

## PRESS RELEASE

### Welthungerhilfe approves aid intervention in Central African Republic

**Bonn, 11/03/2014.** Welthungerhilfe has committed to provide long-term assistance to people suffering from hunger in the Central African Republic. Staff will start to implement the first required aid measures before the imminent rainy season.

"We have to act quickly to address the humanitarian crisis in Central Africa. At the same time, the people in that region are also rightly demanding assistance that goes beyond disaster aid. And that is exactly what we want to ensure together with our partners," explains Mathias Mogge, Welthungerhilfe's Executive Director for Programmes.

The Central African Republic is one of the world's poorest countries, with a "very serious" food situation according to the Global Hunger Index. Even before the conflict in Bangui in December of last year, approximately 1.3 million people were already suffering from hunger. Now the critical food situation affects almost the entire population in the rural regions of Central Africa. Many farmers are no longer able to cultivate their fields due to the security situation.

"The situation will get even worse with the start of rainy season at the end of March," estimates Welthungerhilfe employee Rüdiger Ehrler, who is already on his way to Bangui. "Then it will be virtually impossible to reach many people in the rural areas."

On location, Welthungerhilfe will work with international partners such as the French aid agency ACTED. Together with seven other organisations, they form the European network Alliance2015 ([www.alliance2015.org](http://www.alliance2015.org)).

*Welthungerhilfe is one of Germany's largest private aid agencies. It offers integrated aid from rapid disaster aid and reconstruction to long-term development co-operation projects with local partner organisations according to the principle of help towards self-help. Since we were founded in 1962, we have provided 2.52 billion euros worth of funding for more than 7,100 projects in 70 countries – for a world without hunger and poverty.*

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