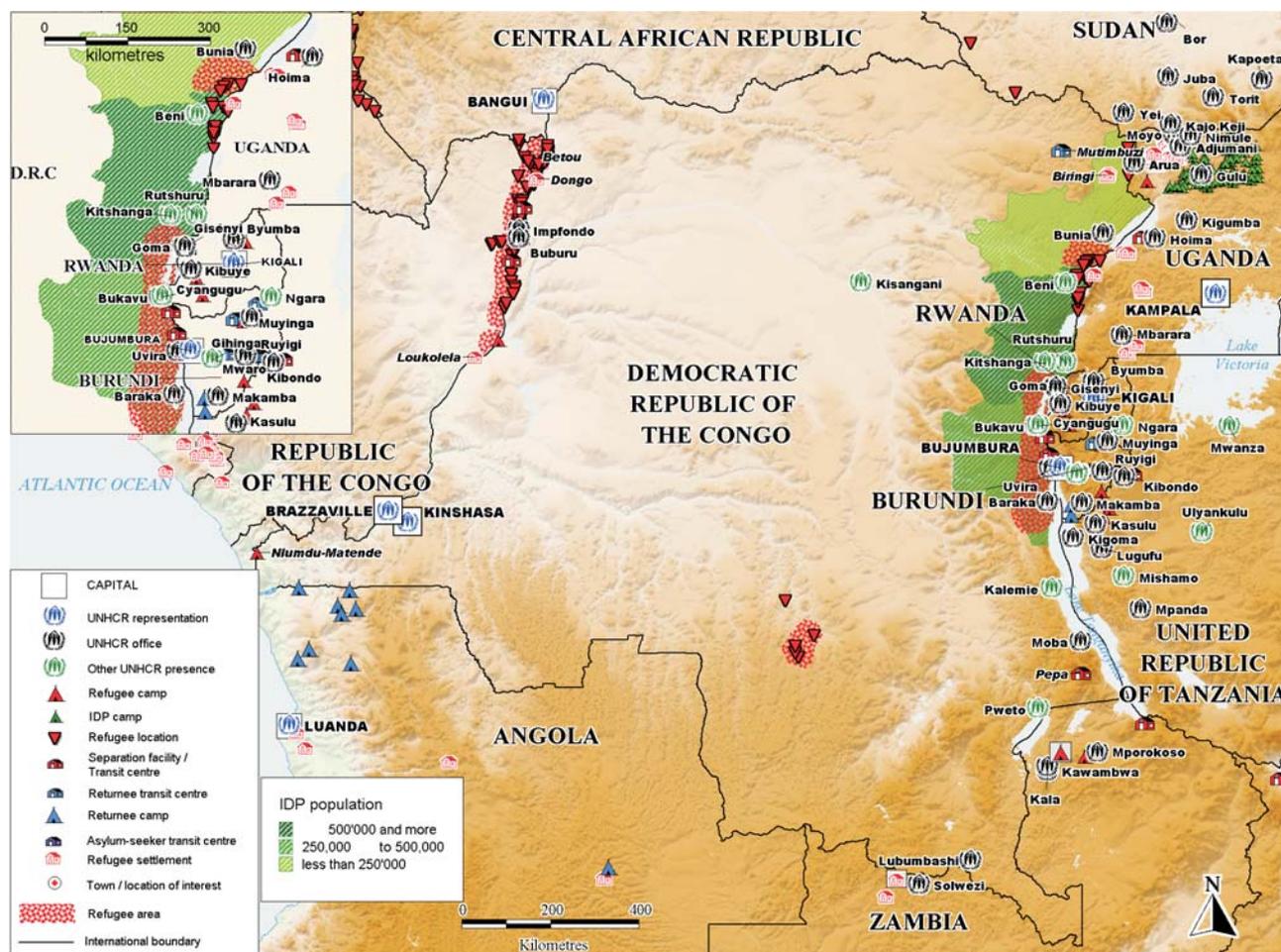


Democratic Republic of the Congo

Total requirements:
USD 75,035,460



Working environment

The context

Despite the Goma Conference on peace, stability and development and the signing of a ceasefire agreement in January 2008, violent struggles in eastern DRC continue. This has caused new displacements, endangering the sustainability of the peace process. Attacks on civilians and camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs), as well as a lack of progress in the disarmament of militias, are hindering the return of stability to North and the northern part of South Kivu provinces.

