - 147 VSLA (village savings and loan associations) were created to improve financial security and reduce dependency to aid.
- 66,946 people directly benefitted from Concern's activities to improve Food security and livelihoods in 2024.

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK



Ribbon cutting of a new market built thanks to Concern in south-eastern CAR. Photo: Concern Worldwide

"We will have an abundance of food and for a good price."

Serge is a mayor, and the father of eight children. He is also the head of a group he created in response to communal tensions. This group (FEDES) organises awareness campaigns on gender-based violence and social cohesion. When Concern arrived in the commune, Serge asked for support. Together with all the village chiefs in the Pouyamba commune, they asked for a market to be built, and Concern agreed to support the FEDES' project. "The population is delighted with the opening of this market. They are grateful to Concern, because before, everyone sold their produce either by the roadside or at home." This market will bring people together from different cultures and religions from 58 villages of the Pouyamba commune. Concern provided further support, and gave training sessions on social cohesion and conflict management.

"As a widow, I cannot provide for my children on my own. I am incredibly grateful to Concern."

Awaou has six children. After losing her husband, she started braiding in her community to earn enough money to provide for her children. Concern gave Awaou financial support, as well as food and vegetable seeds. With those, she created a tomato and carrot garden, which helps feed her children with nutritious foods. She also works on a large common plot of land shared with other women of the community, and concern provides technical support on the management of that plot. This year, women are hoping to build an enclosure to protect the crops. As Awaou's crops grow, so does her hope for the future: "As a widow, I cannot provide for my children on my own. I am incredibly grateful to Concern for its support in our community through the distribution of food, seeds, and other items."



Awaou (40), has received support from Concern through the provision of food and seeds for market gardening and food crops. Photo: Concern Worldwide



Tiyassi Joanette (30) lives with her mother and four children. She has received food, seeds, shelter and non food kits.

Photo: Concern Worldwide

"The shelter that Concern has built for me enabled me to get out of my mother's house with my children. I will continue to fight for a better way of life."

Tiyassi lives with her mother and four children, her disability meant she had to rely on her mother financially. She has received from Concern food such as peanuts, oil, corn or beans, seeds, shelter as well as household items to meet her and her children's immediate needs. The seeds allowed her mother to expend the extent of her field. Concern also built Tiyassi a shelter which gives her independence and she's able to live in it with her children. Tiyassi has now managed to set up a small food business and she is using the income to help support her family. Concern's support has allowed Tiyassi to access opportunities that were out of reach due to her disability. "The shelter that Concern has built for me has enabled me to get out of my mother's house with my children. I feel more independent, because at my age, living with my parents is not easy. And I will continue to fight for a better way of life."

"I suddenly saw water invade our veranda, then the bedroom and the house collapsed."

Gabrielle owns a field she cultivates with her husband and has four children. Gabrielle is one of the victims of the flooding in Gbagaya. She and her family took refuge in the fields, but the floods took everything, including her livelihood. "We often notice the river rising automatically after it rains, but we take it lightly, when one day I suddenly saw the water invade our veranda, then the bedroom and the house collapsed." Gabrielle and her husband managed to eventually rebuild a house, but they did not have enough money to finish the roof. When Concern reached the village to identify the impact and victims of the floods, Gabrielle asked for support. "I'm very grateful to Concern for their support in providing NFI and hygiene kits. I'll be using the tarpaulin I received to cover the roof of my house until I get some metal sheets, and the utensils will help me to cook healthily."



Gabrielle's family is one of the 1,360 households who received household and hygiene kits after being affected by floods. Photo: Concern Worldwide