

# Democratic Republic of the Congo

December 2017

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December, **87,307 refugees from Central African Republic** had arrived since mid-May 2017 in Nord-Ubangi and Bas-Uele provinces.

A first batch of **newly constructed emergency shelters** (192) were handed over to South Sudanese refugees in the new site of Kaka (Haut-Uele province).

**1,700 Burundian refugees** were transferred to the new site of Mulongwe (South Kivu province) since its opening in late November. Refugees received relief items and had access to basic services.

## KEY INDICATORS

# 537,087

Refugees in DRC as of 31 December 2017

# 4.35 Million\*

Internally Displaced People in DRC as of 30 November 2017

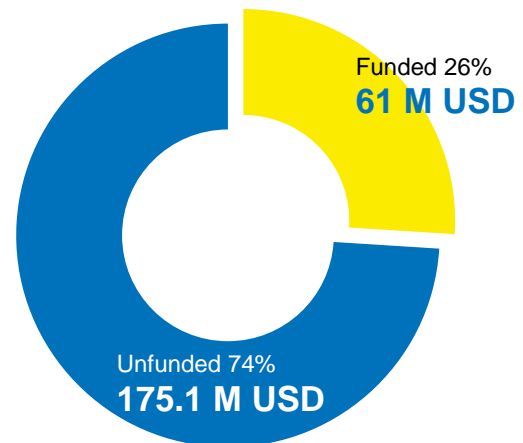
# 623,059

Refugees from DRC in neighboring countries as of 31 December 2017

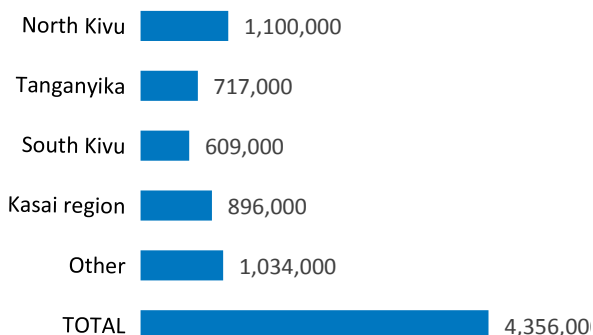
## FUNDING 2017 (AS OF 2 JANUARY 2018)

# USD 236.2 M

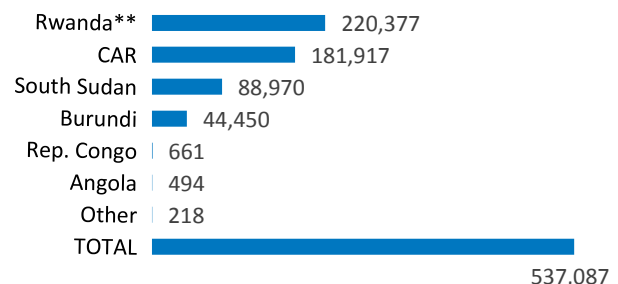
requested for the DRC (including special situations)



## Internally Displaced People by Province \*



## Refugees by country of origin



\* Source: OCHA (30 November 2017)

\*\*This figure is based on a pre-registration exercise conducted by the National Commission for Refugees in 2014-2015. Biometric registration is ongoing. So far, 42,132 refugees were registered.

