



# Democratic Republic of the Congo

## Humanitarian Situation Report on the Kasai Crisis



30 September, 2017

### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

## Highlights

- **1 September, 2017:** The Back to School Campaign was launched throughout the country, and 55,951 school-aged children targeted by the campaign will receive school materials in the Greater Kasai region.
- **19-22 September 2017:** A Peace Conference on the Kasai crisis led by President Joseph Kabila and the Governors of 5 provinces in Greater Kasai was held in Kananga (Kasai Central); MONUSCO and UN Agencies were invited.
- A **measles epidemic** was also declared in three Health Zones of the province of Lomami with 337 cases and 3 deaths, prompting a large vaccination campaign
- IOM has completed the first phase of the **Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)** project in Kasai Central, and the survey estimates that 197,519 persons are still displaced, while 490,969 people were reported to have returned to their place of origin.

**3,200,000** people are food insecure  
(Food Security Cluster Report, September 2017)

**350,000** severely malnourished children in the Greater Kasai Region  
(Nutrition Cluster, September 2017)

**1,239,152** children vaccinated against measles (UNICEF September 2017)

**90,000** people received cash based assistance (UNICEF September 2017)

**383** children released from militias and provided assistance before their reunification (UNICEF September 2017)

### UNICEF Appeal 2017

**US\$ 43.5 million**

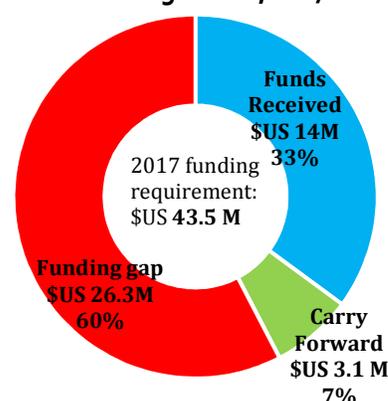
(This appeal is part of the overall HAC-DRC of \$165 million)

### UNICEF'S Response with Partners

	UNICEF Target	Total Results*
<b>Nutrition</b> : Children under 5 admitted into therapeutic feeding programme	53,339	8,906
<b>Health</b> : Children aged 6 months to 15 years immunized against measles	1,474,180	1,239,152
<b>WASH</b> : conflict-affected people who gain access to water, hygiene and sanitation basic services	346,632	171,982
<b>Child Protection</b> : # of separated and unaccompanied children identified and reunited with their families	9,000	1,204
<b>Education</b> : # of girls & boys (5-11 years) affected by conflict given access to quality education and psychosocial activities	149,960	5,082
<b>NFI/SHELTER</b> : # of people accessing essential household items, and shelter materials	250,500	2,005
<b>Cash Programme</b> : # of people assisted with an unconditional cash grant	166,450	90,357

\*Total results for **Nutrition, Health, WASH, CP, Shelter, Education and shelter** are cumulative. Nutrition, targets are for 6 months until the end of the year.

### Funding Status, 2017



## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The security situation in the Kasai Region remains tense and volatile. There are still reports of interethnic violence leading to further displacements. Up to 28,000<sup>1</sup> persons were reportedly displaced from the Kasai province to the neighboring provinces of Kwango and Kwilu in August 2017. There are also concerns regarding the potential spread of the cholera epidemic in the Kasai, as 519 cases (8% CFR) were recently confirmed in the Kwilu province. A cholera preparedness plan has been put in place by the health authorities and the humanitarian community, with support from UNICEF, to support 40 high risk health areas in Kasai Province.

The relative improvement of the security situation in the Kasai region, especially in the east, has led to decrease in security alerts, the progressive arrival of humanitarian assistance and increase in population return. In a recent DTM survey, IOM estimated that 490,969 people had returned in the Kasai Central province<sup>2</sup>. The condition of the returnee population is however difficult, as returnees find their homes/houses burnt/destroyed, their assets depleted, and their community resilience eroded. The lack of access to food, safe water and psychological support aggravate the post-traumatic stress they were already exposed to due to the violence<sup>3</sup>.

