Felicia is a widow and mother of 10 children. When her village was flooded, she lost almost all her maize, groundnut and cassava crops. Today, she can afford to buy clothes and send money to her children who are studying in Lubumbashi. She received assistance in food security, market gardening and food production. Haut-Lomami, 2021. Credit: OCHA/Jolie-Laure MBALIVOTO
The DRC has the world’s largest population of food insecure, with 27 million people affected.

In 2021, the humanitarian response was significantly underfunded. Only 39 percent of the required funding was received. Despite the limited funding, partners continued to deliver assistance to millions of people in need.

In 2022, US$1.88 billion is needed to address the needs of 8.8 million people.

Projects currently under implementation
(As of March 2022)

81 projects funded in 2021
10 projects funded in 2020

2021 Allocations
$66.4 million

- **March 2021** – Reserve Allocation of $1.5 million to support the implementation of the national strategy for the Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

- **May 2021** – Standard Allocation of $30.5 million to support multisectoral assistance targeting the most vulnerable populations in the provinces of Ituri, Maniema, North Kivu, South Kivu, and Tanganyika.

- **June 2021** – Reserve Allocation of $3.5 million to address urgent needs of the populations affected by the eruption of the volcano Nyiragongo, in North Kivu.

- **August 2021** – Reserve allocation of $8 million to respond to the urgent and persistent humanitarian needs of the most affected populations in South Ituri and Beni.

- **December 2021** Reserve Allocation of $1.5 million to improve access to nutritious food for vulnerable households affected by insecurity in the Hauts-Plateaux.

Reserve Allocation of $1 million to support the logistics and infrastructure rehabilitation in the territory of Fizi in South Kivu.

Reserve Allocation $4 million to provide food security and protection to (newly) displaced people in the northeast.

Standard Allocation $16.5 million to provide multi-purpose cash assistance, protection of children and from gender-based violence.

Background of the DRC Humanitarian Fund
- Officially launched in 2006, the Humanitarian Fund in the DRC (DRC HF) is one of the 18 existing Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) active in the world. Donor contributions to the DRC HF are un-earmarked.

- The DRC HF is a critical strategic tool that helps improve the humanitarian response and make a difference in the lives of people in the DRC.

- As one of the first contributors to the country’s Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), the DRC HF is instrumental to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable people, covering a large geographical coverage, including conflict-affected areas.

- Throughout the years, the DRC HF has been used to sudden onset emergencies in a timely and efficient manner to (1) improve the humanitarian response by ensuring that funding is allocated to priority humanitarian needs through an inclusive and coordinated process; (2) strengthen the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and support his coordinating role; (3) mobilize resources and support the HRP.

Highlights of 2021
- While the 2021 HRP was only 39 per cent funded, the DRC HF maintained the engagement from eight longer-term donors and attracted a new donor country, Morocco. Total contributions for 2021 reached $57.8 million.

- The Fund has been activated eight times during the year with allocations amounting to $66.4 million.

- In alignment with the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) and the Grand Bargain commitments on localization, the DRC HF strives to provide flexible funding in a strategic and principled manner for local frontline responders. National partner funding increased from 25 per cent in 2019 to 35 per cent in 2021. Around 43 per cent of national NGOs eligible to the DRC HF in 2021 received funding, amounting to $23 million.

- In 2021, funding to 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.

- Cash and voucher assistance has significantly been scaled up in the DRC HF allocations. Out of 81 projects funded in 2021, 32 projects used cash and voucher 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.

- The Fund increased the diversity of training to the HF partners by including sessions on CVA and risk management in addition to programmatic and financial modules. New approaches were used to ensure that training was interactive and HF partners received training kits with self-explanatory training materials to ensure the maximum reach and impact.

DRC HF added value across the humanitarian system
- Allows donors to pool their contributions to support local humanitarian efforts.

- Provides a predictable and more flexible source of funding, to meeting the needs of the most vulnerable.

