



CONGOLESE SITUATION

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF DISPLACED CONGOLESE AND REFUGEES

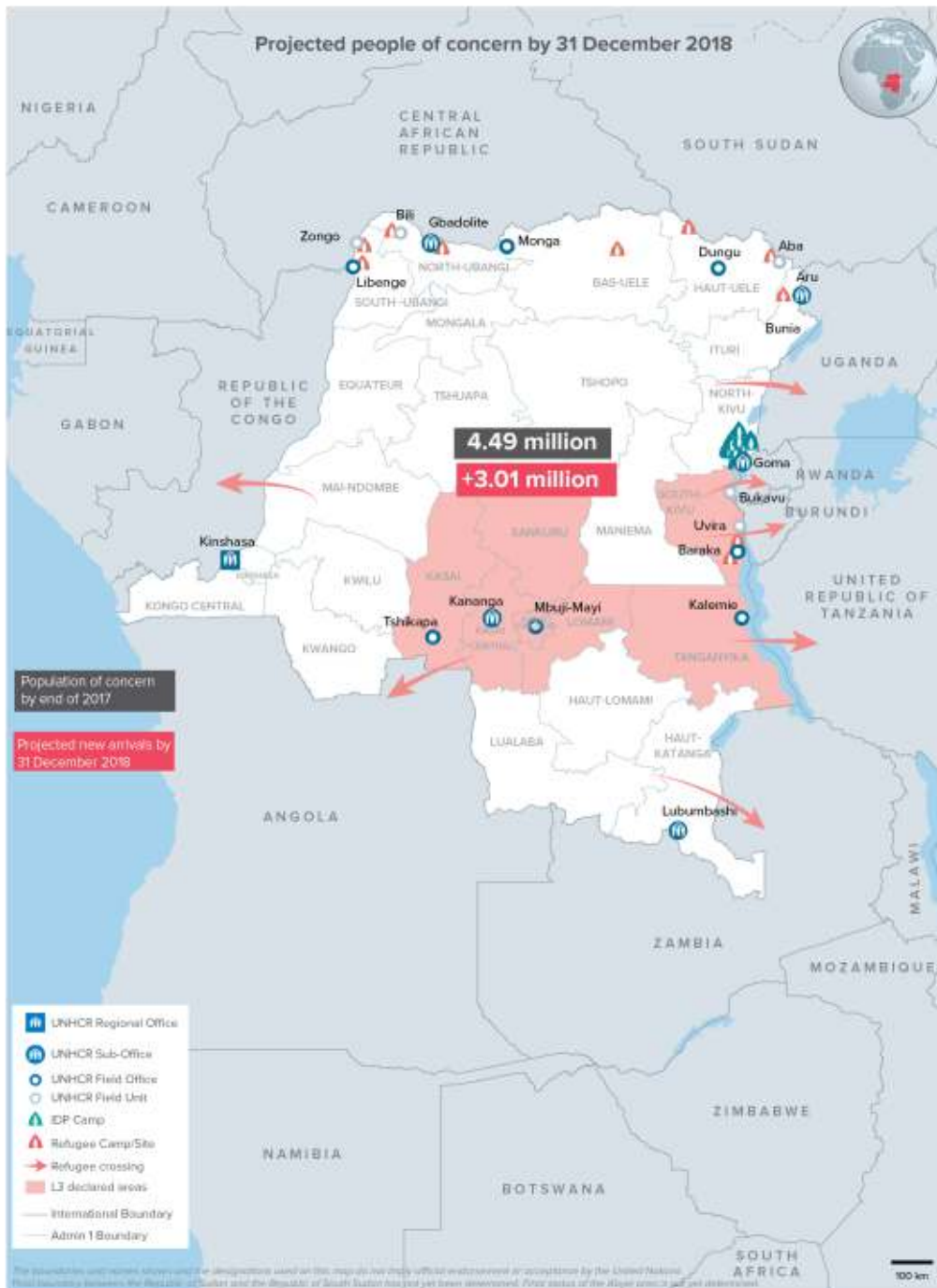
ANNEX - THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Supplementary Appeal

