

OPERATION UPDATE

Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa | Population Movement

Emergency appeal №: MDRCD043 Emergency appeal launched: 20/02/2024. Operational Strategy published: 15/04/2024.	Glide №: OT-2024-000029-COD
Operation update #1 Date of issue: 15/05/2024	Timeframe covered by this update: From 20/02/2024 to 20/03/2024
Operation timeframe: 16 months (20/02/2024 - 30/06/2025)	Number of people being assisted: 500,000
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 30 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal CHF 50 million Federation-wide	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 750,000

To date, this IFRC Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 30,000,000, is 0.6% funded (excluding the CHF 750,000 DREF loan). Further funding contributions are needed to enable the DRC Red Cross, with the support of the IFRC, to continue its preparedness efforts and provide humanitarian assistance and protection to people on the move.



Water distribution by the Red Cross in North Kivu at the Lushagala extension site @IFRC

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

Armed conflict in the eastern provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) continues to intensify, leading the country's Armed Forces (FARDC) into a long war with armed groups including the M23, and displacing tens of thousands of people in search of safety.

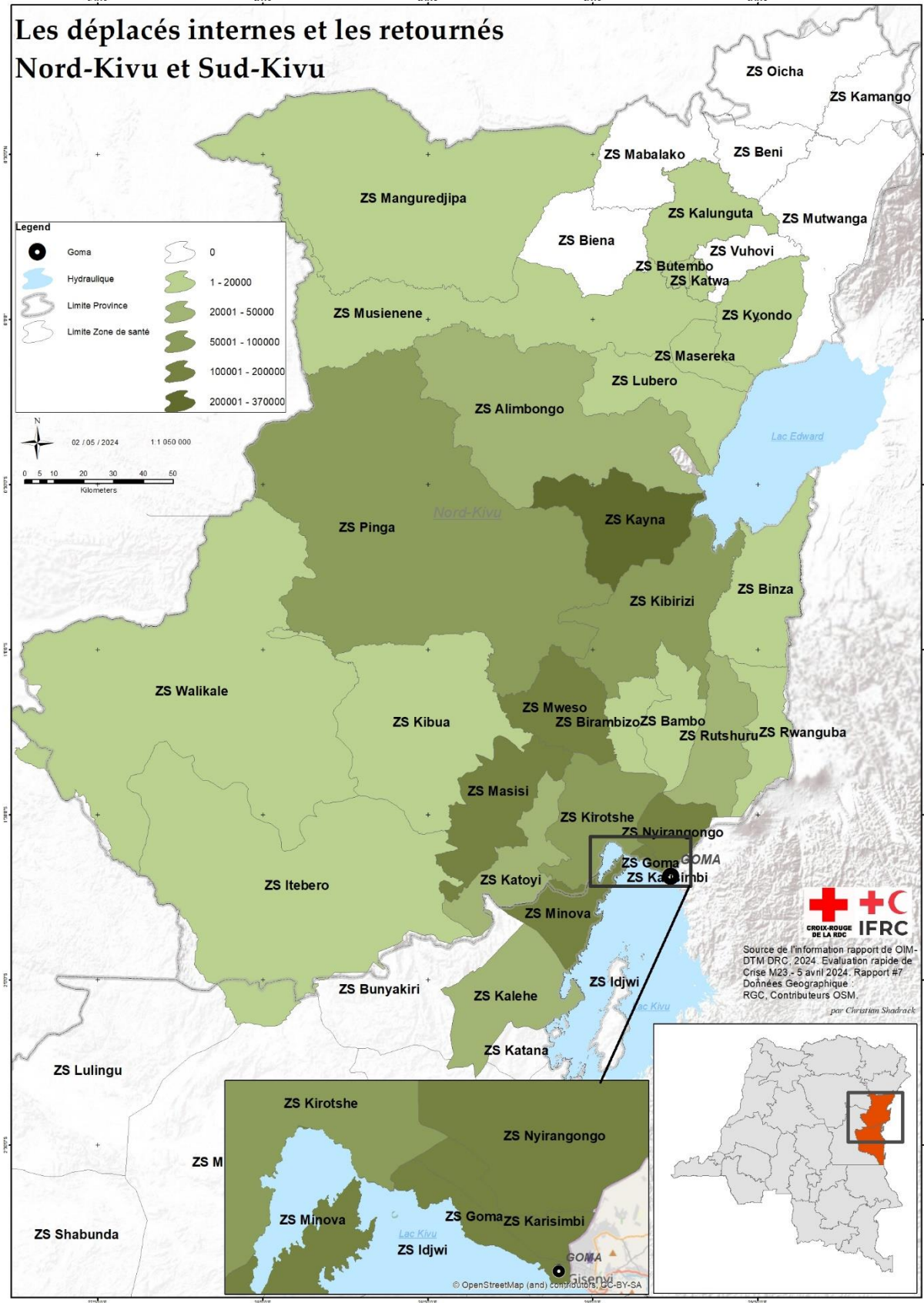
After a period of calm, the conflict with the M23 resumed in October 2023 and intensified in the 1st quarter of 2024. The number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in North Kivu province continued to rise, reaching 1,561,676 IDPs on March 29, 2024 (IOM), and 1.73 million IDPs on January 31, 2024 (OCHA). More than 127,000 displaced people from North Kivu were received in Minova (South Kivu) between February and March 2024. The sudden influx of displaced people, who numbered around 350,000 in March in North Kivu, has strained existing resources, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis. Moreover, the escalation of violence, compounded by reduced humanitarian access, economic slowdown and high inflation, has accentuated the urgent needs of affected communities.

