


 **6.9 million** individuals displaced in the Democratic Republic of the Congo¹

5.6 million individuals displaced in North Kivu, South Kivu, Ituri, and Tanganyika² out of whom **1.5 million** individuals displaced by the M23 crisis³

 **428,122** IDPs benefitting from site management Services (March 2024)

 **Achievements under the L3:**
23,663 individuals benefitting from shelter assistance

 **143,014** individuals benefitting from WASH assistance

 **47,730** individuals reached through NFIs



Awareness raising during International Women's Day © IOM DRC 2024

FUNDING OVERVIEW (USD)



Total requested 133.5M USD (31% received)

RECEIVED (SINCE L3):
\$42 M

FUNDING GAP (2024):
\$91.5M

HIGHLIGHTS

In response to the crisis in the eastern provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) remains committed to support displacement affected communities. During March 2024:

- 132 steering committee members (68 women, 64 men), 531 sectorial committee members (289 women, 242 men), and 130 bloc leaders (40 women, 90 men) were elected. The members will serve as the point of contact to express needs and concerns for their respective communities in Ituri province.
- 376 emergency shelters were being constructed, and 206 host community houses were rehabilitated, improving living conditions for IDPs in Ituri, North Kivu and Tanganyika provinces.
- 80,860 beneficiaries were reached by IOM's WASH activities through the construction of 362 ventilated improved pit (VIPs) latrines and 225 emergency showers in Ituri, North Kivu and Tanganyika provinces.
- 2,315 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Kits were distributed to women and girls in North Kivu province.
- The International Women's Day on March 8 was marked with campaigns for IDPs in sites on gender-based violence (GBV) and positive masculinity and IOM celebrated the World Water Day on March 22 under the theme "Water for prosperity and peace".

SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

Eastern DRC remained severely impacted by multiple conflicts and the activity of various armed groups. In March, the progress of the M23 in the northern parts of Rutshuru and Masisi in North Kivu caused massive displacements of civilian populations towards Lubero, where serious concerns over the protection of civilians aggravated the already strained humanitarian situation. The area of Sake remained a humanitarian hotspot, and the city of Goma stayed isolated from food supply routes, with a deterioration of the socio-economic situation, alongside a strong presence of armed men. Armed groups and/or shooting around IOM managed IDP sites in North Kivu have been reported. In Ituri, intercommunal tensions continued to build up, and attacks against civilians have been reported, among others by Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), in several areas. In South Kivu, Twirwaneho and various Mai-Mai groups have continued to attack civilians.

The precarious security situation in the eastern DRC continues to restrict humanitarian access, and some of IOM's activities had to be postponed. Additionally, in South Kivu threats against humanitarian workers and international non-governmental organizations have been reported. During the first half of March, heavy rains and floods in North Kivu caused significant damage to infrastructures, including in IOM managed displacement sites, such as Bushagara, Axe Kanyaruchinya, Lac Vert/Bulengo and Mudja.

On March 27, the UN Security Council convened to discuss the situation in the DRC. Highlighting the resumption of [the Luanda process](#) and Angola's mediation between the DRC and Rwanda, while expressing concerns about the progress of the M23 and the attacks on civilians carried out by the ADF.

1. DRC – [Countrywide Displacement Overview](#) (October 2023)
2. DRC – [Mobility Tracking Round 3 Atlas](#) (November 2023)
3. DRC – [North Kivu: M23 Crisis Analysis #17](#) (5 April 2024)



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

In Ituri, elections for IDP committees were held in sites in Djugu and Mahagi territories from March 6-14, resulting in 132 steering committee members (68 women, 64 men), 531 sectorial committee members (289 women, 242 men), and 130 bloc leaders (40 women, 90 men) being elected. Furthermore, trainings for 20 site managers and 331 IDP committee members, focus groups with 330 individuals and mass sensitization reaching 2,936 individuals were conducted. These focused on the civilian and humanitarian character of IDP sites, fire safety, and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). Additionally, a mission with site administrators from the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) included sensitizations on the site manager role in Djaiba site. Negotiations for Lindji 3 and Banga site expansions, held by the CNR, will allow for the construction of 228 and 541 emergency shelters, respectively.

In North Kivu, IOM, alongside the CNR, and the site manager Action et intervention pour le développement et l'action sociale (AIDES), and local authorities, organized the elections of the site steering committee in Rusayo 1. In Mudja site, IOM assessed shelter needs, relocating 13 households, including cohabiting families and two households with protection needs residing in the community hangars, to vacant emergency shelters. IOM also provided refresher trainings on the Zite Manager system for Complaint & Feedback Mechanisms to AIDES team members to enhance sensitization and feedback collection. In collaboration with the United Nations Police (UNPOL), IOM conducted sensitizations on gender-based violence and referral mechanisms in Bushagara site. A severe storm on March 14 damaged over 6,000 makeshift shelters, 629 emergency shelters and 122 latrines in Bushagara, Mudja and Lac Vert/Bulengo sites.

In Tanganyika, 347 committee members from sites around Kalemie, Kongolo and Nyunzu were trained on their roles and responsibilities, site governance, and protection including gender-based violence. A multi-sectoral assessment at Kikumbe site followed the relocation of households from the spontaneous Muganwa site, ensuring the identification of needs of the new residents which were further referred to relevant partners and clusters.

In March, the provincial CCCM Clusters in Ituri and Tanganyika, co-led by IOM, with support from the National CCCM Cluster, conducted workshops to validate the provincial CCCM strategies. These workshops were attended by 54 participants from actors involved in site management, including DIVAH, CNR, IOM, UNHCR and AIDES. In addition, a workshop was held in Ituri on International Humanitarian Law and the Civilian and Humanitarian character of sites for CCCM Cluster members and partners including authorities, notably from the Police and FARDC. This workshop will also be conducted in the other provinces. As a follow-up to the workshops conducted in November and December on minimum standards in camp management, workshops were held in Tanganyika to define key indicators in line with context.



