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Reporting Period: January 2020

# Democratic Republic of the Congo

## Humanitarian Situation Report No. 01



### Situation in Numbers



**9,100,000**  
children in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, HNO 2020)



**15,600,000**  
people in need (OCHA, HNO 2020)



**1,100,000**  
Internally displaced people (HNO 2019)

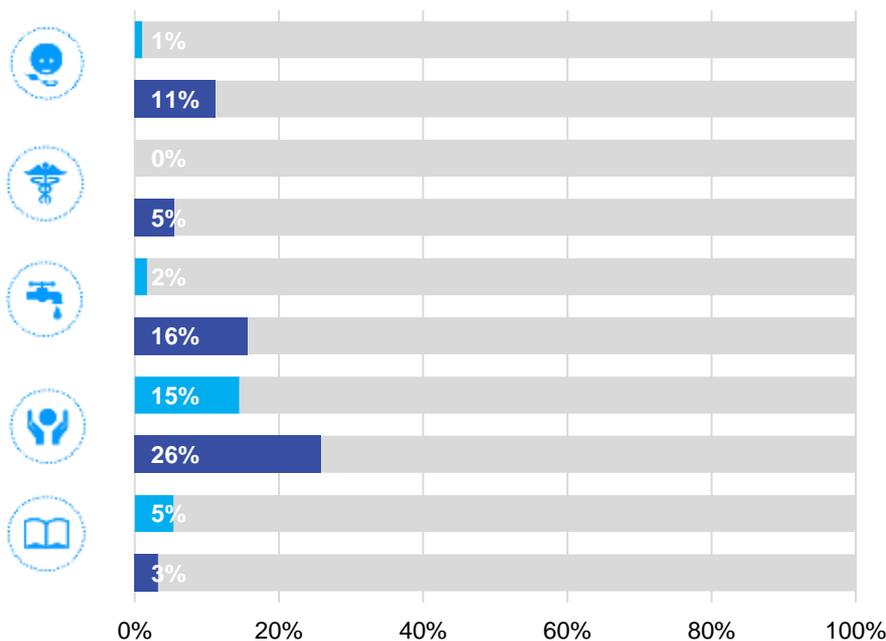


**2,651**  
cases of cholera reported since January (Ministry of Health)

### Highlights

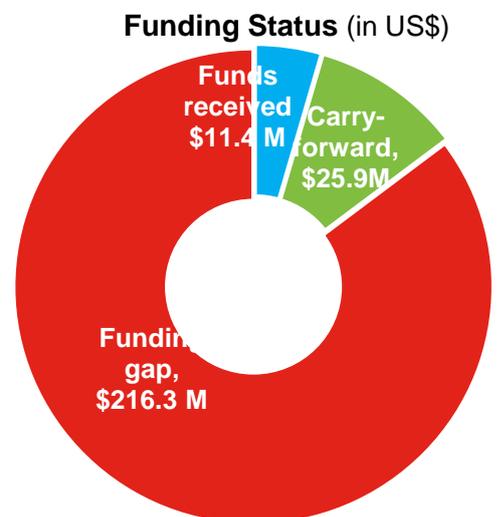
- UNICEF Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) launched its 2020 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) with a funding appeal of \$262 million to support UNICEF's nutrition, health, WASH, child protection, education, Rapid Response, and communication for development response
- In 2020, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance increased to 15.6 million, compared to 12.8 million people in 2019
- The resurgence of violence in Ituri province has forced more than 200,000 new arrivals in spontaneous Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) sites surrounding Djugu, Mahagi, and Irumu territory. It is estimated that over 750,000 persons have been displaced since the beginning of the crisis

### UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



### UNICEF Appeal 2020

**US\$ 262 million**



## Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF appeals for US\$ 262M to sustain the provision of humanitarian services for women and children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received to date. However, the 2020 HAC has a funding gap of 82%, with significant funding needs in nutrition, education, and communication for development.

## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

### Population displacements:

A resurgence of intercommunity conflicts in Nyuzu territory, Tanganyika province, has led to the displacement of over 42,000 persons, of which 7,000 out of school children have been recorded. Since the beginning of the crisis in January 2019, 502,286 people have been displaced in Tanganyika. Furthermore, the provincial government has called for the closure of three of the 14 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) sites around Kalemie, affecting 11,000 IDPs. Significant needs in WASH, education, child protection and health have been identified to support the IDP's return to their area of origin.