The Food Security Cluster estimates that 3.2 million people are food insecure<sup>4</sup>. The last monthly nutritional report (August 2017), declared nutritional alerts in 19 Health Zones (HZ). A measles epidemic was also declared in three Health Zones of the province of Lomami with 337 cases and 3 deaths, prompting a large vaccination campaign.

## Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

Since the beginning of the crisis, UNICEF and its partners are providing a multi-sectoral response in the five provinces of the Kasai region (Kasai, Kasai Central, Kasai Oriental, Lomami and Sankuru) as well as some parts of the Kwilu province. UNICEF is supporting interventions in health, nutrition, protection, education, WASH, NFIs and provision of cash assistance. UNICEF is also the sector lead for the Nutrition, WASH, Education and NFIs/Shelter Clusters and the Child Protection sub-cluster.

- **The Inter-cluster coordination** group prioritized four axes for humanitarian action during the reporting period; i.e. Kananga-Demba; Kananga- Luiza; Kananga – Dimbelenge; and Kananga – Dibaya. UNDSS, UNICEF and OCHA followed up by conducting road security assessments in the axes of Kananga-Luiza and the Kananga-Tshikapa.
- **Nutrition Cluster:** Based on the weekly meeting of the cluster, the total number of children under five years of age affected by Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) is estimated to be 350,000 children and the total number of children affected by moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) is estimated at 655,000 children. The Nutrition Cluster has been conducting an intensive advocacy to bring attention to the overwhelming needs and the extremely low coverage of services as part of the nutrition response. Limited funding remains a major constraint.
- **WASH Cluster:** The Joint mission conducted by UNICEF West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO), & the Global Wash Cluster trained WASH partners in emergencies and Cholera prevention and response. The mission also provided a number of options to scale up the WASH response, should funding be available, and revived the discussion on cluster “double hatting”.
- **Child Protection:** The Child Protection Working Groups (CPWG) identified 61 unaccompanied children, including three children separated from militias receiving support from 16 foster families. The families were identified following the review of the multi-sectoral rapid assessment carried out on the 8 - 9 September, 2017 in Kasai province. The Kasai Central CPWG in Kananga, raised awareness among child protection actors for the creation of consultation frameworks to facilitate the operational coordination of child protection interventions at the territory level. From 11 to 18 September 2017, CPWG in Kananga (Kasai Central) and Tshikapa (Kasai) trained child protection actors on the utilization of a Child Protection Information Management tools which were adopted.

<sup>1</sup> Source : UNICEF assessment, August 2017

<sup>2</sup> Source, IOM, September 2017: survey conducted on 46% of the villages of the province of Kasai Central

<sup>3</sup> Rapport d'évaluation des besoins en protection de l'enfant au Kasai- WarChild, September 2017

<sup>4</sup> Source: Food Security Cluster- Report Kasai Region- 14/09/17

- **Education Cluster:** As part of the effort to improve coordination of partner activities, Education Working Group have been activated in three provinces (Kasai, Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental) and meet on a weekly basis, under the leadership of UNICEF and Co-Facilitated by the Ministry of Education (EPSP).
- **NFI/Shelter clusters:** The first NFI cluster meeting took place on 28 September, 2017 in Kasai Central. The cluster reviewed current and planned activities for the next three months and NRC has been identified as co-facilitator.
- The **Gender-Based Violence (GBV):** The GBV working group is meets fortnightly. The GBVWG has identified the availability of PEP kits for providers of services to sexual violence victims. UNICEF distributed 975 Post-Exposure Preventive Treatment Kits (PEP) to Health Centers in Kananga, Tshikapa and Mbuji Mayi. In addition, UNICEF trained 55 actors on gender-based violence protocols.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Nutrition

Between January and September, 2017 UNICEF partners admitted 48,468 children with SAM, 45% of the annual Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) target for the Kasai Region. A total of 8,906 children were admitted for treatment since August (5,090 children admitted in August and 3,816 children admitted in September). Coverage of services is unlikely to increase significantly if no additional funding is available. The health zone coverage of services during the reporting period is for 14 health zones (23%) of the 39 health zones affected by the conflict (5 are covered by temporary mobile services).

