







SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Democratic Republic of the Congo

Situation Report #50 – 31 August 2023

Highlights

- Corporate scale-up shows progress with 1.2 million people assisted in July in North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri:** After activation of a corporate scale-up as of 1 June 2023, WFP's reach has been gradually increasing. In the first half of 2023, WFP provided emergency food, cash and nutrition assistance to half a million people on average per month in the three scale-up provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri. With the extra capacity put in place through the scale-up, WFP assisted 748,000 people in June and 1,230,000 people in July with in-kind food, cash and nutrition assistance in the scale-up provinces. WFP targets 3.6 million people as needing life-saving assistance among 6.7 million people facing high levels of acute food insecurity in scale-up provinces. In August, due to ongoing commodity shortages and available resources, WFP targeted 1 million people with cash assistance and half a million people with food assistance in camps, collective sites and host families, across the scale-up provinces.
- Without additional funding, more people are at risk of not accessing life-saving assistance they urgently need:** The funding situation remains critical, threatening the sustainability and the expansion of life-saving assistance. To provide food and cash assistance to 3.6 million people, mainly vulnerable women and young children, WFP urgently needs USD 567 million in the next six months from August to January 2024.
- Violence and insecurity continue to threaten food security and pose protection risks while the humanitarian situation deteriorates:** The ongoing

	25.8 m¹ highly food-insecure people (51% female/49% male) (50% children/50% adults)
	26 provinces affected
	6.3 m people displaced²
	6.1 m people reached in 2022 (58% female/42% male) (63% children/37% adults)

political instability and armed conflicts in eastern DRC have devastated food production and distribution systems. Attacks and clashes by non-state armed groups continue to claim lives and drive more people from their homes, exacerbating an already dire humanitarian situation. In August, a series of security incidents involving various non-state armed groups in Ituri restricted humanitarian operations and led to delays in humanitarian assistance. Security challenges continue to impede the affected population's access to assistance. Food scarcity has been identified as a contributor to the current high rates of gender-based violence experienced by women and girls in eastern DRC, specifically the province of North and South Kivu in internally displaced people (IDP) site settings.

Situation Update

- Eastern DRC:** In August, the violence and conflict continued to claim and threaten lives across eastern DRC. The widespread insecurity specifically affected WFP's operations in Ituri. In response to a deadly attack in Drodro health zone

¹ According to the integrated food security phase classification (IPC) analysis [update for January to June 2023](#)

² As per [UNHCR data](#)

on 7 August, WFP's planned food distribution to 93,000 beneficiaries was delayed for a week.

On 19 August, two separate fire incidents in South Kivu's two internally displaced people (IDP) sites killed seven children and destroyed almost 1,500 shelters. WFP assisted 2,140 affected individuals residing in the affected IDP camp in Kalehe with 2.1 mt of fortified biscuits.

The Ministry of Health alarmed that North Kivu is facing worst cholera outbreak in six years, which has affected over 21,400 people, including more than 8,000 children under 5 years of age, between January and July.

WFP Response

- Under the revised Country Strategic Plan 2021-2024, WFP is revising its large-scale operation targeting **8.5 million people** with food, nutrition, and resilience support in 2023, though targets will be revised in line with the fast-changing situation.



Food and Nutrition Assistance (July 2023)

- **Overview:** In July, WFP assisted **1.5 million unique beneficiaries, of which 56 percent are women and girls, across all activities (including school feeding and resilience)**. WFP reached 860,000 people with cash-based transfers (CBT), 395,000 with in-kind food assistance, and 222,000 with malnutrition treatment and prevention supplies. Moreover, some one million people have been biometrically registered since the beginning of the scale-up in the three provinces. Delays in the release of local cereals purchased in eastern DRC by the Office Congolais de Controle (OCC) as well as commodity shortages affected the performance in July.
- **North Kivu:** WFP reached **666,000 people** with in-kind assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment and prevention supplies. To mitigate commodity shortages, an additional 4,200 mt of maize was purchased from the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF), however the arrival of the maize was delayed due to testing. Bottlenecks regarding customs continue to affect timely delivery of food commodities; therefore WFP engaged with customs authorities to seek re-opening of the Goma entry-point which would facilitate direct deliveries to Goma and Beni.
- **Ituri:** WFP assisted **342,000 people** with food assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment. WFP scaled up its in-kind assistance to people in IDP camps while the security situation remained intense.
- **South Kivu:** WFP reached **219,000 people** with food assistance, cash and malnutrition treatment and prevention commodities. Distributions were delayed due to commodity shortages.
- **Kasai:** WFP reached 34,000 people with cash assistance, and malnutrition treatment supplies.
- **Kasai Central:** WFP assisted **52,000 people** malnutrition treatment and prevention supplies.
- **Tanganyika:** WFP supported **153,000 people** with in-kind food, cash, and malnutrition treatment supplies.
- **School Feeding:** No school meal distribution was made due

to seasonal break.

