



International Medical Corps staff members provide services at a mobile health clinic in Am Dafock, Central African Republic (CAR).

Since early June, Am Dafock has experienced a marked escalation in armed violence, resulting in the near-total disruption of socio-economic activities and severely affecting humanitarian operations. Following additional armed attacks on Am Dafock on July 1, the security situation in Vakaga prefecture deteriorated even further. Though national defence forces have repelled attackers from the town, sporadic violence continues the outskirts, and the humanitarian situation remains dire.

The attack triggered a massive displacement of civilians, with an estimated 19,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) seeking refuge within and around the MINUSCA base in Am Dafock town. The local health system has completely collapsed; the Ministry of Health (MoH) health center has been looted and health personnel have fled for their safety, leaving the affected population without access to even the most basic health services and exacerbating an already critical humanitarian emergency.

Compounding the crisis, the Birao-Am Dafock axis remains impassable due to the insecurity, with no road movements possible. Only MINUSCA helicopters can access the area, and the absence of a runway for humanitarian flights severely hampers the deployment of aid. Access to water is equally challenging—only one water point located near the MINUSCA base is serving the 19,000 IDPs and humanitarian actors. Two other water points in Am Dafock town are non-functional, creating a major public health risk.

International Medical Corps Response

In response to this rapidly unfolding crisis, International Medical Corps immediately redeployed an emergency response team (ERT) to Am Dafock. Despite the evacuation of our team to Birao for security reasons following the attack, we swiftly returned to the area to deliver lifesaving health services to displaced populations.

Faced with the total collapse of the static health center, International Medical Corps set up a mobile health clinic to reach vulnerable groups in need of immediate care. This rapid deployment was made possible by the prepositioning of 1,294 kilograms of critical supplies, including such essential medicines as antimalarials, antibiotics, anti-parasitic and anti-inflammatories supplies; nutrition supplies, including 15 cartons of

FAST FACTS

- Am Dafock, in Vakaga prefecture, is experiencing a mass displacement crisis triggered by armed attacks in and around the city since the beginning of June.
- More than 19,000 internally displaced people have sought refuge at the MINUSCA base in Am Dafock.
- The local health system has collapsed—the health facility at the base has been looted and medical personnel have fled for their safety.
- Am Dafock remains inaccessible via road, limiting the supplies and assistance that can reach the area.

OUR FOOTPRINT

- International Medical Corps has worked in the Central African Republic since 2007, delivering lifesaving services such as primary and secondary healthcare, surveillance and response to infectious diseases, health system strengthening, nutrition and food security, prevention and response to violence against women and girls, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

OUR RESPONSE

- International Medical Corps has deployed an emergency response team, as well as lifesaving health and nutrition supplies, in the affected area.
- We have delivered 1,294 kilograms of medical supplies, essential medicines and ready-to-use therapeutic foods, as well as infection-prevention and control supplies.
- We have provided 1,778 curative consultations and 290 antenatal consultations, and registered 26 home deliveries, providing connections to further health services at the clinic.

ready-to-use therapeutic foods for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition; and such infection-prevention and control (IPC) supplies as handwashing devices, soap and other materials.

International Medical Corps has so far provided 1,778 curative consultations, with 34% of these reaching children under 5 years of age. We also have reached 290 pregnant women with antenatal consultations, and recorded 26 home deliveries. We are taking actions to ensure safe deliveries at the health facility moving forward.

Because the team could not move outside the IDP settlement due to ongoing insecurity, International Medical Corps installed three tents adjacent to the MINUSCA base to provide expanded space patient triage, curative consultations and reproductive health services.

Despite the challenges, International Medical Corps is committed to scaling up lifesaving interventions. Additional staff—including one mental health nurse, one nutrition nurse and one case manager providing services to survivors of violence against women and girls—will be deployed soon, which will enhance the mobile clinic's capacity to deliver integrated health, nutrition and protection services. Additional nutrition supplies, dignity kits and IPC materials are being prepared for deployment.

Though the response continues to face significant operational challenges that are delaying the deployment of additional humanitarian assistance and critical supplies, continued and increased funding support is essential to address growing health, nutrition, protection, food security and livelihood, and water, sanitation and hygiene needs.



International Medical Corps staff members erect three tents to serve as a mobile medical unit near the MINUSCA base in Am Dafock.