



## Earthquake in the Great Lakes Region 8 February 2008

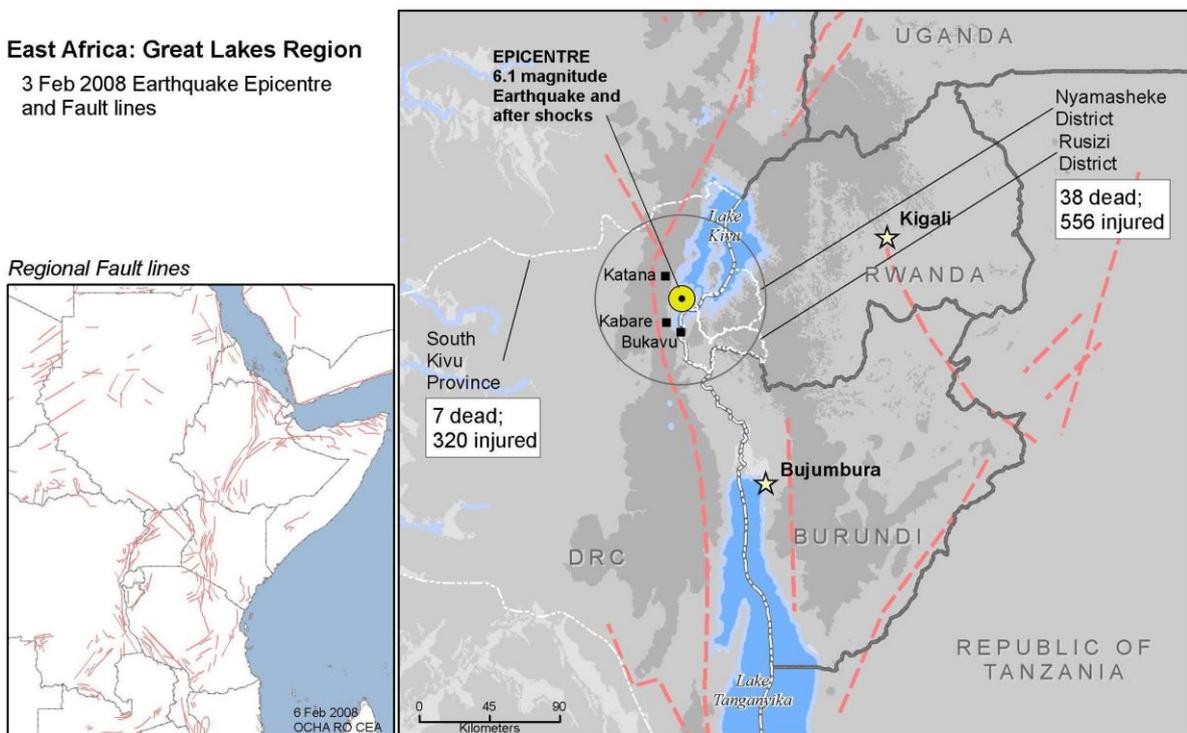
- *An earthquake of 6.1 magnitude and subsequent aftershocks hit South Kivu Province of DRC and Rusizi and Nyamasheke districts of Rwanda on the morning of Sunday 3 February*
- *45 people dead and 876 injured*
- *1,200 homes have been destroyed in Rwanda and 1,127 families have been registered for assistance in DRC*
- *Additional earth movements of a serious magnitude possible*
- *Humanitarian response activities underway in DRC and Rwanda*

### Situation overview

1. 45 people have been reported dead and 876 have been injured or traumatized in the eastern DRC city of Bukavu and in Rusizi and Nyamasheke Districts of Rwanda as the result of a powerful earthquake of 6.1 magnitude and subsequent aftershocks. The epicentre of the earthquakes was close to the city of Bukavu.
2. Of those affected 7 people have died and a further 320 people have been injured in DRC, and 38 people have died and 556 injured and traumatized in Rwanda.

East Africa: Great Lakes Region  
3 Feb 2008 Earthquake Epicentre  
and Fault lines

Regional Fault lines



3. The earthquake has caused widespread structural damage in the affected areas including to homes, schools, hospitals and health centres. In DRC 1,127 families have been affected. The

mayor of Bakavu has reported that 250 buildings have been destroyed. 30 schools in Bukavu and the surrounding have sustained damage, and in some cases they are unable to reopen (see below).

	Bukavu	Surrounding areas of Bukavu
No of schools damaged	20	10

4. According to the rapid assessment in Rwanda, A total of 1,201 houses have been completely destroyed. In addition 291 classrooms have been destroyed (see below).

	Rusizi	Nyamasheke
No of houses destroyed	570	631
No of classrooms destroyed / no of students affected	63 (6013 students affected)	208

### Needs / response

#### 5. DRC

- IRC has distributed NFI kits to more than 660 affected families in Bakavu through the Rapid Response Mechanism<sup>1</sup>. UNHCR and its NGO partner ADSSE have provided non food assistance to more than 150 families.
- Identification of sites such as parks and sport facilities is ongoing to set up tents for affected families who are unable to return to their homes as well as for contingency for potential damaging aftershocks.
- 150 tents will be supplied from the UN Humanitarian Response Dept in Brindisi, Italy.
- Health partners have met in Bukavu to develop a strategy to provide psycho social support to affected families.
- The Government has provided 15 MT of medical supplies and medicines
- The Crisis Committee<sup>2</sup> met on 6 February and ruled that people could return to some public buildings although preventative measure were to remain unchanged
- Mapping of damaged building is ongoing. Specialists from the Goma Volcanic Observatory are preparing a mapping of risk areas.
- A United Nations Disaster Assistance and Coordination team is expected to arrive in DRC before the end of the week.

<sup>1</sup> Jointly managed by UNICEF and OCHA with a network of NGO implementing partners

<sup>2</sup> FARDC 10<sup>th</sup> Military Region, the National Police, the city Mayor, provincial Minister of health, UNICEF, WHO, MONUC, IRC and MSF-H

## 6. Rwanda

- The results of the joint Government / UN rapid assessment were presented to the Disaster Management Task Force (DMTF) on Thursday 7 February.
- Needs:
  - 4000 plastic sheets for the construction of temporary shelter
  - Family kits / kitchen sets
  - 1,140 mosquito nets
  - WATSAN assistance for the Island of Nkombo. Water and sanitation has been a pre-existing problem and is expected to worsen as a result of the current situation.
  - Technical expertise in the area of distribution
- Pledges:
  - Rwanda Red Cross has pledged non food items including 200 plastic sheets, 500 blankets, 500 plastic mats, as well as jerry cans, soap, flannels, buckets, kitchen sets and skirts.
  - UNICEF have pledged 9 medical tents which have already been received and are being erected and 100 medical kits are stocked in Kigali and medicines.
  - UNICEF and WHO have provided essential drugs medical equipment and tents. WHO have pledged additional medicines.
- Coordination is being undertaken under the DMTF, which is co-chaired by UNHCR. Representative of the DMTF remain on the ground and are holding regular meetings with the provincial and district authorities. At the local level, the mayor of each district has been identified as the coordination focal point.