

12.8 million

People in need
(source: OCHA)

4.8 million

persons displaced in DRC
(source: OCHA)

108

Points of Control/Points of Entry supported by IOM as part of the EVD response



IOM staff conducting DTM assessments. © IOM 2019 (Photo: Muse Mohammed)

HIGHLIGHTS

Community meetings and dialogues were organised in Ituri Province, which focused on risk communication and community engagement, as well as the importance of handwashing in POEs/POCs. A total of 30 persons participated.

Over 1,600 Congolese returnees expelled from Angola in Kasai and Kasai Central Provinces received onward transportation assistance (OTA) and unconditional cash assistance to return to their areas of origin.

During the reporting period, population displacement was seen in Nyunzu territory, Tanganyika Province and Masisi territory, North Kivu Province. IOM recorded 6,600 individuals were displaced in Nyunzu and 9,894 individuals in Masisi territory.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

As of 14 September, 3,125 Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) cases have been confirmed with the number of deaths reaching 2,090 since the start of the outbreak on 1 August 2018 (source: Ministry of Health (MoH)/WHO). At present, 29 Health Zones (HZ) across North Kivu, Ituri, and South Kivu Provinces remain affected. As of 15 September, Goma city was declared Ebola free, as the last case of EVD in Goma was registered more than 42 days, since 2 August (source: MoH/WHO, 2019).

Securing humanitarian access continue to be a challenge and subject to local conflict dynamics. During the reporting period, medics in Rwampara, Mambasa, Beni, and Bunia, reportedly continued to encounter increasing attacks and resistance among local communities.

The first half of September 2019 was marked with displacement of population in North Kivu, Tanganyika and Ituri Provinces due to armed clashes or community conflict. Following alerts on population movement, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix

(DTM) unit immediately carried out Emergency Tracking (ETT) assessments to collect information on the demographic information of the displaced populations, locations where they take refuge and humanitarian assistance required. From 30 August, population movement was seen in Nyunzu territory, Tanganyika Province following clashes between Congolese National Armed Forces (FARDC) and militia groups. In total, 1,230 households, which corresponds to 6,600 persons, were displaced.

From 10 to 12 September, population displacement was seen in Masisi territory, North Kivu Province following clashes between FARDC and suspected armed group, Mai Mai NDC R/NDIMENDIME. In total, 2,244 households, which corresponds to 9,894 persons (6,124 women and 3,770 men) were displaced. Towards the end of the first half of September, community conflict started again in Djugu territory, Ituri province. Population was observed to start moving out of area affected by the conflict.

CONTACTS

IOM'S ROLE IN THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE RESPONSE IN DRC



HEALTH

From 1 to 15 September, 4,398,337 travellers were screened at IOM-supported POE/POCs. A total of 216 alerts¹ was reported by frontline workers, of which 71 alerts were validated by MoH surveillance/investigation teams.

During the reporting period, there were two confirmed EVD cases at IOM-supported POE/POCs. On 1 September, a four-year-old girl was intercepted in the company of her mother at Kangote POC, while traveling from Kakuka village to Butembo to seek medical attention. The girl was taken to an Ebola treatment centre for appropriate care. On 5 September, the body of a 32-year old woman was intercepted by frontline workers of Karuruma POC. According to the investigation report, the woman died on the way as she was being transported on a motorbike from Kasindi to Kyondo General Hospital for treatment. The woman travelled together with three other people. Her body was taken to Kyondo General Hospital where EVD was confirmed following a swab test at the

hospital. The three persons travelling with the EVD confirmed case were listed as contacts and are under follow up from the MoH surveillance team.

During the reporting period, IOM organised a community dialogue with a mosaic of community members including farmers, pastors, nurses and village elders from Komanda, Ituri Bridge POC and villages around the POC. A total of 30 persons (14 women, 16 men) discussed the importance of handwashing in POC with emphasis on the regularity of this practice in different POCs. The participants suggested that handwashing devices should not only be located at POCs but should be made available in other public places such as churches and schools. IOM provides handwashing devices at all IOM supported POE/POCs and encourages partner organisations and private owners of public places such as hotels/restaurants to provide handwashing devices.

¹ An alert is defined as any traveller with a temperature above 38°C and/or who is showing visible symptoms of vomiting or diarrhoea.



Flow Monitoring, Beni, North Kivu. © IOM 2019 (Photos: Muse Mohammed)

IOM RESPONSE



DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

Following some alerts on movement of population in several territories in Tanganyika and North Kivu provinces, IOM's DTM team carried out Emergency Tracking (ETT) assessments to rapidly collect information on demographic data of the displaced population, locations where they take refuge and humanitarian assistance required. Results of the ETT was distributed widely to humanitarian actors.