January - December 2018

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Map of the area covered by this appeal



Overview



7.5 million

Congolese IDPs and returnees expected by end 2018



2.4 million

New Congolese IDPs expected by end 2018



78%

Of Congolese refugees are women and children



UNHCR Presence

344 national and international staff
33 staff deployed
20 offices in the country

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) country annex is part of the supplementary appeal for the Congolese situation, which outlines UNHCR's protection interventions planned in 2018 and its response to the additional and most urgent needs of people of concern displaced within the DRC.

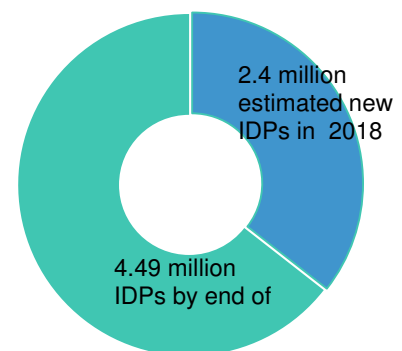
In 2017, the humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) deepened, affecting people in areas previously considered stable whilst putting additional pressure on the coping and survival mechanism of already affected populations. Across the country, there are more than 13.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and protection—nearly 14 per cent of the population initially projected for 2018.

The security situation has continued to deteriorate in eastern DRC, in particular in the provinces of the Haut-Katanga, Kasai, North and South Kivu and Tanganyika, due to incessant fighting between armed groups—much of it driven by intercommunity conflict—and the army or between militias and the army. The conflict in the DRC generated new displacement of 1.9 million people within the DRC and 120,000 Congolese who have fled to neighbouring countries in the past year.

In October 2017, the Emergency Relief Coordinator declared an IASC System-Wide L3 Emergency Response for the Kasai, South Kivu and Tanganyika region. Overall, North Kivu saw its security situation aggravate remarkably due to increased activism of armed groups across the province, leading mass displacement and an intensification of humanitarian needs. Neighbouring provinces of the Kasai region were also deeply affected by the situation.

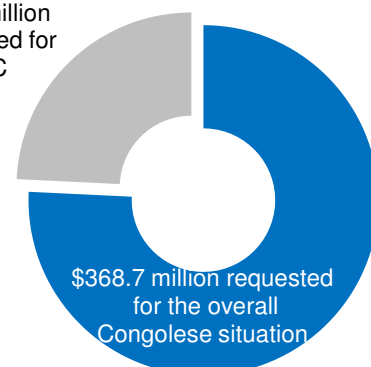
The majority of IDPs are in remote areas with a highly volatile security situation and difficult physical access, including for humanitarian actors. Conditions in the spontaneous sites are extremely difficult. Increased displacement is putting severe pressure on the resilience of IDPs and host communities. With militia activities widespread, and unrest and violence fuelled by ethnic and political conflict affecting many areas within the DRC, OCHA expects 2.4 million new IDPs in 2018. UNHCR is scaling up its emergency and protection response to internally displaced populations within the L3 declared areas while at the same time and affected areas and affected while at the same time responding to urgent needs of IDPs in L3 affected areas.

Population of concern



Financial requirements

21% or \$78.6 million requested for the DRC



Needs and response

Identified needs

Kasai

In the volatile Kasai region, some 1.4 million people were displaced at the peak of the crisis, including former Rwandan refugees. New arrivals of IDPs fleeing violence continue to be reported. At the same time, some return movements are occurring in some areas, but they have not translated into a sustained improvement in the overall humanitarian situation. Many schools and government facilities have been burned down, and hundreds of primary health care facilities have been destroyed or looted leaving people living with HIV and TB facing serious problems in obtaining medical treatment.

