

*This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHADRC. It covers the period from 7 to 11 December 2012. The next report will be issued on or around 14 December.*

### I. HIGHLIGHTS/ KEY PRIORITIES

- Over 900,000 people are currently living as displaced in North Kivu; an estimated 500,000 have been displaced since the FARDC-M23 crisis began in April
- WFP wraps up food distribution for 160,000 IDPs, more food on the way
- “Blanket” NFI distributions planned for IDPs living between Goma and Sake
- Some 250 schools looted or damaged in the Kivus since September
- IOM to take over coordination of spontaneous sites in and around Goma
- Humanitarian Coordinator visits Goma to take stock of humanitarian needs and challenges

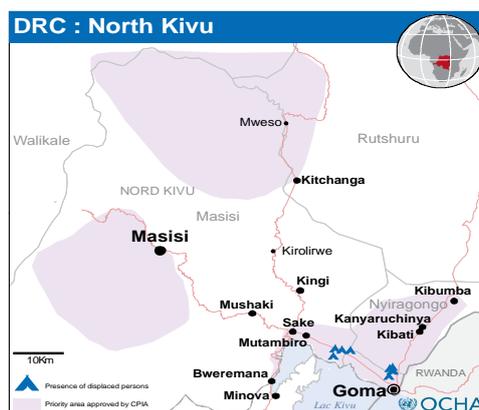
## II. Situation Overview

The situation in Goma remains calm but tense. M23 fighters, who were to retreat to some 20 km outside of the city, are still maintaining positions close to Goma. The clashes that led to Goma’s take-over and its consequences, such as the break-out of over 1,000 prisoners and an accrued circulation of weapons, have created a climate of insecurity that is affecting thousands of displaced people and delaying the return to normal life.

Armed men have on two successive days attacked houses close to the Mugunga III IDP camp. The first attack took place on 9 December, one day after the Humanitarian Coordinator, Moustapha Soumaré, visited the camp which itself had been looted a week earlier. [Mr. Soumaré led a mission to Mugunga III to take stock of the humanitarian response and challenges](#), the first trip to Goma by a high-level delegation since the re-opening of the Goma airport two days earlier.

Since the lull in fighting, humanitarian access has improved, allowing aid organizations to substantially increase its interventions in numerous sectors, notably measles vaccination, distributions of food and non-food items. Cargos of food and non-food items are being airlifted to the area.

Life is slowly picking up in Goma: the majority of banks have resumed activities; shops and markets are increasingly crowded with customers, although there are reports that the price of basic food items has gone up because of a shortage of food due to the ongoing insecurity in the food-producing Rutshuru and Masisi territories. Recent displacements further threaten food security as many farmers have missed the start of the new farming season.



**Background on the crisis**  
A large part of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in North Kivu started with the emergence of the M23 rebellion in April 2012. The rebellion was named after a 23 March 2009 peace accord which its members accuses the government of violating. That peace accord saw a number of the current rebels integrate in the FARDC after having fought under the National Congress for the Defense of the People (CNDP) from 2004-2009. Since its inception, the M23 has dealt the national army several major defeats and has tried to form a broader coalition with other armed groups in the region. A number of reports have alleged Uganda and Rwanda of backing the M23. In defiance of the FARDC and MONUSCO, the M23 took Goma on 20 November. On 1 December M23 withdrew from the city on the condition that the Government would start negotiations. This new conflict has led to the displacement of over 130,000 people.

## III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

### PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AND POPULATION MOVEMENTS

An estimated 914,000 people are currently internally displaced in North Kivu, according to the latest figures from the committee in charge of IDP statistics. The new number represents an eight per cent increase from the figures of 841,000 IDPs at the end of October. Of the 914,000, some 500,000 have been displaced since the FARDC-M23 crisis started in April 2012.



