



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Democratic Republic of Congo

Country Brief

August 2025



Operational Context

The DRC has one of the highest estimated numbers of food-insecure people worldwide, with nearly **28 million** people estimated to be food insecure as per the [latest IPC analysis](#). This includes **10.3 million** people facing acute food insecurity in the four eastern provinces. Protracted crises aggravated by increased conflict have deteriorated the situation since the start of the year. Since January, **over 1.6 million** people have been newly displaced mostly due to the advancement of the March 23 movement rebel group into North and South Kivu. OCHA notes that there are **5.3 million people internally displaced** across DRC as of end August 2025 with some **3.8 million people were forced to return** to their former settlements. The advancement also caused a disruption in access, supply chains and essential amenities. Together, these factors impede communities' ability to earn sustainable livelihoods and access food. WFP's emergency response assists internally displaced people, refugees and host communities in affected provinces. WFP also supports transport for passengers as well as essential cargo for the humanitarian community through the UN Humanitarian Air Service to reach inaccessible areas across the country.

Population: **109.6 million**

Income level: **Low**



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In Numbers

10,461.1 MT of food distributed

USD 2.7 million distributed in cash-based transfers

USD 295.3 million required for the next six months (Sept 2025 to Feb 2026)

1,081,200 people assisted in August 2025



Situation Update

DRC faces a rapidly deteriorating humanitarian landscape, compounded by persistent conflict, political uncertainty, and escalating health emergencies. As of July 2025, over 120,000 survivors of sexual violence have received support, surpassing totals from both 2023 and 2024. Meanwhile, public health systems remain under strain, with more than 31,100 cholera cases reported across 17 provinces, including Kinshasa where population density and mobility complicate containment efforts. Meanwhile despite a surge in suspected Mpox cases, over 120,000 reported nationwide as of July, confirmed cases have shown a downward trend, with only 71,800 recorded, indicating a significant decline.

In eastern provinces, armed violence continues to displace communities and disrupt humanitarian access. M23 has expanded operations in North and South Kivu, imposing movement restrictions and triggering mass displacement. In Ituri, FARDC regained control of key localities and mining sites, though attacks by CODECO and ADF persist. Political tensions remain high following a cabinet reshuffle and stalled peace negotiations with M23, despite ongoing dialogue under the U.S.-facilitated framework.

Operational Updates

General food assistance: In August, WFP distributed in-kind and cash assistance to 1,081,200 people including internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, host communities and refugees living in the DRC. However, the level of assistance provided does not fully cover the food and nutrition gaps as needs continue to grow.

Nutrition: Treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition interventions reached 279,197 children, pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls.

School feeding: Due to school closures in August, WFP was unable to carry out school feeding activities during that period

Prioritisation: Starting in September, WFP will assist **approximately 700,000 beneficiaries**, leaving **1.6 million** individuals without support due to a major funding shortfall—the first significant scale-down since the CSP's launch in 2021, despite record-high levels of need.

Photo credit: WFP delivered nutritional support to displaced families in Muhito village, Ituri province. WFP/Michael CASTOFAS

Country Strategic Plan (2021-2025)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1,058.8 m	466.7 m	295.3 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Conflict- and crisis-affected men, women, boys, and girls from all ethnic groups are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements throughout the year. **Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- Act. 1: Provide gender-equitable and nutrition-sensitive essential needs assistance to conflict- and crisis-affected populations through direct assistance and enhanced inter-agency coordination.
- Act. 2: Treat moderate acute malnutrition among conflict- and crisis-affected populations.
- Act. 3: Prevent acute malnutrition among conflict- and crisis-affected populations.

Strategic Result 2: Access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

Strategic Outcome 2: The human capital of conflict affected and/or at-risk populations is equitably and inclusively protected and strengthened by 2024. **Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Act. 4: Provide nutritious school meals to targeted school children and support the implementation of the home-grown school feeding programme.
- Act. 5: Support interventions to prevent chronic malnutrition, especially for at risk people.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders productivity and incomes (SDG Target 2.3)

Strategic Outcome 3: Smallholder farmers and food value chain actors have improved livelihood opportunities, resilience, social cohesion, protection and make progress towards gender equality by 2024. **Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Act. 6: Smallholder farmers' and value chain actors' equitable access to climate and nutrition-smart livelihood opportunities, services and markets.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance Global Partnership (SDG Target 17.16)

Strategic Outcome 4: Humanitarian and development partners have access to reliable air services, improved supply chain and other services during and in the aftermath of conflicts and crises. **Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- Act. 7: Provide humanitarian air services to the humanitarian community.
- Act. 8: Provide humanitarian platforms (logistics cluster coordination and information services) to the humanitarian community.
- Act. 9: Provide on-demand services to humanitarian and development partners.

Supply Chain and Logistics

As of August 2025, WFP holds 42,908 MT of in-country stock, primarily allocated to eastern DRC with an additional 27,160 MT in the procurement pipeline. Distribution of Cold Chain Equipment valued at USD 1 million is underway across 17 provinces to support national immunization efforts. Through shared storage services, 284.9 MT of medical and emergency kits were received for humanitarian partners.

In Bunia, 66 personnel were trained on access constraints using the Logistics Cluster mobile app. Coordination meetings were held in Bukavu, Bunia, Goma, and Kinshasa, alongside OCHA-led sessions. For 2026 planning, the Cluster initiated a logistics assessment to identify operational gaps and strengthen preparedness across key humanitarian hubs.

Challenges:

The Washington peace agreement represents a positive step, yet insecurity persists across eastern DRC, with ongoing clashes involving non-signatory armed groups. This volatility continues to threaten civilians and disrupt humanitarian operations. As operational constraints grow, WFP is now compelled to reduce both the number of people served and the sizes of ration — making secure access even more critical to sustaining lifesaving assistance across affected regions.

Views from the Field



Joyful Safi Rosa from Kalamba village, receives monthly cash assistance from WFP amounting to 168,000 Congolese francs (equivalent to 60 USD). With this support, she is able to pay for her child's education and purchase groundnut seeds to grow food for her family. WFP's cash-based assistance empowers families like Safi's to meet their essential needs while investing in their future. In addition to food security, WFP promotes resilience by enabling households to make informed choices and strengthen local livelihoods. Photo Credit: WFP/Stephanie Malenga.

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