

UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Democratic Republic of Congo

SUMMARY FOR 2005

Critical Issues for Children and Women

The six-year civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has gravely worsened the well-being and livelihood of children and women throughout the country. As a result, an estimated 3.3 million Congolese have lost their lives due to the conflict.

Some 1.9 million children suffer from acute malnutrition. Over 5.2 million children receive no education, and 400,000 of them are internally displaced. Less than 30% of the population has access to basic health services, 5% has no access to potable water and less than 21% to safe sanitation. 4.9% of the population have been infected by AIDS. Reports of sexual violence are increasing. Recruitment of children by armed groups also continues, with more than 35,000 children associated with armed groups. Landmines and unexploded ordnance affect all regions of the country.

Planned Humanitarian Action for 2005

UNICEF works closely with UN agencies, NGOs and Line Ministries, and continues to coordinate technical sectors such as Nutrition, Protection, Education, and Emergency Health. UNICEF's humanitarian assistance programme is part of the CAP for 2005 and will target some 13.5 million vulnerable people.

Health and Nutrition: UNICEF will procure and distribute essential drugs, vaccines, medical supplies and equipment to health centres, health zones and other health partners. UNICEF will also continue its support to therapeutic feeding programme throughout the country.

Education & Mine Risk Education: UNICEF will supply education materials and kits. UNICEF will rehabilitate schooling infrastructure and train teachers on HIV/AIDS and peace education. UNICEF will also develop specific educational indicators in emergencies. Mine Risk Education Programme will be further implemented.

Child Protection & Sexual-gender based violence: UNICEF will further expand specific child protection activities focusing on unaccompanied or separated children, as well as on gender based violence.

Assistance to IDPs and refugees: UNICEF will provide family relief kits and clothes to the most affected IDPs and refugees, with special emphasis on children and women headed households.

Emergency Water and Sanitation: UNICEF will rehabilitate wells, boreholes, latrines, and install hand pumps, distribute water containers and hygiene kits, and promote hygiene education. Additionally, UNICEF will train local water management committees in care and maintenance of water supply systems.

Summary of UNICEF financial needs for 2005	
Sector	US\$
Health and nutrition	16,750,000
Education	2,698,864
Child Protection – Unaccompanied/ separated	1,802,233
Protection – Victims of sexual-gender based violence	3,056,818
Assistance to internally displaced and refugee children and women	5,994,318
Mine risk awareness and education	1,022,727
Emergency water and sanitation	3,295,454
Total¹	34,620,414

¹ The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 12%. The actual recovery rate on individual contributions will be calculated in accordance with the Executive Board Decision 2003/9 of 5 June 2003.