In addition to the immediate challenges posed by displacement and conflict, widespread poverty and vulnerability further exacerbate the severity of the humanitarian situation. Population displacement in South Kivu affected around 1.55 million people in March, with a significant increase of 10% since 2022. These displacements are having a profound impact on protection, social cohesion, the economy, security and access to humanitarian services, exacerbating land tensions and putting host communities under pressure. The protection situation is exacerbated by the precarious conditions and lack of privacy caused by displacement, which increases the risk of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as child protection risks such as family separation and other serious violations of children's rights. Living in overcrowded camps or makeshift shelters without adequate access to drinking water, sanitation facilities and health services increases the risk of malnutrition, water-borne diseases and other health complications. In addition, the disruption of essential services and infrastructure due to the conflict exacerbates these problems, making access to medical care and essential supplies difficult.

As the armed confrontation continues to intensify, with attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure, it is likely that people will continue to flee to safe areas in Goma and South Kivu. Access to agricultural and grazing land, health services and education is very limited in these circumstances, exacerbating their exposure to food insecurity, malnutrition and disease.

On February 20, 2024, the IFRC launched an emergency appeal to support the DRC Red Cross in its response to the Population Movement following the M23 crisis. The appeal is for CHF50 million (CHF30 million through the Secretariat) to support 500,000 people in North and South Kivu. This action is carried out in complementarity with the aid of the ICRC and the Participating National Societies (PNS) in the country. This report has been drawn up to inform stakeholders, donors and the public of the operation's progress, planned priority activities and funding needs.

Les déplacés internes et les retournés Nord-Kivu et Sud-Kivu



Summary of response

Overview of the host National Society and ongoing response

The Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRCRC), as an auxiliary structure of the public authorities, is present in the country's 26 provinces. It has a vast network of trained and motivated volunteers, 26,368 of whom are registered in North Kivu and 24,541 in South Kivu. It is a member of the national disaster risk reduction platform and works in collaboration with the administrative authorities and humanitarian actors.

As part of its response to the population movement following the M23 crisis, the Red Cross DRC plans to mobilize 1,100 volunteers for humanitarian interventions in North and South Kivu.

The activities planned in its operational strategy will be implemented progressively, depending on the financial resources available under the emergency appeal launched on February 20, 2024, for the IFRC.

However, routine activities implemented by the DRC Red Cross continue to be carried out in the field, in particular first aid and Management of Mortal Remains (GDM). In addition, with other funding from the ICRC and IFRC, certain activities are being implemented in IDP sites, as summarized below:

- As part of the DG ECHO Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) implemented in South Kivu (Uvira) with the support of the French Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, the Luxembourg Red Cross and the IFRC, the DRCRC is providing assistance to displaced persons in the camps. In addition:
 - A total of 5 Humanitarian Service Points (PSH) have been set up.
 - The South Kivu branch organized the distribution of trees (Termina lia Mantaly and Faux Pistachier) to volunteers who continue to plant trees to mitigate climate change.
 - From March 27 to 30, 2024, with the support of the Spanish Red Cross, the South Kivu branch organized a multi-sectoral assessment of needs following the rising waters of Lake Tanganyika and the Nyangara marshes on the coast of the town of Uvira.
 - The construction of 50 terracotta houses in Kiliba in the Uvira territory and 25 houses in the town of Uvira is underway.
- The DRC Red Cross is implementing a food security project entitled "Towards zero hunger: vital food security interventions for crisis-affected communities in North Kivu and Tanganyika provinces of DR Congo". This project aims to provide humanitarian assistance to displaced and host households affected by violence and other crisis situations in the provinces of North Kivu and Tanganyika. Since the launch of the emergency appeal, 93549 people (13,659 households) have benefited from the USAID/BHA-funded food distribution project, including 35244 in Beni, 34781 in the Lwashi site and 23,515 in Kashaka in Goma. These interventions complement the UNICEF (Unirr) rapid intervention project in North Kivu. The DRC Red Cross has distributed essential household items and washing kits to displaced households. In addition, the DRC Red Cross continues to promote basic hygiene and sanitation and has set up chlorination points in North Kivu to combat epidemics such as cholera and Ebola.
- As part of the integration of Covid-19 vaccination into routine EPI and primary health care, the DRC Red Cross is contributing to the actions of the Ministry of Health with the support of the IFRC through USAID funding. The aim of the project is to contribute to the achievement of its objective in the following three provinces: Kinshasa, Kongo Central and Nord-Kivu. DRC Red Cross interventions aim to strengthen Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) to improve the inclusive use of the Covid-19 vaccine, while supporting routine immunization through active research on zero-dose and under-vaccinated children. The Red Cross also supports community-based surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases by providing information on alert cases at community level. In March, the Red Cross, in collaboration with the EPI, continued to vaccinate zero-dose and under-vaccinated children in North Kivu. Three vaccination sites were set up in the Goma health zone, the Buhimba health zone and sites for displaced people. In all, 13,451 people were reached by volunteers, 126 pregnant women were vaccinated against Covid-19, 312 zero-dose children were vaccinated, and 146 under-vaccinated children were recovered.

