CONTENT: TRENDS ON SECURITY AND JUSTICE

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About the Poll

This poll is the fourth in a series of surveys in the Central African Republic (CAR) to provide data and analyses on peace, security, justice, reconstruction and social cohesion. The purpose of these surveys is to provide reliable, valid and regularly updated data to inform all actors involved in reconstruction and peacebuilding efforts and to serve as a reference for planning and evaluation of these efforts. The project is a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in collaboration with the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) and MINUSCA (Civil Affairs) and, with the assistance of UN Women, UNHCR and the « Team of Experts on sexual violence in conflict ». HHI is responsible for the collection and independent analysis of data, and report writing, in collaboration with the Central African NGO Echelle

Perception surveys are conducted with the objective of collecting data representative of the adult population in CAR at the prefecture level. Adults are randomly selected from prefectures throughout CAR, oversampled in Bangui and six other cities. The random sample is drawn using a stratified multi-level approach and based on the estimated population size. The sample is 50% female, interviewed by women.

For this fourth survey, a total of 6,336 interviews were conducted. Experienced investigators conducted the interviews. All investigators participated in a week of training organized by HHI, in partnership with the NGO Echelle - Appui au Développement. The analysis uses a weighting factor to reflect differences in population size and probability of selection between strata. The prefectures of Basse and Haute Kotto and Mboomou and the third district of Bangui could not be covered due to insecurity. Only the city of Obo was covered in the prefecture of Haut-Mbomou.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefecture</th>
<th>Sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangui</td>
<td>1,544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ombella M’Poko</td>
<td>1,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamingui-Bangoran</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basse-Kotto</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haute-Kotto</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haut-Mbomou (Obo)</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kemo</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lobaye</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mambéré-Kadéi</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mboomou (Obo)</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nana-Mambéréé</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nana-Gribizi</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ouaka</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ouham</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ouham-Péndé</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sangha-Mbaéréé</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vakaga</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CAR</strong></td>
<td>6,336</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margin of error at the prefecture level is ± 5 percentage points, 95% confidence level.

To view the online report and interactive maps, visit [www.peacebuildingdata.org/CAR](http://www.peacebuildingdata.org/CAR)
SPECIAL: TRENDS ON SECURITY AND JUSTICE 2017-2018

This fourth report concludes a series of four surveys conducted every six months between June 2017 and January 2019. In total, more than 25,000 adult residents of the Central African Republic were randomly selected to participate in interviews and express their opinions on topics such as their experiences in conflicts, and their views and opinions on security, justice, peace and the reconstruction of the country. The results of these interviews have been analyzed, published and regularly presented to national and international partners involved in peace and reconstruction in CAR. These data are used to inform the development and evaluation of policies, strategies, programs and projects, and to monitor their implementation.

Each survey portrays the opinion of the population at a specific point in time. This opinion is shaped by the events that occur in the lives and environment of the respondents. Conducting these surveys regularly allows trends to be analyzed over time. This report presents the analysis of the main trends observed on key indicators collected in each survey over the last two years. ¹ This report focuses on the following trends:

- The general feeling of security improved from 46% in June 2017 to 60% in December 2018. The gains are concentrated particularly in the prefectures located in the western part of the country. There are still significant pockets of insecurity. The feeling of security is similar between women and men. The causes of insecurity remain the absence of security actors, poverty and the presence of armed groups, especially in the north and center of the country.

- The feeling of security has also improved while people interact with the police or the gendarmerie (from 66% in June 2017 to 85% in December 2018) and the FACA (from 72% to 87%). The level of trust in these actors shows a similar trend, with an increase for the police (from 54% to 72%), the gendarmerie (from 58% to 79%) and the FACA (from 61% to 79%). Women continue to be less confident than men about these actors.

- Despite a high percentage of participants trusting the security actors, respondents judge more critically their contribution to security. Only 42% of participants rated positively the contribution of police to safety, and less than half (48%) felt that the work of the police has improved in the last 12 months.

- The general feeling of security is stable in Bangui, but trust in security actors has increased for all the security actors and arrondissements of Bangui.

