

UNICEF Democratic Republic of the Congo – FLASH REPORT #15
27 December 2012 - 2 January 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 31 December, the UN Security Council imposed sanctions on two key figures in the M23 movement. The sanctions include freezing of assets travel bans. Similar measures were taken against Rwandan FDLR rebels. On 1 January 2013, the DRC government welcomed UN sanctions saying they could dissuade the M23 from further "military adventures." The M23 leader Sultani Makenga is already under UN and US sanctions since the 13 November.
- Following a UN Security Council request, the UN has begun reviewing the composition of the MONUSCO troops; they will provide alternatives on troop composition and possible redeployments to strengthen MONUSCO's performance.
- On 31 December, dozens of members of different Mai Mai militia factions came together to issue a statement insisting that they be included in talks between the Kinshasa government and the M23 rebel movement. The statement was issued by Joseph Assanda, who represents 11 Mai Mai groups based in South Kivu province.

POLITICAL AND SECURITY SITUATION

- On 28 December MONUSCO reported that two of its helicopters have received fire from M23 forces; it was the second time in a month that M23 members have targeted MONUSCO helicopters.
- In his end of the year address, DRC President Joseph Kabila made a New Year's pledge to jumpstart national unity talks, calling them a "condition of our survival." Kabila said: "The war in which we're involved needs to be an opportunity for us to further unite despite the diversity of our tribes, of our religious beliefs and of our political views."
- On 1 January 2013, North Kivu Governor, Julien Paluku, called on the international community and aid organizations for support and funding for the conflict's victims. He also called on the MONUSCO, to "act rather than just observe" and to prepare with him a "quick plan for managing the humanitarian crisis."
- Following the change in the Presidency of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (CIRGL, *Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs*) from Uganda to Congo on 1 January, the talks between M23 and DRC government will now be held in Brazzaville; talks are scheduled to resume on 5 January.

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

- There has been no major displacement during this reporting period in east DRC as a result of the current conflict between FARDC and the M23 militia.
- OCHA, however, is receiving reports of continued large-scale displacement into Katanga province's Pweto territory; with 84,000 new displaced persons in the province since November fleeing combat between FARDC and the Mai-Mai Gédéon group.
- The DRC Country Office is also closely following the evolving situation in the Central African Republic in the border areas; an inter-agency mission is being planned.

UNICEF & CLUSTER RESPONSE

Non-Food Items (NFI) and Shelter

- With kits provided by UNICEF, UNHCR and partners completed distributions to 1,800 households in Mugunga 3 displaced persons camp during this reporting period bringing the total number of displaced families assisted with essential household and personal items to 22,709. Only 150 families now remain to be served in Mugunga 3 camp. Final distributions for several hundred families at Mugunga 1 and Lac Vert sites—suspended for security reasons and disturbances linked to beneficiary lists—will be resumed in the coming days
- With materials provided UNICEF, IOM and partners have completed construction of 8 hangars at Mugunga 1 site. These hangars will provide temporary shelter for up to 480 families and will allow families currently living the classroom building near Mugunga 1 and elsewhere in Goma to vacate the schools.
- No additional reports of looting of NFI have been received; of the two reported cases of families having items stolen by armed forces, one family's at Bulengo site had their items returned after MONUSCO confiscated them from the looters.

WASH

- Consolidation of water supply system in Mugunga I, Lac Vert and Bulengo sites continues with the installation of a pipeline (about 1 km long) between Mugunga I and Lac Vert, and the installation of a 140m³ water storage tank in Bulengo
- Toilet construction continues in all sites; particularly in Bulengo and Lac Vert.

Education

- On 31 December, CAAP, a local NGO started catch-up classes for a total of 5,997 children (2,446 are girls) in 28 Schools in Masisi territory. The catch-up classes will last 2 months.
- CAAP also distributed UNICEF school kits in 41 schools in affected areas of North Kivu province; statistics on the number of children reached by this distribution are being finalized.

- Military still occupy two schools in the Minova area (South Kivu); UNICEF Education section and Education partners continue lobbying efforts to have the schools vacated.

Protection

- UNICEF partner, Hope in Action provided psychosocial support to 10 women and 3 girl survivors of rape from Mugunga 1, Mugungua 3 and Lac Vert. All 13 survivors received medical care within 72 hours at the local health post, supported by Hope in Action. The women and girls received services on 26 December after having been assaulted on 24 December. The 13 survivors were assaulted in different locations both inside and outside of the camp including in the nearby national park.
- On 27 December UNICEF provided HEAL Africa with 10 cartons (50 doses each) of PEP Kits to support the response capacity of health centers in the 6 health zones in North Kivu (Goma, Karisimbi, Binza, Kayna, Birambizo and Mweso).

Health

- UNICEF and Merlin will collaborate on a measles vaccination campaign to reach 1.2 million children aged 6 months to 15 years in 7 health zones; plans are being finalized for partnership agreement for this collaboration
- Since 26 December, the emergency measles vaccination in South Kivu’s Bunyakiri Health Zone (one of over 50 health zones in the DRC with declared measles epidemics) began in collaboration with MSF/Spain and the provincial health zone authorities. To date, 22,015 children have been reached (26% of target); the campaign will continue through 6 January 2013.

Nutrition

- UNICEF has received 2,500 new boxes of Plumpy Nut in Goma; distribution plans to key implementing partners in North Kivu (Save the Children, Caritas Goma, ACF) are being completed.

RESOURCES REQUIREMENTS

In order to respond quickly, UNICEF is fundraising an initial **\$13,830,396** to meet the immediate and medium-term needs of children and women throughout the affected areas for the coming 3 months. **A total of \$9.72m in contributions or pledges has been received.**

Table 1. Estimated funding requirements from November 2012 to February 2013

Sector	US\$
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	2,860,000
Health	1,150,000
NFI	2,359,000

Child Protection	2,888,027
Nutrition	1,708,369
Education	2,865,000