



Country sheet

Democratic Republic of Congo

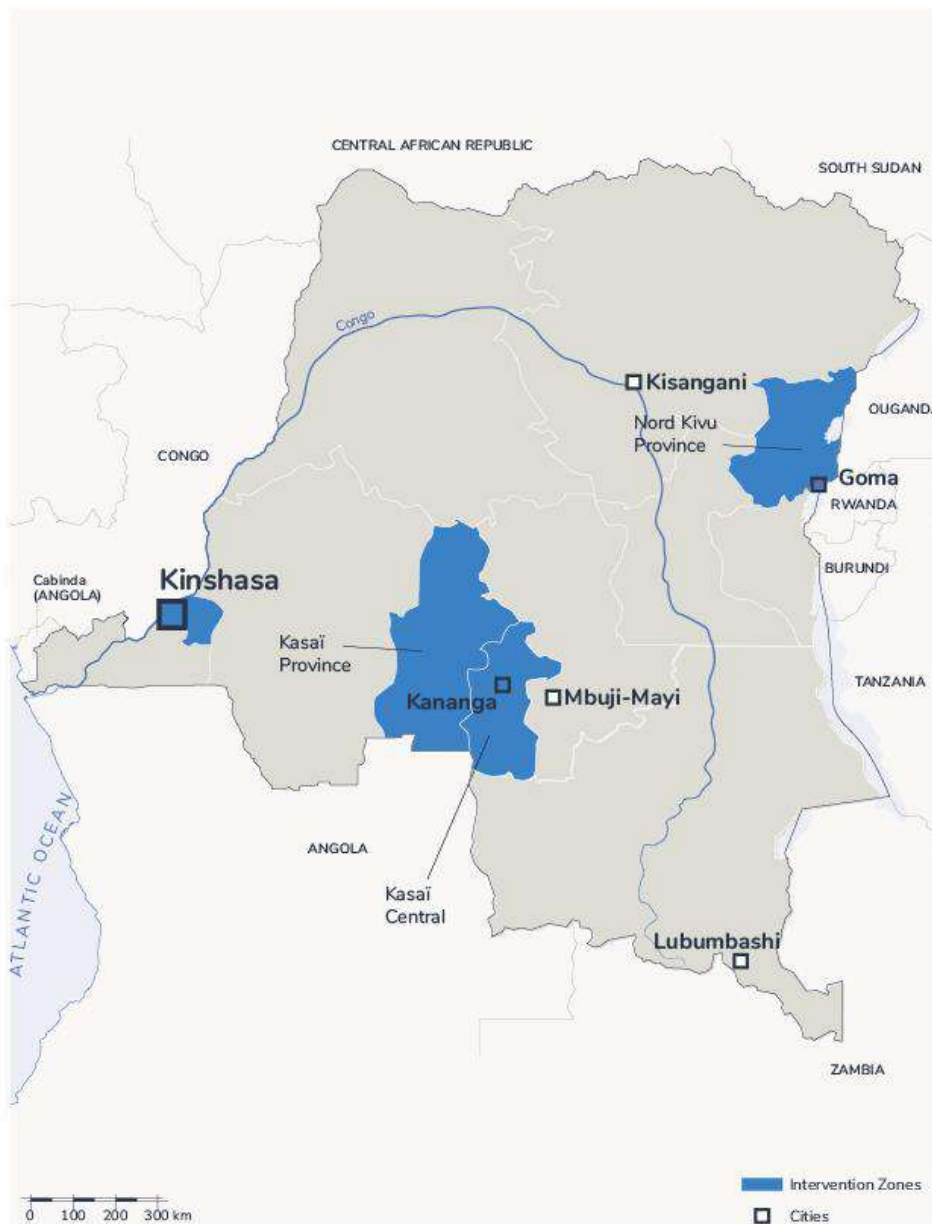




HI's team and areas of intervention

There are 137 employees in HI's team in Togo

Democratic Republic
of Congo





General Country Data

a) General data

DATA	DRC	Rwanda	Belgium
Population	102.3	14.1	11.8
HDI	0.315	0.377	0.878
SIGI score	46.9	19	7.4
Maternal mortality	547	259	5
GINI index	44.7	43.7	26.6
Population under UNHCR mandate	7.534.847	135.042	222.589
INFORM index	8	3.5	2.1
Fragile states index	106.7	81.8	30.3
Population covered by at least one measure of social protection (%)	14.1	9.8	100
Official Development Assistance received (\$ million)	3.249.8	1.076.8	0
GINI index	€ 0.605 152	€ 0.400 98	(0.044 11ème)
SIGI Index 0-100	46.9	19	13.4 (Europe)

b) Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Ratified on 02/05/2002
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Signed on 18/03/2009
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified on 30/09/2015
Convention to Eliminate all forms of Discrimination Against Women	Ratified in June 1986
International Convention on the Rights of the Child	Ratified on 27/09/1990



c) Geopolitical analysis

The second largest country in Africa, four times the size of France and eighty times the size of Belgium, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is a country whose history is marked by power struggles over its wealth that are still the main cause of most of its troubles today.

There are still no signs of the significant improvements in the socio-economic situation long hoped for by DRC's population, despite the obvious presence of wealth and therefore financial resources. However, the country did move up in the HDI rankings between 2013 and 2021, from 186th out of 187 countries to 175th out of 189 countries.

Progress is visible in increased life expectancy (from 49 years in 1997 to 59 years in 2015), school enrolment (28% in 1995 to 44% in 2014 for secondary education) as well as gross national income per capita (\$338 in 1997 to \$392 in 2015). But this discreet progress in socio-economic indicators does not reflect the reality of much of this vast country, and inequalities remain a major cause for concern in most places.

Between 2016 and 2018, during the political crisis due to a change in the presidential majority, inflation rose again. Despite a smooth handover of heads of the State in January 2020, the health crisis caused by Covid-19 had a strong impact on the country's socio-economic indicators. In March 2016, 1 US dollar was exchanged for 900 Congolese francs against 2,500 Congolese francs in August 2023. Purchasing power is declining and basic consumer prices are rising.

Global inflation since 2022 has also impacted the Congolese economy, with an inflation rate of 13.1% in 2022 and 20% since the start of 2023. In August 2024, the exchange rate stood at 2,800 Congolese francs to 1 US dollar.

The DRC is also facing a major humanitarian and health crisis that affected more than 26.4 million people in 2022, including 14.2 million children. The current crisis is the consequence of decades of local and regional instability, particularly in the eastern provinces. Over the years, recurrent armed conflicts and inter-community violence have left the population very vulnerable. The end of 2022 and the beginning of 2023 were marked by the resurgence of the M23 armed group in the province of North Kivu, triggering massive population. In the Kasai region, inter-community conflicts caused by increased competition for access to political and customary power persisted throughout 2022, as did tensions over the control of economic and land resources. Finally, in the Mai-Ndombe province in the west of the country, a new crisis emerged in June 2022, with violent inter-community clashes in the Kwamouth territory. These clashes are thought to be mainly due to land issues and customary taxes. The violence has gradually spread to the neighbouring provinces of Kwilu and Kwango, with the first signs



of trouble in Kinshasa.

Multi-sectoral needs persist, particularly in health and nutrition, including for the treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition (an estimated 3.6 million people suffered from acute malnutrition in 2023), access to water and hygiene, food security and protection.

The humanitarian crisis in the DRC is essentially a protection crisis: violations of the laws of war (deliberate targeting of civilians during clashes) and human rights (recruitment of children into armed groups, forced labour in mines, rape in territories occupied by armed groups or "pacified" by the FARDC) are quasi systematic in every conflict zone, but also in transition zones.

Since 2018, there have also been repeated outbreaks of Ebola, measles, cholera, Covid-19 and monkeypox (mpox) in several provinces, undermining an already weakened population and health system. With regard to Ebola, the fifteenth outbreak was declared by the health authorities on 21 August 2022 (the outbreak ended on 22 September) in Beni in the province of North Kivu, where a single case was recorded. Since 2022, there have also been outbreaks of mpox in several provinces of the DRC: 5,740 cases have been reported, with 230 deaths.

The delivery of humanitarian aid is severely hampered by the security situation, with violence perpetrated by armed groups on the one hand and inter-community and inter-ethnic conflicts on the other, all against a backdrop of increased political instability. The accessibility of the provinces varies according to the dynamics of the conflicts. Between January and September 2022, 485 humanitarian access incidents were reported and 151 of these incidents involved violence against humanitarian workers. 19 humanitarian workers were injured, four killed and 19 abducted, mainly in the provinces of North and South Kivu, which are the areas most affected by abductions and hold-ups of humanitarian vehicles.