At the same time, other areas such as the Province Orientale, Katanga and the southern South Kivu remained relatively stable, allowing for some progress in the search for durable solutions for internally displaced populations and Congolese refugees in the the region.

UNHCR also provides assistance to IDPs returning to their homes in the DRC's Orientale province. All registered IDPs who wished to return to Katanga province have been assisted to do so. Furthermore, UNHCR has helped some 5,200 IDPs from North Kivu to return to their areas of origin in Ituri District, while another 6,000 have registered to return.

As of June 2008 there were some 1,250,000 IDPs in eastern DRC, 68 per cent of them in North Kivu province. The DRC also hosts some 173,000 refugees, mainly Angolans, Burundians and Rwandans.

The needs

Killings, abductions, arbitrary detentions and sexual violence persist in conflict areas in DRC. A recent NGO assessment showed that 90 per cent of women interviewed in eastern DRC felt less safe than they did a



Hundreds of IDPs have found shelter on the school grounds in Rutshuru.

UNHCR/S. Schuman

year earlier. More than 100,000 IDPs in North Kivu depend on humanitarian assistance. Others who need help have not received it because they live in inaccessible areas.

The sustainable reintegration of refugees and IDPs remains a challenge due to massive destruction, and the lack of infrastructure and basic social services, as well as weak administrative and social structures, and a lack of economic opportunities. Participatory assessments among people of concern to UNHCR have shown that access to health, education, shelter and food are major concerns.

Faced with these overwhelming needs, UNHCR is concentrating on resolving disputes over nationality, land and property titles, shelter for returnees with specific needs, community empowerment and livelihood support.

UNHCR's involvement with IDPs is a major component of its operations in the DRC, where large-scale internal displacement has been occurring since 2007. UNHCR leads the camp coordination and camp management cluster at 15 sites. In collaboration with its partners, the Office will seek durable solutions for IDPs and refugees in the DRC and support the reintegration of Congolese returnees.

Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Jan 2009		Dec 2009	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	Angola	112,710	1,750	100,710	800
	Rwanda	24,850	190	19,310	100
	Burundi	17,600	650	3,780	200
	Various	3,410	310	3,410	150
Returnees (refugees)	DRC	56,500	46,500	64,000	60,000
IDPs		1,305,850	231,000	1,000,000	144,000
Total		1,520,920	280,400	1,191,210	205,200

Main objectives

Annual programme

- Strengthen refugee protection and the search for durable solutions.
- Ensure that protection and community recovery needs are identified and adequate responses are coordinated.
- Help to prevent and respond to violations of the human rights of civilians.
- Support survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and combat the impunity of perpetrators.
- Secure the voluntary return of Congolese refugees and IDPs in safety and dignity.
- Solve land and property disputes.
- Prevent statelessness by ensuring that all residents in eastern Congo hold a nationality or other secure residence status.
- Support the reintegration of refugees and IDPs and provide vulnerable groups with shelter and the means to earn their livelihoods.
- Lay the foundation for sustainable development in the areas of return through the creation of community development projects.

Supplementary programme

- Help to respond to new displacements.
- Improve safety in IDP sites and ensure their civilian character.
- Improve the well-being of IDPs in camps and prepare them for return.
- Create humanitarian space in the areas controlled by non-State actors and protect IDPs and returnees in those areas.
- Reduce the impact of IDPs on the environment.

Strategy and activities

UNHCR will assess reintegration needs and design appropriate strategies to meet them. The Office will support the voluntary repatriation of the remaining 60,000 Angolan refugees who have expressed the desire to return, and will also organize the voluntary repatriation of Rwandan civilians who report to the network of assembly points. For those refugees who are integrated into DRC communities and wish to stay, UNHCR will seek an alternative legal status. Responsibilities for refugee status determination (RSD) will be handed over to the Government.