Distribution of NFI kits in Don Bosco, North Kivu © IOM DRC 2024



DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)

In March, IOM released its 15th (EN | FR) and 16th (EN | FR) crisis analysis reports on the displacement situation resulting from the conflict between government forces and the M23 in North Kivu. As of March 29, it has led to the displacement of over 1,561,676 individuals while the estimated returnee population amounts to 623,959 individuals.

Following the household registrations, 27,000 household identification cards were printed and disseminated to facilitate the NFI distribution and provision of other assistance. Furthermore, a registration report for three newly established sites (8th CEPAC Lac Vert, Buhimba, and CBCA-REGO) in North Kivu showcasing a total of 42,475 individuals, 98% having arrived in 2024 and 98% from Masisi, were published (EN | FR) which will facilitate advocacy as well as assistance provision at these locations.

In addition, trainings were conducted ahead of population movement assessments (mobility tracking) to commence in April across all four eastern provinces. The training sessions, which were endorsed by provincial authorities and attended by 162 enumerators from implementing partners Promotion De Développement Humain Et Protection De L'environnement Social (PDHPES) and Réseau d'Action pour le Développement et le Progrès Intégré (RADPI) covered data collection concepts and techniques to ensure the validity and reliability of collected data as well as protection against sexual exploitation and abuse.



SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIS)

In Ituri, IOM completed the construction of 28 emergency shelters and IOM's implementing partner AIDES finished rehabilitating 206 houses for host families to accommodate IDP households.

In North Kivu, 134 shelter were being constructed in Mudja site. Furthermore, preparations are underway for the distribution of 2,500 light shelter kits and 2,500 NFI kits comprising of basic household items such as sleeping mats, blankets, buckets, soap, and kitchen sets in Lubero territory. A team composed of shelter and protection staff was deployed on March 19 to Alimbongo to conduct briefings and sensitization for the local authorities and IDPs on beneficiary selection criteria's, content of kits and how the distribution would be organised.

In Tanganyika, 214 shelter were being constructed in Tchoffa site, Kongolo territory.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

During the reporting period, IOM’s activities reached a total of 24,735 beneficiaries (not including water trucking).

In Ituri, IOM constructed 266 VIP latrines and 190 emergency showers.

In Tanganyika, IOM constructed 48 VIP latrines and 26 emergency showers. In addition, IOM in coordination with the WASH committees, dismantled 65 latrines.

In North Kivu, IOM constructed 48 VIP latrines and 9 emergency showers. Furthermore, IOM delivered 600 cubic meters of water to Mudja and Rusayo 2 sites, through water trucking benefitting 56,125 individuals. In addition, IOM distributed 2,315 MHM Kits to displaced women of reproductive age in Rusayo I.

Furthermore, IOM celebrated World Water Day on March 22 in Ituri (Lindji 3 site), North Kivu (Bulengo site) and Tanganyika (Kaseya site) with sensitization through theatre sketches on the theme “Water for prosperity and peace” targeting IDPs, in coordination with AIDES and CNR.

MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

Recreational and counselling activities to support displaced populations mental health and psychosocial wellbeing continued in IDP sites in Magahi and Angumu, in Ituri province. In total, 2,642 individuals participated in mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) group discussions, to exchange experiences in a safe space. As part IOM’s MHPSS activities 608 individuals participated in various sports activities and 886 individuals participated in folkloric dancing activities that were organized during the reporting period. Additionally, 703 children participated in various activities such as art, crafts, dancing and singing, and 445 older people participated in activities such as card games, traditional boardgames and gardening, as part of the MHPSS activities.

PROTECTION AND PREVENTION AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA)

In March, IOM conducted field visits to two villages in North Kivu and two sites in Tanganyika, to enhance protection through out IOM activities. The field visits were conducted in Kirumba and Alimbongo villages in North Kivu and in Kikumbe and Mwaka sites in Tanganyika. A total of 65 IDPs were sensitized on GBV and protection. Furthermore, 14 IOM staff in Tanganyika received training on inclusive diversity and on how to ensure inclusion and diversity in their respective activities. Additionally, 287 DTM hourly workers were sensitized on the GBV pocket guide and referral procedures in case of disclosure of a GBV incident. The newly updated protection module, covering GBV, PSEA, and disability inclusion, was presented to CCCM teams for the training of site committees by CCCM teams. International Women’s Day was marked with campaigns on GBV and positive masculinity in Bulengo, Bushagara, Mudja, and Rusayo 1 sites in North Kivu, engaging 2,073 IDPs. In Ituri, IOM participated in inter-agency sensitizations and distribution activities to commemorate the day.

The IOM DRC PSEA Action Plan was presented to all IOM staff through a webinar on March 1, and on March 27 and 28, a workshop for PSEA Focal Points from Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu and Tanganyika in Bukavu, South Kivu. The workshop allowed the PSEA focal points to familiarize themselves with their roles and responsibilities, to understand the inter-agency PSEA structure and how to actively participate in the networks, to detail the needs and rights of victims of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), to list the services available and how to make referrals for victims of SEA. Furthermore, printed awareness raising materials in Swahili, Lingala and French have been distributed to IOM and partner offices in Kinshasa, Goma and Bunia for further dissemination through distribution and other activities.

IOM ACTIVITIES IN DRC ARE SUPPORTED BY :



CONTACTS