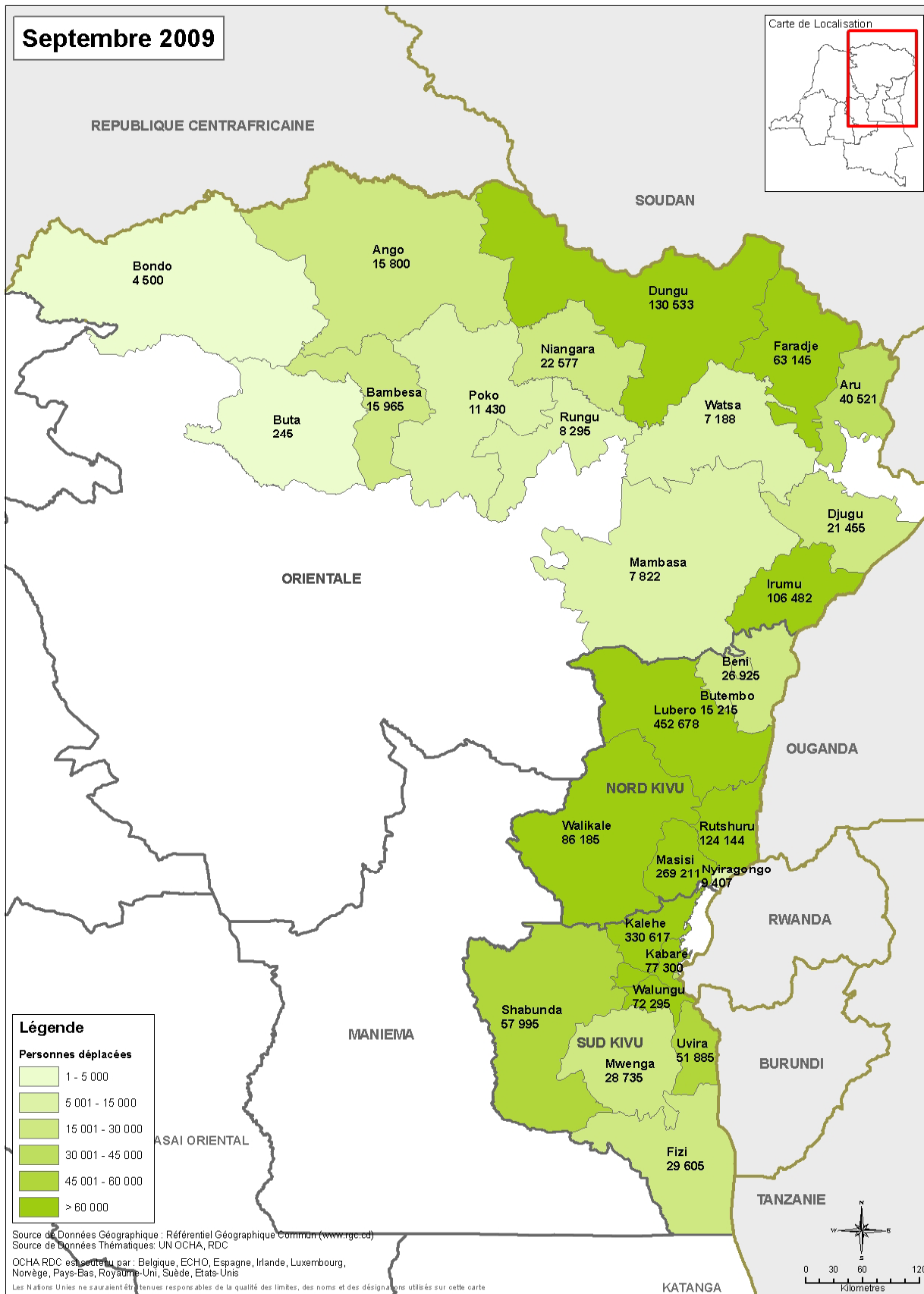


**OCHA DRC
 POPULATION MOVEMENTS IN EASTERN DR CONGO
 JULY – SEPTEMBER 2009**

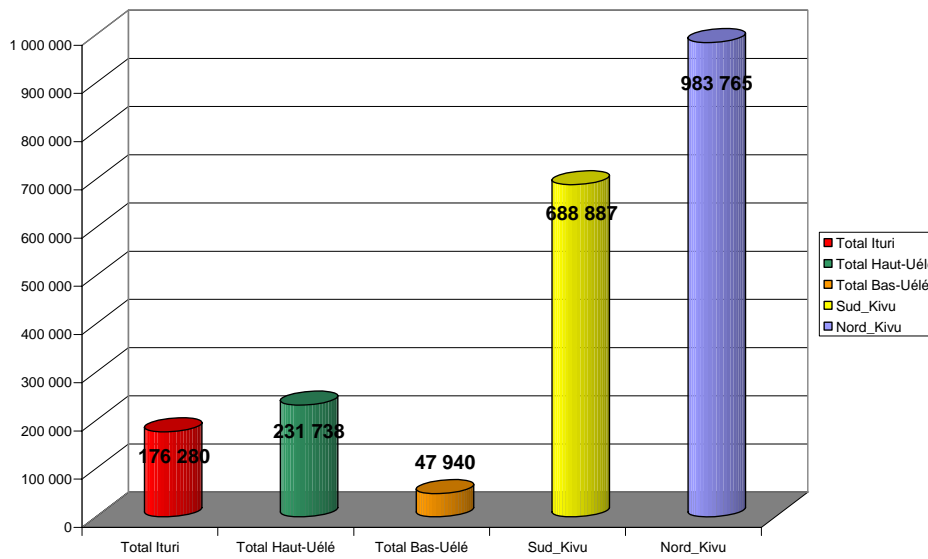


1. OVERVIEW

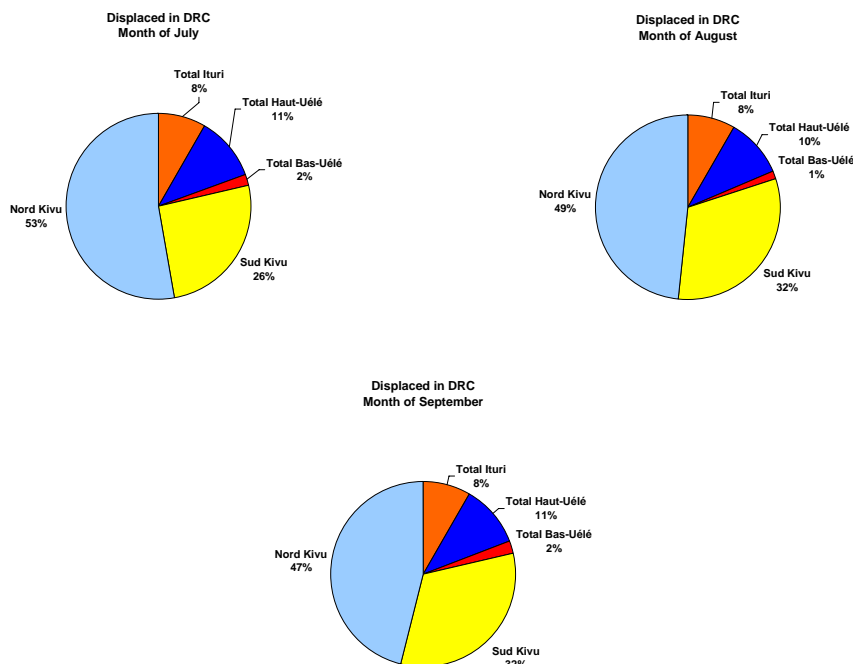
The humanitarian situation has recently deteriorated in South Kivu where the military operations called Kimia II have been launched in July 2009 causing new displacements. As of September 2009 the total number of IDPs is estimated at 688,887 of which 204,055 in the period between July 1 and September 30 2009.

Since September 2008, the Oriental Province has witnessed a significant number of attacks carried out by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) causing displacement of population in the Haut and Bas Uele districts. The LRA fighters continue to terrorize the population and are responsible for atrocities and acts of extreme violence: killings, rapes, kidnapping of women and children. In the Haut and Bas Uele district (Orientale province), a continuous rise of the number of displaced in areas such as Dungu and Ango (Dingila) territories has been registered.

