HIGHLIGHTS

- The Congolese government announced the gradual return of displaced people to Goma and Nyiragongo territory
- Humanitarian actors are ready to support the Government’s action plan that is currently being developed

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 07 June, the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde Kyenge, announced the return of displaced people to the city of Goma and the territory of Nyiragongo. The authorities noted the end of the lava flow and the lava solidification as well as the significant decrease in earthquakes in the area.

The Congolese government has declared it will facilitate the gradual return of the displaced population between 08 and 20 June along the different axes: Sake-Goma (08-09 June), Nyiragongo-Goma (10 June), Rutshuru-Goma (11-12 June), Bukavu-Minova-Goma (15-17 June), Beni-Butembo-Lubero-Goma (16-17 June), Rwanda-Goma (19-20 June).

The Prime Minister also announced that people who lost their homes in the eruption will be temporarily relocated and will receive Government assistance to rebuild their homes.

In addition, Congolese authorities have announced the reopening of schools and universities as of 14 June in the city of Goma and the territory of Nyiragongo, once the buildings have been inspected.

According to an assessment conducted by the INGO INTERSOS, a partner of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 73 percent of the displaced people in Sake want to return to Goma. In Rutshuru territory, return movements to Goma continue.

To help improve the protection and security of IDPs, UNHCR and its partners have deployed protection monitors in Masisi, Kitshanga, Kanyabayonga (Lubero), and Kiwanja (Rutshuru) in addition to teams

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1 The information is collected from partners on an ongoing basis, the data is therefore subject to change as the situation evolves.
deployed in Sake, Minova, and Rutshuru Center. Child protection actors are also working in Minova, Sake, Lubero, and Rutshuru to identify unaccompanied children and reunite them with their families. The Protection cluster continues to assess protection risks, including the increased risk of gender-based violence (GBV) during displacement in order to mobilize relevant partners.

From 26 May to 04 June, UNFPA provided seven health facilities with 650 dignity kits in the health zones of Goma, Nyiragongo, Kirotshe, and Rutshuru for the care of pregnant women, breastfeeding women, women who have given birth, and GBV survivors. UNFPA also provided sexual and reproductive health kits in the health zones of Goma, Nyiragongo, Kirotshe, and Rutshuru. These kits have benefited more than 30,000 pregnant, lactating, and postpartum women.

Since 30 May, partners have provided 4,600 dignity kits to meet the needs of women and girls with special needs, women of childbearing age, adolescent girls, and vulnerable women in the displacement zones of Kirotshe, Karisimbi, Nyiragongo, Rutshuru, Mweso, and Masisi. These kits were distributed by the International Rescue Committee (2,000 kits), UN Women (600 kits), SOFEPADI (1,000 kits) and UNHCR/INTEROS (1,000 kits).

Since 28 May, IMA World Health has increased the post-rape kits stocks with 150 individual provided to the Keshero general hospital in Goma (41 kits), the Kirotshe health zone (51 kits), and the Nyiragongo health zone (58 kits).

From 22 May to 02 June, 24 GBV cases were treated by the relevant facilities in the health zones of Goma and Kirotshe. 71 per cent of these were rape cases. All cases of rape were treated within 72 hours by service providers. In addition, three cases of sexual abuse of orphaned children/IDPs in foster care were reported and cared for.

In addition, since 28 May, humanitarian actors (DFJ, CAFED, CYW, Heal Africa, Hope in action, IRC, LUCODE, prevention and awareness-raising actors) have organized awareness-raising activities about GBV response mechanisms for at least 3,500 people through community media, small group discussions, door-to-door visits, and posters and banners (including promotion of the 49-55-55 toll-free number) in the Kirotshe, Nyiragongo, Goma, and Rutshuru health zones.

Sake

**NFI Non-Food Items**

On 06 June, IRC distributed NFI kits to 562 households in three assembly sites in Sake. Since 03 June, IRC has distributed NFI kits to 1,421 households.

UNHCR, through its partner AIDES, has provided IDPs in the city of Sake with NFIs, including solar lamps, mattresses, blankets, and soap. As of 07 June, 7,640 people have benefited from this assistance.

