



WFP

Democratic Republic of Congo

Emergency Situation Report #5

16 March 2018

In numbers

7.7m severely hungry people in DRC

4.5m Internally Displaced People

USD 169m unmet funding needs for WFP operations from March-August

Highlights

- The security and humanitarian situation in Eastern DRC saw a marked deterioration, with two NGO staff killed in North Kivu, as well as a displacement crisis in Ituri.
- WFP responded rapidly in Ituri, providing High Energy Biscuits to 9,700 people gathered in and around Bunia town.
- WFP remained on target for its scale up in Kasai, assisting 425,000 severely food insecure people.

Situation Update

- **Kasai Region:** More than 500 Congolese refugees were forcibly returned to DRC from Angola. The refugees were mostly women and some 200 children. This influx added to the humanitarian needs in Kasai. Returnees were prevented from going back to their places of origin due to inter-ethnic tension.
- **Tanganyika:** Fighting between the Forces Armées de la République du Congo (FARDC) and armed groups intensified, as did inter-ethnic conflict between Bantu and Twa tribes. 246,000 internally displaced people (IPDs) in Kalemie town were too frightened to return to their villages. Overall, there were 600,000 IDPs in Tanganyika.
- **Ituri:** Inter-ethnic fighting between Lendu and Hema communities led to displacement of 350,000 people in the Djugu area. People fled amidst brutal violence and demolition of villages. Additional police and FARDC troops were deployed to the area.
- **South Kivu:** Significant parts of Uvira and Fizi territories remained inaccessible due to military operations. An Emergency Food Security Assessment showed that overall, the food security situation had improved. However, pockets of extreme hunger persisted, with Kahehe territory showing 85 percent food insecurity.
- **North Kivu:** Since the killing of 15 UN peacekeepers in December 2017, conflict continued to escalate. More people were displaced, bringing the number of IDPs in North Kivu to 1.3 million. On 20 February, two aid workers from the Congolese NGO Hydraulique Sans Frontieres (HYFRO) were killed and one kidnapped in the Rutshuru territory, leading to the suspension of some NGO activities in the area.

WFP Response

- Overall in DRC, WFP reached more than 600,000 severely hungry people with 3,000 tons of food. People receiving WFP assistance were located in the Kasai region (442,000), Eastern DRC (115,000) and the north (50,000).
- **Kasai Region:** In addition to delivering a record high volume of food across more than 60 sites, WFP scaled up cash-based and nutrition assistance. WFP also airlifted food into Kasai due to the poor state of the roads.
- **Tanganyika:** WFP reached more than 30,000 IDPs with 378 metric tons of food. However, only 11 percent of 17,620 people targeted for nutrition support were reached. Delivery was hampered by insecurity on the roads between Kyoko-Nyunzu and Kalemie- Bandera.
- **Ituri:** In partnership with the NGO AJEDEC, WFP reacted swiftly to the emergency by providing High Energy Biscuits (HEB) to more than 9,700 people displaced by violence in Djugu. WFP drew on its strategic stocks for rapid response in Goma.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **Kasai Region:** In February, the Kasai operation reached 422,400 General Food Distribution (GFD) beneficiaries which was the highest monthly figure since the start of the operations. The regime of half rations, initiated in November, continued.
- The monthly objective for the sub-office in Tshikapa was fully met. The Kananga sub-office only met 87% of its monthly objective, due to a 9-day pipeline break of cereals.
- **Nutrition:** WFP and its partners ADRA, Conopro, Caritas with Pronanut provided nutritional support

to over 10,000 moderately acutely malnourished children aged 6 to 59 months in targeted health zones in Kasai, Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental provinces. In addition, in the same Great Kasai provinces which are experiencing high levels of acute malnutrition and food insecurity, over 30,000 children aged 6 – 23 months received nutrition assistance under the blanket supplementary feeding programme with the aim of preventing acute malnutrition.

- **Cash-based assistance:** In partnership with World Vision and the bank TMB, cash-based assistance was successfully launched in Mwetshi health zone, and proceeded without incident. 71,000 people received the equivalent of 15 USD to cover their food needs for one month. No protection concerns were raised by beneficiaries. Based on this positive experience, WFP decided to scale up the project to reach more than 100,000 people in March.
- **Eastern DRC:** In February, WFP assisted 137,750 conflict affected people, including IDPs, refugees and returnees in Ituri, North and South Kivu, Tanganyika, and Haut Katanga provinces. In North Kivu, only school feeding and nutrition activities were implemented. Response to the increasing flows of IDPs is severely hampered by the lack of resources.
- **Refugees:** WFP has assisted refugees in camps from C.A.R. for four years, while IDPs receive on average 3 months of WFP assistance. WFP seeks to promote greater refugee self-reliance. A vulnerability analysis within the four C.A.R. refugee camps in Bili, Boyabu, Inke and Mole (North and South Ubangi provinces), hosting 61,000 refugees, was conducted jointly with UNHCR. Results will be ready by the end of March.
- WFP informed UNHCR and partners of the value reduction in refugee cash grants for 66,000 Burundian and South Sudanese refugees due to funding shortfalls.



Supply Chain

- Worsening road conditions caused significant delays to the movement of food. Road transport from Lubumbashi to Kananga took 6-8 weeks and from Kananga to Tshikapa 4 weeks.
- In order to ensure the timely delivery of food in Kasai, WFP airlifted 954 tons of food from Lubumbashi.

Clusters and Common Services



Food Security Cluster

The cluster carried out an Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) exercise in the areas

covered by the system-wide Level 3 Emergency (Kasai, South Kivu, Tanganyika). The IPC findings, which will be released at the end of March, will inform food assistance priorities for the coming months. The IPC is the most authoritative source of food insecurity data in DRC. The analysis brings together FAO, UNICEF, WFP and WHO, as well as more than 20 national and international NGOs.



Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

USD 600,000 from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) were allocated for security communications upgrade in the three system-wide L3 Emergency provinces of Kasai, Tanganyika and South Kivu.



Logistics Cluster

Seventy-eight organizations benefited from coordination, information management, cartography as well as the facilitation of common services including storage and transportation of relief items.



UN Humanitarian Air Service

The operation transported 3,210 passengers and 59 tons of light humanitarian cargo including medical supplies, IT equipment and other relief items. In addition, 13 medical evacuations and one casualty evacuation were carried out.

Resourcing Update

WFP received more than USD 10 million from the CERF towards food assistance in Kasai; UNHAS; and the logistics cluster. WFP also received more than USD 11 million from the UK, towards cash-based assistance in Kasai. WFP's operations in the east of the county received no contributions in February. Overall, WFP's operation in DRC remained seriously curtailed by underfunding. From March to August, the shortfall is 68 percent. More than USD 169 million is needed against the total requirement of USD 248 million.

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