



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



DRC COUNTRY BRIEF FEBRUARY 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In January 2026, WFP reached just over 838,000 people across all activities in the DRC. In the four conflict-affected eastern provinces, life-saving assistance was delivered to about 660,000 people.
- WFP's reach is lower compared to the needs as over 3.9 million people face emergency levels of food insecurity.
- In an access constrained environment, the WFP-managed United Nations Humanitarian Air Service is the most reliable form of transport for humanitarians in DRC. However, reduced resources and advancing frontlines hamper effectiveness of the operations. USD 19 million is required for UNHAS before operations are interrupted in May 2026.

IN NUMBERS



838, 320 people assisted in January 2026



44%
Male



56%
Female



7,500 mt food distributed



USD 1.1 M cash transferred



USD 349.2M (Feb – Jul 2026) net funding requirements

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Escalating conflict displaced many families in South Kivu, forcing them into churches and public buildings under dire conditions, facing limited access to clean water, food, and essential services. The Food Security Cluster estimates 1.2 million people now require humanitarian assistance due to renewed fighting. In parallel, at least 240 cholera cases were recorded in the Sangé health zone in South Kivu during the first week of January.
- The latest analysis of the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) [shows](#) that approximately 26.6 million people are projected to experience high levels (IPC phase 3 or higher) of acute food insecurity between January to June 2026. Nine territories are now classified in Phase 4, an increase from the three territories that were classified in Phase 4 in the previous analysis.
- Additionally, about 4.18 million children aged 6–59 months and 1.54 million pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition and in urgent need of nutrition assistance.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

- Overall, WFP reached about 838,320 people across all its activities in DRC. However, lack of resources forces WFP to continually reach less people compared to people in need.

General Food Assistance

- In-kind food assistance reached 490,000 beneficiaries. This reflects an increase in coverage compared to December. The increased reach is primarily attributed to the increased performance in South Kivu where WFP reached more people than planned, due to the new displacements owing to the renewed fighting in South Kivu. On the other hand, in some places like Kalemie, distributions were delayed due to operational constraints that slowed the start of distributions.
- Cash-based transfers were provided to some 54,995 people in Ituri. This is a significantly low performance against the plan as no cash/voucher distributions were conducted in the month in the other provinces.

Malnutrition Management & Prevention

- In January, WFP reached 157,250 people (children aged under 2 and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls) through malnutrition management and prevention. Of these, 110,669 people received support for malnutrition management, while 46,581 benefited from malnutrition prevention interventions.

School-Based Assistance

- WFP-supported school feeding programs reached some 121,117 schoolchildren across three provinces (Kasai, South Kivu and Tanganyika) in January. As insecurity and inaccessibility hampered implementation in South Kivu and Tanganyika, WFP provided take home rations to schoolchildren in affected schools.

Food assistance for assets and support for smallholder farmers

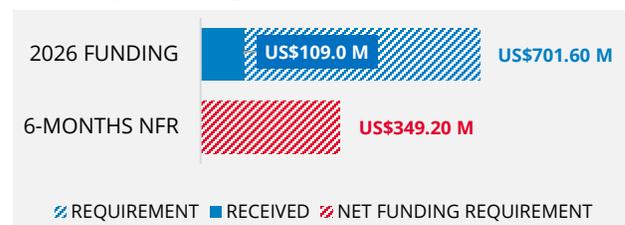
- Smallholder farmer support and asset creation activities involved some 14,313 people in two provinces with the aim to strengthen community resilience and improve market access for smallholder farmers.

UNHAS

- In January, UNHAS transported 948 passengers and 22.3 MT of freight for 86 user organizations across 21 locations nationwide.
- A fleet review terminated the contract for the Kinshasa-based 19-seat Beechcraft 1900 on 31 January 2025 due to funding constraints. The current UNHAS fleet now consists of three aircrafts based in Kinshasa, Kananga and Kalemie. Additionally, two aircrafts (in Kalemie and in Bunia) funded by the European Union Humanitarian Aid Flight (EUHAF) are also managed by WFP.
- Following the closure of Goma airport, UNHAS relocated its eastern hub to Beni (North Kivu) and Kalemie (Tanganyika) and removed Goma from its weekly flight schedule. Humanitarians have since faced longer and more expensive travel to reach Goma and Bukavu. With support from the DRC Government, UNHAS is working to include Entebbe, as a destination to facilitate aerial access to the eastern provinces for faster delivery of assistance to vulnerable communities.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2021-2026)



Donors:

Belgium, Canada, European Union, France, Germany, KfW/Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Korea International Cooperation Agency, Luxembourg, Malta, Mastercard, WFP Multilateral Funds, Norway, Stop Hunger, South Africa, Switzerland, Sweden, UN CERF, United Kingdom, United States, UPS, World Bank Group.

Photo Caption & Credit: Mignon enjoys his plate of fufu and pondou he received as his school meal provided by WFP in Kananga. WFP/Michael Castofas