In order to respond to the new emergency, UNHCR recently opened three new offices in the Kasai region, and the Office will bolster its capacity as lead of the Protection Cluster and the Shelter Working Group. UNHCR and its partners have laid the groundwork to establish protection monitoring and response, address basic needs in shelter and food through cash-based intervention, while engaging in peaceful co-existence initiatives, such as reintegration projects and dispute resolution. UNHCR is also trying to increase its information management capacity and profiling of the population in order to collect useful data aiming at assessing the response to provide and implement it with various stakeholders.

South Kivu

Armed conflict, sexual violence and exploitation, serious human rights violations and risks of forced recruitment all contribute to forced displacement. Military operations are ongoing on several axes between the national army—FARDC—and various armed groups that often enter opportunistic alliances. The complexity of the situation is illustrated by the fact that South Kivu also hosts over 40,000 Burundian refugees.

UNHCR has increased its capacity for coordination in the provincial capital of Bukavu and field response in Fizi territory, including through the newly opened office of Baraka. Protection evaluations show that displacement is often cyclical in nature, with temporary returns in fragile areas; sexual and gender based violence; violence linked to property rights; forced recruitment of children in armed forces; as well as physical violence and killings. The security situation is extremely volatile and humanitarian access limited, reducing capacity to provide assistance.

North Kivu

North Kivu is the DRC province with the highest number of IDPs, with an estimated one million people internally displaced. The majority of the displaced—88 percent—are sheltered in host families, with the remainder in displacement sites. Of the displaced, 51 percent are women and 59 percent children below the age of five. The majority of incidents were reportedly committed by armed elements, either from irregular armed groups or the national army. The spectrum of human rights violations include right to physical integrity, access to health care, education, risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), lack of access to employment and land and documentation as well as adequate shelter. Women are rarely present in decision-making structures and face a high risk of SGBV in a context where access to care is limited. Of all SGBV incidents recorded in 2017, 49 percent were committed against IDP women.

Tanganyika

With interethnic conflicts intensifying in the province of Tanganyika and spreading to Pweto in Haut-Katanga Province, as well as conflicts involving armed groups, significant population movements and serious violations of human rights have been reported. Through protection monitoring, over 16,000 protection incidents have been recorded, including some 730 of SGBV incidents as of September 2017.

Response

In line with UNHCR's Strategic Directions 2017-2021 as well as UNHCR's interventions in situations of internal displacement (the "IDP footprint"), and in line with Kasai protection strategy and the Operational strategies for South Kivu and Kasai, UNHCR will continue in 2018 to support the DRC 2017-2019 Humanitarian Response Plan with a focus on the Kasai, North and South Kivu and Tanganyika provinces. UNHCR will channel its efforts through the Inter-Cluster as well as through the recently established Provincial Framework for Humanitarian Consultations to deliver protection by presence by positioning monitors in hotspots.

The general objective of this strategy is to allow UNHCR to play its role as lead agency for the coordination of activities within the protection cluster. This will involve reinforcing coordination mechanisms and partnerships with local authorities, civil society organizations, humanitarian actors, and development agencies, with the participation of IDPs including women, girls, men and boys. This will also include the promotion of protection mainstreaming and ensuring the centrality of protection in all activities. The final impact is help assisted populations to find short, medium and long-term solutions to their problems.

Taking into account lessons already learnt from protection and assistance delivery to IDPs in eastern DRC, the strategy strongly promotes the five principles of UNHCR's Strategic Directions, including responding to emergency; supporting state authorities; including all the relevant stakeholders; empowering IDPs; and finding (durable) solutions. A rights-based approach will be the key feature to protection interventions as per IASC Policy on Protection in Humanitarian Action.

A rights and community-based approach constitutes the backbone of humanitarian assistance to IDPs. Due considerations will be given to multi-sectoral response, as well as protection and SGBV mainstreaming. Lessons learnt from protection and assistance delivery to IDPs in the eastern DRC and other efficient approaches will be considered such as understanding the root causes of the conflict in designing appropriate protection and assistance responses in the Kasai, North and South Kivu and Tanganyika regions.

