

Alert note

Please write country crisis and date of submission here (RD Congo, Sud-Kivu Province, Flood in Kalehe territory 03- 04 May 2023)

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Date completed: 16 May 2023

Forum: DR Congo

Type of emergency: Flash Floods followed by Landslides.

Date of emergency (if rapid onset): May 2023, 03rd – 04th

1. The nature of the emergency

Flash Floods and Landslides caused by heavy rainfall on 3rd and 4th May 2023 when river Gokwe burst its banks followed by river Kalima Bengé.

2. The impact and scale of the emergency (please include your source of information)

Kalehe is a mountainous area which borders Kahuzi Byega National Park in the South-East and Lake Kivu on the North-East corridor in the territory of Kalehe. The Kalehe region has a tropical climate with moderate temperature and eroded clay soil.

The inhabitants are agro-pastoralists and some practice fishing on lake Kivu. The communities affected are mainly from the Shi community, but there are also other communities who had taken refuge in the area for more than 10 years.

How the people have been affected

Schools and health centres were swept away, and major roads and bridges have been destroyed or cut off thus affecting access/communication. According to provincial Health Division and the Humanitarian Affairs Division (DIVAH) report of 13 May 2023, 402 people are dead while 2,536 people remain missing. 3,000 houses have been damaged, of which 1,200 have been destroyed. As 70% of the local water infrastructures have been destroyed, there will be a need to support affected HH with safe water. In the longer term, farmers whose seeds were destroyed in a large warehouse depriving farmers of 25 tons of seed, will require support. So far, no data exists on gender, age of the displaced.

Children and their families need psychosocial support after this extremely traumatic experience and need to ensure their ability to go back to school in the weeks to come. The education needs of students from the destroyed 3 primary schools and 1 secondary school will need to be addressed. Survivors who have lost their brothers, sisters, fathers, and mothers will remain traumatized

3. Local and national capacity (information gathered from the needs assessment and coordination meetings).

The displaced persons are sleeping out in the open and injured survivors are being treated at health centres as aid workers look for missing persons. Government agencies are supporting rescue and burial efforts and health centres are treating the injured and referring the severely injured for further treatment to bigger hospitals.

The UN cluster system continues to be active, especially UNICEF and WFP (plus partners) continue to provide multisectoral lifesaving assistance to affected children and their families despite the challenging operational conditions([WFP May 2023](#)).

MONUSCA is supporting by providing body bags while through its public Finance Modernization Support is providing food among other interventions.

MSF SPAIN has reinforced its emergency teams on May 6 in the disaster area to support the medical care of injured people and strengthen the referral system through an ambulance made available to the health authorities of the Kalehe health zone. MSF will also assess the situation in terms of AME (NFI), shelter and WASH.

WHO deployed a team on May 6th for a rapid assessment and held a health sector coordination meeting on May 7 in Kalehe with actors from the health cluster and the health zone.

Red Cross: emergency rescue teams are retrieving dead bodies from the rubble and organizing dignified and safe burials of the deceased.

UNIRR (UNICEF / AIDES Ong) continues to respond especially conducting activities against cholera in the Kalehe health zone, particularly in the affected health areas, through the CATI approach (case area targeted interventions).

Provincial Division of Health and that Provincial Division of Humanitarian Affairs have set up a committee to monitor and coordinate interventions.

Other national organizations planning to respond and who were involved in the rapid needs assessment include:

1. Support and Action for Development (SOUTIEN ET ACTION POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT -**SAD**).
2. Community of Pentecostal Churches in Central Africa, a religious denomination in Central Africa (**CPCCA**- COMMUNAUTE DES EGLISES PENTECOTISTES EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE).
3. JSD : Youth for Solidarité and Development (JEUNESSE POUR LA SOLIDARITE ET LE DEVELOPPEMENT) (**JSD**)

4. Key needs and gaps

According to the needs multi sector assessment recently conducted by various agencies including EELCo South Kivu staff, the immediate needs of the displaced/affected persons identified were:

- 1) Shelters (temporary and permanent) in sites targeted by local authorities.
- 2) Non-food items (clothes, blankets, mattresses, kitchen utensils, soap, hygiene kit for women, jerry can, etc.)
- 3) Food assistance (maize/cassava flour, vegetable oil, beans, small weight, salt, milk for infants, soybeans, nutritious flour made from Maize, Soya and sorghum and sugar.)
- 4) Supply of safe drinking water, construction of latrines
- 5) Education: school kits, uniforms, etc.
- 6) Primary Health

These information gaps will be filled once a multi-sectoral assessment is done by one or two members of the ACT Bukavu Alliance at the start of the project.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below
Rapid Response Fund (<i>intended for small and medium scale emergencies</i>)	X

If you indicate an intention to launch an appeal, the secretariat will activate an Emergency Steering Committee meeting within two working days on receipt of this alert.

Capacity details of forum members with the intention to respond are given below.

In EELCo preparedness plan, the three major risks identified were armed conflicts, floodings, and landslides. These three crises are frequent in South Kivu and cause enormous damage. This alert is based on the floods that have just caused disaster for the population of Kalehe in general and the Bushushu and Minova villages.

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise	Support required	Estimated Budget range
EELCO	Sud-Kivu Province	Kitchen Utensils and shelter, NFI, food security, health, and education	Food, Safe water and shelter, cash food security, NFI and education	\$ 150 000

5. Potential responses

The affected area is in the geographic jurisdiction of EELCO in South Kivu. EELCO plans to first conduct a more thorough rapid assessment to fill information gaps, then possibly support the affected through distribution of non-food items, shelter, education in emergencies interventions.

EELCO has previous experience in appeals (COD 201) and various Rapid Response Funds (in response to volcanic eruption) through shelter, NFI, WASH, Early Recovery, and livelihood initiatives.

