THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO SITUATION

This update concerns the situation of Congolese refugees and asylum seekers in countries in the region.

As of 31 March 2019, 833,400 Congolese refugees are being hosted in African countries. From 1 January to 31 March 2019 alone, some 17,843 Congolese fled to neighboring countries, with a significant increase in refugee flows to Uganda. UNHCR together with 56 humanitarian and development partners launched the 2019-2020 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) on 11 December 2018 for US$743 million to help respond to the needs of Congolese refugees in Africa.

KEY INDICATORS

Total of refugees and asylum-seekers from the DRC

- **833,400***

New arrivals in March 2019

- **5,361**

Total of new arrivals in 2019

- **17,843**

Total number of Congolese refugees assisted to return in 2018

- **51**

AGE, GENDER BREAKDOWN ***

- **50.1%** Men
- **49.9%** Women
- **54.8%** Children
- **42.5%** Adults
- **2.7%** Elderly

FUNDING

USD 743 million
Interagency RRRP requirements for 2019

**FUNDING GAP 91%** 678.9 million

POPULATION OF CONCERN IN HOST COUNTRIES

- **UGANDA** 332,506
- **TANZANIA**
- **RWANDA**
- **BURUNDI**
- **SOUTHERN AFRICA*****
- **OTHER COUNTRIES*****
- **ZAMBIA**
- **ANGOLA**
- **MALAWI**
- **SOUTH SUDAN**
- **REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO**
- **ZIMBABWE**
- **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

*Total number includes figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**New arrivals include figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

***This age and gender breakdown includes figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Chad, Central African Republic, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

****Other countries include Chad and Kenya.

*****Southern Africa includes Botswana, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.
NUMBER OF REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS in countries of asylum, as of the end of March 2019

Total of population in African countries: 833,400

Total of population in countries of asylum involved in the Contingency Planning: 759,173
Regional Highlights and Operational Context

- A plane carrying relief items from **UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency**, landed on Wednesday, 27 March 2019 in Mozambique’s capital, Maputo, to support people affected by the **Cyclone Idai**. The airlift was one of the three flights meant to bring relief to some 30,000 people in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. UNHCR aid was moved from its global stockpiles in Dubai, including family tents, plastic tarps, solar lanterns, cooking sets, jerry cans and other relief items.

  Read more here [First UNHCR relief flight lands in Mozambique](http://bit.ly/2vzOJww)

- The Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) for the DRC situation, Ann Encontre, led UNHCR’s delegation at the **Ministerial consultation on displacement in the Great Lakes region**, organized by the United Nations Special Envoy of the Secretary General for the Great Lakes region (UN-SESG) and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), in Entebbe, Uganda on 5-7 March 2019.

  Read more here [The plight of refugees in Africa’s Great Lakes region under discussion by experts](http://bit.ly/2GQzx3r)

### PROVINCES OF ORIGIN of Congolese Refugees

The above map includes figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

www.unhcr.org
**REGISTRATION UPDATE**

**DRC situation / February 2019**

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**EDUCATION LEVEL OF REFUGEES**

Number of Persons per Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post university level</td>
<td>1030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 years (or Grade 14)</td>
<td>2,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informal education</td>
<td>3,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical or vocational</td>
<td>4,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 years (or Grade 13)</td>
<td>5,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 years (or Grade 11)</td>
<td>14,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University level</td>
<td>16,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 years (or Grade 10)</td>
<td>17,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 years (or Grade 7)</td>
<td>19,894</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 years (or Grade 8)</td>
<td>20,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 years (or Grade 9)</td>
<td>22,893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>23,329</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 years (or Grade 12)</td>
<td>33,441</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 years (or Grade 5)</td>
<td>33,914</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 years (or Grade 2)</td>
<td>35,211</td>
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<td>4 years (or Grade 4)</td>
<td>36,227</td>
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<td>1 year (or Grade 1)</td>
<td>37,245</td>
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<td>3 years (or Grade 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 years (or Grade 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>76,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**OCCUPATION OF REFUGEES**

