

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO EMERGENCY RESPONSE

SITUATION REPORT #1 (17 JUNE - 18 JULY 2019)

12.8 million

People in need

4.8 million

IDPs displaced in DRC

Points of Control/Points of Entry supported by IOM



Planning and development of new IDP sites in Bunia. © IOM 2019 (Photo: Joseph Tshibamba)

HIGHLIGHTS

with preliminary land preparation works Goma. having begun on 15 July.

Following the approval by local authorities, IOM has rolled out Flow Monitoring of In Ituri Province, an assessment of shelter IOM is coordinating the site planning populations in Goma and its vicinities to needs was conducted in 12 sites and three process of the new "Lycée Kigonze" understand the movement patterns of new spontaneous sites (Linji 2, Linji 3 and relocation site in Bunia (Ituri Province) the population to and from hotspots to Limbu) in Djugu territory. The assessment revealed that there is an urgent need to increase the number of emergency shelters in those areas.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

A complex emergency has persisted in parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) for more than 20 years. Over 99 per cent of displacement, which is frequent and repeated, is due to armed clashes and intercommunal violence between foreign, self-defence, and other armed groups. Currently, there are an estimated 4.8 million IDPs in the DRC, and 800,000 refugees are being hosted in neighbouring countries (source: OCHA).

Humanitarian access is extremely challenging due to local conflict dynamics resulting in the regular suspension of humanitarian activities. Most security incidents are reported in North and South Kivu, Ituri, Tanganyika, and Haut-Uele Provinces. Besides armed conflict and insecurity, remoteness and poor infrastructure form major obstacles for humanitarian agencies.

On 1 August 2018, an Ebola virus outbreak began in Ituri and North Kivu Provinces with transmission rates increasing since late March 2019. On 14 July, the first Ebola case was detected in Goma. Located on the shores of Lake Kivu at the Rwandan border, Goma forms the economic hub of North Kivu and is home to 1.2 million people. On 17 July, WHO declared the current outbreak a "Public Health Emergency of International Concern" (PHEIC). More than 2,500 people have been infected and two-thirds of victims have died since the outbreak was first detected.

Additionally, the DRC has recently experienced an influx of Congolese nationals returned from Angola after the Angolan government forced all those without documentation to leave. Between October 2018 and May 2019, 428,304 Congolese nationals have returned from Angola to six provinces; 62% of returnees coming from Angola were reported in Kasai province (source: OCHA). Most returnees are staying with host communities while some are sleeping out in the open or in churches and are in need of healthcare, food, drinkable water, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). They also face protection concerns as the security situation in Kasai is currently volatile.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Since mid-June 2019, IOM has been coordinating the site planning process of the planned "Lycée Kigonze" relocation site in Bunia (Ituri Province). Following the approval by local authorities, MONUSCO started preliminary land preparation works on 15 July. IOM plans to support the relocation of 10,000 IDPs from the informal site at the General Hospital and other spontaneous sites to the newly identified site.

Furthermore, IOM is scaling up its capacity to better respond to the increasing needs in terms of coordination in the new IDP sites in Ituri, Tanganyika and North Kivu Provinces. IOM will strengthen coordination mechanisms by supporting the presence of state actors such as DIVAH (Division Provinciale des Affaires Humanitaires), CNR (Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés) and Civil Protection through the deployment of site managers for maximum coverage in the three provinces in order to have systematic updates on population movements, and gaps in the response.



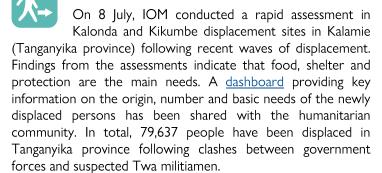
SHELTER

In Ituri Province, an assessment of shelter needs was conducted from 8 to 11 July in 12 displacement sites and three new spontaneous sites (Linji 2, Linji 3 and Limbu) in Djugu territory. The assessment revealed that there was an urgent need to increase the number of emergency shelters in those areas. As of 22 July, IOM has begun the construction of 130 emergency shelters in Godo (100) and Mbudu (30) displacement sites that will benefit 650 individuals. Furthermore, in Irumu territory, a roof rehabilitation campaign was finalized. As of 12 July, a total of 1,115 reinforced emergency shelters (previously built by UNHCR) have benefited from this upgrade, reaching 5,575 individual beneficiaries.

As of 18 July, 200 emergency shelters have been constructed in Rushasi (100 emergency shelters) and Kizimba (100) in North Kivu including upgrades of the roofs to mitigate the heat inside the shelters. A total of 1,000 individuals benefitted from this intervention. Moreover, IOM is currently constructing two hangars in Elyia and Mwaka (Tanganyika) to support the

populations affected by a fire in those sites. An additional assessment to cover the shelter needs of this population is ongoing during the reporting period.

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING



On 23 June, following requests from humanitarian activity, IOM conducted registration of displaced persons in seven IDP sites located in South Irumu, south of Bunia town, Ituri province. The humanitarian community has been relying on IDP data provided by IOM to facilitate them to deliver direct assistance e.g. food assistance to the rightful beneficiaries. In coordination with the Civil Protection, IOM registered a total of 945 households (3,481 individuals).

HEALTH

A total of eight Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) high-risk contacts were intercepted at various Points of Entry/Points of Control (POE/POCs) during the reporting period. Among those, seven were intercepted by frontline workers in Butembo en route to Goma at Kanyabayonga and Kiwanja POCs. IOM has rolled out Flow Monitoring of populations in Goma and its vicinities to understand the movement pattern of the population to and from hotspots to Goma. This comes at a time when a confirmed case involving a 46-year-old male was detected in Goma.



Insecurity remains a big challenge in the Ebola affected areas in North Kivu and Ituri Provinces. During the reporting period, six security incidents have been reported which affected the POE/POC operations mainly in Beni and Butembo, Katwa and Mangina Health Zones. Community resistance also continues to cause great disruptions and cost to POE/POC operations.

To respond to increased community resistance, IOM is reinforcing risk communication and community engagement activities across all POEs/POCs and their environs. This includes recruitment and deployment of risk communication focal points to various POEs/POCs. IOM, with the risk communication commission, has organized three Training of Trainers in Goma and Rutshuru territories targeting representatives of high-risk groups like traders, transport agencies, motor bike associations, among others. A total of 156 people (of which 40% are female) have been trained.



In Kasai and Kasai Central Provinces, IOM continues its emergency assistance to Congolese expelled and

returned from Angola. During the reporting period, 805 individuals have benefited from dignified onward transportation assistance (OTA) including profiling, medical screening, and transportation to their final destinations. Since 17 January 2019, a total of 16,015 individuals have been profiled and 9,063 individuals (4,324 women, 4,739 men) have received OTA. A total of 139 convoys were organized from Kamako to Tshikapa in Kasai Province and from Luiza/Luambo to Kananga in Kasai Central Province.



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