The second year of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Democratic Republic of Congo continued to exacerbate the emergency situation the country has been experiencing for decades. Here are a few highlights of WFP’s efforts in 2021 to end the world’s largest food security crisis (in absolute numbers).

**6.3 MILLION BENEFICIARIES**

WFP activities contributed to achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2.1 concerning access to food. WFP assisted over 6.3 million people across the country, of which 4 million people received in-kind emergency food assistance.

**226,000 SCHOOL CHILDREN**

WFP assisted more than 226,000 vulnerable school children by providing home-grown school meals. Even when schools were temporarily closed due to COVID-19-related restrictions, WFP continued to provide alternative take-home rations to school children.

**1.8 MILLION MALNOURISHED BABIES & MOTHERS**

1.8 million children and pregnant and nursing mothers and girls also received specialised nutritious foods for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and the prevention of acute and chronic malnutrition (stunting).

**US$ 75 MILLION OF CASH**

1.5 million people received cash-based transfers, injecting US$ 75 million into local economies. WFP relied more heavily on cutting-edge mobile money transfers, not least to overcome shortages of physical cash.

**82,000 MT OF FOOD**

Despite accessibility and security challenges, WFP delivered over 82,000 metric tons of food assistance, of which about one third was procured in-country. WFP purchased in-kind food commodities from smallholder farmers, buying from regions with production surpluses and transporting the commodities to food-deficit areas, while boosting smallholder awareness of its quality requirements.

**RESILIENCE PROGRAMMES**

In partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), WFP reached 358,000 beneficiaries through its resilience-building programmes. WFP and its partners maintained a strong focus on assisting rural women, who constituted 58 percent of assistance recipients.