## EDUCATION

Some 600 schools have been looted or damaged in North and South Kivu since April, including some 250 since September, as a result of conflict, [UNICEF said in a statement on 10 December](#). In past weeks, many of those fleeing the violence- families and different parties involved- found refuge in schools that were used as kitchens, canteens, dormitories, military barracks or ammunition storage places. In almost all conflict-affected classrooms, school furniture has been partially damaged or totally destroyed. Textbooks and school benches have even been used as firewood. At least 240,000 students have missed weeks of schooling as a result of the conflict since April. UNICEF, the Congolese education ministry, and partners said they are doing their utmost to ensure that all schools are open and functioning as quickly as possible.

By the end of this year, 80,000 children from North Kivu will urgently receive school kits. As part of its emergency response in Eastern DRC and in cooperation with the Ministry of Primary, Secondary and Professional Education, UNICEF is planning to cover the educational needs of all 240,000 children and has appealed for nearly US\$ 6 million to fund educational activities in North and South Kivu in the coming months.



## EMERGENCY SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

In light of a sensibly more conducive environment, NFI and Protection partners decided on 7 December to conduct “blanket” NFI assistance to IDPs living along the road between Goma and Sake, notably at the camps/sites of Don Bosco, Lac Vert, Bulengo, Mugunga I and III.

Under the RRMP programme, NFI teams are redeploying to areas in South Kivu where interventions had been validated for emergency response but had been put on standby pending assessments in Minova. These include NFI voucher fairs in Lutukulu in northern Shabunda territory for over 8,000 IDPs and fairs in Bakeci and Mukwezi in Fizi territory for close to 10,000 IDPs.



## HEALTH /



## WASH

Cholera remains a major concern as 28 cases have been reported in the camps west of Goma over the past week, and as cases continue to rise in Goma, Kirosho and Minova. Over the past two weeks, more than 100 cases have been reported.

Water specialists are continuing with emergency response in all the IDPs camps/sites in and around Goma. A minimum of 7 litres of clean water per person and per day is currently delivered to all the IDPs in the camps; 800 latrines are under construction and hygiene activities are targeting mainly children and women.

An emergency measles vaccination campaign started on 7 December in numerous IDPs, including Don Bosco where some 2,800 children are to be vaccinated.



## FOOD SECURITY

The World Food Programme has wrapped up its second-round of food distributions targeting 160,000 IDPs following the recent bout of fighting. These latest distributions followed an initial round of emergency three-day rations targeting more than 81,000 people, shortly after the M23 took control of Goma. The agency is awaiting delivery of 92 tons of high-energy biscuits, equivalent to 5-day rations for 55,000 people. More than half of the cargo will be distributed for operations in the North Kivu.

More than 24,000 IDPs living in camp and host families in Kitchanga urgently need food, according to national NGO ADEPAE that conducted an assessment. The situation in Kitchanga is all the more worrisome as this region is a food basket for Goma but has now started to import food from Goma itself, leading to significant price hikes.

## IV. Coordination

To ensure a harmonized approach to coordination mechanisms in spontaneous IDP sites and IDP camps, The UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, as camp coordination and management cluster leads, have dispatched teams to Goma. While UNHCR will continue to

coordinate and managed officially established IDP camps, IOM is in the process of taking over the coordination of 12 spontaneous IDP sites in and around Goma.

## V. Funding

Of the US\$791 million requested for the DRC 2012 Humanitarian Action Plan, \$443 million (56%) has been funded as of 10 December 2012. Following the emergency, another \$102 million has been pledged. This will bring the total funding for the HAP 2012 to 69% by the end of the year.

OCHA Pooled Fund staff from Kinshasa is currently in Goma to discuss the possible reorientation of activities and intervention areas of Pooled Fund projects with its implementing partners in order to better respond to the current crisis. To increase flexibility, this covers both projects funded by the first and second allocations of the Pooled Fund in 2012 and includes the possibility to request additional funds and extend project timelines.

## V. Contact

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