

# ITURI, SOUTH AND NORTH KIVU PROVINCES DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

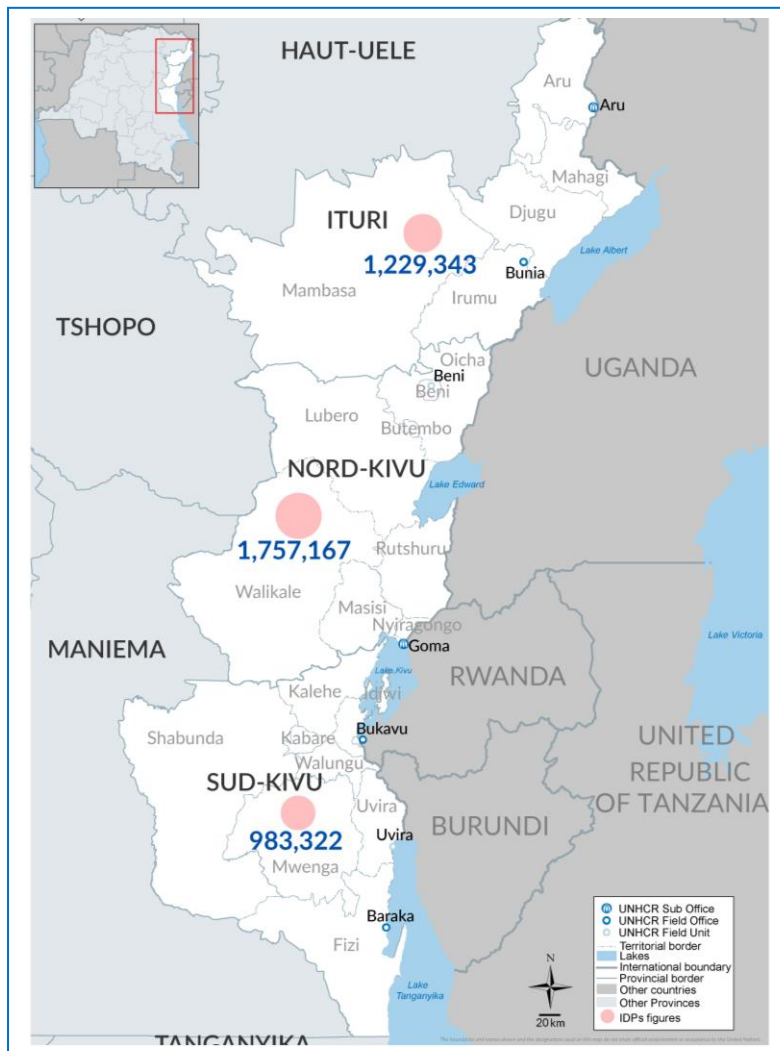
2 – 9 March 2020

## MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

UNHCR’s partner Caritas completed the construction of **74 additional emergency shelters at the new Kigonze displacement site** in Bunia (Ituri Province), thereby reaching a total of 2,065 shelters built in the site. 346 persons were also transferred to Kigonze, for a total of 7,871.

As part of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) for community-based protection in South Kivu Province, UNHCR’s partner AVSI **completed the rehabilitation of one Child Friendly Space**, and continued the construction of another one in Makobola, Fizi Territory.

Community-based protection structures, supported by UNHCR’s partner Caritas, **reached 762 persons through awareness raising on sexual and gender-based violence** themes, particularly on referral mechanisms for victims, in six localities in North Kivu Province.



## KEY INDICATORS

**4 M\***

Persons are internally displaced in Ituri (1,229,343), North Kivu (1,757,167) and South Kivu (983,322) provinces.

**88%**

Of all IDPs in North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri are accommodated in host families (3.5 M IDPs).

**231,062**

IDPs are hosted in IDP sites coordinated by UNHCR or IOM as part of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Working Group, while at least 65,000 persons reside in informal sites.

*\*Ituri figure as of February 2020; North Kivu figure as of January 2020; South Kivu figure as of February 2020. All are estimates subject to fluctuation.*

## Operational context and protection situation

**Ituri Province:** The security situation across Ituri Province remained unstable. Alleged elements of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) multiplied incursions in Mambasa Territory. Following raids, the population was forced to flee to Mambasa center and North Kivu Province. During two incursions into Djugu Territory, unidentified armed men killed nine returnees, including three children. These same incursions caused the displacement of

220 families towards Fataki center. The resurgence of attacks by elements of unknown armed groups in Mahagi Territory created tensions between the local communities, negatively impacting peaceful coexistence.

