

Democratic Republic of the Congo

August 2021

Highlights

- **Completion of 1,522 emergency shelters** in North Kivu province for 7,600 displaced persons.
- UNHCR and partners facilitated the **voluntary repatriation of 829 Burundian and Rwandan refugees** to their country of origin.
- **UNHCR distributed mobile phones to over 1,000 refugee families** in Haut Katanga Lualaba and Tanganyika provinces which will allow them to receive electronic payments.
- **A new healthcare centre was built** and equipped in Nganza, Kasai Central province.



Due to the bad road network in South Kivu province, UNHCR and partners are using a speed boat across the Tanganyika lake to reach Burundian refugees. © UNHCR/Antonia Vadalà

Refugees

PROTECTION

- UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR) facilitated the **voluntary repatriation of 576 Burundian refugees and 253 Rwandan refugees** living in North Kivu and/or South Kivu provinces to their country of origin.
- UNHCR, the CNR and partners **relocated 767 Burundian refugees** wishing to repatriate **from Lusenda camp and Mulongwe settlement in South Kivu province to Kavimvira Transit Centre and Sange Assembly Point** for their voluntary return to Burundi. Due to the bad road network, they were transported by boat across the Tanganyika lake.
- **In August, 335 Central African refugees received refugee identity cards** in Modale, North Ubangi province.. A total of 4,126 refugee IDs have been distributed since April 2021 in various localities in North and South Ubangi provinces. These identity cards enable free movement of refugees within the DRC and enhance access to social and economic services.
- **44 South Sudanese refugees were relocated to the Bele settlement**, Haut-Uele province, from the overcrowded Meri settlement.
- **Five incidents of gender-based violence were documented** by UNHCR's partner ADSSE in Haut-Uele province. Psychosocial and medical support was provided to survivors.

HEALTH

- UNHCR and partners **distributed dignity kits - containing hygiene supplies - to over 8,600 women and girls** of reproductive age in Lusenda and Mulongwe settlements, South Kivu Province.

- UNHCR's partner AIDES provided **medical supplies and medication to the Saio Hospital in Bukavu**, South Kivu province. The hospital is the referral health facility for refugees living in Bukavu and surroundings, as well as candidates for voluntary repatriation.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

- UNHCR and partner AIDES **distributed bars of soap to 35,081 Burundian refugees** living in Lusenda camp and Mulongwe settlement, South Kivu Province. A distribution also took place at the Sange Assembly Point and Kavimvira and Mongemonge transit centres, targeting 829 Burundian refugees.
- UNHCR's partner AIDES continues to provide water and sanitation infrastructures for Burundian refugees. **30 refugee families who have recently relocated to Mulongwe settlement, South Kivu province, received technical support and latrine kits** to build their own toilets and showers. Additional showers and toilets were also built at Mongemonge transit centre, Mulongwe settlement and Lusenda camp, benefitting 570 Burundian refugees.
- **176 latrines have been completed at Modale site** hosting Central African refugees, North Ubangi province.
- UNHCR's partner ACTED completed the **construction of a fifth water point at the Modale site** to improve the drinking-water supply for newly relocated Central African refugees.



SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIs)

- About **1,000 shelters have already been built for refugees from CAR at the Modale site**, in North Ubangi province while 1,700 more are under construction.
- **44 newly relocated South Sudanese refugees benefited from shelter assistance** at the Bele site in Haut-Uele province. Kits consisting of blankets, mats, buckets, soap and kitchen sets were distributed to the families.
- UNHCR and partner AIRD finalized the **construction of 29 shelters at Bele settlement**, Haut-Uele province, benefitting 56 South Sudanese refugees.



CASH-BASED INTERVENTIONS (CBI)

- **UNHCR distributed mobile phones to over 1,000 refugee families** in Kipushi, Kolwezi and Lubumbashi in Haut Katanga province, Dilolo in Lualaba province as well as in Kalemie, Tanganyika province. Provision of mobile phones and SIM cards to displaced families will allow them to receive electronic payment in September and choose to prioritize needs that might range from food, to clothing, health care and shelter.
- **7,604 Central African refugees and 448 host community members benefited from multipurpose cash assistance** in Nzakara, North Ubangi province.



