

## COVID-19 WASH RESPONSE

**Project duration** : 6 months

**Intervention area** : Ngaoundaye (Ouham-Pendé)

**Project objective** : Prevention and response to Covid-19 for vulnerable populations in Ouham-Pendé

**Budget** : 268,000.00 EUR

**Donor** : DANIDA (Global Appeal)

**Beneficiaries** : 29,042 direct beneficiaries

### CONTEXT

The project is implemented in the Ngaoundaye health district, Ouham-Pendé prefecture. According to the last census carried out in 2017, the health district counts 59,412 inhabitants and is located on the border with Cameroon and Chad. Ngaoundaye has a large population of Central African returnees (around 23,000) who previously fled due to armed conflict; returns have been particularly marked since July 2019. Should the Covid-19-related situation worsen in the refugee camps in Cameroon, there is a risk that a large number of people will return to Ngaoundaye by exercising pressure on resources and increasing the risk of the virus spreading.

Returns have already been observed among host communities in Paoua (May 2020). After conducting a WASH assessment of the intervention area, DRC identified the following problems: i) access to water is considerably reduced due to the state of degradation or the insufficient number of water points; ii) lack of sanitation infrastructure in households and public places; and iii) lack of knowledge of good hygiene practices. Exposure to the Covid-19 pandemic exacerbates an already critical WASH situation.



### FOCUS: COVID-19

Covid-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia or breathing difficulties. The virus is transmitted through direct contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person or from and touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and touching their face. Preventive actions include: i) staying home when sick; ii) covering mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing; iii) washing hands often with soap and water; and iv) cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects (WHO, IFRC, UNICEF).

**RES. 1: 17,500 IDPs, RETURNED PEOPLE AND HOST POPULATIONS HAVE ACCESS TO QUALITY WATER IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY, ACCORDING TO SPHERE STANDARDS**

- Rehabilitation of water points

**RES. 2: 1,840 PEOPLE HAVE ADEQUATE ACCESS TO SANITATION INFRASTRUCTURES (EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL), IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPHERE AND WASH CLUSTER STANDARDS**

- Installation of hand washing facilities
- Construction of latrines and emergency showers
- Construction of transitional sanitation infrastructure in health facilities and schools

**RES. 3: THE HYGIENE PRACTICES OF 9.702 PEOPLE IN NGAOUNDAYE (HALF OF THE POPULATION) ARE IMPROVED THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC CAMPAIGNS TO STRENGTHEN PREVENTATIVE MEASURES AT COVID-19**

- Distribution of WASH NFI kits
- Hygiene promotion campaigns



Health center of Kossé, Ouham-Pendé

**BENEFICIARIES**

This project targets residents of host communities and returnees in the Ngaoundaye sub-prefecture, Ouham-Pendé. Interventions also benefit health facilities, schools and markets, as these public places are areas at high risk of spread of Covid-19.

The indirect beneficiaries of the project will include the populations who will move around the area and will participate in one way or another in the project interventions. In this category, DRC includes transhumant pastoralists who regularly arrive in the area for grazing, economic operators and other partners selected by the project, humanitarian actors working in the area and sometimes covered by project services. The response to the pandemic will not be limited only to the population, political and administrative authorities, security officials in the region and their teammates will also be informed of Covid-19. Approximately 29,042 people are expected to benefit directly from this Covid-19 response intervention.