**North Kivu Province:** The humanitarian situation in Beni Territory continued to be heavily impacted by armed groups' activities. UNHCR's partner INTERSOS documented 314 human rights violations, affecting 239 men and 75 women. Masisi and Lubero were the territories most affected by these violations.

**South Kivu Province:** Clashes were reported between two armed groups, as well as a military operation against Mai-Mai elements in Salamabila, Kabambare Territory. In Maniema Province, armed groups continued to force people to flee to the neighboring province of South Kivu. Since January 2020, about 35,000 persons have fled from Salamabila towards localities in neighboring South Kivu, including Kilembwe, Misisi and Lulimba. These recurrent incursions have further weakened the timid return movements that had been observed in Salamabila.

## UNHCR's response

### Ituri Province



**PROTECTION** On the occasion of International Women's Day on 8 March, UNHCR and its partners, the consortium AVSI-Caritas, organized a debate on gender equality in Kasenyi, including participants from the local communities, internally displaced persons living in sites and in host families, and local authorities. This debate allowed for a frank exchange and enabled the community to establish priorities to combat SGBV. For example, through the fight against impunity, against inequalities of access to resources and opportunities, the restoration of security in and around the sites, and the involvement of men through positive masculinity. The outcome of the debate will feed into community protection action plans as part of the UNHCR-supported community protection project.



*Displaced women preparing materials for the construction of community hangars in a displacement site in Kasenyi, Ituri Province. © UNHCR/Gloria Ramazani*



**SHELTER AND CRIS** UNHCR's partner Caritas completed the construction of 74 additional emergency shelters at Kigonze IDP site in Bunia, thereby reaching a total of 2,065 shelters built. The shelters are built by workers recruited from the displaced and local communities, thereby bringing the communities together and providing important livelihood opportunities. At Kasenyi displacement site, Irumu territory, UNHCR distributed 395 tarpaulins to 395 families to reinforce their emergency shelter. In previous focus group discussions, the local IDP committee expressed the need to rehabilitate the shelter infrastructure as a priority.



**CCCM** 346 internally displaced persons (IDPs) living at the Hospital General site in Bunia were transferred to the new Kigonze site. So far, UNHCR facilitated the transfer of 7,871 displaced persons (1,783 families) from the overcrowded Hospital General site to Kigonze.

### North Kivu Province




**PROTECTION** From 2 to 4 March, UNHCR organized a series of workshops and trainings in the town of Butembo, attended by journalists, representatives of youth associations, displaced and host community leaders, as well as local authorities. The trainings and workshops addressed issues related to forced displacement, acceptance, and the search of solutions for displaced persons in the town. In February, thousands of displaced persons fleeing violence in Beni Territory arrived in Butembo. The training increased the involvement of local authorities in the management of the situation, and to harmonize approaches. OCHA was invited to talk about coordination during the training, especially in a session with the authorities.




**SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV)** UNHCR's partner INTERSOS recorded eight cases of rape through the protection monitoring system in Masisi, Rutshuru and Beni territories. All survivors were referred to medical structures by INTERSOS for appropriate treatments. Community-based protection structures supported by Caritas conducted awareness raising sessions on sexual and gender-based violence


themes, particularly on referral mechanisms for victims in the localities of Nyanzale, Kirumba, Kanyabayonga, Kiwandja, Kasindi and Minova. 762 people were reached (266 women, 496 men, and 32 police officers).

 **SHELTER AND CRIS** On 5 March, the identification of women and girls among displaced and host families for the distribution of dignity kits started in Beni. Following beneficiaries' feedback, it was decided to review the kit and include clothing material. The distribution had been initiated following an appeal by the community, and will target 5,000 girls and women aged 13 to 45.


UNHCR's partner AIDES has finalized registering beneficiaries' households and preparing the site for the construction of 2,000 emergency shelters for displaced persons in Kanyatsi, Rutshuru Territory. The process of registering an additional 2,000 households is underway to supplement the 4,000 beneficiaries planned to receive emergency shelters following recent displacements in Masisi and Rutshuru territories.


 **CASH ASSISTANCE** From 6 to 9 March, UNHCR and partner Caritas provided multipurpose cash assistance to 417 vulnerable displaced households in Beni town.

### South Kivu Province

 **PROTECTION** Community-based protection projects, including the construction of community spaces and structures for social cohesion, continued in Uvira and Fizi territories. A community mill was handed over to host community and displaced community-based structures, supported by UNHCR's partner AVSI in Nundu, Fizi Territory. The members of the community-based structures successfully mediated one property conflict and advocated for the release of four displaced persons who were arbitrarily arrested, leading to their release, in Misisi, Fizi Territory.