EDUCATION

- UNHCR, through its partner AIDES, provided **cash assistance to 249 refugees living in Goma, North Kivu province, to cover primary education costs** through mobile payments.
- In North Ubangi province, **the identification is underway of schools to build 100 classrooms in the areas hosting Central African refugees**. The aim is to strengthen the capacity of these schools and improve the study conditions of refugee and host community children.

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- **UNHCR and the World Food Programme (WFP) reached 30,904 South Sudanese refugees through a joint cash-for-food distribution** in Haut-Uele and Ituri provinces, to meet their most urgent needs.

Statelessness

- UNHCR works with provincial authorities to prevent statelessness by facilitating birth registration. On 28 August 2021, a campaign was launched in Kalemie Territory, Tanganyika province that **aims to facilitate the provision of birth certificates for approximately 10,000 children**.
- Without birth certificates, which are one of the main means of determining who a child's parents are and what nationality they are entitled to, children risk becoming stateless in the future. **A programme launched in May 2021 will allowed more than 35,000 children to receive birth certificates in the Kasai region.**

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)



PROTECTION

- **UNHCR's partner INTERSOS continues to support local communities as important first responders to recurrent forced displacement.** Capacity building workshops took place in South Kivu Province, allowing six community protection groups to assess and report protection incidents in hard-to-reach areas.
- **Humanitarian partners in the Kongolo and Mbulula health zones, Tanganyika province, have recorded 243 incidents of rape**, 48 of which involved minors, in 12 different villages. The incidents took place between December 2020 and July 2021. UNHCR and its partners continue to work with local authorities and humanitarian actors to ensure that psychosocial and medical support is provided to survivors. UNHCR and partner AIRD inaugurated a 'maison d'écoute' located in Kongolo to provide support to survivors of SGBV and allow local authorities to implement social cohesion initiatives aimed at encouraging dialogue between communities.
- **18 women survivors of sexual and gender-based violence graduated in various fields such as auto mechanics and electronics** at vocational training centres in Tshikapa, Kasai province and Kananga, Kasai-Central province. After following a 6-months training, they received a tool kit to support them in starting up their own business and gain financial independence.



HEALTH

- **A new healthcare centre was built and equipped in Nganza, Kasai Central province** with the support from UNHCR and its partners AIDES and the KADIMA foundation. The centre is providing medical services to displaced persons, returnees and host community members.



SHELTER AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIs)

- **UNHCR and partners completed the construction of 1,522 emergency shelters in Mweso and Masisi, Masisi Territory and in Kibirizi, Rutshuru Territory**, North Kivu province, benefiting more than 7,600 internally displaced persons.
- As civilians continue to be uprooted by insecurity and violence, UNHCR's partner AIDES distributed **4,535 plastic sheets to displaced households** living in collective centres in Masisi centre, North Kivu province.
- UNHCR's partner AIDES finalized the construction of **300 transitional shelters in Kaina, Lubero territory**, Ituri province. The additional shelters aim at decongesting the overcrowded collective centres.
- UNHCR and partner AIDES **distributed core relief items and dignity kits to almost 400 displaced families in Bulotwa**, North Kivu Province.

- **UNHCR and its partner CARITAS distributed core relief items consisting of cushions, mats, and jerrycans to over 11,800 individuals living in various IDP sites¹ in Ituri province.** In addition, 3,108 women and girls receive hygiene kits.
- Together with partners NRC and AIDES, UNHCR provided **cash for shelter to 465 households in Mutoto and Dizaya health zones**, Kasai Central province. Locally sourced materials -including windows, doors and molding trowel- were also provided to the families to help them build their own shelters.

Clusters and Working Groups

- The Shelter Cluster contributed to the Emergency Pooled Fund Allocation for Ituri and Beni in North Kivu province where more than **USD\$ 3 Million was allocated to the shelter sector Cluster and Non-Food-Item Working Group to support 56,000 individuals**. Allocations from country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) enables humanitarian partners in crisis-affected countries to deliver timely, coordinated and principled assistance.
- **The Protection Cluster Coordination established the Protection Monitoring Working Group (GTMP) in Ituri province**, to facilitate coordination among protection monitoring actors, and to fill and address critical gaps.

External / Donor Relations

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