

Democratic Republic of the Congo

1 – 15 April 2018

KEY INDICATORS

541,359

Refugees in DRC as of 31 March 2018

4.49 Million

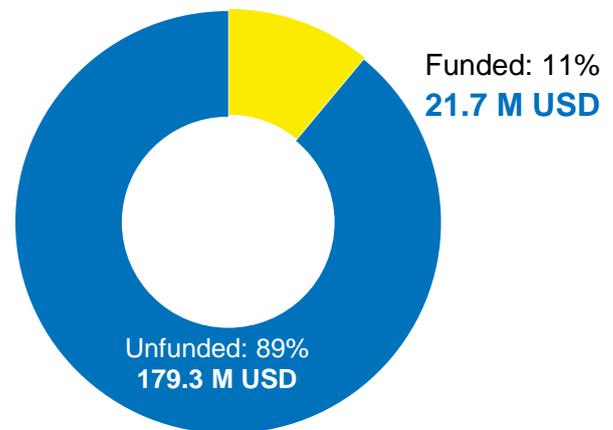
Internally Displaced People in DRC as of 31 December 2017

(Source: OCHA)

FUNDING 2018 (AS OF 10 APRIL 2018)

USD 201 M

requested for the DRC (including special situations)



Burundian refugees

- On 7 April, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi, visited Mulongwe site (near Baraka, Fizi Territory, South Kivu province) during his official visit to DRC. He met with refugees and members of the local community. While noting the difficulties both communities were facing, also due to funding constraints, he commended the local authorities for giving refugees access to health infrastructure and schools, which in turn receive support from UNHCR, and facilitating their access to agricultural land.
- During the reporting period, 696 recently arrived Burundian refugees were transferred to Mulongwe site from transit centers, bringing the number of refugees at Mulongwe to 3,946. 1,484 Burundian asylum seekers remained in UNHCR structures waiting for registration.
- In Mulongwe site, the construction of ten communal dormitories was finalized. This should allow the rapid transfer of refugees from the transit centers to the site. In Mulongwe, 3,252 refugees received firewood, 3,232 received bars of soap, and 56 women received dignity kits.
- The water supply network serving Mulongwe site was repaired, to ensure all refugees have access to water. Sensitization activities on good hygiene practices and cholera prevention continued. In Lusenda camp, a total of 19,042 refugees were sensitized on issues of clean water during the first half of April.
- 551 school uniforms were distributed in the local primary school of Katungulu near Lusenda refugee camp, benefitting 505 refugee and 55 Congolese children.

Central African refugees

- Infrastructure was constructed to support CAR refugees who have arrived in 2017-2018, as well as the host population: In Kanzawi (Bas-Uélé province), the construction of a health center was completed by Terre Sans Frontières (TSF). A settlement area for the refugees in Ndu (Bas-Uélé) was also being prepared, with 42 new transitional shelters under construction for the most vulnerable. In parallel, three new boreholes were completed in Yakoma and Satema (Nord-Ubangi province). These boreholes benefit refugees and host communities alike.
- On April 5, a distribution of clothing (donated by Japanese company UNIQLO) took place in seven villages near Inke refugee camp. A total of 411 members of the host community with special needs benefited from the donation. The distribution will strengthen peaceful coexistence between refugees and locals, as a similar distribution had taken place in Inke camp, to the benefit of refugees, in February 2018. In the coming months, more host communities will be targeted.

Rwandan refugees

- A pilot data collection exercise for Rwandan refugees using Kobo Toolbox software was launched in the two Kivu provinces in March. By mid-April, 33,503 refugees were recorded in South and North Kivu provinces, and intentions of voluntary returns were collected. 44% of Rwandan refugees indicated an interest in repatriation, whilst 30% indicated that they do not plan to return. 26% were indecisive with regards to repatriation. In parallel, biometric registration was ongoing in transit centers in both Kivu provinces.
- Voluntary repatriation of Rwandan refugees continued to be at low levels. Since the beginning of the year, 1,054 refugees have been repatriated altogether (preliminary figure, as results of screenings on the Rwandan side will have to be considered).

South Sudanese refugees

- On 3 April, UNHCR handed over the renovated and expanded Momuzi primary school at Kaka site near the town of Dungu (Haut-Uélé province) to the local authorities. Before the renovation, the school had neither doors nor windows and when it rained, classes were cancelled. UNHCR equipped all classrooms with benches, desks and blackboards. One additional classroom, an office for the school director, and latrines were built. The school is attended by both refugee and local children.
- UNHCR handed over a renovated health center at Kaka 2 site. Newly constructed facilities include latrines, a rainwater collection system, an incinerator, and a garbage pit. The rehabilitated health center also serves the six villages neighboring the site.
- In Dungu, UNHCR and its partner ADSSE organized a sports tournament with six primary schools hosting refugee children, from 11 to 30 April, to promote integration and social cohesion between refugees and the local community.
- 1,080 kg of peanut seeds were distributed to six agricultural cooperatives in Dungu. As of this season, UNHCR's partner ADSSE applies a new approach to ensure that all refugees receive an initial amount of seeds. Refugees will reimburse the amount of seeds they received after their first harvest; this amount will then be given to newly arrived refugees to allow them to plant their fields.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Ituri

- UNHCR conducted protection assessments in Bunia, covering a total of 775 internally displaced persons (IDPs) living at the 'Institut Supérieur Pédagogique' (ISP) site, one of the two main displacement sites; and 3,021 IDPs in host communities. The assessment shows that most urgent needs included food, shelter, health and non-food items, and that the vast majority intended to return to their areas of origin as soon as the situation allows. Key protection concerns affecting them include lack of documentation, property loss and family separation.
- On the ISP displacement site, UNHCR set up a community space for the Civil Protection, the institution managing the site. UNHCR also upgraded and partitioned a group shelter where displaced families were staying, improving their privacy and dignity.