Following armed clashes between FARDC and militia groups in Nyunzu territory, Tanganyika province, from 30 August, movement of population was reported in the territory. On 11 September, IOM DTM teams carried out ETT assessments to gather further information on the displacement. The assessment showed that 1,230 households, which corresponds to 6,600 individuals, from 14 villages in the territory were displaced. The displaced populations sought refuge in two spontaneous sites located the villages of Kabeya Mayi and Kayunzu, 10km from Nyunzu Centre, the capital city of Nyunzu territory (ETT report #2, September 2019).

In North Kivu province, following clashes between FARDC and suspected armed group Mai Mai NDC R/ NDIMENDIME, population displacement was seen in 15 villages in Masisi territory. ETT assessments carried out by IOM's DTM team showed that from 10 to 12 September, a total of 2,244 households, which corresponds to 9,894 individuals (6,124 women and 3,770 men), took refuge in host community or community centre in villages in Masisi territory (ETT report #3, September 2019).



Data collection in the villages of Mahagi, Ituri Province. © IOM 2019



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT/ SHELTER

In Tanganyika province, on 13 September at around 2:30am, a fire broke out at Kabembe displacement site which

currently hosts 1,073 households, which corresponds to 2,127 individuals. The day after, the humanitarian community (IOM, UNHCR and AIDES) together with the provincial authority and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs carried out a joint rapid assessment in the affected site to identify the damages and humanitarian assistance required. The fire had caused the death of two IDP children aged 5 and 7 years old, damaged 64 shelters (45 totally destroyed, 19 partially damaged), and caused loss of essential household items food supply. Vulnerable persons were among the victims of the fire, including pregnant women, elderly persons, large families and people with reduced mobility.

IOM and its partner AIDES, who is in charge of the site management together with the IDP committee, immediately organized for the 64 households who lost their shelters during the fire to take refuge in community hangars built in the site by IOM in May 2019. AIDES, the site management agency provided funeral kits including coffins, sheets, soap and perfume for the funerals of the two victims of the fire.



Living conditions in one of the camps in Kankomba TZF site in Kalemie, Tanganyika province. © IOM 2019 (Photo: Ernesto Bafile)

The fire in the site seemed to have been caused by a combination of dry weather conditions, local materials used to construct the shelter and remaining fire from cooking activity. Many IDP households still cook near their shelters which increases the risk of fires. IOM CCCM and Shelter unit continue to raise awareness of fire prevention and cooking methods to reduce the risk of fire outbreaks. Local languages are used during sensitization sessions and in communication materials to ensure that the displaced populations understand the messages. IOM and AIDES also worked together with the IDP committees to prevent and respond better in case of fire IOM Shelter/WASH unit is planning to carry out site restructuring ensuring fire breaks between the shelters.



ONWARD TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

In Kasai and Kasai Central Provinces, IOM continued its assistance to Congolese returnees expelled from Angola to facilitate them to return to their area of origin.

During the reporting period, 1,654 individuals benefitted from the assistance provided by IOM and its implementing partner, Handicap International and HelpAge. The assistance to the Congolese returnees from Angola was financed by CERF and the project ended on 16 September 2019. Throughout the project, IOM and its partners provided Onward Transportation Assistance and unconditional cash assistance to 13,400 beneficiaries, including 3,061 women, 3,447 girls, 3,203 men, and 3,689 boys.

There are many Congolese returnees from Angola who still need assistance to return to their area of origin. Resource mobilization to provide further assistance is ongoing.

KAHINDO MUSAVULI'S STORY



“Every morning before we start school, we teach a lesson to all the students about Ebola and instruct them to wash their hands regularly throughout the school day. When the kids go home, they share with their parents what they’ve learned at school. We have also arranged for all the teachers to be vaccinated from the disease.

In the beginning, we thought it was a story from far away which would never affect us. Then we started to live in it and realized how real it was. My mission is to keep all the kids in my school Ebola-free.”

On 2 September, the school year 2019/2020 started in DRC. Kahindo Musavuli, the Director of Komanda Primary School in Ituri Province starts his day with sensitizing students about Ebola Virus Disease. Every morning, the 3,000 students attending Komanda Primary School begin their school day with lessons about handwashing and other practices to stop the spread of Ebola. Teachers hope the students will bring home good practices for Ebola prevention to their families.

IOM conducts risk communications trainings with community leaders including teachers on Ebola prevention in Ebola affected areas.



© IOM 2019 (Photos: Muse Mohammed)

IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY :

