

C.E.F.A.

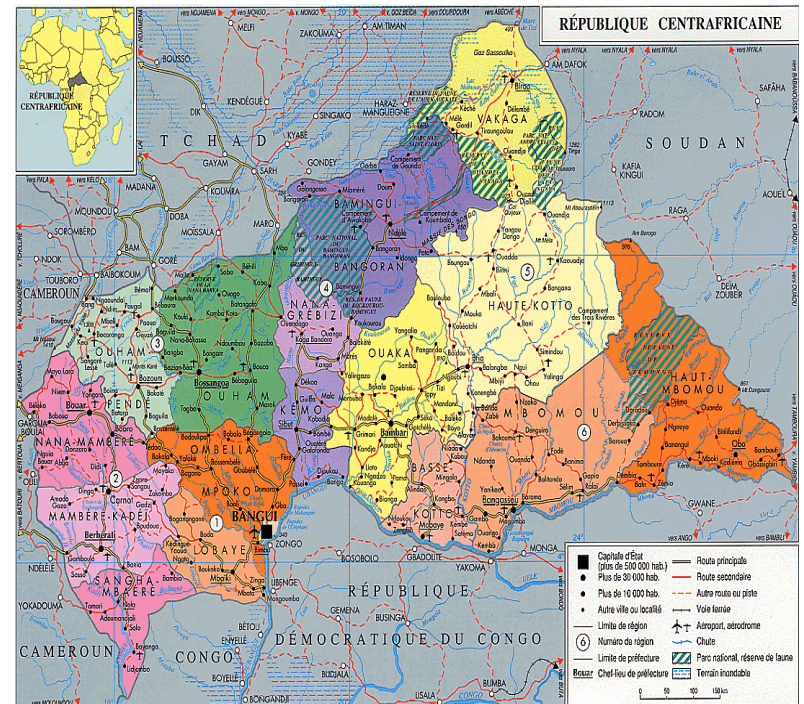
Center for Experimentation and Formation in Agriculture



Gamboula, Central African Republic 2015

CEFA is located in the Central African Republic (C.A.R.) near Gamboula

4.8 million in population



CEFA started with an Agroforestry and Nutrition Program in 1998 at the Gamboula Hospital/Mission Station



In Response to these facts that Central Africans lead a hard, subsistence life, earning less than \$1.25/day...



And 38% of kids under 5 yrs old are chronically malnourished (UNDP),



Helps put the C.A.R. in the bottom 10 of the poorest countries in the world (UNHD index)



Add to the fact that CAR has been involved in a civil war
since the start of 2013



Forcing nearly ½ million residents, mostly Muslim, to
flee the country



And over half a million displaced people due to frequent attacks on villages by rogue rebels



So, what is CEFA and how has it been touching lives?



CEFA is a non-government, non-profit,
organization with its own Board



It has 1000 acres donated by the CAR government and
is situated 3 miles from the mission
(within the yellow trapezoid)



Welcome to the CEFA Center



Bird's eye view of the property
140+ acres has been planted out



Back when CEFA was inaugurated in January of 2010, first on the agenda was to hand build 3 miles of road



Next: 1 mile of living fence that marked off its trapezoidal border that you saw earlier



Garden and orchard preparation



Initial experiment: Let it Rot! Composting only, no burning



Planting new kinds of field crops, such
as peanuts, corn,



high protein beans,



And disease resistant cassava
(local variety on left, introduced one on right)



That produce much greater yields, 4x greater than the local variety



Fruit tree orchards are being expanded, for pruning experiments, and



Adding new varieties like this Jackfruit



Veggie gardens are used to help feed malnourished children and



For teaching mothers about raising them for producing nutritious meals



CEFA has rehabilitating old fish ponds



And set up 8 new ones with 4 types of fish, 3 native to the area



With an animal husbandry program that includes fowl such as: chickens



Including a regionwide vaccination program against newcastle's disease for 2 years in a row – over 5,000 fowl!



Turkeys, and geese.



CEFA has also begun a beekeeping and rabbit rearing program



CEFA added a cattle program in 2014 that was going well until the war broke out and half the herd died



Hopefully, by next year, CEFA will be able to add to its herd and begin a Traction Program



5 years worth of construction has created



A Garage/electrical plant



An ag offices building plus storage of tools and seeds



The water tower and generator room



The learning shelter



And the two new Covenant homes
(this is the Danforth home)



A well has been drilled



And a solar pump installed



A Director's house



A guest House with 4 rooms and a kitchen, showers, and flush WCs



A Training Center, complete with 5 dorm buildings
capable of handling 6 persons each



And building more permanent bridges not just on CEFA property, but also repairing 8 bridges in the area.



Now that CEFA center is established, it is fully prepared to meet the challenges of the day, such as the civil war



So, CEFA transformed into a relief agency and put donations into food assistance for refugees and IDPs



And distributed seeds and tools to help get refugee gardens started up



And CEFA held training sessions with the refugees on how to raise vegetables and beans



In order to help food security become long-term



Overall, CEFA is much more involved in teaching, not only in ag principles, but also in sharing God's Word



Such as CEFA's village supervisor, Bernard, sharing Books of the Bible with Fulani in his village.



Or the Director of CEFA leading devotions with the workers every morning.



Or there's teaching out in the villages



Both men's groups



And women's groups



Empowering, enabling, seeking solutions,
through learning and working together



Seeking solutions that are life changing, where hearts are transformed, such as reconciliation meetings



And young adults are committed to stopping the violence and bringing peace and unity



It's not just about new improved varieties



Or better methods of farming



Or bigger harvests



Or more nutritious ones



But lives are being transformed, communities are built up, and the chains of poverty are being broken



The idea is for C.A. farmers like this man



To be fired up over what he has learned, then teach other C.A. farmers



To achieve food security, self-confidence,



Reinforcing one's faith in Christ



And hope for a better future.



A BIG Thank you to CWR/FRB and partnering churches/individuals!

FRB



CWR



FRB – Farmers in America connecting with farmers in Central Africa



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