

- A humanitarian staff was killed on Monday, 15 December in Burai, 3 km outside of Rutshuru town.
- A humanitarian vehicle was shot at by an FARDC soldier close to Kibati and another one has been confiscated by CNDP for military transportation purposes.
- Confrontations between different armed groups took place in different locations.
- More than 2,600 children do not have access to schooling in Kichanga due to the lack of class rooms or financial means.
- 10,332 cholera cases have been registered in North-Kivu in 2008.
- 250 tonnes of food have been distributed to more than 297,000 beneficiaries in North and South Kivu between 01 and 15 December.

Political and Security Context

- **Confrontations** between CNDP and a coalition of Mayi-Mayi/FDLR have been reported on 7 December in Mukongo, 5 km from Kiwanja in Rutshuru territory. Other incidents were reported on 9 December between CNDP and PARECO in Kashogo, in Masisi territory as well as on 8 December in Birundule and Mirangi, in Lubero territory.
- Local sources in Kanyabayonga reported the pillaging of about thirty houses during the night of 9 to 10 December by unidentified armed men. Local sources in Kirumba reported theft of goats by armed men during the night of 8 to 9 December. These sources and humanitarian organizations that were conducting missions in Kanyabayonga confirmed the presence of numerous FARDC soldiers in the peripheral zones of the city. The traumatized population limits its agricultural activities which leads to a lack of produce in the city.
- Following a mission to the zone of Rwindi-Vitshumbi on 15 December, OCHA's mobile antenna reported that the security situation between the mayi mayi PARECO and the CNDP is very tense.
- NRC reported that the displaced families which benefited from food aid in Lubero during the week of 8 to 13 December were pillaged by armed men after the distributions.

Acces

- Several road axes are no longer accessible due to permanent insecurity linked to the presence of armed groups in Rutshuru territory, notably the axes of Kiwanja – Ishasha, Kiwanja – Vitsumbi, Rutshuru – Mutabo – Karambi – Busanza and Burayi – Bunagana.

Incidents against humanitarians

- A humanitarian staff from the NGO AVSI was killed on Monday, 15 December 2008 in Burai, a few km outside of Rutshuru town. The AVSI vehicle was attacked by a group of unidentified armed men. According to the driver of the vehicle, who was injured during the attack, the men came out of the bush and immediately started to shoot at the vehicle.
- A FARDC military shot at a SC-UK vehicle on 11 December 800 meters from Kibati. The driver and the two passengers managed to duck down on time.
- A staff member from the NGO Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) was attacked on 10 December by FARDC elements in Nzulo, in Masisi territory, on the road towards Sake. The victim was hospitalized and is in critical condition.
- CNDP confiscated on 6 December in Kibumba, in Nyirangongo territory, a vehicle of the NGO Mercy Corps for military transport purposes.
- OXFAM GB reported harrassments in Kirumba, in Lubero territory, where the NGO was forced to pay illegal fees for each time that it wanted to deliver supplies to the city of Kanyabayonga.

Population Movements

Grand Nord

- Presence of IDPs was reported in Lusogha, Bulindi and Kanyabayonga following a series of confrontations between CNDP and PARECO in Birundule and Mirangi.
- The NGO Solidarités arrived in Kitsumbiro, in Lubero territory, on 10 December to conduct the verification of IDP lists in the entire zone.

Nyirangongo Territory

- The transfer of IDPs from Kibati to the new camp Mugunga III started on Monday, 8 décembre. Upon arrival, the households receive blankets as well as sticks and a lot of land for the construction of their hut. Families that are not able to construct their own shelter spend the first night in common shelters where they receive fire wood for cooking. The transfer towards Mugunga I and II had already started on 28 November, and until today a total of 616 households, i.e. 1,780 persons, were transferred towards the two sites according to UNHCR. The question of IDPs that refuse to transfer remains to be solved.

Masisi Territory

- A large part of the population of Buabo, which was recently displaced towards Masisi centre, has returned to its original locations. IDPs from Kaniro, Mashaki, Shugi and Muhanga still await the improvement of security conditions before returning to their villages.

Rutshuru Territory

- The IDP site close to the MONUC base in Kiwanja continues to receive IDPs from the Kiwanja – Nyamilima axis and other localities.
- Confrontations between CNDP and a coalition of Mayi-Mayi/FDLR in Mukongo caused populations displacements from Kiwanja towards Rutshuru.

Gaps

Education

- More than 2,600 displaced children do not have access to schools in Kitchanga, due to the lack of financial resources and space in classrooms. According to an OCHA mission, schools in Kanyanja, in Kibati region, are not functional. Save the Children/UK reported that a significant number of displaced children in Kitshumbiro zone, in South Lubero, do not attend school. An evaluation is currently being conducted aiming at the organization of schooling for these children.

Health

- No assistance programme for primary health care is currently in place for the IDPs in Beni which arrived from Rutshuru territory and South Lubero.
- Solidarités reported the exhaustion of medical stocks at the health center of Kitshumbiro, where 2,400 displaced households seek refuge.

NFI

- An NFI distribution by the local Red Cross was interrupted on 6 December in Butembo by a demonstration of military dependents which also demanded to be assisted. The ICRC initiated on 8 December contacts with authorities of the town for the continuation of its distributions.

Shelter

- The IDP site of Kahe in Kichanga houses 3,013 households and the camp of Mungote houses 5,400 households. There is a need for blankets for these IDPs.

Water and Sanitation

- There is a need for shower construction and the improvement of water provision at the IDP site close to the MONUC base in Kiwanja in order to combat the cholera epidemic.