IDPs per Province



Note: Ituri, Haut and Bas Uele are districts of the Oriental province



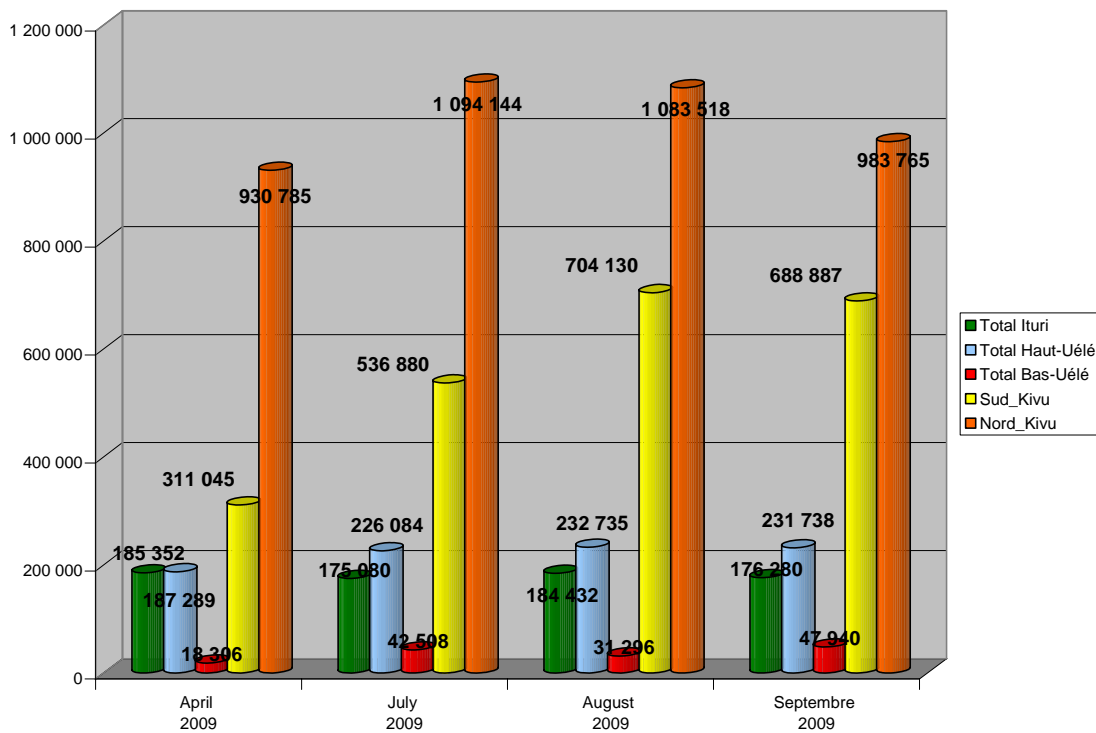
Since February 2009, the LRA fighters have been attacking the Bas Uele district causing further displacement in the area. According to the figures collected up to September 30, the number of displaced people in Haut Uele is estimated at 231,738 while in Bas Uele it is at 47,940.

In the Ituri district, in particular in the south of the Irumu territory, the population have been targeted by the militaries. Since the last quarterly report, a slight increase of about 1.000 IDPs (in Aru territory) coming from the Faradje territory has been registered.

In North Kivu, an increased number of returnees as a consequence of the closing down of IDP camps in the area of Goma has been registered. Since January 2009, it is estimated that about 433,000 people have returned. The main areas of return are: Lubero (51%), Rutshuru (36%) and Masisi (13%).

Even though the security situation in North Kivu has not improved during the reporting period, only few displacements have been registered in Walikale, Masisi, Lubero and Beni territories. The total number of IDPs in North Kivu has been estimated at 983,765.

N. of IDPs per Province since April 2009



The total estimated number of internally displaced persons in the country currently stands at **2,128, 610**.

2. CURRENT TRENDS BY PROVINCE

2.1. NORTH KIVU

↓ Displacement: decreased numbers

- 983,765 displaced persons in North Kivu
- 45% of displaced are now in the Lubero territory

↑ Returns: increased numbers

- During the last six months, about 433,000 people have returned to Lubero, Rutshuru and Masisi.

Displacement

Context Summary

The humanitarian situation in North Kivu has continued to deteriorate since the beginning of 2009, due to military operations and clashes between Mayi Mayi fighters, FDLR and the FARDC.

