



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

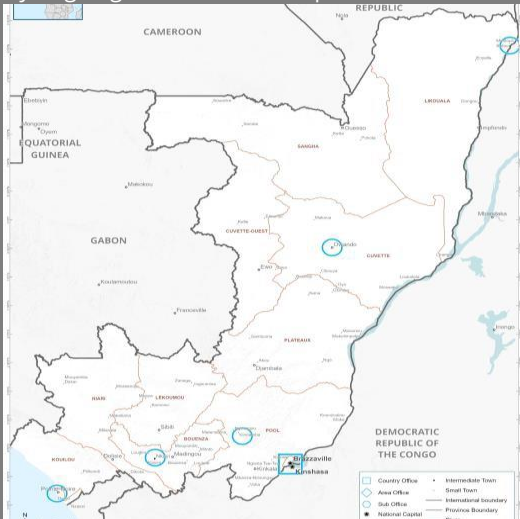
WFP Republic of Congo Country Brief July 2024



Operational Context

The Republic of Congo (Congo) is a resource-rich yet lower middle-income, food-deficit country that produces only 30 percent of its food requirements. In Congo, 31 percent of the population is food insecure. The country has been facing economic stagnation since 2015, aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic and rising food and transport prices due to the Ukraine - Russia conflict, all of which exacerbate food insecurity. The oil sector accounts for about half of the country's gross domestic product and 80 percent of its exports. After growing by an estimated 1.5 percent in 2022, the Congolese economy continued to recover in 2023, mainly driven by the oil sector. Yet, around half the population lives below the international poverty line (USD 2.15/day). With a population of 6.1 million people, the Republic of Congo is one of the least densely populated countries in Africa, with 17.9 inhabitants per square kilometre.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has been present in the Republic of Congo since 1968. Operations are currently ongoing in 11 of the 12 Departments.



Population: **6.1 million**

2022 Human Development Index: **149 out of 193**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

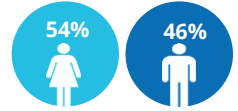
Chronic malnutrition: **19.6% of children aged 6-59 months**

In Numbers

298.873 mt of food distributed

USD 10 million six-month net funding requirements (August 2024 - January 2025)

33,876 people assisted in July 2024



Operational Updates

Nutrition support

- In July, 16,543 refugees from Central African Republic residing in Bétou (Likouala Department) received in-kind food distributions.
- As part of the treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), WFP assisted 4,290 children aged 6 to 59 months as well as 2,651 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls in Pointe-Noire, and the Departments of Pool and Lékoumou. These distributions were carried out through health centres in partnership with the National Directorate of Hygiene and Health Promotion.

School Feeding & country capacity strengthening

- Schools are closed until October 2024.
- WFP has continued to distribute take-home rations to schoolchildren to ensure they receive food assistance during school vacations. This support is vital for vulnerable households where schoolchildren stay at home with limited access to food during school closures. WFP distributed an estimated 57 metric tons of food to 10,253 schoolchildren in seven departments across the country this month.

Climate Change

- WFP participated in the first International Conference on Afforestation and Reforestation (ICAR) in Brazzaville from 2 to 5 July. The conference, organized by the Ministry of Forest Economy, brought together numerous heads of state and government from Africa, Asia, and Europe, as well as the President of the African Union and UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed, to strengthen synergies with the Congolese government in the fight against climate change.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
218 m	165 m	10 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 logistical services to humanitarian partners.

They established a strategy to be submitted to the 79th United Nations General Assembly for the adoption of a resolution endorsing the Decade of Afforestation and Reforestation and to institutionalize the International Conference on Afforestation and Reforestation through its biennial and rotating organization across continents. This conference followed the Three Basins Summit held in Brazzaville in October 2023, showcasing government priorities.

Monitoring and Assessment

- WFP, in collaboration with United Nations agencies, the government of the Republic of Congo, and the National Institute of Statistics has completed and validated the Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis. The analysis found that in the Republic of Congo, 30.6 percent of households are food insecure, corresponding to 1,794,396 people, including 87,122 who are severely food insecure. The findings of the report will provide the government and its development partners with updated data to be used for policymaking. The analysis will also guide interventions by WFP and other stakeholders across the Republic of Congo.
- As part of the response to the floods and in support of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Humanitarian Action, WFP and other United Nations agencies rolled out a multi-sectoral evaluation to assess the impact of the most recent humanitarian interventions which took place between the end of 2023 and April 2024 in the affected departments. This assessment will inform an effective and sustainable recovery strategy.

Donors

Adaptation Fund, Germany, Global Partnership for Education, India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation, Japan, Mastercard, Republic of Congo, Share the Meal, United States of America, World Bank *(in alphabetical order)*.

Photo: UN agency Country Directors with Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations during the International Conference for Afforestation and Reforestation in Brazzaville. WFP/ Aimable Twiringiyimana