- **Resilience:** In July, WFP's resilience support to communities (including literacy, income generating activities, post harvest losses management, access to market, social cohesion and road rehabilitation and building through food-for-assets) continued in the seven provinces where activities were jointly implemented with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UNICEF. WFP reached a total of 17,000 beneficiaries. In July, WFP trained 1,200 women on income generating activities. The beneficiaries participated in the development of their livelihoods in food-for-asset and post-harvest loss management activities. Thanks to resilience activities, the supported cooperatives collectively sold 80 metric tons of maize and some 7.5 km of road was rehabilitated.
- **Protection:** WFP conducted a total of eleven emergency protection assessments in the three scale-up provinces. WFP signed an agreement with the Panzi Foundation in South Kivu, founded by the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Dr. Mukwege. The agreement expands WFP's collaboration to include training of WFP personnel and partners; referrals of gender-based violence (GBV), case management of GBV survivors that are direct WFP participants; and support to the mapping of community based structures to improve access to GBV services.



Supply Chain

- **Procurement:** WFP continued to procure food commodities locally and regionally. Given ongoing commodity shortages, WFP locally procured pulses and maize meal.
- For delivery of food commodities, WFP continues to encounter logistical challenges that delay operations. For instance, the Goma to Beni road (North Kivu) has been inaccessible for seven months, forcing WFP to take a long and expensive alternative through neighbouring countries.



Clusters and Common Services

Logistics Cluster

- **Information Management/Geographical Information Systems:** The Logistics Cluster shared updates of documents and operational maps on the dedicated [portal](#). The Logistics Cluster monitored and shared physical access alerts via: drc-logs@logcluster.org.



Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- The updated 2023 geographical tool for targeting health zones is now available [here](#).
- The FSC's achievements in the second quarter of 2023 can be found on this [dashboard](#).
- **WFP's scale-up plan for the east aims to cover 70 percent (3.6 million) of the 5.2 million people in need prioritized by the Food Security Cluster and comprises people facing crisis level of acute food insecurity (IPC level 3) in the three provinces.** This component of the response will require vulnerability-based targeting within communities to identify those most in

need. These populations will receive six months of food assistance while other Food Security Cluster partners are coordinating a response to assist the remaining 30 percent.

- The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for the entire country for 2023 requires USD 2.25 billion to assist 10 million people with compounding needs out of the 26.4 million people food insecure in 2022. As of 29 August 2023, the plan is only funded at 33.5 percent and the number of people in need is on the rise. From January to June 2023, the FSC partners reached 4.27 million beneficiaries, among whom 3.2 million received emergency assistance in HRP targeted territories (32 percent of the target) and 1.3 million received support for agriculture and livelihood (33 percent of the target).