From the monthly SNSAP<sup>5</sup> report, four health zones that had never been on nutritional alert in the past (since 2012) were reported to be on alert in the August report. An additional 15 health zones in the 5 provinces – which had alerts the previous months – reported that all key indicators<sup>6</sup> are above the thresholds. Various nutritional anthropometric surveys are being conducted to confirm alerts. Available results include:

- Luiza Health Zone (COOPI): GAM 9% ; SAM 1.8%;
- Mukumbi Health Zone (ACF): GAM 8.3% ; SAM 2.6%
- Tshikula Health Zone (ACF): GAM of 12.3%; SAM of 4.5%

Surveys to confirm alerts are ongoing in six health zones-Dikungu, Tshikaji, Bunkonde, Lubondae, Kalonda Est, and Miabi, two being led by ACF and four by UNICEF, in collaboration with the Provincial Nutrition Unit. Additional surveys are needed in the affected areas to confirm the impact of the crisis on the nutritional situation.

Information on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) activities are collected monthly through pre-school consultation activities that are ongoing in 27 health zones. Between January and the end of August, 2017, available data indicates that 3,679 newborn babies (99%) were breast fed within the hour of being born and 2,226 care givers received counselling on IYCF best practices. Vitamin A was delivered for children aged 6-59 months in all the 44 health zones in Kasai and Kasai Central provinces and 2 health zones in Lomami Province, reaching a total of 1,538,084 children (94% of the target).

### Health and HIV & AIDS

The measles immunization campaign that began in September, 2017 has covered 24 health zones out of 25 targeted and a total of 1,239,152 children have been reached. These are (i) two measles epidemic health zones in Lomami province with 307,664 (100%) children aged 6 months to 14 years vaccinated, (ii) six health zones affected by the conflict in Kasai province with 304,211 (87%) children from 6 to 59 months reached, (iii) 14 health zones affected by the conflict in the province of Kasai Central with 424,323 (96%) children from 6 to 59 months vaccinated. An ongoing measles immunization campaign in two other epidemic health zones in Lomami province (Kamana and Tshofa) with operational cost supported by MSF and UNICEF resulted in 88,900 children aged 6 months to 14 years vaccinated (partial results).

<sup>5</sup> SNSAP is the National Nutrition Surveillance and Early Alert System in place.

<sup>6</sup> Key surveillance indicators are: proportion of children with a MUAC < 125mm; proportion of children with presence of edemas; proportion of low birthweight infants; proportion of low MUAC in pregnant and lactating women

Concerning deworming, to date, a total of 1,306,961 children from 12 to 59 months have received Mebendazole in all Kasai and Kasai Central provinces.

UNICEF has re-oriented an existing health project to provide free health care to 1,020 children and pregnant women in the conflict-affected neighborhoods of Kananga and surrounding areas, in Kasai Central during the reporting period. UNICEF started the first phase of the distribution of 1.1 million Long-Lasting Insecticide-Treated nets (LLIN) in 13 conflict-affected health zones in Kasai Central to prevent malaria amongst children, pregnant women and families.

Two Health Centers were attacked in September, 2017 in Kasai province (Bakua Kenge health center in the Kakenge health zone and Kafuku health center in Kalonda East health zone) as part of the conflict. The total number of destroyed/looted/damaged health centers in Kasai Region since the beginning of the crisis is 220<sup>7</sup>. This destruction has weakened the health system, reduced access to basic health services and increased the risk of communicable diseases like measles.

## WASH

UNICEF, in partnership with ACF in Kasai and Amis des Personnes en Détresse (APEDE) in Kasai Oriental has delivered a WASH emergency package to 19,896 people in Kasai Oriental and to more than 60,000 people in the Kasai Province since January, 2017. In addition, through the re-orientation of the Healthy Villages and School programme, UNICEF, in partnership with the Social Development Center (SDC), cleaned 36 water points in Central Kasai, sensitized 6,000 persons with key messages on hygiene and delivered WASH kits to 11 health centers.

