

Improving the economic and social situation of women and their families in the Central African Republic

Why?

Women in the Central African Republic are among the most affected by poverty. Women and girls are also regularly targeted and experienced physical and sexual violence in their homes and communities. In addition, following the crisis of 2013, most of them have no access to basic medical care, psychological support and other vital services. Therefore, in the current context, it is important to work on a multitude of issues to improve the lives of women and girls, their potential role in reconciliation, and also to develop a favourable environment, reducing risks such as negative reactions.

Duration of implementation (est.): 18 months

Total cost (est.): 1 500 000 euros

What?

In order to contribute to a more just and equal society and promote social cohesion within communities affected by the conflict and insecurity, the programme's overall objective is **to improve the economic situation and social status of women and their families in the Central African Republic**. This is to make the link between the immediate needs of women and the social and economic improvement of the country, the long-term development of the country.

More specifically, on the one hand, the programme aims to strengthen the abilities of women and their families, to help them overcome poverty and the resulting trauma of the conflict, through the establishment of community spaces ("Women's House"). On the other hand, it aims to strengthen the economic capacity of women to generate and manage income.

How?

The implementation of these specific objectives will be in two phases, respectively 6 to 9 months and 9 to 12 months and will be managed by a consortium of European NGOs selected for their knowledge and expertise in the country and/or in the gender thematic. In addition, the consortium's role will be to identify local NGOs and women's associations which will provide support services. Where possible, actions will be integrated in existing projects, by increasing the number of beneficiaries and/or by complementary activities in ongoing projects. The programme will begin in Bangui, Bouar and Kaga Bandoro, through the establishment of community spaces. In parallel, a network of financial services will be established and a context-specific approach will be developed. This approach will be implemented in the second phase of the programme.

Expected results:

Phase 1

- ✓ The establishment of community spaces ("Houses of Women") in target communities where the participating women are receiving useful insights for them to integrate into the economic and social life;
- ✓ Development of a network designed to provide financial services, allowing the women to diversify their source of income;

Phase 2

- ✓ Focused economic support in the community spaces.