



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) – Eastern DRC Emergency Situation Report 2025 #4

IN NUMBERS



7.8 million people internally displaced in Eastern DRC since December 2024 (OCHA)



28 million people are food insecure (IPC Phase 3+) in DRC



91.5 % of households surveyed in North and South Kivu are food insecure



12,000 mt of commodities in country



USD 371 million required country-wide to provide life-saving assistance in the next six months.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The ongoing conflict in Eastern DRC is having a drastic impact on food security. The latest update of the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) shows a significant increase in acutely food insecure people in DRC from 25.5 million in September 2024 to 28 million in March 2025, including 3.9 million people at emergency levels of hunger (IPC Phase 4). This represents the highest number ever recorded in the DRC. Mass displacement, destruction of IDP camps, and rising food prices have been key drivers for a spike in food insecurity especially in North and South Kivu.

WFP is navigating the complex operational context balancing its humanitarian mandate, impartiality and duty of care responsibilities towards its staff.

Situation Update

- The **security situation** in the East remained highly volatile in March, with active fighting between the M23 and the Congolese Armed Forces (FARDC) ongoing in several territories of North and South Kivu. In Ituri, the security situation is challenged by a proliferation of non-state armed groups, leading to restricted access and high risk for humanitarian operations.
- Ongoing conflict, displacement and high food prices have led to a steep increase in **acute food insecurity** in the Eastern Provinces of Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu and Tanganyika. According to the latest IPC Update from March 2025, out of the total 28 million acutely food insecure people in DRC, 10.3 million reside in the Eastern Provinces. Out of those, 2.3 million face emergency-level food insecurity (IPC4). North Kivu and Tanganyika host the highest share of acutely food insecure people (45% each), while South Kivu and North Kivu saw the strongest deterioration due to ongoing fighting.
- In addition, DRC continues to battle a **health crisis**, with rising cases of Mpox, measles and cholera. Within the first quarter of 2024, 31,100 suspected Mpox cases have been reported (WHO), compared with less than 5,000 during the same period last year. As testing capacities are limited due to insecurity in the Eastern Provinces as well as a reduction in donor-funding for public health activities, it is likely that many cases are going undetected.

WFP Response

Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP's emergency food assistance and nutrition activities aim to reach 6.4 million people across DRC in 2025. Despite the volatile security situation in eastern DRC, WFP managed to reach nearly 600,000 people across the country with crisis response in February.
- WFP's emergency food assistance resumed in North and South Kivu after a temporary pause due to the conflict escalation. In March, WFP increased its crisis response in the eastern provinces. Apart from General Food Assistance, WFP provided malnutrition prevention interventions as well as malnutrition supplementation.
- WFP undertook an emergency food assistance assessment (EFSA) surveying 3,100 households in return areas across Nyiragongo, Masisi, Rutshuru (North Kivu), and Kalehe (South Kivu), following the dismantling of IDP camps in Goma and Kalehe after two months of intense conflict. The assessment revealed alarming levels of food insecurity among returnees and host communities where nine in ten households were food insecure. The situation is further exacerbated by economic vulnerability—70% of households spend over 65% of their income on food, relying on unstable livelihoods such as daily labor and petty trade.

Supply Chain

- WFP has an in-country stock of nearly 12,000 mt of various products (8,000 mt allocated to operations in eastern DRC and 2,000 mt allocated to operations in western DRC). In addition, 92,000 mt of commodities are in various stages of purchase and delivery and are destined for operations in the DRC.
- Replenishment of looted stocks is in process for North and South Kivu and negotiations with local suppliers are ongoing. Still, restocking may take time, especially for nutrition products.
- WFP is supporting the Mpox response by transporting vaccines, drugs, and sensitization materials to affected provinces. Hot meals

were provided to 192 confirmed and suspected Mpox cases in North Kivu.

Funding Appeal

- WFP urgently needs USD 371 million to maintain country-wide operations in DRC between April and September 2025.

UNHAS

- UNHAS transported 1,582 passengers and 15.7 mt of essential light cargo in March. These included some 299 people that were relocated from Kalemie, Kisangani (Walikale) and Bujumbura to Kinshasa and Lubumbashi due to insecurity. The overall number of passengers transported remained low as humanitarian operations have still been hampered by the insecurity in the east. Ongoing fighting resulted in a further expansion of the no-fly zone, spanning over 40,000 km². The UNHAS flight is now down to six fixed-wing aircraft due to reduced available resources.

Donors

Belgium, Canada, Education Cannot Wait, Denmark, European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Master Card Foundation, Norway South Africa, Stop Hunger, Switzerland, Sweden, UNICEF, UKAID, UPS, United States, World Bank

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