UNICEF is also supporting cholera prevention efforts led by the Kasai government, to prevent the spread of cholera from the neighboring Kwilu province, where an outbreak is currently outgoing, with 519 cases so far confirmed and a fatality rate of 8 percent. 40 health areas in three health zones has been prioritized as high risk in this plan.

## Education

In the Kasai Region, UNICEF estimates that 150,000<sup>8</sup> children between the ages of 6-11 have lost access to school as a result of violence, damage to infrastructure and displacement. The Back to School Campaign launched throughout the country in early September, 2017 targets children between the ages of 6-7. UNICEF is supporting the Campaign through sensitization activities and distribution of school materials for 55,951 children. 828 children (404 girls) benefited from school materials (21 kits) distribution during the reporting period, as the school year started 4 September, 2017. On 14 September, 2017 as part of the efforts to address the immediate needs of damaged schools (404 schools have been identified so far by the Education Working Group), the National Minister of Education has authorized the use of temporary learning spaces.

## Child Protection

During the month of September, 2017 a reported **383 children** (74 girls and 309 boys) were **released from the militias**, bringing the total number of children released to 702 (597 boys and 105 girls). These children are receiving a holistic support from UNICEF's partners, including referral to health facilities, psychosocial support and reunification with their family. 62 of them (13 girls and 49 boys) remain in two Transit and Orientation Centers (CTO) in Kananga town, while the remaining are receiving community-based support. 91 of these children (10 girls and 81 boys) have been reunified with their families.

In addition, **900** (265 girls and 635 boys) **newly unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)** were identified in Kasai and Kasai Central communities and provided with relevant support (psychosocial, medical, food and NFIs), bringing the total number of supported separated and unaccompanied children to 1,204. Among the newly identified UASCs, due to the ongoing insecurity, only 16 (7 girls and 9 boys) were successfully reunified with their families in Tshikapa.

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<sup>7</sup> Department of Health, Kasai region, September 2017

<sup>8</sup> The 149,960 target are children between the ages of 6-11 benefitting from access to quality education and psychosocial activities.

In terms of **psychosocial support**, 272 (64 girls and 169 boys) newly registered vulnerable children benefited from psychosocial support and non-formal Education activities in Child-Friendly Spaces run by UNICEF's partners in Kasai, Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental, thus bringing the total of children reached with psychosocial support to 11,738.

In **GBV**, 11 children (one boy; ten girls) were identified as survivors of sexual violence and are receiving comprehensive care, including medical assistance (access to PEP kits within the first 72 hours after the incident), legal assistance, psychosocial support and legal and judicial support (of four of them).

### **Rapid Response to Movement of Population (RRMP)**

The Consortium Solidarités/Caritas Belgium as RRMP UNICEF's partner in Kasai Oriental, Lomami and Sankuru has finalized the assessment in Kapangu area, Luilu territory, Lomami (16,000 households) from 1 to 13 September, 2017. The response, consisting of the rehabilitation of four water sources, access to sanitation in the health center and the promotion and the provision of Non-Food items is due to start first week of October, 2017. Solidarités International will integrate the RRMP response with an ECHO funded-project to distribute unconditional cash assistance to 3,294 households hence maximizing project impact. The first Technical and Strategic Committee (CST) for the project took place on 27 September, 2017 to define priority areas to be targeted with the full RRMP package till the end of this year. UNICEF received the last batch of the OFDA supplies in Kananga, Mbuji-Mai and Tshikapa airports. This programme is expected to reach 20,000 households in the next months.

### **Multipurpose Cash Transfers**

As part of cash-based programming activities, in September, 2017 UNICEF partner, CRC, distributed unconditional cash to a total of 4,630 households in Tshikula health zone in Kasai Central province. At present, targeting is under way in Lomami province, in the Kalenda health zone where 748 households are already targeted out of an expected target of 8,000 households foreseen.

### **Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement & Accountability**

UNICEF is supporting the broadcast of keys messages to promote essential family practices, the use of services and the respect of child rights through 30 radio channels and 1,200 community relays. In Kasai Central, as part of the community-based distribution campaign of Long-lasting Insecticide-Treated Mosquito Net (LLITMN), 7,800 village-level fora (*Cellules Animation Communautaire*) were set up in 26 health zones. These fora are not only facilitating the distribution of LLITMN and the sensitization of nearly 900,000 households but also creating community dialogue around child rights and protection. The Governor of the Province launched this campaign officially on 14 September, 2017 in Kananga.

