ITURI, SOUTH KIVU AND NORTH KIVU PROVINCES
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
24 February – 2 March 2020

KEY INDICATORS

4 M*
Persons are internally displaced in Ituri (1,229,343), North Kivu (1,757,167) and South Kivu (983,322) provinces.

88%*
Of all IDPs in North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri are accommodated in host families (3.5 M IDPs).

231,062*
IDPs are hosted in IDP sites coordinated by UNHCR or IOM as part of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Working Group, while at least 65,000 persons reside in informal sites.

*Ituri figure as of February 2020; North Kivu figure as of January 2020; South Kivu figure as of February 2020. All are estimates subject to fluctuation.
Operational context and protection situation

Ituri Province: The security situation in Ituri Province remained volatile following attacks by elements of the CODECO armed group in the Fataki area, Djugu Territory, which caused at least 25 deaths. In Mahagi Territory, clashes between the DRC army and unknown assailants displaced 4,450 persons. The signing of a peace agreement between the DRC Government and the Force de Résistance Patriotique de l’Ituri (FRPI) armed group however had a positive impact on the protection situation, as cases of extortion recorded by UNHCR’s partner INTERSOS decreased from 90 incidents last week to 30 this week.

North Kivu Province: Amidst repeated attacks by armed groups, the humanitarian situation in Beni Territory remained unstable, with recurrent movements of people fleeing out of fear of violence. Attacks by the ADF armed group seem to have multiplied in recent weeks, some targeting civilians, seemingly in retaliation for a military operation carried out by the DRC army. UNHCR’s partner INTERSOS recorded 368 human rights violations in Beni and Lubero Territories, which is 92 incidents more than the previous week. The majority were allegedly carried out by elements of the Mai Mai armed group. In Lubero Territory, multiple families fled their villages in the Kandole area following forced evictions by armed men.

South Kivu Province: Clashes were reported between two militia groups, while a military operation is ongoing against the Mai Mai armed group in Salamabila, Kabambare Territory. In Maniema Province, armed groups continued to force people to flee to South Kivu Province – the neighboring province. Since January, about 35,000 persons have fled from Salamabila towards localities in South Kivu Province, including Kilembe, Misisi and Lulimba. These recurrent incursions have further weakened the timid return movements that had already been observed in Salamabila.

UNHCR’s response

Ituri Province

PROTECTION UNHCR’s partner Caritas organized a training for members of the internally displaced persons’ steering committee, at the displacement site of Kigonze in Bunia. The 13 members of the committee, including six women, were trained on their coordination roles and responsibilities at the site. Each member of the committee was assigned a specific task, such as regular dialogue with the population of the site, referring identified issues to the relevant Government and humanitarian actors, or documenting the decisions taken by the committee.

SHELTER AND CRIs UNHCR’s partner Caritas built 98 emergency shelters at the new displacement site of Kigonze, in Bunia, bringing the total to 1,891 shelters built at the site so far. Displaced persons and people from the local community were hired to build the shelters.

CCCM UNHCR distributed 114 blankets, 114 mats, 71 jerry cans, 84 soap bars and 63 hygiene kits to 55 displaced households who were transferred to the displacement site of Kigonze this week.

North Kivu Province

PROTECTION UNHCR reinforced the capacity of the community to manage protection responses in crises. Following an assessment conducted on the displacement situation of the Kanyatsi axis (Rutshuru, Bambo health zone) and on the Nyabiondo axis (Masisi, Masisi health zone), partner AIDES built 2,000 emergency shelters in Kanyatsi (Rutshuru) while discussions are underway for a possible intervention on the Nyabiondo (Masisi) axis. In Kiwanja, Rutshuru Territory, the community-based protection structure supported by Caritas has put in place a fully functioning local complaint management committee. Complaints and suggestions are currently being received through complaint boxes. The Nyanzale community-based protection structure supported by UNHCR and Caritas advocated with the local FARDC Commander in favor of two IDP young boys accused of belonging to the CMCI armed groups, resulting in their release.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV) Community-based protection structures referred five victims of rape for medical care in Katsiru and Kyaghala in Rutshuru Territory. In addition, 87 young people including 39 boys and 48 girls were sensitized on positive masculinity in Mutanda.

SHELTER AND CRIs 4,765 tarpaulins were distributed to 2,477 households (17,648 individuals) in the various collective centers in Nobili. An assessment is underway in displacement sites in Nobili to identify further vulnerable beneficiaries.
South Kivu Province

PROTECTION Community-based protection projects, including the construction of community spaces and structures for social cohesion, continued in Uvira and Fizi territories. UNHCR’s partner AVSI finalized a community radio project for the community-based protection structure in Nyange, Fizi Territory. Community-based structures, along with displaced persons and local community members, carried out ten awareness-raising activities for 2,494 participants (1,222 women and girls, 1,272 men and boys) on topics covering positive masculinity, SGBV, peaceful coexistence, and child protection.

