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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Democratic Republic of the Congo – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

January 22, 2010

Note: The last fact sheet was dated October 30, 2009.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Conflict between the Enyele and Munzaya ethnic groups over fishing and farming rights near Dongo town in Sud Ubangi District, Equateur Province, began in late October 2009, according to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The conflict has resulted in significant population displacement within Equateur Province and into neighboring Republic of Congo (RoC) and Central African Republic (CAR).
- From December 17 to 19, the U.S. Embassy in Brazzaville Deputy Chief of Mission and a Kampala-based U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) Regional Refugee Coordinator visited Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) refugee sites in the RoC. Following the visit, U.S. Government (USG) representatives noted concerns regarding inadequate shelter, food insecurity, and depleted coping mechanisms anticipated in the coming months.
- The joint Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) and U.N. Mission in the DRC (MONUC) operation Kimia II against Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) forces in South Kivu Province, which began in January 2009, ended on December 31, 2009. On January 1, 2010, FARDC and MONUC commenced operation Amani Leo, scheduled to continue for three months, to combat ongoing FDLR presence in South Kivu Province. According to MONUC, the operation plans to protect civilian populations as well as support Government of the DRC stabilization efforts.
- Nyamulagira volcano, located approximately 30 km from Goma city in North Kivu Province, erupted on January 1 and 2. According to USAID/OFDA field staff, the eruption had ceased as of January 20. Lava flows did not reach roads or populated areas, and ashfall had significantly subsided.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
IDPs¹ in North Kivu Province	980,000	OCHA – October 2009
IDPs in South Kivu Province	More than 730,000	OCHA – December 2009
IDPs in LRA²-Affected Areas of Orientale Province³	267,600	OCHA – October 2009
Total DRC Refugees in Africa	415,000	UNHCR – December 2009

CURRENT SITUATION

- U.N. agencies estimated that conflict in Equateur Province had displaced between 60,000 and 90,000 people as of mid-January, primarily in close proximity to Bozene and Bokonzi towns in Kungu Territory, Sud Ubangi District. Humanitarian agencies note that more precise estimates of the number of IDPs may become available as assessments of affected areas continue.
- UNHCR reported that more than 107,000 Congolese had fled to neighboring RoC in addition to approximately 18,000 people who fled to CAR between early November and mid-January.
- Humanitarian organizations note that additional humanitarian needs persist in conflict-affected areas of North Kivu, South Kivu, and Orientale provinces due to continuing displacement and insecurity.

Humanitarian Conditions in North Kivu and South Kivu Provinces

- According to OCHA, military operations, fears of reprisal attacks, and clashes between armed groups have resulted in significant displacement in South Kivu Province in recent months.
- Ongoing attacks by armed groups on civilian populations have also contributed to insecurity in the province. OCHA reported 1,657 attacks on civilians in South Kivu Province during December, a 16 percent increase from the 1,427 incidents reported in November. In total, OCHA recorded nearly 12,000 attacks on civilians in South Kivu Province during 2009.
- As of December 29, approximately 10,000 people had fled from Fizi and Shabunda territories in South Kivu Province into neighboring Maniema Province, according to OCHA. In addition, as of January 14, Tanganyika

¹ Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

² Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)

³ The figure represents IDPs in the LRA-affected districts of Haut-Uélé and Bas-Uélé districts, as of October 29, 2009.

District in Katanga Province hosted an additional 11,000 people displaced from South Kivu Province. Difficult terrain and poor road conditions have hindered humanitarian assistance to displaced populations.

- In South Kivu Province, the number of reported cholera cases decreased from approximately 1,600 in November to 1,060 cases in December, according to OCHA. During the reporting period, Katogota, Nyamutiri, Langala, and Ndolera territories noted the highest incidence of cholera due to limited access to safe drinking water.
- OCHA reported approximately 66 new cases of cholera and four deaths near Mutwanga town in North Kivu Province between December 16 and January 5. Non-governmental organizations in the area have provided medical assistance and commenced prevention activities, including water chlorination and hygiene awareness campaigns.
- As of January 14, OCHA reported two confirmed cases of H1N1 influenza in Bukavu town, South Kivu Province. Humanitarian organizations have provided health services and begun an awareness campaign; however, antiviral medications remain unavailable in the affected area, according to the U.N. World Health Organization.
- In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$3.9 million to support water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions in conflict-affected areas of DRC, including programs designed to reduce the spread of cholera by improving access to safe drinking water and promoting hygiene awareness.