## Update on Achievements

### Burundian refugees

- 1,700 Burundian refugees (496 households) were relocated from transit centers and reception structures to the new site of Mulongwe (near Baraka, Fizi Territory, South Kivu province) since the opening of the site in late November. Refugees received non-food items (mat, blanket, soap, kitchen set, jerry-can and bucket) and were accommodated in 24 common dorms before receiving their plot of land to build their own shelters and do agriculture. UNHCR partners AIRD and ADES provided building materials, cash vouchers and technical support for the construction of the family shelters, latrines and showers. 107 households received their plots during the month of December.
- Refugees relocated to Mulongwe site received also WFP food rations while waiting to be registered in WFP's SCOPE database and to be given electronic ration cards for the food fair.
- The health post of Mulongwe site was operational with the support of health partner ADES. Operational partner AFPDE was building a health center in the village of Katolukulu, neighbouring Mulongwe, for the local population in the area as well as refugees from Mulongwe.
- In Mulongwe site, standards for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities were met. 21 communal latrines were operational and 32 emergency latrines were finalized. 36 water taps were available on site.
- In Lusenda camp, 400 new blocs of showers and latrines were under construction. The water network was being extended to reach all areas of the camp. Moreover, awareness campaigns on hygiene best practices were carried out and prevention measures against cholera and diarrhea were taken.
- In the Transit Centres of Kavimvira and Sange, latrines (20 in Kavimvira and 7 in Sange) and showers (16 in Kavimvira) were rehabilitated.

### Central African refugees

- On the 8<sup>th</sup> of December, the biometric registration exercise of newly arrived Central African refugees in Nord-Ubangi Province ended. A total of 39,150 people were registered.
- Moreover, 37,108 new arrivals remained pre-registered in Bas-Uele Province and other 11,049 remained registered by National Commission for Refugees (CNR) as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. Their biometric registration was planned for 2018.
- From 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> December, UNHCR and WFP distributed cash to new arrivals who already registered with biometrics in four localities around Gbadolite (Mobayi Mbongo, Lembo, Kambo and Mogoro). 5,593 refugee households of 20,261 persons and 1,229 host families of 6,145 person received the cash.
- 4,174 children aged 0 to 4 years born in DRC received birth certificates from civil registry after supplementary judgments from mobile court hearings held from 11<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> December for children living in Mole, Boyabu and Bili camps as well as outside Inke camp.

- Partner TSF started the construction works for rehabilitation of a health post of Kazawi, in Bondo territory, Bas-Uele Province. This area has a high concentration of new arrivals from CAR. The host community contributed to the works, providing construction materials.
- In the four camps of Nord and South Ubangi provinces, 683 latrines and 880 transitional shelters were constructed, using cash-based interventions (CBI). 20 shelters were still under construction.
- In addition to the above, 200 additional transitional shelter were completed in order to accommodate new arrivals in Inke camp.
- In Ndu village (Bondo territory, Bas-Uele Province), local authorities granted plots of land to agricultural associations of newly arrived refugees and host community members, to enable them to carry out agricultural activities profitable to both communities. In Monga, partner ADES distributed 300 hoes to refugees and host community members for agricultural activities.
- Partner TSF started the rehabilitation works for the airstrip of Monga (Bondo territory, Bas-Uele Province). UNHCR opened a new office in Monga in late December, in order to better assist CAR refugees in that remote area. The road between Ndu and Monga was also under rehabilitation with support of partner AIRD.

## Rwandan refugees

- Voluntary repatriation from DRC to Rwanda in 2017 has been at a significantly higher level than previous years, with more than 18,000 returnees (6,006 in 2016; 5,203 in 2015; 5,645 in 2014). Official figures for 2017 are to be confirmed by the Rwandan authorities.
- The DRC authorities maintained their decision to not apply cessation of refugee status for Rwandan refugees at the end of 2017, differently from other countries in the region.

## South Sudanese refugees

- South Sudanese refugees continued to arrive in DRC over the course of December. Between 18 and 22 December alone, some 200 refugees crossed into the DRC from neighboring Yei River State and found refuge at Meri site in Aba, Haut-Uele province, following clashes in Lasu, South Sudan.
- Overall, 830 South Sudanese refugees were biometrically registered in December; the smallest number of new arrivals registered in 2017 over the course of a month. Between June and November 2017, an average of 1,430 refugees arrived in the DRC each month while during the first half of 2017, UNHCR registered an average of 2,030 refugees on a monthly basis.
- The refugee site of Kaka, located 15 km from the town of Dungu (Haut-Uele Province), was opened. A first batch of newly constructed emergency shelters (192) were handed over to refugees who previously lived with Congolese host families in Dungu and to newly arrived refugees who temporarily lived in the classrooms of the Kaka village primary school. Other 200 transitional shelter were under construction. The local school and health center were rehabilitated.