- The incidence of crime and dispute is stable - in December 2018, 2 in 5 people (40%) report a robbery or robbery experience in the 12 months preceding the survey, compared to 36% in May 2018. Physical violence is less frequent and concerned 18% of participants in December 2018, compared to 17% in May 2018. Despite the improvement in the level of trust in security and justice actors, few respondents call on these actors to lodge a complaint or resolve conflicts/disputes.

¹ The prefecture of Nana-Gribizi and the town of Bambari in the Ouaka could not be sampled during the third poll because of insecurity. For the same reason, the third district of Bangui was not covered in the fourth survey. The results presented here are adjusted for differences in sample to allow comparison over time.
• The level of trust in all types of justice has increased over time, including formal justice (from 22% to 50% between November 2017 and December 2018), local justice (from 32% to 54%), and alternative methods of justice (from 46% to 71%). Nevertheless, these results show that the level of trust in formal justice remains lower than that of local or alternative justice systems.

• Increasing trust in justice is observed for all types of justice. However, compared to men, trust in justice is lower among women for all forms of justice examined (formal, local, and alternative).

• Justice is seen as a component of peacebuilding and more than half of the participants believe that those responsible of the crimes should be judged (57%) or imprisoned (55%). The rejection of any form of amnesty is the response the most frequently proposed among four propositions detailing different levels of amnesty. The population has increased knowledge of the Special Criminal Court, but its trust in this new institution is mixed.

• A significant percentage of the population is dissatisfied with basic needs and basic services. However, the public ranks positively government’s efforts related to services and peacebuilding.
SECURITY: Overall, the feeling of security is increasing for both women and men, but not in all prefectures.

The "proportion of the population that feels safe walking alone in their area of residence" is an indicator for assessing the reduction of all forms of violence in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In December 2018, 64% of participants felt safe walking alone during the day in their neighborhood or village, marking a continuous improvement since the beginning of the polls (51% in June 2017). More generally, the general feeling of security improved from 46% to 60% between June 2017 and December 2018. The gain is mainly observed between May and December 2018 (from 49% to 60%).

*Figure 1: Feeling of security in different daily situations over time (% safe)*

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking alone during the day</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go to the field/to work</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking alone at night</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting someone from another ethnic group</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting strangers</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Since June 2017, surveys have examined the feeling of security in several specific situations. The percentage of people feeling safe in December 2018 is highest for daily activities such as going to work or to the field (57% safe). Also in December 2018, less than 50% of participants feel safe walking alone at night in their neighborhood or village (40%), or when they meet someone from another ethnic group (41%) or a stranger (32%). Of these three situations, only the feeling of safety when meeting someone from another ethnic group shows a positive trend over time.

Geographically, there are big variations. In the fourth poll, in December 2018, the majority of respondents in the western prefectures (Lobaye, Nana-Mambéré, and Sangha Mbaére) said they felt safe in general, while less than half of respondents express the same sentiment in the central and northern prefectures such as Ouham, or Ouaka. The percentage of respondents expressing a sense of security is 53% in Ombella M’Poko, 54% in Bangui and 67% in Vakaga. It is low in the Bamingui Bangoran (19%) and almost non-existent in the Nana Gribizi (5%).

*Figure 2: General feeling of security per prefecture (% safe, December 2018)*
Over time, the percentage of respondents saying they felt safe has particularly increased in the western prefectures such as Lobaye (from 27% to 96%), Ouham Péndé (from 14% to 83%), Mambéré-Kadéi (40% to 73%), and Nana-Mambéré (59% to 88%). It has also increased in the Vakaga (from 15% to 67%), and to a lesser extent in the Kemo (from 26% to 40%), where, nevertheless, less than 50% of the population mentions feeling safe. The feeling of safety has decreased but remains high in the Sangha-Mbaéré (from 92% to 80%). In Bangui and Ombella M’Poko, the feeling of security has remained stable or is slightly decreasing, with about half of the participants saying they feel safe. Elsewhere, the feeling of security has decreased (Ouaka, Ouham) or has remained low (Bamingui-Bangoran, Nana-Gribizi).