Summary of HI's work in the country

HI has been working in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) since 1995, and currently has three operational bases in Kinshasa (as well as a coordination office), Goma and Kananga.

In Kinshasa, HI is implementing a project that integrates the development of children aged 0-12 years with a mother and child health component, a rehabilitation component, an inclusive education component and personalised support for the families of vulnerable children. This project is based on partnerships with local actors and the health and education authorities.

In the province of North Kivu, HI is implementing two rapid health response projects in partnership with Première Urgence Internationale, and is delivering mental health care to people affected by the crises in the provinces of Petit-Nord-Kivu, incorporating early rehabilitation into the new project. HI also has an operational sub-base in Mweso where it is implementing a risk prevention, protection and multi-sector emergency response project and an integrated mental health rehabilitation project for people with disabilities or people injured in conflicts. This project includes stimulation therapy for children suffering from malnutrition. Finally, HI is also implementing Atlas Logistics projects, with a civil engineering project implemented in the Mweso health area and a logistics platform project managed out of Goma with three components: transport, storage and capacity building.

In the province of Kasai Central, HI has implemented various food security and agricultural recovery projects. Since 2023, the programme has been developing the inclusive education sector in Kasai province, with the effective start-up of an inclusive education project focusing on girls' education, in consortium with Save the Children.



Overview of current projects

Sectors in which HI is running projects, with a focus on beneficiaries and operating partners

Project title and main sectors of intervention	Main activities:	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Project start and end date	Donors funding the project
Implementation of a last-mile temperature-controlled supply chain Common transport and storage platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-routing by road of temperature-controlled medical products Setting up a temperature-controlled storage area at Goma airport in compliance with pharmaceutical standards Supply chain management capacity building 	15 humanitarian organisations	Aviation Sans Frontières	North Kivu	11.2024 – 04.2025	CDCS
Project for the prevention of multiple risks and violations incurred by vulnerable populations and multi-sectoral response to protection and assistance needs in the face of shocks Phase 2 Protection against violence and abuse, Mental health and psychosocial support Light civil engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community multi-risk prevention, reduction and mitigation plans Awareness-raising and risk education by community relays Assessment and coverage of basic needs in response to shocks using modalities adapted to the context Assistance with psychological first aid, psychosocial support Identification and referral of cases for specialised care and follow-up Rehabilitation of tracks Capacity building for organisations of people with disabilities on inclusion standards in emergency humanitarian response at community level 	32,500 people (51% women), host population, displaced people, returnees and refugees	/	North Kivu (Mweso health area, Goma, Masisi and Nyaragongo territories)	11.2023 – 10.2025	Directorate-General for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (DGD H)



Rehabilitation, inclusive humanitarian action, mental health and psychosocial support and stimulation therapy for vulnerable groups in crisis-affected areas of sub-Saharan Africa Physical and functional rehabilitation , Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of rehabilitation care (including prostheses, orthoses and mobility aids) and psychosocial support • Individual stimulation sessions for malnourished children and their parents/guardians, as well as psychosocial support • Organisational and technical support for hospital rehabilitation services to ensure quality services for people referred for rehabilitation. • Raising awareness of the importance of early rehabilitation, stimulation therapy, disability and inclusion, and psychosocial and mental health support 	14,082 people (52 % women) People with functional limitations and people with disabilities, including: host population, displaced people, returnees and refugees	Ministry of Health Action Contre la Faim Médecins Sans Frontières	North Kivu (Mweso Health Area, Masisi Territory; Rutshuru Territory and the IDP camps around the city of Goma)	07.2024 – 06.2026	German Humanitarian assistance
Emergency response to ensure access to quality primary healthcare, including nutrition and mental health care, for populations affected by crisis and conflict Mental health, Psychosocial support, Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live-saving response in health, nutrition, mental health and protection • Relief of overcrowding in local health centres unable to cope with massive patient influxes • Continuity of care, referrals and overall quality of case management • Pilot protection project linked to health and nutrition interventions in a health area • Setting up health/nutrition rapid response capabilities 	102,315 people Population affected by the M23 crisis (internally displaced people)	Première Urgence Internationale (Lead]	North Kivu: Masisi, Walikale, Nyragongo and Rutshuru territories Crisis Modifier : Ituri, North Kivu	07.2023 - 09.2025	ECHO
Emergency response project for medical and psychosocial assistance to vulnerable populations affected by sudden onset and multiform crises in the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alert management and identification of areas most exposed to the arrival of internally displaced people • Exploratory missions to analyse needs and provide a mobile mental health response • Raising community awareness of mental health • Psycho-education and psychosocial support sessions • Training on mental health and active listening for key people in the community and health facility staff 	32,092 people Displaced and host populations	Première Urgence Internationale (Sub)	Petit Nord-Kivu Territories	08.2024 – 07.2025	Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS)