- In order to reduce the pressure on the surrounding forests, a group of refugees supported by UNHCR started producing fuel-efficient stoves for the refugee families at Kaka site.
- 220 Congolese households in Dungu center who had hosted refugees received a one-off cash grant of 90 USD from UNHCR. These households – themselves living in very modest conditions – had voluntarily accommodating refugees and sharing their houses and food, and contributed significantly to the integration of the refugees into the local community. There were 1,256 South Sudanese refugees registered in Dungu center and until the opening of the Kaka site in December, most of them lived with Congolese host families for a period ranging from a few months up to three years.



*Construction of transitional shelters at the new Kaka site, Haut-Uele Province © UNHCR*

## Internally Displaced People (IDPs)

- Cash transfers to 2,100 households (16,000 individuals) started in December in Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental Provinces through UNHCR partners ActionAid and NRC. Beneficiaries included IDPs, returnees and hosting families.
- UNHCR distributed medical equipment to five health centers in Kasai Central Province where there is high concentration of displaced persons.
- UNHCR partner ActionAid trained 150 displaced and returnee women on business management as part of a livelihoods project. Subsequently, the women will receive financial support to start income-generating activities such as tailoring, trade and agriculture.
- UNHCR partner ActionAid distributed agricultural tools and seeds to 200 women who will farm community land in Lupatapata (Kasai Oriental).
- In December, the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) registered 2,388 newly displaced persons (420 households) arrived in sites managed by UNHCR (Mweso, Kashuga, Mungote, Ibuga, Nyanzale, Kahe and Kihondo in Masisi and Rutshuru) in North Kivu Province. North Kivu remained the Province with the highest number of displaced persons (1.1 million as of 30 November 2017, according to OCHA).
- In North Kivu, 25 IDPs who were rape survivors received medical support within 72 hours and psychosocial support thanks to identification and referral of cases under UNHCR's protection monitoring scheme.
- UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) profiled IDPs while verifying beneficiary data and provided them with tokens in Moba and Pweto territories. 24,517 persons have been profiled as of 31 December 2017.

### Cluster Activities

- On 6<sup>th</sup> December, UNHCR activated the Protection Cluster in Mbuji-Mayi, Kasai Oriental Province. The three provinces of Kasai, Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental have now active Protection Clusters led by UNHCR.
- In South-Kivu, between 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2017, a Protection Cluster mission to Baraka was organised with the participation of UNFPA and the support of UNHCR to reactivate the Protection Cluster in Fizi territory, and to lead capacity building activities with authorities and protection actors on the ground. The first protection cluster meeting was held the 14<sup>th</sup> of December with the participation of the 2 UN Agencies, 1 INGO, 2 Governmental authorities, and National NGOs.
- In addition, capacity building of Uvira Protection Cluster members was organized the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 on the Centrality of Protection and emergency response.

## Critical Needs and Priorities

- 6,700 additional shelters are urgently needed for South Sudanese refugees hosted in the three sites of Meri, Biringi and Kaka.
- Lack of funds strongly impedes the further development of the Kaka site, notably the provision of building material for additional shelters, water points and sanitary facilities. Additional funds are urgently needed to accommodate on this site the large number of refugees residing along the precarious border between Dungu Territory and South Sudan.
- In South Kivu, difficult access due to security and logistical constraints in some areas of Fizi territory, Shabunda and in the neighboring Maniema Province is hampering provision of assistance to displaced persons and little possibility of evaluating the reports on protection incidents.
- The bad state of the road between Gbadolite, Yakoma and Monga is hampering delivery of assistance to newly arrived refugees from CAR.
- In Tanganyika Province, 89,000 households (displaced and returnees) are in urgent need of shelter.
- In Kasai region, needs for life-saving assistance for displaced and returnees remained huge compared to the capacity of humanitarian on the ground.
- In Kasai region, reconciliation and peaceful coexistence activities need to be carried as they constitute a pre-condition to return in safety for many displaced who still feel threatened by inter-community tensions.