*Figure 3: General feeling of security over time per prefecture (% safe)*
In December 2018, 61% of women say they are generally safe, compared to 58% of men. The overall feeling of security improved for both women (from 38% in June 2017 to 61% in December 2018) and for men (from 43% to 58%), with a larger increase for women. The third survey showed a greater difference in the feeling of security between men and women, perhaps because of the violence at the end of 2017. The trends are similar considering specific situations such as walking alone during the day and going to the field / to work. Women felt less frequently safe than men when they meet members of another ethnic group, but this indicator is changing positively over time for women and men. Trends are stable or negative about walking alone at night and meeting strangers.

**Figure 4: Feeling of security in different situations over time, per gender (% safe)**

- **General feeling of security**: 38% (Women), 43% (Men) in Poll 1 (June 2017); 47% (Women), 42% (Men) in Poll 2 (Nov. 2017); 60% (Women), 59% (Men) in Poll 3 (May 2018); 61% (Women), 58% (Men) in Poll 4 (Dec. 2018).
- **Walking alone during the day**: 49% (Women), 53% (Men) in Poll 1; 55% (Women), 52% (Men) in Poll 2; 61% (Women), 52% (Men) in Poll 3; 61% (Women), 66% (Men) in Poll 4.
- **Go to the field/ to work**: 44% (Women), 49% (Men) in Poll 1; 51% (Women), 47% (Men) in Poll 2; 57% (Women), 48% (Men) in Poll 3; 56% (Women), 59% (Men) in Poll 4.
- **Walking alone at night**: 37% (Women), 41% (Men) in Poll 1; 36% (Women), 41% (Men) in Poll 2; 41% (Women), 35% (Men) in Poll 3; 40% (Women), 40% (Men) in Poll 4.
- **Meeting other ethnic group**: 19% (Women), 33% (Men) in Poll 1; 21% (Women), 31% (Men) in Poll 2; 44% (Women), 31% (Men) in Poll 3; 36% (Women), 47% (Men) in Poll 4.
- **Meeting strangers**: 20% (Women), 26% (Men) in Poll 1; 20% (Women), 25% (Men) in Poll 2; 26% (Women), 33% (Men) in Poll 3; 32% (Women), 31% (Men) in Poll 4.
While the general feeling of security has evolved positively, the main causes of insecurity remain numerous. The absence of security actors (police, gendarmerie, FACA) is the cause of insecurity most frequently mentioned in December 2018 (15%) whereas it is mentioned by only 9% of participants in November 2017. The absence of security actors is most frequently mentioned in the northwest of the country in the prefectures of Ouham Péndé (39%) and Nana-Mambéré (21%). Other main sources of insecurity include the presence of armed groups, which is the main cause of insecurity for 13% of the participants in December 2018, compared to 17% in November 2017. The presence of armed groups remains mainly mentioned in the north and in the center of the country: Bamingui-Bangoran (58%), Kemo (32%), Nana-Gribizi (26%) and Ouham (48%). Poverty is the main cause of insecurity for 14% of participants in December 2018, compared to 9% in November 2017. It is especially mentioned in Ombella M’Poko (23%) and Mambéré-Kadéi (30%).

![Figure 5: Main causes of insecurity over time](image-url)
Figure 6: Absence of security actors as main source of insecurity (% participants)
Figure 7: Presence of armed groups as main source of insecurity (% participants)
SECURITY: Trust in security actors is increasing, but women are less confident than men.

Overall, the feeling of security has improved in the Central African Republic. This trend also concerns the perception of the security actors; more than 4 out of 5 people say they are safe when they meet soldiers from the Central African Armed Forces (FACA - 87%) as well as police or gendarmes (85%). This represents an improvement over the previous year when, in November 2017, 72% said they were feeling safe with the FACA and gendarmes/police. The feeling of security in the presence of MINUSCA soldiers is less frequent than with the FACA or the police and gendarmerie (64% in December 2018), but, nevertheless, increasing (54% in November 2017). The sense of security in the presence of police or gendarmes, FACA or MINUSCA soldiers does not seem to differ between men and women, with a similar evolution over time.

