



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Republic of Congo Country Brief October 2021



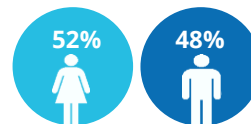
In Numbers

747.29 mt of food distributed

471,886 USD cash-based transfers

18.9 USD million six-month (November 2021 – April 2022) net funding requirements

164,622 people assisted in October 2021



Operational Updates

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

- Refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR), fleeing the resurgence of violence after the 2020's presidential elections, are present in the Likouala department in the north of the Republic of Congo. In October 2021, 17,699 refugees from CAR received nutritional, in-kind and value voucher assistance from WFP.
- 4,611 asylum seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) were assisted by WFP in the Bouemba district (Plateaux department). In this district, the asylum seekers are living in a camp and receive humanitarian assistance from WFP, UNHCR and cooperating partners.
- WFP provided Treatment and Prevention of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) to 9,605 vulnerable children and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) in the departments of Likouala and Pool. The beneficiaries included refugees and people affected by the economic consequences of COVID-19.
- In the Pool department, 1,893 families benefited from a Food Assistance for Asset (FFA) programme. Under the framework of this activity, road rehabilitation work continued in Kindamba and Mayama. In addition, the fish farming groups received the fish along with the fish food.

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

- The 2021/2022 school year started on 4 October. The Minister of Education together with WFP's Regional Director, Country Director and Deputy Country Director visited a school canteen to inaugurate the new school year and resumption of school feeding activities. In October 2021, 76,553 primary schoolchildren benefited from school meals.
- WFP is implementing a Home-Grown School Feeding programme called "Ya Buala". Through this activity, 69,894 schoolchildren are benefiting from locally produced food.

Photo: Schoolchildren receiving WFP food during a field visit of the Minister of Education, the WFP Regional Director, Country Director and Deputy Country Director. WFP/Cécile Mercier (October 2021)

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 34,000 people affected by the economic consequences of the COVID-19 in Brazzaville and Pointe Noire. Vulnerability assessments show that 15.2 percent of the population living in the urban areas of these cities, is moderately or severely food insecure. Sustained food assistance is needed to avoid an increase in food insecurity in the country.

WFP also supports refugees from the Central African Republic (CAR) in Likouala and asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) 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: 5.5 million

2019 Human Development Index: 149 out of 189 countries

Income Level: Lower Middle

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

Contact: Diego Ramirez (diego.ramirez@wfp.org)
Country Director: Anne-Claire Mouilliez (anne-claire.mouilliez@wfp.org)
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/congo

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019–2024)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
155 m	63.5 m	18.9 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-resilient 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

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

- The SDG fund is financing a joint UNICEF, WFP and WHO programme from January 2020 until June 2022 to improve the indigenous population's access to basic social protection services. In October 2021, IT equipment was provided to the local technical committee to support its functioning. The capacity of 22 smallholder groups is being strengthened through training in soap production from palm oil. In addition, WFP reinforced its guidance to health centres for improved identification and treatment of moderately malnourished children.
- The managerial and marketing capacities of 16 groups of women producers of Mbala Pinda are being reinforced through training in food safety of cassava products. In

September and October, a field mission from WFP's Innovation Accelerator was conducted to perform a supply chain assessment in Brazzaville and Pointe Noire, and an acceptability test in both cities. Besides, the women producers are being trained on food safety and hygiene.

- Under the Pro Manioc programme framework, financed by the European Union, 50 groups are receiving training in food transformation processes and commercialisation.
- Under the framework of the "India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation" (IBSA) fund, from September to December 2021, WFP, the Government of the Republic of Congo and the Government of Brazil are working together to elaborate the final project document. Activities will start in January 2022.

Monitoring

- Coordination meetings among WFP and the Ministry of Environment, to plan the roll-out of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) in the Republic of Congo, resumed in October 2021.

Floods monitoring in Likouala, Sangha, Cuvette and Plateaux

- From August to January of each year, floods are expected in the north of the country. WFP and its partner Cloud to Street closely monitor the situation in the departments prone to risk.
- In October 2021, the floods reported in September did not significantly evolve in the Likouala, Plateaux and Cuvette regions, where 716.35 km² of land was flooded. As of October 2021, according to the local authorities and the partner Cloud to Street, 11,870 people are living in flooded areas in the Likouala districts of Liranga, Dongou, Impfondo, Bétou Bouanila and Epena; the Plateaux districts of Loukolela, Mpouya, and Makotimpo; and in the Cuvette district of Mossakka.

Influx of Central African Republic refugees

- Following the post-election violence that disrupted the Central African Republic (CAR) in late 2020, an influx of more than 7,400 people displaced from that country has been recorded in the Likouala. In October 2021, the number of refugees from CAR is estimated at over 23,000, all receiving food assistance from WFP.
- WFP and UNHCR senior staff and management are reviewing the 2021 Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) preliminary results and discussing recommendations. Findings will be released in December.

Donors

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