



WFP Democratic Republic of Congo Country Brief

August 2018

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

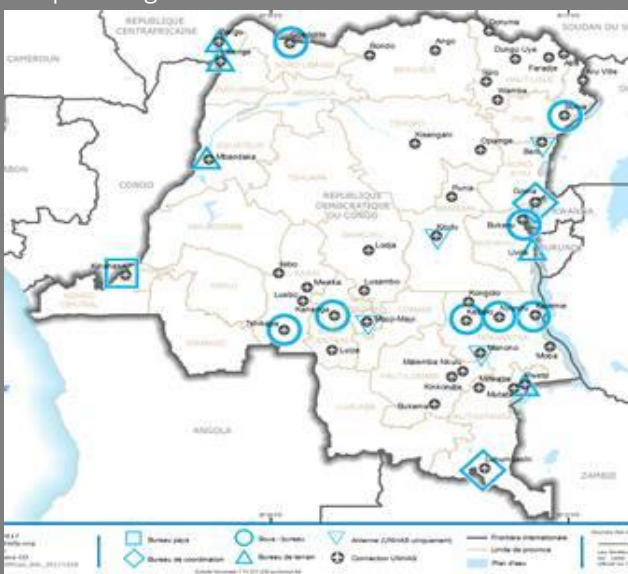


Operational Context

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is Africa's second largest country. Due to its rich and fertile soil, agriculture is the primary rural economic activity. However, seventy percent of the population live below the poverty line and lack access to adequate food.

As part of the Integrated Road Map, DRC started implementing the Interim-Country Strategic Plan (I-CSP) in January 2018. The I-CSP was approved by the Executive Board in November 2017 and is governing the portfolio of activities in the country under a results-based framework for a period of three years (2018-2020).

As per the latest Government-led food security and joint crops monitoring mission, DRC's food balance sheet indicates a net deficit of 6.9 million tons, equivalent to 22% of national food requirements. Insecurity, displacement of farmers and damage to crops caused by fall armyworm are the main factors of the food deficit. Despite the food deficit and other related challenges, WFP continues to implement its scale-up plan in the Kasai region and the eastern provinces, while promoting a shift towards resilience-building, which includes emphasis on reducing stunting, strengthening social cohesion, and empowering smallholder farmers.



Population: **74 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **176 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **43% of children between 6-59 months**

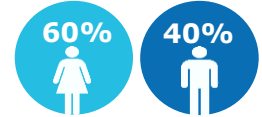
In Numbers

6,662 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$2.6 m cash-based transfers made

US\$186 m six months (Sep 2018 to Feb 2019) net funding requirements, representing 65% of total

920,868 people assisted in August 2018



Operational Updates

- Ebola Virus Disease (EVD):** On 01 August, a new Ebola Virus outbreak was declared in Beni territory, North Kivu. The response to the outbreak in the affected zone is complicated due to the highly volatile security situation, coupled with severe access constraints for humanitarian actors. Before the declaration of the outbreak, WFP was already assisting hundreds of thousands of people displaced by armed conflict in the province. In response to the outbreak, WFP started providing food to inpatients and caregivers in hospitals located in the towns of Mangina and Beni. To reinforce the response to critically ill patients, WFP airlifted high energy biscuits into Goma, North Kivu, from Dubai. The WFP-run United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) started operating daily flights between Goma and Beni, ferrying humanitarian workers and cargo, including medical and protection equipment as well as telecommunications items. As of 31 August, a total of 111 cases of Ebola had been recorded, including 83 confirmed cases and 28 probable cases. More than 4,000 people had been vaccinated.

WFP interventions in the Kasais:

- In Kasai Central:** Transportation challenges affected timeliness of food distributions in August. Despite this, 60,340 beneficiaries were assisted with rice, maize flour, beans, vegetable oil and salt. In addition to 40,365 beneficiaries who received cash in Mwetshi and Bena Tshiadi health zones, 14,275 new beneficiaries were assisted in Tshikele, Bukonde health zone.
- In Kasai province:** A pipeline break led to the distribution of a limited food basket composed of cereals and beans without oil and salt to 45 percent of the beneficiaries while 55 percent received a complete basket. WFP distributed USD 363,360 worth of cash to 23,255 beneficiaries at Banga-Lubaka in Ilebo territory. WFP encountered challenges in distributing food in Kamako and Mutena, Kamonia territory, due to a predicted breakdown of the ferry on Kasai River. As a result, WFP changed the modality of assistance from in-kind food distributions to multi-purpose cash assistance. WFP, UNICEF and FAO, agreed to deliver multi-sectorial assistance consisting of cash-based transfers in Kamako and Mutena.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/congo-democratic-republic

Interim-Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
720.5 m	254.9 m	186 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Targeted food-insecure populations affected by shocks are able to meet their basic food requirements in times of crisis

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide food assistance to conflict affected populations.
- Provide food assistance to populations affected by non-conflict shocks.

