



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

REGIONAL

The Democratic Republic of the Congo

Regional Refugee
Response Plan
2019–2020



to assist

235 350 people



FAO requires

USD 18.1 million



period

January–December 2019

Increasing livelihood opportunities for vulnerable refugees is crucial to strengthen their resilience and enhance social cohesion with host communities.

In 2018, the crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo drastically worsened, spreading to previously unaffected areas, and continues to cause significant population displacement in the region.

Objectives

FAO is working with partners in the Food Security Cluster to:

- Promote social cohesion and peaceful co-existence between refugees and host communities through the implementation of targeted resilience programmes.
- Foster economic self-reliance and durable solutions for refugees, and host communities, by expanding the use of cash assistance, reducing the dependency on humanitarian aid and promoting socio-economic growth in line with national and development plans.

Activities

Angola | USD 350 000 required to assist 3 350 people

income-generating activities | tree planting | cassava and sweet potato multiplication | vegetable production | seeds and tools | training on smallholder farming systems, pest control and processing techniques | livelihood kits

Rwanda | USD 490 280 required to assist 3 000 people

income-generating activities | tree planting | strategic environmental and impact assessment

Uganda | USD 9.6 million required to assist 200 000 people

livelihood kits | income-generating activities | productive inputs

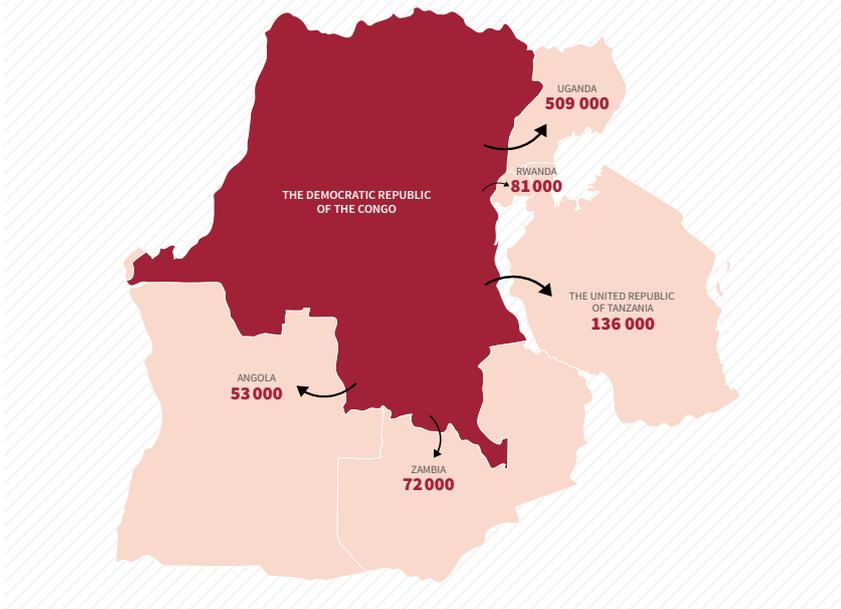
United Republic of Tanzania | USD 650 000 required to assist 5 000 people

income-generating activities | training | enhance market linkages | renewable energy | tree planting

Zambia | USD 7 million to assist 24 000 people

training on harvesting and post-harvest techniques | renewable energy | climate-smart agriculture | promote diversified production

Displacement in countries with planned activities (January 2019)



Source: UNHCR, January 2019

Situation analysis



851 000 projected refugee population by the end of 2019

Impact on food security

The situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has drastically worsened over the course of 2018, where violence has spread, causing significant population displacements, human rights violations and a high prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence. While the majority of displaced people remain within the country, the outflow of thousands of refugees has continued across the borders, particularly to Burundi, Uganda and Zambia, with 130 000 new refugees that have left the country since the beginning of 2018. New arrivals in these countries add to refugees from previous waves of violence, the majority of whom are women as well as children that are often crossing borders unaccompanied.

The unstable security and socio-economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was further aggravated by an unpredictable political environment and the Ebola virus disease outbreak. The risk of further displacement remains high, which would have a disastrous impact on the already precarious humanitarian situation and trigger increased regional instability.

By supporting livelihoods opportunities and through a resilience-based approach, refugees will be able to contribute to the development of their host countries, and of their country of origin upon their return. Increasing job opportunities for refugees allows them to build their self-reliance and ultimately eliminate dependence on humanitarian aid. Given the limited capacity of host communities to support the impact of massive numbers of refugees, it is also crucial to address the needs of local populations and foster social cohesion in refugee-hosting areas.

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