The LRA continues to spread fear in remote border areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Central African Republic (CAR) and impede humanitarian access to displaced and host communities in need of life-saving assistance. An estimated 443,000 people are today displaced from their homes in LRA-affected areas, many depending on international assistance for food, shelter, health care, water and sanitation. Some 180 presumed LRA attacks causing 39 deaths have been recorded by humanitarian partners in the DRC, with 19 deaths and 109 abductions, a third of whom were children.

Since January 2012, 138 presumed LRA attacks were reported by partners in the DRC, with 19 deaths and 109 abductions, a third of whom were children. In the CAR, nine presumed LRA attacks led to new displacements, bringing the number of displaced to 21,000 in CAR, in addition to the 6,000 Congolese refugees hosted in refugee camps in Haut Mboumou. Most of the attacks (five) occurred in September, which accounts for five civilian casualties, 37 abductions and approximately 1,300 newly displaced persons. Overall, 42 attacks, 20 deaths and 84 abductions (including eight children) have been reported in CAR since January 2012.

No LRA attacks have been reported in 2012. Due to improvement in the security situation in late 2011 and 2012, about 21,000 people displaced by LRA incidents in Western Equatoria State have returned to their places of origin in Yambio, Nzara, Ezo, Mundri and Maridi and Tambura counties. There are 49,000 people who have fled their homes due to the LRA who remain internally displaced. South Sudan is also host to some 18,037 Congolese and 1,143 Central African refugees.

The humanitarian consequences of the LRA violence continue to be most extensive in Haut and Bas Uélé districts of the DRC where an estimated 347,000 persons are displaced. Access remains the number one challenge due to insecurity and limited road networks. Partners reported 43 presumed LRA attacks in the DRC this quarter, with the majority (72 per cent) concentrated in Dungu Territory in Haut Uélé, Province Orientale. Since January 2012, 138 presumed LRA attacks were reported by partners in the DRC, with 19 deaths and 109 abductions, a third of whom were children.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on all maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Sources of data and map: OCHA, UNHCR, GAUL, UNCS