

Progress in Central African Republic country in 2021

Data as of: 29 March 2024

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-CAF_D_1.1

Central African women and girls of all ages fully participate, lead ans engage in political institutions and processes

During the reporting period, many achievements have been reached in term of women's participation namely: i) the increase of women representatives in the Parliament from 11 (2015) to 18 women parliamentarian (2021) who seat in the national assembly, ii) the increase of women electoral commissioners from 22% to 36%, iii) the increase of women members of electoral commissions at the local level from 11% to 29%, iv) the improvement of the legal framework for elections by removing discriminatory provisions such as the obligation to hold a land title in order to be a candidate in legislative elections, and the introduction of a 35% quota for gender representation in candidate lists.. V) The office has also supported the implementation and operationalization of 1325 hotline that allowed the monitoring violence in the electoral process. These achievements are the results of a better coordination of gender-sensitive interventions through leading the Gender and Election Technical Group and a strengthening the advocacy of women's organizations in favor of inclusive and peaceful elections. UN Women has closely worked with ANE (National Authority for the Elections), UNDP, MINUSCA, ENABEL and women of civil society engaged on the peaceful process in the country. Many programmatic actions, funded by the Peace Building Fund, the government of Canada, Sweden, United Kingdom, and UNDP, allowed to support the last presidential and legislatives election: (i) The training and deployment of 850 community volunteers for the civic education campaign (ii) the organization of mass awareness and advocacy meetings with the main actors in the electoral process that reached 2.3 millions of people (iii)the training, coaching and legal assistance of potential women candidates for the elections (More than 1,200 women aspirants and stakeholders in the electoral process trained), (iv) the training of the Defense and Internal Security Forces in the use and maintenance of Green Line 1325 equipment, (v) the establishment of a psycho-social support mechanism for the management of post-traumatic stress of female candidates in elections. 93 women candidates took part in training workshops and benefited from counselling and individualized listening sessions, vi) Setting up of the prevention and data collection mechanism on violence against women during the electoral period in CAR. For the first time in CAR, a national study on violence against women during elections was conducted and the study report is available and being published. These activities were carried out in a particularly difficult security context, exacerbated by logistical constraints and the isolation of the hinterland prefectures. Due to insufficient resources, the portfolio was not able to cover all the country's prefectures for the training of candidates and the civic education campaign. The monitoring of violence against women was done at the national level. Women continue to face structural discrimination supported by sociocultural constraints that has impacted the number of women candidates. In the perspective of the next local election, the office will continue to support the political participation of women and girls.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-CAF_D_2.1

Rural women secure access to productive resources and engage in sustainable agriculture in Central Africa Republic

The office continued to reinforce these actions to promote women's economic empowerment in the country, particularly in the rural sector. In 2021, 1250 rural women secure access to productive resources and engage in sustainable agriculture at Bambari, Mbaïki and Pissa through an advocacy for opening of local

Microfinance Agency. In addition, UN Women has contributed to the elaboration of 03 local land governance charters to increase women's access to land and tenure security (over 500 hectares given to women's organizations). The office has supported the ministry of Gender in the elaboration of the national strategy for the women socio-economic empowerment These results have been reached under the joint project « Renforcement du relèvement et de réintégration des femmes et des filles grâce à une agriculture résiliente au changement climatique pour instaurer la paix et la réconciliation en RCA après conflit » funded by the Peace Bulding Funds (PBF). The project has been closely executed with UN FAO , the Ministry of agriculture, the Ministry of Gender and the civil society actors working in sustainable agriculture

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-CAF_D_4.1

Central African women and girls aected by the conflict in CAR play a role as actresses in community reconciliation and are supported for their recovery.

UN Women in CAR supported the government to protect people in need through its portfolio Women peace and security and humanitarian action. In 2021, 2.9 million of people were in need of humanitarian assistance, according to the office of humanitarian coordination. This situation was exacerbated due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the deterioration of country's security situation lead by the 2021 general elections, while an estimated 3.9 million of people (including 1.6 million of women) will need humanitarian assistance in 2022. The office has supported the construction and hand-over of 15 potable water boreholes to enable access to potable water for over 50.000 people (majority of women). In addition, 86 women's groups have benefited from the creation and sustaining of income-generating activities to build their resilience on current & future shocks. The office has also supported the prevention of COVID-19 and domestic violence during the pandemic and women potters in manufacturing 450 ecological kits. The office has strengthened the capacity of local peace and reconciliation committees on inclusion of women and youth in peace mechanisms (R1325 & 2250) and active engagement in implementing the 2019 Peace Agreement. These results have been achieved through two main projects: the joint project "Communication et sensibilisation pour la cohésion sociale en RCA" and "Appui à la réponse COVID-19" funded respectively by the Peace Building Fund (PBF) and the multiple partners trust fund to COVID-19 recovery in Central Africa Republic, or Ezingo Fund. To achieve these objectives, strategic partnerships were strengthened with the Ministries of Gender, Communication and Humanitarian Action, MINUSCA, RCO and UNFPA, Regional Organizations and guarantors of the Peace Agreement (AU and ECCAS), local and regional women's organizations (AWLN, FemWise), faith-based and community-based organizations (FBO and CBOs), national and community media, telecommunications companies and women and youth organizations, including through leveraging existing networks of trained volunteers.

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Central African state and stakeholders are better able to prevent violence against women and girls and deliver essential services to victims and survivors

As the gender-based violence (GBV) remains a concern in CAR (the Humanitarian needs Overview 2021 has estimated at 1.2 million of people affected by GBV), the office continued its support to the eradication of GBV and the delivering of essential services to victims and survivors. In the reporting year, 09 communities' early warning mechanisms are operational and holistic response to 714 GBV survivors and conflict-related violence have been provided. A partnership with community radios to foster behavioral change for the prevention of GBV has been reinforced. Also, a commitment at gender-based violence related to conflict was marked by the promulgation of the presidential decree creating the committee of fighting violence against women. UN women CAR office has conducted two GBV related studies to identify gaps and improve the normative and institutional framework for the protection of human rights especially protection of

women and girls. One study is focused on GBV and the factors, contributing factors blocking access to justice for women in CAR and second one, focused on electoral violence to women candidates and a diagnosis of discriminatory laws. The studies were completed in consultation with the participation of the civil society and other UN Agency as UNDP, MINUSCA and the main actors of justice These results have been achieved under the joint project "Appui aux victimes et aux populations centrafricaines pour accéder à la justice et à la vérité" funded by the Peace Building Fund (PBF) and closely implemented with UNDP and the Ministry of justice. The main challenge in the CAR context is the lack of resources face of needs to reduce the case GBV in the country. But like everywhere else, we can not ignore the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on GBV health-related services, among them we can cite Government restrictions and quarantine measures, which further limit the mobility of women and children resulting in increased exposure and proximity to abusers, and GBV funding, health care provision, and providers have been redirected to address COVID-19.