DR Congo: Weekly Humanitarian Update 17 - 21 July 2017





SOUTH KIVU: CASES OF CHOLERA REPORTED IN BUKAVU

From 10 to 16 July, Ibanda and Kadutu health zones respectively reported 8 and 3 cases of cholera while no case was reported the previous week. The popular district of Panzi (south of the city) is the most affected one. This increase in the number of cholera cases in vulnerable neighborhoods is mostly due to water scarcity. The local authorities have undertaken consultations with various stakeholders in order to ensure the supply and chlorination of water supply points for habitants of some parts of the city. The provincial health authorities have installed two water trucks at the Beach Muhanzi market to facilitate access to water for hundreds of people who work there and for those who travel by boat. Awareness-raising activities are also envisaged. However, the Provincial Health Directorate indicates that its stock of inputs is depleted.



KASAI: PERSISTING SUSPECT CASES OF MENINGITIS **INCLUDING 21 DEATHS**

Over 130 cases of meningitis have been reported since mid-April 2017 in Mweka Territory. While the disease is not rare in the area, health actors are worried about the stark increase since the beginning of May. The major challenges lie in the absence of appropriate sampling kits to determine whether Mweka Territory is faced with a meningitis epidemic.



HAUT KATANGA: WITHDRAWAL OF TWO MAJOR NGO PARTNERS FROM LUBUMBASHI

After over nine years of presence and service in Lubumbashi, the NGO International Rescue Committee (IRC) announced the closure of its office in Lubumbashi on 31 July 2017. According to IRC, this decision was taken consecutively to the funding cuts announced by its donor (European Commission for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection/ECHO). Since 2008, IRC was active in the sectors of non-food items/shelter, health, protection and water, sanitation and hygiene. The NGO Catholic Relief Services (CRS) will also stop its activities in Lubumbashi by the end of July 2017 in order to respond to urgent humanitarian needs in Tanganyika. Since the beginning of 2017, lack of funding has forced three major international organizations (ALIMA, IRC and CRS) to disengage from Haut-Katanga, Haut-Lomami and Lualaba while these provinces are still affected by armed violence and cholera epidemics.





TANGANYIKA: 11,000 IDPS RECEIVE NEARLY 200 TONS OF **FOOD**

These internally displaced people (IDPs) started to receive food assistance from the World Food Programme (WFP) through its partner Action Contre la Pauvreté. It is the first food assistance provided to these IDPs since they arrived in Kirungu in January 2017 after fleeing intercommunity violence near Moba. The one-month food ration consists of 197 tons of food which will be distributed in three phases. On the other hand, WFP is forced to suspend its food assistance in favor of over 2,500 people who have returned to Lusaka and Ponde (some 50 km from Moba). This decision is consecutive to the deterioration of the security situation in Moba Territory due to the increasing activity of a self-defense group.



NORTH KIVU: 16,000 IDPS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE IN LUBERO TERRITORY

These people who fled between April and mid-July were identified between Kitsumbiro and Lubero. They have not received any humanitarian assistance yet due to the lack of actors with the capacity to assist them. They were forced into displacement by violent clashes that erupted west and south-east of Lubero between Mai-Mai NDC/R armed groups and Mai-Mai UPDI/Mazembe on the one hand, and Mai-Mai UPDI/Mazembe and FARDC on the other, according to the NGO Save the Children International (SCI). The clashes that erupted between UPDI/Mazembe and NDC/R armed groups on 17 July in the north-east of Walikale spread to Lubero Territory. According to the local NGO Association des Parents d'Enfants Déficients Intellectuels du Congo (APEDIC), over 3,000 people who fled these clashes have arrived in Miriki. Given the unstable situation, humanitarian actors cannot assess the situation of these IDPs in Miriki.



HAUT LOMAMI AND LUALABA: FOOD SECURITY IMPACTED BY THE KASAL CRISIS

In Kalamba health zone, Kapanga Territory, 30% of the total population (over 28,000 people) have poor and limited food consumption scores due to large population movements and the massive arrival of IDPs from the Kasai region consecutive to incursions of Kamwina Nsapu militia. In Haut Lomami Province, some 30% of the total population (nearly 200,000 people) of Kinda (Kamina Territory), Malemba and Mulongo (Malemba Nkulu Territory) health zones are food insecure. In December 2016, a nutrition survey conducted in this health zone revealed a 15% overall acute malnutrition (MAG) rate and a 4% severe acute malnutrition (MAS) rate. Experts recommend emergency interventions to prevent the population from falling further into food insecurity in the near future.