Logistics

- The road axis Sake - Masisi centre will no longer be accessible starting this week due to MONUC and UNOPS construction on the road section between Mema-Kisuma.
- IOM continues construction on the road to Kobokoko. The axis will be reopened around 20 December to allow humanitarian organizations to provide assistance to Ngungu. The road will then be reclosed on 27 December for a period of one or two months.

Assistance

Food

- WFP reported the distribution of 4,250 tonnes of food in North and South Kivu between 01 and 15 December, to more than 297,000 beneficiaries. The distribution was delayed in Beni territory, where WFP's distribution partner NRC experienced problems with the identification of IDPs and dependants of militaries demanded food assistance.
- CEPAC/Läkarmissionen distributed on 8 December food to 360 newly displaced households in Lubero town. These households are among the 800 households that benefited from NFI kits distributed by Caritas on 3 December.

NFI

- UNHCR distributed NFI kits to 16,612 persons in the zone of Rutshuru. 15,000 persons further benefited of 3,000 kits distributed in Tongo, in the east of Rutshuru. In Kishishe, Nyanzale and Kasilira, 7,612 kits were distributed to 40,000 persons. In Beni, 79 displaced households in the Kimbanguistes camp also received kits.
- PEAC distributed on 6 December NFIs to 517 displaced households in Butembo.
- Solidarités distributed NFI kits to 2,161 newly displaced households in Kitsumbiro zone, in South Lubero.

Health

- According to WHO, 10,332 cholera cases were reported in North-Kivu since the beginning of the year until end of November. The epidemic persists in the province. WHO provides technical and logistical assistance through the provision of medicine kits to humanitarian actors.
- UNFPA provided medicines and materials to partners for emergency obstetrical interventions, medical treatment of rape and HIV/AIDS prevention. The UN agency provided kits to IRC for 180,000 displaced persons and host families which are served by health structures in Rwanguba health zone, to the hospital center Heal Africa for 150,000 displaced persons and host families in Goma, and to the local NGO GAD for 800 pregnant displaced women in the camps of Kibati 2 and Mugunga 3. The distribution is continuing.
- Six health centers in Goma, which receive medical stocks from MERLIN, started this week to provide gratis health care to displaced and vulnerable persons. MERLIN further provided stocks to three health structures in Kayna health zone. The health center in Lubiriya, in Lubero territory, also received medicine.
- Nine cases of cholera-like diarrhea, all amongst children of less than 5 years of age, were reported in Lubero. MERLIN provided medical care for these cases at the hospital of Lubero.
- WHO and the International Medical Corps (IMC) provided two basic kits, 400 bags of Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) and 200 liters of ringer lactate to health structures in charge of IDPs.

Food Security

- The NGO Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe restarted its activities in the Kayna health zone, to serve 10,000 displaced households and host families. Seed trays and tree nurseries were reestablished after the evacuation of humanitarians from the zone in November.

Nutrition

- LWF provided on 10 December, 50 mattresses, 100 blankets and other inputs to Kayna for the restart of nutritional activities at the Therapeutic Nutrition Center (TNC) in Kayna, which had been pillaged in November.
- LWF, implementation partner of UNICEF, changed its strategy of providing for severely malnourished in the Grand Nord. Instead of the fixed TNC in Kayna, five ambulatory therapeutic centers will provide assistance to malnutrition cases in the community. The most serious cases will be transferred to the general hospital of Kayna. In the meantime, in cooperation with UNICEF, LWF provides training on nutritional surveillance in Beni and will start a nutrition assessment of the Mutwanga and Beni health zones on 15 December.

Education

- In the framework of its emergency education project, Solidarités is constructing six class rooms with six latrines at the primary school Kasuka in Kasugho, in Lubero territory. Education kits and recreation kits will be provided to displaced children that attend the school.
- SC-UK, in cooperation with educational authorities of Lubero territory, is planning to reorganize four schools in Kitsumbiro in order to be able to provide education to displaced children in the afternoon hours. The sensitization of displaced families and the identification of displaced teachers in the zone has started.

Water and Sanitation

- OXFAM-GB distributed on 9 décembre 75 m³ water (water trucking programme) to the population of Kanyabayonga.

Protection

- UNICEF reported two cases of rape in the IDP camp of Kibati and assessed that prostitution and rapes are increasing in various IDP sites. The local NGO Alfa Ujavi, a UNICEF partner, provides sensitization against sexual violence.
- UNICEF carries out emergency vaccination on the axes Mueto – Kirolirwe – Kichanga and Mushaki – Ngungu. 10,200 children are targeted.

Coordination

- The Provincial Inter-Agency Committee (CPIA) recommended to UNHCR to equally distribute the lots in the new Mugunga III IDP site among IDPs from Kibati and those that are located in different quarters of Goma.
- World Vision (WVI), NRC, UNHCR and Save The Children UK (SC-UK) met on 13 December in Beni to discuss the provision of assistance to IDPs in the town. WVI and UNHCR can provide NFI kits and NRC can distribute WFP food stocks. SC-UK can provide NFI kits for children.

For more information please refer to : <http://www.rdc-humanitaire.net>

Contacts :

- Gloria Fernandez, Head of Office, OCHA RDC, fernandez11@un.org, +243 813 330 146
- Christophe Illemassene, Information Manager, OCHA RDC, illemassene@un.org, +243 819 889 195
- Noel Tsekouras, Desk Officer, OCHA New York, tsekouras@un.org, + 1 917 367 93 67