- With the support of the ICRC, 100 volunteers were trained in emergency first aid, including 70 in North Kivu and 30 in South Kivu, followed by PSS training for 75 volunteers in North Kivu and 25 in South Kivu.
- The DRCRC is implementing Safe and Dignified Burials (SDB), first aid, RFL and drinking water supply activities for displaced populations.
- Given its acceptability in the area occupied by armed groups, the DRC Red Cross often organizes logistics to support the Mweso, Kitshanga and Rushuru health centers.

Needs analysis.

Needs analysis:

This needs analysis is based on the multifaceted challenges facing the provinces of North and South Kivu, as well as on information provided by the provincial branches of the Red Cross DRC as part of their response to the current crisis, and then on secondary data. The critical areas are as follows:

SHELTER

The armed conflict in eastern DRC continues to cause population displacement. There is a concentration of displaced people linked to the M23 conflict in sites around Goma. Around 105 sites have been identified by the CCCM cluster out of 129 in the Petit Nord, including 2 rehabilitated sites (Bushagara and Rusayo 2). These sites host around 526,100 displaced people from 148,700 households (including the Nzulo site). There are also around 104,900 displaced people from 19,502 households in host families in Goma and Nyiragongo, according to the IOM DTM as of March 15, 2024, 51% of them in the city of Goma (proportion of the displaced population). Since 2024, the conflict between DRC forces and M23 fighters has displaced more than 1.3 million people in the Masisi, Rutshuru and Nyiragongo territories, and continues to forcibly displace others, who find shelter in neighboring areas. Displaced people are facing disastrous conditions according to authorities and humanitarian actors on the ground, with around 30,000 households recently in the town of Kanyabayonga in Lubero territory.

Many of the displaced have endured multiple displacements, including movements from collective centers, amplifying the difficulties they face.

In South Kivu, more than 127,000 people displaced from North Kivu were received in Minova in the Kalehe territory between February and March 2024 (OCHA). According to the same source, in the FIZI territory, several homes were burnt down following violent clashes between two rival armed groups in the Ngandja Moyens Plateaux between March 17 and 19. Several houses were looted and almost 600 households (3,000 people) from the twelve villages in the locality fled to the bush and the localities of Misisi, Butale and Lubichako. Although a timid return has been observed in the Ngandja sector, the majority are still on the move.

In Kabare territory, torrential rains on February 23, 2024, caused landslides and destroyed many houses in the village of Luhorhe, located in the Nyatende health zone. Around 500 households, or at least 3,000 people, were left homeless as a result. The affected households have lost all their essential possessions and find themselves in a vulnerable situation.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

According to [OCHA](#), 2.6 million people are food insecure in North Kivu. Despite interventions by humanitarian agencies, the scale of the need remains enormous. This reveals a cruel lack of food aid and support services, especially in the regions most affected by conflict and insecurity. Indeed, insecurity in the provinces of North and South Kivu continues to cause a decline in household participation in agricultural activities, further exacerbating food shortages and hampering attempts at a normal resumption of the growing season.

Analysis shows that there is a need not only for immediate food aid, but also for livelihood support to vulnerable households, and for farm rehabilitation to enable communities to better withstand any shocks and disruptions they may face in the future.

HEALTH

The provinces of North and South Kivu continue to experience cholera epidemics, measles outbreaks and acute malnutrition crises.

Overcrowded and unsanitary conditions in IDP camps accentuate the risk of disease transmission. Analysis shows that there is a need for adequate sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion.

In addition, the disproportionate impact on children, with 65% of cases of cholera on the one hand, and acute malnutrition affecting children under five on the other, highlight the need for targeted interventions, adapted to the specific needs of vulnerable populations.

There is still a need to improve healthcare infrastructures, temporarily resolve access problems through mobile health services and promote good health practices to mitigate the impact of these health crises and prevent future epidemics.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

According to [OCHA](#), 2.3 million people are in need of WASH in North Kivu. The lack of adequate WASH infrastructure complicates efforts to limit the risk of disease transmission, especially in overcrowded IDP camps where families face severe water and sanitation shortages. This situation highlights the need for more advanced and targeted WASH interventions designed to meet the immediate needs of affected populations and reduce excess mortality and morbidity resulting from the crisis. The need for WASH services remains extremely high in the country, especially in North and South Kivu.

PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION (PGI)

According to [OCHA](#) (2024), some 5.7 million people need protection from human rights violations. Armed conflict and gross human rights violations, including sexual violence and grave abuses against women and children, continue to drive millions of people to seek refuge far from home. By the end of 2023, more than seven million people were internally displaced - a record on the African continent.

In the face of urgent needs in North and South Kivu, priority must be given to the protection of civilians, including the prevention, mitigation and response to sexual and gender-based violence, in particular protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, and child protection.

MIGRATION

With the growing number of displaced people in North and South Kivu province, the needs of the displaced continue to multiply, making it all the more urgent to step up activities in specific sectors.

Operational risk assessment

Operational risks remain the same as those identified in the published [Operational Strategy](#).