Providing humanitarian assistance to the most destitute will be the most urgent response and the entry point to deliver more assistance, open humanitarian access, and provide a more coordinated and holistic protection response. Protection monitoring is a critical priority for UNHCR to coordinate an efficient protection response with the members of the protection cluster. The Kasai region, in particular, is characterized by vast distances, poor road networks and insecurity which hampers access to beneficiaries and implementation sites and makes the delivery of live-saving aid challenging. Insecurity greatly limits access to displaced populations also in North and South Kivu. A safe and reliable air service is thus required to overcome the logistical bottlenecks humanitarian actors are facing in the DRC. Air access is limited and costly to some of the operational hotspots, in particular in the Kasai region.

To tackle these constraints as well as provide assistance to the affected population, UNHCR in close collaboration with other stakeholders, including the governmental partner CNR, will progressively implement the protection response strategy taking into account new updates in the security situation particularly in those areas where humanitarian personnel is being deployed, namely Kananga (Central Kasai), Mbuji-Mayi (Kasai Oriental) and Tshikapa (Kasai), Kalemie (Tanganyika), Baraka and Bukavu (South Kivu) and Goma (North Kivu) and provide assistance to people with specific needs.

Given the current context, UNHCR will prioritize its protection activities in direct compliance with the IDP situation footprint. Priority will be given to improving information management, coordination and profiling of beneficiaries with specific needs, while strengthening partnerships with stakeholders.

As lead of the Shelter Working Group, UNHCR will also prioritize shelters in its assistance, always based on risk analysis and a Do No Harm approach: given the complex dynamics of displacement and the centrality of land issues in the causes, each shelter intervention will be carefully designed. Shelter interventions will be flexible, with four main possible forms of delivery: emergency kits for displaced, emergency communal structures; conditional or unconditional cash and transitional shelters/communal structures in areas of return.

Civilians in the DRC struggle for survival amid growing violence at home



*Marie is one of over 600,000 displaced people who have returned to their homes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Kasai region this year.
© UNHCR/John Wessels*

After five months of hiding in the bush from armed men and soldiers, Marie Kapinga is finally back at her family home in Matamba, a village in the DRC's Kasai Central province. Today, Marie finds herself caring for 17 children and grandchildren, but does not know how to feed them. Her husband was killed when he returned to the village during the violence to find food while they hid in the forest.

She is one of over one million displaced people who have returned to their homes in the DRC's Kasai region in 2017, which has been affected by conflict since 2017.

Like her, many of those who have returned do not even have the basics to reestablish their lives. Even in the Kasai region, where after almost one year of

conflict some calm had for the most part returned, new tension has been reported towards the end of 2017 and new displacement has been witnessed as in several eastern provinces such as North Kivu, South Kivu and Tanganyika.

UNHCR is gearing up its emergency response in several areas of the country, focusing on the coordination of protection activities and life-saving humanitarian assistance such as shelter. In light of the situation, UNHCR and partners upgraded the situation in the Kasai region, South Kivu province and Tanganyika province to Level 3 – the highest level of emergency.

Key intervention areas



Protection

UNHCR's strategy will focus on ensuring the centrality of protection in the collective response and putting communities at the heart of the both emergency response and solutions, in particular conflict resolution and peaceful co-existence. Providing timely information to all humanitarian actors in order to inform their response based on a solid analysis of protection risks and vulnerabilities, but also on the capacities of local communities and displaced populations. UNHCR will:

