

# WFP D. R. Congo

## External Situation Report #27

4 August 2021

### In Numbers

**27.3 m** highly food-insecure people

**26** provinces affected

**5.2 m** people displaced

**3.5 m** beneficiaries reached since the beginning of 2021

### Highlights in July 2021

- **WFP Executive Director meets DRC delegation:** WFP Executive Director David Beasley held productive talks in Rome on how to best maximize DRC's agricultural potential and fight food insecurity with a delegation of Congolese officials.
- **Record of people reached in July:** for the third month in a row, WFP DRC broke the record of beneficiaries reached in a single month as **more than 1,2 million people** were assisted.

discussion with beneficiaries in Ituri who benefitted from FCDO cash assistance. Due to security constraints, the field visit to Ituri was cancelled last minute. Back in Kinshasa, he also paid a visit to the urban cash assistance programme for COVID-affected populations in N'sele, where he met several beneficiaries and received a presentation about the project, which in addition to FCDO funds also receives support from USAID BHA. WFP DRC Country Director Peter Musoko accompanied Nick Dyer during his visits to WFP activities.

- **Food Security Situation:** a new [HungerMap Live](#) report produced by WFP's Research, Assessment and Monitoring Division (RAM) on 23 July estimates that 42 million people currently have insufficient food consumption across DRC, marking an increase of 7.1 million people in just three months. The data, which uses real-time mobile data and mathematic predictions, differs from the IPC in terms of methodology, with the latter remaining as the leading data source for the Humanitarian Needs Overview and WFP planning purposes. In addition, half of the population (some 53 million people) reports challenges accessing markets, with lack of money cited as the top barrier. The report also highlights the deterioration of food security in the Maniema province, where the prevalence of insufficient food consumption has more than doubled over the past 90 days, rising from 24 percent to 65 percent and affecting 1.8 million people.

- On 12 July, WFP published a new version of the [m-VAM report \(May/June\)](#) covering the regions of Kasai and Kasai Central. The report, written in partnership with the World Bank and DRC's National Institute of Statistics (INS), evaluates food security in the area and the impact of the

#### Total funding requirements in 2021

**USD 662.5 m**

#### WFP 6-months Net Funding Requirements (Aug 2021 – Jan 2022)

Food Assistance	<b>USD 130.7 m</b>
Nutrition	<b>USD 10.2 m</b>
Other activities	<b>USD 19.1 m</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>USD 160 m</b>

### Situation Update

- **WFP Executive Director meets Congolese ministerial delegation:** on 27 July, at the pre-summit ahead of the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS), WFP Executive Director David Beasley held productive talks in Rome on how best to maximize the DRC's agricultural potential and fight food insecurity with a delegation led by Agriculture Minister H.E. Désiré Birihanze. Also in the delegation were H.E Fidèle Sambassi Khakessa, the DRC representative to the Rome-based agencies, and Julie Tshilombo, the DRC focal point to the UNFSS.
- **UK representative visit acknowledgement:** Nick Dyer, the UK's Special Envoy for Famine Prevention and Humanitarian Affairs, visited the DRC from 12-16 July. During his visit, he met with WFP staff in the Goma office and had a virtual

COVID-19 pandemic on the most vulnerable communities. **The report reveals that about 92% of households have a poor food consumption, an increase of 8% compared to April's results.** The period analyzed marks the end of DRC's harvest for crop season B and the beginning of tillage for the crop season A. The report also highlighted that **emergency strategies were adopted by a very large proportion of households (75.3%),** which is quite worrying.

## WFP Response

- Under the Country Strategic Plan 2021-2024, WFP continues with its large-scale assistance, targeting **8.7 million people** with food and nutrition assistance throughout 2021.



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **Overview:** for the third month in a row, WFP DRC broke the record of beneficiaries reached in a single month as **1,161,000 beneficiaries** were assisted in July.

- By the end of July, WFP reached **483,000 people with cash assistance.** This record high number may be explained because cash distributions that were supposed to take place in June were postponed to July due to issues with beneficiary registration and distribution challenges.
- In-kind assistance advanced well at the same time, having reached **523,000 individuals** in July despite security and access constraints.
- Meanwhile, partner-related issues, combined with logistical challenges to move specialized nutritious foods in some areas like the Kasais, delayed the start of July's nutrition assistance. Despite these challenges, **WFP reached 95,000 mothers and children** with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) treatment activities and another **58,000 mothers and children** with MAM prevention activities in July.

- **Tanganyika:** in July, WFP's Kalemie office reached **36,000 beneficiaries** with in-kind assistance, while another **75,000 people** had received cash assistance via Mobile Money Transfers and direct cash in Kabalo and in Pweto.

