

KEY FIGURES

109

Unaccompanied minors assisted by UNHCR

18,339

NFIs distributed since the beginning of the CAR emergency

86

SGBV survivors who have received support from UNHCR

FUNDING

USD 10,865,000
requested for
the operation

USD 2,110,000
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.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

UNHCR OPERATIONAL UPDATE – CAR SITUATION

10-16 AUGUST 2015



DISTRIBUTION OF HYGIENIC KITS TO CAR REFUGEES WOMEN AND GIRLS, BETOU/AUGUST 11, 2015

STATISTICS

138 CAR refugees were registered in the areas of Brazzaville this week. The number of new arrivals, except for the regularization, is currently lower.

Up to **16 August 2015**, **29,747** CAR refugees were registered in the Republic of Congo, including **19,473** who arrived after 5 December 2013.

Statistics of the refugee population- 16 AUGUST 2015

Locality	31/12/2013	09/08/2015	Arrivals	16/08/2015
Betou	8,002	19,709	0	19,709
Impfondo	435	1,535	0	1,535
Brazzaville	1,547	7,021	138	7,159
Ouessou/Pokola	0	445	0	445
Pointe Noire	100	899	0	899
Total	10,084	29,609	138	29,747

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.

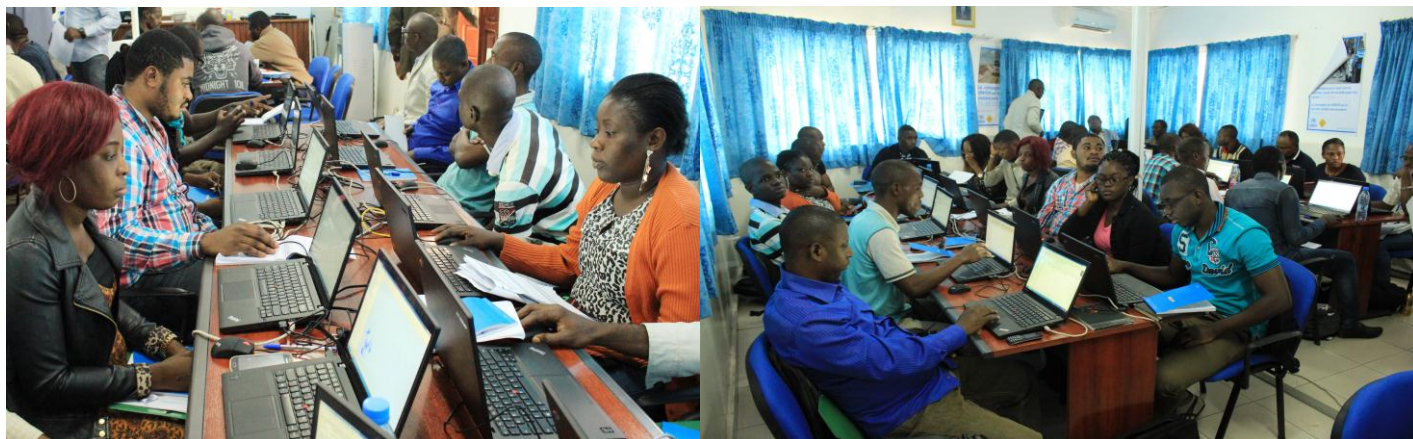
OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- Republic of Congo on Saturday August 15, 2015 marked its 55th independence anniversary with festivities in Ouessou; the country's third largest city. The UNHCR representative joined officials from August 13 to August 16. Also, the prefect of the Likouala's department offered drinks to the civil and military authorities living at Impfondo. UNHCR's office in Impfondo has been invited.
- The biometric registration planned to begin from August 17 in Brazzaville is actively being prepared. The operation will last on September 1st in the capital. Prior to this, technical training session of the registration's agents are being organized from 6 to 16 August 2015.

Acceleration of the process of issuing births certificates is urgent

Several heads of refugee's families in the north river complained of delays concerning the signing of papers birth by the local authorities of Dongou. According to the beneficiaries, the local authorities of Dongou still do not issue papers at the time of registering the children's birth. This is a huge difficulty. To find solutions to this issue, presidents of the refugees committee from each site affected by this situation have been asked to establish a list in order to allow UNHCR Impfondo to discuss with the local authorities of Dongou.

The situation in sub-prefecture of Betou, of CAR children who were born since 2013 to this day, still remains difficult too. CAR parents have problems to declare the births of their children. UNHCR should conduct more advocacy activities address to the authorities in order to reduce the risks of statelessness that these children are exposed.



The training of agents for the biometric registration operation started on Friday 7 August in Brazzaville. It mobilizes both UNHCR and CNAR protection staff but also other partners.