CHILD PROTECTION As part of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) for protection, UNHCR’s partner AVSI made progress on the rehabilitation of two Child Friendly Spaces for children affected by conflict in Sange and Makobola, respectively in Uvira and Fizi Territories. Two out of the ten awareness-raising sessions carried out by displaced and host community structures were dedicated to child protection. One session took place in Lemera, Uvira Territory, with 156 participants and one in Makobola, Fizi Territory, with 80 participants.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV) UNHCR’s partner AVSI made progress on the reinforcement of the water supply network, by completing the water catchment source in Lemera Centre, Uvira Territory, in order to reduce the risk of SGBV for women and girls. This is another of the Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) being implemented by UNHCR partners. The majority of the ten awareness-raising sessions carried out by displaced and host community structures for 2,494 participants in Uvira and Fizi Territories covered SGBV themes, notably one session for 340 students at a public school in Lemera, Uvira Territory.

SHELTER AND CRIs 1,400 windows and 508 doors were distributed to 508 displaced households in Kazimia, Fizi Territory, whose shelters were constructed by UNHCR’s partner AIDES.

Immediate needs

- **Protection** from violence and conflict for women, men and children
- **Child protection**: Unaccompanied children, risks of child recruitment and SGBV against minors.
- **Birth registration**: 95% of IDP children in host families and IDP sites do not have birth certificates.
- **Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)** against women and girls.
- **Shelter** support is needed for the displaced and host families. In South Kivu, where there are no official IDP sites, shelter is one of the most immediate needs of IDPs.
- **Core Relief Items (CRIs)** are still needed for many IDP families, especially clothes and kitchen sets.
- **Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)** needs to be strengthened in North Kivu and Ituri. IDPs hosted at uncoordinated sites are progressively brought under coordination of CCCM.
- **Menstrual hygiene kits** for women and girls.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** needs are urgent in IDP sites and host families, especially in Nobili where over 100,000 IDPs are gathered in locations with barely any infrastructure.
- **Access to education**, the majority of children living in Ituri are out of school, including IDPs in UNHCR coordinated camps. In North and South Kivu IDP children lack the financial means to attend school.

Background

- Since 6 June 2019, generalized violence led to massive new displacements in **Ituri Province**. 230,357 persons fled their homes between June and November 2019, bringing the total to 1.2 million IDPs in the Province, according to the Commission de Mouvement de Population (CMP), a commission made up of Government and humanitarian agencies. The majority reside in host communities (83%), while 220,000 fled towards 87 IDP sites. Over 141,000 IDPs live in displacement sites coordinated by UNHCR or by IOM as co-leads of the CCCM Working Group.

- Over 1.7 million IDPs are located in **North Kivu Province** as of January 2020, according to the Commission de Mouvement de Population. As reported by OCHA, an estimated 436,000 persons fled their homes between September 2019 and January 2020. The vast majority of IDPs in North Kivu (1.67 million) live with host communities, while almost 90,000 reside in sites coordinated by UNHCR or by IOM as co-leads for the CCCM Working Group.

- Intercommunity violence in the highlands of **South Kivu Province** has led to widespread displacement in Fizi, Mwenga and Uvira territories. Clashes between various communities, armed groups and the...
DRC’s army have worsened since March 2019, and resulted in the forced displacement of at least 322,000 persons. In Kalehe Territory, clashes between the DRC’s army and CNRD rebels, which intensified in October 2019, have led 72,000 persons to flee, bringing the total to almost 1 million IDPs in South Kivu, according to OCHA. 98% of all IDPs reside in host families, while a minority have gathered in informal IDP sites (in Kalehe Territory).

UNHCR’s presence

UNHCR’s Sub-Office in Goma covers North Kivu and Ituri Provinces and supervises operations in South Kivu Province. The Goma Sub-Office oversees all North Kivu, while a smaller Field Unit in Bunia manages operations for Ituri. To meet growing needs in the northern part of North Kivu – including Ebola preparedness needs and emergency response – the operation opened a Field Unit in Beni in October 2019, and the Goma Sub-Office is being reinforced with permanent and temporary staff.

External Relations

As of 6 March 2020

Donors for UNHCR operations in DRC in 2020

United States of America (6.2 M) | Japan (0.56 M) | United Nations Foundation (0.32 M) | International Olympic Committee (0.23 M) | European Union (0.17 M) | UNAIDS (0.03 M)

Major donors of regional or other funds with soft earmarking 2020

United States of America (13.9 M) | Germany (8.4 M) | Canada (2.3 M)

Major donors of un-earmarked funds in 2020

Sweden (76.4 M) | Norway (41.4 M) | Netherlands (36.1 M) | Denmark (34.6 M) | United Kingdom (31.7 M) | Germany (25.9 M) | Switzerland (16.4 M) | Private donors Spain (13.2 M)

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