

DRC HF Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Humanitarian Fund



DRC HUMANITARIAN FUND

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

THE DRC HF THANKS ITS OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT IN 2021

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This document was produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) DRC. OCHA DRC wishes to acknowledge the contributions of its committed staff at headquarters and in the field in preparing this document.

The latest version of this document is available on the DRC HF website at www.unocha.org/drc

Full project details, financial updates, real-time allocation data and indicator achievements against targets are available at [CBPF DataHub](https://datahub.unocha.org/).

About DRC HF

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Front Cover

Kalemie Territory, Province of Tanganyika, July 2021. After months of displacement, Amida returned home with three children. With funding from DRC FH, she was able to access land and start a new life. Credit: OCHA/Aurelie Duray

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FOREWORD

In 2021, the DRC Humanitarian Fund (DRC HF) remained a critical tool to support the humanitarian response and make a difference in people's lives in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

As in the previous years, 2021 was difficult for the people of the DRC. Civilians continue to pay a heavy price because of the conflicts. Forced displacement, violations of international humanitarian law and human rights continue. Natural disasters, including the Nyiragongo volcanic eruption, increased the needs of already vulnerable people.

I wish to acknowledge the joint efforts of the recipients of DRC HF funding - national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Red Cross organization and agencies of the United Nations, as well as cluster coordinators, support staff and members of the Advisory Board, for their dedication and tireless response in the DRC.

With their collective support, the Fund enabled humanitarian partners to respond to humanitarian needs in the most affected provinces, including cash assistance and protection services. The Fund helped address the urgent needs of people affected by the Nyiragongo volcanic eruption, people affected by the crisis in southern Ituri and Beni, and the many households affected by insecurity in the Hauts-Plateaux.

The Fund was used strategically to support the implementation of the national strategy for the Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

(PSEA); to facilitate the delivery of an effective response, supporting the logistics and infrastructure rehabilitation in South Kivu; and to provide food security and protection to newly displaced people by prepositioning stocks in Ituri and North Kivu.

None of this work would be possible without the abiding support and generosity of the Fund's donors. In 2021, their contribution reached US \$57.8 million and enabled 81 humanitarian organizations to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to 1.8 million people in 8 provinces. We deeply thank the governments of Belgium, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden, for their longstanding partnership and renewed commitment in the Fund.

In 15 years of operations, the DRC HF has constantly adapted to its environment and strengthened to enable humanitarian actors to respond to crises more quickly and effectively and protect and save millions of lives.

In 2022, the humanitarian context will remain challenging; \$1.88 billion is needed to address the needs of 8.8 million people. Women, children, and men in vulnerable situations in the DRC need the solidarity of everyone. Together in 2022, we will continue working closely with donor governments to support the most effective humanitarian response possible and not leave anyone behind. We will ensure that longer-term activities can enable people to develop and prosper in a peaceful environment.

Bruno Lemarquis
Humanitarian Coordinator for the DRC

“

**The DRC HF
remains an
invaluable tool
that makes a
difference in
people's lives
in the DRC.**

BRUNO LEMARQUIS
HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR FOR DRC

”

Felicia is a widow and mother of 10 children. When her village was flooded, she lost almost all of her corn, peanut and cassava crops. With funding from DRC HF, she received assistance with market gardening and food production. Today, she can afford to buy clothes and send money to her children who are studying in Lubumbashi. Haut-Lomami, 2021.

Credit: OCHA/Jolie-Laure MBALIVOTO

2021 in Review

HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN

In 2021, the humanitarian response was significantly underfunded. Only 39 per cent of the required funding was received (\$776.4 million). Despite the limited funding, partners continued to deliver assistance to millions of people in need.



19.6M

PEOPLE IN NEED



9.6M

PEOPLE TARGETED



\$1.98bn

FUNDING
REQUIREMENT

Humanitarian situation in 2021

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) remains one of the world's most complex and protracted humanitarian crises. While the situation has remained stable or improved in some areas in 2021, armed conflict and natural disasters continue to cause significant population movements in the east of the country as well as numerous protection incidents, particularly in the provinces of North Kivu and Ituri where a state of siege was declared in May 2021. Much of the population lacks access to quality basic services, public development and social protection policies are inadequate to reach the most vulnerable.

Population movements

The DRC has the highest number of displaced people in Africa, and one of the highest numbers globally. There are 5.5 million internally displaced persons, some 1.2 million returnees and 517,140 refugees and asylum seekers from neighboring countries. In 2021 alone, an estimated 1.5 million people were displaced, due to attacks, armed clashes, or land and intercommunal conflicts. A number of these people had to move several times because of the continuing violence. In May 2021, the Nyiragongo volcano in the province of North Kivu erupted and about 364,000 people were temporarily displaced to other territories.

Protection concerns

From January to October 2021, 49,661 cases of human rights violations were recorded. This reflects the deterioration of the security situation in the conflict provinces, particularly Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, and Tanganyika. Gender-based violence (GBV) and serious violations against children's rights are still significant issues. Between January and September 2021, 74,275 cases of GBV were reported, an 80 per cent increase over the same period in 2020. Women and girls are the majority of those affected (94 per cent of cases). During this same period, 1,540 grave

violations of children's rights in armed conflict were documented, which continues to show that children are particularly affected by these conflicts.

Food insecurity and acute malnutrition

The DRC has the world's largest population of food insecure, with 27 million people affected. People in crisis and emergency phases (IPC phases 3 or higher) are mostly in conflict-affected areas. Nearly 4.2 million people are acutely malnourished, including 2.4 million children under the age of five. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition is 6.5 per cent and chronic malnutrition is 42 per cent.

Epidemics

Twenty-one diseases with epidemic potential were under surveillance in the DRC, six were epidemic in 2021 (compared with five in 2020): cholera, measles, COVID-19, Ebola virus disease (EVD), polio, and malaria. The limited access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation and low vaccination coverage in the country favors the spread of disease. Risk is higher among displaced communities.

Between March 2020 and 31 October 2021, over 57,588 cases were reported, including 1,098 deaths, in 264 health zones. All 26 provinces in the country are now affected. Since 2020, restrictions imposed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic are still negatively affecting the local economy and exacerbating vulnerabilities.

In early October 2021, the 13th outbreak of EVD was declared in the province of North Kivu, five months after the official end of the previous outbreak in the neighboring Butembo area. On 16 December 2021, the Congolese authorities announced the end of the epidemic. Of the 11 registered patients (eight confirmed, three potential), nine died of the virus.

Humanitarian Access

The operations of humanitarian actors are negatively affected in some areas due to insecurity, lack of infrastructure and the physical isolation of certain areas of the country, and administrative obstacles, such as difficulties for several NGOs to finalize the registration process in country. Persistent violence affecting humanitarian organizations remain a concern. From January to October 2021, 260 security

incidents directly affecting humanitarian staff and assets were reported, with seven humanitarian workers killed, 26 injured and 23 abducted. North Kivu and Ituri are the most affected provinces. In these regions in particular, insecurity and transport difficulties disrupt the efforts of affected populations to access the few essential services available.

VISION STATEMENT

In 2021, the DRC continued to face an acute and complex humanitarian crisis marked by population movements, food insecurity, acute malnutrition, epidemics and protection issues. The humanitarian situation is made worse by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and humanitarian access is restricted in some areas due to insecurity or physical constraints. The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance reached 19.6 million, four million more than the previous year.

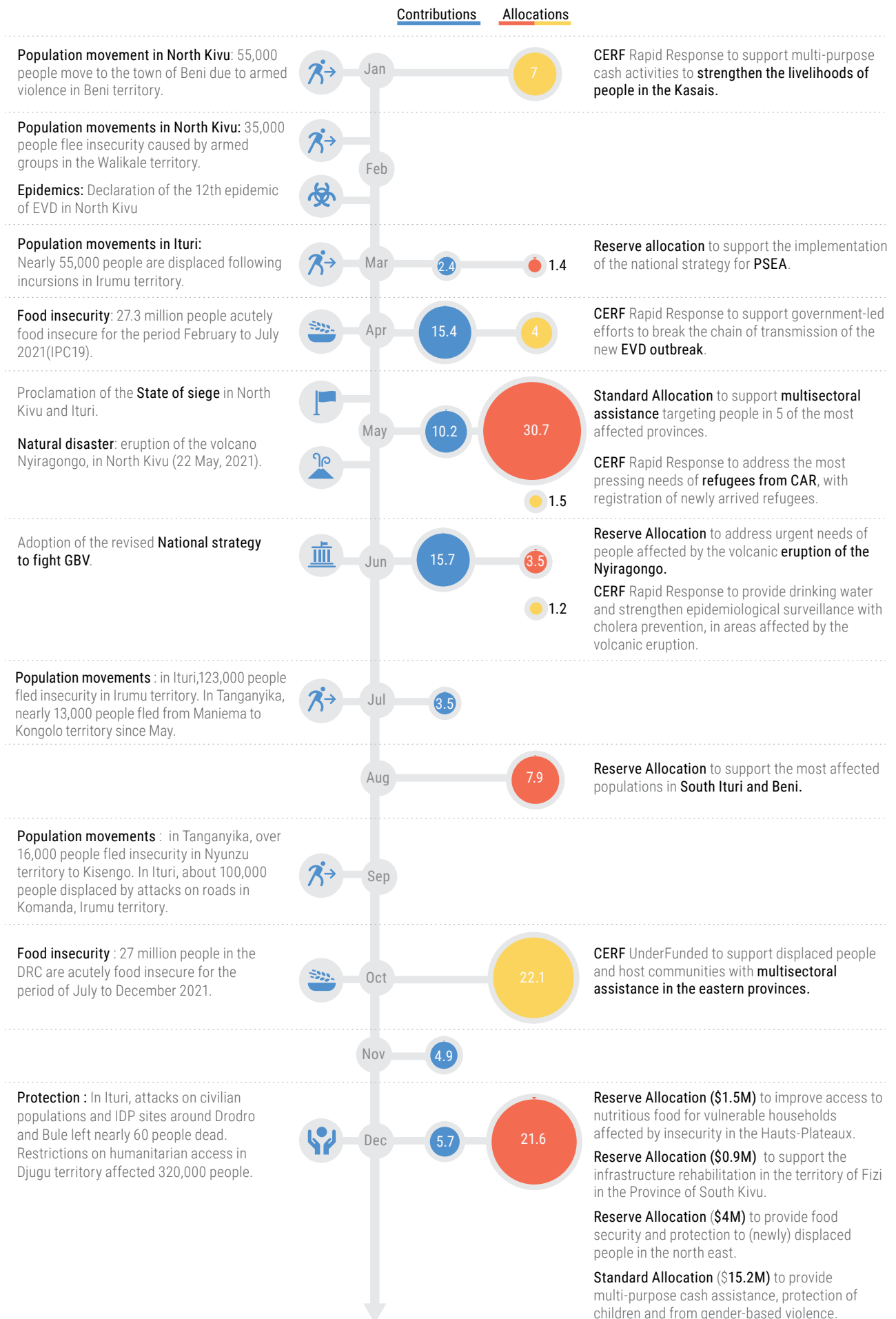
The DRC HF interventions in 2021 focused on responding rapidly to priority life-saving humanitarian needs identified in the HRP and emerging critical needs and supporting an enabling operating environment through common services. The Fund played particular attention to supporting women and girls, inclusive programs for persons with disabilities, education in protracted crises and other protection aspects.

The DRC HF vision statement is articulated around four strategic orientations:

1. Ensure alignment with the country HRP - placing protection and accountability to affected populations (AAP) at the heart of integrated multisectoral interventions.
2. Reach the most vulnerable people - prioritizing sectors and geographical areas where multi-sectoral needs are highly overlapping, overlooked; and/or underfunded.

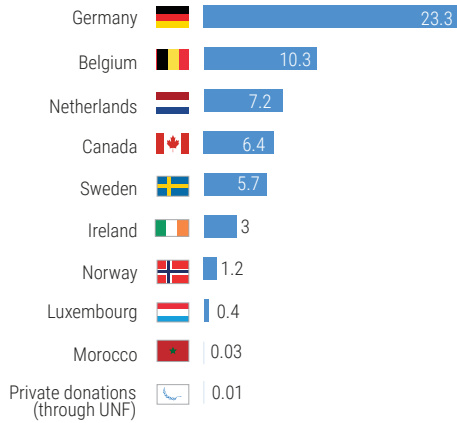
3. Seek complementarity with other funding mechanisms, including the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), with the support of the DRC HF donor community.
4. Promote inclusiveness, localization of aid and cash assistance – funding the best-positioned actors with direct implementation capacity and confirmed operational presence in targeted areas.

Given the protracted nature of the crisis in the DRC, the Fund is mindful of project duration, favoring longer timeframes to address as many needs as possible. The Fund paid greater attention to the effectiveness of the feedback complaints mechanisms and PSEA approach in the project cycle and strengthen partnership and coordination with the local authorities and administrations.



