Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC): The attached map (OCHA 2012) and description on the DRC (IDMC 2012) are telling a story of a complex emergency in which humanitarian work is needed but imbued with challenges. Civilians are in need of protection, but there is restricted humanitarian access.

Use the Humanitarian snapshot map and the IDMC overview and describe what are – when faced with a situation as that in the DRC – humanitarian objectives and obligations. Then take ‘protection’ as your starting point and describe some of the opportunities, restrictions and dilemmas that humanitarianism are faced with when realising protection in such complex emergencies (you can do this by following the example of the DRC, but you can also bring in other examples).

References:


Instructions
The exam question will be made available on GEOG 3516’s It’s learning page under the folder ‘Exam’ at 8.00 (in the morning) 23rd November.

The exam should be submitted before 16.00 on the 30th November.

When submitting the document, please do the following:

• To maintain anonymity of each candidate, please send an email with your exam paper attached as a pdf-file to Per Ivar Chutko at the Department of Geography: per.chutko@svt.ntnu.no.
• On the first page of the document: Write your candidate number and the number of words (and please remember to insert page numbers in the document)
• When saving the document, give it the following name: “GEOG3516 Home exam, [your candidate number]"
• When sending the document write the following in the subject line: “GEOG3516 Home exam, [your candidate number]"

Per Ivar will save the document and delete your email so that no-one can trace your name attached to the document

It will not be acceptable to submit the exam paper too late. If you should have any problems in meeting the deadline, you must get in touch with the department, but generally late submissions will not be accepted.

The exam paper should be between 3500 words and 4500 words, references, figures and tables come in addition.

Remember to refer to sources and literature used according to academically accepted standards. You can, for example, follow the guidelines distributed on the It’s learning pages for this course.

During the exam, you cannot receive any supervision from staff in the department, but if you have questions regarding the question of the exam and formalities, we will try to answer collectively by making responses available on It’s learning.

I may not be available on email in the last hours before the submission deadline so any questions should come before this last day. If there are any last minute issues regarding the submission, please contact Per Ivar Chutko.
With more than 2.4 million displaced people, epidemics, persistent insecurity and poverty, the humanitarian situation in the DRC remains very critical. UN agencies and NGOs have responded to the multi-faceted needs by providing, among others, health care, water, food and non-food items. However, insufficient funds and limited access are major constraints impeding life-saving aid to thousands of people.

### Insecurity and restricted humanitarian access
- **2.4 million**: Number of people displaced in the DRC
- **Insecurity caused by armed groups and military operations**
- **North Kivu, South Kivu, Katanga**: Highest increases in displacement
- **170**: Number of security incidents against aid workers since beginning of the year.

### The continuing scourge of epidemics
- **36**: Number of deaths due to Ebola since May 2012
- **27,000**: Number of cholera cases in 2012
- **20%**: Increase in cholera caseload between 2011 and 2012
- **Malaria, measles, polio, typhoid**: main diseases affecting people

### Funding: a major humanitarian challenge
- Aid organizations face an urgent gap of USD 31.2 million to respond to the priority needs of 2 million people across the DRC.

### Humanitarian Action Plan
- **791 million** asked for the humanitarian action plan (HAP) 2012
- **378 million $** or 48% available
- **413 million** funding gap
- **646 million**: Priority needs targeted
- **542 million**: Global priority needs
- **26 million**: Mid-Year Review needs

### Financial gaps per cluster
- **Food security**: 79.1
- **Water and sanitation**: 78.9
- **Non food items**: 68.4
- **Education**: 67.9
- **Logistic**: 64.6
- **Nutrition**: 64.6
- **Protection**: 65.5
- **Health**: 64.6

### Return areas for repatriated refugees from RoC
- **25,000** people repatriated from the Republic of Congo by UNHCR (October 2012)

### Areas with armed group activities
- **20,000** Congolese refugees (October 2012)

### Areas with difficult humanitarian access
- **48,000** Congolese refugees (October 2012)

### Areas with armed group activities
- **198,213** new displacements since April
- **340,382** new displacements since April
- **335,000** re-displaced people in 2012

