



Democratic Republic of Congo Nairobi, 12 November 2018

SITUATION		
<p>In the morning of Monday the 15 October 2018, the region of Kasai in the Democratic Republic of Congo, was faced with a fast-developing humanitarian situation following the expulsion of more than 257,872 Congolese from Angola between 1st and 15th October 2018. In a media briefing in Geneva, the UNHCR indicated that Congolese people are returning to a fragile Kasai Region that is still suffering from the impact of the 2016/17 conflict. According to local media reports, Congolese nationals were given up to 15th October 2018 to leave Angola. The returnees entered DRC through many entry points, the main one being Kamako in Kasai Province and Luambo in Kasai Central Province. According to UNOCHA, the expulsion of Congolese from Angola follows the decision of the Angola government to ban artisanal mining which many Congolese were involved in as a source of livelihood while in Angola. Unfortunately, people are returning with and to nothing, with many currently housed in churches, schools, makeshift shelters or with host communities in the region of Kasai. The people are returning to a region that has had waves of communal violence, a region that remains fragile where many are still facing many unmet needs. The most affected are women and children.</p>		
NEEDS		
<p>The expulsion of Congolese from Angola has put the already vulnerable Kasai region in a renewed humanitarian state of crisis. The Kasai region was greatly affected by conflicts in 2016/2017 and currently has received very little humanitarian support. Many people in Kasai are still displaced and have diverse unmet needs. The huge numbers returning is consequently leading to more conflicts over limited resources in the region. Congolese returnees find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to:</p>		
X	sufficient food	
X	safe shelter and basic non-food items	
X	basic health services and facilities	
X	safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure	
X	livelihood activities	
X	protection services and transport to their places of origin	
X	adequate nutrition	
<p>The dire situation is further compounded for returnees who are already vulnerable; women and girls who are living in the open are at risk of gender-based violence. Pregnant and lactating women are at risk of lack of food, children (especially those under 5) are at risk of malnutrition. Elderly and persons with disability and unaccompanied and separated children urgently need support. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.</p>		
STAKEHOLDERS		
<p>The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:</p>		
X	National government	The Congolese government has been available receiving the returnees, but the numbers are overwhelming their capacity to respond.
X	UN Agencies	UNOCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP are providing assistance to the old case load as a result of conflict and are planning to respond to the new situation that started arriving in October 2019.
X	INGOs	INGO's are conducting rapid needs assessments and appealing for support to respond to this new humanitarian situation as well as the old caseload. A START Fund response has been allocated to 5 INGOs in Kamako area, this is however insufficient given the high numbers

		of returnees. The International Red Cross is planning for cash distribution for 9,000 HH.
X	Red Cross Red Crescent Movement	Is supporting provision of logistical support to affected households.
X	Military presence	Are providing overall security of civilians.
X	National NGOs	Are providing immediate assistance and information on the situation, DRC national Red Cross is supplying food in 3 health centers
X	Civil society groups	Many are mobilizing communities to support the returnees
X	Faith based groups	Have started providing food and basic health
X	Host communities	Are sharing already scarce resources as shelter, food, water etc
X	Affected communities	Are in urgent need of support

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by UNOCHA. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, ACT DRC forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders including WASH, Nutrition, protection and food security clusters and relevant government line ministries. The ACT DRC Forum will also establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation, inclusion and feedback.

ACT Alliance

X	ACT DRC Forum has been working in Kasai region since 2017, in response to the 2016/2017 conflict and now helping/planning to help people affected by the return of Congolese from Angola to Kasai region.
X	ACT DRC Forum works in areas affected by the conflict, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities
X	ACT DRC Forum is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a rapid needs assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.
X	ACT DRC Forum is monitoring the situation and emergency teams and is ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.
X	In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT DRC forum has identified a gap in Nutrition, WASH, Safe Shelter, food, NFI's, livelihoods, food security, Protection, Community Based Psychosocial Support and education and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.
X	DRC ACT forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide Nutrition, WASH, Safe Shelter, food, NFI's, livelihoods, food security, Protection, Community Based Psychosocial Support and education to ensure that the returnees' basic needs are met with regards to Nutrition, WASH, Safe Shelter, food, NFI's, livelihoods, food security, Protection, Psychosocial Support and education.
X	ACT DRC Forum is ready to respond, providing therapeutic food, safe drinking water, latrines, hygiene promotion, WASH NFI kit, emergency shelter& NFI's, wet feeding, Income generating activities, protection referrals and sensitization on risks and rights, Community Based Psychosocial Support, Child friendly learning spaces to 50,000 persons in the coming months.
X	Furthermore, ACT DRC Forum will engage in advocacy for protection of the affected at national and international level and to ensure that the voices of those affected by the conflict are amplified. The DRC ACT Forum members that will be responding include LWF, Christian Aid, BOAD, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Congo, The Church of Christ in Congo and the Salvation Army.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org)

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