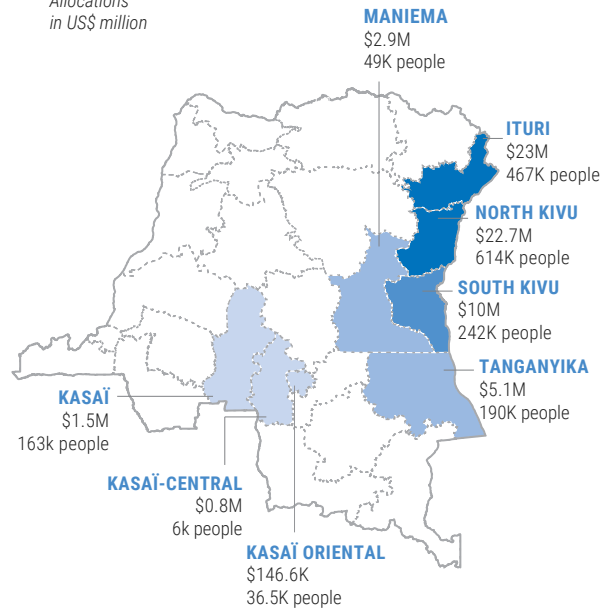
2021 IN NUMBERS

\$57.8M
CONTRIBUTIONS



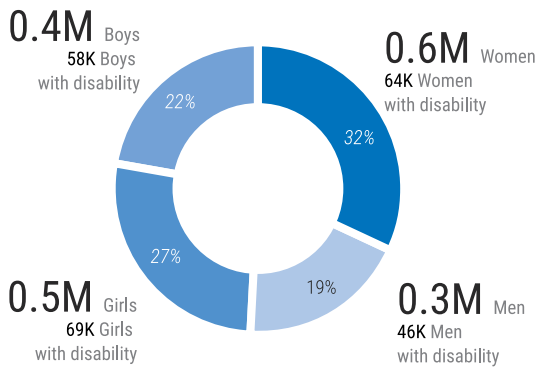
\$65.1M
ALLOCATIONS

1.8M*
PEOPLE ASSISTED



1.8M
PEOPLE ASSISTED

237k
PERSON ASSISTED WITH DISABILITY

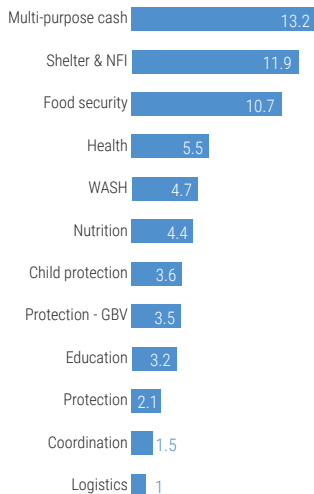


In million of person

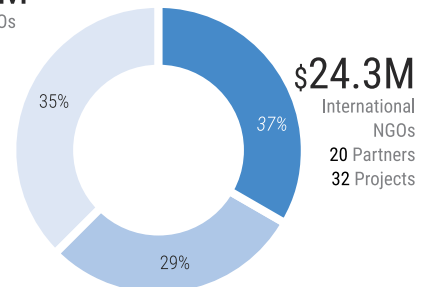
48
PARTNERS

80
PROJECTS

ALLOCATIONS BY CLUSTER



\$21.8M
National NGOs
23 Partners
33 Projects



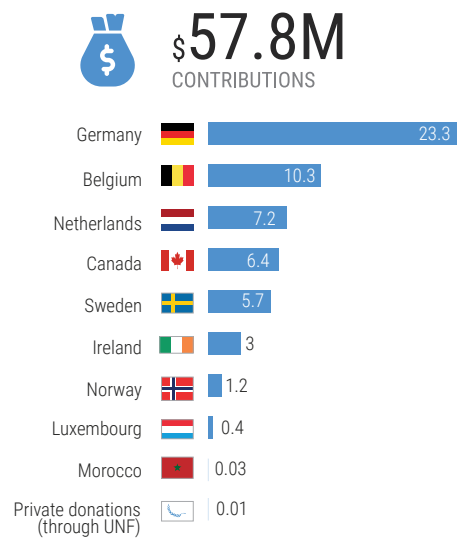
\$19M
United Nations
5 Partners
15 Projects

Allocations in US\$ million

The Annual Report will use the number of people targeted as a proxy for the number of people reached and henceforth the term people assisted will be used. This approach allows for more timely global reporting as the final data on people reached only becomes available over a year after the allocation of CBPF funds. The reported outcomes will be available on the cbpf.data.unocha.org and the CBPFs will continuously monitor if targets are reached. Figures for people assisted may include double counting as people often receive aid from multiple cluster/sectors. The maximum methodology was applied by the DRC Humanitarian Fund to estimate the number of people assisted in 2021. This means that for each admin level 2, the cluster/sector that targeted the maximum number of people is used as the total number of people assisted.

Donor contributions

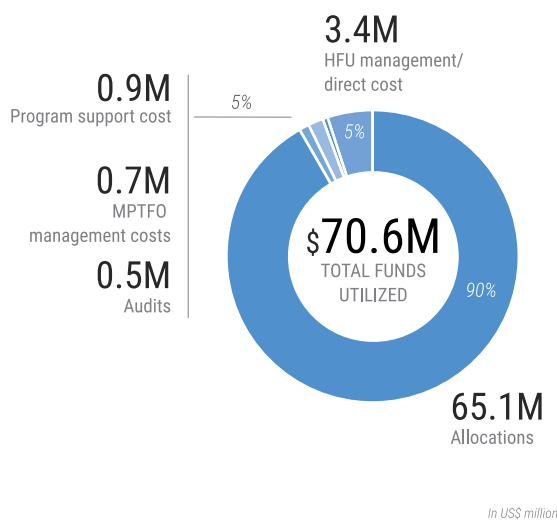
DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS



Humanitarian needs continue to grow rapidly in the DRC relative to funds mobilized. The number of people in need in the DRC has increased from 7 million in 2015 to 27 million in 2022. Despite an increasingly difficult funding environment due to the multiplication of crises around the world, the Fund made successful efforts to maintain a good level of engagement. Nine donors contributed \$57.8 million between January and December 2021, making the Fund the seventh largest Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF) after Afghanistan, the Cross-Border Humanitarian Fund for Syria, Yemen, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan.

While the DRC HF remained pivotal in addressing critical humanitarian needs in the DRC, the overall contributions to the Fund declined between 2018 and 2021 – from \$90.1 million in 2018 to \$73.8 million in 2019, \$57.1 million in 2020 and \$57.8 million in 2021. By the end of 2021, the DRC HF accounted for 8 per cent of the total HRP funding.

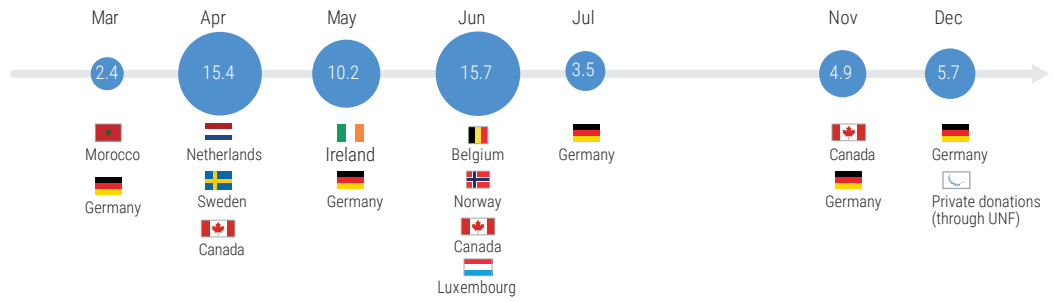
UTILIZATION OF FUNDS



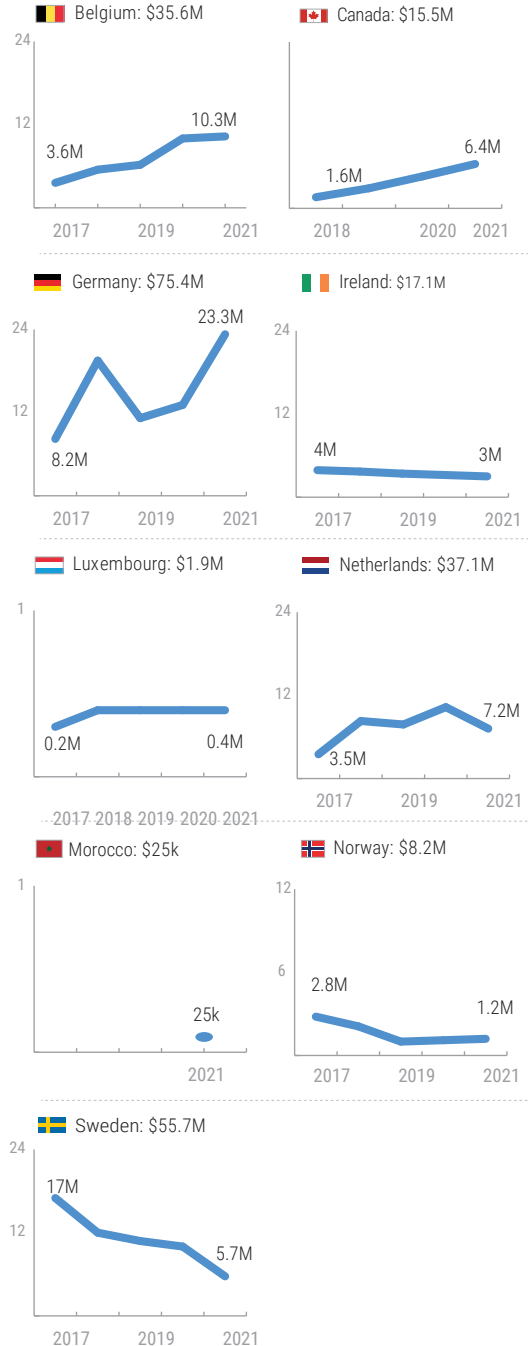
Nine donor countries renewed their support to the Fund – Belgium, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden. Morocco contributed to a country-based pooled fund for the first time. Total funding received in 2021, is slightly higher than in 2020. In addition, \$19.5 million was carried over from 2020 and \$110,000 was refunded by partners in 2021.

Early and predictable contributions are crucial as they give stakeholders enough time to prioritize funds strategically and in complementarity with other available funding. In 2021, only 4 per cent of the funds were available at the end of the first quarter, which did not allow for a substantial Standard Allocation to be launched at the beginning of the year. In the second quarter, 72 per cent of all 2021 contributions (\$41.3 million) reached the Fund. In the last two quarters, the Fund received a further \$14 million, of which 75 per cent came through at the end of the last quarter. These end-of-year contributions (from Canada and Germany) were critical to launch four allocations in December to respond to existing urgent needs.

**CONTRIBUTIONS
TIMELINE**



DONOR TREND



Donor trend

Between 2017 and 2021, three new donors – Germany, the Republic of Korea, and Morocco – contributed to the Fund. Canada, which first contributed in 2006, renewed its commitment to DRC HF in 2018 and increased its donations every year since.

The Fund received \$348.8 million in contributions in the last five years. Over 87 per cent (\$305 million) was provided by five main donors, namely the United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Belgium. The three top donors were the United Kingdom, Germany, and Sweden, which together provided about 67 per cent (\$232.4 million) of the overall funding between 2017 and 2021.

For the year 2021, while most of the donors' contributions remained in line with their 2020 contributions, there was a significant increase in contributions from Germany, nearly doubling its donation from \$13 million to \$23.3 million. Canada, the Netherlands, and Sweden increased their contributions compared with the previous year. As a result, over 70 per cent of the overall funding came from Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

In addition, \$21.5 million is available for 2022-2024 thanks to Germany and Belgium.

**DONORS WITH
MULTI-YEAR
CONTRIBUTION
AGREEMENTS**

	Belgium	10.3M	2021 - 2022
	Canada	0.4M	2021 - 2022
	Germany	36.4M	2020 - 2024

Allocations overview

STRATEGIC STATEMENTS

First Reserve Allocation: protecting against sexual exploitation and abuse

In December 2020, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) adopted a PSEA strategy to promote a coherent and harmonized approach to prevention and response to SEA in line with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Minimum Operating Standards. In March 2021, the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) approved a Reserve Allocation of \$1.5 million to strengthen the existing coordination and response structure for PSEA in the DRC.

Funding was used to strengthen humanitarian partners' capacity, coordination and community engagement, mainly through training, awareness raising, development and validation of a national protocol for assistance to victims of SEA, among others.

First Standard Allocation: supporting the most vulnerable

In 2021, the humanitarian situation continued to deteriorate. With donor funding available in May, the HC was able to release \$30.5 million to meet the increased needs of people living in difficult conditions for several months.

In line with the 2021 HRP, funds covered priority crises identified in 5 provinces, targeting displaced people, returnees, and host families, through multi-sectoral activities. A large portion of the funds were granted to Ituri in areas with low coverage of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services for Internally displaced people (IDPs) and host families. In North Kivu, interventions focused on health, nutrition, shelter, protection needs, including psychosocial support for survivors of GBV and reunification of unaccompanied children, as well as the rehabilitation of school infrastructure. The response in South Kivu focused on providing the most vulnerable people with

access to health and WASH-services, as well as non-food items (NFI) and agricultural inputs to improve their living conditions. In addition, this allocation targeted the least supported areas of Tanganyika and Maniema in terms of access to primary health care and WASH services and with significant gaps in the care and integration of unaccompanied children associated with armed groups and survivors of GBV into school.

Second Reserve Allocation: Supporting the needs of people affected by the Nyiragongo eruption

The volcano eruption on 22 May in Goma destroyed thousands of homes and affected many families who were already vulnerable. The allocation of \$3.5 million, launched a few days after the eruption, provided urgent shelter and NFI, improved access to WASH services and increased protection for vulnerable households left destitute, exposed, at risk and without water.

Third Reserve Allocation: Supporting the most affected populations in South Ituri and Beni.

In the first half of the year, insecurity and violence increased dramatically in eastern Congo, causing the internal displacement of 20,000 people in Irumu and Beni territories, as well as of 120,000 people in southern Ituri (as of August). In addition to generating protection incidents, these displacements increased the vulnerability of communities already heavily affected by protracted conflict, natural disasters and communicable diseases. In August 2021, the allocation of \$7.9 million scaled up the emergency response to displaced populations in Beni (North Kivu) and South Ituri with multi-sectoral activities to deliver adequate shelter, ensure fair access to WASH services, restore livelihoods of vulnerable households, facilitate access to primary health care services and provide care for malnourished children. The allocation supported women and children, with

more prevention and protection against GBV, and restoration of education for out-of-school children.