## Working in partnership

- Together with the DRC Government, through the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), UNHCR ensures international protection and delivery of multi-sectorial assistance to persons of concern. UNHCR closely collaborate with other UN Agencies and other humanitarian actors for a coordinated and effective response. UNHCR works with 15 implementing partners (ACTION AID, ADES, ADSSE, AIDES, AIRD, CIAUD CANADA, COOPI, CNR, INTERSOS, MIDEFEHOPF, NRC, SAVE CONGO, SAVE THE CHILDREN, SFCG and TSF) and many operational partners.
- UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster, which coordinate the protection actors in their support of IDPs and other vulnerable. UNHCR co-leads the Protection and Prevention component of the National Strategy on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in DRC.



## External / Donors Relations

### Special thanks to donors for UNHCR operations in DRC in 2017

United States of America (41.9 M) | Belgium (4.7 M) | CERF (3.3 M) | Japan (2.5 M) | Republic of Korea (1.5 M) | European Union (1.1 M) | Sweden (1.1 M) | UNIQLO Co. Ltd (1.0 M) | DRC Humanitarian Fund (0.8 M) | Canada (0.7 M) | Private Donors Germany (0.5 M) | France (0.5 M) | Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints (0.2 M) | U.N. Foundation (0.2 M) | Spain (0.1 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (0.1 M) | Private Donors Spain (0.07 M) | Vodafone Foundation (0.05 M) | UNAIDS (0.05 M)

### Thanks to donors of unrestricted and regional funds

United States of America (266 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Private Donors Spain (60 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | United Kingdom (45 M) | Norway (41 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (29 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Private Donors Italy (19 M) | Private Donors USA (18 M) | Private Donors Japan (17 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Private Donors Sweden (15 M) | France (14 M) | Germany (12 M) | Italy (10 M)

### CONTACTS

**Andreas Kirchhof**, Snr Regional External Relation Officer, DR Congo - RR Kinshasa, kirchhof@unhcr.org, Tel: +243 996 041 000, Cell +243 817 009 484

**Chiara Cavalcanti**, Associate Reporting Officer, DR Congo - RR Kinshasa, cavalcanti@unhcr.org, Tel: +243 996 041 000, Cell +243 810 403 901

### LINKS

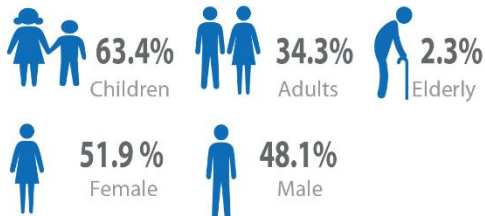
[DR Congo Emergency page](#) – [UNHCR DRC operation page](#) - [DRC Facebook page](#)

# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

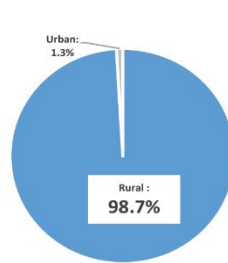
## REFUGEE POPULATION



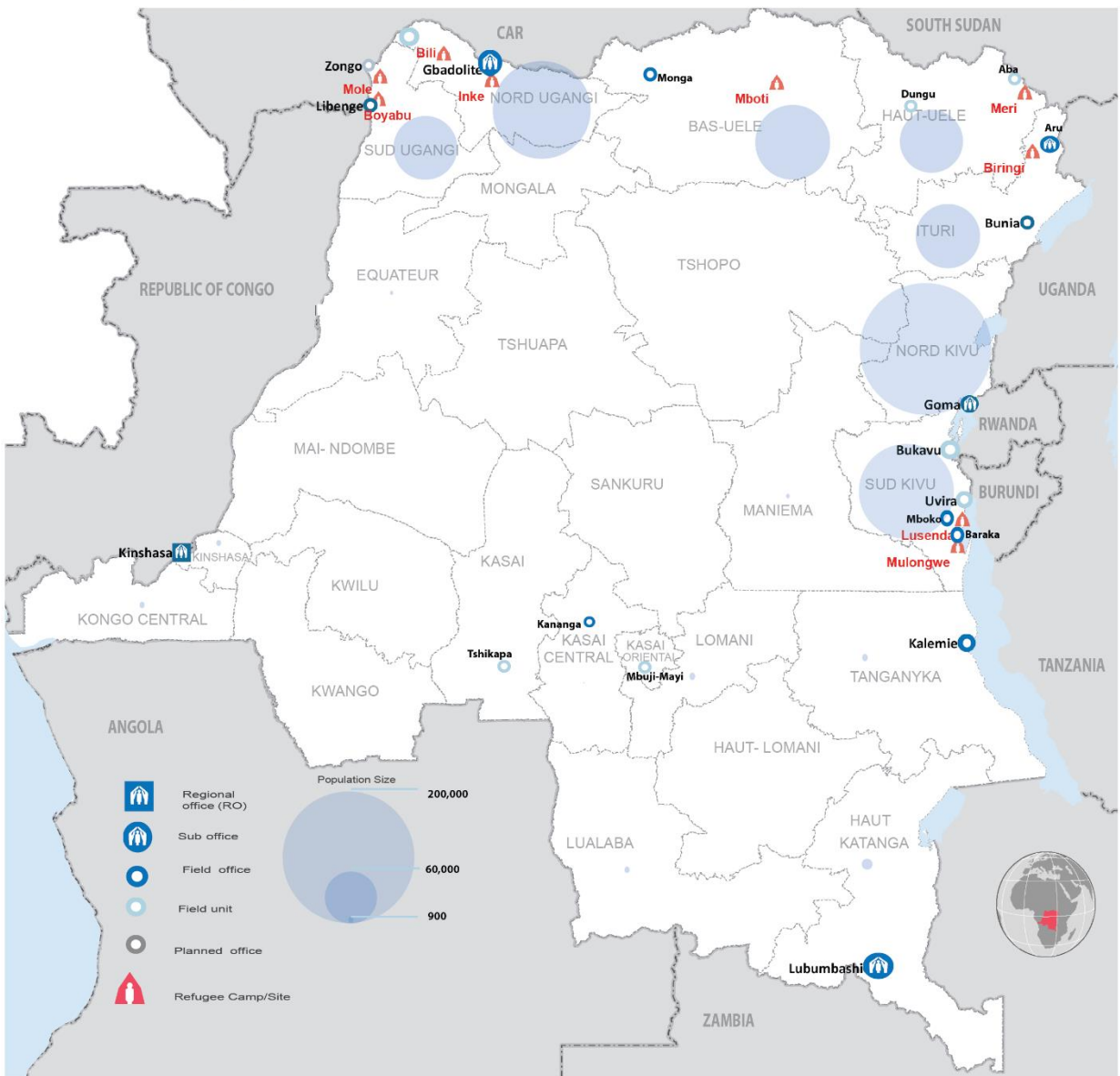
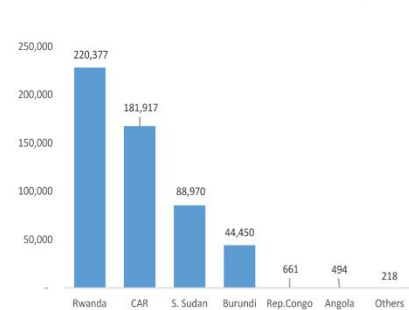
Situation as of 31 December 2017



Refugee Population by Location Type



Refugee Population by Nationality



drcim@unhcr.org

The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.