



WFP Democratic Republic of Congo Country Brief

October 2018

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

In May 2018, WFP activated a corporate L3 Emergency covering the six most populous and conflict affected provinces in Eastern DRC and the Kasai region. A significant scale-up of WFP operations was required to reverse the deepening hunger crisis in DRC, and the strengthened operations have yielded substantial results.

Multiple other crises compound DRC's humanitarian challenges. A tenth outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease was declared in August, so far claiming more than 200 lives in North Kivu and Ituri. In addition to logistical and air service assistance, WFP provides weekly food and nutrition assistance in affected zones to reduce people's movements, to contain the virus from spreading.

WFP has been present in the DRC since 1973.



Population: **74 million**

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

Income Level: **Low**

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

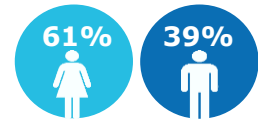
In Numbers

5,790 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$2.3 m cash-based transfers made

US\$120 m six months (Nov 2018 to Apr 2019) net funding requirements, representing 41% of total

981,365 people assisted in October 2018



Operational Updates

Ebola Virus Disease (EVD): Since the beginning of the Ebola response operation, WFP has provided food and nutrition assistance to more than 60,000 beneficiaries in Ebola-affected areas. High insecurity and attacks against the response teams continue to hamper the response in Beni and Butembo. The epidemic has continued to spread with Beni as the epicentre, and Butembo a second hot spot. The risk of spread to neighbouring countries remains high.

Kasai province:

- The scale-up of in-kind food assistance continued, reaching 82% of intended people with assorted food. WFP assisted 5,123 children aged 6-59 months with treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and 10,781 children of 6-23 months with prevention of acute malnutrition. In total, 55% of children targeted for treatment and 29% targeted for prevention were reached.
- As of end-October, a total of 305,000 Congolese nationals were expelled from Angola to settle in different return areas in Kasai province, mainly in Kamako and Kamonia. This mass return was a result of an expulsion order by Angolan authorities targeting migrants. WFP started developing a response plan to assist returning Congolese. The response in Kamako will consist of nutritional products, and assistance to those in transit in Kamonia will consist of a seven-day food ration. Those returning to Kamonia will receive food for 90 days.

Tanganyika: Despite security and access challenges in October, cash was distributed to 93% of targeted people and food was provided to 96% of intended beneficiaries. Moderate acute malnutrition treatment was provided to 13,600 beneficiaries, representing 67% of the target and 18,500 children were assisted for the prevention of moderate acute malnutrition.

Ituri: Due to active conflict and insecurity, over 30,000 vulnerable internally displaced people (IDPs) and host communities were not assisted. However, WFP reached 86% of the number of beneficiaries targeted for October. According to MONUSCO and UNDSS, many people in affected areas have moved to new localities. For the nutrition treatment intervention, 6,306 moderately acute malnourished children and pregnant or nursing women were reached, representing 92% of the target.

Interim-Country Strategy Plan (2018-2020)

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 720.5 m | 257.7 m | 120 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.

Kasai Central province: In October, the scale-up of in-kind, nutrition and cash progressed well. WFP provided nutrition treatment assistance to 40,945 beneficiaries (children under five years of age pregnant or nursing women), representing 41% of the target. Through general food distribution, WFP reached 53% of the target and cash-based assistance was provided to 46% of targeted beneficiaries.

North Kivu: Armed groups continued to cause mass displacements across the region. WFP provided food to 30,069 new IDPs and host communities affected by the recent displacements. A total of 125,176 food beneficiaries were reached, representing 82% of the monthly target. Cash-based assistance was provided to 97% of targeted beneficiaries. Moderate acute malnutrition treatment was provided to 17,979 beneficiaries. Following a request from authorities and humanitarian actors to support vulnerable returnees in Bwito, Rutshuru territory, WFP assisted 77,662 returnees with food in the area.

South Kivu: Access constraints continued to pose a major challenge to WFP operations. Food was distributed to 129,606 IDPs, returnees and host families, covering all intended beneficiaries. Moderate acute malnutrition treatment was provided to 21,514 children under five years of age and pregnant and nursing women, this represented 78% of the monthly target. A total of 34,533 Burundian refugees were assisted with e-vouchers.

Purchase for Progress – P4P: From 23 to 26 October, a donor mission was conducted in South Ubangi province to assess the province's agricultural potential and the possibility of implementing a P4P resilience programme for host communities. Donor representatives from Sweden, France, Germany, Canada and Brazil visited and host communities and refugees in Gemena, Libenge and Zongo territories. Following the mission, the Swedish Embassy confirmed its intention to fund a US\$ 10 million P4P resilience programme in the North and South Ubangi provinces.

Challenges

The net funding requirement for the period November 2018 to April 2019 amounts to USD 120 million. Significant shortfalls are expected from March for general food distributions. The situation for super cereal, especially for Kasai Central and Kasai, remains a concern. While WFP is in the process of receiving 1,035 mt, it is imperative that 1,674 mt reach the Kasais before the rains intensify in December 2018.

Donors

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