



# International Organization for Migration (IOM) in DR Congo (DRC) Emergency Operations and Humanitarian Coordination



SITUATION REPORT • September 2017



Site closure operations in the IOM-coordinated displacement site in Katsiru, North-Kivu. ©IOM September 2017 (Photo: Christian Jimbu)

## Highlights

- IOM identifies **198,000** internally displaced persons (IDPs) and **490,000** returnees in **45 per cent** of the villages in the Central Kasai province
- IOM conducted an intention survey in **6** of the **12** displacement sites located in Kalemie city, in the Tanganyika province
- IOM supports access to durable solutions for **5,973** IDP households in the North-Kivu province

## Situation overview

The security situation in Eastern DR Congo and in the Kasai region is characterized by recurrent armed and inter-community conflicts. The majority of these conflicts occur in the east and centre of the country and are at the source of a protracted humanitarian crisis and the displacement of approximately 3.7 million individuals country-wide (OCHA), which subsequently generates significant multi-sectorial humanitarian needs.

Since the beginning of the year, armed conflicts are particularly recurrent in the Rutshuru, Masisi, Walikale, South-Lubero and Beni territories. The gradual withdrawal of humanitarian actors from these areas has amplified the vulnerability of individuals affected by the humanitarian crisis. In the past two months, the UN Migration Agency (IOM) facilitated the access to durable solutions for IDPs through site closure operations in six IOM-coordinated displacement sites. In the North-Kivu province, IOM coordinates humanitarian assistance in 24 displacement sites hosting 13,894 households (46,730 individuals).

Inter-community relations in the Tanganyika province have deteriorated since mid 2016. Recurrent ethnic conflicts between the Luba and Twa communities have caused a significant number of victims. More than 20 per cent of the total population in the province is currently displaced. Furthermore, the severity of this ethnic conflict led to the displacement of 179,000 individuals since the beginning of the year, with 47 per cent of the movements registered in the Kalemie territory. Since November 2016, a large majority of the displaced population in this territory has regrouped in spontaneous displacement sites and collective centres in and around Kalemie city.

In the Kasai region, violence broke out in August 2016 following the uprising of local militia in Kasai Central. This crisis is characterized by repeated clashes between militia and local security forces, which have subsequently generated inter-community conflicts. Even though the improvement in the local security situation enabled the return of a significant number of displaced persons, the needs in the return areas remain important.

**US \$7,5 million**

Funding required

**US \$3,4 million**

Funding received

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## Tanganyika province

### IOM conducts an intention survey in 6 of the 12 displacement sites located in Kalemie city, in the Tanganyika province.

IOM started various data collection exercises in response to the displacements generated by the intercommunity clashes in the Tanganyika province. In order to better understand the profile and intentions of the IDPs who are currently living in Kalemie, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team carried out an intention survey in 6 of the 12 displacement sites located in the city. Data on IDPs' demographic profile, place of origin and intentions were collected during this survey which took place on 1 October. IOM also started to collect information in the Nyunzu territory in order to evaluate the number of IDPs and returnees in each of the villages situated in this territory.



A woman and her child having received an identification bracelet in the Kalonda displacement site © OCHA September 2017 (Photo: OCHA)

## Kasaï Central province

### IOM identifies 198,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 490,000 returnees in 45 per cent of the villages in the Central Kasaï province.

IOM started its DTM programme as a response to the humanitarian crisis that is currently affecting the Kasaï region. The DTM programme which is implemented through the local NGOs -Cooperative Reveil Kananga and TDH-Unité de médiation- aims at collecting information on population' movements in the Central Kasaï province. According to the first DTM report published on 25 September, 198,000 IDPs and 490,000 returnees have been identified in the villages that

were assessed during this exercise (45% of the villages in the Central Kasaï province). The second phase of assessments should begin in October and cover the whole Central Kasaï province.

## North-Kivu province

### IOM supports access to durable solutions for 5,973 IDP households in the North-Kivu province.

IOM recently completed site closure activities for 6 of the 24 displacement sites under its coordination (Bulengo, Bonde, Nyabiondo, Katsiru, Luve and Mushababwe). Following the collection of return intentions of IDP households in the displacement sites, 12 sites (of which 6 are IOM-coordinated) were targeted for closure. Results of the intention surveys showed that at the time return intentions were collected, approximately eight per cent of IDP households expressed their wish to transfer to another displacement site, 33 per cent opted to return to their area of origin and 33 per cent chose the option of return to another chosen area. In this last category, it is important to note that 35 per cent of the IDP households expressed their wish to integrate into the local community. In order to assess the security situation and the living conditions in the identified return areas, IOM organised "go and see" visits for IDPs residing in the targeted displacement sites for closure. These visits enabled IDPs to take an informed decision regarding their different options of return.



Closing of the Katsiru displacement site © IOM September 2017 (Photo: Christian Jimbu)

IOM emergency operations in DR Congo are financed by:

