

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

APRIL 15, 2015

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

6.5 million

Food-Insecure People in the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

¹² Integrated Food Security Phase Classification cycle – December 2014

2.7 million

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in DRC

UN – January 2015

430,246

DRC Refugees in Africa

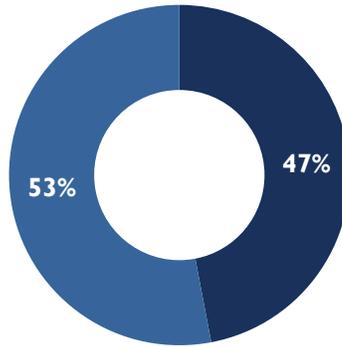
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – February 2015

221,737

Refugees from Neighboring Countries in DRC

UNHCR – February 2015

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2015



- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (47%)
- Health (53%)

USAID/FFP FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2015



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid
- Local and Regional Food Procurement
- Food Vouchers

HIGHLIGHTS

- The UN Security Council extended the mandate of the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in DRC (MONUSCO) for 12 months on March 26.
- The number of displacements in North Kivu Province recently surpassed 1 million; however, recent displacements are likely temporary, as residents are returning to areas of origin as fighting moves across the region.
- USAID/OFDA partner Medair provides additional support to three health care facilities in North Kivu's Beni Territory.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO DRC IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA	\$7,883,012
USAID/FFP ²	\$44,530,000
State/PRM ³	\$8,400,000

\$60,813,012
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC

KEY DEVELOPMENT

- The UN Security Council passed a resolution on March 26 renewing MONUSCO's mandate for 12 months. In the resolution, the Security Council reiterated concerns over the ongoing humanitarian situation. The mandate includes a focus on protection of civilians, humanitarian actors, and UN staff from physical violence within MONUSCO's areas of operation and calls for MONUSCO to work with the Government of DRC (GoDRC) to mitigate threats to civilians. The renewed mandate stipulates that MONUSCO consider gender issues and child protection in all aspects of its operation.
- The Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) launched operations against armed group *Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda* (FDLR) on February 24. FARDC forces are engaging FDLR elements in North and South Kivu provinces. Humanitarian actors continue to track displacement and humanitarian needs resulting from the FARDC offensive against the FDLR and other armed groups.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

Katanga Province

- Between March 17 and 19, members of a Mai Mai armed group attacked at least six villages in Katanga Province's Malemba Nkulu and Pweto territories, displacing approximately 16,500 people, according to the UN. During the attacks in Malemba Nkulu, assailants abducted an unknown number of individuals and looted and burned structures.
- Since January, intercommunal clashes in Kalemie, Manono, and Nyunzu territories have resulted in deaths, destruction of public buildings and houses, and protection violations against civilians. Humanitarian actors have conducted several multi-sector evaluations of displaced households in the region. More than 80 percent of affected households are experiencing food insecurity due to a lack of access to fields and markets. The assessments also found high rates of malnutrition among pregnant women and children. Additionally, the displaced communities lack medicines, safe drinking water, and essential household commodities.
- Between March 26 and 28, a team under the Rapid Response to Population Movement (RRMP) mechanism—a standing rapid response platform supported by USAID/OFDA and managed by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)—assessed the needs of more than 5,300 returnees in Kasenga Ngayie town, Moba Territory. The households originally fled from clashes between the FARDC and armed group Mai Mai Bakata Katanga. The RRMP assessment noted that returnees required basic household supplies, having lost their items to arson attacks. The local health clinic lacked supplies, and nearly 40 percent of children ages five years and younger reported having diarrhea due to poor hygiene. The assessment also reported that more than 95 percent of households have limited diets, due to destruction of crop fields and looting of food.

North Kivu Province

- As of March 25, more than 1 million people were displaced in North Kivu due to the humanitarian situation, with some displaced as early as 2009, according to the UN. This figure represents an increase of more than 61,000 IDPs—or 6.5 percent—since February 2015, when the UN reported 942,000 IDPs in the province. Several factors in March drove the increased numbers of IDPs in North Kivu: clashes between FDLR and other armed groups in Lubero and Walikale territories; the FARDC offensive against FDLR elements; and FARDC operations against other armed groups, including the *Alliance des patriotes pour un Congo libre et souverain* (APCLS). The UN does report, however, that not all displacement was the result of violence—many displaced left as a preventative measure in anticipation of FARDC's operations against the FDLR in areas of Masisi, Rutshuru, and Walikale territories. Humanitarian actors expect many of the recently displaced households to return as military operations conclude in their areas of origin.
- During March, the majority of newly displaced persons in North Kivu came from Lubero, Masisi, and Walikale territories, with 27,000, 13,800, and 11,300 new IDPs, respectively, according to the UN.
- More than 1,200 people fled from clashes between FARDC and elements of APCLS in Masisi's Nyabiondo town between March 14 and 16, according to the UN. Renewed clashes on March 18 near Nyabiondo caused additional residents and IDPs to flee and seek shelter at a church, a UN base, and an international non-governmental organization (NGO) site. While several of the displaced households returned shortly after fleeing, the majority remained at the ad hoc displacement sites, fearing additional attacks from APCLS forces.
- Humanitarian agencies are reporting increasing cases of extortion, kidnapping, and robbery by armed groups against civilians and relief agencies in Rutshuru and Walikale. From March 3–17, the UN recorded more than 25 kidnapping cases, including the March 9 abduction of four international NGO staff in North Kivu. The rise in crime is likely caused by increased activity of numerous armed groups in the area, including those fleeing FARDC operations, according to the UN. Humanitarian organizations are concerned about the potential effects of increased kidnapping threats, including constrained humanitarian access and limitations on freedom of movement for civilians in the affected areas. Civil society groups in Rutshuru demonstrated against the territory's lack of security on April 1 and 2. The FARDC responded to the demonstrations by pledging to deploy additional forces to the region.

South Kivu Province

- As of March 19, the FARDC offensive against FDLR resulted in the short-term displacement of more than 20,200 people in South Kivu, with displaced households returning to areas of origin as operations moved across targeted areas. As of March 19, approximately 7,700 IDPs from Mwenga Territory and the Uvira Plateau remained displaced.
- Recent heavy rainfall has restricted humanitarian access to areas of Maniema Province where more than 1,200 household from South Kivu are sheltering following fighting between the FARDC and elements of the armed groups FDLR and Mai Mai Yakutumba in South Kivu, according to the UN. The rainfall resulted in the postponement of planned humanitarian assessments of the displaced households in early April.
- The heavy South Kivu rains caused Mutambala River flooding. The recent flooding resulted in the deaths of 16 people, with 12 others missing and more than 1,200 families displaced after the waters destroyed their homes. Through UNICEF's RRMP mechanism, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) traveled to the flood-affected areas to conduct a multi-sector assessment of humanitarian needs on April 4.
- Since April 2, flooding has also displaced nearly 600 households and damaged two bridges in Uvira Territory, South Kivu, hindering humanitarian movements near the city of Uvira. The flooding risks contaminating sources of drinking water in an area where safe drinking water is already a challenge—the health zone in areas affected by the flooding reports an average of more than 660 cases of cholera per month.

Orientele Province

- Attacks by the armed group *Force de résistance patriotique de l'Ituri* (FRPI)—include killing, rape, and looting against civilian populations—have increased in southern Irumu Territory, Orientale Province, in recent weeks, according to local media. FARDC and MONUSCO forces had forced FRPI elements from Irumu's Aveba town in January; however, residents in affected areas of southern Irumu report that FRPI has remained a consistent threat.
- The more than 10,000 IDPs sheltering in several sites in Komanda town, located south of Orientale's Bunia town, are refusing local authorities' relocation efforts. The IDPs arrived in Komanda to escape violence perpetrated by various armed actors between September 2013 and November 2014 in Orientale. Humanitarian agencies conducted an assessment in Komanda in late March, identifying food assistance, education, shelter support, and agricultural inputs as the most pressing needs among the IDPs. Health NGO Medair plans to continue offering health care services to displaced households in Komanda. Additionally, Oxfam is providing safe drinking water to the IDPs.
- Suspected elements from the Lord's Resistance Army recently attacked areas of Bas-Uélé District, Orientale, according to the UN. The late-March attacks have resulted in kidnappings, looting, and displacement. Following a March 25 attack, more than 1,500 people fled from Orientale's Ebale and Kengwa towns to seek shelter in two villages located 15 kilometers away.

PROTECTION

- FARDC military commanders joined GoDRC officials and senior UN leaders—including the UN Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict Zainab Hawa Bangura—on March 31 to pledge the FARDC's commitment to combatting rape in conflict. The declaration is a key step in the GoDRC's National Action Plan against Sexual Violence in Conflict, launched in September 2014, the UN reports. Under the pledge, every FARDC commander is obligated to take action against offending soldiers under their command by investigating allegations of sexual violence by FARDC troops and undertaking measures to protect survivors, witnesses, and other actors critical for prosecuting these crimes.
- NGO IDEA-Relief is forming 18 protection committees in the central chiefdoms of Rutshuru, according to the UN. The committees will focus on countering sexual violence in the community. Additionally, the project will develop a twice-weekly radio program to strengthen public messaging that seeks to counter sexual violence.
- Protection actors are concerned about attacks against IDPs sheltering at sites in southern Irumu, Ituri District, according to the UN. During March, humanitarian staff reported at least five attacks on IDP sites in Ituri. During the

attacks on IDP sites, the unidentified assailants tortured, raped, and injured camp residents. Protection sector experts in DRC have called on authorities to reinforce security at IDP sites to prevent further assaults.