Number of Persons by Type of Occupation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bricklayers and stonemasons</td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business services agents</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary education teachers</td>
<td>612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salespersons</td>
<td>1,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street food vendors</td>
<td>1,228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General managers (own or small...)</td>
<td>1,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary education teachers</td>
<td>1,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy and livestock producers</td>
<td>2,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>2,910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stall &amp; market salespersons</td>
<td>3,127</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious professionals</td>
<td>4,151</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm-hands &amp; labourers</td>
<td>5,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business professionals</td>
<td>14,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishermen</td>
<td>24,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailors, dressmakers and hatters</td>
<td>28,738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hairdressers, barbers</td>
<td>38,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housekeepers (including...)</td>
<td>49,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsistence farmers and...</td>
<td>50,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>59,641</td>
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<tr>
<td>No occupation</td>
<td>73,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers (crop and vegetable)</td>
<td>84,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS**

Per Country of Asylum

- Uganda: 22,388
- Burundi: 21,383
- Rwanda: 15,279
- Kenya: 10,914
- Tanzania: 9,492
- Zambia: 6,034
- South Sudan: 3,816
- Malawi: 2,738
- Angola: 1,434
- Republic of Congo: 1,250
- Zimbabwe: 1,225
- Mozambique: 1,134
- Central African Republic: 1,003
- Namibia: 493
- Botswana: 181
- Chad: 136
- Eswatini: 52
- Lesotho: 3

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**NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS**

Per Category of Concern

- Survivor of torture: 1,022
- Family unity: 1,081
- SGBV*: 2,271
- Specific legal and physical protection needs: 2,283
- Child at risk: 5,382
- Older person at risk: 10,604
- Disability: 11,949
- Woman at risk: 13,028
- Serious medical condition: 14,563
- Single parent or caregiver: 16,011
- Unaccompanied or separated child: 20,760

* Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

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**The above charts** include figures from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Kenya, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
Achievements during the Reporting Period

ANGOLA

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & COORDINATION
• Refugees in Lóvua settlement, celebrated the International Women’s Day, on 8 March, with a theatre piece in which a group of refugee women spoke to high ranking women members of the local government about issues that affect refugee women and girls. Moreover, during the festivities, the winning team of the 2019 girls’ football tournament was awarded a trophy.

PROTECTION
• Some 20,063 individuals (5,031 families) received assistance in Lovua settlement and 61 families were identified by partners for internal reallocation inside Lóvua settlement, after having relocated to the settlement spontaneously. They were assisted with food ration during general food distribution (GFD) as they were identified among unregistered families who did not benefit from food assistance. Some 67 individuals were reactivated, jointly by protection and registration units.

EDUCATION
• Formal primary education classes started in Lóvua settlement and a total of 3,386 children attended school.
• The newly constructed schools in Lovua need repair as the windows have not been installed properly.

HEALTH
• Partners introduced a new colour-coded triage system in the clinics to ensure that the most urgent cases are seen more quickly and to reduce the overall waiting time.
• Approximately 1,400 consultations were conducted per week (5,548 medical consultations in total), the majority of which were carried out in Clinic 2.
• There is need to finalize the construction of Clinic 3, allowing the workload to be more equally distributed and health assistance to be better delivered in zones G, H and I of the settlement.

SITE PLANNING, SHELTER & NFIs
• The construction of the Registration Centre in Lóvua settlement was completed at the beginning of March, and the construction of a clinic in Centre 2 started using Refugee Housing Units (RHUs).

WASH
• A total of 5,688,000 litres of water was distributed in the last three weeks of March. This translates to an average of 18 litres per person per day.

LIVELIHOODS
• A livelihood demonstration farm (DEMO) was established in Lóvua settlement and practical trainings were ongoing. An agricultural beneficiary database started to be developed, with the verification of the existing beneficiaries. Some 525 beneficiaries had been reached by the end of March.
• A total of 20 livelihood mobilizers were initially benefited from the DEMO training programme. However, due to limited funds DEMO is not equipped with all the necessary equipment.

BURUNDI

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & COORDINATION
• From 20 to 27 March, camp management and coordination meetings were organized in all refugee camps in northern and eastern provinces.
• Delays in food distribution and insufficient quantities of the cooking briquettes, remained as a challenge.

PROTECTION
• A total of 402 new asylum seekers were registered, including 256 new arrivals and refugee status was granted to 655 Congolese asylum seekers. Some 264 resettlement cases were submitted and 410 Congolese refugees departed for resettlement countries.
• Sensitization campaigns on sexual and gender based violence were carried out in refugee camps for girls and young women.
• Following the establishment of the fifth refugee camp in Nyankanda, there is a need to quickly fill the staffing gap to adequately undertake protection and assistance activities.

