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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 #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

April 22, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated September 22, 2010.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Incidents of violence and displacement persist throughout North Kivu, South Kivu, and Orientale provinces in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Between August 31 and March 31, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Orientale and South Kivu provinces rose by 14 and 6 percent, respectively, while the IDP figure for North Kivu Province decreased by 37 percent, according to the U.N. Due to frequently changing security conditions, displacements and returns often occur simultaneously and within the same province, resulting in fluid displacement numbers.
- On April 15, U.N. agencies and local authorities began a joint mission to assess humanitarian conditions in Tanganyika District in northern Katanga Province, where Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) attacks on gold mining villages near the South Kivu border have displaced approximately 54,000 people to the area around Kalemie town since early 2011. The IDPs—comprising primarily children and women—expressed the need for shelter, food, kitchen items, and other relief commodities.
- The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) recently expressed concern regarding the rising number of increasingly violent attacks against humanitarian agency staff, particularly in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Orientale provinces. During the week of April 10, armed men killed two aid workers and injured three others in three separate attacks on non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The attacks are hindering humanitarian access and reducing humanitarian activities and aid distributions throughout affected areas.
- USAID/OFDA FY 2011 funding addresses humanitarian protection, provides health services, and supports household livelihoods for as many as 470,000 people, including IDPs, host communities, and other affected populations in North Kivu and Orientale provinces. In addition, more than \$11 million in USAID/OFDA FY 2010 funding continues to support agriculture and food security, economic recovery, logistics, health, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions for nearly 650,000 people in North Kivu, Orientale, and South Kivu provinces.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total IDPs in the DRC	1.8 million	OCHA – March 31, 2011
In North Kivu Province	557,023	OCHA – March 31, 2011
In South Kivu Province	689,300	OCHA – March 31, 2011
In Orientale Province	436,982	OCHA – March 31, 2011
In Katanga Province	51,485	OCHA – March 31, 2011
In Equateur Province	46,985	UNHCR ¹ – February 21, 2011
Total DRC Refugees in Africa	403,097	UNHCR – March 31, 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to the DRC.....	\$7,573,135
USAID/FFP ² Assistance to the DRC.....	\$37,220,800
State/PRM ³ Assistance to the DRC	\$9,211,117
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to the DRC	\$54,005,052

CONTEXT

- Since 1998, ongoing fighting between the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) and various opposition forces, including the Allied Democratic Forces-National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (ADF/NALU), Mai Mai combatants, and the FDLR, has contributed to high levels of insecurity and continuing population displacement in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Orientale provinces. The Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA)—having increased its activity significantly in the DRC since 2008—continues to impact populations in Orientale Province. Restricted

¹ Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

humanitarian access, poor infrastructure, ongoing violence, forced child recruitment into armed groups, and reduced access to agricultural land and markets have also contributed to deteriorating humanitarian conditions in the DRC.

- As of late February, UNHCR reported that more than 1.68 million IDPs, or 94 percent of the estimated 1.8 million IDPs in the DRC, resided in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Orientale provinces.
- In response to ongoing humanitarian needs, on October 13, 2010, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires a.i. Samuel C. Laeuchli renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in the DRC for FY 2011.

Displacement, Insecurity, and Humanitarian Access – North Kivu Province

- Confrontations between the FARDC and armed opposition groups continue to cause displacement in certain areas of North Kivu Province. As of April 13, FARDC military operations against Mai Mai combatants had displaced approximately 8,000 people in Lubero Territory, according to OCHA. In addition, OCHA reported on April 20 that announcements of upcoming FARDC military operations against the FDLR in Walikale Territory had resulted in the populations of several villages preemptively relocating to Kalehe Territory.
- Although security has improved in some areas of North Kivu Province, armed groups continue to attack civilians, loot villages, and abduct and rape women in other areas of the province, resulting in simultaneous displacement and returns. Overall, the number of IDPs in the province decreased from nearly 895,000 people to approximately 557,000 people between August 31 and March 31, according to the U.N.
- Despite ongoing insecurity that restricts humanitarian access, more than \$3 million in USAID/OFDA FY 2011 funding is benefiting as many as 296,000 people in North Kivu Province through health, protection, and WASH activities. For example, USAID/OFDA grantee International Medical Corps (IMC) is integrating sexual and gender-based violence prevention programs into health services and working to reduce the incidence of communicable diseases for more than 200,000 IDPs, returnees, and host community members.

