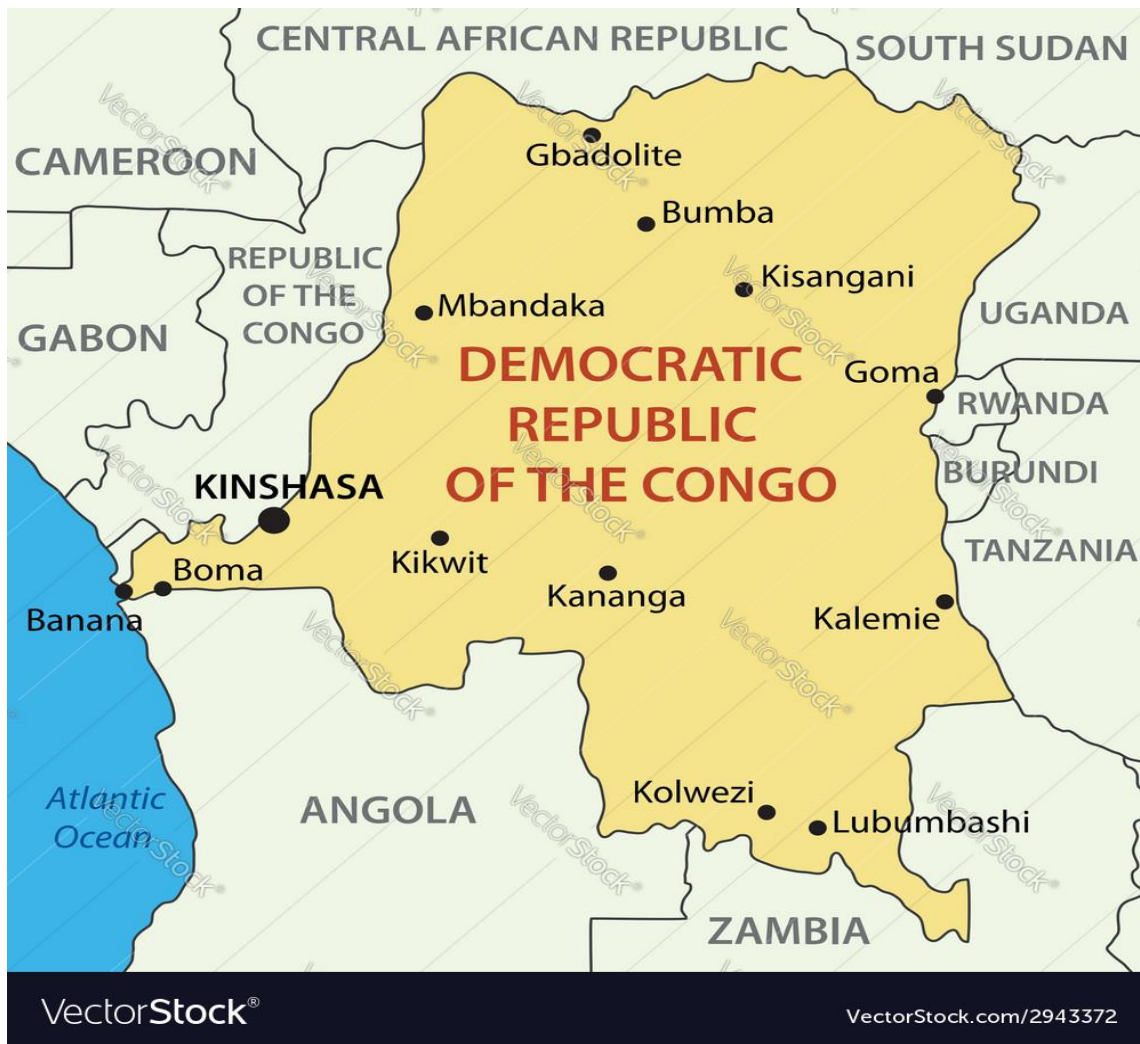


Mission & Giving update on Claudaline in Goma (DRC): June 2025



Claudaline is currently in Kinshasa, capital of DRC in the west of the country (second largest in Africa), with three of her children.

She has found temporary accommodation owing to insecurity in Goma, 1600 miles away. Her youngest daughter Sarah is still in Goma with her baby Eden.

The M23 rebel group (Tutsi-led and possibly Rwanda-backed) is in control of Goma in the east (North Kivu provincial capital) and Bukavu (South Kivu provincial capital), near the Rwandan border

One of the reasons for conflict is the struggle for control of valuable minerals in the east of DRC (gold and coltan – used for phones). There are also ethnic tensions stemming back to the Rwanda genocide conflict between Tutsi and Hutu groups.

Claudaline received reports from Goma that her house and car had been targeted and that there have been daily killings, particularly of men and boys unwilling to join the rebel forces. Banks are closed in Goma, but Claudaline can access money sent to her in Kinshasa. We have been able to send money through the Congo Church Association, for which Peter Wood, our first minister at Cambourne Church, is a trustee.

Recently 3000 prisoners escaped from prison in Goma, leading to increased violence and insecurity.

Although some of the land and fields used by women in the agro-pastoral work have been damaged, Claudaline reports that this work is now continuing, as well as some of the tailoring, clothes-making ministry.

Although there was at least one brief violent incident at the HOPE primary school when two youths attacked it (but were arrested by police), Claudaline reports that the school is still currently functioning well. She has shared ambitious plans to develop the school with new buildings, to encourage parents who can afford school fees to send their children there and thus make it easier to fund staff and support vulnerable children, which is at the core of her ministry there.

Claudaline is managing to liaise online with board members of her ministry team in Goma and with the school principal.

Claudaline is VERY grateful for the prayers and gifts of Cambourne Church. She asks us to continue to pray for PEACE and SAFETY for her, her family, and all in Goma and the wider country.