remote areas of Petit Nord Kivu						
Mental health and psychosocial support						
Nurturing Care Kinshasa : Together for the harmonious development of our children Physical and functional rehabilitation, Maternal and child health Inclusive education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening functional rehabilitation and physical therapy services • Improving access to rehabilitation services by building and equipping rehabilitation spaces in health areas • Prevention and early detection of disabilities or delayed development disorders • Capacity building of educational, health and social sector actors to support children with disabilities • Strengthening the capacity of carers to provide attentive care and to support children's learning • Improved access to rehabilitation services for children with disabilities and/or at risk of developmental delay, through the introduction of a third-party payment system. 	7,050 people 10 community centres, 6 rehabilitation Services 30 schools Children aged 0-12 yrs (with disabilities or at risk of developmental delays) Pregnant women or women having just given birth Carers of children aged 0-12 yrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial Health Division • Ministry of Primary, Secondary and Technical Education • Ministry of Social Affairs? Humanitarian Action and National Solidarity • National Community-based Rehabilitation Programme • National Nutrition Programme • National Reproductive Health Programme • Congolese National Association of Parents of Children with Intellectual Disabilities • Congolese Association for the Liberation and Development of Mothers with Disabilities 	Kinshasa (Municipalities of Bumbu, Nguiri, Montngafoul a Selembao)	01.2022 – 12.2026	Directorate-General for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (DGD H) Jos & Mimieke Foundation Fondation Roi Baudouin (FRB) Luxembourg Min of Foreign Affairs



RADAR Physical and functional rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid assessment of the data reporting system • Drafting of a list of indicators • Development of an indicator definition guide • Finalisation of the system's dashboard and data entry forms • Training in data entry and analysis • Participation by the focal points of the national health management information system in an international seminar on data management in rehabilitation • Implementation of the routine health information system in selected establishments • Documentation of lessons learned and organisation of a dissemination event 	Rehabilitation professionals, Political deciders and health managers Patients needing rehabilitation services Health institutions and government agencies	National Community-based Rehabilitation Programme	Kinshasa	10.2024 - 02.2025	ENABEL
Access and Equality for Girls' Education Inclusive education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to education • Accessible schools • Strengthening the capacities of education actors in the field of inclusion • Inclusion awareness-raising 	27, 270 children aged 6 to 12 yrs, including children with disabilities	Association of support to people with disabilities; Save the Children	Kasai province	08.2023-08.2027	Foreign Commonwealth & Development Department (FCDO)
Tuditale Food aid, Inclusive governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving food security, nutrition and the economy of vulnerable households • Analysis of marginalised groups • Capacity-building • Recycling of capacity-building 		CRS Lead	Kasai province	02.2024-09.2026	BHA



Donors

<p>DGD</p>  <p>Belgique partenaire du développement</p>	<p>MAE Luxembourg</p>  <p>LUXEMBOURG AID & DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>FCDO</p>  <p>UKaid from the British people</p>
<p>GFFO</p>  <p>german humanitarian assistance DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE</p>	<p>CDCS</p> <p>Avec la participation de</p>  <p>MINISTÈRE DE L'EUROPE ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES <i>Liberté Égalité Fraternité</i></p>	<p>ECHO</p>  <p>Financé par l'Union européenne Aide humanitaire</p>
<p>USAID</p>  <p>USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE</p>	<p>Fondation Roi Baudouin</p>  <p>Fondation Roi Baudouin <i>Agir ensemble pour une société meilleure</i></p>	<p>ENABEL</p>  <p>Enabel</p>
<p>Fondation Jos et Mimieke</p>  <p>FONDATION DE LUXEMBOURG <i>Philanthropy in action</i></p>		