Achievements and Impact

- SGBV incidents have not been reported this week. However, UNHCR Bétou followed the monitoring of cases previously reported: referencing for accompaniment medical, psycho from partners. In addition, they helped in the drafting and filing complaints of two (02) survivors.
- UNHCR Bétou has undertaken, in collaboration with the partner AARREC, the situation of an unaccompanied CAR minor identified. Best interest assessments were conducted.
- On Tuesday 11 August 2015, cargo of medicines arrived by a boat and will sure help the medical partner Terre Sans Frontières. These drugs will help to strengthen the medical care of patients at health units.
- UNHCR through the partner AARREC proceeded to the launch of general distribution of know of laundry for the benefit of the families refugees RCA/DRC coupled to that of hygienic kits intended for women and girls in ages of childbearing age covering a period of 03 months.
- Near the borders with the Central African Republic, movements of CAR populations by small groups have been reported in the district of Enyelle. At MOUNGOUNGUI, in the sub-prefecture of Enyelle, 31 persons of 13 families have been pre-registered by local authorities last week with the Committee of the village's assistance and the CNAR/Betou's watch. These families who arrived in last April 2015, come from Mbaiki and Bangandou, CAR localities and they informed they were living in fear for their safety. Today, the regularization of 71 persons from 23 families is under process in the next few days.
- UNHCR in Impfondo organized the mid-year evaluation of its activities with partners (AARREC, AIRD, TSF and CNAR) and refugees. This exercise took place in Impfondo and Dongou. Also, the members of the multifunctional teams visited some beneficiaries of the assistance regularly provided. An example of an achievement: a cyber cafe is under construction at Impfondo. In addition, the CAR refugees living in Ikpéngbélé have brought to UNHCR's attention the miserable conditions of their houses after the flooding that happened last months. In this regard, they are arguing for the revival of the extension project of the Ikpéngbélé's site.
- PAM office in Betou will proceed in August to the monthly food distribution (rice, oil...). Prelude to the launch of this mission, a meeting of awareness, held at the site of 15 Avril joined together WFP, UNHCR, AARREC and committees for the refugees DRC/RCA. During that meeting, some useful information was shared to refugees. Here is the program distribution for CAR refugees : Rice (350g / day / 30 days) , peas (120g / day / 30 days) , oil (35 g / day / 30 days) ; salt (10g / day / 30 days).



DISTRIBUTION OF HYGIENIC KITS TO CAR REFUGEES WOMEN AND GIRLS, BETOU/AUGUS 11, 2015

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- To date, the civil authorities in the area of Betou are still unable to register and deliver birth certificates due to lack of equipment. The situation is of particular concern in Mouale, Mokabi and Thanry where the closest registry office is located some 200 kilometers away. This gap concerns both the local and refugee population and UNHCR is required to assess how to address it. This shortage at the registry offices limits the refugee's chances to acquire a birth certificate on time.



Health and nutrition

Achievements and Impact

- During this week and the previous one, health activities have particularly decreased and had effect on awareness. Screening tests are not available in the whole country. Screening tests are currently conducting through UNFPA and unfortunately won't be available at Impfondo for example.
- Shortage of anti-TBs and blood transfusion as well as immunization for Hepatitis B and almost essential drugs in the UNHCR's health partner pharmacy in Betou and Impfondo are still noted.
- As part of the vaccination campaign against poliomyelitis in the District of Betou, health authorities in the locality have requested from the Betou's UNHCR office, logistical support to carry out this activity, which cares all children aged from 0 to 59 months, meaning less than five years. So, through health partner Terre Sans Frontières, UNHCR provided them with logistical support to cover the localities located on river and road routes including Ikpembélé.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The mission from August 10 to August 16 of the UNHCR's Public Health Coordinator at Doungou's health station and Impfondo's hospital highlighted the lack of human resources and medical equipment. Sick CAR refugees are facing health care issues especially on nights or weekends.



Water and Sanitation

Achievements and Impact

- The partner AARREC proceeded to the water chlorination for a total of 36 wells in the district of Betou Centre and the north since the arrival of the CAR refugees including thirteen (13) at the site of 15 Avril and five (05) at Ikpembélé.
- They also organized awareness campaigns in Betou concerning basic rules of hygiene, sanitation and safety in food. 65 persons have been sensitized through focus groups.
- All wells are functional.
- At Ikpembele, the partner helped election of two (02) management committees of wells, twelve (12) members have been designated including 06 women.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- However with the extension of the site of 15 Avril and considering the arrival of new families, the number of wells is going to become insufficient and does not answer anymore the need for the concerned populations. 123 shelters where CAR refugees are living are under destruction.

Shelter and NFIs

Achievements and Impact

- The construction works related to extension of the site 15 avril are still ongoing. Construction of six kitchens is also ongoing.
- Half of the streetlights are not functional at Ikpembéle and 15 Avril

- On the site 15 Avril, the partner AIRD constructed 171 shelters on the 254 initially planned
- We can also note recovery of NFIs distribution at Impfondo since last week after more than six months interruption.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- With the arrival of new families and extension of the site 15 Avril, additional latrines units to cover the needs are requested in this area and also at Ikpengbele.
- Refugees would like to receive jerry cans with larger capacity for storing drinking water and other household needs.