Fourth Reserve Allocation: improving access to nutritious food for vulnerable households in the Hauts-Plateaux

In addition to poor road infrastructure, persistent insecurity has limited economic recovery in the Hauts-Plateaux area, limiting trade and access to main livelihood activities. The \$1.5 million allocation of the DRC HF was used to improve food security and nutrition of vulnerable people, provide access to land and farms, and reduce exposure to protection risks and sexual gender-based violence (SGBV). The activities used new approaches, including micro-gardening targeting people without access to land, and training in innovative energy solutions, while paying particular attention to women and girls, elderly and persons with disabilities.

Fifth Reserve Allocation: Supporting logistics and infrastructure rehabilitation in Fizi

In December, a critical lack of funding to logistics was reported and the DRC HF triggered an allocation of \$1 million to support a logistics response in South Kivu to facilitate humanitarian access to affected populations in areas where the humanitarian response is limited because of physical constraints or violent attacks. The funding was used to rehabilitate a 27.5 km road and a 30 km stretch of road, including a bridge and blackspots, to enable humanitarian actors to reach displaced people and their host families in the Fizi health zone.

Second Standard Allocation: providing cash assistance, protection of children and against gender-based violence

In 2021, 27 million people were food insecure in the DRC due to poor harvest, floods, displacement, disease, lack of infrastructure and limited access to inputs and sources of capital, among other causes. Following the COVID-19 restrictions, household activities struggled to resume. Livelihoods and purchasing power remained limited, especially in rural areas in a context of continued high prices, limiting households' ability to access food and services. With year-end funding available, this allocation of \$16.5 million contributed to a multi-sectoral response through multi-purpose cash assistance, supplemented by a protection component (including child protection and against GBV) in six

provinces. Funded interventions aimed to reduce vulnerabilities and improve the living conditions of affected populations by covering basic needs and addressing protection needs.

Sixth Reserve Allocation: providing food security and protection to (newly) displaced people

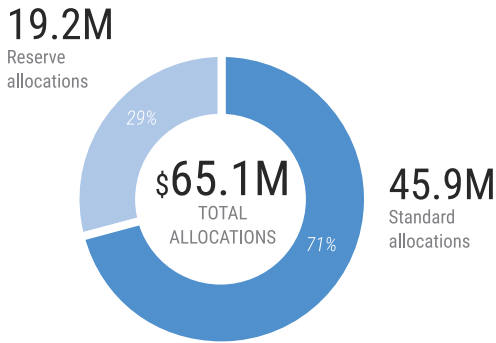
The ongoing armed conflict in the north-east led to more internal displacement and food insecurity. With donor funding available, the HC released \$4 million to provide emergency and protection assistance to newly displaced people and ensure food security in areas where access to food was unstable. The allocation facilitated the deployment of standby assistance in the provinces of Ituri and North Kivu, available at storage sites in Bunia and Beni, should the need arise.

2021 ALLOCATIONS

Amount	Category	Launch month
\$1.5M	First Reserve Allocation	March 2021
\$30.7M	First Standard Allocation	May 2021
\$3.5M	Second Reserve Allocation	June 2021
\$7.9M	Third Reserve Allocation	August 2021
\$1.5M	Fourth Reserve Allocation	December 2021
\$1.0M	Fifth Reserve Allocation	December 2021
\$15.2M	Second Standard Allocation	December 2021
\$4.0M	Sixth Reserve Allocation	December 2021

sub-granting

ALLOCATION BY TYPE *in US\$ million*



ALLOCATION BY STRATEGIC FOCUS *in US\$ million*

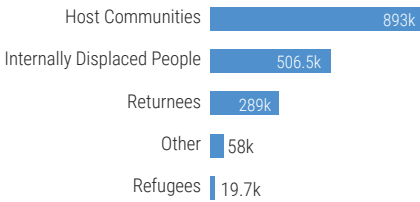
S01 Multi-sectoral response enables the vital needs of 9.6 million people to be covered in order to preserve their physical and mental integrity.

S02 Multi-sectoral response reduces vulnerabilities and improves living conditions for 3.4 million people.

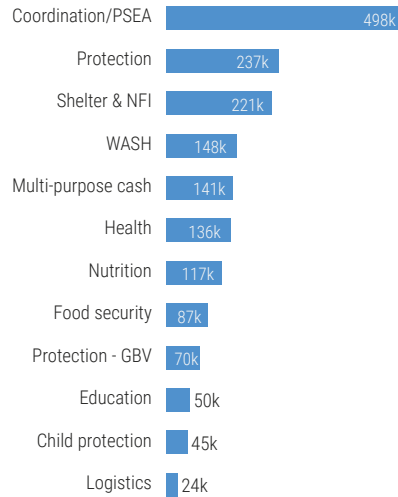
ALLOCATIONS BY STRATEGIC FOCUS



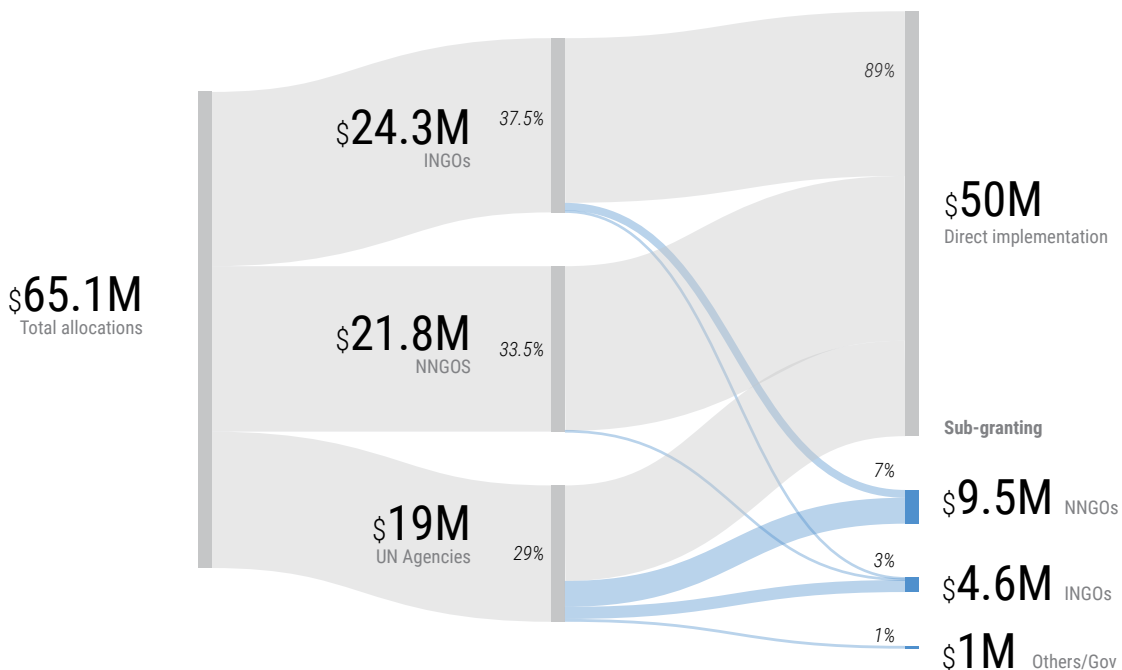
PEOPLE ASSISTED BY TYPE



PEOPLE ASSISTED BY CLUSTER



ALLOCATION FLOW BY PARTNER TYPE *in US\$ million*



HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

PROMOTING LOCALIZATION

The Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU) actively engaged with national organizations through training, mentoring and outreach activities that build and strengthen their ability to successfully access funding. In the three rounds of training organized in 2021, about 65 per cent of participants were national partners. This helped to enhance quality funding and to ensure diversification among eligible partners.

Great efforts were made in 2021, as the DRC HF introduced new approaches to ensure that trainings were interactive and with more time devoted to questions. All HF partners received training kits with self-explanatory training materials to ensure maximum reach and effectiveness. Several sessions were held to ensure that as many participants as possible were informed about the allocation processes.

As for the previous year, national NGOs were equally represented in the Advisory Board (AB) and participated in all the strategic and technical review committees, which gave them an active voice in the Fund's governance and decision-making processes.

National partner funding increased from 31 per cent in 2020 to 34 per cent in 2021. About 43 per cent of national NGOs eligible to the DRC HF in 2021 received funding, amounting to \$21.8 million. More than 36 per cent of the funding allocated through two standard allocations and 25 per cent through four reserve allocations went to national partners.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that the DRC HF funded two national women's lead organizations (WLO) in 2021 .

EFFECTIVE PROGRAMMING

KEY PRINCIPLES FOR INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

Strengthening Accountability to Affected People

The Fund actively encourages partners to have strong feedback mechanisms within communities. In November 2021, the HFU launched a survey to collect the best practices and map existing feedback and complaint mechanisms among HF partners. 55 partners (19 INGOs and 36 NNGOs) responded to the survey.

Among the participants, 89 per cent reported having at least two types of complaint mechanisms (including at least one anonymous mechanism), ensuring greater accessibility and diversity of approach. For partners with only one complaint mechanism, it is either a suggestion box or a complaint committee. Other types of complaint mechanisms include listening centers, community consultations, open day, staff focal points or the HF hotline made available to all stakeholders.

For most partners, the complaint mechanisms are additionally used to report fraud and SEA cases, with affected people encouraged to use the HF hotline or HF complaints email address if the nature of the information is sensitive. In addition, 55 per cent of the partners who responded to the survey say that they finance feedback and complaint mechanism with their own funds, while 25 per cent fund entirely through the DRC HF and 20 per cent partially.

In 2022, the HFU will take into consideration the partners' feedback, including the need to:

- Strengthen partners' capacity and harmonize knowledge on complaint management mechanisms.
- Organize meetings with partners to exchange experiences and develop case studies.
- Strengthen the use of community feedback at all levels to ensure better transparency and promotion of local values.
- Cover reasonable costs for establishing and/or managing feedback and complaint mechanisms, while ensuring cost efficiency of DRC HF funds.

Promoting the Centrality of Protection

In 2021, funding for protection (including general protection, child protection and GBV) represented 14 per cent of total allocations. Complementarity with other clusters was ensured through a comprehensive package, including health, WASH, nutrition and food security. Through the response, at least 30,000 women and girls received hygiene kits and 15,860 survivors of GBV received psychosocial support. Moreover, 1,930 children associated with armed forces or groups received individual follow-up, or support for reintegration into the community, school, and/or work.

In addition, DRC HF funding was instrumental in supporting the national PSEA network. Since 2018, the DRC established a national PSEA coordination network and four sub-networks at the field level, with a range of activities to support partners in their response to SEA. In early 2021, the Fund supported the capacity strengthening of the national PSEA network, funding a \$1.5 million project to improve prevention, support, and engagement to vulnerable people and survivors of SEA to strengthen the existing coordination and response structures. Following an IASC team visit to the DRC in November 2021, the Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator (DHC) recommended the development of a new capacity-building plan that reflects the HCT's focus on training humanitarian actors on SEA and deploying SEA protection response to all humanitarian hubs. Activities include the use of the U-report digital platform to interact with young people on PSEA.

The PSEA national network reported that during the year over 59,000 people were sensitized on PSEA through community-based approaches as well as mass awareness campaigns. In addition, awareness raising campaigns were conducted with Radio Okapi, a national network, and other national television stations with audiovisual material developed in the four main languages spoken in the DRC. Reporting mechanisms were set up or strengthened.

Moreover, clear efforts from the HFU to integrate the PSEA aspect in the logical framework of each partner's project have strengthened partners' capacities to prevent and mitigate against SEA. A new standard indicator was included across all clusters in 2021 (Number of project staff trained on PSEA) which helped monitoring the integration and implementation

of PSEA policies and ensure that partners allocated sufficient human and financial resources.

Addressing gender equality and responding to Sexual- and Gender Based Violence

Conflict is the main driver of GBV in the DRC. The provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, Ituri and Tanganyika account for 40 per cent of recorded GBV. Between January and September 2021, 74,275 cases of GBV were reported, an increase of 73 per cent compared with the same period in 2020 (HNO 2021

In 2021, \$3.5 million was granted to the protection cluster to address GBV through eight projects implemented in four of the most affected provinces (Ituri, Maniema, North Kivu and South Kivu). Activities related to GBV were funded across various clusters, including awareness raising, prevention messages broadcasting, training of psychosocial workers on GBV management cases and referring, care and provision of psychosocial support to survivors.

The Fund supported the deployment of a Protection Capacity Adviser (ProCap) on GBV, through the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in 2019 and extended the activities until December 2021. Training for humanitarian organizations, including HF partners, helped strengthen advocacy on GBV in the DRC. These mainly included sessions on:

- Data collection to harmonize tools and ensure the participation of women and girls within the Humanitarian programme cycle (HPC).
- IASC guidelines and training on Gender Age Marker (GAM) in light of the change of codification functioning (December 2021).
- Promotion of outreach and communication activities with key humanitarian actors.
- Strengthen the coordination of the GBV technical working group led by the DRC Ministry of Gender at the national and provincial levels.

Including Persons with Disabilities

In 2021, 1.4 million people were targeted for an inclusive humanitarian response (which is 15 per cent of the targeted population in the HRP). DRC HF projects funded in 2021 assist 236,794 persons with disabilities.

With its second phase implemented in 2021, the project of Federation Handicap International. Direction Aide Humanitaire (FHIDAH) helped partners to conduct inclusive assessments to identify persons

1 In October 2020, the DRC HF funded partner FHIDAH to implement the second phase of its project to strengthen the capacity of humanitarian actors to promote the protection and equitable access of persons with disabilities in the humanitarian response in the DRC.

with disabilities and their needs. During the year, they trained focal points in the different humanitarian hubs, initiated sectoral trainings, and provided field support to co-lead organizations. FHIDAH participated alongside organizations working for persons with disabilities and clusters in the various workshops organized by OCHA to make the HNO and HRP more inclusive. FHIDAH revised the cluster tools and guidelines and supported the clusters in analyzing barriers, risks, and humanitarian consequences for persons with disabilities, as well as in determining a set of activities and developing inclusive indicators and budget for the HRP section.