Figure 8: Feeling of security towards security actors over time and per gender (% safe)
More generally, the percentage of participants indicating trust in the FACA, the police and the gendarmerie has increased steadily in all four surveys between June 2017 and December 2018. The percentage of participants trusting the police to provide security has increased from 54% to 72%. This compares with increases of 58% to 79% for the gendarmerie and 61% to 79% for the FACA. The results indicate that more respondents feel safe when they meet security actors and that they are more confident about these forces. This improvement could be explained by the technical support provided to the security forces and the redeployment of the FACA. The level of trust in MINUSCA to ensure security has remained stable, rising from 30% in the first survey to 35% in the last survey. The percentage of women who trust security actors is consistently lower than the percentage of men, for all actors considered.

Overall, the percentage of participants having confidence in the Central African security actors (police, gendarmerie, FACA) is the lowest in the northeast, in the prefectures of Nana-Gribizi and Vakaga, and in the southwest, in the prefecture of Sangha-Mbaère. Improved trust is noticeable in all prefectures over time.
Figure 10: Trust in security actors per prefecture (% trust – Poll 4, December 2018)
SECURITY: Despite increased trust in security actors, few are positive about their contribution to security

Although the percentage of participants trusting security actors is high, participants judge more critically the contribution of these actors to security. This indicator, introduced in the fourth survey, cannot be tracked over time. Although 72% of participants trust the police, only 42% rank positively their current contribution to safety, and less than half (48%) feel that their work has improved over the past 12 months; 79% have confidence in the gendarmerie, 57% are positive about their contribution, and 62% feel that their work has improved. Finally, for the FACA, the percentages are respectively 79%, 47% and 49%. Trust in MINUSCA is the least frequent (35%), about the same percentage of people is positive about their contribution to safety (34%) and improvement of their work in the last 12 months (39%). Women tend to be more likely than men to be positive about the security actors’ contribution to safety, but more negative about improvement of their work over the last 12 months.

*Figure 11: Trust, contribution to safety and improvement of security actors’ work*
These results are consistent with the fact that few participants identify the police, gendarmerie, FACA or MINUSCA as the main actor providing security in their neighborhood or village (25%).

*Figure 12: Who ensure security? (% of participants – Poll 4, December 2018)*
SECURITY – BANGUI: Trust in security actors is increasing, but insecurity remains.

In Bangui, the feeling of security has remained stable overall, from 57% in June 2017 to 54% in December 2018. However, this stability masks more significant variations at the local level. The feeling of security is less frequent in the 3rd arrondissement, where the data could not be collected during the fourth survey due to ongoing violence. Only the arrondissement 5 and, to a lesser extent, Begoua south show an increase in the percentage of participants feeling generally safe. Conversely, the decrease in the percentage of respondents who feel safe is most pronounced in the arrondissements 7 and 8 and in Begoua North.

Figure 13: General feeling of security over time, Bangui and surroundings (% safe)
While the feeling of security, in almost all the arrondissements of Bangui and the surrounding area, has remained relatively stable or has even deteriorated, trust in the security actors has increased for all the security actors and arrondissements of Bangui covered by the four surveys. The increase is not linear and several arrondissements saw a decline in trust especially marked in the second survey, followed by an increase in the fourth survey. In December 2018, for all the arrondissements, more than 60% of the respondents express a feeling of trust towards the police, the gendarmerie, and the FACA. The improvement in the level of trust is the greatest in the sixth arrondissement, and less important in the fifth and eighth arrondissements.