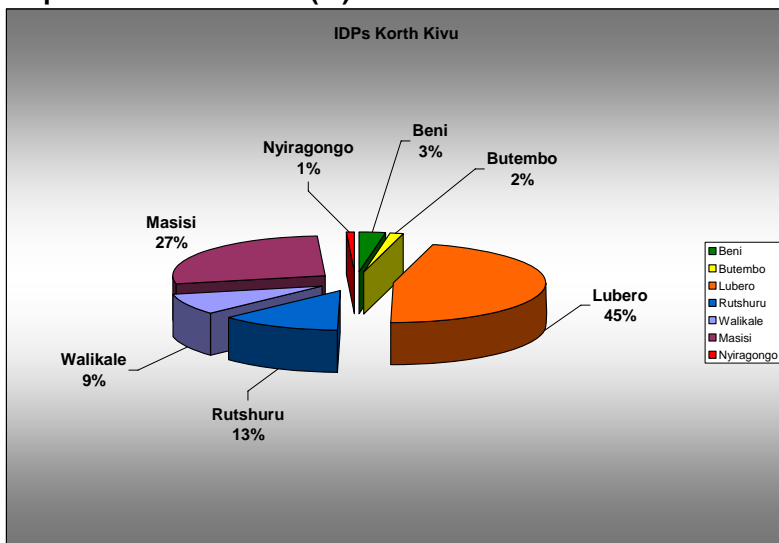
Displacements have continued but in a lower scale compared to the previous reporting period. Insecurity is caused by the presence of a number of rebel groups, such as the Mayi Mayi self-defence group that is mainly active in Lubero, Rutshuru, Masisi and Walikale.

In the Grand Nord, the clashes between the Mayi Mayi and the FARDC in the Lubero territory west of Lake Eduard have triggered a new wave of displacements.

Notwithstanding the multiple attacks of FARDC, FDLR and Mayi Mayi Kifuafua in the Walikale territory, only 640 new displaced families have been recently registered.

Territory	Households	N. of displaced persons
Beni	5 385	26 925
Butembo	3 043	15 215
Lubero	90 536	452 678
Rutshuru	24 829	124 144
Walikale	17 237	86 185
Masisi	53 842	269 211
Nyiragongo	1 881	9 407
Total	196 753	983 765

Displaced in North Kivu (%)



Returns

An increased number of returnees in areas such as Lubero, Rutshuru and Masisi has been observed due to the closure of the IDPs camps in the Goma area in the end of September 2009. Since January 2009, about 433,000 people have returned. But the verification of the figures continues to be difficult due to episodes of "commuting" returns especially in Lubero. In the Grand Nord, some returns have been registered, a movement which is not due to an improved security but rather to the need to start up the new planting season.

Territory	Households	N. of Returnees
Lubero	73 411	367 055
Rutshuru	51 563	257 817
Masisi	18 942	94 711
Total	143 917	719 583

Trends

The number of IDPs has slightly decreased since the beginning of 2009. In the first three months period, 399,908 new IDPs have been registered, while 145,502 were registered from May to June and 156,326 in the last three months. There is an increase of numbers of returnees and this tendency is expected to continue in the next three months.

2.2. SOUTH KIVU



Displacement: new displaced persons

- 688,887 displaced persons in South Kivu (new and old).
- About 200,000 new displaced or registered by humanitarian actors in the past three months (July – September).



Returns: Some returns have been registered

- A shy return has been reported in Walungu and Fizi

Context Summary

Following the launching of the military operations Kimia II in South Kivu in July 2009, the security situation has deteriorated. The humanitarian space has been reduced in the areas of Numbi, Kalehe territory, and in the Uvira plateau where the number of security incidents have increased since the beginning of the Kimia II operations.