Currently, the primary operational risks are associated with:

- Insufficient financing of the operation. To date, less than 1% of funding needs have been met.
- Growing insecurity in North Kivu province. Following the deterioration of the security situation in the north-western part of the town of Beni, several incidents attributed to the ADF have again been reported in the Sayo districts, resulting in murders and kidnappings. In the Petit Nord, the area of Sake remained a major flashpoint, with clashes spreading to all three affected territories, including Nyiragongo, northeast of Goma, for the first time in several weeks. An ICRC agent (driver) was killed on the evening of March 31 by armed men who accused him of causing the traffic jam before shooting him. In South Kivu province, the continuing deterioration of the M23 crisis in North Kivu, coupled with ongoing clashes near the border between North and South Kivu provinces, continues to threaten the safety of civilians in the Minova area (Kalehe territory), and to threaten the territory of Uvira. Meanwhile, a relative calm has been observed in the Hauts Plateaux of the Uvira, Fizi and Mwenga territories, although the activism of the Twirwaneho armed group continues to pose security problems for communities and humanitarian actors present in the region.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY


Update on the strategy.


While there are no changes to the overall [Operational Strategy](#), due to the limited funding, the response through this Emergency Appeal is focusing primarily on the extension of ongoing activities of the DRCRC and complementary actions, as laid out in the movement response plan which has been created by the National Society with the ICRC, IFRC, and PNS, focusing on operational support, coordination, and cross-border preparedness.

This Operational Strategy is complementary to the large Food Security program supported by BHA and an IFRC-ECHO Pilot Project to enhance the National Society's readiness. Parallel to the implementation of the priority activities under this Operational Strategy, in the second half of 2024 the unified country plan will be reviewed to integrate ongoing emergency operations and longer-term work to provide a holistic picture of the IFRC network's actions in the DRC, serving as a platform for coordination and advocacy/resource mobilization.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

	Shelter, Housing and Settlements	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
		Male > 18:	Male < 18:
Objective:	<i>Communities living in crisis-affected areas are restoring and strengthening their physical protection, security, and long-term well-being through shelter solutions.</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of people who received shelter support</i>	Ongoing	155,000
<p>The Red Cross of the DRC is implementing NFI distribution interventions for people vulnerable to armed conflict in North Kivu. This is done with the technical and financial support of the ICRC and UNICEF. In this sector, the DRC Red Cross has not yet assisted communities through this emergency appeal for population movements. However, teams dedicated to implementing activities in this sector have been mobilized at headquarters and in the provincial branches of North and South Kivu. Activities will be reported in the next updates.</p> <p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase and distribution of emergency shelter kits (tarpaulins, wood, nails, etc.) and other essential household items. • Training volunteers to carry out needs assessments and shelter assistance in IDP sites. • Technical support from trained volunteers to enable households to build their own shelters. 			


	Livelihoods	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
		Male > 18:	Male < 18:

Objective:	<i>Communities, particularly in areas affected by the crisis, are restoring and strengthening their livelihoods.</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of people who have received livelihood support (essential inputs/materials/tools for farm or livestock production, etc.).</i>	0	1,500
	<i># of people who have received training in improved production practices and production risk management.</i>	0	1,000
	<i># of households that received in-kind support (food) to meet their basic needs after being identified and processed for transfer.</i>	0	31,000

Due to the limited funding, no food security and livelihoods activities were implemented during this reporting period. Food needs of affected displaced population and host activities are currently supported through the DRCRC with the support of IFRC BHA project as well as ICRC.

Activities planned:

- Purchase and distribution of emergency food aid for IDP camps and host communities (3 times).
- Setting up and supporting community agricultural cooperative groups.
- Help women's associations and cooperatives draw up production, preparation and marketing plans for production and sales committees.

 Multi-purpose Cash	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:

Objective:	<i>Communities, particularly in crisis-affected areas, improve their well-being through multi-purpose cash transfer solutions</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of households who have successfully received cash or voucher support for their basic needs and who meet the agreed minimum expenditure basket after being identified and processed for transfer.</i>	0	31,000

Due to the limited funding available, planned activities have not yet started. However, teams have been mobilized to carry out the planned priority activities.

Activities planned:

- Organization of training for volunteers in agricultural data collection and project monitoring in Kobo Collection using smartphones.
- Carrying out a market assessment and analysis.
- Distribution of cash transfers to vulnerable households in South Kivu.
- Carried out post-distribution follow-up surveys.



Health & Care

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

Female > 18:

Female < 18:

Male > 18:

Male < 18:

Objective:

Strengthen the holistic individual and community health of affected populations in North and South Kivu through community-based interventions and by strengthening the health system.

Key indicators:

Indicator

Actual

Target

of people benefiting from contextually appropriate health services

-

500,000

of children < 5 years of age who have been enrolled on a supplementary feeding programme from another agency following assessment by the National Society

-

100,000

of home visits carried out to raise awareness of health promotion and water, hygiene and sanitation

-

100,000

of people reached by messages on nutritional choices and/or food preparation

-

250,000

of people reached by community volunteers as part of health and hygiene promotion in response to an emergency situation

-

500,000

of people in the target population who have benefited from psychosocial support services

-

25,000

of DRC Red Cross volunteers and staff who received psychosocial support services

-

1,100

The Red Cross DRC's current activities in the health sector in North Kivu are essentially linked to the mobile clinic, as well as to monitoring and screening for malnutrition in children under 5 and pregnant women. In addition, social mobilization and vaccination activities are underway in North Kivu in IDP camps and communities, as part of the integration of Covid-19 into routine vaccination. In Uvira, South Kivu, epidemic preparedness and response activities are being implemented by the DRC Red Cross as part of DG ECHO's Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP). In addition, thanks to funding obtained by the national society via the ICRC, volunteer skills are being strengthened in psychosocial support, first aid in emergencies, and volunteer safety and security.

