BACKGROUND

The security situation in North Kivu Province was characterized by cases of insecurity in most territories. In the Beni territory, armed confrontations between Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC) and ADF/NALU were reported. In the Southern part of Walikale, abuses against the civilian population by the armed group Raiya Mutomboki were alleged while abuses by Tcheka were reported in the Northern part of the territory. In the Masisi territory, confrontations between FARDC and the Alliance des Patriotes Congolais pour un Congo Libre et Souverain (APCLS) armed group around Lukweti, Nyabiondo and Kashebere villages caused the displacement of populations.

In fact, the violations of basic human rights related to the confrontations in Masisi have provoked, for the past few months, massive displacements of populations in particular on the Rubaya-Kibabi-Kasenyi axis where the existence of two IDP sites has been confirmed in the villages of Kasenyi and Katoyi.

While the International Organization for Migration (IOM) was assessing the humanitarian situation in the Kasenyi site, a presentation of newly selected site management partners was conducted. In particular, the Comité d’Appui à l’Auto Promotion (CAAP-TUJITEGEMEE) was designated to start activities in those recently created sites.

In Goma, the Government of DR Congo, through the Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés (CNR) started the voluntary return process of IDPs. IOM actively worked alongside the CNR in supporting this process in the Goma IDP sites by providing voluntary return certificates (attestations de retour volontaire—ADRV) and by monitoring the situation on the ground.

IOM also welcomed, at the end of May, the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) delegation to monitor project activities, and to meet with IOM and its partners. In this perspective, IOM and the donor, accompanied by CAAP-TUJITEGEMEE, visited the displacement sites in Rubaya from 26 to 27 May 2014. During this same period, the newly identified Kasenyi site was subject to a sectorial rapid assessment.
PRESENTATION OF IOM’S NEW SITE MANAGEMENT PARTNERS IN GOMA, RUBAYA AND MASISI

On 15 May 2014, IOM signed new partnership agreements with Actions et Interventions pour le Développement et l’Encadrement social (AIDES), CAAP-TUJITEGEMEE and Première Urgence-Aide Médicale Internationale (PUAMI) for the management of the 28 sites located in the Goma, Masisi and Rutshuru territories that are currently being coordinated by IOM.

In order to properly train the newly selected site managers and to complete the one-day Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) training carried out in April, IOM conducted a half day capacity building session on data collection. This training gathered nine staff from the three partners and aimed to explain the different tools used at the field level to capture key information on gaps, alerts, protection issues and movements of populations, among others. The training was conducted in preparation of the managers’ deployment to the sites.

Moreover, IOM organized a series of visits in the different geographical areas to introduce the new site managers to partners and to the displaced communities: first in Goma to present PU-AMI; then in Rubaya and Masisi to present CAAP TUJITEGEMEE and AIDES, respectively. The three NGOs were introduced to the CNR, the political and administrative authorities of the zones as well as to the representatives of the different IDP committees, recently elected in most of the sites.

In addition, this mission, held on 21 May 2014, was the opportunity to assess Kasenyi, the newly created site located near Rubaya. This site holds more than 2300 households that have been displaced due to the fighting between different armed groups, aligned based on their areas of origin (Nyamabokol II and Ufamandu II). Following this evaluation, it was decided to position CAAP TUJITEGEMEE in this site to initiate activities since aid remains low in the zone and humanitarian actors too few to properly assist this population in need.

A strong advocacy was done towards the food security, WASH and NFI Clusters to respond to this movement of population. While waiting the positioning of WASH actors, IOM distributed 100 liters of disinfectant of toilets to IDP health committees. IOM also received confirmation that another site existed in the village of Katoyi, only a few kilometers from Kasenyi, where 3000 households may be displaced. IOM may consider direct assistance in this site if gaps are not covered by other actors.

IOM TEAMS SUPPORT THE CNR IN THE RETURN PROCESS OF IDPs IN THE GOMA SITES

In North Kivu Province, IOM is coordinating 28 IDP displacement sites, four of which are located in Goma. This represents 20 812 households of 92 898 individuals.

On 15 May 2014, the Government of DR Congo, through the CNR, officially launched the IDP voluntary return process in the Goma IDP sites. This official ceremony gathered key CCCM actors such as the UNHCR, IOM, site management agencies as well as various governmental bodies. Subsequent to this launch, IOM symbolically handed over to the CNR the ADRV, a document proving the status of the IDPs that is distributed before their return to their communities.

As of 4 June 2014, the CNR had already recorded 142 households, representing 414 individuals, who left the sites to return to their community of origin. Further, 1672 households expressed their willingness to return home within the coming months.

IOM will continue to support the CNR in these operations by providing ADRV, and by disseminating updated statistical data on displaced persons to enable effective and efficient administration of the IDPs in North Kivu Province. IOM will also advocate for the development of quick impact projects in return areas.
From 26 to 28 May 2014, IOM welcomed a delegation of ECHO donors in the framework of the monitoring and evaluation process of IOM North Kivu’s Emergency programme. On this occasion, a joint field assessment and project implementation monitoring visit, gathering the IOM site management team, the ECHO delegation and CAAP-TUJITEGEMEE, was carried out in Kibabi/Buporo, Kibabi/Police and Kasenyi displacement sites, in the territory of Masisi. This visit was the opportunity to redefine ECHO priorities in the field, meet with political and administrative authorities, and discuss current issues with IDP steering committees.

The ECHO representative conducted focus groups with displaced men, women and children of the sites on specific issues related to the causes of displacement, areas of origin, presence of humanitarian actors, assistance received, roles and responsibilities of CCCM actors, restructuring of the site, and finally, concerns related to access to water.

The ECHO visit concluded with two meetings held on 28 May 2014. The first gathered former site management partners (PU-AMI and the Danish Refugee Council—DRC) to discuss achievements and challenges that occurred during the partnership period. The second allowed ECHO to discuss with the newly selected IOM partners their roles and responsibilities.

The ECHO representative finally formulated recommendations to improve coordination between the service providers of the new site in Kasenyi.

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