As of January 2020, the humanitarian situation in Djugu and surrounding territories, Ituri province, has deteriorated dramatically over the past months due to the resurgence of armed and intercommunity conflicts. The ongoing conflicts has resulted in a major protection crisis, particularly against women and children. According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the recent inter-ethnic violence in Ituri may constitute as "crimes against humanity", with 701 people killed, 168 injured, and 142 cases of sexual violence reported. In January 2020, the resurgence of violence in Ituri province has forced more than 200,000 new arrivals in spontaneous Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) sites surrounding Djugu, Mahagi, and Irumu territory, of which more than 500 unaccompanied children have been registered and require immediate humanitarian assistance. It is estimated that over 750,000 persons have been displaced since the beginning of the crisis, of which one fourth of the affected populations continues to live in spontaneous sites mainly in Djugu territory and Bunia. Remaining IDPs live in precariousness situations in host communities, of which significant humanitarian needs in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health, nutrition education, non-food items (NFIs), and children protection have been identified.

In North Kivu province, over 1.5<sup>1</sup> million internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been reported as a result of ongoing intercommunity conflicts and armed group activities. It is estimated over 94% of IDPs live in host communities and over 90,620 reside in 22 IDP sites.

### Flooding:

In January, torrential rains have caused the flooding of Lualaba river in Haut-Lomami province, affecting four<sup>2</sup> health zones in Bukama territory. The floods have affected over 227,390 people, of which 43,000 children are under the age of 5. Furthermore 6,678 houses have been destroyed, 18 health structures flooded, and 72 schools flooded, affecting over 21,170 children, of which 8,983 girls. Affected populations currently live with host families, public places (schools) or shelters that are vulnerable to bad weather. Water points and latrines have been damaged in the flooded areas and access to safe water, hygiene, and sanitation are limited in the host areas. Furthermore, the risks of water-borne diseases are increasing due to overflowing latrines and poor hygiene conditions.

### Child Protection:

The ongoing crisis in Djugu territory, has resulted in a major protection crisis particularly against women and children. From July 2019 to January 2020, over 3,410 protection incidents have been reported and more than 83 Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) cases have been documented. 100 children were reportedly abducted by suspected militia in Tchabi area, Irumu territory. Between December 2019 and January 2020, 531<sup>3</sup> cases of protection violations have been recorded, 91 unaccompanied children have been registered and over 200<sup>2</sup> children associated with armed groups and forces (CAAFAG) are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in Irumu territory, Ituri province.

In Kasai province, recurrent conflicts increased the risks associated with the recruitment ex-CAAFAGs, who have not received support for socio-economic reintegration. As of January 2020, about 500<sup>2</sup> CAAFAGs need community reintegration following the Nkamuina Nsapu conflict and inter-community conflicts in the Kasai provinces.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: UNHCR situation report 7-13 January 2020

<sup>2</sup> Affected health zones: Bukama, Butumba, Kabondo, Kinkondja

<sup>3</sup> Source: Child Protection Working Group report December 2019 – January 2020

**Education:**

Because of the Djugu crisis, over 60,000<sup>4</sup> out of school children have been recorded, of which 150 schools are non-functional due to looting, damage, or attacks in Djugu and Mahagi territories. In the affected areas, over 51,000 children aged 5-17 years old are currently out of school because of population displacements and attacks on schools.

As of January, 398<sup>5</sup> schools have been destroyed, of which 258 were destroyed as a result of ongoing ethnic violence and 140 schools due to natural disasters, in Tanganyika province. The destruction of school infrastructures has left thousands of children without access to quality education.

**Nutrition:**

From October to December 2019<sup>6</sup>, 26 (6 per cent) health zones out of 456 health zones in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) exceed four out of five indicator thresholds and were in nutritional alerts. The affected health zones are in 12 Provinces of the country. 69 per cent of affected health zones were in four provinces of the DRC: Kwango (9 alerts), Tshuapa (4 alerts), Kasai (3 alerts) and Tshopo (2 alerts). The provinces of Kwango, Tshuapa, and Kasai are targeted with nutrition specific interventions to begin in 2020. As of January, the province of Tshopo does not have a funded response project to respond to the needs of children affected by malnutrition.

