



PREMIERE URGENCE – AIDE MEDICALE INTERNATIONALE
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO



Cash-voucher distribution for crisis-affected populations, Malemba Nkulu Territory, September 20th, 2013

Supporting conflict – affected population in the Eastern DRC to enhance their resilience via the improvement of living standards and livelihood conditions

Quarterly Program Performance Report n°1 – Fiscal Year 2014

ERMS activities in Katanga Province

Covering the period from October 1st, 2013 to December 31th, 2013

Program Summary

Program Goal	To restore livelihoods and basic living conditions of conflict – affected populations in Eastern DRC	
Sector Name	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	
Objective	To enhance livelihoods of the most vulnerable through cash grants	
Geographic Area(s)	Democratic Republic of the Congo, Katanga Province, Tanganyika District, Manono Territory – Kiambi health zone, Malemba Nkulu Territory – Mulongo health zone	
	Proposal	Interim Report – Dec. 31th, 2013
Number of beneficiaries	37,500 persons (7,500 HH)	<u>Reporting period reached:</u> 30,884 (i.e. 5,500 HH) = 82.35 %
		<u>Cumulative period reached:</u> 30,884 (i.e. 5,500 HH) = 82.35 %
Number of IDP beneficiaries	30,000 persons (6,000 HH)	<u>Reporting period reached:</u> 9,882 IDPs reached 18,519 returnees reached = 28,041 IDPs / returnees assisted
		<u>Cumulative period reached:</u> 9,882 IDPs reached 18,519 returnees reached = 28,041 IDPs / returnees assisted
Sub-sector Name	Livelihoods Restoration	
	Proposal – Initial information	Interim Report – Dec. 31th, 2013
Indicator (A)	Number of people assisted through livelihood restoration activities, by sex	<u>Reporting period reached:</u> 15,744 men assisted 15,140 women assisted = 30,884 beneficiaries reached
		<u>Cumulative period reached:</u> 15,744 men assisted 15,140 women assisted = 30,884 beneficiaries reached
Indicator (B)	Percent of beneficiaries reporting their livelihoods restored within three to six months after receiving support	By the end of the project
Indicator (C)	Total USD amount channeled into the program area through sub-sector activities	<u>Reporting period reached:</u> 335,800 USD
		<u>Cumulative period reached:</u> 541,960 USD
Indicator (D)	Proportion of cash – grant recipients that received food aid / NFI assistance on the same period	<u>Reporting period reached:</u> Food : 52.2 % ¹ NFI : 0 %

¹ This figure only includes beneficiaries of food vouchers (by PU-AMI) in the Kiambi area, i.e. 3,000 HH / 16,122 persons. In the Malemba Nkulu territory, at the time of PU-AMI assistance, WFP conducted food distributions in some of the villages where Livelihood cash grants were implemented, but detailed beneficiary lists are not yet available. This rate of 52.2 % is expected to increase. As per NFI, assistance is planned (by ICRC) in some villages of the Mulongo Health zone of the Malemba Nkulu territory.

Activities

Activities	Progress	Comments
Activity 1.1 : Preparatory measures for the program implementation		
Program presentation to local authorities at District and territory level	Done	In July 2013, the Program goal, principles and activities were successively presented to the Tanganyika District Commissioner, as well as of heads of the Malemba Nkuku and Manono territories.
Recruitment and training of additional local staff	Done	Positions have all been filled from July / August, with the redeployment of some senior PU-AMI staff and the recruitment of natives of the target area.
Identification of priority areas & crisis - affected villages / Door to door census in target villages	Done	In addition to Kiambi, a new area of operations has been identified in the Mulongo health zone of the Malemba Nkulu territory and door to door census conducted in 19 villages there.
Baseline survey on a representative sample (household and market information)	Done	Baseline data were collected / processed for the two areas of operations.
Activity 1.2 : Community-based targeting through Relief Committees		
Program presentation at village level / introduction to community based targeting	Done	Public meetings were held in each of the target villages to introduce the program, its goal and activities, as well as the principles of community based targeting that will be used for beneficiary selection. Wooden boards were set in each of the targeted villages where key information about the program are presented in the local language, but also in the form of drawings (for those who are illiterate).
Setting of a complaint mechanism at village level	Done	A mechanism for handling complaints has been established in each of the 19 villages in the Malemba Nkulu territory. This mechanism was presented at public meetings and a drop box attached to each information board in the villages so that the beneficiaries can express their feedback on the implementation of activities. These boxes are emptied regularly by the program managers. A similar system also exists for the villages of the Kiambi area.
Setting of Relief Committees for community - based targeting	Done	One relief committee was elected in each of the 19 target villages in the Malemba Nkulu territory. The selection process of the relief committee was based on the adequate representation of women and the ethnic, social, economical and political groups within the community. Furthermore, the selection criteria were discussed between PU-AMI and each relief committee. Their work is closely monitored by the Program team.