Strategic Result 2: End Malnutrition

Strategic Outcome # 2: Food-insecure and vulnerable populations in conflict and shock-affected areas have improved nutritional status in line with national protocols by 2020

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Treat moderate acute malnutrition among vulnerable people including children 6-59 months, PLW/G and ART/TB- DOTS clients.
- Prevent acute malnutrition among vulnerable groups including children 6-23 months and PLW/G.
- Prevent chronic malnutrition among vulnerable groups including children 6-23 months and PLW/G.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder Productivity and Incomes

Strategic Outcome # 3: Smallholder farmers and vulnerable communities in targeted and crisis-prone areas, especially in eastern parts of the country, enhance their productive livelihoods and improve their food security and resilience by 2020

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide capacity strengthening to smallholder farmers.
- Provide productive assets to smallholder farmers and food-insecure communities.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome # 4: National institutions have strengthened capacity to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition and respond to shocks by 2020

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide capacity strengthening to the Government of the DRC on social protection, nutrition, food security and emergency preparedness/DRR.
- Provide evidence-based analysis to relevant national institutions.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance Global Partnership

Strategic Outcome # 5: The humanitarian community has the capacity to respond to shocks through strategic partnerships by 2020

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide Humanitarian Platform(s) to the humanitarian community in DRC.
- Provide Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) to the humanitarian community in DRC.
- Provide Humanitarian platforms (Supply Chain services) to the humanitarian community in DRC.
- Provide Humanitarian platforms (Emergency Telecommunications Cluster Services) to the humanitarian community.

Operational updates (cont.)

- **Tanganyika:** Out of 140,000 beneficiaries planned to receive food under the general food distribution activity in August, 116,176 beneficiaries were assisted. Cash distributions are slated to start in September thanks to funds from UKAID. WFP was able to overcome some of the challenges experienced in July, through the increase of storage capacity and food transports from Kalemie to Nyunzu, although slow due to the breakdown of the Nyemba ferry.

Eastern provinces

- **Ituri:** Food was distributed to 49,500 Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in four sites (Djugu centre, General Hospital, Insitut Supérieur Pédagogique and Blukwa). WFP also distributed cash to 37,360 South Sudanese refugees in Meri and Biringi camps. Targeting of beneficiaries for the Cash-Based Transfer activity funded by DFID is planned to start early September. Nutrition activities in camps accommodating South Sudanese refugees were delayed due to challenging road conditions.
- **North Kivu:** Due to the recent arrival of additional food commodities, North Kivu's food distributions are expected to run smoothly in September. A two-month ration will be distributed to 6,467 moderately malnourished people (2,180 pregnant or breastfeeding women and 4,290 children). Cash distributions did not take place due to several challenges, including the fact that cash distributions were to take place in an area where an Ebola case was reported. School Feeding activities, targeting 136 primary schools (over 73,200 children), are expected to start in September.
- **South Kivu:** Burundian refugees were provided with cash in Lusenda and Mulongwe camps. In total, 32,333 people were assisted via electronic vouchers ([SCOPE card](#)). This activity was a success thanks to the collaboration of key stakeholders (WFP, UNHCR, AIDES, the National Commission for Refugees, traders and the Refugee Committee). WFP's field presence has increased the confidence of the refugee community and other stakeholders. In addition to cash assistance, food was distributed to 101,250 people.

Monitoring

- WFP reviewed the DFID-funded multipurpose cash activity in Mwetshi, Kasai Central. As per the review findings, food security has improved over the duration of the assistance. In particular, dietary diversity has increased due to improved access to diversified and nutritious foods.

Challenges

- Poor road conditions resulting in the slow movement of food stresses the importance of longer-term funding to avoid additional costs should airdrops be needed.
- WFP DRC is currently implementing its activities in line with available and projected funding levels. Overall, WFP needs USD 186 million in the next six months (September 2018 to February 2019) to meet the needs of the most vulnerable IDPs, returnees and refugees.
- Timely and adequate funding is required to urgently conduct local and regional procurement, secure commodities and avoid looming shortfalls given favourable lead times ahead of the rainy season.

Donors

Belgium, Canada, DFID, European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, UN CERF, UN Pooled Funds, USA, Sweden, Switzerland, South Korea, Russia.