**Measles:**

In January, 14,965<sup>7</sup> cases of measles have been reported across the DRC, of which 197 deaths (1.3 per cent lethality) have been recorded. In comparison with the data from S1-S4 2019 (13,840 suspected cases / 238 deaths recorded), there is an increase in the number of measles cases recorded but a decrease in the number of deaths and lethality (1.7%) in 2020 compared to the year 2019 for the same period.

**Cholera:**

As of week 4, 2,651 cases<sup>8</sup> of cholera have been recorded, of which 43 deaths were notified. During the reporting period, 96% of cases were recorded in the provinces of North Kivu (1,084 cholera cases), South Kivu (705 cholera cases), Haut Katanga (341 cholera cases), and Tanganyika (284 cholera cases).

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Nutrition

During the month of January, based on the National Nutrition Department of the Ministry of Health (PRONANUT) database, UNICEF supported the treatment of 5,172 children under five years old suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM).

In January, the nutrition cluster held a meeting to discuss the summary of the nutritional situation in the DRC<sup>9</sup>, assessed the response capacity analysis in 2020<sup>10</sup>, and initiated discussion on the development of an advocacy note to address the funding gap to support nutrition responses in the DRC in 2020.

### Health

In South Kivu province, UNICEF supported activities to respond to epidemics in high-risk health zones by supporting Community Animation Cells (CACs) and community relays (RECOs) to promote community resilience activities to epidemics in high-risk health zones. In Minembwe, Itombe, and Fizi health zones, UNICEF supported the consultations of 14,617 patients, of which 10,634 patients were children and 1,692 pregnant women. Furthermore, UNICEF donated 90 measles kits in 25 health zones, of which 20 kits in South Kivu and 5 kits in Maniema.

In Tanganyika province, UNICEF provided primary health care to 1,595 persons, of which 851 were children under the age of 5 and 95 pregnant women in displacement sites in Kalemie and Nyemba health zone. In addition, 2,258 IDPs, including 1,283 children under 5 years old (615 girls and 668 boys) and 140 pregnant women, received access to primary health care through mobile clinics.

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<sup>4</sup> Source: Child Protection Working Group report December 2019 – January 2020

<sup>5</sup> Source: Education cluster 2020

<sup>6</sup> Nutrition data delayed by one month due to reporting

<sup>7</sup> Source: Ministry of Health and World Health Organization situation report 31 December 2018 – 26 January 2020

<sup>8</sup> Source: PNECHOL week 4, 2020

<sup>9</sup> Data based on the early warning system and the reports of the nutritional surveys in 2019

<sup>10</sup> This analysis shows that the funding gap in terms of nutritional supplies is approximately 40% of the cluster target (approximately 200,000 SAM cases)

## WASH

In January, UNICEF and implementing partner Salvation Army assisted 11,715 persons with a WASH package, of which 5,155 persons were affected by population movements due to conflicts and 6,560 people were affected or at risk of cholera epidemics in Tanganyika province. UNICEF supported the construction of 48 latrine doors in 10 primary schools, benefitting 2,275 students, in Nyunzu, Nyemba and Kalemie. Furthermore, UNICEF constructed 6 boreholes Nyunzu and Nyemba health zones, as well as distributed WASH kits to 80 households with a family member with disabilities.

The WASH cluster supported the organization of the National Strategic Workshop, which focused on identifying the strategy and operational priorities for 2020. Furthermore, over 40 cluster members analyzed the operational and technical aspects with the sub-national, coordination team, and the SAG<sup>11</sup>. The main challenges for the WASH cluster is the need to improve some sub-national clusters capacity, data collection, and the significant funding gaps to respond to cholera outbreaks and floods across the DRC.

## Education

In January 2020, 19,354, of which 10,064 girls, aged 6-17 years affected by conflicts gained access to quality education in the provinces of Tanganyika, Ituri, South Kivu and Greater Kasai thanks to UNICEF. The response included remedial courses for out of school children before their reinsertion into schools. Of these children, 7,912 students received learning materials.

As children in conflict-affected provinces are continually exposed to violence, UNICEF supported the training of 55 teachers on psychosocial skills to help restore the psychosocial well-being of students, benefitting 3,025 students. In addition, 55 teachers were trained on child centered methodologies and peace education, benefitting 3,025 students in Tanganyika Province. In South Kivu Province, 224 teachers were trained on peace education, benefitting 12,320 students. Furthermore, 27,089 students benefitted from recreational activities<sup>12</sup> in Ituri and South Kivu provinces.