Displacement, Insecurity, and Humanitarian Access – South Kivu Province

- Between August 31 and March 31, the number of IDPs in South Kivu Province rose from more than 648,000 people to approximately 689,000 people, according to UNHCR. According to OCHA, inadequate road infrastructure and attacks on relief workers continue to impede humanitarian access throughout the province.
- In early April, two FDLR attacks on civilians displaced more than 6,400 people in Shabunda Territory, OCHA reported on April 19.
- On March 30, a strong storm caused extensive flooding and landslides in Bukavu town, killing three people, injuring ten people, and affecting 257 households. Humanitarian agencies responded with food and other relief commodities, including plastic sheeting and water containers.
- On January 1, suspected FARDC soldiers raped at least 50 women, assaulted 26 civilians, and looted 21 homes in Fizi town, South Kivu Province, according to OCHA. Nearly all 20,000 residents had fled to neighboring villages following the attacks; however, more than 95 percent of the displaced individuals returned within the month.
- In response to livelihoods disruptions resulting from frequent displacement, ongoing USAID/OFDA FY 2010-funded programs support agriculture interventions in South Kivu Province for IDPs, returnees, and other affected populations. Through grantee Action Against Hunger (AAH), USAID/OFDA is helping to improve food security for nearly 43,000 beneficiaries in South Kivu Province through the detection, surveillance, and mitigation of a bacterial disease that infects banana crops, the largest revenue source in the area.

Displacement, Insecurity, and Humanitarian Access – Orientale Province

- LRA combatants continue to contribute to insecurity in Orientale Province, particularly in Dungu, Faradje, and Niangara territories in Haut-Uélé and Bas-Uélé districts, according to OCHA. Between January and March, 86 LRA attacks against civilians—representing an increase of 37 percent compared to the same period in 2010—resulted in 44 deaths and 33 injured persons, according to OCHA.
- In the first three months of 2011, attacks attributed to the LRA displaced 37,000 IDPs, representing a 9 percent increase in displacement in Orientale Province relative to displacement figures for the previous three months. LRA attacks in 2011 have displaced more than 33,000 people, increasing the number of LRA-induced IDPs in the DRC to approximately 327,000 people.
- The total number of IDPs in Orientale Province—including those displaced by violence by other armed groups—rose from approximately 383,000 on August 31 to nearly 437,000 people on March 31, according to the U.N.
- More than \$2.8 million in USAID/OFDA FY 2011 funding provides economic recovery and health interventions for approximately 175,000 IDPs and host community members in Orientale Province. In addition, ongoing USAID/OFDA FY 2010 funding continues to support protection activities that include reintegration support for former child abductees of the LRA, as well as agriculture and food security activities to increase the production of food crops and strengthen household livelihoods for vulnerable and conflict-affected populations.

Health and Nutrition

- On April 2, the Government of the DRC (GoDRC) Ministry of Health (MoH) declared an epidemic of measles in the country. Local health authorities had noted a significant rise in the number of measles cases since August and had reported more than 16,000 suspected cases in January and February, mainly in southern provinces, including South Kivu and Katanga. In response, the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) had vaccinated more than 1.5 million children aged 6 months to 15 years between September and March.
- As of April 20, the GoDRC MoH had recorded 28 cases of polio in 2011 and 99 cases of polio in 2010—significant increases from the seven cases reported in 2009—according to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. International public health authorities attributed the increase to strains of polio transmitted from Angola and the Republic of Congo. In response to the increased number of cases in 2010, and per recommendations by WHO and UNICEF, the GoDRC continues to conduct rounds of polio vaccinations. The GoDRC plans to conduct the next round from April 28 to 30, in synchronization with the Government of Angola, the Government of the Republic of Congo, and the Government of Namibia.
- On April 13, OCHA reported concerning levels of malnutrition in Isangi, Opala, and Banalia territories in Tshopo District, Orientale Province. The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) opened a sub-office in Ango town, Bas-Uélé District, Orientale Province, in late March to provide food assistance to malnourished children and other vulnerable populations in the area.
- Nearly \$3.6 million in USAID/OFDA FY 2011 funding helps provide health services to nearly 380,000 beneficiaries in the DRC. Through grantee Medair, USAID/OFDA supports activities that improve access to and quality of maternal and children health services for conflict-affected populations in Orientale Province.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DRC

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
IMC	Health, Protection	North Kivu Province	\$2,300,001
Medair	Health	Orientale Province	\$1,402,323
Mercy Corps	WASH, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	North Kivu and Orientale Provinces	\$2,250,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
	Program Support Costs	Countrywide	\$620,811
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$7,573,135
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	24,010 metric tons of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance for Emergency Operations	Countrywide	\$37,220,800
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$37,220,800
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection, ERMS, Health, Logistics	Equateur, Katanga, North Kivu, Orientale, and South Kivu Provinces	\$3,800,000
Search for Common Ground (SFCG)	Protection in areas of refugee return	South Kivu and Katanga Provinces	\$359,491
UNHCR	Protection, Refugee Return and Reintegration, IDP and Refugee Support	Equateur, Katanga, North Kivu, Orientale, and South Kivu Provinces	\$4,650,000
Women for Women International (W4W)	Protection, Livelihoods, Education in areas of refugee return	South Kivu Province	\$401,626
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$9,211,117
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DRC IN FY 2011			\$54,005,052

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 22, 2011.

² Estimated value of emergency food assistance.

Public Donation Information

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in the DRC may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int