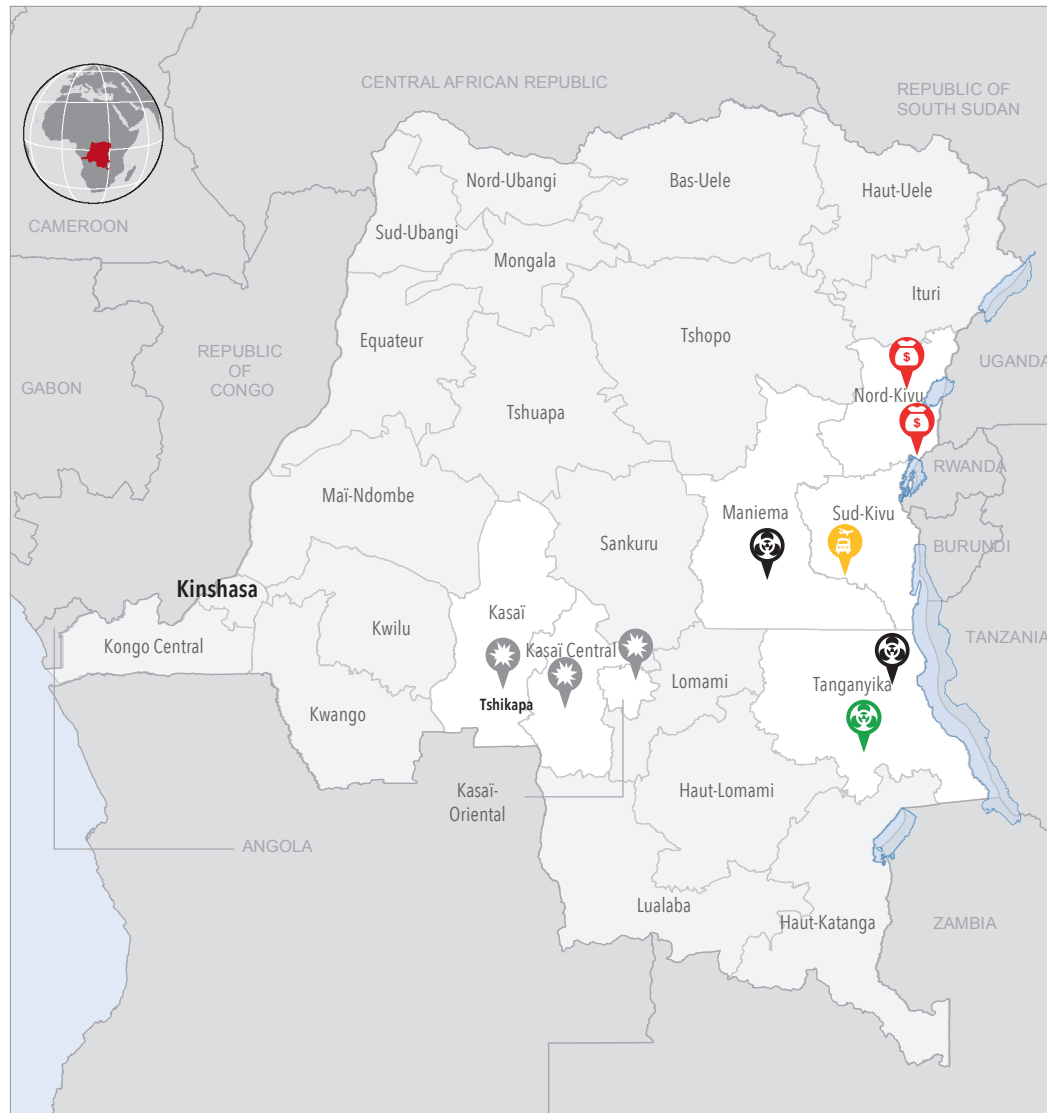


1.7 MILLION AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE IN GREATER KASAI REGION

An estimated 1.7 million people, including some 434,000 internally displaced people (IDPs), have been affected by the violence in the five provinces that make up the greater Kasai region, according to a report by OCHA. The majority of IDPs have taken refuge in remote fields or are living with communities. Medicine, food, shelter and non-food items are among the most pressing needs. In March 2017, the violence, which has pitted Congolese security forces to Kamwina Sampu militia fighters reached for the first time the neighboring provinces. On 20 March, an incursion by the fighters into Luilu Territory resulted in the displacement of over 400 people to neighboring Haut-Lomami; Over 28,000 IDPs have also fled to Lualaba, and Lomami and Sankuru have also been affected. The Kasai crisis is a new "hotspot" of humanitarian action, requiring UN agencies and NGOs to focus greater attention to this 9-month-old crisis. The UN Central Emergency Response Fund, the Kinshasa-based Humanitarian Fund, the United Kingdom, and UNICEF are among the organizations that have allocated funds to the response. <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/fr/operations/democratic-republic-congo>

USD 10 MILLION FOR HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN LUBERO/RUTSHURU

An estimated USD 10 million, out of a total envelope of \$15 million, is needed to provide assistance to over 150,000 people who have been displaced and living in precarious situation since November as they've fled a volatile security climate in Lubero and Rutshuru territories. Violence between communities, clashes between armed groups, and military operations by the Congolese army against these armed groups have made life difficult for civilians. Nyanzale, Kanyabayonga, Kibirizi are among the long list of towns ravaged by violence. The situation has affected schooling for children, farming and agricultural activities of households, and access to social services.



DRC PUTS IN LAST EFFORTS TO BECOME "POLIO FREE"

More than 19 million children below the age of 5 are due to be vaccinated against polio during a nation-wide vaccination campaign as the UN's World Health Organization and Congolese authorities are putting in the final efforts to make the country-polio free. While the country's last recorded case was in December 2011 - it currently has the status of "country exempt" of the debilitating disease - it hasn't been formally declared "polio free". The organizers kicked off the campaign in Kindu, Maniema, where the last case was recorded, WHO said in a news release. Since 2011, millions of children have been vaccinated, but an estimated 5% of them has never been vaccinated, and as much as 45% of areas have recorded poor vaccination coverage rate, mostly due to multiple population movements as entire families flee violence. In Tanganyika, health authorities have reported that 27 health districts will not partake in this three-day round that ends on 11 April.

CHOLERA CASES ON THE RISE

Cholera cases are on the rise in Tanganyika province where some 325 cases have been reported over the last three weeks. Like many eastern provinces, Tanganyika is prone to outbreaks of the disease due to the insufficient supply of potable water and poor adherence to basic hygiene. The fact that international NGO Solidarités International has put an end to a water project is also an aggravating factor. In 2016, over 20,000 cholera cases were recorded through DR Congo.

REHABILITATED AIRSTRIP BENEFITS 20,000 PEOPLE IN SHABUNDA TERRITORY

For several months, Nyalukungu village remained inaccessible due to the poor conditions of the airstrip. In February, International NGO ACTED rehabilitated the airstrip, allowing it to conduct a first flight during which food assistance was delivered to over 15,000 people on 8 March and allowed ACTED to provide food assistance to over 15,000 returnees. In March, ACTED also provided food and non-food items to over 1,100 victims of floods.