**Nutrition**

The Nutrition Cluster, through UNICEF and the National Nutrition Program (PRONANUT), is providing 1,380 cartons of Plumpy Nut and other inputs for the management of severe acute malnutrition in the 29 health areas of the Kirotshe health zone. To date, five health zones with a high influx of displaced people have been prioritized, including the health facilities of Sake, Bweremana, Nzulo, Kaduki and Kimoka.

The Nutrition Cluster's intervention strategy aims to strengthen the health system in the health zones that have received displaced people and those that are welcoming returnees. Within this framework, the Nutrition Cluster has started to redirect 880 boxes of Plumpy Nut and other inputs to 11 health areas in the Nyiragongo health zone. The health zones of Kanyaruchinya and Kiziba were supported as a priority on 05 June.
Protection

UNHCR, with support from INTERSOS and AIRD, conducted needs assessments of IDPs in Masisi Centre, Mushaki, Matanda, and Bihambwe. Since the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano, the localities of Mushaki, Matanda, and Bihambwe have hosted new IDPs. Some of them have begun to return to Goma.

Three hundred displaced households are preparing to leave Rutshuru for Goma, according to the Virunga Foundation.

On 07 June, the NGO Dynamique des Femmes Juristes (DFJ) organized an awareness-raising campaign on mechanisms for reporting and responding to incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). The organization also promoted the 49 55 55 hotline in the Rutshuru health zone. Two hundred people were sensitized at the Tata Mwami and Kiwanja stadiums, in Rutshuru territory.

Minova

Education

After an assessment on 06-07 June, the NGO Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) committed to repairing damaged desks and other equipment at a school in Minova (EP Umoja) that had hosted IDPs between 27 May and 04 June.

Protection

As of 06 June, 160 unaccompanied children (out of 269 children registered in Minova since the beginning of the crisis) have been reunited with their families.

Between 05 and 07 June, JRS supported 23 separated and unaccompanied children in the Bilimani, Mubimbi and La Poste centers. They benefited from recreational activities, psychosocial support, and food assistance.

Since 02 June, JRS has been conducting awareness-raising activities on tracing procedures for separated and unaccompanied children in the Minova displacement sites.

Food security

On 07 June, the World Food Programme (WFP) and its partner World Vision International continued distributing food to displaced people in the remote areas of the city of Minova on the Bulenga axis. As of 06 June, 35,400 people have received food in the area.

Rutshuru

Food security

As of 06 June, 37,282 people have received food assistance from WFP and World Vision International in Rutshuru center and Kiwanja. Food distributions are continuing on 07 June in Rugari.

Nutrition

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) France continues to provide medical-nutritional care in Rutshuru and in the health area of Kibumba.

Protection

UNHCR and its partners INTERSOS, FEMISA, and women's representatives undertook a multi-sectoral rapid assessment in Rutshuru and Lubero territories between 03 and 04 June to identify protection needs. More than 37,894 IDPs are present in and around Kanyabayonga. The majority are staying with host families who have reportedly already exhausted their own food stocks and resources. IDPs have reported needs in food, water, shelter, and basic items. Transportation assistance is needed to help them return
home. Some unaccompanied children needed to be reunited with their families in Kanyabayonga. On 07 June, 16 unaccompanied displaced children were reunited by the Congolese Red Cross in Rutshuru.

COORDINATION

On 07 June, OCHA facilitated a meeting with humanitarian partners to discuss how they would support the return of displaced people to Goma. Humanitarian actors are ready to support the Government's action plan that is currently being developed.

Within this framework, the Shelter Cluster is preparing a coordinated emergency shelter response in Goma for affected families. More than 4,000 houses have been completely destroyed and 1,000 houses need to be repaired, according to UNHCR.

Humanitarian actors also reiterated the need to be able to continue to respond to the needs of other existing crises.

PUBLICATIONS

Flexible capacity by sector

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Operational presence 3W (volcano response)

Response strategy to the volcanic eruption

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