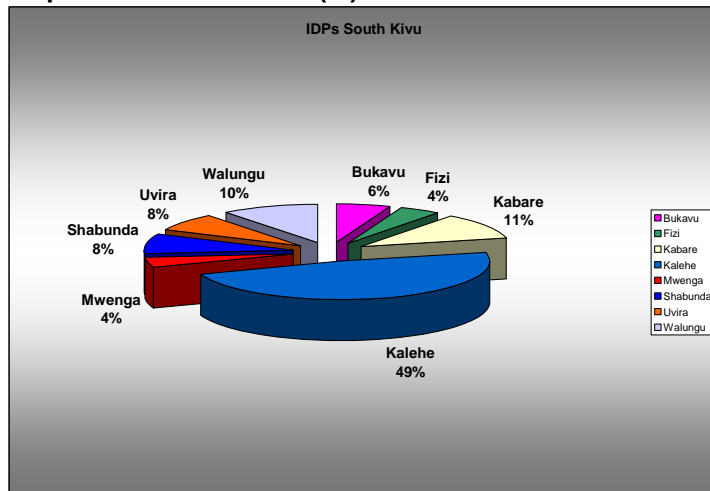
In the Fizi territory, south of the province, the deployment of FARDC has triggered some security incidents and had a negative impact on the already fragile relations between the communities in the area.

Since July 2009, the total number of newly displaced is about 200,000 mainly registered in Kalehe (90.540), Uvira (42.555) and Shabunda (32.430).

As of today the total number of IDPs in South Kivu is estimated at more than 688,000.

Territory	Households	N. of displaced persons
Bukavu	8 091	40 455
Fizi	5 921	29 605
Kabare	15 460	77 300
Kalehe	66 123	330 617
Mwenga	5 747	28 735
Shabunda	11 599	57 995
Uvira	10 377	51 885
Walungu	14 459	72 295
Total	137 777	688 887

Displaced in South Kivu (%)



Returns

The return process is very limited due to the security situation and the ongoing military operations. About 40,000 returns have been reported in Walungu and Fizi during the last six months period. Some areas previously identified as safe for returns are now areas of displacement and the physical access to people in need has become very difficult.

Territory	Households	N. of returnees
Fizi	5 230	26 150
Kabare	6 714	33 570
Mwenga	1 843	9 215
Shabunda	8 464	42 320
Uvira	1 730	8 650
Walungu	97 220	486 100
Total	121 201	606 005

As of 30 September 2009, the Commission Mouvements des Populations (CMP) has registered 606,005 returnees in the province of South Kivu.

Trends

The number of displaced could rise in South Kivu in the coming months due to continuing military operations against the FDLR. Even the areas where the FARDC have already conducted their operations, most of them were not considered safe. The FDLR have already started to return to these areas and have started to commit atrocities against civilian populations, thus causing further displacement of people. The initial return, timidly observed in some areas, is currently halted because of the insecurity that continues to be observed in places of origin of IDPs. The burning and total destruction of several villages by armed groups are also a factor which does not encourage returns.

2.3. ITURI DISTRICT (PROVINCE ORIENTALE)



Displacement: increased numbers

- About 1,000 newly displaced persons in the Ituri district due to recent fighting between FARDC and FPJC/FRPI.



Returns:

- The return of displaced populations is almost finished in Ituri district except for the community of Walendu Bindi (Irumu Territory). In the last twelve months, nearly 100 000 people have returned in the Ituri district, less than 5% of the total since 2004.

Context Summary

Territory	Households	N. of displaced persons
Aru	9 253	40 521
Djugu	4 297	21 455
Irumu	21 340	106 482
Mambasa	1 586	7 822
Total	36 476	176 280

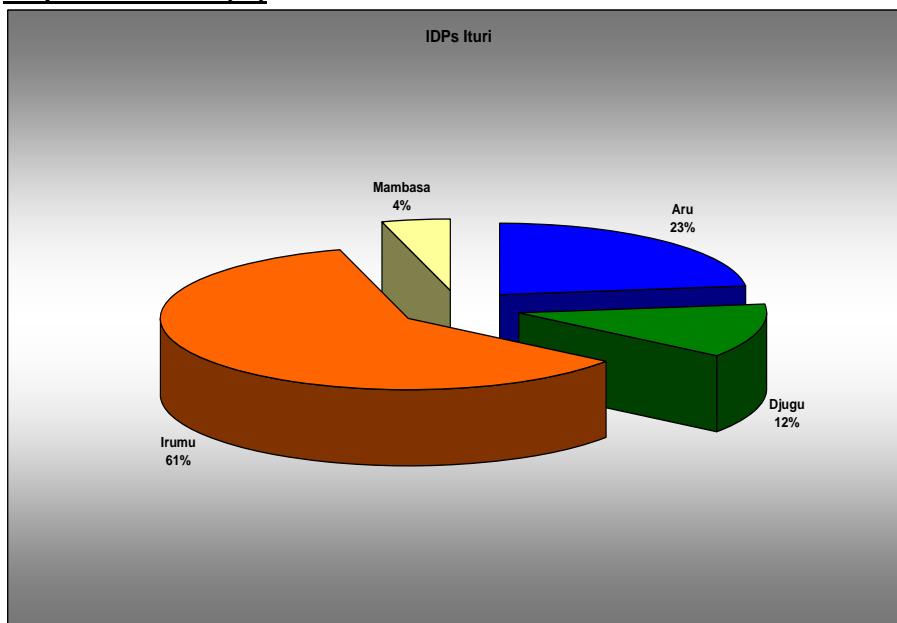
The FARDC, with the support of MONUC launched several military operations since April 12, 2009, the latest ending September 19. These operations, which had very few casualties on both sides, led the militia to form into several groups scattered throughout the southern territory, which enabled them to launch surprise attacks in different localities against FARDC positions but also against the villages.