In January, the education cluster participated in cluster meetings at the national and subnational level, finalised the dashboards, and participated in the elaboration of the CERF Under Funded 2020.

## Child Protection

In January, a total of 22,650 children (48% girls) in affected by conflicts received a child protection assistance<sup>13</sup>. Among them, 373 children associated with armed groups and forces (CAAFAG) and 347 Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) were identified and received temporary assistance and/or reintegration support reintegration support, and 21,774 children benefitted from recreational activities. 8% more children were reached by UNICEF compared to the same reporting period in 2019.

In addition, 312 persons, of which 156 women and 156 children (152 girls and 4 boys), in humanitarian situations were provided with risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions to address gender-based violence through UNICEF-supported programmes.

Through the Child Protection cluster, UNICEF led an advocacy at the HAG meeting (Humanitarian Advocacy Group) to alert the humanitarian community about children affected by the conflict in Ituri and to increase funding to allow a better child protection response.

For the 2020 HNO/HRP, specific pages were dedicated to Child Protection (CP) sector with a more in depth quantitative and qualitative analysis of the CP situation. The budget requested for the CP sector was increased by 37% compared to last year based on the increasing needs. The people in need and targets for the CP sub/cluster was drastically increased. Hence, UNICEF as cluster lead, highly contributed to better reflect the situation and needs of children in the new HNO/HRP.

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<sup>11</sup> Topics: Ebola coordination, IM tools, internal communication

<sup>12</sup> Recreational activities: games, singing

<sup>13</sup> A child protection assistance can include: psycho-social assistance, medical care, educational support, socio-economic reintegration, temporary assistance in transit centers and/or families foster care.

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

In response to the vaccine-derived poliovirus 2 (cVDPV2) in Kwilu and Kwango provinces, UNICEF is launching a mass polio campaign five provinces<sup>14</sup>. Through UNICEF's technical and financial support, the vaccination campaign targets 3,189,709 children (aged between 0 and 59 months) in the affected provinces. To support the response, UNICEF deployed 20 C4D staff, 07 "polio stoppers" workers, prepared 23,775 posters for distribution, briefed 5,887 Community Animation Cells (CAC) members, journalists and other health workers to strengthen their capacities to support the campaign activities.

In January, UNICEF initiated preparedness activities to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus epidemic to the DRC. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, World Health Organisation (WHO) and other partners, UNICEF is currently developing communication tools such as posters, leaflets, and other communication materials to promote disease prevention.

## Cholera Rapid Response

In coordination with the Provincial Health Division and in partnership with the North Kivu Red Cross, UNICEF has launched UNICEF's cholera response in December 2019. The cholera response aims to fight against the spread of cholera based on case-area targeted interventions (CATIs) methodology. The main objective is to respond to 80% of suspected cases in less than 48 hours by implementing a *cordon sanitaire*, sanitary zone, around each suspected case. Since the beginning of the program, results indicated that more than 60% of suspected cases in North Kivu have been provided a response, of which more than 85% of the responses were within 48 hours. One of the highlights since the implementation of the program is the drop in positive test rates, as shown in the table below:

Microbiological Cholera Surveillance in Nord Kivu		
	2019	2020
Number of suspected cases*	4614	944
Sampling rate	20%	38%
Positive test rate	31%	12%

\* Data sources compiled by the Health Provincial Division in North Kivu

## Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

- UNICEF leads three clusters (nutrition, WASH, and education) and the Child protection sub-clusters at the national and decentralized level
- UNICEF co-leads the Cash Working Group, NFI/Shelter Working Group, Rapid Response Working Group and the Anti-Fraud Task Force in Goma, North Kivu. UNICEF also co-leads the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on grave violations against children in armed conflict (MRM) with the UN Deputy Special Representative to Secretary-General (DSRSG).
- UNICEF participates in inter-cluster and inter-organizations meetings at the national and decentralized levels and is an active member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)
- WASH, nutrition, education clusters and NFI working group continue to work on the 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO)/Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) process through the last revision of the planning numbers and the sectorial narrative for the HNO. Clusters also participated in the Information Management Working Group (IMWG) workshops.

## Human Interest Stories and External Media

In January 2020, the external communication team continued to focus its external communication work on the Ebola and Measles outbreak as well as on the violence ravaging the province of Ituri, which is having a devastating effect on women and children. Several media picked this information up, including [CNBC Africa](#), [Xinhua News Agency](#) and [Deutsche Welle](#).

