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## **PRESS RELEASE**

## After the fighting in Eastern Congo Welthungerhilfe starts preparing supplies for the refugees

**Bonn, 27.11.2012**. Welthungerhilfe is preparing supplies for more than 3,000 refugee families in the vicinity of Goma. In Muganga III, which is currently the largest refugee camp, conditions are abysmal as there are too few latrines and not enough space for the arriving refugees. The current fighting between rebel group M23 and the government troops have displaced approximately 140,000 people in the region. Due to the military conflict and the tense security situation, it is currently very difficult to gain access to the refugees.

The families are given packages with soap, blankets, clothes, cooking utensils and plans, and are using these as provisional arrangements in the refugee camp. In order to create more space for the new refugees and set up new latrines, Welthungerhilfe is using its construction machines, which it has been using up until now for road construction.

"In many cases, the women and children only managed to save the clothes on their backs and are now left without any assistance in a refugee camp or the surrounding forests. Fighting has stopped in Goma, but the people are still extremely afraid of returning to their villages. Without our assistance, they will not be able to cope in the coming months," Christoph von König, Head of Project for Welthungerhilfe in Goma, explains the refugee situation.

If necessary, we can set up an interview for you with one of our on-site project leaders.

## For further information see www.welthungerhilfe.de

Welthungerhilfe is one of the largest non-governmental aid agencies in Germany. It provides integrated aid: from rapid disaster aid to reconstruction and long-term development assistance projects in conjunction with local partner organisations based on the principle of help towards self-help. Since we were founded in 1962, we have provided about 2.39 billion euros worth of funding for around 6,800 projects in 70 countries – for a world without hunger and poverty.

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