**Figure 14: Trust in security actors over time, Bangui and surroundings (% trust)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrondissement</th>
<th>Police</th>
<th>Gendarmerie</th>
<th>FACA</th>
<th>MiNUSCA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrondissement 1</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrondissement 2</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrondissement 3</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<td>Arrondissement 4</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrondissement 5</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrondissement 6</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<td>Arrondissement 7</td>
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<td>80%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrondissement 8</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 15: Trust in security actors over time, Bangui and surroundings (% trust)

**Bimbo (South)**
- Poll 1: FACA 77%
- Poll 2: Gendarmerie 80%
- Poll 3: Police, 65%
- Poll 4: MiNUSCA, 29%

**Bimbo (North)**
- Poll 1: FACA 70%
- Poll 2: Gendarmerie 77%
- Poll 3: Police, 65%
- Poll 4: MiNUSCA, 24%

**Begoua (South)**
- Poll 1: FACA 75%
- Poll 2: Gendarmerie 72%
- Poll 3: Police, 65%
- Poll 4: MiNUSCA, 23%

**Begoua (North)**
- Poll 1: FACA 70%
- Poll 2: Gendarmerie 77%
- Poll 3: Police, 65%
- Poll 4: MiNUSCA, 16%
SECURITY: The incidence of crime and conflicts is stable. Complaints to security actors for sexual violence remain rare.

Although the polls suggest an improvement in the feeling of security, the incidence of crimes - an important factor of insecurity - remained stable between May and December 2018. In December 2018, 2 out of 5 people (40%) report theft or burglary experience in the previous 12 months, compared to 36% in May 2018. Physical violence is less frequent and affects 18% of participants in December 2018, compared to 17% in May 2018, or nearly one in five. Nearly one in three (30%) people reported having had a dispute/conflict in the 12 months preceding the December 2018 survey, compared to 23% in May 2018. The incidence of crimes being measured over 12 months, this indicator may not directly reflect the feeling of security at the time of the survey. In general, women, more than men, say they have been victims of a crime or have had a dispute.

The incidence of sexual violence is captured over a two-year period given the small percentage of people reporting this type of crime. Data from the last two surveys suggest little change. In December 2018, 7% of women and 2% of men reported having been sexually assaulted in the last two years. It is possible that this type of assault on women and men is underreported, given the stigma associated with sexual assault. Of those who say they have been sexually assaulted, 39% say they have lodged a complaint. Although the number of cases is small, the data suggest an increase in the number of complaints following this type of aggression, from 25% in June 2017 to 39% in December 2018, with an increase in complaints to security or justice actors.
Complaints about other crimes are not examined in the polls. However, regarding the disputes, the results show that a majority of participants seek assistance to resolve their conflicts and disputes. The percentage was 82% in December 2018, similar to the results in May 2018 (81%), but an increase compared to November 2017 (30%). In December 2018, the main actors approached by people to resolve the disputes and conflicts are the population itself or the families (33%), the traditional chief (28%), the village authorities (25%), or the religious leaders (19%). Less than 10% mentioned the gendarmerie (9%), the police (5%) or the actors of justice (2%). The actors approached by respondents are probably related to the type of disputes and conflicts experienced, which are mainly domestic or family disputes (60%). These results are similar to those obtained in the first survey. In June 2017, respondents indicated that they first approached village authorities and traditional chiefs to resolve their differences related to criminal offenses such as robbery, physical or sexual assault, or for more benign offense such as familial disputes. In December 2018, despite an improvement in the level of trust in security and justice actors, there are still few respondents who claim to use these actors.
Figure 18: Types of disputes/conflicts experienced by participants who mentioned having had a dispute/conflict in the last 12 months (30% of participants – Poll 4, December 2018)

Figure 19: Actors approached to help resolve disputes (30% of participants – Poll 4, December 2018)
JUSTICE: Trust in justice is increasing, but remains higher towards traditional and alternative systems.

Building capacity and confidence in justice is an important element of peacebuilding; it has been the focus of significant efforts in the Central African Republic. Polls generally show an improvement in the level of trust in justice, be it alternative justice systems (conflict resolution mechanisms and mediation implemented by religious leaders, or national and international associations or organizations), local and traditional mechanisms (town halls, village chiefs, administrative and traditional entities) or formal justice (courts, judges, lawyers).