Beneficiary selection by Relief Committees / display of approved beneficiary lists	Done	Relief committees have worked on the basis of door to door enumeration established by PU-AMI staff. In each village, the list of beneficiaries was displayed in the presence of the NGO monitors who were able to provide explanations and answers to people who were not selected.
Activity 1.3 : Cash based assistance to selected recipients		
Identification and contractualization with local shopkeepers for program participation	Done	A total of 189 traders have accepted the Program rules & principles and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with PU-AMI, which regulates the conditions of use of cash vouchers in their shops, their relations with PU-AMI and their role as cash delivery points under the program. Shopkeepers in the program are installed in Manono (41) Nyunzu (44) Malemba Nkulu (42) Mulongo (40) and Kalemie (22) respectively.
Distribution of payment orders to selected recipients	Done	From September 16 th to September 25 th 2013, 5,500 households from the Manono and Malemba Nkulu territories received a set of five cash vouchers for a total value of \$ 100. These vouchers must be spent or (partially) refunded via the 189 shopkeepers who participate in the program in Kalemie, Nyunzu, Manono, Malemba Nkulu and Mulongo.
Cash payments to beneficiaries by participants shopkeepers - local purchase of assets and inputs	Ongoing	Program rules stipulate that a minimum of 70% of the voucher value should be spent by the recipient at a partner store. The remaining 30% must be paid in cash by the shopkeeper to the voucher holder.
Reimbursement of payment orders to participants shopkeepers	Ongoing	So far, 541,960 USD were paid by PU-AMI to partner shopkeepers, as voucher repayment.
Activity 1.4 : Monitoring and evaluation		
Data collection & analysis from the complaint mechanism and appropriate response	Ongoing	Messages in the drop boxes are regularly collected during supervisory visits by program managers. Once the information checked, appropriate actions are taken.
Follow up of process and output / outcome indicators	Ongoing	Data are collected on a regular basis by the field team and operated at the Manono base.
Surveys on cash utilization and beneficiary satisfaction	Planned	To be conducted when 80 % (at least) of the vouchers are used by recipients. At the date of this report, only 74% have been used.
Regular liaison and discussions with participant shopkeepers - review and adaptation of the operating mode	Ongoing	PU-AMI has permanently deployed some staffs in the five towns where partner shopkeepers are established. Their role is to advise / assist beneficiaries in the use of vouchers as well as liaise with shopkeepers.

Context update

- **Security context**

Although the security context seemed to improve following surrender of some Mayi Mayi groups from August to October 2013, violent attempts have occurred again since November. This resurgence of violence is appearing in two main ways:

- Violence less important by the volume than by the intensity as many rapes have been recorded, from pygmy community versus Bantu/Baluba community and mainly in the north of the Kiambi health zone where PU-AMI implements an ECHO medical project in addition to the OFDA program. It seems there is no specific reason for this violence except to find it in the roots of the marginalization of pygmies and the extreme reactivity of these pygmy communities towards anything they cannot understand or anything that they could be afraid of.
- Violence coming from some Mayi Mayi leaders who refuse the surrender process. The main violence incidents have occurred in the North of the Kiambi health zone, in the area called the « Triangle of Death » between the north of Pweto, the east of Mitwaba and the south of Manono territories. Most of the time, these rebel groups torch villages forcing populations to move.

