

- **Military operations against LRA continue**
- **Deadly attacks by LRA on 3 localities in the Haut Uélé district**
- **WFP completed the first phase of food distribution to 18,300 displaced persons**

Security/Military Context

DRC, Uganda and Sudan joint military operations against the Lord Resistance Army (LRA) rebels continue. Last week's air strikes in the park of Garamba reportedly provoked *the dispersion of LRA elements* towards the Sudanese border and towards the south of the Congolese territory. The volatile security situation, mainly due to the ongoing military operations and the presence of the LRA, *hampers humanitarian access to many areas of the Haut Uele district.*

The situation in the district remains extremely alarming. During the Christmas period **LRA elements conducted attacks against several localities**, killing civilians, burning houses and abducting children and adults.

The civilian death toll of these attacks is worrisome. According to the local authorities on the ground, on 25 December **LRA killed 40 people in the locality of Faradje. On 26 and 27 December, they have attacked the locality of Doruma and a village close to Gurba, killing 89 people in Doruma and 60 people in Gurba.**

- Local authorities also reported that **20 children have been abducted** in Faradje during the attack. The number of adults abducted is not yet known. In total, 120 houses were burnt down, several shops and houses looted, including the general hospital, the office of the CEI and the barracks of the police.
- After these attacks, the rebels moved towards Nagoro (West of Garamba park) and Aba (North of Garamba). FARDC sources in Dungu reported that 240 soldiers were deployed in Faradje on 26 December. Reports also indicate that UPDF and SPLA elements arrived in Doruma.
- According to unsubstantiated information, the LRA controls seven villages around Doruma: Batande (7km North East of Doruma), Manzagala (5km North East of Doruma), Mabando (7km of North East of Doruma), Bagbugu (8km South East of Doruma), Nakatilikpa (12km East of Doruma), Nagengwa (8km North East of Doruma) and Natulugbu (6km North of Doruma). The population of these villages is moving towards Watsa, Banda and Ango (Bas Uélé).

Population movements

- The town **of Faradje was emptied of its 30,000 inhabitants.** The majority sought refuge in Tadu (37km of Faradje) and in Kpodo (11km of Faradje).
- It is expected that the resumption of fighting will provoke additional population movements. The area of Bangadi remains particularly vulnerable due to insecurity linked to the non deployment of militaries.
- IDPs coming from Kiliwa and Paika have been reported in Masabe (75 km of Dungu). Their number is not known yet. Another group of approximately 180 IDP households is reportedly in Duru. Both localities are considered as high risk areas because of LRA presence.

Humanitarian response

- On Tuesday 30 December, **WFP and its partner Caritas completed the first phase of food distributions to 721 IDP families** in Mangiligili (15km southern Dungu). On December 26, Caritas distributed 8,649 tons of food to 640 IDP households (3,200 persons) in Nanzali (17km south of Dungu).
- UNHCR and its partner Caritas are planning NFI distributions on 29 December to the same families

in Mangiligili. The NFI kits were completed and harmonized with UNICEF. Additional distributions (mat, soap and plastic sheeting) will take place on 30 December for 999 households in Dungu town to supplement the kits distributed by Caritas. The remaining NFI kits will be used by Solidarités to complete their own kits.

- Since the beginning of the humanitarian operations in Dungu area, approximately **63 tons of foods were distributed to 3,660 IDP households (18,300 persons)** by WFP and its partners ADSSE and Caritas. The food airlift has been financed by the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM).
- Next week, the INGO Solidarités will start the registration of the families who will receive 1,200 NFI kits provided by UNICEF, in Dungu, Bamukandi et Ngilima.

Gaps

- In Isiro town medical support is needed for the 1,205 IDPs from Dungu. INGO Medair, who supports the Health Zones in the District of Haut Uélé, does not have the necessary funding to cover these needs

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

Contacts:

- Jean-Charles Dupin, Head of Office, OCHA Bunia, dupin@un.org, Tél.: +243 998 604 325
- Ivo Brandau, Chargé d'information OCHA-RDC, brandau@un.org, Tél. : + 243 815 142 956
- Noel Tsekouras, Desk Officer OCHA New York, tsekouras@un.org, Tél.: + 1 917 367 93 67