EDUCATION
• A total of 3,091 refugee children were enrolled in kindergartens and 78 among them were granted school materials. Some 10,935 refugee pupils were enrolled in primary schools in camps and 229 among them received school materials, while 1,377 refugees were enrolled in five secondary schools.
• Some 284 refugee pupils with pedagogical difficulties in Kirundi (local language) were identified in urban communities to be assisted with extra coaching.
• Classes remained overcrowded (between 70 and 80 students per classroom) and school materials/manuals were lacking in refugee camps. Further, there is need for qualified teachers in refugee camps.

HEALTH
• Overall low mortality rate at 0.24 / 1000 / month, as well as for children under-five years old at 0.8 / 1000 / month. Good immunization coverage in the EPI program (94 per cent for measles).
• A total of 758 households of refugees in urban areas were enrolled in confessional health facilities at Saint Michel (2,502 cases) and Mosucob (1,000 cases) hospitals and more than 40,000 individuals living in refugee camps were supported with medical care.
• Some 1,500 women delivered in the camp health centers with the assistance of a qualified personnel.

FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION
• Food and cooking briquettes distributions took place in all five camps
• A Joint Assessment Mission on food security and nutrition by UNHCR and WFP was carried out and a Joint Plan Action was established in order to resolve all nutrition matters. Refugees with moderate acute malnutrition living in refugee camps, as well as Persons with Specific Needs were assisted.
• There was insufficient cooking biomass in refugee camps and lack of cash which was distributed to refugees in order to buy fresh food.
• Nutrition support/supplementation assistance continues to target only pregnant women and lactating mothers and the persons living with the HIV chronic diseases. The diet of the persons with specific needs has yet to be improved. Nutritional assistance to refugees with severe acute malnutrition is provided by UNICEF through Government’s health structures outside refugee camps. There is a lack of sufficient financial means to assist malnourished refugees in camps.

SITE PLANNING, SHELTER & NFIs
• A pressing machine for the fabrication of biomass briquettes was installed in Nyankanda refugee camp and the installation of a solar light system was completed.
• In addition to WASH routine activities, rehabilitation of old latrines and bathrooms in refugee camps and transit centers continued according to available budget.
• There is lack of sufficient cooking briquettes and of sufficient budget to protect camps from erosion and to establish additional street lights in refugee camps. Access roads to Kavumu and Bwagiriza camps need repairs.

WASH
• Construction of latrines for persons with special needs in Kavumu refugee camp was completed and sensitization sessions about hygiene practices in refugee camps were undertaken.
• Budget constraints did not allow replacing old latrines with drainable ones in Kavumu and Bwagiriza camps and water supply remains a challenge in the newly constructed Makombe transit center in Rumonge and in Cishemere transit center in Cibitoke.
UNHCR through its advocacy with the Government of Malawi, has secured additional land of 85.2 acres (about 38.7 hectares) as part of the extension of Dzaleka camp. Dzaleka camp remains congested at 300 per cent of its capacity thus negatively impacting on the services provided, such as education.

**HEALTH**

- Health services provided at Karonga transit centre only for children under-five years including integrated management of childhood illnesses, vaccination, deworming and growth monitoring. Any serious cases and ailments for adults were referred to Karonga or Chitipa district hospital.
- Infection prevention and control measures are not fully followed in the clinic at Karonga transit centre. Purchase of health passport to be used at the district hospitals cost MK 200. Most of the asylum seekers cannot afford it in Karonga.

**WASH**

- WASH partner Welthungerhilfe maintained 6 boreholes and 4 water kiosk in Dzaleka. An activity termed ‘Keep our camp clean’ was initiated to collate the waste generated and properly dispose off. All waste in the 12 main dumping zones in Dzaleka have been collected and dumped to the main landfill.
- There remains a need for funding for the adoption of a new water supply system (i.e. infrastructure costs and operational costs) that would increase water supply in the camp. Water points can be contaminated due to congestion of Dzaleka camp.

**OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & COORDINATION**

- A joint UNHCR – Government registration mission was deployed in the Department of Plateaux which is hosting Congolese asylum seekers. The operation which is planned to last three weeks, aims at carrying out a biometric registration (BIMS) of the DRC asylum seekers and to collect intentions regarding voluntary returns.
- UNHCR organized three sensitization meetings with the Congolese asylum seekers regarding the upcoming relocation operation of the asylum seekers living in Makotipoko to the site of Bouemba. Some 7,000 asylum seekers will be concerned by the relocation. Go and see visits were organized accordingly.

**FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION**

- A total of 6,580 asylum seekers received food assistance from WFP.

**SITE PLANNING, SHELTER & NFIs**

- In the context of the humanitarian response, the French NGO, ACTED, constructed three blocks of latrines in Makotipoko and distributed NFIs.

**PROTECTION**

- A total of 120 cases of 522 individuals were submitted for resettlement and a total of 222 individuals, 68 cases, departed to resettlement countries.
- In Gihembe camp the partner Humanity and Inclusion conducted a refresher training to 40 individuals including parents to children with disabilities and community mobilisers on inclusion of children with disabilities. The training equipped participants with basic knowledge on the rights and needs of children with disabilities.
- There was lack of outdoor recreational material for children in Nyanza transit center.

**EDUCATION**

- A total of 27,470 refugee students attended early childhood development (ECD), primary and secondary level education.
- There was lack of sufficient classrooms at the ECD site B in Kigeme camp. Due to the government policy of moving from double shift to single shift in primary schools, classrooms are now congested and the situation affects the learning conditions/environment.
HEALTH
- Some 17,528 persons benefited from outpatient medical consultation in total; 282 referrals to secondary and tertiary level hospitals. A total of 569 people were under HIV care and treatment.
- A total of 70,591 condoms were distributed by community health workers, peer educators, and through home based care provision and anti AIDS clubs for HIV prevention and family planning.
- There was lack of management capacity for Viral Hepatitis infection. Access to health care services remained a challenge for Congolese refugees living out of Kiziba camp as the health facility is far. There was an overload of patients in the observation rooms in Kiziba camp, while the observation block and laboratory room were leaking.

FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION
- The management of severe and moderate malnutrition for children under-five years old, pregnant and lactating mothers was done for both refugees leaving outside and inside the camp.
- There was lack of supplementary feeding for refugees with chronic illnesses (except diabetics) as well as the elderly.

SITE PLANNING, SHELTER & NFIs
- A total of 47 shelters were rehabilitated in Nyabiheke, Kigeme and Kiziba camps in order to improve the shelter living conditions. A joint technical assessment team in all the five Congolese camps, managed to identify more than 2,700 shelters through door to door visit which requires roof transformation from plastic sheeting to corrugated iron shelters and routine repair works.
- The construction of 16 classrooms and one block of latrine in Nyabiheke camp and GS Kageyo school, were under final stage of completion.
- There is a gap of more than 1,700 family shelters which requires to be constructed in all the five Congolese camps but there is a major challenge in terms of the land.

WASH
- LDS latrines construction in Nyabiheke camp reached its final stage (phase 6 consisting of eight latrines of 12 drop holes each). Some 48 dischargeable latrines will be added to existing 12 blocks giving residents access to at least 20 persons per drop hole.
- The average water supply in Nyabiheke camp remains 15 litres per person per day which is below the minimum standard of 20 litres per person per day due to the fact that they use generators to get water from underground and the water pump capacity only provides 15 litres per person per day.

LIVELIHOODS
- Some 621 Congolese refugees as well as 261 Rwandan entrepreneurs from the host communities were trained by Inkomoko in business. The trainings included; bookkeeping, cash flow and inventory management training, boot camp and business consulting.
- There still remain limited spaces for individuals to open shops or for livelihoods opportunities, as well as limited land for farming activities, in particular in Kigeme camp and limited budget for start-up capital in all camps.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & COORDINATION
- Refugees celebrated the International Women’s Day, on 8 March, with a series of events, including drama performances, traditional singing and dancing as well as a workshop on gender, gender-based challenges and the role men can play as gender equality advocates. In collaboration with IOM, AIRD, CWS and IRC, UNHCR donated bedsheets to Kasulu District Hospital and sanitary pads and construction materials to Mubondo Secondary School.
- The common markets in Nduta, Mtendeli and Nyarugusu camps remained closed during the reporting period due to reasons related to security and their locations. Advocacy with the Government of Tanzania was on-going.