As part of the trainings organized by FHIDAH, with HF funding, the Information Management Working Group, REACH project and other NGOs were trained on inclusive data collection. According to a perception survey, most participants better understand the needs of persons with disabilities, their rights, and the need to consider them in the humanitarian response (analysis of barriers to access, inclusive planning and budgeting, collaboration with organizations working for persons with disabilities).

As a result, the disabilities dimension, often associated with gender and age marker, was included in standard indicators for Shelter/NFI, WASH, Education, Nutrition, Protection, and Health Clusters.

CONTEXTUAL PROGRAMMING

Advancing Cash and Voucher Assistance

In 2021, the Cash Working Group (CWG) developed tools for technical guidance and worked on sharing experiences, lessons learned and analysis among partners providing cash assistance. The CWG has supported the Fund with guidance during the preparation of allocation strategies and the review of project proposals.

The HFU focal point for cash-based programming helped coordinate information flow with the CWG, HFU and HF partners. In collaboration with the CWG, the Fund has developed a guidance note on the minimum CVA standards to ensure quality project proposals and implementation, ensuring that minimum criteria for cash transfer programs are included. The HFU helped HF partners increase their operational capacity through technical support during implementation.

The Fund encouraged HF partners and HFU members to take free online courses to expand their knowledge of CVA during the year. Multipurpose cash was chosen as the default modality in the second Standard Allocation (\$14.5 million granted to 12 projects).

Improving humanitarian access

In 2021, the HFU developed an incident dashboard that includes all security and natural hazard incidents during the year. The dashboard maps incidents reported to the Fund by eligible partners, for internal use only. It ensures a better analysis of the reported incidents by geographical area and type of incident and helps identify trends. In the future, such information can be used to feed into OCHA's wider work on humanitarian access to inform the operational access support that is provided to partners.

The DRC HF received 32 incident reports from 24 partners (14 INGOs, 9 NNGOs, and 1 UN Agency) covering 28 projects. This is 18 per cent of active projects in 2021. Most incidents reported (82 per cent) were security incidents, and a smaller number was related to natural disasters (disease outbreak, flooding, etc.).

Most security incidents took place in the eastern provinces, notably in Ituri (39 per cent). It is worth noting that these provinces are where most DRC HF funded projects were located. The incidents included conflicts with armed groups, intercommunity violence, and petty crime. In this context, partners were forced to reduce or suspend activities, sometimes relocating staff and activities, and in extreme cases permanently pulling out of areas of intervention. In cases of significant changes to the project, these incidents led to project revisions as per the DRC HF Operational Manual.

The DRC HF supported the logistics and infrastructure rehabilitation to help humanitarian access in Fizi in the province of South Kivu through a Reserve Allocation triggered in December 2021.

Enhancing complementarity with CERF and other funding streams

In 2021, the DRC HF and CERF allocations addressed priority needs in the country in a complementary manner, together supplying \$102 million for humanitarian assistance.

In June 2021, in response to the volcanic eruption in North Kivu, a CERF Rapid Response allocation of \$1.2 million helped provide drinking water and strengthening epidemiological surveillance with cholera prevention activities in affected areas, while an HF Reserve Allocation of \$3.5 million was launched to strengthen the capacity of WASH and health actors, with complementary activities in protection among others.

The second Standard Allocation triggered in December 2021 addressed displacement, Multisectoral needs, lack of and poor access to capital sources, using a cash-based approach to complement the CERF Rapid Response of \$7 million for exclusive multi-purpose cash for food security released in early 2021. Both Funds aimed to strengthen people's

A step towards sustainability


Livelihood activities in the Hauts-Plateaux area have been restricted mainly due to insecurity and reduced access to agricultural land. Given this very limited economic recovery, the DRC HF funded a pilot initiative to improve food security and nutrition of vulnerable households, providing access to land, while reducing exposure to protection risks and SGBV. Implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), this project was designed to reduce people's dependence on direct food assistance, as well as restore livelihoods, build resilience, and improve agricultural productivity. Given the large number of female-headed households, the project will promote women's access to nutritious food and income through micro-gardening activities, ensuring a positive effect on the response despite the many security and logistical challenges.



Province of Haut-Lomami.
Visit of corn fields
maintained by local
associations with the
support of the NGO
VIPATU, territory of
Malembe-Nkulu.
Credit: OCHA/Antoine
Lemonnier

SECTOR/CLUSTER ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2021, **60%** of people targeted with much needed humanitarian assistance through HF allocations were **women and girls**.



3,700 staff members from HF-funded projects trained on PSEA.




At least **15,860** survivors from GBV received **psychosocial support**.



30,000 women and girls provided with intimate **hygiene kits**.




DRC HF contributed **14%** of total funding to protection cluster (including **general protection, child protection, and GBV**), benefitting **351,637** people.



276,666 people in need received **multi-purpose cash assistance**.






Over **85%** of HF-funded projects are likely to contribute to **gender equality**, including across age groups.




\$5.5M was granted to enable partners implementing **health-related activities** in 5 provinces.




Shelter & NFI received the second highest proportion of HF funding amounting to **\$11.8M** to cover 4 provinces.



124,407 people (displaced, returnees, host families) could **access sexual and reproductive health care services** in 4 provinces.



15 **mobile clinics** organized to provide basic health care to displaced people, returnees and host families in Ituri and Maniema.



Lessons learned and best practices

Improving processes

Since early 2020, the management of the Fund is fully led by OCHA (previously co-managed with the United Nations Development Programme). In 2021, the HFU worked to finalize this transition and strengthened its portfolio oversight while adapting to the DRC's operational environments.

Within the HFU, internal coordination among the risk management, programme, monitoring and finance teams improved and facilitated systematic sharing and cross-checking of information. Team synergy was strengthened at the HFU retreat in September 2021 and through regular participation in cluster meetings.

The HFU also provided a more flexible timeline for strategic and technical review committee members, which allowed for a more careful reading and analysis of projects. In addition, an incident and compliance register was set up and the risk management framework was updated.

Better coordination among stakeholders could be observed in 2021. The HFU worked with cluster coordinators to strengthen monitoring tools, guidance and capacity. A checklist was developed by the HFU to refine the analysis of technical reviews. New projects as well as requests for no-cost extensions (NCE) were discussed with the sub-offices, which provided important insights from the field.

In addition, seven meetings on cross-cutting issues were organized by OCHA with the participation of cluster members (nutrition, shelter, Non-food item (NFI) working group), specialists in cross-cutting themes (PSEA, gender, inclusion of People with specific needs - PwSN), and HFU members. These working groups provided an opportunity for specialists (whose position is funded by the

Fund) to reflect on the development of specific targets and standard indicators to ensure better monitoring and help clusters measure progress in the humanitarian response.

HFU availability and support to partners

In 2021, the HFU maintained regular exchanges with HF partners, including through online monthly meetings. During the allocation process, the HFU held online clinic sessions to ensure that HF partners understand the rules and regulations of the Fund. Several ad hoc meetings were organized with partners to discuss challenges. This increased availability and support from the HFU allowed partners to proactively raise concerns with the focal points and receive guidance, thus contributing to improved project proposal writing.

During the year, the HFU provided more sustained communication around standard operating procedures, guidance notes and responsibilities. In September 2021, partners were trained on risk management.

Innovating reporting tools

In 2021, the HFU developed an online reporting tool to ensure more timely reporting by partners, including self-reported fraud cases and security incident reports. During the year, the DRC HF received 32 incident reports from 24 partners (14 INGOs, 9 NNGOs, and 1 UN Agency) covering 28 projects. Most incidents reported (82 per cent) were security incidents, with a smaller number related to natural disasters (disease outbreak, flooding, etc.).

In addition, the HF hotline has been increasingly used by people in need and other stakeholders, with more calls in local languages such as Swahili.

Information and visibility products

The Fund continued to publish post-allocation dashboards and thematic snapshots, providing an overview of the allocation-specific results. In 2021, the Fund published two collections of stories from the field elaborated together with HF-funded partners. At the end of the year, the Fund published its first mid-year monitoring report, which provides an overview of the DRC HF monitoring activities conducted in the first half of the year, including programmatic monitoring and financial spot checks.

The Fund has continued to feed its two web pages with allocation-related documents, new annexes of the Operational Manual and other relevant resources, thereby making available clear guidance and information to all stakeholders, in French and English.

Maintaining funding

Despite the level of funding - HRP only 39 per cent funded in 2021 - the DRC HF maintained the engagement from eight longer-term donors and attracted a new donor country, Morocco.

During the year, efforts were made to attract the donor community's attention to the humanitarian situation in the DRC, including through visibility on social media. Besides the annual virtual briefing held in February to present the 2021 HRP to Member States and partners, the HFU organized a multi-donor field visit in October to show the results of projects funded by the DRC HF in the east of the DRC and learn more about the challenges faced by vulnerable populations. Members of the delegation (Belgium, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, and Sweden) were keen to meet with community members, humanitarian organizations and local authorities, and hear about the importance of the Fund to which their countries contribute. By December, Germany announced an increase in their total contribution for 2021.

Moving ahead

In September 2021, an IASC Peer-2-Peer mission visited the DRC at the request of the HC to support a review of the humanitarian coordination architecture, to updating and simplifying it. As recommended by the mission, a review of the management and operation of the Fund took place in early 2022. This review is an opportunity to further improve the HF processes to provide the best possible assistance to people in need. The HFU will elaborate an action plan based on the recommendations set in the final report shared internally.



Nyanda, Province of
Maniema Credit: OCHA/
Antoine Lemonnier



Dialogue group of women affected by the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano on community-based risk mitigation measures for GBV and SEA in the Kanyaruchinya site. North Kivu province. 2021. Credit: SOFEPADI

SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Thanks to the discussions I had with [the counsellor], I was able to overcome my pain and to talk to my husband about what happened to me”.

Alphonsine² remembers the night of 22 May 2021, when she and her family lost everything. “Our field, our house and our livestock had gone up in smoke.” Within hours, the village of Mugerwa was devastated by the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano in the Province of North Kivu, in the DRC. Pregnant with her fifth child, Alphonsine only wished to keep her family safe. After spending a few nights in neighboring Rwanda, they returned to the DRC and immediately faced the lack of space in the sites for displaced people. “We had no choice but to stay in a collective centre,” set up in a primary school, Alphonsine explained.

The eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano devastated already vulnerable families. Women and children have paid a high price, as they are committed to daily household chores, exposing themselves to assault, rape and other forms of violence.

One morning, Alphonsine’s husband was kidnapped, and a ransom was demanded to free him. “For love of the father of my children, I decided to go.” That day, Alphonsine was raped by the kidnappers, just after her husband was released.

“Between the physical and psychological suffering, I didn’t want to live anymore. Until my path crossed with a community Organization in my neighborhood. They were raising awareness about gender-based violence with megaphones. From afar, I heard them talking about free treatment in health centres, including in Kanyaruchinya, which is close to my home”.

Like other survivors who arrived at that health centre, Alphonsine was welcomed by a counsellor. “Thanks to the discussions I had with her, I was able to overcome my pain and to talk to my husband about what happened to me. With her support, the child in my womb and I feel healthy.”

Today, Alphonsine and her family live together with a newly married couple, who are hosting them until they find a new home. She continues to participate in weekly discussions with other women to overcome the traumatic experience.

Since June 2021, the UNFPA, together with its partners Solidarité Féminine pour la Paix et le Développement Intégral (SOFEPADI) and Hope in Action, supported many survivors of GBV in the health zones of Nyiragongo, Kirotshé and Karisimbi. With funding of the DRC Humanitarian Fund, these organizations mainly provided dignity kits, medical care and psychological support to survivors.

² To respect anonymity, the names of the people involved in this testimony have been changed.

Fund performance

The DRC HF measures its performance against a management tool that provides a set of indicators to assess how well a Fund performs in relation to the policy objectives and operational standards set out in the CBPF Global Guidelines. This common methodology enables management and stakeholders involved in the governance of the Funds to identify, analyze and address challenges in reaching and maintaining a well-performing CBPF.

CBPFs embody the fundamental humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence, and function according to a set of specific principles: Inclusiveness, Flexibility, Timeliness, Efficiency, Accountability and Risk Management.



PRINCIPLE 1

INCLUSIVENESS

A broad range of humanitarian partner organizations (UN agencies and NGOs) participate in CBPF processes and receive funding to implement projects addressing identified priority needs.

1

INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

The Advisory Board has a manageable size and a balanced representation of CBPF stakeholders.

Target

12 members excluding the HC (Chair) and OCHA, with equal representation among UN Agencies, NGOs (including INGOs and NNGOs) and donor constituencies.

Results

Each stakeholder's type (donors, INGOs, NNGOs and UN Agencies) had fair and proportional representation.

In addition to the Chairman (HC), and permanent members (OCHA Head of Office, UNDP Representative), the AB is composed of 12 members: 3 national NGOs (Caritas Congo, ALDI, AIDES), 3 international NGOs (ACF, DRC, ONGI Forum), 3 UN Agencies (UNICEF, WHO, WFP), and 3 donors (Sweden, The Netherlands, United Kingdom). A Gender Capacity Advisor to the HC also participates as an observer.

Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, four AB meetings were held, including two sessions in March and May dedicated to the development of the vision statement, and to discuss the risk management framework, capacity assessment process, Common Performance Framework (CPF) indicators and resource mobilization.

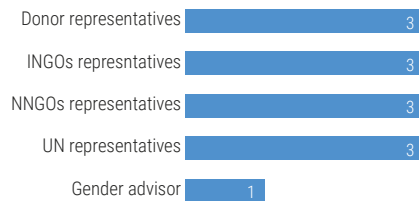
An ad hoc meeting was held in April to finalize the prioritization of the first Standard Allocation, and a last meeting was organized in December to present the main achievements of the Fund in 2021, as well as to consult AB members on potential end-of-the-year allocations and on the HFU Management Cost Plan for 2022.

