Democratic Republic of Congo
Crisis Type: Volcanic eruption-Natural Disaster
Situation Report N°3, 14 June 2021

1. Situation Overview: High lights

National authorities and scientists are unanimous about a decline in seismic activities in the city of Goma and its surroundings. Accompanied by the first lady and eight ministers, the congolese head of state visited the region to sympathize with those affected paying particular attention to shelter needs. The week before, provincial authorities organized people’s return to their homes, with the exception of villages totally decimated by the lava flow that followed the May 22nd, 2021’s volcanic eruption; The Government has identified relocation sites where those who lost their houses will be relocated. Nevertheless, in addition to Government actions, it is important to support response on health including reproductive health and protection issues. This is due to destruction of houses and disappearance of plot boundaries with possible loss of lands titles. Within precarious shelters, boys, girls, women and men are living in the same spaces regardless of specific needs including access to water and the use of latrines. This exposes to gender-based violence. Due to the increases of security services there are many allegations of rape on women, the exposure of women and girls including adolescent girls at risk of rape, sexual exploitation. The degradation of the protective environment also increases the number of cases of physical assault and risk of sexual violence against separated and unaccompanied children. In addition, many service delivery points had been destroyed and others are non-functional because of displacement of staff or destruction of equipments and infrastructures including the main water storage system of Goma.

2. Humanitarian Needs

UNFPA carried out rapid needs assessment missions in the new context of the return and relocation of disaster victims. Theses missions show enormous challenges to meet urgent humanitarian needs in the area of sexual and reproductive health and protection against gender based violence. Maternity hospitals located in Nyiragongo, Munigi, Turunga and Kabati are all experiencing deterioration of buildings including deterioration of medical equipments. In addition, there is an urgent need to strengthen their institutional capacities to meet the increased needs of the population relocated in different sites. UNFPA needs dignity kits and menstrual hygiene kits, in the face of high demand. Other lifesaving commodities include reproductive health kits for health centers and high concentration IDPs sites. This is in addition to the need for food and non-foods items, increased number of pregnant women in need of assistance as well as people with specific needs.
3. Funding requirement

UNFPA is appealing for USD 1, 9 millions as part of UNFPA's response to Goma volcano.

4. Government, UN and Other Stakeholders' Response

(MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER) For a week, the Prime Minister coordinated on the spot with the provincial authorities and the sectoral ministers the main activities of the response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis. The national assistance includes food and non-food items to the affected populations. The government of North Kivu had already used all media channels to inform inhabitants on new developments about seismic activities in Goma and its surroundings. Furthermore, logistics are provided for planned return to the villages and homes spared by the natural disaster. Goodwill donors and civil society organizations are also mobilizing for psychosocial and in-kind assistance to the most vulnerable populations. This is in addition to the ongoing provincial contingency plans (security, protection, shelter, food, health care).

More over, both national and international non-governmental organizations are also addressing the following:

- Need for psychosocial support for displaced and host populations (SOFEPADI, …..)
- Need for adequate shelter, safe spaces and reception facilities
- Support to Hospitals providing medical care for affected communities (MSF, Red Cross, Heal Africa)
- Individual protection kits
- WASH Hygiene (IMA, MERCY CORPS) and dignity kits.
- In addition, Kenyan's government provided humanitarian aid to Congolese government , consisting mainly of food products, medicines and assistance kits.

Alongside UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations, UNFPA in coordination with the national coordination of PSEA team continues awareness raising sessions for humanitarian personnel and assures the referral pathways for cases of gender based violence (GBV) as well as communication on the Interagency Helpline for Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse 49 5555 (including the posting and distribution of communication tools and awareness-raising sessions for small groups and with community radios);