



Humanitarian Response Progress Report: Goma Crisis (April – July 2025)

*Prepared by: AIP – African Initiative Programme.
Reporting Period: April–July 2025*

1. Introduction

Since January 2025, the city of **Goma** and its surrounding areas in North Kivu have been engulfed in a severe security and humanitarian crisis resulting from intensified clashes between the **Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (FARDC)** and **M23 armed groups**. The escalation of violence triggered **large-scale population displacements**, heightened pressure on already fragile infrastructure, and disrupted access to critical social services.

Key transportation routes were cut off, restricting the flow of humanitarian assistance and trade. Health facilities faced major challenges in maintaining essential services, while limited access to safe water, food, and shelter exacerbated the vulnerability of affected populations. Concurrently, outbreaks of **cholera** and **monkeypox (Mpox)** further strained the public health system, underscoring the urgent need for rapid and coordinated humanitarian interventions.

Following Armed groups occupation of Goma, they temporarily restricted humanitarian activities and ordered displaced populations to return to their villages of origin. Despite these directives, many displaced families remained in Goma, seeking refuge in **churches, schools, and host communities** where conditions were precarious and temporary.

In response, **AIP** implemented emergency interventions focusing on **food assistance, income-generating activities (IGAs), and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)** to support the most vulnerable households in **Bujovu, Katoyi, and Goma Health Zones**. This report outlines key achievements and progress made during the reporting period (**April–July 2025**).

2. Food Distribution

To mitigate the immediate impacts of food insecurity caused by displacement and disrupted livelihoods, **AIP conducted targeted food distributions** in the most affected neighborhoods of **Bujovu and Katoyi**.





A total of **350 vulnerable households (approximately 210 individuals)** received essential food items, including:

- Maize flour
- Beans
- Vegetable oil
- Salt

The distributions were organized in collaboration with **community leaders and local authorities** to ensure transparency and fairness. Priority was given to:

- Households with children under five
- Pregnant and lactating women
- Persons with disabilities
- Elderly individuals

These interventions significantly improved short-term food security, reduced negative coping mechanisms (such as skipping meals), and strengthened community trust in humanitarian efforts.

3. Income-Generating Activities (IGA) Training



Recognizing the collapse of traditional livelihoods and the urgent need for economic resilience, **AIP launched training sessions on income-generating activities** for women and youth.

A total of **320 participants (65% women)** were trained in:

- Small business management
- Soap production
- Tailoring and garment repair
- Food processing and preservation

Each participant received **start-up kits** and ongoing **mentorship** to help establish micro-enterprises. The objective was to **restore dignity, self-reliance, and income opportunities** for displaced and host community members.





Early outcomes indicate that several trainees have already begun small-scale businesses, generating modest but steady incomes within their communities.

4. Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

While WASH was not the primary focus of this intervention, AIP integrated key activities to address urgent water and hygiene needs.



As part of AIP's commitment to promoting hygiene and public health, the program prioritized access to safe water for households that previously relied on lake water sources, which were unsafe and often contaminated. Recognizing the health risks posed by unclear water, AIP provided a regular **water-trucking service** to supply clean and potable water to affected communities. In addition, **hygiene awareness sessions** were conducted to encourage proper water storage, handwashing practices, and environmental cleanliness. These interventions significantly reduced the risk of waterborne diseases and improved overall community well-being, particularly among children and women who are most vulnerable to poor sanitation conditions.

- **69 m³ of clean water** were trucked to serve **8,353 individuals** in Bujovu.
- **Hygiene promotion campaigns** reached over **3800 people** through door-to-door sensitization, community meetings, and radio messages.



These interventions were instrumental in reducing the risk of waterborne diseases such as cholera, particularly in overcrowded displacement sites.

5. Beneficiary Summary Table

Category	Number of Beneficiaries
Households receiving food items	350 households (~2,100 individuals)
IGA training participants	320 (65% women)
Water trucking beneficiaries	8,353 (1,823 boys, 2,175 girls, 2,070 men, 2,285 women, 12 with disabilities)
Hygiene awareness beneficiaries	38,447 (11,097 women, 7,242 men, 11,196 girls, 8,678 boys, 234 with disabilities) (in churches, displaced sites, door to door etc)

6. Coordination and Partnerships

Strong coordination and partnership mechanisms were key to successful implementation.