In addition, one ad hoc meeting was exclusively held with donors in May to present the OCHA Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and information-sharing guidelines on cases of fraud, mismanagement, and SEA cases.

The composition of the INGO constituency was revised by the end of 2021. Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Action Contre la Faim (ACF) and Forum INGO were elected (with DRC and ACF replacing Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development - ACTED and Norwegian Refugee Council - NRC), and the HC welcomed the new representatives at the end-of-the-year AB meeting.

In 2022, Belgium will take over from the Netherlands, with whom it shared its seat, and the rotation of the donor, NNGO and UN representatives should continue in the second half of the year. The HFU will ensure that each constituency carries an appropriate consultation and are informed about allocation strategies before decisions are made. The HFU will encourage the support of a Gender focal point for strategic decisions at each AB meeting. Moreover, the vision statement will be refined and endorsed by the AB to support the HC's strategic vision for the Fund, and the AB terms of reference will be rolled-out.

COMPOSITION OF ADVISORY BOARD



PRINCIPLE 1

INCLUSIVENESS

2

INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

The review committees of the Fund have the appropriate size and a balanced representation of different partner constituencies and cluster representatives.

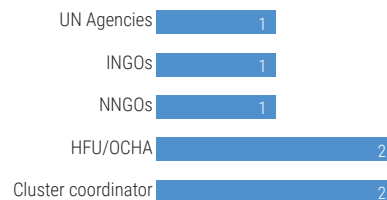
REPRESENTATIVES IN THE REVIEW COMMITTEES

Target

A diverse and balanced representation among UN Agencies, INGOs and NNGOs, and HFU participation are maintained in review of project proposals.

Results

The review committees had overall equitable representation.



Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, 81 members from HF eligible partners participated in 32 review committees organized by the HFU and the cluster coordinators/co-facilitators. These review committees conducted 44 strategic and technical reviews.

All project review committees were inclusive, with an average composition of seven representatives (except for the Reserve Allocation for the Hauts-Plateaux area, in which only the cluster and the HFU participated). Committee members were selected on the basis of a call for interest from eligible HF organizations, and each member signed a code of conduct and was required to respect the principles of confidentiality and impartiality during the process. Review meetings were chaired by cluster coordinators and/or co-facilitators, except for the second Standard Allocation with focus on multi-purpose cash that was chaired by the CWG coordinator. In the revised Global Guidelines this will change, so HFU will chair the SRCs, and follow-up will be done consistently.

Guidance notes were developed by the HFU to support committee members, and briefings were held for each allocation process to ensure that all members were well informed. According to a survey launched in 2021 as part of after-action review

exercise following the first Standard Allocation process, 77 per cent of respondents indicated that the composition of the Review committees was the result of a transparent and inclusive process. Nevertheless, a few participants noted they wished to be better informed about the selection process of the Review committee members. The survey was completed by 61 participants from 52 partner organizations (out of 98 eligible), of which 77 per cent were NNGOs.

The most common challenges during the year include connection issues to follow meetings held online and the unavailability of some eligible members to take part in the review process. Along with the revision of the Operational Manual in 2022, the HFU will update the terms of reference of the review committees.

For the 2022 allocations, the HFU will ensure gender expertise in the review committees and will encourage increased participation and capacity building of national WLO in project proposal writing, financial procedures, and monitoring project implementation.

PRINCIPLE 1

INCLUSIVENESS

3

INCLUSIVE IMPLEMENTATION

CBPF funding is allocated to the best-positioned actors, leveraging the diversity and comparative advantage of eligible organizations.

Target

Leveraging the comparative advantage of the best-positioned actors by diversifying the allocations when possible and ensuring that clusters vet project proposals.

- Direct implementation accounts for at least 80 per cent of DRC HF funding annually.
- 90 per cent of projects allocated to partners who have confirmed sectoral experience and operational presence in the geographical area targeted in the allocation strategies.

Results

In 2021, direct implementation accounted for 93 per cent of DRC HF funding. During the year, 37 per cent of total funding was granted to INGOs, 34 per cent to national partners, and 29 per cent to UN Agencies.

Analysis and follow-up

The percentage of funding to national NGOs increased once again in 2021, with 34 per cent compared with

24 per cent in 2019 and 31 per cent in 2020. This exceeded the global Grand Bargain target.

The DRC HF continued to fund the best-positioned partners, who have direct implementation capacity and confirmed operational presence in targeted areas. Besides, the level of funding to UN agencies increased to 29 per cent, compared with 17 per cent in 2020, as they were best positioned to implement interventions in the allocations (Emergency health response, reproductive health, pre-positioning of NFI contingency stocks and emergency food assistance associated with resilience activities).

It should be noted that 7 per cent (\$4.8 million) was allocated indirectly to national NGOs (through sub-granting), bringing the total funding to national actors to nearly 41 per cent.

The Fund will continue to improve coordination with local organizations and encourage partnership with local stakeholders.

4

INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT

Resources are invested by OCHA's HFU in supporting the capacity of local and national NGO partners within the scope of CBPF strategic objectives.

Target

- All new partners are trained on GMS modalities and HFU operational modalities.
- All eligible partners benefit from a CBPF proposal writing refresher sessions (lessons learned).
- All successful partners are trained on the DRC HF Accountability framework (assurance activities); with special attention to risk management, fraud prevention and PSEA.

Results

In 2021, the HFU successfully trained all its eligible partners. Analysis and follow-up

Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, the DRC HF conducted three rounds of training and included sessions on CVA and risk management in addition to the programmatic and financial modules.

GMS clinics were also systematically held post to the launch of allocations to support partners with their project proposals, in group or through bilateral sessions.

Moreover, the HFU organized an in-person workshop in November to discuss challenges and best practices identified in the after-action review exercise of the first the Standard Allocation and to develop recommendations for future processes.

Based on the perception survey conducted after the second online refresher session in September, 98 per cent of the respondents indicated that they had acquired a better understanding of the Fund's expectations for the project management cycle. The feedback indicates that further training on monitoring and reporting is needed.

It is worth noting that low internet connectivity may have affected the quality of training in 2021 with less interaction from online participants. In 2022, the HFU will organize more in-person training if conditions allow.

TRAININGS



3

TRAININGS



285

TOTAL PEOPLE
TRAINED FROM
NNGOS



119

NNGOS
TRAINED

PRINCIPLE 1

INCLUSIVENESS

5

INCLUSIVE RESPONSE

CBPF funded projects have a clear strategy to promote the participation of affected people.

Target

- All DRC HF-funded projects ensure AAP as part of the implementation.
- All monitoring visits verify the effectiveness of the complaint mechanisms proposed in the approved proposals.

Results

Out of 80 project proposals scored and reviewed, 45 per cent clearly articulate how AAP will be implemented, and 55 per cent partially included AAP in their proposals.

All field monitoring visits included beneficiary consultations to assess community engagement in project implementation.

Analysis and follow-up

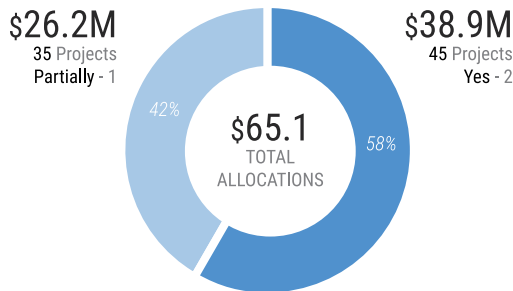
The scorecards for all allocations launched in 2021 include a specific question on the articulation of a clear AAP framework, including the ‘Do no harm’ principles, the involvement of people in need in project design and monitoring, as well as in the establishment of feedback and complaint mechanisms, and project implementation.

For project proposals that partially included AAP, partners were encouraged to further develop certain aspects in the proposed activities, such as the inclusion dimension, the community participation, the implementation of a complaint follow-up system, and the adaptation of complaint mechanisms to children.

During the year, the HFU monitoring team assessed the partners’ approach to AAP and met with various groups of people in need. While most partners have appropriate AAP mechanisms in place, the HFU encouraged partners with little or no feedback to affected people to systematically consider community feedback for effective use of the mechanisms and thorough engagement with the affected community.

In November 2021, the HFU conducted a survey to better understand and map the feedback and complaint mechanisms of implementing partners. The outcome will be reviewed to identify good practices and improve training on complaint mechanisms. Discussions on identified challenges and ways forward will be held with partners at monthly meetings throughout the year. The HFU will continue to encourage partners to include community participation activities in projects, sharing clearer information with community members, and including them more in decision making.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED PEOPLE



2 The project **includes** the provision of accessible and functioning feedback and/or compliant mechanisms for beneficiaries
 1 The project **partially** includes the provision of accessible and functioning feedback and/or compliant mechanisms for beneficiaries
 0 The project **does not include** the provision of accessible and functioning feedback and/or compliant mechanisms for beneficiary

PRINCIPLE 2

FLEXIBILITY

The programmatic focus and funding priorities of CBPFs are set at the country level and may shift rapidly, especially in volatile humanitarian contexts. CBPFs are able to adapt rapidly to changing priorities and allow humanitarian partners to identify appropriate solutions to address humanitarian needs in the most effective way.

6

FLEXIBLE ASSISTANCE

CBPF funding for in-kind and in-cash assistance is appropriate.

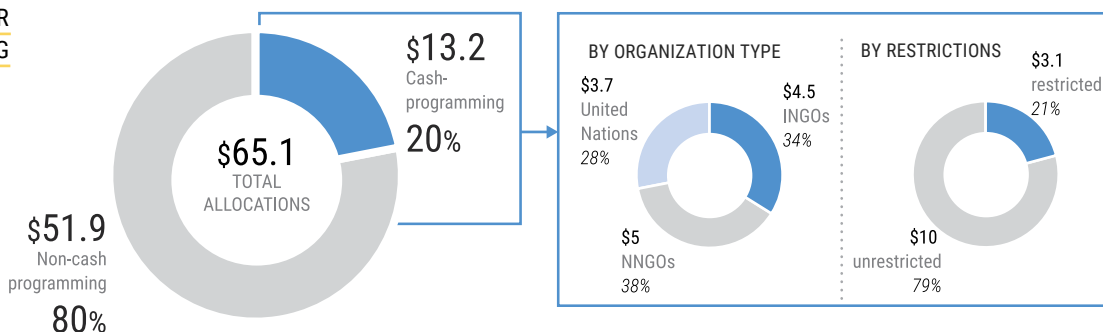
Target

Cash as a response modality is operationally considered and strategically prioritized by clusters and partners, where appropriate. At least 10 per cent of the funding is allocated to cash assistance.

Results

In 2021, cash was considered as a response modality and strategically prioritized, where appropriate. 21 per cent of HF funding (\$13.7 million) was allocated to cash assistance.

CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMMING



Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, CVA has significantly been scaled up in the DRC HF allocations. Out of 81 projects funded, 32 projects used cash and vouchers as a default or complementary modality, in addition to in-kind service provision, to address the multi-sectoral and sector-specific needs of the vulnerable populations.

Throughout the year, 21 per cent of total HF funding was given to CVA (\$13.2 million), which is a significant increase compared with 6 per cent in 2020 and well above the target of 10 per cent.

While 7 per cent of 2021 HF funding (\$4.7 million) address sector-specific or multi-sectoral needs through cash and vouchers, over 15 per cent were allocated to multi-purpose cash (\$10.1 million) to address the basic needs of affected people.

- The Shelter and NFI, food security, protection and WASH Clusters encouraged their members to provide cash and vouchers in their response, which mainly included cash-for-rent or cash for shelter construction, one-off cash transfers for protection and vouchers for NFI or food security needs to be redeemed in the fairs.
- As part of the second Standard Allocation, the Fund mobilized \$13.2 million through multi-purpose cash for HF partners with experience in CVA, with \$10.1 million going directly to people

in need. The allocation strategy was supported by studies conducted by the CWG, and strategic and technical reviews of project proposals were carried out by experts in CVA. This allocation is the first to use cash and vouchers as a default modality to address the multi-sectoral needs of households in need with the multi-purpose cash grants. The average transfer value to each beneficiary household is \$142.8. It is worth noting that most HF partners used the methodology of Minimum Expenditure Basket developed by the CWG in May 2021 to calculate the transfer value for each project.

Challenges reported by the partners for the implementation of this modality include:

- Weak presence of financial service providers and lack of coverage of the mobile money operators.
- Access constraints due to the infrastructure distorted by the heavy rains and security issues.
- Presence of armed conflicts affecting the market functionalities.
- Social tension between the different communities.
- Low market capacity.
- Constant change in the political situation.

In 2022, the HFU will continue to work closely with the CWG and promote available guidance to encourage partners to build capacity and use CVA as a preferred modality.

PRINCIPLE 2

FLEXIBILITY

7

FLEXIBLE OPERATION

CBPF Funding supports projects that improve the common ability of actors to deliver a more effective response.

Target

CBPF funding supported an enabling operational environment through funding allocated to common services. At least 10 per cent of the funding is allocated to common services projects.

Results

In 2021, nearly 4 per cent of total funding was intended to support PSEA network (\$1.4 million) and logistics (\$0.9 million).

Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, about 4 per cent of the funding was granted to common services. The allocations focused on supporting the capacity strengthening of the national PSEA network and on supporting the humanitarian community to deliver assistance in the province of South Kivu.

In 2021, the HFU prepared a review note on the quality and sustainability of HF-funded activities in logistics and partner performance. Based on this document, the AB recommended more sustainable responses, including monitoring and technical expertise. For 2022, the issue will be further discussed with the AB members to define the Funds' position for logistical interventions in line with its strategic vision.

PSEA remains at the center of major humanitarian concerns in the DRC, and the HF allocation launched in early 2021 has been strategically used to support the humanitarian community's commitment to support and engage with populations, prevent, respond, manage, and coordinate - these are the objectives of the DRC PSEA Network Action Plan.

ALLOCATION THROUGH COMMON SERVICES



8

FLEXIBLE ALLOCATION PROCESS

CBPF funding supports strategic planning and response to needs identified in the HRPs and sudden onset emergencies through the most appropriate modalities.

