DR CONGO

What Caused the Crisis?

Despite a challenging context, political instability, the presence of plethora armed groups, a weak economy and a lack of infrastructure, DR Congo hosted over 537,000 refugees as of August 2019, mostly from Burundi, Central African Republic and South Sudan.

More than 130 armed groups are currently active in Ituri, Tanganyika, North and South Kivu, attacking civilians and committing war crimes. At the end of 2019, over 5.5 million IDPs had been displaced by conflict and violence, mostly in Eastern part of the country.

Since October 2018, more than 300,000 Congolese have returned from exile, raising concerns of another crisis for a country already dealing with multiple conflicts and different outbreaks such as Cholera, Ebola and Measles. Returnees are facing a challenging situation in South-central Kasai, where the 2016-2017 conflict forced 1.5 million people to flee.

Displacement Challenges

In DR Congo, 12 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance with more than 5.5 million internally displaced due to violence and conflict. Human rights violations (killings, looting, abductions, injuries, extortion and rape) as well as the loss of crop and livestock from conflict are driving the massive displacement.

The Ituri province in the North-East of the DR Congo is once again facing an upsurge in violence resulting in massive population displacement. The situation changes daily as populations continue to move due to regular attacks. Since January 2020, more than 1,700 incidents were recorded in Ituri province. OCHA estimates that over 1.1 million people are displaced in the Province, as thousands of them flee to the neighborhood country, Uganda. In addition, Haut-Uélé province received more than 100,000 South Sudanese refugees.

In North Kivu, armed group activities increased since the beginning of 2020. Despite the end of the worst Ebola outbreak the country had known, tension and violence continues. According to OCHA, 1.7 million people have been displaced in the province.
How Does DRC Help?

**Protection**
In DR Congo, we seek to reduce immediate protection risks and reduce vulnerabilities through timely and relevant humanitarian response to recurrent crises; while working to strengthen the protective environment for displaced population and host communities by acting on root causes and promoting durable solutions. To achieve this, we advocate for the rights of the displaced and work to protect the most vulnerable, particularly children. Our protection services include legal aid and support for children in detention, case management, tailored individual protection assistance, psychosocial services and empowering local protection services and networks. We seek to prevent and response to sexual and gender-based violence in all forms. We raise awareness about how to access rights.

**Income-generating activities**
Displacement represents an acute threat to the economic well-being of the displaced population and host communities. In DR Congo, our livelihoods and economic recovery strategy focusses on both immediate post-emergency and longer-term durable solutions. Livelihoods and Economic Recovery are emergent themes for the DR Congo programme, where DRC helps rebuild livelihoods through a variety of means, including business and entrepreneurship training, small business grants, life-skills training, literacy and numeracy training, vocational training, micro-credit loans, savings groups, and group enterprise development. All of our initiatives are developed with a strong focus on resilience and sustainability.

**Shelter and non-food items**
DRC provides comprehensive shelter and settlement solutions in both emergency situations and during cases of protracted displacement. We engage in everything from the provision of temporary tents to rebuilding homes and repairing damaged dwellings. These initiatives enable vulnerable displaced populations to live in dignity and security. We also offer cash grants and distribute non-food items, such as emergency bedding, kitchenware, and other critical supplies.

**Education**
DRC works with local education actors to improve the school environment for children to enable better learning and to address their specific protection needs. In order to do so, DRC supports the implementation of improvement plans and teacher training, including several approaches to strengthen child protection. DRC is also working to promote the reintegration of displaced children into school. This work is accompanied by psycho-social support and packages of protection activities in order to promote the academic success and development of the children, regardless of their experiences.
**Peacebuilding**

DRC is focused around peacebuilding programming within the core themes of conflict analysis; youth, peace and security, and multi-sectoral Community Driven Safety and Recovery programming. These sectors will be supported and reinforced through the integration of protection and livelihoods programming to support longer-term solutions to the root causes of conflict.
DRC in DR Congo

DRC in DR CONGO has a budget of 9.3 million USD

Main Offices: 2
Field Offices: 8
National Staff: 131
International Staff: 13

Donors & Partners

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