12.8 million People in need

4.8 million IDPs displaced in DRC

83 Points of Control/Points of Entry supported by IOM

HIGHLIGHTS

During the reporting period, IOM provided kits for shelter assistance to over 100 households at the Eliya displacement site in Tanganyika Province, after fires ravaged a large portion of the shelters.

Between 18 and 31 July, a total of 12 IOM continues to strengthen the capacity of frontline workers to improve the Ebola Virus Disease surveillance at POE/POCs in North Kivu and Ituri Provinces from 71 to 83 POE/POCs. IOM supported 83 Points of Control/Points of Entry through conducting trainings and distributing laptops in North Kivu and Ituri Provinces.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) remains acute due to the persistence of armed conflicts involving communities, armed groups and the Congolese national army (FARDC), and socio-economic challenges. The majority of the population continues to live in extreme precariousness, making them more vulnerable to multiple shocks caused by internal conflicts, tensions with neighboring countries, natural disasters, and the spread of epidemics such as cholera, measles, and Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).

Moreover, nearly 430,000 Congolese nationals arrived in the DRC from Angola after the expiration of a notice granted to illegal migrants to leave the country. This massive influx of returnees has resulted in an increase of the population at the border areas which is putting increasing pressure on the weak local basic services and infrastructures.

IOM continues providing life-saving assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the provinces of North-Kivu and Tanganyika while scaling up its operations in new areas, such as Ituri and the Kasai. IOM also provides necessary tailored protection assistance to the affected populations in the North Kivu, Ituri, and Tanganyika Provinces, including displaced populations, host communities and returnees.

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CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

During the reporting period, IOM organized "Go and See visits" in Masisi territory in North Kivu Province for 72 IDP representatives (36 women, 36 men) from four IDP displacement sites. These visits were to assess the condition for potential return, relocation and local integration of IDPs in Katale, Kesenyi, Kibabi police, and Buporo displacement sites.

SHELTER / WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

From 16 to 31 July, IOM provided kits containing sticks, nails and ropes for shelter assistance to 125 households at the Eliya displacement site in Tanganyika Province, after fires ravaged a large portion of the shelters on 18 and 24 June. Moreover, during the reporting period, 100 community construction kits including buckets, pickaxes, saws, ropes and hammers were distributed to households in Eliya (15), Kikumbe (31), Mwaka (20) and Kalunga (34) displacement sites, benefiting a total of 1,500 households.

As of 23 July, construction of 130 emergency shelters has been completed in Godo 1 (100) and Mbudu (30) displacement sites in Ituri Province. In addition, nine community construction kits were distributed in these target sites during the reporting period, benefiting 130 households.

Following the arrival of 882 households on 8 July 2019 in the Kikumbe site in Tanganyika Province, IOM ordered tarpaulins in the local market to repair two sheds (one for women, and one for men) to temporarily house displaced persons. The rehabilitation works began on 27 July.

Since early June 2019, IOM started various WASH interventions to respond to humanitarian needs in Nobili, North Kivu. As of 31 July, construction of 150 emergency latrines and 50 showers reached 75 per cent completion. The WASH facilities benefit 4,500 displaced persons and host community in Nobili.

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

As part of IOM’s preparedness activities for the Ebola Virus Disease, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team is supporting Flow Monitoring activities at the relevant POE/POCs in DRC. Flow Monitoring activities have been established at two POE/POCs (OPRP and Mubambi) in Goma city where population movement is actively monitored to better understand the mobility pattern including internal and cross border movements, reasons, and frequencies. Between 17 and 24 July, a total of 8,037 movements were observed by enumerators at these points.

HEALTH

Between 18 and 31 July, in line with latest epidemiological data and population mobility trends a total of 16 additional POE/POCs were operationalized: four POE/POCs at Kasindi area to facilitate health screening of population travelling to and from Uganda through informal routes; four in Goma sub-coordination; and eight POE/POCs based on the recommendation of the Participatory Mobility Mapping (PMM) conducted in Arienda. This resulted in the increase in the number of functional POE/POCs in the response (North Kivu and Ituri Provinces) from 71 to 83 POE/POCs. During the reporting period, two positive EVD cases were intercepted at POE/POCs, one at Kangote PO in Butembo and the other at Mavivi barrier PO in Beni, North Kivu Province.
in North Kivu Province (Goma, Beni, and Butembo) and Ituri Province (Bunia). A total of 201 front line workers (90 women, 111 men) on standard operating procedures at POE/POCs which led to increased knowledge/capacities to effectively detect, report and manage suspected cases of Ebola Virus disease. Additionally, during the reporting period, IOM began the distribution of laptops to POE/POCs in North Kivu and Ituri Provinces to facilitate support to contact tracing and improve data reporting.

On 18 July, IOM conducted a micro-level Participatory Mobility Mapping (PMM) at Ariwara in Ituri Province, where a confirmed case was detected in the community three weeks ago, to assess the movement patterns, volumes and characteristics of mobility in this area. The exercise led to identification of various points of high vulnerabilities and recommended the activation of eight health screening points which included three new (Nyori, Kamaka, Barrière Dgripi Ajuani) and five existing (Sans Plainte, Pabiri, Rogale, as well as Ombayi and Mahagi at the border point with Uganda) POE/POCs.

From 18 and 31 July, IOM organized community dialogues and sensitization meetings with community leaders in Beni for communities around Pasisi POC, and in Mabalako for communities around the new Visiki and Kamahune POCs for communities to understand PNHF/IOM’s interventions better hence comply with activities such as hand washing and health screening at these points. A total of 131 community leaders (34 women, 97 men) including ward chiefs, religious leaders, youth association chairs, bikers chairs, civil society chairs, and women’s association representatives participated in the meetings. This resulted in increased awareness on the risks of Ebola Virus Disease among the community leaders and subsequently expected to contribute in the reduction of the community resistance to the response activities.

BITA BERNADETTE’S STORY

“I keep a sharp eye on people crossing the Rwandan/DRC border. Working as an observer, I look out for passers-by exhibiting any potential visible symptoms for Ebola such as red eyes, fatigue, severe sweating and red spots on the skin. I always try to maintain a two-metre distance from everyone. I feel that my work here is important because I am doing my part to not only keep my country safe but also neighbouring Rwanda.”

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