



# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO – COMPLEX EMERGENCY

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The disputed results of the November 28 presidential election, released on December 9, led to scattered protests in several parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Clashes between demonstrators and security forces—primarily in Kinshasa and the eastern provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, and Orientale—resulted in at least 18 deaths and more than 100 injuries, according to international media sources. As of January 18, the situation remained stable and humanitarian agencies had identified no humanitarian needs related to post-election violence. USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) staff in Kinshasa continue to monitor the situation in coordination with USAID/OFDA implementing partners in the DRC, as well as the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM), USAID/DRC, and the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa.
- Displaced populations continued to return to areas of origin in South Kivu Province despite ongoing security concerns that predate the recent election. The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) credits the high number of returns to the redeployment of Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) soldiers to the area.
- In Walikale Territory, North Kivu Province, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has increased by an estimated 23,000 persons due to increased fighting between local improvised self-defense groups, Rwandan opposition groups, and other armed groups seeking control of mineral-rich zones.
- The Government of DRC’s recent reorganization of FARDC troops—fragmenting existing units to improve integration of former opposition combatants into the army—has allowed non-FARDC opposition groups along the eastern border to target communities, resulting in increased insecurity and displacement.
- USAID/OFDA continues to respond to urgent humanitarian needs across the DRC, committing approximately \$2.3 million to date in FY 2012 for humanitarian activities. In FY 2011, USAID provided more than \$71 million to support conflict-affected populations in the DRC, and ongoing programs in agriculture and food security, economic recovery and market systems (ERMS), health, nutrition, and protection continue to address humanitarian needs. USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) continues to address emergency food needs among DRC populations, contributing approximately \$17.5 million to provide more than 9,000 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance in the DRC to date in FY 2012. In addition, State/PRM has provided \$9 million to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to date in FY 2012 for protection, refugee return and reintegration, and IDP and refugee support activities in the DRC.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		Source
Total IDPs in the DRC	1,540,814	OCHA – September 13, 2011
In North Kivu Province	571,685	OCHA – September 13, 2011
In South Kivu Province	444,404	OCHA – September 13, 2011
In Orientale Province	471,058	OCHA – November 30, 2011
In Katanga Province	55,247	OCHA – September 13, 2011
In Equateur Province	25,776	OCHA – September 13, 2011
Total DRC Refugees in Africa	403,646	UNHCR – May 31, 2011

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO THE DRC IN FY 2012 <sup>1</sup>	
USAID/OFDA Assistance to the DRC	\$2,296,692
USAID/FFP Assistance to the DRC	\$17,500,000
State/PRM Assistance to the DRC	\$9,000,000
<b>Total USAID and State Assistance to the DRC</b>	<b>\$28,796,692</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

## **Context**

- Since the implementation of a peace agreement in 2003, and nationwide elections in 2006, ongoing fighting between forces loyal to the Kinshasa government and various armed groups, including the Allied Democratic Forces-National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (ADF/NALU), Mai Mai (local militia) combatants, and the Rwandan rebels of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), has contributed to high levels of insecurity and continuing population displacement in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Orientale provinces. The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)—having increased its activity significantly in the DRC since 2008—continues to impact populations in Orientale Province.
- Restricted humanitarian access, poor infrastructure, forced child recruitment into armed groups, violence, and reduced access to agricultural land and traditional markets have contributed to the deterioration of humanitarian conditions in the DRC.
- In response to ongoing humanitarian needs, on October 12, 2011, U.S. Ambassador James F. Entwistle reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in the DRC for FY 2012.

## **Displacement, Insecurity, and Humanitarian Access – North Kivu Province**

- Violence continues, leading to displacement and unrest in North Kivu Province, where more than 600,000 IDPs remained as of September 30, according to OCHA. Clashes between the FDLR and armed combatants in Walikale Territory, North Kivu Province, have intensified significantly since November, resulting in the displacement of thousands of people, according to OCHA. On December 9, fighting displaced more than 3,000 people along the route from Limani to Missau towns in Walikale Territory. The death of a senior FDLR official, who was killed in a clash between FDLR and Mai Mai combatants, led to retaliatory violence on December 18 in Walikale Territory, resulting in the death of seven people, according to OCHA.
- Poor road conditions restrict humanitarian access to populations in need, as well as to towns for displaced and returning populations. Limited access hampered the completion of a joint U.N. Stabilization Mission in DRC (MONUSCO) and U.N. Development Program (UNDP) assessment of the Mbau-Kamango route. This is a critical corridor northeast of Beni town that enables displaced and returning populations to access Kamango town, which has been in a state of disrepair for several months.