The security situation has deteriorated in particular in the Irumu territory where a high number of harassments against the local population have been reported.

During the reporting period, A slight increase of the number of IDPs in Ituri, from 175,080 in July 2009 up to 176,280 in September 2009 has been registered.

61% of IDPs in Ituri district are from Irumu Territory, out of which 60% have been displaced in the last 12 months. 2,360 displaced persons in the Mahagi territory have been pruned because the assessments have shown that the cause of displacement is the search for new arable land and not a situation of conflict or disaster.

Displaced in Ituri (%)

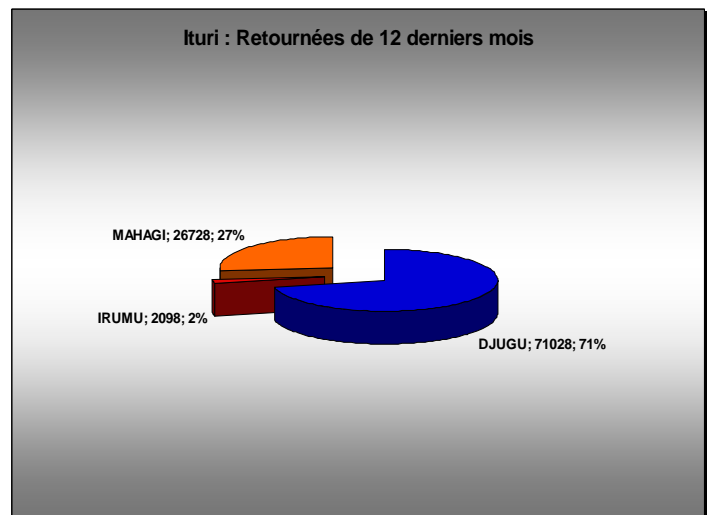
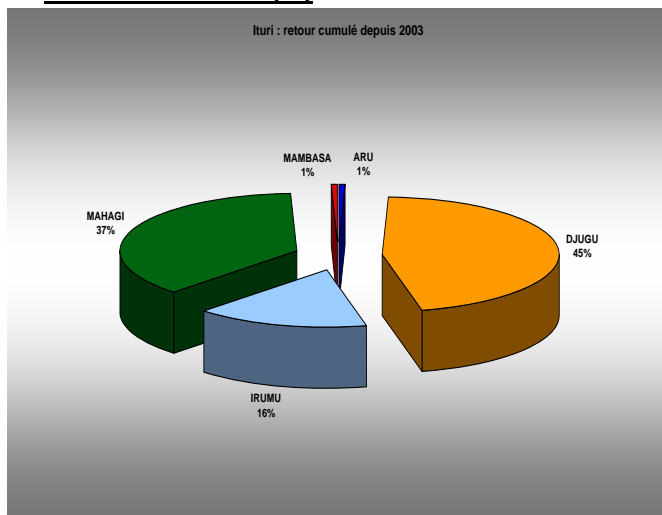


Returns

The continued presence of militia of the “Front Populaire pour la Justice au Congo (FPJC)” and the “Front de Résistance des Patriotes en Ituri (FRPI)” in the southern part of the Irumu territory continues to be an obstacle to the return of some 100,000 IDPs to their villages of origin. The vast majority of those displaced are from the community of Walendu Bindi.