Community-based structures supported by UNHCR's partner AVSI led the celebration of International Women's Day 2020 - "I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights" - with over 3,600 IDP and host community participants in various awareness-raising campaigns and activities the Uvira and Fizi Territories.

 **CHILD PROTECTION** As part of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) for community-based protection, UNHCR's partner AVSI continued the construction of one Child Friendly Space, and completed the rehabilitation of another one in Makobola, Fizi Territory.

 **SHELTER AND CRIS** UNHCR coordinated the first Shelter Cluster meeting in Baraka, Fizi Territory, to reinforce the capacity and cohesion of all actors working in the shelter response for displaced persons.

UNHCR's shelter project in Kikonde and Kazimia, Fizi Territory, faced major obstacles during this period as a boat carrying shelter supplies capsized due to harsh rains.

## Immediate needs

- **Protection** from violence and conflict for women, men and children
- **Child protection:** Unaccompanied children, risks of child recruitment and SGBV against minors.
- **Birth registration:** 95% of IDP children in host families and IDP sites do not have birth certificates.
- **Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)** against women and girls.
- **Shelter** support is needed for the displaced and host families. In South Kivu, where there are no official IDP sites, shelter is one of the most immediate needs of IDPs.
- **Core Relief Items (CRIs)** are still needed for many IDP families, especially clothes and kitchen sets.
- **Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)** needs to be strengthened in North Kivu and Ituri. IDPs hosted at uncoordinated sites are progressively brought under coordination of CCCM.
- **Menstrual hygiene kits** for women and girls.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** needs are urgent in IDP sites and host families, especially in Nobili where over 100,000 IDPs are gathered in locations with barely any infrastructure.
- **Access to education**, the majority of children living in Ituri are out of school, including IDPs in UNHCR coordinated camps. In North and South Kivu IDP children lack the financial means to attend school.

### Background

- Since 6 June 2019, generalized violence led to massive new displacements in **Ituri Province**. 230,357 persons fled their homes between June and November 2019, bringing the total to 1.2 million IDPs in the Province, according to the Commission de Mouvement de Population (CMP), a commission made up of

Government and humanitarian agencies. The majority reside in host communities (83%), while 220,000 fled towards 87 IDP sites. Over 141,000 IDPs live in displacement sites coordinated by UNHCR or by IOM as co-leads of the CCCM Working Group.

- Over 1.7 million IDPs are located in **North Kivu Province** as of January 2020, according to the Commission de Mouvement de Population. As reported by OCHA, an estimated 436,000 persons fled their homes between September 2019 and January 2020. The vast majority of IDPs in North Kivu (1.67 million) live with host communities, while almost 90,000 reside in sites coordinated by UNHCR or by IOM as co-leads for the CCCM Working Group.
- Intercommunity violence in the highlands of **South Kivu Province** has led to widespread displacement in Fizi, Mwenga and Uvira territories. Clashes between various communities, armed groups and the DRC's army have worsened since March 2019, and resulted in the forced displacement of at least 322,000 persons. In Kalehe Territory, clashes between the DRC's army and CNRD rebels, which intensified in October 2019, have led 72,000 persons to flee, bringing the total to almost 1 million IDPs in South Kivu, according to OCHA. 98% of all IDPs reside in host families, while a minority have gathered in informal IDP sites (in Kalehe Territory).

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## UNHCR's presence

UNHCR's Sub-Office in Goma covers North Kivu and Ituri Provinces and supervises operations in South Kivu Province. The Goma Sub-Office oversees all North Kivu, while a smaller Field Unit in Bunia manages operations for Ituri. To meet growing needs in the northern part of North Kivu – including Ebola preparedness needs and emergency response – the operation opened a Field Unit in Beni in October 2019, and the Goma Sub-Office is being reinforced with permanent and temporary staff.

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## External Relations

As of 10 March 2020

### Donors for UNHCR operations in DRC in 2020

United States of America (6.2 M) | Japan (0.56 M) | United Nations Foundation (0.32 M) | International Olympic Committee (0.23 M) | European Union (0.17 M) | UNAIDS (0.03 M)

### Major donors of regional or other funds with soft earmarking 2020

United States of America (13.9 M) | Germany (8.4 M) | Canada (2.3 M)

### Major donors of un-earmarked funds in 2020

Sweden (76.4 M) | Norway (41.4 M) | Netherlands (36.1 M) | Denmark (34.6 M) | United Kingdom (31.7 M) | Germany (25.9 M) | Switzerland (16.4 M) | Private donors Spain (13.2 M)

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