



From the  
People of Japan



# Enhancing the Resilience and Supporting the Inclusive Economic Development of Vulnerable People

Budget: 2,268,851 USD



Duration: December 2022 – December 2024

## Development Challenges

The Central African Republic (CAR) ranks next to last (188/189) on the Human Development Index with a value of 0.571 (UNDP2019). Due to recurring armed conflicts, the country has not experienced a period of sustained growth since independence. Nearly 3.4 million people (Approximately 71 percent of the population) are living below the international poverty line (US\$ 1.90 per day) as of 2018.

During the conflicts, social infrastructures were destroyed or abandoned, access to education was deprived from many Central Africans resulting in the low literacy rate, 37.4% (female 25.8%, male 49.5%), as of 2018 (UNESCO 2018). The degraded social infrastructure and lack of investment for repair or improvement is a challenge for economic recovery and development. There are significant inequalities between females and males in education attainment, health outcomes, representation in the political space, and labor force participation. These problems exacerbated poverty and weakened community resilience which is one of the major causes of violent extremism.

In CAR, most of the aid interventions are humanitarian and the country is in dire need of a pathway for economic recovery and development. Although the country is endowed with rich natural resources, the resources are not adequately utilized, leaving people vulnerable. Investment in human capital is essential to support the country's resilience and development.

## Project Objectives

The project's overall objective is to support vulnerable populations especially women, youth at risk, ex-combatants, returnees and IDPs to actively participate in economic activities in Bangui, Mbaiki and Bossangoa. Three cities were supported by previous UNDP projects funded by the Government of Japan. If long-term economic development is promoted, livelihood opportunities will increase, resulting in decreased push factors to join violent extremism.

There was a strong demand from the beneficiaries of previous UNDP projects to continue literacy training and to construct literacy training centers with the aim of supporting illiterate population to develop more productive livelihoods and take on increasingly active roles in transforming their households and communities. The project targets more than 2000 beneficiaries (at least more than 50% women) who will participate in the literacy training during the project period.

The project will also construct an agro-processing professional training center, woodwork professional training centers, a market to facilitate developing productive activities in the domain of agricultural product processing and woodwork. The project will also provide temporary employment and technical training to facilitate developing income generating activities. Local authorities and beneficiary groups will be empowered to manage social infrastructure through training and provision of equipment.

## Project Outputs

Local community infrastructures are capable of supporting vulnerable population especially women, youth at risk, ex-combatants, returnees and IDPs to actively participate in economic activities.

Vulnerable populations especially women, youth at risk, ex-combatants, returning refugees and IDPs have access to trainings to enhance their capacity to engage in income generating activities

## Partnership

Government of Japan

## Contribution to SDGs