Figure 20: Perception of justice (% of participants)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corrupted</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice of riches</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have to pay</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It works well</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice is done as it should</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not know enough</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It does not exist</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There is an increase in trust for all types of justice, with an increase from 22% to 50% for formal justice, 32% to 54% for local/traditional justice, and 46% to 71% for alternative justice. However, confidence in justice is lower among women compared to men, for all three forms of justice examined.

Despite this progress, confidence in formal justice remains lower than trust in informal mechanisms (local or alternative). Trust in formal justice is affected by the perception that the formal justice system is being corrupt or reserved for the rich. Nevertheless, in addition to the level of trust, the general perception of formal justice appears to have improved in the last 12 months: a higher percentage of participants described formal justice as working well (38% in December 2018 versus 22% in November 2017) or functioning as it should (40% vs. 18%). Conversely, the percentage of respondents describing the system as corrupt or reserved for the rich has decreased (32% vs. 44% and 28% vs. 33%, respectively).

The increase in trust in justice is observed in the majority of prefectures and for all types of justice except Vakaga and Nana Gribizi for formal justice, Bamingui-Bangoran, Ouham and Nana-Mambéré for local justice and Nana-Mambéré and Bamingui-Bangoran for alternative justice.

Improved levels of trust and perception in justice could be explained by the resumption of justice activities in several prefectures including those in the west, Ouaka (Bambari) and Bangui. It could also be linked to the broadcasting of the criminal sessions that have attracted the population’s interest, suggesting that it is important to "show" to the population what is being done in terms of justice.

However, trust could also reflect population’s expectations rather than a real experience with the justice system. In December 2018, 50% of respondents say they trust formal justice. When asked why they trust this type of justice, 12% of respondents say they trust that they will one day have judges and 10% mention that they will have a court indicating a wish to have a system of justice rather than the practice of justice.
JUSTICE: Justice is needed for peace, and views on the Special Criminal Court remain divided.

The results of the polls suggest that the public sees justice as an essential element for peacebuilding. In December 2018, two of the three most frequent respondents’ propositions to a question on actions for sustainable peace were related to justice. Those included to judge those responsible of crimes (57%) and to imprison those responsible of the crimes (55%). Responses also focus on disarmament (79%) and security (50%).

*Figure 21: Actions for sustainable peace (% of participants – Poll 4, December 2018)*

Support for retributive justice is also illustrated by a majority of respondents rejecting amnesties, especially for the leaders, even though armed groups often mention amnesty. Considering four choices, when asked about the possibility of an amnesty, the majority of respondents want to give amnesty to nobody (61%). Fewer than one in five mentions giving amnesty to everyone (15%), or giving a partial amnesty depending on responsibilities (11%) or severity of crimes (13%). In December 2018, the results on amnesty are similar to those obtained in the second survey in November 2017, with a slight decrease in the percentage of participants accepting a general amnesty (from 21% to 15%), and a slight increase in the percentage of respondents not wishing any form of amnesty (from 55% to 61%).
The Special Criminal Court (SCC) was established in part to ensure the justice demanded by the population. The SCC is part of CAR's formal justice system. It has a specific mandate to investigate, prosecute, and try the most serious crimes committed in the country since 2003 until now. Created in 2015, the SCC was officially inaugurated in October 2018. In December 2018, 63% of respondents (vs. 28% in Nov. 2017) mentioned having heard of the Special Criminal Court. Among those who have heard of the SCC, the main sources of information are radio (73%), and parents and friends (15%). Of all respondents, 47% (vs. 39% in May 2018) also report knowledge of the SCC (good or very good). The results can be explained in particular by the communication campaign developed by the SCC’s outreach unit.