PROTECTION
- A total of 458 Congolese refugees were resettled to Canada and the USA. In addition, 382 individuals were submitted for resettlement to Australia, Canada and the USA.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
SGBV partners conducted two awareness raising sessions on SGBV prevention and response in Nyarugusu camp which reached over 160 Congolese women, men and children. This was followed up by a meeting where Congolese persons of concern also discussed various issues related to GBV, including forced marriage.

Following the closure of the common markets, there has been an increase in persons of concern resorting to negative coping. Advocacy to lift livelihood restrictions, including the closure of refugee-run businesses, was on-going.

**EDUCATION**

A total of 450 grade 6 Congolese students accessed the Instant Network Schools (INS) centres in Nyarugusu camp in preparation for the national primary school exams in the DRC which will begin in May. In addition, IRC provided training to 14 INS coaches on how to successfully conduct classroom observations. The information collected during these sessions will be integral in assessing and improving current methods and teaching practices employed by teachers.

UNICEF distributed over 500,000 school notebooks and stationary to Congolese refugees in grade 1-9 during the reporting period. This distribution will help address the shortage of school materials.

A shortage of classrooms remains and 68 classrooms are still needed to service the Congolese refugee population.

**HEALTH**

The crude mortality rate stood at 0.2/1000 population/month and under-five mortality rate at 0.4/1000 population/month in March which were both within acceptable SPHERE standard. Over 20,000 consultations were carried out at various health facilities serving the Congolese caseload. The leading cause of morbidity was malaria, followed by upper respiratory tract infection, lower respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection and diarrhea. In addition, 249 live births were conducted with 96% of total births carried out at various health facilities by skilled medical personnel.

Following increased screening measures put in place to identify cases of malnutrition, 78 children aged six to 59 months were admitted for therapeutic feeding and an additional 103 children were admitted for supplementary feeding for moderate acute malnutrition.

Access to health services remains a challenge for Congolese refugees in Nyarugusu camp, who have to walk distances to access health services.

**FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION**

Food entitlements were distributed at 100 per cent of the full ration in March for the fifth month in a row with refugees receiving all their cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, corn-soya blend and salt entitlements.

UNHCR completed the construction of six temporary waiting shelters located next to the food distribution centers in Nyarugusu. These new shelters will provide safe and secure waiting spaces for refugees.

A post-distribution monitoring exercise conducted in March found that refugees were dissatisfied with the lack of variety of distributed food and the time it takes for them to receive food rations. WFP is currently exploring ways to improve food rations following the closure of the common markets and some refugee run businesses.

**SITE PLANNING, SHELTER & NFIs**

A total of 25 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) were installed for Congolese persons with specific needs in March. Tanzania is one of the largest recipient of these innovative shelters which are longer-lasting and provide refugees with more protection and security.

Following reports of vandalism on the recently constructed waiting shelters, UNHCR is working together with partners to develop preventative measures to prevent this from happening again. These measures include fencing areas of the distribution centers, conducting awareness raising sessions on responsibility sharing and strengthening reporting channels.

**WASH**

Water supply in Nyarugusu camp stood at 19.24 litres per person per day, exceeding the SPHERE minimum standard of 15 liters per person per day. The crude latrine coverage stood at eight person per latrine, which was above the SPHERE minimum standard of 1:2.

A series of generator breakdowns continued to be experienced in Nyarugusu camp.
Some 200 refugees registered for kitchen garden training, 100 for life skills training, 30 for literacy lessons, and 50 for basic computer training at the multi-purpose community centre in Nyarugusu camp.

As a result of the closure of the common markets and a number of refugee run businesses, the amount of money refugees deposit to village savings and loans associations has reduced significantly and resulted in an increase in the number of refugees dropping out from these groups. Advocacy with the Government remains a priority.

Some 2,662 Congolese asylum seekers arrived in Uganda, mainly through the border-entry points of Bunagana, Lake Albert (Sebagaro & Nsonga), Ishasha/Kihihi, Ntoroko and Nteko.

Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) screening, surveillance, infection prevention and control activities were ongoing in all six refugees hosting districts in the Southwestern region.

The data collection phase of the new food distribution Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) was completed by the four joint teams of UNHCR, WFP and OPM who visited all settlements in one month, conducting focus group discussions and key informant interviews. The final report is expected to be completed by the beginning of May 2019.

