

DRC Emergency: Update 01 – 30 November 2023



In the context of the humanitarian scale up in North Kivu Province, UNHCR has developed the Muja spontaneous site into an official site with a capacity of 2,000 shelters for over 10,000 people. ©UNHCR/Blaise Sanyila

OVERVIEW

Between 7 October and 24 November, as many as 450,000 people were displaced by a wave of violence in North Kivu Province. Nearly 200,000 of this newly displaced population cannot be accessed because of ongoing fighting and around 100,000 others are at risk of being cut off due to the escalating violence. Influxes from Masisi and Rutshuru territories add to the strain on the humanitarian response, which remains severely underfunded.

The use of heavy artillery continues to be reported in the Masisi, Rutshuru and Nyiragongo territories. Tens of thousands of displaced people are estimated to be arriving in Sake, carrying with them reports of human rights violations that have driven them from their homes, as well as risks and abuses they faced on the road in search of safety.

Alarmingly, on 18 November, fighting again encroached on a spontaneous displacement site established in the Kanyaruchinya district on the outskirts of Goma that resulted in the deaths of 7 IDPs. UNHCR reiterates in the strongest terms possible that the humanitarian and civilian nature of displacement sites must be respected and calls all actors to cease this violence.

On 22 November, significant non-state armed group activity again cut off the main highways in the Petit Nord region, heavily disrupting the flow of essential items, including food supplies and fuel to populations--including host communities--in and around Goma.

SECTOR RESPONSE

In the coordinated response to the situation under the leadership of UNOCHA, UNHCR is coordinating the provision of the Protection, Shelter and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCCM) Clusters in collaboration with UN agencies, international and local NGOs, and government partners.



Protection Cluster

- NORTH KIVU: The Protection Cluster took an active part in an inter-agency assessment mission in Sake, to evaluate the multi-sectoral needs of newly displaced people following an influx of IDPs escaping conflict in Masisi territory.
- NORTH KIVU: Following Protection Cluster advocacy, a report on the occupation of houses in areas of return in Beni territory by security forces was conducted and provided to provincial authorities for follow-up.
- ITURI: An increase in human rights violations was recorded by UNHCR and NGO partner protection monitoring teams in November. As many as 3,228 abuses were documented, an increase of 348 violations against October. Forty-six per cent of violations recorded were committed against spontaneous returns, including the forced labour of 96 returnees in an incident in Djugu territory.

CHALLENGES AND GAPS: Armed attacks on civilians, social infrastructure and other targets protected under International Humanitarian Law continue to generate forced displacement, creating significant unmet humanitarian and protection needs including in locations of return.



Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI) Cluster

- NORTH KIVU: UNHCR finalized construction of 764 transitional shelters planned to accommodate over 3,800 individuals in the territory of Lubero. So far, over 40,000 individuals have been accommodated since the start of the year in sites around Goma.
- NORTH KIVU: Following UNHCR-led advocacy, regional authorities in Goma have made 174 hectares available to humanitarian agencies to expand Lushagala site, opening potential to develop the capacity by 75,000.
- NORTH KIVU: UNHCR teams distributed Core Relief Items (CRIs) to 3,600 households and 3,600 Dignity Kits for women of childbearing age, in Masisi Centre; as well as 1,000 CRIs and 1,000 dignity kits in Sake following renewed violence in the region.

CHALLENGES AND GAPS: Despite a successful delivery of assistance to Masisi Centre, spikes in violence are impeding access to many locations, including Kanyabayonga in Lubero for example.

An estimated 30 million USD is needed for the construction of shelters on the newly provided 174 hectares at Lushagala and other sites.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

- NORTH KIVU: A CCCM capacity-building workshop for Masisi authorities and civil society was delivered on the concepts of CCCM, between 14-15 November 2023 in which 45 participants, including 15 women, were trained.
- NORTH KIVU: CCCM continues to monitor the registration of new households arriving in displacement sites. Alarming, during the last two weeks of November an influx of approx. 100,000 displaced people arrived in the sites at Bushagara, Lushagala, Rusayo II amongst others.
- ITURI: The CCCM cluster, in collaboration the UNHCR Protection team and Protection Cluster specialists on Gender-Based Violence and Child Protection, provided capacity-building over 3 days for 275 Congolese police officers, including 11 female officers, responsible for securing IDP sites. The topics included overall protection principles, and significantly a refreshment on child protection core principles and the preventions of sexual exploitation and abuse.

CHALLENGES AND GAPS: Developing the needed infrastructure in sites is still impacted by the significant shortfall in funding.

INTERAGENCY BUDGET NEEDS

In the context of the [Humanitarian Response Plan 2023](#), which identifies more than 26.4 million people in need in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UN Agencies and partners are calling for \$2.25 billion, to target ten million people in need.

UNHCR requires \$233 million to respond to the needs of displaced people in DRC IN 2023.

DONATE NOW

To donate now please click below to visit
[UNHCR.org/drc](https://www.unhcr.org/drc)

LINKS: [UNHCR Global Focus](#) | [UNHCR DRC Data Portal](#) | [UNHCR DRC Website](#) | [UNHCR Twitter](#) | [UNHCR DRC Facebook](#)

For more information, please contact

Nathalie Mbenoun, Reporting Officer, UNHCR Goma,
mbenoun@unhcr.org, Tel: +243 830 573 314
Joel Smith, Communications Officer, UNHCR Kinshasa,
smithj@unhcr.org Tel: +243 825 257 774