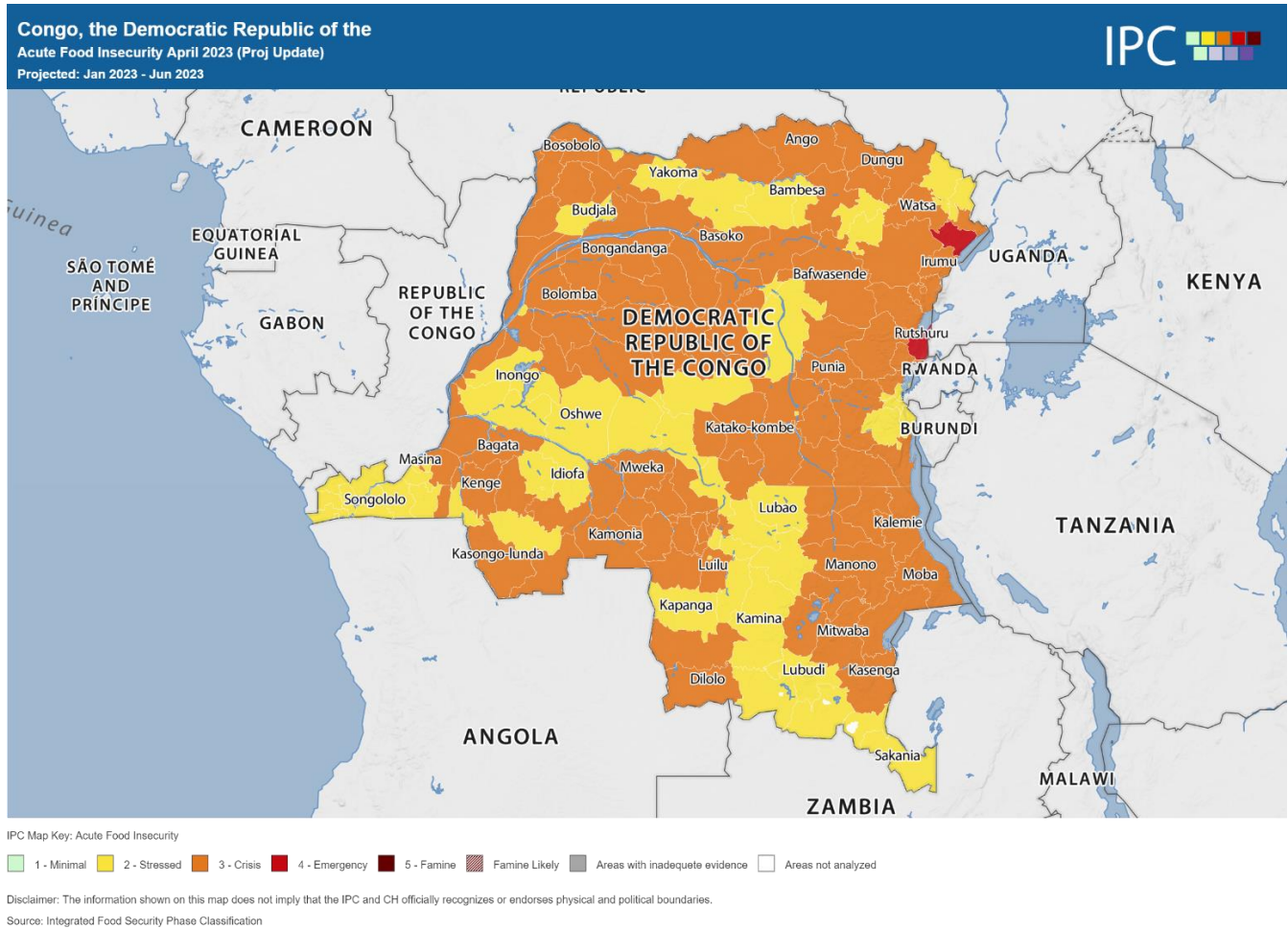
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- **Operational Overview:** In July, UNHAS regular and special flights transported **3,295 passengers** and **45 mt** of essential light cargo.
- **Medical Evacuations:** UNHAS carried out 20 medical evacuations out of Walikale, Salamabila, Kalole, Bunia, and Mbandaka.
- **Special Flights:** In addition to regular flights, UNHAS conducted three special flights to serve a range of partners.
- **Fuel shortages:** Fuel shortages continued affecting UNHAS operations particularly in Kananga and this prompted disruptions to the regular flight schedule.

Communications, Advocacy and Marketing

- On 13 July, WFP organized a press briefing in WFP's Goma Office. Two TV channels (Mishapi and Hope Channel) broadcasted excerpts of the briefing and [radio station Pole FM](#) also covered the briefing.
- In June and July, WFP briefed a total of 65 journalists and local influencers on WFP's activities and challenges.
- On 1 August, DRC was among countries featured [in a story](#) on wfp.org to mark World Breastfeeding Week.
- On 22 August, WFP organized a [press briefing](#) in Geneva. WFP DRC Country Director joined the briefing online. The briefing was covered in 78 media reports so far, including multiple international media organizations such as [BBC News](#), [CNBC Africa](#), [KBC](#), [APA News](#), [AllAfrica](#), and [SABC News](#).

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Map of DRC: January-June 2023



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WFP thanks the following donors who contributed resources in 2023:

