

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE – CAR SITUATION

16-22 MARCH 2015

KEY FIGURES

99

Unaccompanied minors assisted by UNHCR

17,206

NFIs distributed since the beginning of the CAR emergency

56

SGBV survivors who have received support from UNHCR

FUNDING

USD 10,865,000
requested for
the operation

USD 800,000
received

PRIORITIES

- Operational priority 1 in the coming weeks: ensure registration and documentation of all CAR refugees
- Operational priority 2 in the coming weeks: lifesaving activities for CAR refugees living in northern Congo
- Operational priority 3 in the coming weeks: reduce exposition to SGBV, especially in camps
- Operational priority 4 in the coming weeks: reinforce assistance for education, including secondary education and vocational activities.



WATER PUMP IN BETOU. CELEBRATION OF THE WORLD WATER DAY.

STATISTICS

169 new CAR refugees were registered in Bétou, Impfondo and Brazzaville by UNHCR and CNAR (National Committee for Assistance of Refugees) during the week.

Up to 22 March 2015, **24,442** CAR refugees were registered in the Republic of Congo, including **15,024** who arrived after 5 December 2013.

Statistics of the refugee population- 22 March 2015

Locality	31/12/2013	15/03/2015	Arrivals	22/03/2015
Betou	8,002	16,939	101	17,040
Impfondo	435	1,072	12	1,084
Brazzaville	1,547	5,877	56	5,933
Pointe Noire	100	385	0	385
Total	10,084	24,273	169	24,442

In addition, 912 refugees were pre-registered by the immigration services of Betou but not yet registered in ProGres. This number has however to be re-assessed as it is expected that many of these individuals have then relocated to Brazzaville and were registered there while others may have returned to CAR. On 22 March 2015, the **cumulative** number of registered and pre-registered refugees was of 25,354refugees.

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS



Protection

- 41 CAR individuals remain in detention in the premises of the central police station of Brazzaville. They had been arrested on 15 March 2015 in the course of a police operation aimed to evict those occupying illegally damaged habitations in the district of Mpila. Those holding refugee cards were released immediately, however no decision has yet been taken regarding the 41 remaining CAR individuals. Among them, some hold refugee attestations delivered in Betou and Impfondo while other have not yet been registered as refugees.
- In Betou, CNAR and the immigration services pre-registered 56 families of 124 individuals who remain to be registered in ProGres.
- 295 CAR refugees were also recently registered by the CNAR in Pointe Noire and some 200 in Ouessou (northern Congo). UNHCR does not have any offices in these localities, thus screening and registration missions be organized in upcoming weeks.
- UNHCR Betou organized a protection monitoring mission in the following entry points of CAR refugees: Bongoumba. Kpakaya and Nzengue.



Education and vocational training

Achievements and Impact

- In Betou, UNHCR's partner AIRD is currently constructing 11 classrooms in three (3) public schools. Construction work is about to be finalized and the classrooms will soon be delivered to local authorities.
- Three (3) classrooms as well as a vocational center are also being constructed in the refugee site of Ikpengbele.



Health and nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- WFP launched the March monthly food distribution in Betou. Due to logistical constraints related to the inaccessibility of the area during the dry season, only family sizes one (1) to five (5) were assisted. Larger families will be receiving their rations upon reception of additional food.
- Thirteen (13) malnourished children were identified and treated during the week.
- 82 children and 26 pregnant women were vaccinated during the week in Betou.



Water and Sanitation

- Several activities were organized during the world water day (22 March). Local authorities, UNHCR and partner focused their sensitizations on required hygienic measures to ensure durable maintenance of water points.
- As part of the CERF project, UNHCR's partner AARREC is currently building two additional water points in Betou.



Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- On the site 15 Avril, 380 shelters on 400 initially planned are finalized and 291 have already been allocated.
- NFIS were distributed to 162 families of 268 individuals recently registered in Betou.



Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

Achievements and Impact

- In the area of Betou, UNHCR and its partner AARREC continues to assist agro pastoral and fishing group with material. Assistance for income generating activities is also provided under condition.
- Local authorities allocated, through UNHCR's partner AARREC, an arable land of 20 hectares to agro pastoral groups.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- Despite the above mentioned initiatives, the livelihood of new CAR refugees in the area of Betou remains unsatisfactory and leads some families to move toward small villages in order to find food through fishing or other small livelihood informal activities. Others decided to try to reach Brazzaville or Impfondo as they believe they will have more work opportunity. However, in these localities, the conditions of the CAR refugees are also very precarious. In Impfondo, the refugees live in host families or sometimes rent small houses which are overcrowded. Their living conditions are very precarious and, local authorities have considered during the past months that they should be relocated in sites or camps where they will be better accommodated and monitored by UNHCR, its partners and the government. In Brazzaville, in absence of any assistance, several cases of vulnerable refugees living in the streets, churches or deserted buildings without any support have been reported.