- Reinforce its coordination role in the cluster system, including leading the Protection Cluster and the Shelter Working Group within the NFI/Shelter Cluster and strengthen capacity in information management.
- Deliver its own interventions taking a rights-based, community-centered and AGDM approach. UNHCR will channel its efforts through the Inter-Cluster as well as through the recently established Provincial Framework for Humanitarian Consultations to deliver protection by presence by positioning monitors in hotspots that will work closely with local structures such as a peace committees, monitor human rights situation, contribute to early warnings and protection evaluations and identify/refer individual cases.
- Revitalize existing local protection networks, including through the local peace committees, community and religious leaders and various civil society organizations.
- Reinforce the capacity of the National Commission for Refugees—which is also tasked to oversee IDP protection—in particular through increased presence and involvement in communities with a focus on building bridges between IDPs and local authorities, mediation and identifying solutions.
- Promote conflict resolution and peaceful cohabitation through peace building mechanisms (including peace culture, peace talks, peace conferences) and through self-reliance activities, including income generation. Material assistance will, to the extent possible, be designed to reinforce protection activities and will take the form of multi-sectorial cash-based assistance.
- Enhance its leadership of the protection cluster (recruiting staff).
- Develop information management in all provinces affected.
- Develop a national protection monitoring mechanism and an evaluation response form.
- Develop a biometric registration system which is light and flexible (e.g use of tablets).



Shelter

As lead of the Shelter Working Group, UNHCR will prioritize shelters in its assistance, always based on risk analysis and a 'do no harm approach': given the complex dynamics of displacement and the centrality of land issues in the causes, each shelter intervention will be carefully designed. UNHCR will:

- Provide flexible shelter interventions with four main possible forms of delivery: emergency kits for displaced, emergency communal structures; conditional or unconditional cash and transitional shelters/communal structures in areas of return, as summarized below:
- Improve collective host structures for displaced households who cannot return home and who live in basic, communal hosting structures (such as schools, churches).
- Distribute emergency shelter kits to displaced households who cannot return home and who live outside (spontaneous sites/ informal settlements) and/or with host families.
- Improve shelter conditions for displaced households who cannot return home and who are with host families.
- Support returns – transitional shelters / repairing houses / local construction – for displaced households who have returned or who are ready to integrate locally.



Health

UNHCR plans to ensure optimum population access to reproductive health and HIV services in close collaboration with the Health Cluster and in accordance with the UNAIDS division of labour, with the overall objective to ensure an optimal access to reproductive health services and HIV services. UNHCR will:

- Provide HIV prevention services through ensuring the availability of kits for prevention and treatment, and ensuring access to antiretroviral therapy service.
- Strengthen the national response to HIV through rapid assessment of the current situation and most urgent needs; support the implementation of the minimum package; Implementing full package in view of durable solutions.



Durable solutions

UNHCR encourages the search for solutions to the problems faced by IDPs and supports the Sustainable Solutions Strategy. A consultation framework—the Forum for Sustainable Solutions—is in place under the lead of the Provincial Ministry of Planning. UNHCR will:

- Advocate for the application of the Kampala convention and the adoption of the Law project protecting IDPs in the DRC.
- Advocate for the endorsement by the Government of the draft National Durable Solutions strategy, already adopted by the Humanitarian Country Team.
- Facilitate the voluntary return of IDPs back to their places of origin when the security situation and context allows it.
- Ensure displaced people showing interest to return to their areas of origin are supported by Government authorities and humanitarian actors.
- Provide shelter kits and agricultural kits to support livelihoods for IDPs who choose to integrate locally. Advocate with local authorities in order to avail community fields for agricultural purpose to strengthen their reintegration and support their subsistence.
- Through cash-based intervention, develop the socio-economic capacity of the IDPs and livelihood activities.

Coordination and working in partnership

In Kasai region, UNHCR works directly with three partner organizations—NRC, ActionAid, and IOM—and is looking for a fourth partner in order to conduct protection monitoring activities. UNHCR has activated and leads Protection Clusters in Kasai, Central Kasai and Kasai Oriental provinces, involving national and international partner organizations and local authorities, with a view to ensure and sustain a coordinated, collaborative and efficient response. However, additional resources are still required to strengthen coordination and leadership to lead the protection cluster in Kananga, the one with the largest number of NGOs and actors. Sub-clusters on SGBV, child protection, and on housing, land and property provide a thematic coordination to allow for more in-depth analysis and technical response.

