UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Democratic Republic of the Congo

DRC Emergency: Update 05 – 11 June 2023

UNHCR Country Representative to the DRC Angele Dikongué-Atangana thanks a beneficiary after receiving a Non-Food Item kit containing house-hold items in Lushagala. ©UNHCR/Blaise Sanyila

2,800 shelters
finalized in Rusayo II IDP site

5,120 households
assisted with Core Relief Items at the Luchagala site

OVERVIEW

In the Petit Nord region (Rutshuru-Masisi-Nyiragongo) of North Kivu Province, tensions between non-state armed groups and government forces continue. Humanitarian concerns relate to restricted access to locations which had previously been occupied by the East African Community Joint Regional Force (EACJRF). By consequence, the measure to which humanitarian assistance can be delivered to populations in need remains restricted as security assessments continue in these already logistically challenging zones.

In the Grand Nord region, at least eight people were killed in an attack attributed to non-state armed actors on the night of Sunday June 11 in Kasindi, as non-state armed groups continue to operate more extensively in the reduced presence of government forces in the region.

In Goma, the humanitarian situation remains perplexing as conditions for displaced populations on the peripheries of the city have continued to deteriorate and concerns amongst the humanitarian community mount around the potential for a resurgence in the violence between non-state armed groups and government forces.

SECTOR RESPONSE

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

Protection Cluster

- During this reporting period the North Kivu Protection Cluster (CPNK) took part in two training sessions on Civil-Military Coordination organized by OCHA, focusing on protection of civilians and the civilian and humanitarian nature of displacement sites.
- Within the framework of community-based protection (CBP), community consultation was implemented in Goma and its surrounding areas. A total 7,650 households in 20 sites and collective centers were engaged with across urban and peri-urban locations.
- Activity monitoring in Lubero territory and the town of Butembo was implemented by the UNHCR focal point and the partner team. Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) were visited, as were community protection structures and women's associations to assess progress.

CHALLENGES AND GAPS: Restricted access to displaced populations continues to inhibit delivery of assistance as well as needs assessments of returning populations.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI) Cluster

- At the Buchagara and Rusayo II displacement sites, WFP provided food aid to 5,800 families, where displaced people's resources had been stretched and demand for food was high. This 15-day ration follows a distribution implemented in May.
- With the help of partners AIDES and IOM, UNHCR has finalized the construction of 2,800 shelters in the Rusayo II site.
- This week, teams from the UNHCR, AIDES and IOM have been working to organize reimbursements for crops that were destroyed when work began on the site. A first payment of $ 18,000 USD has been made, and a second payment of $ 36,000 USD is due to address the issue.

CHALLENGES AND GAPS: The humanitarian community awaits the extension of the Buchagara and Rusayo II sites, in order to increase capacity with additional shelters | Logistical challenges continue to delay distributions of dignity and NFI kits.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster

- After an evaluation of the first transfer of displaced people to the Rusayo II site from the spontaneous site in Bulengo, UNHCR and partners, including IOM and AIDES, continued with transfer operations this week.
- Cholera cases are being successfully mapped with 433 cases of cholera, including zero deaths, being identified this week in the city of Goma, noting a massive presence in displacement sites.

CHALLENGES AND GAPS: The cholera epidemic gripping Goma and surrounding areas continues as sanitation remains a deep concern. To date, 5,871 cases have been reported, including 5 deaths.

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, this comes after receiving just 46% of the funding required in 2022.

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