



World Food Programme

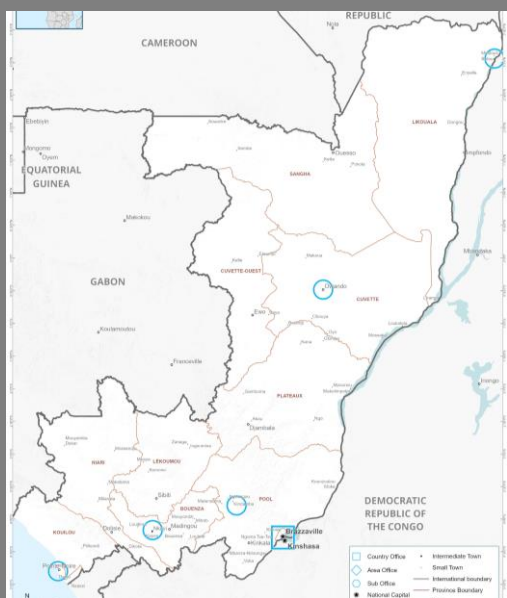
SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Republic of Congo Country Brief July 2023



Operational Context

With a population of 5.7 million people, the Republic of Congo is one of the least densely populated countries in Africa, with 14.8 inhabitants per square kilometre. The country has been facing economic stagnation since 2015, aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic and more recently by rising food and transport prices due to the Ukraine - Russia conflict, exacerbating food insecurity. According to the World Bank, the Republic of Congo's economy contracted by 2.2 percent in 2021. The poverty rate – the proportion of the population living below the international extreme poverty line of USD 1.90 per day – increased from 39.1 percent in 2015 to 52 percent in 2021. WFP has been present in the Republic of Congo since 1968. Operations are currently ongoing in 11 of the 12 Departments.



Population: **5.7 million**

2021 Human Development Index: **153 out of 191**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

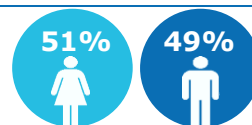
Chronic malnutrition: **21.2% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

1,271 mt of food distributed

4 USD million six-month (August 2023 - January 2024) net funding requirements

90,626 people assisted



Operational Updates

Protect the food and nutrition security of urban households affected by food inflation; refugees; asylum-seekers, malnourished children and breastfeeding women

- As part of its response to food inflation in urban areas, WFP provided in-kind food assistance to 75,832 vulnerable people in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire. The distribution was implemented with the non-governmental organisation CARITAS.
- WFP provided in-kind food assistance to 8,643 refugees from the Central African Republic in the districts of Dongou, Ikpebele, Ibenga, Enyellé, Impfondo, Bérantzoko, Tingama, Lombo, Lopola, Moualé, Mokabi Thanry (Likouala Department).
- WFP provided in-kind food assistance to 1,404 asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo in Bouemba (Plateaux Department).
- As part of the treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), WFP assisted 2,241 children aged 6 to 59 months in Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire and the Departments of Bouenza, Pool, Plateaux and Lékoumou. The distributions were implemented through health centres with the National Directorate of Hygiene and Health Promotion.
- WFP strengthened the capacities of 39 health workers on the screening of malnutrition, calculating rations and collecting data in 19 health centres of the Pool Department, in Mindouli, Kindamba and Mayama.

Prepare for the 2023-2024 school year when school meals will be provided nationwide as a platform for developing human capital and building stronger, more sustainable food systems

- In the Republic of Congo, schools are closed from July to October for the holiday period.
- WFP conducted a series of field visits and meetings with research institutes and stakeholders in agricultural value chains, focusing on food safety quality and logistics, in view of strengthening the implementation of the school feeding programme and local purchase as part of the Home-grown School Feeding Programme (HGSF).
- In line with the mid-term evaluation recommendation for the McGovern-Dole school feeding programme, WFP undertook a cooks' survey in seven departments of the country to leverage the programme as an opportunity to promote women's empowerment and recognise their work and contributions.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/congo

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
198 m	139 m	4 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

Activity:

- 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

Activity:

- 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 05: National Humanitarian and development actors have access to WFP expertise

Focus area: Crisis response

Activity:

- Provide on-demand logistics common services to humanitarian partners.

Photo: WFP Republic of Congo Management visiting a supported health centre in Brazzaville accompanied by the Minister of Health and Population, the Minister of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Humanitarian Action and the Ambassador of Germany. WFP/Célia Boumpoutou

Support the Government in initiatives that advance the climate agenda and help vulnerable communities prepare for, respond to and recover from climate shocks and stresses

- As part of the institutional capacity building under the Adaptation Fund project, WFP supported the organisation of the national workshop to validate the action plan of the National Framework for Climate Services. This framework aims to improve the resilience of smallholders in the face of climate change with the creation of tailored local tools.

Monitoring and Assessment

- The Ministry of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Humanitarian Action carried out an assessment on the impact of recent floods in the Likouala and Cuvette Departments, which occurred around 3 months earlier than in recent years. Some 27,000 people are estimated to be affected by these floods.
- WFP conducted post distribution monitoring and a needs assessment among Central African Republic refugees, Democratic Republic of Congo asylum seekers and flood-affected populations in the Plateaux and Likouala Departments to measure the impact of WFP interventions and improve the assistance provided.
- WFP and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) carried out a joint mission in Ngabé (Pool Department) to prepare for a cash-based transfer intervention for asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo fleeing the violent inter-communal clashes that began in July 2022 in Mai-Ndombé province.
- WFP conducted distribution monitoring activities in Pointe-Noire, including through on-site visits at food distribution points to ensure that the provision of assistance is in line with WFP standards and that distributions are coordinated in a safe and dignified manner.
- WFP organised a high-level monitoring visit to nutrition and cash-based transfer activities implemented with German funding in support of the Government’s efforts. The Minister of Health and Population, the Minister of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Humanitarian Action and the Ambassador of Germany, visited a health centre and an affiliated shop in Brazzaville.

Donors

Adaptation Fund, Germany, Global Partnership for Education, India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation, Japan, Mastercard, People’s Republic of China, Republic of Congo, Share the Meal, United States of America.