

## UNICEF Democratic Republic of the Congo – FLASH REPORT #17

2 February 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS

- On 25 January UNICEF and its partners launched a five-day measles campaign in seven health areas. The activity was carried out by the provincial health coordination with the technical support of Merlin and UNICEF with funding from DFID. Preliminary results show that 1,133,601 or 96% of the targeted 1,179,992 million children between 6 months and 15 years old were vaccinated.
- 99 children formerly associated with armed forces or groups were released from armed groups over the past two weeks in North Kivu and are currently in transit centres and temporary foster families. During the same period, 320 children formerly associated with armed forces or groups and previously released were reunited with their families.
- New surveys reveal a worrying nutritional situation in North Kivu province. In Goma 7,4% global acute malnutrition (GAM) in children has been reported, along with 8.9% in Karisimbi and 9.9% in Kirotshe.
- The Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) multi-donor group visited Goma and Bukavu in the week of January 28 to assess the evolution of the humanitarian context in the North Kivu and South Kivu provinces since the humanitarian and security crisis in mid-November last year.
- On 25 January the UNICEF and WFP Representatives met with the authorities in Katanga to discuss the humanitarian situation in the central area of the Province. The situation there is of concern to all – with important increase in numbers of IDPs since last year – and a joint assessment mission is planned in early February. Cholera is also problematic in the province.
- FAO, UNICEF and WFP Representatives jointly visited Maniema province from 29 to 31 January to discuss the humanitarian situation with authorities and civil society. All contacts expressed grave concern about the situation in Northern Maniema. At least 26,000 people are reported to be displaced in and around Punia (Maniema province), following fighting around the border of North Kivu and Maniema provinces, with potentially as many as 20,000 additional people displaced along the Punia-Kasese axis. Access is severely compromised by the advance of Raia Mutomboki towards Punia.

## POLITICAL AND SECURITY SITUATION

- U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will recommend to the U.N. Security Council that a peace enforcement unit be deployed in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, a senior U.N. official said on 25 January. This new UN force's goal is to conduct robust operations against armed groups such as M23 and the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR).
- On 19 January the Ihusi boat travelling from Goma to Bukavu was hijacked on Lake Kivu by five armed men. Fifty passengers, including many humanitarian workers, have been stripped of their money and their phones. Following this incident, several humanitarian organizations have temporarily suspended their movements between Bukavu and Goma by lake. UNDSS has suspended travel by the lake, recommending travel by road via Rwanda (unescorted) or via Minova (with escort).

- The use of drones to monitor the border between the DRC and Rwanda will reinforce the capacity of UN peacekeeper mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) and the DRC Armed Forces (FARDC) to respond to security challenges in the East, said the SRSR Roger Meece on 16 January.
- Negotiations between the government and the M23 rebels led to the adoption of an agenda on 16 January. The negotiations in Kampala resumed Wednesday 30 January after the African Union summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia failed to produce an agreement related to peace and stability in Eastern DRC.

## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

### North Kivu

- Since 1 January, 30 children aged between 14 and 17 from the town of Oicha, north of Beni, have been abducted according to MONUSCO.
- In Masisi territory, North Kivu province, armed militiamen from Mweso have threatened more than 2,000 students from Busumba and Mpati schools. Since 14 January taxes are being collected from students.
- According to the local Red Cross 1,809 households are still living with host families including 358 new households in Masisi, North Kivu province.
- Reported displacement of households near Kyavinyonge on the west coast of Lake Edouard.
- 311 displaced household in Miriki from Pinga fleeing threats from the Cheka rebel armed group.
- Population displacement reported in Binza area following clashes between Mai Mai and the Nyatura rebel armed group. 120 households reported in Kinyana, 180 Katikinyange and 200 in Karambi.
- 375 displaced households reported Eringeti / Beni and Mayi Moya; displacement following the raid of armed men in the localities of Samboko, Mutweyi, Kakwaya and Kiravo.
- In the area of Mpati/Masisi territory actors have reported that schools are asked to pay a fee of 10 USD to armed groups and that sensitisations for recruitment is taking place in markets and around schools. The Education Cluster will verify information with the Protection Cluster, Monusco and other actors.
- The Education Cluster is concerned of the remaining presence of FARDC in the schoolyard of 3 schools in Bweremana, North Kivu province as well as the reported UXO in the latrines and schoolyard. The cases were reported to UNMACC for demining as well as to the Protection Cluster and Monusco for advocacy with FARDC.

### South Kivu

- In Walungu, South Kivu province, following the clashes between FARDC and Raia Mutomboki, approximately 1,300 households are reported to have returned to Nzibira, reducing the number of internally displaced persons to 4,449 households in Mulamba, Rhana and Burhale.
- In the Territory of Mwenga school occupation by FDLR have provoked destruction of 10 schools depriving 2 419 students from continued schooling.

### **Province Orientale**

- In Mambasa / Ituri, Province Orientale, several cases of extortion and illegal barriers erected by FARDC soldiers are reported. FARDC are also reported to occupy civilians' houses between Bandisende and Epulu.