## **Displacement, Insecurity, and Humanitarian Access – South Kivu Province**

- Three attacks on local health workers in a two-week period in December indicate a deteriorating security situation in South Kivu Province, where approximately 500,000 people remained displaced as of December 21, according to OCHA. Subsequent attacks on the local population by FDLR combatants killed 45 people and injured 50 in Shabunda Territory, South Kivu Province, on January 2 and 3, according to U.N. reports.
- Despite reports of looting and kidnapping in Kabare, Shabunda, and Uvira territories, more than 7,000 people who had been displaced since April due to ongoing conflict returned to Kamulio, Kampala, Kimbalo, and Kitalaga in early December, according to OCHA.
- IDPs from South Kivu continue to arrive in provincial border towns in Katanga Province due to ongoing fighting between the Yakutumba Mai-Mai group and the FARDC in Fizi Territory, South Kivu, according to relief agencies. Relief agencies estimate that more than 10,000 people have arrived in Wimbi, a town in Katanga Province that is only accessible to humanitarian relief agencies by boat, and at considerable risk of encountering pirates on Lake Tanganyika.
- As of December 21, victims of gender-based violence (GBV) in Ziralo community, South Kivu Province, remained without access to medical services following looting of the local health center by armed men in November. On December 15, UNHCR held a workshop for local leaders from seven of the eight territories in South Kivu on tools to combat GBV, particularly violence perpetrated by local authorities.
- Country-wide, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$2.3 million in assistance to the DRC in FY 2011 to enhance the protection of vulnerable women and children at risk for GBV.

## **Displacement, Insecurity, and Humanitarian Access – Orientale Province**

- As of November 30, more than 471,000 people remained displaced in Orientale Province, including 263,217 people in Haut-Uélé District and 132,387 people in Ituri District, according to OCHA. Between June 2010 and November 2011, more than 110,500 people returned to their areas of origin following improvements in the security situation in areas of Orientale Province. Returns to Haut-Uélé and Ituri districts accounted for more than half of all returns, with 34 percent and 31 percent of all returns, respectively, according to OCHA.

- In Orientale Province, the number of refugees from Central African Republic (CAR) increased by 20 percent in 2011. Due to ongoing LRA activities, approximately 1,300 CAR refugees remained in Bas-Uélé Territory as of June 30, according to OCHA. Congolese authorities have stationed soldiers at the nation's border with CAR in response to the recent arrival of more than 300 CAR nationals who fled LRA attacks and entered DRC seeking safety, including nearly 160 refugees who recently arrived in Bas-Uélé District, according to UNHCR reports.
- In FY 2011, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$7.3 million to support ERMS programs in the DRC, including cash-for-work programs in Orientale Province for road reconstruction, which provided temporary employment opportunities to vulnerable and returnee households and restored critical routes, while also supporting the rehabilitation of damaged roads.

#### **Health and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)**

- As of December 2, health officials reported more than 17,600 cholera cases nationwide, with nearly 10,000 cases in eastern DRC, according to the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO). As of December 28, OCHA reported increasing incidents of cholera in South Kivu Province, with 235 cases and four deaths reported between December 19 and 25, an increase from 168 cases the previous week. In North Kivu Province, health officials reported nearly 100 cholera cases, including 12 deaths, between November 28 and December 11.
- In response to health and WASH needs in eastern DRC, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$10.6 million in assistance to provide safe drinking water, sanitation services, hygiene promotion, and support to health clinics in FY 2011. In addition, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$2.3 million to the International Medical Corps (IMC) in FY 2012 to assist 41 rural health facilities that support large numbers of IDPs and returnees, rehabilitating health center infrastructure—including restoring centers damaged by conflict—conducting vaccination campaigns, and disseminating disease prevention information.

#### **Other Humanitarian Assistance**

- The U.N. has released a 2012 Consolidated Appeal request for \$718.5 million for the DRC. The Humanitarian Action Plan focuses on protection, health, and livelihoods support for vulnerable and conflict-affected populations. As of January 9, international donors had pledged more than \$75.7 million in assistance for 2012.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO  
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO PROVIDED IN FY 2012<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Implementing Partner</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
IMC	Health	North Kivu Province	\$2,296,692
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$2,296,692</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP PRRO	5,690 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance for Emergency Operations	Equateur, Katanga, Maniema, North Kivu, Orientale, and South Kivu Provinces	\$10,000,000
WFP PRRO	2,437 MT of IDA-funded Locally and Regionally Procured Emergency Food Assistance and Food Vouchers for Emergency Operations	North Kivu, Orientale, and South Kivu Provinces	\$5,000,000
WFP EMOP	1,220 MT Title II Emergency Food Assistance for Emergency Operations	Orientale Province	\$2,500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$17,500,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
UNHCR	Protection, Refugee Return and Reintegration, IDP and Refugee Support	Equateur, Katanga, North Kivu, Orientale, and South Kivu Provinces	\$9,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$9,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO IN FY 2012</b>			<b>\$28,796,692</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of January 18, 2012.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance.

**PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION**

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for response efforts in Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:  
The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.  
Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance/](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/)