Activities planned:

Community health

- Training of 85 volunteers in the EPIC approach
- Health promotion to improve access to primary healthcare.
- Awareness-raising for the prevention of diseases with epidemic potential
- Purchase of MUAC ribbons for SAM/MAM screening
- Production of tools on infant and young child feeding (ANJE) for awareness-raising and community involvement.
- Organization of ANJE sessions with mothers and caregivers
- Training 100 volunteers in Community-Based Disease Surveillance ("CBS") in coordination with the Ministry of Health.
- Implement Community-Based Surveillance (CBS), focusing on active surveillance and event-driven referral.

- Implement Community-Based Surveillance (CBS), focusing on active and event-based surveillance.
- Develop and print brochures on priority diseases with case definitions and community symptoms to raise awareness.
- Support social mobilization activities during vaccination campaigns.
- Purchase of visibility and protection equipment for volunteers (boots, mackintoshes, t-shirts, disinfectant, soaps, hand sanitizers, face masks, etc.).
- Purchase and distribution of condoms.

Mental health and psychosocial support

- Provide psychosocial support (PSS) and psychosocial first aid to people in need.
- PSS sessions for staff and volunteers involved in the operation and referencing.

Medical services

- Organization of first aid
- Purchase/supply of first aid kits.
- Provision of ambulance services to people in need
- Monthly outreach for free medical examinations, advice and referrals – incentives
- Improving access to primary healthcare



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Female > 18:

Female < 18:

Male > 18:

Male < 18:

Objective:			
<i>Ensure the provision of drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene education to communities during the relief and recovery phases of the emergency operation, through community and organizational interventions.</i>			
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># clean water points and water sources built/rehabilitated</i>	0	10
	<i># of households supplied by DRCRC with an improved protected drinking water source (according to WHO and Sphere standards)</i>	Ongoing	25,000
	<i># of households reached with water treatment chemicals and water storage equipment</i>	Ongoing	25,000
	<i># of households supplied by the DRCRC with an improved sanitation facility within 50 meters of their home.</i>	Ongoing	25,000
	<i># of households that received cash assistance for water, sanitation and hygiene after being identified and processed for transfer</i>	0	31,000

At present, the DRC Red Cross is taking a water trucking approach, using both owned and ICRC resources. However, in the context of this emergency appeal, water supply activities have not yet been carried out. In addition, Red Cross volunteers in the DRC are carrying out awareness-raising campaigns on the themes of proper handwashing, personal and household hygiene, home water treatment, followed by community support for latrine construction.

Activities planned:

- Purchase and distribution of Aquatabs and hygiene kits.
- Set up sanitation facilities in IDP camps (latrines, toilets).
- Organization of WASH awareness and hygiene promotion sessions for communities reporting outbreaks of acute diarrhea / cholera.
- Purchase and distribution of dignity kits to women and girls of childbearing age.
- Establishment and training of WASH committees for latrine maintenance and site sanitation.
- Distribution of WASH kits to households (hand washing, soap).

	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
		Male > 18:	Male < 18:
Objective:	<i>Communities identify the needs of the groups most at risk and the particularly disadvantaged and marginalized as a result of inequality, violence, discrimination, exclusion and other forms of non-respect for human rights and respond to their specific needs according to the DAPS principles.</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of people trained to implement minimum PGI standards</i>	Ongoing	1,100
	<i># of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion services</i>	0	155,000

A PGI working group has been set up to contribute to the humanitarian response to this Emergency Appeal. Activities are currently being prepared. DRC Red Cross volunteers have been trained in Gender Protection and Inclusion. A total of 5 support sessions were carried out in the two provinces, including 3 in North Kivu (With the support of the food security project funded by USAID/BHA) and 2 in the city of Kalehe in South Kivu (With the support of the PPP ECHO project), where displaced people are living.

Activities planned:

- Psychosocial support (PSS) and psychosocial first aid (PFA).
- Installation of listening centers / Set up areas to host women and children in IDP camps.
- Distribution of cash to cover the cost of transporting victims of GBV to outpatient medical care facilities.
- Developing and disseminating IEC material on the culture of non-violence and peace (including discrimination, violence, exclusion, sexual and gender-based violence and child protection) will be at the heart of the response.
- Organization of 2 training/refresher sessions for staff and volunteers on the PGI and the PSEA.


	Community Engagement and Accountability	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
		Male > 18:	Male < 18:
Objective:	<i>People and vulnerable communities affected by crisis are empowered to influence the decisions that affect them and trust the IFRC network to service their best interests.</i>		
	Indicator	Actual	Target

Key indicators:	<i># of complaints/feedback received through feedback mechanisms.</i>	Ongoing	TBC
	<i>% of complaints/feedback on the operation that are responded to through established community communication</i>	Ongoing	70%

Training sessions for the volunteers who will accompany the awareness-raising campaigns are being held in the province of North Kivu. A total of 60 volunteers have recently been trained in awareness-raising techniques and CEA as part of the USAID/BHA-funded “Towards zero hunger” project. Several awareness campaigns are currently underway. The mechanism for collecting and managing community feedback exists within the framework of this project and will be extended in this emergency appeal.