Territory	Households	N. of returnees
Aru	2 853	14 265
Djugu	20 1448	960 928
Irumu	67 301	327 549
Mahagi	158 367	781 345
Mambasa	2 516	12 392
Total	432 485	2 096 479

Returns in Ituri (%)



Trends

The most likely scenario in the Humanitarian Action Plan 2010 mentioned that between 100,000 and 150,000 people could remain displaced in 2010 either due to persistence of localized conflict and / or land disputes preventing IDPs from returning to their communities of origin of the territories of Djugu and Irumu. Half of this displaced population would be composed of newly displaced and / or commuting in the Irumu territory.

After the large waves of return in 2006 and 2007 (76%), a significant decrease was observed (11% in 2008 and only 2% in 2009). This trend suggests that the return of displaced populations is almost finished in the Ituri district except for the community of Walendu Bindi (Territory Irumu)

2.4. HAUT AND BAS UELE DISTRICT (ORIENTAL PROVINCE)



Displacement: increased numbers

- 30,000 new displaced persons since end of June in Haut-Uele (increase in Dungu and Faradje territories).
- 11,500 new displaced persons since end of June in Bas Uele (increase in Ango territory).



Returns: no changes

Context Summary

The Ugandan rebel group Lord's Resistance Army, LRA, is still very active in the area and is the cause of the ongoing displacement in Haut and Bas Uele. Even though during the month of August, the number of attacks against the population has slightly decreased (56 reported attacks in July, 32 reported attacks in August, 24 in September), the death toll (59) in September is the highest since April 2009 and the number of abductions remains very high (148). In addition, the presence and violent actions of the FARDC against the local population are contributing to the deterioration of the security in the area.

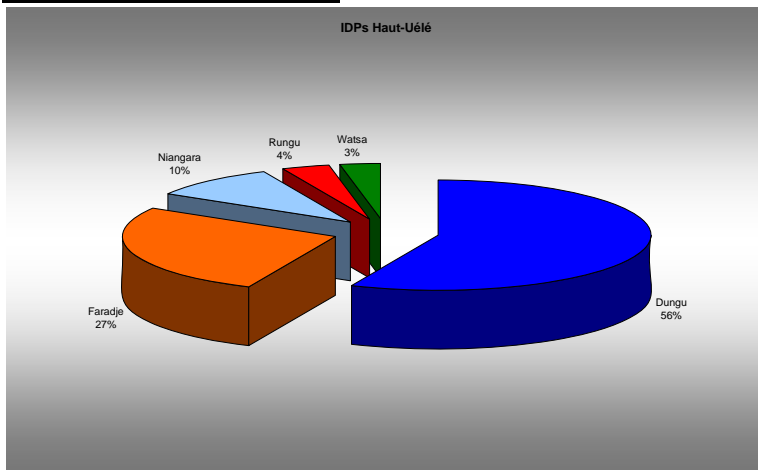
Territory	Households	N. of displaced persons
Dungu	26 107	130 533
Faradje	12 629	63 145
Niangara	4 515	22 577
Rungu	1 659	8 295
Watsa	1 438	7 188
Total	46 348	231 738

Territory	Households	N. of displaced persons
Bondo	900	4 500
Bambesa	3 193	15 965
Buta	49	245
Poko	2 286	11 430
Ango	3 160	15 800
Total	9 588	47 940

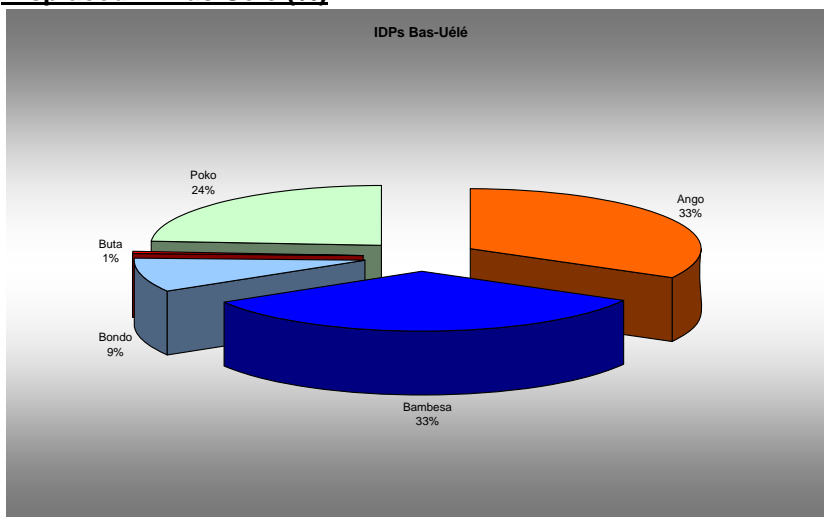
Between April and September 2009, based on civil society groups, other local sources, and a Human Rights Watch report, OCHA has recorded an estimated total of 233 persons killed, 700 abducted civilians, including 97 children, and 42 wounded in Haut-Uele and Bas-Uele.