Following the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Ituri province, UNICEF DRC has issued a [statement](#) from the head of emergencies and [several tweets](#) to explain the [situation](#) and [UNICEF's response](#).

<sup>14</sup> Targeted provinces: Kasai, Kasai central, Kwilu, Kwango and Kongo Central

During the reporting period, the communication team issued more than 85 messages related to humanitarian issues on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

Next SitRep: 15/03/2020

UNICEF DRC Sitrep: [https://www.unicef.org/appeals/drc\\_sitreps.html](https://www.unicef.org/appeals/drc_sitreps.html)

DRC Ebola and Preparedness Response: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/ebola-preparedness-response.html>

UNICEF DRC Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/>

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## Annex A

### Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall needs	Cluster/Sector Response			UNICEF and its partners		
		2020 target	Total results	Change since last report ▲▼	2020 target	Total results	Change since last report ▲▼
<b>Nutrition</b>	4,700,000						
# of children aged 6 to 59 months affected by SAM admitted for treatment		546,766	5,172	5,172	508,492	5,172	5,172
# of pregnant and lactating women supported with IYCF-E interventions in humanitarian context		35,879	0	0	32,291	0	0
<b>Health</b>	5,600,000						
# of children aged 6 months to 14 years vaccinated against measles					965,000	0	0
# of children and women receiving primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities					311,500	15,780	15,780
<b>WASH</b>	8,010,865						
# of people in cholera-prone zones and other epidemic-affected areas benefiting from prevention and response WASH packages		2,811,172	6,560	6,560	1,509,599	6,560	6,560
# of people affected by natural disasters population movement and/or conflicts provided with access to wash services		566,509	5,155	5,155	304,215	5,155	5,155
# of severely malnourished children and pregnant and breast-feeding women receiving wash assistance both at health centers and households' level (disaggregated by sex, age, handicap).		266,414	0	0	143,064	0	0
# of students from primary school affected by conflicts, natural disaster, epidemics provided with access to wash in school services		66,104	2,275	2,275	35,498	2,275	2,275
<b>Child Protection</b>	3,300,000						
# of children accessing mental health and psychosocial support		258,000	28,238	28,238	150,000	21,774	21,774
# of women, girls and boys in humanitarian situations provided with risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions to address gender-based violence through UNICEF-supported programmes					15,000	312	312

# of unaccompanied and separated children accessing family-based care or appropriate alternative services		11,700	348	348	8,500	347	347
# of children separated from armed groups accessing transitional care and/or reintegration support		8,400	453	453	7,000	373	373
<b>Education</b>	<b>1,777,930</b>						
# of children aged 6 to 17 years accessing formal or non-formal education		491,741	35,802	35,802	359,000	19,354	19,354
"# of female and male teachers trained on learner-centred methodologies and peace education		7,739	989	989	2,660	279	279
<b>Rapid Response</b>	<b>1,900,000</b>						
# of people provided with essential household items, and shelter materials and WASH kits					450,000	0	0
<b>Multipurpose Cash-based Assistance</b>							
# of people receive an Unconditional Cash Grant							
<b>Communication for Development</b>							
# of people reached with key life-saving/behaviour change messages on humanitarian services					7,000,000	0	0
# of people accessing mechanisms to voice their needs/concerns/feedback					10,000	0	0

## Annex B

### Funding Status\*

Sector	Requirements	Funds available***		Funding gap	
		Received Current Year**	Carry-Over****	\$	%
Nutrition	132,585,000	0	14,878,871	117,706,129	89%
Health	14,200,000	125,000	654,568	0	0%
WASH	33,487,000	3,989,388	1,259,480	28,238,132	84%
Child Protection	9,600,000	1,966,931	511,368	7,121,701	74%
Education	43,000,000	0	1,382,711	41,617,289	97%
Communication for Development	7,240,000	0	49,900	7,190,100	99%
Rapid Response	21,000,000	0	6,499,373	14,500,627	69%
Cluster/Sector Coordination	1,621,000	5,334,504	673,320	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>262,733,000.00</b>	<b>11,415,822.19</b>	<b>25,909,593.07</b>	<b>216,373,977.15</b>	<b>82%</b>

\* As defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 31/01/2020 for a period of 1 month

\*\* Funds received does not include pledges

\*\*\* Funds available includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year

\*\*\*\* Carry-over figure is the unutilized programmable balance that was carried over from the prior year to the current year, as of year-end closure