



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP DRC COUNTRY BRIEF

March 2026

- In February 2026, WFP reached just over 659,000 people across all activities in the DRC. In the four conflict-affected eastern provinces, life-saving assistance was delivered to about 496,000 people.
- WFP's reach is lower compared to the needs as over 3.9 million people face emergency levels of food insecurity due to inadequate resources.
- 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 June 2026.

IN NUMBERS



659,788 people assisted in February 2026



44%
Male



56%
Female



4,647 mt food distributed



USD 1.4 M cash transferred



USD 267M (Mar – Aug 2026) net funding requirements

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

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Since February, fighting in the eastern provinces of DRC escalated to include a wave of explosive-laden drones in the provinces of North Kivu and Tshopo.
- Insecurity intensified across eastern DRC, marked by deadly incidents such as the 11 March drone strike in Goma that killed three people, including a UN international staff member. Renewed clashes erupted on 17 March between the M23 and the FARDC along the Uvira–Bukavu axis in South Kivu. These events have triggered mass displacement, disrupted essential livelihoods, and left humanitarian needs rapidly evolving as assessments are still underway.
- On 2 February, the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Alliance Fleuve Congo/March 23 Movement (AFC-M23) signed the terms of reference from the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) during a follow-up session of their ongoing peace talks hosted by Qatar.
- Key outcomes included agreement on practical monitoring and verification measures, the establishment of field-level communication channels, and the deployment of a MONUSCO mission to Uvira, South Kivu, to support ceasefire oversight.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

- Overall, WFP reached about 659,788 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 269,000 beneficiaries. This reflects a decrease in coverage compared to January. The decrease is primarily attributed to inaccessibility caused by insecurity which disrupted distributions in pocket areas in North Kivu and South Kivu, and insecurity which caused operational delays. WFP continues to adapt its plans for assistance to reach as many people in need as possible subject to resources and accessibility.
- Cash-based transfers were provided to some 69,393 people in Ituri and Tanganyika. Although this is improved compared to what was achieved in January, this is a significantly low performance as no cash/voucher distributions were conducted in the month in the other provinces.

Malnutrition Management & Prevention

- For February, WFP's malnutrition management and prevention activities reached 130,840 people (children aged under 2 and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls). Of these, 102,088 people received support for malnutrition management while, while 61,791 benefited from malnutrition prevention interventions.

School-Based Assistance

- WFP-supported school feeding activities reached some 110,069 schoolchildren across three provinces (Kasai, South Kivu and Tanganyika) in February. 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

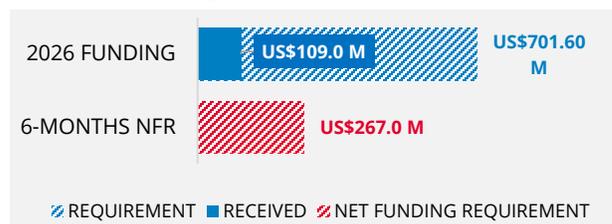
- Smallholder farmer support and asset creation activities involved some 20,338 people in two provinces with the aim to strengthen community resilience and improve market access for smallholder farmers.

UNHAS

- In February, UNHAS transported 1,351 passengers and 13.5 MT of freight for 103 user organizations across 24 locations nationwide. Two medical evacuations were also conducted on behalf of MSF Swiss in the month.
- A new weekly flight schedule was released on 9 February, introducing regular flights to Walikale and removing both the Ebola-dedicated rotations and non-essential destinations such as Lubumbashi. The updated schedule also reflects the withdrawal of a Kinshasa-based aircraft from operations, reducing the UNHAS DRC fleet.
- In collaboration with the DRC Government and Ugandan Civil Authority, UNHAS launched a new route to Entebbe from Bunia in Ituri, with a stop-over in Beni, North Kivu. The inaugural flight was conducted on 12 March and with plans to include Entebbe as a destination on UNHAS' flight plan weekly.

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.