The terror spread by the LRA has led to population displacements in many locations of the district. As of September 2009, the total number of IDPs is estimated at 279,678 persons (231,738 persons in Haut Uele and 47,940 in Bas Uele).

Displaced in Haut-Uele (%)



Displaced in Bas Uele (%)

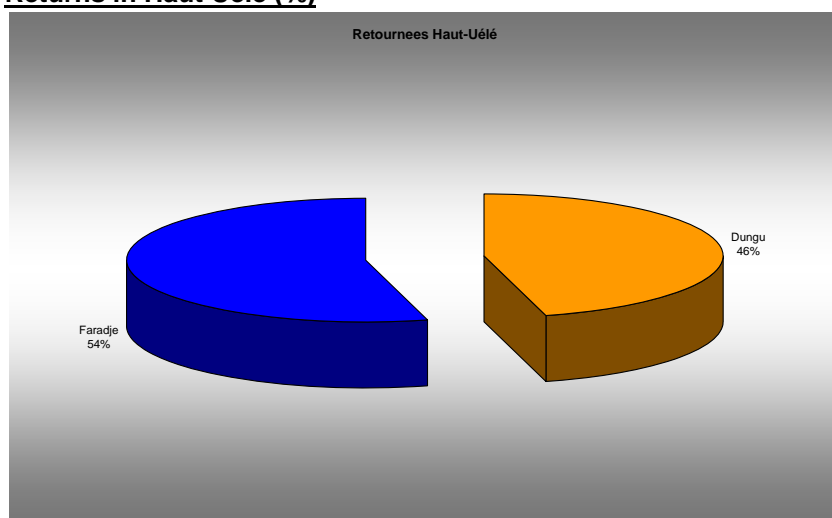


Returns

In the Haut-Uele district, 33,821 displaced people have returned: 18,297 in Faradje territory and 15,524 in Dungu territory. In addition, 1,279 Congolese refugees have returned spontaneously in Dungu territory.

Territory	Households	N. of returnees
Dungu	3 105	15 524
Faradje	3 659	18 297
Total	6 063	33 821

Returns in Haut Uele (%)



Trends

Fighting is likely to continue as there are no indications regarding possible resumption of political dialogue.

2.5. IMPORTANT NOTE

This report is intended to reflect on main trends of population internal displacement and return trends in the provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in the recent months. The information contained in this report is based on the monitoring work conducted by the provincial Population Movement Commissions (CMP) in the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, and Ituri Districts of Province Orientale. The figures obtained through the Commissions are estimations, and they represent the joint work of provincial government officials, local communities, UN agencies and national and international NGOs on the ground.

The CMPs were originally established with the aim of strengthening coordination among all actors concerned with displaced populations in DRC. The CMPs were also intended to act as an early warning mechanism that would alert partners of new movements of population reported to encourage a follow up in terms of registration and assistance, if needed. The CMPs are the only existing fora that specifically collect and consolidate all information made available by partners on IDPs and returnees.

The CMPs meet monthly to update and maintain basic data on numbers of IDPs, localities, dates of displacement and assistance provided. The data compiled reflects only totals of displacement figures by localities within a territory. Data is not disaggregated to reflect age, gender, or vulnerability figures, nor any individual profiles of the displaced.

In accordance with the Guiding Principles of Internal Displacement, once IDPs have been registered in a specific locality, they continue to be considered displaced populations until proof is obtained of their return or their reintegration. Figures are cumulative and include not only the new displacements but also those that have been displaced since several years (usually since 2005). Nevertheless, a re-evaluation of areas of displacements to up-date the available figures have been made in accessible areas.