



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP REPUBLIC OF CONGO

ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORT

2023 Highlights

In the Republic of Congo, persistent challenges like limited agricultural productivity and extreme weather events sustain serious levels of hunger and poverty. Throughout its Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024), WFP focused on supporting the government's pursuit of Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Zero Hunger and Partnerships for the Goals. In 2023, WFP made significant strides in reaching beneficiaries across the country, providing essential food assistance and nutritional support to the most vulnerable, addressing urban needs, supporting refugee populations from neighbouring countries and delivering nutritious food to schoolchildren.

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FULL ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORT 2023



ANNIE'S STORY

“ When I grow up, I would like to be a teacher. ”

Annie, 11 years old, lives in the village of Madimbougou, Sangha department, on the banks of a river that runs alongside the forest. She is one of the students benefiting from WFP's school meals programme in the Republic of Congo. Annie attends an ORA (Observe, Reflect and Act) school which provides tailored education for indigenous children with a special method of teaching and learning.

In the Sangha, one of the departments with the largest indigenous populations in the country, WFP's school meals contribute to equitable access to education for indigenous children, especially girls like Annie, serving as an incentive for school attendance while keeping children healthy and able to perform better in class, reaching their full learning capacity.

OPERATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS



8,300 METRIC TONS of food distributed to **360,000 people** through emergency operations and school feeding

32,700 REFUGEES ASSISTED through food, cash-based and nutrition assistance

126,000 CHILDREN received school meals in **491 public schools** across the country

USD 2.5 MILLION of cash transferred to **42,200 people** across activities

60,764 WOMEN & CHILDREN received nutrition support in **173 health centres** in the country











100% of the funds needed were mobilised in 2023

PARTNERS


Host Government | Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery; Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and the Congo Basin; Ministry of Health and Population; Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Regional Integration; Ministry of Preschool, Primary and Secondary Education and Literacy; Ministry of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Humanitarian Action.

Donors | Adaptation Fund; China; European Union; Germany; Global Partnership for Education; India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation; Japan; Mastercard; United States of America.


STRATEGIC OUTCOMES


<p>Strategic outcome 1: Food insecure people affected by shocks have access to adequate food all year round</p>	 <p>195,040 vulnerable people reached through food and cash-based transfers</p>	 <p>60,764 children under 5 and breastfeeding women supported through nutrition-specific activities</p>	<p>Strategic outcome 5: National Humanitarian and development actors have access to WFP expertise</p>
<p>Strategic outcome 2: Equitable national social protection interventions effectively target vulnerable populations, including school-aged children, with sustained access to safe and nutritious food</p>	 <p>125,987 vulnerable people reached through food and cash-based transfers</p>	 <p>2,661 metric tons of food provided to girls and boys through school-based programmes</p>	 <p>8,331 metric tons of food delivered for emergency operations and school feeding</p>
<p>Strategic outcome 3: Targeted smallholder farmers and communities benefit from productive and sustainable livelihoods which support nutrition value chains</p>	 <p>2,064 smallholder farmers supported with equipment, analytical and technical support</p>	 <p>1,200 people sensitised on innovative cassava derivatives through culinary demonstrations and tasting</p>	 <p>27 trainings organised in five departments to improve school-level storage practices</p>

CROSS-CUTTING RESULTS

 WFP continued adopting a people-centred approach, ensuring the participation of the most vulnerable in all project phases, regardless of their age, gender, or disability. Affected communities were actively involved from the outset to ensure relevance and sustainability of operations. WFP ensured adequate information dissemination through various channels and held coordination meetings to inform beneficiaries about distributions and feedback mechanisms. WFP leveraged its Community Feedback Mechanism to receive complaints and feedback from affected communities and increase their influence over programmes. To deliver emergency assistance, WFP used the corporate beneficiary information and transfer management platform (SCOPE) ensuring that the intended benefit is provided to the right person at the right time.

 WFP supported agri-food production through sustainable methods, focusing on cassava and plantain value chains, boosting local competitiveness and economic integration, particularly for youth, women, and vulnerable groups. The completion of a baseline study for the Adaptation Fund project will guide climate-resilient activities in targeted departments, with a focus on engaging indigenous populations affected by environmental degradation. WFP is also forging new research partnerships on planet-friendly school meals to guide the development of the national school feeding programme. To improve the sustainability of in-house operations, WFP increased awareness among staff on environmental safeguards and initiated the screening of field-level agreements.

 WFP is committed to reducing all forms of malnutrition through its strategic programs by adopting an integrative approach to incorporate the benefits of good nutrition across all its activities. In 2023, WFP continued to treat and prevent moderate acute malnutrition among children and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, in synergy with the United Nations Children's Fund. WFP intensified the promotion of nutrition practices among vulnerable populations beyond health centres, also through school-based programmes and initiatives to strengthen food systems.

 WFP focused on equitable access, participation and control over food and nutrition security, prioritising female-led households for assistance and raising awareness among beneficiaries so that food vouchers are issued in the name of the woman. Progress was also made in increasing women's voice and participation in decision-making committees within the school feeding programme. WFP launched a school-based positive masculinity project to combat gender-based violence, and worked with its partners on access to safe water and sanitation services as well as on knowledge and behaviour change on menstrual hygiene.