Main incidents happened in the north of Pweto territory in the neighborhood of south Manono territory. On January 21st, 2014, many villages were reported burnt and around 600 households displaced to Pweto city.

- **Humanitarian context**

The trend of returns of populations has been hindered by new waves of displacements following the last violent incidents. These new displacements were not expected by international organizations and in several IDP sites there are no available humanitarian assistance.

The table below presents the last figures of IDPs, showing clearly the stabilization of the number of IDPs in the Katanga province to around 400,000 internally displaced persons.

Source	OCHA	OCHA	HCR	OCHA	OCHA	OCHA
	30/09/2012	31/01/2013	31/08/2013	30/09/2013	30/11/2013	31/12/2013
Katanga	224 084	316 537	368 763	358 472	409 073	402 220

Beneficiaries

- **Manono Territory / Kiambi area**

In the Kiambi area, 36 villages were covered and 3,000 households (i.e. 16,122 persons), benefited from Livelihood Cash grants under the OFDA – funded Program so far. These households were also beneficiaries of food vouchers on ECHO funding, which was already effective at the launch of cash grants. Community – based targeting was not used in this case, and selection criteria were those used to target food aid recipients, i.e. family size, beneficiary status, length of displacement, respective value of their Food Consumption Score and Copping Strategy Index.

A large part of Kiambi beneficiaries are recent returnees. The latest conflicts (between Mayi Mayi elements and pygmies / self defense groups) caused population movements and occurred in May and June 2013. These violent oppositions affected Nsange, Lwela and nearby villages in the north – east. In the past months, negotiations and military actions by the Government made some local Mayi Mayi chiefs surrender, which has resulted in a IDPs return movement and an improvement of the humanitarian access.

- **Malemba Nkulu Territory / Mulongo area**

In the Mulongo area, 19 villages were covered and 2,500 households (i.e. 14,760 persons) benefited from Livelihood Cash grants under this Program. Community based targeting was used and PU-AMI staff worked with Relief Committees to help them determine and apply fair selection criteria, be accountable to their community and liaise effectively with the organization. A door to door census was initially conducted in these 19 villages whose results were made available to relief committees. At the occasion of this census, PU-AMI enumerators also collected livelihood – related information for monitoring purpose.

It is expected that the balance of 2,000 beneficiary households (out of a total target of 7,500) will be located in the **Mpyana area** of the Manono territory. Population census and beneficiary selection will take place in January / February 2014 to deliver assistance in early March 2014.

As it has been planned on the submitted work plan and to respect agricultural and fishing seasons, as the main part of the beneficiaries live from agriculture or fishing activities, the last step of the program for the last 2,000 beneficiary households will be implemented in February and March 2014. With this aim, census of beneficiaries started on 28th of January 2014. The selection of suppliers will be done in February and the awareness sessions on the use of voucher and the distribution of voucher will be conducted at the end of February, if the security allows it.

Implementation arrangements

- **Delivery mode for Cash Grants**

A set of 5 cash vouchers for a total value of \$ 100 was distributed to the 5,500 selected households. These vouchers should be used in one or more of 189 partner shopkeepers, located in Kalemie, Manono, Nyunzu, Mulongo and Malemba Nkulu. Involving local shopkeepers has been the only way to tackle the absence of money transfer agencies. SOFICOM started operations in Manono mid-October 2013. Partner shopkeepers are required to (partly) redeem vouchers and sell items from their shops to beneficiaries with voucher payment, without any price increase. Program rules stipulate that a minimum of 70% of the voucher value should be spent by the recipient at a partner store. The remaining 30% must be paid in cash, without a fee, by the shopkeeper to the voucher holder.

The delivery mode combines the division of the \$ 100 Cash Grant amount in 5 vouchers, and the integration of a large number of shopkeepers in the main market centers to cover purchases out of the shops / on local markets, such as seeds, production tools and spare parts.

Annex 01: PU-AMI's implementation zones for ERMS activities in Katanga Province

