

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME REPUBLIC OF CONGO

2021 Annual Country Report Highlights



PEOPLE ASSISTED
343,012



FOOD DISTRIBUTED
4,598 mt



CASH TRANSFERRED
USD 5,166,743

CENTRAL AFRICAN REFUGEES AND HOST POPULATIONS WORK HAND-IN-HAND TO FEED THE COMMUNITY

In Betou, a two-day drive from the Congolese capital, the World Food Programme and its partners have implemented a market gardening project that improves the food security of Central African refugees - increasingly numerous since the resurgence of violence in late 2020 - and the host populations. This northern region is affected by food shortages and devastating floods, washing away crops, destroying homes, roads, and many people's livelihoods.

"We work with all our friends, both men and women of different tribes, who speak different languages. It's a blessing because we benefit from their culture and experience" says Honoré, a 65-year-old refugee from Central African Republic. He left his village across the border in 2014 because of the war, along with his wife, three children and two grandchildren.

When WFP launched the market garden project in 2021, Honoré formed the 'Hand-in-Hand' cooperative composed of Congolese and Central African farmers. They were provided with tools, seeds, and training, enabling them to sell the fruits and vegetables produced at the central market and to have greater access to nutritious and healthy food.

"Working in a group works better than working individually: we have to work hand-in-hand with everyone!" he adds.

Considering the food entitlements, 900 people benefit from the programme which, beyond food security, is a powerful vehicle for social cohesion.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Over 100% of the funds against the needs-based requirements were mobilized

[Full RoC Annual Report](#)

KEY RISK AND MITIGATION RESULTS



The COVID-19 pandemic exposed deep-seated inequalities and significant gaps in national social protection coverage. The economic consequences of the pandemic remained a risk to food security of the most vulnerable populations. WFP extended its urban COVID-19 programme throughout the year. WFP implemented biosecurity protocols for all activities, ensured hygiene supplies on distribution sites, and that staff, partners, and beneficiaries correctly used personal protective equipment.



The RoC's agriculture is directly affected by climate change : disruption of the crop calendar, destruction of crops, increased post-harvest losses, change in supply and demand. To improve adaptation, food security and resilience to climate change of vulnerable communities in the RoC, WFP and the Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and the Congo Basin launched the multiyear programme "Building adaptive capacity to climate change in vulnerable communities living in the Congo Basin" in September 2021, financed by the Adaptation Fund.

PROGRESS TO GENDER EQUALITY



According to the 2020 United Nations (UN) Human Development Report, the RoC attained a Human Development Index score of 0.574 and ranked 149 out of 189 countries. Even if women constitute 64 percent of the agricultural workforce, they only earn half the wages of men, have lower education, rely more on the informal market. Social norms limit women's ability to access productive resources, such as land and formal employment. Maternal and infant mortality rates remain high — 5 percent of children will not reach their fifth birthday — and chronic malnutrition increased from 21.2 in 2020 to 27 percent in 2021.

To enhance gender equality and prevent the increase of Gender-Based Violence related to the COVID-19 lockdowns, WFP and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), together with partners, trained 112 government experts. WFP also distributed 429 dignity kits valued at USD 18 per woman of reproductive age (15 to 49 years old). They contained basic hygiene and health goods to contribute to proper menstrual hygiene and sexual and reproductive health.

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Strategic outcome 1: Food insecure people affected by shocks have access to adequate food all year round



25,788 refugees and asylum seekers reached through in-kind, electronic value voucher and nutrition assistance



73,748 flood-affected people reached through nutritional assistance and food and electronic value vouchers



USD 4.8 million transferred to beneficiaries through cash-based transfer interventions

Strategic outcome 2: Equitable national social protection interventions effectively target vulnerable populations, including school-aged children, with sustained access to safe and nutritious food



166,577 children (47 percent girls) received a meal every school day



70 mt of salt contributed from the Government of the Republic of Congo for WFP's School Feeding Programme



44 percent of assisted students received a daily meal through the Home-Grown School Feeding programme

Strategic outcome 3: Targeted smallholder farmers and communities benefit from productive and sustainable livelihoods which support nutrition value chains



200 local farmers received capacity strengthening support as part of the South South and Triangular Cooperation



1,138 smallholder farmers supported with small equipment, analytical and technical support



32 mt of food procured from local smallholders and distributed through school feeding programmes

Strategic outcome 4: Humanitarian and development actors and national systems have access to WFP expertise and services



36 UNHAS flights operated in the RoC transporting 375 humanitarians and 21 mt of non-food items



4,965 mt of commodities received in the port of Pointe-Noire

Strategic outcome 5: National Humanitarian and development actors have access to WFP expertise



640 mt food transferred to the Central African Republic for WFP's crisis response



16 medical evacuations carried out through United Nation Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

2021 PARTNERS

Ministry of Social Affairs and Humanitarian Action, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and Literature and Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Agence assistance aux rapatriés et réfugiés, ACTED, CARITAS, Centre of Excellence Against Hunger and Malnutrition, Food and Agriculture Organization, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Population Fund, World Health Organization.

2021 DONORS

Adaptation Fund, Canada, European Union, France, Germany, Global Partnership for Education, Japan, Joint SDG Fund, Mastercard, People's Republic of China, WFP's Innovator Accelerator, Republic of Congo, Share The Meal, Sodexo-Stop Hunger Foundation, United States of America.