The members of the village-level foras, in complementarity with community radios, churches, schools, women's and youth associations, informed the population about Vitamin A supplementation, deworming and Polio and Measles vaccination. This campaign targeting 14 health zones of the Central Kasai and six health zones of Kasai. According to the provincial communication commission, almost 885,000 households were informed of the above mentioned services. Also, in order to stop the spread of cholera epidemics reported in the neighbouring provinces (i.e. Kwilu and Haut Lomami), communication plans on preventive health and hygiene behaviours were developed for Kasai and Kasai Oriental Provinces.

### **Supply and Logistics**

During September 2017, UNICEF received the full Contribution in Kind (CIK) from OFDA, valued at USD 1,186,126. All related supplies, composed of 85% NFI and 15% WASH items, have been delivered to the Kasais under the coordination of UNICEF and OFDA's logisticians. At the same time, the procurement of complementary supplies has been finalized and dispatched to UNICEF's partners. Supplies are currently stored at the Logistics Cluster Platforms and/or at UNICEF partners' warehouses in Tshikapa, Kananga and Mbuji Mayi. Kitting for NFIs is being organized by the Implementing Partners (IPs) to allow the start of the distributions to the beneficiaries. UNICEF Supply & Logistics teams continue their

close cooperation with IPs and the Logistics Cluster at national and subnational levels to ensure the smooth communication and to maximize the use of transport options.

## Media and External Communication

Using the photo and video material that was gathered during a mission with the support of the Regional Office, the CO sent out a press release <http://ponabana.com/en/violence-classroom-kasai/> focused on the start of the new school year in Kasai on 15 September jointly with DOC, the Regional Office, PFP and the Africa Service Unit. The CO organized a briefing for the national press. The press release generated widely media interest both inside and outside the country. Social media channels were activated in a joint effort between the UNICEF offices to maximize the audience. The CO and DOC also posted blog stories and photo essays on various social platforms: [Ponabana](#), [Connect](#), [Voice of Youth](#) and [Medium](#). On 22 September, the United States Embassy officially proceeded to the delivery of 200 tons of humanitarian aid to UNICEF in order to assist the people of the Kasai region. The visit of UNICEF's Regional Director to DRC led to a press release (<http://ponabana.com/en/humanitarian-response-kasai>) and interviews of the Regional Director focused on the impact of the Kasai-crisis on children and UNICEF's response on RFI, France 24, RNTC (the national Congolese radio and television), AFP and Radio Okapi. The Regional Director took the opportunity to advocate strongly for the urgent needs of children affected by conflict in Kasai. The visit was supported by communication on the tweeter account of the Regional Director.

## Security

The Security situation remains at the MODERATE LEVEL. It is confirmed that the number of clashes (Armed Conflict) between the primary protagonists have decreased. Criminality has taken the lead in the number of security incidences. In cooperation between UNICEF, UNDSS and OCHA, a safety team undertook the assessment of two out of the five main transport axis in Kananga. The roads between Kananga and Luiza, and Kananga and Tshikapa were evaluated. Both assessment confirmed these axis are opened for humanitarian assistance, despite the bad state of some parts of the road.

## Funding

UNICEF is appealing for US\$ 43.5 million to scale-up life-saving assistance for women and children in Kasai Region. This funding requirement is fully integrated in the overall 2017 humanitarian action for DRC. As at 30 September 2017, UNICEF has a funding gap of 58 per cent against the needs in Kasai. UNICEF wishes to express its sincere gratitude to Governments of Belgium, Germany, United Kingdom and United States of America donors for the contributions received so far. Without adequate, predictable and flexible resources, UNICEF and its partners will not be able to respond effectively where needs are greatest and reach the most disadvantaged children. The most urgent funding needs are in Nutrition, Health & NFI / Shelter.

Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available <sup>9</sup>		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Forward Amount <sup>10</sup>	\$	%
Nutrition <sup>11</sup>	4,055,522	605,374	934,839	2,515,309	62%
Health	2,636,299	97,200		2,539,099	89%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	3,578,683	896,320		2,682,363	68%
Child protection	4,282,114	2,662,053		1,620,061	31%
Education	3,252,718	799,572		2,453,146	69%

<sup>9</sup> In addition to the funds available highlighted in the table above, \$2,158,780 of reprogrammed regular resources and development resources have been used to initiate the response to the Kasai response.

<sup>10</sup> The Carry forward amount has been corrected from what it was circulated in the UNICEF sitrep for Kasai as of 30 of August.

<sup>11</sup> The nutrition targets and funding requirements are currently under revision due to the deterioration of the nutritional situation.

NFI/shelter	5,346,000	0		5,346,000	100%
Rapid Response to Population Movement (WASH, NFI/shelter, education, health)	13,745,160	7,966,557		5,778,603	42%
Multipurpose cash transfer	3,185,784	500,000	2,220,000	465,784	84%
Cross sectoral support and Cluster/sector coordination	3,414,228	513,956		2,900,272	85%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,496,507</b>	<b>14,041,032</b>	<b>3,154,839</b>	<b>26,300,636</b>	<b>60%</b>

## Next SitRep: 01/11/2017

UNICEF DRC on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/UNICEF\\_DRC](https://twitter.com/UNICEF_DRC)

UNICEF DRC on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNICEFDRC](http://www.facebook.com/UNICEFDRC)

UNICEF DRC Country Website: <http://www.unicef.org/drcongo>

UNICEF DRC Humanitarian Action for Children 2016: [www.unicef.org/appeals/drc](http://www.unicef.org/appeals/drc)

UNICEF Kasai Response – Democratic Republic of Congo Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal:

[https://www.unicef.org/appeals/files/UNICEF\\_Kasai\\_crisis\\_Factsheet\\_June\\_2017.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/appeals/files/UNICEF_Kasai_crisis_Factsheet_June_2017.pdf)

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# SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

	UNICEF and IPs		
	2017 Target	Total Results	Change Since Last Report ▲▼
<b>WATER, SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE</b>			
# of natural disaster and conflict-affected people with access to water, hygiene and sanitation basic services	346,632	172,024	▲ 13,454
# of severely malnourished children and host family receiving WASH assistance from the nutrition centres, through household level	53,339	8,906	▲ 5,254
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
# of girls & boys (5-11 years) affected by conflict or natural disasters given access to quality education and psychosocial activities	149,960	5,082	▲ 32
# of school aged boys and girls (5 to 11 years ) affected by crisis receiving learning materials	149,960	5,878	▲ 828
# of teachers trained on learner-centered methodologies, peace education, conflict/disaster risk reduction (C/DRR), and Psychosocial support	2,727	66	-
<b>HEALTH</b>			
# children (6 months-14 years) in humanitarian situations vaccinated against measles	1,474,180	1,239,152	▲ 1,125,098
# people affected by conflict and disease outbreaks having received access to primary health care	60,000	38,869	▲ 1,020
<b>NUTRITION</b>			
# of children 6-59 months with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted for therapeutic care	53,339	8,906	▲ 3,816
Recovery Rate	>75%	89%	-5
Death rate	<10%	3%	2
Default rate	<15%	8%	3
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>			
# of separated and unaccompanied children identified and reunited with their families	9,000	1,204	▲ 900
# of displaced, refugee and returnee children provided with safe access to community spaces for socialization, play and learning	25,000	11,738	▲ 272
# of identified survivors of sexual violence provided with a comprehensive response	3,000	31	▲ 11
<b>NFI/SHELTER</b>			
# of people accessing essential household items, and shelter materials	250,500	2,005	-
<b>MULTIPURPOSE CASH BASED ASSISTANCE</b>			
# of people assisted with an unconditional cash grant	166,450	90,357	▲ 34,412

\*Total results for all indicators are cumulative; for 2017 are point-in-time measures of coverage

\*\* Nutrition, targets are for 6 months until the end of the year.