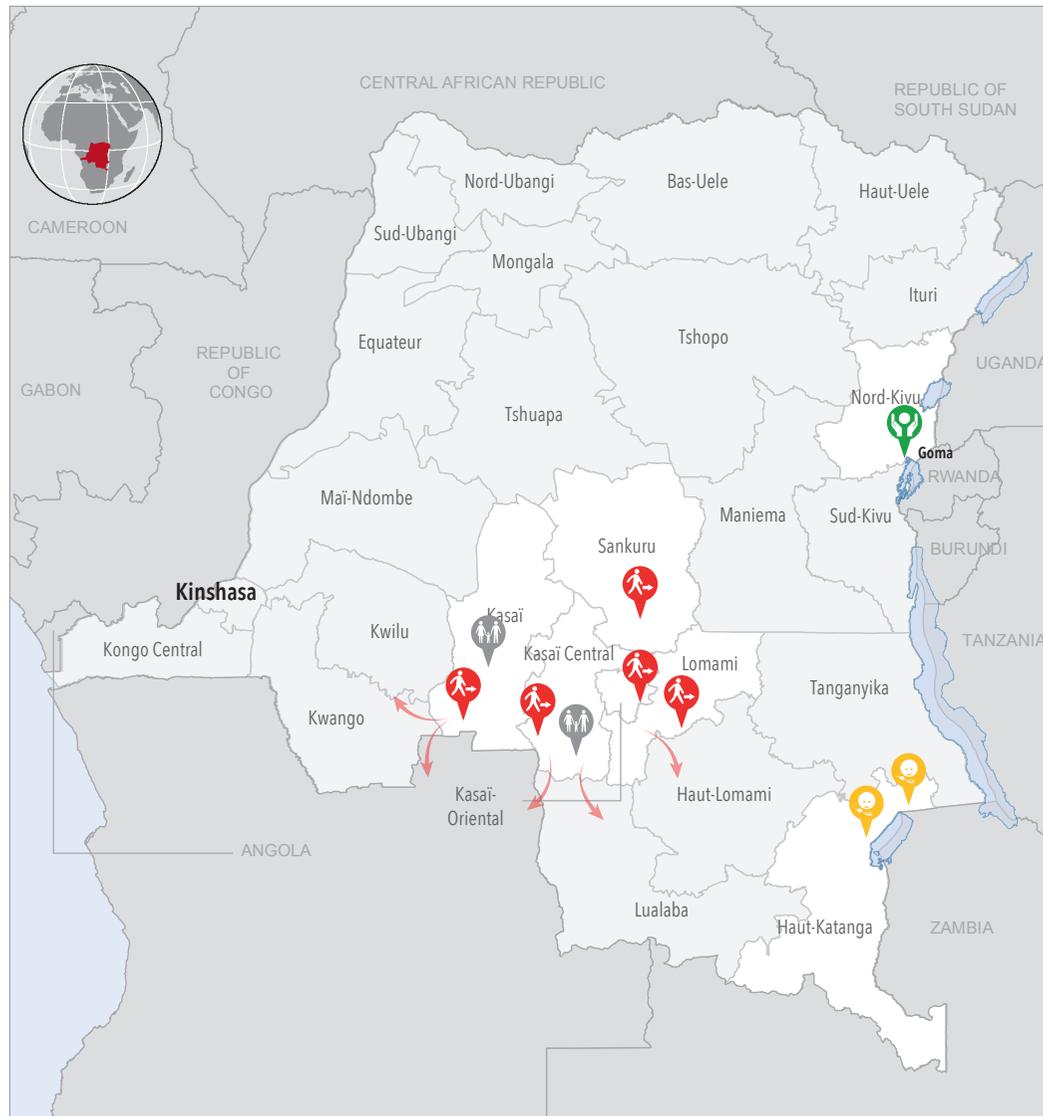


KASAI: 1.5 MILLION CHILDREN AFFECTED BY THE CRISIS

More than 1.5 million children, including some 600,000 who are displaced, have been affected by the violence in the Kasai region, the United Nations Children's Fund said on 20 April. The agency said that hundreds of children were injured during the violence, including some 300 with serious injuries; hundreds of others were detained, raped and even executed. Estimates reveal that some 2,000 children are used by militias in the affected region; at least 300 children were seriously injured in the violence while more than 4,000 children were separated from their families. Violence has also had a devastating impact on the education and health systems in the region causing more than 350 schools destroyed; in Kasai Central province alone, one health center out of three is no longer functional, putting children's health and survival at risk, the statement said. While recognizing that children in the region are still at risk if the situation does not improve quickly, UNICEF has secured the release of 384 children detained or held in Kasais, previously used by the militias. It has also expanded its emergency response in the region, through projects targeting 173,000 people.

NORTH-KIVU: UNFPA LAUNCHES NEW PROJECT TARGETING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE VICTIMS IN GOMA

Funded by the Netherlands with more than USD 6.5 million, this 3-year project focuses on strengthening the drug supply system and improving survivors' access to quality health care in the North and South Kivu provinces. The project, which officially launched on 19 April, will take place in the health zones of Oicha, Beni and Masisi (in North Kivu), Walungu, Lemera, Katena, And Miti - Murhesa (South Kivu).



MORE THAN 1 MILLION DISPLACED PEOPLE IN KASAI FIVE PROVINCES

Some 1 million people have been displaced by the violence that has hit the five provinces of Kasai, Kasai Central, Kasai Oriental, Sankuru and Lomami since August 2016, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said on 20 April. Women and children account for the majority of displaced people. Population movements occur from Kasai to other provinces, as well as to Angola. As of April, approximately 28,000 persons have fled from Kasai Central and Lomami to seek refuge in Lualaba, while other 400 persons left Lomami province to Haut Lomami province. In addition, 9,000 Congolese fled the region to seek refuge in Angola (Lunda Norte province). 42 organizations are currently active in the region. As the crisis represents a new theater of operation, organizations have been forced to review their programs. Among others, OCHA has established an operational antenna in Kananga (Central Kasai). Ressource mobilization efforts are ongoing as the current largely outstripped current financial capacities.

HAUT - KATANGA: ADRA, WFP PARTNER, CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR ACTIVITIES TO MODERATE ACUTE MALNUTRITION IN KILWA AND PWETO HEALTH ZONES

On 18 April, ADRA launch a new 9-month program targeting some 35,000 people, half of which are children under 5 years old. In October 2016, via funding from DFID, international NGO Action Contre la Faim had run a similar program targeting some 2,400 severely malnourished children under 5 in Pweto health zone. Since 2013, malnutrition rates have been exceeded 10%. Kilwa and Pweto, are exposed to the risks of malnutrition due to population movements, food insecurity, and difficult access to drinking water and epidemics.