Target

At least 70 per cent of the total funds are allocated through Standard Allocation(s) and 30 per cent of the available funds are kept for Reserve Allocation(s) to respond to changes in the humanitarian context (including strategic programs).

At least 54 per cent of Standard Allocation funding is granted to projects of a duration of 12 months or more.

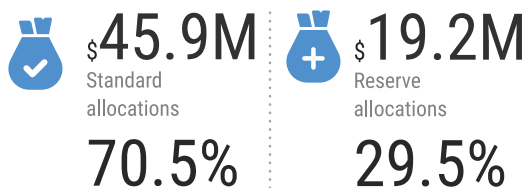
Results

In 2021, 71 per cent of total funds allocated were granted to two Standard Allocations (\$47.2 million), and 29 per cent of funding were used to respond to sudden changes in the humanitarian context, through six Reserve Allocations (\$19.2 million).

Analysis and follow-up

In response to the overlap of several humanitarian crises in the DRC in 2021, including food insecurity, malnutrition, and increased population movements due to violence and natural disasters (Nyiragongo volcanic eruption), the Fund provided funding through eight allocations (two Standard and six Reserve).

ALLOCATION BY MODALITY



In 2022, the Operational Manual will be updated to align with the newly revised Global Guidelines. This will be an opportunity to further define stakeholder roles and adapt workflows and processes for future allocations.

PRINCIPLE 2

FLEXIBILITY

9

FLEXIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

CBPF funding is successfully reprogrammed at the right time to address operational and contextual changes.

NUMBER OF REVISIONS IN 2021

Target

Project revision requests are processed to respond to shifting/ emerging operational needs.

- Number of revisions processed by revision types. The HFU is tracking all partners' reprogramming requests on GMS and ensuring proper feedback.
- Project revision requests are processed within 20 working days.

Results

- In 2021, the HFU processed 101 revision requests for 78 projects.
- The project revision requests were processed within 33 average working days.

Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, 101 revision requests were submitted by partners for 78 projects. The Fund remained flexible and processed and approved 85 revision requests for 65 projects (some projects having multiple revision requests).

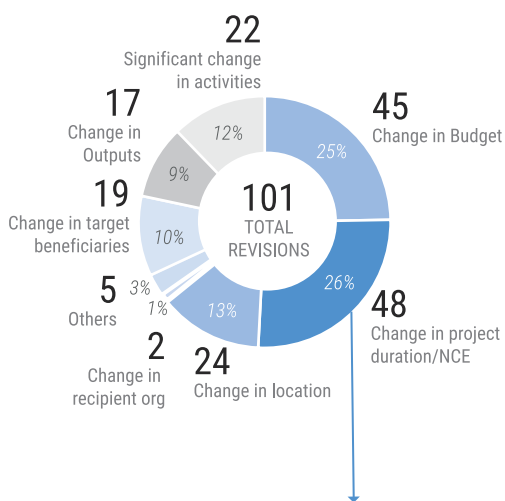
Most revision requests processed in 2021 implied changes in project duration (via a no-cost extension), in budget, in activities and in location. With HF interventions funded in a fragile and volatile security environment, 51 NCE were mainly submitted because of insecurity, programmatic delays, and access constraints.

Only a few revision requests were linked to COVID-19 constraints; most of them included delay in implementation of activities (workshops, training, project evaluations), and delay in procurement (due to movement restrictions). With the COVID-19 restrictions eased in the second semester of 2021, one project requested some flexibility with the budget to enable more travel.

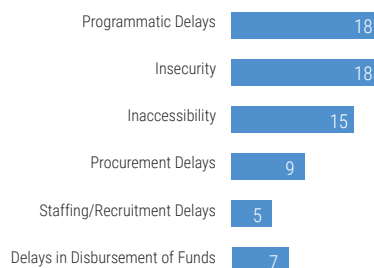
Three projects implemented by 1 INGO and 2 NNGOs benefitted from a cost extension, amounting to \$0.3 million.

In 2021, the average processing time for project requests review was above the target, at 33 working days. Constraints encountered during the review process include late feedback from the cluster for reviewing activities, outputs, indicators, and location; delays in approving the revised budget and signing contract amendments; and slow feedback from some partners.

In 2022, the Fund will remain flexible, allowing partners to review projects when necessary and appropriate to accommodate the time needed to implement activities. In terms of timing, the estimated average time to process the revision request is still four weeks (according to the Operational Manual), and the HFU will do its best to proceed in less time, where possible.



Reasons for No Cost Extension/NCE*



* Other reasons for NCE include delays in finalizing PPA, securing supplies from pipeline, organizations international transfer of funds.

PRINCIPLE 3

TIMELINESS

CBPFs allocate funds and save lives as humanitarian needs emerge or escalate.

10

TIMELY ALLOCATION

CBPFs allocation processes have an appropriate duration.

Target

Standard Allocation projects are processed (from the submission deadline to the HC signature) within 48 days on average. A Standard Allocation is launched during the first quarter of every calendar year.

Reserve Allocation projects are processed (from the submission deadline to the HC signature) within 25 days on average.

Results

Standard Allocations were processed within 52 on average, and Reserve Allocations within 51 average days.

Analysis and follow-up

During the year, the DRC HF received and reviewed 241 project proposals.

While the allocation processes in 2021 experienced the same constraints as the previous year (set up committees, cluster capacity, delays in technical review from partners and HFU, logistics constraints, signature process), the process for the four allocations triggered in December 2021 impacted the average duration of the allocation processes.

While the first HF Standard Allocation triggered in May 2021 was processed in 56 working days, the second HF Standard Allocation took 63 working days. The timeline of the latter was extended in January 2022 to enable all partners to submit their project proposals, within a reasonable timeframe as several eligible partners had closed their offices at the end of the year.

In 2021, the signature process took longer due to absences, staff turnover, among others.

AVERAGE WORKING DAYS OF ALLOCATION PROCESSING

Milestones	Category	2019	2020	2021
From allocation closing date to HC signature of the grant agreement	Standard Allocation	46	68	59
	Reserve Allocation	22	45	36

11

TIMELY DISBURSEMENTS

Payments are processed without delay

Target

2 to 15 working days from Executive Officer signature of a proposal to first payment.

Results

- Average number of days for standard allocations: 14 days
- Average number of days for reserve allocations: 18 days



Analysis and follow-up

The DRC HF noted a slight increase in days needed to disburse payments compared with 2020. Besides COVID-19 restrictions, the shortage and turnover of HQ CBPFs staff has slowed down the processing of some disbursement requests. Many HF partners also had to update their bank details to comply with the

Grant Agreement clause requiring a single HF bank account for traceability.

One project was not considered in the average for it took 122 days from the EO signature to the first payment. This significant delay is due to an error in the partner bank details and revision requests.

In addition, the dual management of disbursement between Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Office and OCHA is still a constraint in the allocation timelines, and collective advocacy to the Executive Office is underway to be exempted from MPTF role.

The HFU and is committed to strengthening coordination and facilitating the disbursement of funds to all partners within 10 days of the signature of the EO, with increased efforts to accelerate the disbursement of time-sensitive Reserve Allocation grants. The HFU is committed to monitoring bank account issues with partners to ensure that their bank details are correct and appropriately captured in GMS to ease their processing for disbursement.

PRINCIPLE 3

TIMELINESS

12

TIMELY CONTRIBUTIONS

Pledging and payment of contributions to CBPFs are timely and predictable.

CONTRIBUTIONS TIMELINESS

Target

Payments made within less than 1 to 3 months. Number of donors with multi-year commitments increase.

Results

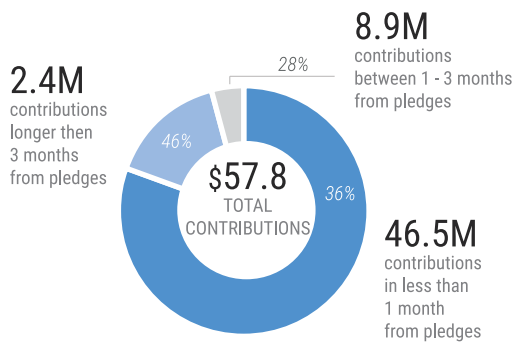
In 2021, nearly 76 per cent of the funding was received by the end of the second quarter (between January and June). Three donors signed for multi-year commitments (Canada, Belgium and Germany).

Analysis and follow-up

Significant improvements in the predictability of funding were reported in 2021, with nearly 76 per cent of the total contributions paid by June (\$43.7 million), compared with 43 per cent in 2020 and 34 per cent in 2019. Timely contributions allowed for a Standard Allocation of \$30.5 million to be launched in May 2021, and to respond quickly to the sudden eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano in Goma, North Kivu in June.

Over 80 per cent of all contributions were received less than one month after pledges, enabling the HF to adopt an anticipatory approach to allocations. End-of-year contributions enabled the launch of three Reserve and one Standard Allocations responding to critical and time-sensitive humanitarian needs.

Among nine HF donors in 2021, Belgium, Canada and Germany made multi-year commitments. Belgium, Germany and Canada were given visibility through a video clip in which the ambassadors to the DRC shared their commitments and encouragement with other donors. The HFU will continue to proactively advocate increased multi-year funding to enable more predictable financial resources.



North Kivu. Survey and registration of families benefiting from food security activities carried out by the NGO ABCOM in the Kibua health zone, Walikale territory. 2021. Credit: ABCOM/ B. Kingudi



PRINCIPLE 4

EFFICIENCY

Management of all processes related to CBPFs enables timely and strategic responses to identified humanitarian needs.

CBPFs seek to employ effective disbursement mechanisms, minimizing transaction costs while operating in a transparent and accountable manner.

13

EFFICIENT SCALE

CBPFs have a significant funding level to support the delivery of the HRP.

Target

15 per cent of HRP funding received.

Results

DRC HF funding represented 7 per cent of the overall funding received for the 2021 HRP (\$776.4 million).

Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, the humanitarian response in the DRC was only funded at 39 per cent. Despite a difficult funding environment given the many other crises around the world, the Fund made successful efforts to maintain donor engagement. Morocco contributed for the first time to the Fund and eight long-term donors maintained or increased their commitments.

In 2022, the HFU will continue resource mobilization efforts through an elaborated Action Plan aimed at maintaining support from existing donors; broadening the donor base to include prospective donors; diversifying sources of contributions; and advocating for resources to respond to increasing humanitarian needs in the country.

14

EFFICIENT PRIORITIZATION

CBPF funding is prioritized in alignment with the HRP.

Target

All funded projects address HRP strategic priorities.

Results

All DRC HF funding granted in 2021 addressed the HRP strategic objectives and are in line with cluster-specific priorities.

Analysis and follow-up

While the Reserve Allocation in response to the Nyiragongo volcanic eruption was not planned in the HRP, the eight projects funded through this envelope were aligned with the HRP strategic priorities.

Given the current security situation and access constraints in the country, the DRC HF will continue to ensure that the prioritization process targets the most vulnerable people and address their needs.

ALLOCATION BY HRP STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



S01 Multi-sectoral response enables the vital needs of 9.6 million people to be covered in order to preserve their physical and mental integrity

S02 Multi-sectoral response reduces vulnerabilities and improves living conditions for 3.4 million people

PRINCIPLE 4

EFFICIENCY

15

EFFICIENT COVERAGE

CBPF funding effectively assisted people in need.

Target

All DRC HF-funded projects ending in 2021 reached their initial target (as indicated in the final narrative reports).

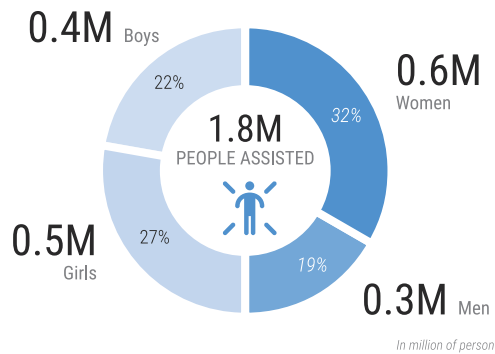
Results

DRC HF assisted 1.8 million people in need in 2021.

Analysis and follow-up

The reported results reflect the maximum number of people assisted per health zone in efforts to minimize double counting of people in need to the extent possible. According to the figures reported in 2021, 1.8 million people were assisted with much-needed humanitarian assistance, including 1.5 million women and children.

PEOPLE ASSISTED



In 2022, the HFU will continue to work with partners and clusters to improve disaggregated data collection and analysis of people assisted, considering age, gender and inclusion of people with special needs.

The Fund will continue to refine the accuracy of beneficiary figures by distinguishing between direct and indirect beneficiaries based on activity type and will provide cumulative and maximum beneficiary numbers to minimize double counting.

16

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT

CBPF management is cost-efficient and context-appropriate.

Target

HFU direct cost expenditure accounts for less than 10 per cent of overall allocations.

Results

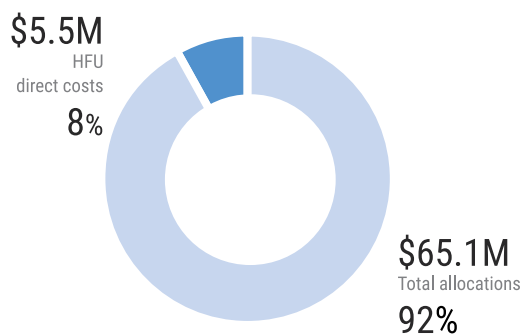
In 2021, the HFU operations cost was \$5.5 million and the total allocations \$65.1 million, including cost extensions. The HFU direct costs constituted 8 per cent of the total funds used.

Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, the HFU operations' costs accounted for 7 per cent of total use of the Fund (\$65.4 million), compared with 10 per cent of \$85.7 million total funds utilized in 2020. This testifies to the efficient and cost-efficient management of the DRC HF resources.