In March 2019, WFP provided general food assistance to all refugees. High-energy biscuits were distributed to new arrivals at the border crossing points, hot meals served at transit/reception centres, and in-kind food and cash assistance provided to Persons of Concern in settlements as part of their monthly support.

A total of 1,147 plots of sizes 30m by 30m were demarcated in Sweswe and Kakoni zones, Kyaka II refugee settlement, Kyegegwa district. A total of 1,499 individuals translating to 801 households were settled, given plots and emergency shelter kit.

At Nyakabande transit centre in Kisoro district, construction of three accommodation shelters with a total capacity of 225 individuals, 13 stances permanent bath Shelters, 13 stances permanent latrines, compound gravelling, an incinerator, office partitioning, tap stands and extension of water supply line were all successfully completed and commissioned by a joint team of UNHCR, OPM and Kisoro District Local Government (KDLG).

Sanitation coverage continued to improve though marginally to 70 percent as communities continued to construct family latrines. However, rainy season trends impacts negatively on coverage as some of the family latrine collapse or fill quickly as water logging occurs. Behavior change communication activities focusing on Ebola preparedness and handwashing at reception, transit and settlement areas continued.
There were 494 new arrivals of Congolese asylum seekers, mainly from Uvira in South Kivu, Fube and Moba in Tanganyika Province, and Pweto in Haut Katanga Province.

In Meheba refugee settlement, nine newly arrived unaccompanied children of Congolese origin underwent the best interest determination assessments and were recommended for core relief items (CRIs) and education support; an alternative care arrangement of foster care and group-living until a foster family is identified. Equally in Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, three newly relocated separated minors underwent the BID process.

In Meheba, child protection MFT meetings comprising of UNHCR and COR Child Protection focal point persons convened during which 33 unaccompanied and separated children had their guardians appointed to facilitate their receipt of CBI support.

In Meheba and Mayukwayukwa, an education monitoring exercise was conducted. In Meheba, a total of 99 teachers were found to be employed, 57 classrooms and 68 latrines to be available. In Mayukwayukwa, 66 teachers were employed, 45 classrooms and 64 latrines were found available.

The limited funding has slowed the construction of the two schools in Mantapala Settlement. There is also lack of learning and teaching materials, including lack of staffing and insufficient WASH facilities.

There were a total of 1,523 out-patient department consultations in Mantapala. Among the cases, 640 (42 per cent) were malaria consultations and a total of 291 (58 per cent) were for under-five with Malaria. This indicates that malaria continued to be the leading cause of morbidity affecting mainly children in the settlement.

UNHCR staff from Field Office Solwezi coordinated the handover of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and nine Infrared thermometers for the Ebola Virus Disease preparedness and response within North Western Province. The items were delivered by COR to the Provincial Surveillance office that has taken the lead to ensure that they are delivered to the points of entry at the various districts.

Health facilities in the three settlements continued to experience drug stock-outs, especially essential medicines. In addition, there are no essential infection control supplies for disease prevention in the settlements.

There are still inadequate skills among the health facility staffs in managing mental health cases that are on the increase in the three settlements. This is worsened by lack of anti-psychotic medicines in the health facilities in the settlements, maybe due to non-existence of specialized units to handle mental cases.

Dry rations continued to be provided to Congolese refugees in Mantapala. Those in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa were put on Cash-based-intervention (CBI), with new arrivals in the two settlements pending adjudication receiving wet food rations.

The health facilities in the three settlements continued to screen children under-five for malnutrition. In Meheba and Mayukwayukwa, a total of 923 children were screened, 499 in Mayukwayukwa and 424 in Meheba. The children that were found to be malnourished were enrolled into Supplementary Feeding Program.

In Mantapala, the Zambia National Service (ZNS) continued to construct new roads to open access to new blocks within the settlement. Thirty (30) kilometres of road network has cumulatively been constructed to link twenty blocks in the settlement. Gravelling works have continued though at a slower pace because of wet ground caused by rains.

Construction works to install window frames and door frames which were donated by a business man well-wisher at Mantapala (B) primary school have commenced.

Both schools at Mantapala (A) and Mantapala (B) require a total of at least 15 class rooms each in order to decongest the number of pupils in each class.

A total of 3,440 dignity kits were distributed to a total of 3,440 women and girls in Mantapala. A total of 51 boreholes were drilled in the settlement providing 423m³/day (423,000 litres per day). The total water availability in the settlement was 28.2 litres/person/day. This is above the standard requirement of water of 20 litres/person/day in normal circumstance and 15 litres/person/day in emergencies.