- AIP maintained active collaboration with **local health authorities** and **community leaders** to align activities with existing health zone priorities.
 - All activities were harmonized with the broader **humanitarian coordination framework led by OCHA**, ensuring coherence and accountability across actors.
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7. Challenges and Lessons Learned

- **Restricted access and insecurity** continued to delay activity implementation and monitoring.
- **Population movements** complicated beneficiary tracking and data consistency.
- **Supply chain disruptions** occasionally limited timely delivery of food items.

However, **community engagement and flexibility in planning** proved effective in overcoming operational barriers. Strengthening **local partnerships** and **community feedback systems** enhanced responsiveness and trust.



8. Conclusion and Way Forward

Despite an extremely volatile context, **AIP successfully implemented life-saving interventions** in food assistance, livelihood recovery, and WASH. The organization demonstrated adaptability, strong local coordination, and a continued commitment to supporting the most vulnerable populations in Goma.

Looking ahead, AIP will focus on:

- Expanding livelihood and vocational training opportunities
- Strengthening WASH infrastructure in displacement-prone areas
- Enhancing community resilience and early warning mechanisms

Through sustained collaboration with partners and communities, AIP remains dedicated to **restoring hope, dignity, and stability** among affected families in Goma and its environs.



Africa Initiative Program (AIP) - Financial Report

1. Overview

This financial report provides an overview of the expenditure and beneficiary reach for the Africa Initiative Program (AIP) activities conducted under a total budget of USD 10,000. The activities covered food distribution, income-generating activity (IGA) training, water trucking, and hygiene awareness campaigns.

2. Financial Summary

Expense Category	Amount (USD)
Food distribution	3,000.00
IGA training sessions	2,500.00
Water trucking operations	2,500.00
Hygiene promotion and awareness	1,500.00
Administrative and logistics costs	500.00

3. Summary and Impact

The implementation of AIP's interventions reached a total of 4922 individuals through a combination of emergency relief and capacity-building activities. These actions contributed to improving food security, strengthening livelihoods, and enhancing access to water and hygiene services within targeted communities. The program placed a strong emphasis on gender inclusion and disability sensitivity, ensuring that all community members benefited from the initiatives.

Resource Mobilization and Fundraising

The Africa Initiative Program (AIP) successfully raised USD 10,000 through a combination of local and international fundraising strategies. The funds were mobilized through the following key channels:

1. Individual Contributions and Community Support

AIP engaged its local network of supporters, diaspora members, and well-wishers who contributed small individual donations through online crowdfunding campaigns and direct bank transfers. This community-driven approach not only strengthened AIP's visibility but also built trust and ownership among local partners and beneficiaries.

2. Partnership with Faith-Based and Philanthropic Institutions

A portion of the funds was secured through partnerships with local faith-based organizations and small philanthropic foundations committed to supporting food security and women's economic empowerment in the Democratic Republic of Congo. These partners provided both financial and in-kind support (such as transportation and logistics).



3. **Volunteer Mobilization and Cost-Sharing**
AIP's staff and volunteers contributed their time and expertise on a pro bono basis, helping to minimize administrative overhead. This in-kind support allowed the organization to allocate the majority of the funds directly to program activities and beneficiary support.
4. **Diaspora and Online Campaigns**
Leveraging digital tools and social media platforms, AIP reached out to its diaspora community and supporters abroad. Through targeted messaging on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp, AIP was able to mobilize small but impactful donations that collectively made a significant contribution to the overall budget.

6. Acknowledgment and Appreciation

The Africa Initiative Program (AIP) extends its sincere gratitude to all those who made this initiative possible.

We are deeply thankful to our **donors, partners, and community members** whose generosity and commitment enabled the successful implementation of the program. Your contributions whether financial, material, or through volunteer service, made a tangible difference in the lives of thousands of families across our target communities.

AIP also recognizes the invaluable support of **local authorities, faith-based institutions, and private sector partners** who provided guidance, logistical assistance, and resources that ensured smooth delivery of services.

To our **staff, volunteers, and field teams**, your dedication, compassion, and resilience in challenging environments remain the backbone of our success.

Finally, we express our gratitude to all **beneficiaries** for their trust and participation. Their strength and collaboration continue to inspire our mission to build stronger, more resilient, and self-reliant communities.

Together, we are proving that collective action and solidarity can create lasting change.