



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Republic of Congo In Numbers

## Country Brief

May 2021



549.9 mt food assistance distributed

314,813 US\$ cash-based transfers made

US\$ 13.5 million six-month (June 2021 – November 2021) net funding requirements

128,312 people assisted in May 2021



### Operational Updates

- As part of the Joint SDG Fund Programme, implemented by WFP, UNICEF, and WHO, an advocacy workshop for implementing the law n°5-2011 on the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples' rights was held in Brazzaville.
- The Mbala Pinda project was awarded by the WFP Innovation Accelerator with US\$ 100,000. This funding will allow implementing capacity strengthening activities of 16 women producers' groups producing the local cassava and peanut-based snack "Mbala Pinda". This project will contribute to their empowerment, enhance their productivity, and identify new market opportunities.
- WFP received US\$ 1.8 million from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO). This contribution will support around 27,000 food-insecure people affected by different shocks in the country to have access to adequate food.
- As part of the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) programme, "Cantines Ya Buala", 17 schools received cash transfers to allow access to local and nutritious food through this programme. This programme aims to enhance the school meals with local products and boost the local economy.
- In May 2021, WFP distributed 285.5 mt to the school canteens across the seven departments where this programme is implemented. Approximately 75,000 girls and boys are assisted per month during the whole school year.
- In the Bouemba district, 3,188 DRC asylum seekers have been assisted through cash-based transfer assistance in the Plateaux department.
- Through USAID/BHA support WFP is providing food and nutritional assistance to 35,383 vulnerable people in the urban areas of Brazzaville and Pointe Noire. In May, CBT distributions were being conducted in Brazzaville, benefiting 10,406 vulnerable people from the Bacongo and Ouenze district.
- As part of the "ProManioc" programme, an initiative financed by the European Union that strengthens smallholder cassava producers, 50 groups of farmers in five districts of the Bouenza department participated

### Operational Context

The Republic of Congo (RoC) ranks poorly on the Human Development Index. Its food production is below national requirements, with only 2 percent of arable land currently under cultivation, covering 30 percent of the country's food needs. Forty-eight percent of Congolese live on less than USD 1.25 per day.

WFP is assisting 61,000 people affected by catastrophic flooding, which took place two years in a row, with high negative impacts on food security and livelihoods. Vulnerability assessments show that between 36 and 79 percent of the population is moderately or severely food insecure. Sustained food assistance is needed in order to avoid a full-blown food crisis in affected areas.

WFP also supports refugees from the Central African Republic in Likouala and asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo in Plateaux with food assistance.

WFP's operations in RoC contribute to the global efforts to reach Sustainable Development Goals 1 (End Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality) and 17 (Partnerships).



Population: 4.2 million

2019 Human Development Index: 149 out of 189 countries

Income Level: Lower Middle

Chronic malnutrition: 21.2% of children aged 6–59 months

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## WFP Country Strategy

### Country Strategic Plan (2019–2024)

| Total Requirements<br>(in USD) | Allocated Contributions<br>(in USD) | Six-Month Net Funding<br>Requirements<br>(in USD) |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 155 m                          | 63.5 m                              | 13.5 m  |

#### Strategic Result 01: Everyone has access to food

##### Strategic Outcome 01: Food-insecure people affected by shocks have access to adequate food all year round

**Focus area:** Emergency Response

**Activities:**

- Provide unconditional and/or conditional food and nutrition assistance to people affected by shocks

**Strategic Outcome 02:** Equitable national social protection interventions effectively target vulnerable populations, including school-aged children with sustained access to safe and nutritious food

**Focus area:** Addressing the root causes of hunger and food insecurity, and improving national institutions and systems for social protection

**Activities:**

- Provide safe, adequate and nutritious school meals to targeted school children.
- Provide technical support to Government for improved implementation of shock-responsive social protection interventions

#### Strategic Result 03: Smallholder productivity and incomes

##### Strategic Outcome 03: Targeted smallholder farmers and communities benefit from productive and sustainable livelihoods which support nutrition value chains

**Focus area:** Building the resilience of smallholder agricultural systems

**Activities:**

- Provide analytical, technical and equipment support for smallholder farmers aimed at encouraging market-oriented and climate-resilience production and livelihoods

#### Strategic Result 08: Enhance global partnership

##### Strategic Outcome 04: Humanitarian and development actors and national systems have access to WFP expertise and services

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**

- Provide on-demand logistics common services for partners

- In the framework of an SSTC project financed by IFAD and China, WFP is working on the fortification of *foufou*, a staple food made from cassava flour, to reduce the incidence of nutrient deficiencies and fight child malnutrition. In May, a market analysis and environmental and social impact study was launched.

## Monitoring

### School Feeding

- Several missions were carried out by the partner in charge of conducting the mid-term evaluation in coordination with the M&E unit in the seven departments where the McGovern Dole-funded programme is implemented.

## Floods response in Likouala, Sangha, Cuvette and Plateaux

- Although no new rains have been registered so far, WFP is monitoring closely with Cloud to Street, a company that monitors floods through satellite imagery. Cloud to Street organized a workshop with UN agencies and government partners on flood management, the usefulness of data in flood management on refugee resettlement, and the implementation of agricultural resilience activities. New rains can be expected in the following weeks.
- A total of 210,000 persons were affected by the floods in Likouala, Sangha, Plateaux and Cuvette. The loss of crops that became evident in recent months (with the receding waters) has left the local population and refugees in a situation of severe vulnerability. In May, WFP finalized a small scale FFA programme in support of 900 beneficiaries.
- In May, WFP launched a value voucher distribution in Betou to 6,421 beneficiaries affected by the floods.
- The sub-office of Betou conducted an awareness and information sharing mission to the flood victims living on the northern and southern river axes of the Betou district

## Influx of Central African Republic refugees in Likouala

- As a result of the worsening violence following the presidential elections in December 2020 in the Central African Republic (CAR), new refugees coming through the northern border in the Likouala department were registered from January to April. WFP and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have monitored the situation and are assisting the refugees. These new refugees (about 7,700) are included in the distribution plan for food assistance for the following months. As of May 2021, a total of 17,610 refugees are registered in the Likouala Department.

## Donors

The Adaptation fund, Canada, the Global Partnership of Education, People's Republic of China, European Union, France, Germany, Japan, Mastercard, Republic of Congo, the SDG fund, Share the Meal, United States of America and, the WFP Innovator Accelerator.

Photo: Congolese girl eating rice from a USDA contribution and *saka-saka* from the HGSF programme.

Credits: WFP/Alice Rahmoun