### Sources
- OCHA & partners, CMP, UNHCR, Min Health/WHO
- Feedback: ochardo@un.org
- www.rdc-humanitaire.net
- www.unocha.org
- www.reliefweb.int

**The boundaries and names and designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.**
At the end of 2011, an estimated 1.7 million people were internally displaced in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) by various conflicts which had killed several million people since the mid-1990s. The vast majority of those currently displaced had fled since the start of large-scale military operations against armed groups in eastern DRC in early 2009, or from the attacks and violence against civilians perpetrated by all parties to the conflicts.

In 2011, many areas of the country, particularly in the east, were outside government control, and the army had limited success in defeating various armed groups. Members of both the army and rebel groups continued to commit human rights violations and abuses, including killings, sexual exploitation, abduction, forced conscription of children, looting, plundering of crops, illegal taxation and widespread harassment. The perpetrators of abuses continued to enjoy general impunity; while millions of civilians have suffered as a result of the violence, only a handful of perpetrators have ever been brought to justice.

In 2011, army units were withdrawn from zones in North and South Kivu, to be trained before their redeployment. This left local communities with less protection, including many in areas which were already prone to insecurity; armed groups were accordingly able to retake old positions and attack civilians. At the end of the year, an estimated 540,000 people were displaced within North Kivu and 520,000 in South Kivu. South Kivu villagers also found refuge in neighbouring Maniema and Katanga, which hosted around 55,000 and 74,000 IDPs respectively at the end of the year.

There were also significant displacements in Orientale Province in 2011. Attacks in Lower Uele and Upper Uele Districts by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), land conflicts between different ethnic groups in Ituri District, and military operations against the ADF/NALU armed group in neighbouring North Kivu brought the number of IDPs in the province to over 340,000.

While some 800,000 people managed to return home between mid-2010 and mid-2011, few did so in the second half of 2011 because of heightened insecurity and the climate of uncertainty due to the impending elections.

Ethnic tensions and the occupation of IDPs’ land also prevented their safe return. Many IDPs have sought to integrate in their place of displacement or settle elsewhere, following the destruction or occupation of their villages. However, there progress has not been monitored, with humanitarian organisations only following some return movements.

IDPs are dispersed in rural and urban areas, where they have either supported themselves or relied on the limited resources of host communities. As these communities have been increasingly unable to cope with the influx, IDPs in North Kivu have also been forced to take refuge either in informal camps or in formal camps managed by international NGOs and coordinated by UNHCR. Estimates of the number of IDPs outside camps have remained very approximate.

Most IDPs and returning IDPs have lacked access to basic services such as health care, education, water and sanitation and transportation infrastructure, and are in need of food, seeds, tools, clothes and building materials, in what was by 2011 the least developed country in the world. Protracted conflict and displacement have been identified as the main causes of food insecurity in eastern DRC. The conflict has also led to the disruption of education for many children.

A major challenge is that those with the most urgent need of assistance are increasingly dispersed and unreachable in remote and insecure areas.

Measures adopted by the central government and provincial authorities have not met the needs of IDPs. While the Ministry for Solidarity and Humanitarian Affairs is responsible for IDPs, there is no policy or legislation in place to guide its work, and it has rarely provided direct assistance to IDPs. Nonetheless, DRC has signed, but not ratified, the Kampala Convention, and has ratified the Great Lakes Pact.

The protection cluster led by UNHCR monitors the protection needs of conflict-affected populations including IDPs in the eastern provinces, and has called for better protection by military and civilian authorities, as well as the UN peacekeeping mission MONUSCO.

While humanitarian funding in DRC grew six-fold between 2002 and 2010, from $98 million to $585 million, yearly humanitarian appeals have remained under-funded. In addition to emergency assistance, the government and the UN and its partners continued to implement their stabilisation plans for eastern DRC, which include the facilitation of the return and reintegration of IDPs and refugees.