- Adds strategic value across humanitarian operations.
**Overview**

**$57.8M**
Contributions

- Germany: $23.3M
- Belgium: $10.3M
- Netherlands: $7.2M
- Canada: $6.4M
- Sweden: $5.7M
- Ireland: $3M
- Norway: $1.2M
- Luxembourg: $0.4M
- Morocco: $0.03M
- Private donations (through UNF): $0.01M

**237k**
People assisted with disability

- 0.6M Women with disability
  - 32%
- 0.4M Boys with disability
  - 22%
- 0.3M Men with disability
  - 19%
- 0.5M Girls with disability
  - 27%

**$66.4M**
Allocations

- NORTH KIVU: $22.7M, 614K people
- KASAÏ-CENTRAL: $10.8M, 6k people
- SOUTHEAST KIVU: $10M, 242K people
- SOUTH KIVU: $10M, 242K people
- MANIEMA: $2.9M, 49k people
- KASAÏ CENTRAL: $1.5M, 163K people
- ITURI: $23M, 457K people
- TANGANYIKA: $5.1M, 120K people
- KASAÏ ORIENTAL: $146.6K, 36.5K people

**1.8M**
People assisted

- 48 Partners
- 81 Projects

**$23.1M**
National NGOs
- 23 Partners
- 34 Projects

**$24.3M**
International NGOs
- 20 Partners
- 32 Projects

**$19M**
United Nations
- 5 Partners
- 15 Projects
The DRC HF has currently 98 eligible partners:

- 54 national NGOs
- 33 international NGOs
- 1 national Red Cross
- 10 UN Agencies (including UNDP and OCHA)

Who sets the Fund’s priorities?

- The HC is supported by the Advisory Board (AB) and the Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU). The AB is chaired by the HC and is comprised of UN agencies, INGOs, NNGOs and donors’ representatives. The OCHA Head of Office exercises overall responsibility over the AB secretariat. The Board advises the HC on strategic orientations, allocation processes and operational modalities.

- The HC, in consultation with the AB, decides on the most critical needs to be funded. Cluster coordinators work with their regional counterparts and cluster partners to define the cluster-specific priorities in prioritized geographical areas, which are reflected in individual allocation strategies.

What does the DRC HF?

- The Fund is committed to ensure that funding is available and prioritized at national level in consultation with field coordination forums, empowering humanitarian leadership and fostering collaboration and collective ownership of the humanitarian response.

- The DRC HF supports the delivery of an agile response and encourages effective and efficient use of available resources in complementarity with other humanitarian funding sources.

Who can receive DRC HF funding?

- Funding is accessible to partners eligible to the Fund, including national and international NGOs, Red Cross movement organizations and UN Agencies.

- To be eligible to receive HF funding, new potential partners must undergo a rigorous capacity assessment overseen by the HFU, to ensure they have the legal framework as well as the necessary administrative, programmatic, financial and technical capacities to meet the Fund accountability standards and efficiently implement humanitarian activities. Those modalities are currently under review.

How are projects selected for funding?

The HC allocates funding through consultative processes with Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) country Clusters based on prioritized humanitarian needs. There are two types of allocation modalities:

- **Standard allocations**: launched twice a year (if funding available) to support sectoral and inter-sectoral priorities aligned with the HRP;

- **Reserve allocations**: launched on an ad-hoc basis to respond to unforeseen emergencies in the HRP.

Strengthened accountability framework

In 2021, the DRC HF has a reinforced internal prevention, control and oversight system and continues to adapt to operating environments.

- **Grant Management System** ensures transparency and tracks HF processes.

- **Assurance activities** are performed according to the Operational Manual, with regular follow-up. The HFU is working with cluster coordinators to strengthen monitoring tools, guidance and capacity.

- The HFU continues to strengthen partners capacity. Clinic sessions and induction trainings on Proposal writing were organized in May 2021, with the participation of 100 partners (74 NNGOs).

- The HFU organizes regular meetings with partners by regional hub to facilitate coordination, which has improved communication and enhanced reporting on challenges and difficulties.

- Since June 2020, the HF hotline (+242(0) 818 900 039) is available for all types of complaints related to HF processes. Complaints can also be sent to CBPF-DRC-request@un.org. Each complaint is treated confidentially.

For more information

- unocha.org
- rdc.humanitarianresponse.info
- pfbi.unocha.org

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