### **Maniema Province**

- Following combat between the FARDC and the Raia Mutomboki, around the border between the Maniema and North Kivu provinces, there has been significant population movement from Kasese territory towards Punia. The last available information estimates that 26,000 persons have been displaced around Punia. Potentially 20, 000 more persons are displaced in a 35 Km radius around Punia. UNICEF zonal office is launching an RRMP evaluation and response as soon as the security situation permits. Needs so far identified by the civil society are WASH, Essential drugs and nutrition.

### **Katanga Province**

- The humanitarian community is increasingly concerned about the humanitarian situation in Katanga. As of January 2013, Katanga had over 316,500 displaced people, an increase of 571% since 2011. During their recent visit to the Governor in Katanga, the UNICEF and WFP Representatives discussed their concerns regarding the deteriorating situation and the considerable increase in IDPs over the last 9 months. The UNICEF representative also visited a Cholera Treatment Center run by MSF in Kasenga.
- The security situation in North Katanga remains extremely instable due to armed group activity (FDLR-Mayi-Mayi Yakutumba-FNL in Bendera; Gédéon Kata-Katanga in Moba, Manono et Pweto territories). There was a significant increase in Kata-Katanga activities in Manono territory during the reporting period, with attacks against civilians and the occupation of villages. In one attack in Kiambi on 27 January 18 bodies were found in the Luvua river and buried in Kitumbu village.
- Following Mai Mai attacks and clashes with FARDC in Ntondo village (20 km east of Bukeya) on 30 January, displacement is reported on the Luambo-Bukeya axis.
- An interagency mission, including UNICEF Nutrition, Emergency, Education and Protection sections, will conduct an evaluation in Pweto from 4-10 February 2013.
- The cholera epidemic in Katanga continues to expand in several health zones despite efforts of humanitarian actors. From the 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2013 the province has registers 2,025 cases of cholera and 75 deaths, an average fatality rate of 3.7%.

## UNICEF & CLUSTER RESPONSE

### Non-Food Items (NFI) and Shelter

#### North Kivu

- Non-Food Item (NFI) fairs in Katiri and Kalevya (Southwest Lubero) for a total of 960 vulnerable households: 308 displaced and 652 returnee
- NFI fairs in Rutshuru, Kabaya-Rumangabo and Mugora) for 1,305 displaced households in Mugwata and 699 returnees' households in Kigarama.

#### South Kivu

- In Walungu AVSI RRMP identified approximately 4,000 displaced households in Mulamba and for an NFI kit distribution. In Shabunda– AVSI RRMP is preparing NFI distribution for 4,000 displaced households. Because of access issues Lugungu site cannot be reached yet.

#### Katanga

- CRS RRMP is organizing an NFI fair for 5,100 displaced and vulnerable households in Pweto territory

### Education

#### North Kivu

- UNICEF partner CAAP completed a 3-month rapid education in emergencies response on the spontaneous IDP sites around Ngungu, Rubaya, Mpati in Masisi Territory.  
A total of 26,742 children including 13,091 internally displaced were assisted via school material, 5,727 (including 2,329 girls) are attending 2-month catch-up classes.
- 27,699 persons (including 12,350 women) and 270 teachers were sensitized on protection and signed a Code of Conduct. Psychosocial activities held for 28,295 children and adolescents.
- UNICEF partner Alpha Ujuvi continues integrating out of school internally displaced children, as well as providing psychosocial recreational activities in 53 schools. Catch up classes for 1,250 children (including 522 girls) and the setting up of 10 temporary emergency classrooms and 20 latrines continue.
- UNICEF partner AVSI has started the education/child protection intervention in the returnee area of Kibumba and Rugari. 4,175 children (including 2,347 girls) of whom 2,943 returnee children can now go back to school.
- In Mugunga III IDP camp, and in Mugunga I, Lac Vert and Bulengo IDP sites, AVSI continues school sensitization and integration of IDP children as well as distribution and psychosocial recreational activities.
- UNICEF partner NRC started emergency education intervention in returnee areas in Rutshuru territory through the distribution of 7,436 school kits and training for 135 teachers on Peace Education.

#### South Kivu

- In Minova (Kalehe territory) and surrounding areas the Ministry of Education (EPSP), UNICEF and AVSI continue to integrate displaced children in 34 schools, sustaining school vouchers for rehabilitation of destroyed classrooms and school equipment, psychosocial and recreational activities.

#### **WASH**

- UNICEF partners NCA, OXFAM GB, ASAF and Solidarités are carrying out continuous WaSH projects in all the camps and sites along Goma, Sake and Minova axis resulting in:
  - 1,118 latrines built with hand-washing facilities (76% of total latrines supported by UNICEF)
  - 666 showers built (82% of showers built supported directly by UNICEF)
  - 350m3 of treated water delivered to IDPs through water pumping and 150m3 through water trucking delivered by UNICEF support on a daily basis.
- Despite “high probability of cholera outbreak” (WHO), the WaSH cluster through all those actions coordinated and supported by UNICEF has kept the epidemic under control, with 368 cases of cholera have been recorded over the past 2 months in Goma.