Activities planned:

- Setting up a system for collecting and managing community feedback.
- Radio broadcasts in IDP camps.
- Support for the operation of the DRC Red Cross green line.
- Organisation of Community meetings.
- Training volunteers in CEA and radio broadcasting at provincial section level.
- Production and distribution of audiovisual material.
- Monitoring and supervision missions.
- Production and distribution of radio spots.
- Production of visibility materials.
- Organize mobile cinema sessions and educational conferences on healthy eating.

 Migration	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:

Objective: *Specific vulnerabilities of displaced populations and people on the move are analyzed and their needs and rights are met with dedicated humanitarian assistance, protection, and humanitarian diplomacy interventions, in coordination with relevant stakeholders.*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of migrants and displaced persons reached with humanitarian assistance and protection services.</i>	0	155,000
	<i># of HSPs providing humanitarian assistance and protection to migrants and displaced people.</i>	0	6

Within the framework of this emergency appeal, activities in this sector have not yet been carried out. However, as part of the ECHO PPP project, activities are underway through 5 Humanitarian Service Points.

Activities planned:

- Training staff and volunteers in the management of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs).
- Establishment of a referral mechanism.



Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery

Female > 18:

Female < 18:

Male > 18:

Male < 18:

Objective: *Communities adopt climate-smart farming practices.*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of community members targeted by the DRCRC who participate in risk reduction initiatives</i>	0	155,000

Within the framework of this emergency appeal, no risk reduction-related activities have been deployed, although a NEAT+ evaluation was carried out in March by the Red Cross DRC, with ECHO funding, on the PPP project in the town of MINOVA before access to this locality was blocked by armed groups. In the same project in the province of South Kivu in Uvira, Red Cross volunteers took part in a training workshop on intelligent crops to respond to climate change. They continued their awareness-raising activities on the impact of climate change on communities and the importance of implementing prevention, mitigation and adaptation measures. They also continued to monitor the trees planted at the Rugembe erosion site.

At national level, strategies are underway to set up exchange frameworks with the Ministry of the Environment to enable field teams to pool efforts.

Activities planned:

- Involve community resilience committees and other community representatives in risk analysis and community preparedness action plans.
- Train and equip communities in fire safety.
- Training community members in first aid, crisis and disaster preparedness and response, and setting up multi-hazard early warning systems will help reduce risk and improve preparedness.

Enabling approaches



National Society Strengthening

Objective: *The National Society is empowered to lead its own development during emergencies with the coordinated support of partners, bearing in mind a longer-term perspective.*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>The National Society has improved its preparedness, contingency and response plans following recommendations and evidence from the operation</i>	Ongoing	YES
	<i>The National Society is part of the government-led emergency coordination platforms.</i>	Ongoing	YES
	<i>The National Society is part of the official emergency response coordination platforms of the DRCRC, the interagency and the international community.</i>	Ongoing	YES

# of volunteers involved in the response operation who have increased their response and operations management skills	400	1,100
% of volunteers mobilized covered by sickness, accident and death benefits	100%	100%

The DRC Red Cross finalized its response plan to the M23 crisis with the contribution of other members of the Red Cross movement in the country. It is a member of the national disaster risk reduction platform and humanitarian action clusters (shelter, health, food security, etc.). As part of the humanitarian response to the M23 crisis, the Red Cross DRC has already mobilized 400 volunteers to help implement its operational strategy. These are covered by insurance when they are on activity.

Planned activities:

- Organization of a workshop on protracted crisis management.
- Acquisition of visibility and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for volunteers.
- Volunteers management in emergency situations.
- Support for the mobilization of Red Cross DRC staff and volunteers.
- Logistical support for the operation (3 vehicles, communication, office supplies, etc.).



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective:	<i>Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i># of coordination and partnership meetings on the operation held with partners and stakeholders.</i>	8	64
	<i># of joint monitoring missions carried out (DRCRC-IFRC, PNS, ICRC)</i>	0	2
	<i># assessments carried out (initial need/final assessment) (DRCRC-IFRC, PNS, ICRC)</i>	1	2
	<i># surveys carried out (KAP, PDM/Satisfaction) (DRCRC-IFRC, PNS, ICRC)</i>	0	2
	<i># lessons learned workshops/mid-term review</i>	0	2

Movement Coordination

- A mini summit was held on April 3, 2024.
- Strategic, operational, and technical movement coordination forums are in place.
- To date, three movement technical working groups are active.
- A coordination platform for the Movement has been set up at headquarters and in the two provinces.
- Movement meetings are led by the DRC Red Cross on this crisis to align with the ongoing response plan.
- A total of 8 coordination and partnership meetings have been held with partners and stakeholders.
- At operational level, a rapid joint needs assessment was carried out at IDP sites in Goma and Nyiragongo territory. The DRC Red Cross was one of the first partners to carry out assessments in various IDP sites in Goma and Minova, in South Kivu province.