Kasai

- UNHCR partner ActionAid started the renovation of two schools in Lukunzu, Miabi territory in Kasai Oriental province, and in Kananga's neighbourhood of Malandji, in Kasai Central.
- On 10 April, UNHCR and its partner ActionAid organized a training for 15 new protection monitors. The trainees have been recruited by ActionAid to be deployed in Kasai oriental, Sankuru and Lomami provinces; they will be gathering, reporting and responding to protection incidents in their areas.

Tanganyika / Haut-Katanga

- During the reporting period, the government transferred 1,432 families (both IDPs and residents) from Lukwangulo to Kikumbe site. As a result, the Kikumbe village of initially 50 families is now inhabited by 2,854 households. IDPs were transferred in some cases without their belongings, adding to their needs. In view of the needs of the population at Kikumbe, UNHCR committed to support the population with plastic sheeting and protection activities.
- 691 protection incidents were documented in Tanganyika and Haut-Katanga provinces during the reporting period, including 56 cases of sexual and gender-based violence. 452 advocacy actions were undertaken to respond to cases of extortion, arbitrary arrests and forced marriages. As a result, 51 victims of arbitrary arrests were released and 73 properties were returned to the owners.
- UNHCR's partner AIDES organized 26 mass sensitization sessions on the prevention of sexual violence.
- Since February 2018, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has been transferring IDPs from spontaneous sites (also called collective centres) in Kalemie to dedicated IDP sites. During the reporting period, UNHCR provided 680 plastic sheets to 340 transferred families.

Cluster activities

- The Protection Cluster of Uvira Territory (South Kivu Province) trained 24 protection actors on psychosocial care for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

Working in partnership

- Together with the DRC Government, through the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), UNHCR ensures international protection and delivery of multi-sectorial assistance to persons of concern. UNHCR closely collaborates with other UN Agencies and other humanitarian actors for a coordinated and effective response. UNHCR works with 15 implementing partners (ACTION AID, ACTED, ADES, ADSSE, AIDES, AIRD, ADRA, COOPI, CNR, DRC, INTERSOS, NRC, SAVE CONGO, TSF and WAR CHILD) and many operational partners in the DRC.
- UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster, which coordinates the protection actors in their support of IDPs and other vulnerable persons. UNHCR co-leads the Protection and Prevention component of the National Strategy on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in DRC. UNHCR leads also the Shelter Working Group within the Shelter/NFI Cluster.

External / Donor Relations

As of 31 March 2018

Special thanks to donors for UNHCR operations in DRC in 2018

United States of America (12.7 M) | CERF (3.9 M) | Sweden (2.5 M) | European Union (1.2 M) | Canada (1.2 M) | Vodafone Foundation (0.07 M) | UNAIDS (0.05 M)

Special thanks to donors of regional or sub-regional funds 2018

United States of America (56.2 M) | Germany (5.1 M) | Private Donors Australia (3.8 M) | Canada (3.3 M)

Thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2018

Sweden (98.2 M) | Norway (42.5 M) | Netherlands (39.1 M) | United Kingdom (31.7 M) | Denmark (25.5 M) | Private Donors Spain (19 M) | Australia (18.9 M) | Switzerland (15.2 M) | Italy (11.2 M)

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Links

[DR Congo Emergency page](http://www.unhcr.org/dr-congo-emergency.html)

<http://www.unhcr.org/dr-congo-emergency.html>

[UNHCR DRC operation page](http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e45c366.html)

<http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e45c366.html>

[DRC Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/UNHCR-R%C3%A9publique-D%C3%A9mocratique-du-Congo-111965425530257/)

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<http://www.unhcr.org/afr/news/stories/2018/4/5ac506694/shelter-crisis-forcing-elderly-south-sudanese-couple-to-live-apart.html>

[UNHCR chief meets urban refugees on Congo visit](http://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2018/4/5ac7e52b4/unhcr-chief-meets-urban-refugees-congo-visit.html)

<http://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2018/4/5ac7e52b4/unhcr-chief-meets-urban-refugees-congo-visit.html>

[UN refugee chief calls for solutions to crises affecting Great Lakes region](http://www.unhcr.org/news/latest/2018/4/5acb61964/un-refugee-chief-calls-solutions-crises-affecting-great-lakes-region.html)

<http://www.unhcr.org/news/latest/2018/4/5acb61964/un-refugee-chief-calls-solutions-crises-affecting-great-lakes-region.html>

[Burundian refugees in Congo forge a better future](http://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2018/4/5ab0d2984/burundian-refugees-congo-forge-better-future.html)

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