Due to savings on travel expenses and unused supplies (vehicles and fuel for field missions), the HFU spent only 75 per cent (\$3.4 million) of its budget approved in December 2020 (\$4.5 million). The unspent balance will be used for allocations in 2022.

HFU EXPENDITURE AGAINST TOTAL ALLOCATIONS



In December 2021, the AB approved the HFU 2022 budget of \$4.5 million. Efforts will be made in the coming years to decrease management costs and ensure that this does not affect the efficiency of HFU management, especially for assurance activities.

PRINCIPLE 4

EFFICIENCY

17

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT

CBPF management is compliant with management and operational standards required by the CBPF Global Guidelines.

Target

- Operational Manual is updated based on the latest version of Global CBPF Guidelines by the end of the first quarter.
- Annual report and allocation strategies are fully compliant with global guidelines, related SoPs and DRC HF operational manual.

Results

Key annexes of the Operational Manual were updated in 2021 and made available online to all stakeholders, including the strategic vision statement of the Fund and the Risk Management Framework.

Analysis and follow-up

Following the transfer of Managing Agent from UNDP to OCHA, the Operational Manual was revised in 2020 to ensure full compliance with CBPFs global guidelines. Key annexes from the 2020 Operational Manual were updated in 2021 and were made available online to all stakeholders.

Together with the AB, the HC developed the DRC HF vision statement for 2021 to set out the strategic vision, expectations, and opportunities to make a difference in key areas, such as localization and effective programming.

In 2022, assiduous work will be done to harmonize and align the Operational Manual with the newly revised Global guidelines (planned launch in the second quarter of 2022). This exercise will include the adjustment of the allocation process based on the simplified humanitarian coordination architecture, the definition of a clear strategic statement for the Fund in 2022, and the revision of the CPF indicators and endorsement by the AB. This will be the opportunity to clarify the role of each HF stakeholder to enhance communication.

The HFU will move forward with the capacity assessment exercise for new potential partners, once the modality has been approved by the AB.



Recreational activities with children from 5 to 17 years old at the Nyunzu child-friendly space. This activity is supervised by community agents and animators trained by the AVSI Foundation.
Credit: OCHA/Aurelie Duray

PRINCIPLE 5

RISK MANAGEMENT

CBPFs manage risk and effectively monitor partner capacity and performance. CBPFs utilize a full range of accountability tools and measures.

18

RISK MANAGEMENT OF PROJECTS

CBPF funding is appropriately monitored, reported and audited.

Target

100 per cent compliance with operational modalities on five categories of risk management pillars. At least 10 per cent of projects which require monitoring activities benefit from follow-up of the respective cluster coordinators/facilitators at national or country level.

Results

The average compliance rate is 97 per cent.

Analysis and follow-up

In 2021, the Fund saw an increase in the programmatic and financial monitoring exercises, compared with 2020. The number of financial spot checks conducted increased from 45 in 2020 to 72 in 2021, and monitoring activities increased from 113 in 2020 to 149 in 2021.

Programmatic monitoring

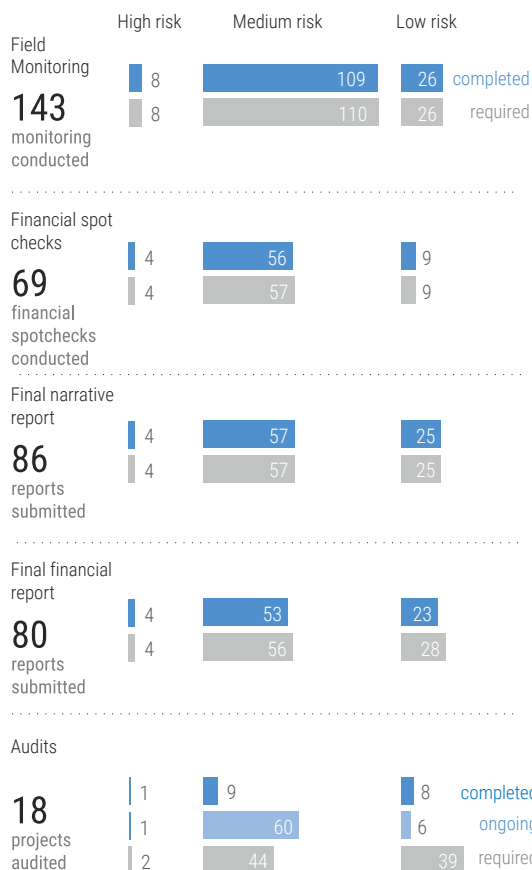
Between January and December, 149 monitoring visits were conducted, covering 82 HF-funded projects (of which 6 projects funded in 2019, 74 in 2020 and 2 in 2021). As required by the operational modalities, 143 visits were completed and one visit was not conducted for proven good performance. The risk management and monitoring teams worked together to strengthen oversight of poorly performing partners, and five additional monitoring visits were conducted and reported on GMS during the year, either conducted by the cluster coordinators or by the HFU.

About 70 per cent of the monitoring visits conducted performed well and positive feedback was shared by local communities during most visits. Most weaknesses identified in the monitoring exercises are similar to previous years:

- Delays in the recruitment and contracting process.
- Security and logistical access issues.
- Lack of technical expertise.
- Weak gender sensitivity with respect to implementation.
- Effectiveness of the complaints mechanism put in place by partners.
- Restrictions of movement and delays in arrival of supplies, due to COVID-19.

Most of those weaknesses were shared in the mid-year monitoring report, which included programmatic monitoring and financial spot checks conducted in the first half of 2021. This report was published in the second half of the year for discussion with partners and other HF stakeholders. Monthly meetings held by the monitoring team with HF partners, cluster

PROGRESS ON RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



representatives and OCHA coordination contributed to good collaboration and sharing experiences.

Moreover, 86 final narrative reports were submitted in 2021, including 18 reports for projects funded before 2020 and 68 reports for projects funded in 2021. Among them, 21 were not submitted on time due to late revisions initiated by the partners, or ongoing revision requests. To reduce reporting delays in 2022, the HFU will continue to send reminders to partners two weeks before the deadline.

Finance

The HFU conducted 72 financial spot checks (FSC) for projects that ended in 2021. These include 69 spot checks required by the operational modalities and three more spot checks deemed necessary due to identified operational challenges and risk management concerns. One FSC was not conducted because of COVID-19 cases reported in the organization, and one FSC was accepted but not validated on time (reported in 2022).

As in 2020, spot checks were conducted remotely (27 per cent of the required exercises) and on site (73 per cent of the required exercises). The most relevant

areas for improvement identified during the spot checks remain internal control systems, procurement and recruitment processes, and reporting.

Furthermore, 85 audits were triggered in 2021, including 65 for projects funded before 2020 (UNDP/OCHA) and 20 for projects funded in 2020. While 18 audits were completed for projects funded before 2020, the remaining reports are ongoing, and the process will be completed in 2022. It is worth mentioning that the independent audit firms are still clearing the backlog of MA transition. The 2022 audit plan will cover 36 projects from the 2020 allocations ending in 2021 and 2022, and 50 projects from the 2021 allocations ending in 2022. This 2022 audit plan will require funding for 86 projects under the new contract currently under procurement process.

The HFU team will continue to reinforce assurance activities, particularly the combined programmatic and financial monitoring and risk management exercises, to enhance the quality of monitoring findings and to ensure that projects are being effectively monitored in accordance with operational modalities. In 2022, the HFU will discuss the possibility of organizing joint programmatic monitoring and spot check missions.

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**RISK
MANAGEMENT
OF FUNDING**

*Appropriate oversight
and assurances
of funding is*

Target

- A maximum of 30 new partners are approved to be eligible for funding (based on the geographical and cluster coverage gaps of the Fund).
- All eligible partners are assessed based on partners performance index (PPI).
- Funds are allocated to best-positioned partners with an analysis and balance of risk.

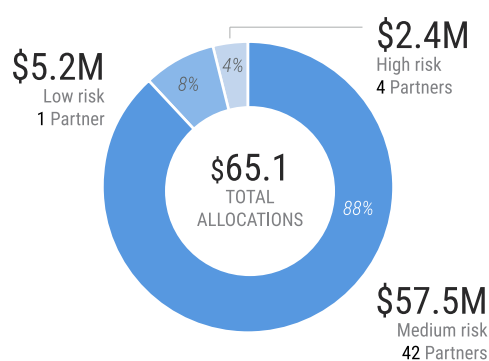
Results

As per the BoA's 2019 Report recommendation, the Fund has continued to regularly update the PPI, with the risk level of 15 partners updated.

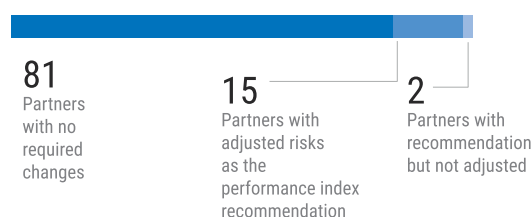
The number of eligible partners decreased compared with 2020. During the reporting period, 26 partners who had not been active in the Fund for over two years lost their eligibility, and 5 partners were suspended. The total number of eligible partners to the DRC HF is 98 as of 31 December 2021.

No capacity assessments took place in 2021.

IMPLEMENTATION BY PARTNER RISK LEVEL TYPE



UPDATED RISK LEVEL BASED ON PERFORMANCE INDEX



Analysis and follow-up

The DRC HF prioritized funding to the best-positioned partners in 2021, while considering the risks associated with partner performance, the modalities selected and the targeted locations. As per the DRC HF Operational Manual, only eligible partners were able to be sub-implementing partners to HF projects.

As part of the MA transition to OCHA, the Fund strengthened its PPI system by merging the performance information on the UNDP and OCHA platforms. As a result, the risk level of 15 partners was updated. In 2021, the risk level of 11 partners (5 INGOs, 2 NNGOs, 4 UN Agencies) was downgraded from low to medium and two partners (NNGOs) from medium to high. Only two partners saw their risk level upgraded, one NNGO from high to medium and one UN Agency from medium to low.

In 2021, \$57.1 million was channeled through 42 medium risk partners, which make up 86 per cent of the total partners funded. The Fund will aim at improving its communications on the partners' performance index and eligibility to ensure that partners have a clear understanding of the process.

Finally, the strategy for capacity assessments will be revised and communicated in 2022, once approved by the AB. A first round of partner capacity assessments was due to take place in 2021, based on the recommendations of the AB and an operational gap analysis. However, this exercise was postponed for several reasons, including the revision of the Global CBPF Handbook. Based on the recommendations of the DRC HF review mission, this exercise will be accelerated in 2022.

In 2021, with the addition of two Risk Management staff to the HFU, the Fund began to conduct joint spot checks and monitoring exercises on partners with under-performance issues. Other assurance activities were added to projects, as needed, to ensure adequate oversight.

Implementing partners must communicate any incident that might have a programmatic or financial impact on their projects. In August 2021, the HFU developed and launched an online incident reporting

PRINCIPLE 5

RISK MANAGEMENT

tool, ensuring more timely reporting of the natural and security incidents by partners and improved capacity for analysis. As a result, during the year, the DRC HF received 32 incident reports from 24 partners (14 INGOs, 9 NNGOs, and 1 UN Agency) covering 28 projects. This represented 18 per cent

of active projects in 2021. Most incidents reported (82 per cent) were security incidents, with a smaller number related to natural disasters (disease outbreak, flooding, etc.). Thirteen of these incidents caused financial loss amounting to \$24,000. The financial audit will confirm if these amounts should be refunded to the DRC HF.

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RISK MANAGEMENT OF PARTNERS

Target

The number of reported cases of diversion and the source of reporting are shared with the AB and in detail with the DRC HF donors. All reported potential diversion or fraud cases are treated in compliance with CBPF Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on Response to Concerns of Fraud or Misuse of Funds by Partners and the UNDP Antifraud policy (for projects funded before 2020).

Results

All potential aid diversions or fraud cases are addressed according to CBPF SoPs on fraud management

The HFU has put efforts into strengthening its communication with partners and creating communication channels with affected people and other stakeholders to track incidents and allegations. For example, thanks to improved training to partners and clearer guidelines, the number of self-reported cases has increased, and the quality of reporting has improved. This transparency is a sign of effective training and partnership.

Additionally, the DRC HF has seen an increased use of the hotline by affected people and other stakeholders, including suppliers and civil society, with two alerts in 2020 and 41 alerts in 2021 (increasingly in local languages). Appropriate actions were taken by the HFU to analyze the situation and respond to the complaints. The HFU reviewed complaints, sometimes contacting affected people or relevant partners to obtain additional information and make recommendations. In case of serious breaches such as suspected or confirmed fraud, these were treated according to CBPF SoPs on fraud management.

Reported cases: # of incidents (allegation, suspected fraud, confirmed fraud, theft, diversion, looting, destruction, etc.) in 2021, either open or closed.

On going cases: # of incidents for which measures (inquiry, assurance, measures, settlement etc.) were still on going as of 31 December 2021



11

REPORTED INCIDENTS/CASE

9 open cases
1 closed case



15

ONGOING CASES

Analysis and follow-up

Through its assurance activities and complaints mechanisms, the DRC HF has been able to better identify suspicions and allegations of fraud or diversion and act quickly to mitigate the negative effects on the Fund.

As the Fund continues to progress towards a full transition to OCHA's management, UNDP remains accountable for follow up and investigation on the incidents related to projects awarded before 1 January 2020, in accordance with its procedures and information-sharing policies. Of the 20 ongoing cases of potential and confirmed fraud in 2021, five cases are under special audit by UNDP.

Compared with 2020, the number of reported incidents to HQ in 2021 increased because of strengthened risk management systems, a reinforced risk management capacity within the HFU, and an updated accountability framework.

A woman prepares her field before growing maize and peanuts. Malemba Nkulu territory, Haut-Lomami province. September 2021. Credit: OCHA/Jolie-Laure Mbalivoto



REPLANTING SEEDS TO FIND A HOME AGAIN

In March 2020, part of Mathilda's house was destroyed by heavy rains. That night, her 14-year-old son died, trapped under the rubble. The heavy rains of the first quarter of 2020 caused extensive damage in Haut-Lomami province. Houses, schools, health structures and waterworks were destroyed.