When asked what the SCC can do for them, as individuals, respondents focus on justice and peace. A majority of respondents mentioned that the SCC can 1) judge people who have committed conflict-related crimes (62%), 2) put in jail those responsible for the conflicts (57%), 3) imprison all those who committed conflict-related crimes (57%), or 4) judge those responsible for the conflict (52%). In addition to justice, 40% of respondents refer to peace saying that the SCC can "restore peace in CAR". Less than 10% of respondents mention return of their property, or a financial or other compensation for them or their community. These results indicate the expectations of the population towards the SCC. This can be relevant information to future information campaign to raise awareness and inform the population, and especially to address unrealistic expectations.
**Figure 23: Information, knowledge and perception of the SCC (% of participants)**

- **Heard of the SCC (% yes)**
  - Poll 2 (Nov. 2017): 28%
  - Poll 4 (Dec. 2018): 63%

- **Knowledge level (% good, all participants)**: 47%
- **Trust level (% positive, all participants)**: 53%
- **Contribution to peace (% positive, all participants)**: 52%

**Main source of information**
- Radio: 73%
- Parent/ friend: 15%
- Market: 2%
- Newspapers/ TV: 2%
- Local/ international org: 5%
- SCC: 1%
- Other: 2%

**Figure 24: Contribution of the SCC (% of participants – Poll 4, December 2018)**

- Nothing: 3%
- Judge criminals: 62%
- Imprison criminals: 57%
- Imprison responsible: 57%
- Judge responsible: 52%
- Reestablish peace: 40%
- Explain reasons of conflicts: 22%
- Acknowledge victims: 15%
- Provide services: 12%
- Provide historical record: 11%
- Return of what I have lost (house, land, etc...): 9%
- Give to the community: 7%
- Provide another compensation: 6%
- Give money: 4%
- Other: 2%
- Do not know: 1%
GOVERNANCE: The basic needs remain unsatisfied, but State’s efforts are judged positively.

Good governance is essential for achieving the rule of law and a lasting peace. Good governance also ensures that people can provide for their basic needs (shelter, clean water, food) and access basic services (health and education). In December 2018, almost half of respondents ranked positively their housing and access to education services (44%), but only one-third or less of respondents said they had a positive opinion of their access to drinking water, to food, and to health services. Just one in ten say they are positive about finding a job. Overall, these results indicate that more than half of the population perceives their living conditions as average or negative. There is no difference in perception of services and basic needs between men and women.

This perception is reflected in the respondents' opinion of the State's efforts. In December 2018, 51% of respondents ranked positively the efforts of the State to reduce poverty, and 45% said the same thing about improving employment. Their opinion is relatively favorable in areas related to peacebuilding; about two-thirds of respondents ranked positively State’s efforts in peacebuilding, the unification of different ethnic or religious groups, the establishment of security, or the improvement of Central Africans' living conditions, in general. However, the percentage of respondents who are positive about the efforts of the State is lower in regards to the fight against impunity (51%), and the fight against corruption (37%). Men generally have more positive views of government efforts than women, except for anti-corruption efforts. In all of these areas, the percentage of satisfaction with the government's efforts has increased steadily over the past four surveys, with nearly twice as many positive participants in December 2018 compared to June 2017 for the aspects considered.
Figure 26: Perception of efforts of the State in different areas (% positive - Poll 4, December 2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish peace</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unify ethnic/religious groups</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve lives of Central Africans</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish security</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce poverty</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fight impunity</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve employment</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fight corruption</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 27: Perception of the efforts of the State, over time (% positive)

- **Reduce poverty**
  - Poll 1: 20%
  - Poll 2: 25%
  - Poll 3: 36%
  - Poll 4: 51%

- **Improve employment**
  - Poll 1: 20%
  - Poll 2: 22%
  - Poll 3: 36%
  - Poll 4: 45%

- **Establish peace**
  - Poll 1: 30%
  - Poll 2: 34%
  - Poll 3: 50%
  - Poll 4: 68%

- **Unify ethnic/religious groups**
  - Poll 1: 30%
  - Poll 2: 37%
  - Poll 3: 54%
  - Poll 4: 66%

- **Establish security**
  - Poll 1: 28%
  - Poll 2: 32%
  - Poll 3: 48%
  - Poll 4: 61%
The Peace, Justice and security polls project is an initiative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in collaboration with the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) and the MINUSCA Civil Affairs.

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To view the online report and interactive maps, visit www.peacebuildingdata.org/CAR

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