IFRC Membership Coordination

- The IFRC secretariat team is supporting DRCRC to ensure a coordinated approach with PNSs supporting operations in country.
- The Emergency Appeal promotes a Federation-wide approach to the response based on the expertise, capacities, and resources of all members active in the targeted areas. The DRC Red Cross has adopted a single response plan, with a Federation-wide approach to resources and implementation.
- A membership coordinator was deployed to ensure effective contribution of the IFRC and its members to the coordination mechanisms set up to enhance a movement Response to the Population Movement crisis in the DRC.
- During the reporting period, the IFRC Cluster office in Kinshasa welcomed the IFRC Deputy Regional Director for Africa, who visited the DRC to reinforce IFRC and DRCRC's commitment to the humanitarian cause. He met with leaders of the national society and the movement's partners (ICRC and PNS) to continue discussions on the Emergency Appeal - Population movement in North and South Kivu due to the intensification of armed conflict in Eastern DRC. A joint mission followed to Goma, where meetings were held with local branch leaders and the UN Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator (OCHA), to share mutual concerns, details of the appeal launch and exchange ideas on responses to severe unmet humanitarian needs in eastern DRC.



IFRC delegation visits North Kivu@ IFRC

Engagement with external partners

- External coordination continues through participation in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and national and provincial cluster coordination mechanisms.
- The DRC Red Cross and IFRC operational teams in Kinshasa and Goma maintain effective cooperation with all of the Movement's external partners and provide orientation and guidance through regular discussions and dialogue with the National Society.
- The DRC Red Cross is working closely with local authorities, stakeholders, including the provincial and national cluster, the UN system, and other actors working in the field under the leadership of the clusters to ensure that there is no duplication of interventions or activities.

- The Red Cross of the DRC regularly takes part in meetings of the various sectoral clusters (CCCM, Food Security, Shelter, Health, etc.) in order to present actions and better coordinate its interventions with the humanitarian community in the country. In the two provincial branches of North Kivu and South Kivu, DRCRC, PNS, ICRC and IFRC staff also take part in the various meetings organized by the administrative authorities, OCHA and the sectoral clusters.
- During Humanitarian Information Group (HIG) meetings, OCHA provides a detailed update on the security and humanitarian situation in the country, particularly in the East.
- The latest meetings of the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster provided an opportunity to:
 - Review the cluster's operations and results in 2023.
 - Analyze the challenges facing SECAL in the DRC and propose strategic and technical ideas to improve coordination between partners and engage the government.
 - Discuss the coordination architecture and consider ways of improving multi-sector coordination.
 - Define processes for monitoring the food security situation and find practical solutions for assessing the severity of needs in order to better guide partners' operational decisions.
 - Validate the revision of the FSL Cluster guidelines.

- In mid-March, the DRC Red Cross organized two technical and strategic days on Community-Based Surveillance (CBS) with partners from the national "One Health" platform. The aim of the meeting was to strengthen coordination and collaboration between key stakeholders working in the field of community-based surveillance. It brought together 64 participants from government, local NGOs and international organizations, including WHO, UNICEF and IOM. Participants mapped existing CBS structures, identified current challenges and proposed solutions. At the meeting, the Coordinator of the "One Health" platform, declared: "We are ready to facilitate the next steps, which include the complete mapping of technical and financial partners involved in CBS in the DRC; the possible revision of CBS tools validated by the epidemiological surveillance directorate; and the positioning of the Red Cross alongside the National Institute of Public Health (INSP) [the body responsible for the country's preparedness for public health crises]."

Activities planned:

- Strengthen existing movement coordination with more regular communications and meetings.
- Conduct high-level advocacy.
- Organize follow-up missions and joint supervisions.
- A coordination framework will be established for potential support in case of influxes in neighboring countries, in coordination with IFRC delegations and national societies (Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda).



Objective: *Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>The resource mobilization strategy has been completed and implemented</i>	1	1
	<i>A risk matrix is established and regularly updated.</i>	Ongoing	1
	<i># financial audits carried out</i>	0	1

- On the 18 April a [Mobilization table](#) was published aiming to support 3,000 families with household and wash items.
- The risk matrix provided in the operational strategy was reviewed and updated.

Resource Mobilization:

The IFRC is coordinating a briefing on 10 May 2024 for Kinshasa-based partners and stakeholders, including embassies and select development agencies. The briefing will feature presentations from the IFRC, DRC Red Cross and the ICRC, as well as remarks from in-country partners. Included among various in-country events around World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, the briefing will provide participants with insights on the role of the Red Cross of the DRC as a trusted local actor in the response to the humanitarian situation in East, supported by the IFRC and the ICRC. As part of this briefing, participants will be informed about the current activities of the Red Cross of the DRC and the IFRC, highlighting both short-term and mid to longer-term needs and response, as well as the eventual shift from relief to recovery.

