

# REFUGEES

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## Huge Country, Huge Problems — Huge Potential

*Can DR Congo Turn the Page?*



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**Cover** Clockwise from top left:

Congolese woman healing home.

UNHCR / J. OSE / DEC 2007

Voter in Bunia, Ituri.

AGUSTINS / J. AKENA / DEC 2006

Levde militiaman.

RAF / R. PROSILLO / DEC 2007

Rainforest background.

UNHCR / C. BOWERS / DEC 2007

**Back cover** Rwandan refugees in Goma.

UNHCR / A. HOLLMANN / DEC 2004

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4

**COVER STORY**

Recent elections led to cautious hopes for a better future in DR Congo – after a decade of violence and anarchy on a scale that defies the imagination.

15

**ONE AMONG THOUSANDS**

A Congolese rape victim, now living as a refugee in Kenya, describes her ordeal as the captive of a marauding militia group.

16

**SHEER BRUTALITY**

Experts fear that an HIV epidemic may compound the suffering of some of the tens of thousands of women raped in eastern DRC.

18

**THE CONGOLESE IN SOUTH AFRICA**

With DRC still facing an uncertain future, the flow of Congolese refugees and migrants to South Africa shows little sign of stopping.

20

**LEBANON DIARIES**

Seven UNHCR staff who worked in Lebanon, Syria and Israel give a vivid account of their experiences as last summer's war unfolded around them.



4 It is vast, and should be rich, but war, chaos and corruption have taken a huge toll on DR Congo.



15 Women have suffered immensely at the hands of rampaging groups in eastern DRC.



20 Over a million people were displaced by the short but devastatingly destructive war in Lebanon.