- **Kasai central and Kasai oriental:** the WFP office in Kananga reached **38,000 beneficiaries** in July with in-kind assistance; WFP completed food distributions in Kasai Central and in-kind assistance was ongoing in Kasai Oriental at the end of the reporting period. WFP completed cash distributions in the Katende and Bena Leka health zones late July, having reached **48,000 people.**

- **Kasai:** in July, WFP assisted **56,000 vulnerable**

**people** with in-kind food assistance. Cash distributions in conflict-affected areas of Mweka and Demba were ongoing at the end of July, with over **97,000** people assisted in these territories.

- **Ituri:** WFP's Bunia office reached **123,000 beneficiaries** with in-kind distributions in July. A delay occurred since WFP had to alter the planned figures due to shortfall of commodities and ongoing security issues in Ituri. July's cash assistance reached **30,000 IDPs and refugees.**
- **North Kivu:** in July, WFP reached **142,000 people** through in-kind food distributions. These include **46,000** beneficiaries in the hard-to-reach area of Eringeti in Beni territory, which is affected by ADF attacks. As part of the lean season support in Ebola-affected areas, **197,000 individuals** received cash assistance in Lubero and Beni. **48,000 children and mothers** received nutrition assistance.
- **South Kivu:** WFP reached **44,000 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls** with treatment and prevention MAM activities in July. WFP completed July's in-kind distributions in Fizi and Kalehe, having reached **126,000 displaced, returnees and host families.** WFP's Bukavu office concluded the monthly cash assistance, having reached **32,000 Burundian refugees** living in Lusenda and Mulongwe.
- **N'sele project:** preparation for a new round of cash transfers continues. This transfer will mark the start of N'sele's second phase of cash assistance, now targeting the most vulnerable households. WFP is planning field visits and community sessions to ensure that the population is well sensitized and informed about their rights and entitlements.
- **Nyiragongo volcano:** WFP's Goma office concluded a Multi-Sectoral Assessment (MSA) in the regions directly or indirectly affected by the 22 May volcano eruption. The results, findings, and proposed assistance are now being validated with WFP management to evaluate the resource availability and feasibility of these additional requirements. The outcome will inform the action plan for WFP's second assistance phase.



### Supply Chain

- **Customs / port congestion / warehouse:** on 19 July, WFP's Deputy Country Director for Supply Chain met with port authorities, customs, and forwarders at the Port of Matadi. During the meeting, the parties discussed the lengthy customs process leading to great delays in cargo (or food) deliveries and increased costs caused by the need to transfer some cargo by air to Kasai, to avoid critical pipeline breaks. In parallel, contracting of a new warehouse with **6,500 m<sup>2</sup>**

capacity (sufficient to accommodate supplies from various WFP functions as well as Bilateral Services) has been completed in Kinshasa to replace the warehouse that has been seized in January 2021.

- **New Logistics Hub:** a new logistics hub with **1,400MT capacity** has been completed in Mahagi, a location at the Uganda/DRC border in the Ituri province, to improve the timely delivery of in-kind food commodities to beneficiaries in Djugu, Mahagi, and Faradje territories. Access has been an issue when supplying via Bunia due to insecurity.

### Communications

- **New Resilience project story published:** [the story of Furaha](#) and the doors that learning to read and write opened for her was published in English, accompanied by photos and a video.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- For the first semester of 2021, the overall response capacity reported by 50 FSC partners was:
  - The food security response reached 4 million people out of the target of 9.6 million. This includes 3.2 million people with emergency food assistance and 1.4 million people with livelihood assistance. Of the 4 million people reached, 2.4 million (60%) were assisted directly by WFP. The response numbers look encouraging overall; however, a qualitative analysis of the humanitarian assistance indicates a low level of needs' coverage. Mostly because the assistance packages delivered are in many cases below the minimum package recommended by the FSC, such as less than 3 months of food assistance or 160 USD per household for emergency livelihood interventions. Furthermore, geographic coverage remains limited due to insecurity, but also because of a funding rate that is too low compared to the country's unprecedented needs.
  - In-kind food distribution interventions accounted for 65% of the emergency response, while cash assistance reached 35%. These proportions are not too far of the plan of 60% in-kind and 40% Cash planned by the FSC;
  - The food security response focused on the provinces of North Kivu, Ituri, South Kivu, Tanganyika, Kasai, and Kasai Central. This remains in line with the

priority areas set out in the humanitarian response plan.

- The response to the crisis caused by the 22 May eruption served around 150,000 people. WFP and FSC partners had to respond quickly and effectively to complete the initial assistance within two weeks.



