

MSF317470

Additional Information / Shotlist:

MSF currently manages the paediatric, nutrition, intensive care unit and emergency departments of Bossangoa Regional Hospital (200 beds), and is in charge of the hospital logistics and of the laboratory. Mental health consultations are also offered to the patients and recently, MSF opened a small unit to provide medical and psychological support to victims of sexual violence (Clinique Tongolo).

In addition, MSF supports the health care in the remote areas in the north of Ouham. Access to healthcare remains a huge challenge for rural populations living in the most far-off villages. Over there, people are still suffering the consequences of years of violence, instability and displacements, resulting now in extremely poor infrastructure, and a lack of available medications and medical staff.

Caption / Description:

6 month old, Jasmine receives treatment in the Intensive Care Unit of the MSF measles ward, Bossangoa Hospital.

MSF292872

Caption / Description:

The intensive care unit of Bossangoa hospital, run by MSF together with the staff of the Ministry of Health. MSF currently manages the paediatric, nutrition, intensive care unit and emergency departments of Bossangoa Regional Hospital (200 beds in total), and is in charge of the hospital logistic and of the laboratory. Mental health consultations are also offered to the patients and recently, MSF opened a small unit to provide medical and psychological support to victims of sexual violence (Clinique Tongolo).

From January to September 2019, 4549 people have been hospitalized in MSF managed facilities in Bossangoa hospital, and 1336 have received mental health consultations.

MSF163957

Caption / Description:

During the vaccination campaign carried out in Berberati at the end of February, Médecins Sans Frontières tested new technology to facilitate and simplify the prescription of vaccines to children. "We are undertaking a multi-antigen vaccination campaign, which means that we vaccinate against a number of diseases. Each child is unique, so we need to know if each child should be vaccinated and which vaccines he or she will receive," says Anna Righetti who is in charge of this innovative project in Berberati.

Normally MSF teams rely on algorithms and mental calculations to determine who and how many vaccines should be done. Now using a touch screen tablet, the calculation is automatic. The health worker enters basic data such as the date of birth of the child, and whether the child has already received the vaccine. The tablet does the rest and with a few clicks, the staff knows what to give each child. Human error is minimised and data is saved, exported and analyzed immediately. It is a time saving tool, reducing paperwork and data entry.

In Berberati, four people were trained and they used the tablet during the recent vaccination campaign. "It makes my life a lot better, it's very easy to use, I know what has to be prescribed, and there is no error," says Felix, one of the staff who has been trained.

If the results are conclusive, the tablet could be used more widely in the future for this type of vaccination campaign

MSF229635

Caption / Description:

Mahat is in intensive care. He received numerous bursts of grenades in his legs and face during the resumption of the operation of MINUSCA and Central African security forces in Bangui's PK5 district against local armed groups, which resulted in fighting.

Mahat est en soin intensifs. Il a reçu de nombreux éclats de grenades dans les jambes et au visage lors de la reprise de l'opération de la MINUSCA et des forces de sécurité centrafricaine dans le quartier de PK5 à Bangui contre des groupes armés locaux, qui a donné lieu à des combats.

MSF229624

Additional Information / Shotlist:

Central African Republic (CAR) is the scene of large-scale violence against a people still suffering the trauma of the 2013 civil war.

In 2013, the Seleka, a coalition of mainly Muslim combatants from the northeast of the country, toppled President François Bozizé's regime. The anti-balaka, so-called Christian self-defence militia, retaliated with equal ferocity to atrocities committed by the Seleka.

Thousands of people were killed and hundreds of thousands were displaced, either within CAR itself or to neighbouring countries.

The dissolution of the Seleka and the deployment of international forces were followed by an agreement that officially put an end to the hostilities in July 2014. However, three years later, despite the announced disarmament of armed groups, deployment of 12,000 peacekeepers, adoption of a new constitution and election of a new President, the situation began deteriorating.

Since last year, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) teams have been witnesses to this escalation in violence, in the provinces in the northwest, center and southeast of the country, which have seen villages torched, executions and looting. Violence against civilians caught up in the fighting—to which nobody is immune—has escalated to levels of an exceptional brutality.

While the current hostilities play along ethnic and religious lines, they cannot be reduced to a conflict opposing Christians and Muslims. Muddying the waters are substantial economic interests, a struggle for control of resources and various political agendas extending well beyond issues of identity alone.

Sporadic flare-ups have sparked violence throughout the country and only capital city Bangui was so far unscathed by this latest generalized outbreak of violence. On Sunday 8 April 2am, MINUSCA and Central African security launched a joint operation in PK5 neighborhood in Bangui. The operation involved heavy fighting, resulting in dozens of injured. In total 40 wounded patients were treated by MSF teams on Sunday, among them 24 admitted in MSF SICA Hospital which provides emergency and surgical care. On Tuesday 10 April afternoon, heavy fighting resumed in PK5. On Tuesday night, when the Red Cross ambulances could finally move and evacuate medical cases from PK5, we received a new influx of 40 wounded at MSF SICA Hospital. The vast majority of patients had gunshot wounds, with few suffering from shrapnel or stab wounds.

Caption / Description:

On the evening of April 10th, patients flocked to the MSF Sica hospital in Bangui following the resumption in the afternoon of the operation of MINUSCA and Central African security

forces in PK5 district in Bangui on the 10th. April against local armed groups, which gave rise to fighting.

MSF209875

Caption / Description:

Following fighting in Batangafo between ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka factions on July 29 2017, 10,000 to 15,000 people sought refuge in the MSF-run hospital, the only place they considered safe in town.