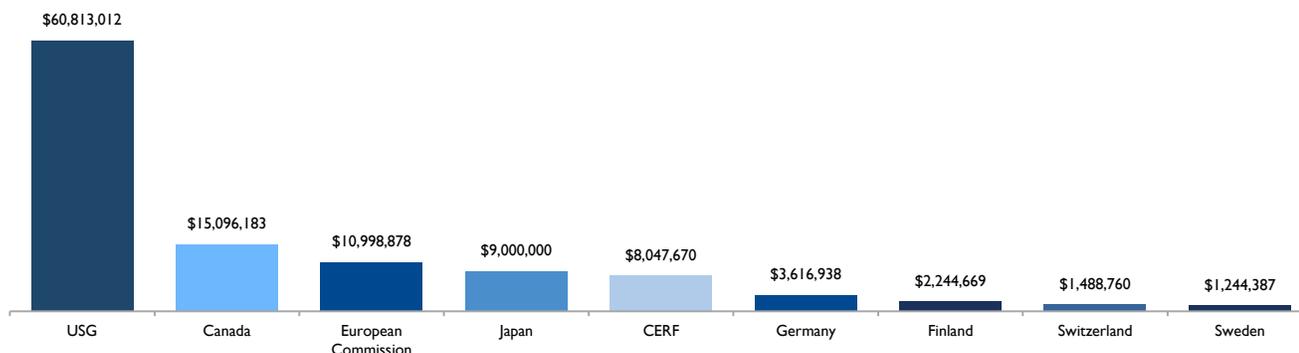
FOOD INSECURITY

- Since February, USAID/FFP and USAID/OFDA partner Samaritan’s Purse has provided food assistance and relief commodities to 4,100 conflict-affected households in Beni that were subject to attacks from Allied Democratic Forces–National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (ADF–NALU) elements. The assistance includes locally and regionally procured food, as well as food vouchers. Samaritan’s Purse also provided food assistance and emergency relief items to approximately 3,100 returning households in North Kivu’s Kamango town in northeast Beni. Previously, the returnees were sheltering in Uganda after fleeing from ADF–NALU attacks.
 - Recent attacks by FRPI on civilians have resulted in widespread displacement in areas of Irumu Territory. Additionally, North Kivu populations fleeing from ADF–NALU violence have also arrived in Irumu. With ongoing support from USAID/FFP, the UN World Food Program (WFP) has distributed an average of 650 metric tons (MT) of food each month during the last year in affected areas of Orientale. In February, WFP staff based in Bunia town, Orientale, reached 100,000 people, including 50,000 IDPs, with emergency food assistance.
 - Since March 2014, USAID/FFP has supported the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) with \$1.2 million in FY 2014 assistance to provide assistance to vulnerable, conflict-affected households in Katanga. In January, USAID/FFP provided an additional \$530,000 to ACTED to provide food assistance to 24,600 newly displaced beneficiaries in Manono and Pweto territories through food vouchers and the organization of food fairs between January and April 2015.
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HEALTH

- Since January, USAID/OFDA partner Medair has increased assistance to three health care centers—serving up to 46,000 people—in North Kivu’s Beni, where attacks by the ADF–NALU armed group have killed more than 250 people and displaced thousands since October 2014. Medair’s activities ensure that IDPs and vulnerable host community members in Beni’s Katabey, Luna, and Samboko villages have access to free health care services. Medair is utilizing approximately \$3.2 million in assistance from USAID/OFDA—provided in FY 2014—for activities in North Kivu, including support for health care services in Beni.

2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of April 15, 2015. All international figures are according to UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2014 for FY 2015.

CONTEXT

- Despite the implementation of a peace agreement in 2003, fighting between forces loyal to the Kinshasa government and various armed entities, including the armed group ADF-NALU, Mai-Mai militants, M23, and FDLR has contributed to high levels of insecurity and population displacement in eastern DRC.
- Violence, restricted humanitarian access, poor infrastructure, forced recruitment into armed groups, and reduced access to agricultural land and traditional markets have contributed to the deterioration of humanitarian conditions in DRC and triggered mass internal displacement and refugee outflows.
- The MONUSCO Intervention Brigade supported FARDC in its successful operations against M23, which withdrew from areas of operation in late 2013. In early February, FARDC refocused attention toward other armed groups operating in eastern DRC, such as the ADF-NALU and FDLR.
- In response to ongoing humanitarian needs, on October 3, 2014, U.S. Ambassador James C. Swan redeclared a disaster for the complex emergency in DRC for FY 2015.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC PROVIDED IN FY 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Medair	Health, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	North Kivu, Orientale	\$3,500,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
	Program Support		\$383,012
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$7,883,012
USAID/FFP³			
ACTED	Food Vouchers	Katanga	\$530,000
WFP PRRO 200540	18,710 MT of Title II-Funded Emergency Food Assistance for Relief, Nutrition, Food-for-Work, Food-for-Training and Emergency School Feeding	Equateur, Katanga, Maniema, North Kivu, Orientale, South Kivu	\$33,000,000
WFP PRRO 200540	Local and Regional Procurement of Emergency Food Assistance for Relief	Equateur, Katanga, Maniema, North Kivu, Orientale, South Kivu	\$11,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$44,530,000

STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance for Refugees and other Vulnerable Populations	Countrywide	\$7,400,000
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for Central African Refugees	Equateur and Orientale	\$1,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$8,400,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC IN FY 2014 & FY 2015			\$60,813,012

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 15, 2015.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community is available at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>