In Mantapala, there were a total of 69 Hygiene Promotion Volunteers conducting door-to-door hygiene promotion activities in the settlement. The ratio of hygiene promoters to the population was 1:217,
which is above the required sphere standard of 1:500 in emergency phase or 1:1000 (approximately) in stabilized situations.

- A total of 2,033 durable household latrines and 2,033 bath shelters are required in Mantapala while a total of ten latrines for five Child Friendly Centres and a total of 108 durable latrines for Mantapala (A) School and Mantapala (B) School are required.

**LIVELIHOODS**

- A business inventory exercise was concluded and a total of 541 household businesses were identified to be operational in the settlement. Among them 184 business were owned by women and 357 by men refugees. An inventory was also conducted in the seven host community (villages) and 85 entrepreneurs (19 for women and 66 for men) were identified. The inventory record will assist to monitor business grants given to beneficiaries in the settlement and to assess the functionality and profitability of the household enterprises especially by those assisted by the grant.

- A total of 316 entrepreneurs in Mantapala were not operating from the designated market places because the current market spaces have been occupied. An additional market will assist to provide space to those currently operating outside the designated market place.

**OPERATIONAL CONTEXT & COORDINATION**

- There were some 10,142 refugees and asylum seekers from the DRC in Zimbabwe, as at the end of March.
- Due to the tropical cyclone Idai, Tongogara refugee camp experienced heavy rains which resulted in flooding from 15-19 March.
- An estimated 1,060 shelters accommodating 6,000 refugees where partially and/or completely damaged. Refugees were offered accommodation at communal shelters. That increased the risk of SGBV incidents and disease outbreaks. Additionally, some 618 latrines collapsed giving rise to concerns of increased open defecation and the likelihood of contamination of borehole water.
- UNHCR Zimbabwe received core relief items (CRIs) for 10,000 people affected by floods in Zimbabwe.
- An L3 emergency was been declared in Zimbabwe. Emergency Response Teams were deployed to assist in the emergency.

**NEWS & STORIES**

- The cyclone Idai affected tens of thousands of people when it struck the eastern coast of Southern Africa during the night of 14–15 March, causing torrential rain and flooding in parts of Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi. UNHCR, is working with the governments of the affected countries and other humanitarian partners to assist those in need. These include refugees in Tongogara, Zimbabwe, and the communities hosting them.

- One survivor is Deborah Kibangu, 44, who fled to Tongogara to escape conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. “My children don’t even have a single pair of shoes. Everything was washed away by the rains.”

**READ MORE HERE**

UNHCR prepares to send aid to Cyclone Idai survivors in Zimbabwe  http://bit.ly/2DYnL6w
Financial Information

UNHCR is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to our activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the situation or operations.

Donors who have contributed to the Interagency RRRP for the DRC situation (Funds received in US$)

- Germany 33.9 million
- European Union 10.3 million
- Allocation of unearmarked / broadly earmarked funding 7.2 million
- United States of America 4.1 million
- Private donors 3.5 million
- Sweden 1.5 million
- CERF 0.9 million
- United Kingdom 0.6 million
- Norway 0.5 million
- Japan 0.5 million
- The Netherlands 0.3 million
- France 0.2 million
- Czech Republic 0.2 million

For more information: http://reporting.unhcr.org

Angola. Young Congolese refugee girls wait in a safe space at Lóvua settlement for the distribution of menstruation dignity kits. © UNHCR/Omotola Akindipe
Working in Partnership

Partners in the 2019-2020 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for the DRC include:


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UNHCR Brochure on Underfunded Situations in 2018

UNHCR and UNDP Joint Programming for the DRC situation

News & Stories / click for access

‘Camp president’ uses leadership role to empower and inspire refugees in Tanzania

REGIONAL COORDINATION

- **Ann Encontre** is the Regional Refugee Coordinator (RRC) for the DRC situation, covering Congolese refugees in Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Rwanda, Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and other countries receiving refugees from the DRC.

- UNHCR leads and coordinates the response to the DRC refugee emergency, ensuring that the response is coherent with developments within the DRC, in close collaboration and consultation with relevant government counterparts, and with the support of UN Country Teams and other humanitarian and developments partners.

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