UNHCR will ensure that the repatriation of IDPs is voluntary, and will promote alternative solutions such as local integration or relocation where needed. UNHCR

Key targets

- Angolan refugees are repatriated voluntarily and all registered refugees receive documentation as a first step towards local integration.
- The protection as well as reintegration and community recovery clusters demonstrate key achievements.
- Violence and human rights violations are reduced in areas prioritized for protection interventions; perpetrators are held liable for their actions.
- Reporting and referral mechanisms for sexual and gender-based violence are operational, and all survivors receive assistance and legal support.
- Returnees are able to exercise their right to return; no forced returns occur.
- Disputes are peacefully resolved and returnees are able to recover their property and obtain identification documents.
- Access to shelter, health, education and livelihoods improves in areas of return.
- UNHCR contributes effectively to inter-agency emergency response mechanisms.
- There is a reduction in the number of protection incidents at IDP sites.
- IDPs are registered and profiled; the relevant data is regularly updated.
- Post-emergency standards of protection and assistance are achieved at IDP sites.
- Uncontrolled woodcutting around IDP sites is reduced; 60 per cent of IDPs use fuel-efficient stoves.

will disseminate information on the situation in refugees' and IDPs' places of origin to enable them to make informed decisions on return.

As land and property disputes are a major source of conflict, the Office will support programmes to address them. Community-based conflict resolution and reconciliation programmes, as well as legal aid, will be provided.

UNHCR will transport returning refugees where necessary and distribute return packages. It will distribute non-food items to returning IDPs in coordination with UNICEF. The Office will also help to reconstruct the homes of returnees and contribute to the improvement of infrastructure. Furthermore, it will negotiate fee reductions to facilitate returnees' access to health services and education. Income-generating activities will improve the livelihood of returnees.

UNHCR leads the protection cluster and conducts rapid protection monitoring exercises to respond to human rights violations. Safe areas will be created for civilians and secure IDP sites identified. UNHCR will strengthen referral mechanisms to deal with sexual and

gender-based violence and connect these to rule of law programmes. Campaigns to stop the stigmatization of victims of sexual and gender-based violence will be conducted in communities affected by conflict and in areas of return, and victims of such violence will be provided legal, psychosocial and economic support.

UNHCR will support the Stabilization Plan of the United Nations Missions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and advocate for humanitarian space where appropriate. It will also strive to mitigate the environmental impact of IDPs by relocating them to sites that are planned with environmental considerations in mind.

Constraints

The fragile security situation and difficulties in delivering humanitarian assistance due to poor roads, the landlocked character of most operational areas, and limited air transport, remain the main constraints for UNHCR in the DRC.

Organization and implementation

UNHCR presence	
Number of offices	16
Total staff	342
International	72
National	246
JPOs	4
UNVs	20

Coordination

UNHCR participates in the humanitarian coordination mechanism under the UN Country Team led by the Humanitarian Coordinator and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General of MONUC. These include the Humanitarian Action Group, national and provincial inter-agency committees, national and provincial clusters and the Implementation and Planning Teams that support the Stabilization Plan. UNHCR also supports the AMANI programme on peace, stability and development, set-up by the Goma Peace Conference and works closely with the *Commission Nationale pour les Réfugiés* and other relevant local authorities.