Communication

- A media and communication plan has been drawn up with the support of IFRC staff.
- A communications team (IFRC, DRC Red Cross and consultants) carried out a mission to North Kivu. Interviews and photos were taken in the camps with a view to producing a documentary film to contribute to the resource mobilization effort.
- The IFRC helped organize a press conference on the BBC, attended by the president and provincial secretary of the Goma branch, the head of the IFRC delegation in Kinshasa and the IFRC deputy regional director for Africa. In front of the press, the DRC Red Cross and the IFRC expressed their concern about the considerable increase in humanitarian needs due to the current crisis in North Kivu. The two institutions are on the front line in witnessing the degraded and sometimes catastrophic conditions of those affected, lacking almost everything.
- Briefing on the humanitarian situation in eastern DRC and the role of the DRC Red Cross in the response
- Links to published articles are provided below:
 - <https://larepublique.net/?p=21515>
 - <https://www.ellefm.net/2024/03/01/crise-humanitaire-dans-lest-de-la-rdc-la-federation-internationale-de-la-croix-rouge-prete-a-intervenir-en-faveur-des-deplaces/>
 - <https://africa.cgtn.com/red-cross-warns-of-immense-crisis-in-dr-congo/>
 - <https://www.rfi.fr/en/international-news/20240308-red-cross-warns-of-immense-crisis-in-dr-congo>
 - <https://www.trtafrika.com/africa/drc-violence-red-cross-appeals-for-dollar60-million-to-provide-desperate-aid-17277655>
 - <https://actualite.cd/2024/05/10/reponse-humanitaire-aux-mouvements-de-population-dans-lest-de-la-rdc-par-le-gouvernement>

- <https://lemondeen24h.com/rdc-reponse-humanitaire-aux-mouvements-de-population-dans-lest-par-le-gouvernement-des-etats-unis-et-la-federation-internationale-des-societes-de-la-croix-rouge-et-du-croissant-rouge/>
- <https://www.forumdesas.net/2024/05/communique-de-presse>



team of consultants (Communication) @IFRC.



Interview with IDPs at the Lwashi site in Mugunga (North Kivu) by reporters @ IFRC.

Human resources

- To better prepare the Red Cross response to the current humanitarian emergency, the IFRC has set up a mechanism for deploying its surge teams. Firstly, the IFRC secretariat in Kinshasa welcomed the operations coordinator from the Abuja cluster on a one-month mission to set up the operational strategy for the emergency appeal.
- In mid-March, a Programme Coordinator from a different Cluster Delegation was deployed to Kinshasa for 4 weeks to support the cluster team in finalizing the operational strategy process.
- The Kinshasa Cluster continues to welcome staff from the Regional Office and Geneva, as well as people with different profiles in the DRC, as part of this appeal. The following staff have been deployed: Operations Manager (1st rotation), Supply Chain (1), SPRM (1), Membership Coordination Coor (1), Other deployments are in progress (Humanitarian Information Analyst, IM, PGI, etc).

PMER/IM

The Red Cross DRC is currently working on strengthening and rationalizing its human resources management, data and reporting systems.

The process was in progress before the launch of the emergency appeal. In addition, PMER and IM from the IFRC Delegation in Kinshasa have supported the DRCRC in understanding indicators, developing data collection tools (Kobo) and the monitoring and evaluation framework.

Concerning the data from this operation, the DRCRC has formed a working group on PMER and information management.

The main supporters are from IFRC, ICRC and Swedish Red Cross. The main objective is to improve the quality and timeliness of data from sector focal points in the operation to support decisions, actions and accountability.

- 1 IM coordinator is being recruited to support the action.
- 1 humanitarian information analyst has been recruited for a period of 1 month and will work remotely.

Security and safety

- Staff and volunteers receive regular security briefings.
- A security risk assessment has been carried out in Goma by the ICRC, with contributions from the DRC Red Cross and the IFRC.

Activities planned:

- Support for the recruitment and deployment of Surge staff.
- Logistical support for the operation.
- Continue safety briefing at HQ and provincial branch levels.
- Collection, processing, and analysis of operation data.

D. FUNDING

As of 9 May, the funding received for this appeal is as follows:

- The IFRC has received CHF 173,777 in registered funding and a further CHF 19,000 in committed funding, which represents less than 1 percent of the IFRC Secretariat funding requirement of CHF 30 million. The contribution list is available for download at [this link](#). Including the initial IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 750,000, the operation has therefore received approximately CHF 943,000 for immediate response in its first 3 months.
- The Spanish Red Cross has contributed CHF 29,000 bilaterally to the DRC Red Cross. The Federation-wide appeal has therefore received less than 1 percent of its CHF 50 million funding requirement.

Further funding contributions are needed to enable the DRC Red Cross, with the support of the IFRC, to continue its preparedness efforts and provide humanitarian assistance and protection to people on the move.

Contact information.

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the DRC National Society

- **Secretary General:** Gloria Lombo, email: sgcrrdc@croixrouge-rdc.org, phone: +243856435031
- **Operational coordination:** Moise Kabongo Ngalula, Operations Director, email: moise.kabongo@yahoo.fr , phone: +243 852387181

In the IFRC

- **IFRC Regional Office for Africa DM coordinator:** Rui Alberto Oliveira, Regional Operations Lead, rui.oliveira@ifrc.org , +254 780 422276
- **IFRC Country Cluster Support Team:** Mercy LAKER, Head of Country Cluster Delegation- Kinshasa, mercy.laker@ifrc.org, +243 853449555

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **IFRC Regional Office for Africa:** Louise Daintrey, Head of Strategic Partnerships and Resource Management; louise.daintrey@ifrc.org , +254 110 843 978

For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- **Global Logistics Services** - Name, title, email, phone
- **Logistics Coordinator:** Allan Kilaka Masavah, Manager, Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management, allan.masavah@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting enquiries): IFRC Africa Regional Office: Beatrice Atieno OKEYO, Head of PMER & QA, email: beatrice.okeyo@ifrc.org

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Link to IFRC Emergency landing page](#)
- [Previous Appeals and updates for this emergency](#)
- [Additional information on the GO platform](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.