In South Kivu, UNHCR has offices in Baraka, Bukavu and Uvira. Those offices provide assistance both to refugees and IDPs and work in partnership with national and international organisations. The Protection Cluster was reactivated in December 2017 in Baraka with more than 20 national and international organizations, and national authorities to strengthen collaboration and partnerships in seeking durable solutions to protection issues. Security issues remain a concern in these territories and limit humanitarian access and interventions from protection actors, as well as coordination activities.

In North Kivu, through the protection cluster coordination, UNHCR currently oversees four working groups (SGBV, child protection, house, land and property, mines). UNHCR will strengthen its leadership role for the Shelter Working group in North Kivu. A CCCM working group has also been set up in the province. This working group is co led by UNHCR-IOM.

In Tanganyika, UNHCR is expanding its activities in the province, while also reaching out to other conflict-affected areas in former Katanga Province, such as Pweto in neighbouring Haut-Katanga Province. The focus will remain on protection—including protection monitoring, peaceful coexistence, and shelter. With the arrival of additional staff, the Protection Cluster coordination as well as shelter coordination will be strengthened. In view of the very dynamic situation which triggers new displacements while in other areas returns are observed, shelter interventions will consider both the needs of the internally displaced and returnees.

While not formally part of the L3 the deterioration of the situation in Ituri where Hemas and Lendus conflict already killed one thousands of people with their houses burned and displaced hundreds of IDPs, is worrying and UNHCR presence is required, even if there is no staff.

Financial requirements

UNHCR's 2018 ExCom budget for the Democratic Republic of the Congo includes \$58,752,673. UNHCR has established a supplementary budget for the requirements presented below, amounting \$78,634,831 to address the needs of internally people displaced by violence in the affected territories.

	Congolese situation		
	ExCom Budget and subsequent adjustments related to the Congolese situation	Additional requirements	Total
Fair protection environment <i>Access to legal assistance</i> <i>Public attitude towards people of concern</i>	-	1,065,247	1,065,247
Fair protection processes and documentation <i>Civil registration and civil status documentation</i> <i>Registration and profiling</i>	36,849,836	441,531	37,291,367
Security from violence and exploitation <i>Protection from effects of armed conflict</i> <i>Prevention of and response to SGBV</i>	-	1,970,461	1,970,461
Basic needs and services	-	4,648,071	4,648,071
<i>Health</i>	-	643,831	643,831
<i>Shelter and infrastructure</i>	-	1,265,679	1,265,679
<i>Basic and domestic items</i>	-	1,910,101	1,910,101
<i>Services for people with specific needs</i>	-	828,460	828,460
Community empowerment and self-reliance <i>Community mobilization</i> <i>Peaceful coexistence</i>	-	3,169,205	3,169,205
Durable solutions <i>Comprehensive Solutions strategy</i> <i>Voluntary return</i> <i>Reintegration</i>	-	3,313,880	3,313,880
Logistics and operations support <i>Logistics and supply</i> <i>Programme management, coordination and support</i>	-	4,099,307	4,099,307
Leadership, coordination and partnerships <i>Coordination and partnerships</i> <i>Camp management and coordination</i> <i>Donor relations and resource mobilization</i>	21,902,837	1,174,456	23,077,293
SUBTOTAL	58,752,673	19,882,158	78,634,831
Support costs (7 per cent)	-	1,391,751	1,391,751
TOTAL	58,752,673	21,273,909	80,026,582

CONGOLESE SITUATION

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF DISPLACED CONGOLESE AND REFUGEES

ANNEX - THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Supplementary Appeal

January - December 2018



UNHCR
hqfr00@unhcr.org

P.O. Box 2500
1211 Geneva 2

www.unhcr.org
reporting.unhcr.org

Published on February 2018

Cover photo:
Displaced and struggling to survive. © UNHCR/John Wessels