The Central African Republic (CAR) is experiencing a situation of chronic conflict, with militant activity by armed groups spreading over a large swath of the country, including violent attacks against civilian populations. The situation is volatile and made further complex by institutional and political fragility. A quarter of Central Africans have been subject to forced displacement. Despite a return to constitutional order in 2016 and new peace agreements signed in February 2019, armed groups continue to operate and are trying—with their sponsors—to turn community tensions to their advantage.

Supporting peacebuilding efforts at this juncture is thus crucial. The CAR government has identified bringing about an end to the crisis, peacebuilding, and economic recovery for the country as the key pillars of its Plan for Recovery and Peacebuilding (RCPCA, 2017-21). Strong support from development partners is thus required to reach these goals. For its part, Agence Française de Développement launched the Minka CAR Initiative. Minka CAR provides substantive and stable funding over a five-year period, targeting as a priority the key factors behind peacebuilding and applying forms of action that are more flexible, partnership-based, and tailored to local contexts.
Country concerned: Central African Republic (CAR)

PURPOSE
Contribute to the emergence from crisis and support peacebuilding.

OBJECTIVES
- Facilitate the integration of remote areas and respond to local inequalities by supporting local development
- Strengthen the governance of Central African institutions at national and local levels, and tackle predatory practices
- Address economic vulnerabilities by providing improved socio-economic opportunities

POLICY GUIDELINES
- Ensure links between diplomacy, defense, development, and humanitarian action
- Strengthen institutions while developing partnerships
- Reinforce social cohesion

BENEFICIARIES
End beneficiaries:
- Populations in areas affected by crisis or highly vulnerable to conflict
- Displaced populations within the CAR or who have taken refuge in neighboring countries

Funding recipients:
- Central African Republic government and local authorities involved in conflict resolution
- Local and international NGOs and CSOs
Minka is the flagship of AFD’s commitment to supporting conflict prevention as well as transitions from war to peace. The Minka Fund finances structural medium-term interventions, focusing on the drivers of peace and conflict. This approach ensures the causes as well as effects of crises are targeted with the dual aim of achieving rapid initial results, visible for local population from the first six months of implementation, and rebuilding trust over the longer term.

Minka is divided into four regional ‘Initiatives’, targeting critical conflict basins: the Sahel, Lake Chad, Central African Republic, Syria/Iraq.