Population Displacement and Insecurity in Orientale Province

- According to OCHA, the number of LRA attacks on civilians in Orientale Province increased in December, with 30 attacks in Haut-Uélé and Bas-Uélé districts resulting in 83 deaths and the abduction of 106 people, including 17 children.
- LRA violence continues to result in new population displacement in Orientale Province. From December 13 to 15, LRA attacks in Niangara Territory displaced approximately 45,000 people to Rungu Territory, Haut-Uélé District, according to local authorities. Reports indicate that the IDPs are residing in schools and other public buildings.
- On January 8, OCHA reported 5,000 newly displaced individuals in Poko Territory, Bas-Uélé District, who had fled in late December due to fear of potential LRA attacks.
- A small-scale LRA attack on Dungu town, Haut-Uélé District, during the week of January 11 resulted in the temporary displacement of unconfirmed numbers of people to areas surrounding nearby MONUC installations, according to USAID/OFDA field staff.
- The Ituri District Population Movement Commission indicated that 165,412 people remained displaced in Ituri District at the end of December, a decrease of 3.5 percent since November.
- Humanitarian agencies note continuing food security, health, and WASH needs in conflict-affected areas of Orientale Province, particularly among displaced populations.
- In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$6.6 million in response to increased humanitarian needs in Orientale Province, including assistance for populations in LRA-affected areas.

Population Displacement and Insecurity in Equateur Province

- Despite the deployment of FARDC and MONUC forces to conflict-affected areas in early December, OCHA reported that insecurity and poor road conditions continued to hinder humanitarian access in Sud Ubangi District as of January 14. OCHA estimated that only 14 percent of the district was accessible to humanitarian staff.
- A U.N. interagency team traveled to Sud Ubangi District between December 21 and 28 to assess humanitarian conditions. The results of the assessment indicate nearly 64 percent of households in the district remain vulnerable to food insecurity and less than 28 percent of households have sufficient potable water. In addition, the assessment team reported a chronic malnutrition rate of 45 percent and a child mortality rate of 12 percent among affected populations in the district.
- As of January 7, humanitarian organizations had initiated response activities in areas with adequate security, including areas along the Gemena–Bozene and Gemena–Bayazala roads. In addition, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) distributed approximately 48 metric tons (MT) of food assistance to more than 5,700 IDPs in Bozene and Bozayala towns from December 31 to January 2. WFP plans to increase assistance in Equateur Province pending improvements in the security situation.
- OCHA has established a base in Gemena town, Sud Ubangi District, and plans to maintain a permanent presence for a three-month period. OCHA plans to conduct assessment missions to locate IDP populations and determine humanitarian needs in affected areas.
- USAID/OFDA staff in Washington, D.C. and Kinshasa, DRC, continue to monitor the situation in Equateur Province.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On October 7, 2009, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Samuel V. Brock redeclared a disaster for FY 2010 in response to the ongoing humanitarian emergency in DRC.

- In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$34 million for agriculture and food security, economic recovery and market systems, humanitarian coordination and information management, health, logistics and relief commodities, nutrition, protection, shelter and settlements, and WASH programs.
- In FY 2009, USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) provided more than 72,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than \$112 million, to the DRC. USAID/FFP assistance included nearly 5,000 MT of food assistance provided to the WFP Emergency Operation in Haut-Uélé District, Orientale Province.
- In FY 2009, State/PRM provided more than \$45 million for humanitarian programs in DRC, including funding for agriculture and food security, education, emergency food assistance, health, IDP and refugee protection, livelihoods, psychosocial services, refugee integration, sexual and gender-based violence protection and response, shelter, and WASH programs.

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