Mathilda is one of the 111,000 people directly affected by the floods. For several months, she had been preparing to harvest her cassava, corn, and peanut fields. In a few hours, her land was destroyed, and her child killed.

In the rural areas of this agricultural breadbasket, people rely heavily on agriculture to survive. For Mathilda, it was one more loss to overcome. "I was hosted by my neighbors. I had nothing left and nowhere to go with my children," she says.

As the weeks went by, she tried to get back on her feet, but it became increasingly difficult to feed her children. Three months after the floods, she lost another child. Her six-year-old daughter had succumbed to severe malaria, coupled with anemia and hunger. "I gave her several treatments for malaria and anemia with leaves. The fever went down for a while and then went up again. And that was the end..." explains Mathilda.

In October 2020, Mathilda was identified as one of the most vulnerable households in the flood-affected areas. Like each family, she received farming tools and seeds for growing food and vegetables. The NGO VIPATU supervised this activity and distributed cash. With the money received, Mathilda was able to start building a new house for her four children. She started selling banana fritters.

Starting from scratch has been an ordeal for Mathilda. But little by little, she has regained hope and continues to fight for her children, while thinking every day of her late husband and two children who died too soon.

This project implemented between September 2020 and December 2021, with funding from the DRC Humanitarian Fund, has enabled at least 2,184 flood-affected families to strengthen their livelihoods.

In the areas where the NGO VIPATU intervened, several people said they had started eating twice a day again, including Mathilda. "This is the first time that some vegetables have been introduced here, I had never eaten Chinese cabbage before," said Mathilda, pleased with the progress of her field.

In 2021, the DRC Humanitarian Fund continued to support the most vulnerable people through food security activities.

Sewing cut workshop with children associated with armed forces or groups. Nyunzu, Tanganyika Credit: AVSI



REBUILDING COMMUNITY FOR A BETTER FUTURE



One day, I will have my own workshop and I will be able to help my brothers and teach them the trade.”

“My life was good, I was happy. [...] My parents were farmers, my father was also a hunter and my mother used to sell peanuts, cassava and maize in front of our door,” Jacques recalls.

Together with his parents, brother and two sisters, Jacques lived in the village of Lwizi in Tanganyika province. Their lives were turned upside down when their village was attacked by armed groups in January 2020.

“During the period of conflict, Papa died and everything we had at home was stolen as we fled,” says Jacques.

When tensions eased, Jacques and his family were hosted by their neighbors and the community joined together to rebuild their home. But despite a new home, difficulties persisted. Jacques’ mother could not pay the school fees and she was doing all she could with small businesses to feed her children.

“As I was not doing anything in the neighborhood, I went to my aunt’s house in Mulongo, 28 km away from Luizi, and I joined the militia.” For Jacques, it was the only way to earn something to help his family. “I just wanted to relieve my mother. I wasn’t thinking of doing any harm. (...) I saw too many things there that I don’t like to talk about.” Jacques stayed there for almost seven months.

After leaving the militia, Jacques met members of the organization AVSI around Nyunzu. Since September 2021, they had been identifying children associated with armed forces or groups in Nyunzu town, offering them support to resume their lives in the community.

Jacques attended recreational activities during which an AVSI staff was listening to the children to better understand their lives and current needs Jacques could eventually stay with a host family in Nyunzu and participate in vocational training.

“I chose the sewing cut because I liked it for a long time, but nobody could teach me. “For 6 weeks, between December 2021 and January 2022, Jacques participated in the training with other young men.

At the age of 17, Jacques can imagine a brighter future. “With this training, I will be able to earn money and become independent. I will no longer ask my mother for everything. One day, I will have my own workshop and I will be able to help my brothers and teach them the trade.”

Through child protection activities funded by the DRC Humanitarian Fund, AVSI has assisted 60 children associated with armed forces or groups, 20 of whom have returned to school and 40 of whom are attending vocational training.



Kalemie Territory, Tanganyika Province, July 2021. Mutendo, 71, is the chief of his village. Forced to move several times to find peace, the community has shown resilience. They live off food grown in the fields and odd jobs in the neighbouring community.

Credit: © OCHA/Aurelie Duray

Annexes

- Annex A Accronyms & abbreviations
- Annex B Reference Map
- Annex C DRC HF Advisory Board
- Annex D Allocations by recipient organizations

ANNEX A

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AAP	Accountability to affected people	GMS	Grant Management System
ABCOM	Action pour le Bien-être Communautaire	HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
ACF	Action Contre la Faim	HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
ACTED	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	HFU	OCHA DRC Humanitarian Financing Unit
AJID	Association des Jeunes Islamiques pour le Développement	HNO	Humanitarian Needs Overview
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency	HPC	Humanitarian programme cycle
ADSSE	Association pour le Développement Social et la Sauvegarde de l'Environnement	HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
ALDI	Association Locale pour le Développement Intégral	HYFRO	Hydraulique Sans Frontière
ALPF	Association de Lutte contre la Pauvreté la Foi et les Oeuvres	ICCG	Inter-Cluster Coordination Group
AIDES	Actions et Interventions pour le Développement et l'Encadrement Social	IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
AOF	Action of the Future	IDPS	Internally displaced persons
APROSHAV	Action pour la Protection de la Santé Humaine, Animale et Végétale	INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
AVSI	Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale	IRC	International Rescue Committee
BOA	Board of Auditors	MA	Managing Agent
CARBUNIA	Caritas Bunia	MDA	Médecins d'Afrique
CAFID	Centre D'Accompagnement des Filles Désœuvrées	MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
CADEGO	Caritas Développement Goma	NCA	Norwegian Church Aid
CARCO	Caritas Congo asbl	NCE	No-cost extension
CBPF	Country-Based Pooled Fund	NFI	Non-food items
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
CAR	Central African Republic	NNGO	National Non-Governmental Organization
C.D.M	Caritas Développement Mahagi-Nioka	NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
CAU	Collectif Alpha Ujui	PIN	People in Need
CBPFS	Country-based pooled funds	PPI	Partner Performance Index
CODEVAH	Comité pour le Développement et Assistance Humanitaire	PPSSP	Programme de Promotion des Soins de santé primaires
COOPI	Cooperazione Internazionale	PUI	Première Urgence Internationale
CPF	Common Performance Framework	OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
CVA	Cash and voucher assistance	PROCAP	Protection Capacity Advisor
CWG	Cash Working Group	PSEA	Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse
DHC	Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator	PWSN	People with specific needs
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo	RHA	Rebuild Hope for Africa
DRC	Danish Refugee Council	RMU	Risk Management Unit
DRC HF	Humanitarian Fund for the DRC	SEA	Sexual exploitation and abuse
EVD	Ebola virus disease	SCI	Save the Children International
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN	SGBV	Sexual gender-based violence
FHIDAH	Fédération Handicap International. Direction Aide Humanitaire	SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
FFR	Financial Regulations and Rules	SOFEPAID	Solidarité Féminine pour la Paix et le Développement Intégral
FSC	Financial Spot check	TPO	Transcultural Psychosocial Organisation
GAM	Gender and Age Marker	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
GBV	Gender-based violence	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
		UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
		UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
		UIA	Umoja in Action
		WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
		WC H	War Child Holland
		WHO	World Health Organization
		WLO	Women's lead organizations

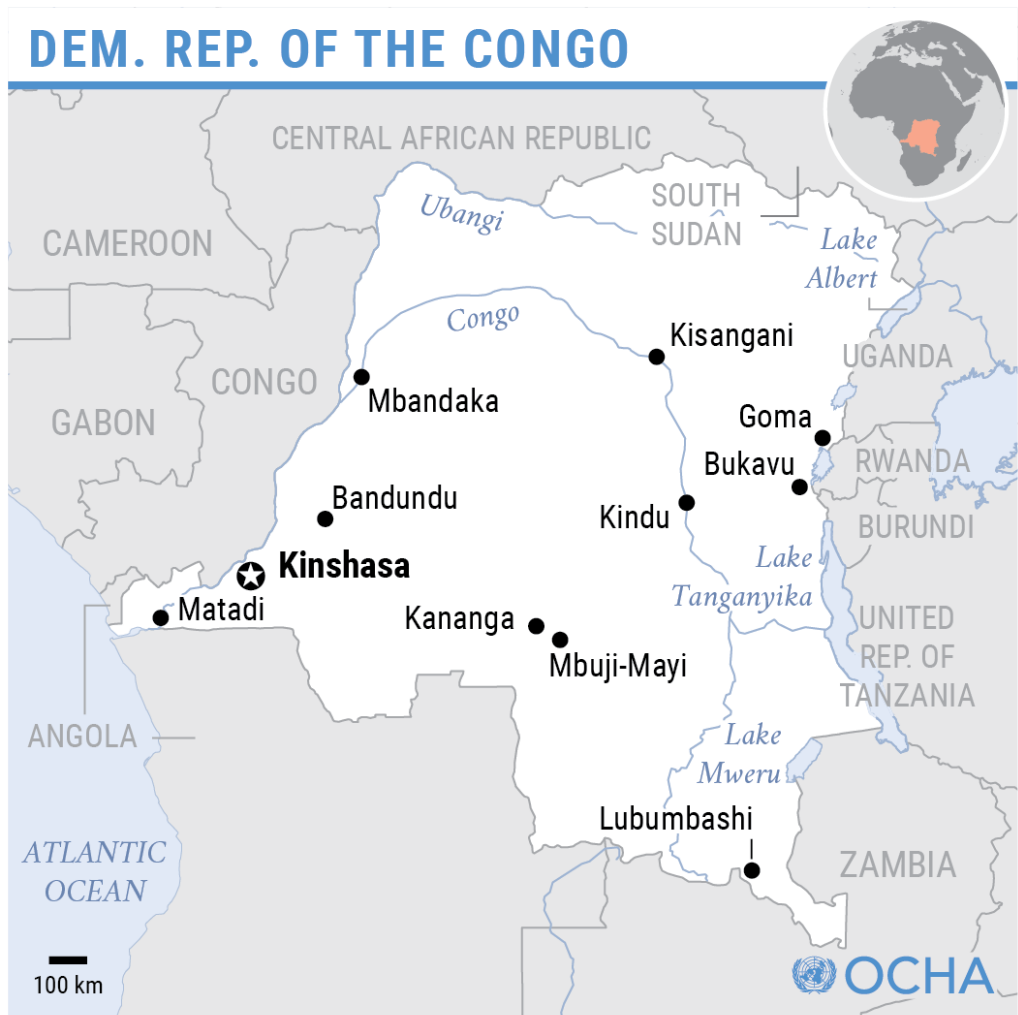
ANNEX B

DRC HF ADVISORY BOARD

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANIZATION
Chairperson	Humanitarian Coordinator
NNGO	Caritas Congo
NNGO	ALDI
NNGO	AIDES
INGO	ACF
INGO	DRC
INGO	Forum ONGI
UN	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
UN	World Food Programme (WFP)
UN	World Health Organization (WHO)
Donor	The Government of the United Kingdom
Donor	The Government of Sweden
Donor	The Government of the Kingdom of The Netherlands or of Belgium
Observer	GenCap Advisor
DRC HF/OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

ANNEX C

REFERENCE MAP



Map Sources: ESRI, UNCS.

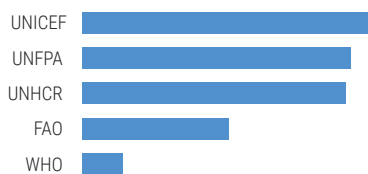
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in Sep 2013.

ANNEX D

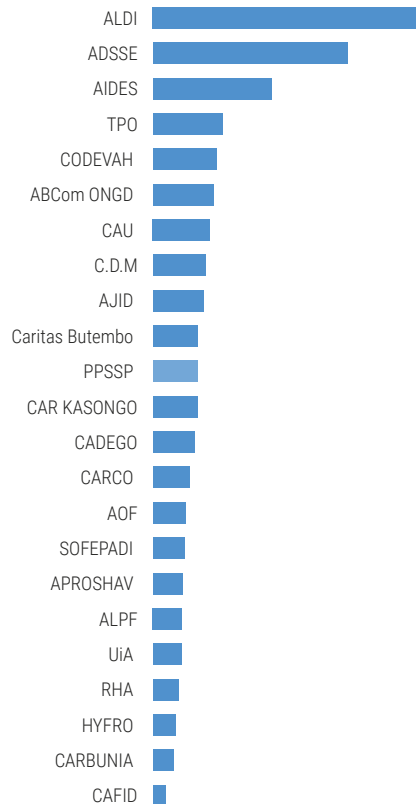
ALLOCATIONS BY RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION

In US\$ million

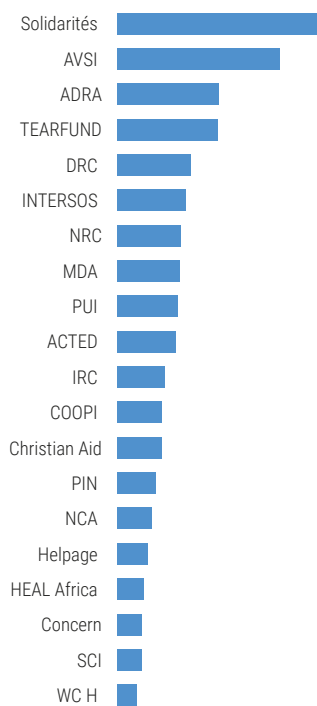
United Nations 19 29%



National NGO 23.1 35%



International NGO 24.3 37%



See Annex A for acronyms

DRC HF

Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Humanitarian Fund

UNOCHA.ORG/COUNTRY/DRC

DRC.UNOCHA.ORG

GMS.UNOCHA.ORG

FTS.UNOCHA.ORG

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