



Collective center in North Kivu, February 2025 © IOM

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) faces an extraordinarily dire humanitarian crisis, particularly in the eastern provinces of Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu, generated by escalating armed conflicts and persistent inter-community tensions, severely impacting civilian populations (with 6.9 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country, including 5.5 million in the eastern provinces and 2.4 million in North Kivu alone identified by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in late 2024 and 21.2 million people in need with 11 million targeted as part of the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan). In the midst of this massive crisis, the violent conflict between the March 23 Movement (M23) and government forces has led to a further upsurge with the capture of Sake, Minova, Goma and Bukavu by the M23 in January and February 2025 and the dismantlement of IDP sites in North Kivu and South Kivu. New waves of displacements have been further observed and former residents of sites have been secondarily or tertiarily displaced to host communities or collective settlements that lack all basic infrastructures and services (48 new collective centers in Goma mapped by the Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster hosting over 10,000 IDPs mid-March and [over 95,000 IDPs identified by the DTM in Goma as of March 2025](#)) or have reportedly returned to their areas of origin, without any assistance. This has resulted in unprecedented humanitarian needs while the humanitarian situation remains critical in Ituri which is host to nearly 130 official and spontaneous sites. In addition, DRC is facing several epidemics, including cholera, meningitis, measles, yellow fever, poliomyelitis and Mpox. From the beginning of the Mpox outbreak until mid-March 2025, 87,016 suspected cases have been reported, including 1,620 deaths. A total of 8,056 cholera cases have been reported until end of February 2025, including 171 deaths.

IOM urgently needs USD 60 million to scale up life-saving assistance, between March and September 2025, and prevent further suffering. Immediate action is required to meet the escalating needs of displaced populations and communities in areas of return in Eastern DRC, to conduct mobility tracking, deliver site management services and provide emergency shelter, core relief items, safe drinking water, and essential health and protection services. Similarly IDPs leaving displacement areas to return to their areas of origin are in desperate need of recovery and resilience assistance.

## IOM IN THE DRC

Since 1994, the IOM has maintained a strong operational presence in the DRC, with offices in Kinshasa, North Kivu, South Kivu, Ituri, Tanganyika, and other key provinces. IOM delivers rapid, adaptive crisis response, focusing on displacement tracking (through its Displacement Tracking Matrix), CCCM, for which it is co-leading the Cluster with UNHCR at national and provincial levels, shelter and non-food items (NFI), water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), health (including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services), protection, and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP).

IOM ensures meaningful engagement with affected populations, particularly women, girls, and other at-risk groups, to enhance accountability and community-driven solutions. Through a humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) Nexus approach, IOM synergizes emergency response with long-term recovery efforts, strengthening community resilience and pathways to durable solutions.

**8,000,000 individuals**  
 PEOPLE AFFECTED

**1,000,000 individuals**  
 TARGETED

## IOM APPEAL (USD)

(March—September 2025)

	DTM	3 MILLION
	CCCM	5 MILLION
	Shelter & NFI	13 MILLION
	WASH	10 MILLION
	Health and MHPSS	12 MILLION
	Protection & AAP	5 MILLION
	Livelihoods & Resilience	12 MILLION
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>60 MILLION</b>



## DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

Funding required \$ 3 MILLION

IOM through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) plans on maintaining its monitoring of population movements, systematically capturing, processing, and sharing critical data to inform on figures, dynamics, displacement drivers, and urgent needs, at the service of the humanitarian community, through:

- Mobility Tracking assessments to identify displaced populations, patterns, and needs at provincial scale, in the four eastern provinces.
- Emergency Event Tracking for rapid data collection on new displacement caused by sudden shocks.
- Registration of IDPs in sites and collective centres to enable assistance.



## CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

Funding required \$ 5 MILLION

IOM will scale up critical support to IDPs in sites and collective centers, ensuring the coordination and delivery of lifesaving assistance. Key CCCM interventions will include:

- Co-leading the CCCM Cluster to ensure a coordinated site response across various actors and areas hosting collective settlements.
- Camp management services in existing sites or collective centres, through ensuring a coordinated multi-sector response, the establishment of governance structures, management of complaints feedbacks mechanisms and maintenance of site infrastructures and the site environment.
- Facilitating meaningful participation and risk mitigation through community engagement and inclusive decision-making.



## SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

Funding required \$ 13 MILLION

To address critical shelter and housing needs, IOM's key activities will include:

- Distributing standard emergency shelter kits, light shelter kits and NFI kits to meet the immediate needs of the displaced populations.
- Supporting house construction and repairs in return and relocation areas, ensuring that housing, land, and property issues are duly addressed.
- Constructing community hangars where necessary and ensuring spatial planning for safe settlements.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Funding required \$ 10 MILLION

Expanding access to safe WASH services being critical to prevent disease outbreaks and improve hygiene in displacement sites, host communities, and return areas, IOM's key WASH interventions will include:

- Constructing and maintaining latrines, handwashing stations and showers, in displacement and return areas.
- Constructing and rehabilitating water points (boreholes with hand pumps, spring catchment and construction of water networks with solar systems) and establishing management systems.
- Promoting good hygiene practices and distributing hygiene kits and menstrual hygiene management kits.



## HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

Funding required \$ 12 MILLION

To mitigate the risk of disease outbreaks in a context marked by limited access to essential health services and to protect the mental health, wellbeing and social cohesion of IDPs, IOM's response will include:

- Supporting outbreak preparedness and response by strengthening infection prevention and control (IPC), disease surveillance, and vaccination.
- Carrying out risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) activities on infectious diseases.
- Providing MHPSS services through community-based approaches, including multi-disciplinary Psychosocial Mobile Teams, psychoeducation for affected communities, counselling, and referrals to specialized services.
- Support coordination of MHPSS actors in relevant working groups and training on MHPSS to first-line responders.



## PROTECTION & ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS (AAP)

Funding required \$ 5 MILLION

In a context marked by frequent human rights violations and protection risk-prone, IOM will strengthen protection mechanisms, mitigate protection risks and promote the safety and dignity of displaced populations through:

- Creating safer environments in sites and collective centers through awareness-raising, security incident monitoring, and community engagement.
- Mitigating gender-based violence (GBV) risks through awareness campaigns, capacity building, women's engagement, community-led safety audits, distributions of solar-powered flashlights while ensuring survivors are referred to specialized services.
- Engaging communities, managing complaints and analysing feedback to strengthen assistance quality and relevance.



## LIVELIHOODS & RESILIENCE

Funding required \$ 12 MILLION

To sustain affected populations in displacement and return areas, IOM plans to roll out life-saving activities to support the resilience and recovery of the most in need through :

- Strengthening readiness for livelihoods access through interventions such as labor market assessments, vocational training, and distribution of productive assets and support to local structures providing livelihood opportunities, with a focus on women.
- Promoting early economic recovery and strengthening of value chains.
- Creating cooperatives and loan associations to promote self-entrepreneurship.

### CONTACT:

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