### Logistics Cluster (LogCluster)

- **LogCluster** has launched its bi-annual survey to collect feedback from partners in DRC about the quality of the service provided over past months. In parallel, LogCluster continues its Gap Need Analysis (GNA) for DRC, an exercise that helps designing the support the Cluster provides to partners. The next stage of the process will be bilateral calls with partners to get a specific/detailed feedback on areas where LogCluster can best support and coordinate.



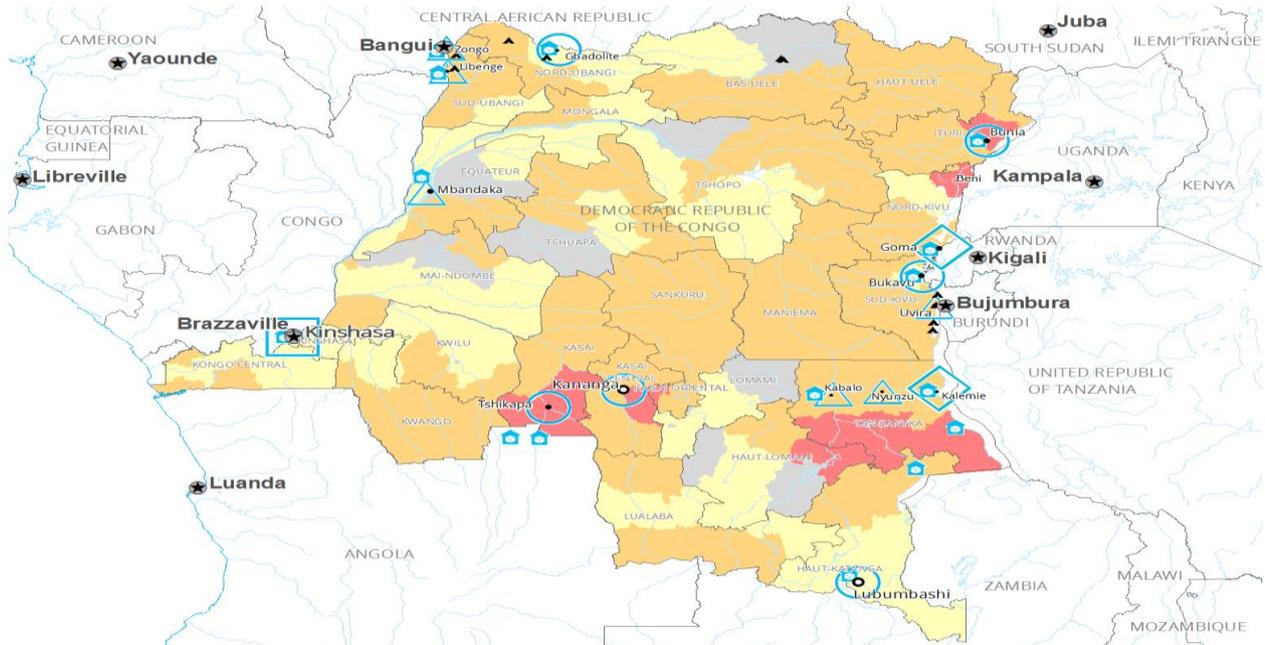
### Bilateral Services Provision (BSP)

- **New unified platform for service requests:** on 15 August, WFP DRC will launch the corporate platform "Service Market Place" (SMP), the new one-stop shop for partners requesting Bilateral Services Provision (BSP). In July, 6 partners already received the practical training session on platform usage, while the remaining 23 partners will receive the training in early August.



### UN Humanitarian Air Service

- **Regular and special flights:** throughout July, UNHAS DRC and ECHO Flights managed by WFP/UNHAS transported **4,158** passengers and **54.28** tons of essential light cargo. UNHAS DRC also performed 6 medical evacuations, including 3 positive COVID-19 cases.
- **Temporary flights' suspension in Hauts-Plateaux:** due to the ongoing security concerns in the Hauts-Plateaux region, UNHAS regular flights to these areas have been suspended until the situation improves. Flights for medical evacuations or security relocations will continue to be provided on a case-by-case basis and on a full cost recovery basis. UNHAS is closely monitoring the situation in coordination with UNDSS and OCHA.
- **Runway rehabilitation projects:** the *Régie des Voies Aériennes* (RVA) has concluded the preliminary works on the Tshikapa runway. The maximum payload for the UNHAS Caravan out of Tshikapa has slightly increased. A contracted company, which has been already selected through WFP procurement process, will conduct the major rehabilitation works. This initiative is funded by UNHAS through donors' contributions.



Special thanks to our donors in 2020 - 2021 (listed alphabetically)



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