#### **Katanga**

- UNICEF, in partnership with the Red Cross Katanga, has provided 20 of, 3500 packets of Aquatabs, 20 cases of soap, and 20 sprayers for response in Kasenga and Lubumbashi. Social mobilization activities include training of 8 community volunteers and 21 Red Cross volunteers, and diffusion of cholera messages on community radio networks.
- In Tanganyika 19 chlorination sites are operational with the Red Cross at Ankoro. Discussions with the Red Cross in Kalemie are underway to scale up existing chlorination activities and strengthen communication regarding household water treatment.
- In Pweto, CRS RRMP will support the Red Cross to strengthen their capacity on water chlorination, tracking of cholera cases in the community, awareness-raising and safe management of dead bodies. UNICEF will deliver chlorine and other supplies during the inter-agency mission to Pweto this week.

#### **Protection**

##### **North Kivu**

- UNICEF partner Hope in Action has provided psychosocial support to 7 girls and 29 women survivors of rape through the UNICEF supported psychosocial support centres in Mugunga I and Mugunga III in the month of January.
- 77 cases of recruitment of children by armed groups operating in Kitchanga and Masisi have been reported by partners.
- UNICEF partner EAD in the Oicha/Beni area is working with MONUSCO to verify the reports of 30 children abducted. Child protection committees in the area are conducting door-to-door visits.
- Despite joint efforts of the Protection and Education cluster 3 schools remain occupied by FARDC in Bweremana.

##### **South Kivu**

- 6 children were demobilized on from the FARDC on 6 January and have been provided temporary care.
- 22 children formerly associated with armed groups were reunited with their families.

#### **Ituri**

- 3 unaccompanied children have been identified, certified and placed in Transitional Host Families.
- 2 boys were released from an armed group and have been placed in Transitional Host Families pending family reunification.
- 41 children formerly associated with armed groups were reunited with their families.

#### **Health**

##### **South Kivu**

- 65,082 children (over 100% of target) aged between 6 months and 15 year old were vaccinated in Bunyakiri health zone, South Kivu by UNICEF partner MSF Spain. Manga and Tchinene health zones were not reached because of security reasons.

##### **Katanga**

- UNICEF has provided 4,000 litres Ringer Lactate to MSF Holland for treatment in 3 CTCs in Lubumbashi city and 1 in Kasenga

#### **Nutrition**

- Monitoring of nutritional activities in the areas of health Goma, Karisimbi and Kirotshe: A total of 217 severely malnourished children aged between 6 months and 59 months are being treated in the facilities visited. It should also be noted that because of security reasons Masisi territory was not visited. The number of malnourished children targeted is 11,025 over one year.
- From 14 to 31 of January 280 community volunteers were trained on active screening of malnutrition at the community level and awareness of families about infant feeding in Kirotshe and Karisimbi health zone.
- The already fragile nutritional situation in North Kivu is aggravated by security factors. Global acute malnutrition hovers between 5% and 10%. Results of nutritional surveys carried out in three health zones are as follows:
  - Karisimbi 8,9% global acute malnutrition and 2,5% severe acute malnutrition
  - Goma; 7,4% global acute malnutrition and 1.2% severe acute malnutrition
  - Kirotshe: 9,9% global acute malnutrition and 2,6% severe acute malnutrition
- 118 children screened for malnutrition at a UNHCR transit in Bukavu health zone, South Kivu province. 23 cases of severe acute malnutrition were detected and referred for treatment.
- 62 health staff of the health zones of Nyangezi and Kaziba were trained in Integrated management of Acute Malnutrition.

## **RESOURCES REQUIREMENTS**

Following the upsurge of violence in November 2012, UNICEF has been fundraising for **\$13,830,396** to meet the immediate and medium-term needs of children and women throughout the affected areas. **A total of \$10.22m in contributions or pledges has been received.**

On 25 January 2013, UNICEF launched its global Humanitarian Action For Children (HAC), which included funding requirements for humanitarian action throughout DRC in 2013. In line with the soon-to-be released 2013 Humanitarian Action Plan, UNICEF is appealing for **US\$134,560,000** to meet the humanitarian needs of children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2013. Full information, including programme targets, can be found at [www.unicef.org/appeals/drc.html](http://www.unicef.org/appeals/drc.html).

Sector	HAC 2013 requirements US\$
Nutrition	30,000,000
Health	18,400,000
Child protection	15,600,000
RRMP (NFI, WASH, Education in East)	37,000,000
Water, sanitation and hygiene (other than in RRMP)	15,000,000
Education (other than in RRMP)	13,000,000
NFI (other than in RRMP)	3,320,000
Cluster (and/or sector) coordination	2,240,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>134,560,000</b>