Financial information

The DRC's supplementary budget increased sharply in 2006 due to UNHCR's engagement in IDP protection and assistance and repatriations of Congolese refugees from neighboring countries. As the start-up costs for these operations were mainly covered in 2006, the budget slightly decreased in 2007. At the same time the refugee programme under the annual budget decreased due to the completion of the repatriation of Angolan refugees in early 2007. The overall increase in requirements from 2007 to 2009 is linked to an increase in return activities and the IDP programme.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies: *Gouvernorat Régional du Nord-Kivu, Commission nationale pour les Réfugiés*

NGOs: *Action Humanitaire Afrique, Actions et Interventions pour le Développement et l'Encadrement Social, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Arche d'Alliance, Association Africaine de Défense des Droits de l'Homme, Association pour le Développement Social et la Sauvegarde de l'Environnement, Avocats sans Frontières Caritas, Communauté des Églises Libres de Pentecôte en Afrique, Encadrements des Réfugiés Urbains de la ville de Kinshasa, International Medical Corps, Mercy Corps, Norwegian Refugee Council, Oxfam-Québec, Pain pour les Déshérités, Saving Lives through Alternate Options, Search for Common Ground, Vétérinaires sans Frontières, Women for Women International, American Bar Association*

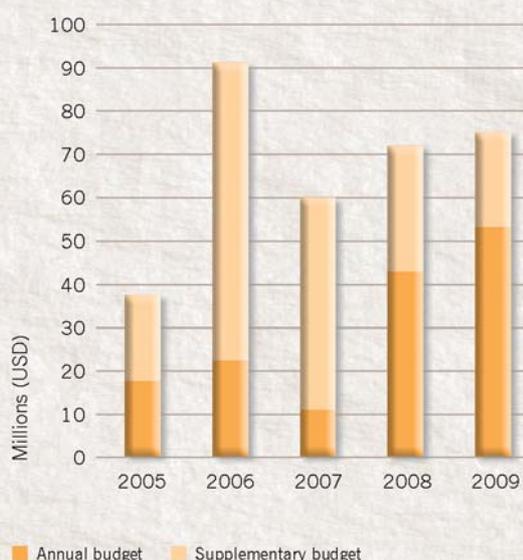
Others: *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit*

Operational partners

Government agencies: Ministries of the Interior, Human Rights and Defence, Women and Social Affairs; the Police Department

Others: FAO, ICRC, ILO, IOM, MONUC, UNDP, UNHCHR, UNICEF, UNOCHA, WFP

UNHCR's budget
2005 - 2009



Budget (USD)						
Activities and services	2008			2009		
	Annual budget	Supplementary budget IDPs	Total	Annual budget	Supplementary budget IDPs	Total
Protection, monitoring and coordination	10,866,673	6,069,492	16,936,165	15,127,465	6,659,824	21,787,289
Community services	1,740,000	1,100,000	2,840,000	2,121,736	1,170,000	3,291,736
Crop production	160,000	0	160,000	46,020	0	46,020
Domestic needs	2,104,000	4,000,000	6,104,000	3,186,826	3,442,500	6,629,326
Education	1,000,000	800,000	1,800,000	1,442,023	200,000	1,642,023
Food	366,000	0	366,000	400,046	0	400,046
Forestry	110,000	0	110,000	609,815	443,750	1,053,565
Health	1,997,000	800,000	2,797,000	2,657,879	400,000	3,057,879
Income generation	1,749,000	2,000,000	3,749,000	2,750,903	1,807,400	4,558,303
Legal assistance	1,696,500	4,000,000	5,696,500	1,687,139	2,150,000	3,837,139
Livestock	250,000	0	250,000	76,700	0	76,700
Operational support (to agencies)	4,163,000	2,944,297	7,107,297	6,136,192	1,000,000	7,136,192
Sanitation	72,500	400,000	472,500	112,594	200,000	312,594
Shelter and infrastructure	2,090,000	3,000,000	5,090,000	3,813,386	915,000	4,728,386
Transport and logistics	5,498,000	2,800,000	8,298,000	6,636,071	2,638,857	9,274,928
Water	125,000	500,000	625,000	113,770	0	113,770
Total operations	33,987,673	28,413,789	62,401,462	46,918,565	21,027,331	67,945,896
Programme support	6,934,354	93,975	7,028,329	6,669,157	420,407	7,089,564
Total	40,922,027	28,507,764	69,429,791	53,587,722	21,447,738	75,035,460

Note: Supplementary programme budgets exclude 7 per cent support costs that are recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.