

# Democratic Republic of the Congo

1 – 15 May 2019

*This document provides a mid-month update on major developments between the publication of UNHCR's monthly Operational Updates.*

## Refugees

- Between 1 and 15 May, **887 South Sudanese refugees were relocated to Biringi settlement**, Ituri Province. 191 additional South Sudanese refugees remain at the transit centres, awaiting relocation. Most of them had arrived during an influx in the first half of February, while some had been staying along the border for months or years, and now complied with the authorities' request to move further inland.
- **200 additional shelters were built to respond to shelter needs at Biringi settlement**. Since February 2019, 3,595 South Sudanese refugees have been relocated to Biringi settlement, putting pressure on existing shelter facilities.
- **For lack of resources, the World Food Programme (WFP) put an end to the distribution of nutritional inputs for patients suffering from moderate acute malnutrition in December 2018**. HIV-positive South Sudanese refugees, who relied on these inputs for a balanced diet while on medication, are among the first affected. UNHCR is exploring alternatives that require additional funding.
- In an ongoing effort to prevent Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Bas-Uele Province, UNHCR's partner ACTED conducted an **awareness-raising session for 203 Central African refugees and host community members**.
- In Mobayi Mbongo, Nord-Ubangi Province, **127 Central African refugees and host community households (635 individuals) were provided with agricultural tools** with the objective of enhancing their self-reliance.
- **Awareness-raising sessions on HIV and AIDS, targeting 8,643 individuals**, were organised in Mole camp, Sud-Ubangi Province. In addition, 146 HIV-positive Central African refugees received access to anti-retroviral (ARV) medication. One of the main challenges remains the current shortage in ARV medication in Nord-Ubangi, Sud-Ubangi and Bas-Uele provinces.
- In Lusenda Camp in South Kivu Province, **UNHCR's partner ADRA distributed 3,000 fruit tree seedlings to promote reforestation and self-reliance** amongst Burundian refugees.
- **35 Rwandan refugees were voluntarily repatriated** from North Kivu Province. Since January 2019, a total of 513 have been repatriated from DRC (provisional figures pending confirmation from the Rwandan side).

## Congolese returnees

- **19,259 returnees and expelled people from Angola (7,533 households) have been profiled by UNHCR and its partners in Kamako**, Kasai Province, since the resumption of the activity at the end of April 2019. According to UNHCR's data analysis, the majority of returnees and expelled cited the economy and security as the two main reasons of their initial departure from DRC to Angola. A minority also mentioned leaving DRC for study purposes.
- Following UNHCR's advocacy efforts, **the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) pledged to assist separated and/or unaccompanied children identified during the profiling in Kamako**. So far, UNHCR and its partners have identified more than 460 unaccompanied and/or separated children.

## Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

- **UNHCR has responded to the displacement crisis in Nobili, near the Ugandan border in Beni Territory, North Kivu Province, following attacks in nearby areas** which started in the end of March and escalated at the beginning of May 2019. 14,221 families of 82,839 people have been registered in Nobili and its surroundings. Humanitarian needs in all sectors are significant. As a first intervention, UNHCR successfully advocated with state authorities (DGM) to keep the DRC-Uganda border fully open, including to those wishing to seek asylum in Uganda. However, no significant cross-border movements have been reported. While the recording of IDPs and mapping of their exact locations are ongoing, UNHCR is preparing a Non-Food Item (NFI) distribution, while operational partners gear up to intervene in other sectors.
- In Ituri Province, **UNHCR's partner INTERSOS carried out a monitoring mission in southern Irumu Territory, to analyse threats to human rights and fundamental freedoms faced by IDPs**. Around 80% of the previously-displaced population had now returned, according to assessments conducted on-site. Recommendations made to the Protection Cluster included advocacy for the FARDC to strengthen security in the area, and a greater mobilization of resources to provide medical care, food assistance and education to returned IDPs, as well as people who are still displaced.

## Coordination activities

### Shelter Working Group

- 21 staff working for 10 humanitarian organisations were trained in Goma, North Kivu Province on **innovative shelter solutions based on local building culture**. Additional trainings will be held in Bunia, Uvira and Kalemie in the coming months. The presentation (in French) is available on the [Shelter Working Group's \(SWG\) website](#).
- **The SWG agreed on a standardized set of indicators to track partners' activities**. Inter-sector indicators were also established in collaboration with the WASH Cluster, Housing-Land-Property Working Group, Cash Working Group and NGO Humanity and Inclusion. The indicators are [available here](#).

## External / Donor Relations

As of 4 June 2019

### Donors for UNHCR operations in DRC in 2019

**United States of America** (7 M) | **CERF** (3.6 M) | **Japan** (2.5 M) | **Sweden** (2.2 M) | **Canada** (0.76 M) | **United Nations Foundation** (0.43 M) | **International Olympic Committee** (0.27 M) | **UNAIDS** (0.03 M) | **Private donors** (0.07 M)

### Major donors of regional or other funds with soft earmarking 2019

**Germany** (13.1 M) | **United States of America** (10 M) | **Canada** (4.6 M) | **Sweden** (4 M) | **Private donors Australia** (3.8 M)

### Major donors of unearmarked funds in 2019

**Sweden** (90.4 M) | **Norway** (44.5 M) | **Netherlands** (37.5 M) | **United Kingdom** (31.7 M) | **Germany** (26.7 M) | **Private donors Spain** (26.3 M) | **Denmark** (24.4 M) | **Switzerland** (15.1 M) | **Private donors Republic of Korea** (13.8 M)

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